

# Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

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

Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.

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

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

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

Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



CHAPTER  
MEMBER



#891-076252

#90

#53-3364

Volume 37, Number 7

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

July 2024

Postage Rates & Fees	1/21/2024	7/14/2024
<b>DOMESTIC</b>		
<b>1st Class</b> - 1 oz (retail/metered or PC)	0.68 / 0.64	↑ 0.73 / 0.69
" 2 oz	0.92 / 0.88	↑ 1.01 / 0.97
" 3 oz	1.16 / 1.12	↑ 1.29 / 1.25
" 3.5 oz (maximum)	1.40 / 1.36	↑ 1.57 / 1.53
non-machinable surcharge	+0.44	+0.46
<b>1st Class Flats</b> - 1 oz	1.39	↑ 1.50
" 2 oz	1.63	↑ 1.77
" 3 oz	1.87	↑ 2.04
" 4 oz	2.11	↑ 2.31
" 5 oz	2.35	↑ 2.59
+ 0.24 per ounce up to 9 oz	+0.24/ounce	+0.28/ounce
+ 0.30 per ounce after 9 oz	n/a	+0.30/ounce
" 13 oz (maximum)	4.27	↑ 4.91
(if rigid, non-rectangular, non-uniform, must be mailed as Ground Advantage)		
<b>Ground Advantage</b> - up to 4 oz	5.00 - 5.55	5.00 - 5.55
" up to 8 oz	5.70 - 6.15	5.70 - 6.15
" up to 12 oz	6.50 - 7.00	6.50 - 7.00
" up to 15.999 oz	8.00 - 9.00	8.00 - 9.00
<b>Media Mail</b> - 1 lb	4.13	↑ 4.63
" 2 lbs	4.87	↑ 5.38
" 3 lbs	5.61	↑ 6.13
" 4 lbs	6.35	↑ 6.88
<b>Priority Mail</b> - Flat-Rate/Legal/Padded	9.85/ 10.15 / 10.60	9.85 / 10.15 / 10.60
" Commercial Flat-Rate/Legal/Padded Env.	8.50 / 8.80 / 9.30	8.50 / 8.80 / 9.30
" Small Flat-rate Box (Ret/Comm)	10.40 / 9.05	10.40 / 9.05
" Medium Flat-rate Box (Ret/Comm)	18.40 / 16.00	18.40 / 16.00
" Large Flat-rate Box (Ret/Comm)	24.75 / 21.85	24.75 / 21.85
<b>Postcard</b> (Domestic)	0.53	↑ 0.56
<b>Certificate of Mailing (domestic)</b> (3817 / 3665 or 3877 with 3 piece min)	2.00 / 0.58	↑ 2.20 / 0.65
<b>Certified Mail</b>	4.40	↑ 4.85
<b>Insurance</b> (up to \$100 is included with GA & Priority Mail) up to \$50 / \$100 / \$200	2.75 / 3.50 / 4.60	↓ 2.50 / 3.15 / 4.15
<b>Registered (Domestic)</b>		
\$0 value	16.80	↑ 18.60
\$0.01 - \$ 100 / \$100.01 - \$500	17.55 / 20.20	↑ 19.30 / 22.20
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>		
<b>Letter &amp; Postcard Airmail</b>		
All Countries (1 oz) or Canada (2 oz) (variable pricing up to 3.5 oz)	1.55	↑ 1.65
see usps.com	see usps.com	see usps.com
<b>Non-machinable surcharge</b>	+0.44	+0.46
<b>First Class Pkg Int'l (1 to 8 oz)</b>	17.00 - 20.00	17.00 - 20.00
<b>Priority Mail Int'l Flat Rate Env(4 lbs)</b>	40.25 - 46.50	40.25 - 44.70 ↓
" Canada	30.90	30.90
<b>Priority Mail Int'l (1 pound, Grp2-20)</b>	54.86 - 66.25	54.85 - 66.25
<b>Certificate of Mailing (3817/3665)*</b>	2.00 / 0.58 each	↑ 2.10 / 0.61 each
See current <a href="#">Notice123</a> at usps.com !	*FCMI / Min-	*FCMI / MinQty 3

## USPS Mid-Year Rate Changes

Peter Elias

July 14 will see this year's "mid-year" postage & fee rate changes. As always, it will be on a Sunday.

The table shows the outgoing rates that were effective starting January 21, 2024 on the left column and the upcoming rate for July 14 (if approved by the PRC; they are still shown as "proposed as of June 20) on the right column. Proposed changed rates are shown in **dark red**, and unchanged rates are in **bright green**. An arrow shows whether the rate changes is increasing or decreasing. No arrow means no change.

There is only one decreasing rate, and that is for extra insurance at the lowest level (up to \$50 insurance). Since \$100 of insurance is automatically included with Ground Advantage & Priority Mail shipments, this \$50 insurance level would be for items not otherwise insured for domestic shipments, such as standard 1st Class Mail or Media Mail for example.

Ground Advantage & Priority Mail do NOT see any increases at this time (and an increase in one instance internationally).

1st class & postcard mail (both domestic & international) are seeing increases, along with media mail and fees for additional services (such as certified, registered & certificates of mailing).

See you in January 2025 for the next increases, unless they invoke special Holiday 2024 rates...

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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))

*Stamping Around* is published monthly by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club. Material in this [newsletter](#) may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the source is acknowledged. Opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club or its officers.

### 2023 - 2024 MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President – Ken Aldridge  
First Vice-President – Rick Howell  
Second Vice-President – Stanley Christmas  
Secretary – Janet Moyer  
Treasurer – Judy Christmas

#### Board of Directors (voting):

Peter Elias      Ralph Poore      Ken Wills  
Immediate Past President: Rich Hildebrandt

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

For a membership application write to:

**Mid-Cities Stamp Club**  
P.O. Box 820784  
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or visit: <https://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>



"Editor At Work"  
LEGO™ MOC by Marcos Elias

## Editor's Forum

By Peter Elias

Click that link! Other than article headings, if you see a blue underlined word (or even an entire website URL link), there's a website link behind that!

I do this a lot so that you can get additional information that is presented in the article (obviously you need to be reading the PDF copy of the newsletter

and have an active internet connection, along with a PDF reader installed or embedded into your web browser).

Since some internet addresses can be incredibly long (and running well past 1 line in the 2-column format of this newsletter), it makes sense to "hide" the link behind a word or phrase and embed the link against that. Of course, if reading a paper copy, that won't help you. But I do try to show the entire link as such if possible and if it is less than 2 lines long.

For example, the article about the USPS dog bite awareness campaign on page 11 has 4 words underlined in blue, but behind those is the actual web address of: <https://about.usps.com/what/corporate-social-responsibility/activities/dog-bite-awareness.htm>. In the PDF file version of the newsletter, you could of course just click on it and it should take you to that site! Since I've been on the sites for which I provide links (in order to gather information for the article), I'm pretty sure that it is not a malicious link.

After I "print" the newsletter from Microsoft Publisher to a PDF file, I then have to manually edit (i.e.: create) each link in the PDF file, since for some reason, the links in my 11-year old version of Publisher don't seem to carry across to the PDF file. A bit annoying, but it only takes a couple of minutes to do so.

## Coming Attractions

### 2024

<b>JUN. 25</b>	<b>MCSC — LAKE GRANBURY Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD
<b>JUN. 28 - 29</b>	<b>TSDA Stamp Dealer Bourse</b>
DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 US Hwy 75 / Campbell Rd. Friday 10 - 5, Saturday 9 - 4	
<b>JUL. 3</b>	<b>MCSC — ARLINGTON Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD, possibly by Rick Howell
<b>JUL. 17</b>	<b>MCSC — FLOWER MOUND Meeting</b>
Program:	Extended Show & Tell and philatelic discussions
<b>JUL. 23</b>	<b>MCSC — LAKE GRANBURY Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD
<b>AUG. 7</b>	<b>MCSC — ARLINGTON Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD
<b>AUG. 21</b>	<b>MCSC — FLOWER MOUND Meeting</b>
Program:	Extended Show & Tell and philatelic discussions
<b>AUG. 23 - 24</b>	<b>TSDA Stamp Dealer Bourse</b>
DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 US Hwy 75 / Campbell Rd. Friday 10 - 5, Saturday 9 - 4	
<b>AUG. 27</b>	<b>MCSC — LAKE GRANBURY Meeting</b>
Program:	TBD

## Secretary's Report

By Janet Moyer



### Applications Received:

n/a

### New Members:

John Hughes (#672)

Mathew Ittoop (#673)

### Reinstatements:

Gary Paetzold (#487) - collects USA

### Resignations:

n/a

### Deceased:

n/a

### Membership Summary – June 19, 2024

Membership as of May 15, 2024	95
Applications Rec'd (counts as member next month)	0
New Members	3
Not Renewing for 2024	( 0 )
Resignations	( 0 )
Deceased	( 0 )
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of June 19, 2024	98

## Swiss Ship Cancel Postcard Translation

By Peter Elias (and info provided by Otto Bergman)

In the June 2024 issue, I had an article about a Swiss Postcard that was mailed onboard a steamship plying the waters on the Vierwaldstättersee (Lake Lucerne) in 1911.

One of the interesting things about “postal history” is not just the stamp & postal markings, but also the glimpse into the past and what was going on at the time. I had mentioned that I could not read the handwriting and basically only made out a couple of words, and gosh, wouldn't it be nice if someone could decipher that handwriting..

To the rescue came fellow collector friend Otto Bergman (from Indiana), an American, but of German descent.

Otto mentioned that this particular form of German handwriting is called “Sütterlin script”, which I had never heard of. Probably because it was phased out in Germany a long time ago.. It was created by graphic artist Ludwig Sütterlin for the Prussian Ministry of Science, Art and Culture in 1911, and it was taught in German schools from 1915 to 1941, when an edict by Hitler abolished it along with the old block script (saying they were Jewish in error) that 70 million Germans were using. Sütterlin died at the early age of 52, a victim of the hunger blockade against Germany during WWI.

Since that is NOT what the modern cursive that they taught us in Swiss elementary schools, I'd never heard of that term until he mentioned it. To me, it seems fairly undecipherable. So he was nice in deciphering it for me; as he taught himself to read the Sütterlin script. As a result of this, while I also “googled” the above information, I personally have no desire to learn to read (nor write) Sütterlin script (sadly, it's not anything that the translate.google.com can help with

He also mentioned that postcards are especially difficult to decipher since they were typically written with an unsharpened lead pencil, as this one was - on board a ship - rather than written as a letter using a fountain pen. Since space on cards is limited, some of the words are abbreviated and lines crowded together, unlike when written on stationery for letters.

He also commented that regretfully, the sender of this card did not see the need, and/or did not have the space to name the ship.. On larger ships, the names were incorporated into the cancellation devices, such as those of the famous NDL (Nord Deutscher Lloyd) ships Bremen and Europa in the 1930's. We don't know whether any Swiss ship cancels incorporated the name of the ship on their cancels.

While I could translate the decyphered text myself (which has some unidentified words in it), I did let Google translate it after slightly correcting some of the text (such as “un-abbreviating” some words..) to make it grammatically as correct as possible for the old Googlemeister...

The Google Translate result is:

*My dears. We are currently traveling by ship to Fluelen and have read your lovely letter & that from Uncle Eduard & if you reply soon this evening. I'm terribly sorry that you were so upset, I'm also very shocked by the letter. It will ??, as Uncle Eduard wants it, we will go back tomorrow.*

*Greetings & kisses*

*Kind regards, your Lina*

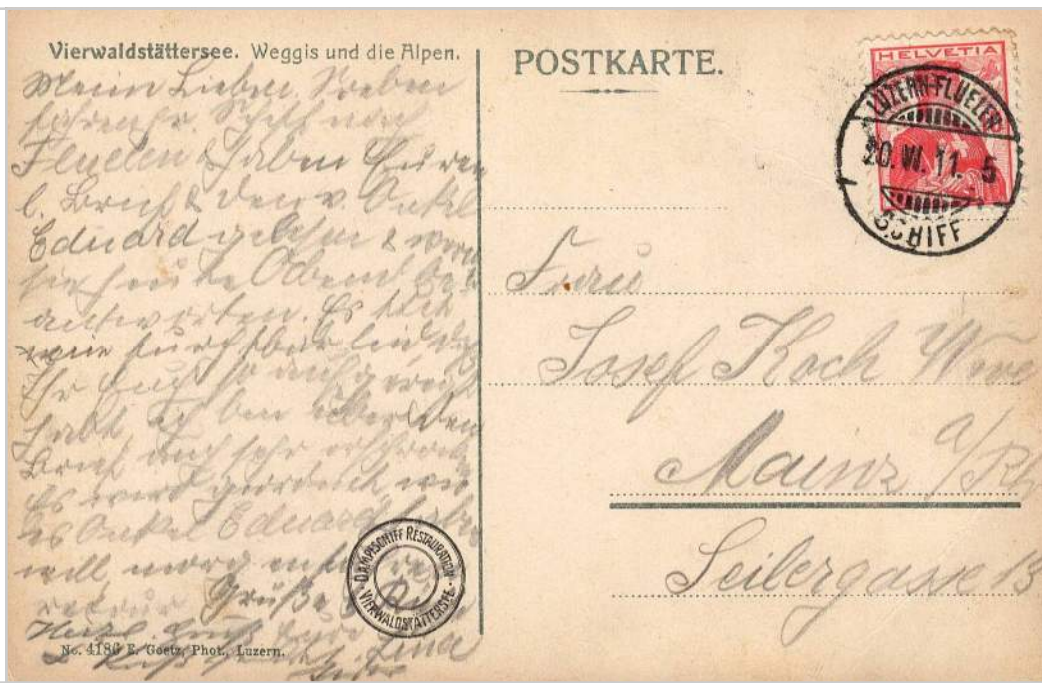
*& ?? sends kiss ??*

Hmm... Makes you wonder what's going on here! What was so shocking about the letter that was mentioned that made them so upset? Guess we'll never find out.

That said, I did try and see if anything shows up for a „Frau Josef Koch Wwe“ (Wwe being an abbreviation for Witwe = widow) or just Josef Koch as shown on the address. But the name Josef Koch is fairly common and has a lot of people by that name (both now and the past). Changing the search to „Josef Koch, Mainz“, brought me to <http://www.klausehm.de/BuchstabeM/M0074.html>, which lists a „Brauerei zum Goldenen Anker Josef Koch Mainz“. It states that this brewery was founded in 1798, apparently run by a Peter Koch in 1870 and a Josef Koch in 1898. In 1911, it was shown to have a new owner, Gustav Wallenstein (and later his widow). Some additional info is at <https://bier-in-mainz.de/mainzer-brauereien/brauereien-und-biergroshandler-in-mainz-kastel/brauerei-zum-goldenen-anker>. So, is the upsetting letter from 1911 mentioned in the card related to the apparent death of Josef Koch and change of the brewery ownership in that year? You learn something & interesting by studying postal history!

### Line-by-Line translation:

*Meine Lieben. Soeben fahren pr. Schiff nach Fluelen & haben Euren l. Brief & den v. Onkel Eduard gelesen & werde sie heute Abend bald beantworten. Es tut mir furchtbar leid daß Ihr Euch so aufgeregt habt, ich bin über den Brief auch sehr erschrocken Es wird ?, wie es Onkel Eduard haben will, morgen fahren redour Grüße & Küße Herzl. Gruß Eure Lina & Kuß sendet ?*





## MCSC Arlington Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2024

By Janet Moyer

### Call-To-Order:

- President Ken Aldridge called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

### Attendance:

- 27 members were present and we had one guest – Tom.

### Officer Reports:

- Janet Moyer reported the balance in the checkbook (for Judy Christmas).
- Secretary Janet Moyer announced that the new member handbooks have been passed out and/or mailed. If you do not get one soon, please let her know.
  - We now have 97 members.
- The minutes were in the previous newsletter.

### Announcements:

- Rick Howell announced the club has received a donation from Bob & Cathy Freeman of 400 philatelic books.
  - He passed a list of the books to see what ones the club members are interested in putting in the library.
  - Rick also announced he has stamps for sale - \$10 a bag.

### Reports:

- Ralph Poore announced there will be an EXPO meeting on Saturday, June 8th at Jay Jay's Restaurant on Bowen Rd.
  - We will meet at 11:00 AM followed by a board-of-directors meeting.
- Tom Cunningham reported that 16 dealers have paid for their tables.
- Newsletter: Peter Elias is working on it.
- Dave Stockbridge announced we have new APS sales books to look at. We also have club sales books that can be taken home and then returned. We have Oklahoma Philatelic Society sales books that can be purchased whole.
- EXPO: We need volunteers.

### Show & Tell:

- Ben Termini showed a scan of a cover for sale in an auction with a starting bid of \$12,500. It is fake. It's an example of how well people can fake things - BE CAREFUL!
- Peter Elias shared:
  - Scanning self-adhesive stamps does not show the die-cut perforations. You can take the stamps off the original backing paper and put them on another backing to show these better when they are scanned.
  - BuckACover.com is where he orders Swiss postcards. The US service put a big red marker over the stamps on the envelope that have already been cancelled.
  - The original 1959 Swiss map that he used in the article from the last newsletter.
  - An AHPS pin and other merchandise that he received from the AHPS.
- Jim Taylor showed some tickets from the Irish Sweepstakes. They are illegal in the US. The Irish Sweepstakes should be called the Irish Hospital Sweepstakes.
- Mathew Ittoop shared that the Cosby Library in Coppell will have a Special Commemorative Postmark to honor the 50th anniversary of Coppell. It will be held on July 20 from 10:30 AM until noon. It is open to all.

### Door Prize Drawing:

- There were 4 gift certificates and a box covered in stamps issued as door prizes.

### Program:

- Ken Wills provided a program on Cinderella Stamps. Ken Aldridge added a show & tell Cinderella stamp.
  - Ben Termini told about two places to look into if you are very interested in Cinderellas:
    - Cinderella Stamp Society – England
    - Local Post Collection Society (LPC)

### Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

### Next Meeting:

- The next meeting will be on July 3, 2024.

## MCSC Granbury Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2024

by Joe McFarland

### Call-To-Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Dave Stockbridge at 7:00 PM.

### Show & Tell:

- Les Barton showed the 1st triangle stamp issued. A Cape of Good Hope stamp. He also showed the 1st US triangle stamp; a 1996 Pacific 97 issue.
- Jim Myers worked the May 16 TSDA show in Houston and a storm came in causing trees to blow down and electricity outages. He also showed an example of Bisects & Tete-beche examples.
- Dave showed the latest "Circuit" the bi-monthly newsletter for ISWWC. It contained an article about the derivation of the term "Post Office" and "Mail". In the 12th century English King Henry I had messengers on horseback deliver official correspondence. By the 15th century this had expanded beyond the royal household. Locations were established where riders would switch and get fresh horses or rest. These locations became known as post houses by 1632. A government official would oversee a post house and they became known as post masters. The bags of mail carried by messengers were known as the mala with later became known as a mail sack.

### Club sales books:

- We have no APS books because they arrived late. We do have a few club books and the retired OK sales book being sold at a low price.

### Program:

- Gary McNamee presented a program on Victory mail or WWII Microfilm mail. V-mail was introduced to save the weight of letters so more war goods could be shipped overseas. Gary was inducted in June 15, 1942 and the US had many promotional posters encouraging the use of V-mail. V-mail reduced the weight of the mail by 98%. Over 71 billion pieces of V-mail were sent. V-mail ended in 1945. A patent was filed in 1925 for what became known as V-mail. The patent was granted in 1930. Nowhere in the paperwork was the term V-mail ever used. Eastman Kodak was a partner in the production of V-mail. It is estimated that V-mail saved 16.9 million pounds of cargo so that space could be used for shipping war materials. Gary then showed several of the US stamps issued during the war era. These included armed forces stamps for every branch of the military, Iwo Jima and 13 Overrun countries stamps.

### Closing:

- The next meeting will be July 23. Bob Coleman will direct the meeting and Skip Ely will present a yet to be determined program.

### Door Prizes:

- Were drawn and won by Les Barton and Dave Stockbridge.

### Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

## Thurn und Taxis

By Ken Wills

Germany number one in the Scott catalogue is dated 1872. Prior to that “unification” the individual states within that area issued their own stamps. The German States are listed alphabetically by Scott, where between Schleswig-Holstein and Württemberg you will see Thurn and Taxis.

I once tried to find Thurn & Taxis on the map, and it's not even shown in the maps of the wonderful “The Stamp Atlas.” There is a good reason for that: it isn't actually a German State.

In fact, it is a wealthy noble family based in St. Emmeram's Castle, in Regensburg, Bavaria. This is Germany's largest private residence. Their remarkable library dating back to 972 AD has now been mostly relocated to Munich.

The Holy Roman Empire had its own courier system. By the mid-1500's, under the management of the Counts of Thurn and Taxis, this service operated throughout Austria, Germany and the Low Countries. Leonhard I von Taxis was the Postmaster General towards the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and this position became hereditary.

In 1815, at the Congress of Vienna, the German Federal Act authorized the privately run Thurn-und-Taxis Post to be the official postal service for much of Germany, and those states which chose to operate their own systems had to pay compensation to Thurn und Taxis Post.



It's not surprising then, that the Counts started to print stamps, starting in 1852. They were issued in two currencies: *Silbergroschen* and *Thaler* for the northern states, and *Kreuzer* and *Gulden* for the southern states.

Germany commemorated the centenary of this

event with Scott #692 (below):

Their headquarters in Frankfurt were occupied by the Prussians after their victory in the Austro-Prussian War. In 1867 the government of Prussia paid the noble family three million Thaler to take over the postal contract. This marked the end of Thurn-und-Taxis Post.



Today there's much controversy over the idea of privatizing the postal service in various countries. It's interesting that this was already the practice in 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe.

## TV Philately: The Road Dance

By Peter Elias

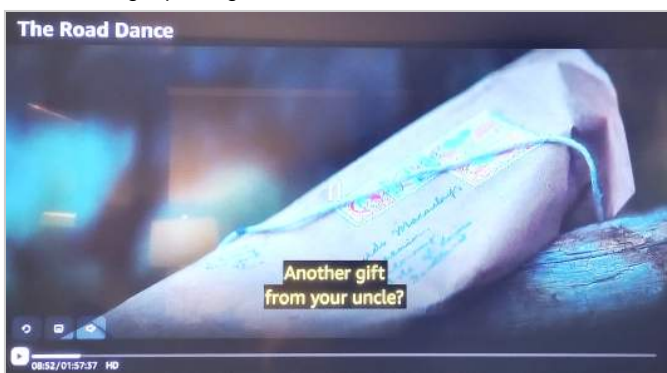
In the 2022 movie “The Road Dance”, a package briefly appears on screen. The film takes place on the Outer Hebrides in Scotland during World War I.

The main story, which is “based on true events”, revolves around Kirstie, whose father died when she was young and has dreams of a better life elsewhere, specifically America.

She falls in love with Murdo, who, along with other young men, is sent off to mandatory military service. Prior to being sent off to war, he is with Kirstie and she mentions that she wants to move to America.

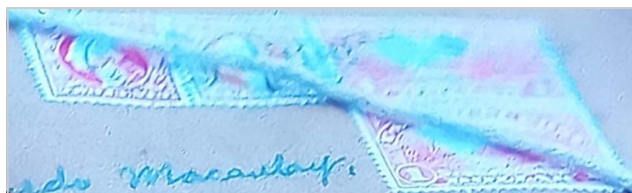
As a send-off to war, the village holds a “Road Dance” (literally held on a road..). During the dance, she endures an unspeakable act which then makes up the rest of the movie.

Early in the movie, at around 8:52 minutes in, and prior to the “road dance” occurring, Murdo, while speaking with Kirstie, is seen holding a package that was sent from his uncle in New York:



The package isn't opened in the film, but it does serve as a plot point for what happens near the end of the film. So all that needs to happen at this point is that the audience sees he has received a package from the USA. Unfortunately, the above is the best screenshot I could obtain (and it is only on screen for a second or two).

The address shows it is addressed to Murdo Macaulay in Scotland (with the rest of the address a bit blurry, and the sender address not discernible). To see more details on the stamps, I had to zoom in a bit:



Visible are two \$1 Parcel Post stamps on the right (Scott #Q12), which were issued in 1913, so they would be period correct and they do seem fairly realistic to me. Although at a current used value of \$45 each, it makes me wonder if they used real ones.

The middle stamp is a bit blurry, so I can't quite make it out, but appears to be one of the Franklin / Washington series stamps.

The left stamp appears to be a Washington 2¢ issue of Scott design #A139, possible #332 (issued in 1908 or 1909), so also period correct.

The postmark is faint at best, but appears to be a machine cancel, as all I can make out is some faint “wavy” lines on the upper right \$1 Parcel Post stamp. It would be difficult, however, to have a machine cancel on this type of item though.

Whether the postage amount shown is correct would be difficult to guess, as we have no idea how heavy this little package is. Basically, it all passes “muster”, but it is really difficult to say further without seeing any details sharply.



# Appalachian Mountains & Illustration Dilemma

By Peter Elias



When I prepare articles with stamp illustrations, I like to make the stamp illustration as presentable looking as possible.

Here we have USA Scott #4045, issued in 2006 as part of a pane of 50 "Wonders of America" stamps.

When scanning scans, it helps to properly show the perforations (if traditionally gummed) or the die-cut (if with a self-adhesive gum), such as in this case.

The big problem with these stamps is that they do not have a traditional white border and it is in fact a black border. Scanning the stamp intact on a sheet means that the die-cut border would barely be visible. Even though I removed the stamp from the sheet, scanning it with my default black background



resulted in the die-cuts disappearing on one side, but showed some "white" elements (see #1). This stems from the fact that while the stamp is "die-cut", the backing paper is "rouletted"! And the die-cutting on stamp paper and rouletting on the backing paper do NOT line up (#2).



Using a white background (#3) does make the die-cut edges look a lot better, but one can still see the backing paper show up at the top, bottom & right sides of the stamp.

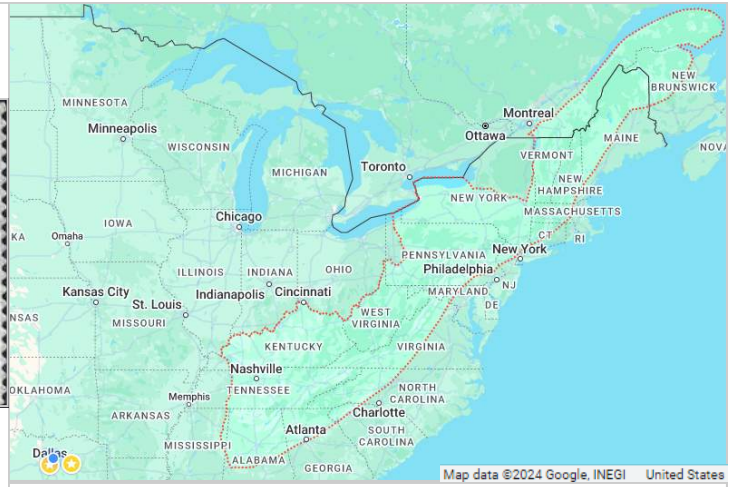
Even if the stamp & backing papers were somewhat aligned, the rouletting is essentially in a straight line while the die-cutting is "wavy". So what to do?

Solution: As I wrote up in a previous article, it is best to remove the stamp from the backing paper and mount it on separate (and slightly off-white) backing paper. In this case, one has to be careful, since the backing paper also has a large "wavy" die-cut line running vertically through the middle (but stopping a millimeter or two before the top & bottom edges). This allows for easier remove of the backing if you want to use the stamp as postage, but also the tears the backing paper, which in this case has useful information printed on it, and I wanted to show that as well.

In #4 above, it shows the stamp on new backing paper and I carefully mounted the stamp backing paper (with standard sticky tape) to the same new backing paper so that I could take 1 scan of both front & back sides (without later having to juggle properly aligning the 2 parts...). Now I can show the stamp die-cutting and the rouletting in all its glory! That said, it took me way longer to write this up than to actually do what I had to do....

So, the foregoing was actually part 2 of this article (scanning dilemma), now on to part 1.

The stamp as previously mentioned, features the Appalachian Mountains and are the "Oldest Mountains" as stated on the stamp (now whether that is oldest in the USA, the Northern Hemisphere or the entire world, is not really stated. Well, not quite. According to internet sources, the Blue Ridge (part of the



<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Appalachian+Mountains/@44.4770479,-81.5477644,5z/> (5/28/2024)

Appalachian Mountains) are the 2nd oldest mountains in the world at over 1 billion years old. The number 1 spot goes to the Barberton greenstone belt at approximately 3.5 billion years old, in South Africa. But since these are "USA" stamps, I'll take it that it is meant that these are the oldest mountains in the USA.

The map above shows the Appalachian Mountains inside a dotted border and a lighter shade of green, ranging from Alabama/Tennessee/Kentucky on the western edge to Maine & New Brunswick (Canada) on the eastern edge.

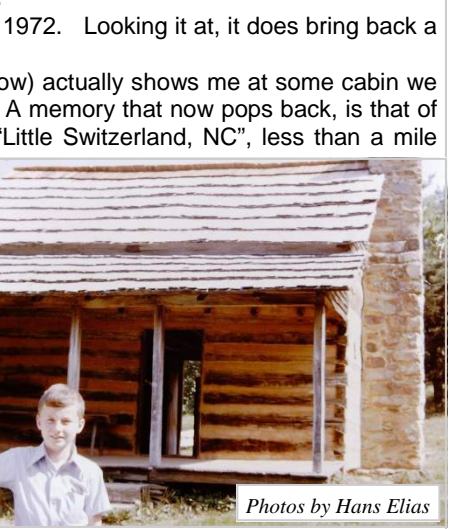
The "Blue Ridge" mountains cover an area inside the Appalachian Mountains inside various National Forests. The 615 miles of the Blue Ridge Mountains are in parts of Pennsylvania & Maryland, Virginia, North & South Carolina and Georgia.

If you have some time and like to drive, then a recommended drive is the "Blue Ridge Mountain Parkway", a 469 mile drive that connects Waynesboro, VA (milepost 0, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park) and ends up in Cherokee, NC (milepost 469).

Our family did that drive on the Blue Ridge Mountain Parkway. I don't remember whether we drove part of that or all 469 miles. It would have been in the early (but no later than) mid-1970's. I found a slide I converted from my dad's pictures, it was labeled 1972. Looking it at, it does bring back a couple of memories.



Another picture (below) actually shows me at some cabin we visited along the way. A memory that now pops back, is that of getting a postmark at "Little Switzerland, NC", less than a mile off the Blue Ridge Mountain Parkway. Given the name (and our heritage), we had to check it out. Seems like I got a postmark from there, but can't find it now...



So, parts of this article count as one of these:

*Been There, Done That*

Photos by Hans Elias



By Peter Elias

company Condorpart AG, which split up Pelikan and partly closed it down and 1,100 employees were let go. It was then a part of Pelikan Holding AG in Switzerland. They in turn acquired their competitor "Geha" in Hannover in 1990. There's some more corporate changes after that.

Looking around my office, I do not have a Pelikan fountain pen, however, I do have what you see below: a violet Pelikan ink refill container for stamp pads. I do not remember when I acquired this, it's been in my office for several decades!

What is interesting though, is that the Pelikan logo on the bottom of the box shows 2 chicks, so it is definitely from prior to 2003. It also states that it was made in the Adliswil (Zürich) plant in Switzerland. I may have bought this when

I worked in Switzerland in 1986 for almost one year, but don't hold me to that.

Back to the part about fountain pens. I do actually still have one (see green pen below), but haven't used it in over 35 years. It is not branded, but from what I vaguely recall, I more than likely purchased it from "Migros", a large

Swiss supermarket chain.

While I once did have another fountain pen that used liquid ink from a bottle, I don't remember what happened to it. The green "fountain pen" below is of the "cartridge variety". I found a few cartridges nearby, but the ink was all solidified in them. The pen can hold a spare cartridge in the back end.

That said, growing up in Switzerland, we did not use ball-point pens in elementary school. When doing our writing lessons, I remember we had to use fountain pens (along with blotting pads). And that was one of the bigger problems for me as a "leftie". These inks didn't dry that quickly and when writing with a left hand, it tends to go across the ink you just wrote on the page, smearing it.

So in this case, a postage meter served as a way for me to remember some childhood memories!

More info is at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pelikan>.



Some info in this article is from <https://www.pelikan-collectibles.com/en/Pelikan/Company-History/index.html>



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More info is at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pelikan>.



"Füllhalter" in German means "fountain pen". Above is an interesting German postage meter cover from February 5, 1936 that advertises the Pelikan brand fountain pen that "Schreibt sofort, kleckst nie" = "Writes immediately, never smudges", which is the slogan underneath the denomination square.

A fountain pen is also shown through a (yellowed) transparent window in the envelope, where it cleverly states "Pelikan, the transparent fountain pen" (due to the clear window that these pens have, whereby you can see the ink level).

So who is the "Günther Wagner" company from Hannover in the blue return address portion? Günther Wagner was a chemist (1842 - 1930) at the Pelikan company, which was founded in 1832 and manufactured paints & inks. Official production began in 1838. By 1860, the company had 20 employees.

The former plant manager, Günther Wagner, took over the company in 1878. While the original company logo showed a swan and 3 chicks, it was increased to 4 chicks when the owner had a 4th child. Later, in 1937, to make the logo sharper, the chicks were reduced to 2 and by 2003, reduced to 1.

Early products were paints, inks & water colors for students & artists. Something called the "4001 iron gall ink" was introduced in 1898; it was an ink that did not fade and was thus suitable for documents and within a few years was the best-selling ink in the world.

Fountain pens were introduced when Pelikan acquired the patent of a Hungarian engineer with a piston system in 1925; in 1929 they started producing their piston-based fountain pens.

The company continued growing and by 1938 had 3,700 employees, and by the start of WWII, 5,000 employees with various factories in Europe & Brazil. The company suffered as a result of WWII, and foreign operations were expropriated. However, after WWII, Pelikan experienced an economic boom. The company is headquartered in Hannover.

At some point the company of Günther Wagner was changed to Pelikan AG (AG = Aktiengesellschaft = Stock-issuing corporation), but I don't know when exactly.

In 1982, increased expansion of the company caused it to have a financial crises, the result being bankruptcy. The Pelikan AG company ended up being acquired by the Swiss



## President's Message

By Ken Aldridge

A Board of Directors meeting was held on June 8, 2024 where several items were brought up. Judy Christmas resigned as Treasurer of the Club and EXPO. Tom Cunningham was approved as her replacement.

A motion for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President was made and passed, to be implemented after members are given a 30-day notice. Their duties are to coordinate and run the meetings at Granbury, Flower Mound and Arlington.

A vote to pursue daytime meetings at the Arlington location was discussed and voted down.

I want to thank Ken Wills for his June program at Arlington on Cinderellas. Belgium Railway Stamps were included as Cinderellas. They were also good for parcel post fees.

On June 13, 1920 the USPS passed a regulation that children could no longer be mailed by parcel post!!

## Topical of the Month: Red Cross

By Peter Elias

An interesting topical or thematic collection could easily be formed around the "Red Cross".

The USA and many foreign countries have issued stamps commemorating the International (and/or local) Red Cross organizations and founders.



Scott #RA7 postal fiscal issue from 1924; proceeds were given to the Red Cross



Scott #967 honoring the American Red Cross founder



Scott #1016 honoring the International Red Cross



Scott #1239 honoring the International Red Cross



Scott #702 commemorating the Greatest Mother & American Red Cross Society



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

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

For recent online newsletters see the club website above or:

<https://BetweenThePerfs.com/MCSC> →

(for older newsletters please contact the newsletter editor)



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## Flower Mound Meeting Minutes June 19, 2024

By Skip Ely

### Call-To-Order:

- First Vice President - Rick Howell began the meeting at 7:30 PM. He passed around a list of donated books and asked people to highlight any they would like to see added to the club library at the Arlington location.

### Attendance:

- 13 members and 2 guests attended the June meeting in Flower Mound.

### Officer Reports:

- Treasurer - Rick gave the Treasury amount.
- Secretary - Rick said that Janet had reported we had a reinstated member, which brings our membership up to 98.

### Committee Reports:

- EXPO - Rick reported on the Expo Planning meeting Saturday June 8 (minutes elsewhere in the newsletter).
- Board of Directors Meeting - (which followed the EXPO meeting). Tom Cunningham offered to take over the Treasurer duties from Judy Christmas, who was resigning due to health reasons. Rick had proposed the club adopt a third Vice-President position, so we would have one person per chapter. This was approved but will require an amendment to the By-Laws.
- Newsletter - Peter said he was almost done.

### Announcements:

- Rick mentioned the upcoming Granbury meeting on June 25th and the TSDA show from June 28-29.
- Tom Cunningham said they were looking for a new venue for the Dallas show for 2025.

### Where Am I?:

- Rick Howell conducted the subject quiz prepared by Stanley Christmas. Geoff Owens correctly identified the country as French Indochina.

### Show & Tell:

- Dan Golden passed around a 1951 cover from Ireland addressed just to a church in Nebraska (with no city named), and it apparently got delivered.
- Geoff Owens had some stamps from Nigeria and a 1964 clipped cover with mixed franking of East African stamps.
- Steve Carpenter said he had some items he talked about at the last meeting for sale on a table in the foyer.
- Randy Blackburn showed an album of unused early U.S. commemoratives he purchased at a bargain price.
- Bruce Davis showed some recent covers from Bermuda and a New Zealand 3D (lenticular) stamp.
- Peter Elias said he was looking through one of his old picture albums and found 10 more locations associated with stamps he had. He also discussed a slogan cancel that was heavily smudged, losing its message. Then he showed an article from the Dallas Morning News that had a picture of some stamps on a parcel tag attached to a rock that was considered "art".

### Gift Certificates:

- Were awarded to Geoff Owens, Randy Blackburn, and Perry Singer.

### Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned about 8:35 PM.

*Been There,  
Done That*

## Château Frontenac, Quebec City

By Geoff Owens

In 2004, a friend and I visited Quebec City, one of the oldest European settlements in North America. It was established by Samuel de Champlain in 1608 at the confluence of the Saint Lawrence River and the Saint-Charles River. The heart of the city retains much of its old world flavor and its city walls are the only fortifications remaining in the Americas north of Mexico.

Among the historical attractions are the famous Plains of Abraham, site of a battle between the British and the French in 1759 as part of the French and Indian War, and the Citadelle, built in 1820 to protect against a potential American attack (which never came).



Towering over the city is the Château Frontenac, a hotel first opened in 1893 and one of the first grand railroad hotels across Canada, and where we stayed during our visit. The hotel has been featured on Canadian stamps several times, including Scott #601, shown above.

Among the hotel's amenities are two ghosts: a sad woman in a nightgown who haunts the halls, and the specter of 17th century governor Louis de Buade who died at the hotel. The latter is featured on a stamp, part of the Haunted Canada series, Scott # 2752.



Apparently the ghosts were on vacation during our stay, because we were untroubled and slept peacefully.

## EXPO Planning Meeting - June 8, 2024

By Janet Moyer

### Call-To-Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 11:49 AM
- Review of minutes from Dec. 2, 2023

### Reports:

- General Chair Ralph Poore
  - Confirmed the Convention Center
    - Stanley met with John at the Center
    - Made ½ payment
    - Covered the details
    - File cabinets will be changed to table #3
- Awards -Alliene Franklin-ready- no awards
- Beginning Collectors - Skip Ely
  - Accumulates and sorts stamps – will get them to Silent Auction, Mixture Pick, Chance Board
  - Making “starter sets” of US stamps
  - He has hundreds of the same stamps. Tom Cunningham suggested contacting Phil Baker to ship stamps to Veteran’s program.
- Bourse – Tom Cunningham
  - 25 dealers are returning
  - 16 have paid their fees
  - The others should pay within 30 days
  - Tables #3 and #20 have swapped places
- Chance Board – Ralph reported for Patty Poore
  - In great shape
  - Will stay with 6 chances for \$1
  - Need better stand for the board
- Transportation - Ralph Poore will contact Evan Islam
- Exhibits – Peter Elias will do entry area mini-exhibits
  - Will post notice in newsletter asking for entries
- Treasurer - Judy Christmas
  - Judy announced that she will not be serving as treasurer for the EXPO.
  - Tom Cunningham is the newly appointed Treasurer
  - Kathryn Storey will handle the cash box for the EXPO
- Registration / Hospitality – Janet Moyer
  - Passed the volunteer sign-up sheet
  - Name tags are in order
  - Ralph suggested when asking for volunteers - that we give them a specific job
    - They could be coordinators and contact people and not have to attend
    - We need (teenagers) to help dealers in and out with their materials
- Lunches - Judy will not be doing it this year so Kathryn Storey has volunteered to handle this
  - Rich Hildebrandt will be transporting the lunches
- Mail-outs – Stanley Christmas
  - Will be handling the mail-outs. He has a list of the no shows to purge from the mailing list
  - He will work on the flyer.
  - He will be emailing to his list. 650 emails last year and only one non-deliverable

- Mixture Pick – Rick Howell reported they are doing fine
- Program:
  - Ralph will prepare the program
  - Janet will print
  - Stapling and folding will be done at the EXPO setup
- Raffle – There is to be only one raffle IF we have a raffle. To be decided later.
- Publicity:
  - Peter Elias will advertise in Linn’s
  - Ken Aldridge will post on Facebook
  - Rick Howell will post on Facebook Page
- Security - Ken Aldridge will cover the security with Doug Davis.
  - Police for overnight will be set up later
- Silent Auction - Ken Wills announced he will be out of the country
  - Tom Turner will handle set up and control.
  - Donations are needed
  - When donating – please put minimum “buy-it-now” suggestion
- Signs – Ralph Poore will check with Evan Islam
- Snacks – Ken Aldridge
  - He has a list of things eaten in the past.
  - If you want anything else, let them know.
- Exhibits for 2025:
  - We need to start soliciting exhibits
  - We are discussing virtual exhibits - things to consider- will work on a proposal for future meeting-
    - PDF?
    - Release of copyright
    - Proof of it being their material
    - Fantasy exhibits
    - Real exhibits
    - Judging
    - Needing monitors etc. versus frames

### Next Meeting:

The next EXPO planning meeting will be on August 17, 2024 at 11:00 AM at David’s BBQ.

### Adjournment::

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 PM.

## Mystery Stamp

By Peter Elias



At first glance, this stamp had me stumped. There’s not that much contrast between the foreground & backgrounds, so it was hard to see that other than two numerals at the bottom, that the only other Latin alphabet text at the top was “LA GEORGIE”. That was confirmed by Google when I did an image search.

Georgie refers of course to Georgia, which issued stamps from 1919 to 1923, and is a former province of the Russian Empire. It joined the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States), which was formed after the breakup of the USSR. Georgia issued stamps again starting in 1993. This imperf stamp is Scott #11 (worth about 80¢), was issued in 1919 and features St. George on a horse.



## Cecil Rhodes' Grave

By Geoff Owens

In the summer of 1965, my family went to visit my grandmother, who for many years had been working and living in what was then Southern Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe.



Rhodesia and Nyasaland - Scott #162

Among the interesting places we toured during the two weeks was Matopos Hills, a fascinating geological area made famous by many massive balancing rocks. It is also the place where

Cecil Rhodes specified in his will that he was to be buried.

Cecil Rhodes was one of the towering figures of British imperialism in Southern Africa during the latter part of the 19th century. He was a founder and managing director of the British South Africa Company which received a royal charter to extend British influence and eventually rule into Mashonaland, Matabeleland, and other lands in the general vicinity of the Zambezi River. Indeed, the name Rhodesia derives from him.



The administration of these areas, which became colonies, took various forms over the years. In 1959, during the time Northern and Southern Rhodesia were combined with Nyasaland, a stamp was issued featuring Rhodes' final resting place, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Scott #162.

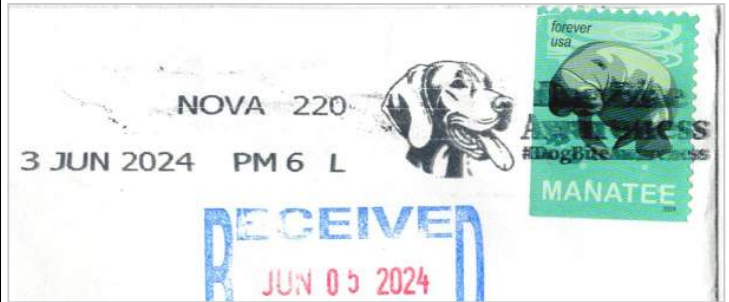
My father took this Kodachrome slide of my mother, siblings and me at the grave.

## USPS Dog Bite Awareness

By Peter Elias

Dog bites are a serious issue for USPS mail delivery personnel. According to the USPS, more than 5,800 postal employees were subjected to being attacked by dogs last year!

This year's "[dog bite awareness](#)" campaign is from June 2 to 9. And to publicize this, they have put this on their inkjet "spray-on" machine cancel machines. Below is a cropped scan from a #10 envelope that I received on June 5:



It was nice to see that the sender used a commemorative stamp, but parked it right at the top edge of the envelope.

Of course, while the picture of the dog comes across nicely, the actual "message" is badly smeared. That message being "Dog Bite Awareness" in 2 lines and underneath, the hashtag [#dogbiteawareness](#)". That is all fine and well, but the message is smudged! While the ink they use dries fairly quickly on envelope paper; remember that these envelopes "zip" along [pun intended] fairly quickly), it does not dry very quickly on the slick clear surface of the stamp, and thus smears before it dries! While I applaud their efforts, it seems that it is sort of a "tech fail"...

That said, the cancel is from "NOVA", with a beginning 3-digit Zip Code of 220. Nova is NOT a city in this case (and not to be confused with the city of NOVI in Michigan); it is an abbreviation for "**N**orthern **V**irginia". The return address was in Capitol Heights, Maryland.

Nice to note though that this letter arrived in just 2 days all the way from the east coast! Usually we can't even get a letter across the DFW metroplex in 2 days!

## Sad

By Peter Elias



While it is nice to see how "back in the day", beginning collectors meant well by wanting to protect their stamps, here's what they didn't know. While Crystal Mounts are a problem over a long time, worse is if cellophane tape was used to "close off" the ends of the Crystal mounts. Even a small 1/8" piece of cellophane wrapped over the edge, will still have the glue migrate into the stamp edges over time. Sure, it's still "mint never hinged", but is only worth postage value at best now. It's really sad when you see entire albums full of these!

## MCSC - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes June 8, 2024

By Janet Moyer

### Call-To-Order:

- The board meeting was called to order at 12:55 PM.

### Motions & Discussions:

- A motion was made to add a third vice-president to preside over the Flower Mound Meeting. That would mean each location would have a vice-president (a regular attendee) to preside over the meetings at that location if the president could not be there.
- Ken Aldridge called for a private vote which will be handled by e-mail.
- Judy Christmas gave a vocal resignation as Treasurer.
- Ralph Poore moved that Tom Cunningham be appointed treasurer. The motion was seconded by Peter Elias. The motion passed.
- Having daytime meetings was brought up again. It was suggested that this might help during the winter months when it gets dark early.
- Having Zoom meetings was discussed to include those people that cannot make it to the meetings. This will be discussed later.
- APS books were discussed. It was suggested that we wait until September and ask Dave Stockbridge to review the cost/income of the sales before we make a decision.

### Adjournments:

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.

## Thank You & New Location

By Peter Elias

Many thanks to Byron Sandfield of Park Cities Stamps for donating 4 boxes of philatelic material; a few loose items and covers, stock sheets and various albums (including FDCs and some empty ones) and a set of Mystic USA Stamp Albums.

Byron will be relocating his office to a new location at 6211 W. Northwest Highway, #1102A in Dallas (ZIP: 75225) starting in July. This is located east of the Dallas North Tollway and Preston Rd and a bit over a mile west of Central Expwy (US 75). It is a condo unit, but not a "stamp shop", and he will be available by appointment. He also regularly attends the local TSDA dealer bourses held in Richardson (the next one is on June 28 & 29). You can reach Byron at (214) 755-3006.



## Deutschlandflug

By Peter Elias

At last month's Arlington meeting (June 5), member Ken Wills gave a presentation about Cinderella stamps and said we should bring some of our own for after his talk. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to dig around for some. But alas...

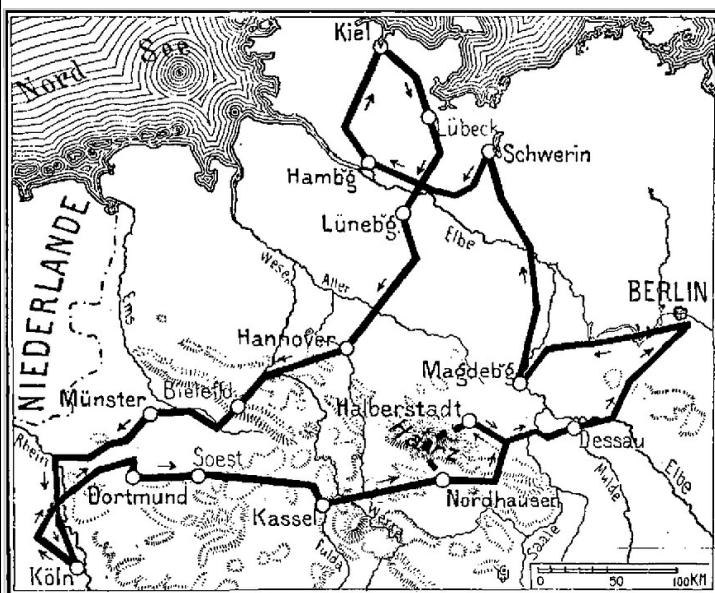


Here we have a German cinderella stamp (aka: "sticker") from 1956. It seems to have been on a cover at some point judging by the partial postmark shown at the top.

So what exactly is this about? The top line of the text "Nach 18 Jahren wieder" means "Again after 18 Years", and "Deutschlandflug" means "Germany flight" and then the date of June 22-24, 1956 at the bottom. A small single-engine propeller plane is shown.

Despite being German, I have never heard of this Deutschlandflug. But then again, I don't closely follow aviation events... So off to Wikipedia I went. A quick search for Deutschlandflug brought me to a German-language entry at <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deutschlandflug>. If you don't read German, no worries. Even in my case, I can get my Chrome browser to translate this to English.

In a nutshell, Deutschlandflug is a competition for air-plane pilots (presumably those in small single-engine private airplanes). The first event took place in 1911 from an airfield near Berlin and had 17 stages to be completed (counter-clockwise). These stages are shown on the map below.



Map is from Wikipedia; image is listed as being in Public Domain, it was from a 1911 magazine called *Flugsport*, Nr. 13, published on June 14, 1911.

For the inaugural June 11, 1911 event, they expected 100,000 visitors, but ended up with 600,000 people showing up! By July 10, 8 of the 24 pilots made it back to Berlin!

The Deutschlandflug competition lasted until 1938. It resumed in 1956 (18 years later!) and was at that time handled by the German Aero Club.

The Wikipedia pages covers information up through 2011 and only states that events were also held in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019. You learn something new every day!



## Starting Something New

By David Stockbridge

In April I turned 80 years old. I have been collecting stamps since I was 10 years old. In the beginning I collected only US stamps. Over the years I have accumulated a collection of mint US stamps that is complete from the 1930's up to 2010. I also have nearly 80% of all the US stamps before 1930, either mint or used. I still find 2 to 5 US stamps a year to add to my collection. However, obtaining only 2 to 5 stamps a year is not all that fulfilling to my collector genes. Sometime in the 1990s I was gifted a nice collection of German stamps, and a new era of collecting began for me.

I may have been open to expanding my philatelic focus beyond US stamps and into German stamps because I served in the military in Germany during the late 1960s. When I started collecting German stamps, I focused on the stamps of Germany and West Germany up to 1960. What I found interesting were the stamps of the German States, prior to the unification of Germany – I included these with my German collection. I also included the German Colonies and possessions. World War I & II greatly expanded my world of collecting opportunities because there were so many German occupied countries. Germany issued 100s of stamps for dozens of occupied countries.

A couple of years later, I expanded my collecting even further, beginning collections for most European countries. I focused mainly on the period between their first stamp through 1960. Then, during the early 2000s, I added collections from most of South and Central America, a few African countries, Russia and a limited number of Asian countries. Until recently, my collecting encompassed about 116 collections of stamps from both dead and existing countries.

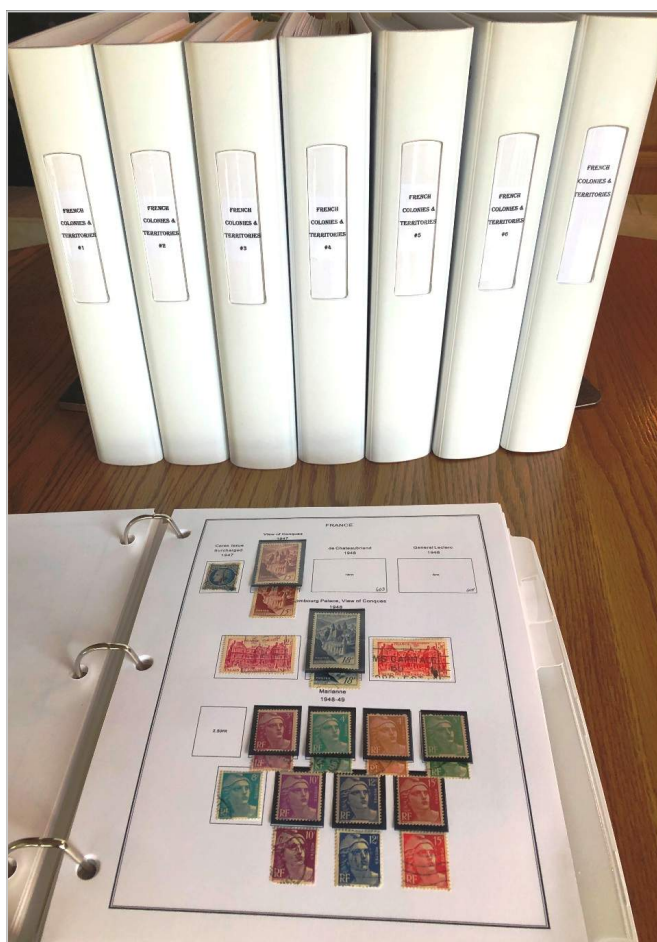
I provided you with "My Stamp Collecting History" so you have background on what I enjoy and what I have done with stamp collecting for 70 years. Many "older" collectors consider downsizing or reducing their stamp collections. Over the last 2 years I have considered this. I even disposed of 3 collections and stopped collecting another because I did not find them satisfying. Even so, at the age of 80 I decided to take on a new collecting venture.

I found I had, over the years, accumulated a large holding of French stamps.

Years ago, I had chosen not to collect French stamps because I still harbored a distaste for the way the French treated the American military and Americans during the Vietnam War era. I put aside my distaste and printed the pages for a French collection up to 1960. This included 119 pages for France, plus another 95 pages for BOB French Offices in Foreign countries and French Parcel Post. It took me over a month to mount all my French stamps. I had 753 different mint and 744 different used stamps! This represented 76.7% of all the stamps of France, excluding the Foreign Offices and Parcel Post.

After starting to assemble, organize, and mount French stamps in my new album, I came to the realization that France had a significant number of colonies and territories for which I had a few stamps. I decided that I would also need to collect the French colonies and territories. Scott lists 69 French colonies or territories. Over the years I had already started collecting stamps for 10 of these, including Algeria and Memel. This left 55 countries that had stamps issued prior to 1960 that I had not yet collected. A great many of these countries have become independent of France, and my collections stop when they gained independence. Printing the pages for these 55 countries was a monumental task requiring over 700 pages. Some countries needed only 1 page, while others, such as French Morocco, required 46 pages. I have placed the nearly 1,000 pages for France, its colonies, and territories in eight 1½ inch 3-ring binders. It has taken nearly a month to print the pages and sort and mount the stamps. After completing an inventory, I found that I have only 17.4% of these stamps mint and 11.8% used. Of the 55 countries, there are 14 for which I have no stamps at all.

What does all this mean? For one thing, it means that there are over 8,600 French related stamps that I am seeking for my collection. It means that I have learned a little about France and its history, and I have learned a little about the stamps of France and its possessions and territories. It means I have a lot to learn about this field of study. I now have a new challenge, new goals, and a refreshed outlook to collecting. Anyone interested in trading, selling or donating stamps for France or its colonies and possessions, is welcome to contact me. In a year I will do another inventory and report what I have accomplished with my new French collection.



# 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)

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**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). [iasdmyers@earthlink.net](mailto:iasdmyers@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

## More Thanks!

By Peter Elias

A second round of thanks this month goes to Byron Sandfield of Park Cities Stamps for another 6 boxes of philatelic material, as well as David Sterner who donated his childhood stamps & accumulations (about 4½ boxes). David had dropped these off at Byron's office and I picked up all 9½ boxes at the same time.

Since some of the boxes were a bit precarious looking (and yes, they all fit into my car...), I later re-organized everything into a lesser amount of boxes...



David Sterner donation



Byron Sandfield donation

## For Sale

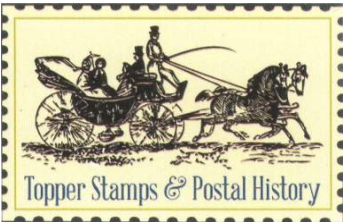
I now have a new website in which I have listed all my used **duplicates (many thousands)**. They are arranged in Scott number sequence within country. Do take a look, and select any that you want. I charge 1/3 catalogue value, post paid. The URL is [www.kenwills.net](http://www.kenwills.net) Contact 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!)
- [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 \$ 6.95 each (Regular price is \$14.95 to \$19.95).. Contact [peter@pcelias.com](mailto:peter@pcelias.com) 7/23

**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



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## Flower Mound Meeting Photo

By Peter Elias



At the Flower Mound meeting last month (May 15), I took this photo of Steve Carpenter giving his program, but forgot to download it. So here it is now. Also shown (from middle to right) are Rick Howell, Ken Wills & Sai Madhavapeddi (who is graciously letting us use his facility for these meetings each 3rd Wednesday of the month).



## 2024 EXPO Mini-Exhibit Request

By Peter Elias

Since EXPO 2024 is now only about 5 months away, and since we are not having regular judged exhibits this year, there won't be the usual pleas for coming up with exhibits. HOWEVER, I was able to make sure that we can have something to show, and we will have 4 exhibit frames (64 pages) of mini-exhibits available. These will be located in the entry area near the registration table at EXPO as you walk in (or out).

--> I encourage all members that have provided 1-page (or even 4-page) exhibits in the past, to please consider them for use in this year's frames. There will be no entry fee (but no judging & awards either...). And they will hopefully be looked at more than ever before, as everyone coming & going to EXPO will be walking by them, and hopefully have a look-see! Various people commented about some of these mini-exhibits last year.

My suggestion for these mini-exhibits is for them to be eye-catching (or "eye candy" as they call it); and of course be educational as well ! Let's give our visitors some interesting items to look at!

### **MID-CITIES STAMP CLUB 37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL EXPO**

**November 8 & 9, 2024    Friday - 10 to 5 PM, Saturday - 9 to 4 PM**  
**Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051**

### **1-page or 4-page Mini-Exhibit Entry Form**

**Mini-Exhibit applications must be received via E-mail or USPS by Wednesday, October 16, 2024.**

**Please type or print legibly. Use a separate form for each entry.**

**Name of Exhibitor** \_\_\_\_\_ **\_\_\_ 1-Page or \_\_\_ 4 Page**

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**My \_\_\_ Home \_\_\_ Cell is (\_\_\_) \_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title of Exhibit:** \_\_\_\_\_

**25 or fewer word description of exhibit:** \_\_\_\_\_

I or my agent \_\_\_\_\_ will personally \_\_\_ deliver \_\_\_ remove my exhibit.  
(Name)

#### **RULES**

1. These mini-exhibits are open to all paid members of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club and the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society.
2. Each page must be on standard 8 1/2" x 11" paper, unless approved by the Exhibit's Chair.
3. The entry fee for either a 1-page or 4-page exhibit is waived for 2024 !
4. This Entry Form must be received no later than Wednesday, October 16, 2024 (via mail or email to Peter Elias, peter@pcelias.com).
5. Entrants are responsible for insuring their exhibits against loss, or deciding not to do so at their risk.
6. Exhibits must be personally delivered and removed from the EXPO by the owner or authorized agent during set-up or take-down.
7. All Exhibits must be mounted on Thursday, November 7, 2024 between 6:30 to 8:30 PM. **There will be NO mounting of exhibits on Friday, November 8, 2024 !** If you can't mount the exhibit in person, please give them to Peter Elias at a meeting on or prior to the Arlington meeting on November 6, 2023.
8. Exhibits cannot be removed before 4:00 PM on Saturday, November 9, 2024. If not present at that time, Peter Elias will hold your exhibits (at your risk) until you can collect it from him in person at a club meeting following EXPO 2024.
9. All exhibit entry applications must go through the Exhibit's Chair for tracking purposes.
10. There will be a **limit of 2x 1-page and 1x 4-page exhibits per exhibitor**. This may be increased after the closing date if the 4 available frames are not filled with 16 pages each.
11. There will be no judging or awards for these mini-exhibits.

- **Please send this form to Peter Elias, PO Box 940427, Plano TX 75094-0427 before October 16, 2024 or email below.**
- **For questions, please call Peter Elias at (972) 671-0077 [landline] or email to peter@pcelias.com**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*My signature above indicates my understanding of and compliance with, the rules stated above and I acknowledge that I am responsible for insuring my exhibit. I will not hold the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, the Grapevine Convention Center, the City of Grapevine, nor any officers, members, employees, agents or associated persons of the same, liable for loss or damage to this exhibit.*



## MEET & EAT for

July 2024

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 in the club's broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

### ARLINGTON

July 3 Jay Jay Café, 1001 S Bowen, Arlington, TX 76013-2203 (817) 861-1060

### FLOWER MOUND

July 17 Jason's Deli, 6020 Long Prairie Rd Flower Mound, TX (972-355-3861)

### GRANBURY

July 23 Grumps, 3503 E. Hwy 377, Granbury

## Wanted to Buy

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

5/19

Wanted to buy or trade for: Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits. Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or [jmhstamp@verizon.net](mailto:jmhstamp@verizon.net) 2/15

Various USA Scott #C2 & C3 on covers & cards are needed for my U.S Air Mail collection. Please forward scans of the covers / cards along with asking price(s) to Don Jones at [adjaams@aol.com](mailto:adjaams@aol.com) Thank you. 2/21

## For Sale

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

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

Dave will send you a price, if booklet is available and payment instructions. 4/23

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

**Don't Forget:**  
**TSDA Dealer Bourse - June 28 - 29**  
**Proposed Postage Rate Changes - July 14**