

The Messenger



May 2021

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From your device or phone
May 1st meeting
Virtual Meeting Starts 2:00
Info will come to your email

Our Secretary Reports What You Missed:

Members who Logged into our Zoom meeting: 19

Treasurer: No activity. Membership list has been sent out. Working on some corrections and additions. Final list will be sent once this is completed.

Secretary: Nothing new

Librarian: Nothing new

Historian: MPS World Peace cover from 1962 cancelled in New York City. This is a First Day Cover for the Dag Hammarskjold stamp. Also, a MPS cover cancelled October 27, 1958 in Tucson, Arizona. First Day cover for the Forest Conservation stamp.

First Vice-President's Report: Still needing a few more programs for 2021. Contact Michael if you want to volunteer. There has been no word on when the library will reopen for meetings. Michael has done some research on possible locations that may be opening soon for meetings, nothing definite yet. Johnson County Library is planning on opening at the end of April.

Second Vice-President's Report: Roger is working on recording the meetings so they can be put the website.

Newsletter: Nothing new to report.

Exhibits: Some members have committed to doing exhibits for December. If you haven't, please to consider doing this.

Announcements: The Great American Stamp Show is scheduled for August 12 – 15 in Chicago. The APS is working on recruiting enough dealers and exhibitors to make a final commit to the show happening.

Program: Extended Show and Tell.

Bob Burney—Coil pair terminology/definition changes since 1981.

Neil—Expressed some concerns over recent auction lots he acquired.

Roger—30 cent Ben Franklin (A30 design) questions. Scott #71, #81, #100, and #110, but #71 not in the Scott Standard Catalog. It is in the Specialized Catalog.

Mike—Richard Byrd final South Pole flight cover.

Next zoom meeting will be on May 1.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Keil

**Log into Zoom on Saturday,
May 1st
Tomas Griebing will present
“Lance Wyman and Olympic Philately”**

New U.S. Issues for 2021:

Two announced for May:

Star Wars Droids

First Class, Forever Rate

Ten Designs, Pane of 20

Issue Date May the 4th (Get it! Ha Ha!)

Print Quantity –60,000,000 stamps



Heritage Breeds

First Class, Forever Rate

Ten Designs, Pane of 20

Issue Date May 17th

Print Quantity –25,000,000 stamps



Philatelic Happenings:

E and D Auctions

Absentee Auction Only

Auction to be held on May 30th

Auction catalogs will go out the week of May 9th.

Eanddstamps.com

913-432-1806

The President's Corner:

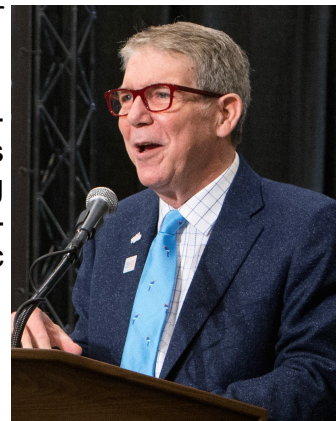
Well spring has officially arrived. Yet as I write this, there are predictions of snow on the horizon. The next few days are supposed to get fairly cold. Not good for those of us who enjoy yards and gardening. But hopefully brighter days are ahead. And I am confident brighter days also lie ahead for MPS. Our May meeting will mark one year that we have been gathering virtually on ZOOM. This has been a fun and unique way to keep our club active and engaged. Now as more people are getting vaccinated and venues begin to open, there is a strong possibility we may be able to meet again in person soon. In the meantime, enjoy working on your collections and keep stamping! —Tomas

Congrats to Randy Neil:

Longtime member, Randy Neil, of this organization is receiving one of the highest honors of philately. He has been selected along with four other philatelists to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in Harrogate, Yorkshire U.K. on September 24th, 2021. Randy is the only American this year to receive this honor.

Randy is a past president of APS. He has won many exhibiting awards and is the publisher of many philatelic publications.

Congratulations, Randy!



The Midwest Philatelic Society Website and Blog is
www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com
Find previous newsletters, links to other stamp info and more on our website.

Philatelic Ramblings:

No sooner than last month's issue had been "put to bed", I received the current copy of Linns. What was in that issue? A new modern error discovery. I started going back through just the last year's issues of Linns. Nearly every week was an article about a new error or variety discovered on modern US stamps. So have you looked through your collections for possible varieties or errors recently? Might be worth a look.

Sotheby's in New York is having a little old auction on June 8th that may excite a few people around the world. Renowned fashion designer and collector, Stuart Weitzman is putting up for auction three items from his collection. Two philatelic and one numismatic. The block of four with plate number Inverted Jenny pictured below left and the British Guiana One-Cent Magenta below right. The third item is the unique 1933 Double Eagle Gold Coin.



While I have never really been interested in coins, the story about this beautiful gold coin is very fascinating. This particular coin is the only example that can be legally owned by an individual. The double eagle was the last gold coin the US struck but they never issued. President Roosevelt had taken us off the gold standard as a measure to lift the country out of the depression. The coins were ordered to be melted down. But some "escaped" the mint and found their way into the hands of the public. I recommend reading the entire story about this coin and the two philatelic entries in the auction at Sotheby's New York's website. It is well worth the look.

JMc



Last Month's Philatelic or Word Quiz Answer:

In the article from The Examiner newspaper on page 2, it mentioned the word "fete". What is the meaning and origin of the word?

Rodger McReynolds answered correctly. Fête is from old French meaning festival or gala. Merriam-Webster online says, "a lavish often outdoor entertainment or a large elaborate party". Must have been some blowout at the Truman Library that day for the Missouri statehood stamp's First Day Ceremony that summer of 1971.

BOB Questions by Jim McKinzie

Last month I mentioned my long fascination with the philatelic material found in the "Back of the Book". Airmail, special delivery, postage due etc. This month I pose a question that I really don't have the answer to but I am attempting to find out. Why are priority and express mail stamps not considered BOB or Back of the Book? They are high domination stamps that are for a particular usage like Airmail and Special Delivery. Most collections that I have looked at or bought in the last 10 to 15 years are missing these particular stamps.

The first Express Mail stamp was issued in 1983 to compete with services like UPS. Express mail is designed to offer the postal customer next day service for their package, up to two pounds.



**US #2540
Bald Eagle
Priority Mail**

In 1991 Priority Mail service was established which offered two day service at a lower rate than the Express Mail Overnight service.

The rates currently for priority is \$7.95 and express is \$26.35. With those rates, how many collectors by the single let alone the plate block?

Did Scott's and the rest of the philatelic world think these services would not last and go away or did they not want to have another BOB category to deal with? Just questions I have. I took me a long time to catch up with these high domination stamps, especially the plate blocks during the years I was not actively collecting. And as mentioned before, they were not typically in any collection I bought. That is why I would make the case that they should be categorized as Back of the Book!



**US #1909
Bald Eagle
Express Mail**

MPS History Quiz:

In a previous quiz we learned that a group of local stamp collectors resurrected a dormant stamp club in 1893 to organize the birth of the club we currently recognize as the MPS. Which one of the following was the name of the "dormant" stamp club that they resurrected?

- A. Kansas City Stamp Club
- B. Philatelic Society of Kansas City Mo and Ks
- C. Stamp Collector Club of Kansas City
- D. The Stamp Club of Kansas City

Eugène Daguin and his Obliterating Machine By Jim McKinzie

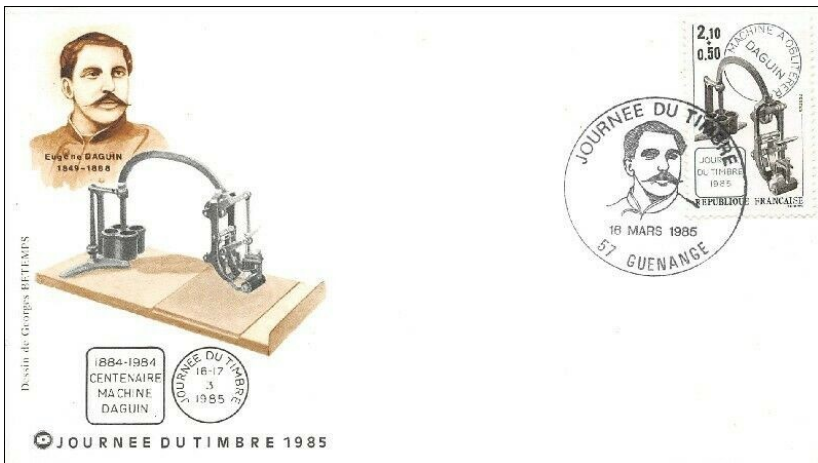
Sometimes you see a stamp that captures your interest. That is what happened to me with Scott #B573 from France. This semi-postal stamp was issued for Stamp Day. What is pictured on the stamp is the Daguin machine or the Obliterator Machine for postal authorities. In 1881 Eugène Daguin submitted a patent of a machine "close" to a sewing machine. Several attempts and resubmitting of the patent led to the French postal administration to begin operating, in Paris, the device in June 1884.



The mechanism helped French postal workers to cancel and stamp letters in one stroke instead of two. One to cancel the value of the letter, the postage stamp, and the other to date the letter. The second was a more readable proof of date in a clear space on the cover. The machine could cancel three thousand covers per



French Cover commemorating the Daguin Machine and canceled by one of the machines.



France B573 First Day Cover



Éléments d'une machine Daguin.

Elements of the Daguin machine

Collecting Back of the Book (BOB) by Jim McKinzie

hour.

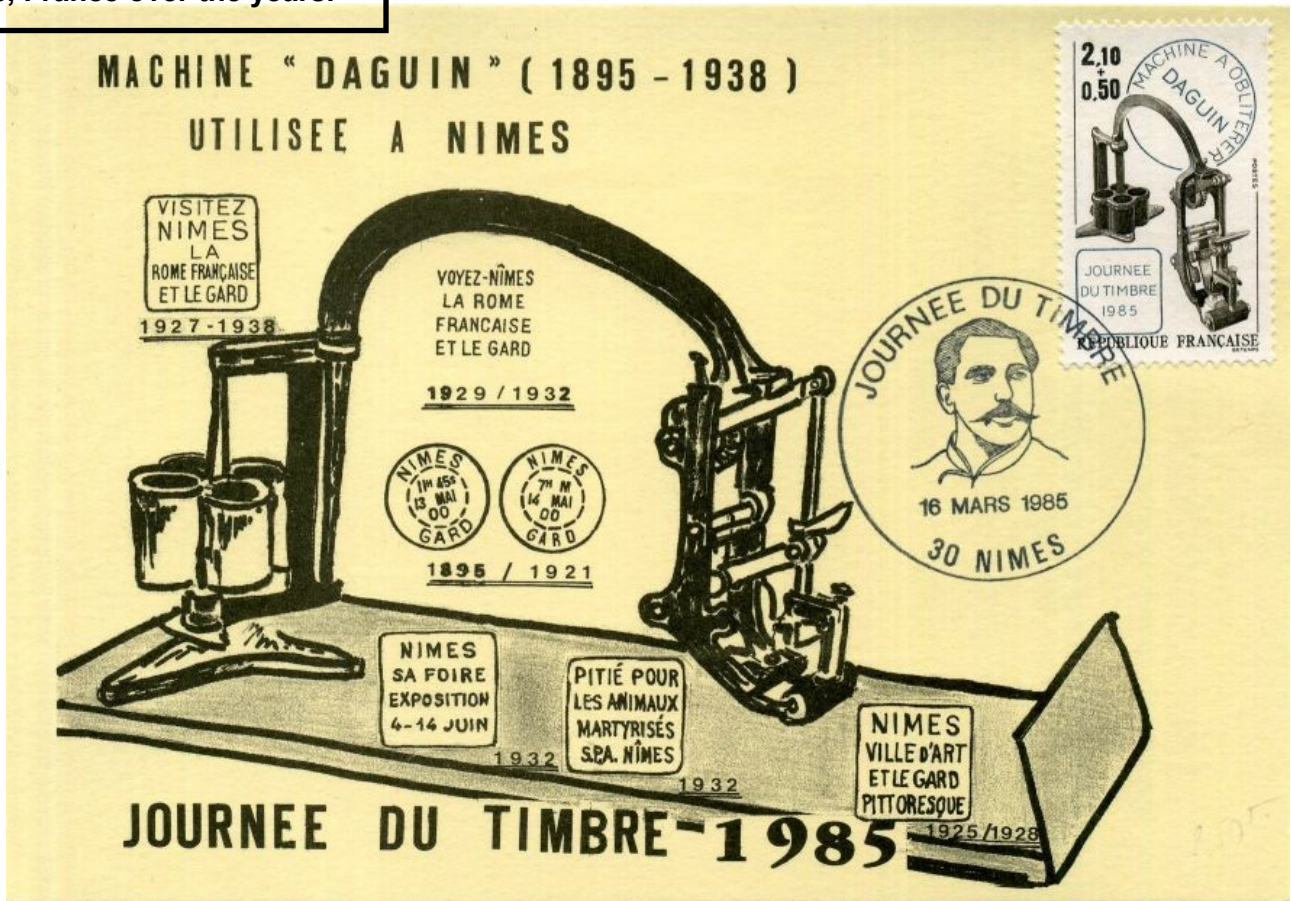
As more efficient machines were invented in the early 1900s it began to be replaced until it came back into service in the 1920s. The French authorized the use of commercial messages. So the second datestamp was replaced by a commercial message inscribed in a round cornered quadrilateral. The official retirement of the Daguin machines was declared in the 1960s, with some exceptional use until the 1970s.

The Daguin machine was ordered by other postal administrations. Most notably, Romania. For a 2005 international stamp show in Bucharest, postal stationery was issued honoring Eugene Daguin and his machine.

While Daguin's machine was in use for over 75 years, Daguin would only live a few years after his invention was accepted by the French. Daguin died at the age of 39 on July 27, 1888.



Cover showing the different dies used in Nimes, France over the years.



They Were Also There by Michael Keil

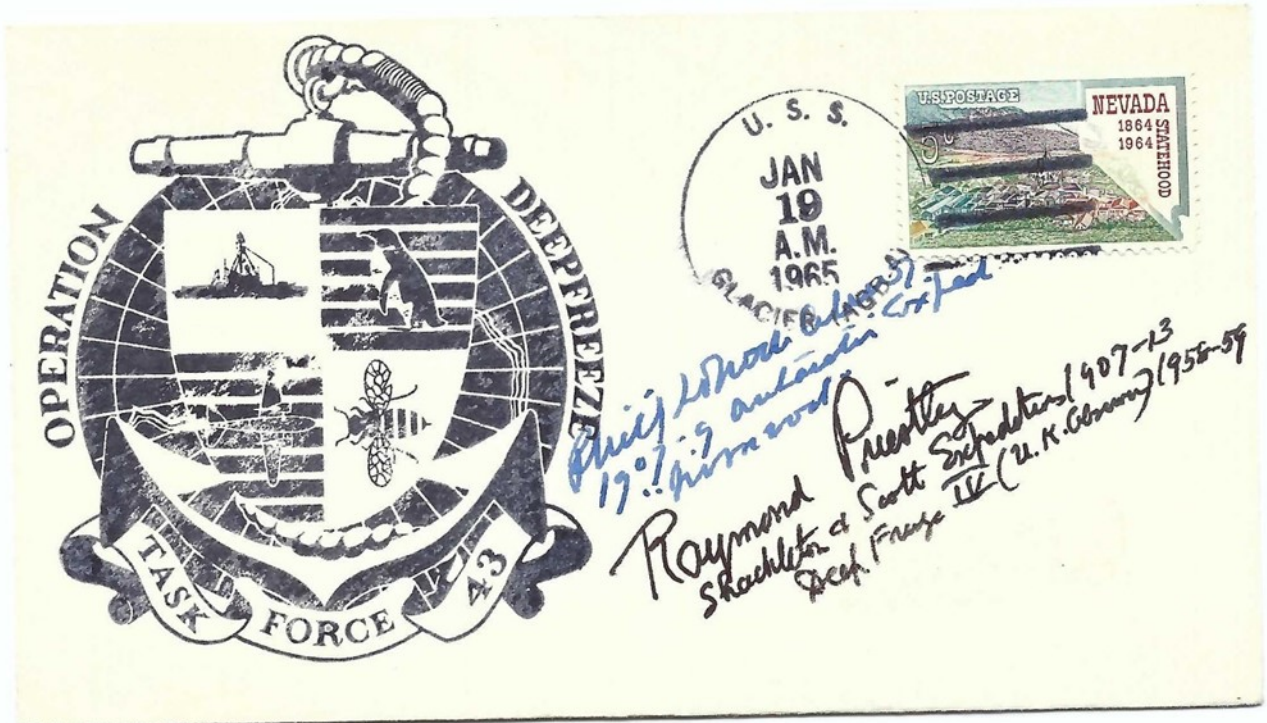
Sir Philip Lee Brocklehurst was born in England in 1887. Brocklehurst was educated at Eton College and Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he left without taking a degree. In 1904 he joined the Territorial Army where he was later promoted to major in March 1916 and colonel in 1924.^[4]

Brocklehurst met Ernest Shackleton in London in 1906 while raising funds for his Nimrod Expedition to Antarctica, and Brocklehurst offered to make a financial contribution to the expedition. In May, he was recruited by Shackleton for the expedition which joined as the Assistant Geologist.

He travelled independently, paying for his own passage to New Zealand, where he joined the other members of the expedition on the Nimrod. After a base was established in Antarctica at Cape Royds in February 1908, he was one of a party which climbed the volcano Mount Erebus (unclimbed until then). Brocklehurst suffered from frostbitten feet, and was unable to complete the climb; afterwards, a big toe had to be amputated because of frostbite.

He planned to join Shackleton's Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition in 1914. However he gained a commission in the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, and he sailed to Flanders in October 1914. He was shot in the left shoulder after 11 days in Belgium, and after recuperating in London he returned in February 1915. In 1918 he transferred to the 9th Sudanese Battalion of the Egyptian Army, where he served for two years.

During the 1930s, Brocklehurst and his wife, travelled by car across the Sahara Desert. During the Second World War, he commanded the 2nd regiment of the Mechanized Brigade of the Arab Legion and later joined the British Council for Palestine-Transjordan. Brocklehurst died January 28, 1975.



Operation Deep Freeze cover from the USS Glacier (AGB-4), cancelled January 19, 1965. Autographed by Philip Brocklehurst and Raymond Priestley (last month's article).

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Thanks to Bob B. and Michael K. for their contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the June issue will be May 15th.** Happy stamping! *Jim Mc*