

The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 12 Number 1 September/October 2018

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 27, 2018 – “I have a Stamp For That! Philatelic Fun at Non-philatelic Meetings”

By Frederick C. Skvara



October 25, 2018 – “United States Embossed Revenue Stamps –Funding the New Nation”

By Roger S. Brody



2018 –2019 PROGRAM

*Submitted by Edward J. Grabowski and Robert Loeffler
Co-Chairmen, Program Committee*

November 15, 2018 – “First Bureau 2¢ Issues
1894–1903: Shades & Identification”

By Lindley Wood, Jr.

December 20, 2018 – Annual Holiday Party &
Donation Auction.

January 24, 2019 – Members’ Show & Tell

February 28, 2019 – “The French Colonial Group
Type: New Caledonia”

By Edward J. Grabowski

March 2, 2019 – Westfield Stamp Show

March 28, 2019 – “The Union of South Africa: The
Darstadt Trials of 1929”

By Eddie Bridges

April 25, 2019 – “Transatlantic Mail”

By Carol Bommarito

May 23, 2019 – First Annual Members’ Bourse

June 20, 2019 – TBA

UPCOMING SHOWS

NOJEX/ ASDA Postage Stamp Show

October 19-21, 2018

Friday & Saturday 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Sunday 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Hilton Meadowlands

2 Meadowlands Plaza,

East Rutherford, NJ 07073

Free Admission

USPS & UN postal Administrations

Exhibits

Show Cachet

Club & Society Tables

Meetings & Seminars

H.R. Harmer Auction

Dealers

Societies

AmericanStampDealer.com

NOJEX.org



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Upcoming Meetings	1
2018–2019 Program	1
Upcoming Shows –NOJEX/ASDA.....	1
Members In the News.....	2
The 1818 Flag Act (USPS recent issue)	
Dragons Stamps (USPS recent issue).....	3
Ships That Never Sailed	4
Answers to May/ June 2018 Philatelic Quiz	6
September/October Philatelic Quiz.....	8

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The Westfield Stamp Club

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Allan Fisk

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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

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908-233-3045

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Awards Received by Members

StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show
August 9–12, 2018, Columbus, Ohio

Nicholas Lombardi – *The 1903 Two Cent Washington Shield Issue* (World Series of Philately Prix d'Honneur)

Bruce Marsden – *Switzerland 1949 Engineering and Landscapes Issue – Rates, Destinations and Usages* (Gold)

Jack André Denys – *The Bayeux Tapestry* (Large Gold: NTSS)

Jack André Denys – *GONE from New York City* (Silver: NTSS)

Allan Fisk – *Cunard Queens Visit New York* (Silver: NTSS)

Louis Caprario – *Early Christmas Seals and Their Lapel Button Complements: 1911–1927* (Single Frame Gold)

Jack André Denys – *Same Birthdate and Same Deathdate* (Single Frame Silver Bronze: NTSS)

Presentations By Members

Jack André Denys – *Topical Collecting 101* (Two-day course - APS Summer Seminar)

Jack André Denys – *A Basic Guide to Looking at Thematic Exhibits* – (StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show, Columbus)

Recent Articles Written By Members

Roger S. Brody - (1) "And the Band Played On— America's Centenarian Enterprises: Bausch & Lomb Incorporated". *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(6):247-250. (2) "And the Band Played On— America's Centenarian Enterprises: Colgate – Palmolive Company". *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(7):303–306. (3) "United States Stamp Society Emblem". *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(8):346–354. (4) "And the Band Played On— America's Centenarian Enterprises: The Quaker Oats Company". *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(8):357–360.

Nicholas Lombardi - "Second Bureau Issue Resource Guide". *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(7):307–309.

Steven J. Rod - "Celebrating George W. Linn: *Linn's Stamp News* 90th Anniversary". *Linn's Stamp News* 2018; 91(August 20):48–55."

John Sharkey - "Chemistry and Alchemy in Ancient China". *Philatelia Chimica et Physica* 2018; 39(2):63–71.

Frederick C. Skvara - (1) "Belgian Nobel Laureates". *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2018;62(2):44-45. (2) "90th Anniversary of the Discovery of Penicillin". *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2018;62(2):46. (3) "Suzanne Noël (1878–1954)". *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2018;62(2):48.



RECENT UNITED STATES STAMP ISSUES

The Flag Act of 1818

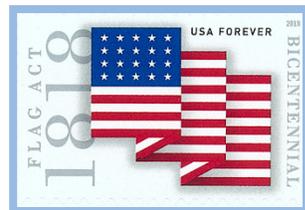
The pattern of stars and stripes on our national flag has changed over the past centuries according to three Flag Acts.

The Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Act of 1777 on June 14, 1777, (Flag Day in the United States would be set for June 14) that called for thirteen alternating red and white stripes and thirteen white stars on a blue field.

After Vermont (1791) and Kentucky (1792) joined the Union, President George Washington signed the Flag Act of 1794 that set the flag with fifteen stripes and fifteen stars.

Finally, on April 4, 1818, the Flag Act of 1818 was enacted that established the flag as having thirteen stripes to represent the original thirteen colonies and with the number of stars to match the number of states in the union. The act established July 4 as the date for future changes in the number of stars.

This year, on June 9, the USPS released the Flag Act of 1818 Forever® stamp priced at the First-Class Mail® rate to commemorate the bicentennial of the act. The design shows the thirteen stripes and twenty stars as there were twenty states when the 1818 Flag Act was enacted. Kit Hinrichs from San Francisco, California, designed the stamp and the typography.

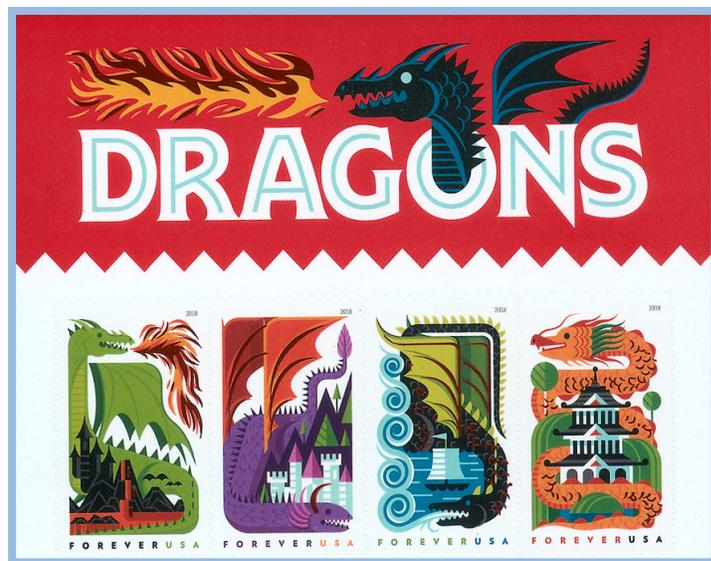


Dragons Stamps

The USPS issued a set of four stamps depicting different-colored dragons in a pane of 16 self-adhesive stamps (Forever® priced at the First-Class Mail® rate). They were released at StampShow/National Topical Stamp Show in Columbus, Ohio, on August 9, 2018.

The digital illustrations were created by Don Clark, an artist with Invisible Creature Studio in Maple Valley, Washington. Greg Breeding of Charlottesville, Virginia, was the Art Director and Designer. Banknote Corporation of America printed them offset with hot foil stamping.

The stamp on the first day cover from the show has a fire-breathing green dragon hovering over a medieval-inspired castle. The cachet shows a portion of the Ohio state flag, the Ohio Burgee, the only non-rectangular United States state flag. The seventeen stars reflect that Ohio was the 17th state to join the Union.



Also depicted in the cachet is the Ohio State Artifact, the Adena Pipe which was excavated in 1901 from the Adena Mound in Chillicothe, Ohio. The Adena Culture is an archaeological term referring to the Adena people that existed in southern Ohio from 800 B.C. to A.D. 100. The pipe is an American effigy pipe and shows a figure wearing a loincloth and was buried with an adult male along with other artifacts.



Ships That Never Sailed

In 2017 the Solomon Islands released a miniature sheet and souvenir sheet with the above title. Depicted are five fictional ships from legend and literature. The stories in which these ships are found were all made into major American films that were extremely popular on their release. I have seen all but the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series.



Pequod (in *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville)

Herman Melville, an American novelist and poet, who was born in New York City on August 1, 1819, and whose experience on a whaler to the South Seas in 1841 formed the basis for several novels including *Moby-Dick*, his 1851 novel about a fictional whaling ship from Nantucket, Massachusetts. *Pequod*, a three-masted whaling ship, was named after the Native American Pequot tribe in Connecticut. Commanded by Captain Ahab, the ship's three-year whaling expedition covered the Atlantic, Indian & South Pacific Oceans searching for *Moby-Dick*, a white sperm whale that bit off part of Ahab's leg on a previous expedition.



HMS Thunder Child (in *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Welles)

Herbert George Wells, born in Bromley, Kent in England on September 21, 1866, was an English writer of novels, a teacher and historian. He wrote a number of science fiction books including *The Time Machine* (1895), *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (1896) and *The Invisible Man* (1897). But the stamp shown here depicts a scene from *The War of the Worlds* (1898), in which Earth is suddenly invaded by Martians. The Solomon Islands stamp depicts a fictional Royal Navy ironclad torpedo ram, *HMS Thunder Child*, being destroyed by Martian machines.



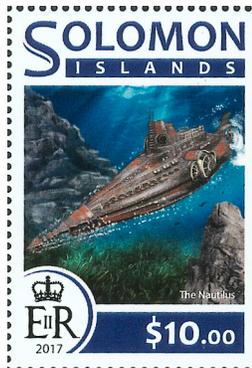
On Sunday, October 30, 1938, *The Mercury Theatre of the Air* broadcast, over the Columbia Broadcasting System, a radio adaptation of *The War of the Worlds*. It was narrated by Orson Welles and for the first thirty minutes there were no commercial interruptions, but the programming was interrupted with news bulletins about strange explosions on Mars and of a strange object falling on a farm in Grover's Mill, New Jersey. Although in the introduction to the show it was clearly stated that the show was a drama, the dramatic reading by Orson Welles, and the news bulletins, set off a panic among large numbers of radio listeners. My mother was a telephone operator in New Jersey, that Sunday night and told me later that the switchboards were overwhelmed with callers thinking that the earth had been invaded.

In 1953 Paramount Pictures released the technical film *The War of the Worlds* starring Gene Barry and Ann Robinson. The movie was set in southern California rather than in Victorian Era England.

The Nautilus (in *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne)

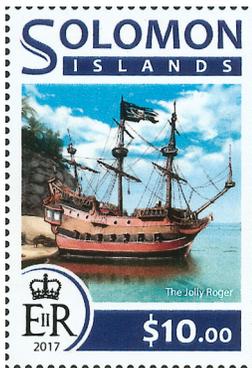
In 1870 Jules Verne (1828–1905) wrote the science fiction novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* in which he presents the fictional submarine, *Nautilus* commanded by Captain Nemo. He used the name of Robert Fulton's (1765–1815) actual submarine, *Nautilus*, that Fulton had built in 1800. Fulton's *Nautilus* was a steam-propelled "diving boat" which could be submerged to a depth of 25 feet. Jules Verne's *Nautilus* was built by Captain Nemo on Vulcania, is powered by electricity from sodium/mercury batteries, is cigar-shaped and uses floodable tanks to control its depth. It travels the world's oceans attacking ships and using its prow to puncture the ships it is attacking below the water line.

The ship made its appearance in the 1954 film, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* produced by Walt Disney Productions and starring James Mason as Captain Nemo. In the film it is nuclear-powered.



The Jolly Roger

The Jolly Roger is well-known as the flag flown on pirate ships and is usually depicted as a skull and crossbones on a black flag. But it was also the name given to the fictional pirate ship in *Peter Pan or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, a 1904 play by J.M. Barrie (1860–1937), a British dramatist and novelist. In 1953 Walt Disney produced an animated fantasy film based on Barrie's play.



The *Jolly Roger* ship is the home of Captain Hook, Mr. Snee and the pirate crew in NeverLand, which is also the home of Peter Pan where Pan leads the 'Lost Boys' in a series of adventures. The ship is last seen in the Disney sequel *Return to NeverLand* where it is destroyed by "The Octopus," a supporting character who tries to eat Captain Hook.



Peter Pan & Tinkerbell
U.S. 2007 (Scott 4193)



Captain Hook
U.S. 2017

The Flying Dutchman

In the Disney film series *Pirates of the Caribbean*, the *Flying Dutchman* first appeared in *Dead Man's Chest*, the second film in the series and starring Bill Nighy as Davy Jones, the fictional captain of the *Flying Dutchman*.

The *Dutchman* is a ghost ship that is doomed to sail the oceans forever never being able to make port and according to seaman's lore the sight of the *Dutchman* is a harbinger of doom. Although the myth probably arose earlier, the first written reference appeared in the late eighteenth century. There are numerous adaptations in literature and films of this ghost ship.



The stamp on the souvenir sheet also shows the *Flying Dutchman*. In the selvedge is the fictional submarine, the *Nautilus*, from Jules Verne's novels, *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* and *The Mysterious Island*. Also depicted here is the mythical island nation, Atlantis and two sea creatures the shorthorn fangtooth fish (upper right) and the chambered nautilus (bottom).



ANSWERS TO MAY/JUNE PHILATELIC QUIZ



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q1. In 1903 a National Park ranger, Charles Leidig, described the camping trip by these two men “as the most consequential” in American history. Who were these two men and why was it described as above?

Ans. **John Muir and President Theodore Roosevelt.**



Theodore Roosevelt.
U.S. 1927 (Scott 637)

On May 15, 1903, John Muir (1838–1914), a Scottish-born United States naturalist and pioneer of environmental conservation, and President Theodore Roosevelt, (1855–1919) along with guides Charles Leidig and Archie Leonard, Special Forest Agents of the Federal Government, camped under the Grizzly Giant Sequoia in Mariposa Grove in Yosemite Valley, California. At that time Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove were not part of Yosemite National Park, which had been created on October 1, 1890.

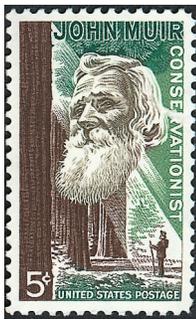
The first instance of park land being set aside by the United States federal government for preservation and public use was due to the creation of the Yosemite Grant that President Abraham Lincoln signed on June 30, 1864. Six years later, Yellowstone was created as the first National Park and Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove were ceded to California as a state park.

During the three-day camping trip that began on May 15, 1903, Muir made a convincing plea to include Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove in Yosemite National Park as they were surrounded by the park. Three years later in June 1906, Roosevelt signed the Yosemite Reversion Bill which placed those sites under federal protection and part of Yosemite National Park. Muir also stressed the need for forest preservation and setting aside other areas in the United States as parks.

His efforts were rewarded. From that camping trip Roosevelt, who during his terms as president (1901–1909), went on to create 18 national monuments, 5 national parks, 150 national forests, 55 national bird sanctuaries and wildlife refuges, resulting in the conserving of 230 million acres of land. In 1916 Yosemite was transferred to the newly created National Park Service. [Ref: “Into the Wild” by Elizabeth Kolbert. *The New Yorker* September 12 2016; pgs 25-26.]



El Capitan, Yosemite National Park. U.S. 1934 (Scott 740)



John Muir & Sequoias.
U.S. 1964 (Scott 1245)



John Muir, El Capitan & Half Dome, Yosemite National Park. U.S. 1998 (Scott 3182j)



Q2. Where did the name of this fictional ship, found in a classic nineteenth-century science-fiction novel that was later made into a 1954 Disney film come from?

Ans. The science-fiction novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* (1870) by Jules Verne (1828–1905) contains the fictional submarine *Nautilus*, a name Verne borrowed from Robert Fulton (1765–1815) who built a steam -propelled diving boat, *Nautilus* in 1800. [see pg.5]





ANSWERS TO MAY/JUNE PHILATELIC QUIZ



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q3. What did the older brother of John Jay invent that proved useful during the time of the American Revolution?

Ans. **Invisible Ink.**

John Jay (1745–1829) was a United States statesman, diplomat and the first chief justice of the United States Supreme Court. His older brother, James Jay (1732–1815), studied medicine and had an interest in chemistry. Forms of invisible writing have been known for over 2,000 years and during the American Revolutionary War invisible writing was used by both the British and Americans. When George Washington wanted to use a method for sending coded messages, he turned to John Jay's brother, James, as he had heard that James created an ink that would disappear when put on paper and could only be revealed with a specific reagent. Later analysis point to a tannic acid solution as the invisible ink that James Jay had invented with ferrous sulfate as the reagent used to reveal the writing.



John Jay. United States 1958 (Scott 1046)

When James Jay supplied Washington with the ink, Washington gave it to Major Benjamin Tallmadge (1754–1835), who organized the Culper spy ring in 1778 during the occupation of New York City by the British. The ring was charged with sending messages to Washington about the British Army's activities in New York City. Among the valuable information they passed to Washington was the discovery that a high-ranking American officer had been plotting to turn over the fort at West Point, New York, to the British. That officer was Benedict Arnold.

After the Peace of Paris (1783), that concluded the American War of Independence, James Jay, who had become a British loyalist, went into exile in London.



Q4. What United States stamp shows *Lefty's Deceiver*?

Ans. **1991 (Scott 2548) [from booklet showing fishing flies].**

There was an obituary in the *New York Times* on March 15, 2018, for Lefty Kreh, a sport fisherman, journalist and author, who, in more than thirty books, countless articles, videos and on television, dispersed his vast knowledge of freshwater and saltwater fly-fishing. He was 93. He traveled the world for over fifty years honing his art, sharing his experiences at numerous public appearances and demonstrating to thousands of anglers his skills.



Lefty's Deceiver. United States 1991 (Scott 2548)

He was born on February 25, 1925, in Frederick, Maryland, and learned to hunt and fish in the woods and streams of central Maryland. But it wasn't until after World War II, where he served in an Army artillery unit in Europe fighting in the Battle of the Bulge, that he started fly-fishing. Once he decided on fly-fishing as his career, he went on to excel in both freshwater and saltwater fly-fishing. He designed many of his own flies, one of which was *Lefty's Deceiver* that the USPS depicted on a 29¢ booklet stamp along with four other stamps showing fishing flies.

[Ref: *New York Times* March 15, 2018]





ANSWERS TO MAY/JUNE PHILATELIC QUIZ



Prepared by Frederick C. Skvara

Q5. *What northeastern South American country was split in 1930 from another country and then rejoined that same country in 1946 and issued its own stamps during that sixteen year period?*

Ans. Inini.

French Guiana lies on the northeastern coast of South America between Suriname (formerly Dutch Guiana) on the west and Brazil on the east and south. It is composed of two arrondissements, the coastal region of Cayenne and Inini inland. In 1930 the arrondissement of Inini separated from the colony of French Guiana. At a little over 30,000 square miles, Inini made up over 85% of French Guiana and was covered with largely unexplored dense tropical rain forests. With the separation French Guiana, which contained most of the population, remained as a strip of land on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean separating Inini from the ocean. Although gold was found in Inini and attracted fortune-seekers, the harsh tropical nature of the environment limited gold-mining. At the time of separation French Guiana was largely known as the site of several extremely harsh penal colonies administered by the French Government. The prisons were located off the northern coast of French Guiana in the Salvation Islands and included the famous prison at Devil's Island, the site of the novel *Papillon* which was made into a 1973 movie of the same name starring Steve McQueen and Dustin Hoffman. The French National Assembly abolished the penal colonies in French Guiana in 1938, but it wasn't until 1953 that the last of the prisoners left and the prisons were closed.

The first stamps of Inini were issued on April 7, 1932, and were 1929 Stamps of French Guiana overprinted "Territoire De L'Inini": Over the next 16 years Inini issued 63 stamps that included 10 semipostals and 10 postage due stamps. Stamps from 1941 on were issued by the Vichy Government and were not placed on sale in Inini. When Inini and French Guiana were rejoined in 1946, and French Guiana became an overseas department of France, the territory began using the postage stamps of France. [Ref.: "Stamps from the Tropics of Inini" by Michael Baadke; *Scott's Stamp Monthly* August 2002; pgs. 43-44]



Carib archer. Inini



Native Indians in canoe on Maroni River. Inini 1940(Scott 11)

Note: These two stamps depict native Indians of Inini. When the Spanish reached the Caribbean, probably in the early 16th century, island Caribs were the dominant indigenous group inhabiting the Lesser Antilles, an arc of islands from Puerto Rico to the northeast coast of South America. They are thought to be descended from the mainland Caribs (Kalina) that still inhabit parts of northeast South America, including the the area around the Maroni River that forms the border between French Guiana and Suriname.



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PHILATELIC QUIZ



- Q1. What was the earliest French Art Stamp printed in large format?
- Q2. Where is the "Viaduct of Suicides" and why is it so named?
- Q3. Who is the Swiss-born diplomat, politician and financier whose efforts led to the creation, in the United States House of Representatives, of the Ways and Means Committee?
- Q4. What country is the only country to issue specific stamps for mail delivery using a pneumatic tube system?
- Q5. Who established the first permanent settlement in what is now Alaska?