

# The Philatelic Communicator

Journal of the American Philatelic Society Writers Unit #30



-R. P. Ryan-

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www.wu30.org

First Quarter 2022 Issue 215

## Martin Kent Miller Selected for *Topical Time* Editor

“The American Topical Association has selected Martin Kent Miller to serve as the association’s Content Manager and Editor for *Topical Time*.

In January, veteran Editor Wayne Youngblood announced his retirement from *Topical Time*, after 12 years editing the journal. The announcement triggered a search for a new editor and a redefinition of the editor’s overall role. The Content Manager and Editor will serve as *Topical Time* editor, while also working to publish more digital content both through social media and the association’s web platforms.

Miller also edits *The United States Specialist*, the journal of the United States Stamp Society; *First Days*, the journal of the American First Day Cover Society; *The Philatelic Exhibitor*, the journal of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors; and *The Pennsylvania Postal Historian*, the journal of the Pennsylvania Postal His-



Martin Kent Miller

tory Society. He was former Chief Content Officer of the American Philatelic Society, which included editing its *American Philatelist* and *Philatelic Literature Review*.

Martin is an active topical collector with focused collections covering emus, heraldry, printing & graphic communication, penguins, and the art and life of Albrecht Dürer. He is married to Jennifer Miller, ATA Executive Director, and has supported ATA projects, including the new website, co-editing the ATA handbook *Topical Adventures – A Guide to Topical and Thematic Stamp Collecting*, and designing the new ATA logo.

“Martin brings a broad range of talents and is committed to the goals of ATA. For several years he has been an integral part of ATA, and we are delighted he will take on this expanded role,” said ATA president Dawn Hamman. ♦





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## APS Writers Unit #30

### Deadlines for receipt of copy by the editor:

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Third Quarter: September 1      Fourth Quarter: December 1

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## David Crotty From the Editor

### TPC Needs Articles

Over the years that I have been editor for *The Philatelic Communicator* I have often submitted the journal to judging at literature exhibits. I do this first to support the shows that go to the effort of having the literature exhibits and also in hopes that the comments provided by the judges help me as an editor. This year I submitted both journals that I edit, *The Philatelic Communicator* and the *Meter Stamp Society Bulletin*.

Over the years many of these submissions returned a Silver medal. Recently the awards have been better. At the 2021 Chicagopex show in December both journals received Large Vermeil awards. We hope this indicates that the journals have improved.

What we can do to improve further is at least one, maybe two, more good article per issue. We have about 120 members and we need at least four more articles a year to provide a much improved product.

You might also have some suggestions as to what type of stories you would like to see in our journal.

And then, all of us need to read John Hotchner's discussion in this issue on page six!

*Dave*



**WU30 *The Philatelic Communicator*  
Awarded Large Vermeil by Chicagopex  
2021 Literature Exhibition.**



## Lloyd de Vries *President's Message*

If you are the editor of a website or journal, do you edit the press releases you are sent? For me, on my websites, it depends on how much time I have and, frankly, sometimes my mood.

In one of my early real-world jobs, we would say “everybody needs an editor.” Of course, the “we” who said that *were* editors. I’m not sure any writers-who-never-edited ever said that, and certainly the “beancounters” never did. Nearly all professional media now are owned by conglomerates whose top priority is cutting costs. The first employees cut were usually the copy editors. After all, no one notices their work unless they make a mistake and let an error be published or go on-air.

I recently received a press release with common mistakes: An extra comma between a title and a name (such as “WU30 President, Lloyd de Vries”) and a word I

hate, “attende.” I changed the latter to “those attending” and, in the following sentence, “participants.” The release also promoted an event at a stamp show but failed to tell when the stamp show was. (It did give the single day for the event.

I was only a full-time copy editor with the title for a year or so, but the mindset won’t go away, even in retirement. I recently spent half an hour trying to find a way to contact a *New York Times* reporter because his book referred to the tickertape parade for Charles Lindbergh in 1917. (It was 1927.) I don’t think I succeeded. In a series of books I’m reading now, the co-authors use “alright” instead of “all right” and constructions like “He gave the token to Torina and I.” I kept pulling out my red grease pencil, and now my Kindle is a mess!



The Amazon-published books are among the worst-edited. I had to stop reading one author entirely, in the middle of a book, because the rampant grammatical and spelling errors repeatedly were knocking me out of the story. In the books, he thanked his copy editor. Really?

Two of my favorite science fiction authors — among *everyone’s* favorite SF authors — were helped greatly by their editors. One biography of Isaac Asimov says in his early works, he could barely put a sentence together. (He grew up in a house where Russian was spoken.) After he died, Robert A. Heinlein’s widow revealed he had bitter fights with his editors, particularly for his “juveniles” (books written for adolescents and young adults), and she published some of his books as he had submitted them. I liked the edited versions better.

I stopped writing for the old *Stamps* magazine when I realized I wasn’t going to get any help from its new editor.

*First Days* editor Sol Koved told me once about how he had taken a barely-literate article and reconstructed it. After it was published, it won the annual American First Day Cover Society Philip H. Ward, Jr., Award for best FDC article of the year. In his acceptance speech, the author never once acknowledged any help from Koved. It must have rankled the editor, because he told me the story years later.

Sometimes we writers don’t even notice the changes an editor makes. Other times we whine, complain and even curse the editors, hopefully where they can’t hear us. It’s traditional. I haven’t been blameless in this area; I doubt many of us are eligible for authorial sainthood. However, if you are my editor or have been, I hope you know I do appreciate your work.

Most of the time.

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# Gini Horn 1951-2022

It is with deepest sadness that the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) announce the passing of past APRL Librarian Gini Horn. Gini left us peacefully surrounded by friends and family. Aged 70, she died on February 21, 2022, at Providence Place Senior Living in Chambersburg. She was born on March 21, 1951, in Luray, Virginia to the Rev. James G. Horn, Sr. and Erma V. Horn (née Stough).

She attended Smithsburg Elementary School,

In her youth, Virginia spent summers as a camp counselor at Camp Kirchenwald, Lebanon County, a camp run by the Lutheran Camping Corporation of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA.

She loved music and enjoyed playing the piano, organ, flute, and recorder. She was an avid knitter and loved growing tomatoes on her deck, working on jigsaw puzzles, playing word games, and walking.

Gini's immeasurable contributions to the APS, and specifically the APRL, have laid the foundation for what we



Past APRL Librarians (l to r) Lois Evans de Violini, Gini Horn and Tara Murray Grove

Smithsburg, MD and Susquehannock High School, York County, PA, graduating in 1969. Virginia graduated from Juniata College in 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Music. She then attended the University of Pittsburgh, earning a Master of Library Science degree.

She worked for a year as a library aide at Dallastown High School. She also worked at Martin Memorial Library in York and the medical library at Memorial Hospital in York. Gini then worked from 1984-2010 as director of the American Philatelic Research Library in State College, and finally she worked in the medical library at Mt. Nittany Hospital in State College.

Virginia relocated to Chambersburg in 2019, living at SpiriTrust Lutheran, Luther Ridge, and later moved to Memory Care at Providence Place.

know today as the largest and most accessible public philatelic library in the world.

Gini first came to work at the library on September 1, 1984 and after 25 years in the position of Librarian retired in 2010. When first hearing that she had been accepted for the job she told a family member "it's a stamp library, how big could it be?" Over the next 25 years Gini was not only responsible for growing the library, its resources and services, but also in 2004 coordinated its move from Oakwood Avenue in State College, Pennsylvania, to the Match Factory complex 10 miles away in Bellefonte.

A friendly and welcoming face to all who frequented the library, during the course of her time at the APRL Gini was involved in a number of different duties and tasks that served both APS members as well as the worldwide philatelic community.

Gini Continued on Page 5

Gini implemented the library's first online catalog, using the InMagic platform (later InMagic Genie), for what is now the David A. Straight Memorial Philatelic Union Catalog. For the philatelic world, in 1996 at CAPEX '96, she was one of the founding organizers of the International Philatelic Libraries Association (IPLA) which was comprised of 45 representatives from 25 libraries in Canada, France, England, Germany, Finland, Cyprus and South Africa.

Gini attended many stamp shows where she often worked at the APS booth and gave presentations on the resources available at APRL and how to access them. She also contributed many columns and articles for *The American Philatelist* and the *Philatelic Literature Review*, many of which were about the library and its resources, but also others about philatelic subjects.

Her greatest contribution to the APS and APRL was in her role as a librarian. As Ellen Peachey, past APRL Reference Assistant, put it "before there was Google, there was Gini. She had the ability to take a request for information, walk into the stacks, and come out with this, that, and the other resource almost by instinct. Her ability to find that needle in the haystack was impressive. It wasn't really magic. She knew the collection and she loved the satisfaction of helping others find what they were looking for and the satisfaction of being good at her job."

Gini would also take the time to mentor and assist other librarians as needed. Past APRL Librarian Tara Murray Grove, who succeeded Gini in the position, states "Gini was never more than a phone call or email away, ready to share her vast institutional knowledge or to help find the location of a missing key or archives box."

Never considering herself an avid stamp collector, Gini did enjoy topical collecting, specifically hippos on stamps. In her time away from the APRL, apart from knitting and going for walks, she enjoyed music and was a gifted pianist. For vacation, she often visited Williamsburg, Virginia and took annual trips to Myrtle Beach with her sister, Erma. Here at the APS she often treated the staff to her "famous" and delicious banana bread. Proud of her Scottish heritage, Gini was equally proud of being able to sing in its entirety the Leadbelly racehorse blues song "Stewball," later made famous by Peter, Paul and Mary.

On behalf of the APS, the APRL and all those who share a memory of Gini, we want to wish our deepest condolences to the Horn family and their friends. Gini has left an immeasurable mark on both the APS and APRL and her contributions to both organizations will never be forgotten.

Scott Tiffney and Franklin County Free Press.

## Nominations Open for FDC Writing Award For Works Published In 2021 AFDCS

Nominations will be accepted through May 30 for the Philip H. Ward Award for Excellence in First Day Cover Literature, presented annually by the American First Day Cover Society. All works published in 2021 are eligible.

All articles published in *First Days*, the AFDCS journal, are automatically considered. Others may be submitted to the Ward Award Committee chair, Mark Goodson, 315 East Dewey Street, Ellettsville, IN 47429-1901, [bgdsn@comcast.net](mailto:bgdsn@comcast.net), either as clippings or .pdf scans of the articles as published.

The award is presented each year at Americover, the annual convention of the AFDCS, which will be held August 25-28, as part of Great American Stamp Show 2022 in Sacramento, Calif. A complete list of past winners can be found at [www.afdcs.org/ward.html](http://www.afdcs.org/ward.html)

Past works honored by the AFDCS reflect a wide variety of sources: The winners in both 2020 and 2019 — "The Fight for the Women's Right to Vote" by Kris McIntosh and "Which Items Franked with 1913 Parcel Post Stamps Are Authentic U.S. First Day Covers?" by Ken Lawrence, respectively — were originally published in *American*

*Philatelist*. The 2018 award was bestowed for a bibliographic series by David Zubatsky in *First Days*. The 2015 citation went to a book, *Dorothy Knapp: Philately and Family*, by Douglas Weisz.

The award is named in honor of Philip H. Ward (1890-1963), the distinguished Philadelphia stamp collector, dealer and journalist who was a pioneer in the field of first day covers. The award was instituted by the AFDCS in 1964.

The American First Day Cover Society is a not-for-profit educational organization, established in 1955. In addition to *First Days*, the AFDCS also publishes handbooks and catalogues, and promotes the collecting of both modern and "classic" issues and cachets, as well as the exhibiting of FDCs.

For more information about the AFDCS, visit [www.afdcs.org](http://www.afdcs.org), e-mail [afdcs@afdcs.org](mailto:afdcs@afdcs.org) or write the AFDCS at Post Office Box 246, Colonial Beach, VA 22443-0246.

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# Another approach to recruiting authors for periodicals

John M. Hotchner, [jmhstamp@verizon.net](mailto:jmhstamp@verizon.net)

We have spoken in this space about the general lack of utility of repeated printed editor appeals for club and society members to take pen in hand and contribute. It isn't that such appeals are wasted. There may be an occasional response, and there is no harm in trying. My repeated theme, though, has been that it is more likely to be successful for editors to go out and beat the bushes by approaching likely authors one-to-one. Not all such approaches will bear fruit, but in my experience a much higher percentage will.

The purpose of this carticle is to propose a halfway measure that I have also seen work. The editor using this method first runs a survey in the journal asking the membership whether it is happy with the content of the journal? This can be targeted on this question, or the question can be part of a larger survey asking about member feelings/observations about club operations. Yes, the editor must be thick skinned enough to be able to accept answers to the happiness question that say some form of "No", Mostly the answers will be "Yes". But that does not mean that members are 100% happy. So the next question in the survey should be, "Even if you like the journal as is, is there new content or subject matter that you would like to see us cover?" My experience is that about a quarter of the respondents will have some new ideas.

You can of course follow up with a question something like, "Would you be willing to get us started on the subject you would like covered?" There will be more "No" than "Yes" answers, but even one or two positive responses will be a good start for your campaign.

The next part of the campaign is that in a subsequent issue of the journal the editor summarizes the responses; warts and all. Then the editor uses his or her knowledge of the membership to try to match up desired content with those known to be knowledgeable enough to do an article; not necessarily a continuing column as that may be a scary commitment. But a one-time article often meets the immediate need. And an author who tries one article and gets positive feedback will often turn into a repeat author because that positive feedback becomes addictive. This is still a one-on-one approach, but it is more focused on desired content, and with that specific, somewhat harder to turn down. I get it that editors don't like to put themselves out there as it is uncomfortable to face a turn-down. But nothing ventured, nothing gained, and the skill of asking for an article (and it IS a skill) gets easier the more you do it as you learn what can motivate authors and what you can do to help them see their name in lights! ♦

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## Stanley Bierman 1935-2022

Stanley Melvin Bierman, M.D., of California died in January 2022 at age 86. He was born March 26, 1935 in Los Angeles. Bierman was elected to the Writers Unit Hall of Fame in 1997. He authored dozens of articles and several books including various editions of *The World's Greatest Stamp Collectors*.

Bierman assembled a massive philatelic library and self-published listings of his holdings. He conducted recorded interviews with nearly twenty dealers including Ezra Cole, David Feldman, Herman Herst, Jr., Stanley Piller, Charles Shreve, Robert Siegel, and Raymond Weill among others. Copies of the interviews are held by the American Philatelic Research Library and the library of the Smithsonian National

Postal Museum.

Stanley Bierman was a dermatologist and received his M.D. degree from the UCLA Medical School. He was associated with the UCLA Medical Center's Century City Hospital and taught at the medical school as well. Among his many honors in the field he was president of the UCLA Clinical Dermatology Faculty Association and president of the Los Angeles Dermatological Society. He was a fellow of the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Dermatology, and the American Academy of Forensic Medicine.

*Alan Warren*

# Reviews

## Print & Electronic

Reviews in *TPC* are indexed at [www.wu30.org](http://www.wu30.org) Journal page.



### **Price Catalogue of Norwegian Air Mail 1870-2020**

by Svein Arne Hansen and Finn Aune. 304 pages, 8 ½ by 11 ¾ (A4), hardbound, Skanfil, Haugesund, Norway, 2021. ISBN 978-82-92535-29-5, 550 NOK (approximately \$65) plus shipping from Skanfil, Postboks 2030, Haugesund, Norway, or [www.skanfil.no](http://www.skanfil.no).

This new catalogue fills an important need, specifically as an English language listing of significant flight covers of Norway. The tables seem rather complex on first viewing but are well structured with definitions of abbreviations and notes on organization at the beginning. The book documents first flight and event covers, and sometimes first use of new routes. Airline abbreviations are defined as well as the country that owns them.

The first column is the date of the cover, followed by a catalog number that is unique to this catalogue. Next are the origin and destination cities with some notes on intermediate stops. The group column identifies the method of conveyance: balloon, catapult, special event, helicopter, polar, zeppelin, etc. The type column lists over two dozen classes like first flight, forerunner,



### PRICE CATALOGUE

### NORWEGIAN AIR MAIL 1870 - 2020

### SVEIN ARNE HANSEN and FINN AUNE

2021-issue

airfield opening, postal stationery, air show, crash mail and others. First Day Covers are included for Norwegian stamps that are air mail related.

A producer column refers to individuals or organizations that sponsored first flight covers. Several columns cross-reference covers that are found in earlier handbooks and catalogs by Örjan Luning, Egil Thomassen, and Erling Stark. The last column indicates the current value in Norwegian kroner based on dealer and auction sources. There is also a checkbox for collectors to mark what they own.

The cover illustrations are small. Details are not easily seen, although special cancellations or cachets are shown enlarged next to a cover. A section near the end of the catalogue lists the Norwegian airmail labels or etiquettes and their varieties. A map shows the names of the country's airports and the cities where they are located. A brief bibliography concludes the catalogue. Serious collectors of Norway's air mail postal history will find this book is required to identify what they own or are seeking.

The evolution of this catalogue is an interesting story. The co-authors decided to base it on the extensive collection of Svein Arne Hansen and the organizing skills of Finn Aune. However, Hansen's collection stopped at 1945. Aune compiled the more recent entries and after a preliminary review of the book by Egil Thomassen, many missing items and corrections were needed. Unfortunately Hansen became ill, and died in 2020 before the catalogue was published.

*Alan Warren*

**Isle of Man Local Issues, by Jon Aitchison RNCP, FRPSL.** Tithehall Publishing, Bishop's Stortford, Herts., Great Britain, 2022, viii + 492 pages, 935 illustrations mainly in color, wire-bound 6" x 8¼" (A5 format) softback with card covers and clear plastic outer cover. Available for £35 + postage (£5 to U.K., £10 to Europe, and £20 to the U.S.A. and the rest of the world) from Jon Aitchison, Old Tithe Hall, Start Hill, Near Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire CM22 7TF, Great Britain, e-mail [britishlocals@aol.com](mailto:britishlocals@aol.com). (Payment can be made by PayPal to this email address, or by credit/debit card, UK cheques are also acceptable made payable to "J. Aitchison.")

This is the first catalog to cover all local issues from the Isle of Man. It includes the early forerunners produced to make a case for Isle of Man postage stamps as far back as the 1930s, local carriage labels from the Calf of Man, rail and bus parcel stamps, railway letter service stamps, shipping company issues, aviation stamps including the B.E.A. letter service, strike post stamps such as Post Manninagh, tourism labels, holiday camp promotional labels, exhibition and event labels, the Knockaloe Prisoner of War stamp, savings stamps, advertising labels, carted luggage labels, newspaper transit labels, revenues including

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National Insurance and road tax, bogus stamps, and more. Most of this information has never appeared in print before.

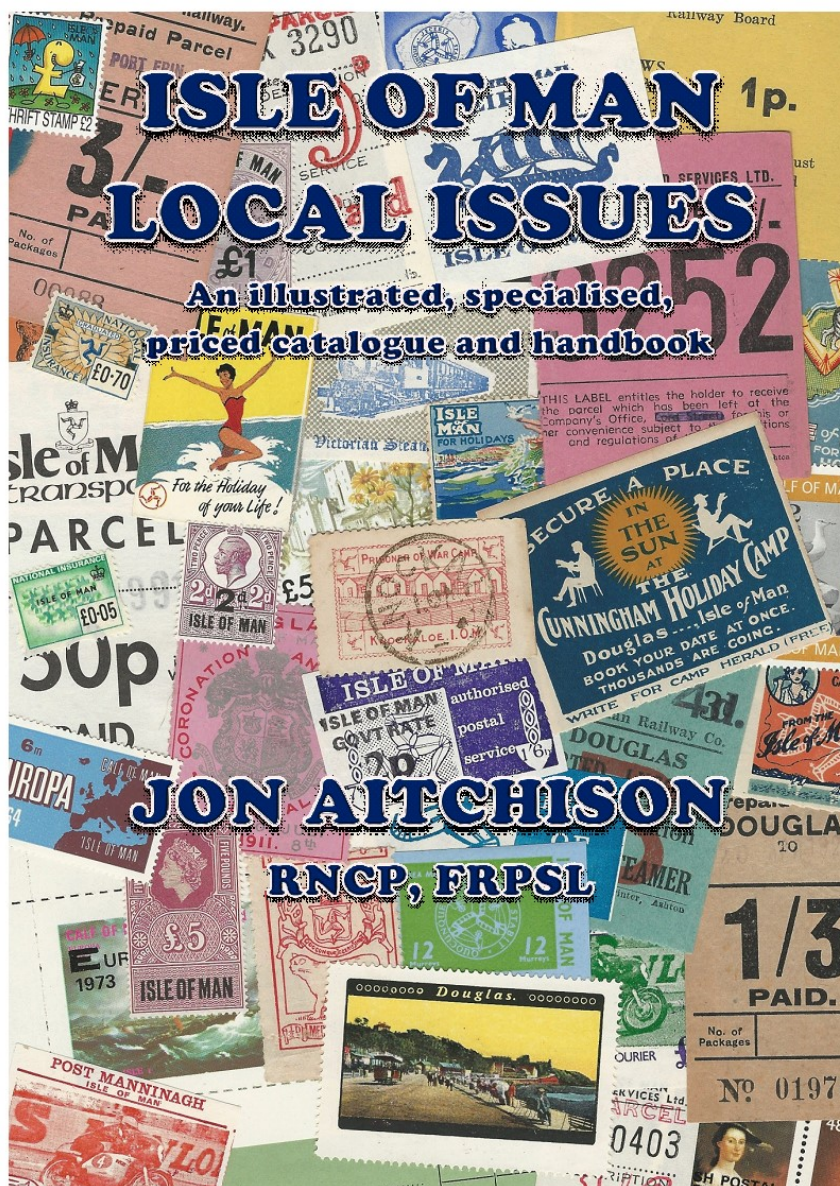
The history and background of every group is explained. The catalog is in full color throughout, with 935 images including more than 850 in color. It is spiral bound so that it lies flat when open for ease of use.

Jon Aitchison is a retail dealer who specializes in these stamps, so he is well aware of auction realiza-

tions and what's selling and what's not and for how much. Consequently, the valuations in this catalog (given in pounds for both mint and used stamps where applicable) are based on realistic selling prices and reflect true market value.

In a nutshell, this is the most comprehensively complete work ever produced for this diverse Cinderella collecting area and a must acquisition for collectors with any interest in Isle of Man locals.

*Roger Cichorz*



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*Norgeskatalogen Postal III*, Oslo Filatelistklubb. 384 pages, card covers, perfect bound, 17 x 24 cms (6 ¾ x 9 ½ inches), Oslofilatelistklubb, Oslo, Norway, 2021. ISBN 978-82-93453-05-5, 425 NOK (approximately \$50) plus shipping.

Following in the footsteps of Sweden's *FACIT Postal* postal history catalogs, the publications committee of the Oslo Filatelistklubb continues with this third edition of the Norwegian postal history catalog. The new edition carries corrected and updated entries, and additional cancellations contributed by collectors and the committee itself.

The introductory text, in both Norwegian and English, provides definitions of abbreviations, discusses pricing, illustrates the various levels of quality, the basic types of cancellations, advice on forgeries, a brief Norwegian/English/German vocabulary, and a bibliography of references.

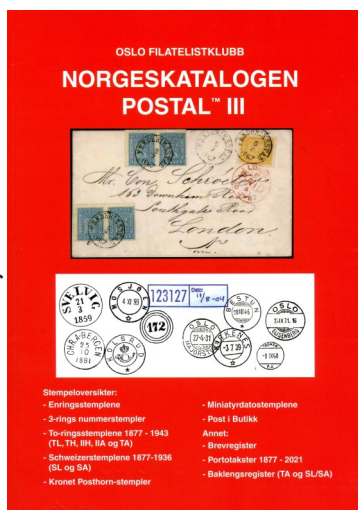
The postmark sections include prestamp markings,

single circle marks on skilling issues, the 2- and 3-ring marks, the Swiss type cancellers 1877-1930 and again for 1930-1936, the so-called miniature marks, and the crown and posthorn cancels. Other categories are the Post i Butikk marks (used at post offices in shops), registered letters from 1855 to 1909, and tables of postage rates from 1877 to 2021.

Some of the postmark listings include the names of cities and towns spelled alphabetically and also in reverse, to help collectors identify marks where only the last portion of the town name can be seen.

The cancellation illustrations are excellent, and some on-cover markings are also shown. The annual *Norgeskatalogen* is the detailed listing of the stamps of Norway and their varieties. For cover collectors the *Norgeskatalogen Postal III* is the reference needed to help understand the country's postal history.

Alan Warren



*U.S. Zeppelin and Airship Mail Flights* by Cheryl R. Ganz. 280 pages, hardbound, Smyth sewn, 8 ¾ by 11 ¼ inches, self-published, USA, 2021. ISBN 978-0-578-90937-0, [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org), \$80 plus shipping (\$75 plus shipping to APS members).

Author Cheryl Ganz is a recognized authority on zeppelins and other airships. In her newest book she focuses only on United States' airships including zeppelins, and not on foreign owned zeppelins and similar aircraft. Those selected carried mail on some flights, either officially or unofficially. The vessels are discussed chronologically.

Using rare archival documents and photographs as well as examples of mail, she tells the story of each airship. The first is the ZR-1, the navy's first rigid airship built in Philadelphia and based on the design of Germany's zeppelin L-49. The ZR-1 was named *Shenandoah* and flew from September 1923 to September 1925 when it crashed. Photographs and text tell the story of the airship, its various flights, and examples of mail that it carried.

The treatment of the *Shenandoah* sets the scheme for the entire book. After the story of its construction and highlights of its flights, the flown mail is listed

by flight number with date and route and a current market value based on a scale of \$ = \$1-50 up to \$\$\$\$\$ = over \$4,000. The chapter concludes with a flight log from the Maiden flight #1 until #57 when it crashed at Ava, Ohio. The logs show flight number, origin and destination, departure and arrival date and time, and a comment on the type of flight—trial, training, repair, emergency, transcontinental, etc.

Following the *Shenandoah* are the other Navy vessels. The short-lived ZR-2 was purchased from Great Britain and underwent four trial flights in that country, the last one ending in a crash in the Humber River. 44 of the 49 crew members, both English and American, were lost. No official mail was carried but there were a couple of pieces of private letters dropped to family and friends.

The Navy's ZR-3 was built by the Zeppelin Company in Germany as LZ-126. The Navy named it *Los Angeles*, and it served from 1924 to 1932. It was the only Navy rigid airship that did not crash. It flew 331 flights and was decommissioned in 1932. It carried both official and unofficial mail. Over 40 covers are shown.

The ZRS-4 was built by the Goodyear-Zeppelin

Company in Akron, Ohio, and was in fact named *Akron*. It flew 73 flights between September 1931 and April 3, 1933 when it crashed in a storm off Barnegat, N.J. Many covers are illustrated including some event related airplane mail, and some ship mail marking the crash.

The *Akron's* sister airship *Macon* (ZRS-5) achieved 54 flights from April 1933 until it also crashed during a storm in February, 1935 near Pont Sur, Cal. *Akron* did not carry any official mail but there were private pieces including drop mail. One of the key events in 1934 was dropping mail and newspapers from the airship and its scouting planes to the USS *Houston* that was sailing from the Panama Canal to Hawaii with President Franklin Roosevelt aboard. One of the author's value-added attractions to the cover descriptions are brief notes about the cachet makers.

One chapter is devoted collectively to the Navy's many pressure airships plus semi-rigid and non-rigid vessels. An extensive listing identifies mail flown on many of these airships, as well as pieces related to airship bases and squadrons.

The United States Army also had a lighter-than-air program. Although the airships were

intended for observation purposes along borders and coastlines, they were used largely for training purposes, public relations at airshows, and mail pickup and delivery. Covers are scarce since many pieces were unofficially flown and, in some cases, not even marked as flown. Some examples that can be identified are shown.

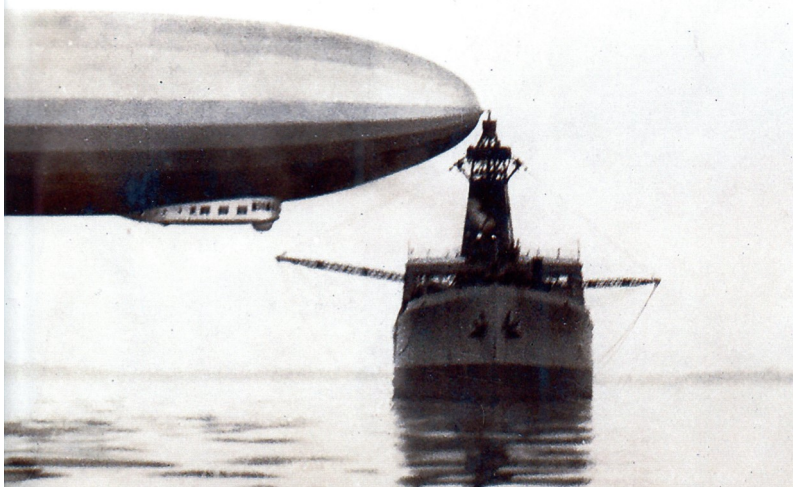
Private and commercial airships have a chapter of their own. These include the *America* used by William Wellman in an attempt to reach the north pole, the private air yacht designed by Anton Heinen that was short-lived due to accidents, and the popular Goodyear and other advertising blimps, many of which carried mail. Some identified mail is listed but details are slim since the flight logs are not available. However flights and related mail continue to this day.

References are listed at the end of the book for each chapter, and an index of proper names concludes the work. The

2-column format works well and provides nicely laid out pages. Many photographs bring added interest to readers by illustrating pilots and other crew members, hangars, insignia, factory interiors, and picture postcards in addition to the airships themselves. The history and postal history of this field of aerophilately are well documented and thus provide collectors with an important resource in identifying their acquisitions.

*Alan Warren*

## U.S. Zeppelin and Airship Mail Flights



**Cheryl R. Ganz**

# Royal Philatelic Society of London

## PRESS RELEASE

### The Centenary of Meter Marks

Three members of the Royal Philatelic Society London gave the displays to the members of the Society on 10 February to celebrate the centenary of the Universal Postal Union allowing meter marks to be used internationally from 1 January 1922. The members providing the overview of 'Postage Meter Franking 1922-2022' were Mike Jackson FRPSL, Henry Ong FRPSL and Maggie Thompson FRPSL.

Mike's display focused on 'Great Britain Meter Franking' illustrating its development over the years. Included was a leaflet from Roneo Neopost, first produced in 1931, that declared 'Exit the Postage Stamp' thanks to the machine that 'franks, postmarks, and cancels envelopes, wrappers, labels, etc., with one turn of the handle'.

'Malayan Meter Marks 1927-1945' was the title of Henry's display, recording that postage meters were first used in the Colony in June 1927. Henry also presented his new book, titled *Malayan Meter Marks 1927-1945*, which has been published by the Malaya Study Group.

Maggie's display covered 'Meter Marks from the Saar area of Germany 1926-1988', noting that the first machine was put in use at the post office at Saarbrücken main railway station in 1926.

Giving the Vote of Thanks, Susan McEwen FRPSL commented how difficult the material shown is to acquire, as it would have had a very low survival rate. Following the displays, the President of the Society, Peter Cockburn FRPSL, thanked Andrew Norris for his generous gift to the Society of two meter mark machines.



Maggie Thompson FRPSL, Peter Cockburn FRPSL, President of the Society,  
Mike Jackson FRPSL, and Henry Ong FRPSL.  
(15 February 2022)

*Editor's Note: For those interested in "Meter Marks" aka "Postage Meter Stamps" please refer to the website [WWW.Meterstampsociety.com](http://WWW.Meterstampsociety.com).* ◆

# CHICAGOPEX 2021 Literature Palmares

November 20, 2021

## John Kevin Doyle Grand Award

The History of Airmail In Poland and Its Contribution to Airmail Services of Europe (1914-1939)

## Reserve Grand

The 19th Century Issues of El Salvador 1867-1900

## Large Gold

Re-Evaluating a Philatelic First: The earliest depiction of black history on US stamps (91 pts)

*Peteer Schwartz and Calvin Mitchell*

Thomas Edison and the Bulb (93 pts)

*Bill DiPaolo*

The 19th Century Issues of El Salvador 1867-1900 (96 pts)

*Guillermo F. Gallegos and Joseph D. Hahn*

The History of Airmail In Poland and Its Contribution to Airmail Services of Europe (1914-1939) (96 pts)

*Dr. Jerzy W. Kupiec-Weglinski*

Award Winning Philatelic Treatment and Presentation: A guide to display, thematic and topical exhibits for exhibitors, collectors and judges (93 pts)

*Dr. Edwin J. Andrews*

## Gold

The Sinking of the P.R.R. Ferry Chicago (87 pts)

*Nancy B. Clark*

A noteworthy Precancel on Lancaster Watch Company's Advertising (87 pts)

*Charles J. Dicom, Ph.D.*

Carol Gordon: Unconventional Cachet Maker (88 pts)

*Susan Bahnick Jones*

Topical Adventures: A guide to topical and thematic stamp collecting (87 pts)

*Jack R Congrove, Dawn R. Hamman, Martin Kent Miller, editors*

State Revenue News (89 pts)

*Robert Conley, editor*

Bulletin of the Polonus Polish Philatelic Society (88 pts)

*Polonus Polish Philatelic Society*

Exhibit Continued on page 13

## Large Vermeil

Inconsistent usage of 20 and 35 aurar denominations on the Icelandic mail sent to Nordic countries in 1925 through 1939 (83 pts)

*Armagan Ozdinc*

Peter Winter's "Swan Song": Memories of an Artist and "Forger" (83 pts)

*Wolfgang Maassen, CD by Leonard H. Hartmann*

Creating the Philatelic Exhibit Synopsis: A master class (83 pts)

*Andrew McFarlane*

Meter Stamp Society Quarterly Bulletin (83 pts)

*David Crotty, Ph.D., editor*

The Philatelic Communicator (81 pts)

*David Crotty, Ph.D., editor*

## Vermeil

Buddhism on Stamps (78 pts)

*M Lokeswara Rao*

## CHICAGOPEX 2021 Literature Jury Members:

Dr. Akthem Al-Manaseer, Judge San Jose, CA

Alan Warren, Judge Exton, PA

John Hotchner, Judge Falls Church, VA

# Sarasota National Stamp Expo & Writers Unit 30

## LITERATURE PALMARES

January 21 - 23, 2022

<b>Grand Award</b>	Darrell Ertzberger	Rural Free Delivery in North Carolina	<i>NCPHS Postal Historian</i>	
<b>Reserve Grand Award</b>	Louis Fiset	Transpacific Ship Mail on the Eve of Pearl Harbor	<i>LaPosta</i>	
<b>Postal History Society Award</b>	Jerry H. Miller	The Evolution of via Siberia Mail, 1897 - 1945	<i>2021 Congress Book</i>	
<b>APS Research Award</b>	Heinrich Conzelmann	Printed Matter Sent By Hamburg or Bremen Mail: 1867 Rate Changes	<i>Chronicle of U.S. Classic Postal Issues</i>	
<b>Collectors Club of Sarasota Award for Treatment</b>	Harold J. Krische	Happy Easter From Japan	<i>Collectors Club Philatelist</i>	
<b>LARGE GOLD</b>	Darrell Ertzberger	Rural Free Delivery in North Carolina	<i>NCPHS Postal Historian</i>	93
	Louis Fiset	Transpacific Ship Mail on the Eve of Pearl Harbor	<i>LaPosta</i>	91
	Harold J. Krische	Happy Easter From Japan	<i>Collectors Club Philatelist</i>	91
	Louis Fiset	Repatriates' Correspondence During SS Drottningholm's Mercy Ship Voyages in WW II	<i>Military Postal History Society Bulletin</i>	90
	Heinrich Conzelmann	Printed Matter Sent By Hamburg or Bremen Mail: 1867 Rate Changes	<i>Chronicle of U.S. Classic Postal Issues</i>	90
<b>GOLD</b>	David Zemer	The Panama 1c Balboa Invert From the American Banknote Company	<i>Collectors Club Philatelist</i>	88
	Albert L. Briggs	Prexie Postal History: Local Letter Uses	<i>Prexie Era Newsletter</i>	85
	Jerry H. Miller	Evolution of the Postal Coding System in Germany	<i>Postal History Journal</i>	85
	Jerry H. Miller	The Evolution of via Siberia Mail, 1897 - 1945	<i>2021 Congress Book</i>	89
	John M. Hotchner	The Development and Use of Consular Bicentennial Postal Stationery 1990 - 1994	<i>Postal Stationery</i>	87
	Hugh Lawrence	The Communist DPP Chops and Labels of Southern Anhui and Northeastern Jiangxi Provinces	<i>The China Clipper</i>	88
	Bill DiPaolo	Searching for the 10c Coil of the 1938 Presidential Series	<i>The United States Specialist</i>	88

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	Terence Hines	Forwarding of Special Delivery Mail	<i>United States Specialist</i>	88
	Sam Chiu	Canada's C-Force in Hong Kong	<i>The Canadian Philatelist</i>	86
<b>LARGE VERMEIL</b>	Norman Jacobs	Daguin Tennis Postmarks and the Tennis Clubs They Promoted	<i>Journal of Sports Philately</i>	83
	Norman Jacobs	Ooops! Mistakes and Curiosities in the Design of Tennis Stamps and Postmarks	<i>Journal of Sports Philately</i>	84
	Larry Rosenblum	The Liberty and Peace Design by Luc-Oliver Merson Spanned 30 Years	<i>Linn's Stamp News</i>	80
	Anthony F. Dewey & Peter LaPlaca	Dodd Was Dead: Tracing the Origins of a Popular Illustration	<i>First Days</i>	80
	Patrick Morgan	Cachetmaker: Tom Mueller	<i>First Days</i>	80
	Anthony F. Dewey	The Doback Method: How to Challenge First Day Collectors	<i>First Days</i>	82
	Gregg Redner	The Philately of the 1920 Antwerp Olympics	<i>The Canadian Philatelist</i>	80
	Matthew Healey	Singing the Two-Penny Blues	<i>Linn's Stamp News</i>	83
	Matthew Healey	Sex, Death & Experimental Postmarks	<i>Linn's Stamp News</i>	83
	Terence Hines	Norwich Vermont Postal History	<i>United States Specialist</i>	80
	Igor Grigorian	On History of Cognac Production in Armenia	<i>Topical Time</i>	80
<b>VERMEIL</b>	Robert Rose	The Woodbridge, N.J. Colonial Straightline Handstamp: Where is it?	<i>NJPH, The Journal of the New Jersey Postal History Society</i>	79
	Donald A. Chafetz	Revolution War Veteran	<i>NJPH, The Journal of the New Jersey Postal History Society</i>	75
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<b>LARGE SILVER</b>	Juan L. Riera	The Merrick Brothers, Wilson Larkins and Southwest Miami Mail	<i>Florida Postal History Journal</i>	70
	Steve Kennedy	Military Assistant Surgeon's Ft. Lauderdale East Florida Letter	<i>Florida Postal History Journal</i>	71
	Claudio Grande	One Library at a Time: The Vatican Apostolic Library	<i>Philateli-Graphics</i>	73
<b>SILVER</b>	Juan L. Riera	Lindbergh Spends the Weekend at Flagler Beach	<i>Florida Postal History Journal</i>	68

**Literature Judges**

Peter McCann, Chief University Park, FL  
 Patricia Stilwell Walker, University Park, FL  
 Akthem Al-Manaseer, San Jose, CA  
 Edward Kroft, Vancouver, BC



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### Secretary Report Writers Unit #30

The purpose of the Writers Unit #30 of the American Philatelic Society is to encourage and assist philatelic communications, knowledge, and comradeship. Membership is open to anyone interested in philatelic communications.

### Membership Dues

The membership dues for each calendar year are:

Web Delivery email full color..... \$15.00

USPS delivery B/W photocopy..... \$20.00

Those members without access to email can pay for a B/W Xerox copy by US Mail. Payment must be made in U.S. funds by a check imprinted with a U.S. bank transit number, or by postal money order payable to "APS Writers Unit #30." Some overseas members prefer to send U.S. bank notes. We will soon have PayPal available but not yet.

### Updating Your Mailing Address

Please notify us of USPS and email address changes to assure that you receive without delay each issue of *The Philatelic Communicator*.

**Alan Barasch, Secretary Treasurer**  
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### Materials for Review

Material for review may be sent to the editor. Reviews of materials are welcomed from members and non-members. Reviews should be concise and stress those aspects that are helpful examples (positive or negative) for other authors, editors and publishers. Review requests from those having an interest in the item, such as publishers and distributors, must include a copy of the publication.

### Expert Help for Writers and Editors

Dr. Dane S. Claussen, Writers Unit #30 past president, offers free critiques of periodicals, books and manuscripts. Submit the four most recent issues, including postage equivalent to four times the first class mailing fee. Any unused amount will be returned. Critiques can be expected in about 30 days. Inquire before sending books and manuscripts, providing a brief description. Return time will vary depending on length and other commitments. Include an SASE. Send to Dr. Dane S. Claussen's Email: danes.claussen@gmail.com.

### Chapter and Website Feedback Service

Beginning in January 2019 critiques of club newsletters or websites will be available to any chapter at no cost. On request an experienced collector will review and provide written feedback on strengths and weaknesses to help your chapter better serve its members. The feedback service will replace the previous Chapter Newsletter and Website competitions. For more details check the APS website.

### 2022 Literature Exhibits

**APS Great American Stamp Show**, [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org).  
**CHICAGOPEX 2022** Nov., [www.chicagopex.com](http://www.chicagopex.com).  
**SESCAL Article Only**, Southern California. [Sescal.org](http://Sescal.org).  
**Sarasota Article Only** [www.sarasotastampclub.com/](http://www.sarasotastampclub.com/)  
**CAPEX 2022**. Toronto Canada June 2022.