



#699  
August 1968



## THE COVER STORY

### The Boer War and Censored Mail 1899—1901

By Donald Bourassa

The term Boer, derived from the Afrikaans word for farmer, was used to describe the people in southern Africa. They traced their ancestry to Dutch, German and French Huguenot settlers who arrived in the Cape of Good Hope.

Over the years many gold and diamond mines in South Africa were controlled by Britain. As a result the British army had a presence there to supervise their interests. Tensions rose following a Boer ultimatum that the British should cease building up their forces in the region.

Why did Great Britain fight in the south of Africa? *MONEY.*

The South African War, or the Boer War, was the first major conflict of a century that was to be marked by wars on an international scale.

At the start of the war, Boer men would attack from the countryside. The British then rounded up the Boer women and children and put them in concentration camps. This slowed the Boer attacks.

The British also called on their colonies to send additional troops.

At the outbreak of war, Britain ruled Natal and the Cape of Good Hope. The Boers held Transvaal and the Orange Free State.

Cont. on page 4

## Upcoming Schedule— 2024

**\*\* Pre-meeting sessions in 2024 will only be on the third Thursday of the month from 2-4pm. CFSC will continue to host the German Philatelic Society at that time, but CFSC members are welcome to use the room and equipment during that time.**

### Upcoming May Meetings:

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>**—“Members Show and Tell” followed by a silent auction, door prize available.

**May 16<sup>th</sup>**—Presentation: “*Identifying U.S. Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers*” by Newt Kulp; silent auction and door prize available.

### Recap of April meetings:

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**—Called auction was conducted with auctioneer Jim Cooney; assisted by David Zambon, Dan Wagenknecht, Jerry Eller, Mike Schumacher; 28 lots sold with total sales of \$781.00; door prize was won by Jeff Small & the Maitland show prize was won by Fred Bohle. Five members got together for dinner; 29 members and 2 guests attend the meeting.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>**—Presentation “*Double Take—Color Omissions on U.S. Stamps*” by Mike Smith; was followed by a silent auction— 20 lots sold with total sales of \$367.25, door prize was won by John Kennedy & Members signed a card for the Borofsky family.

**\*Summer Show— Maitland Civic Center— June 1, 2024**

**Venue on the Lake 641 Maitland Ave. S. Maitland, FL  
10am-4pm**

(same hours and location for all Maitland shows)

**Fall Show— Maitland Civic Center—Sept. 7, 2024**

For more info: [www.FloridaStampShows.com](http://www.FloridaStampShows.com)

**FLOREX 2024 December 6-7, 2024**

**Friday 10am-5pm & Saturday 10am-4pm**

**Tommy Lawrence Arena**

**Volusia County Fairgrounds—Deland, FL**

**More info: [www.FLOREXStampShow.com](http://www.FLOREXStampShow.com)**



**Great American Stamp Show 2024  
Hartford, CT August 15—18, 2024  
More info: <https://stamps.org>**

## Newest Members

Welcome to our newest member(s):

**David Girshoff—member number 772.** He is a retired Editor and his collecting interests include: Pre-WWI picture postcards/worldwide. Welcome David!

Who will be new member number 773?

### \*\*\* Pre meeting Dinner Plans:

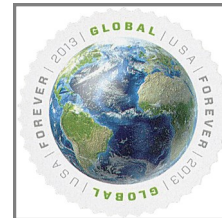
Club members are invited to meet for dinner prior to the meeting at the Chuan Lu Garden at 1101 E. Colonial Drive at 4:30pm. Located on the north side of Colonial Drive one block west of Mills Ave. Plenty of parking behind the restaurant. Bring your appetite – and topics for discussion.



**Boston International  
Stamp Expo  
May 23-31, 2026  
Boston, Massachusetts  
More info at:  
<https://boston2026.org>**

## Quoted

“You may not always see the results of your kindness, but every bit of positive energy you contribute to the world makes it a better place for all of us.” By Lisa Currie



2013 Global Forever International rate Stamp  
Designed by Greg Breeding using artwork by Italian artist Leonello Calvetti, with satellite images & 3-D computer technology

## The Editor's Box



Newsletter articles **needed** for 2024 Philatelic Missive!

Articles can be submitted via a word document with scans

and attached to an email. Thank you!!

Submit articles to: **[Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org](mailto:Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org)**

Mimi stopping by the April Maitland Stamp show to drop off some treats after just completing a half marathon! Now that is dedication to the stamp club! Thanks Mimi!



## President's Message by Francis Ferguson

A little of this and that.

I am writing this on April 20 – recovery has been slow but steady. The major hurdle is to build back stamina levels to something close to normal. I am working towards that goal. My world has mostly revolved around sleeping, reading and walking for the last 7 weeks. It is time for some variety.

I do appreciate all those that have stepped up to cover during my absence. I am expecting to attend meetings starting in May – it will be nice to rejoin the philatelic world. The social interaction goes a long way towards making things feel more normal.

Thank you to one and all for the kind words of encouragement.

In recent weeks I have been pondering history – specifically of the CFSC. The club has been in existence for over 80 years during which there have been challenges at times – but in the grand scheme of things -- the club has survived. If you have not read the history of the club, please avail yourself of the great series of articles penned by the late David M. Allen that can be found under the HISTORY tab on the website.

Be well, be safe and above all else be kind.

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**We all at CFSC wish any and all CFSC members who are dealing with the challenges of various health matters a full and speedy recovery!!!!!!!**

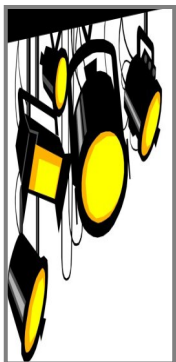
**Especially, Francis Ferguson, Carlos Guffain, Don Degraw and Jerry Freisinger who all have recently been in the hospital.**

**We also send our condolences to the Melvyn (Mel) Borofsky Family. (See more info on page 6)**



**Our prayers and support are with you on your journey to recovery!**

### Member Spotlight— Bill Johnston



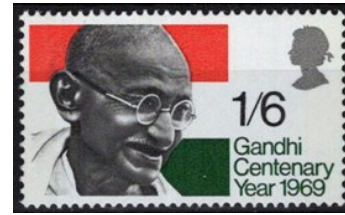
Bill Johnston has been a member of CFSC since January 2013. His journey into the philatelic world began in a small town in East Tennessee, as he needed to earn another Merit Badge and the Scout Master suggested Stamp Collecting. The scout stamp album was ordered and a trip to the local 5 and 10 store to purchase a packet of stamps, thus began a childhood adventure. Early on he learned that Elmer's glue was not the best method of storing stamps in the album. The adventure was shelved for other usual teenage attractions, career and married life. In 1976, while in California at a flea market, the philatelic interest was rekindled by a \$20 purchase of an old stamp album from a vendor's table. Later, his wife joined "The Stamp Collectors Widows Society". His collecting interests have progressed from attempting early worldwide to Pitcairn Islands, postal history of East Tennessee and Winchester, Virginia to proper rate period usage of modern U.S. postal cards. He says that the richness and knowledge of the community of collectors has been invaluable and encourages the continued support for each other in our friendships as we pursue our philatelic journey. THANKS, Bill for your contributions to the CFSC and the Philatelic community!

# Cover Story: The Boer War and Censored Mail 1899—1901 cont.

By Donald Bourassa

Even non-Europeans got involved. While living in South Africa, Mahatma Gandhi created the Natal Indian Ambulance Corps during the war. **(1)**

(Stamp is Great Britain Scott #600)



The British sent women and children to concentration camps, (both white and black peoples) in order to remove the source of supplies and equipment from the Boer Commandoes. A crusading English lady, Emily Hobhouse, alerted the world to the horrors of the camps and was seen as a saint in both England and South Africa. **(2)**



(Stamp is Republic of South Africa Scott #469)

On the British side, troops came not just from Britain but also from other parts of the empire, especially Canada and Australia.

Australian troops arrived in South Africa in late December 1899. The Australian military arrived after a series of British defeats known as “Black Week”. (Dec. 10–17, 1899) During that time 2,300 British and allied soldiers were killed or wounded by the Boers.

*“English Canada pressured Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier to send an official contingent to serve the British mother country.” **(3)***

Laurier:  
YES  
Send Troops

Canada Scott #144



Henri Bourassa, who was elected to the House of Commons in 1896, was the face of French-Canadians. He was against sending any troops. In his book “Henri Bourassa”, A. Roy Petrie wrote:

*“Bourassa failed to see how a few thousand farmers in South Africa could possibly be a threat to Great Britain, let alone to Canada.” **(4)***



Bourassa:  
No  
Don't Send Troops

Canada Scott # 485



Prime Minister Laurier compromised and allowed volunteer troops to go and fight with the British.

Cont. on page 5



## Cover Story: The Boer War and Censored Mail 1899—1901 cont.

### Censored mail from Southern Africa during the Boer War

Letters from Southern Africa were carefully examined by censors. Mail was opened to insure sensitive information about British troops and tactics was not being spread out of South Africa.

Official rules for the guidance of Press Censors in Southern Africa

A Press Censor will be posted to every Column and important Station.

All letters are liable to censorship.

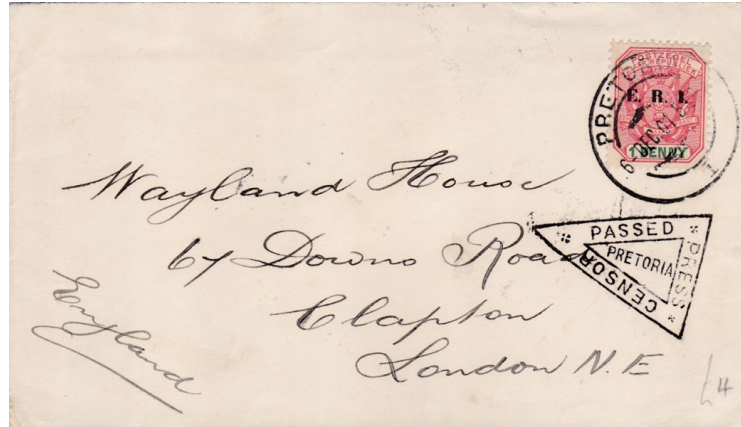
Casualties must not be given by name without confirmation.

Private messages should be confined to personal or business matters. **(5)**

The cover above was opened at top, inspected and then struck with a handstamp:

“PASSED PRESS CENSOR”.

Letter was sent from Pretoria. Pretoria was the capital of Transvaal at that time. The cover has a Pretoria circular dated cancel of Dec. 6, 1901.



The stamp is Transvaal Scott # 248

**(5)**



One penny rose

Cape of Good Hope (Scott #60)

This cover was also opened at top before being inspected and hand stamped:

“PASSED PRESS CENSOR”.

The circular cancel is from Bedford, Cape of Good Hope and dated Oct. 13, 1901.

Conclusion: The Boer War was orchestrated by England towards the end of what was then known as the mighty British Empire.

Requests made to other British Colonies for additional troops was met with tepid acceptance and vocal opposition.

In the end the Boer Republics came under British control becoming the Orange River Colony and Transvaal Colony.

Today these lands and others make up the Republic of South Africa.

#### Resources:

- (1) Stanford Indian Press “The South African Gandhi”
- (2) Encyclopedia Britannica
- (3) Canadian War Museum
- (4) Henri Bourassa, A. Roy Petrie
- (5) AngloBoerWar.com

## Closed Album — Melvyn (Mel) Borofsky

Melvyn (Mel) Borofsky (October 1940—March 2024) (83)

Mel had been a stamp collector most of his life with the usual gaps due to education, family and military pursuits. Mel had been a member of the Central Florida Stamp Club since July 2009. He was an active member of the CFSC having served in many capacities and his contributions to the club will be deeply missed. He had served on the CFSC Board since 2016 and had served as the Board Secretary for almost as long. He enjoyed being a part of the decision making and leadership aspects of the CFSC. He had shared his expertise and knowledge in marketing and computer graphic art by designing the FLOREX cachets and cancellers for the past ten years. He also edited and distributed the CFSC “Bourse” for over ten years—which provided an opportunity for CFSC members and dealers to advertise, as well as buy and sell philatelic material. He was a regular volunteer staffing the Maitland and FLOREX stamp shows. In 2018, Mel was the recipient of the CFSC Service Award.



Mel’s involvement and participation in philately extended far beyond just the CFSC. He was also a member of the—American Philatelic Society (APS), American Topical Association (ATA), American Society of Polar Philatelists (ASPP), Christmas Seals & Christmas Seal Society (CSCSS), Channel Island Specialist Society (CISS), and the Plate Number Coil Club (PNC<sup>3</sup>). Mel served as the Treasurer for the PNC<sup>3</sup>.



Mel served in Vietnam during his military career and had also long been a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary where he served as Editor of their newsletter.

Mel is survived by his wife Michelle, who often attended the CFSC Holiday Parties.

Thank you Mel, for your years of service and contributions to the CFSC, your dedication, friendly, cheerful smile and personality will be sincerely missed at CFSC functions.

Rest in Peace! Mike Schumacher

### Remembering Melvyn (Mel) Borofsky:

“As a newbie to the club in 2020, one of the first members to welcome me and show me around was Mel. I recall how much he was involved with the day-to-day activities. I joined at FLOREX in 2019 just before covid and my first interaction besides joining was talking to Mel about the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the moon landing. He had designed the cachet. He was also in charge of the raffle at the show of which I purchased a lot of tickets (but did not win). As soon as March 2020 came along and the world went into shutdown mode, the club ceased meetings. It wasn’t too long after that Zoom meetings commenced. I did not have a camera to participate and didn’t want to be bothered but it was Mel that helped me get up and running! I was happy to because as soon as I could participate, I did a presentation and contributed in a couple show and tells. Mel also prodded me to get further involved. I guess you can say Mel is credited with getting me to becoming a contributing member. I had many fond discussions with Mel in such a short time. I will miss him dearly.

Rest in Peace, my friend—Mike Smith”.



Photo by CFSC member  
Bob Ridgeway

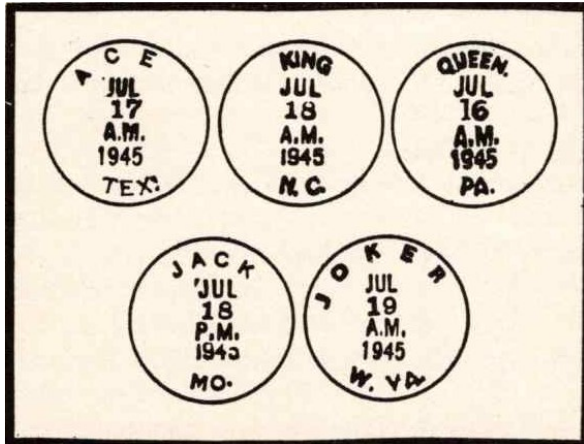
Members of CFSC have already begun a collection to be donated in memory of Melvyn (Mel) Borofsky to the American Philatelic Society. If you wish to make a donation contact CFSC Treasurer Rick Cohen.

## A few interesting Postmarks!

By Mike Schumacher

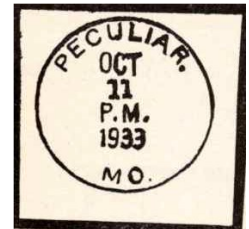
I would suspect that most stamp collectors have taken note of a few postmarks, as they sorted through their stamps (unless of course they only collect mint stamps). But if we play our cards right, as we shuffle through our piles of stamps, we might be surprised that we could be holding some interesting cards (I mean postmarks). Yes, it is possible to be holding the Ace, King, Queen, Jack and Joker of postmarks.

(R12 US Internal Revenue playing card stamp issued 1862) >>



1. “Ace” is a small community in Polk County, Texas on state highway 146.
2. “King” is located 15 miles northwest of Winston-Salem. Population 2020—about 7100.
3. “Queen” is located about 16 miles north of Bedford. The post office in Queen closed in 2005. Its zip code was 16670.
4. “Jack” an unincorporated community in Dent County, southeast Missouri.
5. “Joker” is an unincorporated community in Calhoun County, West Virginia named after Joker Sewel. Its post office closed.

If you think this is peculiar, then you should stop by Peculiar, Missouri. It was established in 1868. Its first Postmaster was Edgar Thomson. Its located in Cass County about 25 miles south of Kansas City. The story goes that Thomson submitted the name of “Excelsior” to the Postmaster General, but was told that there already was a town by that name in Missouri. He submitted a couple more names, with the same results. He then said he didn’t care what name the Postmaster General would assign, as long as it was something “Peculiar”. That is how the town got its name. Current population about 2500.

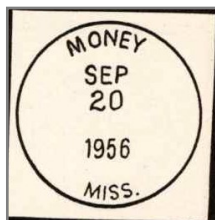


If you think that was a peculiar story, then you won’t find it no accident how Accident, Maryland ended up with its name. Back in 1751 George Deakins was given a land grant by King George II of England. Mr. Deakins hired and sent out two teams of surveyors to find the best area of land in western Maryland. And it just so happened that unbeknownst to the two teams of surveyors, they had surveyed the exact same plot of land.

The town of Accident was incorporated in 1916.



You might think these stories are stranger than “Ripley’s Believe it or Not”, but I can assure you that they are true and you can bet your money on it. And you don’t even have to go to Money, Mississippi to place the wager. The town of Money, Mississippi is located in Leflore County near Greenwood and was named for U.S. Senator Hernando De Soto Money, who served in the U.S. House of Representatives (1875—1885) and was appointed to the U.S. Senate in December 1909 and served until March 1911. The post office in Money, Mississippi was established in 1901. Current population about 28,000.



As the hour grows late (nearly midnight) it might be time to conclude this article with Midnight, Mississippi, an unincorporated community in Humphreys County about 5 miles north of Louise & 3 miles southwest of Silver City. The post office in Midnight was established in 1897 and closed in October 2002. Its zip code was 39115. In 2010, its population was less than 200. As the story would have it, the town got its name as the result of a late night poker Game, when one unlucky gambler ran low on money, so he bet part of his land (and lost).



The winner, then looked at his watch and indicated that it was nearly midnight, and declared that is what he was going to call the land. So remember, as you sort those stamps, be sure to pay attention to the postmarks, you never know what you will discover.



## Questionable Ebay: #18

### Serial Fabulist

By Francis Ferguson



**Listing: “US 1610c (1975-79) \$1 - MNH EFO: Brown Inverted (CIA Invert) w/ Cert Scarce/Rare”.** Offered for \$900,000. Free mailing with 30-day return policy.

I was offered a \$100,000 discount on the purchase recently. (I have been watching this listing for about 4 years.) Still not enough to bring it into reality. Scott CV 2024 of \$17,000. The lister has a long and detailed story about the stamp. There are obvious stretches of imagination in the narration as they try to equate the stamp to the inverted Jenny. The comparison is weak at best – especially since in recent months it has become evident that another sheet of the CIA Inverts has been “found” and is being dispersed in the marketplace. For those wondering there could technically be 400 (4 panes of 100) of these stamps in existence. This added discovery will of course impact the catalog value that Scott’s assigns to the stamp. Watch and see what happens – it should be interesting.

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### CFSC 2024 Picnic—Maitland Park

It was a sunny warm day as CFSC members gathered for the CFSC annual picnic at the park in Maitland, FL. The usual array of picnic delights were on hand—burgers, hot dogs and sweet corn were grilled to go along with the other salads, veggies and desserts. Thanks to Gene Perry for being the lead organizer and doing the shopping! Steve Patrick made sure the paper supplies were available and Mike Schumacher handled the grilling duties. Jeff Small Brought some horse shoes for members to test out their skills. Thanks everyone who was able to attend and join in the merriment. (Photos by Mike Smith) Mark your calendars for next year and join the fun!



A game of Horseshoes!




Mark your calendars for next year and join the fun!



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**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 \$30 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](http://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.
- Postal address: CFSC P.O. Box 1206, Plymouth, FL 32768-1206
- As of 12.2023

## 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](mailto:Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org)**

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