

Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club
\#0357-031583
April 2014 Newsletter

We have had a strong start to the year with several new members joining our club. Please continue to invite visitors.

Jonathan Goldstein gave a very interesting presentation on the British Postal system and their postal museum. He brought several items for everyone to look at and has donated a CD with the oral history of the post from 1930's to 1990's and several articles and newsletters to our library.

If you are a new member you may not be aware that we have an extensive club library and you can take out books and magazines to read or research as long as you are an Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club member.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 29-30 Blue Ridge Stamp Show, 690 Brevard Rd, Asheville, NC For info contact Cary Cochran 800-560-5310

April 1 Regular Atlanta Stamp Collectors Meeting and Auction. Meeting at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

April 15
Regular ASCC meeting and program. John Allensworth will be speaking on Panama and Canal Zone

May 3
Greater Augusta Stamp Club Bourse, Augusta Public Library Main Branch, 823 Telfair St. FLYER ENCLOSED

May 6
JOINT MEETING at Atlanta. There will be a program presented by William Barr. There will be a joint auction with the usual $\$ 5$ minimum bid and 5 lot maximum per member.

May 13 Regular meeting and program.
May 17 \& 18 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia show. The Mansour Center 995
Roswell St. Marietta, GA 30060 Free parking and admission. You never know what you may find at this show. A find by Steve Swain and Richard Benjamin led to our feature article this month.

May $20 \quad$ Primary voting so no meeting.
June 3 Regular ASCC meeting and auction
June 6-8 NAPEX 2014. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner 7920 Jones Branch Dr, McLean
Virginia. www.napex.org
June 17 Regular ASCC meeting and program
June 27-29, 2014 National Topical Stamp Show, Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, Missouri, 63134St. Louis, MO. Info at www.americantopicalassn.org

May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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"VOIDED" Postage Due Stamps By Steve Swain

At a recent local show, a fellow club member and I were looking through a 3-ring binder an Alabama dealer was offering that contained items such as U.S. revenues, first day covers, various Alabama related postal ephemera and the cover shown in Figure 1.


Figure 1. Dead Letter Branch Delivery Requiring Twenty Cents Postage Due
As can be seen in the upper left of the cover, it is a U.S. Post Office official business mailing from the Memphis, Tennessee Dead Letter Branch. The purpose of the mailing is clearly explained by the
"POSTAGE DUE 20 CENTS" in the center of the cover and the printed note in the lower right corner: "THIS CHARGE IS REQUIRED FOR RETURN OF MAIL FROM A DEAD LETTER BRANCH."

So, the mailing from the dead letter branch was intended to return to the addressee contents of a previous mailing that was not accomplished, for whatever reason. In order to receive the returned mail, the addressee would be charged 20 cents.


But what caught our attention was the red "VOIDED" marking on the two 10-cent postage due stamps as seen in Figure 2 (rotated from the original image). Was this the method for cancelling the postage due stamps upon delivery to the addressee? Possibly, but we didn't know for sure.

Some research revealed something quite to the contrary. The VOIDED marking on the postage due stamps indicates that the attempted delivery to the addressee by the Dead Letter Branch was unsuccessful and, therefore, the collection of the 20 cents postage due did not happen.

Figure 2. "VOIDED"
Thus, the appropriate action to finalize the unsuccessful attempt was to cancel the postage due stamps with "VOIDED". The letter was then returned to the Dead Letter Branch and no further attempt was required.


Figure 3. Successful Second Delivery Attempt
Additional research revealed other interesting examples of the "VOIDED" marking such as the postcard shown in Figure 3 mailed from Great Britain to Columbia, S.C., U.S.A. Apparently, the first delivery attempt required four cents postage due, but was unsuccessful. Thus the "VOIDED" marking on the 3 -cent and 1 -cent postage due stamps in the upper left of the card. The second delivery attempt was indeed successful and the two 2 -cent postage due stamps were appropriately canceled.


Figure 4. "VOIDED" Meter Postage Due
"VOIDED" was also used to cancel postage due meter stamps, such as the one shown in Figure 4 on a March 5, 1963 post from Edmonton, Alberta to Seattle, Washington, USA. The shortpaid tax was 2 cents as evidenced by the affixed green-ink Seattle meter on the left side of the cover. However, the letter apparently could not be delivered requiring "VOIDED" to be handstamped on the postage due meter.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary
leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
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August 2014 Newsletter

Summer shows continue this month with Columbia, South Carolina and the national APS Stampshow which is in Connecticut this year.

Many members had tables at the Member Bourse in July. I hope many of you found great bargains as you shopped.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

August 5
Regular ASCC meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

August 9-10 Columbia Philatelic Society Show. Columbia, SC Spring Valley HS cafeatorium with usual hours: Sat, 10-5; Sun 10-4. The Boy Scout Collecting Merit badge will be taught.

August 19
Regular ASCC meeting and program. Barbara Brown will be showing us her Georgia post marks collection and talking about the collecting of postmarks.

August 21-24 APS Stampshow, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, Connecticut www.stamps.org/stampshow

September 2 Regular ASCC meeting and auction.
September 12-14 Postal History Symposium and Aerophilately 2014 American Air Mail Society and American Philatelic Society with American Philatelic Research Library. www.americanairmailsociety.org

September 16 Regular ASCC meeting and program. Mel Coe will talk about perfins.
October 7 Regular ASCC meeting and auction.

May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY


Scouting Founder Portrayed on Rare Error Stamp

By Steve Swain

The genesis of the scouting movement was a series of magazines, Scouting for Boys, written in 1908 by General Robert Baden-Powell. The contents of the six publications were later combined into a book, Scouting for Boys, that remains today as the seminal work on Scouting.


Robert-Baden Powell


Scouting for Boys

In the magazines, activities were recommended for existing youth organizations in the United Kingdom to use to develop in boys and young men a sense of duty, personal discipline and honor.

An unexpected result of this was the formation of Scout Patrols around the country, all of which followed the principles set out in Baden-Powell's work. In 1910, this led Baden-Powell to form The Boy Scout Association as a national body to organize and support the Scout Patrols.

Hundreds of stamps with Baden-Powell's image commemorating the scouting movement have been issued by countries worldwide, as seen with the issues below.


One of the most intriguing stamps with Baden-Powell's image was offered at the March 12, 2014 Spinks Shreves auction of the Harry Birkhead Collection, featuring occupation and siege issues of the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902.

During this conflict, the British fought to hold a South African town named Mafeking. The British troops were led by garrison commander Col. Robert Baden-Powell. During a seven-month encounter with the Transvaal Army, the British supply of postage stamps was depleted and printing problems precluded replacements for the standard British issues. Baden-Powell ordered the production of ad hoc issues using a photographic process. The design for the special issue was Baden-Powell's portrait.
The Mafeking issue is a rarity in two regards. It was one of the very few stamps of the British Empire at that time not to depict the monarch. But, more importantly, the stamp's printing process led to a reversed design, of which only 10 examples are known to exist (three mint, seven used). Below on the left is a used Mafeking stamp with the correct image of Baden-Powell's portrait. The issue on the right has the reversed image (Cape of Good Hope, Scott 179c).


In traditional photography, the negative must be placed the correct way up when making a print. The Mafeking error issue was caused by the glass plate being reversed in the printing frame. This April 27, 1900 rare issue sold for $\$ 67,000$ at the Spink auction.

The British prevailed in the Mafeking siege and Baden-Powell soon returned to England a hero. Several years later, he founded the scouting movement. It is interesting to note that during the Mafeking conflict, a specially chosen group of young men were charged with supplying and supporting the soldiers defending the town, with part of that support being the delivery of mail. These young men were the Mafeking Cadets Corps, forerunners of the Scouts.

For more information about scouting on stamps, visit the website for Scouts on Stamps Society International at http://www.sossi.org/index.shtml.

For more in depth information on some of the new US Stamp issues the website uspsstamps.com includes stories and pictures with background on the designs and designers. I found the video of the artist creating the design for the Jimi Hendrix music icon stamp issued March 13, 2014, at http://uspsstamps.com/stories/channeling-jimi.

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LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
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December 2014 Newsletter

Holiday Party planning is in full swing. Scott Holmberg is hosting this year and will provide Lasagna for our meal - both meat and veggie versions. We would like both fruit and tossed salad, green beans or other green vegetable, bread, beverages and appetizers. If you can join us and have not signed up to bring a dish, please contact Barbara Asher at 404-502-2749. She is coordinating the rest of the food.

Our club is a member of Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. If you would like to volunteer for the Southeastern Stamp Expo in January please talk to Scott Holmberg about helping with registration or hospitality or Barbara Asher about youth activities table.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5-7 FLOREX Florida State Stamp Show, Orlando. www.florexstampshow.com.
December $10 \quad$ 7:00 pm Club Holiday Party. At the home of President Scott Holmberg. NOTE this is a Wednesday. Directions from our library meeting location to Scott's house are enclosed.

December 14 Joint Meeting at the Cobb County Stamp Club to be held on Sunday, December 14, 2014 at 1:30 pm. There will be a short program, refreshments and, of course, our usual auction. Expect to begin the actual program/auction at $2: 30 \mathrm{pm}$. The location is at 2000 Powers Ferry Road, Atlanta (Marietta), GA 30067. The suite number is G-4, the Atlanta Ballet Studio, right next to the Mellow Mushroom. Problems, people can call Cass Regent cell phone (770) 330-0790.

January 6 Regular club meeting and auction.

January 30 - Feb 1 Southeastern Stamp Expo. Hilton Atlanta Northeast. Norcross, Georgia. Check the website www.sefsc.org for details on the show, exhibiting and other activities.

February 6-8 Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition. Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. www.sarasotastampclub.com

February 13-15 APS AmeriStamp Expo. Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, California
February 13-15 ASDA Florida Winter Stamp Show. Broward County Convention Center. www.americanstampdealer.com

May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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## $45^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary of "One Giant Leap for Mankind"

## by Steve Swain

Broadcast on live television on July 21, 1969, a world-wide audience watched Commander Neil Armstrong leave his landing module and step down onto the lunar surface, describing the event as "one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind." Apollo 11 was the spaceflight forty-five years ago that landed the first astronauts - Americans Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin - on the moon. A third crew member, Michael Collins, piloted the command spacecraft alone in lunar orbit until Armstrong and Aldrin returned to it just under a day later for the trip back to Earth, landing safely in the Pacific Ocean on July 24.


To celebrate the historic event, the first jumbo-size commemorative (Scott C76) was issued on September 9, 1969 by the old U.S. Post Office Department, soon to be replaced by the U.S. Postal Service less than a year later. The 10 -cent airmail issue's story is truly unique in the chronicles of U.S. philately.


The stamp was printed from a master die which Armstrong and Aldrin carried with them. And, it was the largest postage stamp the United States had issued up to that time. Its design was 1.80 by 1.05 inches, and its overall size was $161 / 64$ by $115 / 64$ inches, making it 50 percent larger than conventional U.S. commemoratives. A total of $152,364,800$ stamps were printed and distributed.

One major color error variety of the stamp (Scott C76a) has been recorded. Missing from some stamps is the offset red used for the flag stripes on Armstrong's shoulder patch. Shown above is a vertical pair of the stamp, one with the red missing (right) and one normal (left). This pair was sold for $\$ 360$ at a Jacques C. Schiff Jr. Inc. auction December 11, 1993.

The First Man On The Moon stamp inspired tremendous interest among First Day Cover collectors. Within three weeks after the July 9 initial announcement, the Washington City Post Office had received 500,000 requests for First Day Covers. About one-fifth of these requests came from overseas, representing more than 100 countries. The final tally for processed covers was an unprecedented $8,743,070$. (The hugely popular Elvis Presley commemorative stamp of January 8, 1993 received only 4,451,718 official Memphis, Tennessee, First Day of Issue postmarks.)

Probably the most significant, and valuable, of the first day covers are the ones autographed by the three astronauts, as the cover shown here which sold at auction a few years ago for $\$ 13,000$.


An often asked question about the Apollo 11 first day covers is why they have two dates in the postmark: July 20 and Sept. 9, 1969. When the stamp's printing die returned to earth, it was used to make the printing plates for the postage stamps that were issued by the Post Office and used on the first day covers. These stamps were not ready to be released to the public until September 9, 1969, and this is the date of first issue that appears in the postmark. The July 20, 1969 postmark was used to cancel a proof of the First Man on the Moon stamp cancelled on the moon. Thus, both postmarks commemorate the event.

It's been forty-five years since Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong became the first people to walk on the moon, leaving those back on Earth to stare at their television screens in awe. To commemorate the milestone, the Slooh Space Camera broadcast live footage from the moon this year on Sunday, July 20, at 8:30 eastern.

On Monday, July 21, NASA honored Armstrong, who died in 2012, with a renaming ceremony of the historic Operations and Checkout Building at Cape Canaveral, Fla., the launch site. Both Aldrin and Michael Collins attended.
"For those who may ask what they can do to honor Neil, we have a simple request," the Armstrong family said in a statement after his death. "Honor his example of service, accomplishment and modesty, and the next time you walk outside on a clear night and see the moon smiling down at you, think of Neil Armstrong and give him a wink."
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Southeastern Stamp Expo January 30 - Feb 2. There will be a silent auction. This is the third year holding the auction to help the bottom line of the Stamp Show and give club members the chance to buy and sell material at good prices. We will have supplies, stamp and cover lots and high dollar individual stamps. The rules are simple. It is a silent auction so we will have a bid sheet for every lot. The viewing and bidding will be on Saturday in the Hospitality Suite hosted by the Show. The auction will close promptly at 10 PM on Saturday night.
Lots can be consigned or donated. $10 \%$ of catalog will be the starting bid unless from a current hot area. The Stamp Show gets $20 \%$ and the consignor gets $80 \%$. Donated lots will be awarded at $100 \%$ to the Show. A tax form is available if requested.
All lots should have a starting bid of at least five dollars.
Allen Johnson is coordinating and for more details contact him directly at robinaj1956@yahoo.com.

Our Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs has updated the web-site and our club's page is ready for review. The main site is www.sefsc.org. Our club's page is at www.sefsc.org/atlanta-stamp-collectors-club.html. But be sure to check out all the other information on the site. We will be posting our club newsletter there as well as any handouts from meeting presentations.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
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July 2014 Newsletter

Sorry for the confusion last month. We hope to re-schedule Doug Mattox who had to cancel at the last minute. July is the Member Bourse (some of you got my first draft newsletter that said the bourse was June.)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 1
Regular ASCC meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

July 15
Regular ASCC meeting. This will be the annual member bourse. Bring things you want to sell or trade. We will have extra tables set up so you can have an area to lay out your items. Be sure to put prices on your items so you can be free to wander to other member's sections and shop and swap.

July 26-27
CHARPEX 2014 Charlotte Philatelic Society, Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Comm College, 1228 Elizabeth Ave, Charlotte, NC www.charpex.info/

August $5 \quad$ Regular ASCC meeting and auction.
August 9-10 Columbia Philatelic Society Show. Columbia, SC Spring Valley HS cafeatorium with usual hours: Sat, 10-5; Sun 10-4. The Boy Scout Collecting Merit badge will be taught.

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## Rare Post-Repeal Use of Revenue Stamp on CDV By Steve Swain

Patented in Paris, France, by photographer Andre Adolphe Eugene Disderi in 1854, cartes de visite (CDVs) were photographs created with a special camera that produced eight poses on one negative. The photos were affixed to a card the size of the then standard calling card, around 2.5 " by 4 ". At the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861, demand for cartes de visite quickly grew as soldiers and their loved ones sought an affordable image remembrance.

Faced with the financial demands of the Civil War, a June 30, 1864, act of Congress placed a new luxury tax on "photographs, ambrotypes, daguerreotypes or any other sun-pictures." Photographers were required to affix a properly denominated revenue stamp on the back of the image and cancel it by initialing and dating it in pen. Some photographers used handstamp cancellations.


However, there was not a special stamp created for photography. So, you will see on the backs of CDVs revenue stamps originally intended for Bank Checks, Playing Cards, Certificates, Proprietary, Bill of Lading, etc. These were accepted by the Federal Government on cartes de visite as long as the stamp denomination was appropriate.

The tax on photographs created and sold in the United States was repealed effective August 1, 1866. However, because a photographer was unaware of the repealed law, very rare and collectible items are post-August 1 cartes de visite with an affixed revenue stamp. Shown below is an excellent example of a post repeal use on a CDV created by photographer J. Smith, Sr. of Lebanon, PA. An enlarged, negative image of the $2 \Phi$ Bank Check, Scott R6c, clearly shows an AUG 231866 date in the center of the doublecircle handstamp cancellation.


Because of their rarity and collecting appeal, caution by collectors should be exercised regarding forgeries of post repeal CDVs with revenue stamps. On first blush, it could be questioned whether the revenue stamp shown on the Lebanon, PA. CDV is in reality the stamp used to pay the tax on the photograph. Notice that the circular handstamp cancellation doesn't tie the revenue stamp to the back of the CDV. In other words, the handstamp's outer circle seems to be broken or missing at the top and left edges of the stamp as if the stamp were originally cancelled on a different piece, removed and affixed to the CDV. This certainly is indeed possible.

However, a common practice among CDV photographers was to pre-cancel a stock of revenue stamps for example, a full sheet - and then remove stamps from that sheet to affix to CDVs as the photographs were being prepared and stacked. In this way, cancellation ink applied to the stamps would have dried and there would not be a risk of wet ink transferring to other CDVs as there would be if the stamps were first affixed to the CDVs and then cancelled.

An example of such pre-use multiple cancellations is shown here with this block of eight $1 ¢$ Playing Cards revenue stamps (Scott R2c). The enlarged image of a single stamp cropped from the block illustrates how the circular cancellation design would appear broken when it was removed from the block after being cancelled and affixed to the back of the CDV.


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June 2014 Newsletter

What a busy month May was. Thanks to William Barr for the interesting program on Greenland at the joint meeting. If you missed the second meeting you missed some very interesting and odd philatelic material brought in for show and tell. I saw many members at the Stamp Dealers of Georgia show.

The second meeting in July will be the annual member bourse. Bring things you want to sell or trade. We will have extra tables set up so you can have an area to lay out your items. Be sure to put prices on your items so you can be free to wander to other member's sections and shop and swap.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 31 - June 1 HUNTSPEX 2014 Huntsville Philatelic Club, University Center, U of Alabama in Huntsville 1410 Ben Graves Dr, Huntsville www.stampshows.com/huntsville

June 3
Regular ASCC meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

June 6-8
NAPEX 2014. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner 7920 Jones Branch Dr, McLean Virginia. www.napex.org

June 14-15 SUNPEX 2014 Central Florida Stamp Club, The Bahia Shrine Center, 2300 Pembrook Dr, Orlando FL www.floridastampshows.com

June 17
Regular ASCC meeting. Doug Mattox will be presenting on Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika and the George V and VI issues.

June 27 - 29, 2014 National Topical Stamp Show, Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, Missouri, 63134St. Louis, MO. Info at www.americantopicalassn.org

July 1 Regular ASCC meeting and auction.
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## $75^{\text {th }}$ and 50 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Anniversaries of the New York World's Fairs

By Steve Swain

New York's Flushing Meadows-Corona Park is in the spotlight as 2014 marks the 75th anniversary of the 1939-1940 World's Fair and the 50th anniversary of the 1964-1965 World's Fair, both of which were held in the Queens' borough venue. Months of events commemorating the fairs were announced, starting with an opening ceremony and a rare opportunity to go inside the aging New York State Pavilion on April 22 at 10:45 a.m., 50 years to the minute the 1964 World's Fair opened.

## The 1939-1940 World's Fair

Exceeded only by the St. Louis Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904, the 1939 Fair was the second largest American world's fair, attracting more than 44 million people. As the first exposition to be based on the future, it boldly proclaimed "the world of tomorrow" and "the dawn of a new day" as its guiding themes. State-of-the-art technologies such as ffluorescent lighting, air conditioning and television were showcased at the 1939 Fair.


Dominating the Fair were two monumental buildings named the Trylon (over 700 feet tall) and the Perisphere. You entered the Perisphere by a moving stairway and then exited via a grand curved walkway named the Helicline. Inside the Perisphere was a model city of tomorrow that visitors viewed from a moving walkway high above the floor level.

An artistic rendition of the Trylon and Perisphere became the central design for the 3-cent U.S. stamp (Scott 853) commemorating the Fair. It is no wonder that these extraordinary structures were the focus of numerous cachets created for first day covers and other mailings associated with the 1939 event as seen with the cover images here.

## The 1964-1965 World's Fair

Echoing the 1939 Fair's guiding themes of the "future" and "technology", the 1964 Fair proclaimed itself as a "universal and international" exposition, dedicated to "Man's Achievement on a Shrinking Globe in an Expanding Universe". Showcased at the Fair were the space age, computer technology, the touchtone phone, the Ford Mustang and animatronic film production commissioned by Walt Disney. Attended by more than 51 million people, the fair was in many ways a grand consumer show promoting products made in the United States. Most American companies from pen manufacturers to auto companies had a major presence.

The Fair's theme was symbolized by a 12 -story high, stainless-steel model of the earth called the Unisphere. It was this structure that was highlighted in the design for the 5 -cent U.S. commemorative stamp (Scott 1244) issued to acknowledge the 1964 Fair.


Unlike the 1939 fair with only a few international stamps issued, the 1964 fair was commemorated on numerous stamps worldwide, as seen with the issues below.


## End Note

The 1939 and 1954 New York World's Fairs stand as testaments to exemplary exposition planning and execution, boldly promoting universal and international achievements. So let the anniversary celebrations begin, only as New York can do, with commemorations of these two exceptional events!

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

March 2014 Newsletter

Spring? Or Winter. Can't figure out what weather to plan for. Hope the newsletter helps you plan your calendar for the upcoming months. We have some great programs - all by our members.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 1-2
KNOXPEX 2014 Star-Spangled Bicentennial. Holiday Inn Knoxville-West 304 Cedar Bluff, Knoxville Philatelic Society contact Tom Broadhead 865-974-1151

March 4 Regular Atlanta Stamp Collectors Meeting and Auction. Meeting at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

March 18
Regular ASCC meeting and program. Jonathan Goldstein will present a program about his recent visit to the British Postal Museum.

April 1 Regular ASCC meeting and Auction.
April 15 Regular ASCC meeting and program. John Allensworth will be speaking on Panama and Canal Zone

May 6 JOINT MEETING at Atlanta. Program by William Barr.
May $20 \quad$ Primary voting so no meeting.
June 27-29, 2014 National Topical Stamp Show, Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, Missouri, 63134St. Louis, MO. Info at www.americantopicalassn.org

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    Leather Postcards
    By Steve Swain
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No, you didn't misread the title of this article. Leather postcards were very popular from around 1900 to 1909 when the postal service banned them because they were too difficult to process using the sorting machines then in use. The postcards were usually made from deerskin and decorated with the tip of a hot implement, much like the wood burning kits popular in the 1950s. The process was called pyrography.


Unlike usual postcards, the leather cards really were not meant for writing a communication to someone. Instead, on the reverse of the leather cards were cartoonish images, endearing or clever sayings, a poem, a holiday greeting, etc. In essence, the cards were meant to be a fanciful, humorous communication requiring little or no additions by the sender.

There are examples of leather postcards companies used for advertising purposes, governmental agencies showing their location and colleges highlighting their campus, such as the ones shown below. But these varieties of leather postcards are surely in the minority.


Jackson County Court House, Kansas City


Dwight Art Bldg., Mt. Holyoke College, MA.

One popular way to use the leather postcards was to collect them and sew them together to make a pillow. Some leather postcards had hole 'templates' marked around the edges for receivers to punch out and thread together with short leather tassels. And, some leather postcards were produced with holes prepunched along their edges (such as the Jackson County Court House card shown above). The card below shows both the hole template and the pre-punched holes. An example of a leather card pillow is also shown.


The U.S. domestic postcard rate at the time was one cent. So, the overwhelming majority of leather postcards mailed in the U.S. were franked with the 1-cent Franklin, Scott \# 300, from the 1902 Series, Second Bureau Issue.


Thus, from a stamp collecting perspective, leather postcards certainly do not provide much variety except possibly for cancellation collectors. However, the unique and fanciful character of leather postcards surely provides an entertaining and amusing postal history collecting theme.

## LAIDERS TO LINTHS

## Jenny soaking danger

l've received several \$2 Inverted Jenny stamps on mail, but I found that soaking them off is a disaster.

The stamp comes off easily in warm water, but the gum remains on the back, and the wet


An attempt to soak the $\$ 2$ Inverted Jenny stamp in plain water destroyed the stamp. stamp paper has the consistency of toilet paper.

Myron S. Kavalgian Old Lyme, Conn.
We had a similar experience. After soaking the Jenny stamp in room temperature water for 30 minutes, the stamp paper began to break down. A layer of stamp paper and adhesive remained adhered to the envelope paper,
and the remaining thin layer of paper with the stamp design began to peel away, destroying the stamp as a collectible.

Our recommendation is that collectors save used examples of this stamp on piece. Considering that in the larger scheme of things these stamps are not frequently found on mail, it would be a good idea to preserve intact any cover franked with the \$2 Inverted Jenny.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.


Postmark Atlanta
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May 2014 Newsletter

Watch the schedule for changes on meeting dates. Elections happen in our library meeting place so we may have to change weeks. The first one is this month.

Thanks to John Allensworth for his Panama and Canal Zone presentation. This was a geography and philatelic lesson that was enhanced by the fact that John has been there.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3 Greater Augusta Stamp Club Bourse, Augusta Public Library Main Branch, 823 Telfair St.

May 6
JOINT MEETING at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00. There will be a program presented by William Barr on Greenland. There will be a joint auction with the usual $\$ 5$ minimum bid and 5 lot maximum per member. Refreshments will be provided.

May 13
Regular meeting. Please bring an item for show and tell to this meeting. We will have a review of the resources provided by the Club Library and we will have new Kiloware available.

May 17 \& 18 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia show. The Mansour Center 995 Roswell St. Marietta, GA 30060 Free parking and admission.

May $20 \quad$ Primary voting at library so no meeting.

May 31 - June 1 HUNTSPEX 2014 Huntsville Philateli Club, University Center, U of Alabama in Huntsville 1410 Ben Graves Dr, Huntsville www.stampshows.com/huntsville

June 3 Regular ASCC meeting and auction
June 6-8 NAPEX 2014. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner 7920 Jones Branch Dr, McLean Virginia. www.napex.org

June 14-15 SUNPEX 2014 Central Florida Stamp Club, The Bahia Shrine Center, 2300 Pembrook Dr, Orlando FL www.floridastampshows.com

June 17 Regular ASCC meeting. Doug Mattox will be presenting on Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika and the George V and VI issues.

June 27 - 29, 2014 National Topical Stamp Show, Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, Missouri, 63134St. Louis, MO. Info at www.americantopicalassn.org

July 1 Regular ASCC meeting and auction
July 15 Regular ASCC meeting. This will be our annual member bourse.
July 26-27 CHARPEX 2014 Charlotte Philatelic Society, Worrell Bldg, Central Piedmont Comm College, 1228 Elizabeth Ave, Charlotte, NC www.charpex.info/

August 21-24 APS Stampshow, Connecticut Convention Center,Hartford, Connecticut www.stamps.org/stampshow

May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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## Rare Athens, Ga. 5-cent Red Provisional Stamp

## By Steve Swain

The Confederate States Post Office Department assumed control of the mails in seceded states on June 1, 1861. On that day, U.S. stamps and stationery were no longer valid for postage in the Confederacy. From June until the first Confederate government stamps were made available in October-and at later times when wartime conditions disrupted stamp distribution-Southern postmasters resorted to provisional means of prepayment. Handstamped markings were applied to letters and envelopes when payment was accepted at the post office.

But one of the most intriguing areas of American Civil War postal history is the adhesive stamps and press-printed envelopes that at least 53 Confederate post offices issued. Known as Confederate postmasters' provisionals. many of these rare adhesive stamps were hand-made by a postmaster using woodcuts, lithographic stones or stereotype
plates. A few were elaborately designed and sometimes required printing at the local newspaper office or commercial printing establishment.

On February 26 of this year, the Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries conducted the Benjamin Wishnietsky Collection of Confederate States Postal History sale. One of the premier items in this auction was the rare Athens Ga., 5 -cent Red (5X2) on a University of Georgia blue embossed cameo corner card cover to Sharon Ga., one of the finest of the seven recorded covers bearing the Athens 5 -cent Red provisional and the only one known on a University of Georgia corner card cover.


To appreciate the beautiful design of the stamp, to the right of the cover shown here is an image of the only recorded unused example of the Athens 5 -cent red provisional, of which a mere dozen copies are known. This stamp was offered as part of The Peter Sharrer Collection of Confederate Postmasters' Provisionals at a December, 2012 Siegel Auction.

The reason the stamp is referred to as the 5 -cent "Red" is because there were also Athens provisionals printed with purple ink, cataloged as Athens Ga., 5c Dark Purple (5X1), as seen here with a used pair. Recorded examples of these stamps, on and off cover, are more numerous than the Red variety. However, the Purple variety also commands equally high prices at auction.


Two other covers of the seven recorded with the Athens 5 -cent Red provisional were offered in November of 2009 by the Spink Shreves Galleries sale of the William H. Gross Collection Confederate States of America and a Robert Siegel 2010 auction of Confederate items.


The cover shown here on the left from the Spink Shreves auction is considered among the finest available based on the stamp's color, excellent margins and the cleanliness of the envelope itself.

The cover on the right is another genuine cover bearing the Athens 5-cent Red provisional dated in March or April of 1862. The stamp on this cover is not as richly red as on the Spink Shreves cover, but it is more alluring given the huge top margin (as seen here to the left of the stamp given how it was affixed to the cover).

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary
leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club
\#0357-031583
November 2014 Newsletter

Thanks to all the members who brought their "Show and Tell" to the October meeting. We had a lot of interesting items and many questions. There is always something new to learn in our hobby.

Our club is a member of Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. If you would like to volunteer for the Southeastern Stamp Expo in January please talk to Scott Holcomb about helping with registration or hospitality or Barbara Asher about youth activities table.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 4
No meeting since our meeting site is a voting location. Be sure you vote.
November 7-8 American Stamp Dealers Association Fall Postage Stamp Show. Hilton Chrystal City, Arlington, VA www.americanstampdealer.com

November 18 This meeting will be our monthly auction since it is the only meeting in November. Regular ASCC meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00. We will be discussing plans for our Holiday party.

November 22-23 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia Holiday Stamp Show. Mansour Center, 995 Roswell St. Marietta, GA 30060 Sat. $10 \mathrm{am}-5 \mathrm{pm}$, Sun. $10 \mathrm{am}-3 \mathrm{pm}$

December 5-7 FLOREX Florida State Stamp Show, Orlando. www.florexstampshow.com.
December 10 Club Holiday Party. At the home of President Scott Holcomb. NOTE this is a Wednesday.

January $6 \quad$ Regular club meeting and auction.

January 20 Regular club meeting and program.
January 30 - Feb 1 Southeastern Stamp Expo. Hilton Atlanta Northeast. Norcross, Georgia. Check the website www.sefsc.org for details on the show, exhibiting and other activities.

February 6-8 Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition. Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. www.sarasotastampclub.com

February 13-15 APS AmeriStamp Expo. Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, California
February 13-15 ASDA Florida Winter Stamp Show. Broward County Convention Center. www.americanstampdealer.com

May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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# Collecting Rare and Valuable Stamps is Not Expensive 

by Steve Swain
Many years ago, I accepted a realization that is quite common, I assume, among stamp collectors:
I would never own very valuable stamps or the stamp rarities of the world. Not even one. But that didn't deter me from starting a collection of those rare and valuable stamps and routinely adding to the collection.

No contradiction here. With somewhat of a compromise on the definition of "collecting the rarities", I have quite a significant collection of rare and valuable stamps. Mine is a topical collection of "stamps on stamps" and many specifically commemorate the rarities of the world.

Stamps on stamps is a philatelic term for depicting images of postage stamps on postage stamps. The Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club web site provides an explanation of the three types of stamps on stamps:

Type A: A stamp that contains a reproduction (fully or partly) of the original stamp.
Figure 1 illustrates Type A with the famous British Guiana Penny Magenta of 1856 reproduced on a stamp issued by Guyana in 1967

Type B: A stamp that contains something of the original design or that uses the same design with modifications. The 1947 U.S. Stamp Centenary issue in Figure 2 illustrates Type B. The portraits of Washington and Franklin on the stamp are from the first two U. S. stamps of 1847.

Type U: The reproduction of a stamp in an unidentifiable form. Figure 3 is an example of a Type U stamp on stamp as shown on the 1966 imperforate souvenir sheet issued by the U.S. for the Sixth International Philatelic Exhibition, Washington, D.C. The five cent
stamp on the souvenir sheet clearly features an envelope franked with four stamps; however, the individual stamps cannot be identified.


Figure 1


Figure 2


Figure 3

So, I certainly do not own the stamp rarities of the world, and never will. But for a minimal investment, I do indeed collect those rare and valuable stamps through my pursuit of a stamps on stamps topical collecting theme. Below are some of those stamps portrayed in my stamps on stamps collection.


Figure 4


Figure 5


Figure 6


Figure 7

Figure 4: 1953 South African stamp pictures an 1853 Cape of Good Hope Triangle issue.
Figure 5: 1990 Australian stamp features Victoria's 1857 5-shilling blue on yellow issue.
Figure 6: 1971 Chad air mail portrays 1847 2-pence Post Office Mauritius issue.
Figure 7: 1968 Swiss commemorative shows 1843 gems from Zurich and Geneva.


Figure 8


Figure 9


Figure 10


Figure 11

Figure 8: 1954 Philippines stamp pictures Philippines 1854 first Isabella II issue.
Figure 9: 1962 Canadian stamp portrays British Columbia's 1850 2-1/2d dull rose issue.
Figure 10: 1955 Norway stamp depicts Norway's first issue, the 1855 Coat of Arms.
Figure 11: 1979 Faroe Islands Europa stamp reproduces Faroe's first issue, the 1919 2-ore surcharge.


I think it is fair to say that collecting stamps on stamps keeps you in touch with the most "philatelic" topic of them all. And having a specialty collection of rare and valuable stamps featured on stamps provides the opportunity to collect many of the unique treasures of our hobby.

For more information about stamps on stamps, visit the Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club at http://www.stampsonstamps.org/.
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Our Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs has updated the web-site and our club's page is ready for review. The main site is www.sefsc.org. Our club's page is at www.sefsc.org/atlanta-stamp-collectors-club.html. But be sure to check out all the other information on the site. We will be posting our club newsletter there as well as any handouts from meeting presentations.

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
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October 2014 Newsletter

Our Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs has updated the web-site and our club's page is ready for review. The main site is www.sefsc.org. Our club's page is at www.sefsc.org/atlanta-stamp-collectors-club.html. But be sure to check out all the other information on the site. We will be posting our club newsletter there as well as any handouts from meeting presentations.
Thanks to Steve Swain for agreeing to be our club Webmaster on the new web-site.

Mel Coe presented "Everything I Learned about Perfins I Learned from Mr. Boatwright" at the meeting September 16. His will be the first presentation posted on our new web page.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 7 Regular ASCC meeting and auction auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00. We will be discussing plans for our Holiday December party.

October 15 Joint meeting with all Atlanta clubs meeting at Button Gwinnett Stamp Club. They meet at 7:30 pm at Lilburn City Hall, 76 Main Street, Lilburn, GA 30048. There is a joint auction at this meeting. Minimum auction bid $\$ 5.00$ maximum of 10 lots. They will have extra auctioneers if needed to move through this larger auction.

October 21
Regular ASCC meeting. Please bring a Show and Tell item and share what you know. We will have all kiloware out as well.

November $4 \quad$ No meeting since our meeting site is a voting location.

November 18 This meeting will be our monthly auction since it is the only meeting in
November.

November 22-23 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia Holiday Stamp Show. Mansour Center.

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May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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## The MAILOMAT - Self-Service Postage Technology

By Steve Swain

At a recent show, I was sorting through a dealer's box of postcards and came across several like the one shown in Figure 1 (front and back). Postmarked April 10, 1940, the card is a promotional piece for the Mailomat, a state-of-the-art, self-service, coin-operated postage meter machine for public use manufactured by the Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Company.


Figure 1. Mailomat Promotional Card
The device provided a single, streamlined operation of purchasing postage and mailing letters. The customer dropped money into the coin slot, dialed the correct postage denomination (from 1c to 33c, including Air Mail and Special Delivery) and inserted the letter into the machine. The Mailomat printed on the letter or card a meter stamp containing the city name and date of the mailing and held the letter until it was collected by postal workers.

According to the National Postal Museum at the Smithsonian, the Mailomat was developed in cooperation with the U.S. Post Office Dept. and first placed into public service in New York City on May 17, 1939. (The last machine was taken out of service in 1983.) It operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week in hotels, department stores, railroad terminals, and post office lobbies. Figure 2 shows an early prototype of the machine and Figure 3 is an image of the final design as made available in 1939.


Figure 2. 1937 design


Figure 3. 1939 design

An interesting collection theme associated with the Mailomat promotional postcards are ones marked "First Day Cover", such as the one in Figure 4 that I also acquired at the show and the first one I examined. Embracing what I have always considered to be the definition of a "first day cover", I quickly pulled the card from the box to obtain a closer look at the upper right hand corner. However, there was not an adhesive stamp on the card. Instead, there was a one-cent meter marking with a "JACKSONVILLE / FLA. MAY-6'48" city/date.

After all, even the American First Day Cover Society defines a First Day Cover as "an envelope or card bearing a stamp which is cancelled on the day the stamp is initially placed on sale by the postal authorities." So, what did the "First Day" handstamp on these Mailomat cards really mean?


Figure 4
Mailomat First Day Cover (card)
I will gladly admit to some naiveté in what I discovered. As stated, the first Mailomat was placed in public service in the United States in New York City on May 17, 1939. My Internet search revealed several of the New York City "First Day Covers", such as the one shown in Figure 5.


Figure 5
Mailomat First Day Cover
The key to solving my self-imposed mystery was the language in the left-side box of the cover explaining that the envelope was a limited edition prepared specifically for the installation ceremony of the Mailomat in New York City. A "First Day Cover" marking on such mailings, therefore, commemorated the first day of the general public operation of the Mailomat in the particular city, such as May 6, 1948 for the Jacksonville, FL card I acquired. And, since the Mailomat was, in essence, a sophisticated metering device, there would never be an adhesive stamp affixed to the envelopes and cards, irrespective of a first day of issue consideration.

However, the use of the word "Cover" (instead of "Envelope") in the description of the commemorative piece and the handstamp language applied to the Jacksonville postcard certainly suggests that someone did indeed know the philatelic use of that word. These commemorative pieces just may well have had a more philatelic motivation and purpose than first thought!

At any rate, I now embrace a somewhat liberal definition of "first day cover" and willingly accept the fact that sometimes marketing objectives can take priority over philatelic terminology, such as with the promotion of the state-of-the-art Mailomat machine.
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The American Philatelic Society has added Theodore M. Tedesco's forgery index to the APRL's Library Collections webpage at: stamps.org/userfiles/file/library/Tedescolndex.pdf. The full title of this monumental, over 1,100 page work is "The Index of Literature in the English Language that Describes Postage Stamp Forgeries, Fakes, Reprints, Fraudulent Postal Markings and Other Obliterations".

While the index itself isn't something you want to spend an evening reading, it is an incredible source to use when researching forgeries of your favorite stamps. Originally compiled in 2004 it was updated just this year - so the information is current!

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas. LeA Coe, Secretary
leacoe@bellsouth.net


Postmark Atlanta
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September 2014 Newsletter

Our August meetings were well attended. Thanks to Barbara Brown for her informative presentation on collecting postmarks.

Our Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs is in the middle of re-designing the web-site where our newsletters are posted. If you know anyone who regularly checks there for information on our club meetings, please forward them the newsletter or let me know so I can email a copy.

We will be sure to let everyone know when the new and improved site is up and running.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2 Regular ASCC meeting and auction at Atlanta Library branch at 980 Ponce de Leon. This is the corner of Ponce de Leon and Frederica and there is a Marta bus stop at that corner. Meeting starts at 7:00.

September 12-14 Postal History Symposium and Aerophilately 2014 American Air Mail Society and American Philatelic Society with American Philatelic Research Library. www.americanairmailsociety.org

September 16 Regular ASCC meeting and program. Mel Coe will talk about perfins.
September 20-21 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia Stamp show. The Mansour Center, 995 Roswell St. Marietta, GA 30060 Hours Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Sunday 10:00 am 3:00 pm

October 7 Regular ASCC meeting and auction.

October 21 Regular ASCC meeting and program.
November 22-23 Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia Holiday Stamp Show. Mansour Center.

December 5-7 FLOREX Florida State Stamp Show, Orlando. www.florexstampshow.com.
May 28 - June 4, 2016 World Stamp Show NY 2016 New York City, NY
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APS Internet Modules
American Philatelic Society has scheduled several classes available online this fall. Check out detailed information at www.stamps.org/Stampcampus or email Gretchen Moody at gretchen@stamps.org for more information.

Titles and dates are:

| Collecting Your Hometown Postal History | September 17-19 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Digital Scanning for Collectors | October 14 |
| Photoshop Elements 1 | October 15 |
| Photoshop Elements 2 | October 16 |
| Basic Stamp Collecting Course (4 weeks) | October 21 |

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For more in depth information on some of the new US Stamp issues the website uspsstamps.com includes stories and pictures with background on the designs and designers.

Read the blog about the Circus Posters stamp pane issued May 5, 2014 at http://uspsstamps.com/blog/2014/5/5

Check out this link for a great photo story on the Ford Deuce - pictured on the Hot Rods issue of June 6. http://uspsstamps.com/stories/deuce-roadster

If you are interested in writing for our newsletter or presenting to our club at one of our monthly meetings, please contact me at the email below or Scott Holmberg at sdh1@cdc.gov with your ideas.

