



The Postal History Foundation



Stamp Tracks

Whole No. 23

Fall 2014

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

Creative Design Claims Grand Prize

And the winner is.....

Jillian Stochowski, a very talented seven year old who attends Gale Elementary. She is the grand winner of the 2014 Tucson Birthday Stamp Design Contest. Her creative design of a horned lizard with saguaros posing as candles and the backdrop of the mountains surrounding Tucson is quite an eye-catcher. Jillian says the the "lizard is blowing out the candles." Jillian has been drawing since she was two years old and we can see that she just might have a future in fine art.



August is the birthday month for Tucson, Arizona. Tucson has a long history and became an official town in 1775.

This is the seventh year that the PHF, Youth Education thru Stamps(YES), program has sponsored the contest. Tucson's birthday is celebrated every year at the PHF with an awards ceremony for the top five finalists of three age groups. Awards, gift certificates from Bookmans Entertainment Exchange, special philatelic books and collections, t-shirts, stamps, and more are given to the finalists.

Every year some of the winning designs are chosen to be used as cachets for envelopes.

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Jillian Stochowski with her ribbon, original artwork, and sheet of stamps.

920 North First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719 • www.postalhistoryfoundation.org
Phone: 520-623-6652 • Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Chairman's Message

This is my first message as Chairman of the Board. I am still learning the job, so I do not plan any changes to the way we do business in the near future. Bob Bechtel did a great job, and I hope I will be able to do as well. I do want to thank all the volunteers who donate so willingly of their time to help us keep everything moving smoothly.

The Foundation continues to grow its programs. Beyond our great people resources, we appreciate and depend on your gifts of dollars and stamp collections. Donating stamps now, or carefully planning for the disposition of your collection in your estate, will save your survivors the frustration of having to deal with these wonderful specks of paper we love so much. If we get our grandchildren to help organize the donation, maybe they will become interested in stamp collecting and take some of the stamps home!

I also ask you consider becoming a volunteer or to help recruit more volunteers. At this time we need additional volunteers to keep up with the volume of our current activities and to train replacements for our talented (and older) volunteers. We can use a variety of talents, hours are flexible, and some work may be done at home.

Thanks again for all of your help.

Bob Davis

Dr. Robert B Bechtel (35 Volunteer Years and Counting) Retires as Chairman

Bob Bechtel retired from the position of Chairman of the Postal History Foundation at the 2014 Annual Meeting in April. He served in that position for 22 years, a time when the PHF greatly expanded the Youth Education thru Stamps (YES) program and the Peggy Slusser Philatelic Library was constructed and endowed. Bob worked quietly behind the scenes to help guide our operations and has been generous in his financial and philatelic gifts to the PHF.

The Board honored Dr. Bechtel's service by noting his leadership, loyalty and generosity over the years and elected him to the position of Chairman Emeritus. Bob will continue serving as a Board Member and volunteer.

Holiday Gifts

Birthdays or upcoming holidays deserve a special philatelic gift! Order today!

Call Lena at 520-623-6652



P.O. Box Banks Made by Barrett Behnke, one of our volunteers, these bank boxes have a P.O. box door with combination and a money slot behind. The doors date back to 1906 and were made by the Keyless Lock Company of Indianapolis, Indiana. Made

from pine and stained a medium brown, these unique banks will delight kids of all ages.

Small **\$42** 6x5x5½"

Large **\$62** 7x6x5½"

Shipping and handling for boxes is \$15.

Great Deals in the Sales Department!

Used Albums First Day Covers RPO Covers
Used Stock Sheets Stock Books Topical Packets Album Binders First Flights
Album Pages Bulk Foreign by the pound Mounts

520-623-6652

'Tis Almost the Season...

for annual membership renewals. Our reminder letter with gifting information will be on its way next month. An early, positive response would be happily welcomed. For the electronically inclined, visit the "Ways to Help" section on our website.

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Cachets Celebrate Tucson's New Streetcar

Tucson officially launched a new era of transportation on July 25th with the start of the Sun Link streetcar passenger service. The Postal History Foundation was there to kick off the festivities with an authentic railway mail bag full of postmarked cachets on the inaugural trip. Steve Farley, Arizona state senator, carried the mail bag on the first trip.

The designs and postmark were created by local residents Don Regole and Senator Farley.

Don Regole, a local graphic design artist, created the postmarks for trip one and two as well as the green and blue cachet for trip one and two.

Senator Farley, also a designer, philatelist, and historian, created the yellow, purple and blue cachets pictured to the right and bottom right.

During the past several years, Don Regole has created many postmark designs for special events here at the PHF. We appreciate his talent for creating very popular designs for postmarks and cachets and his interest and support in our philatelic endeavors.



Enlargement of Don Regole's postmark design for the streetcar covers.

Beyond Basic Membership

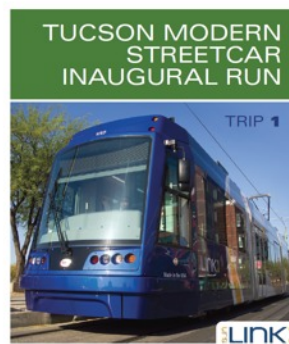
Please help us continue to bolster the future of our hobby. Your generous support assists us in continuing to grow the YES program and building the library archives.

Contributions above the Basic Member level are critical in allowing us to maintain our programs, buildings, and operations, now and in the future.

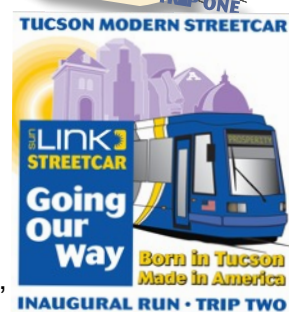
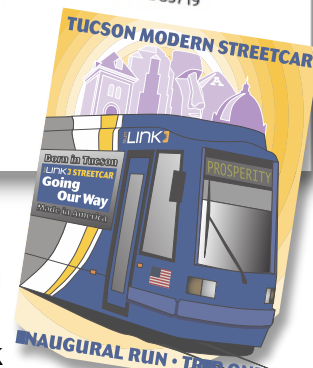
Visit our website to view membership opportunities for (tax deductible) unrestricted and special contributions to PHF.

Thank you!

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org



Don Regole's cachet design and postmark for trip one.



Steve Farley's cachet designs for trip one and two.

How to Order

Both designs are sold in packs of two cachets, trip one and trip two, and include the special postmark and stamp for each trip. They are available at the PHF or by mail. The cost of each set is \$6.00, which includes mailing, or \$5.00 when accompanied with a large 70¢ franked envelope. Send orders with check to PHF, Attn: Alex, 920 N. First Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719-4818.

Specify the artist's name when ordering.

Get Your Plate Blocks Here!

Our sales department is overflowing with mint plate blocks and sheets.

- Plate blocks starting with Scott #650 are available for approximately 50% of Scott Catalogue value (but none less than 25¢).
- Sheets start at Scott #772 and are also priced at about 50% of Scott.

Contact: Bill Kohl at 520-623-6652 x103 or phftucson@comcast.net



Slusser Acquires Meter Stamp Society Library

The Slusser has acquired a large collection of books, journals, and manuscript materials from the Meter Stamp Society (MSS) and the personal libraries of MSS president, Rick Stambaugh, and immediate past president, Joel Hawkins. Containing over one hundred items, the collection is still in processing and will take several months to be completely cataloged. At that point, researchers will have access to books and other materials from countries all over the world, including the United States, France, Switzerland, Great Britain, Scandinavia, Australia, Papua New Guinea, China, Japan, India, Bangladesh, Turkey, and much more. Already cataloged are three journal titles from AICAM, Italian Association of Meter Stamp Collectors. The Postal History Foundation is grateful to have this comprehensive collection, a rich resource for meter stamp enthusiasts and researchers for years to come.

Clang, Clang, Clang Went the Trolley! Stamp, Stamp, Stamp Went the Mail!

The Slusser's summer 2014 exhibit, *Trolley Mail*, ran concurrent with the Sun Link inaugural trip and the Postal History Foundation's streetcar event. *Trolley Mail* explored the history of streetcar railway mail and the history of Tucson's own trolleys. At the dawn of the 20th century, the electric streetcar was an integral part of urban and inter-urban mail delivery. Special mail cars, painted white, not only carried mail, but also served as travelling post offices, sorting and cancelling envelopes and parcels. Post Offices on train cars and street cars are known as "Railway Post Offices," or R.P.O.s for short.

In 1892, the first cancellation privilege was granted to Street R.P.O. No. 1. in St. Louis, Missouri. Several other towns also developed streetcar mail routes that ran through the 1890s into the early 1900s. By 1908, however, trucks began replacing streetcars as the main delivery mechanism of inter-urban mail.

The Tucson trolley was also a prominent feature of the *Trolley Mail* exhibit. Tucson's "streetcar" service began in 1879 with a mule wagon carrying passengers from the stagecoach stop northwest of Tucson into town. After some fits and starts, streetcar service began in earnest in 1897 with the Tucson Street Railway. Mule trolley service expanded with the city's growth. It was so slow, however, that Tucsonans would remark, "If you're in a hurry, walk, but if you have time, take the streetcar." The mule car barn was located on Stone Ave, near University Blvd.

Tucson streetcar service began transitioning from mule to electric power in 1905. Signs on old mule cars read, "Good and Faithful Servant," "Goodbye, My Lover, Goodbye," and "A Has-Been." Electric cars were called "Izzers," due to their sound.

Streetcars in Tucson never really "caught on." University students used them (and had fun greasing rails and jumping on and off the cars), but automobile drivers weren't happy sharing the road with trolleys, who didn't have specific stops and didn't have to obey all the traffic laws. The first City Planning Commission discontinued the "bumpy little car" service in 1930.

The *Trolley Mail* exhibit featured postcards, covers, toy trolleys, and trolley tracks made from arrowcaters.



From the collection of member and volunteer Stewart Milstein.



Fantastically Frightening Philately

Our annual Halloween exhibit showcases terrifying topicals with the likenesses of Alfred Hitchcock, Edgar Allen Poe, monsters, and more. In this exhibit you'll visit particularly petrifying places through covers postmarked with Devil's Tower, Skull Valley, and other ghastly haunts. But beware the Chamber of Philatelic Horrors, where the appearance of some appalling stamps might fill your heart with dread, and where the connection between a Victorian serial killer and the U.S. Post Office are explored. Don't forget to visit the dead letter office, where a gaggle of ghosts deliver mail to their final resting place. And recoil in fear at the cats, skulls, and devils used on Civil War cachets.

Come join us for an exceptionally eerie experience... if you dare.



From left to right: Cat caricature on Civil War patriotic cover from our Thomas Hale collection; U.S. stamp Scott #4377; cover from Casper, WY.



Original Dead Letter Office diorama.

New Literature Highlights

The Large Commemorative Datestamps of Japan: 1902.06.20-1944.04.24 by Charles A.L. Swenson.

Postage Due: The United States Postage Due Essays, Proofs, and Specimens 1879-1986 by Harry K. Charles.

Slogan Postmarks of Canada (Flammes du Canada) by Cecil C. Coutts.

Moon Landing: Scott C76 Cachet Catalog by Monte Eiserman and Harry L. Anderson.

Puzzles In Paper: Concepts in Historical Watermarks, edited by Daniel W. Mosser, Michael Saffle & Ernest W. Sullivan, II.

Maybe We Need a Letter From God: The Star Trek Stamp by Bill Kraft.

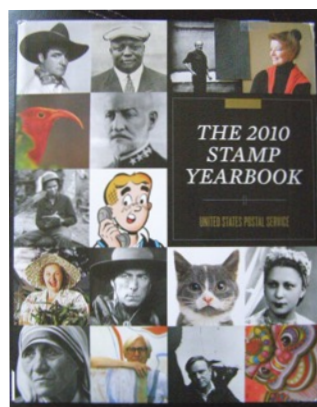
Sales Department Specials

US Year Sets 1972 - to recent dates

US Booklets - #75 Scott #632 to recent dates

Foreign Platinum Mines - \$135 14oz off paper
Scott values from 50¢ to \$9.99

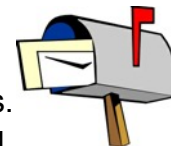
Gold Mines - \$75
Lower Values
14oz off paper



Our sales department is available by calling 520-623-6652 or sales@phftucson.



Stamps, Kids, and Smiles



One of the services we provide to children is filling requests for stamps. Kids are encouraged to write us letters throughout the year asking for topicals to add to their collections. These letters put a smile on our faces as we fill them. We know how much the kids are thrilled to be on the receiving end of an envelope full of stamps because we hear from their parents. What a fun way to grow new stamp collectors. Please help us to continue to support philately with your monetary and philatelic donations.

Below are some samples of letters written by young collectors that should make you smile! Some by beginning writers are hard to decipher, but it is fun! Our volunteer who responds to most of these letters is Bill Radcliff. Thank you, Bill!

Hello my name
Joaquin I am
nine years old. I recently
came, I have a book of the
stamps and I was wondering
if you could send me some.
1.) 2327 (wolverine)
2.) 1541a (rocks)
3.) U587 (race car)
4.) 1680 (AZ Flag)
5.) 1285 (Einstein)
PS: I'm a member.

Dear Ms. Dembowski,

May I please have stamps about
LEGOs. space. Abraham Lincoln.
triangle and circle shaped
stamps. Olympics.
Thank you so much!
Luke

Dear Friend,
thank you for the
stamps. i wodr ef you hav
prensass stamps. Rabos or
dog or Mohd or Monstrs.
From Mayurei
(princess, rainbows, dogs,
mud, monsters)

Continued from page 1 This year two designs from each age group were chosen for cachets. They are very colorful and highlight the many interesting sites around Tucson.



Pictured at left is the second place winner of the 12-15 age group, Roark Polzin. He is holding the cachet made from his pencil drawing of the skyscrapers and a bus in downtown Tucson. To the right is Sophia Rojas, first place

winner of the 12-15 age group, standing next to her beautiful drawing of San Xavier Mission.



A



ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

The winning stamp is sold for \$1.50 each and the cachets for 50¢ each. All proceeds benefit students across the country who collect stamps or use them as learning tools in the classroom. Anyone interested in ordering stamps and cachets can print the order form from the website at www.postalhistoryfoundation.org or call Lisa Dembowski at 520-623-6652 x 102. Postage fees start at 50¢ for the first ounce and increase with weight. You may also send a business size SASE and a brief note explaining how many stamps you would like and/or which cachets to : PHF Attention: Lisa 920 N. First Ave. Tucson, AZ 85719



Students Across The Country Experiencing The Joy Of Stamps!

Our YES program has been steadily growing over the last seven years to the point that during the 2013-14 school year, we introduced over 14,000 students to the great hobby of stamp collecting in classrooms, home schools, libraries, museums, community centers, scout troops, community events, and our popular field trips. This number does not include the many letters we receive from kids asking for stamps.

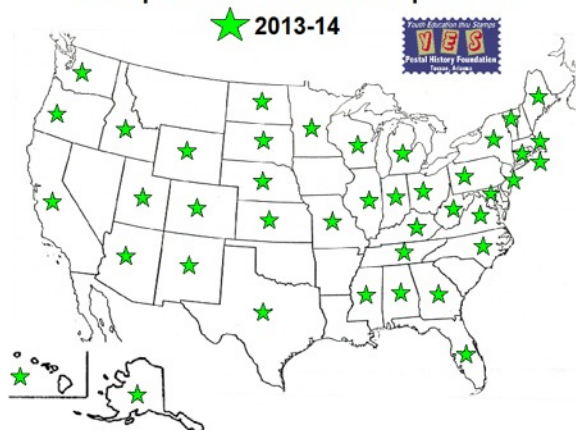
Teachers and parents continue to order lessons and stamps via email, phone, or through our online order form. Sales of our beginning stamp collecting kits have steadily increased as well. We know that stamp collecting is very alive.

Teachers come back time and again saying, "My students love learning with stamps," and order lessons year after year for new crops of kids.



Summer project from Marana Leap

Participants in YES - States Represented



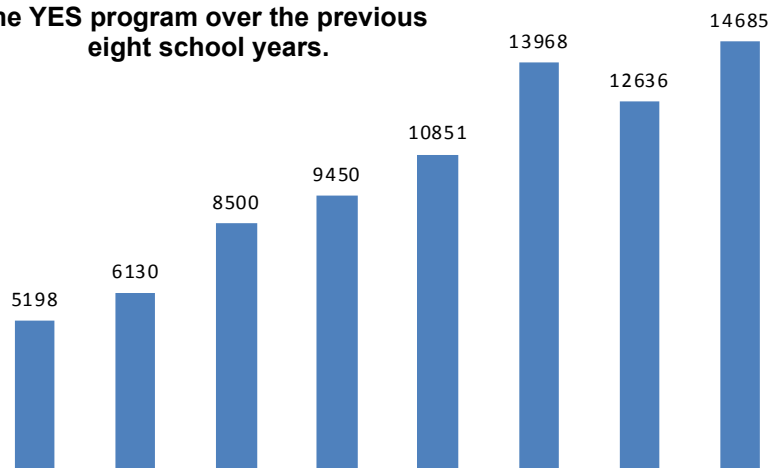
Teacher and parents using YES lessons across the country.

Last year we facilitated a letter and stamp exchange with a middle school class in Tucson and students in Shanghai, China. They enjoyed sending each other stamps, creating cachets, and learning about life in China.

The Winter Conference for Teachers in Alaska was introduced to our education program by one of our teacher clients, Shannon Wyckoff, who was a finalist for the Iditarod Teacher on the Trail. She wowed them with a lesson and stamps about Alaska and now the Teacher on the Trail 2014, Jennifer Reiter, uses that lesson and other YES lessons.

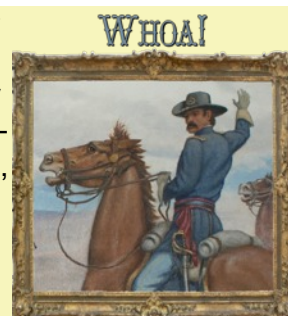
As you can see by the two graphics on the left, we are very busy at the PHF promoting stamp collecting and will continue to do so as long as we have support from people like you who love philately. We continue to support teachers across the country and other parts of the world. Join us as we reach out to the youth across the world.

Student and teacher involvement in the YES program over the previous eight school years.



Ever wonder how Arizona got its shape? Or hear about Three-Fingered Jack, and why he was shot in the gut? Discover the history behind all the Slusser Library

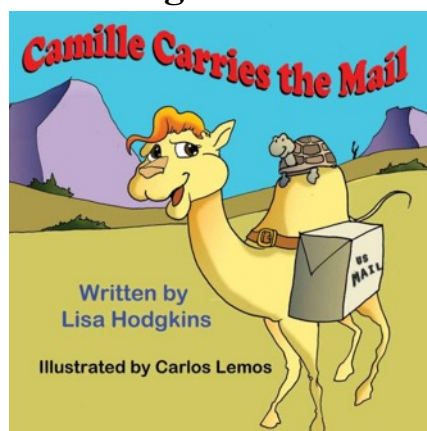
paintings in *Framing History*, by librarian Valerie Kittell. Available for \$10 including postcards of the paintings or \$5 without. Contact Valerie at library@phftucson.org or 520-623-6652 x107.



New Members!

Mary Bennett, *Tucson, AZ*
 Lloyd Berkner, *Green Valley, AZ*
 Vesta Cawley, *Tucson, AZ*
 Martin Greene, *Tucson, AZ*
 Alex Hall, *Tallahassee, FL*
 Steven Hamann, *Tucson, AZ*
 Karen Hemmeter, *Novato, CA*
 Valerie Kittell, *Tucson, AZ*
 Kjell Kittilsen, *Brooklyn, NY*
 Joseph Luehrmann, *Woodstock, IL*
 Daniel McAdam, *Oro Valley, AZ*
 Kurt Meyers, *Tucson, AZ*
 Ron Perry, *Tucson, AZ*
 Jerry Pitstick, *Salt Lake City, UT*
 Joaquin Rico, *Tucson, AZ*
 Kenneth Trettin, *Rockford, IA*
 John Zittere, *Tucson, AZ*

Great Gift Idea for Young Children



Books are still available at \$8 each plus shipping from the PHF. The books are also available at Amazon.com and Barnesandnoble.com.

Contact Valerie Kittell at
library@phftucson.org or
 520-623-6652 x107

Tucson Stamp Club

First Tuesdays - 5 pm bourse
 Third Saturdays - 12 pm bourse
 Meetings in the Slusser Library

October 7 - Tuesday
 Meeting - no Speaker

October 18 - Saturday
 Halloween Clothesline

November 4 - Tuesday
 National Parks
 Passports &
 cancellations
 by Jack Mount

November 15 - Saturday
 1 pm Auction
 Dan Sherry

December 2 - Tuesday
 Madonnas by Raphael
 By Jeanette Frazer

December 20-Saturday
 Holiday Potluck

PHF Calendar

September 15 - October

Exhibit in the Slusser
Fantastically Frightening
Philately

September 27
YES at the Children's
Museum Literary Event

October 10
Civil War Round Table
 11am - 1pm

October 18
Board of Directors
Meeting
 9am to 12pm

November 14
Civil War Round Table
 11am-1pm

December 12
Civil War Round Table
 11am - 1 pm

November 15 - December
 Exhibit in the Slusser
Twelve Days of Collecting

December 20
YES at the Train Depot

Civil War Round Table?

Contact
 Bob Burdick at
bobandglendaburdick@q.com

In Memoriam

Harvey Hastrup
 Member

Al Kuhm
 Member, Ranger

Al Nelson
 Member, Ranger

Charles R. Waller
 Ranger

PHF Family Portfolio

Officers:

Chairman: Bob Davis
 Vice Chair: Bill Kohl
 Secretary: Ron Newman
 Treasurer: Ted Maynard

Staff:

Executive Assistant:
 Lena Rogers
 Youth Education Director:
 Lisa Dembowski
 Librarian: Valerie Kittell
 Youth Assistant: Linda Wynn

See past issues of Stamp Tracks
 at
www.postalhistoryfoundation.org