



Frogtown Philatelist

The Official Journal of the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo

P.O. Box 2, Maumee, OH 43537-0002

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"Evolving since 1886."

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V.P.	Charles Hablitzel
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Newsletter	John Mann

Where we've been.

March 7

We digitally photographed and put the "treasures" we found at the show, put them on the wall, and members discussed why they were "treasures." It was interesting stuff—the best programs are the ones our members participate in. Twenty-eight members were on hand for this one.

March 21

We were up against the first night of the NCAA basketball tournament, but 24 of our members preferred stamps. (MSU already won, Go Green!)

The program tonight consisted of a slide show (not APS) that Gene was able to conjure up on the internet. Nice catch, Gene! We also had our usual three-item sell-it-yourself.

Speaking of where

we've been, we got booted out of the Holland Gardens after 11 years of conducting our show there. It turns out that bingo is more lucrative than we are. At any rate, we have a new location already secured, and is closer to our meeting place. It is on Hufford Road, in Perrysburg, The Greystone.

We also discussed our recent show and continuing with our one day show in the fall.

Where we've going.

April 4

Congratulations to Gene and Charles, our newest honor-awarded life members. It is well-deserved, for all the time and work involved in promoting stamp collecting and as officers in our club.

Speaking of officers, it is the annual election tonight. "Stop, Look and Listen" is the railroad mantra for safety. Do I see another railroad train coming :)?

Auction tonight.

April 18

Are you looking at the official SCCT calendar? So you won't be disappointed, we swapped out the junior duck program last fall, so John K. could be in Florida tonight. If you remember, it was a very well done program. John has to be the foremost expert on junior ducks.

Maybe we can try again with the APS slideshow on Switzerland. If not, there is always "plan B."

We will have the 3-item sell-it-yourself as usual.

April 4, 1802

Dorothea Dix

Dorothea Lynde Dix (April 4, 1802 - July 17, 1887) was an American advocate on behalf of the indigent mentally ill who, through a vigorous and sustained program of lobbying state legislatures and the United States Congress, created the first generation of American mental asylums.

During the American Civil War, Dix, on June 10, 1861 was appointed Superintendent of Army Nurses by the Union Army, beating out Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell.

Dix set guidelines for nurse candidates. Volunteers were to be aged 35 to 50 and plain-looking. They were required to wear unhooped black or brown dresses, with no jewelry or cosmetics. Dix wanted to avoid sending vulnerable, attractive young women into the hospitals, where she feared they would be exploited by the men (doctors as well as patients). Dix often fired volunteer nurses she hadn't personally

trained or hired (earning the ire of supporting groups like the United States Sanitary Commission). At odds with Army doctors, Dix feuded with them over control of medical facilities and the hiring and firing of nurses. Many doctors and surgeons did not want any female nurses in their hospitals. To solve the impasse, the War Department introduced Order No. 351 in October 1863. It granted both the Surgeon General (Joseph K. Barnes) and the Superintendent of Army Nurses (Dix) the power to appoint female nurses. However, it gave doctors the power of assigning employees and volunteers to hospitals.

At the end of the war, Dix helped raise funds for the national monument to deceased soldiers at Fortress Monroe. Following the war, she resumed her crusade to improve the care of prisoners, the disabled, and the mentally ill. Her first step was to review the asylums and prisons in the South to evaluate the war damage to their facilities.



April 18, 1906

San Francisco Earthquake & Fire

The 1906 San Francisco earthquake struck the coast of Northern California at 5:12 a.m. on Wednesday, April 18 with an estimated moment magnitude of 7.9. High intensity shaking was felt from Eureka on the North Coast to the Salinas Valley, an agricultural region to the south of the San Francisco Bay Area. Devastating fires soon broke out in the city and lasted for several days. Thousands of homes were dismantled. As a result, up to 3,000 people died and over 80% of the city of San Francisco was destroyed. The events are remembered as one of the worst and deadliest earthquakes in the history of the United States. The death toll remains the greatest loss of life from a natural disaster in California's history and high in the lists of American disasters.

The San Andreas Fault is a continental transform fault that forms part of the tectonic boundary between the Pacific Plate and the North American Plate. The strike-slip fault is characterized by mainly lateral motion, where the western (Pacific) plate moves northward relative to the eastern (North American) plate. This fault runs the length of California from the Salton Sea in the south to Cape Mendocino in the north, a distance of about 810 miles. The maximum observed surface displacement was about 20 feet; geodetic measurements show displacements of up to 28 feet.

The 1906 earthquake preceded the de-

velopment of the Richter magnitude scale by three decades. The most widely accepted estimate for the magnitude of the quake on the modern moment magnitude scale is 7.9; values from 7.7 to as high as 8.3 have been proposed.

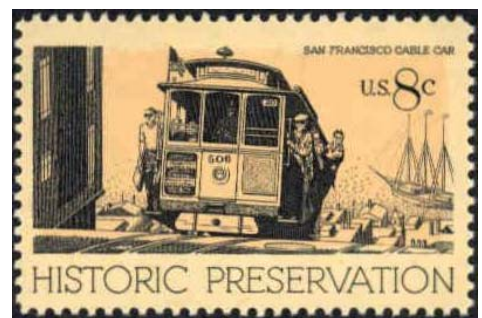


According to findings published in the Journal of Geophysical Research, severe deformations in the earth's crust took place both before and after the earthquake's impact. Accumulated strain on the faults in the system was relieved during the earthquake, which is the supposed cause of the damage along the 450-kilometer-long segment of the San Andreas plate boundary. The 1906 rupture propagated both northward and southward for a total of 296 miles. Shaking was felt from Oregon to Los Angeles, and inland as far as central Nevada.

Between 227,000 and 300,000 people were left homeless out of a population of about 410,000; half of those who

evacuated fled across the bay to Oakland and Berkeley. Newspapers described Golden Gate Park, the Presidio, the Panhandle and the beaches between Ingleside and North Beach as covered with makeshift tents. More than two years later, many of these refugee camps were still in operation.

As damaging as the earthquake and its aftershocks were, the fires that burned out of control afterward were even more destructive. It has been estimated that up to 90% of the total destruction was the result of the subsequent fires. Within three days, over 30 fires, caused by ruptured gas mains, destroyed approximately 25,000 buildings on 490 city blocks. One of the largest of these fires was accidentally started in a house on Hayes Street by a woman making breakfast for her family. This came to be known as the "Ham and Eggs Fire".



Where in the World is . . .

Venezuela? officially the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, is a country on the northern coast of South America, consisting of a continental landmass and a large number of small islands and islets in the Caribbean Sea. The capital and largest urban agglomeration is the city of Caracas. It has a territorial extension of 353,841 sq mi. The continental territory is bordered on the north by the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, on the west by Colombia, Brazil on the south, Trinidad and Tobago to the north-east and on the east by Guyana. With this last country, the Venezuelan government maintains a claim for Guayana Esequiba over an area of 61,600 sq mi. For its maritime areas, it exercises sovereignty over 27,527 sq mi of territorial waters, 8,581 sq mi in its contiguous zone, 182,050 sq mi of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean under the concept of exclusive economic zone, and 38,567 sq mi of continental shelf. This marine area borders those of 13 states. The country has extremely high biodiversity and is ranked seventh in the world's list of nations with the most number of species. There are habitats ranging from the Andes Mountains in the west to the Amazon basin rain-forest in the south via extensive *llanos* plains, the Caribbean coast and the Orinoco River Delta in the east.



Oil was discovered in the early 20th century, and today, Venezuela has the world's largest known oil reserves and has been one of the world's leading exporters of oil. Previously, the country was an underdeveloped exporter of agricultural commodities such as coffee and cocoa, but oil quickly came to dominate exports and government revenues. The 1980s oil glut led to an external debt crisis and a long-running economic crisis. Inflation peaked at 100% in 1996 and poverty rates rose to 66% in 1995 as (by 1998) per capita GDP fell to the same level as 1963, down a third from its 1978 peak. The recovery of oil prices in the early 2000s gave Venezuela oil funds not seen since the 1980s. The Venezuelan govern-

ment under Hugo Chavez then established populist social welfare policies that initially boosted the Venezuelan economy and increased social spending, temporarily reducing economic inequality and poverty in the early years of the regime. However, such populist policies later became inadequate, causing the nation's collapse as their excesses—including a uniquely extreme fossil fuel subsidy—are widely blamed for destabilizing the nation's economy. The destabilized economy led to a crisis in Bolivarian Venezuela, resulting in hyperinflation, an economic depression, shortages of basic goods and drastic increases in unemployment, poverty, disease, child mortality, malnutrition and crime. By 2017, Venezuela was declared to be in default regarding debt payments by credit rating agencies. In 2018, the country's economic policies led to extreme hyperinflation, with estimates expecting an inflation rate of 1,370,000% by the end of the year.

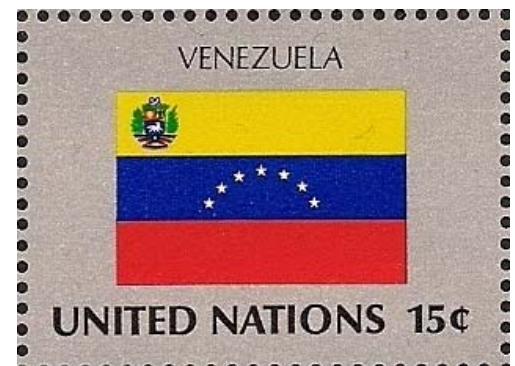


Venezuela's most significant natural resources are petroleum and natural gas, iron ore, gold, and other minerals. It also has large areas of arable land and water.

Venezuela is entirely located in the tropics over the Equator to around 12° N. Its climate varies from humid low-elevation plains, where average annual temperatures range as high as 95.0 °F, to glaciers and highlands (the *páramos*) with an average yearly temperature of 46.4 °F. Annual rainfall varies from 16.9 in in the semiarid portions of the northwest to over 39.4 in in the Orinoco Delta of the far east and the Amazonian Jungle in the south. The precipitation level is lower in the period from August through April. These periods are referred to as hot-humid and cold-dry sea-



sons. Another characteristic of the climate is this variation throughout the country by the existence of a mountain range called "Cordillera de la Costa" which crosses the country from east to west. The majority of the population lives in these mountains. Animals of Venezuela are diverse and include manatees, three-toed sloth, two-toed sloth, Amazon river dolphins, and Orinoco crocodiles, which have been reported to reach up to 22 ft in length. Venezuela hosts a total of 1,417 bird species, 48 of which are endemic. Important birds include ibises, ospreys, kingfishers, and the yellow-orange Venezuelan troupial, the national bird. Notable mammals include the giant anteater, jaguar, and the capybara, the world's largest rodent. More than half of Venezuelan avian and mammalian species are found in the Amazonian forests south of the Orinoco.



Stamp Collector's Club of Toledo

All meetings are held at the Perrysburg Masonic Building, 590 E. South Boundary, Perrysburg, OH 43551. Members begin to gather at about 6:30, with the business meeting to begin at 7:00. Programs or activities follow the business meeting. Guests are always welcome to attend.

Internet Links

Linn's www.linns.com
OPHS www.ohiopostalhistory.com
APS www.stamps.org
ATA www.americantopicalassn.org
USSS www.usstamps.org
www.stampfinder.com
www.zillionsofstamps.com

Local Shows

Blue Ribbon Show, Third Sunday, 9:30-3:30. St. Clement's Hall, 3030 Tremainsville Rd., Toledo.

The SCCT Annual Show. Friday and Saturday, February 22 & 23. 10-5 and 10-4. Holland Gardens.



A heavy load is lightened by many hands. We need you: Thursday, 21st, 11:00 at the Masonic, 12:30 at the Gardens. Back at the Gardens for meeting, 7:00. Friday, 22nd, at the Gardens early, to place exhibits, last minute set-up, and to help throughout the day. Saturday, 23rd, we need you at 9:00 for awards breakfast, throughout the day, and especially for take-down at the conclusion of the show.



Please enjoy the two days of stamps and the people who collect them at the show.

SCCT CONTACT INFORMATION

Meetings: Phoenix Masonic Lodge,
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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Stamp-Collectors-Club-of-Toledo-1372536332845589/>



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The Back Page

A Warning!

This from Stanley Gibbons Monthly, February 1, 1944.

A Warning - And this means British Collectors, too!

Our American contemporary, *Stamps*, has a very sensible note which we commend to the attention of collectors and dealers in this country, for it may apply as much over here as in the U.S.A., though if, for any reason, the import control is maintained for some time after the war we may escape the worst of the risks against which *Stamps* warns its readers. Here is the warning: — "During the past six months I have met some forty dealers in various parts of the country who intend to rush to Europe the moment peace is declared to buy everything in the way of war issues, quite convinced that such goods will completely overshadow Commemoratives, Airmails, and even U.S.A. stamps for a span of years, and that whoever gets in at the start will clean up big. One individual tells me that he has \$200,000 at his disposal for that purpose and that he expects to convert it to a cool

million inside six months. Suckers will doubtless grab everything that even faintly resembles a stamp, paying anything to get it. When four-fifths of the stuff is denied catalog listing and prices on the one-fifth that does make the grade come tumbling down to one-tenth, one-twentieth and one-fiftieth of what they were, impatient collectors will have themselves alone to blame for their losses — the importers will long since have unloaded.

"It would be a mighty fine thing if the American Stamp Dealers' Association cooperated with *Scott's*, and members agreed to handle only listed goods, but there are, of course, many dealers in our midst who are not members of the A.S.D.A. There is where the difficulty comes in. None of these measures can be effective unless they are adopted by all, and the dealers who refuse to unlisted material would only be penalizing themselves with the loss of trade that their efforts to protect the collector would throw to those dealers who take no interest in the customers' ultimate welfare. . . .

The article goes on to discuss what should and should not be listed as legitimate postage stamps. Items they felt acceptable were stamps of Axis countries and Axis occupied countries which have a legitimate postal status.

This reminds me of the old saying "caveat emptor," (Let the buyer beware). Have you ever been "sucked in" on a "stamp investment?" A good while back, I bit on \$600.00 for press sheets of the Elizabeth Coronation Anniversary omnibus issue. I have to admit that the "hype" got to me. Are they worth \$600 now? Would the dealer buy them back today for \$600? Would someone give me what I paid for them? Don't make me laugh.

At any rate, I am older (and wiser???) and am more particular in what I buy. I did get some Sand Dunes and wallpaper producing South American and African stamps for my Topical collections. It is amazing to me that some countries are even listed, as they issue THOUSANDS (plural) of stamps each year.

The bottom line is that if it is too good to be true, it probably is.