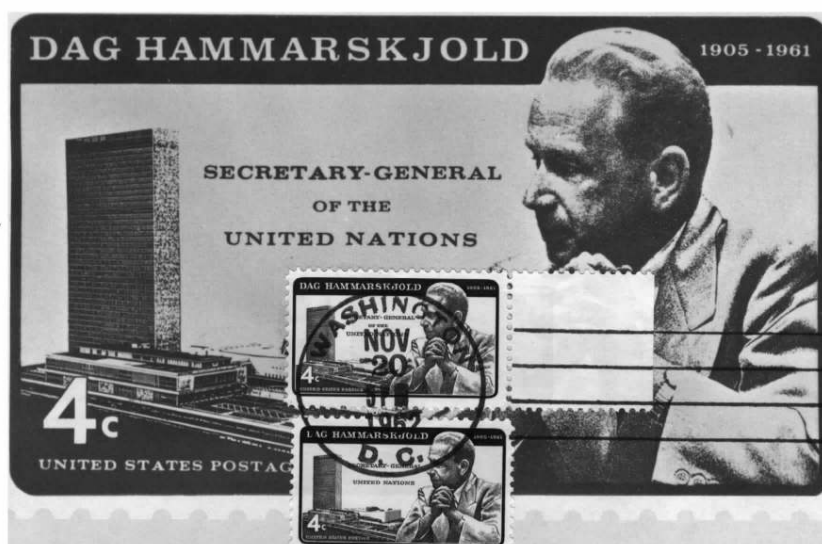


THE PAGE & PANEL JOURNAL

POST ON BULLETIN BOARD

4-CENT DAG HAMMARSKJOLD COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP



AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE
OCTOBER 24, 1962

A special 4-cent stamp in honor of Dag Hammarskjöld, the late Secretary-General of the United Nations, will be first placed on sale at New York, New York, on October 23, 1962.

The Hammarskjöld stamp, designed by H. M. Sanborn of the United Nations Graphics staff, will measure 0.84 by 1.44 inches. It will be arranged horizontally and issued in panes of 50, with an initial printing of 120 million.

The stamp, portraying Dag Hammarskjöld and a view of the United Nations building in New York, will be printed on the Giori presses in yellow, brown and black, on white paper.

Collectors desiring first day cancellations may send addressed envelopes, together with remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed, to the Postmaster, New York 1, New York. A close-fitting enclosure of postal card thickness should be placed in each envelope and the flap either turned in or sealed. The envelope to the Postmaster should be endorsed "First-day Covers 4¢ Hammarskjöld Stamp." Orders for covers must not include requests for uncanceled stamps. Cover requests must be postmarked not later than October 23, 1962.

A.S.P.P.P.

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Board of Directors

Ron Walenciak, President & Editor

email: rwalenciak@aol.com

736 Colonial Blvd.

Washington Twp., NJ 07676-3922

201-358-6890

Gary West, Vice President

email: gary_ufo44@hotmail.com

506 North 14th

Laporte, TX 77571

281-471-8984

John Ngai, Secretary/Treasurer

email: johnngai@email.com

PO Box 381

Rego Park, NY 11374

718-275-2916

Bud Scrantom, Founder

email: budscrantom@netscape.net

1138 Princeton Dr.

Richardson, TX 75081

972-644-2153

Gerald Blankenship

email: gblank1941@aol.com

PO Box 475

Crosby, TX 77532

281-324-2709

David Weinberg

email: dnweinberg@aol.com

1613 16th Ln.

Lake Worth, FL 33463-4360

561-439-8977

Jim Canon, Immediate Past President

email: jimcanon@interl.net

PO Box 3

Keokuk, IA 52632

319-524-9500

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OPENING REMARKS

By ASPPP Editor Ron Walenciak

As you can see, I've made some changes in the *Journal* this year. It's put me a little behind schedule, but I switched from my old desk-top publishing software (*Publish-It for Windows*) to *Microsoft Publisher 2002*, the latest version of the Microsoft product. The learning curve was great (coupled with very little free time) but the results should make it worthwhile.

I've made the *Journal* look more modern, and improved the fonts in an attempt to make it more readable. I hope you agree that it's a big improvement. On a "technical" level, *Publisher* gives me the ability to easily import digital images from email and the web, and electronically transmit them to Alphagraphics for printing. We should get the same great quality we've been

accustomed to, but without the hassle and loss of quality inherent in trying to print those images.

So, if you have anything to send to me for the *Journal* in general or for the *Discoveries* column specifically, and you have access to a scanner, you can just scan it (.jpg files are great) and email it to me. Of course, good, clear photocopies are always welcome, too.

Another *Journal*, including our annual auction lots, will follow this one at the end of May. Can you let me know what you think about this *Journal*?

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Ron Walenciak

One of our members recently asked me whether he should sell his collection via the auction, or an ad in the *Journal*, or in some other manner. I get this question occasionally, and these are the thoughts I sent back to him as my response. I'd be very interested in receiving comments from buyers, sellers and dealers whether in agreement or disagreement. I can see this column becoming the foundation for a society pamphlet on "How to sell your collection"; I think we need a number of pamphlets like that to hand out at shows and provide to the membership.

Selling a collection, whether via the auction or the *Journal* ads, is about the same. You have to first decide to what extent you are willing to split up your collection. Generally speaking, everyone bidding is looking for a bargain, and you will find very few buyers for a complete collection; you will find more buyers for individual year sets, and some years will sell better than others. You can also specify something interesting in the year set ("1990 year set with 3 plate number coil Pages".) When the dust clears, if you put up your entire collection for sale and someone buys it, you're done; if you put up individual year sets, you might be left with a few scattered years that nobody wanted, and you may have to list them again in next year's auction, or in next quarter's *Journal* or you may never sell them.

Pricing a collection is the second (and toughest) part. Catalog prices, whether Scott, Brookman or *The Postal Service Guide to US Stamps*, are prices for individual Pages; you can't simply add up the price of each individual Page to get the price of a year set or an entire collection! These catalog prices are the price for a Page when the dealer had to buy a year set, for example, and selling that one Page to you will eliminate his chance of selling that year set. So, you're paying a "premium" to cover his investment and his loss of future sales. Personally, I've always felt that catalogs should show year-set prices since that

is the way we tend to look at things in the Page and Panel collecting community. Personally, I would look at previous auction prices realized, as well as dealer price lists. Nobody is going to want to pay you the same prices that the dealer lists, or even close (again, everybody wants a bargain.)

In the auction, you can set a minimum bid which will protect you from having to sell your collection for next to nothing, and not have to worry about setting the maximum you will be able to get for it. If, for example, you are willing to sell your year sets at your original cost, you can set your minimum bid to be the price you paid for those specific years. If a year is not in great demand, that might not even be reasonable. You will also have to ship your collection to Gerald Blankenship, and pay for shipping back to you if any part of it doesn't sell, so at least the first shipping amount should be factored into your minimum as well (and the 10% auction commission as well, which is paid from the seller's proceeds.)

For an ad in the *Journal* you will have to either set a concrete price, or say "make me an offer", or say "best offer over \$\$\$\$", but you can mention that "postage" is additional. You will have to deal individually with prospective buyers.

You can also pull certain high-value individual Pages out of the year set and sell them individually; that will bring you a better price overall, but will make that incomplete year set very hard to sell. By "high value" Page, I mean plate number coil Pages, error Pages, express mail Pages, any other Pages that were not sent to everybody as part of the subscription service, and possibly watermark varieties (although the last one requires more knowledge and time than most of us have or are willing to spend.) Another thing you could do is to purchase a "regular" Page at a low cost and replace the "high-value" Page in the

PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONTINUED)

year set, thereby selling both; this is a common occurrence, where for example someone will sell all the plate number coil Pages for \$50 each and replace them with non-PNC Pages that cost \$1 each to keep the year sets intact. It's called "cherry picking" when someone pulls all the good Pages out of a collection, and you could even sell an entire collection with the note that is hasn't been cherry-picked and has ## PNC Pages, I suppose; maybe that would draw some interest from the "gamblers" in the society.

I used to list my plate number coil Pages in the Journal ads for sale with the provision that the buyer had to send me my price plus a replacement Page, which I needed to keep my collection intact. That worked out well for me, as I didn't have to be bothered with buying the replacement Page myself.

I hope these opinions help you. You might also call or write Gerald Blankenship (his address is on the 2nd page of each Journal), as he is the Auction Chairperson and would be able to give you an opinion on how to proceed with the auction. The deadline for receipt of auction lots will be listed in the next Journal, but you would have to move on that quickly, definitely in the next month or month and a half.

On an unrelated subject, I mentioned in the previous *Journal* that we would like to attend both the AFDCS Americover show and the APS Stampshow this summer. Only one member, Bill Quinn, volunteered to spend some time with us at Stampshow in Atlantic City. If any other members from the area are willing to come down, please let me know.

We still don't have anyone to serve as show coordinator for Americover in Chicago this June. While I suppose that Jim Canon might do that, as he has for all of our other Chicago shows, I would like to see if any Chicago members have

any interest. You can contact Jim directly (see page 2) for information.

At last year's annual meeting, member Charles McClure asked about Jim Canon's Page & Panel slide presentation. Jim has presented it at various annual shows, and Charles had an interest in presenting it at a local stamp club meeting as well as moving it to cdrom for private viewing. Jim and Charles got together via email and Charles has provided this update:

"I used the slide show at my presentation on Souvenir Pages in February at the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. The presentation went over very well and they confirmed that it should make a good CD to explain what Souvenir Pages are all about."

"Currently I am working with the Colorado Macintosh users Group to determine the best format for converting the scans and the audio tape input into a format that is available to both Windows and Macintosh users. I hope to have that done this month and proceed with a trial format CD that I can send you by mid May."

"I have scanned two or three slides as a trial and they seem to appear very well in a P D F format as the result of good quality slides. As soon as I have a recommendation from my friends on the proposed format for the CD I will give you a status report by e-mail."

We'll all look forward to that report. Thanks for getting involved, Charles.

If you plans for this summer put you in Chicago in mid-July, please try to join us at the Americover show. Details on the show are printed in this *Journal*. I hope to see many of you there.

FINANCIAL REPORT

By ASPPP Treasurer John Ngai

The financial report was provided by the Secretary/Treasurer to the Board of Directors for the calendar year 2001 and is provided to the membership at this time (see table below).

The society ended the year 2001 in good financial condition even though expenses exceeded income by \$1,800.58. We received less income, due to a significant drop in our membership base, with 45 members not renewing their membership, and a lower percentage of multi-year renewals.

Meanwhile, the cost to print the *Journal* increases year to year, as does mailing to all members which of course includes members up to the date of expiration who did not renew.

Included in income are multi-year renewals received in 2001; the estimated value of multi-year renewals beyond one year included in 2001 is \$1,526 whereas the prior year was \$2,030.

The estimated value of all multi-year renewals beyond one year as of year end 2001 is \$1,721.

Auction proceeds were \$691.65, as a result of the commission increase from 5% to 10% starting in 2001.

The society produced four *Journals* for the year.

Your society continues to prudently manage its income and expenses so that it can continue to produce an excellent *Journal* and mail the *Journal* at first class postage rates for prompt delivery, all without impacting membership dues at this time.

Our cash position continues to erode. Additionally, we expect another postage increase by mid-year 2002 to mail the *Journal*.

Calendar Year	1999	2000	2001
Beginning Balance	\$9,778	\$10,012	\$9,450
Income	8,723	7,214	6,659
Expenses	8,489	7,775	8,460
Cash Balance 12/31	\$10,012	\$9,450	\$7,649
Membership Count	501	500	471

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By ASPPP Editor Ron Walenciak

Dear Editor:

In your closing remarks of *Journal* Volume 18#3 you bring up the point of internet access versus the printed word in the *Journal*. In my humble opinion, the *Journal* is the one asset the society has that keeps the membership informed on what goes on and helps to keep some members from letting their membership lapse. (No, I do not have a computer.) As you and I are aware, the attendance at the annual meetings is considered great if you have 10% of the membership attend. That means 90% rely on the published minutes in the *Journal* to keep them informed. It will be interesting to see how many are with and without internet access. I know, they say you can go to the library to access the internet, and that is true. I could also go to the library to read the daily paper. So why do I have it home delivered?

To give you an idea how strongly one group of Bell Collectors feels about maintaining the printed word in their "journal", I enclose a copy of the short article by the Bell Tower Standing Committee Chairman.

End of my sermon. Thanks for a job well done.

(signed) Leo Stawicki

[The article Leo sent refers to another group's discussion about combining two issues into one to save money. We have no intention to do that, but the comments regarding a printed magazine are well stated: "When cancelling an issue, you lose contact with the membership considering that the vast majority does not attend a convention. I can think of no other idea that would speed the demise [of the ABA] more than this one."

I, myself, have a computer, but I have little interest in reading publications on it. I agree with you, Leo, and the Chairman of the Bell Tower Standing Committee Ed Hendzlik. The Journal is the most important thing we do, and it holds the society together. - Editor]

Dear Editor:

I wanted to make a point of clarification about numbering of Souvenir Pages. As reported in *Journal* 18#4, numbering of Souvenir Pages looks like it is a non-issue amongst members. Don't get me wrong. I believe the numbering of Souvenir Pages by the US Postal Service should be in Date of Issue order; however, that being said, is the number that is presently printed on a Souvenir Page so useless that we need another numbering scheme? I think not.

Ron makes several good points. Numbering is a non-issue to members. I agree. As for the Postal Service not assigning the number until actual date of issue, I agree as it seems simple and viable, but if the powers that be at the US Postal Service decide otherwise, there is not much we can do as a society on this issue.

As a society, we can suggest, cajole, encourage, and provide the Postal Service with our thoughts and opinions. In some cases, the Postal Service has listened; in other cases, it has been ignored for whatever reason.

As a collector and subscriber to the Page and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (CONTINUED)

Panel programs I will still collect Pages and Panels; the other option is to opt out!!

John Ngai

[Thanks, John, for your contributions to the Journal and your follow up thoughts. -Editor]

[This is an email followup from Greg Meyer regarding his recent article about 2001 Souvenir Pages and his pricing of PNC Pages. - Editor]

Dear Editor:

I mentioned briefly the cataloging of my collection and a brief discussion about pricing - which are the prices I would or feel should be paid for each item.

My pricing scheme was developed back in 1985 when having discussions with *[USPS personnel]* Pete Davidson, Bob Brown, Peggy Grant, John Speihs and a few others. I wanted to get a plate number on every Page with a transportation coil. I mentioned to Bob Brown that I would be willing to buy a given number of Pages if he would guarantee me a Page with plate number - like what the USPS is doing now *[with mint coil strips]* - buy a certain number of coil stamps to guarantee a plate number. Bob's response was that it would be labor intensive from the way things were set up then - but the USPS is using a similar idea now, called "standing orders", which I use to get just about everything issued by the post office. So these ideas were not too far off the mark at the time - just ahead of the times and the way things were then done.

By the way, I made a statistical boo boo, which my statistical peers would take me to task for and which Ron caught - I left off the phrase "on the average" - that is, "buying 24 Pages, on the average", should guarantee a plate number if everything at the USPS is copacetic - which I

agree with Ron's concern, it probably isn't straight forward as I put it; but that is what I was and am willing to pay and thus the price I place on my inventory list. I did get a standing order of stamps yesterday which had quite a few of blank Souvenir Pages - and thankfully up through the last number, 0153, are on 2001 bond paper, show a 2001 copyright and are numbered as issued in 2001. By the way, the 0153 Page is for the "United We Stand" stamp issue in Oct 24, whereas, the 0152 Page is for the 57 cent Love Letters, issued on 19 November.

Take care,

Greg *[Meyer]*

[Thanks, Greg, for your contributions to the Journal, and to the study of Pages and Stamp Posters as well.—Editor.]

[The following, regarding John Ngai's Closing Remarks comments in Journal Volume 18#4, was sent directly to John :]

An overdue bravo for both your pricing and numbering opinions; very well expressed. I'm a quiet ASPPP member .My number is fairly low, # 293, so I've had a good perspective over many years. Thanks

(signed) G. Meyerhoff

Some time back you suggested (quite strongly) that we remove our Pages from the albums sold by the USPS Philatelic Branch due to the yellowing effect of the black backing paper. Actually, I think you said to remove the black paper.

I contacted the Philatelic people and they stated that the black paper was acid free. If so, shouldn't this paper be ok to use with my Souvenir

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (CONTINUED)

Pages?

The albums I have are the ones for commemoratives and are of a simulated brown leather, costing \$14.95 each. This may be a good subject for an article in the *Journal* as others must also use these albums. Thanks.

(signed) John

[I'll ask Bud Scrantom to ask the Postal Service about this. I know that at the time we originally warned the membership about this issue, the paper and the sleeves were not of archival quality. It's possible that the USPS has improved the quality of these items. If anyone has knowledge on this subject, please write or email me and let me know what you think.—Editor.]

AUCTION REPORT

By ASPPP Auction Chairman Gerald Blankenship

Auction lots continue to come in, and it looks like we'll have another great list of Pages, Panels and Posters for you to bid on! I'm up to date listing everything that's arrived so far, so please send your lots in to me as soon as possible and help me beat the last minute rush!

your sets of Pages and Panels; I echo the things he said. Also, please read the box below regarding donations. Thanks to member John Stevens of NJ for his donations. Your society appreciates it!

See Ron's President's Column in this issue for his thoughts on figuring out how to auction off

ATTENTION ASPPP MEMBERS

We still need donations of Souvenir Pages, Stamp Posters and even Commemorative Panels, if you have any to spare. At each annual meeting we give away hundreds of Pages to prospective members and we have tried an experiment in *Linn's* where a new membership included 15 free Souvenir Pages. We have been including a set of North American Wildlife Pages with each new paid membership as an Americover show special (which worked very well in Houston, not as well in Denver.) A member donated 15 sets for that purpose and we are running low. Also, we are accepting item's as donations to the ASPPP to help raise funds for special projects. In the future we hope to have available a CD with several inventory lists of Souvenir Pages, Commemorative panels, as well as PNC Pages, Pages with coil lines, and Pages with booklet varieties. This is only one of the many projects your board is working on.

Send any donations to ASPPP, P.O. Box 475, Crosby TX 77532.

AUCTION REPORT (CONTINUED)

ASPPP 2002 AUCTION CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The placing of a bid will constitute acceptance of the conditions of sale.
2. All lots are guaranteed genuine.
3. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at one advance over the second highest bid.
4. All bidders are requested to use their ASPPP number.
5. All bids must be signed - unless you e-mail your bid.
6. Bid by lot number and mail to "AUCTION CHAIRMAN", C/O Gerald Blankenship P.O. Box 475 Crosby, Texas 77532-0475.
7. Winning bidders will be shipped their lots, and payment must be made within (5) days. The winning bidder will pay all postage fees. Make checks payable to : Gerald Blankenship, not the ASPPP. This will serve as your receipt as payment for the lots.
8. Lots that do not sell will be returned to the owner at their expense.
9. You can bid by e-mail at the following address: gblank1941@aol.com
10. All sales are final.
11. There is a 10% fee paid by the seller to the ASPPP.
12. Lots must be received by May 22, 2002.

DISCOVERIES

By Ron Walenciak

I'd like to start up our "Discoveries" column as a regular feature once again. It hasn't been printed in every issue for quite some time, as it seems the membership hasn't had much to contribute.

I would like you to report any plate numbers on coil stamps and booklet panes to me, as well as anything else you receive that seems to be a potential oddity, variety or error, or just looks "interesting" to you. Our last booklet pane plate number list was in 19xx and our last plate number update was in 19xx, so feel free to review your collections and send or email me anything you find after that date.

In our next *Journal* I hope to be able to list all known plate numbers on booklet panes so that you can compare what you have to what others have found. I've also asked Gerald Blankenship to provide an update to his Transportation Series PNC's on Souvenir Pages articles that ended in 19xx, which will give us an idea of what has been found since then, and perhaps Greg Meyer will prepare a table of plate numbers known to exist on subsequent coil stamps.

This is the only method we have of comparing our collections to see what is really out there! Please contribute your knowledge and observations to help us make it work. As part of his work on a catalog, Greg Meyer produced "comment sheets" that were to be used by members to submit potential errors and varieties. We're going to reproduce those comment sheets in the *Journal*. I hope once you see them you will take the time to look through your collections and report back to us. My street address and email address are printed on page 2 of each *Journal*.

Fred Bean, The Stamp Professor, found the amazing Souvenir Page pictured on the following

page and blown-up on page 13. This is the combination "Flag Over Porch/Juke Box/Mountain" Souvenir Page, with a plate number on each of the three bottom coil stamps!

Fred is going to offer this Page in our upcoming ASPPP Auction. Look for it along with all of the other auction lots in our next *Journal*.

On a different subject, ASPPP member Harry Wilson reported this interesting fact about the Spanish-American War Commemorative Panel (#534) from 1998, shown on the following page. Apparently, the Panel was originally printed with a comment in the text that the stamp was issued "... in Scottsdale, Arizona". In May 1998 the USPS mailed a corrected version of the Panel with the actual first day city, "... in Key West, Florida" along with a letter that apologized "for any inconvenience this may have caused you".

The text detail of the Commemorative Panel is shown on page 13 and the full Panel on page 14.

Harry wondered if every subscriber received both Panels? That would be our assumption since the USPS sent this letter, but I was surprised that nobody reported this earlier.

That's another reason for us to have a table of new issues for Panels in the *Journal* as well as Pages! I hope to have that in place soon to list the issues of the year 2001; after that we'll list whatever the USPS issues every quarter. I'd like to do the same for Canon Postal Heritage pages and Porter Philatelic Products pages at that time.

Flag Over Porch

Issue Date: January 24, 1997

First Day City: Tucson, Arizona

Designer: Dave LaFleur, Derby, Kansas

Typographer: Richard Sheaff,
Norwood, Massachusetts

Modeler: Peter Cocci

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Bureau of Engraving and Printing

Colors: Tan, light blue, blue, red and brown

Image Area: 0.71 x 0.82 inches or
18.02 x 20.81 millimeters

Format: Self-adhesive vendible booklets
of 15 and 30; coil of 3,000

Plate Numbers: Five single digits

Marginal Markings: None

Juke Box

Issue Date: January 24, 1997

First Day City: Tucson, Arizona

Designer: Bill Nelson, Richmond, Virginia

Typographer: John Boyd, New York, New York

Modeler: Peter Cocci

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Bureau of Engraving and Printing

Colors: Process magenta, cyan, yellow and black;
green (3155C) and purple (522C)

Image Area: 0.71 x 0.82 inches or
18.02 x 20.81 millimeters

Format: Self-adhesive coil of 3,000

Plate Numbers: Six single digits

Marginal Markings: None

Mountain

Issue Date: January 24, 1997

First Day City: Tucson, Arizona

Designer: Tom Engeman, Carbondale, Colorado

Typographer: Phil Jordan, Falls Church, Virginia

Modeler: Peter Cocci

Manufacturing Process: Gravure

Printer: Bureau of Engraving and Printing

Colors: Magenta, yellow, light blue (305C)
and purple (2725C)

Image Area: 0.71 x 0.82 inches or
18.02 x 20.81 millimeters

Format: Self-adhesive coil of 3,000

Plate Numbers: Four single digits

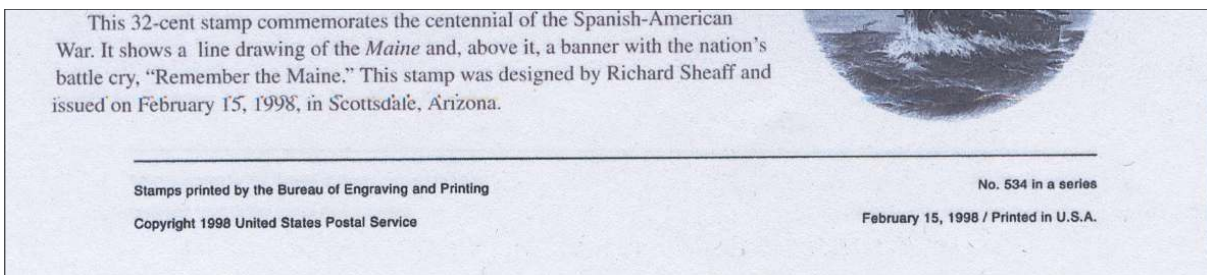
Marginal Markings: None

These three stamps—Flag Over Porch, Juke Box, and Mountain—have been reprinted in different formats for 1997. The Flag Over Porch stamp will be available in self-adhesive booklets of 15 and 30 for vending machines and self-adhesive coils of 3,000. The Juke Box and Mountain stamps will be reprinted in self-adhesive coils of 3,000. The stamps will be issued in conjunction with the ARIPEX Stamp Show in Tucson, Arizona.

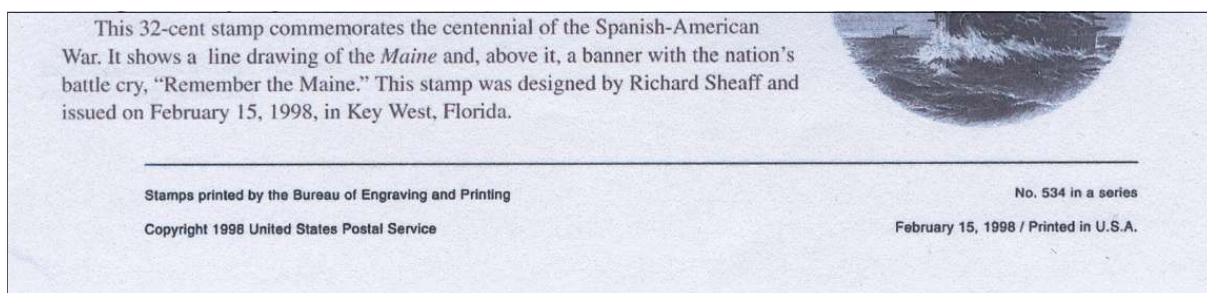




(PNC stamps close-up on Souvenir Page)



(Panel with "Scottsdale, Arizona" first day city)



(Panel with "Key West, Florida" first day city)



AMERICAN COMMEMORATIVES



SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

REMEMBER THE MAINE



President William McKinley

In 1823, President James Monroe had proclaimed that the United States would aggressively defend the Western Hemisphere against European influence. More than 70 years later, this Monroe Doctrine was put to the test.

In 1898, Spain ruled Cuba. Though Spain had granted

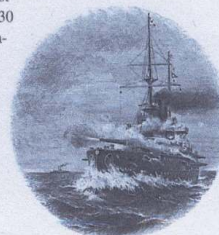
the island partial autonomy and vowed to close the prison camps used to hold Cubans, Spain's dominion hindered trade between the United States and Cuba, and U.S. sympathy for the Cuban rebels was growing.

On February 15, 1898, the battleship *U.S.S. Maine*, stationed in Cuba's Havana harbor to help protect U.S. interests, was shattered by an explosion. Over 250 people were killed. Though the explosion's source was unknown, U.S. newspaper headlines and, soon, many angry U.S. citizens, blamed Spain.

On April 11, President McKinley asked Congress to send the nation to war against Spain. McKinley asked for only 125,000 volunteers to fight the war. But it had been 30 years since America's last significant call to arms—the Civil War—and a new generation of young men was eager for combat. One million men, including Theodore Roosevelt, responded to McKinley's call.

Over the next few months, U.S. forces destroyed a Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, in the Philippines and a Spanish ship that tried to cross their blockade in Cuba's Santiago harbor. By August, a truce had been signed and this brief war was over.

This 32-cent stamp commemorates the centennial of the Spanish-American War. It shows a line drawing of the *Maine* and, above it, a banner with the nation's battle cry, "Remember the Maine." This stamp was designed by Richard Sheaff and issued on February 15, 1998, in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Stamps printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing
Copyright 1998 United States Postal Service

No. 534 in a series
February 15, 1998 / Printed in U.S.A.

(Spanish American War Commemorative Panel)

MEDAL OF HONOR

By Gerald Blankenship

In the book of John, Jesus declares, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13). Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Michael Edwin Thornton exemplified this declaration while serving in the United States Navy in Vietnam.

Born March 23, 1949, in Greenville, South Carolina, Mike Thornton struggled through high school because of reading difficulties due to dyslexia. At the time, educators knew little about this problem; subsequently, students were labeled "slow." We now know that these students are usually very bright, and Thornton has proved to be no exception. Following high school graduation, he joined the Navy and qualified for the SEAL program. One of only twelve men out of the 129 men who entered the program, he was assigned to SEAL Team One in 1968. Once a SEAL team was formed, they would live together, both in Vietnam and in the United States. This would foster camaraderie in the men.

A few months later, Thornton was deployed to Vietnam for his first six-month rotation. His mission was to gather intelligence and disrupt the Vietcong infrastructure. Locating and interrogating province chiefs, they were often involved in fierce firefights.

During this first tour, Thornton's skill and prowess was noted among the men. Completing his first mission, he returned home for further training in intelligence, foreign weapons, demolitions, and advanced medicine. In 1969 he was again deployed to Vietnam: the mission was the same - disrupt the VC infrastructure.

One of his harrowing tales involved a mission to kidnap a Vietcong province chief. Hiding under rice bags, as he floated down a river on a sampan, he was signaled by a slight kick from a cooperating chief that the target of the investigation was on the boat as they went through one of the many checkpoints. Thornton rose to his feet and killed the chief and his bodyguards. Responding to the fire, the VC began to barrage them with bullets as Thornton sped away, aided by air-support.

Thornton's third tour in Southeast Asia began in 1970 and consisted of covert operations that involved "body snatches" and training the Thai people to do recon missions. At this point in his career, he had already turned down two Purple Hearts stating, "I didn't think I had been sufficiently wounded.... A Purple Heart should be given when someone has significant and life-threatening injuries." He would get the opportunity to meet this criterion on his fourth tour.

By the time his fourth tour in July of 1972 began, most Americans were leaving Vietnam. However, the war effort was still a big reality for many American service men. Thornton's mission this time was to rescue downed pilots and do recon missions. It was on one of the recon missions that he earned his Congressional Medal.

He and fellow SEAL Tommie Norris were ordered to see how suitable the river would be for an amphibious attack. In an interview, he relates, "a successful operation could mean going back to the peace negotiations and using the land won as a bargaining chip. We understood the significance of this mission when we left."

MEDAL OF HONOR (CONTINUED)

Of course the rest is a piece of history recorded here for you to read. What the citation does not tell you is that not only did Thornton save Norris's life that day, in an act of bravery which

earned him the Medal of Honor, but also Norris later became a Medal of Honor recipient himself. They attended each other's ceremonies.



THORNTON, MICHAEL EDWIN

Rank and organization: Petty Officer, U.S. Navy, Navy Advisory Group. *Place and date:* Republic of Vietnam, 31 October 1972. *Entered service at:* Spartanburg, S.C. *Born:* 23 March 1949, Greenville, S.C. *Citation:* For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while participating in a daring operation against enemy forces. PO Thornton, as Assistant U.S. Navy Advisor, along with a U.S. Navy lieutenant serving as Senior Advisor, along with a U.S. Navy lieutenant serving as Senior Advisor, accompanied a 3-man Vietnamese Navy SEAL patrol on an intelligence gathering and prisoner capture operation against an enemy-occupied naval river base. Launched from a Vietnamese navy junk in a rubber boat, the patrol reached land and was continuing on foot toward its objective when it suddenly came under heavy fire from a numerically superior force. The patrol called in naval gunfire support and then engaged the enemy in a fierce firelight accounting for many enemy casualties before moving back to the waterline to prevent encirclement. Upon learning that the Senior Advisor had been hit by enemy fire and was believed to be dead, PO Thornton returned through a hail of fire to the lieutenant's last position; quickly disposed of 2 enemy soldiers about to overrun the position, and succeeded in removing the seriously wounded and unconscious Senior Naval Advisor to the water's edge. He then inflated the lieutenant's lifejacket and towed him seaward for approximately 2 hours until picked up by support craft. By his extraordinary courage and perseverance, PO Thornton was directly responsible for saving the life of his superior officer and enabling the safe extraction of all patrol members, thereby upholding the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

(Michael Thornton's Medal of Honor Citation)



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Issue Date: June 7, 1983
First Day City: Washington, D. C.
Designer: Dennis J. Holm
 U. S. Postal Service

Modeler: V. Jack Ruthr
Engraver: Thomas J. Bakos
Process: Offset/Intaglio
Colors: Yellow, green, blue, black (offset colors)
 Red (intaglio color)

Image Area: 1.105 x 1.44 inches or
 28.06 x 36.57 millimeters

Plate Numbers: Two groups
Stamps per Pane: 40

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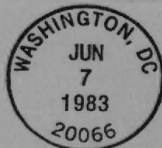
Medal of Honor Commemorative Stamp

A 20-cent commemorative stamp honoring the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor, and all who have received it was issued June 7 in Washington, D. C. The first day of issue ceremony was held at The Pentagon.

The Medal of Honor, which is often referred to as the Congressional Medal of Honor, was instituted in 1861 for the U. S. Navy and in 1862 for the U. S. Army. U. S. Air Force personnel were awarded the Army Medal of Honor until 1965, when an Air Force Medal was created.

The first Medals of Honor were awarded March 25, 1863, to six members of Andrews' Raiders, who participated in what has come to be known as "The Great Locomotive Chase." Since that time, the Medal of Honor has been awarded to more than 3,400 individuals for "courage above and beyond the call of duty."

The design of the stamp features from left to right, the Army, Navy and Air Force Medals of Honor. All three are suspended from the blue neck ribbon with white stars common to each of the three decorations. The design was developed by Dennis J. Holm, a Postal Service employee, in coordination with The Institute of Heraldry of the U. S. Army and the Department of Defense.



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Michael Thornton
 U.S. Navy Seal

(Medal of Honor Souvenir Page autographed by Michael Thornton)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Information of interest to ASPPP Members

New Provisional Members:

As per Article 7.1 of our By-Laws, this is notice that the following new members have applied for membership in the ASPPP (Names in parenthesis are sent copies of the *Journal* at no charge and are listed here for identification purposes only):

2260..Denis, Gary — Patuxent Rive MD
2261..Baker, Richard A. — Rindge NH
2262..De Gain, Phillipe — Chester PA

New Members shall remain "provisional" until the publication of the next *Journal*, at which time they will be listed in the section below as "New Regular Members" provided no dissenting vote based on evidence that the person is not of good character is received by the Membership Chairman, as per By-Laws Article 7.2.

Membership Statistics:

Active Members, Volume 18#4 471

Memberships Expired -20

New Members..... 3

Renewed/Previously Expired 5

Active members, Volume 19#1 459

Collecting Interest Codes:

A US Souvenir Pages
B Watermarks on Pages
C Plate Number Coils on Pages
D Error pages
E Page Oddities & Varieties
F First Day Canceled Stamp Posters
G Mint (uncanceled) Stamp Posters
H Privately-produced Pages
I US Commemorative Panels
J Error panels
K First Day Canceled Panels

New Regular Members:

Stevens, John W. (#2259) Interests: not listed
7 Norwick Ct., Forked River NJ 08731-5607

Membership Directory/Address Changes:

Kinsman, Bob
20 Charme Rd., Billerica MA 01821-2112

Pry, William F.
PO Box 701265, Dallas TX 75370

Page & Panel Philatelic Events:

Future ASPPP Board meetings and show attendance:

AMERICOVER 2002, Oak Brook, IL
July 12-14, 2002 ** Annual Meeting **
Marriott Oak Brook Hotel

Details are reprinted on the following two pages.

APS STAMPSHOW 2002, Atlantic City, NJ
August 15-18, 2002
Atlantic City Convention Station

Show hours are 10am to 6pm Thursday-Saturday, and 10am to 4pm Sunday. First Day Ceremony Noon Thursday for the four Teddy Bear stamps. Friday evening cachetmakers bourse, 5pm-7:30pm.

AMERICOVER 2003, Washington, DC area
(Details on this show will be printed as they become available.)



AMERRYCOVER 2002

*The 47th Annual AFDCS Convention
& Exhibition - Stamp & Cover Fest*
Oak Brook IL - July 12-14, 2002



AMERRYCOVER 2002 Highlights

- Thursday**
7/11/2002 Pre-AMERRYCOVER "City Tour the Wright Way" *FEE*; 8:30AM-4:30PM
AMERRYCOVER Bourse & Exhibit setup; 9PM
- Friday**
7/12/2002 Main Dealers' Bourse, USPS, Youth Center; 10AM-6PM; Seminars & Meetings; 1PM-5PM
AMERRYCOVER/USPS First Day Ceremony (anticipated); 11AM
AFDCS Fund Raising Floor Auction; 5:30PM
AFDCS President's Banquet & Awards Ceremony *FEE*; 7:30PM; *Featuring the AFDCS/CMA Cachetmakers Awards, AFDCS Service Awards, Entertainment and SURPRISES!*
- Saturday**
7/13/2002 AFDCS Annual Business Meeting; 8:30AM; *Featuring the AMERRYCOVER Exhibit Awards*
Main Dealers' Bourse, USPS, Youth Center; 10AM-5PM; Seminars & Meetings; 10AM-4PM
AFDCS Bulk FDC Auction; 4PM
Cachetmakers' Moonlight Bourse - "*The Original & World's Largest*"; 5PM-10PM
AMERRYCOVER's "Late Nite Launch - A Friendship 7 Surprise" *FEE*; 10PM
includes Live Entertainment!
- Sunday**
7/14/2002 AFDCS Annual Membership Meeting; 9AM; *Featuring the Marge Finger Exhibit Award*
and is an Open Forum (open to ALL members of the AFDCS)
Main Dealers' Bourse, USPS, Youth Center; 10AM-4PM; Seminars & Meetings; 10AM-3PM
Post-AMERRYCOVER "Drury Lane Dinner Theatre" *FEE*; Bus departs 5PM SHARP
All information and events are subject to change.

Convention Hotel - Chicago Marriott Oak Brook Hotel

1401 West 22nd St, Oak Brook, IL 60523. In the heart of Chicago's suburban corporate business centers next to Oak Brook Center, suburban Chicago's most prestigious mall, and is near Brookfield Zoo. Hotel is twenty minutes from O'Hare Airport. Reservations (630) 573-8555 or (800) 228-9290. Cutoff date - June 15, 2002. Refer to the AMERICOVER/AFDCS/MELLONE reservation code for our special \$99 convention rate.

Call today for reservations!

Contacts for all AMERRYCOVER Information

Main Dealers' & Cachetmakers' Moonlight Bourses
Michael Mellone, POB 234, Stewartsville NJ 08886-0234

Banquet/Special Event Ticket Reservations
Betty Buchanan, POB 1335, Maplewood NJ 07040-0456

Seminars/Meetings Coordinator
Foster Miller, POB 44, Annapolis Jct. MD 20701-0044

ACPS Convention & Event Information
Michael Litvak, 1866 Loma Vista, Pasadena CA 91104

ASPPP Meeting & Event Information
Gerald Blankenship, POB 475, Crosby TX 77532-0475

USPIPS Meeting & Event Information
Ed Krohn, PO Box 357309, Gainesville FL 32635-7309

Exhibit Prospectus
Show Program, Button & Entertainment
Fund Donations;

Be a ... Beacon Donor;
Commemorative AMERRYCOVER Shirt;
and all other convention information

CONTACT: AMERRYCOVER

PO Box 1335, Maplewood NJ 07040-0456

E-mail: AMERICOVER@aol.com

or visit our website at www.AFDCS.org

AMERRYCOVER 2002

CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS WITH TRIBUTES TO PROJECT MERCURY AND FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT !

Pre-AMERRYCOVER - "City Tour the *Wright* Way"

Tour of Frank Lloyd Wright home & studio, Unity Temple (described as his "little jewel"), Sears Tower (USA's Tallest Building), start of US Route 66, tour highlight drive-bys of Hyde Park area, 1893 Exposition, FLW's Robie House, Ernest Hemingway's home, and more. Lunch on own, location TBA. *FEE*.

AFDCS President's Banquet & Awards Ceremony

After the "Backyard BBQ Buffet" the AFDCS will present the AFDCS/CMA Awards, the Ward Award, and the AFDCS Service Awards. Door Prizes, Entertainment, SURPRISES, and more! *FEE*.

Late Nite Launch - A Friendship 7 Surprise

Following the Cachetmakers' Moonlight Bourse, join us for food, drink, and LIVE ENTERTAINMENT! At press time this menu has not been set! *FEE*.

Post-AMERRYCOVER Special Sunday Event

Join us as we travel to the "Drury Lane Dinner Theatre" for quality theatre, food, ambiance and value, no other theatre in Chicagoland can compare. After dinner enjoy one of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's best productions, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." *FEE*.

Sign-Up by June 1, 2002 for "Early Bird" Prices or Package Deal

First Day Ceremony

AMERRYCOVER, the American First Day Cover Society, and the local Oak Brook USPS Officials are anticipating a First Day Ceremony (*additional information not available at press time, please check the philatelic press for current information*). A souvenir program of this event will be free to all who attend. *FREE*.

AFDCS Chapters to meet at AMERRYCOVER

American Ceremony Program Society (ACPS) (AFDCS Chapter 58) will be holding their annual convention in conjunction with AMERRYCOVER, featuring an Annual Meeting, Seminars, Auction, and Hospitality Center.

American Society for Philatelic Pages & Panels (ASPPP) (AFDCS Chapter 87) will be holding their annual meeting in conjunction with AMERRYCOVER, and will host several programs throughout the event.

United States Presidential Inaugural Philatelic Society (USPIPS) (AFDCS Chapter 89) will be holding their annual meeting in conjunction with AMERRYCOVER, and may host a program during the event.

Cachetmakers Association (CMA) (AFDCS Chapter 65) will be holding their Annual Meeting and participating in both the Main Dealers' Bourse & Cachetmakers' Moonlight Bourse.

7/1/71 Affair (AFDCS Chapter 50), Virtual Stamp Club (AFDCS Chapter 84), and Art Cover Exchange (ACE) (AFDCS Chapter 79) will be holding meetings during AMERRYCOVER.

See the AMERRYCOVER show program for actual times and locations

AMERRYCOVER will be the largest independent philatelic event (stamp show & sale) this year, dealing primarily with First Day Covers, their collectors, cachetmakers, and dealers - a great time for all!

The AFDCS is devoted to the advancement of First Day Cover Collecting

AMERRYCOVER 2002 PRE-REGISTRATION

Sign-Up by June 1, 2002 for "Early Bird" Prices or Package Deal

Name _____	AFDCS # _____
Address _____	Phone# _____

Please reserve the following ... (All tickets will be held for pick-up at show/Events subject to change)
NO REFUNDS unless event is cancelled by the AFDCS

AMERRYCOVER Food Functions

- A ___ President's Banquet & Awards Ceremony (7/12); 7:30PM; \$44.00; (after 6/1; \$49.00) \$ _____
B ___ Late Nite Launch - A Friendship 7 Surprise (7/13); 10PM; \$16.00; (after 6/1; \$20.00) \$ _____

AMERRYCOVER Special Events

- C ___ "City Tour the Wright Way" (7/11); 8:30AM; \$40.00; (after 6/1; \$45.00) \$ _____
(Lunch not included in price)
D ___ Drury Lane Dinner Theatre (7/14); 5PM; \$47.00; (after 6/1; \$52.00) \$ _____

Please choose your meal ☐ Chicken Marsala OR ☐ Roast Sirloin of Beef

- E ___ Save \$\$; AMERRYCOVER Package; Includes A B C D; \$135.00; Not valid after 6/1 \$ _____

AMERRYCOVER Commemorative/Souvenir Items

- ___ AMERRYCOVER 2002 Polo Shirt; \$22.00 each \$ _____
☐ Adult Large ☐ Adult X-Large (Special sizes by request)
___ AMERRYCOVER FIRST DAY CEREMONY PROGRAM*; \$4.00 each \$ _____
___ AFDCS Convention Covers*; (Set of 4 Covers) \$7.00 each set \$ _____

*to be mailed at conclusion of AMERRYCOVER

AMERRYCOVER Funding

- ❖ Show Program Fund (\$10.00 or more) \$ _____
❖ Entertainment Fund (unlimited) \$ _____
❖ Button Fund (\$25.00 or more) \$ _____
❖ Be a ... Beacon Donor (\$100.00 or more) \$ _____



TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make all checks/money orders payable to "AFDCS"
If paying by Credit Card; check card type and complete the form below

Acct#	<input type="text"/>	Exp. Date	<input type="text"/>
Signature _____			

Please send more information on: ☐ Rental Car Discounts ☐ Airport Shuttle
☐ Volunteering ☐ AMERRYCOVER Exhibit Prospectus

Send this completed form to:

AMERRYCOVER, PO Box 1335, Maplewood NJ 07040-0456

MEMBER ADS

CONDITIONS

Members may place one free classified ad per *Journal* (requests for additional ads will be honored on a space-available basis.) Send ads to the Editor, Ron Walenciak, 736 Colonial Blvd., Washington Township, NJ 07676-3922. Ads can be run for one to three issues.

SOUVENIR PAGES & STAMP POSTERS WANTED - FOR SALE - TRADE

For Sale: 1972 Year Set, \$185.00, includes shipment by Priority Mail (only 1 set available): Gerald Blankenship, PO Box 475, Crosby, TX 77532. Or, you can email gblank1941@aol.com.

Wanted: Error Souvenir Pages for the Great American Series (1980-1999). Please contact Mark Gereb, 2200 North Central Rd - 9V, Fort Lee, NJ 07024 or email gereb@aol.com.

Wanted: Sleepy Hollow Souvenir Page Variety (Scott #1548, USPS Page #74-18). I am looking for the variety with the USPS Logo and additional text "a stocklist of stamps available..." printed at the bottom of the page below the stamp. Also looking for any other Sleepy Hollow varieties, oddities, errors, etc. Write to Gary Denis (ASPPP #2260), PO Box 766, Patuxent River MD 20670, or email garyd@olg.com.

COMMEMORATIVE PANELS WANTED - FOR SALE - TRADE

For Sale, Commemorative Panels 282 through 286, North American Wildlife, \$15, includes shipment by Priority Mail (only 1 set available): Gerald Blankenship, PO Box 475, Crosby, TX 77532. Or, you can email gblank1941@aol.com.

Wanted, Commemorative Panel #534 Spanish-American War, with the Scottsdale, Arizona first day city listed in the text. (Would also be interested in the correct Panel with the Key West city.) Ron Walenciak, 736 Colonial Blvd., Washington Township, NJ 07676. Email rwalenciak@aol.com.

AUCTIONS

Stamp Center/Dutch Country auctions feature Panels, Pages, Programs, Covers, Collections, accumulations, wholesale and bulk lots, Cover lots plus choice US and Worldwide Singles & Sets, along with Americana, coins and sports cards. Upcoming auctions:

#220, May 17-18, 2002
#221, July 26-27, 2002
#222, September 20-21, 2002
#223, November 15-16, 2002
#224, January 17-18, 2003

Get a free catalog from the Stamp Center (ASPPP #1114), 4115 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803. Phone: 302/ 478-8740.

MISCELLANEOUS WANTED - FOR SALE - TRADE

Spring house cleaning sale on First Day Ceremony and Event programs. Baker's dozen, nice selection, no duplication (my choice). \$20 postpaid. Sale ends May 15, 2002. Contact Leo Stawicki (ASPPP #1181), 76 Poplar Dr., Yorkville, IL 60560.

American Society For Philatelic Pages and Panels
736 Colonial Blvd. Washington TWP., NJ 07675-3922

Name _____ ASPPP# _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

INTERNET ADDRESS _____

List name in the ASPPP ROSTER? Yes ____ No ____

Dues: \$15.00 ONE YEAR _____ \$29.00 TWO YEARS _____

\$43.00 THREE YEARS _____ \$21.00 FOREIGN _____ ONE YEAR

ALL JOURNALS ARE MAILED FIRST CLASS AT NO EXTRA CHARGE
Collecting Interests (check as many as applies to you)

____ Souvenir Pages ____ First Day Cancelled Stamp Posters

____ Commemorative Panels ____ Mint Stamp Posters

____ Error Pages ____ First Day Cancelled Panels

____ Plate Number Coil Pages ____ Canon Private Pages

____ Watermark Pages ____ Porter Private Pages

____ Oddities/Varieties Pages ____ Booklet Tab Positions

____ Souvenir Pages with Lines ____ Autograph Pages

AREAS THAT YOU MAY BE OF SERVICE TO YOUR SOCIETY

____ Write articles for the journal ____ Special Assignments by the President

____ Help at the ASPPP annual show ____ Committee Assignment

How did you find out about the ASPPP?

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS A BETTER SOCIETY.
PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP. THANKS!



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Your Membership expires with this issue!

Renew immediately to avoid missing our next *Journal*. US Renewal dues are \$15 for 1 year, \$29 for 2 years or \$43 for 3 years, with all *Journals* sent via First-Class mail. Send in the renewal application (on the inside back cover of this *Journal*) now to:

ASPPP, 736 Colonial Blvd., Washington Twsp. NJ 07676-3922.

The ASPPP is still the **only** society for collectors of Pages & Panels!

AMERICOVER 2002

Marriott Oak Brook Hotel

Oak Brook, IL

July 12-14, 2002

----- Annual Meeting -----

American Society for Philatelic Pages and Panels