

GHSS
Foundation,
Inc.

THE PERFORATOR



April
May
June
2021

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 Foundation, Inc. members to:

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Houston TX 77269-0042
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Greater Houston Stamp Show 2021 in Planning Stages

As the country is now getting vaccinated against COVID-19, the philatelic community has a chance to get back to the enjoyment of sharing our fascinating hobby with one another for the first time in over a year.

Many of us miss the in-person discussions with our friends in philately and eagerly look forward to the shows that provided an excuse to gather together, talk stamps, view exhibits and shop for new treasures.

The Greater Houston Stamp Show committee has committed to schedule GHSS 2021 after a one-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Our goal is to hold the same terrific show at the same venue on the same traditional weekend so we can return to the type of show that has exemplified our organization for so many years.

Across the country, other clubs and societies are already moving forward with in-person events. The TSDA is holding regular bourses here in Houston on a quarterly basis and the American Philatelic Society has announced that they will hold the Great American Stamp Show in Chicago in August. Their event is scheduled to have 75 dealers, 25 societies and at least 500 exhibit frames, so this will be a significant step forward for in-person philately and it will be held a month before GHSS is scheduled.

At press time, 26 GHSS dealers have committed to support our show by renting dealer tables for the bourse. This is a significant vote of confidence from the dealer community for both our show's organizing committee and the group of show volunteers we have come to depend on each year to make the show the special event that it is.

Although many details remain to be sorted out by the committee, here are the basics: Show dates, September 17-18-19 with set-up on September 16. Open hours as in previous years: 10-6 on Friday and Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday. Location: Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, TX.

The single-frame color competition exhibit was cancelled along with the show last year, so will be BROWN again this year.

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

Upcoming Philatelic Shows & Bourses

Editor's Note: As many people have now received one or more COVID-19 vaccines, the Texas area philatelic scene is starting to return to the old normal. We hope you have an opportunity to attend an upcoming event in person or will support one of the local stamp shops with a visit.

April 16-17, 2021

GULFPEX 2021. The Gulf Coast Stamp Club hosts the Coast's stamp, post card, covers, and all philately related products show catering to collectors. The show will feature a U.S. Post Office substation, and sponsors a show cover with special cancellations and cachet. Parking and admission are free.

The location is the St. Martin Community Center, 15008 LeMoyne Blvd., I-10 Exit 50, Biloxi, Miss. Hours are Friday, 10-6 and Saturday, 10-4. The show will include a competitive exhibit. The theme of the show is the 51st Anniversary of Apollo 13.

The dealer bourse will consist of 11 dealers from Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas and Florida.

May 20-21, 2021

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.

July 9-10, 2021

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.

August 12-15, 2021

The Great American Stamp Show. The American Philatelic Society has confirmed that their show will be held this year in Chicago. Location: Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, Ill. This show is co-sponsored by the APS, American Topical Assoc. and the American First Day Cover Soc. See the APS web site for more details .

Join HPS Weekly Virtual Meetings

by Steve Stewart

Editor's Note: This article written by Steve Stewart originally appeared in our June– August issue, but is repeated so that members have the information on how to join the Zoom meetings.

COVID-19 has made our regular in-person HPS meetings impossible, but many of us have continued to meet virtually using the Zoom application every Monday at 7:00 p.m. We keep the format informal with a question and answer session, a general discussion of club business and several members providing “mini-presentations”. If you have not joined a meeting in the past you are welcomed and encouraged to join us in the future.

Some members have had concerns about joining a meeting using the Zoom application because of security flaws reported in the media and others because of poor Internet connections at home. Regarding security, the issues that were reported early on regarding the Zoom application were actually the same issues we faced in an in-person meeting. There is a concern that anyone could “crash” a meeting, and for example, display inappropriate materials.

This is a risk we also faced when meeting at the church, anyone could walk in that door. There were other more technical concerns also. However, these issues have since been addressed by Zoom and while we keep our meeting open to the public, a person who wants to join the meeting must have a link to join.

A poor Internet connection is a bit more difficult to address. You do however, have options, if your home Internet speed is below 20 mps. Option one is to join the meeting on your computer but turn off your web cam so that you can see what is happening, but do not waste bandwidth broadcasting video from your computer. Another option is to join with your phone using your data plan to see and send video (assuming you have a smart phone). A third option is to call into the meeting using audio only. This last option will allow you to hear what is going on, but you will not be able to see the presentations.

If you have not received an invitation to our meetings and would like to attend, please send an email to Steve Stewart, Paula Pedrick or Jonathon Topper.

Were We, or Were We Not, Born in 1945?

by John Germann

At our HPS Zoom meeting on November 2, Jonathan Topper showed two stunning postal cards which generated a lot of discussion and got us scurrying for information. The two cards are pictured.

As we know (or thought we knew), our Houston Philatelic Society was founded in 1945 and put on its first annual show in 1946. But these cards mention the Houston Philatelic Society precisely by name, and they are dated **1923**. Plus, that society was meeting in the **YMCA building** on Main Street, which is where our club originally met. Was that us?

Jonathan and Rick Barrett and I began doing some research. With as many people as Houston boasted in the 1920s, and with stamp collecting raging as it was in the early twentieth century, our 1945 founding date does sound later than one would expect. Could it be that we have been misinformed all this time?



Friday, January 12th, 1923

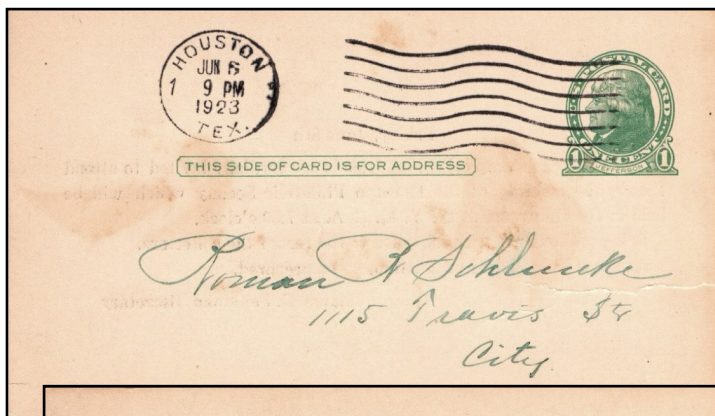
Members of the HOUSTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY and their stamp collecting friends are requested to meet in the Club Room of the Y. M. C. A. at 7:30 P. M. --- The first regular meeting of the year.

Three members of the H. P. S. have visited the Galveston Philatelic Society and will have a report to make.

There will be an auction.

We need your active co-operation. Come and bring your friends.

R. R. Schlunke, Secretary



Friday, June 8th

You and your stamp collecting friends are cordially invited to attend the regular meeting of the Houston Philatelic Society which will be held in the club room at the Y. M. C. A. at 7:30 o'clock.

Bring and exhibit your collection to the rest of the collectors.

As usual we will hold an auction, so be prepared.

Roman R. Schlunke Secretary

Sure enough, we did find that other philatelic clubs had existed. For example, a history of the Texas Philatelic Association mentions that the "Houston Stamp Collectors Club" was the first chapter admitted to the newly incorporated state society in 1941. And as an addendum to an article on *our* Society, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on August 10, 1947 mentioned that

"Houston has two good clubs and a third one is getting underway. The second club is composed of employees of the Humble Oil and Refining Company. The third club now being formed has as a nucleus a half dozen members of the old Houston Stamp Club[!]."

Then, of course, there are these two invitations to the **Houston Philatelic Society** in 1923. Apparently, it was one of the many stamp clubs that had popped up in our fair city, and with its very generic name it might well have been the first. But that HPS is not ours. In 1945 Brad Beard and oth-

A Fortune in Stamps Exhibited at Meeting

A 3-cent postage stamp worth \$3000. That was the chief exhibit at a meeting of the Houston Philatelic society Friday night at the Y. M. C. A.; but around this valuable little chip of printed paper were grouped others that resembled it. If their combined worth was converted into currency, it would represent a tidy fortune.

Many other curios and antiquated "stickers" were shown, and the histories of some made interesting stories.

The meeting was a joint affair, some members of the Galveston society being in attendance.

1923 *Houston Post* newspaper clipping.

ers formally created our society. It was originally called "The Houston Y Philatelic Society," the "Y" indicating that the club met in the YMCA. The club of 1923 could well have been our forebear, which our founding fathers formalized. Or it could have been so named in order to distinguish it from the other stamp clubs, including remnants of the 1923 club.

In any case, we are the one that lasted. And in 1956 we dropped the "Y" from our name and changed our logo to its present look.

This is our current "take." If anyone can shed more light on this, please share with us. Little is known about the history of stamp clubs in Houston. We would love to be able to add more to that history.

John Germann

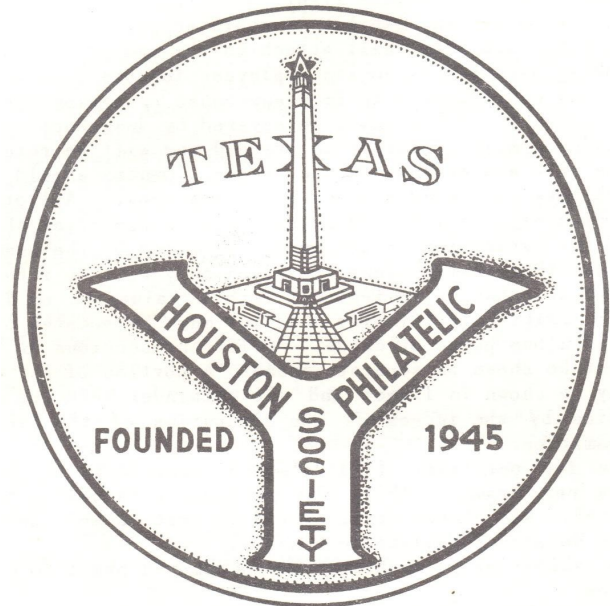
jghist@comcast.net

Rick Barrett

rickbarrettmil@comcast.net

Jonathan Topper

jonathan@topperstamps.com



1945 "Y" era Houston Philatelic Society logo.



Current Houston Philatelic Society logo.

An Uncommon 19th Century Rate to Brazil

by Ardy Callender

Collecting various nineteenth century foreign postal rates can be quite an interesting avenue for study. Foreign destination covers are often franked with higher value or multiple adhesives and have numerous and diverse postal markings including credit, directional and transit/receiving markings. One such cover to Brazil is shown below.



Although the red 24mm. date stamp is essentially illegible, the letters “ON” at right and the distinctive circle of four v’s cancellation indicate the cover was dispatched out of Boston’s foreign mail exchange office on 17 December 1870 arriving in New York City the same day. Addressed to Captain Francis H. Leonard, Bolivian Schooner *Enterprise*, Para, Brazil, SA the cover possesses a docket at the lower left corner indicating it be sent “Care of the American Consul” and requested to “Please forward.” It is franked by a pair of 10¢, two 3¢ and a single 2¢ 1870-1871 National Bank Note Issue (without grill) adhesives each canceled by a single strike of Boston’s circle of v’s cancel. Also, struck at the lower right corner is a London receiving mark (28 December 1870) and a red crayon “24” credit mark (credit due Britain for journey from London to Brazil). The cover departed on the Inman Line Steamship *City of Paris* arriving in Queenstown on 26th December 1870.

In December of 1870 there were two mail

routes available to Brazil; American Packet from New York at 15¢ and British Packet via New York at 28¢. In checking the December, 1870 U.S. Mail and Post Office Assistant, just a single Brazil Line steamer (American Packet) departed for Brazil (23 December from New York) while during December alone, 12 British contract steamers left New York (for Britain).

Mail bound for Brazil via Britain entered the British international mail system and was placed aboard an out-bound British steamer to Brazil. I do not have access to British newspapers to find the schedule and particular steamer, but know the cover left Britain sometime soon after arriving in London on the 28th December. It is unknown why the sender selected the “via England” route as a cheaper alternative. Via American Packet was available six days later. Assuming travel time from London to Brazil at a little over a week and a half, the letter should have arrived sometime in early January.

In researching the addressee of the letter, an informative article (Middlebury Register) was uncovered associating Captain Leonard with sea passage to Bolivia (see above). The article entitled “For Bolivia via St. Thomas and Para” advertises 320 acres of land (in Bolivia) free for the price of cabin fare including all meals. The advertisement, dated 18 October 1870 was written two months prior to the letter to Captain Leonard but certainly establishes the reason for the letter’s address line “Bolivian Sch *Enterprise*”. The ad also states voyages “will sail October 1st, and each second month thereafter” as a typical trip around the “horn” by sail takes approximately 55 days. It appears Captain Leonard had a different ship for his later voyage.

The cover is addressed to Para (today known as Belém) which today is Brazil’s 11th largest city located at the mouth of the Amazon River. The cover was forwarded by the American Consul onto Perambuco (today known as Recife) as indicated by a Perambuco backstamp. It seems the letter caught up with Captain Leonard in Perambuco.

FOR BOLIVIA,
Via St. Thomas and Para.

The steamship **WM. TIBBETTS**, F. H. Leonard, Commander, will sail October 1st, and each second month thereafter.

320 Acres of Land and Passage for \$100
Cabin Fare, including meals, \$100 gold or its equivalent.

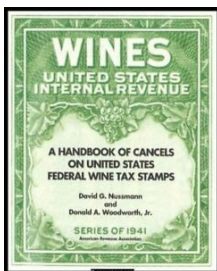
Those who go out by this steamship to settle will receive 320 acres of land, as a free gift from the Company. Full particulars will be sent on application.

Apply at the office of the Company, 44 Kilby st., Boston, or to **BAKER & HURLBUT**, 41 south st., New York. 25w4

A. D. PIPER, Pres't C. & C. Co. of Bolivia

CLOSED ALBUM:

**David
Nussmann**
1937 - 2021



David George Nussmann, a well known Houston area collector, specializing in U.S. Wine stamps and the co-author of *A Handddbook of Cancells on United States Federal Wine Tax Stamps* passed away on January 24.

Nussmann was a 1959 Harvard graduate and earned a PhD in Geology from the University of Michigan in 1964. He had a career with Shell Oil Co., retiring in 1991.

He presented a talk on the cancells of various companies on wine stamps based on his handbook at a Houston Philatelic Society meeting a few years ago and was generous, donating material for club auctions as well.

The handbook, published in 2010 by the American Revenue Association, was a massive work of 736 pages and is the main reference for this area.

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 cancells. 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. jghist@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, Siute 117, Houston, TX 77070. Stamps can be mailed to you or delivered at the next stamp club meeting.

Wanted: Russian postal history, U.S. and international currency, coins. Also interested in buying oil and mining industry & transportation stock certificates. Email Vlad Andrus at vladandrus@sbcglobal.net

Wanted: Return Reply Envelopes franked with U.S. Transportation Series stamps, unused or used. Building my collection of Transportation Series Return Reply Covers with the objective of a presentation, display, or exhibit on their use. These are the pre-addressed return envelopes usually enclosed with solicitations for donations, contributions, subscription renewals, etc. No reasonable asking price will be refused. Please contact: 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 John Germann Frank Senz
Dave Nickson Chuck Bianchi Denise Stotts