

# THE ALBUM PAGE

October 2011

Volume XXXIV, No. 10, Whole No. 323

President: Eric Hummel

Vice President: Bill Seymour

A *VERY* Busy Month: Harmer-Schau Auction, Postcard and Stamp Show, Gary Hoecker Show, Rose City Stamp Fair and Collector's Corner - Pgs. 16, 11 and 18

## Cover of The Month



Just Another Leather Post Card  
Well . . . not quite.  
This one is from the Battleship Oregon  
in Shanghai China in 1905  
See Page 10

## THE OREGON STAMP SOCIETY

Founded in 1916.

APS Chapter #0068-008234

Member of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs

Come and visit us at [www.OregonStampSociety.org](http://www.OregonStampSociety.org)



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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 NEWS

### CLOSED ALBUMS

Dave Bowers passed away on September 4th 2011. There are no words adequate to express the loss to the stamp collecting community at Dave's passing and the eventual closing of "Unique" (September 24th).

## The President's Corner

**By Eric Hummel**

With the closing of "Unique", we have lost 50% of the Stamp Stores in the Greater Portland area within the last year. Only Panorama Stamps on the West Side and Brookman/Michael Jaffe Stamps in Vancouver remain. There would seem to be an opportunity here for someone to expand their business plan and serve more stamp

## ***The President's Corner, Continued***

collectors. There are other opportunities for stamp collectors and dealers alike now that summer has almost ended.

### ***Collector's Corner***

We have space available for Club members to come and try their hand at selling those philatelic items which they no longer want. Furthermore, the regular member-dealers have been adding to their stock over the summer and have new material for collectors to purchase. The fee to sell is quite modest - only 10% of your sales and a cap of \$15 no matter how much you sell over \$150.

There is also a need for a new Manager for this show. If you have an interest in promoting & running this show, contact me or Ron Sumner.

### ***Rose City Stamp Fair:***

The regular dealers at this show have also been adding to their stock over the summer. Come and see what they have to offer.

### ***Greater Portland Postcard and Stamp Show***

See page 11 - same day as Collector's Corner - go to 2 shows in 1 day and double your pleasure.

### ***Switching Hats:***

As Editor, I have relied on The Dumpster Diver to balance my bias towards covers and postal history with exploits in securing stamps with an interesting history at a miniscule price. So what does he submit this month for an installment in his series - an article illustrating covers scrounged from friends and relatives for FREE. OK - two can play this game. Here is a turn of the Century half cent stamp from China (Sc. #110). I have no idea where/when it was acquired - probably in a remainder lot at some time in the past. It is nicely centered, but with a thin, tiny tear and a corner crease. BUT it does have a September 20 1900 Shanghai Local Post postmark. This Local Post has a colorful history. The first stamps ("Large Dragons") were printed by hand in small quantities - 3 at a time I think. Used copies are known and can sell well into the 4 figure range. None are known to still exist on cover (as of the mid 1990s). This stamp and postmark are certainly no extreme rarity, but is probably at least worth the catalog value.



## ***A Bald Eagle's View***

*By William C. Arbaugh*

While attending the opening of the new bookstore at Pacific Lutheran University, I spotted a book with a postage stamp on the cover. Recognizing the U. S. airmail stamp with the Wright brothers and their airplane, I had to take a second look, which then led to a purchase. Above the postage stamp was a picture of a Bald Eagle with wings outspread, giving meaning to the title, *The Bald Eagle's View of American History* (Charlesbridge, 2006). It is a simple little book written for children by Charles H. Colman and illustrated by Joanne Friar.



As a theme for his story, the author chose a selection of U.S. stamps, some of them with pictures of an eagle but all the others having an allusion to the eagle, beautifully illustrated in watercolor and colored pencil illustrations. For example, the 4¢ airmail (Scott C48) has the picture of an eagle, but the stamp portraying "the first Americans who crossed over from Asia" (Scott C131, pre-Columbian) relies on the artist's drawings and the text to allude to the eagle, which sailed above the Bering land bridge. In the author's notes he points out that a Bald Eagle skeleton has been excavated in Alaska and dated as 8,740 years old and fossils of Bald Eagles in the California tar pits are 40,000 years old. Below this particular stamp the author wrote:



"For thousands of years Bald Eagles have soared above America. The white-headed bird watched branches break and rocks roll when Ice Age glaciers smashed forests and scooped out lakes. Eagles flew overhead when the first people arrived."



## A Bald Eagle's View, Continued

In the foreword Colman wrote: "Stamps have mesmerized me since I started my first collection at age five," adding that "stamps are works of art that often celebrate national milestones, symbols or prominent people." For this particular book he chose the Bald Eagle, America's national emblem, as the unifying theme under which one could view the "sweep of American history."



A page on native people features a stamp picturing an American Indian (Scott 565) with an impressive feathered headdress.

The following page describes the arrival of European settlers (Scott 1027) and has the artist's drawing of an eagle watching the arrival of some ships.



The stamp on the book's cover is appropriately featured under the chapter title "Airplanes Share the Skies" (Scott C45) with the following text:

"Bald Eagles still flew above the shores of North Carolina when Wilbur and Orville Wright brought their glider there in 1900. A salty breeze sang from the sea. The brothers discussed how eagles and other birds could soar and stay over one part of the beach without flapping their wings."

Moving on across the years, there were amazing achievements in human abilities to move through the air and even into space. Many of us were glued to the television views of the

leaps into space, even the reach to the moon. Under the stamp "First Man on the Moon" (Scott C76) Colman wrote:



"People around the world, some of whom had been alive when the Wrights first flew, switched on their TV sets in 1969 when Americans reached the moon. "The Eagle has wings," said Neil Armstrong. He turned his small lander, named the Eagle in honor of America's symbol, away from the mother ship and flew toward a gray surface... [As he] eased the lander past a boulder and spoke again... 'The Eagle has landed'."

As America's national emblem, the eagle has appeared on many stamps and has served effectively as a unifying theme for a broad view of American history, but in this book intended for children the author also makes the point that "eagle ecology intersects much of our experience," noting that eagles were endangered by extensive use of DDT. Some pages later he wrote that naturalists had brought the big bird back to some of the places it had left and by the year 2003 there were about 13,000 birds. "Once again, an eagle hovers above the Wright brothers' beach."

This delightful little book will not be found among the specialized volumes of philatelic research but it could easily inspire children to take an interest in postage stamps and the countless topics these stamps suggest. As birthday or Christmas gifts, this book might inspire some children to become philatelists. It has certainly provided this writer some moments of pleasure in leafing through *The Bald Eagle's View*.



## THE DUMPSTER DIVER CHRONICLES # 9

by John Lowell

This month the dumpster diver touches on a topic that is near and dear to his heart, namely getting things for free. The scrounging of philatelic material is something the dumpster diver had much practice at in his early years. The dumpster diver recalls visiting a great aunt in the 1960's and happily cutting out dozens of Japanese stamps off covers from the turn of the century. Of course the stamps are now virtually worthless and the covers are now worth \$10 each or so.

The dumpster diver has learned his lesson and now solicits material for postal history rather than for just the stamps. For one who collects postmarks and has an interest in obscure locations, a best friend to have is an amateur radio operator. Through a friend, the dumpster diver has acquired dozens of postally used covers from such diverse locations as Pitcairn Island and the tiny hamlet of Mt Pleasant in the Falkland Islands pictured here as well as places like Easter Island, Norfolk Island, St Vincent etc. etc. A virtual goldmine!



Family members are also a good resource for the scavenging philatelist. The dumpster diver was able to acquire a collection of various aerogrammes with numerous clear cancels from various Japanese towns from his parent's correspondences. The aerograms themselves catalog for up to \$80 each in the Japanese specialty catalog. The one pictured here has a very nice cancel from the very small town of Ushiku in Chiba prefecture.



Our next episode will explore some political geographic changes as evidenced in postal markings. It may sound like the title to a thesis but trust me, the dumpster diver does not delve into the serious academic realm (how can I with Charles around).



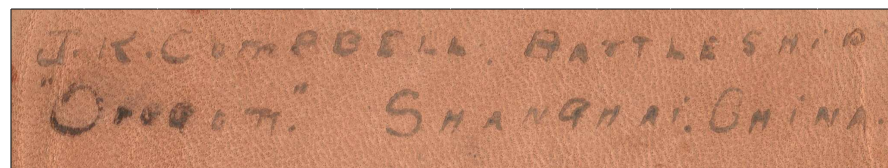
## Battleship Oregon in Shanghai China

By Eric Hummel



Reverse of the card, franked with a China #116 and postmarked Shanghai October 5 1905. Addressed to Gilroy California

Mail of any kind is scarce from the Battleship Oregon. U. S. ships did not have post offices until 1908, so all mail from the ship was postmarked from land post offices where the ship was at harbor. The Oregon had been decommissioned at the Puget Sound Navy Yard in 1906 and remained there until 1911. Recommissioned in 1911, it still did not get a "Post Office" until May of 1912. The P.O. was closed in June of 1919. For some reason, during this seven year period, very little mail was actually postmarked from the ship. All mail from the



Along the left vertical edge of the card: "J. K. Campbell. Battleship Oregon. Shanghai, China."

Oregon is highly sought after by Naval cover collectors and others.

Brief historical sketch. The Oregon was launched in 1893 and commissioned in 1896. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War the ship was ordered on March 9th 1898 to sail around South America and join Admiral Sampson's Fleet near Cuba. In 66 days the ship traveled 14000 miles and arrived in Florida on May 24th. This feat swept away the opposition to building the Panama Canal - 2 months was simply too long to send ships from one coast to another in a time of emergency. After a successful campaign against the Spanish fleet at Cuba, the Oregon again went around South America and joined up with the Asiatic Fleet at Manila in May of 1899. It supported ground forces during the Philippine Insurrection of that year. In 1900 the Oregon sailed the waters off Japan and China during the time of The Boxer Rebellion. The ship returned to Puget Sound for an overhaul in 1901 and returned to the Asiatic Station in 1903. Visiting various Chinese, Japanese, and Philippine ports, the Battleship remained in the Far East until returning to the West Coast in February 1906. She decommissioned at the Puget Sound Navy Yard April 27th 1906.

So this leather postcard was mailed during the ship's second tour in the Far East, before returning to Puget Sound and a long rest.

## Northwest Productions Presents The Greater Portland Postcard, Stamp & Paper Collectibles Show

October 22 and 23, 2011

Kliever Armory  
10000 NE 33rd Drive  
Portland Oregon

Old Postcards, Photographs, Stereo View Cards, Books, Stamps, Valentines, Matchbooks, Magazines, Prints, Maps, Trade Cards, Movie Posters and Much More !

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Admission: \$5 (Good for Sat. & Sun.)

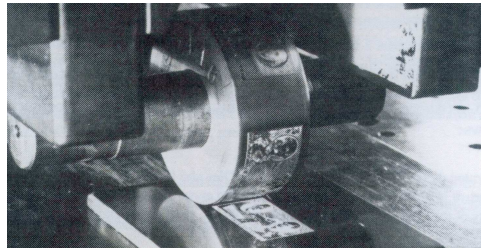
For more info contact: Terry Weis - 503-679-4755

**Program Notes - August 9th 2011**  
**An Evaluation of Catalogued “Types”**  
**of U.S. Stamps**  
*Presented by Charles Neyhart and Steve Chown*

The word “**type**” has been used philatelically in different ways, sometimes in conjunction with or as a surrogate for the terms “die,” “flaw” and “variety.” As a descriptive term, “type” distinguishes similar things, that is, it provides recognition for differences between those things. Embedded in this, of course, is that a difference exists and that it matters. This is particularly important for cataloging purposes.

Different stamp catalogs are not consistent with the use of the term. Some do not use the term at all, instead using different terms. Individual catalogs are sometimes not consistent over time. Similarly, those that do use the term vary in classification, that is, whether to simply note it, treat it as a minor number, or assign it a major catalog number.

We adopt George Brett’s working definition of a “type” to indicate a design difference – no matter how it was arrived at. So what is a design difference? It can be any difference of some constancy and importance, all the way from simply a point up



A transfer roll in use creating a printing die  
- rotary “type”

to a major design revision prior to printing plate production, such as coming from a die, transfer roll relief, or master negative. Reconciling this definition with what has actually transpired in the stamp catalog raises reasonable questions of application, the answers to which may not be as obvious or as clear cut as we would prefer. “Types” ought to be sufficiently apparent, constant enough to unequivocally differentiate them for identification purposes, and clearly traceable to the die or transfer roll [or an equivalent medium].

Specialists often decide what to collect based on the catalog; on the other hand, how specialists discuss and collect may inform the catalog treatment. There are both emotional and financial considerations in play here, neither of which is unsubstantial. Labeling a stamp a “type” and its catalog treatment may impose important collector implications.

The first *Scott Specialized Catalogue* lists U.S. postage stamps issued through 1922. There are a total of 30 stamps identified as types and sub-types, beginning with the one-cent 1851 Franklin. For the same array of stamps, the 2011 *Specialized Catalogue* lists 47 types and sub-types. Odd? Not necessarily, as long as the criteria are comparable. What we sensed, though, is that these “types” were not necessarily cut from the same cloth.



Scott basic design type  
A5-A9 and A20 of the one  
cent Franklin stamps.

Then there is the matter of the degree of recognition afforded types in the catalog. Some are merely noted in the catalog description; others are assigned a minor catalog number; and yet others rate a major number. Then there are those items for which the catalog description changes over time, or not. How to decide? This is not a new discussion thread among collectors.

Identifying a “type” means potentially one more stamp to collect. And, if you are inquisitive, the differences may better allow you to understand the stamps and how they were produced.

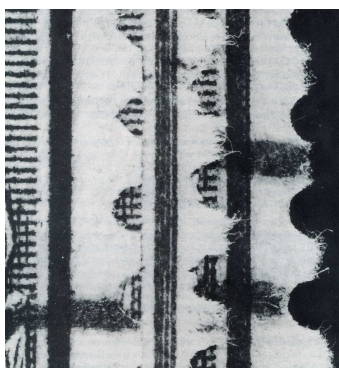
But many collectors form their collections around major catalog numbers. These collectors, with an almost irresistible “urge to complete,” are today faced with the intimidating prospect of filling more than a few open album spaces with major-numbered “types.” Yet, many of these same collectors might not be terribly interested in acquiring the listed “types” if some of them are catalog-rated as minor number varieties, or if their differences from the major-numbered stamp are trivial and the stamps are artificially and indefensibly expensive. Who loses here?



## “Types” of U. S. Stamps - Continued

The first example we examine is the *engraved* two-cent Washington-Franklin design, Scott 406. Originally printed on the flatbed press, it was subsequently determined that the Type I die was not suitable for use on the rotary press. The process of curving of the printing plates caused certain engraved parts of the image, principally the larger frame lines, to widen and to force the bottom of an engraved line outward or toward the surface, thus leading to ink mashing.

To remedy this, the single thick frame line used for the Type I was replaced by four thin lines which coalesced upon printing into a single frame line. This is the Type II design. Not long after, the frame line



Frame Engraving: Type I,  
Type II and Type III  
-George W. Brett

was again re-engraved this time by substituting a matrix of points for lines in engraving the frame line, a process repeated many years later and for the same reason in preparing the Type II 15-cent Holmes in the Prominent American series, Scott 1288a. This produced the Type III design. [The creation of the Type Ia, Scott 482 and 500, was not the result of inking problems as for Type I, II and III. Rather, it was an attempt to speed up the production of printing plates by using a transfer roll with 10 reliefs of the Type I design.]

Our second example, intrinsically related to the first, is the *offset* printed two-cent Washington-Franklin design, Types IV through VII, including Va. We recommend reading the catalog description of the differences among these stamps, some of which seem trivial and perhaps only an unintended artifact of the offset method. The focus here is to examine the evolving catalog treatment of these stamps. The original 1923 catalog included all offsets, then limited to Types IV, V and VI, under a single number, Scott 436. By the 1932 catalog, the perforated stamps were separated from the imperforates as Scott 526 and 532, respectively. By 1957, the catalog had morphed to its current

configuration, expanded now by the addition of Type Va and VII. No explanation was given for the changes.

The last catalogue use of the term “type” was the 1982 20-cent Rocky Mountain Bighorn, Scott 1949c. This is not to imply the subsequent elimination of design differences. Initially, these differences were assigned either a major or minor number with a verbal note of explanation. Two examples, one from the Transportation series and the other from the Flora and Fauna series are shown here. There has been no explanation given for the change in terminology.



Sc. #2128 plate number coil pair with inscription 18.5mm long and joint line (on top). Sc. #2231 plate number coil pair with inscription 18mm long and no joint line (on bottom). Both are listed in Scott as design type A1511.

Since the mid-1990s, U.S. definitives have been produced by multiple printers often with different stamp characteristics. Inasmuch as the catalog separates by major number each printer’s output, any design differences are described in a note. For example, the 2008 four-design Flag series [Scott 4228-4247] includes a printer’s set with a larger sized paper vignette and year date, which are described in a note to the issue. We do not know if this would have, by itself, resulted in a major or minor number if the series had been produced by a single printer.

The resources of Northwest Philatelic Library proved most useful to our preparation.



Sc. #3044 PNC pair on top and #3044a PNC pair on the bottom. Both are listed as design type A1841. The only difference being the size of the date. It is 1mm long on #3044 and 1.5mm long on #3044a





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mdd10@att.net**

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raising activities to ENHANCE  
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clude Direct Mail, Individual  
gifts, Planned Giving, Corpora-  
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sorships, Grants, Web Site and  
others.

For Additional Information  
Please Contact  
Ron Sumner 503-860-9162  
or at [rmsumner1@juno.com](mailto:rmsumner1@juno.com)

# NPL

Northwest Philatelic Library

Portland, Oregon



## BOOK REPORTS

September-October 2011

Now Online at =>

[www.nwpl.org](http://www.nwpl.org)

Stamp Puzzle  
This should be easy (?).



There are equal size pieces of 12  
US stamps in this composite pic-  
ture. How many can you identify?

Next month - a little harder.

Answer: Sc. #742, E19, CE2, 651, 976,  
370, 627, 1123, 855, C10, 745.

The September-October issue of Book Reports leads with an  
article by Charles Neyhart, "Modern Reissues of  
U.S. Classics," followed by an interview with  
auction agent Rance Curtis clarifying the role of  
the stamp auction agent and  
explain certain actions taken  
by an agent during an auc-  
tion. A new "Stumper," Li-  
brary News & Notes.



Plus the fourth installment  
of Janice Weinstock's donation of her  
Aerophilatelic library are included.



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even send your email address to us at [nwpl@qwestoffice.net](mailto:nwpl@qwestoffice.net) and we  
will send it to you.

## Portland Stamp Fest

( Gary Hoecker )

**Saturday: 15 October 2011**

**10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

Shilo Inn Convention Center

Willamette 1 Room

11707 NE Airport Way, Portland

**Attending Dealers:**

Tom Kinberg                  Gary Tiffin  
Ice Bear Stamps          Gary Hoecker

Dave Markowitz

**Next Show: 17 December 2011**

Portland Stamp Fest

Shilo Inn

**Phone:** (503) 698-4128

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*Contact The Album Page Editor*

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## Local Stamp Shows

### *Collector's Corner*

**Saturday - October 22nd  
at the OSS Clubhouse**

All OSS members may come and  
have a table to sell or trade  
philatelic items.

### *Rose City Stamp Fair*

**Saturday - October 8th at OSS**

Attending Dealers

ASTAMPS  
BOB BURGER  
GARY HOECKER  
ROGER GUTZMAN  
GRANT WILLIAMS STAMPS

## October 2011

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

## Upcoming OSS Events

**2nd Tuesday** - October 11th regular evening meeting. Program: Maps on Stamps by Margaret Campbell-McCrea.

**4th Tuesday** - October 25th regular evening meeting. Program: A Mini-Auction event. An opportunity for all members to sell a few items and to add to their collections. Bring up to 4-5 items. A popular activity - over 50 lots were offered at the last Mini-Auction in June.

## Events Around Town

**Westside Stamp Club:** First Monday of each month - 1 PM @ Tigard Senior Center. —**October 3rd.**

**Beaver Stamp Club:** Third Tuesday of each month, 1-3 PM @ Lutheran Church - 9800 SE 92nd Ave. Portland, OR. --**October 18th.**

**The Greater Portland Postcard, Stamp & Paper Collectibles Show:** October 22-23 at the Kliever Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Drive. Postcards for FREE admission to the show will be available at the OSS Clubhouse on October 22nd during Collectors Corner. **COME AND ATTEND TWO SHOWS IN ONE DAY!!!!**



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