

BULLETIN

OF THE EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Volume 57, Number 2

July 2024

Presidents Message

Dear Members:

As this issue of *The Bulletin* goes to press, Summer is upon us. May I and the officers of the Society wish everyone a Happy AND SAFE July 4th.

Plans are in the works to have a Board meeting at the Northeast Postal History & Ephemera Show in Albany. The show is at the Polish Community Center on July 27 & 28. Come to the show and meet old friends and make new ones while you hunt for that cover that you didn't know existed yet fits perfectly in your collection. See the ad on page 4.

"Learning About Stamps Online" or LASO, is a new initiative to attract and help people in our great hobby. Their mission statement says it all: "To provide an online forum for stamp collectors of all ages, skill levels and philatelic interests who have a passion to learn. Together, members will share knowledge and resources to further appreciate, enjoy and promote the hobby." It's free and open to all. See page 15 for more details.

Sincerely,

Charles

Charles J. DiComo, PhD | *President*

+1 (914) 450-3791 or charlesdicomo@gmail.com

In This Issue



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EXCELSIOR! DEADLINE

The deadline for the **October 2024** issue of *EXCELSIOR!* is **August 15th** or earlier if possible.

As an incentive, submitting a one to four-page article will get you a one year extension on your membership and a five-page article will get you a two year extension. Just think – if you write regularly for *EXCELSIOR!*--you'll have the potential of earning free membership for life!...And think about how you will enrich yourself and others. Submit questions or articles to Jeff Stage at nyspostal@gmail.com

Secretary's Membership Report

New Members

Michael Clark
130 Horseshoe Hill Rd.
Pound Ridge, NY 10576

Todd Hause
846 Angel St. NE
Palm Bay, FL 32905

Cindy Todeschini
108 Crabtree Lane
Syracuse, NY 13219

Reinstated

Russell A. Crow
1125 Marney Ct.
Henrico, VA 23229

Deceased

E-mail Change

UPCOMING EVENTS

New York July 13 Big Flats Stamp & Coin Show Big Flats Stamp & Coin Club American Legion Post 45 S. Olcott Rd, Big Flats. Contact Wayne Nye Email: mrstampman14891@yahoo.com	New York July 27-28 Northeast Postal History & Ephemera Show Polish Community Ctr., 225 Washington Ave. Ext. Albany	New Jersey July 20, Aug. 10, Sep 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 23 Burlington Masons Lodge Stamp Show Merchantville Stamp Club, Burlington Lodge #32 F&AM, 2308 Burlington, -Mt. Holly Road, Burlington. Contact: Ryan Terlecky Email: rterlecky@hotmail.com	Penn. Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5. NEPPEX NE Penn. Stamp Show, St. Peter & Paul Church, Bernardine Hall, 14 Hudson Rd., Plains. Contact: Ward Wilcox Email: wardw911@gmail.com
Conn. Aug. 15-18 Great American Stamp Show, Conn. Convention Center, Hartford Contact: Wendy Masorti Email stampshow@stamps.org	New York Aug. 24 August Stamp Fair 2024, Buffalo Stamp Club, The Knights Events Center, 2737 Union Rd., Cheektowaga Contact: Alan Davis Email: ddavis504@roadrunner.com	New Jersey Sep 7 Clifton NJ. Clifton Stamp Society, Clifton Comm. Recreation Ctr. 1232 Main Ave., at Washington Ave., Clifton, Contact: Tom Stidl Email: stidl@verizon.net	New Jersey Sep 27-29 NOJEX North Jersey Fed. Stamp Clubs, Hilton Hasbrouck Heights Hotel, 650 Terrace Ave., Hasbrouck Heights Contact: Robert Rose Email: robertrose25@comcast.net

Information obtained from American Philatelic Society and iStampShows.com

**For publication in the Bulletin of the Empire State (New York) Postal History Society
issue of July 2024.**

North Carolina Postal History

I recently read an article that I thought many of my fellow New York State collectors might find interesting. The Philatelic Literature Review (PLR) had a fifteen page story of updating the prime tool of the North Carolina Postal History Society, their Postmark Catalog.

The American Philatelic Research Library of the APS published the article in their PLR issue dated the Fourth Quarter of 2023. The article titled "How the North Carolina Postmark Catalog came to be" was written by Tony Crumbley.

The introduction page of the journal says the article tells the story of "a slow, but dedicated and diligent road [which] leads to postal history triumph in North Carolina." It goes on to explain that "Our author explains the 25-year journey that led to the huge 6,500-page North Carolina Post Mark [on-line] Catalog that chronicles more than 28,000 postmarks used over the years in the state of North Carolina. Once in hard cover, volunteers spent several years creating a digital masterpiece for all to access and enjoy."

Copies of the lengthy fifteen page article can be obtained from the APRL at library@stamps.org (preferred method) (include the words **PLR's North Carolina Article** as your email's subject title) or telephone 814-933-3803 + option 4. Submitted by T.P. McDermott

T.P. McDermott tpwzrmcd@hotmail.com 914-948-8484

13th ANNUAL

**NORTHEAST
POSTAL HISTORY
&
EPHEMERA SHOW**

ALSO FEATURING STAMPS AND POSTCARDS

July 27 & 28, 2024

SATURDAY: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM • SUNDAY: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**AT THE
Polish Community Center,
225 Washington Ave Ext,
ALBANY, NY 12205
(www.albanypcc.com)**

SHOW COMMITTEE: Tom Auletta, Anne Doubleday, Robert Dalton Harris & Diane DeBlois, George McGowan

Treasurer's Tidbits

by George F. DeKornfeld, DDS

This year's membership renewal cycle has stood out from those of previous years for two reasons. First, the speed with which dues were received is certainly noteworthy with only a tiny handful of invoices still outstanding today (with reminders soon to go out). The high renewal / retention rate speaks volumes about how highly the ESPHS is regarded by our membership and the value placed upon our journals, publications, website, and the like. Second, as seen by the rather lengthy list of donors shown below, we had one of our best years in terms of monies received in addition to dues. All donations arrived as cash, yet worth honorable mention is the one member who in addition to sending in some extra funds, also included a handful of 'Forever' stamps, always a need during the society's yearly dues mailing cycle.

A tip of the hat and a heartfelt thank you to the following members who included donations with their dues payments or 'Best Article' ballots:

Keith Bantz, M.D.
Philip A. Beyer
Henry Chlanda
Roger D. Curran
Glen J. DeSalvo
William Dewitt
Donald R. Dolan, Jr, D.D.S.
John D. Dowd
Dorothy Scott Fielder
Mark H. Fonda
Joseph W. Halpern
Joel Harrington
Robert Dalton Harris
Terence Hines
Rebecca Hogancamp – Glenister
Stefan T. Jaronski

Robert E. Juceum
Brian Levy
T. P. McDermott
Susan Milner
Vernon R. Morris, Jr., M.D.
Richard Nunge
Douglas Penwell
Ronald E. Pfeffer
William W. Sammis
Gennaro Santaniello
John F. Schorn
Norman Shepard
William A. Thoman, D.D.S.
Maris Tirums
J. Ogden Tyldsley, Jr.

Awards Chair Accolades

by George F. DeKornfeld, DDS

For the first time since the 'Best Article' award program came into being, an award will be presented each for the best article to appear in *Excelsior!* during 2023 and the best one printed in the *Bulletin*, as decided through voting by the membership. And the winners are:

Excelsior! – Voting for the best article out of the ten vying for the title for 2023 was fairly evenly distributed, with the favorite squeaking out victory by a single vote. Congrats to Jeff Stage for his *Step Right Up and Enjoy Our Oldest State Fair*.

Bulletin – Here, voting for the best article was clearly lopsided with the winner blowing away the competition, beating out the second-place author by thirteen votes! The award goes to Mark Fonda and his *The Building of a Famous Resort at Saratoga Springs, New York*.

Trophies will be going out to the two winners in the next month or so. Thank you to all the writers that contributed to our two Journals, and please, let's see some more and some new contributors for next year's contest! Our Journals keep our Society vibrant and educational, and the membership would enjoy reading about your selected niche of New York State postal history!

And more..

The January issue of the *American Philatelist* announced the winners of the 2023 Star Route Awards. In the websites category, the Empire State Postal History Society's site garnered a Large Vermeil. It is managed by Charles DiComo!

The First Quarter 2024 issue of *La Posta* contained a review of the society's October 2023 issue of *Excelsior!*. It contained an overview of the articles and lists those involved in its production and contact information.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

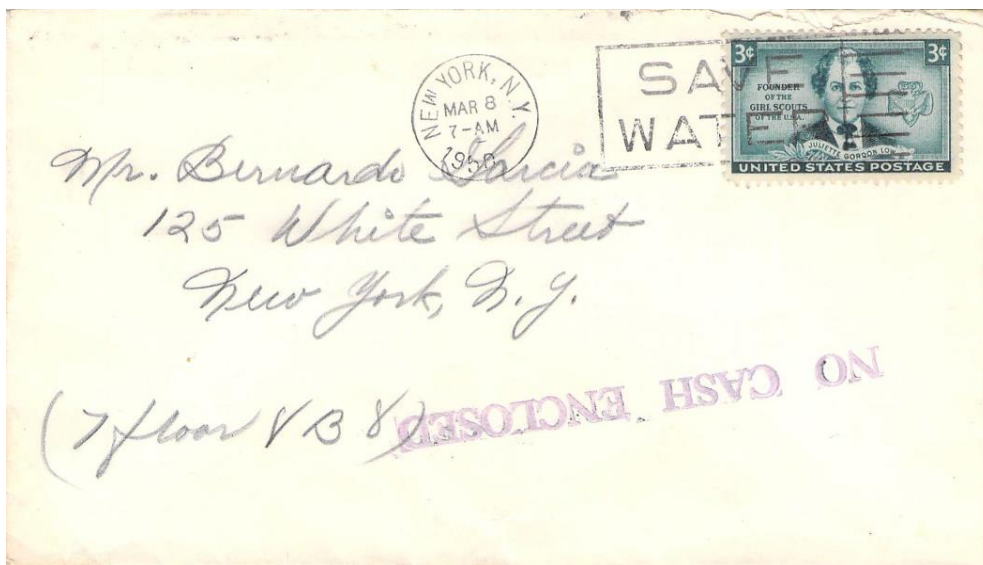
DEADLINE – The deadline for the [January 2025](#) issue of the *BULLETIN* is [November 15, 2024](#). The editor is always looking for short (1/2 page, 1 page, 1 ½ page or 2 page) articles to fill spots in the *BULLETIN*.

Submitting a one to four page article will get you a one year extension of your membership. Submit to lawrencelaliberte426@gmail.com Larry Laliberte

No Cash Enclosed Cover

by T.P. McDermott©

A cheap, one dollar cover was offered in Aug 2023 by an eBay dealer who previously had sold a few low-cost scout covers. (Jean Kavar of Appleton WI.) A 1949 Juliette Gordon Low commemorative stamp paid the postage. It was cancelled in New York on March 8, 1950 with a Save Water slogan. Addressed to Mr. Bernardo Garcia / 125 White Street / New York, N. Y. with a 7 floor 8 B 8 notation. It had an upside-down hand marking which reads “No Cash Enclosed” that caught your bidder’s attention. On the backside flap was the return address of Mary Ochoa / 475 W. 57 St. / N.Y.C. All the addresses were written in pencil and without any city postal zone codes.



My first attempt to understand this cover was to lookup the intended address in two NYC traveling booklets of 1939 and 1960 with no results. Secondly I used the Ancestry program at my public library to search for the sender. She was found in the U.S. 1950 Census as being a 24-year-old married female New Yorker, working as a cook in a

restaurant. Her husband, Bernardo, was 28 years old who worked as a carpenter for a cabinet firm.

The cover’s recipient was listed on a 1950 census form which was prepared on May 11th (that’s two months after the envelope was addressed and mailed). He was single, a 28-year-old male with a previous residence in Bronx, NYC. On the date that the census was prepared, he was listed as a prisoner at Rikers Island Penitentiary. A search for the 125 White Street address resulted in it being the Manhattan House of Detention, better known as “The Tombs”. It was a jail where un-convicted persons, without bail, are held pending court trial.

Sending money to inmates is a No – No! Mail to and from inmates is usually censored, so this marking was probably applied by a correction’s officer. Your author remembers the concerns and philatelic news articles in the 1980s regarding mail of inmates who had stamp collecting interests and conducted it via the U.S. mail. It was brought to the attention of the public by various special markings such as “Inmate Mail” or return addresses from correctional institutions.

A "Roaring -20's Speak Easy Days" Post Card from Syracuse, N.Y.

By Mark Fonda

The postal card in this article, **Fig 1**, is a Scott UX30, a 2 cent Jefferson on buff that was issued between 1917 and 1918. It was sent by the Chief of Police Martin Cadin at Syracuse, N.Y. to Atty. H.W. Mumford of Scranton, PA. It is concerning an auto violation (re: Auto Theft) by parolee Jacques Cohan, Case #430-781 parole dated Aug 11, 1923.

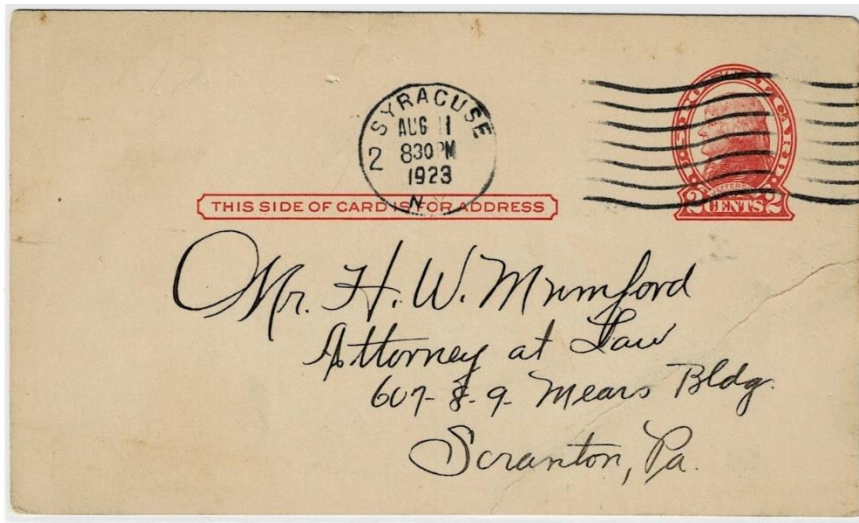
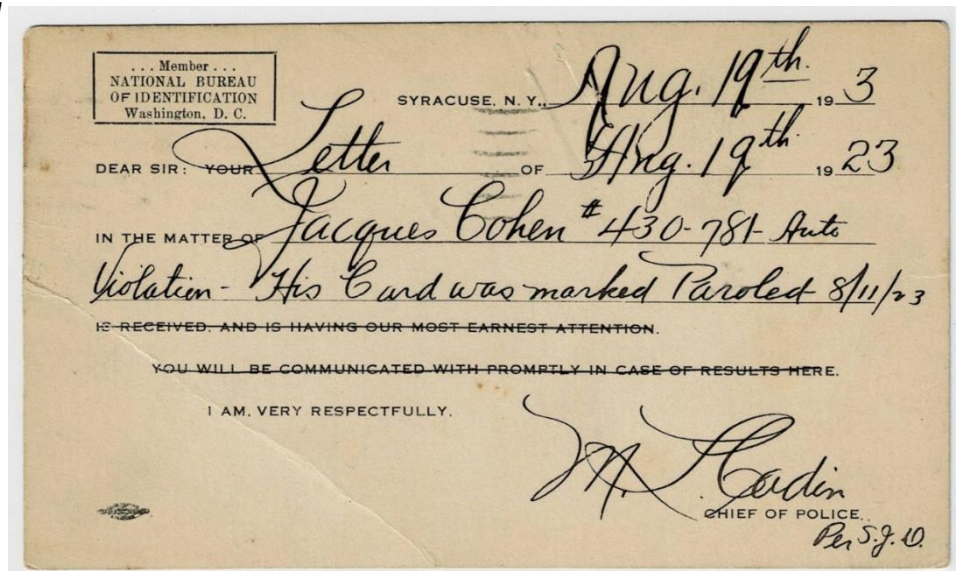


Figure 1. Above, Inquirers post card to H.W. Mumford.

Figure 2. right, The reverse of the card.

unexcelled in police protection in New York State, and this remarkable efficiency has come during the years in which Chief Cadin has been at the head of the department. Protecting the city, which annually draws hundreds of thousands of persons to the

State Fair and the numerous Conventions and conclaves is no easy matter, but this protection has been developed to such a high degree that the "floating underworld population steers clear of Syracuse." All quotes are from the *Syracuse Herald* of June 4th, 1911.



Martin L. Cadin was appointed as outstanding Republican Party candidate Chief of Police, Syracuse, NY on June 4, 1905, serving 29 illustrious years as a top-notch crime fighting officer, making Syracuse "...a highly undesirable place for crooks of all degrees." "During his administration, many offenders of national reputation have been caught by his vigilant aides. For a city of the second class, Syracuse, is

On the reverse of the postal card, **Fig. 2**, a box in the upper left corner states “Member/ National Bureau/ of Identification/ Washington, D.C.” This organization was formed by the National Chiefs of Police Union in 1896 and opened in 1897. Its purpose was to record identifying information on criminals and share that information with law enforcement. It was in Chicago until 1902, at which time it was moved to Washington, D.C. Allan Pinkerton donated his Agency’s collection of photographs to the newly formed agency. The National Bureau of Criminal Identification, NBIC, **Fig. 3**, initially collected only photographs and Bartillon (card) records, which limited the bureau’s effectiveness. Its effectiveness greatly increased when it began collecting fingerprints. The NBIC, also called the National Bureau of Identification, ceased to exist when it was absorbed into the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 26, 1908. The Syracuse Police Dept. must have received many requests for information to warrant using preprinted cards.

Chief Martin Cadin was known as “The chief that never wore a uniform” and gained national recognition as a “crime hunter”! He was obsessed for years with the pursuit and capture of Syracuse’s most wanted criminal, Fred Conley of the 1920’s. Conley’s criminal career began in 1914 with stealing pennies from Salvation Army kettles. When granted mercy and released by Chief Cadin, Conley did not “go-straight”. He graduated to the underworld and international infamy in crime for daring fur and jewel heists. He was finally arrested in 1927. This gave Chief Cadin some well earned satisfaction and closure for his continuing law enforcement’s stellar career.

Another highlight of his career included “Quelling the Auburn prison riot of 1929 with 20 volunteers from his own Dept., entering the prison building to disarm embattled rioting felons.

He also saw his archenemy, Fred Conley, take Jesus as his savior in prison, even inviting Chief Cadin to be present at his parole/release in later years. Cadin accepted the invite and was present to see Fred Conley “Go Straight”, even thou throughout his career, Conley swore the death of Cadin.



Figure 3. The file room for the National Bureau of Criminal Identification.

Special recognition for Onondaga Co. Historical Association Research/Archive Center (Historian) Ms. Maria Lore.

New York RPO Cancels Part II

By George McGowan

In Part I of this story, we talked about collecting RPO cancels, specifically, routes that begin and end in New York State. In Part II we will explore RPO routes on inland lakes inside New York State. With some of these routes, there are no known cancels in existence, however, that does not mean that they are not out there. Most of these routes were seasonally operated, catering to the seasonal tourists and the local summer camp owners.

Starting here is a list of known RPO lake routes in New York.

Alphabetically listed.

Canandaigua & Naples RPO - Run by the
Canandaigua Lake Navigation Co.

22 miles long

This route lasted only eight months.

Geneva & Watkins RPO - Run by the Seneca
Lake Navigation Co.

1882 - 1892

Inlet & Old Forge RPO - Run by the Fulton
Navigation Co.

1901 - 1955 — 18 miles long

June - October on the Fulton Chain of Lakes

Jamestown & Mayville RPO - Run by the
Chautauqua Lake Transportation Co.

1882 - 1890

Summer only

Skaneateles Lake and Glen Haven - Run by the
Skaneateles Steamboat & Transportation Co.

June - September

Ticonderoga & Lake George RPO - Run by the
Champlain Transportation Co.

1882 - 1934

May - October

Wanakena & Cranberry Lake RPO

1908 - 1935

Summers only

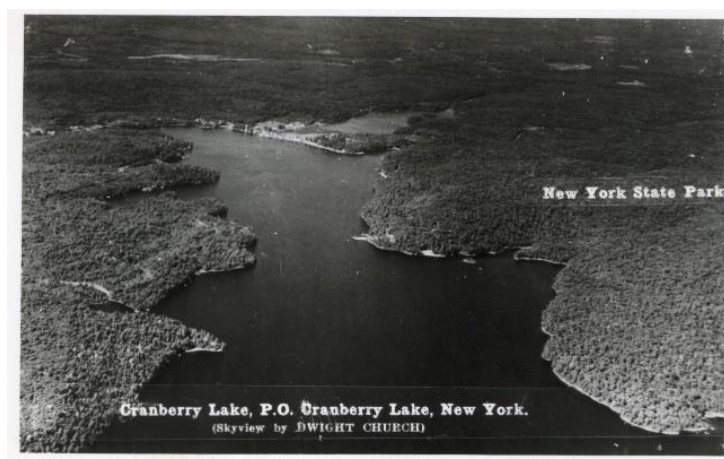


Figure 1

This is a real photo postcard of the north end of Cranberry Lake where the Post Office is located.



Fig. 2



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

Figure 2

A nice strike of the Ticonderoga and Lake George RPO dated June 20, 1906. "NORTH" means it was carried on the trip from Lake George to Ticonderoga. Note the letters "R M S" in the killer, it stands for Railway Mail Service.

Figure 3

An even better strike of the Inlet and Old Forge RPO, dated August 15, 1922. This route included most of the Fulton Chain of Lakes.

Figure 4

This is a rather poor strike of the Wanakena and Cranberry Lake RPO, dated August 17th, 1909. Wanakena was to the southeast of Cranberry Lake.

BULLETIN

ADVERTISING & CLASSIFIED ADS

ESPHS members are entitled to one classified ad per year of 25 words not counting contact info. For larger ads, refer to the table.

Send ads as a Word doc to the editor at lawrencelaliberte426@gmail.com. Send payment to the editor via check payable to Empire State Postal History Society at 15 Sunset Hill Ct., Carmel, NY 10512-5027.

Ad Size	One-Time Placement	Two Issues
Classified (max 25-words)	\$10	\$18
1/4 Page	\$30	\$58
1/2 Page	\$50	\$90
Full Page	\$125	\$230

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

From Mike Vagnetti

Hello! I am reaching out to the Empire State Postal History Society for some assistance in obtaining specific scans of particular U.S. postmarks, preferably on cover.

I have written an article for *Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly* magazine titled **1901 Pan American Exposition Cancellations**. The article was rejected by their editorial staff because some of the scans were of poor quality. I am having difficulty in trying to locate suitable scans to illustrate my article with.

If you can help me, I will credit you or your Club in the acknowledgement section of my piece. If you can't help, can you direct me to someone who might be able to?

The scans need to be a minimum of 300 dpi and in the jpeg format. These are the ones I need (The Bomar classification number is included in the description):

Figure 1: Undulating slogan flag made by the American Postal Machine Company, B-01-19

Figure 3: Barry undulating flag cancel, B-01-18A

Figure 5: Barr-Fyke "tassel" flag cancel, B-01-08

Figure 6: B-01-11 machine flag cancellation

Figure 7: Columbia Postal Machine Company cancel, B-01-10

Figure 9: Irregular rubber hand stamp, B-01-02

Figure 11: The three known left side oval dater distinct variations for B-01-13

Figure 12: Bomar designation B-01-14 with die spaces containing the numeral "2"

Figure 13: Barry Triangle slogan cancel with the number '2' in the die space between the postmark and the triangle, B-01-15A

Figure 15: Exposition Station 7-line, straight-line machine cancel, B-01-07

Fig 1



Fig 3



Fig 5

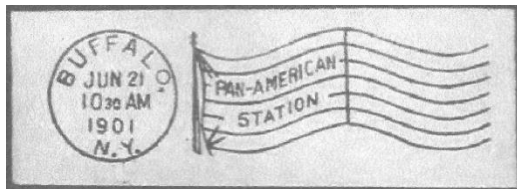


Fig 6



Fig 7

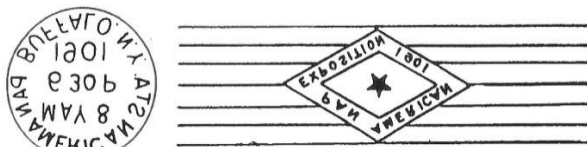


Fig 9



Fig 11



Fig 12



Fig 13

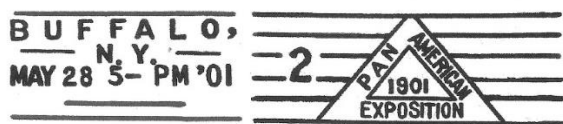
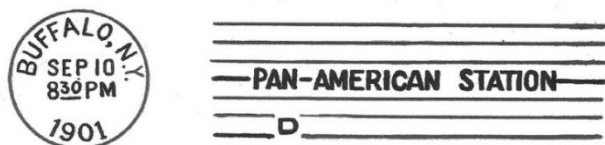


Fig 15



Mike Vagnetti mjvagnetti@gmail.com
American Philatelic Society #226755
Venice (FL) Stamp Club #635
Cuban Philatelic Society of America #966
Civil War Philatelic Society #4019
The Perfins Club #4298
The Precancel Stamp Society #8533

Mr. Bates vs. the (British) Post Office

Denial, mismanagement, coverup and the “Perversion of Justice.”

Daily-Mail - Between 1999 and 2015, more than 900 sub-postmasters were wrongly prosecuted due to faulty accountancy software called Horizon which showed errors that did not exist.

Many sub-postmasters went to prison for false accounting and theft, and several were financially ruined. The case is seen as one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in British legal history.

A public inquiry into the Horizon scandal is ongoing, hearing from former Post Office boss Rev. Paula Vennells. She has not yet been charged.

The passing of the Post Office Horizon System Offences Bill means all convictions will be quashed of people convicted of theft, or false accounting between 1996 and 2018 while working in a Post Office using its flawed IT system. Those who have their convictions overturned will be eligible for compensation payments from the Horizon Convictions Redress Scheme, which will be set up after the legislation is passed. £57.75 million has been set aside for the fund.

The unprecedented law has been driven through in the wake of the public outcry brought about by the broadcast of the ITV drama *Mr. Bates vs the Post Office*.

Editor’s Note. This is not fiction. As stated, it is the largest miscarriage of justice ever in Great Britain, and it involved the Royal Mail. The four-part series dramatizing the events was broadcast in April on PBS and can probably be viewed On-Demand. I watched it and I can highly recommend it.



Learning About Stamps Online

A forum for collectors discussing all things philatelic.
Zoom with us on the third Tuesday of every month at 8 PM Eastern!
www.learningaboutstamps.org info@learningaboutstamps.org

(Please note that our web site is under construction, to be up in the next few weeks. At this time contact us at antonejaboud@gmail.com with your questions and comments.)

May 17, 2024

Fellow Stamp Collectors,

You are invited to join a new, free stamp group! Learning About Stamps Online (LASO for short) has formed to give collectors a new way to connect with others over the Internet no matter where they live.

Our Mission Statement says it all: To provide an online forum for stamp collectors of all ages, skill levels and philatelic interests who have a passion to learn. Together members will share knowledge and resources to better appreciate, enjoy and promote the hobby.

Over 30 volunteers active in philately in the U.S. and Canada have been meeting by Zoom the past few months to discuss needs and roadblocks facing collectors. Their collaboration has resulted in this organization with the aim of helping each other through LASO's emphasis on learning.

You will want to know...

- Membership is free to anyone worldwide.
- Monthly meetings will be held the third Tuesday of every month beginning at 8 PM Eastern via Zoom for about an hour in length.
- English is the primary language used by participants.
- Topics will vary and cover a broad range of collecting areas, including philatelic basics, "how to" tutorials, general and specialized presentations.
- Breakout groups will be used whenever possible to foster a more personal experience for everyone.
- The focus of meetings is not for buying or selling; however, participants may contact one another to initiate such exchanges.
- Member contact information will never be utilized for non-club purposes and only released to other members with his or her consent.
- A trial run will be on Tuesday, June 18, with the first official meeting on Tuesday, July 16.

Joining LASO

We encourage interested collectors to sign up to receive meeting notices and information as it becomes available. **Please forward this information to anyone else that may be interested.** Again, there is no fee! Here is the link and QR code to register with no obligation:

<https://tinyurl.com/3fmr697j>



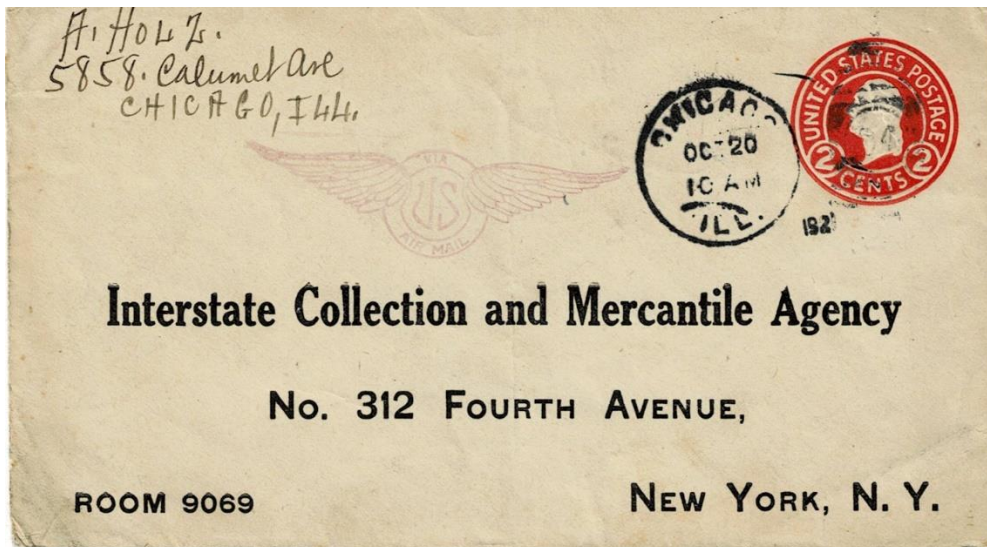
Happy collecting! Antone Aboud, Organizing Chair antonejaboud@gmail.com

THE 2¢ AIR MAIL RATE

By Larry Laliberte

Have you ever heard of the 2¢ air mail rate? Technically, it never existed, but covers that were carried at that rate exist.

The PMG Ord 3336 of July 18, 1919, effective that same day, discontinued formal air mail service. Therefore, the 2¢ rate of July 18, 1919, was not strictly an airmail rate. The order provided that mail carried by airplane would be charged at the first-class rate of 2¢ an ounce *if space was available* on the planes which continued to fly in order to establish the contemplated transcontinental route.



Although the PMG order is dated July 18, 1919, most covers noted are postmarked at Philadelphia on July 19th.

Let's start at the beginning with a magnifying glass. We're looking at fine print here. A quick look at the Scott catalog shows the first three air mail

stamps as No. C1-3. One might assume that they were all issued at the same time. Not true. Let's look at them individually.

C3, the 24¢ carmine rose & blue, was the first one issued on May 13, 1918. This paid the rate for service between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York City. Because it included Special Delivery service at 10¢, one might argue that the air mail fee was actually 14¢.

C2, the 16¢ green, was issued on July 11, 1918. This covered the reduced rate on the same route and still included Special Delivery service.

C1, the 6¢ orange, was issued on December 10, 1918. This was issued to cover air mail service that was now expanding to other cities. The Special Delivery service was removed.

The order of July 18, 1919 "discontinued" air mail but they continued to develop routes looking to go transcontinental. This was established on June 30, 1924. In this time period, mail could receive air mail service if space was available on the plane. Some of these envelopes would receive the "U.S. Air Mail" wings handstamp as shown on our cover.

Our cover was posted in Chicago, Ill. on Oct 20, 1921, and was addressed to Interstate Collection and Mercantile Agency in New York City and received "Air Mail" service at 2 cents.