

# WILLAMETTE STAMP & TONGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF SALEM STAMP SOCIETY

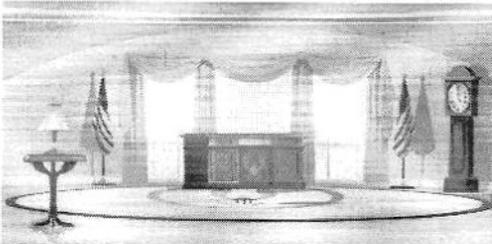


Volume 53 Issue 2

CELEBRATING 93 YEARS 1933-2026

February 2026

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



## From the President's Desk

### January 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

The first meeting of 2026 was well attended with about 35 members (including 2 on Zoom) present for a successful and lively Members' Auction. There was keen bidding contests for some items and overall 3/4 of the lots were sold for a total of nearly \$850.

Pete McCallum has started preparation of the 2026-2028 Members

Directory. An Information Sheet was distributed at the meeting and another copy is included with this newsletter. Members are encouraged to complete the sheet and return it to Pete by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**

The Directory is for members use only and its contents will never be shared with non-members.

We are looking for Programs for April and later in the year, please contact Lisa or Danny if you are interested in making a presentation to the membership. Annual dues are paid as a reward for this!

### February 21st Meeting.

The main event of the morning is a program by **George Struble** based on his multi-award winning exhibits on "**SCADTA Airmail**". Bob Reynolds has as-

sembled another varied and interesting selection of items for the February Bid Board. A full listing plus images of selected lots is included in this newsletter and also posted on our web site.

February is our club's birthday month and at the meeting we will celebrate our **93<sup>rd</sup>** year with some special treats for members.



January 2026 Members' Auction.

Salem Stamp Society  
P.O. Box 202  
Salem, Oregon 97308  
[www.salemstampsociety.org](http://www.salemstampsociety.org)

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Tony Port	

## **That's Interesting!**

**Bob Grosch**

### **WORMS**

Old timers will remember the late, great philatelic story teller Herman Herst Jr. Herst could instantly spin a story about stamps upon request.



Before Herst became a stamp dealer he worked in an office on Wall Street, where his interest in stamps became an item of conversation among his fellow office workers. Herst's supervisor thought these conversations were negatively impacting office productivity, and so issued a demand that

there be "no more conversation about stamps during working hours."

However, as we all know, whenever the room is full of stamp collectors, there is little else to talk about except stamps. So they talked about *worms*: "Be sure to put a worm on that letter" they would say. No doubt they also discussed the arrival of "new worms", and the various color shades of certain "worms."

And this has not been the only occasion when stamps were called *worms*. When the Germans invaded Denmark during WW II they looted all the stamp shops and other places holding valuable collectibles.

In Copenhagen there was a stamp dealer with a friend whose business was the exportation of worms. They were exported wrapped in large bundles of wet seaweed. The stamp dealer negotiated with his friend and they agreed on a strategy to save the stamp dealer's hoard of valuable stamps. They secured a supply of water tight metal containers to hold the stamps and hid the containers in the bundles of wet seaweed. The stamp dealer's stamps were safely shipped out of the country and away from the grasp of the Nazis.

If each stamp in our collections had a voice and could tell us the story of how they survived WWII that would indeed be interesting!

#### **Washington Postal Scene by Linn's Staff**

The United States Postal Service is warning customers to be on alert for counterfeit postage scams

that have been spreading online and through third-party sellers. In a statement released by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service in late September, officials cautioned that consumers should not be enticed by offers that claim to provide stamps at deep discounts.

"Don't fall for fake stamps," the agency warned in a poster distributed as part of the campaign.

Postal inspectors report that these scams often advertise savings of 40 to 50 percent off the face value of stamps, an offer that should immediately raise suspicion. U.S. Postal Inspector Kelly McNulty explained, "If you see large discounts on stamps, like 40 to 50 percent off, it's probably too good to be true."

The fraudulent offers can involve counterfeit versions of forever stamps, postage labels, or even entire rolls of fake stamps.

Mail bearing counterfeit postage can be intercepted or discarded, and those who unknowingly use the fraudulent stamps may face financial losses or penalties.

The Postal Service emphasized that stamps should only be purchased directly from USPS locations, through [usps.com](http://usps.com), or from approved retailers.

The Inspection Service is investigating networks that produce or distribute counterfeit postage and is encouraging the public to report suspicious sales.

Customers who suspect they have received or purchased counterfeit stamps are advised by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service to report them directly through official USPS channels. The best way is to submit a report online at [www.uspis.gov/report](http://www.uspis.gov/report). There, consumers can provide details about where and how the stamps were purchased, upload photos if possible, and file a fraud complaint.

Alternatively, reports can be made by calling the Postal Inspection Service at 877-876-2455 and selecting option 2. Customers can also bring suspicious stamps to their local post office for review, but the official complaint still needs to be filed through the inspection service.

The warning is part of a broader USPS effort to protect both consumers and the mail system. Through Project Safe Delivery, postal officials are working to prevent fraud and safeguard the integrity of the nation's mail. Consumers are urged to stay alert, avoid offers that appear too good to be true, and report questionable postage to the authorities.

## The Buccleuch Block to be Offered at Auction at Boston 2026 World Expo.



I am grateful to club member Worth Mathewson for bringing this to my attention. One of the finest and most important philatelic items will be offered at auction for the first time at the Boston 2026 World Expo. The auctioneers, Siegel International, estimate that it might fetch between \$5-7 million.

Known as the "Buccleuch Block", the part sheet of 48 of the 1840 two pence blue stamps is one of only a few large blocks of mint specimens and is likely the largest in existence. The figure "2" at the corners of the sheet refers to Plate 2 which is the rarer of the two plates used for this issue. Stanley Gibbons catalogue prices for individual 2d blue stamps in 2022 were £38,000 for plate 1 and £45,000 for plate 2 (\$50,000 and 60,000 at today's rates).

As a young stamp collector I read the story of the discovery of these stamps in an old desk with great interest. What would be the chances of finding something like this at the homes of aged relatives? Very slim!

The story of this block of 2d blues starts in 1945 at the home of the 8th Duke of Buccleuch in Dalkeith in the Scottish Borders. The Duke had asked his personal secretary, Alexander Martin, to make an inventory of the contents of Dalkeith Palace. This was no small undertaking, think of a stately home the size of Downton Abbey in the TV series.

Martin discovered two large blocks of stamps that were rolled up in a compartment of a traveling writing desk in the Palace library. As well as the

2d blues there was also a large block of the 1841 1d red-brown imperforate stamps. The Duke was either not very interested in philately or short of money (or both) and within a year of the discovery the block of 2d blues was sold privately to a collector from Surrey for £6,500. This does not sound like a lot of money but (according to AI) in 1945, £6,500 was a substantial amount of money, equivalent in purchasing power to over £360,000 (close to \$500,000) in 2026. This sum could purchase several large detached houses in many parts of the UK, multiple brand-new luxury automobiles, or finance a high-end lifestyle for several years immediately following World War II.

The block has had a number of distinguished owners over the years. It was part of the Grand Prix winning exhibit at Stamp World London 1990 by Hassan Shaida. It was also one of twenty items displayed as "Aristocrats of Philately" at ANPHILEX 1996 in New York. It is currently owned by a private collector.

The Buccleuch peerage dates back to 1663 when it was awarded to the eldest illegitimate son of Charles II although the family name, Scott, can be traced back to the 12th Century. There have been many links to the British Royal Family and it is a familiar name in the landed aristocracy. Having said that it was not until writing this article that I found out that Buccleuch is pronounced "Buck-Loo" and means "deer ravine". The current Duke is one of the largest private land owners in Scotland and could likely afford to buy back the block!

# Salem Stamp Society

## 2026-2028 Membership Directory Information Sheet

We would like to include you in the 2026-2028 Salem Stamp Society Membership Directory. Please fill out this form and include only information you wish to have published in the directory. Do not refer to previous directories, supplements, or questionnaires. All information collected is for member use only and is not to be given out to nonmembers.

**Your dues must be current for your information to be included in the directory.**

**Please complete this form as soon as possible and mail to Pete McCallum, 370 Ironwood Terrace, Woodburn, OR 97071, scan and email to [pimac@web-ster.com](mailto:pimac@web-ster.com), or bring to a monthly meeting. It must be received by April 15, 2026.**

Please include my information in the directory as noted below

Include my name only in the directory as noted below

I do not wish to be included in the directory

PLEASE PRINT

Name (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Business \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Collecting interests (please limit to 6 areas):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**February 2026 Bidboard  
Salem Stamp Society**

8/25/25 1:13 PM

LOT #	COUNTRY	DESCRIPTION	SCOTT #	CAT		NOTES
				VALUE	MIN BID	
1	United States	1863 1 cent Jefferson, Used	63	\$45.00	\$10.00	
2	United States	1861 12 cent Washington, Used, Creased, small thin	69	\$95.00	\$10.00	
3	United States	1861 24 cent Washington, Used, Faults, spacefiller	70	\$300.00	\$15.00	
4	United States	1868 3 cent Washington, E Grill. Used	88	\$27.50	\$6.00	
5	United States	1869 3 cent Locomotive, Used	114	\$16.00	\$6.00	Nicely Centered!
6	United States	1879 5 cent Taylor, Used	185	\$16.00	\$5.00	
7	United States	1879 15 cent Webster, Used	189	\$27.50	\$8.00	
8	United States	1893 1 cent Columbian, MNH	230	\$32.50	\$10.00	
9	United States	1895 50 cent Jefferson, Used	275	\$35.00	\$12.00	
10	United States	1898 10 cent Trans-Mississippi, Used	290	\$40.00	\$10.00	Nice Stamp!
11	United States	1901 10 cent Pan Am Expo, Used	299	\$30.00	\$8.00	
12	United States	1904 10 cent Louisiana Purchase, Used	327	\$27.50	\$8.00	
13	United States	1910 1 cent Franklin Coil, Mint HR	385	\$45.00	\$15.00	Nicely Centered!
14	United States	1923 \$5 Head of Freedom Statue, Used, Perfin "CT"	573	\$15.00	\$4.00	
15	United States	1925 3 cent Lincoln, Perf 10, Mint LH	584	\$27.50	\$7.00	
16	United States	1925 10 cent Monroe, Perf 10, Mint LH	591	\$40.00	\$10.00	
17	United States	1924 5 cent Roosevelt, Coil Line Pair, MNH	602	\$22.50	\$6.00	
18	United States	1925 Lexington Concord Set, Mint LH	617-19	\$19.50	\$5.00	
19	United States	1925 Norse American Set, MNH	620-21	\$25.00	\$8.00	Nice Set!
20	United States	1928 Hawaii Overprint Set, Mint LH	647-8	\$15.00	\$4.00	
21	United States	1929 6 cent Nebraska Overprint, Mint LH	664	\$25.00	\$6.00	
22	United States	1929 7 cent Nebraska Overprint, Mint LH	665	\$25.00	\$5.00	
23	United States	1931 Misc Rotary Press Issues, MNH	692,694-96	\$21.75	\$6.00	
24	United States	1931 Misc Rotary Press Issues, MNH	697,698,699	\$32.75	\$10.00	
25	United States	1938 \$1 Prexie, MNH	832	\$7.00	\$3.00	Nicely Centered!
26	United States	1938 \$2 Prexie, MNH	833	\$16.00	\$5.00	Nicely Centered!
27	United States	1926-7 Map and Planes Airmail Set, MNH	C7-9	\$21.75	\$6.00	
28	United States	1936 Federal Duck Stamp, Used, Straight Edge	RW3	\$ 100.00	\$15.00	
29	United States	1949 Federal Duck Stamp, Used	RW16	\$ 15.00	\$4.00	
30	Confederate States	1862 5 cent Jefferson Davis, Mint no Gum Block of 6, Faults	6	\$ 60.00	\$10.00	Creasing, stain on Rt
31	Bahrain	1953 Coronation Set, Mint LH	92-5	\$ 15.25	\$4.00	
32	Barbados	1910 6p, Badge of the colony, Mint HR	98	\$ 30.00	\$8.00	
33	Barbados	1948 Silver Wedding Set, Mint LH	210-11	\$18.35	\$6.00	
34	Bechuanaland	1888 1/2p overprint, Mint HR	52	\$13.00	\$3.00	
35	Bermuda	1866 2p Victoria, Used	2	\$40.00	\$8.00	
36	Bermuda	1886 3p, Victoria Mint HR	23	\$27.50	\$8.00	
37	Bermuda	1935 Silver Jubilee Set, Mint LH	100-103	\$16.80	\$5.00	
38	Canada	1935 10 cent George V, MNH	215	\$12.75	\$4.00	
39	Canada	1935 13 cent George V, MNH	216	\$13.25	\$4.00	
40	Gibraltar	1895 2p Victoria, Mint HR	37	\$13.00	\$3.00	
41	Gibraltar	1931-33 Rock of Gibraltar Set, Mint HR	96-99	\$ 30.00	\$7.00	
42	Ireland	1922 9p Violet, Coat of Arms, Mint HR	74	\$ 35.00	\$8.00	
43	Ireland	1922 10p Brown, Celtic Cross, Mint HR	75	\$17.00	\$5.00	
44	Ireland	1922 1sh Blue, Sword of Life, Mint HR	76	\$ 35.00	\$8.00	
45	Ireland	1958 Aikenhead Set, Mint HR	167-8	\$19.75	\$5.00	
46	Australia	1980-5 MNH Collection - 100 Different Stamps		\$ 65.00	\$12.00	
47	Barbados	1960's-1970's Mint/MNH Collection		\$110.00	\$22.00	
48	Belize	1979-80 MNH, 2 sets, 3 S/S		\$ 110.25	\$22.00	
49	Bosnia & Herzegovina	1910's Mini Collection Mostly Mint - 33 stamps		\$ 13.35	\$3.00	
50	Guernsey	1970's-90's MNH Collection - 16 sets, 1 S/S, 2 Europa sheets		\$60.00	\$12.00	
51	Hong Kong	1980's MNH Collection - 11 sets		\$ 84.00	\$16.00	
52	Isle of Man	1970's-1980's MNH Collection, 13 sets, 1 S/S		\$ 15.25	\$4.00	
53	Isle of Man	1970's-1990's MNH Collection - 25 sets		\$ 62.35	\$12.00	
54	Jersey	1970's-1980's MNH Collection - 12 sets, 2 S/S		\$31.00	\$6.00	
55	Jersey	1973-1981 MNH Collection, 30 sets, 1 S/S		\$41.35	\$8.00	
56	Liechtenstein	1980's MNH Collection - 20 sets		\$ 63.00	\$12.00	
57	Monaco	1950's-1970's MNH Collection - 72 Different		\$ 81.40	\$16.00	
58	San Marino	1940's-1980's mini MNH Collection		\$ 27.10	\$6.00	
59	San Marino	1983-85 MNH Collection		\$ 60.10	\$12.00	
60	Switzerland	1978-85 MNH Collection		\$ 127.00	\$25.00	

**Salem Stamp Society**  
**February 2026 Bid Board**



Lot 1



Lot 2



Lot 3



Lot 4



Lot 5



Lot 6



Lot 7



Lot 8



Lot 10



Lot 9



Lot 11



Lot 12



Lot 13



Lot 14



Lot 15



Lot 16



Lot 17



Lot 18



Lot 19

**Salem Stamp Society**  
**February 2026 Bid Board**



Lot 20



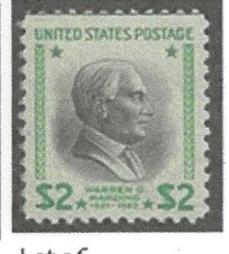
Lot 21



Lot 22



Lot 25



Lot 26



Lot 23



Lot 24



Lot 27



Lot 28



Lot 29



Lot 32



Lot 30



Lot 33



Lot 35



Lot 36



Lot 34



Lot 40



Lot 42



Lot 43



Lot 38



Lot 39



Lot 44



Lot 45



**Salem Stamp Society**

**P.O. Box 202**

**Salem, OR 97308**

**Meetings**

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

**Saturday 21st February 2026**

**Program: "SCADTA Airmail", George Struble  
Bid Board  
Starts 10am**

**Wednesday 18th March 2026**

**Program: "The 3c 1851 Stamp Printers, Top-  
pan, Carpenter & Casilear's First Year Diffi-  
culties with Color Changes & Damaged Plates"  
Marc Dochez. Bid Board. Starts 7pm**

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

**Local Events**

**Salem STAMPEX Sunday 22nd March, Scottish Rite Centre,  
Commercial St SE, Salem. 10am—4pm**

**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**

**2025-2026 Major Shows:**

**PIPEX 2026, May 1-3 2026, Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, OR**

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