

Knoxville Philatelic Society News

November 2011

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<http://knoxstamps.com>

www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm

www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html

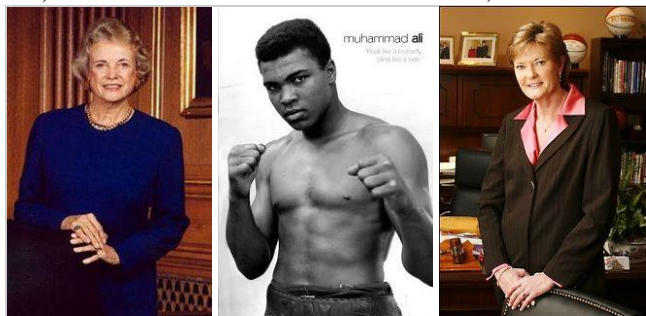
Southeast Federation
of Stamp Clubs

APS Chapter 1189-119261

Your Assignments for the Month

The September 26 announcement that the USPS will allow stamps to be issued featuring living persons came as a big shock and disappointment to me. Do they really think that this is a realistic approach to bringing popular culture to stamps and possibly increase interest and revenues? Learn more about what I predict will be an increasingly, dizzyingly complicated job for the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee at http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2011/pr11_109.htm.

What living person would you suggest for a stamp? Send me your choice + a photo of your choice to include in next month's KPS news. Students in my freshman honors seminar have made some great suggestions, including Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, Muhammad Ali, and – of course – UT basketball coach, Pat Summitt.



Start planning for the KPS holiday party. We will announce the winner of **Joe Kirker's** latest philatelic scavenger hunt, included in this newsletter. Also, there will be the annual gift exchange – be both creative and thrifty with your selection or creation of philatelic or non-philatelic gifts.

Send your favorite philatelic web links. And, don't forget to tell **Jim Pettway** or me if you want to ride the bus to AmeriStamp Expo in January!

President's Column

It's hard to believe we are into November again and looking forward to our 3 page clothesline exhibit. I hope many members will exhibit the areas they collect. We will also have lots of stamps for you to shop. There are lots of stamps looking for a home in the 5 cent albums, **Bruce Roberts** has priced stamps from the Henderson, Muenzer and Regency acquisitions, and **Jim Pettway** will have APS sales books as well. For cover collectors, **Bruce** has a stack of these from the Muenzer estate. You may purchase newly added items at twice the asking price and older material at the asking price.

Our October Saturday meeting at Bruce's church was attended by 15 members. These meetings provide an opportunity for members who cannot attend Tuesday nights to participate in club events and also acquire stamps! I recommend attending these meetings to all of our members as we have a good time and meet some of the Saturday "regulars."

Thanks to our board of directors who supported a special board meeting to address finances and planning issues. All of our members should know that we are looking out for the wellbeing of the KPS for years to come.

We need to further discuss chartering a bus to Atlanta, GA for AmeriStamp & Southeastern Stamp Expo 2012. The plan is to take a bus from Knoxville early Saturday morning on the 28th, drop the members at the show, and take family and friends to the nearby shopping mall. We would return to Knoxville when the show closes at 6:00 to arrive back at around 10:00. The nominal suggested price was price was \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for others. Just a reminder – you should preregister free for the show so that you can avoid delays in getting into the show at www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo.

Tom Broadhead

Stu Hanlein

Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – October 4, 2011

The Knoxville Philatelic Society met at the Tennessee Valley Universal Unitarian Church on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 for the regular monthly meeting. President **Stu Hanlein** presided. There were 24 people present including two guests from the Tri-cities area stamp club.

Due to the club auction, a very brief business session was held. The formal reading of the minutes of the September meeting and the treasurer's report were waived. **Thomas Lane** provided a copy of the treasurer's report for the record. The current club accounts total \$7,322.17.

Tom Ringenbach discussed the "Clothesline Exhibit" which will be the November program. He encouraged all to participate. There will be a Saturday meeting on October 15 at the First Presbyterian Church in Powell. The meeting will start at 1:00 PM.

Following the business session, the annual KPS auction was held. There were over 60 lots presented to sell and there were \$760 in transactions.

Submitted by **Charlie Wade**, Secretary

Muenzer Estate Updates

One of the great gifts from our late member **Bill Muenzer** to KPS was a share in the proceeds of the sale of his personal collection. Some of the choicer items were taken to StampShow in August, but there were no interested dealers. They were then consigned to Regency Stamp Auctions for their November sale. You can view the auction online at <http://www.regencystamps.com/catalog.aspx>. Click on Stamps-Singles at the left and scroll down to FOREIGN Stamps.

The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 5th Tuesdays of each month at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919.

Annual dues are \$15.00.

KPS Officers:

President	Stu Hanlein
Past President	Ralph Dinwiddie
Vice President	Tom Ringenbach
Treasurer	Thomas Lane
Secretary	Charlie Wade
Directors	Bruce Roberts, Roy Row, Charlie Stinnett, Dave Warfel

APS Representative & Jim Pettway –
KPS communications jbpettway@comcast.net

Requests for information and submissions of articles and short notes of philatelic interest for the news-letter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to tomwb50@aol.com.

Some of the highlights of Bill's holdings include Lot # 1616 – Austria N49 (below left – catalog value \$4200) and Lot # 1718 – Italy 31a (below right – catalog value \$8750). These stamps will be auctioned later this month at Chicagopex. Check the auction web site for prices realized!



Auction proceeds will be shared between KPS and Bill's family.

Upcoming Events

For more events visit the calendar of the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs – www.stampclubs.com/events or our own calendar at www.knoxstamps.com.

November 1 – KPS monthly meeting – Clothesline exhibits!

November 29 – KPS 5th Tuesday swap and shop meeting (7:00) and Board meeting (6:00).

December 6 – KPS monthly meeting and annual Holiday Dinner at the Great American Steak & Buffet – 900 Merchants Dr., Knoxville 37912. KPS gift exchange for members and guests. Meal cost is \$10. More details to be announced.

January 3 – KPS monthly meeting – Program TBA – updates on Knoppex 2012.

January 27-29 – AmeriStamp Expo – APS winter national show in Atlanta. Cobb County Galleria Center,

Two Galleria Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30339. Let us know if you want to go for a charter bus day-trip. Family and friends are welcome, too.

Stamp of the Month



Following the British take-over of most of German East Africa after World War I, the colony of Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika (KUT) was established. The 1954 pictorial definitive series includes this attractive 15 cent stamp (Scott 106) showing African elephants. These are a gift from Mike Kauffman and Pat Goebel, from the stock of Mike's father, Lyle.

The First US Airmail Issues 1918 – UPU Specimens

by Joe Kirker

(Editor's Note: The information in this article is excerpted and quoted from the paper, "US Airmail Issues 1918-1935 – The UPU Specimens," written by KPS member Joe Kirker and published in the January 2011 *Airpost Journal*, pages 10-24.)

The tremendous increase in mail being posted for worldwide distribution made possible the creation of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union in 1879. One of the main functions was the collection and distribution of new postal issues by all member countries. A system was established where each member country would submit sufficient quantities of any new stamp – plus postal stationery – to Berne [Switzerland] so the UPU could provide all other nations with reference copies.

How the receiving authority chose to record any new issues could vary greatly, as there were no specifics for their reference markings. The British Commonwealth usually had the word "SPECIMEN" handstamped. Some nations probably never had any defacement in place and, if that material would eventually reach the marketplace, the issues would be indistinguishable from normal over-the-counter copies. Fortunately, a few rare times have occurred where this archival UPU material has come on the open market, and the type of handstamp has verified the original source.

During the course of the past 40 year, I have recorded several 1918 airmail issues at auction or in private sales, each bearing a "SPECIMEN" handstamp. By the time they reappeared in 1987, each had acquired a Philatelic Foundation Certificate, both of which stated that the stamps were genuine, but decline to opine as to whether the overprints were of British or U.S. origin. Without any supporting data or opinion of being genuine UPU archival material, I chose not to bid in either the 1982 or 1987 sales. I found them to be too suspect to be other than private handstamps – particularly the Scott C2 with double strike.



The suspicious C2 "Specimen," as offered in the 1982 Siegel Auction, [part of] Lot No. 1.

On two separate occasions, net offerings were also presented for a single copy of the first U.S. airmail issue (24¢ Jenny, Scott C3), bearing a rather crude diagonal "SPECIMEN" overprint in purple ink. Each offer was denied immediately as a legitimate UPU archive copy. In none of these examples was a member country holding presented or referenced.



From the 1978 Siegel auction photos, part of the airmail "SPECIMEN" offerings

The earliest appearance at auction of definitive UPU material took place in a 1976 Robson Lowe auction. However, less than two years later, Robert A. Siegel Auctions no. 530 (May 25, 1978) placed a very similar holding of U.S. material. Fortunate correspondence I had in researching such material with Mr. James Bendon, renowned philatelic publisher and expert, brought forth that the material in both the 1976 and 1978 offerings originated in the archives of British Bechuanaland, now known as Botswana.

The most interesting and extensive holdings of UPU archival material began appearing on the philatelic market in the late 1980s. Late dealer Jack Molesworth offered me the C1 and C2 in strips of three, and they were acquired. Fortunately, the receiving postal officials, rather than use the word "SPECIMEN," heavy ink, crayon marks or no defacing at all, chose to use a striking red handstamp, 42 mm in diameter. The beautiful cachet reads, "POSTES ET TELEGRAPHES/MADAGASCAR" around the outside, with "COLLECTION DE BERNE" in the center, ample size to cover multiple stamps.

In August 1990, yet another holding of UPU material surfaced and was offered for auction by George Alevizos. Two 1918 Jennys were presented, Scott Nos. C1 and C2. In the sale catalog Alevizos states, "The following twelve lots consist of stamps supplied by the UPU in Switzerland, which then distributed them to Portugal, which in turn distributed them to its colonies." Aggressive bidding followed each lot and I as fortunate to acquire the 1918 airs. The "COLONIAS" overprint [characteristic of Portuguese colony UPU specimens in the 1912-1926 period] is in purple. Ongoing correspondence with Bendon proved very fruitful. "There is no doubt that this collection had been formed in a Portuguese Colony, almost certainly Angola." Several other specialists also agreed with Bendon, but the possibility arose, because of other scattered material having appeared, that the colony could be Mozambique.

(continued on page 4)

The KPS Fifth Tuesday Meeting is November 29

(continued from page 3)



← Vertical strips of three each of Scott Nos. C4-6, mounted on ledger paper and defaced with the Madagascar marking, were offered in the Oct. 2010 Robert A. Siegel Auction.



← Purple diagonal “COLONIAS” overprint used on UPU stamps in the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique.

We do have U.S. airmail issues that have been set free of their foreign UPU archives. Missing issues in the period from 1918-1935 may exist in private hands. Only time will tell, and each individual stamp or strip of three from the three known sources [Bechuanaland Protectorate, Madagascar, Portuguese Angola or Mozambique] is a unique addition to a specialized study. This has been an

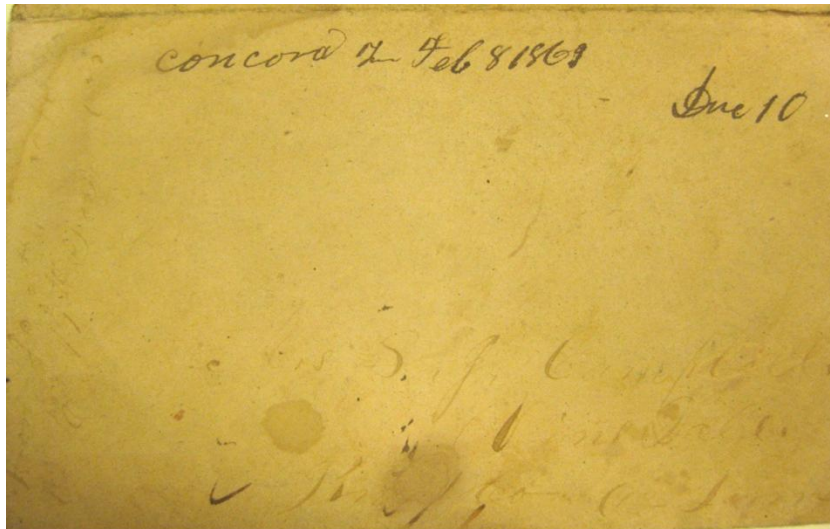
ongoing research project for me, covering more than three decades – and there is no end in sight!

New Tennessee Confederate cover found at the Museum of East Tennessee History

By Bruce Roberts

I have always thought that if I could go through the family correspondences donated to libraries, universities, and other public institutions, I could find unreported postal history items. To test this theory, I made an appointment to look at correspondence held by the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville. I requested to see letters that spanned the civil war, in hopes of finding something new in this area, since the Confederate Stamp Alliance is just completing a new catalog of Confederate postal history.

I was given access to two family correspondences: the Moffets and the Campbells. The first was a huge collection of correspondence addressed to Sallie McDowell Moffet from the 1830's to the 1870's. Sallie Moffet lived in New Market; so this will add to what we know about this small town post office. The Campbell collection included, much



commercial mail, receipts, checks, etc., from 1840-1870. I was amazed at how many covers were hand carried throughout this period, so most letters either did not have a cover with markings, or had envelopes with the entire corner removed, taking away both stamps and postal markings.

The most exciting find was the letter shown here, mailed from Concord Tennessee, here in Knox County, to S.J. Campbell at an indistinct location in Knox County. The key rate is the “Due 10” written in manuscript, which was the Confederate postage rate for a single letter to any destination after July 1, 1862. So the date on the letter has to be

February 8, 1863. Concord was a tiny place in 1863, and I suspected this might be an unreported Confederate town marking. I sent the scan to Jerry Palazolo in Memphis; Jerry is the editor of the Tennessee section of the new CSA catalog. Sure enough, no Confederate cover has ever been reported from Concord. Jerry will list this use in the Tennessee addenda in the new catalog (the Tennessee section has already gone to the printer).

Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, December 6