

THE ALBUM PAGE



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President: Steve King

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Vice-President: Stephen Brandt

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THE OREGON STAMP SOCIETY

Founded in 1916

APS Chapter #0068-008234

Member of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs



Oregon Stamp Society

4828 NE 33rd Ave
 Portland OR 97211-7058
 OSS Message Phone Number:
 503-284-6770

The Album Page is published 12 times per year by the Oregon Stamp Society Foundation.

A subscription to this award winning newsletter is included as a part of the annual membership dues (regular \$28, associate and youth memberships \$26). 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. OSS is not responsible for the accuracy of any information presented here.

ABOUT OUR CLUB

Regular meetings are held in the OSS Building, 4828 NE 33rd Ave. on the second Tuesday of each month at 2 PM and the fourth Tuesday 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 9 AM to 3 PM.

The Stamp Collector's Corner also is an official OSS Bourse, and is held on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9AM to 3 PM.

Visitors Are Always Welcome

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Sales Manager:

Vacant

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Michael Bloom

OSS News

The Oregon Stamp Society welcomes Doug Sponseller who will step into the vacant director position. Doug has collected stamps for almost 40 years. He collects U.S. stamps and postal stationary and is a member of OSS, the Salem Stamp Society, and the APS. Welcome!

PIPEX 2023

OSS Volunteers

The Oregon Stamp Society will again have its own table at PIPEX. We would like to have members at the table at all times for two-hour slots while PIPEX is open and running.

It is a chance to meet and talk with fellow collectors and support the activities of the club.

You can sign up at the general meetings and at the second and fourth Saturday bourses. Or stop by the table during PIPEX and pick a slot that is best for you.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This month I thought readership might be interested in how your *Album Page* newsletter is produced. The OSS has produced more than forty volumes of the newsletter, starting with a single page, mimeographed sheet. The current style of half-letter style size for ease of mailing and reading began in 2010. Beginning with the January 2022 issue color was introduced.

Production begins a month or more before you actually receive your copy. Articles and images are submitted to the editor, ads are solicited, the cover image is selected, and the calendar of events is updated. Eric Hummel was the editor for twelve years. Beginning with the January 2023 issue Dennis Ladd assumed the editor role.

Dennis uses Microsoft Word to develop *The Album Page*. Usually several drafts are produced for writers to review. The final draft is proofread by several including myself. It is then sent electronically to our printer, Tosh Matsumoto of In and Out Printing, with instructions to print 200 copies. The cost of printing is primarily covered by the Oregon Stamp Society Foundation. The single copy printing price is about \$1.25 each.

The printed *Album Page* is delivered to OSS where a team of several members stuff envelopes and apply mailing labels and postage stamps (now 63 cents.) The weight of *The Album Page* and envelope is kept to one ounce to avoid the extra ounce postage cost. I'm sure all are aware of the OSS perforated initials on the stamp. The perfin has been a regular feature since 1980 and is a laborious process as the perforator can do only a stamp at time. This prep work takes most of an afternoon.

Then the bundle of about 150 mailings is off to the post office. Eric has usually been the delivery person and has had a relationship with certain clerks who allowed him to use their pictorial canceler. This step may be coming to an end. With the reduction in services by the USPS, it is now difficult to find a pictorial canceler at a nearby post office and Eric must travel quite a distance to find one. In total, eight to ten people put in a combined effort of at least 50 hours each month to produce our newsletter. The cost of each delivered *Album Page* is about \$2.

We have received very favorable comments from members since *The Album Page* went to color. We are submitting the twelve issues for 2022 to the Philatelic Literature judging at the Great American Stamp Show, August 10-13 in Cleveland. I'll let you know the results and judges' comments this fall.

Think about submitting an article to Dennis on a favorite topic of yours. It does not have to be a finished product; editors will help with that.

Until next time, happy collecting and maybe writing.

Correction By Steve King

In last month's article on West Coast Airmail Service an erroneous date was entered into the text. At the top of page 8, the correct date for the cover under discussion is 1938 not 1934.

Also, the 6 cents airmail postage is, in fact, correct.

Please delete the discussion in the next paragraph about the 8 cent rate.

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An Important Columbian Postal Artifact

By Steve King

I am sure that members of OSS, when asked what their favorite commemorative stamp may be, many would respond, the Columbian Exposition issue of 1893. This is the first commemorative set issued by the US Post Office Department (POD). The set numbers 16 values, \$.01 to \$5.00. Scott 230-245 is listed with a 2023 catalog value for nice used set at \$4,443. A total of 1.5 billion of the 2 cent and 27,000-55,000 of the \$1-\$5 values were printed. Many of the dollar values remained unsold and were later destroyed by the POD.



The illustrated subject piece was included with the recent donations to OSS from deceased member, Bill Weihofen. Bill joined OSS in 2013 and was active in the club until his death in October, 2022.

Several at OSS have studied this piece and commented they had never seen anything like it.

Postage

The piece is 11" x 12" cut down from a package wrapper from one bank to another. It was registered on November 4, 1893 in New York and addressed to London where it arrived on November 13, 1893. The New York registry cancel is a black, oval double-circle commonly used for parcel post. Each stamp was individually canceled with a black, undated, oval double-circle.

The received cancel in red is the London registered handstamp, known as the "hooded circle." Also of note is the red etiquette registration label from New York, #95802. The crossed blue crayon lines indicate registered mail.

Addressee and Recipient

The package was posted by Drexel, Morgan Co. of New York, established in 1871 lasting with this name until 1895. The Drexel partner was Philadelphia banker Anthony J. Drexel, founder of Drexel University. The Morgan partner was Junius S. Morgan followed by his son, J. Pierpont Morgan. The company reorganized and became J. P. Morgan in 1895. The recipient was Messrs. J. S. Morgan and Co., No. 22 Old Broad Street, in London, EC, England.

Stamps

The piece is franked with 34 stamps totaling \$14.79 in postage, nearly \$500 in today's dollars. Thirty-two of the stamps are Columbians. Thirteen out of the set of 16 Columbians were used. Making up \$.20 in postage were two Scott 266 stamps.

Columbian Stamps Count					
Value	Number	Postage	Value	Number	Postage
.01	3	.03	.15	1	.15
.02	3	.06	.30	3	.90
.03	5	.15	.50	1	.50
.04	0	--	1.00	0	--
.05	4	.20	2.00	2	4.00
.06	4	.24	3.00	1	3.00
.08	2	.16	4.00	0	--
.10	2(1 md)	.20	5.00	1	5.00

The thirty-two Columbian stamps have a value of \$14.59.

(continued on page 8)

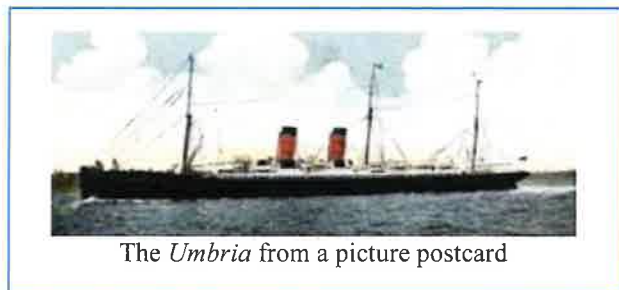
An Important Columbia Postal Artifact - continued

At this time it is not possible to decipher the required rates for this package, other than the ten cent registry fee. Obviously the package contained financial instruments or assets; e.g., money, stocks, bonds, etc. Much of the fee was likely indemnity with the remainder being US POD, ship, and British transport fees.

Postal Route

The package left New York, on November 4, 1893, aboard the RMS *Umbria* (see the upper left marking "haste *Umbria*"). The Cunard Line's *Umbria* sailed the Liverpool, Queensland, New York route with her first voyage on November 1, 1884. She went out of service in 1910. The *Umbria* and her sister running mate, *Ertruria* were the largest and fastest liners then in service. Along with mail, the *Umbria* could carry up to 1,460 passengers and a crew of 560. Sailing time, one way, was a little over six days.

After arriving in Liverpool, the mail likely went overland to London. In this instance our subject piece was nine days in transit, New York to London.



Questions

What does the 148 in upper left signify? It was likely added in New York. It is in the same blue crayon as the registration crossed lines. What comprised the \$14.79 in postage fees? What does the penciled 3 in the lower right indicate?

What Is Next

The piece will be sold separately from the other Weihofen donation material. It is expected to fetch a substantial amount. The receipts will be added to our OSS remodel budget.

A 12" x 12" color reproduction of this piece is available at OSS for the asking.

*Please Consider Gifting your Philatelic Books,
Stamp Supplies & Stamps to your Library,
Especially your Philatelic Literature to...*

The Northwest Philatelic Library

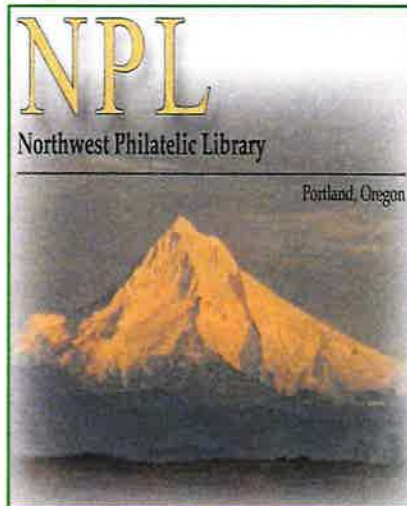
The NPL is a 501(c)(3) corporation, independent of the OSS & OSS Foundation. Gifts are tax deductible.

The Library is open to and serves the greater Northwest public.

Individuals do not need to be members of the NPL or OSS to use the Library. Proceeds from your gift assures the future of the NPL and its ability to serve the public and OSS members. The NPL will find good homes for all of your material. Lesser materials are donated to youth outreach, **FIRST STAMPS**.

The NPL is an all volunteer organization.

Contact: Isaac Oelgart 971.570.5889



BOOK REPORTS

The Current Issue is
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An Earlier Columbian Piece By Eric Hummel



This image and a descriptive note can be found in the *Postal History Journal* published May 1992. It is from an ad on the inside, front cover to promote the Philatelic Foundation's PF certificates.

The note reads: "The largest recorded usage of the 1893 Columbian issue, recently submitted to The Philatelic Foundation, is the subject of its certificate No. 236,700. The \$49.34 franking paid for a parcel from Bangor, Maine, on February 19, 1897. The American Line steamship St. Paul carried the parcel from New York on February 24 to Southampton."

There must be others like this and the Weihofen piece sitting in other collections waiting to be discovered.

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT COULD BE DISPLAYED HERE!!

Advertising Rates

	1 issue	6 issues
1/8 Page	\$ 3.50	\$ 17.50
1/4 Page	\$ 6.00	\$ 30.00
1/2 Page	\$11.00	\$ 55.00
Full Page	\$22.00	\$110.00

A Plea to the Stamp Collecting Community from the Oregon Stamp Society Foundation.

This year, OSS members saw a big improvement in the monthly Album Page newsletter. The color images are a vast improvement over the previous black and white images. Of course, this improvement didn't come without additional cost. The OSSF has agreed to cover this substantial additional cost.

The OSSF sole source of income comes from donations. Donations from people like you. We are reaching out to stamp collectors asking for donations to keep this project alive.

Any donation that you can contribute to the OSSF would be greatly appreciated. This could be cash or in-kind donations. Donations can be dropped off at, or mailed to, the OSS building.

Or please contact OSSF President, Dave Epps, at depps55@gmail.com.

Let's keep the Album Page in color.

SHOW ANNOUNCEMENT

The Pacific Northwest Postal History Society will host a sale
at the Oregon Stamp Society

March 18, 2023
10AM-4PM
4828 NE 33rd Ave.
Portland, Oregon

Seven or eight members will be offering postal history for sale.
The public is welcome.

Contact: Steve King - 503-620-6879 - skvk47@gmail.com

Oregon's First Post Office in Astoria

By Dennis Ladd

The Astoria post office was "the first American post office to be established on the Pacific Coast."¹

Although the first post office in Oregon was established in Oregon City in 1845, it was established by the provisional government of Oregon Territory, not by the federal government. Astoria received the first U.S. Post Office in March of 1847. The Astoria post office building also has a claim to being the first permanent federal building built in the Northwest. Both the Portland and Astoria post office buildings were started in 1869 but the Astoria building was completed in 1873 and the Portland building in 1875.²

The original building was demolished in 1931 to make way for the present post office, built in 1933.



The original building: image from an old picture postcard

¹ Helbock, Richard W. Oregon Post Offices. Raven Press, 1982. Available in the NPL.

² National Register of Historic Places Inventory. Nomination Form for Federal Properties: Significant U.S. Post Offices In Oregon - 1900 to 1941. United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, 1985.

Retrieved from https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/GetAsset/NRHP/64000702_text.



Changed Your Phone # or Email Address?
Keep the issues of *The Album Page* coming!

Send changes of your contact information to:

Oregon Stamp Society
4828 NE 33rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97211

Or email to:

ephummel@easystreet.net

or

oregonstampsociety@gmail.com

Seeking PIPEX Volunteers



PIPEX 2023 is just around the corner. The show dates are Friday, May 5 through Sunday May 7. Hopefully, each of you will be able to attend the show.

A successful stamp show is dependent upon volunteers. The PIPEX show committee is putting out the call for volunteers. In addition to attending the show, the committee is hoping that you might be able to donate an hour or two of your time to help out.

The Volunteer Sign-Up list is now up and running on the PIPEX website. The website can be found at pipexstampshow.org. Once you get to the website, you can click on the Volunteer link to see the volunteer positions that need to be filled, Signing up is simple.

As an incentive, all volunteers will be given a \$5 voucher that can be used at any of the dealer tables during the show.

The show committee would appreciate any and all volunteer help.

We hope to see you at PIPEX 2023.

Local Stamp Shows

Rose City Stamp Fair

Sat. – March 11th @ OSS Clubhouse - 9 AM - 3 PM

Attending Dealers in no particular order:

- ◆ Charlie Mathews - World Wide Stamps and some Covers
- ◆ Gary Hoecker - Quality US stamps.
- ◆ Cyrus Markowitz – Covers, Covers, Covers.
- ◆ Bob Burger -Wide selection of WW Stamps & Better Covers
- ◆ Isaac Oelgart (NPL Store) -US/WW Stamps & Supplies
- ◆ Larry Weinstock - Postal History & Quality WW stamps.
- ◆ Steve Frumkin - US and Worldwide – Stamps and Covers
- ◆ Steve King - US and WW stamps; postcards; postal history.
- ◆ OSS Store Sales (Side Room) - Postage, WW Stamps & Covers

PLEASE CALL to reserve a table with the show manager
Charles Mathews (503-730-7197).

Call your favorite Dealer(s) ahead of time and ask them to bring items you are looking to add to your collections.

Collector's Corner

Sat. March 25th @ OSS Clubhouse - 9 AM - 3 PM

If you haven't joined in on the fun, come and see the extensive stocks of stamps, covers and supplies of our regular dealers:

- ◆ Charlie Mathews - World Wide Stamps and some covers.
- ◆ Ula Mae Neligh - 19th and 20th Century Used US.
- ◆ Isaac Oelgart (NPL STORE) - US/WW Stamps & Supplies.
- ◆ Larry Rothman – Liquidating Rainier Philatelic Stock.
- ◆ Steve King - US and WW stamps; postcards; postal history.
- ◆ OSS Store Sales (Side Room) - Postage, WW Stamps & Covers

All OSS members may come and have a table to sell or trade philatelic items - there are space limitations - so . . .

PLEASE CALL to reserve a table with the show manager
Charles Mathews (503-730-7197) or Isaac Oelgart (971-570-5889)
The fee is only 10% of what you sell (up to a \$20 max. fee)

March 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Fri.	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Webfooters Postcard Club 9:30 am – 2 pm
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Rose City Stamp Fair 9 am – 3 pm NPL 9 am – 2 pm Board Meeting 3 pm
12	13	14 General Membership Meeting 2:00 pm Library Opens 1:00 pm	15	16	17	18 Postal History Bourse 10 am – 4 pm
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Collector's Corner 9 am – 3 pm NPL 9 am – 2 pm
26	27	28 General Membership Meeting 8:00 pm Library Opens 6:30 pm	29	30	31	

Upcoming OSS Events

2nd Tuesday: March 14th 2:00 pm General Membership Meeting
Program to be announced

4th Tuesday: March 28th 8:00 pm
Program to be announced

Events Around Town

Westside Stamp Club: Usually the First Monday of each month.
(Northwest Christian Church 13405 SW Hall Blvd, Tigard) at 1 PM.