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POSTAGE STAMP MEGA-EVENT PS
Stamps · Covers · Postal History · Stationery · Literature · Supplies

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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REGULAR MEETINGS: 2:00 p.m., Second Wednesday each month except June, July, and August at:

THE COLLECTORS CLUB 22 East 35th Street New York, New York 10016 Telephone (212) 683-0559 FAX (212) 481-1269



The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever-increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

The Editor invites all members to submit items of information and articles on the subject of Masonic Philately. Typewritten copy and/or camera ready items will result in the best possible presentation of your material if it is selected for use.

ATA-NY Chapter Newsletter Eighth Annual Newsletter, August/September 2006

As I write this, I wonder from where I will send it. The last ceremony in the NYC area was at Yankee Stadium on July 15th. The next NYC issues will be "Holiday" season. That is, every holiday you can think of! It was good to see some of you in Washington during the big show over the Memorial Day holiday. I took full advantage of my status with the ATA and used the ATA booth as a meeting place. One of the items I receive because I am listed as the contact person for the APS is the Chapters Activities Newsletter. It is loaded with interesting information and ideas, none of which are geared to us in New York City. However, the one I received last month contains some interesting information perhaps some of you may like to take advantage of.

From October 2006 through December 2007 the APS is having a sale on membership. Regrettably it does not extend to renewals. If you have ever wanted to join the APS but never got around to it, this is your opportunity to give yourself a nice little Christmas present. This offer is not available through the APS, but only through your local Chapter. I will be looking further into this and have information at the October and November meetings, as well as at our booth at the MEGA Show. This is also a great time to expand membership in the New York Chapter! More than half our members do not come to any meetings! But we DO appreciate your support of the club. Speaking of meetings...

We will be meeting at a new time at the Collectors Club of New York, 22 East 35th Street, 6:00pm instead of 7:30pm. The meeting will end around 8:00-8:15pm with the dinner get-together AFTER the meeting instead of before it. So get there early and we can go home early!

September 14th meeting: For those who went to the show in Washington, bring in a souvenir! And some photos! I got a whole CD of photos from the ATA and am printing them out. The next international will be at the Javits Center in NYC 2016. The dates will be posted at the Collectors Club since they are involved with it. Since the MEGA Show is before our October meeting, I will also be asking for volunteers for the booth. Even if you can't commit any time, come on by and visit! Pick up an old copy of Topical Time and the latest list of checklists, which I hope to have by then. Also up for discussion; for the past year we have kept on the back burner whether of not to join the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies. This

would give us space on the internet and free advertising for our group, possibly increasing our membership. Dues for this organization are \$10.00/year and every member will receive a copy of the Stamp Insider. Most of you know I am in favor of joining because another group I belong to has obtained 6 out of 8 new members this year through the Internet. Internet presence IS necessary in the 21st Century. September 15th-17th The Metropolitan Stamp Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on 57th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues.

September 17th is also the day for Marilyn Nowak's show in Bayside, Queens at the Bayside Ramada, 220-33 Northern Blvd. This location is walking distance to the Long Island Rail Road Bayside Station.

October 5th to 8th MEGA Show. at Madison Square Garden. We need volunteers for the table, especially Friday and Saturday. Anyone who plans to be at the show, please let me know at the September meeting what day/s you can spare a few hours for the table. You do not have to commit to an entire day, that is too much. 2 hours or so is fine, or 2 hours in the morning and an hour in the afternoon, when the dealers are busy you can go over your purchases or eat your sandwich. It's a good place to check your coat and umbrella, as well as those larger purchases from Subway Stamp Shop that you don't want to drag around the show all day. There will be a lot of stamps issued at the MEGA this year, 4 snowflakes will be issued October 5th, plus all those holiday stamps! Hanukah, Kwanza & Eid will be issued October 6th.

October 12th meeting: This one is right after the MEGA Show. Lou Guadagno will be giving his combined talk with the ATA-NY Chapter and British Collectors. This is the one that was cancelled from last year. I can't wait to see what Lou comes up with. A topicalist amid traditional country specialists? The again, it's Lou. November 9th meeting: Other items up for discussion are our annual Holiday Party, so make sure you attend.

Caroline will be giving a talk on the French semi-postals issued to raise money for the Red Cross. She discovered this area a few days before the Metropolitan Show in July and has already made a serious dent in it.

December 8th –10th The Metropolitan Stamp Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on 57th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues. This is a great opportunity to get some holiday shopping done.

December 14th meeting: Our annual Holiday Party! Hey you people who don't attend meetings! At least drop by the Holiday Party and say "hello!" I hope I got all the colors in there. Those who attend know they go home with a little something, and this year Santa will be getting a little help.

December 17th another Holiday Shopping Opportunity at Marilyn Nowak's show in Bayside, Queens at the Bayside Ramada, 220-33 Northern Blvd. This location is

walking distance to the Long Island Rail Road Bayside Station. This is a bourse but worth the trip.

January 11th meeting: program tha February 8th meeting: program tha

As all of you know, due to inclement weather prevalent during this time of year, one of these shows is likely to be cancelled. For that reason, we do not like to book these 2 months too far in advance. We should have some idea of what kind of winter we will have by December.

February 9th-11th The Metropolitan Stamp Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on 57th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues.

March 8th meeting: Among items up for discussion is our table at the MEGA Show and whether we are garnering any new members from this venture. Members manning the table have gotten some members for their respective study units and also for the ATA. Flyers are given out free with older issues of Topical Time with other items as promotional. Let me know what time you can spare.

March 15-18, 2007 MEGA Show, location not listed at time of publication. I hope to have this information by February meeting.

April 12th meeting: program tha May 10th meeting: program tha

May 26th to 28th 2007, NOJEX - Crown Plaza, Meadowlands, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, New Jersey. For information contact Robert G. Rose Phone: 973-966-8070, email: rrose@phks.com FYI New Jersey Transit bus #29 goes from the Port Authority to zone 2 for the show.

June 14th meeting: Our last meeting of the season! Once again our last meeting takes place during the NTSS Show, which will be in Irving, Texas this year. It will be my last "must attend" for this and I am eagerly looking forward to my retirement. I think Jack Denys will make an excellent Vice-President so you all make sure when you get the ballot that you VOTE FOR JACK!

Summer 2007 Shows/Bourses

July 13th -15th 2007 The Metropolitan Stamp Show will be held at the Holiday Inn on 57th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues.

Dues will be due at our September meeting. For those of you who will not be able to make that meeting please send your checks to the ATA-NY Chapter, c/o the Collectors Club, as Mr. Harlan Hamilton has asked to be relieved of the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. His health is not what it was and he is paring down his responsibilities. Dues are still \$10.00.

See You In September!

See you at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, NY 6:00-8:15pm - the 2nd Thursday of each month!

Page 6 Checklists Updated

Embroidered Stamps

(Submitted by Patricia Quintero) Issued

Scott #

Country

In	the	past	two	m	onths	the	foll	owing	
check	lists	hav	e be	en	upda	ted	and	those	
with a	an as	steris	k (*)	ar	e new	:			

Karen Cartier

Anderson, Hans 7p May06

Automotive 140p May06 Bells 36p May06 Boxing 17p May06 Christmas 60p May06 Dinosaurs 85p May06 Einstein 6p May06

*Embroidered Stamps lp May06

Fairy Tales 41p May06 Fruits/Berries 25p May06 *Mail Delivery 30p May06 Marbles Ip May06

*Narwhal 1p May06

*Nuclear Ice Breakers 1p May06 Paintings and Artists 167p May06 *Roman Emperors 2p May06

*Sabre-toothed Tigers 2p May06

To order any checklist, please send your ATA membership number, and sufficient funds to cover the cost as indicated below. Cost for members residing in the USA is US \$0.50 postpaid for the first page plus US \$0.15 for each additional page per checklist. Elsewhere the postpaid cost is US \$0.80 for the first page plus US \$0.25 for each additional page per checklist. If they are to be sent by e-mail the cost is \$.15 for each page regardless of how many you order.

If you have updates or new lists that you want to submit to the ATA, you can send them to Karen Cartier, ATA, P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057, or e-mail them to us at

<americantopical@msn.com>.

Is there a checklist that you would like to see, no matter how large or small? Submit to me the name of the topic and I will post it in this column and request that anyone who may have a collection of these items, contact this office. From there I will create a checklist and it will be listed in future "Checklists Updated" columns

Here are several checklists for minitopics that have been submitted. If any readers have any additions or corrections to these mini-checklists, please send them to Karen Cartier.

Austria	07/19/2005	3753	
Gambia	05/13/2003	2731	
Grenada	04/29/2003	3353	
Grenada Gren.	04/20/2003	2163	
Italy	10/08/2004	2624	
Sierra Leone	10/29/2003	2597	
St. Vin. Gren	04/30/2003	3095	
Switzerland	06/21/2000	1075	

Narwhals

(Submitted by Dalene Thomas)

(Submitted	by Dalette III	Offias)
Country	Issued	Scott #
Antigua	05/09/1983	707
Barbuda	07/04/1983	586
Canada	04/10/1968	480
Canada	10/02/2000	1868
Cook Islands	02/10/1984	771
Gambia	12/22/1995	1691
Ghana	10/01/2001	2257
Greenland	05/02/1957	43
Greenland	02/20/1975	72
Greenland	05/05/1997	322
Greenland	05/09/2001	386
Grenada	09/10/2001	3186d
Maldives	05/16/1995	2074e
Maldives	04/01/1998	2346e
Mongolia	06/20/1990	1857
Romania	06/16/1995	Envelope
Romania	2002	Envelope
Russia	05/24/1995	3884
St. Vincent	07/01/1998	2604
Tanzania	2000-01	???
Turkmenistan	1999	???
Turks/Caicos	05/15/2001	1335a
UN-Geneva	05/20/1998	322

Nuclear Ice-Breakers (Submitted by Daniel Askey)

Country	Scott #	Description
Cuba	1752	N/S Lenin
Russia	2162	N/S Lenin
Russia	3106	N/S Taimyr &
		Vaigach
Russia	3107	N/S Lenin
Russia	4586	N/S Arktika
Russia	4725	N/S Lenin
Russia	4726	N/S Arktika
Russia	5713	N/S Sibirj

If you have any information about the following mini-topics, please send them to Karen Cartier.

Angels in America Anglo-Saxon Chronicle Baedecker's Guide Fingerprints Tattooing

For "Fingerprints," see a mini-checklist on page 10 of the May-June 2006 issue of *Topical Time*. For "Tattooing," see a letter to the editor on page 6 of this issue.

A number of personalities have also been submitted for information. According to the editor's "People of Stamps" project, the following are depicted on *Scott* listed postage stamps:

Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881) appears on Great Britain (*Scott* 1190).

George Eliot (1819-1880) appears on Great Britain (*Scott* 916).

Aldous Huxley (1894-1963) appears on San Marino (*Scott* 1998).

We do not have any record as to whether or not any of the following persons appear on any *Scott* listed stamps: Robert Charles Benchley (1889-1945); Robert Browning (1812-1889); Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881); Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881); David Hume (1757-1838); Tony Kushner (born 1956); Robert Traill Spence Lowell (1917-1977); William Morris (1834-1896); John Ruskin (1819-1900); Charlotte Mary Yonge (1823-1901).

If any reader knows of stamps picturing any of these people, please let the editor know. When submitting personalities

to determine if they appear on any postage stamps, please provide their full name and include their year of birth and death since there are many persons with similar names. •

Manuscripts Wanted

Topical Time depends on its readers for articles. Therefore, all interested members are invited to submit manuscripts for publication consideration.

Manuscripts should be double-spaced typewritten each on only one-side of each sheet. Articles of six to eight double-spaced typewritten pages are especially desirable so that *Topical Time* can include as many different themes as possible in each issue. Typescript should not include any underlining, all capital letters, italics, or bold face. These will be added by the editor when manuscripts are copy-edited. Bibliographic references to manuscripts are encouraged, but not mandatory. Also required is a short (one paragraph) biographical sketch of the author which includes both vocational as well as philatelic activities

Illustrations are essential to make any article more meaningful to the readers of *Topical Time*. Therefore, the editor needs an average of two illustrations with each typewritten manuscript page that is submitted for publication consideration. Since it may be necessary for the editor to retain original philatelic material loaned to illustrate an article for some months, good color photocopies are acceptable. When preparing color photocopies, be sure that they are made against a black background so that the perforations will show when reproduced.

BINDERS FOR YOUR TOPICAL TIME

Topical Time binders will hold 12 issues (2 years) of your copies. These large capacity, durable maroon binders with the words "Topical Time" imprinted in gold on the spine, add beauty and distinction to your bookshelf, and keep your journals in order and easily accessible. Prices include postage within the USA. For Canada, add \$2.00 (US) and overseas add \$3.00 (US). Buy more than one and save.

1 - \$9.00 each 2 - \$8.00 each 3 - \$7.00 each Quantities are limited so order now.

American Topical Association P.O. Box 57 — Arlington, TX 76004-0057

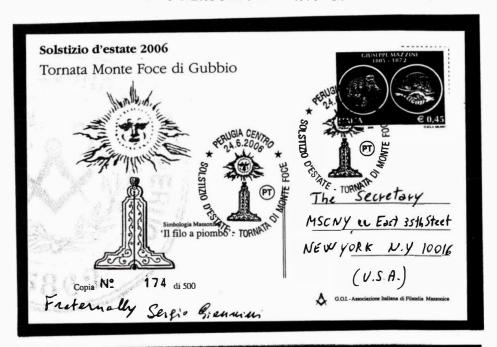
americantopical@msn.com Phone: 817-274-1181 Fax: 817-274-1184

ATA Membership Application

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P.O. Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057, U.S.A.

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
Street or P.O. Box		
City	State/Province	ZIP or Postal Code
Country	Occupation	Age (if under 21)
Collecting Interests		
☐ New Member	☐ Reinstatement	☐ Do Not Publish My Mailing Addres
Two References (Bank, Stamp	Dealers, Business) 1	
2	Proposer's Name (Opt	ional)
☐ I agree to abide by the Phil	atelic Code of Ethics and ATA	Bylaws
Signature of Applicant		Date
Membership	Dues include six issues of	Topical Time per year
Membership (one year \$20) U.S.)	
Membership (two years \$3	9 U.S.)	\$
Membership (one year \$30	International)	\$
Membership (two years \$5	5 International)	\$
Membership (Life, \$1,000 l	U.S. or International)	\$\$
ATA Membership Directory	y (\$5)	\$ \$
Total		\$
☐ Find Enclosed my check ma	ade payable to "ATA" for	\$
☐ Charg	ge \$against the fo	ollowing credit card:
☐ MasterCard	□ VISA □ PayPal (send	to americantopical@msn.com)
Credit Card Number		Expires
Signature		Date



Solstizio: dal latino solstitium, composto di solsolis 'sole' e un derivato di sistere 'fermarsi'. Il sole in questo periodo sembra fermarsi, sorgendo e tramontando sempre nello stesso punto sino al 24 giugno quando ricomincia a muoversi sorgendo gradualmente sempre più a sud sull'orizzonte. La notte di S. Giovanni, il 24 giugno appunto, rientra nelle celebrazioni solstiziali. In questa festa, secondo un'antica



credenza il sole (fuoco) si sposa con la luna (acqua): da qui i riti e gli usi dei falò e della rugiada, presenti nella tradizione contadina e popolare.

A : G : D : G : A : D : U :

Massoneria Universale Grande Oriente d'Italia Palazzo Giustiniani

> R.: L.: Fede e Lavoro N. 459 all'Oriente di Perugia





611

Southern California Research Lodge F&AM

2097 Smokewood Avenue, Fullerton CA 92831 - 714 525 5958 - leepsan@aol.com

Southern California Research Lodge F&AM, the user friendly education and information Lodge, 3,000 members in every state plus 30 foreign countries, offers their services to Lodges, Masonic Education Committeemen, District and Lodge Education Officers and Master Masons. Individual Master Masons as well as Lodges and other Masonic bodies are eligible for membership. Others, including Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, not eligible for membership may become subscribers. Dues are \$15 USA, \$18 foreign, no affiliation fee.

- The principal benefit of membership is the monthly mailings. Ten or twelve pages of feature articles, editorials, reviews of Masonic activities around the world, book reviews and news of importance to our members, excellent material for Stated Meeting talks. Also included are the Short Talk Bulletins (re-formatted) of the Masonic Service Association and the Northern Light of the AASR, NMJ.
- A prime benefit is our book department available to anyone. We not only buy from domestic publishers but are a distributor of books from England and Australia. Nearly all books, including new Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia, are discounted, usually 20%. A list can be had on request.
- Our prime project is in the field of candidate education or awareness. When a member of our Lodge notes an Entered Apprentice Degree to be conferred in his Lodge, he notifies us, giving the name, address and date of degree. We then mail the member a copy of Allen Roberts' *The Craft And Its Symbols* for presentation to the candidate before or when he receives his First Degree. Reading the book will no doubt smooth his way through the balance of his degrees. Candidates in One Day Classes are eligible for this program. The reason for the address is that we then put the newly initiated brother on our mailing list for three months, giving him a brief education and information on our Craft. One Day Class members are eligible for the mailings. Due to time and postage foreign members are not eligible for the program.

Send us your name and address and you will be included in our next mailing for a view or sample of what our members receive.

GIVE TO A FRIEND APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RESEARCH LODGE

Date:
I respectfully represent that I am a Master Mason in good standing and do not stand suspended or expelled from any Lodge of Master Masons, and I hereby make application for affiliation in the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RESEARCH LODGE.
I am now a member in good standing of Lodge No
in the Jurisdiction of
Dues: \$15.00 (\$18.00) foreign per year (no affiliation fee).
For volume of SCRL papers add: \$30.00 - USA (including Alaska & Hawaii);
Foreign; \$41.00 plus cost of shipping and handling. E-mail secretary for quote. [Postal Regulations are constantly changing and the cost of the SCRL papers is
subject to change with varying postal rates.)
subject to change with varying postal rates.]
I reside at: (Mailing address)
Street
City, State, Zip
Telephone No. (; E-Mail
Signature (Sign name in full)
(Print name in full)
Brother:
Membership in Southern California Research Lodge is based upon your being a member of a California Lodge or a Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge, F&A M
of California. Please, therefore, let us know the name and address of your Lodge Secretary so that we may verify your standing.
Lodge Secretary
Address:
City, State, Zip
Telephone No

MAIL TO: Norman B Leeper 2097 Smokewood Ave, Fullerton, CA 92831-1035 E-mail: LeepSan@aol.com

DUES CARDS ARE NOT ISSUED

Blue Lodge Afghan

Sandra Knotts, a Masonic wife on a mission, has been selling Blue Lodge Afghans at Christmastime and in the winter months to help benefit the Knights Templar Eye Foundation,

Made of 100% cotton and with 360 picks per square inch, this new afghan tapestry has advantages like enhanced color. The black and white illustration on the opposite page cannot possibly convey the wonderful appearance of this multi-colored Afghan.

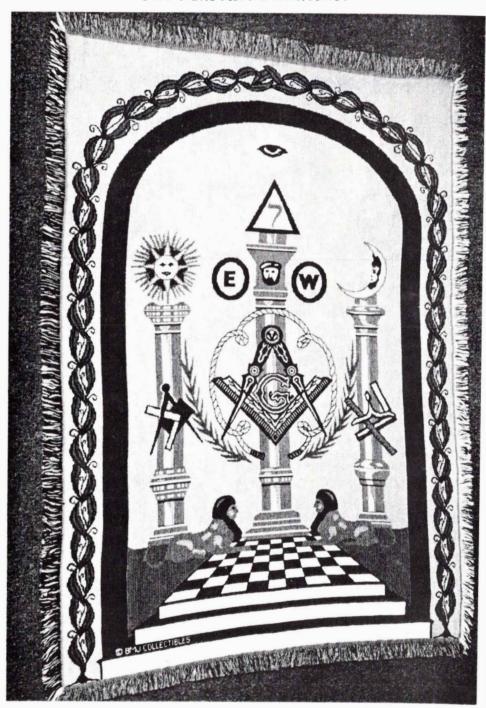
There are new items in this design, which includes the three steps of Freemasonry. There is a black and white checkered floor leading to the golden center column, the compasses and square are larger, in burnished gold and enhanced with a cluster of leaves symbolizing the Acacia of Freemasonry.

This Afghan measures 48 inches by sixty inches and is lightweight but weaved very tightly to give it outstanding definition. There are many additional features such as for example, a written verse, Matthew 7:7, on three steps.

Order your Afghan now for \$53.00 which includes shipping. There is a very limited supply so please send in your orders today. For every order Sandra Knotts will send \$ 5.00 to benefit a Masonic Charity in your state.

Send your check or Money Order to;

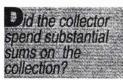
Sandra D. Knotts POB 158 Trexlertown, PA 18087



The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

Things You Need To Find Out...

...before selling a stamp collection

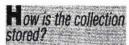


Ask yourself the following questions to help determine the value of the collection to be sold. They are the same questions that a dealer asks

himself before making any determination about the potential value of your collection

If the answer is yes, did the owner buy single items, packets, lots or collections? Can you determine how much money he/she spent or how regularly the owner bought? Can you find any bills of sale, invoices or canceled checks from dealers or auction firms? Is there an insurance policy or a will with instructions?

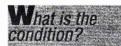
These figures may be helpful, but one cannot depend on any of them. A collection which is made up of many low priced items is not worth as much for resale as a smaller collection with a few high priced quality items. The value of stamps, like the value of anything else, is what a willing buyer will pay a willing seller. This is never a fixed figure. The market fluctuates in varying degrees and at unpredictable rates.



ls it in albums, mounted on album sheets or stock cards, or is it loose in shoe boxes or

cartons? Does it list the catalog value or original purchase price next to each item? Stamps should be stored

with care in a dry place away from extreme temperatures, preferably in a bank vault or safe. See that the collection is handled as little as possible.



Are the stamps mint or used? Are they attached

to an envelope? If they are, leave them attached!

Mint (not canceled) stamps are those which have not been postmarked. Postally used stamps have gone through the mail and bear a cancellation mark. Envelopes (or covers as they are called in philately) can have value as postal history in addition to the value of the stamp(s) attached to them. Historical value considers the writer or recipient, the place of origin or destination, the date the cover was mailed. They can also bear a design (cachet) or be a "First Day Cover" one which is issued to coincide with the first-day-of-issue of a specific stamp, and carries that stamp on it.

Are the stamps singles, pairs, blocks or sheets or are they a complete unit (set) as issued - a series—starting with a low value, with each following stamp increasing in value to a final high (i.e., 1 cent. 5 cents, 8 cents...25 cents....25)? If they are in larger multiples, do not detach or separate them, as stamps often have greater value as multiples.

The importance of condition cannot be over emphasized. The tiniest tear, the most minute thin spot, the faintest crease, or the smallest stain can reduce a stamp to a fraction of the value it would have in perfect condition.



Catalog Value Versus Market Value

Prices listed in a stamp catalog are revised yearly. A given stamp may be bought or sold above or below catalog prices, depending upon the condition of that particular stamp. Condition refers to freshness, color soundness, centering, gum, perforation, and margins.

The sale price of a stamp varies depending on who buys it retail shop owner, auction or mail sale bidder, dealer at a stamp show, or another collector. Each sector of the market has its own markup and price structure.

The price paid for a stamp also depends on the role of the buyer - whether it is a retail shop owner, show dealer, another collector or bidder in a mail sale or public auction. When selling stamps you must remember that unless you sell to another collector or through auction, you will only obtain a wholesale price from a stamp dealer, since he must resell the collection at a profit or keep it in inventory until it is sold.



Obtain a Professional Appraisal

A professional appraisal by a member of the American Stamp Dealers Association is recommended. ASDA members adhere to a strict Code of Conduct. They are responsible for reviewing your philatelic material and placing a fair value on the stamps, with regard to the quality and the current market price. Appraisal fees vary, depending on the appraiser and on the size of the collection. However, it is the practice of most dealers and auctioneers to waive the appraisal fee if the collection is subsequently sold to them or consigned to their auction.

An appraisal can be prepared based on several approaches:

- l. Catalog value
- 2. Insurance (replacement value)
- 3. Potential auction realization
- 4. Retail (over-the-counter) value
- 5. Wholesale value (what the dealer will pay on that day)

Make Your Own Inventory

(Recommended only for those with stamp knowledge.)

If you have some knowledge and experience in stamp collecting, you have an edge when selling a collection. Start by preparing an inventory or list of your stamps. The most common method of preparing a collection for sale is by marking in pencil the catalog value (keeping in mind that the catalog value is a guide and may not represent the true market value) of each stamp or row of stamps in the margin of the album page, according to one of the current stamp catalogs. (If you can't buy one, most libraries have one available in their reference section). It is important to note that many U.S. and worldwide stamps feature the same design, and can be incorrectly identified unless the collector is familiar with perforation varieties, watermarks, or color shades.



There are several methods of sale to be considered. The appropriate

method depends on the nature of the collection, the value of the material, the preference of the person selling the collection, and sometimes the geographical location of the sale.

Direct Sale to a Dealer

Selling to a dealer has two advantages. The seller receives an agreed amount of money immediately and there is no fee.

Consignment to a Dealer

The seller can place the stamps with a dealer on consignment. The seller should ask for an itemized receipt, a minimum price should be set, and payout terms should be arranged before the collection is consigned. If possible, the seller should have photographs of any expensive stamps in the collection, and these should be made part of the receipt. A time limit, in writing, should be placed on the sale and on the payout.

Consignment to an Auction House

Auction offers the greatest potential for the highest sale price. The customary fee to the auction house is 10% of the sale price. There may be a wait of a few months, between the time of consignment and the date of the next auction. On a consignment of sufficient value, most auction houses will, at the time of consignment, give a cash advance against the estimated sale price.

Outright Sale to an Auction House

This is the same as an outright sale to a dealer.

Placement in a Mail Sale

Consignment to a mail sale can be a way to dispose of a large number of items with a smaller selling price. Fees vary and the seller should inquire about all charges.

Private Treaty

Retail dealers and auction houses often act as agents to offer collections in their entirety for sale privately. Commission fees vary.

Sell at a Stamp Show

Take the collection to a local or regional stamp show. There you can show it to several potential buyers at one time and obtain the highest price offered.

Where Should It Be Sold?

When the decision has been made as to the appropriate method of sale for the collection, the seller needs to have assurance of the sound reputation and financial responsibility of any dealer or auction house. The seller should ask for references, and should contact the American Stamp Dealers Association to ask whether the dealer is a member in good

standing. Most members display the ASDA sign of membership in ads in the Yellow Pages or in philatelic publications. All ASDA members take an oath to conduct business under a strict Code of Conduct.

Other options: You might consider keeping the stamp collection. Throughout the years stamps have increased in value. You could try to add to the collection and enjoy the hobby. It is one which can be shared with children and grandchildren. You can also visit a local stamp club and make friends while you learn about stamp collecting and get to know your local ASDA stamp dealers.



Probably the most overlooked aspect of selling one's collection is timing —

whether or not the market is strong or weak. When the market is good, a collection will bring a higher price. When money is tight, it may be beneficial to wait to sell. Remember, the more knowledge the potential seller has, the more he/she can expect to receive for his/her collection or accumulation!



...until you decide to dispose of them

The condition of your stamp collection affects the final sale price because buyers all seek stamps in sound condition. Postage stamps do not bring top prices if they are torn, creased. mildewed, stuck together, pasted down or damaged by moisture. Therefore, during the time that your are determining the value of your collection, you should take the following precautions.

Storage

Keep your stamp collection at dry, moderate room temperature. Avoid attics or basements, since temperature, both hot and cold, or dampness damages stamps.

When storing stamp albums, place them in an upright position. Do not stack them one on top of another, since the weight of other books will tend to make the stamps stick.

Condition

If any of the stamps are stuck together, do not attempt to separate them because you may do damage in the process. Leave them stuck together until a professional stamp dealer can look at them and determine whether they can be separated safely.

Do not remove any stamps that have been postally used on envelopes. If the stamps themselves have a value, they can have an even greater value when left on an envelope.

Leave the stamps in multiples, whether cancelled or unused, intact, since they are sometimes more valuable as blocks or sheets than as singles.



Selling your stamp collection is like any other business deci-

sion; consider all of your options, always get multiple opinions, plan carefully and be sure to do business with stamp dealers that display the ASDA logo.



What You Need To Know!

Determining Identity
Establishing Value
Methods of Sale



American Stamp Dealers Association, Inc.

Collectors Service Division

3 School Street, Suite 205 Glen Cove, NY 11542-2548 Tel. 516/759-7000 Fax 516/759-7014 E-Mail: asda@erols.com

The Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps, published by RPSL Ltd., The Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society London, 96 pages plus 16 pages introductory information, perfect bound, illustrated throughout in colour, \$29.50 plus \$3.50 postage and handling within the United States; available from Robert P. Odenweller by mail order with this form or email contact at CCPEditor@cs.com.

This book details the thorough examination of 55 Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary stamps by the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society London. It outlines each of the aspects considered by the Committee in reaching its decision that the Grinnells are forgeries. As such, it is the most complete report of philatelic expert examination extant, and particularly so on such a high-profile subject.

The chapters include:

- 1. Introduction. The original opinion of the Committee delivered to the owners in June 2004. A brief overview of the Grinnell discovery, trial and discussion in the press.
- 2. List of the Grinnells. A list of 72 Grinnells, as compiled by George Linn, with identifying characteristics of each, such as date, marks, and other observations.
- 3. The Hawaiian Post Office in the 1850s. A brief history of the operation of the Hawaiian post office in the early 1850s, to help to understand how the mail was handled at that time.
- 4. The "Certified" Hawaiian Missionaries. A careful study that considered:
 - History of discovery
 - The "Hawaiian Postage" issue (all types illustrated in colour, with characteristics of the types indicated)
 - The "H. I. & U. S. Postage" issue (all types illustrated in colour, with characteristics of the types indicated)
 - · Technical matters; type, paper, ink
 - Usage including obliterations, use on cover
 - · Chronology from ship movements
 - · Repair and restoration

Particularly important aspects of the above considerations were:

- · Date of issue
- · Method of printing and paper used
- Setting and if more than one

- When were the two types identified and when was the correct layout first recorded?
- What is the chemical composition of the paper and inks used for the stamps?
- · Earliest recorded use
- What obliterations were recorded and when were they used and what ink was used when applying the obliterations?
- 5. Chronicle of the Grinnells. A history of the individuals involved in the original sale and trial and subsequent attempts to have them declared genuine.
- 6. The Grinnells. A thorough discussion of the submitted stamps, including colour images of each, compared by type and denomination. Each aspect of the examination is discussed, with similarities and differences between the Grinnells and genuine Missionaries shown for comparison, along with an analysis of the different obliterators, all heavily illustrated.
- 7. The Scientific Investigations. This section shows the state-of-the-art equipment used and other examinations conducted in making non-destructive tests on paper and inks. Although highly technical, it is discussed in a way that will be readily understood by the reader.
- 8. Forgeries and Reprints of Classic Hawaii. A brief section that shows some of the known forgeries and the attraction to create them over the years.
- 9. Timetable for Production of the Grinnell Forgeries. An analysis of the different individuals who might have created the Grinnells, along with reasons for a specific timeline based on the known facts about the genuine Missionaries as they were slowly revealed at the turn of the twentieth century.
- 10. Summary and Committee's Conclusion. A recapitulation of the arguments and considerations that led to the Committee's final decision.

Three appendices give information about the equipment used, major writings about the Grinnells and Missionaries that were consulted, and an index.

Order form (for U.S.A. use only), for: *The Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps*

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John Sacher, London, U.K.

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