

Stamp Tracks



NEWS AND
INFORMATION FOR
PHILATELISTS OF ALL AGES

Old Naco Post Office Transformation Complete

What did the Civil War have to do with the creation of the money order system?

How hard is it to crank a hand-powered cancellation machine?

What museum piece was involved in the 1903 postal scandals?

You'll find these answers, and so much more, in our new permanent exhibit inside the Naco post office. The objects are old, but the space is new. A different design with more room to move, easier-to-read signage and labels, and brand-new flooring! Hands-on, audio, video – there are a lot of ways to interact. We're excited about the new space, and we think you will be too. Take a peek before you come down and read what some of our volunteers have to say about the new exhibit.

Take a peek on pages 4 and 5

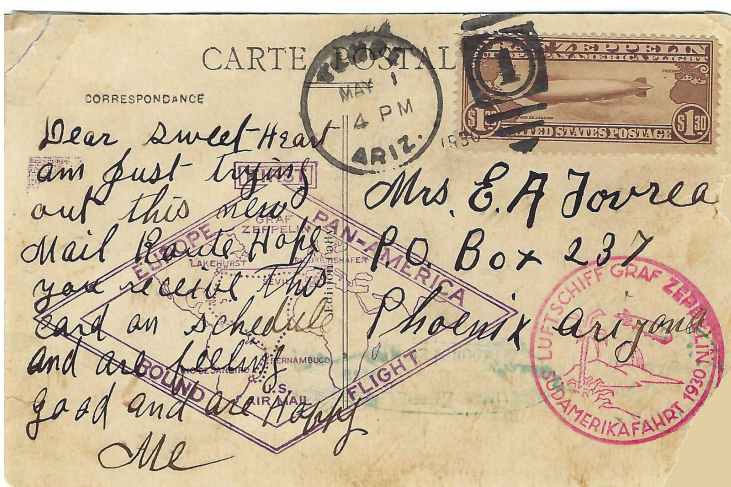
Tempe to Phoenix Via Zeppelin

Guest submission by Patrick Spencer and Tom Reyman of the Arizona & New Mexico Postal History Society

The German Graf Zeppelin airship made many flights all over the world in the late 1920s and early 1930s, presenting numerous opportunities for collectors to prepare envelopes and postcards that could be posted on these flights. One such flight was the May 1930 Europe-Pan American Round Flight, Zeppelin flight Z-105. The planned route for this journey was from Friedrichschafen, Germany, to Spain, to Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, and then north to Lakehurst, New Jersey, before returning to Germany. For those in the United States who

wanted their mail to be flown on the Graf Zeppelin, arrangements were made to carry mail by ship from New York City to Germany, where the mail would be processed and then placed on board the airship.

The postcard at left is one of the pieces of mail that resulted from this arrangement. There are several things that make this postcard unique and unusual. The postcard was prepared in Tempe, Arizona, and addressed to a Phoenix address only about 10 miles away. The sender of the mailing was E. A. (Edward Ambrose) Tovrea, a wealthy land



The reverse of the card shows a picture of a horse.

developer and cattleman, whose cattle stockyards and meat packing facility were east of Phoenix. He was sending the postcard to his wife, Della Tovrea.

Once in Germany the postcard was placed on board the Graf Zeppelin to begin the *Sudamerikafahrt*

Continued on page 3





Postal History Foundation

920 North 1st Avenue
Tucson, AZ 85719
520-623-6652

www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Email us at: info@phftucson.org

Officers:

Chair: Bob Davis
Vice Chair: Mike Wood
Treasurer: Ted Maynard
Secretary: Steven Hamann

Stamp Discovery Education Program

Lisa Dembowski
520-623-6652 x 102
education@phftucson.org
Education Assistant—Kat Wahl

Slusser Library

Librarian/Archivist: Valerie Kittell
Call to check the library schedule at
520-623-6652x107 or
email library@phftucson.org
Remote services are also available

Post Office Hours:

Monday through Friday except
Federal Holidays
8:30am-2:30pm

Philatelic Sales

520-623-6652
General sales: Mike Wood
sales@phftucson.org
eBay sales: Bob Davis
ebaysales@phftucson.org

Message From the Chair



Another year has almost passed. We are grateful to all of you who have supported the PHF through some difficult years and also the newcomers who have recently discovered us. Your memberships, gifts, and philatelic donations are very welcome.

Our Stamp Discovery program and the Slusser library have maintained services in spite of Covid disruptions. We welcome all visitors in the new year as we continue towards increased visitations to our campus. We are excited about our totally revitalized museum space. See pages four and five.

Challenges remain in preparing our courtyard for visiting children and conquering the overwhelming backlog of philatelic donations. The latter will require a significant movement of donation materials to open up visitor space and the continued rebuilding of our core volunteer group. Contact us to discuss volunteer opportunities.

We all wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Bob Davis

From the Treasurer

Ted Maynard

**“The time has come the walrus said...” to
renew your membership for 2023 and
make a gift to PHF!**

133 Memberships Renewed so far!

***Your support is
essential to achieve our continued
good work in the world of philately.***

**The children,
teachers, and
parents will be
grateful!**

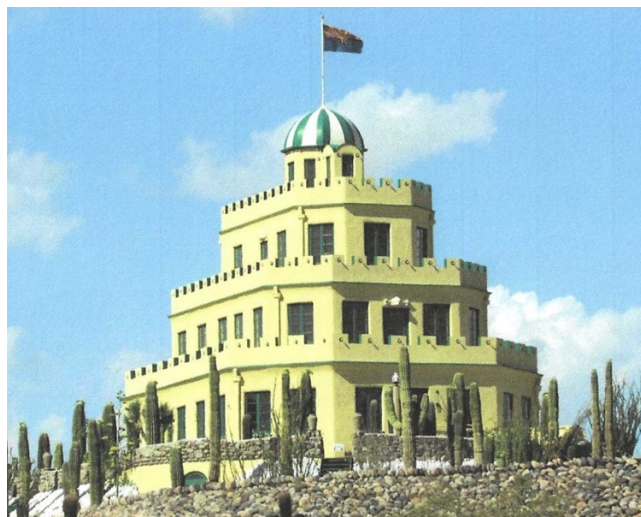


(South America flight). Its last leg on the Graf Zeppelin from Brazil to New Jersey was completed and the card was transported to Phoenix.

The Tempe, AZ date stamp is May 1, 1930. The postcard postage rate for this flight was \$1.30 and the U.S. Scott C14 stamp was required to meet that rate. The \$1.30 amount is equivalent to over \$21 in current 2022 dollars.

The Europe-Pan America Flight left Germany on May 18, 1930 and arrived at Lakehurst on June 6. There is no receiver date on the postcard to indicate when it arrived at the Phoenix post office box .

The Tovrea Family was well-known in the Phoenix area because of their business and land holdings. For local residents today, the Tovrea name is also known because of the famous "Tovrea Castle," shown at right. The building was located next to the former Tovrea cattle stockyards. Although it was built by Allisio Carraro in 1929 to 1930, Tovrea purchased the building in 1931 as a residence for him and Della. Mr. Tovrea died in 1932, and Della continued to live there until her death in 1969. The landmark building is now owned by the City of Phoenix and used as a museum.



References:

American Air Mail Catalogue, Volume 1, Fourth Edition, 1966; Cinnaminson, N.J.; Pages 337-338.

<https://www.sleuthsayers.org/2015/08/where-cattle-are-king>

Tovrea Castle by Gage Skidmore, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=124145788>

Sales Department Is Filled to the Brim

The COVID pandemic affected the PHF in several ways. Many of our volunteers and walk-in customers stayed home at the beginning. On the positive side, home-bound families cleaned out basements, attics, closets, and garages. In two years, we received enough boxes to fill a couple of rooms top to bottom. Bob Davis channeled a steady stream of material from the donations to our PHF eBay site, which kicked into high gear with new customers and many more sales. The Sales Department area in the building continues to organize stock, but we are bulging, and space is limited. Come and buy. Treasures can be found and we price to sell.

Sales Department Specials

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

- **Individual World Wide Stamps**
50% SCV or less
- **US Mint Plate Blocks**
- **US Booklets**
- **Foreign Platinum Mines**
14.8 oz. off paper SCV up to \$9.99 — \$135
- **Gold Mines** 14.8 oz. off paper — \$75
- **Mint Postage** — 40% discount from face
- **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

NACO POST OFFICE IS



Above, Valerie Kittell, the PHF librarian and archivist, puts the finishing touches on the exhibit. She planned and designed the renovation of the museum. An incredible transformation.



"The museum has a lot of pictures and info that you won't find anywhere else."
Jack Mount



The catcher pouch, pictured above was used on the Railway Post Office route from Massena to Utica, New York.



"What a great little museum, a real gem. A lot of information is packed into a small space. I especially like the variety of ways that you could interact with the displays. QR codes, visuals, videos, and, of course, the best part, the hands on exhibits. Come visit and try canceling an envelope by hand with an antique canceling machine!" *Steve Harsy*

READY FOR VISITORS

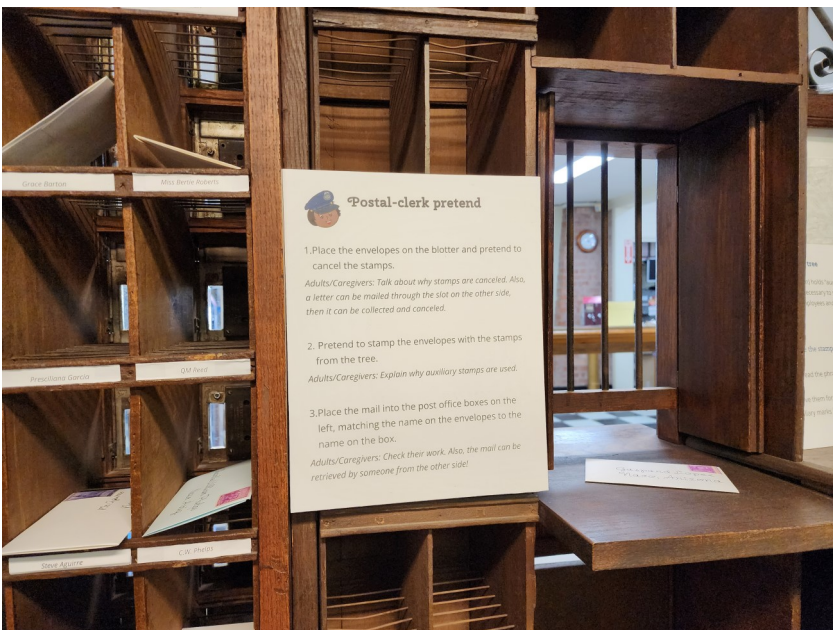


The kiosk, above, contains several informational videos, images, and text that enhance each display section. "It covers everything. My grandkids would love this. Absolutely fantastic." Marilyn Hawley



"Wonderful presentation." Mike Rizzi

Hands-on activities abound. Kids of all ages can try on the USPS mail carrier shirts and mail satchel, above right. Below, participants can sort the mail, and bottom right, they can weigh packages and envelopes.



Follow the PHF on Social Media



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Library News

Valerie Kittell library@phftucson.org

New on the Shelf

Butterfield's Overland Mail Stagecoach Trail Across Arkansas 1858-1861, by Bob Crossman. (2021)

Hawaiian Postal Stationery (5th edition), by United Postal Stationery Society. (2021)

Jusqu'a Airmail Markings (a Study) and supplement, by Ian McQueen. (1993; 1995)

The Maritime Postal History of London: 1766 to 1960, by Alan William Robertson. (1960)

We Remember Two Education Volunteers

Unfortunately, in this issue we say goodbye to a couple of ladies who brightened our days here in the education rooms of the PHF. They were very loyal volunteers and happily performed various tasks for the education program. Both ladies passed away this year.

Catherine Flaherty, right, started volunteering in 2011 and had us in stitches for years with her jokes and happiness. Despite the curveballs life threw her, her positive personality was fabulous and contagious. She was a shining example of perseverance and how to enjoy life.



Joan Cooke

Joan Cooke, left, started volunteering in 2014. Joan collected Japan and the U.S. She was a real trooper and was determined to help out no matter what health issues she faced during her senior years. Her bright smile lit up the room, especially when talking about her family and grandchildren.

Ladies, we are so happy we could be a part of your lives.



Catherine Flaherty

United Way Days of Caring Always Fun

This delightful group, mostly employees from IBM, spent the day at the PHF, again, this past October. Every year several of the same people return and complete many tasks for our education program.

They are great fun to have around, and we really appreciate their dedication and loyalty to our education goals.

Thank you to Kat Wahl for organizing, Lisa Bradley for assisting, and Heiko Schloesser for being the lead from IBM.

We look forward to another fun day next year!

WE APPRECIATE YOU ALL!!!!



Education Update by Lisa Dembowski education@phftucson.org



A new school year has started, and the Stamp Discovery program is again extremely busy.

The program has been supplying lessons and stamps to students across the county since its original inception in 1962 educating children at the Sahuaro School for asthmatic children.

Our program has changed through the years and now includes attendance at community events, visiting schools and libraries, providing field trips for school groups, and merit badge workshops.

Today we have an on-line store accessed through our website that allows teachers, students, and parents across the world to order lessons and stamps. Most of what we supply is free of charge.



Kids search for treasures in our stamp chests.

We have distributed an excess of seven million stamps over the past 15 years to an annual average of 12,500 students and have much more to give.

Please consider a monetary and/or philatelic donation to help us with our education goals as we spread the joy of stamp collecting.



Local class visits our post office

Welcome to Our New Education Assistant

Our education assistant, Kat Wahl, has been a faithful volunteer over the past seven years, so it is strange to assign the “new” label to her. Kat first volunteered here during the annual United Way Days of Caring event when she worked for IBM. More recently, Kat worked as a tax preparer for H & R Block and Intuit, and volunteered during her off-season.



Apache

Happily for the PHF, Kat was interested in the assistant position after Linda Wynn retired. Kat spends 20 hours a week helping run the Stamp Discovery Program. She makes sure all the orders, requests, and incoming education stamp donations are steered in the right direction to various volunteers or into the mail to families and teachers across the country.

Kat and her husband, Richard, moved to Tucson from Tampa, Florida in 2001, due to a job change. She enjoys living near the Tucson Mountains, where she rides her beautiful pinto paso fino horse named Apache. She also loves cats and cares for six rescues named Itty Bitty, Loki, Django, Kona, Spooky, and Boo.



We are so glad Kat has joined the staff. Welcome!

PHF Calendar

The **Post Office** is open
8:30am-2:30pm M—F
Closed Federal Holidays

Slusser Library
Open M-F

Please check schedule on the
website calendar or call
520-623-6652x107 or
email library@phftucson.org

Slusser Library will be closed
February 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 9th, 16th

Board Meeting
January 21, 2023

New Members

Frederic Beeson
Tempe, AZ

Neil Clark
Deming, NM

Michael Friken
Albuquerque, NM

Marc Hall
Mountlake Terrace, WA

Joy Lane
Carlsbad, CA

Sarah McGovern
Tempe, AZ

James Owens
Tucson, AZ

Jim Renshaw
Bosque Farms, NM

Bernard Wojnowski
Vineyard Haven, MA

In Memoriam

Joan Cooke
Volunteer

Catherine Flaherty
Volunteer

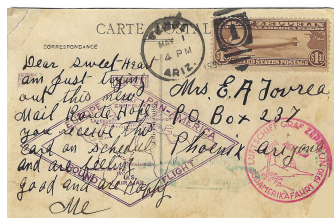
Louis Gruinin
Ranger

William Langs
Ranger

Stanley Peller
Ranger

Graf Zeppelin Airmail Tempe, Arizona

Fascinating Postal History



**Arizona & New Mexico
Postal History Society**
Founded 1985

For Membership Information
Contact
Joe Cody joecody480@gmail.com

Support PHF Through Amazon Smile

Follow these 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!**

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We've got them!

Call Mike Wood at
520-623-6652

Or email
sales@phftucson.org

Tucson Stamp Club

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

For more information contact:
Edward Ejek
edwardwejk@earthlink.net
520-574-5535

STAMPS by the POUND



Worldwide Mixture or Individual Countries

Many countries are available
and prices vary.

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Free Domestic Shipping

Want to see the current exhibit?

visit it online at
www.postalhistoryfoundation.org

Click on Museum
—> Current Exhibit