



Poway Stamp Club

NEWSLETTER

San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club

June 12th 2024

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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, **June 12th** Program will be a

philatelic presentation by: **Pong**

**Followed by 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 interesting covers and stamps to show and tell as well as to bring 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.

The Wednesday, **June 26th** Program will be
a philatelic presentation by: ?

**&
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 interesting covers and stamps to show and tell as well as to bring 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.

Please remember to bring your badge.



Poway Stamp Club

2024 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.

2024 Club Board:

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

2024 PSC Club Volunteers:

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

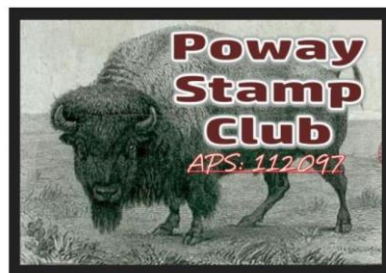
PSC Representatives:

Federal Rep: Bill O'Connor
S.D. Phil. Council: Nick Soroka
Rep (Alternate) Art Berg
Chapter 112097 APS Ambassador
 Trice Klauber
ATA Rep Bob McArthur

Cover Stamp ON PAGE 1

Is an example of the Malta #14 MNH, 1886 Queen Victoria, within Maltese Cross, with WMK. #1, is 5 Shillings In Rose. Catalog Value \$125.00

June	Jun	12, 2024	Pong - Presentation
	Jun	26, 2024	TBD – Presentation
July	Jul	10, 2024	David Klauber - Collecting with a Computer Based Microscope
	Jul	24, 2024	Club Member Voice Sale
August	Aug	14, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Aug	28, 2024	TBD – Presentation
September	Sep	11, 2024	Club Member Voice Sale
	Sep	25, 2024	TBD – Presentation
October	Oct	9, 2024	Ugly Stamp Contest
	Oct	23, 2024	TBD – Presentation
November	Nov	13, 2024	Richard Stern – 2 nd Bureau
	Nov	20, 2024	No Meeting
December	Dec	11, 2024	Holiday Dinner
	Dec	--	No Meeting
January	Jan	8, 2025	TBD – Presentation
	Jan	22, 2025	TBD – Presentation
February	Feb	12, 2025	TBD – Presentation
	Feb	26, 2025	TBD – Presentation
March	Mar	12, 2025	TBD – Presentation
	Mar	26, 2025	TBD – Presentation
April	Apr	10, 2025	TBD – Presentation
	Apr	24, 2025	TBD – Presentation
May	May	8, 2025	TBD – Presentation
	May	22, 2025	TBD – Presentation





APS

Many of our 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:

1. **Poway Stamp Club Meetings** - The Poway Stamp Club meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. It is so nice to see all our philatelic friends again. The Club will resume our 2024 regularly scheduled meetings on the second Wednesday in January.
2. **Next Bid Board** – Next Poway Bid Board June 5th – June 15th. Member submissions must be made by June 3rd to participate.
3. **Local Show** (New shows this year!)

SANDIPEX 2024

Show Schedule

June 23	October 13
July 21	November 10
August 11	December 8
Sept 8	

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

The show 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

4. **Handle With Care** - Stamps especially old ones are fragile objects that must be handled and stored with care. Protect them from hazards, such as light, heat, moisture, and improper storage. House your collection in products made specifically for the hobby or that you know with certainty are safe for stamps and covers. Some hazards, such as moisture, are obvious. Others, such as acid paper or the chemical instability of some plastics, may not.

Bid/Book 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>

5. **Club Participation** – All Club members are strongly encouraged to provide input for the bi-monthly newsletter. Join our Writers Guild which is Internationally recognized for our Newsletters. Your participation is critical to our success as a Club. Please submit items to the Club Secretary at Indysmama@gmail.com.
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6. **Tagging Omitted** – Tagging (invisible luminescent coating) is applied in the same fashion as visible ink. Occasionally tagging is unintentionally omitted. Tagging-omitted errors are not considered to be color-omitted errors. Tagging is, however, one of the elements of a properly prepared modern stamp, and its unintentional omission constitutes an error. Tagging-omitted errors are avidly collected by specialists.
 7. **Quality Shows** – Stephen Pattillo, P.O. Box 604, Fullerton, CA 92836, **Phone: 562-694-2828** email: number1banana@hotmail.com

Come and Enjoy Two Great "Quality Stamp Shows"!!

Brought to you by Stamp Show Steve • Stephen Pattillo Quality Stamp Shows
PO Box 604 • Fullerton CA 92836 • Ph. 562.694.2828 • Cell 714.397.0752 • www.stampshowsteve.com
Leading Stamp & Cover Dealers • Free Appraisals • Free Parking & Admission

The Van Nuys Stamp Show	The Anaheim Stamp Show
<p>9:30 am to 4 pm The Masonic Hall 14750 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91405</p> <p>2024 Dates January 7 February 4 March 10 April 7 May 5 June 2 July 7 August 4 September 1 October 6 November 3 December 1</p>	<p>9:30 am to 4 pm Brookhurst Community Center 2271 Crescent Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801</p> <p>2024 Dates January No Show February 11 March 17 April 14 May 19 June 9 July 14 August 11 September 29 October 20 November 17 December 22</p>

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

8. **Pinholes** – During the early years of philately, before most cared about condition, dealers sometimes showcased their wares by tacking them to a display board. As a result, the displaced paper is smoothed back in place and the presence of the hole is not readily apparent from the front. Pinholes usually become apparent when the stamp is held up to a strong light source. All reveal themselves in a little watermark fluid. Just like thins, pinholes are sometimes filled or patched, which shows up when the stamps are dipped in Watermarking solution.

9. **2024 Great American Stamp Show** - Hartford Aug
15-18. Connecticut

Convention Center, Hall AB.

GASS is the nation's biggest philatelic event, hosted by the three largest philatelic organizations in



the United States – the [American Philatelic Society](#), the [American Topical Association](#), and the [American First Day Cover Society](#). The show is sponsored by the [United States Postal Service](#), who will host a large retail area as well as multiple first day ceremonies. GASS will feature 80+ dealers selling stamps, covers, and other philatelic material; hundreds of frames of stamp exhibits and rarities; participation of 40+ national specialty societies; a youth area; and meetings and seminars.

10. **Expert Certificates** – Are written opinions rendered by a recognized expertizing body. Expertizing service verify genuineness, confirm valuable varieties, and report faults, repairs, tampering, and deceptive alterations such as regumming, reperfoming, or removal of a cancellation to simulate an unused stamp.

11. **Freshness** – Ideally, a stamp possesses “mint bloom” and paper fresh as the day it was printed. Older stamps are less likely to be found in a state of “freshness”. Until the second half of the 20th century, album manufacturers paid little attention to the paper they used to make albums. Thus, stamps stored for any length of time often exhibit a light brownish or yellowish cast, which is referred to as “Toning”.



Member Spotlight!

By Newsletter Editor



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

**Leo Hayes
Les Luckfeld
June Wynn
Ernesto Nebel
Josh Ginsberg**

We have 5 new members since our last newsletter.

#587 Leo Hayes, Poway, San Diego County California

Leo was also presented for membership by our President Art Berg. Art met Leo at the SDPL. It's good to have Leo as a new member of our club.

#588 Les Luckfeld of San Diego, California

Les a Library Member was also presented for membership by our Trice Klaubr. Les attendee with his wife the recent Library Pick-and-Pay Sale. Les collects "a little of everything." We hope that Les will be able to join us at some of our future Club meetings.

#589 June Wynn of San Diego, California.

June joined us at the Library Pick-and-Pay, she collects, Flowers, cats, animals, nature, and Christmas stamps. June was presented and approved by D&T Klauber. We hope that June will become an active member of our Club and will be able to join us at a future Club meeting. Welcome to our Club **June!**

#590 Ernesto Neble, Chula Vista, San Diego County California

was presented for membership by Trice Klauber and was approved by the membership by unanimous vote. We look forward to having Ernesto continue to join us with his son David at meetings. **Ernesto** is a brand-new collector.

Welcome aboard!

#591 Josh Ginsberg, San Diego, California

was presented for membership by Trice Klauber. Josh was introduced to the club to learn more about an inherited collection. We look forward to seeing Josh at our bi-monthly meetings. Welcome Josh.

This brings our total paid membership to 148. We look forward to getting together at PSC meetings with our new members.

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Definitions

The following definition of EFO and other terms are here in support of the ongoing Editors Corner series on Varieties, EFO's and Counterfeits.

EFO is the shorthand for "Error, Freak, or Oddity". It's a term applied to philatelic items that were formed unintentionally abnormal.

Errors: Are usually "major" errors having catalog status where something in the process has gone entirely wrong. Examples of "errors" are consistent, unintentional deviations from the normal. Typically errors are stamps that are wrongly perforated, both between or completely imperforated, Full incorrect, shifted or omitted color(s), inverted centers or frames, multiple impressions, missing/inverted surcharges, missing or wrong watermarks or tagging and FULL stamps on either side of an interpane gutter, factually wrong or misspelled information etc.

Freaks: Also called "varieties", are generally defined as a lesser degree of production problem. Typically freaks have flaws that are not consistent or do not have catalog status.

Editors Corner

By David Klauber

SAN DIEGO'S PHILATELIC HISTORY



"Postal covers to a historian are envelope(s), that have been used to hold a letter. Every cover tells a distinctive story. At a minimum a cover will identify the person, place, or residence/business address of the receiver. If you are fortunate, it will sometimes have a location and complete date of the cover's sender. Covers can also sometimes provide other information such as the name and address of the sender or a route that the cover took on its way to its final destination. Every marking and piece of information on the cover is of significance to the collector, including the rate charged for carrying the cover and even sometimes a stamp or other items that are affixed to the front or back. Postal history is not just the study of stamps but of all things postal including marks, rates, and routes. It can also pertain to the history and development of the postal service or the persons that have sent or received the cover."

The subject of this article and its associated covers are related to the early San Diego Pioneer, **Daniel Cleveland**.



Daniel Cleveland (1838-1929)

"What I aspired to be and was not comforts me."

Examples of freaks include ink smudges, off center perforation shifts, partially missing colors or partial/random color shifts, pre-printing paper folds, paper creases, over or under inked stamps, and so forth. Freaks often sell for less than their "error" counterparts. Printing plate cracks, wear and other flaws such as repairs or re-entries are freaks and not typically considered to be errors.

Oddities:

The catch-all category for anything that is left. Oddities can be subtle problems that do not have catalog status. Examples can be cancel and plate varieties, inverted USPS cancels, very minor perforation shifts, minor color shifts, etc. Most oddities are a curiosity and have lower EFO values.

There continues to be a debate about the definition of freaks vs oddities. This is one area where a classification can be a matter of personal opinion. Frequently the debate is over pre-printing paper folds and centers on how minor (oddtity) or how major (freak) a fold is. As it turns out, one mans freak, is a another mans oddity.

Counterfeit, Forgery, or Fake.

Counterfeit: Fraudulent reproduction of a stamp meant to defraud the issuing authority. (Typically used as postage)

Forgery: Fraudulent reproduction or alteration of a stamp meant to defraud (not the issuing authority), In philately, forged stamps are altered to defraud the buyer.

Fakes: An imitation stamp, or reprint. There are many fakes on the market, typically sold as fakes they are rarely sold as genuine. In philately, fakes are an expression of art are not offered as genuine to defraud. (reprints may be considered fakes)

Daniel Cleveland (March 21, 1838 – January 3, 1929), Lawyer, Politician, Civic leader, and botanist. Cleveland was a “**Mover and a Shaker**” in the early San Diego. Daniel Cleveland was involved in all areas of civic life of San Diego, and instrumental in establishing the foundations for the first public library as well as banks, a hospital, schools, playgrounds, and charities.

Originating from Poughkeepsie, New York, he practiced law throughout his life. He served as the mayor of San Antonio from 1865 to 1866 before he settled in San Francisco and then San Diego. In San Diego, he built a reputation as a prominent civic figure, helping with the organization and founding of numerous community organizations which included the first public library in the city, the Bank of San Diego, the San Diego Society of Natural History and a chapter of the [Sons of the American Revolution](#). Daniels’ ancestry consisted of old-stock Americans who had come to the continent before 1640, with his great-grandfather fighting as a soldier in General Putnam's army during the American Revolution, participating in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Cleveland was an avid naturalist and collected numerous specimens of flora and fauna in the San Diego region, forwarding many of them to Dr. Asa Gray of Harvard University, earning his name on numerous species. In May 1859, Cleveland moved to San Antonio, Texas to join his brother William H. Cleveland. With the eruption of the Civil War, the brothers swore allegiance to the Union, but were unable to perform military service.

After moving to San Antonio, Cleveland became a community leader, this despite the dangers of being a vocal Republican during that period. On petition in 1865 he was commissioned as mayor of the city. San Antonio was still struggling with martial law, and a bankrupt treasury. He served as mayor from October 9th, 1865, to August 23, 1866. In his brief tenure, he freed the city from debt and started numerous municipal improvements. He was the first officer in the state to admit the testimony of a black man against a white one. After he left office, he helped establish the first Republican newspaper in Texas, the *San Antonio Express*, and served as editor for eight months. He left San Antonio for his native New York in 1866, and then left for San Francisco in 1867.

More Important Definitions

Reissues

(A reprint of a currently available stamp)

Reprints

(Copies of the obsolete originals, or previously issued.

They are sold by the Government they are not classified as proofs and sometimes printed for collector's purposes only)

Special Printings

(Original plate stamps for non-postal use, while originals are still valid for postage)

Government issued Reproductions

(Not printed from the original plates, not valid postage, considered likenesses.)

Examples US Scott 3-4

Se-tenant Pair

A planned pair, strip or block of adjacent stamps (either horizontal or vertical), which were printed from the same plate and/or sheet. The stamps must be un-separated and deliberately different from each other by design, color, denomination or overprint.

Type-Variety/Combination

Pair - An unplanned pair, strip or block of adjacent stamps (either horizontal or vertical).

The stamps must be un-severed and are different from each other by variety, meaning that at least one member of the pair/strip/block differs in some detail from the "normal" issue. The detail may or may not be an actual philatelic "error".

Cleveland's Activities in San Diego

In 1869, Cleveland left San Francisco bound for San Diego to visit his brother William, who was seriously ill, in San Diego. Cleveland rode on the steamship *Orizaba* with the "Father of San Diego" Alonzo Horton, the Reverend H.J. Johnson and future associate Joseph Nash.



Steamship Orizaba (San Diego)

Horton had just purchased 2,000 books from A.L. Bancroft & Co. Cleveland later wrote that Horton had been on a land-selling campaign in Northern California. Upon arrival in San Diego, Cleveland vigorously engaged in civic activities with the new community. With the stock books Alonzo Horton had purchased, Cleveland assisted him in forming the Horton Library Association, which was the progenitor to the 1882 **San Diego Public Library**. He also helped organize, along with his brother William, Joseph Nash, and Horton, the **Bank of San Diego**. Cleveland continued his law practice in San Diego. He represented settlers in land disputes involving the rancho Arguello family in the Otay and Tijuana valleys. In 1871, individuals attempting to secretly buy and sell land within the Pueblo Lands of San Diego were defeated by a citizens committee that Cleveland served on, which helped preserve the public lands that now include Balboa Park. Cleveland served as the attorney for Texas and Pacific Railroad when it was involved in litigation with the City of San Diego from 1876 to 1880.

Cleveland as a lawyer incorporated numerous organizations including the **Hospital of the Good Samaritan**, serving as its second president, along with George White Marston, Marcus Schiller, Mary C. Morse, he assisted in incorporating the **Associated Charities of San Diego**. In 1892 he drew up articles to incorporate a women's club and helped establish a chapter of the Southern California Society of **Sons of the American Revolution**. Other community organizations Cleveland helped establish included a "**Friends of the Children**" organization to help secure public playgrounds, a "**Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis**," a local **Y.M.C.A.**, and the **San Diego Pioneer Society**. Cleveland was a deeply religious man and assisted with the establishment of the Episcopal Church in the county, serving in numerous offices within the church.

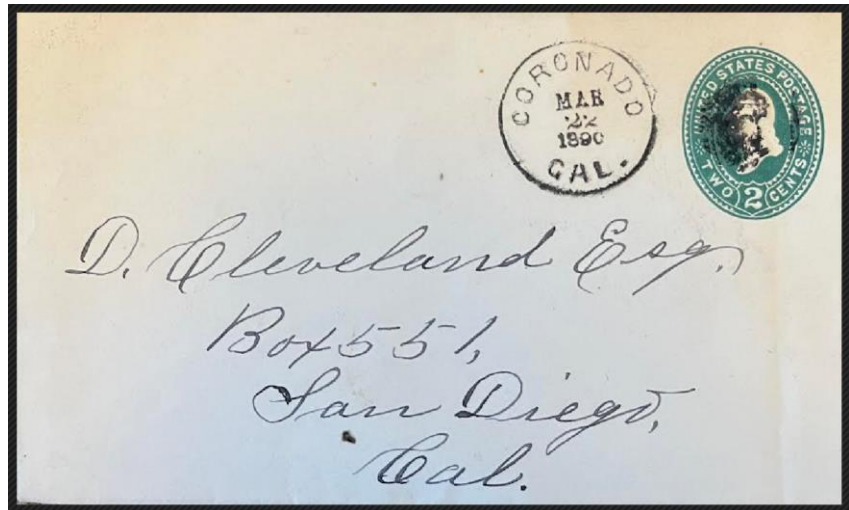
While in San Diego, Cleveland became friends with Oliver Sanford, a local surveyor for the railroad who enjoyed collecting and identifying beetles. Impressed by the diversity of plants, animals, and habitats in the region, the two men decided to form a society to serve local natural history. On October 1, 1874, the two met with seven other men in Cleveland's office to form the **San Diego Society of Natural History**. Cleveland's involvement in the museum spanned some 40 years, and he served as the president for two terms. The Society would later become more well-known as the **San Diego Natural History Museum**.

Concerned with community and scientific service, Cleveland had found little time for marriage, until he finally married the widow Marion South Webb on July 22, 1921. Cleveland's long history in San Diego allowed him to write a series of articles in the Union about his early life in the area. He died at home on January 3, 1929, shortly before his 91st birthday.

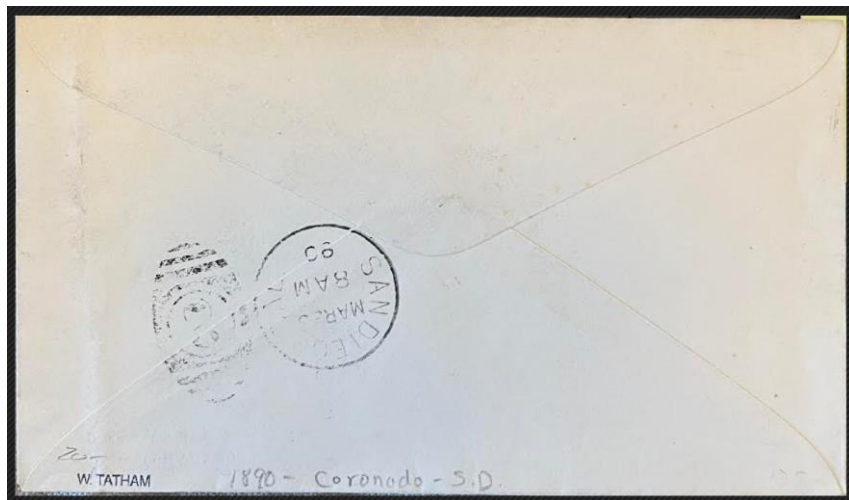
The Covers

Recently I found 2 interesting San Diego County Covers. As a stamp collector and *amateur* historian, I became very interested in the covers when I noticed yet again that the covers recipient was a Daniel Cleveland, another of San Diego's important pioneers and historic figure.

The first cover (**Figure 1.**) Was sent from Coronado California on March 22, 1890. **Coronado** is/was a California resort city on a peninsula in San Diego Bay. It's known for the grand Victorian **Hotel del Coronado**, which opened in 1888. Across from the hotel, the wide, flat Coronado Beach which those who participate in water recreation and sunbathers. The Cover has a **SAN-910** postmark listed as a (1c shape) 26.5mm 8L mark.



(Figure 1.) Daniel Cleveland Cover
(courtesy D. Klauber)



(Figure 2.) Daniel Cleveland Cover (Back)
(courtesy D. Klauber)

A close examination of the cover (Figure 2) reveals that the cover was received in San Diego (reverse) using a **SAN-5000** postmark listed as a (1c shape) 25.5mm 6L mark which is listed as the latest known usage date in "*California Town Postmarks 1849 -1935*" by Williams. (Figure 2.), shows that the cover was received the next day in San Diego.

The second cover (**Figure 3.**) Was sent from **San Francisco in 1894** on a *California Society for the Sons of the American Revolution* envelope. **The stamp is an 1893 1c Columbian stamp.** The Cover has a **SAF-2170** postmark listed as a (1c) 17.5mm mark with a unusual “International killer” as identified in “*California Town Postmarks 1849 -1935*” by Williams. The unusual 1c mail rate apparently was Letter - 1 cent per 2 ounces for Printed Matter / Commercial Paper, I will have to accept that this mailing was admitted as printed or commercial paper.



(Figure 3.) 1894 Daniel Cleveland over



(Figure 4.) 1894 Daniel Cleveland Cover (back)
(courtesy D. Klauber)

David

SOURCES

The Journal of San Diego History, SAN DIEGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY January 1965, Volume 11, Number 1, Ray Brandes, Editor

Smythe, William E. *History of San Diego 1542-1908* 2 vols., pp. 18, 542, 544, 611. San Diego: The History Company, 1908.

Van Dyke, Theodore Strong. *The City and County of San Diego Illustrated and Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent Men and Pioneers* San Diego: Leberthan & Taylor, 1888, pp. 139-142.

POSTAL HISTORY



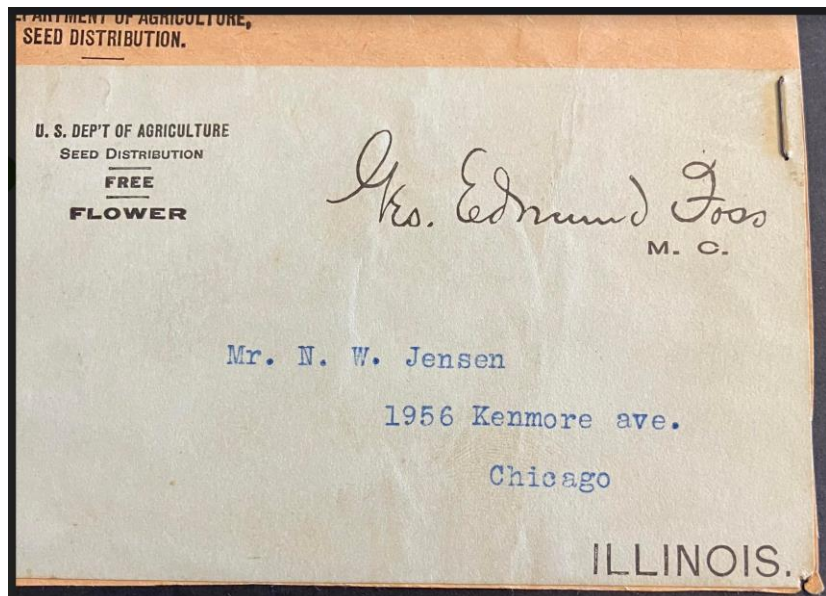
Member Article

By Bill O'Connor

A Brief Look at Signatures on selected United States Covers



In my last article I showed a Civil War cover that had the signature of a Member of Congress that permitted the free franking of the contents. Last time I was more interested in the contents that mentioned the weeks leading up to the first Battle of Bull Run. This time I would like to focus on six covers that look primarily at the signatures on the front of the envelope.



Foss Cover (franked) Courtesy B. O'Connor'

The first cover is another free franking piece this time from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. George Edmund Foss was a congressperson from Illinois, 1895-1913, and 1915-1919. Congressman Foss was helping a constituent to receive free seeds to no doubt promote agriculture. The signature appears to be real, but most modern signatures from congress are more than likely to be from some automatic writing system.



Washington Bicentennial (signed) Courtesy B. O'Connor'

The next cover is celebrating the George Washington Bicentennial of 1932. This cover has three New York congressmen's signatures; Matthew J. Marritt, Edward W. Curley, and Charles A. Buckley. This cover celebrates an important battle, although lost, it gave General Washington time to evacuate New York, and fight another day. I have another similar cover that also has three more signatures of New York members of congress.



Oregon Centennial (signed) Courtesy B. O'Connor

An interesting cover from 1936 which is a special cover celebrating the Oregon Territory Centennial. This territory formed the basis of five states: Oregon, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, and Washington. Roy E. Ayers was the governor of Montana in 1936. It would be interesting to acquire all the signatures of the various governors of the time on individual First Day Covers.



United Nations cover Courtesy B. O'Connor

This cover was shown to the club many years ago and it has four signatures on a cover that shows the opening of the first United Nations post office in New York in 1946. Lake Success was the original post office for the United Nations. The signatures include Byron F. Wood, a director of the US Post Office, Robert E. Hannegan, Postmaster General, Adrian Pelt, Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, and most importantly Trygve Lie, the first Secretary General of the United Nations.



Booker T. Washington cover Courtesy B. O'Connor

Booker T. Washington's birthplace is celebrated by this fascinating illustrated cover. The stamps used were issued for George Washington Carver on January 5, 1948; he was the founder of the Tuskegee Institute. In the 1940 American Educators series, Scott 873, you will see the 10-cent stamp issued for Booker T. Washington. I would not be surprised if some covers bear the 1940 issued stamp. In 1881, Professor Washington became the principal of the newly created Tuskegee Institute. This cover is signed by his daughter, who lived from 1883-1978.



Lillian Gish (signed) Courtesy B. O'Connor

The final signature for this presentation bears the name Lillian Gish. Miss Gish died in 1993 but may be best remembered as the female stat of the classic silent film, Birth of a Nation. D. W. Griffith was a famous movie producer and was honored by this 10-cent stamp for his many years given to the movie industry. Although somewhat controversial, many consider The Birth of a Nation is a breakthrough film for its technical contributions to the motion picture industry.

It is probably wise to have an expert in signatures certify the signature of a famous person. If you find a signature in a box of covers for a dollar or two, it may not be that important, but if you try to sell a signature on a cover, it may be the best course of action.

Note;

If you have an Amelia Earhart cover flown on her solo flight to Ireland over the Atlantic, I would love to see it.

Bill



Every Cover



Tells A Story

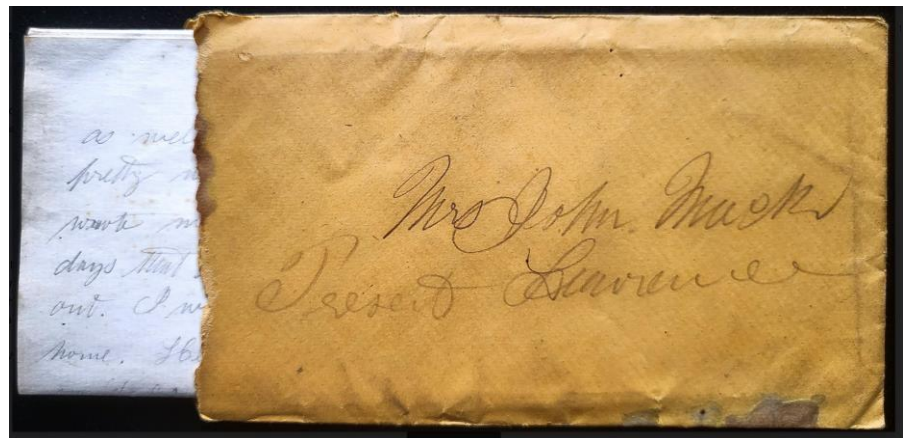
Member Article

By Jim Grundy

Every Cover Tells a Story



Typically, I write about a cover or postcard that has an interesting stamp, cancellation, cachet, picture or unique feature on it. This cover has none of these. What attracted me to this cover was its' yellow-brown color. From past examples, I learned that this color envelope was most often used between 1850 and 1875. To fully understand this cover, I had to research the address on the cover and the contents of the letter it contained.



John Mack Cover Courtesy (Jim Grundy)

The cover was sent to Mrs. J. W. Mack of Lawrence, Kansas. Lawrence Kansas is a small town 35 miles west of Kansas City and 25 miles east of Topeka. Founded in 1854, it was a stronghold for the antislavery movement in Kansas. The anti and proslavery groups were very active in Civil-War Era Kansas. In 1856, proslavery supporters carried out an attack on Lawrence that did major damage. In 1863, Quantrill's Raiders burned most of the town and killed over 150 men and boys. So, in the first nine years of its existence, Lawrence Kansas was sacked and burned twice. Lawrence became the capital of Kansas in 1858 and remained its' capital to 1861.

The enclosed letter reveals a lot more about the purpose of the cover and a great deal about the writer. The letter is sent by John (Mack) to his “Dear Darling Wife” (her name is never mentioned) on June 26th (no year is mentioned). He oversaw moving a large herd of cattle from Lawrence, Kansas to Laramie, Wyoming. At the time that he wrote the letter, he was fifty miles north of Lawrence and was feeling extremely tired from keeping the cattle moving in an orderly manner and his eyes were sore because of the dust and bright sun. The letter also tells how the letter was delivered. Willie Martin, one of Mack’s coworkers, would carry the letter with him on his return trip to Lawrence. Since Willie was returning the next morning, John told his wife to respond quickly so that Willie could pick it up on his return trip early the next morning. She was also instructed that if she could not finish the letter, she could send it to him at Fort Kearny, Nebraska. Fort Kearny was located on the Platte River and was an important stop on The Oregon Trail. John would have to use the Oregon Trail to get to Laramie. However, he was instructed in the letter to him from a person named Robinson that he was not to go to Laramie, Wyoming but to Fort Collins, Colorado. There was also a strange reference made saying that “the governor” had rode with the herd for two days after they left Lawrence. However, the most interesting part of the letter is the daily diary starting on Monday June 20th and ending on June 26th. Although the herd travelled fifty miles, the trip wasn’t without incident. Broken wagons, sick oxen, getting wagons stuck in holes or on top of tree stumps, and being dead tired were some of the problems that they endured. John Mack closes the letter by reminding his wife to write a letter for Willie to pick up in the morning and wishing that he could be with her that night instead of his letter.

The letter tells how it was delivered to John’s wife and explains why there wasn’t a stamp or a cancel on it. One thing it didn’t tell us was in what year the letter was written. But it did give us some clues. The letter couldn’t have been written before 1854 because Lawrence Kansas didn’t get its name until 1854. Another clue was the Fort Kearny reference. Fort Kearny opened in 1845 and closed in 1871. The closure was caused by the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad which made The Oregon Trail and Fort Kearny obsolete.

These two facts narrow the date range down to 1854 to 1871. The key clue was the Monday June 20th reference in John Mack's daily diary. Looking at calendars for the years 1854 to 1871, only three years had June 20th fall on a Monday. They were 1859, 1864, and 1870. The year 1859 appears to be the best fit and here is some more evidence to support that choice. Lawrence was the first capital of Kansas from 1858 to 1861. John mentioned that "the governor" rode with the herd the first two days after leaving Lawrence. The governor would have lived in the state capital. The name Robinson mentioned in the letter is also important. Dr. Charles Robinson was instrumental in persuading people to move to the Kansas Territory to live. He settled in the Lawrence area and encouraged the new settlers to do the same. In 1859, he became the first elected governor of Kansas and served until 1863. There is a strong possibility that Robinson and "the governor" were the same person. The best evidence indicates that the letter was written on June 26, 1859.

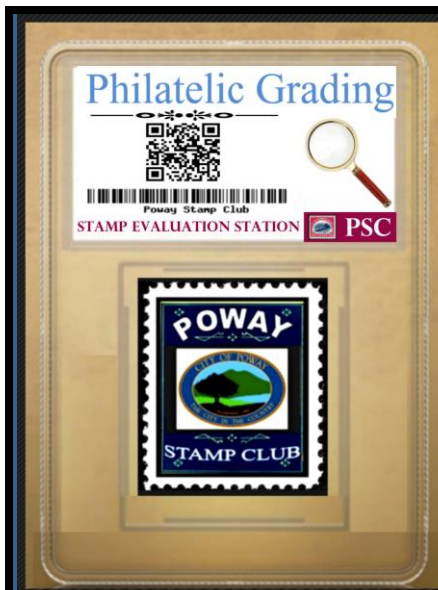
This cover is a perfect example of the adage "that you can't tell a book by its cover". At first glance, this cover appears to have nothing to offer. But with a little research, it reveals as story of frontier life in 1859. Keep this cover in mind the next time you find a "Plain Jane" looking cover, you may be surprised what you find inside and the story that it tells.

Jim



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Member Article

By David B. Waller

Stamp Valuation Centering



There are certain aspects of the appearance of a stamp that make it appealing to a collector. It could be the color, the subject matter, or the engraving. For me, a borderline obsessive compulsive individual, centering is often key when making the decision to add a stamp to my collection. Apparently, I am not alone. This aspect is probably one of the top determiners of value for early issue U.S. stamps. Like the valuation based on the number of a particular stamp issued, (see Poway Stamp Club Newsletter, May 2024 “Stamp Valuation; Hinged vs. Non-Hinged”), centering can also come down to the number of stamps produced in a particular condition and therefore provides another gauge for determining rarity. The problem arises when we consider that the actual number of well centered stamps produced is likely unknown.

At some point in time when I first began building my stamp collection, the question arose as to why well-centered stamps are so significantly more expensive than other less well-centered stamps of similar quality? Because I was attracted to these stamps, it became clear that the financial resources dedicated to collecting would have to be significantly more than originally anticipated. Of course, having a reasonable explanation for these valuations was helpful in justifying the allocation of these amounts to my collection. In fact, I began to look at my acquisitions as an investment and not just a hobby; a mindset that all collectors should avoid unless you are a dealer.

So, what constitutes a well-centered stamp and why are these stamps so much higher in value? In my article “Philatelic Grading: Centering, Poway Stamp Club Newsletter May 2023”, I quoted the Philatelic Foundation who states:

“A perforated stamp will be judged upon the centering of its design within the perforations. Imperforate stamps will be judged upon its centering within its margins and the size of those margins”.

However, while the phrase “centering of its design within the perforations” includes stamps in which all the margins are equivalent it also includes those stamps in which the margins on the top and bottom are equal but different from the side margins, which are also equal see Figure 1. Consequently, without a clear distinction between these two conditions, a valuation based on centering becomes challenging. The author prefers stamps in which the margins are relatively even on all sides.



A

B

Figure 1: A) Image taken from Ebay website (item number: 323086878025) showing top and bottom and left and right-side margins relatively even but different from each other and B) showing a stamp from the Author’s collection with relatively even margins on all four sides.

SMQ applies a numerical grading system to define centering. Figure 2 correlates their numerical values to the older letter grading designations.



Figure 2: Image taken from the Stamp Market Quarterly website showing their numerical grading system as it correlates to the older letter grading system.

To better understand how centering evolved as an important criterion for valuation, it is important to know how early United States stamps were perforated. In 1855, the United States government recognized that separating stamps from sheets using scissors or tearing was too time consuming. At the same time in Europe, several countries were issuing perforated stamps that resolved this issue. Consequently, the government purchased a Bemrose-style perforating machine (*i.e.*, also known as the rotary perforating machine) that utilized a punch wheel to perforate pregummed sheets of stamps hand fed into the machine. However, this hand-feeding process often generated stamps with variable centering (Figure 3). By 1857, the first perforated stamps were created.



Figure 3: Image taken from <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/> showing a rotary perforating machine (circa 1861) with stamp sheets being hand fed into the perforating wheel.

The rotary perforating machine required that each sheet of stamps be passed through the perforating roller twice; once vertically and then horizontally. Consequently, unlike the process of hinging a stamp, which affects only a single stamp, a minor offset on a single pass through the Bemrose machine simultaneously affected 50 stamps. Accuracy of feeding the stamp sheets into the machine relied on the skill level of the operator and their experience with the machine. This was exacerbated by the extremely narrow spacing between the stamps on a sheet.

Shortly after the first machine was put into service, additional machines were ordered, and more operators hired. With new operators requiring training, it is not difficult to see why some issues are notoriously poorly centered (e.g. Scott nos. 26 general issue of 1857 (narrow margins) and 112-132 pictorial issues of 1869).

Table I shows examples of centering for Scott no. 231, 2-cent Columbian Exposition Issue, that includes the letter and estimated numerical grades as well as their listed price for comparison. The multiplication factor, shown in parenthesis under the listed price, is calculated by dividing the prices by \$1.25 for each specimen shown.

Table 1:

1893 Columbian Exposition Issue Scott # 231			
Image	Letter/Numerical Grade*	Listed Price	Information
	G/65 (perforations cut into engraved image)	\$1.25 (1X)**	Ebay Item no. 386998147099 NYStamps
	F/70 (all perforations clear the engraved image, but there is very little margin)	\$10.50 (8.4X)	Ebay Item no. 355712170756 NYStamps
	F-VF/75 (four clear margins with two of the four sides have approximately equally spaced margins)	\$35.00 (28X)	Ebay Item no. 326111020500 Zayix Stamps and Collectibles
	VF-XF/85 (There are clear margins with three of the four sides having approximately equally spaced margins)	\$59.00 (47X)	Ebay Item no. 333581060838 Randy Scholl Stamp Co.
	XF /90 (approximately four equally spaced margins)	\$140.00 (112X)	Ebay Item no. 404275360141 NYStamps

*Estimated numerical grade

** Multiplication factor




When viewing stamps in an album, their centering is immediately obvious unlike their gum condition. This is possibly why the aesthetics of centering is a key aspect that appeals to collectors, making well-centered stamps highly sought after, increasing demand, and resulting in higher prices.

The use of hinges in the mid-1870's significantly reduced the number of mint NH specimens available to collectors. Adding a preferred centering further limits this number even more. Consequently, it is not difficult to surmise that the number of mint NH numerical grade 90 and above would be considerably rare. The author believes that better centering:

1. supports the increased valuation of a non-hinged specimen compared to a hinged specimen.
Meaning that if the valuation of a NH stamp is many times more expensive than a hinged specimen, then a better centered specimen will further support that increased valuation;
2. can increase the value of Mint NH stamp over ten (10) times that of a less well-centered specimen in Mint NH condition; and
3. will likely result in an increase in value over time particularly for those stamps having a numerical grade of 90 or above because of their rarity.

Table 2 provides a comparison of the value of hinged vs. non-hinged for Scott no. 292 \$1 Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue stamps based on centering to illustrate the statements above. The multiplication factor is shown in parenthesis under the listed price for each specimen. This factor is calculated by dividing the listed price by \$599.98 for each specimen shown.

Table 2:

1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue Scott # 292			
Image	Letter/Numerical Grade*	Listed Price	Information
	F-VF/75	\$599.98 (1X)**	MINT LH OG browsehouse Ebay no.: 315366055953
	F-VF/75	\$2,000.00 (3.3X)	MINT NH OG PSE CERT. #85930 MOMEN STAMPS INC. Ebay no.: 404694167185
	XF/95	\$8,500.00 (14.2X)	MINT LH OG SUPERB PF & PSE CERTS. MOMEN STAMPS INC. Ebay no.: 202909450096
	XF/95	\$17,500.00 (29.2X)	MINT NH OG dreamtrophy Ebay no.: 353386999512

*Estimated numerical grade

** Multiplication factor

In summary, a stamp can be valued much higher than expected when it is well-centered. Correspondingly, if that stamp has a low issue number and is unhinged, it may easily command a price up to, and potentially exceeding 100 times catalog value.



Member Article

By Manny Marti

HAIFA to Puerto Rico



1949 Israel First Day Cover (Scot #27) to Puerto Rico

Brief History

Haifa city, in northwestern Israel is the principal port of the country, it lies along the Bay of Haifa overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. Haifa is first mentioned in the Talmud (c. 1st–4th century CE). Eusebius, in later times, was taken by Napoleon in 1799. Ibrāhi Pasha, the Egyptian general and viceroy, captured Haifa in 1839 but was compelled to surrender it to Turkey in 1840 under the pressure of the fleets of the European powers, led by Britain.

In 1918 British forces occupied the town, and it subsequently (1922) became part of mandated Palestine. Haifa, with its key port and industries, was of great concern to the combatants in the Palestine war of 1948–49. The Arabs and the Haganah, the Jewish defense forces, fought for control of the city, and on April 22, 1948, the Arabs surrendered.

AND NOW FOR THE COVER

A very stunning in-bound Registered cover to Ramey Air Force Base also known as Borinquen Field, a former United States Air Force base in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. It was named after United States Army Air Forces Brigadier General Howard Knox Ramey. The cover was mailed from Haifa, Israel (date stamped 8/10/1949) to a Lt. Jack Fields. It arrived in New York (based on the registry date stamp) on August 18th, 8 days later.



HAIFA



NEW YORK, N.Y.

The two cancels from the back side of the FDC showing the Haifa post office cancel and the arrival at the New York, N.Y. Registry Office

From there it went to Miami, Florida, APO 851. Here is the kicker; APO 851 is FORT BROOKE, SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO. So why did it go to Miami?

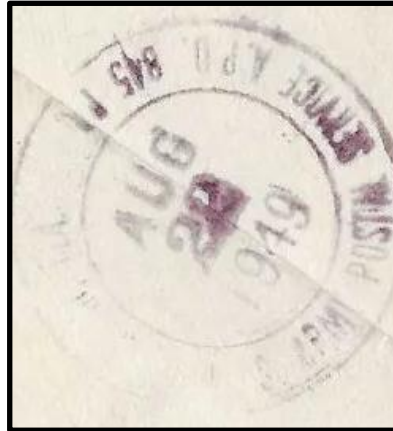


APO 851 from back of cover, Is this a "Transit" cancel?

Fort Brooke Military Reservation is located in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and includes the Spanish-built El Morro and San Cristobal Fortresses. Fort Brooke was in Fort San Felipe del Morro, also known as El Morro, a Spanish colonial fort.

The fort was named after United States Army Major General John Rutter Brooke, who was known as "John Ruller" during the American Civil War and the Spanish American War.

Fort Brooke housed offices for military staff, police, technicians, observers, medical personnel, music band members, and motor pool workers. It finally got to its destination at Ramey Air Force Base, APO 845. I would like to hear from any member who can explain why Ft Brooke cancel is from Miami and not from San Juan.?



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Manny

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Wanted: Puerto Rico Town cancels. Bring to a meeting. Will trade or buy? See member M. Marti PSC # 410.

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STAMP NEWS



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The 2024 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” .

USPS end of the year 2024 Stamp Releases!

GASS



THURSDAY First Day of Issue

Pinback Buttons

United States Postal Service

Pane of 20, forever

Thursday, Aug. 15

11:00 a.m.

on show floor, stage next to USPS



New Issue

National Duck Stamp Collectors Society
Pane of 12

Thursday, Aug. 15
3:00 p.m. on show floor,
stage next to USPS



Island Aviation through the Decades

Rattlesnake Island Local Post
3 stamps will feature the Ford Tri-motor, the
DeHavilland Beaver, the Piper Archer

Friday, Aug. 16
3:00 p.m. on show floor,
stage next to USPS

FRIDAY - First Day of Issue



Autumn Colors

United States Postal Service
Pane of 20, forever

Friday, Aug. 16
11:00 a.m.
on show floor, stage next to USPS

Stamps	Release Date	City	State	ZIP
1-cent Fringed Tulip (no ceremony) 2-cent Daffodils 3-cent Peonies 5-cent Red Tulips 10-cent Poppies and Coneflowers	July 18	Berkeley	CA	94704
Hank Aaron	July 31	Atlanta	GA	30304
Dungeons & Dragons	Aug. 1	Indianapolis	IN	46206
Pinback Buttons	Aug. 15	Hartford	CT	06101
Autumn Colors	Aug. 16	Hartford	CT	06101
First Continental Congress: 1774	Sept. 5	Philadelphia	PA	19104
Christmas Madonna and Child 2024	Sept. 14	Washington	DC	20066
Holiday Joy	Sept. 14	Washington	DC	20066
Hanukkah	Sept. 19	Washington	DC	20066
Kwanzaa	Sept. 25	Pittsburgh	PA	15290
Winter Whimsy (no ceremony)	Oct. 10	Park City	UT	84060

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