Welcome to the October 2007 issue of Global Stamp News. There's much more inside!

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STAMP

Harold Schultz continues his Saudi Arabia column with "The Hejaz– Caliphate Issue". See Page 5.



Dennis Carman's "Yellow Mountain" article highlights PRC #716-731 on Page 33 in this issue.

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News

William Silvester's "Royalty" this month is "Snow White". Be sure to read his enlightening article on Page 47.



Michele Patrick has returned to the GSN family, and we welcome her with open arms. Don't miss her article on Page 19.

> This month "X"=United States Revenues-Part III. Fred Wexler's column appears on Page 6.

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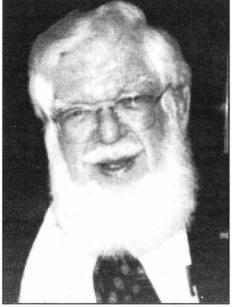


David Groves celebrates "Scouting's 100th Birthday"

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8 · GLOBAL STAMP NEWS · OCTOBER 2007 David U. Groves | Associate Editor In 2007, Stamps of Over 100 Nations Celebrate Scouting's 100th Birthday | Many of the Jamboree community ratives show both boys and g



For some of the 42,211 scouts and leaders who celebrated this year's Centenary of Scouting by attending the 21st World Scout Jamboree (i.e. any national or international gathering of Scouts) at Hylands Park in Chelmsford, England, the Scouting Centenary ended when they left the Jamboree on the 8th of August, 2007. But for collectors of Scouts on Stamps the fun had just begun!

According to the Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI) website, and its listing of nations issuing stamps celebrating the 100th anniversary of Scouting, well over 100 nations have issued or are issuing stamps commemorating the 100th anniversary of Scouting. Many of the countries are also issuing souvenir sheets and postal stationery.

Some of the 21st World Scout Jamboree stamps also bear its theme: "One World One Promise" which the Jamboree sponsors say "captures the aspirations and hopes of young people for the future".



Many of the Jamboree commemoratives show both boys and girls as Scouts. This is because in several countries, there is only one Scouting organization and it is co-ed unlike the U.S. where there is an organization for Boy Scouts and another for Girl Scouts.



(above) show both girls and boys engaged in Scouting activities.

I don't know where Scouting on Stamps would be ranked in a popularity poll of topical stamps, but with over 28 million boys, girls and adults involved in Scouting in 185 of the world's 192 independent countries, its rating would probably be very high.



All of this growth is sort of mind-boggling to me when I remember that Scouting was started in 1907 by a retired British General, Lord Robert Baden-Powell when he set up his first experimental Scout camp in Brownsea Island just off England's Dorset coast, attended by 20 boys from different social backgrounds.



Since Scouting started in England. It makes sense that the British Post Office– Royal Mail–should produce one of the most interesting set of stamps and six postal cards honoring the 100th Anniversary of Scouting. The set's six stamps are shown elsewhere. The first class stamp shows a Scout looking up at the night sky and Scouts around a campfire with the inscription: "11 of the 12 astronauts who walked on the moon were once Scouts".



The set's 46-penny stamp shows two Scouts climbing a mountain with the inscription: "The youngest climber of the highest peaks on all 7 continents is a Scout". The 48p stamp shows a Scout planting a tree with an inscription: "450.000 UK Scouts take part in community projects every year".



Then, there's the 54p stamp which shows a lady teaching archery to a Scout and the inscription: "Adult Scout volunteers give 360 million hours of time each year". A girl and a man flying in a glider are shown on the set's 69p stamp along with the inscription: "The first non-stop solo flight around the world was made by a Scout".





The sixth stamp in the set, with a face value of 78p, shows Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of different nationalities and the inscription: "Scouting is the largest youth movement in the world with 28 million members".



In the United States, the Boy Scouts of America was founded by Chicago publisher William Boyce on February 8, 1910. As of the end of last year, the U.S. Boy Scout movement enjoyed the support of "almost 1.2 million dedicated volunteers" and "...religious and community organizations across the country".



I opened another old carton and discovered my own Boys Scout "certificate" (above) issued to me in Spartanburg, SC in 1939, only 29 years after U.S. Scouting began and about two years before I began switching from Scouting to my preparing for military service–World War II.

In 1950, the United States issued its first Boy Scout stamp, marking the 40th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and the 2nd National Scout Jamboree, held in Valley Forge. This stamp (Scott Cat. #995) shows a Cub Scout, a Boy Scout and an Explorer (now called "Venturing" Scouts) with the Scout Badge and the first words of the Scout Oath, "On My Honor I Will Do My Best ..."



As of December 30, 2006, there were 1,701,861 Cub Scouts (first through fifth grade boys); 922,836 Boy Scouts (11- to 17-year olds) and 244,266 young men and women, ages 14 to 20, were active in the BSA's high-adventure activities (sailing, canoeing, explorations, hiking, ranching, etc.)

The second U.S. Boy Scout commemorative stamp (Scott #1145) was issued on February 8, 1960 to mark fifty years of the BSA. It shows a Scout giving the Scout sign, showing his raised right hand with three extended fingers representing the three parts of the Scout Oath. This sign is used by both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. A third Boy Scout stamp (Scott#2161), noting its 75th Anniversary, was issued in 1985 as part of a set of four stamps celebrating International Youth Year.



Shown below is our most recent Scouting commemorative stamp, issued in 1998 as one of the sheet of 15 Celebrate the Century stamps (Scott #3183) honoring the 1910 decade. It shows a Girl Scout and a Boy Scout and on its reverse, a text that reads: "The Boy Scouts of America was formed in 1910 and the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. (at first known as Girl Guides) in 1912. Both groups introduce youth to a variety of outdoor activities and promote self-reliance and resourcefulness".



Our own postal service did not issue a stamp commemorating 100 years of Scout, but perhaps the USPS will issue commemorative stamps marking the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010 and the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. in 2012. Who knows?

In any event, with or without additional U.S. Scouting commemoratives, there are

plenty of Scouting topical stamps. One SOSSI website report by Jay L. Rogers said that by 1977 there were "over 1500 Boy and Girl Scout stamps", so if only 50 Scout stamps were issued annually during the 30 years between 1977 and 2007, it would bring the total number of Scouting commemoratives up to 3,000.



One of my favorite sets of Scouting stamps is shown above. These five stamps were issued by Guatemala in March, 1966 (Scott #C329-332) to mark the beginning of the 5th Intera-

merican Regional Scouting Training Conference, held that year in Guatemala City.

It seems to me that if our hobby is to continue into the future, the USPS, the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and local stamp clubs should be doing everything they can to interest as many Scouts as possible in stamp collecting.

At every stamp show, there is some effort to attract young people to stamps, but most of these activities have appeared to be non-productive. The only exception that I have seen was at Washington 2006 where hundreds of kids really seemed to enjoy participating in all sorts of stamp related activities. But very few philatelic societies (if any) can afford to create a Kid's Zone similar to the one in W-2006.

But at Washington 2006 I noticed one youth activity that could be duplicated by any active stamp club located in a community that has one or more active



In 1979, Liberia issued 5 sheets of Scouting stamps, Scott #B53-B57, and each sheet contained ten different stamps, each stamp reproducing a painting of an aspect of Scouting in the United States by the famous artist, Norman Rockwell. Shown above, are four of those Rockwell-Liberian Scouting stamps.

Boy Scout troops. This activity involved several groups of Boy Scouts in a section of Kid's Zone that were gathering both stamps and information for use in obtaining their Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badges. They looked like they were enjoying the experience and, hopefully, setting the stage for the pleasures of stamp collecting as they grow older.



Scouts have fun collecting stamps and philatelic information of their Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge at Washington-2006.



What Are the Requirements for a Stamp Collecting Merit Badge?

In order to win a Stamp Collecting Merit Badge, a Boy Scout has to fulfill eight requirements. I was collecting stamps when I was a Boy Scout, but I never got a Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. I wondered why I never got this badge. After all, only eight requirements! That sounded simple enough until I read the requirements.

Now have some fun! Read the following list of requirements, then ask yourself if you could qualify for a Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. I couldn't in 1939 and to be honest, I have a feeling I would have to do some research in order to win this badge today!

Here we go!

First, the Scout has to be able to talk about "how you can better understand people, places, institutions, history and geography as a result of collecting stamps. Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the U.S. postal system and how is it different from the postal systems in other countries."

Two high school honor students who were helping me sort stamps, asked me, "Who is this funny looking guy?" It was a German stamp bearing a portrait of Adolph Hitler. That day, two



young people received a brief history lesson based on only one stamp. As to the U.S. Postal System, if possible, a visit to our National Postal Museum in Washington would be a great way to learn.

Second, the Scout has to "define topical stamp collecting" and "What are some other types of stamp collections?"

Third, the Scout must "Show at least ONE example of each of the following: Perforated and imperforate stamps; Mint and used stamps; Sheet, booklet and coil stamps; Numbers of plate block, book10 • GLOBAL STAMP NEWS • OCTOBER 2007

let, coil, or marginal markings; Overprint and surcharge; Metered mail; Definitive, commemorative, semipostal and airmail stamps; Cancellation and postmark; First day cover; Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card)."

Fourth, the Scout has to: "Demonstrate the use of **ONE** standard catalog for several different stamp issues. Explain why catalog value can vary from the corresponding purchase price." And "Explain the meaning of the term condition as used to describe a stamp. Show examples that illustrate the different factors that affect a stamp's value." (*I just found an envelope full of early 20th century U.S.* stamps, each with a "killer-cancel" that effectively covered each stamp's design, placing it in the no value category. Yuk!)

Fifth, "Demonstrate the use of at least **THREE** of the following stamp collector's tool: Stamp tongs; Water and tray; Magnifiers; Hinges; Perforation gauge; Envelopes and sleeves; and Watermark fluid.

Sixth: the Scout must do the following: "Show a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges. Show at least **ONE** page that displays several stamps and discuss at least **THREE** ways he can help preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition."

Seventh: the Scout must do **TWO** of the following:

• Design a stamp, cancellation or cachet;

• Visit a Post Office, stamp club, or stamp show with an experienced collector and explain what he saw and/or did.;

• Write a review of an interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, or book;

• Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp;

• Describe the steps taken to produce a stamp, including the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed;

• Prepare a two- to three-page display, involving stamps, using ingenuity, as well as clippings, drawings, etc. to tell a story about the stamps and how they relate to history, geography, of a favorite topic of the Scout.

Eighth: Lastly, the Scout must mount and show, in a purchased or homemade album, **ONE** of the following:

• A collection of 250 stamps from at least 15 countries;

• A collection of a stamp from each of 50 countries, mounted on maps to show the location of each;

• A collection of 100 or more different stamps from either one country or a group of closely related countries;

• A collection of 75 or more different stamps on a single topic, but the stamps may be from different countries; or...

• A collection of postal items discovered in the Scout's own mail by monitoring over a period of 30 days and including at least five different types listed in the above Third requirement.

Well, if I were still a Boy Scout, I think I would go for a collection of 75 Scouting stamps. I wonder if they would let me include some of my Scouting stamps from Ajman, Dubai and other Trucial States of the Arabian Gulf region. Some of them are very attractive even though

they may only be "philatelic labels".

Thought for today: If you belong to a local stamp club and have a Boy Scout Troop in your community, the above paragraphs may have the germ of an idea for a club project. Any of your thoughts or comments? You can email them to me at: <u>bigpooh@embarqmail.com</u> or if you don't have access to a computer, you can send a note to me at P.O. Box 771137, Ocala, FL 34477-1137. ■



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