

# STAMPS AND TONGS

The E-mail Newsletter  
of the Dallas-Park  
Cities Philatelic  
Society

<http://dpcps2010.webs.com/>

August 2011

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Collecting Guam.....1,5
- Editor's Notes.....2
- June's Minutes.....3
- July's Special SPeaker.....4
- Show & Tell.....6
- Collecting Texas.....7
- Calendar.....8



## COLLECTING GUAM

BY HARRY PEDERSEN DPCPS#340

On June 8th Harry gave a presentation consisting of the geography and history of [Guam](#) combined with stamps and items of postal history.

"I was stationed on Guam for two and a half years from 1969 to 1971." He included included various photos taken while there and other items of interest.

The postal history of Guam starts with the Spanish. Fernando Magellan first discovered the island. Prior to the United States winning the islands as a result of the Spanish American War, the Spanish used overprinted stamps of the Philippines in the Mariana Islands. This included Guam, Saipan and Tinian. It is usually difficult or impossible to determine which island the mail...

Continued on page 5

The Dallas Park-Cities Philatelic Society is a chapter member of the Texas Philatelic Association (TPA Chapter #40) and the American Philatelic Society (APS# 0835-068806).

The purpose of the club is to provide social interaction with local philatelist, from the newest collector to those who have been collecting for a lifetime. The club members interest run the entire spectrum of philately. We meet the second and fourth wednesday of the month. Our meetings officially start at 7:30 pm but many members arrive at 7:00 pm to trade or buy duplicates. The first meeting of the month is normally a 30-40

minute presentation of some aspect of philately. The second meeting of the month is usually a short business meeting and a 15 minute presentation by a member on his or her collecting interests. This is usually followed by a short mini-auction. Once a quarter there is larger auction.

Benefits of membership includes access to the most current Scott Volumes (free of charge to borrow), ability to auction your duplicates in our mini-auctions, or in our larger quarterly auctions, as well a wealth of collecting knowledge in our memberships diverse collecting interests.

A membership application can be located on our website or directly here: ([application](#)). Dues are \$12.00/year.

## Current Officers

President: Harry Pedersen  
Vice-President: Perry Denton  
Secretary: Geoffrey M. Owens  
Treasure: Jack Urish  
Past President: Rod Gabel

## Current Board of Directors:

Tom Cunningham  
Scott Hunter  
Thomas L. Siegel

Website:

<http://dpcps2010.webs.com/>

## EDITOR'S NOTES

I have to apologize for not having a *Stamps & Tongs* edition out in awhile. 2011 hasn't been the greatest year for my family, but things have gotten a bit better in the last six weeks. Thank you to those who have sent kind words of encouragement.

**Recent News-** We have had two members step up to fill in holes in our Officers and in our Board of Directors. Geoffrey M. Owens has agreed to be our new Secretary and Thomas L. Siegel has agreed to be our newest Board of Directors member.

**Future News-** In less than six months we will be voting for new members of the executive committee. These positions allow us to provide the services to the membership that occurs throughout the year. We really need

some new blood to step up and fill some up coming holes.

**Special Thank you-** That being said I have a very special thank you to Doug Moss, Tom Siegel, Paul Witthoeft and Harry Pedersen. Without their continued help and support I would not be able to put out this *Stamps and Tongs*.

**Information needed-** I am trying to help Harry to develop an up-dated computerized list of membership of the club. There are 45 members but we only know of 9 that are APS members (most of those are Officers/Board members) and 17 that are members of TPA. We are required as a chapter member to keep a list of club that belong to both organizations. If you are a member can you please email me or let Harry know. You don't have to know your number. Thanks! -Frank

[Sloanfj@mac.com](mailto:Sloanfj@mac.com)

We are trying to update our records.

If you are a member of APS or TPA will you please let me know. You don't need to know your membership number

[SLOANFJ@MAC.COM](mailto:SLOANFJ@MAC.COM)

## June Minutes:

### June 8, 2011 Meeting:

A. The meeting was called to order by President Harry Pedersen at 7:30 PM

B. 16 members were present

C. There were no minutes from the last meeting as the Secretary was absent.

D. The Treasurer's report was given by Jack Urish:

\$2,730.59 Checking

\$6,536.68 Savings

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\$9,267.27 TOTAL

E. Vice-President and Program Manager Report:

- Harry Pedersen will give his Guam Presentation tonight
- June 22nd will be our mini-auction
- June 24th and 25th will be the TSDA Stamp Show
- August 10th and November 9th are open dates for programs and need to be filled
- Jack Urish ultimately volunteered to give a program on November 9th)

F. Dr. Sloan was not present to give a newsletter update

G. Old Business – None

H. New Business – None

I. Show and Tell – None

J. Drawings for the albums was held

K. Harry Pedersen presented his program "Guam Stamps and Postal History"

L. The meeting adjourned at 8:50

### June 22, 2011 Meeting:

A. The meeting was called to order by President Harry Pedersen at 7:30 PM.

B. There were 18 members present.

C. There were no minutes from the previous meeting as the Secretary was absent.

D. There was no Treasurer's report.

E. The Vice President/Program Director Perry Denton was absent due to surgery. Harry Pedersen filled in and reminded members that the TSDA Show was Friday and Saturday and would begin at 11:00 AM on Friday. The program for this evening would be a mini-auction.

F. There was no old business.

G. There was no new business.

H. Show and tell:

- Harry Pedersen passed around photos of Guam M7a and M7b that he advertently omitted from his program the previous meeting. Jack showed a German item.

I. Drawings for Jack's albums were held. Jack auctioned off an old album and the Luxembourg pages.

J. The mini auction was held by Jack.



A Special **THANK YOU** to :  
Linda Pedersen.

She has been very kind to fill in for us and take the minutes at our meetings. If you see her please tell her how much her time and effort is appreciated.

## Smithsonian Stamp Specialist Speaks to DPCPS

BY HARRY PEDERSEN DPCPS#340



Alexander Haimann is a Collections Specialist at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and founder of the American Philatelic Society's Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Stamp Dealers Association and the publicist for the United State Philatelic Classics Society. His national and international society memberships include the American Philatelic Society, United States Stamp Society, Collectors Club of New York and the Royal Philatelic Society London. On July 13th DPCPS was honored to have him speak about his experiences in the philatelic world.

He is twenty-five and began collecting at the age of seven. He opened his own stamp business at the age of twelve with his cousin Bret Hoffman who was sixteen, renting a table at a local Detroit show. His stamp business continues under the same name, the Bretalex Stamp Company although he bought out his cousin's interest. He collects primarily, but not exclusively United States Postal History of the first hundred years, 1847 to 1947. One of his most prized possessions is a Penny Black cover with his father's initials in the corners of the stamp along with his father's birth date in the cancellation. He indicates he has no problem being both a stamp dealer and a collector but concedes that it is possible because of his narrow collecting interests that do not conflict with the items he sells.

Alex is a very energetic, enthusiastic and entertaining speaker. He spoke at length on his work at



the Smithsonian using a Power Point presentation to show many rare and interesting items including many at the British Postal Museum which he has had significant access to. He is very upbeat concerning the future of philately in this country resulting from a resurgence of interest with young people. He had been very instrumental in developing and promoting philately in schools across the country. He has a unique method of introducing children and young people to stamps.

Rather than talk directly about stamp collecting he makes the connection to what they may currently be studying by showing Postal History and other items related to the subject and allowing them to actually hold pieces of history in their hands. Additionally through the APS he introduces promising young philatelists to mentors including seasoned collectors, dealers, exhibitors and authors. From this they have opportunities to travel and develop a year-long project in one of several areas.

Alex spoke at length regarding his early experiences in stamp collecting and his interest in Postal History. One of his many stories relate to how he'd use his allowance to buy and sell stamps at shows to increase his assets so he could purchase a particular item that he really wanted. There are many more stories and events he spoke of that I can not possibly remember.

His presentation was well received and enjoyed. He offered to speak again at the August 10th meeting and was enthusiastically invited back.



## COLLECTING GUAM

BY HARRY PEDERSEN DPCPS#340

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

...originated on. Other rarer items with Spanish origin were issued prior to the Mariana overprints.

Beginning in 1899, stamps of the United States overprinted "Guam", were used for postage and was under the jurisdiction of the Navy. There was no local delivery and all mail was posted in Agana (now [Hagåtña](#) the capital of Guam). Regular stamps of the United States were authorized for use beginning in 1901. However, Guam overprints continued to be used until about 1905.

The Guam Guard Mail stamps came into use in 1930 and were authorized by the local Navy Commander Willis W. Bradley. The purpose of these stamps was to provide local delivery around the island. They became quite popular and again were replaced by regular U.S. stamps in 1931. There are many "Cinderella" Guam Guard mail items around that have no postal validity that were created by the Guam Tourist Bureau.

In the 1930's Pan American Airlines used Guam as a stop during its original survey

flights creating another niche for Air Mail fans.

During World War II the Japanese occupied the island. Covers and stamps from this period are very scarce.

After World War II the United States again took control of the islands. Guam remains an interesting area for postal history.



Above: Apra Harbor, the western-most point of U.S. Territory. Below: The Flag of Guam



There are many "Cinderella" Guam Guard mail items around that have no postal validity that were created by the Guam Tourist Bureau.



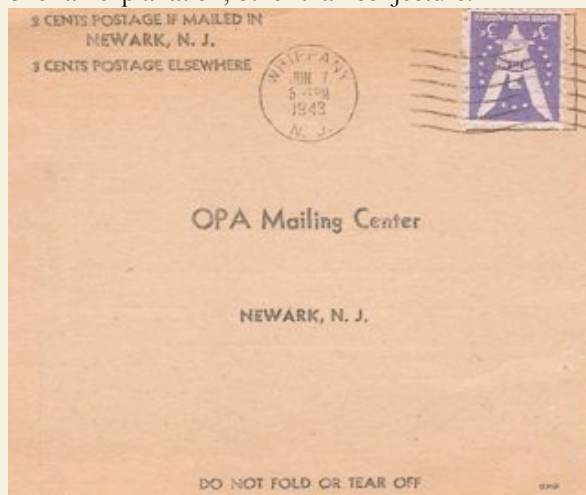
## A SHOW AND TELL

BY TOM SIEGEL DPCPS#279

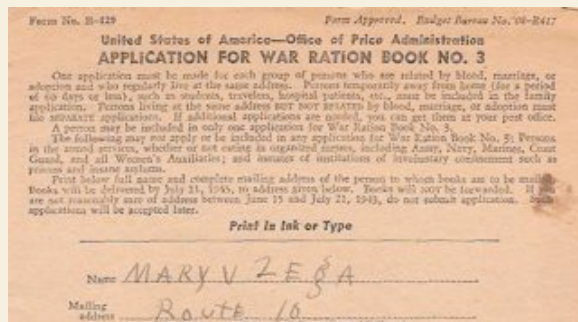
I have an album where I place covers which to me are of unusual interest. They probably have little if no monetary value; all were found in the cheapest cover sales boxes. What separates each from the trash can is its historical connection.

The first item is Government Form R-129 Approved Budget Bureau-08-R417 ( insignificant information for this, or any discussion of the item.)

It is a mail in application for War Ration Book No.3 - postmarked June 7, 1943. What I find unusual is the mailing instruction in the upper left hand corner - " 2 cents if mailed in Newark, N.J. and 3 cents if mailed elsewhere." I have never seen this before. Can anyone offer an explanation, other than conjecture?

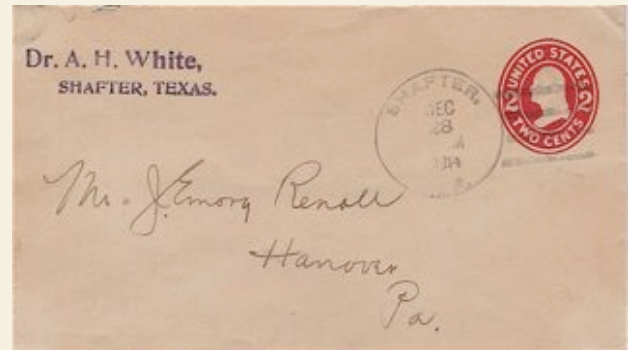


Cover 1 front



Cover 1 back

Very few, if any non-Texans would recognize the significance of the second cover. Once a flourishing mining town straddling Highway 67 between Marfa and Presidio, Shafter is now a Ghost Town.



Cover 2

A knowledge of history caused me to rescue the third cover. It is postmarked April 9, 1933.

Anton J. Cermak was the Mayor of Chicago. What is meant by the inscription "I am glad it was me instead of you" ?

One month before, he was in Miami, Florida riding in an open air touring car with the newly inaugurated President of The United States - Franklin Delano Roosevelt. An assassin's bullet missed FDR and killed the Mayor. Note the misprint in the cachet - The date on the right hand margin is 1931, not the correct date of 1933.



Cover 3

I was attracted to the fourth cover by the seal on the reverse side of the envelop. The I.W.W. aka The Wobblies is labor union formed in 1904, which, believe it or not, still exists! The history of the Union is known to those of us who studied American History in college. The letter is addressed to Frank Bohn one of the

*continued on page 6*



founders of the Union. It is suggested that you read his bio, - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank\\_Bohn\\_\(socialist\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Bohn_(socialist)).  
Regrettably the envelop is without contents and the sender's first name or initials are illegible.



Cover 4 front



Cover 4 back

# Collecting Texas Postal History

PETROLIA, TEXAS HELIUM PLANT 1921

BY DOUG MOSS DPCPS#345

The town of [Petrovia, TX](#) was formed in 1904. Petrovia is located 15 miles east of Wichita Falls. The area was formerly known as Oil City due to the discovery of oil by JW Lochridge in 1901. The oil field was the first discovered in North Texas. Mr. Lochridge first used the oil to dip his cattle in it to kill parasites! With the establish of the Wichita Falls and Oklahoma Railroad railway, the town of Oil City moved three miles north to the present location of Petrovia. The first post office was established in 1904. The community continued to grow with the discovery of a natural gas field in 1907. The Texas Handbook Online noted that gambling, drinking and prostitution were rampant in this oil boomtown. In 1918 the Department of Interior established one of three experimental helium plants in Petrovia (the other two were in Fort Worth). The covers shown here are two Department of Interior Penalty Envelops sent in 1921. Figure 1 shows a penalty envelope with an address window. A hand stamp under the Department of Interior return address states "U.S. Government

Experiment Station, Helium Plant No, 3, Petrovia, Texas." Figure 2 is a regular Department of Interior Penalty envelope addressed to the L.S. Starrett Company in Athol, Massachusetts. L.S. Starrett was established in 1880 and is still in business today. It manufactures precision tools, gages and measurement

tools. No doubt Helium Plant No. 3 was making some sort of inquiry to L.S. Starrett concerning the production of helium at their plant. By 1925, the source for helium in the gas field discovered in 1907 was depleted and the plant was closed down

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
BUREAU OF MINES.  
U. S. GOVT. EXPERIMENT STATION  
HELIUM PLANT No. 3  
PETROLIA, TEXAS



Department of the Interior.  
BUREAU OF MINES.  
PETROLIA, TEXAS

The L. S. Starrett Co.,  
Athol, Mass.





# Calendar for 2011

## **August 10**

Program: “*Smithsonian National Postal Museum - revisited*”, speaker: Alex Haimann,  
Collections Specialist at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum

## **August 24**

Program: Mini Auction

## **September 14**

Program: “*Expertizing*”, speaker: Tom Cunningham

## **September 23-24**

TSDA Dallas Stamp Fair at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75)

## **September 28**

Program: Mini Auction

## **October 10**

Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery

## **October 12**

Program: “Fall Bourse”, dealers: James Myers and Tom Cunningham  
Begin Christmas Dinner Reservations – Reservation Form Handout

## **October 26**

Program: Quarterly auction, no speaker

## **November 07**

Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery (nominate slate of officers for 2012)

## **November 9**

Program: “*The Care and Feeding of your Stamp Albums*”, speaker: Jack Urish

## **November 12-13**

Mid-Cities Stamp Expo at Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine

## **December 2-3**

TSDA Dallas Stamp Fair at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75)

## **December 14**

Program: Holiday dinner at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery

## STAMPS AND TONGS