



October
November
December
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:

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

Greater Houston Stamp Show a Big Success

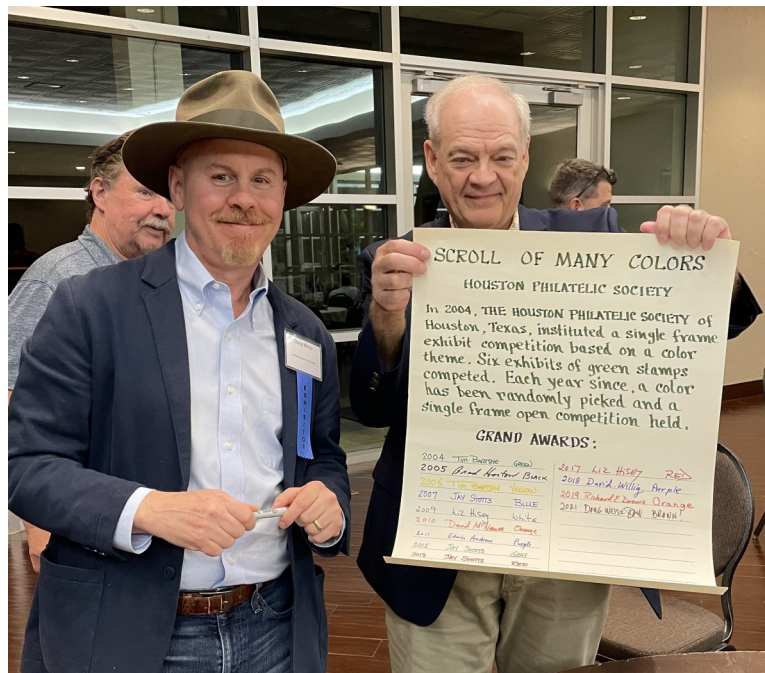
After a year layoff, the 2021 edition of the Greater Houston Stamp Show returned with a very successful show. GHSS 2020 was canceled because of concerns over the safety of the dealers, volunteers and show attendees in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This was the case for many stamp shows last year.

Early this year, the GHSS Foundation, Inc. Board committed to hold GHSS 2021 if at all possible. The Foundation agreed to take the financial risk, so dealers were sent contracts and the Humble Civic Center was reserved for the weekend of the show.

At one time this summer, we had a sold-out Bourse with 32 dealers, had a solid staff of volunteers committed and we held our breath that the collectors would show up.

By show time, the dealer count was reduced to 25 dealers (fortunately none of the withdrawals were due to COVID-19), still a reputable dealer count. Three of the withdrawn dealers graciously donated their table fee to the GHSS Foundation, Inc., so that certainly will have an impact on the financial bottom line.

(continued on page 2)



Doug Weisz of Chicago, pictured just after signing the *Scroll of Many Colors* for winning the GHSS 2021 Single Frame Color Exhibit Competition at the Awards Dinner. Jay Stotts holds the scroll.

Upcoming Philatelic Shows & Bourses

November 5-6, 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.

November 12-13, 2021

34th Annual Mid-Cities Stamp Club Expo. Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S Main St, Grapevine, TX, 76051. Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. Admission and parking free. They expect 26 dealers. Other features include a large "Silent Auction," awards dinner, 25¢ chance board, youth table, beginner table and a mixture pick table with stamps at 5¢ each.

Upcoming Meetings

October 18 ...

Falkland Islands

Tom Herbert will share interesting information from this area.

November 1 ...

Called Floor Auction

Sellers may bring up to two lots to sell. Sale sheets are available on the HPS web site. Sellers and Buyers must be HPS club members. Bring your cash and buy as many lots as you wish.

November 15 ...

College Football and Philately

Jay Stotts will present tie-ins between college football and philately during the height of the football season.

December 6 ...

Annual Holiday Party

This is a potluck meal with spouses welcome. Details will be discussed during upcoming meetings.

GHSS a Big Success (cont.)

We had a strong showing of volunteers for both the setup and teardown activity which made those activities run smoothly.

The attendance for the three-day weekend was about 450, a decline of between 10% and 20% from 2019, but still a significant success considering the COVID Delta Variant concern and recent tropical depression Nicholas.

The majority of dealers express that they had good sales and that the attendance seemed lighter than in previous years, but the buyers were there.

Paula Pedrick took over the lunch concession, improved the sandwich ordering system and set the mold for upcoming years. The Beginner's Booth had a full staff of volunteers and streamlined the approach of distributing stamps to beginners. They reported that they were able to answer several basic collecting questions.

Our annual Single Frame color exhibiting competition was rolled over from 2020 to 2021 when Brown was to be the color. We had seven Brown exhibits and Doug Weisz of Chicago won both the Single Frame Brown completion and the Grand Award for the Single Frame competition with his exhibit *New Orleans 5 Cent Brown Provisional 1861-1862*. Houston Philatelic Society member Vic Willson won the show Grand Award with his exhibit *Intended Uses of Canada's Victorian Era Stamps*. A complete list of exhibit award winners is listed on page 3.

Judges for GHSS 2021 were Jeff Switt and Yavuz Corapcioglu, both of Texas.

The GHSS 2021 Awards Dinner hosted the signing of the *Scroll of Many Colors*, which Doug Weisz did based on his win in the Single Frame Brown competition. Six dinner attendees participated in the ceremony to draw the color for 2022. Jeff Switt pulled a yellow crayon from the tin, so the ceremony concluded with a pledge to spread the word about the Greater Houston Stamp Show 2022 Single Frame Yellow Exhibit completion.

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

Vic Willson Wins Greater Houston Stamp Show 2021 Grand

Congratulations to HPS member Vic Willson who earned the GHSS Grand Award this year with a showing of Victorian era Canadian material and to Doug Weisz who captured the Single Frame Grand Award and Single Frame Brown Competition Award.

Grand Award - Vic Willson - *Intended Uses of Canada's Victorian Era Stamps*. Also Gold Medal, Brad Horton Award for best exhibit by an HPS member, American Philatelic Society Certificate of Award for best exhibit by an APS member and British North America Philatelic Society Award for best exhibit of British North America material.

Reserve Grand Award - Jay Stotts - *The 1932 6¢ Garfield Coil and Its first Day Covers*. Also Gold Medal. the Texas Philatelic Association President's Award and United States Stamp Society President's Award.

Single Frame Grand Award - Doug Weisz - *New Orleans 5 Cent Brown Provisional 1861-1862*. Also Single Frame Gold Medal and Best Single Frame Brown Exhibit.

Single Frame Reserve Grand Award - Jay Stotts - *The Australia 9 Pence Platypus Issue, 1938-1958*. Also Single Frame Gold Medal.

American Topical Association First Award - Karen Cartier - *Disney's Greatest Full-length Animated Movies 1937-1998*. Also Silver Bronze Medal.

American Topical Association Single Frame Merit Award - Danny Meng - *The Melancholy of Albrecht Durer, the Mathematician*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Silver Award of Honor Pin and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Novice Award.

Most Imaginative Single Frame Brown Exhibit - Ray E. Cartier - *Wernher von Braun: Villain or Hero*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal.

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Silver Award of Honor Pin - Denise Stotts - *Canada: the 1 Cent Centennial Issue of 1967-1973*. Also Single Frame Vermeil Medal.

Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award - William Drummond - *The Flying Buffaloes of the United States*. Also Single Frame Silver Medal.

Texas Stamp Dealers' Association Most Popular Exhibit - Ray E. Cartier - *The Warbirds of Air Force Plant #4*. Also Gold Medal.

Additional Multi-Frame Award Winners:

Gold Medal: Stanley Christmas - *The Life Cycle of the 4½ Cent White House Stamp*.

Vermeil Medal: Ray E. Cartier - *Project Skylab: The Story of America's First Space Station and Its Crews*.

William Drummond - *Commercial flights of Pan American World Airways over Foreign Air Mail Route 14: 1935-1941*.

Bryant Korn - *Liberia's Liberty Stamp Issue of 1860-1880*.

Additional Single Frame Award Winners:

Gold Medal: Elizabeth Hisey - *Brown is for Cuban Cigars*.

Kathy Johnson - *Uses of the 1961 8¢ John J. Pershing Definitive*.

Silver Medal: Stanley Christmas - *Christmas Island - Indian Ocean Postal Stationery*.

Ben Jansen - *Sociohistorical Aspects of World War 2-Related Netherlands Mail*

Court of Honor Exhibit: Yavuz Corapcioglu - *Airmail from Turkey to USA*

Non-Competitive Exhibits:

Ron Strawser - *Postal History of the United States Famous Americans Issue 1940-1943*

Ron Strawser - *Mozambique Company Postal Stationery*

A Partially Paid Entire to Haiti

By Ardy Callender

An interesting 2¢ Plimpton entire sent to Port ‘Au Prince, Haiti is shown here Figure 1. The entire departed Brownsville, Texas on the 22nd September 1894 as noted by the Brownsville date stamp, barely tying the indicia at left.

The duplexed black smudge cancellation slightly resembles a Maltese cross, especially at the upper left. The entire is addressed to U.S. Consul, Port ‘Au Prince, Hayti (Haiti), West Indies. Presumably clerks at the Brownsville post office recognized the entire was underpaid and struck the circled “T” due mark to warn the NYPO of the deficiency in payment.

UPU regulations state that completely unpaid letters from other member countries were subject to a doubling penalty; in other words the 5¢ UPU rate would be doubled to 10¢. Partially paid letters however were simply required to make up the difference. The “T” symbol was adopted as a means to relay the due information to the foreign exchange offices. The UPU regulation (Regulations of Detail and Order “VI. Application of Stamps”) reads as follows:

3. Unpaid or insufficiently prepaid correspondence is impressed with the stamp T (tax to be paid), the application of which devolves upon the office of the country of origin in cases of correspondence originating in the Union, and upon the office of the country of entry in cases of correspondence originating in countries

foreign to the Union.

The entire, sent at the domestic rate, was received in New York as indicated by the New York receiving machine back stamp (Figure 2). Mistakenly sent to the domestic department, clerks noticed the entire was designated to a foreign destination and forwarded it onward to the foreign mail section.

As the entire had already been struck with a New York receiving marking (the machine cancel) a New York foreign mail cancel was not applied. Clerks in the foreign mail section determined that the cover was underpaid and struck the common “opera glass” foreign mail due marking at left indicating 15 centimes or 3¢ was due. The 3¢ made up the deficient amount for the UPU foreign mail rate of 5¢.

Upon arrival in Port ‘Au Prince, a manuscript 6 ct was applied by clerks at the post office. Haiti’s UPU rate for 1894 was 10 centimes de gourde per ½ ounce according to *The Annual Tables of Exchange Rates and Rates of Postage to the U.S. 1881-1953* by Arthur H. Groten (1989). Therefore, 6 centimes de gourde would be equivalent to 3¢ U.S., the amount due in Haiti.

Thus the entire has two “T” marks, one from Brownsville and one from New York’s foreign exchange office indicating the amount due in centimes.

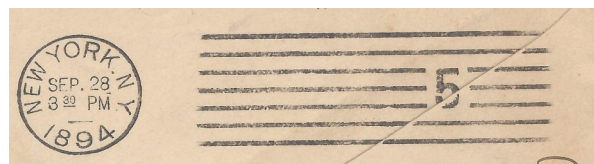


Figure 2. New York receiving machine back stamp

Figure 1. Plimpton entire sent to Port ‘Au Prince, Haiti

The USS *Houston*

by John Germann

The cruiser USS *Houston* (CA-30) was built at Newport News, VA in 1929 and was commissioned into the US Navy in 1930. At the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor she was serving as the flagship of the Asiatic Fleet. Soon she was to earn the nickname "The Galloping Ghost of the Java Coast" for her ability to evade the Japanese fleets, and to survive destruction when she didn't.

Among her heroics, at one point in the Battle of the Java Sea she tried, along with just three ships, to destroy the main Japanese convoy attempting an invasion of Java. Two of her companion ships were destroyed in action, but *Houston* escaped along with the Australian cruiser *Perth*. Unable to find supplies and ammunition locally the two, following the latest intelligence reports, headed at night through Sunda Strait which was supposed to be free of enemy vessels. Instead they ran into a large Japanese force. Dodging torpedoes, they sank one transport and beached several others before the *Perth* went down.

Since *Houston* was short on ammo, the crew had to move shells to the forward turrets but they kept on firing – ultimately damaging three destroyers and sinking a minesweeper. Hits by four Japanese torpedoes were more, however, than her hull could bear, and shortly after midnight on March 1, 1942 she rolled over. Of the 1061 officers and crew, 693 were lost in the action (77 of the 368 who did survive would die in captivity).

The losses included Captain Albert Rooks who would receive posthumously the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military honor an individual can receive. For her valor the *Houston* would be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the highest honor a ship can receive.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt knew the *Houston* well; he had made many tours aboard her including one 14,000 mile jaunt. So there would have been a little more emotion than usual when he declared that: "Our enemies have given us the chance to prove that there will be another USS *Houston*, and yet another USS *Houston* if that becomes necessary, and still an-

Figure 1.
The USS
Houston.



other USS *Houston* as long as American ideals are in jeopardy."

To commemorate her valiant stand the navy changed the name of the light cruiser *Vicksburg*, still under construction, to *Houston*. This new warship entered service and the war effort in December, 1943.

Meanwhile in the cruiser's namesake city, the Houston Junior Chamber of Commerce teamed up with the US Navy Recruiting Service to organize an ambitious campaign to avenge the loss of the *Houston* by enlisting a cruiser's full crew of one thousand. The *Houston Chronicle*, after noting that the ship's loss "aroused a fever pitch of patriotism in Houston," described the effort as the "greatest single mass recruiting drive ever seen in the United States."

Within three months of the *Houston's* demise, they had succeeded. Here's an "In Memoriam" cover commemorating that quite amazing feat, with a cachet by the well known World War II cachet artist Tex Edmunds. The cover contained a card containing a portion of the citation presented to each of the new enlistees, a citation honoring the "gallant crew" of the sunken cruiser.

Figure 2. The
Memorial cover
and card.





Steve Stewart (at right) at the GHSS 2021 Beginner's Booth.



Visitors enjoying lunch at the GHSS

Classified Ads:

Members may place philatelicly 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. 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, Suite 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 - with stamps, unused or used. Building my collection of Return Reply Envelopes 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., and usually included multiples or thematic stamps. Interested in all types, of any period. 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