

#699
August 1968



THE COVER STORY

Gee Whiz!

Non-Denominated United States Postage Stamps

 3¢ "G" make-up Scott 2877 • 1994	 3¢ "G" make-up Scott 2878 • 1994	 20¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2879 • 1994	 20¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2880 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2881 • 1994
 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2882 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2883 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2884 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2885 • 1994	
 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2886 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2887 • 1994	 25¢ "G" First-Class Presort Scott 2888 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2889 • 1994	
 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2890 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2891 • 1994	 32¢ "G" Old Glory Scott 2892 • 1994	 5¢ "G" Nonpro:1 Presort Scott 2893 • 1994	

American Philatelic Society, www.stamps.org

Official Mail USA

Non-denominated page -9

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www.CentralFloridaStampClub.org

Upcoming Schedule— 2025

**** CFSC has the room available for Pre-meeting use from 2-4pm on both the first and third Thursday of the month for the coming year. CFSC members are welcome to use the room, catalogs and equipment during that time. The GPS will be meeting on the third Thursday of the month during the 2-4pm time period.**

*** Pre meeting Dinner Plans:

Club members are invited to meet for dinner prior to the meeting on **April 3rd at the Anh Hong restaurant 1124 E. Colonial Ave** and on **April 17 at IHOP at 646 E. Colonial Drive** at 4:30pm. Bring your appetite & topics for discussion.

Upcoming Meetings:

April 3: Agenda: a “Called Auction” & a door prize will be available.

April 17: Agenda: A presentation titled “United Fruit Great White Fleet” by John Gehrig; followed by a silent auction and a door prize will be available.

Recap of last Month’s meetings:

March 6: 36 members and 2 guests attended the meeting. A presentation & review of some new U.S. & worldwide stamp issues, followed by a “Members Show & Tell” - Thanks, Mike Smith, Phil Fettig, Steve Patrick, Francis Ferguson & Mike Schumacher. Ron Aguilera won the door prize. A silent auction was conducted: 15 lots sold with total sales of \$152.50. GPS met before the meeting and 11 members gathered for dinner before the meeting.

March 20: 35 members attended the meeting; an awesome presentation titled: “Florida Postal History: Moving the Mail Through Central Florida Rail Roads” was given by Steve Patrick; a silent auction was conducted 34 lots sold with total sales of \$245.25; door prize was won by Steve Patrick and Ray Larson won a certificate for the Maitland Show. First quarter birthday’s were celebrated and Jeff Small won the prize for that.



Boston International Stamp Expo

May 23-31, 2026

Boston, Massachusetts

More info at: <https://boston2026.org>

Hotel rooms can now be booked.

Newest Members

Welcome to our newest member(s):

Welcome back **Daniel Bouw** member # 686!

Who will be the next to join CFSC?

Who will be new member # 778?

SHOW SCHEDULE:

Maitland 2025 Stamp Shows

Venue at the Lake Maitland Civic Center
641 Maitland Ave. S. Maitland FL 32751

April 5, 2025 10am—3:30pm

June 7, 2025 10am—3:30pm

September 6, 2025 10am—3:30pm

FLOREX 2025 December 5-6, 2025

Show cachet theme to be determined

Friday 10am-5pm & Saturday 10am-4pm

Tommy Lawrence Arena

Volusia County Fairgrounds—Deland, FL

More info:

www.FLOREXStampShow.com

Quoted:

“The most interesting thing about a postage stamp is the persistence with which it sticks to its job.”

Oliver Napoleon Hill

(Who is Oliver Napoleon Hill, you ask?)



(He was an American self-help author, best known for book, “Think and Grow Rich.”)

The Editor’s Box

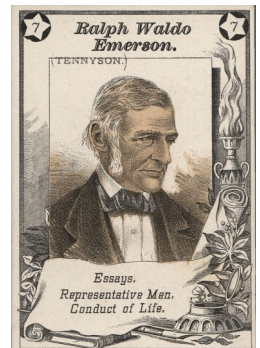


Philatelic Missive Newsletter articles needed!

Articles can be submitted via a word document with scans and attached to an email. Thank you!!

Submit articles to: Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org

Have you submitted your article yet? Now is a good time!



President's Message by Francis Ferguson

This & That -- Part 2

The philatelic season is still happening as the summer doldrums are approaching quickly. The next local show is scheduled for April 5 -- followed the next day by our ever-popular Spring Picnic. We hope to see one and all – it will be a busy weekend.

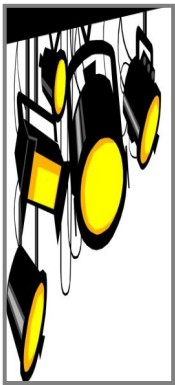
In recent weeks we have welcomed back two members who dropped membership a number of years ago for reasons related to work and family. Both have returned to our club. This is a strong testament to the endurance of the club and the need for philatelic comradery. For 25 years I have looked forward to my twice a month adventure with like minded philatelic folks. It simply does not matter that they collect a different area than I do, they understand the basic need to be a stamp collector. It is fulfilling in ways that a non-collector doesn't understand. We get it!

Over the many decades that the club has been in existence there has always been ups/downs, however the club has always survived. This is another strong testament to the resilience of the club. As time passes people come and people go – this brings new ideas and new vitality to the workings of the club. All of this is good for the continuity of the club as time marches on and norms change.

Do I believe the club will be around in 25 years? 50 years? Yes. There will always be a core group of people who have a “collecting gene”. Every one of our members has exactly that. I really do not see that ever changing. Whether you collect stamps, coins, trading cards, or even cars – everyone expresses their need to collect.

Who will be involved in the leadership of the club in the years to come? Be part of the solution.

Be well, be safe and above all else be kind.



Member Spotlight— JOHN T. SNOW

HOW I BECAME A STAMP COLLECTOR

It must have been when I was about 4 or 5 years old. We lived in Whitman, Mass., a suburb of Boston, where H.E. Harris was located. My father was a stamp collector and he showed me some of his collection – mostly newer US in plate blocks and FDCs. Pretty neat J! He took me to the Post Office and together we bought some stamps, and soon I had a small, beginner's stamp album from H.E. Harris. Soon I was running to the post office frequently to buy the new stamps as they came out (a plate block for Dad and two singles, one each for him and me).

I used to get packets of foreign stamps at the local Newberry's Store (a “5 & 10”, like Woolworth's), and had a small worldwide collection in a cheap beginner's album. Then – my uncle Lancy Snow (Dad's older brother) gave me his old collection! This was a worldwide collection from his childhood. Wow! Now I was truly hooked on stamps! I spent my allowance on stamps at the stamp shop in Brockton (the next town over from Whitman). For Christmas I received a Scott catalogue (one volume, hardbound)! Super! I was learning about places and people and historical events without even trying.

I remember when I was in the 3rd Grade (about age 9 or 10), my Dad took me with him on a business trip to Kansas City. While he was in meetings, I rode the hotel elevator up and down, and discovered that the hotel lounge had a color (!) TV, the first I had ever seen (the color was all purple, but so what)! The next day I found the address of a stamp store and took a taxi there with some of the pocket money Dad gave me. Of course after buying a couple of stamps I was broke and had to walk 2 or 3 miles to the hotel – but I didn't care, I was having fun!

Soon after this, I discovered another interesting pastime – women. Need I say more? Then college, the draft (Good Morning, Vietnam), and law school. My stamps lay in the closet, waiting for me to come back. And in due course I did. My then-wife was born in Albania, so I began an Albanian collection, rife with stamp forgeries – another education). And now I “specialize” in 1840-1940 worldwide, housing this accumulation in Scott International Albums. The learning about places and people and historical events continues apace, and I love it!

Maybe some of you have a similar tale to tell. If so I'd like to hear it. Let's chat at the next meeting! Until then, happy stamping!

COVER STORY— *Gee Whiz!*

By: Josh Furman

Ever since the rate change of 1978 the United States Postal Service (USPS) has been printing stamps without denomination in preparation for the next increase, whenever and whatever it might be. Letters of the alphabet were used for these non-denominational stamps. There was an "A" stamp in 1978, and five more letters followed in preparation for the next hikes in rates. After the postage rate increase of February 3, 1991, the USPS began immediately to prepare for the next increase. The design was kept secret, but the USPS stocked up on the new stamps under tight security, again not knowing what the increased rate might turn out to be.

By early 1994 already six letters into the series of non-denominated stamp issues, the "G" stamp would be next. And the number of different "G" stamps would challenge the imagination. There were a bunch of different sheet stamps for first class mail, some booklet stamps, some coil stamps, stamps for postcards, stamps for pre-sorted first class mail, a stamp for Nonprofit Presort, and a stamp for official mail. All except the Nonprofit Presort stamp were available on December 13, 1994. They were designed by Ronald Sharpe, of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, who had previously designed the Windmill booklet stamps of 1980.

This "G" series was produced by more printers and in more formats than any previous rate-change stamps. Here is a guide to sorting out the varieties, somewhat lengthy by necessity. An illustration of each stamp variety accompanies the description.

There were two different stamps available in sheets (post office panes of 100), one printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), and one by a private company called Stamp Venturers (SV).

The BEP sheet stamps were printed in red, blue, gray and black on a 7-color Andreotti gravure web-fed press, using prephosphored paper, and perforated 11.2 by 11.1, using a Eureka off-line perforator. Quantity ordered and distributed: 198,000,000. Since there were four colors to be printed there were four cylinders in use, each numbered 1. So the plate number for this printing is 1111, which appears in the selvage adjacent to a corner stamp. The Scott Catalog number for this stamp is 2881.



The SV sheet stamps used the same colors, but were printed at J. W. Fergusson and Sons, Richmond, Virginia on a Champlain webfed gravure press. They were perforated 10.9 by Stamp Venturers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin using a sheetfed stroke perforator. The plate number for this printing is S1111, and the quantity produced was 1,500,000,000. This one was given a Scott Catalog number of 2882.



The booklet "G" stamps are more confusing since there were three printers making booklets for this stamp for the USPS. These were the BEP, the American Bank Note Company (ABNC) and KCS Industries (KCS).

The BEP booklet stamps were printed on the same press and paper as the sheet stamps but booklets were made in two ways. One, numbered 2883 by Scott, was made on a Goebel machine. The other was made on a proprietary off-line book-binding machine. The perforations are different. Those on the Goebel machine measure 10 by 9.8; the other measures 11.2 by 11.1, same as the sheet stamp. The latter can be differentiated by seeing one or two straight edges on the booklet stamp. Quantity: 2,112,750,000 stamps.



1. Detail in this piece comes from several *Postal Bulletins*, issued by the U. S. Postal Service, and from Linn's *U. S. Stamp Yearbook--1994*, which contains much more information.

2. This was the press and this was the paper that ABNC used for most of its stamp printing, unless specified otherwise in a stamp's manufacturing description.

3. This was the printing location and press for SV issues, again, unless specified otherwise.

Cont. on page 5

COVER STORY— *Gee Whiz!* Cont.

The ABNC booklet stamp is numbered 2884 by Scott. It was printed by Multi-Color Corporation, Scottsburg, Indiana, on a Schiavi 10-color webfed gravure press. The booklets were perforated (10.9 on the L perforator) and formed at ABNC in Bedford Park, Illinois. 2,029,500.000 stamps ordered and distributed. A "G" stamp from an ABNC booklet is easily distinguished from a stamp from a BEP or a KCS booklet by its blue "G".

The KCS booklet stamp is numbered 2885 by Scott. It was printed for KCS Industries, Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, by J. W. Fergusson and Sons, Richmond, Virginia on a Champlain web-fed gravure press, and formed into booklets by KCS. This stamp is also perforated 10.9, but can be differentiated from the previous stamp by the color of the "G". The KCS stamp has a red "G"; on the ABNC stamp the "G" is black. Quantity ordered and distributed: 1,636,000,000.

Now for the self-adhesive "G" stamp. Avery Denison supplied two versions—one for over-the-counter and vending machine sales, and another for dispensing by automated teller machines (ATMs). In both versions the "G" is somewhat larger than that in other printers' designs. One version, Scott catalog number 2886, was printed by Avery Denison Security Printing Division, Clinton, South Carolina. The press used was a DNK 8-color webfed gravure press. Five colors were used: red, dark blue, light blue, gray and black. Booklet panes and coils were both issued using the same stamp. Quantity ordered and distributed: 1,080,000,000.

The second version, Scott number 2887, was printed by Avery Dennison Research Center, Pasadena, California, on a 6color Chesnut webfed gravure press. Stamps were lacquer-coated, front and back, die cut, processed and shipped by Avery Denison, Pasadena. Only three colors were used: red, blue and black. Ordered and distributed: 36,000,000. Aside from the number of colors used, there are other differences between the two versions. On the over-the counter stamps, the paper is whiter; the red stripes are more solid red; the white stripes immediately below the blue field of stars have very few shading dots, and the shadow area in the blue field is made up of both blue and black dots. On the ATM stamps, the white stripes below the field have noticeable blue shading, and the shadow area in the field contains only blue dots. Some of these differences can be seen in the images to the right.

Two postcard rate stamps were issued, one supplied by BEP and one by SV. Both have a yellow background and the words "Postcard Rate" inscribed under the "G". The BEP stamp was assigned Scott number 2879 and printed in red, blue, gray, yellow and black and perforated 11.2 by 11.1 on a Eureka off-line perforator. Quantity ordered and distributed: 354,000,000. Only one set of cylinders was used, so the plate number 11111 appears adjacent to a corner stamp on the sheet.

The SV version of the postcard rate stamp uses the same colors and looks very much the same as the BEP version. Stamps were perforated, processed and shipped by Stamp Venturers, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The sheetfed stroke perforator used a gauge of 10.9. This stamp is Scott number 2880. Quantity ordered and shipped at SV was 200,000,000. Again, there are some apparent differences between the two postcard rate stamps.



4. The Goebel company is a manufacturer of high-tech, high security printers for stamps, banknotes and various similar applications. Goebel machines are employed at many postage stamp manufacturers.

5. Schiavi is an Italian company formed in 1958. The only current references are to its used equipment sold by brokers, so I am assuming it is no longer in business.

6. This is the press used by KCS unless specified otherwise in the description.

Cont. on page 6

COVER STORY— *Gee Whiz!* Cont.

The SV stamp background color is somewhat lighter in shade than the BEP stamp, and has more shading in the white stripes of the flag.

Like the booklet stamps, the "G" coil stamps were produced by three different manufacturers. The BEP made coils with a black "G" in the design; ABNC made coils with a blue "G", and SV used a red "G".

The BEP coils were printed in red, blue, gray and black, with the "G" in black. Scott numbered this stamp 2889. Two cylinder combinations are reported, so plate numbers 1111 and 2222 can be found. The Goebel stroke perforator used a gauge of 9.8. The quantity ordered and distributed was 1,500,000,000.

The ABNC coils use the same four colors, but with the "G" in blue. The stamps were perforated 9.8 and coiled at Guilford Gravure. Scott gave the number 2890 to this stamp. This ABNC stamp was printed with a proliferation of cylinder-number combinations. 29 sets of numbers have been identified. In his column in *Linn's Stamp News* Ken Lawrence warned that this posed "a grave threat to the future of PNC collecting". All together, 3,417,600,000 stamps were ordered and distributed for this issue.

Stamp Venturers produced two versions of their coil stamp. The difference is that one version, Scott number 2891, was perforated; the other, Scott number 2892, was rouletted. The gauge was



the same, 9.8. One other feature was unique to Stamp Venturers: there is a sequence of accounting numbers printed on the reverse of the 10,000-stamp and 3000-stamp coils, on every 10th stamp, across the stamp and on top of the gum. By the way, the FDA approved the ink formula for these accounting numbers. Coil specialists will want to learn more about these numbers. Total quantity produced in both versions: 3,207,599,000.



This next "G" stamp created quite a bit of discussion. The restriction underneath the "G" in the design is "First-Class Presort". It has a nominal value of 20¢ rather than the 32¢ value of the regular first class stamps. Since denomination is no longer critical for a presort, why the issue in the first place? Bulk mailers use so-called generic precancel coils such as the 5¢ Canoe and others, and pay the difference between the stamps' "face value" and the actual discounted (and usually fractional) postal rates. There really is no good use for this stamp, yet we have it anyway. Scott assigned number 2888 to this stamp. It was printed in red, dark blue, gray, black and light blue. Stamps were perfed 9.8 by Stamp Venturers in Richmond on their rotary perforator and finished in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. One cylinder combination was used, resulting in a plate number of S11111. The ordered and distributed: 300,800,000. However, the light blue background created a problem in how to display the plate number for the light blue color without having it disappear into the background. The solution was to drop out the 1 for the light blue color so that it appears white on the stamp. The other colors showed up just fine, so the plate number appears as S1111(1).

While all the rest of the "G" stamps were available for sale on December 13, 1994, this next "G" stamp was not issued until January 12, 1995 (although first day covers were back-dated to December 13th.) It was restricted to use for Nonprofit Presort mail, as was clearly stated on the stamp. The Scott catalog number is 2893. It was printed by ABNC at the Guilford Gravure Division of George Schmitt and Company on an Andreotti Model 61 gravure press in black, blue, red, gray and green. Perforation gauge is 9.8 vertically. There were two plate combinations used, so plate numbers A11111 and A21111 are available to collectors. Quantity produced: 780,000,000.



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COVER STORY— *Gee Whiz!* Cont.

Officialdom was not to be left out of the "G" stamp realm. The Scott catalog number for the Official "G" stamp is O152. It was produced by the BEP using a 6-color Optiforma offset press, and perforated 9.8 vertically. This press, and the paper used, were less expensive than a gravure printing, and the quantity produced was much smaller than that for other "G" issues. The colors are red, blue and black. Quantity ordered and produced: 23,000,000. It is interesting to note that the previous two Official Mail stamps, a 10¢ sheet stamp and a \$1.00 sheet stamp issued in 1993 had included in their designs what was called an "experimental security device" which consisted of a line of microprinting across the stamp. There was no such microprinting on the "G" stamp since it was actually printed before the 1993 stamps that premiered the device.



As had been the case with other rate changes, the USPS prepared well in advance for a "make-up rate" stamp that could be used with existing stamps to make up the difference between 29¢, the current rate, and the new rate, still un-determined when these were printed. When it became known that the new rate, as of January 1, 1995, would be 32¢, the make-up stamp was assigned a value of 3¢, and could, of course, be used as a 3¢ stamp with any combination of older issues as well. Two versions of this stamp were produced.

The first was by ABNC in red, blue and tan on a 4-color Miller sheetfed offset press and perforated 10.9 using the L perforator. Scott assigned this on number 2877. There were many combinations of plate cylinders used, so plate numbers printed in the corners of the sheets could be found from A111 to A21-27-22. The Bureau Issues Association (BIA) compiled a list of 51 different plate number combinations that could be collected, this time frustrating plate block collectors. Total quantity ordered and distributed: 1,584,000,000.

The other make-up rate stamp was produced by SV. SV used the same three colors, but only one plate number combination was used, S111. Perforation is also 10.9 by L perforator. The Scott catalog number for this one is 2878. Quantity ordered and distributed for this stamp: 600,000,000.

So how do collectors tell these two issues apart? The ABNC version has a bright blue dove and thin type. The SV version has a dark blue dove and the smaller but thicker, bolder type, and its tan background has a much finer screen. When one places the stamps side by side, the differences are quite apparent. Here they are, right next to each other.



So all together there were billions of "G" stamps produced and distributed.

That's billions, with a B! Can one make a complete collection of this issue? Well, that depends.

For starters, the American Philatelic Society, (APS) makes available a 26-page (including a couple of blank pages) album for non-denominated stamps, not including Officials (but I have included the Official stamp on my page). These can be downloaded and printed out without charge, and make for a convenient way to display the single stamps in this category. A scan of my "G" stamp page appears at the end of this article. You see here a complete collection of single stamps. There are twenty shown here, plus one more for official use, making a total of twenty-one. Fairly easy.

But consider the variety and number of plate number combinations to be found. That means collecting many plate number blocks of the sheet stamps and many plate number coils of the coil stamps. There are 29 of the latter, and some undoubtedly will be hard to find. First day covers should be easy to find, assuming again that one is interested in only the single stamp of each variety.

Although we have described the booklet stamps, we have not said anything about booklet panes or booklet covers or Postal Stationery cards and envelopes. Those are for another study, but we should think about them in a discussion of a complete collection of mint "G" material.

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COVER STORY— *Gee Whiz!* Cont.

Now let's move on to used "G" stamps. This is going to be a harder task. Although billions of "G" stamps were produced, they are kind of plain and uninteresting, and they had plenty of competition for use by consumers. Especially hard to find will be properly used examples of the restricted use stamps, those marked for First-Class Presort use and, even more difficult, those marked for Nonprofit Presort use.

According to Joann Lenz, "Most non-profit mailers seemed to ignore the newly issued "G" non-profit stamp in favor of using what they had previously used, the Canoe or the more distinctive non-profit Butte stamp issued March 10, 1995. In addition, the USPS did not make the new "G" non-profit stamp easily available to non-profit organizations; rather providing the Canoe or Butte issues when non-profit stamps were ordered for mailings."

So try and find one of these "G" Non-profit Presort covers, or even a used stamp.

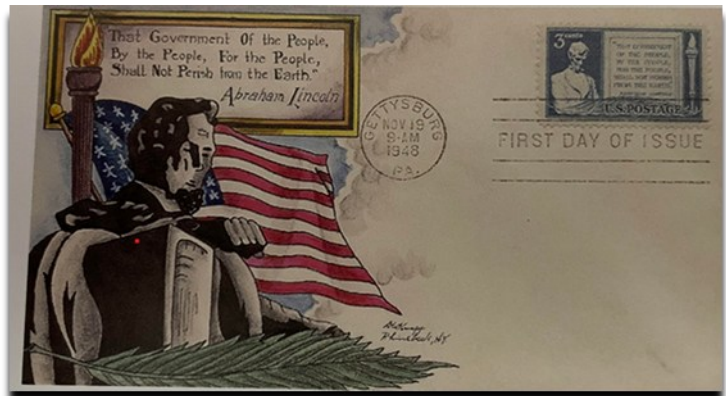
A collection of "G" stamps, in all its iterations and usages would be a great deal of fun, take a great deal of effort, and make a fantastic multi-frame exhibit. Please let me know when you have it ready. I'd love to see it.

Questionable eBay, # 29 My Eye Sight Fails Me.....

By Francis Ferguson



The listing reads: "#978 Abraham Lincoln Dorothy Knapp Hand Painted 1948-Gettysburg PA Not Faded". Offered at \$1,250.00 or best offer, with Free Expedited Shipping, no returns allowed.



Where to start? I can only guess that the seller posted the wrong image of what they are attempting to sell. This three-cent commemorative from 1948 is common as dirt and has no significant philatelic value to a collector as a single used stamp. This is obviously not a Dorothy Knapp hand painted cover. Pictured above is one of the three documented varieties of the Gettysburg Knapp covers. Not even close.

What do you think?

Reminders: Come join the Fun!

- 1. April 5, 2025 - Maitland Stamp Show 641 Maitland Ave. S. Saturday 10:00am—4pm*
- 2. April 6, 2025 - CFSC Annual Spring Picnic—Maitland Community Park, 1400 Mayo Ave. Maitland, FL Sunday 2:00pm to 6:00pm Bring a dish to share!*

What is it?

BY Jerry Eller

National Letter Return association labels



Type 1

Type 2

Type 3

Type 4

The above stamps/labels are from the National Letter Return Association of Chicago.

These stamps were a method by which postal patrons could mail letters while concealing their identities (i.e., without return addresses) by ensuring timely return of undeliverable mail, by passing the Dead Letter Office.

In 1885 John Edward Woodhead established the National Letter Return – Association (NLRA) to promote the sale and use of small labels to be used in place of return addresses *figure 1* These would be of advantage to certain mailers of letters, namely, those who wished to conceal their identities, especially ladies who wished to maintain privacy, some professional persons who did not use envelopes with printed corner cards (mostly (clergymen, physicians, lawyers) and individuals who traveled and had no regular home address (e.g. traveling salesmen, and theater performers).

These NLRA labels were sold in booklets of 1000 (for \$1.00) and then in booklets of 120 for (.30 cents), 200 (.50 cents) and 600 (\$1.00) All booklets contained panes of 12 labels. Each label had a serial number printed on it, (see *above examples*) which the user would register with the NLRA, and which the NLRA would use to identify the user, to return any letter received.



Note; These are only type one of many types of private return labels.

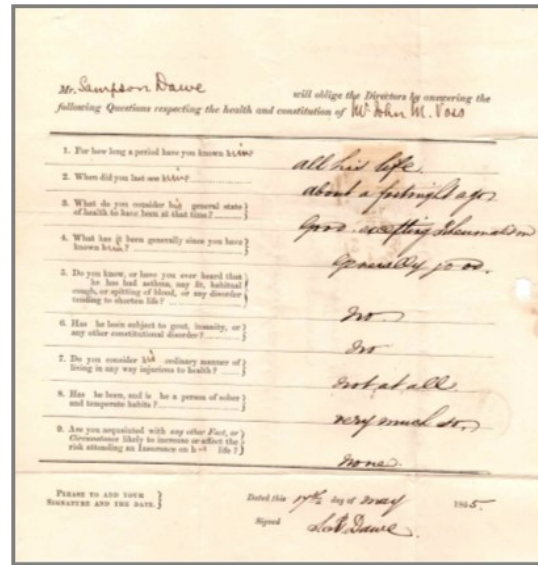
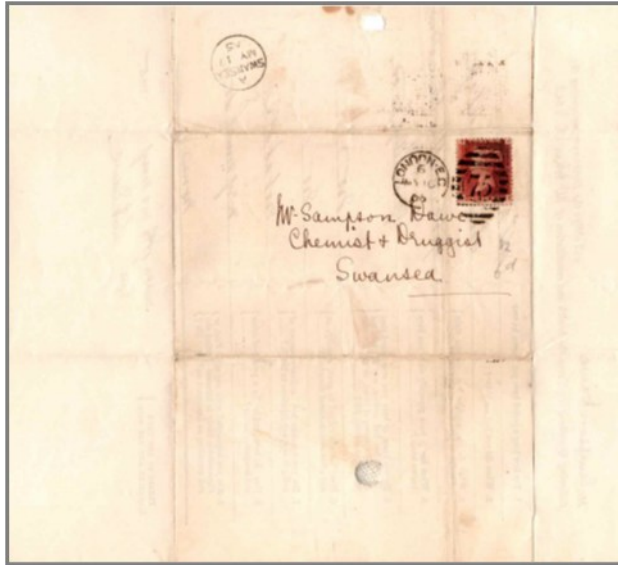
Figure 1 on cover to Crawford Pa.

A Folded Letter from a By-gone Era!

By: Mike Schumacher

One fascination with philately is the history that a cover can present. Whether that be the individual sender and/or recipient; the stamp used; the postal markings; the location from which it was sent or method of mail transport, it's all part of the history of the time.

The item in this article is a folded letter from 14 May 1865, sent to Mr. Sampson Dawe a Chemist and Druggist in Swansea, with a Great Britain Penny Red stamp postmarked in London on 16 May 1865 and a Swansea receiving cancel on 17 May 1865. Both sides of the letter are shown in the article.



The contents of the letter appears to inquire from Sampson Dawe about the health of John M. Voss. A check of historical records finds a John M. Voss born in 1820 to John Matthew Voss and Jane Walters. Further review of the records shows that Mr. Voss married Christiana Dixon and they had 19 children. Mr. Voss passed away on 4 November 1873 and his wife, Christiana lived an additional 20 years and died in 1893.

The recipient of the letter, Mr. Sampson Dawe, as indicated on the letter was a Chemist and Druggist. His full name was Sampson Rowland Dawe and he lists to an address at 5 Castle Street Swansea.

Swansea is a town that was founded in the early 12th century and is located on a bay at the western end of the British Channel at the mouth of the River Tawe in Wales. It is believed that Swansea derived its name from the Viking settlement. They arrived in the area between the 9th and 11th century. Over the years Swansea prospered as a market town and a trading port with links to France and Ireland. The development of the area was aided by farming, coal and copper mining, and limestone quarries. By the 18th century it was a civic and cultural center popular with tourists.

Swansea community experienced cholera epidemics in 1832, 1849 and 1866. Swansea also suffered a yellow fever epidemic in 1865. These epidemics had to do with issues with clean drinking water and inadequate sewage system.

The Swansea Post Office was located on Fisher Street and the Post master was John Davies. The mail was transported by the Mail Coach service run by John Spencer. The mail coach departed from the Nag's Head on Goat Street at 7am daily.


The Police force was headed by Superintendent Henry Tate and Inspector John Bennett. The Force consisted of one detective and sixteen constables. The town Fire Brigade was under the supervision of Superintendent Tate and his police force officers.

During the 1890s, Swansea smelters faced increased competition from foreign competition and the imposition of the McKinley Tariff reducing the production of ferrous metal causing a significant local economic impact. During World War II, the Swansea dock participated in the first test of a full-scale submarine pipeline, resulting in the Germans targeting bombing raids on the town. By the 1960s, industry had declined and the Railway was closed.

Amazing what can be learned from researching a letter.

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The Central Florida Stamp Club is a 75+ year old organization governed by a Board of Directors elected by the general membership every two years and dedicated to the enjoyment of the hobby of stamp collecting.

- Membership is a reasonable \$30 per year, \$6 for youth.
- Meetings are twice a month on the first and third Thursdays.
- The Membership of the CFSC includes many diverse interests that cover the range from A-Z.
- The meeting is centrally located to downtown Orlando and can be easily accessed from SR 50 (Colonial Drive) and I/4.
- The Marks Street Senior Center has been our host for more than 25 years and provides a pleasant meeting room with easy access and plenty of free parking.
- The informal part of the meeting is prior to 6:00pm. The business side of things will be brief. Cried auction and/or presentation to start at 6:15 until 7:15 Followed by auction wrap up and informal discussions. We must be out of the building by 8:00 without exception.
- The Membership of the CFSC participates as the host and sponsor of the one day shows in February, April, June & September. In addition, we are the resident hosting club for FLOREX which is held in the Central Florida area.
- The CFSC maintains a website: CentralFloridaStampClub.org
- Benefits of membership include; monthly newsletter, access to loaner equipment & catalogs, participation in door prize drawings, the right to submit and bid in cried/silent auctions — and much more.
- Postal address: CFSC P.O. Box 1206, Plymouth, FL 32768-1206
- As of 12.2023

Central Florida Stamp Club



NOTE: Opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the authors placing articles, and are not reflective of the CFSC or any members.

The Editor of this newsletter, Mike Schumacher can be reached at E-mail address Editor@CentralFloridaStampClub.org

CFSC Officers (2024/2026)

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VP-Operations	Robert Fisher vpop@centralfloridastampclub.org
Treasurer	Rick Cohen tres@centralfloridastampclub.org
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