

Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Arlington Meetings: First Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
 Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St.
Eules Meetings: Third Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.
 12750 S. Pipeline Rd, #1C (Central Station Marketing)
Lake Granbury Meetings: 4th Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
 Bentwater Activities Center (adjacent to Bentwater Marina)



CHAPTER
MEMBER



#0891-076252

#90

Volume 31, Number 10

<http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

October 2018

New SSK & New Flag ATM Stamp

By Peter Elias

In April 2018, the USPS announced that it would be replacing all 2,843 SSK (self-service kiosks) in the USA, leaving them with 2,745 (after some adjustments for underutilized and new kiosks).

There are over 90 of these kiosks at post offices here in the Dallas / Ft. Worth area; I spoke with one of the contractor installing these and they said that they are installing 110 of them in North Texas and Oklahoma between now and November.

The first one installed in this area was at the Northwest Plano Post Office at Zip Code 75025; that was coincidentally one of the 10 original post offices that trial the kiosks (that are now being replaced) back in April 2012!



A photo of the new kiosk is shown to the left. It does have a more "modern" look that the old blue ones that it is replacing. It is supposed to be easier to use. While it does appear to be that in general, I found that the touch screens require more effort and the units are not as tall, so you are looking down at the screen rather than it being closer to eye level.

While a couple of kiosks were installed as early as April in other parts of the USA, the project seemed to have stalled out and was restarted in August.

Having had the "heads up" on a couple of the installations in my area, I was able to get to the kiosks right after they were installed.

Along with the new kiosks, the USPS released a new SSK Flag stamp (to be #CVP109), featuring a close-up view of the flag (the older stamp, #CVP91) which had a sky in the background.

Unfortunately the installers do not seem to check the settings of the machine and all 4 machines that I visited in The Colony, Plano and Richardson printed the "USPS Eagle" as an error overprint on the flag design (both new and old designs!). Additionally, these settings cause the "Barcode Matrix" design (see below) to also print on the flag rather than on the separate "FOLD HERE" large postage labels.

It's been an exciting time; after several years of no major activity, finally some new stuff to play with and research! There are lots of details, and I hope to have an exhibit for EXPO 2019!



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Stamping Around

Newsletter of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club

Peter Elias, Editor (news@mid-citiesstampclub.com)

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2017 - 2018 MID-CITIES OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Ray Cartier

First Vice-President – Ray Moyer

Second Vice-President – Richard Hildebrandt

Secretary – Benedict Termini

Treasurer – Judy Christmas

Board of Directors (voting):

Alliene Franklin Ralph Poore Ken Wills

Immediate Past President: Michael Smith

Membership in the Mid-Cities Stamp Club is available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Feel free to attend any of our 3 different meeting sites in the greater Dallas / Ft. Worth area! Dues are only \$12 per year (higher for mailed newsletters). For more information, the editor is reachable during business hours at (972) 671-0077 or : editor@mid-citiesstampclub.com

For a membership application write to:

Mid-Cities Stamp Club
P.O. Box 2158
Arlington, TX 76004-2158

or visit: <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

Coming Attractions

2018

SEP. 25 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Program: “Stamping With Golf” by Ken Aldridge

SEP. 29 **Chautauqua, Waxahachie**

Ray & Karen Cartier will represent the club with a table at this annual event.

OCT. 3 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Program: Annual Picnic & EXPO Envelope stuffing

OCT. 6 **EXPO Planning Meeting**

Dave’s BBQ, 2224 W. Park Row Dr, Pantego 76013

OCT. 12-13 **Dallas Fall Postcard Show**

Comfort Inn Suites, 700 Central Parkway East, Plano

OCT. 17 **MCSC—EULESS Meeting**

Program: TBD

OCT. 23 **MCSC—LAKE GRANBURY Meeting**

Club Picnic &

Program: Jim Myers (*Title to be Determined*)

NOV. 7 **MCSC—ARLINGTON Meeting**

Annual Meeting

Program: TBD

Editor’s Forum

By Peter Elias

As you may know, I maintain a “newsletter download website” at <http://mid-citiesstampclub.webs.com> (which is separate from the club’s official website at <http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com> and which is maintained by James Myers). Notice that the main difference is the word “webs”. Webs.com provides free websites to anyone and includes a fair number of features. One of these is a free calendar option, so I have populated it with the club’s meeting sites and our EXPO (and the local TSDA bourse).



Members in the News

- Peter Elias’ June 2018 Stamping Around article “TV Philately - Mechanic Resurrection” was reprinted with permission in the September 2018 “*The Indo-China Philatelist*” on page 2,136.

Secretary’s Report

By Benedict Termini

Membership Summary – September 5, 2018

Membership as of August 2, 2018	98
New Members	0
Dropped for non-payment of dues	0
Resignations	0
Deceased	0
Reinstatements	0
Membership as of September 5, 2018	98



John Lennon First Day Deck Card

By Peter Elias

September 7 was the first day of issue of the new John Lennon stamp. I had asked a couple of days before the first day whether they could save me the deck card (as I usually don't end up at the post office until later in the afternoon). So this way I was able to get another nice first day of issue souvenir, and while the postmark isn't from the "official first day city", it is never-the-less a first day cancel. These make nice collectible items, especially since there aren't going to be many of them around!



Half Are ATM Stamps, Half are Postage Stamps

By Peter Elias



I recently received my quarterly issue of "Variable" from Ateeme in Spain. The stamps on the envelope were electronically cropped on the scan above.

While most people know these items as "ATM stamps", the top row of three of these six are actually "postage stamps". Since collector demand for these print-on demand (mostly by postal clerks) ATM stamps was high during those days (i.e.: 1992 to 2007), Correos (the Spanish Postal Service) decided to fully pre-print the stamps including the denomination as strips of three (with three different rates) starting in mid-2003. The reason being is that the clerks were constantly asked to manually print these for collectors, and thus they figured it would be less time consuming to have them fully pre-printed.

As fully pre-printed items, they are "postage stamps" not "ATM stamps". The Michel ATM catalog does list these (but it is after all an ATM catalog, not a postage stamp catalog), and technically, these should be listed in Scott's as they meet criteria for being postage stamps!

How to tell them apart: There is no machine number on the left and close examination the denomination shows that the printing is totally black and not comprised of individual dots.

2017 Scott Stamp Catalog Bid Form

Now is the time for one of the great annual stamp club events! Each year the club gives every member the chance to purchase the preceding year's (that is the 2017) Scott Standard Stamp Catalogs. The catalogs will be sold as 2 lots: Volumes 1 to 6. and the USA Specialized. The club will take sealed bids until October 26, 2018. To bid, please send in a bid with the following information:

Bid for Scott Volumes 1 to 6 \$ _____.

Bid for Scott USA Specialized \$ _____.

BIDDER'S NAME: _____ **Daytime Phone Number:** (_____) - _____ - _____

RULES for BIDDERS:

- Submit bids by mail to: Mid-Cities Stamp Club, P.O. Box 2158, Arlington, TX 76004-2158
- Mark the outside of the envelope: "Catalog Bid"
- Bids must be received by: October 26, 2018 (received by, NOT postmarked by!)
- In case of a tie: The envelope with a commemorative stamp used for postage wins.
If a tie still exists, the earliest postmarked entry wins.
- The winning bidder: Will be called to make arrangements for delivery and payment

The winning bidder and amount will be announced at the Arlington November 7, 2018 club meeting.

Arlington Meeting Minutes September 5, 2018

By Ben Termini

Call-to-Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ray Cartier

Attendance:

- There were 25 members and no guests present.

Officer / Committee Reports:

- **Vice President** Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that our set of Scott Catalogs from 2 years ago was up for sale, and bids would be received in the usual manner. Further information is in the newsletter.
- **Secretary** Ben Termini reported that we had 98 members, and reminded members that it was time to start paying dues for next year.
- **EXPO Committee** chairman Ralph Poore reported that the committee had met last month and everything was moving along smoothly. There is still a need for more volunteers. Rich Hildebrandt mentioned that awards dinner tickets could be purchased for \$20. President Ray Cartier reported that the board had approved the purchase of 16 additional exhibit frames (4 boxes) from TEXPEX.
- **Sales Books Chairman** Skip Ely said sales were slow but steady. He mentioned that the MCSC Board has decided (on his recommendation) to discontinue APS books for the coming year, but any additional comments from members would be welcome.

Announcements:

- President Ray Cartier mentioned that the club would be electing new officers this fall and that the ballot would be in the October edition of the newsletter. A nominating committee consisting of Ray Moyer, Skip Ely, and Rich Hildebrandt has been formed and anyone interested in being an officer or board member should contact a member of this committee.
- Stanley Christmas mentioned that next month's meeting would be a picnic, followed by envelope stuffing for EXPO announcements.
- Ken Aldridge mentioned that the Granbury meeting on September 25th would be an interesting presentation on Lewis & Clark.

Show & Tell:

- Ken Aldridge showed his 25 year membership certificate and pin from the APS.
- Chuck Snow showed a leather postcard from 1903, a check from a bank in Lesotho with a revenue stamp on the reverse, and a postcard from Yugoslavia addressed to John Wayne.
- Dave Stockbridge discussed an article written in 1982 which outlined why stamps were a good investment, and also passed around a 1943 booklet from the USPS on US stamps.
- Diana Davis showed the new magic souvenir sheet with lenticular printing showing rabbits going in and out of a hat.
- Ben Termini showed a computerized postage stamp with a printing error which he had received in his mail.

Door Prizes:

- Gift Certificates (\$10) were won by Ray Moyer, Dave Stockbridge, Skip Ely, and Jeff Jessop.

Program:

- Ray Cartier gave an interesting talk on the French Explorer and Navigator, Jacques Cartier, which was well received.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Eules Meeting Minutes September 19, 2018

By Skip Ely

Attendance:

- There were 12 members present.

Officer Reports:

- Judy Christmas gave the treasury amount.

Committee Reports:

- Stanley Christmas said everything was on track for EXPO.
- Skip Ely said he had begun calculating payouts for this year's club book sales and hoped to have it completed before EXPO.
- Peter Elias said he was almost finished with the next newsletter. There was a discussion about substituting the ballot for officers in place of the renewal application, with the recommendation to include the former in this newsletter.

Announcements:

- Mike Smith mentioned the Greater Houston Stamp Show this weekend (September 21-23).
- The next EXPO planning meeting is scheduled at Dave's BBQ on Saturday, October 6.
- Peter Elias mentioned the USPS first day ceremony for the new Hot Wheels stamps at Texas Motor Speedway on September 29 at 10 AM.

Show & Tell:

- Rick Howell showed a pair of three cent Washington stamps from the Presidential Series with blind perfs.
- Evan Islam showed how a revised website for the club might look (designing web pages is what he does).
- Peter Elias discussed how the USPS Certificate of Mailing can be collected, and the pros and cons of the new mailing label machine being installed by the USPS (details elsewhere in the newsletter).
- Ray Cartier showed some examples of propaganda leaflets, which in a broad sense are considered philatelic.
- Ken Wills passed around his collection of French Souvenir Sheets.
- Tom Turner provided additional details on a WWII U.S. Postcard with a Japanese postmark; upon further review he discovered it was probably a favor cancel done at the end of the war.

Door Prizes:

- Were won by Ken Wills and Judy Christmas.

Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

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The furthest distance I went to go to a stamp club meeting was on St. Vincent in the Caribbean in 2007. The flight segments to and from Kingstown (St. Vincent) were on LIAT (Leeward Islands Air Transport), respectively via St. Lucia and Barbados. Luckily though, I did not witness a scene such as such shown below; that would have been frightening! Yet, stamp designers seem to like to depict such harrowing near-death airplane scenes on stamps!



Most philatelic supplies (such as hinges, mounts and catalogs) generally have to be bought at dedicated stamp stores, although Hobby Lobby does have a very limited supply of stamps supplies.

However, there are other items that I use for philatelic purposes that can be bought elsewhere:

Binders - I use lots of generic binders to hold various specialty collections or exhibits. For smaller collections or exhibits, 1/2" binders will work; in other cases I had to go up to 3" binders.

The first place that comes to mind for binders is generally one of the main office supply stores (think Office Max, Office Depot or Staples). They have a wide variety of binders in all sorts of colors and sizes to meet your needs. But they can be expensive. I find that one of the least expensive places to get binders (as long as white works for you), is either Sam's Club or Costco. They have bundled sets of 1/2", 1" or other sizes, generally 6 per bundle. I just bought some 1/2" binders, and they cost only about \$1.44 each (including tax!).

Page Protectors - This is another item I need a lot of when preparing exhibits (it's really a "must-have" item for exhibits). Again, you find these at the office supply stores, but again, I went to the warehouse clubs. Strangely enough, Costco didn't have any page protectors recently, but Sam's Club did and had both "clear" and "non-glare" types. I prefer the clear ones, as the "non-glare" ones don't quite let you see items as well. For 250 protectors, I paid less than \$10 (including tax).

Mid-Cities Stamp Club Officers & Board of Directors Election for 2019-2020
Ballot

Member Name: _____

Member Nr: _____

(Please complete each section of the ballot as noted with an ink pen.)

All ballots MUST be received by hand or by mail before the MCSC Annual Meeting on November 7, 2018 by the club Secretary, Ben Termini. Please drop the ballot off at the October Arlington meeting or before the Annual Meeting in Arlington in person; if mailing, send this ballot to arrive before November 7, 2018 to:

Ben Termini, MCSC Secretary, 8520 Meadowbrook Dr, Ft. Worth, TX 76120-5204

1. OFFICERS

(Check one name for each position below)

Office	Nominees	or Write-In
President	<input type="checkbox"/> Richard Hildebrandt	or <input type="checkbox"/> _____
1st Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Ray Moyer	or <input type="checkbox"/> _____
2nd Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Gene Pfretzschner	or <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Skip Ely	or <input type="checkbox"/> _____
Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Christmas	or <input type="checkbox"/> _____

2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Vote for only three [3] of the three [3] candidates shown below)

- Alliene Franklin
- Ken Wills
- Peter Elias

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Exp. 12/18

Been There, Done That

Magic

By Peter Elias



On August 7, 2018, the USPS issued a set of stamps for "Magic". While I don't practice any magic (other than getting this newsletter to appear every month since July 2001), I do enjoy going to magic shows!

My most memorable and entertaining magic experiences have been (in no particular order):

- **The Amazing Jonathan.** Truly hilarious; I saw him both in Dallas in the mid-1990's and in Las Vegas in the early 2000's.
- **Siegfried & Roy** in Las Vegas in the late 1990's.
- **Penn & Teller** at the Majestic in Dallas in the early 2000's and on TV. And while Teller normally doesn't speak, I did briefly chat with him during the intermission at the Dallas show!
- **Criss Angel** on TV and in Las Vegas several years ago.

Unfortunately, I don't have any photos, since that's usually not allowed at these shows... although somewhere I've got a ticket stub for the Criss Angel "Believe" show from Las Vegas...



Be sure to visit the Club website on the **Internet:**

<http://www.mid-citiesstampclub.com>

For online newsletters see <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/mid-citiesstampclub/files>
or <http://mid-citiesstampclub.webs.com/newsletter.htm>



MCSC Annual Picnic

By Judy Christmas

The Club's annual Fall Picnic will be held on October the 3rd on the patio at the Bob Duncan Community Center.

The Center will have tables and chairs placed there for us to dine at. This will be a pot luck dinner. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the September Arlington meeting. If you were not able to attend and/or did not sign up but would like to attend let me know via phone, 817-656-2925 or e-mail, judy66@swbell.net.

The Club will provide hot dogs, cooked by our own personal chef, David Stockbridge & his able body assistant Ray Moyer; along with buns, drinks and utensils. For those who will be attending we ask that you bring a covered dish. Some dishes that have been brought in the past are salads (tossed, Jell-O, fruit), baked beans, casserole dishes of all kinds, fruit plates, deviled eggs (which always go fast so make plenty) chips & dip and all sorts of desserts.

We will begin gathering around 5:00 PM and eating around 5:30 PM.

If you have any question, please contact either Judy Christmas at 817-656-2925 or David Stockbridge at 817-573-7168.



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Exp. 12/18

From the President's Desk

by Ray Cartier

One of the situations which many stamp collectors encounter over the years is that the pursuit of their collecting interests becomes stymied. It could be that everything on their remaining want lists is too expensive, or is very elusive. I've run across that problem a few times during my collecting decades and am there once again at this time. In 1967 I had finally acquired mint copies of every US stamp from 1924 onward along with some used copies of a few earlier stamps. The idea of doing fly-speck hunting on all of the Washington Head stamps held no interest for me and along with that, many of the stamps from 1923 and before that were far above my low salary grade for me to obtain.

But I liked the hobby and started collecting stamps from the United Nations. Aside from #29, all of their issues were low cost items and it didn't take long until I'd found all of the issued stamps and was just waiting for new ones to come out each year. That became boring.

Then I discovered two philatelic collecting areas which I'd never before been exposed: Topical Collecting of one or more subjects in which I had an interest, and Astrophilately: collecting a postmarked history of space exploration. Fifty years ago I started collecting space covers and where possible, the soon to be historical signatures of inventors, engineers, astronauts and cosmonauts. The prices in 1968 were low and the signatures were free. And, as I learned more and more about the space program I began to send snippets of information that I had discovered, to the editor of the Space Unit journal, "The Astrophile". Eventually, I found myself writing entire articles about various facets of the hobby and I learned how to concentrate my time, and money, to individual aspects of that hobby, starting with launch dated covers and Primary Recovery Ship covers.

With no schooling in writing, I learned some of the tricks of the trade and went on to write two books and dozens of articles on this subject of my fascination. As my collections grew, my want lists were reduced to where, just a few years ago I noticed that I was now excited if I could find just one cover from my want list at any show which I attended. So in addition to writing about my hobby, I started verbally sharing information about space covers with others. Now, ten years into retirement a huge segment of my hobby time is spent doing things which I'd never thought of before, such as writing about my hobby, speaking about it, and winning gold medals with my exhibits. It's taken 50 years to get to this point but it keeps me out of the Bingo parlors and is a lot more fun. We now travel to other shows and I've come to know and meet people who attend different shows as well.

Meanwhile my topics of Jules Verne, Jacques Cartier, Monsters, and the aircraft built in Ft. Worth have filled out my topical interests. My post retirement days are filled with doing things that I want to do and these avenues of collecting have kept me active and interested.

So if you are reaching one of those points in collecting stamps that leaves you with very little left to find or do, why not consider beginning to specialize in a topic which ties to one or more of your personal interests? The American Topical Association has checklists of stamps on over 1,250 topics, courtesy of my wife who spent over five years researching every topic she could find by going over every page in the Scott's Catalogs. The checklists that she has compiled will vastly improve your ability to locate stamps that tie into your own special interest(s).

Been There,
Done That

Croatia To Slovenia

By Pat & Bob Weidman



The picture above was taken on December 12, 2017. I took it from Slovenia looking back across the border into Croatia. The people in the photo were part of our tour group and they are on the Croatian side, getting their passports stamped so that they can cross over into Slovenia. The bus in the background was our tour bus that us through the four countries that we visited on our Balkan vacation.

What is interesting is that both Croatia and Slovenia are members of the European Union, which is an economic and political partnership between 28 of the European nations. Once someone crosses the border into a member of the EU and has their passport stamped, it is not necessary to have it stamped again if going directly into another member country.

What didn't make sense was that when we were on our way to Dubrovnik, Croatia: we were in Croatia and had to pass through a very short section of Bosnia along the coast. We stopped at the border. Our tour guide and bus driver got off the bus and went to the border guards. We did not have to exit the bus and we did not have our passports stamped.

A few miles down the road, we came to the border with Croatia again. And again our driver got off the bus. We did not have to either and again our passports were not stamped. Bosnia is not a member of the European Union, so we should have had to get off the bus and have our passports checked and stamped. The same thing happened when we went across the border in to Montenegro and back again into Croatia. Montenegro is also not an EU member nation. The only way that I can explain it is that these border guards are government employees.

By the way, we crossed borders ten times on that trip!

The stamp to the right, which features the flag of Slovenia is Scott#458, issued on May 23, 2001.



Meeting Minutes for Granbury August 28, 2018

By Eugene Atkinson

WELCOME:

- With Brian Smith presiding, seventeen members and guests gathered for the August 28 meeting of the Lake Granbury Branch, Mid-Cities Stamp Club. The group meets every fourth Tuesday at 7 pm in the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 West Emerald Bend Court, in Granbury, Texas.

SHOW & TELL:

- Member Lloyd Willis circulated a cover from Australia on which the sender had thoughtfully taped over all the collectible stamps.
- Denny Ludlow had an 1881 receipt from a Liverpool auction as well as some World War II covers and censor items.
- Gene Atkinson had examples of interesting covers ruined by over zealous postal employees with Sharpie pens.
- Alliene Franklin noted that the club still needed participants to submit one-page exhibits for this year's EXPO, the deadline set for the October club meeting.
- Brian Smith wondered why so few were interested in Cinderella issues like those from the South Moluccas or South Kasai (a part of the Congolese rebellion linked to the Katinga province).

WHERE IN THE WORLD:

- Gary McNamee's quiz got as far as noting that first stamps were issued in 1870 in Reis denominations, when the members guessed correctly he was referring to Angola.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The club needs a librarian to care for and circulate its collection of reference material. For the time being, Gene Atkinson will provide a home for the materials until a permanent solution is found.

Following a refreshments **BREAK**, Alliene Franklin conducted the **PROGRAM** on materials from World Wars I and II. She observed that in the "Great War" of 1917-1918 in the United States, there was no enforced rationing, only voluntary observance of "meatless" and "wheatless" days which nevertheless reduced domestic consumption of essential foodstuffs by some fifteen percent. However, in the 1940s, Britain was far more dependent upon imports of food, and when German U-boats threatened supplies His Majesty's Government instituted controlled distribution of numerous critical commodities such as bacon, sugar, butter and more. Some rationing lasted until 1954. In the U. S. after December, 1941, the first rationing extended from tires to automobiles to a list of civilian items. As Alliene discussed the various steps to reduce consumption and displayed ration books and stamps for different categories of use, members offered up personal recollections of the war years.

At the **CONCLUSION** of the program, door prizes of club gift certificates went to Edith Willis, Gene Atkinson, and Julie Rimmer.

The **NEXT MEETING** will be Tuesday, September 25 when Ken Aldridge will discuss "Stamping and Golf." Meet and eat begins at Palio's Pizza Cafe, 3710 E. Highway 377, at 5 PM. (And the club extends special thanks to Gary Christopher for opening and closing the Bentwater Center in the absence of regular host David Stockbridge.)

Future

*Been There,
Done That*



Purple Passion

By Peter Elias

The USPS recently announced that they will be issuing a set of 10 stamps commemorating 50 years of "Hot Wheels" toy cars.

The new issue ceremony will take place in Ft. Worth on Saturday, Sept. 29 at 10 AM at the

Texas Motor Speedway in conjunction with the Good Guys 26th Summit Racing Lone Star Nationals – also known for it's Hot Rod & Customs car show, which brings in several thousand hot rods and cars. So presumably the attendance will be good. Lots of car gals & guys. Hopefully some may start collecting stamps – lots of stamps have featured various classic cars over the years... It would be neat to have a 1-frame topical cars-on-stamps exhibit at the opening ceremony to give the non-collectors a chance to see what is possible to collect!

General admission to the car show itself is normally \$20 per person (\$17 if you buy tickets online earlier); I don't know if the USPS ceremony will be inside Motor Speedway or not. Doubtful that they'll waive the entry fee, but I'll need to try and call someone at the USPS to ask about this.

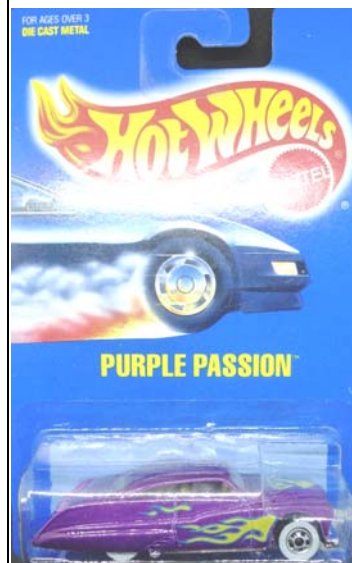
Coincidentally, one of the 10 Hot Wheels stamps features a car called "Purple Passion". I was at a toy show in Dallas on September 1st, and I won a Hot Wheels "Purple Passion" die-cast car as a door prize! The car is copyright dated 1989 on the bottom and the packaging has a 1991 date. It has been produced around 100 different times since 1989. At first, I couldn't quite tell based on the chart at http://hotwheels.wikia.com/wiki/Purple_Passion whether mine is the 1990 or 1993 version. Mine says "Toy #2173" and "Collector no. 87" on the cardboard packaging, that would make it the first 1990 edition. But then, it has "yellow flames outlined in blue" (versus the 1990 version which has "light green scallops outlined in dark green on the sides), and that would make it the 1993 version, which is also shown as having

a beige interior, which mine does. Hmm, so what do I have? Most likely the 1993 version... I will keep it in "NIB" (new in box) condition for now; that's similar to "MNH" for us stamp collectors!

In any case, as a stamp collector, it will be nice to have a new issue ceremony taking place here in the DFW area, and hopefully some of the MCSC members will be in attendance!

So here's a neat collecting activity: collect the various Hot Wheels cars that are going to be on the stamps!

Ready, set, collect!



CLASSIFIED BOURSE

Announcements

All club members that are current with their dues payments are entitled to FREE ads in this space! Please send ad to: Peter Elias, P.O. Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094-0427, give it to me at a meeting, or e-mail me at: peter@pcelias.com

For Sale

US POSTAGE – from our huge surplus: 1c – 20c : 70% of FV; 21c – 50c : 80% of FV. Send any amount (min \$10), specify group (70%, 80%), and receive mix of values back in FV as indicated above. Clean, F/VF only. Plate or Zip block included for every \$10 remitted. Remit (check or MO) to: J. Myers, P. O. Box 2047, Coppell, TX 75019. TX orders, add 8% sales tax. We cover return postage, S/H charges. Can also take PayPal (same terms). jasdmyers@earthlink.net 5/15

Recalled Legends of the West (Scott 2870), pane of twenty inside original mailing envelope, Scott 2017 value \$220 with note that panes in original envelope (blue bordered) "sell for somewhat more." I will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 4/18

Wanted to Trade

I have general (unsorted) worldwide & used USA stamps (mostly beginning collector material) available to trade for your items such as worldwide revenue stamps & Framas. Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com 9/16

Wanting to trade stamps from Trucial States: Yemen, Aden or Equatorial Guiana. Brian Smith, donnasmithphoto@gmail.com 3/18

Wanted

Postally used "ATM" stamps (i.e.: machine vended), such as Framas, from around the world; would prefer on cover or postcard if possible. Peter Elias, info@stvincentstamps.com 8/14

Comic Strip - Funky Winkerbean

By Peter Elias

This is a continuation of the Funky Winkerbean comic strip that I showed last month which showed the character in a long line at the post office (and the remark about this is why email has taken off!). In this one, published on 8/3/2018 in the Dallas Morning News, the postal employee is congratulating him on being the youngest person to come in, implying that it's only "older" folks that go to the post office rather than using electronic means of communicating.

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

By Tom Batiuk



Of course letters aren't really the reason a lot of people stand in line at the post office, it is to mail packages (or in my case, to get an acceptance scan!).

For Sale

Do you collect **used USA Plate Number Coils**? Select what you want from my [extensive](#) inventory at 1/3 of Scott catalog value. They are listed on my website at <http://web2.iadfw.net/wills/> and from there you will find links to other countries too. Also interested in trading. Ken Wills 9/11

Philatelic Reference CD's. The following self-running, philatelic reference CD's, each containing hundreds of scans, are now available:


- [APC Conversions 2012-2014](#) (NY2016 Vermeil Award!)
- [Usage of British Empire War Tax Issues](#) (exhibit)
- [Airport Philately](#) (800+ scans of Airports on Stamps)
- [4 Rings—The History of Audi](#) (Great for any car lover!)
- [My Life on Wheels](#) (autobiography via USA personalized postage)
- [St. Vincent Philatelic Reference Scans](#) (1,700 items!!)
- [St. Vincent Postcards](#) (300+ postcards from 1900 to 2007)
- [Vintage Swiss Postcards 1898-1959](#) (900+ postcards !!)

Special MCSC Member price is only \$ 9.95 each. Non-member price is \$19.95 (+ \$3.45 domestic or \$6.00 international postage) each. PayPal to peter@pcelias.com are accepted. Peter Elias, PO Box 940427, Plano, TX 75094 6/16

MOVED, BUT SALE CONTINUES! Special discounts to MCSC members for Swiss, Austria, Liechtenstein issues, @ 1/3 and LESS of catalog values. Also will accept US postage (any values) @ 50% of catalog. All orders postpaid! I also accept PayPal if you wish! John Barrett, Ph.D. Contact info: jstrubelboy@aol.com 12/14

Exp. 12/18

Estate Appraisals



Jonathan Topper
10480 Grant Road
Suite 117
Houston, TX 77070
832.518.6558

jonathan@topperstamps.com
www.topperstamps.com

MEET & EAT for October & November 2018

by Judy & Stanley Christmas

“Meet and Eats” are held before our club meetings. All club members and their guests are welcome. We will gather at 5:00 PM start ordering at that time. However, latecomers can order when they arrive or just come by for a visit. Meals should be over around 6:15 PM to 6:30PM with the new meeting start time now being at 7:00PM rather than 7:30PM.

Meet and Eat locations will be included the club’s broadcast messages. NOTE: All locations are subject to change.

ARLINGTON

Oct. 3 Club Picnic at the Bob Duncan Center

Nov. 7 Spring Creek BBQ
3608 S. Cooper St. Arlington 76015

EULESS

Oct. 17 TBD

Nov. 21 TBD

GRANBURY

Oct. 23 Club Picnic

Nov. 27 TBD

Wanted to Buy

Wanted to buy or trade for: **Worldwide unusual EFOs, postal counterfeits**, Odd US 20th century auxiliary markings, US 1934 and 1935 Christmas Seals on and off cover and publicity material, Korean War postal history from US and other UN contingents, and any other US philatelic material with an interesting story. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, or jmhstamp@verizon.net 2 /15

For Sale

PhotoStamps, ZazzleStamps & PictureItPostage in a variety of different designs. For a listing of available designs and to purchase, go to <http://photostamps.webs.com> and use your credit card to purchase them (via PayPal). 12/15

I have over **10,000 auctions** on delcampe.com @ 35% of Scott or less. Worldwide & US stamps, covers and FDCs. For more info contact Denny Ludlow @ (713) 898-1872 10/15

FREE 111-page or 26-page album of Spanish ATM stamps (provided as a PDF file) with purchase of at least \$3.00 in Spanish ATM stamps! Contact Peter Elias at peter@pcelias.com 6/17

Bugs Bunny Special Die Cut pane of 10 (Scott 3138, CV \$175, will sell for \$100 plus any mailing costs. Ken Aldridge, KAldridge@aol.com 4/18

*Mid-Cities Stamp Club “Stamping Around” Newsletter
c/o Peter Elias
PO Box 940427
Plano, TX 75094-0427*

Don't Forget:
Arlington Club Picnic - October 3
EXPO Meeting - October 6
Dallas Postcard Show - Oct. 12 & 13