



Cresthaven Stamp Club Newsletter

July 2024



Scott #1

On July 26, 1775, the U.S. postal system was established by the Second Continental Congress, with Benjamin Franklin as its first postmaster general. Franklin (1706-1790) put in place the foundation for many aspects of today's mail system.

July 1st is Zip code and National Postal Workers Day; Independence Day is commemorated on the 4th; National Hot Dog Day is observed on July 17th - which is closely followed by National Ice cream Day on the 21st; and lest we forget, Harry Potter's birthday on the 31st.

July is synonymous with outdoor activities: barbecues, parades and fireworks. The National Safety Council advises everyone to enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals, and not to use any fireworks at home. They may be legal but they are not safe.

Regards,
Michael Swope

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Chapter Affiliate #923
Membership Affiliate #81338

Meetings: 1:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays
Barkley Clubhouse
2605 Barkley Drive
West Palm Beach
Florida, 33415

cresthavenstamp.club



2023 APS Star Route Award

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V-Pres: Kelley McDougall
Secretary: Pat Hensley
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Have you checked the Robert A. Mason Research Library at the APS? It is one of the world's largest and most accessible collections of philatelic literature. The collections include scanned copies of resources from the library collection and digital resources with sharing permission. There are journals, books, exhibits, maps, American Bank Note Company papers, the APS Reference Collections, Motion Pictures, Papers, and Articles. Currently, the APRL is offering free access to the library's

digital collections database. Enjoy learning the world of philately!

The club meeting on June 11th saw eleven members brave the passing rain showers to enjoy our collective hobby. Richard Kaye provided an update on our October stamp show. He reminded members that we need additional volunteers to set up a philatelic display. However, keep in mind that the show attracts a lot of non-collectors, so use less technical jargon and abbreviations. Harry Clifford reported that we are still financially sound. This was followed by another summer series presentation by Dan Maddalino, entitled "The Bahamian Special Delivery Scam of 1916-17".

The June 25th meeting featured former stamp dealer and noted China expert, Michael Rogers, in a summer series presentation on "Being a Stamp Dealer". Many of Mike's interesting newsletter articles have focused on his years as a dealer.

Welcome new club members Keith Lichtman and Bob Barwald!



The Second Sunday Stamp & Coin Show is scheduled Sunday, July 14th, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Azan Shrine Center, 1591 West Eau Gallie Boulevard, Melbourne FL 32935.

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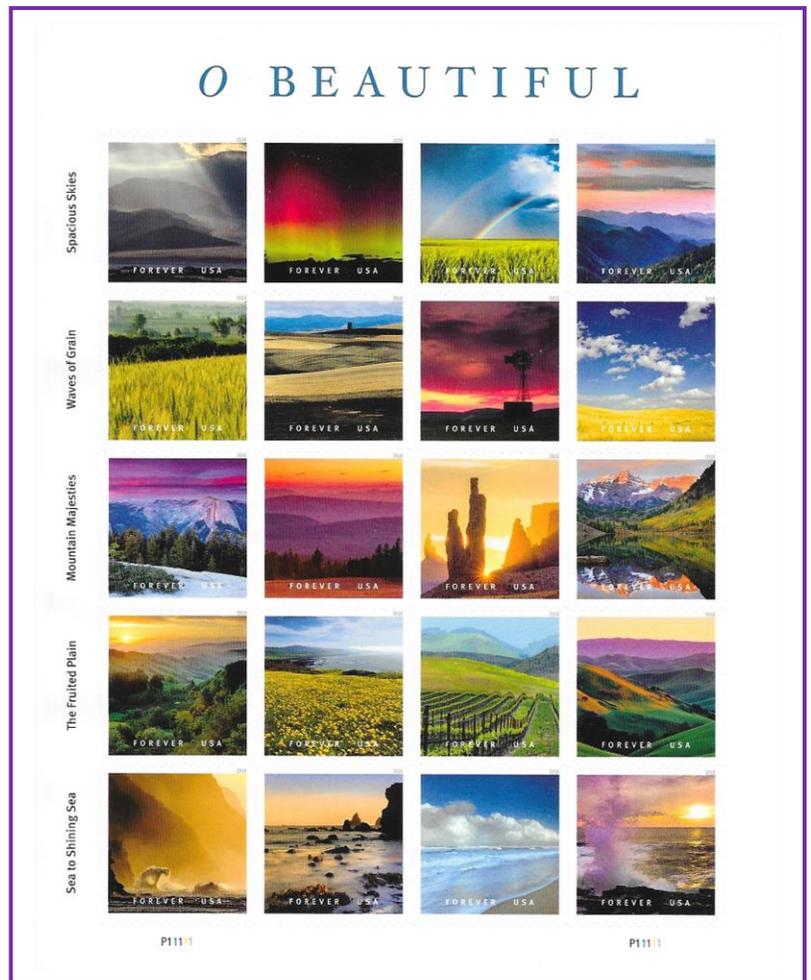
O Beautiful Forever Stamps Celebrating America's Beauty

Pat Hensley

Have you ever looked at a stamp and wondered about the picture on it? The O Beautiful Forever Stamps (U.S. Scott #5298, 2018, 50¢) are special stamps depicting some of the most beautiful places in America. How did these stamps come to be and why they are important?

The idea for the O Beautiful Forever Stamps came from a famous song called "America the Beautiful." This song, written by Katharine Lee Bates in 1893, has lyrics that speak to the amazing natural beauty of the United States. The United States Postal Service wanted to make stamps that honor these beautiful places mentioned in the song.

Making these stamps was a big project. The USPS worked with photographers and artists to find the best pictures of American landscapes. They wanted to show different types of scenery from all over the country. Here are the ten places they chose for the stamps: Baldwin Peninsula in Kotzebue, Alaska; Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in Arizona and Utah; California's Yosemite National Park; Wheat fields in Palouse, Washington; Fire Island National Seashore in New York; Waikiki



Beach in Hawaii; the Grand Tetons in Wyoming; Shenandoah National Park in Virginia; Mount Rainier in Washington; and, the Grand Canyon in Arizona. Each of these places is very special and shows the beauty of America in a different way.

The O Beautiful Forever Stamps were introduced to the public on America's Independence Day, July 4, 2018. First day ceremonies were held in Colorado Springs, a place with its own beautiful scenery that inspired the song "America the Beautiful."

In 1893, Katharine Lee Bates was a 33-year-old English professor at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. She was inspired by the Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the wheat fields of the Great Plains, and, most of all, Pikes Peak. She set to write a poem about the unrivaled beauty of her country. The poem was published in 1895 and later set to music.

People loved the stamps! They thought the pictures were beautiful and enjoyed seeing America's landscapes in this special way. The stamps became very popular with people who collect stamps and those who love nature.

The O Beautiful Forever Stamps do more than just help send letters. They show the world how beautiful America is. Every time someone uses one of these stamps, it shares a little piece of America's beauty. These stamps also remind us to take care of these natural places and help us appreciate and protect our environment so that future generations can enjoy it too. Also, the stamps inspire people to learn more about these beautiful places. Someone may see a stamp with Yosemite National Park and decide they want to visit it one day. The stamps help us feel proud of our country and its natural wonders.

The O Beautiful Forever Stamps are not just pieces of paper. They are little works of art that celebrate the incredible beauty of America. From mountains to beaches, and from parks to canyons, these stamps show us the wonderful places that make our country special. The next time you see one of these stamps, remember the amazing landscapes they represent and the pride they bring to our nation.

References:

https://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2018/pr18_050.htm

<https://www.mysticstamp.com/5298-2018-first-class-forever-stamp-o-beautiful/>

Philatelic Facts



Erinnophilia

Erinnophilia is the study of objects such as Cinderellas, stamps that look like stamps, but are not postage stamps. Examples include Easter Seals, Christmas Seals, advertising stamps, propaganda labels, and so forth.

Sell or Consign?

Michael Rogers



Bi-annually, when I still owned my company, I would go on an extended road trip. In 2012, my company owned a Toyota Sienna van which was a pleasure to be in for the multi-thousands of miles on the road. Our accumulated leads before a trip came from folks who contacted us asking for a visit. My best bud, Barry Williams, was a coin dealer and the two of us set off from Winter Park, a suburb of Orlando, Florida. Barry did the driving and I took a box of paperbacks and magazines to pass the time – a lot of conversation, too.

We travelled to Missouri, then on to the Chicago suburbs, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and then a stop in Oregon. Here we met a guy who had a swell People's Republic of China collection. I sure couldn't buy it.

At the time, there was a guy advertising in the stamp papers with bogus buy prices; folks would send material in and no matter how nice the condition, the advertiser would counter-offer, giving a variety of reasons. Heck, some of his buy prices were higher than my retail prices and auction realizations! So, common sense said they were not to be believed. But this Oregon seller had met with the advertiser in his home and found out the truth.

But yet, when it came time for selling the collection, he still wanted 100% of the bogus buy prices. Nonsensical!

So, I switched to plan B, and offered auction consignment, pointing out his only cost was the commission. Consignment, as things then stood, would realize him more than selling outright. Also, stating that past auction prices was no guarantee of future realizations; the market could go up or down.

He consigned. In the end, he received more than my purchase offer because of competitive bidding, but nowhere close to the bogus buy prices.

Ref: Reprinted in part from The American Stamp Dealer & Collector, Reminiscences, May, 2018

TACA Honduras Airlines

Juan L. Riera

Transportes Aereos Centroamericanos (Central American Air Transports) was founded in 1931 in Honduras by Lowell Yerex. The name was later changed to TACA, Transportes Aereos del Continente Americano (Air Transport of the American Continent) to better represent its growth from Central America into North and South America. Initially the company only transported cargo, but in 1940



they expanded into passenger service. As I looked into the history of this airline, the corporate structure seemed rather odd and/or confusing due in large part by the intentions of its founder. This airline owned and operated five other airlines in Central America and also created TACA branches or franchises in Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela. From my research, it seems that Yerex believed that each country should own its own airline and as such, TACA was formed as an international airline and - as national investment groups were formed - they would buy a chunk of TACA which would become a national airline of that particular country and could keep or change the TACA name. That eventually happened to TACA Honduras. The only remaining TACA brand name is TACA El Salvador that is now associated with Avianca, originally known as SCADTA and based in Colombia. Lowell Yerex was forced out of TACA toward the end of 1945.

Lowell Yerex (1895-1968) was born in Wellington, New Zealand and attended Valparaiso University in Indiana, graduating in 1916. He then joined the British Royal Flying Corps in 1917, being shot down over France and spending four months in a German prisoner war camp. In 1931, he founded TACA and was involved until the end of 1945. In 1940, Yerex founded British West Indian Airways in Trinidad and Tobago, at the invitation of Lady Young-the wife of the new governor at the time, Sir Hubert Winthrop Young. To top off an interesting aviation career, in 1941, Yerex founded Aerovias Brasil in Rio de Janeiro, that eventually, after several mergers and acquisitions, was acquired by VARIG in 1961. Yerex died in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1968.

The two covers (below) are nearly exactly the same, with the exception that one is sent to the TACA Nicaragua offices, while the other is not. They are first flight covers sent from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, to Miami, Florida, United States, with both CDS cancelled in red on November 20, 1943. The two stamps are of interest. The first is a blue 21¢ postage stamp, Scott #C136, issued on September 14, 1943, depicting a Columbian orchid, perforated 12.5. The other stamp is a 1¢, Honduras Red Cross stamp issued in 1941, apparently printed in the United States and listed as Scott Honduras #RA1, a postal tax stamp.

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**TRANSPORTES AEREOS
CENTRO - AMERICANOS**

HONDURAS - COSTA RICA
EL SALVADOR - NICARAGUA
BRITISH HONDURAS - PANAMA
MIAMI - U. S. A. - NEW YORK

Inter American Airways Agency
POST OFFICE BOX 1631
MIAMI, FLORIDA



**TRANSPORTES AEREOS
CENTRO - AMERICANOS**

HONDURAS - COSTA RICA
EL SALVADOR - NICARAGUA
BRITISH HONDURAS - PANAMA
MIAMI - U. S. A. - NEW YORK

C/o TACA, MANAGUA Nic
Inter American Airways Agency
POST OFFICE BOX 1631
MIAMI, FLORIDA

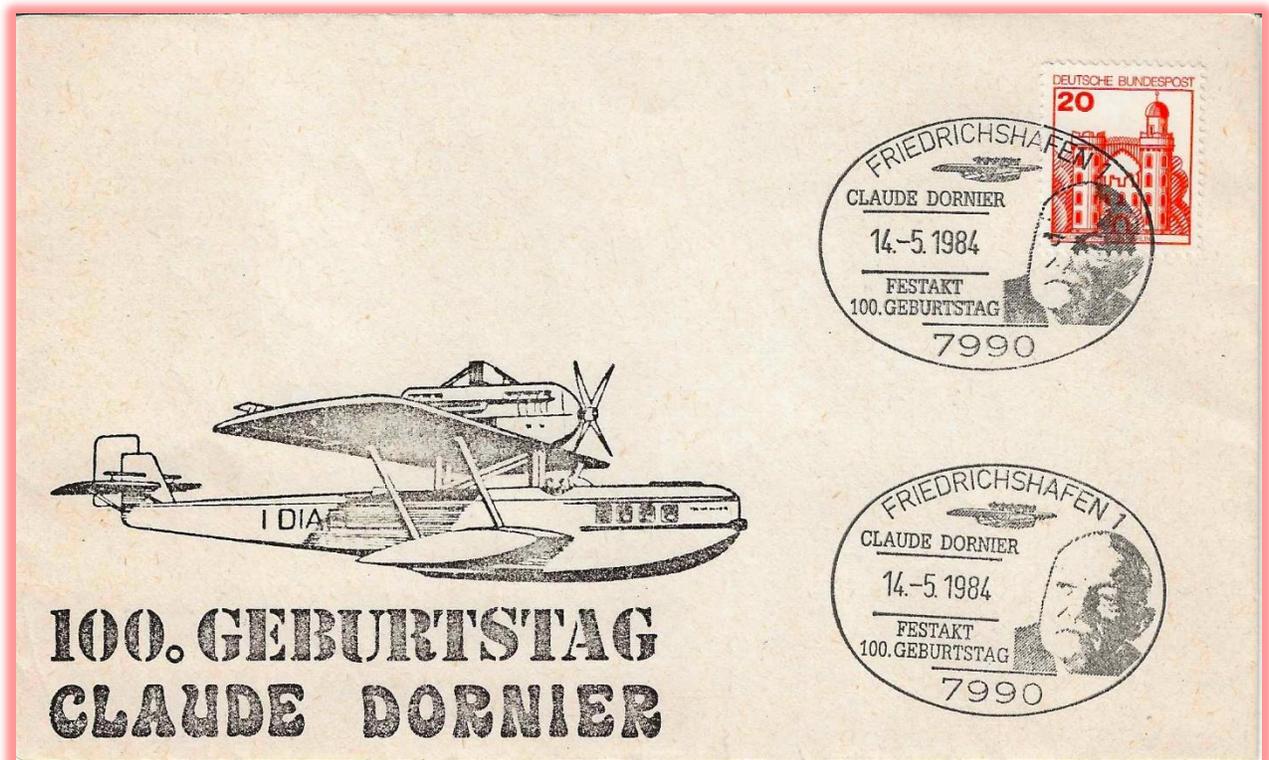
These are very desirable covers with an interesting history!

Ref: Covers from Author's collection
The Economic & Business History Society. org

Claude Dornier – Aviation Pioneer

Dan Maddalino

It can be awesome what a cover can *UN*-cover. That is, if you take the time to explore. Shown below is a cover retrieved from a box lot of international (mainly Europe) special event covers. It is from West Germany and franked with a 20pf orange, perf 14, postage stamp issued on February 14, 1979, as part of the Castles series of 1977-1979 (Scott #1232)¹. It is cancelled May 14, 1984. The cancellation and the cachet proclaimed the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Claude Dornier (1884 – 1969).



Who is Claude Dornier? He is considered the father of the heavy bomber. As a child growing up in Germany, he had a driving curiosity for metallurgy and emerging airship design. Following World War I, he built a thriving airplane construction business. He saw the future of airplane construction moving away from wood frames covered in cloth to light metal airframes covered in light metal sheeting. He also perfected the design for the first heavy bombers. After joining the Nazi Party in 1940, his factory supplied these heavy bombers to the German Luftwaffe. During World War II his bomber designs helped Germany take command of the air offensives. Following the war he was classified as a Class IV Nazi (a follower) and moved throughout Europe to work with various allies on airplane design improvements.²

In the long run, his alloys and designs could not take the rapid advances of air transport. By the end of the second world war these repurposed heavy bombers were being used for repeated long hauls of heavy cargo. Dornier's alloys were not prepared for the major repeated temperature changes at high altitudes emerging in the post war air commerce³. On January 31, 1945, an Australian Stinson AZW transport aircraft crashed after making repeated runs between Japan (winter) and Australia (summer). The crash investigation identified temperature related metal fatigue in the airframe as the principle cause⁴. The international air transport industry began stronger metal testing and lighter alloys, yet never forgetting the breakthrough advances Claude Dornier contributed to the airframe designs for modern air transport.

Primary sources

1. *Houseman. Donna (Ed.), 2018 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Volume xx, Amos Media Co., 2017*
2. *Britannica.com/biography/claude-dornier*
3. *Simpleflying.com*
4. *Mann, J. Y., Aircraft Fatigue – With Particular Emphasis on Australian Operations and Research (1983), Aeronautical Research Laboratory, Melbourne, Australia*

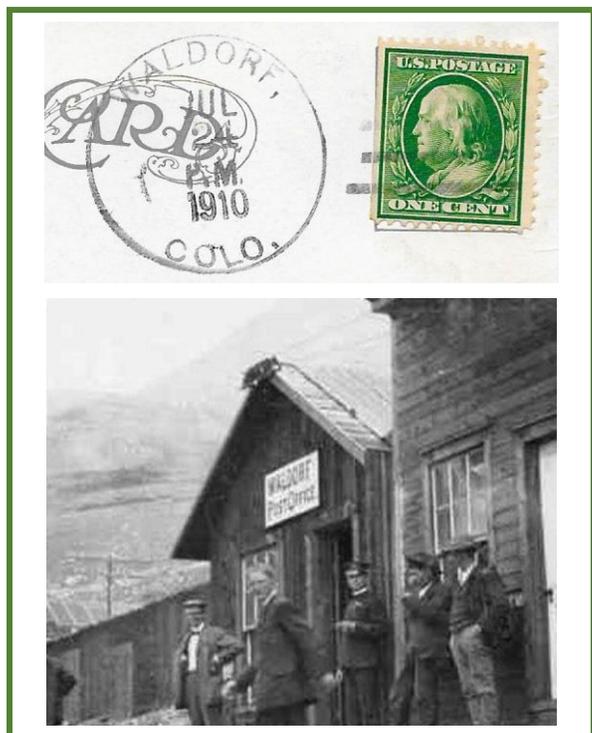


Colorado Rocky Mountain High

Michael Swope



No, this is not about a John Denver song. It's more about a post office. Shown above is a real photograph color post card (c. 1908) by Thayer Publishing Company, Denver; picturing the Argentine Central Railway train parked near the summit of Mount McClellan, Colorado.



This post card was mailed to California from the Waldorf, Colorado, post office (at eastern base of Mount McClellan) and CDS cancelled on July 24, 1910. The post card is affixed with the 1¢ green, Franklin postage stamp, Scott #331.

At an elevation of 11,666 feet above sea level, the town of Waldorf was not a place where people lived, but rather, a place where people worked. It was short-lived when the mining work and railroad relocated in 1911, leaving Waldorf abandoned. In operation for less than four years, the reportedly “highest” United States Post Office at Waldorf, Colorado (at left) closed in 1911.

Ref:
Post card from Author's collection;
Summitpost.org; Denversrailroads.com