

DRIFTWOOD



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Newsletters of the Long Beach Stamp Club published almost every month throughout the year. Meetings are usually on the first, third, and sometimes fifth Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of **MILLIKAN HIGH SCHOOL, 2800 SNOWDEN AVENUE, IN LONG BEACH, CA**. Visitors are always welcome. Address dues, payments, and correspondence to the Club at Box 90042, Long Beach, CA 90809-0042.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2010

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Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily conform to or reflect those of the Board of Directors or of the membership.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

ALL meeting dates include a combination auction and bid board. Scheduled meetings are as follows:

2010

JUNE 1 & 15

*JULY 6 & 20

*AUGUST 3 & 17

*SEPTEMBER 7 & 21

OCTOBER 5 & 19

NOVEMBER 2 & 16

DECEMBER 7 & 21[#]

*Our meeting for these three months will be held at **St. Timothy's Lutheran Church** located at the North East corner of Woodruff and Arbor in Lakewood, one block south of Del Amo. Parking will be on Arbor Road, and the meeting will be downstairs in the Rec room.

CHRISTMAS PARTY, POT LUCK AND BINGO!!



MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

ROGER DUBBS was our \$15 winner at our May 4th meeting. **MARIE SWAIN** was our lucky \$15 winner on May 18th.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW will **relocate** on Sunday, June 20, 2010 only, to the **Anaheim Plaza Hotel, 1700 Harbor Blvd, at Disney Way, Anaheim, CA** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Steve's Quality Stamp Show will validate parking tickets.

LOBEX

LONG BEACH COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES EXPO June 3 – June 5, 2010 will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center, 100 S. Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA. **Admission is \$6.00 for all three days.** Hours are: Thursday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

ARTHUR J. MANKER

PAUL PRIZLER

GUY BELL

NICHOLAS BRAUN

STAMP QUIZ FOR JUNE

- What was the first city to reach a population of 1 million people?
- Give the year, and
- Name the Country, and
- Scott numbers of flag for this Country.

If you think you know the answer; please send it to the Club's P.O. Box or you can e-mail your answer to leb_dorbaumann1@verizon.net.

{Answers must be received on the Saturday preceding the first meeting of the month.}

JULY 2, 1847 ENVELOPE

The Earliest Recorded Usage of a United States Postage Stamp

ON July 2, 1847 the first stamps ever produced by the United States government were issued to the general public. Two stamps were issued – a Five Cent stamp depicting Benjamin Franklin and a Ten Cent Stamp featuring George Washington. One of the most famous and valuable envelopes (or “covers” as philatelists refer to them) is the first recorded usage of these stamps – a pair of the Ten Cent stamps of a cover from New York City Indianapolis, Indiana used on July 2, 1847. No other such cover exists dated this early.

The July 2, 1847 cover bearing the Ten Cent 1847 Issue was discovered in 1972 between the pages of a book in a library of an Indianapolis tax consultant. Prior to its discovery, the earliest recorded usage of the 1847 Issue was a July 7th cover bearing a single Five Cent stamp. To date, this July 2nd cover remains the earliest known usage of a United States postage stamp.

STAMP OF THE MONTH

UNITED STATES — Panes of 20 of the four 39¢ Benjamin Franklin stamps (Scott 4021-24) issued in 2006 to mark the 300th anniversary of his birth sold out before most dealers realized they were gone.

Because of this, these popular stamps seldom come up in the aftermarket. The 2008 Scott *Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* values a mint pane of 20 at \$18, but good luck finding someone to sell it at that price.

Buy these stamps at the first opportunity. You can expect to pay up to \$23 for a pane of 20, if you find it offered at all. Look for prices to go even higher.

CANADIAN PROVINCES

NEW BRUNSWICK — The colony of New Brunswick was created August 16, 1784, and became a self-governing province in 1855.

Its first stamps, issued in 1851, were printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., London. The design features the English crown and heraldic flowers of England (rose), Scotland (thistle), Ireland (shamrock) and New Brunswick (purple violet). New Brunswick joined the Confederation of Canada in 1867.

THE STAMP THAT ALMOST STARTED A WAR

DON'T be fooled by its size. A tiny little stamp can cause big trouble. Case in point: This stamp issued by Nicaragua in 1937. Not uncommonly, the stamp featured a map of the country, but it included a large section of land also claimed by neighboring Honduras.

Ownership of the region had long been in dispute between the two countries and remained a source of great contention. In 1906, King Alfonso XIII of Spain decided the matter in favor of Honduras, but Nicaragua refused to acknowledge the decision. Tensions grew in the following years, so when Nicaragua released the stamp in 1937, Hondurans were outraged.

Government officials, newspapers, and radio stations demanded the stamps be recalled and destroyed. Nicaraguan authorities however, refused and insisted the map was correct. They also pointed out that they had the courtesy to label the area on the stamp as *territorio en litigio*. Regardless, in a matter of weeks, anti-Nicaraguan demonstrations erupted in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa. Across the border, Nicaraguan radio announcers called for military action, demanding the national army be sent to guard the border region.

...At the last minute, the United States, Costa Rica, and Venezuela intervened to defuse the conflict before it escalated into war. Both countries agreed to withdraw their armed forces from the disputed area and stop mobilizing troops. And, naturally, the peace agreement called for withdrawing the offending stamps. They evidently remained in circulation, until supplies in private hands ran out.

ANSWERS TO MAY'S STAMP QUIZ

THE oldest continuously inhabited city in existence is Damascus, Syria which was flourishing two thousand years before Rome was founded in 753 B.C.

Stamp is Scott 345.

DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWERS?

WE are looking for more quiz participants. The Long Beach Stamp Club would like to assist you to become proactive in your quest to learn about stamps.

Please email any questions you have to the Editor, Driftwood newsletter at leb_dorbaumann1@verizon.net. Let our members help you to learn about stamp collecting.
