



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 5 Number 3 January/February 2012

Calendar of Events

January 26 - Album Page Making 101

By Rob Loeffler

Come and learn the basics of putting together an album page on your computer. It really is fun!



February 23 - My Understanding of the Production of the Columbian Envelopes of 1893: 20 Years of Study.

By Marvin Platt

The talk will cover the historical background, die production, production genealogy, envelope production and EFO's.



1893 (Scott U349)



A Philatelic Quiz

Q1. Six United States Presidents initially lost a bid for the White House before succeeding on a later try. Can you name them?

Q2. A number of United States stamps have nicknames. To what stamps do the nickname "Battleships" apply?

Q3. At some point in its history, this Balkan kingdom had ties to Austria, Italy, Germany, Serbia and Yugoslavia.

Q4. Where and when was the first airmail flight using an airplane?

Q5. Ulysses S. Grant died within days of finishing dictation of a two-volume memoir of his life. Who was the friend who published his work earning over \$400,000 for the family of the late president?

March 3, 2012

The 50th Annual Westfield Stamp Club Show

The theme for our show this year is the 75th Anniversary of the crash of the *Hindenburg* that occurred at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey on May 6, 1937. This was the last of several roundtrips that the German zeppelin LZ129 *Hindenburg* made to the United States. Of the ninety-seven people on board, thirty-five died along with one member of the ground crew.



LZ129 *Hindenburg* over the Atlantic Ocean toward North America.

Appropriate for our theme, Germany March 16, 1936 Cheryl Ganz will exhibit one (Scott C58) frame from her multiframe display class exhibit "Come Take a Ride on the *Hindenburg*". She describes how she created the exhibit in an article in the February 2003 issue of the *Airpost Journal*. She is currently the Chief Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, co-editor of *The Zeppelin Collector* and past-president of the American Airmail Society. In 2005 she earned a Ph.D. in history from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She will also be one of the judges for our show.

The other judge for our show is Janet Klug, past president of the American Philatelic Society and current member of its board of directors. Her columns appear regularly in *Linn's Stamp News* and *Scott Stamp Monthly* and in 2007 she published with Donald Sundman *The 100 Greatest American Stamps* and in 2008 *Guide to Stamp Collecting*. In 2010 she was appointed to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee by Postmaster General John Potter.

You don't want to miss the opportunity to meet these two tireless promoters of philately and see part of an exhibit that attracts crowds whenever it is shown.

Editor

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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

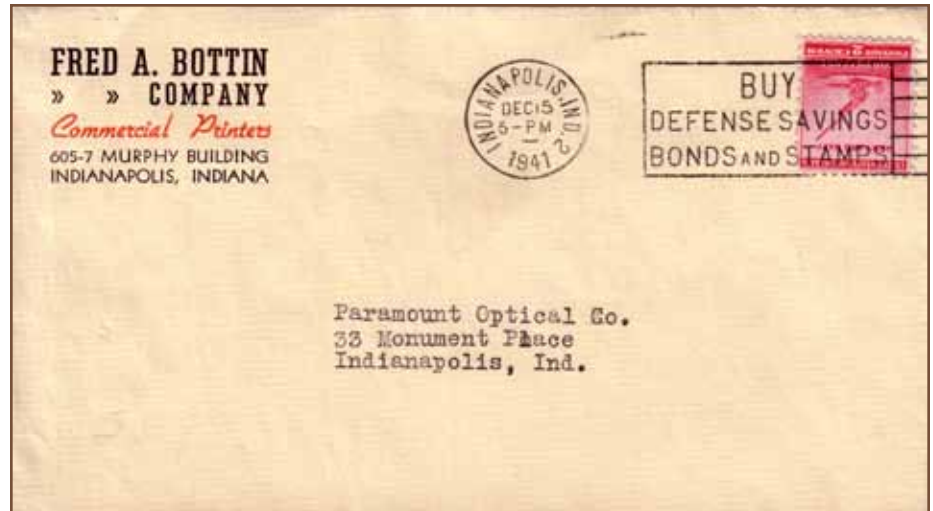
or call

Nick Lombardi

908-233-3045

Dollar Cover Box Yields Interesting Cover

By K. David Steidley



I found the cover shown above on top of a box of dollar covers at a recent New York show. I was initially attracted to the easily read cancel about bonds and stamps. Franked with the 2¢ rose carmine of the National Defense Issue of 1940, I thought this to be a nice piece of Americana of the World War II era that might expand my friend's collection of patriotic WWII covers. Once I had a chance to examine this cover in detail at home, I was more than pleased by my purchase. The cover has several good features. For one, the date is December 15, 1941, just a week after Pearl Harbor so the slogan cancel is particularly poignant. Incidentally, this slogan "BUY DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS" was used in various cities from 1941 to 1955. This cover has an attractive corner card in two colors on a better-than-average quality paper. Addressed to another firm in the same town of Indianapolis, this envelope's aspect ratio is unusual and must have held a card not a letter. Why the 2¢ and not the 3¢ letter rate of the time? Answer, this was sent at the special Christmas-time rate afforded citizens from 1911 to 1968 to send a Christmas card, if unsealed, at the single piece, third class rate. Indeed, the reverse of the card shows a 1941 Christmas seal affixed. Overall, this seems a good value for my dollar gift.



Quiz Answers (cont. from pg. 4)

No one trusted the new technology and despite its luxury appointments, it did not carry a single passenger nor did it have any cargo.

In 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt designated May 22 as National Maritime Day in honor of *Savannah's* departure date for that crossing. On May 22, 1944, the United States Post Office Department issued a 3¢ light violet commemorative postage stamp also commemorating that transatlantic voyage. The design is based on a photo of a ship model from the Marine Museum in Newport, Virginia.

The ship was wrecked off Fire Island, a barrier island off the south shore of Long Island, New York, on November 5, 1821.

Westfield Stamp Club Night – A 50th Anniversary Celebration held at The Collectors Club of New York

November 16, 2011



A. Warren Scheller
Steven J. Rod

Henry Laessig
Richard Nazar



Answers – November/December Philatelic Quiz

Q1. A number of precancel stamps have a series of letters and dates (i.e. SRC Dec46). Why?

Ans. On July 1, 1938 the United States Post Office Department issued a ruling that all precanceled stamps above the 6¢ denomination should also carry the initials of the user and the month and year of use..

Known as “dateds”, the user’s initials and date can be applied separately from the precanceling of the stamp or can be incorporated into the precancel device in which case the precancels are known as “integrals”. The heaviest use of dateds was from 1938 to the late 1940s, but large mail order companies such as Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck and Company were still using them in the early 1960s.

The 20¢ James A. Garfield stamp issued in 1938 (Scott 825) was sent by the Sears, Roebuck and Company (SRC) in November 1946. Since this was, in a way, a form of free advertising, many mailers complied with the ruling and used their initials and dates on all denominations of precancel stamps as seen in the 1½¢ Martha Washington stamp (Scott 805) that was also issued by Sears, Roebuck and Company and used in December 1946.



Q2. What is the story behind the stamps of the Falkland Islands overprinted Graham Land Dependency?

Ans. The stamps were issued by Great Britain in support of their territorial claim to the land.

Graham Land is part of the Antarctica Peninsula and is the closest part of Antarctica to South America. It was named after Sir James R.G. Graham (1792–1861), a British statesman and First Lord of the Admiralty, by the English explorer John Biscoe (1794–1843) who explored the peninsula in February 1832. Originally part of the Falkland Island Dependencies, it was incorporated into the British Antarctic Territory in 1962.



During World War II there was concern that the Germans and possibly the Japanese would establish military and supply bases in the area. A British military expedition, Operation Tabarin, established a base at an abandoned Norwegian whaling station on Deception Island off the coast of Graham Land on February 3, 1944. Eight postage stamps were issued in 1944 (Scott 2L1–2L8), overprints of some of the stamps in the 1938–46 Falkland Islands definitive series, to further support British claim to the land.



Q3. From what other flags is the Union Flag of Great Britain derived?

Ans. St. George’s Cross, St. Andrew’s Cross and the Cross of St. Patrick.

The Union Flag was adopted in 1606 following the uniting of the the crowns of England and Scotland under James I (James VI of Scotland). It was comprised of the flag of England, a red cross on a white



background (St. George’s Cross), and the flag of Scotland, a white saltire (diagonal cross) on a blue background (St. Andrew’s Cross).

The Act of Union 1800 merged the Kingdom of Ireland and the Kingdom of Great Britain to form the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. On January 1, 1801, a new flag was created with the addition of Ireland’s red saltire (Cross of St. Patrick). This is the current flag of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and is called the Union Flag or Union Jack.



Q4. What United States postage stamp shows the organizer of the first volunteer company in America?

Ans. The 1948 3¢ commemorative showing Peter Stuyvesant (Scott 971).

In 1648 Peter Stuyvesant (1610–1672), the Dutch colonial governor of New Netherlands, organized the first volunteer fire brigade in New Amsterdam (later New York City). He appointed fire wardens clad in long capes and carrying lanterns and wooden rattles. The rattles were used to sound the alarm in case of fire. Benjamin Franklin founded the Union Fire Company in Philadelphia in 1736, the first organized fire company in America.



Q5. Why is the ship Savannah depicted on a United States postage stamp?

Ans. The S.S. Savannah was the first United States steam-propelled ship to cross the Atlantic Ocean (Scott 923).

She left the harbor of Savannah, Georgia, on May 22, 1819 and arrived in Liverpool, England on June 20. During the 29-day voyage she used steam for only about 100 hours, the rest of the time spent under sail.



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