

Stamp Tracks

NEWS AND
INFORMATION FOR
PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

Stamp Highlights Beauty of Tucson

Every year we watch in anticipation as contest entries arrive via parental delivery and U.S. mail from students across Tucson for our annual Tucson Birthday Stamp Design Kids Contest. And, each year, we wonder if any student can possibly top what the winner did the previous year.

In this 12th year of the contest we are very happy to present another beautiful winner that captures the classic look of Tucson.

Nola Gelling created a visually stunning mixed media design using pencil, markers, and acrylic paint. This particular cristate saguaro can be seen in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area, popular for its beautiful views, wildlife, and hiking, and just minutes from downtown Tucson.

Nola grew up drawing in her mother's studio, so drawing has always been a part of her life. She is a seventh grader at Khalsa Montessori School in Tucson. Nola has entered the contest for several years, and finally this year accomplished her goal of



The 2019 Tucson Birthday Stamp

winning the grand prize.

Cristate saguaros are also called crested, or fan, saguaros. The crest forms when the cells in the growing stem begin to divide outward, rather than in the circular pattern of a normal cactus. The crests measure, on average, between three and five feet across. Scientists are not quite in agreement as to what causes the mutation. More than 2,050 of these abnormal saguaros have been documented including 57 in Saguaro National Park East and West.

Nola and her family hike in the Tucson area and look for cristate saguaros. Nola told us, "A lot of people know about Sabino Canyon but a lot of people don't know about the Sabino cristate fan saguaro."



Grand Winner Nola Gelling stands next to her drawing and the enlarged picture of the stamp. Nola holds a sheet of twenty custom postage stamps that are legal for use in the United States mail.

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Postal History Foundation

920 North First Avenue

Tucson, AZ 85719

520-623-6652

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Officers:

Chair: Bob Davis

Vice Chair: Mike Wood

Treasurer: Ted Maynard

Secretary: Steven Hamann

Staff:

Executive Assistant: Lena Rogers

Education Director: Lisa Dembowski

Librarian/Archivist: Valerie Kittell

Education Assistant: Linda Wynn

Stamp Tracks: Lisa Dembowski

Hours:

Monday-Friday 8am - 3pm

Post Office: M-F 8am - 2:30pm

Stusser Library: M-F 9am - 3pm

See past issues of **Stamp Tracks** at

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Follow the PHF on
Facebook and Twitter!

facebook.com/postalhistoryfoundation



@phftucson

Message From the Chair

It is that time of year again when our winter visitors arrive in town. We welcome them back, especially those who volunteer at the Postal History Foundation.

This is also the time that we prepare for our once-a-year trip to the ARIPEX Stamp Show in Mesa. We have a great start on the show this year, as our sales area has become much more organized and we can find stamps, covers, and collections much faster than ever before. The volunteers have been very helpful in preparing items for Mike Wood to put in the sales area.

As usual, this is our plea for additional volunteers, so if you have time available and wish to help prepare donations for our education department, or any other help that we need please let me know and we will put you to work. The volunteers are a fun group and would welcome any help you could give.

If you have not already paid for your annual membership, please do so, and think about upgrading your membership category, as your donations are very much appreciated and needed to continue to provide stamps for the children and maintaining and improving our library and museum spaces.

Bob Davis

PHF Membership

*More than
158 have renewed
to date.*

Renew or Join

*Thank you
for
renewing!*

Support the

**PHF, the Stamp Discovery Program, and the
Slusser Library.**

Your support is critical to our mission to support the

future of philately.

For additional gifting opportunities visit

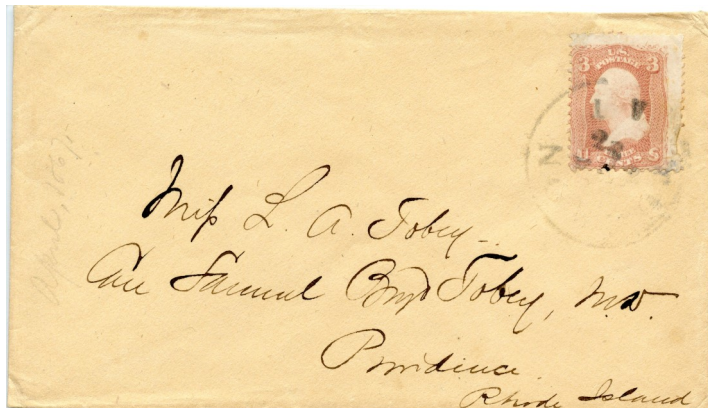
"Ways to Help" on our website at

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Oldest Existing Tucson, Arizona Territory Cover

The Postal History Foundation has acquired the oldest known envelope postmarked in Tucson, Arizona Territory, thanks to the generosity of volunteer Jack Mount. The envelope, known to collectors as a "cover," was canceled in the Tucson post office on March 23, 1867, and delivered to an address in Providence, Rhode Island.

Tucson's post office was established in 1857 when the area we know as Arizona was part of a much larger New Mexico Territory. During the Civil War, the southern U.S. mail route was discontinued as the Confederate Army expanded westward, taking control of southern New Mexico Territory and attempting to reach California. In 1863, the U.S. Congress reacted by using a north-south boundary to create



The Arizona Territory envelope (cover) purchased by Jack Mount and donated to the Postal History Foundation.



Board Chairman, Bob Davis, receives the Arizona Territory cover from Jack Mount.

the familiar shapes of Arizona and New Mexico that we know today. Tucson's post office was re-established after the Civil War and received its first Arizona Territory canceling device on July 13, 1865. The 1867 cover, now in the Postal History Foundation's holdings, marks an important milestone in Tucson's postal history.

Jack Mount purchased the cover in order to donate it to the Postal History Foundation. "It's an important piece of Tucson history," Jack said. "It belongs in a museum, where everybody can have access to it." Jack hopes that this purchase of historical Arizona postal history for the foundation will encourage others to donate important philatelic items in the future.

Jack is an avid collector of postcards and postmarks from national parks and Arizona. He volunteers at the Postal History Foundation once a week, usually sorting donated postcards and envelopes. Jack is also president of the Tucson Post Card Exchange Club, which meets once a month at the Foundation's Slusser Library.

The envelope is not currently on display, but may be viewed by appointment.

Sales Department Specials

Call 520-623-6652 or email sales@phftucson.org

- **Individual World Wide Stamps** -50% Scott or less
- **US Mint Plate Blocks**
- **US Booklets** -Scott #BK75 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
- **Postcards** - 25¢ each or 5 for \$1 unless marked

Also Available:

US and Foreign
Singles & Sets
First Day Covers
RPO Covers
US Year Sets
Topical Packets
First Flights

Collections
Foreign Covers
Catalogues
Stock Books
Stock Sheets
Used Albums
Mounts

Philatelic Donations Always Welcome

The Postal History Foundation, a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit, receives philatelic donations every business day of the year. Sometimes that means an envelope full of stamps; other times it means 30 banker boxes full of stamps and philatelic supplies!

For almost six decades, our work with students has been a draw for people wanting to find new homes for their stamps and supplies. In 1962, the PHF education program, now called Stamp Discovery, was the first in the country to use and create lessons for teachers and students in the classroom. Today, the lessons number over 100 and incorporate stamps on topics that are required teaching in schools. We give stamps and

supplies to an average of 13,000 school age kids every year for use as learning tools. Please explore the educational pages on our website at www.postalhistoryfoundation.org.

Shown at left are various items that we typically receive. Other items donated over the years include First Day covers, Golden Replicas, postcards, USPS Yearbooks, framed philatelic collections, foreign covers, mint stamps, and much more. All of the examples listed and shown at left are sold in our sales department. Proceeds from our sales department support our Stamp Discovery program and our philatelic library.

The Slusser Memorial Philatelic Library is one of ten philatelic libraries in the United States. Donations of philatelic literature are welcome. We ask that potential donors first check our online catalogs to see if we need specific book titles and journal runs. The library web page has links to our catalogs at the

American Philatelic Research Library and our local Pima County library system. We encourage you to donate to other philatelic libraries if we already hold the item.

If you are interested in donating, please go to our website for more information. Click on Ways to Help, and then Philatelic Donations at our website at www.postalhistoryfoundation.org. The PHF is not allowed to assess value but will send you a receipt letter for your tax files. Donations worth \$5,000 or more per tax year must be appraised by a professional and the Internal Revenue Service form 8283 becomes part of the process. Please call Ted Maynard, treasurer, with any questions at 520-623-6652 x 103. Also, if a donation is mailed or shipped to the PHF, the shipping costs are deductible, so save your receipts.

We encourage you to empty those closets and give your stamps and supplies a breath of fresh air as they help students learn and adults rekindle their love of philately.

**Connect to
your past
with
postcards.
50,000+
are available
at the PHF.**



We Remember These Loyal Volunteers

In July and September the Postal History Foundation lost two very dependable and loyal volunteers.

Don Schroeder started volunteering at the PHF in 2005 and was a Tuesday and Thursday definitive specialist. He sorted through piles of stamps looking for very specific items: used blocks of four, two cent Washington reds, and one cent Washington-Franklin greens. These were set aside for the sales department. He also pulled topical stamps for use by teachers and students in the Stamp Discovery program

Don was a collector of the 1938 Presidential Series, known as the "Prexies," United States plate number coils, and perfin.



Don and Marilyn Schroeder enjoying a PHF social event.

The only time Don was absent from his desk was when he and Marilyn would drive down to their condo in Rocky Point, Mexico, or if the University of Arizona men's basketball team was on TV.

Don had a strong sense of responsibility towards the PHF and he felt good about giving back to the community as a volunteer. He enjoyed the diversity of the people who volunteered here. "Don absolutely loved the PHF. We had such a pleasant association with the Postal History Foundation," Marilyn said.

Don's dependability, hard work, sense of humor, and laugh are very much missed by the volunteers and staff here at the PHF.

David Copins was a very active member of the Tucson community and was keenly interested in improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities. He served as a member of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council for over 35 years.

In 2005, he was welcomed and accepted as a volunteer at the PHF. He enjoyed friendships and bonding with the staff. As a result, he was very devoted and took his responsibilities seriously.

David volunteered at the Postal History Foundation three days a week. In the early days, he rode his bike many miles to be here. More recently, a volunteer picked him up or he rode the SunTran van.

David did many important tasks at the PHF. He sorted commemorative stamps for the education program and also organized thousands of glassine envelopes. He cleaned the exhibit cases, tables, and doors in the Slusser Library. David was always happy to complete any task.

He especially looked forward to attending the annual volunteer luncheon and would always be the best dressed at the gathering.

We miss David very much and are grateful for his time spent here, his quality work, and his friendship.



David had a fabulous smile and took pride in his work here at the PHF.

Library News

Valerie Kittell library@phftucson.org**New on the Shelf**

Bull's Eyes, a journal by Brazil Philatelic Association.

A Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of France, compiled and edited by Brainerd Kremer (1962)

Catalogue Specialise Illustre des Timbres-Poste du Luxembourg.

Errors and Irregularities in the Postal Markings of the United States Navy.

History and Perspective of Diabetes Illustrated by Postage Stamps, by Eleazar Shafir. (1999)

The Juarez Stamps of Mexico: 1879-1883, by R.R. Billings.

The Polish Prisoner of War Camp Posts, by "Autolycus." (1994)

Under Three Flags: the Postal History of the Spanish-Cuban/American War (1895-1898), by Yamil H. Kouri Jr. (2019)

United Way Days of Caring Always a Fun Work Day

Every October, local IBM staff, United Way staff, and other volunteers arrive for the annual United Way Days of Caring. Our education assistant, Linda Wynn, prepares many tasks for them to do, which helps keep the Stamp Discovery program ready for lesson orders by teachers and parents throughout the year. These one-day volunteers do a lot of work for us in a short period of time and complete so many essential tasks. They are also extremely cooperative and fun to work with.

One of our regular volunteers, Kat Wahl, helps run the workday with Linda, and we truly appreciate every task she does to help us with the education program.

Below from left to right are Gary Anna, Kat Wahl, Alec Forszt, Jessica Novak, Jason Willerup, Lori Cotton, Niel Balsino, Richard Wahl, Elizabeth Murphy, Heiko Schloesser, Josie Anna, and Education Assistant Linda Wynn.



Beauty of Tucson on Birthday Stamp cont'd

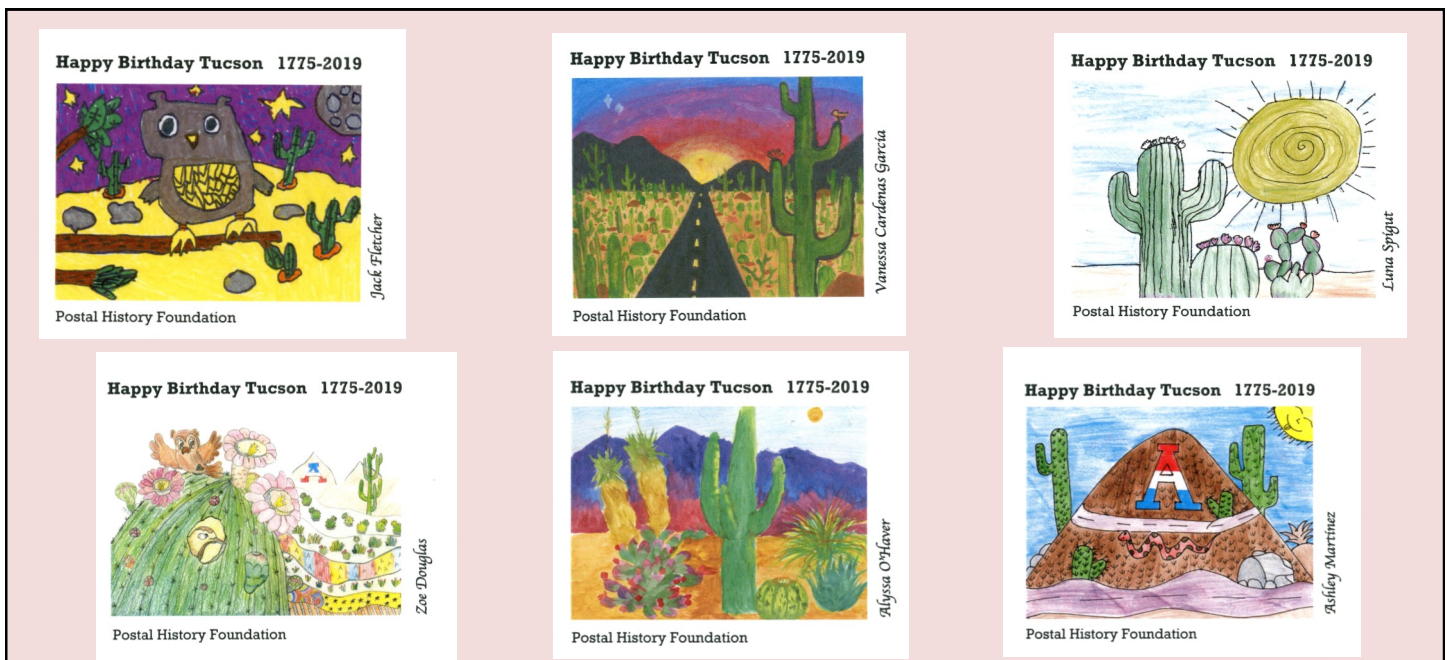
During the awards ceremony, 15 students were honored for their art work and given ribbons, gift certificates from local store Bookmans, and special stamp sets. Education volunteer Lisa Weber-Bradley spent several days putting together the prizes, as we match up the students' interests with the philatelic prizes we award them. Below is the group picture of the 15 finalists, ages 5-17.



Pictured from left to right are: Lisa Dembowski, Education Director, Camille Kollasch, Jack Fletcher, Rylee Korchmaros, Carlie Marlow, Aarush Pai, Nola Gelling, Isabella Estrada, in back Alyssa O'Haver, in front Luna Rai Spigot, Zoe Douglas, Katharine Douglas, Aleena Rafiyath, Lydia Robertson, Ashly Martinez, and Vanesa Cardenas Garcia

Six entries were selected to be made into special collectible envelopes, pictured at the bottom of the page. These cachets are printed on #6 envelopes and can be used in the mail.

The Tucson Birthday Stamps and collectible envelopes are available for order online or via mail at www.postalhistoryfoundation.org or by calling Lisa Dembowski at 520-623-6652 x 102. On the website, click on the education tab and then on the Tucson Birthday Stamp Contest Winner tab. All proceeds from sales of the stamps and collectible envelopes are used to help support the work of the Stamp Discovery educational program that supplies stamps and lessons to teachers and parents across North America and beyond.



PHF Calendar

2019-2020

Slusser Library
Collaborative Art Exhibit by
San Diego Book Arts and
Tucson's Paperworks
November - February

Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 2020

ARIPEX Stamp Show
Mesa Convention Center
February 14 - 16, 2020

Slusser Library
New Exhibit
Arizona Territorial Postal History
Mid March 2020

Annual Meeting
April 2020 TBA

Tucson Stamp Club

**First and third Saturdays at the
Postal History Foundation**

11 am Bourse • 12 pm Meeting

December 7, 2019
Hawaii

December 21, 2019
End of Year Potluck

January 4, 2020
Utah

January 18, 2020
Buying & Selling Online

February 1, 2020
Movie Stars

February 15, 2020
Dutch Auction

New Members

Carolyn Biester
Elkins, NH

Jeff Biznick
Tucson, AZ

Bonnie & John Denman
Tucson, AZ

Stan Ford
Phoenix, AZ

Michael Giscombe
Tucson, AZ

Stephen Harsy
Tucson, AZ

Karl Hellman
Centerton, AR

Burleigh Kroener
Tucson, AZ

Cytis Tamulaitis
Tucson, AZ

In Memoriam

Richard Amesbury, Volunteer
David Copins, Volunteer
Don Schroeder, Volunteer

STAMPS by the POUND



Worldwide Mixture or Individual Countries

Many countries are available
and prices vary.

Call for availability

520-623-6652

Free Domestic Shipping

Civil War Roundtable

Meets every second Friday in the
Slusser Library, except summer

Contact **Bob Burdick** at:
bob.burdick45@gmail.com

December 13, 2019
Stonewall—Hero of the South

January 10, 2020
Anaconda Plan

February 14, 2020
Myths (or Facts) of the Civil War

March 13, 2020
Meeting is at the Doubletree Inn

Tucson Postcard Club

Meets every second Sunday
in the Slusser Library

1- 3pm • September- May

Contact **Joyce Kagarise** at
dkagar@dakotacom.net or
520-682-8424

Planning to view the current exhibit or research in the library?

Please check our website calendar for
library closures due to scheduled field
trips and other events at:

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org