



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 13 Number 3 January/February 2020

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 23, 2020 – “Members’ Show & Tell Night”

Bring along an unusual item or two from your collection, and tell the Club members what it is and why you find it interesting.



February 27, 2020 – “The Letter Panel Over the Centuries and the Importance of Being Properly Addressed”

By Martino Laurenzi

Philatelists often forget the importance of the address panel, a critical tool through which the writer communicates to the deliverer some key information. We will look how these panels have helped, hindered or even threatened the carriers of the post.

January to February USPS Stamp Issues

January 11 **Year of the Rat. One (55¢) forever commemorative stamp. New Lunar New Year series.**

February 23 **Made of Hearts. One (55¢) forever special stamp.**

February 30 **Gwen Ifill. One (55¢) forever commemorative stamp. Black Heritage series.**

2019–2020 PROGRAM

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

March 7, 2020 – Westfield Stamp Club Show

March 26, 2020 – “Farewell to the Group Type”

By Edward Grabowski

April 23 2020– “Exploring the Back of the Book.” *By Roger Brody*

May 28, 2020 – TBA

June 11 or 18, 2020 – “Japonica: What It’s All About Philatelically” *By Ken Kamholz*

FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

Michael Frank is leading off a new feature in *The Westfield Philatelist*: **My Favorite Stamp (or cover)**. See his favorite stamp on page 2.

I am sure there are other members who have a particular stamp or cover that they are fond of for whatever reason. Submit a short writeup about the item along with a scan, if possible. If you do not have the use of a scanner, you can send the item to me for scanning. If you let me know the identity of the stamp, I may have it in my worldwide collection.

The envelope used to mail this issue is franked with the “Healing PTSD” (**Post**Traumatic **S**tress **D**isorder) semi-postal stamp. The nondenominated stamp is inscribed + FIRST CLASS and will sell for 65¢ (55¢ + 10¢) satisfying the current 55¢ postage rate for domestic first class letters. The surcharge will go to the National Center for PTSD, which is part of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. It was released on December 2, 2019, in Charlotte, North Carolina, and nationwide.

The image on the stamp is based on a photograph by Mark Laita and shows a green plant shoot sprouting from fallen leaves on the ground. The designer was Greg Breeding and according to the USPS, the image symbolizes the PTSD healing process.

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is recurring, intrusive recollections of an overwhelming traumatic event. Combat, sexual assault and natural or man-made disasters are common causes of PTSD.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Upcoming Meetings	1
January to March USPS Stamp Issues	1
From the Editor’s Desk	1
2019-2020 Westfield Stamp Club Program.	1
Recent Articles by Members:	2
Awards Received by Members	2
My Favorite Stamp	2
Do You Have These Stamps?	3
January/February Philatelic Quiz	3
Virginia Apgar: Westfield Native.	3
Answers to November/December Philatelic Quiz	4

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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RECENT ARTICLES WRITTEN BY MEMBERS

Roger S. Brody - (1) "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises: Bristol-Myers Squibb". *The United States Specialist* December 2019; 90(12):534-539. (2) "Jamestown 1907, Part Seven" *The United States Specialist* November 2019; 90 (11): 495-506.

Edward Grabowski - (1) "The Era of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type: The Stamp Dealership of N'Gomo, Gabon – A Rich Connection". *The Collectors Club Philatelist* 2018; Sept/Oct: 288-297. (2) "Au revoir le Type Groupe – Farewell to the Group Type". *France & Colonies Philatelist* 2019 (October)

Yefim Rozenshteyn - "Surprising Souvenir Sheet Connections" *The Israel Philatelist* 2019; 70(4):23-26.

John B. Sharkey - "The 100th Anniversary of IUPAC". *Philatelia Chimica et Physica* 2019; 40(1): 21-26.

Frederick C. Skvara - "Johnson's Digestive Tablets". *Scalpel & Tongue: American Journal of Medical Philately* 2019; 63(4):89.

K. David Steidley "The 'Received Under Cover by the Postmaster' Marking". *The United States Specialist* October 2019; 90(12):549-550.

AWARDS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS

Roger S. Brody - (1) *Jamestown 1907* (Court of Honor) (2) *Prominent American Series* (Gold, APS Medal of Excellence 1940-1980) [NOJEX 2019]

Louis Caprario - *United States Beer Stamps 1866-1919* (Large Gold, Sidney Schneider Memorial Award, Best United States) [NOJEX 2019].

Allan Fisk - *Flight 93 "Let's Roll"*. (Large Silver, AAPE- Creativity Award) [NOJEX 2019]

Edward Grabowski as Dr. Helmut von Fehlen, MD, PhD, EEMS - *Philately & International Mail Order Fraud: Elvard Moses and the Oxypathor Company* (Vermeil, AAPE - Gold Award of Honor) [NOJEX 2019]

MY FAVORITE STAMP

The 50¢ *Bluenose* - Canada 1929 (Scott 158)

My favorite stamp shows a ship large enough to carry people. How many stamps have a whole movie (albeit a kids' one) written about it? The movie is *Tommy Tricker and the Stamp Traveler*, a 1988 Canadian fantasy adventure film. Set in a time when kids collected stamps a lot more, Tommy is a stamp collector and is somehow swept into the past and meets another boy of the time, also a stamp collector who is trapped on the schooner *Bluenose*. Tommy found him by using a magnifying glass and was able to bring him to life. A fantasy, yes, but at least it got kids thinking about stamps.



Submitted by Michael Frank

DO YOU HAVE THESE STAMPS?

By K. David Steidley

I was shocked to see these six new-to-me, beautiful US stamps on an old Military Mail: FAQ brochure*. But wait, there are no denominations on them and a quick search revealed these are not stamps but illustrations! The Post Office's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should consider their use. We note that the MPSA or Military Postal Service Agency is part of the Dept. of Defense but staffed by both Postal Service people and the military.

*Publication 640, June, 2009



VIRGINIA APGAR: WESTFIELD NATIVE

By Frederick C. Skvara

Union County has produced a series of history trading cards showing famous people or places in the history of Union County over the past centuries. Each of two dozen historical sites in the county have one of these cards that are free for the asking. Westfield Stamp Club member John Kozimbo gave me the Virginia Apgar card shown here. It shows Dr. Apgar and a newborn as well as an image of the United States 1994 stamp (Scott 2179) from the Great American series showing Dr. Apgar. That stamp was issued at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Pediatrics in Dallas, Texas, on October 24, 1994. The stamp was designed by Robert Anderson of Lexington, Massachusetts, based on a photograph supplied by the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation.



Virginia Apgar was born on June 7, 1909 in Westfield, New Jersey. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 1929 and in 1933 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in New York. Although she began a surgical residency at Columbia, she shortly switched to anesthesiology and in 1949 was made a full professor in the Department of Anesthesiology. Her concern for a consistent method of evaluating newborns led her to developing a scoring system based on five observations that could be easily performed by nursing personnel in the delivery room. The scoring method was presented in 1952 at the 27th Annual Congress of Anesthetists and published in the July/August 1953 issue of *Current Researches in Anesthesia and Analgesia*. An acronym using her last name was published in *JAMA* ten years later: **A** for appearance (color), **P** for pulse (heart rate), **G** for grimace (reflex irritability), **A** for activity (muscle tone), **R** for respiratory effort. The **Apgar Score** has since become universally accepted and used around the world. After obtaining a master's degree in Public Health at Johns Hopkins she joined the National Foundation/ March of Dimes (now called the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation) where she remained until her death in 1974 at the age of 64.

Medicine was not her only interest. She had a lifelong love of music and played chamber music on stringed instruments that she made herself. She fished, gardened and was an avid stamp collector.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY PHILATELIC QUIZ

- Q1. Do you know the story behind the awarding of the first Army Congressional Medal of Honor?
- Q2. There are several Americans portrayed on the Famous Americans stamp issues of 1940 who have a tie to the Civil War. Do you know who they are?
- Q3. When was the first European regular mail service begun and why was it instituted?
- Q4. What was the first Canadian commemorative postage stamp issued in a booklet format?
- Q5. Who was the first woman to design a United States postage stamp and what stamp did she design?



ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q1. *Where are the Islands of Refreshment?*

Ans. **Tristan da Cunha Islands in the South Atlantic Ocean**

The Tristan da Cunha Islands, a British Overseas Territory of volcanic islands, lie in the South Atlantic Ocean about 1600 miles off the coast of Cape Town in South Africa. They were discovered in 1506 by the Portuguese navigator, Admiral Tristao d'Acunha (c.1460–c.1540), who did not land owing to rough seas. He named the largest island after himself. In the early part of the 19th century the islands were used as a base by sealers, mainly from the United States.

The first permanent settlers arrived on an American sealer, *Baltic*, from Boston on December 27, 1810, – Jonathan Lambert and two associates: an Italian, Tomasso Corri (Thomas Currie), and an American, Williams (Andrew Millet). Lambert was an American mariner from Salem, Massachusetts. On February 4, 1811, Lambert took possession of the island of Tristan da Cunha, as well as Inaccessible and Nightingale Islands and proclaimed himself King. In his proclamation which was published in the *Boston Gazette* on July 18, 1811, he also declared that the islands would be now known as the Islands of Refreshment with that name also given to the largest island (now known as Tristan da Cunha Island).

But his reign as “King” did not last long. In January 1812, he asked the captain of a visiting British Merchantman, *Charles*, to take a message to the British Government requesting that it take over the islands. When HMS *Semiramis* arrived at Tristan da Cunha in March 1813, Thomas Currie was the only inhabitant. According to Currie, on May 17, 1812, Lambert, Williams and a third person who had joined them from *Charles*, had all drowned at sea while fishing. The islands of Tristan da Cunha came under formal British possession during August 1816.

To celebrate the 500th anniversary of the discovery of the islands by the Portuguese explorer mentioned above, the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau on behalf of the Tristan da Cunha Post Office issued four miniature sheets, each with six stamps. The first sheet went on sale February 6, 2006, and shows portraits of Tristao d'Acunha (Scott 787a) and Jonathan Lambert (Scott 787c). [Ref: *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* 2007; 37(11):56-58]



Q2. What is the only United States stamp issue to celebrate the anniversary of statehood of more than one state?

Ans. **50th Anniversary of Statehood – North & South Dakota, Montana & Washington. 1939 (Scott 858)**

On November 2, 1939, the United States Post Office Department issued a stamp to commemorate the 50th anniversary of statehood for four states that entered the Union in 1889. November 2 was the release date in Bismarck, North Dakota and Pierre, South Dakota, November 8 in Helena, Montana, and November 11 in Olympia, Washington. The design by Alvin R. Meissner, was based on a geologic relief map furnished by the United States Geological Survey of the Department of Interior. [Ref: 1) *The Federated Philatelist* 2019; 226:17 2) *The United States Commemorative Stamps of the Twentieth Century* by Max G. Johl: 1947; II:119–122. H.L Lindquist, Publisher]



Q3. What Olympic host country was the first country to issue advance publicity stamps for the games ?

Ans. **Australia**

The 1956 Olympic Games were held in Melbourne, Australia, from November 22 to December 8. Early in 1954 the Melbourne Olympic Organizing Committee asked the Australian Post Office to publicize the upcoming games by issuing a stamp in advance of the games. A 2s stamp in dark blue (Scott 277) was released on December 1, 1954, with the thought that it would be widely used on Christmas mail to overseas destination as 2s was Australia's basic airmail postage to Europe, North America and much of the rest of the world. It was a great success and had to be reprinted within two weeks. The Olympic Organizing Committee urged the stamp to be reissued in December, 1955, which it was, this time in deep green, but also at the 2s rate (Scott 286). These two stamps were the



(Scott 277)

first advance publicity stamps for the Olympic Games issued by the host country.

1956 Olympic Games. Australia



Olympic Rings & Melbourne Coat of Arms (Scott 288)



Olympic Rings & Torch & the Southern Cross. (Scott 289)



View of Collins Street in Melbourne (Scott 290)

On October 32, 1956, Australia issued a set of four stamps for the 1956 Games. While the 4p and 7½p stamps were engraved, the 1s and 2s were printed by photogravure, a first for Australia. In addition the 1s and 2s stamps were the first Australian stamps printed overseas – the 1s by Harrison & Sons and the 2s by Courvoisier SA. [Ref: *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* 2003; 33(12):80-84]



Q4. Who were the Fussach Messengers?

Ans. **Messengers for the Lindau Messenger Service**

In 2014, Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein and Switzerland each issued a single stamp celebrating the Lindau Messenger service that operated between their countries and Italy from the end of the 15th century until the early 19th century. For roughly 500 years the weekly courier service, also known as the Fussach Messengers operated between the Bavarian town of Lindau on Lake Constance and Milan in Italy. The service used ships, packhorses and carts to transport linen, wool, leather, copper and silver across the Alps to Italy while carrying silk, gold thread, textiles and exotic fruits back to Liechtenstein.

But letters were also carried and from the end of the 17th century, travelers were allowed to accompany the messengers. It was an arduous journey of 5½ days in good weather, but considerably longer in snow and ice. The messengers traveled across Lake Constance and Lake Como, through the Via Mala (an ancient path beside the Hinterrhein River in Switzerland) and other mountain passes and over the Splügen Pass at 6,900 feet in the Lepontine Alps between Switzerland and Italy. [Ref: *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* 2014; 45(7):103]



Map of Trans-Alpine route of Fussach Courier Service by Aegidius Tschudi (1505–1572). Austria (Scott 2517)



Coach of Lindau Messenger Courier Service. Germany (Scott 2801)



Carriage and Route Map of Lindau Messenger Service. Switzerland (Scott 1531)



ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER/DECEMBER PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q4. Ans. (cont.) Messengers for the Lindau Messenger Service



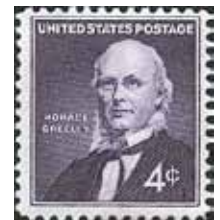
Four labels show the names of each of the stops while the stamp shows the wheel of a carriage, the type of boat used to cross the lakes and a packhorse. This is from a miniature sheet of 8 identical stamps, two of which are shown here, and the four labels shown here. Liechtenstein (Scott 1615)



Q5. What was the relationship between Horace Greeley and Jefferson Davis??

Ans. See below

Horace Greeley (1811–1872) was a United States newspaper editor and political leader whose publications included *The New Yorker* magazine and the *New York Tribune* daily newspaper. He was firmly against slavery and was convinced that for military, social and economic reasons, the abolition of slavery was essential. But he wanted the Civil War to end quickly and was distressed by the mounting cost of the war in lives and monies. This led him to become involved in fruitless peace negotiations with Confederate Commissioners in Canada and to oppose Lincoln’s renomination in 1864. His motto for reconstruction of the Union was “Universal Amnesty and Impartial Suffrage”.



Horace Greeley.
1961 (Scott 1177)

Jefferson Davis (1808–1889) was captured by Union cavalymen on May 10, 1865, and imprisoned at Fort Monroe, Virginia, for two years. When investigators failed to establish a link between Davis and the assassination of Lincoln, he was then charged with treason. But the charges of treason were eventually dropped by President Andrew Johnson and on May 13, 1867, a bail bond of \$100,000 was posted and accepted and he was released. Part of the bond was paid for by Horace Greeley. In 1961 the United States Post Office Department issued a 4¢ commemorative for Horace Greeley to honor him as “one of the great moral leaders of the United States and the greatest newspaper editor of his time”.



Jefferson Davis.
Confederate General
Issue 1862 (Scott 6)

Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial, Georgia, the largest bas-relief sculpture in the world depicts Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson.
United States 1970 (Scott 1408)



United States 1995
(Scott 2975f)