

NEWSLETTER

OF THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2 WHOLE NUMBER 2 MARCH-APRIL 2006

WHAT DO NAILS, REFRIGERATORS, AND STAMPS HAVE IN COMMON?

by C. A. Stillions



At the Springfield Club show, one of our members and I were going through a dealer stock, where upon he came across this cover. This cover was from 1854 as indicated by its contents which were still enclosed. He then asked me when refrigerators were invented as this cover is addressed to a refrigerator manufacturer, not an ice box maker. I knew refrigeration had been developed in the Nineteenth Century, but exactly when I did not know. But the question so intrigued me that I bought the cover.

The following Monday I showed the cover to a Mechanical Engineer colleague at work. He also did not know when refrigeration was invented nor were his engineering texts of any help. A search on the internet turned up several interesting facts. It seems the earliest recorded description of a device to lower temperature by mechanical means occurred at the University of Glasgow in 1748, however nothing came of it. In 1805 an American inventor, Oliver Evans, designed the refrigeration machine that used vapor instead of a liquid. Evans never constructed his machine, but one similar to it was built by an American doctor, John Gorrie, in 1842. The first practical refrigerating machine was built by Jacob Perkins in 1834. But it was Dr. Gorrie who was awarded the first U. S. patent for mechanical refrigeration in 1851. Clearly refrigerators, not just iceboxes, were being manufactured by 1854.

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President's message ...

WSSC Faces Big Opportunities at Washington-2006

With the merging of Washington, DC's two premier stamp clubs, the new Washington Stamp Collectors Club faces big opportunities at **Washington-2006**, less than three months away, from May 27 through June 3. By virtue of WSSC's juxtaposition in the Nation's capitol at the same time as the opening of the world-class international stamp exhibition, Washington-2006, I am awed by the opportunities and potential tasks we have before us.

WSSC has three primary roles at Washington-2006. **First**, WSSC has been invited to help "man" the **Mid-Atlantic Area Stamp Club's Table** at the exhibition. Although over 100 local and regional stamp clubs may be represented at the Table, I believe that WSSC should have a prominent presence at the Table -- promoting philately in our Nation's capitol and attracting new WSSC members. **Second**, although the international show will not overlap any WSSC meetings, some show attendees may be in the DC area to **attend WSSC meetings on May 17 and June 7**. We should get the word out that all show attendees are invited. **Finally**, WSSC members are committed (sounds like being institutionalized) to the daunting task of **helping mount and dis-mount exhibits** at Washington-2006. The size of this task seems enormous. There are 3,800 frames (16 pages/frame) to be mounted (NAPEX had only 300 frames), with a conservative value of over \$25 million.

As daunting as these opportunities appear, I am convinced that WSSC members will surely enjoy Washington-2006, and hopefully, each of us will find some philatelic additions for our collection. Most importantly, I am convinced that the WSSC members will continue to do what they have always done best, and that is to be ambassadors to Washington-2006, representing the premier stamp club of Washington. We have the opportunity to help make this a great exhibition for DC, one that comes to the United States only once every 10 years, and one that last occurred in Washington, DC 40 years ago in 1966.

Don Peterson

EDITOR'S CORNER

The first newsletter got out with a minimum of glitches. Hopefully there will be fewer glitches each time.

One of our members, Phil Uhlmann, has proposed an ongoing "column" for the newsletter, where in each succeeding issue a couple of member's hometowns would be cited, and perhaps a line or two on what spurred their initial interest in stamps. This would involve a very brief informal interview with randomly selected members at each meeting. I think it is an excellent way to get to know members especially those from the "other club".

The publishing schedule it to issue a newsletter on or about the first of each odd numbered month. Consequently the deadline for the newsletter is the last meeting of each even numbered month. I must say, that after doing 10 newsletters a year for the WPS, six a year is a relaxed schedule.

WSCC MEETING PROGRAMS THROUGH MAY 2006

1 March	Name the Newsletter / web site domain
15 March	Herbert Cover Contest, see next page for details
5 April	Swap and Trade
19 April	Donation Auction
3 May	Hungerford Album Competition
17 May	TBD

COMING EVENTS

- 11 March 2006** **ANNAPEX, Knights of Columbus Center, 2590 Solomon's Island Road, Edgewater, Maryland, annual exhibition and bourse of the Annapolis Stamp Club.**
- 25 March 2006** **TRIPEX Spring 2006 Show, Lavale Volunteer Fire Dept., Station 1, 421 National Highway, Lavale (Cumberland), Maryland. Sponsored by the Tri State Stamp Club.**
- 1 April 2006** **DELPEX 2006 Stamp Show and Bourse, Nur Temple, 198 S. Du Pont Highway (US Routes 13 & 40), New Castle, Delaware. annual exhibition and bourse of the Brandywine Valley Stamp Club.**
- 27 May – 3 June** **WASHINGTON 2006 International Philatelic Exhibition, Washington Convention Center, Mt. Vernon Square, Washington, DC**

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

Notices of changes of address are to be sent to the Executive Secretary, sending them to any other officer will just cause delays. Send corrections to Gerard Marandino, WSCC Executive Secretary, via USPS at 5105 Skyline Village Court, Alexandria, VA 22302, or via email at gmarandino@alum.mit.edu.

APPRAISING PHILATELIC PROPERTIES – SOME THOUGHTS

By Bob Bouvier

I was once a practicing personal property appraiser specializing in philatelic properties, and a member of the American Society of Appraisers (ASA). I found there are some misconceptions about appraisals among dealers and I want to inform you of what to watch for. Most dealers haven't a clue about what's in the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), the national code by which highly professional personal property appraisers are bound.

Some will tell you that an appraisal is an offer to buy. That is true only if you ask for a liquidation appraisal. That is not acceptable to the IRS as a value for a collection. The IRS demands an appraisal of Fair Market Value for tax purposes. This means the value when there is no compulsion on the parts of either the buyer or seller to consummate a transaction (the actual definition is worded a bit differently but this is the gist). Fair Market Value appraisals almost have to be higher than liquidation appraisals for the reason that the buyer, probably a dealer, has to consider a markup to sell the items so he can't offer but a fraction of what he can expect to sell it for which, by the way, may still be under Fair Market Value!

Insurance appraisals consider replacement value. I never did one but I've witnessed figures given that are higher than sale estimates. I'd go with a Fair Market Value appraisal and add a little bit. I found the firms that insure stamp collections aren't very particular. I don't know why.

STAMPS FOR SALE

37 + 39 cents Hi-Ends	\$17.00 a pound
34 cents and under Low-Ends	\$ 9.00 a pound
Christmas	\$1.00 a pound
Bulk Stamps	\$1.00 a pound
Appraised value 38 cents and over	5 or 10 cents a piece
Plate # stamps	5 cents a piece
Foreign Stamps	\$15.00 a pound

Order from: **Stamps for a Living Business**, FO18/JHP/OT Dept., 2700 M L King Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20032-2601

NAILS, REFRIGERATORS, AND STAMPS, continued from page 1

A search of an 1854 city directory for Boston found not only Mr. Henry P. Ingalls as a refrigerator manufacturer, but three other firms as well. The same directory also listed Mr. Ingalls as a housewright.

During the course of the internet search when the name Jacob Perkins came up, an alarm bell went off. Sure enough, it turned out to be the same Jacob Perkins who had invented the machine that produced the intricate engravings that made counterfeiting of bank notes virtually impossible. In the middle of the 1830's he had gone to London and became a founding member of security printing firm of Perkins Bacon and Fairman. It was his firm that was printing banknotes for the Bank of England when Roland Hill needed postage stamps printed. While Jacob Perkins had invented a practical refrigerator, clearly better economic opportunities lay in security printing.

OK, we now have a common link between refrigerators and stamps. Where do nails tie in? It seems that Jacob Perkins was an early Thomas Edison because in 1795 he had invented a machine to make nails. A machine that would draw a wire through a die, form the head on the nail, and cut it to length. It is possible that one of Perkins' nail making machines was use by Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Further research is needed on this score. But there you have it. Nails, refrigerators, and stamps all have Jacob Perkins in common.

Dunsmuir May 19th 1854
Mr. Ingalls Dear Sir,
Please send with the other Refrigerators ordered. One 12 Dollar chest Pattern Refrigerator one 14 "Wrought" " " also 1 Extra Josephine for a 10 Dollar chest Pattern Refrigerator like Pattern to go on the latter. as I have one without any
Yours
Thomas Cook
P.S. Please send as soon as possible

MEETING ACCOUNTS

By Tadas Osmolskis

The first-ever meeting of the Washington Stamp Collectors Club was held on **January 4th**. The main business at hand was nominations for club officers. The following nominations were made:

President: Don Peterson
Vice President: C. A. Stillions
Treasurer: Joel Fassler
Recording Secretary: Tadas Osmolskis
Executive Secretary: Jerry Marandino

In addition, there was some continuing discussion about the club cover, led by Lorraine Bailey, and reminders about Washington 2006.

We met again on **January 18th**. The meeting was opened for further nominations, but none were forthcoming.

The nominees from January 4th were all unanimously elected.

The club decided to do two covers, for the Benjamin Franklin and Champlain issues, in two colors, and prepare 500 of each. Many thanks to Lorraine for her lead and tireless work on this.

We discussed establishing several standing committees:

Web: Ernesto Cuesta, Tadas Osmolskis
Newsletter: C. A. Stillions, Tadas Osmolskis
Circuit/Auction: Virginia Randolph
Covers: Lorraine Bailey
Program – vacant
Membership/Promotion – vacant
APS representative – vacant
Finance/Audit – vacant

While the main business of the meeting on **February 1st** was the successful member-benefit (“capitalist”) auction, which realized \$250 for members consigning lots, we also discussed Washington 2006, and selecting dates to volunteer from among May 25th-27th and June 2nd-4th. We also are getting advice from a professional graphics designer on our new logo.

We met again on **February 15th**. During the business session of the meeting, the rules of the Herbert cover competition were explained. We agreed to continue as members of the Virginia Philatelic Federation. Lorraine Bailey showed the cachets she designed for the club covers, and they were approved. We also approved a “Name the Newsletter” competition, with entries due the next meeting. The winner, selected by vote of the members at the meeting, will get one year’s free membership. We’re also looking for an internet domain name for the club.

Don Peterson made a short “show and tell” presentation in which he showed how he found genealogical information about an ancestor using resources at the Ellis Island website.



ANNUAL HERBERT COVER CONTEST

WSCC's First Annual Herbert Cover Contest will occur at the second meeting in March, March 15th to be exact. This Contest was a favorite of the old Washington Philatelic Society. Hopefully it will become just as popular in the WSCC. Basically, a group of categories are selected, usually by the previous year's winner, and members submit an entry into as many of the categories as they can. To determine a winner some of the entries are voted on by the meeting attendees and some are judged by a panel of judges selected by the presiding officer at the meeting. The votes are tallied, a winner is declared, and a prize is awarded. Also the judges must determine when an entry belongs in its category or not. This is when the fun begins as it is often not clear cut that an entry belongs in its category. So, start now to gather your entries for the Cover Contest.

CATEGORIES TO BE DECIDED BY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS:

1. Most interesting postal stationery cover.
2. The cover with the prettiest stamp.
3. The cover with the most deceptive advertising on it.
4. The most interesting cover to or from a member of the military or a military post office.
5. The Post Card with the funniest message or picture. The Post Card must have gone through the mails.

CATEGORIES TO BE DECIDED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES:

6. The cover with the most recent 2006 sprayed on cancellation.
7. The cover with the oldest red cancellation or postal marking.
8. The most recent U.S. double rate first class cover.
9. The earliest use of a Postal Card.
10. The cover with the most recent Washington, DC cancellation

Unless otherwise specified a cover can be an envelope, card, folded letter, complete front, wrapper, package, form or document that shows payment or lack thereof of postage and/or postal fees.

Editor's Note: The Newsletter Editor would like to receive either a photocopy or a scan of the winning entry in each category for future publication in the club newsletter.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB

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Membership Information may be obtained from the Executive Secretary. Dues are due June 30th and are \$16.00 a year for resident members, \$10.00 a year for non-resident members, and \$10.00 a year for junior members.

Meetings are held the First and Third Wednesdays of the month at Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street, S. W., Washington, DC starting at 7:00 PM.

POSTMASTER

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY!

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