

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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June 2018

Been There, Done That

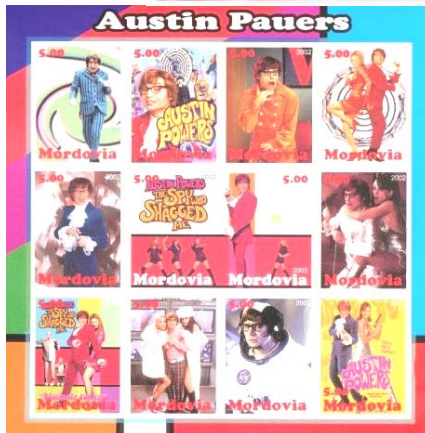
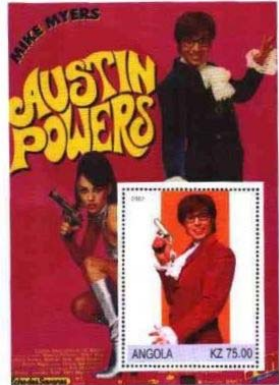
Mini-Me (RIP)

By Peter Elias

On April 21, 2018, movie star Verne Troyer died at the age of 49. He was 2'8" in height as a result of his achondroplasia dwarfism. You all know him mostly from his appearance in the "Austin Powers" movies (starring Mike Myers).

While I searched in vain for a stamp featuring Verne, I did see a 2002 souvenir sheet for the movie Austin Powers from Angola. A recent stamp from Canada also features Mike Myers. And on somewhat hilarious note, I saw a cinderella souvenir sheet being offered from the Russian "Federal Subject" of Mordovia (which has no stamp-issuing authority); the non-observant designer of this sheet apparently couldn't get the name correct and called it Austin Pauers (even though right below that is a movie poster saying Austin Powers - go figure...). Of course, "Mordovia" sounds very similar to the real country of Moldova (which is an independent nation and former Soviet republic), and thus someone is simply trying to fleece collectors (or just movie-buff non-stamp collectors) into buying this colorful but worthless wallpaper...

Ok, so how does that pertain to me? Well, sometime shortly after the Austin Powers movie first came out (in 1999), I found myself in First Class on an American Airlines flight out of New York City to Dallas, returning from a business trip to Amsterdam, NY to do a "Y2K" upgrade at a clients' system). At the last minute, several people came on board and a really short fellow ended up sitting next to me. What I presume were body guards of some sort, then left the plane. I ended up talking to my seat mate and found out his name was Verne Troyer and that he lived in Arlington (he didn't say anything about the movie). We chatted about some computer stuff (I had my laptop with me). Honestly, I had NOT heard of the Austin Powers movie at that time, so I really did not know who he was! And that was my only contact with a "movie star" (other than Marina Sirtis of *Star Trek: Next Generation* at a fan show).



Topic of the Month: "National Something Day"

By Peter Elias

Did you realize that May 1st is "National Chocolate Parfait Day" or that May 4th is "National Orange Juice Day"? If you need some inspiration as to a possible collecting subject or perhaps for just a "Been There - Done That" article, then check out <https://nationaldaycalendar.com>; there you find a calendar with over 1,500 "Something Days"! And let's not forget that day 2 of our EXPO (November 10th) is "National Vanilla Cupcake Day", and who can't forget that January 11th is "National Step In A Puddle and Splash Your Friends" Day!

Oh, here's an idea! Why not create your own Philatelic Calendar for the "National Something Days"! It would be a fun 12-page, 365-stamp project!

Some days might be a bit trickier than other, for example, February 21st only has one "day", and it's "Sticky Bun Day" - but you can be creative and look up everything about "sticky buns" and perhaps find a stamp to fit the subject! Some days are not based on a specific calendar day, but are based on "last Sunday of the month" for example, so when preparing that "calendar" exhibit, what works for one year, may not work for another. The whole calendar should fill one frame at EXPO (12x standard pages sideways).

Don't like "days"? There are also "National Something Weeks" and "Months" and "Year of..." as well... All of which can probably be illustrated via stamps! Anyone up for the challenge? Ready, set, collect!

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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

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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 Wills

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>

Coming Attractions

2018

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

Program: TBD

JUL. 11 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting

—> **Change in Date (NOT July 4!)**

Mixture Pick & Diana Davis presentation
“My MSCS cachet & other art”

Program: Mixture pick, Diana Davis presentation

JUL. 18 MCSC—EULESS Meeting

Program: TBD

JUL. 24 MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting

Program: Auction

Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

I've finally had a chance to sift through the various newspaper clippings from the past 16 years where I've cut out the comic strips (around 18 of them) that relate to stamps, stamp collecting and the US Postal Service. Many of these provide for some commentaries (of course, some of them are a bit outdated...). I've scanned them all in and will be putting them in this and future newsletters.

My main source for stamp-related comics is the Dallas Morning News which I receive daily. Of course, the Ft. Worth Star Telegram probably features some comic strips that the DMN doesn't (and vice versa), or there are comics in other publications as well. If you find any, please feel free to cut them and/or scan them and send them to me (along with any comments that the comic inspires!).

Keep thinking about what stamps illustrate your life. I'm certainly having a blast reviewing my life and finding stamps that can be used to illustrate it and tell the associated story. The great thing is, that (just as with looking at a picture) they also trigger other memories as well! I'm hoping that the “Been There - Done That” articles in this newsletter have you thinking about your life and how to illustrate it with stamps! If you need some assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Members in the News

Peter Elias contributed information about the 2017 SSK Holiday Postage Labels (the ones featuring Holiday Cookies) to Ateeme, which published it in *Variable* issue #47 (January 2018).

The Mid-Cities Stamp Club and various members are shown in reviews of clubs and their newsletter offerings in the May 2018 issue of the *Journal of Texas Philately & Postal History* (which is the new name for the “Texas Philatelist”).

Ray Cartier's article “Orion - The New Frontier in Space Exploration” was published on pages 10-12 in the May 2018 issue of the *Journal of Texas Philately & Postal History*.

In the “Chapter Chatter” column of *Topical Time*, the bi-monthly journal of the American Topical Association, there is a review of the various ATA chapters, and in the March-April 2018 issue (on page 74), various MCSC members are listed based on a summary of recent *Stamping Around* newsletters.

Secretary's Report

By Benedict Termini



Membership Summary – May 3, 2018

Membership as of April 5, 2018	93
New Members	0
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	0
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of May 2, 2018	93

Time to Let Go

By Peter Elias

MCSC Newsletter Gets Gold

By Peter Elias

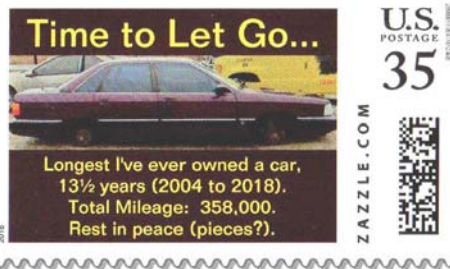
There comes that time for every car owner that one has to “let go”. If you really liked your car (or truck for some of you...), it’s hard to let go, unless of course you didn’t really like your vehicle or you’re just one of those people for whom it was “point A to B” transportation. That’s fine, I get that.

For me, I finally had to let go of my 1990 Audi 100. It is the one car that I’ve actually owned the longest in my life, 13½ years! While I tried to sell the car, finding takers here in the DFW area was difficult (as those people that are actively looking for a car like this as a parts car are all in other parts of the USA, and transporting a car would cost over \$1,000, more than it’s worth).

I finally decided that I was simply going to give the car away to a salvage yard with the provision that they tow it for free and that I get to keep the wheels & tires (which I’ll keep as emergency spares for my other 1990 Audi...), since these cars have a 4x108mm bolt pattern that is not easy to find wheels for! I bought the Zazzle custom postage shown above in commemoration!

This wasn’t the first time that I had to “let go” of an Audi 100. Back in my college days, there came the time when my 1973 Audi 100GL had also reached it’s EOL. I took off as many parts as I could and personally drove it to the junkyard (that’s what they called “salvage” yards back then...).

Below is a custom stamp I ordered as a memento to honor that car and below that the original photo that I took. The green car to the left was the replacement; you guessed it, another Audi 100 (a 1972 100LS ver-



An APS News release dated May 11, 2018 announced the winners of their 2017 Chapter Newsletter competition. Several judges reviewed the 20 entries in the Class II - Multi-page Publications category; the winners are:

Gold:

1. *Calgary Philatelist* (Calgary Philatelic Society), edited by Dale C. Speirs, Calgary, AB, Canada
2. *Hollywood Philatelist* (Hollywood Stamp Club), edited by Enrique Setaro, Miami, FL
3. *Knoxville Philatelic Society News* (Knoxville Philatelic Society), edited by Tom Broadhead, Knoxville, TN
4. *Stamping Around* (Mid-Cities Stamp Club), edited by Peter Elias, Plano, TX
5. *The Postmaster* (New Haven Philatelic Society), edited by Campbell Buchanan, Branford, CT
6. *Newsletter of the PSLC* (Philatelic Society of Lancaster Co.), edited by Paul Petersen, Lancaster, PA
7. *Rockford Stamp Notes* (Rockford Stamp Club), edited by Timothy G. Wait, Rockford, IL
8. *Scribblings* (Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library), edited by Jeff Modesitt and John Bloor, Littleton, CO
9. *San Jose Stamp Club* (San Jose Stamp Club), edited by Jim Steinwinder, San Jose, CA
10. *Stamp Chatter* (Sequoia Stamp Club), edited by Ed Bierman, Redwood City, CA
11. *The Stamp Forum Newsletter* (Forum/APS Chapter 1591), edited by Nelson Laviolette, Woodbridge, VA
12. *Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter* (Wichita Stamp Club), edited by Jeff Lough, Lawrence, KS
13. *Wilksburg Stamp Club News* (Wilksburg Stamp Club), edited by Deborah Foltyn, Pittsburgh, PA

Vermeil:

1. *The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle* (Chattanooga Stamp Club), edited by Gene Bricker, Ringgold, GA
2. *The Greater Philadelphia Stamp & Collectors Club Newsletter* (Greater Philadelphia Stamp & Collectors Club), edited by Ed Weisenberg, Willow Grove, PA
3. *Huntsville Philatelic Club Newsletter* (Huntsville Philatelic Club), edited by Arthur J. Cole, Huntsville, AL
4. *Palo Duro Philatelist* (Palo Duro Philatelic Society), edited by John Abrams, Albuquerque, NM
5. *The Magnifying Glass* (Wyoming Valley Stamp Club), edited by Ron Breznay, Hanover, PA

Silver:

1. *Brattleboro Stamp Club Newsletter* (Brattleboro Stamp Club), edited by Joseph Antosiewicz and Marshall Brooks, Swanzey, NH
2. *The Atomic Mariner* (N.S. Savannah Chapter #109 of the USCS), edited by Arthur J. Cole, Huntsville, AL

The 2018 newsletter competition starts at the end of this year, and as always, the last 3 newsletters of the year (October through December issues) will be turned in. Help us by providing some great content for those issues!

Arlington Meeting Minutes May 2, 2018

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Club President Ray Cartier.

Attendance:

- There were 21 members and no guests present.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- Secretary Ben Termini reported that we had 93 members.
- Treasurer Judy Christmas discussed our various accounts, and concluded that we had adequate funds to cover operational and EXPO expenses.
- EXPO Committee chairman Ralph Poore was absent, however Stanley Christmas mentioned that there would be an EXPO committee meeting at Dave's BBQ restaurant (on Park Row) on Saturday May 12. He also mentioned that we needed an Awards Chairperson to replace Alliene Franklin who is retiring and briefly outlined the duties of that position.
- 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.

Announcements:

- Ray Cartier mentioned that we need a volunteer to serve as 'Ambassador' to the APS.
- Stanley Christmas said he had lent a box of mint plate blocks belonging to the club to one of our members and they had not been returned. He asked for help in locating them.
- Rich Hildebrandt said that the 2017 US Specialized Scott Catalog is missing from the library and asked for help finding it.
- Dave Stockbridge discussed what was going on in the Granbury Branch of the club.

Show & Tell:

- Peter Elias showed some certificates of mailing and pointed out that they were collectible items. He also passed around an envelope he had received from a well-known auction house which was franked with a fake Stamps.com postage label.
- Stanley Christmas passed around some freaks and oddities.
- Tom Turner talked about mourning covers and passed several interesting examples around, including one from Mexico which I would dearly like to have.
- Ken Aldridge passed around an example of US 114 on cover with an unusual color of cancel.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Skip Ely, Howard Savage, Judy Christmas, and Linda Bush.

Program:

- A club auction was held under the supervision of Rich Hildebrandt.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes May 16, 2018

By Skip Ely

Attendance:

- There were 5 members present.

Officer and Committee Reports:

- Due to the small attendance, normal reports were suspended.

EXPO Meeting Report:

- Skip Ely gave a brief summary of issues brought up at the Expo meeting the previous Saturday (minutes elsewhere in the newsletter).

Show & Tell:

- Skip Ely showed a Norwegian stamp album he purchased last month in Granbury. He said he had been filling it with stamps with the intention of offering it for the Silent Auction.
- Ken Wills showed a New Zealand stamp that had been soaked off paper, leaving a sticky residue that he had covered with corn starch. The stamp was not sticky anymore.
- Tom Turner showed a cover addressed to the U.S.S. Webster but with a Japanese postmark. He talked about what he knew about it so far, but a few questions remain. He is continuing to research it.

Door Prizes:

- ...were awarded to Tom Turner and Evan Islam.

Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Granbury Meeting Minutes April 24, 2018

By Eugene Atkinson

The Lake Granbury Branch of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club met at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 W. Emerald Bend Court in Granbury, at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 24.

Host Dave Stockbridge dispensed with most of the routine business in order that Skip Ely and Bob Coleman might conduct a special auction of the Al Hull Estate collection.

Consisting of 71 lots, the auction featured some 25 Master Global and Supreme Global albums with worldwide stamp issues. In addition, another 25 or so lots contained United States singles, plate blocks, booklets, covers and cards both in mint and used condition.

The remainder lots included worldwide singles, U. S. sheets, individual items, catalogs and collector supplies. The auction realized a total of just over \$3,500, with several of the United States albums bringing between \$150 and \$200 each. Only 6 lots failed to reach the minimum bid.

23 members and guests attended the event, with the club greeting new members Vince Osborne and Daniel Williams and welcoming the youngest attendee ever, 4-months old Phoenix Rimmer.

At the conclusion of the session, door prizes went to Jim Bailey, Julie Rimmer, Stuart Barzune, and Denny Ludlow.

Liechtenstein - The Richest Country in the World

By Ray Cartier

It's true! The Principality of Liechtenstein, with a population of only 37,522 people, has an average net value of \$140,000 per capita. Their unemployment rate is a scant 1.5%. The only nation which is totally within the Alps, it is approximately 15.5 miles long and about 4 miles wide on average. It was established within the Holy Roman Empire in 1719 and became fully independent in 1866. It is nestled between Switzerland and Austria.

Their first stamps were issued in 1912, but Switzerland has printed their stamps since 1921. Through 2012 it had issued over 1,600 postage stamps. In that time, with a population of about 380,000 people, Arlington, Texas alone would have issued, by ratio, over 16,000 stamps since 1912.

Their Postage Stamp Museum was founded in 1930 and opened in 1936. It is situated in the center of Vaduz, in the English Building Art Space, and is part of the Liechtenstein National Museum. They have vertical drawers which can be pulled out on which you can see the original artwork for many of their stamps (see photo to the right). Karen is shown her with the originals of a set of three fairytales from Liechtenstein. She used the top stamp, "The Cheated Devil", in her second "Tales By Mail" book of fairytales and folktales.

Founded in 1930, this museum covers postal history with stamp collections & historic equipment. The museum's main focus is on postage stamps issued by the Principality of Liechtenstein since 1912, including designs, test prints and needle plates. Visitors can also learn about the history of the country's postal service and admire machines used by postal workers in days gone by. Switzerland, by the way, was the only country to ever invade Liechtenstein. In 2007, the Swiss Army accidentally invaded the small country when some of their troops got lost in a rainstorm. Earlier in 1985, some rockets fired by the Swiss landed there and accidentally started a forest fire. Compensation was paid.

Of the five castles built in Liechtenstein, only two are still standing: Vaduz Castle is the palace and the official residence of the Prince of Liechtenstein. It rises 394 feet over the capital city of Vaduz. We stayed in a hotel on the main

street there (see photo at top right) directly under this castle (see left). Gutenberg castle can be found in the town of Balzers. It stands about 230 feet above that town on a hill which has been inhabited since the Neolithic Period. About 55 mammals are native to Liechtenstein, including 17 species of bats, 7 species of reptiles, 10 species of amphibian and 24 species of fish. The Kestrel is their national animal. Liechtenstein is the largest producer of false teeth in the world. It has one of the lowest



Vaduz Castle



Vaduz Main Street: Blue & Red flag is that of Liechtenstein.

crime rates in the world with its last murder occurring in 1997. Citizens given sentences of over two years are transferred to Austria to spend their time.

Would you like to rent the entire country? You can, for only \$70,000 a day! But you have to give them enough notice. Snoopy Dogg once tried to rent it for a video shoot, but didn't give the city leaders enough lead time.



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

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

Stamps on Packaging

By Peter Elias

It is always interesting (and encouraging) to see postage stamps used as part of packaging designs. In this case, I was at an office supply store recently and saw this one package of Epson inkjet cartridges that featured various older postage stamps on half of the cardboard package. Interesting, but I hope that Epson doesn't imply that consumers can start printing their own stamps and/or reproductions!



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For online newsletters see <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mid-citiesstampclub/files>
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Exp. 12/18

From the President's Desk

by Ray Cartier

Why do we all come to stamp club meetings? There may be several reasons: to learn more about the hobby and its many variants, or to buy stamps after actually seeing them. These could be stamps found in our circuit books, which you may find at meetings thanks to the efforts of Skip Ely; another could be the stamps that some of our members spread out for perusal. Then of course are our two Club Auctions and our two Mixture Picks.

Then there is the factor of camaraderie. In Arlington and Granbury, members get together prior to our meetings to share a dinner together at a variety of local restaurants. A few of us meet monthly prior to the Arlington meetings at various restaurants near the Arlington meeting location, just to be together and share some tall tales, jokes or philatelic information. I don't know if that is done in Euless or not [Editor note: no].

Then, there is the gathering at our meetings and getting to see familiar faces once a month. There is the chance to do something to pay back our hobby for the pleasure it has given us. This could be by running for one of the offices, or helping in some way to fill one of the many needs we have in putting together our annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club Expo. That brings us to a couple of separate meetings each year to discuss what will be done in the coming year to make it a pleasurable event for us and for the wider community. There is a team feeling of success when it all comes together.

Of course there is our annual October Picnic, followed by the joint activity of folding inserts and stuffing hundreds of direct mail pieces to let those who attended prior Expos that we're coming back again. And then our Christmas Party each year with the "Shanghai Bingo" game that has been held for each of the 45 years in which our club has been in existence.

Our library is underused except for the current copies of the Scott's Stamp Catalogs which can be borrowed for a month at no cost. But there are a lot of books packed with philatelic information that could possibly help many of our members with their collections. As of 2015 we had 98 different books and handbooks, seven CDs, and 18 various Catalog types.

The meetings also give some members a chance to sell some of their own stamps and covers. Our show and tell at each meeting reveals some very interesting philatelic material to us that we would never get to see elsewhere.

Of our 93 members, 7 are from out of state, but retain membership just because they wanted to keep up with our local happenings. Most were members who had to move for one reason or another.

One thing that many of us have learned: being active in the club in some way makes our membership more personal and more interesting, whether it's taking on a responsibility as a club officer, working in some capacity at our annual show, writing articles for our newsletter, bringing items to show and tell us about or occasionally sharing some of your knowledge about some aspect of philately, either as a speaker for 30 minutes to an hour or a mini-speaker or telling us about something that interests you in philately for 5 to 15 minutes. All of these make the membership a better experience both for ourselves and for our philatelic friends.

*Been There,
Done That*

Europe's Oldest Pharmacy

By Bob & Pat Weidman



On our trip to the Balkans in December of last year, one of the places we visited was Dubrovnik in Croatia. Dubrovnik is a prominent tourist destination on the coast of the Adriatic Sea in southern Croatia. "Old Dubrovnik", another of Croatia's UNESCO World Heritage Sites is the old

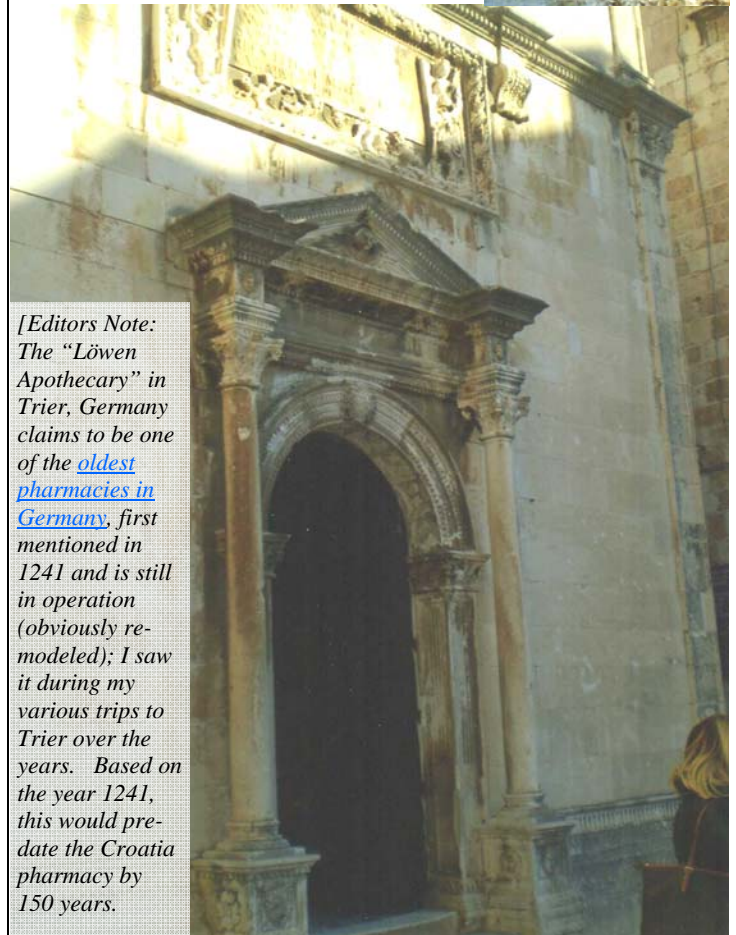
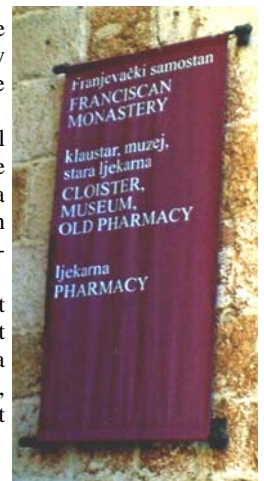
walled section of town.

Right inside the gate of "Old Dubrovnik" is a Franciscan monastery and pharmacy that has been in existence since the year 1391. It is the oldest functioning pharmacy in Europe and the first that was open to the general public.

Picture 1 shows the entrance to the pharmacy and picture 2 shows the pharmacy and monastery sign on the outside of the pharmacy near the door.

Notice the bullet holes in the wall above and to the right of the sign. These are from the war of independence when Croatia declared itself independent of Yugoslavia in 1991 and was immediately attacked by Serbia and Montenegro.

The stamp shown is USA Scott #1473, issued on November 10, 1972. It features 19th century medicine bottles, a mortar and pestle and a bowl of Hygieia, items that you would find in a pharmacy at that time.



[Editors Note: The "Löwen Apothecary" in Trier, Germany claims to be one of the oldest pharmacies in Germany, first mentioned in 1241 and is still in operation (obviously remodeled); I saw it during my various trips to Trier over the years. Based on the year 1241, this would pre-date the Croatia pharmacy by 150 years.

MCSC EXPO MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2018

By Skip Ely

The MCSC 2018 EXPO Planning Committee met at Dave's BBQ in Pantego at 11:00 AM on May 12, 2018. Present were EXPO Chairperson Ralph Poore, Treasurer Judy Christmas, and Committee members Stanley Christmas, Tom Cunningham, Alliene Franklin, Ray & Karen Cartier, Rich Hildebrandt, Ray & Janet Moyer, Bob Weidman and Skip Ely.

- **WELCOME** – Ralph Poore opened the meeting with a review of the previous Expo meeting minutes, which were accepted without reading.
- **BOURSE** – Tom Cunningham gave a summary of the bourse status. He said there were three dealers who have indicated they were not returning this year, but he expected no major difficulty in filling those slots with others.
- **AWARDS** – Alliene Franklin said we need a replacement for awards chairperson. Ray Cartier offered to serve in that role beginning next year. Alliene then suggested we consider using cash instead of crystal for the Grand, Reserve Grand and One-Frame Grand awards. After some discussion, a motion was made and passed to offer \$200 for the Grand, \$150 for the Reserved, and \$100 for the One Frame.
- **BEGINNING COLLECTORS** – Skip Ely said we have plenty of material for the beginners' areas.
- **BANQUET** – Rich Hildebrandt said that the convention center can offer a turkey entrée for a dollar more than the usual items. It was agreed this was reasonable, so that's what we will try to get.
- **CACHETS** – Ray Cartier said he has completed the design of the cancel and now just needs the pictures of the bird stamps to finish with the cachet.
- **CHANCE BOARD** – Karen Cartier said that the chance board is ready to go.
- **EXHIBITS** – Stanley Christmas said he already has 34 frames reserved and looked forward to filling the rest. He also talked about moving the exhibits closer to the back wall, so that the Mixture Pick table can be moved in front of the exhibits and be more visible.
- **FINANCE** – Judy Christmas said everything was in good shape.
- **REGISTRATION** – Ray and Janet Moyer said there were no issues at this time.
- **JUDGES** – Peter Elias has indicated previously that we have three judges confirmed.
- **LUNCHESES** – Judy Christmas said she will check with Jason's Deli on prices as we get closer to the show.
- **MIXTURE PICK** – Bob Weidman said he may need another source for Asian stamps, as he doesn't see his previous supplier advertising in Linn's currently.
- **MAIL-OUT/PROGRAM** – Stanley said everything was on track.
- **PUBLICITY** – Stanley mentioned that two dealers have paid to have flyers put in the mail-out and program. He also said he has had no response to his letters to various Audu-

bon and nature groups to participate at EXPO.

- **SECURITY** – Mike Smith told Ralph that our security detail will be the same as last year.
- **SILENT AUCTION** – Skip Ely said he believed we had plenty of small items for the auction, but that some higher end items would be useful. Tom Cunningham asked for more specifics, and Skip promised to check with other members of the committee for details.
- **OUTSIDE SIGNS** – We still need a volunteer to put up the signs Thursday night and retrieve them Saturday night.
- **SNACKS** - Tabled until a later meeting.
- **TRANSPORTATION** (of frames and storage cabinets) – Ralph said Evan told him he would coordinate this item when we get closer to the show date.
- **VOLUNTEERS** – Ralph Poore said that his checklist showed we should start circulating the volunteer list at the club meetings.
- **NEXT MEETING** – The next Expo meeting was scheduled for August 11 at the Pizza Garden in Bedford.
- **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting adjourned at 11:45 P.M.

CLASSIFIED BOURSE

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

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

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 June & July 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. 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

June 6 Spring Creek BBQ
3608 S. Cooper Street

July 11 Angelo’s Steak & Spaghetti
2590 W. Pioneer Parkway

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

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

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

Don't Forget:
TSDA Stamp Bourse - June 22 & 23
July Arlington Mtg is on July 11!