



The Westfield Philatelist

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

Volume 12 Number 3 January/February 2019



On January 17, 2019, the USPS will issue the final stamp in the current Celebrating Lunar New Year series. It is for the Year of the Boar which begins February 5, 2019, but it will not show a boar (pig), but a branch with peach blossoms. But the 1995 Lunar New Year stamp issued by the USPS as part of the 1992–2004 Lunar series was also for the Year of the Boar and it did depict a boar (pig) designed by Clarence Lee. It is seen above.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 24, 2019 – Members’ Show & Tell.



February 28, 2019 – “Philately & International Mail Order Fraud – The New York Institute of Science”

By Edward Grabowski

2018 –2019 PROGRAM

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

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 – “Mail Between Italy and Great Britain 1875 - 1914” *By Martino Laurenzi*

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JANUARY/ FEBRUARY PHILATELIC QUIZ



- Q1. What is the first United States joint issue?
- Q2. What are the cod islands?
- Q3. What United States president held more high federal offices than anyone in the history of the republic?
- Q4. Which country issued a 1966 Christmas stamp showing Albrecht Durer’s famous pen and ink drawing: *Praying Hands*?
- Q5. What United States stamp shows a portrait of a poet and six of his poems?

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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

Awards Received by Members

Thailand 2018

Martino Laurenzi – *Overprinted Seahorses* Large Vermeil

Recent Articles Written By Members

Roger S. Brody -“And the Band Played On — America’s Centenarian Enterprises: The Singer Corporation”. *The United States Specialist* 2018; 89(12):537–542.

Jack André Denys - (1) “Basics and Beyond: There Were Seven”. *Topical Time* 2018; 69(5):39. (2) “Basics and Beyond: Expanding Your Collection”. *Topical Time* 2018; 69(6):32-34. (3) “Funtastic Filately: Never Odd or Even”. *Topical Time* 2018; 69(6):52-53.

Donald Getzin (coauthored with Wade Saadi) - (1) “Recut Varieties of the Imperforate 3¢ Stamp of 1851-7”. *The Chronicle* 2018; 70(2):158-153. (2) “Recuts Part 2: Combination Recut Varieties of the Imperforate 3¢ Stamp of 1851-57”. *The Chronicle* 2018; 70(3):224-231.

Richard Horner - (1) “Travel Into the Philatelic Universe”. *Yule Log* 2017; 49(2):12-14. (2) “Wheat Ridge: The Second Christmas Seals”. *The Federated Philatelist* 2017; 220:11.

Frederick C. Skvara - (1) “Chapter Chatter”. *Topical Time* 2018; 69(5):75-81. (2) “Sphagnum Moss Saved Lives”. *Topical Time* 2018; 69(6):48-51. (3) “Sweden’s National Tuberculosis Seals”. *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2018; 62(4):88-89. (4) “2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine”. *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2018; 62(4):90-91.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY USPS STAMP ISSUES

January 10 – **Love Hearts Blossom**. One (50¢) forever stamp.

January 17 – **Year of the Boar**. One (50¢) forever stamp.

January 27 – **Joshua Tree**. One \$7.35 Priority Mail flat-rate stamped envelope.

January 27 – **Joshua Tree**. One \$7.35 Priority Mail definitive stamp.

January 27 – **Bethesda Fountain**. One \$25.50 Priority Mail Express definitive stamp.

January 27 – **California Dogface Butterfly**. One (70¢) nonmachineable-surcharge rate definitive stamp.

As of January 27, 2019, the first-class one ounce rate is 55¢.

January 27 – **United States Flag**. One (50¢) forever definitive stamp.

January 27 – **Uncle Sam’s Hat**. Non-denominated additional ounce stamp.

January 28 – **Gregory Hines**. One (55¢) forever stamp (Black Heritage Series).

February 15 – **Cactus Flowers**. Ten (55¢) forever definitive stamps.

February 23 – **Alabama Statehood**. One (55¢) forever stamp.

[This information was obtained from *Linn’s Stamp News* and the *USPS Postal Bulletin*.]

“HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS” COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

By Frederick C. Skvara

At NOJEX, I stopped by the American First Day Cover Society’s table and purchased the two first day covers shown below for the “Honoring First Responders” Forever® stamp issued by the USPS on September 13, 2018, at the First-Class Mail® rate. The cachets were created by the American First Day Cover Society and the covers show FDOI digital pictorial postmarks issued by the USPS, one in color and one in black and white. The stamp honors the firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical service professionals and depicts three responders on their way to an emergency. The three responders are depicted in the cachet along with a firefighter’s hat, a policemen’s cap and the six-barred cross.



The digital black and white pictorial postmark depicts the three emergency vehicles used by the first responders.



Rod of Asklepius on bas-relief fragment from his temple in Athens, Greece. Greece 1968 (Scott 931)



The digital color pictorial postmark shows a number of symbols associated with the activities of the three responders: an officers cap, flashlight and traffic cone for law enforcement; a fire hose, fire extinguisher and flames for firefighters; and a first aid kit, stethoscope and the six-barred cross for emergency medical service professionals. The emergency vehicle flashing light represents any of the three responder’s vehicles. This postmark also shows a pair of helping hands and a heart with a stylized electrocardiogram tracing in its center.

The blue six-barred cross, the “Star of Life” represents the emergency medical services system and was adapted from the Medical Identification Symbol of the American Medical Association. The “Star of Life” also depicts the Rod of Asklepius in the center, but that rod is not shown in the small image seen in the postmark. The Rod of Asklepius is the only true symbol of medicine and is a rod with a single coiled serpent. Asklepius is the Greek god of medicine, the son of Apollo and the nymph Coronis. The blue “Star of Life” was registered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the Department of Transportation in 1972 as a uniform symbol representing the emergency medical service system and is allowed to be used by state and federal agencies with emergency medical services.

“Charles Darwin on Stamp Collecting: Good for *Boys*, But Not for *Men*”

That was the title of an article by E.E. Hand in the March 7, 1904, issue of *Mekeel's Stamp Collector* that I purchased in a Westfield Stamp Club auction. In the summer of 1862, when one of Charles Darwin's boys was stricken with scarlet fever (1), the American botanist Asa Gray (2) use to send the boy postage stamps from the United States. In response to this kindness, Darwin (3) wrote three letters to Gray that summer:

I despaired of his life: but this evening he has eaten one mouthful and I think has passed the crisis. He has lived on port wine every three quarters of an hour, day and night. This evening, to our astonishment, he asked whether his stamps were safe, and I told him of one sent by you, and that he should see it tomorrow. He answered, 'I should awfully like to see it now;' so with difficulty he opened his eyelids and glanced at it and with a sigh of satisfaction said, 'All right.'

July 23, 1862

Your stamps gave infinite satisfaction. I took him first one lot, and then an hour afterwards another lot. He actually raised himself on one elbow to look at them. It was the first animation he showed. He said only: 'You must thank Professor Gray awfully.' In the evening after a long silence, there came out the oracular sentence: 'He is awfully kind.' And indeed you are, overworked as you are, to take so much trouble for our poor little man.

July 28, 1862

I must recur to stamps. My little man has calculated that he will now have six stamps that no other boy in the school has. Here is a triumph. Your last letter was plastered with many coloured stamps, and he long surveyed the envelope in bed with much quiet satisfaction.

August 21, 1862

That winter in a letter to Joseph Dalton Hooker (4), Darwin says:

We were all amused at your defense of stamp collecting and collecting generally, — but, by Jove, I can hardly stomach grown men collecting stamps.

January 3, 1863

I thought it was interesting that one of the greatest scientists of this age, who we know was an avid collector of plants, animals, fossils, etc. did not think collecting stamps was worthy of grownups. But as we know today, the reverse is true, for the majority of stamp collectors are adults and not children.



Asa Gray & *Shortia galacifolia* (Oconee bells). United States 2011 (Scott 4542) [*Shortia galacifolia* is a small evergreen herb found in the southern Appalachian Mountains and identified by Gray as a new genus]

Centenary of Charles Darwin's visit to the Galapagos Islands on September 17, 1835. Ecuador 1936 (Scott 340-343)



Galapagos Islands



Galapagos Land Iguana



Galapagos Giant Tortoise (*Chelonoides nigra*)



Charles Darwin
Brigantine *Beagle*

Centenary of the Death of Charles Darwin (1809–1882)

Great Britain 1982 (Scott 965–968)



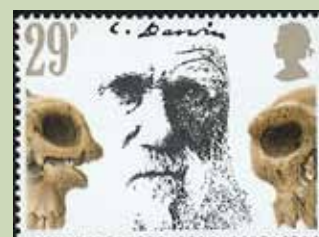
Charles Darwin, Galapagos giant Tortoise (*Chelonoides nigra*)



Charles Darwin, Marine Iguana (*Amblyrhynchus cristatus*)



Charles Darwin, Cactus Ground Finch (*Geospiza fuliginosa*) & Large Ground Finch (*Geospiza magnirostris*)



Charles Darwin, Early human (*Australopithecus Boysei*) & Early Upright Human (*Homo Erectus*)

Falkland Islands 1982 (Scott 344–347)



Charles Darwin



Darwin's Microscope



Warrah Wolf (*Dusicyon australis*) [Also known as Falkland Islands wolf, it was the only native land mammal of the Falkland Islands.]



Brigantine *Beagle*

In the sidebars are a number of unidentified animals. Although this series from the Falkland Islands was issued on the centenary of Darwin's death, it also marks the 150th anniversary of his first visit to these islands in the South Atlantic in 1833.

Notes:

- 1) Scarlet fever is an acute bacterial infection that was predominantly seen in children, but is uncommon today. Characterized by pharyngitis and a rash, it can lead to serious complications such as rheumatic fever, kidney disease and toxic shock. It is treated with antibiotics, which of course were not available for Darwin's boy.
- 2) Asa Gray (1810–1888), the leading American botanist of his time was born in New York, began to collect plants in 1827 and attended Fairfield Medical School (New York), graduating in 1831. He published numerous books on botany and became a friend of Darwin. In 1842 he accepted the Fisher professorship at Harvard University and created a herbarium, (eventually named the Gray herbarium) which became the largest and most valuable in America.
- 3) Charles Robert Darwin (1809–1882), English naturalist who established the theory of organic evolution in *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection* (1859). His mother was a daughter of Josiah Wedgwood and Darwin married his cousin Emma Wedgwood in 1839. They had ten children, six of whom were boys and five of whom survived to adulthood.
- 4) Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817–1911) was a British botanist and explorer and a close friend of Darwin. In 1877 Hooker visited the western United States with Asa Gray to study and catalogue the plants of the region.



ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q1. What is America's oldest sport?

Ans. **Lacrosse.**

The indigenous people of the northeastern United States and Eastern Canada played Lacrosse as early as 1100. At that time the field could be as long as two miles and involve hundreds of players, as opposed to today where the field in outdoor lacrosse is similar in size to a soccer field and involves only ten players. In 1859 lacrosse was declared Canada's national sport, but in 1994 it was declared the national summer sport and ice hockey was declared the national winter sport. The name lacrosse is derived from the appearance of the webbed stick used to play the sport as it is thought to resemble a bishop's crozier, the hooked staff carried by a bishop as a sign of pastoral office. [Ref. "The Thousand Year Old Sport", by Gary Dickinson. *First Days* 2018; 63(2):68-71]

Contemporary and Indian players. Canada 1968 (Scott 483)



Q2. Where are the stamps called Barradas from?

Ans. **Costa Rica.**

The *Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers 1840–1940* explains that the government of Costa Rica sold, in 1914, a large quantity of certain stamps issued between 1901 and 1911 well below face value. These remaindered stamps were overprinted with parallel lines and called "barradas" which in Spanish is "the barred ones." [Ref. "Barradas of Costa Rica Can Be A Sideline of Country Collection" by Thomas B. Myers. *Linn's Stamps News* 2015]



Juan Mora Fernández (1784–1854), Costa Rica's first elected head of state. Costa Rica 1907 ovpt.1911 (Scott 77) & remaindered in 1914.



Telegraph stamp. Costa Rica 1911 (Scott 97) & remaindered in 1914.



View of Port Limón, which lies on the Caribbean Sea and is the chief port of Costa Rica. Costa Rica 1901 overprinted "Oficial" (Scott O39) & remaindered in 1914.



Q3. Who was the first first lady to adopt a cause?

Ans. **It depends.**

After the American Revolutionary War Martha Washington was a strong advocate for the welfare of the soldiers. Many first ladies since then supported charities and lent their stature to various organizations. Eleanor Roosevelt publicly championed social and political reforms. But it was in 1964 when Lady Bird Johnson, formally announced her agenda to promote the Great Society's war on poverty and to beautify American's public spaces (1). She initiated the custom that exists today. [Ref: "Who was the first first lady to adopt a cause?" by Janice Lee. *Smithsonian* 2018; 48(10):92]

Note:

1) One of the books in my gardening library is *Wildflowers Across America* by Lady Bird Johnson and Carlton B. Lees,

Q3 cont.

vice-president of the National Wildlife Research Center, with photographs selected by Les Line, longtime editor of *Audubon Magazine*, from the work of some of the nation's best nature photographers. It is Published by Abbeville Press, New York 1988.



Martha Washington (1731–1802). United States 1938 (Scott 805)



Eleanor Roosevelt (1884–1962). United States 1963 (Scott 1236)



Lady Bird Johnson (1912–2007). United States 2012 (Scott 4716a-f)



Lady Bird Johnson. United States 2012 (Scott 4716f)



Q4. *What is the first United States stamp to show a typewriter?*

Ans. **Brenda Starr, Reporter (Comic Strip Classics) 1995 (Scott 3000t).**

The typewriter was one of the great evolutionary factors of modern business. The modern commercial school became a prominent feature in the educational system of nearly every country in order to train people to become competent operators of the typewriter in its early days. But the social changes brought about by this machine were perhaps even greater. As most stenographers and typists were women, the typewriter opened the world of business life to women.

In 1867 Christopher Latham Sholes (1819–1890), an American newspaper publisher, Wisconsin politician and inventor invented the Qwerty keyboard and the first practical typewriter. On March 1, 1873 a contract was made with E. Remington & Sons, gunsmiths from Ilion, New York, to develop and manufacture the Sholes machine and it was placed on the market in 1874. It was soon renamed the Remington but it was not very successful. However, Mark Twain did



Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens). United States 1940 (Scott 863)



Brenda Starr, Reporter. United States 1995 (Scott 3000t)

purchase one and was the first author to submit a typewritten book manuscript. Today, of course, typewriters are used by millions of people worldwide every day.

On October 1, 1995, the United States Postal Service issued “Comic Strip Classics” in a pane of twenty 32¢ stamps designed by Carl Herrman from Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. The last stamp on the pane shows Brenda Starr, a reporter for *The Flash* newspaper which she is seen reading in the stamp image. In the lower left corner of the stamp one can see a typewriter. The syndicated

comic strip was created by Dale Messick, (1906–2005), an American cartoonist, and was first published in 1940, by Tribune Media Services, Inc. [Ref: 1) “Robert Lampson and the 1923 Typewriter Stamp” by Michael Baadke. *Scott's Stamp Monthly* March 2004. and 2) *Linn's U.S. Stamp Yearbook 1995* by George Amick 1996:218–247.]



Q5. What United States stamps show John Pitcairn?

Ans. 1925 Battle of Lexington-Concord (Scott 618 & 1563).

John Pitcairn was born at Dysart, Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1722 and joined the Royal Marines at the age of 23 years, becoming a major in 1771. He married Elizabeth Dalrymple and they had eight children two of whom gained prominence. His son Robert Pitcairn, an officer on HMS *Swallow* commanded by Philip Cartaret on his second circumnavigation of the world (1766–1769), was the first to site the Pacific Island in 1767 that was named for him. Another son David Pitcairn gained prominence as a physician.

Major John Pitcairn was sent to Boston as an officer and ordered to advance to Lexington and Concord and destroy the ammunition stored there. On April 19, 1775, the British troops under Pitcairn met a group of Minutemen under the command of Captain John Parker at Lexington. Pitcairn rode forward with sword drawn and ordered the Minutemen to disperse. The event was portrayed in an 1886 painting *The Dawn of Liberty, Lexington, 1775* by Henry Sandham (1842–1910), a Canadian painter, that was the basis for the design of two United States commemorative stamps, the 1925 2¢ stamp issued on the 150th anniversary of the Lexington-Concord Battle and the 1975 10¢ stamp issued on the 200th anniversary of that battle. In the painting and on both stamps, Major Pitcairn can be seen near the right margin of each stamp on his horse with his sword. The British are behind him and the Minutemen are on the left.



The Dawn of Liberty, Lexington, 1775.
United States 1925 (Scott 618) & 1975 (Scott 1563)

On June 17, 1775, the British were sent to occupy the hills outside Boston and met the Americans on Breed's Hill just beyond Bunker Hill. In the ensuing battle, Major Pitcairn was mortally wounded, supposedly by a bullet fired by Peter Salem (1750–1816), an African-American who was born into slavery and later freed to serve in the local militia.

Between 1815 and 1831, John Trumbull (1756–1843), an American artist, created several versions of his painting: *The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775* (1). Portions of that painting have been the basis for two United States commemorative stamps. A detail from that painting was used for a 1968 stamp commemorating John Trumbull and shows Lt. Thomas Grosvenor and his attendant standing behind him. On the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, a larger portion of Trumbull's painting was used on a 1975 10¢ stamp. Neither of the United States stamps show Major Pitcairn, but, also in 1975, Equatorial Guinea, in a series commemorating the American Revolution, reproduces a larger portion of Trumbull's painting that does show the wounded Major Pitcairn (arrow) being supported by one of his sons, Lt. William Pitcairn. [Ref: 1) Pitcairn's Connection Exists on United States Stamps" by John M. Hotchner. *Linn's Stamp News* February 13, 1995 and 2) *Linn's More Who's Who on U.S. Stamps* by Richard Louis Thomas 1993:186].

Note:

1) Major General Joseph Warren (1741–1775) was an American physician and prominent patriot. It was he who enlisted Paul Revere and Willaim Dawes to spread the alarm on the night of April 18, 1775, that a British garrison was leaving Boston for Concord to arrest John Hancock and Samuel Adams, as well as destroy the ammunition caches.]



Maj. John Pitcairn

The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 by John Trumbull. United States 1975 (Scott 1564) & Equatorial Guinea 1975 (Scott 7555)

