



# POWAY STAMP CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

*San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club*

APS #112097

May 14<sup>th</sup> 2025

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### Club's Mission Statement

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 Court #413  
Poway, CA 92064

### Club E-mail

[PSCphilately@gmail.com](mailto:PSCphilately@gmail.com)

### PSC Website

[Powaystampclub.com](http://Powaystampclub.com)

## CLUB MEETINGS

### March General Meetings

**May 14<sup>th</sup>  
Presentation**

**"Fancy That"**

**by Bill Gallagher**

A peek into the world of 19<sup>th</sup> century U.S. fancy cancellations. Bill will cover how this expression of postal folk art originated, while viewing the wide variety of fancy cancels. He will discuss where to find them as well as their identification and rarity/value.

**May 28<sup>th</sup>  
Large Voice Sale**

The meeting will begin with our regular Club business followed by a Club verbal auction, opportunity drawing, show and tell and socialization. Members are encouraged to bring interesting covers and stamps for show and tell as well as other items for sale or trade with Club members.

**Please remember to bring your badge or bring \$1**



### 2025 Club Board Members

<b>President</b>	<b>Art Berg</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>David Klauber</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bill Kolb</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Trice Klauber</b>
<b>Board (at Large)</b>	<b>David Waller</b>
<b>Board (at Large)</b>	<b>Jim Grundy</b>
<b>Prev. President</b>	<b>Thor Strom</b>
<b>Program Dir.</b>	<b>Bill Gallagher</b>

### 2025 Club Volunteers

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

### 2025 Club Representatives

<b>Federated Rep.</b>	<b>Bill O'Connor</b>
<b>S.D. Phil.. Council</b>	<b>Nick Soroka</b>
<b>Rep. (Alternate)</b>	<b>Art Berg</b>
<b>APS Ambassador</b>	<b>Trice Klauber</b>
<b>ATA Rep.</b>	<b>Bob McArthur</b>

## CLUB EVENTS

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.

May	14	<b>B. Gallagher, <i>Fancy That!</i></b>
	28	Large Voice Sale
June	11	<b>B. Schappelle, <i>A Cinderella Primer</i></b>
	25	Large Voice Sale
July	9	<b>S. Gill, <i>Treasure Hunting Part II</i></b>
	23	Large Voice Sale
August	13	<b>A. Simoni, <i>The Pony Express</i></b>
	27	Member's Voice Sale
September	10	TBD – Presentation
	24	Large Voice Sale
October	8	TBD – Presentation
	22	<b>Ugly Stamp Contest</b>
November	12	Large Voice Sale
	26	<b>No Meeting</b>
December	9	<b>Holiday Party</b>
	23	<b>No Meeting</b>



The Fair is coming, and the Poway Stamp Club will be there in the Exhibit Hall just west of Bing Crosby Hall. The theme for the 2025 San Diego County Fair is "Pets", and we will be displaying member's collections showing how much we love are pets on stamps.

**Please join us at the Fair!**

## American Philatelic Society



## San Diego Chapter 2025

### Meetings

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

Philatelic Library  
12675 Danielson Court #413  
Poway, CA 92064

### APS

Many of our Club members as well as our Club are members of the American Philatelic Society (APS). If 33% of our members are also members of the APS, then the Club receives a free year's membership to the APS.

**Please join the APS!**

### Participation

All Club members are strongly encouraged to provide input for the monthly Club newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise is important and should be shared. Submit your article to:

[dwaller@dbwipmg.com](mailto:dwaller@dbwipmg.com)  
**Please contribute!**

### Club Website

[PowayStampClub.com](http://PowayStampClub.com)

Visit our Club's website where you will find a schedule of activities, resource links, and contact information as well as our newsletter.

**Take a look!**

# CLUB NOTES

## Club Meetings

The Poway Stamp Club meets twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

## Membership

It is time to inspire others to collect stamps. Enroll a new member today. Give a gift that could last a lifetime. Annual memberships to the Poway Stamp Club are \$10. For those individuals who are already philatelic collectors (and have been a member of the Club in good standing for two years), a lifetime membership in our club could be the perfect gift. Lifetime memberships are \$100.

## Next Bid Board

Our next Bid Board will begin on May 10, 2025. Final submission date for lot images is May 5<sup>th</sup>.

For more information and Bid Board rules visit the Club's website at [PowayStampClub.com](http://PowayStampClub.com).

## Club Newsletter

**We Need You!**



All Club members are **strongly** encouraged to provide input for the monthly newsletter. Join our Internationally recognized Writers Guild. Please submit items to the Club Editor.

E-mail:  
[dwaller@dbwipmg.com](mailto:dwaller@dbwipmg.com).



## Member Spotlight!

By David Klauber



The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its newest members in each issue. Since our last newsletter we have 5 new members.

New members are drawn to the Poway Stamp Club because of a collection they have inherited or from a compelling interest in collecting stamps. Many of our members have similar stories to tell about how they found our Club and we would like to hear more on your experiences with stamp collecting. So, please join us at our next general meeting to talk about stamps. Our five new members are:

**#614 Rich Geary of Oceanside, California.** We welcome Rich to the Club and hope they will join us at one of our upcoming meetings.

**#615 John Hendrickson of San Diego, California.** John is a new member who found PSC on Powaystampclub.com. He collects U.S., Worldwide stamps. We hope to see him at one continuing meetings. Welcome John.

**#616 Sooyoung Chu of Garden Grove, California.** Soo also discovered our club via our website. She is new to stamp collecting and we look forward to help her on her philatelic journey.

**#617 Derek Bohon of San Diego, California.** Derek is a new collector and found us online. We hope he will join us at our regular meetings. Welcome aboard, Derek.

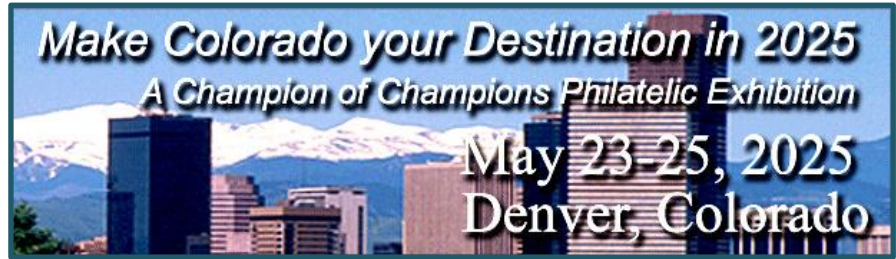
**#618 Andre Waardenburg of Vista, California.** Andre joined us at our last meeting, which was a member auction, and decided to join us. He collects U.S. and Worldwide. Great to have you as a member of our club.

**Finalizing our yearly roster, removing those who have not renewed, brings our total membership to 162. We welcome our new members and look forward to getting together at PSC meetings.**





## Rocky Mountain Stamp Show May 23<sup>rd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup>



Arapahoe County Fairgrounds 25690 East Quincy Avenue in Aurora. The 2025 show theme is 'Scenic Colorado' and there will be three magnificent cachets, one for each day, that reflect the beauty in our state. The show will feature its popular What's in Your Attic? booth where you can learn about an inherited accumulation or rekindle your interest in a long-neglected collection. In conjunction with the USPS, the show will have a First Day of Issue ceremony for the new Baby Animal stamps on Friday at 11:00.



## Memorial Day May 26<sup>th</sup>



Image from [www.defence.gov/spotlights/memorial-day/](http://www.defence.gov/spotlights/memorial-day/)

Memorial Day is a federal holiday set aside to honor and remember those men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

It is observed each year on the last Monday of May. The holiday's roots lie in the aftermath of the Civil War, when Americans began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers. In 1868, General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former Union soldiers, proclaimed May 30th as "Decoration Day," a day to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers. Over time, the holiday evolved into a day of remembrance for all Americans who died while serving in the military, regardless of the conflict. Every Memorial Day a minute of silence at 3 PM local time is observed to honor the fallen as a National Moment of Remembrance.



On May 30, 2016, the United States Post Office honored military service members who received one of the four Service Cross Medals shown on the stamps above.

Scott #940 was issued May 9, 1946, honoring those who served in World War II. Displayed is the "Honorable Discharge Emblem" of military service.

**The Poway Stamp Club honors those in the United States armed services who sacrificed their lives for our country.**

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## In the News

### APS Elections

by David Waller



## American Philatelic Society

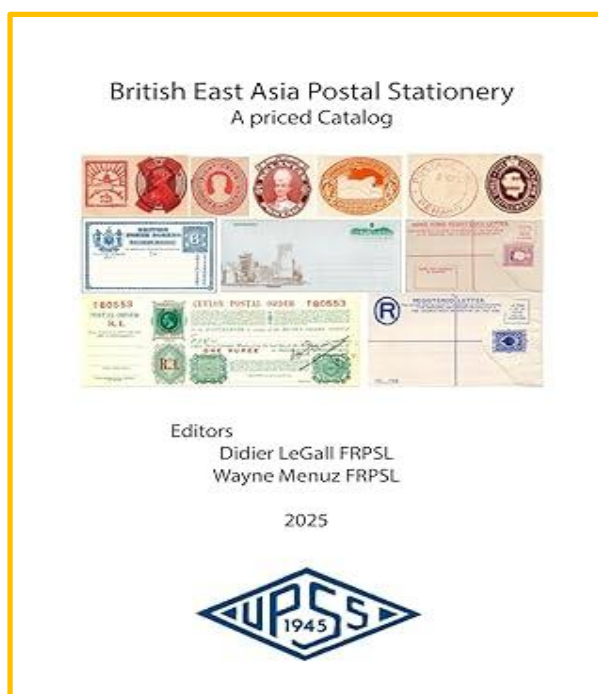
Remember to support our local Poway Stamp Club members, David Klauber and Mark Banchik for positions on the American Philatelic Society Board of Directors. The Poway Stamp Club would like to ask those of you who are APS members to vote for David Klauber as Director-at-Large and Mark Banchik as President for 2025.

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## At The SD Philatelic Library

### British East Asia Postal Stationery Catalog A priced Catalog 2025

by Neil Schneider



**Figure 1:** image of the cover of “British East Asia Postal Stationery”.



“This work is the first comprehensive priced catalog of these countries since the Higgins & Gage catalogs of the 1960s.” The decision by Stanley Gibbons to no longer acquire or sell new issues starting in 1901 caused the collapse of stationery collecting. Most stamp publishers and dealers followed suit. Now those pre-1920 issues are difficult to find mint and uncirculated. Even items marked specimen from that period command high prices.

This catalog is arranged mostly chronologically and continues through country name changes (Figure 1). New research has allowed a more comprehensive listing. The editors have added to the knowledge of this subject by studying scans of collections and give credit to other publications that cover individual countries and specialty areas. The editors have also given credit to the many contributors who provided specialty knowledge and expertise.

The catalog covers the following modern countries, and their predecessor states: Sri Lanka, Maldives, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Hong Kong, SAR as well as the British Post Offices in China (Figure 2).

For pricing the editors consulted online sources such as eBay and Delcampe as well as prices realized in auction catalogs.

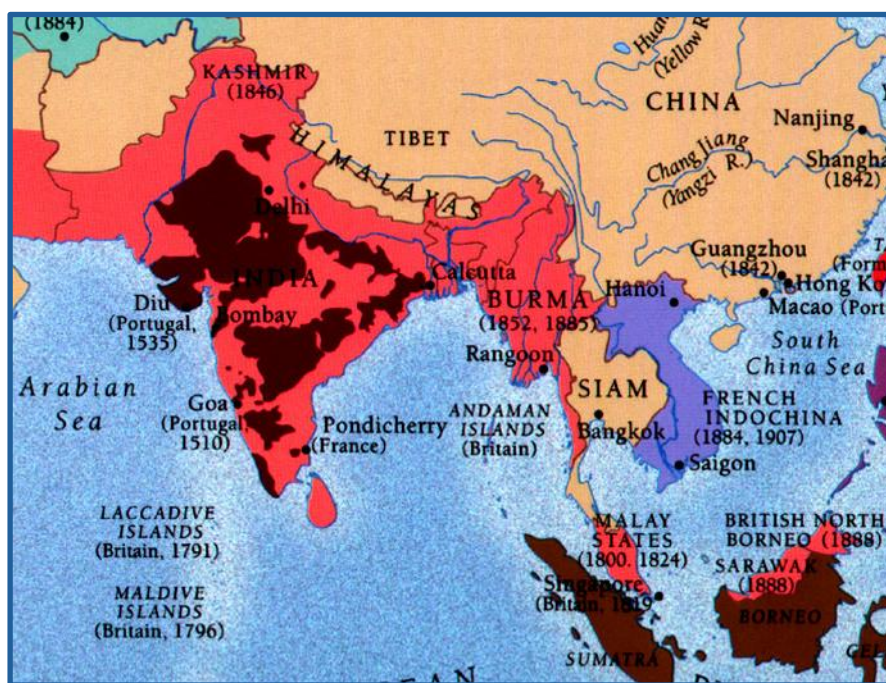


Figure 2: Map of some of the British Colonial states of east Asia shown in pink.

After the Preface there is a Glossary and Definitions section.

**“Postal Stationery:** Paper, card or plastic formed into sheets. To be used for sending messages or money or enclosing items, through postal systems at a future date after purchase, where the service is evidenced as prepaid by means of an indicium. The postal value is redeemed by a cancel.”

Many definitions are provided and include those for Aerogram, Airgraph, Archival Material, Bands, Bogus, Bulk Mail, Complimentary pre-franked stationery, etc. There are detailed descriptions about how postal stationery is created and the papers used.



The catalog is 295 pages filled with color illustrations throughout, and the eight-page introduction provides a comprehensive introduction to postal stationery. This would be a “must have” for any serious collector of British East Asia Postal Stationery.

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## Editor's Corner

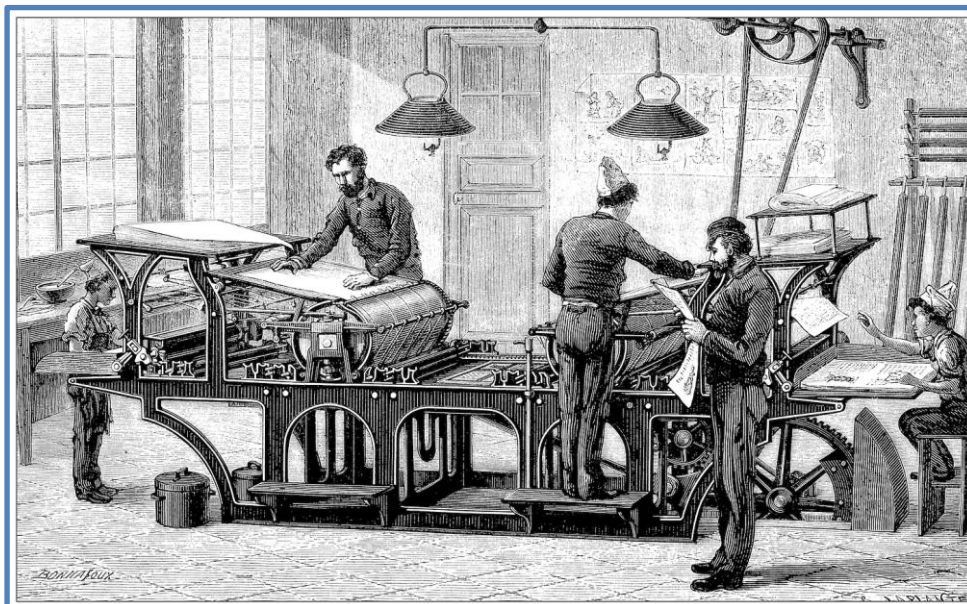


Image obtained from <https://www.gettyimages.com/search/2/image?phrase=antique+printing+press>.

To Our Readers,

The new editorial team now has several issues “under-its-belt” and we would like to know how we are doing. Please contact me and let me know your likes, dislikes, comments, and/or recommendations. All input is welcomed and appreciated.

I also want to hear what topics or philatelic information you would like to learn about in our upcoming publications of the Poway Stamp Club Newsletter.

David Waller

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## Member's Articles

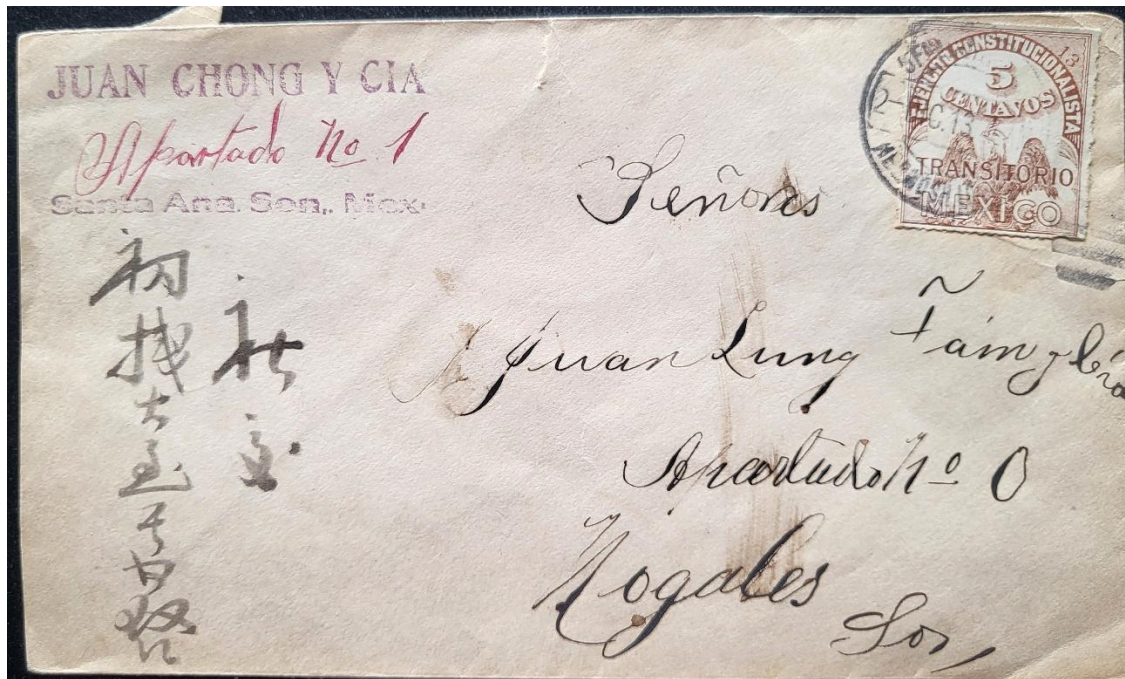
### Every Cover Tells a Story

By Jim Grundy



I found this cover in one of Bob Eigenhuysen's bargain boxes at the monthly Sunday Stamp Show at the Elks Lodge in Poway (Figure 1). What first attracted my attention to the cover were the Chinese characters on the left side of the cover. I initially thought that the cover was from China,

but when I took a closer look, I realized that the stamp was from Mexico. Next, I looked at the address and return address. The letter was sent by Juan Chong Y Cia from Santa Ana, Mexico to Juan Lung Fam Cia in Nogales, Mexico in 1918. This cover presented a lot of questions.



**Figure 1:** Cover from Juan Chong Y Cia in Santa Ana Sonora Mexico to Juan Lung Fam Cia in Nogales, Mexico postmarked in 1918.

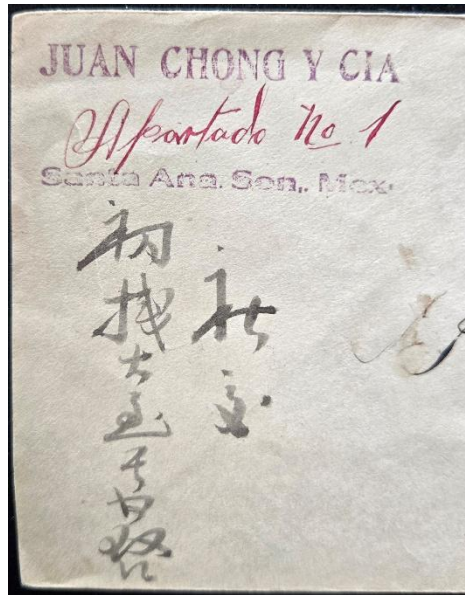


**Figure 2:** Close-up of the five centavo stamp on the cover.

The stamp on the cover wasn't familiar to me (Figure 2). After looking for the stamp in the Mexico section of my Scott Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers, I found that the stamp was issued in 1913 and given the Scott identification number 350. I also found two interesting notes included with the listing for this stamp. Above the listing, the words "Revenue Stamps Used for Postage". Below the listing, these words that describe these revenue stamps said "For a short time



these stamps (called Ejercitos) were used for postage with coupon attached. Later this was required to be removed unless they were to be used for revenue”. The cover shows the legal use of this revenue stamp (without the coupon) as postage.



**Figure 3:** close-up image of the Mandarin characters on the left side of the envelope.

The face of the cover is also interesting. One observation is the Mandarin characters in the lower left-hand corner (Figure 3). Another was that the letter was sent from Santa Ana to Nogales. Both these towns are located in the State of Sonora (Figure 4). The State of Sonora shares its northern border with the United States. Nogales is south of Tucson, Arizona just on the other side of the border and Santa Ana is seventy miles south of Nogales. Because of the Mandarin script, I assumed that Cia family was Chinese, but why was the first name “Juan” being used? A brief review of the Asian immigration into Mexico and the United States would explain.



**Figure 3:** Maps showing the locations of the state of Sonora along the United States border and the city of Nogales across the border from Tucson Arizona.

The first mention of Chinese immigration into Mexico was in the mid-1650's when a small group of Chinese arrived in Mexico City. Later, Mexico brought citizens from Spanish colonies in the Far East to work as slaves. Portuguese slave merchants also provided slaves for work in Mexico. Floods and famine in China caused the first large influx of Chinese immigrants in Mexico in the 1870's. This was a blessing for Mexico. For years, the Mexican government had tried to induce Europeans and Americans to settle in the State of Sonora. The hope was that the foreigners would invest in and improve the State of Sonora plus "whiten" the population. Unfortunately, neither of these two groups had a desire to live or work in this hot, arid, unpopulated desert. However, it was a perfect fit for the new Chinese immigrants. They first started as laborers in the cotton fields but soon purchased the properties where they worked, and they hired more Chinese to cultivate them. The Chinese immigrants were so appreciated by the Mexican government that in 1893, they were given the same legal rights as Mexican citizens. At this time, there were only 1,000 Chinese nationals in the country. From 1895 to 1910, the Chinese population grew rapidly in Mexico due to the influx of Chinese fleeing the anti-Chinese sentiment and legislation that was taking place in the United States. Many of these immigrants found work in the railroads, mines, and cotton fields in Sonora.

A great many of these immigrants became successful businessmen. A majority of their businesses were located along the Mexico/U.S. borders in the states of Baja and Sonora. In 1910, there were nearly 4,500 people of Chinese descent living in Sonora. The town of Nogales had become a prime location for these businesses. These new businessmen served another function. They formed the Middle Class between the rich and the poor population segments. To aid them in doing business between these two classes, most Chinese businessmen took Mexican first names. Since both the writer and the addressee both used the name Juan in front of their given name, we can assume they were middle-class businessmen. Here is an interesting bit of information. I searched Google for information about Juan Chong Y Cia. I found that in 1916, the Juan Chong and Company leased two thousand acres of land from the Colorado River Land Company and during the next six years invested one million pesos in the property. Was this Juan Chong the same Juan Chong Y Cia who sent the cover?

Writing this article, I could not go into detail about what life was like for these immigrants. I suggest that you investigate the history of the Chinese immigrants in this country and Mexico. If you do, you will find that the history of Chinese immigrants in Mexico and the United States are mirror images of each other. The sequence of events that took place in both countries is the same story of success and social persecution. Their story is a perfect example of "success breeds contempt".

## 65th Army Infantry Regiment Cachet

by Marti Manuel



The cover in Figure 1 recently came up for sale on Ebay. Not pretty, opened roughly with a common stamp (Scott # C25). So, what makes this cover so interesting? It's the cachet. I had never seen it before. The starting bid was \$9.99, so I placed my bid, but DID NOT WIN! It went for \$60.





**Figure 1:** 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 65<sup>th</sup> Army Infantry regiment cachet canceled December 28, 1949.

The cover was canceled at APO (Army Post Office) 847, Henry Barracks. It was sent on December 28, 1949. It is franked with a 6c stamp "Air Mail". It was sent by Bernardo Carrero (?) to the National School in Los Angeles, CA.

The base is in the Central Mountain range of Puerto Rico located 25 miles from San Juan, and it became a Puerto Rico Voluntary Regiment Post. In 1900, the site was renamed Henry Barracks after the 3rd Military Governor of Puerto Rico; Major General Guy Vernor Henry (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** image of Major General G.V. Henry, (March 9, 1839-October 27, 1899. Governor of Puerto Rico from December 7, 1898-June 12, 1899.

Puerto Ricans have participated in many of the military conflicts in which the United States has been involved. For example, they participated in the American Revolutionary War, when volunteers from Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Mexico enlisted in the Spanish Army in 1779 and fought under the command of General Bernardo de Gálvez (1746-1786, Figure 3).



Gálvez remains in high esteem among many Americans, particularly in the southern and western states that once formed part of Spain's North American territory. Gálvez Day is celebrated as a local holiday in Pensacola, and several places bear his name, including Galveston, Texas and Galvez, Louisiana.

**Figure 3:** Colonial Governor of Spanish Louisiana and Cuba, and later as Viceroy of New Spain.

In 1908 Henry Barracks became a United States Army infantry base for the 65th Infantry Regiment. Soon after (*i.e.*, May 1908) it was renamed Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry.

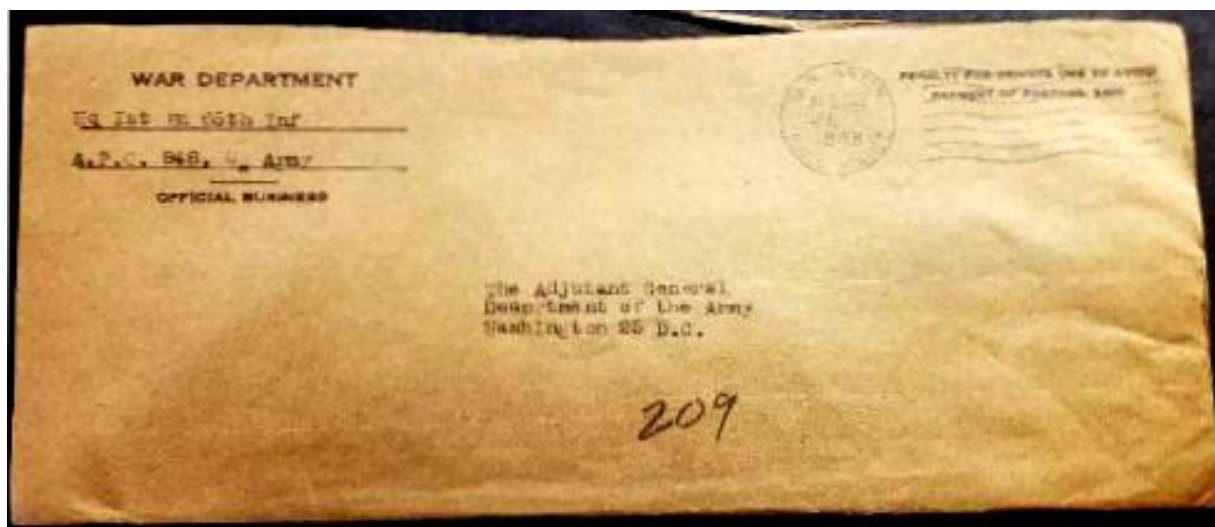
The cover was postmarked December 1949, unaware that less than a year later they would be fighting in Korea. Here is where our story of the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment begins with Operation PORTREX.

The 65th Infantry Regiment distinguished itself when the United States conducted a military exercise on the island of Vieques, on the eve of the Korean War. This exercise was code named "Operation PORTREX", an acronym for "Puerto Rico Exercise". The objective was to see how the combined forces of the Army, Marines, Navy, and Air Force would do as "liberators" of an enemy captured territory (Vieques) against the "aggressors". The core of the aggressor ground forces was made up of Puerto Rican soldiers, most of whom belonged to the 65th Infantry Regiment. Eventually the "liberators" captured the island.

The liberators consisted of 32,600 combat troops from the 82nd Airborne Division's 504th Airborne Infantry Regiment and the Marine Corps, who received support from the Navy and Air Force. "Despite the large number of troops deployed, the 65th Infantry (the aggressor) was able to halt the offensive forces on the beaches of the island" stated Colonel William W. Harris, the commanding officer of the 65th.

The United States was still grappling with segregation inside and outside the military when World War II broke out. Because of both institutional and personal prejudices, minority units, like the 65th Infantry, were sometimes considered inferior to other units and thus assigned to jobs behind the lines.

On 27 August 1950, the 65th Infantry, with 3,920 officers and men organized into three infantry battalions, one artillery battalion and a tank company departed from Puerto Rico and arrived in Pusan, South Korea on 23 September 1950.<sup>[10]</sup> It was during the long sea voyage that the men nicknamed the 65th Infantry as the "Borinqueneers". "That was the name of the more peaceful of the two original Indian tribes that inhabited the island of Puerto Rico "Borinquen", and many of the men were direct descendants of that industrious race of people.



**Figure 4:** Cover from APO 848 (PONCE AIR BASE) 1948 sent from HQ, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the 65<sup>th</sup> Inf. to the Attorney General in Washington DC.

The men of the 65th, now attached to the Army's 3rd Infantry Division, were among the first infantrymen to meet the enemy on the battlefields of Korea. After November 1950, they fought daily against units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army after the Chinese entered the war on the North Korean side. The regiment covered the retreat of the 1st Marine Division during the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Below is a photograph of Scott #2152 from 1985 commemorating the Korean War. Some say that this stamp depicts a unit of the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Figure 5A). The actual photograph from which the image was taken is shown in Figure 5B.



**A**



**B**

**Figure 5:** A- Photograph depicted in Scott # 2152 above. American Marines passing bodies of fallen comrades during the retreat from the Chosin Reservoir, December 1950. Photograph by David Douglas Duncan, B- Korean War Veterans stamp of 1985 (Scott #2152).





**Figure 6:** 65th Infantry Congressional Gold Medal.

The 65th Infantry went on to have a long and storied history through the Korean War and beyond. It serves today in the U.S. Army Puerto Rico Army National Guard. In 2016, the 65th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed “Borinqueneers,” received the Congressional Gold Medal (Figure 6) for its contributions to the United States.

It is the first Hispanic American unit to receive the award. It is also the first unit from the Korean War honored as well. The story of Puerto Rican service is still being written by the brave men and women in the active-duty Army, Army Reserve, and National Guard. Their loyalty, duty, and selfless service is a source of pride not only for Puerto Ricans, but U.S. citizens everywhere. Below is a photograph of Sergeant Modesto Cartagena, the most decorated Hispanic U.S. soldier in the Korean War (Figure 8).



**Figure 8:** Sergeant Modesto Cartagena, the most decorated Hispanic U.S. soldier in the Korean War.

#### References:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/65th\\_Infantry\\_Regiment\\_\(United\\_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/65th_Infantry_Regiment_(United_States))  
<https://www.thenmusa.org/articles/the-65th-infantry-regiment/>  
<https://www.nationalguard.mil/Resources/Image-Gallery/Historical-Paintings/Heritage-Series/The-Borinqueneers/>  
<https://www.thenmusa.org/articles/the-65th-infantry-regiment/#:~:text=65th%20Infantry%20Congressional%20Gold%20Medal.&text=The%2065th%20Infantry%20went%20on,Puerto%20Rico%20Army%20National%20Guard.>



# U.S. Cover to Pitcairn Island Sent During World War II

by Bill O'Connor



Looking through a box of covers recently purchased, I came across a cover from Oceanside, California sent to Pitcairn Island back in 1942 (Figure 1). As this was during WWII, it was censored and appeared to have taken many months to arrive at the destination.

The 30 cents postage indicates that the airmail rate was paid in full, but this letter was directed to the Canal Zone, and from there went, possibly via ship, to the Pitcairn Island. The addressee was Roy Palmer Clark, who was the first postmaster of the islands, having been given that post in 1940.

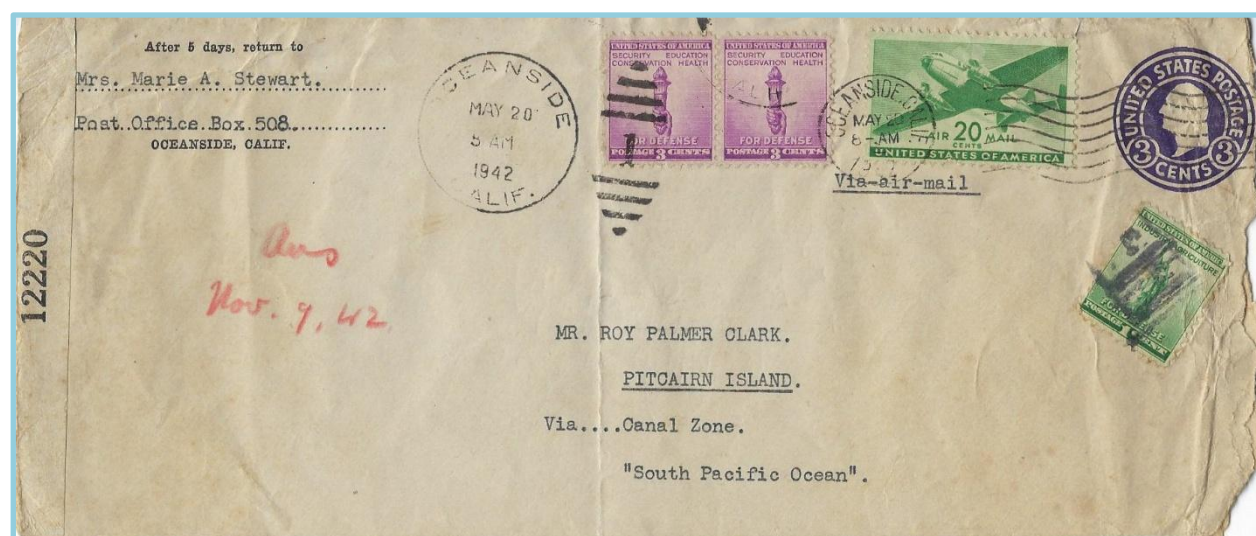


Figure 1: Cover sent from Oceanside California to Pitcairn Island in the Pacific on May 20, 1942.

The censor tape says, “Examined by 12220”, which is the number you see on the front of the envelope. If the notation on the front of the cover “Ans Nov. 9, 42” is correct, we see almost a seven-month delay in responding to this correspondence. As a war was progressing, it should not be surprising that such an isolated and unimportant part of the Pacific Ocean would be ignored during the war.

The Pitcairn Islands were first inhabited by the group of mutineers from the HMS Bounty back in 1790 (Figure 2). It was not until 1814 that two British frigates visited the islands creating much interest back in Great Britain in the descendants of this interesting part of British Naval history.



**Figure 2:** Image from Wikipedia showing the mutineers setting Captain Bligh with loyal members of his crew adrift after taking the HNM Bounty.



**Figure 3:** The first stamps of Pitcairn Island on a first day cover issued October 15, 1940.

A postal service of sorts was introduced to the island in 1920, but the first stamps were not issued until 1940. Shown is a group of these first issues from 1940 on a registered cover to America (Figure 3). The 2-pence stamp shows a picture of Lieutenant William Bligh, the Captain of the HMS Bounty, who along with the loyal members of the crew, after being set adrift in a small boat by mutineers on the Bounty survived a 4,000-mile voyage to Timor north of Australia.



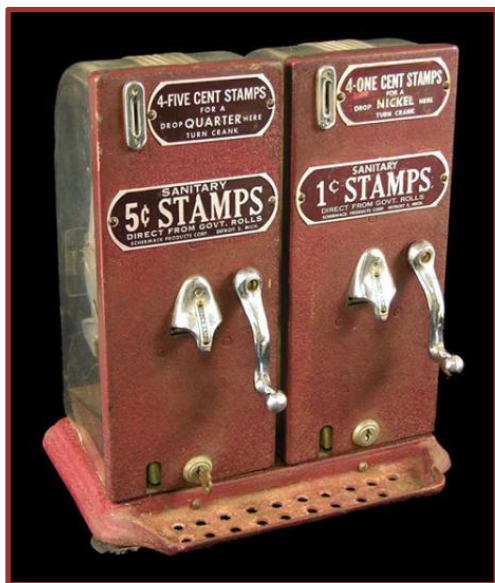
# Vending Machine Perforations

by David B. Waller



**Figure 1:** Scott #320 and example of the Schermack Company Type III vending Machine perforations.

When I first saw these unique perforations, I had no idea of their purpose or if they would even separate the stamps effectively without ruining the stamp (Figure 1). Upon further investigation, I learned that these were special perforations used on stamps sold from vending machines; a small mechanical device that would dispense a given number of stamps based on the proscribed amount of currency deposited in a narrow coin-slot usually at the top left corner of the machine.

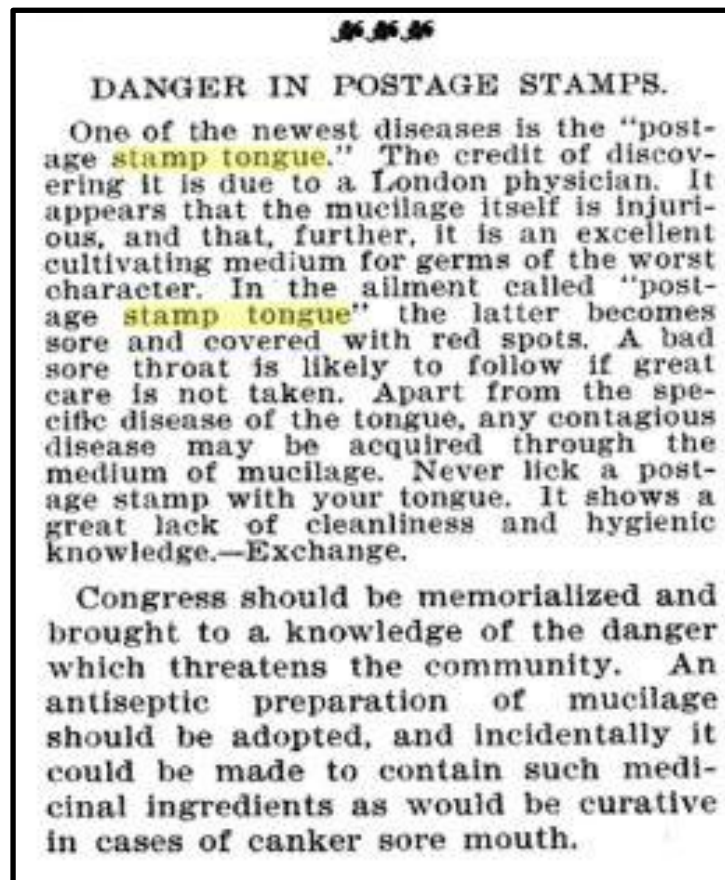


**Figure 2:** Schmack Vending Machine circa 1930's front (left) and back (right). Joseph Schermack is generally credited with producing the first practical stamp vending machine to be used in the United States. In addition, he introduced a "profit-sharing" model in 1910 where he sold two two-cent stamps or four one-cent stamps for a nickel. In 1926 he formed the Sanitary Postage Service Corporation.

This was an interesting idea, especially for obtaining stamps after hours or as a convenience if the Post office was busy. However, this minor convenience when balanced against the cost to recover the expense of making the machines, preparing and loading the stamps as well as collecting the proceeds would seem to require many years of service. So why stamp vending machines? and how did they become so popular.

Around the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century a scientist named Louis Pasteur established the “germ theory of disease”, which proposed that many diseases are caused by microorganisms. While the concept of invisible “seeds of disease” existed earlier, it was the work of Pasteur and Robert Koch in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that provided concrete evidence and solidified the germ theory. In 1861, Pasteur published his germ theory, arguing that microbes in the air caused decay and disease. Building on Pasteur’s work, Koch postulated that particular microbes could be responsible for specific diseases and later identified the bacteria that cause anthrax, tuberculosis, and cholera.

On November 22, 1896, *The Washington Post* published an article that was similar to stories in *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Atlanta Constitution*, the *New York Times*, *The Boston Budget*, and the (London) *Daily Mirror* (Figure 3) on “Postage Stamp Tongue”. These articles warned that the postage stamp was threatening the nation’s public health because it was a breeding ground for virulent germs. At about this time, germ theory was gaining momentum as the leading explanation of infectious disease transmission.



**Figure 3:** The Washington Post warning of “Postage Stamp Tongue” disease circa 1896.

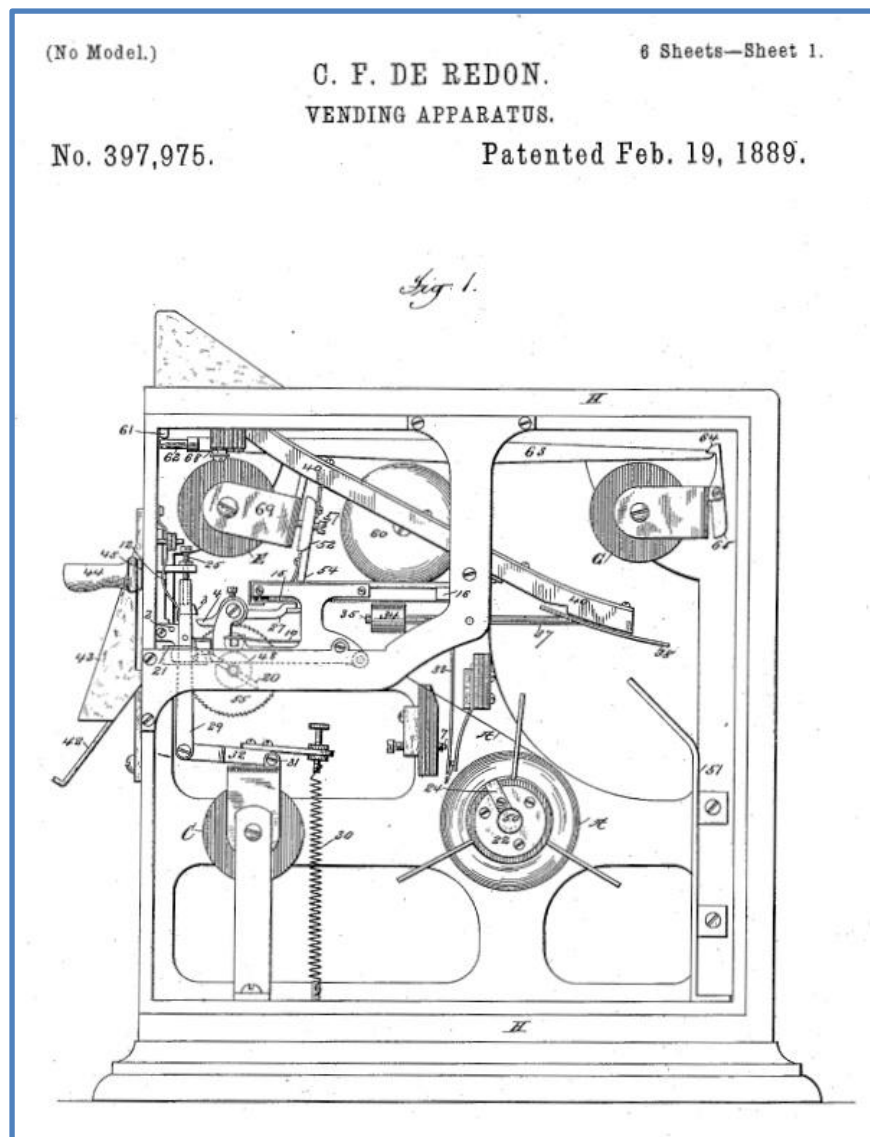
Newspaper articles ran images of microscopic bacteria that were found on the backs of stamps and reported on the varying levels of germs depending on where the stamps were bought. Stamps bought at the corner drug store fared the worst because they were often kept in drawers with loose change, another terrible harbor for germs. Stamps bought directly from postal clerks might be a little safer, but they still “boasted whole colonies of such deadly germs as tuberculosis, diphtheria and typhoid.” The best option was to buy “sanitary stamps” that were sealed in packets and had minimal contact with human hands.



Anticipating the need for sanitary stamp dispensing, Constant F. De Redon, a French citizen residing in New York, filed for and obtained the first patent on a stamp vending machine using rolls of stamps on July 16, 1888 (US patent 397,975).

In 1906 a request was made by several developers of stamp vending machines for imperforate sheets for making coils of stamps and applied various perforations to suit the particular needs of their vending and/or affixing machines. Some were provided in both vertical and horizontal varieties. While many varieties of these unique perforated coil stamps were produced only a few were actually used in machines.

By 1907 the first vending machines dispensing stamps were put in operation in the United Kingdom and by 1910 stamps were being dispensed in the United States using the Joseph Schermack vending machines. An example of a Schermack machine, circa 1930, is shown in shown in Figure 2 above. I suspect it is not a coincidence that the Schermack vending machines were put into service shortly after the expiration of De Redon's U.S. patent (*i.e.*, expiration date February 19, 1907, Figure 4).

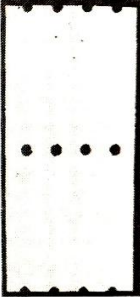

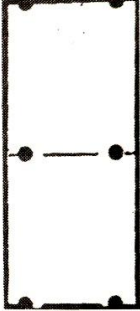

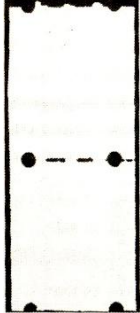



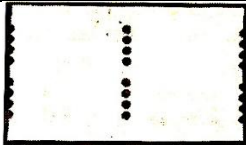

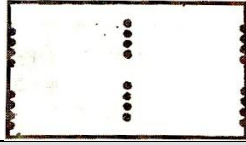

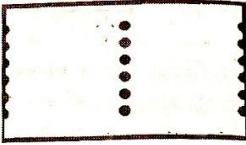



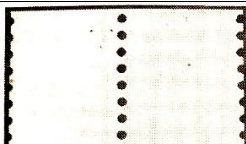



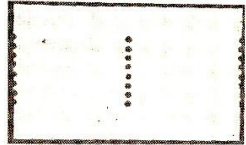



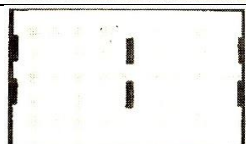

**Figure 4:** Cover page of U.S. Patent No. 397,975, the first U.S. patented vending machine for stamps, issued to C.F. de Redon on February 19, 1889.



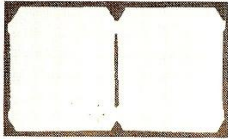

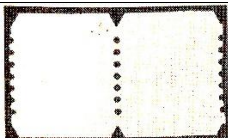

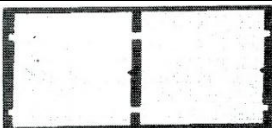

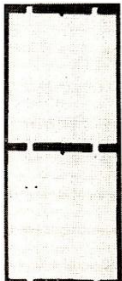

It was not long after the implementation of stamp vending machines that the Spanish Flu (*i.e.*, caused by the H1N1 influenza virus) began spreading across Europe and by 1918 reached epidemic proportions eventually causing an estimated 50 million deaths worldwide. While this was a global health crisis, there is no known direct connection between the pandemic and postage stamps as a means of transmission (Public Health Rep. 2010;125(Suppl 3):48–62.  
doi: 10.1177/00333549101250S308).

However, this perceived threat made vending machine companies a substantial profit. The Scott Specialized Catalog indicates that “(M)any varieties are suspected or known to have been perforated for philatelic purposes and not actually used in machines”. Consequently, a discussion of all these varieties is beyond the scope of this article. However, Table 1 shows the most common perforation patterns used by the vending machine companies listed. A black and white diagram for each of the commonly recognized vending machine perforations used commercially are provided with an example of the stamps showing these unique perforations.

**Table 1**

Company Name/ Year/Stamp ID	Type	Black/White*	Example
<b>The Brinkerhoff Company 1906-1912</b>			
Scott #314 USPhila.com Harmer-Schau Auction Galleries, Lot #1857, August 2011.	I		
Scott #344 Owner of image unknown.	IIa		
Scott #320a** Stamp Auction Network, Lot #833	IIb		

The Farwell Company 1908-1917				
Scott #482 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #865	A			
Scott #482 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #866	B			
The Mailometer Company 1906-1917				
Scott #347 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #889	I			
Scott #383 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #898	II			
Scott #344 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #487	III			
Scott #483 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #915	IV			
The Schermack Company 1906-1926				
Scott #320 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #926	I			
Scott #320 Smithsonian National Postal Museum	II			
Scott #320 Ebay item No. 315416114624 Optaguy	III			

U.S. Automatic Vending Company 1906-1912			
Scott #314 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #947	I		
Scott #344 Smithsonian National Postal Museum	II		
Scott #408 Ebay Item No. 316587010925 NYStamps	III		
The Attleboro Stamp Company 1908-1909			
Scott #371 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #1006	Vert.		
Scott #343 Stamp Auction Network, Lot #1001	Horiz.		

\* Black and white images of the perforation patterns were obtained from the 2010 Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers.

\*\* Scott #320a was perforated for philatelic purposes and not actually used in machines but was a nice example of this method.

## Member Classifieds

If you would like to have a **FREE** advertisement in the PSC Newsletter, please email:  
**[PSCphilately@gmail.com](mailto:PSCphilately@gmail.com)**

### For Sale:

- Christmas seals for sale. Singles or full sheets of most dates. Some covers with seals tied by the cancel. See Bob at a PSC meeting or call (858) 278-7873 Bob Schappelle.

### Wanted:

- U.S. Columbian issue stamps with fancy cancels. Top prices paid. Contact West Virginia Bob McArthur at **[rmatsukasa@gmail.com](mailto:rmatsukasa@gmail.com)** or (858) 486-9932.



- Puerto Rico Town cancels. Bring to a meeting. Will trade or buy? See **Manuel Marti PSC # 410**.

### **Bargain Lists:**

- You May see the most current Lcstamps lists on our Club Webpage at: [powaystampclub.com/lc-corner](http://powaystampclub.com/lc-corner).



## San Diego County Philatelic Library Events

### Yard Sales

July 11th Members 6:00 - 9:00 PM  
 July 12th Public 9:00 - 12:00 PM  
 October 17th Members 6:00 - 9:00 PM  
 October 18th Public 9:00 - 12:00 PM

### Silent Auctions

June 14th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 September 20th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
 November 5th 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

## Stamp News 2025

### New Stamps for 2025

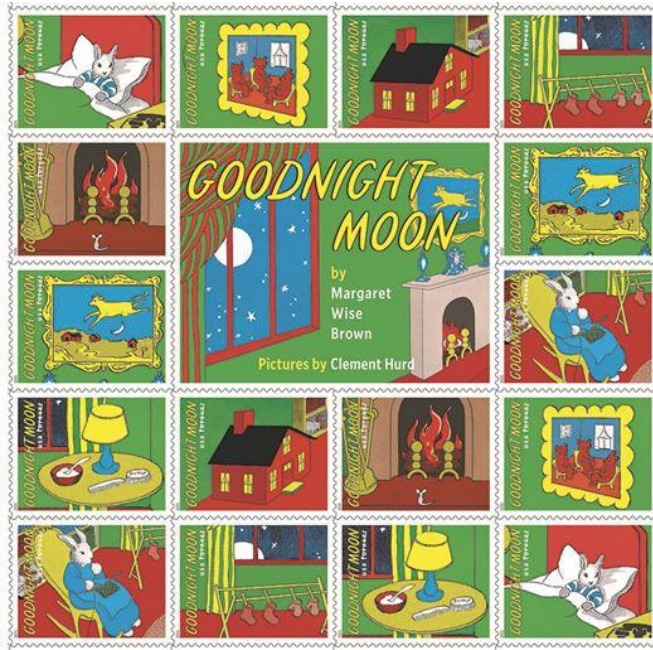
#### **Baby Wild Animals**

On May 23, 2025, in Aurora, Colorado the United States Postal Service® will issue Baby Wild Animals stamps.



#### **Goodnight Moon**

The *Goodnight Moon* stamps will be unveiled at The Rabbit hOle in North Kansas City, MO, on May 2 as part of an event leading up to Children's Book Week (May 5-11). The Rabbit hOle is a new museum experience that celebrates and brings to life a century of American children's literature, including *Goodnight Moon*, for visitors of all ages. This pane of Forever stamps honors the remarkable impact of *Goodnight Moon* by featuring scenes from the beloved best-selling picture book.



<https://stamps.org/news/c/news/cat/us-new-issues/post/usps-announces-more-stamp-subjects-for-2025>.



Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at [usps.com/shopstamps](https://usps.com/shopstamps), by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

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