

# CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

**PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB**

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The Cresthaven Stamp Club News is a member benefit delivered by email only.

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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WHOLE NO. 70

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### **GODDESS KANNON**

PAGE 4  
YURY VATKIN

#### **1948 ISRAEL STAMP DEVELOPMENT**

PAGE 8  
BOB BURR

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB



**1970 – 2020**

APS CHAPTER #923

#### **IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM BOB BURR AND DONALD SUNDMAN**

PAGE 2

#### **THE APS 2020 CHALLENGE**

PAGE 11

#### **STAMP CLUB NEWS**

PAGE 10

## Club President's Early 2020 Thoughts.

As your club president I will try to coerce you into the class of collector that enjoys organized philately, volunteering for club activities, authoring a narrative on stamps or in other ways using some personal time to assist stamp collecting. The Cresthaven Stamp Club (CSC) has many activities to entertain its members and keep collecting alive. However, it is not a one man show and as our membership ages and slows, new recruits need to accept the duties and services by volunteering to support the club activities when asked.

Our attempt to have a stamp show on 21 March showed that we could do such a show. We were unfortunately killed by Covid-19 and thrown out of the auditorium. We are the affected class of aged people. APS called to confirm our shows demise. The Hollywood Club is similarly closed until further notice.

The club learned from the show planning two major points. We need to charge more to dealers for table space, and with the addition of a website (a plus+plus activity) and advertising, we need more cash. I am proposing a dues hike to \$15 starting Jan. 2021.

I talked to the Lantana senior post office official about celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with a show in September, similar to the March show, and they were willing to support such an activity. Many of our dealers are ready to participate in a September show.

Also, please stay in touch with our incapacitated members Betty and Jim.

I'd like to recap our club's 2019 successes and thank Dan, Mike and Harry for their extraordinary efforts.

Dan and Betty are in their 6<sup>th</sup> year of publishing our club's digital newsletter.

Club member published articles are making it to the Am. Philatelic Society.

CresthavenStamp.Club is our new website with meeting data, newsletter, announcements and pictures.

Many more of us are using the Auction table to our club's benefit.

I am sure that I have forgotten to mention the efforts, input and support of the many club members that make the club prosper and **I thank you.**

*Bob Burr*

Cresthaven Stamp Club President  
and Collector

## A LETTER FROM MYSTIC STAMP COMPANY

**Dear Cresthaven Stamp Club, West Palm Beach, Florida,**

We all know that COVID-19 has changed our lives in ways we never wanted or expected. Businesses have closed, no sports, no concerts, and social distancing. These drastic changes are unsettling and can be stressful.

This is when we're lucky to be collectors. I've been turning off the news and pulling out my stamps. Just looking and thinking about my stamps puts me in a better place emotionally. I'm sure it's the same for you. They are the perfect escape.

I encourage you for the sake of your own peace of mind, to join me and spend some time with your stamps. All hobbies, especially stamp collecting are wonderful stress relievers in troubled times. Only you get to decide what, when and how you collect.

By turning to my stamps, I realize the great history they symbolize. Stamps remind us of our heritage as a nation that will never be conquered by fear. They remind us of all the great things Americans have done to make our world a better place.

Your stamps, like mine, are a wonderful way to relax and clear your head. You don't even need to spend money. Just pull out your stamps... perhaps reading why a stamp was issued and thinking about its design can transport you to a different place mentally and give your mind a needed break. And if you are like me, you have some stamps that need sorting, mounting or hinging. This is a good time to get those stamps organized and into your album or stock book.

I hope you'll let your stamps give you some much-deserved relaxation today. Remember – we stamp collectors are a breed apart. We have the benefit of knowing more about the world we live in, as well as our own country, and the people who helped build it. Many of them came from other nations to find freedom and a better way of life and ended up on US postage stamps. What a country... and what a hobby!

Thank you for your support of our wonderful hobby of stamp collecting,

*Don Sundman*

President Mystic Stamp Company  
and Collector

# THE SHORT STORY OF THE “GODDESS KANNON” STAMP

By Yury Vatkin

In 1951, Japan issued the “Goddess Kannon” stamp (Sc. 516) shown in Figure 1. Then, in 1953, the 1951 “Kannon” was redrawn and reissued in honor of Philatelic Week 1954 (Figure 2, and on cover in Figure 3) cataloged as Sc. 580. Then again, in 1959, a coil stamp was issued of the 1953 reissue (Sc. 672). Rendered in red-brown and lilac, all three stamps (except for Sc. 516 with its unnecessary .00 in its value) show the same image, format, and face value. Japanese Kannon, or Kuan-jin in China, is the Goddess of compassion and mercy. She is one of the most widely worshipped Divinity in Asia and Japan from both ancient and modern times.

Zeros



Figure 1 Sc. 516

Zeros removed



Figure 2 Sc.580

Figure 3 Sc. 580 on cover



Veneration of Kannon began in Japan during the late 6<sup>th</sup> century CE, soon after Buddhism reached Japan by way of Korea and China. The earliest known images of Kannon in Japan can be found in the city Nara, the cultural center and capital of Japan in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> century CE.

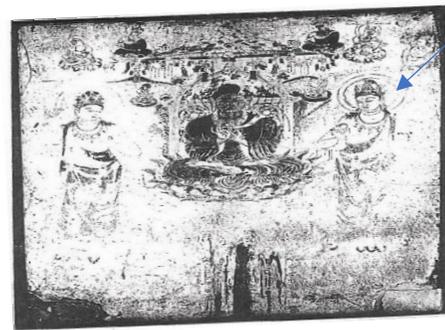
There are several murals (wall paintings) in the Golden Hall of HORYU TEMPLE in Nara. This Temple is shown on Japan Sc. 934 (Figure 4). One of



Figure 4 Sc. 934

these murals (the AMITABHA TRINITY) depicts a scene with Buddha seated on the Throne, flanked on either side by standing deities, or BODHASATTVAS. A Bodhasattva is a person who takes up a course in his or her life which moves them in the direction of Buddha. On the left side of Buddha an anonymous artist had painted an iconic presentation of the Goddess Kannon as a Bodhasattva (Figure 5). Her portrait was chosen as a prototype for the design used on Sc. 516, 580, and 672 (coil version of 580).

Figure 5 Mural with Goddess Kannon



A fire in January 1949 destroyed part of the Golden Hall and severely damaged the “Trinity” mural. Fortunately, this fresco was very well documented with

many photographs and color prints. By 1954, using these photographs, the mural was restored. One of the published photographs taken at the mural just prior to the fire in 1949 was used as a base for the Goddess Kannon image (Figure 6) designed into Sc. 516, et al.



Figure 6 showing borders of image used on the Goddess Kannon stamps

Part of this photo (inside the outlined rectangle) shows the actual image of the Kannon stamps. On the cut-away portions of this photo one can see the upper part of Goddess Kannon's crown with the small figure of Buddha (a) on the top, and the shoulders (b) of the Goddesses image.

Such "corrections" of the 7<sup>th</sup> century iconographic work brought nothing but harm. The original harmonized proportions and shape of the Goddess were distorted, which made this stamp confusing and unattractive. It must be said that the figure of Buddha on top of the crown is not simply a fragment of a jeweled decoration, but symbolic detail emphasizing the close union between Goddess Kannon and her spiritual

father. Unfortunately, sometimes designers "create" new stamps by working mainly with their scissors!

Linn's Stamp News in 2015 published an article by Fred Bauman, where the author applies the term "BLUNDER" to stamp errors in production and design. They are: "In the precise sense of that word – blunder, being a gross error or mistake, resulting from stupidity, ignorance or carelessness." I think that this definition for blunder fully applies to the job of all individuals who designed and produced the Goddess Kannon stamps of Japan.

However, just as before this fire, people all over Japan were still attracted to the sculpture and painted image of the Goddess Kannon, symbolic of compassion and humility.

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3. Bauman, Fred; Errors, Freaks, Oddities and Blunders: From the Sublime to the Ridiculous; Linn's Stamp News, Amos Media, Chicago, Illinois, USA. November 16, 2015
4. Pouzyrev, Sophia; Study in the History of Buddhism; Brookline High School, Brookline, Massachusetts, USA. December 2012
5. Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog; Amos Media, Chicago, Illinois, USA. 2018

**All stamps and cover are from the collection of the author.**

## INFORMATION YOU NEED

### 2020 IMPORTANT CLUB CONTACTS

PRESIDENT: BOB BURR

561-267-1903

VICE PRESIDENT: ARNOLD ZENKER  
at meeting

SECRETARY: MICKEY PANZER at  
meeting

TREASURER: HARRY CLIFFORD at  
meeting

WEBMASTER: MICHAEL SWOPE via  
[cresthavenstamp.club](http://cresthavenstamp.club)

### CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB

#### NEWS STAFF

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:

DAN MADDALINO

PROOF EDITOR:

BETTY BRODIE

PHOTOGRAPHER:

MARTY COHN

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### 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL REGULAR MEETINGS

1 PM – 3 PM

**FULL  
SCHEDULE  
PAGE 10**

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CONTACT THE CLUB THROUGH OUR  
WEBSITE: [www.cresthavenstamp.club](http://www.cresthavenstamp.club)



CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS  
Page 6, April 2020

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the author(s) placing article(s), and not reflective of the Cresthaven Stamp Club, West Palm Beach, Florida or any of its members. The publisher has the sole discretion to determine the types of material it will accept for inclusion in the Cresthaven Stamp Club News. No material will be permitted which may injure the good name or reputation of the Cresthaven Stamp Club or any of its members. The Cresthaven Stamp Club News (CSCN) is a monthly publication, delivered via email, intended to inform, educate, and at times amuse its members. The publisher reserves the right to edit submissions to meet the needs and requirements of the CSCN.

### ARTICLE & NEWS SUBMISSION

➤ **CALL or EMAIL US:**



- You may call me at **561.758.6497**. Please leave a message! Thanks, Dan.

➤ EMAIL: [dmaddalino@aol.com](mailto:dmaddalino@aol.com)  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

### SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS AT:



[FloridaStampShows.com](http://FloridaStampShows.com)

The source for all show  
related information for the  
state of Florida



## *From the Publisher...*



Dan Maddalino

It is April, which means that we have said “Goodbye” to most of our seasonal members. We wish them a safe and healthy summer as we swelter through until the leaves fall and those seasonal members return. But, do not worry, for we shall meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, and enjoy the fellowship of our hobby.

You, dear reader, are in luck again! Two months in a row this newsletter has featured articles from members other than me. **Yury Vatkin** brings us a well-researched and presented look at a true “blunder”. See his article on the Goddess Kannon stamp – page 2. Then drop in on page 6 as **Bob Burr** gives us a look at early Israeli stamp development. The News needs one more author for MAY to ensure that I am sidelined for a third month. You can do it!

Beginning this issue, you will start to see some changes to the Newsletter content. We are moving some information over to the website to reduce duplication. So, make sure that you visit [www.cresthavenstamp.com](http://www.cresthavenstamp.com) frequently. And tell your friends too.

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS  
April 2020, page 7

The renaissance of postage stamp and post card collecting, and philatelic studies is becoming a reality in Palm Beach County. Through the efforts of our 2020 leadership team we are seeing the attraction of many interested people to organized philately. Several are becoming our newest members. **Unfortunately, the largest stamp and post card show in years (March 21) had to be canceled due to the health and safety concerns associated with the coronavirus.** However, the communities throughout Palm Beach County (and beyond) are now aware that a welcoming stamp club has been in their midst for the past 50 years. The challenge now is to keep the momentum going. With so many opportunities to satisfy one’s hobby needs now available on-line, we must ask ourselves a very important question: **“What does the Cresthaven Stamp Club offer that I cannot get via the internet?”** We can offer a personal interactive experience. Share our knowledge, experience, and interests with friends who share theirs. Share our albums and collections with people who understand why we are passionate for this hobby. Those are just a quick couple of thoughts. I am sure that you have others to offer. Take a moment and answer this question for yourself, your interests, your hobby.

Our challenge is to welcome change that revives our hobby and helps us grow. Every member is invited to participate in this revival and help us enjoy this hobby. Sketch an article for this Newsletter, speak to the club about what you collect (bring examples to share), participate in the club auctions, explore new roads and report on your progress. Do this at every meeting. Be part of the fun of stamp collecting. Thank you!

# ISRAELI STAMP DEVELOPMENT MAY 1948

BY ROBERT BURR

Postal services in British controlled Palestine became more precarious and finally stopped completely on April 25, 1948, because the main road to Jerusalem was blocked by Arab mercenaries. The British Mandate postal service in Tel-Aviv and Haifa ended officially on May 5, 1948. By May 9, 1948, it was possible to get some mail through again, and local stamps, 3 issues, depicting the map of Palestine and overprinted, were used in Jerusalem as late as July 1948. The first stamps of the new State of Israel did not arrive until the third week of July.

The People's Administration Council, "Minhelet Ha'am", decided to adopt an emergency measure to be uniformly observed until the first stamps of the State of Israel were issued. It authorized the use of Jewish National Fund "Keren Kayemet L'Israel", commonly called "KKL" labels, which were available from the Jewish National Fund (JNF) office in Palestine. These labels have been used since the beginning of the 20th century for fundraising purposes all over the world.

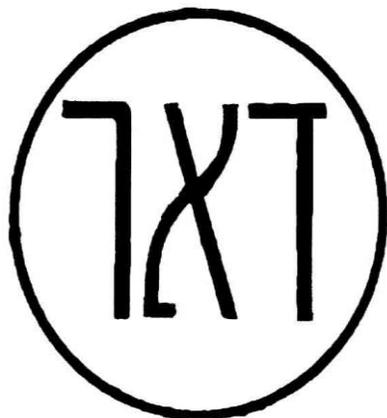
The JNF stamps were overprinted from May 3 to 14, 1948. Their sale ended on May 14, 1948, with remaining stocks ordered to be returned and destroyed. Use of these stamps was tolerated until May 22, 1948. The Mandate's postal rates remained unchanged during this period.

Minhelet Ha'am used 31 different JNF labels. Owing to different denomination and overprints, there are at least 104 variants catalogued. Eight of the stamps feature Jewish Special Operations paratroopers killed during WWII, including Abba Berdichev, Hannah Szenes, Haviva Reik and Enzo Sereni. The JNF also honored kibbutzim Hanita and Tirat Zvi, the Jewish Brigade, the Technion, the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, an illegal immigrant ship, and Zionists Yehoshua Hankin, Chaim Weizmann, Eliezer Ben Yehuda, and, pictured here, Theodore Herzl with Chaim Nachman Bialik. A JNF stamp label with a Tel Aviv overprint in May 1948 is shown right.

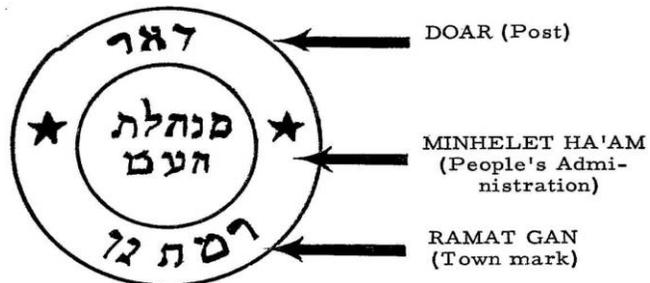


There is no definite information available as to why certain KKL labels were chosen for postal use, but common sense would tell us that those available in larger quantities were used. All in all, 80 postal agencies were in operation during the interim's Minhelet Ha'am period. Postal rates continued to be applied per previous regulations. When the British authorities closed or abandoned the smaller post offices and postal agencies on April 15, 1948, the Jewish postal workers remained at their posts. Thus, the Jewish postal system was effectively functioning in the smaller agencies, while the Mandate Postal Services were still operating in the large cities from mid-April to May 15, 1948.

These labels were validated for postal use by overprinting them with a rubber stamps “Doar”, the Hebrew word for Post, (that looks like 7N7) to be canceled with an all new Hebrew obliteration (canceler). There were two different overprints, one for Haifa and Kiriyat Motzkin with “Doar” in a circle, and a straight line “Doar” for Tel-Aviv and the other post offices. These overprinted, or rather, stamped, KKL labels were placed on sale on May 2, 1948, and remained on sale until May 16, 1948, when the first stamps of the State of Israel, known as “Doar Ivri”, Hebrew Post, were distributed and sold. As the overprints on the KKL labels were done by students and older people with small rubber stamps, all kinds of varieties exist. The ink used was mostly black in Haifa, and purple and red in Tel-Aviv. The legitimate use of the Interim stamps was to have ended completely on May 23, 1948, but due to the chaotic conditions of the period, which resulted in delays in the supplying of all post offices with the Doar Ivri stamps, occasional much later use can be found. It was also impossible to supply all 80 postal agencies with the new State of Israel obliterations immediately, so that many post offices were advised to use the Minhelet Ha’am cancelers or simple rubber stamps. Consequently, either may appear on a piece of mail from that early period. Examples of overprinted JNF label stamps, DOAR overprint markings, and cancels are shown, beginning here.



Kiryat Motzkin Marking



DOAR (Post)

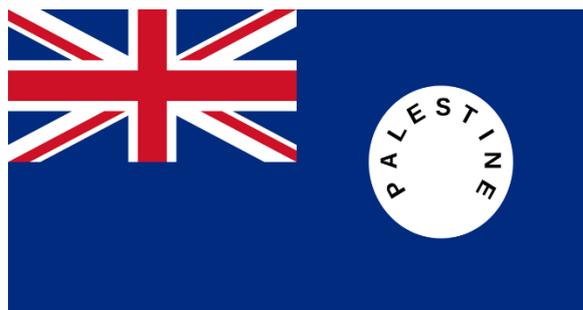
MINHELET HA'AM  
(People's Administration)

RAMAT GAN  
(Town mark)

Local Postal Services (in this timeframe): In the town of Safed, the departure of the British in April left the Haganah trying to establish control. The Haganah enlisted a postal clerk to print up postal envelopes, which were never used, as well as 2,200 stamps (10 mils each). On the stamps was written, in Hebrew: *Safed mail Eretz Israel*. Once stamped, mail was routed by the Haganah through Rosh Pina. These Safed emergency stamps were the only ones issued by the Haganah. The "Doar Ivri" stamps issued by *Minhelet Ha'am* went on sale in Safed on May 16, 1948.

In rural Rishon Lezion, the local council voted to issue their own stamps and provide a mail service via armored car. The stamps were first sold on April 4, 1948, more than a month before the establishment of the state of Israel, and service discontinued on May 6. However, these stamps were not authorized by *Minhelet Ha'am*.

During the 1948 War the city of Nahariya was cut off and the town administration, without authorization from *Minhelet Ha'am*, issued local stamps.



Flag for British Mandate (April 24, 1920)



Flag for Israel (October 28, 1948)

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## STAMP CLUB NEWS

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER MATTI KORPINEN** (Lantana). Matti collects US and Finland. Please introduce yourselves and share your common interests.

-  This is our **Fiftieth Year** (1970-2020) as an organized stamp club. Except for a brief two-year period (1979-1981) we have met in the Cresthaven Community. Celebrate this year by recruiting a neighbor, a friend, and a golf/fishing/poker/painter buddy to the pleasure of stamp collecting. They can start at any age! Invite them to our next meeting! As "**The Friendliest Stamp Club**" we will joyfully welcome them to the hobby.

**GET WELL SOON:** Your Club wishes a speedy recovery for several of its members whom have recently encountered health issues. We hope to see you back with us soon.



# CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

## 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS START AT 1:00 PM



# 1970

# 2020

JANUARY 14 BUSINESS MEETING  
JANUARY 28 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

JULY 14 BUSINESS MEETING  
JULY 28 TRADING SESSION

FEBRUARY 11 BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 25 TRADING SESSION

AUGUST 11 BUSINESS MEETING  
AUGUST 25 TRADING SESSION

MARCH 10 BUSINESS MEETING  
MARCH 24 TRADING SESSION

SEPTEMBER 8 BUSINESS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22 TRADING SESSION

APRIL 14 BUSINESS MEETING  
APRIL 28 TRADING SESSION

OCTOBER 13 BUSINESS MEETING  
OCTOBER 27 TRADING SESSION

MAY 12 BUSINESS MEETING  
MAY 26 TRADING SESSION

NOVEMBER 10 BUSINESS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 24 TRADING SESSION

JUNE 9 BUSINESS MEETING  
JUNE 23 TRADING SESSION

DECEMBER 8 BUSINESS MEETING  
DECEMBER 22 TRADING SESSION

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FRIENDLY STAMP CLUB**

**PHILATELIC AUCTION AT EVERY MEETING**