

Our Dalmatian Coast Adventure

By Mel Borofsky

The Dalmatian Coast incorporates a large portion of the former Yugoslavia, a part of the world that neither my wife Michele nor I had ever visited. Our trip started in Slovenia, the town of Bled. The view from our hotel room was a fairyland vista, a large, blue lake with a church sitting on the only island in Slovenia. A circa 1300 AD castle high on a hill overlooked the entire scene.

The remainder of the trip was one gorgeous scene after another. We visited Croatia, Montenegro, Albania and the Peloponnesian peninsula of Greece.

A very special part of our trip was our visit to the city of Split, in Croatia. We were met by club members George and Olga Vucemilovic. Split is their hometown when they are residing in Croatia. They graciously showed us their hometown as only a resident could. Split is a mix of very new and modern buildings and older buildings remaining from the Yugoslavia era.

A special treat was a visit to George's cousins, a retired pediatrician and his wife, a retired dentist. His cousin had a remarkable stamp collection, heavily into French postage. He was very proud and excited to show off his collection and I was equally appreciative of his time and courtesy. He belongs to a small stamp club in Split and he acquires his stamps through trades at club meetings. He does not have access to internet dealers. There are no active stamp dealers in Split. Through George, acting as translator, we discussed my collection and our mutual preference for engraved stamps. I told him about my "obscure" Canadian revenue collection and their fine engravings. I promised to send him some of my dupes on my return to Florida. (Which I did.)



Olga, Mel and George in front of our ship, the "Athena."



Michele and Olga on the Split waterfront.

George and Olga were fine hosts and Michele and I are grateful for the time they spared for our visit. We spent some moments in an open air café and to commemorate our visit we addressed post cards to some members of the club. On parting, George and Olga presented us with mementos of our visit. Much thanks to George and Olga for a memorable afternoon in Croatia.

Youth Night – Summer 2014

by Randall Priest

On July the 17th we celebrated another Youth Night. The program was the story of a stray dog that became the mascot for the U.S. Post Office from around 1890 to 1897. His name was 'Owney', and in 2011 the U.S. Post Office issued a stamp to honor him. Our Youth Night was attended by only one of the four junior members on our roster. Her name is Anna Gruver. After the story was told, Anna was



given the book that tells the whole story. To close Youth Night we pour stamps on the table and I call out items, people or different subjects that can be found on stamps. In order for Anna to have some help and to involve everyone else, we dumped stamps on all of the tables so everyone could look for the thing that I called out to find. I think that some adults had a great time looking for things I called out and also other items of interest. Sarah and I wish to thank one and all for your support to our Youth Programs.

