

GHSS
Foundation,
Inc.

THE PERFORATOR



January
February
March
2020

THE NEWSLETTER OF
GHSS
FOUNDATION,
INC.

EDITOR - JAY STOTTS

Copies of this newsletter are distributed to all Houston Philatelic Society members. Send articles for publication, classified advertising (Free !), news of members, exhibit award information or anything else of general interest to GHSS, Inc. members to:

Jay Stotts
P.O. Box 690042
Houston TX 77269-0042
e-mail: stottsjd@swbell.net

It's Time to Pay Your 2020 HPS Dues Now

Your 2020 Houston Philatelic Society Dues are due now, so take a few minutes to send them in to our treasurer, Larry Ballantyne. The annual dues remain the same as in past years. \$7 for an individual, \$10 for a family and \$1 for youths.

You can pay your dues at an upcoming meeting by giving them directly to Larry or you can drop a check in the mail to him at his post office box: Larry Ballantyne, P.O. Box 6634, Katy, TX 77491-6634.

Mary Jane's Stamp Shop Relocates

After 27 years at her previous location on West 34th street, Mary Jane Menzel has relocated to a new shop at 4001 North Shepherd Dr., about a half mile from the previous location. The store was scheduled to open on in mid to late January, so may not be open at the time of publication of the newsletter, but soon after. Her phone number is 713 -688-5850.

Mary Jane, a recent recipient of heart surgery (she had an aortic valve replaced shortly before her store relocation) told *The Perforator* that she plans to feature more collection lots and more covers in her new store. The move has presented her with the opportunity to sort through material that she has purchased over the past 27 years and this will bring some new material to light for her customers.

She has also taken the opportunity to pass along a great deal of material to the scouts for the benefit of young collectors.

She will feature some philatelic literature, supplies and country lots in the new shop. As another fringe benefit of the move, she expects to feature some new, better material at the TSDA bourse scheduled for January 24-25. The bourse will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Houston Philatelic Web Site:
<http://www.houstonstampclub.org/>

Upcoming Philatelic Shows & Bourses

January 24-25, 2020

Houston TSDA Bourse. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 7611 Katy Freeway (I-10 West, south side feeder road.) Bourse hours are 10-5 on Friday and 9-4 on Saturday. Web site: www.tsdastamps.com.

February 28-29, 2020

2020 New Orleans Stamp Show. Sponsored by the Crescent City Stamp Club. Wyndham Garden Hotel, 6101 Veterans Blvd., Metairie, LA. The show is a two-day event, Friday, 10-6 and Saturday, 10-6. Free Admission. For more information, contact Eric White at ericwhitegypsymoth@yahoo.com

March 20-21, 2020

Houston TSDA Bourse. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 7611 Katy Freeway (I-10 West, south side feeder road.) Bourse hours are 10-5 on Friday and 9-4 on Saturday. Web site: www.tsdastamps.com.

May 29-30, 2020

Houston TSDA Bourse. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 7611 Katy Freeway (I-10 West, south side feeder road.) Bourse hours are 10-5 on Friday and 9-4 on Saturday. Web site: www.tsdastamps.com.

June 26-27, 2020

OKPEX 2020. Oklahoma City, OK. At the Reed Conference Center, Sheraton Midwest City Hotel, 5750 Will Rogers Road, Midwest City, OK. 73110. This is a Friday and Saturday 2-day APS WSP show.

July 25-26, 2020

Ark-La-Tex Annual Coin, Stamp & Card Expo. Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Road., Bossier, LA, 71111. The annual show is one of the largest coin shows in the South. They bring in over 50 dealers from surrounding states. There is a \$3 admission fee. Free parking. A smaller but very active contingent of stamp and sports card dealers round out the bourse floor. Hours are 9-6 on Saturday and 9-3 on Sunday. Sponsored by the Shreveport Coin Club

Upcoming Meetings

January 20 ...

Mobilize Your Collection

HPS member Steve Stewart will tantalize us with this intriguing idea.

February 3 ...

Early Spring Called Auction

This is your opportunity to dispose of some of your duplicates at our Early Spring floor auction. You may bring up to two lots for sale. You may also want put together an additional lot or two to donate to the HPS club or for the GHSS for it's benefit. Plan on bringing cash and purchasing a lot to enhance your own collection.

February 17 ...

South American Bank Note CO. Buenos Aires 1888-1915

David Bianchi will present this interesting area.

March 2 ...

Diabolical Stamp Quiz

Our annual dose of Quizmaster Ron Strawser's concoction of almost totally unknown stamp trivia rolled into what will probably become known as the most difficult quiz to date. If you have a choice of the annual dose of castor oil or this quiz this spring, you might want to go with the castor oil.

March 16 ...

New York City

Ardy Callender, our HPS resident expert on the postal workings of the New York City post office in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries will present an aspect of that city's postal history.

April 6 ...

Second 2020 Called Auction

Another opportunity to dispose of some of your duplicates at our second called floor auction. You may bring up to two lots for sale. Consider also putting together an additional lot or two to donate to the HPS club or for the GHSS for it's benefit. Plan on bringing cash and purchasing a lot to enhance your own collection.

An Unexpected Journey

By Ardy Callender

In 1853, the New York City Post Office (NYPO) was approached by local merchants wishing to find a way for correspondence to be placed aboard steamships just prior to their departure. At the time, mails closed at the post office some two hours ahead of each sailing. Merchants wanted to place last minute price quotes, bills of lading and other time sensitive documents aboard at the last minute.

In response, the NYPO proposed a special service called "supplementary mail" to allow letters to be placed aboard ships up until five minutes of sailing for a cost of double the postage. Clerks from the New York City Post Office were sent down to the piers to handle the "last minute" mail two times a week. Between 1853-1873, supplementary mail received a special marking known as the "Type A" octagon (Figure 1.) to identify the service. "Type A" covers are quite scarce, with a total of 128 covers recorded in a census undertaken by the author over the last 30 years.

One unassuming "Type A" cover is shown here as Figure 2. The blue folded letter (without contents) has many creases including a slightly oxidized horizontal file fold across the middle. The stampless letter, dated 5 December, 1868, is addressed to Mess. Perier frenes & Co., Paris, France.

Joseph Perier was a French businessman involved in mining and banking. The folded letter was sent by Hennings & Company as noted by the merchant's oval handstamp applied in blue at the lower left. The docket at the upper top indicated the letter was to leave on the Inman Line steamer *City of Boston*.

Mail sent by supplementary service was required to be prepaid. The postage and supplementary fee on the folded letter shown in Figure 2 was paid in cash at the pier; 30¢ prepaid for a double rate (US/French Treaty of 1857) and 30¢ for the supplementary fee.

The red manuscript "12" was applied to indicate the amount credited to the British and French for transit fees. The "Type A" octagon was over-struck on the New York datestamp and the boxed "P.D." was applied in Paris. The black French entry mark was struck at the lower left corner and a Paris receiving on the reverse.

The letter took 25 days to reach Paris. Obviously the sender did not expect such a long delay, as the normally transatlantic mail took 9-11 days. So what happened?

The letter was placed onboard the *City of Boston* which departed on time, but had to put back due to the loss of her rudder and stempost. Mails were transferred to the HAPAG steamer *Borussia*. The *Borussia* left New York on December the 8th, but on December the 18th, broke her main shaft 700 miles west of Portland (Dorsett).

She set sail and was later taken in tow by the Great Eastern Railway steamer *Great Yarmouth*. However, the tow cable snapped, but before leaving, the mails were put onboard the *Great Yarmouth* and taken to Portland. Quite a journey for a supplementary cover, three ships and 25 days in transit! This is why it is one of my most favorite "Type A" covers.



Figure 1.

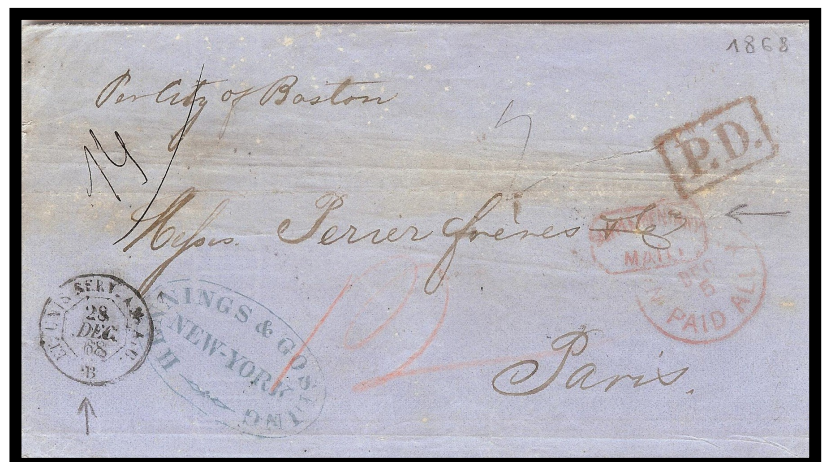


Figure 2.

HPS Library: Available Books

The Houston Philatelic Society has a modest library and books are available for borrowing from meeting to meeting. To borrow a book or catalog, a person must be a member in good standing (dues are paid up).

We have a full run of 14 Scott Catalogs and these are the 2019 edition in full color. There are 12 Scott catalogs covering the world alphabetically from A to Z as well as the U.S. Specialized Catalog and the worldwide Classic Catalog.

There's a self-serve sign-out sheet at each meeting and the catalogs can be taken out at the end of the meeting. They are due to be returned at the very next meeting.

The rest of the library is not carried to each meeting due to the combined weight of all of the books. It's just not practical.

The list of additional publications is listed below. If you want to borrow one of these publications, you may do so by emailing the librarian, Jay Stotts, at stottsjd@swbell.net. Send an email before an upcoming meeting (no later than noon the day of the meeting) and the book will be toted to the meeting where you can sign it out. As with the catalogs, it will be due at the following meeting.

In addition to the books, the library houses the club's projector for meeting talks. If you are a scheduled speaker for an upcoming meeting and wish to present your talk as a MS Powerpoint presentation or a computer slide show, for example, contact Jay at the previous meeting or by email ahead of time and ask him to bring the projector for your talk that night.

Books available for lending, but not carried to each meeting:

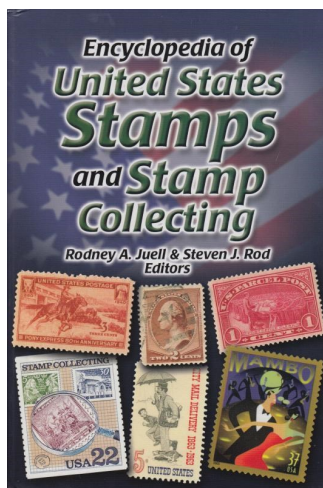
The Australasian Stamp Catalogue, Seven Seas Stamps, 32nd Edition, 2017.

The Australian Colonies Stamp Catalogue, Seven Seas Stamps, 2nd Edition.

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue, Brusden-White, serialized copy #3712.

Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting, 1st Ed., United States Stamp Society.

The Philatelic Exhibitors Handbook, 3rd Edition.



Left: This book is available for loan from the HPS library.

Below: Ron Strawser, left, receives congratulations for winning the Mid-Cities Stamp Expo 2019 Grand Award from the show awards chairman, Ray Cartier.



Award Winners ...

Editor's note: Please report your activities as an exhibitor and we'll give you the spotlight here in the Winners' column.

Mid-Cities Stamp Club Expo, No. 8-9, 2019, Grapevine, TX:

Ron Strawser - "The Postal Stationery Issues of Uruguay from 1866-1946" - Grand Award, Texas Philatelic Association President's Award, United Postal Stationery Society Award and Gold Medal.

Bethel Strawser - "Pursuing the Blue Birds of Happiness" - American Association of Exhibitors Award of Honor Pin, American Topical Association Single Frame Award, Most Popular Exhibit Award and Single Frame Vermeil Award.

Australia Study Circle Meeting

The HPS' Australia Study Circle met on Saturday, October 12, with six members attending. The round table discussion began with a trip report from Paula Pedrick. Paula had just returned from a trip to Holland to visit her sister. The trip included a visit to the open air stamp market (held twice a week) where there were three vendors, one of which was a coin dealer. They also visited a storefront stamp dealer and a tourist attraction (working wind mills) where Paula purchased some Netherlands stamps.

Bryant Korn showed a selection of 1928 3d blue Kookaburra stamps used on cover. Of interest were usages of the stamp to pay the domestic air mail surcharge before Australia's first air mail stamp was issued five months later. An open spread of Bryant's binder is shown in the photo below.

Denise Stotts has narrowed her focus to the Native Flowers issues of 1959-64, 1968 and the coils of 1970. She circulated two binders, one with the stamps and associated covers and one with corresponding literature.

Jay Stotts showed stamp material of the Zoological issue of seven values printed continuously from 1937 to 1959, a span of 22 years.

Ardy Callender showed his collection of Late Fee cancels and explained that he is working on four different types: straight lines, boxed, date stamps and those incorporated into machine cancels. He noted that authorities report commencement of these markings started about 1904, but his earliest example dates from 1884.

John Germann, who collects the bantam, or reduced size stamps of the Australian states, showed an example of the red design as incorporated into postal stationery. This was a piece that he purchased at GHSS.

To wrap up the meeting, John administered his second five-question quiz about Australian philately and awarded a jumbo cover from 1965 donated by Rich Bajenski to the winner, who was Denise Stotts with three correct answers.

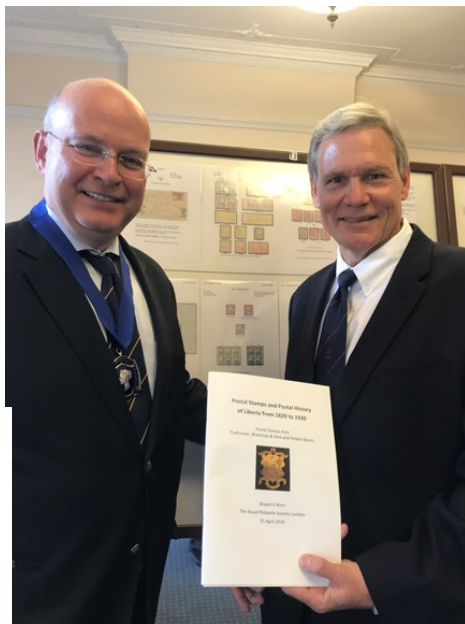


Bryant Korn Invited to Join RPSL

HPS member Bryant Korn has been named a Fellow in "The Royal" or as it is officially known, the Royal Philatelic Society London. This is a very special honor. Bryant was a featured speaker at The Royal last year and authored an article for The perforator which appeared in our July-September, 2019 issue.

Bryant remarked that the honor was "partly due to my London presentation, but more due to reviving the Liberian Philatelic Society and writing a lot of articles."

The Houston Philatelic Society offers one of our "fellows" a hearty congratulations to one of the newest RPSL Fellows.



RPSL President Patrick Maselis and Bryant Korn, during Bryant's 2019 speaking engagement at RPSL.

Classified Ads:

Members may place philatelically related Buy, Sell, or Trade ads in The Perforator free of charge. HPS Dealer-Members may place free classified or feature ads in The Perforator at no charge as well. Member ads will run indefinitely until the advertiser requests a change or cancellation. Send copy to the editor.

Wanted: U.S. unusual postal history material; 1887 large banknote issue, 10¢ through 15¢ Washington/Franklin issues. Also, U.S. 19th century green cancels. David Willig, Houston, TX. 713-201-2042. cbhz3@hotmail.com

Buy/Sell/Trade: Texas Postal History. Email John Germann or phone him at 281-493-3938. ijhist@comcast.net

U.S. FACE VALUE POSTAGE - Offered at 50% of face. Order any amount from \$25 to \$300 Face Value and receive a mixture of 5¢ to 30¢ values. Clean and fresh material. Send order with payment to: Jonathan Topper, 10480 Grant Road, Suite 117, Houston, TX 77070. Stamps can be mailed to you or delivered at the next stamp club meeting.

World-Wide Stamps on Approval At 40% of 2019 Scott Catalog

Breaking up 50+ years of accumulation.
Name your country and receive everything available to review and select from.
Contact Rich Bajenski with country of choice.
RBajenski@HotMail.com

A Word About 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: Paula Pedrick
Vice-President: Rick Barrett
Secretary: Jay Stotts
Treasurer: Larry Ballantyne
Past President: David Willig

GHSS Show Chairman: Ron Strawser
Editor: Jay Stotts
Webmaster: Jonathan Topper
Program Chairman: Tom Herbert

Board of Directors: Richard Fruth Ralph Chaiet David Nickson John Germann
Dave Nickson Chuck Bianchi Denise Stotts Frank Senz