

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER

West Palm Beach, Florida

The Palm Beaches Oldest & Friendliest Stamp Club

October 2022

On October 31st we observe Halloween, a 2,000-year-old celebration of the Celtic New Year and the pagan end-of-summer religious festival known as "Samhain." Revelers lit bonfires and wore costumes to ward off evil spirits.

October is National Stamp Collecting month – share your hobby! Other observances and celebrations include; 5th World Teachers Day; 12th National Farmers Day; 20th World Statistics Day (by the numbers); and, 24th United Nations Day.

Congratulations to our own Dan Maddalino who won the APS Silver-Bronze Award in Literature Competition at the 2022 Great American Stamp Show (GASS) held in Sacramento, California, August 25th through 28th. Dan's article "Little River P.O. Keeps Town Memory Alive", was his first-ever competition entry.

It's Show Time!! Our Bi-annual stamp and postcard show is scheduled for Saturday, October 22nd in the Barkley auditorium, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. See flyer attached to this newsletter.

October club meetings are scheduled for the 11th and 25th.

Regards,
Michael Swope

In This Issue Volume 9, Number 10

- Page 2 – Monopoly, Michael Swope
- Page 3 – First Flight Covers, Dan Maddalino
- Page 5 – Op Sail 1976, Pat Hensley
- Page 6 – Philatelic Facts
- Page 6 – Philately in Florida



Chapter Affiliate #923

Meetings: Barkley Clubhouse
1:00 p.m. – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
2605 Barkley Drive
West Palm Beach FL 33415
www.cresthavenstamp.club



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LET'S COLLECT SOMETHING DIFFERENT

FIRST FLIGHT COVERS

DAN MADDALINO

Oh, we all are well acquainted with the FIRST DAY covers branch of our hobby. We are also very familiar with collecting POSTAL HISTORY. But how many are serious about FIRST FLIGHT covers? They are a kind of First Day cover for the First Day of a Postal History event! First Flight covers are generally a “dry” topic for most stamp collectors. You have a cover with a special date cancellation and a special cachet. Just like a First Day cover, but not quite. First Flight covers are generally much more complex than that. Let's take the two covers from my collection shown below:



Both covers are addressed to the same recipient in Newark, New Jersey, USA. Both were mailed from Shediac, New Brunswick, Canada.

One was to be routed through Botwood, Newfoundland, and the other through Foynes, Ireland. Yet, both were delivered to the New Jersey addressee.

They both rode on the June 24, 1939, FIRST FLIGHT for FAM (Foreign Air Mail) route 18N (North). The cancellations agree on this. Or do they? More on that later. The Botwood destination is franked with 15¢ postage. The Foynes destination is franked with 30¢ postage. On the day of this First Flight for FAM 18N the postage required from New Brunswick to Newfoundland was 10¢. However, because its final destination was Newark, New Jersey, Newfoundland charged an additional 5¢ as a “forwarding fee”! The international rate for Shediac to Foynes was 30¢ - ONE WAY! However, here the final destination was also Newark, so this mail was not offloaded in Ireland, but continued on to the USA. Thus, the one-way fee applied. Nice cachets, by the way. Do we have any receiving marks? Yes, of course. First (below) is the cover offloaded in Botwood and bound (now via train) to Newark, New Jersey. Looking closely at its receiving mark you will notice it is dated June 27, 1939! This First Flight was to leave Shediac on June 24th, and all mail was dated thus. However, the Flying Duck (Boeing 314) found itself grounded just prior to take-off from Shediac due to dense fog moving over the Sea Base.



The inclement weather lasted until the morning of June 27th. This caused the First Flight to have officially occurred on June 27th, while all the First Flight Covers are dated June 24th. Both of these covers flew on the same flight, but their cancellation dates do not match the official First Flight event.



Now, due to the fact that New Brunswick was part of the new Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland was still a Crown Colony, the British Postal Service still controlled the mail at Botwood. It was British Postal Service policy to not apply a cachet or other special markings on mail passing through their system. So, the truth is, the application of the Botwood, and

Foynes cachet on each of these two covers was performed by Pan-American Airways employees inside Pan-Am's Botwood Flying Boat Base! The FAM18N First Flight continued on to Ireland the next morning (June 28).



Now let's look at the reverse of the Foynes bound cover. After it arrived in Foynes, Ireland, a dispute arose between Irish and British postal officials which prevented the large diamond-shaped cachet to be applied on arrival. Only the circular receiving mark was permitted (translation-Dublin, Ireland). The diamond cachet was applied by Pan-American Airways employees

on July 1st at Southampton, UK, the terminus of FAM18N. Not your typical First Day cover.

Collecting, and learning to read First Flight covers is full of mystery and adventure. Come aboard and Collect Something Different!

PRIMARY SOURCES:

1. Schmidt, Greg; C, (1997); *The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland*; The American Air Mail Society; Edwards Brothers, Inc, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.
2. Reinhard, Stephen, (2004); *American Air Mail Catalogue, 6th Edition, Volume Three*; The American Air Mail Society; Edwards Brothers, Inc, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.
3. Harris, D. Robin, Editor; 2022 *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*. The Unitrade Press, Toronto, Canada: 2022
4. Wawrukiewicz, Anthony S., Beecher, Henry W.; *U.S International Postage Rates, 1872-1996*. CAMA Publishing Company, Portland Oregon. 1996

Op Sail 1976

Pat Hensley



Featured here is the July 5, 1976, Op Sail commemorative cancellation on Scott #U571, the 10¢ “Seafaring Tradition”, Stamped Envelope. The unaddressed envelope, which displays an image of the Norwegian Sloop “Restaurationen” is uprated 39¢ with the three-stamp “Spirit of ‘76”, American Bicentennial Issue, Scott #1631a.

Operation Sail was a series of sailing events that celebrated special occasions and focused on sailing vessels from around the world. The event is coordinated by Operation Sail, Inc., a non-profit organization founded by President John F. Kennedy in 1961. This event is often referred to as Operation Sail or Op Sail and focused on promoting goodwill and cooperation between countries. Tall ships were the centerpiece of the event but smaller vessels also participated.

These events usually ran concurrently with the annual International Naval Review and feature present-day warships from different countries. The event ends with the Parade of Ships on the Hudson River and New York Harbor on the 4th of July. The US Coast Guard cutter Eagle has been the host vessel for all of the events.

The first Op Sail occurred in 1964 when tall ships and naval vessels filled the New York Harbor. This event was incorporated with the 1964 New York World’s Fair. Op Sail 1976 was held to celebrate the United States Bicentennial and took five years to plan. 16 tall ships were in the Grand Parade of Sailing Ships and flew the tricolor star insignia banner of the Bicentennial. These tall ships are referred to as “square-rigged school ships”. In addition to the tall ships, 113 other vessels participated. This brought back the tradition of the International Naval Review and brought together a peacetime armada of 50 warships from many different countries. President Gerald Ford reviewed the parade from the deck of the USS Forrestal, along with a 21-gun salute.

This cover may appeal to collectors from many different areas.

Classroom Activities

What makes a ship a tall ship? Make a poster showing the features of a tall ship.

What other Op Sail events occurred? Pick one and share it with the class.

Find out more about the US Coast Guard.

What other countries participated in Op Sail 1976? What did their ship look like?

Original Photo by Pat Hensley

Philatelic Facts



Microprinting

Microprinting is tiny type added to a stamp's design that is so small, it can't be read without a magnifying glass or microscope. The printing is usually made up of letters, numbers, and symbols. Microprinting is a security measure designed to prevent counterfeiting. Counterfeit postage stamps mean lost revenue for the United States Postal Service and producing or selling fake stamps is a federal crime. When forgers try to reproduce a microprinted stamp using a scanner or photocopier, the text may appear as a solid line or blur. It's too small to make a clear copy!



The Tropical Postcard Club is hosting a postcard show and sale at the Emma Lou Olson Civic Center in Pompano Beach, Florida, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on October 1st.

Club Vice-President Juan Riera will make a presentation on Coral Gables Postal History at The Merrick House in Coral Gables, Florida, 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on October 2nd.

West Palm Beach Stamp & Post Card Show, October 22nd. See attached flyer.

Cresthaven Stamp Club Will Host:

West Palm Beach Stamp & Postcard Show

Location:

**BARKLEY VILLAS AUDITORIUM
2605 Barkley Drive
WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33415**



Saturday October 22, 2022

10:00am – 4:00pm

**PROFESSIONAL AND LOCAL DEALERS COVERING MOST
ASPECTS OF PHILATELY**

FREE ADMISSION – PUBLIC INVITED

In ONE HALL, on ONE LEVEL, with SEATS at EVERY TABLE!

FREE ON-SITE PARKING

*CONTACT: Bob Burr 561-267-1903,
Dan Maddalino 561-758-6497, or www.cresthavenstamp.club for more information.*