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The Postscript
Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club
1904 Nanticoke Cir
Tallahassee, FL 32303

President's Message *from Mike Francis*

We are several months into 2007 and the club has added several new members. We hope to continue this movement with a goal of reaching 50 members by the end of 2007. At last count we have 45 members.

For the April meeting there will be a live auction instead of a speaker. Proceeds will go to the club. If you have any philatelic items that you would like to donate to the club for the auction please contact one of the club officers. A postcard will be sent to each member with further details and the internet address of a web site where the auction items can be viewed.

I have talked to several media and library specialist individuals in the Leon County school system about starting stamp clubs in some of the middle schools. By the fall of 2007 the goal is to have a stamp club, sponsored by the Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club in at least one middle school in Leon County.

Finally, a personal thank you from me and my wife Chris to all the members that sent cards, emails, offered prayers and wishes of well-being while she is undergoing her treatment for cancer. It means a great deal to me and my family.

THE **Postscript**

Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club

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2c Columbian Varieties by Larry Benson with contributions from Dr. Mike Francis

Most stamp collectors know the Columbian Exposition issues of 1893 were the first commemoratives released by the U.S. Post Office. They were issued during the World's Columbian Exposition held from May 1 to October 30, 1893, which celebrated the 400th Anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus.

Denomination from one cent to \$5 were issued. The two cent issue depicting the Landing of Columbus (Scott #231, US) has three different printing plate flaws: a broken frame line, a cracked plate and the broken hat variety worn by the third figure to the left of Columbus.

The broken hat flaw is plate progressive, that is, the break at the top right hand side in the brim of the soldier's hat becomes more and more prominent. There is no hat break shown on the stamp in Figure 1. Use your magnifier to see the break. It begins to appear on the stamp in Figure 2 and becomes even more pronounced in Figures 3 and 4.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Meeting Dates & Presentations

February 13, 2007 — Rene Manes	June 12, 2007— TBA
March 13, 2007 — Mike Francis	July 10, 2007— Larry Benson
April 10, 2007 — Live Auction	August 14, 2007— TBA
May 8, 2007— TBA	September 11, 2007— TBA

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NOTICE:

- We have two new members: William Froehlig and Jean Wesson.
- There is a shortage of the paper normally used to print the *Postscript*. The Publisher apologizes to the readership for the lower grade paper used for this issue.
- **TSCC membership fee of \$5 for 2007 are DUE by April 1, 2007.**
- Dr. Hemanth Vasanthaiah has been invited to exhibit at the national American Topical Association meeting in June, 2007 at Irvine, Texas.

2c Columbian Varieties by Larry Benson (con't.)



The two cent Columbian is easy to find. Most dealers have glassines full of them. If you ask politely they probably will let you go through their inventory to locate the copies you desire. Scott's 1993 US Specialized catalog list the used unbroken hat variety for only 15 cents and the broken hat type for 20 cents. The 2006 Scott's US Specialized catalog list the used unbroken variety for 30 cents and the unbroken variety for 45 cents. If you are a United States stamp enthusiast, you know what to look for as you shop around for

copies of this interesting Columbian "Broken Hat" variety.

The cracked plate Columbian 2 cent variety is not easy to find. In the 2006 Scott US Specialized, the mint value for this stamp is \$87.50 and there is no price listed for a used variety. Identifying the variety is easy because the stamp image will have a crack line in it that was caused by the printing plate fatigue crack.

The third variety of the 2 cent Columbian is the "Broken frame line" type where the frame of the stamp has a break in it on the lower right portion of the frame line. Figure 5 reveals a stamp without a break in the frame. Figures 6 — 8 show progressive breaks in the lower portion of the right frame. Figure 9 shows that the complete lower portion of the frame line on the right side of the stamp is missing. Scott 2006 US Specialized catalog lists the stamp value as \$22.50 mint and 35 cents used. Use your magnifier for clarity.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9

Identity Uncovered by Dr. Mike Francis



On the surface this stamp has no visible country name so one might assume it is one of those back-of-the-book issues such as a

revenue, air mail, postage due, semi-postal, newspaper or even a local issue.

In reality, this is a regular issue stamp from Denmark. If you looked

up the city in the postmark, ODENSE, it would be listed under Denmark. Also CHR X REX is a give-away to collectors because it represents King Christopher X of Denmark.

This is not a hard issue to identify but the fact that the postmark is heavy and covers the country name of the stamp makes some work out of the process.

This stamp is from Denmark and listed in Scott as number 210. It is cataloged at \$1.60 mint and \$.20 used.

Identify This Stamp



See if you can identify this stamp. Its identity will be uncovered in the next issue.

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The Postscript is the quarterly journal of the Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club. Articles may be reproduced provided credit is given to this publication.

Tracking Country Names by Dr. Mike Francis

Last issue tracked Uganda, Tanganyika and Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika. This issue tracks Obock, Somali Coast, Afars and Issas and Djibouti. Collecting stamps from these areas can be confusing since Obock issues eventually came from Djibouti which called itself Somali Coast which eventually became Afars and Issas which eventually became Djibouti. Have fun with this confusing batch of countries!

OBOCK

On the Gulf of Aden in eastern Africa. Stamps were issued by France for this seaport from 1892-94 and were replaced by stamps from the port city of Djibouti which were labeled Somali Coast.

SOMALI COAST

Issued stamps from 1894 to 1967. In 1967 its named was changed to Afars and Issas and in 1977 it was declared the Djibouti Republic.

AFARS and ISSAS

This French territory was originally named Somali Coast but in 1967 was renamed the French Territory of Afars and Issas. In 1977 it became the Djibouti Republic. Afars and Issas issued stamps from 1967 to 1977.

DJIBOUTI

A port city on the Gulf of Aden in Africa that became the French Somaliland capital in 1888. Obock was the original capital of French Somaliland. In 1902 Somali Coast was printed on the stamps instead of Djibouti. The country of Djibouti started issuing stamps as the Republic of Djibouti in 1977. Before 1977 the country was known as Afars & Issas.