

# The Postal History Foundation's



# Stamp Tracks

Summer 2006

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NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

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Arizona Philatelic Rangers



Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition  
May 27 - June 3, 2006

*Cachet designed for  
the PHF by artist Chris Calle*

## Success in DC!!

Washington 2006 was the first large scale international promotional event ever undertaken by the Foundation and we were well represented.

Our presence was beneficial to the Foundation in several respects: Numerous contacts were made with teachers and others interested.

*(See 'Success' on page 4)*

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## Chairman's Message

The big news this summer is Washington 2006, the largest stamp show in most people's memory. There were 80,000 registrants, over 200 dealers and 6,000 children who attended. Jim Bowman, PHF Vice Chairman, boasts that our banner was the best of all banners at the show. This was an opportunity for our volunteers to meet with philatelic organizations and make many contacts for future cooperation. John Birkinbine represented the PHF at his lectures and received the APS Fifty Year Membership Award. Many joked that such an award means John must have joined at the age of twelve!

Our success was made possible due to our fantastic vol-

unteers. John Wynns, Paul Nelson and Dan Stoleson transported materials to the show and helped at our booth. Jim and Marian Bowman, Carl and Qjett LeMar John, Seny Birkinbine, Waltraud Helms, Steve Hackney and Howard Green also staffed our booth. We expect many positive outcomes from our presence at this significant event, which will not return to the U.S. for another ten years.

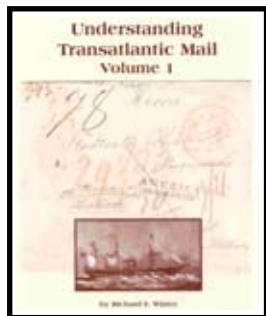
Be sure to calendar our next stamp show "ARIPEX 2007" January 19-21 at the Tucson Convention Center. The theme is "150 Years of Mail Service". Board member Steve Staton is coordinating the event and has established an informational web site at <http://aripexonline.com>.

I am pleased to announce that the main workroom of the PHF, a place most familiar to volunteer and visitors, was recently designated the "Louise E. Christian Administrative Area", named in recognition of her many years of dedicated service and financial support. A special bronze plaque has been permanently placed in the area in her honor.

On a less happy note, we honor the passing of Clyde Jennings and Chuck Laubly, longtime PHF supporters. Clyde initiated the "Jennings Fund" in honor of this wife. The fund has supported all of the youth awards we have given in the past several years. Both will be sorely missed.

## Library Corner

What's new in acquisitions at the Slusser Philatelic Library? Recent additions to the Library collection include:



### ***"Understanding Transatlantic Mail"***

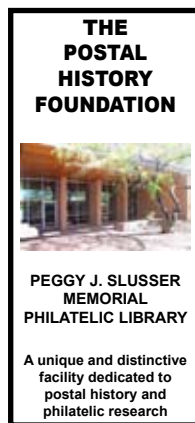
Richard W. Winter

### ***"Postryttaren 100 Years"***

Post Museum Sweden

Jan Billgren, 1906-2006

*\*\*Be sure to check out the new Slusser Library brochure! It can be viewed and downloaded from our website. Let us know of places where this brochure can be placed to increase awareness of this unique repository of philatelic information.\*\**



## Welcome New Members!

PHF members are the life of our organization, so we want to extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Martin G. Lesny, Tucson AZ  
Linda Prior, Redondo Beach CA  
Stephen Hackney, Tucson AZ  
James Woods, Lake Worth FL  
Sam Wymer, Tucson AZ  
Robert Downing, Tucson AZ  
Glenn Breiterman, Tucson AZ  
Lawrence Fusselman, Tucson AZ  
Gene Hoff, Tucson AZ  
Charles McCarthy, Mattituck NY  
Patricia A. Pitterle, Mesa AZ

**PHF Hours:  
M-F 8am-3pm**

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to all our many generous donors. Your contributions of philatelic material, equipment and monetary donations are greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Alphie Kuhm and Beppie Lutgendorf for their hard work in creating our enlightening exhibit "Women Who Changed the World", Bill Radcliffe for a typewriter and Chuck Shelby for a video screen.

## Join The Fun!

Do you know someone who would like to become a member of The Postal History Foundation? Spread the word to help us grow! We offer various membership options. For information, contact Lena Rogers at (520) 623-6652 or at [phf3@mindspring.com](mailto:phf3@mindspring.com).

## Who's Who The PHF Family Portfolio

### Officers:

Chairman Bob Bechtel  
Vice Chair James Bowman  
Secretary Betty Bernheim  
Treasurer Bill Kohl

### Staff:

Executive Assistant Lena Rogers  
Youth Education Susan Sisson

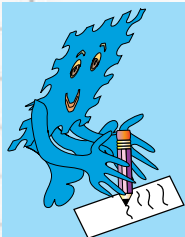
### Volunteer Program Coordinators:

Webmaster Steve Staton  
Librarian Carl Spitzer  
Newsletter Editor Kelly McLearn  
Computer Operations Marvin Weisbard  
Graphic Designers Susie Weijers  
Michele Blanc

**Thanks to all our volunteers not listed here!**

## Dear Mr. Gohdes

Memorable Children's Quotes  
& Updates from the Youth  
Education Program



One thing I learned is that most stamps have value and that I could be on a stamp. Another thing I learned is that once a person paid 3 million dollars for a set of stamps. Who would be crazy enough to do that?!

Sincerely,  
Alex Jimenez

The Foundation wishes to extend its deep appreciation to Paul Gohdes, volunteer Youth Education Program Director for the past 10 years. His background as a school teacher in Wisconsin, sense of professionalism and strong commitment to children made him an exemplary representative for the Foundation's program. He has always enthusiastically shared his knowledge of stamps and postal history with teachers and students. One teacher recently wrote to say "...Mr. Gohdes and the volunteers are truly models for the teaching community. Their influence is an example to me and my students to follow. Their dedication to the community, passion for learning and kindness always impress me." Student thank you letters frequently describe Mr. Gohdes as "smart, great and nice" and he is indeed all of these and more!

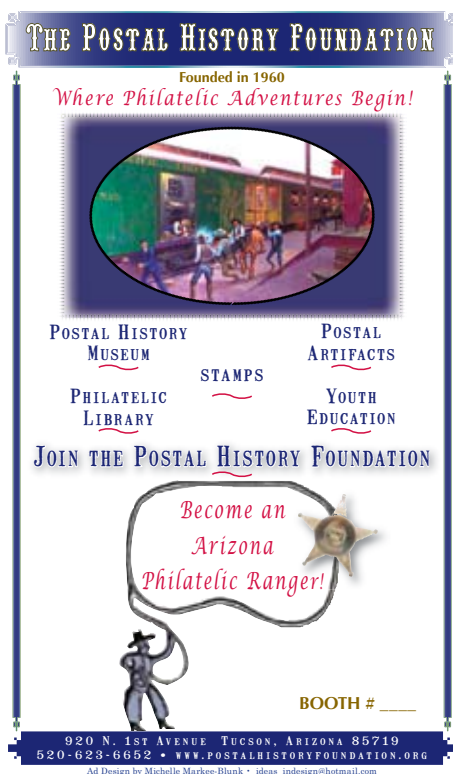


These photos are a small sampling of the many classroom and community events Paul has attended. Lucky for us, he continues to volunteer for presentations whenever he is available.

The PHF hosted a potluck farewell to Paul and Chair Bob Bechtel gave him a hand carved walking stick as a gift at our annual volunteer recognition event. We wish you the very best, Paul, in your global treks and thank you for your generosity over this past decade!



# Success (continued from front page)



***The PHF and Rangers presented a high-impact image in the Exhibition program.***

ed in promoting youth philately. One teacher has emailed us "I used the stamp activity with my students and they were really into it. It will become part of my teaching repertoire." Our seminars demonstrated that the word "history" in our name is a meaningful descriptor. The Slusser Library materials sparked much interest, especially with midwestern and eastern philatelists, and pointed out the need to actively promote the existence of this "treasure".

John Birkinbine presented two hour seminars on "The Butterfield Overland Mail" and "The Civil War in the West: Union and Confederate

Postal History in New Mexico, Arizona and California". These were well received by 40+ individuals attending each session.

The Arizona Rangers banquet featured an outstanding dinner and entertainment by Derrick Suwaima Davis, a Hopi/Choctaw Native American and four time World Champion Hoop Dancer. He was sponsored by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries of NYC. The talk of the night centered on the "Presidential Dessert", a white chocolate replica of the White House filled with chocolate mousse. Over 60 people were present, including new Ranger, Dr. Hubert Skinner of New Orleans. This number was remarkable because competition to attend dinners was intense. The evening closed with the presentation of a Stupell crystal bowl as a special prize to postal historian Richard Winter.

Another highlight was the Foundation's unique Colorado Silk cachet, designed by artist Chris Calle, featuring a Native American in magnificent headdress. It was the only cachet of its type at the show. It is truly a work of art and available to members through our Sales Dept.

We expect many positive outcomes from our presence at this significant philatelic event, which will not return to the U.S. for another ten years!



***The PHF/Ranger banner presented a bold and colorful image among the many exhibitors. A special thank you to volunteer graphic artist Michelle Blanc of In-Design, for preparing the banner and program advertisement.***



***Aerial view of the show captures the flavor of the event***



***Richard Holland and John Birkinbine (sporting his new APS medal) reunite after 50 years!***



*Seny Birkinbine and David & Betty Bernheim at the AZ Philatelic Ranger dinner*



*Canadian media executives Bill Longley and Michael Rixon review PHF materials with John Birkinbine (right)*



*Cheryl Ganz of Chicago with Derrick Suwaima Davis, champion hoop dancer*



*Carl and Qjett LeMar John & Joyce Kagarise share a fun moment at the PHF booth*



*Dr. and Mrs. Howard Green of Victorville, CA at the Ranger dinner*



*Jenny Paterson of New Zealand and Seny Birkinbine provided valuable support at our booth*



*Dr. Ben Ramkisson peruses materials at the Philatelic Literature Reading Room*



*Ranger and Mrs. Sigurdour Petursson of Iceland with hoop dancers*



*John Wynns helped at the booth and represented the PHF at the International Philatelic Libraries meeting*



*Stephen Hackney and "Mr. Zip" share the limelight*



*Artist Chris Calle contributed his artwork for the PHF cachet*

Thank you to Jim Bowman, Steve Hackney and John Birkinbine for contributing photos of the DC Exhibition!



## People In The News



Welcome Susan Sisson, our new Youth Education Director! Susan hails from Show Low, a small town in northeastern AZ. Her mother was a PHF education instructor from late 1950-1998 and Susan followed in her footsteps. She became active in philatelic education in 1966 when she began her school teaching career. Susan will be onsite at the PHF from September-May and

working from her mountain home in the summer months.



Louise Christian was recently honored by the PHF Board for her longtime service and financial support. The announcement that the Administrative Area would be designated in her name had been delayed due to her inability to travel to Tucson. Therefore, five AZ Rangers

representing the Foundation visited her personally in southern California to deliver the award and plaque. Participating Rangers were Jim and Marian Bowman, Werner and Waltraud Helms, and Wallace Craig.

Congratulations to Bill Chesser and Frank Daigle of Phoenix, Carl LeMar John and Alex Lutgendorf of Tucson, Ray Mariella of Sun City West and Sue Sisson of Show Low! All were inducted into the Arizona Philatelic Hall of Fame at ARIPEX 2006.

Recognition goes to Paul Zatalove, whose exhibit on unusual methods of mail delivery throughout history was shown in D.C.

**Save The Date! Opening Reception for  
“Amazing Tibet: Stamps, Photos and Postal History”  
November 18th 4-8 pm at the PHF!**



### Recent Additions Include:

## Shopping The PHF

Plenty of unique items are available in our philatelic department and new items come in every week. Something for everyone!

**And don't forget, we always have a full range of mint and used US stamps, booklets and souvenir sheets and a wide selection of foreign materials.**

- WASHINGTON 2006 Cachet: Eye catching and autographed by artist Chris Calle! Available by minimum \$10 donation to PHF Youth Program.
- Super size jar of over 18,000 Worldwide Off-Paper.
- Fabulous collection of calligraphy materials for artists
- Uncancelled US postage at reduced price- save money on your mailings!
- Denmark, Finland, Norway - assortments of All Different Stamps
- Postcards from around the world
- Sets of American Bi-Centennial and Presidential Birthplace Covers

## Volunteer Spotlight

One of the hallmarks of the PHF is the good humor which abounds. The featured volunteers are all known for their positive spirit and superior joke/storytelling skills. Their fun loving attitudes are appreciated by customers, volunteers and staff alike. Be sure to stop by to meet these jovial fellows!

**Bob Davis** spent his childhood in Chicago, then moved west to Los Angeles and Phoenix. He served as a Navy pilot in the Vietnam War from 1963-68. For 33 years, he flew commercial jets for Western and Delta Airlines. His family includes 3 children and 4 grandchildren, for whom he often serves a head baby-sitter. You may find this clan frequently sky bound, as his wife, son and daughter-in-law all hold pilots licenses! His stamp collecting began

as a boy and waned in adulthood until he got hooked again through auctions about 10 years ago. Philatelic interests include early French, Netherlands and US cancels. He stays active with the hobby through EBay buying and selling “just for the fun of it”. His knowledge is a great help to the PHF, as Bob assists with determining stamp values. He has a regular shift running the post office and answers phones. His strong belief in enjoying life is obvious to all as he provides a steady diet of humorous tales and jokes to everyone at the PHF.

**Jim Kelly**, another of our volunteer postmasters, hails from Rhode Island. Greatly influenced by the sea, he served in the Navy during the Korean War. He moved to Tucson in 1956 to attend the University of AZ School of Architecture and worked in facility management for 30 years. He and his wife Nancy then built a rammed earth house in rural Dragoon, Arizona which they operated as a bed & breakfast. In 1996, they returned to Tucson. Jim recollects collecting stamps as a boy. He came to see what the PHF had to offer about 4 years ago and signed on to help run the post office. In addition, Jim’s superior “fixit skills” are often utilized with special projects around the facility.

**John Wynns** is a third generation Californian who also served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. Born in Los Angeles, he attended Pierce College and Cal State at Northridge, majoring in history and political science. His work experience included service as a USPS courier/clerk and working in the Mojave Desert on aqueduct and reservoir systems. Upon retirement, he relocated to Tucson so he could utilize the PHF resources. His stamp collecting started at age 8 when his grandfather got him interested in stamps. A member of APS since 1969, John considers himself a serious collector of British Colonies, U.S. Possessions and Canadian. In 2003, he became a member of the Rangers. He exhibited publicly for the first time at ARIPEX 2006, noting how much fun it is to see one’s hard work up in frames. He describes his home as being “stuffed” with stamp collections and a sizable philatelic library. John states “I have found my niche” in philately. His love for historical literature and stamps makes him an ideal person to volunteer in the Slusser Library, where he enjoys locating research materials for collectors and assisting with library tasks.



*Bob Davis, Jim Kelly, John Wynns share a fun moment in the PHF Post Office*

# Making Tracks To PHF Happenings



***Marian Bowman and  
Seny Birkinbine***

The gorgeous scenery and ambiance of the Hacienda del Sol Resort provided an excellent backdrop for the PHF Annual Membership Meeting in April. The event drew the largest crowd in years and generated positive feedback from guests. The Annual Report was presented to members and copies are available for the first time from the PHF website.



***Kelly McLearn, Kay Phillips, Athena Maynard, Susan Sisson,  
David Copins, Pat and Geoff Wadman, Lena Rogers***



**The Postal History Foundation**  
920 N. 1st Ave. • Tucson, AZ 85719-4818  
[www.postalhistoryfoundation.org](http://www.postalhistoryfoundation.org) • 520-623-6652

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Please send us the corrections.

