THE *Postscript*
Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club

American Philatelic Society
Member # C-161196

Postscript, Volume 31, No.2
Sep-Dec 2021

2021 TS&CC Single Page Exhibit *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor*

This year the 2021 TS&CC Single Page Exhibit night had five entrants which were all very well presented. First place prize went to Peter Jörgensen, second place was awarded to our youngest member, Sahitya Setty and third place belonged to long-time member Phil Spitzer. Voting was active and all members present enjoyed the exhibits.

Inside This Issue

2021 Single Page Exhibit Results	*1 – 4*
Finding a Gem in the Pile of Stamps	*5 - 7*
Local Federal Duck Stamp Artist Submittal	8
President's Message	9

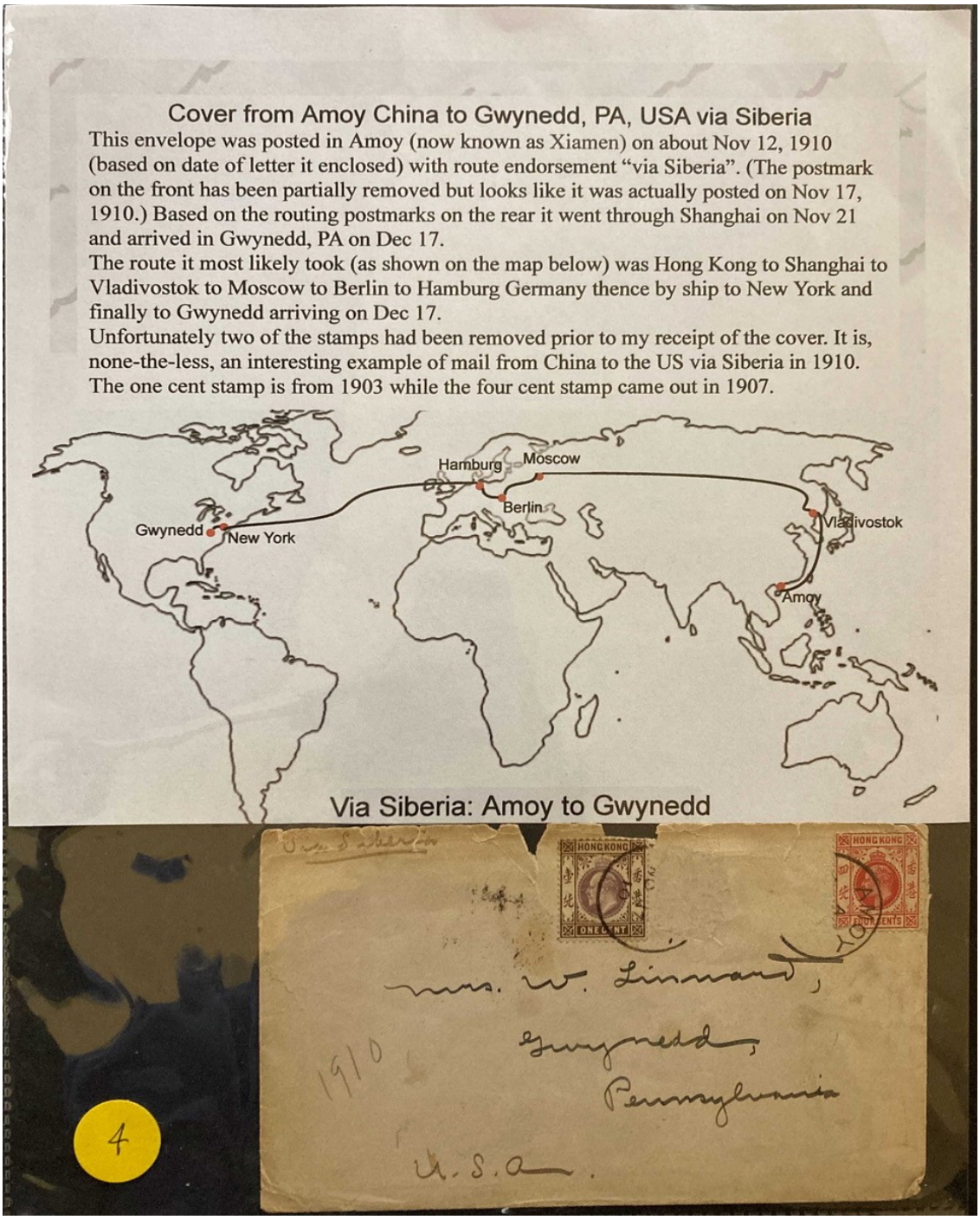
- **The last couple of months have seen a constant attendance level at the club meeting. Some members are staying home so as not to take the chance of being exposed to Covid-19. All members attending the meetings have been vaccinated. Masks are optional but worn for safety. The Senior Center encourages wearing the masks.**
- **This is another appeal for articles for the *Postscript.* As editor of the *Postscript* I am more than willing to help you with your article and edit it for you if needed. As a member, you pick the topic even if it has been published before. A fresh perspective on any topic is always welcome.**
- **The June White donation of her late husband's stamp collection has proven a windfall for the club and an enjoyment to all the members who benefited from the donation.**

Meeting Dates & Presentations, 2021

Jan. 12, Mike Francis - Determining Color
Feb. 9, George Harmon
Mar. 9, General Discussion
Mar 27-28 TALPEX Cancelled
Apr. 13, General Discussion
May 11, General Discussion
Jun. 8, General Discussion
Jul. 13 Mike Francis, Leaving Your Stamps
Aug. 10, Mike Francis,
Sep. 14, June White Donation Sale
Oct. 12, Single Page Exhibit
Nov. 9, Gerry York, B.I.O.T Postal
Dec. 14, Christmas Party at Panda Buffet

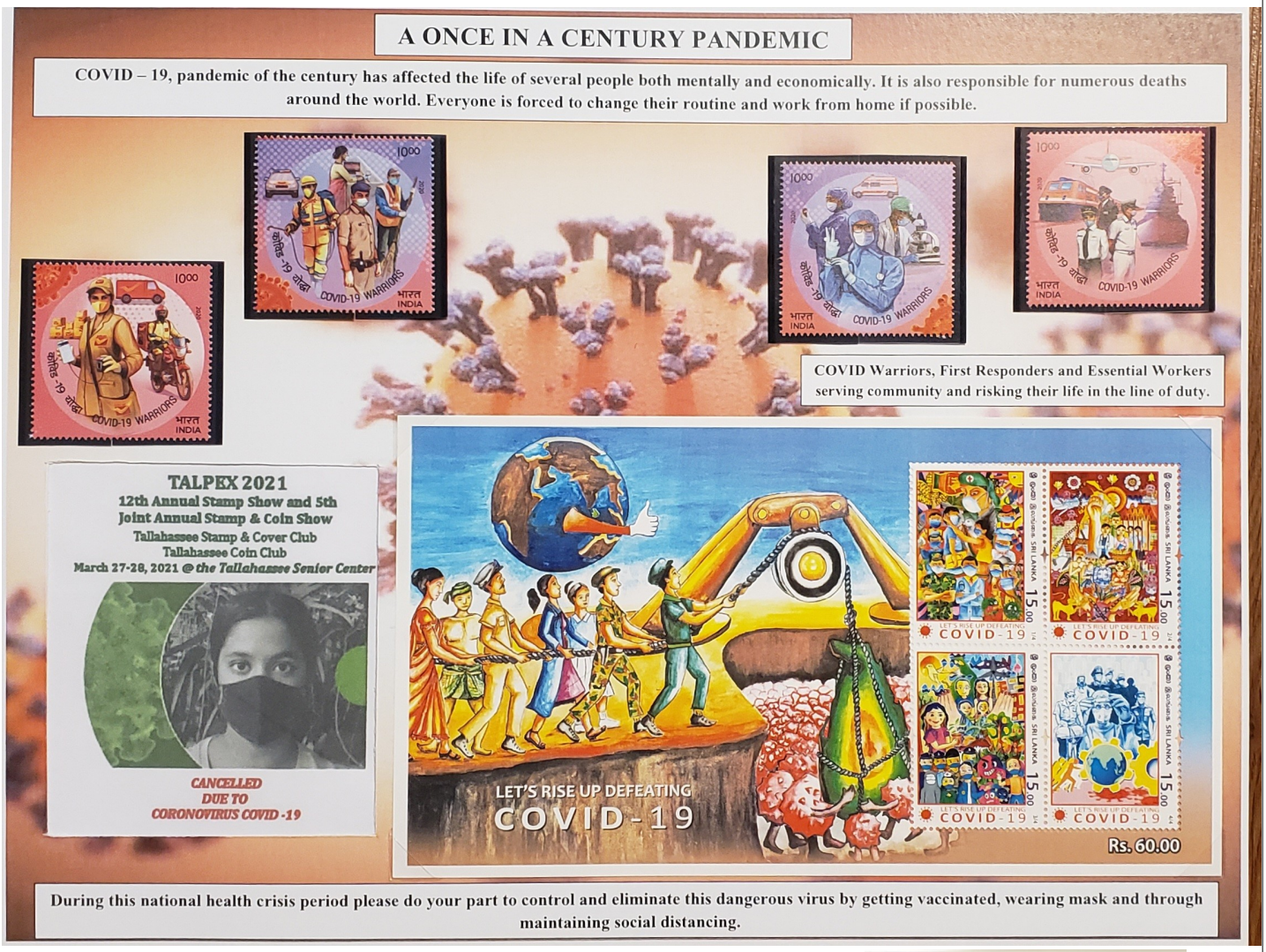
2021 TS&CC Single Page Exhibit *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor (cont'd)*

Below is the first place exhibit by Peter Jörgensen. It is an approximate 1910 cover from Amoy (Xiamen), China , via Siberia, through Shanghai and eventually ending up in Gwynedd, Pennsylvania. The exhibit is very self explanatory. Fortunately, there was enough markings on the envelope and enough philatelic history available to predict the most likely route the carrier plane took to get the envelope to its destination.



2021 TS&CC Single Page Exhibit *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor (cont'd)*

Below is the second place winner by Sahitya Setty and her topic was the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on philately and on the Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club. Her title is "Once in a Century Pandemic."



As mentioned earlier, Sahitya is our youngest collector in the club. Her father, Hemanth, has nurtured her in philately since a young age by encouraging her interest and natural curiosity in the hobby.

2021 TS&CC Single Page Exhibit *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor (cont'd)*

Just an interesting sideline. The photo on the left is myself, Dr. Hemanth Setty and his daughter Sahitya when she attended her first stamp club meeting at 11 months old in 2008. Hemanth believed in starting her off early. The photo on the right was taken at this October's 2021 Single Page Exhibit with a much older club President and Sahitya, a true 13 year old philatelist.

Third place winner is Phil Spitzer with his single page exhibit of Canada Air Post Semi-Official Issues. Note that Phil took this image with his phone so it is slightly distorted but unique in that the creator of the single page is shown in the reflection from the glass. Yes, that is Phil's image being reflected.

A recent check online for some of these issues shows that they are not your everyday stamps. Phil shows the CL47 at $125.00. Online it goes even higher. You can get the CL40 for a reasonable price and it should be in your collection if you collect Canada philately. A collector can get an idea for pricing at several online sites such as Arpin Philately.

Even better, catch club member Phil at one of the meeting and he will glad to give you some ideas about collecting these and other Canadian issues.

Interesting Collecting Focuses *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor*

All of us look for new and different ways to collect and/or enhance our collection. Variety keeps us interested in collecting. One such variety, especially for those who collect U.S. plate blocks, is collecting plate blocks in matched sets. I, and others, have mentioned this at various club meeting but some collectors do not know what this form of collecting entails. Below is a short primer on collecting matched set place blocks. The image below is a matched set of plates for Scott 1100.

You will notice that the plate blocks all have the same number. It is easy to find many of the same number of a plate. The difference is that the same plate number exits in each of the four corners. As a collector, your challenge is to find all four corners, UL, UR, LL and LR with the same plate number. I will tell you here and now, with 70+ years of collecting, for some U.S. plate blocks it is an easy task and for others, near impossible especially the more modern plate issues — those from the late 1970s and 1980s.

Most matched sets have slightly more market value than four times the single plate value. If you desire to get serious, try collecting matched plate sets of the Farley imperf national park issues. You are going to need some extra financing.

Organized plate numbers on U.S. issues didn't start until the Bureau of Printing and Engraving started printing U.S. stamps in 1894. Before then, the individual government contract printers used their own numbering and location schemes.

Interesting Collecting Focuses *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor (cont'd)*

There are those of us in the club, and of course, around the world, that collect Chinese stamps from the Republic of China. Fellow club member Gerry York forwarded me the email below from the President of the China Stamp Society that was issued last February and is still pertinent today relating to Chinese forgeries.

From: president@chinastampsociety.org <president@chinastampsociety.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 3:31 PM

To: gerard_york@msn.com

Subject: FORGERIES WARNING FROM THE CHINA STAMP SOCIETY

Fellow Collectors,

In "Stamps To Watch Out For" in the March China Clipper we wrote:

First, we must warn you about a group of usernames on eBay that are flooding the market with many well done forgeries that, if allowed to continue indefinitely, may destroy the market for better Chinese stamps. These usernames are micormayotota, of Sydney, Australia, ma-motoscope, of Melbourne, Australia, qwert8688, of Livermore, CA, and mawh47, of Penang, Malaysia.

Most of the listings are currently appearing under the username qwert8688, of Livermore, CA. The eBay listings describes qwert8688 as having 248 stars, yet there is no positive feedback associated with that username in the last twelve months. Possibly there has been a change of this seller's username. Remember, several years ago eBay decided to stopped providing the previous usernames for sellers. This was a great disservice to buyers as it made it impossible to track username changes. When we checked eBay we found this statement: "Based in Taiwan, qwert8688 has been an eBay member since Mar 10, 2014." The store associated with qwert8688 has a picture of a $5 Red Revenue with inverted surcharge and this statement: "We provide all kind of imperial China stamps and covers for worldwide collectors; if you are looking for something hard to find you need; please contact us. Our email: jiangpinchang@gmail.com or bioalament@gmail.com."

However, royallionstamps, of Taichung, Taiwan, is now carrying on the listing of qwert8688.

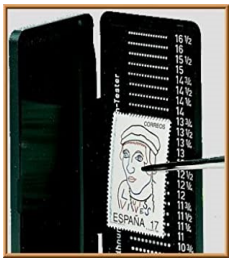
Note that royallionstamps has taken over the qwert8688 selling.

The Zurich Asia Stamp Auction House also issued a notice in February, 2021 warning collectors to stay away from qwert8688, cwon-799, royallionstamps and greatstuff-88. They stated that the forged Hall of Classics issues are "quite remarkable." Be careful on eBay and even other sites that sell these issues of Chinese stamps. If you buy these, be sure the site it reputable and has an adequate refund policy. The Hall of Classics unfortunately aren't the only well-forged Chinese stamps.

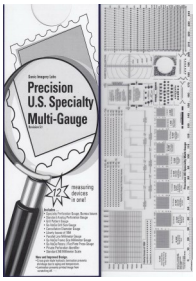
Interesting Collecting Focuses *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor (cont'd)*

Something all philatelists do is perforation measurements with some form of perf gauge. Most of the time the perf measurement is easy to complete. Yet, there are times when 10½ and 11 perf look so close. In modern collecting, there are 11 and 11.2 perfs and many other varieties. The standard White Ace or Uni-Safe Postage Stamp Perforation Gauge (also known as the Unitrade Gauge) works in almost all cases. If you need more accuracy, then use the Precision U.S. Specialty Multi-Gauge with its extremely fine lines for measurement.

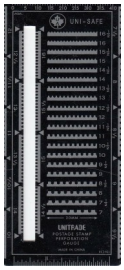
Lindner has the 2099 Phila-Combi-Box Perforation Gauge which not only has the ½ measurement but also has the ¾ measurement for more modern U.S. production. The Lindner is a unique gauge in that the stamp perfs lock into raised pins on the gauge so you cannot misread the perfs. There is also a Linn's Multi-Gauge which goes from 8 to 16 perfs. The Stanley Gibbons Instanta Transparent Perf Gauge is also very popular worldwide.



Linder 2099 White Ace, Uni-Trade,etc



U.S. Specialty Multi-Gauge



If you are dealing with the early Franklin and Washington issues, there is no better gauge than the U.S. Specialty Multi-Gauge. Its use for these stamps is nearly unanimous. If you are measuring stamps on covers, then a clear gauge is the only way to go.

Of course, there are electronic perforation measuring gauges but the ones that work the best are expensive when one is used to paying a few dollars for a manual perf gauge. For example, the Perfotronic 2 Electronic Perforation Gauge usually retails for $524.96.

For those of you who have a computer and a scanner, you can purchase the EzPerf software. EzPerf even attempts to tell the difference between rotary and flat press printing and can measure stamps on paper such as an envelope. The software retails for $44.99 and comes from SoftPro and can be found at www.ezstamp.com/software/stamp-perforation-software SoftPro also makes EzGrader for $79.99 which does far more than perf measures. It actually grades, very accurately, the grade level of your stamp.

There are several other software programs but, for the price, they don't compare to EzPerf. For example, for $5.39 you can buy the Stamp Analyser from the Microsoft Store (also available on the iStore) which has been around for many years. The last release for Windows 10 64 bit machine was 9/25/2019. For 16 bit processors, use Version 4 only.

One small secret all stamp collectors should know when measuring perforations on stamps. To be able to read the stamp perfs with ease, always turn the stamp upside down. Measure while you are looking at the back of the stamp. Try reading the perfs right-side-up or back-side-up and you will be generally surprised how much easier it is to read the perfs from the backside of the stamp. Give it a try if you haven't before when measuring perforations.

Local Duck Stamp Artist Submittal *by Dr. Mike Francis, Editor*

One of Tallahassee's local artists, Brenda Francis, made an attempt to have one of her duck paintings be considered for the Federal Migratory Hunting Permit we all know as the Duck Stamp. Brenda is my sister-in-law and I thought some local recognition of her attempt to get one of her paintings on a Federal Duck Stamp should be recognized. Brenda said it took a considerable effort to paint a duck the initial five judge review committee would even consider. The artist needs at least three "thumbs up" from the committee to have the painting considered. The artist can only submit one painting and Brenda submitted the Redhead. The lower two were practice paintings will be available for sale at Westminster after January 6, 2022. The framed practice paintings sell for $200 each. Unframed one can expect to pay a minimum of $50 for an 8"x10" print. The Redhead is not for sale.

The painting must be painted on a 9"x12¼" board and matted with a 1" matt so that the visible painting is only 7" x 9".

The initial review committee of five judges looked at the painting and Brenda did not receive three thumbs up rquired for her painting to move forward in the competition. This eliminated it from the competition. It is a well know fact that competition for the final Duck Stamp image is fierce.

One thing new in the competition last year and this year is the fact that a "hunting element" such as a duck call, a rifle or even a hunter doesn't have to be visible in the painting. When she started painting these images that requirement still existed. Below is the Redhead duck along with her practice paintings. Whilst it was rejected, congratulations are in order for Brenda Francis making an effort to be a Federal Duck Stamp artist. They are many more years to come! The printing of this Postscript doesn't do justice to the quality of the paintings.

TSCC OFFICERS

President, Publisher & APS Ambassador
Dr. Mike Francis
email: drmikef@comcast.net

Vice President
Dr. Tom Ahlfeld
850-926-2939

Secretary
Becky Reese
850-656-9598

Treasurer
Dana Bryan
850-668-3346

Website
www.tsandcc.info

The Postscript is the quarterly or less frequent journal of the Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club. Articles may be reproduced provided credit is given to this publication and the author.

The *Postscript*
Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club
1904 Nanticoke Cir
Tallahassee, FL 32303

RECENT NEW MEMBERS

Peter and Corrine Jörgenson
Nathan Wooten
Bill Schwarz
Jeff Saulich
Rich Peyton (member of the old Tallahassee Stamp Club)
Hadley Hasemeier
Jack Cooper
Mike Olivella
Suzanne Elliott (rejoining member)

President's Message *from Mike Francis*

As most of you know, the items that were raffled or sold from the June White donation allowed the club to enhance its coffers and for all the members who came to the meetings to simply indulge themselves in philatelic "fun." The club experienced record raffle sales and extremely active silent auction biddings.

I called June and again thanked her for the wonderful donation and assured her that her late husband's wish that the collection ends up in the hands of fellow philatelists was certainly accomplished. I also thanked her son Jason who originally coordinated the exchange of the donation with his mother and Tom Ahlfeld. Eventually Tom contacted me and we visited June and loaded up thirteen boxes, mostly large and heavy.

While this loading was going on, you should know that Tom and I kept looking at each other and wondering if anyone is going to take the time and care and do the loading of our collections if it needs to be moved, sold or donated. Food for thought for all of us philatelists with large collections.

NOTE: FLOREX 2021
December 3-4-5
Osceola Heritage Park
Events Center Hall B
1901 Chief Osceola Trail
Kissimmee, FL 34744
Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-5
Sunday 10-3
www.FLOREXStampShow.com