

THE *Postscript*

Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club

American Philatelic Society
Member # C-161196

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January-March, 2013

A Unique *Postscript* by Dr. Mike Francis

The 1995 Volume 5, Number 1 issue is one of the more unique issues of the *Postscript*. The publication is, in itself, a First Day Issue document of the Florida stamp honoring the 150th Anniversary of State of Florida. The cachet, designed by this author, was placed on a minimum of 1,000 envelopes and was sold at the event in front of the Florida Capitol Building. Many of the envelopes were stamped and cancelled as an official FDC at the event by club members. Attendees were fortunate to get then Governor Lawton Chiles to sign their FDC. The Governor was

more than willing to sign the covers and spent a considerable amount of time at the event.

Club members can read the entire issue of the *Postscript* online at the club's web site www.tsandcc.info where it was recently posted. Larry Benson, as editor of the bulletin at the time, wrote the article for club members. Larry had made a scan of the FDC for the *Postscript* but he decided he wanted more for the article. He called me a week after the event and asked me for some ideas to expand the information about the event. Larry came by the house and left me a copy of the bulletin to review. (continued on Page 2)



Tallahassee Official First Day City for Florida Stamp

By Larry Benson

The Bull Gator viciously lashed out with his tail in an attempt to break away from his handler causing the children encircling the reptile to scream and scatter. But the alligator was soon caught up again and the youngsters' shouts quickly turned to laughter.

The politicians puffed out their chests and orated while the crowd listened. Performers sang and a Florida story was read and the audience enjoyed the words they heard.

There was sweet cake with white icing, crunchy buttered popcorn, juicy chili dogs with gobs of mustard and onions and the hungry ate.

Nearly a thousand spectators, a third of them seated in folding metal chairs, watched the ceremony unfold before them and celebrated a birthday. The State of

Florida, it seems, reached 150 years of Statehood on March 3, 1995, and its citizens paused for 50 minutes to acknowledge and celebrate its Sesquicentennial.

And, true to form, the warm Florida sun bathed the entire scene as it unfolded on the brick courtyard sandwiched between the two Capitols, the old one bedecked with red striped awnings and the other the newer high-rise 22 story modern structure.

Amid the celebration, Florida Governor Lawton Chiles and Robert Harris, Vice President of Diversity Development U.S.P.S. and a native Floridian, unveiled and dedicated to the citizens of the State the postage stamp commemorating Florida's 150th Anniversary of Statehood. The first stamp to be issued since the postal increase on January 1 which

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NOTICE:

- In October, 2012, the club lost a long time member and friend, Al Kelly. Al was a consummate donor of items for the monthly raffle.
- Fellow member Sam Hendrix has moved to Tennessee to continue his employment with Comcast. Sam said he will stay a member of the TS&CC.
- Over 300 postcards have been sent out to APS members and others in North Florida, South Georgia and Eastern Alabama area about TALPX 2013. Ads have appeared in Linn's and APS monthly magazine. Press release goes out before March 6.
- Plans are moving forward for TALPEX 2013. It will be held on March 23-24, 2013 at the Tallahassee Senior Center. At the March club meeting we will be seeking names of volunteers to help out on Saturday and Sunday. In the past the volunteer support has been simply outstanding and this year should be the same. This helps make a successful event.
- Email the editor if you have an email address but do not receive the *Postscript* by email. We are trying to go all electronic to save on postage and printing costs.

Meeting Dates & Presentations, 2013

Jan. 8, Mike Francis, Submitting a stamp variety	July 9, Gerry York, Bangladesh
Feb. 12, Mike Francis, Rotary Press measuring	Aug. 13, Show Your Collection
March 12, Mike Francis, Stamp Paper types	Sept. 10, Mike Francis, TBA
April 9, Gerry York, B. I. O. T. Philately	Oct. 8, Single Page Exhibit
May 14, Club Auction, The Benson Collection	Nov. 12, Gerry York, Turkish Cyprus
June 11, Mike Francis, TBA	Dec. 10, Annual Christmas Party

A Unique *Postscript* by Dr. Mike Francis (cont.)

I could not really add anything to the publication that would improve what Larry had already developed. While sitting there staring at the publication, I realized that the image of the cover could be enhanced by placing a real 32¢ Florida stamp right on the front page. Better than that, I still had the USPS First Day Cancel postmark at my house.

In the days before the USPS decided to completely write-off stamp collectors, the postal officials were extremely flexible and worked with local stamp clubs relating to managing the cancellation of stamps for first day ceremonies. It was (and still is) common practice to keep cancelling envelopes to create FDCs for up to 30 days after the official First Day event. Unknown to many of our current members, the TS&CC used to keep the official "cancel" with a club member and do the cancellations for the USPS and any covers the club was selling for its own benefit. At the end of the 30 day period, the club member would turn in the official cancel device and it would be destroyed.

As can be seen, the 32¢ Florida stamp, Scott number 2950, received a legal cancellation and became an official First Day Cancel item. To my knowledge, this exact item is one of a kind. I only cancelled one and the cancel was in my possession at all times. This FDC, buried in one of the boxes from Larry Benson's collection, will be donated to Claude Kenison to be maintained as part of the Florida Philatelic Archives Exhibition.

OKPEX 99 Exhibit Award Won By Larry Benson by Dr. Mike Francis

OKPEX 99 PRIX DE HONOR

Donald R. Hines, King George V Photogravure Issue 1934-1936
Janet Klug, TONGA Issue of 1897-1934

OKPEX 99 GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

Jay Stotts, United States Usages of the Fourth Bureau Issue
Timothy R. Bartshe, Orange Free State: Early Setting of the VRI Overprints, 1900

Paul F. Ammons, Canal Zone Second Airmail Series
Kent Wilson, The 1890 Regular Issue of the U.S.
George Cosentini, V-Mail
Don Bianchi, 1909 Hudson-Fulton, The Stamp & Expo

OKPEX 99 VERMEIL AWARDS

Laurence Benson, The 1897 One Penny of Tonga
Mark Burnett, Postal Rates During The Washington, Franklin Head Series
Jerry F. Eggleston, The Admiral Series of Canada
Thomas P. Myers, British Postal Rates and Fees During The Reign of George VI
Alberich von Fafner, How to Win A Gold Medal
Albert Guenzburger, Federal Republic of Germany's First Definitives
Scott Troutman, Oklahoma Revenue Stamps

OKPEX 99 SILVER AWARDS

Carl G. Marks, Korea, The Forgotten War
Roger A. Baldwin, Air Mail on the Fly - The Adams Air Mail Pick Up
Terence J. Dodson, U.S. Postal Rates in the Pan American Issue

OKPEX 99 BRONZE AWARDS

Scott Troutman, Postal History of the North Carolina Outer Banks
Roland Austin, Postal History Potpourri / Modern: 1954-1999
Richard J. Swords, Ireland, Railroad Letter Fee Stamps
Arnold A. Cooperman, United States Telegraph

OKPEX 99 CERTIFICATE

Pendleton Woods, Cancellation Messages

DISPLAY CLASS AWARDS

Bob Fritz, The Local Post Stamps of Rattlesnake Island First Place
Lawrence Sherman, World War II Through American Eyes First Place
Sherri Soraci, Lincoln's Legacy Second Place
Carl Lemar John, Missions of California

ONE FRAME AWARDS

Robert R. Henak, State Marijuana Tax Stamps
Carl Schauer, Twelfth World Jamboree Cacheted Postcards
Jessica Reid, Women in American History (Youth Exhibit)
Alma Benedict, "America's Favorite Pastime" - Baseball (one frame)
Jack Lines, Communication Instruments (one frame)

Jay Stotts, United States Usages of the Forth Bureau Issue
OKPEX 99 GRAND AWARD
POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY AWARD

Kent Wilson, The 1890 Regular Issue of the U.S.
OKPEX 99 RESERVE GRAND AWARD
BUREAU ISSUES ASSOCIATION AWARD
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD - PRE 1900
U.S. CLASSICS SOCIETY AWARD

Timothy R. Bartshe, Early Settings of the VRI Overprints, 1900
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD - 1900-1940
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD - RESEARCH MEDAL

Paul F. Ammons, Canal Zone Second Airmail Series
AMERICAN AIRMAIL SOCIETY AWARD

George Cosentini, V-Mail
AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD - 1940-1980

Thomas P. Myers, British Postal Rates and Fees During The Reign of George VI
AAPE PIN

Alberich von Fafner, How to Win a Gold Medal
AAPE CREATIVITY AWARD

Bob Fritz, The Local Post Stamps of Rattlesnake Island
OCSC ROBERT T. POLLARD AWARD

Roland Austin, Postal History Potpourri / Moderna: 1954-1999
OKLAHOMA PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD
APFELBAUM AWARD

Scott Troutman, Oklahoma Revenue Stamps
AAPE PIN

Robert R. Henak, State Marijuana Tax Stamps
OKPEX 99 - BEST ONE FRAME AWARD

Lawrence Sherman, World War II Through American Eyes
OKPEX 99 - BEST DISPLAY CLASS AWARD

JUDGES OF THE OKPEX 99 COMPETITIONS
THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Dr. Paul Tyler, Chief Judge - New Mexico
Janet Klug - Ohio
Dr. Hubert Skinner - Louisiana
Alfred Kugel - Illinois
Dr. Peter McCann, Maryland
William McDaniel, Apprentice - Texas

Larry Benson attended the 1999 Oklahoma City OKPEX 99 event featured by the Oklahoma City Stamp Club. Being from Oklahoma Larry often returned to his home state and tried to time his trips with stamp club events. As one can see from these images, Larry was a life-long stamp exhibitor much the same as Ken Miller was when Ken was a member of TS&CC. (cont. on next page)

More Christmas Party Photos

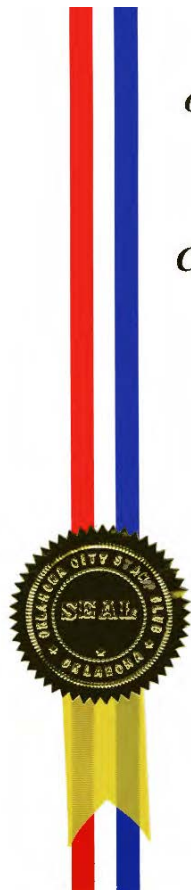


At the January meeting, member Bob Mesterton demonstrated how he uses his new, somewhat miniature, very sophisticated camcorder. He demonstrated how one can take video and images of stamps and present it to an audience. Fortunately for the club members, the Tallahassee Senior Center has installed a nice, new large screen display. Thanks to Bob's presentation, other members started thinking about using the display for their own presentations.

Notice in the photo to the left that Bob has only one cable hooked up to the TV which is most likely an HDMI cable. The quality of images was outstanding. In the past club members have used the video projector for presentations but what Bob showed us far excels.

OKPEX 99 (cont.) by Dr. Mike Francis

Shown below is the ribbon Larry won at OKPEX 99 and the certificate denoting the Vermeil Award which was the third highest exhibit awarded. On the previous page the Vermeil Award is in the third category from the top award. Larry's exhibit pertained to the 1897 Tonga One Penny Stamp.



OKLAHOMA CITY STAMP CLUB

OKPEX 99

CERTIFICATE OF AWARD

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

LAURENCE BENSON

HAS BEEN AWARDED AN OKPEX

VERMEIL AWARD

FOR AN EXHIBIT OF

THE 1897 ONE PENNY OF TONGA

AT THE OKPEX PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA MAY 7-8-9, 1999

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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

Postscript Note:

If any member is interested in Larry Benson's Tin Can Mail covers, please contact Mike Francis. The current plan is to send these covers to Michael Rogers Worldwide Auction. This action should yield maximum benefit for the club which was Larry's wish. If there is an interested member, I can place these on the list for the live auction in May of this year. Caution: there will be a reserve and it will not be a low dollar amount

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The Postscript
Tallahassee Stamp & Cover Club
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Tallahassee, FL 32303

President's Message *from Mike Francis*

It is now well into the 2013 calendar year and plans are moving full steam for TALPEX 2013 on March 23rd and 24th. It looks like we will have at least seven dealers. At the upcoming March meeting let Gerry York know what days you can help at the show. We have a great club and have always had excellent member participation at TALPEX. Thanks to all of you for helping.

Last year the club lost two long time members: Al Kelly in October and Larry Benson in December. They are in our thoughts and prayers. On the brighter side, the club has signed up two new members: Tim Kelly who is Al's son and Chuck Hungerford, both from Tallahassee.

Springtime is coming and we should see Bob and Gerry Mann back in the Tallahassee for awhile before they head back to Michigan to avoid our hot summer. I know Bob said he wanted to try and show up at TALPEX.

I am working on preparing Larry Benson's collection for sale at the club's May Live Auction. I am also preparing his very expensive Tonga (Tin Can Mail) covers for auction with Michael Rogers in Winter Park. In accordance with Larry's wishes, I am to get the "most money for the club." He said he would haunt me if I didn't, so I am working on it. He did not have a large collection but he had some nice items.

Enjoy the upcoming Spring. Mike