Happy Thanksgiving

Poway Stamp Club Newsletter

San Diego County's Best Stamp Collecting Club

APS #112097

November 12th 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.

CLUB MEETINGS

November General Meetings

November 12th

Member Voice Sale

There will be no presentation. This meeting will be dedicated to the Member's Voice Sale. If you have items that you would like to sell, then I highly recommend placing them in this auction. Bidding should be lively and that means better returns for your items.

Happy Selling.

November 26th

No Meeting

Please remember to bring your badge or bring $1

Contact Us

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

Club E-mail

PSCphilately@gmail.com

2025 Club Board Members

President	Art Berg
Vice 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 Gallagher

2025 Club Volunteers

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

2025 Club Representatives

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

PSC Website

Powaystampclub.com

CLUB EVENTS

The following is the meeting schedule for the remainder of 2025; all events are proposed and subject to change as necessary to accommodate other events such as auctions.

December	10	**Holiday Party**
	23	**No Meeting**

CLUB NOTES

Club Meetings

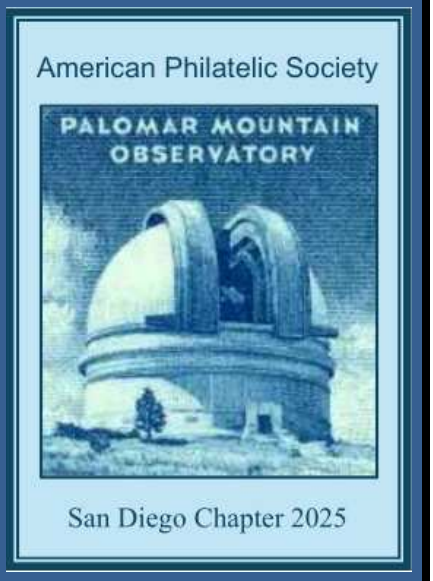
The Poway Stamp Club meets twice a month, except in November and December, on the second and fourth Wednesday at 12675 Danielson Court, #413 in Poway. The meetings begin at 6:30pm.

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

The October Bid Board was the last Bid Board for 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

The Poway Stamp Club and many of its members are also 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 encouraged to provide input for the Club's monthly newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise is important and should be shared. Submit your article to:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com

Please contribute!

Club Website

PowayStampClub.com

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

Take a look!

Club Newsletter

We Need You!

All Club members are encouraged to provide articles for the monthly newsletter. Join our Internationally recognized Writers Guild and submit your items to the Club's Editor today.

E-mail: **dwaller@dbwipmg.com**.

Member Spotlight!

By David Klauber

The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its newest members in each issue. Since our last newsletter there are no new members.

Some 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.

This brings our total paid membership to 170. We look forward to meeting with our new members at PSC meetings.

Holiday Party

by Trice Klauber

The PSC Holiday Party - The Club has confirmed that we will be celebrating the holiday this year with a dinner/gathering. We will celebrate the holidays on **December 10th, 2025, at 6:00 pm**. A Map to the restaurant is included below.

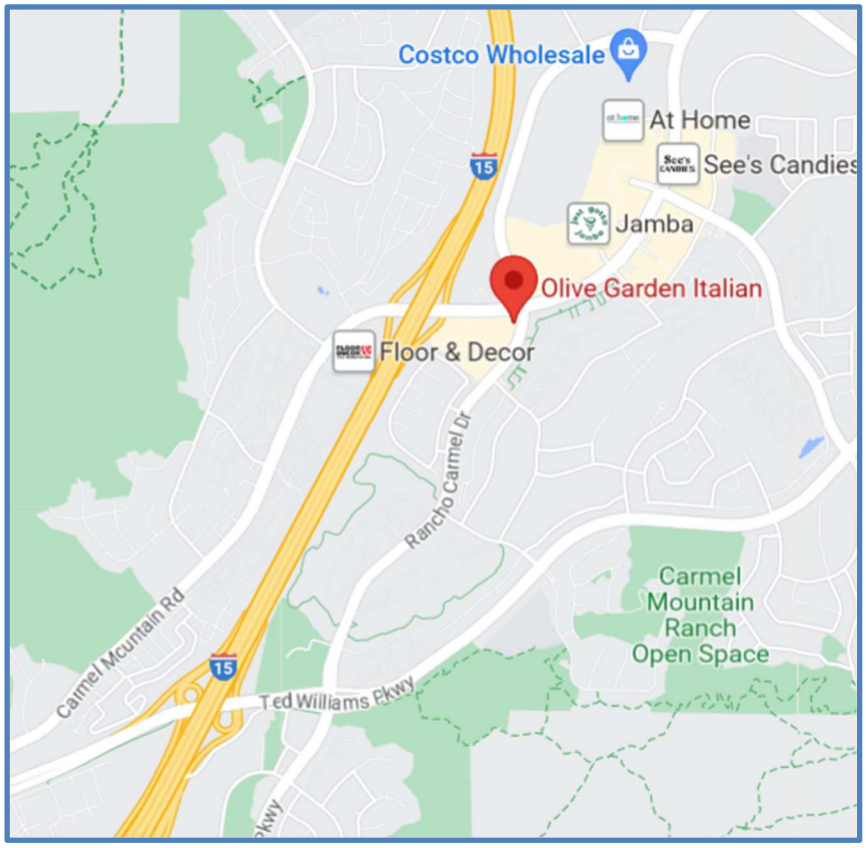
OLIVE GARDEN
11555 CARMEL MOUNTAIN RD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92128

The Club pays for members who are current as of this notice. Members are responsible for their guests' expenses. The cost for each additional guest is $25.00 as well as any alcohol purchased. All alcohol must be purchased at the bar. All dinners include choice of entrée, bread sticks, soup or salad, coffee, tea or soft drinks. A dessert will also be provided.

We have 100 seats, and Trice is now accepting RSVPs and collecting for guest meals, your cooperation on guest pre-payments prior to the event is greatly appreciated. However, at-the-door guest payments will be accepted but discouraged. A count of those planning to attend is needed by November 26th.

We have space limitations at this location so we will not have a prize raffle. Instead, we will have the opportunity to enjoy a holiday dinner with our fellow Poway Stamp Club members.

Regards, Trice
indysmama@gmail.com



Map
Olive Garden, Carmel Mountain Rd

Directions: From Interstate-15, take the Carmel Mountain Road exit. Turn East. The restaurant is on the corner of Carmel Mountain Rd and Rancho Carmel Drive.

Membership Renewal

If you have not already renewed your Poway Stamp Club membership, please do so as soon as possible. Membership fee for 2026 is $10 and if you have been a member in "Good Standing" for at least two years you might also consider becoming a Life Member. The cost for a Life Membership is $100.

If you have any questions, please contact Trice Klauber at:
indysmama@gmail.com

Veterans Day
November 11, 2025

A grouping of some of the U.S. stamps honoring those who served in WWI, WWII, Vietnam, Korea, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, and all foreign wars, Scott #s in order from left to right top to bottom are: 2154, 940, 2981j, 3188g, 1802, 3190g, 2152, 3187e, 3803, 1525, 2551, 3174, 3508 and 3331.

Veterans Day is celebrated annually on November 11 to honor all military veterans who have served in the armed forces. Unlike Memorial Day, which honors those who have died in military service, Veterans Day is a celebration of the service of all those who have served, both living and deceased.

The holiday originated as Armistice Day to mark the end of World War I on November 11, 1918, and was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 to honor veterans of all American wars.

Many of our Poway Stamp Club members have served in the military and we thank you for your service.

Ron Couchot, Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Robert Cyboron, Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Eric Chaulset, Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps - Vietnam
Peter Fink, Sargent, U.S. Marine Corps - Vietnam
James Grundy, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Stephen Gill, Specialist 5, U.S. Army - Germany
Jim Humphrey, Specialist 4, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Phil Kumler, Captain, U.S. Navy - Desert Storm/Enduring Freedom
Roy Lee Libby, Lance Corporal, U.S.M.C. - WESTPAC
Les Luckfeld, Sargent, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Manuel Marti, Specialist 4, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Robert McArthur, US Navy (retired) - Vietnam
Maurice Nahum, Lieutenant Commander, National Guard 1964-69
William O'Connor, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Larry Parlin, Hospital Corpsman First Class,
U.S. Navy (retired) - Vietnam
Teela Pongpakdee, Aviation Electronics Technician First Class
U.S. Navy (retired) - Iraq, Afghanistan
Jon Schrag, First Lieutenant, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Darryl Templer, Hospital Corpman Second Class,
U.S. Navy - Vietnam
William Wacenske, Machinist Mate Second Class,
U.S. Navy - Vietnam
Jack Wadlington, Captain, U.S. Army - Vietnam
Nathaniel Ward, Captain, U.S. Army (retired) - Vietnam
Leo Valley, Captain, U.S. Airforce
Darby Walker, Captain, U.S. Navy - Vietnam
Thomas Young, Colonel, U.S. Air Force (retired) – Vietnam

Thanksgiving
November 27, 2025

Norman Rockwell Painting of Thanksgiving Day dinner obtained from NormanRockwell.com.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is an annual tradition that was federally formalized by Abraham Lincoln through an 1863 presidential proclamation, but had been implemented as state legislation since the nation's founding. In 1941, the United States Congress formalized the celebration of Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday in November. The holiday traditionally has been a celebration of the blessings received throughout the year, including the harvest as well as sharing a family meal.

Happy Thanksgiving! Scott # 3546

In the News

Stamp Collectors Acquire the Scott Catalog and Linn's Stamp News

Scott Stamp LLC, a new company formed by longtime philatelic leader, Jay Bigalke, and fellow philatelist, David Fritz, has acquired the Scott Catalog, *Scott Stamp Monthly*, and *Linn's Stamp News* from Amos Media Co.

The acquisition places these cornerstone publications of the stamp hobby into the hands of passionate collectors dedicated to strengthening and modernizing philately for future generations. Product sales will continue to be available through AmosAdvantage.com, and subscriptions can be purchased through Linns.com. Both will operate in partnership with Amos Media Co. during the transition period.

"It's incredibly meaningful to see these trusted names in philately return to collector ownership," said Jay Bigalke, President and CEO in Scott Stamp LLC. "Our mission is simple: to honor the legacy of Scott and *Linn's* while investing in new tools and ideas that help the hobby thrive."

"This is a great day for stamp collecting," said Don Sundman of Mystic Stamp Company and one of several collector-investors supporting the new venture. "The Scott Catalog and *Linn's* have guided generations of collectors-including me-and now they'll continue to do so under leadership that truly loves the hobby."

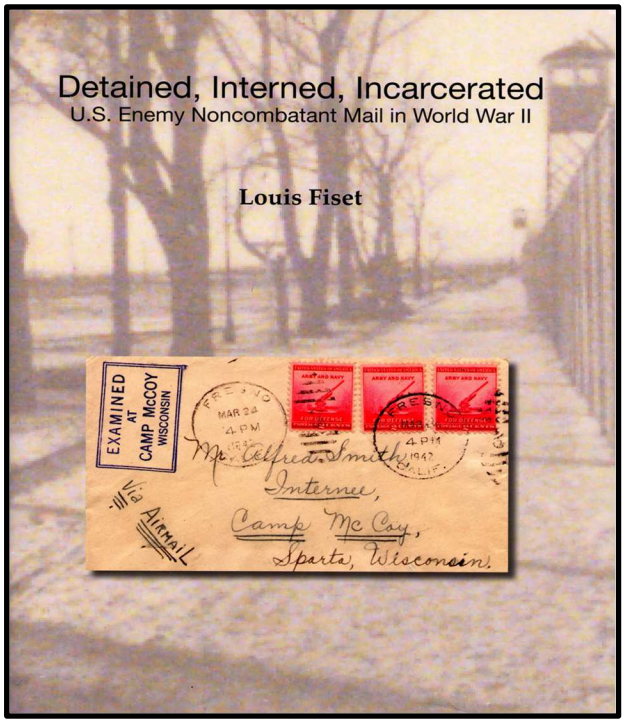
"We're proud to have been stewards of these important brands for decades," said Rick Amos, CEO of Amos Media Co. "Jay and David's passion and expertise ensure that the Scott and *Linn's* legacy will continue to inspire collectors for many years to come."

https://www.linns.com/news/us-stamps-page/stamp-collectors-acquire-the-scott-catalog-and-linn-s-stamp-news

At The SD Philatelic Library

Detained, Interned, Incarcerated
U.S. Enemy Noncombatant Mail in World War II, by Louis Fiset

by Neil Schneider



Starting at the beginning of World War I and then again in World War II, Merchant Seaman aboard luxury cruise ships sought safe haven in neutral ports, including the U.S. When the United States joined the war, these Seaman became prisoners of war and were interned in camps. Although they were fortunate to be alive, they remained in camps throughout the war. The alternative would have been for their ships to be sunk and loss of life.

Sometimes, as in the case of the S.S. Columbus, a German cruise liner, the crew chose to scuttle the ship instead of being captured and the ship turned into a weapon of war. When the crews were picked up repatriation proceedings began but were cut short and the crewmen were sent to an internment camp on Angel Island. They were later transferred to Fort Stanton in New Mexico until the end of war. The book illustrates this history through covers going to and from Germany.

Postal History documents three periods of WW II. The first upon declaration of war on Germany by Great Britain and France on September 3, 1939. The second period started with the seizure of German and Italian shipping U.S. ports on March 30, 1941. The third period started when the U.S. entered the war in December 1941 and initiated postal censorship. This last period ended with the repatriation of the last seaman following the conclusion of hostilities in August 1945.

In 1942 nearly 10,000 individuals were detained under presidential warrants with more than 3,400 of them turned over to the War Department for internment. On December 8, 1941, an hour after Congress declared war against Japan, Attorney General Francis Biddle brought to President Roosevelt for his signature a proclamation prepared the night before declaring "than an invasion has been perpetuated upon the territory of the United States by the Empire of Japan" and that all resident Japanese nationals over the ages of fourteen in the United States and its possessions were immediately "liable to restraint or to give security, or to remove and depart from the United States." This and two other restraint-and-removal proclamations declaring Japanese, German and Italian nationals to be enemy aliens derived their authority from the first Enemy Alien Act of 1798, as amended during the First World War.

The images of Postal history from the periods mentioned are contained throughout this book.

The stories of many of the internment camps, arrests under Martial Law in Hawaii the Relocation of Aleuts to Southeast Alaska after the attack of the Japanese on Dutch Harbor and their occupation of Attu and Kiska in the Aleutian Islands are part of the History I didn't know.

The book includes a CD of the author's exhibits.

If you would like to learn more about this postal history, two copies of this book are available in the "duplicates" bookshelf at the front of the library.

Editor's Corner

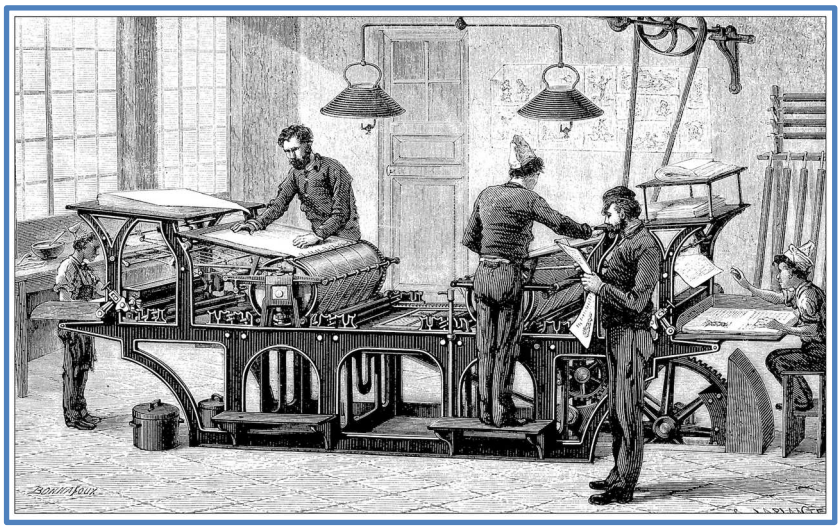


Image obtained from www.gettyimages.com/search/2/image?phrase=antique+printing+press.

To Our Readers,

Just a reminder that the Club will be publishing a December issue rounding out our publications to twelve for 2025. We hope that you have enjoyed the contributions by our literary team, and we encourage any of you thinking about contributing in 2026 to please submit your manuscripts to David Waller at dwaller@dbwipmg.com.

It is time to begin transferring my knowledge of preparing the Poway Stamp Club Newsletter to someone who will eventually take the position of Editor-in-Chief. Consequently, I am looking for an apprentice who would like to learn this process. This will create a smooth transition with minimal interruption for our readers when I shift my efforts to other positions in the future.

If you are interested, then please contact me at the e-mail address above.

David Waller,
Editor-in-Chief

Member's Articles

Every Cover Tells a Story

by Jim Grundy

Recently, I bought a lot of three United States covers on eBay. The lot contained three airmail covers, each with a single stamp from the 1939 Presidential Issue (Prexy). Actually, there were two covers in the lot that caught my interest. One was a censored, airmail cover from Hawaii with

a fourteen-cent prexy. The other was a registered airmail cover with a fifteen-cent prexy that was sent between two cities in the United States. The third was registered, airmail, cover with a very commonly used twenty-cent prexy, Figure 1. I moved the fourteen and fifteen-cent stamp covers into my collection while I let the twenty-cent stamps lie around. However, one night, while I was working at my desk, I took a closer look at it. Upon closer examination, I found that, in addition to being registered, the cover was censored. I then looked at the back of the cover and found that the US Navy canceled it on June 28, 1945. Back to the front of the cover, I looked at the return address and found that it was sent from the U.S.S. LST #47. Several questions popped into my mind: what was the U.S.S. LST #47, and where was it when this cover was sent?

A **B**

Figure 1: A- A registered, airmail, cover with a very commonly used twenty-cent prexy and **B**-Reverse side image of cover.

LST stands for Landing Ship Tank (the sailor who served on them said it stood for Large Slow Target). The inability of the British Navy to evacuate British troops and equipment from the shores of Dunkirk in 1940 highlighted the need for a ship to be developed that could perform this task. Designing such a ship would not be a simple task. At this time, the majority of ships had a "V" shaped, deep-draft hull. This new vessel would have a flat-bottom hull, enabling it to operate in shallow water and land near or on the beach to load or unload its cargo, including tanks, trucks, and soldiers. Another major drawback was that this ship needed to be designed, manufactured, and seaworthy NOW!, Figure 2.

The British Navy modified several of its boats with minimal success. In 1941, the British and Americans met to design a new ship. At this meeting, they determined that the United States would design and build these boats. The vessels had to meet several requirements. It had to be able to land on the beach, unload its tanks, and also be able to stay offshore in deeper water, launching landing craft full of soldiers without sinking. It had to be able to cross vast ocean distances and remain stable in stormy weather. In January of 1942, the first model was completed. It was 328 feet long, 50 feet wide, had a fourteen-foot-wide door in the front, and could carry 1900 tons of cargo in as little as four feet of water. Ocean water could be pumped into tanks at the bottom of the ship to maintain stability during ocean trips. The first model passed its testing with flying colors, and the first production LST was started in June of 1942. The first ship was completed in October, and 22 more were built by the end of 1942. The LSTs could not be built fast enough. They were needed in military operations around the world. In total, over 1000 LSTs were constructed during World War II. They were numbered in order of their completion. LST #47 was the forty-seventh built.

Figure 2: An LST at sea.

Construction of LST #47 started in July 1943 and was completed in November of that year. In February of 1944, she sailed to the United Kingdom to prepare for the invasion of Europe, Figure 3. At 3:00 AM on June 6, 1944, she was twelve miles off the coast of France. There, she launched six boats with 170 troops of the US Navy Demolition Squad. These would be some of the first Allied Forces to land on the beaches of Normandy. Their job was to remove obstacles that would hinder the Normandy Invasion. After launching her boats, she returned to the fleet to receive Army troops that she would deliver to the beaches of Normandy.

After participating in the operations in Europe, the USS LST #47 was assigned to the Pacific Theater of Operations. Here is where USS LST #47 and this month's cover come together. The return address on the front of the cover reads "USS LST #47, c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif., USA". This return address indicates that the ship was somewhere in the Asia-Pacific Theater. Three of the four cancels on the back of the cover read "US NAVY REGISTERED, 28 JUNE 1945". Where was the USS LST #47 on June 28, 1945? A Google search for USS LST #47 answered. The invasion of the island of Okinawa started on April 1st and ended on June 22nd, 1945. USS LST #47 did participate in this invasion, but to what degree is unknown. However, from June 26th to June 30th, she performed occupation duties. Occupation duties involve moving equipment, personnel, and supplies to and from Okinawa. Finding the combat history of the USS LST #47 educated me in the role that LSTs played in World War II. The date and location where this month's cover was canceled changes what appears to be a very average cover with a twenty-cent stamp to an interesting piece of WWII postal history.

Figure 3: LST #47 Loading for D-Day.

Editor's Choice
Most Attractive Early U.S. Postage Stamp

By David Waller

Scott #287 Indian Hunting Buffalo. The subject matter of this stamp highlights the late 19th century America. The vignette sets the stage of America's open plains, with native American on horseback hunting buffalo; a major source of food, hides for shelter and clothing, and bones and horns for tools, weapons, and utensils.

Handmade Dragon Cachets at GASS

by David M. Klauber

Figure 1. Dungeons & Dragons First Day Issue Courtesy D. Klauber.

Recently, I was excited to purchase two handmade, signed art cachets at the 2025 Great American Stamp Show (GASS), held from August 14 to 17, 2025, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center in Schaumburg, Illinois. This fantastic event is one of the top philatelic (stamp) gatherings, co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association. It featured a lively cachet makers' bourse, captivating exhibits, and awards ceremonies. The AFDCS's Americover segment focused on First Day Covers and showcased the largest cachet makers' bourse of its kind, attracting many collectors eager to meet cachet artists like Annajoy Marks. The first cover I purchased was a Dungeons & Dragons first-day-of-issue cover with a hand-drawn red dragon, Figure 1.

Who is Annajoy Marks? Annajoy is an inspiring young artist making waves as a cachet maker. She's gaining recognition for her talent and her contributions to the philatelic community. Notably, she has participated in the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) Cachet Makers' Contests and designed the cachet for the Bluegrass First Day Cover (FDC). Her impressive skills were celebrated with a plaque at the awards ceremony during GASS 2025, showcasing her ability to craft unique, hand-made cachets.

The second cover I purchased was a Dungeons & Dragons first-day-of-issue cover featuring a beautiful, hand-drawn green dragon, Figure 2. Both covers will now migrate to "Mandy Sparkles" as their new keeper and dungeon master.

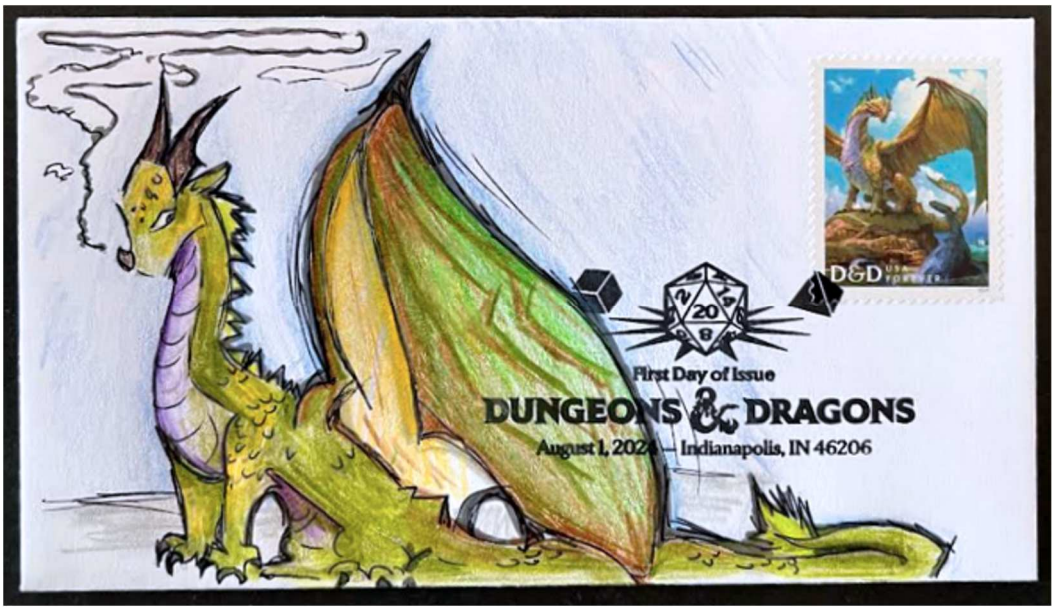


Figure 2. Dungeons & Dragons First Day Issue "Green Dragon" Courtesy D. Klauber.

The cachet makers' bourse on Saturday, August 16, 2025, was a fantastic opportunity for collectors to buy cacheted covers directly from talented artists. It was exciting for Annajoy to share her latest designs with such a broad audience. The event also included fun activities for young people, highlighting Annajoy's role as a shining inspiration for younger collectors through her creative work and contest success. Her contributions bring energy and creativity to the vibrant philatelic community, demonstrating the innovative spirit of the next generation of cachet makers.

Ms. Marks' cachet-making achievements.

Annajoy's journey in cachet making reflects her growing expertise:

- Congratulations to her on winning third place in the Juniors Ages 11 to 17 category at the 2023 AFDCS Cachet Makers Contest! It's a wonderful achievement that highlights her talent and dedication at such a young age.
- Compliments to Annajoy for achieving Second Place in the 2024 AFDCS Cachet Makers Contest with her beautiful Bluegrass cachet! It's wonderful to see her artistic skills grow and shine through her work.
- Notable Work: Her hand-drawn cachet for the 2024 Autumn Colors FDC, featuring themes of pumpkins, coffee, and leaves, was a signed and numbered unique piece (1/1), showcasing her creative flair and attention to detail.

It's wonderful to see how Annajoy's contributions are clearly part of a beautiful family tradition. Her mother proudly won the Miscellaneous Medium category for Shaker Design, and her sister, Katelyn Marks, also received recognition with a plaque in the Juniors Ages 11 to 17 category for Pinback Buttons. This trio's achievements truly highlight their shared love and dedication to the art of philately, inspiring everyone around them.

Start With Local Exhibiting

by David Klauber

One of our local members recently had the exciting opportunity to participate in his first exhibit at the 2025 Chicago Great American Stamp Show (GASS). Interestingly, the project he displayed came from research he did for a series of articles in the Poway Stamp Club Newsletter. When he was writing these articles, he never imagined he would enter his work in a competition. Inspired by his fellow club officers, Mr. Waller decided to submit his first entry in August this year. David was eager to receive feedback from the judges on the accuracy of his work and to learn how he could further develop his skills. His goal was also to inspire other members to adopt his grading approach, and more importantly, to encourage everyone to try exhibiting. His entry yielded unexpected results. The American Philatelic Society Judges awarded him 90 points and a "Large Gold" medal for his work. The experience was both educational and surprising. His success prompted him to ask me to write this article, hoping it would motivate other Club members, regardless of their level of interest, to submit their work and participate in the upcoming San Diego Stamp Show. In this article, I have attempted to provide the same high-level explanation of exhibiting that I shared with David more than a year ago, before his recent successes. I hope it encourages others to take the leap and hopefully leads to other Club member achievements.

Here is a high-level, short, and friendly guide to creating a small stamp exhibition for a stamp show. When you're just starting out, aiming for a one-frame exhibit (about 16 pages in a standard frame) can make the process enjoyable and more manageable. This way, you can share a remarkable story through your stamps, covers, or related items without feeling overwhelmed.

Following a set of well-known philatelic guidelines, you can develop your exhibit in just a few weeks, depending on the completeness of your collection. Let's walk through the steps together!

First, choose a subject you're interested in, like a stamp series, postal history, or thematic story such as "The Evolution 20th-Century U.S. Postal Biplane Airmail Covers." Ensure it tells a complete, engaging story within 8 to 16 pages. Consider the exhibit type: Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, or Display. Starting small by reviewing your collection helps keep costs manageable and avoid unnecessary expenses. Create an engaging Exhibit Plan by telling it like a story, starting with a scene-setting beginning, a middle packed with key evidence and details, and a satisfying ending. Consider jotting down a simple list or paragraph to organize your ideas. For example, a traditional exhibit might be structured around design sketches, production types, and usage examples. Don't forget to include a welcoming title page that features the

exhibit's title, its purpose or scope (such as "What and how") and a brief preview of the content. You can use tools like Microsoft Publisher, Word, or use stock pages to sketch your ideas. Remember to balance the layout by allocating space according to the importance of each part. Avoid trying to give equal pages to every section, as this makes your exhibit inviting and well-paced.

Second, gather and organize your philatelic treasures carefully! Collect stamps, covers, postmarks, and supporting items like proofs, maps, or certificates for rarities. Arrange them chronologically or by theme in stock books, noting gaps. Enjoy hunting for the missing pieces through auctions, dealers, or clubs. Prioritize quality and condition over rarity at first. For a small exhibit, choose 20–50 key items that highlight your expertise and interesting cancellations. Design layout and pages carefully with creative arrangements like variations of singles, blocks, and covers to keep interest. Use quality mounts on acid-free paper and leave space around items for breathing. Add headers with dates or section numbers and include page captions. For digital prep, create layout prototypes with software. Ensure pages meet display standards, sleeved in clear polyester with sealed bottoms for a professional look. When writing the Narrative and Write-Ups, include brief, clear explanations for items to tell the story. For example, say, "This cover shows the X¢ rate via the (xxx) route, canceled June 15, 1910." Show your knowledge implicitly through item selection and explicitly in notes about varieties or rates. Keep writeups short, 1-2 lines per item, and ensure accuracy. Use consistent fonts. Highlight rarities with footnotes or symbols sparingly, like "Ex: Lindbergh Collection," to maintain clarity.

Third, review, refine, and gather feedback to make your exhibit stand out! Check if it looks neat, flows smoothly, and follows evaluation criteria: Treatment 40%, Knowledge/Rarity 30%, Condition/Presentation 30%, as per the American Philatelic Society. Share your exhibit as a "work-in-progress" at a Poway Club meeting to receive feedback from experts and exhibitors. This supportive step improves your exhibit, and if you're able to accept critiques, it will make the experience more rewarding! Explore local and/or regional shows by checking published calendars on websites like stamps.org or Linn's Stamp News. Download the show exhibit prospectus to get all the details about rules, per-frame fees, and deadlines.

Lastly, when you are ready, submit your application, pages, and a title or index card. Make sure to ship or deliver your exhibit as instructed. Qualified judges will evaluate your exhibit, on-site at the show, and you will have the chance to receive feedback afterward. Starting with a local show is an excellent way to gain confidence before taking part in larger or more prestigious events.

By following the simple steps provided, your small exhibit can earn ribbons and create wonderful memories that last. Do not forget to check out resources like the APS Exhibiting page or AAPE, which offer free templates and seminars to support you along the way! And don't forget to have FUN!

Collecting United States Plate Block Numbers
The Palomar Mountain Issue, 1948

by Bill O'Connor

Over the years I have acquired numerous, usually, blocks of four, United States commemorative stamps. I have only one complete collection of all the plate blocks from the various corner positions of the sheets printed. That collection is as the title of this article suggests, the Palomar

Mountain Observatory/Telescope stamp of August 30, 1948.

This observatory located in the northern part of San Diego County, is still one of the premiere facilities of its kind in the world today. Four separate plate numbers were used for this issue of stamps; numbers 23884, 23885, 23888, and 23889, Figure 1. In checking Durland *Standard Plate Number Catalog* that was a typical number of plates for commemorative stamps issued in 1948. The four blocks of four per plate are mounted on special White Ace pages. The numbers are shown in the following sequence;

Figure 1: All four plate block corners of the Palomar Mountain Stamp sheets (Scott #96); plate numbers 23884, 23885, 23888 and 23889.

One other major aspect of my Palomar Mountain stamp collection is acquiring First Day covers. I only have a few plate block covers, all plate number 23884. This is not surprising as I would surmise that only the first plate was available for the First Day ceremony. As you can see in the two examples, plate number 23884 is shown.

The upper First Day cover is a Cachet Craft cover showing the lower left block of the stamp.

The lower First Day cover is an Art Craft cover showing an upper right block of the stamp.

I am sure that the other plate positions for this number are available. It seems that the other plate issues could be on regular correspondence of a future date; that might prove an interesting quest.

References:

- 2012 Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog, United States Stamp Society, Katy, Texas.

Corps of Discovery 1800's

by Manuel Marti

Scott # 327

The Corps of Discovery was *a specially established unit of the United States Army* which formed the Lewis and Clark Expedition from May 1804 to September 1806.

The Corps of Discovery was the group that made up the Lewis and Clark Expedition, tasked by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the Louisiana Purchase. The expedition's main goals were to find a water route to the Pacific, establish trade relations with Native American tribes, and gather scientific information on the new territory's geography, plants, and animals. The expedition was led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark.

Portraits of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was the United States expedition to cross the newly acquired western portion of the country after the Louisiana Purchase. The Corps of Discovery was a select group of U.S. Army and civilian volunteers under the command of Captain Meriwether Lewis and his close friend Second Lieutenant William Clark. Clark, along with 30 others, set out from Camp Dubois (Camp Wood), Illinois, on May 14, 1804, met Lewis and ten other members of the group in St. Charles, Missouri, then went up the Missouri River.

Image of Meriwether Lewis, William Clark and one of their Native American guides, Sacagawea, landing on a Missouri riverbank. Scott #1053

The expedition crossed the Continental Divide of the Americas near the Lemhi Pass, eventually coming to the Columbia River, and the Pacific Ocean in 1805. The return voyage began on March 23, 1806, at Fort Clatsop, Oregon, ending six months later on September 23 of that year.

In the winter of 1804-1805, the party built Fort Mandan, near present-day Washburn, North Dakota. Just before departing on April 7, 1805, the expedition sent the keelboat back to St. Louis with a sample of specimens, some never-before-seen east of the Mississippi. The Americans quickly continued westward (upriver) and camped for the winter in the Mandan nation's territory.
For several days, Lewis and Clark met in council with Mandan chiefs. Here they met a French-Canadian fur trapper named Toussaint Charbonneau, and his young Shoshone wife, Sacagawea.

Charbonneau, at this time, began to serve as the expedition's translator. Peace was established between the expedition and the Mandan chiefs with the sharing of a Mandan ceremonial pipe.

Scott # 2869s

The Expedition was not without incidents or danger. Both the Blackfeet and the Lakota (Teton Sioux) tribes posed significant threats of violence to the Lewis and Clark expedition, coming close to a premature end to their journey. The encounter with the Lakota in 1804 was the expedition's "narrowest escape with disaster", while a deadly confrontation in 1806 with the Blackfeet resulted in at least one death.

In 1804, near the Bad River in present-day South Dakota a near-violent argument erupted between William Clark and western bands of the Sioux Nation, Lakota (Teton Sioux) due to issues with trade objectives, diplomacy, and the lack of an interpreter. The situation was defused by the Lakota leader Black Buffalo and despite the lingering tensions, resulted in no bloodshed for the expedition.

Then there was the "Ordeal on the Lolo Trail" referring to the harrowing and nearly disastrous 11-day passage of the Lewis and Clark Expedition through the Bitterroot Mountains in September 1805. The perilous journey left the Corps of Discovery exhausted, starved, and in the worst condition of their entire two-year expedition. "*The expedition was indebted to the Nez Perce Indians, who the"* starving explorers met on September 20, 1805, after their ordeal on the Lolo Trail. Had the Nez Perce been so inclined, the Corps of Discovery could have been erased without a trace.

The next encounter occurred on July 1806, in what is now northern Montana, Captain Meriwether Lewis and his companions had a violent confrontation with a group of young Blackfeet warriors. The confrontation resulted in at least one dead Blackfeet warrior and was described as the expedition's "*only fatal encounter with Native Americans*". This incident strained U.S.-Blackfeet relations and led to decades of conflict.

The expedition sighted the Pacific Ocean for the first time on November 7, 1805, arriving two weeks later.

Scott # 3854

The expedition faced the beginning of its second bitter winter camped on the north side of the Columbia River, in a storm-wracked area Clark called Dismal Nitch. On November 24, 1805, the majority of the party voted to move their camp to the south side of the Columbia River near modern Astoria, Oregon. Both Sacagawea and the enslaved York participated in the vote.
York statue in Louisville, Kentucky, is a bronze sculpture by artist Ed Hamilton located on the Belvedere overlooking the Ohio River, dedicated in 2003 to commemorate York's role in the Lewis and Clark expedition. There have been attempts to have a stamp for York, but no stamp has been made yet.

Statue of York by sculptor Ed Hamilton, with plaques commemorating the Lewis and Clark Expedition Louisville Riverfront Plaza/Belvedere on the Ohio River.

York is also credited with being the first African American to have a vote equal to that of a white man. In November 1805, the Corps held a vote to decide where to camp for the winter, and both York and Sacagawea cast votes on that location.

When the Corps of Discovery returned from the Expedition, each member, except York, received double pay and 320 acres of land. York, on the other hand, returned to slavery. Clark denied York's initial requests for freedom, recording in 1808 (per National Park Service) that:

"I did wish to do well by him. But as he got such a notion about freedom and his emence Services…I do not think with him, that his Services has been So great/or my Situation would promit me to liberate him."

York was finally freed sometime after 1815. With his freedom, Clark gave York a wagon and team of horses, with which York created a hauling business. By 1832, however, Clark told author Washington Irving that York's business failed, and that he had contracted cholera and died in Tennessee. The location of his burial is unknown.

References

- National Park Service: National Postal History Museum, Wikipedia, and EBay

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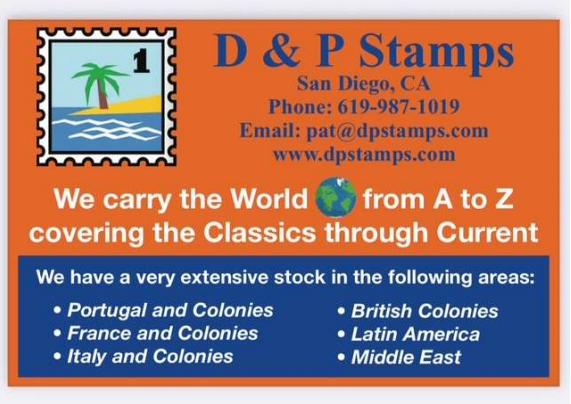

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Stamp News 2025

No New Stamps for November 2025

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