



Jerry Nylander

Last month we were treated to two interesting talks: *"An Insider's Story of Scott's Catalog Listings and Pricing"* and *"Explaining the Stamp Expertizing Process,"* both, by Jerry Nylander. This was followed by a very interesting discussion/questions/answers session. It should be noted that Jerry has spoken to the club in the past and is a long time Chicago area collector, brings decades of experience and philatelic expertise to the table.

There are no snap-shots of the last meeting – the camera is having problems other than the usual operator error.

The treasury currently has \$3,221.18 in the bank.

This month, Tom Willer shares the story of Arizona from its Boot Hill infamy to its prosperous, booming Phoenix in his presentation *"Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Arizona."*



Arizona on Stamps
Past and Present



One of the areas major stamp shows, **Milcopex 2012**, will be held this weekend (September 21-23, 2012) at the Wyndham Milwaukee Airport & Convention Center, 4747 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, WI. The hotel is on South Howell Avenue, just south of Layton Avenue and across from the Airport.

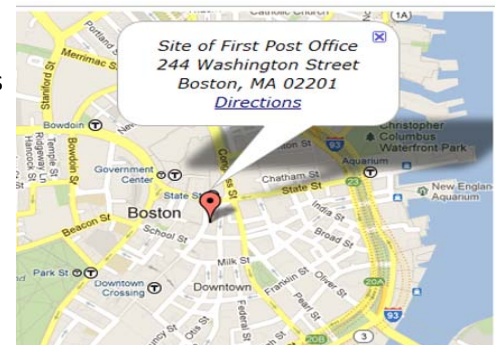
Featured are: a bourse with 40 dealers, more than 2000 pages of competitive, national level exhibits to be judged by APS accredited judges, many non-competitive exhibits, a United States Postal Station and a Youth Activities Area

Having examined Old World's Postal History, we are now ready to move to what will eventually become the United States with —

Part 1: Colonial Postal History

In early colonial times, correspondents depended on friends, merchants, and even Indians to move letters/messages internally between the colonies. External correspondence started in 1608 when individuals would pay merchant vessel masters to carry their letters to Europe and England and drop into the 'postal system' once the ship reached his destination.

First Post Office in America. About thirty years later (1839) the first American Post Office was established in Boston. This centralized mail sorting facility was in the home of Richard Fairbanks. His house was located between Washington and Devonshire Streets just north of Water Street. Modern sources identify his house as the Fairbanks Tavern. It is believed that the tradition from England of dropping mail off at coffee houses and taverns was adopted by the earliest Bostonians.



Next Meeting:
Tuesday, 7 pm
25 Sept 2012
at the
Grayslake Area
Public Library
100 Library Lane
Grayslake, IL

2012-2013 Officers:
Dr Tom Willer – President
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Walter F. Veile - Treasurer

Milcopex 2012
Wyndham Hotel
4747 S Howell
Milwaukee, WI
Sep 21, 22 and 23

MSDA Fall Show
Comfort Inn and Suites
600 Milwaukee Ave
Prospect Heights, IL
October 6 and 7

US POSTAL TIMELINE (to 1920)

1639- Richard Fairbanks' tavern in Boston named repository for overseas mail
1775- Benjamin Franklin, first Postmaster General under Continental Congress
1789- US POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED
1789- Samuel Osgood, first Postmaster General under Constitution
1823- Navigable waters designated post roads by Congress
1825- Dead letter office
1829- Postmaster General joins Cabinet
1830- Office of Instructions and Mail Depredations established, later Office of the Chief Postal Inspector
1838- Railroads designated post routes by Congress
1845- Star routes
1847- Postage stamps
1852- Stamped envelopes
1855- Registered Mail
1855- Compulsory prepayment of postage
1858- Street letter boxes
1860- Pony Express
1862- Railway mail service, experimental
1863- Free city delivery
1863- Uniform postage rates, regardless of distance
1863- Domestic mail divided into three classes
1864- Post offices categorized by classes
1864- Railroad post offices
1864- Domestic money orders
1869- Foreign or international money orders
1872- Congress enacts Mail Fraud Statute
1873- Penny postal card
1874- General Postal Union (later Universal Postal Union)
1879- Domestic mail divided into four classes
1880- Congress establishes title of Chief Post Office Inspector
1885- Special Delivery
1887- International parcel post
1893- First commemorative stamps
1896- Rural free delivery, experimental
1898- Private postcards authorized
1902- Rural free delivery, permanent
1911- Postal savings system
1911- Carriage of mail by airplane sanctioned between Garden City and Mineola, NY; Earle H. Ovington, first U. S. mail pilot
1912- Village delivery
1913- Parcel post
1913- Insurance
1913- Collect-on-delivery
1914- Government-owned and -operated vehicle service
1916- Postal Inspectors solve last known stagecoach robbery
1918- Airmail
1920- Metered postage
1920- First transcontinental airmail

An article in the 08 April 1922 Boston Globe describes the first Post Office:

"The first post office in Boston—and probably in the first in America—was established in the home of Richard Fairbanks, on or very near the site of the [old] Boston Globe building in 1639. On November 6 of that year, the Court voted:

'For preventing the miscarriage of letters; & it is ordered, that notice bee given that Richard Fairbanks his house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters which are brought from beyond the seas, or are to be sent thither, are to bee brought into; and hee is to take care that they bee delivered or sent according to their directions; and hee is allowed for every such letter 1 penny, & must answere all miscarriages through his owne neglect in this kind; provided, that no man shalbee compelled to bring his letters thither, except hee please.'

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Richard Fairbanks was an influential person in Boston, England, and had immigrated to Boston, New England with Reverend John Cotton in 1634. His house also served as a public tavern, and was licensed to sell "stronge water" by the government. The property had a large garden that extended east to Devonshire Street, then known as Black Jack Alley.



Map of the Old Post Road in Connecticut



Post Road Mile Stone
7 miles to Boston – 30 to
Springfield

First Pony Express. Local authorities soon began operated post routes within the colonies when, in 1673, Governor Francis Lovelace of New York set up a monthly post between New York and Boston — the first long distance "pony express" service in America was established. The service was short-lived, but the memory lives on in that the path of the riders became known as the Old Post Road, and parts of it were incorporated into U.S. Route 1/I-95 more than 200 years later.

Ten years later, in 1683, William Penn established Pennsylvania's first post office in Philadelphia. In the southern colonies, private messengers, usually slaves connected the huge plantations. An interesting practice of the southern service was the fine of a hogs-head of tobacco (a barrel 48 inches long and 30 inches in diameter at the head capable of holding about 1000 pounds of tobacco) for failing to relay mail to the next plantation or market center.

Sources:

<http://www.celebrateboston.com/first/post-office.htm>

<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/blmailus1.htm>

To be continued