

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.
Eules Meetings: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
12750 S. Pipeline Rd, #1C (Central Station Marketing)
Lake Granbury Meetings: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



CHAPTER
MEMBER



#0891-076252

Volume 30, Number 8

<http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

August 2017

Been There, Done That

Tikal

By Bob & Pat Weidman



Back in 1997, Pat and I took a trip to Belize, the former British colony of British Honduras, which is located in Central America. We had heard some very positive things about Belize and decided to check it out for ourselves. It was all true!

While we were there, we had the opportunity to take a day trip over to Tikal, Guatemala. Tikal, located in the rainforest of northern Guatemala is the site of the largest Mayan city in the Americas. It dates back to the first century and its heyday was between 200 and 850 AD.

To get there, we had to take a small puddle jumper of a plane from Ambergris Cay, off the coast of Belize to the main airport in Belize City. There we change to another puddle jumper that took us to Tikal. The plane was so small that we actually sat on the floor in the very back! When we got to the airport in Tikal, we met with our guide who took us and another couple on a tour of the area.

In the picture, the pyramid that I am standing in front of is the Temple of the Grand Jaguar, which is one of the tallest pre-Columbian structures in the Americas. That same pyramid is shown the Guatemalan stamp to the left, Scott #C579 that was issued on June 4, 1976.



Club Officers

By Peter Elias



Rich Hildebrandt (2nd Vice President) Ben Termini (Secretary) Judy Christmas (Treasurer) Ray Cartier (President) Bob Boyd (VP in 1973) Founding Member #1 #3 Karen Cartier (Founding member) #2

Above is a photo of some of our current club officers, as well as three of our founding members (Ray & Karen Cartier and Bob Floyd). Bob joined us at our July meeting in Arlington to hear Ray give a talk about the origins of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

At the time of writing this, 25 "member surveys" have been received; I'll write up the outcome in next month's issue. In the meantime, the following were the winners of \$10 club gift certificates in the drawing (held at the Eules meeting) from survey entries received: Skip Ely, Albert Little and Ralph Poore.

<u>Article Index</u>	<u>Page #</u>
Been There - Done That (Tikal)	1
Club Officers	1
Calendar & Secretary's Report	2
Editors Forum	2
Been There - Done That (Not Texting)	2
Members in the News	2
It Doesn't Work As A Stamp	3
Lithographed vs. Engraved	3
Been There - Done That (Hohentwiel)	4
Have A Ball!	4
Club Meeting Minutes	5, 6
President's Comments	6
Been There - Done That (Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall)	7
News from the Internet	7
What is Summer For?	7
Member & Dealer Ads	8, 9, 10
Topical of the Month: Pick-A-Phobia	8
Been There - Done That (Aloha Shirts)	9
Meet & Eat Info	10

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Peter Elias, Editor (news@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

Stamping Around is published monthly by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club. Material in this [newsletter](#) may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the source is acknowledged. Opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

2017 - 2018 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Ray Cartier
First Vice-President – Ray Moyer
Second Vice-President – Richard Hildebrandt
Secretary – Benedict Termini
Treasurer – Judy Christmas

Board of Directors (voting):

Alliene Franklin Ralph Poore Ken Willis

Membership in the Mid-Cities Stamp Club is available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Feel free to attend any of our 3 different meeting sites in the greater Dallas / Ft. Worth area. Dues are \$12 per year (higher for mailed newsletters). For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or : editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com

For a membership application write to:

Mid-Cities Stamp Club
P.O. Box 2158
Arlington, TX 76004-2158

or visit: <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

If you have "classified" ads in the newsletter, please let me know any changes or deletions as early as possible, as the pages that contain these ads are usually printed first, sometimes a couple of weeks prior to the newsletter being sent out.

Stan Christmas has announced that entry forms for EXPO 2017 philatelic exhibits are now available!

Been There, Done That

Not Texting

By Peter Elias

The left turn traffic light in front of you just turned green, but you can't turn, since the car ahead of you is still standing there. Many times, the other driver's head is looking down.

No, they're not asleep.

More than likely, they decided that they had a minute to spare and started reading and/or tapping out a "text" on their "device". There have many times recently where I was the 2nd or 3rd car in line waiting to turn left, just have to wait another light cycle (wasting another 2 minutes of idling away gas). People need to realize that green left turn signals are usually much shorter than the ones for going straight through an intersection, and their super important text (ha!) is now wasting other people's time and gas. No wonder road rage is on the rise!

The custom stamp shown above is what I've ordered as part of a new thematic exhibit that I'll be working on about Traffic Safety.



Members in the News

The Spring 2017 issue (Volume 69, Number 1, Issue 316) of the "Meter Stamp Society's Quarterly Bulletin" contained the following articles by Peter Elias:

- "No More Regional Rate Inscribed SSK Labels" (page 6-7)
- "Around the World in Eight Days - Philippines to Texas via Germany" (page 8).

Coming Attractions

2017

- JUL. 25** **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**
Program: Club member auction
- AUG. 2** **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**
Program: Club Auction
- AUG. 16** **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**
Program: TBD
- AUG. 22** **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**
Program: "Collecting Stamps Related to Sports" by Jim Case
- AUG. 25-26** **TSDA Bourse**
Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75
- SEP. 6** **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**
Program: Stanley Christmas "How To Make Your Own Stamp Mounts & Save a Lot of Money"
- SEP. 9** **MCSC BOD & EXPO Meeting**
Jay Jay Café, 1001 S. Bowen, Arlington
- SEP. 20** **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**
Program: TBD
- SEP. 26** **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



New Members

Wayne DeWald (#595)

Reinstatements

None

Membership Summary – July 5, 2017

Membership as of June 7, 2017	99
New Members	1
Dropped for non-payment of dues	()
Resignations	()
Deceased	()
Reinstatements	()
Membership as of July 5, 2017	100

It Doesn't Work As A Stamp

By Peter Elias



Have a look at the two US stamps above. They are SA #2980 (Women's Suffrage, issued in 1995) and #3338 (Frederick Law Olmsted, issued in 1999). So, what do you notice? I don't know about you, but I get a headache and strained eyeballs looking at these two stamps!



Enlarging this design finally makes a few more things easily visible, such as, oh yeah, there's some people marching and carrying signs (2 separate photos actually), the letters "PROGRESS" on two lines, the US Capitol, some trees, etc ...

The problem with these "collage" designs is that there are just way too many visuals present and it all kind of gets lost on a "postage stamp size". I'm sure this looks great on a 3 x 4 foot poster or a projection screen, but not an actual 1.5" wide stamp... Same goes with the Olmsted stamp.

Another stamp that crams way too many visuals into the design is USA #3813, issued for Washington DC. It features a map, some row house, a picture of the Capitol & the Washington monument and flowers; all in the space of just over an inch.

As far as I'm concerned, keep the designs "simple"! While full color and lots of details are great, it doesn't always work with all designs! Most modern stamp designs are created using computer screens where the images that are quite a bit larger than the final product, something I think some stamp designers seem to forget!

Lithographed vs. Engraved

By Peter Elias

I was going through a pile of South African stamps the other day, and ran across these two:



At first, they look identical (other than the square "black dot" in the white space on the middle right side of the right stamp, highlighted with a blue circle). The left stamp above is Scott #597 issued in 1983 and the right stamp is #583 issued in 1985 (how a later issued stamp got a lower catalog number is beyond me). Both stamps have a 1982 date in the lower right corner though.

The left stamp (#597) is engraved while #583 is lithographed. So how do you tell them apart? Simple: use your fingernail. Rub the fingernail across the tower, you'll feel the difference between the unprinted white portion as it transitions to the tower design. On the lithographed stamps, you'll feel nothing, as if it's the surface is the same, while on the engraved stamps, the design has "ridges".



Another way is putting the stamp at an angle against light. The top stamp is the engraved version, and the printed areas seem to absorb light (top) a bit more, since the paper reflects the light while the black is dull. The ink on the lithographed version seems to reflect light more, similar to the paper, but in this case, the test that works the best was the fingernail across the surface.

There are several other stamps in this same architecture series that are also available in both engraved and lithographed versions.

**Been There,
Done That**

The Hohentwiel

By Peter Elias

Five times now have I trekked up to the Hohentwiel ! What is the Hohentwiel you may ask? It is an extinct volcano in southern Germany on which a fortress was built around the year 914.

The Hohentwiel is located in Hilzingen, a small village on the west side of the Hohentwiel, and on the east side is the city of Singen; all of which are only a few miles to the Swiss border.

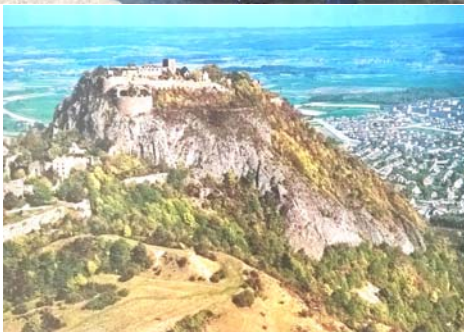


In early February 1986, I was sent to a sister company located in Singen to work on manufacturing technology transfer to our new plant that was being built in Kentucky. I spent about 2 weeks there and got a chance to go visit the castle; later that year I took some American visitors there as well while stationed in Kreuzlingen, about 30 miles away, at another sister company. In 2010, my wife and I went up there just to find out it was already closed that day and came back the next day, and in 2013 when enroute to Switzerland, we stopped by there, staying at a lovely local family owned Hotel, the Laurentiushof (located in the hillside in the center of the photo above) and from which you have a great view of the



Looking east from the Hohentwiel with Lake Constance (called the Bodensee in German) in the background.

Hohentwiel. The picture to the right is of a large 2'x3' poster that shows an aerial view of the Hohentwiel with the city of Singen shown on the right. If you ever get to southern Germany or northern Switzerland, then be sure to visit this spectacular place!



Have A Ball !

By Peter Elias



“Have A Ball” is a series of 8 stamps issued on June 14, 2017 by the USPS, commemorating various ball-related sports that are popular: football, volleyball, soccer, golf, baseball, basketball, tennis & kickball.

Football is sort of the “oddball” here (pun intended), since it’s only really a ball in the traditional sense (i.e.: same diameter no matter how you look at it).



These stamps also feature a special clear “textured coating” printed on top of the various graphic elements on the stamps (such as along the seam lines of each ball). You have to hold the stamps tilted at an angle against a light source to best view this texture.

The stamps come in panes of 16 with 100 panes to a “pad”. Inside each shrink-wrapped pad, on top of the stamp panes, is a “deck card”, that advises USPS personnel to not sell it before the published first day. These deck pads are usually thrown away by the clerks unless you happen to be there when a pad is unwrapped and plead, “pretty please” and they might let you have it. In this case, I was able to get it postmarked on the first day of issue as well (although the official first day city was in Hartford, WI at the 117th U.S. Open Championship).

Arlington Meeting Minutes July 5, 2017

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Club President Ray Cartier. There were 21 members and 3 guests present (Pam & Bob Boyd, Norma DeWald).
- Ray introduced our newest member (Wayne DeWald), who told us about what he collected.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that with one new member (Wayne DeWald) we now have 100 members.
- **Treasurer** Judy Christmas reported that our finances were in good shape and that we had over \$16,000 in our bank account.
- **Sales Books:** Skip Ely said sales were improving.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore reported that the EXPO was on track. Stanley Christmas (Exhibits Chairman) said he had redone the prospectus which included new rules regarding eligibility and new rules for mini-exhibits. Rich Hildebrand mentioned that the awards dinner would cost \$25 per person and would be prime rib.
- **Newsletter:** Editor Peter Elias said he was collecting the surveys published in the last issue of the newsletter and would be summarizing the information soon.

Announcements:

- Judy Christmas mentioned that Anne Frazor was having hip surgery and passed around a card for all of us to sign. She also pointed out that both Ray Cartier and Stanley Christmas had won gold medals at OKPEX.
- Stanley Christmas mentioned that there were plate blocks (from the club's supply) in the back of the room which were on sale for half face value.
- Rich Hildebrandt reminded everyone that next month's meeting was an auction and anyone with lots for sale should contact him.

Show & Tell:

- Ray Cartier passed around an interesting airmail cover from 1929.
- Diana Davis showed some books she had found in a used book store.
- Peter Elias showed a 'Squid Cover' from Japan - really, you can't make this stuff up.
- Ralph Poore passed around a space-related postcard, a cover from Long Island with an unusual postmark, and a book about postmarks on postcards.

Ray Cartier, founder of the MCSC, then gave a short talk on the beginnings of the club. He received a round of applause.

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Peter Elias, Stanley Christmas, Wayne DeWald and Jeff Jessop.

Program:

There was a short break followed by our **program** which was a Giant Mixture Pick.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes July 19, 2017

By Skip Ely

Call-to-Order:

The mid-month monthly meeting of the Mid Cities Stamp Club met at the Central Marketing Offices of Evan Islam in Eules at 7:30 PM.

Attendance:

There were 13 members and one guest present. Our guest was from Florida, attending a business meeting in Lewisville this week.

Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** – Mike Smith said we were back up to 100 members.
- **Treasurer** – Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.

Committee Reports:

- **Sales** – Skip Ely said sales had picked up.

Announcements:

- Stanley Christmas said that the prospectus for the EXPO exhibits was ready, and passed around a sample. He also mentioned one of our new EXPO dealers had passed away, but Tom Cunningham hoped to fill the slot.
- Stanley also mentioned that he won some philatelic books while attending the stamp show in Oklahoma last month, and inquired about getting similar prizes for our show. He said he received some books the other day from the Collectors Club of Chicago, a very generous donation.
- Jim Myers mentioned the TSDA Stamp Fair in Richardson the end of August.
- Mike Smith said he had obtained some APS DVDs from the Dallas Park Cities Club for future Eules programs.
- Mike also mentioned the upcoming auction in Granbury next week.
- A drawing for gift certificates was held for those that had turned in the "Member Surveys" from last month's newsletter. Winners were Skip Ely, Albert Little and Ralph Poore.

Show & Tell:

- Peter Elias had several items to show and also discussed issues with USPS postage pricing based on different size items and how he was going about getting started with a new exhibit about traffic safety.

Mini-Auction:

A couple of members had items for sale.

Door Prizes:

Gift Certificates were awarded to Jim Myers and Kylie Tracht (Jim and Madeline Myers' granddaughter).

Program:

There was no formal program.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned around 8:30 P.M.

Granbury Meeting Minutes June 27, 2017

By William Atkinson

Host David Stockbridge greeted 18 members at the June 27th meeting of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

The group meets in the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Ct. at 7 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of every month (except December).

In the segment called **SHOW & TELL:**

- Bob Patterson had several English mourning covers from the Victorian era.
- Brian Smith recounted some correspondence with Scotts over questionable Greek listings.
- Lloyd Willis has a large cover almost completely covered with 5pf stamps.
- Jim Case discussed some problems with orders from Canada Post.
- Alliene Franklin circulated a TEXPEX purchase from the Iowa State Fair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dave Stockbridge noted that there was a periodicals overload this month, with many items available to those interested.
- Denny Ludlow, Brian Smith and Stanley Christmas brought a number of freebie stamps and club half-price plate blocks.
- Stockbridge also discussed the possibility of more frequent club auctions, perhaps three or four per year but smaller in size to fit in an hour's meeting time.
- Stanley Christmas remarked that the beginning collector area and the chance board at EXPO will be moved to the foyer to make room for more dealer tables. And he asked for photos of club members as military veterans for display in November. He also explained that there would likely be no TEXPEX next year and no competitive "shoot out."

BREAK:

With Al Hull laid up with back troubles, the refreshments consisted of "store-bought" cookies. All wished Al a speedy recovery and a quick return to baking.

PROGRAM:

Stanley Christmas offered a program on "How To Collect a Single Stamp," in this case the 4½ cent "Prexie" issue. An old article laid out the parameters--including mint, used, coils, blocks, and covers--plus selvage markings, cachet varieties, "fly specks" and errors. A collection that started on four album pages thus grew into one occupying nearly one hundred. "It's amazing," he said, "how much you can learn from attempting this type of collection."

CLOSING:

Door prizes of \$10 gift certificates went to Justin Rimmer, Julie Rimmer and Daniel Kennedy.

NOTE:

In July, the club will try another local auction, what is hoped to be the first of many.

President's Comments

by Ray Cartier

As most of you are aware, there will not be a TEXPEX 2018 and if there is to be a TEXPEX 2019 or beyond, it will need new replacement leadership. Those who have been handling this only *World Series of Philately* show in Texas have reached that time when they need to retire and turn the workings over to new people who are willing to step up and lend a hand to the hobby.

One of the innovations of TEXPEX over the past three years that was really enjoyable was the competitions by ten clubs in and around Texas with their competitions of single page club exhibits. People who had never thought of, or actually shunned any type of exhibiting put together single pages of interesting material to show each year. The club's frame that was voted to be best (and probably the most popular) won a significant prize. The Mid-Cities Club didn't win this award in the first year, but several of our members did center around a central theme and we won this award in each 2015 and 2016.

This was too good of an idea to let it die away and I propose that for the year 2017, the MCSC pick up the flag and have another club competition for one page exhibits. This has introduced many to the wonderful world of exhibiting and I am asking our club's Board of Directors to discuss this suggestion by email now, so that if we want to go through with it, we can notify clubs in time for many of them to participate.

But as for our club, there is no reason why we can't do this again on our own and thus I am asking you, our members, to really try to add to our show by participating in our assembling a frame of single page exhibits. Since we won the last two by having a single topical thread, I propose this as a theme: "Things I Love". This is not necessarily just romantic themes. It can be a sport: baseball, football; golfing; racing etc. It can be pets: dogs, cats, hamsters, gold fish, snakes. It can be things you like to do or see: a favorite vacation spot or activity; photography (you can put a few stamps along with your own photos in the frame); or possibly bowling; or going to the movies or just a favorite movie; here I'm thinking of "Gone With the Wind" where there is a stamp for the movie, another stamp showing Clark Gable & Vivian Lea plus other stamps showing confederate and union soldiers or Sherman; history such as airplanes; old autos; art; singers; movie characters; singers; actors; country artists; horse racing; musical plays; Christmas; Christ; the Madonna; presidents; the American Flag; exploration; various means of transportation; bird watching; animals seen at the Ft. Worth Zoo or in the wild etc, etc, etc.

It's easy and it's fun to see something that you created up in a frame for others to see. It does not cost money and it takes very little time to put a single page together. And if you need assistance, you can ask Peter, Stanley, Ben or me to help you out. What it does do for you is bring you closer into the Mid-Cities Stamp Club as an active member. You won't be competing as an individual only because we can refine the frame and use it in the next TEXPEX if there is one, or maybe even send all 16 pages to another national show where others are emulating the idea. Come on and try it, and let's get a frame together for our EXPO!

Been There, Done That

Sun Yat-Sen Memorial Hall

By Bob & Pat Weidman



News from the Internet

By Peter Elias

On October 10, 1961, the United States issued a commemorative postage stamp, Scott#1188, honoring Sun Yat-Sen, the Chinese physician, writer, philosopher, calligrapher, revolutionary and first president of the Chinese Republic. Sun Yat-Sen was credited with overthrowing the Manchu dynasty of China in 1911 and establishing the republic.

He was born into a peasant household on November 12, 1866 in Choyhung, in Kwangtung, China. In 1879, he joined his brother in Hawaii and enrolled in college where he studied Western science and Christianity. He graduated in 1882. He traveled to Hong Kong in 1893 more interested in politics than medicine. He believed the government of the Manchu dynasty to be corrupt, inefficient and unable to defend itself against foreign powers.

Sun Yat-Sen died on March 12, 1925. In Guangzhou, China in 1929, construction on the octagon shaped Sun Yat-Sen or Zhongshan Memorial Hall was started. It was completed in October of 1931.

In August of 2004, on our trip to the Far East, we took the train from Hong Kong up to Guangzhou, China. In the picture is a statue of Sun Yat-Sen in front of the Memorial Hall named after him. The second picture has Pat, myself and our nephews Adam and Louis outside the front entrance to the hall.



Getting new issues directly from the source (i.e.: country in question) is generally less expensive than ordering from a "new issue" stamp dealer (since they have to mark up the items to be able to earn a living from this activity). Buying from a new issue dealer is generally much easier than ordering from a country directly. Some countries don't have good online infrastructure to make ordering easy (and generally they only take credit cards, not US-based personal checks).

For the past few years, several postal administrations have joined "WOPA" (World Online Philatelic Agency) that allows you to order new issues at face value and with minimal postage charges (credit cards are required). The countries currently participating are: Aland, Alderney, Andorra, Austria, Azores, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Curacao, Denmark, Dutch Caribbean, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Gibraltar, Greenland, Great Britain, Guernsey, Hungary, Iceland, Isle of Man, Israel, Jersey, Krygystan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madeira, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sint Maarten, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Nations.

Several of these countries also have great online portals for ordering directly (such as Liechtenstein & Switzerland), but apparently being on WOPA allows them to reach more people! To check it out, go to: <http://wopa-stamps.com>.

If you don't want have new foreign stamp issues shipped in from overseas, there are still a couple of dealers that specialize in "new issues". The one I order from most frequently is Bombay Stamps, reachable at <http://bombaystamps.com> out of New Jersey. His "new issues" go back to approximately 2002.

In searching for some postal code information, I stumbled across a website that lets you find postal codes for 3 million locations around the world. To check it out, go to <http://www.postalcode.co/>.



What is summer for?

By Ken Wills

When I was preparing to leave the Pacific coast to transfer to Texas in 1990, someone heard me complaining about the heat. He said, "Look at it this way: if you lived in Minnesota you would spend three months indoors because of the weather. You can do exactly the same in Texas and bask outside the other nine months -- it's just that the months are not the same ones."

Exactly! The summer here is ideal for philately, thanks to air conditioning. I am appealing to you to use some of that time to select items you don't "need" any more to go in the MCSC Silent Auction. Our budget calls for an average lot price of \$11 or \$12, but anything that will fetch \$5 will be very welcome. As you know, this is the one function that keeps the club solvent. Please hand your gifts to Tom Turner, Skip Ely or me, and we will do the rest.

CLASSIFIED BOURSE

Announcements

All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: peter@pcelias.com

For Sale

US POSTAGE – from our huge surplus: 1c – 20c : 70% of FV; 21c – 50c : 80% of FV. Send any amount (min \$10), specify group (70%, 80%), and receive mix of values back in FV as indicated above. Clean, F/VF only. Plate or Zip block included for every \$10 remitted. Remit (check or MO) to: J. Myers, P. O. Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019. TX orders, add 8% sales tax. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). jasdmyers@earthlink.net 5/15

Topical of the Month: Pick A Phobia

By Peter Elias

A recent letter written to Marilyn vos Savant and published in the Parade magazine (Sunday newspaper insert) about Fear of Bridges (gephyrophobia) made me wonder about other phobias (fears) and whether these could be applied to a topical or thematic stamp collection or even exhibit?



What came to mind was this mini-sheetlet from Switzerland showing an airplane that is about to nosedive into the town plaza! If I was in that plane at that moment, you betcha that aerophobia or aviophobia [fear of flying] would be kicking in right about then! Why so many stamps seem to feature airplanes in this precarious position is unknown to me?

What about other phobias, such as the aforementioned geophyrophobia? I haven't yet found a stamp featuring a precarious looking bridge or one collapsed from a natural disaster, but I'm sure that there other phobias that can be applied to philately; I'm sure that there's thematic or topical exhibit just waiting to be done about this topic! Time to get over the neophobia (fear of newness) and check it out! Ready, set, collect!

For Sale

Do you collect **used USA Plate Number Coils**? Select what you want from my [extensive](#) inventory at 1/3 of Scott catalog value. They are listed on my website at <http://web2.iadfw.net/wills/> and from there you will find links to other countries too. Also interested in trading. Ken Wills 9/11

Philatelic Reference CD's. The following self-running, philatelic reference CD's, each containing hundreds of scans, are now available:

- **APC Conversions 2012-2014 (NY2016 Vermeil Award!)**
- **Usage of British Empire War Tax Issues** (exhibit)
- **Airport Philately** (800+ scans of Airports on Stamps)
- **4 Rings—The History of Audi (Great for any car lover!)**
- **My Life on Wheels** (autobiography via USA personalized postage)
- **St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans (1,700 items!!)**
- **St. Vincent Postcards** (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
- **Vintage Swiss Postcards 1898-1959 (900+ postcards !!)**

Special MCSC Member price is only \$ 9.95 each. Non-member price is \$19.95 (+ \$3.45 domestic or \$6.00 international postage) each. PayPal to peter@pcelias.com are accepted. Peter Elias, PO Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094 6/16

MOVED, BUT SALE CONTINUES! Special discounts to MCSC members for Swiss, Austria, Liechtenstein issues, @ 1/3 and LESS of catalog values. Also will accept US postage (any values) @ 50% of catalog. All orders postpaid! I also accept PayPal if you wish! John Barrett, Ph.D. Contact info: jstrubelboy@aol.com 12/14

Wanted to Buy

Interesting "stuff", such as:

- ◆ Worldwide Revenue stamps on document
- ◆ Worldwide ATM stamps, such as those from Frama, Klüssendorf, Epelsa, Mobba Postage Vending machines and other "on-demand" printed postage (but NOT "ATM Booklet stamps") from around the world, preferably on cover, postcards or parcel cards.
- ◆ CVP and custom order stamps, such as the "PhotoStamps" from Zazzle, Stamps.com, Endicia, etc.

Contact me at peter@pcelias.com with scans. 4/14

U.S. Liberty Series precancels. Unsorted, on paper, quantities okay. Contact Gene Atkinson at atkinson@our-town.com. 4/15

Postally used "ATM" stamps (i.e.: machine vended), such as Framas, from around the world; would prefer on cover or postcard if possible. Peter Elias, info@stvincentstamps.com 8/14

Wanted to Trade

I have general (unsorted) worldwide & used USA stamps (mostly beginning collector material) available to trade for your items such as worldwide revenue stamps & Framas. Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com 9/16

Exp.12/17



OKLAHOMA STAMPS

Specializing in United States Stamps
Member APS, ASDA, NSDA

Kirk McKenzie
kirkmckenzie@cox.net

1001 North Fulton
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115
918-836-1681

Exp.12/17

cunninghamstamps@aol.com

(214) 546-1179

Cunningham Philatelics

Philatelic Consultants

Elusive Items Stamps and Covers	Collections Appraisals
------------------------------------	---------------------------

THOMAS L. CUNNINGHAM
APS # 082424, TSDA


P.O. Box 863237
Plano, TX 75086-3237

Exp. 12/17

GEORGE WATKINS STAMPS

Philatelic Dealer - Worldwide & Latin America
14810 Tuttle Lane
Iola, Texas 77861-3834
(936) 394-2146 Fax (936) 394-2147
gwkiller@aol.com

George H. Watkins, Jr.





Jonathan Topper
11210 Steeplecrest Dr, Suite 120
Houston, TX 77065

I Buy Stamps and Old Mail
(832) 518-6558
jonathan@topperstamps.com

www.topperstamps.com
Appraisals Stamps Covers Collections
USA Postal History: Military, RPO's, Special Delivery, Advertising covers
Postal Stationery and Machine Cancels

Exp. 12/17

Be sure to visit the Club website on the **Internet**:

← <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com> →

For online newsletters see <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mid-citiesstampclub/files>
or <http://mid-citiesstampclub.webs.com/newsletter.htm> →




stampsuniversal.com

Visit us at area Stamp Shows



- * TSDA
- * TEXPEX
- * HOUPEX
- * EXPO

US/WW Classics, Modern, SONs

Visit our new online store
@ <http://www.stampsuniversal.com>

James D. Myers
P. O. Box 2047
Coppell, TX 75019
(972) 304-1671



Exp. 12/17




Been There, Done That

Aloha Shirts

By Bob Weidman

United States Scott #4594 is one from a set of 4 stamps issued by the USPS back on January 19, 2012, along with 4 coil versions of the same designs featuring Aloha shirts.. These 32¢ stamps were to pay the then-current postcard. Aloha shirts are the colorful floral and tropical scene shirts popular in Hawaii. On my many trips to Hawaii, I have purchase several Aloha shirts as shown in the two photos.

This type of shirt is also popular in Fiji where it is known as a Bula shirt. On our trip there back in October 2016, I bought one the day we drove over to

MEET & EAT for August & September 2017

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

“Meet and Eats” are before the club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather between 5:00 and 5:30 PM. The group will start ordering at 5:30 PM. Latecomers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit (check with the restaurant first if it serves buffet style). Meals should be over around 6:45 PM.

Meet and Eat locations will be included the club’s broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

ARLINGTON

August 2 **Jay Jay Café**
1001 S Bowen, Arlington 76013
(817) 861-1060
<http://www.yelp.com/biz/jay-jay-cafe-nbr-2-arlington>

September 6 **China Harbor Super Buffet**
Mongolian BBQ Sushi/or plates
3512 S. Cooper St, Arlington 76015
(1 block No. of Spring Creek BBQ)
(817) 466-3888

EULESS

Due to the new meeting location, meet-n-eat meeting sites have yet to be determined, the club secretary will e-mail the details once known.

Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy or trade for: **Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits**, Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or jmhstamp@verizon.net 2/15

For Sale

PhotoStamps, ZazzleStamps & PictureItPostage in a variety of different designs. For a listing of available designs and to purchase, go to <http://photostamps.webs.com> and use your credit card to purchase them (via PayPal). 12/15

I have over **10,000 auctions** on delcampe.com @ 35% of Scott or less. Worldwide & US stamps, covers and FDCs. For more info contact Denny Ludlow @ (713) 898-1872 10/15

USPS Commemorative Yearbooks with stamps at face value of postage. For listing of what years are available and price e-mail Dave at stockdave44@yahoo.com 8/11

FREE 111-page or 26-page album of Spanish ATM stamps (provided as a PDF file) with purchase of at least \$3.00 in Spanish ATM stamps! Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com 6/17

Mid-Cities Stamp Club “Stamping Around” Newsletter
c/o Peter Elias
PO Box 940427
Plano, TX 75094-0427

Don't Forget:
Arlington Club Auction - August 2
TSDA Bourse - August 25 - 26