



# The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club  
 American Philatelic Society Chapter #540  
 American Topical Association Chapter #113

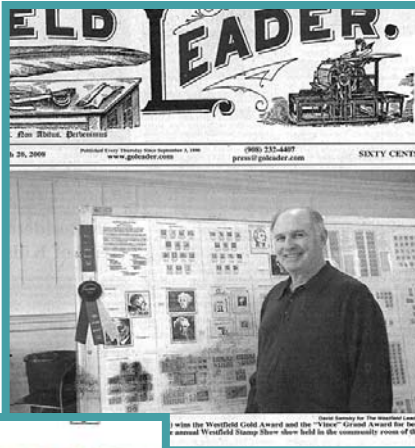
Volume 1 Number 2 May/June 2008

## Westfield Stamp Show Memories

Roger Brody takes over the front page of the *Westfield Leader* with his Grand Award winning exhibit "The Prominent American Series - United States"

Photo courtesy of *Westfield Leader*

Photos below courtesy of Alan Grossman. Thank you Alan!



Warren Scheller and Joe Chervenyak at the welcoming table

Ed Grabowski and Nick Lombardi sharing a laugh



Below, Rich Nazar, Dave Steidley and attendee enjoying the exhibits.



One of the happy parents and his child enjoying the "Introduction to stamp collecting" course given by Steve Rod and Ludwig Boesgaard.



## Upcoming Programs

**April 24 - "Postal History of British Central Africa - Nyasaland"** by Colin G. Fraser, a recognized expert in this area and philatelic judge. In 2004 he had a display at the Royal Philatelic Society London on "British Central Africa 1891-1907, Traditional Philately and Usages" and, along with his wife, took the Reserve Grand Award for this exhibit at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2002.



Nyasaland 1935 (Scott 50)

**May 10 (Saturday - 1 PM) - "The State Birds and Flowers of the United States"** by Frederick C. Skvara. In 1982 the United States Postal Service issued a set of 50 stamps illustrating the state birds and flowers of the United States. This talk will look at how this tradition began and the background and history behind some of the choices.



United States 1982 (Scott 1982)

Nominations for the 2008-2009 club year will be called for at this meeting.

**June 26 - "Special End of the Year Philatelic Auction"**

## Did You Get One?



The 2008 Westfield Stamp Club Show Cachet sold out at the show with the last cover sold on eBay after spirited bidding.

**Editor**

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**The Westfield Stamp Club**

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Meetings are held at 8:00 PM 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 call:**

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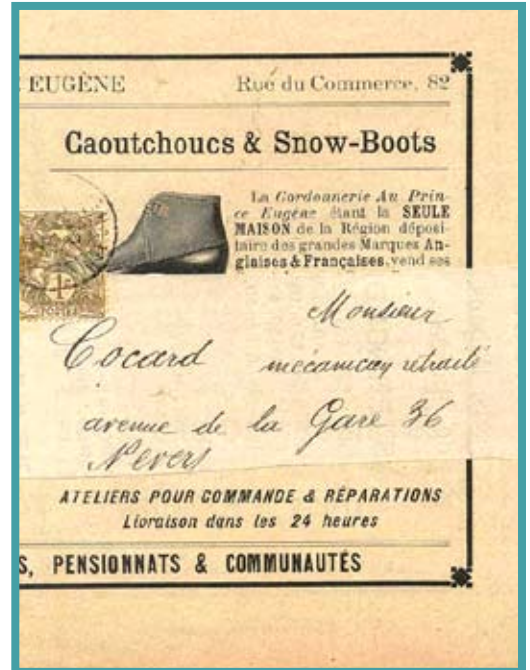
Images are scanned on a Heidelberg Linoscan flatbed scanner. The newsletter is composed using Adobe InDesign and Photoshop on a Macintosh computer and printed on a Xerox Phaser color printer.

**The One-Centime Printed Matter Rate of France**

By Ed Grabowski

During the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, France had a 1c rate for printed matter. A good portion of the material using this rate was printed commercial advertising. Typically the single-sheet ads were folded and encased with a wrapper band. Prepayment of the 1c rate was either by stamps or cash. The latter was a reflection of the amount of material that was sent via this rate. Special datestamps were created in Paris for this category of mail prepaid in cash. Typically the word **IMPRIMES** was incorporated to confirm that the material was printed matter.

Although the rate was widely used, complete examples of the ads with wrapper bands, stamps (if used) and datestamps are quite rare and seldom seen. Indeed, the advertising is often as interesting (more so?) than the postal history aspects of the item. Two examples are shown. The first is an ad from a shoe company franked with a 1c Type Blanc stamp of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Offered for sale are **Caoutchoucs & Snow Boots** (rubber shoes and snow boots for bad weather) and shoes in general. Even one hundred years ago France was dealing with the incursion of English into the French language! The second item is from the mid-1880's and was prepaid in cash – hence the **IMPRIMES** datestamp from Paris. A casual look at the items offered for sale suggests that they are from a firm offering implements of torture. But, in fact, it is the medicines and medical devices of the day that are being offered for sale to doctors. I thought that our editor might especially appreciate the latter item.



The Chapter Activities Committee of the American Philatelic Society is now making its *CAC Newsletter* available to any member of an APS Chapter. Since we are an APS chapter, you can request to receive the newsletters by contacting the APS at [cacnews@stamps.org](mailto:cacnews@stamps.org).

Philatelic Teaser

Between 1867 and 1888 this former British possession printed all its stamps in the same colors. Do you know the name of this country and what happened to it?