



Postmark Atlanta
Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club



Affiliate club #0357-031583
December 2020 Newsletter

As we emailed earlier, physical meetings are not being held until the public health danger is past. I've included many ways to connect with other stamp collectors online in this newsletter.

We are holding "virtual" Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club meeting the first and third Tuesday hosted by member Lloyd Nutter. Lloyd sends out a Zoom invitation a couple days before the meeting. If you do not get an invitation for the meetings, please contact Lloyd to make sure he adds you to his list. Emailing him: trains56@charter.net. Also, if you need to test how Zoom works, Lloyd will be glad to give you a test.

In November we enjoyed presentations by Ken Andreason and Vincent Rehder and also a guest visit from Scott English, Executive Director of American Philatelic Society who gave us an overview of the ideas being implemented to draw more people to our hobby.

December is time to renew your club membership for 2021. A member application is included with this newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1, 2020 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom. We will do a member show and tell.

December 15, 2020 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom. The presentation will be "Brook Dynasty of Sarawak" by Doug Mattox.

January 5, 2021 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom.

January 19, 2021 7:00 pm Atlanta Stamp Collectors meeting on Zoom.

“Adversity” Mail – Maps Were the Answer

By Steve Swain

The philatelic terms “adversity stamp” and “adversity envelope (cover)” are used to describe postage stamps and envelopes that are created during a paper shortage. This solution to an “adverse” condition is typically during or after a war. The stamps and envelopes are made from previously used paper and other paper sources. Envelopes have been made from bank drafts, advertising broadsides, court documents, book pages, sheet music, insurance forms and even wallpaper, as was the case during the American Civil War, 1861-1865. Although not as frequent a situation, stamps have been created from recycled, pulverized paper and other paper products.

One of the most fascinating and sometimes colorful solutions for the creation of stamps and covers has been the use of maps, such as the intriguing story of the small Baltic country of Latvia amid the devastation following World War I. Below are images of the imperforate and perforated issues of Latvian stamps printed on maps, with an example of a map shown between the blocks of stamps.



Latvia declared its independence from the Russian empire on November 18, 1918. In its efforts to support a return to normalcy in the public sector, a priority of foremost importance for the Latvian government was to quickly ensure the effective processing and delivery of mail. However, postal officials did not have a sufficient supply of new, acceptable-quality paper on which to print stamps. However, a substantial quantity of maps of the Baltic region were available that had been prepared for the German general staff and abandoned when the defeated German army fled Latvia. The maps were in storage in Riga, the German military headquarters for the region during the war. Upon viewing the maps at Riga, the Latvian authorities were pleased to learn that the maps were a high-quality, unfinished stock and the printed maps had not bled through to the back of the paper.

Ansis Cirulis (1883-1942), a Latvian painter and graphic artist, was selected to design the first postage stamps of the new sovereign state. The design was based on the nation’s coat of arms, which featured a historic Latvian motif of the sun as a symbol of statehood. Three stylized ears of

grain are surrounded by the rays of a rising sun, with three tiny stars unevenly spaced in the rays. Two stamps were printed on the backs of the maps. Scott #1 was imperforate, and Scott #2 was perforated.

As mentioned, a large quantity of the German maps was available, more than needed for printing stamps. As such, the Latvian public and enterprising tradesmen used the maps to create envelopes, i.e., “adversity” covers. Two such covers, postmarked in Riga, are shown below.



Starting a collection of Latvia map stamps can be relatively inexpensive. A recent review of the stamps on eBay revealed offerings of a mint perforated single and a mint imperforate single both for \$8.00; a mint block of four, perforated, for \$4.00; an imperforate, mint vertical pair for \$6.23; and a mint, imperforate block of four for \$9.00. Of course, full sheets command higher prices, such as the offering from Mystic Stamp Company of one full imperforate sheet and one full perforated sheet (228 stamps each), both for \$640.

The saying “Necessity is the mother of invention” is attributed to the ancient Greek philosopher Plato as taken from his 375 BC dialogue Republic: “A need or problem encourages creative efforts to meet the need or solve the problem.” This is certainly the perfect explanation for adversity stamps and covers.

Austria prints a postage stamp to remember COVID-19 by, on toilet paper

Austria’s postal service has united two aspects of the coronavirus pandemic in a stamp printed on toilet paper that people can also, at a push, use for social distancing.

The new Corona Stamp comes in sheets 10 cm wide, or a tenth of the 1 metre that the government advises members of the public to keep apart from each other, symbolized in official campaigns by a baby elephant. The baby animal is also printed on the stamp. The stamp is printed on three-ply toilet paper, in reference to the hoarding that occurred earlier this year.

Source: Thomson Reuters 10/23/2020

Adopt-A-Book



MY MAIN HOPE BY DONATING TO THE ADOPT-A-BOOK WOULD BE TO SUPPORT THE APRL'S ACQUISITIONS AND PRESERVATION OF THE LIBRARY.



BEING ABLE TO ACCESS MATERIAL EASILY AND FROM THE COMFORT OF MY HOME WOULD HAVE TO BE MY FAVORITE REASON FOR HAVING ONLINE ACCESS TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE.

- Lloyd Nutter



Allen Johnson with the Button Gwinnett Stamp Club has created a Facebook Group for their club. Contact him to get invited to the group to see their process of buying and selling stamps. Ajrj1957@yahoo.com is his email.

#

First Saturday of every month there is in person Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux, 5008 Brandlwood Ct., Lilburn, GA from 9 – 11 a.m. Coffee, talking and stamps. Call Don at 770-381-7114 for details.

The National Postal Museum continues to engage with the public during the COVID closure online at their YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/user/SmithsonianNPM>
The museum is interested in what needs to be collected to document life under COVID much like they have items from the 1918 Flu Pandemic era. If you have ideas or items contact the Chief Curator, Daniel Piazza at piazza@si.edu.

Arago change

If you have used the National Postal Museum site Arago to research stamps you will want to know that it has been replaced by "Search the Collection" at <http://postalmuseum.si.edu/search-the-collection>. This was necessary because the 14 year-old software was no longer supported.

* * * * *

To encourage members and collectors to learn more about the APS, American Philatelic Society has lifted the members-only restrictions on accessing *The American Philatelist* online. Please feel free to share with your fellow collectors and encourage them to connect and learn more about all the great benefits. [Please access The American Philatelist here](#). If you are getting a print version of this newsletter, the full web address is: www.stamps.org/the-american-philatelist

Also there will be online Stamp Chat events using Zoom that you can access information on at this link: <https://stamps.org/news/c/news/cat/local/post/aps-to-host-live-stamp-chats-on-zoom-beginning-monday-march-23>

There are replays of these chats available on YouTube. The variety of subjects now available is amazing. <https://www.youtube.com/user/AmericasStampClub> is the link to check out all the stored Chats.



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 sdholmberg1@gmail.com with your ideas.

LeA Coe, Secretary

leacoe@bellsouth.net

Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club Membership

Membership includes our monthly newsletter with upcoming stamp collecting events in the area.

Annual Dues of \$12.00 entitles you to our monthly newsletter and participation in all club events. You can pay your \$12 dues to our Treasurer, Barbara Asher at the next meeting or mail to her at: Barbara Asher, 1633 Adelia Pl, Atlanta, GA 30329.

Name: _____

Mailing Address for Newsletter:

Email: _____ Phone _____

Are you a member of American Philatelic Society? _____

Are you a member of American Topical Association? _____

Stamp Collecting Interest _____

We want to have a list of members with their interests so that those who bring material to the auction know what other members are interested in.

If you would like the newsletter in email form rather than snail mail, let me know.

The newsletter is usually a PDF file and easily emailed.

LeA Coe, Secretary

leacoe@bellsouth.net