

Poway Stamp Club



San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club

May 8th 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, **May 8th** Program will be a

philatelic presentation by:

APS Movie

&

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, **May 22nd** Program will be a philatelic presentation by:

John Richardson

&

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
Letter 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

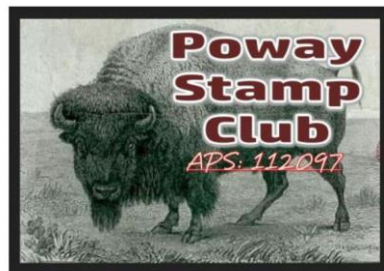
PSC Representatives:

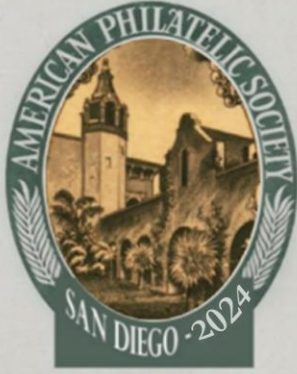
Federal Rep: Bill O'Connor
S.D. Phil. Council: Nick Soroka
Rep (Alternate) Art Berg
Chapter 112097 APS Ambassador
 Trice Klauber
ATA Rep Bob McArthur

Cover Stamp ON PAGE 1

Is an example of the 2024 Westpex souvenir sheet which celebrates the 150th anniversary of the UPU. This stamp is the recent acquisition of one of our members. SV ~\$?

May	May	8, 2024	APS Movie – Presentation
	May	22, 2024	John Richardson
June	Jun	12, 2024	TBD – Presentation
	Jun	26, 2024	TBD – Presentation
July	Jul	10, 2024	David Klauber
	Jul	24, 2024	TBD – Presentation
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	Pong – Presentation
	Apr	24, 2025	TBD – Presentation





APSO

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. **Bid Boad II** – Due potential conflicts with Westpex 2024, the Poway Stamp Club Bid Board started on April 20th and End May 4th 2024 at Noon.
3. **Local Show** (New shows this year!)

SANDIPEX 2024

Show Schedule

May 26	August 11
Sept. 8	October 13
June 23	November 10
July 21	December 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: cbstamp@aol.com

4. **Club Participation** – Club members are strongly encouraged to provide input for the bi-monthly newsletter. Your participation is critical to our success as a Club. Please submit items to the Club Secretary at Indysmama@gmail.com.



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. **Quality Shows** – Stephen Pattillo, *P.O. Box 604, Fullerton, CA 92836, Phone: 562-694-2828* email: number1banana@hotmail.com

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

6. **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 of the articles are written by members and feature colorful illustrations.
 - Buy stamps on-line 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 own 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).

7. **2024 Great American Stamp Show** - Hartford

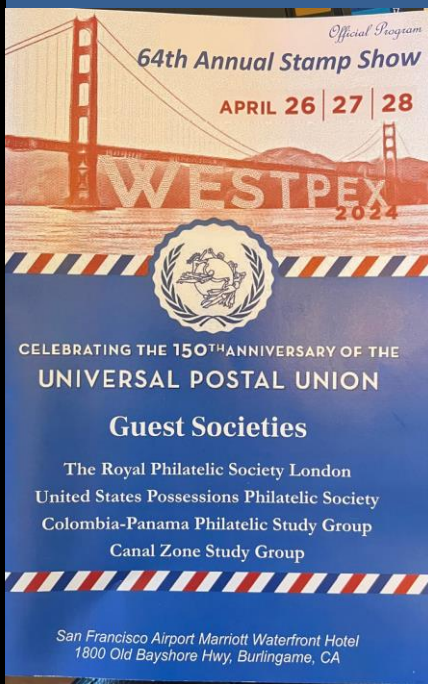
Aug 15-18. Connecticut Convention Center, Hall AB.

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.

8. **WESTPEX** – As many of you know we visited the show on April 26-28. It was a wonderful show. We met with many philatelic friends including at an APS Town Hall with Scott English. There are many interesting things going on at APS. The least of which is a future outreach program that will be specifically for APS affiliated Club organizations. We look forward to the interchange.



Mark Banchik (frames)

Two of our members entered frames into the show including **Mark Banchik** (Large Gold) and **Ron Couchot**. (Gold Award). Both were awarded.



Ron Couchot (frames)



CLOSED ALBUM

By Bill O'Connor & David Klauber



It is with deep regret that we announce that one of our PSC members, **George Toussaint**, has passed.

It was a great shock to hear the news of George Toussaint's passing a short time ago. He was one of those individuals so calm and quiet that one assumes he would have gone on forever. His commitment and passion for the hobby we all admire was unbounded.

George was so well versed in what we may label the non-Scott catalogue material that is so difficult in some cases to understand and determine value. I never saw him get angry or perplexed in his dealings with any of us. Being a distinguished retired member of the fire department perhaps gives us some understanding of the type of person he was considering the very arduous and complex profession in which he gave so much of his life.

He was extremely organized and worked his utmost to support the San Diego County Philatelic Library. His work in organizing the library and codifying the duties and requirements for all officers of this organization lives on. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, who has been very ill for quite some time, and whom he has given so much attention and love these past many years.

With respect and gratitude from his friends at the Poway Stamp Club and the San Diego County Philatelic Library. He will be greatly missed by those of us whose lives He touched.

May He Rest in Peace

Member Article

By George Toussaint

The History of German Local Stamps



In Memory of George, the PSC has republished one of his articles that addressed his favorite Philatelic Interest, German Stamps.

German Postmaster Heinrich v. Stephan, rejuvenator of the German postal service, recognized that the country had to fulfill major responsibilities with the postal services. Liberal circles, on the other hand, opined that the monopoly of carrying goods, money and mail made the state a “privileged carrier”.

After Prussian postal regulations of 1852, the city mail did not fall under postal regulation. Enterprising businessmen and unions saw an opportunity to compete with the state by cheaper mail delivery and still gain profits. The first such private city mail was organized by businessmen of Hamburg in 1861. It was well used and liked; its success encouraged other cities to follow suit. Well over 100 Privat-Beforderungs-Anstalten were created serving over 125 cities. Many had to close when profits did not materialize.

Some of the larger cities, such as Berlin, Hamburg, etc, had eight plus private carriers. Some carriers, Hansa, Mercur, Courier, etc., provided services in numerous cities. The stamps produced ranged from definitive types (Fig. 1) to the very ornate and attractive (Fig 2).



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

The side-by-side existence of state and private posts (1861 to 1900) caused many problems during their co-existence. One writer deemed it “postal anarchy”.

Aside from the well-founded and respectable local posts there also those owners who made stamps and sold them but never opened for business. Others were in conflict with laws by collecting mail for other cities, shipping them and having them delivered locally.

The cheaper rates, averaging 2 Pfg, precluded time-consuming searches for the addressee. A Berlin firm actually used regular 3 Pfg stamps for undeliverable mail and put them in the state mail. They lost a little money but left it to the state to search for the addresses.

Other losses occurred when the postmen destroyed the letters because the way was too difficult and far or because they wanted the stamps for themselves. According to official records, on New Year of 1886, fishermen found packets of mail discarded by a carrier in the Weser River. In Breslau in 1887, a large packet of letters was found on the frozen Oder River. These are only a few of the official records of such losses. An important aspect of the state mail was confidentiality. It turns out that this was not taken very seriously by the private mail services. In the state mail service, special officers had the responsibility of opening undelivered mail. Such laws did not exist for the private carriers and they opened the mail although not authorized to do so.

Debates in the Reichstag and news accounts were continuous. The Social Democrats wanted the state to lower the price for local deliveries. They were hoping to put the private carriers out of business. Postmaster Stephan was vehemently opposed. He stated “Gentlemen, is this the means by which you protect private business against fiscal exploration? I find no logic for this, compared to your otherwise liberal concept of bureaucracy”.

But the private mail carriers were not idle in their fight for their local postal rights. They worked on a position paper in which they pointed out that many officials also used the private mail for their letters. The Berlin newspapers made fun of this in their papers. The law of 1867 regarding postal services of the Norddeutschen Bundes specifically excluded the city mail and the law of the Deutsches Reiches of 1871 didn't change this aspect of mail service.

The local post was as privileged as the Thurn & Taxis post, and when they received a grant of 3 million Thaler, the state had to pay the 80 private carriers a total of 6 million Marks, after Chancellor Bismarck outlawed private mail carriers in 1899.

After April 1, 1900 private mail service ceased in the entire country. A major portion of the personnel and some of the buildings were incorporated into the state mail service. Just how large these services had become is seen by the Berlin-Paketfahrt-Gesellschaft, whose buildings and equipment were justifiably famous, who were processing over 70 million letters annually.

Germany started allowing private carriers again in 1996. Two separate catalogs detailing the local city posts are published by Michel.

George



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.

**Sharron Watson
Larry Segal**

We have 2 new members since our last newsletter. Membership has been granted to the following person(s):

#585 Sharron Watson, Poway, San Diego County California Sharron was presented for membership by Member Trice Klauber and was approved by the membership by unanimous vote. We look forward to having Sharron continue to join us at meetings. Sharron is a new collector and has a Stamp Collecting interest in U.S. Stamps. Welcome aboard Sharron.

#586 Larry Segal, San Diego California Larry a returning member was also presented for membership by Trice Klauber and was approved by the membership by unanimous vote. Larry also collects US stamps and will be a valuable addition to our club. We hope to see Larry at our future meetings and club activities. It's good to have Larry as a new member of our club.

This brings our total paid membership to 143. 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 covers is of San Diego Pioneer, **George W. Marston**.



George White Marston (1850-1946)

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 (odddity) 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)

According to the **San Diego History Center**, San Diego Ca. at Sandiegohistory.org. **George Marston** was one of the excellent community servants in the history of San Diego. He was born in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, in 1850. Marston came to California with his father in 1870 when he was only 20 years old, first to San Francisco and then on to San Diego in October aboard the sidewheeler *Senator*. The population of San Diego in 1870 was around 2,300.

Marston’s first job in San Diego was as a clerk in the **Horton** House hotel, which had opened just one week before his arrival. Among his duties there was brushing the dust-off visitors’ clothing before they entered the hotel. After six months at Horton House, he took a job with **Aaron Pauly** and Sons general merchandise store, warehouse, and wharf office. Starting in 1872, he clerked for storekeeper **Joseph Nash** for five years before he and a partner **Charles Hamilton** bought out Nash for \$10,000. In 1872, Marston and Hamilton helped open a free reading room. In 1873 he was secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and later its president.

In 1878, Marston married **Anna Lee Gunn**, together they had five children. The Marston Company ultimately became San Diego’s leading department store. It not only provided him with great wealth, but it led to buying trips to San Francisco and New York, and experiences there developed his interest in park design and urban planning — the two areas in which he made his greatest contributions to San Diego. In 1887-1889, he served on the San Diego city council. Later, Marston ran for mayor of San Diego in 1913 and 1917 and lost both times, after critics somewhat unfairly painted him as unfriendly to business and interested in beautification rather than growth. In the 1917 mayoral election the controversy over differing visions of the city’s future came to be known as the “**Smokestacks vs. Geraniums**” debate.

Marston believed in business, of course, but was tagged by Louis Wilde as “Geranium George” for favoring planning and civic beauty. Wilde (smokestacks) defeated Marston in 1917, San Diego struggles with these two visions even today. Although Marston supported reform, his reformist impulses manifested themselves most significantly in a conservative agenda of park development and city planning.

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-separated 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”.

In 1902 Marston put up \$10,000 to prepare the first comprehensive plan for Balboa Park. Later he again contributed his personal funds to prepare San Diego's first comprehensive plan in 1908 which in 1926 was adopted as a guide to San Diego's urban development. He donated the Serra Museum, designed by **William Templeton Johnson**, and Presidio Park, with its architectural remains of the San Diego presidio, to the people of San Diego. **Irving Gill** designed Marston's home and had extensive contact with him through the early planning of the 1915 Panama-California Exposition in City Park. Marston served as chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee for the Exposition.

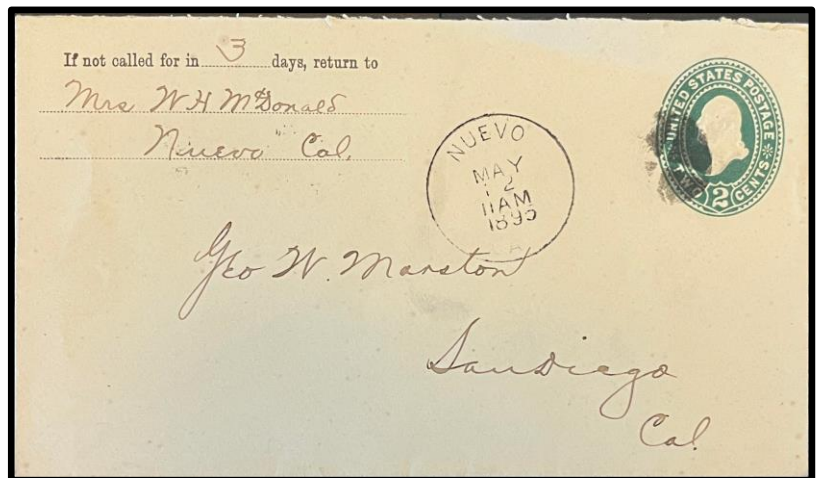
Marston was a founder and first president of the San Diego History Center in 1928; as one of its organizers he served as Trustee of the San Diego Public Library; he was one of the founders of the YMCA in 1882, serving on its board for 62 years, and as president for 22; Trustee of the San Diego State Normal School; City Council member; Park Commissioner; chairman of the Parks and Beaches Association. He raised funds and donated his own money to help start what are now Torrey Pines and Anza-Borrego Desert State Parks. Marston was known for his love of ice skating. He was still skating at the age of ninety. My Aunt, **Laura Klauber Peterhans** can remember as a young girl seeing a very old George Marston still ice skating. When he died in 1946 at age 96, George Marston was truly regarded as “San Diego's First Citizen.”

The Covers

It's not every day that you come across a historic philatelic cover with the name of a San Diego historic and/or legendary characters. Recently I came across 2 such interesting San Diego County Covers.

As a collector and *amateur* historian, I became very interested in the covers when I noticed that the covers recipient was a George W. Marston, one of San Diego's important pioneers and historic figure. Additionally, one of the covers was mailed from one of the towns who's name no longer exists in San Diego County.

The first cover (**Figure 1.**) Was sent from a town called **Nuevo** which is now called **Ramona**, “**Nuevo**” was renamed **Ramona** in 1886. Ramona (Nuevo) was/is located thirty-five miles northeast of the city of **San Diego**, situated in the Santa Maria Valley, nearly due east of Poway, San Diego, County. The Cover has a **SAN-3710** postmark listed as a (1c) 27.5mm mark with a value rating on 3¹.



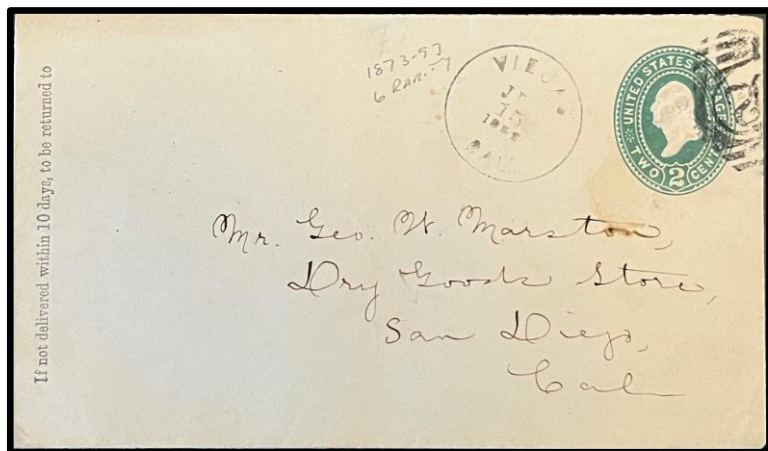
(Figure 1.) George W. Marston Cover



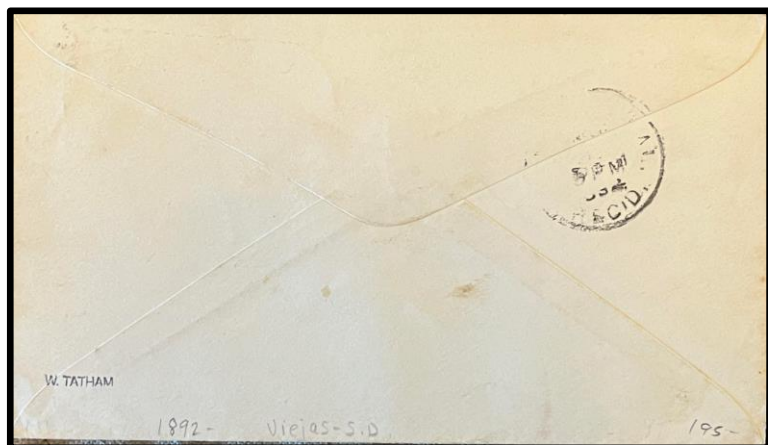
(Figure 2.) George W. Marston Cover (Back)

A close examination of the Marston cover (Figure 1) reveals that the sender used a Sc #U311 2c Dark Green George Washington Postal Stationary Cover that was mailed from Nuevo to San Diego **on May 22nd**, which is a significant day, because May 22 1895, 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 same day in San Diego.

The second cover (**Figure 3.**) Was sent from **Viejas in 1892.** With the establishment of the post office, this place, known in mission and rancho days as Mesa del Arroz and Valle de las Viejas, later became officially “Alpine.” The new name, coinciding with a tuberculosis epidemic, which drew patients from near and far. “Best Climate in the U.S.A. by Government Report.” Changing it to a more marketable name like “Alpine” was a pretty good idea! The Cover has a **SAN-6690** postmark listed as a (1c) 27.5mm mark with a very high value rating on 6¹. The cover is mailed to George W. Marston’s “Dry Goods Store” a rare designation for a historical SD cover.



(Figure 3.) 1892 George W. Marston Cover



(Figure 4.) 1892 George W. Marston Cover (back)

David

Bibliography

1. *California Postmarks, John Williams Sebastopol Cal, 95472, vol I-II.*

POSTAL HISTORY



Member Article

By Bill O'Connor

Civil War Letter and Envelope; June 2, 1861



I was thinking of writing an article concerning signatures found on covers when I came across an envelope with what appears to be the signature of a Member of Congress. I have not been able to determine the person, but the contents of the letter were very interesting and speaks to conditions of the Union army in and around Washington D.C. in June of 1861.



Civil War Cover (Courtesy Bill O'Connor)

The writer is sending this correspondence to a friend, Jacob W. Cooper, of New York city. He is encamped at a place called Camp Sandford in Arlington Heights, some eight miles from Washington D.C. The troops all seem to be from units of volunteers, enlisted for three months, and come from New York, Albany, and some from Massachusetts.

Camp Standford
Arlington Heights Va. 25th 1861

Friend Jacob

I received your letter yesterday of the 30th of May and was glad to hear that you are well and hoping this will find you the same I received the paper you sent to me

I sent a letter to Smust in care off you we have been sworn into the united State Army for three months to date from the 25th of April and the next day we got orders to pack up our traps to go to Arlington Heights the next morning (Sunday) of cause for it has been a moving day for us ever since we have been hear

From Washington to Arlington Heights is about eight miles and about four of it through the woods which I tell you it made the grace come right out and I did not like that kind of work on such a warm day as that was we arrived on the Heights about noon and then we though our work was done but we got mistaken

Civil War Letter (Courtesy Bill O'Connor)

The writer of the letter, Henry Burnet, and most of the people in his tent were from various New York fireman units, he being from Engine 12. Henry complains about the work, the heat, and the lack of food. They are located in the grounds of General Lee's residence, that person being the newly appointed leader of all Virginian troops that have seceded from the United States.

Henry then mentions his unit is under the command of General McDowell whose army has some 4,500 troops according to the letter. They are expecting orders to move into a place called Manassas Gap some twenty miles south of their location. He also mentions being pleased about the most recent election. I assume he is mentioning the election of Abraham Lincoln as the most recent president of the United States.

The Battle of Bull Run, also called the Battle of Manassas Junction, July 21, 1861, proved a stunning set back for the Union army and set the stage for a long and arduous war. General Lee finally surrendered in April of 1865 at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

Notes;

Camp Stanford was named for General Charles W. Standford, the first commander of the New York volunteers. General Irwin McDowell was a friend of Lee and treated his family and property with great respect. After the defeat at Manassas Junction, General McDowell was replaced by General George B. McCellan. Members of Congress have had the right via the free franking privilege to send correspondence to members of their constituency from the beginning of our Republic. I do not think Members of Congress have the right to allow others to use this privilege. Members of our military have had the right to send letters free of postage in many military engagements; was this true during the Civil War?

Regards,

Bill



Every Cover



Tells A Story

Member Article

By Jim Grundy

Every Cover Tells a Story



I have about a dozen Charles Lindbergh covers and postcards in my collection. Why did I pick this cover to write about? It's a plain, toned, envelope with a Cuba, Scott C2, stamp that was canceled in Havana, Cuba on February 8, 1928. I feel that this cover represents Charles Lindbergh's flying skill but also highlights the aircraft that did the "heavy lifting" and carried Lindbergh non-stop across the Atlantic Ocean—The Spirit of St. Louis. What are the connections between this cover, Charles Lindbergh, and the Spirit of St. Louis?



Lindbergh Cover Courtesy (Jim Grundy)

Before the history of the Spirit of St. Louis is discussed, some pieces of Lindbergh's life have to be shared. Charles Augustus Lindbergh (1902-1974) was first exposed to airplanes when his mother took him to an air show at the age of ten. His love of aviation never left him. In 1920, he started college to study mechanical engineering but dropped out in 1922 to barnstorm as a wing walker and parachute daredevil. In 1923, after two, half hour flying lessons, he bought his own airplane and after five hours of practice he determined that he knew enough about flying to rejoin the barnstorming circuit.

In 1924, he enlisted in the Army Air Corp and earned his wings in 1925, graduating at the head of his class. He was assigned to the Army Air Corp Reserve as an inactive pilot. Being a skilled pilot, he did find work flying the mail from St. Louis to Chicago and back on the C.A.M. 2 route. It was during this time period that he became aware of Orteig Prize. The Orteig Prize of \$25,000 was offered for the first nonstop flight between New York and Paris (in either direction). Lindbergh felt that he had the skills needed to complete the flight but that he would need a special airplane to do it.

This special airplane had to meet certain requirements: one engine, one seat, one wing, and had to be built in 60 days. The sixty-day construction time was critical because of rumors that other groups were about to attempt to win the prize. After discussions with several airplane manufacturers, Ryan Airways of San Diego was the only one to accept the challenge. Ryan Airways suggested that the airplane was to be a modified version of the Ryan M-2 which was in use carrying the mail. The cost of building this airplane was quoted at slightly over \$10,000. Since Lindbergh only had \$2,000 of his own money, he returned to Saint Louis to raise the extra funds. Enthusiastic friends gave him the extra money that he needed. Ryan Airways agreed to build the aircraft and Lindbergh moved to San Diego to help with engineering and construction.

The aircraft was originally named the M-1 NYP (for New York to Paris) but because of the support that he received from donors in Saint Louis, Lindbergh changed the name to The Spirit of Saint Louis. The major problem was how to get the plane off the ground. The 450 gallons of fuel required to make the flight weighed over 2700 pounds. To offset this additional weight, several essentials such as the radio, sextant, gas gauges, navigation light, and parachute were removed. However, a life raft was kept onboard. The landing gear was reinforced, the wingspan was increased by 10 feet, and a Wright Whirlwind engine was installed. This engine, unlike other engines of this period, was self-lubricating and didn't need to be serviced until after 40 hours of flight time. Five fuel tanks would be required. Three would be placed in the wing and the other two would be put behind the engine in the front of the plane.

To complicate the construction even more, a tank to hold the oil needed to lubricate the engine had to be placed behind the two forward fuel tanks. The two fuel tanks and the oil tank took up so much room that the windshield had to be removed and a periscope installed to get a forward view. This arrangement would limit the space in the cockpit so much that it would be impossible for Lindbergh to extend his legs during the flight! With all these equipment additions and subtractions, The Spirit would weigh over 5200 pounds at takeoff.

The Spirit of St. Louis and Lindbergh flew out of San Diego on May 10, 1927. After a stop in Saint Louis, they landed at Curtiss Field in New York on May 12th. In the process, they would set a transcontinental speed record of 21 hours and 40 minutes. Bad weather delayed their Paris flight attempt until May 20th. At several minutes before 8:00 A.M., Lindbergh roared down the wet grass of Roosevelt Field, bounced up and down several times, and finally became airborne. Being able to clear telephone lines at the end of the field by less than 20 feet, they were on their way to Paris. After 33 hours and 30 minutes of flight time and flying at attitudes from 10 feet to over 10,000 feet to avoid weather conditions, they landed in Paris. Lindbergh was pulled out of the airplane and carried on the shoulders of the crowd that was waiting for his arrival. The Spirit of St. Louis was defaced by people looking for souvenirs.

From France, they flew to Belgium and then to England. There, the airplane was disassembled and both the Spirit and Lindbergh returned to the United States on the U.S.S. Memphis. On their arrival back in the United States, the plane was reassembled and flown to Washington D.C. to meet President Calvin Coolidge. From there, it was to New York for a ticker tape parade. On July 20, 1927, the Spirit and Lindbergh started a 95 day tour of the United States sponsored by The Daniel Guggenheim Fund to Promote Aeronautics. In these 95 days, the pair visited 82 cities in all 48 states, and covered 22,350 miles. Next for the two was a good will tour of Mexico, Central America, Columbia, Venezuela, and the Caribbean. The tour started in Washington D.C. on December 13th and ended in Havana, Cuba on February 8th.

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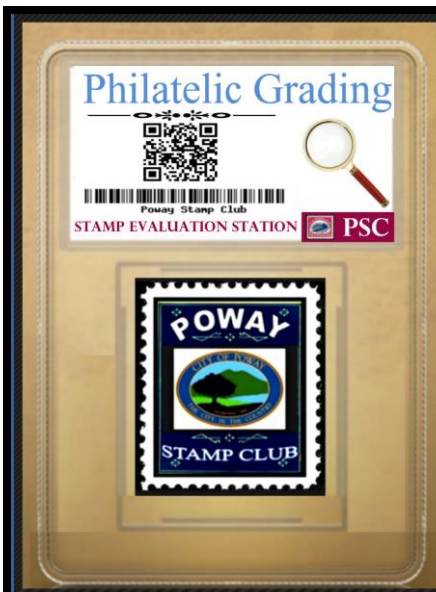
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February 8, 1928, is the cancel date on the cover. The stamp that appears on the cover, Scott C2, was issued on this date to honor Lindbergh's arrival in Havana and making the cover a first day cover. Havana was also the starting point of the next to last flight that the Spirit of St. Louis would make. On February 13th, the Spirit flew from Havana on a return trip to Saint Louis. The last flight it would make would be on April 28, 1928, when Lindbergh flew from St. Louis to Washington to donate the Spirit of St. Louis to The Smithsonian Institute. In 1975, the Spirit of St. Louis was moved into the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum where it remains to be one of the museum's most popular attractions.

Only one year and two days elapsed from the time of first test flight of the Spirit of St. Louis in San Diego until its last flight to Washington D.C. Over this short time span, The Spirit set a transcontinental crossing speed record, carried Lindbergh from New York to Paris, visited twenty countries, all forty-eight states, made a total 174 flights, and logged 490 hours of flight time. It was The Spirit of St. Louis that made Charles A. Lindbergh famous!

Jim





Member Article

By David B. Waller

Stamp Valuation Hinged vs. Non-Hinged



As a beginning stamp collector there are questions that inevitably arise when we begin diligently filling in the empty spaces in our albums. I knew that building my stamp collection would be a lifelong endeavor, albeit with fits and starts. I also knew that if I was going to invest a significant amount of time and money into this collection, then I wanted, first and foremost, to enjoy the process and secondly have my investment grow as my collection matured. Consequently, I chose to collect only the highest quality stamps that I could afford. As I began my quest, I started finding exceptional stamps that would be perfect for my collection at significantly lower prices merely because they were hinged. I chose not to collect these beautiful stamps because they did not meet my second criteria. While these stamps would likely increase in value, they would surely not achieve the growth potential of those without hinge marks. As time went on and the focus of my collection narrowed to United States commemoratives issued between the years of 1893 and 1934, the missing stamps in the collection became exponentially more expensive. This resulted in a reevaluation of selecting hinged stamps to fill those more expensive spots in the collection. At some point, the questions arose as to why hinged unused stamps are so significantly less expensive than the same quality stamp listed as mint no hinge (NH)?

In my previous articles, I discussed a possible grading system that removed the subjective evaluations of stamps and replaced them with objective determinations grounded in physical reproducible measurements to obtain a grade for an individual stamp. In this next series, I will discuss how this grading criteria is reflected in the value of a stamp. This article provides the author's opinion as to why the value of hinged vs. non-hinged stamps varies so significantly.

We begin, "... In a galaxy far, far away..." (Starwars), when individuals first began collecting stamps. The question arose on how to protect them and make viewing the collection convenient. Around 1868, the first stamp hinge was introduced to address this issue (Stampsmarter.org). They are small, folded, transparent, rectangular pieces of paper coated with a mild gum (wikipedia.org). In use, one end of the hinge is moistened and affixed to the back of the stamp and the other is moistened and affixed to the album. Up until the early 1950's this was the only way to mount stamps in an album. Consequently, many avid collectors utilized this method, unknowingly impacting the value of their collection.

In general, the value of a stamp may be based on many factors. One of the primary factors is the number issued. More particularly, a stamp with a lower issue number generally garners a higher price (*i.e.*, there are fewer of these stamps to go around). However, this is not always the case. For example, there were 56,900 stamps issued of Scott no. 292 (\$1 Trans-Mississippi Issue, "Cattle in Storm") and only 55,050 stamps issued of Scott no. 241 (\$1 Columbian Issue, "Queen Isabella Pledging Her Jewels"). However, a mint NH Scott no. 292 sells for considerably more than a similar quality Scott no. 241. While the issue number can demonstrate a stamp's scarcity there are other factors that affect a stamp's rarity (*see* Table 1).

Table 1:

Trans-Mississippi "Cattle in Storm" Scott no. 292					
Number Issued	56,900				
Used for Postage	28,450 (~50%)	Mint	28,450 (~50%)		
		Hinged	21,337 (~75%)	Unhinged	5,334 (25%)
				Damaged *	213 (1%)
				Mint NH	~5,100

*Estimated percentage of stamps damaged while in a collection due to water, moisture, heat, fire or the like. Note these percentages are hypothetical and for demonstration purposes only.

Table 1 provides a hypothetical example centered around Scott no. 292 to demonstrate how the number of mint, NH stamps plunge precipitously based on estimated percentages of the conditions listed. This hypothetical proposes that only 9% (*i.e.* 5,100) of the stamps issued may currently exist in mint NH condition as compared to 37% (*i.e.* 21,124, 21,337 – 213) in mint hinged condition. Consequently, this stamp's popularity and low number available in mint NH condition has elevated their value significantly.

Examples of this effect on the 30-cent 1893 Columbian Exposition issue, Scott no. 239 and the 3-cent 1919 World War I Victory issue, Scott no. 537 are shown in Figure 1.

A



239, Mint VF-XF NH 30¢ Columbian
eBay item number: 235511368955
Stuart Katz Stamps & Coins
Starting Bid: \$1,095.00



SCOTT #239 VF-XF MINT LH
1893 ORANGE BROWN COLUMBUS AT LA RABIDA
eBay item number:304877885878
Georgetownlaw
Buy it now: \$116.25

B



US Stamps # 537 MNH XF
Anthony's Stamps and Coins
US \$25.00 (price paid)
eBay item number:386289109962



US Scott 537, 1919 Victory' and Flags of Allies,
3c violet, LH MINT
Sandersonstamps
GBP 4.00 Approximately US \$5.00 (price paid)
eBay item number:156037130013

Figure 1: A comparison of no hinge vs. hinged prices of similar condition stamps for **A)** Scott no. 239, 1893 30 cent Columbian issue; 89% difference and **B)** Scott no. 537, 1919 3 cent Word War I Victory issue; 84% difference.

While the gum condition is not the only factor used in determining value, its impact can be as significant as determinations based on centering, another highly recognized factor of value by collectors. Earlier issued stamps with low issue numbers can withstand a significant decrease in valuation because of hinge marks and are still popular to collect. However, later issued stamps (*i.e.*, from about 1935 to present), having catalog value ranges from several cents to \$3 are so impacted by hinge marks that these stamps are often relegated for postage.

Of course, there are degrees to which a hinge mark affects a stamp's condition and therefore its value. The two-letter abbreviations for hinged stamps are "LH" for light-hinge mark, "H" for a heavy or significant hinge mark and "HR" for hinge remnant (meaning that the hinge or a portion of the hinge remains on the back of the stamp). Consequently, a hinged stamp or a stamp that retains a hinge, or portion of a hinge, will often have a lower value than a lightly hinged stamp.

In some cases, when a hinge is removed a thin is created. This is when a portion of the paper from the stamp is removed with the hinge. A thin can be easily observed by holding the stamp up to a light. If the area suspected of having a thin is lighter in color than the rest of the stamp, then a thin is present.

A stamp with a thin is considered damaged and its value is often substantially lower than a stamp with a hinge mark. Similarly, regummed stamps will also have a substantially reduced value.

In summary, a stamp can have a valuation much higher than would be implied by merely having a low issue number. A stamp in mint condition without a hinge mark and a low issue number can easily command a price exceeding 10 or more times the catalog value.

David



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