

# Stamp Tracks

NEWS AND  
INFORMATION FOR  
PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

## Put a Stamp On It!

The Postal History Foundation is pleased to host "Put a Stamp On It," an exhibit by members of Paperworks, the Sonoran Collective For Paper and Book Artists. To kick off the exhibit, the Postal History Foundation hosted an open house on Sunday, January 10, in the Slusser Library. The open house, doubling as the fifteenth anniversary celebration of Paperworks, was open to Paperworks members, foundation members, and the general public. Between fifty and seventy-five people attended to celebrate Paperworks and their exhibit.



Barbara Brandel has incorporated stamps in her art work for many years. Her new idea was to expand the landscape beyond the stamp in her work titled "Seventy-Nine."

The philatelic-inspired artwork, on display in the Slusser Library from January 8 through March 11, was created by various Paperworks artists and reflects a variety of techniques and styles. Included in the display are earrings, postcards, cachets, collages, quilling, and multi-media art pieces. Some of the art is for sale by the artist.

In addition to art submitted for the exhibit, Paperworks also held a contest open to their members to



Artists' Work Above: Cachet: Judy Bjorling;  
Postmark: Bobbie Wilson ; Stamp: Victoria von Elbe

design a cachet, custom (non-USPS) postage stamp, and a USPS-approved pictorial postmark. Artist and foundation friend Don Regole helped judge the artwork. The winning designs were used to create commemorative cachets, which were sold at the event and later by special-order. No more cachets are available for sale, but one is available for viewing in our archives.



Milestones in mail delivery by the US were recorded using stamps, paint, and quilling. This piece is called "Innovation and Adaptation" by Leigh Poulos.





## Postal History Foundation

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Tucson, AZ 85718

520-623-6652

Fax: 520-623-3810

[www.postalhistoryfoundation.org](http://www.postalhistoryfoundation.org)

### Officers:

Chairman: Bob Davis

Vice Chair: Bill Kohl

Secretary: Ron Newman

Treasurer: Ted Maynard

### Staff:

Education Director: Lisa Dembowski

Librarian/Archivist: Valerie Kittell

Executive Assistant: Lena Rogers

Education Assistant: Linda Wynn

Stamp Tracks: Lisa Dembowski

### Hours:

Monday-Friday 8am—3pm

Post Office: M-F 8am—2:30pm

Slusser Library: M-F 9am—3pm

See past issues of **Stamp Tracks** at  
[www.postalhistoryfoundation.org](http://www.postalhistoryfoundation.org)

Follow the PHF on  
Facebook and Twitter!

[facebook.com/postalhistoryfoundation](https://facebook.com/postalhistoryfoundation)



@phftucson

## Chairman's Message

Here in the Sonoran desert we enjoy mild winters. The weather in Tucson has been extremely pleasant for the city's annual Gem and Mineral Show and the Fiesta De Los Vaqueros Rodeo. The approach of spring reminds me that another year has passed and our annual meeting is upon us. The meeting, combined with the member and volunteer luncheon, is set for Saturday, April 16, 2016 at the Westward Look Resort. The resort, nestled in the Catalina Foothills north of Tucson, has consistently provided a wonderful venue and menu for our luncheon.

This is a chance for our volunteers to enjoy a meal together and mingle with those who volunteer at PHF on different days. We start with the brief annual meeting and then enjoy the good food and conversation before moving on to acknowledge volunteers for their hard work and dedication to our goals of education and preservation of postal history.

And if our full parking lot is any indication, we are successfully achieving our goals. Our mild Tucson weather also allows us to enjoy winter volunteers, school field trips, seasonal tourists, post office customers, collectors, and visitors to the library.

Please join me in celebrating our dedicated volunteers. See you in April.

*Bob Davis*

PS: The meeting/luncheon begins at noon. Call Lena for reservations at 520-623-6652.

## Philatelic Gifts

**Call Lena at 520-523-6652**

PO Banks, Stamp Collecting Kits, and  
Treasure Chests for sale.





# Disposing of Your Collection by Stewart Milstein

*This article is based on an article that appeared in the American Philatelist by David Weisberg. In modified form it ran in the August and September issues of the USCS LOG.*

As a volunteer at the Postal History Foundation, and the Chairman of the USCS Heirs & Estate Committee, I have sadly, and all too often, heard the statement, "What do I do with all this stuff?" Collections have been poorly disposed of, and/or destroyed by heirs because the owner of the collection left no instructions.

As the owner of a collection, **YOU** are the best person to determine the ideal disposition of your collection. You have enjoyed creating your collection. Gain the satisfaction of knowing it will be properly distributed to good purposes currently or at your passing.

Consider the following in preparing appropriate documentation for success in this process:

1. Describe your collection. What may be self-evident to you as a collector might not be obvious to a non-collector.
2. State where and how your collection is stored. Include your philatelic literature, catalogs, articles and research notes (which can be as valuable as parts of your collection.)
3. Prepare an inventory of your collection. If it is too big a job to create an inventory, then highlight the most valuable parts of your collection.
4. Provide a realistic valuation of your collection.
5. If you have an exhibit, determine whether you want it maintained intact or broken apart.
6. Make any specific bequests known in your will.

If you do not personally dispose of your collection, then the next step would be to determine *who* will dispose of it. Whoever it might be, you need to tell that person what you want done with your collection. It



**Above: Stewart Milstein, also a PHF Volunteer, sorts through ship ephemera for the Navy Department Library. Photo by Matthew Eng/Naval Historical Foundation.**

## Make a Tax Deductible Gift

Consider a tax deductible gift to the Postal History Foundation! There are many ways to help.

- ◇ Raise your membership level.
- ◇ Contribute to a specific program:  
Youth Education thru Stamps (YES) or the Slusser Library.
- ◇ Donate stamps: cull your collections and accumulations.

**Thank You!**

would be wise to leave written instructions in your will and/or in separate letters to your executor or personal representative. Make the job of disposing of your collection as easy as possible for the person who may have this responsibility.

Your collection is an asset that should be protected. The collection should be kept in a cool dry place away from moisture, pets, tobacco, insects, and strong odors. If your collection is insured, the insurance documents need to be in a safe place with all your other important documents.

# Ranger Dinner Promises Enjoyable Experience During World Stamp Show 2016

By John Birkinbine

This will be an exceptional occasion! My wife, Seny, and I flew from Tucson to New York City to enlist the assistance of Dr. Raymond M. Chen who has graciously agreed to arrange the Ranger dinner. Dr. Chen was the *New York Times* assistant editor for Chinese restaurants in NYC, and later a consultant.

Dr. Chen holds a doctorate degree in astronuclear physics and taught for many years at Columbia University. He is also owner of Ton Ying & Co. in Manhattan, specializing in important Chinese works of art. Chen is well known in the Chinese community, and for hosting his occasional international private dinners for VIPs such as Mayor Bloomberg. Seny and I have been privileged to enjoy two of these dinners.

Dr. Chen is planning a fifteen-course Chinese dinner. Except for rice and tea, each course will be more extraordinary than the usual fare found on Chinese menus. Prior to each course, Dr. Chen will explain what is being served, an experience seldom encountered. Special wine will also be served. The total cost is expected to be in the \$60 range, including tax and tip.

Within the next month Dr. Chen will select the best restaurant in authentic China Town for this special experience. Due to the small size of most restaurants there, Ranger seating will probably be limited to 50 persons.

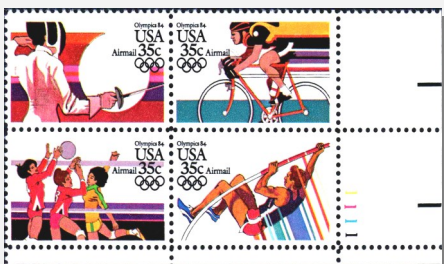
To make your reservations email me at [jb2nd@earthlink.net](mailto:jb2nd@earthlink.net). You will be notified later as to the cost. This Ranger dinner is on Friday night, June 3rd. Cocktails after 6:30 and dinner at 7:00.



## MINT PLATE BLOCKS AND SHEETS AVAILABLE FOR ORDER!

- ◆ **Plate blocks** starting with Scott #650. 50% of Scott. (None less than 25¢)
- ◆ **Sheets** starting with Scott #1414. 50% of Scott

To determine availability call Ted Maynard  
at 520-623-6652 x103 or  
[finance@phftucson.org](mailto:finance@phftucson.org)



## PHF Membership

### Renew or Join Anew

Support the  
PHF, Youth Education thru Stamps (YES),  
and the Slusser Library.

**More than 200 of you have renewed.**

**Let's make renewal unanimous!**

Your support is critical to our  
mission to support the  
*future of philately.*

For additional gifting opportunities visit  
"Ways to Help" on our website at

[www.postalhistoryfoundation.org](http://www.postalhistoryfoundation.org)

## ARIPEX 2016

The annual show in Arizona was well attended this year and also included a full compliment of dealers. Bob Davis, chairman of the PHF, headed up to Mesa on Thursday before the show with two van loads of philatelic treasures. The PHF table was very successful and will benefit students participating in the Youth Education thru Stamps (YES) program. Spink auction and collectible company generously sent a limousine down to Tucson to transport visitors to and from the show on Saturday. Scouts were in attendance, and the youth area was run by Marsha Condit and Sue Sisson. The quick collection evaluation program, Stamps In Your Attic, was very popular and many attendees donated stamps to the PHF YES program.



**Above:** Buyers looking through PHF treasures.

**Below:** Thank you to Jack Mount, Dan Sherry, and Paul Nelson for helping Bob Davis run the PHF tables.



## Volunteer Spotlight

Richard "Dick" King, member, volunteer, and chair of the Slusser Library Committee, is a valued part of the Postal History Foundation community. His active participation and advocacy for the library are sincerely appreciated, as are the many contributions he has made to the library's holdings. In the past several months alone, Dick has purchased and donated



well over fifty books, including a volume on the sultanate of Nejd, two on China, and dozens on the German inflation period. Dick enjoys collecting stamps and postal history from a variety of countries, especially China, Germany, and Mexico. He's also an avid book collector. Dick's contributions to the Postal History Foundation and the Slusser Library are improvements that will be felt for years to come.

## Keep Current with Events!

For those members who might want to pop in for special activities here at the foundation, we will start compiling an email list for sending out brief announcements about upcoming events.

Email Lisa at [education@phftucson.org](mailto:education@phftucson.org) and type PLEASE PUT ME ON THE LIST along with your first and last name.



## From the Archives

In medicine, they're called "incidental findings." It happens when a person goes to the doctor for one problem, tests are performed, and a totally different problem is unintentionally discovered. This second problem may have gone undiscovered for quite some time, or perhaps indefinitely, if not for the investigation of the first problem.



We have this phenomenon in libraries and archives, too, when a person searches for information about one topic and something else turns up that is equally, if not more, intriguing than the original topic. Recently, my volunteer Cindy and I were combing various collections for items to display in the next Slusser exhibit. Completely off the exhibit topic, Cindy found a postcard, postmarked Hereford, Arizona, February 15, 1913, with the following message:

Dearest Wife, I will try and send you a card as I am on the border of Mexico and just ready to fight for my country if needed. We landed yesterday and I am a little tired but hope to be alright soon so if your little Hubby gets killed be good to the baby.

This stopped us in our tracks. For a moment, we forgot all about the exhibit. *What had happened to G.G. Spivey?* Did he live through the war? Did he make it back to his family? Were they still alive and well when he returned, if he ever did return? A preponderance of questions, an infinite number of possibilities, and a rabbit hole if we wanted answers.

Stranger still, the front of the postcard, pictured here, is intended to be humorous. Perhaps this is the only postcard available to Mr.

Spivey? Another incidental finding, adding to the mystery.

### In the "Loupe"

- A large portion of archival material from the Bechtel Collection has been processed. Included in this collection are hundreds of postmarks on covers from territorial and statehood Arizona. The collection consists of 27 boxes and is 7 linear feet. Detailed information about the collection can be found in the finding aid, located on our website(<http://www.postalhistoryfoundation.org/images/library/MS006.pdf>).
- The Slusser is appreciative of the Arizona Historical Society's donation of a framed photograph of Abraham Lincoln.

### New on the Shelf

- *Catalogo dei punzoni delle affrancature meccaniche Italiane* by Alberto Montepagano (2010)
- *The Dorfman catalog : Germany tete-beches, setenants, combinations and booklet panes, with net retail prices* by David Dorfman (1961)
- *Handbuch and katalog schraubenkopfabdrucke auf den brustschildmarken* by Peter von Beutin (2006)
- *New Mexico Territory during the Civil War: Wallen and Evans inspection reports, 1862-1863*

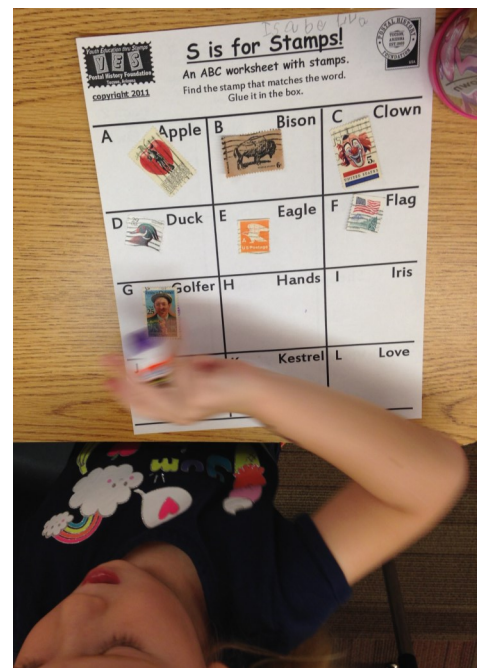
## Education Update

Lisa Dembowski [education@phftucson.org](mailto:education@phftucson.org)

### Growing Philately

Wow, has time flown by! In the **last 10** years the, YES program has introduced over **100,000** students to the joys of learning with stamps. From Tucson to Russia, Hawaii to Alaska, and many places in between, teachers and students have been integrating curriculum with stamps since 1962, thanks to our tradition of youth philately here at the Postal History Foundation. Field trips, lessons, merit badges, community events, classroom visits, letter request services, special needs and more: we do it all. Please keep on sending your monetary and philatelic donations because we use them effectively! Thank you for your continued support throughout the years and in the future.

Students learning with and about philately. Photos taken during field trips at our facilities.



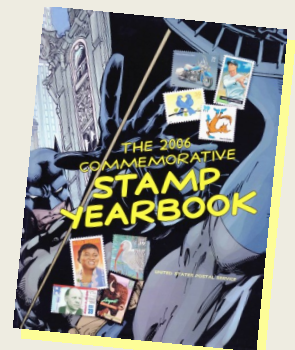
### Sales Department Specials

- **US Year Sets**—1972 to recent . Discounted Prices.
- **US Booklets**—Scott #75 to present
- **Foreign Platinum Mines**—\$135—14.8 oz. off paper  
Scott Values from 50¢ to \$9.99
- **Gold Mines**—\$75 - Lower Values-14.8 oz. off paper
- **Mint Postage**—40% discount. Save on mailing costs.

Call 520-623-6652 or email [sales@phftucson.org](mailto:sales@phftucson.org)

**Also Available:**

**RPO Covers • Mounts**  
**Topical Packets • Catalogues**  
**Album Supplements**  
**Stock Books • Stock Sheets**  
**First Flights • Used Albums**  
**Album Binders**  
**First Day Covers & More**





## Library Book Sales

The Slusser Library offers dozens of surplus philatelic books for sale, including postal histories of various U.S. states, military mail, air mail, railway post offices, postmarks, and postage stamps from all over the globe. Please check the book sales section of our website for a complete listing that includes price and condition. Email [library@phftucson.org](mailto:library@phftucson.org) or call librarian/archivist Valerie Kittell at 520-623-6652 x107 to order. Money from sales help the library to acquire new holdings.

Don't forget to visit us on the front page of our website, like us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter for the latest news, calendar events, and fun with beautiful scanned stamps and covers. The more who visit, like, comment, and share, the greater the audience to spread the word and help us in our mission.

## New Members

James Ginsburg, Esq.  
*Beverly Hills, CA*

Eugene Gotwalt  
*Tucson, AZ*

Fred Gregory  
*Palos Verdes Estates, CA*

Clyde Homen  
*Holister, CA*

Michael Madesker  
*North York, ON, Canada*

Postcard Exchange Club  
*Tucson, AZ*

Richard Schaefer  
*Brooklyn, NY*

John Shank  
*Tucson, AZ*

Theodor Teichgraber  
*Phoenix, AZ*

David Tronrud  
*Green Valley, AZ*

## PHF Calendar

### Slusser Library

January 10 – March 11, 2016  
Paperworks Exhibit

### March 11, 2016

Civil War Roundtable

### March 13, 2016

Postcard Exchange Club

### Slusser Library

Presidential Election Exhibit  
March 21– May 31

### April 8, 2016

Civil War Roundtable  
"Who Freed the Slaves"  
by Steve Reggentin

### April 10, 2016

Postcard Exchange Club

### April 16, 2016

Annual PHF Board Meeting and  
Volunteer Luncheon  
*Westward Look Resort*

### May 13, 2016

Civil War Roundtable  
1862-63 Confederate Strategy  
by David Germaine

### June 13-17, 2016

Stamp Camp

### Civil War Roundtable

meets every second Friday at the PHF  
at 12 noon. Contact **Bob Burdick** at:  
[bobandglandaburdic@q.com](mailto:bobandglandaburdic@q.com)

### Postcard Exchange Club

Meets every second Sunday at the PHF  
From 1- 3pm. Contact **Jack Mount** at  
[jdmount@cox.net](mailto:jdmount@cox.net) or 520-722-9530 or  
**Joyce Kagarise** at 520-682-8424

### In Memoriam

Eliot Landau, Philatelic Ranger  
Francis Kiddle, Philatelic Ranger

## STAMPS by the POUND



### Worldwide Mixture or Individual Countries

Prices Vary • Many Countries to choose from.

**Call for availability.**

**520-623-6652**

## Tucson Stamp Club

First and third Saturdays at the PHF  
12 pm Bourse • 1 pm Meeting

### March 19, 2016

Australia Topicals/Auction lots due

### April 2 2016

Kansas-Nebraska Overprints  
Bob Davis

### April 23, 2016

Auction

### May 7, 2016

North American Topicals

### May 21, 2016

Asian Topicals

### June 4, 2016

European Topicals

### July 2, 2016

No Meeting

### July 16, 2016

Caribbean Topicals