

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER

West Palm Beach, Florida

The Palm Beaches Oldest & Friendliest Stamp Club

September 2022

Labor Day (September 5th) kicks off many exciting things, including the unofficial start of the fall season. September is often associated with new beginnings, playing host to the start of the school year, the reappearance of football season, the emergence of the harvest moon, and more.

Other important September observances include: 2nd, V-J Day; 4th, National Wildlife Day; 11th Patriot Day (9-11 Remembrance); 16th, American Legion Day; 22nd, Autumnal Equinox (it's Fall); and 29th, National Veterans of Foreign Wars Day.



Our Nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, the American Legion, was honored on its 50th anniversary, (March 15th, 1969) with a commemorative postage stamp, Scott #1369. So why is American Legion Day on September 16th? On that day in 1919, the United States Congress granted the Legion a federal charter.

September club meetings are scheduled for the 13th & 27th and club members and visitors are now asked to sign-in on attendance sheets at all club functions. Our gracious host, Barkley Master Association, and sponsor, Barkley Men's Club, have requested our cooperation for risk management mitigation.

Regards, *Michael Swope*

In This Issue Volume 9, Number 9

Page 2 – Great Smoky Mountains Stamp, Pat Hensley

Page 3 – Philatelic Facts

Page 4 – An Overlooked Letter, Dan Maddalino

Page 5 – Philately In Florida

Page 6 – Round-the-World, Michael Swope



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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Great Smoky Mountains Postage Stamp

Pat Hensley



The ten-cent Smoky Mountains National Parks stamp (Scott #749) was issued on October 8, 1934, in Washington DC. It was the highest valued stamp in the National Parks Year Issue series.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation establishing The Great Smoky Mountains National Park on June 15, 1934. He spoke at the dedication of the park on September 2, 1940.

It all began in 1908 when President Theodore Roosevelt felt that natural resources needed to be managed by the federal government. Two people stood out who advocated for establishing an organization in charge of the national parks. They were Stephen Mather and Horace Albright who later became the first and second directors of the National Park Service.

These two men went to overcome those in the government who were against the National Park Service and to get public support for the National Park Service. They began to promote the benefits of having one organization in charge of national parks.

Mather and Albright gained the support of influential organizations such as railroad and automobile companies, the Sierra Club, and influential individuals such as Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. (noted American landscape architect and city planner known for his wildlife conservation efforts). National magazines printed articles about the national parks and encouraged people to visit them. Mather got seventeen railroads to publish a book with pictures and articles about the parks and sent them to each member of Congress. In 1915, legislators from California and Utah sponsored the legislation that led to the National Park Service Organic Act, which established the National Park Service as an agency under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior. The stated purpose was to promote national park use while protecting them from impairment.

Mather became the first director and started creating a system of national parks. He promoted the parks using advertising and publicity to get support for the parks. One thing he did was to get the Post Office to issue stamps featuring the different parks.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was an avid stamp collector who recognized Mather's efforts. Harold Ickes, Roosevelt's secretary of the interior was a big advocate of the national parks and announced that 1934 would be National Park Year. Roosevelt, Ickes, and the postmaster general (James Farley) discussed creating a series of park stamps.

The NPS Director, Arno B. Cammerer asked George Grant, the chief photographer of the National Park Service to select photos from artists that could be used as designs and engraving for ten stamps.

It was decided that ten parks would be featured on stamps ranging from one cent to ten cents. They were Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Mount Rainier, Mesa Verde, Yellowstone, Crater Lake, Acadia, Zion, Glacier, and the Great Smoky Mountains. There were a lot of photos to be looked at and decided upon. It only took 6 months from the beginning discussion to the creation of the last stamp! Each stamp was one color and the color for each stamp was different and printing. The lettering was white. Six stamps were horizontal and four were vertical. All of the engravings were done by the Bureau of Engraving.

The ten-cent Great Smoky Mountains stamp was the first US stamp designed by a woman (Esther Richards). A special one-sheet of the ten-cent Great Smoky Mountains stamp went on sale in Asheville, NC in 1937.

Class Activities:

Research national parks. Pretend the rest of the class is Congress and you have to convince them to financially support your favorite park.

Create a brochure of your favorite park. Include facts and pictures.

What other parks should be featured on a stamp and why?

Design a stamp for another national park.

Ref:

Original photo by Pat Hensley

<https://www.whitehousehistory.org/stamps-parks-and-a-president>

<https://www.mysticstamp.com/Products/United-States/749/USA/>

Philatelic Facts



“**Intaglio printing**” is the term used to describe a form of postage stamp production in which the design is engraved on steel in mirror image and in the same size as the finished stamp. “Intaglio” is an Italian word meaning “engraved”. Once an image is engraved on a die, it is transferred to a printing plate where the engraved area is inked and the surface wiped so that ink remains only in the recesses.

When paper is pressed into the engraved area, it pulls the ink out and deposits it on the paper in relief, forming ridges and raised dots. The richness and intensity of the color is determined by the depth of the engraved area. The deeper it is, the more ink is pulled out onto the paper and the thicker it is deposited.

An Overlooked Letter Reveals Family History

Dan Maddalino

Many years ago, when my father-in-law passed, my wife and I inherited several picture postcards and letters from his family and friends. Many were from international locations, dating from 1881 to 1934. These were all put away for another day. Time passes.

I recently revisited a few of these covers and decided, very carefully, to remove the letters inside. One letter contained family history that was unknown to us. We learned that my wife's Uncle Harry had served in the U.S. Army during World War I. Shown here is that cover and letter dated March 28, 1919¹.

The cover is quite fragile and faded. It has a single margin straight edge CANAL/ZONE overprinted stamp. Since I am not familiar with Panama Canal Zone postage, I had to stop and look it up. It is Scott design A11, #39, Type I, 2¢ vermilion & black stamp with CANAL/ZONE reading up. It enjoyed a long run, having been issued December 1912, and not replaced until August 1920².

Aside from the sender's name, Frank Gordon, the sender's information is hard to read. There is no back receiving mark. However, the addressee is very familiar: Mr. Harry F. Snyder, 427 Park Avenue, Vineland, N.J. This was one of my wife's uncles, who was the fourth of eight children of her Grandparents, Charles and Sarah Ann Snyder. Harry would go on to become a well-respected Methodist Minister. This letter was written to Harry by fellow WWI soldier, Frank Gordon, shortly after Harry returned home from his military service.

Harry was an American Doughboy assigned to the U.S. Army's 33rd Infantry Regiment. The 33rd was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone to protect the canals infrastructure during the war.

Frank Gordon writes very lightheartedly and discusses life at Camp Garland, C.Z. In his five-page letter he talks of long marches, climbing the nearby mountain peaks, grumbles about the food and speaks of the heat and bugs. He catches Harry up on soldier transfers and promotions. He said, "hundreds of fools have reenlisted!" Frank also humorously cries out, "I want to come home!", and "I'm just marking my time with the rest of the *Coffee Coolies*" *, as they called themselves.



The 33rd Infantry (Machine Gun) Regiment was activated July 6, 1916³ as a new regiment. They joined the 5th Infantry Regiment and the 10th Infantry Regiment, both already on duty in the Canal Zone. For the next four years the 33rd was also assigned to explore and map the Panamanian jungles and to train new recruits in jungle warfare. The U.S. Army 33rd Infantry Regiment continued its service through World War II and Vietnam.

Collectors of Postal History can often thumb past the old and tattered general correspondence covers. However, these simple envelopes from far-away places, or across the county, may hold keys to a family heritage.

* “Coffee Coolies” was slang for Chinese emigrants working the coffee plantations

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1. *Family possession of the Author*
 2. *Housemen, Donna, Editor; (2020) Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers. Amos Media. Sidney, Ohio.*
 3. *This article incorporates public domain material from websites and documents from the United States Army Center of Military History*



On September 10th, the Florida Stamp Dealers Association will hold its Central Florida Stamp Show at the Maitland Civic Center in Maitland, Florida, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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.

Round-the-World

Michael Swope



Featured above is the Smithsonian Institution's 50th anniversary cover, commemorating the first "Round-the-World" Flight that occurred from April 6 to September 28, 1924. The cacheted cover is affixed with the 1972 National Parks Centennial, 15¢ Mount McKinley (Scott #1454) and the, 1971, 11¢ Silhouette of Jet Airliner (Scott #C78) stamps. The cover was postmarked at Sea-Tac (Seattle-Tacoma International Airport) on April 6, 1974. On the back of the cover: "This cacheted cover was flown around the world by the courtesy of Pan American World Airways."

The Douglas Aircraft Company was commissioned by the Army Air Service to build an experimental aircraft to attempt the first round-the-world flight. The result was a wood and fabric biplane, 36 feet long, 50 feet wing span, and 8,000-pound gross weight. Four aircraft were built – named, "Seattle", "Chicago", "Boston", and "New Orleans" and referred to as the "Douglas World Cruisers". None of the aircraft had a radio, navigational aid, nor weather forecasting equipment. The only instruments were a compass, altimeter, and turn/bank indicator.

On April 30, 1924, the "Seattle" crashed at Chignik, Alaska, due to engine failure. The pilot and co-pilot were uninjured, but stranded for several days. The "Boston" lost oil pressure and was forced to land in the Faroe Islands. It was replaced by the original proto-type which became "Boston II" at Pictou, Nova Scotia. The three planes continued a triumphal journey around the world, landing safely back in Seattle on September 28th. It took 175 days and 371 hours of flying time to travel the 27,553-mile flight.

*Ref: Cover from Authors Collection
Flight Details from Cover Insert*