



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 8 Number 1 September/November 2014

Calendar of Events

October 16 - Philatelic Market Trends

By Andy Kupersmit

As an experienced professional philatelist, Andy will cover current and future philatelic market trends. Using charts and graphs he will show the state of the current philatelic market and where it is likely headed.

December 18 - Westfield Traditional Holiday Party

Details will be provided in the December meeting notice from our Secretary, Tom Jacks.



November 20- Philately & International Mail Order Fraud - The Oxypathor Company of Buffalo, NY

By Edward J.J. Grabowski

Ed Grabowski, known for his long-time interests in the French Colonies, will be giving a lecture entitled Philately & International Mail Order Fraud – The Oxypathor Company of Buffalo, New York at the November 20th meeting of the Westfield Stamp Club. The Oxypathor, a fraudulent medical device filled with secret chemicals that were supposed to oxygenate the blood and cure a myriad of diseases, was produced from 1906 until 1914 by Elvard L. Moses of Buffalo and sold at a price of \$35 – about \$700 in today's purchasing power. Moses was arrested in 1914 for mail order fraud, and sent to the federal prison in Atlanta as a result of a trial in which the United States Post Office and the American Medical Association presented evidence on behalf of the prosecution.



It was claimed that Moses sold about fifty thousand of these devices prior to his arrest. No financial compensation was ever provided to his victims.

Ed's lecture will feature a variety of philatelic material related to the international sale of the Oxypathor, as well as a variety of ephemeral items related to the marketing of this medical device. He will also display an actual Oxypathor, and attempt a demonstration of its use on Mr. Nicholas Lombardi, President of the Westfield Stamp Club. Proper medical supervision and monitoring of this clinical trial will be provided by Drs. Fred Skvara and Marion Rollins. Given that this talk will range far beyond the traditional boundaries of philately, members are encouraged to bring guests and family members to this meeting.

70 THE OHIO ARCHITECT, ENGINEER AND BUILDER

AN OLD FIGHT

But

A NEW WEAPON

NERVOUSNESS - RHEUMATISM
APPENDICITIS - CATARRH
and many other ailments easily mastered by the

Oxypathor

A complete revolution in the treatment and cure of disease by modern and Scientific methods based on Nature's laws. In the privacy of your own home the Oxypathor treats your ailment with

Oxygen

the most efficient and harmless agent for the cure of disease that the world knows. If Oxygen is restored to the blood of a sick person, it renews the blood's fighting power and thus destroys disease. The Oxypathor is the connecting link between Oxygen and Man. All that Oxygen can do the Oxypathor does.

The Oxypathor courts your fullest investigation—it will stand the severest test. We want you to know all about it—convince yourself of the truths of our statements. Write for our free book of information and testimonials.



NORTHERN OXYPATHOR CO.
TOPLIFF HOTEL BLDG. ELYRIA, O.

The Westfield Philatelist

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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

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From the Editor

Since this issue is so late I have decided to combine the September/October and November/December issues. The reason was a hard drive failure that necessitated setting up another computer and installing all the programs from their original CD/DVDs along with their serial numbers. You do know where to find them don't you? And then of course it was trying to resurrect the data files, some of which had to be manually updated. What a headache!



Answers – May/June Philatelic Quiz

Q5. A United States stamp shows two ships; *Ark* and *Dove*. What role did they play in United States history?

Ans. **They carried the first Maryland emigrants**

On November 22, 1633 the *Ark*, a merchant vessel and the *Dove*, a pinnace, left Cowes, on the north shore of the Isle of Wight, travelled down the west coast of Africa, crossed the Atlantic Ocean to the West Indies and then sailed north to the Chesapeake Bay. On board were Leonard Calvert, governor and George Calvert, as deputy, both being brothers of Cecil Calvert, Second Lord Baltimore. On March 3, 1634 they entered Chesapeake Bay and on March 25 they landed on what is now known as Blackstone Island.



The Ark and the Dove.
Maryland Tercentenary
Issue. 1934 (Scott 736)

But Governor Calvert did not find this site suitable for a colony so they travelled twenty-seven miles down the Potomac River to St. Mary's River and on March 27th founded St. Mary's City, the first permanent settlement in Maryland under the charter granted to Lord Baltimore.

On March 23, 1934 the United States Post Office issued the 3¢ stamp shown here depicting the two ships.



A Philatelic Quiz

Q1. What was the first United States stamp that contained a secret mark?

Q2. What country issued the first Franchise stamps?

Q3. What was the first train to carry mail in the United States (the locomotive of that train is shown on a United States stamp)?

Q4. Where does the name Venezuela come from?

Q5. What is the only United States stamp to show a dead turkey?

Westfield Stamp Club at StampShow 2014

as reported by Nick Lombardi



Nicholas Lombardi, as President of the Westfield Stamp Club accepts a Tiffany Donor Pin from APRL Librarian Tara Murray on behalf of the club for the club's various donations.

Several members of the Club exhibited at the annual APS StampShow held in Hartford, CT during August, while others, including the Club itself, received various prestigious awards.

On Thursday evening, the first night of the show, the APS held its Tiffany Dinner to honor those who have contributed \$1,000 or more over four calendar years. Among the honorees who each received a distinctive Tiffany Donor Pin were **Gary Loew** and **Fred Skvara**. Above, Nick Lombardi receives a pin for the Westfield Stamp Club itself for the various donations we have made as a club.

The Club was well represented in the exhibit competitions held during the show. In the open competition, **Bruce Marsden** won a silver medal for his exhibit of Campione d'Italia which he had spoken about during a Club presentation this past year. **Roger Brody** and **K. David Steidley** each won gold medals for their U.S. Series 1902 related exhibits with Roger also receiving the Smithsonian National Postal Museum Award and David garnering the United States Stamp Society Statue of Freedom Award. The Club also had two qualifiers for the Champion of Champions competition. Although they did not win, **Nick Lombardi** and **Marvin & Judith Platt** both tied for second (together with the other twenty-nine exhibitors who did not win).

During the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening two of our members received special recognition and had extensive write-ups about them in the dinner program. **Ed Grabowski** received the 2014 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research. Established in 1940, the Luff Awards are the most prestigious awards given by the APS. As we all know, Ed is an exceptional philatelic researcher and his numerous achievements were recognized by the selection committee. Our Club should be proud that we can now count four of our members as Luff Award winners – Ed Grabowski and Roger Brody (2007) for philatelic research, **Bob Odenweller** (1996) for exceptional contributions to philately, and **Steven Rod** (2012) for outstanding service to the APS. Bob Odenweller was then honored with the Charles J. Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award for his numerous achievements in furthering philatelic knowledge through philatelic literature. Bob became only the fourth person to be so recognized.

Once again, the Westfield Stamp Club has shown itself to be truly one of the exceptional stamp clubs in the country.



NOJEX 2014 Show Cover designed by Bruce Marsden

Your editor was very interested in one of the show covers designed by Bruce Marsden for NOJEX 2014 that was held in May in Secaucus. The theme for the show was the New Jersey Sesquicentennial and Bruce found a photograph of three scientists from Bell Labs to use as part of the cachet.

The three men looked familiar to me and I was fairly certain that they were the three researchers who won the 1956 Nobel Prize in Physics “for their researches on semiconductors and their discovery of the transistor effect”. They all worked at Bell Labs and their development of the transistor led to the computer age. William Bradford Shockley (1910–1989) received his doctorate in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Walter Houser Brattain (1902–1987), who was born in China, was educated at Whitman College and the universities of Oregon and Minnesota and John Bardeen (1908–1991) who received a doctorate in mathematics and physics from Princeton University.



1948 photograph showing William Shockley (seated), John Bardeen (standing on left) and Walter Brattain (standing on right)



William Shockley, with transistors in the background. Antigua & Barbuda 1998 (Scott 2131d)



Walter Brattain. Gabon 1995 (Scott 803a)



John Bardeen. Republic of Guinea 2002 (Scott 2131d)

✦ Answers – May/June Philatelic Quiz ✦

Q1. What stamp depicts the captain of an American commissioned ship that captured the first armed British warship during the American Revolution

Ans. **United States Scott 736 issued 1934**

John Barry (1745-1803), captain of *Lexington*, a 14-gun brigantine, captured *Edward*, an eight-gun tender of the British Royal Navy. It represented the first armed British ship taken under the authority of the Continental Marine Commission. Throughout the Revolutionary War and afterward Barry was involved in a number of naval battles. He was instrumental in the establishment of a separate Department of the Navy and is considered the father of our navy.



John Paul Jones and *Bonhomme Richard* (left) and John Barry and *Lexington* (right). 1936 Commission. Throughout the Revolutionary War



Q2. What United States stamp shows the Pulitzer and Nobel Prize winning author of *The Iceman Cometh*?

Ans. **1967 \$1 Eugene O'Neill (Scott 1294)**

Eugene O'Neill (1888-1953), American dramatist who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1920 and the 1936 Nobel Prize for literature.



Q3. What is the only stamp to show Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) as Duchess of Edinburgh?

Ans. **1951 Canada 4¢ (Scott 315)**

As King George VI of Great Britain's health deteriorated in 1951, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh, took on increasingly more royal duties. In 1951 they flew to Canada on a state visit and Canada issued the depicted stamp. It is the only stamp to portray Princess Elizabeth as Duchess of Edinburgh. She became Duchess of Edinburgh upon her marriage to Philip on November 20, 1947. She ascended to the throne on February 6, 1952 on the death of the king.



Q4. In 1936 France issued two stamps depicting the memorial at Vimy Ridge. What does the memorial commemorate?

Ans. **Canadian soldiers who died in France during World War I**



France 1936 (Scott 311-312)

Vimy Ridge lies near the northern French commune of Vimy close to the city of Arras and was the scene of several fierce battles during World War I. The Battle of Vimy Ridge took place between April 9 and April 12, 1917, as part of the Battle of Arras and resulted in the Ridge being captured from the Germans by Canadian troops. A memorial to the Canadian soldiers who died in France during World War I was built on 250 acres of shell-shocked land on Vimy Ridge.

The land was given by the people of France to the people of Canada in perpetuity and is planted with Canadian trees. Dominating this 250-acre battlefield park are two 100-foot pylons set on a base and twenty human figures. Atop one of the pylons is a Canadian mapleleaf while the French fleur-de-lis sets atop the other one. Inscribed on the memorial are the names of 11,500 Canadians soldiers killed in France during that war whose bodies were never found or identified. The memorial was designed by Walter Seymour Allward (1876–1955), a Canadian sculptor, and took eleven years to complete.

The memorial was unveiled and dedicated on July 26, 1936, by King Edward VIII and on that day France issued two stamps of the same design to commemorate the event. The stamps were designed by Henry Cheffer and were on sale for less than two months. On the 50th anniversary of the Armistice that ended World War I France issued a single stamp showing a detail from that memorial: *The Defenders and the Breaking of the Sword*.



Canada 1968 (Scott 486)



Q5. A United States stamp shows two ships: Ark and Dove. What role did they play in United States history?

Ans. **See page 2**

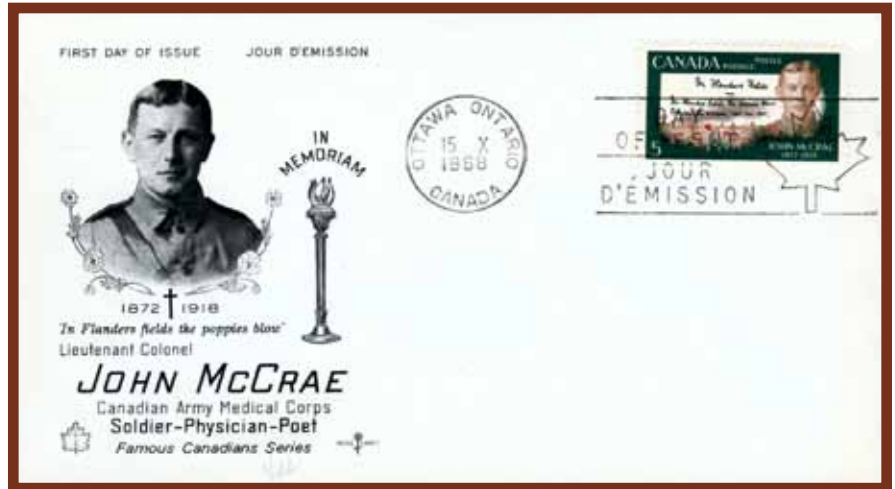
Collecting the World

John McCrae, Soldier, Physician, Poet (1872–1918) and Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row...*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

—In Flanders Fields(1915)



Canada - October 15, 1968 (Scott 487)

John McCrae was born in Guelph, Ontario, Canada and received his medical degree from the University of Toronto in 1898. After serving as a lieutenant in South Africa during the second Boer War (1899-1902), he returned to Canada to become a surgeon at the Royal Alexandria Hospital in Montreal and a lecturer in pathology and medicine at McGill Medical School.

During World War I he was attached as a surgeon to the first brigade of the Canadian artillery and put in charge of the medical department at the general hospital in Boulogne, France. He died there in 1918 of pneumonia.

He is best known for his lyric poem "In Flanders Field" which he wrote at a dressing station in Ypres, Belgium. It was originally published in the British magazine Punch. On the 50th anniversary of his death, Canada issued a stamp in his honor.

Flanders is the name given to a medieval principality of Western Europe in the south-western part of the low countries that extended along the coast of the North Sea. It is now divided between Belgium, France and the Netherlands. During World War I it was the scene of extensive battles around the town of Ypres resulting in extensive disturbance of the soil. When the warm spring rains came, numerous poppies sprang forth and blossomed.

A number of countries have started to issue stamps for the centennial of this bloody war and several are illustrating their issues with poppies as Jersey has done with the souvenir sheet seen below.



Poppies in Flanders Fields – World War I Centennial. Jersey 2014