



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540
American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 11 Number 4 March/April 2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 22, 2018 -

“Technology in Expertization”

By Robert G. Rose

Robert Rose is Chair of the Philatelic Foundations’s Board of Trustees and Chair of NOJEX. His talk will be on the latest technology used in modern philatelic expertization.



April 26, 2018-

“Mexican Airmail Through 1939”

By Steven Reinhard

Steven Reinhard is past president and a current member of the Board of Directors of the American Philatelic Society. He is also the current treasurer of the American Air Mail Society.



Coat of Arms & airplane.
Mexico 1932 (Scott C20)



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM 2018

May 24, 2018 - Transatlantic Mail

By Carol Bommarito

June 28, 2018 - South Africa

By Eddie Bridges

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2018 WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB SHOW

By Nicholas Lombardi

Sandwiched between two nor’easter storms five days apart, the Westfield Stamp Club was able to hold its 56th annual stamp show on Saturday, March 3rd. The show featured our usual six dealers along with Audrey Yankielun’s stamp creations and the U.S. Postal Service. Although post-storm cleanup chores probably lowered our usual attendance with just over 85 visitors signing in, the dealers seemed to be pleased with the results and the post office was thrilled with sales topping \$1,700.

The exhibit portion of the show was also impacted by the storm, with Bruce Marsden’s five frame Swiss exhibit held hostage in Pennsylvania by a combination of downed trees and power lines. However, the remaining twenty-three frames were filled with a very nice variety of material. A special thanks goes out to our two APS judges, Mark Schwartz and Bill Schultz, who made the trip from Philadelphia to Westfield in spite of the travel conditions. Our Grand Award was won by Ed Grabowski for his exhibit, *The Era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type: Saint Pierre & Miquelon* and The Best Single Frame and Best Research Awards went to David Steidley for his exhibit, *Mail Handling by the American Express Company in Paris from 1895 to 1939*. Fred Skvara took home the awards for the best U.S. Exhibit and the Most Popular Exhibit for his single frame exhibit, *The 2013 Inverted Jenny \$2*. A special thanks goes out to Philip Poplaski for sending us his four frame exhibit, *Manila John Basilone – A History in Covers*. The complete list of all medals and awards can be found on the Club website and on page 5 of this issue of the newsletter.

As always, a big Thank You goes out to all those who helped with the setup and takedown of the booths and frames. This year presented some new challenges since it was our first experience with our recently purchased NY2016 frames, but it all worked out and should be easier next year. And speaking of our frames, there are still some available for sponsorship or dedication. Just ask for the form at our next meeting.



The Westfield Philatelist

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K. David Steidley

A. Warren Scheller (Honorary)

Meetings are held at 8:00PM on the fourth Thursday of the month except for November (third Thursday) and July and August (summer recess). The club meets in the Community Room of the Westfield Town Hall located in the center of Westfield at 425 East Broad Street.

Dues are \$8.00 per membership year which runs from September 1 to August 31.

The club newsletter will be published every two months from September to June.

For information visit
our website

www.westfieldstampclub.org

or call

Nick Lombardi

908-233-3045

ARTICLES WRITTEN BY MEMBERS

Roger Brody - (1) "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises — Ringling Brothers". *The United States Specialist* 2017; 89(2):55-59. (2) "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises — Norton Company". *The United States Specialist*. 2018;89(3):109-112.

Ed Grabowski - Ed has written a chapter entitled "Philately and International Mail Order Fraud: The Success of the New York Institute of Science in Hungary".

Jack André Denys - (1) "Collecting Postal Stationery III". *Topical Time*. 2018;68(1):50-51. (2) Jack will be the instructor at a two-day course "Topical Collecting 101" to be given during the 2018 APS Summer Seminar on Philately, June 25-26, at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania.

Frederick C. Skvara - (1) "Zdenek Kopal (1914-1993)". *Americana Philatelic News*. 2018;48(239):12. (2) "Jack London (1876-1916)". *Americana Philatelic News*. 2018;48(239):19. (3) "Chapter Chatter". *Topical Time*. 2018;69(1):67-74.



2018 Westfield Stamp Club Show Cover



Show covers are still available. If you couldn't make the show and want to purchase one, they will be available at the March meeting. At the meeting they are \$3.00 each. If you can't make the meeting you may send me, the editor, \$3.00 (cash or check made out to the Westfield Stamp Club) and a SASE. If you can't send a SASE, the cost is \$3.50.



2018 WESTFIELD STAMP SHOW PHOTO GALLERY

By Edward Grabowski



Club members Nick Lombardi, John Crout and Roger Skoyles take a short respite during the setup for the Westfield Stamp Club's 2018 Show.



Left: John Crout and Alan Fisk welcoming visitors to the show.

Below: Audrey's the name and stamps-on-everything is the game!



Fred Skvara always aiming for the perfect cancellation & an array of perfectly cancelled show covers.

Vive La France!



Judges Mark Schwartz and Bill Schultz arrive at the show after breakfast at Vicki's.



The Post Office table was always busy, and made record sales.



Left: Action at Tom Jacks' table.

Right: Drew Winttingham's table always had a crowd.



2018 WESTFIELD STAMP SHOW PHOTO GALLERY

By Edward Grabowski



The obscure French Colonies exhibit did ok.

Young family enjoying an obscure French Colonial exhibit. The daughter, at 4 months, was the youngest visitor to the show.



Left: Steidley wins the One Frame Grand Award! Nick and Dave with the award – a philatelically inspired Cat’s Philosophy of Life.

Right: Member Louis Caprario enjoying his Gold Medal for *The 1908 U.S. Christmas Seal* & a page from his collection; competition for Lombardi?



Above & Right: Steidley dedication highlights Allan Fisk’s exhibit, *I Bought the Brooklyn Bridge*.



Right: The key page to the Skvara exhibit – Fred won big on this one and we don’t mean the award.



Left: This frame was sponsored by member Joe Chervenyak – way-to-go Joe!



2018 WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB SHOW PALMARES

By Nicholas Lombardi

Gold

*The Era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type:
Saint Pierre & Miquelon*

Edward Grabowski

Also: The Vince Samuelson Memorial Grand Award

The 1908 U.S. Christmas Seal – The First National Issue

Louis Caprario

The 2013 Inverted Jenny \$2

Frederick C. Skvara

Also: The United States Stamp Society President's Medal for Best U.S. Exhibit
The Warren Scheller Most Popular Award

Mail Handling by the American Express Co. in Paris from 1895 to 1939

K. David Steidley

Also: The Eliot Perry Research Award

The Sidney Schnieder Memorial Award for Best Single Frame Exhibit

William Shakespeare

Frederick C. Skvara

Scouting Around the World

Frederick C. Skvara

Silver

Gettysburg – The Battle, The Address

Allan Fisk

I Bought the Brooklyn Bridge

Allan Fisk

“Jackie 42” – Jack Roosevelt Robinson

Allan Fisk

American Consulates Help A Stamp Collecting Citizen

K. David Steidley

Albert Einstein

Frederick C. Skvara

Non-Competitive Exhibit

The 1923 U.S. Regular Issue in Plate Blocks

Michael Frank

The Guadalcanal Campaign of World War II: 7 August 1942 – 9 February 1943

Frederick C. Skvara

“Manila” John Basilone – A History in Covers

Philip Poplaski

The United States Map (Display)

Bill Cobs



Answers to January/ February Philatelic Quiz



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q1. Do you know the story behind the village of Christkindl?

Ans. **Christkindl is German for Christ Child**."

Near the industrial city of Steyr which lies on the confluence of the Enns and Steyr Rivers in Upper Austria, is the small village of Christkindl. In 1691 Ferdinand Sertl, an organist and choirmaster at the Parish Church in Steyr, who suffered from epilepsy, often walked in the nearby woods. The nuns from a nearby convent gave him a small statue of the Christ Child that he placed in a niche in a tree in the forest. Thereafter he regularly went and prayed before the statue for relief from his epilepsy and miraculously he was healed. As word spread of his relief, the tree became a destination for pilgrims.

In 1697 a small wooden enclosure was built around the tree, but as the number of pilgrims increased, Anselme Angerer (1683–1715), the abbot of Garsten Abbey, stressed the need for a real church to the bishop of the Diocese of Passau. Carlo Antonio Carlone (1635–1708), a master builder from Lombardy, Italy, began work on a church in 1702, but it was completed by the Austrian architect, Jakob Prandtauer after Carlone's death in 1708. The church was consecrated in 1725, rebuilt in 1877, and a portion of the trunk of the tree in which the statue had been placed was incorporated in the main altar. Thus the village of Christkindl was founded around the church.



Christkindl Church.
Austria 1958 (Scott 625)

In 1950 the Austrian postal administration set up a temporary post office in the village between Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas) and Epiphany (January 6) to cancel envelopes with a special cancel. But in 1950, the village

was in the Russian Occupation Zone (1945–1955) and the cancel showing a Christ Child carrying greens was not looked upon kindly by the authorities. They restricted the cancel to mail that was only to be sent within Austria. Since then a number of different cancels have been created and the number of envelopes sent from all over the world for these cancels now numbers over two million. ["Christmas Stamp Stories: Christkindl Cancel Update" by Pastor Wilmer Bloy; *Yule Log* 2006; 38(3): 9-10]



1998 Christkindl cancel on Austrian 1998 Christmas stamp (Scott 1774) showing a 1423 Fresco from the Tainach/Tinje Church in Carinthia, Austria. The other stamp (Scott 1763) was also issued in 1998 and shows Saint Konrad collecting spring water near Ems Castle in Hohenems, Austria. The cachet is an enlargement image on the Christmas stamp.



Answers to January/ February Philatelic Quiz



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q2. The first United States self-adhesive stamp was also a Christmas stamp. Which one was it and where did the design come from?

Ans. 1974 Weathervane (Scott 1552)

On November 15, 1974, the United States Post Office issued a precancelled, self-adhesive 10¢ Christmas stamp. The design was an adaptation of a weathervane on the cupola of Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington. It was the first stamp with pressure-sensitive gum issued by the United States Post Office. The weathervane shows 'The Dove of Peace' and was constructed by Joseph Rakestraw (1735–1794), a Philadelphia architect in 1787 from copper, iron and lead. It was painted by George Washington's nephew George Augustine Washington according to George Washington's instructions with "the bill of the bird...blackened and the olive branch in its mouth...green". These stamps have not fared well as most of them show significant discoloration due to the adhesive soaking through the face of the stamp. [Ref. "Christmas Stamp Stories: First U.S. Self-adhesive Christmas Stamp" by Pastor Wilmer Bloy; *Yule Log* 2006; 38(2): 6-7]



Q3. What former United States Senator and President sponsored the first national memorial to an African-American and who is it dedicated to?

Ans. Harry S. Truman and George Washington Carver

Born on May 8, 1884 in Lamar, Missouri, Truman was elected to the United States Senate in 1934 representing his home state of Missouri and served until 1944 when he was elected vice-president, the running mate of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Truman became the 33rd President in 1945 on the death of Roosevelt and was elected to a full term as president in 1948. He decided not to run for reelection in 1952 and Dwight David Eisenhower was elected president on November 4, 1952.



Harry S. Truman. 1986 (Scott 2219f)



Franklin D. Roosevelt. 1986 (Scott 2219d)

Senator Truman and Representative Dewey Short (Missouri's 7th district), introduced bills in 1941 for a national monument to honor George Washington Carver. But National Park Service policy doesn't allow for dedication of a monument for a living person. When Carver died on January 6, 1943, they reintroduced the bills which passed both houses of congress unanimously. On July 14, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill and funds were authorized to purchase property near Carver's birthplace in Diamond, Missouri. Because World War II was in progress, the monument wasn't completed until July 14, 1953. It was the first monument dedicated to an African-American and the first nonpresidential monument authorized by the National Park Service.



Answers to January/ February Philatelic Quiz



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q3. cont.

George Washington Carver was born a slave around 1864 in Diamond, Missouri, and entered Iowa State Agricultural College graduating from the college in 1892. At the urging of Booker T. Washington he moved to the Tuske-

gee Institute in Alabama as Director of Agriculture and remained there until his death in 1943. As an agricultural chemist he developed over 300 products from peanuts including peanut oil and peanut butter. He also developed numerous industrial uses for soybeans and sweet potatoes. His research, as well as his teaching was aimed at helping the poor, black farmers of the South. He taught how to increase soil fertility without the use of commercial fertilizers and growing other crops besides cotton. To enhance the appeal of alternate crops he developed, as mentioned

above, numerous uses for these crops. [Ref: *Reflections* 2017: 23(4):5-10, 19]



George W. Carver.
1948 (Scott 953)



George W. Carver, period
microscope and peanut plant.
1998 (Scott 3183c)



Q4. *When were the first picture postal cards issued and what do they depict?*

Ans. **World Stamp Expo '89**

During World Stamp Expo '89 held in Washington, D.C., the United States Postal Service issued two 15¢ picture postal cards, the first time it had issued postal cards, those with postage prepaid, and with a picture on the other side from the indicium. The cards sold for 50¢ each. The first card was issued November 30, 1989, and shows a watercolor painting of the south front of The White House by Pierre Mion of Lovettsville, Virginia, an artist and magazine illustrator. The same painting was used for both the indicium and the picture side of the card.

On December 2, a card showing the Jefferson Memorial was released and used two paintings by Pierre Mion. The view of the memorial on the indicium shows the Jefferson Memorial in springtime as seen across the Tidal Basin with cherry blossoms in bloom. The picture side of the card shows a closer view of the memorial and one can see Jefferson's statue within the memorial. The Tidal Basin is behind and the Washington Monument is prominently visible. [Ref: *Linn's U.S. Stamp Yearbook: 1989* by George Amick. *Linn's Stamp News* 1990.]



Answers to January/ February Philatelic Quiz



Q4. cont.

Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara



The White House. 1989 (Scott UX 143) [indicium]



The White House. 1989 (Scott UX143)



Jefferson Memorial. 1989 (Scott UX144)



Jefferson Memorial. 1989 (Scott UX144) [indicium]



March/April Philatelic Quiz



- Q1. A fictional nuclear-powered aircraft carrier appears on a U.S. commemorative postage stamp. Do you know what stamp and where that ship appeared in fiction?
- Q2. What country printed stamps on cigarette paper?
- Q3. Who was the only United States president to serve two non-consecutive terms as president?
- Q4. One of the battles in Operation Detachment during World War II led to an iconic image that was used on a United States commemorative postage stamp. Do you know what stamp?
- Q5. What is the current name of the country that was formed from the Chagos Islands and currently has no permanent residents?



Answers to January/ February Philatelic Quiz



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q5. The largest human-made explosion, before the first atomic bomb detonation, was remembered on a recent stamp issued by Canada. What was that horrific event?

Ans. **The Halifax Disaster**

The city of Halifax lies on the Atlantic Ocean on the central part of the south coast of Nova Scotia. As Halifax Harbor is large, deep and easy to protect, the British constructed a large fortress there in 1749 to counter the fortress built by the French at Louisburg on Cape Breton. During World War I Canadian troops and supplies embarked for Europe from Halifax while the city received the wounded for convalescence in Halifax's hospitals.

Under the command of Captain Haakon From, the SS Imo left Rotterdam for New York to take on relief supplies for the people of Belgium. Unfortunately, the decision was made to sail first to Halifax and take on more coal before proceeding to New York. In the Narrows, a somewhat restricted passage that connects the two major parts of Halifax Harbor, she collided with a French freighter, Mont Blanc, carrying 2300 tons of picric acid, 200 tons of TNT, 10 tons of gun cotton, and 35 tons of volatile benzine in drums. Imo's stern struck the Mont Blanc's bow and a fire broke out on the Mont Blanc. Its crew fled in lifeboats and the damaged ship drifted toward Pier 6, ran aground and exploded. The Imo was blown ashore and beached with considerable damage and the death of her captain and five members of her crew. The explosion destroyed most of the north end of the city and killed about 2,000 people. About 10,000 were injured including close to 600 people who were blinded by shattered glass from windows that they were looking out of at the commotion in the harbor. Some experts have said that the Halifax Disaster produced more casualties, covered a larger area, destroyed more property and produced more explosive force than any man-made explosion that the world had seen until the first atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima.

On November 6, 2017 Canada issued a single self-adhesive stamp in a booklet of ten noting the explosion that occurred at 9:04 a.m. on December 6, 1917. The design shows a recreation of the two ships moments before the explosion. The page of the newspaper is shown behind the ships. [Ref. "Canadian City Remembers Great Explosion, 100 Years Later" by Ian Austen. The New York Times International, Thursday, December 7, 2017.]



Halifax Disaster. Canada 2017 [booklet cover]

