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April 9, 2011

April Showers have not arrived yet. At this writing we are expecting more snow. But Spring will start any moment now!

With the elections coming up the club could still use a new face in the erunning. Stan will be running again. Will he be unopposed? Our treasurer, Paul Glass, will no longer be able to do the fine job he has always done for us and we are seeking a replacement. The easiest job is Director and is an opening to the other positions. Might be a good way to start your stamp club political career. We have three openings for this position. See hthe February issue for a copy of the nomination form. Fill it out, return it to John Walter and you're on your way. By the way, John still needs someone to take over the Election Comittee for him. You, maybe?

Mike Potter brings us this month's "My Favorite Things" on page eight. It is the first of two he has made on the subject of "Early Covers", a favorite theme of his. Take a look. Nice page.

The program this month was a group effort led by our president, Stan Cronwall and helped along by me, your trusty editor. The subject was "How would you spend your monthly Stamp Allowence." The idea being, if you had a $\$ 100.00$ to spend on stamps, how would you spend it? Blow it on one good stamp and fill one slot in the
album or buy a bunch of cheaps stamps and fill the whole page. Interesting discussion. The idea came from a Lawrence Block artical in Linn's.

I spoke of comittees that need someone to help them out and there is one more comittiee that would do better if there were an actual person to run it. That would be a person or persons willing to help our new members get oriented to club activities and keep in touch with some past members who might be thinking about rejoining us.

Below, the Easter Seals Benefit show is mentioned and each year a small group of us travel to Sacramento to partake. Its an opportunity to give to people who need help ("Helping people with disabilities gain greater independence.") while enjoying your hobby. Won't you come with us this year? Last chance.

Easter Seals Benefit Show April 2-3 at the Easter Seals Society Center, 3205 Hurley Way in Sacramento. Opens at 10.

SOPEX April 2-3 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds on 1 Peninger Road in Central Ore. Opens at 10 am.

WESTPEX Apr 29-May 1 at the Marriot Airport Hotel on 1800 Old Bayshore Hwy, south of San Francisco. 10-6pm \& 10-4.

## Cast a Wider Net

In the February 14 issue of Linn's Janet Klug, former APS president, wrote an article called "Cast a wider net to catch more stamps for your collection." In it were several good ideas that may help us find new stamp trading partners so we don't spend as much on stamps. Why not trade instead of buy? There are four places suggested in the article.

The first place doesn't really need our attention since Mrs. Klug was suggesting a local stamp club. I think we've found one. The next place is the Cover Connection found at http://covercollectors.org (you don't need to type in the http// anymore) where you can get a lifetime membership for $\$ 15.00$. For the money they give you a list of members and you can start a circuit. Now, its just a matter of making a cover and getting one in return. They'll give you the rules on the website. Or, write to; Cover Collectors Circuit Club
Renata Thompson
241 Beachers Brook Lane
Cary NC 27511
A cover like the one to the right may be yours.
The next suggestion was the Art Cover Exchange (ACE) at artcoverexchange.org. Here you create an artistic cover and trade for another's creation. If you're not artistic you can
 use a cutout for your cachet. They also have a snail mail and the dues are \$12.00. Write to; Joseph Doles 105 Lawson Road, Rochester, NY 14616

Then there's postcrossing.com for the postcard collector. This one is free to join and there are no dues. Just go to their website and register to get postcards from all over the world. This one has the look of an international cultural exchange. You can read all about some of the members and see where they live (on a map).

The next site is the ISWSC. That's the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors
Here you can trade stamps or covers or, if you like, just be a member. Go to the "Trading Standards" page for some good advice and direction on how to trade. Again, if you don't want to trade online, write to International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors PO Box 19006
Sacramento CA 95819
An informative site for WW collectors.


## Maybe I shouldn't have soaked them

Its funny how, when you start to write a story, it often leads to another story. Most writers will know what I mean. This one began as a story about "Chalky Paper." We read about it a lot in the Scott catalog, mostly under British stamps. It was used as an aid in preventing reuse. The paper was coated with chalk before it was printed. Occasionally you'll notice a stamp with part of the printing missing or very light. This is usually chalky paper and some of the chalk has fallen away, taking ink too. Obviously, they suffer when being soaked. The stamps below were to be the object of the story.


The second and fourth stamps were soaked to remove some excess paper on the back and to clean them. The other two are there for comparison. Before soaking I noticed they were a little faded but thought they may have been in the sun too long. Soaking faded them further so I thought, "chalky paper, a lesson to be passed on."

I went to my trusty Scott and started with the Hong Kong stamp (the two on the right). Part of this set was printed on chalky paper, problem is, according to the Scott, not this part of the set. The ten cent was only printed on ordinary paper. How to tell what's chalky and what's ordinary? Watermark 2 is ordinary, watermark 3 is both types. Then I looked up the British stamp.

I discovered the British stamp was \#129 and it was printed on both chalky and ordinary paper. And, there were three different printers. All prints have the same perforations and the same watermarks. How do you know which are chalky paper? Color is one way, determining the printer is another. The printer is determined by the fineness of the printing or color.

The 129, $11 / 2$ pence is Violet and green or slate purple and green (129a) or reddish purple and bright green (129b) or dull purple and green (129c). That's ordinary paper. Chalky paper is 129d which is pale purple and green or slate purple and blue-green. I'm guessing the stamp on the left is either dull purple or pale purple but, I suppose it could be reddish purple. The one next to it is faded so who knows what color it is?

The final result of this investigation is that more investigation is needed. First, I need more information about chalky paper, more information about colors and their differences and, bottom line is these might just be the result of fugitive inks. Stamp collecting is not as easy as one might think!

## http://syracusestampclub.org/



I noticed part of a site on the Internet that had stories about some American stamps and thought you might like to see it. However, the page I saw wasn't the main part of the site so I checked the home page and found the Syracuse Stamp Club. Its an old club (92 years) with some modern ideas, a few of which we may wish to consider. On the front page they have a link called "On this Day in Philatelic History" that they offer to anyone who wants it on their site for free.

First, lets go to the page that attracted my attention, called
 "Featured Stamps." You'll find it about $2 / 3$ of the way down the links on the left side of the home page. The stamp to your left is labeled "Syracuse's First Postage Stamps." There is a blurb about the set and how it was accepted by the public as well as stamp collectors and a link to another page explaining why the $2 \phi$ value holds special significance for Syracusans.
The top links (on the home page) deal with joining the club, club officers and contact addresses, then we get into the meat of the club. There is a link called "Collecting Handbook" which is a collection of articles about different aspects of stamp collecting written between 1994 and 1996 by Al and Mildred Feinberg and edited by Tom Fotunado. There are twenty-four articles. All are fairly brief
 (one and a half to two pages in length) and very informative. They reprinted it with the permission of the International Society of Worldwide Collectors

There are several more links so you can get a feel for their club. You can read an example page of the newsletter (The Insider) from different years. There is a photo page you can see some of the members (they look just like us) and their activities and another to read their history. And, a very nice collection of philatelic sites to visit.

The site is entertaining (if you collect stamps), informative and has good educational value. Overall its an A+ site. There are some areas where I would like to see more content, especially the newsletter. I would like to see the whole thing. It might help me to add value to this old rag. And maybe a couple more pictures of the post office tour. Other than that, great site. Go visit!
"God created the world, but the Dutch created Holland," according to an old Dutch saying. They are, of course, referring to the creation of farmland by filling in the sea. They have managed to add hundreds of square miles to the Netherlands by this method. They may one day be larger than Russia!

1. What king appears on the first Netherlands stamps?
A) Henry I
B) William I
C) William III
2. What lady became Queen of the Netherlands at the tender age of eighteen?
A) Juliana
B) Wilhelmina
C) Gretchen
3. What occupation is shown on a ten cent 1952 stamp?
A) Pilot
B) Postman
C) Mining
4. The silver anniversary of what rulers was marked by two stamps in 1962? Queen Juliana and; I
A) Prince Rupert
B) Prince Bernhard
C) Prince Albert
5. What sport is the subject of a 1974 stamp
A) Tennis
B) Soccer
C) Basketball
6. Three countries are honored on the "BENELUX" issue of 1974 They are the Netherlands, Luxembourg and;
A) Andorra
B) Belgium
C) Monaco
7. Martinus Nijhoff was honored on a 1954 semi-postal. What was his claim to fame?
A) Politician
B) Poet
C) Artist
8. What painter created "The Laughing Child" that appears on a 1937 semi-postal?
A) Hans Holbein
B) Vermeers
C) Franz Hals
9. What is the profesion of the three men shown on a set of three stamps issued in 1980?
A) Politicians
B) Lawyers
C) Car Salesmen
10. Postage due stamps of the Netherlands also were used in three other areas in different colors. Those areas are the Dutch Indies, Curacao and
A) Aruba
B) Suriname
C) New Amsterdam

Bonus question: Go to postcrossing.com to send a postcard to someone you don't know. True or False?

Hope you had a good time with this one and didn't strain your brain (too much).

Monaco is an interesting country and, like the Netherlands, has begun to enlarge itself by filling in the sea.

1. B. \#198 was issued on December 13, 1946 in the form of a triangle to honor Franklin Delano Roosevelt who died on April 12, 1945.
2. B. Prince Rainier Louis Henri Maxence Bertrand de Grimaldi began his rule after the death of his father in 1949. \#s247-52 were issued in 1950 to celebrate the enthronement of Prince Rainier III.
3. A. A four stamp set (three regular stamps and an airmail) was issued in 1955 picturing Lambarene hospital and Dr. Albert Schweitzer. They are \#323-27 and C40.
4. A. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was again honored, along with Dwight D. Eisenhower on four stamps from a set of nine (\#s354-62) issued for the fifth International Philatelic Exhibit in New York City on April of 1956.
5. B. Grace Kelly was married to Prince Rainier on April 19, 1956 and a set of five stamps (\#s366-70) were issued on that day.
6. C. One hundred years after the appearance of the Virgin Mary at Lourdes a set of stamps were issued, the first of which portrayed that appearance and pictured the Popes Pius IX (not XI) and Pius XII on \#412.
7. B. Henry Ford and his 1903 Model A (an odd looking car) are shown on \#545 to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of his birth.
8. A. The stamp was issued on May 14, 1970 to celebrate America's moon landing. It pictured Kennedy, who began the mission to the moon and Nixon wo was in office on its completion. (\#772)
9. C. The International Dog Show is held in Monaco periodically. This year, 1976, a stamp was issued for the show picturing a group of six dachshunds in a row. It was number 1017, and put in the post offices on May 3 of that year.
10. A. Issued on June 1st of 1960, \#461 notes the 75th anniversary of the issuance of its first stamp with pictures of their own first stamps and an early issue from France and an early issue from Sardinia.

Bonus question. Oops. I neglected to change the bonus question. This one was from the Christmas issue and the first question was at the top of the page (your name).

Hope you did well on this one and I'm sure you got the bonus question right even if it was a little tricky.

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WANTED: Germany Third Reich "Kinder Cards" mint or used. These are cards showing children "playing at war" usually with some junior sized weapon, helmet and/or uniform. Most are color but some can be B/W. Most are illustrated, but some are photography. Paying $\$ 35.00$ and up depending on subject matter and condition.Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com.


Wanted; Covers of Switzerland from 1882 to 1907 (later is OK) that used the "Standing Helvetia" as postage. Contact Howard at (775) 677-7143
or artfulputz@aol.com


Wanted; the 1949 Silver Wedding issue. Have you seen this stamp? There are several like it from various British colonies. I need about half of them to complete my collection. Contact Howard at (775) 677-7143 or artfulputz@aol.com

For Sale; Stamps and Covers at my online store at Wensy.com. Type "artfulputz" in the search box. click on "user" then "go". You'll have to join but its easier than eBay. Most prices start at $1 / 3$ of Scott. Contact Howard at artfulputz@aol.com

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I enjoy collecting early covers. The means of transportation back then is nothing like it is today. We just take for granted how mail is moved today. It can go across the country in just a day or two.

8.

