

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:00 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



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May 2018

Been There, Done That

Croatia

By Pat & Robert Weidman

Croatia was a crownland of the Austro-Hungarian empire until 1918. With the defeat of the Central Power in World War I, Croatia, along with Slovenia, Serbia, Montenegro, Dalmatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, joined together to become the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. Later the name was changed to Yugoslavia.

In 1941, Yugoslavia was invaded by the Germans and Italians. The Croatian general, Ante Pavelic, declared Croatia independent and set up a fascist government and aligned Croatia with the Axis Powers. When World War II ended, he fled to Argentina. The stamp above, Scott #79, pictures General Pavelic and was issued in 1943-1944.

With the end of World War II, the communists under Joseph Broz Tito took control. Croatia was one of the six federal republics of Yugoslavia until 1991, when it again declared its independence. War broke out between Croatia and the Serbians and Montenegrins. A cease-fire was arranged in 1992 and a permanent peace to end the war was agreed to in 1995. The picture of me standing under a Croatian flag on our trip to the Balkans in December of 2017.

The stamp above, showing the Croatian coat of arms is Scott#104, and was issued on January 15, 1992.



Amazon Stamp

By Peter Elias

When you order something from Amazon, it invariably has a plain shipping label on it; the only exceptions might be if what you ordered is fulfilled by a private seller on Amazon, then maybe you'll get a stamp[s] on your package.

The Indian Postal Service provides for "custom postage" stamps to be ordered (similar to Photostamps and Zazzle here in the USA), known as "My Stamp".

Apparently in India, Amazon ordered custom postage stamps from the Indian Postal Service (see image below). The



denomination on the stamp is 5 rupees, which is only 7.8¢.

According to online sources, the current cheapest postage rate within India is 18 rupees (=28¢), so this stamp couldn't even pay for any postage, other than as additional postage.

Corporate customers had to order 100 sheets minimum; each sheet costs 300 Rupees (\$4.62); it doesn't state how many stamps per sheet. If you find one of these, let me know!



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Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

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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:

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Arlington, TX 76004-2158

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

Coming Attractions

2018

APR. 24 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: Al Hull auction (by Denny Ludlow)
[postponed from the March meeting due to weather]. Viewing begins at 6 pm, auction at 7.

MAY 2 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Club Auction, plus Skip Ely will present a short bio of how he got into stamp collecting.

MAY 12 11 AM EXPO Planning Meeting

Dave' BBQ, 2224 W. Park Row, Pantego, TX

MAY 16 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: Free-form discussions

MAY 22 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: TBD

JUN. 6 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

Program: Stanley Christmas - Topic is TBD

JUN. 20 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: Free-form discussions

JUN. 22 & 23 TSDA Bourse

Richardson Civic Center, Arapaho Rd & US75

JUN. 26 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

There's a story behind every stamp, and I'm willing to bet there's a story behind at least a couple of stamps that pertain to your life somehow! It's kind of a fun project to illustrate your life through stamps (as Bob & Pat Weidman, Ken Wills and myself have done in the current or past pages of this newsletter); but we can't be the only ones that have traveled.

Don't think that you have to be an international traveler to be able to apply "been there - done that" stamps:

- 1) USA. Plenty of stamps featuring places in the USA.
- 2) A "thing". Lots of stamps featuring various inanimate objects. Is there some object (a car, a typewriter, a particular plane, record album cover, etc) that is featured on a stamp that has some special meaning to you?
- 3) A person that you've met. While most US stamps feature people that have already passed away, many foreign countries issue stamps commemorating people that are still living; not to mention numerous "cinderella" stamps that do this as well.
- 4) An event that you were at, such as a conference, stamp show, etc
- 5) A cause that is commemorated on a stamp.

Surely at least one of the above applies to each and every one of you in the club! Just pick one, think about how it relates to YOU, perhaps do some quick research on the subject matter ("google" it, go to Wikipedia, etc) and do a quick write-up. It doesn't have to be a lengthy dissertation on the subject. Don't forget to enclose a scan of the stamp and supporting photo that you took or are in. If you don't actually own the stamp in question, or don't have a scanner, please feel free to contact me!

Members in the News

Former club member Rev. William Belury from Ft. Worth passed away in 2009; his wife Ann subsequently moved to Florida to be closer to one of her daughters and passed away in late March; burial to be in Naples, Florida on April 7.

Former club member Phil Delucchi passed away in 2010, his wife Marcia subsequently moved to the State of Washington to be near her daughter and grandchildren passed away in mid March.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini

Reinstatements

Robert Henry



Membership Summary – April 4, 2018

Membership as of March 8, 2018	92
New Members	0
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	0
Reinstatements	1
Membership as of April 4, 2018	93

In April 1993, my girlfriend (Nancy) and I went on a 2-island nation (total of 4 islands) vacation in the Caribbean. We started off on Barbados for a couple of days, and then continued on to St. Vincent.

Barbados, the eastern-most island in the West Indies, is located about 111 miles east of St. Vincent and is a short hop away by plane. At that time, St. Vincent was not served by any US-based airlines, you could only get there from other islands. The biggest airport in the area is BGI (Barbados' airport code); even the Concorde used to land there on occasion!



The airline that we chose to fly was LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport), which serves various islands in the Caribbean. The plane we took (see photo above) looks very much like the Hawker Siddeley 748 shown on the St. Vincent stamp #297; other than the color scheme has been updated a bit.

It was a short & uneventful flight from BGI to SVD (the airport code for St. Vincent's E.T. Joshua airport), shown on Scott #228.

Landing at SVD was always an adventure. The runway was very short, juts out a bit into the sea, there were no lights for night-time landings, and in the past, cars would cross the runway since it kind of ended at a hill ... Only smaller propeller-based planes could fly to St. Vincent; recently though, a new airport that can handle jets was constructed (2008 to 2017) at Argyle, and E.T. Joshua has been decommissioned. My last flight out of E.T. Joshua was in May 2007, returning after a British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group meeting on St. Vincent, but using Caribbean Star Airlines, flying from SVD to BGI then American Airlines via MIA to DFW.



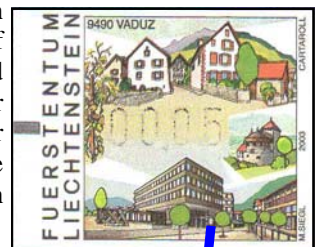
(Former) E.T. Joshua Airport - St. Vincent



The Frama company has long ago quit making "Frama" ATM (stamp vending machines) along with spare parts and supplies. Switzerland shut down all of their Frama vending machines in 2011. Yet in some countries, Frama machines are still operating! Liechtenstein, Switzerland's tiny neighbor on the east is still using Frama machines. At least one of them.

In August 2013, I recommended that we stop by Liechtenstein on the way to our vacation rental apartment in Davos, thus giving my then 10-year old son an opportunity to visit yet another country, even if only briefly. Of course, being a philatelist, I had an ulterior motive, and that was to check out to see if the Frama ATM machine was still in use at the main post office in Vaduz. It was!

In 2003, Liechtenstein issued a lovely set of 12x Frama ATM postage stamps, each featuring watercolor renderings of city, town & village scenes and their post offices. The stamp for Vaduz features some typical older village buildings, the Vaduz castle and the main post office as shown on the stamp to the right.



The photo above shows a close-up of the side of the post office building and the arrow points to the location of the Frama machine, with a further close-up shown to the right.

While the Liechtenstein Philatelic Services will sell you sets of these 12 stamps, they only sell them with a minimum denomination of sFr 0.80 (~80¢ each), making the entire set cost almost \$10.00! But at the machine itself, you can purchase at the lowest denomination of sFr 0.05 (~5¢ each), making the set affordable at about 60¢! I figured that I may as well buy as many sets as I can, so I fed the machine a bunch of Swiss Francs and bought a number of sets (one stamp at a time). You can view my 2 minute video of buying these, the link is at my website at <http://photostamps.webs.com/atm.htm>.



Arlington Meeting Minutes April 4, 2018

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Club President Ray Cartier. There were 25 members and no guests present. It was noted that several members from the Granbury branch were visiting.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Secretary** - Ben Termini reported that we had 93 members. He mentioned that a long-time member, Al Hull, had recently passed away.
- **Treasurer** - Not present.
- **EXPO Committee** - Chairman Ralph Poore said the EXPO was on track. He mentioned that the theme for this year was 'birds' and that the local Audubon club would be supporting the EXPO. He also said that there would be a contest for photos of birds and the winner would receive a prize of a sheet of personalized stamps featuring the winning entry. Peter Elias said that the judges for this year's show were lined up. Tom Turner asked members to contribute material for the silent auction, especially better material.
- **Sales Books Chairman** - Skip Ely said everything was going well.
- **Newsletter Editor** - Peter Elias said everything was fine with the newsletter and encouraged members to contribute articles (especially with an emphasis on "Been There - Done That").

Announcements:

- Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that the next meeting would be an auction.
- Ray Cartier talked about the library and suggested members look into the material available.

Show & Tell:

- Ken Aldridge showed some albums that had belonged to a deceased collector with stamps pasted down or taped in place, essentially ruining the material. This prompted a short discussion and a suggestion that the club should have a meeting on the subject of stamp preservation and restoration.
- Ray Cartier showed some recent stamps from Ukraine and a 1960 Discovery 18 cover.
- Gene Pfretzschner showed a stamp misprint and provided some information about the Hashknife Pony Express.
- Peter Elias showed a US souvenir page, USPS Stamper Cards and some excess material which he wished to give away.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Gene Pfretzschner, Peter Elias, Lloyd Willis and Linda Bush.

Program:

- Ben Termini presented a talk on "The Palestinian Authority Postal Service" which was started as a result of the Oslo Accords of 1993 and which has had a rocky course since then.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes April 18, 2018

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 9 members present.

Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** - There was no report.
- **Treasurer** - Judy gave the treasury amount.

Committee Reports:

- **Sales** - Skip Ely said sales were good. He said he had eleven new books, but nine were at Granbury. Two more were submitted at the meeting.
- **Newsletter** - Peter said he only needed these minutes to finish up. He spoke some more about the newsletter feature "Been There, Done That."

Announcements:

- Mike Smith mentioned the Al Hull auction at Granbury next Tuesday, April 24th.

Show and Tell:

- Peter Elias showed a small letter from India with the postage on the back of the envelope. He also had some ATM test stamps he found in the trash (aka "dumpster diving").
- Mike Smith had a program from the New Orleans stamp show in Kenner, LA. He pointed they had a first day ceremony for the new two cent Meyer Lemon stamp.
- Evan Islam talked a little about his trip this winter to Bangladesh.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates were awarded to Tom Turner and Peter Elias. Janet Moyer received some new stamps from Denmark, courtesy of Mike Smith.

Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

For Sale

For Sale: Recalled Legends of the West (Scott 2870), pane of twenty inside original mailing envelope, Scott 2017 value \$220 with note that panes in original envelope (blue bordered) "sell for somewhat more." I will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 4/18

For Sale: Bugs Bunny Special Die Cut pane of 10 (Scott 3138, CV \$175, will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 4/18

I sell a variety of stuff on eBay, under two different account names, pc_elias and a newer one, pcelias. Mostly I sell philatelic stuff, to see what I'm selling, see https://www.ebay.com/sch/pc_elias/m.html?ipg=50&sop=1&rdc=1 or <https://www.ebay.com/sch/pcelias/m.html?ipg=50&sop=1&rdc=1>. (these links are clickable if you're reading the PDF version of this newsletter! 4/18

Sam Lord's Castle

By Peter Elias

In mid-April 1993, my then-fiancée Nancy and I took a vacation to St. Vincent. Getting there required changing planes in Barbados, so we planned our vacation around staying in Barbados for a couple of days.

I decided that the Sam Lord's Castle resort (which was run by Marriott Hotels at that time) would be a nice place to stay for a couple of days.

The "castle" isn't so much a castle as a mansion made to look like a castle and was built in 1820. It is named after Samuel Hall Lord, who was one of the most famous buccaneers on Barbados and who had amassed a great deal of wealth, primarily by plundering ships that were stranded in the coral reefs just off the coast of his estate.

According to legends, he would hang lanterns off the coconut trees on his estate, thus fooling passing ships into thinking that they were entering the port city of Bridgetown. When the ships got stranded, he looted them! Nice guy, huh?

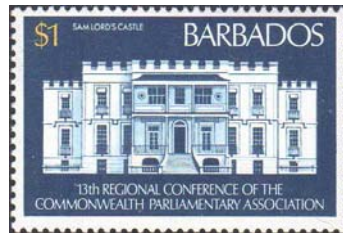
We didn't really get to stay in the "castle", but in one of many buildings nearby that were a part of the resort complex. The castle building itself was used mostly for administrative functions and the restaurant from what I remember.

The resort's beach (see photo top right) was really nice, as one would expect a Caribbean beach to look like!



two days later shows the building on fire; see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU_Sqyv46A for more details, plus there are several other videos as well...

[Editor's note: See the Weidman article about Barbados on page 7, this article was written before the other article was seen.]



Barbados Scott#462

Granbury Meeting Minutes March 27, 2018

By David Stockbridge

The AI Hull Auction scheduled for this date was postponed to the next meeting, April 24, due to inclement weather and hazardous driving conditions. Six stalwart souls braved nature's wrath and showed up for some great discussion and sharing.

Show & Tell:

- Gary McNamee showed a recently received envelope containing some nice stamps where the postal service had placed its barcode strip over the stamps.
- New member Linda Bush showed an official Bolivian document with a Bolivian revenue stamp which was one of several documents that she has. She told about her dad and his inventions, the patents he obtained in several countries, and all the paperwork she has with most containing revenue stamps.
- Dave Stockbridge passed around an album of World Wildlife Fund envelopes, cards, and information sheets printed in German that he was gifted.

Announcements:

- An update was provided on the health of Brian Smith, who is having surgery on April 2.

Activities:

- Gary McNamee presented philatelic and geographical clues to "Where in the World Is It" until the stamp issuing country of Falkland Islands was identified by the group.

Break:

- Cookies and refreshments were shared while members looked over several items brought by others to sell.

Closing:

- Door prizes of \$10 gift certificates went to Jo James, Bob Coleman, and Linda Bush.

NOTE: The program by Ken Aldridge, scheduled for the April meeting, will be switched to November so that the AI Hull Auction can be held on April 24. Viewing begins at 6 pm with the auction at 7 pm.



We did spend one day at the beach (my northern European skin doesn't do so well on beaches, usually turning me bright red and sunburned rather than tanned...). The rest of the time we explored the capital city of Bridgetown before flying on to Kingstown, St. Vincent.

Sadly on October 20, 2010, Sam Lord's Castle was gutted by a major fire and has been abandoned since (from what I can gather on YouTube videos). One YouTube video dated just



*Been There,
Done That*

Cheese!

By Peter Elias



Nothing beats melted cheese into which baguette bread has been dipped... otherwise known as Fondue!

Fondue is of Swiss origin and was declared a national dish in the 1930's. Fondue generally consists of Gruyere & Emmental cheese along with seasoning, white wine & Kirsch liquor) and is served in a communal pot over a portable stove (generally with a candle or spirit lamp). Bread is placed on a long-handled fork and dipped into the bubbling cheese. It is said that if you lose your piece of bread in the pot, that you will have to buy the next round of drinks!

As a member of the Dallas & North Texas Swiss Club, I get to enjoy fondue at their yearly annual meetings in February! About 10 - 15 gallons of cheese are prepared. —> That's me holding out my pot for all that melted goodness! Stamp: Garfield & Odie on a Swiss stamp enjoying fondue.



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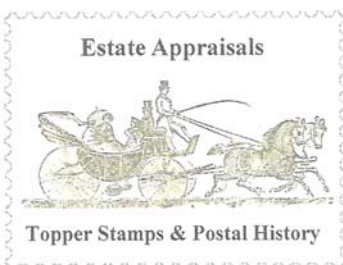
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George H. Watkins, Jr.



From the President's Desk

by Ray Cartier

I was walking up the steps to the stamp show's floor in a hotel in another state as a very disgruntled man was coming down the stairs with a package under his arm. He was talking to himself about the bunch of cheaters upstairs offering almost nothing for his valuable collection. On the show floor, two dealers were talking about a man who was trying to sell his collection of rare "old stamps" from the 1930s and 1940s, and stomping out angry.

It's was easy to tie those two scenarios together. Someone who had possibly inherited a collection or possibly was buying new stamps for years as an "investment" decided to sell some of those thousands of stamps listed in a Scott's Catalog and listed for at least 25 cents each, had no concept of the Scott catalog listing EVERY mint stamp at a minimum "resale" value of 25 cents. The man had possibly figured that he would get to sell 4,000 mint U.S. stamps for \$1000, or something along those lines.

On a couple of other occasions I've been approached by people who ask me, because I'm president of the local stamp club, if I could give them an idea of what their recently deceased collector's accumulation of stamps is worth. As I look through the scattered stamps some on pages, some in folders some still in the original glassines in which they came from dealers, nothing jumps out as being of any value.

"But what about these Gold stamps?", I might be asked. Or, "How about this book full of 50 different envelopes all picturing different snowmen of the world?", they ask hopefully. It's obvious that most of the holdings came from media magazine or newspaper ads. I usually tell them to use the stamps on envelopes and give the rest away.

The commonality of these two situations is that the "collector" – no, that's not the right word, the "accumulator", never joined a stamp club where others could share their knowledge with them. They never subscribed to LINNs, or Mekeel's Stamp News, or Stamp Dealer & Collector. They never joined the APS, the ATA nor any of the Topical Study Groups, the Texas Philatelic Association, nor a Postal History Group. This is akin to buying stocks by watching TV and writing down the names of companies with pretty names.

Philatelic organizations exist because there are people who want to know what they are spending their money on, or they want to know more about a subject of personal interest, or they want to meet with people who share similar interests. But they also exist as informational tools to help individuals learn more about what they are getting into. That is what divides "collectors" from "philatelists".

Collectors can have fun accumulating stamps and covering the rectangles in an album. Practically all of us started that way. And there is nothing wrong about being a collector, if that is your interest. But collectors of anything should know the difference between value and cost. It is unrealistic to buy hundreds of 20th century stamps and expect the retail money spent to be worth substantially more than the wholesale price you will get back when you sell your stamps. That is unless you educate yourself to know about the errors that exist, by reading the stamp papers or by talking to philatelists who study such things. Those errors could be worth more than you paid. The blocks of four \$5 stamps bought in 1938 could be worth \$50, or ten times their cost back then. Or, if you can tell the difference, a single one of those that is red brown and black and not carmine and black could be worth a few thousand dollars. Fellow club members might be able to help you find out if you hit a jackpot or not.

Been There, Done That

Barbados

By Bob & Pat Weidman



The photo above is of Sam Lord's Castle on the eastern side of Barbados, where we vacationed a number of years ago. Barbados, a former British colony, became an independent state on November 30, 1966. It is the easternmost of the Windward Islands in the southern Caribbean. A friend that I worked with, had their honeymoon there and highly recommended it. Since we like tropical islands with lots of sun, sand and surf, we decided to go.

The Sam Lord's Castle resort is named after Samuel Hall Lord, a famous buccaneer of Barbados who lived in the castle-mansion, which is in the parish of St. Phillip. The castle dates back to around 1820.

The resort ran a shuttle to Bridgetown, the capitol of Barbados, which is located on the southwest side of the island. Upon arriving, we did a lot of sight-seeing.

The statue in the picture below is of Horatio Nelson, who some regard as the most famous admiral in the Royal Navy.

The stamp also shows the Nelson statue, and is Scott #238, issued as part of a set of definitive stamps from 1953-1957.



But the \$5 Railroad Conductor's Lantern issue of 1979 might get you only a \$6 or \$7 offer. The depression was deep in 1978 and few collectors saved those. Supply and demand works in all phases of life.

The lesson is: collect stamps for the enjoyment that you find in them. But if you want to build a collection of which you can find substantially more enjoyment, study them by joining associations and subscribing to philatelic publications. And when your collection gets passed down, your family members will be happy that you were a more knowledgeable collector as well.

Comic Strip: Pluggers (Double Postage)

By Peter Elias

Have you ever paid “double postage” just to be sure that you’ve paid the correct amount? I never have, but I always cringe

PLUGGERS

By Gary Brookins



Pluggers mail their tax return using at least two stamps, even if it is only two pages long.

when I see an envelope bearing 2 Forever stamps that is obviously not even close to weighing 1 ounce!

In the “Pluggers” comic strip above (from the April 16, 2018 edition of the Dallas Morning News) does mention using a second stamp for mailing an envelope that contains a tax return of only 2 pages length! Of course we don’t know whether those 2 “pages” are one piece of paper printed on both sides (which is more than likely is a Form 1040-EZ or 1040-A) or 2 pieces of paper, printed on 1 side each.

I suppose that the average person has no clue how much a piece of paper weighs and how many pieces of standard 8.5” x 11” paper can fit into a #10 business size envelope and not go over one ounce? Of course, that ends up being a “depends” kind of answer.

According to the non-scientific scale in my office, a plain, unprinted piece of 20# paper weighs about 5 grams (= 0.177 ounces - although my scale reports this as 0.15 ounces). Printing ink or laser toner may also add a little bit of weight to each piece of paper. An empty #10 envelope also weighs about 0.17 ounces. Thus, one can put 4 pieces of paper into a standard #10 envelope and still be under 1 ounce (actually, around 0.89 ounces).

I would venture to say many people would rather stick an extra 50¢ of postage on an envelope that endure standing in line at the post office (not to mention driving there...). Based on just minimum wage, 50¢ will only cover about 4 minutes of your time and based on my experience of standing in line at the Plano post office, I spend about around 10 to 15 minutes each day standing in line! So, 50¢ in additional postage is probably a good investment in time not wasted in line!

In any case, 2 stamps will NOT make that envelope get there any quicker!

Club Shirts

By Peter Elias

If you come to the meetings or EXPO, you’ve probably noticed that several of us regularly wear “club branded” embroidered polo or dress shirts. For many years now, I have been sourcing these from Queensboro Shirt Company which makes embroidered shirts (and other items) at unbeatable prices. While their regular prices are ok, I usually buy the shirts when they’re on sale and we can usually score really great Polo or Dress Shirts for \$15 to \$20 (+ around \$4 to \$5 for shipping). The clincher is that they have a (reasonable) 4-shirt minimum order. When their sales emails hit my inbox, I usually only have a day or so to get whatever special pricing that they’re offering, and it’s difficult to get an order for 4 shirts together in a short period of time ...

So let’s try this: If you have an interest in getting a club shirt, give me a “standing order” for one (or several) shirts. Tell me ahead of time what general style, color and size you are interested in, so that when a special deal comes up, I can simply order at that time. You can pay me (at whatever my cost is) when the shirts arrive (which is usually 2 to 3 weeks after ordering).

So here’s what I need (also give secondary and tertiary choices, since not all size, type and color combinations are always available for any given shirt that is on sale). Also indicate whether you need more than one of each or one of each type of shirt

Type:

- Polo - short sleeve, no pockets
- Dress Shirt (button down) - Long sleeve, pockets
- Dress Shirt (button down) - Short sleeve, pockets

Note: shirts are generally “men’s style”, but on occasion there are “women’s style” available (i.e.: they have a “waist”, while the men’s style are normally straight).

Generally speaking, most Polo’s are Cotton or Cotton/Poly blends, although there are “wicking” (athletic - 100% polyester) type fabrics available occasionally; the assumption is that you will get a cotton or cotton polo blend shirt. Dress shirts are generally cotton or cotton/poly blends.

Of the 30 or 40 polo shirts that Queensboro offers, only 1 or 2 have pockets, and they are rarely on sale, but, if you’d like a pocket polo shirt as an option (if available), please let me know.

Size: (note: Polo shirt sizes are generally larger than regular shirt sizes, so order one size smaller than you would for a dress shirt)

- Medium
- Large
- X-Large
- XX-Large (higher pricing, usually about \$2 to \$3 extra)
- XXX-Large (higher pricing, usually about \$2 to \$3 extra)

Color:

- Dark (i.e.: navy, blue, black, dark red, green)
- Light (i.e.: yellow, lt yellow, tan/sand, white, l blue, lt gray)

On occasion (but really not often) there also other embroidered items on sale, such as:

- Fleece jackets
- T-shirts
- Windbreakers
- Messenger bags
- Hoodie & sweatshirts

CLASSIFIED BOURSE

Announcements

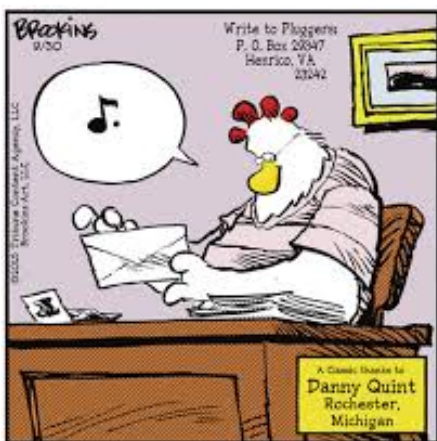
All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: peter@pcelias.com

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). jasmymers@earthlink.net 5/15

Comic Strip - Pluggers Forever Stamps

By Peter Elias



The best investment that a plugger made over the last year was in "Forever Stamps."

Here is another "Pluggers" Cartoon with a stamp-related subject. It suggests that buying Forever stamps is a good "investment".

Since the average person (i.e.: non-collector) uses relatively few postage stamps these days, even buying 2 booklets of stamps (40 stamps total) would have only saved about 40¢ and represents a savings of 2%.

Now, 2% doesn't sound like much, but with the average savings account only earning less than 0.1%, this represents 20 years (assuming non-compounding interest) of interest payments! But in the bigger scope of things, there is no real big-money savings to be had by investing in lots of Forever stamps; the adhesive on all these stamps would probably dry out before one has a chance to use up all the stamps!

Thank You!

Dallas Stamp Dealer Byron Sandfield (Park Cities Stamps) gave the club a car trunk load full of boxes with various misc. stamp items (mostly older stamp albums and various loose stamps both on- and off-paper, all of minimal value and a large bundle of cinderella material including Christmas seals). Some of these came from a customer, Dorothea Dixon of Tyler, TX. Most of these items will probably end up in the EXPO Beginning Collector Table.

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

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

Wanting to trade stamps from Trucial States: Yemen, Aden or Equatorial Guiana. Brian Smith, donnasmithphoto@gmail.com 3/18

MEET & EAT for May & June 2018

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

“Meet and Eats” are held before our club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather at 5:00 PM start ordering at that time. However, late-comers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit. The Chinese restaurant is a buffet style. Meals should be over around 6:15 PM to 6:30PM with the new meeting start time now being at 7:00PM rather than 7:30PM.

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

ARLINGTON

- May 2 **Campo Verde**
2918 W. Pioneer Parkway
- June 6 **Spring Creek BBQ**
3608 S. Cooper Street

EULESS

No meet & eat for Euless meetings at this time.

GRANBURY

Check separate emails for any Granbury meet & eat locations.

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

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:
Granbury - Al Hull collection auction
on April 24
Arlington Auction - May 2
EXPO Planning Meeting - May 12