

# Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter



June, 2021

**Herb & Spices Day**  
**June 10**  
**Volume 89, No. 3**



**Wichita Stamp Club**  
P. O. Box 1427  
Wichita, KS 67201-1427

*In remembrance of Neal Danielson for his  
many contributions to the Wichita Stamp Club  
and its Newsletter.*

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**The Wichita Stamp Club Newsletter has won numerous awards from the American Philatelic Society as a publication of a local society. This is your Newsletter. Support it by submitting an article; words of wisdom; facts about a stamp or cover; an adlet or whatever you think might be of interest to other Club members. The opinions expressed in the Newsletter are those of the individual author(s) and not necessarily those of the officers or membership. WSC is a charter member of the American Philatelic Society and is also a member of the Oklahoma Philatelic Society. Meetings are at the Alford Branch Library, 3447 Meridian, Wichita. The business portion of the meeting begins at 6:00 pm and the program follows. Visitors are always welcome. The Wichita Stamp Club welcomes new members. Annual individual dues are \$10.00 and are \$15.00 for family memberships.**

**Presidential Message** Greetings and salutations! I hope this newsletter finds you well and that conditions continue to improve so that we can get together once again. If you have any thoughts on how and when we should resume meetings, please let me know. In particular, if you know of any alternative sites where we might meet until the library is once again available, please pass that information along to me. I hope to see everyone soon.

**Bob Cairns** President

# UPCOMING REGIONAL STAMP EVENTS

Louis Forster

2021

**May 22**

**Philatelic Garage Sale**

7561 East 24<sup>th</sup> Court Wichita, Kansas  
(Turn west at 24<sup>th</sup> & North Rock Road)  
Lou Forster & J R VanCleave  
Saturday only: 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
**Masks are required**

**June 18-19**

**KNA Coin & Stamp Show**

Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd  
Wichita, Kansas  
Friday 10 - 5 & Saturday 9 – 4

**August 20-21**

**Wichita Stamp Club Show**

Cessna Activity Center 2744 George Washington Blvd  
Wichita, Kansas  
Friday 9 - 5 & Saturday 9 – 4

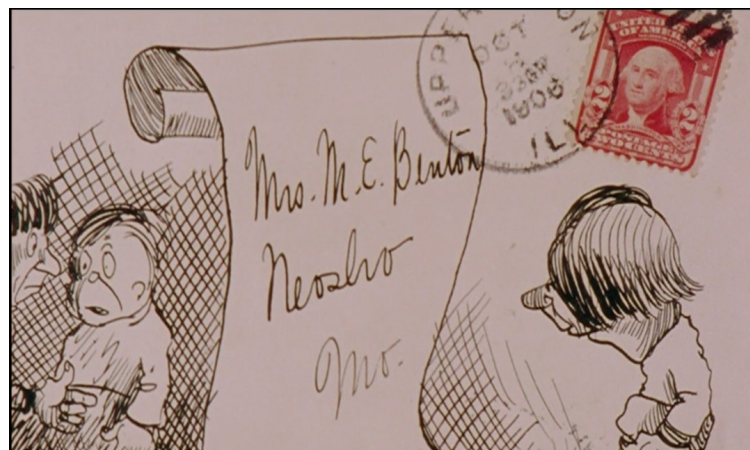
Found in the August 22, 1925 issue of the *Weekly Philatelic Gossip*:

“How is your brother Jack getting along down in Holton, Kansas? It must be pretty dry for him down there.”

“Dry?” replied Sandy. “Man, he’s gone parched. I’ve just had a letter from him and he had to put the stamp on the envelope with a pin.”



Thomas Hart Benton decorated these covers for his mother while attending the Chicago Art Institute. Benton was a native of Neosho, Missouri and lived the latter part of his life in Kansas City, Missouri. He is one of the three great "Regionalist" painters, the others being John Stewart Curry of northeast Kansas and Grant Wood of Iowa. These Sunday comics-like drawings have little in common with his great murals. Benton's mural at the Missouri state capitol building was reproduced on a U. S. commemorative.



# Herb and Spices Day *by Jeff Lough*

Herbs are plants with savory or aromatic properties that are used for flavoring and garnishing food, for medicinal purposes, or for fragrances; excluding vegetables and other plants consumed for macronutrients. Culinary use typically distinguishes herbs from spices. *Herbs* generally refers to the leafy green or flowering parts of a plant (either fresh or dried), while *spices* are usually dried and produced from other parts of the plant, including seeds, bark, roots, and fruits.

Herbs also have medicinal and in some cases, spiritual uses. General usage of the term "herb" differs between culinary herbs and medicinal herbs; in medicinal or spiritual use, any parts of the plant might be considered as "herbs", including leaves, roots, flowers, seeds, root bark, inner bark.



The dried leaves of oregano is often used in mediterranean-derived dishes and is common with spaghetti sauce, lasagna and pizza. It is often used with other herbs such as bay leaf and basil as well as garlic and tomato products.

Nutmeg and mace have a distinctive pungent fragrance and a warm slightly sweet taste; they are used to flavor many kinds of baked goods, confections, puddings, potatoes, meats, sausages, sauces, vegetables, soups, and such beverages as eggnog. Nutmeg is also commonly used in rice pudding and is a common spice for pumpkin pie. It's made by grinding the seed of the fragrant nutmeg (*Myristica fragrans*) tree into powder. The seeds are dried gradually in the sun over a period of six to eight weeks. During this time the nutmeg shrinks away from its hard seed coat until the kernels rattle in their shells when shaken. The shell is then broken with a wooden club and the nutmegs are picked out. Dried nutmegs are grayish brown ovals with furrowed surfaces.

Herbs are also used medicinally. The great Portuguese scientist, Garcia da Orta, was the first European writer on tropical medicine and a pioneer in pharmacognosy. His reputation rests on his book *Colóquios dos simples e drogas he cousas medicinais da Índia* ("Conversations on the simples, drugs and medicinal substances of India") published at Goa in April 1563. That book is celebrated by the stamp on the upper right corner of the front page of the *Newsletter*. Goa was one of several Portuguese colonies in India and was where Garcia spent much of later life.

The book consists of 57 chapters and is primarily concerned with the identification and description of medicinal plants, followed by an account of their pharmacological and therapeutic uses. It also includes a treatise on ivory, diamond and Bezoar stone and their uses in traditional Indian medicine. The book is essentially a discussion between Garcia and a fictitious Spanish colleague Dr. Ruano. Ruano is given the role of spokesperson for the classical authorities and Garcia represents himself as relying more on observation and experience than on received tradition. For the purposes of understanding Indian systems of medicine, Garcia learned Marathi, Konkani, Sanskrit, and Kannada. He was also fluent in Portuguese, Spanish, Hebrew, Latin, Greek, Arabic, and Persian which gave him access to European and Arabic medical systems. Garcia was an accomplished physician as well as a botanist. He would meet physicians and spice merchants from south Asia and the Indian subcontinent and would also send out agents and correspondents to collect seeds and plants. He had a laboratory and botanical garden which was probably the largest repository of medicinal plants at that time. Garcia de Orta's work was accidentally discovered in 1564, was translated into Latin and was widely read across Europe. Garcia's work influenced a number of later herbals and botanical works. Garcia has been honored with several Portuguese and Portuguese India stamps. Below to the left is a 1946 Portuguese India stamp (Scott # 503). The 19<sup>th</sup> century German poster stamp to the right depicts an herbalist caring for the garden.



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In 1981, a college student paying his electrical bill was only able to find 18 cents in postage stamps, so 40 years ago he taped two pennies on the envelope with the stamps and mailed it. The coins were duly canceled and the letter received. Just as remarkable, the cover still survives with its cancelled pennies.



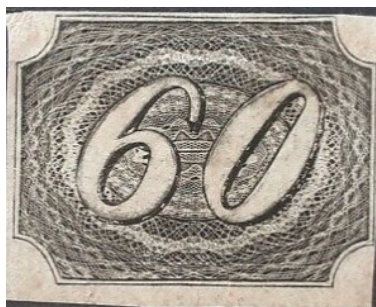
## Philatelic Autobiography by Jeff Lough

When I was 7 or 8 years old I was reading different kinds of funny books...normal ones were a dime and larger "Classics Illustrated" ones or special ones with multiple hero stories were a quarter. On the inside back cover or the last few pages of classified ads of these comic books were offers from Kenmore, H. E. Harris and probably some other companies for "approvals" that would accompany some type of freebie if you sent in a dime or a quarter. I acquired a simple album that was a little thicker than a funny book and became really interested in the Goya nudes, the odd shaped stamps of Tanna Tuva and, for some reason, the World War I era stamps of Azerbaijan. Each page of my little printed album generally covered several countries or European possessions with several pages given to 1930s and 40s U. S. stamps. I got a couple contemporary First Day U.S. covers with nice cachets, Montgomery Blair and Amelia Earhart. I read *Stamp* magazine and *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* at the Salina Public Library. The Stamp Collecting Merit Badge was the only one I ever earned during my two or three years as a Boy Scout. The merit badge counselor was an old guy with a stamp store kind of thing in the front of his home in the south central part of Salina. About 50 years later I was in the Salina Public Library again and saw a book by the great physicist, Richard Feynman, called *Tuva or Bust*. It was about his dream of going to Tanna Tuva as a practitioner of experimental music and just for the heck of it. This book has an illustration of one of the oddly shaped Tanna Tuva stamps at the beginning of each chapter. I read in *Linn's* about how the Wichita Stamp Club was having a stamp show so I met John Grow there and became a member, often attending the club meetings and starting to buy all kinds of philatelically related things. I became interested in writing about things and have always liked books, art, music, philosophy, history and many kinds of things related to science and since high school have had quite a few friends from other countries and who were otherwise rather different from myself. When I die and my neighbor burns me up in his bar-b-que grill, smashes up my bones with sledge hammers, and scatters my ashes and broken up bits of bone among some area of *Asclepius tuberosa*, I would hope he roasts a couple stamps with me so I'll have something to do.

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### Bull's Eyes

Bull's Eyes were the Brazilian stamps first issued on August 1, 1843. They are characterized by their large numbers. They were issued after stamps in the UK, New York and Zurich, Switzerland but before any other country. The stamps are square-shaped and imperforate, with numbers indicated inside a large decorated oval, hence the name "Bull's Eye". As seen below there were several varieties.



# *Allen County's Postal History* by Jeff Lough

Iola is Allen County's county seat. In the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the southeastern Kansas community had its post office in the store shown as Figure 1. It still stands on the northwest corner of the town square.



Figure 1

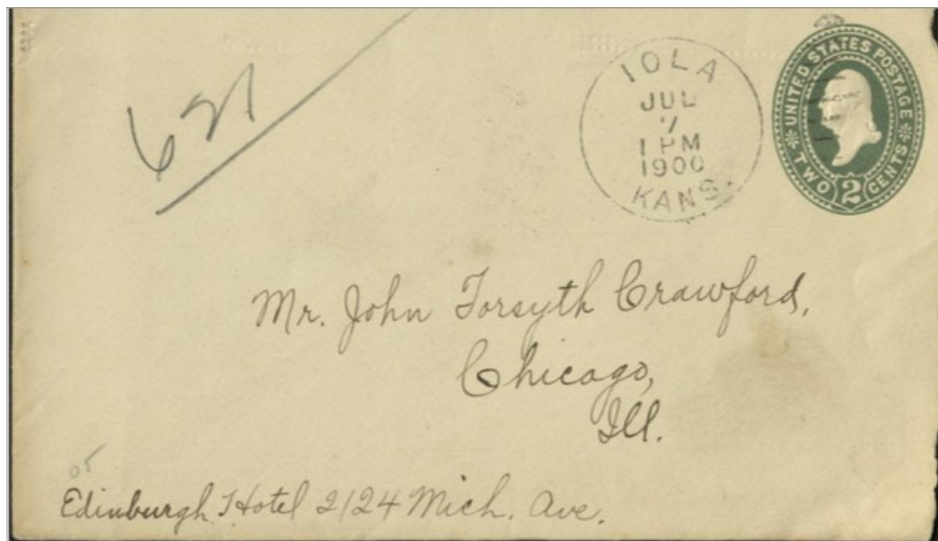


Figure 2

The Iola cover (Scott # U311), given as Figure 2, is cancelled with a single line cds and a 9-bar oblong killer duplex.

**Humboldt** is south of Iola and was the location of an important early Kansas land office, during the time when Native American land was being distributed to European-American settlers. Humboldt was named after the great German scientist, Alexander von Humboldt, a friendly acquaintance of Thomas Jefferson and a European recorder of many tropical plants and animals. The 1959 Russian Scott # 2196 (Figure 3) shows Humboldt. The early “Mar 8” Humboldt cover (Figure 4) was probably sent in the early 1870s. It’s Scott # 158 is killed with some type of well-used smudgy device with a simple cds without any year provided.



Figure 3

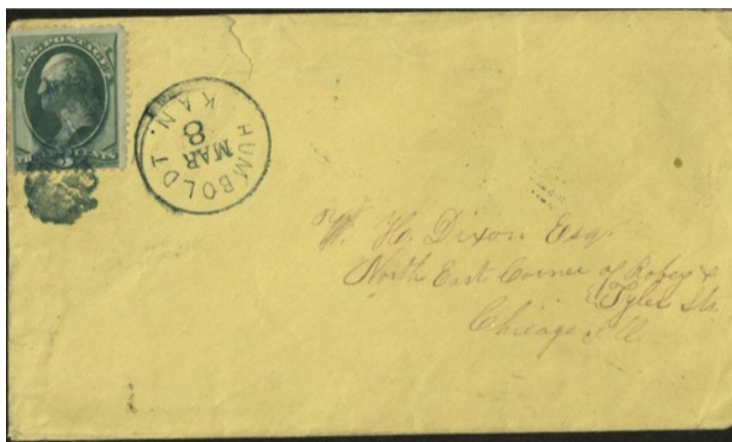
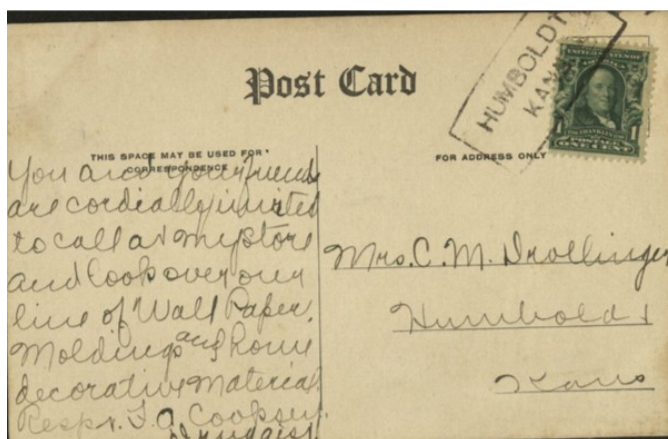


Figure 4

A later Humboldt cover (Figure 5) with a boxed “Humboldt, Kansas” 2-lined cancellation is an advertisement to a housewife to come to look at wall paper at a local store.



**Elsmore** is a small town in the southwestern part of Allen County, south of Iola. It was the home of several Swedish families. The descendant of one such family operated a delightful restaurant in Kansas City, Missouri on Broadway Avenue called the Krokstrom Klubb Market. It closed in 2019. They specialized in northern European food. The painting by the front door of the restaurant included an illustration of a post office in Elsmore. (Figures 6 and 7) The envelope showing the Elsmore postmark was sent to the regional post office in Topeka to secure stamps and other materials. (Figure 8)



Figure 6



Figure 7

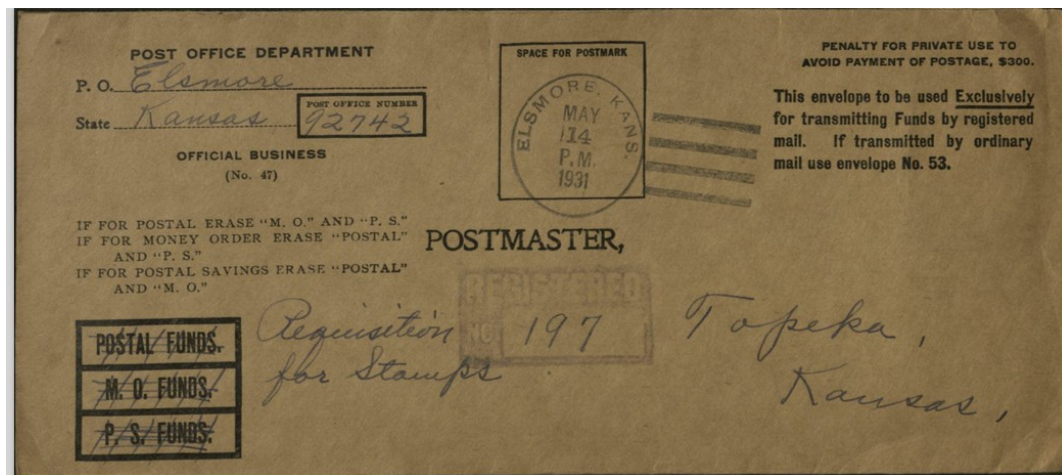


Figure 8

# Mixed Franking by Jeff Lough

This air mail cover was mailed from Managua, Nicaragua to Burlington, Vermont on August 21, 1929. One of the interesting things about it is the use of both Nicaraguan and U. S. stamps. The five cents worth of U. S. stamps were killed with markings that do not necessarily tie the stamps to the envelope and are not of clear origin. The 1929 Nicaraguan stamps are appropriate for airmail postage overseas (to the United States). Would you guess this was a rare gem or a rare forgery?



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## “Topical Tidbits”

One of the many services provided by the American Topical Association is something called “Topical Tidbits”. Each issue of this multi-page feature includes stories about a particular topic, associated activities and many illustrations of stamps, postmarks and cachets. Topical Tidbits is found on ATA’s website and is accessible to non-members. The July-September 2020 issue dealt with honey bees and would be of interest to those interested in such philatelic themes as agriculture, food and entomology. A nice contemporary bee cancel from Finland is found to the below right. One of the founders of professional and scientific beekeeping was the Slovenian Anton Jansa of Slovenia, a country in the northern portion of the former Yugoslavia.



Do you remember when....from the *S.P.A. (Society of Philatelic Americans) Journal* of August, 1967:  
“Wichita Stamp Club will hold its fall show and bourse Oct. 21-22 in the 4-H Club House at 8900 West Central in Wichita, Kan. For information contact W. J. Brookman, 230 South Parkwood Lane, Wichita, Kan. 67218.”

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“The Stamp Gallop” was a popular 1864 piano tune written by Arthur O’Leary. The cover of the sheet music was decorated with color images of many classical world wide and U. S. stamps. It was written in de Capo form with trio. The very beginning of the three page score is below.



# Gastronomy on Stamps by Jeff Lough

There are many ways to collect and study stamps that have something to do with food. A unit of the American Topical Association, the Gastronomy on Stamps Study Unit, provides ways to enjoy this popular topic. Its publication is called *The Philatelic Gourmet* and its website is [gastronomystamps.org](http://gastronomystamps.org). One way is to look at food's modes of production and distribution:



Or their general cultural importance



Another way is to look at the world wide variety of cuisines, such as those of Austria, Honduras or Canada.

