



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 6 Number 1 September/October 2012

Calendar of Events

September 27 - The Jim Brower Memorial Auction



*Hosted by Jeffrey Wagenheim,
North Adams, Massachusetts.*

This is a 37-lot donation auction in memory of our friend Jim Brower.

October 25 - Philatelic Phylogeny: The Early Years of Stamp Collecting in Great Britain

By Ian Sellick



A Philatelic Quiz

- Q1. Why is David Schwarz, a Hungarian lumber merchant, regarded an aviation pioneer?
- Q2. What homes of United States Presidents have been depicted on United States Postage Stamps?
- Q3. There have been seventeen Chief Justices of the United States Supreme Court. Who are the six that have been portrayed on United States Postage Stamps.
- Q4. What South Pacific Ocean island, a former French colony, became part of French Polynesia in 1893?
- Q5. What United States postage stamp is nicknamed "Pork Chop"?

Put-In-Bay, Ohio!

By Frederick C. Skvara

In the midst of preparing several articles, I realized that there were several stamps that I needed for illustrations, but did not have them in any of my collections. Even though the stamps were all inexpensive I decided to attend the New York Stamp Show this month, fully understanding that my costs to attend the show were going to exceed the cost of the stamps.

Happily, I was able to obtain all but one of the stamps needed relatively quickly, but then I decided to spend some time looking through a dealer's dollar cover box, something I hadn't done for a long time. One of the dealers at the show, Canterbury Stamps, had several large, totally disorganized boxes of covers and I noticed that fellow Westfield Stamp Club member Allan Fisk was already busy digging through one of the boxes. I spent several pleasant hours searching through one of these boxes and found some nice medically related material while at the same time enjoying the company of Allan and the dealer.

But I came across the postal card that is illustrated on page three that has nothing to do with medicine. It was sent to a New York City collector by H.D. Hubbard from Philadelphia, who has an advertisement for two upcoming color cachets on the reverse side of the card. The postal card was cancelled on September 18, 1938, and is part of a domestic paid reply card first issued September 18, 1915. There is a 1¢ green portrait of Martha Washington on cream cardstock. The message card, which was not attached, would have shown a 1¢ green portrait of George Washington.

The first thing that attracted me to the card was the striking cachet depicting Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and the underlying caption:

Victory Message from Put-in-Bay, Ohio
"We have met the enemy and they are ours"
1813 – September 10th – 1938
125th Anniversary.

The cachet obviously commemorates the 125th anniversary of Perry's naval victory over the British on September 10, 1813, during the War of 1812–1814.

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Editor

Frederick C. Skvara
PO Box 6228

Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Tel/Fax: 908-725-0928

email: fcskvara@optonline.net

The Westfield Stamp Club

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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

Steven J. Rod Receives 2012 John N. Luff Award

On August 18 at the American Philatelic Society Stamp Show in Sacramento, California, Steve was one of three philatelists to receive a John N. Luff Award. Established in 1940, the award is named after John N. Luff, a prominent philatelist and president of the American Philatelic Society from 1907 to 1909. Up to three awards may be given yearly "For Meritorious Contributions to Philately by Living Philatelists" in one of three areas: distinguished philatelic research; exceptional contributions to philately and lastly, outstanding service to the American Philatelic Society, the area for which Steve received the award.

Steve's contributions to the APS include: APS member since 1981; life member and patron, of the American Philatelic Research Library; former APS Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee; former chairman of the APS/APRL Campaign for Philately and current member of that committee; former APS vice-president and current chairman of the APS Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee.

As we all know Steve's involvement in philately goes far beyond the APS. His philatelic writings include co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, published by the United States Stamp Society; hundreds of columns in *Linn's Stamp News* as well as columns in *STAMPS Magazine*, *Stamp Collector Newspaper* and *The American Stamp Dealer and Collector*.

His efforts in reaching beginning collectors, an example of which are the youth programs he has helped establish at our own Westfield Stamp Club shows, were formally recognized in 1993 when he received the Ernest Kehr Award "for creative outreach to beginning collectors".

The above notes are just some of the highlights of his extensive philatelic career. I am sure all our members will join me in congratulating Steve on his latest, but surely not his last, award in the service of philately.

In a brief look at previous Luff Award recipients, as listed on the APS website, I note two other Westfield Stamp Club members: Robert Odenweller (1996) and Roger Brody (2007).



NOJEX 2012, Secaucus, New Jersey - May 25-27, 2012

Roger Brody's exhibit "Series 1902 - The Post Office Enters the 20th Century": Reserve Grand Award as well as Gold; Sidney Schneider Memorial Award; USSS "Statue of Freedom" Award and AAPE Best Title Page Award.

Edward Grabowski's two exhibits "The Era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type- Part II Postal History from Madagascar & Dependencies; and Part IV Postal History from Senegal & Dependencies" were each awarded Golds.

Henry Laessig's two exhibits "Sanjak of Novi Pazar" and "The Croatian Postal Tax Rates of WWII - Jan 44 - May 45" were each awarded Golds.

K. David Steidley's exhibit "Uses of the 1¢ Franklin, Series 1902" received a Gold as well as the American Philatelic Congress Award.

National Topical Stamp Show, Lancaster, Pennsylvania - June 22-24, 2012

Allan Fisk's exhibit "United We Stand - Remembering 9/11" received a Bronze.

APS StampShow, Sacramento, California - August 16-19, 2012

Nicholas Lombardi's exhibit "The 1903 Two Cent Washington Shield Issue" was in the World Series of Philately Prix d'Honneur.

A Francois Fournier Advertising Cover

By Ed Grabowski

The firm of François Fournier operated from Geneva, Switzerland, during the early years of the 20th century. Unlike most forgers who prepared their wares to defraud collectors or post offices, the Fournier firm actually prepared and sold 'facsimiles' of existing stamps. These reproductions were created specifically for collectors to help them quickly fill empty spaces in their albums without having to resort to arduous and expensive searches in the philatelic market. The facsimiles were offered to collectors via price lists

of stamps sent to clients around the world. The Fournier reproductions are not of a quality to fool knowledgeable collectors, however, non-specialists have problems telling them apart from the genuine stamps. Although they were originally purchased as facsimiles, that information is not usually available to today's collectors and they have become incorporated into many current collections.

I recently purchased the shown unsealed 5 centimes



printed matter rate envelope from Geneva, Switzerland, posted on April 23, 1914, to Aurora, Illinois, in the USA. The return address clearly shows that it originated with the Fournier firm. The handstamp at the lower left offers subscriptions to the house magazine LE FAC-SIMILE. Undoubtedly, the envelope contained a copy

of the firm's latest offerings.

For those interested in details on the operation of the Fournier firm, I can heartily recommend the book by Lowell Ragatz (*Fournier's 1914 Price-list of Philatelic Forgeries* [1947]) who was one of the foremost students of forgers and their productions. A compendium of the Fournier productions is available at the Collectors Club Library for those wishing to see if any Fournier material has entered their collections.



Put-In-Bay, Ohio (cont.)

Secondly, I was intrigued by the postmark "Put In Bay, Ohio", a name that I had never heard before. At the southwestern end of Lake Erie there are three islands – North, Middle and South Bass Island. Put-in-Bay is a bay and village in South Bass Island.

It was the location of Perry's squadron and it was just north of that island where Commodore Perry engaged and defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie. Between 1912–1915, a national monument was erected on South Bass Island commemorating that victory.

The cost of this item was one dollar. The return on that 'investment' was far higher.

Domestic paid reply card.
United States 1915 (Scott UY7)



Answers – May/June Philatelic Quiz

Q1. *What is the connection between Herbert Hoover and Georg Bauer Agricola, a sixteenth century physician and the father of mineralogy*

Ans. **Hoover was a mining engineer who translated Agricola's *De re Metallica* (1556) from Latin into English.**

Herbert Clark Hoover (1874-1964) served as the 31st president of the United States (1929-1933). For several decades after graduating from Stanford University in California in 1895, he spent time in a number of countries as a mining engineer. In 1912 he published the translation of Agricola's work that he and his wife had been working on for the previous five years.



Agricola. GDR 1955 (Scott 271)

Georg Bauer Agricola (1494-1555) practiced medicine in Joachimsthal, Germany, a mining town. There he conducted research on mineralogy and alchemy that was published posthumously in his book *De re Metallica* in 1556.



Herbert Hoover. U.S. 1965 (Scott 1269)

appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1921-1930) by President Warren Harding. On June 23, 1947, the Taft-Hartley Act, sponsored by his son, Senator Robert Taft and Representative Fred A. Hartley, Jr. became law over the veto of President Harry S. Truman. Interestingly, Truman used the act a dozen



Robert Taft. U.S. 1960 (Scott 1161)

Q2. *Between 1930 and 1942 this region in northeastern South America overprinted some issues of French Guiana with its own territorial name. Can you identify it?*

Ans. **Inini**

In 1930 Inini was separated from the colony of French Guiana, but was reunited with it when French Guiana became an overseas department of France. Between 1929 and 1940 various stamps of French Guiana were overprinted with "Territoire De L'Inini". Several common design type stamps were issued between 1937 and 1942.



Carib archer. Inini 1932 (Scott 2)

Q3. *After leaving the presidency he became a Yale University law professor only to be appointed Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. His family name lives on in some labor strikes.*

Ans. **William H. Taft**

William Howard Taft ((1857-1930) served as the 27th president of the United States (1909-1913) and was



William Taft. U.S. 1930 (Scott 685)

Q4. *The last signer of the Declaration of Independence died in 1832. He has been commemorated by the United States Post Office. Do you know who he is?*

Ans. **Charles Carroll**

Charles Carroll (1737-1832) was born at Annapolis, Maryland, educated in France and England and did not return to Maryland until 1765. He was a patriot leader and attended the continental congress as a member of the board of war. He signed the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776. From 1777 to 1780 he was a member of the Maryland Senate and from 1789 to 1792 a member of the United States Senate. After 1801 he lived in retirement, but took part in the ceremony for the beginning of the construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on July 4, 1828.



Charles Carroll. U.S. 1985 (Scott UX105)

Q5. *As Herman Herst, Jr. wrote: "The history of the names of countries that have issued stamps makes an interesting study..." As an example, what country's name comes from the Arabic Jabal al Tariq?*

Ans. **Gibraltar**

The Arabic phrase Jabal al Tariq means Mountain of Tariq. Tariq ibn Ziyad was an Arabian general who led the Muslim conquest of Spain landing at Gibraltar from Morocco in 711 A.D. Spain at the time was under Visigoth rule and torn apart by civil unrest.



Arabs 711. Gibraltar 2000 (Scott 841f)



Rock & Badge of Gibraltar Regiment. Gibraltar 1960 (Scott 160)