

The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle

November, 2018



Southeast Federation
Of Stamp Clubs

www.sefsc.org/federation-clubs.html



American Philatelic Society
Chapter 731
www.Stamps.org



Official Journal of the Chattanooga Stamp Club

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE HICKORY VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 6605 SHALLOWFORD RD., CHATTANOOGA, TN.
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM, MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM -- VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

November 8 Monthly Meeting
Program Semi-Annual Auction
December 6 Christmas Dinner
Program Dinner, Election of Officers

CLUB OFFICERS

President Mike Ezell mhezell@gmail.com
Vice-president Jim Hogue jlhoguejr@charter.net
Secretary Rebecca Gilbert grabelsvn@aol.com
Treasurer Carl Anderson connie_anderson195@epbf.com
Newsletter Gene Bricker gbricker@catt.com

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Chattanooga Stamp Club memberships are on a calendar year basis. Yearly dues are \$10.00; send all monetary donations and membership dues to the club's Treasurer:

Mr. Carl Anderson, 919 Dunsinane Rd.
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

THE CHATTANOOGA STAMP CHRONICLE

The Chattanooga Stamp Club is affiliated with the American Philatelic Society. The club has been dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of the philatelic hobby since 1932.

SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS

The Southeast Federation web site is a source for information about stamp collecting activities in the region. Visit at: www.sefsc.org/federation-clubs.html

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

American Philatelic Society (APS) is the largest nonprofit stamp collecting Foundation of philately in the world., With about 30,000 members as of 2017 worldwide. Visit at: www.Stamps.org.

October Meeting Minutes

We opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
The secretary and the treasurer's report were given.

It was mentioned that stamps were supposed to go up in price in January.

Our Christmas party will be the first Thursday Dec. 6. Please bring 2 sides. We won't be able to get in until 6:00 so we'll probably start gathering at 6:30.

It was announced that a certain lady approached the club for help in liquidating her late husbands collection and it was decided to hold a sale at the Ooltewah Church of God open to the Atlanta Club, the Huntsville club and the Knoxville club. This month be our club auction.

We broke for refreshments and Mike Ezell gave a presentation on the Railway Mail Service.

NOTICE!

Membership dues for 2019 are due and payable to the treasurer! (\$10.00)

Oldest postal services in the world

First believed established in China around 4000 BC and in Egypt by 3000 BC. These early postal services was used mainly by court officials.

Correspondences between the King of the Mitanni (in upper Syria) and Amenophis IV, King of Egypt, containing condolences on the death of the Pharaoh's father suggests that a early services between them are quite well-regulated.

FUN STAMP FACTS

The glue on Israeli postage stamps is certified kosher.

Every time you lick a stamp, you're consuming 1/10 of a calorie. In 2001, the Royal Mail launched the self-adhesive, zero-calorie stamp.

A British Guiana one-cent magenta stamp was sold at auction in New York in 2014 for a record £5.6 million.

The previous owner of the stamp had died in jail in 2010 after being convicted of murdering an Olympic wrestling champion.

The UK is the only country that does not display its name on its postage stamps.

The number of ways to fold a strip of stamps is always divisible by the number of stamps in the strip

Source Daily Mail

SEPTEMBER U.S. STAMP ISSUES



September 7
John Lennon



September 13
Honoring First Responders



September 22
Birds of Winter



September 29
Hot Wheels

November Auction!

The November program is the semi-annual auction. All members are invited to bring their duplicates and enter them in the auction. The minimum bid for all lots must be at least \$1.00. Only members may enter lots in the auction, however, anyone may bid in the auction. Auction cards are available. Come early and enter your lots before the meeting starts at 7:30.



SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS

January 18-19, 2019 NOLAPEX Stamp Show

Crescent City Stamp Club, Doubletree New Orleans Airport, 2150 Veterans Memorial Blvd, Kenner, Louisiana 70062, Doug Weisz, 773-914-4332, weiszcovers@yahoo.com, <http://www.cscno.org>

January 25-27, 2019 Southeastern Stamp Expo

Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs, Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia 30092, Scott Mark, sestampexpo@gmail.com, <http://www.sefsc.org>

March 2, 2019 KnoxvillePEX 2019

Knoxville Philatelic Society, Holiday Inn Knoxville-Cedar Bluff, 9134 Executive Park Dr., Knoxville, Tennessee 37923, Tom Broadhead, broadhea@utk.edu 865-974-1151, <http://www.knoxstamps.com>

March 9-10, 2019 Nashville Stamp & Postcard Show - New Location to be Announced Soon -

Tom Tribke, show@nashvillephilatelic.org, 615-833-5161, <http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org>

NOTICE!

The December meeting, the Christmas Dinner date has been changed to Thursday, December 6, one week earlier than the normal schedule. The location will be the usual location of the club meetings, Hickory Valley Christian Church. More details in the December newsletter

Herman Herst article on page 3 presented with permission from *U.S. Stamp News*

Yesterday in STAMPS:

Herman Herst, Jr. Speaking of Stamps

(From STAMPS Magazine, January 4, 1986, with images added)

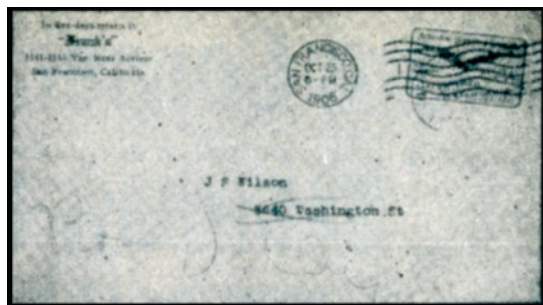
Understandably, postal communication in San Francisco in 1906 after the earthquake and fire was badly disorganized. The post office building itself was not badly damaged, and work went on inside the building by the employees, despite a lack of water for drinking. Only when the flames drove the workers from the building, did postal activities cease.

But how did mail get delivered? Was there, as has often been rumored, a local post started to carry letters to citizens who, due to the proclamation of martial law, were not allowed to enter the devastated area, which ran from the Ferry Building on the Bay to Van Ness Avenue.

A stamp is known, bearing the wording "Johnston-Dienstag Company, Special Service, San Francisco, California", with a large eagle, wings outstretched, in the center.

The earliest mention of the stamp was in *Mekeel's* for Nov. 17, 1906, seven months after the disaster. While the reference does not particularly connect it with the earthquake, it does mention that the company "was one which undertook to deliver letters to city addresses". The stamp, *Mekeel's* stated, "is of the same nature as the U.S. Locals...the cover shown us has the stamp cancelled by a single lined circle with San Francisco, Cal. around the top, Oct. 25 across the center in two lines, and 1906 around the lower part."

The description is correct, I can testify, for that very cover is now in my collection of philatelic and numismatic memorabilia from the San Francisco natural disaster. The curious thing is that the U.S. Post Office recognized the stamp as valid for postage, and it was delivered to 3640 Washington St. in San Francisco, without any postage due charges being assessed.



Even more curious is the fact that the letter was then forwarded to Ross Valley, Calif., and apparently delivered there with no charges. Of course, it is possible, perhaps even likely, that on the first stage of its journey Johnston-Dienstag was the carrier, and that it did not get into Post Office hands until it was forwarded. But again, why the recognition of the local as a valid stamp by the San Francisco post office?

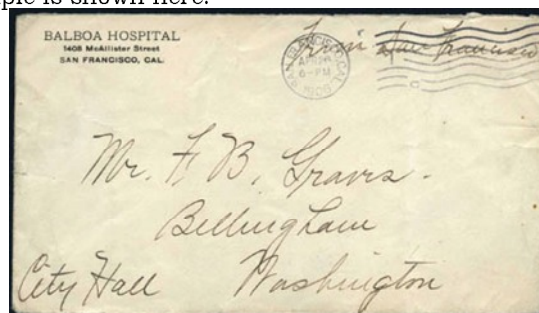
Fred Melville, the famous British philatelic writer of the early 20th century mentions the stamp in his book *Phantom Philately*. Apparently he had seen the very cover illustrated here, for he comments on the fact that the only [cover] known... was used after the disaster. Melville says:

"This (stamp) appeared in 1906, after the earthquake, and according to verbal accounts is said to have been issued by the company to do duty as a stamp on letters conveyed by a special emergency service when the regular post was disorganized."

Melville gives some other facts that are pertinent to the story but he fails to give his authority for the remarks, and worse yet, we are not told when it allegedly happened. His account says:

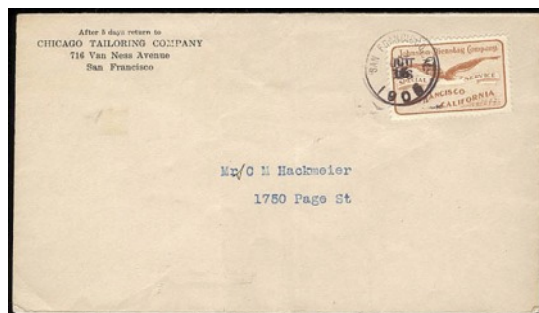
"It attracted the attention of the U.S. Post Office and a Secret Service agent was sent to seize on behalf of the government 32,000 stamps and lithographic stones in the possession of the company."

Can anyone fill in the missing parts of this story? Are any other covers known, perhaps used during the emergency? The 'quake was April 18, 1906 at 5:12 a.m. For several days, on his own authority, without permission from Washington, the San Francisco Postmaster allowed private letters (but no business letters) to go free of postage if they bore the words "From San Francisco" in the upper right hand corner. An example is shown here.



The writer's collection includes covers addressed to Wales, Hungary and Austria, as well as several dozen to places in this country. Britain not only honored the free frank, but prepared a special Liverpool postmark for them so that they would not be charged postage. Los Angeles, unsympathetically, did not recognize the frank, and charged letters from San Francisco postage due. Hungary and Austria treated such letters as unpaid.

The writer owns a copy of the official report of the San Francisco Postmaster to the Post Office Department in Washington. There is no mention of any alternate unofficial postal service in the period.



In addition to the cover at left, from the 1986 article, this cover sold for \$1,050 in a Schuyler Rumsey 2011 auction. It shows the Johnston-Dienstag label tied by "San Francisco, Cal., Oct 16, 1906" company handstamp on a locally addressed corner card cover. The date stamp appears to be overstruck by a second strike with date corrected to "Oct. 15".