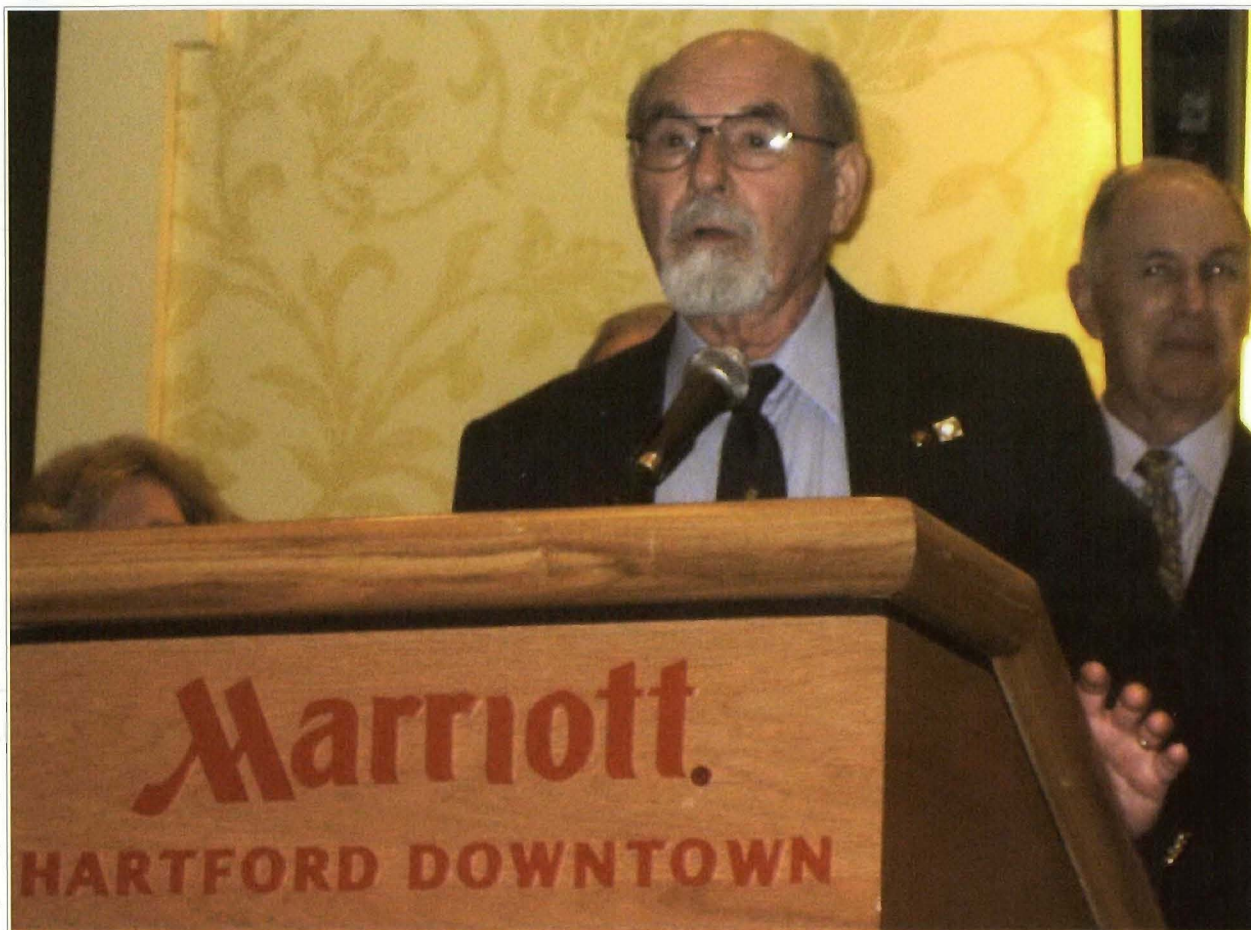


# FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST

October 2008  
Whole No. 294 (Vol. 64, No. 4)



*Stan Luft Receives APS Luff Award  
for  
Distinguished Philatelic Research  
See page 98.*

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**FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST**

USPS #207700

ISSN 0897-1293

Published quarterly by the  
**FRANCE AND COLONIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.**  
Affiliate No. 45, American Philatelic Society

The France & Colonies Philatelist (FCP) is the official journal of the France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. Permission to reprint material appearing herein is granted provided that proper credit is given to the FCP and the Editor is notified.

Dues for U.S. addresses \$20.00 per year (\$22.00 using PayPal)  
Dues for others: \$25.00 per year (\$27.00 using PayPal)  
Dues include a subscription to the FCP

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# Confusing New Caledonia Airmail Rates

Robert E. Picirilli (FCPS 2381)

[This article by frequent contributor Bob Picirilli, provides the latest information on the early transpacific airmail rates, thus complementing Steve Tucker's article that appeared in the FCP last year. It is a natural outgrowth of the research that he and his team have performed on colonial airmail rates. Some of the illustrations have been repeated from the Tucker article so that all of the important rates are shown in one place.]

In his article,<sup>1</sup> Tucker told well the story of the relationship of FAM 19 and New Caledonia. He did not explain — and no doubt did not intend to — the postal rates involved. Unraveling the airmail rates for the July 1940 first flights reveals many complications. In fact, the research of our study group for airmail rates in French colonies to the end of 1945 is now helping us understand those complications with a clarity not possible before. Even I, earlier in the research, thought I had it all figured out and wrote an article for another philatelic publication.<sup>2</sup> Although I had most of it right, there were still missing elements.

*One tends to despair of any explanation that fits all of the rates. But there is method to the madness!*

My purpose here, then, is to give what appears — at this point, anyway — to be a complete account of the basic postal rates and airmail surtaxes that show up as multi-varied franking on the great number of covers that flew on the first flights of FAM 19.

I base this on research in the *Journal Officiel de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendances*; I examined issues from 1938-45 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and John Parmenter did likewise for the years 1934-37 at the *Bibliothèque Nationale de France* in Paris.<sup>3</sup>

Equally important, by the generous sharing of many collectors, I have photocopies of more than eighty covers making those flights and enabling careful analysis and comparison.

To review briefly: the first flight out (westward) left New Caledonia on 18 July 1940 and went from there to Auckland, New Zealand. On the way in (eastward), the return flight left New Caledonia on 21 July 1940 headed for Los Angeles and San Francisco by way of Canton Island and Honolulu. This routing and basic rates were announced by the Post Office Department on 26 June 1940.<sup>4</sup>

At first glance, the cover evidence seems to make no sense at all. There are covers addressed to the U.S., for example, that paid 6f75, 11f, or 19f50, not to mention a few other amounts! Two examples are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. In addition, there are covers to Honolulu, or Canton Island, or New Zealand that likewise show differing amounts. One tends to despair of any explanation that fits all of the rates. But there is method to the madness!



Figure 1. 18 July 1940, to the U.S., paid 7f = 2f50 basic plus 4f50/10g special surtax to fly only to New Zealand.



Figure 2. 21 July 1940, to the U.S., paid 6f75 = 2f50 basic plus 4f25/5g pre-existing surtax to fly only to Honolulu.

### The Rates in Use

The starting point for the study is the ordinary letter rates in use at the time in New Caledonia. These are often called **surface rates**, but I refer to them as **basic rates** since airmail letters were certainly not going by surface and still had to pay these basic rates in addition to the airmail surtaxes. The basic foreign (international) letter rates in effect at the time of these flights (effective 1 February 1940) was:

0-20g	2f50
per each additional 20g or part thereof	1f50
Registration	2f50

One also needs to know the airmail surtaxes in effect at the time, as shown in Table 1. There were special surtaxes put in effect for the first flights on 18 and 21 July, as the table shows. These were simply double the surtaxes already in effect at per 5 grams, but allowing 10 grams. (I will refer to the 5 gram rates as "pre-existing").

Destination	29 Aug 1939	Special for 18 and 21 Jul 1940	22 Jul 1940
U.S.	8f50/5g	17f/10g	8f50/5g
New Zealand	2f25/5g	4f50/10g	2f25/5g
Australia	3f75/5g	—	3f75/5g
Canton Island	2f25/5g	4f50/10g	2f25/5g
Hawaii	4f25/5g	8f50/10g	4f25/5g

Table 1. Summary of Airmail Surtaxes.

What is most important to realize, as will be shown in the cover evidence that follows, is that **some patrons paid the pre-existing surtax, and some paid the special surtax in effect for the first flights**. This is one of the keys to figuring out the varied frankings. Apparently the postal officials sent the letters on by the first flights without pressing the distinction.

The other key to understanding the franking on the first flight covers from Noumea is to note carefully the personal markings placed on the covers

by the senders. Although the final destination might have been the U.S., for example, the sender might deliberately have paid only for one leg of the flight and marked it accordingly. That affects many of the covers, and again the postal officials did not necessarily give these markings much attention; a number of covers paid, say, to fly only as far as Canton Island or Honolulu but were in fact flown all the way to the U.S.

### The 18 July 1940 Covers

These covers are not as complicated as those for 21 July; all of them went westward from Noumea on the first regularly-scheduled flight out from California to Auckland, New Zealand. All of them bear the special cachet for mail between New Caledonia and New Zealand (see Ref. 1 Fig. 4a) and are usually marked to fly to Auckland. We have photocopies of 20 of these covers, as follows:

- ♦ Thirteen covers addressed to the U.S.: ten paid 7f and three paid 4f75 total, which includes 2f50 basic plus either the 2f25/5g pre-existing surtax, shown in Fig. 3,<sup>5</sup> or the special 4f50/10g surtax in effect for the first flights. All of them were apparently sent from New Zealand to the U.S. by surface mail. Only one has an arrival backstamp in the U.S., dated 18 August (for two of these I do not have copies of the backs).
- ♦ Two covers addressed to New Zealand: one



Figure 3. 18 July 1940, to the U.S., paid 4f75 = 2f50 basic plus 2f25/5g pre-existing surtax to fly only to New Zealand.

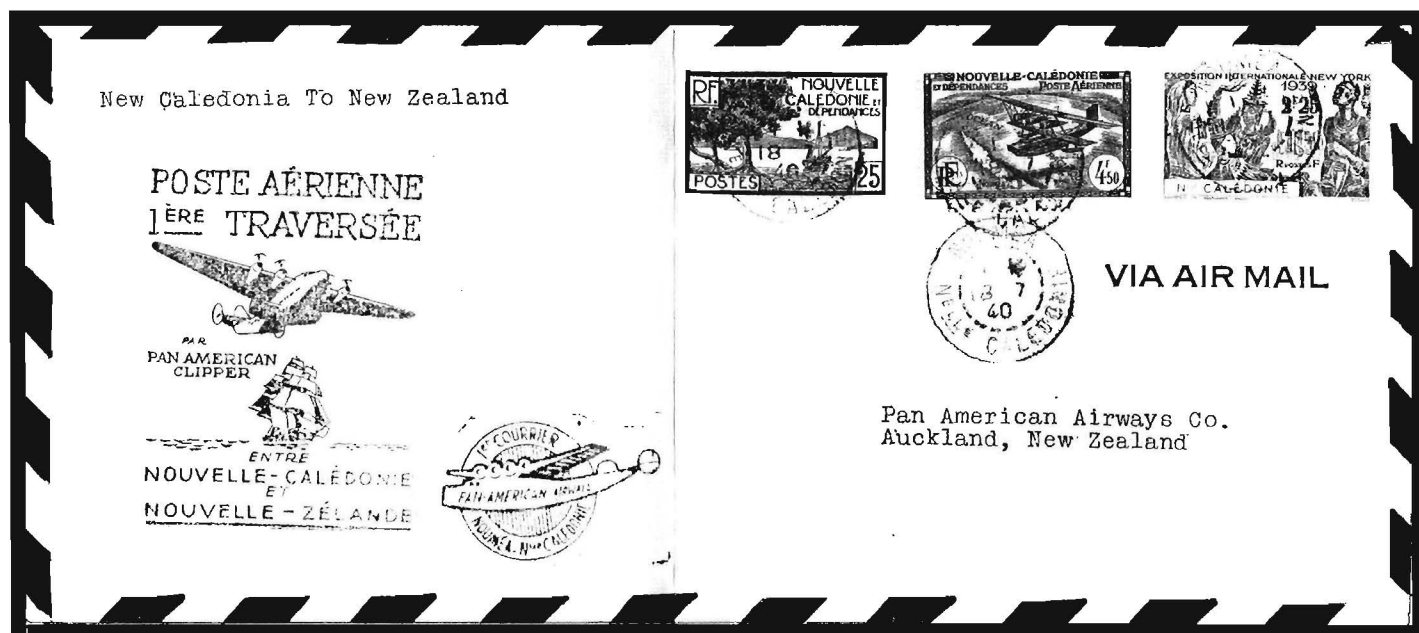


Figure 4. 18 July 1940, to New Zealand, paid 7f = 2f50 basic plus 4f50/10g special surtax.

paid 7f, seen in Fig. 4, the other 4f50—apparently 25c short of 4f75.

- Two covers to Australia: one paid 6f25, which is 2f50 basic plus 3f75 airmail surtax to Australia; the other, a registered cover, paid 6f80 and is short paid for 2f50 basic plus 2f50 registry plus 3f75 airmail and should have been 8f75. There were connections from New Zealand on to Australia. Apparently there was no special surtax for airmail to Australia on the first flights.

- Two covers to Honolulu, but marked to be flown only to New Zealand: one paid 4f75 (see Fig. 5), the other 6f15 and either overpaid for 4f75 or underpaid for 7f, as shown in Fig. 5. Like those to the U.S., these would have gone by surface from New Zealand to Honolulu.
- One cover to Hong Kong, marked to fly as far as New Zealand, paying 4f75, as above.

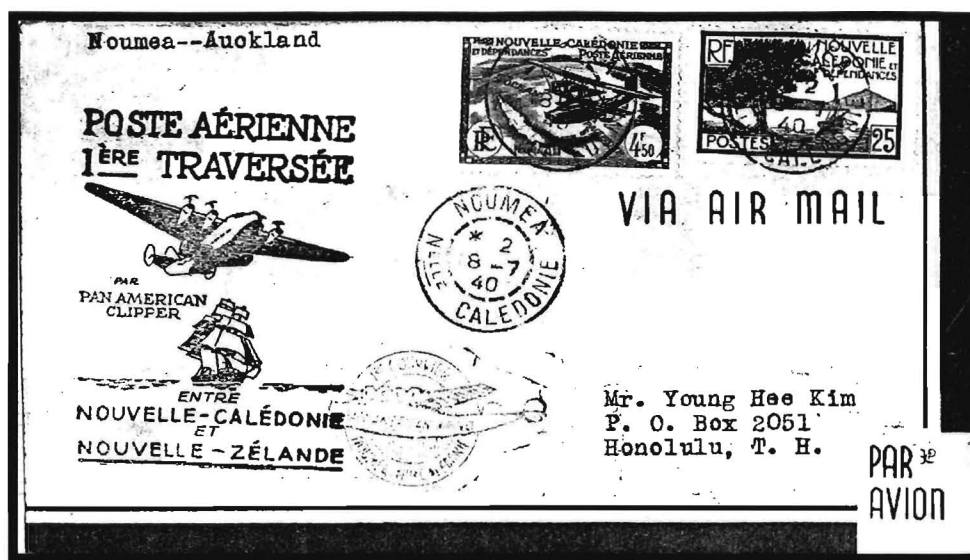


Figure 5. 18 July 1940, to Honolulu, paid 4f75 = 2f50 basic plus 2f25/5g pre-existing surtax to fly only to New Zealand.

### The 21 July 1940 Covers

These covers went eastward from Noumea on the return flight back to the U.S., all bearing the special cachet for mail between New Caledonia and the U.S. (see Ref. 1, Figure 4c). They are especially subject to confusion, given that (1) some patrons paid only the pre-existing surtax, while others (properly) paid the special surtax for the first flight; and (2) many were marked and paid to fly only part of the way to the U.S. even if addressed to the U.S.

To assist in following the cover evidence, here are the rates that *should* have been paid (regardless of final destination), using the spe-

cial surtaxes for the first flight:

- ♦ to be flown to the U.S.: 2f50 basic plus 17f/10g airmail = 19f50 (arriving 24 July at San Francisco or Los Angeles);
- ♦ to be flown to Honolulu: 2f50 basic plus 8f50/10g airmail = 11f (arriving 22 July);
- ♦ to be flown to Canton Island: 2f50 basic plus 4f50/10g airmail = 7f (arriving 20 July, after crossing the international date line).

We have photocopies of sixty-one 21 July covers to one or the other of these destinations; they show just how many variations there are.

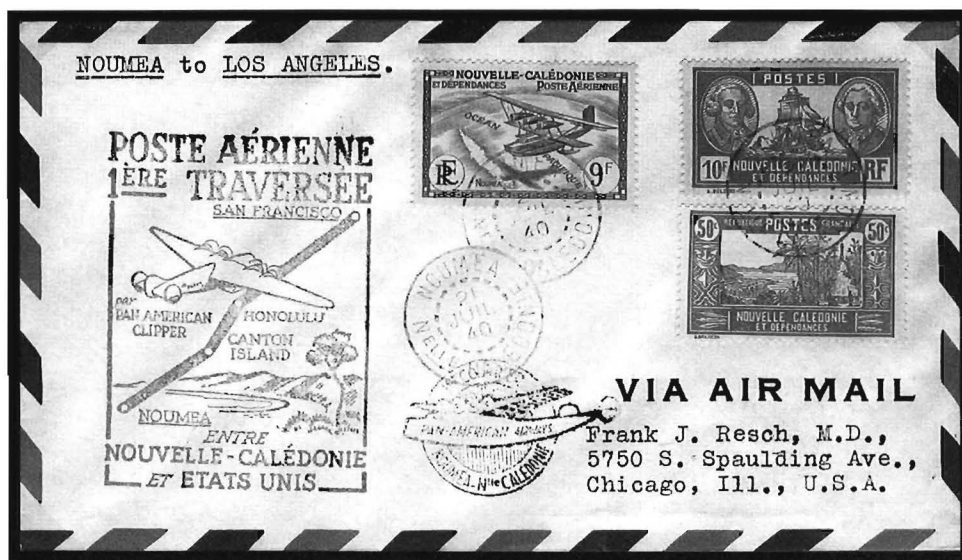


Figure 6. The 19f50 rate to the U.S.

- ♦ Fifteen are addressed to the U.S. and paid 19f50, marked to fly all the way as seen in Fig. 6.<sup>5</sup>
- ♦ Twenty-one are addressed to the U.S. and paid 11f, of which seven are marked to fly only as far as Hawaii (2f50 basic plus the special 8f50/10g airmail surtax to Honolulu for the first flight), though twelve are marked to fly all the way to the U.S. such as the one shown in Fig. 7<sup>5</sup> (paying 2f50 basic plus the pre-existing 8f50/5g airmail surtax to the U.S.). Two have no markings. Interestingly, of the seven marked to fly only as far as Hawaii, five are backstamped in Honolulu (20 July) and apparently went surface from there; one is backstamped in Los Angeles (24 July) and thus flew all the way; we do not have the back of the other one. Of the twelve marked to fly all the way, ten are backstamped in Los Angeles (24 July) and thus flew all the way even though they did not pay the special surtax for the first flight; we do not have the backs of the other two.



Figure 7. The 11f rate to the U.S.

- ♦ Six are addressed to the U.S. and paid 6f75. Of these, three are marked to fly to Hawaii, thus paying 2f50 basic plus the pre-existing 4f25 airmail surtax to Hawaii; the other three are not marked. All six are backstamped in Honolulu (22 July) and no doubt went the rest of the way by surface.
- ♦ Two are addressed to the U.S. and paid 4f75, as shown in Fig. 8. Both are marked to fly only as far as Canton Island and both are backstamped on arrival there (20 July),



Figure 8. The 4f75 rate to the U.S.

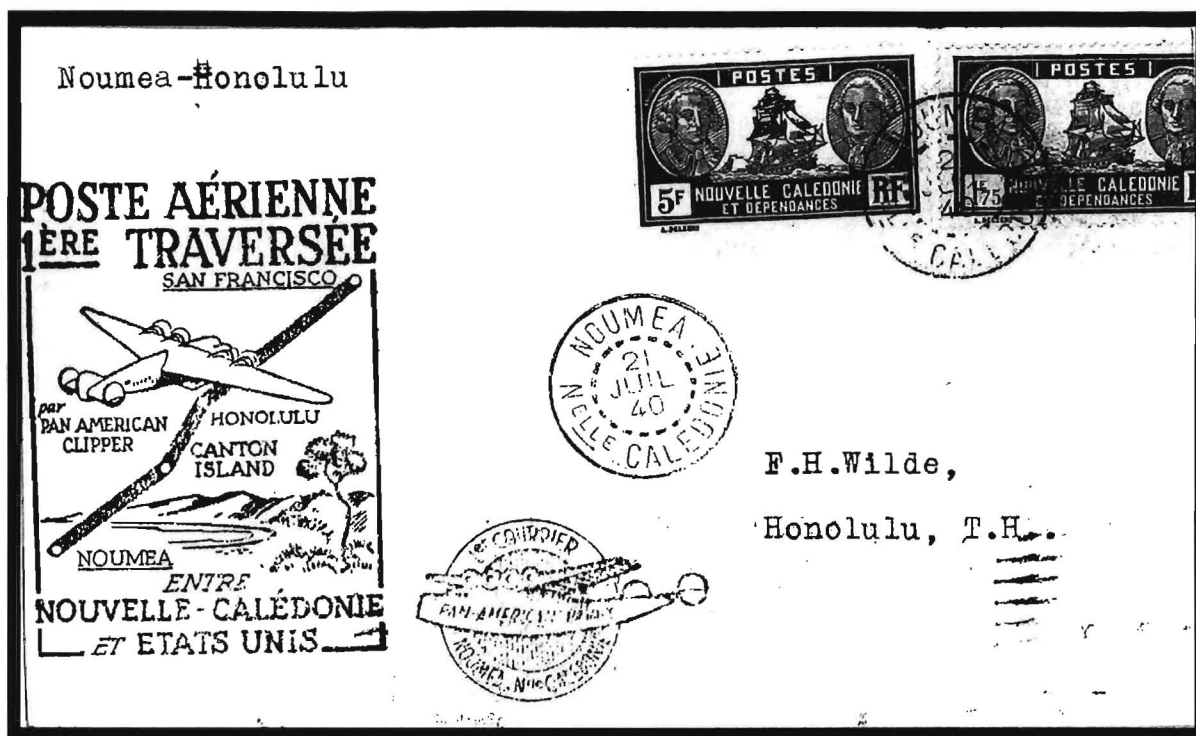


Figure 9. The 6f75 rate to Honolulu.

no doubt going the rest of the way by surface.

All were flown to Canton Island and back-stamped on arrival there 20 July.

- Four are addressed to the U.S. and paid 15f25, 28f (2), or 14f15 registered. These are obviously philatelically overfranked, a phenomenon not surprising for first flight covers.
- One is addressed to Honolulu and paid 6f75: 2f50 basic plus the pre-existing 4f25 airmail surtax to that destination, an example of which is seen in Fig. 9. It is backstamped in Honolulu (22 July).
- Twelve are addressed to Canton Island. Of these, seven paid 7f, which includes 2f50 basic plus the 4f50/10g special surtax for the first flight (see Fig. 10). Four paid 4f75, representing 2f50 basic plus the pre-existing 2f25/5g surtax, as seen in Fig. 11.<sup>5</sup> The other cover paid 9f25, which apparently represents 2f50 basic plus triple the pre-existing 2f25/5g surtax (for a letter weighing 10-15 grams).

### Concluding Appeal

This article illustrates the value of research into postal and airmail rates, as well as the success that comes when generous collectors share their covers. Our study group continues to need many covers, and will greatly appreciate photocopies (front and back, *please*) of all airmail covers from all French colonies (not



Figure 10. The 7f rate to Canton Island.

France itself) to anywhere in the world dated earlier than 1946. Send them to

Bob Picirilli  
301 Greenway Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37205

I will respond with an analysis of the franking on the covers. I may also be contacted at

[picirillir@bellsouth.net](mailto:picirillir@bellsouth.net)

## References

1. Tucker, S.T., "FAM 19—The New Caledonia Connection," *FCP*, **63**(4), pp. 86-90.
2. Picirilli, R.E. "Rates for the 1940 Inaugural Flights from New Caledonia (FAM-19)," *Jack Knight Air Log – PAA Notes*, Oct-Dec 2003, pp. 48-52.
3. John Parmenter, of the UK, did this research as one of twenty-five "members" of an informal study group ferreting out airmail rates used in French colonies until the end of 1945. They live in the U.S., Canada, England, Scotland, France, and South Africa. The author of this article coordinates the group's efforts and produces an occasional newsletter solely for the exchange of information among them. They have pursued this project since 1995 and are currently bringing together the results of the research in a book that may be published as soon as 2009. The finished work will include basic postal and registry rates and will focus on airmail surtaxes from all French colonies and France, to anywhere in the world, during the period 1920-45. An important part of the study has been to compile a database of airmail covers—now more than 6,000—shared by many collectors. A large part of the research has been carried out at the Library of Congress and other libraries in Europe that

have copies of the official journals of the various colonies.

4. The following excerpt from *The Postal Bulletin* (Washington, D.C., vol. LXI, no. 17975), June 26, 1940, p. 1. gives the announcement from the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General, dated June 25.

The first flight on the foreign air mail route from San Francisco by Los Angeles, Honolulu, Canton Island (South Pacific) and Noumea (New Caledonia) to Auckland (New Zealand), is scheduled to leave San Francisco July 12 and arrive at Auckland July 17, and returning to leave Auckland July 20 and arrive at San Francisco July 24. Since the announcement of August 20, 1939, of the manner of preparing covers, changes have been made by embracing Los Angeles on the route, by establishment of a post office at Canton Island, and by increase of the postage rate (in addition to surtax) at Noumea to 2.50 francs.

The postage rates are restated as follows: From Noumea to Auckland, 7.00 French francs; to Canton Island, 7.00 francs; to Honolulu, 11.00 francs, and to San Francisco or Los Angeles, 19.50 francs per 10 grams.

The issue for July 2, 1940 (vol. LXI, no 17979, p. 1) adds the information that:

There will be connecting air service from Auckland to Sydney, Australia (maintained by New Zealand), and from there to Hong Kong (by the British service) where it connects to the weekly Pan American service from San Francisco.

5. Note that for completeness some figures have been reproduced from Ref. 1 above. These are:

Figure 3 is: Fig. 5

Figure 6 is: Fig. 10

Figure 7 is: Fig. 9

Figure 11 is: Fig. 8.



Figure 11. The 4f75 rate to Canton Island.

# Madagascar: Vive le Type Groupe

*Ed Grabowski (FCPS 1469)*

With my Guadeloupe collection now history, I have been focusing on the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type. I began collecting the Group Type in the late 1970's when I was experiencing a paucity of General Issues postal history material at U.S. shows. I noted the availability of Group Type covers, and began purchasing them although I had no knowledge about them at the time. In the early 1980s I entered my first Group Type exhibit in a RIPEX show, encouraged by Ray Gaillaguet, one of the principals involved in that show. By the late 1980s and into the 1990s, I was exhibiting a ten frame Group Type exhibit, attempting to cover all of the French Colonies in one exhibit. This exhibit reached the Gold level internationally, and it received two Grand Awards at the national level. However, trying to exhibit such a rich area in only eight to ten frames was proving too cumbersome. My write-up was becoming minimalist, and I was beginning to arouse the ire of the judges as I began to put four to six covers on one page. I may hold the record for most covers consistently exhibited on a single page.

## *A New Approach*

In 2000 I decided to try and develop a series of Group Type exhibits on individual Colonial areas, and I joined the FCPS exhibits with ten frames of Madagascar Group Type material at the 2001 Philadelphia Show. I chose Madagascar since it was a complex Colony, preceded by the colonies of Mayotte, Nossi-Bé, Diego Suarez, Ste. Marie-de-Madagascar and others, which ultimately became part of Madagascar. This provided a complex and rich area for which to develop an exhibit, and this exhibit was well-received by the judges.

Since that time, I have developed individual Group Type exhibits for Indochina and the

French Indochinese Offices (ten frames), and the French Pacific Colonies (New Caledonia and Dependencies and French Oceania and Tahiti – seven frames). I have continued to purchase Group Type material for all of the colonies, and plan future exhibits on the French American, French West African and French Indian Ocean Colonies in the future.

Collecting the Group Type from all of the Colonies is an endless endeavor, as new material is always becoming available. With ten frames of Madagascar already on the exhibition circuit, the reader might wonder if it is possible to find new material to add to the exhibit. I am planning to revise the Madagascar exhibit, as it was my first attempt at a single Colony exhibit, and in this revision I plan to incorporate the new material. While recently reviewing the new material, I was struck by the fact that despite already having ten frames of material, I continue to find new and unusual material. I would like to illustrate this point by presenting three covers, each of which presents an unusual aspect of Madagascar's postal history.

## *First Provisional Postage Due Usage*

Fig. 1 shows a printed matter wrapper posted at the standard five centimes rate from Tamatave on 26 May 1899 to an addressee in the city of Tamatave. Apparently the addressee was

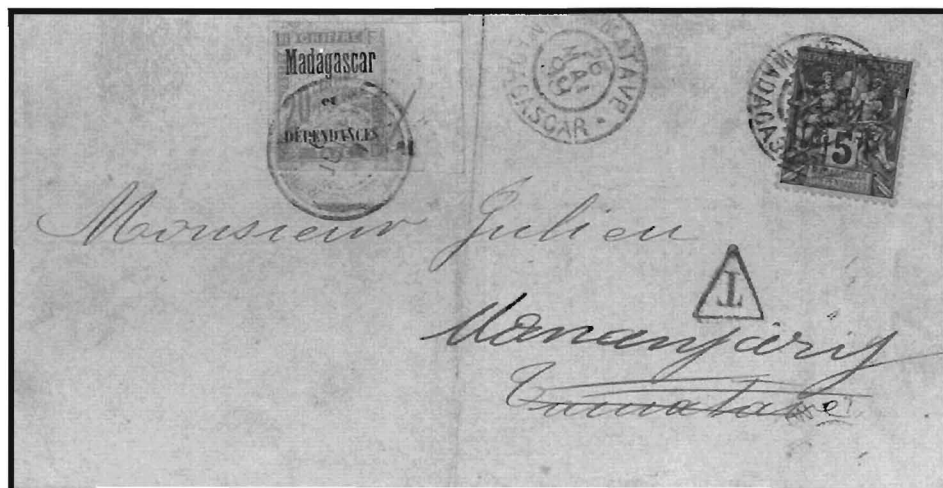


Figure 1. Postage Due Letter With Provisional Mananjary Cancel.

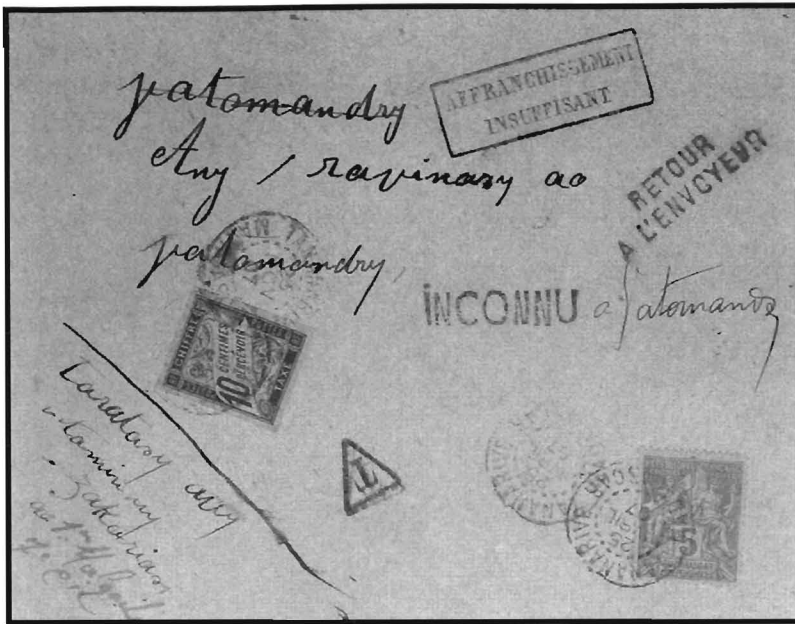


Figure 2. Postage Due Cover with Many Auxiliary Instructional Markings.

not living in Tamatave, and the wrapper was forwarded to him in Mananjary, a village about 275 kilometers away. However, the printed matter rate did not include a forwarding privilege, so the wrapper was struck with a T in triangle in Tamatave to indicate postage due. On arrival in Mananjary the piece was taxed twenty centimes due, and the 20c provisional postage due of 1896-1897 was applied to the wrapper. Of note, it was cancelled with the blind provisional double-ringed datestamp of Mananjary on 6 June. The first question with this piece is explaining the postage due charge of twenty centimes. Since the printed matter rate did not cover forwarding, the wrapper was treated at the local letter rate of 15c, credited for the five centimes Group Type stamp, and charged twenty centimes due, double the ten centimes deficiency. The use of the provisional Madagascar due stamps on postage due material is quite rare, and in combination with the provisional double-ringed datestamp of Mananjary it represents an exceptional item for addition to the collection.

### Auxiliary Markings

The second item, Fig. 2, is a variant on the postage due theme. It was posted from Tananarive on 25 April 1907 to an addressee in Vatomandry, a coastal village approximately 200 kilometers from Tananarive. It was franked at

the incorrect rate of five centimes instead of the ten centimes local rate. At Tananarive it was struck with a T in triangle and a blue boxed **AFFRANCHISSEMENT INSUFFISANT** handstamp, both standard French postal markings. The letter arrived in Vatomandry on 27 April, and the addressee could not be located. The letter was marked with a locally produced **INCONNU** (unknown) handstamp to which a manuscript *a Vatomandry* was added. The letter was then marked with a standard **RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR** handstamp for return to the sender.

Upon return to Tamatave on 25 November 1907, a 10c Duval postage due stamp was added and cancelled. Note that by this date the provisional dues were no longer available, and the post office reverted to the use of general colonial postage due stamps. The sender thus was charged double the five centimes deficiency on the letter. In addition to the nice combination of the 5c Group Type and 10c Duval stamps, this remarkable due letter bears four local handstamps detailing its transit and return.

### Early Civilian Mail

The final letter in this group, shown in Fig. 3, is possibly the most remarkable of the lot. The French began their final military assault on Madagascar in 1895 with the official colony being declared in mid 1896. Military control continued to be established in the remote regions thereafter, and the existing postal history reflects these French campaigns. Typically one initially sees military mail from the newly occupied regions, with use of the military **TRESOR ET POSTES** datestamps. This is followed by establishment of the civilian post offices, wherein use of the provisional numeral datestamps is seen prior to the arrival of the standard issue circular village datestamps and postal paraphernalia. The letter in Fig. 3 was posted from the small village of Beforona on 7 December 1898. Beforona is a small village about 200 kilometers west of Tananarive. The letter is franked with a 50c Group Type stamp, prepaying a standard 50c registered French Community rate (25c postage and 25c registration). The letter bears a **Corps d'occupation d. Madagascar** sender's endorsement indicating

its origin was a military area. In addition it bears a manuscript **Beforona 7/12** manuscript date indicator, and an **R = N° 78** postal registration number. An enclosed **R** is present on the front of the letter, and a military handstamp (**Le Capitaine Commandant la 10<sup>e</sup> de Génie** with manuscript changes) and signature, and a **NANCY MEURTHE ET MOSELLE, 15 JANV 98** arrival handstamp are present on the reverse.

This is a most curious and, I believe, remarkable letter, originating in Beforona during the early stages of civilian postal activities at this office. According to Favrel<sup>1</sup> this office opened in December 1896, and was assigned provisional numeral cancel **2**. This number was transferred within a month<sup>2</sup> with limited postal activities occurring at this office immediately thereafter. No postal markings from Beforona are present on this letter. However, the manuscript date on the front of the letter is undoubtedly from 7 December 1897 based on the January 1898 Nancy arrival in France on the reverse, which also confirms that it traveled through the mails.

The letter is franked with a 50c Madagascar Group Type stamp which is tied by a three line manuscript cancel, and a manuscript **Beforona**. The enclosed **R** on the front of the letter was most probably added in transit confirming registration of the item. Regretfully, there are no Madagascar transits on the letter. It most probably went to the port at Tamatave and then to Marseille. The manuscript registry number on the front indicates that it was the seventy-eighth registered letter to be processed at this office during some set time period. Whether this is a month, a quarter or the year is uncertain, however the latter might be most logical given Favrel's indication of limited activity at this office. Why the manuscript cancel, and the 50c registered French Community rate in lieu of the military concession rate or complete military franchise? Undoubtedly, the Beforona regular datestamp will still not be available at the end of 1897. My earliest example of this datestamp is October 1899. Relative to the full franking at the 50c registered rate, it could be that the sender was an officer, and the military rates were not available to him. Thus, here we

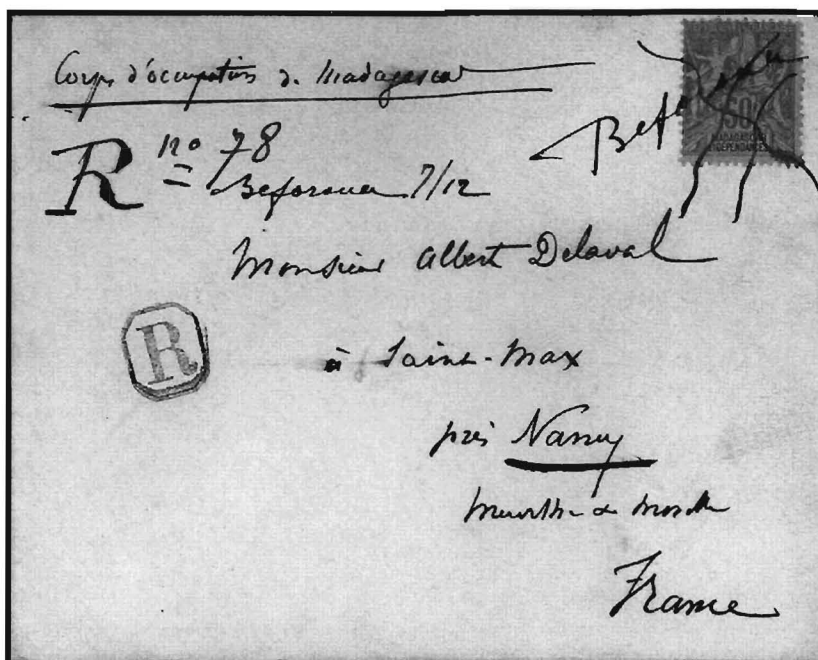


Figure 3. Early Civilian Letter of 7 December 1898.

have a registered French Community letter posted from the small village of Beforona, Madagascar during the formative period of civilian postal activities at that office. Although the civilian office was functioning, postal devices were apparently not available.

### Conclusion

The primary point of this article is to suggest to readers that the Group Type remains a truly viable area for the development of new collections, be they single colony, a colonial group, or the entirety of the French Colonies as I have done. Standard material is available, and unusual material such as that above is very much available to those who are searching for it.

Collecting the stamps independently of the postal history for this issue is a broad and enjoyable activity. One has long sets, *millésimes*, overprints, varieties and cancellations to consider. I think the postal history is even more exciting, given how little has been written about the postal history of this issue, how vast it is, and how often the unusual turns up. Sales within the past year which have highlighted Group Type material have been those of Spink (New Caledonia) and Harmers of Switzerland (French Oceania). The French houses of Roumet, Marsanoux, Lugdunum, and Jamet/

Baudot have also recently featured some excellent Group Type material. I hope this short note on the joys and possibilities within this issue will catalyze additional interest in it.

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2. Favrel, P. *Événements A Postaux A Madagascar et Dependances*, Tome I, 56, COLFRA, 2003.

## A Parisian Postscript

*[As promised, there are the comments of member **Bayard Mentrum** on the Paris trip in June. This will be the last word!]*

I want to thank you for arranging all the meetings with the dealers, the postal museum, the wonderful Indian meal and the stamp show. The stamp show was like a circus with so many children running around. It was wonderful to see so many enthusiastic kids there instead of just old men as in the states. If 10% of the kids become serious collectors that would really keep philately going. The exhibits at the show were very well done with many rare stamps and good information and presentation. The show itself did not have that many dealers with more country postal sales booths. It did not help that most dealers did not take credit cards.

Meeting Behr was a pleasure and he was very generous with the book gifts and offering to look at a few of my stamps to see if he thought they were genuine. I learned that the French dealers only want French certificates for the stamps and all my U.S. certs. were worthless to them. Behr also discussed the removal of gum from rare stamps as it damages the stamp over time which is a switch from the perfect gum craze in the U.S. Roumet was interesting as he also glance at my stamps and immediately said they were all fake which was different from Behr's opinion.

It was amazing to see so many stamp shops on one street and how they are all surviving. The shop windows varied from very neat and well

displayed items to other shops that had dusty piles of stamp collections with no order.

The outside bourse had one or two dealers with nice stamps and then a lot with pretty common collections that were not cheap. The stamp market in France is obviously more vital than here. I liked what Behr said about wanting to meet personally with clients rather than only online sales.

The postal museum was astonishing to see some of the rare items in their archives. It made me want to see more in those hidden drawers. The library was full of rare books along with current books about not just stamps but the history of France. I was able to purchase a few of my missing *specimen* and *annule* stamps at a fair price and finally bought a Dallay catalogue and the French *perfin* book. It was also interesting to hear that some Frenchman purchased Dallay and Yvert and is going to change to a new catalogue I think will be called Maury.

I had a wonderful time riding the rail through the south of France all the way to the Italian border. Enough of lugging baggage around the world for a while.

## Those Pesky Perf. 11s

In writing about these stamps in *Bulletin Col.Fra*, No. 125, 3<sup>ème</sup> trimestre 2008, pre-eminent expert Jean-François Brun writes:

*Forgery. Many stamps of France and her colonies that were printed in France and left imperforate received a FALSE linear perforation 11. long ago. Because the imperforate stamps were not saleable, it was necessary to find a way to market them! While many of these "perforated 11" stamps are cataloged by individual catalogs, sold by a particular dealer or signed by a certain "expert," this does not make them authentic. (page 21)*

Having heard this from M. Brun in Paris, I am still not sure why the statement "Because the imperforate stamps were not saleable," is being made. I'll ask him.

# Performing Philatelic Research

## American Philatelic Research Library

Gini Horn, Librarian

*[I wish to thank Virginia "Gini" Horn for writing this piece for the FCPS. As you will see, the APRL is the single most important philatelic research source in the U.S.]*

The American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) is located with the American Philatelic Society (APS) in Bellefonte, PA. The APRL was founded in 1968 as an educational organization to be a companion to the APS. From the time of its incorporation forty years ago, the APRL has been a grateful recipient of many donations of literature from APS members, authors, and publishers. The collection currently occupies nearly 2.75 miles of literature covering nearly every aspect of philatelic interests as well as many historical, geographical reference materials.

The APRL has its own publication, the *Philatelic Literature Review* (PLR), which specializes in reviews of philatelic literature, bibliographies, indexes, and articles about historic philatelists, philatelic organizations, as well as dealers and auction firms.

Although we have a worldwide collection, and an obvious bent toward United States, Canada and Great Britain, we do have some interesting and occasionally unique items that collectors of France and French Colonies would find of interest and many times of great use.

### The Bob Stone Clippings

Many France and Colonies collectors will remember **Bob Stone** who was a prolific writer as well as the editor of *France and Colonies Philatelist* from 1964 to 1994. A unique resource that Bob provided to the APRL is bound copies of his clipping files. These files contain most of the articles covered in his bibliography that was published in the library's *PLR* from 2nd quarter 1977 through 4th quarter 1986. (In



1981 the APRL published parts from the beginning through 4th quarter 1980.)

Although these clippings are a wonderful resource they are not the easiest items to use in the APRL. For these clippings, the spine has the contents listed in the same order they are bound. Each section of clippings is separated from the remainder by a pale green sheet of paper. Within a section, there doesn't seem to be any strict order of the clippings. In most cases, the sections are relatively short, so it doesn't take an inordinate amount of time to page through them. Of course, this can always lead to a surprise that is exactly what you may have been looking for!!! Photocopies of the clippings are difficult to make.

Because they are bound, the center seam sometimes obscures part of the text when you try to copy an article.



### The W. L. Green Library

In 1988, the APRL was a bidder in an auction at the Garfield-Perry March Party. The literature being auctioned that day had once been the property of William Lawrence Green. Green was an avid France collector and had a substantial philatelic library — all beautifully

bound. While at the auction, the APRL was able to purchase for an incredibly reasonable sum many classic French publications:

- ♦ Bulletin de la Société Française de Timbrologie 1875-date
- ♦ Bulletin Mensuel de la Société les échangistes Réunis 1896-date
- ♦ Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste 1864-date
- ♦ La Gazette des Timbres: Guide Illustré du Collectionneur de Timbres-Postes Télégraphes et Fiscaux 1872-date
- ♦ Revue de la Federation Philatélique de France 1904-date
- ♦ La Revue Postale: Organe Universel de la Timbrologie 1893-date

### ***Other journals held by the APRL***

Using the library's web-based catalogue ([www.stamplibrary.org](http://www.stamplibrary.org)) enter the word journal in the record type field and France/Francaise in the title field to retrieve some of the journals we have about France. Learning how to use the search fields under the rules of Boolean logic is a whole separate topic, see *PLR* 2nd quarter 2008)

Here are some titles that may be of interest. There are other journals in our collection that would undoubtedly be of use to the France and Colonies collect, but in many cases we have only a very small amount of the journal run.

- ♦ *Bulletin de l'APFI (Amicale Philatelique France-Israel)* #s 8(1989) 14, 20, 22 - 23, 40 (2005)
- ♦ *\*L'Echo Timbrologie* Vol.5 (1891) - Vol. 115 (2000) some gaps in the run (Merged with two other periodicals to form *Timbres Magazine*)
- ♦ *Les Feuilles Marcophiles: Revue Francaise de Marcophilie et d'Histoire Postale* #92 (Sept 1953) to present (Note large gaps before #224, after #224 we are missing only #227)
- ♦ *France and Colonies Philatelic Society News*

*Letter* Vol. 1 #5 Sept 1950 - Vol 4 #2

- ♦ *France & Colonies Philatelic Society Newsletter* (1972 - 1985)
- ♦ *France & Colonies Philatelist* - complete
- ♦ *Groupeement Philatelique de France* #1 Oct 1924 - #13 Dec 1925
- ♦ *Journal of the France & Colonies Philatelic Society* (UK) Vol. 27 Oct - Nov 1977 to present
- ♦ *\*Le Monde des Philatelites* #1 (1951) - #549 (1997) missing only #500, #508 and #515 merged with two other periodicals to form *Timbres Magazine*
- ♦ *Philatelie Francaise* Vol. 1 (1952) - Vol. 6 (1957) ; Vol. 16 (1967) - Vol. 41 (1992) ; Vol. 43 (1994) - Vol. 46 (1997); #523 (1998) - #543 (1999) #564 (2002) to present
- ♦ *Postillion* 1902 - 1924
- ♦ *Revue Philatelique de France* #14 (1926) - #68 (1930)
- ♦ *Revue Philatelique Francaise* Vol. 1 (1892) - Vol. 20 (1919)
- ♦ *Timbres Magazine* Vol. 1 (2000) to present
- ♦ *Timbrophile de France* #21 - #31 (1905)
- ♦ *\*Timbroscopie* #0 (1984) - #177 (2000) merged with two other periodicals to form *Timbres Magazine*

\*Items with the star have merged to become *Timbres Magazine*, but this has made things somewhat difficult for researchers. For three years *Timbres Magazine* had its own numbering system, but it also continued the numbering system for each of the journals that had merged. So if you ask us for an article from *Timbroscopie* #179 (two issues after the merger) we may mistakenly say we don't have that issue, when in fact it is *Timbres Magazine* #2.

### ***Catalogues***

The APRL has several specialized catalogues for France.

- ♦ *Catalogue - Ceres - France* most recent two

editions are 1998 and 2004/2005

- ♦ *Dallay - France Timbres de France 2004 - 2006*
- ♦ *Yvert & Tellier Catalogue de Timbres France*  
most recent two editions are 2004 and 2008

### ***Ernest Kehr's Clippings***

When Ernest Kehr passed away suddenly in 1987, the APRL became the recipient of his massive collection of clippings. Ernie had been the stamp columnist for several main stream publications (New York Herald Tribune, The New York Post and others) for many years, and used his clipping file as his primary research tool. These clippings originally occupied more than 30 four-drawer file cabinets in his Richmond Hill, NY home and dated back into the early 1930s. While France and French Colonies were not his personal collecting interests, he did avidly clip all countries and all topics he could locate. These materials are alphabetically arranged, and are filed in three-sided folders on shelves in our library annex. Within each folder are Kehr's original folders with his 'sub-headings' such as Classic France, 19th century, postmarks, etc.

While the Kehr files are not cataloged, most of the additional materials are listed in our on-line catalog. To search for materials about France, you can put that word in Any Word, Title field or subject field (preferably only one of the fields), but for the Colonies, we use French Colonies, not France and Colonies. (Warning: If you typed "France & Colonies" you would get everything related to France as well as any Colony of any country - Britain, Germany, Dutch, etc. Yes, you'd get **ALL** the colonies!!!!)

### ***Hours***

The APRL is open Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM and designated Saturdays during the summer. While most materials are on open stacks, materials housed in the annex will be retrieved by APRL staff.

The APRL and various other locations throughout the American Philatelic Center are WiFi accessible. However, electrical outlets are at a premium. There is a photocopier available in the library, and if you are staying for more

than one day, we allow you to keep your research "piles" on the tables until you are ready to leave. Materials may be borrowed by APS/APRL members, and they are allowed to take the materials home and mail them back. Non-members may use the facility and the materials, make photocopies, but are not allowed to borrow the materials.

### ***Getting There***

Where are we? Bellefonte is in the same county as State College, our former home of 55 years. The airport is the University Park Airport — airport code SCE — which is serviced by three airlines; US Airways (the most flights), United Air Lines, and Northwest. Delta has discontinued flights as of 1 September 2008.

To come to Bellefonte by car, we are located just south of Interstate 80, complete directions are available on the American Philatelic Society web-page:

[www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)

Also on our web-site is a list of Bed and Breakfasts (most in Bellefonte), as well as motels and hotels in the area (most in State College area). Bellefonte and State College are 10 miles apart.

### ***Contact Information***

To contact the APS/APRL:

Telephone: 814-933-3803

Fax: 814-933-6128

Library staff:

- ♦ Gini Horn, Director  
Extension: 246  
e-mail [gini@stamps.org](mailto:gini@stamps.org)
- ♦ Ellen Peachey Public Services Coordinator  
Extension: 241  
e-mail [ellen@stamps.org](mailto:ellen@stamps.org)
- ♦ Roseann Staie, Circulation  
Extension: 240  
e-mail [rstaie@stamps.org](mailto:rstaie@stamps.org)

Mailing address:

APRL  
100 Match Factory Place  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

# Recommandé d'Office

Peter Maybury (FCPS 3375)

In 2006, my good friend Peter Kelly wrote most interestingly on the subject of the development of the *Chargement d'Office* service.<sup>1</sup> As a follow up I thought I would share a letter, which I acquired last year. It may be of interest, as it is the only example of an eighteenth century letter bearing the instruction *recommandé d'office* that I have come across during some forty years of the collecting and study of the French postal system during the period of the *ancien régime*.

To recap, *recommandé d'office* was a free service taken at the initiative of the postal service (as indicated by the mention *d'office*) i.e. not at the request of the sender, where it was noticed that a letter was addressed to a person of importance (the king, a minister etc.) or that its contents appeared to be valuable.

Shown in Fig. 1, the letter is dated 3 November 1788. It was written at **RAON** in Lorraine and addressed to **VERONA** (Italy). The post clerk at Raon applied the handstamp,<sup>2</sup> weighed the letter and endorsed it on the reverse for a pre-payment of 42 sols, adding *franche* to confirm the pre-payment, on the front. The *taxe* was calculated at the 1759 tariff single rate (weight not exceeding  $\frac{1}{4}$  once or 3 gros) at 8 sols to Paris plus 20 sols from Paris to Italy (via Aix, Antibes and Genoa), multiplied by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  for a weight of 3 gros. On arrival in Paris all of this was confirmed by the application of the handstamp P.P.P.P (*Port Payé Passe Paris*). At this point it must have been realised that the letter probably contained something of value or perhaps at the time Signore Bertolini was someone of importance, and so it was endorsed *recommandé d'office*, the details entered in a ledger and also on an advice note that would accompany the letter to ensure a safer and speedier delivery.

One unsolved puzzle is the meaning of the black ink endorsement below the word *franche*. I believe it to be an Italian charge mark, but to date I have been unable to decipher it even with the help of Italian experts.

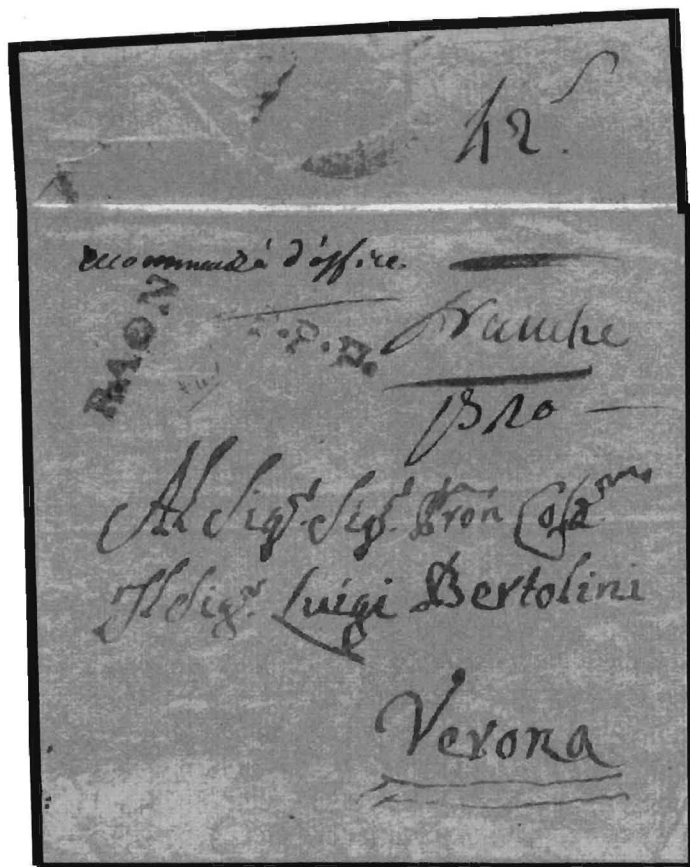


Figure 1. 1788 *recommandé d'office* letter.

## Acknowledgement

I would like to extend my grateful thanks to M. Robert Abensur, president of *l'Académie de Philatélie* and member of FCPS for his help.

## References

1. Kelly, P.R.A, *Chargement d'Office*, FCP, (63)2, July 2006, pp. 55-57.
2. Lenain, L., *La Poste de L'Ancienne France*, Arles 1965.
3. Chauvet, M., *Introduction à L'Histoire Postale*, Brun et Fils, Paris, 2000.

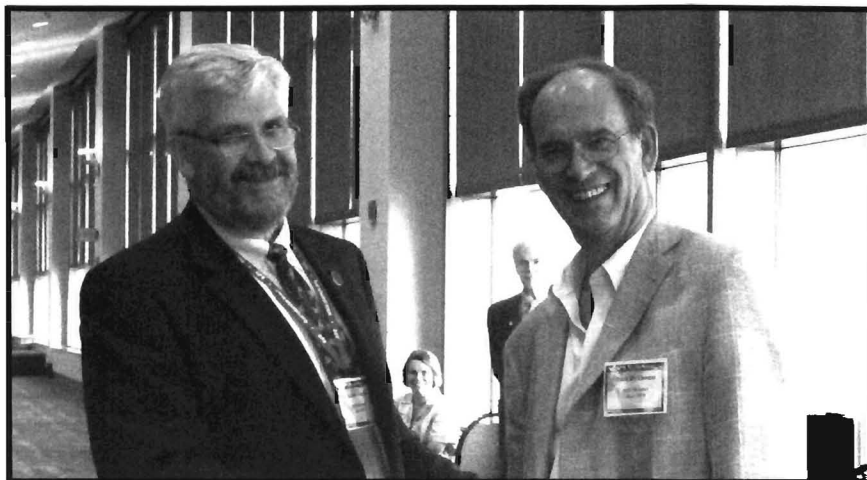
[Mr. Maybury is not only a long time collector of French postal history, but he is also a member of the prestigious *Académie Européenne de Philatélie* — Ed.]

## Dykhouse Wins Congress Award

**Jack Dykhouse**, along with co-author Joe Cartafalsa, won the prestigious Walter R. McCoy Award for the best article in the 2008 Congress Book.

This annual collection of research papers is produced by the American Philatelic Congress. Jack has been an *FCPS* member for many years, and he is Vice President of the Society of Indo-China Philatelists.

Their paper, entitled "Communist Vietnam Military Mail Stamps: 1958 to the Present," presented a great deal of information about this subject that had never before appeared in print.



*Jack Dykhouse receiving the McCoy Award from J. Kevin Doyle, president of the American Philatelic Congress.*

## Plater's Corner

Check your stock books! The 5 October Feldman "Rarities" sale has a "unique" item which may be only the first reported copy, 40c Imperforate Empire (Scott number 18, Yvert number 16), DOUBLE IMPRESSION!

It is on cover, lot #60030, with an enlarged photo of the stamp. The doubling is seen from side to side, not top to bottom. You should look for fuzzy lettering of the top and bottom tablets, where the second impression has inked parts of the first, and a double frame line on the right side of the stamp. With millions of the value printed, it is likely that the rest of the sheet of 300 got distributed and lost; but since one copy got used at *petit chifre* 1152, Dunkerque, you might be especially alert for copies with that cancel.

The auction estimate for this cover is 10,000-15,000 Euros. That's enough incentive to make it worth your time to check your copies, even if you find only a damaged, used single.

*J.E.L.*



# Algeria: History and Postal History

Ken Nilsestuen (FCPS 2333)

Nineteenth century Algerian postal history has its share of mail that can only be of interest to specialists. Think of a couple hundred numeral cancels tying blue French stamps to plain envelopes with no contents. The item illustrated in Fig. 1, though, offers a much more interesting tale.

For a **postal historian**, interesting points start with the French postage due stamp tied with a Milianah cancel and rapidly expand. Just as quickly one also notices the distribution office (like a second class U.S. post office) cancel from Duperré, a little spot on the map with less than 400 French and fewer than 800 people living there. All by itself this is an interesting postal history item. On the back is a weak Milianah receipt CDS. The due stamp is the most common typographed version, in use from 1863 to 1871, but not often used in Algeria.

A **historian** then sees the addressee – *Messieurs Causse et Tulare, entrepreneurs*. Quite a teaser, since most businesses describe their business in their address, not a generic word attesting only to their capitalist instincts. While it may not be visible in Fig. 1, one can also see embossed printing lines showing through the paper.

How rewarding to open the fragile document (the paper, while heavy, cracks easily when folded) and see the commercial report shown in Fig. 2. It is a pre-printed form on which a train conductor, Benason, informs *Enterprise Causse et Cie* of Engine 1883's activities on 18 December 1870.

What did *Causse et Cie* learn from the conductor? It starts with the added note at the upper left that the report is for a full day. Benason wrote in the engine number, its

6:45 [AM] departure time, and that it was pulling twenty cars. It traveled 27 kilometers, and was position 79 for unloading, if I understand this correctly. The engineer purchased no coal or oil that day. They arrived at the depot at 9 in the morning, where it seems that a total of 28 workers loaded and unloaded the cargo. While I cannot read his handwriting well enough to fully translate, conductor Benason describes a morning rain and then some repairs to engine 1883 among his "observations."

In the lower center he also lists the employees on the train. There is an engineer, a fireman, a person whose job I cannot read, and two brakemen. Note that the brakemen are Ali and Beny Kali, native Algerians and not French. Benason closes his report from Oued Ebda, an oasis too small to be on the map, probably quite reminiscent of an old West water stop for American trains.

Of all the Algerian mail I have seen, this is the only report of this kind to make it into my collection. I am delighted that it provides interesting history as well as postal history.



Figure 1. Unpaid folded letter sheet from Duperré to Milianah, both in Algeria.



## Dick Winter Signs RDP

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, one of philately's highest honors, was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. Including this year's recipients of the honor, some 335 philatelists from forty-five countries have achieved this distinction.

**Richard F. Winter**, a long-time member of the FCPS, was one of three philatelists invited to sign the Roll this year. Dick was born in Paterson, New Jersey, and grew up in Freeport, Long Island, New York. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis Maryland in 1959, he served twenty-seven years in the U.S. Navy, including four as commander of the nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine USS *James K. Polk* in the Atlantic. After retiring in 1986, Winter worked another six years as a civilian in the communications technical-support field.

After nineteen years at sea, Winter became fascinated with the mystery and complexity of stampless overseas mail. That led him to a careful examination of foreign rates and treaties, and to the study of the steamships that carried the transatlantic mails.

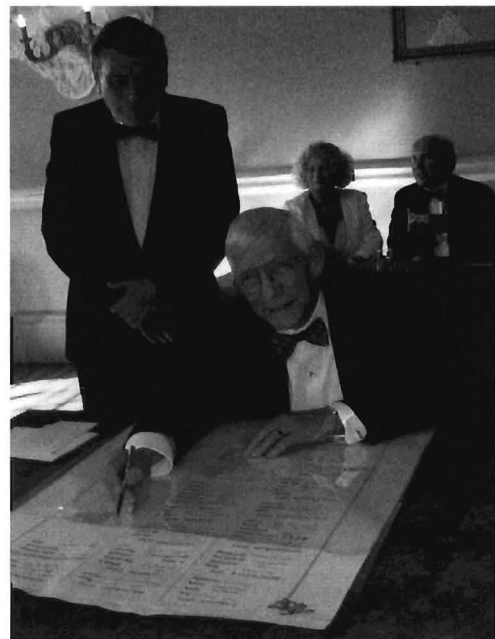
For more than twenty years, he has been the Associate Editor and then Editor of the Foreign Mails Section of *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues*, the quarterly journal of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society. He was president of the USPCS from 1992 to 1996, and is an ex officio member of its Board of Directors. He has authored more than eighty articles, most presenting new information on transatlantic mail, including original research articles for the annual *Congress Book* of the American Philatelic Congress in 1984, 2005, and 2006.

Winter coauthored *North Atlantic 1840-75*, edited by Susan M. McDonald and published by the USPCS in 1988. Documenting the voyages that carried U.S. mail for thirty-one steamship companies, Winter finished the work when co-author Walter Hubbard suddenly died. Winter wrote *Understanding Transatlantic Mail, Volume 1*, published by the American Philatelic Society in 2006, and he is hard at work on Volume 2.

For his writings, Winter received the USPCS Elliott Perry Cup in 1988, the Stanley B. Ashbrook Cup in 1990, and for outstanding service to the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, he received the Lester G. Brookman Cup in 1996 and signed its Scroll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1997.

In addition to his writings, Winter has exhibited internationally since 1981, receiving ten Gold or Large Gold medals for his transatlantic mail exhibits. He also won the American Philatelic Research Library's Cryer Award for outstanding scholarship and research in 2001. He has been a guest speaker at national and international symposia since 1990.

An APS member since 1975, Winter won the APS John N. Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research in 1999, and the Collectors Club of New York's Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for Distinguished Service to Philately in 2003. In 2002 Winter was elected a member of the International Association of Philatelic Experts (AIEP) for transatlantic mail postal history, and in 2005 he became a corresponding member of the Belgian *Académie de Philatélie*.



Dick Winter signing Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

From *The American Philatelist*.

## ***Stan Luft Receives APS Luff Award***

### ***Awarded for Distinguished Philatelic Research***

**Stanley J. Luft**, a member of the FCPS since 1971 and former editor of the *France and Colonies Philatelist*, has received the 2008 John N. Luff Award of the APS for Distinguished Philatelic Research.

Stan has contributed significant research in the realm of French philately as reflected in his exhibits and his writings. He is an internationally recognized expert in all areas of this field. He has written or co-authored more than 100 articles that have appeared in various journals, but largely the *France & Colonies Philatelist*. His writings have also appeared in *The American Philatelist*, *Postal History Journal*, *Collectors Club Philatelist*, *The American Philatelic Congress Book*, *Military Postal History Society Bulletin*, *London Philatelist*, and *Feuilles Marcophiles*.

In the field of books, Stan wrote the three-volume work *The Regular Issues of France According to Their Normal Postal Usage* (1974, 1979, 1984). He is also the author of *Military and Postal History of the Revolutionary Armies in the West of France 1791-1802* (1993). With co-author William Waugh, he wrote *A Chronology of French Military Campaigns and Expeditions with Their Postal Markings 1815-1983* (1984).

His personal research is recorded not only in his writings but also in his many exhibits that have achieved more than thirty Gold awards, several Reserve Grands, and one grand award nationally. At FIP exhibitions he won three large Golds as well as a Prix d'Honneur at London 1990. The areas on which these researched exhibits and his writings have touched include French revolutionary and Napoleonic armies, French military campaigns from 1823, Alsace-Lorraine from 1870, the 15-centimes Sage issue, the 30-centimes Cameo Sowers, the 25-centimes Marianne de Decaris, and Paris suburbs 1760-1883.

Stan was a founding member of the *Académie Européenne de Philatélie* in 1978, a member of

the *Union Marcophile* since 1974, and was elected a corresponding member of the *Académie de Philatélie* in 2001. He edited the *France and Colonies Philatelist* 1993-2000 and served as a director of the society 1971-2007. He has been an accredited chief philatelic and chief literature judge. He is past president of the Philatelic Society of Cincinnati and is a long-standing member of the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show organizing committee where he has served as president and show chairman. He is past president of the Collectors Club of Denver, served on the council of the American Philatelic Congress and chaired its Boehret Award committee.

He is a fellow of the RPSL and has won the France & Colonies Philatelic Society Gerard Gilbert Memorial award for philatelic literature three times for his books. In view of Stan Luft's research contributions to the philately of France and related areas, he is recommended for the 2008 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research.



*Stan Luft (left) being congratulated by FCPS Director John Lievsay, who introduced Stan, and Al Kugel, FCPS member and former recipient of the Luff award.*

*Much of text from The American Philatelist.*

## Membership Notices

### *New Members*

- 3394 Vittel, Robert J., Burke, VA.  
 3395 Brouillette, Daniel A., Forest Lake, MN  
 3396 Siegel, Mark S., Westwood, MA  
 3397 Swanson, John C., Bismarck, ND  
 3398 Boucher, Marc, Sainte-Foy, QC, Canada

### *Reinstatement*

- 1136 Balch, Steven A.

### *Mail Returned*

- 1136 Nelson, Frank, Columbia, NC

### *Resignations Received*

- 2006 Graham, Richard B.  
 3344 Moss, Douglas

### *Deceased*

- 3149 Brewer, William E.

### *Dropped, Nonpayment of Dues*

- 2919 Barkanic, Richard J.  
 2633 Bevan, Bruce  
 1932 Byrd, Gary D.  
 2610 Campbell, Frederick H.  
 3323 De Board, Ralph  
 3261 Demaray, Donald F.  
 2171 Guyer, John O.  
 2939 Laurier, Philippe  
 2879 Nelson, Frank  
 3188 Nelson, Richard A.  
 1111 Nurik, Irving A.  
 978 Peters, Donald J.  
 1410 Rosen, Irwin  
 1292 Sherman, Murray  
 3349 Toledano, James

*Dues Notices will be  
 Coming Soon!  
 Please Pay Promptly to  
 Insure you don't Miss an FCP*

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆  
 ☆  
 ☆ Plan to Attend ☆  
 ☆ the FCP Annual Meeting ☆  
 ☆ next May in Denver, CO. ☆  
 ☆ Better Yet, Why not ☆  
 ☆ Enter Your Exhibit? ☆  
 ☆ See: ☆  
 ☆  
 ☆ ROCKYMOUNTAINSTAMPSHOW.COM ☆  
 ☆  
 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## TYPES AND SUBTYPES

### **o,05 Armories of Auch**

**Type I:** Sheet stamps: color dots present (1) under top of the "C" of AUCH; (2) under tops of "o" and "0" of value; (3) within upper angle and also under upper curve of "5" of value ); most of these dots are visible in any example of the sheet stamps.

**Type II** (very scarce): coil stamps: the color dots are absent; machine cut vertical perforations.

*S. J. Luft*

C

o,05

Type I Characteristics

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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It seems to me that this is a great time to turn to stamps for some peace and quiet. We're seeing the beginning of what I expect will be great economic upheaval everywhere in the world. I can't imagine anyone reading these words is unaffected by the drop in share prices on all the exchanges. And even if one is not an investor, commodity prices are also dropping so a gallon of gasoline is less expensive now than a few weeks ago (these statements are true on October 12, anyway). And all of this is unfolding while those of us in the U.S. are trying to decide which politician will lead us through this mess.

Philately is a great way to spend some quiet time not worrying about the outside world. I really enjoy picking a book off the shelf, whether an *FCP*, *The American Philatelist*, or even something entirely different, like one of the Philatelic Foundation's *Opinions* or the American Philatelic Congress books. I can drift into the technical or historical aspects of our hobby very easily and enjoy time away from the endless cares of life.

As the leaves turn color for those of us in northern latitudes and winter approaches in the northern hemisphere, opportunities to hide in the stamp room come more often. It's wonderfully relaxing to turn the pages of an album, read through an exhibit looking for places to improve it, do some internet shopping or otherwise enjoy our hobby.

It's also show season – here in northeast Ohio we have a show per month through the winter, as well as a few bourses. At every one there is that chance to find an elusive stamp or cover and, failing that, to chat with friends. You know the dealers are all feeling the pinch as we are, so if you can add to your collection, they will appreciate your patronage.

Our hobby is a great retreat. Take advantage of your interests to ease the distress of the external world. If you find something interesting, write about it and share it with our members. It's a great way to spend time without necessarily spending money.

Changing subjects, the directors are still evaluating e-mail delivery of our journal. Once again let me ask you to share your opinion about trading off dues increases for electronic delivery. The savings will be significant, although some members will still require hard copy. Let me emphasize that if we do switch to electronic, the "printed" journal will still be black and white, stapled, one-sided laser-printed paper, not our present folded and bound product. Keep in mind that you can print your own color (or black and white) issue if you want a paper journal. Even better, you can selectively print only those papers in your areas of interest.

## *Many Members Honored*

*David L. Herendeen, Editor*

I must say this has been a banner year for *FCPS* members received significant awards. The two most impressive are both highlighted in this issue. First, was **Stan Luft**, our long-time editor, receiving the prestigious Luff award of the APS for distinguished philatelic research (see page 98). The second was the invitation of **Dick Winter** (already another Luff award winner) to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists (see page 97). A hearty congratulations to both of these fine philatelists for a lifetime of devotion to our hobby.

Almost piling in comparison, four of our members competed in the Champion of Champions competition at Stampshow in Hartford, CT. These were **Larry Gardner**, **Dave Herendeen**, **Eliot Landau** and **Steve Turchik**. In addition, **Jack Dykhouse** and **Dave Herendeen** published papers in the Congress Book this year. Jack, with coauthor Joe Cartafalsa, was awarded the McCoy Award for the best paper in this year's book.

I am heartened by the response to both proposals for short articles and even feature articles. Thanks to **Marty Bratzel**, **Larry Gardner**, **Ed Grabowski**, **Bob Kinsley**, **John Lievsay**, **Peter Maybury**, and **Ken Nilsestuen**.

A special thanks to **Gini Horn**, *librarian* of the APRL, for writing the article on performing research at this important site.

## SHOW REPORTS

*[In order to efficiently use of FCP space, starting with this issue exhibit names will only be given when they relate to French and area philately.]*

- ♦ Filatelic Fiesta (San Jose, CA, Jan 2008): Gold medals to **Bob Kinsley** for "The French Conquest of Europe 1792-1814," **Al Kugel**, and **Roger Quinby**.
- ♦ Garfield-Perry March Party 2008 (Cleveland, OH, Mar 2008): Gold Medals to **Mike Bass** for "Foreign Post Offices in the Holyland 1852-1914" and **Paul Larsen**.
- ♦ Westpex 2008 (San Francisco, Apr 2008): Gold medals to **Paul Larsen** and **Steve Walske** (Also Reserve Grand and APC Award)
- ♦ Plymouth Show (Plymouth, MI, Apr 2008): Gold medals to **Eliot Landau** for "Classic France: Postal History of the Ceres and Napoleon Issues of 1849-75" (Also the APS pre-1940 Award of Excellence) and **Al Kugel**; Vermeil to **Steve Washburne**. Also a Single Frame Gold to **Al Kugel**.
- ♦ ROPEX (Rochester, NY, May 2008): Gold medal to **Steve Turchik** (Also the Grand Award and the APS pre-1940 Award of Excellence)
- ♦ Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (Denver, May 2008): Gold medals to **Thomas Broadhead** for "France: The Decorative Arts Exposition" (Also the Grand Award and the APS 1900-1940 Award of Excellence), **Stan Luft** for "France: Military Campaigns 1823-1897" (Plus a special award), and **Eliot Landau**. Vermeils to **Bob Kinsley** for "The French Conquest of Europe 1792-1814" and **Chuck Leblond**. Also a Single Frame Gold to Thomas Broadhead for "Balloon Post Cards of the Franco-German War - 1870-1871" (Also winner of the Single Frame Grand Award and the APS pre-1940 Award of Excellence)
- ♦ 2008 Omaha Stamp Show (Sep 2008): Gold medals to **Al Kugel** for The Postal History of Montenegro 1874-1922, **Eliot Landau** for The 5c China Resistance Issue of 1942.

## Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title <b>France and Colonies Philatelist</b>		2. Publication Number 0 8 9 7 - 1 2 9 3		3. Filing Date October 1, 2008	
4. Issue Frequency Quarterly		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 4		6. Annual Subscription Price \$20.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.) P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102					
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (not printer) France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.) P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102					
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher: France and Colonies Philatelic Society, Inc. (N.Y.) P.O. Box 102, Brooklyn, NY 11209-0102 Editor: David L. Herndon 5612 Blue Peak Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89131 Managing Editor: David L. Herndon 5612 Blue Peak Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89131					
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13. Publication Title <b>France and Colonies Philatelist</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below October 2008	
15. Issue and Mailing Information		Average No. Copies in Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies in Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		440	440
b. Paid or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of Paid (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		337	341
c. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of Paid (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), (29), (30), (31), (32), (33), (34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100))		0	0
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16. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner  
*David L. Herndon, Publisher* September 20, 2008

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (18 U.S.C. 1001).

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

## *Bumper Crop of FCPS Entrants Compete in CofC at Hartford*

**S**tampshow 2008, the annual convention of the APS, was held in Hartford, CT from 14-17 August 2008. In addition to being a national WSP exhibition, this meeting also hosts the annual **Champion of Champions** competition that pits the winners of each WSP show held the previous year against one another to determine the best of the best.

This year, *FCPS* members had no fewer than **FOUR** of the 30 entries (that's 13.3%!) in this prestigious competition. Our members, all of whom attended the show in various capacities, included:

**Larry Gardner** with his "Morocco Foreign Post Offices and Agencies" which won the Grand at Milcopex 2008;



*Larry Gardner of Indiana*

**Dave Herendeen** with "Evolution of Postage Due Stamps in the French Community, 1876-1930s" which won the Grand at NAPEX 2008;

**Eliot Landau** for "The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Series of 1945-46 and Its First Day Covers," winner of the Grand at Americover 2007; and **Steve Turchik** with "The Usage of Switzerland's Imperforate Sitting Helvetia Issue of 1854-1863," which won the Grand at Ropex 2008.

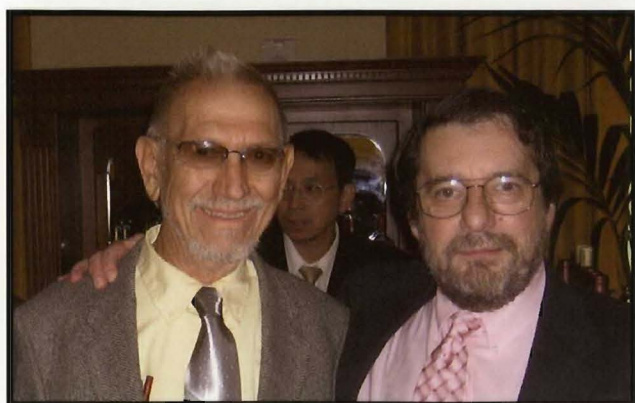
Unfortunately, none of our entrants came away with this year's prize. But, there is always next year! Keep up the good work.



*Eliot Landau of Illinois*



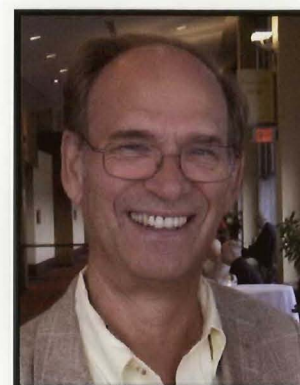
*Steve Turchik of California*



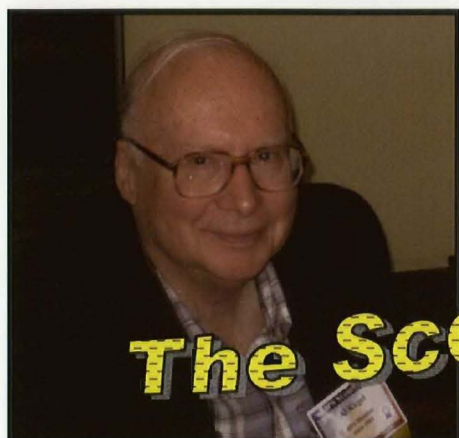
*Steve Turchik of California, and  
Dave Herendeen of Nevada*



*Marc Isaacs of Illinois*

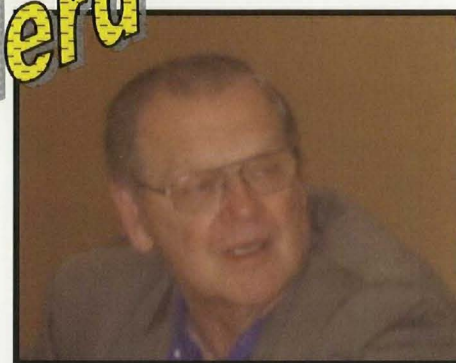


*Jack Dykhouse  
of Texas*



*Al Kugel of Illinois*

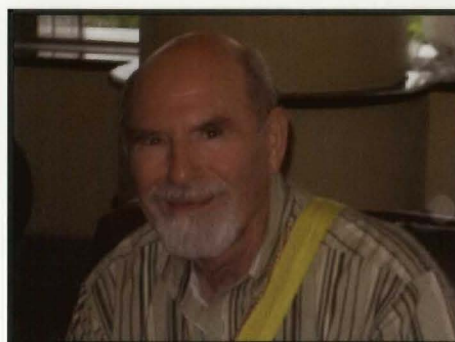
## The Scene and 'Herd' in Hartford



*Dr. Ed Garbowski of  
New Jersey*



*Dr. Cheryl Ganz of  
Washington, DC*



*Stan Luft of Colorado*



*Roger Quinby of Georgia*

Members shown elsewhere in this issue: **Larry Gardner**, **Eliot Landau** and **John Lievsay**. Also seen when your editor did not have his camera: **Lew Bussey**, **Colin Fraser**, and long-time FCPS president **Dick Stevens**. The Editor apologizes to any other members that may have been overlooked.



## French Colonies

Common design Types

**1938 Marie Curie** Type CD80 VFNH  
Set of 21 Fr Colonial stamps (no France) \$245

**1941 Petain Issue** Complete NH set 48 stamps from 24 Colonies \$37

**1941-5 Cross of Lorraine** (Scott Type CD87) The complete Set of 71 stamps all Mint NH \$74

**1944 Petain Surcharges** (Semipostals) Complete set of 48 stamps from 24 Colonies all Mint NH \$40

**1945 Felix Eboue** Type CD91 Complete NH set 26 stamps \$14

**1946 Victory** Type CD92 Set of 15 Mint NH \$12

**1946 Chad to Rhine** Types CD93-8 Complete set of 90 stamps from 15 Colonies all Mint NH \$120

**1950 Tropical Medicine** Type CD100 Complete NH set of 10 \$55

**1952 Military Medal** Type CD 101 Complete NH set of 12 \$96

**1954 Liberation** Type CD102 Complete set all VF NH from 12 different French Colonies \$105

**French Colony 24 page Price List. Free upon request.**

All stamps listed by Scott numbers. Prices are in US Dollars. We offer a generous Layaway Plan, accept Visa & Mastercard, and we pay all postage, insurance and handling costs.

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