

DRIFTWOOD



Vol. 11

May 2013

No. 5

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 2013

President	Martin Jadus	(562) 420-7781
Vice - President	George Rindfleisch	(562) 596-1116
Treasurer	Joe Miller	(562) 424-9923
Secretary	Art Luther	(310) 375-6695
Member	Richard Jansen	(562) 425-8171
Member	John Olsson	(949) 719-2829
Past President	Roy Bezner	(714) 537-6771
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:

2013

MAY 7

MAY 21

JUNE 4 & 18*

JULY 2* & 16*

AUGUST 6* & 20*

SEPTEMBER 3* & 17#

* MEETING LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

MEETING WILL BE AT MILLIKAN HIGH SCHOOL

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW this month will be held on May 19, 2013 at the Anaheim Plaza Hotel, 1700 South Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92802. Hours are 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Parking is free.

SWAP MEET DAY

THE Club's first SWAP MEET DAY will be held at our May 7th meeting. Bring all your duplicate stamps and any stamp "stuff" that you would like to sell.

STAMP QUIZ

AT our second meeting of May, on the 21st, the Club will hold their Semi-Annual Group Stamp Quiz. So, all you members better "bone up" on your stamp knowledge. This Quiz is guaranteed to test your mettle, and all should have a good time.

HISTORY RECORDED ON STAMPS

HONORING PRESIDENTS

THE PRESIDENTIALS – Further evidence of the historical nature of postage stamps is the 1938 Presidential series from the United States.

It has been 75 years since this iconic series first appeared, and it remains one of the more familiar definitive sets in U.S. history.

Mystery writer Lawrence Sanders underscored the impact of the Presidential stamp series in his 2008 novel *Hit and Run* when he wrote of Keller, the stamp collecting contract killer. "He could, without any great difficulty, name all of the presidents of the United States in order, and he owed this ability to the series of presidential stamps issued in 1938, with each president's head on the stamp with a value corresponding to his place in the procession."

DRIFTWOOD'S STAMP QUIZ FOR MAY

WHAT was the last series of U.S. Stamps printed in the 19th Century?

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.}

THE SPARK THAT SET THE WORLD AFIRE

“I EXPECT to be greeted with flowers, not bomb!” angrily cried the Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand. A bomb had just exploded beneath his royal carriage. And that was not the way, felt the Archduke, for the people of the Austrian province of Bosnia to greet the heirs to the Austrian throne.



The day was June 28, 1914. The occasion was a rash visit to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia by the arrogant Archduke and his wife. So intense was the hatred of the Bosnians and their sympathetic Serbian neighbors against Austria that some thirty assassins lined the Archduke's way. Scarcely had the smoke of the first explosion cleared when a Serbian patriot stepped from the crowd, pistol in hand, and fired a volley of shots into the bodies of the Archduke and Duchess.

The European countries, armed to the teeth and filled with hatred and suspicion of one another, had long been expecting some such event. Because the assassin happened to be a Serbian, mighty Austria used it as a pretext to declare war on little Serbia. Russia came to Serbia's aid. Germany, declaring war on Russia and France, marched through Belgium, which caused England to declare war on Germany. Turkey and Bulgaria took sides with Austria and Europe, and soon the whole world was in flames.

At the height of the Austrian successes, in 1917, an issue of postage stamps commemorating the Archduke's assassination was forced upon the people of Bosnia. Today these stamps, which depict the murdered couple, are prized in albums of collectors as fateful symbols of the event which precipitated the most dangerous war in history.

ANSWER TO STAMP QUIZ FOR APRIL

If you look very carefully you will note that this set of stamps are the only U.S. Stamps without a country designation.

BIRTHDAYS FOR MAY

HARRY FUTORAN

JOANNE SHEPPARD

JACK HARGETT

BERT HAZELWOOD

STAMP GRILLS

At the time of his grill experiments, Charles Steel worked for National Bank Note Company. Steel believed cancelling ink would be better absorbed and stamp reuse prevented if the fibers of the stamp paper were broken. The ink would penetrate even more deeply if an unprinted area was grilled, he said. The samples illustrate Steel's idea.

Steel continued to work on improving reuse prevention methods, and was granted two more patents in 1869 and 1875. The Post Office later decided that stamp reuse wasn't costing the department as much as it thought. All testing of reuse prevention methods ended in the 1870's.

Stamp expert William Stevenson devised the classification system for the various grill types. Early in the 20th century, he defined the classes of grills by their characteristics and dimensions. When he defined the Z grill in 1914, Stevenson believed it was produced sometime between the D and E grills. Based on the earliest known use, it is now thought that the Z grill was produced between the C and D grills.

Why Is the One-Cent Z Grill so Rare and So Expensive?

Grills were applied to stamps during a short period of time in the 1860s and 1870s. Because machine operators constantly worked to fine tune the grilling process, the appearance of the grill patterns changed often. Compared with other grill machinery, the apparatus that made the "A" impression saw limited use.

The Z grill pattern itself is unique because of the horizontal orientation of its ridges. All other grill types have vertical ridges. The 1¢ Z Grill stamp has a double grill. A very strong grill pattern appears over a weaker, slightly angled one.