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Frogtown Philatelist

The Official Journal of the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo

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www.toledostampclub.org








December, 2018

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S.C.C.T. Officers

 President	Gene Stutzenstein
 V.P.	Charles Hablitzel
 Treasurer	Cliff Campbell
 Secretary	John Mann
 Auctioneer	Gene Stutzenstein
 Computer Whiz Kid	John Zwyer
 Newsletter	John Mann

November 1

Masonic Night

Twenty-five members were on hand to hear SCCT member and Master of Phoenix Lodge Greg Zook speak about Masonry. Thank you Brother Greg for a wonderful talk. Our non-Masonic members are now much more knowledgeable about freemasonry. Also thanks to Gene, for the display of Masonic covers, cancels

Where we've been.

and stamps. The frame was left in the Masonic Lounge for our Mason friends to enjoy.

November 15

Color & Light

Twenty members braved the rain, snow and blustery weather to come to our meeting tonight. The expert that was to speak was not available. Plan B, the alternative speaker was likewise

not available. So . . . we were stuck with a goof who knows nothing about color and light. It is amazing how much information you can find on the internet—enough that anybody can be misinformed, but still attempt to be entertaining. This was one of those programs that everyone was dumber for having sat through it. :)

Where we're going.

December 6

Auction

This will be a joint effort on the part of Charles and Gene. Charles is accumulating the auction lots, and Gene will be organizing and conducting the auction. It is another example of the fine SCCT teamwork.

Bring a bag of moolah so that you may add to your stamp collection and support our club.

December 18

Tuesday

Christmas Party

We will meet at the Hollywood Casino at 6:00 at the tables and chairs by the entrance to the Buffet. The idea is to enter as a group so that we may sit in proximity to one another. In order to get the senior discount (50 or over) you need to have a Casino card. They are free at the service desk, and only take a minute to obtain. It will save you \$\$\$\$.

A Tuesday meeting is definitely out of the ordinary, but we had to make a change for several reasons, but mainly to save money. There will be no meeting on Thursday, December 20.

- - -

The prospectus for our exhibition is now on our website. Please get your exhibit tuned up and ready to go.

- -

Thanks to Dave Plunkett for the auction lots and the resulting substantial donation to our club.

Where in the World is . . .

Paraguay?



Officially the Republic of Paraguay, it is bordered by Argentina to the south and southwest, Brazil to the east and northeast, and Bolivia to the northwest. Paraguay lies on both banks of the Paraguay River, which runs through the center of the country from north to south. Due to its central location in South America, it is sometimes referred to as *Corazón de Sudamérica* ("Heart of South America"). It is landlocked; there is no seaport on the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans. The capital city is Asunción.

Paraguay is a representative democratic republic, with a multi-party system and separation of powers in three branches. Executive power is exercised solely by the President, who is head of state and head of government. Legislative power is vested in the two chambers of the National Congress. The judiciary is vested on tribunals and Courts of Civil Law and a nine-member Supreme Court of Justice, all of them independent of the executive and the legislature.

The overall climate is tropical to subtropical. Like most lands in the region, Paraguay has only wet and dry periods. Winds play a major role in influencing Paraguay's weather: between October and March, warm winds blow from the Amazon Basin in the North, while the period between May and August brings cold winds from the Andes.

The absence of mountain ranges to provide a natural barrier allows winds to develop speeds as high as 100 mph.

Agriculture products include: cotton, sugar cane, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, cassava (tapioca), fruits, vegetables, beef, pork, milk, eggs and timber.

Industries include: sugar, cement, textiles, beverages, wood products, steel and electric power.

Paraguay has issues with money laundering, smuggling, arms and illegal narcotics trafficking and funding for extremist organizations. In addition, it is a major illicit producer of cannabis, most or all of which is consumed in Ar-



gentina, Brazil or Chile. It is also a transshipment country for Andean cocaine headed for Brazil, other South American markets and Europe.



Location of Paraguay (dark green)
in South America (grey)

Argentine journalist and author Abel Basti contends that Hitler, after initially fleeing to Argentina, escaped to Paraguay, living there until his death in February 1971. Basti and other journalists reference anecdotes about a funeral in the bunker of a German-owned hotel in Paraguay; many attendees believed they were sending Hitler off to the hereafter. And yet revisionists can point to some eerie evidence to bolster their case for the Führer's escape to South America. The only physical proof of Hitler's suicide is a fragmented skull — bullet hole and all — recovered by Red Army troops from the German leader's Berlin bunker. In 2009, DNA analysis showed the skull had belonged to a female under the age of 40. There is a television series titled *Hunting Hitler* that makes a convincing case that Hitler escaped to South America and lived in several countries there. Other Nazis escaped to South America as well via "ratlines."



December 6, 1877

Thomas Edison

On this date in 1877, Thomas Edison recorded himself reciting "Mary had a little lamb."

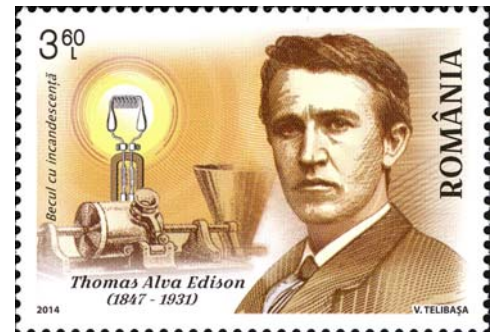
Thomas Edison and his team invented the phonograph. His first successful recording and reproduction of intelligible sounds, achieved early in December, used a thin sheet of tin foil wrapped around a hand-cranked grooved metal cylinder. Tin foil



was not a practical recording medium for either commercial or artistic purposes and the crude hand-cranked phonograph was only marketed as a novelty, to little or no profit.

The earliest practical recording technologies were entirely mechanical devices. These recorders typically used a large conical horn to collect and focus the physical air pressure of the sound waves produced by the human voice or musical instruments. A sensitive mem-

brane or diaphragm, located at the apex of the cone, was connected to an articulated scribe or stylus, and as the changing air pressure moved the diaphragm back and forth, the stylus scratched or incised an analogue of the sound waves onto a moving recording medium, such as a roll of coated paper, or a cylinder or disc coated with a soft material such as wax or a soft metal.

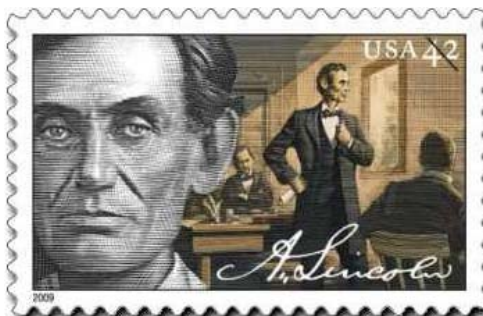


December 20, 1833

Samuel A. Mudd

December 20, 1833 - January 10, 1883) was an American physician who was imprisoned for conspiring with John Wilkes Booth in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.

Working as a doctor and tobacco farmer in Southern Maryland, Mudd used slaves and declared his belief in slavery as a God-given institution. The Civil War seriously damaged his business, especially when Maryland abolished slavery in 1864. That year, he first met Booth, who was planning to kidnap Lincoln, and Mudd was seen in company with three of the conspirators. However, his part in the plot, if any, remains unclear. After mortally wounding Lincoln on April 14, 1865, Booth rode with conspirator David Herold to Mudd's home in the early hours of April 15 for surgery on his fractured leg before he crossed into Virginia. Some time that day, Mudd must have learned of the assassination but did not report Booth's visit to the authorities for another 24 hours. That appeared to link him to the crime, as did his various changes of story under interrogation. A



military commission found him guilty of aiding and conspiring in a murder, and he was sentenced to life imprisonment, escaping the death penalty by a single vote.

Mudd was pardoned by President Andrew Johnson and released from prison in 1869. Despite repeated attempts by family members and others to have it expunged, his conviction has never been overturned.

The name Mudd became (and still is) a part of American popular culture. If you have ever heard the expression "Your name is

Mudd" or "Your name will be Mudd," It means you are or will be infamous. It is Samuel Mudd's legacy.



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.



We're on the web!

www.toledostampclub.org

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.
December 1, Fernpex, Sokol Hall, 23600 West Warren Ave., Dearborn Heights. 10:00-5:00
December 7-8, Worthington Stamp Club Show. St. Andrews's Parish, 1899 McCoy Rd., Columbus. Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-3.

SCCT CONTACT INFORMATION

Meetings: Phoenix Masonic Lodge,
590 E. South Boundary Street, Perrysburg, Ohio

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Stamp-Collectors-Club-of-Toledo-1372536332845589/>

The Back Page

Oddments en Route, by E. Stanley Gibbons, *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, May 31, 1895. (Writing about his recent trip to America.)

I feel I ought to mention the privileges of two of the principal clubs of San Francisco—viz., the Bohemian and the Pacific Union—were accorded me most kindly during my stay in the city.

Mr. Crocker possesses the best general collection in the district, and spares no trouble or outlay in adding to the same. In many countries it is practically complete. Not content with stamps, he bestows much attention on the accumulation of rare books, scarce mugs, costly Oriental rugs, and I know not what else besides. To particularise the many specially fine stamps in the in this gentleman's collection, and in others that I had the pleasure of inspecting, would, I feel sure, set many philatelists' mouths watering, so I deem it best to avoid the tender subject, and not trouble the reader with the details. The specialities most in de-

mand with the principal collectors here I found to be Great Britain and her Colonies, particularly Australian, and, as might be expected, the stamps of the United States. Especially was I surprised to find the Government reprints of the last-named greatly in request. In many cases their commercial value greatly exceeded that of the same state in its original state.

It is interesting to note that he took the Sunset Limited through the southwest and had an uneventful trip. He reported that the following day, that same train was held up and the robbers used dynamite to blow up the safe.

There are several items of this article that I find to be very interesting. Are the Bohemian and the Pacific Union stamp clubs still in existence or evolved into something named differently? Also, what is their history? We have terrific people who have researched our club. Is there anyone out there that has done the same for those clubs?

Mr. Crocker seems to be obsessive-compulsive, a trait which in my opinion fits most stamp collectors. Note

that he also collects at least three other things as well as stamps. I know I do. Music, movies, books, and model trains. It helps to look at yourself and keep everything in perspective. How many other areas to you collect, and how obsessive-compulsive are you at it?

How close are you to completing a country(ies)? Granted, the first stamps were issued in 1847, and it was only 1895. It is a daunting task to complete one of the major stamp-issuing entities nowadays.

How would you define a "principal" collector in our (or other) clubs? Can you put a name or names on them? Is a "principal" collector here not necessarily there? Although it is not in the article, how many of us are "serious" stamp collectors vs. "casual" stamp collectors vs. "accumulators"? How would you describe yourself and looking around the room at our meetings, what category would you place our members as collectors? Interesting to think about.

Last of all, being somewhat of an historian, I find primary sources fun to read. Hopefully you enjoy them, too.