

The Postal History Foundation's



Stamp Tracks

Spring 2007

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

Volunteers Take Honors At ARIPEX

ARIPEX, the annual stamp show that alternates between Tucson and Mesa, has come and gone. Many thanks to our wonderful volunteers who set up a booth and sold over \$2000 worth of stamps and supplies. Special thanks is due Bob Davis who supervised the selection of sales material.

PHF volunteers won numerous awards, for which we should be proud.

John Wynns, who helped arrange exhibits for the show, won a gold medal for his "Canadian 1927 Confederation Anniversary Issue. He also won the Best BNA Award from the British North American Philatelic Society.

Dr. "Ben" Ramkissoon won two gold medals for his "Trinidad WWI Red Cross Label That Became a Postage Stamp" and for "Air Letter Sheets (aerogramme) of Trinidad and Tobago 1943-1995". This exhibit also won the APS Medal of Excellence. His air letter sheets also won the Champion of Champions award at the Ameristamp Expo at Riverside CA.

The Vermeil Medal was won by Jim Bowman for his "First 70 Years of German Related Pictorial Postal Sta-

mensions". The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creative Award and American Revenue Association Best Revenue Award were also given for this same exhibit (Three in One!).

Steve Staton, who did a superb job coordinating the show, won a silver-bronze for his "Buffalo Soldiers and the Elusive 5th City".

Doug Kelsey, former PHF Director, won a gold medal for his "United States Meter Stamps in International Mail".

Dean Carter won a silver-bronze for his "Stampless Letters from Mexico".

No one can say that our volunteers take a back seat at stamp shows! Congratulations to everyone!

Submitted by Bob Bechtel, Chair

ARIPEX Honored Volunteers

John Wynns

Gold

Dr. Ben Ramkissoon

2 Golds

Jim Bowman

Creative Award

Paul Nelson

Silver

Creative Award

Best Revenue Award

Steve Staton

Silver-Bronze

Doug Kelsey

Gold

Dean Carter

Silver-Bronze

tionery" and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors gave him their Creative Award for the same exhibit.

Paul Nelson won a silver medal for this "Scandinavian Revenues in Three Di-

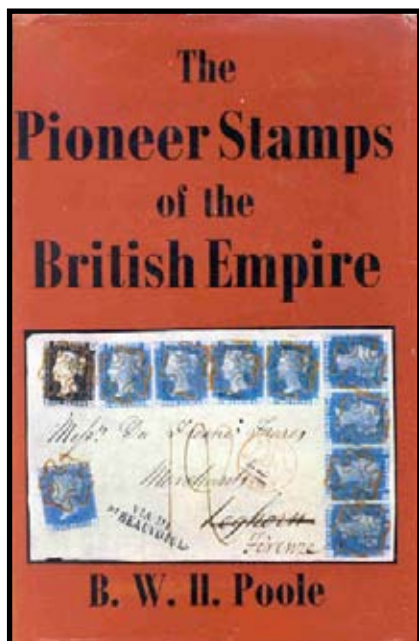


920 North First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719 • Phone/Fax 520-623-6652
www.postalhistoryfoundation.org • phf3@mindspring.com • HOURS: M-F 8am-3pm



Library Corner

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



The British Post Office, A History

Howard Robinson

History of the Indian Army Postal Service

Edward B. Proud
Volumes I-III

Madame Joseph Forged Postmarks

Derek Worboys

Mexico 1856 Issue

John K. Bash

Handbook of Hungarian Pre Stamp Mail

A. Ber and E. Mskksi

Philately of the Anglo-Boer War

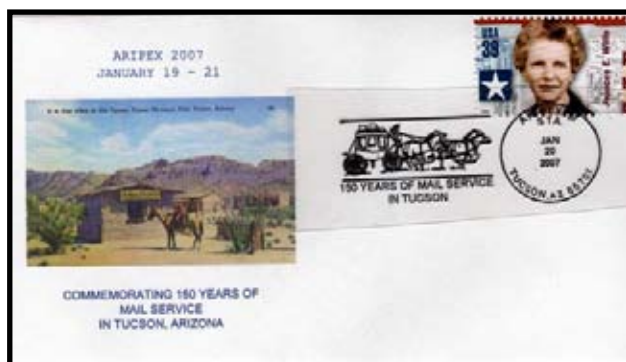
Stephen Rich 1899-1902

The Pioneer Stamps of the British Empire

B.W.H. Poole

Shopping The PHF

Don't miss our updated price list! The PHF Board of Directors issued a new Sales Policy effective January 1, 2007. PHF members will continue to receive a 20% discount, with some exceptions. See the insert for details. And don't forget that some of our stock is listed on the PHF site at EBay.



Don't miss out on the ARIPEX 2007 show covers. A set of 3 covers commemorating 150 years of mail service is available for only \$5. Contact Alex Lutgendorf at the PHF for details.

Welcome New Members!

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

Thierry Delespesse, Tucson, AZ
Mickey Johnson, Tucson, AZ
Eric Kimber, Tucson, AZ
B. Kristian, Salt Lake City, Utah
Mrs. John Malone, San Jose, CA
David Winfield, Fountain Hills, AZ
Larry Burke, Boise Idaho
R.H. Jayne Drybrock Gloshire, U.K.

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.

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

Who's Who

The PHF Family Portfolio

Officers:

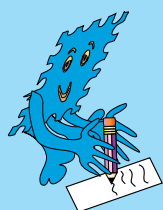
Chairman	Bob Bechtel
Vice Chair	Paul Nelson
Secretary	John Wynns
Treasurer	Bill Kohl

Staff:

Executive Assistant	Lena Rogers
Youth Education	Susan Sisson

Dear Ms. Sue

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



Dear Miss Sue,
Thank you miss sue for teaching me about stamps. I had fun
turning with stamps. By the way is uncle sam still alive?
School is slow but stamps are fun and there are so many.
From Japan

The Education Program continues to muster interest from schools near and far. On most days, Sue Sisson's feet barely touch the floor, she is moving so fast to head for classes. She is to be commended for her remarkable coordination of the Youth Expo area at ARIPEX. It was a great success without any support this year from the USPS, thanks to her herculean effort! One very valuable contribution at the show was the youth exhibit section, with a winning exhibit on cats by a young girl with special learning needs. Through Sue's mentoring, this youth overcame many challenges to assemble an interesting exhibit which even won an award!

Community events continue to be an integral part of PHF youth outreach. Since December, we have presented youth stamp activities in partnership with the International Wildlife Museum, Southern AZ Transportation Museum, Tucson Family Festival and Pima County Ted Walker Youth Days. In February, Sue hosted a table at Colossal Cave's annual celebration. These events collectively reached over 500 youth. Preparations are currently underway for the Juneteenth Festival, Solstice Festival and Pima County Educators Fair.

Volunteers are especially needed this summer! Sue will be leaving for her Showlow, AZ home after the end of the school year and there is plenty of preparation work to be done for summer activities and fall classes. Give us a call today!



150 children had lots of fun with train stamps at the historic train depot event. Many thanks to the Gohdes family which volunteered their Sunday to man the PHF activity table!



The Tucson Museum Assn and PHF were represented in the annual Tucson Rodeo Parade. Children are from the "Arts for All" program. Over 200,000 people attended.

ARIPEX 2007: Bringing Together Stamps, History, Youth And Fun!!



Students vie for a space at a popular stamp soaking table.



M.J. Talbot oversees the Geosafari activity table.



Athena Maynard assisting in the Youth Expo area.



Activities engaged youth in learning together.

This year's stamp show brought over 200 adult and 80 youth exhibitors and 40 dealers to the Tucson Convention Center. Everything was well coordinated and attendance was good (even with some bad weather). This was the first show in 15 years without the involvement of the USPS. Sue Sisson and her volunteers really stepped up to the plate to pull together many stamp activities for the 800 students who attended on Friday with their teachers and several hundred additional youth who attended on Saturday/Sunday with their parents. Sue noted that this year's assortment of activities had a more educational focus, rather than simple entertainment. The teachers also received a self guide sheet to encourage the classes to go through the exhibits and discuss them. Teacher feedback on this was very positive. A huge thank you goes to several Optimist Clubs, dealers, Rangers and other individuals we were able to provide the busses.

Celebrando de Tucson is

a local program founded by Lynne and Tony Urias, who are 4th generation Tucsonans. Their love of local history and desire to share it with others led to the development of experiential learning opportunities for youth and adults.

Because ARIPEX was focused on celebrating the 150th anniversary of mail delivery in Tucson, the Urias' researched the relevant postal history at our Slusser Library and created an excellent powerpoint show. Positioned near the Wells Fargo stagecoach and dressed in 1880's attire, they added a wonderful dimension to the stamp show.



Miller School students learn about local postal history from Tony and Lynne Urias of Celebrando De Tucson. The Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach was provided by PHF member John Birkinbine.

Visit us on the Web at
www.PostalHistoryFoundation.org

People In The News



Ruben Ramkissoo shows off his APS Champion of Champions award

Dr. Reuben (Ben) Ramkissoo won the 2007 APS Ameristamp Expo Single Frame "Champion of Champions" Award at the winter meeting in Riverside CA. His exhibit tells the full story of how a patriotic fund-raising label issued the Trinidad Red Cross Society received government sanction to be used a half penny postage stamp for one day in 1914, then reverted to its status of a patriotic label. Ben and his wife Connie live in Oak Brook, Ill and winter in Tucson, AZ and southern CA. They are frequent visitors to the PHF, where Ben volunteers in the library, does research on his many exhibits and prolific philatelic writing. He is a longtime PHF member and an Arizona Ranger. His philatelic interests span many specialized areas, including Trinidad, Tobago, Aero/Astrophilately, First Issues of the UNNY and Thematic subjects of Mahatma Gandhi and Blood Donors. A native of Trinidad, he has formed many award-winning exhibits and contributed extensively to the philatelic literature of this two-island Republic in the West Indies.

Taking a summer trip near the Grand Canyon? Be sure to stop and see Bob Bechtel's "Postal History of the Grand Canyon" stamp exhibit will be featured as part of a special exhibit at the historic Kolb Studios from April 11-July 15. The exhibit highlights vintage messages on postcards and letters penned between 1905-1950 and the unique mail delivery by mule at the Grand Canyon. For more information, visit www.grandcanyon.org.

Congratulations to Carl Spitzer, who was selected as the 58th member of the AZ State Philatelic Hall of Fame in October. Carl served as AZ Federation of Stamp Clubs Treasurer, Tucson Stamp Club President, and was voted Distinguished Topical Philatelist in 1995 by the American Topical Assn. The AZ Philatelic Rangers appointed him a Deputy Sher-

iff in 1990. He is a dedicated collector and active philatelist and has contributed greatly to the promotion of philately in Arizona.

The Carl Lemar John Stamp Exhibit Room was officially dedicated in late 2006. It was through Carl's personal efforts and financial gift that a room was designated for formal stamp exhibits in his name. The space allows us to showcase both in-house exhibits and guest exhibitors on a rotating basis throughout the year. The Foundation is truly grateful to Carl for his vision and generosity.

Be sure to check...2007 schedule of exhibits. The Carl LeMar John Exhibit Room welcomes guest exhibitors. Let us know if you would like to display your philatelic exhibit in the future!



The members of the Arizona Philatelic Hall of Fame posed for this group photo at the January Ranger's dinner. (left to right) Carl LeMar John, Alex Lutgendorf, Debs Metzong, Frank Doyle, Robert Bechtel, Laura Coleman (for Chuck Laubly posthumously), Donn Lueck, Jim Gentry, Carl Spitzer.

University & State Libraries Partner with PHF



Members of UA Special Library Association members make an inaugural visit to philatelic library

The University of Arizona Special Libraries Association, an affiliate of the national organization of special libraries, recently visited the Slusser Memorial Philatelic Library. The SLA consists of students from the School of Information Resources & Library Science and their faculty advisors. One of their activities is to tour various special libraries, so in late March they paid us a visit and were entirely “wowed” by the experience and excited to share their newfound information with fellow students. The day following the tour, our program consultant presented at the UA Library Fair on internship opportunities at our Foundation. Several students indicated a strong interest in interning with us in the future and the library science faculty will be posting our information permanently on their

department website. We hope that this initial promotional endeavor will result in a fruitful long term relationship and bring talented, motivated young people to volunteer in our “very special” special library.



As part of the 2012 Arizona Statehood Centennial, the AZ State Library has created the *Arizona Memory Project*. The project is an online repository for digital collections from libraries, museums, and historical institutions. The program director has visited the PHF and encouraged us to share some of our postal history information. Efforts are underway to place material from our museum, library and youth program onto the Memory Project website.

We are very pleased to be a part of this noteworthy state project which will increase our visibility. Details on the unveiling of our information will be forthcoming. For now, you can learn more by visiting <http://azmemory.lib.az.us>.

Customer Service Stretches Across the Globe

Requests regularly surface on a wide variety of matters, but an unusual request recently turned into a great success thanks to the diligence of our volunteer Bill Kohl, who received an email from an Italian Archbishop who wished to acquire a Father Kino cancellation. He had learned of the existence of the cancellation from an Austrian philatelist who specializes in stamps and cancellations concerning Jesuit priests throughout the world. The good Archbishop did a Google search and reached the Arizona Historical Society, which in turn referred him to the PHF. Upon reading the request, Bill dug through large boxes of old cancellations to locate the prized Fr. Kino, which he then arranged to send to Italy. The Archbishop was totally delighted and (we hope) passed our name along to a few other Italian dignitaries!

Articles, philatelic awards or projects, and announcements are welcomed from PHF members for the Stamp Tracks. Please submit to Kelly McLearn, editor, at kmclear.phf@mindspring.com. Submissions and photos will be included as space permits

Wish List

Philatelic material (Lots Needed!)
Card tables
Padded folding chairs
LCD projector
Electrical and painting services
Large screen for library

Making Tracks To PHF Happenings



All members and volunteers are cordially invited to attend the 2007 PHF Annual Meeting, to be held May 5th at the beautiful Hacienda del Sol Resort. Contact Lena Rogers for details or reservations.



On March 15th, the PHF hosted a grantmaking workshop for small museums and cultural groups. The presentation was provided by the AZ Commission on Arts and

Tucson/Pima County Public Library. About a dozen organizations attended the afternoon event.



Be sure to stop in at the AZ Historical Society Downtown Museum at 140 N Stone, where our Katherine Stinson diorama has a special place in their latest exhibit on air transportation. Information at #770-1473.



The PHF has received a Prudential CARES Volunteer Grant Award of \$1000 thanks to John Birkinbine, who dedicated over 1000 hours with our organization. The Prudential Foundation recognizes Prudential retirees who volunteer in their communities. John has chaired the AZ Philatelic Rangers and provided fund raising and promotion of the PHF throughout the years.

Volunteer Spotlight



Priscilla Weatherwax enjoys the interactions with children at the ARIPEX stamp puzzle table.

Priscilla Weatherwax is one our dedicated "snowbird volunteers" during the winter months. She grew up in Springfield MA, where she studied accounting at American International College, worked in perpetual inventory for a chemical company, married and raised her family. She moved to Tucson in the 1990's after a severe spring blizzard in the East nudged her to "escape the cold". When attending an OASIS senior education class on the Pony Express, the instructor Betsy Towle from the PHF invited the class to consider volunteering and so Priscilla began her tenure in 2002. She rides the city bus two days a week to help sort and file stamps in the Education Department. In the summer months, she even takes stamps home to sort!

When not volunteering (Priscilla also crochets laprobes for the Shriners Hospital), she enjoys OASIS classes and traveling. She has visited northern Europe, Australia and New Zealand. Twice yearly visits to her grandchild take her to the Philadelphia area, where her daughter is a curator at the Library Company. This summer she plans to visit Bryce and Zion National

Parks. Although she had a childhood stamp album, she is not a collector but has found the philatelic volunteer jobs easy to learn. She encourages other PHF members to volunteer and notes that there are always plenty of stamps to be filed for the Youth Education Program.

The PHF has been fortunate to attract excellent volunteers such as Priscilla and are very grateful for her long years of service.

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Stamp Buzz

Items of Interest about Stamps



Not Actual Stamp

Found

Volunteer Richard Amesbury continues to find treasures amidst the mountains of donated stamps in the youth filing room. His most recent valuable find is a Ben Franklin regular issue from

1914. It is a 2cent carmine type 1 design, Imperf value of \$1100. Due to its rarity, we hope to receive even more from its sale. Thanks to his remarkable diligence, he also frequently finds stamps with slight errors in the \$25 range. To learn more about the Ben Franklin, contact our Sales Department.

Missing

The Youth Program is out of cancelled Scott #2534 a 29 cent American Eagle. They need copies for future classes. If you can donate any, please send to Sue Sisson at

our main address or let others know.



The Postal History Foundation
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Label incorrect? Duplicate?
Please send us the corrections.



SAVE THE DATE!!!
Annual Member Meeting
May 5th!

