

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB

Mailing address: 6128 Royal Birkdale Drive, Lake Worth, Florida 33463

www.cresthavenstamp.club



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

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 5
WHOLE NO. 71

MAY 2020

IN THIS ISSUE

UNCONSTITUTIONAL!

PAGE 7

**HELP THE
WAR BLINDED
JAMAICA**

PAGE 9

AMERICAN WOOL

PAGE 10

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB



1970 – 2020

APS CHAPTER #923

JOIN THE HUNT

PAGE 5

STAMP CLUB NEWS

PAGE 4

A LETTER FROM MARTY

PAGE 8

From the Publisher...



Dan Maddalino

It is the early part of April that I sit and key my thoughts into this space. In March our club was hit with three catastrophes, of which the most disheartening was our fellow club members health. Five of our longtime and active members encountered either age related health declines, major lifesaving and life changing surgery, falls at home, or a delay of major surgical repair due to COVID-19. I will speak for the Club in expressing our wishes for your full return to a healthy status, if not now, then soon. Secondly, I trust that all our members, their families, neighbors, and friends avoided this highly contagious ailment (COVID-19) and will be returning to our meetings. The third "hit" we took was the cancellation (again COVID-19) of our second attempt at hosting the largest springtime stamp and postcard show in South Florida. All Cresthaven Stamp Club Members, whether involved or not, should take the time to offer a thank you to all those that gave their time, talent, and yes, their money to make this a super success.

Regarding the Show: The efforts put forth were not wasted. We received great publicity and new friends (some are now members of our club). We have established ourselves in the community and are still running club announcements in local publications.

Our community outreach includes a weekly Stamp Collecting column in two newspapers. I would call that a Renaissance of Stamp Collecting in Palm Beach County. I call that a success! Be proud!

Looking on to this months' newsletter, we hope you find our short articles to be of interest. The first, **Unconstitutional** was prompted by a short reference piece in a very popular Stamp Dealer and Collector monthly. This case points out that unchecked local and state governments do venture into illegal legislation unless called out by the citizenry. Here, the State of California enforced a revenue Tax Stamp law, unconstitutionally, for more than a year before someone spoke up. Next, **Help the War Blinded, Jamaica** is an addition to my long running series on British West Indies World War I Red Cross and War Relief Charity Stamps and Labels. I have covered the well known and popular stamps and labels, and now I venture into the rare and obscure. This material is exciting to hunt down, and even a bigger challenge to uncover any scraps of historical information on the reason for their existence. Many of these (especially the small) charities have faded from memory or morphed into another organization. Thus, they have vanished from both memory and written documentation. This is all part of becoming a true Philatelist. Happy hunting!

Don't stop reading until you finish **American Wool by Pat Hensley** (page 10). She uses an American postage stamp to highlight an important industry. Celebrate, once again, its 450th anniversary. **Late entry: JOIN THE HUNT (page 5). Be part of it!!!**

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

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB

NEWS STAFF

EDITOR/PUBLISHER:

DAN MADDALINO

PROOF EDITOR:

BETTY BRODIE

PHOTOGRAPHER:

MARTY COHN

MEETINGS 2nd & 4th TUESDAYS

ALL MEETINGS

1 PM – 3 PM

FULL SCHEDULE AT
Cresthavenstamp.club

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

CONTACT THE CLUB THROUGH OUR
WEBSITE: www.cresthavenstamp.club



NOTICE

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
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS AT:



FloridaStampShows.com

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



1606 Flaw?

BOB BURR

JOIN THE HUNT

Let me see if I can tell this story correctly! Some months ago as I was going through a stack of plate blocks for possible sale I noted what I hope is a reoccurring flaw.

The stamp of interest is the green 30 cent Morris Township School No. 2 stamp, Scott # 1606, issued 27 August 1979. It is a common stamp cataloging at 55 cents mint never hinged.



Morris Township
School No. 2, Devils
Lake, ND — A1006

My plate block of 4 (PL # 39134) on next page, shows a light on in the top window in only the topmost pair in the plate block. See below.

I have searched the Internet without success for more information.



Plate Block #39134 for Scott #US 1606
Lights no in Upper Windows

What I need is help to tell me if this is a one-time occurrence or a constant plate flaw. How about some of you US collectors going through your material and let me know what you find. If we're lucky the club can take credit for a new discovery.

Call Bob Burr at 561-267-1903 or email to RMBTEL@gmail.com

JOIN THE HUNT to locate additional "Light in the Window" flaw.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Dan Maddalino



In his monthly column, *Civil War Era Fiscal History*, Michel Mahler (American Stamp Dealer & Collector, No. 129, March 2019) references a little known, and less remembered, incident between Master J. C. Almy of the vessel *Ratler* and the Dockmaster for the City of San Francisco, California. This incident resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court declaring, for the only time in US history, that the use of a Bill of Lading revenue stamp was **Unconstitutional!** Not only was this case peculiar, but the players were high profile and powerful people.

The case is officially known as JOHN C. ALMAY, JUN., PLAINTIFF IN ERROR v. THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA filed January 28, 1861 (65 U.S. 169, 16 L. Ed. 644, 24 How. 169, 1860 U.S. LEXIS 384). Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney presiding.

Representing Master Almay was Montgomery Blair. For the people of California was Judah P. Benjamin. We recall that Mr. Blair was the attorney for Scott before the Supreme Court in the famous *Dred Scott* case. Mr. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion in that case as well. Mr. Benjamin was a prominent lawyer in both London, England and Washington DC and a US Senator. He soon went on to become the Secretary of State for the newly formed Confederate States of America.

The vessel *Ratler* was in San Francisco Bay taking on a shipment of gold bars and gold dust for transit to New York. The Master then signed the Bill of Lading (see definition below) declaring the contents of his cargo along with its intended destination. As soon as the Dockmaster saw the document, he had Master Almay arrested. The charge: signing a Bill of Lading that was not embossed nor otherwise stamped with a California Bill of Lading revenue stamp. The fine was to be \$100. Master Almay refused to pay on the grounds that California may not collect a State tax (enacted 1860) on imports nor exports, to or from a State to any destination outside that State. He was tried and convicted by the California State Court of Sessions (California's Supreme Court). As was available at this time, Master Almay immediately appealed to the US Supreme Court.

In a single page ruling, Chief Justice Taney ruled that the State of California's taxation of a bill of lading violated Section 10 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States: "No state shall, without the consent of Congress, levy any imposts or duties on imports or exports..." Thus he ruled that the California Bill of Lading revenue tax stamps were **unconstitutional**. Only the US Federal Government had the authority to apply a tax on a Bill of Lading.

California collected, and destroyed, all affected stamps and stamped paper.

Bill of Lading defined:

The bill of lading is a required document to move a freight shipment. The bill of lading works as a receipt of freight services, a contract between a freight carrier and shipper and a document of title. The bill of lading is a legally binding document providing the driver and the carrier all the details needed to process

Primary sources:

1. *Civil War Era Fiscal History*, Michel Mahler; American Stamp Dealer & Collector, No. 129, March 2019, p.66
2. Internet: [www./CourtListener.com](http://www.CourtListener.com): John C. Almay, Jun., Plaintiff in Error v. The People of the State of California;
3. Internet: www.freightquote.com/how-to-ship-freight/bill-of-lading/

□

A LETTER FROM MARTY

MARTY COHN

I remember when I was a small child, my mom would make me come indoors at about 3:00pm to take a nap for my health, because that was the hottest part of the day. When I was in my teen's during the 1950's, my parents biggest worries for me were polio and tuberculosis. Now, I am 77 (and I hope to reach 78 later this year!) we are living in the time of COVID-19.

What does this have to do with stamps you say? We'll I'll tell you. We've been quarantined for weeks now, which should have given us more time to focus on our collections. For me, I work on stamp collecting when I have stamps to work with. I also watch a lot of TV. When I have the money, I send an order to two of my favorite stamp dealers. Yesterday, I had a few extra bucks, so I sent off couple of orders. They'll probably take a week or so to get here. In the meantime, when I don't have any stamps to fill space's, I go through my albums to see which holes to fill from my next orders. So, I really never run out of ways to work with my collections.

While we are all in this "crises mode" together, I hope everyone is using the extra time to work on their collections as I am.

Stay well and I will see everyone once our meetings resume.

Marty

HELP THE WAR BLINDED

DUNSTAN'S CHAPEL, JAMAICA, B.W.I.

DAN MADDALINO

Accompanying this article is a commercial cover mailed from Kingston, Jamaica to Toronto, Canada. It is franked with a Jamaican Sc #119a, meeting the 2cent letter rate within the British Empire, and a Help the War Blinded fund charity "Cinderella" label. The date of cancellation is May 18, 1941, making it a WWII fundraising device. This label is sought by Jamaican charity and benefit label collectors and is collected along with the 1940 Jamaican "WAR FUND" (red cross) label (right).

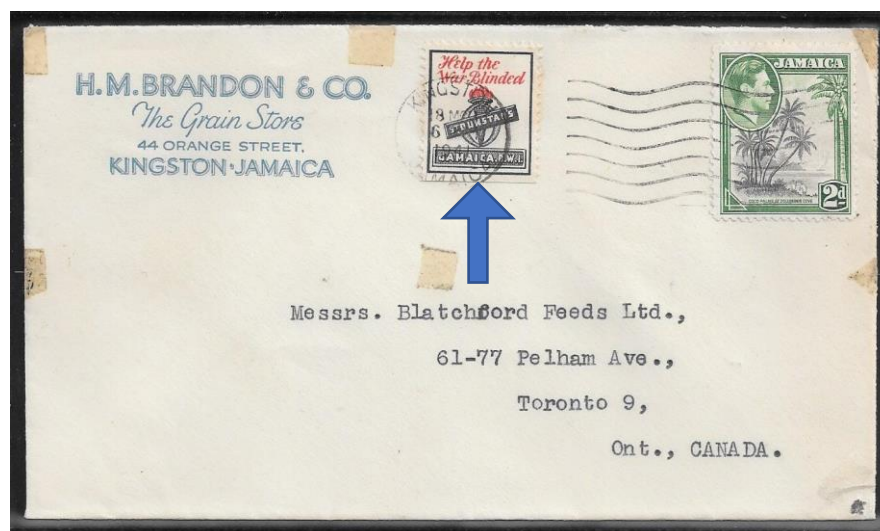


During the First World War (1914), Arthur Pearson, a London publicist, had developed blinding glaucoma. Seeking treatment, he appealed to the **Church of England** to establish a blind (mustard gas) war veterans relief fund. The funds collected would go to treating and rehabilitating those afflicted, Oh, and by the way, treat his condition as well. The Church agreed and called their charity "The House of Hope". The charity was picked up by the Anglican Church in Canada and renamed "Dunstan's Chapel" after a small chapel in London, England.



During the 1930's, Dunstan's Chapel expanded their mission to include rehabilitation of all Great War veterans. The concept spread throughout the British Empire. Jamaica organized their Dunstan's Chapel but, due to the difficulty in raising large sums of money, they restricted their focus to the original goal: Helping the war blinded.

Today in Jamaica, this organization is known as the Blind Veterans Fund and participates in the Annual WWI & WWII Remembrance Day Commemoration, held the second Sunday every November in Kingston, Jamaica.



Cover from the authors collection

AMERICAN WOOL PAT HENSLEY



Wool is fiber from sheep. It is used to make many different items. Clothing and other items made of wool have been found dating from the first century B.C. One notable quality of wool is that it can absorb and repel water at the same time. It is very effective in keeping the clothing wearer very warm because it is a great insulator. It has become a very important part of the US Military uniform and it is the single largest consumer of American Wool. The Berry Amendment requires that all U.S. military uniforms be made from 100 percent domestic products.

Different breeds of sheep give wool different qualities which are characteristic of that breed.

I have taken raw wool and processed (cleaned) it to spin into yarn. Once it is cleaned, I hand-carded the fiber to get the fibers going in the same direction for spinning. Then I'm able to spin this fiber into yarn. I spin the yarn into separate strands and then ply (or twist) them together to make thicker yarn for different projects. Yarn can be knitted, crocheted, woven, or felted.

Celebrate **American Wool** – Made in the USA!

