

DRIFTWOOD



Vol. 10 *November 2012* No. 11

APS # 59314

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 or our website www.LongBeachStampClub.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2012

President	Roy Bezner	(714) 537-6771
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Editor - Driftwood	Lynn Baumann	(714) 962-5089
Club Historian	John Warden	(562) 495-2588

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:

2012

NOVEMBER 6TH

NOVEMBER 20TH

DECEMBER 4TH - XMAS PARTY*

* SIGN UP SHEET AVAILABLE AT NOV. 6TH MTG.

2013

JANUARY 8TH & 22ND {22ND IS ANNUAL DINNER}

ANNUAL DINNER WILL BE HELD AT KHOURY'S.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS FOR 2013 TBA

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW this month will be held on November 18, 2012 at the Anaheim Plaza Hotel, 1700 South Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92802. Hours are 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Parking is free.

SANDIPEX STAMP SHOWS

SANDIPEX this month will be held on November 18, 2012 at the Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego, CA 92111. Hours 10 am – 4 pm and parking is free.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

STEVE FIEG was the winner at our October 2nd meeting for \$15.00 and LARRY STAUB was the lucky winner at our second meeting in September for \$15.00.

STAN CONRAD

STAN CONRAD has been recovering in the hospital from complications with stomach ulcers. Get well soon, Stan.

STAMP OF THE MONTH

MALI — On February 15, 1965, the African nation of Mali issued a beautifully engraved set of four Bird airmail stamps (Scott C25-28), done in the classic French colonies style of the 1950s and 1960s.

This is one of the most beautiful Bird topical sets of the time. Birds shown on the stamps in the set are touracos, Abyssinian ground hornbills, Egyptian vultures and Goliath herons. This set is popular with both French colonies collectors and bird topical collectors.

The Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* values a mint set at \$43.25. You can probably find this set in the \$25-to-\$35 range, and it is a great buy at that price.

ELECTION

OUR nominees for the new Board of Directors are as follows:

Carla Beam
Roger Dobbs

Guy Bell

ANSWERS TO OCTOBER STAMP QUIZ

- | | | | |
|---|----------------|----|-------------|
| 1 | Mayotte | 6 | Margin Copy |
| 2 | Mail Early | 7 | Magyar |
| 3 | Marcophily | 8 | Military |
| 4 | Migratory Bird | 9 | Mulready |
| 5 | Germany | 10 | Malagasy |

Bonus: May 1, 1840

THE ONE-CENT Z GRILL

AMERICA'S RAREST STAMP — with only two known, the 1¢ Z Grill of 1867 is America's rarest stamp and is valued in the millions. Benjamin Miller donated his 1¢ Z Grill to the New York Public Library in 1925, where it remains in storage to prevent theft. Mystic acquired the only available 1¢ Z Grill in 1998 and proudly displayed it at several important philatelic shows, including World Stamp Expo 2000.



After the start of the Civil War in 1861, Postmaster General Montgomery Blair didn't want U.S. stamps paying the postage for mail sent from the Confederate states. He ordered a new stamp series with fresh designs. All stamps then in print were demonetized, meaning they were no longer valid for postage.

The die proof on India paper was submitted by National Bank Note Company, printer of the new series. It showed the design adopted for the 1¢ Franklin stamp, which was used for the 1¢ Z Grill of 1867.

At about the same time, the Post Office became concerned with stamp reuse, and begins testing ideas to prevent it. One enterprising inventor who worked to solve the problem was Charles F. Steel, the inventor of the grilling process.

IT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE

PLEASE be sure to exercise your Constitutional Rights and vote on Tuesday, November 6, 2012.

STAMP QUIZ FOR NOVEMBER

NAME each stamp and give the Scott Number.

Red leaf, yellow leaf,
spin down the darkening lane
chasing her lantern



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.}

ANCIENT LETTERS

MANY collectors appreciate "old letters" but few have had correspondence discovered in the archeological excavations at Tel Aphek, inside the Egyptian governor's residence. The oldest letter is from Ugarit, about 1230 BC, and is written in Akkadian, a cuneiform script, impressed on a clay tablet. The letter was sent by the governor of Ugarit, a city in northern Syria, to the Egyptian governor of Canaan. He complained that what he had sent to a representative of the governor of Canaan was not returned to him as promised. The walls surrounding the Ottoman period fortress that once covered the Egyptian governor's residence appear beside the letter on the stamp.

The Lachish Letters date from 589 BC. This letter is written in ancient Hebrew, inked on a pottery shard. It was discovered in the archeological excavations at the Tel Lachish gate fortifications.

The Bar Kochva Letters are more "modern," from 134CE. This letter is written in Aramaic-Jewish script, inked onto papyrus. It was discovered in the Wadi Murabaat caves in the Judean Desert. The letter was sent by Shimon Bar Koziba, known as Bar Kochva, to Joshua Ben Galgula, one of his subordinates, advising military orders and threatening punishment if disobeyed. The Judean Desert landscape is depicted alongside the letter on the stamp.

These three ancient items were pictured on recent Israeli stamps.