

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)



Volume 32, Number 2

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

February 2019

Meet Jeanette Hodges

By Bob Weidman



Jeanette Hodges is the Sales & Service Associate for the United States Postal Service. She works the retail window counter at the Ft. Worth downtown station located 251 West Lancaster Avenue, Ft. Worth, Texas, 76102. Jeanette has been with the US Postal Service for the past 48 years!

If you are having difficulty finding any of the many new stamps that the USPS issues each year, Jeanette is the person to see. She stocks all of the new stamps with the exception of souvenir sheets which can only be ordered through Kansas City. If you only need one stamp of a new issue, she will sell it to you. There are no minimums like Kansas City requires. However, booklets, coils and some sheets cannot be broken. She also carries the flag definitives from the different printers, as well as the new \$1, \$2 and \$5 stamps.

If you collect the Migratory Bird Hunting stamps, also known as the "Duck Hunting Stamps", you may want to pay a visit to Jeanette. She also has them in stock.

Jeanette is also a stamp collector. She started collecting US singles when she went to work for the post office, and now collects US commemorative plate blocks.

The retail window counter at the Ft. Worth downtown station is open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 6 PM and Saturday from 8 AM to 4 PM. The phone number is (817) 870-8104.

The stamp shown is USA Scott #1489 (part of a set of 10) that was issued on April 30, 1973. It pictures a postal clerk selling stamps to a customer.



Brian Smith - RIP

By Denny Ludlow

On December 23, 2018, Brian Smith passed away peacefully at home from pancreatic cancer. Brian had been treated for cancer for most of the last year and was taken off chemo and radiation about 4 months ago. However, last month the cancer returned and spread rapidly through his body. A memorial service will be held at Granbury First United Methodist Church later in January. I will provide details after all arrangements are completed.

Brian, a MCSC member for several years, had managed the club Beginner Collectors Area in past EXPO's. Brian leaves a wife Donna of over 50 years and 2 daughters. Brian's extensive world wide stamp collection is now for sale along with a large safe. The odds and ends of Brian's philatelic holdings will be sold at an auction to be held at the Granbury meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

2019 EXPO Planning Meeting

The 1st planning meeting for the 2019 EXPO will be held at David's BBQ in Pantego on Saturday, January 26 at 11 AM. We need your help to make this year's show another great one! All volunteers are greatly appreciated!

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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

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2019 - 2020 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Richard Hildebrandt
First Vice-President – Ray Moyer
Second Vice-President – Gene Pfreztschner
Secretary – Skip Ely
Treasurer – Judy Christmas

Board of Directors (voting):

Peter Elias Alliene Franklin Ken Wills
Immediate Past President: Ray Cartier

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 only \$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

I was getting ready to prepare the October through December 2018 newsletters for the annual submission to the APS for the "Chapter Newsletter Competition", but then found out that the APS has canceled this competition. Supposedly they do have an individual newsletter review service available (at no charge) if needed.

So while sadly there is no more chapter newsletter competition, I have taken various suggestions into account over the years (such as simplifying the number of fonts, putting an index on page 1, etc). But there are still some suggestions that are difficult to implement since our newsletter is accessible to anyone on the planet, and thus there are privacy concerns for the members, such as publishing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses (unless the member agrees). While it is beneficial that members can contact each other, people may not want to have their contact details published publicly. But members are always welcome to contact the current club secretary for contact information or consult the "Member Handbook" (which is only given out to members and does contain contact information).

The 2019 membership dues are due (well, probably "overdue" by now). If you haven't paid, there is one more chance to get a payment in to our new club secretary, Skip Ely. A renewal form has been provided one more time in this issue; Skip's mailing address is at the bottom of the form, so please get your payment to him as quickly as you can!

And if you are a new(er) member and haven't provided one yet: send me a picture and a philatelic biography to publish in an upcoming newsletter!

Members in the News

By Peter Elias

Peter Elias provided corroborative information about St. Vincent forgeries in an article co-authored by Gerhard Lang-Valchs called "The Saint Vincent Forgeries by Placido Ramon de Torres" that was published in the September 2018 edition (Nr. 258) of the British West Indies Study Circle Bulletin on pages 30-32.

Coming Attractions

2019

JAN. 22 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: Clean Out Your Closet Sale for members.

JAN. 26 **MCSC - EXPO 2019 Planning Meeting**

11 AM at David's BBQ at 2224 W. Park Row, #H in Pantego

FEB. 6 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Program: TBD

FEB. 20 **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**

Program: TBD

FEB. 26 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: TBD

MAR. 6 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Program: TBD

MAR. 15-16 **Dallas Spring Postcard & Paper Show**

Comfort Inn & Suites, 700 Central Expwy, Plano. Admission fee

MAR. 20 **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**

Program: TBD

MAR. 26 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: TBD

Secretary's Report

By Skip Ely



New Members

Connie Woertendyke (#612)

Randy Woertendyke (#613)

Wimberly Mills (#614)

Deceased

Brian Smith (#410)

Membership Summary – January 16, 2018

Membership as of December 6, 2018	101
New Members	3
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	-1
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of January 16, 2018	103

Zazzle Status

By Peter Elias

Zazzle.com began offering USPS authorized “custom postage” again on November 19, 2018 after a 6-month hiatus from postage stamp sales [shh..., the USPS says that they are not allowed to be referred to as “US stamps” - they should be referred to as “customized postage”...] that started on May 15. So I decided to order a couple of sheets.



The first order was for a 35¢ “Remember When The Web Was Just Spun” stamp, a design I had previously used.

This time I colorized the design, but while it looks great on my computer screen, the problem is that the yellow block at the top with the reversed white text just doesn’t look as good when printed on paper as opposed to viewing on a backlit computer monitor...

In any case, I got the order delivered without any problems (see scan above of one of the actual stamps). As you can see, the stamps are actually printed by provider “Stamps.com” while “Customized by Zazzle” is printed as a byline for the affiliate Zazzle on the left edge (which significantly reduces the area left for your photo or design).



Then I decided to order two more stamps with the designs shown above. The above are screen shots from the order confirmation. About a week to 10 days later, Zazzle informed me that the order had been cancelled due to one stamp not meeting their “guidelines for content”.

Can you guess which of the two stamps above didn’t pass muster? It was the “Shift Happens” stamp. I mean, to me it’s obvious: it shows a manual stick shift gear pattern and when you “row your own gears” (as car guys tend to call it...), then, well, “shift happens”, right? Apparently they must have thought that there was an ulterior motive in my design, in that perhaps this is too close to another phrase that doesn’t have the “f” in “shift”... Get my drift? ... Hey, that rhymes! Ooh, and “drift” is another car-related term... Man, I’m must be on a roll here.... Oh, wait, roll is what car tires do... [A note to aspiring philatelic authors: see how much fun it is to create philatelic articles?].



Usually in the past, when placing an order with Zazzle for multiple items, the

entire order is canceled, even for those stamps that are ok.

So I thought, “what a bummer”. A week or so later, I received the “HAUDI!” stamp sheet in the mail (see scan to the left). That was a pleasant surprise. The stamp does somewhat differ from the online image in that the typical Zazzle font of the denomination is different than the Stamps.com font on the actual stamp, and the serial number is not centered below the box.

I checked my credit card online, but didn’t see any charges from Zazzle for this 2nd order (just the first one for the 35¢ Spider stamp). This is quite puzzling. Since Zazzle now does not print their own stamps any more and apparently passes on the order to Stamps.com for censoring & printing (as Zazzle now simply appears to be an “affiliate” of Stamps.com for purposes of being able to print customized postage), and that something must have gone awry between the two companies’ computer systems when passing information about items that passed scrutiny or not. I was going to test that theory again, but then Zazzle shut down custom postage production again after just 23 days on December 12, 2018!



This time, it is because of an accusation by another Zazzle customer that Stamps.com denied her image of their family standing in front of St. Basil’s cathedral in Russia (while also holding a sports-related banner) and that it is unconstitutional to ban “religious” content (i.e.: the cathedral in the background) on customized postage, stating that “regular” US Postage Stamps do feature “religious” content (i.e.: USPS Christmas stamps with Madonna & Child, Hanukah & Kwanzaa).

This seems like a “double standard” to me! And I personally don’t equate that picture as being “religious content”. But then now they’re saying that banner that they are holding is “unauthorized usage of the Kansas City Chiefs” logo, but backed off when those in the photo proved they owned it.

For a detailed letter from the legal team representing this family regarding this matter, see: <https://firstliberty.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Hunt-Demand-Letter3.pdf>

While personally I’ve been buying both Zazzle and Stamps.com [PhotoStamps] over the years, I’ve always liked Zazzle better since they offered 3 different size stamps in landscape and portrait formats, and with image areas that were either square or rectangular plus the ability to add text, while Stamps.com only offers through itself and its affiliates only one stamp size and the image area is approximately square (very slightly portrait).

I guess we’ll see what happens going forward! Many thanks to Otto Bergman for providing me with info & links to some of this information.

From The President's Desk

by Richard Hildebrandt

Continuing on the track of thanking some of our outgoing officers, I want to say a special thanks to Ben Termini for serving for 4 years as the club secretary. Since I was a terrible note taker throughout my school years am still very poor at it I can't imagine how anyone can do as fine a job as Ben did in his time in the secretary's office. Trying to capture the essence of what was said at our club meetings especially when multiple people are speaking at one time is beyond my comprehension.

I especially enjoy his slightly offbeat sense of humor in the e-mail meeting notices. No matter how seriously we take our hobby we need to be able to enjoy a lighter moment at times and want to thank him for the many contributions he made to the improvement of communication of information for the club. Most notable from my view point was his idea to have Peter send him the monthly newsletter and he would then resend it to all club members. Peter posting the newsletter to the Yahoo site provides a great repository that allows us to reference older letters when needed, but it seemed that some members had difficulty accessing the site on occasion. Ben's idea was such a clean and simple solution to the problem.

I understand that Ben had the misfortune to take a bad fall over the holiday season and needed a hip replacement. Wishing him a quick and full recovery. I am sure that he will continue his active participation and continue to impart his philatelic knowledge to our club.

I had the unpleasant task of attending a memorial service on January 16th for Brian Smith, a long time member of the Mid-Cities Stamp club. Two of our Granbury members, Bob Coleman and Dave Stockbridge, spoke at the service about their memories of Brian. Dave gave quite a treatise on philately and an emotional talk for those in attendance. Wish I had had a recording device. For many years, Brian was the member who ran the Beginners Collector tables at the EXPO. His vast knowledge of stamp collecting and willingness to assist will be sorely missed.

*Been There,
Done That*

Ljubljana, Slovenia

By Pat & Bob Weidman



On our recent trip to the Balkans, one of the places we visited was the capital city of Slovenia: Ljubljana. Slovenia is the northernmost of the former Yugoslav republics. It is situated just south of Austria and to the east of Italy.

In 1278, Slovenia came under the rule of the Habsburgs, which were the royal family of Austria. That rule continued until the end of World War I, except for a brief period from 1809 to 1815 when Slovenia was under the control of the French.

After the defeat of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in World War I, Slovenia joined with Croatia, Dalmatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro to form the new nation of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, later changing the name to Yugoslavia.

When the second World War ended in 1945, the communists, under Marshall Jozep Broz Tito, took control of Yugoslavia. On June 25, 1991, Slovenia, along with Croatia, declared their independence from Yugoslavia.

In the picture below, I am standing outside of the main post office in Ljubljana where I bought the stamps shown above, Scott #1240 issued on November 10, 2017.



LOVE IS ... By Kim Casali



Comic: Love Is...

By Peter Elias

This "Love Is..." comic strip from September 20, 2003 states that love is showing an interest in your loved one's hobby, stamp collecting in this case.

I believe that one should certainly try support your loved one's hobby, even if you don't have an active interest in it yourself. At least "tolerate it"! But you never know, maybe you'll find it interesting yourself as time goes on! In any case, having a hobby makes for a fuller life!



The stamp shown is Slovenia Scott #552; it was issued on March 24, 2004. It commemorates the 1,000 year anniversary of the town of Bled. It shows a beautiful picture of Lake Bled, a resort area north of Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, where we were staying. It is close to the border of Austria. Obviously the picture used for the stamp was taken on a bright sunny day.

I did not have that kid of luck. The day I was there, it was cold with a steady downpour of rain.

The island in the middle of the lake was enclosed in a most, so it was impossible to get a picture of it even though it wasn't that far away. Because of the rain, Pan and about half of our tour group stayed back at the



hotel in Ljubljana. We were supposed to go by boat out to the island to see the Pilgrimage Church of the Assumption of Maria, but the water was too choppy, so the tour was cancelled. Our tour guide took us to a hotel overlooking the lake instead and treated us to coffee and hot chocolate.

The picture that I am enclosing is of the 11th century Bled Castle that sits on a cliff overlooking Lake Bled. Notice that the street lights and the lights on the car are on. It was a cold, dark, wet and dreary day.

✂ **2019 Mid-Cities Stamp Club Membership Renewal # _____** ✂

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
(First) (M.I.) (Last) (Complete if under 18)

Check here if information is unchanged from 2018 and skip to signature line below.

Home Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Email: _____ Home Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Collecting Interests: _____

Other Stamp Organizations with membership numbers (if applicable):

APS # _____ ATA # _____ TPA # _____ Other: _____

Permission is granted to make the information above available to other club members. Indicate anything you do NOT want shared: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____

Membership Level:

____ \$12 Regular Adult (emailed or online newsletter)

____ \$22 Regular Adult (with mailed newsletters)

____ **\$25 Sponsor Membership**

____ \$35 Sponsor (with mailed newsletters)

____ \$6 Additional Adult (only 1 newsletter copy)

____ \$4 Youth (under 18; add \$10 if printed newsletter is desired.)

**Make check out to 'Mid-Cities Stamp Club' and mail this form with payment to:
Skip Ely, MCSC Secretary, 5512 Shady Meadow, N. Richland Hills, TX 76180-6616**

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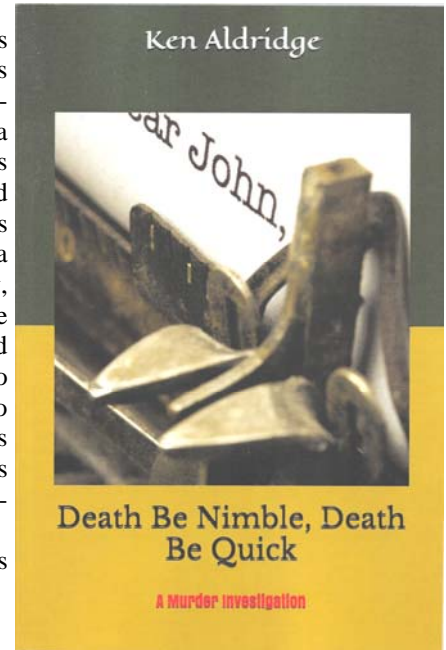
Exp. 12/19

[Ken Aldridge's 8th Book](#)

Ken Aldridge's latest book, "Death Be Nimble, Death Be Quick," is now available on Amazon.com, Kindle or directly from him.

This book is about an old desk is found to contain hidden letters alluding to a murder. A professor's wife disappears and when her body is found, he becomes a suspect. Lake City, Texas Chief of Police enters the case and along with trying to solve this mystery, also has to deal with his own professional as well as personal problems.

This is Ken's eighth book.



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>



cunninghamstamps@aol.com

Exp. 12/19

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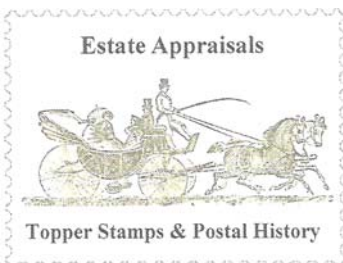
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14810 Tuttle Lane
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(936) 394-2146 Fax (936) 394-2147
gwkeller@aol.com

George H. Watkins, Jr.



Arlington Meeting Minutes January 2, 2019

By Skip Ely

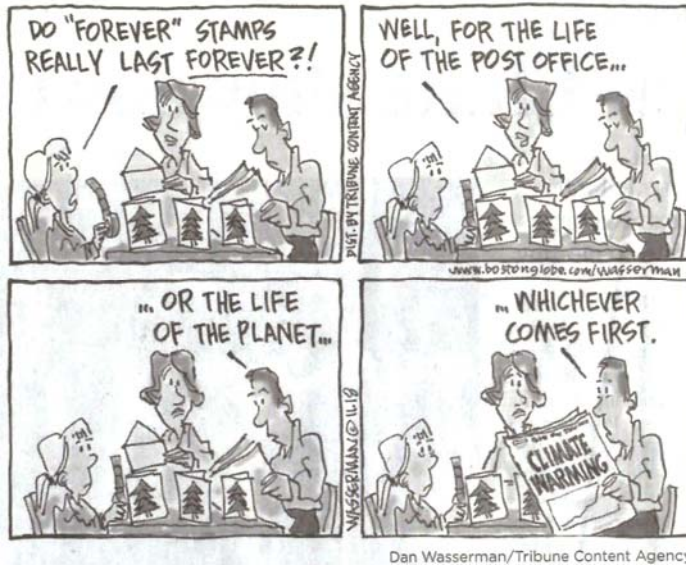
Eules Meeting Minutes January 16, 2019

By Skip Ely

The January meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

USPS "Forever" Stamps

By Peter Elias



The comic strip above asks the question of whether "FOREVER" stamps last forever. That statement can be taken one of two ways: 1) The "value" of the FOREVER stamps supposedly will forever be whatever the current base 1st class postage rate is. 2) I take this to have another meaning. In the first panel, it states whether will they "last" forever. To me that implies will they "physically" last forever!

So, take a look at the "Celebrate" FOREVER ATM block of 4 stamps (3 stamps + 1 VOID label) from a USPS "APC" (Automated Postal Center) machine. These are Scott #CVP86 (which includes 6 different designs) and were first used in early April 2012 and were used through late 2013 (example below). As you can see, on the left column, the fading is getting severe where the small text at the bottom is almost completely faded, and "FOREVER" is fading rapidly as well. Being less than 6 years old, I don't think these will last FOREVER! Thermal "printing" was just not designed to be "forever". Will these still be accepted as postage when all that is left is a white label with a pink stripe?



Attendance:

- There were 13 members present.

Officer Reports:

- **Secretary** – Skip Ely said we had three new members and one deceased, giving us a total of 103 members. But he said about 40 members had yet to renew their membership, so our numbers may change.
- **Treasurer** – The treasury report was deferred to the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **Sales** - Skip Ely said he had responded to several requests to continue the APS books, and that we would have a monthly circuit February through September. He noted that priority mail postage was increasing the end of this month, so he was looking at ways to take some of the club excess stamps and offering them to club members at heavily discounted prices.
- **Newsletter** – Peter Elias said the next newsletter was almost completed. He said that the APS has discontinued their annual APS Chapter newsletter competition, but he is still looking for interesting contributions from members.
- **Website** – Jim Myers said he was working with one of Evan's staff members on revising parts of the club website.

Announcements:

- Stanley Christmas said there would be an EXPO meeting on Saturday, January 26 at a location to be announced.
- Mike Smith said this would be his last attendance at a meeting, as he was moving to Oregon next Monday. He said he hoped to return for an EXPO or two in the future.

Show & Tell:

- Tom Turner showed a cigar advertisement cover from 1908 he had recently purchased.
- Ken Wills showed a wine bottle that he received from his son with a label making an extensive case for stamp collecting.
- Peter Elias showed a very nice book about the Seebeck stamps he had printed from an eBook file sent to him by the author. This eBook is free for the asking. He also showed a priority mail envelope with tracking that was delivered to the to the right mailbox but the USPS had set their scanning equipment up for the wrong zip code.
- Judy Christmas had some updated club business cards she had acquired from Peter.
- Stanley Christmas showed a nice Christmas card from the Oklahoma Philatelic Society Sales Division.
- Jim Myers had a large 1940 Christmas Seals postcard to show.
- Rick Howell showed a beautiful Netherlands catalog he had created with detailed information about the countries stamps to help him with sorting and identifying those stamps.
- Skip Ely showed a 2017 Canadian Unitrade catalog he had recently purchased.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates were won by Tom Turner and Rick Howell.

Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned about 8:45 PM.

On September 6, 2000, Annie & I were in Hall, which is in the Tyrol region of Austria, a couple of miles east of the capitol city of Tyrol, Innsbruck. Hall is a small city of about 13,000 and was one of the most important towns in the Habsburg Empire in the 15th & 16th century. The town dates back to the early 1200's and salt mining was an important industry.

In 1477, the town got the right of coinage, and a mint was established there. In the 16th century, the mint introduced the first automated coining machine, a reproduction of which can be seen in the museum in the Burg Hasegg (the entrance to the museum is shown in the photo to the right).



As part of the admission fee, we got a “copper slug”, which we used to mint our own reproduction coin, the front and back of which are shown above. For an extra fee, they also sold silver slugs. The 1486 reproduction coin itself is about the size of a US quarter.

So, what does all of this have to do with Thalers and Dollars? Well, they called their currency the “Thaler”, which is got anglicized to the English word Dollar!

The Castle of Hall was featured on Austria Scott #624 issued in 1960 shown below and on the first day cover to the right. It was also featured on an older German postal stationery card (inset at lower right), as Hall was a part of Germany at the time (the

inscription above the card's photo says “Get To Know Germany”. If you ever go to Austria, this is a great town to visit! We stayed at the Garden Hotel Maria Theresia, which I can highly recommend!



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 \$125 with note that panes in original envelope (blue bordered) "sell for somewhat more." I will sell for \$80 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 12/18

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

Wanted

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

For Sale

I now have a new website in which I have listed all my used **duplicates (many thousands)**. They are arranged in Scott number sequence within country. Do take a look, and select any that you want. I charge 1/3 catalogue value, post paid. The URL is <https://sites.google.com/view/kenwills-stamps/home> Contact me at wills@airmail.net. Happy hunting! 2/19

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

US#1 (U) for \$300 (CV \$375) & US C13-15 (U) for \$1,000 (CV\$1140). KAldridge@aol.com, 817-528-7979 12/18

Canadian Collection housed in Scott Specialty Single Country Album. Starts with Scott#18 through 1970. Mostly mint, some used. 2013 Scott catalog value is \$4,100, asking \$945 OBO. Will accept US postage at face value as part payment. Contact Dave Linn, (903) 785-7864 or dkgonefishing@aol.com 1/19

Comic Strip - Zits (Junkmail)

Here's another "Zits" comic where the 15-year old wonders about receiving junk mail when in fact it was not. I suppose

ZITS



By Peter Elias that most people (especially kids) receive little or no "real" (non-junk) mail these days. If they were writing real letters instead of texting, then they might actually get real mail! The concept of a "Pen Pal" is now long lost amongst today's youth.



MEET & EAT for February & March 2019

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, latecomers 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

Feb. 6 China Harbor Super Buffet, 3512 S. Cooper St.
Mar. 6 Spring Creek BBQ, S. Cooper St

EULESS

Feb. 20 Jayson’s Deli, 2200 Airport Fwy, Bedford
Mar. 20 On the Border

GRANBURY

Feb. 26 Grumps, 3503 E. Hwy 377
Mar. 26 Willy & Dick’s

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

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

China Stamp catalogue (2 volume set) 2010 by Shiu-Hon Chan. Paid 160.00 will sell for 80.00. Never been used. E-mail me at donnasmithphoto@gmail.com if interested. Brian Smith 12/18

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

Don't Forget:
2019 Membership Dues are Due!
EXPO Planning Mtg - Jan. 26!