THE Postscript
Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club

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Single Page Exhibit *by Mike Francis*

The Club held its Single Page Exhibit at the October meeting. There were eight exhibits and members voted on the best of the lot. As I was walking around the room, it was nice to hear the members stumped as to which are the top three exhibits. All the exhibits were outstanding and it was hard voting to pick the top three. In the end, Jerry Davis came in third and Hemanth Vasanthaiah captured second place. The first place award went to Yen Chen. Yen has been trying for years to capture first place and she finally did with a colorful exhibit relating to hummingbirds. The background in Yen's exhibit is one of her own photos as shown below.

Meeting Dates & Presentations, 2014-2015

Nov. 11, Meeting Canceled: Veterans Day
Dec. 10, Annual Christmas Party
Jan. 13, Gerry York, Antarctic Countries
Feb. 10,
Mar. 10, Gerry York - Moldova Philately
Apr. 14,
May 12,
Jun. 8, Gerry York - Christmas Island
Jul. 14,
Aug. 11,
Sep. 8, Gerry York - Mayotte Philately
Oct. 13, Single Page Exhibit
Nov.10, Gerry York - Iraqi Kurdistan
Dec. 8, Annual Christmas Party

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NOTICE:

- **We have a new club members: Connor Jordan, Jose Gonzalez and Jim Kallilnger. Welcome to the Club. Connor collects World, US, and "anything really" and Jim is re-entering collecting. Jose collects Spain and Cuba.**
- **Club member Sam Hendrix has a new email address: sam.hendrix@gmail.com.**
- **The editor could use more articles for the *Postscript*. Mail or email your articles, even rough drafts, and it can be placed in a publishable format.**
- **The latest word is that we have eight dealers wanting to come to our stamp show in March, 2015. Looks like the show is on go at this time.**

Traveling Post Office Cancels *by Dr. Mike Francis*

Most collectors are familiar with RPO and HPO cancels - Railway Post Office and Highway Post Office. In the British Commonwealth, collectors also use the term Traveling Post Office or TPO. For the most part, TPO represents the same as the United States RPO. But, in the cover shown below, the cancel reads T.P.O. Nordvear. The Nordvear is a passenger and supply ship that served the Indian Ocean area. It also had its own Post Office on board. Since this station was a permanent fixture of the ship and served the primary purpose of mail service, the term "paquetboat" was not applied to its mail. "Paquetboat" is applied to covers and other items that are canceled for a customer and dropped off at a given port for someone at that port or to be delivered to another city or country. Therefore "paquestboat" is a convenience where the TPO is a fulltime service.

Unused or Used? - That is the Question When Relating to Gum *by Dr. Mike Francis*

Recently, I have noticed, in the auction catalogs and sales flyers, that venders are calling stamps without gum and no apparent postmark "used." By all accounts in the philatelic literature, there is no consensus what to call a stamp without gum and no cancel mark. Some consider it used and some an unused stamp. The Scott Catalog does list stamps that were issued with "no gum" but it is only a limited number of stamps. Some dealers sell unused no-gum stamps somewhere between the used and unused-gummed price. It is and will be confusing.

There is a trend to get away from designations such as Mint Never Hinged (MNH) or Mint Light Hinge (MLH) or Mint No Gum (MNG) because the term Mint means "post office fresh." Such a stamp cannot have been hinged, cannot have gum disturbances or anything else. It must be fresh from the post office to be called mint. Otherwise, it is called unused and usually designated by an "*" in sales flyers. The post office fresh copy is designated by "**" and the unused no-gum by "(*)" in some flyers. It is a personal decision by you, the collector, to call a stamp unused if it has no gum and no discernable cancel. The modern trend is to call the stamp "used."

Revised History of the TS&CC

edited Dr. Mike Francis (previously by Larry Benson)

This article was originally written by Larry Benson in May 2009. Since we have some new members, I thought it best to republish Larry's original article including updates.

The Club was founded on the second Tuesday in March 1988 with the following members: Mike Paulson (*President*) along with Larry Benson, Walter Levy, Bob Tedcastle, Bruce and Pat McDonald and King Reynolds.

Up until 1991 the meetings were held in four different places: a dimly lit bar in Killearn, the TCC Foundation on John Knox Road, the TCC Cafeteria and the Faith Assembly of God Church on North Monroe. On September 10, 1991, meetings were moved to the Art Annex at the Senior Center and finally into the present location, the Senior Center Dining Hall.

The Presidents List:

1988-89 Mike Paulson
1990-91 Jim McNaughton (6 months)
1991-93 Larry Benson
1994-95 Don Plasket
1996-97 Mike Francis
1998-00 Ed Walters
2000 David Wike (6 months)
2000-02 Ken Miller
2002-03 John Goble
2003-14 Mike Francis (the present)

(In Nov. 2005, Club By-Laws were amended to allow officers to hold office for more than two consecutive terms.)

The first issue of the club's newsletter was published in July 1991 by Larry Benson. There was no formal name for the newsletter until the title *Postscript* appeared on the masthead of the July-September 1993 issue. This issue was the first to be composed on a computer by Larry who served as the Editor for the next thirteen years. In January 2004, Dr. Francis assumed the editorship and is still Editor today.

On October 7, 1989, members helped the USPS commemorate the opening of the new Philatelic Station at the Orange Avenue Post Office. Club members applied a date stamp on club covers at the event.

The club first participated in "Springtime Tallahassee," in cooperation with the USPS, in the downtown park, on April 7, 1990. From March 23, 1991 thru March 3, 1995, TS&CC sold covers with cachets and special springtime cancels. From 1996 thru 1998, the Springtime cancels were stamped on plain envelopes. Due to outrageous costs imposed on the USPS and TS&CC, both entities dropped participation in Springtime.

On October 2, 1992, members applied the "Do Something Wild - Collect Stamps" official USPS cancel to club covers in honor of National Stamp Collecting Month.

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Revised History *(cont'd)* edited Dr. Mike Francis (previously by Larry Benson)

In June 1993 TS&CC held its first live auction. Another one followed in 1994 and then stopped for many years. In April 2007, the club's live auctions were resumed and are now an annual event. It usually occurred in April but recently the auction has shifted to May since the club's Stamp Show is in late March.

TS&CC exhibited stamps and covers at the downtown Leon Country Library the week of October 24, 1993, to celebrate stamp collecting month. A special library cancel was applied commemorating the event.

On March 5, 1995, the Club applied USPS cancels to cachet designed envelopes by Dr. Francis in honor of the 150th Anniversary of Florida's Statehood. The celebration was held in front of the Florida Capital and was hosted by Governor Jeb Bush and the USPS. Governor Bush purchased several of the more than 1,000 covers sold that day.

On July 29, 1997, the "Bobby Bowden Station" cancel was applied to souvenir sheets and covers at the main post office on South Adams.

By the summer of 1997 membership had grown to 67.

In July 1998 the club held its first Youth Night with 19 youngsters attending. This event was repeated in 1999 and again in 2001. The lack of youngsters collecting stamps resulted in this event being dropped from club activities.

In the summer of 1999 club membership reached a historical high of 82.

The first "*Clothespex"* clothesline exhibit was held in October 1998. The name was changed to the "Single Page Exhibit" in October 2008.

On September 8, 2000, club members applied a special "Senator Pepper Station" to a cachet envelope. The USPS cancel and cachet were designed by Dr. Francis.

Club members put together the club's first CLUB STAMP EXHIBIT at the Tallahassee Senior Center on October 18, 2003. On October 23, 2004, another exhibit was held. With the declining membership, members lost interest in these exhibits.

On April 6, 2006, for the fourth year, members attended the annual "Worm Gruntin' Festival" in Sopchoppy, Florida. In cooperation with the USPS, another Dr. Francis designed cachet was sold by club members.

With the club membership starting to grow, members decided that it was time to present a formal stamp show to the community and surrounding area. On March 27-28, 2010, TS&CC held its first TALPEX Stamp and Exhibit Show. The sixth such show is planned for March 2015.

United Arab Emirates by Gerry York

This is the text of Gerry York's latest presentation to the club.

Before the first Trucial States set in 1961 (Trucial States, Scott 1-11), the emirates and other Gulf States used overprinted British India and Great Britain stamps (Scott UAE # 972-976, Postal Centennial; # 1076-1080, Abu Dhabi Postal Services, 50th Anniversary).

Stamps inscribed "Trucial States" were withdrawn in June 1963 when the individual emirates -- Abu Dhabi, Ajman (and its "dependency" Manama), Dubai, Fujiera, Ras Al Khaima, Sharjah (and its "dependency" Khor Fakkan"), and Umm Al Qiwain -- started issuing their own stamps: In the 1960s and early 1970s, the emirates (with the exception of Abu Dhabi) issued thousands of stamps and souvenir sheets, giving rise to the pejorative philatelic term "sand dunes."

On December 2, 1971, the above seven states became the United Arab Emirates:

Unlike the policy of most of the individual emirates, the United Arab Emirates adopted a conservative, exemplary philatelic policy. As of mid 2013, the UAE had issued approximately 1000 stamps and souvenir sheets or approximately 23 a year. In fact, in 1978, no stamps were issued.

The first set of stamps was a set of "UAE" overprints on Abu Dhabi definitives, Scott#1-12 (2013 SCV $842+). The complete set was used in Abu Dhabi and some values were used in Dubai and Sharjah.

The first regularly issued definitive set (Scott #13-24) appeared on January 1, 1973, depicting landmarks and the Head of State, Sheik Zaid bin Sultan al Nahayan.

A number of withdrawn stamps and sets have become the key issues in a complete UAE collection: 1) In 1975, a set of three commemoratives honoring the Gulf Long Distance Swimming set Championship was withdrawn, but not before a few hundred sets were released by Crown Agents in London ($500+); 2) In 1977 a set of three commemoratives honoring the Sixth National Day was withdrawn because the Arabic date on the stamps was wrongly inscribed backwards, but not before a few hundred sets were released ($850+); 3) The 25f and 75f values from a 1983 Arab Literacy Day set were withdrawn on the day of issue because of an error in Koranic inscription (Scott #183-186) ($106.50); 4) The 250f value from a 1992 set honoring EXPO 92 was withdrawn because of a poor rendition of the Arabic word for postage (Scott #383-384)($62.00)

Post-1971 UAE stamps largely concentrate on themes related to the UAE. The list below is not exhaustive:

National Day: The 1991 National Day set shows the sheiks from all 7 emirates and the Head of State (Scott 372-378A); On December 2, 2006, in honor of the 35th National Day, Emirates Post issued a "set of special commemorative metal stamps," honoring Sheik Mohammed Bin Rashed Al Maktoum, silver (Dhs. 150), gold (Dhs. 350), and platinum (Dhs. 750)(US $340);

United Arab Emirates *(cont'd)* by Gerry York

Oil: Scott 43-47, 9th Arab Petroleum Conference; Scott#241-244, 25th Anniversary of first crude oil shipment from Abu Dhabi;

Traditional Life: # 480-482, Dances; # 492-495, Games; 784-784a, Women's Clothing; #824-828, Pearl Diving: A limited edition souvenir sheet from this 2005 set has pearls attached to it!

Flora & Fauna: #330-337a, Desert & Garden Flowers; #471-475, Birds; #465-468, Desert Cats; #496-499, Birds; #528-532, Birds; #1016, Ghaf Tree (The souvenir sheet has a Ghaf tree seed in a plastic net); #1036-1041, Winter Plants; #1042-1043, Camels; **2013 Oryx** (Antelope)

Sports: #868-869a, Arabian Gulf Soccer; #1073-1074, UAE Soccer Team, Champions of 21st Gulf Cup Tournament;

Middle Eastern Politics: #265-266, Palestinian Intifada; #778-779, Mine removal in southern Lebanon;

The UAE's exemplary philatelic service can be reached at custservice@emiratespost.ae; Emirates Post, Emirates Philately, P.O. Box 99388, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Canceled To Order or CTO Issues *by the Editor*

Even though a stamp appears to be mint with original cum, if it has a postmark (cancel) then the stamp is 100% used in any language, any catalog or any sales shelf. There are stamps known as CTO or Canceled To Order which are sold by postal entities to dealers at a deeply discounted rate. The stamp is considered no longer mint once the cancel has been applied. Should you collect them even though the stamps are simply revenue generators for the issuing country? If you, the collector, cannot find a postal used copy, or the stamp was never intended for postage service, then collect it. If Scott, or another catalog company, lists the stamp, and you collect used issues, then, by all means, put it in your collection. Some day you might come across a valid "used" copy and you can get rid of the CTO.

Note that there is an ongoing discussion about whether a CTO is actually a mint stamp. A mint stamp is post office fresh with pure, untouched gum on the back. Well, so is a CTO. For that matter, so is pre-cancel stamp. Both types meet the criteria for "mint fresh" since, in most cases, the cancellation is printed as part of the stamp these days. Therefore, in some circles, the stamp is mint. The other side of the discussion is literally in the name: *canceled to order* and the *pre-canceled.* They are sold with the understanding that they are already "postal used."

Take your pick but you will notice that Scott Catalog lists pre-cancels as mint and used. Then again, Russia, and other countries issue mint and CTO version of the same stamp also while other countries issue a stamp only in CTO format.

"The Realism and Symbolism of Postage Stamps" *by the Editor*

REPEAT NOTICE: Recently this editor received a notice in the mail about a 2013 published book on Amazon by Dale T. Kreutter, APS member # 9043. As you can see from the title above, it is about philately. Here are some of the comments Mr. Kreutter made in his letter to me:

"Chapter 1 and a portion of chapter 2 can be viewed for free at Amazon.com in Kindle eBooks. The cost for downloading the eBook is $9.99 and is viewable on smartphones, tablets and computers" (with the appropriate eBook readers.)

Mr. Kreutter wrote the book to promote the hobby. "Chapter 4 includes a sampling of ideas for starting a personal collection that can be tailor-made to reflect one's interest, personality, or his/her unique experiences in life."

Go to www.amazon.com and search the Kindle books for the title. Once you find the book, you can look at the table of contents and read some of it for free. The book can be as long as 744 pages on small tablets and readers. It does have many colored images of stamps and contains a vast amount of interesting history about the issuance of stamps.

If you do purchase the book, Mr. Kreutter would appreciated the purchaser posting a short review on Amazon about the book.

President's Message *from Mike Francis*

The club just finished another Single Page Exhibit contest and the entries were excellent. I hope to see more entries next year from some of the new members.

Speaking of new members, the club is growing again with Connor Jordan, Jose Gonzalez and Jim Kallinger joining us. Membership is growing each quarter. Now, if we only could get more young people to join. Of course, getting young people to join clubs is near impossible these days.

Please note that the November 2014 meeting has been canceled since the Senior Center is closed the day of the meeting for Veterans Day. We will meet again on December 9th for the annual Christmas Party. As I mentioned to the members who attended the October meeting, there will be some nice items on the raffle and auction table for December. Also, as in recent years, the Christmas Party is a great time to buy, sell and trade your philatelic material.

Remember, there are members in the club who are more than willing to help other members identify and expertize their stamps. All a member has to do is ask for help and it will be there, especially with several members developing a working knowledge of stamps from India, Germany, Great Britain, US, Philippines and the African colonies and many other areas. See you in December.

Mike

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