

# Stamping Around

## Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.

**Eules Meetings:** Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

12750 S. Pipeline Rd, #1C (Central Station Marketing)

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



#891-076252



CHAPTER  
MEMBER

#90



#53-3364

Volume 35, Number 8

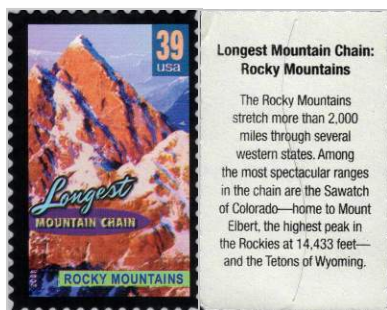
<http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

August 2022

Been There,  
Done That

## Rocky Mountain High

By Peter Elias



Scott #4062 issued in 2006

No, this article is not about the song by John Denver (although that song was named the official 2nd song of the State of Colorado in March 2007). The article is about Scott #4062, part of the "Wonders of America" series of 50 stamps issued in 2006.

This particular stamp celebrates the "Longest Mountain Chain", otherwise known as the

"Rocky Mountains". According to the printing on the stamp's backing, it states it is the longest mountain chain at "more than 2,000 miles". So I did some "fact checking". Assuming that the data at Wikipedia is correct, the longest mountain range in the world, is the Andes, at approx. 4,300 miles. The Rocky Mountains come in 3rd place (worldwide, but 1st place in the USA) at approx. 3,000 miles. So that seems to show that there is a discrepancy of almost 1,000 miles!

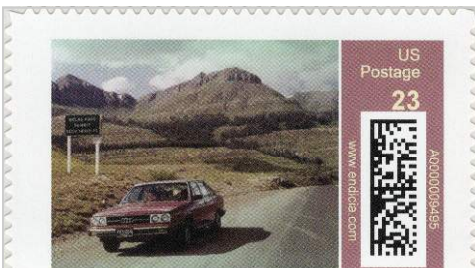
That said, I did an "old school" look-up. My 1986 print version of "Funk & Wagnall's New Encyclopedia" (yes, I have still one of these...) also says that the Rocky Mountains are approx. 2,000 miles long. However, everywhere else I've searched online, it states 3,000 miles! Makes me wonder where the USPS got their data from (my old Funk & Wagnall's?).

I've been to the Rocky Mountains a couple of times, generally not to specifically visit them as such, but driving through (well, actually more "up and over"...) them.

Back in 1980, just after I finished my first year at Michigan State University, during my summer vacation, my dad took our family for a 10,000 mile round-trip. "Go West, Young Man", as they say. And we did.

After a long and mostly boring drive through the "heartland" of America, we ended up in Colorado.

Shown on the left is a stamp and picture of the car my dad had just bought, an Audi 5000S (yup, that's the ones with the alleged "run-away



acceleration"; something that never occurred for us, as we know which pedals are for which purpose...). I don't remember how many mountain passes we drove over on that trip, but Molas Pass in southwestern Colorado was definitely one of them.

Molas Pass is a fairly high mountain pass road at 10,910 feet above sea level, but it is not one of the highest; that honor goes to Independence Pass at 12,095 feet (which I personally drove back in the 1990's). Back when I was doing an exhibit about the "Wheels" in my life, the custom stamp from "PictureItPostage" (owned by Endicia, now part of stamps.com) was one of the earlier custom stamps that I ordered. I put the scan of the actual photo underneath, so you can see how much the quality suffered.

While I later had driven up and over Independence Pass back in the mid-1990's, on this trip in 1980, I was only 20 years old, and I think my dad was afraid to let me drive up a dangerous road such as this. He did, however, let me drive on wonderfully boring freeway stretches through Nebraska on the way back though (where we ended up with a huge thunderstorm and I had to keep up the speed in order to not get hit by semi's doing well over 70 mph...).

Molas Pass is on US Highway 550 and is also known as the "Million Dollar Highway" (the origin of the name is disputed, but supposedly the cost to build it in the 1920's); it is about 25 miles long and runs between Silverton and Ouray. It is a great drive if you enjoy "driving"! And I can highly recommend it. I got to drive there again in our VW Passat TDI in the summer of 2019. No photos that time, as it was getting dark and we needed to get to our hotel in New Mexico. But what a drive!

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# Stamping Around

## Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Peter Elias, Editor ([news@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto:news@mid-citiesstampclub.com))

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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: [editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com](mailto:editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

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>



## Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

I do not start each newsletter from scratch. Many elements are the same each month. For example, the box to the left or the header on the first page.

So what I do each month is, I take the previous month's newsletter and delete all the "detail" (i.e.: article text and illustrations), and then change minor details such as the "month" in the headings and footers, and leave essentially many empty "text boxes", that mostly contain an "X" for the title, and "By X". Then I fill in details and articles for the next newsletter as people send them to me (or write them myself).

So occasionally some errors do creep in when I forgot to change something from the previous month...

Remember that "Been There..." articles don't always have to show stamps. Postmarks can be useful, as well as postal stationery and postage meters, as those often feature topical elements can apply to your life story. See my article regarding Germany in this newsletter!

With the increasing cost of postage and printing in color, it's forcing many clubs to go electronic (certainly cheaper and quicker). We used to print *Stamping Around* in black & white (although the PDF's were always in color), and even that was already well more than the price of membership. It now costs 60¢ (as of July 10) to mail a 1 to 10-page newsletter. So postage alone is now \$7.20 per member, per year. I'm figuring that my cost for black & white printing is about 8¢ per page (12¢ at Office Depot) and color at 29¢ per page (56¢ per page at Office Depot)! It's just not worth it going to Office Depot (or Staples), since I'd still also have to spend at least an extra hour of time to drive there and back, and \$5 in gas. Furthermore, since I print the "addresses" directly on the last page of the newsletter (rather than use self-adhesive labels), that wouldn't work if they were printing the newsletter, so we'd then have to go back to self-adhesive labels, which generally well more per label than one sheet of paper, thus increasing our costs further.

## Coming Attractions

### 2022

**JUL. 26 MCSC-LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**  
Program: Ken Wills - Philatelic Trivia Quiz (w prizes)  
**AUG. 3 MCSC - ARLINGTON Meeting**  
Program: TBD  
**AUG. 9 MCSC - Zoom Meeting**  
-> Contact Rick Howell for the Zoom meeting link  
**AUG. 17 MCSC - EULESS Meeting**  
Program: Extended Show & Tell and philatelic Discussions  
**AUG. 23 MCSC-LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**  
Program: Skip Ely - Philatelic Trivia  
**AUG. 26 - 27 TSDA Bourse**  
Bluebonnet Room, DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 N Central Ewy,  
Richardson, TX 75081 (SW corner of US75 & Campbell Rd)  
**SEP. 7 MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**  
Program: TBD  
**SEPT. 16 - 18 Greater Houston Stamp Show**  
Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy  
Humble, TX  
**SEP. 21 MCSC—EULESS Meeting**  
Program: Extended Show & Tell and philatelic Discussions  
**SEP. 23 - 24 TEXAS PRECANCEL CLUB Fall Meeting**  
Grapevine, TX Contact John Foster at  
[resoftware@hotmail.com](mailto:resoftware@hotmail.com) for more details.

## Secretary's Report

By Skip Ely

### Applications Received:

n/a

### New Members:

n/a

### Reinstatements:

n/a

### Dropped for non-payment of dues:

n/a

### Membership Summary – July 20, 2022

Membership as of June 15, 2022	95
Applications Received (counts as member next month)	0
New Members	0
Dropped for non-payment of dues	( 0 )
Resignations	( 0 )
Deceased	( 0 )
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of July 20, 2022	95





## TV Philately: Denial

by Peter Elias

I recently watched the movie "Denial" on Amazon Prime. It is a docudrama based on the actual events surrounding Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, a Holocaust historian who wrote a book called "Denying the Holocaust". She is sued in the UK by David Irving for libel. Unlike in the USA, UK libel law places the proof of burden on the defendant.

Her book was published by Penguin in the UK and she subsequently had to go to the UK for the libel trial. Her justification for the defense was the David Irving distorted the truth regarding the Holocaust (such as there is no proof that it really happened).



In the movie, Dr. Lipstadt (played by Rachel Weisz) receives a letter from her publisher in the UK as shown in the screen shot above.

As always, my mission is to take the item present to task. In this case, a UK postage meter imprint is shown on the envelope. I'm not much of an expert on meters (especially foreign ones). I did review the relevant section on the website for the International Postage Meter catalog at [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International\\_Postage\\_Meter\\_Stamp\\_Catalog/Great\\_Britain#Sub-group\\_HB:\\_Stamps\\_from\\_digital\\_meters](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/International_Postage_Meter_Stamp_Catalog/Great_Britain#Sub-group_HB:_Stamps_from_digital_meters), but couldn't find an exact match.

I did turn to the MSS (Meter Stamp Society), and a couple people said it "looked ok", but had some doubts as there is no "decimal" in front of the 64 in this case. One member said it's #HA25 but without the decimal, and another member said to look in the HB section. Nothing matches exactly though.

More than likely, the meter imprint shown was concocted by the props department. The date is somewhat indistinct, and while "22 OC" is visible, the year is probably "95", which would place it correctly in the time frame of the movie, which starts in 1994 and the letter was received in 1995.

So what else is there:

- 1) The return address is simply "Penguin UK", but no address is given. Why wouldn't a major company sending out a letter NOT have their address shown?
- 2) The recipient address: I just now googled the "address" shown on the cover, and that doesn't exist as such. While there is a 1054 Waterfall Drive, it's in Canton, GA 30114 (not Atlanta, GA 30301) or there is a 1054 Waterfall "Court" in Canton GA 30115. The only other "1054 Waterfall Drives" showed up in McKinney, TX (not too far from me), and in Spring Hill and Jacksonville, FL. This may have been done to protect the actual address of Dr. Lipstadt (a quick search she does have an Atlanta address currently).

So did they get it right? Only in the sense that it passes muster as a piece of mail and that it is only on-screen for about a second, enough for viewers to see that it's some sort of mail piece.

## Been There, Done That

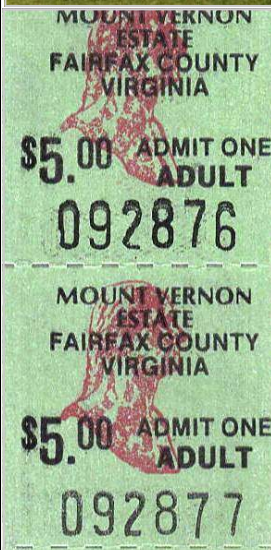
## Mount Vernon

by Peter Elias



In 1987 I was starting to get settled in Shelbyville, Kentucky after my 1986 stint working in Switzerland. Part of that assignment was to gather knowledge and aid in the start-up of the new facility in Kentucky.

During early 1987, I was in contact with one of my old college friends whom I had met in the dormitory that I lived in. I hadn't seen or talked with her for a couple of years, so I took a few days off and drove down to the Virginia / Washington DC area where she now lived.



During my visit, we checked out a few places nearby, such as the Mount Vernon Estate, which is located on the Potomac River in Fairfax County, Virginia.

As you may know, Mount Vernon was the former plantation of our first President, George Washington, and is located about 17 miles south of Washington DC on the banks of the Potomac River.

The house was originally built by George Washington's father around 1634, and expanded by George Washington twice in 1750 and 1770.

After George Washington's death in 1799, the estate remained in the hands of the family's successors, but eventually declined. The Mount Vernon Lady's Association recognized the significance of the house and estate and acquired it in 1858, and it was luckily spared damage that inflicted many plantations during the Civil War.

In 1960, Mount Vernon was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was designated a National History Landmark. George Washington himself wanted people to visit, and wrote in 1794: *"I have no objection to any sober or orderly person's gratifying their curiosity in viewing the buildings, Gardens, etc about Mount Vernon"*. My ticket stub from 1987 is shown above (and I was most definitely sober & orderly at the time...).



## No Stamps

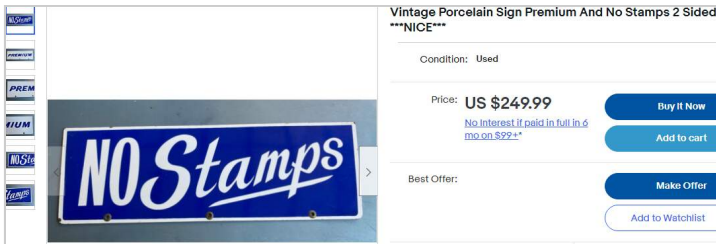
By Ken Wills



One of my sons found this enameled sign, I imagine at an estate sale or something like that. One year, as a joke, I put it over the entrance to the Mid-Cities EXPO at the Grapevine Convention Center, but it caused so much bewilderment and confusion that we had to take it down.

Its original purpose is a mystery, and if anyone can solve it, please follow up in this newsletter. My theory is that it came from a large supermarket in the days when people collected trading stamps. Dispensing those stamps took time, and might have caused long check-out lines. This sign over one of the check-out counters might have indicated express check out for those willing to forgo the trading stamps.

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[Editor's Note: I saw a similar sign for sale on eBay, and the description read: Vintage Porcelain Gas Station Sign Premium on one side and No Stamps on other. Measures approx 9.5" X 29". The eBay lot is/was at: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/154628961377>



I get the "Premium" part that is on the other side, given that it is supposed to be from a gas station. But the "no stamps" part? Could it mean 1) they don't give out any sort of "savings stamps" - such as S&H Green Stamps; or does it mean that they don't accept "ration stamps" - if this was a sign from the war period?

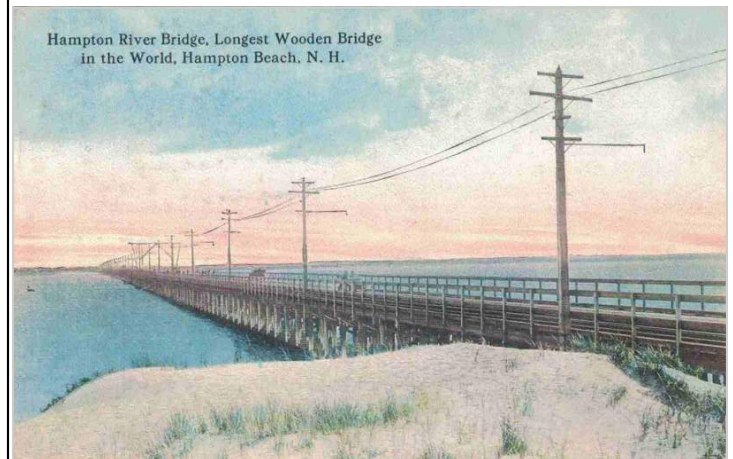
Ken said that the back of his sign says "With Stamps". But that still leads me back to the 2 potential reasons mentioned before. Anyone have thoughts?

Regardless, the sign does make a make for a nice addition to a stamp den. But: would it thwart a burglar?

## Hampton River Bridge & Hampton Beach Rural Station

Ralph Spencer Poore

The postcard pictured below has an interesting postal history. But first to its own history. While the famous bridge was replaced in 1949, this bridge, called the "Mile-long Bridge", which actually measured only 4,740 feet, was built by Wallace D. Lovell, a promoter who headed an extensive trolley car empire in the area. Building started in 1900 and completed in 1901. The bridge was 30 feet wide and supported by 3,865 wooden piles driven deeply into the river's sandy bottom. It instantly became a tourist attraction for the Hampton Beach area. Originally designed for his trolley cars' use, once automobiles became common, it was converted to automobile use. This, however, put a great amount of stress on the bridge. Lowell wisely sold the bridge before maintenance costs might have skyrocketed. For more information on this bridge, read the article at <https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/news/local/hampton-union/2013/06/25/history-hampton-s-mile-long/45316272007/>.



Also pictured below is the address side of the card showing a Hampton Beach Rural Station cancellation. Note the star embellishments on the cancellation. This 5-bar hand-stamp was only used for a short period of time and the Hampton Beach Rural Station itself was active only from 1907-1920. Discontinued Post Offices (DPO) usually have interesting stories to tell. Sadly, I've not been able to find out much more about this one. Happily, I've protected the card as a piece of history and may stumble across more about it in my continuing research.





## When I Die...

by Ken Wills

This is not how we like to start a sentence, is it? Making a will, and updating it from time to time, are tasks that are tangled in procrastination.

If your will is current, you probably have a clause or two stipulating what you want done with your stamp collection. Maybe you have a descendant who can hardly wait to inherit your stamps. Or one who has agreed to take it on with the idea of turning it into some cash. Possibly you have instructed your executor to put your collection into the hands of a chosen stamp dealer or auction house.

If you don't have a current will, make a date on your calendar right now to get with it!

The purpose of this article is to make you think about writing an article about your stamp collection with the title "When I die" and attaching it to your will.

Put yourself in the frame of mind of the person who has just inherited your stamps, and is quite bewildered. If your collection is well organized, this document will be straight forward. It will clarify questions like:

- Where is it physically located and how is it organized.
- What is the focus of the collection, e.g. "topical collection of mint stamps depicting birds".
- Are there different parts to the collection, e.g. an album of forgeries, five boxes of first flight airmail covers, etc.
- Do some of your stamps have certificates of authenticity, and if so where are they filed.
- Have you had your collection appraised (when, and with what result).
- Do you have an estimate of the total catalogue value (and point out the percentage of the catalogue value you might expect to realize).
- Do you have computer records of inventory or purchase history or trading debts to other collectors; and if so how to access this data.
- Cancel magazine subscriptions & club memberships.

- Can you identify dealers or other collectors or club members who might be interested in acquiring all or part or who could assist in locating interested parties.

That's some of what the heir to your well organized collection will need. If your stuff is more like mine, it will take much more explanation. Here are some imaginary statements to include in your "When I die" document:

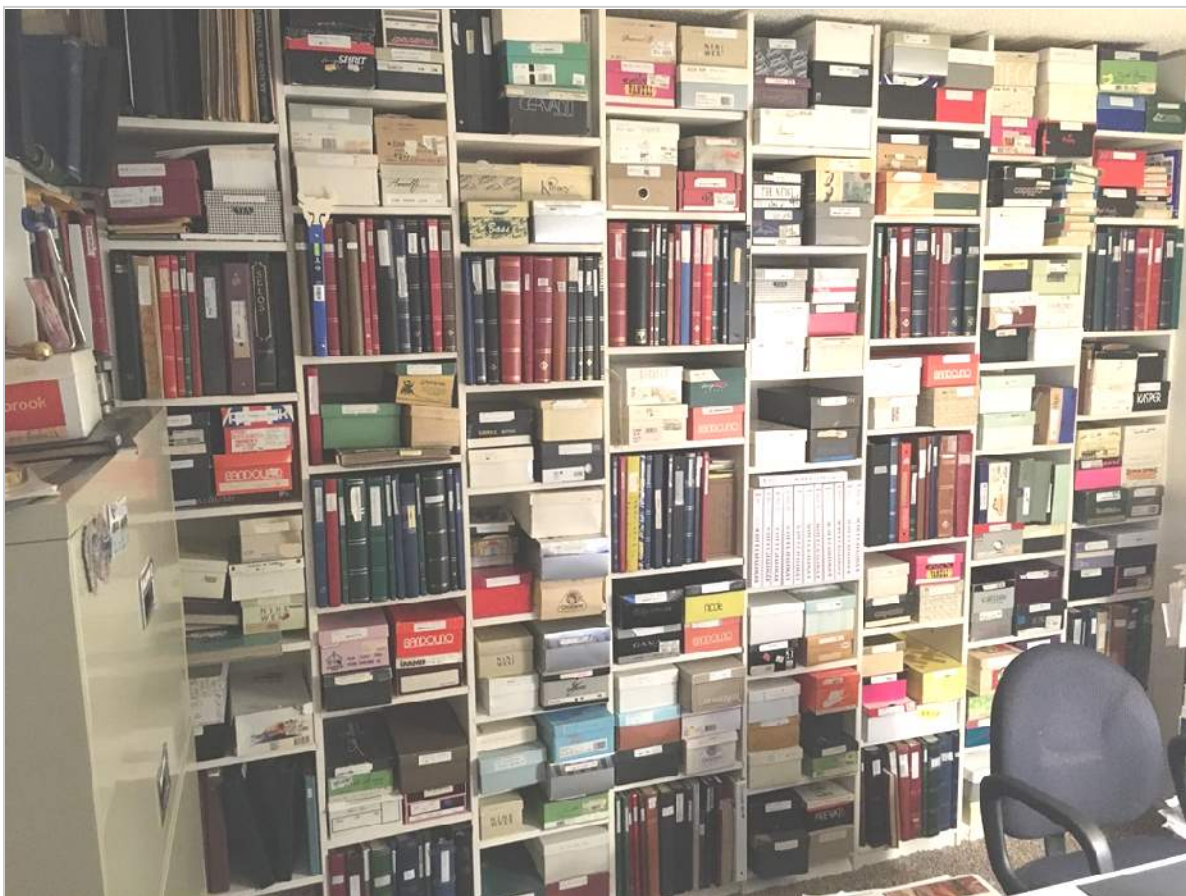
- On top of the guest room wardrobe are two large boxes of worldwide used stamps on paper.
- On shelf B5 you will find two albums of South Africa. The black one is my collection, the blue one I obtained with the intention of extracting what is missing in my collection.
- On shelf C3 is a shoe box of mint stamps in packets, sorted by country. Some of these are valuable.
- The brown box on shelf D2 is full of surplus stamps of little value that I intend to give to a stamp charity.
- All the stock books on shelf E1 are purchased items that I have not yet processed.
- You will find my collection of Latvia and Lithuania in a fat album marked Estonia etc.

This could go on and on, but the person inheriting your stamps will be relieved to be given this information.

You might consider a preparing a similar document for non-philatelic items: "My copy of xxx is a first edition signed by the author" or "The silver tableware once belonged to Charlie Chaplin."

So stop procrastinating NOW.

Below: My stamp room:

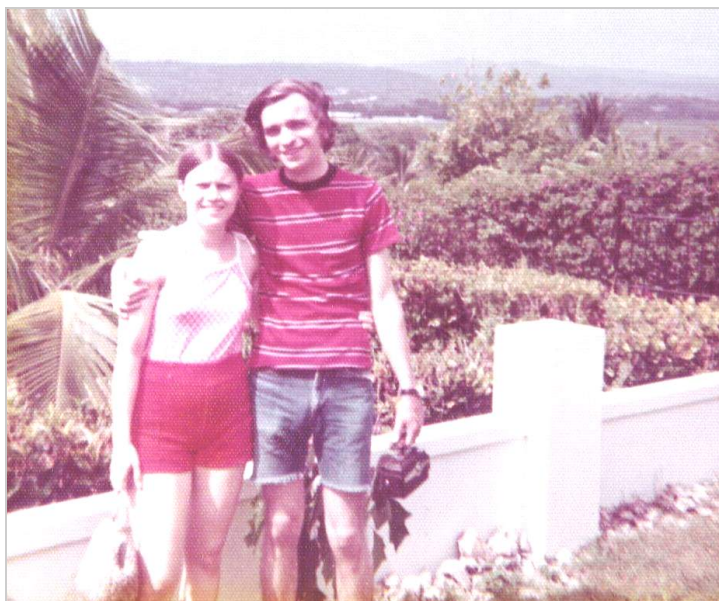


## Aging Together

By Pat & Bob Weidman



While looking through some stamps a few weeks ago, I ran across USA Scott #2011. It was issued on May 21, 1982. Seeing it reminded me that Pat and I had an anniversary coming up on June 10th. It was our 50th anniversary; we were married on June 10, 1972.



I remember that we had some pictures from back then, so I started looking for them. Finding them was easier said than done, but I eventually found what I was looking for. It was pictures of us on our honeymoon in

Nassau (Bahamas). In the 1972 picture from our honeymoon, I was 24 at the time and Pat was 23.

The newer picture was taken on June 11th of this year, one day after our anniversary. As you can see by looking at both pictures, we have not changed a bit, except that I am now 74 and Pat is 73. It must all be due to that good living!

## MCSC Arlington Meeting Minutes

July 6, 2022

By Skip Ely

### Attendance:

- There were 19 members at this meeting.

### Officer Reports:

- President - Rich Hildebrandt thanked everyone for coming. He said we were always grateful for people offering to give programs.
- Treasury - Judy gave the treasury amount.
- Secretary - Skip Ely said there were no changes in the membership, but a couple of people had already sent in their dues for 2023.

### Committee Reports:

- EXPO - Rich Hildebrandt said we would have an EXPO Planning meeting via Zoom on Saturday, July 16, at 11:00 AM. Ray Cartier said we still had 35 open frames. Peter Elias said we still only had one judge.
- Newsletter - Peter said the next newsletter was almost finished.
- Mix Pick - Rick Howell said he had one pound of on-paper mixes from the mixture pick table available for \$10, U.S. or Worldwide. Get 'em while it's hot! (or something like that).

### Announcements:

- Rich Hildebrandt said the bid sheet for the older club Scott catalogs will be in the next newsletter.
- Rick Howell said our next club Zoom meeting would be Tuesday, July 12, beginning at 7:30 PM.

### Show & Tell:

- Stanley Christmas passed around some recent covers and said they were available for the taking if anyone wants them.
- Dave Stockbridge talked about a stamp show he attended in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania during a recent trip. It had 6 dealers and 16 exhibit frames.
- Ray Cartier then mentioned the Oklahoma show a couple of weeks ago. It had 10 dealers, and 100 exhibit frames.
- Peter Elias passed around a recent postcard he received from the Czech Republic. He also mentioned he was saving current U.S. spray-on cancels for a friend.

### Program:

- "The Warbirds of Air Force Plant #4 (Fort Worth)", presented by Ray Cartier.

### Gift Certificates:

- Were won by Donna Howell, Stanley Christmas, Roland Haedge and Ben Termini.

### Adjournment:

- The meeting concluded about 8:30 PM.



## Driving Around Germany

by Peter Elias

Back in 1984, I had an internship arranged through Michigan State University. My major was "Packaging Engineering". And while I tried to get a relevant "packaging engineering" internship through MSU's "School of Packaging", somehow I couldn't. Yet, at the same time I was taking some advanced German classes at MSU. I don't remember why exactly, as I am German to begin with..., but my German skills as far as schooling went, were only through the 5th grade level, with a handful of German classes in high school, and just conversational German at home. I figured I may as well "advance" my language skills. When I learned that the MSU "German Department" had various internships, I asked about and found out that they had some in Germany!

My internship landed me at Clark Equipment's spare parts warehouse in Mülheim a.d. Ruhr (Mülheim on the Ruhr River), as shown on the German postal stationery card at the top of the 2nd column.

What is Clark Equipment? They manufacture heavy equipment for construction and other industries, including the well-known "Bobcat" -->

While the German stamp above does not show any particular



Image above is from HipStamp at <https://www.hipstamp.com/listing/germany-scott-1184-stamp-mint-nh-single/44285508>

brand of excavator, it is the kind of equipment Clark manufactures. In the German parts warehouse, they primarily filled orders for replacement parts that were shipped to dealers in Europe and Africa.

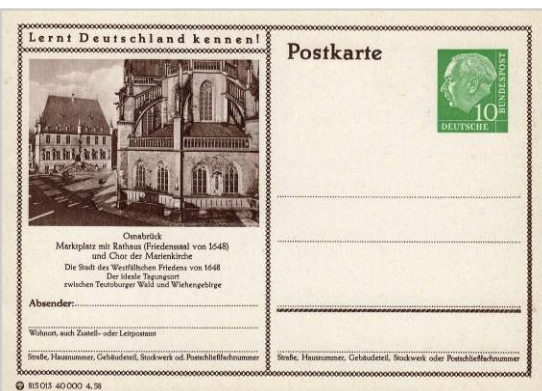
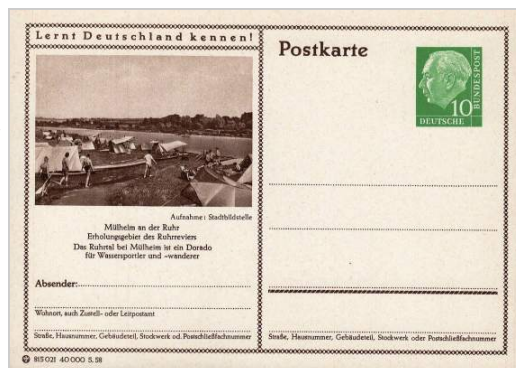
While my internship was meant to let me "experience living in Germany while enhancing my German language skills", it turned out to actually be a "packaging internship" after all! How? Well, if you're shipping spare parts, they have to be packaged for shipping! At the time, they were using extremely heavy triple-walled corrugated boxes and steel straps to keep everything in place on a pallet. I ended doing a study of the efficiency & cost and recommended that they go with less thick corrugated boxes and use shrink-wrapping instead. They didn't believe this would work. I had a demo shrink-wrap machine ordered and did a test with a forklift truck dropping a pallet of goods and everything stayed in place! This would save them many thousands of Deutsche Marks in the process and it was adopted. I still have my old work ID card (see below):



During my 3-month internship, I lived with a German family (whose father also worked at the warehouse) and I needed a car to get me to & from work. So I bought the 1977 Fiat 128-3p that you see here on the custom PhotoStamp shown to the right (that I ordered around 2004 or 2005).

During my visit, I had found out that my mother had a

cousin that lived not too far from Mülheim, and I arranged to visit her (and other family members) and drove there during one of the weekends. It was great meeting these family members that I had never met before, and I



remember that there was an additional 2nd cousin, about my age, that lived in Osnabrück nearby (shown on the German postal stationery card above) and we all had dinner there.

One of the other major trips I took with the Fiat was to go to Stuttgart (about 300 miles south) to visit someone that I had previously met on vacations in Switzerland a few years prior. While in Stuttgart, I do NOT remember seeing any Penguins during my visit though (as shown on the postal card below). What I do remember from that trip was driving back from Stuttgart to Mülheim on Sunday night on the Autobahn. I was able to cover the 300 miles in 3 hours in a car that had about 72 horsepower! Mind you now, that was basically 100 mph at night!



As you can tell, Germany issued a slew of "Lern Deutschland kennen!" ("Get to know Germany") postal cards back in the 1950's. According to my 1995 Michel "Ganzsachen-Katalog Deutschland", it says that there were 243 different cards of this general design depicted above that were issued between Feb. 1955 to June 1958 (and more of similar designs at other times). I'm glad to have found a few that relate to my own life experience (even though there were issued prior to my birth!)



This trip was important to me for several reasons, the main one being to experience Germany as a German and as an adult (not just visiting with the parents when you are a kid on vacation) and figuring out how things really work!



# 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). [jasdmyers@earthlink.net](mailto: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 [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

**Philatelic Reference CD's.** 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)
  - **Airport Philately** (800+ scans of Airports on Stamps)
  - **4 Rings—The History of Audi (Great for any car lover!)**
  - **My Life on Wheels** (autobiography via USA personalized postage)
  - **St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans (1,700 items!!)**
  - **St. Vincent Postcards** (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
  - **Vintage Swiss Postcards 1898-1959 (900+ postcards !!)**
- Special MCSC Member price is only \$ 7.95 each (Regular price is \$14.95 to \$19.95).. Contact [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 11/21

**MOVED, BUT SALE CONTINUES!** Special discounts to MCSC members for Swiss, Austria, Liechtenstein issues, 25% and LESS of catalog values. All orders postpaid! I also accept PayPal if you wish! John Barrett, Ph.D. Contact info: [jstrubel-boy@aol.com](mailto:jstrubel-boy@aol.com) 12/14

I have over **10,000 auctions** 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

## Comic Strip - Blondie (Mail For Daisy)

By Peter Elias



This Blondie comic strip was published in the June 29, 2022 edition of the Dallas Morning News. In it, Mr. Beasley, the mail carrier, tells Dagwood that he's receiving an advertising flyer addressed to Daisy (Dagwood's dog). My opinion would be that the mail carrier shouldn't really comment on anything that he is delivering (regardless of whether he did or did not glance at what he's delivering); it's just not professional! But hey, it's a comic strip after all...

That said, I'm sure that there are people that have mail go to their pets, so what is presented here about Daisy getting coupons isn't so far fetched! I can say that our cat has never gotten any mail !



## The Cover Story

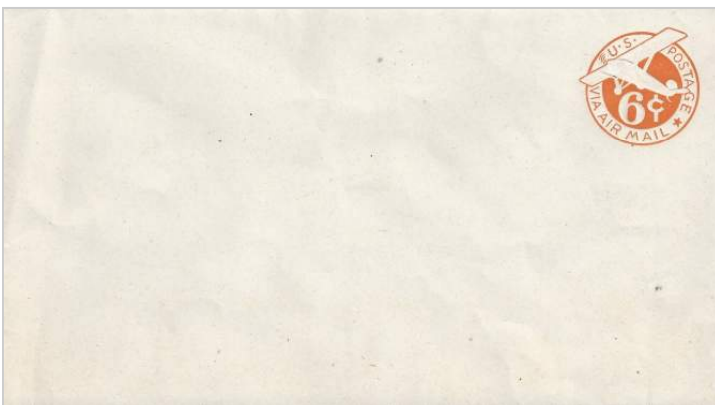
By Rick Howell

I have recently been reviewing a lot of articles written by one of our club members, John Hotchner, whose name most of you will recognize as one of the most prolific and knowledgeable philatelic columnists in the world. This week I came across one of his articles written in Linn's Stamp News from April of 2011 in which John found a rare cover which displayed both American and Canadian flag cancels on the same cover. This represents quite an unusual find, something that most people, including dealers, would overlook.

Apparently, John and I share a common interest in digging through dealers' boxes at stamp shows. Anyone who has seen me at a stamp show knows I can usually be found digging through the cheap cover boxes as I have been known to spend hours doing so, and I am usually so focused on what I am doing that people who come by and greet me may be answered with a grunt, a subdued howdy, or just totally ignored. If you have been the recipient of any of these, I apologize, but do not promise to change.

At the last TSDA show in Richardson, I was digging through the dollar cover boxes brought in by Boerne, Texas dealer Kurt Harding. I have been buying from Kurt for many years and his cheap cover boxes never disappoint me. Anyway, I go through the boxes and select items that pique my interest and stack them up to purchase and examine them more closely when I get home. Here are a couple of items I discovered at the show.

Below is a mint Scott #UC3 Airmail stamped envelope, first issued in July, 1934 which catalogs at about \$2.25. These are fairly easy to find, but as I am a fan of Airmail issues, I will usually add these to my hoard. Next is a more unusual find.



At top right is a well-used Scott #UC4 Airmail stamped envelope, first issued in 1942 which catalogs at about \$2.50, but this cover had a rare distinction of two embossed images! Closer examination of the image on the left showed it had been trimmed from another envelope and pasted on the original envelope. Now, I think this is not a legal usage, as any additional postage needed should have been supplemented with regular stamps to bring it up to the correct rate. However, circumstances for this cover could have influenced the postal



clerk to be more lenient. This cover was marked from APO 755, an Army Post Office, which was located in Berlin, Germany. The date of the posting was September 28, 1945, less than a month after Germany surrendered in World War II. Perhaps the APO clerk considered the extenuating circumstances and sent this guy's mail home. I love postal history!

## Been There, Done That

## Calliaqua

by Peter Elias



a population of 578; today it is 10,879.



1884; my copy is from 1886. Other postmark styles were introduced later, with the 1979 version also shown on the stamp at top.

In 2007, the BCPSG (British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group) had it's annual meeting on St. Vincent. I knew I had to be there, and Annie & I flew there (via St. Lucia) for what has to be the furthest I've ever traveled to a stamp club meeting! As part of our "philatelic activities", our group (shown milling around the entrance at the right) did manage to visit the Calliaqua post office. Ok, so I'm 15 years late in reporting this!



## MCSC Eulless Meeting Minutes July 20, 2022

By Skip Ely

### Attendance:

- 7 members were present on a hot, hot evening.

### Opening:

- First Vice President Stanley Christmas began the meeting at 7:25 PM.

### Officer Reports:

- Secretary – Skip Ely said there were no changes in the membership.

### Committee Reports:

- Sales - Skip Ely said he had contacted the APS to add a circuit for October, since we wouldn't be doing envelope stuffing. He also asked to change books from Monaco and Sweden to France and French Colonies (since he was working on those countries lately).
- Newsletter - Peter said the next newsletter was almost finished.
- EXPO – Stanley Christmas gave some details on the mail-out numbers, being that more people are agreeing to receive their information via email. Stanley also commented that since the EXPO Planning meeting of July 16 was cancelled, the next one might be the regularly one scheduled for September. Peter Elias said that as of today he had commitments from 2 additional APS judges, bringing us to the 3 that we need.
- Zoom Meeting July 12 - Rick Howell said there were only 4 members for the Zoom meeting last Tuesday, but that the program Art presented was very good and was recorded and available on YouTube (see the link from the club's Facebook page). Another Zoom meeting will be scheduled for August 9, hopefully with a few more participants.

### Show & Tell:

- Stanley Christmas showed some of the covers he had acquired regarding the inauguration of the airmail pickup service he has been researching. He also had some recent worldwide covers he was offering to anyone who wanted them.
- Rick Howell said he had Mix Pick surplus bundles of U.S. and worldwide stamps for sale to club members.
- Ken Wills showed a stock book he had purchased with a lot of duplicate stamps. He then talked about a friend who had considered purchasing the new digital Scott catalogs. This led to a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of the service, and also of the usefulness of some other stamp identifier services.
- Peter Elias talked about a German stamp from 2006 of Audi Headquarters in Ingolstadt and how he had visited there back in 2013. He then talked about a Priority Mail Kiosk glitch he had discovered. Finally, there was a lengthy discussion about a package he ordered from someone at the Chinese "aliexpress.com" marketplace website (China) that ended up been mailed from Bangkok (Thailand) and then remailed via Tuvalu to the USA.

### Gift Certificates:

- Were awarded to Peter Elias and Sai Madhavapeddi.

### Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned about 8:35 PM.

## President's Letter

By Rich Hildebrandt

As the heat wave and drought drag, on I think it is too hot to even sit at the keyboard and have to think of something intelligent to write. However, if I don't get this done Peter will be very upset with me. So here goes. I will let you fellow MCSC members decide if this piece is intelligent or not.


This month's newsletter should have the form for the annual club Scott catalog auction. The usual rules apply and are detailed on the auction form. One small variation is that we have an extra Specialized catalog included this year. The club had a 2017 USA Specialized catalog that is also in the auction in addition to the usual 2019 catalogs. Bid on one item or bid on all three, and may the best person win. Winners will be announced at the November Arlington meeting.

Speaking of the November meeting, this is the year for bi-annual club elections. Several members have agreed to run for our offices, but if you are so inclined to want to be a leader for the next two years, just let me know and I am sure we can find a job for you. The ballot will be up coming and the results announced at the November Arlington meeting. Preceding that meeting we will conduct the Annual Meeting as defined in Article V of our constitution. We will certify the election results and take any resolutions or comments from the floor. All members are encouraged to attend and participate in this once-a-year meeting. More details will be provided in a future newsletter.

I am still looking for Arlington programs for the next couple of months. We have decided to conduct the next auction in October instead of September, as we just had an auction in June. The usual October envelope stuffing event is not needed this year as the mailing list has been reduced. Stan feels it will be easier and simpler for him to just handle it by himself. We will still have the usual pre-meeting picnic though.

When you get this newsletter, EXPO will be a little more than 3 months away. Reservations for the awards dinner are being accepted. Get them in early to me so as to not get shutout. I know that Ray Cartier is always looking for people to enter exhibits. There are some monetary incentives for club members to exhibit. If you are thinking about it, please contact him for the details. There are several club members who can provide help to you in putting an exhibit together. The theme this year is "Veterans", so anything along those lines will be very welcome.

Stay cool and enjoy your stamps!



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## Oxidation of Orange Stamps

By Ken Aldridge

While recently sorting some used Canadian stamps, I came across a brown, 1c, King George V stamp, design A53. I could not find this stamp in brown, only in orange. Maybe I've found a treasure here? So, I posted what I'd found on a Canada Stamps Facebook site. It didn't take long for several responses that solved my mystery.

When stored in an acidic environment, some orange-colored stamps will eventually turn brown due to decomposition of certain pigments in the ink. They are commonly called "Oxidized," in philatelic circles.

To turn the brown stamp back to its original orange, you soak the stamp in a 50-50 solution of water and hydrogen peroxide for 15-20 minutes. This is what I did, and the result is shown here.

I was also told that certain orange US stamps from that same era also tend to turn brown. Now to figure out exactly what is an "acid environment?"

### Before:



### After:



## Granbury Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2022

No meeting minutes were recorded according to David Stockbridge.

## Stamp Supplies -->

It used to be you could buy stamp supplies at many stores. The only retail option now seems to be Hobby Lobby. A recent trip shows some hinges, mounts & stock pages available, plus some rather overpriced stamps ("15 Antique Stamps" for \$4.59 or "300 Mystery Stamps w/duplicates" for only \$9.99; all from H.E. Harris).

## Philatelic Firsts (Transatlantic Flight)

By Ken Aldridge



Stamp image from

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/234547212468>

On June 19, 1919 Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Whitten-Brown made the first non-stop transatlantic flight from Newfoundland to Galway, Ireland. The plane was a Vickers Vimy and it took 16 hours. On June 13, 1969, Canada issued the stamp shown, #494, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of this historic, "First Flight."

## MCSC ZOOM Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

By Rick Howell

There were no meeting minutes for this Zoom meeting, however, the meeting has been archived at YouTube and can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXquzQFcP-o>

## A Special Thanks.....

By Rick Howell

Thanks to Sam Phillippi who assists Tom Cunningham at the TSDA stamp shows for donating a huge trash bag full of US definitives on paper. These will be incorporated into the mixture pick and will fill in some spaces in the new user area for EXPO. Quality donations are always appreciated.

## Thanks Also To:

By Peter Elias

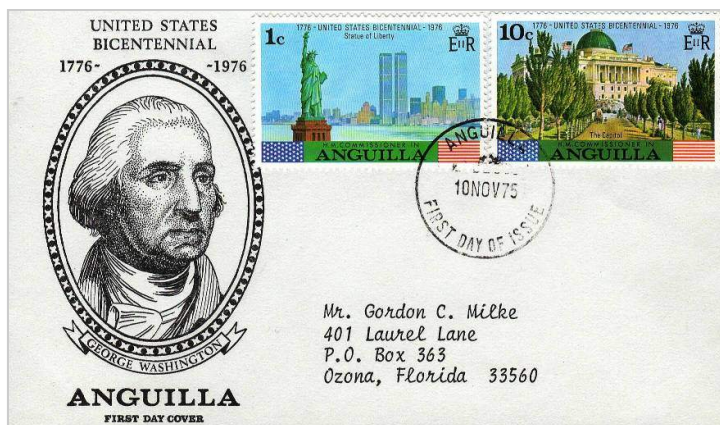
Byron Sandfield for donating several boxes of stamps and Nallakumar Kumari for donating a bag of various philatelic items.





## World Trade Center Tower Stamps

By Peter Elias



Was the above, Anguilla #217 from 1975, the ONLY stamp featuring the World Trade Center towers PRIOR to "9/11"? I initially thought so, but apparently St. Lucia issued an EC\$6.00 souvenir sheet in 1987 (Scott #884) that celebrated the Statue of Liberty (and superimposed the towers behind it).

Further searches show a variety of souvenir sheets issued by St. Vincent, Nevis, Maldives, Grenada and Lesotho that show the towers in aerial views of NYC as part of the "Postage Stamp Mega Event 1992".

While there have been various stamps issued regarding the towers AFTER 9/11, Anguilla seems to be the only regular stamp issue (not high-priced souvenir sheet) that features the towers. Of course, in order to get the low EC\$0.01 value, you probably have to buy the entire set, but that's only around \$2.00.

## Been There, Done That



Niagara Falls as part of this same trip, but I'll have to check the old photo albums again (and if so, surely I can find a stamp with Niagara Falls on it!). While many photos (and associated stamps) seem to bring forth more memories, I'm really drawing a blank here this time! But I was there!

## Quebec City

By Peter Elias

In 1993, Canada issued Scott #1470, featuring the Fairmont Le Château Frontenac Hotel in Quebec City. 19 years prior to that (1974), our family had taken a road trip from Michigan to Canada, and we ended up there (didn't stay at the place though!).

The Château Frontenac as it's usually referred, is a historic hotel located in Old Quebec, and first opened in 1893. It was one of the first "grand railway hotels" completed; it was built by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and features turrets, tall chimneys, ornate gables and other features. For more history and other info I can list here, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chateau\\_Frontenac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chateau_Frontenac).

Here though is a case of me not remembering that much from this trip! I was after all, only 14 years old at the time, and this picture (which also shows my mom) is all I can remember from this trip.

We may have stopped at

## Scott Stamp Catalog Bid Form

Now is the time for one of the great annual stamp club events !!!! Each year the club gives every member the chance to purchase a previous year's (that is the **2019**) Scott Standard Stamp Catalogs. The catalogs will be sold as 2 lot: Volumes 1 - 6 and the "US Specialized" catalogs. This year there will also be an extra earlier (2017) US Specialized up for bidding. The club will take sealed bids until October 29, 2022. To bid, please send in a bid with the following information:

Bid for 2019 Scott Volumes 1 to 6 \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Bid for 2017 Scott US Specialized \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Bid for 2019 Scott US Specialized \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**BIDDER'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime Phone Number:** (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

### RULES for BIDDERS:

- Submit bids by mail to: Mid-Cities Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2158, Arlington, TX 76004-2158
  - Mark the outside of the envelope: "Catalog Bid"
  - Bids must be received by: October 29, 2022 (received by, NOT postmarked by!)
  - In case of a tie: The envelope with a commemorative stamp used for postage wins.
  - The winning bidder: If a tie still exists, the earliest postmarked entry wins.
- Will be called to make arrangements for delivery and payment

The winning bidder and amount will be announced at the Arlington November 2, 2022 club meeting.



## Comic Strip - Blondie (Summer Uniforms)

By Peter Elias



This Blondie comic strip was published in the June 21, 2022 edition of the Dallas Morning News. In it, Mr. Beasley, the mail carrier, has Dagwood check out his summer uniform. I've never seen a carrier wearing shorts here in the USA, although in Bermuda, it's probably common. And while in the comic, Mr. Beasley says he's "marching to the beat of his own drum", in real life, what he's wearing won't pass muster.

In the comic, Mr. Beasley is always seen handing over mail to Dagwood in person. Since Dagwood lives in a single-family home with what looks like a long walkway, it makes me wonder why he doesn't have a mailbox out at the street level. But then that what would mean no comics about Mr. Beasley...



Be sure to visit the Club website on the **Internet**:

← <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

For recent online newsletters see

<http://BetweenThePerfs.com/MCSC> →

(for older newsletters see the club's private groups.io website)



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## MEET & EAT for

August 2022

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.

--> See updates for mask policies as published or announced by local, regional & state authorities or individual restaurants.

### ARLINGTON

August 3 Campo Verde, 2918 W Pioneer Pkwy,  
Arlington, Phone: (817) 275-7003

### EULESS

August 17 On the Border, 2500 Airport Freeway,  
Bedford, Phone: (817) 438-4560

### GRANBURY

August 23 Palio's Pizza Café  
3710 E. Highway 370, Granbury

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

## 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 \$4.00 in Spanish ATM stamps (which are only 15¢ each!)! Contact Peter Elias at [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 1/21

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

**Don't Forget:**  
**TSDA Dealer Bourse - Aug. 26-27**