

Poway Stamp Club

NEWSLETTER



San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club

Aug 9, 2023

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Poway Stamp Club Goals

To promote a closer social relationship among stamp collectors of Poway, San Diego, and vicinity, and to assist in spreading the knowledge of stamps and the pleasures derived from stamp collecting to those interested in philately.

Contact Us

Poway Stamp Club
12675 Danielson Ct #413,
Poway, CA 92064

Club E-mail

PSCphilately@gmail.com

PSC Website:

Powaystampclub.com



Next Club Meetings

The Wednesday, **Aug 9th** program will be:

Steve Gill

“Precise measurements for stamp sales”

The meeting will begin with our regular Club business followed by the member presentation and a “Club Voice Sale.” Following the sale and show and tell, the meeting will progress with Member trading and socialization. This is an opportunity for all our members to sell or trade with one another their duplicate stamps.

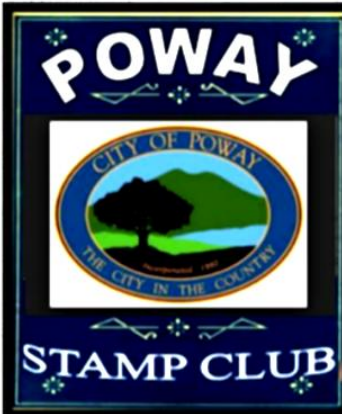
The Wednesday, **Aug 23rd** Program will be a philatelic presentation by:

Bob MacLachlan from I-Hobb
plus

A Voice Sale & Member Trading

The meeting will begin with our regular Club business followed by the member presentation and a “Club Voice Sale.” Following the sale and show and tell, the meeting will progress with Member trading and socialization. Members are encouraged to bring in stamps and other items for sale or trade with other club members. This is an opportunity for all our members to sell or trade with one another their duplicate stamps.

Meeting time: The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 PM.
Meeting Place: 12675 Danielson Court, Suite #413 (in the back of the business complex), Poway, California 92064.



Poway Stamp Club

2023-24 Club Meeting Schedule/Presentations:

The following is this year's meeting schedule; all events are proposed and subject to change as necessary to accommodate other events such as Auctions.

August	Aug	9, 2023	Steve Gill - Presentation
	Aug	23, 2023	Bob MacLachlan -Presentation
September	Sep	13, 2023	Eric Nilson- Presentation
	Sep	27, 2023	Member Voice Sale
October	Oct	11, 2023	Ron Couchot - Beacon
	Oct	25, 2023	Ugly Stamp Contest
November	Nov	8, 2023	Steve Gill - Presentation
	Nov	22, 2023	No Meeting
December	Dec	13, 2023	Holiday Dinner
	Dec	--	No Meeting
January	Jan	10, 2024	Club Elections
	Jan	24, 2024	TBD – Presentation
February	Feb	14, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Feb	28, 2024	TBD – Presentation
March	Mar	13, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Mar	27, 2024	TBD – Presentation
April	Apr	10, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Apr	24, 2024	TBD – Presentation
May	May	8, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	May	22, 2024	TBD – Presentation
June	Jun	12, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Jun	26, 2024	TBD – Presentation
July	Jul	10, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Jul	24, 2024	TBD – Presentation

2023 Club Board:

President: Art Berg
V President David Klauber
Treasurer: Bill Kolb
Secretary: Trice Klauber
Board (At Large) Bill O'Connor
Board (At Large) Jim Grundy
Prev. President Thor Strom
Program Dir. Bill Wacenske

2023 PSC Club Volunteers:

Registrar: Trice Klauber
Auctioneer: Jim Grundy
Club Librarian Scott Boyd
Newsletter Editor David Klauber
Letter Contributors Jon Schrag
 Bob McArthur
 Bill O'Connor
 Manny Marti
 Jim Grundy
 David Waller
Library Rep: Bob Eygenhuysen
Opp. Drawing Scott Boyd
WebMaster David Klauber
Public Relations Valerie Merritt

PSC Representatives:

Federal Rep: Bill O'Connor
S.D. Phil. Council: Nick Soroka
Rep (Alternate) Art Berg
APS Rep Trice Klauber
ATA Rep Bob McArthur

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Is a U.S. #5741 2023 24¢ School Bus (Coil) Additional Ounce which Covers the Additional Ounce Rate. On Jan. 5 the U.S. Postal Service Celebrated the School Bus With the release of the additional ounce stamp, the stamp celebrates the iconic yellow school bus and its place in the nation's collective childhood.





APS

At least Thirty-two PSC club members are also members of the American Philatelic Society. The PSC is also a member of the APS. If 33% of our members are also members of the APS the club receives a free year's membership.

Meetings

Club meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of each month except November & December at:

Philatelic Library
12675 Danielson Ct #413,
Poway, CA 92064

Participation

All Stamp Club members are strongly encouraged to provide input for the monthly Club newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise should be shared. Please submit items to the Club Secretary at:

PSCphilately@gmail.com

Club Website

PowayStampClub.com

You will find our activities and affiliations, interesting links, and contact information including this Newsletter's current and previous versions! Give it a try!

You can use the Web site to introduce others to our Club.

Club Notes:

Join the APS – Along with joining the Poway Stamp Club being a member of APS supports the hobby and brings its members valuable services including:

- A subscription to [*The American Philatelist*](#). All the articles are written by members and feature colorful illustrations.
- Buy stamps online safely at HipStamp. All APS transactions are guaranteed by APS.
- Build your collection from the hundreds of thousands of competitively priced stamps offered by other members or sell some of your material via CIRCUIT sales.
- Borrow reference items by mail or in person from the American Philatelic Research Library. The APRL has one of the world's largest and most accessible collections of philatelic literature.
- Save on APS-sponsored Stamp Insurance
- Learn more about philately at APS seminars!
- Obtain authoritative opinions on the genuineness of stamps and covers from the American Philatelic Expertizing Service (APEX).

1. **Local Poway Show** (New shows this year!)

SANDIPEX 2023

August 13
September 10
October 15
Nov 19
Dec 17

Free Admission! – Free Parking!
Doors Open from 10 am – 4 pm

The show, in its 23rd year, is located just 4 blocks to the north of the Philatelic Library on Poway Road. The show is held at the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge, 13219 Poway Road Poway, CA 92064 . Ph# 714-476-3698
Email: cbcstamp@aol.com

Bid Board Frequently Asked Questions(FAQs) :

- You must be a paid member of PSC to buy or sell.
- You may join the PSC, contact PSCPhilately@gmail.com
- Ten percent of the sale price will go to support our club.
- Sellers may list ten items each session, Minimum bids must include local shipping.
- All unsold lots will automatically be relisted next session.
- The seller must notify us to remove a listing.
- Sellers must notify us to remove or change the listing price.
- Minimum prices of items must contain the cost to ship the item listed locally (i.e., San Diego County)
- Buyers outside of SD County are responsible for additional shipping charges.
- The Minimum prices listed on the Site are not updated, a list of the current bids will be posted "periodically" for buyers, this is not eBay.
- At the end of each session, Buyer-Sellers will be contacted and introduced via E-mail to allow the coordination of the payment and shipping.

<https://powaystampclub.com/bid-board>

2. **Philatelic Library Yard Sale** – On Saturday August 19 from 9-12 at the library. This will be a larger sale and one you will not want to miss. The sale will be a “*pick-and-pay*” and is scheduled to have, but not be limited to:
 - Multiple country collections (Many have been in file cabinets for years)
 - Over a dozen albums (worldwide)
 - US mint postage
 - Hundreds of FDC’s from US and world wide
 - Hundreds of covers from around the world
 - Scott catalogs
 - Many miscellaneous items that you did not know you needed.
3. **Quality Shows** – Stephen Pattillo, *P.O. Box 604, Fullerton, CA 92836, Phone: 562-694-2828* email: number1banana@hotmail.com

The "Original" Van Nuys Sunday Stampshow		Five Star Glendale Saturday Stampshow	The Quality Sunday Stampshow
Masonic Hall 14750 Sherman Way Van Nuys, CA 91450		No Location Yet	Brookhurst Community Center 2271 Crescent Avenue Anaheim, CA 92801
January	dark	January	January
February	5	February	February 12
March	5	March	March 19
April	2	April	April 16
May	7	May	May 21
June	4	June	June 18
July	2	July	July 16
August	6	August	August 20
September	3	September	September 17
October	1	October	October 15
November	5	November	November 12
December	3	December	December 10

9:30 AM to 4 PM
Free Admission, Parking & Appraisals
Buying & Selling

4. **Next Bid Board Scheduled** – Notice: The next Poway Stamp Club bid board spectacular, will start at Noon Saturday, Aug 19th, and end at Noon Saturday, Sept 2nd.
5. **Great American Stamp Show 2023 Cleveland** - Aug 10-13, APS ATA & FDACS. Huntington Convention Center. Westin Cleveland Downtown 300 Lakeside Ave, Cleveland.





Member Spotlight!

By Newsletter Editor



The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its new members in each issue. Today's spotlight is on our four new members.

**Monika Pelletier
Bill Gallagher
Laura Nagaran-McCarthy
Ken Coulson**

We have received four new requests for membership which were received and granted to the following person(s):

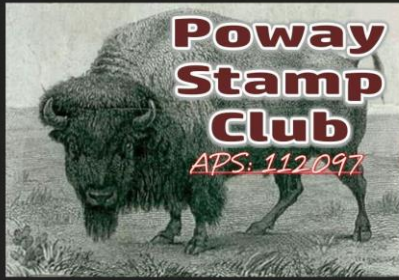
#554 Monika Pelletier of San Diego California, was presented to the club by Art Berg. Monika has joined the club with her father Collin as her guide. She has started collecting Topical Hollywood and old cars. We look forward to having her at meetings and her growth as a Topical collector. Welcome Monika!

#555 Bill Gallagher of Vista, San Diego County California, Bill was presented to the club by Art Berg. Bill is learning about Philately as the result of fortuitous acquisition of stamps. Bill has started to show an interest in U.S. Classics, and we hope to see his interest grow and he spends more time with our group. Welcome Bill to the club.

#556 Laura Nagaran-McCarthy of Glendale Arizona. Laura is the daughter of Michael and Sharon Nagaran. Laura was presented to the club by Trice Klauber. Laura is interested in Covers, Fish, Pokémon, Art Space and Disney Stamps. As a remote member we hope to see Laura at a meeting when she is in town and her participation in our Bid Boards.

#557 Ken Coulson of Placentia, CA. Was presented to the Club by Trice Klauber. Ken is a member of APS as well as the Orange County Philatelic Society, Orange Senior Center Stamp Club. Ken is a collector of Australian States, Northwest Pacific Islands, British Commonwealth, France, Island, and the U.S. We look forward to seeing him at meetings and his patronage of our Club bid boards. Welcome Ken!

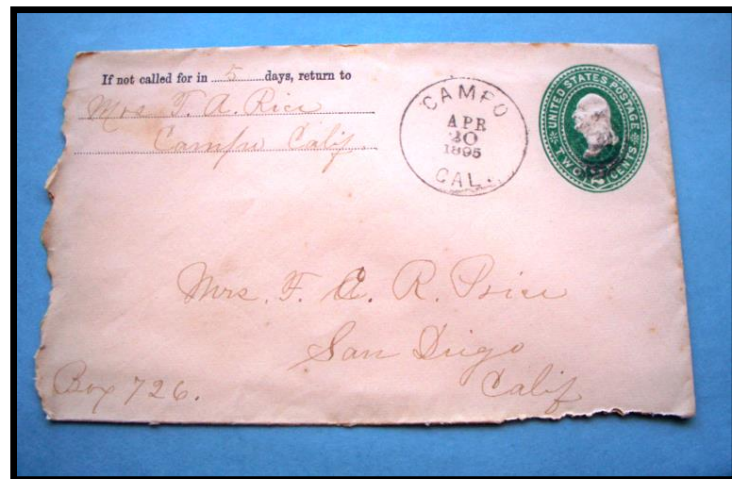
This brings our total membership to **120**. We look forward to getting together with all our new and existing members.



Have you seen any Campo Covers?

By D. Klauber

While going through a box of family letters, I came upon a couple of interesting old covers. The first one below is a green U311 cover that is dated April 20, 1895, from Campo California.



1895 Camp Cover Courtesy D. Klauber

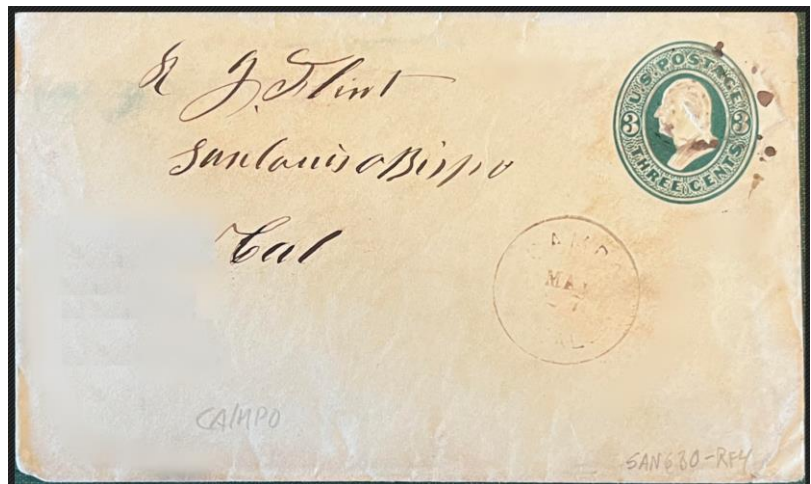
As early as 1873 the small town of Campo was the location of a Post Office, the only one along the road between San Diego and “the Fort” [Yuma].

Campo is today, as it was over a hundred years ago, a tiny backwater mountain town located near the mid-point between San Diego California and Yuma Arizona, using the old road. The area has a rich history including the Buffalo Soldiers, an African American cavalry regiment which patrolled this rough border terrain during World War II. Half a century earlier, bands of horse thieves plotted raids on the outpost, while settlers made their way to San Diego from points east on the Campo Road now called Highway 94.

At least two generations of my family were introduced to the mercantile business at the old Campo store. Young sons including Hugo and Lawrence were sent there to train in the stone store during the late 19th and early 20th under the Mountain Commercial Company. There was no electricity, no ice, no refrigeration. Hams and bacon were kept in the cave. Occasionally there were apples, but no other fresh fruit or vegetables. There was no fresh milk and meat in cattle country, when available, was always freshly killed.

Cowboys in the store at noon dined on sardines, or salmon, with soda crackers, so they did not have to move from their nail kegs. Most local ranchers paid their bills annually. The cowboys wore guns, high-heeled boots, and hairless chaps, and the saddles were always single-cinch. Anyone using a double cinch was sure evidence of some mental weakness, a Texan or both.

In the late 1800's Campo was still a frontier town with its mail still carried by the Campo stage. Below is an 1880's era SC #U165 cover from Campo Ca. This rare cover is a green type U45 addressed to John W. Flint a Sheep (raiser) Rancher in San Louis Obispo California.



Campo Cover SC#U164 (Courtesy D. Klauber)

The Campo stage was a two-horse two-seater. holding three or four passengers besides the driver. It started at the Ferris & Ferris Drug Store at Fifth and H (now Market Street) at six in the morning and arrived at Campo **twelve hours later**.



Camp Stage Courtesy D. Klauber

The road was paved as far out as 16th and H. From there you picked up a cloud of dust that traveled with you all the way, getting thicker by the mile. Horses were changed twice, and lunch was eaten at Jamul. The stage made three trips each way per week out Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and in on the other days.

Campo at that time was comprised of a stone store, a hotel with an annex where people slept, the one-room Custom House, a home that served as a post office, and the blacksmith shop. The venerable stone building was built in 1885 and today houses a museum operated by the non-profit *Mountain Empire Historical Society*.

Information about the local museum can be found at: <http://www.cssmus.org/> For many of the early years, the country store also served as the Campo Post office. In 1888, Abraham Klauber purchased the (Campo Store) Gaskill store, his son operated it until 1925 with partner H.M. Johnson as one of the Mountain Commercial locations. The company had several other backcountry stores which were operated in Potrero, Descanso, Jamul, Tecate and Jacumba.



Campo Store c1920 Mr., Bradley, Alfred Bradley, Eythel Bradley, Mrs. Bradley (H.M. Johnson's sister), Henry M. Johnson, Josie Johnson (HMJs 1st Wife) Courtesy D. Klauber KW. Co. Book II.

Do you have any “Campo California Covers?”



Campo Valley 1902

Photo by A. Kroff Courtesy D. Klauber

Prior to the gunfight at Campo, On Nov. 30, 1875, in another store located in Rancho San Rafael, Mexico, some forty miles south of Tecate. Cruz "Pancho" Lopez witnessed the merchant Louis Mendelsohn give his clerk, Henry A. LeClaire, \$600 in gold. The gold was intended to be shipped to Abraham Klauber in San Diego, the gold having been mined locally and bartered in the Mendelsohn store. Abraham had been shipping supplies to Mendelsohn's store since at least 1871 and perhaps earlier in exchange for gold dust.

"The following day LeClaire and the gold left San Rafael in a buggy for San Diego along with Baja's former Territorial Governor, Don Antonio Sosa. Sadly, it would be the last time anybody would see either of these men alive."

Editors Corner

By D. Klauber

Local Campo History



Compared with the gunfight in Campo, the OK Corral was a Tea party.

"Two empty wagons and nine men sat waiting just north of the Mexican border. A few minutes later six more heavily armed horsemen slowly rode by their associates on their way to Campo with murder on their minds."



*Campo Hotel and Old Store at right c1902 Photo by A. Kroff
Courtesy D. Klauber*

It was the spring of 1868, the Gaskill brothers, Lumen and his older brother Silas began purchasing large tracts of land at a location approximately 60 miles southeast of San Diego and just two miles north of the Mexican border. Prior to their arrival, there existed the small village of Milquatay, which they soon renamed Campo. Campo was an important hamlet; it was here that the stage and freight wagons stopped to rest their teams after climbing from San Diego or Yuma. Here also was the Army's telegraph office also used as a store and local "Saloon."

Forty-six-year-old Silas Gaskill and his 14 years younger brother Lumen, were no rookies with weapons, to the contrary, the brothers were experts with guns, especially shotguns. Both men had previously earned their living with firearms, hunting game for wagon trains and shooting hundreds of bear for northern California ranchers before settling in Campo. In fact, their reputation was such that most of the local cattle rustlers generally gave their ranch a wide berth.

Fourteen miles by road and southwest of Campo on the Mexican side of the border was the squatter settlement of Tecate. Tecate, previously a Mexican rancho, had been abandoned and plundered several times during the short Mexican rule of California. Tecate had become a frontier, a tough place and the hideout for many bad men, and the remnants of several Mexican gangs who previously raided Panamint and Lone Pine in central California. It was said that Tecate had become so tough that it made Dodge City look like a Sunday school.

On December 4, 1875, (four years before the shootout at the OK Corral,) two empty wagons and nine men sat waiting just north of the Mexican border. A few minutes' later six more heavily armed horsemen slowly rode by their associates on their way to Campo with murder on their minds. In Campo, things were quiet, Lumen was working in the store, and his brother Silas was outside near the blacksmith shop working on a wagon. This tranquil scene was not necessarily as easy a target as it might have appeared. Fortunately, Silas had learned from one of the local Mexicans that the Lopez gang was coming up to "clean them out." Silas had been tipped off by a man whom he had fed several times when he was down on his luck. As a result of the warning, the brothers made secret preparations; strategically placing loaded shotguns in the store, house, blacksmith shop and post office.

It was mid-morning when Cruz "Pancho" Lopez and the terrible five (Alonzo Cota, Jose Alvijo, Thodoro Vasquez, Pancho Alvitro and a Bandito Incognito (unknown)) rode into Campo; the sun shone brightly yet they had managed to get a jump on the midday heat. These men attracted little attention as the Campo store was a common stopping place for travelers.

Soon three of the men sauntered toward the door. Already loitering inside was Rafael Martinez a decoy, who arrived several days earlier. Martinez now made the total number of bandits seven. The first two men to enter the store were Cota and Alvijo followed by Cruz Lopez. Martinez then moved outside to join up with Vasquez. In the store Lopez took up a strategic position where the bandits in and out could see him. Lopez to distract Lumen, asked about a coil rope hanging behind the counter. Just as Lumen turned back from grabbing the rope, both Cota and Alvijo went for their guns. Lumen had barely enough time to yell “murder” before he dropped below the counter and crawled towards his gun. The two bad men dove over the counter. Cota grabbed Lumen, pulling him up while Alvijo placed the barrel of his six-gun against Lumen’s chest and pulled the trigger. The bandit’s bullet ripped through Lumen’s chest, puncturing his lung. The blood began to run from his mouth as he fell in a heap to the floor. The bandits left Lumen for dead. At the same time, a French shepherd rode into town for his mail.

Silas, hearing his brother’s cry, dashed inside the blacksmith shop to grab his loaded shotgun. Upon seizing the gun, Silas whirled around in time to see Vasquez charging in with his six guns in hand. Vasquez fired first, followed shortly by a blast from Silas’s shotgun. A bullet struck Silas grazing his inner arm. In return Vasquez took the full charge of 00 buck and was dead before his body hit the ground. Seeing the melee, Alvitro and Martinez scurried behind the blacksmith shop. Silas ran around the other side coming upon them at the corner. With his final full barrel, Silas dropped Martinez. Alvitro, in a panic had one thing on his mind, to get as far away from Silas and his shotgun as he could and hid behind a pile of lumber while Silas ran to get another gun.

The Frenchman, who rode into the middle of the battle, dismounted, putting his horse between himself and the store and began leveling fire at the bandits who were exiting the store. One of the shots hit Lopez in the neck knocking him down; he was eventually able to get up and returned fire. While leaving the store Cota and Alvijo began firing at the Frenchman wounding him in both arms.



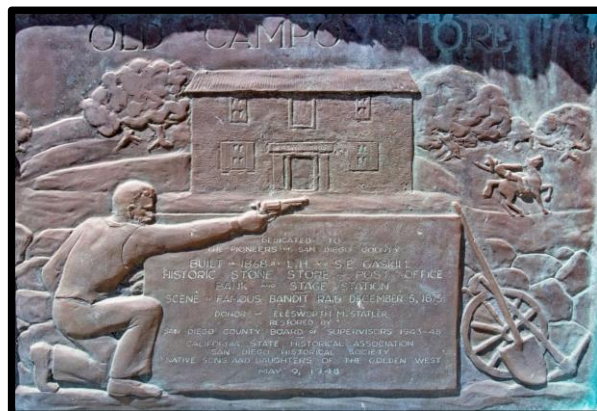
New Campo Store c1920 Courtesy D. Klauber

While Silas and the Frenchman carried on the battle outside the profusely bleeding Lumen inside had regained consciousness and dragged his partially paralyzed body to a hidden shotgun under the counter. Lumen crawled to the door and from the ground fired at Alvijo who was standing near a horse. The blast of the 00-buck smashed the unaware bandit to the ground. Silas while running toward the house ran into a stranger named Livingston who had come to find out what all the shooting was about, Silas handed the poor man his empty shotgun.

On reaching the house, Silas was unable to find another loaded gun. He ran back outside to find that Alvitro, who had recovered from his previous fear, was walking toward Livingston with a pistol. Silas quickly grabbed the **empty** shotgun and aimed it at the bandit. Surprisingly, Alvitro became frightened again running away towards the blacksmiths shop, as he did, he came in range of Lumen still lying prone and wounded in the stores doorway. Lumen fired his second barrel severely injuring the running Alvitro. Lumen, after firing his final round crawled back into the store and slipped through a trapdoor and lowered his shatter body into the icy creek below.

The battle lasted about six minutes, with the bandits Cota along with the wounded Lopez and Alvitro managing to get on horses and ride out of town. The wagons and other gang reinforcements never arrived, apparently hearing the long and loud battle had decided it would be safer to flee back across the border. The bandit Vasquez lay dead outside the blacksmith shop and Martinez, not as seriously wounded, was soon taken into custody. Alvitro had been so seriously wounded that about three miles out of town, Lopez took him from his horse, dragged him into some nearby bushes, and put a bullet in his head. Alviyo, who had been shot by Lumen from the porch, managed to crawl away into the brushes and hide. Before dawn the next morning the cold and wounded man staggered into Campo, begging for help. That night while two of the three guards were “away,” a group of vigilante ranchers tied up the remaining guard and took the two prisoners. The vigilantes using a bit of economy, had taken the men to an oak tree near the border and using a single piece of rope hung them both. The Frenchman later died from his wounds in San Francisco. Cota and the unknown bandit were never captured. The gang’s leader, Cruz Lopez is said to have died in Mexico a year later of an infection caused by the Frenchman’s shot in Campo. Both Silas and Lumen of Campo survived.

So ended the battle at Campo, ultimately three U.S. Citizens were wounded, the unfortunate Frenchman dying later of infections. Of the bandits, five were wounded. Alvitro and Vasquez died that day, Martinez and Alviyo, were hung the next, and Lopez was said to have died later; total deaths 5 and possibly 6, making the battle at Campo, nearly twice as deadly as the infamous shootout at the OK Corral.



Campo Store Marker

POSTAL HISTORY



Member Article

By Bill O'Connor

A Short Visit to the Glasgow Stamp Shop, Scotland July 13, 2023



I was fortunate to be able to travel to Scotland, July 3-15, and to attend the graduation ceremony of our daughter at the University of Edinburg, July 12. Unfortunately, the Chancellor of the University, Princess Anne, the younger sister of the new King of the United Kingdom, Charles III, was not able to attend. It was probably a wise move on the part of the Princess Royal as a labor dispute with the teaching faculty caused some very interesting antics by many graduating recipients.

After a quick railroad trip from Edinburg to Glasgow the following day, my daughter had a wonderful surprise for me. Within a couple of short blocks of the Glasgow main railroad station a wonderful institution emerged, The Glasgow Stamp Shop that was founded in 1908. Unfortunately, I did not have much time to stay in the premises but was able to meet the proprietor, Gordon Carroll. I was able to look through 100s of early British material and was invited to send my want lists to him after getting back to San Diego.

It was a very delightful but short visit. Attached are some particulars concerning time and access to email and website. If any person is interested, I can provide pictures of the interior of the store, which has room for twenty customers at a time.



Where no-one is second class.

THE GLASGOW STAMP SHOP

Tel: 0141 333 9724 :: Email: pennyreds@fastmail.co.uk
132 West Nile Street, Glasgow, G1 2RQ

Websites

Master Website:
www.pennyred.com

Accessories:
www.etc2015.co.uk

Stamps:
www.glasgowstampshop.co.uk

OPEN
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
10 til 4

CLOSED
(although available by appointment)
Saturday, Sunday & Monday
(please check website for holiday hours)



ONE OF THE BIGGEST STAMP SHOPS IN THE UK ESTABLISHED 1908

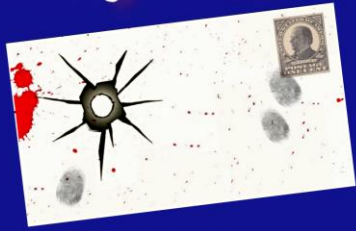
*Near two mainline stations,
tube station, main bus station
as well as loads of shops and hotels
Every reason to come and visit us,
but if you really can't then . . .*

*Seating for 20 customers, while we ply
you with tea or coffee We are near, two
main line stations, a tube station, the
main bus station, and loads of shops, and
loads of hotels with 100 meters*

*This stamp shop has to be on your 'must
visit' list, if only once in your life*



Every Cover



Tells A Story

Member Article

By Jim Grundy

Every Cover Tells a Story



Over two decades ago, I read a Want Ad in Linn's weekly stamp newspaper. The ad asked if any of the readers had a cover with a properly used, single, US, one-half cent postage due stamp on it. First, I wondered how the Post Office would collect the half cent postage due. It also made me wonder what conditions had to be met to warrant a one-half cent postage due stamp. I added the hunt for the one-half cent postage due stamp on cover to my Philatelic Bucket List. To organize my search, I had to understand why there was a one-half cent postage due stamp in the first place.

In 1925, Congress passed The Act of February 28, 1925. This Act affected the postage rates and weights of particular classes of mail that would take effect on April 15, 1925. One of these changes was to increase the postal rate for unsealed, third-class mail from one cent to one and a half cents. Since there were no one half cent, one and a half cent stamps or one and a half cent envelopes in existence, this put pressure on The Postal Service to make stamps and envelopes available by the fifteenth of April. The following stamps were issued to meet this demand: the ½ cent Nathan Hale stamp (Scott #551) on April 4th, the 1 ½ cent Warren G. Harding (Scott #553) on March 19th, and a ½ cent postage due stamp (Scott J68) on April 13th. To solve the postal stationary problem, The Third Assistant Postmaster-General, W. Irving Glover, authorized the applying of a 1 ½ cent surcharge to surplus one cent envelopes. The Postmaster General would supply the new die. However, this die could only be used at post offices that had a specific machine that could hold this die. The Post Office was now ready for the Third-Class Mail rate change on April 15th or was it.



Let's look at the cover. The envelope is a Scott U420 with a label in the upper left hand corner advertising over-the-counter medicine. A bisected one and a half cent Harding stamp has been added to cover the required extra one-half cent of postage. A typed note at the top of the cover states that "no 1/2 cent stamps available". This note is to justify the use of the bisected stamp. The unsealed cover was sent from Saint Paul, Minnesota on April 16, 1925 (one day after the new rate went into effect) to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Milwaukee charged the cover a one-half cent postage due fee and added a pre-cancelled postage due stamp. Why?

The problem is with the bisected stamp used as postage. The Postal Department has never authorized the use of a bisected stamp as legal postage. Smaller Post Offices that hadn't received the new stamp or were sold out of them "turned a blind eye" to the use of bisects as illegal postage. Post Offices in larger cities tended to be strongly against the use of bisected stamps and added the postage due fee. This seems to be the case with this cover. However, I've seen covers where the Post Office used a bisected two cent postage due stamp to charge a one cent postage due fee. I guess it is a "do as I say not as I do" situation.

It is obvious from the type noted at the top of the cover that the sender knew that the rate was one and a half cents. Why not use a plain envelope and put the complete Harding stamps on it as postage? The complete Harding stamp on the one cent envelope would have been fine as well but would be one penny over the rate. I forgot that a penny was worth a lot more 98 years ago than it is today.



Visit PSC on the web by scanning the QR code above with your cellphone.

Member Article

By Jon Schrag

Good Luck...Bad Luck



Life is full of luck. There is good luck and there is bad luck.

After serving two mandatory years in the Army as a young man in the 1960s, my Army pal suggested I apply for a job at a company in Newport Beach, CA. He had connections and gave me a recommendation. GOOD LUCK. I interviewed for the job. Pay was at the high end of the scale and there was a fantastic view of Catalina Island from the office. I interviewed for the job and liked the boss. GOOD LUCK. I got an excellent pay offer and accepted the job. GOOD LUCK. After about 6 months on the job I found out the job was a GRIND and a dud. BAD LUCK. My fellow workers were both ODD and nerds. BAD LUCK. After 8 months I walked into my supervisors office and quit!

I saw an ad in the LA TIMES and the pay was 60% higher. GOOD LUCK. I applied and promptly received a rejection letter. BAD LUCK. I called the company and asked them to reconsider, and they agreed. GOOD LUCK. I interviewed and got the job! GOOD LUCK.

So, in summary, life is a GOOD LUCK and BAD LUCK game.



New School Bus Stamp (2023)

I am a stamp collector. GOOD LUCK. There is a new issue SCHOOL BUS stamp available at the post office. See attached photo. The stamp is marked “additional postage” and it pays for an extra half- ounce for slightly heavier letters (such as some fancy birthday cards). It is a very interesting stamp and will be hard to find on cover.

Here is the deal. The fifth person to send me an email (include your snail mail address)at jschrag1@san.rr.com will receive in the mail a cover mailed to them and the cover will use 3 SCHOOLBUS stamps as postage. This cover will definitely be very unusual and interesting. GOOD LUCK!

Jon

Philatelic Grading



Philatelic Grading
Poway Stamp Club
STAMP EVALUATION STATION



Member Article

By David B. Waller

Philatelic Grading: Color (Late 19th and Early 20th Century Stamps)



In April, the Poway Stamp Club published an article on Philatelic Grading that elaborated on six criteria used when grading stamps. This article discusses color variations.

In the early 1900's, inks were mixed by hand using proscribed recipes, so it is not surprising that this process often resulted in variations in tone, hue, and saturation (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Colorized image of workers mixing ink for the production of stamps at the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing circa 1914 (<https://unwritten-record.blogs.archives.gov/2016/06/21/engraving-inking-trimming-the-production-of-paper-currency-in-1914/>)

The 1901 Pan-American Exposition series was no exception. There are at least three colors identified with Scott no. 295, at least two colors identified with Scott no. 298 and two for Scott no. 299. The intended color for Scott no. 295 is carmen and black (Figure 2B), the others are a lighter shade of rose and black (Figure 2A) and a darker shade of deep red and black (Figure 2C).



A

B

C

Figure 2: Color variations for 1901 2-cent Pan-American Issue, Scott no. 295, **A**) rose and black from the D. Waller collection **B**) carmine and black from the D. Waller collection, and **C**) deep red and black from the D. Waller collection.

The 1919 Victory issue also has several color varieties (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Color varieties of the 1919 victory issue, Scott no. 537, with the two red-violet-colored stamps given variety status, 537a and 537c (<https://www.linns.com/news/us-stamps-postal-history/expertizing-color-varieties-of-the-2-carmine-washington-stamps-and-the-1919-3-violet-victory-issue>).

Other anomalies affecting the color of a stamp include environmental conditions such as heat (*i.e.*, IR radiation) and/or sunlight (*i.e.*, UV radiation), printing the stamp in the wrong color, color plate inversion, and oxidation. Sunlight can fade the colors of stamps as seen in Figure 4. Repeated exposure to room light can also affect the colors of many postage stamps, either by fading them or by changing their appearance. Stamps displayed in frames for any length of time are likely to show evidence of damage from light.

(<https://www.linns.com/news/postal-updates-page/stamp-collecting-basics/2000/february/handle-and-store-your-collection-with-care.html>).



A

B

C

Figure 4: Fading of the 1903 3-cent Jackson Regular Issue, Scott no. 302 **A)** offered by USA stamps on EBAY, no. 165923205320, **B)** offered by USA stamps on EBAY, no. 165381081416, and **C)** offered by droth on EBAY, no. 393235515763.

In the 1893 Columbian commemorative series, the blue ink of the 1-cent denomination, Scott no. 230 (Figure 5C), was substituted for the ultramarine ink used for the 4-cent denomination, Scott no. 233 (Figure 5A), producing a blue 4-cent denomination, Scott no. 233a (Figure 5B).



A

B

C

Figure 5: Color varieties of the 1893 4-cent Columbian Issue, Scott no. 233. **A)** Scott no. 233 ultramarine color (Hipstamp ID 48395027), **B)** Scott no. 233a 4-cent denomination printed in the 1-cent denomination color (<https://stampauctionnetwork.com/Y/y118511.cfm>), and **C)** Scott no. 230 for color comparison to A.

In the 1962 D. Hammarskjold issue, Scott no. 1203 (Figure 6A), the yellow color plate was accidentally inverted before printing producing Scott no. 1204 (Figure 6B). To avoid collectors storming Post Offices around the country seeking this error, the United States Postal Service decided to print a comparable number of the inverted color stamp. Consequently, this error became one of the commemorative stamps issued in that year.



A

B

Figure 6: Color varieties of the 1962 4-cent D. Hammarskjöld, Scott no. 1203 and 1204. **A)** Scott no. 1203 with proper yellow color plate alignment and **B)** Scott no. 1204 yellow color plate inverted (Hipstamp ID 3715551).

With certain colors, oxidation becomes an issue when the stamp encounters sulfur containing compounds like sulfur oxide or hydrogen sulfide. This browning process is a natural process that may be accelerated by moisture, heat and/or light.

The effect is most often seen on the early orange colored revenue stamps, the 1918 Curtiss Jenny 6-cent airmail stamp (Scott no. C1), 1898 Trans-Mississippi 4-cent (Scott no. 287, Figure 6), 1909 6-cent denomination Washington stamps of the Third Bureau Issue and 1922 6-cent denomination Garfield stamps of the Fourth Bureau Issue.

The affected stamp's original color can sometimes be restored, or partially restored, by exposure to a weak bleach solution or a weak solution of hydrogen peroxide.

(<https://www.linns.com/news/us-stamps-postal-history/expertizing-color-varieties-of-the-2-carmine-washington-stamps-and-the-1919-3-violet-victory-issue>).



A

B

Figure 7: Oxidation of the 1898 4-cent Trans-Mississippi Exposition series, Scott no. 287. **A)** unoxidized Scott no. 287 with bright orange color and **B)** oxidized Scott no. 287 with an "orange-brown" coloration (<https://www.usphila.com/us/stamp/price/scott-287-page-3>).

So how should color be graded? It is the author's opinion that a stamp given variety status, or a stamp in which the ink color is not recognized as damage, be treated as a stamp with the intended color. More specifically, the stamp's grade would not be affected by its color and the color should be noted on the grading certificate (*e.g.*, Scott no. 295 rose and black, or Scott no. 537c deep red-violet). Color differences or changes that may be considered damage should affect the grade of the stamp (*e.g.*, fading or oxidation). In the case of oxidation, a condition that is purportedly "reversible", it has not yet been determined whether treatment is permanent or whether exposure to compounds used to reverse this condition adversely affect the stamp. This raises the question as to whether oxidation constitutes damage.

However, if it is presumed that oxidation damages a stamp (*e.g.*, orange pigment is chemically reduced to brown), then a reflectance spectral analysis could be used to determine the extent of oxidation. Figure 8 is a reflectance graph for mixing orange with black acrylic paints. The reflective wavelength of orange ranges from 590nm to 620nm. When the amount of black paint added to orange is 1% (*i.e.*, producing an obvious brown coloration) it lowers the orange spectral peak by almost 70% and to about 85% when the black paint concentration is 10%. This difference is quantifiable and allows for the assignment of a grade.

So how can spectral peak reduction be used to determine a grade? In one method the peak reflectance of the color of interest is obtained from one or more unaffected stamps and set at 100 (*e.g.*, Scott No. 302 in Figure 4A or Scott No. 287 in Figure 7A). To make the calculation, the amount the spectral peak is suppressed due to fading or the oxidation process is divided by 2. This denominator reduces the slope of the curve and prevents the grade from dropping below 50 for a significantly faded or fully oxidized stamp. This value is then subtracted from 100 to obtain a color grade (*i.e.*, $(100 - (\text{suppressed reflectance})/2) = \text{grade}$). For example, if a stamp's reflectance spectral peak (dotted line) is calculated from its reflectance spectra (red line) in Figure 8, then the calculation would be as follows, $100 - (30/2) = 85$.

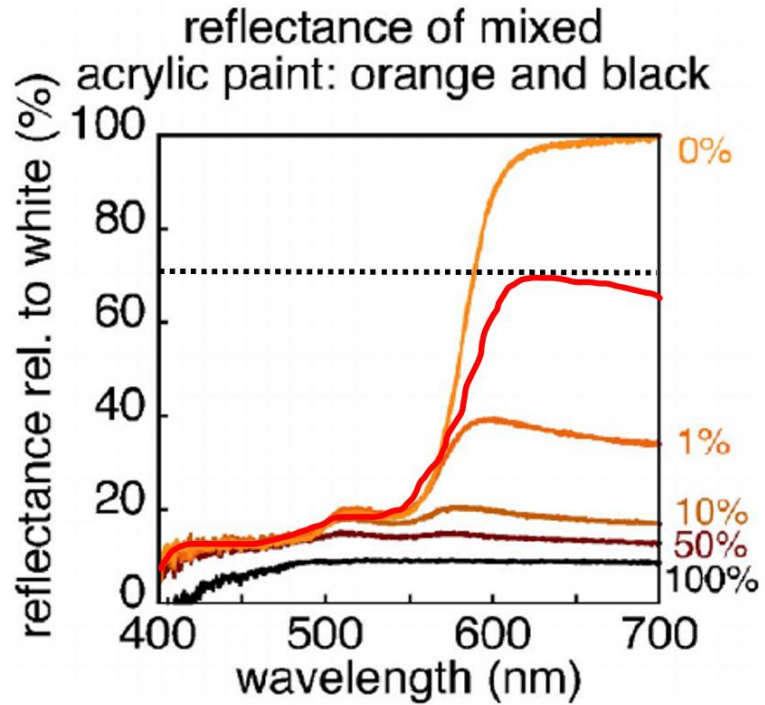


Figure 8: The reflectance curves of orange acrylic paint, black acrylic paint, and mixtures of the two in different proportions. The mixed volumes percentage of black paint is reported for each curve on the right axis (https://www.researchgate.net/figure/The-reflectance-curves-of-orange-acrylic-paint-black-acrylic-paint-and-mixtures-of-the_fig8_228851824). The dashed line is the peak height of a hypothetical stamp spectrum (red line) for the example presented above.

If this or a similar method is accepted, then the grading certificate should contain the reflectance spectra and calculations used to obtain the final grade for color. This will avoid confusion and allow future experts to confirm previous calculations.

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STAMP NEWS



U.S. Postal
Service Reveals
More Stamps

Stamp News 2023



The 2023 stamp program features a broad range of subjects and designs. These miniature works of art highlight our unique American culture and offer a broad selection for those looking to collect stamps or send their mail around the nation or the world,” said USPS Stamp Services Director William Gicker.

This is a partial list, with more to be revealed in the weeks and months ahead. All stamp designs are preliminary and subject to change.

Florida Everglades (Priority Mail)

Spanning some two million acres in southern Florida, from Lake Okeechobee to Florida Bay, the Everglades is one of the largest wetlands in the world and the most significant breeding ground for tropical wading birds in North America. This new Priority Mail stamp celebrates the Florida Everglades with stamp art that shows a sawgrass marsh as seen at sunset from the edge of a cypress dome. Designed by art director Greg Breeding, the stamp highlights a digital illustration by Dan Cosgrove. The Florida Everglades Priority Mail stamp will be issued in Homestead, FL, on Jan. 22 without a ceremony.



Great Smoky Mountains (Priority Mail Express) – Home to the most visited national park in the United States, the Great Smoky Mountains boast extensive national forests and a vast array of native plants and animals. Equally rich in history, folkways, and culture, they are an American treasure, which the Postal Service celebrates with this new

Priority Mail Express stamp. The stamp art captures an iconic mountain scene located near Newfound Gap between Gatlinburg, TN, and Cherokee, NC. In the foreground, a red-tailed hawk flies over the landscape. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with original art by Dan Cosgrove.



U.S. Flag

The Postal Service continues its tradition of celebrating the U.S. flag with this stamp, available in panes of twenty, booklets of twenty, and coils of 100, 3,000, and 10,000. The stamp art bears a straightforward graphic design of Old Glory. Providing a solid foundation for the flag is the word “FREEDOM” in gray and, below it, “FOREVER/USA.” Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp with existing art by Hong Li.



Ernest J. Gaines

The 46th stamp in the Black Heritage series honors Ernest J. Gaines (1933-2019). Best known for such novels as “The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman” and “A Lesson Before Dying,” Gaines drew from his childhood as the son of sharecroppers on a Louisiana plantation to explore the untold stories of rural African Americans, adding a vital voice to American literature. The stamp features an oil painting of Gaines, based on a 2001 photograph. Mike Ryan designed the stamp with art by Robert Peterson. Greg Breeding served as art director.



Piñatas! – Celebrate the fun and tradition of piñatas with a colorful new booklet of twenty stamps. The stamp art features four lively, digital illustrations of two traditional piñata designs — a donkey and a seven-point star. The bright, saturated color palette was inspired by Mexican culture, including the vibrant colors of small-town houses, traditional hand-sewn dresses, handmade toys and flowers, and classic piñatas themselves. Víctor Meléndez created original art and designed the stamps. Antonio Alcalá was the art director.



Sailboats – Sailboats stamps celebrate a favorite American outdoor activity with two colorful new postcard stamps. They feature abstract illustrations that capture the joyful sensation of being on the water on a beautiful day. The graphic art was designed and created by artist Libby VanderPloeg, who also created the lettering for the word “postcard,” freehand on a digital tablet. Antonio Alcalá was the art director for the project.



Snow Globes – Beloved by children and adults alike, snow globes can be miniature works of art, kitschy souvenirs, or anything in between. Celebrating the spirit of the holidays, the Postal Service captures the playful pleasure of Christmas snow globes on four new stamps. Painting in oil, the artist created spherical snow globes featuring icons of the season: a snowman wearing a jaunty red-and-white scarf; Santa Claus on a rooftop preparing to climb down the chimney; a reindeer standing in a snowy forest; and a snowy tree decorated with colorful ornaments. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamps with original art by Gregory Manchess.



Thinking of You Aug. 11- Capturing the excitement and delight of receiving a card in the mail meant just for you, Thinking of You features five stamps in a pane of twenty and a host of die-cut, self-adhesive messages — perfect to accompany letters or cards sent to brighten someone’s day. Each stamp is designed in fun colors with different whimsical images, including flowers, balloons, cute animals, sweet treats, and symbols of good luck. Words of encouragement and thoughtful affirmations surround the stamps on the pane. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps with original artwork by Ellen Surrey.

Winter Woodland Animals

Connect to the natural beauty of the winter season and celebrate four species that make their homes in the woodlands of North America. Among the most familiar of wildlife, deer, rabbits, owls, and foxes are found across much of the American landscape. This booklet of twenty stamps features graphic illustrations of these four animals in different woodland settings in winter. Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamps with Katie Kirk, who illustrated the stamps.



School Bus – The School Bus will be a new additional-ounce stamp, available in panes of twenty and coils of one hundred. The issuance celebrates the iconic yellow school bus and its role in ensuring that millions of children get to school and home again every day. The stamp features a stylized illustration of 21st-century yellow school bus, in profile in front of a silhouetted schoolhouse that is more evocative of an earlier era. Artist Steve Wolf worked with art director Greg Breeding and stamp designer Mike Ryan.



Life Magnified Aug. 10 Cleveland OH.

These stamps reveal life on Earth as many have never seen it. Twenty stamps feature twenty different images taken with microscopes and highly specialized photographic techniques that capture details of life undetectable by the human eye. The images show the phenomena of life in exquisitely fine detail. While stunning on their own as works of art, these images also hold scientific significance. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamps using existing photographs.



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