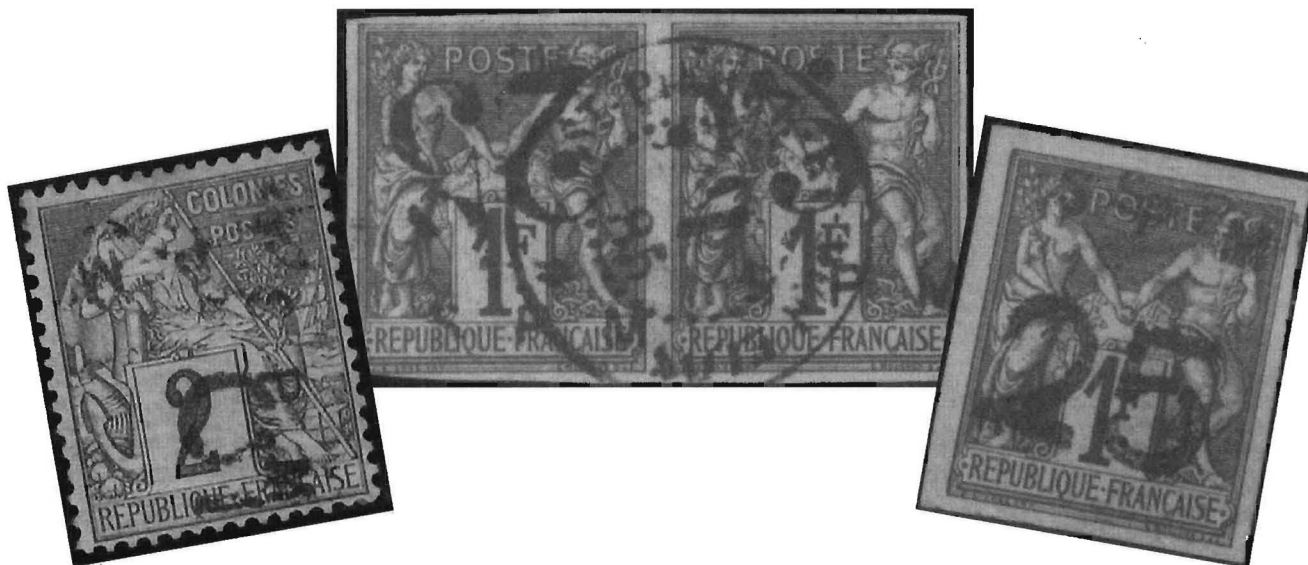




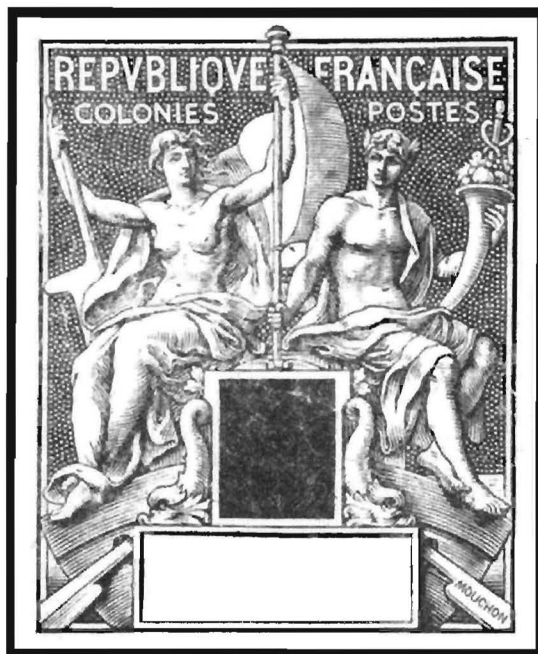
FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST

October 2009
Whole No. 298 (Vol. 65, No. 4)



Les Trois Premiers Timbres de St. Pierre et Miquelon

See page 97.



A Possible New Group Type Variety

See page 87.

CONTENTS**ARTICLES**

- A Possible New Group Type Variety
(*Ed Grabowski*) 87
- The First Issues of Afrique Occidentale
Française (*Stephen T. Tucker*)..... 90
- Les Trois Premiers Timbres de
St. Pierre et Miquelon (*J.-J. Tillard*) 97

SHORTER CONTRIBUTIONS

- Covers from Nowhere to Nowhere
(*James R. Taylor*)..... 102

OTHER FEATURES

- We Get Letters 101
- Member-to-Member 101
- Types and Subtypes..... 101
- Stampshow 2009 Report..... 106
- Show Reports..... 107

SOCIETY NEWS

- Broadhead's "Petite Messages"
Honored as Best Article..... 104
- Herendeen Receives NPM Fellowship 104
- Excellence in Research Award 104
- President's Letter 105
- Annual Meeting and Nominations
for Officers 107
- Another Stampshow Comes and Goes
(*David L. Herendeen*)..... 107
- Membership Notices..... 107
- Advertisers 108

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A Possible New Group Type Variety

Ed Grabowski (FCPS 1469)

As most FCPS members know, I am an avid collector of the postal history of the French Colonial Allegorical Group Type. Originally I began collecting both stamps and covers, and although I have divested myself of most of the former, a small amount of material remains. Recently I was preparing a Powerpoint talk for the Westfield Stamp Club (NJ), my local club, on an aspect of the Group Type. I decided to prepare a slide showing a proof of the master die and an imperforate 1F value ultimately issued for New Caledonia, both of which remain in my collection. These are shown in Fig. 1.

The die proof, which was most likely prepared in 1892 from the master die, illustrates how an opening was left for insertion of the value plug for the various values to be created from it, and how the colonial name was to be printed in a

blank area at the bottom of the stamp in a second run through the printing press. The New Caledonia value nicely illustrates these aspects of the stamp's design.

While looking at these items, I noted once again that the top of the flag pole held by one of the figures is outside the normal frame lines of the stamp, both in the proof and in the actual issue. This struck me as unusual, although I do not have enough of a background in stamp production methods to tell how common it was in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to have a design element outside of the normal stamp borders. On looking more closely, I noted that the top element (or knob) of the flag pole in the die proof had been removed by the time the 1F stamp was printed. An enlarged view of the knob for both of these designs is shown in Fig. 2.



a.



b.

Figure 1. Master die proof of the Group Type and completed proof of the 1 fr value of New Caledonia.



Figure 2. Enlargement of different "knobs."

Numerous questions immediately occurred. Has this observation been made before? Why was the knob removed from the actual stamp? With what regularity does it occur within the Group Type issue? Each of these questions are addressed in the remainder of this paper.

Has the Variety been Reported?

To my knowledge this observation has not been made before. Buchheit has commented on the preparation of the Group Type issue, and shows a variety of proofs and essays on the path from the master die to the plates that were actually used for the printing of the issue.¹ The illustrations he uses are not of sufficient quality to clearly comment on the matter in question.

In the special **Timbroscopie** edition created for PHILEXFRANCE 89, numerous excellent reproductions of various Group Type stamps are present.² The proof of the master die on page 164 and the reproduction of the 1F value from Senegambia & Niger (inverted legend variety) on page 179 show the very same flagpole characteristics noted in my illustrations, but no comments are made on the matter. To my knowledge none of the past or current catalogs have made mention of this variation in flag pole design.

Why Remove the "Knob"

I have a logical guess as to why the top of the flag pole might have been removed in some of the issued stamps. The Group Type issue is notorious for poor centering and a limited space between stamps. With a longer flag pole, its top was more likely to be punched out in the perforating process, especially in stamps centered slightly to the top. To minimize this, the producers of the stamp possibly decided to

experiment with altering the small top element of the flag pole.

Is this a Constant Variety?

As to consistent occurrence of this design variation, I do not have sufficient material to make a definitive comment. One would need complete sheets of 150 stamps of the Group Type, or at least double panes of 50. Between each two horizontal panes is the so-called *millésime* number, which is the last digit of the year of the actual printing of the pane. These would help identify the specific printing years. I will have to leave the matter of a detailed study of this variation to specialists who have much more material than I do.

However, I can make some comments based on the limited amount of material that I still have on hand. By chance, I have a pane of twenty-five of the 1F of Madagascar (blue legend) with the gutter at the left showing no *millésime*. The Yvert Specialized of 1936 does not give a year for the printing of this value. The five stamps in the top row essentially show normal flagpoles with rounded tops, though there is some variation in them. The remaining four rows of five stamps all show altered flagpoles with flattened tops similar to that in Fig. 1B.

In 1906 the 35c value was created for the Group Type issue. This was to prepay the registered French Community rate (10c postage and 25c registration). This stamp was ultimately printed in black on yellow paper, a combination that was also used for the 35c stamps of Monaco and Indochina during the same period. I happen to have a value proof of the 35c Group Type issue that is seen in Fig. 3. It has small margins around the stamp, and is



Figure 3. Die proof with value showing "knob."



Figure 4. Positions 29 (top) and 79 (bottom) of the 45c Group Type stamp of Anjouan showing the "missing top" variety along with an adjacent normal stamp.

pastored to a larger sheet of paper on which it is written that the black on yellow color combination was adopted on 6 June 1906. Apparently this was the proof that was used to confirm the final colors of the stamp and paper tint. What is intriguing about this proof is that the top of the flag pole still has the knob. Since this was done in 1906, one can conclude that the master die had not been altered between 1892 and 1906, but the top of the flag pole was altered in the printing of some of the values during the intervening years.

Our Editor was kind enough to get me a scan of the complete sheet of 6 panes (150 stamps) of the 45c Group Type issue with the **7** millésime of the 1907 printing. He had the scan prepared while on a recent visit to the *Musée de la Poste* in Paris. A detailed study of that sheet shows that the stamps at positions 29 and 72 appear to show the without-top variation on the flagpole. These are shown in Figure 4 with adjacent normal stamps showing the typical rounded flagpole. I also have a pane of 25 of the 30c Group Type with a millésime **3** from the 1893 printing and the 1912 **05** overprint. Although the perforations cut into the

tops of the flagpoles, it appears that this pane does not show the without-top variation of the flagpole.

As noted, my material is too limited to reach any definitive conclusions. Right now it appears that there was a frequent flattening of the top of the flag pole for many of the 1F stamps, and based on the pane of the 45c stamps, this type of variety can also occur on other issues. How important a variety is this and does it deserve special catalog listing? Certainly the 1F stamp should be listed in 'with top' and 'without top' varieties. Unfortunately, I will have to leave the ultimate decision on this issue to specialists in the stamps of this wonderful issue. Hopefully, this article will encourage them to begin the search.

References

1. S. Buchheit, *Autour du Type Groupe et de la Surcharge de 1912*, Bulletin COLFRA, N° 97, pp 1-13 (2001).
2. G. Bartoli, Ed., *Quand les Classiques de France et des ex-Colonies françaises*, Editions Timbropresse, *Les Types Groupe des Colonies, et Afrique et Océanie: les meilleurs "Groupe" des Colonies*, pp. 163-184 (1989).

The First Issues of Afrique Occidentale Française

Stephen T. Tucker (FCPS 3347)

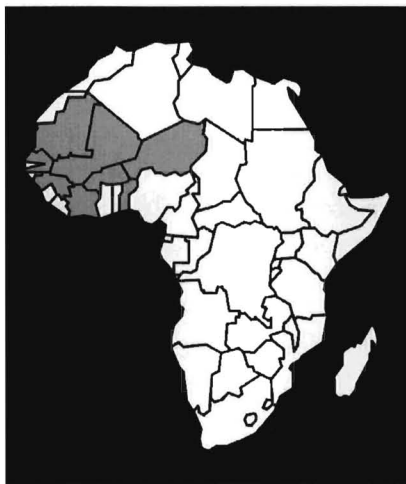
[This paper is an enhanced and expanded version of one of the two slide shows that Mr. Tucker was kind enough to present at our annual meeting in Denver, May 2009]

The purpose of this paper is to answer the question: What are the first issues of postage stamps for *Afrique Occidentale Française* (AOF), or, as we call it, French West Africa.

The question arises because the leading French catalogs, Yvert & Tellier,¹ Ceres² and Dallay³ disagree with Scott,⁴ the major American catalog. The disparity leads to some confusion among collectors and exhibitors.

Geopolitical History

As seen in the inset, AOF comprised some 15% of the African continent. With an area of 1.8 million square miles, it was by far the largest of all African colonial territories. Contained within AOF during the roughly 70 years of its existence were eight designated colonies as seen in Fig. 1.



Political power and duties waxed and waned during this time between the larger AOF administrative unit, headquartered in Senegal, and the smaller individual entities. Several borders and naming designations were adjusted and changed, particularly in the early years.

During and following World War II, more and

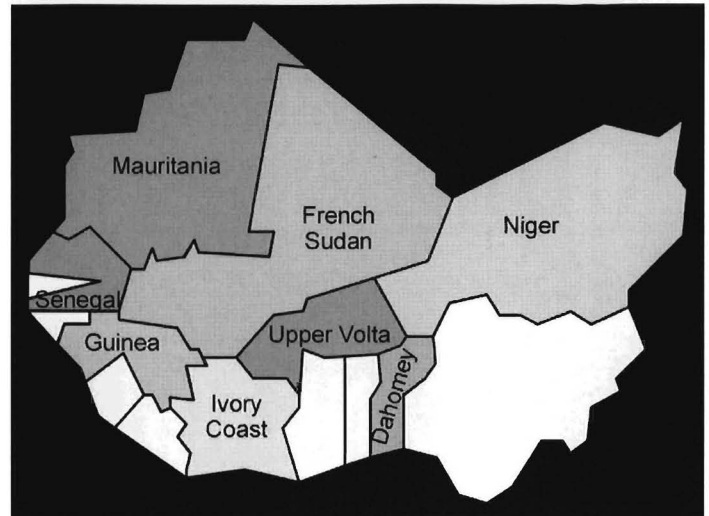


Figure 1. French West Africa

more budgetary and political power shifted to the larger AOF political unit as the colonial period withered. Each colony ultimately became an independent republic during the 1958-1960 period.

Philatelic History

The first, and most economically important of the west African colonies was Senegal. The general colonial Eagle issue was used there as early as 1859 and provisional overprints of the General Colonies issues were created for Senegal in 1877. Most of the colonies were accorded their own stamps with the advent of the *Navigation and Commerce* Group Type issues of 1892-94.

Beginning in 1906 all of the stamps issued for the various colonies were also inscribed *Afrique Occidentale Française* or AOF. The first stamps to bear the new designation were the pictorial stamps depicting General Faidherbe, oil palms and Governor Ballay. This set is commonly known as the *Palmiers*. Master die proofs, without specific colony name or face value yet to be added are shown in Fig. 2.

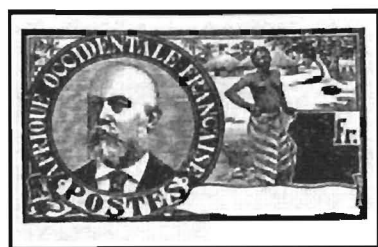


Fig. 2 Die proofs of the Ballay and Oil Palms pictorial designs of French West Africa, ca 1906.

Stamps continued to be issued bearing the individual colony names into WWII. *Yvert & Teller* notes that these stamps were valid for use anywhere in AOF but surviving covers seldom exhibit other colony's postage and is apparent that distribution was only within the named colony.

What are the First Stamps of AOF?

The following sections discuss the manner in which the author feels that the confusion described earlier can be resolved.

What is an "Issue"?

Philatelic authorities, including catalog writers, can differ on this point. Criteria which seem most valid to determining an "issue" of a country to this writer should be

- ♦ One or more stamps created for a specific postal need
- ♦ Authorized and issued by a legitimate country or political unit authorized to operate a postal system
- ♦ Valid, distributed and used widely within the country or political unit

Although not absolutely required, UPU recognition adds more validity to any particular issue of stamps issued after 1878.



Figure 3. The Entrade Française Issue of AOF

The Current Status

The standard French catalogues, which collectors would expect to be "correct" in all French-related philatelic manners, all list the so-called *Entrade Française* issue of 1944 as AOF No. 1. This stamp was a semipostal with a franking value of 5 fr and a surtax of 20 fr intended to support the French Red Cross and general post-war rebuilding efforts. The only solo use of this stamp would be for double weight, registered letter. Hardly a work-horse stamp.

On the other hand, the Scott catalogue lists no fewer than 14 stamps issued prior to the *Entrade* (Scott C1). Who is right?

The Candidate Stamps

In 1943-4, the eight stamps were overprinted on the basic stamps of Senegal. These included four of the Faidherbe Bridge issue and three of the Djourbel Mosque, both issued in 1943-4, and two of the René Caillié, issued in 1939. These are summarized in Table 1 and examples are shown in Fig. 4.

Was there a specific purpose for these stamps? Consider that the rates in effect from 1942 un-

Table 1. The 1944 Provisional Issue of Senegal

Scott No.	Value	Design
8	1fr50 on 15c	Bridge
1	1fr50 on 65c	Mosque
9	4fr50 on 15c	Bridge
10	5fr50 on 2c	Mosque
2	5fr50 on 65c	Bridge
11	10fr on 15c	Mosque
12	20fr on 90c	Caillié
3	50fr on 65c	Mosque
13	50fr on 90c	Caillié



Figure 4. Examples of the Senegal and Mauritania Provisional Issues, All Designs.

til the full integration of AOF included:

- ♦ 1fr50 for domestic and French community letters, and for the AR fee.
- ♦ 4fr50 for domestic and French community registered letters
- ♦ 5fr50 unknown
- ♦ 10fr fourth weight step express mail
- ♦ 10fr, 20fr and 50fr parcels, insured mail and a plethora of new costly international airmail rates in the inflationary period.

Thus, generally speaking these values were useful for real mail being sent from AOF during the period.

Additionally, five provisional stamps were issued by Mauritania, also in 1944. Four of these were on the 65c Nomad design of 1943-44, and one was on the Caillié design. These are also shown in Fig. 3 and they are summarized in Table 2. Again, there was a legitimate postal use for most of these values:

- ♦ 2fr50 unknown
- ♦ 4fr international registration fee

Table 2. The Provisionals of Mauritania

Scott No.	Value	Design
4	2fr50 on 65c	Nomad
5	4fr on 65c	Nomad
6	5fr on 65c	Nomad
7	10fr on 65c	Nomad
14	15fr on 90c	Caillié

- ♦ 5fr international letters, foreign registration
- ♦ 10fr fourth weight step express mail
- ♦ 15fr parcels, insured mail and international airmail rates during the inflationary period.

The Evidence: Use on Cover

There are many uses of these stamps on cards, letters and souvenir pieces throughout AOF. These will be shown in the following sections.

Philatelic Souvenirs

It is possible that the French catalogs misread some of the early examples that appeared as philatelic souvenirs, such as the one shown in Fig. 5. Clearly a souvenir, it shows some of both the Senegal and Mauritania values with a total franking of 29fr50 — not very commercial. It is, however, canceled 11 Nov 1943, a date



Figure 5. The provisional overprints of Senegal and Mauritania, Used in French Guinea.

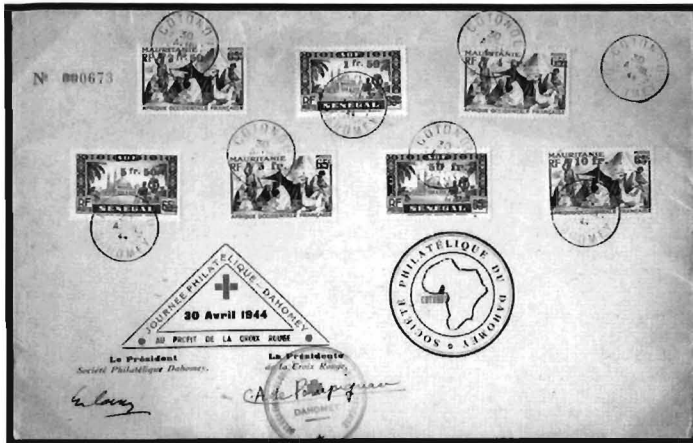


Figure 6. 1944 Use of both Senegal and Mauritania in Dahomey

earlier than the proposed issue date given in the standard catalogues.

As would be expected, the “philatelic” use of these stamps continued throughout the period. Fig. 6 shows a mixed use of both Senegal and Mauritania on a Red Cross fund raising souvenir dated 30 April 1944 canceled in Dahomey. Another use, shown in Fig. 7, is a 1946 use of Senegal in Dahomey commemorating Stamp

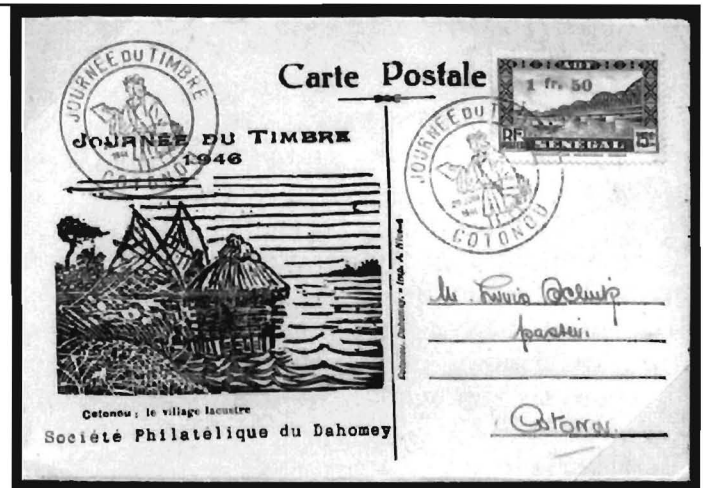


Figure 7. 1946 Use of Senegal in Dahomey.

Day 1946.

“Pure” Uses

As expected, the stamps of Senegal and Mauritania were used within each of these entities. An example of two values used in Senegal in 1946 is shown in Fig. 8.

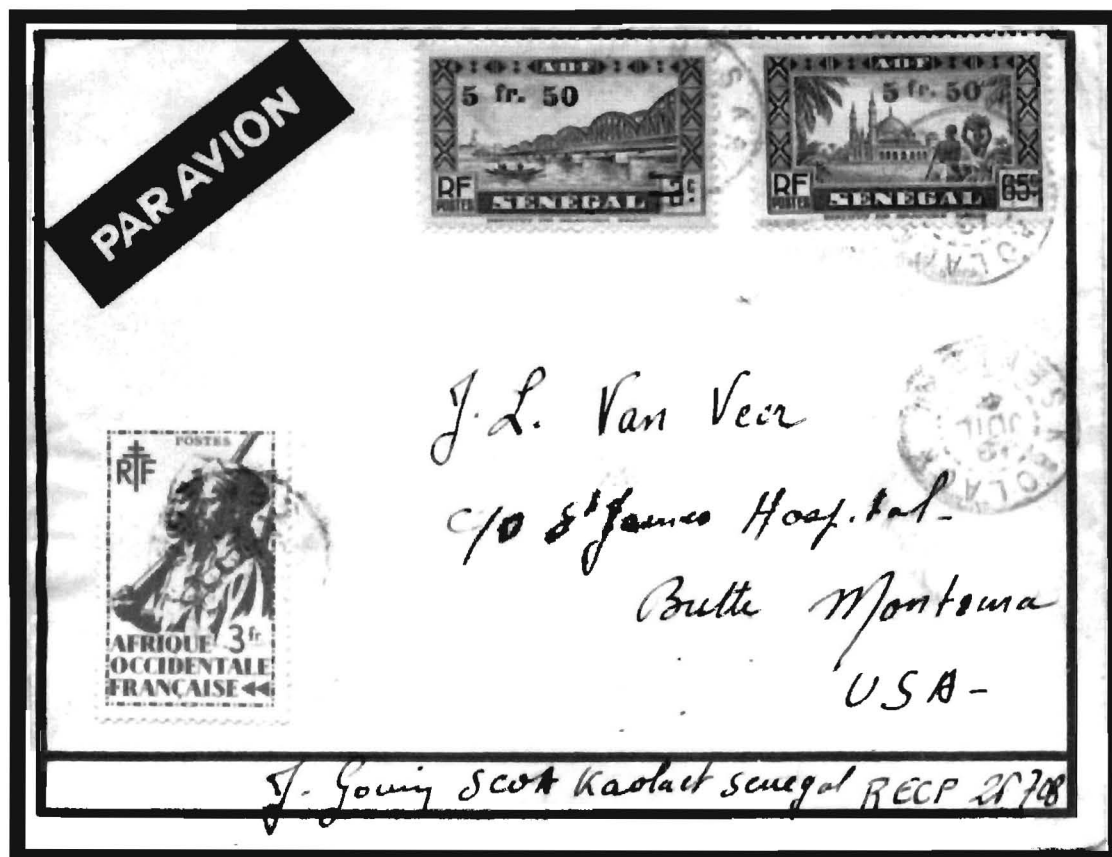


Figure 8. Use of Senegal on air mail letter to U.S. dated 19 July 1946.

"Mixed" Uses

The true evidence that these issues were the first of AOF lies in the uses of values from either or both sets in the other entities comprising AOF.

Shown on this page are Mauritania used in Senegal (Fig. 9), Senegal in Ivory Coast (Fig. 10), Senegal in Sudan (Fig. 11) and Senegal used in Guinea (Fig. 12) Other stamps, issued later, are also shown on some of these covers.



Figure 9. 1944 use of Mauritania on air mail cover to Algeria.



Figure 10. 1944 use of Senegal (with later stamp) in Ivory Coast.



Figure 11. 1948 use of Senegal in Sudan with additional later stamps.

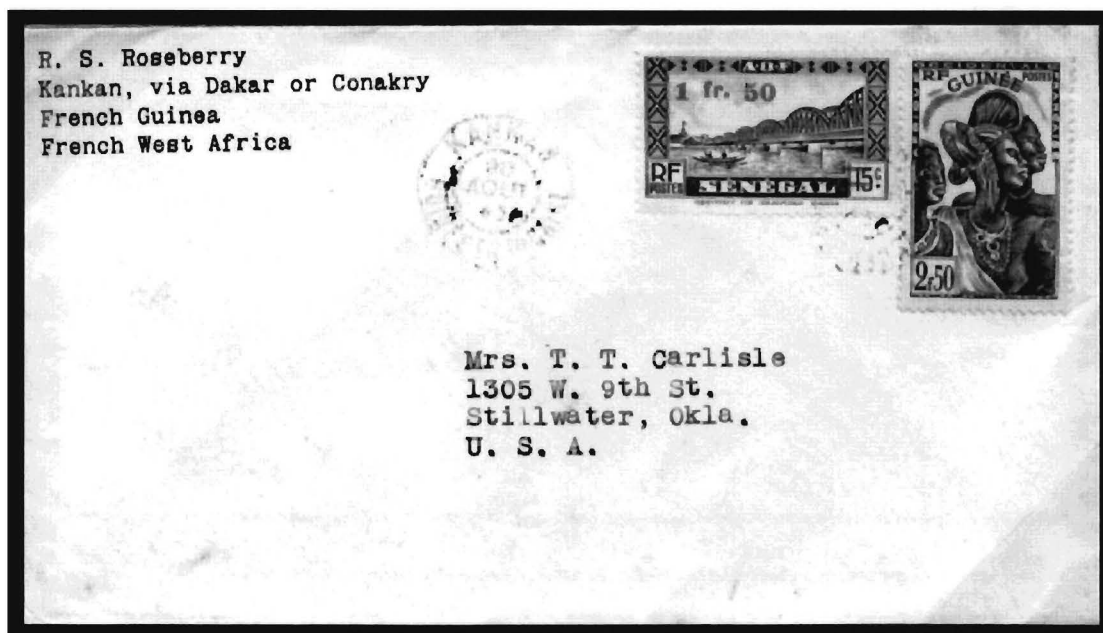


Figure 12. 1944 use of Senegal (with later stamp) in Guinea paying surface rate of 4fr to U.S.



Figure 13. 1947 use of Mauritania in Guinea (with later stamps).

Additional later examples include Mauritania used in Guinea (Fig. 13), Senegal in Niger (Fig. 14), and (next page) Senegal and Mauritania in Ivory Coast (Fig. 15) and Mauritania in Senegal (Fig. 16).

Table 3 summarizes the possible combinations of stamps and territories that may be collected. Those marked in the table have been shown in this paper. These represent six of the eight provinces of AOF, as well as some combination covers. There is no doubt that covers for the other two can be found.

Table 3. Summary of Uses on Cover

Used in:	Stamps of:		
	Mauritania	Both	Senegal
Dahomey		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Guinea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ivory Coast		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mauritania	Not in author's collection		
Niger			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sudan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senegal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Upper Volta	Not in author's collection		

Conclusion

The Senegal and Mauritania overprints of 1943-1944 were distributed and widely used throughout AOF from 1943 to 1948. While the French catalogs are usually superior and more often correct on matters French, Scott's contention that the overprints are the first issue of AOF appears to be correct. Any collector interested in collecting this area must have the catalogs shown in the reference list, and even better, all of the other historical and philatelic references, as well.

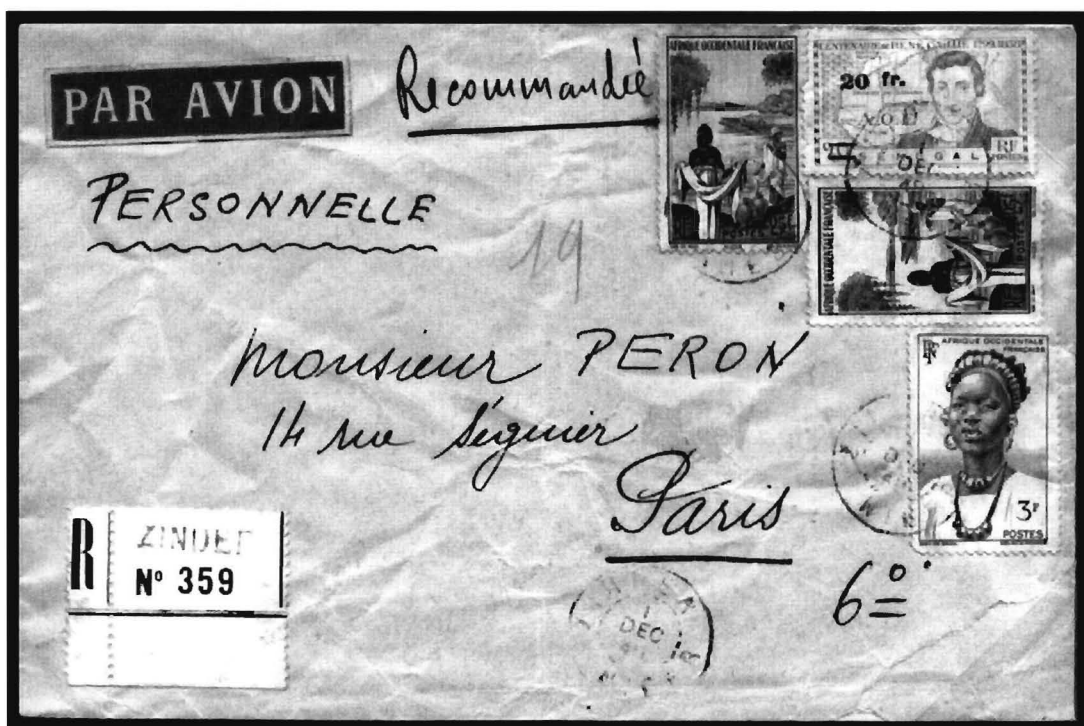


Figure 14. 1949 use of Senegal in Niger (with later stamps.)

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1. *Catalogue de Timbres-Poste, Tome II, 1^{re} partie, Colonies Françaises*, Yvert & Tellier, Amiens, France, 2008.
2. *Catalogue des Timbres-Poste, Anciennes Colonies Françaises, Tome A*, Editeur CERES Philatelie, Paris, 2008.
3. *Catalogue de l'empire français d'Afrique, 2007-2008*, Dally S.A.R.L., Paris, 2007.
4. *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Vol. 2*, Scott Publishing Co., Sidney, OH, 2009.



Figure 15. 1944 use of both Senegal and Mauritania in Ivory Coast.



Figure 16. 1945 use of Mauritania in Senegal.

Les Trois Premiers Timbres de St. Pierre et Miquelon

J.-J. Tillard (FCPS 3401)

La poste officielle de Saint-Pierre et Miquelon fut créée le 1^{er} mars 1854 mais son approvisionnement en timbres-poste (timbres des Colonies générales) ne s'effectua qu'en 1859. En revanche, les premiers timbres de Saint-Pierre et Miquelon furent imprimés localement en 1885 et grâce aux surcharges manuelles, plusieurs variétés sont connues. Cependant, au moins cinq d'entre elles, uniques à ce jour, peuvent être considérées comme des trésors au sein des colonies françaises. Les réunir toutes ensembles fut un véritable challenge.

Première Emission

Cependant, et grâce à son autonomie postale, dès les premiers jours de 1885, une surcharge sur quelques timbres était apposée, *notre propre philatélie naissait*.

L'arrêté du 6 janvier 1885, non indiqué dans l'Yvert spécialisé de 1936,¹ autorisait la première transformation :²

Saint-Pierre, le 6 janvier 1885.

Le Commandant des îles St. Pierre et Miquelon;

Vu l'insuffisance d'approvisionnement des timbres-poste de 0 fr. 05 centimes;

Vu la nécessité de ne porter aucune entrave à l'expédition des correspondances;

Sur la proposition du Chef du service de l'Intérieur,

DÉCIDE:

Article 1^{er}. Jusqu'à la réception des timbres-poste de 0 fr. 05 centimes, il sera délivré au public, au prix de 0 fr. 05 centimes, des timbres-poste de 0 fr. 02 centimes. Ces timbres porteront, frappée par l'imprimerie du Gouvernement, à l'encre noire, la vignette ci-dessous:

5
S. P. M.

Art. 2. ...[autres articles administratifs]

Cte de ST-PHALLE.

Les timbres dentelés au type *Alphée Dubois* à 2c. de couleur lilas-brun reçurent deux frappes manuelles en noir (agrandi à 200%):

W D S

5

Ces surcharges étaient réalisées par un cachet en bois pour le chiffre et par un composteur pour les lettres, **elles se retrouvèrent renversées sur la totalité des exemplaires**. Selon la pression exercée sur les cachets, l'écartement des lettres **SPM** pouvait parfois varier.

Selon l'auteur, trois tirages furent réalisés; le premier le 7 janvier (et non le 3 comme le signale plusieurs catalogues), le second fin janvier, le troisième le 9 mars.³

Le n°1³ de SPM, 5/2c. lilas-brun est très rare en neuf (voir Fig.1.) Ce même timbre mais avec le double SPM tête bêche, N° 1a, (Fig.2.) à la particularité d'avoir l'empreinte SPM (à l'en-droit) qui provient du second ou du 3ème tirage tandis que l'autre SPM et le chiffre 5 proviennent du premier tirage. Enfin, le n° 1b (Fig.3.) possède une double surcharge SPM



Figure 1. N° 1, la première émission de St. Pierre et Miquelon.



Figure 2. N° 1a, double SPM tête bêche.



Figure 3. No. 1b, double surcharge SPM dont une verticale.

dont une verticale. Ces deux derniers sont des raretés des colonies françaises.

Deuxième Emission

La seconde transformation de timbres-poste s'effectua cette fois sur les 1f. bronze non dentelés au type Sage. L'affranchissement à 25c. permettait d'envoyer une lettre pour la France, et couvrait également la taxe de recommandation. La surcharge se réalisa toujours dans les mêmes conditions que pour le n°1 soit avec deux cachets (agrandi à 200%):

25 25
S P M S P M



Figure 4. Nos. 2 and 3, émissions de mars 1885.

L'empreinte « S P M » réalisée par un compositeur à main, est la même que pour l'émission précédente. Les deux timbres sont présentés en Fig.4.

Trois tirages ont été réalisés : les 9 et 27 mars, et le 8 avril. Au total, 3000 timbres auraient été émis, nombre incluant les n°2 et 3, sans aucun détail supplémentaire (ce nombre semble toutefois important au constat des pièces répertoriées).

L'exemplaire neuf pour le n°2, voir Fig. 4, environ douze connus, **demeure le timbre le plus recherché des émissions locales.**

Concernant le premier type « 25 », le préposé chargé d'apposer les surcharges a probablement dû réaliser le travail à la hâte; Il existe davantage de variétés que de timbres possédant la surcharge normale. Deux d'entre elles sont mythiques :

- ♦ Fig. 5, N° 2, oblitéré avec 25 vertical et SPM omis. Unique. **Grande rareté des colonies françaises.** (Cote Dallay 28500€)



Figure 5. N° 2, oblitéré avec 25 vertical et SPM omis.

- ♦ Fig. 6, N° 2, 25/1f. bronze, oblitéré avec 25 vertical et SPM omis. Unique. **Grande rareté des colonies françaises.** (Cote Dallay 31500€).



Figure 6. N° 2, 25/1f. bronze, neuf, double SPM en haut.

Plus de 95% des variétés sont oblitérées. Une variété de surcharge à l'état neuf sur un n°2 est une pièce rarissime et se situe parmi les mieux cotées des colonies françaises.

Pour l'autre type (n°3), c'est le contraire. Très peu de variétés sont constatées ; la plus impressionnante demeure la surcharge « 25 » renversée tenant à une normale. **Rareté des colonies françaises.**



Figure 7. N° 3, 25/1f. bronze, paire oblitérée dont un timbre avec le 25 renversé. Unique.

Une autre sensationnelle variété sur ce 25/1f. bronze, SPM seul renversé avec grand bord de feuille (voir Fig. 8).



Figure 8. N° 3, 25/1f. bronze, SPM seul renversé avec grand bord de feuille

Concernant les deux types de 25/1f. l'empreinte «S P M» réalisée par un composteur à main, est la même que pour l'émission précédente. Diverses nuances du vert-bronze au vert-olive, selon les tirages, sont remarquées.

Utilisation

Evidemment, les plis sont quasiment inexistant. Un seul courrier est connu (voir Figs. 9a et 9b). Il est destiné à H. Heckler en 1886 et revêtu d'un n°3 associé à diverses émissions locales. Probablement le plus beau pli réunissant les premières émissions.

Conclusion

Il est important de constater que certaines variétés provenant de ces tirages et présentées ici sont des pièces extraordinaires qui méritent leur place parmi les grandes raretés des colonies françaises.

References

1. *Catalogue des Timbres-Poste de la France et des Colonies Françaises, Tome II*, Yvert et Tellier, Amiens, France, 1936.
2. *Journal Officiel de St.-Pierre et Miquelon*, décisions diverses entre 1885-87.
3. *Catalogue des timbres-poste* (dont proviennent les n° de cet article) Dallay, Paris, 2007-08.
4. Stone R.G., *Collectors Club Philatelists*, vol.. 51, n°1.
5. Etudes personnelles non publiées



Figure 9a. Le seul courrier connu adressé à H. Heckler en 1886 et revêtu d'un n°3 associé à diverses émissions locales.

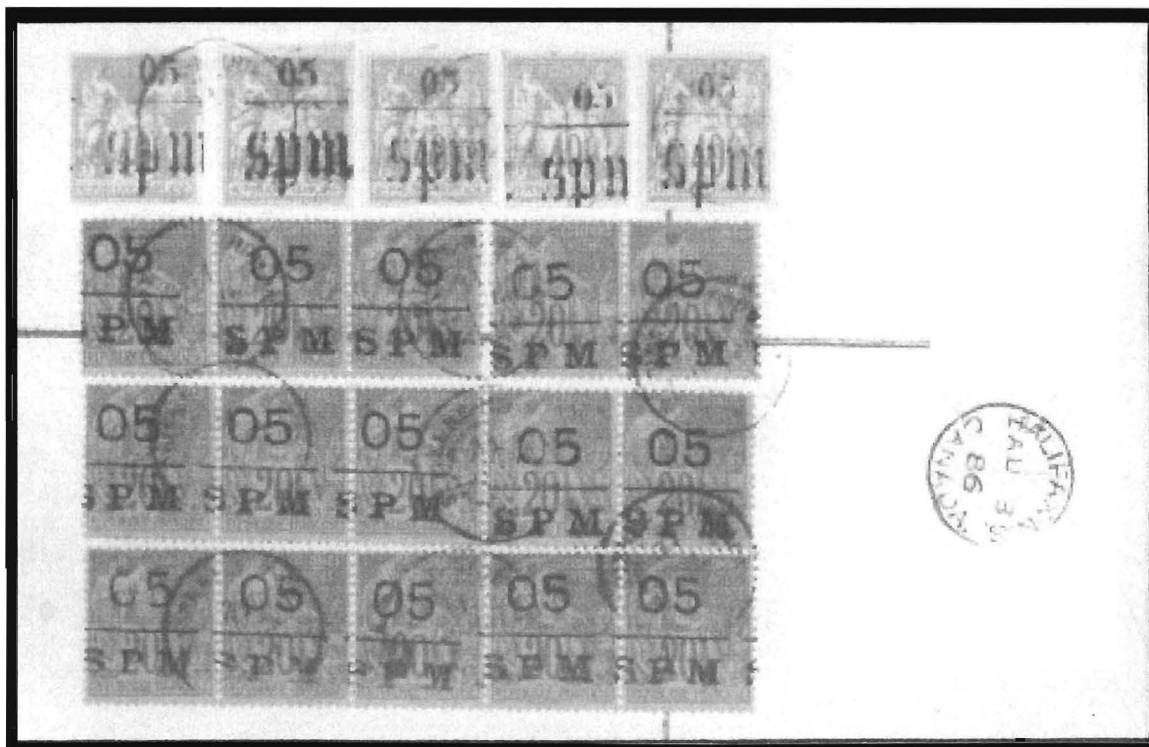


Figure 9b. Verso du pli montrant la vingtaine du timbres, ainsi que l'arrivée à Halifax en date du 3 août.

We Get Letters

I would like to convey to **Peter Maybury** my appreciation for his thoughtful letter and the information on postage due tariffs and markings (FCP, No. 297, p. 64). While my exhibit does not identify the postage due mark on the letter shown in the Journal, the mark is indeed clearly for the number 14. In this and in many similar instances I depended on Maury's representation (pg. 23 of his *Catalogue des Estampilles*) which identifies such mark as 14 décimes "à partir de 1793." Our members should be warned that that Maury was in error since his catalog of marks is widely used.

Bob Kinsley (FCPS 2180)

Bob raises a good point. It is often the case that a "classic" reference may have errors. It may be difficult to find short notes correcting small details in such works. These may appear in a variety of publications that might be very hard to find.

In the latest edition of the FCP, I very much enjoyed **Ray McGarrity's** article on the provisional issues for the French occupation of Fezzan. At the same time, I was confused on a couple of points. Is there some way I can contact the author to ask a couple of questions? You are welcome to copy this to him with my e-mail address.

Steve Kleene (FCPS 2425)

Steve raised an interesting point that I had not considered directly, perhaps I wasn't seeing the forest for the trees. We will try to include the email addresses of authors in the next issue.

Member to Member

I have a copy of Jerry Miller's "From Henrichsen to Krag: The Experimental and Early Machine Postmarks of Germany." Is there a similar publication for early French Machine Cancels? If so, how can it be obtained? If not, is there an online source for such information?

David R. Dawdy
3055 23rd Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94132

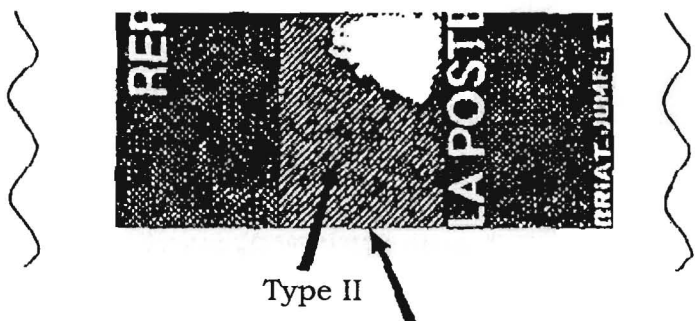
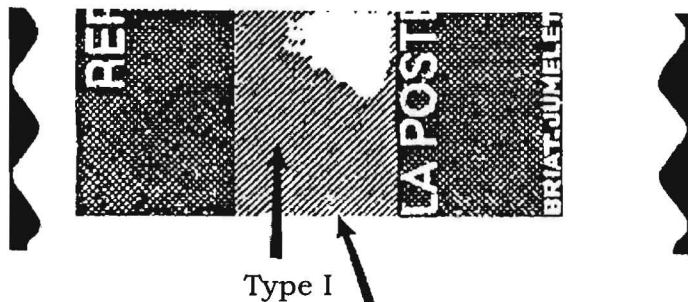
email: dawdy1926@sbcglobal.net

TYPES AND SUBTYPES

Red Permanent-value Marianne de Briat

Type I: (all sheet, coil, and booklet stamps printed in red): bottom frame line absent along central third of design; diagonal lines forming background of lower portion of central third are neatly and evenly spaced.

Type II: (exists only on open-face booklets of 20 red stamps from distributed from banknote disbursing machines); issued Summer 1996; only about 100,000 booklets printed, of which relatively few saw postal use. Should be considered very scarce: bottom line present along entire base of stamp; diagonal lines forming background are thinner, closer together, and less distinct.



**Do You Have an Idea for
a Regular Column?
Contact the Editor!**

Covers from Nowhere to Nowhere

James R. Taylor (FCPS 3404)

It was dubbed 'he cover from nowhere to nowhere' by Chief Judge Rich Drews at the judges' critique at the Denver FCPS meeting in May. My unusual cover obviously had struck a nerve with the jury. Editor **Dave Herendeen** suggested that the phase would be a good title for a regular column. Here is the first installment based on my cover illustrated below.

A pair of 4 franc St. Pierre-Miquelon stamps of the 1947 definitive set, Dallay # 346, franks the cover. The 8f silver fox definitive value #355 was not issued until October 10, 1952. 8f prepaid the correct surface rate to other French Colonies. The cover was post-marked ST PIERRE ET MIQUELON 19-4 1952 and backed stamped DIEGO SUAREZ 14H 12-5 1952 MADAGASCAR with the slogan VISITEZ LA MONTAGNE \ D'AMBRE \ ANTISABE FORT DAUPHIN. The corner card in the upper right CABINET \ du \ GOUVERNEUR. TERRITOIRE DES ILES SAINT-PIERRE & MIQUELON appears across the top of the envelope and is double underlined.

The cover was mailed on 19 April 1952 from the tiny French Colony of St. Pierre-Miquelon, a tiny isolated French island territory located off the south coast of Newfoundland. The permanent population of the town of St. Pierre, the chief port and settlement, in 1952 was about 5,000. The sender was the St. Pierre-Miquelon Governor Alain Alaniou (b. Oct. 18, 1896 - d. June 2, 1969). Alaniou was Governor from 6 Nov 1950 to 25 Apr 1952 and was nearing the end of his term and making plans to head back to France.

The Governor and other high ranking officials were career civil servants from France appointed by the Ministry of the Colonies in

Paris. They were moved around, from and to, the various French outposts located around the world. Alaniou had previously served as *Administrateur Supérieur* of the Comoros Islands in 1946-48. *Les Comores* was a French colony under the administration of the French colonial governor general of Madagascar. As a result these officials had contacts from previous postings. The cover appears to be the case



of the St. Pierre Governor corresponding with his counterpart in the equally isolated port of Diego-Suarez, now known as **Antsiranana**, in the French Colony of Madagascar on the other side of the world. Alain Alaniou was probably informing Diego-Suarez *Administrateur Supérieur* Peleni of his change of address.

Reference

The website <http://rulers.org> was used to identify and track the careers of French colonial officials and in tracing senders and recipients of colonial letters.

[Members wishing to submit their candidate cover may email a 300dpi scan and one page of text to the Editor.]



FCPS Denver Slide Shows Still Available

Each CD Includes Eight PowerPoint Slide Shows:

Fezzan: Ray McGarrity

Why I Exhibit: Steve Tucker

Marie Curie Stamps: Ron Hill

The First Issue of AOF? - Steve Tucker

Post Offices in Paradise? - Ralph DeBoard

The First Issue of French Guiana: Jeff Ward

Research at Le Musée de la Poste, Paris:

Dave Herendeen

Real or Fake? How Does a Philatelist Know For Sure? Dr. Ed Grabowski

Order your copy today! Send a check made payable to "F&CPS" for \$7.95 (\$9.95 outside of the U.S.) to the Editor (see address on page 54), or use PayPal (for \$8.95 or \$10.95 outside the U.S.) to Grayelf59@aol.com. Please make sure to include your shipping address and your email address or telephone number in case we need to contact you.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

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Herendeen Receives NPM Fellowship

FCP editor, **Dave Herendeen**, has been awarded one of four Fellowships sponsored by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum for 2009. The research he will perform over the next year is entitled ***A Colorimetric Analysis Methodology for Philatelic Studies***.

In his proposal, Dave noted that many philatelists of the “baby boom” generation began the hobby as collectors of U.S. stamps. Beyond blue, red, and green, colors were not a major consideration. In many cases, the first notion of a shade began when we heard of the exotic “pigeon blood pink” variety of the 1858 3c stamp (Scott 64a). Cool, we thought. Then we wondered, what on earth does pigeon blood pink look like? Who made up such an esoteric name? How would we ever know if our common 3c might be the “one?” These are excellent questions.



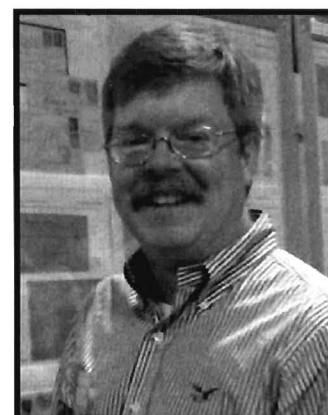
His study intends to develop a transferable technology that will be useful to the entire philatelic community for defining colors not by impossible-to-interpret names, but by accurate chromaticity metrics. This will open new vistas for philatelic color analysis that allow shades to be identified without having a reference collection of comparator copies. If this can be done using inexpensive scanning hardware it will represent a truly significant tool for forensic philately in the future.

**Are You Planning
to Share Your
Knowledge
with Fellow Members?
Contact the Editor for Help!**

Broadhead's “Petite Messages” Honored as Best Article

The second annual **United States Stamp Society—Barbara R. Mueller Award** for the best article published in a single year of *The American Philatelist*, as chosen by the members, the staff of the AP, and an award selection committee, has been awarded to Tom Broadhead for his charming piece “Petite Messages — The Development of Carte de Visite Mail in Nineteenth-Century France.”

Tom has been an incurable philatelist for almost fifty years, with time out for college and graduate school. Beginning as a worldwide collector at the age of seven, he now specializes in the stamps and postal history of late nineteenth and early twentieth century France. He enjoys writing as a way to share his philatelic interests, and has written previously for *The American Philatelist*, and for the *France and Colonies Philatelist*. Tom is editor of the *Knoxville Philatelic Society Newsletter* and is a member of the APS Writer's Unit. His lively exhibits, which can be seen both at stamps shows and through digital media, are logical extensions of his interest in communicating the excitement of philately. (Taken in part from the *American Philatelist*, August 2009.)



Excellence in Research Award

Don't forget that the best research paper to appear in the 2010 volume of the *FCP* will receive the ***Excellence in Research Award*** which includes an honorarium of \$250. (See *FCP* No. 289, p. 60 for details.)

This is your chance to contribute to the knowledge of your fellow members and receive special recognition at the same time! Start planning your article now. Remember, the Editor stands ready to provide any and all necessary help to get your ideas into print.

President's Letter

I don't know about you, my friends, but I am seeing some good things happening in our hobby. Nationally, the APS annual show in Pittsburgh was very well attended. Two things really impressed me.

First, the American Philatelic Congress meeting (well, wine and cheese party), had more people there than I can remember. I have been to the APC meetings for probably eight of the last ten years. While not every author could attend, all but one (an Israeli) was in Pittsburgh!

Second, if you are an exhibitor, you have probably heard about, used or received the new **Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form**. Those of us who are judges must attend three separate seminars to learn the new form and how best to use it to help exhibitors. I attended the three seminars in Pittsburgh and was very happy to see the APS judges showing their support for the UEEF. Let's hope the UEEF will really improve exhibits as the classes and divisions evolve.

I also attended BALPEX, the Labor Day Baltimore show. It was interesting to me to see so many new faces. I've attended VAPEX (Virginia), NAPEX (DC area) and PNSE (Philadelphia) several times, and yet in Baltimore, just a couple of hours away from the other cities, I saw dozens of collectors I had never seen before.

Locally, the Collectors Club of Akron, which has been around for nearly 75 years, has been adding new members at a slightly higher pace than in recent years. It is all relative — we have had only 138 members in total since its founding. But the new members are younger, eager collectors and philatelists who are ready to take on leadership roles to keep the group active for many more years.

So, all of that said, let me close with plea to all of you to step forward for our society. Elections are coming up in 2010, so if you are interested in a board or officer position, please let me know. My e-mail address is in the masthead of the journal, so it is easy to contact me. We can always use some fresh ideas. You get back

what you invest, so please offer some time and knowledge to preserve and improve our society.

That's it! Remember that Chicago is just over a year away, so ink the dates on your calendar and make plans to be there.

Articles in the 2009

Congress Book

Two of our members had articles in the 2009 *Congress Book*, published annually by the American Philatelic Congress (APC). The APC, which was celebrating its 75th anniversary, holds two annual events. One is an Author's Forum where each of the authors makes a brief presentation about their article, and a Wine and Cheese party where members can nibble and schmooze.

FCPS member **Al Kugel's** paper was entitled *The Disintegration of the Hapsburg Empire 1918-1923*, and **Dick Winter's** paper was *Freight Money Covers: an Update*.

Dick's article also won the *McCoy Award* for the best paper in the 2009 book! Congrats to Dick for yet more kudos (it's the second time he has won this prestigious award).

While unfortunate that there were no French related subjects this year, at least our members are participating. Why not give it a try? Unlike the *FCP*, the *Congress Book* is able to publish much longer works in the 20-30 page range.

If you have an interest in quality philatelic research, you might want to become a member. For more information, see the APC web site:

www.americanphilateliccongress.org

**Share your
Knowledge
Contribute to the
FCP**

Stampshow 2009 Report

At this year's Stampshow, held in Pittsburgh from 6-9 August 2009, two FCPS members had exhibits entered in the *Champion of Champions* competition. FCPS President **Ken Nilsestuen** showed his *Algerian Postal History to 1876*, and **J.P. "Jamie" Gough** showed his recently introduced exhibit *UPU: Rules, Regulations and Rates*, and **Steve Washburne** showed his *200+ Years of Madeira Postal History*. Ken's Grand Award was received from Indypex 2008, Jamie's from SESCAL/Americas 2008, and Steve's was from South-eastern Stamp Show 2008.



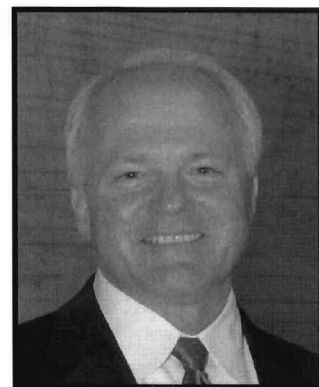
Ken Nilsestuen

Ken's exhibit tells the story of Algeria's mail service from the mid-18th century to 31 March 1876. Beginning when mail was carried privately, the exhibit shows the evolution of postal services to the sophisticated system operating by 1876. Algeria was considered part of the *Metropole*; therefore civilian mail service was administered as part of the French postal system. The exhibit is divided into seven major time periods based on postal markings. These are:

- ♦ The period prior to the French invasion of North Africa (To June 1830)
- ♦ French military mail service (1830-1835)
- ♦ Civilian mail service before small numeral cancels were introduced (1835-1852)
- ♦ Small numeral cancel period (1852-1862)
- ♦ Large numeral cancel period (1863 to 31 March 1876)
- ♦ Convoyeur (railroad) markings (Late 1860s to 31 March 1876)
- ♦ Maritime markings (1830s to 31 March 1876)

The end of the exhibit, 31 March 1876, corresponds to the retirement of large numeral cancels, and also the introduction of the Type Sage stamp design in France. These changes marked the end of the classical era of French—and Algerian—philately.

Jamie, winner of the Grand Prix d'Honneur at PhilexFrance 1999 and the 1992 C of C, is back in full force with his new exhibit. Although the exhibit does not qualify for our FCPS competitions because it has material from all around the world, there are still many wonderful French-community rarities.



Jamie Gough

As he notes in his title page, the goal of the exhibit is to illustrate the ever-evolving and rapidly changing rules and regulations of the UPU. The philatelic materials shown, which include covers, stamps, proofs and documents, demonstrate these concepts in their order of adoption. Of special interest are curiosities arising from the different implementations and interpretations of the rules by different member countries.



Steve Washburne

Steve, a well-known collector of Portuguese-area philately, has been to the C of C before. The small Atlantic island of Madiera has been a Portuguese possession since the 15th century. His exhibit encompasses commercial and tourist correspondence from the island beginning in the late 17th century until the early years of the 20th century.

Editor **Dave Herendeen** sat on the philatelic jury.

Show Reports

NAPEX 2009

McLean, VA, June 2009

Vermeil and silver medals to **Al Kugel** for two one-frame exhibits

PIPEX 2009

Portland, OR, May 2009

Silver medal to **Bob Kinsley**.

ROPEX 2009

Rochester, NY, May 2009

Gold medal to **Paul Larsen** for one of his wonderful Caribbean exhibits. Vermeil to Chuck Leblond. **Al Kugel** had two one-frame exhibits in the Court of Honor.

Annual Meeting and Nominations for Officers

Our next official **Annual Meeting** will be held in conjunction with the CHICAGOPEX show to be held in Arlington Heights, IL (a suburb of Chicago) from 19-21 November 2010. At that time, a full set of officers, and three directors, will be installed to manage our society.

By Article VII of our bylaws, nominations for all directors and officers will be taken until 28 February 2010. To nominate a member in good standing, simply petition the Corresponding Secretary prior to the noted date. The ballot for the election will appear in the July 2010 *FCP*, and results will be announced in the October 2010 *FCP*.

Membership Notices

NEW MEMBERS

- 3414 CARAUD, STEPHANE., Marines, France
- 3415 FELDMAN, FRANCOIS, Paris, France
- 3416 BATDORF, LYNN R., Bethesda, MD

ADDRESS CHANGES

- 1469 WEISS, JEFFREY K., Etna, NH
- 1593 WILCOCK, DAVID C., Corea, ME

Another Stampshow Comes and Goes

David L. Herendeen, Editor

The 2009 annual APS Stampshow was held in Pittsburgh this year. Members who do not normally attend the annual APS convention are encouraged to do so. There are many hundreds of frames of exhibits, and there are 30 or so exhibits that vie for the title **Champion of Champions** each year.

I am pleased to say that there are always *FCPS* members in this competition, and this year was no different. Our three members that got to stand on the "big stage" were **Ken Nilsen-tuen, Jamie Gough, and Steve Washburne**. (See article on p. 106) A hearty congratulations to both of them!

Additionally, several other members received significant awards for research and writing. Two articles on page 104 highlight these exemplary efforts.

La Belle Langue

For the second time during my tenure as Editor we have an article written in French. Relatively new member, Jean-Jacques Tillard, of St. Pierre et Miquelon, showed his wonderful exhibit of classic SPM material at our show in Denver. His collection houses many of the great rarities that most of us have never seen. As JJ (as he likes to be called) is more comfortable in French, I agreed to publish the article. I don't think it should be a great strain to most members to get its gist, and the illustrations tell much of the story. As always, address any and all comments to me for publication as Letters to the Editor.

Chicago 2010

I know it seems early to start talking about the next show which is about 14 months away, but we all know how fast time slips by. I have heard from a handful of members that will be attending who did not have a chance to visit Denver. Stay tuned for many other possible surprises over the coming months.



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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