

THE ALBUM PAGE

October 2010
President: Grant Babb

Volume XXXIII, No. 8, Whole No. 311
Vice President: Albert Hanson

OSS to Host PIPEX in 2012 and Beyond!

See Page 3

Cover of The Month Oregon Postal History from Overseas



February 13 1899 Spanish American War
cover from the 2rd Oregon Regiment,
United States Volunteer Infantry,
Manila, Philippine Islands.

See Page 5

THE OREGON STAMP SOCIETY

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Opinions expressed in features and columns in this publication are solely those of the authors and do not represent those of the Society. The OSS cannot be responsible for the accuracy of any information presented herein.

ABOUT THE CLUB

Regular meetings are held in the OSS Building, 4828 NE 33rd Ave. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8 PM, unless otherwise stated in the monthly calendar.

The *Rose City Stamp Fair* is an official OSS function and is held at the OSS Building on the second Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 4 PM.

The *Stamp Collector's Corner* also is an official OSS Bourse, and is held on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Visitors Are Always Welcome

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OSS to Host PIPEX in 2012, 2013, 2014,

... and in 2015!

William Geijsbeek, Executive Secretary of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs (NWFSC), responded to our invitation to host PIPEX in 2012 in Portland. In fact, after some conversations with the PIPEX committee, William and the board voted to approve Portland as the home for PIPEX for four years. We are truly excited about this, because it will give us a chance to keep momentum in our coordination work to make each show even better than the last.

I'd like to thank the NWFSC for this consideration, and the PIPEX committee for their hard work. This will be a wonderful opportunity to build stamp collecting as a hobby in the Northwest.

The President's Corner

By Grant Babb

This issue of the Album Page marks some important milestones. For OSS it reflects on where we've been, where we are today, and where we're going.

This issue will be the last regular appearance of Book Reports in our content. On behalf of OSS, I'd like to thank the Northwest Philatelic Library for many hours of enjoyable reading.

This issue finds itself with a new staff producing it. Eric Hummel has stepped into an interim role in getting the Album Page published once a month, and many of us, including myself, have volunteered to be regular contributors. On behalf of OSS, I'd like to thank Elizabeth Lake for more than 3 years of faithful service.

These changes have forced us to evaluate where we are as a publication. One of the main functions is to provide news of the club to our members in town and elsewhere. The other main focus is to support and sustain the hobby of stamp collecting. Starting with this issue, we will be renewing our attention to how we perform both of these.

Looking forward, expect many changes. We will be adding content that is directed at new, returning, and long-time collectors of stamps. We will add content for readers at a variety of ages. We will experiment with format changes. We may even split our core functions into two different publications. Only time will tell what will work and become the Album Page for the future.

In the next year, I can promise this: you'll look forward to each issue of the Album Page for things that you haven't before. My hope is that you'll still find things you expected, like what is going on this month! I also hope that you'll find things you didn't expect, things you'll want to share with friends, family, children, young adults, the young-at-heart, and everyone in between.

Cover of The Month

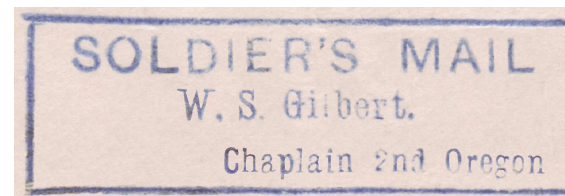
By Eric Hummel

Most of us have heard at least a little about the role of the Battleship Oregon in the Spanish American War. Its race from the West Coast through the Straits of Magellan to join the Fleet in Battle against the Spanish fleet at Santiago Cuba, demonstrated the need for a Canal through the Isthmus of Panama.

At the August Collectors Corner, Chris Pollock showed me a cover from the Oregon 2nd Regiment, U.S.V. Infantry, Manila P.I. postmarked February 8 1899 Military Station No. 1 Manila, Phil. Islds. Here was a clue to another connection of Oregon to the Spanish American War. It also raised several questions. What was the Oregon 2nd and how did they get to Manila? Was there an Oregon 1st? Why the auxiliary marking "Soldier's Mail / W. S. Gilbert / Chaplain 2nd Oregon"? The cover also seemed familiar. Arriving home, I quickly found a similar cover postmarked five days later - that cover is shown on the cover of this Album Page.

A Google search quickly returned a very large amount of information. The Oregon 1st Regiment of Volunteer Infantry was formed in 1864 and was mustered out on 1866.

The Google search also led me to "The Official Records of the Oregon Volunteers in The Spanish War and the Philippine Insurrection" compiled by Brigadier General C. E. Gantenbein, published by the State of Oregon in 1906. Most of the history that follows comes from that source.



This is the auxiliary marking which appears on both covers. W. S. Gilbert was not only the Chaplain of the Oregon 2nd Regiment of US Vol-

unteer Infantry. He was also the Official Historian for the Regiment. I suspect, though I was not able to confirm, that mail home was processed by him. That this may be a forerunner (?) to the familiar censor markings of WW I and WW II.

Cover of The Month - continued

From another source, I learned that the postmark - Mil. Sta. No. 1 Manila / Phil. Islds. - was a steel die duplex. It was only in use from 20 September 1898 to 10 May 1899 and is referenced as a George Goodale type A-7 or Philip Baker type C-6.

Unfortunately there is no return address on the cover, nor any contents, to tell who from the Regiment mailed the letter. The name of the addressee does not match any of the Soldiers who died or were wounded.

As for the Oregon 2nd, this is a VERY brief history of the Regiment. (To read the entire history - the book noted above is available for free as a download from Google Books - 600+ pages includes numerous appendices - reports and eye-witness accounts).

- 25 April 1898 - President McKinley calls upon the Governor of Oregon for a Regiment of Volunteers.
- 18 May 1898 - The twelve Companies comprising the Oregon 2nd arrives at San Francisco, they were comprised completely from the ranks of the Oregon National Guard. On the 24th, they embarked on the US transports Australia and City of Sydney. They weigh anchor the following day - the first expedition to leave the United States for war in another country. According to some sources, these transports were Cattle Carriers which had not been cleaned before the troops were embarked on the ships.
- 21 June 1898 - The City of Sydney arrives at Guam and accepts the surrender of the Island from the Spanish Governor.
- 1 July 1898 - The nine companies on the Australia land at Manila - the first US forces to land in the Philippines (Actually, Adm. Dewey landed a force of Marines at Cavite after the Battle of Manila on 2 May 1898).
- 4 February 1899 - Battle between Philippine Insurgents and US forces begins at Manila. Oregon 2nd is involved in numerous engagements with the Insurgents until 3 June 1899.
- 13 February 1899 - The Cover of the Month was mailed to Portland.
- 14 June 1899 - Oregon 2nd leaves the Philippines, arrives San Francisco July 13th and is mustered out August 7th.
- Of the 56 officers and 1296 enlisted men, accounted for in the muster out rolls, 13 were killed in action, 3 died of wounds, 3 were captured and killed, 43 died of disease while in service, 1 met his death by accident, and 1 was drowned, making a total number of 64 deaths.

The Next OSS Auction

By Eric Hummel

The next OSS Fund Raising Auction will be February 19th 2011. This date was selected for several reasons. It will not compete with the Fall and Spring auctions of Harmer-Schau and will be in a month which is typically slow in terms of other Philatelic Shows and Events. It will also be easier on the volunteers who would otherwise have to give up some of their summer time to prepare for an October Auction date.

So far we have received half a dozen new large consignments. The auction will also include additional material from previous consignors and some unsold lots from the 2009 auction (with reduced expectations and start bids). The new consignments are heavily weighted with US and Worldwide postal history and philatelic covers (FDCs, etc.). There are large topical consignments as well as a very large quantities of stamps, postal stationery and covers from the United Nations and Canada. At this time it appears the amount of discount postage may be somewhat limited.

We are not accepting any additional large bulk lots (due to a lack of available storage space). Better individual items and solid single country collections may be submitted for the Auction up to the 4th Tuesday meeting in November (November 23rd). December will be devoted to wrapping up the catalog. It should be printed by the middle of January and mailed by January 29th. Auction preview times will begin with the 2nd Saturday in February (coinciding with the Rose City Stamp Show).

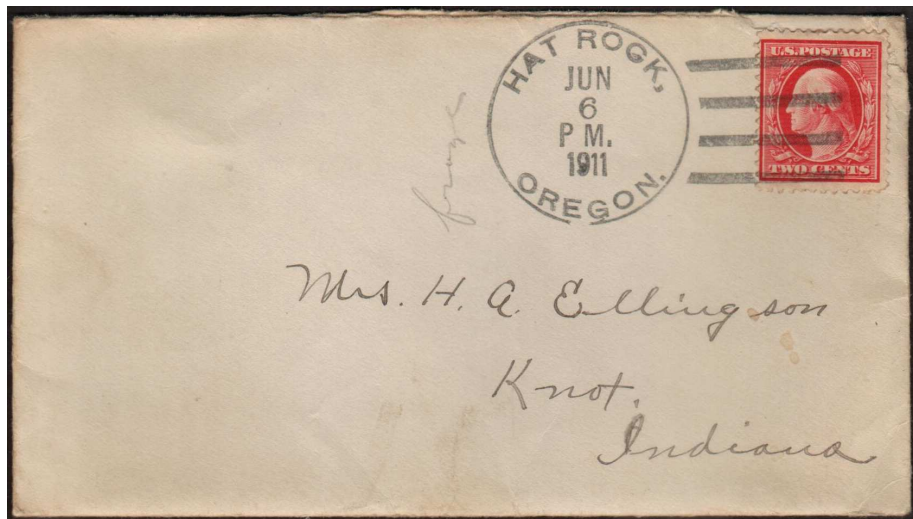
At this point, the highlight of the Auction will be the lots from the consignment from the estate of a former OSS Member. He amassed a large number of covers from around the world from 1930 to the early 1990s. Most of the postal history items are from 1930 to the late 1950s. Many of these covers were obtained by writing to US Legations and diplomats or directly to local Postal Authorities. After 1960, many of the covers are from different postal administrations purchased under "new issue" programs.

Starting in April of this year, a small selection of the covers have

The Next OSS Auction - continued

been sold as individual lots on eBay. More than 80% of the listings have been successful at an average price of about \$12. So far the best covers have brought up to \$95 each from places like Cyrenaica, Malaysia, Japan, and North African and Middle East Countries.

OSS Auction Preview Oregon Postal History



There will be a number of Oregon Postal History lots in this years auction. Most will be multiple cover lots - 18th and 19th century items. At least one lot will include a number of Rural Station covers. There will also be collections of postal history from other states - Washington, Idaho, Montana, etc.

A few better single items will also be offered including the above Hat Rock Oregon cover, with contents and additional correspondence. This very small town near Prineville in Crook County, had a Post office for only a very short time: 6 Sept 1910 to 15 Dec 1911. The Helbock catalog rates this DPO cancel as a scarcity #7. In 1910 there were only 47 people in the Hat Rock Precinct. Hat Rock was named for the nearby formation on the southeast slope of Powell Buttes. The first (and only?) postmaster was Louisa E. Becker.



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NPL

Northwest Philatelic Library

Portland, Oregon



BOOK REPORTS

October 2010
Volume 7, Issue 5

NPL Research

Classifying the WASHINGTON-FRANKLIN 2-cent OFFSET 'TYPES'

By *Charles Neyhart*

In March 1920, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began printing the 2-cent definitive stamp of the Washington-Franklin series using the offset method. This printing method was used at the Bureau beginning in 1918 to print 1- and 3-cent stamps to accommodate the 1-cent war tax added to the 2-cent first-class rate on November 2, 1917. The tax was discontinued July 1, 1919 and the first-class rate returned to 2-cents. While the origins of offset printing at the Bureau have been well-chronicled,¹ the catalog recognition of these stamps remains a bit skewed.

Line-engraved intaglio printing provides a measure of security to the printed product, but it is generally more time consuming and costly to

This is an excerpt from the full October 2010 issue of *Book Reports* which is available on the NPL website => www.nwpl.org. You may sign up for electronic delivery of future issues of *Book Reports*. Just email a request to us at => nwpl@qwestoffice.net and we will send the bimonthly issues to your preferred email address as a PDF file, in full color with adjustable size type. Our privacy policy ensures that your email address will not be shared with anyone. To read this privacy statement, visit => www.nwpl.org/Privacy.html.

Washington-Franklin Offset Types - continued

execute. When it was discovered that inadequately-processed minerals used in making ink at the Bureau caused accelerated wear on engraved steel printing plates, the Bureau secured agreement from the U.S. Post Office Department to temporarily print high-demand stamps using offset lithography, whereby printing plates could be made at a much faster rate than engraved plates.²



2-cent Type V

There are nine 'types' of the 2-cent Washington stamp [Scott design number A140]. Types I, Ia, II and III apply to line-engraved intaglio printed stamps; the remaining 'types' apply to the offset printed stamps - IV, V, Va, VI and VII.

Offset printing holds the inked design on the surface of the plate.³ This inked design is then transferred, i.e., offset, from the plate to another medium called a "blanket," typically made of rubber, and finally transferred from the blanket to the paper. The offset step saves wear on the printing plates. The design of engraved and offset stamps may be the same, but the quality of the printed output is visually quite different.

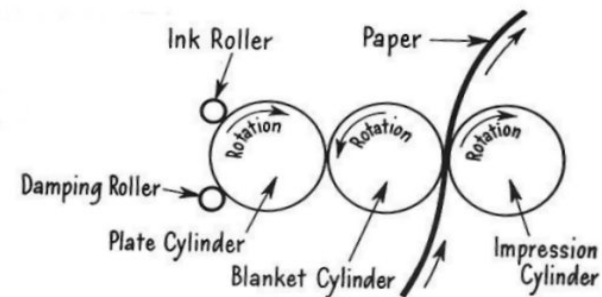
THE OFFSET PLATES

The 2-cent offset printing plates were made using a process that is very different from the process used to make line-engraved intaglio plates. The sequential steps are:⁴

1. The process starts with a copy of the stamp image. For the 2-cent stamps, a die proof of a Type I engraved stamp [Scott 499] was used.⁵
2. The image is photographed and the negative greatly enlarged and developed on heavy paper to reveal, in detail, the individual lines and dots making up the image.

3. Any imperfections are retouched on the enlarged photograph using a variety of hand tools and paints and reducers, and brought into proper condition. These include touch-ins [lines strengthened or added] or touch-outs [lines weakened or eliminated].
4. The retouched enlargement is then photo-reduced to a "stepped-down" photographic negative of the required stamp size.
5. The negative is placed in an accurate "step-and-repeat" machine that multiplies the design the requisite number of times onto a large photographic plate.⁶
6. The photographic plate is developed and converted to celluloid "mask." Vertical and horizontal guidelines and marginal markings, including plate numbers, are added to the mask by hand.⁷
7. The mask is brought into contact with a treated zinc plate. After exposure to bright light and chemical developing, the zinc plate now bears 400 identical stamp images.⁸

Matched zinc plates are curved and fitted to the rotary plate cylinder as per the schematic below:⁹



The diagram of the offset rotary press is a side view. The zinc plates mounted on the revolving plate cylinder first receive a coating of water from the dampening roller and then ink is applied by the ink roller, both rollers drawing from dedicated fountains. The continuous rubber offset blanket is mounted around the blanket cylinder. The plate and blanket cylinders revolve in contact with one another, but in opposite directions. As the blanket cylinder makes one complete revolution, the inked zinc plates on the revolving plate cylinder lay the inked stamp image onto the blanket, which then transfers that inked

Washington-Franklin Offset Types - continued

image to sheet-fed paper as it passes between the blanket cylinder and the tensioned impression cylinder.

CREATING THE DIFFERENT offset 'TYPES'

The first 2-cent offset plate was assigned at the Bureau on March 5, 1920, certified March 6, went to press March 8 and cancelled later that day. Stamp output was catalog-designated Type IV. The Bureau judged the Type IV stamps to be unsatisfactory and only 95 Type IV plates were used.^{10, 11} The Bureau then repeated the sequence of platemaking steps outlined above to create design Type V.¹² This allowed artisans to remedy the design defects of the Type IV, i.e., the retouching at Step 3 focused on strengthening the weak lines and dots that plagued the Type IV output. Type V plates first went to press on March 20, 1920. A total of 302 plates were used printing Type V stamps.

Due to handling and their delicate nature, materials used in making plates, e.g., film and glass, became degraded. Thus, when the Bureau needed to make additional Type V plates, it had to begin at Step 5 of the platemaking process and a slight imperfection crept into the step-down negative which took away one shading dot in Washington's nose. This was not reported until 1937, at which time it was designated in catalogs as Type Va.¹³ A total of 545 of these plates were used.

Two additional 2-cent design types were created. Type VI [103 plates] was made to correct a weak line in the left numeral of Type V. Type VII [604 plates] revised the shading to the top of Washington's head and upper lip and fixed the over-correction to the left-hand numeral of Type VI. The last 2-cent offset plate went to press May 16, 1921. All told, 328 offset plates were made but not used, for one reason or another.

Determining A 'TYPE'

The term "type" is used to distinguish a stamp with a design difference from within an array of otherwise face-same stamps.¹⁴ For the 2-cent stamps, the original engraved image was catalog-designated Type I with its baseline design features. When it was later discovered that the Type I die did not transfer well to the rotary press, the Type II design was created by re-working the design's frame lines on a Type I transfer roll. The use of the term "type" is confined here solely to design differences; it does not describe other production differences like perforation gauge, watermarks, or color. Diagrams of identifying features of the various 2-cent 'types' with explanatory descriptions of the confirming differences are routinely included in catalogs. The descriptive lists are presumably arranged in order of importance, although each 'type' has one or two central distinguishing features.

The essential difference between a line-engraved intaglio 2-cent 'type' and an offset 'type' is in the platemaking process. Line-engraved intaglio-printed stamps entail transferring the image from an engraved die to a transfer roll which, in turn, is used to enter that same design onto a steel printing plate. Therefore, when a new die is engraved or a current one is re-worked to produce a revised image, a new 'type' has been created. The offset platemaking process also begins with an engraved die but the image from that die is artistically re-worked [Steps 2 and 3 above] before it is photo-chemically transferred to the printing plate. Thus, although all major offset 'types' started with a Type I engraved die, the images from that die were potentially subject to some degree of process modification.

Note that there are currently two 2-cent 'types' designated with a lower case "a" - Type Ia [line-engraved intaglio] and Type Va [offset]. Presumably, these are minor, being closely related to, i.e., emanating from, their corresponding major 'types.'¹⁵

Washington-Franklin Offset Types - continued

Cataloging THE offset 'TYPES'

The current Scott catalog assigns five major catalog numbers to each 'type' of perforated 2-cent offset stamp [526-528B] and five more to each imperforate 'type' [532-534B]. Interestingly, this was not how it was first done.



2-cent Type 1
The Starting
Point

The 1922 Scott catalog combined the then-recognized three 'types' of 2-cent offsets [IV, V, and VI] and assigned them a single major catalog number [436]. The corresponding imperforate versions were assigned a single minor number [436a]. This classification scheme was carried over into the first Scott specialized catalog in 1923. This treatment is appealing because of its simplicity. It implicitly recognizes that all 2-cent offset stamps derived from a Type I die, which would suggest that any image changes from the photo-chemical transfer process are neither determinative nor useful for classification purposes. This catalog treatment would then focus only on key production and finishing differences, in this case whether the stamps were perforate or imperforate.

The 1924 catalog changed things a bit by assigning a single major number to the combined types of perforated 2-cent offsets [now 526] and assigning a single major number to the combined types of imperforate 2-cent stamps [532].

Things changed considerably, though, in the 1957 catalog. Scott assigned major numbers to each type of perforate and imperforate 2-cent offset stamp, i.e., the current configuration. No explanation for this change was included in that catalog. What forces might have been in play then to explain elevating a 'type' to a major number? Were they philatelically-based, perhaps emphasizing how certain specialists discussed and collected the 'types?' Were they commercial

forces, whereby certain business interests were taken into account? Did the original catalog treatment make the 2-cent 'types' any less collectible? Or do you really have to own all 'types' to have a legitimate Washington-Franklin collection?

From a purely descriptive standpoint, both the original and current catalog treatments provide equivalent production nomenclature. The taxonomical presentations differ though - the original catalog treatment is equally serviceable to all collectors, but the current treatment favors only a subset of collectors by choosing to validate stamps with the same design as being different. The "major" versus "minor" catalog distinction is not a new discussion thread. It is a persistent issue with collectors. This distinction is particularly relevant to the Washington-Franklin series due of its breadth, but especially so for the offsets since unique cataloging rules may be involved

To assign a different major catalog number to each stamp in an array of face-same stamps presumes, I think, that each stamp design be clearly and unequivocally different from the others in the array. But, is that true for each 2-cent offset 'type?' Their current catalog treatment presumptively asserts that each re-touched photo [Step 3 in the platemaking process] resulted in a significant constant plate variety due to the differences caused by the re-touching. In this case, the constant variety extends to every stamp of the plate.^{16, 17} Does this decision framework truly support the catalog contention that each offset 'type,' including minors, deserves its own major number? The evidence here is neither clear cut nor determinative.

On what grounds are the 2-cent offset 'types' treated as major numbers? Does it matter? Yes, I think it does. Major numbers are collectible. Lurking in the background is the implicit presumption that a collection missing a major number is less than complete. This leads to what John Dunn calls "... one of the most dismal images in all of philately - the empty space."¹⁸

On a practical level, let's focus on the collector. Many collectors form their collections around major catalog numbers. Such collectors, with

Washington-Franklin Offset Types - continued

an almost irresistible “urge to complete,” are today faced with the intimidating prospect of filling more than a few open album spaces with the major-numbered 2-cent offsets. There are both emotional and financial considerations in play here, neither of which is unsubstantial. Yet, many of these same collectors might not be terribly interested in acquiring all of the 2-cent offsets if some of them are catalog-rated as minor number varieties, or especially if their production differences from the major-numbered stamp are trivial or the stamps are artificially and indefensibly expensive. Who loses here? Where should the line be drawn? Each of us should be able to comprehend and find common sense in the rules of the game.

Footnotes:

¹ See, for example: Wayne Youngblood, “Telling the Washington-Franklin Offset Issues Apart,” *American Philatelist* [April 2005], pp. 314-17.

² Offset plates could be produced in a few hours, but were more fragile than engraved steel plates, and usually produced only 12,000 impressions, whereas treated engraved steel rotary plates could produce up to 40,000 impressions.

³ Lithography, “printing from stone,” is based on the well-known principle that oil and water will not mix.

⁴ This process is covered in detail in: L.N. Williams, *Fundamentals of Philately* [1990]. Also, NPL member and professional printer David Stehlik, proprietor of Star Letterpress, Inc. of Portland, Oregon helped me better understand the steps in this platemaking sequence.

⁵ Other media could have been used here. For example, offset plates made for the various parts making up the center flag designs of the U.S. Overrun Countries issue started with highly detailed drawings of the flag parts.

⁶ Offset plates for the issue were the typical 400-subject plates divided into four quadrants by vertical and horizontal guidelines. A small number of larger plates, 800- and 1600-subjects, were used experimentally.

⁷ Plate numbers of the offset stamps were assigned from the regular postage plate number series. However, there was much variability regarding their application. See: Collins, Cleland & D’Avino, “A Categorization of Marginal Markings: Plate Number Types, Part III,” *The United States Specialist* [November 2007], pp. 507-11.

⁸ For the 2-cent offsets, the stamp design was composed of a thin layer of hardened chemical solution that adhered to the zinc plate. Plate life was limited. To improve the durability of the image, the Bureau later developed the industry state-of-the-art “high-etch” offset plate.

⁹ L.N. Williams, p. 353.

¹⁰ Making additional plates for a particular design “type” did not involve all 7 steps outlined earlier. If the original mask in Step 6 could be re-used, new plate numbers were revised in and new plates produced, usually requiring less than one hour. If the mask could not be re-used because of scratching, soiling, or wear, then a new one was made from the photographic plate created at Step 5. In either case, the original design ‘type’ features would

be preserved.

¹¹ Minor differences within “types” could result from and during all steps in the platemaking and printing processes.

¹² Again, a die proof of a Type I engraved 2-cent stamp [Scott 499] was used, as it was for all five 2-cent offset design types. In contrast, the 3-cent offset plates were made from proofs of both the Type I and Type II engraved dies, which led, accordingly, to two corresponding ‘types’ of offset stamps - III and IV.

¹³ B.L. Wilcox discovered the variety as discussed by Max Johl in *STAMPS Magazine* [August 25, 1934].

¹⁴ A definition proposed by George W. Brett, “The Two-Cent 1894 Type IV: An Uncatalogued Major Variety,” *The United States Specialist* [Sept. 1993]. Brett’s definition also includes the proviso that the cause of the design difference is irrelevant.

¹⁵ Type Ia resulted from an experiment to speed up the platemaking process and not necessarily to “fix” the Type I image. It involved making a 10-subject die directly from a Type I transfer roll. Because of the added pressure necessary to rock in images from this larger 10-subject die onto the printing plate, the lines in the design were opened up and appear stronger than the original Type I image. Type Va was made from the original Type V re-touched photograph. Because of an unintended result in the photographic step-down process, not all of the original Type V design features were transferred, resulting in Type Va.

¹⁶ This is similar to a die flaw on an engraved stamp.

¹⁷ Treating Type Va as a major number is an exception to this decision rule. Type Va, rather, has the requisite attributes of a minor catalog number.

¹⁸ *Mekeel’s & Stamps Magazine* [March 6, 2009].

Coming in November

Book Reports becomes a bimonthly publication. The lead article in the Nov-Dec 2010 issue will be “*Seal Collecting as Part of The Philatelic Hobby*” by noted seal collector George Painter. Also featured will be the research article “*Americana Series Tinted Paper Varieties*” by Charles Neyhart. The significant literature donation by Bayard Mentrum will be detailed in LIT ADDITIONS. We may even throw in a BOOK REVIEW and another RESEARCH STUMPER. Stay tuned.

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Women Exhibitors

By Janice Weinstock

Women Exhibitors [WE] was officially formed at the APS Winter Show in Riverside, CA in Feb. 2007. It was the brainchild of Ruth Caswell, Barbara Harrison, and Liz Hisey who arrived at the same conclusion—a desire to form a support group to help women overcome their fear of exhibiting and do it in a positive and constructive way. Now in its fourth year, WE has much to celebrate. Beginning with 13 members, WE now has 125 members, of which a small number are men whose desire is to share their expertise and to support this new endeavor.

WE's statement of purpose is: To provide a vehicle through which women exhibitors can encourage each other through sharing information, ideas, experience, advice, problems, and solutions.

WE publishes a monthly newsletter, WE Expressions, which announces upcoming meetings, asks questions for members to consider responding to for the following newsletter, provides helpful pointers about exhibit topics, encourages members to get together at local or regional stamp shows for satellite meetings, among other interesting topics. WE also publishes twice yearly, WE Think, which contains major articles about exhibiting, and is edited by Janet Klug.

WE offers the Sterling Achievement Award to stamp shows who request it. "The award is given to recognize an exhibit that has been awarded a bronze, silver-bronze, or silver medal that shows merit in philatelic knowledge, subject knowledge, material, or treatment; and to serve as an encouragement to a promising exhibit."—WE Expressions v. 3 (3):1, March 26, 2009.

WE has sponsored two Festivals for Philatelic Women. FESTIVAL I was held in Bellefonte, PA at the American Philatelic Center May 28-31, 2009. Members were encouraged to bring their exhibits to work on during the Festival. It was a huge success as 40 members at-

tended, made new friends, and learned a great deal about exhibiting.

FEST II was held before and during Rocky Mountain Stamp Show [RMSS] in Denver May 14-16, 2010. I was able to attend this one and it was a wonderful experience. There were two different course tracks we could take depending on our level of expertise: [1] Beginning and [2] Intermediate and advanced. I chose track no. 1 of course, as I've only prepared two one-frame exhibits and have very little experience. There were seminars, workshops, a valuable critique session, tour of the frames and dealers, plus great food and new friends. The one unique part of this event was a scavenger hunt for philatelic information about covers/stamps/cancels, et al. that could only be found by walking through the exhibits. That was a fun experience! RMSS allotted 120 frames to WE members and all were filled! Enthusiasm for exhibiting is running high!

FEST III, believe it or not, will be held in Portland, Oregon at PIPEX in May 2012! So, all of you gals, start thinking now about what you can exhibit at PIPEX 2012.

WE is APS affiliate no. 260 and is supported by the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. On AAPE's website you will find a link to Women Exhibitors: <http://www.aape.org/weweb.asp>. There are several older issues of WE Expressions and WE Think available for you to peruse, but current issues are only available to members. However all issues, including current ones, are available at the Northwest Philatelic Library. I will continue donating all issues of both titles. When you next visit Oregon Stamp Society, go downstairs and see all of the great books, periodicals, catalogs, etc. that NPL has to offer and begin doing research on your next exhibit. Join us in the fun and challenge of exhibiting!

To become a member of Women Exhibitors send a check for \$5.00 to:

Liz Hisey, WE Treasurer
7227 Sparta Road
Sebring, FL 33872

Women Exhibitors - continued

Tell Liz that you read about Women Exhibitors in Book Reports. Also, when you join WE, you will receive a button [shown below] for you to proudly wear at stamp shows.



Research Stumper ... V

Every now and then, we are faced with interesting questions. So, we thought we would bring them to you in the form of a CONTEST. Here is our fifth "Stumper."

The item in question is unidentified. It has no ostensible denomination, but has what might be a registration number, 44204, printed in blue ink. The "stumper" is to identify the item and to explain its intended use.



If you have a plausible SOLUTION, submit it to NPL. We will write it up in a future issue of Book Reports and give you full attribution. Submissions should be in writing. Document your solution to the extent practicable. The "best" solution will be determined by NPL. Send your solution to us via email or snail mail at the appropriate address in the table at the end of this issue. [Gloria Neyhart, ex-Holmes, provided the item for this "Stumper."]

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 OSS Board Meeting 7 PM	5	6	7	8	9 RoseCity Stamp Fair 10-4
10	11	12 OSS Meeting 8 PM Library opens 6:30	13	14 NPL Board Meeting 7 PM	15	16
17 Harmer-Schau Auction	18	19	20	21	22	23 Collector's Corner 10-4
24/31	25	26 OSS Meeting 8 PM Library opens 6:30	27	28	29	30

Upcoming OSS Events

2nd Tuesday - October 12th regular evening meeting. Program speaker will be David Morrison. Topic: "Stamp Ephemera".

4th Tuesday - October 26th regular evening meeting. Tonight's program will be a Mini-Auction. Each member may bring as many as five (5) items/lots. Maybe it is time to let that duplicate US #C3a you have been hoarding find a new home.

Events Around Town

Westside Stamp Club: First Monday of each month - 1 PM @ Tigard Senior Center. —**October 4th**

Harmer-Schau Auction: **Sunday, October 17, 2010, 11:00 a.m**
 Courtyard by Marriott, Main Ballroom*11550 N.E. Airport Way
 This auction has 1087 lots from 60 owners. Highlights include the WIPA souvenir sheet from Austria, British Commonwealth including Nyasaland #24 mint (cat. \$3750) and 440+ U.S. single lots with 1893 Columbian mint values to the \$5 and 4 sets of mint Graf Zeppelins.

Beaver Stamp Club: Third Tuesday of each month, 1-3 PM @ Lutheran Church - 9800 SE 92nd Ave. Portland, OR. --**October 19th**

THE ALBUM PAGE
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