



"Evolving since 1886."

Frogtown Philatelist

The Official Journal of the Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo

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

www.toledostampclub.org

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH!!

"There was a scare at an atomic bomb factory the other day. Because of a money crunch, they were told to drop everything."

Milton Berle



Texaco Star Theater
Comedian Milton Berle worked successfully in radio and film before moving to TV, where he became the new medium's first superstar. His show was known for his clowning, often in outlandish costume, and for the quartet that sang the sponsor's jingle ("Oh, we're the men of Texaco..."). Berle became known as "Mr. Television" and was credited with driving up television sales.

Where we've been.

April 7

Due to the fact that the auction was so big—150 lots- we conducted no business to-night. This particular auction had been postponed twice before; third time the charm. It only took an hour and twenty minutes to get through it all. Thanks to Gene and all the bidders who helped make the auction a success. The seller's premium helps to keep our club financially viable. Now election of officers has been postponed. The next attempt will be at the April 21 meeting. We had twenty-eight members on hand. By the way, a show of hands was overwhelmingly in favor of bringing the traditional end-of-the-year picnic back for the June 2 meeting date. Details

forthcoming at the May meetings.

April 21

Acquisition of stamps. John Z. We went surfing for stamps. He did a terrific job of giving us the ins and outs of e-bay, USPS, APS, Bardo (one of the dealers at our show), and the stamp auction network. The net is a vast area for stamp collectors to mine for treasures. Thanks, John.

We finally got our elections in! Here's to continued success for next year.

President: Jim L.
Vice President: Charles H.
Treasurer: Cliff C.
Secretary: John M.
At Large Board: Jack T. & John Z.

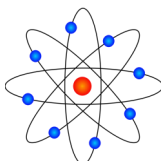
Where we're going.

May 5

Join us on this date for an informative program on "Atomic Stamps"

- ◆ Early scientists
- ◆ The Bomb
- ◆ Hiroshima/ Nagasaki
- ◆ End the War Stamps
- ◆ Testing
- ◆ Test ban
- ◆ Peaceful Uses
- ◆ Fusion?

are just some of the areas that will be touched on.



May 19

The Granddaddy of All Auctions will highlight this meeting. The Annual SCCT Season-ending Auction is always a source of some good material. All lots minimum bid \$5.00. Don't miss it.

PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR PHONE OR PUT IT ON VIBRATE. IF YOU MUST TAKE A CALL PLEASE STEP OUT TO THE HALL!!!



June 2

Join us in Perrysburg For our annual season ending picnic. The club will supply the fried chicken and beverage and members are asked to bring a dish to pass around.

We will also have a drawing for items members donate valued at at least \$5.00.



Topic of the Month: Tulips

May flowers from April showers!

ATA Flowers/Plants—Tulips.
List 209, Topic count 140

The tulip was different from other flowers known to Europe at that time, because of its intense saturated petal color. The appearance of the nonpareil tulip as a status symbol coincides with the rise of newly independent Holland's trade fortunes. No longer the Spanish Netherlands, its economic resources could now be channeled into commerce and the country embarked on its Golden Age. Amsterdam merchants were at



the center of the lucrative East Indies trade, where one voyage could yield profits of 400%. As a result, tulips rapidly became a coveted luxury item, and a profusion of varieties

followed. They were classified in groups: the single-hued tulips of red, yellow, or white were known as *Couleren*; the multicolored *Rosen* (white streaks on a red or pink background); *Violetten* (white streaks on a purple or lilac background); and the rarest of all, the *Bizarren* (*Bizarres*), (yellow or white streaks on a red, brown or purple background). The multicolour effects of intricate lines and flame-like streaks on the petals were vivid and spectacular, making the bulbs that produced these even more exotic-looking plants highly sought-after. It is now known that this effect is due to the bulbs being infected with a type of tulip-specific mosaic virus, known as the "tulip breaking virus", so called because it "breaks" the one petal colour into two or more.

Growers named their new varieties with exalted titles. Many early forms were prefixed *Admiraal* ("admiral"), often combined with the growers' names: *Admiraal van der Eijck*, for example, was perhaps the most highly regarded of about fifty so named. *Generael* ("general") was

another prefix used for around thirty varieties. Later varieties were given even more extravagant names, derived from Alexander the Great or Scipio, or even "Admiral of Admirals" and "General Generals". Naming could be haphazard and varieties highly variable in quality. Most of these varieties have now died out.



Tulips grow from bulbs and can be propagated through both seeds and buds. Seeds from a tulip will form a flowering bulb after 7–12 years. When a bulb grows into the flower, the original bulb will disappear, but a clone bulb forms in its place, as do several buds. Properly cultivated, these buds will become flowering bulbs of their own, usually after a couple of years. The tulip breaking virus spreads only through buds, not seeds, and propagation is greatly slowed down by the virus. Cultivating the varieties that were most appealing at the time therefore takes years. In the Northern Hemisphere, tulips bloom in April and May for about one week. During the plant's dormant phase from June to September, bulbs can be uprooted and



moved about, so actual purchases (in the spot market) occurred during these

months. During the rest of the year, *florists*, or tulip traders, signed contracts before a notary to buy tulips at the end of the season (effectively futures contracts). Thus the Dutch, who developed many of the techniques of modern finance, created a market for tulip bulbs, which were durable goods. Short selling was banned by an edict of 1610, which was reiterated or strengthened in 1621 and 1630, and again in 1636. Short sellers were not prosecuted under these edicts, but futures contracts were deemed unenforceable, so traders could repudiate deals if faced with a loss.

Tulip mania was a period during the Dutch Golden Age when contract prices for some bulbs of the recently introduced and fashionable tulip reached extraordinarily high levels, with the major acceleration starting in 1634 and then dramatically collapsing in February 1637. It is generally considered to have been the first recorded speculative bubble or asset bubble in history. In many ways, the tulip mania was more of a then-unknown socio-economic phenomenon than a significant economic crisis. It had no critical influence on the prosperity of the Dutch Republic,



which was one of the world's leading economic and financial powers in the 17th century, with the highest per capita income in the world from about 1600 to about 1720. The term "tulip mania" is now often

used metaphorically to refer to any large economic bubble when asset prices deviate from intrinsic values.

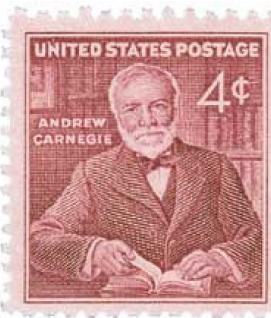
Formal futures markets appeared in the Dutch Republic during the 17th century. Among the most notable centred on the tulip market, at the height of tulip mania. At the peak of tulip mania, in February 1637, some single tulip bulbs sold for more than 10 times the annual income of a skilled artisan. Research is difficult because of the limited economic data from the 1630s, much of which come from biased and speculative sources. Some modern economists have proposed rational explanations, rather than a speculative mania, for the rise and fall in prices. For example, other flowers, such as the hyacinth, also had high initial prices at the time of their introduction, which then fell as the plants were propagated. The high asset prices may also have been driven by expectations of a parliamentary decree that contracts could be voided for a small cost, thus lowering the risk to buyers.

To this day they still apply exalted names to tulips, iris and other flowers and plants.



May 5, 1891

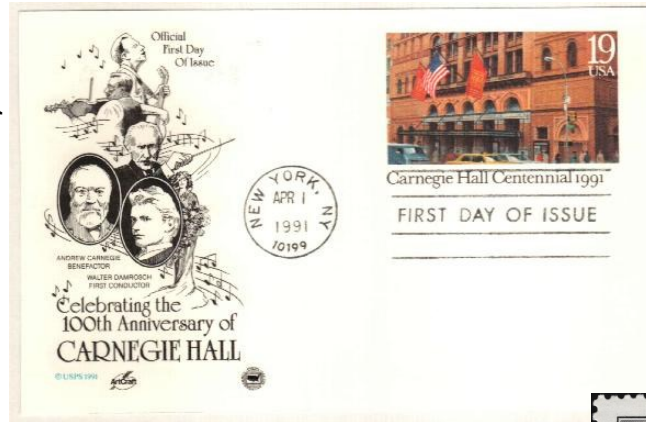
Carnegie Hall Opens



Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie was inspired to build Carnegie Hall by his new wife, Louise, who sang

with the Oratorio Society of New York. While on a honeymoon cruise to Scotland in 1887, Louise and Walter Damrosch-conductor of the Symphony Society of New York and the Oratorio Society, who was also on his way to Europe-asked Carnegie to create a new home for music in New York City. The hall was designed by William Burnet Tuthill, a professional

architect and cellist who had never built a concert hall before.



When the Hall's cornerstone was laid in 1891, Andrew Carnegie proclaimed that "it is probable that this hall will intertwine itself with the history of our coun-

try." This was true from the start when it opened on May 5, 1891, with a spectacular concert that featured famed Russian composer Pyotr Ilych Tchiakovsky, conducting his own music in his American debut. Since then, its walls have echoed with applause not only for the greatest classical, jazz, and popular musicians, but also for the foremost comedians, authors, social crusaders, world figures and orators of our time.



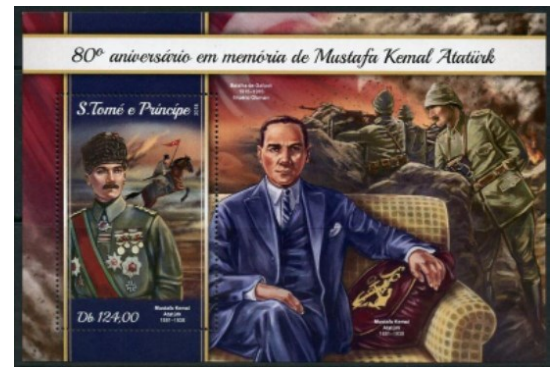
May 19, 1881

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

Kamâl Atatürk, a.k.a Mustafa Kemal Pasha until 1934, commonly referred to as Mustafa Kemal Atatürk; c. 1881 – 10 November 1938) was a Turkish field marshal, revolutionary statesman, author, and the founding father of the Republic of Turkey, serving as its first president from 1923 until his death in 1938. He undertook sweeping progressive reforms, which modernized Turkey into a secular, industrializing nation. Ideologically secularist and nationalist, his policies and socio-political theories be-

came to be known as Kemalism. Due to his military and political accomplishments, Atatürk is regarded as one of the most important political leaders of the 20th century.

Atatürk came to prominence for his role in securing the Ottoman Turkish victory at the Battle of Gallipoli (1915) during World War I. Following the defeat and dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, he led the Turkish National Movement,



which resisted mainland Turkey's partition among the victorious Allied powers. He subsequently proceeded to abolish the decrepit Ottoman Empire and proclaimed the foundation of the Turkish Republic in its place.



Establishing a provisional government in the present-day Turkish capital Ankara (known in English at the time as Angora), he defeated the forces sent by the Allies, thus emerging victorious from what was later referred to as



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.americantopical.org
USSS	www.usstamps.org
WOPA+	www.wopa-plus.com
	www.hipstamp.com

www.ebay.com (search for anything/what you are looking for, category/drop down to stamps). Click search.

Local Shows

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

Don't forget the picnic June 2! We will be back at the same park, at South Boundary and 795.

Plan on being there, rain or shine; we are under the roof!

Now is a good time to plan on what to bring. We supply chicken, soda pop and paper eating supplies.

There will be a sign-up sheet at May meetings. —a little variety is nice.



We're on the web!

www.toledostampclub.org

SCCT CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Mailing: Stamp Collectors Club of Toledo, PO Box 2, Maumee, Ohio 43537-0002

Web Site: www.toledostampclub.org

Email: John6125@earthlink.net
webmaster@toledostampclub.org

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

The Back Page

Stamp Collecting as Metaphor for the Free Market

By Matthew Wills, December 25, 2020.

From: daily.jstor.org

The history of hobbies shows that leisure is never as innocently ahistorical as insiders, and outsiders alike, may think. The development of stamp collecting, the quintessential hobby, was inextricably bound up with the marketplace and capitalism's conjoined notions of work and leisure, writes scholar Steven M. Gelber.

In the mid-nineteenth century, "stamp collectors were acutely self-conscious of the ways in which their activity mimicked the real world of commerce." Gelber argues that in collecting stamps, philatelists took on "the roles of the essential middleman of capitalism: those who bought and sold the products that others produced." Collectors likewise "produced nothing of concrete value themselves, but their mutual demand for a finite supply of stamps made their pastime the perfect free market metaphor."

The first national postage stamps were issued by the United Kingdom, in 1840. Other nations followed suit. The first in the United States came out in 1847. The original stamp collectors were women and children more interested in the aesthetics than the economics of stamps: "The world's first collector was apparently an English woman who advertised for stamps in 1841 to cover her dressing room walls." Such behavior would be considered contemptible by the white, middle-class men who began to dominate the field in the 1860s.

Significantly, "what appears to be one of the earliest modern uses" of the word "hobbies," as in a leisure-time activity, is an 1871 stamp-collecting reference book. Before this, a "hobby" was any preoccupation, "whether or not it was a leisure-time activity." Collecting in general was "not perceived to be a distinct form of leisure until the second half of the nineteenth century," stresses Gelber.

Stamp collecting became a hobby not as "compensation" for the stresses of daily working life for middle-class men, but "out of a congruence" with the way industrial society ordered "social and economic relationships." And, as Gelber notes, others have argued that working-class hobbies shared a similarity with blue-collar jobs: manufacturing in the factory, then handicrafts in the shed.

"Even when the collector felt he was escaping from some limiting element of his job, he was nevertheless participating in a performance of meta-values that defined the very job he thought he was escaping."

