Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter



November 2021

November 29 Chocolates Day Volume 89, No. 11



In remembrance of **Neal Danielson** for his many contributions to the Wichita Stamp Club and its Newsletter

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The Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter has won numerous awards from the American Philatelic Society as a publication of a local society. This is your Newsletter. Support it by submitting an article; words of wisdom; facts about a stamp or cover; an adlet or whatever you think might be of interest to other club members. The opinions expressed in the Newsletter are of the writer and not those of the officers or membership. WSC is a charter member of the American Philatelic Society and is also a a member of the Oklahoma Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association. Meetings are held at the Alford Branch Library, 3447 Meridian, Wichita. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and programs follow. Visitors are always welcome. The Wichita Stamp Club welcomes new members. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families.

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Fellow members, Fellow members,

Fellow **members**, I am writing this message shortly after our October 6 meeting. Attendance at the meetings has continued to build as we are reestablishing a more regular routine after some of the restrictions from Covid-19 have eased.

Mark Burnett gave an excellent program on forgeries at the October 6 meeting. I was inspired to go home and apply the information to some of the items in my own collection. I am also looking forward to the upcoming programs by Ralph Lott and Kathy Moll, as well as the Nov. 17 auction and the Dec. 1 social. I really missed our club activities during the time we could not meet.

I want to remind everyone that December 1 will also be our annual election of officers. Please consider running for one of the offices (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer). Contact nominations chair **Lou Forster** for further information or to volunteer to run. Stay safe and I hope to see you soon.

Bob Cairns, President

Door Prizes

September 2 Bob Mies received the \$2.50 Stamp Club Certificate. **Sister Edwina Pope** was the recipient of a packet of mint US postage (donated by **Tom Hankins**). Two event covers and one FDC were won by **Don Mead**. A 1977 German MNH semipostal souvenir sheet was awarded to **Rod Brown**. **Dale Wilson** won a MNH copy of Switzerland #B410-413 (donated by **Lou Forster**).

October 6 Sister Edwina Pope received the \$2.50 Club cash certificate, **Kathy Moll** received a 1st Day Ceremony program for the 1980 Sequoyah stamp. **Rose Neiswonger** received MNH copies of Greece #498-500. A MNH set of Israel #558-560 went to **Charles Moll**. **Don Atherton** received a MNH set of Greenland #128-132.

Club Meetings and Programs

All Club functions occur at the Cessna Activity Center and begin at 5:30.

October 20 Ralph Lott will present on U.S. Stamps and their relation to the Civil War in 3 parts: Stamps of 1857-1861, their uses in the Confederate States and the stamps of 1861...when they started and why. The use of envelopes and the first issue of the Civil War Revenue Stamps will also be discussed.

November 3 Kathy Moll will discuss the **US Transportation Series**.

November 17 Club Auction, conducted by Ralph Lott.

December 1 Club Social at the **Cessna Activity Center.**

UPCOMING REGIONAL STAMP EVENTS

Louis Forster

2021

October 16-17 Wichita Postcard Club Show

All Saints Catholic Church 3205 East Grant St Wichita, Kansas Saturday 10 am - Sunday 4 pm (Information from Club's facebook page)

2022

February 18-19 Cessna Stamp Club Show

Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd Wichita, Kansas

Friday 9 - 5 & Saturday 9 - 4

A poem appearing in an issue of the Weekly Philatelic Gossip in 1925:

"In auction days of old
Rare stamps were sold
For the price of cheese and crackers,
But now they will
Not knock-'em-down until
They're bid in at thousands of smackers."

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In a brief note nearby, also in the *Weekly Philatelic* Gossip of 1925, it was reported that a Mr. Wesley Taylor of New York City had written 600 words on a postage stamp. He had thusly transcribe two of Abraham Lincoln's speeches.

Chocolates Day - November 29 by Jeff Lough

Chocolate derives from roasted and ground cacao pods (Figure 1). Cocoa plants have been grown in many parts of the tropical world. When grown in the West Indian former British colony of Dominica, their early processing involved drying, as depicted in the Dominica stamp on the front page of the Newsletter. Belgium, France, Germany and Switzerland are European countries that have all had major chocolate products. A couple German enterprises issued cinderellas advertising their wares in the 19th century (Figures 2 – 5). Switzerland has issued several contemporary postage stamps celebrating chocolate. A two stamp set (Figure 7) as well as a souvenir sheet (Figure 8) were recently issued. France's celebratory souvenir sheet (Figure 9) had a scratch-and-sniff chocolate flavored feature.





Figure 1









Figure 3 Figure 4 Figure 5



Figure 7



Figure 8

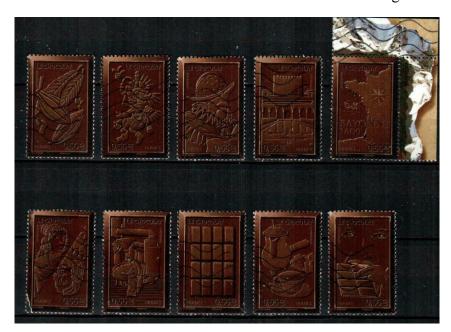


Figure 9

There's at least a couple games one can play with these two stamps:

- 1) What stamp is the fake? And
- 2) What stamp issuing entity does it come from?





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Postmark Collectors Club Convention

by Jeff Lough

Fellow Wichita Stamp Club, Midwest Philatelic Society and Lawrence Stamp Club member **Michael Granberg** and I attended the recent (August 22 – 24) national Postmark Collectors Club convention in Jefferson City, Missouri. During the three days attended, I was able to purchase many covers and cut-squares of Kansas post offices and a variety of other interesting things. Figure 1 shows a little bit of this type of activity done by a couple of the numerous folks I met.

I participated in a three-quarters day field trip to 5 area post offices. Figure 2 shows the other people that participated in this adventure. We were treated to a delicious meal in the city of Fulton and a visit to that city's Winston Churchill museum (Figure 3). A visit to the local history museum revealed a remarkable collection of Missouri postal history with many covers from each of Missouri's counties that had been assembled by a local postal history fellow. I took a picture of a Churchill cover in that museum (Figure 4). I also greatly appreciated the presentation describing in great detail the type of resources and efforts that go into using cemeteries as a source of historical material.







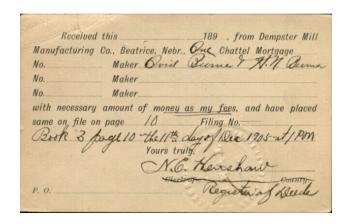


Grant County by Jeff Lough

Grant County is in the far southwest of Kansas. It was named after the Civil War general whose first name ended up being the name of the county seat, **Ulysses**. In its original location, the post office with many of its employees, is shown in a 1902 photo as Figure 1. This was the place where the cover shown as Figures 2 and 3 was possibly postmarked. It is an interesting cover since it's embossed with a private machine indicating that it is serving as an official document used to prove that a payment order was placed in a folder. Perhaps part of a bank to insure it's right to seize the property if the farmer failed to make his payment.







Ulysses was moved to a new location as part of the effort to establish itself as the county seat. During this time, as with quite a few other counties in Kansas, a bitter fight developed between "New Ulysses" and the town of Appomattox to establish which community was to get all the business that accrued with being the county seat. In 1909 the post office in New Ulysses as shown as Figure 4 was part of a store owned by the postmaster, a gentleman whose last name was Blake. A February 14, 1913 cover with a 5-bar duplex cancellation is shown as Figure 4. The post office is also shown in a street scene in New Ulysses in Figure 5.

The New Ulysses envelope was mailed by a Levi Carter, a Quaker who settled on a farm with his family in southeast Grant County in 1911. He had moved from Indiana to Iowa to Stafford County to Reno County to Sterling, Kansas and finally to rural Grant County. His wife and he had 13 children.









On January 3, 1974 a later Ulysses post office was destroyed by fire (Figure 6).

The Appomattox cover of Figure 7 has an August 1, 1909 cds with a 4-circle killer on a piece of postal stationary (U318). Appomattox was originally named Cincinnati. The December 24, 1914 **Gognac** cover (Figure 8) has its cds accompanied by a 4-circle killer. Although this piece of postal stationary appears to be U318, it has a noticeably shorter length. Gognac was originally established in 1886 in Stanton County and that area was later changed to become part of Grant County. In southeast Grant County the Athy post office Figure 9) was established in 1916 and discontinued in 1924.









The Weekly Philatelic Gossip of January 24, 1925 carried this little exchange:

"Small Boy—to irate father who has just torn a fine stamp in attempt to remove an obstinate hinge: 'Say, "Pop," what is a quack doctor?'

Father: 'One who recommends a hobby like stamp collecting to his nervous patients on the grounds that it is restful for their nerves."

A Font and a Book Study Group by Jeff Lough

I have a hard time finding enough to do, so a few months ago I joined the Smithsonian Postal Museum's book club, then I had finished reading *Ella Minnow Pea* and it was time to read the fascinating memoir *Marcel's Letters*. The book is written by a commercial designer who wanted to break into the related field of font design. She had purchased several letters written in French, a language she didn't know, because the handwriting seemed to be very beautiful and was to serve as an inspiration for a font's design. The story ends up being a search for a Frenchman who had been placed into a slave labor camp during the World War II German occupation of France. The search for the fate of that gentleman reads like a multi-faceted mystery novel but appears to be completely factually based. As one can see, the cover includes the upper part of an envelope that has been chemically treated to reveal hidden messages and contains two of the Hitler heads used by the Third Reich. One of the versions of the resulting font is used to headline this note.

