

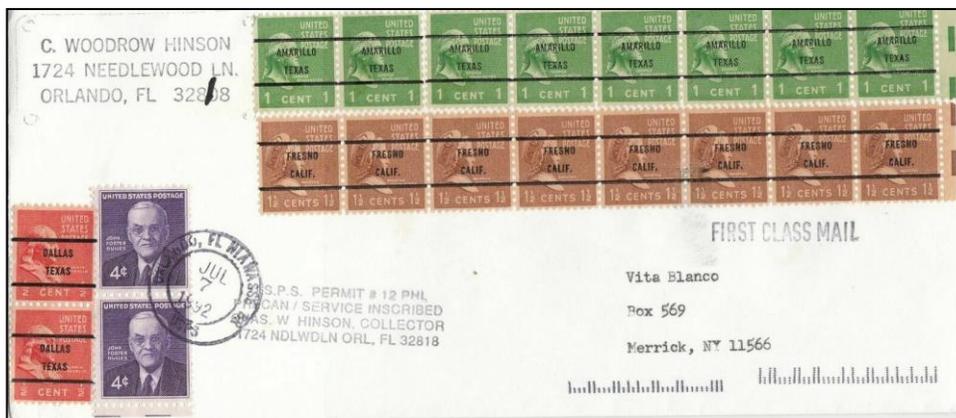
# What Do Two Navy Master Chief Petty Officers Have to Do with the CFSC?

by Phil Fetting

Steve Patrick found a cover on eBay that originated from a former club member and brought it to my attention. I not only remembered him well, but immediately pointed out to Steve and Francis that we had two members with very similar backgrounds. The cover, while neat in some respects, is pictured below.

Two of our departed members from the 1960s and the 1990s had a lot more in common other than a love of stamp collecting. Some club members will remember them, most will not.

Wade Beery was a retired Master Chief Yeoman and later served as an officer (Yeoman is the Navy's administrative job title). Later in his career he served as an "Admiral's Writer". This meant Wade was the office manager, and in many respects, almost as important as the Admiral, especially if you wanted to get through the office door. His professional skills as an administrator served Wade well in his philatelic life. During his long membership in the CFSC, Wade served as Secretary for a total of 16 years during 1974-1999 and wrote the club newsletter. He also served the Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs for three years as Editor of the Florida Philatelist. Wade's collecting interest centered around Iceland and he was the Secretary of the Scandinavian Philatelic Society for a period of time.



A scan from the eBay web site showing a Hinson mailing from the Hiwassee Branch post office using pre-cancelled stamps under his mailing permit. The seller is located in Sussex, The United Kingdom.

**[One must wonder how this cover ended up in the U.K.]**

Charles Woodrow Hinson was a member until sometime in the 1990s.

Woody, as he was known, was also a retired Master Chief Yeoman. Woody collected U.S. stamps and had the bug to become a dealer, although that never happened. What Woody did accomplish was volunteer a lot of time and effort into visiting schools to talk about stamps. He also was a long-time volunteer at the "Give Kids the World Village" in Kissimmee, sharing his knowledge of collecting while trying to bring a little happiness in the life of children facing life-threatening illness.

Both were active members of the CFSC, and I learned from each of them. I had to learn - they both outranked me as I retired a mere Chief Yeoman!

(Background information was gratefully obtained from the CFSC and FLOREX websites, and special thanks to Steve Patrick for the idea behind this article)

# What are the odds of this happening?

by Phil Fetting

Life is sometimes stranger than fiction. Pictured to the left are two copies of The United States Specialist which is a monthly publication of the wonderful United States Stamp Society. This is the premier group for collectors of the classic United State stamps. I have been a member for 20 years (and have the pin to prove it) – as are a number of members of the CFSC. The recent mailing for May caused an interesting situation to occur.

Phil Fetting received his copy of the May issue with another addressed copy “stuffed” inside. The second copy is addressed to Todd Hause. Todd is known to me – and our Editor. What are the odds of this happening? The following email exchange is provided for your amusement.

**From Phil Fetting to Todd Hause:**

*“Good Evening Todd,*

*I hope you are not sitting home wondering where your May Issue of the Specialist is. I have it and am considering holding it for Ransom! Maybe 10 used hinges and a bent pair of tongs?*

*I picked up a large group of mail out of my box and did not look until I got home. I was running*

*about 2 hours later than I wanted to be and just wanted lunch and a nap! Later on -- while going through the pile I realized my Specialist appeared thick and had pages sticking out. That would be caused by yours being placed in the middle of mine! No damage, just a major misroute by the USPS. Tomorrow I will try to start it back to you.*

*I am sending a copy of this to Fergie as he loves stories like this. Just imagine - who knows where this mistake was made, but what are the percentages that we know each other?”*

**Todd’s reply to Phil:** *“Wow, talk about good fortune. I’ll put the bent tongs in the mail, but I can’t let the used hinges go, sorry.”*



**[Editor’s note: The United States Stamp Society is a must join group if you are a collector or admirer of classic U.S. stamps. The wealth of information that is contained in the monthly journal is wonderful. Adding even more is the website <https://www.usstamps.org> -- I consider this a priority read when it shows up in the mailbox. If you are not a member – join today!]**