The Philatelic Missive

August 2023

#699
August 1968

THE COVER STORY

OVAL DUPLEX CANCELS

Items that go through the postal system contain lots of information. The addressee may be the first item one looks at, with the stamp a close second. Or maybe the stamp is first.

The stamp will tell us the country of origin of the item, and perhaps its weight or the transportation method, like airmail, or special delivery, for example. The return address might be helpful, as well. **Then there is the cancel.** Cont'd on page 4

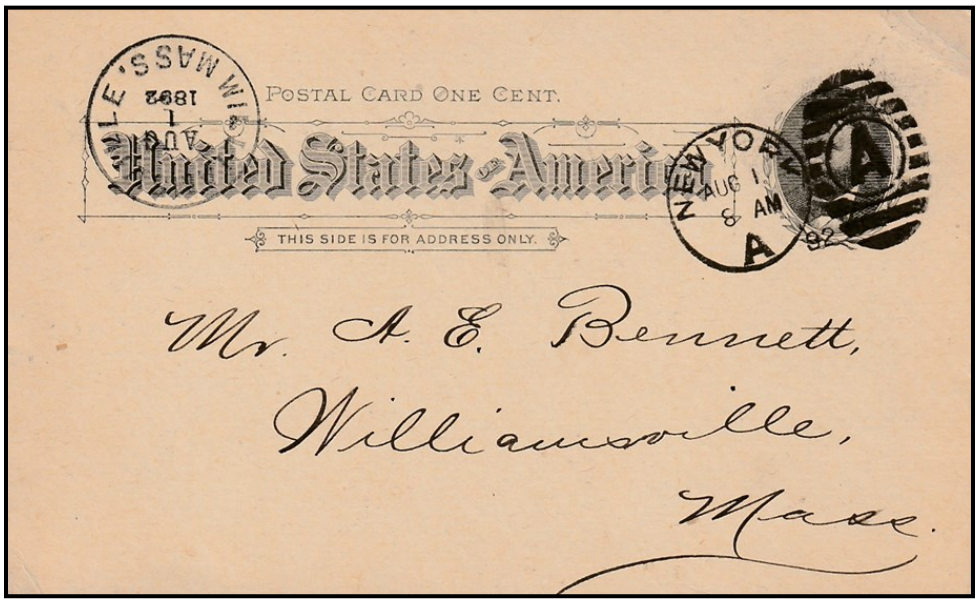


Figure 1

Upcoming Schedule—August and September

**** Pre-meeting sessions**

August 3rd CFSC starting at 2:00 pm CFSC members time to work on philatelic interests, use the club catalogs, etc.

August 17th starting at 2:00 pm CFSC hosting the German Philatelic Society meeting—all are welcome to attend. CFSC members can even come during that time and work on their own philatelic interests in another part of the room.

August meetings will be in the ballroom!!!!

August (1st meeting) "Called Auction" and a $10.00 door prize

August (2nd meeting) Presentation by Phil Fettig on **"Collecting Naval Covers-Do It the Traditional Way"** followed by a silent auction, Door Prize will also be available.

September (1st meeting) Presentation by Bob Fischer on "**Azad Hind stamps of WWII"** followed by a silent auction**.** Door prize available,

September (2nd meeting) Presentation by Steve Patrick on **"The 1876 Philadelphia Exhibition–the 1st US World Fair"** followed by a silent auction. Door Prize available and **3rd Quarter Birthday celebration.**

July Meetings Recap

(1st meeting) A Member **"Show & Tell"** was conducted with six CFSC members doing a brief presentation. Six people met for dinner; three people attended the pre-meeting and 28 people attended the meeting. Including two guests Tom Hart won the $10 door prize. A silent auction was conducted with 22 lots sold—total sales $136.25.

(2nd meeting) The German Philatelic Society met and had 4 people in attendance prior to the CFSC meeting. 8 CFSC members met for dinner and 26 members attended the meeting and 2 guests. Steve Patrick did a presentation on **"Orlando by Postcards"** followed by a silent auction—17 lots sold with total sales of $140.50. John Bailey won the $10 door prize.

Event Calendar 2023

Maitland one-day stamp show:
Sept. 9th - FSDA Autumn show
Maitland Civic Center

FLOREX 2023 December 1-2, 2023
Volusia County Fairgrounds—Deland
For more info: www.FloridaStampShows.com

Newest Members

Welcome new members:

Norman C. Hinds Jr. # 766 from Wabasso, FL has joined. He is also a stamp dealer; a member of APS, FSDA & USPCS and has an interest in U.S. Fancy Stampless covers and Newburyport, MA covers. Welcome Norman!

Who will be new member number 767?

Dinner Plans

There are plans to meet at 4:30pm at the Chuan Lu Garden at 1101 E. Colonial Drive. Located on the north side of Colonial Drive one block west of Mills Ave. There is plenty of parking behind the restaurant. Bring your appetite – and topics for discussion.

Great American Stamp Show

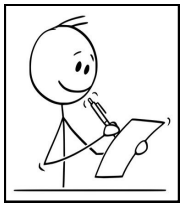
APS, ATA & AFDCS sponsors
August 10-13, 2023
Cleveland, Ohio
More info:
https//stamps.org

Quoted

"Learning never exhausts the mind."

Leonardo da Vinci

The Editor's Box



Reminder—submit your articles for the newsletter! Articles can be typed up in word with scans and attached to an email.

Submit articles to: **Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org**

The Icelandic souvenir sheet that will be issued on August 23rd to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first Icelandic postage stamp.

SURPRISE!!! Iceland is no longer philatelically a "dead country". The new souvenir sheet will include four self-adhesive stamps with the motifs depicting four natural Icelandic phenomena - northern lights, rivers, lava flows and glaciers.

This will be the first new stamps issued by Iceland since the end of 2020. The stamps will be used for 50 /100 gm letters sent to Europe and sent outside of Europe. I placed my order for the new set of stamps already!

President's Message by Mike Schumacher

Greetings CFSC Members: Hopefully, everyone is keeping cool and having a wonderful summer!

⇒ I will be away both CFSC meetings during August—attending to family matters in MN and attending GASS.

⇒ CFSC will be well represented at GASS with Robert Sazama (dealer) having a booth and a total of four exhibits by Thomas Lera, Donald Bourassa and myself. Additionally, other CFSC members have attending the show on their schedule. Recent indications are that it should be interesting and well attended show. My schedule at the show will checking out Martin Mork (engraver) and doing some volunteer hours for both the APS and ATA, in addition to trying to sell a few more of my books and some recruiting for FLOREX 2023 (hopefully some more exhibits and dealers).

⇒ **August meetings will be in the ballroom!!!** (due to floor remodeling taking place in our regular room).

⇒ **FLOREX** plans continue to progress—show cachets have been printed; cancellers created; 19 dealers currently signed up and 5 exhibit applications have been received. More exhibits are still needed. Opportunities to volunteer are still available **An exhibit chairperson is still needed!** If interested, please let me know. The next FLOREX planning and discussion meeting will be taking place at my house on Saturday, August 26th.

⇒ **Opportunities for CFSC members to get involved and help the club moving forward into the future are always available. Your skills and talents can be put to good use for the club. If you have computer skills the club could use your help on a variety of projects (i.e. assisting with club meeting auction results recording; updating the website; FLOREX show program book, etc. etc.) Other skills also needed.**

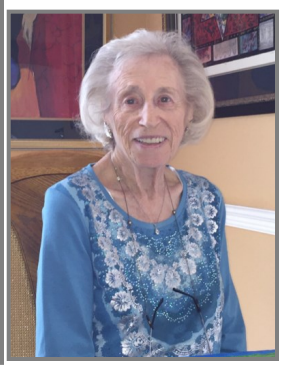
⇒ **Election time approaches for CFSC— current two year terms for the Board members ends in January. So if you are interested in serving on the Board, nominations will be accepted later this year. Board members assist with conducting CFSC business to keep things functioning well and in the best interest of the club and it's membership. It's an opportunity to get involved and help lead the club into the future. More information to follow at upcoming meetings and in the newsletters. If you have an interest in serving on the board and want to know more about what is involved, just ask current board members—Mike Smith, Carlos Guffain, Richard Cohen, Mel Borofsky, Newt Kulp, Stephen Patrick, James Cooney, Jerry Eller or myself. Nominations and candidates' bio's for potential Board members should be submitted to the Election Manager by November 1st so they can be compiled and published in the December newsletter.**

⇒ **NEEDED: An Election Manager—to prepare nomination sheets, create ballot, collect and count the ballots.**

⇒ **Reminder: Maitland one day show—Saturday, September 9th, 10 am to 4 pm.** Maitland Civic Center, Venue by the Lake, 641 Maitland Ave. S. Maitland, FL 32751 Volunteers needed for the Registration table. Signup sheet at August CFSC meetings. Attend and check out the dealer's new stock.

⇒ Sad news again for CFSC - in July the memorial service was held for Scot Cornwall (**for more info about Scot see article in December 2022 Philatelic Missive**) and we said; "Rest in Peace" to Lottie Cohen long time CFSC member and Richard Cohen's mother. (see article below)

Member Spotlight - Another Album Closed - Lottie M. Cohen



Lottie Cohen (1925-2023)—had been a CFSC member since February 1990. Her philatelic interests included Israel stamps -singles and with tabs. She hadn't been able attend club meetings much in awhile, but she really enjoyed getting and reading the CFSC club newsletter.

She was a caring, compassionate, nurturing woman of many talents. She liked to raise flowers, especially African Violets which she bred and showed. She was a member of the African Violet Society. She loved dogs, cats and people. She was also a volunteer at Orlando Health for more than 60 years and contributed more than 22,000 volunteer hours with them. She made a difference at Orlando Health and made the world a better place. She will be deeply missed but always dearly remembered. Rest in Peace Lottie Cohen (mother of CFSC member Richard Cohen).

Cover Story: OVAL DUPLEX CANCELS

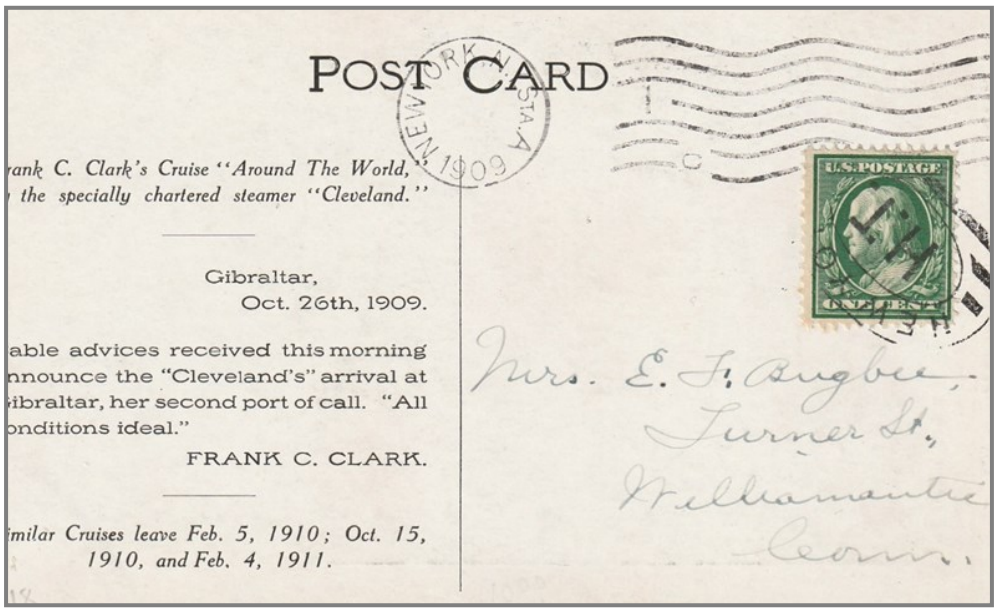
By: Josh Furman

Cont. from front cover

The first use of the cancel was to mark the stamp as used, so it could not be used again. Then the U. S. government wanted more information about how the mail was handled, so it added a date to the cancel. That helped, so a mailing location was added. For some cancels a time of mailing was added as well. One type of cancel I study quite a bit is the alphabet duplex cancel. This contained a circular printing that showed the Post Office from which the piece was mailed, and possibly the date and time. Next to this was a "killer" over the stamp. The "killer" also varied, so it could include a clerk number or a Station Letter as the New York postal service grew.

Figure 1. (shown on the front cover) is an example of a **New York duplex cancel from Station A.**

But mail did not always come from a regular source or contain simple documentary information or be destined for a similar kind of Post Office. So before and during the use of these duplex cancels, another type of cancel was used, frequently called a "double oval" cancellation. Figure 2 is what they looked like.



(Stamp enlarged)

Figure 2

These oval duplexes were not only used in New York. But they were used for special effects all over the country. Some indicated Registered mail, some air mail, some indicating multiple uses of the same stamp.

Here are some more from New York:

The K cancel (Figure 3) is from Station K in New York. Perhaps when it was used in 1891 it didn't fit the cancelling machine so couldn't get a normal alphabet duplex cancel. The envelope measures only 4 ½ inches by 2 ½ inches. Oval duplexes are known from every New York Station, not just Station K.

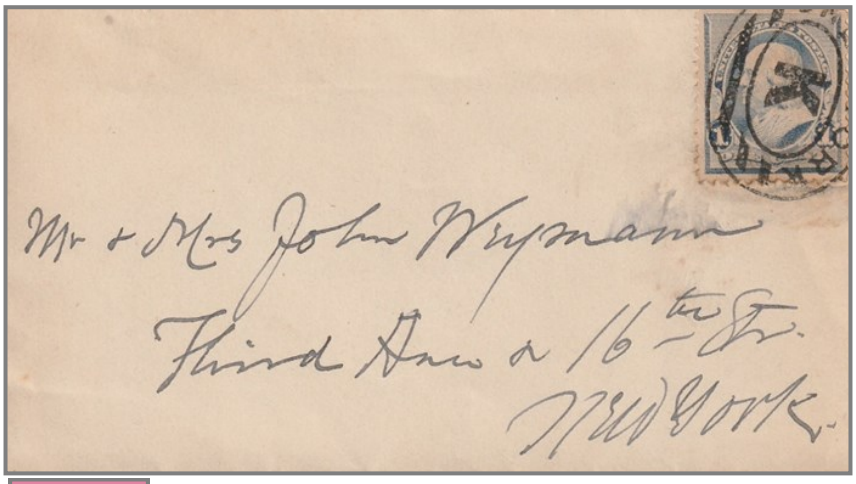


Figure 3

Cover Story: OVAL DUPLEX CANCELS cont.

Figure 4 shows GPO and OMS in the oval. The GPO is not in use any longer, but stands for General Post Office. The OMS was probably for overseas mail service as the card is the reply half of a card coming back from Honduras. OMS is also an obsolete term. The CR represents a mailing from the Circular Room. Back in the 1880s circulars got special treatment since the same mail went to many different addresses.

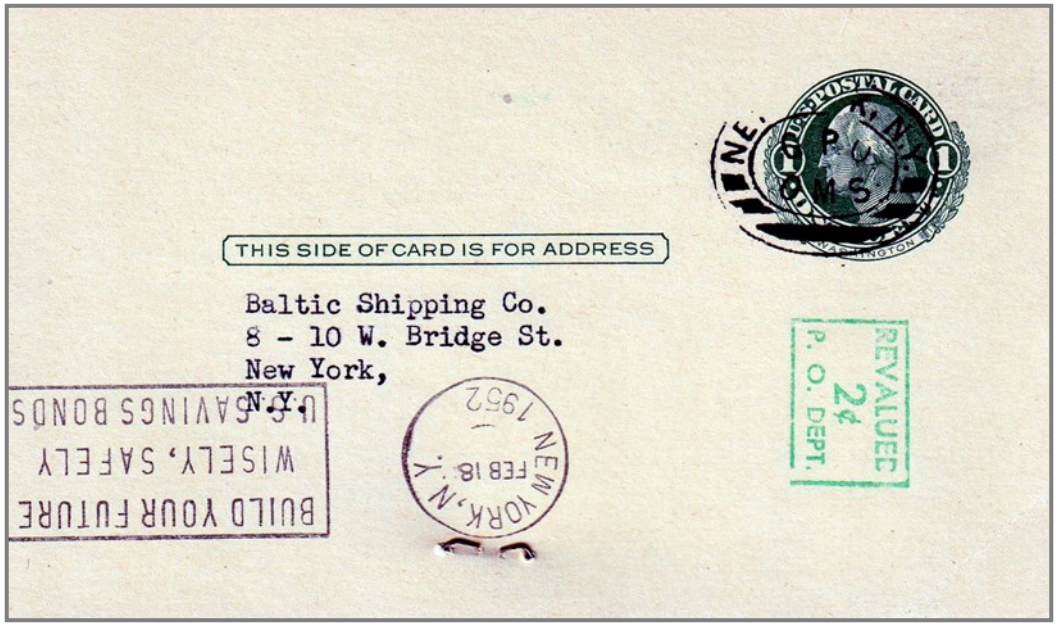


Figure 4

These oval duplexes were not only used in New York. But they were used for special effects all over the country. Some indicated Registered mail, some air mail, some indicating multiple uses of the same stamp. There is a Document 32 pages deep in the Post Office files that lists hundreds of initials and combinations of initials, some of which may be found inside these oval duplex cancellations. Have fun looking for covers with these cancels, and good luck finding them.

Found some on stamps?

1. New York
2. Philadelphia
3. Boston
4. New York
5. Chicago
6. ? ork (New York?)
7. ? ooklyn (Brooklyn?)
8. ? hington (Washington?)
9. Detroit (also perforated B&R)
10. ? Y
11. Baltimore
12. Philadelphia
13. ? Wall…

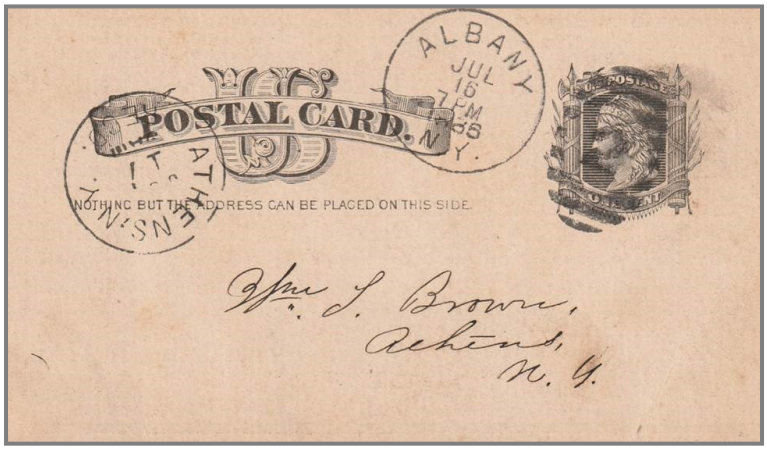
Editor

THE ALBANY BOATMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION

by Josh Furman

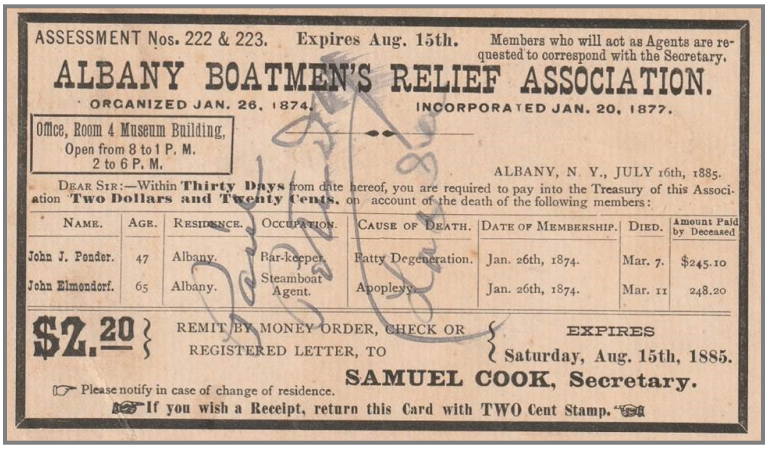
Among my philatelic interests are two that involve U. S. Postal Cards, and both of those are concerned with the cancels that appear on these kinds of cards. The first, of course, is the use of precancels on U. S. Postal Cards, the subject that was explored in my book on these titled, appropriately, *U. S. Precanceled Postal Cards 1874 – 1961.*

But I also developed an interest in collecting duplex cancels on postal cards. That was what led me to acquire the card pictured below. It has an Albany N.Y. duplex cancel with a number 2 in the horizontally-barred oval.



Adding to its interest is the fact that it also has a receiving cancel from Athens, N.Y. on the day after the card was posted in Albany.

But when I turned the card over, I was even more impressed with what I saw on the back: an assessment notice from a "Relief Association". This jumped out at me because I have cards from two other "relief associations", those from two cities in Maine who used precanceled cards to request their assessments, North Bridgton and South Lewiston.



ASSESSMENT Nos. 222 & 223. Expires Aug. 15th. Members who will act as Agents are requested to correspond with the Secretary.

ALBANY BOATMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

ORGANIZED JAN. 26, 1874. INCORPORATED JAN. 20, 1877.

Office, Room 4 Museum Building, Open from 8 to 1 P. M. 2 to 6 P. M.

ALBANY, N. Y., JULY 16th, 1885.

DEAR SIR:—Within **Thirty Days** from date hereof, you are required to pay into the Treasury of this Association **Two Dollars and Twenty Cents**, on account of the death of the following members:

Name.	Age.	Residence.	Occupation.	Cause of Death.	Date of Membership.	Died.	Amount Paid by Deceased
John J. Ponder.	47	Albany.	Bar-keeper.	Fatty Degeneration.	Jan. 26th, 1874.	Mar. 7.	$245.10
John Elmendorf.	65	Albany.	Steamboat Agent.	Apoplexy.	Jan. 26th, 1874.	Mar. 11	248.20

$2.20 REMIT BY MONEY ORDER, CHECK OR REGISTERED LETTER, TO

EXPIRES Saturday, Aug. 15th, 1885.

SAMUEL COOK, Secretary.

Please notify in case of change of residence.

If you wish a Receipt, return this Card with TWO Cent Stamp.

The North Bridgton one was called, "Odd Fellows' Mutual Relief Association of Maine", and the South Lewiston's was called, "Patrons' Mutual Aid Society of Maine". And now I find one from Albany, NY that was called "Albany Boatmen's Relief Association". I began to look for more information about this Relief Association. It was not easy to find. But I did locate something about it in a volume called, *The Empire State: its industries and wealth: also an historical and descriptive review of the industries and wealth of the principal cities and towns in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Columbus, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, and Westchester counties,* by Warshaw Collection of Business Americana. The publication date was 1888, and the publisher is listed as American Publishing and Engraving Co. of New York. I mention the publication in case others would like to research their interests from this time period.

This publication's pages are in two-column format, so an article that runs across columns or pages is tough to download in sequence. I have copied and pasted together the article on the Albany Boatmen's Relief Association so you could read it in proper sequence.

Here it is:

Albany Boatmen's Relief Association, James S. Campbell, President, Samuel Cook, Secretary.— One of the most useful, economically managed and honorably conducted of the benefit associations of the State of New York is the " Albany Boatmen's Relief Association." Its mission is one of the most humane and beneficial

possible, and since its organization on January 26, 1874, it has had a growth and secured a class of worthy membership. The association was incorporated on January 20, 1877, and its by-laws and regulations are clear, just, and based on the principles of true life insurance, pure and simple, provided without any "extras" or unnecessary expenses whatever. The mutual system is here seen at its best.

Though known as the " Boatmen's " Association, any citizen in good" standing, and in good health, under fifty years of age, can become a member. The membership is largely boatmen and those connected with river pursuits, and no better risks can be had; the rate of mortality is very low, and the assessments are small, and the association is in an excellent financial condition, and we wot4d advise aL who seek to make sure provision for their families after their death to insure here. The admission fee is only $3, and the assessments are very low, being graduated as to ages, from 90 cents to $1.35, payable at each death, except when there is $10,000 in the association's treasury, when no assessment is levied. The average amoimt of hfe insurance paid over is $1,500, and the association is in a solid flourishing condition; a purely mutual concern. The officers who are as follows: president. Mr. Jame-s R. Campbell, the well-known steamboat agent;

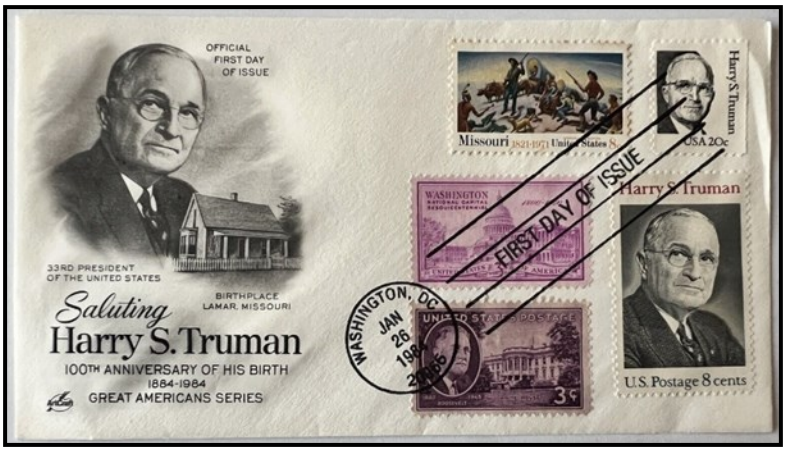
vice-president, Mr. R. B. Rock, iiilluential in conmiercial circles, and likewise a popular steamboat agent; treasurer, Mr. P. Kinnear, long a prominent brass founder of Albany; secretary, Mr. S. Cook, an energetic and popular officer, who faithfully discharges the duties devolving upon him ; the association's attorney is Mr. Galen E. Hitt.…

In another volume, the *Report on Insurance Business in the United States at the Eleventh Census, 1890* there was a note that this business, the Albany Boatmen's Relief Association was closed in 1889. Unfortunately I could not find anywhere what the membership of this organization was at any time during its existence. This card represents the 222nd and 223rd assessments, so there have had to be hundreds more of these notices distributed to members over the fifteen years that this company was in business. I have not seen another card like this one.

I did some further searches for Boatmen's Relief Association, and didn't find one. I searched for "relief" associations and found many for firemen or firefighters all over the country as well as some for Civil War veterans and folks from other countries. But nary a one for Boatmen's Relief Association.
So it looks like New York, and Albany in particular is unique in tending to Boatmen's relief!

Stupid eBay, #10, The Buck Stops Here……

By Francis Ferguson



Listing: "ERROR 1984 US HARRY TRUMAN FDC COVER WITH DIAGONAL CANCEL, WASHINGTON DC." Offered at $248.40 with free shipping. 30% off purchase price with an order of 3+ items.

Where to start?

First of all, the FDI is correct for the stamp in the upper right corner. This is a pretty cover that someone spent some time and effort to create. All of the subjects have a direct connection to Truman. This is a common Artcraft cachet with minimal intrinsic value. The diagonal cancel is nothing special – it simply accommodates the cancellation of the five-stamp arrangement. It is not an error as the seller so claims. Real value is maybe $2 to a topical collector.

Questionable eBay, # 11 "Orangeburg Coil –Yes?

By Francis Ferguson

Listing: "Orangeburg" coil (US Scott 389), 1911, 3¢ deep violet, S.L. watermark, the "Orangeburg" coil (Scott 389), an attention-grabber with deep, rich color and razor-sharp detail; fresh and sound with a wavy line machine cancel, a Very Fine example of this rare stamp, Scott values this item in the grade of Fine, with 1997 P.F. certificate. Scott $10,000.

Quoting from the certificate from 1997, "It is genuine, reperforated vertically, and has creases and tiny thins." Opening bid of $3,500; buy it now of $5,750. Shipping $33.33. Seller does not accept returns.

The second image is an example of one sold by Siegel Auctions for $9,000. The auction details are as follows: *The Orangeburg coil was made by the Post Office Department in 1911 specifically for use by the Bell Pharmaceutical Company. The 3c coil stamps were used to send samples of their products to physicians. Due to the quantity of mail, they were put through the first-class cancelling machine at Orangeburg, New York. Because the coil stamps were used on envelopes containing products, many if not most of the surviving copies are faulty to some extent, with creases being the most common problem. The example offered here, in sound condition and with choice centering is a wonderful exception.*

There is no argument that this is a great rarity and is very rarely seen in the marketplace. This listing has been hanging around a popular online site for several cycles with no apparent action. The picture provided is at best substandard in today's era of digital images and there is no picture of the back. The certificate from 1997 most assuredly should be updated. The certificate notes reperforated --- however it does not specify which side – which in my opinion it should. My best guess is the left side is reperforated.

I truly do get the concept of wanting to fill every empty spot on a page, however I most often strive for quality when buying an item – avoiding reperfs, thins and creases just makes sense to me. The chances of me ever having the financial resources to purchase a sound Orangeburg coil are virtually zero –unless I win the lottery!

Your opinion is?

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David L. Moore

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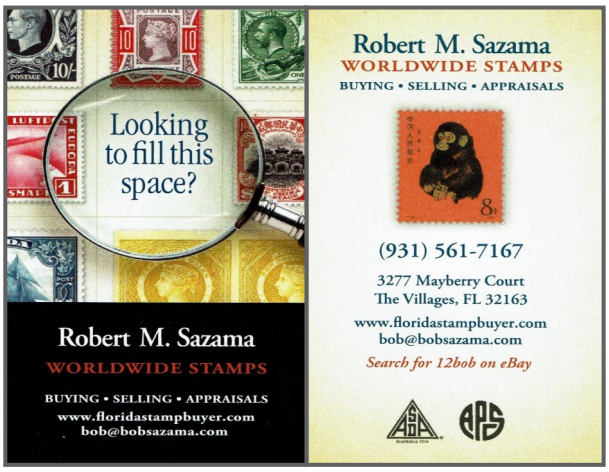

NORMAN C. HINDS, JR. PHILATELICS

P.O. Box 700273
Wabasso, FL 32970

Phone: 772-589-3741
Email: nch143@aol.com

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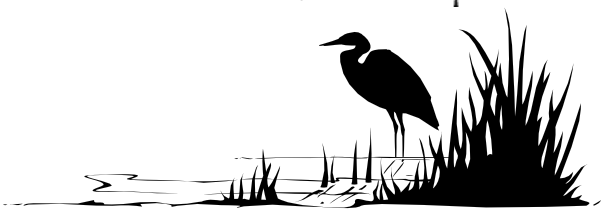
APS # 083032

The Central Florida Stamp Club is a 75+ year old organization governed by a Board of Directors elected by the general membership every two years and dedicated to the enjoyment of the hobby of stamp collecting.

- Membership is a reasonable $25 per year, $6 for youth.
- Meetings are twice a month on the first and third Thursdays.
- The Membership of the CFSC includes many diverse interests that cover the range from A-Z.
- The meeting is centrally located to downtown Orlando and can be easily accessed from SR 50 (Colonial Drive) and I/4.
- The Marks Street Senior Center has been our host for more than 25 years and provides a pleasant meeting room with easy access and plenty of free parking.
- The informal part of the meeting is prior to 6:00pm. The business side of things will be brief. Cried auction and/or presentation to start at 6:15 until 7:15 Followed by auction wrap up and informal discussions. We must be out of the building by 8:00 without exception.
- The Membership of the CFSC participates as the host and sponsor of the one day shows in February, April, June & September. In addition, we are the resident hosting club for FLOREX which is held in the Central Florida area.
- The CFSC maintains a website: CentralFloridaStampClub.org
- Benefits of membership include; monthly newsletter, access to loaner equipment & catalogs, participation in door prize drawings, the right to submit and bid in cried/silent auctions — and much more.
- As of 01.2023

Central Florida Stamp Club



NOTE: Opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the authors placing articles, and are not reflective of the CFSC or any members.

The Editor of this newsletter, Mike Schumacher can be reached at E-mail address
Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org

CFSC Officers (2022/2024)

President	Mike Schumacher
VP-Programs	Mike Smith
VP-Operations	Carlos Guffain
Treasurer	Rick Cohen
Secretary	Mel Borofsky
Director-at-Large	Jerry Eller
Director-at-Large	Newt Kulp
Director-at-Large	James Cooney
Director-at-Large	A. Stephen Patrick