

Stamp Tracks



NEWS AND
INFORMATION FOR
PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

PHF Navigates the Pandemic

A Message From Bob Davis, Board Chair

The past year has been disruptive for all of us individually and for the Postal History Foundation. Maintaining a continuity of operations at the PHF is challenging. While our contract post office is open to the public with limited hours, 10am to 2pm, the Foundation is officially closed. The Education program, Slusser Library, and Sales Department are operating in house and remotely with a very strictly limited number of volunteers. It is strangely quiet without children and visitors passing through our spaces. All the changes in operations, of course, are designed to meet safety protocols and minimize risks to all involved.

The world of philately at home appears to be quite alive. On the buying side, collectors have been calling the librarian with research questions and the sales department with orders while the flow of philatelic donations to us clearly shows a cleaning out effort by collectors or their children!

Our Sales Department has been very busy reorganizing the space, the inventory, and handing the incoming flow of stamps. During the pandemic, we are able to provide limited access for customers and donors by appointment only. If you want to donate philatelic materials or buy some stamps, please call and speak with Mike Wood, our Sales Director to make an appointment. He can be reached at 520-623-6652 x101.

If buying online is your style, please check our eBay seller name **postalhistoryfoundation** and bid on the items you are interested in. If you are local, you can pick up your items at the PHF and save on postage. When the pandemic winds down and the restrictions are over, I think you will be surprised at how much has changed at the Foundation.

Treasurer's Update by Ted Maynard

**A big THANK YOU to all who renewed their
2021 Membership.**

And, a SPECIAL Thank You to those
who increased their level of participation
in this difficult time.

Member dollars provide significant support
to all the programs at the PHF.

The children, teachers, and parents are grateful!

P.S. If you haven't renewed, please do so!



Students attending a field trip in the Slusser Library.





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:

Education Director: Lisa Dembowski
Librarian/Archivist: Valerie Kittell
Education Assistant: Linda Wynn
Stamp Tracks: Lisa Dembowski

Hours:

Post Office: M-F 10am - 2pm
Despite being closed to the public,
all departments are available via
phone, email, or website.

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

Follow the PHF on
Facebook and Twitter!

facebook.com/postalhistoryfoundation



@phftucson



Final Goodbye to a PHF Giant

Our volunteer of 52 years, Alex Lutgendorf, passed away in December. Alex and his wife Beppie started participating at the PHF in 1968, making his active and frequent volunteer service the longest-running in our history. Beppie volunteered nearly as long, helping the PHF until her death in 2018.

Alex was in charge of event covers (collectible envelopes with special art, postmarks, and stamps). He produced over 150 different covers over the years that were printed by the hundreds for sale at special events here at the PHF, the community, or at ARIPEX. He actively promoted the PHF by contributing articles to *Linns Stamp News*, a national philatelic magazine, as well as local newspapers. Alex wrote two columns over the years entitled *Stamps in the News* and *Through the World of Stamps* in an effort to attract people to stamp collecting and keep philatelists informed.

Alex had a huge stamp collection including specialties of Germany, Austria, and Netherlands. His list of accomplishments included, but was not limited to: President of the Tucson Stamp Club, President of the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs, Arizona Philatelic Ranger #174, and Arizona State Philatelic Hall of Fame #54.

Alex kept the PHF in the philatelic spotlight for 50 years. We miss his friendship, hard work, and support of the PHF.



Alex Lutgendorf looking out of the 1890s Naco Post Office which is always featured in tours and field trips. This picture was taken in 1984.

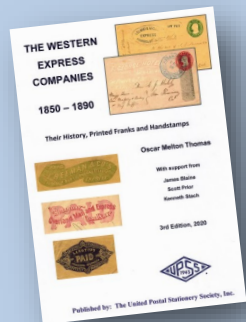
Library News

Valerie Kittell library@phftucson.org

Throughout the pandemic, the library has continued to offer remote services, such as research, photocopying, scanning, and, for local members, book-checkout. The librarian has also been kept very busy with cataloging and processing collections. Additionally, funds from two grants were received and associated projects begun. The first project, funded for \$1200 by the Arizona Historical Society, helps with the environmental conditions in which the collections are housed. Two electronic data loggers now keep track of the temperature and relative humidity. Additionally, a HEPA-filter backpack vacuum was purchased to remove pollutants such as dust and other particulates. The second project, funded for just over \$2500 by the Arizona Historical Records Advisory Board, involves re-housing the Arizona Postal Documents Collection (MS 001) into archival containers in ways that better preserve them and save space.

Both of these projects stem from the commitment of the Slusser Library to properly care for the collections in its holdings.

New on the Shelf



German Colonies and Post Offices Abroad: Catalogue of the Postmarks, First English edition, based on the 18th German edition 2018. (2019)

Stamped Envelope and Wrapper Specimens of the United States, by Dan Undersander. (2020)

United States Postal Card Catalog 2020, by United Postal Stationery Society. (2020)

The Western Express Companies 1850-1890: Their History, Printed Franks and Handstamps, by Oscar Melton Thomas. (2020)

Education Update

Lisa Dembowski education@phftucson.org

Although it is more quiet in the buildings due to the lack of student field trips, tourists, boy scouts, and library patrons, don't make the mistake of thinking we are twiddling our thumbs. The Stamp Discovery program has been, and is, incredibly busy during the pandemic.

We receive stamp and lesson orders from our website on a daily basis. These orders come from people in every state across the country, as well as Canada and other countries.

Currently we receive orders from classroom teachers, home school parents, scouting leaders, stamp clubs, and individual students, adding up to thousands of participants in our program again for this current school year.

Educators and students continue to discover that stamps are little windows to the world. They are an exciting way to teach history, art, science, geography, and more.

We encourage you to support our foundation with monetary and philatelic donations so we can provide these fun, educational, and mind-expanding opportunities for kids of all ages.



Volunteer Judy Yoder gathers stamps for a topical order. There are over 100 orders in this paper pile plus orders for stamp lessons and stamp collecting starter kits.

New Members

John Carney
Fair Oaks, CA

Morgan Christian Jr.
Boise, ID

Robert Clark
Tucson, AZ

Pal Garner
Conroe, TX

Robert Koumal
Vail, AZ

Laurie Prescott
Saratoga, CA

Civil War Roundtable

To receive a Zoom invitation
please contact
[tucsoncivilwarroundtable@
gmail.com](mailto:tucsoncivilwarroundtable@gmail.com)

Support PHF Through Amazon Smile

Follow these easy directions:

1. Go to **smile.amazon.com** and select the Postal History Foundation as your charity.
2. Replace your old amazon.com bookmarks with **smile.amazon.com**.
3. Your Amazon account is unaffected by buying through Amazon Smile.

Go Shopping!

Tucson Postcard Club

Contact **Joyce Kagarise** for the latest club information at **dkagar@dakotacom.net**
520-682-8424

STAMPS, COVERS AND POSTCARDS We've got them!

Call Mike Wood at
520-623-6652 x 101

Or email

sales@phftucson.org

In Memoriam

Steve Brainerd
Member

Sam Dougan
Member, Volunteer, Ranger

Alex Lutgendorf
Volunteer, Member, Ranger

Tucson Stamp Club

The club is currently meeting at
the Fraternal Order of
Police Lodge on
3445 N Dodge Blvd, 85716

For more information about the
current schedule and times
please contact:

Edward Ejek
edwardwejk@earthlink.net
520-574-5535

PHF Calendar

The Postal History Foundation is
closed to the public due to
Covid-19 until further notice.

Current Slusser Library Exhibit

Creation of the Arizona Territory
available online

Board Meeting

Via Zoom
April 17, 2021
9am

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

Want to see the current exhibit?

We encourage you to view
information and some
pictures on our website at
www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Click on "Visit" and select
"Museum Exhibits" from the
sidebar.