# The Journal of the Poster Stamp Collectors Club



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# The Kocher imprinted porte-timbres





Ken Eadie's article on page 4 discusses these issues. The cover above is unusual in having two of the four different color porte-timbres.

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# Walter's beauty...





Jaap van Dijk's article on Dutch stock stamps appears on page 5. The color scheme of all the stamps is the same. The color variants are definite shade differences rather than different colors.



Ken Eadie, being from Canada, would take his remembrance of winter with him as his "desert island" stamp.

Which would you take?

# The Kocher Porte-timbres of Switzerland (page 4)



Fig. 2

Fig. 3























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# President's Corner...Art Groten

Our next PSCC meeting will be during StampExpo400 in Albany, NY, September 25-27, 2009. I will try to arrange for a general meeting early Saturday to enable those who might need to leave early to attend. Over 200 dealers will be at the show, many of whom do not ordinarily do shows and might well have material for us. For those interested in exhibiting, go to their web site www.StampExpo400 for applications and information.

At the request of several members, we will now publish the names and vital statistics of new members unless otherwise directly not to. Those listed below have joined since last June. A simple membership roster will appear as an insert in our next Journal. These efforts will permit easier contact among members.

Two new poster stamp sheets have crossed my desk: one for the current exhibit at the National Postal Museum called "Alphabetilately A to Z" with an artistamp for each letter of the alphabet corresponding to a panel in the exhibit. Florex 2008 issued a sheet of 50 for the 100th birthday of the Model T. Our hobby continues to morph and survive, meeting the needs of the times.

Our webmaster, Don Bodow, reports that our web site is up and running at www.posterstampcc.org. Check it out and send him your comments.

As Publications Chair, Don informs me that many of Chares Kiddle's publications are on their way from GB and will be listed on our site when they arrive. He has copies of Vol. 1 & 2 of Stewart Gardiner's catalogues on hand. Vol 3, covering 1906–1910. should be ready in the first quarter of next year.

# **New members:**

- #L05 Library, Canadian Centre for Architecture, c/o Christine Léger, 1920 Baile St., Montrèal H3H 2S6 Quèbec email: cleger@CCA.QC.CA Library membership
- #113 John Wright, POB 238, Vandalia OH 45377 (dealer)
- #114 Greg Sutherland, POB 24231, Huber Heights, OH 45424-0231 email: gregfree@coax.net philatelic literature
- #115 Terence Hines, Box 629, Chappaqua, NY 10514-0629 email: terencehines@aol.com Old Home Week seals
- #116 L. Russell Cartwright, 1726W. North Shore Dr., South Bend, IN 46617-1059 19th century
- #117 Frederick L. Freeman, 7700 Executive Drive NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109-5114 Guam, Hawaii, Philippines; worldwide 'cats' of every kind including heraldic
- #118 Lewis Kaufman, POB 255, Kiamesha Lake, NY 12751 email: kerik1@aol.com collector/dealer
- #119 Charles L. Leath, 1221 Massachusetts Ave. NW #720, Washington, DC 20005 retired collector
- #120 Blane Walker, 320 E. 42nd St. #1604, New York, NY 10017-5965 email :blanewalker@yahoo.com Airline/airmail etiquettes
- #121 Frans Jansen, 1st Sweelinckstraat 46, Den Haag, 2517 GE, The Netherlands email: curiosator.jansen@wanadoo.nl History of poster stamps
- #122 Mike McBride, POB 270417, Louisville, CO 80027 email: mikemcbride@q.com US specialties as listed in Springer
- #123 Peter-Hannes Lehmann, Husumer Str.18, D-20251 Hamburg, Germany email :peterhanneslehmann@gmail.com Germany 1900-1945, Judaica in Nazi era, US wild west, blacks, Japonica, newspaper/magazine/press
- #124 Aaron W. Harper, 1435 Posada, Newport Beach, CA 92660 email: awharper888@gmail.co

# From the Editor...Art Groten

I have had some gratifying responses to my call for articles from our membership. Keep them coming! We're not quite ready to expand to 16 pages.

Paul Lagueux points out the similarity between the Olympia stamp shown in #8 and the work of Deco master, Erte.

# Report of the Cataloging Committee...Dick Warren

In Journals #1,2 & 3 there was discussion of cataloging efforts within the hobby. I reported on early proposals to use computer technology and defined my own database project to provide images, with descriptive data in English, of worldwide Dated Event Poster Stamps, encompassing all periods at least into the 1940's (the 'DEPS' project).

At the same time, under the leadership of Stewart Gardiner, a printed catalog revision of the old C&R catalog of 1914 had begun. Two sections are already produced for dated event stamps through 1905. The 1906-10 volume is nearly complete with the help of many. These catalogues are, or will be, available through the Club.

Meanwhile, progress on the DEPS database has continued. Using technology properly we should be able to search and sort data and images of each recorded stamp so that a user can quickly find, identify, and evaluate any example either by its text, its image, or by a keyword description of its style, theme or topic, or to browse quickly through relevant text or a gallery of images. In this way, one can easily create one's own. This capability is available to anyone with a computer and internet connection without added cost.

Since the system design and most of the data entry has been a personal project, it has been a slow haul. Many of you who have been tracking my progress have been saying "never mind if it's not perfect, or the data needs correcting, or . . . . just let us see what you have and see how we can help." In reply, here is what is now available: I have a database with a number of examples of Dated Event stamps, developed using FileMakerPro and its Web Publishing component, hosted by a Filemaker site. I have developed a simple web-page using iWeb with URL of: http://web.me.com/dickwarren. My project, as I am writing this, is that I am currently working on integrating the two sites. The final public web address should be CinderellaList.com and there will be a link to it from our own PSCC web site at http://www.posterstampcc.org/

Many of you may be thinking "why do we need two approaches to the same thing. . . we love our printed catalogs. . .etc." I love printed catalogs too but they are increasingly expensive and they are static, often out of date when printed. It is my belief that the future expansion of our knowledge of poster stamps, cinderellas, and other ephemera will be developed and shared digitally, as it already is, informally.

I invite PSCC members to look at the work-in-progress. There is also a Blog on the web page that allows for your comments or you can email me or mail your comments. Ultimately, the success of this project depends on the quality and completeness of the data

- and that is where every member can play an important role and be a part of the final product. This is not just about Dated Event stamps. It is about the future approach to publishing of catalog data and so forth.

# A Word from Walter...Walter Schmidt

We know from past auction sales that some collectors specialize in collecting poster stamps that portray typewriters. Recently a previously unknown poster stamp was discovered that was designed by Emil Deutsch. [A color image is on the inside front cover.] We thought that we would pass this information along just in case the gods on Mount Olympus blessed you and you have a copy of it in your collection. As most of us have learned, Greek gods are not overly generous with their blessings!

As follow-up to my comments in Vol. 2, #1 & #3, I can now show an image of the 1933 Beauvais Jeanne Hachette stamp, at right.





#### Query

Peter-Hannes Lehmann, a new member, sent the stamp at the left which commemorates the 1848 formation of the Swiss Confederation. It is an embossed stamp, 52 mm. in diameter and not a cut-out from stationery. The question is: is it an early label or a newer one, the date merely reflecting a historical reality? Short of finding it on dated document or cover I don't see how we can make a definite statement. Does anyone have any other thoughts?

Richard Sitron asks if anyone knows anything about the Florida stamp at the right. It seems political but for whom or what?



# A lovely Hohlwein cover

Years ago I bought the cover to the right primarily for the beautifully tied 1936 Olympic label designed by Ludwig Hohlwein. It is most unusual to find such poster stamps placed on the front of a cover.

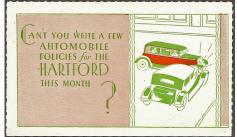
In looking for material for an article I came across the cover and, in describing it, looked at the return address. To my amazement, it had been sent by Dr. Max Kronstein, the doyen of pioneer aerophilately. But, more importantly, the original letter was enclosed, on airmail paper so thin I never realized it was there.



Although the cover left Frankfurt on 5/1, he post-dated the letter to 5/5, the day the Hindenburg left Friedrichshafen on her maiden transatlantic flight. He offered the cover to President Leech in remembrance of this first flight and in honor of TIPEX, the International Exhibition being held in New York (note its label as well on the cover's right).

# Hartford addendum:

Since the last issue, the three stamps below have surfaced, bringing the total to nine, so far, for this set. The lovely golf topical is a particularly welcome addition.







# The Kocher Porte-timbres of Switzerland...Ken Fadie

The Kocher Stamps of Switzerland will be 100 years old in June 1909 and they retain their unique place in the advertising and philatelic worlds. Their fore-runners go back to at least the 1870's in the form of advertisements on envelopes and cards that made a frame in the upper right hand corner to surround the postage stamp (ad collars).

While the use of the printed envelopes etc. continued, some advertisers gained the same effect by printing what are called porte-timbres, poster stamps that were designed to have a postage stamp affixed onto the design and the assembly placed on the envelope.

Looking at envelopes bearing porte-timbres, one is struck by how clever an advertising idea this was (Fig. 1 below, where the porte-timbre is in red, and outside front cover). The simplest of designs, often just a text message, is turned into an eye-catcher by the addition of a postage stamp which had to be provided anyway.

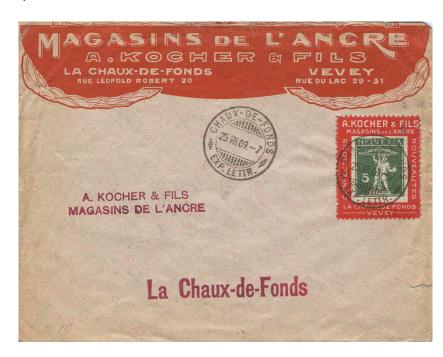
In October 1907 the Swiss Post Office introduced Private Postal Stationery by allowing companies to send quantities of their commercial envelopes, cards and wrappers upon which the Federal Mint would print the requested value of the current stamps.

In mid-1909, A. Kocher & Fils of La Chaux de Fonds and Vevey Switzerland ordered porte-timbres from an unknown printer and sent 16000 of them to the Federal Mint to have postage stamps imprinted on them as per the 1907 decree. The 16000 porte-timbres were in 4 colors 4000 of each violet, blue, green and red.

The postage stamp imprints used to turn the 16000 Kocher porte-timbres into ~16000 Kocher postage stamps were the new 1909 Tell Boy 2¢ bistre, 500 of each color frame; the Tell Boy 5¢ green, 3000 of each color; and the 10¢ Helvetia red, 500 of each color frame (Fig. 2, inside front cover). The stamps seem to have been imprinted one by one as the placement of the stamp in the frame varies considerably and a few examples of se-tenant pairs of porte-timbres with different postage stamp imprints are known.

It would appear that many of the 2¢ stamps were used on printed matter mailings shortly after the stamps were received and as a result the 2¢ version is much rarer, whether mint, used or on cover than the other values. When the Post Office realized there had been a misinterpretation of the Decree of 1907, i.e. placing the postage imprint on an incomplete envelope, they refused any similar requests from other companies.

Kocher evidently had a few sheets remaining after sending the 16000 to the Mint and, so, blank center ("albino"} porte-timbres are known for 3 of the 4 colors (Fig. 3, inside front cover). The fourth color presumably exists. While covers or used examples with a regular postage stamp applied could easily exist, I have never seen or heard of one.



I suspect that the stamps remained valid for postage until Dec. 31, 1942 when they would have been demonetized along with the ordinary issues of the same designs.

[Ed. This content of this article raises the question of whether porte-timbres fall into the category of poster stamps. To the extent that, in this case, they are stamp-like labels meant to promote a company, it seems reasonable that they should. Does anyone disagree?]

# Early Dutch Stock Poster Stamps...Jaap van Dijk

A number of years ago I was fortunate enough to obtain a group of stamps from a woman whose grandfather had collected them when they came out in the early twentieth century. I have never seen any others which is not surprising as the towns represented are quite small and poster stamps tended to remain fairly local in distribution.

These stock stamps were sold by traveling salesmen who would take orders from small businesses that could not afford to print their own special stamps. Space was left to print the firm's name. All the stamps I have seen come from small towns, which makes sense. Six of the 8 towns in the group are from the middle of the country, Arnhem, Bussum, Doetinchem, Hilversum, Nijmegen and Zutphen. Heerlen is in the south and Noordwijk on the west coast.

I have 25 different designs, forming the largest group in the collection. They were made for A. v. d. Horst in Hilversum. On the inside front cover is an example of the typical color scheme of the stamps. There are two color variants as well. The first 25 stamps are the Horst stamps, to show the different designs. Following them, in alphabeltical order of town, are the rest. Note the typographical differences in the imprints.

Note the care that was made in preparing the stock designs such that the person or persons in the image are clearly pointing to or otherwise directing your attention to the message.

It is, of course, impossible to say whether 25 comprises the complete "set" and any member having other designs or imprints is asked to contact me at jacob.dijk@planet.nl































































































See next page for text

# Poster Stamps from the Phenix Label Company of Kansas City: Part III...Dick Warren

Continuing the exploration of poster stamps issued by Phenix [see Vol. I, # 4) and Vol. II, # 1] here are more additions to the collection. There were 48 stamps illustrated in Parts I & II of this article. I will refer to the stamps in the left panel, starting at the top left with #49 through 60, and on the final panel with numbers 61 through 69.

These numbers are without significance, except for tracking the stamps in this article, since several of the illustrated stamps are unqualified to be Phenix products and several remain problematic. That said, the numbers 49–60 all contain the Phenix inscription and are legitimate additions to the collection. My thanks to those of you who have provided them. Stamp #49, Des Moines expo of Feb 10–13, 1925, is now the earliest Phenix item proven by its imprint. All are in the characteristic orange and black.

In the last panel #61-64 are typical Phenix examples in color, size and style, lacking only the inscription. But #65 from Wisconsin Rapids is a likely plagiarism, with a somewhat larger image size, rounded corners and text letters with serifs and the use of script.

By itself, the use of scripted text is not a disqualifying mark, since script appeared on Phenix stamps by the early 1930's. The radio station WSB, Atlanta, #29 in part II, is a good example of a stamp that repeated the advertiser's trademarks. A great many examples can be found in the company style book, of which a sample page appeared in part II.

#66 & 67 are great stamps from the era, but unlikely Phenix productions. Notice how these three, including #65. have broader white margins all around. But the final two, #68 & 69 are well qualified Phenix products in size and style and from a client, B.Y.P.U. of A., for whom Phenix has done many earlier items. Both of these are in yellow and black, colors not often associated with Phenix, but comparable to #37-39 which we have seen from part II.

This has become in interesting challenge and a view into the advertising styles and techniques of the period. It is always a pleasure to uncover more. We know they once existed. Please keep me posted on what you see at dickw3@cox.net.

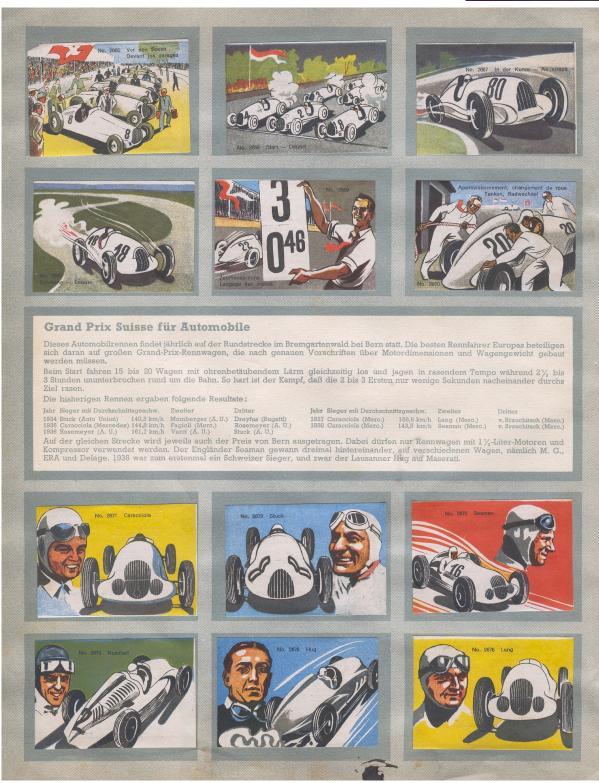
#49-57 are at the right; #58-69 are on the previous page.



# 1938 Swiss Grand Prix...Ken Eadie

Chocolat Lindt & Springli of Kilchberg issued several thousand poster stamps in sets of 12 (sometimes 24) along with albums to put them in. The set below was most likely included in their Volume 9 for 1938-39. The album cost SwF. 1. For SwF. 6 worth of product wrappings one could obtain a set of 12 stamps. To the right is an "official" poster stamp for the Grand Prix.





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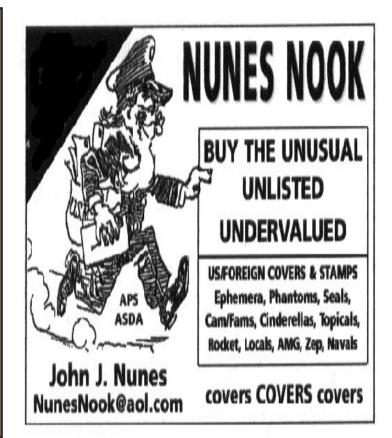
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# New Poster Stamp Catalogues

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# Zeppelin Catalogue Addenda and Corregienda...Charles Kiddle

# POSTER STAMPS GERMAN AVIATION: 'ZEPPELINS'

One of the benefits of publishing a catalogue is that collectors can look through their collections and, as a result, are able to add to the information in the catalogue.







Cat. No. R	Rarity	Cat. No. R	Rarity	Cat. No. R	Rarity
ZP.14	500	E3b	500	MZ.7A	40

### Notes:

- 1. ZP.14 is detailed in the text but no image was available;
- 2. E3b is illustrated in the catalogue but the red balloon is very feint;
- 3. MZ.7A is an addition.







Cat. No. R	Rarity	Cat. No. R	Rarity	Cat. No. R	Rarity
ZP.15A	60	SZ.18	150	VZ.1I	100

### Notes:

- 1. ZP.15A. a new variant of SZ.15;
- 2. SZ.18. a new addition;
- 3. VZ.11 an imperf. proof with printer's marks : the colour of the sky is grey-blue.

# **TEXT**

Page 136: 'Notes 1.' third line 'flich' should be 'lich'.

Page 140 : 'Note 2.' third line - replace 'Besten' with 'Beyer'. Page 140 : 'Note 6'. Second line '12' should be '14'.

Page 218: add ', D' after 'C' at 'code h'.

As the months go by there will be other additions and details will be sent to all buyers of the Zeppelin catalogue.

# POSTER STAMPS GERMAN AVIATION: 'ZEPPELINS'

# Page 106:

GZ.1 add suffix: 'a' = cream paper; 'b' = green paper; 'c' = pink paper.

Page 154 & Page 158: tables

'y' now applies to each detailed trader ('a' - 'x') / Cat. No. (''DE.7' to 'DE.12') combination.

Page 240 : add BA.26

'a' = blue text at top; 'b' = red text at top: 'Rarity' of each 30: 'a' is illustrated below.



Page 246: 'AU.1' and 'AU.2' added colour combination.

SECTION 'C' - OTHER POSTER STAMPS : AUSTRIA (AU)

As the Catalogue title indicates, the subject of this catalogue is 'GERMAN AVIATION: 'ZEPPELINS". However, for English speaking collectors of poster stamps, those having German text may, understandably, be taken as having been issued in Germany. However, some were issued in Austria and this will not be immediately obvious. Therefore, this Section has been added as an aid to identification.

Cat. N°	Rarity	Cat. N°	Rarity	Cat. N°	Rarity
AU.1a	40	AU.1b	40	AU.2b	40
AU.1c	40	AU.1cl	80	AU.3a	40
AU.4	20	AU.5	60	AU.6	80
AU.7	40	AU.8	40	[SV.13dl]	80
AU.9I	20	AU.10I	20		

#### Notes:

1. AU.1 and AU.2 - the colours are as follows:

'a' = orange border, black centre;

'b' = green border, black centre;

'c' = violet border, 'green / black centre;

'd' = mauve border, blue centre.

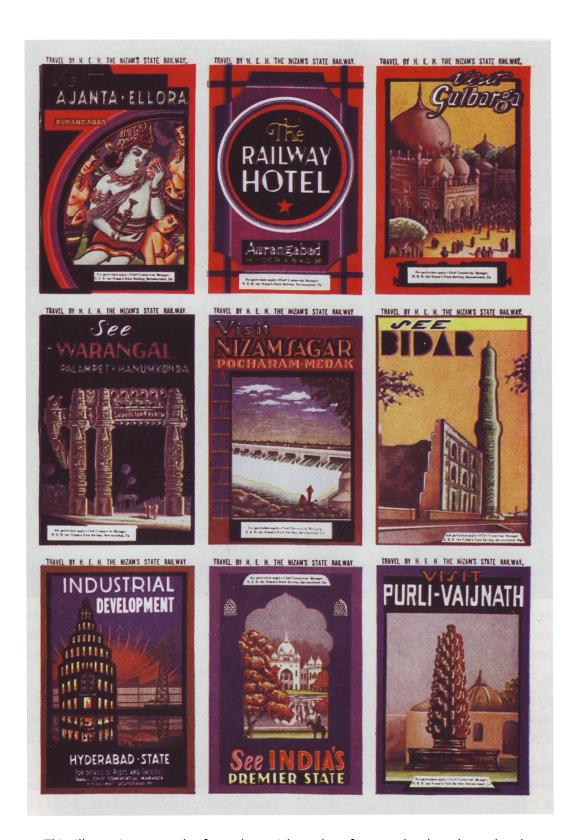
- 2. AU.1b and AU.2b are shown as a horizontal pair: it is likely that all could be collected as pairs 'Rarity' 80 for a pair;
- 3. AU.1cl i.e. 'imperforate' has been seen and the other combinations of colours and designs must exist add suffix 'l'.

# **Indian Railway Promotional Labels**

Member W.J. Jansse writes that Chris Bartlett, in a recent issue of the Railway Philatelic Group's periodical wrote a 2-page chapter on Indian Railway Publicity Labels. They are shown on here and on the back cover. I have never seen them; they must be rare. Those on this page were made in the late 1920's for the Indian State Railway, perhaps as a supplement to their magazine. The second set was prepared for the Hyderabad State Railway and were illustrated in their 1938 annual report wherein they were described as "stickers used as matchbox labels and letter seals."

This is the first reference I have ever seen equating what we call poster stamps with matchbox labels and suggests that the end user did not concern themselves with such arbitrary distinctions as collectors like to make.





This illustration was take from the article and, unfortunately, doesn't render the captions legible. With the Independence of India in 1948, the Feudatory States were merged into the country.