

The Philatelic Communicator

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Envelopes and Copyright

by Marianna Vaidman Stone

In the world of collecting stamps and writing about them, a recurrent issue is the copyright status of the envelope. The discussion below seeks to answer, in a general way, the most common copyright questions that come up in connection with envelopes.

Is There Copyright in an Envelope?

Probably not. Copyright laws protect work that exhibits some minimum amount of creativity. If a sender puts unusual effort into addressing the envelope, a copyrighted work may result. For instance, if the sender decorates the envelope in some way that goes beyond normal practice, such as by drawing on it, then the envelope may constitute a creative work and be copyrightable.

Addressing an envelope, however, is not normally a creative process. There are generally accepted standards for the location of the addresses and the stamp(s). The addresses of the sender and recipient are bare facts that can only be stated in a particular form. While there are small variations in the ways one can write an address (for example, one can spell out the state or use the postal abbreviation), these variations are probably too small to constitute even the minimal creative effort that is required to give rise to copyright.

Furthermore, prior to 1989, a person who wished claim copyright in his work was required to put a copyright notice on the work. An envelope created prior to 1989 that lacks such notice has probably fallen into the public domain even if it were originally copyrightable.

If an Envelope Is Copyrightable, Is the Copyright Held by the Sender or the Recipient?

The sender. Copyright belongs to the person who creates the work. Since it is the sender who has created the envelope, it is the sender who owns the copyright. The addition of cancellations and the like by the post office does not affect the ownership of the copyright.

Can Someone Hold a Copyright in an Image of an Envelope, If the Envelope Is Not Itself Copyrightable?

Probably not. If the photograph or scan of the envelope is only a bare reproduction, then no copyright arises and the image may be used by others (assuming that the underlying envelope is not copyrightable). If, however, the photograph or

scan involves creative elements, such as unusual lighting and positioning of the envelope, then the photographer may hold a copyright in the resulting image.

Does Research about the Envelope Confer a Copyright in the Envelope on the Researcher?

No. Copyright does not protect "sweat of the brow." Research about a copyrighted work does not affect the ownership of the copyright in the work. If you research, say, the circumstances that led the Beatles to write a certain song, that research does not give you rights to the song. The same holds true even if the work was not originally copyrighted. So doing research regarding, for example, the provenance and authenticity of an envelope does not give the researcher copyright in the envelope.

Does Someone Hold the Copyright On, for Example, Catalogue Notes on the Provenance and Authenticity of an Envelope?

Yes, but. The writer of such notes owns the copyright on the notes. The copyright, however, covers only the notes themselves. The underlying facts are not copyrightable.

Does Giving or Withholding Credit to the Owner of the Envelope Affect Whether or Not You Have Infringed a Copyright?

No. If the envelope or image is not copyrighted, then, obviously, there is no copyright to be infringed, and giving credit is irrelevant. If the envelope or image is copyrighted, but you use it in a way that is considered "fair use" (a subject that is too broad to be covered in this brief article), then you are not infringing even if you do not give credit to the owner. Conversely, if it is copyrighted and your use infringes the copyright, then giving credit to the owner will not save your use from being an infringement.

Nonetheless, it is always a good idea to give credit where you can—laws other than copyright prohibit passing off someone else's work as your own.

Editor's Note: The writer is an associate in the intellectual property group of the litigation department of the New York law firm Debevoise & Plimpton. Ms. Vaidman Stone suggests that readers consult an attorney personally for more detailed responses to individual questions that may arise. Our thanks to WU30 V.P. Barth Healy for arranging for this article. □

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Writers Unit 30 has as its primary objective the encouragement and improvement of philatelic writing in all of its various forms. Calendar year membership dues, payable in advance in U.S. funds through a U.S. bank or Post Office are:

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The Quill

Joe Foley

TIME FLIES

(WHETHER YOU'RE HAVING FUN OR NOT)

With this issue, I am beginning my seventh year as editor of *The Philatelic Communicator*. Doesn't seem like it was that long ago that I took up my electronic "Quill." My first "Quill" column was in the Third Quarter *PC* before I really came on board. At the time I said "my intent would be to focus the *PC* more clearly on philatelic writing and try to provide a resource for amateur writers." With the great help of the officers and council members, and particularly our authors, I think we have made some headway.

I also said "I'm basically an amateur." I still am!

PUBLICATION DATA

The account of publication data in this issue is a departure from the way it has been treated previously. It's combined with some activities and thoughts about the hobby in general and the APS in particular. See "By the Numbers!" on page 5.

ROUNDTABLE

The Writers' Roundtable continues to provide some articles in this issue. The feature on the front page might have resulted in a "letter to the editor" from the late Jerry Wagshal, if he was still with us. Additionally, the editor of the New Jersey Postal History Society journal shares some thoughts on graphics with us.

HELP WANTED

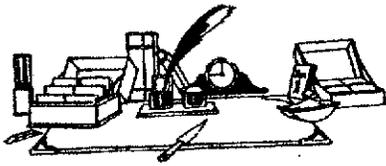
Many Websites and CDs strike me as being a bit awkward to navigate. How about one [or more] of you software experts in this area sharing some of your thoughts on this subject in a future issue?

ACROSS MY DESK

The Yule Log is the journal of the Christmas Philatelic Club. The September-October 2002 issue contained a letter written on Christmas Day from sailor aboard the USS Kansas then at Portland England. While not strictly philatelic, it's broadening approach demonstrates the interest and enjoyment of collateral material. The article telling of a visit to London, was nicely illustrated and includes the cover. Incidentally, it was Christmas Day 1910. □

Writing, like life itself, is a voyage of discovery.

—Henry Miller



President's Message

by Dr. Dane S. Claussen

Your Writers Unit will, as usual, be holding a Writers Unit breakfast at the APS winter show, called AmeriStamp Expo 2003, in Biloxi, Mississippi, Feb. 28-March 2.

As usual, several of the Unit's officers and Council members will be there to hear about your interests and concerns, we'll induct two more top philatelic writers (one living, one deceased) into the Writers Unit Hall of Fame, and we should have some funky door prizes at the Breakfast.

Show hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission and parking for the show are FREE. According to the APS, "highlights include seventy-five dealers, special booths where all covers will sell for \$1 or less and all stamps at 10¢ or less, and probably one or more first days of issue."

That's all for now. □

NEW EDITOR FOR *FIRST DAYS*

The ink was hardly dry on the last issue of the *PC* that contained a notice that the AFDCS was seeking a new editor, when a letter arrived announcing that Peter Martin had been selected as the new editor of *First Days* magazine.

Peter Martin's extensive thirty years experience includes recent successes as editor-in-chief of *Scott Stamp Monthly* where he set records in circulation, editorial content, advertising pages and revenue for four consecutive years. Subsequently, he worked at the American Philatelic Society where he served as Director of Development, Web Director, and Editor-in-Chief of *The American Philatelist* and *Philatelic Literature Review*.

Martin has also edited several award-winning philatelic society and club periodicals. During his twenty-two-year military career, he had assignments as editor of a number of government publications, including service at *Soldiers Magazine*, the U.S. Army's monthly official magazine with a 1.5 million circulation. Martin holds a Master's degree in English from George Mason University.

Outgoing editor Barry Newton who, for twelve years, worked to raise *First Days* magazine to the level of quality that has made it a premier philatelic publication. *First Days* won its first gold medal in national literature competition at STAMPSHOW 2002. □

Some Thoughts on Graphics

by Jean Walton

Editor's Note: At the Writers' Roundtable in Atlantic City, Bob Rose showed me the current publication of the New Jersey Postal History Society. The graphics were quite good and I asked Bob if the editor would share her techniques with us. Very shortly after the Roundtable, we received the following by e-mail.

Dear Joe:

Hmmm - in the valley of the blind, the one-eyed man is, in this case, perhaps not all that knowledgeable. Bob Rose asked me to send you some printing details, so...

Question - do you have a CD burner or zip drive? Some way to save information and then take it to a printing shop? I save the whole journal as one file, and it can get pretty big. Regular floppies don't handle it.

I use *WORD*, and most printing shops can handle this. I can embed pictures in a document and then they are reproduced on the equipment at the shop. It works pretty well. The only key to that, I would add, is that setting them up in tables is easier than just inserting a picture, as it can sometimes get pushed around and tends to turn up where you didn't want it. If you insert a table [including enough rows for captions], and then insert the picture in the table, it works better, especially if you are trying to put two pictures side by side. I would suggest using images that are scanned pretty much at the size you want to reproduce them, but once you put it in a table, you can enlarge or reduce it there as well. In formatting the text, I'd suggest you be sure to put in page breaks where you want them - and take your print shop a copy of how you expect it to look - that way, if they need to adjust your files, they know how it is supposed to end up.

As for scanning, no fantastically high resolutions are really necessary for the most part. I'd recommend 150 to 300 dpi at most, and I save as jpgs or tiffs. Presuming you are not printing in color, be sure to either scan in gray-scale or in color and then reduce to grayscale. Photos will print best if you reduce the midtones and get a picture that is a little more black & white, so on photos, I usually play with the brightness/contrast and highlight/midtone/shadow controls to get an image that will print well. I scan and then clean up an image before embedding it in a document.

I took my file to my local copy shop, where they told me they could either photocopy, or do a better job printing from disk. It is actually printed on a copier [a Xerox I think], not a computer.

Best place to start is probably your local copy place. They can probably tell you what they would like to get on disk - if there are file size restrictions, etc.

►►continued on page 8

Computer Corner

by Kendall C. Sanford

ANTI-SPAM TIP

Are you getting tired of all the spam ads you get in your e-mail box? Here is a neat free program that you can download, called *MailWasher*, from: <http://www.mailwasher.net>. It allows you to see what mail is on your server and lets you send back to spammers a bounced message, tricking them into thinking your e-mail address is no longer valid. The program then adds the spammer's e-mail address to your "blacklisted" ones that will always be bounced. It might take a couple of months before your e-mail address is removed from the spammer's list, you will get the satisfaction of bouncing the spam e-mails back to the spammer.

CALCULATE POSTAGE ONLINE

If you want to avoid standing in line at the Post Office just to find out how much it will cost to send a package, an overweight letter, or something other than the ordinary letter, click on the U.S. Postal Service Domestic Calculator, at: <http://postcalc.usps.gov>. If you know the weight, you can price your package or letter, or find out how special packaging will affect the total cost. Unfortunately, because of security regulations, you still have to take packages into the post office. You can't just put them into a mailbox, even though they might fit.

MAKING THE EURO SYMBOL (€)

In the last "Computer Corner" column, I mentioned downloading the Euro symbol from *Adobe* Website. The following are other ways to get it. There is a great shareware program that provides the Euro symbol as well as most other special characters used in European languages. It is called *Key Wizard* and can be downloaded from: <http://come.to/KeyWizard>. There is another way to get the Euro symbol. If you have Windows set to use the United States International keyboard layout, you can make a Euro symbol by pressing --5 (use the 5 on your keyboard's number row—not the one on the numeric keypad). To switch to this layout in *Windows XP*, begin by selecting Start-Control Panel. If the Control Panel window says "Pick a category," click Switch to Classic View. Double click Regional and Language Options (or select it from the Control Panel menu), click the Languages tab, choose Details, and click Add. Finally, in the Keyboard layout/IME drop-down list, select United States-International.

In *Windows 98*, *2000* and *ME*, select Start-Settings-Control Panel. Double click Keyboard, click the Language tab (that's Input Locales in *Windows 2000*), and select Properties. In the Keyboard layout drop-down list, select United States-International. The second option works only in *MS Office* applications, but doesn't involve changing keyboard settings. In *Word* or *Excel*, select Tools-AutoCorrect or Tools-AutoCorrect Options,

depending on your version of *Office*. In the Replace field, enter a symbol, such as a tilde (~) or pipe (|), that you rarely use. In the With field, hold down while you type 0128 on the numeric keypad (with NumLock on, of course). Release the key and click OK. Now you can enter a Euro symbol in your *Office* applications by pressing your chosen key. To type the original character instead of the Euro symbol, press the key and then.

DRIVERS

Before you upgrade to a new operating system, make sure that compatible drivers are available for all your peripherals. This is especially important if you are upgrading to *Windows 2000* or *XP*. If you can't find the driver(s) you need on the manufacturer's Website run a search at a third-party site, such as www.DriverGuide.com, www.DriversHQ.com or www.DriverSearch.com.

ZIPITFAST

Even though *Windows XP* has built-in support for compressed (ZIP) files, users of older versions of *Windows* still need an efficient way to compress files and manage your archived files. There is a free compression program called *ZipItFast*, that is simple and its intuitive interface means that browsing existing files and creating new compressed files is very easy. *ZipItFast* also handles all the common compression formats. The download size is 2.08MB, and it can be downloaded from: www.zipitfast.com

GRAPHICS TOOL

If your graphics manipulation needs are quite basic—for example, preparing images for use on a personal Website—then you don't need to bother getting and paying for a dedicated software package, and then trying to learn all its intricacies. *MyImager.com* is a web-based service that allows you to perform a variety of simple image-editing tasks online, prior to posting the results directly to your internet service provider's FTP (file transfer protocol) server for publication on the Internet. You don't even have to register before use—just log on the www.myimager.com, upload an image to work on and away you go. It's quick, simple and best of all, it's free.

MY PC TOOLS

Ontrack is perhaps best known for its range of software utilities, but the company is also responsible for the *MyPCTools* Website where there's a variety of online data recovery services and diagnostic tools. Also available on the site are a number of PC utilities that are free to use following a simple registration process. The applications are designed to manage files and folders, diagnose hardware faults and recover lost data. Some are more proficient than others, but at this price, you can't beat it. Download from: <http://www.mypctools.com/freeware.asp>. □

By the Numbers !

by Joseph E. Foley

United States Philatelic Press: Average Annual Paid Circulation, 1975-2002												
Publication	1955*	1965*	1975	1985	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Linn's	45,000	66,000	87,330	77,181	68,250	68,378	65,970	65,020	62,202	58,816	55,449	52,574
American Philatelist	11,500	14,500	34,356	51,232	54,008	54,480	54,044	53,878	52,608	51,788	50,514	49,313
Scott Stamp Monthly	20,000	20,000	23,000	19,445	22,823	25,560	25,060	26,357	27,116	30,491	28,465	25,853
Stamp Collector	29,000	35,000	23,234	21,340	16,068	14,447	17,664	13,463	13,670	15,736	15,143	13,037
Mekeel's & Stamps**	45,000	48,000	44,351	18,847	11,917	10,704	8,159	7,125	6,939	6,604	6,034	5,710
TOTALS	150,500	183,500	212,280	188,045	173,066	173,569	170,897	165,843	162,535	163,435	155,605	146,487

Source: for 1975-2002, data from sworn publisher statements: average total paid circulation for 12 months preceding October filing. [As reported in Nov. 18, 2002 Linn's.]
 * Data for 1955 and 1965 are approximations. **Mekeel's & Stamps were separate publications until 1996. Other commercial publications existed in the 1950s through the present. In 2002 the only other one is U.S. Stamp News. Figures for Stamp Wholesaler are not included for 1955 through 1999. They are included beginning in 2000, when Wholesaler was subsumed into Stamp Collector.

For the past several years *The Philatelic Communicator* has had an article on the circulation of stamp publications. This year the jibes and harpoons will be skipped and the data used to consider the direction of stamp collecting.

With their gracious permission, I will draw heavily on Michael Schreiber's "Open Album—State of the Hobby: Print Circulation Update" from the November 18, 2002 issue of *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* (page 3) and APS Vice President Janet Klug's account of the Membership Forum she initiated and a proposal of hers currently under consideration. Interspersed are some thoughts of my own.

FROM LINN'S

As can be seen from the above table taken from *Linn's*, the numbers continue to be depressing. Schreiber notes:

The 1990s saw momentous change in the number of commercial stamp publications. *Stamps* (the Harry Lindquist publication that saw huge circulation growth in the 1930s through the 1950s) hung on after Lindquist died in 1978, but it foundered and merged into the weekly *Mekeel's* in 1996. In 1995, *Mekeel's* was just hanging on as a tabloid of eight pages a week. The weekly *Stamp Collector* went fortnightly in 1999, and it swallowed the monthly *Stamp Wholesaler* in 2000.

He goes on to note that in his opinion the glass is still half full and states: "We still have the critical mass needed to sustain a weekly stamp publication and to sustain the stamp hobby as we've known it for the past thirty years. In general, the stamp hobby is healthy, but it is still living off the growth of the fat years of the 1960s and 1970s, when

the World War II generation and the young baby boomers jointly made the memberships and circulations rise and rise again."

Schreiber also made a projection to the year 2010 where both the *American Philatelist* and *Linn's* would decline to 34,000. Optimistic or pessimistic? Let's take a slightly different look at the situation.

APS MEMBERSHIP FORUM

In the First Quarter '02 *PC*, (page 11) I noted my disappointment when the APS "Forum on Membership Promotions" initiated by Janet Klug and scheduled for April 13 at State College was cancelled. However, the indefatigable Janet persevered and the Forum was rescheduled for STAMPSHOW. Advance publicity was modest and attendance was a correspondingly modest, but highly motivated, forty. It was encouraging to see many APS officers, directors and staff members present. Hopefully, with just a few exceptions, we are past the point where anyone expressing an honest concern for the future of the hobby will be castigated as a prophet of doom, naysayer or the like.

The forum was conducted by Janet and Director of Administration Frank Sente. Frank distributed a very comprehensive report. Included was a summary of past membership promotions from 1979 to date. There have been no fewer than sixty initiatives. Granted some were more successful than others, but the resourcefulness and drive of the APS staff in this area are impressive.



The demographic data and comments were quite candid and are a legitimate cause for concern. A chart showed the age distribution of APS applicants by decade from 1920 to 2000. Except for a slight increase attributed to World War II in the 1940s, the largest age group through 1950 was 30-39. By 2000 the 60 and over category was the largest. Clearly a 60+ year old's expected duration of active membership is far less than a 35-year-old.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

Last October, my wife and I were in Barcelona. In the hotel where we were staying, there was a complimentary copy of *Barcelona Plus*. This is a dual language magazine aimed at a tourist. The particular issue was Summer 2002 and was listed as No. 22. All in all—a quality publication. It included a section titled “Get-Away to Madrid” which contained the following on page 30:

Collectors

Coin and stamp collectors gather under the colonnades in *Plaza Mayor* on Sundays from early in the morning until 2 p.m. Strolling around stalls set on wooden boards resting on two trestles, on a fold away chair or simply with an album on display, makes you realise that the *average age of such collectors is quite high, almost as if they were a breed in danger of extinction* in a speculative society. If you wish to see or buy rare stamps and talk to true professionals from the sector who are also enthusiastic about their wares, all you need to do is wander around this square.

It's a tough assessment. A photograph that accompanied the article lent it credence. The “message” in the middle, obviously, was not in italics in the original. Much the same could be said for other parts of the world. The challenge is—what can we do to improve the situation?

WHAT TO DO?

Several suggestions were put forward by those attending and Janet has catalogued these in her report. She has also made the following proposal:

PROPOSAL

The Membership Forum produced many thoughtful suggestions that address specific targets for promotion. This proposal is an attempt to draw together those suggestions likely to have the maximum impact with the minimum cost. It is a two-pronged effort concentrating on a few of the suggestions presented at the forum. This recognizes that although many good ideas were proposed, monetary and personnel constraints prohibit implementing all of them at once.

Public Relations – Promoting the hobby promotes the APS

Traditional recruiting venues for APS (the philatelic press, stamp shows, word of mouth, dealers) have not been drawing sufficient new recruits to keep pace with those members who resign (for whatever reasons),

much less “grow the membership.” To explore the potential for new recruiting possibilities, APS should seek the advice of a professional public relations specialist to concentrate on the following areas:

1. Developing contacts with magazines, journals, newspapers, broadcast and electronic media. The contacts established should be cultivated regularly with calls and press kits that include (but are not limited to) articles or extracts from *American Philatelist* with reprint rights, scans of colorful stamps and covers or those in the news because of rarity, theft, or current events, and news briefs about APS.
2. Designing a promotion to a specific target audience (physicians, teachers, attorneys, etc.) or geographic area with specialized articles placed in trade or regional magazines or journals. Review this targeted approach after two years to determine effectiveness. If effective, that initial plan will serve as a template for developing future target promotions, which can be done in-house.
3. Evaluating de Vries' “killer app” of discounts and freebies and, if found to have merit, recommending a plan to utilize it.

NOTE: The APS membership should be canvassed to ascertain if a public relations specialist exists among the membership who would donate or charge reduced rates for their professional services.

Improved member relations

Several participants in the Membership Forum suggested that APS does not communicate well with its members. The following proposals are relatively inexpensive ways APS can improve communication with members.

1. Augment Chapter Activities Newsletter with single page bulletins that can be read at club meetings or published in club newsletters. Keep the news items short, factual, and lively, and invite comments from chapters.
2. Provide a similar bulletin for APS affiliates containing APS news that can be published in affiliates' journals or newsletters. Clubs and societies are generally very appreciative of written material for publication. Every bulletin should be designed to be reproduced “as is” to make it as easy as possible for clubs and affiliates to use. Each bulletin must include a brief invitation to become an APS member and perhaps a discount (waiving of the enrollment fee?) for joining through the bulletin's invitation.
3. Develop a flyer for club and societies on how to recruit new members and how to “sell” the hobby of stamp collecting to others.

Conclusion

In a lengthy and well-thought out document outlining many membership promotion ideas, APS member Louise Toft states that the APS must “make a real commitment to include an aggressive promotional

program as a part of the ongoing efforts of the organization. This last step is critical. It is also one that many organizations ignore. Many organizations assume that once the initial PR program has done its job, nothing more is required. This is a deadly attitude. Without the ongoing PR, the organization will gradually sink back to its former obscurity. A commitment to making an aggressive public relations program a part of the annual budget each and every year is required for success."

The longest journey begins with the first step. The forum and Janet's proposal may well constitute that first step. A very important point that was made is that the future of the Society has to be linked to the future of the hobby. Thus, promoting stamp collecting is key.

ANOTHER LOOK

If we consider the "Totals" row in *Linn's* report to be somewhat analogous to the number of stamp collectors, then comparing those data with our population gives an indication of the relative popularity of our hobby. As will be noted in the following chart, since the stamp "investment" boom in the mid to late 1970s, there has been a decline in both absolute and relative numbers.

Year	Total*	U.S. Population**	Total as a % of Population
1955	150,500	165,931,202	0.0907%
1965	183,500	194,302,963	0.0944%
1975	212,280	215,973,199	0.0983%
1985	188,045	237,923,795	0.0790%
1995	173,066	266,278,393	0.0650%
1996	173,569	269,394,284	0.0644%
1997	170,897	272,646,925	0.0627%
1998	165,843	275,854,104	0.0601%
1999	162,535	279,040,168	0.0582%
2000	163,435	282,224,348	0.0579%
2001	155,065	285,317,559	0.0543%
2002	146,487	288,368,698	0.0508%

* From *Linn's* "Totals" in previous table.
 **From United States Census Bureau midyear population estimates.

For the long term, it would be desirable to gain some insight into what motivates a person to collect, and how that knowledge might be put to use to strengthen our hobby. A joint effort by the major "stake holders" in stamp collecting might be required to do this. Who are the "stake holders?"

- The American Philatelic Society.
- The American Stamp Dealers Association

- Affiliates & Chapters of the APS.
- Unites States Postal Service.
- Independent publishers of books, periodicals, albums & catalogs.
- Major unaffiliated groups such as the Philatelic Foundation and the Collectors Club, New York.

The ill-fated Council of Philatelic Organizations (COPO) served as a vehicle for most of these groups to meet on common ground. Unfortunately, to some degree, turf considerations and funding created difficulties. To be productive a greater level of understanding and commitment to a common goal may well be required.

There are undoubtedly factors affecting our hobby that we have yet to even recognize, let alone understand. There will probably be some false starts and changes of direction, but one thing is rather clear—if we do nothing, nothing will change. □

A small sign "salvaged" from a breakfast:

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
 WRITER'S UNIT BREAKFAST
 8:30AM-10:30AM

WU 30 CRITIQUE SERVICE

Past president Charles J. Peterson operates the WU30 Critique Service. There is no charge for the service. Details are:

Periodicals—Submit the four most recent issues. Include postage equivalent to four times the *first* class mailing fee. Any unused amount will be returned. Critiques can be expected in about 30 days

Books/manuscripts—Inquire before sending, with a brief description of the item. Please include a stamped, addressed envelope for the reply. The time element for a book or manuscript can vary depending on length, other similar requests at hand and other commitments.

All submissions & correspondence should be sent to Charles J. Peterson, Box 5559, Laurel, MD 20726, phone 301 - 776-9822, e-mail: <cjp7777@aol.com>. □

Write freely and as rapidly as possible and throw the whole thing on paper. Never correct or rewrite until the whole thing is down. Rewrite in process is usually found to be an excuse for not going on.

—John Steinbeck

Going Beyond Your Album

by John M. Hotchner

Philately is like the sewer system. You only get to find out what's below the surface by going down there and rooting around.

Unlike the sewer system, though, rooting around in philately will be a pleasant experience. What will you find if you venture beyond your album? Let's look at a few of the possibilities:

There is philatelic literature, a representative of which you hold in your hands. But not only is there the weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. press, there is also a wealth of philatelic literature from monographs to society journals to books that can teach you things that are both fascinating and practical. Why practical? Because no dealer can know everything about everything. If you take the trouble and make a minor investment in educating yourself, you can find the needles in the haystack that others find: mis catalogued stamps and covers that have far more value than the cost. It's all in what you know.

It has been said that there is more literature on philately than any other hobby. I would not be surprised, because we have whole libraries full of the works of collectors who loved to study their stamps. And more is being released because our hobby provide-s endless material and topics to study. You too could be a researcher and author! If you would like a list I have made up of what I consider to be the essential works on U.S. philately, and how and where to find them, please send me a stamped addressed envelope and 40¢ postage to cover the cost copying, at PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041-0125.

Next is the material available on the Internet; no need to leave your house or even write a letter! I suggest you start with www.stamps.org, which is the American Philatelic Society's Website. If you are not a member, you should be! But you don't need to be to use the Website as a tie to much information about the hobby in the United States, and as a means of accessing many other philatelic Websites that undoubtedly cover information, dealers, and national societies that will hook your interest.

This article first appeared in John Hotchner's regular column, "Up Front" in the August 2002 issue of *U.S. Stamp News*. Our thanks to the author and John Dunn, the publisher, for permission to reprint. Ed. □

The physical business of writing is unpleasant to me, but the psychic satisfaction of discharging bad ideas in worse English makes me forget it.

—H. L. Mencken

►► Some Thoughts on Graphics (*continued from page 3*)

If you work in *WordPerfect* or some other program, what I have said may be moot, but your copy shop may be able to handle it. The trick is finding a printer willing to work from disk. Kinkos does - but they are too far from me to get first hand advice and my copy experience with them was expensive. They have their own format software that you can download, so you can actually save it to their format and see what it will look like, so they are a possibility. I think you can send it to them online as well. And I have heard good things about *AlphaGraphics* too. My own place is actually just a stationery and office supply store that does copying.

But perhaps I'd be more useful to you by answering your questions rather than attempting this stab in the dark. Let me know how I can help.

Regards,

Jean

Jean Walton is the secretary of the New Jersey Postal History Society. The editor will forward any questions our readers may have, and these together with Jean's replies may well warrant publication in a future *PC*. □

Literature Exhibition Calendar

Coordinators of Literature Exhibitions are encouraged to submit full information, including a prospectus, for these listings. Please contact the editor well in advance of the closing date for entries.

February 14-16, 2003

COLOPEX 2003, Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 North High St., Columbus, OH, entry fee \$25, deadline for entries: January 3, 2003, prospectus from Larry Richards, 1194 Manfeld Dr., Columbus, OH 43227-1436, e-mail: <richards11@att.net> or may be downloaded from Website: <<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/wbeau/>>

August 7-10, 2003

A.P.S. STAMPSHOW, Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, NJ, entry fee \$25, deadline for entries is May 15, 2003. For information contact Ken Martin, APS, Box 8000, State College, PA 16803, phone 814 237-3803 ext 218, fax 814 237-6128, e-mail: <stampshow@stamps.org>, Website (which contains prospectus and entry forms): <www.stamps.org/directories/dir_Shows_Exhibitions.htm>.

October 3-5, 2003

SESCAL 2002, Radisson at LAX Hotel, 6225 W. Century Blvd, Los Angeles, Bob de Violini reported a potential conflict with the ASDA. Check SESCAL Website for up-to-date information: <www.sescal.org>.

November 21-3, 2003

CHICAGOPEX 2003, Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 West Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60005, information from John Kevin Doyle, 5815 Lenox Road, Lisle, IL 60532-3138, e-mail: <doyle-stamps@att.net>, Website (prospectus will soon be available): <www.chicagopex.com>. □

PHILAKOREA 2002 World Philatelic Exhibition 2-11, August 2002

by Joseph Monteiro

PHILAKOREA 2002, the third World Philatelic Exhibition in Korea, was held in Seoul at COEX beginning on August 2, 2002. Korea's first World Philatelic Exhibition was held in Korea in 1984 and the second was held there ten years later. PHILAKOREA 2002 was expected to create excitement similar to that of Korea's participation and success in the World Cup games. Based on the Phila spirit of "Love, Harmony, Participation and Progress," the exhibition was supposed to provide entertainment to the more than 150 countries that participated.

PHILAKOREA PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION

The selection of Korea as the site for the World Philatelic Exhibition draws attention to the growing importance of philately in Asia. The Court of Honour exhibits were: *The Postal History of Egypt 1419-1880*; *Australasian Birdlife*; *Turkey-The City Post of Constantinople (Istanbul)*; *The Kingdom And Empire of Korea 1884-1905*; *Vikings*; and *Siam Classic*.

The literature exhibits consisted of 148 entries in three classes: Class A - Philatelic Books and Research Papers, Class B - Philatelic Magazines and Periodicals and Class C - Catalogues. The entries covered a wide range of subjects ranging from chess masters to aviation from countries as far off as Argentina and Russia.

THE PHILAKOREA RESULTS

The awards given for PHILAKOREA 2002 are summarized in the following statistics. The awards were: 3 large gold; 5 gold; 14 large vermeil; 18 vermeil (one included felicitations); 29 large silver; 34 silver (one included felicitations); 31 silver bronze; 6 bronze; and 3 certificate of participation. The awards in the top categories were: 2.03% large gold; 3.38% gold; 9.46% large vermeil; and 12.84% vermeil. The majority of awards fell into the silver (23.65%), silver bronze (20.95%) and large silver (19.59%) categories.

These results indicate that if one is hoping to be at the very top (i.e., in the large gold and gold classes) the chances are about 5% and sometimes even less. It should be pointed out that being at the top does not imply or guarantee that the book will automatically be a best seller. Being a best seller usually will depend on how important and relevant the book is to philately and philatelists.

THE COUNTRIES THAT FARED THE BEST AT PHILATELIC LITERATURE

The countries that received the most awards in the categories - large gold, gold and large vermeil were: Italy (3); Norway (3); Great Britain (2); Denmark (2); Canada (2). Other countries that won one gold or one vermeil were: Germany, Russia, Chile, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Japan, and USA.

The large gold awards were won by: Lasse Nielsen for *The bicolored stamps of Denmark 1870-1905 (6 Volumes)*; Lorenzo Carra for *1866. La liberazione del veneto*; and Vincenzo Fardella de Quernfort for *Postal History of the Kingdom of Sicily from its Beginnings to the Introduction of the Postage Stamp (1130-1858)*.

Of the twenty-two awards in the three categories, sixteen were in Class A, two were in Class B and four were in Class C. From a percentage perspective, Class C fared better than Class A. There were no large gold or gold medals in Class B.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

In summary, PHILAKOREA 2002 appears to have had all the hallmark characteristics of a World Class Exhibition. The Exhibition Catalogue and Palmares were printed in colour and their quality is noteworthy. They were made available on time and the results were sent to the entrants a few days after the event for those who could not attend. The Exhibition floor plan indicates a specific place for the display of literature entries but I cannot offer any comments on its adequacy as I did not attend this event. The awards and certificates issued appear similar to that offered at other exhibitions.

WRITING/LAYOUT MENTORING

Barth Healey, a senior staff editor at *The New York Times* and an accredited national and international literature judge, is ready, willing and able to review society journals and other publications and offer some constructive comments. He has also had extensive writing and layout experience. Send two or three recent issues to him at 86 Bar Beach Road, Port Washington, NY 11050-4029. (Supplying return postage would be a nice gesture.)

Anything that isn't writing is easy.

---Jimmy Breslin

Producing a Handbook for on the Internet

by Joseph D. Hahn

A number of years after starting to collect Paraguay I noted that although there were a reasonable number of articles on the philately of Paraguay, the last and only Handbook was the 1911 one done by Charles J. Phillips. Although this work was very helpful for the issues up to about 1910, later research had pointed out some errors and there was no coverage of postal stationery or revenues.

Therefore, I decided to see if I could produce a handbook. My period of interest was from Spanish Colonial Times up to 1940. It is fortunate that the American Philatelic Research Library is located close to where I live so I was able to spend a lot of time going through the various philatelic magazines and auction catalogs housed there. I made photocopies of the articles and auction sales.

After I had acquired all the information I could find, I devised a record sheet for each of the major Scott numbers for Paraguay. Then I systematically went through all the information I had recording dates of issue, varieties, printers, quantities, essays, proofs, covers and so forth. This information was supplemented with material in my own collection as well as items noted in exhibits and from correspondence I had from a couple of other collectors.

My first home computer was a Radio Shack Color-Computer that I had acquired second hand about 1987. About five years later I took a course in computer programming and up-graded to a 486 PC. I added a printed and flatbed scanner and experimented in scanning and printing stamps and covers to illustrate my collection. I found that the more I did with my computer, the more I wanted to do.

After upgrading again to a more powerful computer I had considered producing a web page for some of my collecting interests but was hesitant about learning the HTML code in order to do so. About this time I purchased a copy of *Office 97, Professional Edition* and in the process of installing it I was asked if I want to have *WORD* be my HTML editor. I replied that I did and discovered that I could write in *WORD* and have it saved in HTML format for on a web page. I didn't need to learn the coding! Now, using my data record sheets I began a draft of the handbook. I discovered that *geocities* was offering a free homepage and so I took advantage of this opportunity. I had already written three or four sections and so I put my draft on this site.

Next, I got my page listed on Joe Luft's site and then had my page listed with several search engines. As time permitted I continued to add sections. I was surprised at the number of people who visited the site and added or corrected information or who made helpful suggestions.

This process is still on going. That is, I am still working on additional sections - counterfeits, cancellations, etc. - and I continue to receive helpful e-mails. I have scanned in all the issues including major varieties I possess and shall add these to the draft as time permits. Thus, the work is still in the draft stage.

When I have finished doing all the sections I plan on waiting six months for final comments and then reformatting a final draft with color illustrations. I have truly been surprised at the number of collectors of this supposed "unpopular" country. Paraguay offers an excellent opportunity for a collector to put together a fascinating collection for a modest sum.

The 1878 provisional issues are about the only exception to this. There are still a lot of questions to be answered and new discoveries to be made. For material prior to 1940 there seems to be a decent demand and interest. I do not know about issues after this time as they are outside the scope of my interest. I know the handbook will be only a beginning for much more can be learned and discovered about the philately of this area. If any reader would like to see the draft go to <http://www.geocities.com/~joehahn/handbook/index.html> I would appreciate any comments or suggestions. □

EDITORS' FAQ

by Larry Goldberg

Q. What about leading?

A. My own rule of thumb for leading when setting text is to allow about 20% leading for type from 9 to 11 points and approximately 15% on fonts 12 to 14 points in height. This will vary from face to face however and is somewhat subjective.

Q. How should I treat direct quotes from other sources?

A. My preference is to indent and use an italic face of the same style as your normal text face, I would leave all the other factors (size, leading, line spacing, *et al*) should remain the same.

Q. How many graphics do I need in an article?

A. My rule of thumb is to have at least one graphic per page of article. Unfortunately, it doesn't always work out that way, but that's always been my objective.

That's a Virus—Not a Cold!

A few months' ago, a good friend who chairs a committee of the American Philatelic Society received an e-mail with an attachment ostensibly from Bob Lamb, the APS Executive Director. A few weeks and six hundred and some odd dollars later he got his computer back on line. The culprit—the Klez Virus.

About the same time, I, and many others, began to receive what appeared to be legitimate messages with attachments from people we knew. Many of them, part of, or connected to the APS "Official Family." Sometimes, the title of the attachment raised a red flag, like the one seemingly from Ann Triggles with an attachment titled "Spice Girls." Don't really think so!

Many of us got a little "gun-shy" in dealing with suspicious messages. I formed the habit of sending a message along the following lines before opening an attachment that was not clearly expected:

Recently there has been an upsurge of e-mail with attachments that APPEAR to come from known stamp collectors and philatelic organizations. During the past week I've received between three and six of these a day. The source is bogus and the attachments frequently contain the "Klez" worm virus. I've been told that this Klez virus searches the Windows address book, the ICQ database and local files for email addresses. The worm sends an email message to these addresses with itself as an attachment.

I know of at least three people that have had major hard drive and/or file problems caused by this. Therefore, I will not be opening any mail with an attachment unless I am positive that it is legitimate. Please contact me before sending any attachment.

Sorry to have to do this, but there's really little choice in the matter.

In response to a message, like the one above, to something that "appeared" have come from Ada Prill, I received the following:

I've gotten very hardnosed about attachments. If Tom Fortunato sends me an email with the text "here is the latest ROPEX exhibit list" and the distribution list is people for whom that would be appropriate, I'll open it. But if I got an email from him with "Hey, look at this" as the text or no text, just the attachment, it would be deleted immediately. Same with everybody else - it has to be something that ought to come from that person to me and there must be a note of what it is before I even think about sending it on to the other address for opening.

I got burned last fall - cost about \$350 to get things up and running again. (I was trying to upgrade my VirusScan, and it temporarily was not working at all.)

Best regards,
Ada

An exchange with APS Executive Director Bob Lamb yielded the following:

Joe,

It is not legit. It is one of scores of messages circulating in philately created by—and propagating—the KLEZ virus. Just delete it. Brian [Krasinski] tells me that none of those messages even originate in the APS system. Our machines have protection which most personal computers do not.

It has reached the point that we don't use attachments and don't open them here unless we know who sent them and why.

I understand that the KLEZ virus was designed to penetrate machines that use Outlook when the attachments are opened. We do not use outlook and if you do you may be especially vulnerable.

Any messages that you receive from anyone in the APS with an attachment should be deleted.

...and later that same day:

Joe, Brian provided me with this which you might find interesting.

Here's a link that explains the faked e-mail headers in some detail . . . http://www.truthminers.com/truth/trace_spam.htm

Feel free to distribute this to anyone who needs further explanation.

Bob

There were similar messages from several others, all with the same caution—check before opening. Unfortunately there were also accounts of damage done to files and hard drives.

This is particularly insidious when the message appears to come from a friend, and especially "vexing" [not the word I had in mind, but a "nicer" one] for an editor looking for an article to complete the issue that is running a bit behind.

JEF□

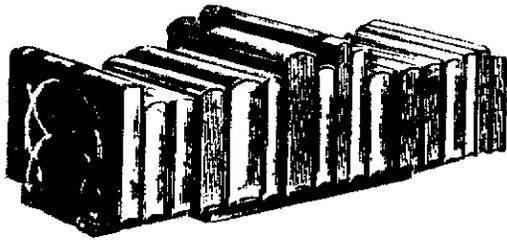
EDITORS' FAQ

by Larry Goldberg

Q. What kind of a type face should I use?

A. That's like asking me how high is up, but most of the time I prefer a sans serif face for the headlines and subheads and a serif face for the text. □





REVIEWS

NOTE: Material for review may be sent to the editor at the address noted on the inside front cover. Reviews are also welcomed from others. Reviews from those having an interest in the item such as publishers, distributors, etc., must include a copy of the publication with the review [which, on request, we will return]. *Philatelic Communicator* reviews should be concise and stress those aspects that are helpful examples (positive or negative) for other authors, editors and publishers.

Correction:

In the review of *China-Tianjin Postal and Cultural History* that was published in the third quarter issue, the price was inadvertently noted as "\$95.00 (+\$4 postage), \$10.00 additional for air mail." James Bendon has advised us that the price is \$45.00 and that the \$4.00 for postage covers second class airmail.

***Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers, 1840-1940*, James E. Kloetzel, et al, Scott Publishing Co., 911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, OH 45365, 2002, 1068 pages, hard cover, \$124.99, ISBN**

When I first read the full page ad in *Linn's*, I thought there might be a typo or that this was a special deluxe edition of the customary \$35 catalog. Not so. In one fell swoop the price tripled.

From a content point of view, the addition of the Chinese Treaty Port stamps is a definite plus. And there are other useful editorial additions. Beyond that we have a catalog that is now hardbound and much being made of the use of color on most, but not all, illustrations.

At a price tag of more than \$100, is it worth it? Perhaps more to the point will collectors buy it? While the December 2, 2002 issue of *Linn's* waxes eloquently on how wonderful this catalog[ue] is, particularly the use of color, my assessment is that the quality of the illustrations could stand considerable improvement and the color illustrations are, at best, an approximation. Perhaps we are used to the graphic quality produced by the major auction houses.

It remains a fine catalog, but what a price!

JEF

***Sassone Blu 2003 Catalogue of the Stamps of Italy and States on Italian Territory (Old Italian States, The Kingdom, Italian Socialist Rep., Lieutenancy, The Republic, Trieste, San Marino, Vatican City and Sovereign Military Order of Malta)*, Sassone S.R.L., Via Benedetto Croce 68/116, 00142 Roma, Italy, e-mail:**

sassone@pronet.it, 2002, 62nd ed., 376 pp., soft cover: €12.50 (Postpaid to the USA: € 20.92 [surface], € 33.00 [airmail]).

This type of catalogue is meant to be a handy reference at a minimum cost. It became available in September. As such, it provides less extensive description than those usually found in the full edition of the three-volume Sassone catalogue of Italy and former Colonies and States of the Italian area, or in Scott. The language, largely philatelic in nature, is not difficult to deal with. While all stamps are printed in multicolor, not every stamp of a series is illustrated unless part of a se-tenant group or miniature sheet. This compact catalogue is a masterpiece of printing on highest quality paper with soft-cover binding. What is most helpful is that prices are now in Euros for the first time.

Collectors of the Italian area will have all the countries in one book with prices current in that part of the world. For Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) enthusiasts it is a definitive reference because these stamps remain unlisted except for the Italian publications. The latest edition of the Said SMOM catalogue is 1996 and values are in Maltese pounds. Religious philately has here a rich assortment of subjects to discover.

The last listings for Italy are those of July 2002; for SMOM it is the St. John series of June 25, 2002; for the Vatican it is the 150th anniversary of the Pontifical States stamps, June 13.

Augustine H. Serafini

***Canada's Registered Mail, 1802-1909, From Money Letters Through Insurance for a Fee*, by Horace W. Harrison, George B. Arfken and Harry W. Lussey, K. Gray Scrimgeour editor, Collectors Club of Chicago, 1029 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60610-2803, 2002, 487 + xv pages, 8½ x 11", bibliography, tables, government notices, thirty-six appendices, illustrations and index, \$80 from the publisher, postpaid in the U.S., ISBN 916675-13-0.**

Once again, the Collectors Club of Chicago has published a book of significance and quality. *Canada's Registered Mail* is the product of a lifetime study by the authors. The development of the Canadian registry is traced from the very early "Money Letter" letter procedures based on that used in Great Britain at the beginning of the 19th century to the start of the following century.

The work is divided into five parts and a total of eighteen chapters. Part One (forty-one pages) deals with the Money Letter period from 1802 to 1855. Part Two (ninety-two pages) Registration from 1855 to 1875. Part Three (eighty-six pages) covers the registered letter stamps in considerable detail, taking five chapters. Chapter Eight, "The Anomalous Five Cent Registered Letter Stamp Plate Two" was published as a two-part article in the July-August and September-October 2000 issues of the *Collec-*

tors Club Philatelist and garnered the Collectors Club Medal for the best article published that year.

The most extensive section is Part Four (131 pages) that covers postal usage through the Edward VII period, in eight chapters. Part Five is a single chapter of eleven pages illustrating and listing registration postmarks. There are ninety pages of appendices, chiefly government notices, tables, etc. The depth of the authors' study becomes very apparent here and in the many citations throughout the book. In addition to the tables in the appendices, there are forty-two in the body of the book and a list of these follows the table of contents.

Endnotes are used with effectiveness. There is a good bibliography and a useful index. Very few typos were noted. Externalities are up to the usual fine standard associated with Collectors Club of Chicago publications. While there were some instances where crisper illustrations would have enhanced the book, all are quite adequate to convey the authors' intent. There are more than 500 illustrations.

This book will undoubtedly be a standard reference for Canadian Registry for many years. It will also be a standard that similar undertakings for other nations may be compared.

In exchanging e-mails with Les Winick regarding this book, Les related the following:

The CCC Publications Director, Harold Stral, had been in constant communication with Horace Harrison for the year prior to publication. Horace told Harold he was very sick and once he went into the hospital, did not know how much longer he would be around. Harold had a printed copy make up from the disk and expressed mailed it to Horace. He received it a few days before he passed away. His wife called to say that he was very pleased with the book.

This is a tribute to the thoughtfulness of Harold Stral and the Collectors Club of Chicago.

JEF

***The Congress Book 2002*, edited by Richard W. Helbock. American Philatelic Congress, 2002, 188 + iv pages, 10 x 7", hardcover, illustrations, included in membership in the American Philatelic Congress, ISBN 0-929333-28-4.**

Like in 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1999, the Congress Book this year was down to only seven papers, but it was still a nicely mixed bag in terms of subject. Robert Hohertz has written, "A Centennial Look at the Revenue Imprinted Railroad Tickets of 1898-1902"; Regis Hoffman and Thomas J. Richards fill us in on the "Development of the Hollywood Fan Mail System"; Alfred F. Kugel updates us with "Still More Turmoil in the Balkans 1990-2000"; Steve Pendleton gives us insight into the "Philately of America's Little-Known Pacific Islands"; Joseph J. Cartafalsa and John P. Carroll Jr. write on "An Introduction to the Viet

Cong & Miet Nam Stamps of Vietnam"; Peter Martin explores "The Postal History of U.S. National Parks: The Eastern Parks"; and Mark Piper tells us about "Sugar."

The Hohertz article nicely weaves together the histories of the railroad tickets, which were tax stamps to put a surcharge on luxury riding or sleeping accommodations. The tax was in effect from mid-1898 until mid-1902, to pay for the Spanish-American War. Many readers will wonder about this time period because they may think that the war was over within a few months in 1898. However, it took much longer to come to a peace treaty with Spain, and—separately—the U.S. military ended up fighting a guerilla war in the Philippines for even longer: the now forgotten Filipino-American War. The Hohertz article is well organized and well-written, and presents a solid package of information in less than twenty pages.

I have recently seen two exhibits of Hollywood fan mail, and appreciate the Hoffman/Richards material even more than I would have given my previous interest in cultural/social postal history. That said, some may still look down their noses at this material as being about nothing much more than private receiving marks and sorting systems at the movie studios. As a collector of advertising covers, I am in no position to do likewise toward someone who is primarily concerned with mail's recipients. The authors have devised a typology of thirty-seven studio markings, have attempted to pinpoint earliest and latest known dates, and have even come up with a rarity scale. They claim that of more than 15,000 fan mail covers they have examined, fewer than 2% have born studio markings. All of them have something to do with misdirected mail: forwarding marks, and markings noting mail is "uncalled for," or that the address is "not at" the firm receiving the letter. One wonders if the fans were rarely inaccurate (unlikely) or if a lot of misaddressed mail was simply thrown away. In any case, it's an interesting read for the Americana hobbyist.

Kugel's piece on the Balkans starts off with a sort of encyclopedia-like summary of the ten-year period, which may or may not be necessary and certainly doesn't tell us anything new. He then shows us eighteen covers, which are not presented in any discernibly organized fashion. This reader needed a time line, chart, or better-annotated map (the two included are bare bones) to get my hands around this whole subject. The article leaves the reader with the idea that the philately of the period for the area is a mish-mash that cannot be explained or organized.

As one would expect, Steven Pendleton's article is authoritative, well organized and well-written. We get a little bit of history about places such as Jarvis Island and Kingman Reef, and then presumably everything that is known about their postal history. I do not collect material even tangentially related but thoroughly enjoyed his article. (It was once said that the sun never set upon the British

Empire, but Pendleton's article reminds us that the sun sets only a few hours on the American.)

Cartafalsa and Carroll's article introduces us to stamps listed by all of the world's major catalogs except Scott. This is billed as the "first ever comprehensive article on the subject," and so it is. We get a list of the stamps, explanation of usages, markings, late usages of Viet Cong stamps, "first day covers," overprints, surcharges and postmarks. The authors have told us a great deal here and are candid about the fact that there is more to know, and also the difficulty of finding out more: the material is quite scarce. Overall, this is another fascinating article, and I think more important than may be at first realized.

Martin's is a fun article, about 12 national parks in the eastern United States. (He has his work cut out for him in the future, as that means that more than 40 national parks are in the "western United States.") He shows examples of postmarks, entire postcards and covers, as well as photos of parks' post offices. His focus is on the development of postal services in and near national parks, with lists and dates for "forerunners," post offices inside the parks (if any), and "gateway cities." Martin's collection here is one that may prompt others to ask, "Why didn't I think of that?"

Mark Piper's article is, at the least, very badly titled. The title, "Sugar," suggests that the article might be topical or thematic. It is, sort of. The article is about "Cuba's unique sugarcane harvest stationery," with the emphasis on only the 1965-1969 period. The article should be titled, "Cuba's Sugarcane Harvest Stationery, 1965-1969, and Sugar-Related Stamps." The article also devotes much space to encyclopedia-like backgrounds on Cuban sugar, sugar economics, and what one might call "sugar politics." Then it finally gets into the postal stationery, designed to be used for letters sent to and from sugarcane workers during harvest time. It is a traditional philately style study of the postal stationery, followed by a brief and more topically oriented look at sugar-themed Cuban stamps. The article overall is quite informative, but Piper can't quite focus on a single topic, structure or perspective: is the article thematic with plenty of history added in, or a traditional postal stationery study? Piper tries to do both, plus throws in "End Notes," instead of a "Conclusion," followed by a four-page "Appendix," which in turn is followed by a page and a half "Research and Background" section. One of the primary chores of an anthology editor is to shape and prune an out-of-control contribution, which Helbock failed to do here.

Dane S. Claussen

The Cachets of C. S. Anderson, Andrew Boyajian, published by the author, Box 401, Cranbury NJ 08512, 2002, 142 pages, 8½ x 11", soft covers, stapled, illustrated, available from the author \$25 postpaid in the U.S.

This book is a perfect example of how a first day cover collector, who focuses on a particular cachet maker, can take that information after thorough research and produce a record that benefits all FDC collectors. Andrew Boyajian's dedication to the work of Charles Stephen Anderson resulted in this nicely illustrated catalog of the well-known cachet producer.

For background information the author contacted Anderson family members including his widow, as well as one of the individuals who helped print the cachets. Following a brief profile of Anderson, the catalog presents excellent reproductions of his cachets in Scott catalog number sequence. In some cases cachet varieties are noted. The author occasionally comments on envelope varieties and typographical errors in the cachet text. A few spaces in the catalog are reserved for future use, indicating that more information is needed. Even though prices are not shown for the cachets, this is an important reference work for collectors.

Alan Warren

U. S. Naval Slogan Cancellers in the Canal Zone and Panama Area 1908-1948, Second Edition, by Robert J. Karrer, Jr. Supplement to Canal Zone Philatelist, Canal Zone Study Group, 501 Rosemont Lane, Greer, SC, 29650, 2002, 106 pages, 8½ x 11", Index Card Stock Bound, illustrations, table of contents, introduction, acknowledgments, price unknown, no ISBN listed.

A listing of Locy Type 3 and 5 cancellations with slogans between the killer bars that are known to have been used by naval facilities and U.S. Navy ships in Panama and the Canal Zone between 1908 and 1948. The end date was established by the small number of these old type cancellers put back into service after the security concerns of World War II. In a few instances, some different types of cancellers (i.e., Locy Fancy Type 9) are included. In those instances where a slogan does not refer to an isthmus location, slogans are included only when some other evidence of location (e.g., ship's deck log, isthmus postal markings, etc.) is known.

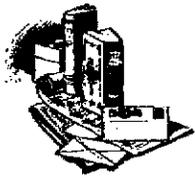
The body of the text is divided into three parts. Ship's cancellers with slogans comprise more than eighty percent of the book. The remaining twenty-percent is roughly divided into slogan cancellers used by Naval Shore Facilities and photographs of the shore facilities. Transports operated by the Army are not included.

There are numerous illustrations Navy ships and Shore Facilities. A few covers are illustrated. Unfortunately, the photographs are almost uniformly dark obscuring details. Despite the book's shortcomings it will be a valuable addition to the naval cover collector's reference library.

John Lyding □

If you would be a reader, read; if a writer, write.

—*Epictetus*



LETTERS

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

(As of December 3, 2002)

Welcome Our New Member:

1883 Rev. Robert T. Voss, 5333 Kevins Way, Madison, WI 53714-3413. Editor: *Badger Bulletin* (Badger Stamp Club); Free-lance Writer: *Across the Fence Post* (Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs); feature articles: "HIV/AIDS on Stamps" and "Collecting Semipostals." Sponsor: George Griffenhagen.

Change of Addresses:

- 1489** Peter D. Martin, P.O. Box 791, State College, PA 16804.
- 1847** Graham Phillips, Philatelic Exporter, The Media Centre, Garcia Estate, Canterbury Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 1EH, Great Britain.
- 1831** Kathleen Wunderly, 210 East Howard Street, Bellefonte, PA 16822-1812

Membership Dues:

Dues are noted on page 2. Payment must be made in U.S. funds by a check imprinted with a U.S. bank transit number, or by postal money order, payable to "APS Writers Unit #30." Some overseas members prefer to send U.S. bank notes by registered mail. Other methods of payment are not acceptable due to high bank exchange charges.

Keep Your Mailing Address Current

Please notify the Secretary Treasurer of address changes to assure that you receive each issue of *The Philatelic Communicator* without delay. This will also save WU#30 more than one dollar because the USPS charges fifty cents when they have to send us an address correction, and we still have to pay the postage for re-shipping the issue to the member.

DOCUMENT RETENTION

Drafts and manuscripts will usually be retained for approximately ninety days after the issue in which the article, etc., appears is published. Correspondence will normally be discarded after approximately six months.

A writer's problem does not change. He himself changes and the world he lives in changes but his problem remains the same. It is always how to write truly and having found what is true, to project it in such a way that it becomes part of the experience of the person who reads it.

—Ernest Hemingway

From Lloyd de Vries: I have stopped using the Postal Service's post-first day press releases on the *Virtual Stamp Club*. They are just rewrites of the pre-first day press releases, usually produced in Washington regardless of where the event was held. Worse, they do not reflect what actually happened or was said at the ceremony.

I attended the first day ceremony Sept. 15 for the Irving Berlin stamp, tacked onto the beginning of the annual *Broadway On Broadway* outdoor festival in Times Square. The post-first day press release issued by the Postal Service says: "Joining Walsh at the stamp dedication ceremony were Jed Bernstein, President, League of American Theatres and Producers; Tim Tompkins, President, Times Square Business Improvement District; Linda Emmett, Irving Berlin's daughter, and her children." If Bernstein and Tompkins were there, they were well hidden, either during the stamp ceremony or the next hour of the Broadway on Broadway show. As for "children," there was one Berlin granddaughter in evidence.

I allow a certain amount of flackery in press releases — I wouldn't expect the USPS to tell us if its stamp enlargement fell over during the ceremony or the microphone didn't work — but something as basic as who showed up seems to me to be a requirement. There are postal press reps in attendance at all these ceremonies. Often, the participants stray from the scripted remarks (also the same as in the pre-first day press releases) and say something interesting. In the case of the Irving Berlin stamp, Postal Gov. John Walsh told the audience he could think of "no better opportunity than right here, right now with all of you" to dedicate the stamp. It was a good line. Too bad it's not in the USPS' post-ceremony report.

From Kevin Doyle: If the exhibitor does not asks for the entry to be returned, CHICAGOPEX donates the philatelic literature exhibits to philatelic libraries after the show.

We donate to the APRL, the WPL, the Collectors Club of Chicago library, the Jack Knight Airmail Society (here in Chicago) and the Austin Philatelic Club (also in the Chicagoland area). I know there are other U.S. philatelic Libraries, and would like to add them to the potential recipient list. Would it be possible to put a note in the *Philatelic Communicator* asking interested libraries to contact me.?

We're probably locked into these five libraries this year, so no particular rush—early next year would do. (Kevin's address is 5815 Lenox Road, Lisle, IL 60532-3138, e-mail: doyle-stamps@att.net.

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Table of Contents

Articles	Departments & Short Items
Envelopes and Copyright by Marianna Vaidman Stone 1	The Quill (Editorial) 2
Some Thoughts on Graphics by Jean Walton 3	Deadlines 2
Computer Corner by Kendall C. Sanford 4	President's Message 3
By the Numbers ! by Joseph E. Foley 5	New Editor for <i>First Days</i> 3
Going Beyond Your Album by John M. Hotchner 8	WU 30 Critique Service 7
PHILAKOREA 2002 World Philatelic Exhibition 2-11, August 2002 by Joseph Monteiro 9	Literature Exhibition Calendar 8
Producing a Handbook for on the Internet by Joseph D. Hahn 10	Writing/Layout Mentoring 9
That's a Virus—Not a Cold! by Joseph E. Foley 11	Editors' FAQ 10 & 11
	Reviews 12
	Letters 15
	Secretary-Treasurer's Report 15
	Document Retention (PC) 15

Of all fatiguing, futile, empty trades, the worst, I suppose
is writing about writing.

—Hilaire Belloc