

HPS

THE PERFORATOR



**October
November
December
2013**

**THE
NEWSLETTER OF
THE HOUSTON
PHILATELIC
SOCIETY**

EDITOR - JAY STOTTS

Send articles for publication, classified advertising (Free !), news of members, exhibit award information or anything else of general interest to club members to:

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Stamp dealer Vance Rightmire of Austin sums up Sunday afternoon at the Greater Houston Stamp Show - happy and contented, but exhausted from a hectic weekend.

Greater Houston Stamp Show 2013

The Houston Philatelic Society presented our 66th edition of our annual stamp show the weekend of September 20-22, 2013, and we had a great time. The three day show at the Humble, Texas Civic Center drew about 575 attendees and featured our largest stamp show banquet attendance ever.

We had a beautiful open exhibit competition with 13 spectacular Red themed single frame exhibits front and center in the first row of frames.

The banquet highlight was drawing the crayon from the tin to determine next year's color and the Brown crayon made its appearance. Since 2004, we have conducted this sacred but light-hearted ceremony and with the Brown crayon, we were literally down to the last crayon, so the entire tin was filled with Brown crayons and a single pink one to keep it interesting.



Collectors saw lots of Red as the Single Frame showcase featured 13 Red exhibits in competition.

Jay Stotts' Siderographers of the U.S. 2¢ Reds (left frame) and Vic Willson's Red 1897 Tobacco Stamps of Canada (right frame).

Upcoming Philatelic Shows & Bourses

November 9-10, 2013

Mid-Cities Stamp EXPO. This is the 26th consecutive year for the show. The show will be held at the Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 So. Main Street, Grapevine, Texas. Each year a theme is chosen for the exhibit competition. This year's theme is "Themes that Grow."

Show times are Saturday, 10am to 5pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm. The show will feature a 28-Dealer Bourse, exhibits, a Silent Auction, a giant Mixture Pick, special *Patriotism* cachet, cancel, and local post souvenir stamp, a Beginning Collectors Center, Chance Board, Club Sales books, and a U.S. Postal Service booth.

Admission and Parking are free. EXPO 2013 is sponsored by the Mid-Cities Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2158, Arlington, Texas 76004-2158. For Additional Information, please contact: Stanley Christmas at (817)-656-2925.

November 15-16, 2013

Houston TSDA. The Park Inn, 500 North Sam Houston Parkway East (Beltway 8), Houston, TX, 77060. Take the Imperial Valley Exit. Hours are Friday, 11 to 6 and Saturday, 9 to 4. Note that this is the very last show at this location.

January 31 - Feb. 1, 2014

Houston TSDA. This will be the first Bourse at the new location, the Crown Plaza Hotel, 7611 Katy Freeway (Interstate 10, West), Houston, TX, 77024. Hours are Friday, 10 to 5 and Saturday, 9-4.

February 28 - March 2, 2014

TEXPEX 2014, Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, 1800 Hwy. 26 E, Grapevine, TX, an APS World Series of Philately show. The *History of Flight* is the show theme with special guests Mercury 13 astronaut candidate Wally Funk, prolific stamp artist Chris Calle, and Cheryl Ganz, Chief Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum. Friday & Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-4.

Upcoming Meetings

October 21 ...

Called Floor Auction

Members and visitors are welcome to bring up to 5 lots for sale in our quarterly auction. Sell unwanted philatelic material or come with a fist full of cash and buy to your heart's content. This is also our meeting to assign a nominating committee to solicit 2015 club officers.

November 4 ...

Report of Nominations Committee

The club members will receive a report from the 2015 Nominations Committee of nominated officers and Board members for the upcoming year. Additional nominations from the floor may be made during this meeting as well. Our program for the evening will be a trivia master's nightmare Philatelic Quiz from our Testmeister, Ron Strawser.

November 18 ...

Election Night

Based on the nominations from the previous meeting, at this meeting, we will elect our officers and Board members for the 2015 calendar year. The other activity will be an open forum to set speakers and other programs for the upcoming year. If you have a favorite collecting area that you would like to present at a 2015 meeting, let us now what night would be best for your presentation and what the subject will be.

December 2 ...

Holiday Party

Our annual Holiday season party will be traditionally scheduled for the first Monday night in December. A party location and time will be determined and announced at an earlier meeting. In the past, we have had a pot luck dinner and lots of fellowship and visiting in the spirit of the season.

**Houston Philatelic
Web Site:**

<http://www.houstonstampclub.org/>

Shanghai Overprints, a Product of Currency Exchange Rate

Most U.S. specialists are well aware of the Washington-Franklin Shanghai overprints, but may not know the story behind the stamps.

The 1839-42 Opium Wars in China were the result of China's resistance to the drug and British commerce which promoted its import from India into China. The British won the war and, by the 1842 Treaty of Nanking, China ceded Hong Kong to Great Britain. The treaty also called for the opening of the ports of Amoy, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai and Ningpo to foreign trade.

The treaty also allowed for foreign countries to establish their own postal systems to forward letters and packages back to their home countries.

American merchants established many commercial interests in Shanghai, but for a number of years, used German and Dutch ships for dispatches out of China. Service was expensive and unpredictable, so the Americans continually petitioned the U.S. to establish a postal system.

In 1865, a contract was awarded to the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. and the U.S. consul became the postal agent. Branch offices elsewhere in China and Japan were added by 1868. U.S. stamps were sold and letters were mailed for 10¢ per half ounce until the U.P.U. rate of 5¢ per half ounce was implemented.

In 1907, as custom duties became too complicated, John Darrah was appointed postal agent and the service was separated from the consulate. From the beginning, he lobbied for overprinted stamps much like the other foreign postal agencies such as those of France and Germany.

The problem was that patrons used both Chinese and American currency to pay for postage stamps. As time went on, the value of the Chinese currency deteriorated versus the American dollar. Finally, by the end of World War I, Washington saw the advantage of surcharging some stamps in Chinese currency due to the increased mail volume and continuing deterioration of the Chinese dollar.

By 1919, the Chinese dollar was worth roughly half of the value of an American dollar. Sixteen current Washington-Franklin definitive stamps were overprinted with Chinese currency values on stamps showing the U.S. value (Scott numbers K1-K16). For example, the stamps illustrated below have surcharges of half the value of the face amount. The stamps are unwatermarked and perforated 11 x 11. They premiered on July 1, 1919.



The surcharged stamps were sold to those buying stamps with Chinese currency, but un-surcharged stamps were always available as well and sold to those customers with U.S. currency. The overprints were done in Washington at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

A shortage of 1¢ and 2¢ values in 1922 lead postal authorities to allow the local overprints that are now designated by Scott as K17 (shown below) and K18.



Continued on page 4.

Shanghai Overprints

(continued)

Quantities of mint stamps today far exceed genuinely cancelled copies because most mailers in Shanghai were well aware that purchasing the un-surcharged stamps with U.S. currency was a far better value than buying and using the overprints.

Many collectors did purchase and retain mint copies for their collections. A quantity of the surcharged stamps was sent back to Washington in 1922 when the Post Office Department opened the Philatelic Stamp Agency. Again, these were purchased by collectors and survive today as mint items. The postal agency in Shanghai was closed effective December 31, 1922.

Scott catalog prices reflect the difference between mint and used copies due to the scarcity of the latter. For example, the 2013 catalog prices a mint K13 (40C surcharge on 20¢ value) at \$130, but a used copy lists for \$310. Because of this pricing, cancels have been forged in an attempt to deface mint stamps and defraud collectors. When buying used copies, avoid copies with smudged or smeared indistinguishable cancels.

Scott No.	Values	Printing Quantity	2013 Scott Mint Value	2013 Scott Used Value
K1	2¢ on 1¢	105,000	\$25	\$80
K2	4¢ on 2¢	105,000	\$25	\$60
K3	6¢ on 3¢	13,000	\$60	\$130
K4	8¢ on 4¢	13,000	\$60	\$130
K5	10¢ on 5¢	13,000	\$65	\$130
K6	12¢ on 6¢	13,000	\$85	\$190
K7	14¢ on 7¢	13,000	\$87.50	\$190
K8	16¢ on 8¢	13,000	\$70	\$145
K9	18¢ on 9¢	13,000	\$65	\$160
K10	20¢ on 10¢	13,000	\$60	\$130
K11	24¢ on 12¢	8,000	\$80	\$150
K12	30¢ on 15¢	8,000	\$87.50	\$220
K13	40¢ on 20¢	8,000	\$130	\$310
K14	60¢ on 30¢	8,000	\$120	\$260
K15	\$1 on 50¢	4,000	\$575	\$900
K16	\$2 on \$1	4,000	\$450	\$725

Stotts and Dewey Trade Grands and Reserve Grands at GHSS 2013

HPS member Jay Stotts and Anthony Dewey of Connecticut each earned a Grand Award and a Reserve Grand Award in the Greater Houston Stamp Show open exhibition competition.

Stotts took the show Grand Award with his 10-frame showing of the U.S. 5-Cent Kosciusko stamp of 1933 and Dewey captured the Reserve Grand Award with his United Nations Precancel exhibit of 1952-58.

The two traded places in the Single Frame competition, Dewey winning the Grand Award with this exhibit of the "A" Stamp of 1978 and Stotts garnering the Single Frame Reserve Grand with U.S. Siderographers of the 2¢ Reds. Stotts won the annual single frame color competition with his exhibit, signing the *Scroll of Many Colors* for the third time since its inception in 2004.

HPS president Ardy Callender impressed attendees and the judges with his exhibit of New York Type A Supplementary Mail which won a single frame Gold Medal and an AAPE Novice Award for his first open competition. HPS member Bryant Korn, also a first time exhibitor, debuted with a fascinating study of Liberia's 6 Cent Liberty stamp of 1860-67. We are very excited that two of our members entered the exhibiting arena in 2013.

HPS exhibitors Bethel Strawser and William Drummond captured the prized Most Popular awards, voted on by show attendees rather than the APS accredited jury. Bethel won the single frame vote with her exhibit on Cardinals and William won the multi-frame competition with his F.A.M. 14 exhibit. Bethel also won the American Topical Association award.

Grand Award - **Jay Stotts** - *United States: The 5-Cent Kosciusko Stamp of 1933*. Also Gold Medal, M.J. Lorber Award, Texas Philatelic Association President's Award and United States Stamp Society President's Award.

Reserve Grand Award - Anthony Dewey - *The United Nations Precancel 1952-1958*. Also Gold Medal.

Single Frame Grand Award - Anthony Dewey - *The "A" Rate-Change Stamps of 1978*. Also Single Frame Gold Medal, American Philatelic Society Certificate of Award.

Single Frame Reserve Grand Award - **Jay Stotts** - *Siderographers of the 2¢ Reds*. Also Single Frame Gold Medal, Best Single Frame Red Exhibit, Barry's Red Challenge Winner.

British North American Philatelic Society Award - Jeffrey Arndt - *Low Value Wilding Queen Issue*. Also Vermeil Medal.

American Topical Association Merit Award Ribbon - **Bethel Strawser** - *Redbirds: A Study of Cardinals*. Also Single Frame Silver Medal and National Stamp Dealers Association Most Popular Exhibit for a Single Frame Exhibit.

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Silver Award of Honor Pin, two presented -
Bryant Korn - *Liberia Liberty 6 cent, 1860-1867*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal.
David Willig - *The U.S. 3 Cent Issue of 1861-1868 - A Color Study*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal.

Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award - Sun Yin He - *Redness in Chinese Culture*. Also Single Frame Bronze Medal.

Texas Stamp Dealers Association Most popular Exhibit Award for a Multi-Frame Exhibit - **William Drummond** - *Foreign Air Mail Route 14: 1935-1941*. Also Gold Medal.

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Novice Award - **Ardy Callender** - *New York Type A Supplementary Mail*. Also Single Frame Gold Medal.

Most Imaginative Single Frame Exhibit - Ray Cartier - *Mars 1 The Soviet's First Attempt to Hit the Red Planet*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal.

Additional Multi-Frame Award Winners:

Gold Medal: John Hotchner - *20th Century United States Auxiliary Markings Documenting Delay of, or Inability to Deliver the Mail - The First 50 Years*
 Benedict Termini - *Prostitute Revenues of Rosario de Santa Fe*
 Anthony Dewey - *Swiss Officials for UNEO and International Agencies*
Ron Strawser - *Mozambique Company Postal Stationery*

Vermeil Medal: William Schultz - *Epicurean Pleasure on the Rails*

Additional Single Frame Award Winners:

Vermeil Medal: Jeffrey Shapiro - *The 10 Cent Almost Red Prexie*
 John Hotchner - *Usages of the 5 Cent 1946 U.S. Large Transport from and to Foreign Countries*

Victor Willson - *Red 1897 Tobacco Stamps of Canada*

Silver Medal: Thomas Lera - *The real and Fictional Dracula*
 Jeffrey Arndt - *EXPORTA "Red" Strawberry*

Silver-Bronze Medal: Dr. Edwin Andrews - *Red Herrings, Faux Gems of American Philately*

Non-Competitive Exhibits:

Bethel Strawser - *The Bluebird of Happiness*

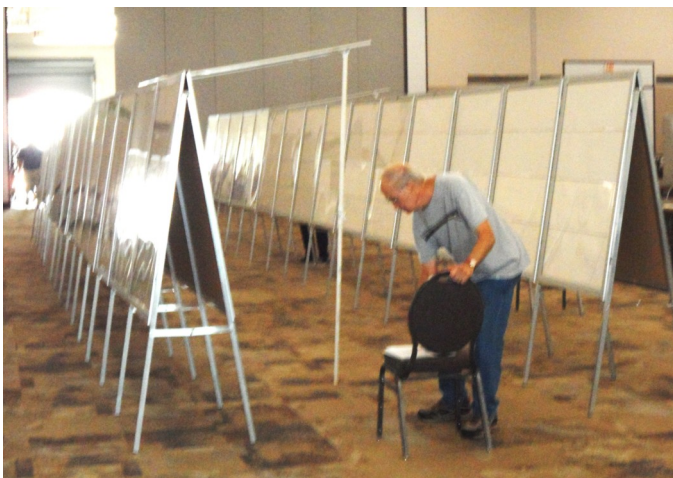
Ray Cartier - *Dragon Tales - The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*



Brad Horton and Bethel Strawser shopping for values with Terry Kurzinski.



HPS members Stan Katz, Susan Frankel and David Willig assisting collectors at the Beginners' Booth.



Larry Ballantyne mounting a mail-in exhibit on Thursday afternoon .



Bryant Korn and others studying the exhibits.

The Houston Philatelic Society....

Enjoy the fun of stamp collecting by sharing your interests with fellow collectors at an upcoming HOUSTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY meeting.

When : First and third Monday of each month at 7:30 PM

Where : West University United Methodist Church, 3611 University Blvd., Houston, TX

Visitors and new stamp collectors are always welcome.

Officers: President: Ardy Callender
 Secretary: Jay Stotts
 Past President: William Fort

Vice-President: John Germann
Treasurer: Larry Ballantyne
Webmaster: Jonathan Topper