

Lincoln Stamp Club

SOUVENIR SHEET OCTOBER 2012

Monthly News of the
Lincoln Stamp Club

2012 OFFICERS

President:

Ricky George

Vice President:

George Wagner

Secretary:

David M. Frye

Treasurer:

Ron Ecklund

Board Member:

Joel Johnson

Board Member:

Carl G. Marks

MEETINGS

The Club meets the
first and third Thurs-
days, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

LOCATION

St. Paul United
Methodist Church
1144 M St.
Lincoln, Neb.

CONTACT

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AFFILIATION

The Club is an affili-
ate of the American
Philatelic Society:
APS #0799-064882.

Reflecting on How to See the Mail Anew

by *David M. Frye*

The other week, my wife and I went to the wedding of the child of a family friend. As we sat with a couple of friends at a table in the reception hall, waiting for the bride and groom to arrive, I finished eating a small pile of mixed nuts. Looking for something to do as I listened to the conversation, I started playing with a round, silver candle holder. I noticed it worked like a really wide-angle mirror, turning the table and the people gathered around it into fun-house versions of their everyday selves. So I took a few pictures of the world as reflected in that strange mirror.

All right. That's all pretty interesting ... but what's this have to do with stamp collecting?

The tie-in comes in the joy of discovering how to look in fresh and unexpected ways at the familiar things around you. What might happen if you took beloved stamps and covers in your collection and dreamt up unconventional ways to look at them? What new patterns might you see if you "shuffled the deck" and dealt yourself a fresh hand?

That helps a bit, but I'm still a little hazy about what you mean. Help me out.

OK, here's an example. We tend to think about stamps and covers as the *ends* in themselves—objects to be preserved and appreciated, categorized and studied. But what about the now invisible hands that once held those postal artifacts when they were *means* to another end—messages across the miles, letters of love? Hands wrote the notes and inscribed the addresses on the envelopes. Often the tongue of the sender moistened the stamps affixed to the envelopes. That's an intimately personalized form of communications, when you stop to think about it that way.

And what about the recipients? What was going on in their lives? Here's a poem by Randell Jarrell (1914–1965), a Tennessee native



who served as the 11th Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress. What picture of the recipients of mail does it paint for you?

Mail Call

The letters always just evade the hand
One skates like a stone into a beam,
falls like a bird.
Surely the past from which the letters rise
Is waiting in the future, past the graves?
The soldiers are all haunted by their lives.
Their claims upon their kind are paid in paper
That established a presence, like a smell.
In letters and in dreams they see the world.
They are waiting; and the years contract
To an empty hand, to one unuttered sound —
The soldier simply wishes for his name.

Randell Jarrell: http://http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Randell_Jarrell.

October Exchange

The Club offers the following items at its monthly exchange. Payments may be made in cash or in personal checks made out to the Club.

Lot #	Description	Catalogue	Open	Final	Buyer
• 01	U.S. Sc. 744, plate bl. of 6, MH, F-VF w/ hinge remnant	\$20.75	\$10.00	_____	_____
• 02	U.S. Sc. 753, plate bl. of 6, MNH, F-VF	21.75	11.00	_____	_____
• 03	U.S. Sc. 327, unused w/many problems, space filler	375.00	10.00	_____	_____
• 04	U.S. Sc. 825, unused, hinged, plate single	7.50	0.75	_____	_____
• 05	U.S., Willie Stargell, issued 7/21/12, LR plate block of 4	1.80	1.80	_____	_____
• 06	U.S., Larry Doby, issued 7/21/12, LR plate block of 4	1.80	1.80	_____	_____
• 07	U.S., Ted Williams, issued 7/21/12, LR plate block of 4	1.80	1.80	_____	_____
• 08	U.S., Joe DiMaggio, issued 7/21/12, LR plate block of 4	1.80	1.80	_____	_____
• 09	U.S., Flags of our Nation, Set #5 (8/11/11), Pl. # Coil of 10	4.50	4.50	_____	_____
• 10	U.S., Flags of our Nation, Set #5 (8/11/11), Coil of 10	4.50	4.50	_____	_____
• 11	U.S., Spectrum Eagle Coil of 7 1st Cl. Presort (25¢), MNH	1.75	1.75	_____	_____
• 12	U.S., Spectrum Eagle Coil of 6 1st Cl. Presort (25¢), MNH	1.50	1.50	_____	_____
• 13	U.S., Tasco Educational Booklet Vol. 19 with examples of 2¢ Columbian (Sc. 231): normal, broken hat, and broken frame line stamps, nice	—	5.00	_____	_____
• 14	U.S., Tasco Educational Booklet Vol. 16, "The Postage Stamps of the Confederate States of America, descriptions and facsimiles of 14 stamps	—	5.00	_____	_____
• 15	Bohemia/Moravia, Censored Air Mail to Newark, N.J., nice cover, corner crease	—	4.50	_____	_____
• 16	U.S., Aloha Shirts, Pl. # Coil of 5 post card rate (32¢), MNH	1.60	1.60	_____	_____
• 17	U.S. Weather Vanes (1/20/12), Coil of 5 45¢	2.25	2.25	_____	_____
• 18	U.S., Sc. C26, Transport Air Mail, MNH	0.30	0.15	_____	_____
• 19	U.S., Herbs (4/7/11), Pl. #Coil of 5 29¢, MNH	1.45	1.45	_____	_____
• 20	U.S., Four Flags (2/22/12), Coil Strip of 5 45¢	2.25	2.25	_____	_____

The following items are donated to the Club. Proceeds benefit the Club's programs and activities.

• 21	Finland, Sc. 856a, complete booklet	4.25	No Min.	_____	_____
• 22	Finland, Sc. 863a–e, complete booklet	5.50	No Min.	_____	_____
• 23	11 Assorted Christmas Seals, mostly American Lung Assoc.	—	No Min.	_____	_____
• 24	Assorted Charity Seals, mostly Boys Town	—	No Min.	_____	_____
• 24	27 Assorted unused Picture Post Cards	—	No Min.	_____	_____

• We will have a selection of postal covers for \$1 or 6 for \$5. These have been donated to the Club.

Recognition of Donation

The Club donated a copy of *Japanese Occupation Issues of the Dutch East Indies (1942–1945)* by Tom R. Bleeker, along with his related research materials, to the American Philatelic Research Library, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. The Club received a recognition letter acknowledging the contribution. Tom Bleeker was a former life member of the Club. His family had donated some of his materials to the Club. The booklet will be listed in *The Philatelic Literature Review*.

Roundup: Philatelic News of Note

National Postal Museum Launches Digital Memory Book

Captures Oral Histories from Current and Former Postal Employees

The Smithsonian's National Postal Museum announces the launch of its new digital memory book, *People and the Post*. This site collects and publishes stories from current and former employees of the U.S. Postal Service (formerly the Post Office Department). The media-rich memory book offers fifteen story categories for employees to choose from when leaving their stories, and it gives ways to supplement memories with text, video, audio and photographs.

Mail and the post have been a fundamental part of the American experience from its earliest days. America's popular culture is filled with visual and written allusions to mail and the service. Post offices, letter carriers, mailboxes, stamps, letters and packages ... all of these and more are part of the national shared culture.

While most Americans easily recognize the uniformed letter carrier, few know much more about the majority of postal employees who process and manage their daily mail. It is time to meet a greater variety of postal workers through *People and the Post*. The National Postal Museum encourages current and former postal workers to change this dynamic by sharing their work and life stories with the general public, and it invites the general public to take a moment to learn more about the men and women who move the nation's mail.

This initiative will help the museum chronicle the rich history of the post by capturing the institutional knowledge of the people behind it. These stories showcase the depth and breadth of the history of the U.S. postal system and its contributions to American history.

"The history of America's postal workers is that of the nation," said Nancy Pope, museum historian and curator. "For instance, we feel the emotion of the moment when Phyllis Woods of Ohio shares her story of the night when workers went about their business in silence and shock following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. John Kelly of Colorado talks about the evolution in the workplace from mechanization 'where you were literally strapped to the machine' to automated machines that left postal workers 'running around picking up after it.' These are stories both common to other industries and also reflective of the giant organization that moves the nation's mail."

"We are excited to offer postal workers the opportunity to tell their insightful and amazing stories," said Allen Kane, museum director. "Postal employees have the opportunity to leave behind stories about their careers for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren to read in the future."

The National Postal Museum is devoted to presenting the colorful and engaging history of the nation's mail service and showcasing one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of stamps and philatelic material in the world. It is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue N.E., Washington, D.C., across from Union Station. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (closed Dec. 25). For more information about the Smithsonian, call (202) 633-1000 or visit the museum's Web site.

Sources: www.memorybook.si.edu and www.postalmuseum.si.edu.

PUBLICITY APPOINTMENT

David Frye will present a talk, "The Fort Sumter Issue of 1961: A Commemorative in Conflict," on behalf of the Postal History Society at the Postal History Symposium in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, in November. The conference topic is "Blue & Gray: Mail and the Civil War."

LINPEX 2013 NEWS

The Lincoln Stamp Club will host its annual philatelic exposition—LINPEX 2013—on Saturday and Sunday, February 23–24, 2013.

The show will feature a non-competitive display of members' one- and two-frame exhibits. If you would like to share your collecting passion with others, use the form in August's newsletter to submit your exhibit information.

Bring your questions and ideas about LINPEX to our next meeting. Your contribution matters!

HAND-BACK FOLLOW-UP

Thanks to Dave Wallman for tracking down the answer to a question in last month's newsletter about whether a postal clerk could affix a postmark to an unaddressed cover intended to be collected and not mailed. The *Postal Operations Manual*, §231.4, describes "Hand-Back Service":

When a customer personally presents an addressed or unaddressed envelope, postal card, or other item ... the Postal Service employee must examine the item to ensure that it is clearly intended for philatelic purposes. ... Only after careful examination should a philatelic item be postmarked and handed back to the customer/collector.

Source: uspsmanuals.lettercarrier-network.info/POM9.pdf.

USPS Releases: October—December 2012

Oct. 1: *Earthscapes*; fifteen forever (45¢) comm., pane of 15, Washington, DC.

Oct. 10: *Christmas Holy Family*; single special forever (45¢), double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet), Washington, D.C.

Oct. 13: *Santa and Sleigh*; four special forever (45¢), double-sided pane of 20 (convertible booklet),

New York, NY.

Dec. 7: *Waves of Color*; four defin. (\$1, \$2, \$5, \$10) panes of 10, Location TBA.

Dec. 22: *Lady Bird Johnson*; six forever (45¢) comm., souvenir sheet of 6, Location TBA.

On the Web:

www.beyondtheperf.com.

Meetings: Vending Machine Stamps

The Club meets at a central location:
St. Paul United Methodist Church
1144 M St., Lincoln, Neb.

Go south on 11th Street, then turn left into the church's parking garage between N and M Streets. Take the elevator to the *main* floor. Street parking is available too.

- **Business Meeting & Exchange**
Thurs., Oct. 4, 2012, 7–9 p.m.
See p. 2 for Exchange Items.
- **Program:** *Vending Machine Stamps*, Herb Henry

Thurs., Oct. 18, 2012, 7–9 p.m.

- **Business Meeting & Exchange**
Thurs., Nov. 1, 2012, 7–9 p.m.
- **Program:** *The Fort Sumter Issue of 1961: A Commemorative in Conflict*, David Frye
Thurs., Nov. 15, 2012, 7–9 p.m.
- **Looking Ahead:** December 6 (**Elections**), 20; January 3, 17; February 7, 21.
- Nominations for the four officers and two board members will be held at the Nov. 1 meeting.

WANTED

Items for Monthly Exchanges

If you would like to include items in the monthly exchanges, send your descriptions and prices to questions@lincolnstampclub.org by **Oct. 25 for the Nov. 1 Exchange**.

Info about more significant items, which might require members to research ahead of time, should be sent by **Oct. 25 for the Dec. 6 Exchange**.

Forms for your items are available online:

- www.lincolnstampclub.org/downloads/SmallExchangeSheets.pdf
- www.lincolnstampclub.org/downloads/ExchangeSheet.pdf

Did You Know That ...?

Did you know that the U.S. Postal Service has a Web site dedicated to a growing archive of its USA Philatelic magazines? The Web site, <http://usap.co/>, contains cover images of issues beginning in the second quarter of 2011. Clicking on a cover image takes you to a compendium of brief summaries of articles about new issues that appear on the USPS's other site, <http://www.beyondtheperf.com/>. This site has a helpful search feature that covers stamp stories going back to 2009.



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