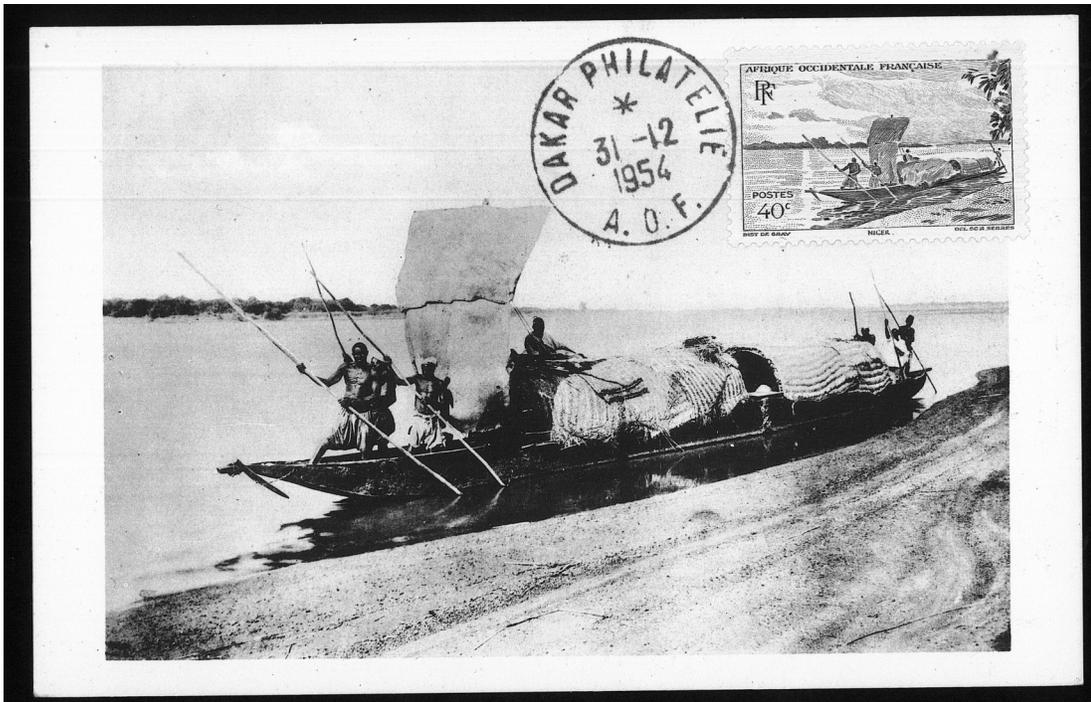


FRANCE and COLONIES PHILATELIST

July 2016 Whole No. 325 (Vol. 72, No. 3)



French West Africa Maximum Cards

See page 67



*France & Colonies Philatelic
Society at New York 2016*

See pages 83 and 87

CONTENTS**ARTICLES**

- French West Africa 1947 Pictorial Issue
Maximum Cards
(Gerald F. Schroedl) 67
- Gleanings From The Group Type
(Edward Grabowski) 73
- Unpaid Forwarded Mail Taxed Postage Due
France to Algeria: Revisited
(Peter R. A. Kelly) 77
- A Censored Postmark
(Charles J. LaBlonde) 78
- Tunisia to the Netherlands by Airmail
(Norval Rasmussen) 80
- France & Colonies at International
Stamp Show New York 2016
(Tom Broadhead) 83
- NY 2016: A Personal Observation on the
Exhibits From Saint Pierre & Miquelon
(Edward Grabowski) 87

OTHER FEATURES

New Issues.....81

SOCIETY NEWS

- Instructions for Authors.....83
- Convention schedule and Milcopex
News.....86
- President's Letter.....89
- We Get Letters.....91
- Editorial.....92
- Membership Notices.....93
- Members Appeals.....93
- Show Reports.....93
- Advertisers.....95-96

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*

Remit to: Jeff Ward
13155 Wimberly Square, #284
San Diego, CA 92128-6004
Paypal: ward-jeff@san.rr.com

All communication about membership, subscriptions, publications, back issues, activities and services of the Society should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary:

Joel L. Bromberg
P.O. Box 17
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0017, USA

All contributions to and questions concerning the contents and policy of this periodical should be sent to the Editor:

Norval Rasmussen
224 Wilson Ave
Morgantown, WV 26501
Phone: 304-292-7652, e-mail: nrasmu@gmail.com

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

President	Kenneth R. Nilsestuen e-mail: nilsestuen@sbcglobal.net
Immediate Past President	Vacant
Vice President	Dr. Norval Rasmussen
Treasurer	Jeff Ward
Corresponding Secretary	Joel L. Bromberg (address above) e-mail: jlbromberg@inta.org
Recording Secretary	Dr. Edward J.J. Grabowski
Editor	Norval Rasmussen
Associate Editor	Vacant
Assistant Editor (Colonies)	Dr. Edward J.J. Grabowski
Assistant Editor (Modern)	Vacant
Webmaster	Vacant

DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY

Class of 2014	Class of 2016
Ralph DeBoard	Dr. John H. Bloor
Kay Gaetjens	Jeffrey C. Bohn
Stephen Tucker	Thomas Broadhead

Periodical Postage paid at Publications office,
1000 Kingswood Drive, Akron, OH 44313-5921
An additional entry office at Platteville, WI 53818
Postmaster: Send Form 3579 to Publications Office noted above

French West Africa 1947 Pictorial Issue Maximum Cards

Gerald F. Schroedl

Introduction

In March 1947 French West Africa issued a set of 19 definitive stamps (Scott# 36-54; Yvert# 24-42), each in a different denomination and each showing a scene from one of its seven former colonies. The colony name was included in small letters in the margin at the bottom center of the stamp. Although Togo was inscribed on the 60c (Sc# 40; Yv# 28) and 3F (Sc# 46; Yv# 34) stamps, these stamps were subsequently reissued in 1948 with the name deleted (Sc# 55 and 56; Yv# 43 and 44). This set of stamps is common, inexpensive, and was widely used on correspondence dating from the late 1940s to the late 1950s.

In the course of collecting these issues I began to acquire their usage on maximum cards and started to notice differences among the cards. I expected that a card was printed for every issue, and this may be the case, but I have not found one yet for the highest denomination of the set, the 25F, Azwa Women at the Niger River (Sc# 54; Yv# 42). I have found that four and possibly five different card types were printed for distribution. All the cards were approved or produced under the auspices of the French Over Seas Photographic Agency [Agence Photographique de la France d'Outre-Mer].

Type 1—Small Image

Type 1, the most common maximum card measures 148mm by 105mm, is printed on card stock, and shows the vignette of the stamp in horizontal or vertical format on about two thirds of the front (Figures 1 and 2). The orientation of the

card and the stamp are not necessarily the same. The matching stamp is fixed to the remaining blank space and tied with one of two different circular date stamps. The first is 30mm in diameter and is bisected with two parallel lines 10mm apart between which is the date “29 MARS 1952” (Figure 3). Following the arc of the circle above the date is “DAKAR PHILATELIE” and below in smaller caps is “AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE FRANÇAISE”. The second date stamp is 27mm in diameter. It has the same “DAKAR PHILATELIE” slogan at the top but only “A.O.F.” [Afrique Occidentale Française] at the bottom (Figure 4). The date is the same as the 30mm cds but is shown on two lines as “29 — 3/1952”. Individual cards of the same issue are found with both cancels. This is the earliest date I have seen for any card and is so common that it surely reflects the first day the cards were issued.

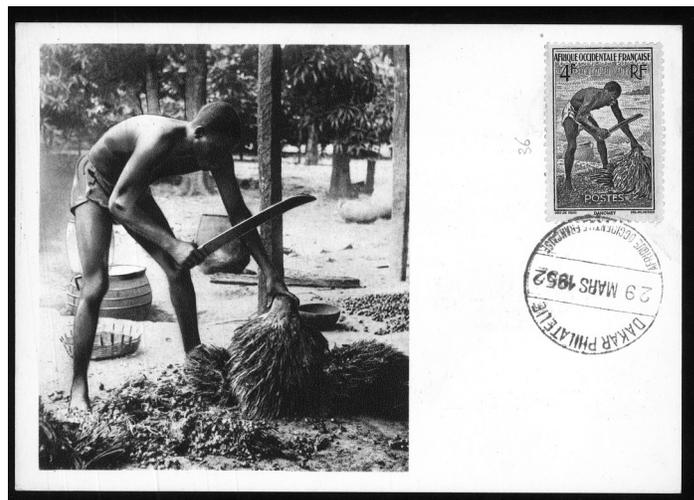


Figure 1. Type 1 card with horizontal format.

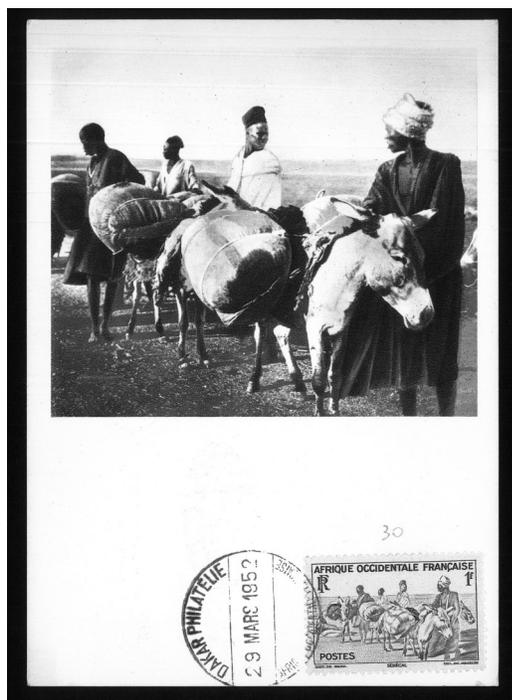


Figure 2. Type 1 card with vertical format.



Figure 3. Cds 30mm in diameter, dated 29 Mars 1952.



Figure 4. Cds 27 mm in diameter, dated 29 —3/ 1952.

Printed vertically to the far left on the reverse of most cards is “CL [iche].: Min[ister].France Outre-Mer” (Figure 5). The 60c card, however, reads, “Cliché M. Mouquet” and my examples of the 50c and 1F20 cards are blank. The message side identifies the number of the stamp in the series, the denomination of the vignette, the colony name, and name of the image on the card. Below this is a line in italics saying “Documentation recueillie par” [Documentation collected by]. The rest of the message side is an advertisement showing three logos for IONYL identified as a cerebral stimulant (center logo) and as the glycerophosphates sodium, magnesium, and manganese and phosphoric acid (lower right logo). Shown lower left is a bottle of the drug that was appar-

ently produced and sold as a tonic or nutritional supplement by the Laboratories La Biomarine, Dieppe [France] as printed vertically separating the message and address areas. Situated between the three logos on three lines is the suggested dosage, “XX gouttes aux repas/dans un grand verre/ de boisson” [Twenty drops with meals in a large drinking glass].

Each card is serially numbered at the bottom. I have numbers ranging from 289 to 7334. How the numbers and numbering sequence was determined is not clear. For example I have 2F, 5F and 3.60F cards that are consecutively numbered 7326, 7327, and 7328 respectively. The chances of randomly acquiring three consecutively numbered cards seem remote. It may be that some numbers are duplicated on the same or different cards perhaps multiple times or that not all consecutive numbers were used. My sample is small (n=24) but I have not seen two cards with the same number.

Most cards are machine addressed to different doctors in France. I have cards addressed to six doctors, with the greatest number addressed to a Dr. Vicente in Paris. Cards are unfranked or have a French 4F precancel stamp (Sc# 620; Yv# 105a), indicating they were mailed within France. La Biomarine surely produced and distributed the cards to doctors on their mailing list. Un-addressed cards were also available with or with-

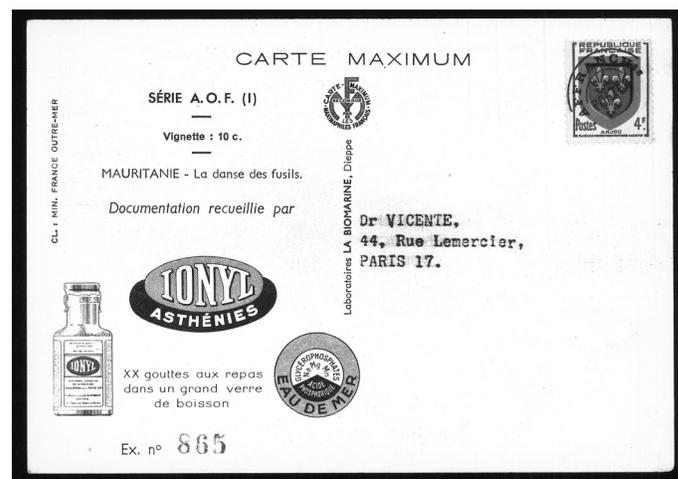


Figure 5. Type 1 card reverse, address and message sides.

out a serial number, and were mailed as postcards from West Africa until at least the late 1950s.

Type 2—Full Image, Reverse Caption

The Type 2 maximum card is much less common than the first, and I have only seen examples of the 30c, 80c, 4F, 10F, and 15F denominations. They are smaller than Type 1 cards measuring 140mm by 89mm. On Type 2 cards the stamp image covers the entire front of the card leaving a 5 to 10mm border (Figure 6). The 27mm diameter date stamp described above was also used on different days in 1954 to cancel Type 2 cards. I also have examples of the 10F Dejenne Mosque, French Sudan card (Sc # 51; Yv # 39) canceled at Dejenne in 1958 and of the 80c Weaver of Konadi, Dahomey (Sc # 41; Yv # 29) canceled at Porto No-

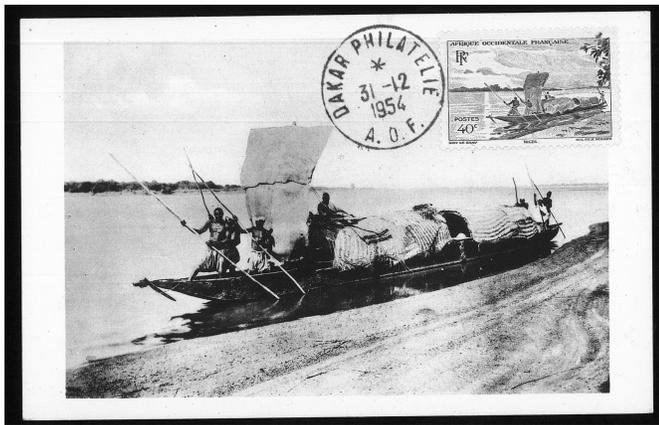


Figure 6. Type 2 card, French Sudan, Canoe on the Niger, front.

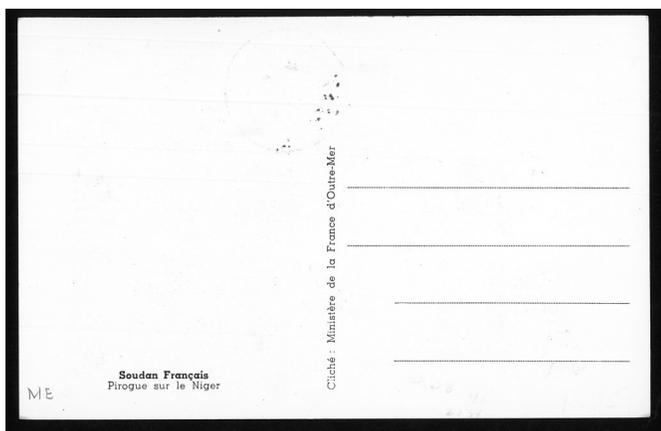


Figure 7. Type 2 card, French Sudan, Canoe on the Niger, reverse.

vo in 1960. These dates suggest that Type 2 cards were possibly issued one to two years after Type 1 cards.

The message side on the reverse of the cards is blank except at the bottom where the colony name is centered in bold above a brief description of the vignette (Figure 7). So for example, the card for the 15F stamp reads, Dakar in bold, below which is printed “L’autorail de la ligne Dakar-Niger” [The train line from Dakar to Niger], and the card for the 4F stamp reads in bold “Dahomey”, below which is printed, “Egrenage des amandes de palmistiers au ‘machette’” [Shelling palm seed kernels with a machete]. Printed vertically separating the address and message sides is: “Cliché: Ministère de la France d’Outre-Mer.” The address side has two long (63mm) and two short (52mm) dashed lines printed 13mm apart.

Type 3—Full Image, Front Caption

The Type 3 card is similar to Type 2 and both are the same overall size, but with important differences. It also appears about as scarce as the Type 2 card, and I have seen the Type 3 card only in the 1F50, 2F, 3F, 6F, and 20F denominations. As in Type 2, the Type 3 image covers most of the card front, but one slightly larger margin is reserved for the name of the colony (printed in bold caps) and the title of the image (Figure 8). This caption is the same as found on the reverse of Type 2 cards, except that “A.O.F.” appears in parenthesis after the colony name on Type 3. Another interesting variation is that the images of the Bamako Fountain of Indigenous Art on the Type 1 and Type 3 cards both show the same view but the Type 3 image also includes a man drawing water from the fountain and the back of a person’s head carrying a large bowl (Figure 9).

“Carte Postal” is centered at the top of the reverse and there is no printing on the message side (Figure 10). Printed vertically and separating the



Figure 8. Type 3 card, French Guine, Foulah Women, front .

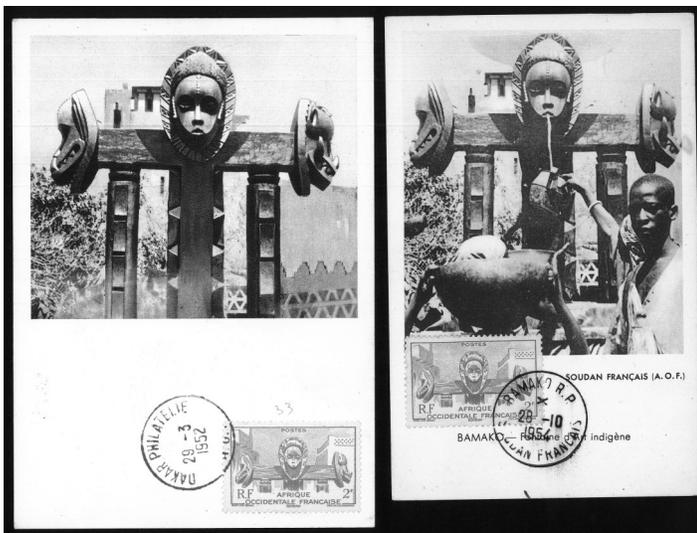


Figure 9. Type 1 (left) and Type 3 (right) cards, Bamako Fountain of Indigenous Art front showing differences in the images.

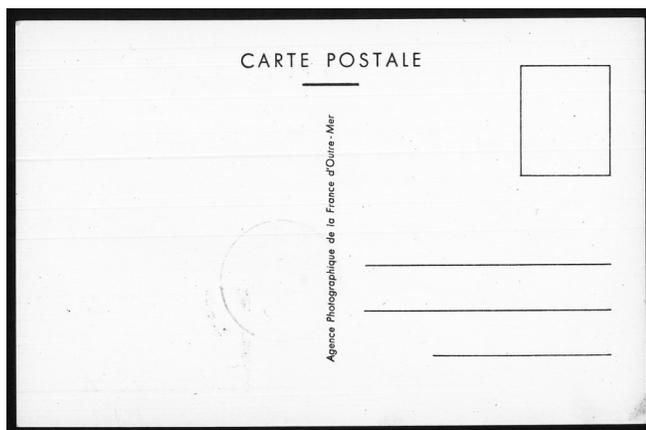


Figure 10. Type 3 card reverse, address and message sides.

address and message sides is, “Agence Photographique de la France d’Outre-Mer.” The address side includes a box for affixing a postage stamp printed in solid lines and two long (55 mm) and one short (40 mm) solid address lines printed 10mm apart. The cards I have seen are cancelled with a circular cds in the colony depicted on the card and have date stamps between 1954 and 1959. This suggests that they were issued about the same time as Type 2 cards.

Type 4—Real Photograph Cards

Type 4 cards are likely the least common French West Africa maximum card. These cards are real photograph post cards with a full-front image and narrow 3 to 4mm margins (Figure 11). The edges are scalloped or faux deckle. The five examples I have seen (30c, 80c, 1F, 3F, and 3.60F) are cancelled with a circular cds between 1954 and 1959 in the colony depicted on the card. On the card’s reverse at the top of the message side in bold capital letters is “AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE FRANÇAISE” and a brief caption for the image that may vary slightly from the wording found on the other types (Figure 12). Printed vertically and separating the message and address sides is, “Documentation Agence de la France d’Outre Mer.” There is a box printed with dotted lines for affixing the stamp and printed 10mm apart are three long (58mm) and one short (36mm) dotted lines for writing the addressee. I have seen one

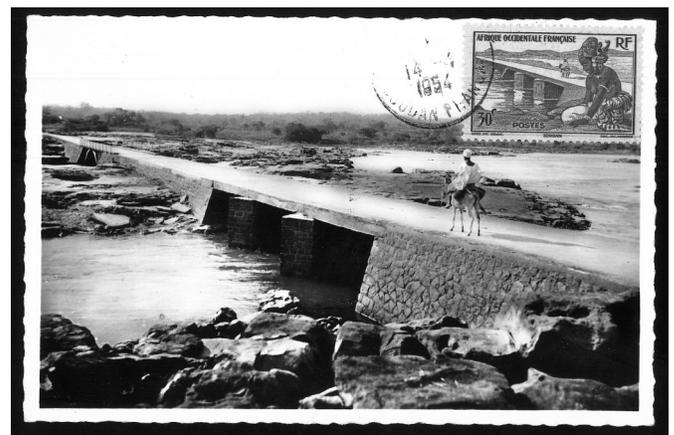


Figure 11. Type 4 card, Bamako, Submersible Road over the Niger, front.

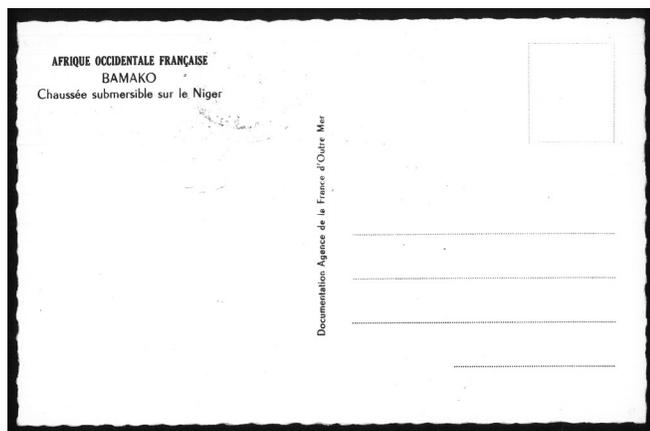


Figure 12. Type 4 card reverse, address and message sides.

Type 4 card for the 3.60F stamp that is blank on the reverse.

LIPHI Card

I have a fifth possible type that is represented by a single example. It duplicates the image of the 5F stamp on a mat finished photo paper that is thicker than the stock used for Type 4 cards (Figure 13). The image is the same width (95mm) but nearly 30 mm longer (82mm compared to 110mm) than found on Type 1 cards. This card was canceled at Atar, Mauritania with a circular cds on 8 August 1959.

Centered on six lines at the top of the message side is "Liaison Philatelique/Detachement /De/ L'Afrique Occidentale/Française/Mauritanie" (Figure 14). At the bottom of the message side in italics is the caption for the image "Femme de la tribu guerrière des Ouled Ahmed Ben Daman [Woman (or Wife) of the warrior tribe of Ouled Ahmed Ben Daman]." Separating the message and address sides and printed vertically in two lines are "Production Privée "LIPHI"/ Cliché du Ministère de la F.O.-M." This indicates that the card was privately produced by the Liaison Philatelique. This group, located in Nice, France, is dedicated to promoting and spreading stamp collecting in the French military. Although no printed material appears on the card's address side, this attribution helps explain the two line

red hand stamp addressing the card to the French army battalion commander at Atar. Whether the LIPHI produced other maximum cards for the 1947 pictorial issue or other French possessions is undetermined.

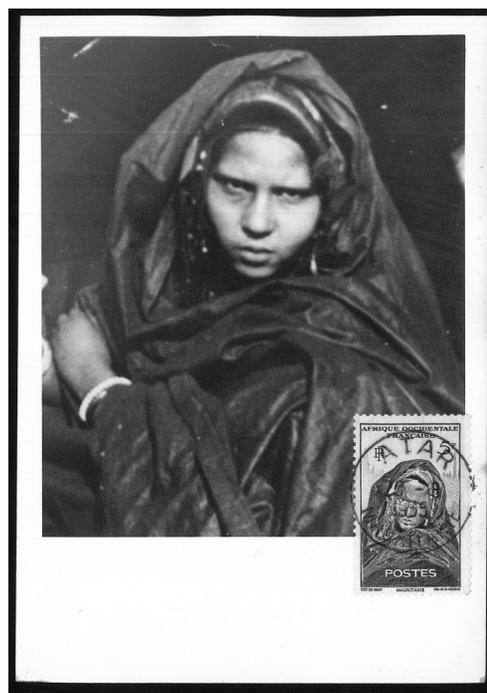


Figure 13. LIPHI card, Woman (or Wife) of the Warrior Tribe of Ouled Ahmed Ben Daman, front.

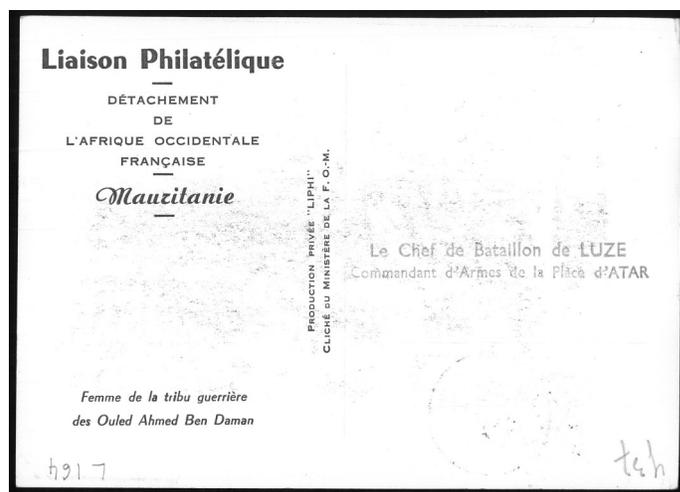


Figure 14. LIPHI card reverse, address and message sides

Conclusion

There are four and possibly five types of maximum cards representing the 19 issues of the 1947

French West Africa definitive pictorial issues. Represented by Type 1 maximum cards are the 15 stamp issues from the 10c Mauritania dancer through the 6F Foulah woman. Informal monitoring of auction web sites such as Ebay® and Delcampe® suggest that Type 1 cards are inexpensive, and that no one card is particularly scarce or difficult to find. The accompanying card serial numbers suggest that hundreds or perhaps even thousands of some cards were issued. A challenge might be to determine the number of different doctors to whom the cards were addressed or to see if there are any Type 1 cards that lack the Ionyl, Biomarine Laboratories connection.

Five stamp issues in my sample constitute Type 2 maximum cards, including the 30c, 80c, 4F, 10F, and 15F denominations. Type 3 cards also include five issues, the 1F50, 2F, 3F, 6F, and 20F stamps, while Type 4 real photograph cards also represented by five stamp issues in my sample, include the 30c, 80c, 1F, 3F, and 3.60F denominations. So far I have found 12 examples constituting Types 2, 3, and 4 cards combined. Missing from this grouping are the 10c Mauritania dancer, the 40c Niger River canoe, the 50c Niger heights, the 60c Ivory Coast collecting coconuts, the 1.20F Ivory Coast hippopotamus and crocodile, the 5F Mauritania women, and of course the 25F Azwa women. So far as I can tell all the 60c and 3F cards use the reissued 1948 stamps rather than the original 1947 stamps with the Togo inscription. From this survey I suspect that there may be additional undiscovered Type 2, 3, and 4 cards, but it is also possible that some cards may not have been issued in these categories. Sale prices reflect that Types 2, 3, and especially Type 4 real photograph cards, are more difficult to find. The LIPHI card may be a unique issue.

Acknowledgement

I very much appreciate the assistance of my philatelic colleague, Thomas Broadhead, in the preparation of this article.

Wanted:

Your articles on your topics.
Your input on journal content.
Your ideas of where we are as a society and where we should go.

Gleanings From The Group Type

Edward Grabowski

At a recent informal meeting of the New York Chapter, I presented a few Group Type covers that I thought might be of interest to the general membership. One of the most interesting and most challenging areas in collecting the French Colonies is mail from the small villages. Most of the Colonies had a plethora of small villages, and mail from them is typically very limited. The April 15, 2016 mail sale from the Marsanoux firm in Lyon offered a 25c Group Type cover from the small office of Pont des Français, New Caledonia posted on August 14, 1894 (Figure 1). This is the first cover from this office that I have seen in more than forty years of collecting the Group Type. Pont des Français was a suburb of Nouméa, and the web does not note anything significant about its history. In checking the vast New Caledonia collection which Alain Millet has posted on his personal Issuu web site, I do not note a cover from this office (<https://issuu.com/codaxa>).¹ The cover bears a blue strike of the **N^{LLE} CALLEDONIE PONT D. FRANÇAIS** datestamp which was valued at 2000 francs in the 1989 Sinais - Venot French Pacific catalog.² It shows a **MODANE A PARIS** red transit on the front and an indistinct arrival from September 24, 1894 on the reverse. All things considered, I thought this to be a very rare opportunity to add a cover from this tiny office to my Group Type collection. I bid accordingly and was pleased to obtain it. Unfortunately, the rarity of the cover was recognized by others, so the price realized was near the high end of my bid.

A second item won in this sale, but not presented at the chapter meeting, is shown in Figure 2. It illustrates use of a single 30c Group Type stamp on an item posted locally in Saint Louis, Senegal. Single use of 30c Group Types represent desirable



Figure 1: Letter from the village of Pont des Français, New Caledonia in 1894.

items, comparable in rarity to single use of the 35c Group Types, though they are not in the same rarity category as single use of the 1c or 45c or 2f Group Types. Normally single use of the 30c stamps is seen on double weight French Community rate letters from the 1899-1906 period (2 x 15c), or registered printed matter items (5c postage and 25c registration). The item shown in Figure 2 does not represent either 30c rate. It is a judicial notice posted in Saint Louis on May 25, 1899 and was received on the next day based on the backstamp on the reverse. Although registered, it is not an example of the 30c registered printed matter rate, as there is no endorsement to indicate printed matter. The item is a folded judicial notice requesting that the addressee appear in court the following month. There is extensive manuscript writing on this preprinted form which confirms that it is not printed matter. So what does the 30c postage correspond to? In 2011 I did an article for the *FCP* on the 15c regional registration rate that was unique to Senegal and Dependencies (Senegal, French Sudan and Sene-

gambia & Niger) during the era of the Group Type.³ The examples presented in this article clearly establish the existence of the special 15c regional registration rate, though I have yet to see any documentation for such. I believe that the example presented in Figure 2 corresponds to 15c local postage for the judicial notice plus 15c for local registration as per the other examples presented in the *FCP* article.



Figure 2: Registered judicial notice posted at the 30c rate in Saint Louis, Senegal in 1899.

The final item, which I did present at the chapter meeting, is shown in Figure 3, and represents a type of item that I have been wondering about for the past twenty-five years. One of the most interesting side areas of the Group Type era is how individual colonies responded to various shortages of stamps. Reunion allowed use of postage due stamps on regular local mail when there was a shortage of low valued Group Type stamps. Guadeloupe responded to the same type of shortage by allowing prepayment of local mail in cash. French Sudan allowed the bisecting of 20c Group Type stamps when there was a shortage of the 10c stamps. From time to time I have seen covers which suggested that there was a shortage of postage due stamps in Diego Suarez during January 1907. Typically the examples seen show a letter posted locally in Diego Suarez that is underpaid, and the due charge is noted by emergency use of a balance due coupon taken from the tele-

graph office. In his 2001 study of the Madagascar 1904 bisects in a section entitled *FANTAISIES DIVERSES*, Dr. Desnos illustrates one of these covers posted from and to Diego Suarez on January 25, 1907.⁴ It is underfranked with a 2c Zébu issue, struck with a **T** in triangle for due and the telegram due etiquette notes 15c is due from the addressee. None of this makes sense, and Desnos considers it a philatelic fabrication done with the assistance of the local postal clerk. In a 2009 follow-up publication in a section entitled *Affranchissements anormaux 1905/1916*, Dr. Desnos shows an example of one of the telegraph coupons use to collect postage due in January 1907, without any suggestion of such being due to the collusion of a clerk and a postal customer.⁵ To me this suggests a bit more of legitimacy to the practice.

Referring to the item in Figure 3, which I recently purchased, one notes that it is a large envelope posted from Diego Suarez on January 28, 1907 to a member of the Colonial forces at Diego Suarez. It is franked at 14c with a 10c Group Type issue and a 4c Zébu issue. At this time the local letter rate in Diego Suarez was 10c per 15 grams, and the suggestion with the 14c franking is that this is a double weight letter (15 -30 grams) which is underpaid and required 20c initial postage. Being 6c short, the letter was struck with a **T** in triangle for due. The telegraph coupon which is attached to the front of the envelope was properly filled out in this example. The letter was properly taxed at 12c, double the 6c underpayment, and it was noted that there was a shortage of postage due stamps. The etiquette was also properly signed by the local postal clerk, and the number on the etiquette was noted on the envelope.

So my example looks properly done, with everything making sense. Was there a real shortage of postage due stamps in Diego Suarez in January 1907? It is hard to say. Certainly the bisect era of 1904 shows that the colony of Madagascar was keenly aware of philately and the philatelic mar-

ket. In my collection of covers from the Group Type era I have many which clearly show that local officials had the power to adapt to local problems in the best way possible, as is noted above. As a colony Madagascar seems to have had more than its fair share of problems. With respect to this particular issue I will do things. The cover in Figure 3 looks respectable enough to warrant a half page in my exhibit, so I will include it. I will also keep a tally of related covers, and be on special look-out for an incoming due cover that originated outside of Diego Suarez that was treated in a similar manner.



Figure 3: Due letter posted from and to Diego Suarez in January 1907 illustrating use of a telegraph etiquette to collect postage due.

Although this concludes the formal part of this paper, I have a few additional comments on web sites that I would like to make. The first is on the Alain Millet web site which I mentioned earlier in the article.¹ For the past number of years Alain has been making his postal history collections available on this site, and it has become an important resource for French Colonies collectors, postal historians and philatelic judges. I would like to use this opportunity to once again bring it to the attention of all who might be interested. New Caledonia is covered in five, yes five, remarkable exhibits, which, in my opinion, represent the definitive collection of New Caledonia.

Two exhibits present what I believe to be the best collection of New Hebrides postal history ever assembled. Also presented are collections on the use of the Dubois issue, the Territory of Inini, early Mayotte and Nossi-Bé (General Issues), the Indo-chinese Offices in China, the early postal history of French Sudan and that of French Guiana. It is literally a *tour de force* in Colonies' postal history. And Alain continues to add new material, so keep an eye on it. Of course, it is peppered throughout with Group Type material which helps to define the breadth and depth of this important area of postal history.

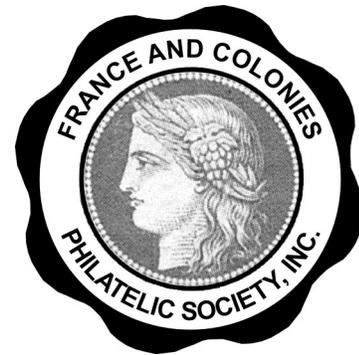
Speaking of web sites, there is another worthy of comment and the attention of the membership. Jean-François Brun, who has to be considered the Dean of Philatelic Experts in the French Area and beyond, has begun to put material on authenticating stamps and covers on his special expert's web site: <http://www.philatelic.expert>.⁶ Numerous areas of expertization are covered and highly recommended for collectors of the French area. I particularly note an addition to the site from February 2016 on the Fournier Forgeries of the Group Type. These are probably the most common of fakes in the French Colonial area. Just check out any single French Colony listing on eBay. Dealers and collectors continue to attempt to sell these common fakes as real stamps. Monsieur Brun has put together all of the information relating to these forgeries in one place for all to see and consider. The individual articles can be downloaded and saved as pdf files.

References:

1. Alain Millet Issuu website: <https://issuu.com/codaxa>
2. B. Sinais and G. Venot, *Catalog des Obliterations des Colonies Françaises Tome I Les Possessions du Pacifique*, 1989, Éditions Bertrand Sinais, 1989, pp 226-227.

3. E. Grabowski, "Gleanings From the Group Type: The 15 Centimes Regional Registration Rate as Seen in Senegal and French Sudan", *France and Colonies Philatelist*, 2011, Whole No 306, pp 114-117.
4. J. Desnos, *Madagascar et Dépendances, Études des Timbres-Poste Coupés*, Bulletin COL.FRA Hors Série No 5-6, 2001, p 19.
5. J. Desnos, *Madagascar Tome I Les Affranchissements*, Bulletin COL.FRA Hors S, Bulletin COL.FRA Hors Série No 5-8a, 2009, p 91.
6. Website on philatelic expertization by Jean-François Brun: **http://www.philatelic.expert**

It Only Takes
One Picture
and a
Few Words to Fill
This Space. Please
Supply Them!



Unpaid Forwarded Mail Taxed Postage Due France to Algeria: Revisited

Peter R.A. Kelly

Like many of you, I am sure, I enjoyed Norval Rasmussen's short article "Unpaid forwarded mail taxed postage due, France to Algeria" in Journal 324 p.46

One of the pleasures in this sort of cover is an attempt to get the chronology right, not always simple where there are undated instruction marks. I do not believe all of the marks were applied at Oran and would tender the following suggestion.



Front and reverse of the letter from England to France, forwarded to Algeria

1. The letter was posted on 22 August 1954 at Gloucester, U.K, addressed to Dr and Mrs Gomez at a hotel at Sévrier, a commune of Annecy in the department of the Haute Savoie department. Normal delivery of the letter was made.
2. The Gomez' had left the hotel for Oran. The hotel posted the letter on, simply addressing it to "Oran" in Algeria.
3. The post office at Sévrier cleared the post-box and found the letter. The act of having posted it rather than handing it to the post office meant that this started a new postal transaction. The letter was unpaid and a "T" mark was applied together with the "Trouvé la boîte" both indicating the provenance of the letter and the need to tax it. The Sévrier office applied their date stamp of 25 August but it is not clear whether this happened when the letter was first received from the U.K. or when they found it in the box. The latter, I would have thought. So far so good!.
4. The letter reached Oran around 29th August. It can be seen that the redirection was simply to Oran without further detail as to the address so it could not be delivered. The post office's manuscript comments are now all important. "Pas de réponse à l'appel du facteur, Avise RP" Traditionally, at the time of the roll call of the postmen, information was called for in respect of mail that could not be delivered. This is what happened here and the single postman replied that he had no knowledge of the addressee. The comment "Avise RP"

means that the Recette Postale, the head post office, was advised. In the meantime the postage due stamps that had been applied, and cancelled by Oran were now manually crossed out as the postage due could not be recovered. The letter was retained for 10 days and was then marked "Retour à l'envoyeur" and returned to the sender whose address was written on the back.

5. Returned to the U.K. with an additional "Return to sender" stamp.

It is covers like this that make postal history so rewarding and also an object lesson in understanding how the postal system worked. It also shows how much interest and pleasure can be found in inexpensive and well travelled letters such as this.

A Censored Postmark

Charles J. LaBlonde
CPhH, FRPSL

On 13 October 1943 the Axis surrendered in Tunisia. Prisoners taken by the Allies included 125,000 Germans and 115,000 Italians. The people of Tunisia were so happy to again be free that they created a special postmark that read, "UN SEUL BUT LA VICTOIRE" or "VICTORY IS OUR SINGLE GOAL." It appears that this slogan ran in a canceling machine that alternated slogan with city of origin.

Figure 1 shows an example of the postmark used on 11 November 1943 in Tunis. The Germans, who were failing on all fronts, apparently did not care much for this postmark. Figure 2 shows a letter of 27 March 1944 from Tunis to the Geneva Red Cross. The Germans obliterated the victory slogan parts of the postmark.

It is interesting to note that Tunisia also issued a 1.50 franc postage stamp in 1943 with the same victory slogan.

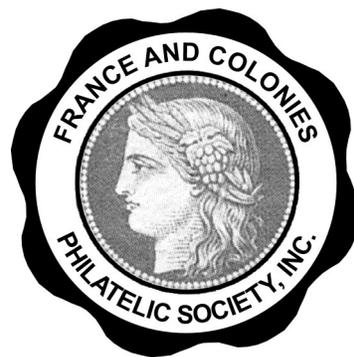




Figure 1 - French Red Cross letter of 11 November 1943 from Tunis to Geneva with the machine postmark “UN SEUL BUT LA VICTOIRE.” Paid 6.50 French Francs air postage. Censored in Tunis by Censor Number VA 329 I. Blue swipe front and back, believed to have been done in Tunisia, since it goes slightly under the French “CONTROLE” closer label. Routing at this time believed to be Tunis—Algiers - Casablanca - Tangiers - Algecieras - Madrid - Irun - Paris - Geneva. Lack of German censorship odd.



Figure 3. Reverse of cover shown in figure 2. Pink swipe on reverse believed Tunisian because it goes under the French “CONTROLE” closer label. Censored by Germany in Berlin -- file Number 889. Believed routing Tunis - Algiers - Casablanca—Tangiers - Madrid - Berlin - Stuttgart - Zürich - Geneva.



Figure 2 - French Red Cross letter of 27 March 1944 from Tunis to Geneva. Postmark “UN SEUL BUT LA VICTOIRE” obliterated in three places with heavy black substance. Not possible to determine postage paid since stamp also obliterated. Censored in Tunis by Censor VA 329 I, also VA 36 (reverse).

References:

Giangreco, D.M., Roosevelt, De Gaulle and the Posts, Joseph V. Bush, Inc., 1987 (Note - This book on page 113 illustrates another Tunisian letter, dated 30 March 1944, with the victory postmark obliterated. The letter bears the same Berlin file number 889 and may have been in the same bag with the letter shown here).

Keegan, John, The Times Atlas of the Second World War, Harper & Rowe, 1989.

National Geographic Society, Atlas of the World, Ninth Edition, 2011.

Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalog 2000, Volume 6, Page 444.

Swiss PTT, Postal Bulletins of November 1943 and March 1944.

Wikipedia, History of Modern Tunisia.

Wolter, Kurt Karl, Die Postzensur, Volume 2.

Tunisia to the Netherlands by Airmail with Contemporary Use of the 80 centime Halfaouine Mosque stamp

Norval Rasmussen

In October 1926 the Tunisian post office began a new series of stamps depicting local landmarks. The Halfaouine Mosque in Tunis was the subject of the 50 centime through 1 franc stamps. An 80 centime blue green stamp was issued. The current single rate in Tunisia was 25 centimes; the single weight letter to France was 50 centimes; the single rate to a foreign destination was 1 franc. The registration fee was 1 franc locally and to France and 2 francs to a foreign destination. This period showed rapidly escalating postage rates and these rates were destined to change on January 1, 1927.

The 80 centime stamp on a legitimate cover has been on my want list for a long time. I recently rectified this with the illustrated cover, thanks to the internet.

The letter was sent from La Goulette, Tunisia to the Netherlands airmail on November 2, 1928. It was franked with a strip of four 75 centime stamps, which had been revalued to 50 centimes in May 1928, and a single 80 centime stamp. The franking analysis is as follows: 1 franc 50 centimes for a single weight letter to a foreign destination effective August 1, 1926, the airmail surcharge from Tunisia to France was 80 centimes effective February 19, 1927, and the airmail surcharge from France to the Netherlands was 50 centimes effective April 15, 1928.

References:

Morat, Jean, *Tunisie: L'Histoire Postale et les*

Emissions de Timbres Durant La Regence 1888-1955. Self published 2000.

Picirilli, Robert, *Postal and Airmail Rates in France & Colonies 1920-1945*. F&CPS GB, 2011.



Cover sent from Tunisia to the Netherlands in 1928. The airmail route to Paris was through Antibes.



Reverse of the cover showing the Antibes transit marking in the upper right.

New Issues

France

- ◇ Apr 2, 2016: UEFA EURO 2016. €1.00.
- ◇ Apr 4, 2016: Portraits. Booklet of 12 different nondenominated stamps valid for the green letter rate in France. €8.40.
- ◇ Apr 4, 2016: Belfort spring philatelic salon. €0.70.
- ◇ Apr 4, 2016: Craftsmen: Stone sculpture. €0.70.
- ◇ Apr 11, 2016: Moulin national center of stage costume commemorative. €0.80.
- ◇ Apr 18, 2016: Edmond Locard, French pathologist, commemorative. €0.70.
- ◇ Apr 25, 2016: Bicentenary of steamboat navigation. €1.25.
- ◇ Apr 29, 2016: Caisse de depots 200th anniversary €0.80. commemorative.
- ◇ May 2, 2016: French red cross. Booklet of 8 different nondenominated stamps valid for green letter rate in France. €7.60.
- ◇ May 10, 2016: Europa commemorative. €1.00.
- ◇ May 17, 2016: Saint-Brévin-les-Pins. €0.70.
- ◇ May 19, 2016: Service dogs. Sheetlet of 6 different nondenominated stamps valid for the green letter rate in France. €6.50.
- ◇ May 19, 2016: Assistance dogs. Sheetlet of 6 different nondenominated stamps valid for the green letter rate in France. €6.50.
- ◇ May 19, 2016: Doré Paris Salon Philex 2016. Sheetlet of 3 different €2.00 stamps. €6.00.
- ◇ May 20, 2016: Soccer. Single nondenominated stamp valid for the priority letter rate to Europe. €3.00.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: 89th Congress of the FFAP (French philatelic organization). €0.70.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: Solitary bees, Collète. €0.70.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: Solitary bees. Sheetlet of 4 different designs, €0.70 each. €2.80.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: Louise Labé commemorative. €1.40.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: The 1970's. Sheetlet of 6 different €0.80 stamps. €4.80.
- ◇ May 23, 2016: 70th anniversary of the postal

museum. Booklet of 4 different designs €0.80 each. €5.30.

- ◇ May 30, 2016: Soccer. Booklet of 10 different nondenominated designs valid for the green letter rate in France. €7.00.
- ◇ May 30, 2016: Battle of Verdun commemorative. €0.70.
- ◇ Jun 2, 2016: 46th Festival Interceltique de Lorient commemorative. Sheetlet of 10 different nondenominated designs valid for the green letter rate in France. €9.50.
- ◇ Jun 6, 2016: Saint-Étienne School of mines commemorative. €0.70.
- ◇ Jun 6, 2016: Joint issue France and South Korea, Reliquary. €1.25.
- ◇ Jun 6, 2016: Joint issue France and South Korea, Incense burner. €0.80.
- ◇ Jun 7, 2016: Front Populaire 1936 - 2016. Women in government. €0.70.
- ◇ Jun 7, 2016: Charles Gleyre (French artist) commemorative. €1.60.
- ◇ Jun 13, 2016: Edouard Nieuport, French aviator, commemorative. €4.80.



Andorra

- ◇ Apr 23, 2016: 150th anniversary of Nova Reforma. €1.00.
- ◇ May 7, 2016: Josep Viladomat, Catalan sculptor, commemorative. €0.80.
- ◇ May 21, 2016: Think Green, Europa. €1.00.
- ◇ Jun 11, 2016: The Giants. €0.80.



TAAF

- ◇ Mar 30, 2016: Sea turtle and ship Marion Dufresne. 2 designs se-tenant. €0.01 and 0.04.
- ◇ Mar 30, 2016: Helicopter and penguin. 2 designs se-tenant. €0.02 and 0.03.
- ◇ Mar 31, 2016: Kerguelen District. €0.80.

- ◇ May 19, 2016: Rockhopper birds. €2.00.
- ◇ May 21, 2016: Albatross. Sheetlet of 1 stamp. €1.00.



French Polynesia

- ◇ Apr 22, 2016: Ships visiting Polynesia. 3 stamps; 40F, 80F, 100F. €1.85.
- ◇ May 27, 2016: Polynesian art. 140F. €1.17.



New Caledonia

- ◇ Apr 15, 2016: Tiga Island. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ May 13, 2016: The wedding. 75F. €0.63.
- ◇ Jun 6, 2016: Kanak soldiers in WW I. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ Jun 10, 2016: Coral reef park. 110F. €0.92.
- ◇ Jun 13, 2016: Polynesian artisans. 75F. €0.63.
- ◇ Jun 13, 2016: High speed internet. 75F. €0.63.



St. Pierre & Miquelon

- ◇ Mar 21, 2016: St. Pierre & Miquelon map. 6 stamps in different colors. €0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.05, 0.10, and a nondenominated stamp valid for the 20 gram rate overseas. €0.61.
- ◇ Apr 23, 2016: Église des Ardilliers. €1.40.
- ◇ May 14, 2016: Prefecture, before and after. €0.70.
- ◇ May 28, 2016: Gendarmerie. Sheetlet of 4 different designs. €0.40, 0.80, 1.10, and 1.40. €3.70.
- ◇ Jun 11, 2016: Block and tackle. €0.80.



Monaco

- ◇ Apr 1, 2016: Sea turtles. Sheetlet of 4 different designs; €0.80, 0.80, 1.00, and 1.60. €4.20.
- ◇ Apr 1, 2016: Grimaldi fief Belfort. €1.00.
- ◇ Apr 29, 2016: Garden Club of Monaco. €0.80.
- ◇ May 12, 2016: Paintings. Mercury teaching Geography to love. €2.00.
- ◇ May 12, 2016: Think green Europa. €1.00.
- ◇ May 19, 2016: Grace Kelly movies; The Rear Window €1.60 and The Bridges of Toko-Ri €2.00.
- ◇ May 19, 2016: Opera singers, Nellie Melba €1.36 and Enrico Caruso €2.50.
- ◇ Jun 1, 2016: UEFA European Football Championship 2016. €1.00.
- ◇ Jun 1, 2016: Rio Olympic games. €1.25.



Wallis & Futuna

- ◇ Mar 25, 2016: Sailing ship Flying Cloud. 300F.
- ◇ Jun 6, 2016: The sabre dance. 135F.



France & Colonies at International Stamp Show New York 2016

Tom Broadhead

Instructions for authors

Electronic submission using Microsoft Word © is preferred. Pictures scanned at 300 dpi reproduce well and can be shown larger without losing clarity. The preferred format for the pictures will remain TIF but JPEG is acceptable..

In all cases if you need assistance in producing your article, cover write up, column closer, or other submission contact me: nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave., Morgantown, WV 26501, or 304-292-7652, or 304-290-6117.

Deadlines are the 15th of the month proceeding publication (December 15, March 15, June 15, September 15) but I can be reasonable.

ED

France and French colonies were well represented at the New York international show, May 28-June 4. Thirty-six philatelic exhibits, four literature entries, one presentation, and the FCPS booth informed attendees about many facets of French and colonial philately. Can there ever be too much of such a great thing?

Sitting at the FCPS booth gave me the opportunity to give out the attractive informational postcards provided by Ken Nilsestuen and get about a dozen Society members so sign in as attending. I would like to think that I convinced a few prospects to explore our web site and then join. We shall see.



(l-r) Tom Broadhead, Larry Gardner, and Ralph DeBoard spent some time at the FCPS booth. Larry's 8-frame exhibit on Morocco foreign post offices earned 91 points in judging for a Gold and a special prize for material. Ralph's 8-frame exhibit on Tahiti postal history earned 90 points for a Gold. Tom's Carte de Visite single frame exhibit earned 83 points for the equivalent of a Vermeil.

The exhibits and their well-deserved medals are below. Apologies for incorrectly titled exhibits – all titles were taken from the official program guide. Single frame exhibits are awarded points, but not FIP official medal awards – medal equivalents are given in parentheses.

France

1852-76 Plain and Numbered Star Cancels on Mail from Paris Central and 39 District Offices. Ted Nixon, Canada – V

1871-1878 Perforated Ceres: Rates, Routes & Postmarks, Yacov Tsachov, Israel – G

Accountancy Markings Associated with the 1857 Franco-British Postal Convention. Jeffrey Bohn, U.S.A. – G

Aerial Formations of the General Haller “Blue” Army and the French Military Mission in Poland 1917-1925. Jacek Kosmala, Poland – (V)

The Bayeux Tapestry. Jack André Denys, U.S.A. – V

The French Influence on Airmail Development in South America. Henry Pillage, U.K. – LV

French Airmail Stamps from 1984 to 1997. Achille Hamelin, France – V, Youth

French Military Mail during the Mexican Intervention 1862-1867. Jaime Benavides, Mexico – (S)

French Naval Mail to America, The “RF.” Period & Leadup 1943-1945. Lewis Bussey, U.S.A. – LV

French Republic – Postage Stamps Type Semeuse. J.B.F. Bruschsall, Germany – V, Youth

French Revenue Stamps Taxing Pharmaceutical Specialties 1918-1934. François Guillotin, U.S.A. – (V)

Heraldry (The Art of Blazon). Wilfried Grellier, France – LS, Youth

Mail Routes and Rates between France and foreign countries by sail and steam 1828-1849. Robert Abensur, France – G

Military Mail in the Netherlands in the Napoleonic Era. Frederik Boom, Netherlands – G

Petite Messages: Development of Carte de Visite Mail in 19th Century France. Thomas Broadhead, U.S.A. – (V)

Postal Exchanges to and from Foreign Countries with Perforated Ceres Issue. Daniel Paulin, France – LG

The Postal History of the French “Armée de Morée,” 1828-1833. Alexandre Galinos, Greece – (G)

Postal Stationery of the Pneumatic Post of Paris – Period 1879-1901. Hervé Barbelin, France – V

The Rooster of Decaris Issue (France 1962-1967). Tanguy Pron, France – LV, Youth

Round about September 1871 (in the French Internal Rate). Francis Carcenac, France – Championship Class

Souvenir du Siege de Paris 1870/1871 Private Mail Transported by Ballons Montés out of Paris during the Prussian Siege. Ferdinando Giudici, Italy – G

Colonies

Airmail from and to New-Caledonia, 1929-1949.

Jean-Daniel Ayache, France – LV

Benin/Dahomey. Paul Barsdell, Australia – V

The Fisherman's Head, First Typical Stamp of St. Pierre et Miquelon. Fabrice Fouchard, St. Pierre & Miquelon – V

Foreign Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852-1914. Michael Bass, U.S.A. – LV

Lebanon Air Mail 1919-1950. Lucien Toutounji, U.S.A. – G

Morocco Foreign Post Offices and Agencies. Larry Gardner, U.S.A. – G – Special Prize for Material

Morocco Postal History (1852-1925). Maurice Hadida, France – LG

Nova Scotia Cancellations on Saint-Pierre et Miquelon Mail. Loic Detcheverry, St. Pierre et Miquelon – V

Overprints of St. Pierre-et-Miquelon in the 19th Century. Jean-Jacques Tillard, St. Pierre et Miquelon – LG – Special Prize for Material

The Philately of the New Hebrides 1842-1941. Martin Treadwell, New Zealand – LV

The Postal History of Tahiti through the First Pictorial Issue. Ralph DeBoard, U.S.A. – G

Principality of Monaco – 1704-1898. Nicola Posteraro, France – LG

St. Pierre & Miquelon: Colonial Series through First Pictorial. James Taylor, Canada – LV

Saint-Pierre et Miquelon Viewed by France in his Philately in 1982. Eric Resseguier, France – S

Saint-Pierre et Miquelon – Le Frigorifique – 1955-1956. Jean-Louis Desdouets, St. Pierre et Miquelon – (V)

Literature

The 1836 Anglo-French Postal Convention. Geoffrey Lewis, Australia – G

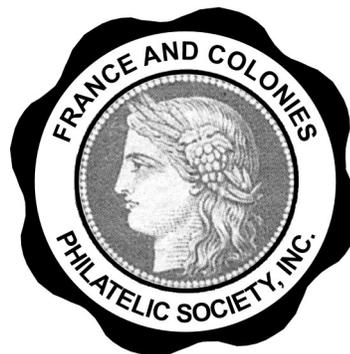
France Unadopted Proofs and Essays. Giorgio Leccese, Italy – S

Mail of French Prisoners of War in England 1744-1815. Jacques Renollaud, France – V

Monaco Unadopted Proofs and Essays. Giorgio Leccese, Italy – S

Presentation

Stylized Views of France Cities Air Mail Set, 1949-1953. Enrique Setaro, U.S.A.



Society News

Convention Schedule

September 16, 2016 MILCOPEX
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport
6401 South 13th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

June 2, 2017 NAPEX
McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner
7920 Jones Branch Drive
McLean, Virginia

November 2018 CHICAGOPEX
Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Boulevard
Itasca, Illinois 60143

January 2020 Southeastern Stamp Expo
Hilton Hotel Atlanta Northeast
5993 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
Norcross, GA 30092

MILCOPEX Details:

Exhibit prospectus is available at the Milwaukee Philatelic Society website:

<http://www.milwaukeephilatelic.org/>

Hotel reservations:

Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 So. 13th St., Milwaukee, WI

414-764-5300

Group name: "Milcopex, Milwaukee Philatelic Society Inc."

room rate at the show hotel is \$105 per night

Deadline for the special pricing is August 16, 2016

France and Colonies Philatelic Society Program at MILCOPEX 2016

We have one speaker scheduled and I am soliciting more. The meetings will be on Friday, September 16, 2016. The MILCOPEX show committee will have program deadlines so please step forward. Send your title and needs to me: Norval Rasmussen, 224 Wilson Ave, Morgantown, WV 26501, or nrasmu@gmail.com. Telephone contact information: land line 304-292-7652 and cell 304-290-6117.

The scheduled speaker and subject is Ken Nilsestuen "Algerian Stamped Postal History to 1876."

I am researching Friday night dinner for the members present. If you are interested in participating please let me know by the contact information above. I will keep the interested parties informed. There will be no further broadcast communications since this is the last journal issue before the show.

I have never been to Milwaukee so if you have and can make suggestions please step forward.

At press time the Milcopex committee reports there are only 3 French area exhibits totaling 16 frames. This is a new low for us. Please consider entering your exhibit at Milcopex. The committee advises me they will extend the deadline.

NY 2016: A Personal Observation on the Exhibits From Saint Pierre & Miquelon

Edward Grabowski

The NY 2016 Show is over at this writing and by all accounts it was a grand show. I was at the show for six of its eight days, and still could not see all that I wanted to see. It was a *tour de force* of philately and our sincerest thanks go to those who worked so hard to put it together and to make it a success.

Everyone will have memories of this show and its events, and I would like to share one with members of the FCPS. I worked in the bin room and helped with the mounting for the three days before the show opened. One morning, while waiting for my next assignment in the bin room, I noted that Fabrice Fouchard, Commissioner from Saint Pierre & Miquelon, and Jean-Jacques Tillard, SP&M's most prolific exhibitor, had just arrived and were carrying 5 exhibits from this tiny French Territory which has 6000 inhabitants. Had the United States, with a population of 350,000,000, responded in kind, we should have provided 299,000 exhibits! Having no immediate assignment, I asked Denise Stotts, who was coordinating activities, if I could help Fabrice and Jean-Jacques complete the requisite inventory forms, and then mount the exhibits. I thought we would clear the five exhibits in one hour. Denise took care of the paperwork and the three of us began job of getting these exhibits in the frames as quickly as possible. As the photo in Figure 1 shows, Jean-Jacques found the mounting of the collections a hair-raising experience, quite possibly his first in philately.

The following is a list of the five exhibits carried from Saint Pierre & Miquelon and the results achieved:

1. **The Fisherman's Head, First Type Stamp of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon**, Fabrice Fouchard: 5 Frames – Vermeil
2. **Saint-Pierre and Miquelon Viewed by France in Its Philately 1982**, Eric Resseguier: 5 Frames – Silver
3. **Overprints of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon in the 19th Century**, Jean-Jacques Tillard, 8 Frames – Large Gold and Special Prize
4. **Nova Scotia Cancellations on Saint-Pierre and Miquelon Mail**, Loic Detcheverry: 5 Frames – Vermeil
5. **Le Frigorifique – 1955-1956**, Jean-Louis Desdouets: 1 Frame – Vermeil

Congratulations to all five Saint Pierre Exhibitors for their strong participation in this show. I particularly enjoyed the exhibits of Fabrice and Loic, both of whom I met at the show in Saint Pierre & Miquelon in 2014. Both exhibits were well conceived and contained much excellent material. Loic's study of the Nova Scotia cancellations, especially those on Group Type, made my holdings seem quite modest.

But the highlight of the exhibits carried from SP&M was the Tillard exhibit on the Saint Pierre & Miquelon provisional issues. This is FCPS member Jean-Jacques third Large Gold Medal for this exhibit and he now qualifies for FIP Championship Class. Figure 2 shows Jean-Jacques by the first frame of this marvelous exhibit. Figure 3 shows Jean-Jacques and yours truly celebrating this accomplishment at a local NY restaurant – Henk Slabbinck was with us and provided the picture. Figure 4 shows four of the SP&M exhibitors

and their flag outside the main entrance to the show.

In the 1980's John Levett of the Royal qualified for Championship Class with his traditional exhibit on The French Colonies General Issues, and in the 2000's I qualified for such with my exhibit on Guadeloupe Postal History. Both of us were honored to ultimately receive a Grand Prix d'Honneur for these exhibits, firsts for the French Colonies as far as I know. Now the ball is in Jean-Jacques' court. Will it be possible to win an FIP Grand with an exhibit based on the provisional issues of one French Colony? I would answer a resounding YES! Saint Pierre & Miquelon is an excellent colony with which to attempt this feat. It has a resplendent and complex group of provisional issues, numerous and important rarities and a rich plethora of postal history. It will take a bit of luck, as happened with my Guadeloupe Postal History exhibit. By the Washington 2006 Show many of the top exhibits had completed their chances in Championship Class, and many that would be in this class were still working their way up the ladder. It is also of interest to note that two of the top three awards in NY 2016 went to Mongolia and Panama exhibits, so today's judges are clearly thinking beyond the usual big-time countries when considering top awards. So join me in congratulating Jean-Jacques and wishing him the very best as he embarks on this new philatelic journey.



Figure 1. Ed and Jean-Jacques toasting J.-J.'s third Large Gold Medal.



Figure 2. Jean-Jacques mounting one of the SPM exhibits – a hair-raising experience.



Figure 3. Jean-Jacques Tillard and his magnificent exhibit.



Figure 4. Team Saint Pierre & Miquelon outside the show: Loic Detcheverry, Jean-Jacques Tillard, Jean-Louis Desdouets and Fabrice Fouchard.

President's Letter



As I write this NY2016 is behind us, but memories remain. Tom Broadhead was kind enough to report on how the French area exhibits fared, which you will see elsewhere in this edition of our journal. In addition to exhibits, there were over 70 dealers, many from overseas, as well as postal administrations and more. You have probably read that the USPS issued 49 stamps that week.

We owe thanks to the members who volunteered at our booth, which we shared with the Thailand and Indochina societies. When I saw Ralph DeBoard, he was carrying around our sign-in book to find members who hadn't yet stopped at the booth. We gave away nearly 500 postcards inviting collectors to join our society, so let us hope that many of them take us seriously.

I had the good fortune to attend the last three days of the show, my fifth U.S. international. The Court of Honor was spectacular, of course. Seeing the British Guiana 1¢ magenta for the first time in thirty years I was surprised at how much darker it looks than it did in 1986. Age is catching up with this fabulous rarity.

Another unique stamp on display was the Swedish tre skilling yellow, which I had never seen in person. It was included in a wonderful exhibit of classical Swedish stamps, with its own private guard keeping an eye on the stamp and surrounding exhibit.

The 4,200+ frames of exhibits were completely overwhelming. Fortunately, a good friend spent some time there ahead of me, so he was able to point out the top exhibits to me. Without that, one could have spent more than the entire show wandering among the rows of exhibits, reading and admiring the wonderful material on display.

If you are interested, initial reports are that the show was profitable (a newsletter arrived today), and we are still awaiting final attendance numbers. But as an attendee, I thought it was great.

After returning from New York I learned the APS election results. While disappointed by my loss and the low turnout, I am pleased that the race was close. Mick Zais will be a fine leader, and with seven of the candidates on our slate now elected to the board, they will help the society greatly for the next three years. Of course it frees up time that I would have spent elsewhere to use to the benefit of the FCPS. My plan is to remain active in philately for many more years, so this wasn't even a serious setback. I will just find new things to do. For all of you who took the time to vote, thanks for doing that, regardless of the candidates you supported.

One of the deals struck at the New York show was between Regency-Superior and Yvert & Tellier. Regency will now be the U.S. agent for Y&T catalogs. That's really good news for us, since we can now obtain those catalogs at a reasonable price and with reasonable shipping costs. Regency has Y&T's worldwide line of catalogs available, so there is much to consider.

Well, that's much more than I expected to say about past events. Let's turn to the future.

I hope you don't need a reminder that we are meeting at MILCOPEX in just a few months. It looks like this will be great fun for us, especially because of the partnership with Alliance Française. Please make your plans to be there! Exhibits are also important, of course. As I mentioned last quarter, the MILCOPEX prospectus is available at <http://www.milwaukeephilatelic.org/>

Milcopex/Milcopex.html. It is time to get your application in to the show.

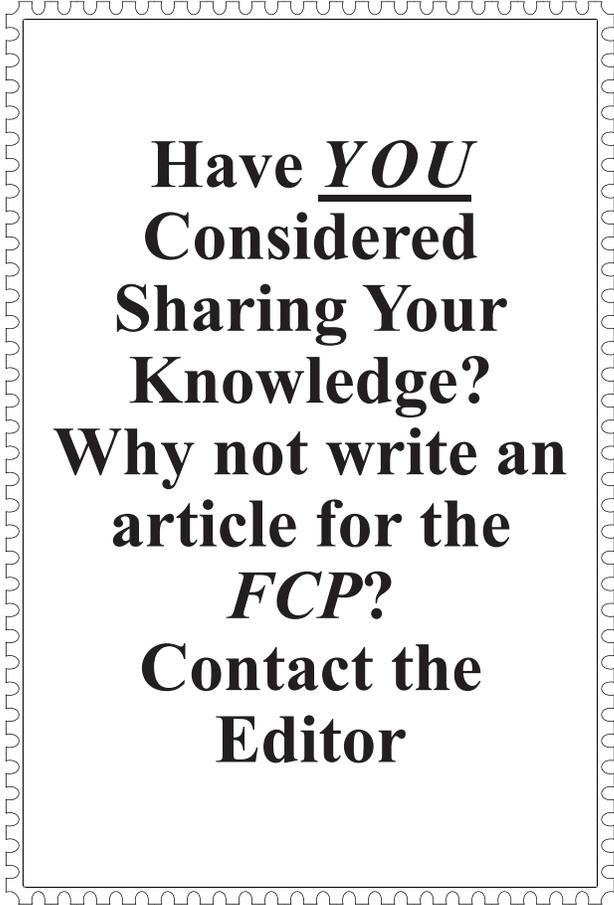
More than that, we also want your presentation to the attending members. The exchange of information and ideas is really important to us, and it only works when you are willing to talk to us about your collection. You do not need to be an expert! We prefer entertaining speakers, of course, but that is also not a requirement. What we really want is your participation. As an example, when we met in Chicago several years ago, Dr. Robert Abensur attended our meeting (as did several other French philatelists, including his wife). He walked through my Algerian postal history exhibit with me while I madly scribbled notes on postal rates and markings that he knew much better than I. That is the exchange of knowledge we all seek, and may well be available if you will join us in Milwaukee.

This morning (June 24) I awoke to Brexit after watching voting results until about 11 PM EDT last night. It is certainly an interesting time, and may affect the values of collectibles, as well as the ability to buy and sell French stamps at prices we have seen over the past couple of years. If we are sellers, let's hope the stamp market rises with gold prices (up about 5% this morning). If we are buyers, let's hope the stronger U.S. dollar helps us add to our collections.

Just after I wrote last quarter's letter my email inbox included a philatelic newsletter that was new to me. It's quarterly, email-only, free and sometimes multi-lingual, including English, but mostly French. Oh yes, the title gives it away – *Le Maghrebophila* – devoted to Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. Current and past issues are available at <http://www.philafrika.be/MAGHREBOPHILA/bulletins.htm>. For the handful of us who are students of North African philately, the newsletters are certainly interesting.

They welcome contributions, although I must ask that you give preference to our own journal. I certainly hope to see you in Milwaukee!

Ken Nilsestuen
President



**Have YOU
Considered
Sharing Your
Knowledge?
Why not write an
article for the
FCP?
Contact the
Editor**

We Get Letters

Dear Editor,

There is yet another, and I believe more likely explanation for the small taxed envelope from Algeria described by you in the January 2016 Philatelist. I don't believe that the somewhat larger than typical size of the envelope was the cause of it being taxed. I have semi-modern era envelopes with enclosures that qualified for reduced, carte de visite rates. The unsealed flap is a clue, and that was required to get a reduced rate, based on the envelope's contents, which would be examined by postal clerks. An enclosed card with no written message required only 0.15 postage, and one with 1-5 words (cing mots rate) required only 0.25. More than a 5 word written message on the enclosed visiting card required full letter rate postage of 0.50. I suspect that the card enclosed had a written message that did not pass postal clerk inspection.

Tom Broadhead

Dear Editor,

I believe that Charles LaBlonde had a large enough sample to draw accurate conclusions in his interesting article "U. S. Army 1943 Censorship of Algerian Mail." Larry Lambert collected Algerian town cancels by the type of cancel and its period of usage. He had about the same number of WW II censored covers to the Red Cross in Switzerland as was used in the LaBlonde study and similar conclusions can be drawn. Larry had 49 covers with the U. S. Army circular censor mark of which 47 were sent in January 1943. Of the other 2 covers one was sent February 4, 1943 and one February 23, 1943. Only censor numbers 1107, 1108, and 1109 were found with the most of 1107. Only 5 covers had 1108, making this number the least common. One cover had U. S. Army examiner tape applied. This indicates that the U. S. Army

opened a few letters as well as applying censor marks.

The February– March 1943 period for Algeria was an interesting transitional censorship period .

Alan Morvay

Dear Editor,

I saw the below cover in an online stamp site. It looks interesting, since I collect France & colonies public timbres on cover. However I would appreciate any information (or educated guesses) you could provide as to what the boxed BM mark on the stamp signifies (I'm guessing it's not "boite mobile") or why a French stamp was used from Conakry rather than a French Guinea stamp. Does the M possibly stand for "militaire"?

As you can tell, I am totally out of my (extremely shallow) depth. I'd be delighted to hear from someone knowledgeable in the area.

Thanks,

Sam Abram

(samlabram@hotmail.com)

FCPS #1886 (I think)



Editorial



Norval Rasmussen

We are counting down to Milwaukee. Less than 90 days away. I have put the meeting details as they currently exist on page 86. We have access to meeting space all day so I hope we will have a few others join Ken Nilsestuen at the podium.

I had a nice array of articles to choose from for this issue. Notice the verb “choose.” This is a first in my editorship; going to press with articles in hand for the October issue. We are still very heavy in the French Colony area. I would like to see some activity in the area of general French philately and postal history. I don’t collect French stamps. I was still able to produce the Marianne piece a few issues ago. If you have an idea but get overcome with the computer, word processor, acquisition of art, or any technical aspect of the job, tell me. I will help you.

I missed New York 2016 and will not likely be in Milwaukee in September. Family medical issues are restricting my travel for a bit. I am looking at the area near the hotel for a place to convene over dinner Friday night. If you are interested, or have a knowledge of Milwaukee restaurants convenient to the show hotel notify me and I will communicate details via email as the show approaches. Better yet, if you are going and would like to take on this task you may use me as a clearing house for information.

I have received some interest in reinstating some features from the earlier *France and Colonies Philatelist*. I am always interested in the members interests and pose the following question. Editor Stan Luft had a column “For the Rec-

ord” in which he and others submitted short observations. Would you like to see this return? Would you be willing to become one of the vacant assistant editors and take charge of it? Step up with ideas and we’ll have a better journal.

Regency Superior has an advertisement on the inside rear cover of this issue. They are distributing Yvert & Tellier products in the U. S. I am sure most of you, as do I, appreciate the ability to obtain these essential catalogs easily. I paid as much postage as the catalog cost for my last one from Europe.

**Don’t Miss the Annual
Convention of the
France and Colonies
Philatelic Society!**

**Milwaukee:
September 16, 2016**

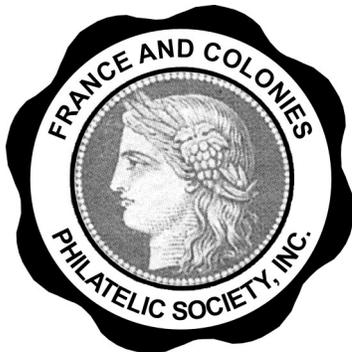
Membership Notices

NEW MEMBERS

- 3477 Dubois, Bernard C.
134 Old Settlers Road
Barrington, NH 03825-7408
- 3478 Guillotin, Francois
155 Village Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066-3349
- 3479 Nadler, Stephen D.
9730 East 32nd Avenue
Denver, CO 80238-2934

ADDRESS CHANGES

- 3102 Bass, Michael A.
8 Hyde Park
Beachwood, OH 44122-7520



Members Appeals

WANTED: Tunisian high value airmail stamps, Scott numbers C17-C20 on cover. Scans with asking price to Norval Rasmussen at nrasmu@gmail.com or 224 Wilson Ave, Morgantown, WV 26501.

WANTED: I would like to obtain a copy of the Dallay catalog 2005-06 or thereabouts. I'd like it to cover French colonies in China, Indo-China, etc. I prefer a color copy. Carl Barna 610-421-8788. cbarna@hotmail.com.

Show Reports

St. Louis Stamp Expo

St. Louis, MO April 1-3, 2016

Grand and Gold to **Ralph DeBoard** for "The Postal History of Tahiti through the First Pictorial Issue." Also the Postal History Society Award.

Plymouth 2016

Westland, MI April 16-17, 2016

Gold to **Paul Larsen** for "French Equatorial Africa: Issues of 1936-1946."

WESTPEX 2016

Burlingame, CA April 29-May 1, 2016

Gold to **Stephen Tucker** for "Suez-Aden-Bombay Sea Post Office Service." Also the Postal History Society Medal. Vermeil to **Lewis Bussey** for "U.S. Postal Cards of the Span-

ish-American War Period, 1898-1906.”

New York 2016

New York, NY May 28—June 4, 2016

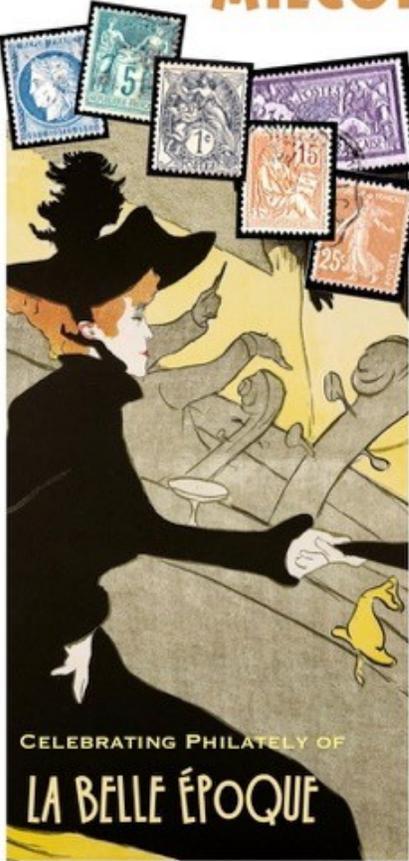
Tom Broadhead reported these awards in his article on page 83 of this issue of the *France and Colonies Philatelist*.

Other than World Series of Philately Honors and Awards

Steven Walske received the 2016 Crawford Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society London for his "Mail of Westward Expansion 1803-1861".

Peter Kelly received the 2016 Tilleard Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society London for his January 2015 showing of close to 60 frames of splendid Sage Issues material.

Wisconsin's Largest Postage Stamp Show
MILCOPEX 2016



Friday, Sep 16, 2016 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday, Sep 17, 2016 10 AM - 5 PM
Sunday, Sep 18, 2016 10 AM - 3 PM

Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport
6401 South 13th Street
Milwaukee, WI
Just minutes from the airport

Participating Societies

France & Colonies Philatelic Soc
Alliance Française de Milwaukee
American Topical Association
Wisc Federation of Stamp Clubs
American Philatelic Society

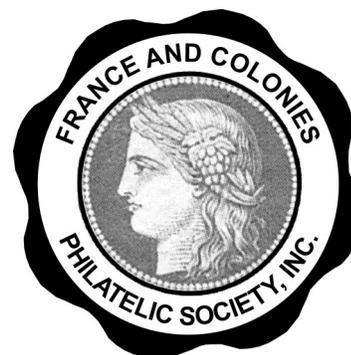
Attractions

France & Colonies Convention
Alliance Française Seminar
Cachet Maker's Bourse (Saturday)
Youth/ Beginner Room
Awards Banquet
2000+ Pages of Exhibits
30+ Stamp Dealers
And Much More

Free Parking
Admission \$2 per day Friday & Saturday
Youth 16 and under free all days
Free on Sunday
More info: www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

Sponsored by Milwaukee Philatelic Society, Inc. Organized in 1899

CELEBRATING PHILATELY OF
LA BELLE ÉPOQUE





YVERT & TELLIER

Catalogues

Now Available in the USA!

Yvert & Tellier Catalogues

Cover worldwide stamps, including countries in alphabetical order from Abu Dhabi to Zululand. Published in French, pricing in Euro.

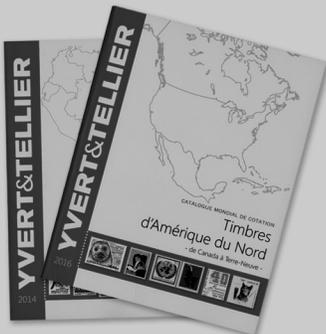


Foreign Stamp Catalogues:

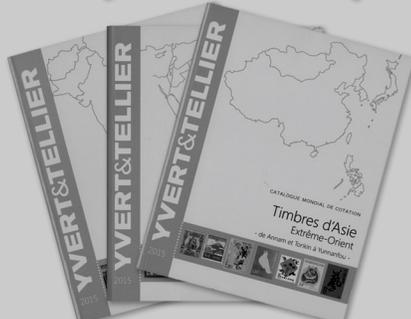
- Vol 1 Abu Dhabi to Burundi.....\$59
- Vol 2 Cayman Islands to Dominican Republic.....\$45
- Vol 3 Dominica to Guatemala.....\$53
- Vol 4 Guinea Bissau to Lesotho\$35
- Vol 5 Lebanon to Nyassaland\$35
- Vol 6 British Indian Ocean Territory (Océan Indien) to Samoa.....\$40
- Vol 7 Seychelles to Zululand.....\$45

Stamps of Europe \$59 each:

- Vol 1 Albania to Bulgaria
- Vol 2 Karelia (Carélie) to Hungary
- Vol 3 Ingrie (North Ingermanland) to Pays-Bas (Netherlands)
- Vol 4 Poland to Russia
- Vol 5 San Marino to Yugoslavia



Stamps of North America \$45
Stamps of South America \$53



Stamps of the Middle East \$53
Stamps of Southern Asia \$59
Stamps of East Asia \$59

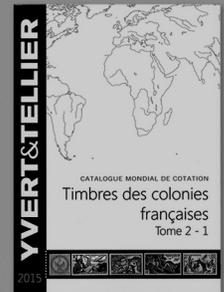
RegencySuperior is proud to be the authorized USA dealer



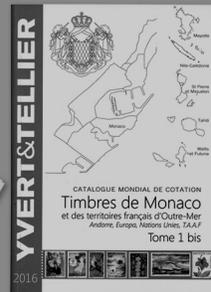
FAVORITE TITLES!



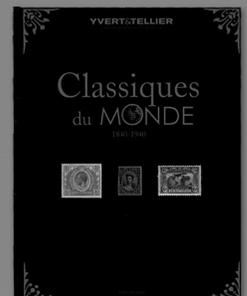
Stamps of France



Stamps of the French Colonies



Stamps of Monaco



Classics of the World

FREE shipping on orders over \$50 within the USA

To place your order:

800-782-0066

www.RegencySuperior.com

⇒ STAMPS • COINS • SPACE • AUTOGRAPHS ⇒

REGENCY SUPERIOR

Experienced Auctioneers Since 1929

229 North Euclid Avenue • Saint Louis, MO 63108 USA

**ALWAYS
MENTION THE
FCP
TO OUR
ADVERTISERS
WHEN YOU
BUY!**



D & P Stamps

2220 Otay Lakes Rd 502-411

Chula Vista, CA 91915

619-987-1019

Pat@DPStamps.com

We Carry the World from A-Z covering the Classics through Current. Due to Popular Demand we also have a very extensive Stock in the following Areas:

**French Colonies
Portugal and Colonies
British Colonies
Italy and Colonies
Latin America
Middle East
Worldwide**



Please Send us your Want Lists

We are always Looking to Buy!



**VENTES SUR OFFRES
VENTES A PRIX NETS**

*Auction catalogue available
on our website
www.roumet.fr*



R
ROUMET
Maison fondée en 1896

17, rue Drouot - 75009 PARIS
Tél : 33 1 47 70 00 56 - Fax : 33 1 47 70 41 17
e-mail : roumet@roumet.fr

**Reach over 200
French Area
Collectors.
Your
Advertisement Here.
Four insertions
\$250**