

CFSC Authors of Books

by David M. Allen

The people that make up the stamp collecting community of the Central Florida Stamp Club possess a wealth of information on many stamp collecting topics. Experts in various countries, identification methods, counterfeit identification, postal history of various areas, and exhibit judging are only a few of the topics. Many have written articles for various publications. It would be very difficult to present an item or question to the full club that would stump all the members.

There are a few members, past and present, who have gone to another level; that of writing a published book on a philatelic topic. In every instance, the book, at the time it was written, was the definitive text on its topic. Most of the books still have that distinction.

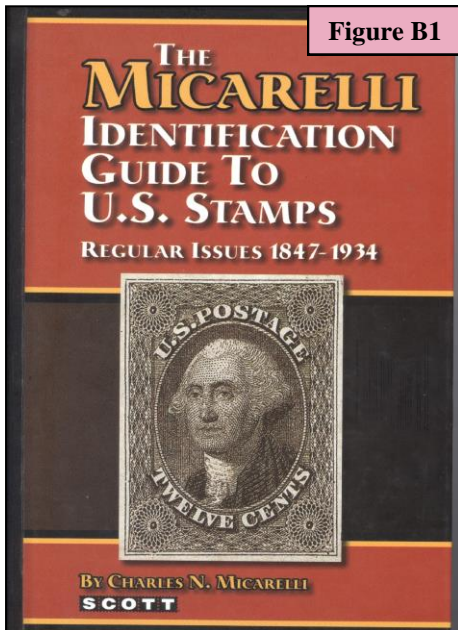


Figure B1

The earliest author in the club we know of is Charles N. Micarelli. His book, “The Micarelli Identification Guide to Early U.S. Stamps: Regular Issues 1847-1934” (Figure B1), is currently at edition 7 (2022) to be released in December. His organization of the various types of the Washington Franklin issue was so well liked that the Scott Publishing Company added a similar organization to its catalog for all U.S. definitive issues. With the new edition, the Micarelli work remains the definitive text in many areas it covers, and it is still a valued reference piece that many collectors continue to use.

William J. Bomar Sr. wrote the definitive guide on the “Markings of United States Expositions” (Figure B2). From the Centennial Exposition of 1876 forward, each U.S. Exposition is covered with its associated markings and notes on variations and relative rarity.

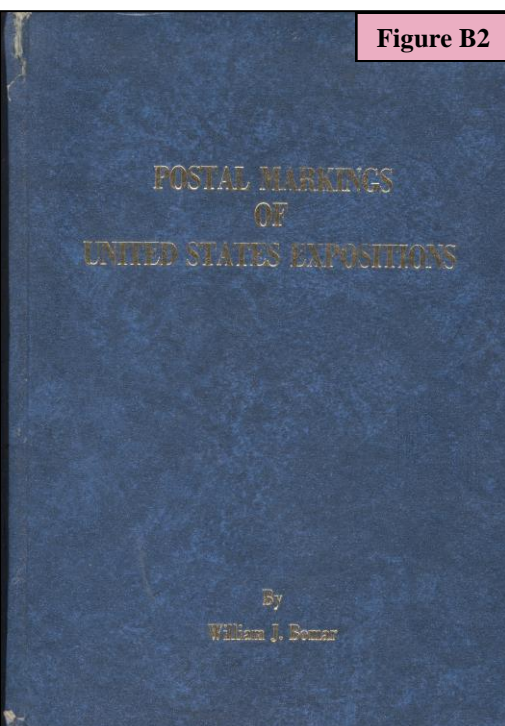


Figure B2

More recently three new books, each the definitive reference in its area, have been authored by members of the CFSC. “North Atlantic Packets: Departures and Arrivals 1818-1840” (Figure B3) by James R. Pullin covers the earliest period, a stampless cover period, of transatlantic mail by packet. Markings for each packet, various postage rates, and other details are discussed.

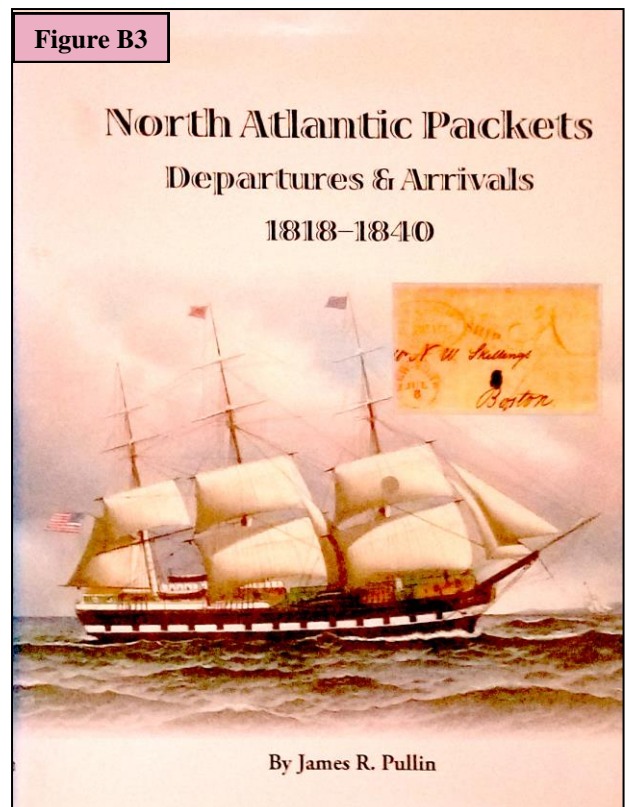


Figure B3

Josh Furman wrote “Precanceled Postal Cards 1874 – 1961” (**Figure B4**). He catalogs and displays, in full-size color illustrations of classic precanceled postal cards, from the Great Barrington card to first government-printed precanceled card. Permit cancels that might have been intended as precancels, and some examples of philatelically-inspired cards are also covered. The Appendix shows proofs, printer's waste, look-alikes, and fakes.

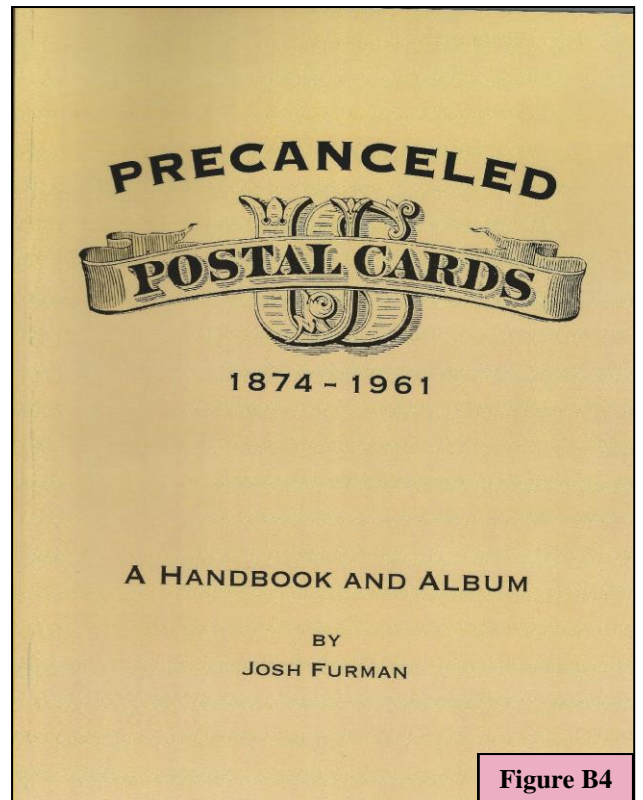


Figure B4

“Florida Postal History 1763 – 1861” (**Figure B5**) is the work of Deane R. Briggs, MD, Francis Ferguson, and Thomas M. Lera, all members of the Florida Postal History Society. The

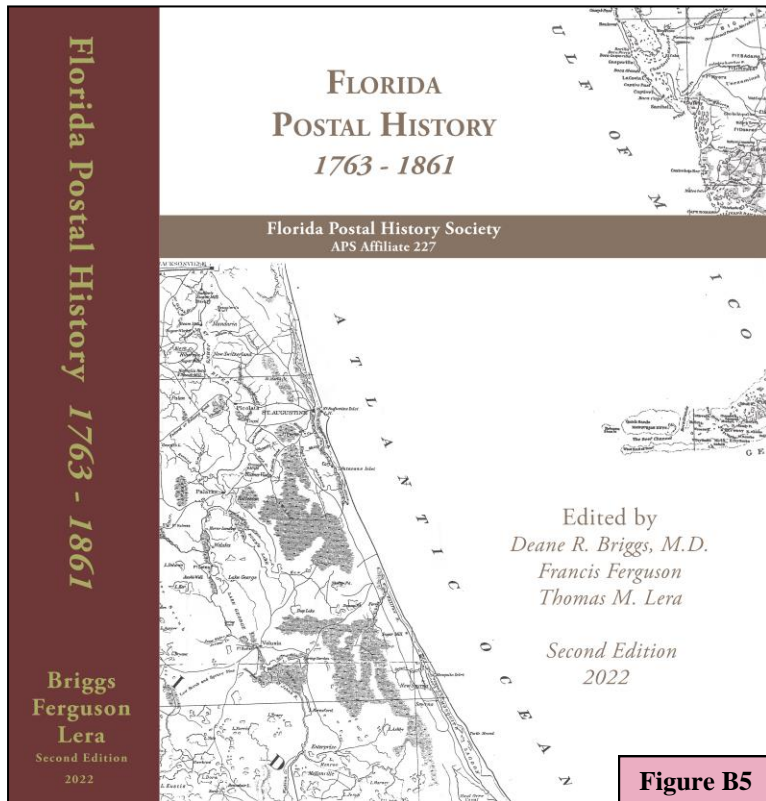


Figure B5

work covers Florida post offices and when they were in existence, markings and marking changes of each office. The book has received a major revision and is now available in a 2nd edition (2022). The revision added over 200 new ECU and LKU listings and more than 80 full-color scans of either new covers or covers for which the images were originally printed in black and white in prior editions. It also updated records for nearly half of all towns and scans of several new postmarks and rate markings. As new US Post Office records have become available on the internet, many post offices where “the location

was not clearly known” have now been properly located. Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Lera are also members of the CFSC.

Hubbard L. Hart’s Influence on Stagecoach and Steamboat Travel and Commerce in Central Florida” (**Figure B6**) by Thomas Lera (published 2022 by the Florida Postal History Society), details Mr. Hart’s work by looking at the Post Office Department (POD) mail routes in Central and Northern Florida which Hubbard L. Hart was awarded and contemporary correspondence along those routes. His Florida Stage Line (Pilatka through Ocala to Tampa started operating in the 1850s. After the Civil War, he started steamboat routes along the Ocklawaha River (including Silver Springs, which he turned into a tourist destination), St. Johns and Indian Rivers and later ran mail routes on the St. Mary’s River, the boundary river between Florida and Georgia, and one on the Ocklawaha River. This monograph received a Gold Medal at Chicagopex 2022.

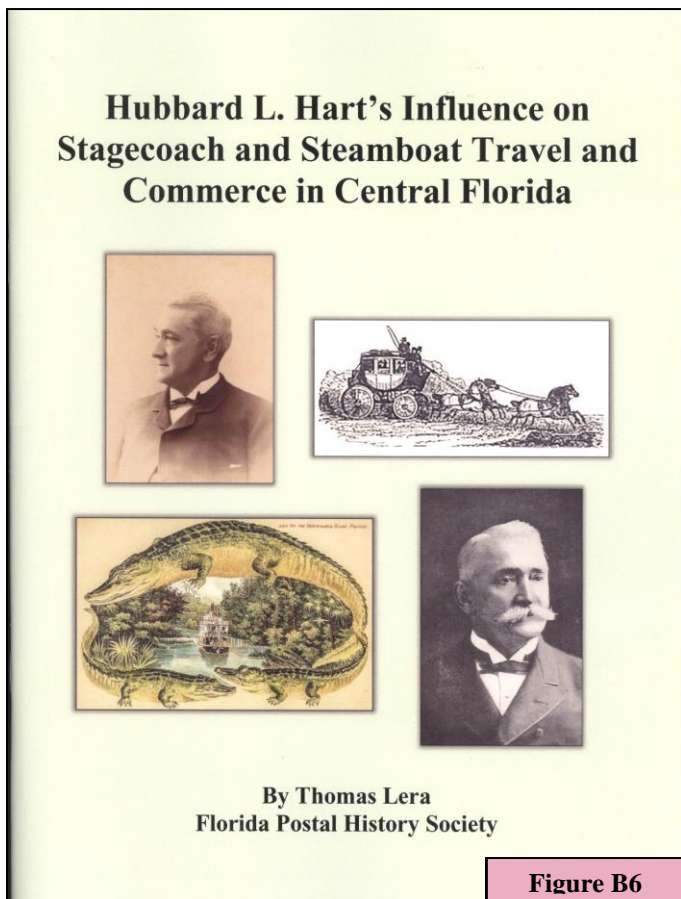


Figure B6



Figure B7

“The 50th Anniversary of “The Match of the Century” A Philatelic Look” (Figure B7) by Michael Schumacher, Gaétan Lapierre, and Jon Edwards is the defining resource book covering the philatelic artifacts created during and shortly after the 2-month event known as the 1972 World Chess Championship Match between Boris Spassky (USSR) and Robert “Bobby” Fischer (USA) at Laugardalsholl (stadium) in Reykjavik, Iceland. From the 4 most complete collections of related philatelic material currently in existence, the book details, quantifies and examines the stamp, cachet envelopes, First Day cancels (both at the match site and various other cities) for each game, postcards, and other philatelic souvenirs (including where they mailed from and sent) all while preserving the historical flavor of the dynamics of the match.

Not only has each of these authors made knowledge available to the philatelic world and thereby added prestige to the club, but each has also been involved in club leadership. Charles N. Micarelli, (Figure B1), was president 1978-1979. William J. Bomar, Sr., (Figure B2), served 5 terms as president 1974-1975, 1980-1981, 1982-1983, 1984-1985 and 1986-1987. James R. Pullin, (Figure B3), served as vice-president from 2002-2003 and president from 2004-2005. Josh Furman, (Figure B4), served 3 terms as secretary from 2008-2009, 2010-2011 and 2012-2013. Francis Ferguson, (Figure B5), has served two terms as vice-president 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, and four terms as president 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2016-2017 and 2018-2019. Thomas Lera, (Figures B5 & B6), has presented Halloween themed programs for several years. Michael Schumacher, (Figure B7), has served two terms as a director 2018-2019 and 2020-2021, and is serving as president for the 2022-2023 term.

In time the club may yet have more authors to emerge. Will you be next?

[Note: These books can all be found in the primary or secondary markets.]