

# **Stamping Around**

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club <u>Arlington Meetings:</u> First Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m. Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St. <u>Euless Meetings</u>: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m. 12750 S. Pipeline Rd, #1C (Central Station Marketing) <u>Lake Granbury Meetings</u>: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)

By Peter Elias



### Volume 34, Number 10

Done That

Been There,

http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com

October 2021

HEROES USA

We all know what happened on 9/11/2001; USA #B2, issued on June 7, 2002 (at left) reminds us of that horrific day.

9/11

On the morning of 9/11, I was still sleeping when my wife called me from her workplace and said I should turn on the TV. At first I thought I watching some sort of sci-fi movie with special effects, before it quickly

dawned on me that what I was seeing was all too real. Six days prior, on 9/5, we had both left for a brief

trip to my former home state of Michigan to show my wife



around a bit. Our first stop was East Lansing, where I used to attend Michigan State University (and play pinball at an aptly named place which was still around 16 years later in 2001). The next day we

went up to Mackinac Island, and then spent a couple of days with my parents in Midland and also visited Frankenmuth, a town which has a huge Christmas-themed shop that is open year-round. I remember we had discussed whether we should extend our trip, but decided to fly back as scheduled from Detroit to Dallas on 9/10 (American flight #1519 - although I've unfortunately discarded those boarding passes a while ago, but I do still have the AA frequent flyer printout!]...), as Annie had to work on 9/11.

Had we NOT flown back the night before 9/11, we might have had a bit more difficulty getting back to Dallas, as on 9/11, all air traffic in the USA was shut down until 9/13, and renting a car would have been the only choice of getting back home (except that renting a car would have been difficult, if not impossible).

So in a nutshell, the above was my personal remembrance of that fateful day. Right before writing this article, I was watching a 6-part series on the National Geographic channel called "9/11 - One Day in America", a very interesting and personal telling of what happened to some of the people that were there that day and lived through it. It was probably the best program about 9/11 that I have seen to date, and I can highly recommend it.

Of course, as with many events in my life, my

thoughts turn to philately. Other than USA #B2 shown at left, there are of course now many stamps that commemorate that day and the World Trade Center towers.



But I wondered if there were any stamps issued PRIOR to 9/11 that feature the twin towers? Searching around a bit, the only stamp I could find is a 1¢ stamp from Anguilla, Scott #217, issued in 1975 as part of a set of 6 commemorating the US Bicentennial (see above).

What gets me a bit irked right now, is that on the 20-year anniversary of this event, that the USPS is NOT issuing any sort of stamp[s] regarding this event, although they are managing to issue a "Message Monsters" set of 4 stamps on September 24, as if that is somehow more important...

So: where were YOU on 9/11 and what do you remember about that day (and can show it philatelically)?

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# **Stamping Around**

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club Peter Elias, Editor (<u>news@mid-citiesstampclub.com</u>)

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#### 2021 - 2022 MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President – Richard Hildebrandt First Vice-President – Stanley Christmas Second Vice-President – Rick Howell Secretary – Skip Ely Treasurer – Judy Christmas

Board of Directors (voting): Ken Aldridge Peter Elias Ken Wills Immediate Past President: Ray Cartier

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 newsletter, or \$22 for mailed newsletters). For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or : <u>editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com</u>

For a membership application write to: Mid-Cities Stamp Club P.O. Box 2158 Arlington, TX 76004-2158

or visit: http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com

# **<u>Coming Attractions</u>**

--> We are now back in to "in-person" meetings starting in June. Due to current increase of COVID-19 cases, we encourage wearing of masks at all in-person meetings (unless masks are mandated by local, state and/or federal regulations). Data below is believed to be correct at time of publication; for updated MCSC meeting statuses, please contact club secretary Skip Ely.

# <u>2021</u>

SEP. 24-25	Texas Precancel Club Mtg, Auction/Brs			
Comfort Inn, 3	01 Capitol St, Grapevine, Texas 76051.			
(Friday and Satu	irday 9 AM to 4 PM).			
SEP. 28	MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting			
Program:	Club Auction - All members are encour-			
aged to submit items for sale - Skip Ely will be the auction-				
eer.				
<u>OCT. 6</u>	MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting			
Program:	Club Picnic & EXPO envelope stuffing			
OCT. 8 & 9	Fall Dallas Postcard Show			
Comfort Inn & Suites, 700 Central Pkwy East, admission fee				
Fri: 10 AM - 6 PI	M, Sat: 9 AM - 4 PM			
OCT. 16 (11 AM) MCSC - EXPO Planning Meeting				
Meeting location	to be decided (mostly likely Spring Creek			
BBQ on Cooper	Street in Arlington).			
OCT. 20	MCSC—EULESS Meeting			



# Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

Page 1 features my personal take on 9/11 and also my "2¢" worth about the USPS not issuing a stamp on the 20th anniversary of 9/11, yet managing to issue what I think is probably the ugliest and most unnecessary set of stamps for 2021. I mean, who are they targeting with this set? Kids? Oh yeah, kids, the future of stamp collecting..., as if having these stamps they'll write more actual letters (wishful thinking...).

Don't forget that EXPO 2021 will soon be here! Ray Cartier is still hoping to fill a number of frames. We'll have 3 APS judges again this year, so let's give them something great to judge!

And as always, I manage to keep finding stamps (new & old) that somehow relate to my own life experiences.

See page 6 for a listing of dealers signed up to be at EXPO. Send them your want list now; I always tell them: "if you don't bring it, I can't buy it!"



Annual Club Picnic

By Judy Christmas

This is a reminder that the Club's Annual Picnic will be held on the patio of the Bob Duncan Community Center before the October 6, 2021 Arlington meeting.

The Club will provide hot dogs, drinks and utensils. For those who will be attending, we ask that you bring a covered dish.

A sign-up sheet has been passed around at the Arlington, Euless and Granbury meetings. If you were not able to attend either of these meetings but would like to attend, just send me an e-mail message at judy66@swbell.net or give me a call at (817) 996-6112. Some dishes that have been brought in the past were salads (tossed, Jell-O, fruit), beans, casserole dishes of all kinds, fruit plates, deviled eggs (which always go fast so make many), chips & dip and all sorts of desserts.

This event has been such a big success in year's past, so please come and join us. It is a good time for members to get to visit with each other. We will begin gathering around 5:00 PM with eating to begin at 5:30 PM. If you have any questions, please contact either Judy Christmas at (817) 996-6112 or David Stockbridge at (817) 573-7168.





### MooU Brody Bowl By Peter Elias

FIRST OF THE LAND-GRANT COLLEGES PENNSYLVANIA MICHIGAN STATE STATE COLLEGE UNIVERSITY 39 UNITED STATES POSTAGE 34

Michigan State College was established in 1855 as one of the first two "land grant colleges" and was the premier one by 1862. It had multiple name changes (relating it to it being an "agricultural" college/university) until it was renamed to Michigan

State University in 1964. More history is at: https://msu.edu/ about/history. MSU was commemorated on Scott #1065 in 1955.

In 1857, the first classes started with 5 faculty members and 63 students. By the time I went there in 1979 to 1985, it was 36,909 students (Fall of 1979). The campus is 5,300 acres (8.28 square miles). Trust me, that's huge! Living in the dorms on the west end of campus and commuting to a class in middle of campus, was either a long walk or bicycle ride (we couldn't park our cars on campus...), or a bus ride (which was preferable during snowy Michigan winters...). Now there's over 49,000 students, making it one of the larger universities in the USA based on enrollment.



What was supposed to be a 4-year (Bachelor of Science) degree in Packaging Engineering (which was actually given by their "College of Agriculture & Natural Resources") took me just a bit over 5 years (for a variety of reasons) and I graduated in the Spring Term of 1985. Back then, they had "terms" (4 terms per year, including summer), I believe they've since switched a "semester" system.

Like most students, the first couple of years I lived "on campus" in one of the dorms, below is a photo I took probably





around 1979-1981 from my dorm room window in Butterfield Hall (4th floor), part of the "Brody Complex" (a series of 6 co-ed dormitories surrounding the Brody cafeteria seen in the right side of the photo at bottom left).

My dorm room, as seen from the entry (& from which I took the picture at bottom left) is shown above. As with most people, I had to share this fairly small room with a roommate, who was assigned to me by the university. To make more room, we built a "loft" (with a flip-down ladder), that would allow us to have more living space underneath. And yeah, we were young & a bit messy... But hey, it was home for a while...

And to a degree, I have personally commemorated Brody cafeteria with the Zazzle stamps shown below. I did work many hours in the cafeteria, cleaning thousands of dishes & utensils. On the Zazzle stamps, you see a cereal (or soup) bowl from the cafeteria, and no, I didn't steal it. The bowl had a crack in it and I was able to keep it and still have it to this date (so it's something 40 years old and I use it for snacks!)

I had also played around with the photograph a bit and created a couple of modified versions of it which I also had printed as a Zazzle stamp (actually the small Zazzle stamp to the right was ordered a year after the larger stamp shown below).



So me, these stamps 5 (and of course the original bowl!) are a nice way to remember some of my college days at MooU. It's the little things in life!



Stamping Around, October 2021

# MCSC EXPO Meeting Minutes Saturday, August 21, 2021

By Skip Ely

The Mid Cities Stamps Club held an EXPO Planning Meeting at Spring Creek BBQ on Cooper Street in Arlington on Saturday, August 21.

## Attendees:

Ralph Poore (EXPO Chairperson), Stanley Christmas, Judy Christmas, Tom Cunningham, Katherine Story, Ray Cartier, Karen Cartier, Rich Hildebrandt, Bob Weidman and Skip Ely. Anne Moxley participated by phone. Ralph's wife, Patty, was a visitor.

## Call-to-Order:

 Ralph Poore called the meeting to order at 11:45 AM. The previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

## Meeting discussions:

- Ralph said we were still in urgent need of an Awards chairperson. This led to a discussion of the location of the box containing the reusable awards (ribbons, etc.). Since it seems to be missing in action, it was suggested we begin trying to replace some of the items. Anne Moxley said she would contact Alliene Franklin to see if she remembers where we obtained some of the items.
- Judy Christmas said she had located a couple of keys to the club storage unit in Grapevine and would work on making some duplicates. It was suggested that some be put in the locker at the Arlington meeting place as a backup location.
- Anne Moxley said she was working on a tool to make it easier to attach and remove the screws on the frames.
- Ray Cartier said we will have 60 frames for regular exhibits, plus two extra for a publicity exhibit.
- Ray said he would get a sign for the exhibit location, since it will be in a separate room and not in the main hall.
- Ralph and Stanley said they had little success in contacting USPS people to see if they would attend with their Kiosk. They said they will keep trying, but advised we should plan to do without their participation.
- Ralph then went through the EXPO committee topics and asked for status reports.

## Committees:

 <u>Awards Banquet</u> - Rich Hildebrandt said he had made some preliminary arrangements with the Grapevine facility on the Awards banquet. He said the cost will remain at \$20 per person. He had not decided on the menu, but was leaning toward the Chicken Cacciatore. He also said the facility will not provide real silverware this year to health concerns.

- <u>Beginners / Silent Auction</u> Skip Ely said we had lots of material for the Beginners and Silent Auction.
- <u>Bourse</u> Tom Cunningham said he had 25 tables filled and expected to get one more before long.
- <u>Cachet Art</u> Ralph said Diana Davis was working on this item.
- <u>Chance Board</u> Karen Cartier said everything was completed.
- <u>Exhibits (Additional)</u> Ray Cartier said we still had many frames to fill, but that he was working with the Houston and Oklahoma City clubs in an exchange (we provide them some, they reciprocate).
- <u>Finance</u> Judy Christmas said everything was in order.
- <u>Hospitality/Registration</u> Stanley said that Janet Moyer told him she was getting things in order. Ralph said he was investigating obtaining some western themed items to use in a raffle.
- <u>Judges</u> Peter Elias has previously said he had secured three judges. *[Editor's Note: the judges are Dr. Stephen Washburne, Colin Fraser & Patrick Walters]*
- <u>Lunches</u> Judy said we would use Jason's Deli again.
- <u>Mail-Out</u> Stanley Christmas said the mail-out envelopes were stamped and ready to go. [Editor's Note: the stuffing of the envelopes will be at the Arlington October meeting right after the Club's Annual Picnic]
- <u>Mix Pick</u> Bob Weidman said he hasn't purchased any stamps this year, as donations have provided ample material.
- <u>Publicity</u> Peter Elias has previously indicated (at the recent Euless meeting) that he had arranged for eight weeks of notices in Linn's.
- <u>Snacks</u> Ralph said we will need to check with the facility regarding health rules as we get closer to EXPO dates.
- <u>Transportation</u> Evan Islam has previously said (at the recent Euless meeting) that he will work on making the necessary arrangements for transporting the frames and file cabinets.
- <u>Volunteers</u> Janet Moyer has been circulating the Volunteer sheet at club meetings. There are still plenty of vacant spots to fill.
- Finally, Ralph suggested that we encourage club members to wear western themed clothing at EXPO.

### Next meeting:

• The next EXPO meeting was scheduled for Saturday, October 16, 11:00 A.M. at a location to be decided (but probably the same Spring Creek BBQ).

### Adjournment::

• The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

# MCSC Arlington Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2021

By Skip Ely

## Opening:

• President Rich Hildebrandt opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

### Attendance:

• 29 members and 1 guest attended the September meeting in Arlington.

## Officer Reports:

- <u>President</u> Rich Hildebrandt mentioned the "Envelope Stuffing" activity will be the program for October, along with the club picnic. Judy Christmas later passed around the sign up sheet so we would know how many hot dogs to cook. Judy said we would meet at 5:00 P.M. on the grounds outside the Duncan Center, and start eating around 5:30 P.M. The club will furnish the hot dogs, and members are asked to bring some side dishes or desserts.
- <u>Treasury</u> Judy gave the treasury amount, which includes dealer table fees for the upcoming Expo, and noted that most will be used to pay upcoming Expo fees.
- <u>Secretary</u> Skip Ely said our membership continued at 91.

# Committee Reports:

- EXPO:
  - Stanley Christmas said it appeared unlikely we will have the USPS kiosk at Expo this year, as we have been unable to contact USPS officials.
  - Janet Moyer passed around the volunteer sheet, noting that members had to be signed up in advance to qualify for daily Expo gift certificates.
  - Rich Hildebrandt said the award dinner tickets will be \$20, and encouraged members to participate you don't have to be doing an exhibit to attend. He noted that the short presentation by one of judges is always a great bonus.
- <u>Newsletter</u> Peter Elias said it was on schedule.
- <u>Sales</u> Skip Ely said APS sales were very good last month. He mentioned that this will be the last APS circuit until January due to Expo activities in the coming months.

### Announcements:

- Dave Stockbridge talked about the Granbury auction September 28th.
- Peter Elias mentioned the Dallas Postcard Show in Richardson October 8-9.
- Judy Christmas passed around a sympathy card for John Hotchner, whose wife passed away a short while ago.

## Show & Tell:

- Peter Elias had several items, including some silver replicas of Swiss stamps, and an Isle of Man mailing with only images of stamps, not real ones.
- Rick Howell talked about some new Batman stamps being issued by Great Britain.
- Ray Cartier showed a photo of an F-16 first flight that he put a stamp on and got the signature of the pilot to make it a philatelic item.
- Tom Turner showed a cover he purchased at the recent TSDA Fair with a 1916 Italian postmark but with U.S. stamps. He questioned why it didn't have Italian stamps, and said it would require more research.
- Ken Aldridge referenced the stamp quilt his wife made that will be auctioned at Expo. He also said he was liquidating most of his collections, which were for sale. He also talked about a recent visit to Santa Claus, Indiana, and a cover he purchased there.
- Bob Weidman passed around a stamp label item he found amusing.
- Judy Christmas offered a copy of the newsletter page with all the new postal rates.
- Stanley Christmas showed a 1939 First Flight Cover of a USPS Experimental Airmail Pickup Service, and described how it worked in towns without an airport.

### Program:

 Peter Elias gave an interesting program on Spanish ATM Stamps, and noted that this was a quick version of his exhibit (so you can revisit it at EXPO!).

### **Gift Certificates:**

 Were awarded to Ben Termini, Gene Pfretzschner, Rich Hildebrandt, Jim Taylor, Ray Cartier, Ken Aldridge, Bob Weidman and Andy Lacko

### Conclusion:

• The meeting concluded around 8:20 PM.



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# **2021 EXPO Dealer Listing (as of publication date)**

--> If you are looking for something specific for your collection, please contact these dealers prior to the show, so that they can ensure that they bring items of interest to you with them!

#### **Rickey Peed, R. J. Peed Enterprises**

1834 Terry Drive, Grand Prairie, TX 75051 Stamp and Coin Supplies, Catalogs tall tex@swbell.net 972-677-3633 www.supplies4U.net

#### Kurt Harding, Stamp Center of Texas

39350 IH-10 West #5, Boerne, TX 78006 World Postal History, Collections, Souvenir Sheets, Worldwide Stamps klingsor88@hotmail.com 210-240-4083

#### L. W. Martin, Jr., Crown Colony Stamps

PO Box 1198. Bellaire, TX 77402 British Commonwealth lwm@crowncolony.com

713-781-6563

#### Byron Sandfield, Park Cities Stamps

6440 N. Central Expressway Dallas, TX 75206 World Collections, USA, US Postal History & Locals 214-361-4322 bsandfield@gmail.com

#### George Watkins, George Watkins Stamps

14810 Tuttle Lane, Iola, TX 77861 Worldwide, Latin America, USA gwkiller@aol.com 936-394-2146

Damian Johnson PO Box 2041, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201 Box lots, Albums, US & Worldwide Stamps & Cover Phillately@hotmail.com 816-462-7074

#### Kenneth Scheller, The Stamp Connection

PO Box 63917, Pipe Creek, TX 78063-3917 Worldwide, US, British Empire, Europe & Colonies thestampconnection@gmail.com 281-691-5911

Pat McElroy, D & P Stamps 2220 Otay Lakes Rd #502-411, Chula Vista, CA 91915 Italy & Colonies, British Colonies, Latin America, Worldwide, Portugal & Colonies, France & Colonies pat@dpstamps.com 619-987-1019

Larry Amundsen, Collectors Stamp Exchange Chesterfield, MO 63017 US / Worldwide Stamps and Collections. British Commonwealth collectorsstampexchange@gmail.com 314-406-5061

Jonathan Topper, Topper Stamps & Postal History 10480 Grant Road, Suite 117, Houston, TX 77070 Appraisals, Collections, Postal History jonathan@topperstamps.com 832-518-6558

#### Labron Harris, Labron Harris Postal History PO Box 739, Glen Echo, MD 20812-0739

US and Worldwide Postal History labronharr@aol.com 240-447-3769

#### Charles Deaton

PO Box 27408, Houston, TX 77227 US & Foreign Stamps, Postal History, Collection Lots cwdeaton@aol.com 713-927-9948

#### Thomas Cunningham, Cunningham Philatelics

P.O. Box 863237, Plano, TX 75086-3237 US, US B-O-B, US Possessions, Confederate States, Canada, British, Ireland, World Pre-1940, Collections, Covers, Appraisals CunninghamStamps@aol.com 214-546-1179

#### Kirk McKenzie, **Oklahoma Stamps**

5813 W. Orlando Circle, Broken Arrow, OK 74011 United , Graded Stamps, Plate Blocks kirkmckenzie@cox.net 918-249-5813

#### James D. Myers, stampsuniversal.com PO Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019

# jasdmyers@earthlink.net

Worldwide (Classics to Modern)

William Hontos, Oceanview Stamp Co. 18685-A Main Street #454 Huntington Beach, CA 92648 US & Worldwide Stamps, Internet Auctions 714-841-0304 ovstampco@aol.com

#### James C. Garrett, JC's Philately

820 N. 9th Street, Temple, TX USA, Canada, Europe jagq4246@gmail.com

#### Scott Couch, Tiger Collectibles

33247 Monroe Road #332, Stoutsville, MO 65283 US #1 to current, BOB, Postal History (Airmail, advertising usages, postal stationery), Better FDCs, many Odds and Ends ......just ask!! tigercollect@sbcglobal.net 816-405-3633

972-304-1671

713-857-6920

#### David Lisot, Gold, Silver, Coins & Stamps

908 Audelia Road, #200-330, Richardson, TX 75081 US, Sheets, Discount Postage, Collections 972-489-5599 info@goldsilco.com

### David Cobb, Newport Harbor Stamp Co.

P.O. Box 3364, Newport Beach, CA 92659 U.S. Classics, Plate Blocks, Errors newportharborstamps@gmail.com 800-722-1022 davidmcobb@earthlink.net

#### Michael Ball. A to Z Stamps

430 E. Southern Ave, Tempe, AZ 85282-5216 USA Comprehensive Stamps and Revenues, Appraisals, Comprehensive Worldwide Stamps, michael@azstampcoin.com 248-709-8939 ishop@worldwidestamps.com 480-844-9878

### Kyle Nybo, Kyle Nybo Stamps, LLC

1238 E. 11000 S., Sandy, UT 84094 US & Worldwide Stamps nybostamps@gmail.com 801-550-8138

#### Steve Carpenter, Carpenter Collectibles

3812 Oak Park Dr, Flower Mound, TX 75028 US Sheets, Plate Blocks, Covers, Uncut Press Sheets, USPS Stationery & Collectibles, Postal Art & Posters, Fleetwood Proof Cards, Memorabilia 972-539-1627

SJCarp22@verizon.net

### Brian Hunt, Hunt & Co. Stamps

10711 Burnet Road, Suite 314, Austin, TX 78758 United States, British Commonwealth, Worldwide, On-line Auctions info@huntstamps.com 512-837-9997

#### Steve Crippe, Circle C Stamps & Coins

PO Box 308, Palmer, TX 75152 Buying / Selling US & Worldwide Stamps & Covers scrippe@gmail.com 214-980-2116

# TV Philately: 2:22

By Peter Elias

The 2017 movie "2:22" was one of those "relive the day over again" type of movies, where in this case, the main character notices that certain types of events keeping occurring again and again at the same times each day, with 2:22 [PM] being the defining moment. No spoilers, if you want to see it, it's free on Amazon Prime.



In the movie, the main character "Dylan" discovers a pile of letters written about 30 years prior in his apartment in New York City. While several envelopes flash by briefly, the one above is one I could pause the movie at.

As you can see above, he is holding an envelope bearing a New York City address and a "D" stamp.

First the address: 818 East 12th Street:



Google Maps shows a "812" on the map, but it's not occupied by a building, and the street-view photo shows it to be a dead end, which is to be expected, as this is not a documentary.



Here's a close-up of the corner of the envelope. It shows a part of a "D" stamp, Scott #2111, which was issued in 1985, albeit 9 days AFTER the postmark shown on the envelope! So this could "in theory" be an

"earliest known date", but I think the prop department's research didn't quite delve deep enough into the exact issue date and should have shown a "C" stamp (Scott #1946) instead. While the stamp itself looks real enough, it is hard to tell ...

As to the postmark, they're trying to mimic a standard "wavy bar" machine cancel, except that the circle part is far too close to the right of the envelope, and the wavy bars normally wouldn't be over the circle and at the angle shown.

As usual with philatelic movie props, "close, but no cigar" ... (but hey, it is fun researching this!).



# El Morro By Pat & Bob Weidman

On our recent trip to Puerto Rico, I did some exploring around Old San Juan. One of the places I visited was El Morro. It's full name was Castillo de San Felipe del Morro, which is Fort St. Phillip of the Headland. It was named in honor of the Spanish king, Phillip II.

El Morro covers more than five acres. Surrounding a large courtyard are officer's & soldier's quarters, a chapel, a prison store rooms and gun rooms. The walls are 140 feet high and in some areas they are 15 feet thick. El Morro is believed to be the oldest Spanish-built fort in the New World, dating back to 1539. It took nearly 200 years to build.

The fort was built to protect San Juan Bay from Spain's rivals. In the late 1500's, San Juan was attacked by the British. In 1625, the Dutch attacked. Finally in 1898, during the Spanish-American war, it was the Americans who attacked.



Today, El Morro is maintained by the National Park Service. In 1983, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The photo above of me was taken outside of the fort. The sentry post at the corner of the walls is a "gaviota" [seagull]. The stamp is USA Scott #1437 and issued on September 12, 1971 for the 450th Anniversary of San Juan.

[Editor's Note: The picture of El Morro below is featured in an article at the <u>https://</u> <u>www.worldatlas.com/articles/el-morro-castle-ruinsof-puerto-rico.html</u> website. This photo gives you a nice birds-eye view and great perspective! The blue arrows shows 3 of the watch posts that are at





the fort, and most likely, Bob is standing in front of the one indicated by the upper right arrow. Our family had also visited El Morro (and other parts of Puerto Rico) as well back in 2014 and can highly recommend a visit. Also see the August 2015 issue.]

#### Been There, Done That

## Disabled Veterans By Pat & Bob Weidman



In the above picture with me is R.C. Shields, Voluntary Services Specialist, at the Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic in Ft. Worth. We had just returned from the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Dallas where we picked up the new van behind us. It was donated at no charge by the Disables American Veterans and will be used by volunteer drivers to transport patients to the clinic who have no other means of there for their doctor appointment.

The Disabled American Veterans was organized in March



of 1920. It was established with the help of Judge Robert S. Marx of Cincinnati to care for veterans with disabilities and to maintain a useful way of living for them. They operate strictly with donations and do not receive any government funds. Their national headquarters is in Cold Spring, Kentucky.

The stamp commemorating their 50 years of service to veterans is Scott #1421, which was issued on November 24, 1970. this past year, 2020, they celebrated their 100-year anniversary!



### Walking

#### By Peter Elias

Ah, walking! When this Dutch stamp (Scott #558) came out in 1976, I had already been walking for close to 15 years (assuming that I learned to walk around the age of 1).

While this stamp appears to feature "walkers" (no reference to the *Walking Dead* TV show here, sorry...), it is in fact commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Nijmegen 4-day march, so they're technically "marchers". Every year, this is the largest multiple-day marching event in the world, generally in mid-July, organized to promote sport & exercise (see <u>Wikipedia</u> for more details).

That said, the photo below (which was just emailed to me recently) shows me walking with my dad sometime in either late 1964 or 1965 on the <u>Üetliberg</u> (near Zürich) in Switzerland; along with some of my dad's colleagues (& their wives and my mom &

brother - which are not seen in this particular photo).

Growing up, we did lots of walking & even light hiking on the weekends in the areas surrounding Zürich, which were generally just a short train or bus ride away; it was usually just with the parents and my brother.



# MCSC Granbury Meeting Minutes August 31, 2021

By Eugene Atkinson

12 members assembled at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 West Emerald Bend Court, for the August 31 meeting of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club.

Host David Stockbridge explained that the regular 4th Tuesday meeting was postponed by one week because of prior commitments for the Bentwater Center. In the **SHOW & TELL** segment of the meeting:

- Ray Ashley discussed his collection of "fractional currency" from the mid-19th century, the first "paper currency," he says, of the United States.
- Denny Ludlow showed a Tanzania souvenir sheet for the 25th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.
- Rick Howell explained a United Nations discussion on the fate of conflicting claims to Diego Garcia islands in the Indian Ocean.
- Stanley Christmas displayed a first flight cover from a "mail on the fly" experiment of the 1940s.
- Judy Christmas asked members to sign a condolence card for John Hotchner on the passing of his wife.
- Joe McFarland had an air mail special delivery envelope using dozens of stamps to pay the postage.
  ANNOUNCEMENTS included:
- Publicity for the Greater Houston Stamp Show, September 17-19 and notes from the Great American Stamp Show recently concluded in Chicago.
- Stanley Christmas reported that EXPO was fully on track with mail-out information almost complete.

With the theme song from the radio show "I Love A Mystery" as a lead-in to the **PROGRAM**, Gene Atkinson explained his topical collection of fictional detectives on stamps. A mystery fan since childhood and a professional historian using similar methods as the "private eye," he described postal tributes to Edgar Allan Poe, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, among others--and to their detective heroes. He gave special attention to certain issues from Great Britain that contained hidden clues and messages visible only with a magnifying glass or UV light. The collection, he added, might also be expanded to characters who appeared first on television or in motion pictures rather than novels, such as Inspector Clouseau, Joe Friday, Colombo, or "Dirty Harry; directors Alfred Hitchcock and John Houston; or comic strip figures like Dick Tracy. Collectors may refer to https://www.trussel.com/ detfic/detect.htm for additional information and a check list.

In <u>CLOSING</u>, door prizes consisting of club gift certificates went to Jim Case, Joe McFarland, Madeleine Myers, Stanley Christmas, Denny Ludlow and Bob Coleman. The September meeting will be a club auction. Members wishing to include lots should contact David Stockbridge as soon as possible to ensure listing.

# USPS Raising Rates for the Holidays

By Peter Elias

+ \$0.30

There is a 3rd raise in postage rates this year! The last one just occurred on August 29th. Now it will be a "peak holiday shipping rate increase" (similar to what FedEx & UPS have implemented before) that affects all "parcel & package shipments" (from 1st class parcel, parcel select ground & USPS retail parcel, all priority mail boxes AND priority mail "flat rate" envelope, as well as priority mail express items).

Regular "letter" & "large envelope / flats" postage rates are not affected by this.

The surcharges are for both "retail" and "commercial base" pricing. A summary of the key "retail pricing" changes that you and I as consumers will see are as follows:

- 1st Class Parcel
- Priority Mail & Express, Parcel Select Ground: Depending on weight & zone + \$0.25 to + \$5.00

Priority Mail Flat Rate
 + \$0.75

Priority Mail Express Flat Rate
 + \$0.75

According to stamps.com, this surcharge will only be for domestic shipments and international shipments will not be impacted.

The above surcharges will be in effect from October 3 through December 26, 2021.

# President's Report

## By Richard Hildebrandt

The time is fast approaching for our annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club EXPO. Many people have been hard at work laying the ground work for us to have another successful show. We managed to pull it off last year under very difficult circumstances, although we had to eliminate several of the usual activities. This year has been a challenge, but we expect to have a full slate of the usual activities (exhibits, awards dinner, silent auction, etc).

This month's [October] Arlington meeting is the annual picnic and envelope stuffing. Judy Christmas has been hard at it coordinating the food activities. If you have not yet done, so please contact her so that she can have a good head count. Our EXPO's have been as successful as they have because of Stan Christmas. He has been the keeper of the mailing list for years and has again prepared all of the material necessary for us to do the mail-out. That will be the activity for after the picnic. Come on out to this meeting and enjoy the food and great company and follow that up by helping stuff the mailing envelopes. You might even win a gift certificate for your efforts.

Also related to EXPO are the exhibits. Without them, this would be just another bourse to buy things. Ray Cartier has been diligently soliciting exhibits from other sources, but there are still plenty of frames available for anyone who wishes to show off their work.

Lastly on the topic of EXPO is the awards dinner. It is a time to recognize the efforts those people who have displayed their philatelic knowledge and been deemed worthy by our panel of esteemed judges. Come out and enjoy the meal and celebratory mood. I need to have your reservation by the end of October in order to make the EXPO food catering arrangements.

Thank you for all of you who have helped with our past EXPOs and please continue to support it.

# MCSC Euless Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2021

By Skip Ely

### Opening:

• First Vice President Stanley Christmas opened the meeting at 7:35 PM.

## Attendance:

• 8 members were present for the meeting.

## Announcements:

- Stan announced that the picnic at the Arlington meeting October 6 may wind up being catered due to our hot dog cooker not being able to attend.
- <u>Treasury</u> Judy Christmas gave the exact treasury amount.
- <u>Secretary</u> Skip Ely said our membership was holding at 91.

# Committee Reports:

- EXPO Stanley said that Anne Moxley had found the awards box and it was now in her possession. He added that all his efforts to contact the USPS had failed and so we will do without the Kiosk again this year.
- Sales Skip Ely said we had very good sales from the APS books this month.

## Show & Tell:

- Stanley Christmas passed around the 1939 First Flight Cover of a USPS Experimental Airmail Pickup Service he showed at the Arlington meeting. He said he might try to prepare a four page exhibit on the subject, as additional covers appear to be available on eBay.
- Rick Howell talked about the U.N. and UPU decision to award the Chagos Islands to Mauritius, which may make the British Indian Ocean stamps another dead country.
- Ken Wills led a very interesting discussion about the origins of world currencies, and how the British "Pound, Shilling, Pence" came to be.

# **Gift Certificates:**

• Were awarded to Judy Christmas, Sai Madhavapeddi, Evan Islam and Ken Wills.

# Closing:

• The meeting ended about 8:30 PM.

# Granbury - Sept. 28 Auction

By Dave Stockbridge

The auction items for Granbury September 28 auction will be open for display at 6 PM at the Bentwater Activity Center. The meeting will start at 7 PM with the auction starting shortly thereafter.

Anyone not able to attend the auction, but wanting to place bids may email their bid to me at <u>stock-dave44@yahoo.com</u>. Absentee bidders should state the highest amount they are willing to pay. I will start their bidding at the minimum bid listed and raise their bid as necessary.

--> See next page for lot listing -->

Item #	Country	Description of GRANBURY AUCTION LOTS, SEPTEMBER 28 @ 7 PM	Min. Bid
1	Germany	Binder w/472005-6 pages w diff. presentation sheets for 2005-6, retails \$3 each (\$273)	\$2
2 3	US US	Binder w 69 different covers (1973-96) in 23 plastic holders Revenue issues - mostly 1st issues, few 2nd & 3rd issues (cat \$475)	\$2 \$2
4	Books	4 Karen Cartier books on Fairy Tales, Folktales, Legends, & Children's stories	<u>ع</u> پ \$18
5	World Wide	58 envelopes each w several Official FDC 's 1983-98 (cat \$456.50)	\$40
6	World Wide	89 Franklin Mint World Wide FDC's (cat \$50)	\$15
7	Germany	Several 100 mint & used stamps mostly inflation era + 1 booklet (cat est. \$200)	\$5
8	Solomon Islands	12 Mint sets & SS from 1986	\$3
9	Germany	1955 #733 & 736 MNH (cat \$7.50)	\$2
10	Pakistan	1958 #95 MNH	\$1
11	Great Britain	1883 #105 used (cat \$240)	\$20
12	Montserrat	1997 #921 James Dean SS (Cat \$12.50)	\$1.50
13	Hungary	1974 FDC Set of 3 including SS on covers	\$1
14	Saint Lucia	Booklet #549 Celebrates marriage of Prince Charles & Lady Diana (cat \$7)	\$1
15	Grenada	1981 Celebration booklet of royal wedding	\$1
16	US	Page of old US used	\$1
17	Australia Burundi	24 different 1998 used 1975 set of 16 Space set mint (cat \$12)	\$1 \$2
18 19	Vanuatu	1975 set of 16 Space set mint (cat \$12) 1980-2 14 different mint (cat 6.15)	\$2 \$1
20	Malta	1974 set w Souvenir Sheet and FDCs	\$1 \$1
20	Australia	Captain Cook Bicentenary set & SS sheet 477-82a (cat 39.50)	\$9
21	Comoro Islands	Dinosaur Set #809-810 (cat\$35.50)	\$4
22	Nevis	1980 Windjammer's booklet w 3 sets of stamps	\$4
23	Korea	2002 World Cup Soccer 2 SS #2085 & 2105 (cat \$30)	\$3
25	Christmas Island	2 1975 &1988 SS of Christmas stamps (cat \$9.95)	\$1
26	US	2002-2005 Album pages with used stamps (#3612-3965)	\$1
27	US	Album of 100s of used US stamps from 1861-1978 plus BOB	\$1
28	Uruguay	Vario page of 31 different stamps	\$1
29	Thailand	Vario page 2 sides w about 60 different stamps	\$1
30	Mongolia	Vario page 2 sides w about 36 different stamps	\$1
31	Liberia	Vario page 2 sides w about 60 different stamps	\$1
32	Ireland	Vario page 2 sides w about 90 different stamps	\$2
33	Nicaragua	Vario page 2 sides w about 50+ Different stamps	\$
34	Monaco	Vario page 2 sides w about 55+ different stamps mint & used	\$
35	Turkey	Vario page 2 sides w about 55+ different used stamps	\$1
36	Paraguay	Vario page 2 sides w about 80 different used stamps	\$1
37	South Africa	Vario page 2 sides w about 40 different used stamps	\$1
38	Venezuela/Panama	Vario page 2 sides w 50+ used stamps + 14 Panama used stamps	\$1
39	Lebanon	Vario page with 35+ different used stamps	\$1
40	3 Countries	Vario page with Liechtenstein/Luxembourg/Wuerttemberg mint & used	\$1
41	San Marino	Vario page with about 55+ mostly mint stamps	\$1
42	Several counties	2 sides w over 60 mint & used (Malagasy, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Ivory Coast	\$1
43	Malaya & Maldives	Vario page 2 sides w over 70+ mint 7 used stamps	\$1
44	Indonesia	2 Vario page 2 sides w over 120+ mint & used stamps	\$2
45	Philippines	2 Vario pages w about 70 stamps	\$1
46	Canal Zone	Vario page w about 30 used stamps	\$
47	Iran	2 Vario pages w about 70 used stamps	\$1
48	Iceland	4 Vario pages w over 200 mint 7 used, some duplication	\$3
49 50	Singapore US	2 Vario pages w about 90 used stamps Album w 21 bicentennial covers of 1975 7 1976	\$2
51	US	Album of Presidential 1st day covers (36 cover w descriptions)	ې \$`
52	Binder	Showguard cover Album w 25 pages for 100 covers	\$ \$
53	Post cards	Box of 100s of post cards, almost all unused	\$2
54	US	45 Christmas FDC from 1962-1987	\$
55	US	4 covers from The ballpark in Arlington opening 1994	\$
56	World Wide	Supreme Global Album w stamps for 11 N & P countries	\$1
57	US	Box full of US used envelopes	\$
58	World Wide	Binder full of World Wild envelopes, card w stamps	\$
59	Canada	Packet of over 200 used Canadian stamps	\$
60	Monaco	1956 Marriage Commemoration FDC Prince Rainier & Grace Kelly	\$
61	Hungary	#1160-1167 set of 8, Melbourne Olympics	\$
62	Hungary	#C35-44 MNH 1936 Air Mail complete set (cat value \$66.90)	\$20
63	China	Packet of 300 used Chinese stamps	\$!
64	Hungary	6 oz mostly used large commemoratives Several hundred	\$4
65	Hungary	#B311 a,b,c,&d Semi Postal Souvenir Sheet (cat \$7.50)	\$2.50
66	Hungary	#B239-242 & B312-315 semi-postal souvenir sheet (cat \$6.75)	\$2
67	Hungary	Set of semi-postal MNH	\$
68	Hungary	Souvenir sheet commemorating 150-year anniversary of Pushkin	\$
69	Hungary	Booklet with over 500 mint & used Hungarian stamps	\$
70	Hungary	# 1062-1069 (8) used set of Hungarian costumes (cat \$16)	\$4

# **CLASSIFIED BOURSE**

# <u>Announcements</u>

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: <u>peter@pcelias.com</u>

# 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. <u>TX orders, add 8% sales tax</u>. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). jasdmyers@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 <u>peter@pcelias.com</u> 9/16

# <u>Wanted</u>

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 8/14

# For Sale

I now have a new website in which I have listed all my used <u>duplicates (many thousands)</u>. 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 <u>www.kenwills.net</u> Contact me at <u>wills@airmail.net</u>. Happy hunting! 3/19

<u>Philatelic Reference CD's</u>. The following self-running, philatelic reference CD's, each containing hundreds of scans, are now available:

- APC Conversions 2012-2014 (NY2016 Vermeil Award!)
- Usage of British Empire War Tax Issues (exhibit)
- <u>Airport Philately</u> (800+ scans of Airports on Stamps)
- <u>4 Rings—The History of Audi</u> (Great for any car lover!)
- <u>My Life on Wheels</u> (autobiography via USA personalized postage)
- St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans (1,700 items!!)
- <u>St. Vincent Postcards</u> (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
- <u>Vintage Swiss Postcards 1898-1959</u> (900+ postcards !!)

Special MCSC Member price is only \$ 7.95 each. Nonmembers -> please inquire. Contact peter@pcelias.com 1/21

**MOVED, BUT SALE CONTINUES!** Special discounts to MCSC members for Swiss, Austria, Liechtenstein issues, @ 1/3 and LESS of catalog values. Also will accept US postage (any values) @ 50% of catalog. All orders postpaid! I also accept Pay-Pal if you wish! John Barrett, Ph.D. Contact info: <u>jstrubel-boy@aol.com</u> 12/14

CanadianCollectionhousedinScottSpecialtySingleCountryAlbumStartswithScott#18through 1970.Mostlymint, some used.2013Scottcatalog value is \$4,100, now reduced to \$775 OBO!.Will accept US postage at face value as part payment.Contact Dave Linn, (903) 785-7864 or atdklgonefishing@yahoo.com8/19

# <u>Comic Strip - Blondie (Commemorative Stamp Prices)</u>

# By Peter Elias

# BLONDIE

# By Dean Young



This Blondie strip was published in the Dallas Morning News on May 6, 2009. The strip is poking fun at postage rate increases and hints toward that commemoratives cost more because they ARE commemoratives. Well, the only way that a commemorative stamp can cost MORE is if it's a "semi-postal" (whereby the extra cost goes toward a charitable cause), but buying semi-postals is optional (and I have yet to have a USPS clerk push a semi-postal stamp on a customer, unless they specifically ask for that type of stamp - and most consumers don't even know that they exist...).

One could say though (as mentioned in the strip), that stamps indirectly "commemorate price hikes" (but only up to when "Forever" stamps started), since in the past every stamp had the actual denomination printed on the stamp, and over the years, that denomination was higher and higher. I figured that this strip was actually "timely", since the new temporary "peak holiday prices" are set to start in October!

# Thank You!

By Peter Elias

Many thanks to Byron Sandfield of Park Cities Stamps to provide us with another trunk load (and backseat) full of stamps, covers & albums that he is donating from his purchases or left with him (for items he didn't want to purchase) from customers (many of which generally "inherited" their collections).

What you see below filled up pretty much the entire car! I picked these up on September 16, and Skip picked them up from me on September 14. I'm sure that you'll see some of these items at the EXPO "Beginning Collector" table and possibly as silent auction items either by themselves or as part of a "mystery box".



# Stamp Escapee (aka Floor Sweepings) By Peter Elias

A couple hours after Skip picked up the various philatelic items you see in the photo above, I saw this and a couple of other definitive sized stamps laying on my garage floor. The other stamps were damaged foreign definitives of no conse-



quence, but this one caught my because it was imperforate.

A quick check in Scott's shows this design (#A4) to be catalog #29A (bright blue) or #29Ab (indigo). Scott's also says that #29A "may not have been postally used" and that "design" #A4 (along with #A1 & #A2) was designed to be used for paying telegram fees, but was also usable as postage. There is no indication as to the value if these were used for telegram fee purposes.



According to Scott's, the stamps used for telegram fee use usually had a "crescent" shaped cancel. I can't really make out the cancel that well on this stamp, so it's either a "partial" round cancel strike or it might be a "crescent" shaped cancel. I can't say for sure, as I don't have any other examples of these type of cancels or an actual telegram to compare with.

Then there's the question of color. Is this "indigo" or "bright blue"? Using an old "Wonder Color Gauge" (see above), there is a "indigo tint" which is shown as a range from darker to lighter, and while there are various "blues" shown, there's no "bright blue". Somehow this stamp's color does not strike me as being "bright blue", to me that would be a much more "vibrant" color.

The newer Stanley Gibbons "Stamp Color Key" from 1979 (shown at top right), does have both a "bright blue" and an "indigo", and based on that, I'd say that the stamp is definitely NOT "bright blue". I've placed both color gauges against design portions (the scans do appear to reasonably reproduce the actual colors of my gauges) In any case, there is definitely a big difference between "indigo" and "bright blue"!

So according to Scott's, if it is #29Ab (indigo), it would be appear to be a postally used example, since they only state that #29A (bright blue) was used for telegraph purposes ... although I'm not 100% positive, as that cancel does appear to have a "crescent shape". Neither stamp is expensive, in used condition #29A is \$5.00, and #29Ab is \$6.00. What do you think?

# Comic Strip - Pluggers (Actual Mail)

by Peter Elias



Ah yes, who hasn't been fooled by junk mail pretending to be "personal" mail (or "actual mail" as it is termed in the Pluggers strip on the left)?

Well, "actual mail" generally would have a handwritten address and an "actual stamp" (even if it's just a definitive or an SSK stamp). So junk mail is sometimes disguised with computer printed addresses that use a font that mimic's handwriting or cursive writing, and of course use a stamp (usually definitive stamp and most of the time, "presort standard" or "bulk rate" inscribed - a clue that it's not "personal mail"!).

As a side note, I rarely ever "handwrite" addresses on even personal letters and print them instead, as I want to make sure that the USPS equipment can properly decipher the address! This comic strip was published on April 21, 2021 in the Dallas Morning News).



www.topperstamps.com





Stamping Around, October 2021



# MEET & EAT for October 2021

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.

--> Official Meet & Eat get-togethers prior to the club meetings have resumed! See updates for mask policies as published or announced by local, regional & state authorities or individual restaurants.

# **ARLINGTON**

Oct. 6 - <u>Club Picnic</u> (at the Bob Duncan Center) EULESS

Oct. 20 - <u>Jason's Deli</u> 2200 Airport Freeway, Bedford (817) 354-1511

### <u>GRANBURY</u>

Oct. 26 - <u>Grumps</u> 3503 East Highway 377, Granbury, TX

# Wanted to Buy

Texas Precancel Stamps. Contact Rick Howell at Rick.howell1@tx.rr.com

5/19

Wanted to buy or trade for: <u>Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal</u> <u>counterfeits</u>, 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 <u>imhstamp@verizon.net</u> 2/15

Various USA <u>Scott #C2 & C3 on covers & cards</u> 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 <u>adjaams@aol.com</u> Thank you. 2/21

# For Sale

I have over <u>10,000 auctions</u> on delcampe.com @ 35% of Scott or less. Worldwide & US stamps, covers and FDCs. For more info contact Denny Ludlow @ (713) 898-1872 10/15

**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 \$4.00 in Spanish ATM stamps (which are only 15¢ each!)! Contact Peter Elias at <u>peter@pcelias.com</u> 1/21

—> YOUR FREE AD COULD BE HERE <— ! (for MCSC club members only)

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

