

# JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

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NUMBER 2



**Vancouver Olympic Winter Games**  
**February 12-28, 2010**





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PHILATELISTS  
INTERNATIONAL

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestroni

## *New Membership Category Inaugurated*

SPI's Board of Directors held a conference call meeting on November 7 during which an important change was made to our society's membership structure. In an effort to increase our retention rate from year to year, as well as add new members (especially from overseas), SPI will now include an Internet-Only option costing \$15 per year worldwide. Members in this category will download their quarterly copies of the journal and auction directly from our website to their computers. Regular members will also be able to access these files.

To download files members must first obtain a username and password by going to the SPI website and clicking on the "Members Only" button at the top of the page.

This is a one-year trial program for the current membership year (September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010).

In other actions, the Board will be revising the current criteria for awarding the SPI Best-of-Show at exhibitions. There was some confusion on the part of the jury at SESCAL as to which exhibits qualified for the award; we wish to make it clear that ALL sport and Olympic exhibits, regardless of class, are eligible. And to encourage new exhibitors of sports and Olympics, it was agreed that we would add single-frame as well as novice awards.

## *SPI and FIPO*

Mr. David Maiden has been appointed the new coordinator of the Olympic Collectors Commission at IOC Headquarters in Lausanne. He replaces Dr. Manfred Bergman who has retired.

Mr. Maiden and I have had meaningful discussions about SPI's standing in FIPO as well as about

future programs. He hopes, for the first time, to be able to hold the 2011 Olympic Collectors Fair in the U.S. as part of the National Sports Collectors Convention run by Olympin. While there won't be a philatelic exhibition as part of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Mr. Maiden did confirm that there would be a London 2012 Olympex (the new name for Olympic philatelic exhibitions).

## *Vancouver 2010*

As this will be the final issue of *JSP* before the upcoming Vancouver Olympic Winter Games in Canada, I would be interested in knowing which members will be attending. I will be up there for the first week. If time permits, it would be nice to meet up with other SPI members! If you'll be there, drop me an email (markspi@prodigy.net) with the dates you'll be in Vancouver and any contact information (hotel and phone/cell number).

## *Upcoming Changes to SPI Website*

We're working on some interesting upgrades to the SPI website. In addition to setting up a password protected "Members Only" area of the site, I'm also working on providing a blog which hopefully will be up and running in time for the Vancouver Olympics. My intention is to report daily on the "happenings" direct from the Games!

Once again we are at the end of a year, so on behalf of the officers and Board of Directors of SPI I would like to wish everyone a ...

*Happy Holidays ☺  
A Healthy, Prosperous New Year!*

**The SPI web site is located at: <http://www.sportstamps.org>**

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Figure 1. Relaxing at the SPI Table: Darrell Ertzberger (SESCAL 2009 Jury Chairman), Conrad Klinkner, and Pat Loehr.

# *SPI Celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1984 Olympics*

by Mark Maestrone

While the turnout for our 9<sup>th</sup> International Convention of SPI may have been sparse, those who attended SESCAL 2009 enjoyed themselves. The SESCAL committee, headed by Wallace Craig, did their usual excellent job making our stay both exciting and enjoyable. The ballroom of the Radisson Los Angeles International Airport Hotel was spacious and comfortable; the meeting rooms and other amenities were excellent. We particularly appreciated having a choice corner booth in the bourse area as “SPI Central” where those with tired feet (or eyes) could hang out (Figure 1).

Saturday was our big day with a prominent guest speaker, Carl Herrman, who entertained us with the inside scoop on many of the sport and Olympic stamps issued over the past couple of decades by the USPS (Figure 2). For 16 years, Carl has been one

of the six USPS Art Directors. For a detailed review of his presentation, please see the separate article in this issue, “Sports Illustrated: a Behind-the-Scenes Look at U.S. Stamp Designs.”

We made up for a dearth of attendees with a good showing in the exhibition frames. Eight sport and Olympic exhibits competed for laurels, walking away with three golds, a vermeil, and four silvers.

The two single-frame gold medal exhibits from Dale Lilljedahl and Andrew Urushima won, respectively, the Single-Frame Grand and Reserve Grand awards.

SPI’s Best-of-Show award – a crystal vase by Nambé of Santa Fe (Figure 8) – went to Charles Covell for his exhibit, “Soccer (Just for Kicks!).”

The only gold medal multi-frame sport or Olympic exhibit was by new SPI member, Charles O’Brien, with his excellent illustrated mail presentation on “Roberto Clemente.” I highly recommend viewing this exhibit if it comes to a show near you! The results of all our members’ exhibits:

## Court of Honor

Mark Maestrone, “Men’s Gymnastics: Dressed To Win”

Mark Maestrone & LA84 Foundation, “Olympic Retrospective: the 1984 Games of Los Angeles” (combined philatelic & memorabilia display)

## Gold

Dale Lilljedahl, “Polish Prisoner of War Camp Olympic Issues” (Also Single-Frame Grand Award)



Figure 2. A small, but appreciative, audience attended noted stamp designer Carl Herrman’s presentation.



Figures 3 & 4. The LA84 Foundation generously loaned us an Olympic Torch from 1984 along with a selection of photographs of the Games commissioned by the LAOOC. At right, Robert Cumming's "Water Polo Balls, Practice Pool near Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum."



Charles J. O'Brien III, "Roberto Clemente" (Also APS Medal of Excellence: Post 1980; American First Day Cover Society Exhibit Award)

Andrew Urushima, "Spoiled by War: The Games of the XIIth Olympiad (Also Single-Frame Reserve Grand Award; American Topical Association One-Frame Award)

#### Vermeil

Charles V. Covell Jr., "Soccer (Just for Kicks!)" (Also SPI Best-of-Show Award; American Topical Association First Medal)

#### Silver

Glenn A. Estus, "1932 Lake Placid Winter Olympic Games"

Conrad Klinkner, "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles – 1932" (Also American Topical Association Second Medal)

Patricia Ann Loehr, "Golfing From the Rough and Through the Green"

Patricia Ann Loehr, "The World of Golf" (Also American Topical Association Third Medal)

In addition to our philatelic exhibits, the LA84 Foundation in Los Angeles very kindly loaned us memorabilia from the Games. The highlight was an original torch from the 1984 Torch Relay which was on display in the awards case at the show (Figure 3). Not a few exhibitors pondered whether this might be a philatelic award!



Figures 5. The colorful Olympic centerpieces on each banquet table were fitting tributes to the show's theme honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1984 Olympics.



Figure 6. Exhibitors Pat Loehr, Mark Maestroni, and Charles O'Brien proudly displaying their awards.

Nearby were four frames of material memorializing the 1984 Games. I prepared a single-frame exhibit as a retrospective of those Olympics. The other three frames housed a selection of photographs by ten photographers of diversely different backgrounds and artistic styles commissioned by the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee (LAOOC). The objective was to achieve ten personal interpretations of the Games of the XXIII<sup>rd</sup> Olympiad held in Los Angeles. My favorite of the grouping was "Water Polo Balls" by Robert Cumming (Figure 4).

On behalf of our SPI exhibitors, I'd like to thank Howard Green and his exhibits staff. Howard deserves special accolades for helping avert a near

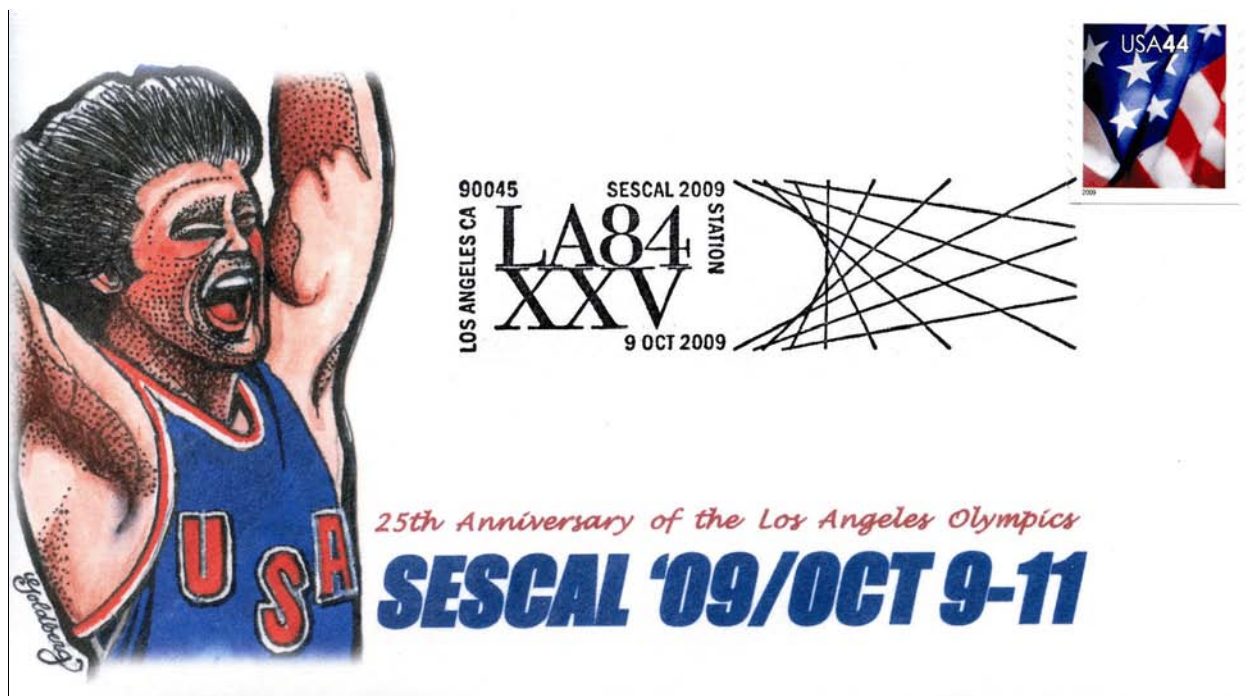


Figure 7. SESCAL cover honoring the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games – the theme of the exhibition. The postmark, used all three days of the show, was designed by Mark Maestrone. The cachet was created by noted cachet artist, Bernard Goldberg.

calamity when one of our exhibits was late in arriving. A sidebar (right) from exhibitor Charles Covell explains the story.

I would especially like to single out the Awards Banquet Chairperson, Betty Green. The banquet room atop the Radisson afforded us a dramatic nearly-360° view of Los Angeles – a perfect backdrop for the awards ceremony following dinner (Figure 6). Most memorable were the clever “Olympic rings and torch” centerpieces (Figure 5).

The SESCAL committee was enthusiastic about the theme chosen for the show: the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Los Angeles 1984 Olympic Games.

With the assistance of David Simon, President of the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games (and agreement of the U.S. Olympic Committee), we were able to create a handsome commemorative postmark for the event (Figure 7).

My concept for the postmark was to combine the official logo of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee in Los Angeles (“LA84” over “XXV”) with a distinctive element of the postmarks used during the 1984 Games by the U.S. Postal Service (the 3-dimensional pattern of lines). The result was, I hope, a pleasing blend of both graphic images.

All in all, our 9<sup>th</sup> SPI Convention at SESCAL 2009 was a fun, as well as instructive, experience. Our next convention is scheduled for 2011 at WESTPEX in San Francisco.

## How *Not* to Exhibit in a Stamp Show

by Charles Covell

SESCAL is one of the “World Series of Philately” exhibitions – a major one for exhibitors. In 2009 the President of SPI, Mark Maestrone, urged me to exhibit my 112-page “Soccer (Just for Kicks!),” and so I signed up during the summer. SPI was to have its biennial meeting there, and we wanted to have some good sports exhibits entered.

I knew SESCAL was in October, but I forgot to enter in my calendar the show date and deadline for mailing in my exhibit. It wasn’t until Monday, October 5 when I thought to check. Good grief! The show was to be that coming weekend and the deadline for receipt of the materials had passed - October 2! I nearly had blown it.

To confound the situation, my wife Betty was to have eye surgery the next morning – early. I had to get the exhibit off to the exhibit chairman, Howard Green, in California right away. Neither his email address nor his phone number were at hand, so I packed the exhibit in a Priority Mail carton with the intention of getting overnight service. Surely if it got to him by mid-day Wednesday all would be well.

At the main post office I was told the quickest

way to get the package across country was via Express Mail with 2-day guaranteed delivery. I repackaged the pages in an Express Mail carton, making two more mistakes: I signed the waiver requiring a signature upon receipt, *and* I neglected to insure the valuable collection! I paid the \$55 postage fee (using high-value stamps) and went back to attend my wife, who was waiting in a nearby surgical center for her delayed operation. I was still worried that Howard would not get my exhibit in time.

My already high anxiety level was ratcheted up even higher that evening when, on top of a long day with the surgery ordeal, Howard contacted me to see if my exhibit was on the way. As he lived about 150 miles from the show site in Los Angeles, it was necessary for him to drive down on Wednesday, afternoon departing at about 12:30 p.m. The USPS clerk had said my package would be delivered “by 3:00 p.m. Thursday.” Did that mean it *might* be delivered Wednesday? We could not know.

As Howard would not be at home to receive the package Thursday – and because I had waived signature – the postal carrier would likely leave my package on his front porch where it would remain for five days. Although Howard had stopped his regular mail for that period, an Express Mail item might very well be delivered by another carrier.

By Wednesday morning my angst remained at a high pitch.

Howard phoned to tell me he would visit his post office and inform them of the problem, and ask them to hold the package for him. Then at least I would not risk the loss of my exhibit. It would not be in the show, of course, but by then I was hoping against hope that I would see my precious pages

again.

Howard phoned back later to say he was at the post office and that the package had not arrived, but that an attempt would be made to intercept the exhibit before it was delivered. He was ready to drive to Los Angeles.

A few minutes later he called again. Somehow I sensed good news, and smiled for the first time in three days. Howard told me that as he was

walking to his car a postal employee (bless him!) came running out of the building with the package. They had it, but were waiting until Thursday to deliver it! Howard took it to the show, and it found its place among the other exhibits at SESCAL. I was relieved beyond words.

On Sunday I received a phone call from Mark at the show. He told me that my exhibit had won a vermeil award (expected from earlier experience), as well as first place in the American Topical Association competition. Most exciting of all, however, was that it won the SPI Best-of-Show award – a crystal vase (Figure 8). This undeserved bounty was thrilling, as I had never before won a “major award” at a stamp show. My exhibit arrived home safely a few days later franked with high value U.S. stamps.

Despite my several major blunders, everything turned out well after all. While the USPS Customer Service office I contacted was of no help (phone message never returned), I am deeply grateful to that Libertyville, Calif. USPS employee who found and delivered that package.

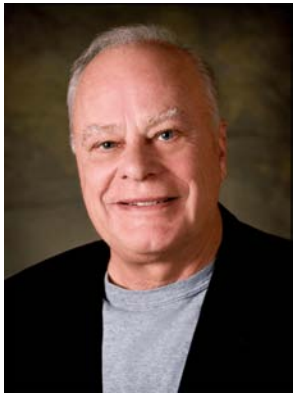
It was, however, Howard Green’s diligent and effective efforts that saved the day. I feel very bad about causing him that extra work and concern. Imagine what it would be like for several exhibitors to cause such trouble! I’ll be forever grateful to Howard for turning my major debacle into an unexpected triumph.



Figure 8. Crystal vase by Nambé, this year’s SPI Best-of-Show award.



SESCAL 2009 General Chairman, Wallace Craig, welcoming guests at the Awards Banquet.



# “Sports Illustrated”: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at U.S. Stamp Designs

by Mark Maestroni

**W**hen you have 16 years in the “biz” of designing stamps for the U.S. Postal

Service with over 400 issues under your belt, you speak from experience. Such was the entertaining and informative talk delivered at SPI’s October convention by noted USPS Art Director, Carl Herrman.

With the help of a colorful PowerPoint presentation, Carl walked us through the process of designing stamps as well as uncovering some of the behind-the-scenes deliberations of the Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC).

The job of an Art Director, Herrman pointed out, is not unlike that of an orchestra conductor who must unite the various elements into a pleasing whole. A stamp’s creation begins with a concept which is translated into a variety of preliminary designs – what we call “essays” in philately. Not only must the artistic rendering of the graphic image(s) be taken into account, but also the typography (font, style, color, and size). Eventually, a design is selected, frequently with many adjustments along the way.



Figure 1. Six essays for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games stamp.

## *Genesis of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games Stamp*

When tasked with creating a single stamp for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, Carl sat down with noted Honolulu graphic artist Clarence Lee who has designed the series of Chinese New Year stamps that are always popular with the stamp-buying public. Clearly, they decided, the stamp should have an Oriental “look” to it. The target audience being American, the subject of the stamp should represent a sport in which the United States was strong. From among many possibilities, swimming, diving and gymnastics were chosen.

The next step was to prepare a series of possible designs from which the CSAC could make a selection. Using a brush stroke style to render the figures, Lee was able to capture the fluid grace of each athlete. For typography, Herrman experimented with a Chinese-style “chop” combining the “USA” and denomination. The result: six essays (Figure 1).

The CSAC selected the female gymnast for further development. Rendering the figure of the gymnast in bright red, the design team set it against a complimentary dappled background. This allowed the Olympic rings to be shown as dropout white. The identifying text “2008 Olympic Games - Beijing, China” was inscribed at the bottom (Figure 2).

At this point, the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) got into the act with the result that the Olympic rings and identifying text had to be removed. In the end, the USOC agreed to allow use of their own Olympic logo (“USA” over the Olympic rings). Except for the USPS’s standard year-of-printing indicator in the lower left hand corner there is no way to identify this as commemorating the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. No other postal



Figure 2. Preliminary design for the selected stamp.



Figure 3. Final design with USOC logo and new denomination.



Figure 4. (Above) Essays for Phelps' proposed sports series: U.S. defeat of Soviet ice hockey team at Lake Placid Olympics, Louis vs. Schmeling boxing match, and passage of Title IX.



Figure 5. (Left) A proposed NFL stamp in the sports series broke USPS rules by depicting Colts' quarterback, Johnny Unitas, who was still living.

administrations seem to face such hurdles erected by their respective national Olympic committees.

In the final design, the chop-style denomination (changed to 42¢ to reflect the new first-class letter rate) replaced the Olympic rings in the upper right corner. It and the USOC logo were printed in violet (Figure 3).

### ***A Character at the CSAC***

The Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee is composed of up to 15 members who serve at the pleasure of the Postmaster General. Since its formation in 1957, the committee has seen a fascinating cast of "citizens" from all walks of life. One among them stands out as quite a character in his own right, Richard "Digger" Phelps. Best known as Notre Dame University's head basketball coach from 1971-1991 and later as an ESPN commentator, Phelps served on the CSAC from 1983 to 2006. During those years he was certainly

a very vocal member of the group.

Carl recalled one of Digger's big ideas was a series of stamps commemorating moments in sports with the greatest historical impact. As proposed, the series was to address such noteworthy events as the defeat of the Soviets by the U.S. ice hockey team at the 1980 Lake Placid Olympic Games, the famous Joe Louis - Max Schmeling boxing match of 1938, and the 1972 passage of Title IX (essays for the stamps are shown in Figure 4). One of Digger's more notorious suggestions for the series – the moment during the 1968 Olympic Games medal ceremony when Tommie Smith and John Carlos raising their fists in the "black power salute" – was immediately rejected by the committee as far too incendiary a subject. In the end, the series never came to fruition.

Digger also had a penchant for ignoring some of the postal services strict guidelines, particularly with regard to portraying living individuals on stamps. As part of the historical series, he wanted to commemorate the NFL with a stamp. Who best to capture that spirit but the great Baltimore Colts quarterback, Johnny Unitas. Trouble was, Unitas was still living. An essay for the stamp (Figure 5) leaves no doubt that the player depicted is Johnny Unitas (Colts logo on the helmet and Johnny's jersey number 19).

One of Digger's most successful ideas for a stamp issue was the "Baseball's Legendary Playing Fields" series which turned out to be a blockbuster for the USPS (Figure 6).

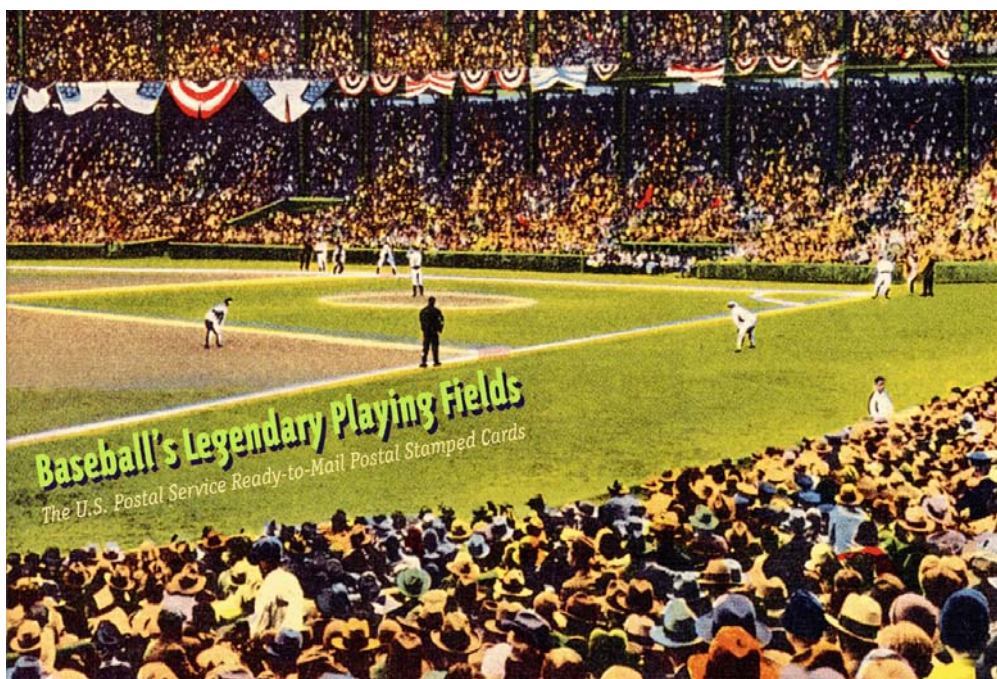


Figure 6. The very successful Baseball Legendary Playing Fields stamps and matching postal cards (the cover of the booklet of cards is shown) was Digger Phelps' idea.



Figure 7. The preliminary design for the non-sports stamps saluting the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games featured Olympic victory medals. The triangular design was a first in U.S. philately.

### *A Great Idea Before its Time*

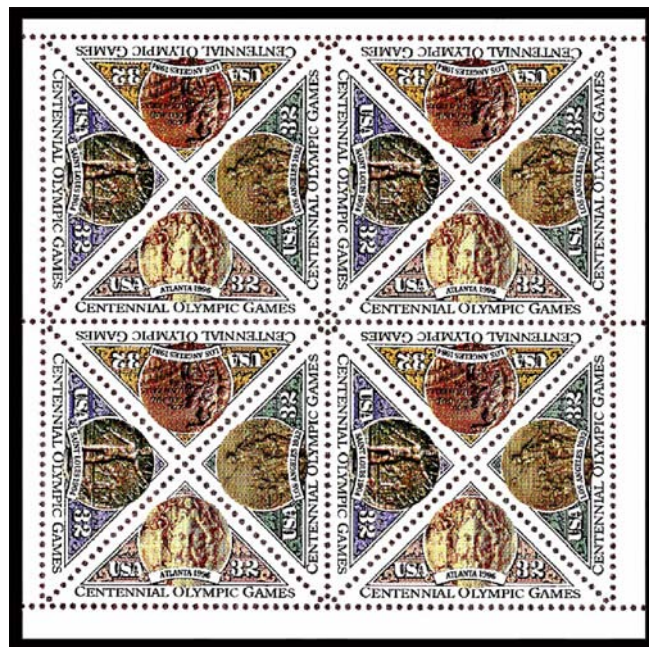
A big project tackled by Carl was for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta. In addition to a series featuring the various sports on the summer Olympic schedule (this became the sheet of 20 sports stamps), the CSAC also asked Carl for a non-sport issue honoring the Centennial Olympic Games.

Wanting to create something unique in American philately, Herrman conceived of triangular stamps picturing the victory medals of the three U.S. host cities for the summer Olympic Games: 1904 St. Louis, 1984 Los Angeles, and 1996 Atlanta. To make the triangle work, a fourth stamp honored the first Olympic Games in Athens, Greece in 1896 (an early design is shown in Figure 7).

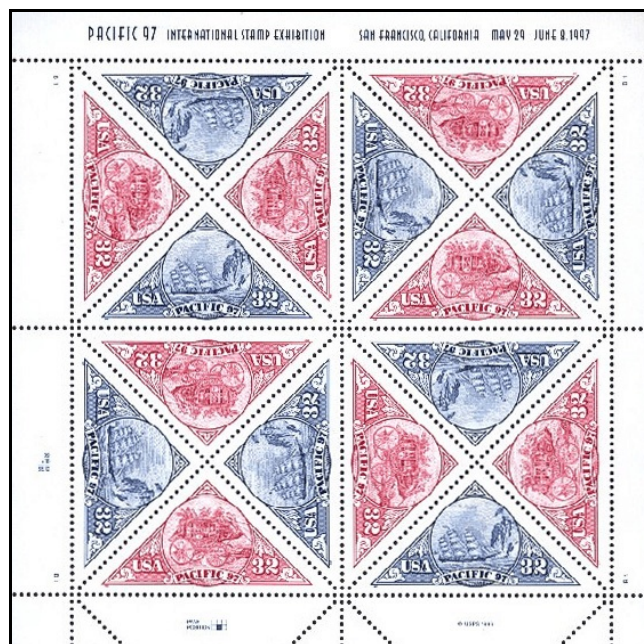
A later version replaced the 1896 Olympics with the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Figure 8 shows how the four stamps were to be arranged in a square with four squares per miniature pane resulting in a total of 16 stamps.

When it came time to approve the stamps, the USPS nixed the idea. Producing the stamps would be too difficult for the printers, they said.

Interesting, though, how just one year later the USPS printed a set of triangular stamps for the Pacific '97 world stamp exhibition in San Francisco (Figure 9). Anyone see any similarities?



Figures 8 & 9. A later version for the proposed triangular stamps was deemed too difficult to print (above). Just one year later, however, the USPS issued the first set of triangular stamps for Pacific '97 designed by Richard Sheaff (below). The design was remarkably similar to Herrman's 1996 Olympic stamps!



### *Paying Homage to the God of Surfing*

Having grown up on a surfboard on Long Island, New York (Figure 10), Carl was particularly pleased to be asked to design a 2002 stamp for Duke Paoa Kahanamoku, the father of surfing.



Figure 10. Carl Herrman (far right) and his longboard surfing buddies on Long Island, NY.

Not only was the Hawaiian a great surfer, but he was also an Olympic swimmer having won 3 gold medals and 2 silvers over three Olympic Games (1912, 1920, 1924). At the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, he even competed on the U.S. water polo team.

Kahanamoku was the “total water man,” and Carl wanted to capture that quality on the stamp.

The initial design featured a photographic portrait of Kahanamoku against a backdrop of surfers (Figure 11), but this just didn’t satisfy Herrman.

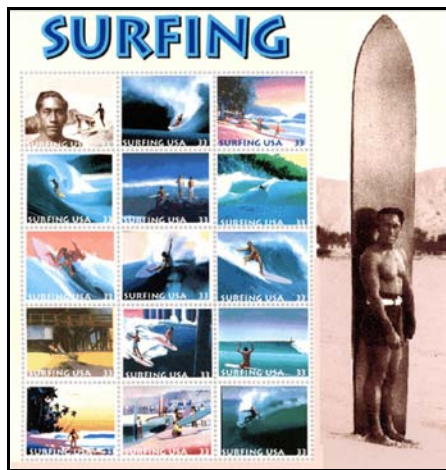


Figure 14. A proposed surfing souvenir sheet for the Kahanamoku stamp was not accepted by the CSAC.

Working with artist Michael Deas of New Orleans, they created a brand new portrait in oil of Duke, this time showing the athlete from the waist up and wearing a tank top (Figure 12). This



Figure 11. The first design used a portrait of Kahanamoku which Art Director, Carl Herrman, did not believe properly captured the quality of the subject as a “total water man.”



Figure 12. Working with graphic artist, Michael Deas of New Orleans, LA, a new portrait in oil of Duke Kahanamoku was created for the 2002 stamp honoring the father of surfing.



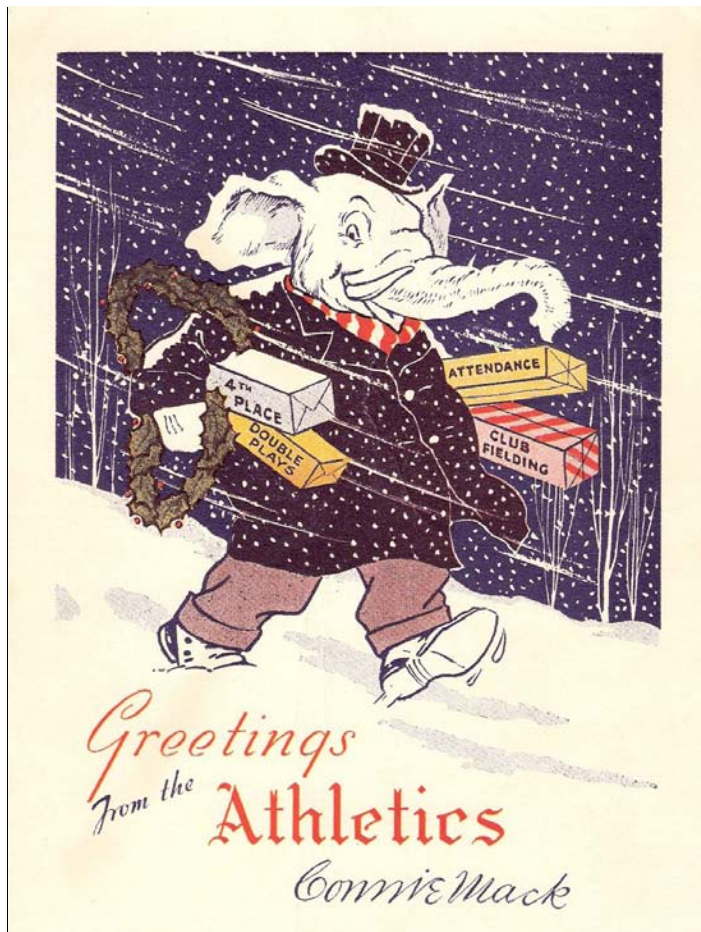
Figure 13 (right). The new stamp, as issued, featured Duke Kahanamoku in a tank top. O’ahu’s famous Diamond Head and surfers at Waikiki create the perfect backdrop for Honolulu’s favorite son.

became the artwork for the final stamp design (Figure 13).

The only change – one requested by Kahanamoku’s family – was that his middle name, Paoa (his mother’s maiden name), be included on the stamp. This just wasn’t possible given the limited space for typography. In the end, the family settled for his full name in the first day program: Duke Paoa Kahanamoku.

Carl tried to sell the CSAC on a companion souvenir sheet devoted exclusively to surfing, but the idea didn’t fly (Figure 14).

Concluding his presentation, Carl noted that while commemoratives make up only 2% of stamps used on envelopes, they are the bulk of new stamps issued each year by the USPS – and he was honored to have had a hand in designing so many of them during his career.



Figures 1 & 2. Christmas card from the Philadelphia Athletics circa 1948 (left) and meter featuring the club's logo, an elephant, used on the envelope enclosing the card (above).

# A Baseball Christmas

by Norman Rushefsky

When collecting sports philatelic covers the original contents of the envelopes are frequently of lesser interest. However purchasing an envelope that happens to have the original contents can put a crimp in the pocketbook. It has been my experience that sports memorabilia collectors will pay significantly for the contents of the envelope whereas the envelope is of lesser interest to them.

In the case of vintage baseball Christmas cards sent by teams to their fans, friends and business

associates, the envelopes are sized to fit the cards. The attractiveness of the cards certainly adds to the philatelic interest of the envelopes.

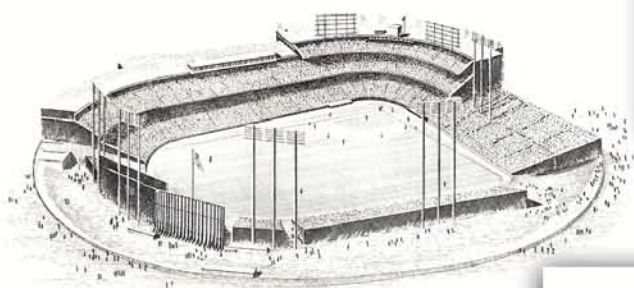
All too often the envelopes were discarded by the recipients so finding a vintage baseball Christmas card with its original envelope is rare. Rarer still is finding such an envelope with a philatelic connection. The examples illustrated with this article show different types of covers that may be of interest to the sports philatelist.

Figure 1 features a Christmas card from the Philadelphia Athletics. The logo of the team is an elephant and the card provides an anthropomorphic characterization of the elephant carrying Christmas gifts that are labeled with team accomplishments for the year; e.g. 4th place finish in American League standing, led the league in attendance, club fielding and double plays. The year is not identified on the card but from the identified stats the likelihood is that the year is 1948.

The envelope in which the card was mailed may be identified as having originated from the team's office because of the elephant logo in the meter slogan (Figure 2).

Figure 3 is a Christmas card of the Minnesota Twins showing Metropolitan Stadium. The Twins were formerly the Washington Senators who moved to Minnesota in 1961. Figure 4 shows the inside of the card which is signed by public relations executives of the Twins. The envelope for the card is not overtly identifiable as a team envelope. However, the meter number used in 1962 corresponds with Twins' covers in my collection. So the holiday greetings meter slogan (Figure 5) is that used by the Twins.

Figure 6 shows a Christmas card from the 1952 Chicago White Sox. The inside of the card (Figure 7) is imprinted with the name of John Rigney who at the time was an executive with the Sox and later the General Manager. Rigney was one of the top Sox pitchers prior to WWII. The envelope for the card (Figure 8) has a corner card design for the White Sox.



METROPOLITAN STADIUM - HOME OF THE MINNESOTA TWINS

Season's Greetings

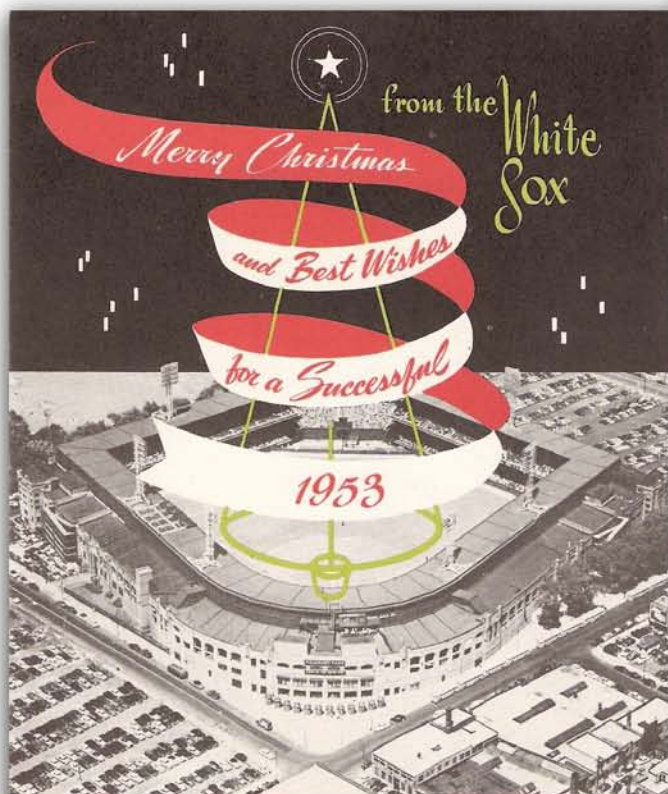
Holiday Greetings



Figures 3-5. Minnesota Twins Christmas card and meter from 1962.

Herb Hays  
Tom McE  
Don Cassidy

With best wishes for  
a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.  
The Minnesota Twins



Figures 6 & 7. 1953 White Sox Christmas card with interior inscription.

you find out where  
is located. We sent  
a gift to him and it  
was.

John  
\* warmest  
season's  
Greetings

JOHN D. RIGNEY



Chicago American League Baseball Club

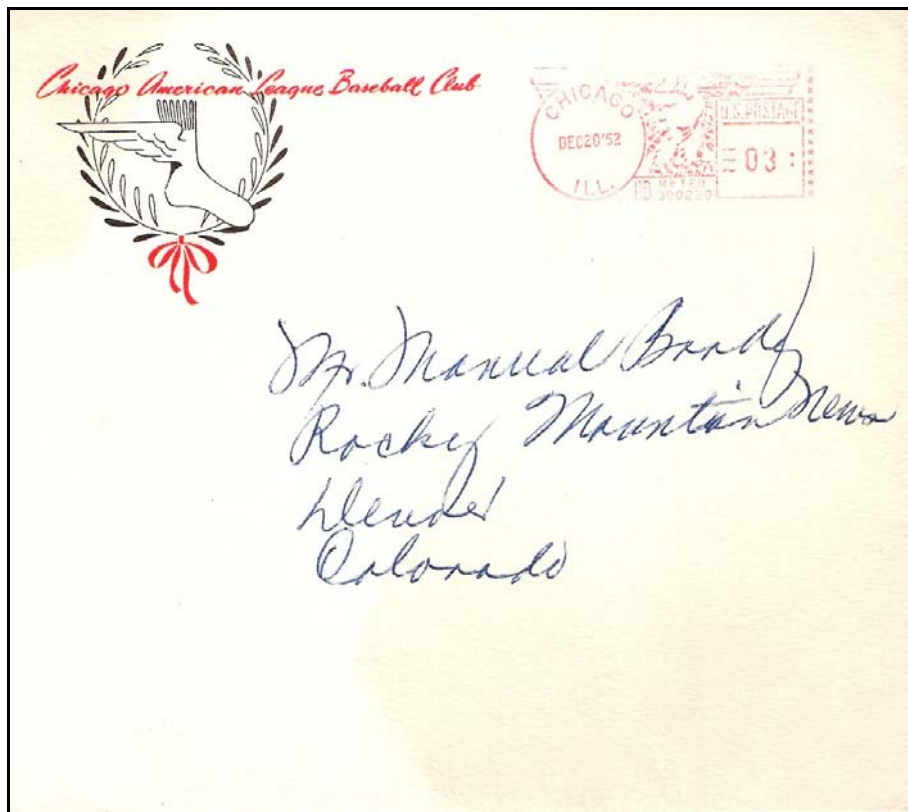


Figure 8. Envelope containing card in Figures 6 & 7 showing the corner card of the White Sox.

The back of the envelope bears the printed address label of John Mostil, the apparent sender of the card. Mostil was a talented center-fielder for the Sox in the 1920s but more noted for his attempted suicide in 1927 during his playing career. This was apparently due to his suffering from chronic pain. Mostil, after retiring as a player, became a minor-league manager and a scout for the Sox.

The envelope in Figure 9 is franked with the 1939 baseball centennial stamp and is postmarked in 1940. The enclosed Christmas card (Figures 10 & 11) expresses greetings from the 1940 Cincinnati Reds world champions. The card includes the printed name of Warren Giles, the president and general manager of the team. Giles is perhaps better known as the longtime president of the National League and electee to the Baseball Hall of Fame. The National League Championship Series trophy is named in his honor. 🍀



Figures 9-11. Cincinnati Reds Christmas card dating to 1940. The envelope is very appropriately franked with the 1939 Baseball Centennial stamp.



## HWANG YOUNG-CHO, 1992 OLYMPIC MARATHON WINNER

BY  
MARK MAESTRONE

**A**ndrew Urushima's article on 1936 Olympic Marathon victor, Sohn Kee-chung, in the Summer 2009 issue of the journal reminded me of the interesting discovery I made on my visit to Spain this past April.

Directly across the street from the Estadi Olímpic, Barcelona's Olympic stadium, is a very attractive monument in stone and bronze dedicated to the winner of the 1992 men's Olympic Marathon, Korean Hwang Young-cho (or "Young-jo").

Roughly 19 meters in length, the sculpture is composed of a series of carved stone pieces assembled along a grassy sward. At one end, Hwang is represented by a running figure in relief on a large stone slab (above).

The opposite end of the sculpture carries an inscription in Korean on another stone outcrop saluting the Catalan city of Barcelona and the sculptor's native province of Kyonggi in Korea:

*"Cataluña, a land favored by art and history.  
Barcelona, ancient and glorious city.  
Kyonggi-do in Korea, a place of oriental peace.  
Its brilliant light unites us.  
Oh! That this warm friendship lasts for ever."*

In the foreground of the monument area is a bronze plaque (below) showing a pair of footprints representing Hwang and the following text (translated from Catalan into English).

*"This is an example of the friendship between the two countries as partners in the new era.*

*Let this be a testament to our hopes for a new unity, the fusing of two peoples into one."*

The monument, designed by Korean sculptor Kang Dae-chul\*, was dedicated on October 5, 2001 by Jordi Pujol i Soley, President of the Government of Catalonia; Joan Clos i Matheu, Mayor of Barcelona; and Lim Chang-Yuel, Governor of the Province of Kyonggi, Republic of Korea.

Although Sohn and Hwang won their respective marathons 56 years apart, it is interesting to note the similarities of their achievements. In addition to both being young (Sohn was 21, Hwang 22), they both ran races in which they were in the lead pack for much of the race.

And the date of their respective Olympic Marathons: August 9! A postmark on that date from the mobile post office serving the stadium area (Anella





Olimpica or Olympic Ring) is shown below.

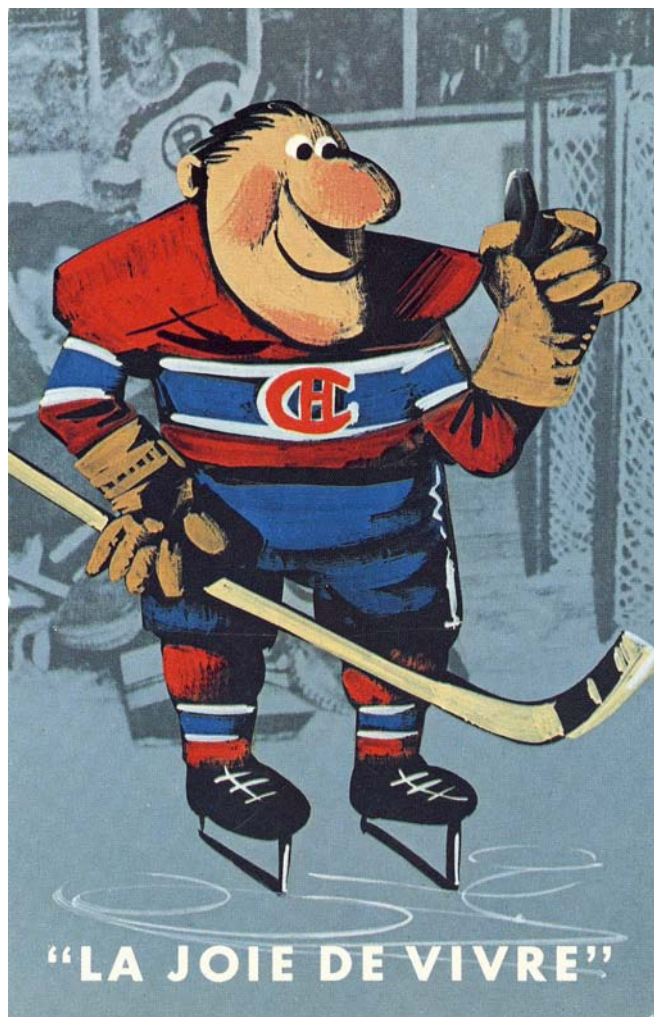
When asked about his win, Hwang said he had no choice but to be victorious as he didn't want to

let down his idol, Sohn Kee-chung, who was there to watch him race. What a day it must have been for Korea's two Olympic marathon champions! 🇰🇷



*Thanks to Bob Wilcock for the translations from Catalan into English and the philatelic illustration.*

\*Kang-I-Chon Dae-Chul (Kyong-Gi Province, South Korea, 1955). Studied at the College of Fine Arts at the University of Hong-Ik, Seoul. The first one-man exhibition of his work was held at a gallery in Seoul in 1976. He has also participated in collective exhibitions in Paris, Milan and Sao Paulo, and received various awards the prize for best artist at the International Sculpture Symposium in Peru (1998). He has published two novels (1982 and 1994) and a collection of essays, "Things I Miss" (1997).



## The Montreal Canadiens: a 100 Year Legacy

by Kon Sokolyk

“**L**a joie de vivre” – “The Joy of Life.” What better way to express the joy of life for any hockey-mad Montréalais than to be on a sheet of ice with a hockey stick in hand while wearing the jersey of his beloved Montreal Canadiens? It is not difficult to see that, with such devout following, the team and those who wore its jersey have gained legendary iconic status in Canada. But the devout following would not have happened without the on-ice successes of the Canadiens. The successes did not come easily

though, they were hard earned, thus creating an unmatched legacy in professional hockey.

The Le Club de Hockey Canadiens was established in late 1909 as part of the National Hockey Association (NHA). The initiation fee was thirty dollars. The total investment, including player salaries, was five thousand dollars. It was to be a Francophone team to balance off the Anglophone Montreal Wanderers with a cross town French-English rivalry. The first game was played on January 5, 1910. Some years later, in 1917, the Canadiens were one of four NHA teams that formed the National Hockey League (NHL). Known as the Flying Frenchmen or Les Habitants (Habs) the club is the oldest continuously operating professional hockey team in Canada.

The legendary iconic status of the Montreal Canadiens is based in part on the success of the team – they have won the Stanley Cup (emblematic of supremacy in the NHL) 24 times, more than any



Figure 2. A team which included some retired pro Canadiens players dazzled the Grenoblois in a series of games there a year prior to that city's hosting of the 1968 Olympic Winter Games. A maximum first day card for the 1968 Olympic ice hockey stamp features a player dressed in a Canadiens jersey.



Figure 3. Booklet of stamps honoring the Canadiens and their record 24 Stanley Cup championships.

other team. The record includes a run of 5 consecutive Cup wins. And in December 2008, the Canadiens became the first team in NHL history to win 3,000 games.

It is also based in part on the success of the individual players and coaches. Forty-two have been inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. They have won league trophies and been named to all-star teams in unprecedented numbers. During the 1944-45 season, five out of six members of the NHL First All-Star team were Canadiens. Maurice "Rocket"

Richard was the first to score 50 goals in a season, the first to score 50 goals in 50 games, and the first to score 500 career goals. His younger brother Henri "The Pocket Rocket" Richard's name is engraved 11 times on the Stanley Cup, more than any other player's. While team mate Jean Béliveau's name appears the most of any individual, 10 times as a player and 7 times as management. And Hector "Toe" Blake coached the Canadiens for 13 years, winning eight Stanley Cups, a record with one team.

The professional club's legendary status has transcended continents and promoted amateur Olympic ideals. In advance of the 1968 Grenoble Olympics, one of the maximum cards produced in France for the hockey stamp first day cancel featured a photograph of a hockey player in the uniform of the Montreal Canadiens (Figure 2). A year earlier, retired hockey players from Montréal including Maurice "Rocket" Richard played a series of games in France. The Rocket's aura was so great that Grenoble had to add a second game. Unfortunately, retired professionals were not allowed to play against amateurs and all French teams participating in the games were suspended for two years.

While some Montreal Canadiens stars have already been honored on Canadian stamps as part of the NHL All-Stars series – Rocket Richard, Doug Harvey, Jacques Plante, Jean Béliveau, Serge Savard, Bill Durnan, Larry Robinson and Henri Richard – the club itself has not. Interestingly, the professional baseball's Toronto Blue Jays were honored with a stamp on their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary while the Toronto Maple Leafs managed to eke out a personalized stamp on their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

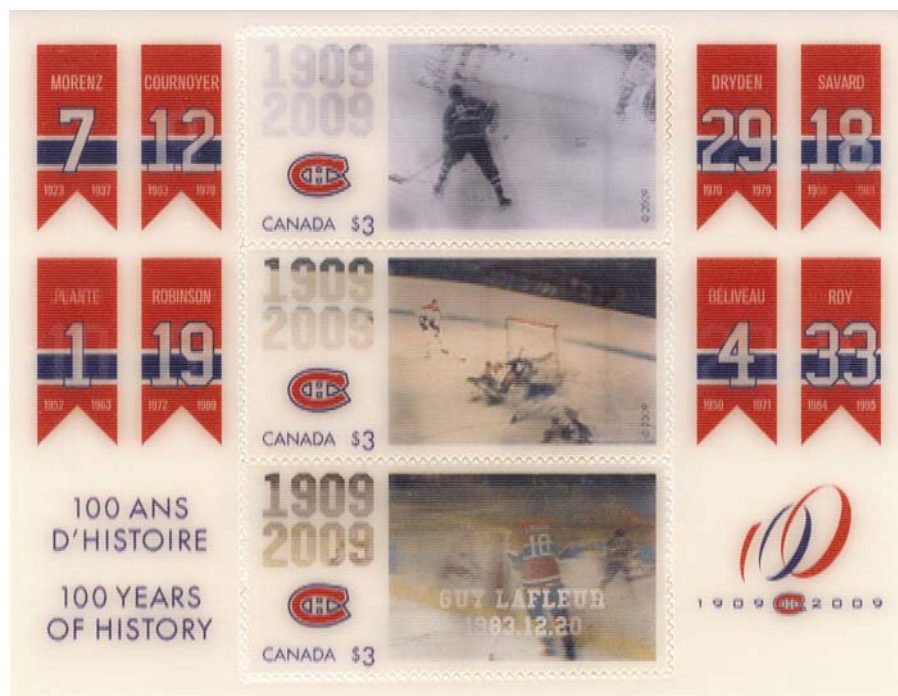
On October 17, 2009, Canada Post celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Montreal Canadiens with the issuance of a stamp and a souvenir sheet. The self-adhesive permanent domestic rate stamp was issued in booklet format (Figure 3). There are ten stamps to a booklet laid out in the form of an "H" for Les Habitants. The seasons in which the team won the Stanley Cup are listed in the two cavities of the letter "H." The stamp design features a close-up photograph of the club's famed logo from a Rocket Richard game-worn jersey.

The front of the first day cover lists the names of all those who played for the Canadiens while the back provides reproductions of the club's logos through its 100-year history. The first day cancellation features the original logo and was applied in Montréal (Figure 4).

The souvenir sheet (Figure 5) is perhaps Canada Post's most innovative issue. It features three



Figure 4. Official First Day cover. The front (left) lists the names of each Canadiens player, while the reverse (above) shows the various team logos.



at the top left and is the only static banner. The other banners change numbers when the souvenir sheet is tilted. At the bottom right is a static 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo. The reverse features photographs of the 15 retired players.

#### References:

O'Brien, Andy. "Fire-Wagon Hockey – The Story of the Montreal Canadiens," Ryerson Press, 1970. *Details*, Volume XVIII, No 4. 2009. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montreal\\_Canadiens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montreal_Canadiens)

Figure 5. Front (left) and reverse (below) of the "motionstamps" souvenir sheet.

stamps, each with a face value of \$3.00. The stamps depict three Montreal Canadiens stars – Rocket Richard, Jean Béliveau and Guy Lafleur – scoring their 500<sup>th</sup> goals.

The stamps employ a printing process called "Motionstamps" where digital clips of the actual game footage are transferred on to the stamp. By tilting a stamp up or down, one can actually "watch" the player scoring the memorable 500<sup>th</sup> goal. At a particular angle the player's name and the date of the scoring feat appear. Flanking the three stamps are banners with numbers representing the retired 15 jerseys of star players. Howie Morenz's #7, the first jersey to be retired, is found

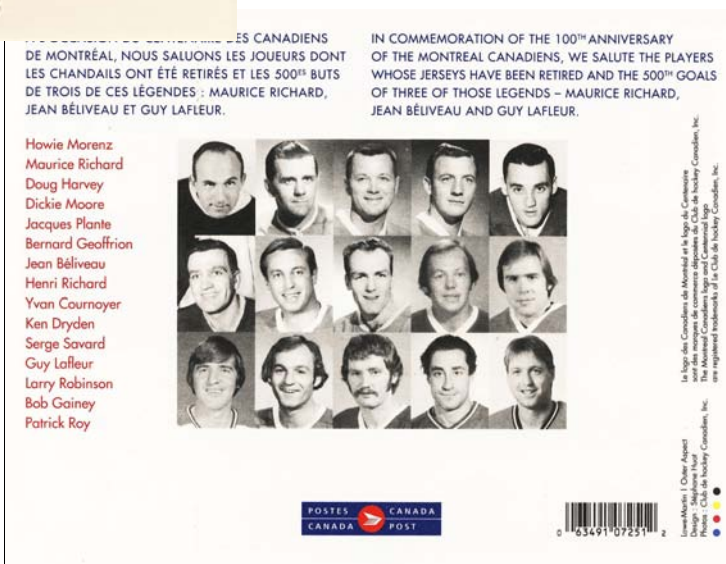




Figure 1. First Day Cover of the Seabiscuit #6¼ envelope with self-adhesive flap printed by Ashton-Potter.

## SEABISCUIT POSTAL STATIONERY ENVELOPES ISSUED IN 17 VARIETIES

by Mark Maestrone  
submitted by John La Porta

**T**he U.S. Postal Service certainly outdid themselves in collectible varieties of the new Seabiscuit 44¢ postal stationery envelopes. Three different sizes of envelopes were offset printed by Ashton-Potter with the Seabiscuit indicium: #6¼, #9 (security envelope) and #10 (legal size). Each was also available as either a standard or windowed envelope, making six varieties.

But wait! The USPS also decided to manufacture each of these 6 envelopes with either self-adhesive flaps or water-activated gum. Suddenly, there were 12 varieties of envelopes to collect. All of these envelopes were issued on May 11, 2009 with a Kansas City, MO first day postmark (Figure 1).

The self-adhesive flap envelopes were designed to be personalized and therefore not available individually from the post office. They were sold in a packet of 18 envelopes for \$10.92, consisting of the 6 different Seabiscuit envelopes, plus 12 different

Liberty Bell Forever envelopes.

We're not done yet! Ashton-Potter was not the only printer of these envelopes.

On June 1, National Envelope released two more envelopes, this time printed using flexography rather than offset printing. Both were #10 envelopes (one regular, the other windowed) with water-activated flaps.

These were only available in sets of two envelopes (one of each format) for \$1.08.

The easiest way to differentiate the two types is by comparing the recycle symbol on the reverse of the envelopes. On the National Envelope printings, the symbol always appears to the left of the text "This envelope is recyclable and made with 30% post consumer content". On the Ashton-Potter version it is to the right (Figure 2).

The two printings also differ in the density or color of the "2009" micro-printing adjacent to the "T" in "SEABISCUIT". In the National Envelope printing the date is darker, appearing nearly black, while on the Ashton-Potter envelopes it is more of a lighter grey color (Figure 3).

Figure 2. The simplest method of identifying the printings of the National Envelope company is to compare the position of the recycling symbol on the reverse. On the National Envelope examples (NE) the symbol is to the left of the text, while on the Ashton-Potter (AP) envelopes it is on the right.



Figure 3. Envelopes from the two printers may also be differentiated by comparing the micro year date printed in the indicium. In the National Envelope (NE) version, the year is printed in black (i.e. darker), while the Ashton-Potter (AP) year date is grey (lighter).

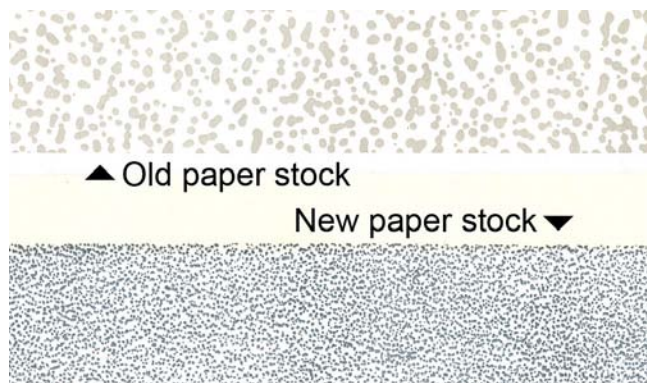


Figure 4. Security markings on the inside of the #9 envelopes differ between the old and new paper stocks. The older stock has larger markings in a grey-brown color, while the newer stock is more finely patterned in a slate grey.

Varieties of the 44¢ Seabiscuit Postal Stationery Envelopes							
USPS#	Size	Type	Flap	Printer	Method	DOI	Scott#
264800	6¾	regular	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
264900	6¾	window	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218698*	6¾	window-old	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
265090	6¾	regular	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
265190	6¾	window	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218700	9	regular	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218800	9	window	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218698*	9	regular-old	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
219290	9	regular	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
219390	9	window	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218500	10	regular	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218600	10	window	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218698*	10	window-old	water	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
219090	10	regular	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
219190	10	window	self-adh	AP	Offset	May 11, 2009	U668
218500	10	regular	water	NE	Flex.	June 1, 2009	U668a
218600	10	window	water	NE	Flex.	June 1, 2009	U668a
*218698 - Available only as a set of 3 covers (one of each)							



#6¾ cover, old stock: 4.75" wide window

#6¾ cover, new stock: 4.4" wide window

Figure 5. Windows in the old and new stock 6¾ envelopes differ in size with the old stock having slightly wider openings. (Note: windows are shown in color for contrast.)

Still more to go! The USPS reported that Ashton-Potter printed some of its contract using old paper stock "to meet initial volume demands, minimize waste, and best utilize resources." While this may have been an admirable goal, it certainly added insult to injury for collectors of U.S. postal stationery. The three "old paper" varieties consisted of two

window envelopes (#6¾ and #10) and one regular #9 security envelope. The security envelope variety used an older security tint inside (Figure 4). The openings of the window envelopes are slightly different in size and position from the remainder of the newer stock envelopes (Figures 5 & 6).

The postal service made a set of three (one each) available by mail order for \$1.62.

The Scott catalogue number for the Ashton-Potter printed envelopes is U668 (Scott does not recognize variations in envelope size or gum). Scott has assigned a minor catalog listing to the two National Envelope varieties: U668a.

The attributes of the 17 varieties are presented in the table on the previous page. 🐾



#10 cover, old stock: 4.75" wide window

#10 cover, new stock: 4.5" wide window

Figure 6. The #10 envelopes in old and new stock may also be differentiated by the width of the windows. (Note: windows are shown in color for contrast.)

# The Decision in Copenhagen

by Thomas Lippert



In early October, the sports world's attention was focused on Denmark's capital, Copenhagen where the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was holding a combined 121st IOC Session and XIII Olympic Congress. The theme of the Congress – the “Olympic Movement

in Society” – concentrated on the problems of sport and the future of the Olympic Games. This view toward the future echoed the hopes of Danes for a successful world climate summit scheduled for Copenhagen in December (Figure 1).

Following the festive inauguration of the session on October 1, the first working day was occupied by the final presentations of the remaining four candidate cities (Rio de Janeiro, Madrid, Tokyo and Chicago) for the 2016 Olympic Games, supported by their respective heads of state. Rio won decisively in the third round of voting (see table below).

The author had the chance to visit Rio de Janeiro in early March, but was disappointed in the total lack of any Olympic “propaganda” – no street banners, no posters, not even any official material at City Hall. At least my walk to the philatelic sales point yielded a (now pre-Olympic) result. Offered was a postal stationery card (Figure 2) showing the famous Maracanã stadium which will play a role in the 2016 Olympics as the venue for Olympic opening and closing ceremonies and some soccer matches.

In the final three days of my stay, the Ferris wheel at the Forte de Copacabana (Fort of Copaca-

bana) located between Copacabana and Ipanema was used to promote the Rio 2016 candidacy. In the late evening, a video was projected on the cloth “sails” on the sides of the wheel. For the average visitor viewing it from a distance, it wasn't terribly effective.

What is there to say, from a philatelic standpoint, about the bid process?

The initial applicant phase (seven cities) followed by the candidate period (final four cities) produced few items. Doha, Qatar, an applicant city, issued one set of four



Figure 1. Poster for the upcoming climate summit in Copenhagen nicknamed “Hopenhagen.”



Figure 2. Postal stationery card depicting Rio's Maracanã Stadium, a primary venue for the 2016 Olympics.

IOC Vote for 2016 Olympic Games October 2, 2009 - Copenhagen, Denmark			
	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Rio de Janeiro	26	46	66
Madrid	28	29	22
Tokyo	22	20	
Chicago	18		





Figures 3 & 4. The only applicant city bid to be commemorated on stamps was Doha (Qatar), an Arabian Gulf emirate. The souvenir sheet of 4 stamps is shown above with the first day cover below.



stamps in a souvenir sheet (Figure 3). A first day cancel (Figure 4) reflects the background of the stamps' design, but this doesn't seem to be a graphic device used in any of their 2016 publicity materials. The theme of their slogan was "Doha celebrating change!" Interestingly, the logo (Figure 5) was designed by two young women, Fatma Mohammed

Almoghunni and Lejla Niksic, which reflects the slogan's hope for "change."



Figure 5. Doha's logo.

Tokyo's 2016 candidacy was publicized on a postal stationery card from Japan (Figure 6) issued on October

30, 2008. This card was mailed from the Takanowa post office in Tokyo. To date, no additional stamps or postmarks have been issued by any postal administration. Meters may eventually be discovered, but with today's reliance on emailing of newsletters and bid docu-

ments (the latter were also distributed by sponsoring courier services) expectations should not be too high.

Privately produced items filled the gap – at least partially. In the philatelic journal *Olimpismo* (No. 20/2009), published by our Spanish sister society UECOS, a sheet of personalized stamps was illustrated (Figure 7). In addition, a postcard marks certain dates during the selection process.

The Spanish Post has begun a personalized stamp program in which individual customers may create their own stamps. Unlike in other countries (for example Australia, Great Britain and China) the Spanish version is a real stamp. The personalized image is included at the center of the stamp, not on an adjacent tab or label. In contrast to in the US, personalized stamps in Spain can only be ordered through the post office; they are not available through private enterprises like Zazzle.com or Stamps.com.

The IOC session was held in Copenhagen's Bella Center. There was no FIPO booth, as in prior years,



Figure 6. Tokyo's bid was promoted on this 2008 postal stationery card.



Figure 7. Personalized stamps reproducing Madrid's candidacy logo.

and therefore no cachets for the candidate or winning cities (not even in Lausanne, as far we know).

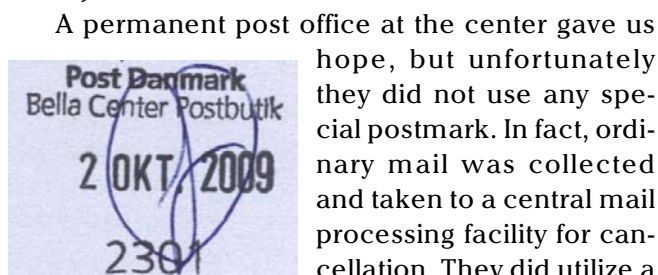


Figure 8. Handstamp used on postal documents at the Bella Center post office.

hope, but unfortunately they did not use any special postmark. In fact, ordinary mail was collected and taken to a central mail processing facility for cancellation. They did utilize a handstamp for documents such as receipts for registered mail (Figure 8).

Bob Farley of the Society of Olympic Collectors, along with myself and Klaus Fink from Germany, made up our "philatelic expedition" to Copenhagen.

Bob realized that dated cancels from the post office at the Postal Museum could be used to mark Decision Day on October 2 (Figure 9).

Another possibility, discovered by Klaus Fink at the Bella Center: a shop which used a meter with the inscription "BELLA CENTER" was open and their staff agreed to permit use of the meter (Figure 10).

Finally, though, there was a "special post office" in the Bella Center, although not in the traditional sense. As we know from previous Olympic Games, courier companies offer their services to the Olympic family (UPS in Atlanta and TNT in Torino, for instance). In Copenhagen, German-based DHL appeared as partner of the IOC on this occasion.

There were no special envelopes (as UPS once created), but the delivery documents and the mailing receipts received an imprint of the office's name: "IOC C/O DHL Express A/S" (meaning that this provisional office served the IOC).

As shown in Figure 11, the posting date of this document on October 2 makes it at least interesting. (By the way, the mailing cost for our purposes was just as unattractive as for other courier services.)

The IOC meter from Lausanne promoting the Session and Congress (Figure 12) marks the end of this first report about the Olympic candidate cities and the decision selecting Rio de Janeiro as host city for the 2016 Olympic Games.



Figure 9. Cover with the October 2 postmark from Copenhagen's Postal Museum. The cachet at upper left reproduces the Chicago 2016 logo. Chicago was eliminated in the first round of voting.

Figure 10. A retail store in the Bella Center provided imprints of their red meter on a few covers announcing the election of Rio as the host of the 2016 Olympic Games.



While Brazil did not immediately issue a stamp celebrating Rio's win as Canada did for Vancouver's victory, Correios Brasil, the postal administration, did offer Olympic fans the opportunity to send a congratulatory telegram (at a reasonable price) to the Organizing Committee via its website. Will we see one of these telegram's in a philatelic collection or exhibit?



Figure 12. Meter from IOC headquarters in Lausanne promoting the 121<sup>st</sup> IOC Session and XIII Congress in Copenhagen.

Figure 11 (left). DHL airwaybill from the office at Bella Center set up for the IOC. Note the text at the top: "IOC C/O DHL Express A/S".

# Purolator Express

## Envelope/Enveloppe



Helping deliver the Games / Prenez la route des Jeux



## Purolator's Vancouver 2010 Olympic Mailers


by Kon Sokolyk

**I**n 2008, Purolator Courier Ltd. was named Official Supplier to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. During the Games, Purolator's responsibilities will include the pick up and delivery of all courier material going into and out of the various venues. Prior to the Games, Purolator will deliver the event tickets.

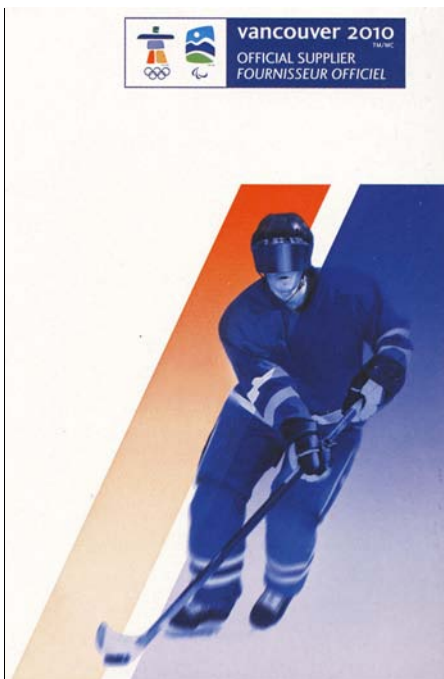
Purolator's association with Vancouver 2010 dates back to 2003 when the courier company joined the team supporting Vancouver's bid for the 2010 Games. That year, Purolator delivered the bid documents to the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Leading up to Vancouver 2010, Purolator redesigned its packaging – light cardboard envelopes (38 cm x 24 cm), plastic pack envelopes (40.5

cm x 30.5 cm), and corrugated cardboard boxes – to reflect the company's Official Supplier status. At least five designs – bobsleigh, cross country skiing, hockey, Alpine skiing and snowboarding – adorn the packaging (shown on the facing page). The sport images appear to be bursting out of a splash of red and blue, the company's logo. The colors can also be seen to the left of the company name on the envelopes. Below the company name is its 2010 slogan in English and French "Helping deliver the Games / Prenez la route des Jeux." Above the sporting images are the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic logos along with Official Supplier wording.

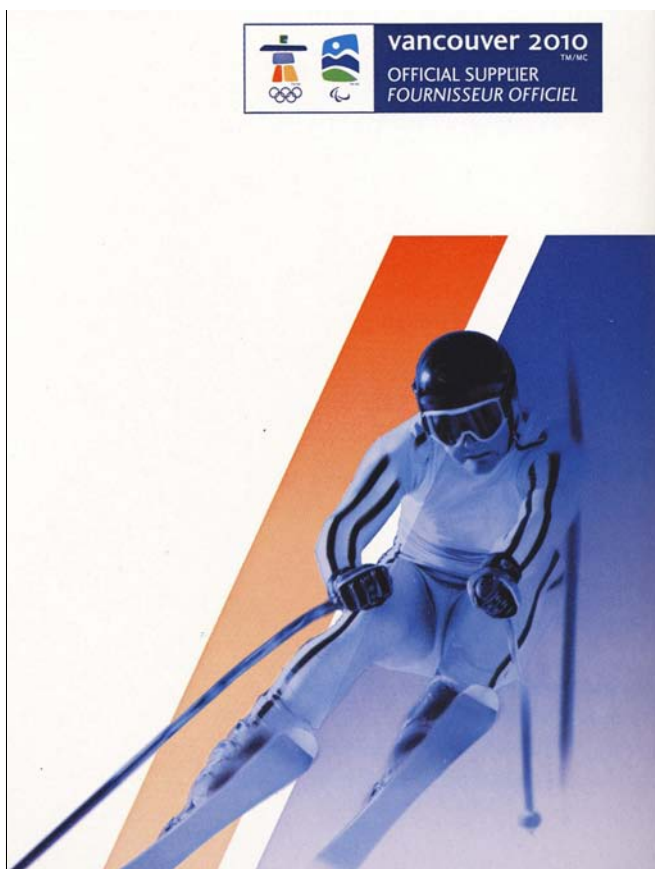
The majority owner of Purolator Courier Ltd. is Canada Post Corporation. 

Reference: <http://www.purolator.com>



Above: snowboarding, ice hockey and bobsleigh.

Below: Alpine skiing and cross-country skiing.



# Vancouver 2010 Olympic Update

by Mark Maestroni

**D**espite all attempts to uncover specifics about Canada Post's upcoming philatelic program for the Vancouver Olympics, I'm afraid I've drawn a complete blank. About all I can more or less "positively" say at this point: (1) Canada Post will issue a set of stamps in January for the Games (the number of stamps has not been announced); (2) another stamp or stamps will be issued in February (supposedly on the closing day of the Games); (3) there will be postmarks for each sport and venue, and a general Olympic postmark for Vancouver and Whistler post offices.

As information is made available, we will pass this along via our website, so check [www.sportstamps.org](http://www.sportstamps.org) during the lead-up to the Games.

Courtesy of Kon Sokolyk in Canada we are able to illustrate a variety of nifty promotional items in support of the Canadian Olympic Team.

Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) is a Premier National Partner of both the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games and the Canadian Olympic Committee.

In addition to outfitting Canada's Olympic Team, HBC is running a fund-raising campaign in support of the Canadian athletes. For \$1, you can "send an inspirational message" to the athletes on the cleverly designed card shaped like a "toque" (shown above).

It is not entirely clear how these messages are conveyed to the team. In past years, it was possible to mail a prepaid postcard already addressed to the team. No doubt these cards are collected by HBC and forwarded on to them.

Wrigley's Canada, maker of EXCEL chewing gum, is an official supplier of the Vancouver 2010

Games as well as another of Team Canada's corporate supporters. In their current program explained at their website ([www.chewtwin.ca](http://www.chewtwin.ca)) a portion of each package of gum sold goes to the team.

Their packs of gum picture various Canadian athletes (the one on the facing page shows ice hockey player Martin Brodeur).

I had to chuckle at the creativity of their advertising department which generated acronyms in both

English and French linking chewing gum to support for the Canadian Olympic Team.

"C.H.E.W." stands for "Canadians Helping Each other Win" while "G.O.M.M.E." (the French word for gum) spells out "Gagnons les Olympiques en Mâchant Maintenant Ensemble" (roughly translated: "Together let's win the Olympics by chewing").

On September 30, 2009, the Vancouver 2010 Torch Relay kicked off in Victoria.

By pure chance, Kon Sokolyk decided to send a cover franked with an Olympic stamp to the postmaster in Victoria requesting a postmark to commemorate the occasion.

To his utter amazement, the cover came back with a special postmark reproducing the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic logos with the text "vancouver 2010" at the bottom. AND it was cancelled on the correct date: "2009 - 10 - 30" (illustrated on the facing page).

Does this same postmark exist at other post offices across Canada? It's anybody's guess. However, collectors wishing to obtain the Victoria postmark (and we make no guarantees of success) may send stamped envelopes to: Postmaster, 706 Yates Street, Victoria, BC V8W 1L0, Canada.

The final item contributed by Kon is a promotional card distributed by the Royal Bank of Canada





(RBC), a Presenting Partner of the 2010 Torch Relay, for the "RBC Carry the Torch Contest."



According to the rules spelled out on the reverse of the card, anyone willing to "pledge to do something large or small" in their daily lives could be entered for a chance to carry the torch. Entrants were also eligible to win a trip to the Games.



Here's your chance to create a better Canada – make a pledge and you could be a 2010 Olympic Torchbearer.



Simply share your personal pledge to do something large or small in your daily life. You'll be entered for a chance to carry the torch for Canada, **plus** you could enter to WIN\* a trip to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games!

Enter online now at [www.rbc.com/carrythetorch](http://www.rbc.com/carrythetorch)

\* No purchase necessary. Both contests run from 9:01 A.M. E.S.T. on November 21, 2008 to 11:59 P.M. E.S.T. on July 15, 2009. For full details for the RBC Carry the Torch Contest, go to [www.rbc.com/carrythetorch](http://www.rbc.com/carrythetorch) and for full details for the Win Golden Seats at the 2010 Games Contest™, go to [www.rbc.com/goldenseats](http://www.rbc.com/goldenseats). Winners will be selected from a random draw. ® Registered Trademark of Royal Bank of Canada. ™ 2008, VANOC.

00295 (10/2008)

## France and Colonies Proofs & Essays

- |                                     |                                       |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery    | <input type="checkbox"/> High Jump    | <input type="checkbox"/> Skating       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hockey       | <input type="checkbox"/> Skiing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Hurdles      | <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boxing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Javelin      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling    | <input type="checkbox"/> Judo         | <input type="checkbox"/> Track         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equestrian | <input type="checkbox"/> Martial Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing    | <input type="checkbox"/> Olympics     | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Sports  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Weightlifting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnastics | <input type="checkbox"/> Scuba        | <input type="checkbox"/> Wrestling     |

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# REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestroni

***Esprit: Sports et Olympisme:*** Jean-Pierre Picquot, 172 Bd. Berthier, 75017 Paris, France. [In French]

September 2009 (#53). René Christin opens this issue of *Esprit* with the colorful story, told through philately and old movie posters, of Olympic champions who have made it from the awards podium to the silver screen. Included, among others, are ice skating queen, Sonja Henie, and famous skiers, Toni Sailer and Jean-Claude Killy.

In "Variations on #185," Christin explores the third value in the set of stamps issued by France for the 1924 Olympic Games: the 30c stamp portraying Milon of Croton (Yvert #153). Shown are many interesting usages on cover, card and postal stationery.

Jean-Pierre Picquot presents an interesting discovery: programs in both French and English for a golf competition at the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games. Originally, an optional golf (for men only) competition had been approved by the organizing committee, but subsequently cancelled. These two programs are rare examples and support the evidence that a golf competition was nearly held.

Additional articles include rare tennis postcards (Picquot), and the 2009 World Athletic Championships in Berlin (Christin & Reiter).

***IMOS Journal:*** Diethard Hensel, Dorfstr. 15, OT Koselitz, D-01609 Röderaue, Germany. [In Ger.]

July 2009 (#143). In addition to the usual updates of sport and Olympic postmarks and stamps from around the world, this issue presents articles on a variety of subjects. These include: German private post stamps with the theme of soccer (Wolfgang Marx); modern internet-based postage with thematic elements (Thomas Lippert); the 2009 German Sporthilfe stamps imprinted on postal stationery (Lippert); and more on the philately of the Beijing Olympic Games (Lippert).

***Filabasket Review:*** Luciano Calenda, POB 17126 - Grottarossa, 00189 Rome, Italy. [Color, in English]

August 2009 (#29). *Filabasket* begins its August issue by presenting the philately of the 2007 and 2009 Eurobasket Women competitions held, respectively, in Italy and Latvia.

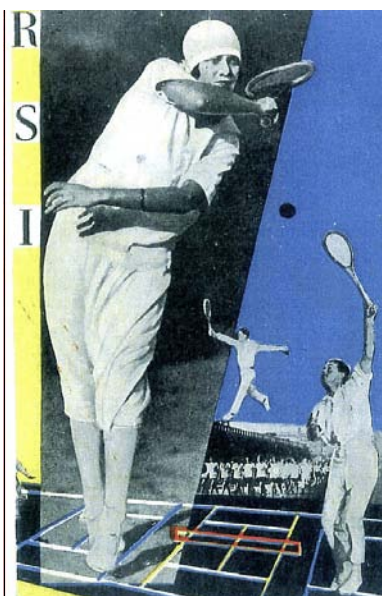
This is followed by a lengthy analysis of the various elements of a collection (e.g., philately, numismatics, posters, pins, tickets, etc.). Philatelic collectibles are further divided into various types of stamps, souvenir sheets, booklets, postal stationery, cancels, maximum cards, etc. Those "types" that are deemed less desirable (or indeed unacceptable) in philatelic exhibits are identified as well. While the examples given are basketball related, the various elements may be applied to virtually any sport or Olympic Games collection.

Lastly, updates of new stamps issued and follow-ups to previously printed items are presented.

***Torch Bearer:*** Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RB, U.K.

September 2009 (Vol. 26, #3). This year marked the bicentenary of the birth of William Penny Brookes, founder of the Much Wenlock games – a precursor to the modern Olympic Games. The special exhibition held to celebrate the event is reviewed. In an interesting article by Mike Pagomenos, the postal history of the Brookes Family is presented dating back to the early and mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

More current are articles detailing the stamp booklets issued for the Vancouver 2010 Games, and an update on the construction of 2012 London Olympic Games facilities. The recent issue of 10 stamps by Royal Mail for the 2012 Olympics are also discussed. Finally, on the eve of the XIII Olympic Congress in Copenhagen, Brian Hammond reviews the philately of the prior dozen congresses dating back to the first in 1894 in Paris.



Rare Spartakiad tennis post card from the Soviet Union dating to the 1920's. [Esprit]

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## SPI Annual Financial Statement: FY 2009 & 2008

	Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2009	Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2008
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Dues	3,960.92	4,104.36
Interest	120.88	640.25
Publications/Advertising/ Donations	716.05	1,160.33
Total	4,797.85	5,904.94
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Printing	3,306.40	2,380.58
Postage	2,364.18	2,659.90
Other (supplies, etc)	717.79	186.41
Total	6,388.37	5,226.89
<b><u>Auction activity</u></b>		
Receipts	518.98	1,750.66
Disbursements	(385.35)	(954.91)
Total	133.63	795.75
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>	(1,456.89)	1,473.80
<b>Beginning Fund Balance</b>	19,068.47	17,594.67
<b>Ending Fund Balance</b>	17,611.58	19,068.47
<b>Cash and Investments:</b>		
Total Cash and Investments	17,636.78	19,259.52
Payable to Consignors	(25.20)	(191.05)
<b>Fund Balance</b>	17,611.58	19,068.47

# NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

by Margaret Jones

## NEW MEMBER

Charles J. O'Brien III, 3475 Oak Valley Road, Apt. 1540, Atlanta, Georgia 30326-1292 USA. He is an architect and is interested in baseball (Roberto Clemente) and Olympic architecture.

## ADDRESS CORRECTION

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## EXHIBIT AWARDS

APS STAMP SHOW 2009 (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania). Cora B. Collins won Best Thematic and gold for "The Sport of Golf," also ATA Jerry Husak Award; Charles J. O'Brien III obtained silver for "Roberto Clemente," also National Stamp Dealers Association Most Popular Award, and Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award. Allan Weiss won a silver for "The Sportsman - Hunter, Angler, and Trapper." In the literature competition, the *Journal of Sports Philately* received a vermeil.

DORANDO 2008 (Italy). Victor Manikian received Mostra Filatelica Numismatica & Memorabilia award of \$1000.

HUNTSPEX 2009 (Huntsville, Alabama). Heinrich Hahn was awarded ATA best in Topical Certificate for "The Brown Ribbon Horse Races in Germany 1936 to 1944."

OLYMPEX 2008 (Beijing, China) won gold for "The Olympic Movement and Games, 1894-1948."

PIPEX 2009 (Portland, Oregon.). Andrew Urushima received vermeil for "The Olympic Jubilee - Lausanne 1944."

*Updates to your membership information and email address (indicate whether email address is for publication or "office use only") should be sent to docj3@doverplacecc.org. Exhibit awards information may be sent to the same email address.*

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Alberville and Barcelona



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# NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

**French Andorra:** July 11, 2009. Tour de France. €0.56 cyclist.

**Austria:** September 26, 2009. Ski jumpers. Two €1 stamps, Gregor Schlierenzauer; Wolfgang Loitzel.

**Australia:** October 24, 2008. Matthew Cowdrey Paralympian of the Year. 55¢ Cowdrey with medal. Printed in sheets of 10.

October 6, 2009. Let's Get Active. Six se-tenant stamps with cartoon like designs of young people playing sports: Australian rules football; basketball; soccer; netball; cricket; tennis. A souvenir sheet contains the six stamps.

**Bolivia:** June 13, 2008. Soccer. 3b soccer ball, stadium, mountain.

**Canada:** August 10, 2009. Canadian Inventions/Sports. A booklet of eight 54¢ stamps, consisting of two panes or four, five-pin bowling; ringette, lacrosse and basketball.

October 17, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Montreal Canadiens. Domestic rate stamp features a close-up of Maurice "Rocket" Richard's game-worn #9 hockey sweater. Booklet of 10 stamps. A souvenir sheet with three \$3 stamps features replays of Maurice Richard, Jean Beliveau, and Guy Lafleur. The stamps are action-oriented used a printing process called Motionstamp Technology.

**China:** June 30, 2009. 16<sup>th</sup> Asian Games. Two diamond-shaped \$1.20 stamps, emblem with flames and goat; five goat mascots. A souvenir sheet contains four of each stamp.

**Comoros:** July 1, 2009. Table Tennis Players. Set of 6 stamps and a souvenir sheet.

July 1, 2009. Celebrities of Asia. Sheet of 6, 400fc stamp depicts Yo-Yo Ma basketball. Souvenir sheet 3000fc T. Akebono sumo wrestling.

July 1, 2009. Celebrities of Africa. Souvenir sheet 3000fc M. Aboutrika soccer; K. Bekele track.

July 1, 2009. Celebrities of Australia. S/s 3000fc Brett Aitken motorcycling; Troy Bayliss cycling.

**Estonia:** September 22, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Track and Field Athletics in Estonia. 5.50kr/€0.35 runners in action.

**French Polynesia:** August 7, 2009. Surfing. 70fr stamp, cartoon of two Polynesians surfing.

September. 11, 2009. Diving and Marine Creatures. 70f diver and fish in a set of 3, plus s/s of 3.

**Germany:** August 13, 2009. History of Motor Sport. Souvenir sheet with €0.85 stamp, race cars.

**Great Britain:** July 12, 2009. Maccabiah Games. Personalized sheet of which 1,000 were issued. Design has emblems of all the 18 Games held.

October 3, 2009. Eminent Britons. Set of 10 1<sup>st</sup> class stamps, three are sports related. Fred Perry, tennis; Sir Matt Busby, soccer player and manager; Donald Campbell, holder of land and water speed records. A set of 10 postcards was also issued.

October 22, 2009. London Olympic Games. 10 se-tenant nondenominated stamps, canoe slalom; target and arrow, Paralympic archery; symbolic diver; Paralympic boccia; judo; Paralympic equestrian; badminton racket and shuttlecock; weight lifting; basketball. Offset in sheets of 50 and in sheets of 10 with se-tenant labels. 10 postcards with enlarged images of the stamp designs.

**Guyana:** July 22, 2009. Ferrari. Pane of four se-tenant \$200 stamps depicting race cars. 1952 500 F2; 1953 500 F2; 1958 246 F1; 1976 312 T2.

**Israel:** June 30, 2009. Maccabiah Games. 5.60s symbolic gymnasts, tennis player, player with ball. Printed in sheets of 15 with five labels.

**Italy:** June 25, 2009. Italian Sport/Soccer Championship. €0.60 players, badge with "17".

July 18, 2009. 13<sup>th</sup> World Aquatics Championship. €1.50 swimmer in freelance race.

**Jamaica:** September 25, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary George Headley. \$10 photograph of the cricket player; \$30 playing cricket; \$200 sculpture of Headley. Souvenir sheet with \$250 stamp sculpture of Headley.

**Japan:** November 7, 2009. 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Keio University. Pane of 10 se-tenant 80y stamps. Two stamps depict sports; rugby and baseball. Also booklet which contains the 10 stamps.

**Korea, North:** January 25, 2009. Fold Games. 3w tug-of-war; boys playing game.

**Korea, South:** September 8, 2009. Extreme Sports. Part 4. BMX Bicycle Motocross. Four se-tenant 250w stamps show BMX skills, X-up; no-hand jumping; one foot can-can; superman seat grab.

**Lithuania:** July 25, 2009. Tall Ships Races. 3 litas yacht Brabander. Sheets of six stamps and six labels.

**Macedonia:** August 18, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Soccer in Macedonia. 18d player, soccer balls, flag.

**Malta:** May 25, 2009. 13<sup>th</sup> Games of the Small States of Europe. €0.10 sailing; €0.19 judo; €0.37 shooting; €0.67 swimming; €1 running.

**Netherlands:** August 25, 2009. Sports Talent. Five se-tenant €0.44 stamps, each showing an athlete and his mentor. Gymnast Anthony van Assche, speed skater Jochdem Uytendhaage; cyclist Leon Commandeur, swimmer Johan Kenkhuis; swimmer Mike Marissen, volleyball player Bas van de Goor; judo athlete Maureen Groefsema, sailor Lobke Berkhout; wheelchair tennis player Aniek Van Koot, runner Marko Koers. Sheets of 10.

**New Zealand:** August 5, 2009. Tiki Tour of New Zealand. Pane of 24 50¢ stamps featuring a continuous design of New Zealand. A number of sports and recreation are depicted on the stamps including: yachting, Mooboo rugby mascot; rowing; surfing; hang gliding; Westpac Stadium; windsurfing; kayaking; snow skiing and curling.

September 7, 2009. Kiwi Forever stamps. 10 non-denominated self-adhesive stamps, one depicts beach cricket. Offset in booklets of 10, sheets of 50 and coils of 100.

**Oman:** January 4, 2009. 19<sup>th</sup> Arabian Gulf Cup Soccer Tournament. 100b "19" with soccer ball, soccer field.

**Poland:** June 30, 2009. Tall Ships Races. Souvenir sheet with 3.75zł stamp, frigate Dar Młodzieży.

**St. Thomas and Prince Island:** May 29, 2009. 2009 World Track Cycling Championships. One Db 20000 stamp, G. Bauge; three Db 30000 stamps V. Pendleton; S. Krupeckaite; C. Meyer. Souvenir sheet with one Db 104,000 stamp, M. Morkov; A. Rasmussen.

July 1, 2009. Table Tennis Stars. Two Db 13000 stamps W. Schlager and W. Liqin; two Db 39000 stamps J. Persson; J.O. Waldner. Souvenir sheet with one Db 100000 stamps, Wang Hao.

**St. Vincent:** April 23, 2009. Juventus Soccer. Pane of eight \$1.50 stamps with a central label, different soccer scenes.

**San Marino:** August 25, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bologna Soccer Club. €1 goal by Ezio Pascutti in 1924-25 championship. Club logo.

**Serbia:** March 31, 2009. 25<sup>th</sup> Summer Universiade Belgrade 2009. 22d sparrow mascot dressed for different sports, basketball, soccer ball, fencing foil; 48d different design with mascot dressed for sports, ball, hoop, hurdles, racket. Offset in sheets of eight with a label.

**Sierra Leone:** 2009. NBA All-Star Game. Two panes of 12 se-tenant 1,250 leone stamps. Pane one depicts western conference basketball players; pane 2 depicts eastern conference players.

**Singapore:** August 14, 2009. Youth Olympics Games. Nondenominated "1<sup>st</sup> local" stamp, diver, the word "excellence" in different languages; 65¢ women athletes, one with racket; \$1.10 three victorious athletes; \$2 track and field athlete.

**Spain:** September 7, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Real Sociedad Soccer Club. €0.32 emblem with crown and flag, soccer player and ball.

October 8, 2009. America/Traditional Games. €0.78 cards representing the four suits of the Spanish classic deck.

October 14, 2009. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Royal Spanish Soccer Federation. €0.32 silhouette of soccer player and ball, emblem.

**Syria:** August 19, 2008. Beijing Olympics. £5, weightlifting; £10 long jump. Souvenir sheet with £25 stamp, swimmer.

**Taiwan:** September 5, 2009. 21<sup>st</sup> Summer Deaflympics. NT\$5 badminton player, runner, map of Taiwan; NT\$25 tennis player, taekwondo athlete, stylized ear.

**Tunisia:** June 26, 2009. 16<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Games. Pescara, Italy, 600m stamp emblem, map, symbolic athletes.

**United States:** August 21, 2009. Hawaiian Statehood. 44¢ stamp depicting a surfer riding a wave.

# COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS

by Mark Maestroni

## THE NUMBERING SYSTEM

Catalogue numbers are shown at left, such as 05101-911. In this example: 05=Year [2005]; 1=Month [January]; 01=First day of use; 911=First 3 ZIP code digits. The months of October, November and December are 2-digit months, and are expressed as X, Y, and Z. The place of use is listed next, followed by the dates of use. All cancels are in black unless otherwise indicated.

## SPORTS CROSS INDEX JULY-NOVEMBER 2009

Auto Racing: 09726-462,  
09815-501, 09X24-273.

Baseball: 09815-198, 09X03-812,  
09Y07-150.

Cycling: 09722-500, 09X03-125.

Horse Racing: 09826-958,  
09829-128.

Olympics: 09X09-900.

Running: 09X03-125.

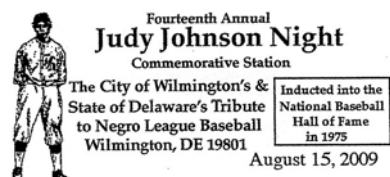
Sailing: 09X03-125.



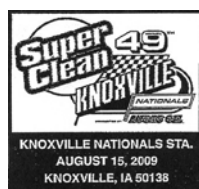
09722-500 Chariton, IA 22



09726-462 Indianapolis, IN 26



09815-198 Wilmington, DE 15



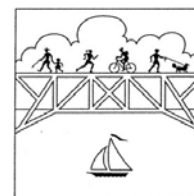
09815-501 Knoxville, IA 15



09826-958 Sacramento, CA 26



09829-128 Saratoga, NY 29



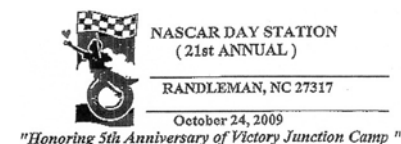
09X03-125 Highland, NY 3



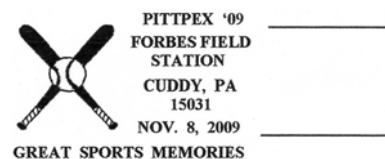
09X03-812 Penrose, CO 3



09X09-900 Los Angeles, CA 9-11



09X24-273 Randleman, NC 24



09Y07-150 Pittsburgh, PA 7-8

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The following Sports are often listed  
CYCLING, SOCCER, GOLF, ROWING  
SWIMMING, SAILING, TENNIS,  
WINTER-SPORTS  
and other disciplines.

*Illustrations shown here are of imperforate printers proofs of the Min Sheets from the  
Nicaragua 1949 Baseball issue. Only four of each value of these proofs are known to exist.*

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