

# Stamping Around

## Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.

Flower Mound Meetings: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

3020 Corporate Ct, Ste 400 (Step Up Sports Medicine)

Lake Granbury Meetings: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



Volume 38, Number 10

<https://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

October 2025

### Topic Of The Month: Stamp Collecting

By Peter Elias



According to the ATA (American Topical Association), their checklist for the topic of "Stamp Collecting" lists 75 stamps, of which the 5 shown here should be on that list.

October is of course "Stamp Collecting Month". This was designated as such in 1981 by the US Postal Service (in collaboration with the COPO - the Council of Philatelic Organizations). Hopefully, ANY sort of publicity for this should help our hobby.

Speaking as a die-hard stamp collector (although I do think of myself as a "philatelist"), I think that EVERY month should be a stamp collecting one, and beyond that, for me, it's really a 24/7 thing...

While these days, many people talk about "is there an APP for that?" ... I tend to think more in terms of "is there a STAMP for that?" Especially when I go to historical venues or museums, I always see if any part of that is (or could be) illustrated with stamps, postmarks, postal history, etc. As was the case with a recent trip to Denison where I visited the Red River Railroad Museum. Lots of interesting items to see. They even had a video of an audacious publicity stunt that was done (in Waco) back in 1896, called the [Crash in Crush](#). While I didn't see any stamps or postal history items there, the

curator was telling me that while Utah was the meeting of the transcontinental (east/west) railroads, Denison was the meeting of the "north / south" railroads. So immediately I mentioned that while there's no stamp for the Denison meeting of the rails, there are actually 4 US stamps that commemorate the "Golden Spike" that was hammered into the railway ties.

When I got back home, I wrote her a letter enclosing those 4 stamps (USA #922 and #5378-5380) in the hopes of helping to publicize stamp collecting and that she can find an appropriate place to put the stamps. That's one of the ways I try to help publicize our hobby!

The booklet pane of 4 above is Scott #2198-2201 issued in 1986 for the Ameripex show. To the left is #1474 from 1972. A bit lesser known is the postal stationery card, #UX110, was issued in Chicago, but was also sold at Najubria 86 in Germany. Whether this card is on the ATA checklist, I don't know.

In any case, try to help publicize our hobby (and the MCSC!), not just in October, but whenever possible! I do.



Inset: The USPS used to have nice machine cancel slogans that publicized stamp collecting in the 1990s.

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Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club  
Peter Elias, Editor ([news@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto:news@mid-citiesstampclub.com))

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## 2025 - 2026 MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Membership in the Mid-Cities Stamp Club is available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Feel free to attend any of our 3 different meeting sites in the greater Dallas / Ft. Worth area! Dues are only \$12 per year (which includes an emailed or online color newsletter, or \$22 for mailed black & white newsletters). For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or : [editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto:editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

For a membership application write to:

**Mid-Cities Stamp Club**  
P.O. Box 820784  
N. Richland Hills, TX 76182-0784

or visit: <https://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

## Coming Attractions

### 2025

<b>SEP. 23</b>	<b>MCSC — LAKE GRANBURY Meeting</b>
Program:	Club Auction
<b>SEP. 27</b>	<b>MCSC - EXPO Planning Meeting 11 AM</b>
David's BBQ at 2224 W. Park Row, Ste H in Pantego	
<b>OCT. 1</b>	<b>MCSC — ARLINGTON Meeting</b>
Program:	Picnic; "Postage Dues" by Skip Ely
<b>OCT. 4 - 5</b>	<b>Antique Extravaganza</b>
<u>Large Antique show</u> at the Plano Events Center, 2000 E. Spring Valley Pkwy, Plano (just east of US-75). There will be 5+ postcard dealers present. Free parking, but admission is \$12 (\$10 if bought online Oct. 1 or prior).	
<b>OCT. 15</b>	<b>MCSC — FLOWER MOUND Meeting</b>
Program:	Extended Show & Tell and philatelic discussions
<b>OCT. 28</b>	<b>MCSC — LAKE GRANBURY Meeting</b>
Program:	Club Picnic
<b>NOV. 5</b>	<b>MCSC — ARLINGTON Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD
<b>NOV. 7 - 8</b>	<b>MCSC 38th Annual EXPO</b>
Grapevine Convention Center, 1208 S. Main Street	
<b>NOV. 19</b>	<b>MCSC — FLOWER MOUND Meeting</b>
Program:	Extended Show & Tell and philatelic discussions



*"Editor At Work"*  
LEGO™ MOC by Marcos Elias

## Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

In the September issue, I listed the Fall Dallas Postcard Show as being from Oct. 11 - 12. Jim Taylor of CourthouseSquare.net ran this show; apparently he passed this spring shortly after the Spring Dallas Postcard Show. I was told by a member of the Dallas Postcard Club, that many of the dealers would be attending the Antique Extravaganza at the Plano Events Center on Oct. 4 - 5 instead.

EXPO is almost here! If you haven't already signed to work a "shift" during show, see Janet. A sign-up sheet has been circulating at the various meetings!

If you are reading this newsletter, it is probably for 1) getting the club-related news (meeting minutes, requests for volunteers, upcoming events such as picnics, EXPO, club auctions & programs) and/or 2) reading the various "philatelic-related" articles written by various members. Now, reading an article is not the same as writing one. That can take a bit more effort.

As I go about my daily life, many times I wonder "is there a stamp for that?" (just like many people ask whether there "is there is an app for that"). This comes to mind every time I go to a museum and wonder if a stamp could enhance the story that they are telling there.

An email conversation with a fellow collector about mis-delivered mail prompted me to write an article (see late in this newsletter).

And certainly, given that stamps & stamp collecting are a bit "under the radar" these days, I like to do what I can to help keep stamps and our hobby visible to the public!



## Secretary's Report

By Janet Moyer

**Applications Received:**  
Cliff Stearns (#690), collects USA

**New Members:**  
Michael Ross (#688) collects US singles  
Julie Denton (#689) collects Germany, Austria, Space, Sci-Fi & Fantasy

**Reinstated:**  
n/a

**Deceased:**  
n/a

### Membership Summary – September 17, 2025

Membership as of August 20, 2025	100
Applications Rec'd (counts as new member next month)	1
New Members	2
Not Renewing for 2025	( 0 )
Resignations	( 0 )
Deceased	( 0 )
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of September 17, 2025	102

## Where Have I Been?

By Peter Elias

That is sort of an "existential" question, isn't it? When I queried Google, its "AI Overview" answer said this:

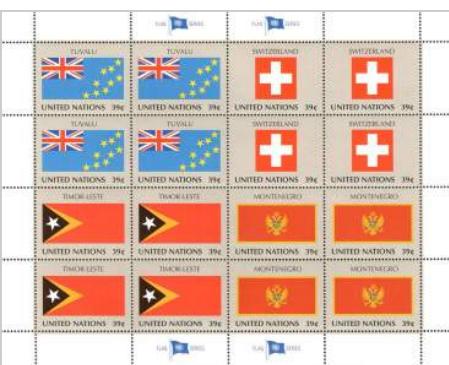
*Yes, "Where have I been?" can be an intensely existential question, despite its simple wording. This question serves as a starting point for exploring complex philosophical issues like memory, personal identity, and the meaning of one's past. An essay could explore this question through several existential themes.*

That question came about for me a couple of weeks ago when I remembered that I often saw Ray Cartier at club meetings wearing a leather (?) jacket with a LOT of patches on it from the various places he's been to. Since I didn't know how many countries, I asked him, and it is 60. In the bigger context of the "world", that's approx. 1/3 of all nations. Of course, that depends on "when" you are talking about. In 1986 (during my formative work year in Europe), it was 171 countries, now it is 195 (due to the breakup of the USSR, Yugoslavia, Sudan, etc). In any case, quite impressive!

Putting that into context, just how many countries have I been to? So I decided to form a small collection of those, and found that the United Nations "flag" stamp series (from 1980 to the early 2000's) would be the best to illustrate that!

To help me with this new collection, I had get a want list together and get that list of countries. I divided the list in to North & Central America, Europe & the Caribbean. So, after tallying everything, I came up 22 countries and 2 overseas territories of other nations). And all of the 22 countries were UN members and had flag stamps for them. While the 2 overseas territories (Bermuda & Curacao) were UPU members, only the nations that they were territories of, where UN members (and I had actually been to both of them, the UK and the Netherlands...).

Then came the task of gathering some of the stamps (mint preferred). While I had a couple already in my collection, others came from some of the donations to the club and then I had to go buy the rest (eBay, HipStamp, Delcampe, etc).



Procuring these flag stamps can be a bit problematical (i.e.: \$\$\$), since they are issued in the format you see to the left. 4 countries on each sheetlet and 4 of each country. I usually only need 1 stamp from each sheetlet, meaning I now have a bunch of duplicate or

unwanted stamps. And I don't think I'll be going to the UN building in NY to use them as postage either anytime soon...



You do find them on occasion individually, for some reason UN #922 (from 2007) seemed to be somewhat elusive, but I did finally get to purchase one (on a whole sheetlet of course...).

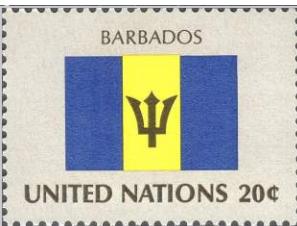
How do you organize a collection like this? Chronologically would of course make sense, but only to a degree, as some countries I have been to several times. To keep it more simple, just do it alphabetically, although that does involve jumping around time continuum quite a bit...



### 1 AUSTRIA (UN #374)

Been there about 3 times that I can remember. Twice in 1986, and once in 1999. Innsbruck was nice (I got to stay in a youth hostel there in 1986), followed by driving through Tyrol and into Italy. The furthest east I ever got in Austria was to Hall in 1999, where I got to mint my own copper replica of an 1486 "Thaler" (origin for our word "dollar") at the old mint there!

Actual size -->



### 2 BARBADOS (UN #400)

Was there twice. Once in April 1993 for a couple of days prior to going to St. Vincent. The 2nd time in 2007 when returning from St. Vincent when our American Airlines plane (that would have left from St. Lucia) was broke and we had to re-route via Barbados at the last moment.



### 3 BELGIUM (UN #388)

This was a true "Been There, 'Nuff Said" moment. Sure, I was in Belgium for a couple of hours, but I never set foot on the ground there. This was in 1991 and we on our way from Domburg (Netherlands) to Calais (France). To do that, we had to drive through Belgium and our itinerary did not allow a stop (so, my feet were only on the gas pedal)...



### 4 FRANCE (UN #334)

In 1986, I had to pick up my new supervisor in Luxembourg, so I drove there to pick him up (along with his girlfriend and 2 aunts) and then drove back to Switzerland. Sadly, while we were touring Strasbourg on the way back to Switzerland, my car got broken into and a bunch of stuff was stolen (including that of the supervisor, and my black leather jacket) out of my car's backseat. Later, the insurance company had me buy another jacket; the cheapest one I could find was about 600 Swiss Francs (about \$300 at the time); it replaced the \$100 jacket I had brought with me from the USA...



### 5 CANADA (UN #410)

As a family, we went to Canada in the mid-1970's when we were living in Michigan. I vaguely remember Quebec City and stopping at the Niagara Falls since I took some 126 film photos. There was a solo trip to British Columbia in the mid-1990s, the CAPEX '97 International Stamp Show in Toronto, a vacation trip to Banff & Vancouver, and a business trip in early 1999 that took me to the home of Wayne Gretzky.



### 6 GERMANY (UN #451)

My first trip to Germany was a visit to my grandparents sometime in the mid-1960s. All I can remember about the flight was that we took a bus to the plane (there were no jet bridges then), and some lady gave me a lollipop! Too many other trips to mention in this article though...

(continued on page 4)

## Where Have I Been? *(continued from page 3)*

### **7 GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (UN #539)**



... or DDR in German, aka: Communist East Germany. I was there only once, in late May 1990, a bit over 6 months after the Berlin Wall fell. I did manage to get a small piece of the wall though. It was a strange feeling being there. At least the guard towers along the freeway were now empty...

### **8 ICELAND (UN #485)**



After an internship in Germany in the fall of 1984, my flight from Luxembourg to Detroit, Michigan, made a brief stop in Reykjavik, Iceland. Understandable, since I was flying with Icelandair. The flight was on an old and somewhat rickety DC-8. During my brief time on the ground,

I walked on the snow covered tarmac to the terminal and had a drink.

### **9 ITALY (UN #428)**

During my "formative" year in Europe in 1986, I did make it to Italy twice. Briefly once to go from Austria back to Switzerland the long way via Tyrol, and the 2nd time as part of a brief vacation that took me to Venice & Milan (with a brief diversion to Yugoslavia).



### **10 JAMAICA (UN #405)**

I've been to Jamaica 3 times. The 1st trip in 1995 was a business trip to Kingston, the 2nd trip in 1996 was a vacation at an all-inclusive resort (Jack Tar Village) in Montego Bay, and the 3rd trip in 1999 was another business trip (different customer), also in Kingston. There's a world of difference between Kingston and Montego Bay though. Tip: buy Blue Mountain coffee!



### **11 LIECHTENSTEIN (UN #694)**

Despite being brought up in Switzerland in the 1960's, our family never went to Liechtenstein. I had to be 26 years old when I first went there when I worked in Switzerland in 1986. I took an old friend and his girlfriend there when they visited me; I remember that they somehow got on the wrong train somewhere; they needed to get to Geneva and got on the train to Genova (Italy). But they made it. Repeat visits to this lovely (but tiny) country were in 1999 and 2013.

### **12 LUXEMBOURG (UN #326)**

While I've been to Luxembourg several times, I didn't see much of the country. In 1984 because flew in and out of there. In 1986 because I had to pick up my new supervisor there, and a quick drive around in 1999 while visiting Trier (in Germany, across the river). I remember driving to the city of Luxembourg one time at night, and didn't see that much of the place. Last thing I remember was exchanging some old currency at a gas station!



### **13 MEXICO (UN #453)**

Sometime in the mid-1990's, I had a brief business trip to El Paso. During some spare time when I was off the clock, I figured, why not walk across to Ciudad Juarez! Spent a couple hours walking around, then walked back. It was a different time back then ... would not want to do that now!



Two further trips occurred in 2005 and 2018, both to Cancun.

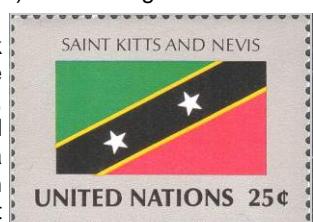
### **14 NETHERLANDS (UN #557)**



Back in 1991, 4 of us guys went on a trip to Europe. After Germany, our next stop was in Amsterdam. After leaving Amsterdam, we didn't have a hotel for the night, and subsequently slept in our cars in an industrial park. The front seats in our Audi 80's rental car was surprisingly comfortable (we also 2 vehicles on that trip). This was followed by staying in an actual hotel in Domburg (on the coast) the next night.

### **15 ST. KITTS & NEVIS (UN #568)**

Our honeymoon in early 2001 took us to St. Kitts, a lovely island! We also took a daytrip over to Nevis, where we had a nice drive around the perimeter of the island. In a discussion with the Postmaster in Basseterre, she assured me that just in the USA, just as on St. Kitts, all stamps only have a 5-year validity. Nothing I could say would convince her that practically ALL US postage stamps since the Civil War are still valid as postage. I did mail her an excerpt of US regulations that point that out. Never got a response. Also didn't get to use a lot of "older" (i.e.: 5+ years) St. Kitts stamps I took with me to use as postage for postcards...



### **16 ST. LUCIA (UN #510)**

The trip to St. Lucia was part of a 2 island trip in 2007 in order to attend an annual meeting of the BCPSG (British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group) on St. Vincent. Another lovely island and I got to go zip lining for the first time!



### **17 ST VINCENT (UN #529)**

I've been collecting St. Vincent stamps since about 1975! I hoped that someday I could visit this lovely island. And in 1993 that wish came true! We also had a daytrip to Bequia Island, one of the many "Grenadines". In 2007, another trip to St. Vincent, both vacation and the annual BCPSG meeting. Furthest I've ever gone just to attend a stamp club meeting! To make this trip happen for us, it took something like 10 airline flight segments. But that's another and non-philatelic story...



### **18 TRINIDAD (UN #357)**

Well, I saw one half of this 2 island nation in April 1999, which at its closest, is only about 10 miles from the South American mainland (Venezuela). The reason for being there? Another "Y2K" software & data conversion. During my weekend off, I drove around a bit, and was told by people that even they don't like to drive there. Hey, I'm still here! **--> Page 5 -->**



## [Where Have I Been? \(continued from page 4\)](#)



### **19 UNITED KINGDOM (UN #399)**

I've been to 2 parts of the UK: Great Britain & Wales. Back in 1986, I spent 1 week working in Bridgnorth (Shropshire). Not just wanting to fly in, work & fly out, I arranged to also have the weekend on either side of that work week to myself and explore a bit.

As some of you know, I like castles and used that time to see a few of them. So one weekend, I drove through northern Wales and the other weekend in the area near Kingsport. Got to rack up quite a few miles driving on the "wrong" side of the road... A personal trip in 1986 had me in London for 5 days. In 1999, we had a stopover in London on the way to Frankfurt, and in 2000 (the new millennium!) we celebrated Valentine's Day in London (thanks to a free ticket that I earned from American's BOGO offer the previous year).

### **20 UNITED STATES (UN #362)**

Well, what I can say about the USA? A lot more than I have room here and have already written a bunch of articles that show how my life and philately intersect.



### **21 YUGOSLAVIA (UN #333)**

In 1986, after my vacation visit to Venice, I decided to go on a quick daytrip to Yugoslavia prior to returning back to work in Switzerland (yeah, I know, that was tough...). I ended up in nice little city of Piran, located in the "Gulf of Trieste", which is on the far northern side of the Adriatic Sea. On June 25, 1991, Yugoslavia broke up into 7 different countries: Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia. The part I was in is now Slovenia.

--> So what happened to **country #22?** That would be Switzerland and is shown on page 3 (but not numbered). It is UN #922.

In the beginning I mentioned 2 places that I've been to that are UPU members, but not UN members (... and the UPU is a part of the UN) as both of these places are overseas territories of other countries: Bermuda & Curacao.

**Bermuda** (a British overseas territory) was where I went on my (1st) honeymoon in October 1993. It is a great place to visit, but you can NOT rent a car there, only bicycles or mopeds (or take the bus). I chose the moped!

**Curacao**, one of the ABC islands (Aruba, Bonaire & Curacao), is also known as part of the Dutch West Indies and a territory of the Netherlands. I was there on a business to aid in a software upgrade. And there was a philatelic museum there!

So I bet you're all glad that I haven't been to say, 60 countries! Of course I've written more specifically about many of the 22 countries that are featured just briefly in this "flags on stamps" collection. As always, when working on these kind of articles, it always makes me reminisce about the past and bring forth memories of things that in some cases, I had forgotten about. Stamps can really help jog the memory! Try it sometime. As a result, I get to do some research and relearn some history as well.

Of course, a mini-collection like this stands great alone, or you could use stamps to better illustrate your photo albums with (and/or write an article!). Go ahead, I'd love to hear your stories about travel in other countries!

Some of you may say, "that's all great ... but I have never travelled outside the USA!" But even sticking to just domestic locations, there are a lot of US stamps that could be used for a similar purpose.

While there are a lot of US stamps for very specific topics (people, places & things), there are also many "general" stamps that can be used for your collection.

Several great series of stamps for exactly that purpose are the following:

Similar to the UN flag stamps that can be used for illustrating photo albums from international trips (or articles, hint, hint...), there are many US stamp series featuring just the state or the state flag:

Right: this is the Bicentennial (1976) series of "US Flag" stamps, Scott #1633-1682.

In my case the 3 stamps shown to the right; Michigan, Kentucky & Texas are very relevant, as they represent the 3 states that I have lived in. Michigan from 1971 to 1985, Kentucky from 1987 to 1990 and Texas from 1990 to now.

Yes, there is a year missing: 1986. That year I spent primarily in Switzerland (including about 3 weeks in Germany & 1 week in the UK).

1986 did start off though "living out of a hotel" in St. Louis, MO before being shipped over to Europe. So, does mean I should show the Missouri flag?

Another State-centric series of stamps that could be used is the US "Flags Of Our Nation" series from 2008 - 2012 (#4273 - 4332). While the Bicentennial flag series was in order of the date of state's admission to the Union, this series is in alphabetical order and also includes Washington DC, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and various US flags.

A nice thing about this series is that there are other topical elements present in addition to the flag. I'm showing the California flag, as I was working for a California company from 1992 to early 2001, but doing so while working from home and requiring many trips to LA.

Last but not least, is the "Greetings from America" series, which mimics the "Big Letter" postcards that were popular many years ago.

This series was actually issued twice in 2002! Once as 34¢ stamps in April (#3561-3610) and again at 37¢ in October (#3696-3745). The one above is relevant to me since I had MANY business trips to Washington (& Oregon) during my work life. These stamps also all feature many "topics". And yes, I've been to the top of the Seattle "Space Needle" and Mt. Rainier (unless that's one of the other mountains ...).



US Scott #3607 (2002)

## Arlington Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2025

By Janet Moyer

### Attendance:

- 26 members and 2 guests were present.

### Officer Reports:

- **President** – no report.
- **Secretary** – Janet Moyer said the minutes had been published in the newsletter. There were no corrections, so they were accepted.
- **Treasurer** - Tom Cunningham gave the treasurer's report. We have paid for the insurance for the EXPO and the money from dealers has all been collected. He gave the adjusted balance. He received money for three people's dues and for the sales from the Mixture Pix.
- **Newsletter** – Peter Elias is working on it.

### Announcements:

- Tom Cunningham received a medallion for 50 years of belonging to the American Philatelic Society.



Photo by Peter Elias

- The September 23 Granbury Meeting will be an auction. David Stockbridge is still collecting lots.
- The October 1 Arlington Meeting will be the picnic. It will start at 6:30 PM. Hotdogs, buns and condiments will be furnished by the club. Please bring a side or dessert dish.
- If there is interest, the Christmas party will be catered this year.
- There are still bags of Mixture Pick stamps for sale.
- The **2023 Scott Catalog Volume 1B** (Austria to B") is missing. We need this to auction off the entire set. Please check to see if you have it.
- The library is being moved to a different storage area. An index should be furnished soon..

### Show & Tell:

- Tim Sasser shared an envelope that has a stamp which appeared to be cut and pasted from a uniform..
- Ray Cartier talked about space items to share..
- Rick Howell shared the "United States Specialist Magazine" that listed a new plate crack (on Scott #571) which is a variety from an old stamp.
- Peter Elias had:
  - A booklet of stamps from 1996 that cannot be removed from their backing paper.
  - A commemorative envelope from the Pearl Harbor Memorial that has both US stamps and a Japanese stamp from WWII that shows the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
  - An unopened letter from the George W. Bush campaign.
  - A Cinderella stamp-like label that is actually an Australian wine label.
  - Showed a list from the USPS depicting the various non-denominated stamps that have been issued over the years (along with their actual denominations). [See USPS Quick Service Guide 604a](#).

### Gift Certificates:

- Were won by Julie Denton and Tom Turner.

### Auction:

- We had 56 of 61 lots sold. All ten club lots sold. The action and the bidding were impressive! That is a reflection on both the quality of the items submitted by sellers and the enthusiasm of the bidders. Both are important to a successful auction.



Photo by Peter Elias

### USPS Communications

Peter Elias

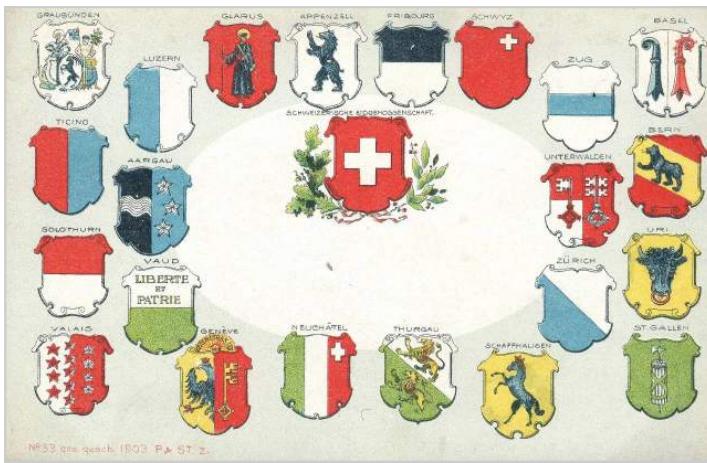
So when the Post Office needs to communicate with their customers, they pull out all the stops, I mean, tape.

This was August 20, 2022 at the Plano Wildcat station.



Jura

By Peter Elias



Switzerland was divided into 22 cantons. These are shown on this 1903 postcard, depicted by their coat-of-arms.

As of 1979, there are now 23 cantons! The newest canton is "Jura" and was carved out of the Canton of Bern of which it was a part.

The region that became Jura had a distinct French-speaking & Catholic identity (it does share a border with France...), while the rest of Bern was predominantly German-speaking & Protestant. That is what led to tensions and in the end, the creation of the Canton of Jura.



The “[Jura question](#)” (i.e.: secession of Jura from Bern) involved a long struggle and eventually a vote by the Swiss people in favor of the new canton. Within the Jura area, there were 7 districts, 3 of which voted to become a new canton, the other 4 remained with Bern. The people had spoken!

Think of it this way: This is akin to some people in the upper peninsula ("UP") of Michigan, known as "Yoopers", that want to break free and form their own state. Would



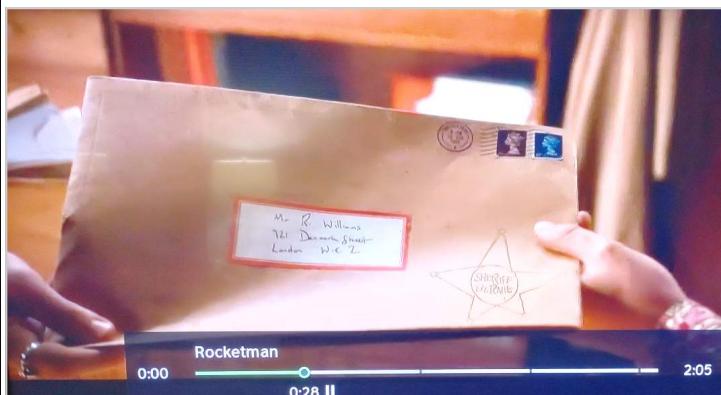
## TV Philately: Rocketman

By Peter Elias

On August 31, I finally got a chance to watch "Rocketman", a telling of Reginald Dwight's rise to fame (as Elton John).

The movie is fairly long and tells the story of Reginald to his rise as Elton John. It was presented as a musical using Elton John's songs. A key thing to remember is that Bernie Taupin wrote many of those lyrics.

A pivotal scene in the movie is when Elton was at the office of music producer & publisher, Ray Williams, who had "discovered" him and brought him together with Bernie Taupin, a lyricist.



In the screen shot of the movie at about 28 minutes, Ray had just handed Elton an envelope he had received from Bernie and told him to see what he could do with it. If I remember correctly, the time frame was sometime in 1967 or 1968. The envelope primarily had a piece of paper with song lyrics in it (don't recall which one...).

While on screen, the envelope appears fairly sharp, but as always, the stamp & postmark part is fairly small in comparison to the entire screen and looks fairly unsharp when enlarged, as you can see below:



There are 2 "Machin" stamps shown. Since this was in the late 1960's, and the Machins were first introduced in 1967, they would have been in the Sterling currency (pence/shilling/pounds). The Decimal currency did not start until 1970. Luckily then, the number of stamps that the above could be is quite minimal.

The denominations are not discernable on the "stamps" above, which might be fakes, as they do not appear to have perforations. Anyone venture to guess?

The machine cancel, while it looks somewhat correct in shape, has all the letters & numbers indistinct.

As always, good enough to pass muster for the 1 or 2 seconds on screen. As a note, Crocodile Rock, was my favorite song in 1973, all I had was an AM clock radio.

## Granbury Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2025

By Joe McFarland

### **Call-To-Order:**

- Dave Stockbridge called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM at the Bentwater Marina Activities Center.

### **Attendance:**

- 13 members were in attendance.

### **Announcements:**

- Dave announced the passing of club member Gary McNamee and (former member) Ray Ashley. Gary presented a "Where in the World" to challenge the member's knowledge of an obscure country based on it stamp history. Les Barton will continue this contest. Ray was a founding member of the Civil War Roundtable.
- The annual Granbury club auction (get items in early!) will be on September 23rd and the picnic on October 28th. Items are needed for the mystery box to be auctioned at EXPO.

### **Show & Tell:**

- Paul Mulholland showed a cover with cachet of Thomas E. Dewey and a cover with cachet of Admiral George Dewey. Paul is probably related to one or both through his great grandmother Dewey.
- Jim Myers presented a philatelic oddity with the 1928 5c stamp showing an airplane that was missing the right-wing strut. He also mentioned that movies could not show stamps in color.
- Rick Howell showed a one dollar find of two 1887 covers with postage due stamps.
- Joe McFarland showed two Vario sheets with bogus stamps of Republik Maluku Selatan (South Moluccas in Indonesia). These Cinderellas were issued by Henry Stolow, a major New York wholesale stamp dealer from the 1930s to the 1970s.

### **Program:**

- Les Barton presented the program on the Wells Fargo beginnings with express mail in California during the gold rush years from 1848 onward. The US Post Office was unable to keep up with the demand for mail service, so several express mail companies were formed. In 1850, the American Express was formed with Wells and Fargo as two directors. Wells and Fargo set off on their own as Wells Fargo Express. In 1852, the carrying of U.S. mail was authorized, and in 1853 the Post Office began issuing stamped envelopes. Wells Fargo franked these envelopes, which paid Wells Fargo three cents and the Post Office two cents. In 1854, drought dried up the rivers that were essential to gold mining by sluice or pan. Two major express mail companies folded, but Wells Fargo survived through conservative management. In 1861, the Pony Express carried mail from St Joseph Missouri to Sacramento. The original owners of the Pony Express went bankrupt, so Wells Fargo assumed control of the western half of the route. As additional notes, the onset of the Civil War meant that improved communication times with California was needed to cut the delivery

time from 22 to 25 days by stagecoach to as little as 10 days. The completion of the Overland telegraph system late in 1861 meant that there was no longer a need for the Wells Fargo Pony Express.

### **Door Prize Drawing:**

- Kelly Kellogg was the recipient of the ten dollar certificate door prize.

### **Adjournment:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

## MCSC Flower Mound Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

by Skip Ely

### **Attendance:**

- 8 members attended the subject meeting. 2 guests were there to see if their albums were worth anything.

### **Call-To-Order:**

- Vice President - Dan Golden called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

### **Announcements:**

- Library Status - Rick Howell said that Rich Hildebrandt is removing items from our Arlington library and doing inventory while he does so.
- Secretary - Skip Ely and Peter Elias gave a quick summary.
- EXPO - Dan Golden mentioned the next Planning Meeting at David's BBQ on Saturday, September 27.
- Newsletter - Peter said the next one is almost completed.
- October Picnic & December Christmas Party - Skip Ely passed around the sign up sheets.

### **Where In the World is It?:**

- Dan went through all eight hints before Peter correctly guessed the country (we won't say which one so it can potentially be used again at Granbury).

### **Show & Tell:**

- Dan Golden showed a cover with an arrowhead embedded in it and a stamp & coin souvenir sheet from the Vatican.
- Skip Ely showed a misprinted flame on the Americana series dollar stamp.
- Steve Carpenter showed a page from a recently purchased U.S. BOB & Revenue album with some purported mis-perforated stamps and explained why they were fake.
- Ken Wills showed an old Scott WW catalog from 1935.
- Peter Elias talked about UN flag & coin stamp issues from countries he where he has lived or visited. He also passed around a newsletter from the State Revenue Society that focused on Texas Revenue stamps. He then showed a document with revenue stamps from France and a cover from Canada with stamps on both sides.

### **Mini-Program:**

- Skip Ely gave a preview of his program on U.S. Postage Dues that he will present at Arlington in two weeks.

**Gift Certificate:** Was awarded to Steve Carpenter.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned about 8:50 PM.

## Punch Cards

by Peter Elias



computer punch card in the upper right corner (in red).

Of course in 1972, punch cards were still heavily in use (since computers were not programmed via a keyboard and a screen as we do today).

Well, ok, there was a "keyboard" in use, but it was generally a desk sized machine that punched [square] holes into 7.385" x 3.25" cards. That size was established back in 1890 (!) and used as part of the census that year. The size was that of paper currency at the time and allowed for the use of cash bins & boxes. During this time, the holes were round, not rectangular and the cards just a bit bigger. The final size (as mentioned above) was introduced in 1920, along with rectangular holes, by IBM and they held 80 columns of information.

ELIAS PETER C.			Student Number
Federal Law prohibits the release of information from this document to a third party without the student's written consent.			
Previous School	H H DOW HIGH SCH	MIDLAND	MI
Date of Graduation	1979		
Admitted	College	Major	
FALL 79	UNIVERSITY	PRECHEMICAL ENGR.	
SUMMER 80	UNIVERSITY	PRECOMPUTER SCIENCE	
FALL 80	UNDGRD. U. DIV.	PRECOMPUTER SCIENCE	
SUMMER 81	UNDGRD. U. DIV.	PACKAGING	
SUMMER 82	AGR. & NAT. RESOURCES	PACKAGING	
Credit Required for Degree	180		
BACHELOR OF	Science	DEGREE GRANTED	1-15-85
Grade encircled indicates course has been repeated.		U	Indicates off campus
V		H	Indicates honors selected
Y			Indicates a repeat
Dept Code	Descriptive Title	Q	Term
D20 SP 1980	AMERICAN EXPRESS	1 38	
✓ ATL	AMERICAN EXPRESS	123	3
✓ CPS	MPTR PRO EGRESS	120	3
✓ CCE	INTRO COMP LAB	161	1
✓ MTH	CAL & ANAL GEOM 2	113	12
	32 37 32 90.0		
D20 F 1980		1 38	
✓ TC	TELECOMM IN IS	120	3
✓ CPS	COMPUTER PRGRMIN	300	3
✓ MTH	CAL & ANAL GEOM 2 R	113	5
✓ S	AMERICAN VALUES	201	4

And yes, when I went to college, I took 2 computer science courses as part of my Packing Engineering program at MSU, and we had to use punch cards!

My first programming course in the Spring 1980 term (we had "terms", not "semesters" at that time) was in Fortran77.

My second programming course was either Advanced Fortran or Assembly language.

All that was required for the BS in Packaging Engineering was 1

course in programming, and most people chose "Basic", while for some reason, I chose Fortran... At that point though, I decided that "programming" (nor computers, which were basically mainframes or mid-ranges at that time) was not for me.

And what happened about 7 years later? I was sat down in front of an IBM PS/2 model 30 and told to learn it (DOS & Enable/OA). At the time, I knew nothing about this new generation of "personal" computer. Generally, no programming was required, and there was a screen and a keyboard! At the time, Enable/OA was an early "office" type of package that offered a Word Processor, Spreadsheet, Database, Graphing and even an online bulletin board if you happened to have one of those screeching modem's... The company had over 1 million users! Then it folded when they didn't want to commit to "Windows". Sad.

Ok, back to punch cards. For our programming exercises, we had to use punch cards, sit down at a desk-sized machine,

when done, run those cards through a punch card reader (another desk-sized machine), then wait until our program had finished running and we could pick up a printout of it. Mind you now, this wasn't free. We were charged for our computer usage and the course only gave you so many credits to use.

Backtracking a few years though, in the late '70's, I had a summer internship working for my dad at MMI (Michigan Molecular Institute) where I had to help catalog a large number of books for their technical library. At one point, the staff showed me a computer they had, but it used "punch tape" (not cards); from what I remember, it was about a 1" wide paper tape that had round holes punched in it with programming or data.

And in 1990, I became a "systems manager" for a printing ink manufacturer in Grand Prairie, Texas and had to find my way around Arcnet network cabling, Novell servers, PC's, etc, along with learning accounting & inventory control software (plus how to generate proper & correct MSDS - material safety data sheets). And here I thought I'd written off computers back in 1980. What a decade will do. Until I retired, I sold ERP software for the process manufacturing industries. Go figure...

What triggered this article though, was what you see in the photo at left, hanging above the mirror (for perhaps



35 - 40 years...) at my parents house.

A close-up shows that it is a golden holiday decoration and about 18" in diameter. Looking at the back, you can see it is made

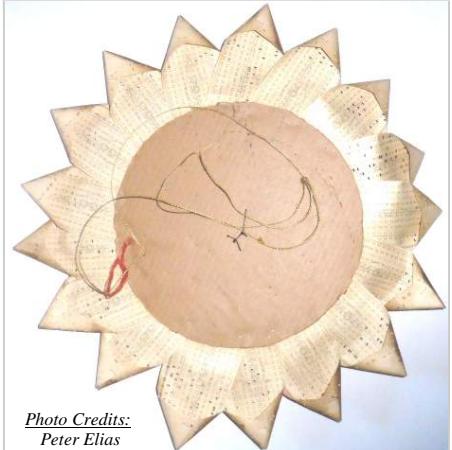


Photo Credits:  
Peter Elias



from computer punch cards!

The cards are labeled "DOW" (Chemical) on the back. Whether or not these were made by my father's employees as a gift, I don't remember, but this is a really cool item and I still have it!

Items such as this are great for triggering all sorts of memories and then I can bring philately into it!

## How To Help Dyslexic Mail Sorting Clerks

By Peter Elias



When dealing with your postal mail, how do you NOT get items misdelivered? Let me rephrase that: how do you REDUCE the chance of getting items misdelivered?

One way is to have a delivery address with numbers that can NOT possibly be transposed! Above is an example.

Why did I choose that number for my PMB (private mail box) at a local UPS Store? I wanted something with numbers couldn't be goofed up, such as mail going to box 227 would be put into box 272 or 722 for example. It may have been the only number like it (and the box size I needed) at the time, but glad I got it. And no, I didn't pick that number because I used to watch the "Room 222" TV series that ran from 1969 to 1974...

**Above:** Back when 1st class postage was 49¢, I had ordered a sheet of these "custom / personalized" stamps from [Evermine.com](http://Evermine.com) (with printing done by the USPS licensee [Endicia.com](http://Endicia.com)).

Now, are number transpositions really a problem? Yes. I've had my POB in Plano (Post Office Box --> not to be confused with "Private Mail Box") since 1996.

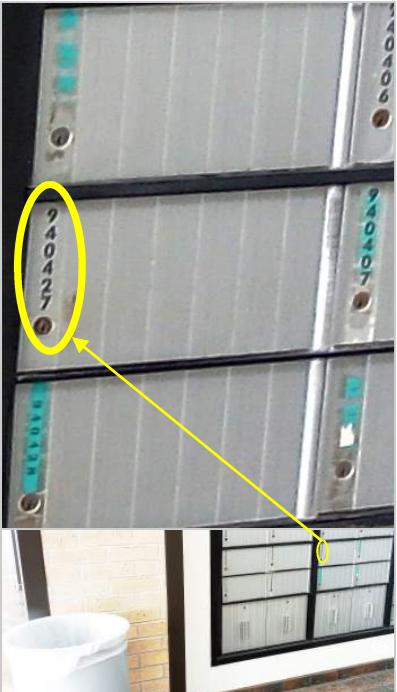
And in that time, my POB that ends in "427" has received mail for 425, 426, 429, 742, 927, 972, 944, etc. Makes me wonder where my mail has ended up at!

Note to USPS personnel: How about a sign on the wall that says something like "in case of misdelivery, please give the mail piece to a USPS employee or put it into the outbound mail slot". Too much to ask for?

About a year ago, as I walked away from my PO Box and happened to glance in the "circular filing cabinet" to the left of my box (photo below) I found an issue of the APS "American Philatelist" magazine laying on top of the pile in there.

"Hmm", I wondered, there must be another stamp collector here! Looking a bit closer, it was MY name on that address label! At that point I was fuming and asked to speak with a USPS Supervisor. Apparently it is not illegal to throw away mail that is misdelivered (despite being USPS fault). Whoever got my magazine was simply lazy and they could have given it to a clerk or just put into the outbound mail receptacle. Solution: 1) pick the right number for your POB or PMB and 2) occasionally check the trash can!

... And: don't get me started about my house street number (3 other parallel streets with the same number near me)...



Be sure to visit the Club website on the Internet:  
[https://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com](http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com)



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## From The President's Cluttered Desk

By Rick Howell

This sure is a busy time of the year for the club. At the time I'm writing this column, we have just finished the Arlington auction, which, judging by the turnout, everyone seemed to enjoy, and we are getting ready for the Granbury auction, which should be equally as enjoyable. We currently have about 50 lots, with more to come by auction time, so everyone should be able to find something of interest.

Our October Arlington & Granbury meetings will feature a cookout with hot dogs, buns, condiments and drinks provided by Dave Stockbridge. Members are asked to bring a dessert or side dish to share. After the cookout, we will move inside for the program. The party should start about 6:30 PM in Arlington, as we have the Bob Duncan Center scheduled from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. I will leave it to Dave to provide the times for the Granbury meeting with the meeting announcement..

November will be our busiest month with EXPO. All of our dealers have committed to show up and it promises to be a great show once again. With free admission and free parking for our members and visitors, EXPO delivers enough philatelic fun to make membership in the MCSC worth the price of the dues.

Come on out and support your club. We are always able to use volunteers as well. Contact Ralph Poore or Janet Moyer to see where you can help out.

In December, things will slow down a bit for the holidays, as we don't have Granbury and Flower Mound meetings. We will, however, have a Christmas party and we are considering having the party fully catered. I have to get permission from our board of directors to do this, but they usually like to attend where food is provided, so I don't think it will be hard to get their approval.

So we have a lot going on, and in the meantime, there will be a lot of opportunities to exercise your philatelic treasure hunt.

See y'all at the meeting,  
Rick

Thank You

By Peter Elias

Many thanks to Byron Sandfield of Park Cities Stamps for donating various stamps & philatelic items. There were the usual "Postal Commemorative Society" FDC's, some empty binders/album and various loose stamps. The 6 boxes were consolidated into 4 boxes. A couple of ultra-common (& damaged stamps) and old unusable albums will be donated to [Pegasus Creative Reuse](#).



## Tristan Da Cunha

By Peter Elias



I've been getting more into "maps on stamps" (and even joined the CartoPhilatelic Society a couple of weeks ago).

That said, here's a nice "map" of Tristan da Cunha. Where is that you ask? Well, see the 3 dots over the word Tristan on the map? That's them!



Want to see them? It is a 9 day trip via ship from

Want to go there? It is a 6-day trip via ship from South Africa... No airmail either, since there's no airport. I did see an interesting documentary about it the other day though.

The stamp above, Scott #71 from 1965, shows 3 islands, the rightmost is Tristan, to the west would be Inaccessible island, below that the Nightingale islands (of which there are 2, but a stamp of this size can't possibly show that).

And also technically, Inaccessible island is located more southwest of Tristan, not west as the stamp would indicate (check it out via Google maps).

AND: according to the Google map, the Nightingale islands are southeast of Inaccessible island, not south. I get that the area on the stamp small, but these dots could have been repositioned a bit... With an engineering background, I'd say it is all about being accurate and precise. I certainly wouldn't use this stamp to navigate a ship by!

# CLASSIFIED BOURSE Announcements

All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com)

## For Sale

**US POSTAGE – from our huge surplus: 1c – 20c : 70% of FV; 21c – 50c : 80% of FV.** Send any amount (min \$10), specify group (70%, 80%), and receive mix of values back in FV as indicated above. Clean, F/VF only. Plate or Zip block included for every \$10 remitted. Remit (check or MO) to: J. Myers, P. O. Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019. TX orders, add 8% sales tax. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). [jasdmeyers@earthlink.net](mailto:jasdmeyers@earthlink.net) 5/15

## Wanted to Trade

I have general (unsorted) worldwide & used USA stamps (mostly beginning collector material) available to trade for your items such as worldwide revenue stamps & Framas. Contact Peter Elias at [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 9/16

## Wanted

**Postally used “ATM” stamps** (i.e.: machine vended), such as Framas, from around the world; would prefer on cover or postcard if possible. Contact Peter Elias at [info@stvincentstamps.com](mailto:info@stvincentstamps.com) 8/14



## For Sale

I now have a new website in which I have listed all my used duplicates (many thousands). They are arranged in Scott number sequence within country. Do take a look, and select any that you want. I charge 1/3 catalogue value, post paid. The URL is [www.kenwills.net](http://www.kenwills.net) Contact me at [wills@airmail.net](mailto:wills@airmail.net). Happy hunting!

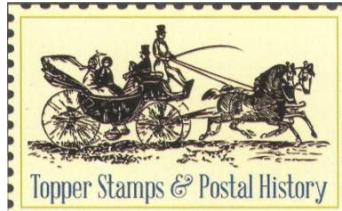
3/19

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## Random Stamps - Macao #C8

By Peter Elias

This is a Macao (Scott #C8, enlarged) stamp from 1938, shows a plane over the globe.

I must say that to me, the left wing of that plane looks a bit odd. I'm not sure if the "cross on the globe" is supposed to be a Portuguese cross of some sort or just the plane's shadow of the wings & fuselage.

Back then, this peninsula on the Chinese mainland was a Portuguese colony and is now an autonomous region of mainland China (as of 1999). It is located about 34 miles west of Hong Kong, and there is a 34 mile bridge that connects the 2 places ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hong\\_Kong%20%93Zhuhai%20%93Macau\\_Bridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hong_Kong%20%93Zhuhai%20%93Macau_Bridge)).

The various text on the left & right columns are for flights to various Portuguese Colonies.. For Macao, it says "1924 Paes Beires". Consulting Wikipedia (at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisbon%20%93Macau\\_Raid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisbon%20%93Macau_Raid)), it states that this was an air expedition by 2 pilots, Antonio Jacinto da Silva de Brito **Paes** & Sarmento de **Beires**, in order to establish a link to Portugal's furthest colony. An arduous journey that was 10,414 miles, took several months and 2 planes.

In 1999, stamps were issued by both Portugal (#2289-2290) & Macao (#979-980) to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the flight.

## TV Philately: A Small Light

By Peter Elias

Over a 2 night span (August 9 & 10), we “binge-watched” an 8-episode “based on actual events” mini-series on Amazon Prime called “A Small Light”. This series is a telling of the Anne Frank story during World War II. Except that it tells it from the viewpoint of Miep Gies, who was the secretary to Otto Frank (Anne’s father). She was instrumental in running Frank’s company (which made “pectin” - used as an ingredient in jam), while Otto, Anne and other family members were in hiding in an “annex” of Frank’s company.

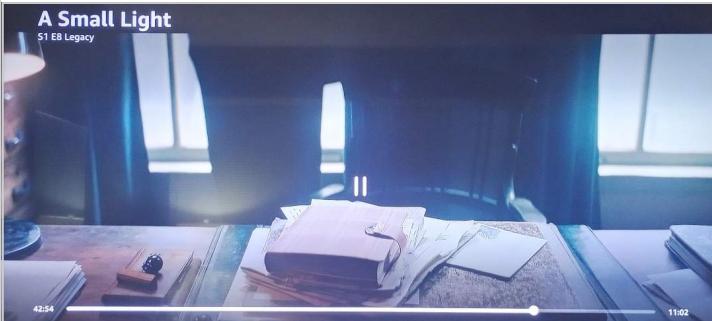


In this series, late during episode #8, after Frank has returned from the German camp, a lady (unnamed) comes to his office stating she received a letter (possibly from the Red Cross?) and told him that his wife & 2 daughters (Anne & Margot) did not survive the Bergen Belsen camp.

The envelope she is clutching is on the photo nearby and appears approx. 40 minutes into the episode. A few minutes later, at 42:54 minutes, the envelope is seen again, on Frank's desk after Miep puts it there, telling him that she saved Anne's diary for him.

While the stamp & envelope appear reasonably sharp in the screenshots, once I rotated and zoomed in on the stamp, it gets a bit fuzzy. The design however, is mostly discernible and shows a soldier walking with a rifle or machine gun. I easily found this stamp both (first) at stampworld.com and found it was issued in 1944-46 and then looked it up in Scott's and found it was #252 from the Netherlands, the low 1½¢ value in a set of 15 stamps that went to 50¢.

Underneath the Scott listing there is the following notice: “These stamps were used on board Dutch war and merchant ships until the Netherlands liberation”. If that is the case, I don’t see how that stamp would be



one that would have been used to mail that type of letter from a ship; however, the stamps were in use until 1946+.



rates in effect during that time.

Scott's describes the stamp as “black”, while Stampworld.com notes it as “gray”. On screen, it looks “bluish” in nature to me. An illustration from stampworld.com (above) does show it to NOT be bluish.

The stamp is cancelled with some sort of a round postmark that reads Amsterdam, but the date is not readable.

On the envelope, only a small fragment of an address is visible, but it is not legible.

As always, the philatelic item shown passes “muster” for the 1 or 2 seconds that it is on the screen.

## Captain Speaking

By Peter Elias

**“Ladies & Gentlemen, this is your captain speaking; brace.. brace ...”**



## TV Philately: The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

By Peter Elias

On August 29, we watched the 2023 British movie "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" on Amazon Prime. It's a typical British film and has good action. It plays slowly, but is a good story that is being unraveled via flashbacks as it progresses.

While it starts on a hopeful note, it is in the end a sad movie, but done well never-the-less (fairly high IMDB ratings from viewers - which is always a key indicator for me).



Early in the movie (only about a minute into it), Harold receives a letter from his former co-worker "Queenie", who stated that she is in hospice care in Berwick-On-Tweed. Harold (& his wife) live in Kingsbridge in South Devon.

That said, I had to look these places up on Google maps, since I'm not familiar with either place (despite having been in Britain about 4 times, but not anywhere near where these 2 places are located). Kingsbridge is in southwestern Great Britain, while Berwick-On-Tweed (actually Berwick-Upon-Tweed) is in northern Great Britain, about 40 miles east/south-east of Edinburgh and near the border with Scotland.



Since Harold's pilgrimage involved walking between the 2 cities, Google map shows it to be about 457 miles and a leisurely 167-hour walk!

As stated earlier, the envelope shown at top appears early in the movie, and above is a close-up of [what appears to be] a postmark, but also has signs of appearing to be a postage meter (judging by the "POSTAGE PAID" at right and some control numbers in the middle).

On the envelope, Harold's address is shown as:

13 Fossebridge Rd  
Kings Bridge  
South Hams  
Devon TQ7 1KA

Scanning the area surrounding the small town of "Kingsbridge", I don't see a Fossebridge Rd.

Looking up data at <https://www.streetlist.co.uk/tq/tq7>, it does state that TQ7 1xx is the sector for Kingsbridge (although on the envelope it states Kings Bridge), the specific TQ7 1KA postcode is not valid for use. As stated at this website: Letters C, I, K, M, O and V are not allowed in the last two letters of a postcode. So there you have it! I learned something new. The UK (& Canada) system of postcodes does appear to be confusing to those of us used to the USA "ZIP Codes", but their system does have logic to it.

The stamp on the letter does appear to be a legit stamp, perhaps it was cheaper to sacrifice a real one for this prop rather than go to the trouble making a fake...

Then there is the "postmark". Since it has more the appearance of a meter, I sent a query to the MSS (Meter Stamp Society) discussion group at groups.io. One member replied that it does appear to be a valid meter type (which brand?) and that this (meter on top of a stamp) can occur when additional postage has to be paid (i.e.: the letter is too heavy for standard "1st class" postage). But in the movie, the envelope is opened and just contains a single sheet of paper, so I doubt that this was too heavy (and surely weighed less than 20 grams).

One of the responses, from Jim Ashby, was: *This is not a genuine meter. It looks as though it's based on a Group HB machine but has had the crown removed from the top of the frank. The meter number at the bottom doesn't have a prefix indicating the manufacturer, and the value figures are smaller than the date figures which is not something seen in any of the Group HB meters. Lastly, £3.92 is excessive for a letter weighing 20g!* The £3.92 is from the "0392" shown in the middle of the "meter". I'm personally not familiar with UK meters. There is an "International Meter Stamp Catalog" available online at [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International\\_Postage\\_Meter\\_Stamp\\_Catalog](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog), so that would be a good starting point to see what these "Group HB" meters look like. Something like what you see below:



Images by Richard Stambaugh, from the International Postage Meter website

movie prop.

4) Seemingly, many meters starting around 2011 also have vertical numbers to the left of the circle, the movie prop one from "2021" does not.

So as usual, a "good try"! But it does pass "muster" while on screen for a second. For me, it is always fun investigating this "movie philately"!

## Mid-Cities Stamp Club EXPO 2025 - Dealer Listing

### Table Dealer (Business Name)

### Philatelic Specialties

Table	Dealer (Business Name)	Philatelic Specialties	Email Address / Website	Phone
1	Jeffrey Fishman (Double J Stamps)	SUPPLIES, Worldwide Sets and Singles, U.S. Plate Blocks	double_j_stamps@yahoo.com	847-843-8700
2	Kurt Harding (Stamp Center of Texas)	Worldwide Stamps and Covers World Postal History, Collections, Souvenir Sheets	stampMEISTER55@hotmail.com	210-240-4083
3	Leonardo Palencia (Leo Stamps)	Worldwide Stamps and Covers, Collections, Better USA	gyleo@yahoo.com	512-999-4911
4	L. W. Martin, Jr. (Crown Colony Stamps)	British Commonwealth	lwm@crowncolonystamps.com	713-781-6563
5	Jim Myers (stampsuniversal.com)	USA, Worldwide (Stamps, Souvenir Sheets, Full Sheets), Postal History and Stationery and MORE. ASK !!	jasdmyers@earthlink.net	214-577-7598
6	Byron Sandfield (Park Cities Stamps)	US, US Postal History, US Locals & Carriers US Revenues, Literature, World Collections	bsandfield@gmail.com	214-361-4322
7	Kenneth Scheller (The Stamp Connection)	US, British Empire, Europe & Colonies Worldwide, Topicals	thestampconnection@gmail.com	281-691-5911
8	Pat McElroy (D & P Stamps)	Portugal & Colonies, France & Colonies, Italy & Colonies, British Colonies, Latin America, Worldwide	pat@dpstamps.com	619-987-1019
9	Scott Couch (Tiger Collectibles)	US #1 to current, BOB, Revenues, Possessions, Postal History Postal History, Early Plate Blocks, Better FDGs	tigercollect@sbcglobal.net	816-405-3633
10	Jonathan Topper (Topper Stamps & Postal History)	Dollar Covers & Worldwide Collections	jontopper@topperstamps.com	832-518-6558
11	Labron Harris (Labron Harris Postal History)	Worldwide Postal History	labronharr@aol.com	240-447-3769
12	Charles Deaton	US and Worldwide Stamps and Covers Texas Postal History, Collection Lots	cweaton@aol.com	713-927-9948
13	Thomas Cunningham (Cunningham Philatelics)	US, US B-O-B, US Possessions, Confederate States Canada, British, Ireland, World, Pre-1940, Country Collections, Covers, Appraisals	CunninghamStamps@aol.com	214-546-1179
14	David Cobb (Newport Harbor Stamp Co.)	U.S. Classics, Plate Blocks, Errors	NewportHarborStamps@gmail.com	949-701-3392
15	Brian Hunt (Hunt & Co.)	US & Worldwide, British Colonies, Collections Website with Internet/Mail Bid Auctions	<a href="http://www.huntstamps.com">www.huntstamps.com</a>	512-837-9997
16	Jim F. Taff	US, Confederate States, Germany Areas, Worldwide Collections	jtf955rex@gmail.com	916-709-0412
17	Steve & Theresa Stewart (Zayix Stamps & Collectibles)	Worldwide Stamps & Postal History US Match & Medicine, Website	<a href="http://www.zayixstamps.com">www.zayixstamps.com</a>	832-225-6074
18	Alejandro Jaime	Worldwide Stamps & Postal History, Proofs	<a href="mailto:alejandrojaime95@gmail.com">alejandrojaime95@gmail.com</a>	956-905-2506
19	Ken Nieser (Nieser Stamps)	Latin American	<a href="mailto:www.kennieser.com">www.kennieser.com</a>	832-212-1285
20	Steven Cripe (Circle C Stamps)	US Buy & Sell, Worldwide	Scippe@gmail.com	214-980-2116
21	Michael & Cecilia Ball (A to Z Stamps)	USA 1840 to Present plus all BOB, Comprehensive Worldwide Stamps, Appraisals	ishop@worldwidestamps.com	248-709-8939
22	Kyle Nybo ( Kyle Nybo Stamps)	US & Worldwide Stamps Collection Lots	nybostamp@gmail.com	480-844-9878
23	Steve Carpenter (Carpenter Collectibles)	US Sheets, Plate Blocks, Covers, Uncut Press Sheets, USPS Stationery & Collectibles, Postal Art & Posters, Fleetwood Proof Cards, Memorabilia	SJCarp22@verizon.net	214-240-9653
24	Kevin LaFrance	USA Better Items	Kevin80334@aol.com	504-723-6890
25	Jimmy Tomchesson (EAS Stamps)	US Covers, Postal History, Texas Covers US Classics	jtomchesson@yahoo.com	832-278-5268

[Editor Notes: This listing above is current as of September 3, 2025. If you have want-lists or special collecting areas that you want the dealers to bring, we recommend that you contact these dealers well before the show so that they can bring those items.]



## MEET & EAT for October 2025

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

"Meet & Eats" are held before our club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather at 5:00 PM and start ordering at that time. However, latecomers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit. Meals should be over around 6:15 to 6:30 PM with the Arlington new meeting start time now being at 7:00 PM rather than 7:30 PM.

Meet & Eat locations will be included the club's broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

### ARLINGTON

October 1      Club Picnic (Bob Duncan Center)

### FLOWER MOUND

October 15      Corner Bakery, 3640 Justin Rd., Ste. 190,  
Highland Village, (972) 317-0378

### GRANBURY

October 28      Club Picnic (Bentwater Marina)

## Wanted to Buy

Texas Precancel Stamps. Contact Rick Howell at:  
[Rick.howell1@tx.rr.com](mailto:Rick.howell1@tx.rr.com)

5/19

Wanted to buy or trade for: Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits. Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or [jmhstamp@verizon.net](mailto:jmhstamp@verizon.net)

2/15

Various USA Scott #C2 & C3 on covers & cards are needed for my U.S Air Mail collection. Please forward scans of the covers / cards along with asking price(s) to Don Jones at [adjaams@aol.com](mailto:adjaams@aol.com) Thank you.

2/21

## For Sale

FREE 111-page (all varieties) or 26-page album (basic version) of Spanish ATM stamps (provided as a PDF file) with purchase of at least \$3.00 in Spanish ATM stamps (which are only 15¢ each)! Contact Peter Elias at [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 4/24

United States Booklets, large selection of unexploded booklets for sale at just above face value. Starting with booklet #BK104 to #BK259. Identify booklet number desired and send an email to Dave Stockbridge at [stockdave44@yahoo.com](mailto:stockdave44@yahoo.com).

Dave will send you a price, if booklet is available and payment instructions.

4/23

Mid-Cities Stamp Club "Stamping Around" Newsletter  
c/o Peter Elias  
PO Box 940427  
Plano, TX 75094-0427

Don't Forget:

EXPO Planning Meeting - Sept. 27  
Arlington Club Picnic - Oct. 1  
Granbury Club Picnic - Oct. 28