



"Evolving since 1886."

Frogtown Philatelist

The Official Journal of the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo

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Where we've been.

December 6

Another successful auction. We went through one-hundred-thirty lots in just over an hour. Thank you to Gene for doing another terrific job. We appreciate the fact that it takes hours to organize, and another hour on your feet to put up with us finicky bidders. Like 007, nobody does it better!

Thanks for doing a thankless job.

December 18

The annual Christmas party at the Hollywood Casino.

A good time was had by all, enjoying a great meal at the buffet.

Here's to our membership which made 2018 a successful year for SCCT, and here's to another one in 2019.

We normally have between 25-30 members in attendance at our meetings. That means there are 55 members that we never see. There are a few that live a long way away, however there are many that are relatively close by. How can we get them to meetings? If we had an additional meeting during the day (at a free location, a senior center or suchlike) would that help? How about sharing a ride to those who may not drive after dark?

Please check the boxes that apply. Any other issues with getting to meetings? Any suggestions to facilitate more participation? Put them on the card and stick it in the mail. We need your thoughts and ideas.

Where we're going.

January 3

Another interesting and informative APS slide program, *The Story of the Penny Black*, will keep your rapt attention. Don't miss it!

Of course, it is another winter season that includes unsettled weather. Please use your judgement on attendance if the weather is questionable. Look at the crawl on channel 11. We will contact them if we cancel our meeting.

January 17

This is the one you've been waiting for! It's the dicker & deal/swap & shop/philatelic garage sale.

Bring what you would like to trade or sell and set up shop.

This was popular last year and many members participated. Let's do it again!

To continue from the column above, your thoughts and ideas are important to us. What are we doing well, and what changes for the better could we make? We need to evolve to meet the needs of our membership.

The information from the postcards will be compiled and discussed at a future meeting.

A lot of time, effort and money went in to producing the postcards. Please take a minute, fill out the postcard, and put it in the mail.

Where in the World is . . .

Uruguay?

Officially the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay is a country in the southeastern region of South America. It borders Argentina to its west and Brazil to its north and east, with the Río de la Plata (River of Silver) to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the southeast. Uruguay is home to an estimated 3.44 million people, of whom 1.8 million live in the metropolitan area of its capital and largest city, Montevideo. With an area of approximately 68,000 sq mi, Uruguay is geographically the second-smallest nation in South America, after Suriname.



Uruguay is ranked first in Latin America in democracy, peace, low perception of corruption, e-government, and is first in South America when it comes to press freedom, size of the middle class and prosperity. On a per-capita basis, Uruguay contributes more troops to United Nations peacekeeping missions than any other country. It tops the rank of absence of terrorism, a unique position within South America. It ranks second in the region on economic freedom, income equality and per-capita income.

Uruguay is an important global exporter of combed wool, rice, soybeans, frozen beef, malt and milk. Nearly 95% of Uruguay's electricity comes from renewable energy, mostly hydroelectric facilities and wind parks.

The landscape features mostly rolling



Montevideo is the southernmost capital city in the Americas, and the third most southerly in the world (only Canberra and Wellington are further south).

There are ten national parks in Uruguay: Five in the wetland areas of the east, three in the central hill country, and one in the west along the Río Uruguay.

Located entirely within a temperate zone, Uruguay has a climate that is relatively mild and fairly uniform nationwide. Seasonal variations are pronounced, but extremes in temperature are rare. As would be expected with its abundance of water, high humidity and fog are



common. The absence of mountains, which act as weather barriers, makes all locations vulnerable to high winds and rapid changes in weather as fronts or storms sweep across the country. Both summer and winter weather may vary from day to day with the passing of storm fronts, where a hot northerly wind may occasionally be followed by a cold wind (pampero) from the Argentine Pampas.

Although Uruguay was neutral in 1939, British warships and the German ship *Admiral Graf Spee* fought a battle not far off Uruguay's coast. The *Admiral Graf Spee* took refuge in Montevideo, claiming sanctuary in a neutral port, but was later ordered out.

The Battle of the River Plate was the first naval battle in the Second World War and the first one of the Battle of the Atlantic in South American waters. The German panzerschiff *Admiral Graf Spee* had cruised into the South Atlantic a fortnight before the war began, and had been commerce raiding after receiving appropriate authorization on 26 September 1939. One of the hunting groups sent by the British Admiral-



ty to search for *Graf Spee*, comprising three Royal Navy cruisers, HMS *Exeter*, *Ajax* and *Achilles* (the last from the New Zealand Division), found and engaged their quarry off the estuary of the River Plate close to the coast of Uruguay in South America.



In the ensuing battle, *Exeter* was severely damaged and forced to retire; *Ajax* and *Achilles* suffered moderate damage. The damage to *Admiral Graf Spee*, although not extensive, was critical; her fuel system was crippled. *Ajax* and *Achilles* shadowed the German ship until she entered the port of Montevideo, the capital city of neutral Uruguay, to effect urgent repairs. After *Graf Spee*'s captain Hans Langsdorff was told that his stay could not be extended beyond 72 hours, he scuttled his damaged ship rather than face the overwhelmingly superior force that the British had led him to believe was awaiting his departure.

January 3, 106 BC

Marcus Tullius (3 January 106 BC - 7 December 43 BC) was a Roman statesman, orator, lawyer and philosopher, who served as consul in the year 63 BC. He came from a wealthy municipal family of the Roman equestrian order, and is considered one of Rome's greatest orators and prose stylists.



Though he was an accomplished orator and successful lawyer, Cicero believed his political career was his most important achievement.

Cicero was elected consul for the year 63 BC. His co-consul for the year, Gaius Antonius Hybrida, played a minor role. During his year in office, he thwarted a conspiracy centered on assassinating him and overthrowing the Roman Republic with the help of foreign armed forces, led by Lucius Sergius Catilina. Cicero procured a *senatus consultum ultimum* (a declaration of martial law) and drove Catiline from the city with four vehement speeches (the Catiline Orations), which to this day remain outstanding examples of his rhetorical style.

During the chaotic latter half of the 1st century BC marked by civil wars and the dictatorship of Gaius Julius Caesar, Cicero championed a return to the traditional republican government. Following Julius Caesar's death, Cicero became an enemy of Mark Antony in the ensu-

Marcus Tullius Cicero

ing power struggle, attacking him in a series of speeches. He was proscribed as an enemy of the state by the Second Triumvirate and consequently executed by soldiers operating on their behalf in 43 BC after having been intercepted during an attempted flight from the Italian peninsula. His severed hands and head were then, as a final revenge of Mark Antony, displayed in the Roman Forum.



The Tomb of Cicero

January 17, 1773

Captain James Cook Crosses the Antarctic Circle

The second voyage of James Cook, from 1772 to 1775, commissioned by the British government with advice from the Royal Society, was designed to circumnavigate the globe as far south as possible to finally determine whether there was any great southern landmass, or Terra Australis. On his first voyage, Cook had demonstrated by circumnavigating New Zealand that it was not attached to a larger landmass to the south, and he charted almost the entire eastern coastline of Australia, yet Terra Australis was believed to lie further south. Alexander Dalrymple and others of the Royal Society still believed that this massive southern continent should exist. After a delay brought about by the botanist Joseph Banks' unreasonable demands, the ships Resolution and Adventure were fitted

for the voyage and set sail for the Antarctic in July 1772.

On 17 January 1773, Resolution was the first ship to cross the Antarctic Circle which she crossed twice more on the voyage. The third crossing, on 3 February 1774, was to be the most southerly pene-

Tahiti, the Society Islands, Niue, the Tonga Islands, the New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Palmerston Island, South Sandwich Islands, and South Georgia, many of which he named in the process. Cook proved the Terra Australis Incognita to be a myth^[4] and predicted that an Antarctic land would be found beyond the ice barrier.

On this voyage the Larcum Kendall K1 chronometer was successfully employed by William Wales to calculate longitude. Wales compiled a log book of the voyage, recording locations and conditions, the use and testing of various instruments, as well as making many observations of the people and places encountered on the voyage.



tration, reaching latitude 71° 10' South at longitude 106° 54' West. Cook undertook a series of vast sweeps across the Pacific, finally proving there was no Terra Australis by sailing over most of its predicted locations.

In the course of the voyage he visited Easter Island, the Marquesas,



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.

BIRPEX January 5 & 6. Birmingham Masonic Temple, 37357 N. Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-3.

Fill out and mail
the postcard!!!!



We're on the web!

www.toledostampclub.org

SCCT CONTACT INFORMATION

Meetings: Phoenix Masonic Lodge,
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The Back Page

Filling in the Background, by Louis Faigan, *Stanley Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, September, 1943.

When a collector begins to write up his stamps it is one of the most important steps of his philatelic life. As with all important steps it is essential that it be guided aright.

The problems which confront the novice writer up are many—what shall I write about and where can I get the information I want? These and similar questions he asks, but our two are perhaps the most important.

The answer to the first is, of course, write about the things that interest you. Write, if you like, about the people on the stamps or about the designs — why that country uses that design, or, if it is a commemorative stamp, write about the commemorated event. If they are foreign stamps it is quite a good idea to translate them. "Yes," you say, "that's all very well, but what about the perforations and watermarks and the paper and the printing, are they not the things which really matter to philatelists?"

No — these things are but the framework. Include them if you must (it is in fact best to do so), but don't forget the personality of your stamps — people are more interesting than perforations!

Men have many sides to their personalities, so have stamps. Make your albums reflect that side of your personality which you can't reflect elsewhere. If you like murders, write up your stamps letting the murder aspect predominate. It's quite easy and much more interesting.

And now to come to the next question—Where can I get my information? Well, the best sources are the libraries. For information on industrial subjects one of the best sources is the library of the Patent Office. This place is a perfect mine of facts and figures, and it is a free library open to all. Another useful feature is its collection of dictionaries for translation work. Other libraries are those attached to the museums. The one at Victoria and Albert specializes in artistic and domestic subjects, and of course, the ones at the British Museum. These libraries, however, are rather difficult to get into.

The article goes on to name other various arcane places to acquire information for stamp write-ups.

The last paragraph: It is quite a good plan to preface the section you are writing up with a few general notes and perhaps some photographs, maps or drawings. If the section consists of a country, you can write about its history, but do try and make your album an interesting and intimate part of your life, not just a catalogue with stamps in it.

With the advent of the Age of Information, it is much easier to obtain stuff to add to your write-ups. The issue now is knowing where to look and how to query what you are looking for. It may not be as easy as you might think. Of course, the bestest and most comprehensive vault of philatelic information is the APS library in Bellefonte, PA. You may contact them easily via your computer.

The Scott Specialized is packed with information regarding U.S. stamps. Where do you go for detailed foreign stamp information?