

THE ALBUM PAGE

March 2011

President: Albert Hanson

Volume XXXIV, No. 3, Whole No. 316

Vice President: (Open Position)

Annual Fund Raising Auction Results

See Page 10

The “Forever” Stamp Program Expands

See Page 13

“Irish” Cover of The Month



“Harp” or
“Mermaid”
Postmark used
in Ireland
1808 to 1814.
The First
distinctly Irish
postmark.

1808 Folded Letter from Dublin Ireland
With Harp Cancel, Courtesy of Tom Current’s Harp Exhibit
See Page 8

THE OREGON STAMP SOCIETY

www.OregonStampSociety.org



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The Album Page is published 12 times per year by the Oregon Stamp Society. A subscription to the Album Page is included as a part of the annual membership dues. For a membership application, write to the OSS at the above address.

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

----- Contents -----

Articles

The Dumpster Diver Chronicles #2	4-5
US #5 Sold on eBay	6-7
OSS Fund Raising Auction Results + NPL Thank You	10-12
Forever Stamp Program Expands	13

Columns

Cover of The Month - 1808 Dublin Harp Cancel	8-9
Calendar - March Events and Local Stamp Shows	14-15

Society Notices

Formation and Approval of Nominating Committee	5
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Northwest Philatelic Library

Book Reports	9
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Advertisers:

Harmer Schau	3
Unique Estate Appraisals	7
Brookman Stamps / Michael Jaffe Stamps	16



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Sunday, March 27, 2011, 11:00 a.m
Courtyard by Marriott, Main Ballroom
11550 N.E. Airport Way, Portland, OR

The Dumpster Diver Chronicles #2

by John Lowell

Having dug up my old Popeye sailor suit I will take the hapless readers on an ocean voyage. It is not too late to take to the lifeboats, but if the reader insists on being keelhaunched, read on.

Collecting ships mail or other postal markings related to the seaborne transport of the mails is a very popular area of collecting interest (with me it is). At any philatelic show there usually are several dealers specializing in naval and ships covers. While these covers can be relatively inexpensive, often at about \$1-5 each, the dumpster diver is so frugal as to resort to rooting through bargain bins and kilo nights to try to find items of similar interest for even less.

Within the genre of nautical philatelics are paquebot markings. By postal convention, sailors are allowed to post mail while abroad using stamps from their home country. The mail receives a special cancellation indicating it was mailed under this agreement. This opens the possibility of finding postal markings on stamps from other than the country of issue in the piles of common stamps that a dealer may not have examined closely. For some obscure reason, undoubtedly related to that unfortunate childhood incident during potty training, I find this quite fascinating. Each time the dumpster diver discovers another overlooked ship type cancellation, he becomes as happy as a sailor with a full cup of grog.



Tunisia Sc #87 w/
(Pa)quebot Cancel



Indo-China Sc. #C4
with Paqu(ebot) boxed cancel.

The dumpster diver has found at kilo nights, in circuit books or amongst the piles of rather common stamps a multitude of paquebot markings on stamps. Through experience and research in the philatelic library, I have uncovered a number of good places to look. In addition, various OSS members have apparently decided to amuse themselves at times by assisting in



Australia Sc. #67 with
Honolulu HI Cancel



South Australia Sc.
#65 with Ship Mail
Cancel

my quest (I grovel for philatelic scraps, and will dance a complete jig for ½ a 50 cent Columbian Expo stamp). I have found nice paquebot cancels on common definitives from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. A few are shown here; nice paquebot cancels on stamps from Indochina, Tunisia and Australia as well as a ship cancel on the South Australia stamp. Most of these cost a nickel or a dime.

At this point I suspect the reader is thinking that this is “much ado about nothing”, which is pretty much the thrust of this series. I believe I gave fair warning. In the next episode I will continue to flog this topic as if it were a recalcitrant mutinous sailor. It is too late to cancel your OSS membership for this year. Captain Queeg continues to sail blithely towards the reef, completely unaware of the discontented mutterings of the deckhands around him.

Legal Niceties

At the February 7th 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors, in accordance with the provisions of Article V, Section 2, a Nominating Committee composed of three Regular and Life members was appointed and duly approved by the Board of Directors in attendance. The members of the Nominating Committee are Caroline Brandt,

US #5 Sold on eBay

by Bill Seymour

In the middle of December 2010, an eBay buyer (Stepburk) received a US collection lot sold by the seller Dom17. Dom17 sells a lot of bulk lots on eBay, his feedback is approaching 20,000 and he's been selling on eBay since 1999. Stepburk buys bulk lots from eBay, then breaks them down into sets and singles and resells them, also on eBay. Both sellers make a reasonably good return on their investments, though Stepburk has to work harder for smaller income than Dom17 does.

The US collection Stepburk bought was pretty generic; it started with a 1¢ from the 1851 series and was reasonably complete from the 1920s on. The title to the auction was "Substantial US Stamp Coll Over \$21,000.00 Scott" and it sold for \$1699.99 with just the one bid. Stepburk started breaking the collection down and offered the 1¢ 1851 on eBay on January 10th 2011 with a starting bid of \$0.99 and shipping of \$0.89 for first class mail with a description of "**** Scott # 9 1851 \$.01 Franklin Imperf CV \$160.00 ****".

All this is pretty standard for those who either make a living selling on eBay or make extra money by selling on eBay. What was unusual in this case is that both sellers, Dom17 and Stepburk, didn't look closely at the stamp in question. In this case the stamp was actually a Scott #5, not a Scott #9. When the dust settled and the auction ended on January 17th, the hammer price was \$32,300 and buyer Tataerr was a very happy camper!

Scott #5 is a stamp that is a true rarity in USA collecting. When the 1851 issues were first created the engravers made the clichés just a little bit too big, they'd only fit if they were placed with no spacing between the individual



US Scott #5 sold on eBay for \$32,300

stamps, and that would make it difficult for the postmasters to cut them out for customers. The solution that was taken was to trim down the clichés slightly, by filing the edges before placing the impression on the plate. With the 1¢ plates only the first plate has a nearly complete cliché (some fine lines missing at bottom and left, plus a double transfer in the top ornaments) and that only in one position (the seventh stamp on the first row of the right hand pane). There were 11 plates created and that first plate was recut when it started to wear, making two states, termed Early and Late. Of those 12

plates, only five were used for the imperf stamps (1E, 1L, 2, 3, & 4), the rest for the perforated stamps of 1857. This means of all the positions of the 1¢ imperf, 999 had some portion of the design cut away and 1 was complete. The current census of Scott #5s as published by Siegel in 2001 shows 56 used singles, 6 used in pair with a different number, 3 used in a strip of three, 10 on cover as singles, 3 on cover in pairs and 9 on cover in strips of three (there are also 6 examples known where the stamp has been removed, destroying the cover). There are also 3 unused Scott #5s, one without gum, one as part of a large block with original gum (eight stamps in the block, one row of six, one row of two) and one that has been cleaned to remove toning. That gives us 90 total #5s known, though now there is a 91st.



US Scott #9 from the Author's Collection

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“Irish” Cover of the Month ***1808 Dublin Harp Cancel***

by Eric Hummel

For the Month of March - what better to have than a cover from Ireland. This cover is a part of Tom Currents award winning exhibit on the Harp. The entire 80 page exhibit will be available for viewing on the NPL website at some time in the near future.

The exact date of the establishment of the Post Office in Ireland is unknown. The Earliest recorded reference to a Postmaster dates from 1638. The Irish Postal System was under the control of the Postmaster General of London. The Irish Constitution of 1782 established the Irish Postal System as an independent organization. At least until a Commission of Inquiry Investigation of 1828 found that the costs of the system were substantially out of line with the revenue produced from the services provided. The Irish Post Office came back under the control of the London Postmaster General in 1831.



1808 folded letter from Dublin



London Bishops mark over the Dublin Harp Cancel

This folded letter dates from the time of an Independent Irish Postal System. It was posted in Dublin on July 29 1808 to a Doctor in London. It is cancelled with the distinctive “Harp” or “Mermaid” postmark of that date. It also has a Bishop’s mark of August 2 1808 - probably as a receiving cancel in London.



Drawing of a Dublin Harp Postmark

There is an additional auxiliary marking in the same reddish color used for the Bishop’s mark, which was probably

applied at London showing the origin of the letter as being from IRELAND.

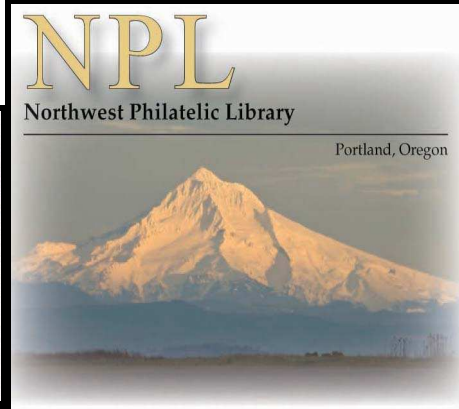
According to Tom’s exhibit the Harp cancel may be based loosely on the “Harp framed”

Oliver Cromwell Coat-of-Arms. This is the Angelic Style

of Harp one of two types of Irish Harps - the other being the Brian Boru type (15th Century).



Drawing of the Harp framed Oliver Cromwell Coat-of-Arms



BOOK REPORTS

January-February 2011

Now Online at

www.nwpl.org

The March-April issue of the Northwest Philatelic Library’s Book Reports is available on the NPL website www.nwpl.org

Be sure to read:

“What’s Up with the Color ‘Lake’” by Charles Neyhart



“The Forgotten Seal: The Easter Seal” by George Painter

And the first installment of the donation from Janice Weinstock’s aerophilatelic library.

You may sign up for personal electronic delivery of future issues of Book Reports. Just email a request to us at nwpl@qwestoffice.net.

AUCTION RESULTS

The Annual Fund Raising Auction was a somewhat surprising success. The large number of cover lots relative to stamp lots, were a pre-auction concern. But the results have erased those doubts.

The auction lots were made up from consignments of 20 club members and estates from the general public. The auction was available on the Club's website at OregonStampSociety.org. with color pictures of more than 250 of the lots. It was promoted on several websites and in online chat rooms. The mailing of catalogs was expanded to members of other stamp clubs in Oregon and Washington.

These promotional efforts, as well as the material offered, resulted in bids being received from more than 30 mail or email bidders. On the day of the auction there were over 60 registered bidders from as far away as Minnesota (to be sure a stamp/cover collector visiting Portland, but still counts). The largest number of participants to date in one of our auctions & 68 of them were successful. Of the 343 lots offered - 304 sold, 38 did not sell (just 11%) and one lot was withdrawn prior to the sale.



WALL TO WALL BIDDERS !!

Gross proceeds including 10% buyers commission: \$14,943.50. The preliminary distribution of proceeds: Consignors (\$10,041.05), NPL (\$1,044.65), OSS General Fund (\$461.55) and OSS Building Fund (\$3396.25, less sales expenses). Prices realized are on pages 11-12.

MANY THANKS TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, AND OF COURSE ALL THE BIDDERS, FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AUCTION!!

NPL --- THANK YOU !!!

Northwest Philatelic Library concluded some nice sales figures during the OSS Auction viewings. We thank you for your patronage and trust that you received good value. We are working up new and better material. Keep an eye out for our next sales. — Charles Neyhart, Pres.

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
1	13	31	N/S	61	40	91	15	121	20	151	34
2	7	32	80	62	50	92	20	122	24	152	28
3	N/S	33	6	63	N/S	93	28	123	60	153	16
4	24	34	N/S	64	11	94	65	124	N/S	154	32
5	55	35	65	65	5	95	30	125	28	155	7
6	9	36	15	66	11	96	N/S	126	40	156	22
7	N/S	37	160	67	42	97	N/S	127	50	157	30
8	26	38	75	68	80	98	N/S	128	100	158	50
9	4	39	19	69	38	99	20	129	100	159	32
10	N/S	40	17	70	22	100	75	130	140	160	40
11	32	41	10	71	40	101	24	131	28	161	18
12	20	42	90	72	28	102	22	132	13	162	N/S
13	28	43	65	73	42	103	26	133	13	163	50
14	8	44	42	74	32	104	10	134	50	164	26
15	34	45	30	75	32	105	40	135	40	165	55
16	N/S	46	12	76	12	106	30	136	70	166	30
17	N/S	47	8	77	10	107	26	137	N/S	167	40
18	10	48	28	78	11	108	500	138	30	168	46
19	24	49	20	79	22	109	24	139	40	169	16
20	11	50	17	80	8	110	55	140	30	170	65
21	16	51	160	81	4	111	75	141	N/S	171	80
22	50	52	160	82	7	112	65	142	N/S	172	19
23	6	53	55	83	7	113	17	143	N/S	173	22
24	14	54	34	84	6	114	19	144	50	174	80
25	16	55	16	85	13	115	24	145	N/S	175	100
26	15	56	10	86	7	116	30	146	16	176	50
27	14	57	25	87	70	117	7	147	34	177	100
28	38	58	14	88	90	118	22	148	50	178	130
29	30	59	55	89	30	119	70	149	30	179	20
30	80	60	N/S	90	55	120	46	150	16	180	40

Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price	Lot #	Price
181	24	211	50	241	60	271	55	301	50	331	W/D
182	30	212	40	242	120	272	14	302	50	332	20
183	60	213	N/S	243	10	273	34	303	N/S	333	26
184	150	214	60	244	46	274	24	304	30	334	24
185	N/S	215	28	245	22	275	15	305	20	335	19
186	N/S	216	18	246	60	276	38	306	38	336	38
187	40	217	16	247	200	277	20	307	N/S	337	22
188	20	218	N/S	248	5	278	50	308	N/S	338	8
189	50	219	16	249	50	279	95	309	15	339	95
190	26	220	N/S	250	5	280	34	310	10	340	24
191	65	221	20	251	26	281	12	311	N/S	341	15
192	200	222	30	252	55	282	44	312	N/S	342	15
193	50	223	12	253	26	283	15	313	10	343	9
194	100	224	30	254	40	284	65	314	18		
195	60	225	5	255	8	285	50	315	30		
196	N/S	226	100	256	N/S	286	20	316	44		
197	140	227	32	257	34	287	22	317	20		
198	170	228	N/S	258	16	288	46	318	80		
199	42	229	55	259	28	289	N/S	319	13		
200	N/S	230	350	260	38	290	17	320	15		
201	26	231	250	261	N/S	291	85	321	4		
202	12	232	N/S	262	70	292	150	322	26		
203	7	233	85	263	60	293	7	323	22		
204	75	234	50	264	70	294	85	324	5		
205	85	235	22	265	30	295	32	325	60		
206	38	236	275	266	110	296	48	326	48		
207	100	237	N/S	267	20	297	130	327	40		
208	30	238	11	268	32	298	150	328	38		
209	17	239	95	269	7	299	80	329	46		
210	N/S	240	34	270	50	300	50	330	20		

“Forever Stamp Program Expands”

United States Postal Service — *Postal News* — January 24 2011 —
News Release 11-27

Gives customers convenience and more choices

Carol Stream, IL – Forever means forever – at least for the new 2011 stamps from the Postal Service.

With the issuance of the *Lunar New Year: Year of the Rabbit* stamp on January 22, 2011, the Postal Service launched a major step forward to enhance the customer experience with the expansion of the Forever Stamp program.

All new First-Class Mail commemorative stamps issued in 2011 and beyond will be Forever Stamps.

Forever Stamps can be used to mail a 1-ounce letter regardless of when the stamps are purchased or used and no matter how prices may change in the future. They never lose value. They will always be equal with the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce rate.

“This customer convenience will allow customers to purchase a greater variety of their favorite stamp subjects and not have to worry about future price changes,” says Northern Illinois postal spokesperson Sean Hargadon. “They will be good forever.”

The Postal Service developed the Forever Stamp for consumers to ease the transition during price changes. The first Forever Stamp, which remains on sale until inventories are depleted, features an image of the Liberty Bell.

This past holiday season, *Holiday Evergreens Forever Stamps*, went on sale October 21, and *Forever Stamp* coils, featuring Lady Liberty and the U.S. Flag were issued December 1.

Now that the Postal Service offers coils, booklets, and Holiday Forever Stamps, almost 85 percent of its stamp program is Forever. Since the Forever Stamp was first issued in April 2007, 28 billion Forever Stamps have been sold, resulting in \$12.1 billion in total revenue. (*Bold, italics* added — ed.)

Regional Stamp Shows

Salem AND Eugene Stamp Show Weekend

The Salem Show is Saturday March 19th at the Best Western Hiway Inn at 4646 N. Portland Rd. – just East of exit 258 off the I-5 in North Salem. The Show runs from 10-4pm. There will be seven dealers, plus a US Post Office. Free parking and admission. Contact person: Gary Tiffin (503-743-2306).

The Eugene Show is Sunday March 20th at the Masonic Center, Lodge 11, 2777 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Eugene. (Directly across the street from Autzen Stadium.) There will be 10 dealers. Word has it that there may even be a number of exhibits.

Local Stamp Shows

Rose City Stamp Fair
Saturday - March 12th at OSS
 Attending Dealers
 Tentative - Subject to Change
 A STAMPS
 BOB BURGER
 LARRY WEINSTOCK
 GRANT WILLIAMS

+++

SOPEX 2011

Southern Oregon Philatelic
Society

April 2-3 2011

Sat. 10-5:30, Sun. 10-4

at the Jackson County Fairgrounds/Expo in Central Point Oregon. 13 stamp dealers, frames of exhibits, a beginner's table and door prizes. Take I-5 to exit 33 and follow signs to the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Contact person: Jerry => 541-245-3136 or at geraldshane@yahoo.com

Club Website =>
www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm

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Full Page	\$110.00	\$22.00

Contact The Album Page Editor

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 NPL Board Meeting 7:00 PM	4	5
6	7 OSS Board Meeting 7:00 PM	8 OSS Meeting 8:00 PM Library opens 6:30	9	10	11	12 Rose City Stamp Fair 10:00-4:00
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 OSS Meeting 8:00 PM Library opens 6:30	23	24	25	26 Collector's Corner 10:00-4:00
27 Harmer- Schau Auction	28	29	30	31		

Upcoming OSS Events

2nd Tuesday - March 8th regular evening meeting. Program: "EFOs 101" by Steve Chown & Charles Neyhart. This is a briefing supported by examples from their respective collections. Re-scheduled from a previous date, due to one of "Mother Natures" weather events.

4th Tuesday - March 22nd regular evening meeting. Program: The Stamps of Austria by Albert Hanson.

Events Around Town

Westside Stamp Club: First Monday of each month - 1 PM @ Tigard Senior Center. —March 7th

Beaver Stamp Club: Third Tuesday of each month, 1-3 PM @ Lutheran Church - 9800 SE 92nd Ave. Portland, OR. --**March 15th**

Harmer-Schau Auction: Sunday, March 27, 2010, 11:00 a.m
****Courtyard by Marriott, Main Ballroom*11550 N.E. Airport Way**** Check their website for the online catalog — <http://www.harmerschau.com>

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