



Cancellation Club NEWS

VOL. 16, NO. 1

WHOLE NO. 171

WINTER 1982

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Many thanks for having bestowed on me the honor of the Presidency of the USCC. We *all* owe our sincere thanks to those officers and members who have served the Club during the past two years.

I solicit the help and ideas of all members. This is essential if we are to grow and offer our members the information they need in pursuing their particular specialties. Without input and help from the membership, this Club, like any other would be an anemic thing. I earnestly solicit not only your ideas, but your help in implementing them.

Here are some of the things our members can do to fulfill their responsibilities as members:

- Share your knowledge. If you have information on cancels or postal history, please write it up with tracings or drawings of pertinent postal markings. The USCC News will gladly publish the results of your research.
- Help the Club grow by acting as the USCC representative when you attend a stamp show. A card table, a chair and a bit of your time can boost Club membership. Write your editor for application forms and back copies of the News to pass around. Every club needs "new blood."
- Please give us information on shows. We are most anxious to learn of members who share their philatelic knowledge by exhibiting at stamp shows. The USCC would like to give recognition to all its members who exhibit. We plan to make awards available to APS-sponsored shows. Our 2nd Vice President, C. W. Bert Christian has drafted the criteria for this award which will be published in our Spring News.
- Submit your duplicates or surplus material to the sales circuits. I know it takes time, but it's fun too, and it helps provide you with the means to buy additional material.
- Forward sales circuits promptly — within 10 days. Holding circuits longer denies others of one of the benefits of membership. Any member consistently abusing this regulation will be suspended from the sales circuits. Please notify the sales director if you plan to be away for an extended time.

With regard to the sales circuits, our objectives are:

1. To obtain more (and better) material from members.
2. To offer more material with greater frequency to members.
3. To acknowledge receipt of circuit material received within two weeks of its receipt.
4. To retire circuit material in 18 months. If the books are mostly sold out earlier than this, they can be returned to the owner sooner, with payment for the material sold.

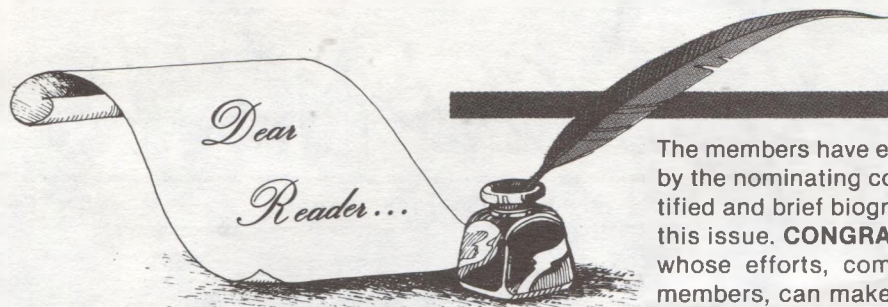
DO NOT forward the sales circuits by United Parcel Service. **The UPS will not insure nor accept financial responsibility for philatelic material.**

Remember — the Club will be what we make it. Please help make it a bigger and better one. With the help of the Board of Officers and *all* our members, we *can* become a larger and more vital organization.

Sincerely,
Bill Walker.

Paul J. Wolf

We regret to inform our readers we have just received word, as we go to press, that our immediate past president, Paul J. Wolf, has died following surgery. We extend our sympathy to his family and friends.



The members have elected the slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee. The ballots have been certified and brief biographies of our new officers appear in this issue. **CONGRATULATIONS** to our new **OFFICERS**, whose efforts, combined with the assistance of the members, can make this a more vital organization.

With this issue, the News will become a **QUARTERLY PUBLICATION**, appearing as **WINTER SPRING SUMMER**

and **FALL** editions, and should arrive in February, May, August and November. This issue is arriving very late, due to frustrating delays beyond my control for which I am sincerely sorry. Because of its tardiness, we are sending it first class.

The primary reason for changing from a bi-monthly is to reduce the amount of time required of your Editor to produce the News. In addition, it should result in a substantial savings in mailing, printing and production costs. And it should allow more space for longer articles which take more than one page. The varied scope of member interests has, in the past, somewhat limited the coverage of a particular subject in an attempt to satisfy all.

We are initiating a one-time one dollar **ADMISSION FEE** to those applying for membership, to defray postage and processing cost of new applicants. **ADVERTISING RATES** have also been increased, to cover our increased cost of printing. The **new rates** are listed at the bottom of this page.

Some of you inadvertently returned your **MEMBERSHIP CARDS** to me, along with your dues checks. (The cards had been enclosed in the pink envelopes, and many were overlooked.) I am returning these to you with this issue.

MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 1982 ARE PAST DUE!!! If our records indicate your dues (\$6.00) have not yet been paid, you will find a notice to that effect enclosed in this issue. Members not current by May 15, 1982, will receive no further issues.

JEAN WEST was selected by our readers as the winner of the "**FAVORITE CANCEL**" contest for 1981, for her interesting write-up of the Rockford, Illinois **BLUEBIRD**. Jean's prize was a year's free membership in the Club, plus a box of organically-grown avocados. Jean's response to this award may be found in this issue of the "Mail Bag." Runner-up in this contest was **ED SISKIN**, for his Sport, Texas cancellation. Ed received our **USCC "T-SHIRT."** Congratulations to you both, and thanks to all who contributed.

Please note the new name and address of the **STAMP THEFT COMMITTEE** chairman listed elsewhere in this issue.

We are now **EXCHANGING JOURNALS** with the Flag Cancellation Society and the Ohio Postal History Society, thanks to the cooperation of their editor, Bart Billings. Having file copies of the various state journals provides additional reference material for the Club. Any member affiliated with a state society is urged to discuss this exchange program with his club. The mechanics of this exchange are very simple and merely involve adding a name to a mailing list.

Member **DAVID G. PHILLIPS** has published a reference work entitled "American Illustrated Cover Catalog," based on the collection of John R. Biddle which might be of interest to members. Dave also has an up-coming auction which lists 45 lots of 19th century fancy cancels. Those interested may write Dave: P.O. Box 611388, No. Miami, FL 33161.

Of special interest to those members in the California area is the **COVER EXPO '82 (SPRING)**, held April 10 and 11 at the Sheraton Hotel in Anaheim. This will be the largest show devoted to covers in the U.S. For further details write Cover Expo '82, P.O. Box 3547, Riverside, CA 92519. Enclose a **SAE**.

With best philatelic wishes,

Alyce

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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U.S.C.C. OFFICERS

William C. Walker, 102 Elizabeth St., Clearfield, PA 16830 President
Gary A. McIntyre, 904 Cheyenne Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80525 1st Vice Pres.
C. W. Bert Christian, 2287-D Via Puerta, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 . 2nd Vice Pres.
George H. Lewis, P.O. Box 545, Clearfield, PA 16830 Secretary-Treasurer
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ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page \$40.00
Half Page \$25.00
Quarter Page \$15.00
Column Inch \$4.00

INTRODUCING OUR NEW OFFICERS



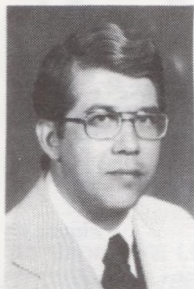
William C. Walker
President

WILLIAM C. WALKER, 102 Elizabeth St., Clearfield, PA 16830 was born in Pittsburg, PA, and served in the U.S. Navy during WW II. His current occupation is the marketing of industrial earthmoving equipment.

His collecting interests are 19th century U.S. Cancells, both on and off cover; Pre WW II Naval Cancells; Civil War Patriotic Covers; Pictorial 'Show' Cancells; and 20th century U.S. Fancy Cancells on cover.

He is a prolific writer for the major philatelic publications and is presently engaged in research to revise and update the Loso-de Windt Catalog on 20th Century Fancies.

Bill has been a member of USCC since 1960. Other memberships include APS, Pictorial Cancellation Society and Ohio Postal History Society.



Gary A. McIntyre
1st Vice President

GARY A. McINTYRE, 904 Cheyenne Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80525, is a Plant Pathologist and is Chairman of the Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology at Colorado State U.

Collecting interests are postal history of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana; Stampless Covers; #11,26 on cover; 19th century straightline cancels and "anything else that strikes my fancy."

Memberships in other societies include the APS, USPCS, Vermont Phil. Soc., Penn. PHS and is past President of the Penobscot Valley Stamp Club in Bangor, Maine.

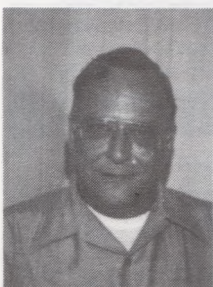


C. W. Bert Christian
2nd Vice President

C. W. BERT CHRISTIAN, 2287-D Via Puerta, Laguna Hills, CA 92653, has been a professional musician, and recently retired as the manager of several Rexall Drug Stores.

Active in philatelic research, writing and collecting, he is currently President of the Society of So. Calif. Philatelists, and is an accredited judge of the APS. A recognized expert in the U.S. issues of 1861, his collections of the 1861 issues have won many Grand Awards in National Competition as well as Gold & Vermeil at International Shows.

His many other philatelic affiliations include SPA, American Philatelic Congress, Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and the Writers Unit of APS. "Bert" has also agreed to serve as our new publicity chairman.



George H. Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer

GEORGE H. LEWIS, P.O. Box 545, Clearfield, PA 16830, graduated from Penn. State Univ., with a degree in Forestry and recently retired after spending 29 years with the Penn. Dept. of Transportation as a Roadside Development Specialist.

He started collecting general U.S. in 1957 and travels extensively to shows in the northeastern section of the country with his wife, Evie, who collects cancellations on the 3¢ rose issues of 1861-68. Evie is the new Awards Chairman for the USCC.

George is also a member of the APS, SPA, Clearfield Philatelic Society and Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society.



Herman Herst, Jr.
Governor at Large

HERMAN HERST, JR., P.O. Box 1583, Boca Raton, FL 33432, is a name well known to philatelists the world-over. Recipient of more philatelic honors and awards than we could possibly list, including the prestigious **Luff Award** of the APS. He is the dean of philatelic writers, and an individual who has been a driving force for philatelic excellence and integrity for almost 50 years. We are indeed fortunate to be able to have "Pat" Herst as a guiding member of our Club.

For Love Of A Cancel _____ by Alyce Evans _____

NORTH EVANS "day-of-the-week" POSTMARKS



Figure 2



Figure 1

North Evans, N.Y. was still using the straight line postmark during the 1851-1861 period — a time when most post offices were already using a circular postmark. When North Evans finally adopted the use of the circular marking, the office did it with gusto, by making it outsized (35 mm), colorful (in blue, with two recorded exceptions), and, they made it uniquely individual by including the day of the week.

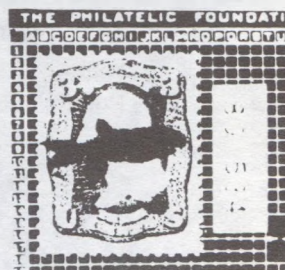
Examples are said to exist for all the days of the week except Sunday, but I have never seen a Saturday example. The Monday and Friday days were printed in their entirety; the others were abbreviated: "Tuesd'y, Wedn'y, Thurs'y." I have recorded examples used in the following years: 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864 and 1870. The earliest date recorded is Nov 21 1861 (Fig. 1), while the latest is Jan 20 1870 (Fig. 2).

All covers are franked with the 3¢ 1861 issue, with the exception of the latest 1870 cover which is an 1864-5 entire. While the postmaster was individualistic with his date stamp, his cancellations were not very imaginative, being for the most part just circular blue grids which wore to blue blobs; one example has a black cds, with black grid; two are pen cancelled; and the 1870 cover (the latest example found) has a black cds and black pen cancel.

It would be interesting to know if covers exist with this "day-of-the-week" marking during the long gap between 1864 and 1870. Does any reader have an example? Is any reader aware of another town which incorporated this unusual feature within its town marking?



In response to our request in the November issue which asked that members send us copies of those cancels which had received fake certificates, two members responded with the three examples shown here. The 'devil & pitchfork' and 'fish' were submitted by **Joseph H. Bowen**. My records show this 'fish' was sold by a large New York auction house in Sept. '79 for \$85.00, and is the only example I have recorded. The 'devil & pitchfork' went in the same auction for \$350.00. **Sidney Reznick** submitted the Waterbury look-alike 'mortar & pestle,' and mentioned he thought the cancel too well struck to be true. After expertization, the dealer refunded his money.

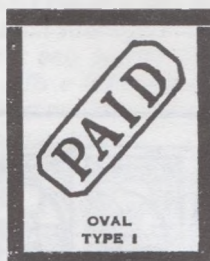


CANCEL UPDATE

Readers are invited to provide information on 19th century fancy cancels which have not been listed in the generally accepted reference works.

ANOTHER BOSTON PAID

reported by Chester E. Wilcox



In George W. Linn's book *The PAID Markings on the 3¢ U.S. Stamp of 1861*, he states that Paid in oval Type I (see above) and Type II are known as "Boston Paid" because they are common from that city. At the time they were unknown from other locations. During the printing of the book one turned up from Santa Clara, CA. in Type I. Linn stated, "I shall be glad to hear if any other collector has found this Boston Paid from any other city than Boston." In Linn's, Jan. 2, 1967, Jack Pressley reported one from Grafton, MA. To my knowledge none has been reported until now. This one is from Cold Brook, NY, Type I. Are there Boston Paid covers from other locations? Your fellow collectors would appreciate knowing about them.

Ed: Another "PAID" cancel, this one in a 'scroll' (not listed in the Linn book nor recorded in Herst-Sampson or Skinner-Eno) exists, with origin in Oswego, NY. The off-cover example in Figure 1 shows a partial double strike; the cover example, Figure 2, was sold in a 1961 auction; and Jim Kesterson reported the Figure 3 example in the June '67 issue of The Chronicle, dating it Aug. '62. All examples here are in black and on Scott #65.



Figure 1



Figure 3

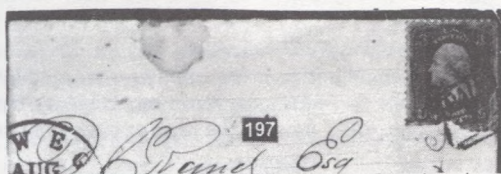
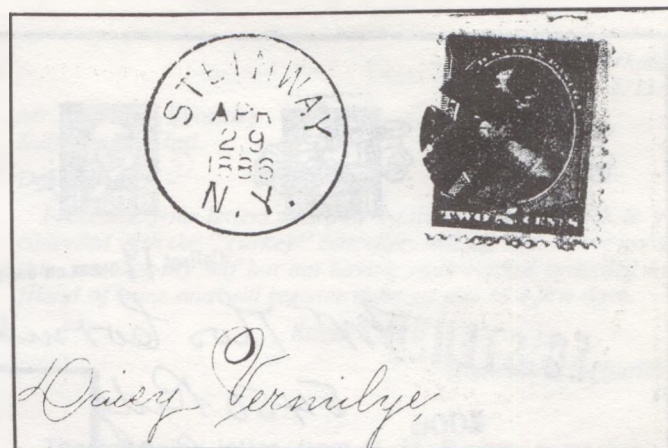
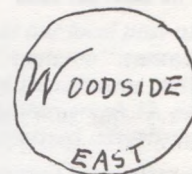


Figure 2

QUESTION CORNER



The above cover is cancelled from Steinway, N.Y. Located in Queens, what connection, if any, did it have with the piano manufacturer? The above sent in by Jim Inverarity.



Jim would also like information on the above "Woodside East" cancel. He thinks it is a railway mail clerk cancel, but Who? and Where? It is in black on a #207.



Daniel Bagby would like to know if this tiny handstamped caricature of "Uncle Sam" is an owner's mark. It is struck in purple on the reverse side of a 19th century Jenkins' Camden Dispatch cover.



Clyde Jennings requests information concerning this very interesting cancel, struck in black on a #220. Clyde thinks it possibly may be a foreign marking. Any comments?

ON THE ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF 20TH C. FANCY CANCELS

by William C. Walker

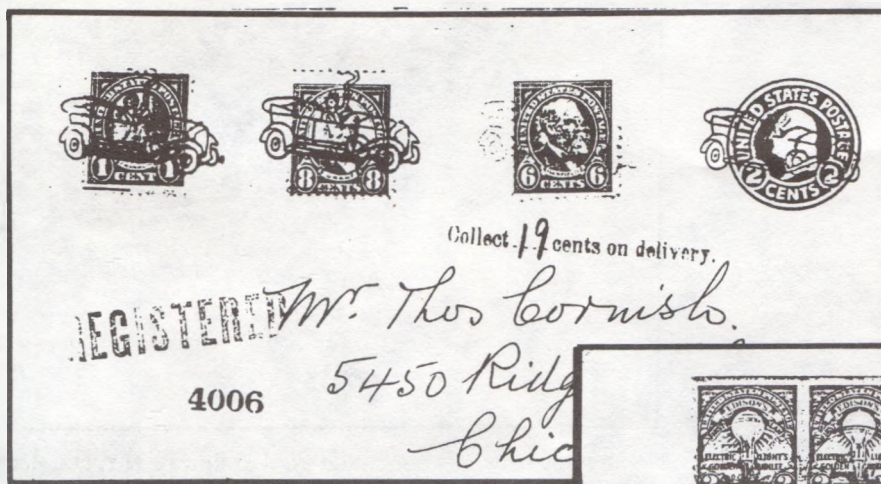


Figure 1. Backstamped Indianapolis, Mar. 18 1930 and Chicago, Ill. Mar. 29, 1930

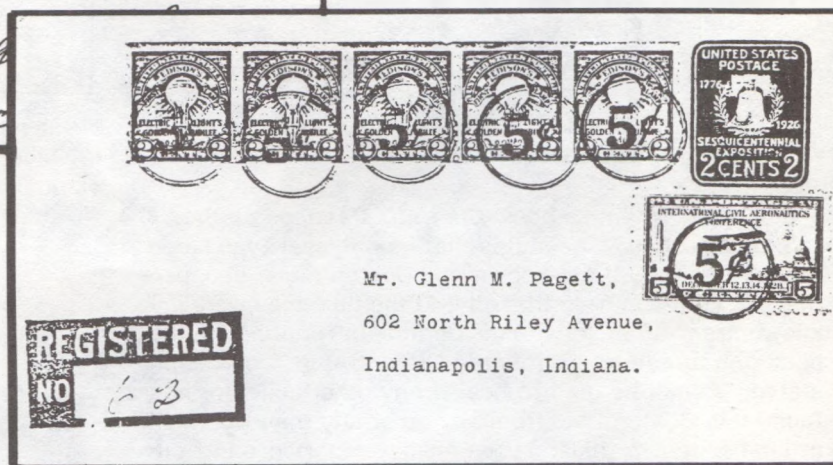


Figure 2. Backstamped Indianapolis Dec. 1, 1930

To continue this series of articles which began in the March '81 issue of the News, Bill Walker illustrates some fancy cancels used from Indianapolis, Ind., and furnishes us with some interesting correspondence between collectors and early postal officials.

The Postmaster of Indianapolis was apparently one official who complied with the Post Office Dept.'s early directives admonishing postmasters not to use fancy and colored cancels on mail. However, *someone* working within the Indianapolis post office didn't agree with the postmaster, as there are registered covers which originated at Indianapolis in March and December of 1930. In March 1930, a cover with four strikes of a girl in an open touring car was used to cancel a cover addressed to Thomas Cornish in Chicago. One strike was in purple and three in blue (Fig. 1). In Dec. 1930, one George Clark sent a cover cancelled with seven strikes of a representation of a nickel (Fig. 2). Both covers are properly backstamped from Indianapolis.

The following correspondence demonstrates some of the confusion which existed in the "thirties" concerning the origin of fancy registry cancels. Collectors seeing a cancel on an envelope would write to that town's postmaster requesting cancellation service, only to find that many of the cancel devices were produced by collectors themselves, who sent their precancelled letters to those offices having distinctive names, for servicing.

Mr. F. I. Bingham wrote to approximately fifty postmasters in towns that were supposedly using fancy registry cancels. Most did not reply. Some stated they never had a

fancy design. The fancy designs that some stated they used, turned out to be just geometrics — not what was considered to be fancies for this period. One PM replied in detail and the correspondence is shown below:

Postmaster
Fly, Ohio

Dear Sir:

I understand that you have been using a special "fly" registry cancellation. Will you please let me know if you are still using this cancellation as in case you are I should like to send you some letters for registration. If you are using a different cancellation, I would greatly appreciate having you send me a sample impression of it.

Thanking you for your trouble, I am,

Yours respectfully,

(signed) F. I. Bingham

The postmaster's reply:

Dear Sir:

I have no special "fly" cancelling stamp. A fellow from Chicago had one made and sent me some precancelled letters but the government has forbidden me from marking any more with freak cancellations. All I have is the regular cancelling stamp.

Yours truly,

*(signed) A. B. Mehiley
P.M.*

Another set of letters in the same vein:

Cumberland, Indiana
September 12, 1930

Postmaster,
Mexico, Indiana

Dear Sir:

Understand that I can get a very neat cancellation of a Mexican or some design from your office on registered mail. Enclosing 5 stamped envelopes only bearing 7¢ each, and with the 50¢ also enclosed kindly affix a 10¢ stamp more on each one. If you are not using such a cancellation please return them to me in the attached stamped envelope.

I would appreciate the register receipts if they go forward.

With many thanks,

(signed) Vernon B. Smith

Mexico Ind
Sept 15 - 1930

Dear Sir:

I have no stamps of a Mexican, a gentleman has one and sends thru this office.

Respectfully

(signed) Grace A Stofer
P.M.

Some following additional letters from the "Shockley" correspondence illustrate examples where the postmasters did provide fancy cancels upon request.

Indianapolis, Indiana
November 21, 1932

Postmaster,
Pershing, Indiana

Dear Sir:

Some of the local stamp collectors received Armistice Day covers postmarked from your office on November 11th with the portrait of General Pershing within a circle. This is surely very unique, and am interested in that line, and if you are still using such a cancellation will you kindly cancel the stamps with this design on the enclosed five stamped and addressed envelopes, sending them in the regular channels and mailing me in the enclosed ordinary stamped envelope the receipts covering the registers. Otherwise if you do not want to do this please return at your convenience.

Respectfully yours,

(signed) Floyd D. Shockley

Pershing, Ind
Dec 17, 1932

Mr. Floyd D. Shockley
Indpl's, Ind

Dear Sir — Your letters go forward this PM — I had to wait a long time to get a canceler. Thanks for the patience that you have shown — the canceler came in this morning and I fixed your letters up at once — In the future you will not have to wait if you favor me with any more business.

If you know of any one that wants mailing of this kind tell them about it as my office is a commission office and it will help me that much. Thanks —

Yours truly Geo. F. Gipe PM

Turkey, Arkansas
2/13/30

Mr. Floyd D. Shockley
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sir:

I received your letters that you wanted registered back to you cancelled with the "Turkey" canceller, will say that I have not got this canceller my self but am having your stamps cancelled by a friend of mine and will register them to you in a few days.

Respt Yours

(signed) E. P. Burleson
PM

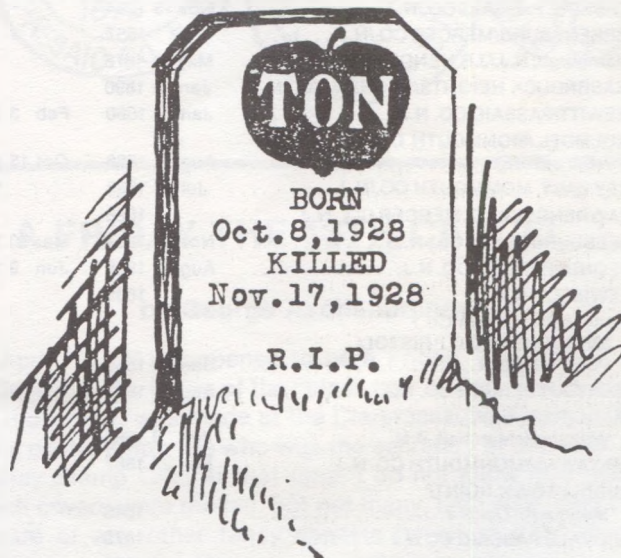
The following letter, from H. M. Brehm, a resident of Appleton, Wisconsin, documents the official demise of the well-known "AppleTON" fancy cancel.

November 17, 1928

Dear Ward—

Just a line to say that our local post-office is this day discontinuing the use of the "Appleton" cancellation on registered mail. This is by order of the Department in Washington, which deems the mark a violation of Paragraph 12, page 93, of the regulations, which forbids "unauthorized advertising" through post-marks.

And thus endeth another interesting chapter in our pet hobby; it was a short life, but a snappy one, so let us put it to rest, gently



H.M. Brehm

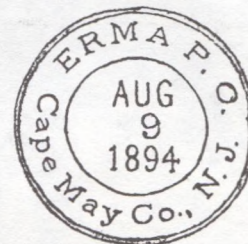
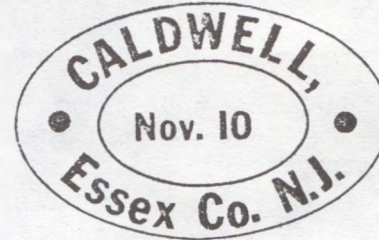
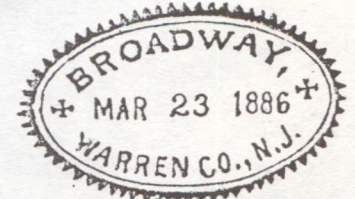
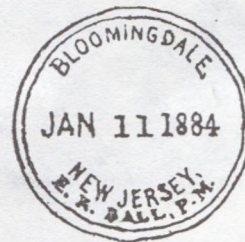
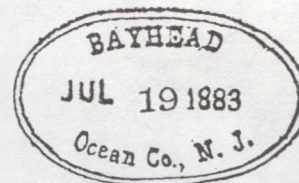
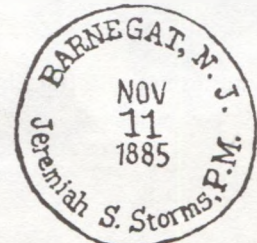
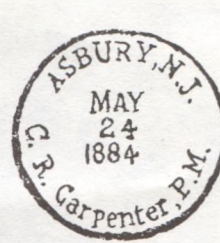
Although many fancy strikes are known from various post offices after the order to discontinue their use, this was the beginning of the end and Mr. Brehm's drawing of the final resting place of the cancelling device seems to be very appropriate as a sign of the times.

PRELIMINARY LISTING OF NEW JERSEY COUNTY & POSTMASTER CANCELS

coordinated by **Brad Arch** from primary sources in the Thompson & Doane listings with additions from the following: William C. Coles, Jr., Brad Arch, C. H. Clippenger, Alyce Evans, Norman Brassler, Samuel Fisvitz, Gerard Neufeld, Richard Micchelli, Henry Stollnitz, John W. Edge & Craig Matthewson.

All readers are solicited to submit additional dates of use for the listed examples, and especially photocopies of any and all new additions to the listing for incorporation into a definitive monograph on the series. Send to **Brad Arch**, 144 Hamilton Ave., Clinton, NJ 07011.

Description of Datestamp:	Dates of Use Reported:	
	Earliest:	Latest:
ASBURY/C.R. Carpenter, P.M.	May 24 1884	Sep 15 1884
BARNEGAT, N.J./Jeremiah S. Storms, P.M.	1881	Nov 11 1885
BAYHEAD/Ocean Co., N.J.	Mar 3 1883	1886
Blairtown N.J./J.D. Vail, Postmaster		
BLAIRSTOWN/N.J.-'JDV' monogram	Oct 26 1876	1886
BLOOMINGDALE/NEW JERSEY/ E.K. BALL, P.M.	Jan 11 1884	1885
BROADWAY/WARREN CO., N.J.	Feb 8 1886	Mar 30 1886
CALDWELL/Essex Co., N.J.	Nov 10 (1880)	— printed
COLLIERS MILL/Ocean Co., N.J.	Feb 17 1887	Apr 9 1887
East Orange/Essex Co., N.J.	c1880	
East Orange/Essex County N.J.	Mar 15 1895	
ERMA P.O./Cape May Co., N.J.	Aug 9 1894	
ERSKINE PASSAIC CO./N.J.	Nov 13 1894	
GREENSBURG/MERCER CO./N.J.	1887	
Hamburgh, N.J./J.B. HENDERSHOTT	May 21 1878	
HASBROUCK HEIGHTS/BERGEN CO., N.J.	Jan 13 1890	
HEWITT/PASSAIC CO. N.J.	Jan 7 1880	Feb 3 1883
HOLMDEL/MONMOUTH CO./ NEW JERSEY	Aug 10 1886	Oct 15 1886
KEY EAST, MONMOUTH CO./N.J.	Jul 16 1885	1886
LAWRENCEVILLE, MERCER CO., N.J.	1888	
LEESBURG/Cumb Co., N.J.	Nov 23 1887	Mar 30 1888
LEONIA/BERGEN CO. N.J.	Aug 10 1868	Jun 9 1870
LEWISTOWN, N.J./ ?	1885	
Manchester, Ocean Co./ NEW JERSEY/C.C. BRISTOL/ POST MASTER.	Jan 12 1869	
MAHWAH/BERGEN CO. N.J.	Aug 2 1887	
MARCELLA, NEW JERSEY/ William H. Marshall, P.M.	Jun 8 1886	
MATAWAN/MONMOUTH CO. N.J.	Mar 27 1867	
MIDDLETOWN POINT/ Monmouth Co./N.J.	1846	1854
MIDVALE PASSAIC CO N J	1878	
MILLTOWN/Middlesex Co., N.J.	Mar 7 1887	
MOUNTAIN VIEW,/Passaic Co. N.J.	1882	Dec 15 1897
MOUNT HOPE/MORRIS CO. N.J.	Feb 22 1894	
NEWARK, N.J./CORRECT/ WILLIAM WARD, P.M.	1874	1882
NEWTON,/Sussex Co. N.J.	1820s	
NEPTUNE, MONMOUTH CO./N.J.	Aug 6 1883	
OCEANVILLE, N.J./ATLANTIC CO.	1887	
PITTSTOWN/HUNTERDON Co./ NEW JERSEY	Jul 31 1886	1887
PLAINSBOROUGH,/MIDDLESEX CO., NEW JERSEY	1887	
RINGWOOD/PASSAIC CO. N.J.	Feb 22 1878	
SHREWSBURY,/Monmouth/County,/N.J.	1886	
TUCKAHOE/Cape May Co. N.J.	Sep 25 1891	Jul 12 1893
VAILSBURGH/ESSEX CO. N.J.	Jun 20 1884	

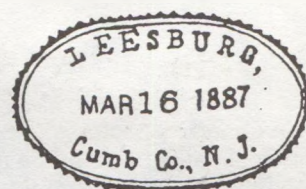
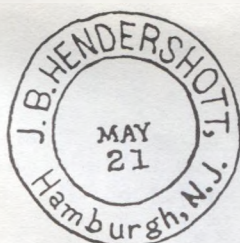


East Orange,
Essex Co., N. J.

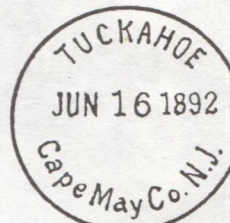
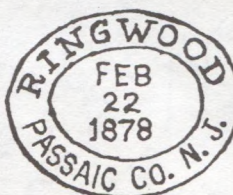
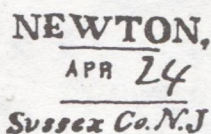
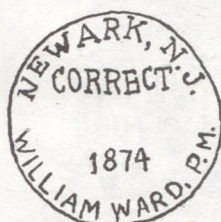
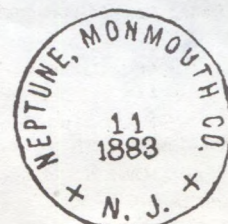
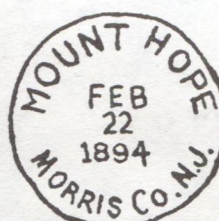
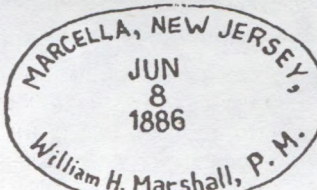
East Orange, Essex County, N. J.



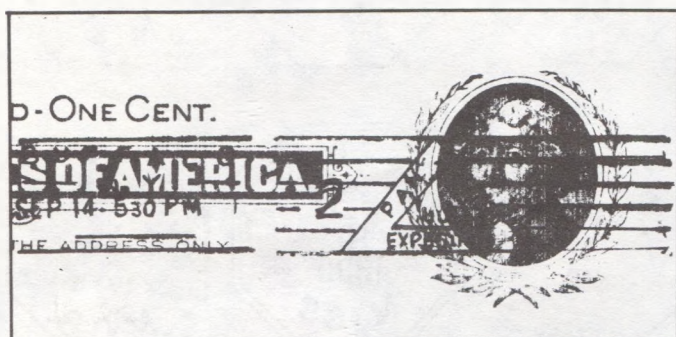
HASBROUCK HEIGHTS
JAN 13 1890
BERGEN CO., N.J.



LAWRENCEVILLE, MERCER CO., N. J.



A FAVORITE CANCEL

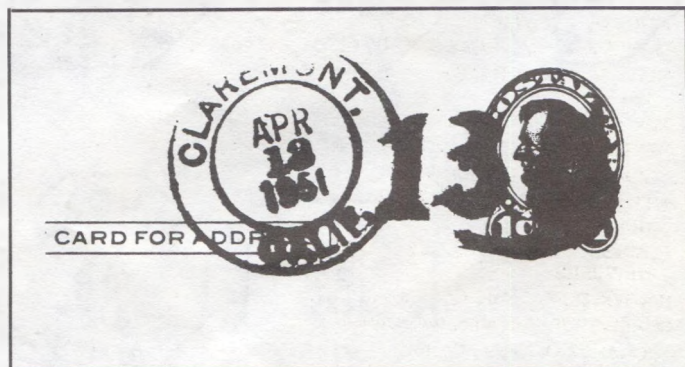


Joe McDonough shares a favorite slogan cancel for the Pan American Exposition which additionally has historic, but somewhat morbid, importance. This postcard was cancelled in Buffalo, New York on September 14, 1901 — the date and city where President McKinley died after being shot at the Pan American Exposition. The cancel is a Barry machine cancel, Type K-53 showing the triangular logo of the Pan American Exposition.

A FRIDAY THE 13TH CANCEL

by George Aschenbrenner

April 13, 1951 happened to be a Friday. The black "13" adjacent to the figure of the "black cat" sitting with its back to the viewer, was made at the Claremont, California office by a postal employee who was the secretary of the Pomona Valley Stamp Club at that time. I do not know how many such covers were mailed, but not many, I am sure. I am not aware of any other fancy cancels he might have made.



MISSISSIPPI OCTAGONAL POSTMARKS

By Don Garrett

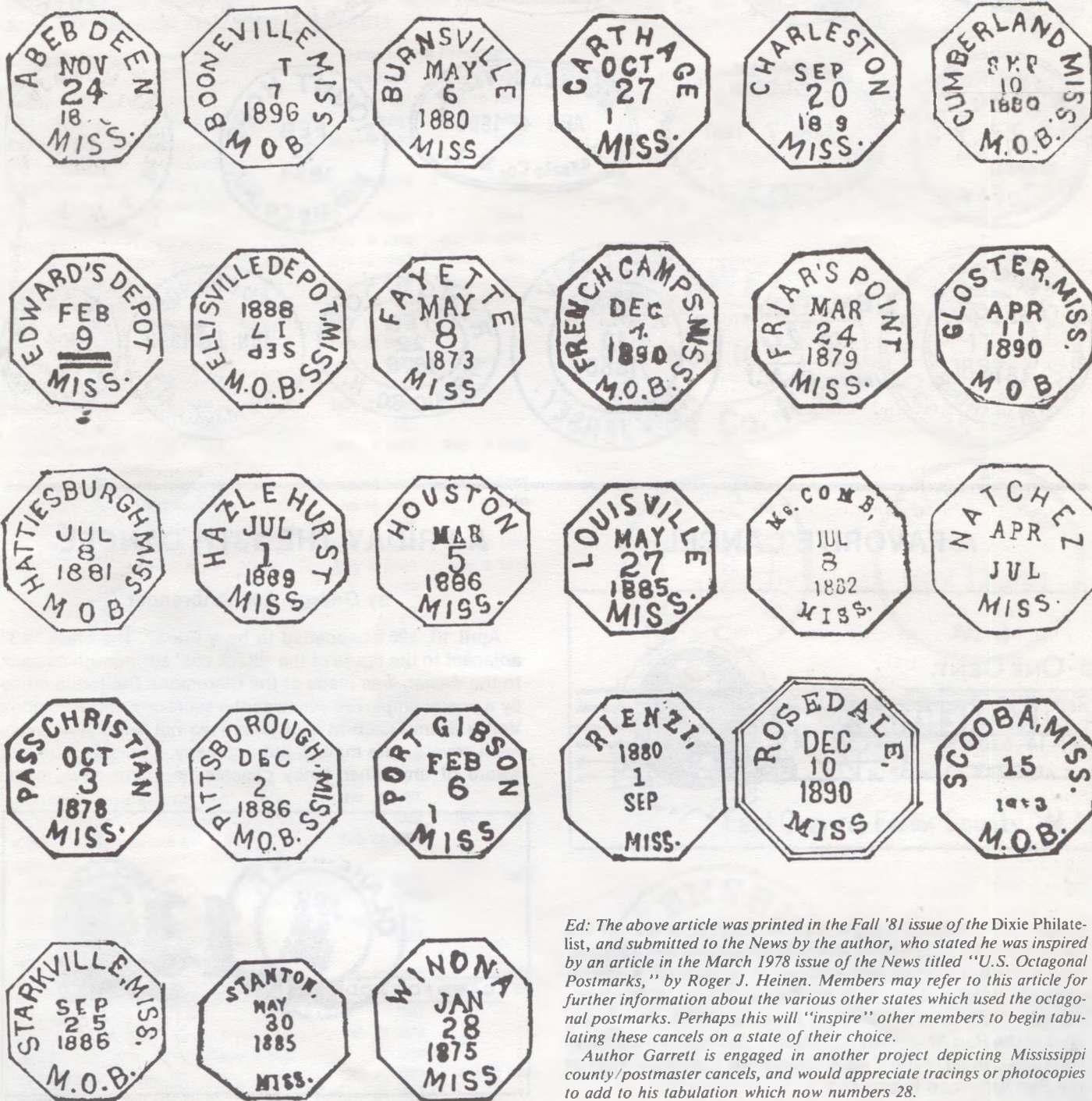
Postmark collectors have long been aware of the octagonal postmarks used during the period of the 1870s to 1890s.

More research is needed on this interesting postmark. Most of the states formed prior to 1900 seem to have used at least a few of these interesting markings. Ohio and Illinois had very high usage of this mark.

You will note many instances of the initials "M.O.B."

(Money Order Business). The Natchez marking accompanying this article was used as a stamp receipt for box rent; therefore using the month only and not the date and year slugs.

If any member has markings to add to this collection, please send them to me at 1010 Metairie Road, Jackson, Miss., 39209.

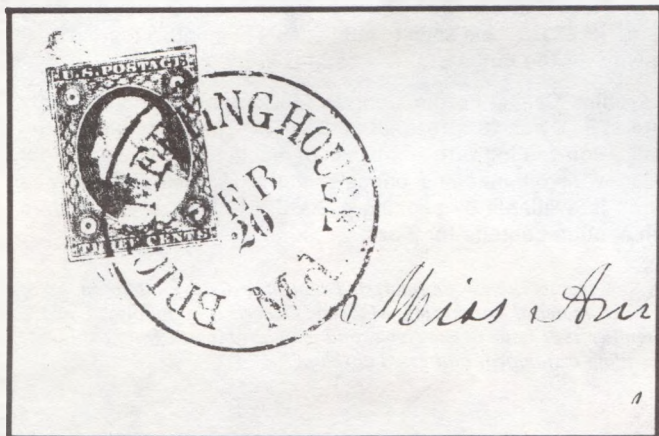


Ed: The above article was printed in the Fall '81 issue of the Dixie Philatelist, and submitted to the News by the author, who stated he was inspired by an article in the March 1978 issue of the News titled "U.S. Octagonal Postmarks," by Roger J. Heinen. Members may refer to this article for further information about the various other states which used the octagonal postmarks. Perhaps this will "inspire" other members to begin tabulating these cancels on a state of their choice.

Author Garrett is engaged in another project depicting Mississippi county/postmaster cancels, and would appreciate tracings or photocopies to add to his tabulation which now numbers 28.

BRICK MEETING HOUSE, MARYLAND

by Jim Inverarity



This post office opened September 7, 1802. Its name was changed to *Calvert* on May 12, 1880 and it was discontinued on August 31, 1908.

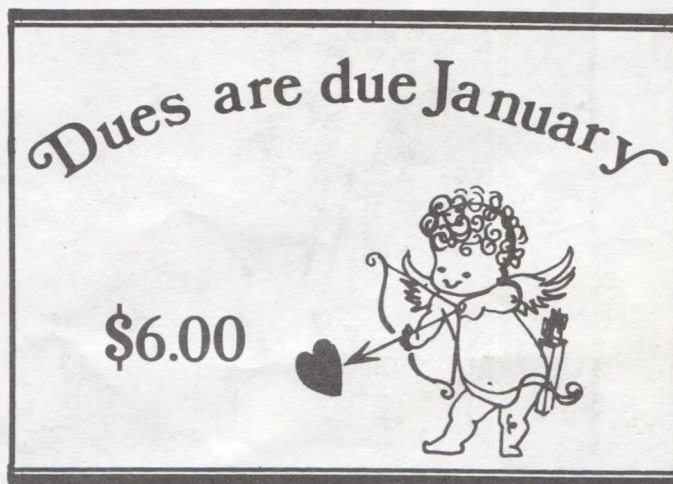
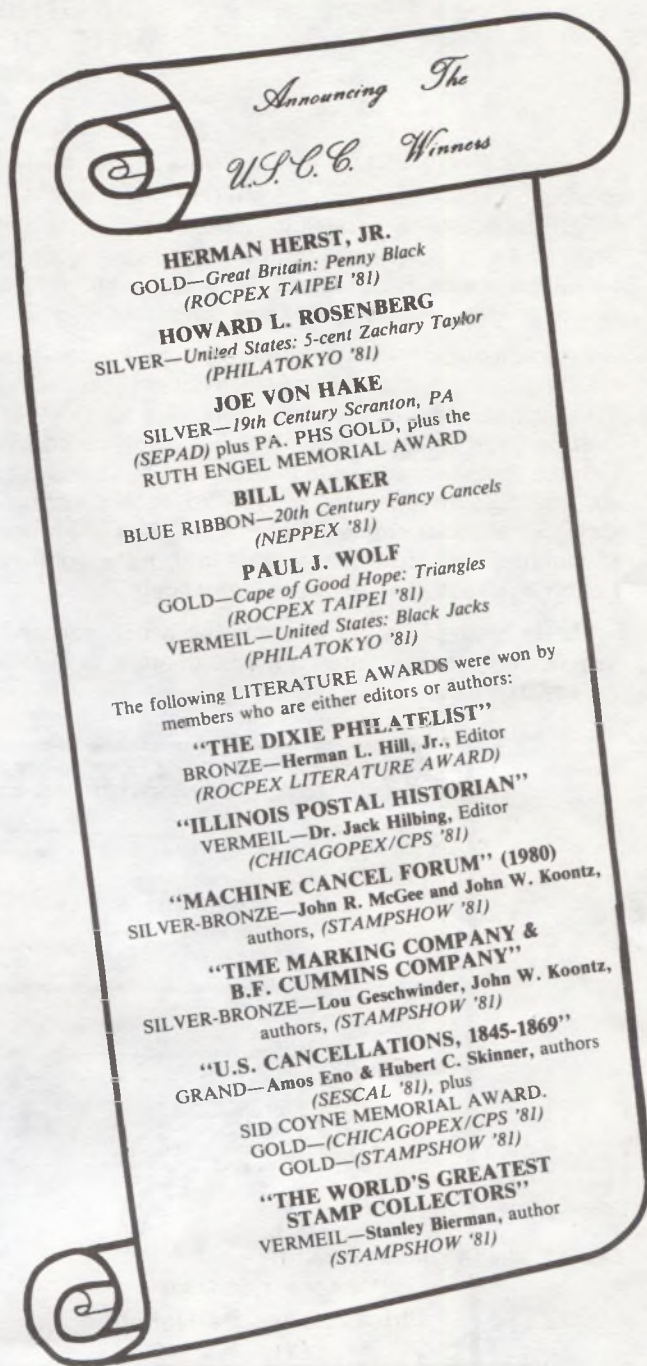
Located in Cecil county in the northeastern corner of the state, it is named for the Quaker church established by a group of Pennsylvanians who had received title to the land from William Penn in 1702. (The Penn family and the Calvert family of Maryland contested ownership of the land for some six decades.)

Originally known as the "East Nottingham Friends Meeting House," it was constructed of logs in 1709 and replaced by a brick structure in the 1720s.

MARYLAND
Cecil county

BRICK MEETING HOUSE 1802-1880

7 Sep 1802	Established
7 Sep 1802	Ellis Chandler
1 Jul 1816	Israel White
30 Sep 1823	Nathaniel Bender
16 Aug 1825	Joseph Haines
8 Apr 1839	John White
4 Feb 1842	Silburn Chandler
13 Mar 1844	Ellis G. Chandler
1 Apr 1844	Milton White
24 May 1847	John White
5 Jan 1848	Charles H. Haines
19 Feb 1856	Reuben Passmore
30 Mar 1858	John C. Cameron
30 Mar 1861	John M. Ireland
25 Jun 1872	James C. Wilson
12 Dec 1872	Charles R. Martindell
12 Nov 1877	James C. Crothers
12 May 1880	Name changed to CALVERT, retain James C. Crothers as postmaster
27 Apr 1885	August J. Craig
6 Sep 1890	John E. Crothers
31 Aug 1908	Discontinued, mail to Nottingham, Pa.



MACHINE CANCELS — WHO COLLECTS THEM?

by John W. Koontz

Machine cancels are collected for various reasons by Exposition collectors (Fig. 1), Military collectors (Fig. 2), R.P.O. collectors (Fig. 3), Ship collectors (Fig. 4), Slogan Collectors (Fig. 5), First Day Cover collectors (Fig. 6), Fancy cancel collectors (Fig. 7), State and Town collectors (Fig. 8), and of course, by Machine cancel collectors (Fig. 9).

While many of these collectors don't specialize in machine cancels, they nevertheless collect them — not for the machine aspect of the cancel but for some other philatelic reason. Possibly many collectors only cursorily deal with the machine cancels in their collections because they are confused or unaware of how to obtain information about a particular cancel. Fortunately there are a number of authors, collectors and editors who have published a wealth of information on machine cancels.

The following is a list of societies which can and will help not only the beginner, but also dealers, in evaluating their material.

Flag Cancel Society, David Prosser, Sec., 7664 State St. Rd., Watertown, NY 13601. This society publishes *Flag Cancellations*, a bi-monthly journal; an award-winning publication dealing with flag cancels.

4th Class Cancellation Club, Bill Rapp, Editor, 430 Ivy Ave., Crete, NB 68333. This society publishes a bi-monthly journal dealing with a wide range of U.S. Postal History.

Machine Cancel Forum, John R. McGee and John W. Koontz, editors, P.O. Box 98, Greenbelt, MD 20770. This is a free monthly publication dealing with all phases of machine cancels and is the major work on machine cancels in the U.S. *Machine Cancel Forum* is available by sending a S.A.E. #10 size, to the editors, with enough postage for 2 ozs.

Ed: New members may be interested that an extensive bibliography of reference material concerning Machine Cancels was published in the September 1981 issue of the News, and may be obtained from the Editor by sending a stamped, addressed envelope.



Figure 1. Barry Cancel

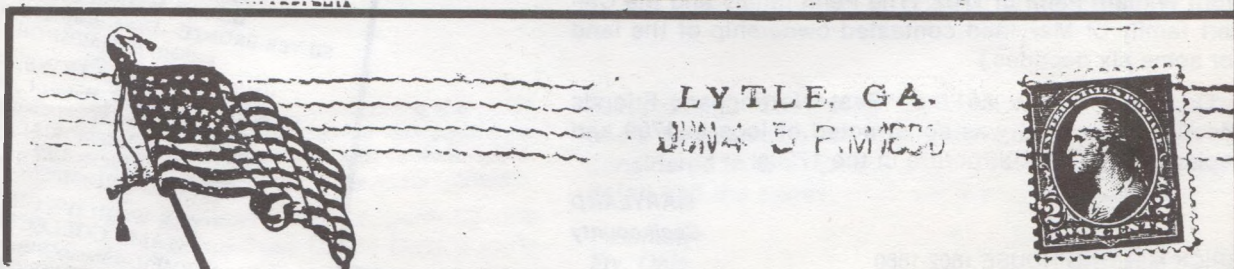


Figure 2. Milan & Homes cancel



Figure 3. American, Flag Cancel

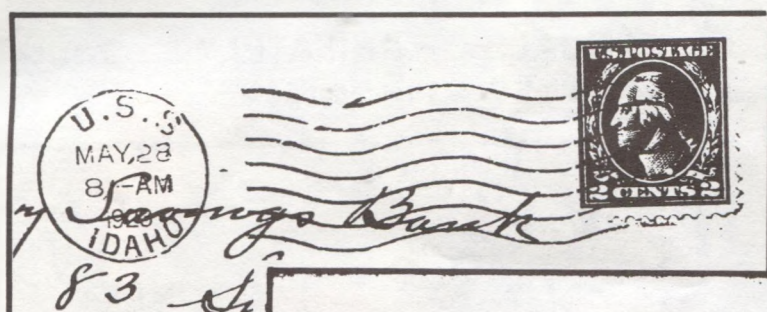


Figure 4. Columbia Cancel

Figure 8. Potter & Vail Cancel

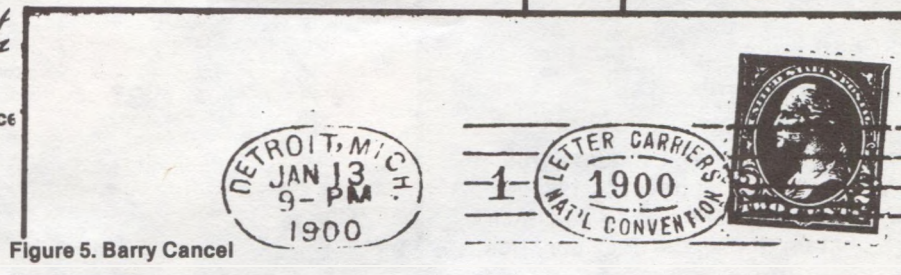
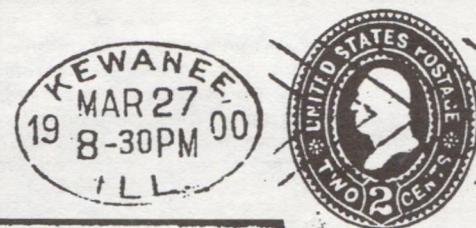


Figure 5. Barry Cancel

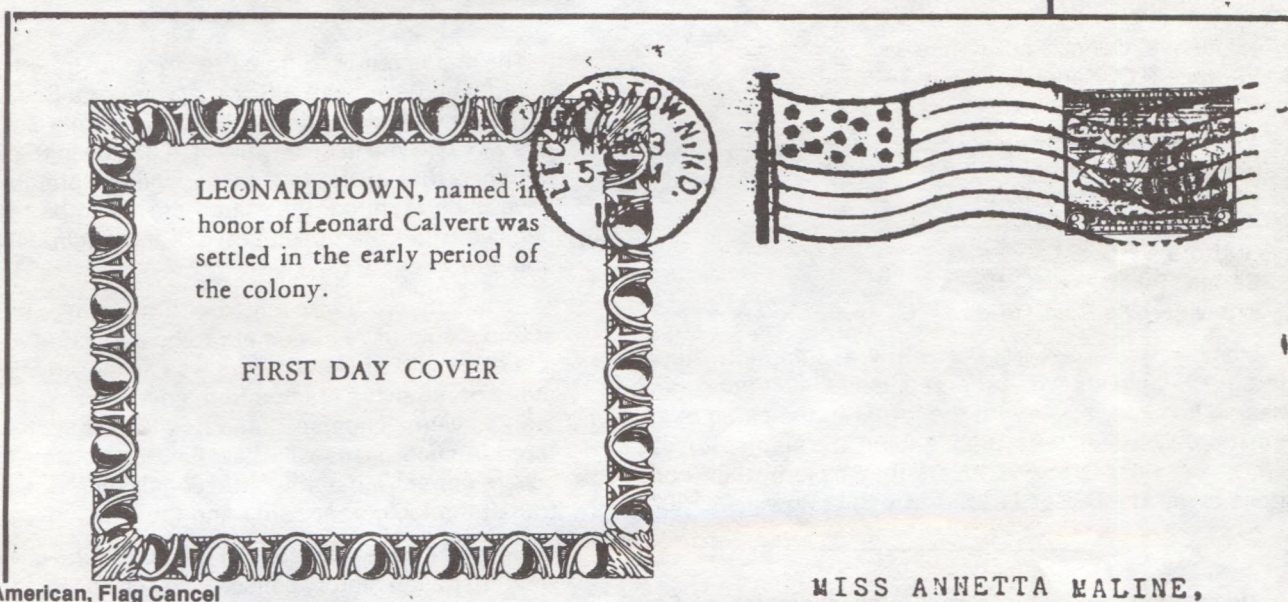


Figure 6. American, Flag Cancel

MISS ANNETTA MALINE,

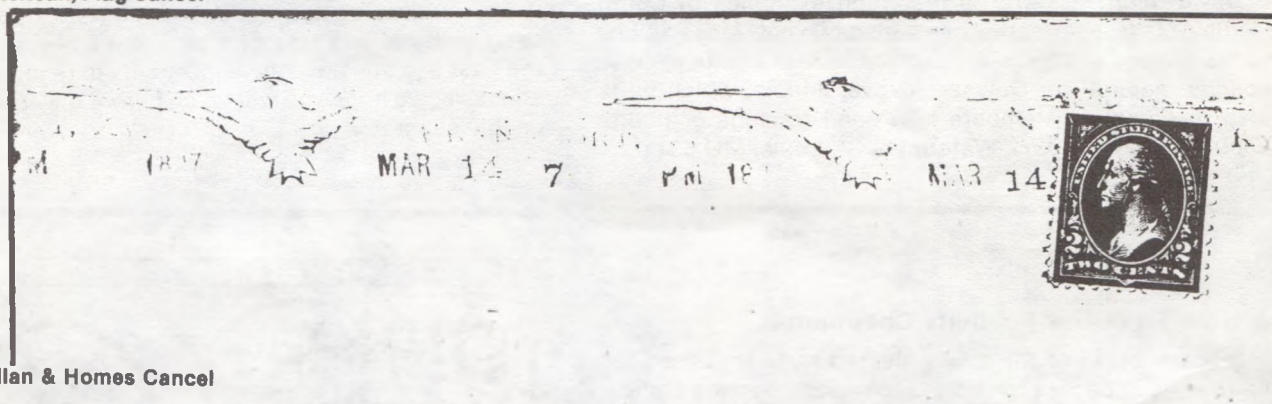


Figure 7. Milan & Homes Cancel

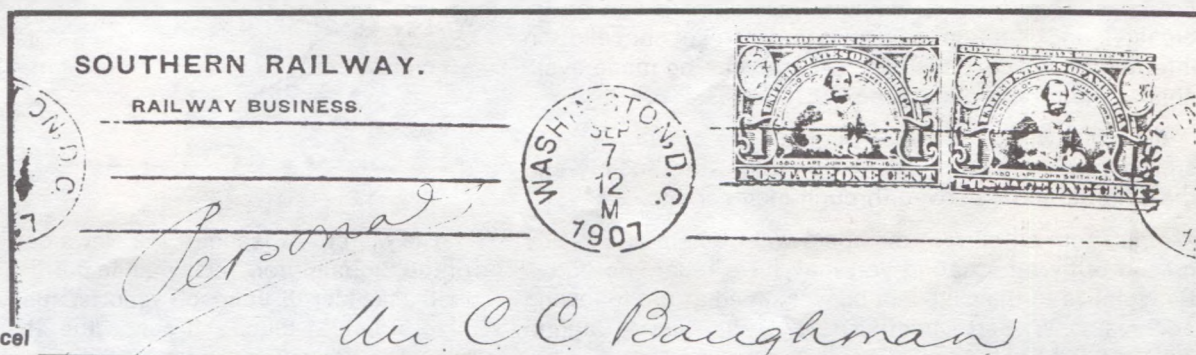


Figure 9. Krag Cancel

PROJECT RESEARCH

This column is a free service to those members involved with research and data gathering. Philatelic research is, for the most part, a labor of love, and the rewards are not measured monetarily. Readers are urged to support those who unselfishly give of their time toward the furthering of philatelic knowledge, by submitting information when it is asked for. In sharing our knowledge, we all benefit!

"Post Office" Postmarks . . . An Update

by John W. Koontz

The following list was received from **N. Leonard Persson** in response to my call for help in the September '81 issue of the News, which discussed a compilation of "Post Office" cancels — those which contain the words "P.O." or "Post Office" in the CDS.

Waterville, Conn., Post Office.
Peotone P.O. Kansas
Cobdell P.O. Louisiana
Valley Centre P.O. Mich
Lumberton N.J. Post Office
Bellmore P.O. New York
Kaaterskill P.O. NY.
Stafford's P.O. S.C.
Belton, Texas Post Office
Pittsville, Wis Post Office

Member Persson agrees with my assumption that the target example shown in the Sep. issue is a duplex, as he has an Ilchester cover with the target in the same relative position. Will members please send the names of other "P.O." or "Post Office" cancels they have in their collections to me at P.O. Box G, W. Bowie Sta., Bowie, MD 20715.

David Simmons, who is recording examples of South Hadley, Mass. postmarks, has added two new Mass. towns to his project — Worcester and Malden. In addition, Dave solicits material for Downers Grove, Illinois, which he is also researching. Members may send tracings or photocopies to Dave at 5572 Waterman, St. Louis, MO 63112.

A Note From Our Publicity Chairman . . .

It is the belief of the newly elected slate that the Club can very well benefit by increased exposure in the philatelic press. Through this medium, membership can be increased and through new members fresh cancellation information, discoveries and research can be made available to the rapidly expanding USCC News.

An effort will be made throughout the coming term to supply collectors with information about the Society and the benefits to be derived through membership.

Input from all current members will be helpful and any press-worthy information you may have regarding activities relative to the Club will be welcomed at the following address: **C. W. Bert Christian**, 2287-D Via Puerta, Laguna Hills, CA 92653.

VANDALS OF PHILATELY

by Prof. C. S. Thompson, Jr.

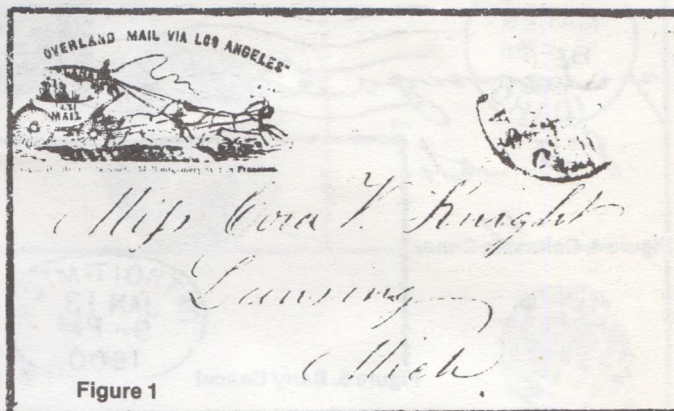


Figure 1

The stamp removed from the cover illustrated in Figure 1, might well have been a Sc#31, Type I or a Sc#34, Type IV. However, it could have just as easily been a Sc#32, Type II or a Sc#33, Type III. In any event, it has been the writer's experience that in the few cases where a stamp and cover have been reunited, the stamp proved to be the least expensive of all the possible types the original letter writer could have used.

If that theory had been true in this case, the removed stamp would have turned out to be a Sc#35, Type V. When one of the old time collectors was asked why he had been guilty of removing stamps from covers, he replied that the stamps were "cheapies" and he didn't think it really mattered in such cases whether the stamps were left on the covers or not. Apparently little cognizance was taken as to transit marks, corner cards and the like.

Needless to say, the loss of this particular cover to some western postal history collector will bring tears to his eyes. If any readers of this *Vandals of Philately* column have been guilty of this kind of stamp and cover separation in the past and still have the opportunity to reunite the stamp and cover we hope you will do so before they become irrevocably separated.



The March '74 issue of the News carried an illustration of the Bloomington, ILL. "man in profile in a circle," struck in black. **Merrill Johnson** reports this same cancel was also struck in blue, and sends the above example, on a UX3. The docketing reads Oct 23/74.



THE MAIL BAG

Dear Alyce:

What a beautiful, delicious surprise was waiting for me in the P.O. this morning. Thank you and all those lovely voters for sending the magnificent avocados to snow-covered Connecticut. I know we'll enjoy eating them, trying some of the enclosed recipes and using that great little ripening bag. Don't return my dues — use it for postage so you continue writing to all of us.

The Happy Blue Bird!
Jean (West)

With reference to the fancy geometric shown in the November '81 Question Corner, Henry Beecher has the following comments:

Not being able to think of another intended use for the device that was used to cancel the stamp, I suppose it must have been made as a canceller; but I have no idea where or why it was used. I think the letters engraved or stamped around the rim of the (brass?) device must identify the manufacturer. The caption gives letters in clockwise order for the left segment, but does not keep the same direction in giving the right-hand letters.

From what is visible in the illustration, and trusting the caption decipherment beyond that, I think that if the device were viewed with the part making the right-hand imprint at the top, the legend would read: EIG -- CO ESSEN / ERCASE ETNA 600. I think this must give the maker's name and city (in Germany), followed in the lower (left, as printed) segment by the local address. Having the street address below the name of the city, and the house number at the right of the street name would accord with normal German practice. "Etna" would seem to be an appropriate name for some feature in Essen, the volcano being suggested by the city's many blast furnaces. (If it is "etwa," meaning "approximately," the street address theory would fall.) Perhaps this will give some clue to someone who knows German. What could "ercase" (possibly "escale"?) mean at the beginning of a street address? Could the "Eig" be the beginning "be," the word for "Quality"? Is it known that many cancelling devices used in this country were made in Germany?

Ed: I'm not aware of any, Henry. Perhaps a reader knows. I DO know, the thing so closely resembled an attachment to an antique food chopper my German grandmother owned, but after dragging it down from the attic was disappointed when I found the inscription written around the edge read, "Made in the U.S."!

STAMP THEFT COMMITTEE

USCC members should immediately report any stamp thefts by telephone to James H. Beal, Chairman, Stamp Theft Committee, P.O. Box 2457, Vienna, OH 44473. Telephone: (216) 856-5895.

Dear Editor:

There is nothing in the Chap. XI act of 4/3/60 relating to return of unclaimed letters rather than advertising as suggested by Henry Beecher in the Mail Bag item of the November '81 News. However, Chap. XII of 4/6/1860 reads:

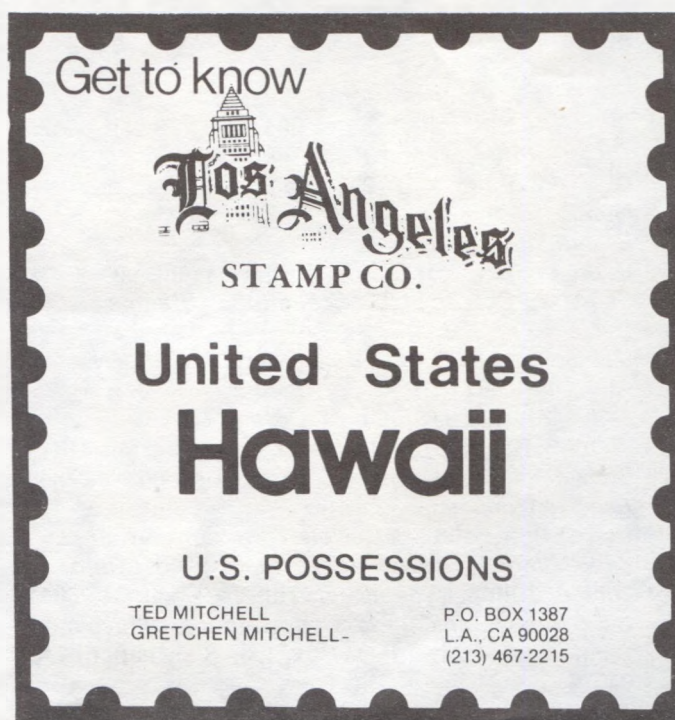
"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Rep. of the US of A in Congress assembled, That when any person shall indorse on any letter his or her name and place of residence, as writer thereof, the same after remaining uncalled for at the office to which it is directed 30 days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned by mail to said writer; and no such letters shall be advertised, nor shall the same be treated as dead letters, until so returned to the post-office of the writer and there remain(ing) uncalled for one quarter."

This law is referred to in the Extracts from the PL of session of 1860-1 issued to Pm's by Blair on May 1, 1861 under instruction #17.

Sincerely,
Calvet M. Hahn.

Mr. Beecher replied to the above with the following:

It appears the last paragraph of my letter was wrong. You should mention that apparently all letters bearing the sender's name and address were required by statute to be returned from 1860 to 1 July 1863; thereafter, until the Act of 27 July 1868 was implemented, only those bearing a specific request for return. A little research (in *US Mail & Post Office Assistant* should be enough) is probably needed to determine just how POD regulations applied the statutes.



NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following:

- 1413 David S. Zubatsky, 2404 Southwood, Champaign, IL 61820
Flag & Variety Cancels on FDC; Milwaukee PH; Champaign/Urbana, IL PH.
- 1414 David A. Lennox, Sr., 2 Prichard Way, Atlanta, GA 30326
U.S., Dealer/Coll.
- 1415 Keith A. Larson, 3246 Softwater Lake Dr., NE, Apt. 104, Grand Rapids, MI 49505
First Day and Space-Aviation Covers with unusual Cancellations
- 1416 Harold Dylhoff, 7641 Paulson Rd., Box 212 R1, Gobles, MI 49055
Mich. PH; Fancy Cancels from Naval Ships; Bikini 1946 Atom Test Covers
- 1417 James Kern, c/o Post Office, Oronoco, MI 55960
Classic USA—#7,9,10,11,20,23,24s & 64,65s, with Cancellations as well as Types; Art on Stamps; International Pictorial Cancellations
- 1418 Donald A. Anderson, P.O. Box 6566, St. Paul, MN 55106
Machine Cancels; Hand Cancels of Minnesota
- 1419 Thomas Corette, P.O. Box 5, Mountainville, NY 10953
1893, 1894 Cancels
- 1420 Kenneth O. Hale, 13125 E. 44th Terr., Independence, MO 64055
General
- 1421 James C. Cate, 7354 McCormack Dr., Hixson, TN 37343
U.S. #65,88,94,184; Postage Dues; General U.S.
- 1422 Mark A. Higgins, P.O. Box 173, Maynard, MA 10754
Cancels; U.S. Used, Unused; CZ; Philippines.
- 1423 Robert L. Lisbeth, 6208 Long Meadow Rd., McLean, VA 22101
VA. Postal History: Colonial-Present
- 1424 Stephen A. Paczolt, P.O. Box 694, La Grange, IL 60525
19th century Covers; RPOs; Postal History
- 1425 George F. Baier, M.D., 9150 Santa Barbara Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422
Everything!
- 1426 George K. Lewis, P.O. Box 651, Florissant, MO 63032
Flags; RPOs; Spec. Cancellations; Stamps. Coll./Dealer
- 1427 Michael McClung, 4405 Valley Quail Blvd. N., Westerville, OH 43081
19th century U.S. Stamps & Covers
- 1428 Victor B. Bailey, 6137 Nest Side, Columbia, MD 21045
- 1429 Donald H. Getz, 10 Hillside Terrace, Montvale, NJ 07645
Ben Franklin Issues
- 1430 Robert Potts, 105 So. Cleveland, Albany, OR 97321
4-Bar; Slogans; RPO; Flags; Doremus; Post Cards
- 1431 John S. Britton, 86 Jerusalem Hill, Trumbull, CT 06611
U.S.; Wash./Frank. 08-21; Cancellations; all used.
- 1432 Richard Lancaster, P.O. Box 383, Skowhegan, ME 04976
Pictorial & Space Cancels on Cover; U.S. Stamps & Covers; Philatelic Literature.
- 1433 Nancy K. Murray, 143 Clarkson Dr., Apt. 45, Fairbanks, AK 99701
Fancy Cancels on U.S. 1861-1868 Issues.

REINSTATED:

- 1168 David S. Liebschutz, P.O. Box 3198, Naples, FL 33939
Early U.S. 19th century, on & off Cover.
- 1192 David G. Phillips, P.O. Box 611388, North Miami, FL 33161
U.S. Cancellations, General. Dealer/Coll.
- 1194 William G. Delano, Jr., 326 Byrnes, San Antonio, TX 78209
3¢ Greens primarily; 2¢ Green; 2¢ Brown; misc. Cancels on 19th century issues; Covers, primarily 3¢ Green Postal History and other "interesting" ones.
- 737 A. Schrier, P.O. Box 56, Redwood City, CA 94064
U.S. Mint & Fancy Cancels; BNA; Japan; Ryukyus
- 365 Lewis K. Foster, Jr., 5316 S. Carley Ave., Whittier, CA 90601
Early U.S. Stamps & Cancels

RESIGNED:

Mark Metkin; James Etherton; Millicent Witz

"CLOSED ALBUMS"

James H. Cochrane

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- Carey Brown, P.O. Box 5, East Norwich, NY 11732
- Ronald Conkling, Box 311, Flandreau, SD 57028
- Frank Mandel, P.O. Box 157, NYC, NY 10014
- Dr. Richard Mayerson, 515 S. Main St., Lockhart, TX 78644
- Ralph N. Oko, 964 E. 25th St., Hialeah, FL 33010
- Wyman C. Peterzen, Route 1, Box 198, So. Haven, MN 55382
- John W. Watts, Jr., P.O. Box 140785, Nashville, TN 37214-0785
- Werner Burkhardt, 5049 Santa Rita Rd., Richmond, CA 94803

ADDRESS CORRECTION:

Merrill S. Johnson, 2508 W. Vassar Dr., Visalia, CA 93277

NAME CHANGE:

Dr. Richard Mayerson to Dr. Richard Adams

LIBRARY UPDATE

A recent addition to our Library is the book, *The World's Greatest Stamp Collectors*, written by member **Stanley M. Bierman, M.D.**

Our sincere appreciation to member **Ronald W. Lawler**, for donating the following issues of *Postal Markings*:

1934: Volume 3, #9, 10, 11, 12.

1935: Volume 4, #1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.

The USCC has exchanged our back issues with those of the Vermont Postal History Society. We now have in our Library, copies of their quarterly journal, *The Vermont Philatelist*, from Issue No. 1, May 1956, to the present time. Included in this collection is an INDEX covering the period to May, 1971.

Donations of material relating to postal markings and cancellations or to postal history are appreciated, and members who have duplicates of such material are urged to donate them to our Library. Suggestions for future acquisitions, pertinent to the purposes of our organization should be sent to our Librarian, who will work within the framework of his budget to acquire them. The USCC Librarian is **William H. Bauer**, Box 1449, Spring, TX 77373.