

The Postal History Foundation's



Stamp Tracks

Whole No. 14

Fall 2010

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

The Postal History Foundation Celebrates 50 Years!!



Visitors enjoy looking through sale items in Slusser Library

It was obvious to those who attended the PHF's 50th Anniversary celebration on Oct. 23 that the Foundation is a gem of a resource for all things philatelic. Even nature seemed to join the celebration by supplying a glorious fall day.

Whatever the age or interest of the visitors, activities were available to satisfy or intrigue. In the Slusser Library, a twenty foot display vividly recounted the 50 years of the PHF's history. The

(continued on page 2)

Tucson To Host ARIPEX January 14-16, 2011

Excitement is building here in Tucson as preparations continue for the 2011 ARIPEX Stamp Show to be held at the Tucson Convention Center January 14-16. Presented by the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs, in collaboration with the PHF and the Tucson Stamp Club, the show will feature two guest societies: the Mexico Elmhurst Philatelic Society International (MEPSI) and the British Caribbean Philatelic Study Group.

Visitors to the show can expect to view up to 240 exhibit frames, quite a few with a theme related to the Civil War since the Civil War is the official theme of the show for 2011. An award also will be presented for the best theme related exhibit.

Collectors and the general public will find forty dealers set up, and a new collector area will be set apart. One of

the most exciting areas will be the Kids Zone hosted and manned by the Postal History Foundation's Education Department. The young visitors will have opportunities to use stamps in various activities, to search for special cancellations, to see the vast subject areas covered in topicals, and to explore their world through stamps.

Following set-up of exhibits on Thursday, participants are encouraged to attend a reception at the Postal History Foundation from 4-9 p.m. where, as a special treat, they may view an exhibit of Mexican stamped revenue papers, courtesy of the University of Arizona Special Collections Library.



*ARIPEX 2011 Grand Award
Hopi Kachina Eagle*



ARIPEX Show Award

920 North First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719 • www.PostalHistoryFoundation.org
Phone: 520-623-6652 • PHF & Library Hours: M-F 8am-3pm, Library ONLY Saturdays 10am-2pm

Chairman's Message

On October 23, the Postal History Foundation celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. This milestone is a good reminder that it is time to renew your membership with a half century contribution and get tax credit before the end of the year. Special cancels celebrated the anniversary at our post office. Illustrations of the cancels are shown on page 7 of this issue. By coincidence, October was also stamp collecting month.

The centennial of the city of Tucson is also on the future agenda. The PHF is planning a part of that celebration in 2012. Special stamps will be printed for this event with special cancels at selected post offices.

We have had a fortunate contribution from the Emerald Foundation to help with Stamp Camp. Stamp Camp is the special philatelic education effort for students during the summer break and was featured in our last issue.

And Carl le Mar John, who has been a long time contributor, gave us a generous donation this month. Carl's record of contributions is exemplary, and in the past, we have dedicated a plaque to him in our exhibit room.

As your chairman, I have to say that with the efforts of the volunteers and staff, I continue to be amazed at how this organization is performing. The number of students reached in the public schools is over 9,000, the volume of stamps given out has exceeded all past records and the enthusiasm of the staff and volunteers is contagious. Come and visit to see for yourself!

Bob Bechtel

Celebration (from front)

display was designed and compiled by Charlotte Cushman and Frank Mallalieu. Children and their parents were totally occupied in the library's Kidz Zone. Throughout the library, tables were filled with sale books and surplus journals. The sale results were pleasing, and the proceeds can now be used to purchase new materials.

Meanwhile, the courtyard buzzed with activity. With pleasant background music provided by DJ Capt'n Kirk, adults and children worked with the giant maps and country stamps. While some children made autumn stamp sheets, adults attempted to reconstruct se-tenants. Other children foraged in the stamp treasure chest for special stamps.

Inside the PHF building, things were bustling also. At the sale area, visitors browsed through books, cachets, stamps, and stamp collecting supplies. It was here that many stamp stories were being swapped.

To many visitors, one of the more interesting items at the PHF was the old Naco, AZ, post office which is actually-reconstructed inside the PHF building. Visitors could go behind the grill and see much of the antique postal machinery used by early post offices.

Those who wished ended their visit by stopping at the refreshment table to enjoy the two cakes and other edibles from a heavily laden table. Lena Rogers deserves kudos for her efforts here.

It should be noted that many who attended were first time visitors to the PHF and that may be due, in part, to the spotlight provided by Arizona Illustrated on Channel 6 earlier in the week.

END OF YEAR TAX YEAR IS APPROACHING

Consider sponsoring a bus for ARIPEX before the year ends and take a tax deduction. One bus will send 60 students to the stamp show at the Tucson Convention Center in January. The cost of a bus per day is \$175. We try to bus in over 1,000 students so they can have fun at our great KID'S ZONE at the show! Spark a kid's interest in philately. Sponsor a bus or part of a bus and take a deduction on your tax return. For more information, contact Lisa Dembowski at ldembowski.phf@mindspring.com or 520-623-6652 ext. 102.

*** REMINDER ***
**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL TIME**
WATCH YOUR MAIL
FOR THE INFORMATION
PACKET!

Library Corner

The Postal History Foundation Joins the Union Catalog

The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) hosts an online catalog which includes the holdings of a number of other philatelic libraries, such as the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library and the Collectors Club of New York. The Postal History Foundation is part of this collaborative effort to make our holdings more accessible to philatelists and researchers, available at: www.stamps.org/inmagicgenie/opac.aspx

Finding Aids available on Arizona Archives Online

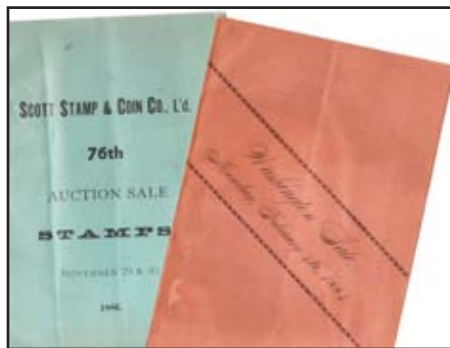
Arizona Archives Online brings together detailed descriptions of archival material about the history of Arizona and other subjects. The archival collections described in AAO are held at 14 institutions across the state including academic libraries, historical institutions, special collections libraries, museums and other libraries and archives in Arizona. The Postal History Foundation currently has posted four finding aids to archival collections and we will continue to add more as time and resources allow. These are visible at: www.azarchivesonline.org/

Celebrate the Town Between the Tracks: The Old Vail Post Office since 1908

A new digital exhibit is available online on the Arizona Memory Project at <http://azmemory.lib.az.us/>. This newest collection is part of the Centennial Celebration of Arizona Post Offices" project and includes photographs, documents, postal covers and oral histories. Vail is often called the "Town Between the Tracks" because of its location between the east and west bound tracks of first, the Southern Pacific Railroad, and later the Union Pacific. Since 1908 the adobe post office has been a focal point for government, communication and commerce in Vail and the surrounding region.

Auction Catalogs

Thanks to funding through an LSTA grant, we are currently busy adding the auction catalogs to our online catalog at: <http://librarycatalog.pima.gov/>. It is now possible to search electronically by auction house, name sales, date, and subject or topic. This project will be completed by July 2011.



New Exhibit!

Come and see our exhibit highlighting the history of PHF! In celebration of our 50th anniversary, it includes photos and documents relating to our founding, the education program, library, Arizona Philatelic Rangers, and volunteers. It will be open until January 3, 2011. Many thanks to Frank Mallalieu and Linda Wynn for their work on this exhibit.

New Acquisitions Catalogs:

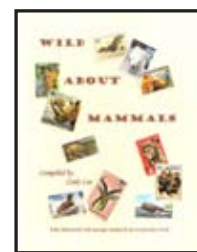
- Great Britain Specialized Stamp Catalogue (v. 1-4)
- United States Postal Card Catalog (2010)

Journals in electronic format:

- China Clipper and other publications of the China Stamp Society
- USCS Bulletins and Logs, DVD set

Featured items:

- Faroe Islands: Stamps and Postal History (21st ed., 2010)
- Philately of Switzerland – An Introductory Handbook – includes CD (2010)
- Traveling Post Offices of Mexico by Todsén & Walmsley (2008)
- WESTPEX -- The First 50 Years by Kristin Patterson (2010)
- Wild About Mammals by Cody Lee (2009)
- The Winton M. Blunt Postal History Symposia, edited by Thomas Lera (2010)



Children and Youth:

- Hail to the Mail (DVD) (1994) - image



Notes From Lisa News From Youth Education Thru Stamps

School is back in session and we are extremely busy here at the YES (Youth Education thru Stamps) program. As I write this during the first week of October, we have already supported 1000+ students in the classroom and community with lessons, Power Points, and stamps which enrich the required curriculum! 90,000 stamps have been distributed to students in Arizona and other states such as Florida and Pennsylvania. We have also sent stamps across the world to Sri Lanka!

Great Start For New School Year!

This school year started off on August 19th with a big bang in our own Slusser Library as we had a Birthday Party for Tucson and recognized the winners of the 3rd Annual Tucson Birthday Stamp design contest. From the many beautiful entries, our panel of judges chose the design of a local 3rd grader, Rene Julius. He is pictured below with his winning stamp design. Rene's design was printed on legal U.S. postage which is sold as a fund-raiser for our YES program. The winners received gift certificates from Bookmans, ribbons, t-shirts, and special stamp collections. We had cake, cookies, veggies, and sang Happy Birthday to Tucson which was celebrating its 235th birthday!



*Winner Rene Junius, 3rd grader,
at Tully Elementary in Tucson*



*His grand prize design was
made into legal U.S. postage*

In September, besides visiting classrooms, the education department was involved in a couple of community events including United Way Days of Caring and Vail Days.

United Way Days Of Caring

United Way Days of Caring is a mutually beneficial event where people from a local business spend a day with us and help us with projects that we need to get done. Ten employees of IBM came in, took a tour, and helped the YES program on September 15th. They enjoyed doing many different essential tasks such as sorting foreign stamps and looking for covers (envelopes with postmarks) from different cities in Arizona. Filing stamps by Scott number in the Education Filing room and making sets of stamps for local school children were other important tasks that they accomplished for the education department. The IBM employees felt the time spent here was worthwhile as they learned some postal history and found out how beautiful postage stamps can be used as a learning tool in the classroom. Thank you IBM! We enjoyed having you for a day!



*Paul Nelson leading a
tour of IBM employees*



*IBM volunteers working on
various tasks in the Slusser Library*



*Group picture of IBM volunteers and
Paul Nelson (r) Lisa Dembowski (l)*

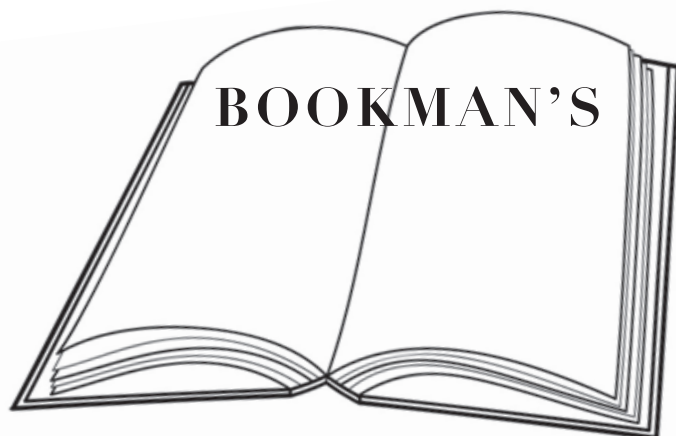


Vail Days

"Vail Meet Yourself" is a celebration of the history of the "town between the tracks", which is southeast of Tucson. From 1908 to 1947 the center of activity in Vail was the old adobe post office, which they are now raising funds to renovate. A train station was active there from the late 1800s to 1947. Our Slusser Librarian, Charlotte Cushman, was in attendance with old photos of Vail and the post office, plus a railroad mailbag and videos about rail mail. Kids of all ages enjoyed activities about trains and Owney the mail dog. They sorted mail into slots like a postmaster and used stamps to learn about the history of the railroads in the United States.



Sisters sorting the mail at Vail Days



Girls finishing a worksheet about Owney and big sister sorting mail

ARIPEX 2011

It is time to remind you about ARIPEX 2011 which is January 14-16 at the Tucson Convention Center. ARIPEX is important to our local school children. We support a fantastic KIDS' ZONE for local students and families and we want as many classes as possible to go to ARIPEX, to learn about stamp collecting, geography, and history and most of all to have fun while doing it. One way to help out at ARIPEX is by donating covers and stamps which we put into plastic wading pools for the kids. They love to sit on the floor and sift through the stamps and covers looking for something of special interest to take home.

At ARIPEX, besides fun activities for the kids, we will also have exhibits from local schools that use stamps in the classroom. Thanks to the Emerald Foundation's generous gift to the YES Stamp Camp program we hope to have several youth competitive exhibits. The kids have been working very hard on their exhibits which range from dinosaurs to the Presidents of the Gilded Age. We are looking forward to seeing the finished product! Make sure you set aside time in January to attend ARIPEX!!!



Students looking for a cover to take home with all their other philatelic treasures



Students matching foreign stamps to countries on the world map.

Off The Cuff No, On The Cuff



Even in our age of electronic mail, electronic books, and plastic money, it's hard to imagine a household so lacking in paper of any kind that a lady would have to raid the closets of the male members of the household to get a detachable linen cuff on which to write a letter. However, what is more amazing is the post office accepted and delivered the item including the metal studs holding the cuff together.

The item pictured here is a man's linen detachable cuff, generally produced in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Cuffs were also made of cotton, celluloid rubber, and even paper. The purpose of the cuffs was to allow a man to wear a shirt at least a week without washing it; he simply reversed the cuffs the second day and put on new ones the third day and continued the pattern of wear and change. The cuff pictured on this page was dropped off recently at the PHF by an unidentified donor who left without giving any information about the origin of the cuff.

The "letter" has a full address to a couple in San Antonio and bears a 1906 Boswell, Indiana, cancellation on a two cent stamp. It also still has the two metal closure studs attached which today would certainly not go through the mail.

Reproduced in the next column with original spelling and capitalization, the letter does not contain very personal information but reflects daily life a century ago.

Boswell, Ind.
Dec. 28, 1906

Dear Ones,

Writing paper is a scarce article in this town so am forced to do the next best thing. Am having a fine time and feeling the same. Della leaves tomorrow morning for home. Don't know what I'll do without my bedfellow. Went to club at Beatrice's yesterday and won a prize. We had Mr. & Mrs. Samuels and Tom over to play 500 last night, and Tues. night we were over to their house and played billiards. Don't blame you George for liking the game because it is surely fierce and very scientific. Adah has asked Lona to stop and visit us on her way home from Talbot but don't know yet if she will or not. We had a letter from Mother last night. She had a little cold but they are getting along O.K. Earle & Papa are chief cooks it seems. Are having beastly weather cloudy & damp. Hope you are both well and happy. I thought maybe you would get this new years day but I hope that through this & many other new years you will both be well and prosperous.

Lottie Grace

Check out the new
APRL Blog at:

<http://blog.stamplib.org>

ATTENTION!!
New Weekend Hours

Now Open
Saturdays
10-2

Sales, Tours,
Shopping, Browsing

PHF Represented At APS National Stamp Show

At the American Philatelic Society National STAMPSHOW held in Richmond, VA, August 12-15, 2010, Charlotte Cushman, Paul Nelson, and John Wynns staffed the Postal History Foundation's information table.

Celebrating its 75th anniversary, the Confederate Stamp Alliance was the primary society represented at STAMPSHOW with many Civil War experts in attendance.

In the competitive exhibits, two familiar names did well. John Birkinbine II had a three-frame exhibit titled "Drama of the Civil War Period: Arizona and New Mexico Areas, 1860-1867" which took a Gold, and he also received the American Philatelic Congress Award, the American Philatelic Society Research Award, and the Military Postal History Society Award. Much of the information about Arizona and New Mexico was, perhaps, new to many in attendance whose previous Civil War focus did not extend far west of the Mississippi River.

John P. Wynns' "Canada: Confederation Issue of 1927" won a Vermeil award in the competition as well. John Birkinbine's exhibit will be at the ARIPEX show in Tucson in January.

Paul Nelson

ARIPEX
IN
TUCSON
January 14-16, 2011

MEMORIALS



Donald Amesbury

Donald Amesbury, a resident of Tucson since 1946, and a devoted Postal History Foundation volunteer for nearly 30 years died on August 3, 2010. Donald was retired from Hughes Aircraft Company and was one of the founders of the Tucson Orchid Society.

Guy G. Dupuy

Guy Dupuy of Keene, NH, died May 16, 2010. He was a Ranger, a long-time PHF member, and a renowned international collector and exhibitor of stamps.

Welcome New Members!

Douglas A. Files
Tucson, AZ

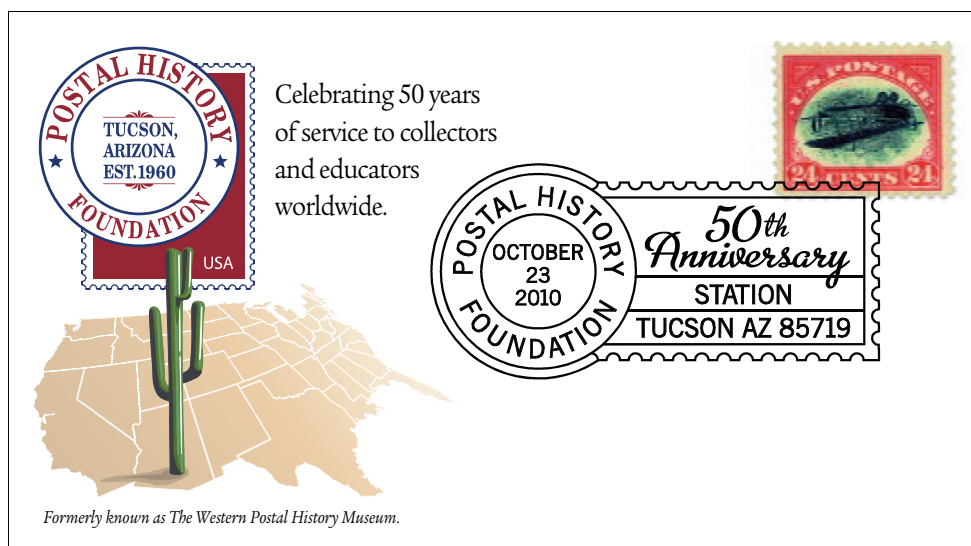
David Bixler
Pima, AZ

New Ranger
Chris Calle
Ridgefield, CT

PHF's 50th Anniversary Cachets



Sponsored by
The Arizona Philatelic Rangers



Formerly known as The Western Postal History Museum.

The two cachets illustrated above were commissioned by the PHF and designed by Don Regolo for the historic celebration of the Foundation's 50th Anniversary. To order the set of 2 cachets send a check for \$4 to the Postal History Foundation Attn: Alex, 920 North 1st Ave. Tucson, AZ 85719. Please include a #10 SASE. Cachets may also be purchased on site at the PHF.

Upcoming Exhibits At PHF And Slusser Library

November	Arizona & Tombstone (PHF)
December	Norman Rockwell (PHF)
Current	50 Years at the PHF (Library)
January	Mexican Stamped Revenue Papers (Library)
January	National Parks, Wildlife & Conservation (PHF)

News & Notes

The June 1 issue of FIRST DAYS, Journal of the American First Day Cover Society, featured a brief write-up of the PHF's ceremony presenting the Arizona flag stamp and related cachets.



The YES Youth Education thru Stamps program of the PHF and its Birthday Stamp Design Contest for local school children was written up in the Sept. 27 issue of Linn's Stamp News.



The PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW, 3rd Qtr., 2010, featured an informative article on the Slusser Memorial Library of the Postal History Foundation. In addition the sole photo on the cover of the journal was a cacheted prepaid cover of the Western Postal History Museum which is now the Postal History Museum.

C A L E N D A R

- Nov. 6** Story Town at Joel Valdez Main Library
- Nov. 13** Scout Expo at International Wildlife Museum 1-4:30pm
- Nov. 20** Tucson Stamp Club Auction 2 P.M.
- Dec. 7** Tucson Stamp Club Meeting - Pearl Harbor Memorial
- Dec. 11** Holiday Express at Historic Train Depot
- Dec. 18** Tucson Stamp Club Holiday Potluck
- Jan. 13** Reception at PHF 6-9 P.M. after ARIPEX set-up
- Jan. 14-16** ARIPEX in Tucson

*If you would like to read **STAMP TRACKS** in color, check out the website at www.PostalHistoryFoundation.org where you can view the newsletter in full color.*

The PHF Family Portfolio

Officers:

Chairman: Bob Bechtel
 Vice Chair: Paul Nelson
 Secretary: David Bernheim
 Treasurer: Bill Kohl

Staff:

Executive Assist: Lena Rogers
 Youth Ed: Lisa Dembowski
 Librarian: Charlotte Cushman
 Editor: Linda Wynn



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Label incorrect? Duplicate?
 Please send us the corrections.

