

# WILLAMETTE STAMP & TONGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF SALEM STAMP SOCIETY



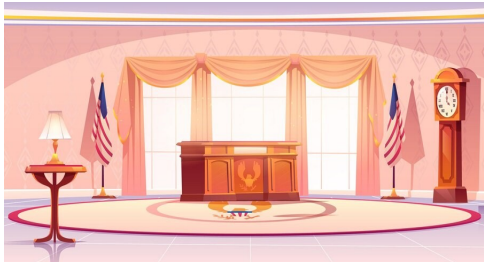
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CELEBRATING 92 YEARS 1933-2025

May 2025

WEBSITE [www.salemstampsociety.org](http://www.salemstampsociety.org)

## From the President's Desk



The main event of the May 21<sup>st</sup> Club Meeting is a **Swap Night!**

Bring your stamps to sell or trade, this is a great opportunity to catch up with our fellow collectors, so even if you don't have stamps to sell the conversations are great fun.

There is a small Bid Board and a range of "Buy it Now" lots comprising highly discounted items on a first come-first served basis.

Bring your favorite finds from PIPEX and share your discoveries. Members that provided pages for the Club Exhibit at PIPEX can pick up their pages at the May Meeting.

Marc Dochez will have a show and tell on "History of Red Cross Stamps".

See you at the Meeting

*Lisa*

## April 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting.

The meeting was well attended with 31 members in the room and 4 on Zoom. Rajeev Pandey was originally scheduled to give a program on "Celebrating Butte Montana's Copper Cachets". He chose instead to present an interesting program with the rather sinister title "Into the Abyss of Droste Stamps".

Rajeev has a background in maths and computing and the concept of recursive or Droste effect images on stamps appealed to him as a collector. The term "Droste" comes from a popular brand of Dutch cocoa which used an image of the packaging on the packaging itself. In this way the image is repeated in an ever decreasing scale until print definition is lost.

Rajeev showed some examples of actual Droste cocoa packets and other products and artwork with recursive images. He then turned to stamps with Droste effects. There is now a well recognized area of collecting for these stamps and is associated with the "Stamps on Stamps" topical association.

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### **Salem Stamp Society**

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## **April 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting (Contd).**

Rajeev showed examples of Droste stamps from several countries including the US (see below).



In some examples the effect is cleverly incorporated with the design of FDC's.

We hope to hear Rajeev's program on the Butte Montana Copper cachets at a future meeting.

The April Bid Board was successful with 43 of the 60 lots selling for just under \$500.

## **Club News & Meetings**

The list of lots on offer in the May Bid Board is included in this newsletter and Bob Reynolds will also be offering a number of items on a "Buy-it-Now", first-come, first served basis **at bargain prices!**

Be sure to sort out surplus items from your collections that you would like to trade or sell for the **Club Swap Night on May 21<sup>st</sup>** or the **Members' Auction on July 16<sup>th</sup>**.

## **PIPEX 2025 is finally here!**

Our largest and best International Stamp Show in the Pacific North West takes place this weekend on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas. This promises to be a great show. There are 19 dealers in attendance with several that are new to the show. The hotel has refurbished the Main Hall and meeting rooms with much improved lighting and décor since last year.

The hotel location just off I205 is (for most of us) easy to get to with free and plentiful parking.

Attendance is free and frequent door prizes will be presented. Bob Reynolds has organized mystery raffle prizes including one very special item.

Please plan to attend and support the show. Our club has a table in the show area so stop by and spend some time there to represent the SSS.

## **More Bleak News for Postal Services.**

The steep decline in the volume of mail carried by national postal services continues unabated. In the U.K. the Royal Mail delivered 20 billion pieces of mail in 2004/5. By 2023/4 this had fallen to 6.7 bn and is projected to be at about 4 bn in 2030.

Royal Mail is legally required to provide a delivery service to all parts of the country however remote or sparsely populated. So, with falling volumes it is obliged to raise prices in order maintain revenue or at least minimize losses. From April 7<sup>th</sup> this year the cost of first class postage is £1.70 or \$2.26 at current rates. Second class mail (delivered somewhat more slowly) is £0.87 or \$1.16 and may only now be delivered only 2 or 3 times per week rather than daily. Standard international postage costs £3.20 or \$4.26 and (from personal experience) may take from 1 to 3 weeks to arrive in the US from the UK.

In the face of such high costs and poor delivery the further decline in business for Royal Mail seems inevitable. Sending physical letters through the mail is becoming a last resort for many and an increasing burden for the elderly or those living in remote areas with no access to digital services.

The position in Denmark is similar in that the volume of mail has declined from 1.4 billion pieces in 2000 to 110 million in 2024. The Danish postal service Post Nord has opted for a more radical approach. For the first time in over 400 years the postal delivery service to homes will cease at the end of this year. The privatized national postal service does not seem to have a legal obligation to deliver letters to everyone and will now concentrate on parcels. Delivery of letters will still be available from a "free market" but at what cost?

Post Nord is expecting to reduce its workforce by a third. Major job losses are also expected at the German postal delivery service Deutsche Post and have also been proposed at the Royal Mail in the UK.

What do all these changes mean for the stamp collector? We rarely get any UK mail with stamps now and the cost of buying all the many new issues is quite significant—especially for the young collector. All in all, not very encouraging news for the future of our hobby.



## Delivering the Mails in Hell's Canyon

We recently spent a very enjoyable week on the Snake and Columbia Rivers which included an exciting trip to Hell's Canyon on a jet boat. This is North America's deepest river gorge at over 7000 feet and much of it inaccessible by road. The sign at the entrance caught my attention.



We did not see the historic US Mail Boat as advertised but as we passed the isolated homes and settlements on the banks of the Snake River I wondered how mail and other supplies were delivered to them.

The captain of our tour boat explained that every Wednesday he made a special trip on his jet boat to deliver the mail. Other jet boats have been



converted to freighters to bring in heavier building supplies and take out produce from the various commercial operations on the river.

He pointed out a rocky outcrop near the start of the gorge calling it "Smugglers Rock". It was said that in the days of Prohibition supplies of liquor were hidden behind this rock. When out of sight from the town, the mail boat would pick these up for delivery to customers further up the gorge. True story? Who knows but it was entertaining!



*"Smugglers Rock" in the foreground.*

*Consider Attending!*

# PIPEX 2025

May 2nd-4th, 2025  
Friday & Saturday 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm

PORT VANCOUVER

*Celebrating the 200th Anniversary  
of the founding of Fort Vancouver*

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Monarch Hotel & Convention Center  
12566 SE 93rd Avenue, Clackamas, Oregon 97015

Special Show Room Rates  
FREE Admission, Parking and Airport Shuttle

CONVENING SOCIETIES  
The Hawaiian Philatelic Society  
The Pacific Northwest Postal History Society

A WORLD SERIES OF PHILATELY SHOW  
Up to 32 Dealer booths, Competitive Exhibits-160 Frames,  
Meetings & Seminars, First Stamps Youth Activities & Grandma's Attic

VISIT [www.pipexstampshow.org](http://www.pipexstampshow.org)

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UPTOWN STAMP SHOW Official Corporate Sponsor of PIPEX2025



**May 2025 Bidboard  
Salem Stamp Society**

1/15/25 9:52 PM

LOT #	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION	SCOTT #	CAT		NOTES
				VALUE	MIN BID	
1	United States	1873 6 cent Lincoln, Used	159	\$18.00	\$4.00	
2	United States	1908 1 cent Franklin Imperf Pair, MNH	343	\$20.00	\$6.00	
3	United States	1908 2 cent Washington, Imperf Pair, MNH	344	\$20.00	\$6.00	
4	United States	1914 2 cent Washington, Perf 10 Coil, Used	444	\$35.00	\$8.00	
5	United States	1929 2 cent Edison Coil, MNH	656	\$22.50	\$5.00	
6	United States	1933 1 cent Yosemite, Vertical & Horizontal Pairs, NGAI	769a	\$13.00	\$4.00	
7	United States	1884 5 cent Postage Due, Used	J18	\$50.00	\$10.00	
8	United States	1940 Federal Duck Stamp, Mint HR	RW7	\$115.00	\$20.00	
9	United States	1947 Federal Duck Stamp, Used, light stain	RW14	\$15.00	\$3.00	
10	United States	4 Misc Panes MNH, Face \$23.20		\$45.00	\$20.00	Face \$23.20
11	United States	2002-2003 New Years Panes of 20, MNH	35,593,747	\$30.00	\$13.00	Face \$14.20
12	United States	2007-2008 Disney Sheets, MNH	4195a,4345a	\$34.00	\$15.00	Face \$16.80
13	German East Africa	1917 3 stamps issued under British Occupation, Mint HR	N114-15,N117	\$35.25	\$7.00	
14	Gibraltar	1935 Jubilee Set, Mint HR	100-103	\$28.75	\$8.00	
15	Ireland	1960 Europa Set, MNH	175-6	\$47.50	\$12.00	
16	Turkish/Cyprus	1977-78 Europa Sets, 1992 S/S, MNH		\$24.75	\$5.00	
17	Wallis & Futuna	1970's 6 Different Stamps, 2 sets, MNH		\$41.00	\$6.00	
18	United Nations	1970's-1980's misc Flag Sheets, \$250/Face			\$65.00	
19	Shogwgard Mounts	6 open packs of 158-187 size mounts, black			\$8.00	
20	Topical	W/W Coll of 1963 Freedom of Hunger, Looks all MNH		\$125.00	\$20.00	

## Salem Stamp Society 2025 Program Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Program</u>
May 21	Swap Night/Small B.B.	S & T by Marc Dochez <i>"The Founding of the International Red Cross &amp; the History of its Stamps"</i>
June 18	Club Auction	No Program
July 16	Members' Auction	S & T
Aug 20	Bid Board	Gary Tiffin & Ted Sheppard <i>"1875 – 1920 Mails to Turner &amp; Aumsville"</i>
Sept 17	Bid Board	Peter Gatehouse <i>"Tin – Can Mail"</i>
Oct 15	Swap Night/Small B.B.	S & T
Nov 22	AGM & Club auction	No Program
Dec ?	Christmas Party	

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**P.O. Box 202**

**Salem, OR 97308**

## **Meetings**

**All meetings held at the Scottish Rite  
Masonic Temple,  
4090 Commercial St. SE, Salem, OR.**

### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025.**

**Starts at 7pm, Doors open at 6pm.**

**Members' Swap Night and Small Bid Board.  
S. & T.: "The Founding of the International  
Red Cross and the history of its Stamps" by  
Marc Dochez.**

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

**Starts at 7pm, Doors open at 6pm.**

**Club Auction; No Program**

## **Pacific NW Stamp Shows and Bourses 2025-6**

### **Local Events**

**SOPEX, Medford OR, June 26-7 2025**

### **Repetitive Events:**

**Oregon Stamp Society: Rose City Stamp Fair -  
2nd Saturday of the month at OSS clubhouse  
4828 NE 33rd Ave., Portland 9:00am-3:00 pm  
Collectors Corner - 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month  
at OSS clubhouse 9:00 am.- 3:00 pm**

### **2024-25 Major Shows:**

**PIPEX 2025, May 2-4, Monarch Hotel, Clackamas**

**BOSTSON 2026 World Expo, May 28-30 2026 at the Boston  
Convention Center**