

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



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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**DECEMBER
2020**

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THANK YOU, READERS, FOR
ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!



1970 – 2020

APS CHAPTER #923

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From the Publisher...

Dan Maddalino

This issue we welcome an important Guest Contributor; **Juan Riera**. Mr. Riera is currently the Vice President of the Florida Postal History Society and an experienced philatelic researcher and writer. His article, Samsula, introduces us to a small slice of rural Florida which once had a very small and obscure post office. When you read it you'll see where this story leads you. Good hunting!

After you've walked eight days on the British Inland Mail of Madagascar route (page 7) take a break as **Pat Hensley** reviews the introduction of US fractional denomination postage stamps. **Bob Burr** then invites you to Nagaland (page 10).

The 2020 Cresthaven Stamp Club News **Article of Distinction Nominees** have been announced and voting takes place on December 8. Take the time to look back and reacquaint yourself with these super works from your fellow club members.

If you are returning this season from out of State, please feel safe to participate in your stamp club meetings and activities. The "shut-down" was abrupt, but the return to activities as usual has been haphazard. However, feel free to return and re-engage. Bring your new album additions and share your trophies with us. FACE MASKS are still required by county law.

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS
December 2020, Page 2

THE ELECTION OF YOUR 2021 CLUB OFFICERS WILL BE HELD AT THE DECEMBER 8 CLUB MEETING.

**OPEN ARE: PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
TREASURE**



FloridaStampShows.com

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



THE 2021 ANNUAL CLUB HOLIDAY LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD JANUARY 26 IN THE BARKELY AUDITORIUM

EACH MEMBER IS ENCOURAGED TO BRING ONE GUEST

2020 ARTICLES OF DISTINCTION TO BE AWARDED

2021 WEST PALM BEACH STAMP AND POST CARD SHOW AND SALE WILL BE HELD MARCH 20 IN THE BARKLEY AUDITORIUM

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

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
OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO



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

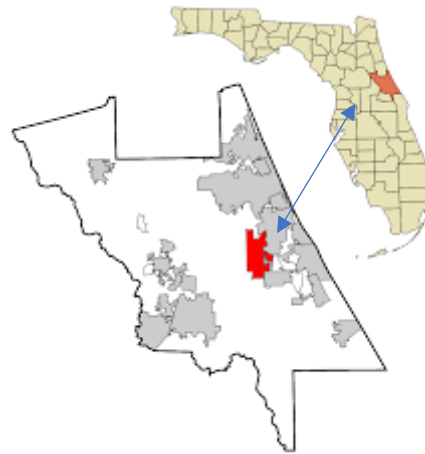


SAMSULA, FLORIDA

JUAN RIERA

[Editor note: *The study of Postal History usually begins with a cover in hand. However, in the case of tiny Samsula, Florida, with decades of declining population and a post office now closed for 84 years, covers are scarce. Philatelists know that rare stamps, covers and cards usually show up from obscure places, and usually only after people find that their keepsake is being sought. Juan is providing the call. Let the hunt begin.*]

Samsula is a rural agricultural area located about ten miles west of I-95, and about 15 miles west of New Smyrna Beach and Port Orange, Florida with an interesting past. It is not incorporated as a municipality, but rather a census-designated place in Volusia county as Samsula-Spruce Creek. In the 2010 census the total population was 5,047 in the 17.4 square miles designated in this area.



The land developed for farming was originally purchased and platted by an agency out of Chicago known as Howe and Currier. Around 1909, Eugene C. Howe and George H. Currier of Chicago, Illinois, purchased 35,000 acres of land west of New Smyrna (it would become New Smyrna Beach in about 1950) from the Bond Lumber Company. The 10-acre plats surveyed formed the basis of several communities: Indian Springs, Alamana (near Lake Ashby), and eventually Samsula. Howe & Currier set up shop in New Smyrna with a Mr. Leidesdorff as agent and then began advertising land for sale.

THE WASHINGTON HERALD MARKET, FEBRUARY 6, 1913

A Money-Producing Farm

IN SUNNY FLORIDA

FOR ABOUT 2 CENTS A DAY PER ACRE

Think of It! A 10-Acre Florida Farm of Your Own and Independence for Life for Practically 17 Cents a Day

Here's a Safe, Lifetime Investment for Any Sum You Have Saved or May Save

Invest your money in a safe, sure, and profitable way. Buy a 10-acre Florida farm. It will produce you a steady income of about 2 cents a day per acre. It will also give you a home for your family. It will also give you a home for your family. It will also give you a home for your family.

Everybody Who Owns Florida Farms Should Make Big Money

Florida land is undeveloped. It is producing but a small amount of money per acre. It is undeveloped. It is producing but a small amount of money per acre. It is undeveloped. It is producing but a small amount of money per acre.

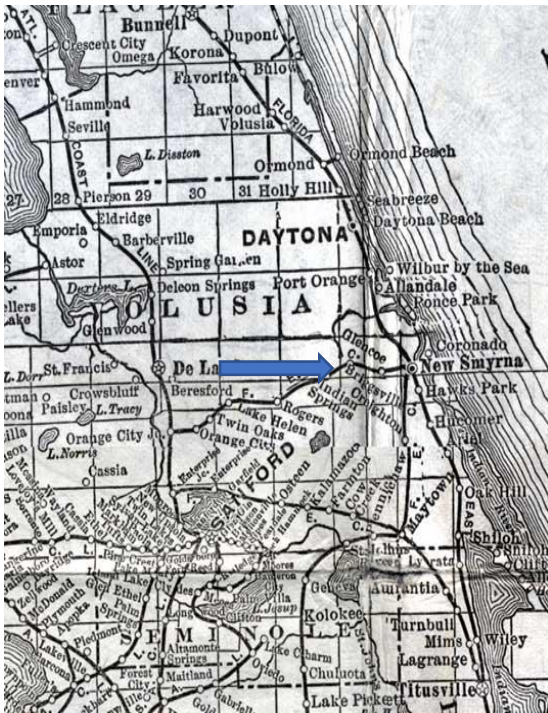
This Book is Free

HOWE & CURRIER, 795 Hartford Building, Chicago, Ill.



★ Designed by TownMapsUSA.com

Beginning in the teens, new residents began arriving in Briggsville, as Samsula was then known. Among these new settlers were many Slovenian immigrants, lured by the promise of land ownership and an independent business in farming. The Samsula Packing House,



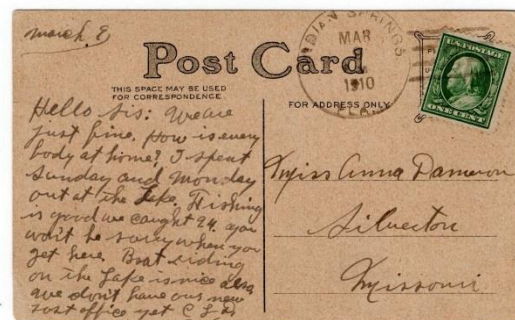
originally constructed on a spur of the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway, was an early farm cooperative. Produce left Samsula for destinations all up the eastern seaboard. The rail line between Orange City and New Smyrna was discontinued at some point after 1932, as the FEC had gone into receivership due to the great Depression. The Transportation of Produce continued via trucks, though more and more farmers turned to local markets. Originally the area had been served by the Atlantic and Western Railroad, also known as the Blue Spring, Orange City, and Atlantic Railroad Company, which ran only one train in the 1880s. W.H. Newell came to New Smyrna in 1887 and worked as a conductor on the railroad for 13 years and recounts his recollections in a newspaper article in the November 21st, 1930, issue of the New Smyrna Daily News. The FEC acquired the line in 1896.

Briggsville 1922

Peppers were a popular crop in the Florida climate from the early days in Samsula throughout the 20th century. Peppers thrive in the Florida heat, but are vulnerable to excess rainfall- an entire crop can be destroyed if water sits in the furrows for a few days. After World War II, returning veterans were offered an opportunity to attend vocational agricultural school, among other VA benefits.

Samsula civic organizations include two noteworthy members: SNPJ Lodge 603, which stands for Slovenska Norodna Podporna Jednota (or in English- Slovene National Benefit Society). The Samsula Lodge was the 1st organized in the southeastern United States, in 1926. The Lodge Hall was built in 1940. The Samsula Women's Club was chartered in 1949 and is associated with the SNPJ Lodge.

After the entire settlement, including its hotel and post office at adjacent Indian Springs, burned in January 1931, the mail was redirected to Samsula and merged into a wooden two-story structure at the intersection of Samsula Drive and the railroad. The Samsula Post Office remained in service until September 30, 1936, after the FEC spur transporting their mail was discontinued.



Indian Springs 1910

According to the United States Postal Service website (screenshot on June 15th, 2019), when service at the Samsula Post Office was discontinued, the mail was forwarded to New Smyrna. The website also lists the following postmasters and appointment dates:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Appointed</u>
Nellie F. Wildasin	Postmaster	9/19/1919
Mrs. Blanche B. Boynton	Postmaster	2/03/1925
Elmer K. Boone	Postmaster	6/04/1927
Agnes M. Terry	Acting Postmaster	10/01/1928
Victor W. Wiechmann	Acting Postmaster	7/02/1929
Victor W. Wiechmann	Postmaster	1/02/1930
Mrs. Leona E. Boone	Postmaster	12/04/1930
Carl Herbert Langford	Acting Postmaster	8/30/1933
Mrs. Anna Mae Myers	Acting Postmaster	1/01/1934
Mrs. Anna Mae Myers	Postmaster	2/20/1934

Post Office Closed September 30, 1936

Currently the Samsula zip code is 32128- the same as Port Orange

[EDITOR: NOW IT IS YOUR TURN: FIND A SAMSULA COVER]

PRINCIPLE SOURCES

1. Internet: www.orlandosentinel.com
2. Internet: [www.nieworld.com/special projects/floridaquest](http://www.nieworld.com/special/projects/floridaquest)
3. Internet: www.samsulahistory.net
4. Internet: www.fcit.usf.edu/florida/maps/10700/10780
5. Gallagher, John S., Florida Post Offices, The Depot, Lake Grove, OR. 1997

1910 Indian Springs, Florida post card from the collection of the author.

□

United Postal Stationery Society



*A Society of Philatelists devoted to the collection, research, and promotion of
World-Wide Postal Stationery*

BRITISH INLAND MAIL MADAGASCAR JANUARY 1895 – SEPTEMBER 1895 DAN MADDALINO

Throughout the 19th century, the British laid claim to Zanzibar (including the east coast of Africa) and the French laid claim to Madagascar. However, both locations were colonized by both nationalities. Because France wanted total control over Madagascar (and its valuable resources) there were frequent conflicts between Great Britain and France. France often placed naval blockades on the British controlled ports in Madagascar, causing disruptions in trade and the movement of mail.

Due to these frequent disruptions of mail service to and from England, British interests established their own postal service. During the final hostilities with France, called “The War of Occupation”, the British residents ran an inland postal service using special stamps (see below) between January and September 1895. This was not an official service of the British Postal Service. However, although it was an arduous process, it did the job.



SG# 57

SG# 58

SG# 59

Voamena translates to Two Pence. Roavoamena means Four Pence, etc.



SG# 60

SG#61

SG# 62

These stamps were printed by John Haddon & Co., London, England and the postal rate was set at 2d per half ounce. They were used on both letters and parcels.

Mail traveling to London had to travel by boat from Madagascar to Mauritius, sail north to India, then through Suez and on to Great Britain. Normal transit time was 35 days one way. During times of British/French conflict the same mail would take from 8 to 10 months one way! To add additional hassles, the post offices on Madagascar were in the French controlled ports and required the use of French colonial postage, something that was hard to come by if you were British. British ingenuity had to be applied. Thus, the birth of the British Inland Mail of Madagascar.

During this particularly harsh blockade period (January to September 1895), the British Consulate in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, planned with the French Colonial Postmaster at Tamatave on the eastern shore of Madagascar to accept the mail from the British residents. A runner service was organized between Tananarive, a British settlement in the interior, and Tamatave via Antananarivo. From there it was forwarded to Port Vatomandri and on to Port Durban, Natal (now part of South Africa). Next stop was India, then the Suez transit, and finally London. However, leave it to the British to make this process even more complicated.

At Tananarive a runner would be given an unfranked envelope and one shilling (12 pence). The runner would then walk two days through jungles and over mountains to Antananarivo to give the British Vice-Consul the letter and the shilling. The Vice-Consul would then pay the runner 2d (from the shilling). Then the Vice-Consul would attach a 4d British Inland Mail stamp (see illustrations above) to the letter, keeping the 4d. Now the important step: The stamp would only be attached by one of its top corners for easy removal. The letter goes into a Consulate Bag and is transferred by another runner to (French) Tamatave, where the 4d Inland Mail stamp was then removed! These stamps were not recognized by any official postal agency, and thus were forbidden to frank any mail. The trip from Antananarivo to Tamatave took five days one way on foot! The runner is paid 2d from the 6d remaining. This leaves 4d to pay for the 2d Natal postage stamp and the 2d ship rate to England via Port Durban, Natal. Got all that? Good!

This entire unofficial postal system came to a halt in September 1895 with a treaty between France and Great Britain where France gave up all claims for Zanzibar and the east coast of Africa, and Great Britain gave up all claims to Madagascar. French stamps immediately replaced the British Inland Mail of Madagascar.

PRIMARY SOURCES:

1. British Consular Mail in Madagascar; The London Philatelist, Volume 92, page 26; The Royal Philatelic Society, London, England. 1983
2. Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue, Indian Ocean, 3rd Edition; Stanley Gibbons, London, England; 2016
3. Internet: www.kmphilately.com/index

Stamps are from the collection of the author

FIRST US FRACTIONAL DENOMINATION

PAT HENSLEY

[Editor's note: *Although the US Mint ceased production of the US Half Cent in the 1850s, it was legal tender in the US until 1972. So, the appearance of a ½ cent and 1½ cents stamp was not that unusual, even in the first part of the 20th century.*]

The first fractional postage stamp in US history featured Warren G. Harding (Scott #553). This stamp was made necessary by a third-class postage rate change ordered by the Postal Service Act of February 28, 1925.



Scott #553

The Postal Service Act of 1925 raised the third-class postage rate from one cent to one and one half cent per ounce. Although this new stamp was used primarily on circulars, it was also used on “drop letter” unsealed invitations and Christmas cards. This was a savings of ½ cent per piece off the 2 cents first-class rate on these bulk volume mailings.

It was issued in sheet form from a rotary press as well as from flat plate presses. The initial demand for this stamp was exceptional and large quantities were needed quickly. Since the rotary press was faster, it became the method of choice. The rotary press printed out 6,000,000 stamps per day vs. the 1,600,000 stamps per day from the flat plate press.

Warren G. Harding was born on November 2, 1865, in Corsica, Ohio. After careers as a teacher, newspaper publisher, and state politics, he became a US Senator from Ohio in 1910. Harding was elected President of the US in 1921. He died in 1923.

[Editor's end note: *The Scott catalogue lists the one-half cent Nathan Hale stamp #551 before the Harding issue. However, the Hale stamp was printed and released later, making half-cent the second fractional stamp issue.*]



Scott #551
Issued after Scott #553

NAGALAND ILLEGAL STAMPS

Bob Burr

Civil strife in India in an area located between Assam and Burma resulted in the rebels calling their 'country' by the name Nagaland. No legitimate nation ever recognized this struggle for independence, which began soon after India became a nation in 1947 and extended central control over all regions. Open conflict occurred between 1956 until cease fire in 1964.

The British Philatelic Association has the opinion that the Rebels issued many "stamps" for political purposes only, and any Nagaland issues should be treated as Propaganda labels, or if desired, Civil War Propaganda labels.

The rebels claimed these stamps were valid for internal postage and frequently used by supporters for independence. It is possible that they were used secretly by supporters.

However, during the period of all these Nagaland issues, the Indian Post Office provided local and international service with stamps from India. Anyone known to support or use the Nagaland stamps would have been severely punished for disloyalty to India.

These stamps, shown below, were used for fund raising (I wonder for whom?) and are usually classified as Cinderella stamps.



2021 CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS

Guide for Authors of Article and Column Submissions

STYLE GUIDE: The Associated Press Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law 2017 (or later).

TECHNICAL INFORMATION: All material must be submitted in typed form. For special needs, please contact the Publisher/Content Editor.

PAPER COLOR: White

MARGINS: **No less than 1” all sides – This is critical**

FONT: Word processing – Arial (Recommended) or it will be converted
Typewriter – will be converted

FONT SIZE: Word processing – 12 point (Recommended) or it will be converted
Typewriter – will be converted

SPACING: Word processing – “No space”
Typewriter – Single space

TYPE COLOR: Black

GRAPHICS: Black and white or Multi-colored. PDF is better than jpeg.

ARTICLE AND COLUMN SIZE LIMITATIONS

Recommended length of an article should be one to four pages including graphics. Maximum length of a “column” (repeated entries) should be ½ page, or one page including graphics.

Exceptions are at the discretion of the Publisher/Content Editor.

SPECIAL NOTES

- 1. Authors are responsible for their work.**
- 2. Please avoid** using Wikipedia as your sole source of information. By its nature, Wikipedia is unreliable. When possible, check all information against reputable independent references.
- 3. Please remember to include** your references, primary sources, or a bibliography with each submission.
- 4. Remember** to credit your illustrations if not your property or “in the public domain”.
- 5. For questions or assistance please contact dmaddalino@aol.com**

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB NEWS NOMINEES FOR THE 2020 ARTICLE OF DISTINCTION AWARDS

AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED DURING THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
JANUARY 26, 2021

PRESENTED IN ORDER OF PUBLICATION:

ISSUE DATE	TITLE	AUTHOR
MARCH	SENATOR STAMPS	MICHAEL SWOPE
APRIL	GODDESS KANNON	YURY VATKIN
MAY	AMERICAN WOOL	PAT HENSLEY
SEPTEMBER	PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION AND ITS COLLECTABLES	ROBERT BURR
OCTOBER	MARC CHAGALL	BETTY BRODIE

CLUB MEMBER VOTING WILL BE DECEMBER 8, 2020

STAMP CLUB NEWS

FINAL NOTICE: ALL MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31. YOU MUST HAVE YOUR **\$15 DUES** FOR 2021 PAID BY THAT DATE IN ORDER TO NOT LOSE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS.

2021 MEETING SCHEDULE: You will find the 2021 meeting schedule in this issue of the News. Please retain a copy for your reference. It will also be posted on our website (www.cresthavenstamp.club).

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: ALAN TOHN, aka “The Cover Man.” He relocated to Lake Worth and is a collector-dealer in US and Worldwide covers!

JUAN RIERA, Vice President of the Florida Postal History Society. He resides in Miami and has been involved in the tourism industry and a prolific writer. Juan collects Florida and Cuban postal history postcards.

CRESTHAVEN STAMP CLUB

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL MEETINGS START AT 1:00 PM

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

JANUARY 12 MEMBERS MEETING
JANUARY 26 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

JULY 13 MEMBERS MEETING
JULY 27 TRADING SESSION

FEBRUARY 9 MEMBERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 23 TRADING SESSION

AUGUST 10 MEMBERS MEETING
AUGUST 24 TRADING SESSION

MARCH 9 MEMBERS MEETING
MARCH 20 STAMP/POSTCARD SHOW
MARCH 23 TRADING SESSION

SEPTEMBER 14 MEMBERS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28 TRADING SESSION

APRIL 13 MEMBERS MEETING
APRIL 27 TRADING SESSION

OCTOBER 12 MEMBERS MEETING
OCTOBER 26 TRADING SESSION

MAY 11 MEMBERS MEETING
MAY 25 TRADING SESSION

NOVEMBER 9 MEMBERS MEETING
NOVEMBER 23 TRADING SESSION

JUNE 8 MEMBERS MEETING
JUNE 22 TRADING SESSION

DECEMBER 14 MEMBERS MEETING
DECEMBER 28 TRADING SESSION

PALM BEACHES OLDEST AND FRIENDLIEST STAMP CLUB

FOUNDED 1970

Cresthavenstamp.club

PHILATELIC AUCTION AT EVERY MEETING