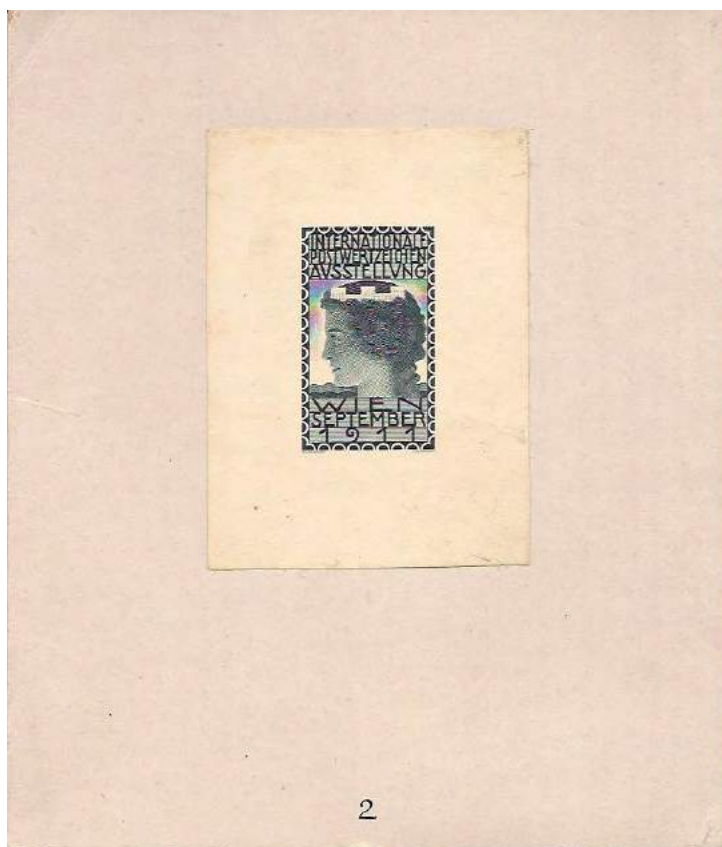


# The Journal of the Poster Stamp Collectors Club



April 2012  
Whole # 24

This die proof of Kolomon Moser's poster stamp for the 1911 Vienna Philatelic Exhibition is from the personal archive of the Austrian master engraver, Ferdinand Schirnbock. See the article on his work on pp. 5-6.



APS #255.

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## Barcelona Labor Stamps, 1914

In 1914, the printers of Barcelona were locked out of their jobs. A number of Catalan artists designed these stamps to help raise money to support them during their forced "vacation." They were printed by the Oliva Press which is still in existence today. The designs are quite remarkable and reflect the great breadth of Catalan artistic styles.



## **PSCC Officers & Directors Listing**

Art Groten – President & Journal Editor – PO Box 30, Fishkill, NY 12524

(artgroten@optonline.net)

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(charleskiddle@btconnect.com)

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(mr.science@sbcglobal.net)

Honorary Vice-Presidents: Esbjorn Janson, Francis Kiddle, Walter Schmidt

International Representatives: Karoly Balazs (Hungary), Eduardo Escalada-Goicoechea (Spain), Dr. Richard Grosse (France), Mrs. S. Petersson (Denmark), Jacob A. van Dijk (Netherlands)

## **President's Corner**

### **Details of our next PSCC Meeting**

We will be meeting at Pipex in Portland, OR, May 11-13, 2012. Show information is available on their website: [www.pipex.org](http://www.pipex.org). The hotel is the Double Tree by Hilton at 1000 NE Multnomah St, phone 1-503-281-6111. Ask for special Pipex rates. We will have a PSCC dinner at Pastini Pasteria, about a 10-minute walk from the hotel, on Friday evening at 7 PM. **Please advise if you plan to attend.** We have a meeting on Saturday morning at 9 AM followed with a talk by Nick Follansbee.

Despite promises, no poster stamp dealer has signed up for the bourse. I have asked Michael Dixon to send a notice to all dealers to bring their cinderella and poster stamp material, material they don't normally bring. To give us all the opportunity to add to our collections, I have arranged that we have a room Saturday afternoon where we can have a big sell/swap meet among ourselves. So bring whatever you'd like to offer to fellow members. Charles Kiddle asks that anyone who has particular topical or other wants contact him so he can bring appropriate items from his stock. His email is: [charleskiddle@btconnect.com](mailto:charleskiddle@btconnect.com)

### **The Journal is available electronically!**

Dick Warren has done a yeoman's job on our new website. In this dues renewal cycle, we have offered a second type of membership for those who wish only an electronic version of the Journal. There are two main reasons: 1) it saves the Club a lot of money in printing costs and even more importantly 2) it permits members to have the Journal in full color. This issue is a prime example of the value of full color. There are many illustrations and all are far more compelling in color. If you have not made that choice for this year, seriously consider it for next. The electronic rate is \$15 per year anywhere in the world.

### **From the Editor**

### **Editor Needed**

I have been Editor since the inception of PSCC and it is time to pass the baton. It is not an difficult task; all the templates are ready and there is a nice archive of material to get started. This is a serious matter as our Club cannot continue to function without a Journal. Now that we are offering an on-line version that we expect to attract new members, it is more important than ever to keep publishing.

### **PSCC Auction**

We had hoped to have an auction in each issue of the Journal but technical glitches prevent that at this time. We expect they will be sorted out by the next issue.

### **Cataloguing Committee**

The project for an interactive database of Dated Event Poster Stamps (DEPS) proceeds slowly with the work of member Steve Greiczek. Over the next few weeks we will be making significant changes in the way the web site is hosted, mostly behind the scene, but at times interrupting your access to the database. Larger design changes are being considered but will be personally expensive. Comments are welcome, sent to [dickw3@gmail.com](mailto:dickw3@gmail.com). You can access the DEPS database through [www.posterstamplist.com](http://www.posterstamplist.com)

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

New members:

- #156: C. Stetson Thomas, Jr., P.O. Box 599, Middleboro, MA 02346 [stetthomas@comcast.net](mailto:stetthomas@comcast.net) Collector/Dealer  
#157: Benjamin L. Clark, 318 11th Ave. SW, Sidney, MT 59270. [benjaminclark@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminclark@gmail.com). The book trades  
#158: Dr. Marion Rollings, 101 New Amwell Rd., Hillsborough, NJ 08844. [DrMarionRollings@yahoo.com](mailto:DrMarionRollings@yahoo.com).  
Christmas, WW I & WW II  
#159: Ann E. Adams, 330-½ W. Clinton St., Napoleon, OH 43545, Collects U.S. & Canada  
#160: James R. Simon, 505 Butternut Dr., Garland, TX 75044 [jrsim2@verizon.net](mailto:jrsim2@verizon.net). Collects Austro-Hungary,  
Czech, Poland, Germany & most S. Europe from France to Italy to Russia

New website: #125 Guenter Mairhoermann: [www.reklamemarken.biz](http://www.reklamemarken.biz)

Resigned: Chip Blumberg (#001), Bala Cynwyd, PA

### Call for nominations

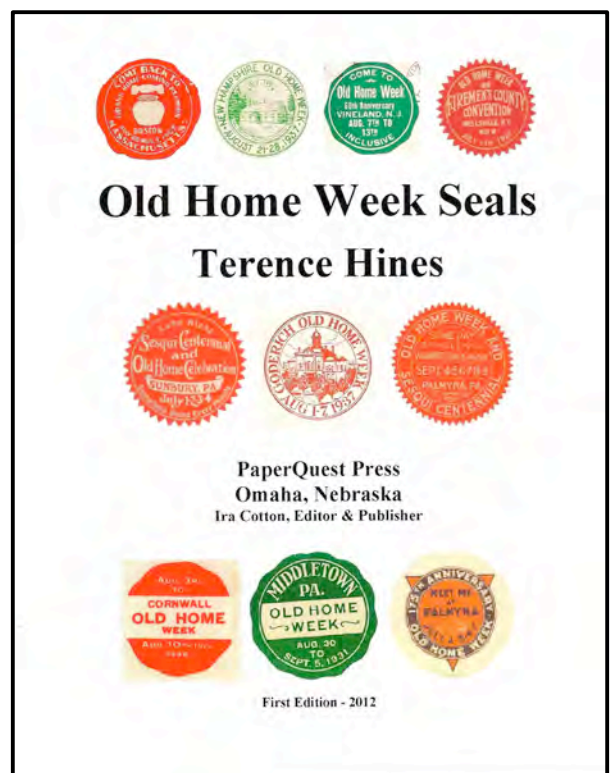
It is time to nominate our Board members. Please send any nominations to Dick Warren. Our current Board is listed at the top of page 1. I believe it is time for the Club to split the Secretary and Treasurer's jobs so we will be looking for nominees for those posts. You may nominate anyone who is a member in good standing, including yourself. In addition to elected posts, we are in need of an Auction Manager and a Publications Manager. I understand we are all busy but these are not onerous tasks and many of us doing smaller tasks makes for good continuity.

### A New Book: Old Home Week Seals

Member Terence Hines has printed his First Edition (2012) of the Old Home Week Seals, a particular niche of the poster stamp collecting field of the US and Canada. In a work of careful scholarship, Terry has defined his scope of work and has provided the historic and cultural significance of the effort, beginning in New Hampshire in 1899, to encourage local and regional pride as an antidote to declining populations and economic slowdown, especially in the Northeastern region.

Each listing is assigned a unique catalog number, alphabetically by state and locality within the state. Valuations are not provided "because there is just too little information to assign prices or scarcity ratings". The author appeals to readers to provide information, new discoveries or comments that could lead to a second edition, perhaps to enlarge the scope of the subject adding variations of the term 'Old Home Week'. By intent, this first effort is confined to the seals (labels or stamps) that follow the original promotional rationale of the New Hampshire issues. Related ephemera is acknowledged and illustrated to provide further interest beyond the poster stamp collecting community.

Printed in collaboration with Ira Cotton, Editor, Founder and Publisher of the Paper Quest Press using quality stock, a glossy paper cover and saddle stapled. 44 pages with color images, often enlarged. This edition is available from Paper Quest Press, 9939 Broadmoor Rd., Omaha, NE 68114. Price \$23.95 plus \$5 shipping.



## A Word from Walter...Walter Schmidt

Some years ago an auction was held in Bournemouth, England that offered a very large lot of unique Delandre material for sale. Nearly every lot contained a number of hand painted vignettes or previously unknown items. Everything was sold. Described in that auction was a separate lot containing some Australian vignettes. Alas, some unknown person bought this lot. It will ever be a source of persistent irritation for me to know that someone out in collector-land probably has unique Australian issues that I may never see. Can anyone help put me out of my misery?

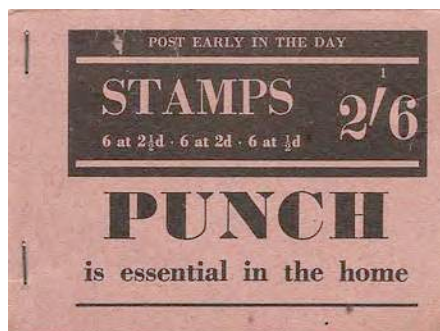
In the meantime, here are some of the known Delandre Australian stamps.



## Len Deighton's "SS-GB"...

In 1978, Len Deighton, the well-known British novelist, wrote an alternative history story about the aftermath of a German occupation of Great Britain during WWII.

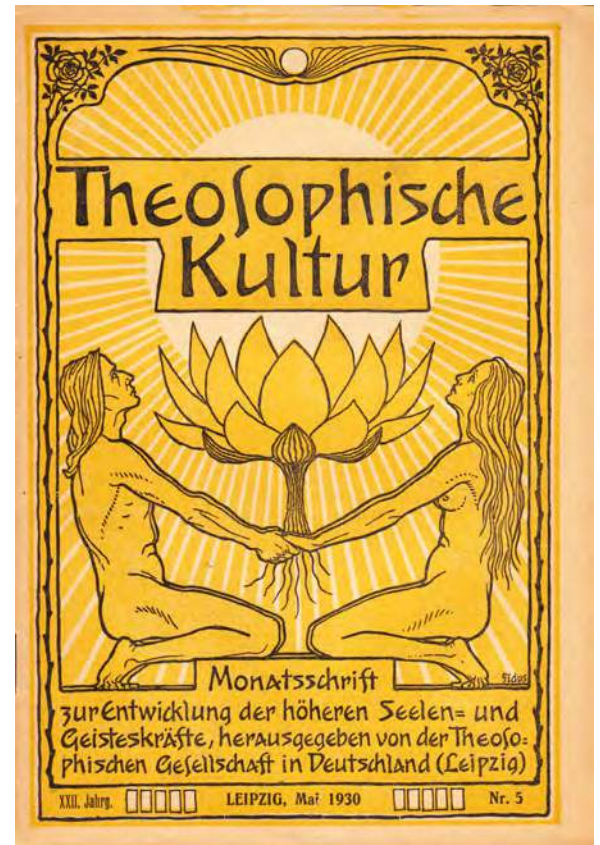
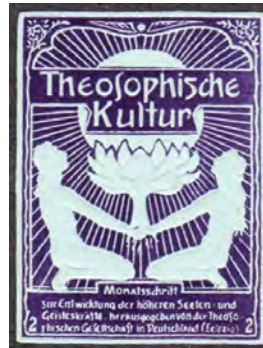
What is little known is that, as part of the promotion for the book, a booklet of "stamps" was released which included the usual blurb about the book on the covers and several booklet panes of stamps with Hitler's head replacing the King's. Has anyone ever seen one of these on cover?



## Theosophy...

From Wikipedia we learn that "Theosophy broadly explores questions of metaphysics, especially questions within the areas of epistemology, mind, religion and the sciences. The theosophist's premise is that knowledge must come from both external and internal sources, and requires both an existence and acknowledgement of internal and scientific truths. Both of these truths are given equal footing. Each individual theosophist's interests and questions are dynamic due to this dual focus on internalism and externalism. Another central interest is the application and use of knowledge for the betterment of both humanity and the individual."

The Theosophy Society was founded in 1908 and produced a monthly Journal. The design of both their cover and poster stamp is by Hugo Höppener.



## Now THIS is a poster stamp!

The cancellation informs us that this fabulous poster stamp was designed around 1925. It has classic French Art Deco styling and, while not signed, has similarity to other images by Rene Vincent.



## The Cinderellas of Ferdinand Schirnbock, Master Engraver...Art Groten

Almost everyone knows who Czeslaw Slania was: perhaps the finest engraver of stamps in the latter half of the 20th century. He produced glorious engravings for the stamps of Scandinavia, Monaco, Poland, the U.S. and other countries.

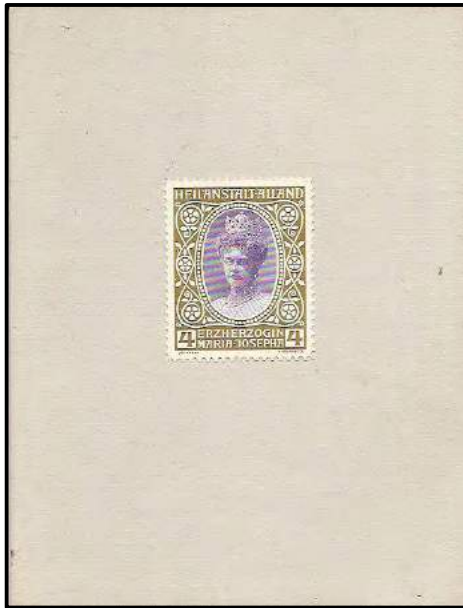
But who would hold that honor for the first half of the 20th century? My vote is for Ferdinand Schirnbock, master engraver for the Staatsdruckerei (State Printing Office) of Austria, who produced many of their finest stamps between 1906 and 1930, the year of his death. Below is a 1929 photo of he and his wife in the countryside near Vienna.

In addition to his work for Austria, he created the dies for stamps of Argentina, Bavaria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Siam, Sweden, Turkey and Vatican City. His work included bank notes, stock certificate vignettes and other similar engravings.

As near as I can tell, he has not received the same degree of coverage in the philatelic press as Slania and that seems odd. Two major articles appeared in the Essay-Proof Journal (whole numbers 75 and 131) outlining the known proofs of his work. He is casually mentioned as the engraver in listings of the various countries' stamps. But I can find little about the importance of his place in the design process.

Of particular interest to us is that, in addition to postage stamps, Schirnbock also engraved a number of Austrian Cinderellas, apparently all between c. 1908 and 1911. The earliest of the five known designs was issued in 1908 by the Society to Help Combat Tuberculosis in Childhood, Vienna. It depicts Princess Elizabeth. This label, as were the next three, were all designed by Joseph Urban, a prominent member of the Wiener Werkstatte. To the right is a color die proof from the Schirnbock Estate. 18 colors are known. A smaller version, without the lettering, appeared in 1911, in 4 colors. The earlier label was overprinted in Hungary in 1932. (below)





In 1909, Schirnbock and Urban produced an anti-TB charity label for the Alland Hospital, depicting Archduchess Maria Josepha. It is known in 10 colors with an imprint on the reverse (rarely found inverted). In 1914, it was reissued with a different imprint (in 5 colors) or without an imprint entirely (in 5 different colors). 8 imperforate color trials were made at the same time. It is a complex issue. A finished proof on card from the Schirnbock Estate is to the left. A 1911 cover to Canada with the label nicely tied appears below.

The other two Schirnbock/Urban collaborations appeared about 1910. One honors John III Sobieski, the Polish King who defeated the Ottoman Turks in the Battle of Vienna, 1683 and died in 1696. I know of 6 colors. The other honors Johann Strauss Jr., the opening notes of his Blue Danube Waltz above his portrait. Again, I know of 6 colors.



But his Cinderella masterpiece is the wonderful poster stamp he created working with one of the finest graphic designers of his time, Kolomon Moser, doyen of the Austrian Secessionists. It was for the 1911 International Stamp Exhibition in Vienna. He and Moser had worked together before to produce first the Bosnian set of 1906, then the Austrian Jubilee set of 1908 (and its many variants) and the similar Liechtenstein set in 1912.

The 1911 WIPA set is known in 11 colors. Eight of them have been applied to a postcard from the exhibition to Hungary to the right. The die proof on the front cover also comes from the Schirnbock Estate.

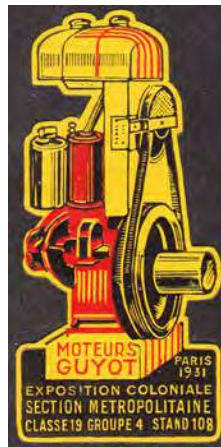
I hope this brief look at one of the great stamp engravers will prompt further study. I suspect there are other such Schirnbock labels. Does anyone know of any?





## Some Interesting Exhibition Poster Stamps...Art Groten

In addition to the poster stamps issued by the organizing committees, booth holders or others often had stamps made. There are many of them. Below are a few of the more interesting ones I have found over the years. They are self-explanatory. There are examples from Belgium 1930 Liege Exposition France 1931 Paris Colonial Exposition and 1937 Paris International; Germany 1911 Dresden Hygiene Fair, Great Britain 1911 Festival of Empire & 1938 Empire Exhibition in Scotland; 1929 Barcelona International Exposition and 1904 St. Louis (U.S.) Exposition. The latter three, previously unknown, are by Adolph Selige, the same man who produced the set of 6 that includes the Mucha design.





## The Avenue Press, London, Makers of Poster Stamps

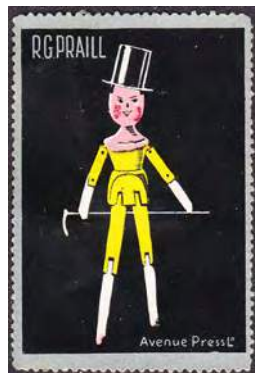
The Avenue Press in London was active at least as early as 1912 and is still in existence. It is probably best known for the WWI posters of Frank Brangwyn and the many London Transport and other British Rail posters of the 1930–40s. There were also publishers of magazines such as "The Boy's Own Annual"; books seem to be their predominant business today. I can find little detailed information about them. Perhaps one of our members can enlighten us. In addition to Brangwyn, they printed posters by Tom Purvis and Reginald G. Prail whose designs are quite distinctive.

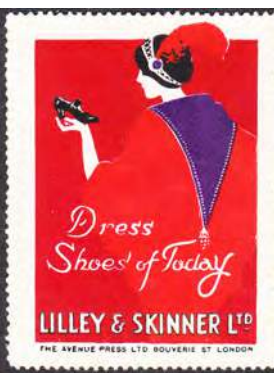
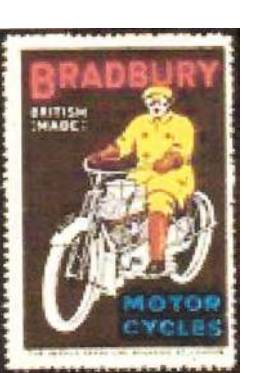
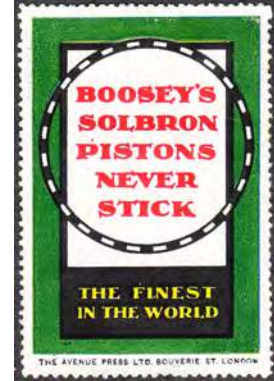
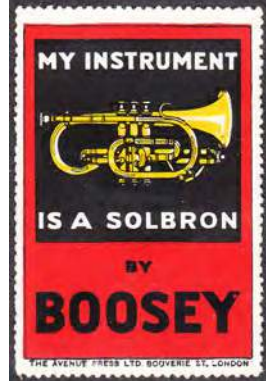
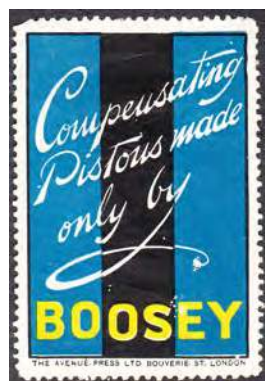
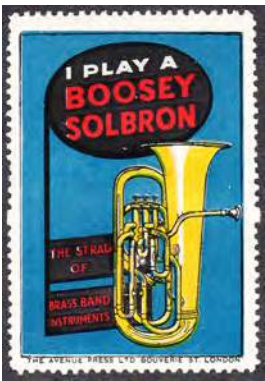
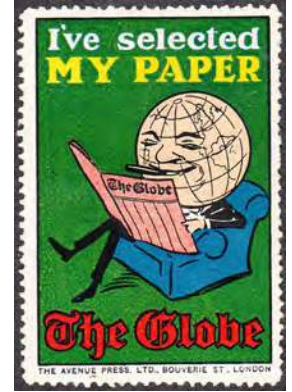
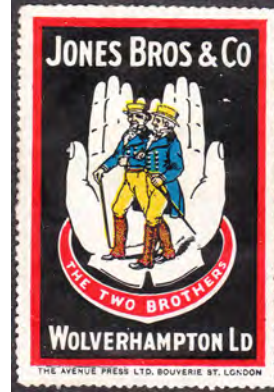
There are two addresses on the stamps: Bouverie St., London and 55–56–57 Drury Lane, London. I believe they moved to Drury Lane from Bouverie St. but can't be certain as the stamps are not dated. I make the supposition based on style.

What follows is a compendium of the various poster stamps made by The Avenue Press. I start with Brangwyn's WWI issues which include two series of 6 stamps depicting images of war (the color of the lettering is difficult to reproduce) and a third for the Daily Mail and Evening News Funds. Next is a set by Edmund Dulac, also for the newspaper Funds. A long series of advertising stamps are then shown beginning with those by Prail which notes only London as the address; then a group with Bouverie St. in the imprint followed by the Tom Purvis design with the Drury Lane address. Note that two in the final row are slightly wider, a different format.

Anyone who knows of more Avenue Press stamps, please send scans for a future follow-up article.







## Poster Stamp Literature available through the Club

The following catalogs by Charles Kiddle can be obtained through the Club at a member's discount of 10%.  
**US\$ prices are post free SURFACE MAIL.**

- Trains (an introduction to poster stamps)*** (1999). This 40 page catalog was produced in conjunction with the UK's TRAINS 1999 International Stamp Exhibition at Wembley. The catalog includes 23 full color pages of 100s of poster stamps, in full size, depicting trains or a trains related topic. Price \$40.00
- Ludwig Hohlwein the poster stamps*** (1999). This is a 64 A4 page, perfect bound, full color catalog, illustrating in full size, the known 192 poster stamps of the "king of posters". Each has a translation of the text in English and each has a 'Rarity' indicated. It is THE definitive work of this aspect of the most famous of all the German graphic artists. Price \$50.00
- The poster stamps of the Paris Universal Exposition 1900*** (2000). Every known poster stamp is identified and illustrated in color. 155+ A4 pages, 60+ in full color. All poster stamps are illustrated in full size. Price \$90.00
- Tennis: the poster stamps*** (2000). Every known poster stamp is identified and illustrated at full size and in color (36 pages). Price \$50.00
- Bicycles (of the World excluding Germany) the poster stamps*** (2001). Every poster stamp is identified and illustrated at full size & in color. 72 A4 pages, 62 in color. Price \$85.00
- Bicycles (Germany) the poster stamps*** (2001). Every poster stamp is identified and illustrated at full size & in color. 60 A4 pages, 54 in color. Price \$80.00
- Kurt Böttcher the poster stamps 1912 - 1914*** (2001). Every **non ship** poster stamp is detailed & illustrated at full size & in color. 75 A4 pages, 51 in color. Price \$86.00 for the **TWO VOLUMES**
- Kurt Böttcher SHIPS poster stamps (1912 - 1914)*** (2001). Every poster stamp is identified and illustrated at full size & in color. 66 A4 pages, 29 in color.
- Cars (Germany)*** (2002). Every poster stamp illustrated at full size & in color. 123 pages, 108 in color. Price \$80.00
- Cars (World) except Germany & the USA*** (2003). Every poster stamp is at full size & in color. Price \$130.00 for the **TWO VOLUMES**  
***Volume I Austria to Holland*** 74 pages, 61 in color  
***Volume II Italy to UK, etc. including a Germany 'update'*** 80 pages, 67 in color
- Cars World 2011*** 104 pages in color (never before published poster stamps). Price \$74.00
- Andreasen & Lachmann - the numbered poster stamps - 1 - 299; 380 - 599; 1,000 - 1,059*** (2003). Every poster stamp is identified and at full size & in color. 140+ A4 pages, 65 in color.
- Andreasen & Lachmann - the numbered 'Coats of Arms' poster stamps - 300 - 379*** (2003). Every poster stamp is identified & is at full size & in color. 60 A4 pages, 20 in color. Price \$100.00 for the **TWO VOLUMES**
- The Top Twenty Graphic Artists*** (2003) - includes 2004 Addendum. Every poster stamp is identified and illustrated at full size & in color.  
***Volume I Bernard to Lübbert, includes a Hohlwein 'update'*** 155 pages, 71 in color  
***Volume II Maga to Wolff*** 146 pages, 64 in color. Price \$190.00 for the **TWO VOLUMES**
- The World's Fair : St Louis 1904*** (2003) 85 pages, 47 in color. Price \$70.00
- Photography (not cinema)*** (2004) 159 pages, 93 in color. Price \$90.00.
- German Aviation: German Aircraft*** (2007) 265 pages 126 in color. Price \$130.00.
- German Aviation: 'Zeppelins'*** (2007) 253 pages 147 in color. Price \$130.00
- Letters Making Words Volume I*** (2008) 227 pages, 158 in color. Price \$119.00
- Letters Making Words Volume II*** (2008) - Zodiac, alphabets, calendars, etc. 157 pages, 100 in color. Price \$96.00
- Poster Stamps: The American Story*** (2009) 172 pages, 155 in color. Price \$96. (This is a book, not a catalogue, no 'rarity' ratings).
- Bicycles World 2011*** 85 pages in color (never before published poster stamps). Price \$60.00
- Poster Stamps: Graphic Artists: The Best of the Rest: One, Two or Three Designs Only*** (2011) 86+ pages, almost all in full color. Price \$60
- Poster Stamps: Graphic Artists: The Best Of The Rest: A to G*** (2011) 140+ pages, almost all in full color. Price \$84.00
- Poster Stamps: Graphic Artists: The Best Of The Rest: HA to LU*** (2011) 140+ pages, almost all in full color. Price \$84.00
- Poster Stamps: Graphic Artists: The Best Of The Rest: MA to RU*** (2011) 165+ pages, almost all in full color. Price \$91.00
- Poster Stamps: Graphic Artists: The Best Of The Rest: S to Z*** (2011) 192 + pages, almost all in color. Price \$98.00

Available Books, Continued

CATALOGS OF EDITIONS DELANDRE VIGNETTES OF WWI by Charles Kiddle

- Images of the Great War Volume III Red Cross Vignettes 1914 - 1917* (1994) The 'Red Cross' vignettes of Editions Delandre, 195 pages and 765 listed vignettes + variants. \$40.00
- Images of the Great War Volume IV Vignettes other than Military and Red Cross 1914 - 1917* (1996) All Editions Delandre vignettes not listed in other catalogs. 214 pages, 510 + listed vignettes. \$55.00.
- Images of the Great War Volume V New Military Vignettes, rarity and prices - French Military Vignettes, Italian Military Reimpressions* (1998) A comprehensive update of information, prices, etc. of catalogs published in the 1980s together with 100s of newly discovered vignettes in full color. \$60.00
- Editions Delandre : (Hand Painted) Essays and Progressive Proofs of the French Armed Forces* (2009) 141 pages 155 in colour \$80.00

\*\*\*\*\*

REPRINTS

- Images of the Great War Volume I* by Walter Schmidt 1984 (reprint 2000) French Military vignettes. This pioneering catalog, reproduced with Walter's agreement in response to world-wide demand. 156 pages, card covers, comb spine. Price \$50.00
- Images of the Great War Volume II* by Walter Schmidt 1985 Price \$30.00

**Wanted**

**Articles for the Journal**

If you are tired of articles written only by Art Groten, Charles Kiddle and a few other stalwarts, please send the Editor something, anything, to work with and he will do what editors do, make it ready for publication.

In the meanwhile, the Editor is looking for stamps in the following topics for eventual inclusion in the Journal: women's rights including suffrage; the union movement and non-U.S. Valentine stamps. He always wants to hear about plagiarisms, unusual philatelic varieties and new additions to our on-going exposition series.

This space is available for an ad from our members, dealers or otherwise.

**Member classified ads**

**Wanted:** Silent film related poster stamps, especially Wentz issues for The Black Box, series A Art Stamp Album for silent movie stars and Essanay Charlie Chaplin set. Will buy or trade. Ron Kreuger, Box 741, Oak Park, IL 60303 (708-)788-8235 or krugeron@sbcglobal.net

**Wanted:** Mr. Ice Cream desires ice cream and soda fountain poster stamps from around the world: ice cream, soda fountains, ice cream machines, people enjoying ice cream, etc. Contact Al Mellis: mellisfamily@rcn.com

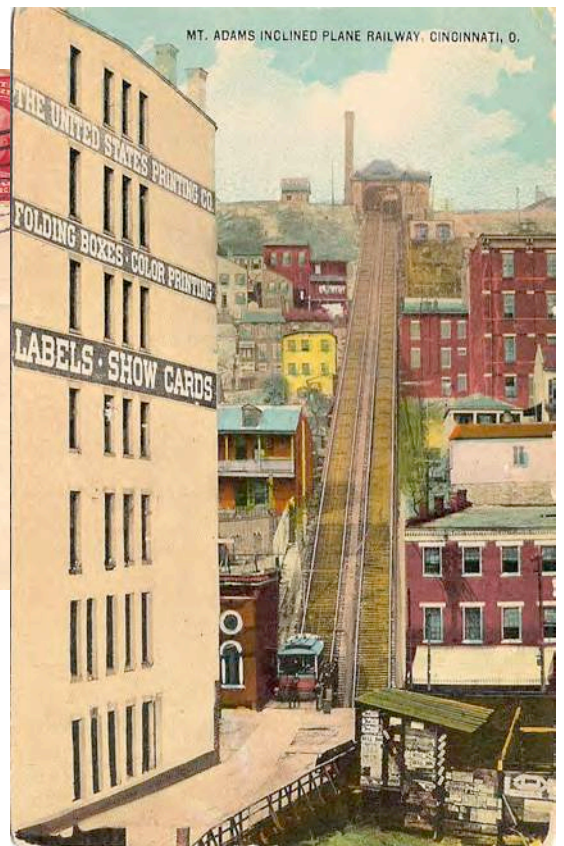
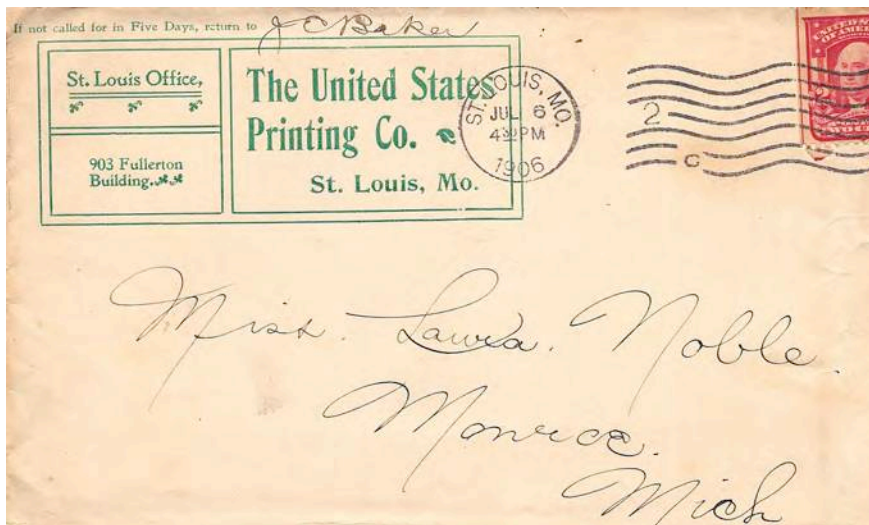
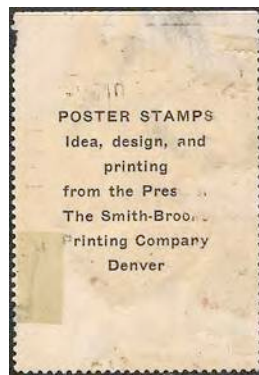
**Wanted:** Wisconsin poster stamps, event seals, advertising stamps, charity stamps, labels, artist's proofs on or off cover. Ken Grant, E1 1960 Kessler Rd. Baraboo, WI 53913 email: kenneth.grant@uwc.edu

In the absence of a 1/4 page ad, free member classified ads of up to 30 words, excluding address, will be posted in this space. One ad per member per issue as space permits; first come, first served. Ads must relate to poster stamps. Buy, sell, trade or information sought are all OK. They must be received at least 30 days prior to the next issue, i.e. by March 10, 2011.

## Interesting U.S. Poster Stamps...Bob Bradbury

I see a lot of U.S. poster stamps and am always looking for the unusual. The first find is a group of three stamps for Kuner's Pickles. The one with the white background has, on the reverse, a promotional imprint for Smith-Broome Printers of Denver. The actual stamp itself has a design that has been modified in all its particulars. I think this would qualify as an essay until someone finds the first type without the imprint which would suggest that it was actually produced for use by the client.

One does not often find a postcard of the building in which poster stamps were produced. In the case of the United States Printing Co. of St. Louis we have not only a postcard but also an advertising cover with a seal made by the company on the reverse.





## Plagiarisms XI

Jaap Van Dijk and Peter Hannes Lehmann sent some interesting plagiarisms recently. The nice thing about them, like poster stamps in general, is that the images speak for themselves. We can see clearly where the inspiration to imitate comes from. Sometimes it is clear which came first but often it is not.

This first pair is somewhat unusual in that it is uncommon for plagiarisms cross national boundaries. We have seen some in this series of articles but not many. And, in this case, it is clear from the dates on the stamps that the Portuguese in 1923 copied the American design of 1915. Such clear dating is not often seen.



Is it a plagiarism if the same company uses a similar design, altering many of the details?



Two purveyors of oriental carpets used the same design, changing some of the the wording and the image of the carpet.



## Before and After

In issue #19, I showed some "Before and After" poster stamps. This was a frequently used promotional method to demonstrate the modernity of one's product or the beneficial results of using it. Sometimes the cause and effect are on one stamp, sometimes on two. One would think the appearance on a single stamp rather than two would be preferable; some of the power of the message is lost if one has to look at two, assuming they are both available for viewing at the same time. This fact must not have been lost of sales people as, to date, I have found only one pair, shown to the right. The message is that briquettes are cleaner than coal.



Einst + before; Jetzt = after. Ohne = without; mit = with.

Below are some before/after vignettes on one stamp.



## Hans Christian Andersen

Much beloved throughout the world, there are many poster stamps celebrating Andersen and his work. This 1955 sheet raised money by the Danish-American Women's Association for a statue in his honor. The designs of Andersen-related stamps are often quite fanciful, colorful and eye-catching.



Why is it that multiples are so appealing to collectors, especially those produced se-tenant? Some examples give us a hint.

