

OKLAHOMA CITY

STAMP CLUB BULLETIN

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Bulletin To Offer Want Ads Free

That's right – free! In order to increase interest, participation, and usefulness of the Bulletin, next issue, we will begin offering free wants.

Club President Joe Crosby described the program this way: We will “give each member a 3 line free WANT AD for either a specific stamp, (example - “U.S. #11 used four margin copy with a light cancellation”); or cover (example – “First Day Cover of the Mother's Day stamp unaddressed, but with any cachet will do”); or general collecting interest, (example - “I want butterflies on stamps especially if they are inexpensive” or “I collect Tanatuvva Triangles on or off cover.”

The next issue will come out after the middle of July (when camps, vacation Bible school, and conventions are over!). To put your ad in, either e-mail it to the address above or post it (with pretty US commemoratives!) to Phil Fox, 701 S. 6th St., Healdton, OK, 73438.

Be sure to include your name and contact information (at least phone number or e-mail address).

AUGUST 9th IS SECOND ANNUAL STAMP FUN FEST

That is right, it will be here before you realize it. Saturday, August 9th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Club will hold its Second Annual Stamp Fun Fest at Asbury United Methodist Church. Tables are only \$10.00 each for members and you should get your reservation in NOW by sending your money to Ray Janz ASAP. A big Bid Board Auction will be held, closing at 3 p.m.

Start stacking up your duplicates, stuff you have that you have no idea why you ever got in the first place, remainders of collections you bought 10 years ago and "intend" to do something with them "someday," and other philatelic junk. Remember, your junk is another member's treasure.

Turn it into \$\$\$\$\$ and buy that one nice item you were dreaming about until gasoline hit \$3.50.

OKPEX 2008 Only Four Months Away

OKPEX 2008 will be held on October 30, 31, and November 1 at the First Christian Church Gym again this year.

The theme for our show this year will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Butterfield Overland Mail which first entered Indian Territory on its first westbound run on September 19, 1858. This was an historic event in U.S. Postal History and one that has not been given enough attention in the last fifty years. In 1958 there were re-creations and all sorts of celebrations, but so far none have been announced. If anyone hears of any local celebrations on the route through Eastern Oklahoma in 2008, please let Chairman Joe Crosby know.

One new dealer from Oregon has already indicated he will be coming to the show. Our goal is to attract at least two more dealers this year to cover our expenses and to offer a wider variety of material for those attending.

Back-of-the-Book USAF Find

By Steve Turechek

This is an Air Force recruiting brochure. It's obvious the service made an attempt to cut down on consumption of paper products to mail material like this. I have a brochure from the mid-1980's which was similarly mailed to a prospective recruit, however the older approach required use of an envelope to carry the flyer.

After politicians re-invented government in the early 1990's, some smart bureaucrat decided to save the USAF the cost of buying envelopes by simply leaving one-sixth of the printed brochure plain white to accommodate official postage and the recruit's address. Note the stamped return address in Tulsa, and 'Official Business, Penalty for Private Use \$300' imprint.

Another portion of this brochure was reserved as a postage-paid reply card so the potential recruit could respond to the mailing if he or she so desired. In order to meet the first class postage rate of 29c in 1992, three different official stamps were used: a single 20c, two 4c and a single 1c. This item was auctioned on ebay for just under \$20, including shipping. It is an unusual item to be sure, and a nice commercial usage of modern official stamps.

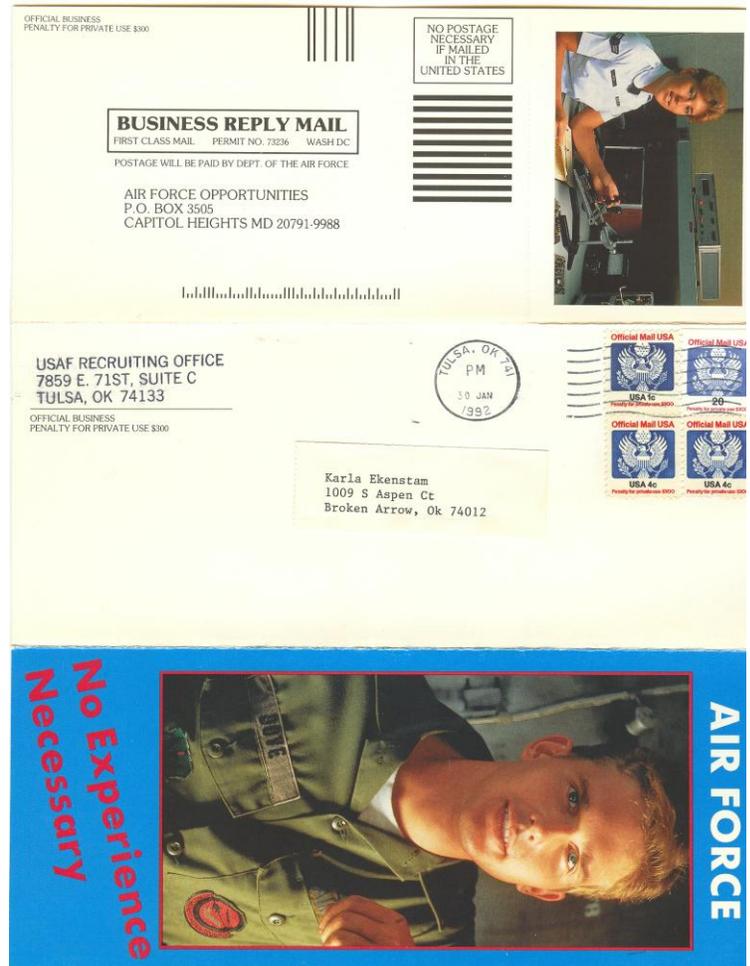
In the early 1990's, the Air Force was forced to drastically reduce the total number of airmen serving in uniform. The service involuntarily reduced the numbers of (relatively) expensive officers and non-commissioned officers. At the same time, young inexperienced personnel were brought in, giving the service a net reduction in annual expenses associated with pay and benefits.

It was also a time in which all the services extolled the benefits of free job training and experience, college credit, and tuition assistance. The brochure makes no mention of serving in combat or anything else remotely dangerous--despite aerial occupation of Iraqi airspace at that time (remember the no-fly zones?), and the brewing conflict in the Balkans that NATO and the USAF would soon deal with.

ITEM FROM MARCH 1932 POSTAL GUIDE: LOST - GOLD STICKPIN

"It is reported that a clerk in the Oklahoma City post office, while sacking parcel post on February 5, lost a one-sixteenth caret diamond white gold stickpin. ;If this stickpin is found, please return it to the postmaster of Oklahoma City." -- From the United States Official Postal Guide, issued by the Post Office Department, March, 1932.

Editor's note: They must have paid postal clerks really well back in the depression !!!



Spring 2008 Club Minutes

3/17/08 17 present
Meeting called to order by Joe Crosby. No business. Auction time. Meeting adjourned

4/1/08 18 present
Meeting called to order by Joe Crosby. Welcomed two new members, Reginald (Reggie) Hofmaier from Yukon and Wally Stephens from Moore. The program was April Fool's Stamp Surprises to show and tell. No business. Meeting adjourned.

4/15/08 15 present
Meeting called to order by Joe Crosby. TEXPEX was moved to a different date at the last minute. There weren't as many dealers. Next meeting will be our 5th club auction. The program tonight was on French Polynesia by Frank DeBoard. Very good program. No more business. Meeting adjourned.
Frank Schultz, Secretary

Stamp Club Programs for 2008

MAY 6th CLUB AUCTION
MAY 20 OKLAHOMA & INDIAN TERRITORY MACHINE CANCELS 1902-1907 by Brady Hunt
JUN 3 6th CLUB AUCTION
JUN 17 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CIRCUIT BOOKS
JUL 1 NO MEETING
JUL 15 ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND CIRCUIT BOOKS
AUG 5 NO MEETING
AUG 9 2nd STAMP FUN FEST with Bid Board closing at 3 PM
AUG 19 DON'T CRY FOR ME ARGENTINA by Dr. Carlos Garcia-Moral

The Stamp News Collecting Survey

The publisher of Meekel's and Stamp News, John Dunn, has asked for input from our club about everyone's collecting "habits". Everyone who fills out and mails in the survey can sign up for a FREE 4-month subscription to either Mekeel's and Stamps or US Stamp News.

Please help us attract more people like you to our hobby by filling out this form.

A. Name (optional) _____

Number of years: Collecting: _____; Subscribing to a stamp magazine _____;

Age now: ____; Age when you FIRST started collecting ____; Age when you resumed (if there was a gap) ____.

B. When you resumed (or started, if you never stopped) collecting, what brought you in (or back)? (be as specific as possible) _____

Do you collect: For fun? ____; To fill idle time? ____ and/or because you can get some of your money back? ____ Other reason(s): _____

C. The most recent time you started collecting, did you start with: a dealer ____; local show or bourse ____; major show ____; publication ____; online club ____; online publication ____.

How did that work out for you, that is: Do you still use the source above or a similar source ___ yes; ___ no.

If not, why not _____

If not, what source(s) do you now use? _____

D. What did you originally start collecting? _____

If you resumed at a later date, what did you start with then? _____

What do you collect now? _____

How do you collect? Printed album? ___; Blank album? ___; Glassines or stock book? ___; Other:

Do you share your hobby with other collectors? ___; non-collectors? ___

E. Do you use the web for collecting? ___ email address (optional)

F. Are you: A dealer: ___; Interested in someday becoming a dealer? ___; Writer? ___

G. Optional: About how much do you spend on your collection: Each year? ___; In your peak year?

_____;

your suggestions:

H. If we want to attract new people to our hobby, how might we reach them? _____

I. On a scale of 1-5, are the following activities: 1 very satisfactory, 2 satisfactory, 3 adequate, 4 unsatisfactory, 5

very unsatisfactory: Major shows ___; Local shows ___; Major societies ___; Local clubs ___

Dealers ___; Publications ___; Online ___

On the same scale, how do you feel they serve new collectors? Major shows ___; Local shows ___;

Major societies ___; Local clubs ___ Dealers ___; Publications ___; Online ___

What might any or all of these do differently:

For you:

To hold the interest of new visitors to our hobby:

J. Any other thoughts or suggestions? (Feel welcome to use additional paper)

Want a FREE Online Magazine Subscription? (deadline Sept. 30, 2008)

Please tell us your collecting interests so that we can put you in touch with dealers who can serve your needs.

In return we will sign you up for a subscription to your choice of:

___ *U.S. Stamp News Online* Monthly (4 months) or ___ *Mekeel's & Stamps Online* Weekly (13 weeks).

Interests: _____

Name & Address: (Please Print): _____

Email address: _____

Please return this to: Stamp News Survey, 42 Sentry Way, Merrimack, NH 03054

or StampNews@verizon.net, fax 603-424-7556. Thank you for assisting us.

The Oklahoma City Stamp Club meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Asbury United Methodist Church, 1320 SW 38th St., Oklahoma City.