

# HUNTSVILLE PHILATELIC CLUB NEWSLETTER

## October 2010



American Philatelic  
Society Chapter 597  
[www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)



Germany Philatelic  
Society Chapter 15  
[www.gps.nu](http://www.gps.nu)



Southeast Federation  
of Stamp Clubs  
[www.stampclubs.com](http://www.stampclubs.com)



[www.stampclubs.com/huntsville/index.htm](http://www.stampclubs.com/huntsville/index.htm)

This newsletter is published monthly by the Huntsville Philatelic Club. Meetings are held on the First and Third Tuesdays of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fern Bell Recreation Center, 107 Sanders Road SW. Visitors are always welcome.

### MEETING CALENDAR

**Oct. 5** One-page Exhibit Night, **Turkey's the Theme**

**Oct. 19** Monthly Philatelic Auction Night

**Nov. 1** Wade Saadi's 1847 Issue Exhibit – **Second half**

**Nov. 15** Ray Pietruszka, **Collecting Plate Number Coils**

All regular club meetings begin at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Auction sellers are asked to arrive 15 minutes early to allow for viewing of auction lots.

### CLUB OFFICERS

President: Heinrich Hahn [hhahn256@comcast.net](mailto:hhahn256@comcast.net)  
Vice Pres: Ray Pietruszka [pietrij@mindspring.com](mailto:pietrij@mindspring.com)  
Treasurer: Mike O'Reilly [mcoreilly@yahoo.com](mailto:mcoreilly@yahoo.com)  
Secretary: Arthur Cole [hpc-stamps@att.net](mailto:hpc-stamps@att.net)  
Directors: Dave Nicolas (past president),  
Kathy Campbell, Bob Adams, Don Hill, and Fred Muhl

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Huntsville Philatelic Club - P O Box 4384  
Huntsville, AL 35815-4384

Annual dues are \$12.00 per individual and \$3.00 per additional family member. Dues are prorated for new members and renewals are payable in January.

### HUNTSVILLE PHILATELIC CLUB NEWSLETTER

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### SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS

The Southeast Federation web site is a great source for information about stamp collecting activities in the Southeast region. Please visit [www.stampclubs.com](http://www.stampclubs.com)

### STAMP CLUB NEWS

- Septembers' first meeting featured the first half of **Wade Saadi's** 1847 Issue Exhibit CD presentation. The second half will be viewed at the Nov. 1st meeting. September's second meeting was the club's regular and monthly auction night.
- The next **one-page exhibit night** will be Oct. 5th. The selected exhibit theme is **TURKEY**; any and all definitions of that word are included in this category.
- Please take note of club President **Heinrich Hahn's** new e-mail address to the left.
- **Michael O'Reilly** has confirmed June 4 & 5 for **HUNTSPEX 2011** at the Beville Center. Our first planning meeting will be at the October 5th meeting and **Heinrich Hahn** will begin to assign areas of responsibility for **HUNTSPEX 2011**.

### SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS

**September 24-26** **SOUTHEASTERN STAMP SHOW**  
Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Pkwy., Marietta, GA. Scott Mark, [mark\\_s@bellsouth.com](mailto:mark_s@bellsouth.com), [www.stampclubs.com](http://www.stampclubs.com)

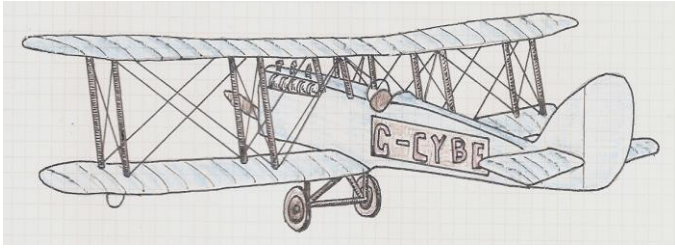
**October 2-3** **MEMPEX 2010**  
Memphis Stamp Collector's Society, Memphis East Marriott, 2625 Thousand Oaks Boulevard (I-240 Exit 18 Perkins Rd.), Memphis. Contact Dick Scott, [dickscott007@yahoo.com](mailto:dickscott007@yahoo.com); 901-484-3863.

**October 23** **ANNUAL CSRA STAMP SHOW**  
Greater Augusta Stamp Club, Americas Best Value Inn, 3023 Washington Road (at I-20 Exit), Augusta. Contact Peter Igel, [igelsp@bellsouth.net](mailto:igelsp@bellsouth.net); 706-868-6769.

**November 20-21** **FALL STAMP SHOW 2010**  
Stamp Dealers Association of Georgia, The Mansour Center, 995 Roswell Street, Marietta. Contact Kim Conti, [cc1999@bellsouth.net](mailto:cc1999@bellsouth.net); 770-426-6504.

## AIR MAIL VERSUS AIR STAGE IN CANADA

*John Burnett*



They came in a variety of shapes; Fokker's, Fairchild's, Junkers, and Norsemen. They were biplanes and monoplanes, pontoon mounted in summer and ski mounted in winter. The sketch above is not an accurate drawing but represents them all. In the 1920's and 30's these fragile aircraft opened up air mail routes in Canada. Some routes were between major cities and others were into the backwoods of Canada's north.

Philatelically, the development of air mail service in Canada is unique in that it was one of the few countries to grant contractors the right to charge a surcharge for their service. Many of these contractors produced their own semi official stamps. These semi officials existed only between 1924 and 1934. Envelopes franked with these semi officials are really quiet difficult to find.

The inaugural flights of these routes were marked by official pictorial cachets when the mailer affixed the new fangled "air mail rate" postage, envelopes franked with standard postage did not receive the cachet. The cachets were applied in four colors, the most common was black but green, blue and purple also are known to exist. These cachets were hand stamped on the envelope and sometimes pretty poorly applied as evidenced by the "green" copy shown below.



Black



Blue



Green



Purple

There were two types of service; "Air Mail Service" and "Air Stage Service".

**Air Mail Service** – Required the payment of the full air mail postage rate that paid for delivery into areas that would have regular air mail service in the future, these areas were readily accessible twelve months a year.

Here is an example of air mail service, in the lower left corner I show an outline map of Canada and a circle where this flight took place. In the upper right is a close up of the route. This was to be a regular 12 month a year service and thus was call "air mail service". Service between Vancouver and the provincial capital Victoria was critical and regular service was required for commercial reasons



**Air Stage Service** – Was an air mail service that was accepted for delivery by air if a plane was going into the area, it required the mail be accumulated as the area was usually open only seasonally.

Below is shown an example of an Air Stage mail service covers. They are the first flight from Edmonton, Alberta to Arctic Red River (now called Tsiigehtchic) in the North West Territories and the return flight to Edmonton. This route was available only seasonally and mail would be accumulated waiting for a weather break. Historically Arctic Red River and other communities along Mackenzie River would be served only sporadically by Royal Canadian Mounted Police patrols.

