

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB

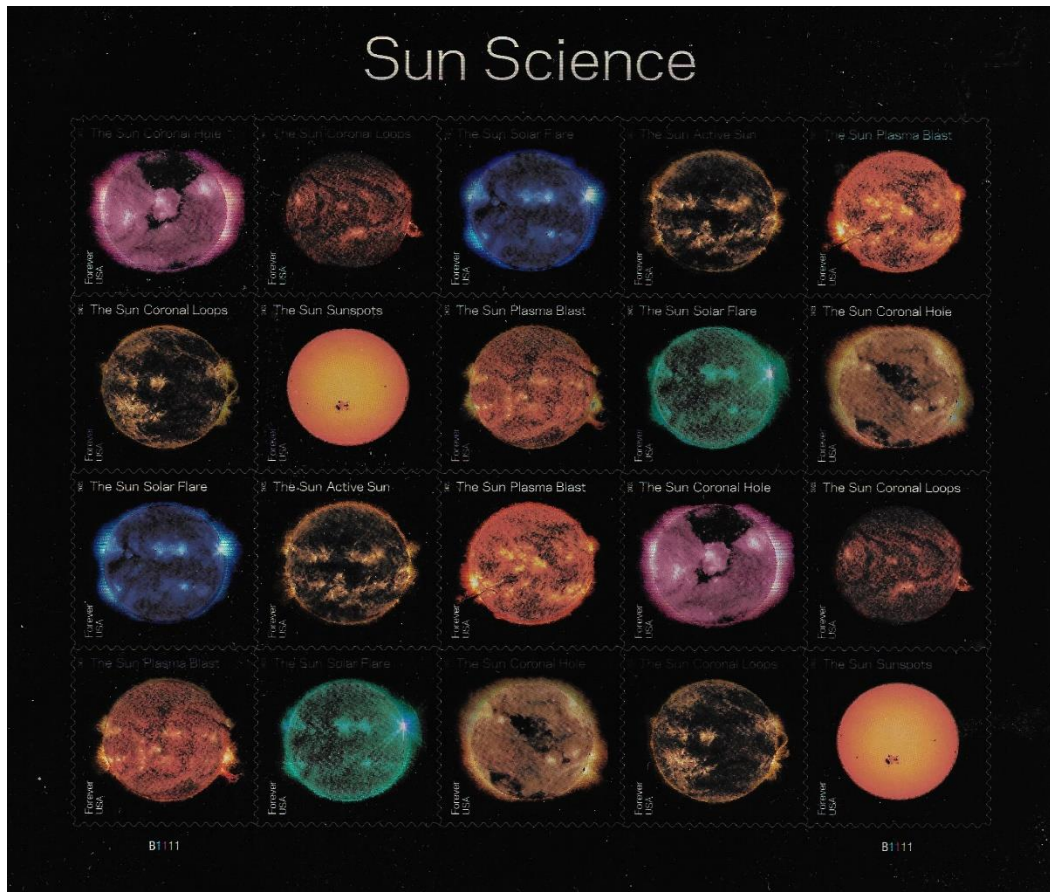
NOVEMBER 2021

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**APS CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB RECRUITING TIP FOR NOVEMBER:
BE A MENTOR TO A NEW CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB MEMBER OR
CLUB VISITOR. HELP THEM LEARN THEIR WAY AROUND.**

CLUB MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARDS! SEE PAGES 2 AND 7

THIS MONTHS FEATURED ARTICLE



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CHOSEN, FLORIDA by DAN MADDALINO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with extreme sadness that we must announce the passing of a great friend, fellow stamp club member, and for many years, our Club Secretary, Mickey Panzer. His philatelic expertise, willingness to share, and that great smile will be greatly missed.



FloridaStampShows.com

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



BOB BURR has his article *United States Savings Stamps* (September 2019 Crethaven Stamp Club News and 2019 GOLD Article of Distinction winner) featured in the October 25 edition of the weekly **APS News**. More Crethaven Stamp Club member recognition! Congratulations BOB!!

CRETHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS,
November 2021, page 2

INFORMATION YOU NEED

2021 IMPORTANT CLUB CONTACTS

PRESIDENT: BOB BURR
561-267-1903

VICE PRESIDENT: JUAN
RIERA at meeting

SECRETARY: RICHARD
KAYE at meeting

TREASURER: HARRY
CLIFFORD at meeting

WEBMASTER: MICHAEL
SWOPE via
crethavenstamp.club

MEETINGS 2nd & 4th
TUESDAYS

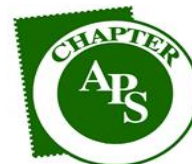
**ALL MEETINGS
1 PM – 3 PM**

**2605 Barkley Drive West,
West Palm Beach, FL**

**FULL SCHEDULE AT
Crethavenstamp.club**

ARTICLE & NEWS SUBMISSION

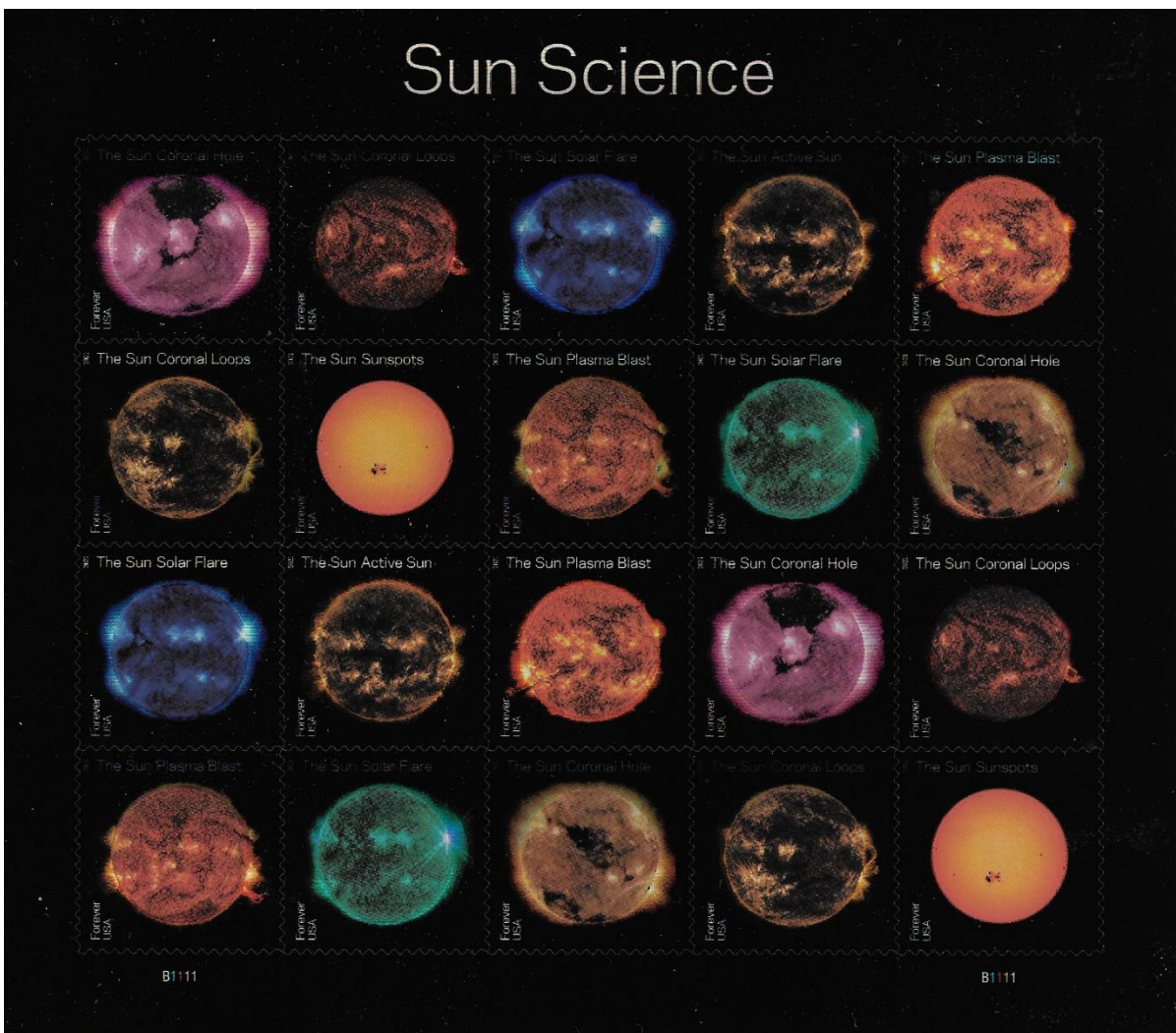
- **CALL or EMAIL US:**
You may call me at
561.758.6497.
**Please leave a
message!** Thanks,
Dan.
- **EMAIL:**
dmaddalino@aol.com



SUN SCIENCE

DAN MADDALINO

Wow, the new stuff I continue to learn from stamp collecting – and at any age! My new word this week is Flexography. It is defined¹ as a high-speed, flexible, rotary relief printing method, using rubber or plastic plates, and fluid ink or dies, for printing on plastic, metallic films, cellophane, and paper. Die cutting can be integrated into the process as well. The sheet of stamps shown here, and released this summer by the USPS, is a fantastic example of flexography printing.



Set of 20 (10 different) images of our star, the Sun, captured by a NASA satellite.

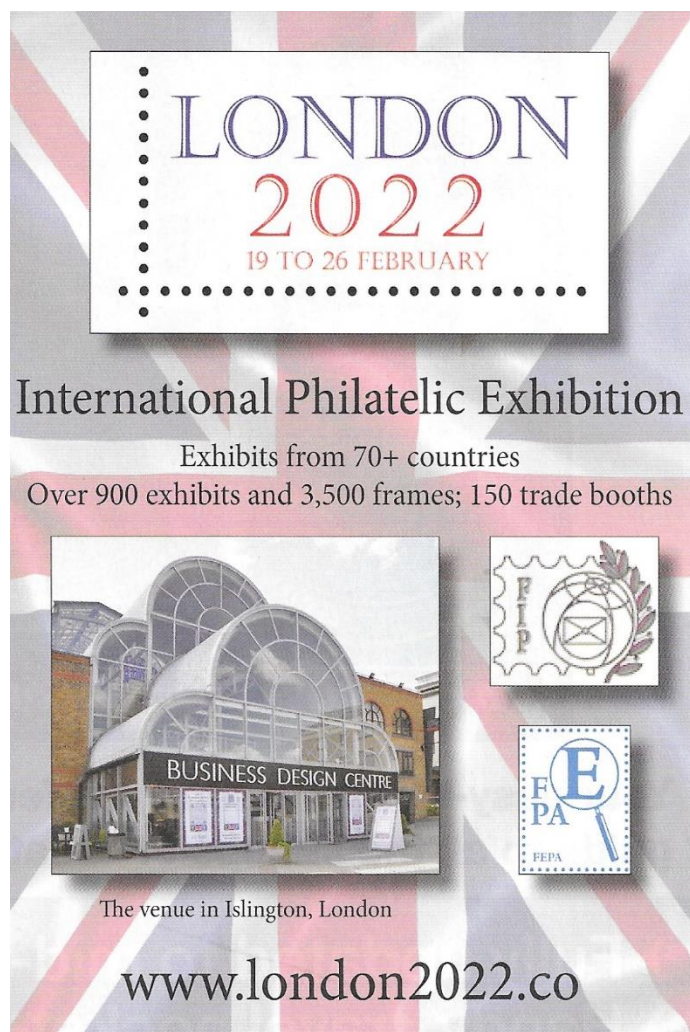
The Sun Science set features digital photos taken by the Solar Dynamics Observatory, which has been in Earth orbit since 2010. Printed by Flexography, these images were taken using ultra-violet wavelengths, creating dramatic sparkling illustrations of some of the Sun's magnificent phases.

Two of the stamps show the coronal loops. These are arcs of glowing ionized gas that can stretch thousands of miles into space. Two other stamps illustrate coronal holes. These are patches of the sun's surface that appear cooler than their molten surroundings. Another two stamps present solar flares. Intense bursts of radiation covering the whole electromagnetic spectrum flare out from the Sun's surface. The most recognizable images are of the sunspots. Shown on these two stamps as dark 'spots' floating across the Sun's surface. The remaining image illustrations show an active sun. Although the sun is never inactive, its violent surface goes through 11-year cycles where it appears a bit less active.

Printed by the Banknote Corporation of America, this sheet of stamps will bring light to your album. Grab some sunshine!

Selected Sources:

1. Internet: www.starlab.com
2. STAMP, My Time Media, Edenbridge, England. August 2021
3. Internet; www.stampmagazine.co.uk



FROM THE PUBLISHER ...

DAN MADDALINO dmaddalino@aol.com



BE A MENTOR TO A NEW CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB MEMBER OR CLUB VISITOR. HELP THEM LEARN THEIR WAY AROUND.

Is there any stamp you wouldn't buy, even if you could afford it? Actually, I can think of a few. But one stands out the most: The British Guiana 1856 one cent black on magenta (used). At US\$8,307,000 it is the most expensive single postage stamp in existence. It is valued thus because of two primary reasons. First, it is one of a kind. Unique. Second, because it has had the privilege of a myth-like reputation spun up around it. Some philatelists believe it is a fake. Well, Stanley Gibbons of London, England (you know, that financially troubled stamp company that has fought off bankruptcy for many years) has recently acquired it. So, what do they do with it? They could lock it away in a bank for years to come, just like its previous owner, or they could show it off. This stamp is made from cheap paper and has dried out over the past 165 years. Handling it could destroy it. However, Stanley Gibbons sees it as a marketing tool. It has and will continue to draw world-wide publicity. But that can only happen if the public can stop by and gaze upon this small attraction. To place it on display, Stanley Gibbons has spent another US\$41,700 in building a bulletproof case in their London shop. Will I stop by and look at it? Of course, but it has proven to be more work and worry than pleasure. Next time it comes on the market, I'll pass yet again.

It is important to note that although the British Guiana 1856 one cent black on magenta stamp may be the most expensive single stamp, it is not the most expensive philatelic item. That honor goes to an invitation to a fancy ball cover dated September 27, 1847. At US\$9,638,650, this stamped cover is one of only three "ball covers" surviving from the first Mauritius postage issue of September 20, 1847. Covers are easier to pass around at club meetings than single stamps. Now you have my attention!



Philatelic Memorabilia

Photochrom

By Michael Swope



Shown is a "Photochrom Letter Card", Published by the Photochrom Co., Ltd., London. It is postmarked "U.S. Army Postal Service, APO, March 14, 1944", and tied to Scott #C25, 6¢ airmail stamp. It is also marked "Passed by U. S. Army Examiner".

This souvenir letter card contains six photos of points of interest in London, including Trafalgar Square, Whitehall, and London Guards, among others. Mail from U.S. military personnel to family during WWII was subject to inspection.

Close examination of the six photos will reveal very faint colorization.

The photochrom process

was developed in 1895 and involves over-printing black and white photos with multi-color lithography.

Ref: britishmuseum.



STAMP CLUB NEWS



CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB MEMBERS WIN AWARDS

Club Vice President JUAN RIERA has won the following literary awards at the 2021 CESCAL National Philatelic Exposition:

LARGE SILVER: *Key West - Pioneering Center of Aviation Postal History, Parts I and II.* Published in the January 2019 issue of the Florida Postal History Journal (Part I) and in the May 2019 issue (Part II).

SILVER: *Arch Creek – Early South Florida Settlement.* Published in the Florida Postal History Journal, May 2019.

Club Webmaster MICHAEL SWOPE has announced that the APS has presented our website with the **2021 STAR ROUTE LARGE VERMEIL AWARD**. Congratulations Michael and thanks for all the work you have put into the site!

ATTENTION ALL CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB MEMNERS:

Your 2022 annual dues deadline is approaching. ALL memberships expire on December 31, so please pay prior to that date. See Bob Burr or Harry Clifford to secure your place in 2022, Cash only, no checks. Thank you.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND: Our annual Stamp Club Luncheon and presentation of the 2021 Articles of Distinction awards will be held on January 25, 2022. More information forthcoming.

NOMINEES FOR THE 2021 CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS ARTICLES OF DISTINCTION

Listed in order of publication:

COPLEY PLAZA (MARCH)

(NOT) AIRMAIL (APRIL)

LACE MAKING (APRIL)

MY ENVELOPE (MAY)

OATH OF OFFICE (JULY)

CONFEDERATE FACSIMILES (AUGUST)

GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE (AUGUST)

A USS MACON COVER STORY (SEPTEMBER)

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY (OCTOBER)

VOTING DURING DECEMBER 14 MEETING

PAST GOLD AWARD WINNING ARTICLES

2015 – LST GOES TO WAR (ROBERT BURR)

2016 – A JAPANESE ARTIST (BETTY BRODIE)

2017 – NORMAN ROCKWELL (BETTY BRODIE)

2018 – 1st ALL-UNION PHILATEIC EXHIBITION, MOSCOW 1932, AND
ITS SOUVENIRS (YURY VATKIN)

2019 – UNITED STATES SAVINGS STAMPS (ROBERT BURR)

2020 – THE SHORT STORY OF THE GODDESS KANNON STAMP (YURY
VATKIN)

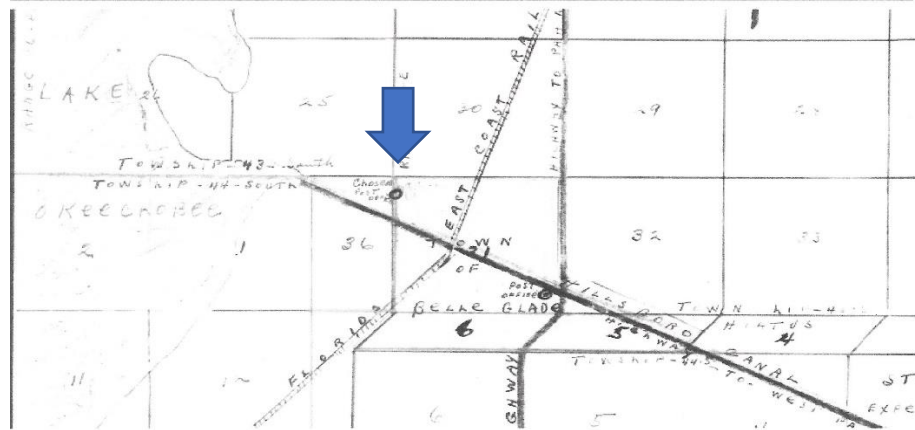
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**A POST OFFICE WITHOUT A TOWN
CHOSEN, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
DAN MADDALINO**

In the far western reaches of Palm Beach County, Florida there is a small agricultural field that produces Belle Glade Sweet Corn in season. The remainder of the year this field is left fallow. In this field there currently stands a small marker identifying the center of a town once called Chosen. This marker is on private property just 300 feet north of the Hillsboro Canal (see Note 1 at end), and 900 feet west of the Florida East Coast Railway tracts. One-hundred feet north of the canal is where the Chosen Post Office once stood (Figure 1). But everything, except this small marker, is gone now. Stop and speak to the old-time residents in the neighboring town of Belle Glade and they will tell you of a once-thriving community of about 900 residents. They were called The Brethren. They all vanished on the night of September 17, 1928, when the Great Palm Beach Hurricane washed away all of its structures and killed nearly all but a dozen of The Brethren. Chosen was declared “Dead”, frequently recorded as a Ghost Town beginning on that September night.

Figure 1: Location of “Chosen Post Office” from a Post Office application



Lake Okeechobee to the left. Belle Glade to the right.
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The Chosen Post Office was established March 30, 1921 and served Star Route 230205. The post office was set up in a rectory for the Church of The Brethren, with Isaac Wilson West (1886-1977) as its first (and only) Postmaster (see Note 2 at end).

Mr. West was one of a very few Brethren to survive the hurricane and vowed to rebuild. Weeks after the storm the rectory was located three miles to the east of its foundation, and in one piece. With help, he brought the building back to its foundation with the hope to reorganize the Church once again. However, the surviving church members decided to move out of the glades, and some resettled in West Palm Beach, Delray Beach, and Miami. Mr. West was not deterred. He had a rectory/post office and local supporters. Using his post office as an evangelistic tool, he communicated with Brethren communities across the nation. Chosen never was rebuilt, but Mr. West ran his post office without a town for another 27 years, retiring at age 69. He died at 91 years in Belle Glade, having sold the Chosen property to a local farmer.

In December of 1955, Mr. West informed the U.S. First Assistant Postmaster that his post office would close. He picked December 12 to clear out his desk. Below (Figures 2 and 3) is one of the last pieces of mail to leave Chosen. The front shows an old hand stamp with the date the post office closed (December 12, 1955). The reverse shows the three hand stamps he used for the 34 years as Postmaster. The U.S. Post Office Department recorded the closure of the Chosen Post Office as December 31, 1955.

As of this writing, the corn field where the town and post office of Chosen stood has been incorporated into the City of Belle Glade and sold to developers. The property is now zoned to be developed for housing projects.

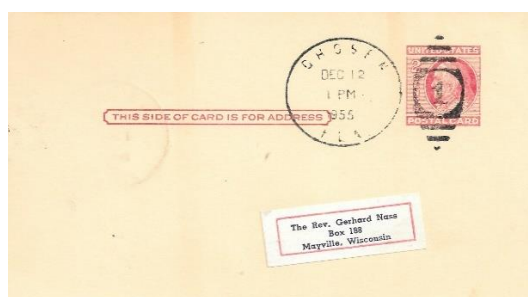


Figure 2: Last Day for Chosen PO
December 12, 1955

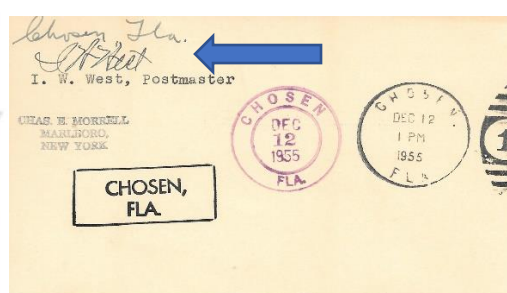


Figure 3: Cancelling devices
with signature of Isaac W. West

Note 1: Hillsboro was the name of the small community just east of Chosen. Hillsboro changed its name to Belle Glade just prior to becoming an incorporated town. Hillsboro never had a post office.

Note 2: *Florida Post Offices* by John S. Gallagher has misspelled the name of Chosen's first/only postmaster. Gallagher records him as Isaac V. Vest. As verified by the following obituary, his name was Isaac Wilson West.

ISAAC WILSON WEST

Age 91 of 1601 West Canal St., North, Belle Glade, died Thursday. A native of Virginia, resident of Belle Glade since 1920. Retired Postmaster and merchant. A member of the Church of the Brethren.

He is survived by one son, George West, Belle Glade; two daughters: Margaret West, Belle Glade, Ruth West, Chicago, Illinois; three brothers, Rev. Russel West, Moorepark, California, Rev. Guy West, Bridgewater, Virginia, Levi J. West, Stuart, Virginia; two sisters, Mrs. Lester Wood, Ridgeway, Virginia, Mrs. Early Harris, Stuart, Virginia.

Services will be Saturday, 10 a.m. at the Community United Methodist Church, Belle Glade, Reverend Guldmar Blair officiating. Graveside services will be 2 p.m. Saturday at Pinecrest Cemetery, Sebring, Florida. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may contribute to the Christian Scholarship Fund of the Community United Methodist Church of Belle Glade. Wetherington Funeral Home, Pahokee, in charge of arrangements.

7. miles, in a direction from the site of this proposed office.
 (N., S., E., or W.)

Post office not on the same route as this proposed post office is
 Pittman

8. miles, by the traveled road, in a direction from the site of this proposed office.
 (N., S., E., or W.)

Post office would be on the side of the Railroad.
 (N., S., E., or W.)

..... from the track. The railroad station name is

9. air-line distance from the nearest point of my
 (N., S., E., or W.)

Signature of Applicant for Postmaster: *Isaac W. West*

Date: *Dec. 17, 1920*

-6001

Signature of "Isaac W. West" on the original application for the post office at Chosen. Dated December 17, 1920

Principle Sources

1. Post card from the authors collection
2. www.ghosttowns.com/state/fl/chosen
3. www.catalog.archives.gov/id/68266287, Microcopy 1126, Roll 96
4. www.pbchistory.blogspot.com/2016/07/the-short-life-and-sudden-end-of-gods-chosen-city
5. www.pbchistoryonline.org/page/chosen
6. www.jacquithurlowlippisch.com/tag/chosen-florida
7. www.findagrave.com; Memorial 27329743
8. The Palm Beach Post, Friday, May 13, 1977, page 41
9. Authors personal interviews with residents of Belle Glade, Florida

□

FLORIDA POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

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CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS START AT 1:00 PM

WE MEET: 2605 Barkley Drive West, West Palm Beach, FL

JANUARY 11 MEMBERS MEETING
JANUARY 25 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

JULY 12 MEMBERS MEETING
JULY 26 TRADING SESSION

FEBRUARY 8 MEMBERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 22 TRADING SESSION

AUGUST 9 MEMBERS MEETING
AUGUST 23 TRADING SESSION

MARCH 8 MEMBERS MEETING
MARCH STAMP SHOW
MARCH 22 TRADING SESSION

SEPTEMBER 13 MEMBERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27 TRADING SESSION

APRIL 12 MEMBERS MEETING
APRIL 26 TRADING SESSION

OCTOBER 11 MEMBERS MEETING
OCTOBER STAMP SHOW
OCTOBER 25 TRADING SESSION

MAY 10 MEMBERS MEETING
MAY 24 TRADING SESSION

NOVEMBER 8 MEMBERS MEETING
NOVEMBER 22 TRADING SESSION

JUNE 14 MEMBERS MEETING
JUNE 28 TRADING SESSION

DECEMBER 13 MEMBERS MEETING
DECEMBER 27 TRADING SESSION

PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB

FOUNDED 1970

Cresthavenstamp.club

PHILATELIC AUCTION AT EVERY MEETING