

# The Heliograph

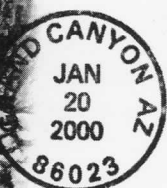
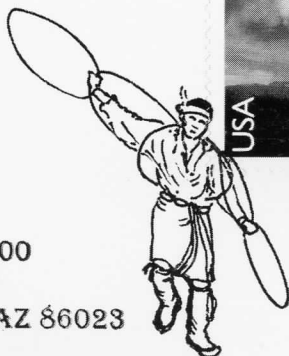
Journal of The Postal History Foundation

Spring 2000

GRAND  
CANYON  
STATION

JANUARY 20, 2000

GRAND CANYON AZ 86023



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Grand Canyon  
Stamp Issued  
with Colorful  
Ceremony



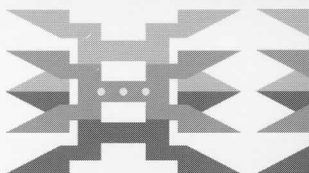
# On the Cover

*First Day of Issue cover bearing both Grand Canyon Station cancelations. The ceremony featured Native American dances performed by children from the Grand Canyon School in traditional dress. The dancers were accompanied by **James Pesblakai** on the drum.*

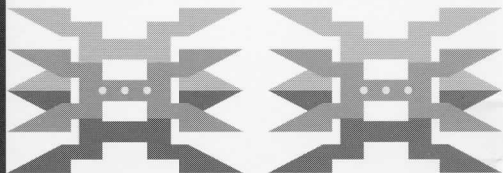


*Pedro and his rider **Ron Clayton** deliver mail the old-fashioned way to Grand Canyon School students attending the First Day of Issue ceremony at the Shrine of Ages in Grand Canyon National Park January 20. Clayton is the Park livery manager*

**See pages 14-15**



***Ranyta Sullivan** and **Susan Sisson**, daughter of **Phyllis Ashwood**, hold their certificates of award, presented Feb. 12 by **Peter McCann** in conjunction with the ARIPEX 2000 show in Phoenix.*



Foundation Volunteers Recognized by the American Philatelic Society

**See page 2 for story**

**See inside back cover for photographs**

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**Frank A. Mallalieu**, Editor

Articles for, and correspondence to, *The Heliograph* can be addressed to: The Heliograph, ATTN: Editor, P. O. Box 40725, Tucson, AZ 85717.

### **The Postal History Foundation**

920 North First Avenue  
Tucson, Arizona  
520/623-6652  
E-Mail: [phf@azstarnet.com](mailto:phf@azstarnet.com)  
Web site:  
[www.azstarnet.com/~phf/phf.html](http://www.azstarnet.com/~phf/phf.html)

The Postal History Foundation is an Arizona nonprofit corporation chartered to be used exclusively for historical, research, scientific, and education purposes in the advancement of postal history, including, but not limited to, the collecting, assembling, preserving, recording and publishing of postal history.

Membership donations over that for annual membership, and donations of cash, acceptable stamps, covers, books, postcards, periodicals and postal history material are deductible for U. S. income tax purposes and are most gratefully received. The Foundation is an IRS designated 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

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After a very mild winter here in Southern Arizona, spring is beginning to burst forth. Although the analogy is not perfect, this issue of *The Heliograph* is also bursting forth with a variety of articles to whet the appetites of our readers. Just about everyone is familiar with the San Francisco earthquake of 1906, and leading off this issue is the emotional response of a survivor as told in "The Earth Quaked and It Shaked."

We all like to think that we live in the best community in America (or do we?). It is even nicer when people living outside the community think so and are happy to express their opinions, as evidenced by a letter written to Tucson's mayor in 1924. You can be the judge by checking out the article beginning on page 5. On page 7 begins the second and final installment of Betsy Towle's article on Private Mail Receptacles, a.k.a. mailboxes and other types of containers for the receipt of mail. The beauty of calligraphy, which almost seems to be a lost art, can be experienced in a "Labor of Love" on pages 9-13.

As many readers are aware, the long awaited 60-cent Grand Canyon stamp was finally issued on January 20, 2000, after a somewhat torturous and embarrassing "trip" through the bureaucratic jungle of getting a new stamp on the market. Those of us living in Arizona are fortunate to have this great treasure of the Grand Canyon so relatively close at hand (a six- to seven-hour drive, but well worth the trip). So it was with great anticipation that a group of volunteers from the Postal History Foundation made the journey to the Grand Canyon to attend the First Day of Issue

ceremony as well as to spend some time sightseeing and otherwise enjoy themselves. The weather cooperated perfectly and the park was relatively uncrowded, so what more could one ask? The two articles describing the festivities begin on page 14. And in honor of the youthful participants in that event is an activity on page 16.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of those individuals who have made some of the articles included in this issue of *The Heliograph* possible. First, my apologies to **Carl LeMar John** who provided the de Anza commemorative cover illustrations and much of the background information for the "Juan Bautista de Anza" article that appeared in the Winter '99 issue of *The Heliograph*. Carl also was the inspiration for the article and for this I am very grateful. I would also like to extend my thanks to **Stan Spurgiesz** for suggesting the articles on the San Francisco earthquake and Lincoln postcard freak printing, as well as supplying all the illustrations accompanying these articles. Last, I would like to thank **Warren Franzen** for providing the beautiful cover and letters that are the basis of the "Labor of Love" article. To these fine people as well as the others who have contributed material either in the form of written articles or illustrative material that has provided the basis for an article, I am extremely grateful. I continue to hope that the examples that they have set will be the impetus for others to follow in making *The Heliograph* a journal that you will look forward to receiving as well as enjoy reading.

## Director's *Corner*

By Betsy Towle

### Foundation Volunteers Receive the APS Ernest Kehr Award

At the ARIPEX 2000 show in Phoenix on Saturday evening, February 12, two Foundation volunteers were awarded the American Philatelic Society Ernest Kehr Future of Philately Award by APS President, **Peter McCann**. This award, presented annually, recognizes "one individual who has worked over several years and in several arenas to bring beginners into philately and to encourage newcomers to continue as collectors."

**Ranyta Sullivan** and **Phyllis Ashwood** (posthumously) were the recipients of the Kehr award. **Susan Sisson**, Phyllis' daughter received the award in her mother's memory. It is the first time that the award has been given to two people simultaneously, as well as the first time that the award has been given posthumously. Phyllis Ashwood died in 1998. Ranyta Sullivan continues to serve the children of Tucson. The APS decided to recognize the work of both women as they had worked in tandem for more than 15 years, teaching stamp

collecting to more than 30,000 children.

As volunteers, both women covered the Tucson area working with teachers in the classroom, visiting the classes several times a month. To do this they worked at the Postal History Foundation building two days a week, planning lessons and pulling stock from the Foundation's supplies. Both developed guides for a variety of subjects that integrated the stamp lesson material into the regular grade-level curriculum. Each woman easily spent 20 to 25 hours a week in the program, as well as time on the weekends and in summer programs.

Ray Sullivan is Chairman of the Education Department. She still visits classes and works with children over the summer and weekends. Recently she worked on the new computer programs being used by the USPS Stampers program and the brand new Arizona History on Stamps program.

The Foundation is pleased that the work of these two women has been recognized by the APS with this prestigious award.



# The Earth Quaked and It Shaked

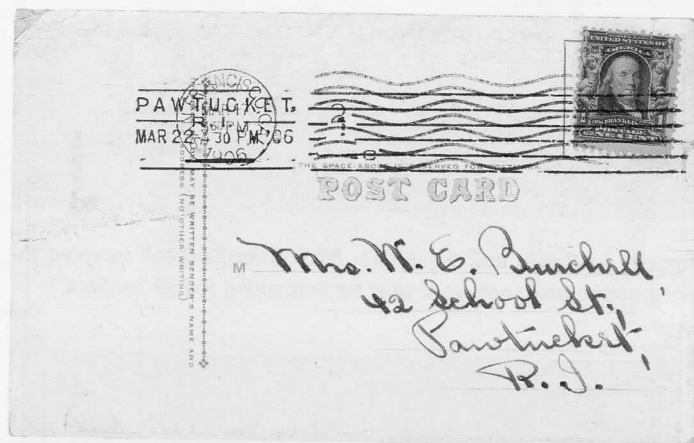
By Frank A. Mallalieu

Who hasn't heard of the great San Francisco earthquake of April, 1906? It is a story familiar to most of us and intriguing in its way (but on a smaller scale) much the same as the more familiar and famous story of the maiden voyage of the Titanic. Unlike the Titanic, however, there is a large quantity of extant postal history to record for posterity the drama of that memorable event.

As has been told so many times in the past, on April 18, 1906, a stupendous earthquake shook San Francisco with devastating results. Following the tumultuous shaking of the ground, fires broke out all over the city and raged for more than three days before being brought under control. Much of the downtown was destroyed as were several of the adjacent residential areas. Despite the conflagration, the city was quickly rebuilt.

Although many words have been written by journalists and historians about the earthquake after it occurred, it can be much more gripping to read the account of one who actually lived through the tumultuous event. One such account is the very brief, but compelling words of one Wal(ter) Burchell who was in San Francisco prior to the earthquake as well as being a survivor of that fateful night and its aftermath. Not much is known about Walter J. Burchell except that he was in San Francisco at least a month before the catastrophe, having mailed a picture postcard to a relative (presumably) named Mrs. W. E. Burchell, in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. [Figures 1 and 2]. Mailed on March 17, 1906, it was received five days later on March 22. The picture on the postcard is a view of the Palace Hotel, apparently one of San Francisco's better accommodations for visitors, or at least among the more expensive ones, if Walter's written comment is to be taken at face value. Walter wrote, "Where I don't live," probably an indication he couldn't afford the cost of staying there, but this will never be known for sure.

Walter survived the night of April 18, 1906, and lived to tell about it in a second picture postcard [Figures 3 and 4] mailed from San Francisco on April 22, 1906, again to the same party in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, as shown in Figure 2. Walter's message, written on the front of the postcard, a view of San Francisco's City Hall and Hall of Records, tells it all: "A thing of the past. San Francisco is no more. Am safe, being fed by soldiers, sleeping in a graveyard up on a hill. Wal." Although a bit dramatic with reference to San Francisco being totally destroyed, to one living through the sheer terror of buildings top-



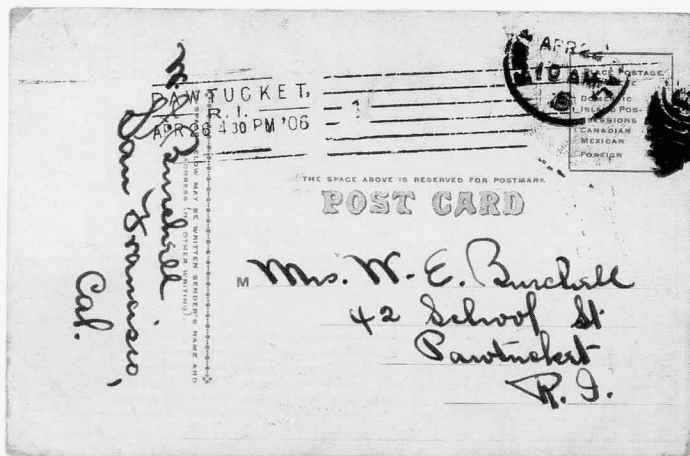
Figures 1 (above) and 2 (below) show a postcard mailed just before the disastrous earthquake of 1906.



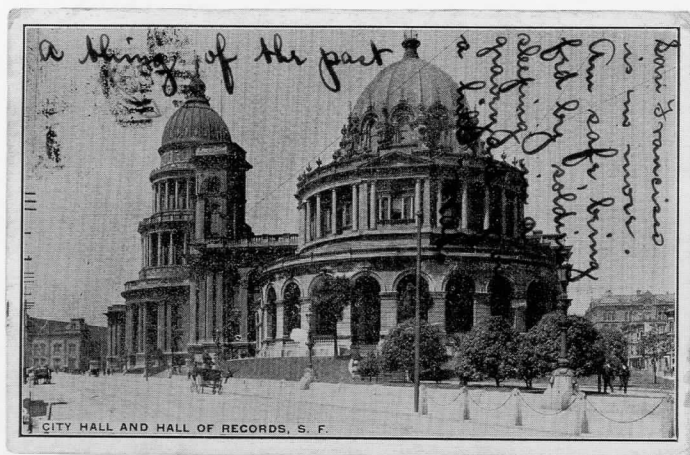
pling all around oneself not to mention the raging fires consuming what was left standing, it could very well seem as if the city were completely obliterated.

Of course many of San Francisco's buildings did survive, including its main post office, as shown in a souvenir postcard [Figure 5] showing the brick paving and trolley tracks in the street in front of the building buckled by the earth's upheaval. Another scene displaying the consequences of the earthquake is that of people cooking in the streets after the earthquake [Figure 6]. Here again, most of the buildings seem to be intact and the street surface is quite level. This is not to say that the buildings weren't damaged structurally or ravaged by fire, but they were at least still standing.

Walter's postcard of April 22, 1906, to his relative in Rhode Island is most interesting from a postal history standpoint in that it was mailed free of any postage charge. Obviously the handling of mail into or out of



Figures 3 (above) and 4 (below). Mr. Walter Burchell survived the earthquake and sent word that he was being fed by soldiers.



San Francisco in the aftermath of the earthquake was seriously disrupted, at least for a short time period. Because the post office was badly damaged (albeit still standing) the handling of mail must have been chaotic. While the post office was not functioning from the standpoint of its normal activities (selling stamps, etc.), it apparently accepted mail, as is the case with Walter's postcard. It received a San Francisco postmark dated April 22, 1906, as previously noted, and was received in Pawtucket on April 26, 1906, just four days later (one day shorter delivery than his previous postcard sent in March, prior to the earthquake.) It is to the Post Office Department's credit that they functioned so effectively and so quickly under what must have been very trying circumstances at that time. It is also fortunate that these most interesting pieces of postal history have survived San Francisco's great earthquake as well.

NOTE: The author expresses his sincere thanks to Mr. **Stanley Spurgiesz**, who suggested the subject for this article as well as kindly provided all the illustrations used herein.

Figure 5. The main post office did survive, although the street and trolley tracks suffered quite a bit of damage.



Figure 6. Cooking in the streets following the earthquake.





Figure 1. Cover from the first night flight on a Transcontinental Air Mail Route.

What mayor of any city in the United States wouldn't like to receive the compliment of being called the best mayor of the best town (or city) in the whole country? Of course when the praise comes from a friend, even a friend that doesn't actually reside in your town, then the luster of the praise doesn't have quite the sheen of that that would come from an unbiased source. Nevertheless, for a politician any praise is willingly accepted, for the most part.

The appellation of the best mayor of the best town in America was heaped on the shoulders of Rudolph Rasmussen, the mayor of our own town of Tucson, by a friend back in 1924. Mayor Rasmussen is mostly likely not familiar to most Tucsonans as the millennium approaches. Probably very few people living today have any recollection of the Mayor. As to his being the best mayor of any city, that is certainly open to question as little is known of his administration. Of course all Tucsonans at that period in time would probably liked to have thought that their town was the best town in America. But of course that is a proposition that could be debated endlessly.

Whether or not he was or wasn't, or the town of Tucson was or wasn't, the friendly compliment was contained on a piece of mail sent to Mayor Rasmussen on July 1, 1924, from a friend in Chicago, Illinois. This letter and its envelope have survived to provide a most interesting story as well as a very desirable item of postal history. The envelope (or cover), shown in Figure 1, bears the colorful corner card return address of the Chicago Lodge No. 4 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Printed in red and blue, this corner card would be considered a very desirable item for collectors of collateral philatelic material, such as covers bearing the insignia of fraternal organizations as the Masons, Knights of Columbus, or in this case, the Elks. The cover is franked with the 16-cent dark blue airmail stamp (Scott #C5) of 1923.

## THE BEST MAYOR OF THE BEST TOWN IN AMERICA

By Frank A. Mallalieu

Covers bearing this stamp carry a handsome catalog value which further enhances their value. Even more interesting is the message rubber-stamped on the cover below the Mayor's address. The purple boxed notation indicates that the cover was sent "VIA AIR MAIL - On first trip of through schedule involving night flying on Transcontinental Air Mail Route." This flight is indicated in the AAMC as U.S. Government Flight #167. And finally in addition to the Mayor's name and address there is the proclamation that his Honor is "The Best Mayor of the Best Town in America"

In addition to the envelope, its contents have also survived [Figure 2]. The letter is dated June 30, 1924:

To the Best Mayor of the Best town in the U.S.A.  
Hon. Rudolph Rasmussen  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear old Scout Ras—

As Mayor of the Old Pueblo and as a friend of 25 years standing I send you greetings via the first initial U.S. Air Mail Service. The first Mail airplane leaves New York City at 10:00 A.M. Tuesday July 1st arriving at Chicago at 6:15 P.M. leaving Chicago at 6:30 P.M. arriving at San Francisco, Calif., Wednesday, July 2nd at 5:45 P.M. The letter will then arrive at Tucson via the regular R.R. mail service.

Your old pal,  
Pete Howall

The postmark is stamped with the time of 6:00 p.m. on July 1, 1924, just one half hour before the departure of the plane for San Francisco. This is the only postmark on the cover, there being no backstamp of either San Francisco or Tucson. The letter is written on the letterhead of the Chicago Lodge No. 4 which contains a listing of all the officers of the Lodge as well [text continued on page 7]



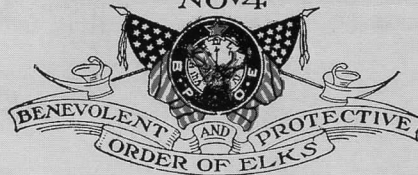
TELEPHONE MAIN 4361

CHICAGO LODGE  
NO. 4

INSTITUTED OCT. 15, 1876

OFFICERS

F. C. SULLIVAN, EXALTED RULER  
R. S. BARNETT, ESTEEMED LEADING KNIGHT  
ALEX WOLF, ESTEEMED LOYAL KNIGHT  
EDW. J. MCARDLE, JR., ESTEEMED LECTURING KNIGHT  
GUSTAV W. NOTHDURFT, SECRETARY  
L. P. HERZOG, TREASURER  
M. M. LIPPMAN, TILER



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
174-176 W. WASHINGTON ST.  
CHICAGO

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

GUSTAVE POLLACK, CHAIRMAN  
G. A. SCHILLINGER, SECRETARY  
MAX GUGGENHEIM, CHAIRMAN  
CLUB ADMINISTRATION

*Monday June 30 - 1924*  
*To the Best Mayor*  
*of the*  
*Best town in the*  
*U.S.A.*  
*Hon Rudolph Rasmussen*  
*Tucson, Arizona*  
*Dear old Scout Boss:-*

*as Mayor of*  
*the old Pueblo and as a friend*  
*of 25 years standing I send*  
*you greetings via the first*  
*initial U.S. Air Mail Service*  
*The first mail airplane leaves*  
*New York City at 10-00 a.m. Tuesday,*  
*July 1st arriving at Chicago*  
*at 6-15 P.m. leaving Chicago at*  
*6-30 P.m. arriving at San Francisco,*  
*Calif. - Wednesday, July 2nd at 5-45 P.m.*  
*This letter will thus arrive at Tucson via the*  
*regular R.R. mail service your*

*ed. O. A. Peter Howell*





Figure 1. An early house mail box

## Letter Carriers and Private Mail Receptacles

### Part II: Private Mail Receptacles

By Betsy Towle

Private mail receptacles (house mail boxes) were not part of early Americana. There was no need for them until the inauguration of free city mail delivery in 1863. Imagine the delays created as the carriers made their deliveries along their routes, having to wait until someone came to the door to receive mail, or, in the event no one was at home, having to return to attempt a redelivery. Early carriers carried whistles to warn patrons of their approach. Door knockers, bells, or boxes were not required by law. As early as 1878 the Post Office began to request that the public install letter boxes, or mail slots. The public response was not overwhelming and so in 1909 the Post Office requested legislation to make mail boxes or letter slots compulsory. In the 1912 Report of the Post Master General under the subject of Recommendation for Legislation is the following:

The Best Mayor of the Best Town in America (conclusion)

as the Board of Trustees. Interestingly, the name of the writer, Pete Howall, does not appear on either list. Inasmuch as this letter is not official business, he either obtained it surreptitiously or received some official's permission to use it, even though not official mail.

Based on the writer's detailed description of the mail service for this particular flight from its initiation in New York on to Chicago and then on to San Francisco (and of course on to Tucson), it would appear that he, as well as the intended recipient, had more than a passing interest in philately. As this occurred in the early days of air-mail service in the United States, it may have been considered somewhat of a novelty. On the other hand the writer went to a great effort to make sure his friend the Mayor knew all the details of this flight as well as its significance. Was the writer a philatelist, or for that matter the Mayor one himself? Most likely this is something that will never be known for certain. But it is fortuitous that the writer went to all the trouble that he did and that the Mayor saved this bit of postal history for posterity. Now, getting back to the subject of the Best mayor in the best town in America....

To expedite the delivery of mail by city letter carriers by requiring mail receptacles to be provided by Patrons:

That after December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and fourteen, delivery of mail by city carriers shall be made only at such residences and places of business as provide at the door or entrance suitable receptacles for its deposit.

The Postmaster General, however, in the same report of 1912, stated that in order to improve the efficiency of the city carriers the policy of the department would be not to establish new service until patrons had provided

Figure 2. This file photograph in the National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian Institution is marked "No Mail Box; Must Wait."



Smithsonian Institution, National Postal Museum

suitable receptacles for the receipt of their mail. He evidently felt that he had the authority to make regulations for new service, but not to control existing service.

The 1914 report of the First Assistant Postmaster indicated only partial compliance:

From time to time postmasters at city delivery offices have been instructed to impress on patrons the advantages of providing private mail receptacles. Nevertheless, not more than one-half of the residences and places of business in the city delivery districts throughout the country are so provided; and it is estimated that every letter carrier loses on the average one-half to one hour daily because of the necessity of making personal delivery where receptacles are not provided.

Again the Post Office recommended legislation that would make mail receptacles mandatory for all city delivery patrons. Subsequent requests for legislation were made over the years by the Post Masters General. By 1921, the Postal Service had taken a more definitive stand on the issue of private mail boxes and in the 1921 Postal Guide the extension of city delivery service was strictly controlled. Regulations stated that new Service would only be authorized to districts with good continuous sidewalks, crosswalks, street lights, and street signs, and when houses are numbered and provided with mail receptacles or slots for the receipt of mail. Service would not be extended to any block in which less than 50 percent of the building lots were improved and houses occupied. Restrictions on Second Floor delivery to buildings without an elevator, and apartment houses were introduced, and thus the use of mail receptacles on the ground floor was encouraged.

I was not able to find any particular legislation that made private mail receptacles mandatory. Perhaps the Postal Service growth in size and power made such congressional legislation not necessary. Today we take the common private mail receptacle as much a part of the house as the door bell, or knocker. We have always had them, haven't we? 📧

#### References:

- Carriers in a Common Cause: A History of Letter Carriers and NALC*, Revised Edition, National Association of Letter Carriers, Washington, D.C., 1986.  
Cushing, Marshall, *The Story of Our Post-Office*, A. M. Thayer & Co., Boston, Massachusetts, 1893.  
*Report of the Postmaster General, 1832, 1863, 1873, 1912, 1914*, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Taken from the March 1887 edition  
of The Western Philatelist. ►

## STAMPMEETING

The shades of night were falling fast  
When Smithers through his work at last,  
Took down his coat from off the door,  
He stopped to say one word—no more—  
Stampmeeting.

The chill winds struck him, right and left,  
But on he pressed as one bereft  
Of sense of feeling and of fear;  
Anon the passer-by would hear—  
Stampmeeting.

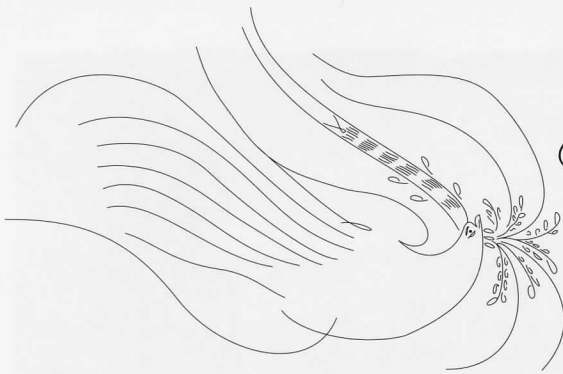
Nor heed the maidens's cry would he,  
For ever in his mind would be  
A vision of the bounteous store  
Awaiting him, and many more—  
Stampmeeting.

"Beware the auction's feverish spell!  
Beware the counterfeits as well!"  
This was his room-mate's parting word;  
But for reply was only heard,  
Stampmeeting.

But now the cherished spot's at hand,  
And here is found a happy band  
Of those who take delight in this  
And cannot be induced to miss  
Stampmeeting.

"What's the cause of this assemblage?"  
Ah, to give it might cause umbrage;  
But if you'll take the trouble to come  
You'll find the reason why at some  
Stampmeeting.

—Anonymous



# Labor of Love

By Frank A. Mallalieu

Long gone are the days when fine penmanship was considered to be a desirable if not required attribute of one's education and development.

A certain level of maturity was deemed to have been reached when an individual's written signature was clearly readable and handsomely rendered. Not so any more. From doctors to deckhands there no longer seems to be a concern that a person's writing be legible, much less attractive. This wasn't the case in the 19th century through the middle years of this century, when a decline in the teaching of penmanship in schools as well as the positive attitude for good writing skills seemed to have gone the way of the horse and buggy.

Happily, examples of fine penmanship abound, particularly on the mail sent throughout those years before sloppy writing became something of the norm (to all those readers who still practice good penmanship please don't take offense, it is realized that many of you still exist—unfortunately there so many examples of those who don't that it can't be ignored). A particularly lovely example is the cover shown in Figure 1, as well as the enclosed letter [Figures 2, 3, and 4].

The cover is beautifully inscribed with the drawing of three birds, probably doves, perched on branches adorned with leaves and flowers. Note that the bird on the left (facing left) has its tail feathers blended somewhat into the name of the addressee. The name and address of the addressee are rendered in a type of writing commonly called calligraphy. Of course calligraphy actually refers to all writing, but is most often associated with attractively executed writing, especially when it is accompanied with stylistic drawings, as is the case here. The cover is an Official Envelope of the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Mines. It was mailed from Humboldt, Arizona, with the destination of Prescott, Arizona. The Official indicia was crossed out with a series of "X"s and a stamp added, the bottom left corner of which received part of the Humboldt cancel. Unfortunately the stamp is missing from the envelope. Although the date on the postmark is indistinct, it is presumed to be about October 31, 1915, based on the date on the enclosed letter. The cover and letter are addressed to Miss Grace Sparks of Prescott. The letter writer was a K. H. Chisholm. It is not evident that K. H. Chisholm was male or female, as the contents of the letter give no clear indication one way or the other.

In the letter Chisholm makes reference to an individual name Arthur/Mr. Arthur, who obviously has romantic inclinations towards Grace Sparks, but there is no clue as to the relationship between K. H. Chisholm and Mr. Arthur. The content of the letter is as follows:

Humboldt, Ariz. Oct. 31, 1915

Miss Grace Sparks,  
Prescott, Ariz,

My dear Miss Sparks: - Enclosed you will find two poems for your magazine if you think them worthy of space in a publication of the best talent.

If you will write me and give me the date of your next publication I will send you a real poem composed by my son, which I know will be appreciated by you and the readers of your paper. Sometime Miss Sparks I may write a poem on Prescott which I will send to you for I promise you that you shall not be forgotten for the cordial welcome you and your friends gave Mr. Arthur and myself.

If there is any information that we can give you as we are going through the state that you desire, we would be pleased to furnish you same.

Mr. Arthur wishes me to convey his sentiments to you which I will do Miss Sparks in the following verse.—

*All day long I think about you in my dreams I do you see*

*What does this mean Grace my darling, love at first sight it seems to me.—*

Kindest regards to Mr. Erick and Scoop and to Miss Sparks, last but not least,

Yours truly,  
Chisholm and Arthur

K. H. Chisholm's two poems accompanying his/her letter are of the Edger Guest genre. Rather quaint and sentimental, nevertheless they reflected thoughts and concerns that are pertinent to many in our society even today. These poems are transcribed on Bureau of Mines letterheads, which technically was a misuse of government property. Of course it is not known if Chisholm actually was an employee of the Bureau of Mines, but in any case it wasn't a cause of concern to him/her. The two poems are as follows:



Figure 1



### *My Mountain Land*

In the desert here, mid the hillsides drear  
Where the short gray sagebrush grows  
And the thin green hedge hems the waters edge  
Where the winding river flows,

I am dreaming tonight in the gray twilight  
Of the mountain vistas grand  
And the forests fair on the hillsides there  
In my own dear mountain land.

There are mountains high in the cloudy sky  
Where the limpid waters flow  
Where the torrents leap down the hillsides steep  
And the spruce trees whisper low,

Where the air is soft and the breezes waft  
The perfume of flowers divine  
And the sweet wild rose on the mountain grows  
And the purple columbine.

There's a mossy ledge by the Twin Falls edge  
Where the waters down below  
Surge up in a dome of froth and foam  
Like a bank of windswept snow.

No others compair [sic] with the flowers there  
The city can never show  
A beauty spot like a garden plot  
Where the spruce and pine trees grow.

### *My Mountain Home*

I oft grow tired of the city  
And long for my mountain home  
Where the stars above are the lights of night  
As they shine in their great high dome.

I hate the streets with their turmoil  
And their myriad flashing signs  
I would much rather the rushing  
Of the wind through the mountain pines.

I long for the somber spruce trees  
And the forest's shaded dell  
For the flowers of a thousand patterns  
And the trails I loved so well.

For my heart is in the Rockies  
And no matter where I roam  
Every evening I hear the pine trees  
Whispering and calling me home.

While the rhymes of the poet are a bit cloying and old-fashioned, the beauty of the author's calligraphy is everlasting.

NOTE: The author is indebted to **Warren Franzen** for providing the cover and its contents along with his kind permission to reproduce them for this article.



Humboldt, Ariz. Oct. 31, 1915,

Miss Grace Sparks,  
Prescott, Ariz.

My dear Miss Sparks:- Enclosed you will find two poems for your magazine if you think them worthy of space in a publication of the best talent.

If you will write me and give me the date of your next publication I will send you a real poem composed by my son, which I know will be appreciated by you and the readers of your paper. Sometime Miss Sparks I may write a poem on Prescott which I will send to you for I promise you that you shall not be forgotten for the cordial welcome you and your friends gave Mr Arthur and myself.

If there is any information that we can give you as we are going thru the state that you desire, we would be pleased to furnish you same.

Mr Arthur wishes me to convey his sentiments to you which I will do Miss Sparks in the following verse.

All day long I think about you in my dreams I do you see  
What does this mean Grace <sup>my</sup> darling, how at first sight it seems to me, -

Kind regards to Mr Erick and Scoop and  
to Miss Sparks, last but not least,

Yours truly,  
Christopher and Arthur,

Figure 2

IN ANSWERING REFER TO No.....

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF MINES

My Mountain Home,  
I oft grow tired of the city  
And long for my mountain home  
Where the stars above are the lights of night  
As they shine in their great high dome.  
I hate the streets with their turmoil  
And their myriad flashing signs  
I would much rather the rushing  
Of the wind through the mountain pines.  
I long for the somber spruce trees  
And the forests shaded dell  
For the flowers of a thousand patterns  
And the trails I loved so well.  
For my heart is in the Rockies  
And no matter where I roam  
Every evening I hear the pine trees  
Whispering and calling me home.

L. H. Chisholm,

Figure 3

IN ANSWERING REFER TO No. ....

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF MINES

*My Mountain Land,*

*In the desert here, mid the hillsides dear  
Where the short gray sagebrush grows  
And the thin green hedge hems the waters edge  
Where the winding river flows,*

*I am dreaming tonight in the gray twilight  
Of the mountain vistas grand  
And the forests there on the hillsides fair  
In my own dear mountain land*

*There are mountains high in the cloudy sky  
Where the limpid waters flow  
Where the torrents leap down the hillsides steep  
And the spruce trees whisper low.*

*Where the air is soft and the breezes waft  
The perfume of flowers divine  
And the sweet wild rose on the mountain grows  
And the purple columbine,*

*There is a mossy ledge by the Twin Falls edge  
Where the waters down below  
Surge up in a dome of froth and foam  
Like a bank of wind swept snow*

*No others compare with the flowers there  
The city can never show  
A beauty spot like the garden plot  
Where the spruce and pine trees grow,*

*R. H. Chisholm,*

Figure 4

# Finally, the Correct Grand Canyon Stamp (Almost)

By Frank A. Mallalieu

On the morning of January 20, 2000, at 10:00 in the morning approximately 200 to 250 enthusiastic individuals gathered in the Shrine of The Ages at Grand Canyon National Park to witness the unveiling of the long awaited 60-cent Grand Canyon stamp (that is, the Grand Canyon, Arizona stamp). As will be recalled, this stamp was originally scheduled to be released during 1999. One hundred million stamps had already been printed and were ready for shipment to post offices around the nation when it was discovered that the stamp bore the inscription "Grand Canyon, Colorado." Much to the embarrassment of the Post Service, the issuance of the stamp had to be suspended and all the stamps already printed had to be destroyed.

Despite this initial "bump in the road," things got off to a smashing start on January 20th. In addition to the many adults in attendance several dozen students from the Grand Canyon School were present, giving a very youthful ambience to all those assembled for the festivities. The ceremony opened with Navajo drummer, **James Pesblakai** performing several selections of Native America music on the drum. This was followed by the singing of the National Anthem by a charming young teenager from the Grand Canyon School. The official welcome was extended by **Ron Abalos** from the Phoenix Division of the Postal Service, filling in for **Charles Davis**, District Manager of the Arizona District who was unable to be present. Two young students from the Grand Canyon School told the assembled audience what living in the Grand Canyon meant to them. The dedication of the stamp was presented by **Ruth E. Brooks**, Manager of Marketing for the Western Area of the Postal Service. The presentations concluded with remarks by **Raymond Gunn**, a park ranger working at the Park. During the various speeches those attending the ceremony were treated to the arrival of the donkey Pedro and his rider. The rider, portraying a mailman on mule came into the Shrine and addressed the audience briefly. Alas, Pedro did not join him on stage although he (Pedro) did stick his nose in the door.



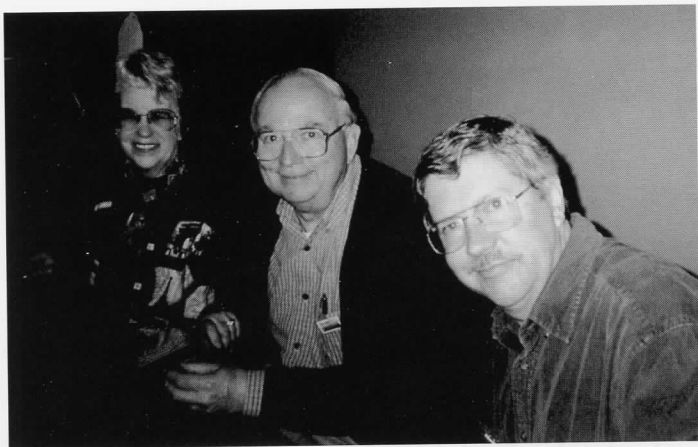
*The new Grand Canyon stamp is unveiled at the First Day Ceremony at Grand Canyon National Park.*

Following these formalities a group of about 15 Native American children from the Grand Canyon School performed a variety of Indian dances. James Pesblakai joined the dancers and told stories explaining the origins and the meaning of the dances. After a series of dances the young students in the audience were invited to come up to the stage and join in the dances, an offer that was accepted by many—so many in fact that the stage was completely full to overflowing. Watching the students in their attractive, colorful outfits brightened the somewhat overcast morning sky viewable through the wide expanse of glass wall of the Shrine. The rainbow of colors in the clothes worn by the participants as well as the performances of the various Indian dances added an element of enjoyment and pleasure not always found in the more formal First Day ceremonies.

Upon conclusion of the ceremony the activity which many of those in attendance were waiting for got underway, namely obtaining the First Day of Issue cancellations on the new stamp. Three stalwart volunteers from the Postal History Foundation manned the canceling devices at the Postal Service's stamp canceling table. The new stamps and post cards as well as the Postal Service's first day covers were available for purchase prior to the start of the ceremony, but cancellations on individuals stamps weren't available until the completion of the ceremony. Because of the relatively small crowd the canceling activities went quite smoothly and relatively quickly. In addition to the First Day canceling activities the principal participants were kind enough to remain after the ceremony and autograph the stamp dedication programs for the many individuals that sought their signatures.

A fitting end to these activities was a very tasty repast provided by the Grand Canyon Post Office for all those who cared to partake. The food was delicious and there was lots of it. No one had need to go away hungry! All in all, this First Day of Issue ceremony had to be one of the most enjoyable for those who attended such a ceremony for the first





Joan Gentry, Bob Bechtel, and Patrick Spencer help with First Day Cancellations following the ceremony.



Dolores Gohdes, Paul Gohdes, Bill Radcliff, Sharon Radcliff, Richard Koss, and Ed Grafe enjoy the complementary dinner.



Carl Lemar John, Qjett Hayes, Bob Bechtel, Joan Gentry, Betsy Towle, Maetta Vivian, Patricia Wadman, Jeff Wadman and Larry Daly.

time as well as those who have attended others in the past. Of course the real star of the "show" was the Grand Canyon itself.

NOTE: The reason for the word "Almost" at the end of the title of this article is that shortly after the issuance of the stamp it was revealed that the stamp image, made from a photograph taken from Lipan Point on the South Rim was technically an incorrect image in that the photograph was reversed, or flopped. Oh well, they almost got it right.


## A Grand (Canyon) Time Was Had by All

By Frank A. Mallalieu

Adhering to the adage that "all work and no play makes for dull girls and boys," the 18 hardy souls from the Postal History Foundation who journeyed to the Grand Canyon to attend and participate in the first day of issue ceremony for the new Grand Canyon, Arizona, stamp made sure that they gave equal time to recreation as well as hard work. The participants left Tucson on Thursday, January 19th, traveling individually or in small groups, and arrived at the Maswick Lodge in the late afternoon or early evening. Early in the planning stages it was decided that the group would make the trip a three day affair, rather than try to race up the Grand Canyon for the ceremony and then rush back to Tucson. This was not only a wise and practical decision, but it had a most enjoyable outcome as well.

On the morning of the 20th the "gang" of 18 attended the ceremony more or less enmasse, with some of us helping out with the application of the First Day of Issue cancellations or otherwise providing assistance. As relayed in an accompanying article, the entire ceremony and its adjunct activities constituted a most enjoyable and memorable experience for those of us in attendance.

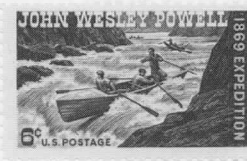
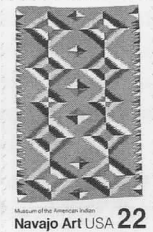
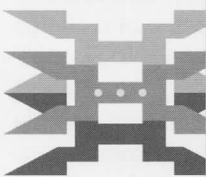
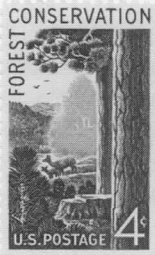
Following the conclusion of the stamp activities at about the noon hour the group broke up to partake in whatever other activities appealed to us. Some toured along the South Rim to view the canyon and take photographs. Others decided to take short hikes in the park, the weather being quite accommodating, somewhat sunny with a temperature in the 50s. Others decided that a tour of the various shops was indeed all in a day's work.

At about 5:30 the gang assembled for an informal social hour hosted by **Betsy Towle**. After partaking of tasty food and drink as well as lively conversation the group reassembled at the El Tovar dining room for dinner. This historic architectural monument provided the fitting ambiance for our final gathering together at the Grand Canyon. A scrumptious dinner was enjoyed by all. On the morning of the 21st we took leave of each other and wended our way back home to Tucson. Some of us stopped for lunch and a bit of shopping along the way and everyone made it back safe and sound. A really enjoyable time was had by all. We can hardly wait to do it again! 

# Philatelic Phun

## Grand Canyon

A Trellis: Clues are on page 17.



## Trellis Clues

### 24 LETTERS

- This 1848 agreement with Mexico added the Grand Canyon area to the United States.

### 16 LETTERS

- His 1869 river voyage through the Grand Canyon spurred continued interest in the development of the Canyon.

### 12 LETTERS

- cougar

### 11 LETTERS

- Desert Scrub cactus

### 10 LETTERS

- This long-eared bigfoot lives in the Desert Scrub areas.
- Arizona's state bird
- lizard

### 9 LETTERS

- tall pine
- This president created the Grand Canyon National Monument in 1908.
- a peaceful Native American group who has lived in the semi-tropical Havasu Canyon for hundreds of years

### 8 LETTERS

- racoon- or cat-like animal with distinctive markings
- designated the Grand Canyon a forest reserve in 1893
- A mule ride to the inner canyon may lead you to this ranch.
- South Rim vantage point
- The name now carried by the canyon's raging river first appeared on a Spanish map in 1701.
- This member of the Ives expedition of 1858 was the first to record extensive geological information about the Canyon.
- Spaniard in search of the Seven Cities of Cibola, who sent Capt. García López de Cárdenas north in 1540
- commonly seen grazing in the high mountain grasslands

### 7 LETTERS

- This sure-footed animal can be seen in isolated areas.
- ancient inhabitants of the canyon
- a Native American group occupying the canyon at the time of the early U.S. explorations

### 6 LETTERS

- a tree-like cactus
- You may hear him howl at night.
- first European to descend to the river at the floor of the Havasu Canyon
- arrived in the canyon about 600 years ago; known for beautiful weaving
- This president signed the bill responsible for creating the Grand Canyon National Park in 1919.

- North Rim squirrel

- evergreen
- spotted fur, tufted ears and a short tail

### 5 LETTERS

- This rim is generally lower in altitude.
- This Native American dance was used on the First Day cancellation of the January 2000 Grand Canyon stamp.
- a high-altitude leafy tree
- most common summer and fall flower on the South Rim
- *pinus cembroides* of the Transition life zone woodlands
- fish
- plentiful cactus
- aromatic when defensive
- the Grand Canyon's bear
- century plant



# Two Lincolns for the Price of One

By Frank A. Mallalieu

In the world of stamp collecting one will occasionally come across what is commonly referred to as an "error, freak, or oddity," otherwise known as an EFO (not to be confused with an UFO, although the comparison in some cases may be apt). Sometimes the EFO is a really significant happening, as in the case of the "Inverted Jenny," the famous inverted vignette of the airplane on the 24-cent value of the first issue of United States airmail stamps, US #C3a (there is some difference of opinion as to whether the center of the stamp is inverted or whether it is the outside frame that is actually inverted—but that is a conundrum best left to the experts to figure out). In the case of the C3a, this great rarity always sells in the hundreds of thousands of dollars whenever offered for sale, a testament to its "star" quality as a philatelic collectable.

However, in the great majority cases EFOs have more curiosity value than actual value. There are many reasons for this, from the quantity of the item in existence to the nature of the actual happenstance. Some of the more common and recognizable EFOs to be found are misperforations (perforations running through the stamp design rather than at its edges), missing perforations altogether (imperforates), double impressions of the stamp design, mistakes in color, *i.e.* the printing of a stamp in color other than that intended (in the case of stamp where the color is totally different the value of the EFO would likely be considerable whereas a minor shade difference wouldn't likely add greatly to its value), a missing color (in a multicolored stamp), missing printing, etc. Notwithstanding that obtaining a copy of US C3a is most likely out of the reach of most stamp collectors, there is a avid community of EFO collectors, some of whom have made a speciality of these items and have exhibited them prominently.

EFOs occur not only with individual stamps but also occur with postal stationery, *i.e.* stamped envelopes, postal cards, etc. The subject of this article is just such an item, the 5-cent Abraham Lincoln postal card (UX55) of 1968. The Lincoln postal card was issued on January 4, 1968, and had

### 4 LETTERS

- Jesuit priest who drew the first map of the Grand Canyon in 1701.
- modern Native American artisans

### 3 LETTERS

- founded a settlement at a river crossing point
- Steller's bird
- Gambel, Gray, and Emory
- wapiti

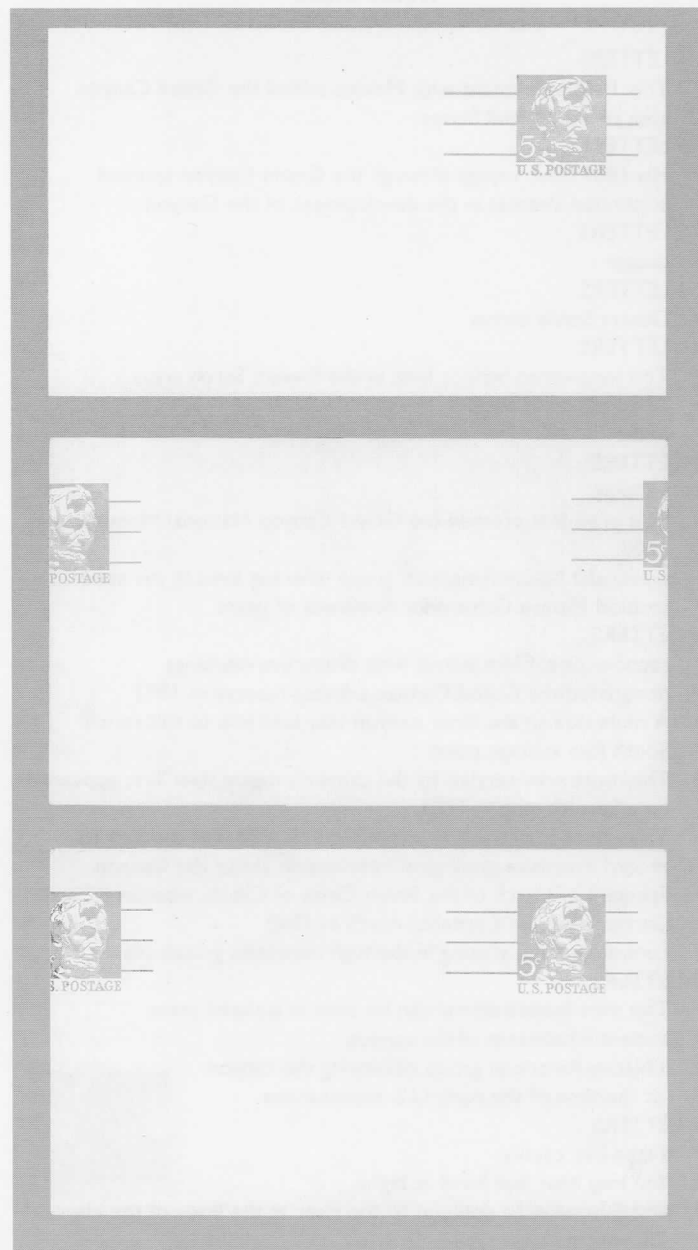


its first day of issue ceremony in Hodgenville, Kentucky. The stamp impression and the three precancel lines are of a green color and luminescent. The postal cards were the standard size of  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{4}$ ". When this EFO first came to light there was some confusion as to how it came about that both the stamp image as well as the luminescent tagging were misprinted in synchronization with each other, as it was believed that there were separate printings for each. While this was true for multicolored postal cards which were printed on offset presses with the tagging done as a separate operation on letterpress equipment, in the case of single color postal cards such as the 5-cent Lincoln, the cards are printed on letterpress web fed presses which were specially designed for postal card production. In this case the phosphor for the tagging was incorporated in the ink used to print the stamp image itself; therefore every impression of the stamp image would be a tagged image.

Just how did an error like this "double impression" of the Lincoln postal card come about? Was it carelessness on the part of the printing press operator, lack of quality control, or did fate enter into the operation to upset the status quo? Well, the explanation is fairly simple and probably a combination of all of the above. On the letterpress web presses used by the Post Office at that time postal cards were printed 80 at a time on rolls of card stock that was 33 inches wide (on a press cylinder that was 44 inches in circumference). The printing plates were mounted on the press with the  $3\frac{1}{4}$ " dimension of the card ten times across the width of the press and the  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " dimension of the card eight times around the press cylinder, for a total of 80 postal cards printed at each revolution of the cylinder. The slightly oversized width of the roll permitted slitting excess card stock off both outer edges to ensure a uniformly smooth edge to the cards. After the postal cards were printed and still on the printing press the web (that is, each individual sheet of 80 cards) was then slit into ten ribbons, cut to card size, collected in sets of 50 and banded, wrapped in packages of 250 cards and packed in cartons. It is important to remember that all these operations were done in sequence with the printing operation.

Following a press stoppage a slackness would develop in the web (the sheet of 80 cards) and should the press be stopped at a point where the image on the plate was not at a stamp impression, the slack allowed the web to slip momentarily which produced the double image when the printing press started up again. This, to the best of the facts known about the printing of these postal cards, is what produced the double image or EFO of the Lincoln postal card.

Because the printed web was slit into ten "ribbons," each 3" wide, whenever a "double impression" occurred there had to be at least 10 of these errors (and perhaps more) before the slack in the paper web became taut again. As regards quality control to ensure the detection of any misprinted or otherwise defective postal cards from slipping through, the procedures at the U.S. Government Printing Office where the postal cards were printed called for the



*Figures 1, 2 and 3 show the printing errors as a result of a press stoppage.*

removal of all cards in the area of a splice or press stoppage from all the boxes at the delivery end of the printing press. To prevent delivery of defective cards, fifty postal cards were removed from each of the ten boxes at the time there was a press stoppage, the odds being that if there were any defective cards they surely would be discovered within that sample of fifty. Despite the best of intentions and all the precautions taken, occasionally defective cards slipped through, as is the case with the 5-cent Lincoln card illustrated with this article. However, after having slipped through the quality control procedures at the printing end of the operation it is a bit of a wonder that the defective cards were not detected by the postal employees at the time they were sold over the counter. Of course it can be specu-



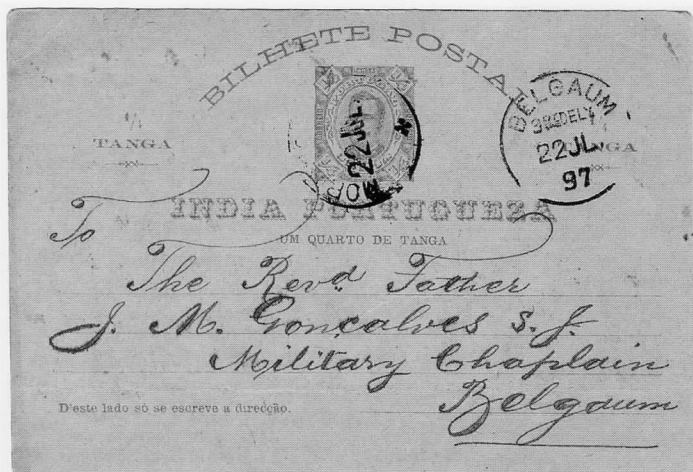



Figure 1. Postcard from 1897 Portuguese India

In the 16th century the Portuguese were the foremost sailors on the high seas, as exemplified by the journeys of numerous Portuguese explorers (Henry the Navigator being the most widely known) who led many explorations to distant lands. These explorers travel far and wide, venturing as far as southeast Asia. Among the lands they reached and settled was the western coast of what is present day India. This area came to be known as Goa, named after an ancient Hindu city/territory which had come under Muslim rule in the late 15th century.

By the time the Portuguese conquered the area it had gained fame as a seaport and as an embarkation point for pilgrims journeying (a trip referred to as the Haj) to Mecca in Saudi Arabia. One of the primary goals of the Portuguese explorations was to convert the local population of "heathens" or "non-believers" to the Catholic faith. In Goa the Portuguese founded many educational/religious institutions which are still in operation today, and many inhabitants of this area still embrace the Catholic faith. In addition, many of Goa's inhabitants still bear Portuguese surnames.

Goa is located on the western coast of India about halfway between Bombay on the north and Mangalore on the south and the Indian Ocean provides an abundance of food in the form of fish and other seafood to the people living adjacent to its shores. Shown in Figures 1 and 2 is a post-

lated that a postal employee did notice the defective cards and retained them for himself/herself for disposal in some other manner.

The 5-cent Lincoln postal card with the "double impression" is listed in the Scott catalog but without any value assigned to it. This EFO constitutes a very interesting collectable, whether or not it has any significant monetary value. While no one advocates the consistent misprinting or production of EFOs, it is interesting and pleasant to come across them (and even better to acquire them). Just think of the loss to stamp collecting if the "Inverted Jenny" had never made it across the post office counter! Could we live without it? Of course. But would we want to? 

## No Fish for Dinner



By Frank A. Mallalieu

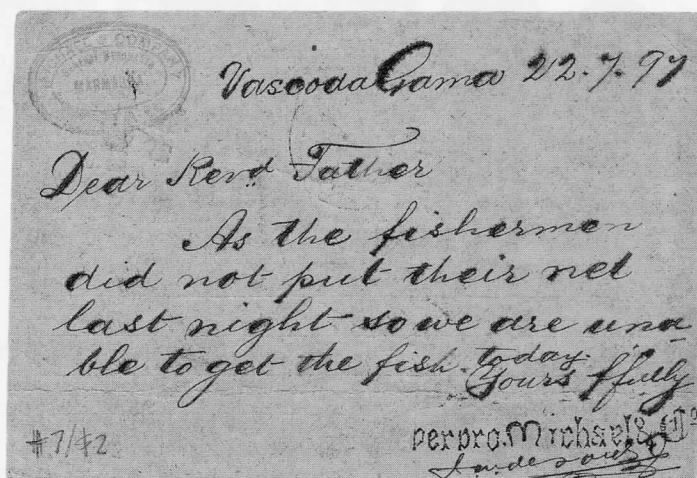

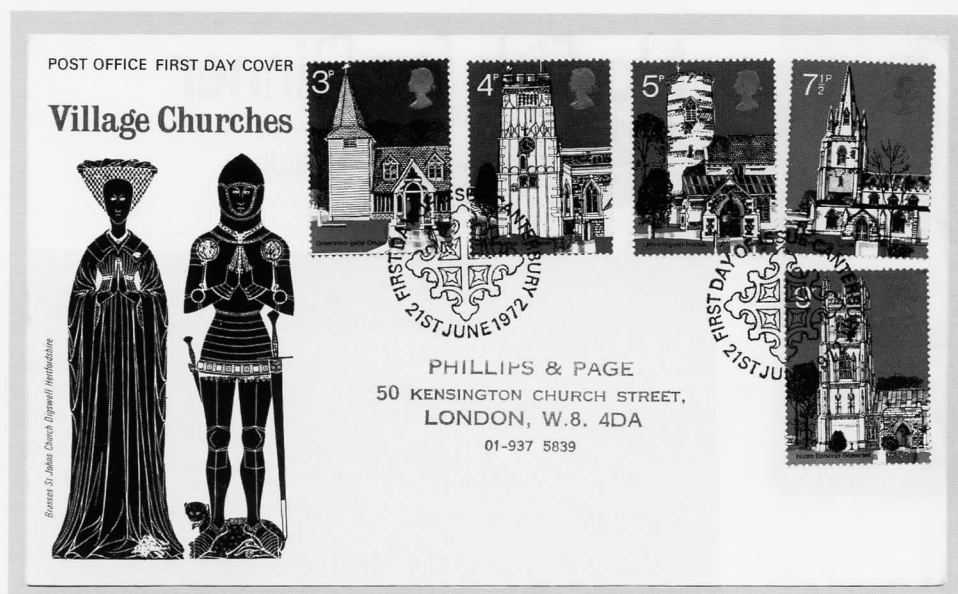


Figure 2. Reverse, reporting no fish will be forthcoming that day

card which serves as a testament to the importance of this bounty. The postcard (Higgins & Gage #7) inscribed Portuguese India bears the likeness of King Carlos and was the ordinary tanga domestic card intended for local use. The postmark of the place or origin is indistinct, the first three letters being "MOR." The card was addressed to "The Reverend Father J. M. Goncalves S. J. (Society of Jesus), Military Chaplain, Belgaum." The card was received in Belgaum on July 22, 1897, the same day it was mailed. The back of the postcard bears a message written from VascodaGama, which from the content of the message was probably located on the coast. Belgaum itself is located about 60 miles inland. The advertising inscription, or return address at the upper left-hand corner is that of a Michael & Company, General Merchants, located in Marmagoa (the wording at the bottom of the double-line oval is indecipherable). What the physical relationship was between Marmagoa and VascodaGama is not known. These town names do not appear in any of the atlases consulted. The message reads as follows: "Vasco da Gama 22-7-97, Dear Rev'd Father, As the fisherman did not put their net last night so we are unable to get the fish today. Yours f(aith)fully, perpro Michael & Co" (a hand written signature follows). Based on the addressee being a military chaplain, it would appear that some kind of military installation existed at Belgaum, and the fish were destined for religious staff at that location and possibly the soldiers stationed there as well. It is also interesting to note that a company dealing in general merchandise would also be purveyors of fish. But then again, at that time and place it perhaps made a great deal of sense. One wonders what the Reverend Father and the soldiers had for supper that night? 



# Village Churches of England

By Frank A. Mallalieu

Practically every country in Europe possesses a cathedral, church or religious building of some type that is not only well-known and revered, but which also has become a prime destination for tourists. Many are located in large metropolises and are easily accessible while others are located in out of the way places that require a bit more searching out. Many have become synonymous with the very fabric of the country itself; Notre Dame in France and Westminster Abbey in England readily come to mind. However, there are lesser known churches that are seldom sought out by tourists that are nevertheless as interesting and pleasant to visit as their better known counterparts.

The village churches of England are good examples. For the most part not very large in size nor as grand in style as the more lavish cathedrals, they are an integral part of the history of the English people. In some respects they are more interesting and in an architectural sense if not historical sense, more important artifacts of the culture which spawned them.

On June 21, 1972, Great Britain issued a set of four stamps honoring four older village churches of England. The stamps, as issued on a First Day Cover (shown above) are rendered in a particularly handsome mode. The church images are drawn in a finely delineated pen and ink style and printed in black and white. The background landscapes surrounding the individual churches are in a variety of colors, ranging from purple to olive to green to orange-red to blue. The head of Queen Elizabeth is fittingly printed in gold. Although there is much detailed drawing in the sketches of the churches they come across clearly and beautifully. The churches on the stamps are as follows:

## 3P - GREENSTED-JUXTA-ONGAR, IN ESSEX

The church of St Andrews is the oldest wooden church in England, dating from 845 AD and built on the site of an earlier wooden church of about 650 AD, from which some of the present timbers were saved and reused. The weather-board tower and spire were probably built in the 14th century and the chancel extensively rebuilt on the Norman flint footings during Tudor times.

## 4P - EARLS BARTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

The church of All Saints has probably the most famous Saxon tower in England. It was built in 970 AD and contains archetypal work of every subsequent period making it a treasure house of ecclesiastical architecture down through the centuries.

## 5P - LETHERINGSETT, NORFOLK


A most unusual church in that its tower is round (one of 119 round towered churches, no less, characteristic of Norfolk). The tower was built about 1086 soon after the Normans settled in England. The remainder of the church was added in 1236. Except for a few 15th century alterations the plan of Letheringsett has remained much the same since its construction.

## 7P - HELPRINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE

This is one of the most beautiful Fen Churches and is a fine example of Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular styles. Its tall crocketed spire with flying buttresses dominates the surroundings.

## 9P - HUISH EPISCOPI, SOMERSET

The 15th Century tower of St. Mary's is its chief glory with its many niches and elaborate pinnacled parapet. The Norman doorway is the oldest surviving part of the church, dating from about 1200 AD. The porch is 13th century and the nave, walls and windows are believed to be 14th century.

This First Day Cover has a commemorative cancel with a handsome reverse pen and ink (scratch board) cachet featuring a medieval lady and knight in armor. The drawing is taken from brass work at St. Johns Church in Digswell, Hertfordshire. Although the FDC is an inexpensive item that can found in a stamp dealer's cheap cover box, it is a fine and fitting testament to the high quality of the stamp issues that have come from the British postal service over the years. 



**Phyllis Ashwood** (standing) and **Ranyta Sullivan**, known to most as "Ray," worked together as volunteers for the Postal History Foundation for more than 15 years introducing and nurturing young stamp collectors in the Tucson area. They are shown here at the Youth Corner booth at a 1992 stamp show.



American Philatelic Society President **Peter McCann** presented the Ernest Kehr Future of Philately Award at the Feb. 12 dinner during the ARIPEX 2000 show in Phoenix. Shown here is McCann with **Ray Sullivan**.

## Phyllis Ashwood and Ray Sullivan Receive Future of Philately Award



This year was the first time the Ernest Kehr Award has been given to two people simultaneously, as well as the first time that the award has been given posthumously. **Susan Sisson**, daughter of **Phyllis Ashwood**, accepts the award in behalf of her mother.

**Phyllis I. Ashwood**, 1916-1998, moved to Tucson from Michigan in 1958 with her husband John. A career educator, Phyllis was the 1978 Arizona Special Education Teacher of the Year. She was an active member of her church as well as a volunteer for several organizations, including The Postal History Foundation. She worked for more than 15 years to share the joys and challenges of stamp collecting to more than 30,000 children in the Tucson area schools.



