

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

P.O. BOX 239, APOLLO PA 15613-0239

MARCH 2009 VOL 8 NO 6

**MEETING DATES AND TIMES, SUNDAY 8TH & 22ND,
NOON TO 4PM, BUSINESS MEETING STARTS @ 2PM**

President: Jim Senkewitz / senkewitz2012@verizon.net

Vice-President: Andy Novotny / novoand@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Ray Damico

Secretary: Grant Latimore

Librarian: Fred Lewis

Newsletter editor: Bill Badali / wabgamespittsburgh322@gmail.com

CINDERELLA PHILATELY



FISCAL (REVENUE)



ENVELOPE CUT-OUT



PROPAGANDA



ROGUS STAMP



CHRISTMAS
SEAL



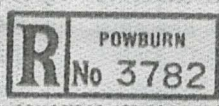
RAILWAY PARCELS



AUSTRIAN NEWS-
PAPER TAX



TELEGRAPH



REGISTRATION LABEL



AIRMAIL LABEL



LABEL
CHARITY LABEL

SEMI-POSTAL STAMPS

A semi-postal stamp or semipostal stamp is a postage stamp issued to raise money for some purpose (such as a charitable cause) and thus sold over and above the cost of postage. Typically the stamp shows two denominations separated by a plus sign, but in many cases the only denomination shown is for the postage rate, and the postal customer simply pays the higher price when purchasing the stamps.

The first semi-postal was actually a postal card; to commemorate the Uniform Penny Post in 1890, the United Kingdom issued a card with a face value of one penny, but sold it for sixpence, with the difference given to a fund for postal workers. The first semi-postal stamps were issued by the Australian colonies of New South Wales and Victoria, who both marked the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897 with stamps denominated in pennies, but sold for shillings, a 12x increase over the face value.

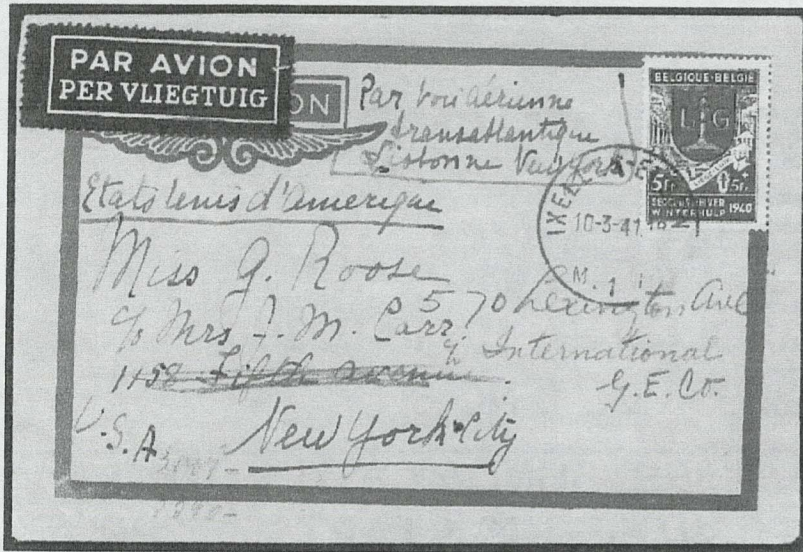
Semi-postals became widespread in European countries at the beginning of the 20th century. In many cases they have become standard annual issues, such as the pro juventute series of Switzerland started in 1913. Many countries issued semi-postal stamps to raise money for the Red Cross in World War I. The surcharges are typically a fraction of the face value; at one points the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie was officially boycotting stamps with surcharges greater than 50 percent of face value, saying that such issues were exploitive of stamp collectors.

By contrast, the United States is a relative newcomer to semi-postals, with its first semi-postal being the breast cancer research stamp issued in July 1998. Two more have been issued since then.

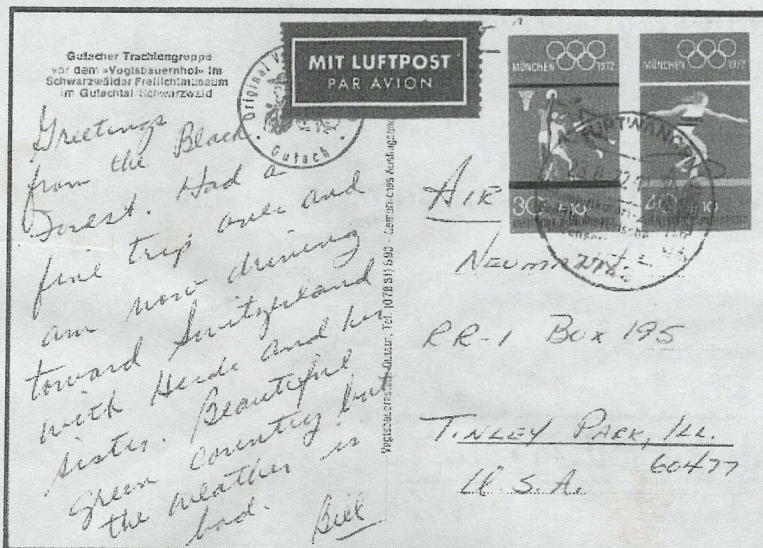
Collecting "commercially used" covers and postcards is both fun and challenging as most people did not care or could afford to buy and use them.

HAVE FUN AND COLLECT WHAT YOU LIKE

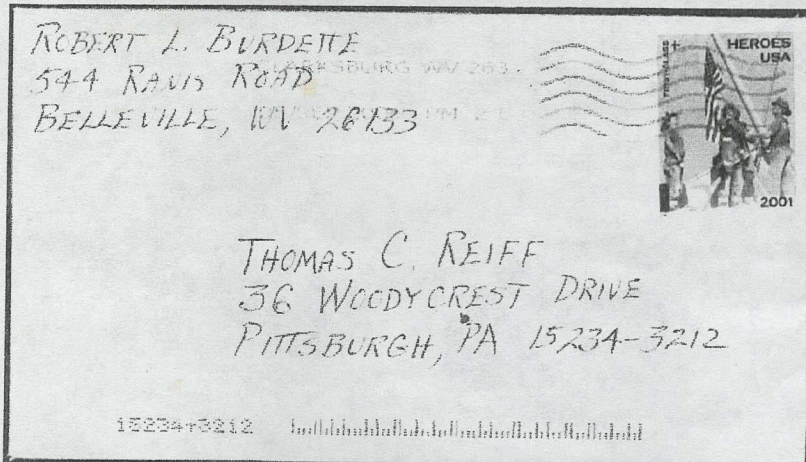
TOM



WWII AIRMAIL CENSORED (ON BACK) COVER TO U.S.A FROM BELGIUM USING SCOTT #B272. POSTMARKED MARCH 10, 1941. ISSUED IN 1941. SURTAX WAS FOR WINTER RELIEF



AIRMAIL POSTCARD TO U.S.A. FROM GERMANY USING SCOTT #B490b AND #B490c FROM THE SOUVENIR SHEET. POSTMARKED AUGUST 23, 1972. ISSUED ON AUGUST 18, 1972. SURCHARGE FOR FOUNDATION FOR PROMOTION OF THE OLYMPICS.



COVER MAILED FROM WEST VIRGINIA TO "YOURS TRULY" USING SCOTT #B2. POSTMARKED SEPTEMBER 5, 2006 ISSUED ON JUN 7, 2002. 11c SURTAX WAS FOR 9/11 ASSISTANCE

COVER STORY

Everyone is familiar with the story of Cinderella, neglected and mistreated by her ugly stepsisters, but transformed by her fairy godmother into the belle of the ball. The parallel between Cinderella and the byways of philately is close, and it is appropriate that the sidelines of the hobby, once despised and ignored, have now developed a strong following and, in fact, form a major branch of philately with its own societies. Many of these websites where members discuss literature on the subject, specialized auctions and insuring expensive collectables.

The Cinderella Stamp Club

www.cinderellastampclub.org.uk

(The Collectors Club Philatelist)

ALBUM WEEDS

Back in the 19th century, when stamp collecting was still in its infancy, collectors did not have at their disposal a wealth of handbooks and monographs, let alone the priced catalogues that are now easily available, or the infinite mass of data on the internet. They therefore operated on the principle of "if it looks like a stamp, stick in the album". Among these were forgeries and utterly bogus issues, produced solely to defraud collectors. The Reverend R.B. Earee coined the term "album weeds" in the 1870s and such fabrication were first to go, but many years later philatelist realized that it

was important to study forgeries, if only to help collectors distinguish between the genuine and the false.

The brothers Norman and Maurice Williams wrote many books on philately from the 1930s to the 1970s. In one of them, aimed at youthful beginners, they illustrated a range of stamp-like objects—labels, fiscals; telegraph stamps, Christmas seals and the like—declaring sternly, "These have no place in a stamp album." Ironically, the Williams brothers were assiduous collectors of all things Cinderella and for many years were the joint editors of the, *The Cinderella Philatelist*.

Words from Gene

A follow-up from the December Newsletter on the Christmas Island

Quite a few years ago there was a popular song entitled "How'd You Like To Spend Christmas On Christmas Island?" Take my advice: DON'T. One of my collecting areas is the island countries. Since my wife and I retired 12 years ago we have done quite a bit of traveling and we have taken a few cruises. One of my major disappointments in traveling was my visit to Christmas Island. We started a 12 day cruise onboard the Crown Princess in Papeete, Tahiti. Then on to the islands of Moorea and Bora Bora, then two days at sea before we reached

Christmas Island, crossing the equator, two more days at sea and visited three of the Hawaiian Islands.

Christmas Island does not have a port for large ships. You go the shore using small tenders that hold about 150 people. It was very hot that day. So I went alone to the shore to buy some stamps. As I walk up the hill there were many tents and vendors, I couldn't believe my eyes when at the post office the clerk was sleeping on a very large table. It seemed like no one cared that we were there. Bought some stamps and mailed some post cards, then explored the island. Trash was everywhere, a boy trying to sell junk sea shells, of which I one I had found where better than he had. There wasn't one thing worth a photo. Where were all the beautiful structures on their stamps? Then I headed back to the ship. That was ten years ago, I hope things have changed.

Editor's Note

After spending six years in the Oceans of the world in the US Navy, I have never seen a beautiful third world island country, what we see on TV, internet, or stamps is all fluff. No matter how bad we think we have it in the good ole US of A, a third world county is my last choice of places to live...sometimes we need to wake-up and smell the coffee.

PHILIA TELIC EVENTS

March 1st Jim Reeves in the Lou Yagle Room 10am to 4 pm

March 15th Cranberry Stamp and Postcard Show @ the Cranberry Four point Sheraton 10am to 4pm
412-851-1674

Club Business

Library sale

Our library is now a year old, and we have been the recipient of many book donations. Duplicates have received, and so for one day only, at the March the 22nd meeting, (members only) can buy catalogs for only one dollar \$1.00 each. Many different years of USA and foreign, of which many are great reference tools; after March 22nd the remaining will be sold at WILKPEX 09 at the flea market table at marked prices.

Fred

At the August APS show 6-9, 2009 we are having a table and will be looking for people to man the table, for more information or to volunteer contact Jim Senkewitz.

John Rose is having a kids table at Wilkpex and is looking for free stamp lots.

Anyone showing at the Wilkpex show needs to contact Andy Novotny, not Tom Reiff as listed in the last issue of the newsletter.

Sorry about the typo with Linn's Stamp News in the last issue. Brain Freeze!

The Club will have another sell your stash auction at the end of Fred's Library sale at the March 22nd, 2009 meeting, following the business meeting.

Last day to vote in the Linn's 2008 U.S. Stamp Popularity Poll at a club meeting is over; although you can vote using the Linn's Stamp News issue March 5th, postmarked no later than March 7th, 2009.

EDITOR'S POSTCARD

Hello,

Only one and half months until Wilkpex 09, the club members are working hard to get things ready. Grant has completed the new souvenir sheet and Gene is going strong with the new Harvey Haddix cachet. Tom Reiff has been burning the mid-night oil get all the printing done and Tom Donohue and staff are working on the PR, Marty has lined up a great number of dealers...come on... get involved we can use your help to make Wilkpex the best ever.

Bill