



June 2015

Monthly Newsletter

Issue no. 572

President - Dick Odum Vice President - Dan Hubbard Secretary - Bob Smith Treasurer - Stephen Schmidt

The President's Dispatch

At the May Club meeting we had a discussion of the recent HOLPEX show. We had 25 Collectors attend the show on Friday and 17 on Saturday. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to



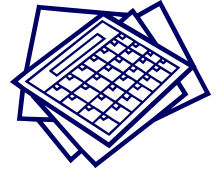
serve and to those who came. Bill Vance has already made reservations for a two day HOLPEX 2016 show to be held at the same place on the Friday and Saturday before Mother's Day. Thanks to Dennis Bowman for being Exhibits Chairman and to our members for some excellent displays. It was good to see some previous members, including Angel Rasnake and Keith Simons, at the show. Our Club donated an unopened inverted Jenny miniature sheet each day as a door prize in hopes that the winner would find one of the non-inverted varieties of this stamp. But alas, they were the normal miniature sheets.

Richard Jackson followed with a description of the latest stamps our club acquired for sale. The buying team opted to purchase a lot being wholesaled by the Knoxville Philatelic Society (KPS). The catalog values for the items in the lot totaled \$1,985 and KPS had priced it at \$405.45 but put it on sale for \$150.00. There were about 1,050 items initially in the lot. Some of the lot items had already sold during HOLPEX 2015 and early during the May meeting.

The auction followed with many members taking advantage of the new twenty item limit per person. Large lots were brought by Dan Ashley, made up of both his material and material from Charlie Overstreet, and Paul Kuehn. We also auctioned off the residue of Dana Grist's father-in-law's collection.

As a worldwide collector I find a need from time-to-time to identify

Club Calendar



Guests and Visitors always Welcome!

June 18th - 7 p.m.
Monthly Meeting

See President's Dispatch for details

strange stamps. I have found the following website to be an excellent place to help identify strange places and stamps: <http://www.stampmasteralbum.com/ForeignCountryIdentifier/KeywordIndexC.htm>. Give it a try; I think you'll be impressed. It is definitely philatelic and even lists overprints, phrases and currencies found on stamps.

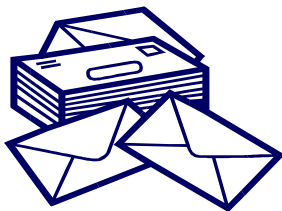
Our next club meeting is at the Northeast State Community College Student Services Building on Thursday (7 PM) on June 18. We will continue with special auctions so bring your items to the June Club meeting (now a maximum of 20 each) . Please fill out the special auction sheets for your lots in advance (two copies please) and mark the lots accordingly.

Additionally we will put on auction a collection brought to the Club by Roth Gott for a friend of hers. The collection is on nine stock sheets contained in plastic sleeves. The items in this collection were identified by Van VanNostrand Jr. and valued using Scott 2012 Catalogs. Some of these stamps are affixed to a piece of paper and in those cases if there were varieties of the stamp, Van assigned the lowest value. The overall value per the catalogs is \$9,475.80++ and Van produced a 24 page listing of the contents. The listing is too long to post here but an abstract of those items

with a catalog value of \$10 or greater is attached. There are 186 items with catalog values of \$10 or more totaling \$8,350. Take note that 70 of the 185 items have catalog values of \$50 or more totaling \$5,840 and 19 of the 70 items have catalog values of \$100 or more totaling \$2,480. Most of the value in the collection is in early Great Britain and German States stamps. Ruth and the owner have generously agreed to split the proceeds of the auction with our Club. The opening bid for this collection will be \$400. Review the attachment for the high value contents. The collection will be available to view at the meeting along with Van's 24 page listing.

Dick

One of Don Ashley 's pictures from our May meeting.



Unless otherwise indicated by announcement in the newsletter, Holston Stamp Club conducts its regular meeting on the third Thursday each month at 7 p.m.

Hope to C. U. there

Club contacts...

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Stamps of the Month

by your newsletter editor

Back in the summer of 1928 France added a new delivery service for mail crossing the Atlantic Ocean by outfitting the *SS Ile de France* passenger liner with a large catapult on the stern of the ship. A seaplane was carried by the ship and its purpose was to be launched from the catapult about 400 miles from east coast of USA with mail and get the mail into the American postal system almost a day prior to the ship docking. This service cost a surcharge of 10 francs. Passengers brought their mail to the ship's post office and bought 10-Fr stamps to put on letters they wanted carried by the seaplane. This service was so popular on its inaugural voyage from Le Harve to New York City that the ship's post office sold nearly all of its 10-Fr stamps. More 10-Fr stamps were needed since the same service would be provided during the return voyage to France. The seaplane would be launched about one day from the coast of France and fly to Paris. The French Consul General in New York City was contacted about authorizing overprinting 3,000 of the ship's 90-centime Marcelin Berthelot stamps (Scott No. 242) and 1,000 1.50-Fr Louis Pasteur stamps (Scott No. 196) to 10 francs and he agreed. A French company in New York City overprinted the stamps and returned them to the ship. The post office on the ship found the overprint upside down on one pane of 50 stamps and sold them just like the other stamps to crew and passengers. Scott assigned Nos. C3 and C4 to these stamps. The inverted overprint is Scott No. C3a.



OUR MEETING LOCATION

Student Services Building at Northeast State Community College

Located near the Tri-Cities Airport

OUR INTERNET WEBSITE

www.sefsc.org/holston-stamp-club.html

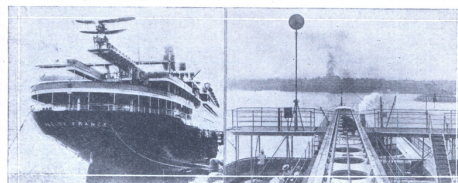
More about Catapult Mail *by your Newsletter Editor*

If you were not familiar with catapult mail I thought you would like to know more. First about the ship. The *SS Ile de France* was a French ocean liner built for the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (CGT). It was the first major ocean liner built after World War I (it was launched in 1926), it is often considered the most beautifully decorated ship ever built by the CGT and was the first ocean liner decorated entirely in the Art Deco style. Known to cheese lovers as the first ship to carry Brie Cheese to the United States (it was the first ship ever equipped with refrigeration).

Here is a news item about catapult mail from November 1928.



Plane Catapult Saves 18 Hours Time



Stern of the *Ile de France* with its plane-launching catapult is shown above. The cabin which launches the plane can be seen in the picture at the right.

PASSENGERS aboard the *Ile de France*, luxurious new passenger steamer plying between New York and Cherbourg, can now speed up their ocean journey by hopping off the ship in an airplane when a few hundred miles off the French coast, the plane carrying them directly to Paris. This is made possible by a 60-ton catapult installed on the deck of the steamer, which launches an amphibian plane.

On a recent test flight, the airplane left the ship 450 miles at sea and flew to New York with a mail cargo, clipping 18 hours from the regular sailing time of the vessel. Perishable express matter and other types of cargo requiring fast delivery will be carried by the airplane.

Here are two examples of covers that went by way of French catapult mail that used Scott Nos. C3 and C4 stamps.

Germany ran test flights in 1929 with launching airplanes from passenger ships. During the summer months of 1930 through 1936 two passenger liners (*S/S Bremen* and *S/S Europa* of the North German Lloyd Line) regularly delivered mail using planes launched from catapults while making transatlantic crossings. There were also variations on this delivery method briefly tried on other ships. There were also catapult flights from passenger liners traveling back and forth from Europe, via Africa, to South America.

By the way, the overprinted French stamps that were not used during the voyage of the *SS Ile de France* from New York City to France were seized by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs after the *SS Ile De France* returned to France and he had them destroyed. So, only the 1,365 Scott Nos. C3 and C4 stamps sold during the crossing to France existed after the this trip.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

Items Holston Stamp Club members are interested in selling.

Charlie (Dr. Rocks) Bartlett, is having a STAMP EXTRA SUPER SALE.

U. S. Stamps—Mint (mostly never hinged)
U. S. Stamps—Used
British Commonwealth (from A to Z)
World Countries: 6 Albums (from A to Z)
Mostly at 20% of Catalogue Value (some less)
Plus extra 10% discount when purchase exceeds \$50.00

Isn't it easier to leisurely compare the empty spots in your album when you search my extras (so you don't buy duplicates)?

Bring your album(s) to my office, and I will bring my extra book(s) for you to search slowly.

I have a full set of Scott's 2012 catalogues to use.

Call me for an appointment at (276) 628-4136 at my office, 432 East Main Street, Suite G, Abingdon, Virginia (or I may be able to meet you at another location).

P.S. I can even loan you one or more of these extras books for a month if that will suit you better! I trust all HSC members to return books in a timely manner so others can use them.

Items Holston Stamp Club members are interested in buying

Dan Hubbard is always looking to purchase used stock books of all types. Contact me directly or bring them to the next meeting.

Don Ashley (e-mail dwa7@bvunet.net) wants the following:

Uncached FDCs: any quantity, preferred left side free of address. Address centered or to the right side and open flap highly desired. Please advise what you have available.

Also interested in dual FDCs for joint issues with foreign countries.

Ed Ferber is buying and selling government postal cards - US, Possessions, Canada, Caribbean islands, WW. Interested in mint and used, collections or individual cards, early or contemporary use. Greatest interest in illustrated advertisement and unusual usage (e.g.: rare foreign destination, auxiliary marking, special delivery). Please contact Ed at my.collie.dog@gmail.com or his 302-593-4192 cell phone.

Ed Ferber also desires collections or individual postal stationery items in mint, pre-printed or used condition that are unusual in some way. Seeking specialty items such as EFO, plate variety, poor inking, mis-cut, fold-over, illustrated advertisement, exposition, twice used, special delivery, postage due, auxiliary marking (missent, damaged, train late and others). Also want contemporary cards properly used in rate period with solid postmarks.

Bob Smith is looking for early USA stamps, mostly Scott No. 500 and earlier in both mint and used. See Bob at the meeting for want list.

Holston Stamp Club Special Auction – Lot Owner List

Owner Name _____ Owner Initials xx _____ Please print or type.

Owner Initials xx	Lot #	Catalog # and/or Description	Catalog Value	Catalog Used	Minimum Bid \$	Winning Bidder #	Winning Bid \$
	1						
	2						
	3						
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