

BUYING COVERS & POSTAL STATIONERY

Areas needed at present:

- German States & Colonies
- South & Central America
- British Commonwealth
- France & Colonies
- Spain & Colonies
- Italy & Colonies
- Russia, Turkey
- China, Japan
- Thailand



BUYING FOR MY COLLECTIONS

- CHINA — FOREIGN POST OFFICES (1876-1898)
- ILLUSTRATED HOTEL ADVERT. CARDS



- Europe/Provinces
- Postal Notes
- Consulars
- Periodic Newsletters
- Comic Appraisals
- Postals and 1950s

Ship any material via registered mail or send photostats

Will travel for major holdings

Leading buyer at auctions world-wide

Immediate payment

Absolute discretion



HOLTZ
International
Philatelic Brokers



P.O. Box 1664 • Greenwich, CT 06836 USA
Telephone: 203-625-0130 • Fax: 203-625-0150
E-mail: andrewholtz@cs.com

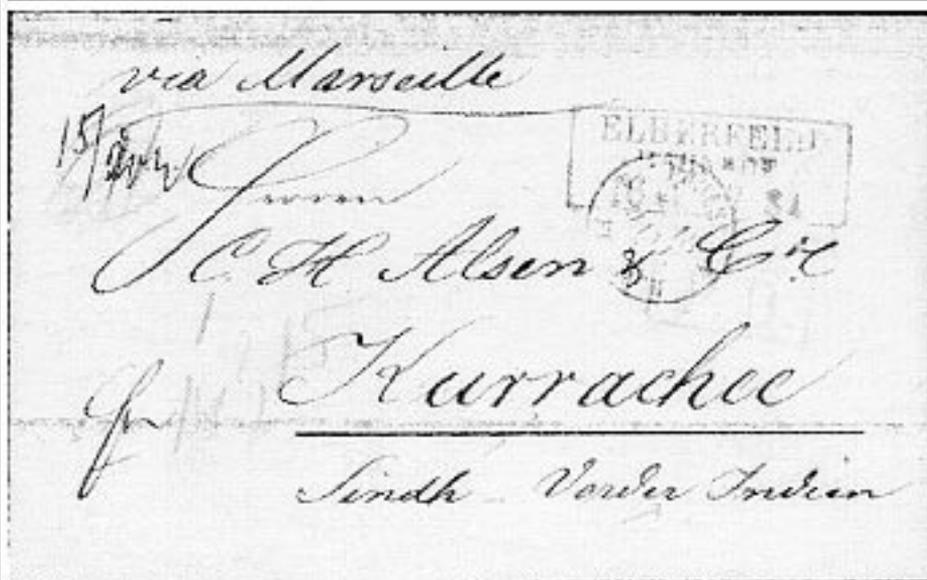
"Always interested in purchasing quality collections."

AMERICAN STAMP COLLECTOR ASSOCIATION
11100 WILSON AVENUE, SUITE 100
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48106-1500
TEL: 734-769-0700

UNITED STATES AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
100 N. WASHINGTON STREET
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208
TEL: 503-253-2222

2000 WEST 10TH AVENUE, SUITE 100
DENVER, COLORADO 80202
TEL: 303-733-1111
WWW.PHILATELICSOCIETYOFNEWYORK.COM
NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY
100 WEST 10TH AVENUE, SUITE 100
DENVER, COLORADO 80202
TEL: 303-733-1111

When it comes to postal history . . .



Nutmeg Stamp Sales has you covered!

Our two sales a month double your chances to find that rare or elusive item. Don't forget our online Baby Sales, closing every Sunday at midnight.

View lots online at
www.nutmegstamp.com
Call 1-800-522-1607
for a free catalog



• P.O. Box 4547 Danbury CT 06813 • Fax: 203-798-7902
• Email: info@nutmegstamp.com

REALIZED \$176,000.

PAID

30



Miss Chauncey & Whelan
Philadelphia
Pa.

St. Louis Bears, 1898. The only recorded 60c-10c ten-cent multiple on cover.

Our results speak volumes.



For the highest realizations for your collection contact:

MATTHEW BENNETT INTERNATIONAL

UNITED STATES • SWITZERLAND • HONG KONG

184 Greenwich Street, Suite 1105

Dalton, Massachusetts 02019

415.491.9750 Fax 415.491.9750

www.mattbennett.com

Professional Philatelist Member American Philatelic Society (APS)

Postal History Journal

Published by the Postal History Society
APS Affiliate No. 44
issued February, June, October.

Annual dues \$35 U.S., \$40 Canada
and Mexico, \$50 rest of world,
869 Bridgewater Drive,
New Oxford, PA 17350-8206, U.S.A.
<http://www.stampclubs.com/phs/index.htm>



For this journal, the editors have been awarded the American Philatelic Congress
Diane D. Boehret Award 2004; gold medal & Prix d'Honneur,
Canada's Seventh National Philatelic Literature Exhibition 2005;
Grand Award Colopex 2005; gold medals Napex 2005, APS Stampshow 2005, Colopex 2007.

NUMBER 140

ISSN 0032-5341

JUNE 2008

Editors: Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris, Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196-0477, U.S.A.

U.S. Associate Editor: Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427, U.S.A.

Foreign Associate Editor: Joseph J. Geraci, Box 4129, Merrifield VA 22116-4129, U.S.A.

Advertising Manager: John Nunes, 80 Fredericks Rd., Scotia NY 12302, U.S.A.

CONTENTS © Copyright Postal History Society 2008

RESEARCH FEATURES

QSL CARDS by Dale Speirs	6
MS <i>GRIPSHOLM</i> & the 1942-1943 DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE VOYAGES with JAPAN by Louis Fiset	12
PATENT MODELS FOR POSTAGE & REVENUE STAMP DEFACING by Deborah Friedman	26
MY COLLECTING OBSESSION: a CONVERSATION by Henry Scheuer	30
FDR & POST OFFICE DESIGNS: a POSTCARD EXHIBIT by Anthony P. Musso.....	33
RURAL VERMONT MONEY ORDERS in the GREAT DEPRESSION by Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris	36

COMMENTARY

AMERICAN POSTAL HISTORY in OTHER JOURNALS by Douglas N. Clark	42
FOREIGN POSTAL HISTORY in OTHER JOURNALS by Joseph J. Geraci	48

REVIEWS

U.S. Waterway Route Archives Revealed by Robert Dalton Harris	41
Duchy of Parma Revisited by Joseph J. Geraci	56
A New Italian Catalogue for the Classic Issues by Joseph J. Geraci	63

SOCIETY FORUM

Message from PRESIDENT Douglas N. Clark	57
Diane Dumble BOEHRET 1927-2008	58
POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY OFFICERS and BOARD of DIRECTORS	63
MEMBERSHIP CHANGES by Kalman V. Illyefalvi	63

Printed by, Piedmont Impressions, Box 75, Crawford GA 30630

QSL CARDS

by Dale Speirs

What Are QSL Cards?

QSL cards are postcards sent by a ham radio operator to another, acknowledging receipt of the latter's radio signal. They act as written confirmation that the recipient had talked to or heard the operator. They contain all the details about the transmitting station and the contact; the operator will quote or summarize some of the conversation as proof that contact was made.

From a postal history point of view, QSL cards are good sources of rare postmarks and routes between countries. Many have topical themes. They tend to come into the philatelic market in bulk lots as part of an estate of a deceased ham radio operator. Pinholes are common in QSL cards because it was standard practice for radio operators to thumbtack them on the wall of their radio room and try to cover an entire wall with them as proof of their shortwave radio ability. As with much postal history, condition is a secondary factor, and perfectionists will be disappointed.

QSL cards can be either postal cards issued by the post office with a preprinted stamp or else private postcards with a postage stamp added. Blank postal cards were available to printers in sheets, so QSLs could be imprinted en masse. QSL cards can be personalized, printed up by the individual amateur radio operator with homemade designs, or ordered from a printer specializing in such things and available cheaper in a common format. Many ham radio operators were printers (or vice versa as the case may be) and used their radio call sign as part of their business name to add credibility (Figure 1).

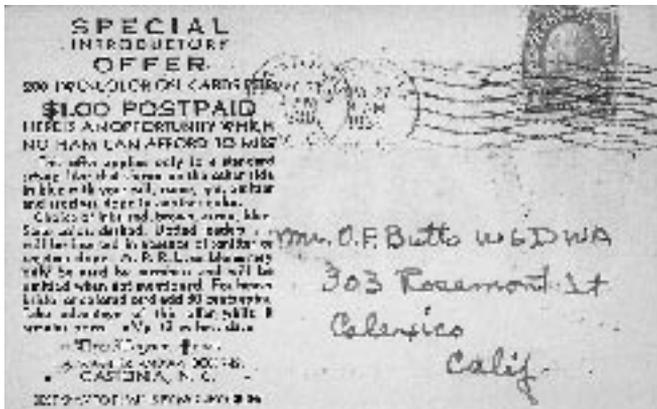


Fig. 1: I.A. Wagner of Gastonia N.C. advertised in 1936 that he would print 200 two-color cards for a dollar - "an opportunity which no ham can afford to miss." On the other side of the card he reproduced a "standard set-up" that could be printed in two of four colors. Wagner used his radio call sign "W4DWA" as part of his address for credibility among his ham radio peers.

As an example, a common format was produced during the 1930s and 1940s from W8DED Print (Figure 2). QSL cards provided ham radio operators with an opportunity to express themselves. Although most are the cheaper generic designs, many operators produced individual cards with cartoons, self-portraits, photos of their radio rooms, or lists of their accomplishments. Most QSL cards are offset printed, but poorer amateurs would do it themselves with mimeographs (Figure 3).

The idea of the cards was independently thought of in several different countries in the early days of amateur radio, ca1920. They quickly became an accepted method of proving contacts; uncounted millions of QSL card designs exist. In the early days of radio

and television, the broadcast stations would often send QSL cards as well, as this information was useful to them in establishing their broadcasting range. Some shortwave broadcast stations still send QSL cards to out-of-country listeners, more as public relations than for any other reason.

Fig. 2: Two-color standard design cards of the 1930s and 1940s from ham radio operators in Peoria (red call letters on grey), Oklahoma City (blue), Chicago (brown) - all from a printer identified only as "W8DED Print."

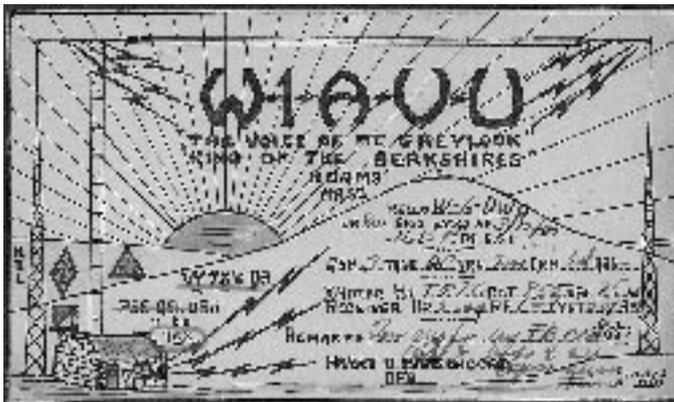


Fig. 3: An amateur production of 1931, mimeographed on a buff-color card and then hand-colored in pink and yellow - by Henry O. Barsghdorf. A complex and pleasing design, it even documents the stone radio operator building at Mount Greylock, Mass.



Fig. 4: A radio operator in Philadelphia used a card that illustrated a telegraph key between two hemispheres, and the acknowledgment was for a “two-way telegraphic message” of February 4, 1934 - all operators had to learn Morse code.

The Q Code

The name of these postcards comes from the use of the Q code, a system of letters that stand for brief phrases. QSL, for example, means “I acknowledge receipt”. The Q code was developed by the British government in 1909 and became an international system in 1912. The advantage is that the codes have the same meanings in all languages, so radio operators can communicate with each other even if they don’t know each other’s language. Additionally, ham radio operators will use other abbreviations. XMTR means the transmitter, and RCVR is the receiver.

Initially, radio contacts were telegraphic, and every ham radio operator had to learn Morse code in order to get his license (Figure 4).

Eventually voice messages dominated, and in recent years it has become possible to send e-mail over shortwave. In most countries today, to get an operator’s license it is no longer required to learn Morse code, which has become as obsolete as the telegraph itself.

The Q code, however, still lingers.

There are too many Q codes to list them all, but a sample of common ones found on QSL cards are:

QRG = exact frequency

QRM = man-made interference (another ham radio operator talking too close to the frequency)

QRN = natural interference (static)

QSA = signal strength

QSO = a conversation

QTH = location

QTR = exact time

Also commonly seen on QSL cards is the code SWL, meaning short wave listener. This means someone who has a shortwave radio receiver but not a transmitter, and who is not licensed as a ham radio operator. Nonetheless, such individuals can receive QSL cards by listening in on ham radio transmissions or, more commonly, shortwave broadcast stations such as BBC World Service, and sending the details to the transmitter whose addresses can be obtained from directories of call signs (Figure 5).

Fig. 5: The owner of a short wave radio receiver in Ft. William, Ontario, Canada, heard a transmission at 3:35 am on February 3, 1934, and notified the transmitter.



QSL Exchange Methods

The two methods of acknowledging shortwave radio contacts were to send individual postcards to each contact or use a card bureau, usually volunteer-run. Sending individual cards by mail was faster but more expensive (Figure 6). From a philatelic point of view, these are the desirable cards because they have the stamps and postmarks.



Fig. 6: A QSL card of Brandon, Manitoba, advertises the Regina Grain Exhibition on its address side - sent from Brandon, January 9, 1933 to VE4AU in Oxbow, Saskatchewan.

Card bureaus were developed to save money but took longer to get the QSL cards to the recipient. In this method, a ham radio operator prepared a card for each contact, then sent them to a central bureau in his country. The bureau operator sorted them out by country, then forwarded bundles of cards to each foreign country's bureau at cheaper parcel rates. Those bureaus then sorted them out by radio operator and sent out batches (Figure 7). Patience was required to participate via bureaus since it could take months or even years to receive QSL cards. In Communist regimes, it was compulsory to send QSL cards through a central bureau, although what surprises me is that they ever allowed hobby amateur radio in the first instance (Figure 8).

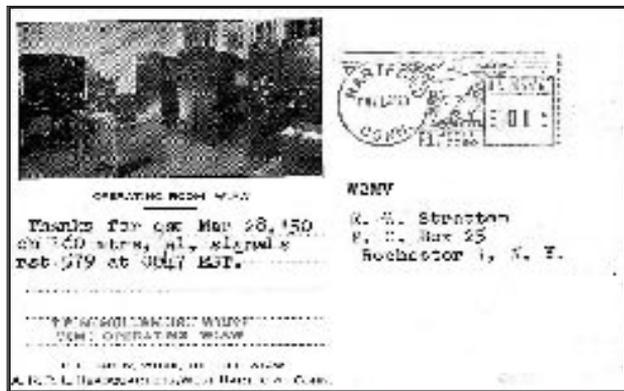
In modern times there are Web sites where ham radio operators can register their QSLs. Some nerds like them, while traditionalists want the usual cards to pin up on their walls. Many ham radio organizations have contests for most QSLs in a time period, furthest contact, most countries reached, and so forth (Figure 9).

its own shortwave radio station, call sign W1AW (Figure 11). Besides having its own QSL cards, the ARRL logo is often found on other QSL cards issued by members of the society. The organization also operates a QSL card bureau.



Fig. 10: First Day Cover for the Amateur Radio stamp of December 15, 1964, the cachet honoring Hiram Percy Maxim and the American Radio Relay League founded fifty years before.

Fig. 11: Acknowledgment card for a “QSO” of May 12, 1950 sent to Rochester NY from the American Radio Relay League headquarters in Newington, and mailed from Hartford, Connecticut.



Dale Speirs is editor of the *Calgary Philatelist* (journal of the Alberta, Canada, philatelic society). His collections include round-the-world covers (see *PHJ* 139) as well as evidence of unusual postal transmissions that leave scant ‘footprint.’ To comment on QSL cards, write to Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta T2P 2E7.

Against Stamp Illustration, 1870

Veteran stamp dealer William P. Brown revealed in *A.C. Roessler’s Stamp News* of April 1922 the origins of the U.S. government’s discrimination against the use of images of stamps. “It was in 1870 when that issue was first brought out J.W. Scott did the audacious thing to illustrate the whole set in his paper as near as he could have them copied in their respective colors and it was claimed that some boys cut out the stamps from his paper and put them on letters for use and this coming to the notice of the Stamp Department they sent in some U.S. officers into his store who said he had been breaking the law by counterfeiting U.S. stamps but as they perceived that he had not done it for the purpose of defrauding them they would not send him to jail for it, on the condition that he should give up all the cuts he had of U.S. Government stamps and take the illustrations from his Albums and Catalogues otherwise they would enforce the law.” Brown went on to suggest that line drawings of the stamps in a uniform color would suffice – and that high quality ones should be supplied by the Government. The *Catalog of the Bierman Philatelic Library* notes, #14, a 21st edition of Scott’s 1870 catalog with an illustration plate in color. According to Crawford (*Bibliotheca Lindesiana* 1911), Mason & Co. of Philadelphia used Scott’s 1870 catalog 19th edition as their own, but without the added single plate of stamp illustrations.

MS *Gripsholm* & the 1942-1943 Diplomatic Exchange Voyages with Japan

by Louis Fiset

Introduction

The United States entry into World War II in December 1941 brought uncertainty, if not danger, to the lives of more than 25,000 U.S. nationals in Asia, Europe and elsewhere whose political status suddenly changed from foreign nationals to enemy aliens. In addition to these new enemy aliens and their precarious status, consular officials and the diplomatic corps of each of the belligerent nations became compromised as well; most were detained or placed under house arrest.

Within hours following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the State Department and Japan's Foreign Ministry entered negotiations to repatriate the diplomatic corps as well as non-officials of both nations. By the end of December the two sides agreed to send passenger vessels, unarmed, without convoy and under safe conduct guarantees to an exchange site at Lourenço Marques, capital of Moçambique, a Portuguese colony located on the east coast of Africa.

The State Department chartered the Swedish American Line ocean liner MS *Gripsholm*, with a capacity of 1,500 passengers. Japan's Foreign Ministry requisitioned two vessels to match the capacity of *Gripsholm*; MS *Asama Maru*, assigned to transport 850 passengers from Japan, Manchukuo, Hong Kong, Indochina and Thailand; and the Italian liner SS *Conte Verde* to carry 650 passengers from China to the exchange site.

On May 28, 1942 *Gripsholm* sailed from Göteborg with 194 U.S. and non-U.S. nationals under a safe conduct guarantee from Germany.¹ Arriving at New York Harbor on June 9th, the vessel remained at the American Export Line pier in Jersey City until setting sail for Lourenço Marques on June 18th. Figure 1 shows the ship at the pier shortly before the departure.

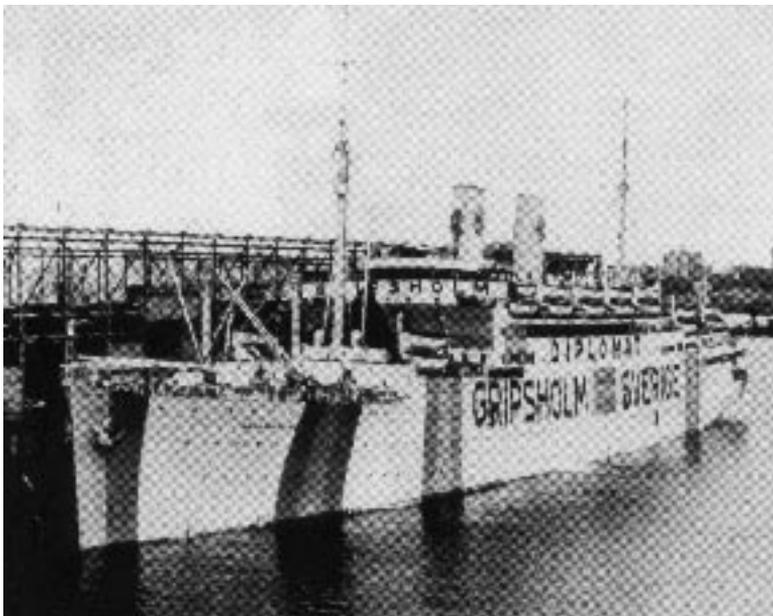


Fig. 1: M.S. Gripsholm as she looked during the diplomatic exchange voyages in World War II.

Repatriates

With 1,500 passenger slots available on *Asama Maru* and *Conte Verde*, the Japanese could designate for the first voyage more than 1,100 non-officials in addition to the 400 consular and diplomatic officials and others with official status. These included newspaper correspondents, Red Cross representatives and certain businessmen, including oil company executives. For its part the State Department sought 1,000 non-official U.S. resident Japanese nationals to augment the contingent of 500 diplomats currently being held in the U.S.

More than 8,000 U.S. civilians were held in territory controlled by Japan, the vast majority of them desperate to return home. Thus, Japan's Foreign Ministry had little difficulty filling the quota for non-officials. The State Department had a more difficult time because few Japanese nationals were willing to participate in the exchange, even though 90 percent of all residents of Japanese ancestry, aliens and U.S. citizens alike, were currently incarcerated in internment camps or assembly and relocation centers.² In order to make up the short fall the State Department turned to the governments of the American Republics to provide Japanese nationals residing in their countries. More than half the Japanese repatriates eventually sailing on the first voyage were Spanish language speakers.

First Exchange Voyage

Gripsholm, with the words GRIPSHOLM, SVERIGE and DIPLOMAT painted prominently on her port and starboard sides, finally set sail on her 42 day voyage to Lourenço Marques on June 18th at 11:22 pm with 1,065 Japanese and 18 Thai nationals. Four hundred seventeen berths remained in reserve for Japanese who would embark at Rio de Janeiro, for a total of 1,500 repatriates.

The exchange occurred with the three ships lined up along the quay at Lourenço Marques after *Gripsholm's* arrival on July 20th and *Asama Maru* and *Conte Verde* on July 22nd.

On the return voyage, *Gripsholm* called at Rio de Janeiro August 10-11, finally docking at the American Export Line's Pier F in Jersey City on August 25th, a round trip voyage of 69 days. The Japanese vessels reached Yokohama, via Singapore, on August 17th.

The table on page 24 lists the ports of call and arrival/departure dates for this 1942 voyage as well as for the second one that followed in 1943.

Second Exchange Voyage

Discussions for a second exchange began shortly after *Gripsholm* departed New York on the first. However, negotiations between the U.S. State Department and Japan's Foreign Ministry bogged down because of squabbles over passenger lists. The two sides agreed to a new exchange site, at Mormugão, Goa, a Portuguese colony on the west coast of India. Notice of this change in site reached the American public on August 2, 1943.

Gripsholm finally weighed anchor just after midnight on September 2, 1943, 15 months after having departed New York Harbor on the first exchange voyage. On board were 1,340 Japanese repatriates, 737 of them Spanish language speakers from Latin America. Calling at Rio de Janeiro September 16-18, another 89 repatriates boarded the ship, while at Montevideo 84 Japanese nationals awaited the ship's call on September 21-23. The total number of repatriates reaching Mormugão was 1,513, 13 more than sailed on the first voyage.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha (NYK) liner, *MS Teia Maru* replaced the earlier exchange vessels, as her capacity was sufficient to carry all repatriates from Japanese-held territory. Leaving Yokohama on September 14th, she put in at Kobe, Shanghai, Hong Kong, San Fernando La Union (Philippines), Saigon, and Singapore, collecting repatriates along the way. With a final manifest of 1,503 passengers, the exchange ship arrived at Mormugão on October 15th, a day ahead of *Gripsholm*.

On the return voyage to the U.S. *Gripsholm* called at Port Elizabeth, October 2-4, and at Rio de Janeiro November 14-16. On November 30th the ship dropped anchor in New York Harbor, docking and disembarking her passengers the next day.

Negotiating A Third Exchange

Deliverance of the 5,000 interned American civilians remaining in Asia rested with a third and fourth exchange. Negotiations between the State Department and Japan's Foreign Ministry continued. But problems caused by Japan's decimated merchant fleet and collapse of her defenses ultimately scuttled plans for another exchange. The war ended before more interned Westerners in Asia could be repatriated, causing additional misery and loss of life for those left behind.

Postal History

This brief history offers promise of a rich postal history. Indeed, this is the case. Mail generated in response to the 1942 and 1943 exchanges falls into six broad categories, each of which will be addressed in this article with examples:

Mail carried aboard *Gripsholm*

Direct mail to or from the exchange sites and ports of call

Domestic mail to New York for returning repatriates

Inter-voyage *Gripsholm* mail

Japanese exchange ship mail

Mail of *Gripsholm* crew, government officials, and Red Cross representatives

1942 Diplomatic Exchange Mail

Although the Lourenço Marques exchange site was known from February 1942, the public learned details of *Gripsholm*'s scheduled departure in May, providing a small window of time to generate mail for the first sailing. Moreover, instructions on sending mail directly to repatriates at the exchange site or ports of call were not widely disseminated. As a result, the volume of mail generated in response to the first exchange was smaller compared to second exchange mail, which received earlier and greater publicity.

Mail Carried Aboard *Gripsholm*

Diplomats' mail: With postal relations between the U.S. and Japan suspended, postal authorities returned all in-transit mail and refused to forward mail to Japan. The State Department suspended pouch mail service for members of the diplomatic corps in Tokyo and consular posts elsewhere in Japan and Asia. However, the plan to repatriate officials via an exchange vessel provided a new opportunity to communicate with diplomats and their staffs in Asia.

With the anticipated sailing of an exchange vessel, in early April State Department officials returned pouch mail to writers with a directive on how it might still reach addressees. A 4 x 2.5 inch rubber stamp device was produced and applied with violet ink to the backs of envelopes being returned. Twenty lines of text advised of the plan for an exchange vessel, and writers wishing to have their letter sent aboard the ship were to affix their signature beneath the statement "I wish this letter forwarded on the exchange vessel" and return the letter under separate cover to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C.

Figure 2 illustrates the stamped State Department directive on mail intended for the former U.S. Consul at Kobe. Postmarked October 21, 1941, the letter was returned to the addressee's wife on April 1, 1942, more than five months later. She did not follow the State Department's directive. Mail bearing this State Department directive is scarce, and few details of its origin have surfaced.

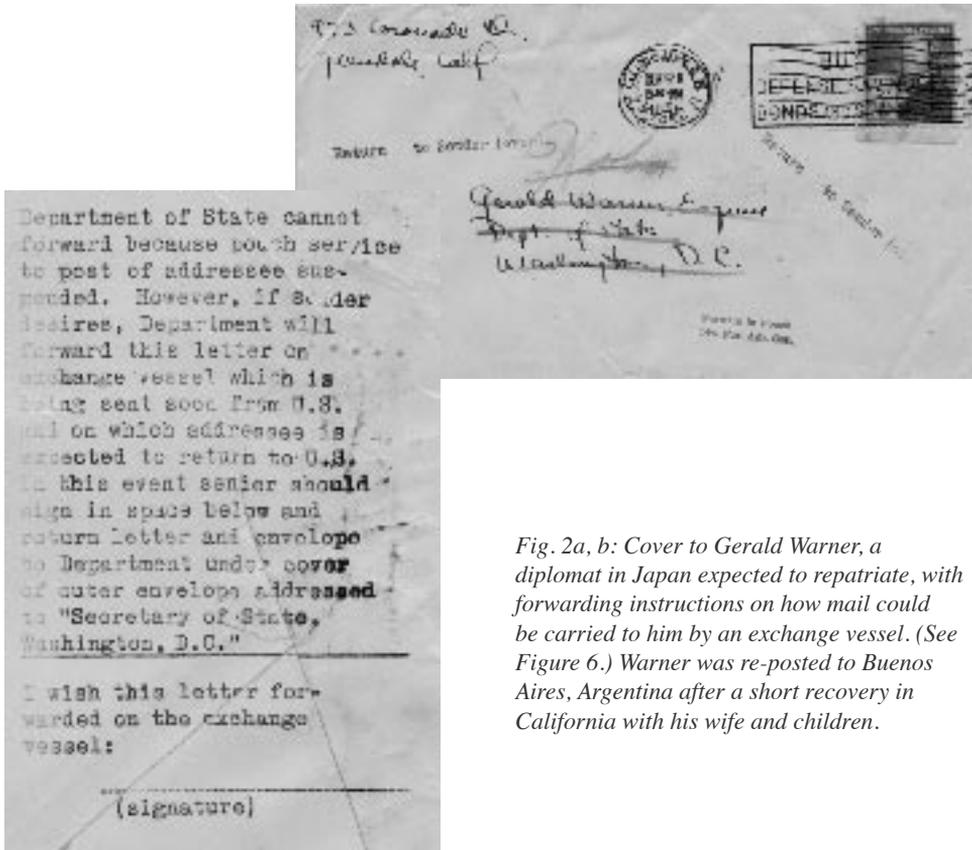
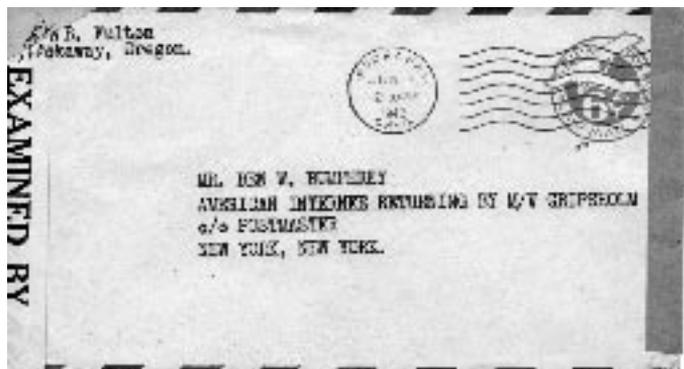


Fig. 2a, b: Cover to Gerald Warner, a diplomat in Japan expected to repatriate, with forwarding instructions on how mail could be carried to him by an exchange vessel. (See Figure 6.) Warner was re-posted to Buenos Aires, Argentina after a short recovery in California with his wife and children.

Mail to non-officials: Individuals wishing to write to repatriates received instructions from the media, government and private sources to forward correspondence to New York indicating the addressee was returning on the *Gripsholm*. After censorship this mail was bagged separately for distribution to the addressees at the Lourenço Marques exchange site.

Figure 3 illustrates a cover addressed to a missionary returning from China via “m/v *gripsholm*.” The writer franked the June 2, 1942 letter with domestic airmail postage to expedite delivery of the cross-continent correspondence to *Gripsholm* prior to the June 18th sailing. A New York U.S. Customs officer examined the letter on June 6th (dark resealing tape). Examiner 6400 of the New York censor station also censored the letter.

Fig. 3: Mail for a U.S. repatriate and carried aboard *Gripsholm* on the first diplomatic exchange voyage.



Mail carried on Gripsholm's return voyage: Approximately 59 pounds of mail from *Gripsholm's* hold were off loaded at New York on August 25, 1942, representing 3,000 items from previously-interned civilians and POWs for U.S. residents. An additional 11 pounds from Canadians in Japan were addressed to residents in Canada. Unfortunately, examples of mail carried on the return voyage have not yet been reported.

Mail Direct To/From The Exchange Sites and Ports of Call

Writers wishing to have mail waiting for repatriates at the Lourenço Marques exchange site or Rio de Janeiro, the port of call scheduled for the return voyage, could send letters from the U.S. by prepaying the half-ounce airmail rates to Moçambique (70 cents) or Brazil (40 cents).

Figure 4 shows an airmail cover sent from the U.S. to the exchange site where the addressees, former missionaries in China, transferred from the *Conte Verde* to *Gripsholm*.



Fig. 4: Airmail from the U.S. to a couple repatriating from China and transferring to Gripsholm at Lourenço Marques.

Figure 5 shows an airmail letter sent to the U.S. from a repatriate at Rio de Janeiro during *Gripsholm's* call August 10-11 on the return voyage. The writer, a U.S. national returning from Hong Kong, posted the letter using Swedish American Line stationery on August 11, 1942, the day *Gripsholm* weighed anchor. It was censored by a British censor in Trinidad, then forwarded by air to the U.S. A pencil notation indicates receipt of the letter on August 17th, a week before the ship's return to New York Harbor.

Fig. 5: Mail from a returning U.S. repatriate on the first exchange voyage posted at Rio de Janeiro during Gripsholm's call.



Domestic Mail Posted to New York to Await Returning Repatriates

Once *Gripsholm* departed Rio de Janeiro on August 11th, correspondents had to address mail for repatriates directly to New York where the ship was due to arrive on August 25th.

Figure 6 shows a letter posted from Massachusetts on August 23rd to the former U.S. consul at Kobe, in care of the American Red Cross in New York City. The letter was turned over to a U.S. Customs censor who examined it on August 24th, returning it to the ARC in time for delivery to the addressee at dockside.

As passengers disembarked they passed through a room staffed with Red Cross volunteers who were distributing mail, messages, and other communications from loved ones awaiting their return.



Fig. 6: Domestic mail to the former U.S. consul at Kobe returning on the first diplomatic exchange voyage (see Figure 2).

Inter-Voyage *Gripsholm* Mail

Fifteen months lapsed between the two exchange voyages. As *Gripsholm* lay at anchor in the Hudson River off Yonkers, her crew remained on board to maintain the ship and be available for the next departure. During this time mail for repatriates expected on the second voyage accumulated at the New York censor station.

***Gripsholm* crew mail:** Outbound crew mail frequently bears a Yonkers postmark, as seen in Figure 7. In this example, the writer, *Gripsholm*'s bartender in peacetime, wrote his mother on ship stationery on November 16, 1942, as he awaited the second voyage.

Fig. 7: Inter-voyage mail from a *Gripsholm* crewman as the ship lay at anchor in the Hudson River off Yonkers.



Figure 8 shows a cover addressed to a relative of Ella Grimmstad, head American Red Cross nurse who accompanied the second voyage. This letter, identifying her stateroom aboard ship while berthed at Jersey City, was postmarked in Washington D.C. August 24, 1943, ten days before *Gripsholm's* departure on the second voyage.

Inter-voyage crew mail, although scarce, is easily recognized if written on *Gripsholm* stationery and the dates the ship lay at anchor are known.



Fig. 8: A *Gripsholm* Red Cross nurse writing from her stateroom aboard ship awaiting departure of the second exchange voyage.

Mail Held at New York: The public anticipated a second voyage prior to the end of 1942. As the names of repatriates became known, writers posted mail to New York for subsequent dispatch on *Gripsholm*. Lourenço Marques remained the assumed exchange site well into 1943, so most mail bears the Moçambique site on the address line.

By November 1942 the New York post office held 40,000 pieces of mail pending this second sailing. All mail was subject to censorship by POW Unit censors at the New York censor station and/or U.S. customs officials. Likely the volume of accumulating mail increased significantly between November and when *Gripsholm* finally sailed nearly ten months later.

Figure 9 shows mail posted during this inter-voyage period. Addressed to a Canadian missionary returning from China on the second voyage, it was postmarked in November 1942. The addressee noted receipt of the letter at Goa (Mormugão) on October 22, 1943, confirming it was actually transported on *Gripsholm*.

Fig. 9: Inter-voyage mail addressed to a repatriating Canadian and received at Goa October 22, 1943.



Letters to repatriates, postmarked between the beginning of July 1942 and the end of July 1943 and bearing a Lourenço Marques destination, provide sufficient evidence to designate this correspondence inter-voyage mail.

1943 Diplomatic Exchange Mail

Significantly larger volumes of second voyage mail than first voyage mail were sent in *Gripsholm*'s hold or flown directly to the Mormugão exchange site and ports of call on the return voyage. The mail accumulating at New York for almost a year contributed substantially. In addition, the sailing date was known well in advance, and Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans received encouragement to send communications as a result of Japan's earlier protest through diplomatic channels.

Mail Carried Aboard *Gripsholm*

Data on the amount of mail carried by *Gripsholm* to Mormugão has not surfaced. It must have been substantial because 1,740 bags of mail and next of kin parcels were destined for Manila, alone. Additional mail was bagged separately for repatriates arriving at the exchange site and for POWs and internees held in Asia. Finally, a much smaller volume of mail was carried to and from Japanese civilians in Japan and North America.

Mail for repatriates: Mail for repatriates arriving on *Teia Maru* may be found addressed to either exchange site. The address style is similar for most correspondence because various media sources published instructions on how to address the mail. The directive "via Gripsholm" provided greatest assurance that letters would reach the ship in time and provides collectors the certainty an individual piece mail was intended for the ship's hold.

Mail to/from POWs and internees: Japan held 20,000 American POWs and 6,000 civilians. Messages of 25 words using the Red Cross Form 1616 to POWs and internees in Asia had been possible for more than a year. However, the slow trans-Siberia crossing by rail to Vladavostok and subsequent journey to Japan by ship made for long delays for Red Cross communications. The second exchange voyage provided a one-time opportunity to substantially reduce transit time, and the public was encouraged to participate.

Figure 10 illustrates mail destined for a POW interned in Taiwan. The "via gripsholm" directive identifies this as exchange ship mail. Postmarked after *Gripsholm* departed New York Harbor, this letter and other mail arriving late to New York was flown by an Army Transport Command plane to Rio de Janeiro, reaching that port prior to the ship's arrival.



Fig. 10: Mail for a U.S. POW in Asia carried on Gripsholm.

Gripsholm also carried mail to and from interned civilians. Figure 11 illustrates outgoing correspondence from a civilian interned in the Philippines and transported via *Teia Maru* to the exchange site. Exchange ship mail sent by internees in the Philippines may be identified by the postal stationery used and a unique cancellation marking. Envelopes printed locally

and for the sole use by civilian internees in the three camps bear the same four killer bar hand-cancelled postmark, Manila No. 1/Sep 25/10 AM/1943/Philippines. The cover illustrated, written by a British internee at Baguio (Camp Holmes - Camp No. 3) and addressed to England, was censored upon arrival in the UK.

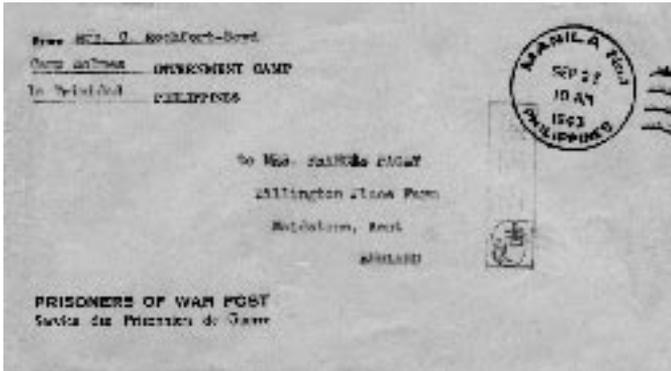


Fig. 11: British female internee in the Philippines writing on stationery provided for exchange ship mail.

Gripsholm mail to/from Japan and North America: Japan’s citizenry learned in August of the opportunity to send communications to North America on an exchange ship. Instructions called for the message to be typed in Japanese or written in Sumi ink (black) on a regular postal card and in Japanese not to exceed 200 characters. The words, “Civilian Internee Mail” and camp name and location in North America were to be written on the address side. Mail had to be posted early enough to reach Yokohama prior to the September 14th departure of the exchange ship. Because the name of neither exchange ship appeared in press releases, correspondents could refer only to “the exchange ship.”

Figure 12 shows a postal card from Japan addressed to an internee at the Fort Missoula internment camp, postmarked August 31, 1943. Rubber stamp markings applied by censors designated the addressee as a Japanese civilian internee. The Japanese language message focuses on family matters: “Your letter of last April I received in March of this year. I heard from Mr. Takahashi and am not worried anymore. How has your health been? How is Hanaye’s brother? I want to know his address. We’re all safe here. Mother is well, too. This autumn I’m planning to return. Miye graduated from college and is teaching High School. Kimiko entered High School. Relatives all well. It must be cold your way. Stay healthy. Have strong faith and be patient. I pray for your strength and happiness. We pray for our mother country. **This letter is being sent by the exchange ship.** I send you Christmas blessings.”



Fig. 12: Postal card from Japan to the U.S., carried on Gripsholm’s second exchange voyage.

Resident Japanese nationals and Japanese Americans incarcerated in INS camps and relocation centers also learned of the opportunity to communicate with loved ones in Japan via an exchange ship. Camp bulletins and center newspapers advised that messages of a personal nature to friends or relatives in Japan may be sent on the exchange ship, *Gripsholm* on Red Cross Message Form 1616. Further, all forms were to reach the American Red Cross at Washington DC no later than September 6th in order for an Air Transport Command plane to reach Rio de Janeiro in time to meet the ship. The American Red Cross dispatched to Rio more than 12,000 messages and letters. Despite the significant number, few have survived.

Japanese exchange ship mail: As *Teia Maru* headed for Goa to rendezvous with *Gripsholm*, repatriates aboard ship generated a small volume of mail addressed to correspondents remaining in Asia. Figure 13 provides one example of mail written en route by a returning American. The writer, likely a missionary in China before the war, is corresponding with a Russian in Shanghai. The Yokohama comb cancel was applied on November 15, 1943, one day after *Teia Maru's* return to that port. (By this time *Gripsholm* had reached Rio de Janeiro.) The free franked letter bears a vertical boxed marking on the front side indicating "Prisoner of War Mail." Markings on the reverse side indicate the letter was censored at Tokyo and received at Shanghai on February 2, 1944.

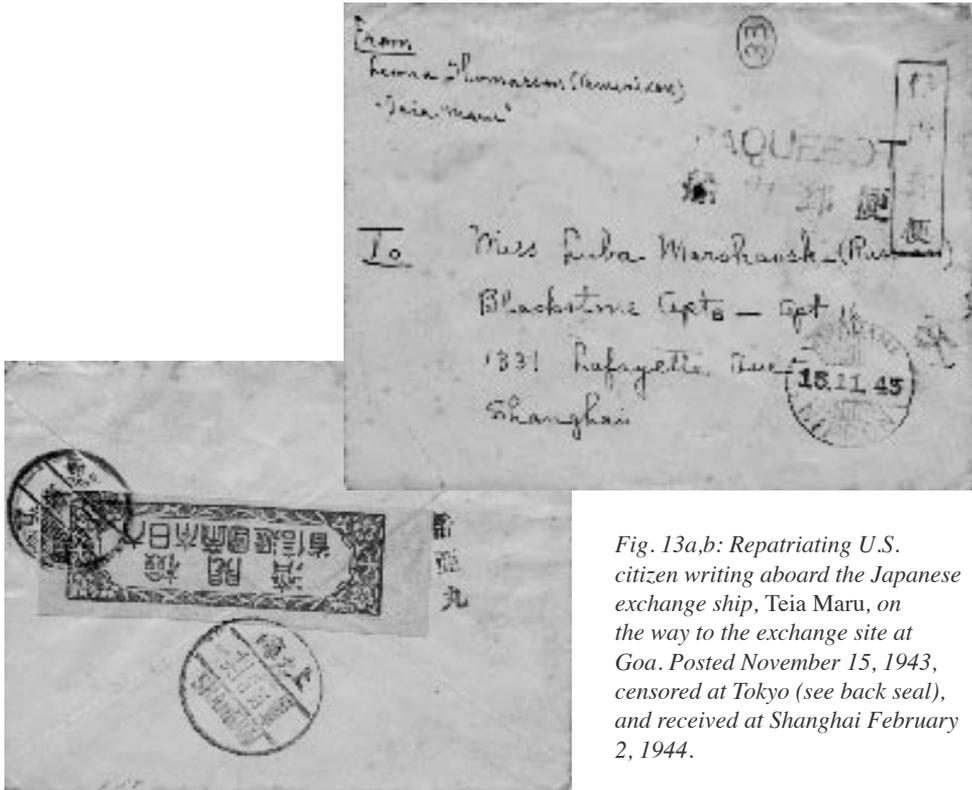


Fig. 13a,b: Repatriating U.S. citizen writing aboard the Japanese exchange ship, *Teia Maru*, on the way to the exchange site at Goa. Posted November 15, 1943, censored at Tokyo (see back seal), and received at Shanghai February 2, 1944.

Mail generated aboard *Gripsholm*: During the voyage from New York to Goa Japanese repatriates wrote business and personal letters to correspondents in the U.S. and Canada. This mail was held on board until the ship's return to New York.

Writers franked these letters with U.S. postage and surrendered them to a *Gripsholm* crewman. Upon arrival at New York this mail was handed over to U.S. Customs officials who delivered its contents to the Office of Censorship's POW Unit for examination.

Figures 14 and 15 show examples of mail written by repatriating Japanese nationals to addressees in the U.S. and Canada. Given their low priority status, New York postmarks often bear January 1944 dates, more than one month after *Gripsholm's* return.

Fig. 14: Mail posted on board *Gripsholm* by a repatriating Japanese national during the second exchange voyage.

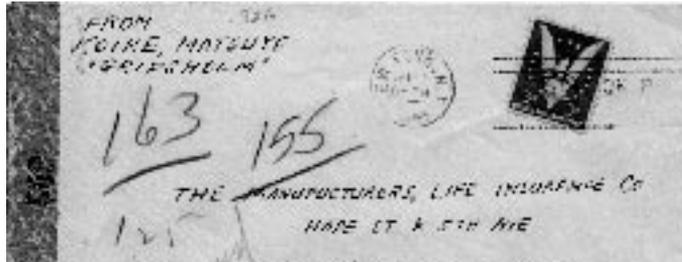


Fig. 15: Mail posted aboard *Gripsholm* during the second exchange voyage by a repatriating Japanese national from Canada.

Direct Mail To Or From The Exchange Sites And Ports Of Call

The 45-day voyage to Goa and the subsequent 40 day return via Port Elizabeth and Rio de Janeiro enabled writers to post airmail correspondence to the repatriates as they made their way home. Likely, many had mail waiting for them at all ports of call.

Although U.S. censors imposed no limitations on the amount of mail that could be sent to the repatriates, writers had to prepay airmail postage to the foreign destination at the half-ounce rates of 70 cents to Goa, 60 cents to South Africa, and 40 cents to Brazil. Like all international mail, correspondence for repatriates was subject to U.S. censorship.

Writers were instructed to address their correspondence in care of the U.S. Embassy or Consulate, indicating the addressee as a repatriate on the *Gripsholm* from the Far East. Figure 16 illustrates airmail correspondence to a repatriate at Rio de Janeiro, the second call on the return voyage.

Fig. 16: Airmail from the U.S. to a repatriate at Rio de Janeiro during the second exchange voyage.



Repatriates, in turn, posted mail to the U.S., Canada, and other countries upon arriving at the ports of call. Figure 17 shows mail posted from Port Elizabeth destined for a Westerner in China. Repatriates had to prepay their airmail letters, and all outgoing correspondence was subject to censorship, including U.S. censorship.



Fig. 17: Letter to China posted by a repatriating U.S. citizen at Port Elizabeth, the first port of call on the return voyage of the 1943 diplomatic exchange.

Domestic Mail

The final destination of *Gripsholm*, of course, was New York Harbor. Twenty thousand letters, telegrams, and other messages awaited the repatriates and were distributed by ARC volunteers as the passengers disembarked.

Earlier, writers in North America were instructed to address mail to the American Red Cross. However, some mail was addressed to the Swedish American Line office in New York City, at 636-5th Avenue. Depending upon where the mail was originally delivered, U.S. Customs or Office of Censorship examiners censored the mail.

Mail of *Gripsholm* Crew, Government Officials and Red Cross Representatives

Ships the size of *Gripsholm* required a large crew to operate the vessel and serve the needs of passengers. Approximately five hundred crewmen of several nationalities accompanied the two voyages. Also on board were representatives of the American and International Red Cross, including six nurses dedicated to the health of the repatriates traveling in both directions. A small number of Spanish and Swiss officials were on hand to monitor the exchange.

Figure 18 shows a postcard sent by a Red Cross nurse during the call at Montevideo, September 21-23 on the outbound voyage and forwarded by the Fleet Post Office. Red Cross workers enjoyed the same six-cent concession rate for airmail letters as did military personnel.



Fig. 18: Postal card mailed at Montevideo en route to Goa, and sent through the Fleet Post Office.

Figure 19 illustrates mail from a crewman writing to Sweden during the call at Rio de Janeiro on the return voyage. Incoming and outgoing mail may be found for the crew at both the exchange site and all ports of call. Most ship's crew mail seen to date was written on *Gripsholm* stationery.



Fig. 19: Ship's crew mail to Sweden posted from Rio de Janeiro during the second exchange voyage.

In all, *Gripsholm* carried eight sacks of mail from Goa destined for U.S. residents, representing approximately 150,000 pieces of mail. An additional 75,000 pieces of mail destined for England, and India via England were off loaded at New York and forwarded by air to their destination for censorship and distribution. Although the volumes of mail generated in response to the two diplomatic exchange voyages in their entirety is significant, collectors have found it to be scarce. This article has summarized several categories of mail involved in the two exchanges. Hopefully, additional diplomatic exchange mail will surface as a result.

Notes

1. Negotiations for safe conduct were carried out at the foreign ministerial level. All nations involved in the conflict, including Great Britain, were informed of the voyage, the coordinates radioed from *Gripsholm* every few hours, and lights blazing at night to identify the ship. Even so, she was nearly sunk by a submarine on one of the voyages.
2. The *New York Times* provided information on the exchanges and even published the names of repatriates as they became known. Some information on sending mail appeared in the media, and the Japanese inmates learned about sending mail (Red Cross Form 1616) through their camp bulletins. The Japanese incarcerated in camps were actively recruited by the State Department through the Army, which controlled the assembly centers; the INS and Army, who controlled the internment camps; and the War Relocation Authority that oversaw the relocation centers. Despite the abuses towards the Nikkei inmates by the U.S. government, few were willing to participate in the exchanges.

References

- American Red Cross. *Prisoners of War Bulletin* (Washington D.C.: American Red Cross, 1943-1945.)
- Corbett, P. Scott. *Quiet Passages: The Exchange of Civilians between the United States and Japan during the Second World War* (Kent State University Press, 1987.)
- Fiset, Louis. "Wartime Communication: Red Cross Key to U.S.-Japan Mails," *American Philatelist*, March 1999, pp. 228-234.
- Fiset, Louis. "Diplomatic Exchange Voyages of World War II: M.S. *Gripsholm* and S.S. *Drottningholm* Originating At New York," *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, 44(3):4-17, 2005.
- Friedman, Max Paul. *Nazis and Good Neighbors: The United States Campaign Against the Germans of Latin America in World War II* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003.)

- Garrett, Eugene A., *A Postal History of the Japanese Occupation of the Philippines, 1942-1945* (Freeman, SD: Pine Hill Press, Inc., 1992), Chapter 14.
- New York *Times*. (See 1942 and 1943 Indexes under the heading, *Gripsholm*.)
- Ruggiero, Mike. *United States and British Exchanges with Japan, 1942-1943* (International Society for Japanese Philately Monograph 14, February 2003.)
- U.S. Department of State. *Department of State Bulletin* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1942-1946.)
- U.S. Department of State, *Foreign Relations of the United States Diplomatic Papers, 1942* (Volume 1), pp.285-377; 1943 (Volume 1) pp. 72-118.
- Weglyn, Michi, *Years of Infamy: The Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps* (New York: Morrow Quill Paperbacks, 1976.)
- Yano, Fumihiko, *Japanese Military Personnel Prisoners' Mail in the Philippine Islands* (Postal History Society of Japan, 1988.)

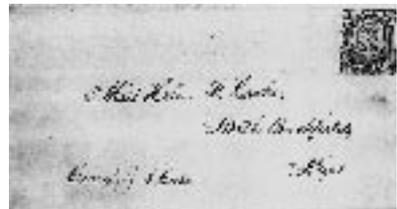
**Table: Ports of Call and Arrival/Departure Dates
for MS *Gripsholm's* Diplomatic Exchange Voyages to Africa and Asia**

<u>Port of Call</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Departure</u>
1942 Voyage		
New York		18 June
Rio de Janeiro	2 July	4 July
Lourenço Marques	20 July	28 July
Rio de Janeiro	10 Aug	11 Aug
New York	25 Aug	
1943 Voyage		
New York		2 Sept
Rio de Janeiro	16 Sept	18 Sept
Montevideo	21 Sept	23 Sept
Port Elizabeth	4 Oct	4 Oct
Mormugão	16 Oct	22 Oct
Port Elizabeth	2 Nov	4 Nov
Rio de Janeiro	14 Nov	16 Nov
New York	1 Dec	

Louis Fiset has had a long time interest in postal history relating to civilians in times of war. He is currently at work on a book focusing on the mail of interned U.S. enemy aliens and other non-combatants in World War II.

Stamp Similitude

On March 16, young James E. Tower hand-delivered a thank you letter to his even younger cousin Helen F. Cooke, both living in the village of North Brookfield, Mass. On the envelope he drew a stamp rather like the one-cent Franklin of 1880. He wrote: "I promised to write you a little letter, and thank you and your papa for this beautiful pen holder and pen. I have been wanting one for a good while, and this is one that I can always keep, and think of you every time I use it. I am very much pleased at your love and thoughtfulness. I commenced this letter, as you see, with black ink, but it was so poor that I concluded to change. It gives the letter a rather variegated appearance; and my hand trembles because I have been snow-balling, and using my wrists, so that this letter has altogether rather a strange and fantastic appearance. I am writing on the paper which your mother gave me, which I am very thankful for." In cultural terms, the pen [nib], pen holder, and letter paper were a little like a gift of a text-messaging cell-phone.



Patent Models for Postage & Revenue Stamp Defacing

by Deborah Friedman

The United States government has adopted a succession of ideas for ensuring that postage and revenue stamps cannot be reused. Stamps are ‘cancelled,’ that is their monetary value is cancelled, with marks that are indelible but not completely obscuring. Devices to perform this action are called ‘killers’ (indicating a measure of brutality in the erasing of value), ‘obliterators’ or ‘defacers.’

Asa White and Benjamin Chambers hold the earliest patents for handstamps for post offices (1830 and 1835, respectively) - but these were for recording the office and date. The advent of postage stamps in 1847 and then revenue stamps during the Civil War stimulated more handstamp inventions that incorporated a cancelling function. Particularly with canceling revenue stamps, the desire apparently was for a device that would actually puncture the stamp and so tie it to the document. A small collection of the full-size patent models for some of the early ideas in revenue stamp canceling machines - most of which could also be used for postage stamps - is quite instructive.

The earliest was patented June 20, 1865 by two inventors of East Cambridge, Massachusetts. Anthony Hardy had previously invented devices for embossing envelopes, and Thomas S. Hudson had made ink well holders – and their device combined the skills of both men to produce a handsome free-standing “Machine for Canceling Revenue-Stamps.” A spring-mounted wooden knob activated a plunger incorporating a changeable-type impresser that would imprint a name and date on a revenue stamp attached to a document placed on the bed of the machine. The inventiveness was the “endless chains” of type that could be wheeled into place to provide the date, and the roll of printing ribbon with its balancing take-up reel (see the patent sketch on the front cover).



Figs. 1 & 2: Hudson & Hardy's "Hand Stamp" with two of the Patent Office's tags, for receipt of the model on April 6, 1865, and for recording the patent of June 20.



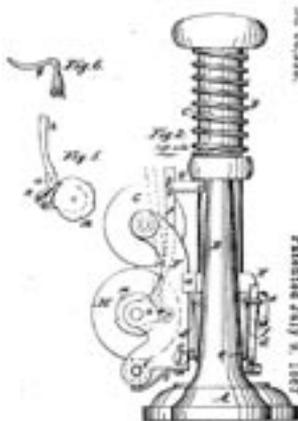
Marcus P. Norton, an attorney who specialized in patent cases, of Troy, New York, had already invented a duplex handstamp – in 1859, followed by successive improvements that he fought infringers over for decades. The duplex device would obliterate the stamp with one of its lobes and apply a town and date marking with the other – a design that became a post office standard.

On August 15, 1865 Norton obtained a patent for a handstamp with “Improvements in Marking and Canceling Internal Revenue or Postage Stamps.” “The nature of my invention consists in the employment of an adjustable punch, for the purpose of canceling

internal-revenue stamps by punching a hole or holes through the same, at the same time and operation of giving an impression in ink upon such revenue stamp of the name of the person, persons, or corporation so canceling the same; also, in canceling postage-stamps by punching a hole or holes through the same at the same time and operation of giving an impression in ink upon such postage-stamp by means of a cork, wood, or any elastic substance in combination therewith, so as to thus effectually prevent a second or re use of any such revenue or postage stamp.” Norton points out that the punch mechanism could be combined with his patent postage-stamp-canceling device (most recent patent April 14, 1863). Evidence of use of the circular cutting blades (not quartered as they had been in Norton’s December 16, 1862 patent) to cancel stamps has been seen on covers from Albany, Buffalo and Rochester N.Y. (see Hubert C. Skinner “Patents and Philately during the 1860s” *The Chronicle* Vol. 46 No. 3, August 1994).

Thomas A. Slack of Peoria, Illinois, invented various agricultural machines in the same period that he patented, July 9, 1867, a free-standing “Machine for Affixing and Cancelling Adhesive Stamps.” “My invention consists, first, of an arrangement for placing and affixing adhesive stamps to checks, drafts, receipts, or other papers by means of a reel for containing and supplying the stamps; rollers for placing them, a sponge supplied with water by a reservoir for wetting them, and a knife for cutting them apart; second, of an improved self-adjusting ink-ribbon stamp-canceller attached to and to be used in combination with the stamp affixer, so that by a single blow or pressure of the hand the stamp is placed, affixed, cut, and cancelled ...”

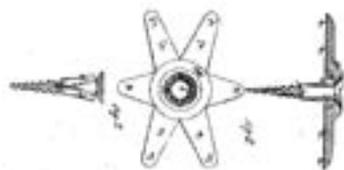
Figs. 5 & 6: Patent sketch and model for Slack’s “Stamp Affixer and Canceller” patented July 9, 1867.



Figs. 3 & 4: Patent sketch and tagged model for Norton’s “Hand Stamp” of August 15, 1865.



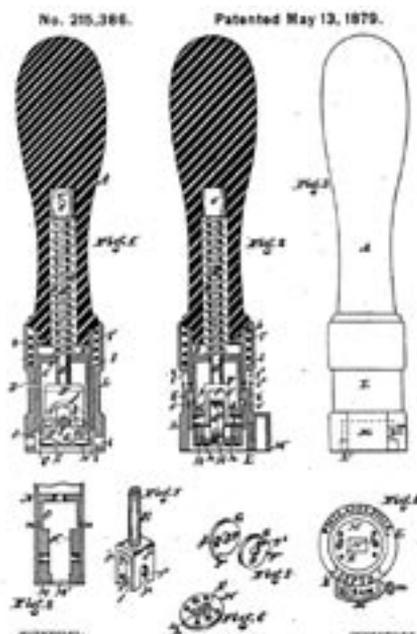
Not all revenue stamps were affixed to paper documents. In the case of beer, the stamp had to be affixed to the barrel itself. Charles C. Egerton of Washington D.C. patented a star-shaped plate and screw device that would cut and imprison the revenue stamp right on the bung of the barrel. “The plate *A* cannot be removed as long as the bung remains in the barrel, because the screw *B* cannot be turned backward; but, when the bung is removed, the plate and screw go with it. Then the bung can be unscrewed from the screw, but the teeth, *a a*, penetrating into the bung, necessitates or causes a tearing of the upper surface of the bung and consequent tearing of the stamp, rendering it impossible for the stamp to be used again.”



Figs. 7 & 8: Patent sketch and tagged model for Egerton's "Screw and Plate for Canceling Stamps" patented January 17, 1871.



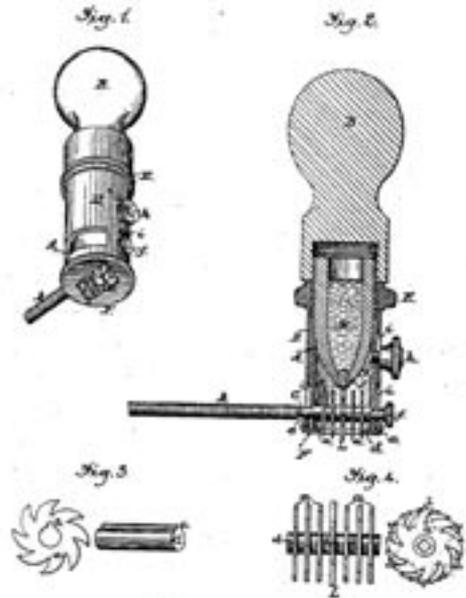
Figs. 9 & 10: Patent model and sketch for Murset & Crawford's "Perforating-Stamp" patented May 13, 1879.



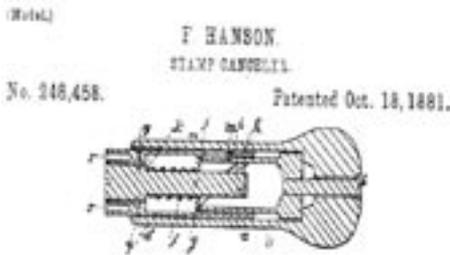
Samuel Murset was a well-known microscope maker of Philadelphia in the 1870s. With John M. Crawford (possibly his backer) he patented May 13, 1879 a “Perforating-Stamp.” “Our invention consists of a tool adapted to deface postage and other stamps by cutting away a portion thereof, so as to prevent the reuse of the same. Said tool is further provided with letters and figures adapted for the reception of marking-ink, so that in the one operation, or by one movement, a letter-stamp may be defaced beyond power of restoration and the usual post-mark made on the uncut portion of said stamp, or on the envelope to which said stamp is attached.” The cutters were designed to “actually cut out and bodily remove portions of the stamp” but not to go “deep enough to cut through the envelope to which said stamp is affixed, or at least to enter a letter contained in the latter.” If this device was put to use, stamps cancelled with it should be identifiable.

John A. McClelland of Louisville, Kentucky, patented a nasty little scarifying “Stamp-Canceller” November 25, 1879, that would roughen the surface of stamps (Figures 11 & 12). “To use my canceling-stamp, cause the flexible shaft *k*, and with it the arbor and saws, to revolve rapidly by any convenient power, press the cap *F* upon the stamp, having a cushion of slightly-yielding material under the letter, and the saws will cut grooves in the stamp.” “It is sometimes desirable to use an inking attachment to a canceling-stamp. Such a device is shown in *Fig. 2*, in which *H* is a fountain of ink, *J* is a wick or sponge, and *L* the printing disk.”

J. A. McCLELLAND.
Stamp-Canceller.
No. 222,067. Patented Nov. 25, 1879.



Figs. 11 & 12: Tagged patent model and sketch for McClelland’s “Stamp-Canceller” patented November 25, 1879.



Figs. 13 & 14: Patent sketch and tagged model for Hanson’s “Stamp Canceller” patented October 18, 1881.



Freeman Hanson of Hollis, Maine, had a similar idea of scraping the stamp’s surface – his October 18, 1881 patent for a “Stamp Canceller” had a spring-loaded cutter within the handle (Figures 13 & 14).

It is difficult to know which of these patents were put to use. Manufacturers of handstamp cancellers for the revenue stamp market shopped for improved designs, and retailers carried a range of models. Working backwards from the marks left on stamps, however, one can imagine which of these compelling tools went beyond the patent office stage.

Background to Patent Models

The United States government began issuing patents to inventors in 1790. In 1836, the United States Patent Office specified that each application for a patent should be accompanied by a model not more than twelve inches square, as well as a drawing and specifications. Over the course of the 19th century, thousands of models for patented inventions were accumulated by the Patent Office. Displayed in cases at the Patent Office Building in Washington, DC they were sources of research for inventors and patent attorneys, as well as tourist attractions in their own right.

After 1880 models were no longer required. In 1925 Congress decided the remaining models were surplus property to be sold. The Smithsonian Institution selected the models of those inventions it felt were most significant, and the remaining models were sold. There is no complete record of what models survive; many thousands were destroyed in a 19th-century fire, and time has taken its toll.

Collecting Patent Models

I became fascinated with patent models when my father started acquiring some in the late 1960s. My late parents lived near and became friends with O. Rundle Gilbert, who then owned the bulk of the models. From then on I began to acquire models primarily from the region in upstate New York where I live. As a committed philatelist, I also acquired postal-related models, as they held a particular fascination. Post office and mail-related operations generated a wide variety of inventions. Some went into production and became significant; others did not. All show evidence of the constant search for improvement.

Each is one of a kind. Some models are the actual full-size invention, such as the hand cancels here. Others, because of the size limitation, are miniatures – made to show the significant improvement being patented. Models could be professionally made with exquisite workmanship, but many were simple, homemade efforts. Regardless, the models are tangible reminders of the creativity and skill of our forebears.

Deborah Friedman is an expert in the postal history of Colombia (her significant collection of Colombian Airmail was auctioned by Cherrystone in 2007). She has been active in philatelic study groups of South America, and in the Collectors Club of New York.

My Collecting Obsession: A Conversation

by Henry Scheuer

The joys of becoming a comprehensive custodian of paper ephemera.

Amassing a quantity of physical objects according to some logical manner separates a collection from a mere accumulation or hoard. As one begins to accumulate at first a few, then many objects, a few thoughts pass through one's mind.

Initially, in order to attract the collector, the allure of amassing objects has to hold the promise of being a sufficiently interesting, intriguing, informative and even educational pastime. Subconsciously, each of us understands limiting the mass of accumulated items according to space constraints (why I have yet to encounter a large collection of outdoor billboards in a Manhattan apartment). Financial limits also constrain certain collecting choices. Finally, our spouse acts as a reality-check and boundary-setter when we stretch space and financial resources.

Confucius a collector? "A journey of a thousand steps begins with a single step."

Yes, a collection can begin with "a few," "a small grouping," or an existing collection that can be enhanced. As we gather more items, each collector learns what items are easy

to locate and which are elusive. Accordingly, the collection begins to take shape. A certain “pace of acquisition” sets in that over the years fluctuates as other life events (such as marriage, children, retirement) dictate. Interestingly, many professional buyers and sellers of collectibles, including ephemera, carefully observe the “pace of acquisition” among their clients with important holdings, sensing that the collector might wish to dispose of holdings when the “pace of acquisition” slows for no apparent reason.

Micah a collector? “Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly.”

Yes, “do justly, love mercy” – does that mean we are required to treat dealers well! “Walk humbly” certainly is a sense that grows the longer one collects, and the more advanced the collection becomes. Just think how we are “humbled” when we “discover” an item and realize how incomplete our holdings are – eBay anyone?

I’m not Confucius, nor Micah, but I am a collector.

I collect postmarks of May 29, 1964 with the newly-released 5-cent John F. Kennedy stamp from as many post offices as possible throughout the United States. These envelopes typically measure 6.5 by 3.5 inches. To date, I have amassed just over 13% of the possible total (4,638 from a total of 34,084).

After John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963, the country’s emotions were raw. Eager to honor his memory, his name was affixed to airports, schools, streets, avenues and so on. The Post Office Department even decided to design a postage stamp to place on sale on what would have been Kennedy’s 47th birthday: May 29, 1964. For stamp collectors, the “First Day of Issue” postmark would be Boston, but the stamps would officially be placed on sale throughout the country, theoretically in all 34,084 post offices. It is unknown if all post offices received stamp supplies in time or if they placed the stamps on sale that day. First Day Cover collectors, other stamp collectors, and ordinary citizens could create their own souvenirs. Of course, in the way of ordinary business these stamps were available to be used as payment for personal and business correspondence and for the month-end bills (remember the date: May 29).

In 1980, I was presented with an opportunity to acquire a collector’s entire holdings. Frank Spooone of Morristown, Tennessee had built a collection of 1,600 different postmarks with a stock of 900 duplicates. Mr. Spooone had prepared envelopes in advance of the May 29, 1964 first day date and mailed blank envelopes to over 90 different post offices in his state. He enclosed the proper payment for the stamps to be affixed and requested that the postal clerks affix the stamps, postmark the envelopes on May 29 and then place them in the mail stream for the journey back to him. He then engaged in an active correspondence campaign with other collectors throughout the country in an effort to build his collection through an exchange of duplicates.

When I became the owner of this curious grouping I wrote to the addresses on the envelopes in the collection: Mr. Spooone’s trading partners. This classic networking exercise resulted in hundreds of new acquisitions. These were the days before computer spreadsheets and data bases – I became a scribe, manually listing my holdings alphabetically, by state, then city.

The hunt expanded to include as many stamp dealers and collectors as possible. Among the techniques I employed:

- scouring stamp auction dealers catalogs
- attending stamp, postcard and ephemera shows and expositions
- writing articles describing this interest, for hobby and non-hobby publications
- creating single page handouts that were mailed to show-organizers for free distribution
- maintaining a list of items that have been identified but not acquired, with data about the sighting and when possible the name, address and telephone number of the owner.
- Authoring a quarterly newsletter (now discontinued) to communicate with collectors who own postmarked envelopes not in my collection.

The collection is stored alphabetically by postmark type: first by state, then by city, then by postal zone (a post office building represents a different station, branch or zone)

The pace of acquisition has slowed to about 50 new items a year. I have been diligently developing a time series for acquisitions. This has been in place for about ten years, in part to understand how the collection continues to grow and in part as a motivator to continue the pursuit at a reasonable pace. At this rate, I'll be complete in just over 500 years. Back to Micah and walking humbly ... a collection that has no end.

This long-term collecting project has been quite instructive. The more the cover is lacking in obvious souvenir characteristics the more likely that I don't yet have it in the collection. Messy ink-addressed envelopes are sought (rather than neatly-typed or rubber-stamped addresses), and plain, unadorned envelopes (i.e. uncached) hold promise.

Three computer spreadsheets have been created: 1. Collection Inventory 2. Postmarks reported but not included in the collection 3. Cities over 10,000 (arbitrary cut-off) whose postmarks are not reported. I consult these printouts when candidates for the collection are considered.

Thank goodness the required textual information to appreciate the collection is near at hand. The graphic and physical dimensions still (and happily) require "looking through." Ideal for a sunny afternoon – and I can't wait until it rains.

Fig. 1: Mr. Dorrance Nichols of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania prepared a commemorative envelope (cachet) for the commemoration of the initial issuance of the 5-cent John F. Kennedy stamp. He purchased the stamps and visited at least 27 different cities, villages and towns along the western side of the Susquehanna River on U. S. Route 11. Apparently Mr. Nichols was aware of the nationwide release and made an attempt to commemorate the event locally, as may be noted by the wording "Pennsylvania first day of issue".

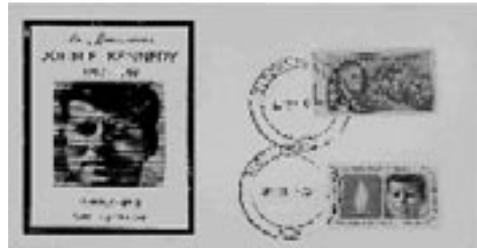


Fig. 2: The newly issued stamp was placed into service on May 29, 1964 around the country without fanfare or ceremony. Many people visited the post office, as any other day, and purchased stamps to affix to their monthly bills. Washington Gas Light Company serves Washington, D.C., and suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia. Neither the bill payer nor the receiving electric utility intended to commemorate the stamp's initial release.



Fig. 3: The most contrived souvenir of the day was the "standard" First Day of Issue postmark. This cover was prepared by a collector, for a collector on a black engraved Artcraft cachet. (Figure 4.) Hundreds of thousands of such examples exist. This study examines non-Boston May 29, 1964 postmarks. Many of these exist in far smaller numbers, perhaps some are the sole example reported.



Fig. 4: Mr. Kenneth Jenkins of Virginia Beach, Virginia was in Indiana and Ohio on May 29, 1964. He was aware of the new stamp's initial release date and secured postmarked from at least 15 cities and towns in Indiana and Ohio as he traveled about 200 miles from west to east (indicated by the progression of postmarks).



FDR & Post Office Designs: a Postcard Exhibit

by Anthony P. Musso

Franklin D. Roosevelt as President of the United States once held the most revered and powerful position in the world. He will be long remembered for his innovative approach to bring the country out of the depths of the Great Depression, his leadership during a world war, and his distinction of having been the only man to hold the office of president for more than two terms.

Somewhat lost in Roosevelt's long and proud legacy is the fact that he was the premier stamp collector of his generation and as such he had a significant impact on both the hobby and the Department of the Post Office's perception of it.

While conducting research for my book, *FDR and the Post Office* I learned of - through Roosevelt's archives at his Presidential Library in Hyde Park, New York - the level of hands-on participation that the president had with many projects initiated during his terms of office. None were more obvious than his critique and direct involvement that surrounded the construction of five Post Office buildings in his native Dutchess County, New York.

In an effort to provide employment for Americans after the Great Depression, Roosevelt created the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which dedicated local manpower and federal funds to the construction of numerous federal buildings throughout the nation, among them 406 Post Offices. The five Post Offices built in Dutchess County, New York - in Beacon, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, Wappingers Falls, and Hyde Park - received not only the president's support, but his direct involvement, from their stone exteriors to the world-class murals installed in their lobbies.

To illustrate each of the structures in my book, which I dubbed "The Five Jewels of Dutchess County," I sought out and purchased vintage post cards that depict their exteriors.

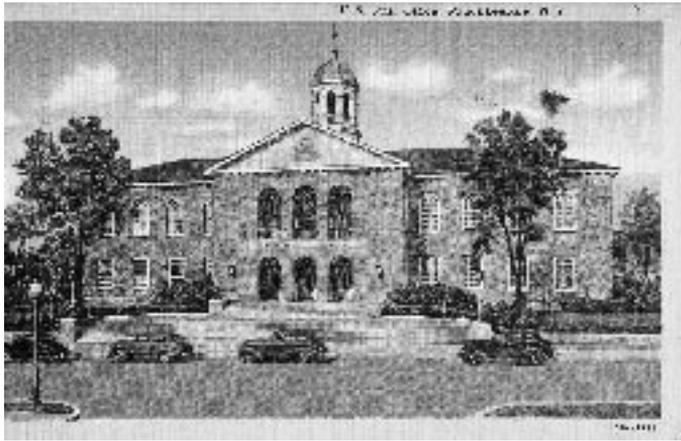
Roosevelt's theory on all WPA buildings was that each one should reflect the local heritage of the respective community in which it would stand. This, he felt would instill in local residents a much-needed sense of pride - which was floundering in the severe economic conditions they were experiencing.

Fig. 1: The 1934 Post Office building, designed by architects Charles Rosen and Gilbert Stanley Underwood, in Beacon, Dutchess County, New York. Postcard by "Curteich Co. C.T. American Art." All five of the stone buildings pictured in this article are now National Historic Landmarks.



All five of the Dutchess County buildings feature native slate or material otherwise obtained from within the local area. In Beacon, the exterior material was salvaged from the old West Point Foundry, located in Cold Spring. At the time of the Post Office's construction the material was estimated to be 180 years old.

Fig. 2: The 1939 Post Office building in Poughkeepsie. Architect Eric Kebbon copied the design of a demolished 1809 county courthouse. At 63,000 square feet, this is the largest of the FDR post offices in Dutchess County and the first in which he took an interest. Postcard by "C.T. Art Colortone."



The interior of each building boasts a series of murals that reflect life in the locale through the years. In Poughkeepsie, four murals on both the first and second floors are representative of what the city would have looked like during various phases of its existence. A large centerpiece mural is a depiction of the New York State ratification of the Constitution, which occurred just two blocks south of the Post Office in the old Dutchess County courthouse.



Fig. 3: The 1940 Post Office building in Hyde Park, copying the design of the 1772 clapboard John Bard house but built of stone salvaged from stone walls on the Bard farm. Postcard by "Colorcraft, Dexter Press Pearl River NY"

Both the Rhinebeck and Hyde Park Post Office building interiors feature a series of murals that chronologically take one through the different eras of the community. The final panel of twelve in Hyde Park is a portrayal of President Roosevelt, seated in his automobile and reviewing plans for the new Roosevelt High School with members of the local school board.

Aside from the murals, remnants of earlier times in postal history can be discovered in each building. In Poughkeepsie, a philatelic window is located adjacent to an encased trowel that Roosevelt personally used to dedicate the building as part of a grand ceremony. The President, an avid stamp collector, wanted post offices to include a retail window dedicated strictly for collectors so that they might be allowed to pour over new available stamps without

hampering or delaying another customer's transaction. While the philatelic window is still in place and prominently marked as such, it is now used to conduct passport acceptance, philatelic windows having, for the most part, been phased out.

At Roosevelt's insistence, each building except for the Beacon Post Office is a reproduction of another prominent structure in each city's history. The Rhinebeck Post Office is an exact replication of the old Hendrick Kip home, built in 1700 and having the distinction of serving as the site of meetings to formulate plans in the interests of the new colonies. The Post Office building even includes a 10-inch, round bull's eye window that existed in one of the gables of the original house. True to the original structure, the window housed in the Post Office can only be accessed by crawling through a passage way on one's hands and knees.

Fig. 4: The 1940 Post Office building in Rhinebeck, built by architect R. Stanley Miller in the style of "Kipsbergen," an ancestral home of FDR's. Postcard by "Curteich Co. Chicago IL."



Stamp collectors, post card collectors, and history buffs alike have one common bond with President Franklin D. Roosevelt - a keen sense and appreciation of historic significance as well as its safeguard and preservation.



Fig. 5: The 1940 Post Office building in Wappingers Falls, designed by architect R. Stanley Miller after the Brouier-Mesier house in the village. Postcard by "Eagle Co. New York NY."

Anthony Musso is a USPS employee and philatelist. His book, *FDR and the Post Office* is heavily illustrated with images of original post cards, philatelic covers, various domestic and international stamps (some of which Roosevelt designed), and other vintage material related to the hobby industry. \$17.50 (postpaid): PO Box 34, Lagrangeville, New York 12540.

Rural Vermont Money Orders in the Great Depression

by Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris

Twenty-five years ago, as postal antiquarians, we extolled money order business¹ and since then, as students of postal history, have come to appreciate the unique features of its evidential record of the addresses and amounts, of the nodes and links, of the commercial web. Money Order Business was begun during the Civil War. By 1869, MOB funds exceeded postal revenues – were three times gross postal revenues by the Great Depression. MOB flowed from the small towns to the larger cities, accumulating capital downstream.^{2,3}

Background to New Haven, Vermont

New Haven, Vermont (named for the town in Connecticut) is a township in Addison County with a population of 1,700. It has always been a farming community, although 19th century industries flourished in two hamlets powered by the water of the New Haven River. The Brooks Edge Tool Company that made famous broad axes at Brooksville didn't survive until the 20th century, but their buildings were used as a cheese factory and then as polishing shops for the Vermont Marble Company until closing down in 1920. At New Haven Mills a creamery and box factory supported dairy farmers until a fire in 1924.

The first New Haven post office of 1802 was on a short-lived turnpike between Middlebury and Vergennes, near part of the township later called New Haven Junction when the Rutland and Burlington Railroad was completed in December 1849 (now the Vermont Rail Way), and near where a modern post office was built in 1973. But, for most of the 20th century, the post office was in New Haven Street (or, just New Haven), where there is a town green and a general store that has been in operation since 1807. New Haven Mills had its own post office from 1827 to 1919. Brooksville's office began in 1855 - the railroad didn't stop at the hamlet's siding but a mail bag was hooked off – and became Beldens in 1894 until closing in 1919. New Haven Mills and Beldens were then served by rural routes operating out of Bristol and Middlebury, respectively.⁴

To confirm and intensify the local narrative of the data from our Money Order registers,⁵ we interviewed Betty [Rivers] Bell, the Town Historian. Betty lives now in the building that housed the post office from 1897 to 1950. She was born in 1928 and grew up just two houses North, across the street from her grandparents (who lost their savings in the Depression when a Vergennes bank failed).

Beginning in 1873, the Roscoe and Squier families shared the duties of New Haven postmastership – first Henry C. Roscoe until 1879, when Charles F. Squier took over, giving way to Henry's brother Alfred Mortimer Roscoe in 1882 who passed it to his son Alfred P. Roscoe in 1885. Charles F. Squier took it back from 1894 to 1897, when Alfred P. Roscoe retrieved



Fig. 1: Betty Bell, President of the New Haven Historical Society, finding names from her childhood in the Domestic Money Orders Received Register (Form M) from 1926 to 1941.

the post, passing to his wife, Mary Hathaway Roscoe in 1906. Mrs. Roscoe continued after her husband died in 1909.

Alfred Roscoe for many years was also Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, and Justice of the Peace. His house, a clapboard with two bay windows facing North Street, was opposite the Town Clerk's office so it was convenient for a section of the front parlor to become the post office with a lockable rolltop desk for the postmaster's records (Betty Bell insisted the desk stay with the house when she bought it in 1961). When Mary Roscoe died in 1929, her house was purchased by Alvin C. Squier and his wife May Patterson Squier. May Squier took over the postmastership, and so the office remained in the same spot until May retired in 1950, when the office moved into an annex to the general store on the green.

So, for the period spanned by money order records of this study, there were just two postmasters, both women, serving the community from a small section of their front parlor. Mary Roscoe (pm 1906-1929) and May Squier (pm 1929-1950) also supervised the rural route, operated from its beginning 1904 by May's husband Alvin and then by Ladd Daniels. Betty Bell remembers hanging out in the tiny post office, listening to the cheeping of chicks in boxes to be loaded on the mail wagon headed for the junction, and hearing Ladd Daniels in the office loading mail for his rural route wagon. There were two mail trains a day, and a mail wagon dropped off New Haven's bags on the way to Bristol. Betty earned nine cents (why nine? Did May keep a penny?) taking Special Delivery letters around the village. She well remembers a day in 1943 when she set off to deliver a letter to Jim Higbee and saw Clyde D. Hoffnagle killed in a car wreck at the corner just after he had been to the post office. Shocked, she returned to the office, to be reprimanded by Mrs. Squier for forgetting to deliver Mr. Higbee's letter.

Money Orders Sent

"Form L ... Register of Money Orders Issued" recorded the domestic money order business of New Haven. At the start of the period we are studying, the register recorded the date of issue of the order; the serial number; the name of remitter; the name of the payee; the post office it would be drawn on; the amount; the fee; and remarks. The last column was usually left blank, except for cases of C.O.D. in which case the advice number was recorded. Beginning in 1930, the two columns of names were dropped, making the documentation less personal. For 1928 to 1930, then:



Fig. 2: Robert Harris and Betty Bell stand on the slate path that led to the post office door, now walled in, that accessed the front parlor on North Street.

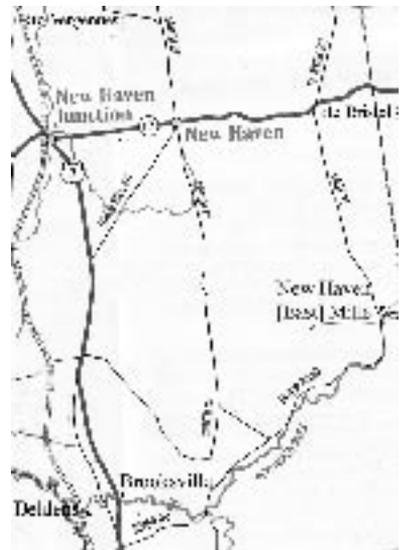


Fig. 3: The town of New Haven, Vergennes to the north and Middlebury to the south via Route 7; Bristol to the east via Route 17.

The postmaster herself, Mary Roscoe, each week paid varying amounts to the Free Press Association in Burlington, which were probably subscription fees that she collected. Other fees were paid directly by the subscriber, as the Beeman Academy did to the Essex Publishing Company, or R.F.D. carrier M.R. Wilson did to the *R.F.D. News* in Washington.

The majority of the money orders were remitted to mail order houses – the familiar behemoths of Montgomery Ward, Sears Roebuck, Spiegel May Stern, Gimbels, Atlee Burpee, Larkin, Jordan Marsh and the lesser-known National Bellas Hess Co., South European Importing Co., Charles William Stores and Lane Bryant, all of New York.

Several times a month, Mrs. C.D. Hoffnagle remitted to Schaughnessy Knitting Co. in Watertown N.Y., the Racine Feet Knitting Co. in Racine, Wis., and The Spirella Co. in Niagara Falls. She and other Hoffnagle women then remitted often to the Lockwoven Hosiery Co. of St. Louis. This suggests a home business using knitting machines (which were very popular in the 1920s) that were purchased on credit. Many women paid for patterns from Butterick and McCall's and most, no doubt, made at least some of their own clothes.

There is evidence of other industry: C.H. Palmer bought his first chicks on August 20, 1928, from Newport, Kentucky. Arthur Lambert paid \$4 dues to the Holstein Friesian Association in Brattleboro. Edmund Keyes sold Rosebud Perfume and ordered it quite regularly from Woodsboro Md. Grace Gifford sold Paradise Chocolates and ordered from Paradise Pa.

Citizens of New Haven made bank deposits by money order (there being no bank in the township) – to the National Bank of Middlebury, or the National Bank of Vergennes, or the First National Bank of Bristol. They paid their phone bills to Northeast Telegraph and Telephone Company in Burlington and their electricity bills at first to Edison Electric Illuminated Co. in Boston or to Cambridge Gas and Light Co. and then to Green Mountain Power in Vergennes. Their insurance bills were paid to Prudential, John Hancock Mutual, Massachusetts Mutual, Metropolitan Life or New York Life Insurance Company (although Felix Paquette still insured with Great Western Life in Montreal).

Within the state, Motor Vehicle licenses were paid to Burlington. Singer Sewing machines and Maytag washers were purchased from Burlington on credit. Cars were repaired at Landon Auto or Mac's Garage in Bristol. The Secretary of State in Montpelier received many payments in connection with immigration issues.

The townsfolk were paying with money orders for all sorts of goods from outside the state: C.H. Leach bought something from a Fuller Brush man for \$1.90, remitted to Hartford Conn. V.M. Benedict bought wall paper from the Empire Co. in Rochester N.Y.; Mark C. Peck from the Quaker Co. in Philadelphia. Newton Rose bought a tool from Owatonna, Minn. Several men bought suits from Northeast Wholesale Tailors and shoes from Tanners, both in Boston. E.G. Lowell bought a part for his plow from the Rock Island Plow Co. in Illinois; C.W. Rivers for his from John Deere in Syracuse N.Y. Russell Everest paid \$2.52 for something sent C.O.D. from the Anderson Milker Co. in Jamestown N.Y.

Only a handful of the money orders sent from New Haven were made out to individuals, and those seem to be family matters: George Dickinson sending \$20 to his wife in Bellows Falls, for instance, or Felix Paquette sending money to Augustene Lamereaux in Paquetteville, Quebec. Several French Canadian families maintained ties: Mrs. Helen Swenor often sent a dollar to the Oratoire St. Joseph, or directly to Frère André, in Montreal.

Some surprisingly personal details leap out: Allan and Douglas Everest must have been stamp collectors – buying quite often from Mystic Stamp Co. in Camden N.Y. and then from William J. Dietz in Chicago, Midland Stamp in Toronto, Badger Stamp in Milwaukee. Bert De Coursey was learning to play an instrument through the U.S. School of Music in New

York. Florent Turpin was learning from the Aviation Institute in Washington. Mary Dalton bought a World Book encyclopedia on time. Mrs. M. Rivers (Betty's mother) bought silk stockings from Indianapolis, in July! Mrs. Arthur Lambert received a fur coat from Crosby Frisian Fur Co. in Rochester, perhaps as a New Year's gift, December 31, 1929.

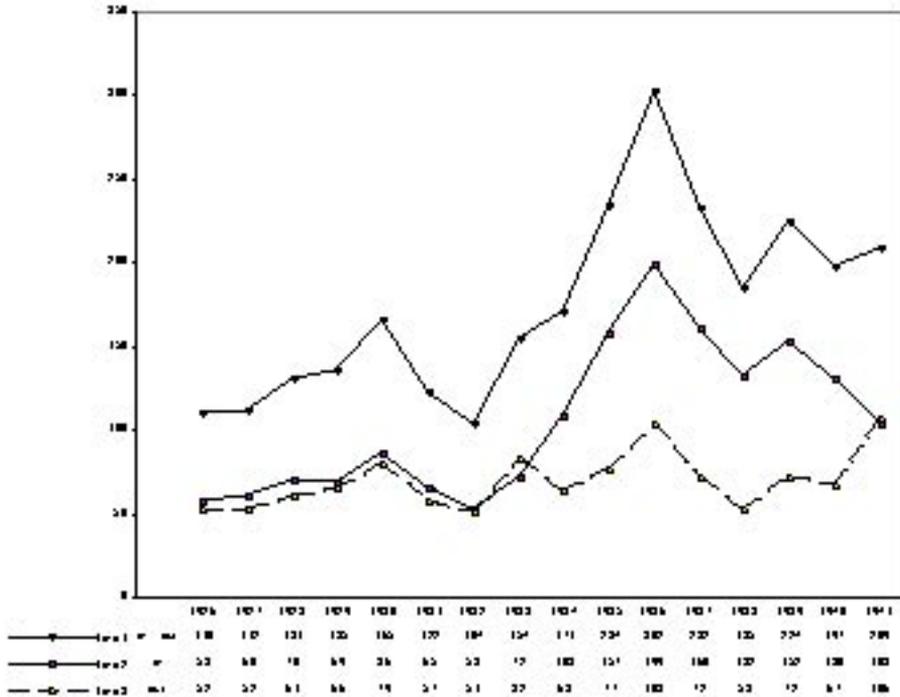
New Haven had no doctor within the township after 1920. Romeo Bolduc must have had an accident or lengthy illness, having to pay a Burlington hospital \$10 a month. Mrs. Oscar Benedict put her faith, and quite a bit of money, in the patent medicine of the New Science Institute in Steubenville, Oh. Mrs. James Higbee put her faith in Lydia Pinkham of Lynn, Mass. Other patent medicine companies were popular: the Western Medical Corp. of Chicago, Uneeda Drug of New York. May Chaffee, Ladd Daniels and others went to Dr. E.T. Brown in Burlington - \$1.75 or \$2 a visit. Mrs. Orrin Wells self-tested her eyes with a kit from Chicago.

Overall, this bustling picture of commerce through the mails was bound to spell doom for the local stores. Though the storekeepers, too, ordered goods – particularly C.S. Everest who even bought bait from Indiana.

Money Orders Received

During the period 1929-1937 when such records overlap, the New haven post office dispatched nine times as many money orders as it paid: the graph shows three paths from 1926 through 1941, the period spanned by the extant register of money orders received in

New Haven, Vermont
Money Orders Received
1926-1941



New Haven. The upper path represents the total number, while the lower two represent the number of money orders received from within and without the State. Until 1933, the within and without contributions are approximately equal, each about 50% of the total, but thereafter and until 1941, the number of internal receipts almost doubled the external, constituting almost two-thirds of the total. The exemplars of this relative abundance were the Palmers, who under their own name and as proprietors of Elm View Farm, from 1934 through 1940 received 474 money orders from within Vermont.

After the Palmers, the Everests and Mrs. Eugene Conroy are the next most frequent beneficiaries of money orders in New Haven, but they received most of their money from out-of-state and often from members of their own families. Beginning in 1930, Mrs. Eugene Conroy received almost 100 money orders from her husband, mostly in Boston or Gardiner, Mass., but also from him in a half dozen other out-of-state places as well, the remits declining in amount and frequency as the Great Depression wore on.

The Elm View Farm activity could be taken as a vital sign, but it is also the sign of the increasing degree of incorporation required to succeed in President Roosevelt's new economy. The Elm View Farm money order receipts were predominately received in the spring. They were probably in payment for the chicks which Betty Bell heard in the post office – an experiment in chicken farming in a township predominantly given to dairy. And the dairy business was increasingly in larger herds owned by fewer families. Prosperity would have to wait for the war industry that emerged down the tracks of the railway in Springfield, Vermont, in conjunction with the Lend-Lease mobilization before Pearl Harbor.

Endnotes

- ¹ Diane DeBlois "Money Order" *P.S. A Quarterly Journal of Postal History* VII(26) 1985 pages 33-56.
- ² *Post Modern: documented play of the US POD*, catalog of original source documents for sale, aGatherin' page 21, #566: money order records for Louisa, Kentucky
- ³ Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris, "The Pre-Victorian Internet: Economic, and Physical Measures & Principles of the United States Postal System in the 19th Century," IEHC 2006 Conference, Helsinki, Session 107. (www.helsinki.fi/iehc2006/sessions81_124.html)
- ⁴ Information on post offices from the *Official Registers*, and from Harold Farnsworth, *A History of New Haven in Vermont 1761-1983*, published by the Town with a grant from the Vermont Historical Society, 1984.
- ⁵ A full listing of the money order registers we have for New Haven, Vermont:
 - a) Form L "Register of Money Orders Issued" 5 volumes, all GPO editions
 - 2 April 1928 to 30 September 1929
 - 1 October 1929 to 31 December 1930
 - 1 January 1931 to 31 August 1933 (the names of payer & payee are no longer provided)
 - 1 September 1933 to 31 March 1936 (ditto)
 - 1 April 1936 to 31 March 1938 (ditto)
 - b) Form M "Register of Money Order Advices Received and Orders Paid." ("S-7172")
 - 1 August 1925 to 15 May 1942
 - c) Form N "Money Order Cash Book" (daily balance, sales/deposits) 5 volumes:
 - 22 November 1907 to 30 May 1911 (D.P. Co. edition 16 December 1903)
 - 1 June 1911 to 31 August 1914 (D.P. Co. edition June 1909)
 - 1 September 1914 to 10 November 1917 (T.A. edition April 1912)
 - 10 November 1917 to 28 February 1921
 - 1 March 1921 to 3 July 1922 (horizontal format, D.P. Co. edition February 1917)

U.S. Waterway Route Archives Revealed

a review by Robert Dalton Harris

U.S. Contract Mail Routes by Water (Star Routes 1824-1875) by Hugh V. Feldman FRPSL. The Collectors Club of Chicago. X + 396 pages, hardbound. \$75 postpaid within U.S. + \$10 for all other countries, Collectors Club of Chicago, Duane Larson, Box 415, Park Forest IL 60466.

This is an extraordinary book. First, and foremost, that a British postal historian would devote considerable energies over many weeks to plumb the documentation on water mail contracts in the National Archives and the Library of Congress. No American has previously done this – and what emerges is fascinating material that spans the national scope of postal history and corresponds to a delicious batch of postal markings (provided in color illustrations of covers provided mainly by American dealers with ties to England).

Color, in particular, leads to the second exemplary virtue – the inclusion of carefully chosen details to illustrate each route, gleaned from the 1839 Atlas by David Burr, thanks to the British Library's copy which was hand-colored (the copy at the Library of Congress is not colored and the one in France is deemed too fragile to open). The maps from this Atlas provide the most detailed picture of the geographic scope of the reorganization of the U.S. postal system in 1837, and Mr. Feldman's labeling on the map reproductions is brilliant.

The production values of the book are five star: illustrations and charts are intelligently integrated; a well-designed compound index of names (of boats, of persons, of places) eases inquiry; the 8.5 x 11 inch size, the paper, the sturdy binding all are calculated for joy of handling.

What is missing is a comparison with the official publication of the mail contracts. I'm most familiar with the routes in New York State (having prepared a compilation of postal route data to accompany a reproduction of the Burr map for New York ¹) and I note that fully half of the waterborne mails cited in the published contracts for New York State to begin July 1, 1837 are not in Mr. Feldman's documentation.

Moreover, from this archival study, there is practically no mention of 'season of navigation' nor the realization that whatever postal function was provided by water in the northern United States had to be complemented with post coach service when ice limited navigation. Even upon the Ohio and Mississippi, because of the current, there were complementary land routes (the first steamboat mail contracts were for downriver service only or for bringing letters up from The Balize).

That said, comparison with the published mail contracts is made difficult by lack of continuity in their printing.² The first complete picture of mail contract routes was published, for the four-year cycle of the country's divisions, from 1837 to 1841. Thereafter, the printing record is spotty until 1875. So Mr. Feldman provides the design of the contract system over a period when an official corroboration in print is often unavailable.

Other postal historians of waterborne mail will miss reference to other work already done, but the critical conclusion is that every student of U.S. postal history will welcome this achievement and want to own the book.

Endnotes

¹ *Postal Route Gazetteer, Part I: New York State 1839* by Robert Dalton Harris, Postilion Publications 1992, Available from Subway \$19.20, see back cover.

² For description and a table of printed mail contract information, see *P.S. A Quarterly Journal of Postal History*, "Postal Documents in the Serial Set" IX (33) 1987 pages 19, 20 and "Mail Contracts: Congress & the PMG" X (39) 1988 pages 77-79.

American Postal History in Other Journals

by Douglas N. Clark

A large number of articles on U.S. postal history is being published each month. In order to present a useful survey of recent publications, it is necessary to adopt a rather narrow definition of postal history and to present what is more an index than a literary endeavor. Unlike an index, however, the present listing contains very little cross-referencing; so that a reader interested in trans-Atlantic mail should check each geographical location from which such mail might have originated. Editors not finding their publication reviewed here need only make sure the publication is available to the U.S. Associate Editor, at P.O. Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427.

General Topics

Highway Post Offices

White River Junction and Springfield H.P.O. cover (1969) bears a clerk's handstamp with the same route, only R.P.O. instead of H.P.O. An explanation is given in "Highway Post Offices" by William Keller. *Trans. Post. Coll.* 59, No. 2 (January-February 2008).

Independent Mails

American Letter Mail Co. carried a letter from Boston, Mass. to Bangor, Me., and then mailed it to its final destination, Old Town, Me. This created "The American Letter Mail Company and the Post Office Department: Conjunctive Partners," William W. Sammis is author. *Penny Post* 15 No. 4 (October 2007).

"Honour's City Post," the subject of this article by Larry Lyons, produced six adhesives. A census of the stamps, mostly on cover, accompanies production and other information, 1849-1858. *Penny Post* 15 No. 4 (October 2007).

"Patriotic Covers Carried by Private Local Posts" by Clifford J. Alexander describes and reproduces a census by the author, who identified 59 patriotic covers carried by local posts. *Penny Post* 15 No. 4 (October 2007).

Inland Waterways

"Louisville & Cincinnati Mail Line Postal Markings, Part 1" by James W. Milgram contains an examination of markings of this waterways route agent on 17 covers, 1850-53. *Chronicle* 60, No. 1 (February 2008).

Military Mail

APO cover of 1944, from Assam India to Sierra Leone, West Africa, is illustrated and its military air mail route analyzed in "APO Use of a Fourteen-Cent Prexie" by Dickson Preston. *Prexie Era* No. 40 (Winter 2008).

Censor marks of 1941-42 constitute "Passed by Army Censor; Update No. 1" by Richard W. Helbock. These are presented as supplements to *Passed by Army Censor*, which is apparently a book by the same author, although no reference to the book is given. *La Posta* 38, No. 6 (December 2007-January 2008).

"FAM-22 Refugee Camp Cover to Africa" actually never got past the New York censors, as pointed out by author Jeff Shapiro. Addressed to India, the 1944 cover would have flown the FAM-22 route to Lagos. *Prexie Era* No. 40 (Winter 2008).

Irish soldiers in the American War between the States is the subject of "The Irish Brigade in the American Civil War 1861-65" by Ian Paton. Covers with military letterhead and patriotic designs are illustrated. *London Phil.* 117, No. 13530 (March 2008).

Ocean Mail

Blockade run Civil War letters of "The Locke Correspondence" are discussed by author Francis J. Crown, Jr. Two covers, originating in Savannah, 1862-63, are illustrated and the personalities involved are identified and placed geographically. *Confed. Phil.* 52, No. 4 (October-December 2007).

"Panama - Two Mysteries" by Theron J. Wierenga deals with three steamship handstamps of 1850-51. One reads PAN. & SAN. FRAN. /S.S., another PANAMA/N.Y. and the

third PANAMA in straight line. The author offers some speculations and a cover census. *Post. Hist. J. No. 139* (February 2008).

Post Office History

William F. Vilas, Postmaster General, 1885-1888 is the subject of "Postmasters General of the United States XXXIII" by Daniel Y. Meschter. *La Posta 38, No. 6* (December 2007-January 2008).

Postal Markings

Form for attempted delivery (attached to an 1890 letter with insufficient address) is the subject of "Different Ways to Find Someone – 3" by Tony Wawrukiewicz. On the form, postal officials could check off "Directory," "Branch A Dist.," etc. *Aux. Marks. V, No. 1* (January 2008).

"Further 'Held for Postage' Related Markings" by Tony Wawrukiewicz adds markings previously unlisted, showing "Held for Postage" and the follow up "This is the Mail for which you sent postage." *Aux. Marks. V, No. 1* (January 2008).

"Held for Postage," in a number of different styles, is illustrated in an article by Roger D. Curran. *U.S.C.C. News 28, No. 8* (November 2007).

"Letter Returned by Carrier" frequently has an accompanying marking explaining why. Three examples, 1880s-1905, are illustrated in this article by Jim Kotanchik. *Aux. Marks. V, No. 1* (January 2008).

"'Spanish Language' Auxiliary Marking" contains an illustration of the marking (1943) and author Zeb Vance surmises that it was applied to inform military censors. *Aux. Marks. V, No. 1* (January 2008).

"Stafford/INK" is the reading of a mystery killer, which author Roger D. Curran surmises was struck from a bottle cap. The article is entitled "Stafford, Inc." *U.S.C.C. News 28, No. 8* (November 2007).

Railway Mail

"Chelsea Terminal Revisited" by Paul Bourke discusses a 1919 terminal R.P.O. marking of this station with "A.G.O." instead of "A.P.O." in the dial. This confirms an earlier discovery announced by the author. *Trans. Post. Coll. 59, No. 2* (January-February 2008).

Rates

Continental Congress Post (1775), with a brief explanation of its establishment and the rate on a cover from Nantucket to Philadelphia, via New York, is the subject of "From Nantucket, by 1775 Continental Congress Post" by Douglas N. Clark. *Mass. Spy No. 123* (Winter 2008).

Routes

Airmail from the U.S. to foreign locations was made possible by combining U.S. operations with foreign airlines, as described in "With a Little Help from our Friends Part 6" by Richard W. Helbock. This part covers air service to China. *La Posta 38, No. 6* (December 2007-January 2008).

Rural Free Delivery

"Pittsfield, N.H. RFD Routes 1898" by Terence Hines reproduces part of a Postmaster General's report contrasting the terrains in Pittsfield with those in Santa Clara County, California. The Post Office's interest was to assess possible RFD routes. *Post. Hist. J. No. 139* (February 2008).

Stamps on Cover

Pan American Expo issue of 1901 is shown on several street car R.P.O. covers, in "News from the Cities" by Douglas N. Clark. *Trans. Post. Coll. 59, No. 2* (January-February 2008).

Usages

Newspapers that could not be delivered became "Newspapers as Postage Due Mail," as described by author David Straight. Appropriate post office forms (1884-1947) are illustrated in this article. *Amer. Phil. 122, No. 3* (March 2007).

"Pneumatic Hotel Post" concerns a cover backstamped "HP Tube Station." Author David Straight explains that the marking was applied at the Hotel Pennsylvania in 1927. *C.C. Phi. 87, No. 2* (March-April 2008).

Geographic Locations

Alabama

“Montgomery Postmaster Provisional Handstamps,” used in the Confederacy when adhesive stamps were not available (1861-62) are the subject of this article by Van Koppersmith. Known facts are reviewed, with some new data on number of covers seen. *Confed. Phil.* 52, No. 4 (October-December 2007).

Colorado

“Colorado Postal Encyclopedia – Arapahoe County” by William H. Bauer contains historical sketches, postmasters’ dates and tracings of markings (1872-present). Similar articles concern Conejos County (1864-present) and Mesa County (1883-present). *Colo. Post. His.* 23 No. 5 (January 2008).

Florida

“Florida Official stamps & Covers” by Daniel B. Curtis contains illustrations of two covers. One, a ca1875 registered cover postmarked Cedar Keys, has a mixed issue franking with officials and large Bank Notes. The other is an 1870 Internal Revenue free franked cover, postmarked Jacksonville. *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 15, No. 1 (March 2008).

“Gainesville Florida College Covers” by Herbert P. McNeal contains illustrations of nine covers with corner cards or illustrations advertising colleges and related institutions, 1883-1915. *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 14, No. 3 (November 2007).

“Hollywood Provisional” by Deane R. Briggs contains an illustration and explanation of a cover (ca1922) with undated straightline “Hollywood/Florida” handstamp tying the adhesive. *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 15, No. 1 (March 2008).

Sarasota’s first postmaster Charles Abbe was shot and killed, as described in “Assassination of the Sarasota Postmaster” by Jack Harwood. Two covers, 1883 and 1884, are illustrated. *Fla. Hist. J.* 15, No. 1 (March 2008).

Tallahassee cover was advertised and forwarded in Keene, New Hampshire. Author Deane R. Briggs has researched the lawyer sending the cover which contains a “1849 Revolutionary War Claim.” *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 15, No. 3 (November 2007).

“Tallahassee Florida College covers” by William J. Hancock contains illustrations of covers with corner cards of Florida State College, later Florida State College for Women, 1903-1915. *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 14, No. 3 (November 2007).

“Tarpon Springs Provisional Postmark,” the title of an article by William Johnson, refers to a manuscript marking of 1884, three months after opening of the post office. *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 15, No. 1 (March 2008).

Georgia

Savannah received an 1857 letter from Canzanillo, Cuba, handstamped it with its CDS, stright line HAVANNA and 10 in circle, and sent it on to Apalachicola, FL, as described by Yamil H. Kouri in “Contract Steamship Mail between Cuba and Apalachicola via Savannah.” *Fla. Post. Hist. J.* 15, No. 1 (March 2008).

Hawaii

“2c Ship Fee on Mail from Hawaii via San Francisco, 1849-1852” by Fred Gregory and Steven Walske examines incoming Hawaii covers rated 80, 82, 10 and 12 and explains when and why the ship fee was charged, during the stated period. *Chronicle* 60, No. 1 (February 2008).

Illinois

Clark C.H., Ill. and Paris, Ill. are the two postmarks on an 1834 folded letter, described as “An interesting dual usage of an Illinois stampless folded letter” by author Tim Wait. *Ill. Post. Hist.* 29 No. 1 (February 2008).

Doremus machine cancel usages in Illinois towns, excluding Chicago, are surveyed by type and by year. A chart of the years of usage of each type, from 47 Illinois towns is given. “The use of the Doremus canceling machine in Illinois towns outside of Chicago” by Jack Hilbing, *Ill. Post. Hist.* 29 No. 1 (February 2008).

Iowa

Rossville is the subject of "Postal History of Rossville-Maud, Allamakee Co. (Part I)" by Leo V. Ryan. Founding is outlined and postmasters are listed, with date and compensation, and a few covers are illustrated, 1853-1913. *Ia. Post. Hist. Soc. Bull. No. 243* (Oct., Nov., Dec. 2007).

Massachusetts

Salem postmaster is evaluated (negatively) in an 1828 letter sent free to Secretary of the Navy Samuel L. Southard. The transcribed letter is written in support of the postmaster's removal. Jean R. Walton, "Samuel L. Southard – Redux." *NJPH 36, No. 1* (February 2008).
Salem, Marblehead, Newburyport, Ipswich, Gloucester and Beverly ship letters, markings and rates (1754-1802), are the subject of "Early Ship Letters of Essex County" by Mark Schwartz. *Mass. Spy No. 123* (Winter 2008).

Michigan

Hillsdale is the origin of an 1887 postal card forwarded and missent on its way to its addressee, who had moved from Quincy to Lansing. "Postmarked Michigan" by Roger D. Curran. *Peninsular Phil. 49, No. 3* (Winter 2008).
"Reese, Michigan and the Numerical Killers in Doane Cancellations" by James E. Byrne contains the answer to an earlier question in the journal concerning the numerals in question. The numeral relates to the amount of the post office's revenue. *Peninsular Phil. 49, No. 3* (Winter 2008).

Missouri

"St. Louis, Missouri Newspaper Stamp Cancels: A New Discovery" by David O. Semsrott describes an oval town mark seen on newspaper stamps, ca1895. *Show Me VII No. 2*, February 2008.

New Jersey

Doane postmarking devices were issued by the Post Office Department, between August 1903 and Fall, 1906. In "NJDoanes – P.O. Establishments & Discontinuations," author Arne Englund lists offices using Doanes, established or discontinued during this period. *NJPH 36, No. 1* (February 2008).
"Hunterton County Postal History: Part 3: DPOs by Township" by Jim Walker reproduces maps, discusses postal operations and includes sample postmark illustrations, 1818-1995. *NJPH 36, No. 1* (February 2008).
Routes in New Jersey, for mail and out of the mail letters, are outlined, from 1864 to the beginning of the railroad era. A map and two non-postal covers are illustrated. "Early travel & Mail Transportation in New Jersey" by Len Peck. *NJPH 36, No. 1* (February 2008).

New York

Lebanon cover of 1865 is identified as having stamps with "Brush Precancels" in an article by Roger D. Curran. *U.S.C.C. News 28, No. 8* (November 2007).
New York foreign mail cancel list is given four additions in "Addendum: Some Observations about NYFM Cancels on Printed Matter" by Alex Gundel. *U.S.C.C. News 29, No. 1* (February 2008).
New York postmaster's reaction to the regulation requiring separate killers for stamp canceling is described in "Early NYPO Duplexes – Further Considerations" by Roger D. Curran. *U.S.C.C. News 29 No. 1* (February 2008).

North Carolina

"Hot Springs – A World War I Internment Camp" by Richard Winter discusses the postal history of the town, established 1901 as Warm Springs, and its role as an internment camp for "enemy aliens" captured from German merchant ships. *N.C. Post. Hist. 27, No. 1* (Winter 2008).
"The Springs of North Carolina" by Tony Crumbley contains a list, with dates, of North Carolina post offices with "Spring(s)" in the name and a number of illustrations of covers, 1827-1975. *N.C. Post. Hist. 27, No. 1* (Winter 2008).

North Dakota

Tower City, Dakota Territory, as well as Tower City, Pennsylvania and Tower, Minnesota, were named for the subject of this article. "Charlemagne Tower – A Postal Tour" by Mike Ellingson. The tour consists of a biography illustrated with covers to Tower. Dak. Coll. 25 No. 1 (January 2008).

Ohio

"Alger, Ohio" postmark on 1894 postal card is illustrated and the town's postal history is outlined in an article by Bernie Moening. Oh. Post. Hist. J., No. 118 (Dec. 2006).

Cleveland date stamps used with and without killers, 1851-60, are the subject of "Early Cleveland Duplexes" by Roger D. Curran. U.S.C.C. News 28, No. 8 (November 2007).

Columbus & Middleport R.P.O. is the subject of "The Ohio Central Railroad" by Richard B. Graham. An 1885 cover and a map are illustrated. Oh. Post. Hist. J., No. 118 (Dec. 2006).

"Gibraltar Island" concerns an 1867 cover addressed to the island. The addressee and her relation to the history of the island are discussed by author Mark Reasoner. An 1865 cover from the island and postmarked Kelley's Island is also illustrated. Oh. Post. Hist. J., No. 118 (Dec. 2006).

Way covers of Ohio are the subject of "Ohio 'Way' Markings" by Matt Liebson. The marking is explained and a census of the six covers known to the author is given. Four of the covers are illustrated, 1804-46. Oh. Post. Hist. J., No. 118 (Dec. 2006).

Westerville, Oh. received mail addressed to Otterbein College and it was picked up, sorted and delivered by non-postal personnel. The process is described and a cover illustrated, in "Mail Call at Otterbein College, 1865" by Alan Borer. Oh. Post. Hist. J., No. 118 (Dec. 2006).

Pennsylvania

Kinzer's postmark on an 1850 stampless cover is "Discovery Copy Kinzer's, Pa. Manuscript (Lancaster County)," as illustrated and discussed in this article by Ken Hall. Pa. Post. Hist. 36 No. 1 (February 2008).

Westmoreland, Wyoming and York Counties are the subject of "Update on Pennsylvania Manuscript Markings, Part XX" by Tom Mazza, 1795-1863. Pa. Post. Hist. 36 No. 1 (February 2008).

Tennessee

Lyonton and (probably) Olivers postmarks are shown on covers (c1850s and 1894) as "Missing Knox County Offices" in an article by Paul J. Phillips. Tenn. Posts 11, No. 3 (December 2007).

Texas

Carmine Tex. Postmark of 1932, struck on a Post Office Form 1567 shows the town with the E partially struck. Author David Straight suggests that this fact might be used to date covers. "Dating a Postmarking Device: The Missing 'E' in Carmine." Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. 33 No. 1 (February 2008).

Galveston 1838 stampless folded letter of five pages, which sold on eBay, is illustrated and its contents reprinted in "Early Galveston cover features great history but no markings." The letter bears a Philadelphia postmark and 20 rate to Trenton, NJ. Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. 3 No. 1 (February 2008).

Pharr, Tex. Cover, sent airmail special delivery to Chicago in 1936 is analyzed by author Bob Benner in his article "Pharr Out!" Airmail schedules are used to confirm times of the transit markings of Brownsville TX, New York, NY, Chicago Central Sta., Chicago Special Delivery Division and Chicago Hyde Park Sta. Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. 33 No. 1 (February 2008).

Utah

"Utah Post Offices of Navajo Tribal Lands" by Dennis H. Pack contains historical background, illustrations of post offices, maps, a post office list (1883-1911) and reproductions of postmarks (1908-2006). La Posta 38 No. 6 (December 2007-January 2008).

Vermont

“St. Johnsbury East or East St. Johnsbury?” asks author Bill Lizotte, who illustrates stampless folded letters with both spellings (in manuscript, 1827-47). *Vt. Phil.* 52, No. 3 (November 2007).

Virginia

Charlottesville’s situation at the outbreak of the War between the States (1861) is illustrated by three covers: independent state period, the day Virginia joined the Confederacy and an “Overall Eight-Star Flag Patriotic for Virginia.” James W. Milgram is author. *Confed. Phi.* 53, No. 1 (January-March 2008).

“Traveller’s Repose Patriotic Cover” by James L.D. Monroe illustrates a newly discovered 12-star flag cover of 1861 postmarked Traveller’s Repose. A few comments on Confederate flag patriotic covers are included. *Confed. Phil.* 52, No. 4 (October-December 2007).

Washington

Sequim was the subject of an earlier *La Posta* article. In “The Postal History of Sequim, Washington Part 2” authors Kirk Andrews and Chester Masters continue the investigations of different spellings, including discussion of a Doane Marking, seen 906-07. *La Posta* 38, No. 6 (December 2007-January 2008).

Journal Abbreviations

- Amer. Phil. = *The American Philatelist*, Barb Boal, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte PA 16823.
Aux Marks. = *Auxiliary Markings*, Anthony Wawrukiewicz, 3130 SW Wibard St., Portland OR 97219.
C.C. Phil. = *Collectors Club Philatelist*, Robert P. Odenweller, RDP, Box 401, Bernardsville NJ 07924.
Chronicle = *Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, Michael Laurence, Box 161, Sydney OH 45365.
Colo. Post. Hist. = *Colorado Postal Historian*, William H. Bauer, Box 519, Unadilla NY 13849.
Confed. Phil. = *Confederate Philatelist*, Richard L. Sine, 100 Poplar Street, Fort Mill SC 1715.
Dak. Coll. = *Dakota Collector*, Dakota Postal History Society, Box 600039, St. Paul MN 55106.
Fla. Post. Hist. J. = *Florida Postal History Journal*, Deane R. Briggs, 160 E. Lake Howard Dr., Winter Haven FL 33881.
Ia. Post. Hist. Soc. Bull. = *Iowa Postal History Society Bulletin*, William Dall, Box 1375, Dubuque IA 52004.
Ill. Post. Hist. = *Illinois Postal Historian*, Leonard Piszkiwicz, 951 Rose Court, Santa Clara CA 95051.
La Posta = *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History*, Richard W. Helbock, 33470 Chinook Plaza, Suite 216, Scappoose OR 97056.
London Phil. – *The London Philatelist*, Frank Walton, 8 Grasmere Road, Dronfield Woodhouse, Dronfield S18 8PS U.K.
Mass. Spy = *The Massachusetts Spy*, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills Ma 02648.
N.C. Post. Hist. = *North Carolina Postal Historian*, Tony Crumbley, Box 681447, Charlotte NC 28216.
NJPH = *NJPH The Journal of New Jersey Postal History Society*, Robert G. Rose, Box 1945, Morristown NJ 07062.
Oh. Post. Hist. J. = *Ohio Postal History Journal*, Michael Dattolico, Box 248040, Columbus OH 43224.
Pa. Post. Hist. = *Pennsylvania Postal Historian*, Norman Shachat, 382 Tall Meadow Lane, Yardley PA 19067.
Peninsular Phil. = *The Peninsular Philatelist*, Charles A. Wood, 244 Breckenridge West, Ferndale MI 48220.
Penny Post = *The Penny Post*, Larry Lyons, 7 Brightfield Lane, Westport CT 06880.
Post. Hist. J. = *Postal History Journal*, Diane DeBlois & Robert Dalton Harris, Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196.
Prexie Era = *The Prexie Era*, Louis Fiset, 7554 Brooklyn Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98115.
Show Me = *Show Me Gazette*, David Straight, Box 32858, St. Louis MO 63132.
Tex. Post. Hist. Soc. J. = *Texas Postal History Society Journal*, Tom Koch, 1013 Springbrook Dr., De Soto TX 75115.
Trans. Post. Coll. = *Transit Postmark Collector*, Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648.
U.S.C.C. News = *U.S. Cancellation Club News*, Roger D. Curran, 20 University Ave., Lewisburg PA 17837.
Vt. Phil. = *Vermont Philatelist*, John A. Lutz, 3 Elm St., Randolph VT 05060.

Foreign Postal History in Other Journals

by Joseph J. Geraci

Frequently, general or specialized philatelic periodicals publish good foreign postal history articles. If one is not a member of that society or does not subscribe to that journal for one reason or another, that particularly useful article may be missed. The purpose of this compendium is to list and briefly describe as many significant foreign postal history articles as we have seen. No doubt there will be other good articles which we have missed that are equally as valuable in postal history content, and we would be obliged if our readers would call them to our attention for inclusion in the next compendium. Thank you for your assistance!

General – Mail Transport

“Homing pigeons in Military Communications,” by Michael Hoyt, outlines the use of homing pigeons by various nations to transport messages and mail, beginning in Roman times and continuing up through their use by a French military pigeon detachment in 1957. (*Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, Vol. 45, No. 2, Spring 2006. Military Postal History Society, Secretary Ed Dubin, Box 586, Belleville MI 48112.)

Postal Markings in General

“More on ‘Service Suspended’,” by Derek Smeathers, adds to Robert I. Johnson’s articles on this subject, discussing three covers, one each to Sweden and Malaya, and one from Monaco, 1942. (*Postal History*, No. 317, March 2006. The Postal History Society, Secretary Hans Smith, 99 North End Rd., London NW11 7TA, UK)

Albania

“Albania,” by Benito Carobene, reviews the history and postal history of this small nation bordering on the Adriatic Sea, 1849-1922. (*The Postal Gazette*, Anno 2, No. 5, September 2007. Editor Alessandro Arseni, Via Nassa 38, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland.)

Algeria

“Le prime ferrovie del Nord Africa, 1850-1880.” (See under Egypt.)

British West Indies [General]

“The Empire Abstracts and Tables: Part III,” by Richard Maisel, continues his series on quantities of letters, postcards and printed matter handled by seven colonies for the period 1900-1912. Tables of postal activity for each colony are included. (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 226, January-March 2008. British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group, Secretary Duane Larson, 2 Forest Blvd., Park Forest IL 60466.)

Bulgaria

“Bulgaria,” by Benito Carobene, reviews the history and postal history of this nation bordering on the Black Sea, 1840-1916. (*The Postal Gazette*, Anno 2, No. 6, October 2007. See address of contact under Albania.)

Burma

“Mail from the Civilian Labourers on the Burma-Thailand Railway,” by David Tett, addresses mail posted through the Japanese facilities by Burmese, Indian, Malaysian and Javanese laborers to their families back home, 1942-1945. (*Postal History*, No. 317, March 2006. See address of contact under Postal Markings in General.)

“Sweat Corps Mail and Heiho Mail on the Thailand-Burma Railway in Burmese Territory,” by Tsuchiya Masayoshi, provides current knowledge of mail and mail facilities provided by the Japanese for Burmese forced and contract laborers building the railway, 1942-1944. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 362, April 2006. The International Society for Japanese Philately, Assistant Publisher Lee R. Wilson, 4216 Jenifer Street, N.W., Washington D. C. 20015.)

Cameroun

“Cameroun Tax Marks,” by Marty Bratzel, categorizes and lists by town various postage due “T” markings used in Cameroun, 1925-1979. (*The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 246, December 2007. R.G. Gethin, 5 Meriden Close, Bromley, Kent BR1 2UF, UK.)

Canada

“Postal Beginnings at Niagara Falls During the Pence Period, 1800-1859,” by Doug. Irwin, looks at several covers to or from the village of Chippawa as well as the postal history of the area. (*BNA Topics*, No. 513, Fourth Quarter 2007. Official Journal of the British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd., Circulation Manager, Wayne Smith, 20 St. Andrews Road, Scarborough ON M1P 4C4, Canada.)

“The Half-Penny Stamp & the Half-Penny and One-Penny Domestic Rates,” by George B. Arfken and Charles G. Firby, review the uses for this first low value half-penny stamp on printed circulars, drop letters, transient newspapers and for registration fees, 1857-1859. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 131, September 2007. Postal History Society of Canada, Back Issues, Stéphane Cloutier, 367 Lévis Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1L 6G6, Canada.)

“Pre-UPU Registered Mail to Australia and New Zealand”, by George B. Arfken, examines the three recorded covers (and a fourth “maybe”) addressed to those destinations and explains the rates in force, 1875-1887. [These two colonies were not admitted to the UPU until 1891.] (*BNA Topics*, No. 513, Fourth Quarter 2007. See address of contact under first entry for Canada.)

“Postal History of a Pioneer Western Canada Family: The Drewry Find,” by Gray Scrimgeour and Joanna Drewry, details the history of three brothers, all connected with the mining industry, through covers and background research, and also reports the discovery of a fantastic 100 page newspaper receipt mailing book containing many examples of dollar value Jubilee Issues, used to pay bulk postage on newspapers, 1888-1942. (*PHSC Journal*, No. 131, September 2007. See address of contact under second entry for Canada.)

“Airmail Rates During the King George VI Era, 1937-1942,” by David H. Whitely, clarifies and adds new information to an earlier article on the same subject by John Burnett. (*BNA Topics*, No. 513, Fourth Quarter 2007. See address of contact under first entry for Canada.)

“Foreign Troops in Italy: List and Location of the Canadian Military Post Offices at the End of 1944,” by Luciano Buzzetti, (translated from the Italian by L. Richard Harlow), places the locations of various Canadian units and identifies their field post office numbers. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 129, Summer 2006. The Journal of the Italy & Colonies Study Circle, Secretary Richard Harlow, 7 Duncombe House, 8 Manor Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 8BG, UK.)

“Foreign Offices in Japan” [by Robert M. Spaulding], lists the Canadian Military Post Offices established in Japan and Korea during the Korean War, 1951-1955. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 361, December 2005. See address of contact under second entry for Burma.)

Caroline Islands

“A Micronesian Multiple First Day Cover - The Postcard that Chronicles the German Takeover of Micronesia,” by Dirk H.R. Spennemann, reviews the events leading to German acquisition of the Caroline and the Marianas Islands, and discusses a post card posted from Ponape the day the post office opened, as well as falsified postmarks on other cards, 1899. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 85, No. 3, May-June 2006. The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 10016.)

China

“Missionary Mail from China (1901-1903),” by Stewart Gardiner, examines a batch of covers posted from China to Great Britain, exploring their postage rates, routes traveled and

the missionaries who wrote these letters. As most letters originated from Tientsin and Peking, southwest of Manchuria, they traveled via Siberia through the Russian Offices in Manchuria. (*Postal History*, No. 319, September 2006. See address of contact under Postal Markings in General.)

Colombia

“Colombia Registered Mail to 1940, Part IV” and “Part V,” by Jim Cross, continue his study this time concentrating on S.C.A.D.T.A. (Sociedad Colombo-Aleman de Transporte Aero) airline, its rôle in carrying registered mail, the markings the company applied to mail, and the rates they charged, 1919-1939. (*Copacarta*, Vol. 23, Nos. 3 and 4, March and June 2006. Journal of the Colombia/ Panama Study Group, Thomas P. Myers, 7411 Old Post Road, no. 1, Lincoln NE 68506.)

“The South American Corner, Part 5 - Colombia,” by Helmut Stocker and Charles LaBlonde, attracts our attention to Colombian mail censored by German, United States or British censors. While Colombia did declare war on the Axis powers in 1943, she never established a censorship operation. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 151, July 2006. Charles J. LaBlonde, 15091 Ridgefield Lane, Colorado Springs CO 80921-3554.)

Denmark

“The Royal Danish Post Office in Reykjavik, 1870-1872.” (See under Iceland.)

Egypt

“Le prime ferrovie del Nord Africa, 1850-1880,” by Paolo Guglielminetti, looks into the early construction of rail lines in Egypt, Algeria and Tunisia, and illustrates some postmarks used on these lines. (*The Postal Gazette*, Anno 2, No. 6, October 2007. See address of contact under Albania.)

Finland

“Scandinavian Volunteers in Finland’s Winter War,” by Alfred F. Kugel, reviews the role Swedish, Danish and Norwegian volunteers played in defending Finland in the Winter War of 1939-1940, and illustrates covers and postmarks in use. (*The Posthorn*, No. 248, August 2006. The Scandinavian Collectors Club, Donald B. Brent, Box 13196, El Cajon CA 92022.)

France

“Boules de Moulins,” by Ashley Lawrence, discusses background and history of the sealed zinc balls employed to carry mail into besieged Paris during the Franco-Prussian War, 1871. (*The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 246, December 2007. See address of contact under Cameroun.)

“Cécogrammes,” by Mick Bister, corrects an earlier article on the subject of mail to or from the blind, and illustrates and describes a number of additional covers supplied by an enthusiastic reader, 1933-1995. (*The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 245, September 2007. See address of contact under Cameroun.)

“French Internment Camps (Continued), Chapter 17, Camp de Choisel-Châteaubriant,” by Derek Richardson, shows how events at the camp were reflected in its postal history, 1939-1945. (*The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 245, September 2007. See address of contact under Cameroun.)

“Detained in France during German Occupation, an Update,” by Roy Reader, amends an earlier article on the same subject and examines additional covers bearing this 1945 informational marking discovered since the prior article was written. (*The Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society*, No. 246, December 2007. See address of contact under Cameroun.)

Germany

“A Brief Introduction to German Free Post, 1870-1922,” by David Trapnell, draws attention to the various categories of “free” mail for officials and the nobility. (*Postal History*, No. 317, March 2006. See address of contact under Postal Markings in General.)

Great Britain

- “United States-United Kingdom Printed Matter,” by Richard F. Winter, writes about the exchange of printed matter between the two countries, as well as to destinations beyond Great Britain, and the postage rates applicable to such mail, 1799-1880. (Seventy-Second American Philatelic Congress, *The Congress Book 2006*, August 2006. Secretary-Treasurer, Ross A. Towle, 400 Clayton Street, San Francisco CA 94117.)
- “The Sandbach Correspondence - Part 1,” by Richard Stock, addresses a correspondence from two brothers, Henry Martin Sandbach and Arthur Edmund Sandbach, both of whom joined the British army and served during various campaigns, 1878-1885. (*Postal History*, No. 317, March 2006. See address of contact under Postal Markings in General.)
- “WWII - P.C. 90, Type 1 Resealing Labels Used in UK,” by Konrad Morenweiser, continues his study of censor sealing tapes, 1940-1945. (Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin, No. 151, July 2006. See address of contact under second entry for Colombia.)

Guadeloupe

- “Gleanings from the French Colonies: Guadeloupe - The Ten Centime Rates,” by Edward J.J. Grabowski, examines the 10 centime postage rate applicable to intra-village mail, judicial mail, return receipts and parcel post forms, 1859-1878. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 85, No. 3, May-June 2006. See address of contact under Caroline Islands.)

Honduras

- “Honduras 1903-1910: The Guardiola and Medina Issues,” by Roger G. Schnell, mainly discusses the history of these two stamp issues, but does include information concerning rates of postage for the period. (Seventy-Second American Philatelic Congress, *The Congress Book 2006*, August 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Great Britain.)

Hungary

- “Registered and Special Delivery Mail of Polish Military Internee Camps in Hungary,” by István Gazda, leads the reader into a review of special service mail posted by Polish military internees in Hungary, 1939-1944. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 85, No. 2, March-April 2006. See address of contact under Caroline Islands.)

Iceland

- “The Royal Danish Post Office in Reykjavik, 1870-1872,” by Þor Þorsteins, provides background behind the establishment of this office, illustrates an 1870 newspaper advertisement (in Icelandic) regarding postage to be paid on letters, and also illustrates two covers processed through the Danish office. (*The Posthorn*, No. 248, August 2006. See address of contact under Finland.)
- “Destinations of Early Iceland Mail, 1873-1902,” by Roger G. Schnell, tabulates a census of 804 mail items of all types which he has prepared, which were addressed to foreign lands. This small quantity of mail over a 30-year period demonstrates the isolation of this island to the rest of the world. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 85, No. 4, July-August 2006. See address of contact under Caroline Islands.)

Iraq

- “The Nairn Brothers and the Overland Mail,” by Dr. C.T. Wahby, writes about this famous enterprise which carried mail and passengers by automobile, and later by large motor coaches, across the desert between Damascus and Baghdad, as well as other places. Special labels and cachets were used to identify the route. (OPAL, No. 214, May 2006. Journal of the Oriental Philatelic Association of London, Secretary Philip Longbottom, 5 Ringway Close, Tythrington, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2SU, UK.)

Italian East Africa

- “Africa Orientale Italiana, I servizi postali per l'estero,” by Emanuele M. Gabbini, provides a census of mail addressed to foreign destinations, together with tables of postage

rates for ordinary mail and airmail, 1936-1941. (Posta Militare e Storia Postale, No. 97, December 2005. Rivista dell'Associazione Italiana Collezionisti Posta Militare, Secretary Piero Macrelli, Casella Postale 180, 47900 Rimini, Italy.)

Italian Socialist Republic

“Get On to Your Mayor if you want to Receive Your Post! (The Last Postal Emergency of the R.S.I.),” by Franco Filanci, translated from the Italian by Richard Harlow, deals with local stamps issued by the communes of Pinzano al Tagliamento, Cortazzone, Dogliani, Piovà Massaia, Cocconato, Montafia, Piea, Aramengo, Castiglione d’Intelvi, Dizzasco and Guidizzolo, which appeared as postage dues to recoup funds spent by the communes to pick up or deliver mail which the national government was unable to do due to wartime conditions. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 127, Winter 2005/6. See address of contact under sixth entry for Canada.)

Italy

“Collecting Newspapers,” by Valter Astolfi, (translated from the Italian by Rob Davie), shares an attraction to the mailing of newspapers from one individual to another, rather than newspaper publishers mailings, and discusses the applicable postage rates, 1861-1965. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 128, Spring 2006. See address of contact under sixth entry for Canada.)

“Ali sul Lario,” by Costantino Gironi, looks at the aviation show special flights of October 1922 and September 1925, by seaplane from Lake Como. (*Qui Filatelia*, No. 42, October-December 2005. Rivista della Federazione fra le Società Filateliche Italiane, Casella Postale 227, 47900 Rimini, Italy.)

“Lo scambista è nel cassetto,” by Luigi R. Cataldi, delves into the postal history of the term “scambista” (switchman or exchange clerk) and “scambio” (exchange or swap) with reference to the exchange of mail at a railway or tram station, and illustrates a number of datestamps incorporating these words, 1922-1985. (*Storie di Posta*, No. 27, December 2007-February 2008. Rivista dell’Accademia Italiana di Filatelia e Storia Postale, Editoriale Olimpia, Subscriptions, Daniela Brogi, via E. Fermi 24, Osmannoro, I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino (FI), Italy.)

“Truppe italiane in missione di pace nella Saar,” by Valter Astolfi, considers the postal history of the Italian contingent stationed in the Saarland, 1934-1935. (Posta Militare e Storia Postale, No. 99, June 2006. See address of contact under Italian East Africa.)

“Foreign Troops in Italy: List and Location of the Canadian Military Post Offices at the End of 1944.” (See under Canada.)

“Fiume and the Yugoslav Military Occupation of Istria,” by J.F. Gilbert, reviews the postal history and settlement of this disputed territory, 1944-1945. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 129, Summer 2006. See address of contact under sixth entry for Canada.)

“Un ‘Coralit’ a Trieste,” by Michele Amorosi, illustrates and describes a rare 1945 cover from the closing days of World War II, transported from Trieste to Milan by the private company Corrieri Alta Italia (Coralit). Another article immediately following entitled, “Atti della costituzione della Società CORALIT,” by Adriano Cattani, provides the complete constitution of the organization and its statutes, as published in Legal Announcements of the Republican Prefecture of Venice. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 138, January 2006. Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale, Editor Adriano Cattani, Casella Postale 325, I-35100 Padova, Italy.)

“Luogotenenza - Umberto II - Repubblica Italiana,” by Arnaldo Pace, records the transition from the abdication of Victor Emanuele III to the establishment of the republic, with covers posted on significant dates and with reproductions of important documents, 1944-1948. (*Il Foglio*, No. 149, May 2006. Unione Filatelica Subalpina, C.P. 65, Torino)

Centro, 10100 Torino, Italy.)

“The Lavoro Issue of October 1950,” by Robert I. Johnson, shows the categories of mail and fees for each as specified in the postal laws of August 1948 and August 1951, and illustrates some covers with these rates. (*Fil-Italia*, No. 127, Winter 2005/6. See address of contact under sixth entry for Canada.)

Japan

“Enigmas Surrounding Japan’s Early Metal Roman Letter Comb Handstamps,” by Charles A.L. Swenson, discusses the extensive gaps in the use of metal comb style handstamps as opposed to rubber types at Yokohama, Osaka, Kyoto and Nagasaki, 1906-1934. (*Japanese Philately*, No. 361, December 2005. See address of contact under second entry for Burma.)

“Sweat Corps Mail and Heiho Mail on the Thailand-Burma Railway in Burmese Territory.” (See under Burma.)

“Foreign Offices in Japan.” (See under Canada.)

Japan, Occupation of Burma

“Mail from the Civilian Labourers on the Burma-Thailand Railway.” (See under Burma.)

Jugoslavia

“Fiume and the Yugoslav Military Occupation of Istria.” (See under Italy.)

Korea

“Foreign Offices in Japan.” (See under Canada.)

Mexico

“Storia postale del Messico,” by Benito Carobene, reviews the history and postal history of the country, and includes some information about the provisional issues of Tlacotalpan, Chiapas, Cuautla and Cuernavaca, 1517-1868. (*The Postal Gazette*, Anno II, No. 7-8, November-December 2007. See address of contact under Albania.)

Nauru

“Nauru During World War II,” by Robert C. Stein, reports upon the postal history of the period immediately preceding World War II in Europe, to December 1945. (Seventy-Second American Philatelic Congress, *The Congress Book 2006*, August 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Great Britain.)

Netherlands

“History of the Dutch Language,” from <<http://www.ned.univie.ac.at/publicaties/taalgeschiedenis/index.htm>>, while not postal history, briefly outlines the origins of the Dutch language. (*ASNP Newsletter*, Vol. 30, No. 3, July 2006. Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately, Secretary Marinus Quist, 116 Riverwood Drive, Covington LA 70433.)

“England-Hannover via Holland, 1844,” by Erling Berger, breaks down and explains the letter rates in different currencies which are shown on the faces of four international covers, 1844-1850. (*Netherlands Philately*, Vol. 31, No. 1, September 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Netherlands.)

Netherlands New Guinea

“Western New Guinea, A Postal History (Part 3),” by Han Dijkstra (translated from the Dutch by Ben Jansen), reviews the allied military posts in operation for the allied occupied portions of the island, 1943-1947. (*Netherlands Philately*, Vol. 30, No. 3, May 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Netherlands.)

New South Wales

“Australian Quarantine: N.S.W., 1900-1920” [Part 4], by V. Denis Vandervelde, continues his review of early quarantine and disinfection measures undertaken in this remote colony through the use of official records and other documentation detailing cases involving

detention of specific vessels at Newcastle and Sydney. (*Pratique*, Vol. 32, No. 3, Winter 2007. Newsletter of the Disinfected Mail Study Circle, Editor V. Denis Vandervelde, 25 Sinclair Grove, London NW11 9JH, UK.)

Nicaragua

“The Cancellations on the Old Issues of Nicaragua (1862-1905),” by Consul-General Eduard Heinze, is a reprint of a 1935 study of these early postmarks which originally appeared in *Die Postmarke*, Vienna. (Nicarao, Vol. 17, No. 1, January 2008. Nicaragua Study Group, Secretary Bill Byerley, 2118 N. DeMerse Avenue, Prescott AZ 86301-1060.)

North Ingermanland

“A Dead Country’s Contribution to Philately, The Stamps of North Ingermanland,” by Thomas Wigham, takes the reader through the turbulent background and postal history of this tiny area situated between Russia and Finland. (*The Posthorn*, No 246, February 2006. See address of contact under Finland.)

Palestine

“Gaza Provisionals.” (See under Turkey.)

“Commercial Airmail Rates from Palestine to Latin America, 3 August 1933 to 30 April 1948,” by Leslie Bard, continues his useful tables of airmail rates arranged by time period. (*The Israel Philatelist*, Vol. 58, No. 6, December 2007. Journal for the Society of Israel Philatelists, Editor Donald A. Chafetz, 1943 Altozano Drive, El Cajon CA 92020-1002.)

Parma

“I rapporti postali del Regno Lombardo Veneto con il Ducato di Parma, 1815-1859 (prima parte),” by Lorenzo Carra, gathers together pertinent documents concerning internal postal rates and reviews the postal convention of 1817 between the Austrian Empire and Parma. Between 1831 and 1835, the author noticed that postal rates on letters did not agree with the official published rates, and after lengthy investigation found two non-postal documents, one of 1831 levying an additional tax on letters, and the other of 1835 abolishing it. (*Vaccari Magazine*, No. 35, March 2006. Vaccari Editore, via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola (MO) Italy.)

Portuguese India

“WWI - Portuguese India,” by Graham Mark, relates the background and postal history, beginning in 1916, of the internment of the crews of German and Austrian vessels at Goa. Mail from the prisoners of war is illustrated, 1916-1919. (*Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin*, No. 150, April 2006. See address of contact under second entry for Colombia.)

Prussia

“Russian Foreign Letters before 1844: The Accountancy with Prussia and the Netherlands.” (See under Russia.)

Romania

“Moldavian Postal Manifests, 1859-1862,” by Paul Hirsch, deals with postal receipt forms and manifests accompanying letters, parcels and the transmission of valuables through the mails. (*Postal History*, No. 318, June 2006. See address of contact under Postal Markings in General.)

Roman States

“Transito per lo Stato Pontificio, Addenda,” by Thomas Mathà, adds to an earlier article by providing a brief summary of examples of mail passing through the Roman States on either a north or south route, where Pontifical transit markings may be found. Many examples are illustrated, 1815-1851. (*Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale*, No. 136, January 2006. See address of contact under seventh entry for Italy.)

Russia

“Russian Foreign Letters before 1844: The Accountancy with Prussia and the Netherlands,” by Erling Berger, deals with the Russian domestic tariff, 1766 to 1844, concerning

letters sent to Great Britain via Holland, and also a mysterious 1 gute groschen transit addition to postage occurring on mail in the vicinity of Arnhem. (*The Post Rider*, No. 58, June 2006. The Canadian Society of Russian Philately, P.O. Box 5722 Station "A", Toronto, Ontario M5W 1P2 Canada.)

"Watchmen at the Gates: Censorship of Foreign Printed Matter in Imperial Russia," by David M. Skipton, comprehensively updates the chapter on foreign printed matter censorship previously published in his 1987 book, *Postal Censorship in Imperial Russia, 1796-1917*. (*Rossica*, No. 146, Spring 2006. Journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately, President: Gary A. Combs, 8241 Chalet Court, Millersville MD 21108.)

"Russia: OBEZZARADJENO [in Cyrillic] Cachets, 1896-1915," by V. Denis Vandervelde and Vladimir Tyukov, illustrates and discusses the use of this disinfection cachet on mail entering Russia from Austria, Persia, Mongolia, Odessa, Batum, Vladivostok, Port Arthur, Feodosia (Crimea), and possible other locations, yet unproven. (*Pratique*, Vol. 32, No. 3, Winter 2007. See address of contact under New South Wales.)

"Missionary Mail from China (1901-1903)." (See under China.)

"The Mail of the Personnel of the Soviet Navy (1941-1945) - Continuation", by Meer Kossoy and V. Berdichevskiy, carries on with their study of the organization of military censorship in the Baltic Fleet, and the various types of censorship markings applied to naval mail. (*The Post Rider*, No. 58, June 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Russia.)

Saar

"Truppe italiane in missione di pace nella Saar." (See under Italy.)

Spain

"La tarifa especial de las corporaciones provinciales y municipales (1854-1863) (II)," by Julio Peñas Artero, continues his study of official mail, postage rates applicable and the official stamps issued to cover these rates. (*Atalaya Filatélica*, No. 118, October 2007. Sociedad Filatélica Sevillana, Arfe, 15 - 1o D, Apartado 44, 41080 Sevilla, Spain.)

Sweden

"An Unusual Routing for an 1846 Letter to Sweden," by Gordon Hughmark, describes the route from New York, via France and the Thurn & Taxis post to Hamburg, then through the Prussian post to Stralsund, then across the Baltic Sea to Ystad and on to its destination, Carlskrona. Postage and transit rates for each stage of the journey are provided. (*The Posthorn*, No. 247, May 2006. See address of contact under Finland.)

Switzerland

"Money 'Smuggling' Through Swiss Post Offices," by Harlan F. Stone, explains what happened when the Swiss post office discovered undeclared valuables passing through the mails, 1909-1944. (*The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Vol. 85, No. 2, March-April 2006. See address of contact under Caroline Islands.)

Tasmania

"Registered Mail in Tasmania," by David McNamee, describes the development of registration procedures, fees charged, handstamps introduced and registered mail labels, 1832-1914. (Seventy-Second American Philatelic Congress, *The Congress Book 2006*, August 2006. See address of contact under first entry for Great Britain.)

Thailand

"Mail from the Civilian Labourers on the Burma-Thailand Railway." (See under Burma.)

Trinidad

"The 1907 Great White Fleet Visit to Trinidad," by Edward Barrow, reviews the history and postal history of the visit of the Fleet and illustrates a number of postcards posted by offices and sailors from the island. (*British Caribbean Philatelic Journal*, No. 226, January-March 2008. See address of contact under British West Indies [General].)

Tunisia

“Le prime ferrovie del Nord Africa, 1850-1880.” (See under Egypt.)

Turkey

“Gaza Provisionals,” by Sarkis Cilingiroglu, (translated from the Turkish by Kemal Giray), presents a case indicating the 1917 Gaza Provisional stamps are bogus, using historical documentation and postally used covers of the period from Gaza as his basis. (*OPAL*, No. 214, May 2006. See address of contact under Iraq.)

Tuscany

“I servizi postali delle Ferrovie Toscane,” by Filippo Bargagli Petrucci and Pierluigi Ciucci, discuss and illustrate the various postmarks used by Tuscan rail lines, 1844-1861. (The Postal Gazette, Anno 2, No. 5, September 2007. See address of contact under Albania.)

“Un vecchio bollo a bandellette is Arezzo,” by Roberto Monticini, provides a table identifying the various types of postal markings applied to mail at Arezzo, including those datestamps with a band at the bottom incorporating the town name, 1851-1918. (Il Monitore della Toscana, Anno II, No. 3, May 2006. Notiziario della Associazione per lo Studio della Storia Postale Toscana, Secretary Roberto Monticini, Via S. Domenico 1, 52100 Arezzo, Italy.)

Vatican City

“Principal Vatican Postal Rates from 1929 to 1950 (in Lire)” and “Principal Vatican Postal Rates from 1950 to 1966 (in Lire),” [both by K. Thomas Adkins], provide tables of tariffs for letters, postal cards and post cards, printed matter, manuscripts and various service fees for this 37 year period. (*Vatican Notes*, Vol. 54, No. 6, May 2006, and Vol. 55, No. 1, July 2006. Journal of the Vatican Philatelic Society, Back Issues Chairman, Dan Bayer, Box 78, Dexter MI 48130-0078.)

Duchy of Parma Revisited

a review by Joseph J. Geraci

Ducato di Parma e governo provvisorio, raccolta di studi, by Emilio Diena and Paolo Vaccari, 103 pages, 9 1/2 x 6 3/4 inches, card covers, number 12 in the “ritrovati” series (retrieved, or earlier works recovered series). Euro 25 + E. 16 postage to North America. Vaccari s.r.l., via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola, (MO), Italy.

Continuing in the “ritrovati” series, Paolo Vaccari here reprints Diena’s comprehensive 1930 article on Parma covering the period 1857-1859 (section one with black and white illustrations as in the original), and adds his own further researches going back to the first issue of Parma in 1852, published beginning in 1991 in *Vaccari Magazine* (section two with illustrations in color). In 2002 Vaccari prepared a colorful brochure on Parma, which he distributed at no charge on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the appearance of the first Estensi (Modenese) Issue.

Both sections of this handbook illustrate some lovely full sheets, while the second section includes some wonderful multiple pieces and covers. Unfortunately, one of my pet peeves is present as well: illegible maps. A colorful topographical map of the Duchy of Parma and Piacenza is squeezed into the top half of a page at the beginning of the second section. It is so small that town names cannot be determined even with a 10x magnifying glass. The only exceptions are the large towns of Piacenza, Parma and Reggio, where the type font used on the original was larger. While not the best solution, it is possible the illustration would have been more legible if the map could have been turned sideways on the page. Better yet, make it a fold-out map we can read! This is perhaps the only flaw in an otherwise worthwhile handbook.

Society Forum

This space is set aside for commentary, announcements, questions and other information by, for and about members of the Postal History Society. The editors welcome correspondence: Box 477, West Sand Lake NY 12196 <agatherin@yahoo.com>

President's Message, Douglas N. Clark

Our society's officers and membership join in mourning the death of our ex president Diane Boehret. Diane was a great supporter of the Postal History Society and is responsible for many of the features that make it as great as it is today. She was an informed writer, exhibitor and judge. Those who knew Diane personally and those who appreciate her contributions to postal history have suffered a great loss. We especially extend our sympathy to Diane's husband Jesse, himself a distinguished judge, exhibitor and writer of postal history.

Now is the time to make plans to attend the Postal History Society annual meeting at Southeastern Stamp Show, September 26-28. The show location is the Cobb County Civic Center in Marietta, Georgia, a limousine ride from the Atlanta Airport. The location is near several great restaurants and the show motel is very reasonably priced.

Frame space for your exhibit will most probably still be available when you receive this.

The Society will hold a Directors' meeting Saturday morning, September 27, followed by a general membership meeting, featuring speaker Francis J. Crown, an authority on Georgia postal history. Frank is a real scholar of the Peach State and I am sure his talk will be enjoyable to postal historians, whether U.S. collectors or not. A second Postal History Society talk will be given by Yamil Kouri, on the subject of "Ante-Bellum Contract Steamship Mail in Savannah, GA." PHS members are welcome at both meetings and the general meeting is open to the collecting public.

I have a long history with the Southeastern Stamp Show, as Nancy and I were involved with the founding of the show, originally the Peach State Stamp Show. It is a very friendly show and Postal History Society members are considered special people.

The annual award for the best article in the Postal History Journal for 2007 will be presented at our annual meeting. I am pleased to announce that the honor will go to Cecile Gruson, Leo J. Harris and Jose Manuel Lopez Bernal, for their article "Postmasters' Marks in Colonial Latin America," appearing in Number 137 (June 2007), pp. 37-46.

Cécile Gruson's response to the 2007 best article award

I am very surprised and gratified at the news that the article Leo Harris, Jose Manuel Lopez Bernal and I spent several years working on got such a wonderful award! In my home country, Switzerland, I did present a paper on the subject at the 2007 workshop of Consilium Philateliae Helveticae but could not travel all the way to the USA just to repeat it!

Since the article was published, I was able to ascertain that the two Postmasters of Venezuela who had been most challenged existed at the period mentioned, i.e. prior to 1810:

MELO his full name was Diego de Melo y Pinto

PICON may have been a Rodriguez Picon, a prominent family of Merida.

As the ruling was for these postmasters to put a "half-signature," either one of the normally two family names was used for the marking.

Diane Dumble Boehret 1927-2008



Diane Dumble Boehret died January 21, 2008, at Sentara Bayside Hospital in Virginia Beach.

The daughter of William D. and Margaret E. Dumble, she was raised in Manhattan – a true city girl. She graduated in history from the College of Mount St. Vincent and then worked in advertising on Madison Avenue as an account executive for ten years. She left work to marry Jesse D. Boehret in 1960 and the Navy took them to Bremerton, San Diego, Hawaii, Philadelphia and back to New York City. In retirement, the couple lived in Syracuse NY, State College Pa., Brookhaven Pa., and Virginia Beach. Diane may have become a Navy wife, but she also worked tirelessly as a volunteer for Navy and Army relief agencies. She and Jesse enjoyed a very close marriage – she was always his “dear girl” – a partnership that has enriched philately .

Diane Dumble Boehret and the Postal History Society

It is not an exaggeration to say that, without Diane D. Boehret, the Postal History Society would not have survived.

In her own words: “I was introduced to the Postal History Society in 1976. Jesse and I had just moved back to Philadelphia and we were renewing our philatelic affiliations. Abbott Lutz, manning a Society booth at Interphil, suggested I join – particularly since I was exhibiting foreign topics. From then on Abbott used to call me the ‘little New York girl’ and tease me about my accent, though it was Dr. Reiner-Deutsch who actually signed me up as a member. In 1979, Henry Stollnitz asked me to act as a sort of liaison for the Board specifically to round up new members. It was a good fit because I went to so many shows and can (and do!) talk to anyone.”

Diane chaired the membership committee from 1979 to 1981, was Treasurer from 1981 to 1985, Secretary from 1985 to 1989 (when she was instrumental in obtaining the Society’s non-profit status) and President from 1989 to 2005.

In 1991, Diane organized – with Harlan Stone and Kalman Illyefalvi – a memorable International Postal History Seminar at FLOREX in Orlando. The goal was to define postal history, as well as to provide ideas about areas for research, exhibiting, cataloguing, writing about and collecting. Dr. Roberto Rosende was chairman; Paul Jensen of Norway, Robert I. Johnson of Great Britain, Richard Winter and David Phillips were panelists. *PHJ* 91 was devoted to the seminar proceedings.

Diane Dumble Boehret and the American Philatelic Congress

Diane D. Boehret joined the Governing Council of the American Philatelic Congress in 1980, at the Congress meeting in Kenner, La. The next year, the Congress meeting in her home town of Virginia Beach, Va., cemented Diane’s significant role in the Congress for years to come. Diane and her husband Jesse won the 1981 Walter R. McCoy award for their 1981 *Congress Book* article “German Troop Ships in the Boxer Rebellion.” At the same meeting, Diane was nominated and elected Secretary-Treasurer for a three-year term 1981-1983. She and Jesse published another article “The German Navy in the Boxer Rebellion” in the 1982 *Congress Book*.

In 1984, Diane was elected President of the American Philatelic Congress, serving through 1990. She was the third longest serving President of the Congress in its now 74-year history. When she retired from the Presidency, the Council created the Diane D. Boehret awards in her honor – given each year to the “best of the best” philatelic handbook and journal exhibited in the preceding year. Diane was deeply touched by this honor.

In addition to receiving the Walter R. McCoy award in 1981, Diane was awarded the James Waldo Fawcett Award for meritorious service to the APC in 1991.

Diane remained a member of the Council until 2007, having thus served the Congress for 27 years. Her successors as President, Peter McCann, Roger Schnell and Steve Schumann, remember that she remained active in promoting the American Philatelic Congress even after her Presidency ended. She was an outstanding President and Council member, and regularly attended the annual Congress meeting. Diane was always ready with innovative and imaginative suggestions and advice on how to strengthen the APC. One of her successors said: “Diane was one tough cookie who had an outstanding career in organized philately as a woman – not an easy task!” The American Philatelic Congress will miss her.

Other Service to Philately, by Alan Warren

In addition to her exemplary service to both the Postal History Society and the American Philatelic Congress, Diane was convention liaison and a member of the board of directors of the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition. In 1997 she and Jesse were honored with both the local and national merit awards of PNSE – the first time both awards were presented simultaneously to a husband and wife team. They repeated that achievement in 2003 when she and Jesse jointly received the Military Postal History Society’s Outstanding Service Award.

Diane serviced on the board of the Council of Philatelic Organizations (COPO) for ten years and served on the American Philatelic Society’s board of vice-presidents 1999-2001. In 2004 she received the APS John N. Luff Award for exceptional contributions to philately. When she and Jesse moved to Virginia Beach, she became active in the Virginia Philatelic Federation as a board member, first as secretary and then as second vice-president, and worked on the VAPEX show committee.

She was an accredited APS philatelic and literature judge, and an active philatelist – her special areas of interest being German Post Offices Abroad. Two of her exhibits won national grand awards (“The German Post Offices in China during the Boxer Rebellion” and “German Military Mission in Turkey 1914-1918”) and she participated in the APS Champion-of-Champion competition.

An Appreciation, by Kevin & Jane Doyle

Diane was a mentor to me, first as a collector of German and German Colonial philately, and later as I became a literature judge. More importantly, she was a friend to both of us for at least twenty years. Diane was always ready to have a lively conversation with us, always remembered us, and was unfailingly friendly. We will miss Diane a great deal – she was a good lady.

A Remembrance, by Joseph J. Geraci

In October 1978, Diane exhibited “German Post Offices in Turkey” at NOJEX ‘78, at the Holiday Inn, Jetport, in Elizabeth, N.J. The exhibit was well received, winning the Large NOJEX Gold medal, the Postal History Society Gold, the Germany Philatelic Society Gold medal, and the Society of Philatelic American’s Robert Yant Award for the best exhibit by an SPA member. During the Show, the NOJEX Exhibition Committee (of which I was a member) had a hospitality suite at the hotel, and I believe I first met Diane

at our hospitality get-together.

Diane joined the Postal History Society in 1976, and is listed as member number 1169. Her husband Jesse, joined in 1979 and is listed as number 1341.

When the Postal History Society met at SEPAD in October 1981, there was a special two-session postal history seminar, and also a speakers breakfast on Sunday morning. Living in the Philadelphia area, Diane was hostess to the event and did an outstanding job of making the program and preceding seminar a remarkable success. She worked very hard in planning and coordinating all these activities. A special board meeting to fill several board vacancies was held just before the membership meeting. One of those vacancies had been created by the sudden death of our long time Treasurer, and co-founder, Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch. In recognition of her abilities, Diane was confirmed to the post of Treasurer of the Postal History Society. She was not sure she wanted the job because she was already treasurer of the American Philatelic Congress, but she took it on anyway.

In September 1989, Diane was elected President of the PHS at the BALPEX meeting. During her long presidency, she wrote a column for almost every issue.

In 1993, Diane participated on a committee to revise the criteria for all the Congress awards and prizes. A lot of hard work went into the revision. Later, an interesting comment was made by Charles Peterson to the effect that he now considers the APC-Boehret Award to be the premier literature award given in North America.

The idea for a joint project between PACIFIC '97 and the American Philatelic Congress for the 1997 Congress book to be the official handbook for the exhibition, as well as the annual Congress publication, originated from a conversation between Diane and Mary Ann Owens with Jim Bowman, the PACIFIC '97 Executive Officer. The idea was approved by both councils and the subsequent publication was well received.

At President Roger Schnell's request, Diane agreed to become Congress Historian in June 1996, and asked the membership to share information, souvenirs and other trivia about the Congress with her. Diane remained on the Council of the American Philatelic Congress through 2007, having served continuously from 1980, a period of 28 years.

Diane remained as president of the PHS until September 2005, when Douglas N. Clark took over as president. Diane had served for 15 years as president and 22 years on the PHS Board, a wonderful accomplishment. She served more years than she wanted as president because she wanted to keep the organization afloat. Many years ago, she promised Regina Reiner-Deutsch, wife of Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch, co-founder of our Society, that she would do her best to keep the Society going. While there were times that she felt she was swimming against the tide, she wanted to keep that promise. Some of those years were difficult for the Society, but Diane always strove to improve things. She was always a thoughtful person and hard worker willing to pitch in and help.

Diane spent many hours manning booths for the Postal History Society, the American Philatelic Congress, or the Military Postal History Society at various national exhibitions. It was a thankless task that she willingly took on for the benefit of those societies, when she probably would have liked to attend the meetings of other societies, or review the exhibits, or visit the dealers.

My memories of Diane were that she was a good person. Nothing really stands out, except one time when she, Jesse, Lucio Marson and I had supper together at a German restaurant. We had been attending SEPAD, at King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, and were looking for a restaurant for supper. Jesse said he knew of a good German restaurant nearby, so we decided to go there. It was a good choice. The food was excellent, and the company was superb.

In Memory of Diane Boehret by Kal Illyefalvi

In a lifetime you meet many people who influence you for good; Diane and her husband Jesse were such people. (It is almost impossible to think of one without the other.) Over the years that I've been a member of the Postal History Society (PHS), I would meet them at national stamp shows and knew of their involvement with various philatelic organizations. At one of the national shows, Diane cornered me and politely and persuasively reminded me that it was 'pay-back time.' She said: it's time for you to become involved with the Society so that others can derive greater knowledge and pleasure from the hobby. No arm twisting, just friendly persuasion, but there was no way I could say no. From that came a long close relationship.

Diane and I had many conversations about the Society, the hobby, friends, family and pets. We spent much time talking about Frederica, her dachshund (the Boehrets traveled with her and planned trips with her in mind). We frequently consulted together on philatelic problems. Both Diane and Jesse were exhibitors and accredited judges. She was a world-class collector, and the awards she won exhibiting nationally and internationally attested to her knowledge and skill.

Over the years, Diane held many offices in our Society, culminating with her long Presidency. She worried and planned for the Society almost to her very end. The Boehrets greatest joy was attending philatelic shows and staffing a booth for the PHS. It was not a case of waiting and hoping that somebody would stop but, rather, a string of friends and acquaintances stopping by and continuing their conversations from a previous show.

Diane was always willing to give of herself as long as the cause was good. She made the world a better place.

An Appreciation, by Robert Odenweller

Diane Boehret inhabited the highest stratum of philately, an area usually dominated by males. She was easily their equal in many ways, not the least of which was as a philatelic organizer. One need only look as far as the Postal History Society and the American Philatelic Congress to see a lasting impression of her efforts.

I believe we first met about thirty years ago and served together on the board of COPO until it wound to a close. Her solid approach to considering matters of interest to COPO, but also to any organization, often served as reality check when some of the other participants strayed into uncharted waters.

Diane's exhibits, primarily the ones on the Boxer Rebellion, were always full of instructive ways to handle material. Her articles on the same subject, sometimes written with Jesse, are definitive studies. It is not surprising that one of the most coveted awards offered by the Congress is the Diane Boehret Award.

Above all, however, she had a trait that would help anyone who is interested in developing philately: she threw herself into each job with an intensity that others can only marvel at, let alone attempt to emulate. In short, she was indeed a formidable force in the philately of the United States.

From Randall E. Burt

My wife, Phyllis, and I grieved when we heard of Diane's failing health. We shared fond memories from NOJEX 95, when we first met, where Diane awarded me a gold medal for the best article of the year (on disinfected mail of Hawaii, 1853-1900, *PHJ* 100/101). Another surprise came at NAPEX 2003 when she awarded me another gold medal ("Micronesian Missionary Mail" in *PHJ* 123). Diane had asked me to talk to the gathering of members – which I enjoyed doing with slides from the Bishop Museum's "T.G. Thrum Collection." It

all conjured up much warm-spirited *aloha* which was shared with everyone on those exciting national APS stamp show weekends, recruiting new members, visiting with many stamp dealers and old friends. I continue to be grateful for Diane's generous support and good help with more than 25 articles on Hawaiian postal history. She continues to be in my prayers.

From Barbara R. Mueller

Long before my first personal contact with Diane Boehret I became aware of her emergence as a force in philately because of the papers she and her husband Jesse wrote for the 1981 and 1982 American Philatelic Congress books. Her name popped up with increasing frequency in regard to her activities in the Congress and Postal History Society. Then in 1986 a call from her enabled me to put her name together with her distinctive throaty voice. At that time she knew me only by reputation but I immediately felt a kinship as we talked about the reason for her call.

She was President of the Congress from 1984 to 1990 and in desperate need for someone to step in and edit the 1986 book. Abbott Lutz, the previous editor, was ill and unable to continue. I agreed to help, not realizing that at the time very little substantive work had been done and I had to move quickly.

I went on to edit four more of the books and with her suffered the trials and tribulations of working with a diverse group of authors and printing personnel. I got the credit and the awards but could not have succeeded without her calm demeanor and guidance.

Our friendship lasted all the rest of her days. We bounced ideas off each other and she supported even my sometimes- controversial choices of cover colors for the books. In turn, I encouraged her through trials of making the Postal History Society work and was able to keep in touch with the "inside" doings of philately from her vantage point with the shakers and movers in the power structure of philately.

It is customary to end these tributes with "she will be missed." Will be? No, already "is missed."

Thanks for 2007 Gifts

The Officers and Directors of the Postal History Society thank the following members for their gifts to the Society during 2007.

aGatherin'	L. Landau
Mark Banchik	Douglas D. Merenda
Percy Bargholtz	William G. Mitchell
Rex Bates	Barbara Mueller
Diane Boehret	Drew A. Nicholson
Jesse Boehret	Francis Ogle
Jonathan Becker	John Panek
Dr. George W. Bostwick	Scott Pendleton
Daniel A. Brouillette	George Pinyuh
Paul Buchsbayew	Reuben Ramkissoon
Ernesto Cuesta	Leo V. Ryan
Frederick Dykins	John Seidl
Arnold Engel	Jan R. Van Meter
Edward F. Fisher	W. Barry Van Winkle
Myron Fox	Robert Waldman
Donald E. Johnstone	Stephen Walske
Eliot Landau	Alex Weintraub

Membership Changes by Kalman V. Illyefalvi

New Members

- PHS 2265 William J. Johnson, 552 NE Lime St., Topeka KS 66616-1131. 10 cent 1855-59 usages; Denver correspondence; 1869 Pictorial foreign destination covers; Kansas territorial covers.
- PHS 2264 Robert Patkin, Box 186, Georgetown MA 01833-0286.
- PHS 2263 John R. Sabin, 415 NW 23rd St., Gainesville FL 32607-2618. Denmark postal history.

Reinstated

- PHS 0652 Harlan F. Stone, Box 770334, Woodside NY 11377-0334. Switzerland 1862-1925.

Resigned

- PHS 2241 Tim Bartshe
- PHS 2131 Nicholas Todaro

Address Correction

- PHS 0976 Col. D.C. Warren, 1512 Steuben Rd., Gloucester Point VA 23062-2009.

Postal History Society Officers & Board of Directors

- President: Douglas N. Clark, Box 427, Marstons Mills MA 02648-0427, U.S.A.
- Vice President: Stephen S. Washburne, Box 43146, Philadelphia PA 19129-3146, U.S.A.
- Sec./Treasurer: Kalman V. Illyefalvi, 869 Bridgewater Dr., New Oxford PA 17350-8206, U.S.A.

Class of 2006

John J. Nunes
Joseph J. Geraci

Class of 2007

Harvey Tilles
Yamil Kouri
Stephen S. Washburne
Harvey Mirsky

Class of 2008

Douglas N. Clark
Kalman V. Illyefalvi
Mark Banchik

A New Italian Catalogue for the Classic Issues

a review by Joseph J. Geraci

Vaccari 2008/2009, *Francobolli e storia postale, trattato storico e catalogo con valutazioni: Antichi Stati Italiani, Governi Provvisori, Regno d'Italia, 1850-1900*, 13 Edizione, in Italian but with one page in English indicating how to interpret symbols, 447 + 1 pages, 9 1/2 x 6 3/4 inches, card covers, stitched signatures, glued spine. Priced at Euro 16 (only E 12 to subscribers of Vaccari Magazine) + E 13 postage to the Americas. Order from Vaccari s.r.l., via M. Buonarroti 46, 41058 Vignola (MO), Italy.

Valid for two years, this volume number 23 in the "Handies" series, supercedes the 2006/2007 edition with 96 more pages, including much more information on essays, proofs and postal tariffs from ongoing research. Each of the Old States is separately addressed. Features include: an introduction, internal tariffs, Austro-Italian League Convention tariffs, a list of post offices by province and valuations for stamps, mint, used and on cover. Combinations of issues and multiples on and off cover are priced and every issue is illustrated in full color. Many lovely covers are illustrated and explained. This volume is much more than a dry priced catalogue, but is a lavish handbook worth considerably more than the modest price asked.



Nune's Nook

**Buy the
Unusual, Unlisted,
Undervalued
U.S. & Foreign
Covers**

**Check Our New Show Schedule!
including:**

**Post Card Mania at Clarion Inn,
3 Watervliet Ave., Albany NY 12206
February 16-17, 2008**

**NEASDA Mania at Clarion Inn,
November 15 & 16 2008**

**Monthly shows at
The Holiday Inn Express
946 New Loudon Rd., Latham NY 12110
July 20, August 17, September 21,
October 19, 2008**

**John J. Nunes
80 Fredericks Road
Scotia, N.Y. 12302
(518) 399-8395
*nunesnook@aol.com***

