



The Maine Philatelist

Vol. 41, No. 2

April 2022

Whole No. 163

Postcard from World War I internee to Vinalhaven: sent by a spy to a spy or to a philanthropist?

By Nancy B. Clark

Recently, I purchased a Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia prisoner of war internee's postcard from World War I. It was addressed to Vinalhaven, a town on the larger of the two Fox Islands in Knox County near Rockland. Vinalhaven is of interest to me since my father was born there.

The card (*Figure 1*) was sent by Carl Heynen in Barracks 492 at Fort Oglethorpe, which is near the Georgia-Tennessee border south of Chattanooga. The signature next to his at the bottom is that of Harry Faloma.

Printed on AZO paper (this type was used from 1910-1930), the prisoners' photo is on the picture side of the card (*Figure 2*). Prisoners were permitted to write two letters a month and one postcard a week. The missives might be in German or English, but the handwriting had to be clearly legible.

Stationery for letters was provided, and communications were limited to four sheets of paper. Prisoners could receive unlimited mail, and packages as well, but incoming mail was censored and examined before delivery to the intended recipient, as were the packages. If the message was not clear to the censor, the mail was returned to the sender.

This card was written in the old script, and I had to seek help from a family friend in Germany to read the message. In English it reads, "On behalf of everyone, bystanders and those seated, thank you very much for your generous gift (or donation)."

Wealthy Germans frequently helped to support families of those incarcerated during World War I. Perhaps Herrmann sent a donation to help. He may

also have arranged a shipment of fresh food from his farm.

Fort Oglethorpe served as a training and processing center for U.S. soldiers beginning in 1904.¹ In planning camps to train troops, General Leonard Wood required that all cantonments hosting Army divisions be constructed on inexpensive land near large cities,² have access by double-tracked rail-

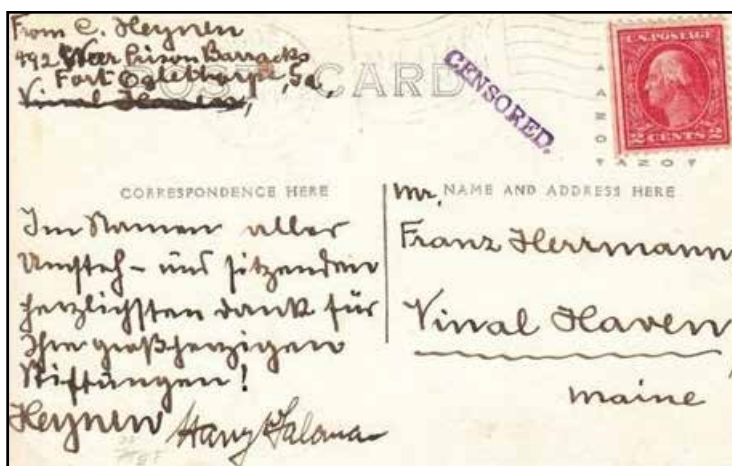


Figure 1
Postcard sent by internee from Georgia to Maine.

roads for quick movement of men and supplies, and have access to a plentiful water supply. During and after World War I, facilities at the fort were used to detain some 4,000 enemy personnel as prisoners of war and civilian detainees.

Among those detained at the fort under War Department supervision were members of three German merchantmen crews as well as spies and diplomats. Prominent prisoners included Count Albrecht von Montgelas; Dr. Karl Muck, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra; Dr. Ernst Kunwald,

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**The Maine Philatelist is published quarterly
by the Maine Philatelic Society, Inc.**

Website:

The purpose of the society is to promote philately in the Pine Tree State. Membership is open to anyone. Membership applications are available from the Secretary, listed below.

**Articles for publication should be sent to
the Editor, listed below.**

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Maine stamp club meetings



Stamp clubs in Maine are invited to become members of the Maine Philatelic Society. We will publish, free of charge, meeting information and locations. Please send information to the editor.

BRUNSWICK AREA COIN & STAMP CLUB

The Brunswick Area Coin & Stamp Club usually sponsors several shows during the year, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schedules are flexible. For information, contact Bob Caouette by email at brunswickcoinclub@comcast.net.

UNION RIVER STAMP CLUB

The Union River club will meet via Zoom through perhaps March. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene, 445 High St., Ellsworth. Contact President Art Wittine at lindawittine@yahoo.com or Bruce Downs (email: brucewdowns@yahoo.com) for additional information and to learn more about the Zoom meetings.

WATERVILLE STAMP CLUB

The Waterville club meets on the first and third Friday of each month at 6 p.m., except during June, July and August, when the meeting is on the third Friday only. Meetings are held at the Getchell Street Baptist Church, 3 Getchell St., Waterville. Buy, sell, trade, auction items, program, business meeting. For information, contact Alan Tieman, 156 Deer Run St., Apt. 2, Pittsfield, ME 04967. Email: cantdog1@gmail.com.

YORK COUNTY STAMP CLUB

The club meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month from the fourth Thursday in August to the second Thursday in June. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Sanford Masonic Temple basement on Elm Street in Sanford (behind the library). Usual events include raffle, auction and presentations by members. Dues are \$10 per year. For information, contact Secretary Tracey Levasseur, 329 Ross Corner Rd., Shapleigh, ME 04076. Email: sharpei@sacoriver.net.

DEADLINES

January issue

Deadline: November 15; mailing December 30.

April issue

Deadline: February 15; mailing March 30.

July issue

Deadline: May 15; mailing June 30.

October issue

Deadline: August 15; mailing September 30.

conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; biologist (genetics) Professor Richard Benedict Goldschmidt and Professor Zenneck.

With that aside, who was Franz Herrmann (*Figure 3*)? There has been ongoing debate as to whether he was a spy during the “War to End All Wars.”³ He moved to Vinalhaven as an Alien Enemy, having previously spent summers there, escaping from New York City heat. He was named as a principal in a conspiracy to have Germany dominate the marine insurance market, discovered and documented by the New York Bureau of Investigation.

I also found an interesting support for the “spy” accusation within the United States Congressional Record.⁴ There are many stories of his philanthropic efforts. Herrmann bought Captain Elisha and Addie Roberts’ farm at Roberts Harbor in 1917. The Ma-



Figure 2

Photograph of internees. Left arrow points to Richard Goldschmidt. Seated center with no hat is BSO conductor Karl Muck. Standing far right, holding his hat, is Cincinnati conductor Dr. Ernst Kunwald.

rine Insurance executive hired local men to remodel the large house and to build a new greenhouse, a boathouse and create several gardens.⁵

He raised Holstein-Friesian cattle and belonged to the national society for this breed, known as the world’s largest production dairy cattle and also for their meat. According to promotional materials of Amy Armstrong Films, LLC, which made a movie about the man, “Herrmann was congenial, generous, employed scores of farm workers, treated them well, and gave to the needy.” The ordinary farm became an estate with the infusion of money he brought to the island. Current owners continue to use the land carefully, preserving a piece of island history.



*Figure 3
Poor quality image
of Franz Herrmann
as he appeared on
Vinalhaven circa
1918.³*

The 1920 census lists him as 52 years of age, born in Germany, living in Vinalhaven, Maine as head of the household, with a housekeeper, Nellie Jaszovsky (Austrian) and three resident guests: Franz Jaszovsky, her brother (Austrian); Cornelia Jaszovsky (Hungarian) and Angelo Arboz (Italian).

Franz Herrmann, at the time war began in August 1914, was a representative of the Nord-Deutsche Insurance Company and the Mannheim Insurance Company. He also represented the Atlantic Division of the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company of San Francisco, which was not involved in any conspiracy.

Apparently, in November 1915, the German government contributed funds to the insurance pool, which allowed for increasing insurance capacities for the companies. Through a series of mergers, the German government, using these funds, planned to form an American company under German control, which would last through the war and survive, resulting in what they planned would be a German

Continued on page 4

MUDPEX is coming!

Spring is just around the corner, and that means it’s time for the annual MUDPEX, sponsored by the Waterville Stamp Club.

April 9, 2022

**MacCrillis-Rousseau VFW,
175 Veteran Drive, Winslow**

Contact Al Tieman, cantdog1@gmail.com

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Dealer Tables, Huge Auction!

All Welcome!

domination of marine insurance. When Herrmann died on March 19, 1921, his death was labeled “sudden” by the *New York Times*.

Carl Heynen, author of the postcard on the cover, came to America in April 1915 to assist with the financial affairs. He was involved in sending ammunition from Chicago to El Paso, Texas, for Francisco “Pancho” Villa’s guerilla troops. He arranged another major shipment via Vera Cruz for Cordoba and Mexico City.

Heynen was jailed on July 5, 1917 for heading a spy ring in the U.S.⁶ While Consul in Mexico City, he arranged shipping powerful wireless equipment and parts from New York and other U.S. cities to

with his younger brother, Richard, and his family in Lee Mills, North Carolina. It may be that is where he went when he was released from Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia. On the other hand, there are several Carl Heynens of similar age, one born in Illinois, another in Minnesota, and another in New York.

I have not thus far been able to locate more information on Harry Falanas. There is a Falanas grocery store in Florida. The 1910 census records a Haltie Falana of the correct age working as a censor. She was born in Nassau County, Florida in 1898 and is not listed in the 1920 census.

Why was Herrmann receiving mail from an internee at Fort Oglethorpe? It would be easy to construct a novel based on these elements. Perhaps a spy coven on Vinalhaven. Perhaps a poisoning to end Herrmann’s life before he could be exhaustively interrogated to reveal further plans of the Kaiser or others active in the Kaiser’s employ? Or was he a simple man who got caught up in others’ schemes and simply wanted to use his money to return to the land and farm? Hypotheses abound. What is your take on this?

A map of Vinalhaven is shown in *Figure 4*.

FOOTNOTES

¹ National Archives, War Department, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, Organizational Authority Record.

² Fort Oglethorpe is located eight miles south of Chattanooga, Tennessee, so though built before these orders, it clearly met the criteria.

³<http://www.armyarmstrongfilms.com/HerrmannMovie.html>.

⁴ United States Congressional Serial Set, Volume 7598, 1919, pp. 2195-2243.

⁵ A caretaker lived on the property from 1921 until 1936 when Dr. Paluel Flagg, another New Yorker, purchased the property and once again restored it to usefulness.

⁶ *Cincinnati Post*, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 29, 1918, p. 7.

⁷ *Kalamazoo Gazette*, April 2, 1918, Kalamazoo, Michigan, p. 3.

⁸ *Detroit Times*, April 1, 1918, Detroit, Michigan, p. 7.

⁹ *Pensacola Journal*, July 6, 1919, Pensacola, Florida, Vol. 22, p. 2.

This article was adapted from a longer version published in Georgia Post Roads, journal of the Georgia Postal History Society, Fall 2021.



Figure 4
Early map showing Vinalhaven.

border towns, where the equipment was distributed for military use by German spies in this country.⁷ He also had his network bring or transmit information via secret codes, invisible ink and privately carried notebooks and photographs documenting U.S. military facilities and supplies. He also coordinated transmission of naval action terrorism.

As the *Detroit Times* described it, “German agents on American merchant vessels, posing as neutral subjects, used the wireless to summon U-boats.”⁸ In this way, the Germans could attack the vessels carrying soldiers or with loads of munitions.

Heynen was part of a list of Germans to be deported in 1919.⁹ There is a Carl Heynen, age 30, born in Germany, in the 1920 census listed as living

Anniversary of fatal military flight which crashed near Greenville recalled

By Dan Goodwin

If you have lived in Maine for awhile, you likely have heard of the B-52 airplane crash on Elephant Mountain just outside Greenville, Maine on January 24, 1963. In January of 2003 I produced two covers for the 40th anniversary of that crash. On January 24, 1963 a B-52 Stratofortress departed Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts for a low altitude training mission over the mountains of western Maine.

Unexpected strong wind turbulence suddenly tore the stabilizer from the tail of the aircraft. With the plane losing control, the captain ordered the crew to bail out. Out of the crew of nine, only three were able to eject. The co-pilot, Maj. Robert Morrison, ejected safely but was killed when he hit a tree. The pilot, Lt. Col. Dante Bulli got hung up in a tree but survived, spending 20 hours hanging before being rescued. Navigator Capt. Gerald Adler ejected but his chute did not open. He landed upright in his ejection seat in deep snow suffering broken ribs and a concussion. He is the only known person to survive being ejected from an aircraft without a parachute. The remaining crew members died in the crash. The crash site is now a protected memorial on Elephant Mountain.

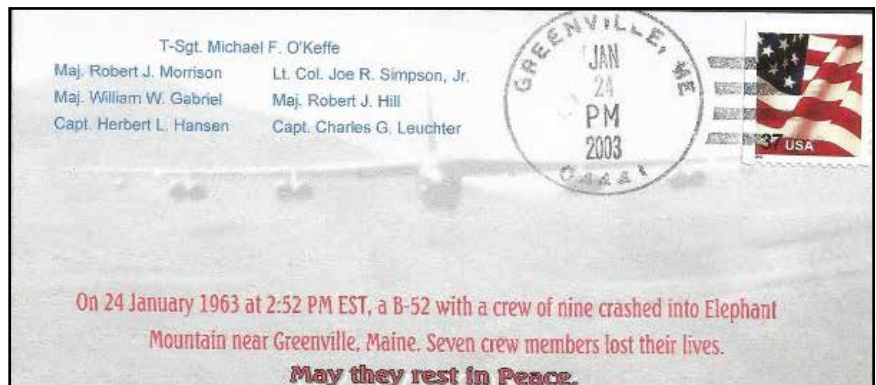


Figure 1
Cover listing those killed in Greenville B-52 airplane crash.

The first cover, shown in **Figure 1**, was postmarked in Greenville on January 24, 2003. It lists the crew members who lost their lives. The aircraft has been intentionally blurred to indicate a ghost B-52 is still flying over the area. The second cover, **Figure 2**, was postmarked the same day at Greenville Junction, only a couple of miles away, and shows the B-52 prior to the crash.

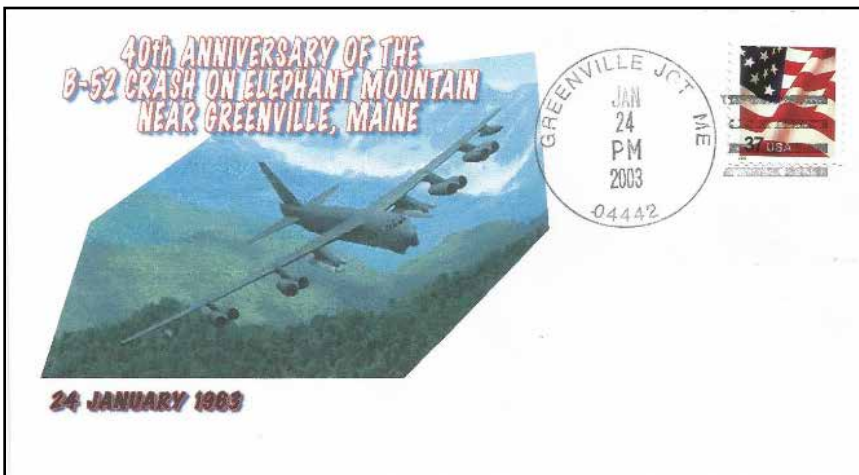


Figure 2
Anniversary cover postmarked at Greenville Junction in 2003.

There are many sources of information on this subject. I used two, lodgatmooseheadlake.com, and thisdayinaviation.com/tag/1963-elephant-mountain-b-52-crash. Visitors to the Moosehead Lake region may also visit the site of the B-52 crash, which is accessible by trail. A display of artifacts recovered from the crash site is on view at the Moosehead Cultural Heritage Center, 6 Lakeview St., downtown Greenville (part of the Moosehead Historical Society).

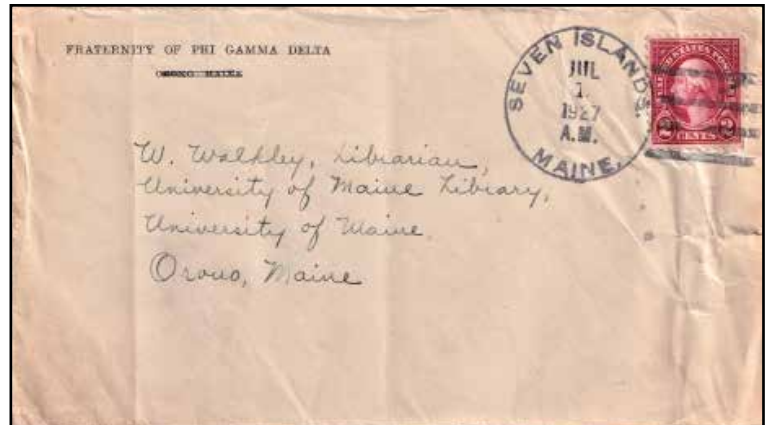
The Clayton Lake Story, Reprise (Part I)

By Kelvin Kindahl

At the time that the Clayton Lake tale in the January TMP was originally published in 1999, Clayton Lake, in western Aroostook County, was indeed the most remote operating post office in New England. Not too surprisingly, it has since closed. Clayton Lake was one of the major logging camps, or depots, in the Allagash Region, started in the 1920s by Quebec native Edouard “King” LaCroix, the lumber baron who controlled much of the area in the early 20th century. In those days when it took a lot more men to harvest lumber than it does now, there were far more people in the region, with more need for postal services.

As previously noted, the Clayton Lake Post Office was first called Seven Islands, and was first scheduled to open in 1908, but didn't. The Postmaster Appointment records show that Albert M. Currier was appointed March 31, 1908, to be the first postmaster of Seven Islands. That appointment was rescinded on April 29, and the office never opened. The reasons why it didn't open have not been uncovered.

Eleven years later, Currier was appointed again, on December 16, 1919, as noted in the 1999 TMP article. *Postal Bulletin* #12164 lists this opening as being effective January 22, 1920. Over the years of studying post office history, one thing this writer has learned is that discrepancies between different sources are not uncommon in the postal records, and sometimes a certain amount of interpretation on the part of the historian is necessary. While the date of a first postmaster's appointment is generally taken as the first day of the post office's existence, when the *Postal Bulletin* reports a different effective date for that opening, its effective date is the more accurate date. Seven Islands opened January 22, 1920.



Cover postmarked “Seven Islands,” July 15, 1927, backstamped with a St-Pamphile, Quebec broken circle, showing that mail from Seven Islands went via Quebec. Sent by a UMO student working at a fire camp for the summer, back to the University of Maine Library. This was after the Seven Islands Post Office was originally scheduled to move, but before it actually did.



Although there appear to have been a very small settlement, it wasn't until LaCroix was working in the area that there were enough people to warrant a post office. Seven Islands was located in the southeast part of township T13 R15, WELS, where the road from Saint-Pamphile, Quebec reached the Saint John River. A campsite symbol on page 61 of the *DeLorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer* marks the site. A number of campsites along the Saint John and Allagash rivers are located at historic sites. Seven Islands was the major settlement in the region, where the only real road reached the river, which

served as the primary transportation route. All seven of the islands were farmed, growing crops to help feed the loggers. Seven Islands was the only U. S. post office for 30 or 40 miles in any direction. The application to establish a post office listed the immediate population as 20 to 50 residents, but expected to serve a “floating” population of 800 to 1,000. While that number may seem high, given how many men were working in the woods in those days, it was likely accurate.



The post office at Clayton Lake, Maine -- the most remote in all New England.

Following Currier were Louise McGillicuddy, in 1924, and George R. Burnham, who was appointed July 8, 1926. During this time period, Seven Islands mail was brought in from Saint-Pamphile, only 23 miles to the northwest.

modified that order to be effective October 1, 1927. On the Site Report filed by Postmaster Burnham, the reason for the move was “to be more centrally located and convenient for all concerned.” LaCroix built a new road that year, from Lac-Frontiere, Quebec, by Nine Mile and Clayton Lake, to Churchill Depot. Postmaster Burnham, the post office, and, it is safe to assume, much of LaCroix’s operation, all moved to the new Clayton Lake camp.

Postal Bulletin #14413 notes that the Seven Islands Post Office was moved 12 miles south, as the crow flies, effective July 1, 1927. Postal Bulletin #14418

Part 2 of the Clayton Lake story will be in the July issue of The Maine Philatelist. The covers shown here and on page 6 are courtesy of Max Lynds.



A Clayton Lake cover, sent to Oviedo, Florida by Mr. & Mrs. Louis P. Paquet on January 3, 1949. Louis was Postmaster from 1947 to 1960. Backstamped with a very nice Lac Frontiere, P. Q. hammer cancel, showing that mail from Clayton Lake went by way of Quebec. The Quebec cancel, shown at right, is rotated 180 degrees from the cover.

From the President ...

I would suggest there is just one word to adequately describe the relaunching of the Maine Philatelic Society ... WOW! In no way did I expect such an immediate and overwhelming response!

We have achieved over 100 members, thanks to a direct mail piece to about 175 American Philatelic Society (APS) members in Maine, and our membership list from 2016 when the society went on hiatus. At that time, our membership had dwindled to about 50 people.

But we can't rest on our proverbial laurels. We must continue recruiting new members. Several folks have also mentioned that since dues are not being collected this year if it would be possible to make a financial contribution to the society to help offset restarting costs. The simple answer is that treasurer Rick Stambaugh (address on page 2) would be delighted to accept any such donations ... but it is not required. The real test of membership will be in the fall when we ask for dues for 2023.

The other critical need is for articles for this journal. A lack of participation and a lack of material for publication was the reason we went on hiatus. We can't let it happen again, but I am encouraged by promises of articles already received.

-- Everett L. Parker

A look back ...

In the August 1995 issue of The Maine Philatelist, it was noted Joshua Chamberlain had never been on a U.S. stamp. Here's the report:

Civil War Colonel Joshua Chamberlain, called by some "Maine's greatest citizen," was honored by the U.S. Postal Service with pictorial cancellations on June 29 (1995), but many believe the effort fell short from what the war hero really deserved -- a place on the sheet of 20 stamps depicting the Civil War.

Chamberlain's greatest fame came with the 20th Maine Volunteers, who fought in several Civil War battles. His bravery and inventive military tactics are best remembered in the fight for Little Round Top at Gettysburg. Chamberlain's holding of the Union Army's left flank marked a turning point in the battle and the beginning of the end for the Confederacy.

For his actions, Chamberlain received the Congressional Medal of Honor. He served four terms as Maine governor and was later president of Bowdoin College.

The pictorial cancel was used in Brewer as well as Brunswick and Augusta on June 29.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

Classified advertisements are free to members. You may use this space to buy, sell, trade or swap. When sending an advertisement, please advise it is for The Classifieds and indicate how many issues you wish it to appear. All ads will be printed four times and then removed unless indicated otherwise.

WANTED

WANTED: New England numbered stations, sub-stations, C. O. D. stations, other stations and branches, postal forms, documents, any time period. Kelvin Kindahl, 267 Locust St. # 2E, Florence, MA 01062-2059. Email: Kelvin01027@gmail.com. (1-23)

WANTED: U.S. precancels, buy or trade. Elmer L. Harmon, 83 Milwaukee Road, Dennysville, ME 04628; email: Elmerlookharmon@icloud.com. (1-23)

WANTED: I am a collector of county and postmaster named postmarks. I have found none from

Maine. Do you have any? Elliott Idoff, 555 North Ave., Apt. 141, Fort Lee, NJ 07024-2415 (1-23)

WANTED: Lubec postal history. Particularly interested in South Lubec postal markings. Please email John Schorn, jschorn@gmail.com (1-23)

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: For sale, 50 better quality world wide stamps used and mint for \$1.00 plus SASE. Elmer L. Harmon, 83 Milwaukee Road, Dennysville, ME 04628; email: Elmerlookharmon@icloud.com. (1-23)

What does your stamp room or den look like?

One of the benefits of belonging to the Maine Philatelic Society is to enjoy some of the “perks” such as free Classifieds, listings of collecting interests and the like.

But perhaps another way is to showcase a photo or two of your stamp den or collecting area. Why, you might ask? Not to brag or show off, but it just might be that another member might see something in your photograph that he or she could replicate or duplicate ... placement of computer, bookshelves, work area, lighting, etc.

So we would encourage you to send ye editor a photo or two of your collecting area and a bit of information about it.



To kick things off, here is a couple of photos of ye editor’s retreat or *inner sanctum* when there is time to persue collecting interests.

Aroostook stamp, coin, card show coming April 10

Aroostook County Collectors Club will be hosting a stamp, coin and possibly card show on April 10, 2022 at the Presque Isle Inn & Convention Center, 116 Main Street. The hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and there will be several dealers with stamps, coins and cards.

Contact Spike Savage by email at dsavage7@maine.rr.com for more information.

Question & Answer



Got a question about Maine philately (or collecting in general)? Know the answer to a previously asked question? We want to know! Send your input to the editor today!

From Kelvin Kindahl

In working on the updated Rarity Guide, a few questions have come up that might be good to put before the group. There were a couple of EKUs (earliest known uses) reported in the Rarity Guide Addenda that are outside the expected date range of the place in question.

I’d feel a lot more comfortable about saying “EKU 30 June 1966 seen” for Water Street station Augusta, than “EKU 30 June 1966 reported” for example.

Great Falls, Maine opened 12 Dec 1825, and moved across the river to New Hampshire 18 May 1826. We have found nothing in the postal records about it moving back to Maine, but the *Stampless Cover Catalog* lists two Great Falls, Maine from 1827. I’ve seen one of them, but I’d be really curious to see a scan of the other.

Are YOU on the Internet?

*Here is a list of MPS members with email. We also encourage members to list collecting interests.
If you would like to be included, contact the editor!*

Eric Beal

ebeal@maine.edu

Ron Breznay

ronbreznay@ptd.net

Collects U.S., Canada, Confederate States, philatelic history, postal history covers, first flight covers, naval covers, Vietnam military covers; general worldwide, Alfred Hitchcock, horror topical collection.

Nancy Clark

nancy.b.clark@icloud.com

Brian Damien

brian.damien@yahoo.ca

Collects Maine and Québec postmarks, stamps, postmarks and postal history of Newfoundland.

Bruce Downs

brucewdowns@yahoo.com

Collects Deer Isle postal history and covers surrounding Maine statehood date. Also French and Swiss.

Paul Eagle

paul@earthlovers.org

Collects pre-1950 European postage, back of book, cinderellas

Patrick F. Gilheany

landpgil@hotmail.com

Collects China, Japan, Germany, trains on stamps.

Esther Goodrich-Puffer

goodrich-puffer@comcast.net

Collects U.S., stamps with horses, fish, and some other animals. Also interested in stamps with Latin phrases and ancient Greek and Roman artifacts.

Dan Goodwin

dgoodwi3@maine.rr.com

Collects U.S. plate blocks prior to 1980, Maine postmarks, anything Christmas related, Naval ship postmarks, World War II related.

Tim Grant

tjgrant@roadrunner.com

Collects U.S. (including BOB) in MNH condition and U.N. singles and Inscription Blocks, also in MNH condition.

Jan Hokenson

janhoken@aol.com

Collects worldwide to 1949 including dead countries and military occupations.

Larry Huff

leinsteinhn@gmail.com

Collects U.S. classics, Worldwide to 1940, Christmas Seals, Perfins, Disney Stamps, U.S. mint sheets, FDC's.

James Husson

Jimhusson65@gmail.com

Collects Maine postal history.

Kelvin Kindahl

kelvin01027@gmail.com

Doug Moreshead

dmoreshe@maine.rr.com

Collects U.S., interested in stamps prior to 1920.

Maynard Otis

motis2775@gmail.com

Collects U.S., Canada, British Colonies, ships and military.

Dr. Everett L. Parker

everettparker1245@gmail.com

Jack Pooler

car99@comcast.net

Collects Maine postmarks.

Phebe Quattrucci

phebeq63@yahoo.com

Collects worldwide and U.S.

Donald Savage

dsavage7@maine.rr.com

Collects worldwide to 1959, U.S. to date.

Rick Stambaugh

rstambaugh@maine.rr.com

Mike Strout

mstrout69@gmail.com

Collects Maine postal history Maine precancels, Maine state revenues, U.S. revenues, Patriotic covers, Ship covers and postal cards.

Alan Tieman

cantdog1@gmail.com

Thomas R. Trowbridge

tomtrow44@yahoo.com

Bernie Vinzani

bvinzani@maine.edu

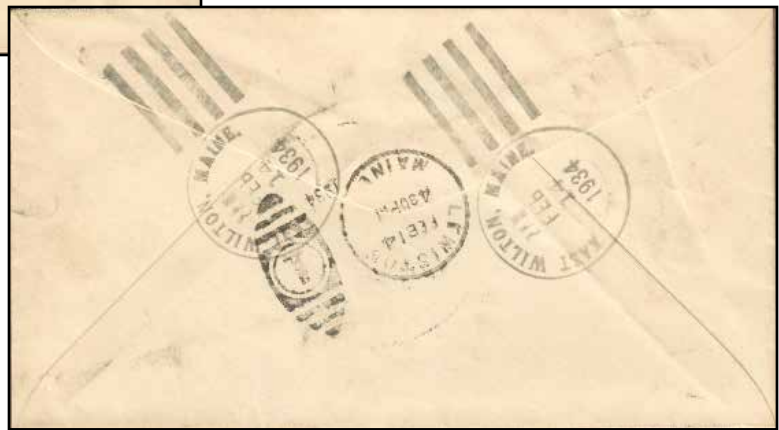
Collects watermarks on stamps, printing and paper of stamps, postal history of Downeast Maine, and early bishop marks and postmarks of Great Britain.

Rob Washburn

stamps@beeline-online.net

Maine Cover of the Quarter

*A postal history
feature by
Rob Washburn
of Skowhegan.*



The above registered cover was mailed from East Wilton, Maine on February 14, 1934 and features two crude star cancels. A Post Office Department notice in 1927 advised postmasters that registered mail shall not have cancellations on the front of the envelope that bear the name of the town. So postmasters created their own postmarks for canceling registered mail, some of them quite fancy and in various colors. Such postmarks were stopped in late 1934 by the Post Office Department due to so many unauthorized postmarks.

*(If you have an unusual, interesting or scarce Maine cover candidate for Maine Cover of the Quarter, please send a clear photocopy against a black background to
Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976
or email: stamps@beeline-online.net).*

Secretary's Report

Kelvin Kindahl
267 Locust St., #2E,
Florence, MA 01062-2059

If you are reading The Maine Philatelist for the first time, welcome! At deadline time, the Maine Philatelic Society has 107 members.

We encourage you to become a member if you are not already.

There are no dues for the remainder of 2022, although donations will be gratefully accepted. Please let your friends know about The Maine Philatelic Society as together we work to promote philately in the Pine Tree State. Contact me if I can be of any assistance (email address on page 2)

“Maiden Voyage”

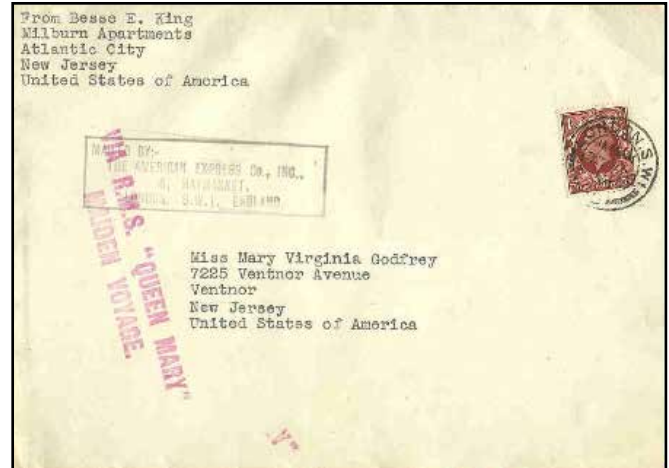
By Rick Stambaugh

While looking to house new postal stationery items that I bought at a recent club auction, I came across this forgotten cover. It still had the receipt from a Maine Philatelic Society auction; I paid \$2.00. There are several aspects of this cover that I like.

First, it is from the Maiden Voyage of RMS *Queen Mary* in 1936. It’s the only “maiden voyage” cover I have. Does that mean the initial trip, or one for maidens? Next, Carol crossed the Atlantic on the *Queen Mary* on a European jaunt after her first year in the workplace. The trip encountered a storm so severe that the ship diverted to France to off load injured passengers.

Next, it has the “Mailed by American Express” stamp. On a honeymoon cruise with Cunard on the QE2, it was apparent that American Express had a business relationship with Cunard. Also, it’s

a Monopoly cover, mailed to Ventnor by a person from Atlantic City. Finally, it was sealed and had an enclosure. I carefully steamed it open to find a treasure. Alas, it was a folded blank piece of paper. All in all, this cover will continue to please me whenever I see it again.



Cover to New Jersey carried on maiden voyage of the RMS Queen Mary.

Maine Philatelic Society
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