Club Chatter

I sure hope the new format of our newsletter pleases everyone. I just got tired of the old one and decided to “go for it” unannounced! I removed the calendar from the back page and replaced it with a Mast Head on the left here on the front page. The back page seemed to be the right place to put our provenance. Let me get some feedback on this.

This month’s meeting will again be at the Lambeth House. Dwayne Littauer will be giving a member presentation on “Transatlantic Mail: Bremen Convention 1847-51 Rates.” Dwayne is always fascinating at his presentations with history and anecdotal information. The material he brings is world class. You should be there.

Recently, I have begun listing items for sale on EBay again after a year long hiatus. If you haven’t been on EBay recently, you should check it out. There are several new features that enhance the seller’s abilities as well as make it much easier for buyers to search for material. There are now more options on how to pay for purchases. You can even use a layaway type program and delay paying for quite a while in the future. I like to pay when I win an auction right away but, that’s just me.

No news from members this month to report. Let me know what’s going on and I can share it here with everyone.

E. W. Jatho, Jr.
Editor

Apologia

I finished this newsletter over the weekend and as usual, I asked Sharon to proof read it for spelling and grammar errors. Sharon is ever so much better at that than Bill Gates’ Microsoft Office programmers or myself. After checking everything over, she handed it back and asked why I was reusing an article from a few years ago. Ron Trosclair has sent me many articles over the years and a few of them have fallen through a crack and not been used. After checking, I find that this article on Algiers was used about 5 years ago. So, I apologize for re-running an article here in our new newsletter format. The only saving grace is that we have quite a few new members that have joined since its first appearance. Enjoy!

Ed Jatho
What is now Algiers, Louisiana was founded as a plantation in 1719. This date is sometimes given as the year of the town's founding, making it one of the oldest neighborhoods in what is now New Orleans. However, development as a town – as opposed to a private plantation – did not actually occur until about 1800.

In 1815, on the Jourdan Plantation in Algiers, American forces under General David B. Morgan defended the West Bank of the Mississippi River against British forces.

The oldest part of Algiers is Algiers Point, across the Mississippi River from the French Quarter. Algiers Point has been connected with the foot of Canal Street – across the river – by the Canal Street Ferry since 1827. Algiers Point, also known as “Slaughter House Point”, was so-named for the pirates and slaves who lived here. Algiers was incorporated as a city in 1840.

In 1870 the independent municipality of Algiers – across the river from New Orleans – was annexed to the city of New Orleans, becoming the 15th Ward of the city (one of the 17 Wards of New Orleans), an arrangement which has remained ever since, although there have been repeated discussions of secession – even today.

Algiers had its own post office from 1854 to 1882. The 1st postmaster was John A. McLean. The illustrated cover was mailed from Algiers, Louisiana, circa late-1860’s. It is franked with a 3 cent rose, Scott #65 and addressed to North Vernon, Indiana.

The 1867 New Orleans City Directory shows the Algiers News Depot & Post Office located on Patterson St. which became Verret & Lavergne. The 1870 New Orleans City Directory shows Algiers Post Office, L. Johnson, postmaster, south side of Patterson, which became Olivier & Verret.

Ron Trosclair
Recently a friend called asking for information about the “Lincoln” carved cork cancel from Albany, New York that appears on the 1861 issue of U.S. stamps. I have several copies and some extensive research on fancy cancels in my library, so I offered to help.

Illustrated below is an excerpt from the book, “United States Cancellations 1845-1869” by our late friend and club member, Dr. Hubert Skinner and his late co-author, Mr. Amos Eno. The cancel is also shown on the Scott Catalogue as US No. 65.

Actually the cancel is a simple concept type cancel that was carved by the postmaster of Albany, N.Y. or at his direction by some unknown guy with a sharp pocketknife and some talent for carving.

The cancel is known on several covers across an 18 month period. This is a relatively long time for one cancel device usage. I believe it was probably only used by one worker in the post-office and then at his discretion sparingly.

Ed Jatho
Crescent City Stamp Club was organized formally on the 14th of April 1932 for the purpose of advancing the cause of philately, through educational programs and exhibits and to participate in philatelic activities. At present, the club has 4 elected officers and 8 additional members on the Board of Directors. We have approximately 60 active members. The general membership is not from only the southeastern area. Some of them live in California, Massachusetts, Ireland and Germany. Among them are several accredited philatelic judges, a National Officer of the United States Philatelic Classics Society, Vice President and Trustee of the American Philatelic Research Library and recognized experts in most every area of philately. Although our membership is small compared to other national philatelic organizations, we maintain a visible presence in the Philatelic community through sponsorships and donations to several National and International Philatelic organizations.

Crescent City Stamp Club
P. O. Box 9538
Metairie, Louisiana 70055