



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

**Spring 2014**

## **Upcoming Events and Announcements**

### **Club Meetings**

Location: Sandy Senior Center  
9310 So. 1300 East, Sandy  
First and third Thursdays of each month @ 6:30 pm  
Club Website: [www.utahphilatelic.org](http://www.utahphilatelic.org)

### **Club Officers**

President: Steve Baldrige  
Vice-President: John Alleman  
Secretary/Treasurer: Ed Blaney  
Board Members: George Cobabe, Judy Maxfield,  
Blaine Cox and Don Marr.  
Newsletter Editor: Jack Paradise

### **Upcoming Events**

Scout-o-Rama Saturday, May 17  
UPS stamp show -- May 23 and 24 (Friday and Saturday) 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**

Spring has finally arrived, in fits and starts, and we can now escape the doldrums of winter. We've had good attendance at most club meetings, with helpful presentations and vigorous auctions. Our shows continue to be well-attended, for the most part, judging from the fact that the vendors continue to sign up for successive shows. Speaking of which, we have a show coming up 23-24 May at the SUP building, so we hope you plan on coming to support our vendors.

What I'm less certain about is the future of philately. Obviously, it has to be carried forward by those who are young now, but are they picking up the slack? Virginia Lee and Sandi Locke, and others, have worked hard to sow interest in philately among the youth, but with distractions like the Internet and video games, stamp collecting doesn't seem to be high on the list of in-demand hobbies. My own children have no interest in assuming control of my collection, which I will certainly have to give up at some point, so I can either sell it or bury it in the ground somewhere.

There are ways to encourage interest in the hobby, which at one point was the most popular hobby in the world. Don Marr is actively involved in the upcoming Scout-o-Rama, May 17th, where we have had a table displaying philately to Boy Scouts in attendance. He could use some help, so please contact him at 801.561.4723 about taking some time at the table.

*continued on page 2*

## The President's Corner *continued*

The club has made arrangements to purchase the 2015 set of the Scott catalogs, and Vol. 1 has been added to the library. This means that we can auction off the 2009 catalogs, but we are currently missing Vol. 1 of this set. If you have borrowed it, please return it ASAP.

I've said it before, but I'll say it again: We have a great hobby, and our enjoyment of it is enhanced by membership in this club. We appreciate your active participation and encourage any ideas you may have to improve the club.



## Pitcairn Islands

With only about 56 inhabitants, originating from four main families, Pitcairn Islands (a British Overseas Territory) is the least populous *national jurisdiction* in the world. It also claims the distinction of being the world's most remote inhabited *national jurisdiction*.

Four islands constitute the Pitcairn Islands. All of the Pitcairn Islanders live on Pitcairn Island, which is the second largest island. Henderson Island, covering about 86% of the territory's total land area is home to a variety of birds in its nearly inaccessible interior. Henderson is capable of supporting a small human population despite its scarce fresh water; but access is difficult, owing to its outer shores being steep limestone cliffs covered by sharp coral. In 1988 Henderson Island was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Oeno Island and Ducie Island, which are atolls, are not habitable. Ducie Island is situated nearly 300 miles to the east of Pitcairn Island.

Pitcairn Island is accessible only by longboat via Bounty Bay (pictured below on Scott 102). The distance from Point Christian at the west end of Pitcairn Island to St. Paul's Point on the opposite side is 2.2 miles. That's about the distance from State Street in Salt Lake City to the University of Utah. The Utah Philatelic Society has more members than the entire population of the Pitcairn Islands.

The first Pitcairn Islands postage stamps were issued in 1940. Four or five sets of stamps are issued nearly every year. The Pitcairn Islands Philatelic Bureau is in Auckland, New Zealand. Pitcairn postal affairs are administered out of Fiji.







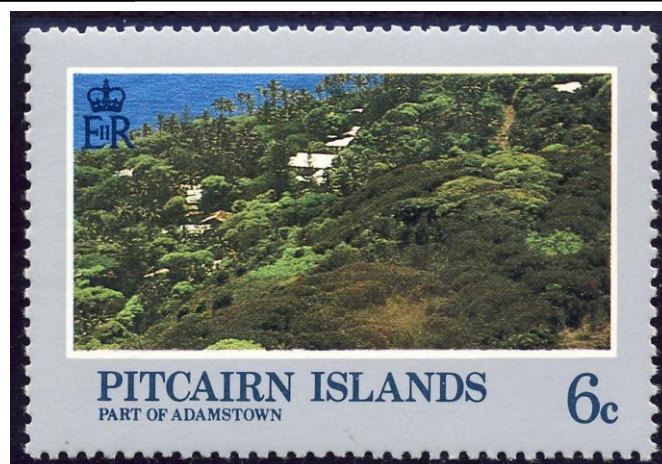
Scott 327-330

Beginning with the 1790 *Bounty* settlement of 9 English mariners and 19 Tahitians (see page 4), the Pitcairn Island population grew to nearly 200 by 1855. They were outgrowing the island. On May 3, 1856, the entire community of 193 people set sail on the *Morayshire* for Norfolk Island, a small island north of New Zealand which was offered as a new home by the British government. They endured a miserable five-week voyage. After 18 months on Norfolk Island, 17 of the Pitcairn Islanders decided to return to their home island. Five years later 27 others returned to Pitcairn Island.

English is the official language of the Pitcairn Islands. *Pitkern* is a creole language derived from 18th century English, with elements of the Tahitian language. It is spoken as a first language by the population and is taught alongside standard English at the island's only school.



The fertile soil of the Pitcairn valleys produces a wide variety of fruits including bananas, papaya, pineapple, mango, watermelon, passion fruit, breadfruit, coconut, avocado, orange, mandarin, grapefruit, lemon and lime. Vegetables include sweet potatoes, carrots, sweet corn, tomatoes, taro, yams, peas and beans. Pitcairn Island, with its benign climate, is remarkably productive. Fish and spiny lobster are plentiful in the nearby seas.



The Pitcairn Islands currency is the New Zealand dollar. Sale of coins, stamps and handicrafts have been principal sources of revenue. Now, nearly 80% of island revenue comes from tourism. Since 2009, the Government has been operating the *MV Claymore II* as the island's only dedicated passenger/cargo vessel providing tourists with adventure tourism holidays to Pitcairn for three- or ten-day visits.

Tourists stay with local families and get to experience the island's history while contributing to the local economy. Each year approximately ten cruise ships call at the island for a few hours, generating income for the locals from the sale of souvenirs, landing fees and the stamping of passports. All Pitcairn Islanders are members of the Seventh Day Adventist church.



U.S. Bicentennial Issue (Scott 156-159) George Washington, Fletcher Christian, the Mayflower, the Bounty



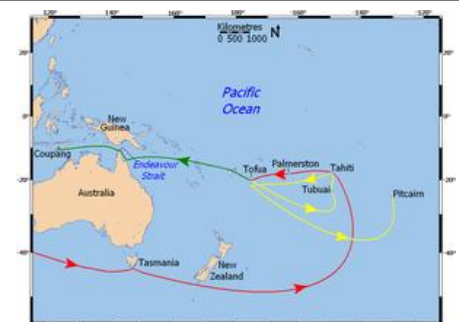
## Mutiny on the Bounty

All but two of the present 56 (or so) inhabitants of Pitcairn Island are descendents of a few of the 9 mutineers, 11 Tahitian women and 6 Tahitian men who came to the island aboard the *Bounty* in January 1790.

The short version of the mutiny story is told in these miniature sheets, Scott 320, 321 and 331. Five motion pictures and many books tell the tale of the famous mutiny.

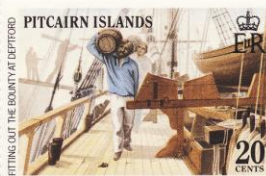
Following a period of tranquility, good fishing and farming, a conflict broke out between the mutineers and the Tahitian men. On September 20, 1793 Fletcher Christian and four of the mutineers were killed by the Tahitian men. All six of the Tahitian men were killed during the on-and-off fighting, some by the widows of the murdered mutineers and others by each other. Of the four remaining mutineers, only John Adams was alive in 1808 when contact with the outside world first occurred upon the arrival of the American trading ship *Topaz*.

Seaman William McCoy died in 1797/98 after a drunken fall. In 1799 Matthew Quintal was "executed" by John Adams and Ned Young after he threatened to kill everyone. Ned Young succumbed to asthma in 1800, the first man to die of natural causes.



Map showing *Bounty's* movements in the Pacific Ocean, 1788-1790

- Voyage of *Bounty* to Tahiti and to location of the mutiny, 28 April 1789
- Movements of *Bounty* after the mutiny, under Christian's command
- Course of Bligh's open-boat journey to Coupang



HM armed vessel 'Bounty' left Spithead for the South Seas on 23 December 1787, under the command of Lt William Bligh with Fletcher Christian as Master's Mate. Foiled in his attempts to round Cape Horn,

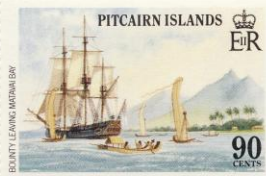
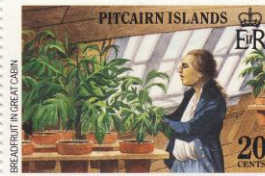
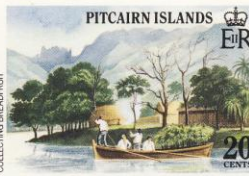
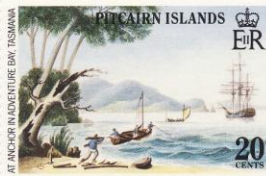


THE BOUNTY SETS SAIL FOR THE SOUTH SEAS (TAHITI) 23 DECEMBER 1787

### PITCAIRN ISLANDS BICENTENARY



Bligh turned and sailed east to the Pacific Ocean, stopping in Adventure Bay, Tasmania, for water and firewood. Once at Matavai Bay, Tahiti, the crew set to work to collect the breadfruit plants.



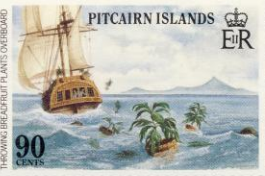
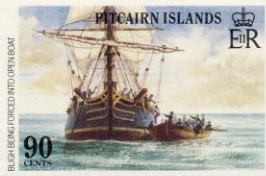
After a five month stay at Matavai Bay, Tahiti, where the crew collected breadfruit plants, HMAV 'Bounty' sailed for the West Indies on 4 April 1789. Twenty-four days later, near Tonga, some of the crew



### PITCAIRN ISLANDS BICENTENARY



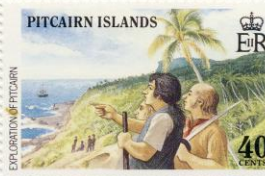
mutinied. Lieutenant Bligh, with eighteen seamen, was set adrift in an open boat and 'Bounty', with the mutineers led by Fletcher Christian, sailed off to find a safe refuge.



Having landed some of their compatriots in Tahiti the nine remaining mutineers and nineteen Polynesians set sail in search of a remote uninhabited refuge. On 15 January 1790 'Bounty' reached Pitcairn



### PITCAIRN ISLANDS BICENTENARY



Island which exceeded the mutineers' highest hopes; it proved an admirable hideaway. Stripped of her fittings 'Bounty' was burned eight days later and the new inhabitants went about settling their new island home.

