



The Westfield Philatelist

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

Volume 12 Number 5 May/June 2019

UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 23, 2019 – First Annual Members’ Bourse



June 13, 2019 – “Mail Between Italy and Great Britain 1875 - 1914”

By Martino Laurenzi



ASDA Spring New York Postage Stamp Show

May 31, June 1–2, 2019

The Watson Hotel

440 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019

Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Free Admission



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MAY/JUNE USPS STAMP ISSUES

May 10 **Transcontinental Railroad.** Three (55¢) commemorative forever stamps in a pane of eighteen.

May 21 **Wild and Scenic Rivers.** Twelve (55¢) commemorative forever stamps in a pane of 12.

May 31 **Ellsworth Kelly.** Ten (55¢) commemorative forever stamps.

Ellsworth Kelly (1923–2015) was an American painter, sculptor and printmaker whose works contained bold colors and hard edges emphasizing line, color and form. Each of the stamps features a different work of the artist.

June 11 **USS *Missouri*.** One (55¢) commemorative forever stamp.

The last battleship commissioned by the United States, it was the site of the surrender of Japan which ended World War II.

June 12 **George H.W. Bush.** One (55¢) commemorative forever stamp.

June 28 ***Tyrannosaurus rex.*** Four (55¢) forever commemorative stamps.

Tyrannosaurus rex was one of the largest land carnivores. They lived throughout what is now western North America 68 to 66 million years ago (upper Cretaceous Period).

June 28 **Wood Duck and Decoy.** \$25 federal migratory waterfowl hunting and conservation stamp

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

There is no new Philatelic Quiz in this issue as it is the last issue of the 2018–2019 Westfield Stamp Club year.

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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

Awards Received by Members

Louis Caprario - *Early Christmas Seals and Their Lapel Button Completions: 1911 – 1927*. (2019 A. Warren Scheller Most Popular Award: 2019 Westfield Stamp Club Show) [Information courtesy of Nick Lombardi]

Edward Grabowski - *Philately and International Mail Order Fraud: The Success of the New York Institute of Science in Hungary*. (Large Vermeil: Chicago-pex 2018)

Bruce Marsden - Royal Philatelic Society London Medal for service to the RPSL in the United States. [Information courtesy of Nick Lombardi]

Ken Zierer - Ken Zierer has won the first World Series of Philately sanctioned Article Literature Award at the Sarasota National Stamp Show in February. Ken's article "The Dubious Origins of the Scott Listed Variety 424e" received one of the seven Large Gold medals awarded to the 32 submitted articles. The article was published in 2018 in three parts, in the May, June and July issues of *The United States Specialist*, the monthly journal of the United States Stamp Society. The competition, the first ever for philatelic articles at a World Series of Philately show was judged by Peter McCann, Chief Judge, Patricia Walker and Patrick Walters.

The following month, Ken's article was selected as the winner of the United States Stamp Society's Walter W. Hopkinson Memorial Literature Award for the year 2018. This prestigious award is given to the best article or series of articles which were published in *The United States Specialist* during a given year. The Selection Committee is comprised of the winners from the previous three years. Amazingly, Ken is now the fourth member of the Westfield Stamp Club to receive this national award. Previous winners were Roger Brody, Nick Lombardi and Richard Nazar. [Information courtesy of Nick Lombardi]

News of Members

Roger Brody - As reported in the First Quarter 2019 issue of *The Philatelic Literature Review*, Roger Brody presented the story of the first permanent English colony in America in 1607 and the stamps issued for its tercentenary to the members of the Royal Philatelic Society London on January 17, 2019.

Recent Articles Written By Members

Roger S. Brody - "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises: Johnson & Johnson". *The United States Specialist* 2019; 90(4):155–163.

Jack André Denys - "Basics & Beyond". *Topical Time* 2019; 70(2):21–22.

Frederick C. Skvara - (1) "Honoring First Responders". *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2019; 63(1):15. (2) "Centenary of United States Air Mail Service". *Americana Philatelic News* 2019; 49(244):19–21.

Henry Laessig (1930–2019)

Longtime Westfield Stamp Club member Henry Laessig passed away on April 14 at the age of 89 years after a battle with cancer. He will be missed.



President Lombardi Joins The Slide of Fame Via The Columbia Scientific Academy

By Edward Grabowski

For the past decade I have been asking fellow stamp collectors to assist me in gathering postal history for my Philately & International Mail Order Fraud collection. Since this collection covers most of the world, it is impossible for me to check-out world-wide shows, auctions, web sites, etc. at which material might appear. So, as I travel about and write articles, I have been asking fellow collectors to look out for material for my collection. Should they be responsible for bringing material to my collection, I offer them a line on my Slide of Fame. This slide is part of my fraud talk, and I show it at each of my lectures as a way of thanking all of the fellow collectors who have helped me enhance this collection. I am pleased to note that Nick Lombardi, President of the United States Stamp Society and the Westfield Stamp Club, has now joined The Slide of Fame (Figure 1). My heartiest congratulations and thanks to Nick!



With Special Thanks

Members of the Slide of Fame



- David Steidley – Westfield Stamp Club
- Mark Banchik – Collectors Club
- Gary Loew – Westfield Stamp Club
- Hank Applegate – Hamilton Stamp Club
- Robert G. Stone – France & Cols Philatelic Soc USA
- Richard Maisel – Collectors Club
- Tom Duckworth – Collectors Club
- Richard Stevens – France & Cols Philatelic Soc USA
- Paul Larsen – Collectors Club Chicago
- Leonard Piszkievicz – United States Stamp Society
- Omar Rodriguez – Collectors Club
- Carlos Vergara – Collectors Club Chicago
- Mike Mead – Britannia Enterprises
- Ronald Gonzales – Hamilton Stamp Club
- Henk Slabbinck – European Academy of Philately (AEP)
- John Mayne – France & Cols Philatelic Society UK
- And Many Dealers, eBay and Delcampe

Nick Lombardi – Westfield Stamp Club
Kathy Johnson – Collectors Club of Chicago
Alain Millet – Académie de la Philatélie
John Hotchner – EF&OCC

**Find an item or two
for Ed and join his
Slide of Fame!**

Recently, Nick brought the eBay cover shown in Figure 2 to my attention. To Nick it looked like one of my fraud covers. Interestingly, it is not from one of my regular fraudsters, such as Professor Segno, Neal (aka la Motte Sage), Clark, Moses, Peebles or Bobo. It is also not of any great postal history significance, as it is a simple use of the 2¢ Washington stamp from the Series 1902 on a cover from New York City (Station N at Broadway and 69th St.) to New Bedford, Massachusetts, posted on April 7, 1903 with an arrival of April 8th on the reverse. However, I have been looking for a cover such as this for more than ten years! It was sent from the Columbia Scientific Academy in New York City.

The Columbia Scientific Academy was a 1900 creation of E. Virgil Neal and Charles S. Clark of the New York Institute of Science (Rochester) and Professor A. Victor Segno of the American Institute of Mentalism (Los Angeles), along with a number of others who were part of the early 1900's US mail order fraud scams. They sold a scam course titled The Ki-Magi System which promised, with a guarantee, to reveal the secrets of power and success. Shown in Figure 3 is the front cover of the Columbia Scientific Academy's booklet advertising the course. Apparently they were not as successful as the other mail order fraud scams, as little evidence of their existence is to be found today in terms of covers and ephemera. Readers note: There is still plenty of room on the Slide of Fame.

President Lombardi Joins The Slide of Fame Via The Columbia Scientific Academy

By Edward Grabowski

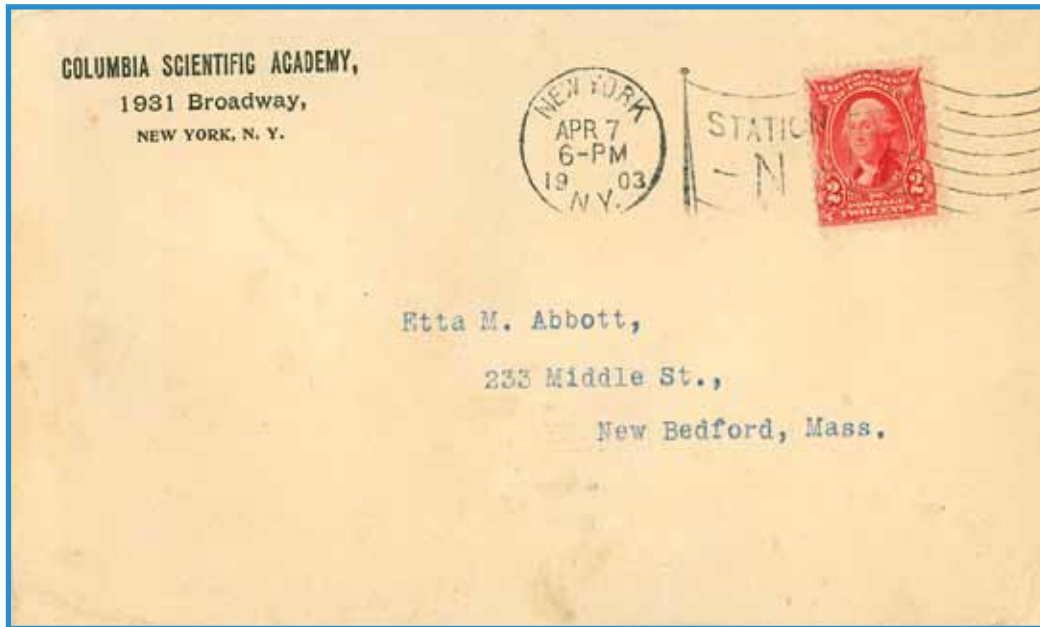


Fig. 2

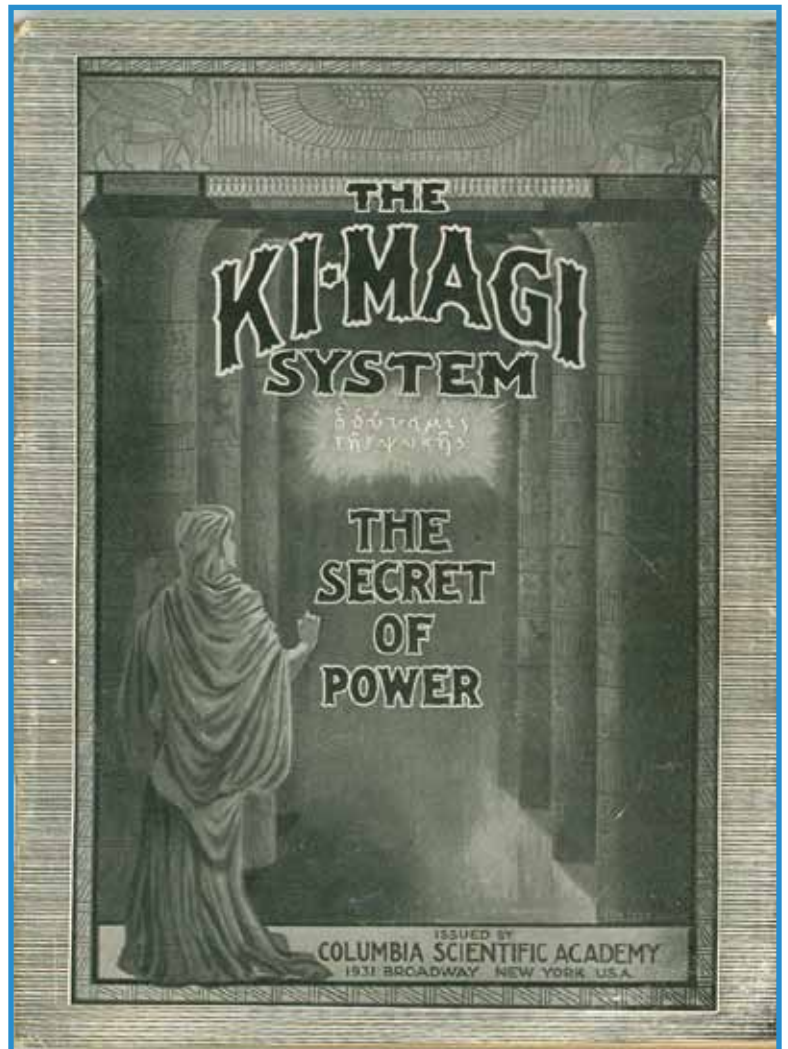


Fig. 3





ANSWERS TO MARCH/ APRIL PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q1. What United States stamp depicts a woman wearing a Phrygian cap? Hint: She is on a state flag.

Ans. 1976 New Jersey state flag. (Scott 1635)

Also known as the “Liberty cap”, the Phrygian cap is a soft conical cap with the top pulled over to the side or front. Though it was known as early as the 4th century B.C., it was associated with emancipated slaves in the Roman Empire during the second century A.D. It has come to represent freedom and the pursuit of liberty.

Since 1944 most of the definitive stamps of France have depicted Marianne, a symbol of Republican France, wearing a Phrygian cap.

Phrygia was an ancient region of west-central Asia Minor west of the present-day Ankara, Turkey. It reached the peak of its power under King Midas in the 8th century B.C. The cap was associated with the Phrygian Attis, a central figure in the mythology of Phrygians in Asia Minor as the god of vegetation. Through his dying and resurrection he represented the fruits of the earth which die in winter and rise again in the spring.

Besides the United States the cap has been displayed by a number of countries besides France. Although hard to discern, it appears on the state flags of West Virginia, New Jersey and New York and is on the official seal of the United States Senate. [Ref: *Linn’s Stamp News* 2018; 91(4703):28–37.]



New Jersey State Flag.
(Scott 1635)



New York State Flag.
(Scott 1643)



West Virginia State Flag.
(Scott 1667)



Q2. What country lists its name on its stamps in three languages?

Ans. Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon)

Sri Lanka is an independent island state in the Indian Ocean south of India with several official names – Sri Lanka Prajatantrika Samajavadi Janarajaya (Sinhala); Ilanga Jananayaka Socialisa Kudiarasu (Tamil) (Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka). The two main ethnic groups are Sinhalese (75%) and Tamil (11%) and the two official languages are Sinhalese and Tamil. The name of the country is printed in three languages on their stamps. In the 2010 stamps shown here for the Horton Plains National Park, Ceylon is printed in Sinhalese at the top, Tamil in the center and English on the bottom.



Sri Lanka Whistling thrush. (Scott 1758)



Sambar. (Scott 1759)



Rhinocorn lizard. (Scott 1760)



Purple-faced leaf monkey.
(Scott 1761)



Q3. What country was the first to issue stamps specifically intended to be used on Christmas cards?

Ans. **Austria (1937)**

In 1937 Austria issued two stamps showing a central rose surrounded by the twelve Signs of the Zodiac. They were issued specifically for use on Christmas Cards. They are also the first stamps to show the Signs of the Zodiac. [Ref: *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* 2016; 47(7):31–35]



Austria 1937 (Scott 388–389)



Q4. What country was the first to issue a stamp showing an autograph ?

Ans. **Norway (1928)**

In 1928 Norway issued a set of four stamps, one of which is shown here to mark the birth centenary of Henrik Ibsen that included Ibsen's signature above his portrait. They are the first stamps showing an autograph. Henrik Ibsen (1828–1906), a Norwegian dramatist and poet, was born in Krisitnia (now Oslo), Norway. His works included *Peer Gynt* (1867), a drama in verse, and *A Doll's house* (1879) and *Ghosts*, dramas in prose on social issues. He is credited with being the first major dramatist to write tragedy about ordinary people in prose and was an important influence on George Bernard Shaw. Later works such as *The Master Builder* (1892) dealt increasingly with the forces of the unconscious and were admired by Sigmund Freud.

An autograph of St. Francis Xavier appears as the central motif in a 1931 Portuguese India stamp (Scott 415) of a set of six issued for the Exposition of St. Francis Xavier at Goa in December 1931. [Ref: *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* 2003; 33 (12): 76–78.]



Henrik Ibsen. Norway
1928 (Scott 135)



Q5. In 1902 Henry Leland named a car after a French explorer. That car is still being manufactured. Who was that explorer and what is the name of that car?

Ans. **Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac and Cadillac**

Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac (1658–1730), a French explorer, was born in the French province of Gascony. From 1622 to 1760 the territory now within the borders of Michigan formed a part of New France and the first Europeans to found missions and settlements within those borders were Frenchmen. In 1668 Père Jacques Marquette founded the first permanent settlement within the state and in 1679 René Robert Cavalier sieur de la Salle, built a fort at the mouth of the St. Joseph. On July 24, 1701, Antoine Cadillac searching for a strategic location for a new post to protect and encourage the French fur trade landed near the present site of the Veterans' Memorial building with fifty soldiers, voyageurs and settlers. He constructed a palisaded enclosure and named it Fort Pontchartrain, after his

patron, Count Pontchartrain, a minister of Louis XIV. The civilian community within the walls was called Ville d'Étroit ("town of the strait"), which was later anglicized to Detroit. Unfortunately, Cadillac had a number of enemies in Quebec and Paris and Cadillac was removed from Detroit in 1710 and was appointed governor of Louisiana.



Cadillac *Eldorado*.
1959 (Scott 4353)



Detroit skyline and 1701 landing of Cadillac. 1951 (Scott 1000)
[250th anniversary of the founding of Detroit]

