



"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

September, 2022

Vol. 6, #1

Inside this issue:

Native Dress	2
Liberty Bell Arrives	3
Marco Polo	3
Local Show Information	4
The Back Page	4

Quote of the Month

"That which is not measurable is not science. That which is not physics is stamp collecting."

Ernest Rutherford
The Father of Nuclear Physics

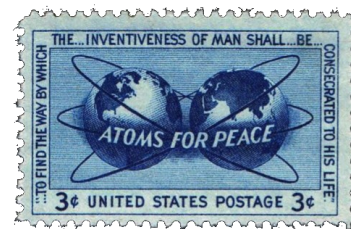


Where we've been.

We finished up our regular meeting schedule in the month of May with a program about stamps in the nuclear era. It was about nuclear scientists, development of nuclear weapons and nuclear power, and countries that are in possession of nuclear weapons and those that are capable of developing them. There are numerous stamps that commemorate people, events and politics related to atomic power. Not to mention the popular culture of the Atomic Age. This month's quote of the month is from the program. The last meeting in May was the season-ending super auction. There were over 150 lots. Gene did his usual su-

perb job of moving it along, enabling us to get out of there at a respectable hour.

We ended the stamp collecting season at our annual picnic at the park. It was good to see our stamp collecting friends that had been missing for awhile. We are glad to have them back after all the turmoil that had been going around us for so long.



Where we're going.

September 1

We will not be doing our usual six-item sell-it-yourself kick-off this year. In its place will be an SCCT closet-cleaning auction of stuff that has been accumulating in the back room for quite some time. There will be something for everyone. Don't miss it.

September 15

Now we do the traditional six item sell it yourself. Bring in six of your surplus stamp items to sell.

A reminder that we will be doing **THREE ITEM** sell it yourself preceding our regularly scheduled meetings, with the exception of auction nights and



Christmas party.



We got football!

September 1

Liberty Bell Arrives Philadelphia

In 1751, the Province of Pennsylvania sought a bell for its State House to "call the public together." Key members of the Pennsylvania Assembly sent a letter to their London-based colonial agent, Robert Charles, to make an appropriate purchase. Charles found a source: Whitechapel Bell Foundry. Established in 1570 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, the foundry is currently the oldest existing British manufacturing company. As it does today, in the 1700s the foundry specialized in casting and forging bells and their associated fittings.

Just 10 months after Pennsylvania sent its request, September 1, 1752, the new Bell arrived in Philadelphia. Weighing about a ton, the Bell measured roughly 12 feet around the bottom lip and seven-and-a-half feet around its crown.

But, the Bell had a difficult start. It was not hung for six months, and when finally placed into position at the State House steeple in March 1753, the Bell

cracked on the first test stroke of its clapper.

Some blamed flaws in the Bell's casting. Others complained the metal was too brittle. Whitechapel's own history describes the American reaction this way: "(t)hey did not appreciate that Bell metal is brittle and relies on this to a great extent for its freedom of tone."

Two Philadelphia foundry workers, John Pass and John Stow, then offered to recast the Bell. Upon melting it down for recasting, the two tried to make the new Bell less brittle by adding an ounce-and-a-half of copper to each pound of material from the old Bell.

The result was less than spectacular. Hung in April of 1753, the new Bell's tone displeased many. Soon afterward, it was sent back to Pass and Stow.

In June, 1753, a third version of the Bell was hung in the State House steeple, and tested. The tone was not much

better, according to Assembly Speaker Isaac Norris. In fact, he went so far as to urge Whitechapel in London to cast another Bell for his provincial capital. The new Whitechapel Bell arrived in May, 1754. It also suffered bad reviews. Most agreed it sounded no better than Pass and Stow's second recasting of the original Whitechapel Bell.

Some 200 years later, during America's bicentennial anniversary of its independence from Great Britain, the Whitechapel Bell Foundry was commissioned by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British government to cast the Bicentennial Bell, which resides in Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia and bears the inscription:

FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FROM THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN
4 JULY 1976
LET FREEDOM RING



September 15, 1254

Marco Polo a Venetian merchant, explorer, and writer who traveled through Asia along the Silk Road between 1271 and 1295. His travels are recorded in *The Travels of Marco Polo* (also known as *Book of the Marvels of the World* and *Il Milione*, c. 1300), a book that described to Europeans the then mysterious culture and inner workings of the Eastern world, including the wealth and great size of the Mongol Empire and China in the Yuan Dynasty, giving their first comprehensive look into China, Persia, India, Japan and other Asian cities and countries.



Though he was not the first European to reach China, Marco Polo was the first to leave a detailed chronicle of his experience. This account of the Orient provided the Europeans with a clear picture of the East's geography and ethnic customs, and was the first Western record of porcelain, coal, gunpowder, paper money, and some Asian plants and exotic animals. His travel book inspired Christopher Columbus and many other travelers.

Marco Polo the game: Rumor has it that this simple game originated aboard a ship in the 12th century as a way for sailors to pass the time. The rules are fairly simple. One person is chosen to be "it" and they close their eyes and get in one end of the swimming pool. They count to

Marco Polo Birthday

10 and shout "Marco," and all the others in the pool shout "Polo." The one that shouts "Marco" has to try and catch one of the people who shouts "Polo". Whoever is "it" must keep their eyes closed. Marco can be shouted as much as possible. Once he/she catches a person, then that person is now "it" and they trade places.

There are endless variations! You can stipulate that everyone has to stay in the pool, or that each person may leave the water once. In this case, a "fish out of water" may be called out by Marco and have to become "it."



Topic of the Month: Cultural Dress

ATA topic: culture, costumes, folk List id #174, # of items 1017

If the costume is used to represent the culture or identity of a specific ethnic group, it is usually known as ethnic costume (also ethnic dress, ethnic wear, ethnic clothing, traditional

special events or celebrations; particularly those connected with cultural traditions, heritage or pride. International events may cater for non-Western attendees with a compound dress code such as "business suit or national dress". (Ethnic garment).



ethnic wear or traditional folk costume (also regional costume, national costume, traditional garment, or traditional regalia) expresses an identity through costume, which is usually associated with a geographic area or a period of time in history. It can also indicate social, marital or religious status. If the costume is used to represent the culture or identity of a specific ethnic group, it is usually known as ethnic costume (also ethnic dress, ethnic wear, ethnic clothing, traditional ethnic wear or traditional ethnic garment). Such costumes often come in two forms: one for everyday occasions, the other for traditional festivals and formal wear.

models for all that appeared genuine and desirable. Their dress crystallized into so-called "typical" forms, and enthusiasts adopted that attire as part of their symbolism.

In areas where Western dress codes have become usual, traditional garments are often worn at



Following the rise of romantic nationalism, the pre-industrial peasantry of Europe came to serve 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.
USPS - has a website, just Google it. (Like all things government, it isn't all that easy to navigate.)

Local Shows

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

Regional Precancel Show, McKinley Eagles 5024 Montecello Ave., NW, Canton, Ohio, Friday, Sept. 30, 9-9, Saturday, Oct. 1, 9-3

KENTPEX 2022 Neal Fonger American Legion Post #179 2327 Wilson Ave. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534, Oct 22 (10am - 5pm) Oct 23 (10am - 3pm) Contact: William Sobotka, Phone: (616)-531-3295, E-mail: billsobotka@prodigy.net
FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/Kent-Philatelic-Society-172206859599777/events>

AAPEX 2022 Morris Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, Contact: Michael Homel, Phone: 734-369-2499 Website: <http://annarborstampclub.org/> Email: arbor@provide.net, Nov 4 (10am to 5pm) -Nov 5 (10am to 3pm) NOTE FRIDAY & SATURDAY Bourse only NO EXHIBITS



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

16 surprising facts about the U.S. Post Office

These are taken from the book *How the Post Office Created America*, by Winifred Gallagher (Penguin Press, 2016).

For starters, did you know that the postmaster general earns more than the vice-president.

The U.S. postal system was officially established on July 26, 1775 and has been an integral part of American society ever since.

1. The first post office was in a bar. The very first post office in colonial America was established in 1639 in the Boston home- which was also a tavern that sold "strong water"-of a man named Richard Fairbanks.

2. American newspapers owe their existence to the post office. As part of the Post Office Act of 1792, newspapers-which were seen by the Founding Fathers as essential for maintaining an educated citizenry by spreading information-were permitted to be mailed at ex-

tremely low rates. The result: by the start of the 19th century, newspapers made up the bulk of the U>S. mail. In 1840, 91 percent of white American adults could read, and this impressive literacy rate was attributed in part to the widespread availability of newspapers.

3. The same Post Office Act imposed the harshest penalties-death!-on mail thieves. Because the U.S. mail was the only official way to send money, this severe punishment was less a reflection of the government's cruelty and more an indication of the importance of safe postal delivery. Congress soon reconsidered, and in 1799, stealing mail for first-time offenders was punishable by a public whipping and a prison sentence of up to 10 years. However, second offenders were still subject to death, which was unchanged until 1872.

4. The Postmaster General was once a semi-celebrity.

The job was viewed as so critical to a young United States that John McLean, Postmaster General from 1823 to 1829, reported directly to President James Monroe and then to President John Quincy Adams. His next position after Postmaster General? U.S. Supreme Court Justice. In later years, he was viewed as a serious presidential candidate.

5. For 141 years, getting a job at the U.S. Post office Department depended on one thing: connections. Beginning with Thomas Jefferson's presidency (1801-1809) it became a tradition for the winning candidate to fire a significant swath of federal employees and replace them with party loyalists. When Andrew Jackson was elected in 1828, he went further and tied this political perk to the Post Office Department, which at the time accounted for 75 percent of all federal employees. This practice continued until 1969 when it was abolished by Richard Nixon.

To be continued in the October issue.