

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA
PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB
APRIL 2022

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PAGE 5



THE GIVING TREE STAMP

www.CRESTHAVENSTAMP.CLUB

Middletown Flood

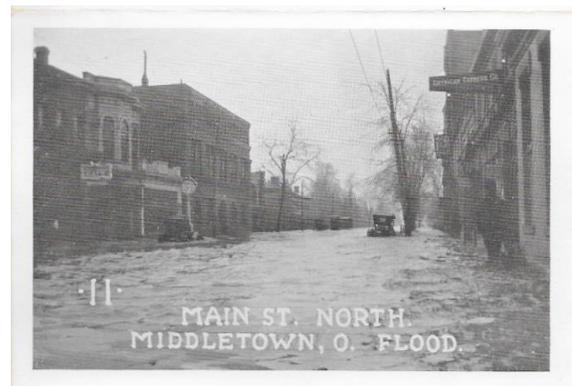
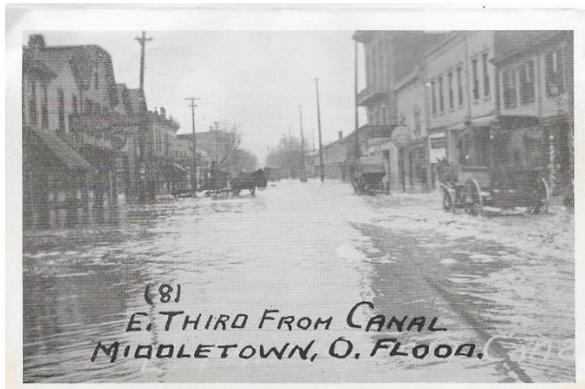
Michael Swope

Featured here is a century-old news photo-pack, affixed with a one cent Washington stamp (Scott #405), postmarked at Middletown, Ohio on June 2, 1913, at 6 p.m. It is addressed to Mr. & Mrs. W.W. Besore, Route 1, Payne, Ohio (authors great-uncle and aunt). On the reverse, it is receipt postmarked at Payne, Ohio on June 3, 1913.



This photo-pack was published by the Columbus, Ohio, Haenlein Brothers Arcade Amusement Company (1880 to 1920); a wholesale dealer of postcards, pennants, and novelties. The photo-pack contains sixteen pictures of the “Great Flood of 1913”, a disaster that forever changed the landscape of Butler County and the cities of Hamilton and Middletown, Ohio.

On March 25, 1913, the rushing waters of the Great Miami River washed away bridges and houses all along its expanse, claiming hundreds of lives and destroying the canal system. Some 300 buildings were destroyed by the flood waters and another 2,000 had to be razed because of the damage that had been done. In Middletown, six feet of flood waters wiped out pedestrian and railroad bridges and displaced more than 1,000 people. The following pictures are from the photo-pack:



Ref:

www.journalnews.com (Butler Co., Ohio)
www.sentfromthepastpostcards.com

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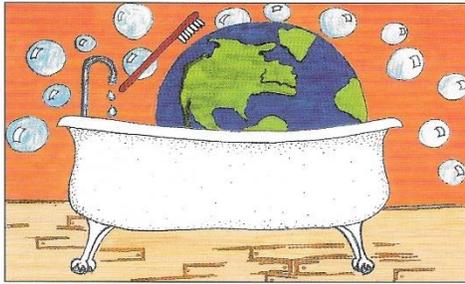
Page 8: THE BATTLESHIP FLORIDA (BB-30) by JUAN RIERA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL 22, 2022

EARTH DAY

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state of Florida



INFORMATION YOU NEED

2022 IMPORTANT CLUB CONTACTS

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VICE PRESIDENT: JUAN
RIERA at meeting

SECRETARY: RICHARD
KAYE at meeting

TREASURER: HARRY
CLIFFORD at meeting

WEBMASTER: MICHAEL
SWOPE via

www.cresthavenstamp.club

MEETINGS 2nd & 4th TUESDAYS

**ALL MEETINGS
1 PM – 3 PM**

2605 Barkley Drive West,
West Palm Beach, FL

**FULL SCHEDULE AT
Cresthavenstamp.club**

ARTICLE & NEWS SUBMISSION

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You may call me at
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**Please leave a
message!** Thanks,
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#923

CLUB FOUNDED 1970

FROM THE PUBLISHER ...

DAN MADDALINO dmaddalino@aol.com

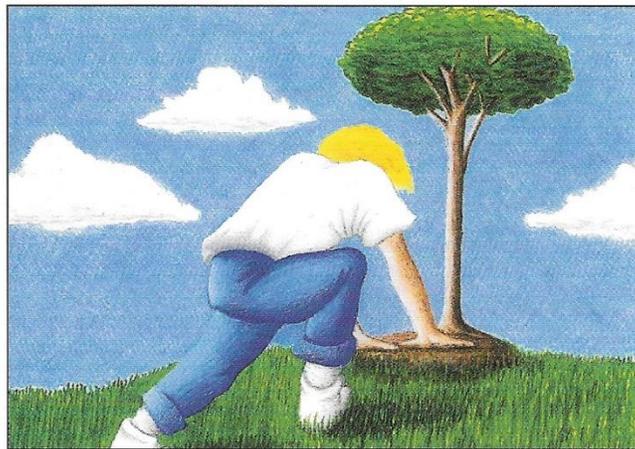


As we begin the second quarter of 2022, we are again treated to the variety of philatelic writing that places this club newsletter among the best in this nation! Pat, Juan, and Michael continue to invite us on adventures outside our usual collecting world. There are many stamps that reside in our albums that receive little or no attention as we seek to fill those album pages. Pat offers these to us through a variety of points of view. The Giving Tree stamp is one for our consideration. Read and ponder. Living in Florida should make us aware of its rich history, and its ties to our philatelic world. Juan has been doing that for us, and this month used postcard postal history to reawaken, for us, the battleship USS Florida. Michael, through his article on the Middletown Flood, touches on a very popular collecting niche: the mailable "Photo-Pac". These almost always carry a 1c postage stamp and contain a number of thematic postcards. These are very collectable and can be found in many lot boxes. Their topics are endless. I have had several and I am sure you have too. Thanks Pat, Juan, and Michael.

APRIL 29, 2022

ARBOR DAY

COLLECT THESE STAMPS



CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

April 2022, page 4

The Giving Tree Stamp

PAT HENSLEY

One of seven new Forever stamps coming out in 2022 is The Giving Tree stamp. This new stamp has caused a lot of mixed reactions. When I heard about the controversy, I had to do some more research because I remember reading this book to my children and even using it in my classroom. What controversy could there be over this well-known children's story? I wonder who decided to pick this book to feature on the stamp and what they were thinking.

The picture on the stamp shows a boy catching an apple which is like the cover of this popular book. The title of the book and Shel Silverstein's name are also written on the stamp. It was designed by Derry Noyes.



The Giving Tree is a picture book written by well-known author and illustrator, Shel Silverstein and was published in 1964. When the boy is young, he enjoys climbing the tree, swinging from her branches, and eating her apples. Then he forgets about the tree until he needs something, and the tree is happy to give him whatever he wants. Then one day when he is an old man and the tree has nothing left to give, he sits on her stump.

Some people are very excited that a book they loved as a child was going to be on the stamp. It has been used to show children the selflessness of giving. The story shows the joy of unconditional love. Whenever the boy wants something, the tree is always there for him. Others feel like this was the worst choice of Shel Silverstein's works to display and honor on a stamp. They feel this story shows selfishness and an unhealthy relationship. The boy

is constantly taking and not giving anything back and the tree doesn't know how to set boundaries by saying no. She gives so much that she eventually has nothing left.

I think the story itself and this new stamp are brilliant! It opens so many different discussions that involve critical thinking. By having these great discussions, we can clarify our own understanding of the way we feel. I think this story can be seen in so many ways because it depends on the age of the reader. Maybe that is what the author hoped would happen. When we are young, we focus on the tree and the unconditional love it gives just like we hope we get from our parents. As we get older, we learn about the ability we have of giving to others. Then as we mature, we start looking at the actions of the boy

and wonder about his actions. Are they selfish? Do we know what kind of life he has had? Maybe he grew apple trees and gave apples to others. We just don't know because the author doesn't go into that with the reader.

References:

<https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2022/0111-usps-reveals-more-stamps-for-2022.htm>

<https://about.usps.com/newsroom/global/images/releases/shel-silverstein.jpg>

[Publisher – Over the last few decades there have been several disputed/controversial USPS issues. We have even discussed some of them in this publication. Many of us were born before the Age of Aquarius. Today, it seems we are in the Age of the Contrarian].

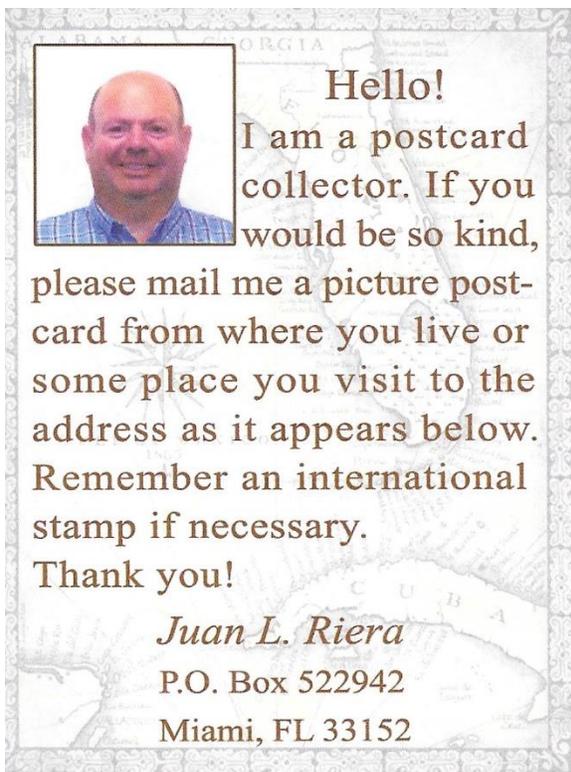
STAMP CLUB NEWS



IMPORTANT NEWS FLASH

Change occurs for many reasons and in response to many forces. I will admit, I do not accept change very easily. However, sometimes forces outside of our control make change inevitable. And, this is why change has come to our Cresthaven Stamp Club News. Over these past eight-plus years Betty Brodie and I have produced, and delivered on time, our newsletter. There have been issues that, while I was in the hospital and in a physical rehabilitation facility, I built, wrote, and sent new issues to Betty for proofreading on time. Our newsletter has survived computer crashes, lost in the mail, and even last nano-second rewrites. We at the Stamp Club News are proud of our record. However, I can no longer meet the demands of production. Age, and its inevitable effects has caught up with me. It has been a great run and I have enjoyed the trip. The club has been very supportive and our contributors have exceeded expectations. With that, I am very excited and happy to introduce a new newsletter team: Michael and Shelley Swope. They will offer their inaugural issue next month (MAY). They will bring improvements and growth as they share their visions with us. Yes, I am still going to be hanging out at the club meetings, but in new roles. Thank you Bob Burr and Arnold Zenker for giving me this opportunity, and thanks to all the Stamp Club News supporters.

WANTED



Hello!
I am a postcard collector. If you would be so kind, please mail me a picture postcard from where you live or some place you visit to the address as it appears below. Remember an international stamp if necessary.
Thank you!
Juan L. Riera
P.O. Box 522942
Miami, FL 33152

DAN MADDALINO seeking to complete my International Joint Issue collection. Looking for these Mint foreign stamps:
ISRAEL 1996 Hanukkah #1289
SWEDEN 2001 Nobel Prize #2415
SWEDEN 2015 Ingrid Bergman #2756 – 2758
GREAT BRITAIN 2006 Animal Tails mini-sheet with #'s 2334 – 2341
CANADA 2017 Hockey History S/S #3039
SEE ME AT A CLUB MEETING - DAN

BUY LOCAL - THANKS

////////////////////////////////////
**PLACE YOUR “WANTS” WITH US
NO CHARGE FOR MEMBERS**

**CONTACT THE PUBLISHER AT CLUB MEETINGS
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The Battleship Florida (BB-30)

Juan L. Riera

I recently acquired a cover from an auction where I was successful in my bidding (Figure 1). In the first decade of the twentieth century as preparations were being made for the Great White Fleet to circumnavigate the globe, legislation was passed for U.S. naval ships, of a certain size, to have the ability to process mail through their own on-board facilities and then drop the mail into the local postal service as ships stopped in port or transferred to other ships as convenient. Thus, the cancellation bears the name of the ship- in this case the USS Florida.

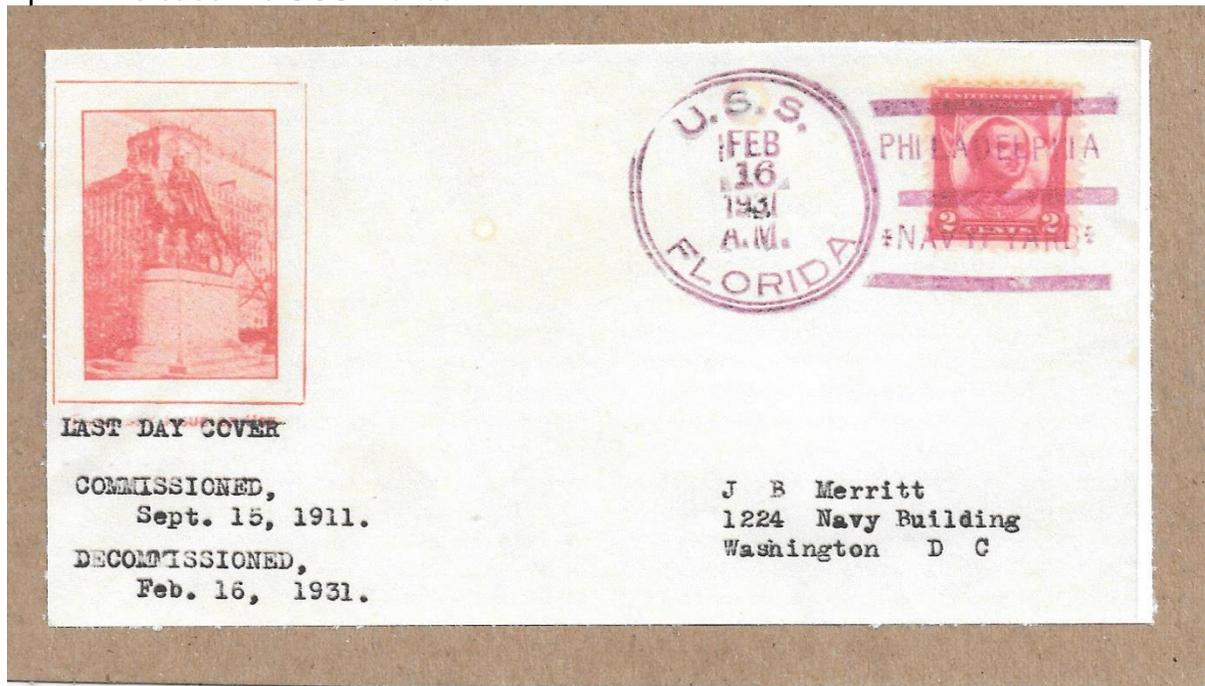


Figure 1: Decommissioning Cover. February 16, 1931



This cover is the last day of service for the Florida, commissioned on September 15, 1911, and decommissioned on February 16, 1931, the date of the cover. USS Florida was the lead ship of the Florida class of dreadnought battleships of the U.S. Navy, although it was a small class with only one sister ship, the USS Utah. The two ships were the first capital ships to land marines and sailors for the capture and occupation of Veracruz, Mexico. Twenty-five members of the crew received the Navy Medal of Honor for their actions (Figure 2).

Figure 2: USA Navy version of the Medal of Honor during 1914-1917.

During the First World War, the battleship was involved in convoy duty as well as patrolling the North Sea (Figure 3). After the war, along with the USS George Washington, they escorted Woodrow Wilson to France for peace negotiations. Afterwards, the Florida was involved with training exercises for midshipmen as well as military exercises and patrol duties in the Caribbean. Under the terms of the London Naval Treaty of 1930, various navies as well as tonnage limits, the Florida with its crew of 1,001 officers and crew was decommissioned on February 16th of 1931.

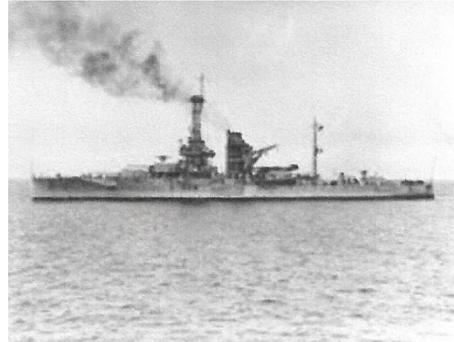


Figure 3: USS Florida on patrol

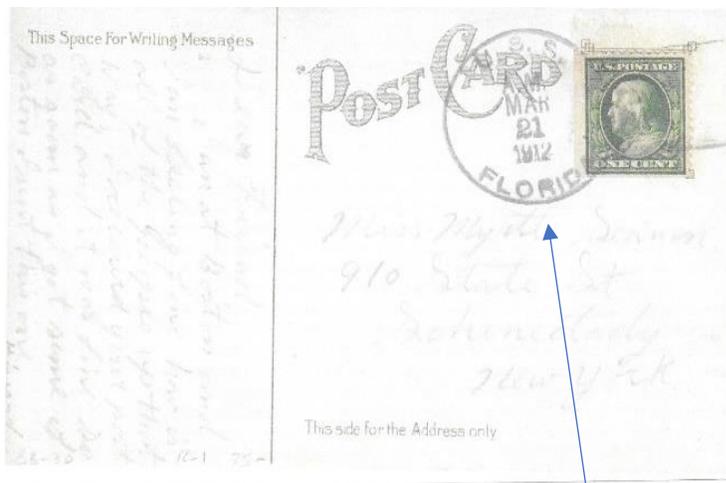


Figure 4: USS Florida on Station, March 21, 1912,

The *Florida* was usually stationed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as its winter quarters with the exception of World War I. For example, I checked when it was at Guantanamo Bay for certain: December 2, 1911; February 23, 1912; summers of 1912 (Figure 4) and 1913; in Cuban waters January through April 1915; June 1916 to March 1917 operations off Cuba and Puerto Rico; February through April 1919 the *Florida* was in winter quarters at Guantanamo Bay. On the 24th of January 1914 the battleship left Culebra, Puerto Rico for Veracruz, Mexico, arriving on the 16th of February, the first capital ship to arrive

and disembark both marines and navy personnel to occupy the port of Veracruz (Figure 5 next page). So, the battleship Florida, although it had a relatively short career, was quite active in the U.S. possessions of Guantanamo Bay, Puerto Rico, and the occupation of Veracruz, Mexico.



Coincidentally, the one-ton bell of the USS Florida ended up at the University of Florida on top of a bell tower until the 1950s at which time it briefly went into storage and later ended up at the football stadium where cheerleaders would ring it every time the football team made a touchdown. This custom continued until 1992 when the bell was transferred to the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee.

Figure 5: USN Expeditionary Force medal awarded to all Naval Officers and sailors at Veracruz, Mexico "1914-1917"

This cover has meaning for me since I graduated from the University of Florida in 1992 and remember the bell at the football games I attended. Many years later I worked for the Florida Department of State and volunteered at the Museum of Florida History and would walk by the bell from the Battleship Florida frequently.

Collecting naval covers from ships named after your state, town, a local individual, and such can be a very rewarding endeavor that can be enjoyable for philatelists.

ILLISTRATION SOURCES

Figure 1: From the collection of the author

Figure 2: www.bing.com/search/usa-navy-version-medal-of-honor

Figure 3: www.history.navy.mil/NH_64515_uss_florida (BB-30)

Figure 4: In the Public Domain

Figure 5: www.bing.com/images/search/mexican-american-war



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ON THE WEB AT FPHOnline.com

ESTABLISHED 1978

Do you have an interest in Florida Postal History? Then check out our website for a wealth of information covering a wide selection of Florida history. Look us up or see Juan for info.

