

Stamp Tracks

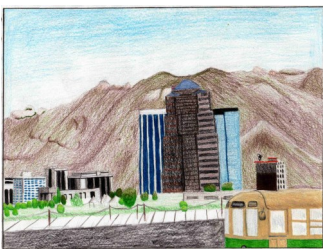
NEWS AND
INFORMATION FOR
PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

Historic Building Inspires Grand Winner

Many residents of Tucson have great affection for the historic neon signs and buildings in the city. Roark Polzin is a young man in high school who already has an appreciation for such iconic and historical sites in his home town. This is reflected in his winning entry for the 9th Annual Tucson Birthday Stamp Design.

Celebrated annually in Tucson, August 20, 1775 is the official birthday of the city. Every year, the Postal History Foundation hosts a birthday stamp contest to bring recognition to the art of stamps, stamp collecting, the history of Tucson, and the art of our local children.

Roark is no stranger to the contest, having placed in the top five of his age group two years ago when he designed a cityscape of Tucson. His work was chosen for a cachet on one of six collectible envelopes that we produce to celebrate the top winners.



Roark Polzin's 2014 entry.

Last year, Roark was not quite satisfied with his design for the 2015 contest and never submitted his picture.

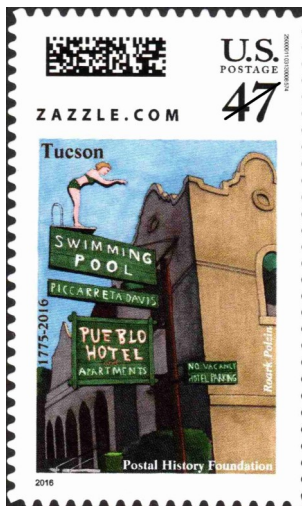
This year, Roark Polzin persevered and felt positive enough about his work to enter. He used colored drawing markers to create his picture of the iconic "Diving Lady" sign and the old Willard Hotel building from which it hangs. In recent years, much of downtown Tucson has undergone improvements as part of revitalization projects. The Piccarreta Davis law firm, which owns the building and the sign, renovated the Willard Hotel in 1993 and restored the Diving Lady to her former glory in 2012. The well-known sign can be

seen at 145 South 6th Ave. While sightseeing downtown it is worthwhile dropping in to look at building and the lobby, which is filled with historic photographs and other artist renditions of the property. Renowned architect Henry C. Trost designed the building, and it was built by Willard Wright. When it opened in September of 1902, the *Arizona Daily Citizen* described the hotel "as a marvel: it is simply ahead of anything in the Southwest ..."

Roark decided to draw the sign and building because he "really likes the building and they drive by it every day." It took him a few hours a day for a week to complete his masterpiece.

Lisa Dembowski, Education Director at the Postal History Foundation, asked Michael Piccarreta, one of the owners of the building, to be a surprise guest and give Roark his awards and sheet of stamps. Mr. Piccarreta was gracious enough to attend and he talked about the history of the building and famous sign.

See the art used for the collectible envelopes on page 7.



From Left: Michael Piccarreta and Roark Polzin.



THE POSTAL HISTORY FOUNDATION

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org



Postal History Foundation

920 North First Avenue

Tucson, AZ 85718

520-623-6652

Fax: 520-623-3810

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Officers:

Chairman: Bob Davis

Vice Chair: Mike Wood

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

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@phftucson

Chairman's Message

We had two significant and successful events (see full articles). The first, a *Star Trek* "party," followed the unveiling ceremony with home grown cachets for the new *Star Trek* Stamps.

The second, the Slusser Library anniversary soiree was also a success with a special personal remembrance of Peggy Slusser, musicians, and a proclamation presented by the Tucson Mayor.

We have received (and are still receiving) a large accumulation of stamps from a collector. We will end up with about 140 banker boxes of stamps on album pages, on paper, loose, in country envelopes, in stock books, and more. We can certainly use more volunteers for this massive sorting project; if interested call 623-6652x100.

It is always a great time to ask your friends to come down and help out at the Postal History Foundation, even for a few hours a week.

Volunteers of many talents will find their efforts rewarded with thankful children, a plus for philately, and absorbing new tidbits of knowledge.

Bob Davis

More than
150 of you
have renewed
to date...

PHF Membership

Renew or Join Anew

Support the

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

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



Philatelic Gifts

Call Lena at 520-623-6652

Stamp Collecting Kits and
Treasure Chests for sale.



As I Knew Him by Ted Maynard

The following is a piece written by our current treasurer, Ted Maynard. We miss Harold W. (Bill) Kohl terribly, but we are thankful for his hard work, dedication to our foundation, his smile, and kindness to everyone.

Harold W. (Bill) Kohl (1935-2016)



Bill "Doc" Kohl

Bill Kohl and I met in the later stages of life as fellow volunteers at the Postal History Foundation. That was a bit over six years ago. On most every Tuesday and Thursday for those six years, from 0700-1300, Bill and I joined forces to manage the financial affairs of the Foundation.

Bill, also known as "Doc," was Treasurer from 2003-2011. In a small nonprofit, that role is important, but can be hazardous with its own unique accounting and tax rules. I do not know how he got roped into taking the job. I do know that he was diligent in the pursuit of accuracy and thoroughness. In recent years he served as Vice-Chairman (and honorary Chancellor of the Exchequer).

At first we shared a desk and a half in the populated and busy main (greeting and sorting) room. While a place of constant and congenial banter, the space did not lend itself to proper processing and completion of a Treasurer's tasks.

Bill engineered a shifting of offices and we established the unofficial "Finance Department" in an appropriate space. Well, "much better" might be more correct, as a main passage (and a regular guided tour stop) ran in front of Bill's desk. He thought about charging a toll as a new fundraising tool. Bill was my mentor in the history and ways of the Postal History Foundation. And, as you might imagine, this Tucson native provided a colorful history of the city as seen from living in the early Foothills and as a practicing internal medicine physician for more than 35 years.

An Arizona Philatelic Ranger and stamp collector, Bill was also a seasoned and experienced backpacker. I heard about many trips down into the Grand Canyon to the Havasu. I learned of the Ute name of Uncompaghre, the sixth highest peak in Colorado and of the Weminuche Wilderness.

Family was a great foundation and strength as Bill aged. He delighted in his wife Rose Ann and his children. May we all be as beautifully strong and consistent in our family ties.

Bill was a man of substance. He was kind and listened well, but did not hesitate to note questionable or incorrect positions that I might express. Intelligent, thoughtful – a man of good character. What more could I ask for in a mentor!

So, to you, "Doc," I say a sad farewell. May you be resting in peace with Rose Ann. I shall never forget you or the role you played in my recent years. Most of all, I remember you as my friend.



Ted Maynard and Bill Kohl in their Finance Department space.

Star Trek Celebrations

The sun, moon, and stars aligned for a two-day *Star Trek* event hosted by the Postal History Foundation. On Friday, September 2, William Schwartz, then Tucson postmaster, joined a standing-room-only crowd for a local unveiling of the set of four *Star Trek* stamps that commemorate the iconic television show's 50th anniversary. In addition, the foundation began sales of a set of four, full-color "first day covers" (collectible envelopes) that include the new stamps, the USPS pictorial postmark, and beautiful envelope artwork by local graphic designer Don Regole. Several audience members dressed the part for the unveiling, ready to jump into a warp-drive of fun and adventure.

The following star date, more of the community beamed over for the *Star Trek* Fete. Food offerings included Tribble Bites (French macaroons), Horta Eggs (M and M's) and Tholian Pretzel cups, Vulcan Veggies, and Regulation Federation Hydration (water). Kids enjoyed a variety of children's activities, such as Starfleet paper doll-making, se-tenant matching, and space stamps album-creating. Thirteen raffle packages, the bulk of which were generously donated by Bob and Carol Davis, were handed out. The fete also included quiz bowls with prizes, a photo-op with Kirk and Spock in the transporter room, free tours, and a space-related stamps and covers mini-store.



Star Trek Unveiling in the Slusser library on September 2, 2016. From left to right: William Schwartz, Chairman of the Board Bob Davis, Librarian Valerie Kittell, and board member Niel Balsino.



Phasers were set to fun at this well-attended and enjoyed event.



Above Left: Local members working on their *Star Trek* collectible envelopes on the day of the unveiling.

Above: Thirteen raffle lots were organized and displayed by Valerie Kittell and her librarian volunteers. At the raffle table are: from left to right, Valerie Kittell, Charlene Kittell, and Linda Wynn.



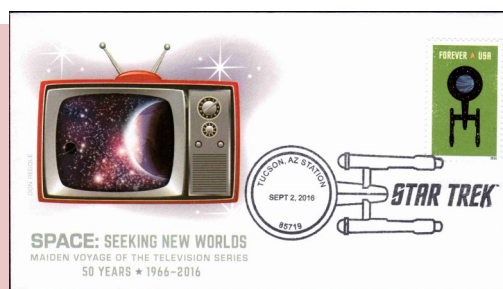
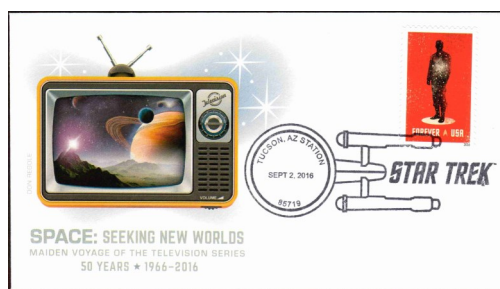
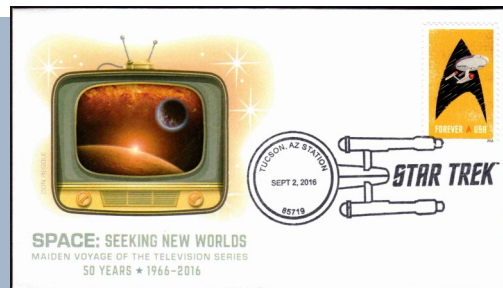
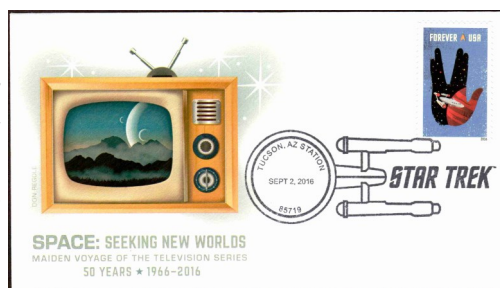
Left: Visitors filled up the library twice for the trivia quiz.

Collectible Envelopes produced by the Postal History Foundation

Collectible envelopes that are “out of this world,” complete with stamps and special *Star Trek* postmarks are still available while supplies last. If you would like to purchase a set or more for your collections or holiday gifts please send a self-addressed, stamped, #10 envelope, (SASE), and check for \$10 to the Postal History Foundation. If you don't send a SASE add 50¢ cents to your payment. Order by phone at 520-623-6652 x100 or email at info@phftucson.org.

Mail orders to:

Alex Lutgendorf
Star Trek
Postal History Foundation
920 N. First Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85719



Left:
Volunteer Cosette
Hutton and hus-
band Keith have
fun in the Trans-
porter Room.



Right:
Bob Davis and a
tribble run
the trivia contest
PowerPoint.



Librarian Valerie Kittell cre-
ated the Transporter Room
backdrop for visitors to take
pictures with Captain Kirk and Spock.

Left: Richard Poulter
observes the philatelic
Star Trek exhibit in the cases
and the *Star Trek* posters.



Right: Ester Deschamps
poses with Kirk and the
backdrop she won in
the raffle.

Slusser Library Celebration Honors Origins

The Honorable Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor of Tucson, proclaimed October 8, 2016, as Slusser Library Celebration Day. Mr. Rothschild revealed in his speech that he had worked with Peggy Slusser early in his career. He remembered her hand writing down countless names in ledgers, and while Peggy's fingers were curled from arthritis, her penmanship was always beautiful.

Librarian Valerie Kittell addressed the audience and told a little of Peggy Slusser's life and her parents' devotion to her. She expressed that the library building is symbolic of Blaine and Bessie Slusser's deep love for their daughter, and the work done in the library building represents Peggy's character and interests.



Librarian Valerie Kittell accepted the mayor's proclamation, which states:

WHEREAS, the Slusser Library provides a vital service in connecting people with information; and WHEREAS, the Slusser Library preserves and provides access to materials that may be unique and otherwise unavailable ; and WHEREAS, the Slusser Library serves people from all over the world in a variety of philatelic, Arizona history, and Civil War topics; and WHEREAS, the Slusser Library, one of the few philatelic libraries in the country, is a unique and valuable resource in Tucson; and WHEREAS, the Slusser Library was built and is maintained through the generosity of Blaine and Bessie Slusser, given in memory of their daughter Peggy Jean; and WHEREAS, members of the Postal History Foundation worked tirelessly to facilitate the construction of the Slusser Library; and WHEREAS, the Postal History Foundation celebrates the twentieth anniversary of the dedication of the Slusser Library; NOW THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Rothschild, Mayor of the City of Tucson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2016 to be Slusser Library Celebration Day in this community and encourage our residents to appreciate the Slusser Library as an exceptional resource, a distinctive feature in Tucson, and a contributor to the global community.



Above Right: Librarian Valerie Kittell addressing the visitors. At Left: Mayor Rothschild with Valerie and the proclamation.

New on the Shelf

- *Behind the Scenes: Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the Lincoln White House* by Elizabeth Keckley (2014)
- *Cayman Islands* by Richard Maisel (2006)
- *Mr. Lincoln's T-mails: The Untold Story of How Abraham Lincoln Used the Telegraph to Win the Civil War* by Tom Wheeler (2006)
- *Postal Place Names in Poland* by George Kwiatkowski (1992)
- *The Secret War for the Union: The Untold Story of Military Intelligence in the Civil War* by Edwin C. Fishel (1996)
- *Trial and Triumph: The Life and Accomplishments of Louise Foucar Marshall : Her First 67 Years* by Patricia Peters Stephenson(2008)
- *World Forgery Catalogue: A Reference List of Stamp Forgery Descriptions* by G. Cock (1998)

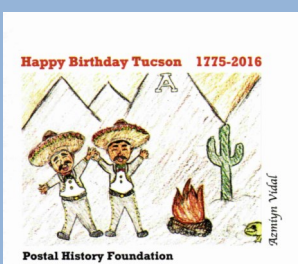
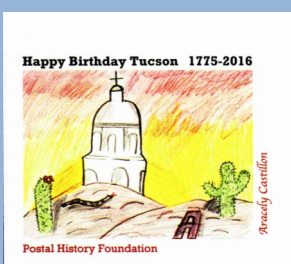
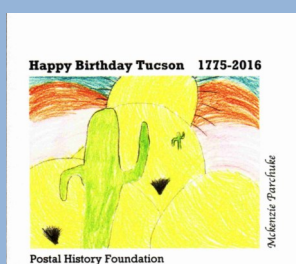
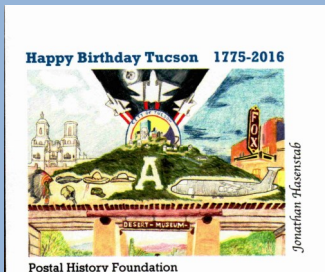
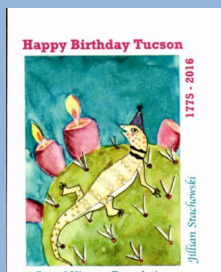
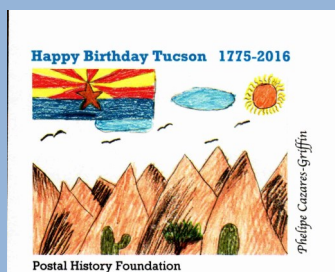
Education Update

Lisa Dembowski education@phftucson.org

Birthday Stamp Contest continued



Collectible envelopes and Tucson Birthday stamps are still available for sale. Please call Lisa at 520-623-6652 x 102 to order OR print the order form on our website www.postalhistoryfoundation.org. Click on the Education page and on the right column click on "order form for Tucson Birthday stamp."



Group picture of the top winners in the 9th Annual Tucson Birthday Design Contest.

Above are the entries chosen for cachets on collectible envelopes. **Left Top and Bottom: Ages 5-8:** Felipe Cazaes-Griffin and McKenzie Parchuke. **Middle Top and Bottom Ages 9-12:** Jillian Stachowski and Aracely Castillon.

Annual Tucson Show Includes Stamps!

Local philatelists know all too well that there are currently few stamp dealers in Tucson besides the PHF. JP Philatelics of Salt Lake City, Utah, is providing free admission passes for the upcoming Tucson International Coin, Currency, and Stamp Show. Jerry Pitstick, APS, owner of JP Philatelics, has been attending this show for about twenty years and would enjoy seeing local stamp collectors come out and visit his tables. He carries all countries and extensively US, Canada, Europe, and colonies. Locals can pick up the admission cards at the Postal History Foundation. This annual show is scheduled for January 21st and 22nd, Saturday and Sunday, and is at the Radisson Hotel (formerly Clarion) at 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd. 85714. Hours are 10am-6pm. Contact information for Jerry Pitstick is 801-943-5824 or jpphil@sisna.com.

In the next issue:

A promised follow-up Philatelic Ranger article about the World Stamp Show.

A report on ARIPEX 2017



Make a Tax Deductible Gift

Consider a tax deductible gift to the Postal History Foundation!

There are many ways to help support the children and philately:

- ◇ Make a sustaining or legacy gift.
- ◇ Contribute to a specific program: Youth Education thru Stamps (YES) or the Slusser Library.
- ◇ Donate stamps: cull your collections and accumulations.

Thank You!

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 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 Book
Tucson, AZ

Paul Leong
Tucson, AZ

Thomas O'Hagan
Lewis, DE

Chris Reed
Tucson, AZ

Ralph Swap
Juneau, AK

PHF Calendar

January 28, 2017
PHF Board Meeting

February 17-19, 2017
ARIPEX Stamp Show
Mesa Community Center

February 24, 2017
Boy Scout Merit Badge Workshop

Tucson Postcard Exchange Club

Meets every second Sunday at the PHF from 1- 3pm, except for summer. Contact **Jack Mount** at jdmount@cox.net or 520-722-9530.

December 11, 2016

January 8, 2017

February 12, 2017

March 12, 2017



STAMPS by the POUND



Worldwide Mixture or Individual Countries

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Call for availability.

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Free Domestic Shipping

In Memoriam

Alden L. Barnes, Ranger
Rex Bates
Harold W. Kohl, Ranger
Robert Schneider
Charles T. Wallace

Tucson Stamp Club

First and third Saturdays at the
Postal History Foundation
12 pm Bourse • 1 pm Meeting

December 3, 2016

The Madonna on stamps and cards
by Jeanette Frazier

December 17, 2016

End of Year Potluck (possibly outside)
Election of Officers

January 7, 2017

#1's clothesline. If you have the first stamp of a country, bring it to discuss.

January 21, 2017

Arizona topicals clothesline.

February 4, 2017

Annual Banquet-12 noon
Golden Corral on N. Thornydale Rd.

February 18, 2017

Meeting cancelled due to ARIPEX

March 4, 2017

Music topicals clothesline

Civil War Roundtable

Meets every second Friday at the PHF at 11:30 am, except summer. Contact **Bob Burdick** at: bobandglandaburdic@q.com

December 9, 2016

January 13, 2017

February 10, 2017

March 10, 2017

