



P. O. Box 295, Midvale, UT 84047-2950

Spring 2013

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Club Meetings

Location: Sandy Senior Center
9310 So. 1300 East, Sandy
First and third Thursdays of each month @ 7:00 pm
Club Website: www.utahphilatelic.org

Club Officers

President: Steve Baldrige
Vice-President: John Alleman
Secretary/Treasurer: Ed Blaney
Board Members: Virginia Lee, Sandi Locke,
George Cobabe, Judy Maxfield
Newsletter Editor: Jack Paradise

Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 18 Special Auction at club meeting
Saturday, May 11 Club banquet

2013 Stamp Show Dates

May 3 and 4

October 18 and 19

The shows will be at the Sons of the Utah Pioneers building at 3301 East Louise Avenue (2920 South)

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The President's Corner Steve Baldrige

Dare I suggest that things are going OK in the Utah Philatelic Society. We are seeing a renewal of existing memberships, and even an increase of our numbers as people learn of the club and seek us out. The club auctions are generally vigorous as people compete for even the most ordinary items put up for auction. We have successfully made the transition to our new show location, with just a slight drop-off of show attendees as people learn of the move. The Sons of the Utah Pioneers officers seem to be pleased with our presence, as long as we give the floor a good cleaning at show's end. We have purchased tables for show use, which we are sharing with SUP in exchange for free storage space. Virginia and Sandy are actively promoting youth involvement at the shows, which hopefully will encourage interest in stamp collecting and ensure the survival of both the hobby and the club. We no longer have to pay for the storage locker where we previously kept our display frames, and moving the frames isn't the hassle it once was. We'll have juried exhibits at the next show, with prizes, so everyone is encouraged to contact Exhibits chairman Don Marr to reserve some frame space.

Our club doesn't generate much revenue—that isn't why we exist. But we do have expenses, and the latest one is the purchase of the tables. For this reason we are installing a donation box at the entrance to each show, so attendees can donate additional funds which will go directly towards paying off that debt. The Board has determined that we will provide free lunch at the shows for vendors and club members, but anyone willing to make a donation for their lunch will be helping our cash flow.

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The President's Corner *continued*

So, it's a good time to be a member of the UPS. We appreciate your interest in philately, and we encourage your active participation in the club.

NEWS FROM THE CLUB

Our next club meeting, April 18th, has been scheduled for a special fund-raising auction. Since moving our stamp shows to a new location, we've had to buy tables for the shows and the club has subsequently incurred a fairly sizeable debt. The purpose of the auction is to raise money to pay off at least a portion of this debt.

So, all proceeds from the auction will go towards reducing this debt. We encourage all club members, where possible, to attend this meeting and bring quality items (and a fat wallet) for the auction. The 5-item limit will be temporarily waived, and items do not necessarily need to be of a philatelic nature. Please be generous with your donated items and your purchases, and let's have fun while working to retire this debt.

The UPS annual banquet has been scheduled for Saturday, May 11th, at the Golden Corral restaurant at 655 E. 7200 So., in Midvale. We will start at 11:00am, but we encourage you to arrive around 10:45. By arriving before 11:00am, we can get the breakfast rate of about \$11, which includes tax, tip and drink.

We would like to have an approximate head count by the April 18th club meeting. When you arrive at the restaurant, tell the hostess you are with UPS for the club rate.

NEWS FROM THE CLUB

As announced elsewhere, there will be a Stamp Show on May 3rd-4th, at the Sons of the Utah Pioneer building. This show will include a juried display of exhibits, with prizes. Our next club meeting (May 2nd) will be at this location so we can all help in setting up tables and display frames. This will be the time to mount your exhibit.

A free lunch will be provided at the show to vendors and club members. A jar will be available for anyone wishing to make a donation towards the cost of the meal.

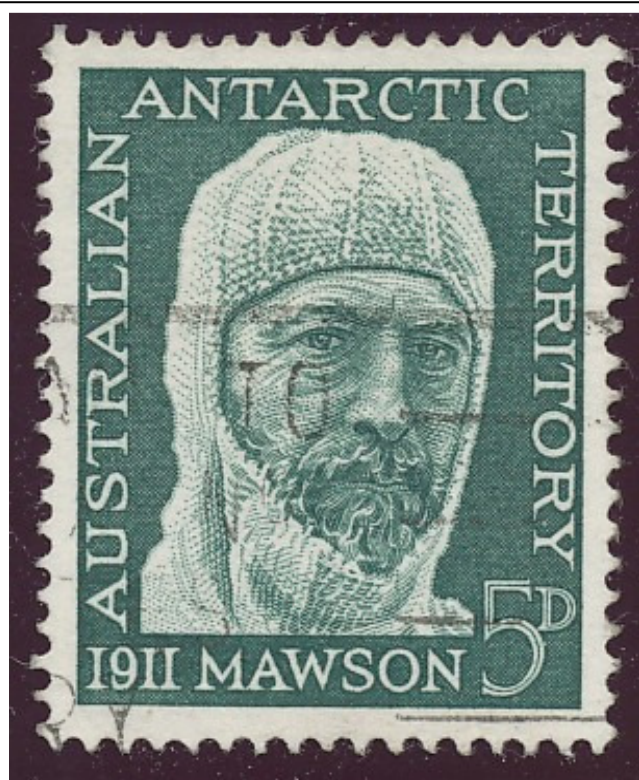
Stories behind the Stamps

There is a story behind virtually every stamp. Often the story may be about the stamp itself. For commemorative stamps especially, there are some engaging stories relating to the subject matter. We were treated to some fascinating behind-the-scenes tales in recent meetings of the Utah Philatelic Society.

Editor's observation: When I began collecting stamps ages ago, I was more interested in filling spaces on the album pages than I was about learning anything regarding the subject of a stamp. The stamp album itself didn't offer much information besides the name of the country issuing the stamp. Often there was not even enough writing on the stamp to give much of a clue as to what is depicted on the stamp. Now – with Google searches and Wikipedia – we can learn vast amounts about practically any subject depicted on a stamp. Starting with a brief description of the stamp subject cited in a stamp catalog, we can be off to the start of a great philatelic adventure.

Stories behind the Stamps

SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON



On March 7 **Judy Maxfield** related the drama of **Sir Douglas Mawson**, who is depicted on Australian Antarctic Territory stamp #L7. Judy got much of her information from the January 2013 *National Geographic* magazine.

Douglas Mawson's first foray into the Antarctic was in 1907-09 when he accompanied Sir Ernest Shackleton's *NIMROD* expedition to the Magnetic South Pole. Two years later Mawson led the *Australasian Antarctic Expedition*. The chief objective of the expedition was to investigate, as far as possible, the stretch of essentially unknown 2000-mile Antarctic coastline located directly south of Australia.

Aboard the ship *AURORA*, they left Australia on December 2, 1911. 37 days later the expedition party of 31 men set foot on Antarctica. They were the first ones to reach shore in that part of the continent. They established base camps at three locations along the coast. They waited for months for favorable weather conditions before setting out on five separate expeditions onto the continent.

During October 1912 the weather was so bad that no sledging was possible. On November 10, 1912 Douglas Mawson, Lieutenant B.E. S. Ninnis and Dr. Xavier Mertz, with teams of dogs, set out to explore the treacherous Far Eastern section. Five weeks later Ninnis, his sledge and six dogs fell into a deep crevasse and perished. With most of the indispensable supplies lost, Mawson and Mertz attempted to return to the Base Camp some 315 miles away. For the next twelve days the two men survived by eating their dogs, which they killed one at a time. Dr. Mertz weakened and died on January 7.

Ten days later, Douglas Mawson found himself in a crevasse, dangling at the end of his 14-foot harness. Delirious and exhausted, Mawson struggled to pull himself out, only to reach the lip and fall back in. Mawson wrote, "My strength was ebbing fast; in a few moments it would be too late. The struggle occupied some time, but by a miracle I rose slowly to the surface." Finally, on February 1, Mawson reached the coast just in time to see a departing speck on the horizon: his ship, the *AURORA*. He and others from the expedition were rescued from their frozen Antarctic retreat a few weeks later.

You can read about this and other amazing tales of Antarctic explorations at www.south-pole.com.

Mawson's image is on Australian Antarctic Territory stamps L1, L6, L7, L23 and L24.

Stories behind the Stamps Disputed Territories

On March 21 **Steve Baldrige** told us about “disputed territories”: lands claimed by more than one nation such as **Israel** (claimed by Palestinians), **Falkland Islands/Malvinas** (claimed by Argentina) and **East Timor** (claimed by Indonesia).

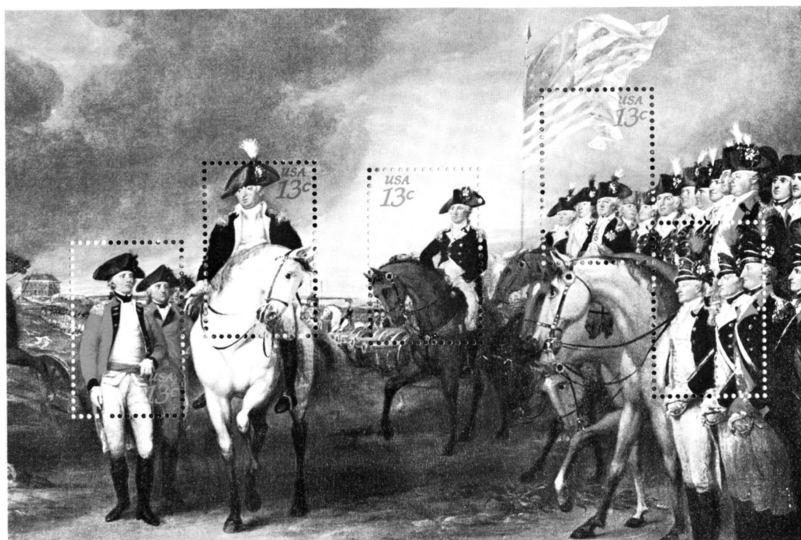
Having lived in 15 different countries, Steve has a wealth of firsthand knowledge of the nations of the world. Steve suggests reference to www.CIA.gov along with *Wikipedia* as sources of information for studies of foreign lands.



Stories behind the Stamps The Battle of Yorktown

On April 4 **Ed Blaney** gave a condensed version of the decisive battle at **Yorktown** in 1781, which led to the end of the Revolutionary War following the surrender of Lieutenant General **Lord Charles Cornwallis** to General **George Washington** as depicted on Scott #1686. Actually it was the second in command, British Brigadier General **Charles O'Hara**, who presented the sword of surrender to the American second in command, General **Benjamin Lincoln**.

Ed said the battle at Yorktown was one of the rare battles in which Washington's army succeeded in what it set out to do. Ed attributes Washington's success in the engagement to the American alliance with the French Army troops under the command of Count de **Rochambeau**. The French Army of General Lafayette blockaded Yorktown by land and the naval fleet of French Admiral Count de Grasse blockaded Yorktown by sea pursuant to de Grasse's victory over the British fleet in the *Battle of the Chesapeake*. These were key factors leading to the conclusion of the five- year War of Independence.



The Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown
From a Painting by John Trumbull

