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*Althea Gibson –
Transformation and Triumph*



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TENNIS

3

1928 PORTUGAL
OLYMPIC ISSUE

11

COMMONWEALTH
GAMES

16

FOOTBALL

24

Vol. 52, No. 2
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	Mark Maestroni	1
Althea Gibson – Transformation & Triumph	Norman Jacobs	3
Portugal's 1928 Olympic Stamps: 85 Years Old and Going Strong (Part 1)	Manfred Bergman	11
The Friendly Games (Part 1)	William Silvester	16
The Sugar Bowl, More Than Just a Football Game	Norman Rushefsky	24
A Father of American Golf	Patricia Loehr	26
Book Review: "The London 1948 Olympic Games" by Bob Wilcock	Mark Maestroni	29
Reviews of Periodicals	Mark Maestroni	30
SPI Financial Report: FY2013 & 2012	Andrew Urushima	32
New Stamp Issues	John La Porta	33
Commemorative Stamp Cancells	Mark Maestroni	36

On the cover: Statue of Althea Gibson in Branch Brook Park, Newark, New Jersey.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Maestrone

New Membership Chairman!

A big “*Welcome*” to our new Membership Chairman, Jerome Wachholz. Jerome has been a member of SPI since 1995 and is a resident of the great state of Ohio. His collecting specialty is the Olympic Games. If you need info on the club or have questions on your membership, feel free to contact Jerome (his e-mail address is at the bottom of this page and mailing address on the inside front cover) who I’m sure will be happy to help!

New Olympic Collector Organization

After three years of meetings and a blizzard of intercontinental e-mails, a new association of Olympic collector organizations representing philatelists, numismatists and memorabilia and pin collectors, will be uniting under a single banner: Association Internationale des Collectionneurs Olympiques, or AICO. Once officially founded, the International Olympic Committee has agreed to recognize AICO.

Unlike the old FIPO, which this organization replaces, AICO will be collector-run. An executive board, elected by the member societies, will be responsible for the association’s operation. The initial General Assembly, to which SPI is invited as a founding member, is tentatively scheduled for May 2014 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

E-mail Registration

Our world seems to move more quickly every time we turn around. It’s hard to keep up with the latest information, even when it comes to our hobby. We at SPI try to stay in touch with our members in a timely fashion – often by e-mail.

About 75% of our membership have registered their e-mail addresses with us. Most allow us to print their addresses in the journal and directory, while about 15% ask us to keep their e-mail addresses “for office use only,” which we are happy to do.

How about the remaining 25% of you? If we need to get in touch it’s far easier (and saves your society money in postage and mailing costs) if we can communicate via e-mail. If you’re unsure if we have your e-mail address on file, I’m sure our new Membership Chairman will be happy to double check for you.

Corrections

¶ In my article “Surf, Skate, Snow - Part 2,” I gave the impression that the members of the skateboarding Z-Boys made a practice of using empty residential swimming pools without the permission of their owners. This was not always true. In reality, according to SPI member Sid Marantz, “the ‘Dog Bowl’ sessions were with permission and were not outlaw sessions. The pool owner let the kids trash his pool.” Sid, who is still a member of the Venice Skateboard Association, added that he recalled being a skater in the pre-Dogtown days when your skateboard had clay or steel wheels and your “face was your helmet”!

Happy Holidays!

I can’t believe we have come full cycle once more. So as I do each year, on behalf of the officers and board members of Sports Philatelists International, I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday and a peaceful and prosperous 2014!

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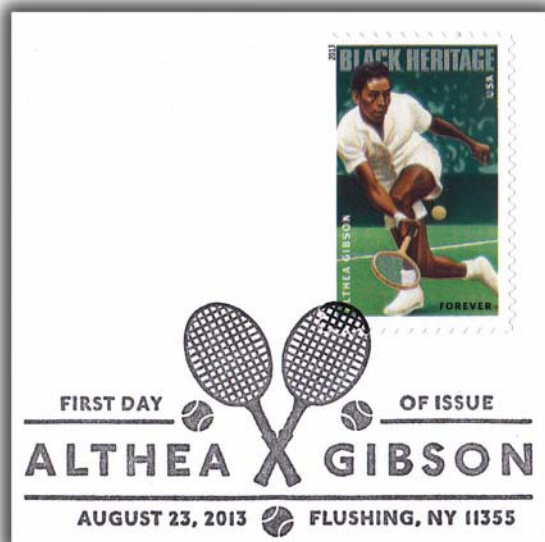
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Althea Gibson – Transformation and Triumph

by Norman F. Jacobs

Today we can easily agree that Althea Gibson should be honored on a United States postage stamp. After all, she was a great American tennis player. But it is harder in retrospect to fully understand what life was like for a would-be athlete in mid-20th century America, if that young person happened to be black. The U.S. stamp issued for Althea Gibson in August 2013 provides an opportunity to learn more about the production of modern U.S. sports commemorative stamps, and the amazing life of this great tennis champion.

The 2013 United States Althea Gibson commemorative stamp

On August 23, 2013, the United States Postal Service (USPS) issued a Forever commemorative stamp honoring Althea Gibson in a ceremony at the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing New York. The stamp is the 36th issue of the Black Heritage stamp series, the longest-running commemorative series in U.S. history. It began in 1978 with Harriet Tubman, a conductor for the underground railroad, who became the first African-American woman honored on a U.S. postage stamp.

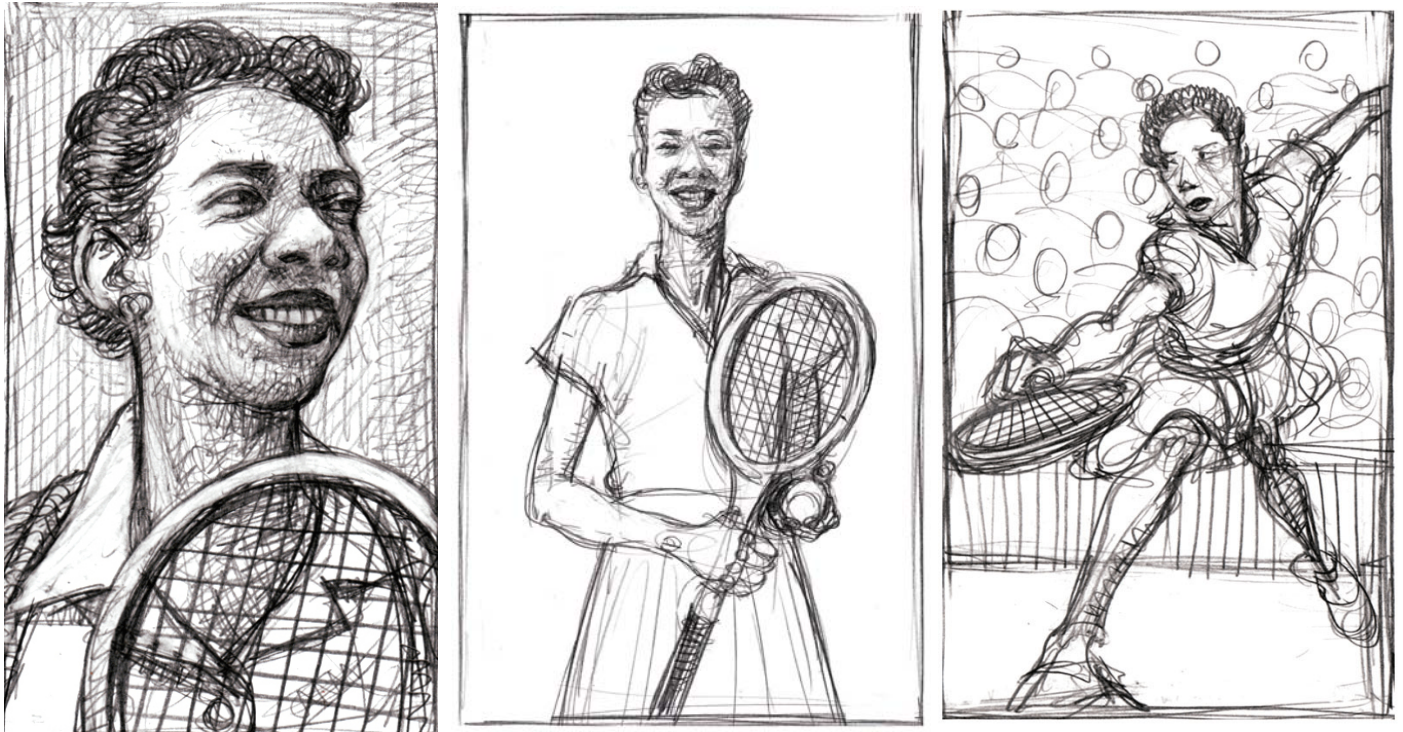
When I first saw the design for the Althea Gibson stamp (at top is the U.S. Forever Althea Gibson postage stamp with standard first day of issue postmark, August 23, 2013.), I was struck by the dramatic artwork which showed her in action on the court. Traditionally, the Black Heritage series

utilized static portraits, with a small picture inserted into the foreground to give an indication of the person's contribution to American culture. For Harriet Tubman's stamp, the designer included in the foreground a horse-drawn cart carrying four slaves. In the 1990s, the designs gradually shifted to simple portraits, lacking any direct image of the person's contributions. But the Althea Gibson stamp was so different that I wanted to find out more about its creation, so I contacted and interviewed both the stamp art director and the artist.

Derry Noyes has been a contract art director for USPS since 1983. As one of about five directors, she has designed stamps for Love, Alexander Calder, Georgia O'Keefe, the 9/11 Firefighters stamp, and many others. When she was given the Althea Gibson stamp to design, her goal was to have the illustration "pop" out at the viewer, "to show the power of her contribution and how it was unusual for that time."

The design of the series requires the words "Black Heritage" positioned at the top. Also needed is the designation "USA," the person's name, and the denomination, but these can be positioned variably. By adjusting the size and placement of the type, "the information is all there but not overpowering the art." Although she did not design the Negro Leagues pair of stamps, she had seen these, liked the action and drama, and therefore approached its artist, Kadir Nelson of San Diego, to create the image for the Althea Gibson stamp.

Kadir Nelson's childhood included lots of sports – track, volleyball, basketball, and later some racket ball, but not tennis. He knew of Althea's story from African-American studies, and views her as "a rarity like a unicorn in the tennis world."



Figures 2 and 3. Digital images of preliminary pencil essays for the Althea Gibson stamp by Kadir Nelson (not utilized for stamp). The two essays at left and center show static images of Althea while the essay at right has her in action hitting a backhand shot.



Figure 4. Digital image of the artist's preliminary drawing of the design used for the Althea Gibson stamp.

As the artist for the two 2010 Negro Leagues se-tenant baseball stamps designed by Howard Paine, Kadir painted a dramatic image of a slide at home plate on the left, and a portrait of Rube Foster on the right. Kadir points out that the artist has the ability to tell a story using all the elements. For the stamp of Jackie Robinson stealing home, he shows the umpire making the call simultaneously with the slide and the catcher in action. In a photograph, these would occur separated in time. In the painting, "it's all there, all the pieces to tell the story."

After discussing the concepts with Derry, Kadir looked through photographic images of Althea, then drew a variety of sketches. Figure 2 shows Althea with a racket in two static poses. To convey action, he tried a view of a backhand shot (Figure 3).

For Kadir, including the tennis ball was important, because the baseball and tennis ball "have a life to them when painted," with a sense of energy different from photographs.

Kadir and Derry agreed that the drawing of Althea hitting a low forehand volley (Figure 4), taken from a photograph of her during a Wimbledon match, most clearly captured the drama, movement, intensity, and power of her game. The spectators in the background are suggested rather than drawn in detail, so that Althea stands out as the important focus of the stamp. In Derry Noyes own



Figure 5. Billie Jean King, founder of the Virginia Slims Tour.

words, “We’ve broken the mold a little bit for Black Heritage.”

Describing his approach to his art, Kadir told me “I like to focus on stories about transformation and triumph. We all

want to feel triumph. One of the greatest gifts is to transform not only ourselves but our environment. (You do these things) for love of the craft and love for the people who enjoy it.”

The First Day Ceremony held at the Court of Champions, near a plaque of Althea, included remarks by Billie Jean King (Figure 5).

King was the prime mover behind the development of the Virginia Slims professional women’s tour, which broke away from the United States Lawn Tennis Association (USLTA) and eventually gave rise to the Women’s Tennis Association.

In addition to the standard first day of issue postmark shown in Figure 1, the Postal Service also created a first day digital color postmark (Figure 6), available only by mail order from Stamp Fulfillment Services. One could also purchase an eight-pane press sheet issued both with and without die cuts.

If you look closely at the stamp, you will notice that Althea appears to be looking up, rather than at the ball. When this was pointed out to Derry Noyes during the stamp design review process, she referred back to the original photograph from Wimbledon, which shows Althea’s eyes exactly as depicted by Kadir Nelson on the stamp. In the original design, the tennis ball was bright yellow, but the color was toned down because yellow tennis balls were not introduced until 1972. The ball on the stamp retains a slight yellow tint, an artistic license which helps it to stand out from the background.

Althea’s early days and her transformation to a tennis player

What is the probability that an African-American girl, born in 1927 in the small town of Silver, South

Figure 6. Digital color postmark for the Althea Gibson stamp.



Carolina, and raised from the age of 3 in Harlem, would grow up to become a tennis champion? Not very likely. Add to that a turbulent home life, truancy from school, running away for days at a time, and it begins to seem impossible. But fortunately for Althea, her family had moved onto 143rd Street in Harlem, the exact block which the Police Athletic League (PAL) closed to traffic for paddle tennis youth competitions. Her speed and aggressive strokes led her to the PAL paddleball championship from 1938 to 1942.

Soon she was introduced into Harlem’s Cosmopolitan Tennis Club, and given her first racket, a Dreadnought Driver from the Harry C. Lee Company, a local New York City sporting goods company that marketed its own racket line.

In 1942 she won the New York State girls’ singles championship. Althea followed up in 1944 and 1945 by winning the national girls’ titles of the American Tennis Association, the primary African-American tennis organization. To progress further, however, she would need a consistent practice regimen, a place to live, and a plan to finish high school.

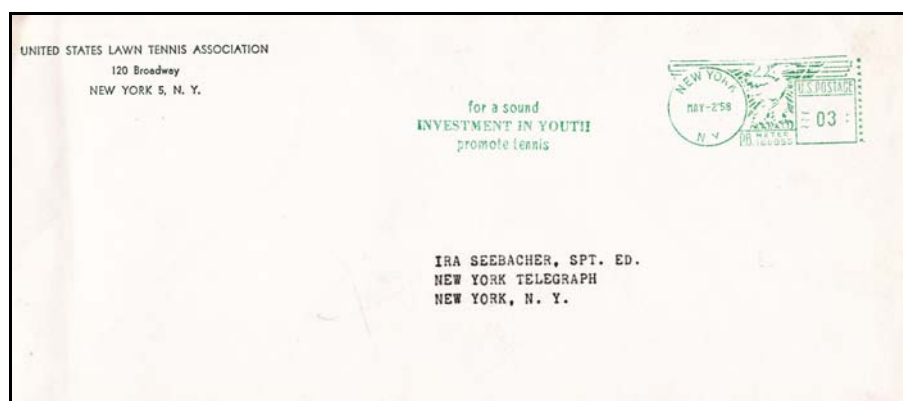
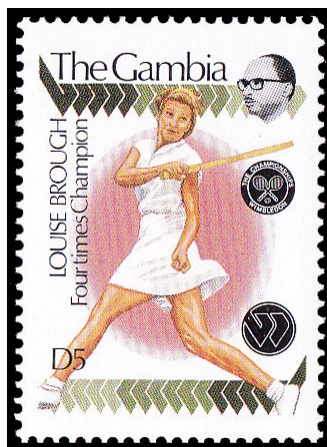


Figure 7. USLTA meter promoting its Junior Development Program.



Figures 8 & 9. Arthur Ashe (left) won the first U.S. Open in 1968 as an amateur. At right, Louise Brough, winner of 35 major titles in singles and doubles.

In this era, the USLTA's Junior Development Program, which dated back to 1928, had no presence in the inner cities, and no provision to encourage African-American players to participate. Although the 1958 USLTA meter in Figure 7 promotes youth tennis, African-Americans were not a part of the USLTA programs then. In 1958, the national Interscholastic Tournament was not even open to African-Americans. It was not until 1961 that the efforts of Dr. Walter Johnson made it possible for Arthur Ashe to participate and win this tournament for high school players, the first step towards his tennis titles (Figure 8).

Competing at the Interscholastic Tournament was not an option for Althea in the 1940s. But recognizing her potential, her coaches in Harlem introduced her to the same Dr. Walter Johnson who would later help Arthur Ashe. Dr. Johnson teamed up with another black physician, Dr. Hubert Eaton, who provided Althea a home in North Carolina during the school year which allowed her to complete high school.

Dr. Johnson supervised her intensive practice during the summers on his private court, and took her to American Tennis Association (ATA) tournaments as far away as Kansas City.

Starting in 1948, Althea won ten consecutive ATA national women's singles titles, and she combined with Dr. Johnson to win seven ATA national mixed doubles titles during the same period.

Althea was accepted into the 1949 USLTA Eastern Indoor Tournament, at the Armory in Manhattan. She made it to the quarterfinals. Later that year, she entered Florida A & M College on a sports scholarship. Not only did Althea lead the women's basketball team to a conference championship, but

also continued to play tennis, and even joined the men's golf team.

In order to play in the USLTA Championship at Forest Hills, Althea would need a record in grass court tournaments. But to play in these tournaments held at private all-white clubs, she would need to be invited. No invite, no record, no chance to play at Forest Hills.

Althea's tennis ability could not be questioned now, as she won the 1950 Eastern Indoor Tournament, and reached the finals of the National Indoor Championship. In the July 1950 issue of *American Lawn Tennis*, Alice Marble, who had won at Forest Hills four times, threw down the gauntlet to the USLTA establishment. She wrote, "If tennis is a game for ladies and gentlemen, it's also time we acted a little more like gentlepeople and less like sanctimonious hypocrites. She is not being judged by the yardstick of ability, but by the fact that her pigmentation is somewhat different. She is ... deserving of the chance I had to prove myself."

After this, the opportunity to practice at Forest Hills opened up, and Althea was finally accepted into the Eastern Grass Court Tournament in South



Figure 10. Angela Buxton and Althea Gibson, doubles partners.

Orange, New Jersey. Although she lost in the second round of her debut tournament on grass, the USLTA finally accepted her as one of 52 women entrants to Forest Hills.

After winning her first round match easily, Althea faced the reigning Wimbledon champion, Louise Brough (Figure 9), in the second round. This dramatic match stretched over two days due to a rain delay, and included a thunderstorm so severe that it toppled a stone eagle from the stadium. In the end, Althea lost 9-7 in the third set, but she had settled on this court the question of whether she belonged at Forest Hills.

The next year she reached the third round at Wimbledon, but from 1952 to 1955 the only major she entered was the U.S. Championships, where she made it as far as the quarterfinals in 1953.

After her graduation from Florida A & M, she taught physical education at Lincoln University in Missouri, and played less tennis. In 1954, she started training under Sidney Llewellyn, and by 1956 she won the singles at the Italian and French Championships.

Triumph at Last

The pairing of Angela Buxton, the fourth-ranked British woman, with Althea in the 1956 ladies doubles at Wimbledon came about in part because each had experienced difficulty in finding an appropriate partner.

As a Jewish player, Angela had only limited access to the private clubs, and difficulty in finding a hitting partner at tournaments. The British journalist Derek Dutton practiced with Angela Buxton at the Argyle Club because none of the other club members was willing. He felt that Angela and Althea started playing doubles together because “blacks and Jews were made to feel like they were apart from the rest of us.”

When Angela and Althea won the ladies doubles at Wimbledon in 1956, they stood apart as winners. Figure 10 shows Angela and Althea together. The prominent display of the Harry C. Lee rackets is no



Figure 11. Registered cover sent from mobile post office at Wimbledon, June 25, 1957.

accident. The company paid Althea \$75 a month, ostensibly to serve on its advisory board, but really to showcase its rackets in her photographs. As an amateur, this stipend and per diem during tournaments were the only payments she could accept.

In 1957 Althea Gibson turned 30 years old, an age when many tennis champions have already retired. But for Althea the years 1957 and 1958 were spectacular. She won the Wimbledon ladies doubles both years, each time with a new partner. She beat Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2 in the 1957 Wimbledon singles finals, and exclaimed “At last! At last!” after the final point.

She was the first Wimbledon winner to receive her trophy from Queen Elizabeth II. Figure 11 shows a registered cover from the All England Lawn Tennis Center on June 25, 1957, the second day of the tournament. This variety of postmark was used only in the year 1957 during the fortnight of the Championships.

Following this break through, Althea returned to New York and was honored with a ticker tape parade up Broadway. She continued her great run, defeating Louise Brough by the same 6-3, 6-2 score in the singles finals at For-

Figure 12. Vice President Richard Nixon presented the winner's trophy at Forest Hills in 1957.





Figure 13. Wimbledon registered cover showing changes in postmarks introduced for 1958 tournament.

est Hills. In mid-century America it was common for politicians to present trophies; Vice President Richard Nixon (Figure 12), who favored bowling over tennis, handed the winner's trophy to Althea at Forest Hills.

In 1958 she repeated as singles champion at both Wimbledon and Forest Hills. The Wimbledon registered cover in Figure 13 demonstrates the change in postmark for this year. Also, the time is not present on the registered covers mailed from the mobile post office, a change from 1957.

The USLTA advertised the 1958 U.S. Championship with a cachet, shown on this metered cover sent to the Sports Editor of a local newspaper (Figure 14). Although the cachet itself is not an

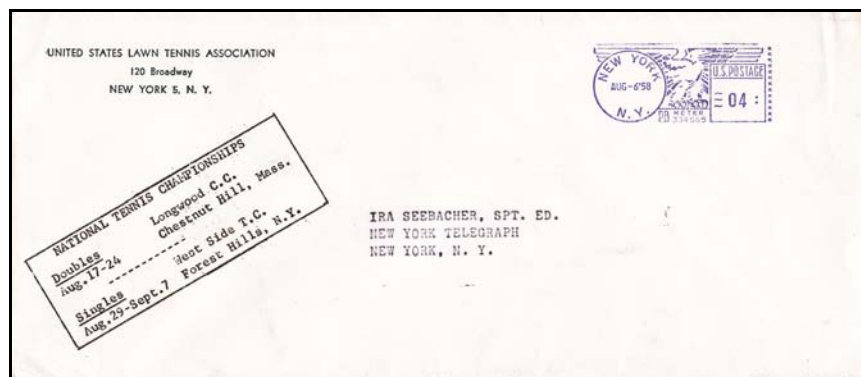


Figure 14. USLTA cachet promoting the U.S. National Tennis Championships at Forest Hills, 1958. This is the only cover I have seen with this promotional cachet.

element for a thematic exhibit, this is the only example I have seen in many years of searching, so it has some historical interest.

This time Althea received the U.S. trophy from Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Standing next to her at Forest Hills was her coach Sidney Llewellyn, whom she later married (Figure 15).

In addition to these triumphs, Althea Gibson was invited onto the U.S. Wightman Cup team for 1957 and 1958, the first African-American player to participate. Her record over the two years playing both singles and doubles in the Wightman Cup was 5-1.

Recently, Jean-Pierre Picquot published an article in *Esprit: Sports et Olympisme* (#59, page 14, 2011), that showed the use of a special Mobile Post Office postmark for the Wightman Cup which took place on June 13-14, 1958. He illustrated registered cover number 20 from June 13.

I can now add the two items in Figures 16 and 17. The first is registered cover number 2 from June 13, and the other is a certificate of posting of registered item number 26 from June 14. Remarkably, the Mobile Post Office postmark used for this event appears to be the same one used for the Wimbledon Championships in 1939, and then retired until the Wightman Cup of 1958! The certificate of posting for June 14 is the only item I have seen from that date.



Figure 15. Althea Gibson and coach Sidney Llewellyn receive trophy from John Foster Dulles at Forest Hills 1958.

Life Beyond Tennis

Appearing on the covers of *Time* and *Sports Illustrated*, and receiving the award for female athlete of the year in 1957 and 1958 were great honors. But with no source of income from amateur tennis, Althea decided to turn pro in 1958 and played a lucrative series of tennis matches with Karol Fageros at Harlem Globetrotters games.

By 1962 she had turned to tournament golf, and played that year in the U.S. women's amateur championship in Rochester, New York. Two years later she became the first African-American woman to join the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA, Figure 18).

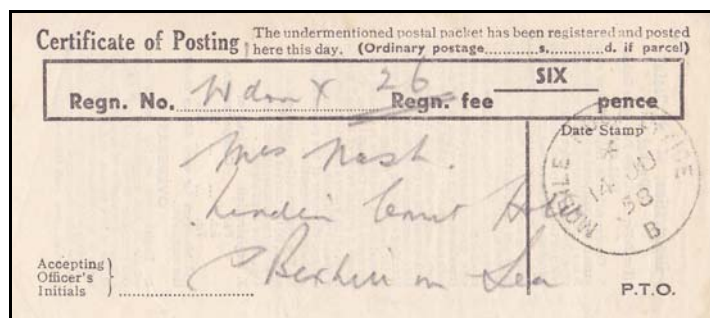
Although she never won a professional tournament, she competed in 171 events, with one second place finish in at the Immke Buick Open in Columbus, Ohio when she was 42 years old.

Beginning in 1964, the sports division of Dunlop sponsored her on the LPGA circuit (Figure 19), which was permissible since she was a professional. Playing at private golf country clubs, she sometimes had to change clothes in her car because she was denied entry to the clubhouse.

In addition to her sports careers, Althea Gibson served as New Jersey State Athletic Commissioner for two years, but she resigned in frustration over lack of funding and authority. She ran unsuccessfully for New Jersey State Senate in 1977, recorded a record album, and appeared in a small part in the movie *The Horse Soldiers* with John Wayne.



Figures 16 & 17. Scarce postal material from the 1958 Wightman Cup held at Wimbledon. Above, a registered cover from June 13. A previously unrecorded certificate of posting (below) dated June 14, 1958.



Althea continued to teach tennis to juniors, including Zina Garrison and Leslie Allen, who heard from her that "you must be a tiger on the tennis court."

One of the oddest moments in her fascinating life came on September 26, 1987, when at age 60 she faced off against the 69-year-old Bobby Riggs to open the Senior Games of New Jersey. This was 14 years after the famous Riggs-King match-up, and although Riggs won the pro set 8-5, it received only a brief mention in the next day's *New York Times*.

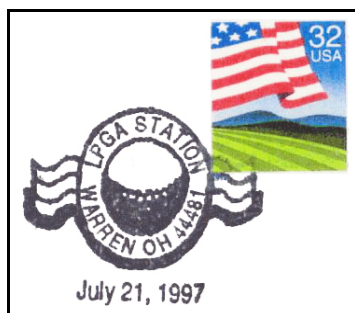


Figure 18. LPGA Station postmark from Warren, Ohio (courtesy of Pat Loehr).



Figure 19. Dunlop meter promoting their golf balls (courtesy of Cora Collins).



Figure 20. At the U.S. Open in 1999, Serena Williams became the second African-American women's singles champion.

Althea's Legacy

Our appreciation of the athleticism, determination, and achievements of Althea Gibson has been enriched by the depiction on the Forever stamp, but the artist Kadir Nelson put it well when describing her as being a unicorn in the tennis world. There was no organized program to develop talented African-American women players to follow Althea. The next African-American female champion at the U.S. Open was Serena Williams in 1999 (Figure 20), a full 41 years after Althea's second victory.

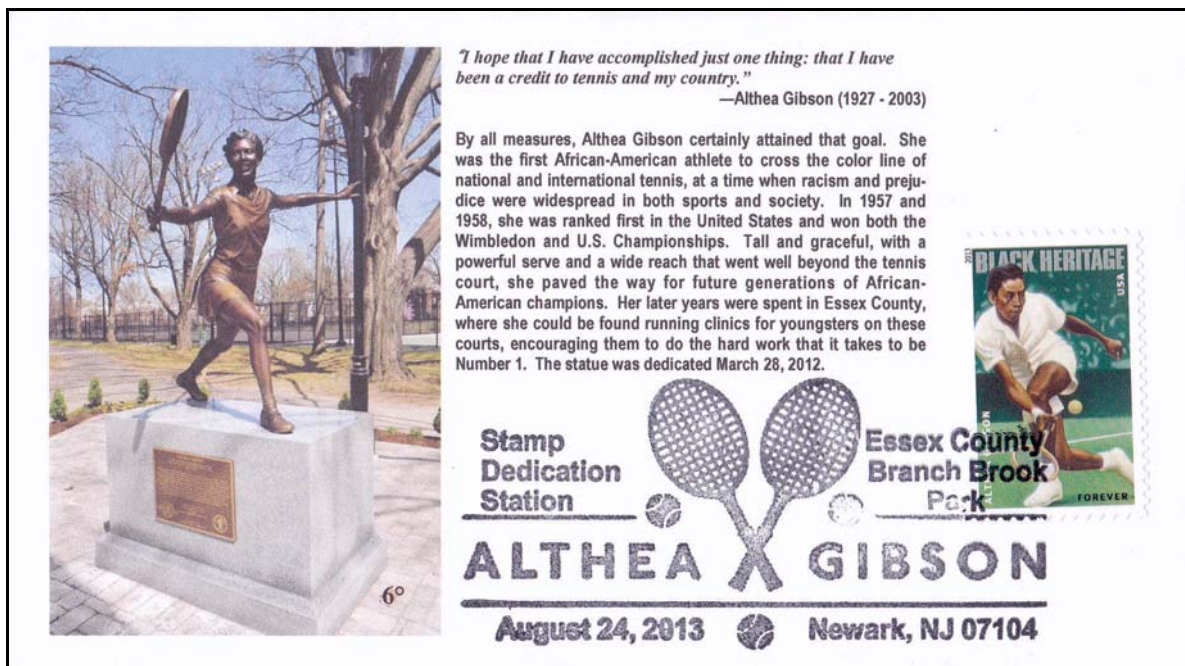
Chanda Rubin, an African-American player from Louisiana who benefitted from the revamped USTA junior development program, said at the first-day ceremony for the Althea Gibson stamp, "It's because of her that I try to do what I can for those

coming behind me." Chanda serves as Director-at-Large for the USTA, working to improve USTA youth development programs.

As we watch the new generation of tennis and golf champions, we can be grateful for the many ways in which Althea Gibson overcame barriers, enriched our culture and our sports heritage, and encouraged her African-American students. She would have been very proud that the artwork for her commemorative stamp was painted by a talented, young African-American artist who understands her unique role in the history of sport.

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Second Day Postmark from Newark, New Jersey, honors Althea Gibson for tennis clinics she conducted at Branch Brook Park, where her statue now stands overlooking the Althea Gibson Tennis Center. Cachet is from Don Neal's 6° (6 degrees) series.

Portugal's 1928 Olympic Stamps: 85 Years Old and Going Strong (Part 1)

by Dr. Manfred Bergman

Eighty-five years have passed since the issuance of the first stamps featuring the Olympic rings: Portugal's 15c tax stamp and 30c double-value tax stamp. Still, some of the aspects thereto related remain a mystery. Some new, unknown items have surfaced; other known ones are noteworthy. Over multiple chapters, I intend to cover many of these aspects. My research has caused me to doubt some of the accepted philatelic credo – doubts which I propose to share with my colleagues – believing, as the saying goes, that “doubts are the motor for progress.” The chronology of the stamps’ genesis is as follows:

7 January 1928: The Portuguese National Olympic Committee (NOC) lacked sufficient funds to prepare a team for the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games. The NOC president, J. Pontes, supported by his friend and sportsman, Colonel R. Pereira Dias, Minister of Posts, asks the government to issue a (postal tax) stamp to be added to all national mail (with the exception of newspapers) for three days: 22-24 May 1928. Mail without that stamp would be charged by a double-value tax stamp.

17 February 1928: The government issues a favorable decision.

22 March 1928: Decree 15,265 fixes the terms and conditions for use of the stamp to be created. These terms are common knowledge today.

7 May 1928: The printed stamps are ready for shipment to post offices in Portugal, the Azores and Madeira. The unusually quick turn-around time will be, as we shall see, an integral element of this story.

The importance of the stamps is multi-faceted: they were the first stamps to portray the Olympic rings and the first Olympic stamps issued by a non-host country before the Games. Their short-lived use, the dearth of written communication, and the lack of timely delivery of the stamps to post offices resulted in a relatively small number used on mail. The expectation of 2 million users was wildly optimistic. Consequently, mail with these stamps is relatively scarce (my estimate is about 200 items). Figure 1 shows three covers with the 15c tax stamp



Figure 1. The 1928 Olympic tax stamp used on each of the three obligatory days: 22 May (above); 23 May (bottom left); and 24 May (bottom right).





Figure 2. The large proofs (above) and small proofs (below) by J. Alves purporting to be for the 1928 Olympic tax stamp issue.



applied, postmarked on each of the three days of obligatory use.

I published an extensive article (in Spanish) in 1994¹, encouraged by my late friend Juan Antonio Hernan. I do believe, however, that an update is due covering some aspects which either share the mystery or are of particular interest.

Part I. "And Rowland Hill Begot the 'Penny Black' ... but Who Begot the 1928 Portuguese Olympic Stamp(s)?"

The mystery (and enigma) of the "sire" of these stamps still prevails, in spite of my previous interventions with leading Portuguese philatelists. Consequently, I *must* retell my story.

The first mystery: who designed them?

Act 1 of this "thriller" lasted from 1989 until 1994. (Year/s of discussions in parentheses)

1. Mr J.S.L. (Mr L.) – addressed to me by my late friend Lenos de Silveira – was an offer of six proofs of unaccepted designs (Figure 2 and Annex III), supposedly of the 1928 Portuguese Olympic stamps. The designer of these unaccepted proofs was Julio Alves, who, according to Mr. L., was also supposedly the designer of the issued stamp. (1989-1990)

2. I doubted the proofs to be for the Olympic stamps, arguing that:

- There was not enough time (between 22 March and 7 May) to design, assess the printers proofs, discard the designs, and then submit second ones.
- Why are there no proofs in various colors of the accepted designs? The only proofs are a print of the center and coin proofs of the finished stamps. (To be discussed further in Part II)
- Why do the proofs carry no imagery or text relating to the Games or to Amsterdam?
- The printing was too perfect to have been made in such a short time. (1990)

Mr L. refuted my arguments by pointing out that the proofs are catalogued in A.H. de Oliveira Marques catalogue of Portuguese essays and proofs (Figure 3). Mr L. sent me a copy of said catalogue. (1990)

3. I analyzed the catalogue and continued to contest the proofs to be Olympic, arguing that:

- The so-called Alves proofs are *typographic* while the accepted design was *lithographic*. Is that difference not evidence that they were of a different nature, made by different artists and at different times? (See Annex I)
- The Alves proofs are signed while the accepted (Olympic) ones are not. In fact, the finished stamps bear no signature. Would that be the case if they were designed by Alves, or more precisely, evidence that the designer of the accepted stamps was someone else? (1992)

4. I asked Mr L. and L. De S. to approach Mr. de Oliveira Marques and ask him for his sources and evidence. It got us no further as Mr. Marques provided no explanations or evidence. (1992)

5. Finally, I decided to approach the Olympic Committee of Portugal – and I was vindicated. The letter (Figure 4) proves that the stamps were designed by Roque Gameiro. Furthermore a drawing was found with the annotation: "designed by Roque Gameiro". (1993)

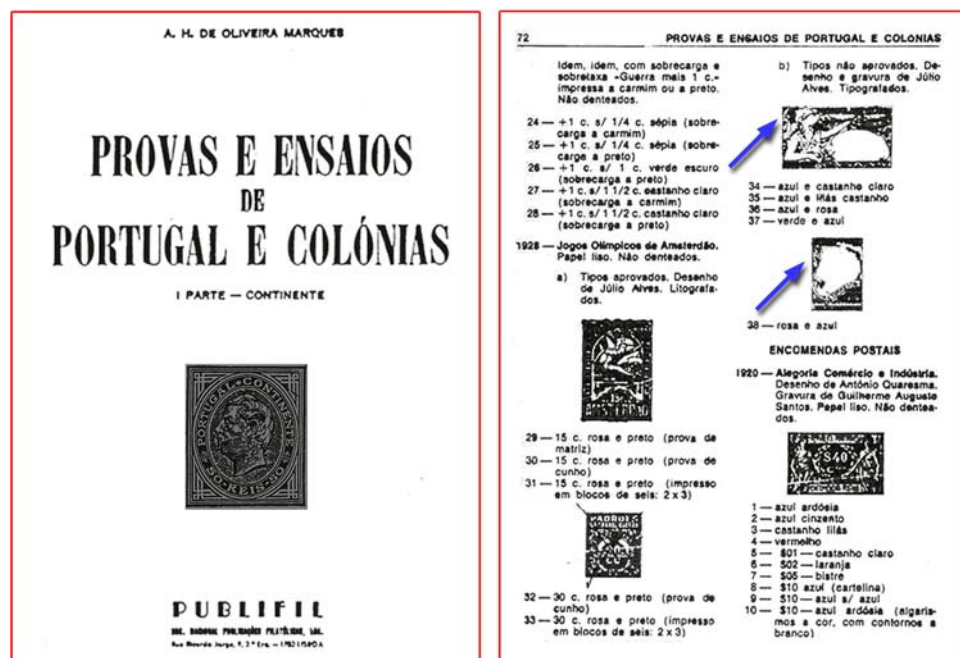


Figure 3. The A.H. de Oliveira Marques catalog of Portuguese essays and proofs asserts that the six 1913 Alves proofs were for the 1928 Olympic tax stamps.

The NOC certainly would authorize a famous artist, such as Roque Gameiro, to design its stamp over a little known artist, whose entire stamp-designing career was limited to one set.

6. I personally wrote Mr. de Oliveira Marques and submitted the entire evidence to him. There was no reaction.

7. I submitted this evidence to Mr L., who fully accepted it and he withdrew the stamps. (1994)

Act 2. I believed that the discussions were closed. In truth, we were far from it. In 2001 the Alves proofs appeared in an auction. The description:

... “Imposed and Tax stamps. Proofs designed by Julio Alves ... described in de Oliveira Marques’ catalogue ... Very rare.”

The auction house acted in good faith, based on the still uncorrected and accepted de Oliveira Marques catalogue. The “proofs” were sold. I have no knowledge of their owner, but am sure that one day he/she will be disillusioned. Was this the finale? In fact, it was not.

Act 3. In 2003 my (late) friend José Manuel Castanheira Da Silveira offered me the same proofs, found in an auction, with very nearly the same description as in the 2001 sale. I explained the entire story to my

friend, which he entirely accepted.

It is easy to criticize or find fault, but in all fairness the critic ought to propose a solution. I, therefore, tried to find an explanation to de Oliveira Marques’ claims that the Alves proofs were Olympic related. I believe that I may have found a rationale in I.A. Land’s article “Portugal’s Issue Pertaining To Sports” written in 1959. Mr. Land stated that his quest with the Portuguese Postal Administration resulted only in finding the name of the designer: Julio Alves. A search for information about Alves began, but very little was discovered. “Alves worked for the Portuguese Mint, and

besides [?] the Olympic stamps he designed the 1913 stamps for the Fiestas da Cidade and another stamp of the same design for telegrammes.”

Mr. Land’s article put me on the right track and explained some pertinent issues:

- The source for de Oliveira Marques’ claim relative to the designer was gleaned from Mr. Land’s article or from the Portuguese Postal Administration’s archives;



Figure 4. Confirmation from the Olympic Committee of Portugal that the designer of the 1928 Olympic tax stamp was actually Roque Gameiro.

- Alves designed the 1913 imposed tax stamps in 1913 on the occasion of the Lisbon Fair, and;
- Nothing more is known about Alves' career as a stamp designer.

The above gave me the clue I was looking for. I looked closely at the 1913 stamps. The Post issued a set of obligatory stamps to be added to the normal postage for all mail posted in Lisbon between July 8 and July 15. They were of the same nature as the 1928 Olympic stamps (obligatory during a certain period), with the same goal (to raise funds for an event), and with the same penalty. And the designer of the 1913 stamps *was* J. Alves.

In fact, looking at the 1913 stamps, I realized their similarity to the 1928 "Alves" proofs (Figure 5). Both this proof and the 1913 stamps bear Alves' signature (often not visible in the stamps' very narrow margins).

My conclusion was that Alves designed only the 1913 stamps. The Post (for whatever reason) erred in saying that Alves was the designer of the 1928 stamps and this error became a "truth." (See Annex II)

It does seem that de Oliveira Marques just copied the Post's error. Moreover, the 1913 Alves proofs were not rejected. On the contrary, the design was accepted – with some modifications.

What is the true story of the 1928 Olympic stamp, based on direct and circumstantial evidence?

1. There was only one design.
2. The designer was Roque Gameiro (See Annex IV). The original design is in the Portuguese Olympic Committee's archives.
3. J. Alves did not design the Olympic stamp. The Post erred in attributing the design to him.
4. The Alves "Olympic proofs" are, most probably, proofs of the 1913 "Fiestas da Cidade" (PostalTax) stamps, which Alves designed.
5. There is no substantial evidence, either direct or circumstantial, of de Oliveira Marques' claim that the proofs shown in his cata-

logue are of an Olympic nature. Marques' silence and refusal to give an explanation reinforces my statement.

My recommendation to the Portuguese Philatelic Federation is to examine my claims and issue a statement confirming my findings, or, refute them with tangible evidence.

How long will the Alves legend remain uncorrected? When will Gameiro receive the recognition he is due?

Breaking News – 2013

As mentioned, the "Alves" proofs were sold, but we do not know to whom. Wherever their travels took them over the ensuing years, both the large and small proofs eventually found their way to Fountain Hills, Arizona (USA), and are owned by Varisell Stamp Boutique who are currently offering both sets on eBay (these are shown in Figure 2). Mark Maestrone, SPI's President, had alerted me to the large proofs which he had spotted on eBay.

The eBay **lot title** and **description** for the Large Proofs:

"Portugal 1928 Minerva Essays, XF Set of 3, Rare. Portugal, 1928 Minerva Essays, issued without gum, 3 imperf. bi-color essays of the same 40mm x 24mm design depicting Minerva & Republica & Portuguesa & CORREIOS in 3 different color combinations, including: Blue & Bistre, Black & Violet, Green & Purple. Blank area for imprint of denomination, imprint 'Julio Alves D. e. Gru' at LL. Fresh, bright, rare & XF." Price: US \$1,600 !!!

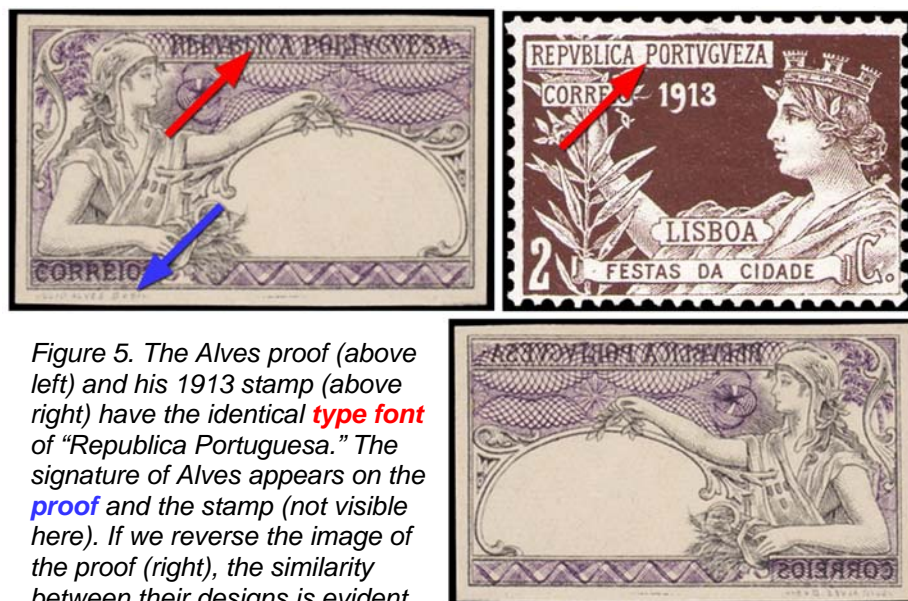


Figure 5. The Alves proof (above left) and his 1913 stamp (above right) have the identical **type font** of "Republica Portuguesa." The signature of Alves appears on the **proof** and the stamp (not visible here). If we reverse the image of the proof (right), the similarity between their designs is evident.

Varisell has been desperately trying to sell these proofs for some time – so far unsuccessfully. This is easy to understand, as there was no “Minerva” stamp issued in 1928. At least, Varisell is not trying to sell them as “Olympic” essays. I leave it up to collectors to judge the price for essays related to the 1913 Lisbon Postal tax stamp.

In a separate eBay listing, Varisell is offering the “small” Alves proofs – but not quite so “innocently.”

“Portugal 1928 Bi-color Torch Frame Essays, XF, Rare. Portugal, 1928 Torch Essays. 3 (three) 28mm x 19mm bicolor essays of the same design depicting a torch & inscribed PORTUGAL & CORREIOS. Blank area for imprint of denominations, color combinations: green & orange, rose & bistre, dark green & pink. Imprint of Julio Alves at bottom center. Fresh, bright & XF. Rare, if not unique.” Price: US \$1,550 !!!

So, the Alves proofs still continue their “Flying Dutchman” trip. Do you not think that it is about time to place them in their correct place and time (Attention: FIP or Portuguese Federation)? 🍷

Annex I: Circumstantial evidence concerning the printing system.

De Oliveira Marques correctly writes in his catalogue that the Alves proofs were produced by typography and the issued stamps by lithography.

In fact, the stamps as issued were printed by the new Bautzen² offset printing machine.

I would like an explanation of why, within the space of a few weeks, the Casa de Moneda (the Mint) used two printing systems. It would stand to reason that if the Alves proofs and the issued stamps were printed at the same time, both would be printed employing the new system. The fact that two systems were used at the same time is circumstantial evidence that the Alves proofs and the issued stamps were printed at different times: the Alves proofs in 1913 and the issued stamps in 1928.

Annex II: Circumstantial evidence of why the postal archives mention Alves as the stamps’ designer.

J. Alves worked at the Casa de Moneda and it is therefore conceivable that he was involved in the production and printing of the stamps. It could well be that Alves signed all administrative documents concerning the stamps as well as the shipments to the Post. The Post took it for granted that the stamps were designed by Alves, not having the documents authorizing the stamps given by the National Olympic Committee.

Mind you, this is one possible explanation. Further investigation would be welcome (aided by the Portuguese postal authorities).

Annex III: The Small Alves Proofs.³ (Figure 2)

What were they? Castanheira da Silveira believed there was an Olympic connection because of the torch incorporated into the design (Figure 6). He forgot that the idea of an Olympic torch was not introduced until 1936!

I maintain that they were Alves designs for the 1913 Tax stamp to be affixed in the absence of the Postal-Tax stamp. My opinion is based on the following:

- The lack of any Olympic attributes.
- The similarity to the larger Alves proofs (Marques no. 34-37).
- They were printed using the old (typographic) system.
- The presence of the “Alves” name on the stamp.

Some more investigation or research would be welcome.

Annex IV: Alfredo Roque Gameiro (1864 -1935) was a Portuguese painter and designer, specializing in watercolors. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts of Lisbon a pupil of Manuel de Macedo, José Simões de Almeida and Enrique Casanova. A scholarship from the Portuguese Government allowed him to attend the school of Arts and Crafts of Leipzig where he studied lithography⁴ with Ludwig Nieper. He returned to Portugal in 1886 where he directed the National Publishing House. He was appointed a professor at the Escola Industrial do Príncipe Real (Industrial College of the Crown Prince). Many of his works are in the collection of the Museum of Minde.



Figure 6.

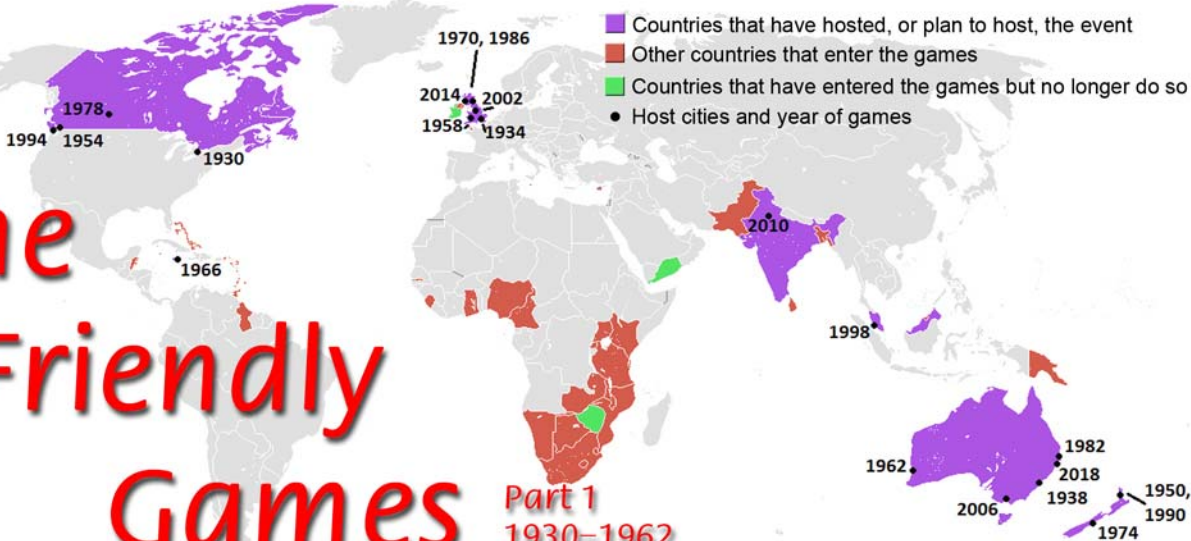


Endnotes

1. “Los Mysterios de los Sellos Olympicos Portugueses de 1928” in *Temas Filatelicos*, 9-12, 1994.
2. Manufactured in Saxony (Germany) in 1926.
3. Nos. 32 and 33 proofs in Marques catalogue. Also see Part II of this article, “The genesis of the 1928 Portuguese Olympic stamps.”
4. Which made him the best choice to design and engrave the Olympic stamps.

The Friendly Games

Part 1
1930-1962



by William Silvester

They were first known as the British Empire Games when athletes from all corners of the British domains met in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada in 1930. Today, 83 years later, they are called the Commonwealth Games and are going stronger than ever with the XX Games being held in Glasgow, Scotland in July 2014. Where else but in “The Friendly Games” as they have come to be called, would you find a disqualified athlete permitted back in a race because of the crowd’s protests or an athlete from the tiny island of Nauru winning a gold medal. These games exemplify what amateur sport competition is really all about especially today when more and more professional athletes are joining in the Olympic Games.

The code of intent by which the Commonwealth Games have been staged states that:

“It will be designed on the Olympic model, both in general construction and its stern definition of the Amateur. But the games will be very different, free from both the excessive stimulus and the babel of the international stadium. They should be merrier, less stern and will substitute the stimulus of novel adventure for the pressure of International rivalry.”

In the cutthroat world of international sport, “The Friendly Games” have maintained their distinctive image. The spirit of family which pervades the Commonwealth could have it no other

way. The unification through shared history, common purpose and the interest of the Royal Family nourishes and continues this ideal. Most importantly, the Commonwealth Games have provided a spring board by which gifted athletes from smaller and often underdeveloped nations can enter and succeed on the international stage of sport. By helping these athletes achieve higher standards within the Commonwealth the games have permitted them to become a force to reckon with in the major sporting events of the world. Today, many nations which at one time could only hope to compete now enjoy the reality of success on the international stage.

The British Empire Games, as the contests were first called, came very close to predating the modern Olympics, in July 1891, Sir John Astley Cooper wrote an article in the magazine *Greater Britain* in which he proposed that every four years a “Pan-Britannic Contest and Festival” be held with the hopes of “increasing the goodwill and good understanding of the Empire.” If Mr. Cooper’s idea had been accepted at that time, the games would have had a five-year jump on the Olympics, but this was not to be. In fact another twenty years would pass before the idea was again given serious consideration.

King George V ascended the throne of Great Britain and its far-flung Empire in 1911. As part of the coronation celebrations it was proposed to hold an “Inter Empire Sports Meeting”. Only six countries participated in the nine events held in London. Athletes of the United Kingdom met with those who came from the dominions of Australia, Canada, New



Figure 1. M.M. "Bobby" Robinson wearing the official blazer uniform at the first British Empire Games in Hamilton, 1930.

Zealand, South Africa, and Tasmania to compete in track and field, swimming, wrestling and boxing. The games were a great success with Canada being declared the overall winner. An impressive two-and-a-half-foot tall silver trophy known as the Lonsdale cup was presented to the winners.

Then, as today, success breeds imitation and it was not long before discussions began as to how this event could be held on a regular basis. Though some voices were raised in opposition, claiming that such games would be difficult to finance and would detract from the Olympic Games, the general consensus was favorable.

At the forefront of those lobbying for the Empire Games was the manager of the Canadian Track and Field team at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics, M.M. "Bobby" Robinson of Hamilton, Ontario. Backed by the civic leaders in Hamilton, Robinson was able to offer a proposal that the first games be held in that city. Despite this offer too many problems were

foreseen and the idea seemed on the verge of extinction.

Fortunately, shortly after the conclusion of the 1928 Olympic Games, a dual relay meet was held in London between the best athletes of the United States and the British Empire. 40,000 spectators assured the success of the meet and led to the Earl of Derby heading a council to discuss the possibility of the Empire Games. Robinson returned to London in 1930 with the authorization to sweeten Hamilton's position by offering free travel grants and lodging to athletes. His enthusiasm was infectious and before he left London it had been decided to hold the first ever British Empire Games in Hamilton, Ontario from 16 to 23 August 1930 (Figure 1).

Collectors of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games on stamps would have a hard time of it representing the early Games in their collections for the first five British Empire Games were held without commemoration on postage stamps. There were, however, some cancels and covers that sparingly represented these athletic contests.

I British Empire Games – Hamilton

The inaugural Games were very down to earth with only eleven countries participating. The athletes' village, where participants slept 24 to a classroom, was in Prince of Wales School near the Civic Stadium. There were 400 competitors from Australia, Bermuda, British Guiana, Canada, England, Northern Ireland, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa and Wales. Men participated in athletics, boxing, lawn bowling, rowing, swimming, diving and wrestling while women were restricted to swimming.



Figure 2. Bronze participants medal (above) and cover with slogan machine cancel promoting the 1930 British Empire Games.



On behalf of King George V, the Hamilton Games were opened by Viscount Willingdon, the Governor-General of Canada. Messages from the King and Prince of Wales were read, beginning a tradition which continues to this day.

The first Empire Games gold medal was won by Spike Smallacombe of Toronto in the triple jump competition. Cliff Chilcott won gold in the feather-weight wrestling event and Elswood Bole and Bob Richards won gold in double sculls rowing. Oddly enough none of the three men worked up much of a sweat as they were the only entrants and won without competition.

Stamps were not issued to commemorate these games but the post office did make an effort to advertise the upcoming event with a machine cancel. The cover shown here is an example of the cancel reading "British / Empire Games / Hamilton / August 16 - 23 1930". This letter was sent from Hamilton to Indianapolis, Indiana USA, canceled in Hamilton on July 4, 1930 and franked by a booklet pane of four one-cent King George V definitives (Figure 2).

The spirit of the games was evident from the very first. A New Zealand sprinter, having made two false starts in the heats for the 100 yards, had been properly disqualified. The crowd, however, felt he should be given another chance and protested so noisily that the organizers were unable to continue with the events until the man had been allowed back in the race. Despite crowd support, the New Zealander did not win the race, that honor went to Percy Williams, a Canadian, who set an Empire record of 9.6 seconds despite the fact that he had pulled a muscle while still some distance from the finish.

The British Empire Games Federation was formed during the games and it was decided that a similar set of games would be held every four years, between the Olympic Games.

II British Empire Games – London

The Second British Empire Games were held in London, England, at the White City Stadium in August 1934. Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Rhodesia and Trinidad were added to the original eleven countries, together sending a total of 500 competitors.

Even in these early years a tradition of sporting drama and excitement was blossoming. The 1934 games are best known for the famous meeting between Jack Lovelock of New Zealand and Sydney

Figure 3. Jack Lovelock (#467) beating out Glenn Cunningham (USA - #746) and Eric Ny (SWE - #573) for the gold medal in the 1500-meter race at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games.



Wooderson of England, renowned as the greatest middle distance runners in the world. Lovelock won the mile race in 4 minutes 12.8 seconds despite the rain-sodden track. Gladys Lunn, an English athlete, gained fame by winning both the javelin throw and the 880-yard race.

The London Games also saw the first time that women were included in sports that were not considered "too exhaustive" such as short sprints and the 220-yard relay – but not the 440.

England won the lion's share of gold medals with the men winning ten and the women six in athletics alone.

As far as is known, and years of fruitless searching seem to confirm this, there were no cancels, machine or hand, used to commemorate the II British Empire Games. No stamps were issued for the Games either. However, in 1990 New Zealand issued a set of semi-postal stamps commemorating Sporting Heroes. One of these stamps (Scott B137) depicts Jack Lovelock winning his gold medal in the 1500-meter race at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games (Figure 3).

III British Empire Games – Sydney

It was not known at the time but the 1938 games held in Sydney, Australia would be the last for 12 years. The world was poised on the brink of a second great world war which would, amongst other things, bring great changes to the British Empire. Fiji and Ceylon had their names added to the list of athletes. In all, fifteen countries sent 464 competitors, slightly less than the London Games.

A new sport, cycling, was added this year and proved so popular that it remained. Rowing, which had been dropped in 1934, returned for the Sydney games. The evidence of a fluttering handkerchief was used to determine that South African hurdler Tom Lavery was to be denied his gold medal for setting a world record in the 120. It was judged that he won due to excess wind assistance.

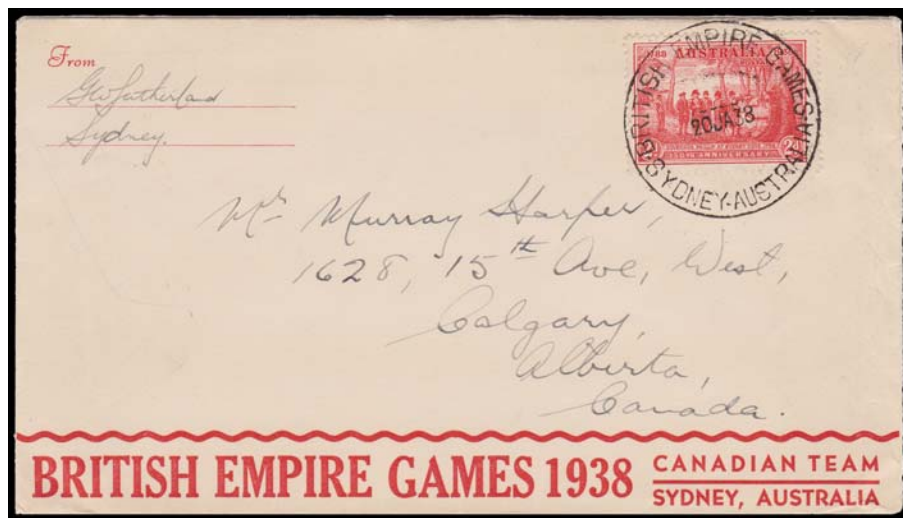


Figure 4. Canadian gold medalist in the hammer throw, George Sutherland, used a special team envelope for this letter from the British Empire Games in Sydney. The cover, franked with a stamp commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of Australia – an event that coincided with hosting the games – is postmarked with the special games cancel.

The most remarkable feat of these games was performed by Docima Norman of Australia. She won five gold medals to establish a record which has never been beaten by a woman at a single Games.

The Australian Post office produced a hand cancel to commemorate the Games. It was a simple, though large (36mm in diameter), cancel with the words “British Empire Games - Sydney - Australia -” in upper case letters and the date in the center (Figure 4). This cover is particularly intriguing as it was sent by George W. Sutherland a member of the Canadian Team. As he wrote his name in the upper left corner it could be considered the first Commonwealth Games autographed cover.

This was Sutherland’s second British Empire Games. He had already won a silver medal in the hammer throw at the 1934 London Games. At Sydney, he captured a gold medal in the hammer throw and a bronze in discus.

IV British Empire Games – Auckland

The games were not held again until four years after the end of the Second World War. The venue for the 1950 event remained Down Under, this time in Auckland, New Zealand.

Malaya, Nigeria and Singapore debuted on the games scene as twelve countries sent 590 athletes, the largest contingent to date. A change in procedure came about, beginning with these 1950 games, when it was decided that seven sports (track and field, lawn bowling,

boating, cycling, rowing, swimming and diving and wrestling) would be compulsory with the host city being permitted to select two others. Auckland chose fencing and weightlifting.

Tom Lavery, who had lost out to a handkerchief in 1938, again made headlines. In the same event, the 120-yard hurdles, he won a bronze medal despite having lost the button on his shorts and “only the pumping action of his legs kept him from complete embarrassment.”

Marjorie Jackson, an Australian sprinter known as the “Blue Streak”, tied the world record in the 100- and 220-yard races. Two years later at the Helsinki Olympics she would win two gold medals. Another incredible feat was performed by Australian wrestler Dick Garrard, who, having

won gold in both the 1934 and 1938 Empire Games went on to win another gold in Auckland.

Most athletes had only other athletes to compete against, but three miles from the finish line, the winner of the marathon was attacked by a dog.

A machine cancel was made available to a number of post offices throughout the country. The example shown is a December 1949 Air Mail cover from Christchurch on the South Island addressed to Sydney, Australia. The text reads: “British Empire Games/-Auckland N.Z./-4th - 11th February 1950”. It is franked with an overseas rate 5d King George VI definitive (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Slogan machine cancel used at Christchurch, and various other post offices in New Zealand, to promote the 1950 games.



Figure 6. Machine slogan cancel from Vancouver on 30 July 1954, the opening day of the V British Empire and Commonwealth Games. The same slogan also appeared on postmarks from other Canadian cities.

V British Empire and Commonwealth Games – Vancouver

To keep pace with the times and the changing status of various Commonwealth members, the name of the games was changed to the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in time for the 1954 Vancouver, British Columbia event.

Twenty-four countries sent athletes, twice the number that were represented in Auckland, fielding 662 competitors.

As in previous years, many old records fell by the wayside as athletes excelled in their sports. The most famous race, later called the “Miracle Mile,” featured a duel between the English runner Roger Bannister and John Landy of Australia. Earlier in the year Bannister had broken the four-minute barrier by running the mile in 3 minutes 59.4 seconds. Six weeks later, Landy bettered that time setting a new world record of 3 minutes 58 seconds. What the world wanted to know was, who was the best of the two? They both came to Vancouver to find out.

A capacity crowd watched the much publicized event on August 8 as the pair raced around the track. Turning into the final straightaway they were almost abreast. Landy, on the inside, glanced over his shoulder just as Bannister put on a quick burst and passed him. Landy did not have any reserve and Bannister finished five yards ahead.

The marathon of the Vancouver games is better known for the man who lost it than Scotland’s Joe McGhee, who won. The runner from England, Jim

Peters, entered the stadium well ahead of everyone else to the cheers of the crowd. The ovation quickly died down when it was realized, that Peters was in trouble. He seemed to have lost all sense of direction and stumbled about blindly overcome by the heat and exhaustion. He fell eleven times, but continued to crawl and stagger to the finish line. Finally, after fifteen minutes his trainer could stand it no longer and went to his aid. Peters was disqualified but his courage will never be forgotten.

In other sports, Doug Hepburn of Canada, called the strongest man in the world, won gold in weightlifting after a 370-pound hoist. Australian wrestler, Dick Garrard who had won gold in London, Sydney and Auckland took the bronze in Vancouver, an incredible twenty year winning streak. Australia continued to dominate the swimming events with both men and women setting records in the new pool built especially for these games.

The Vancouver Games were also well remembered for the winning of the first gold medal by a black African athlete. Nigerian Emmanuel Ifeajuna jumped an unprecedented 13.5 inches over his own height with a leap of 6 feet, 8 inches. When he stood on the podium he had silver medallist Patrick Etolu of Uganda on one side and Nafiu Osagie of Nigeria on the other, an African sweep.

The Canadian Post Office had authorized a number of cities to use machine cancels to advertise the Vancouver Games. They all bore the same slogan: “British Empire Games/Vancouver-Canada / 30 July - 7 August 1954” with the exception of Montreal which had the additional lines “Jeux de L’Empire Brit. / July 30 Juil - August 7 Aout 1954”.

In addition to Vancouver and Montreal, slogans were used by Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto, and Winnipeg. The cover shown in Figure 6 carries a machine cancel from Vancouver with the first day of the games, July 30, 1954 in the circle. It has a British Empire and Commonwealth Games cachet showing the sports participated in and is franked with a local rate 2¢ Queen Elizabeth II definitive.



Figure 7. The first set of stamps issued for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games was, fittingly, for the 1958 games held in Great Britain at Cardiff, Wales. The stamps were designed by Reynolds Stone (3d), W.H. Brown (6d) and Pat Keely (1s/3d). All feature the Welsh dragon, with Brown's also including the then symbol of the Commonwealth Games, the Crown surrounded by a chain.

VI British Empire and Commonwealth Games – Cardiff

The games returned to the British Isles in July of 1958. A new feature was established at the Cardiff, Wales games. Roger Bannister and fellow English gold medal winners Peter Driver and Chris Chataway received a “games message” baton from Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace. Known as the Queen’s Baton Relay, the silver-gilt baton was then run to Cardiff Arms Park for the games by a succession of runners in the same manner that the Olympic torch is carried.

There were now thirty-five countries represented by a total of 1130 athletes. Ten world records were broken, amongst which three were in athletics and five in swimming. One of the former was the men’s 440-yard hurdles won by Gert Potgeiter of South Africa who had suffered a broken neck and paralysis a year earlier. Four gold medals also went to the Asian Commonwealth nations of India and Pakistan and a tantalizing glimpse of things to come was offered when Uganda and Nigeria appeared as medal winners.

Politics raised its ugly head at the Cardiff games when protest demonstrations occurred in Cardiff and London. It had been noted that South African athletes were selected “on the basis of color rather than ability.” Though not a recent occurrence, (South Africa had been awarded the 1934 games but lost them again due to their racial policies) it was becoming increasingly apparent that it opposed the ideals of the Commonwealth. This came at a time when black African athletes were appearing in larger numbers at the games. Cardiff was to be South Africa’s last games for many years as it left the Commonwealth three years later.

The first set of stamps commemorating the BE&CG was issued for the games held in Cardiff (Figure 7). Great Britain broke the ground with a set of three (Scott 338-340) and from then until this day every Commonwealth Games has been noted by at least two sets of stamps. Two cancels are known to have been used, one with a circular date stamp (cds) and the slogan “VIth / British Empire & / Commonwealth Games / Wales - 18 - 26 July 1958,” (Figure 8) the second with a cds, the Games logo and a slogan was used in numerous post offices around the country.



Figure 8. FDC (right) of the 1958 BE&CG stamps with the machine slogan postmark. Additional postmarks for the Empire Games Village at Barry, Glamorgan are shown above along with the machine cancel.





Figure 9. For the 1962 games in Perth, Australia issued stamps portraying the Kangaroo Paw plant (5d) and the emblem of Perth surrounded by a track (2s/3d).

VII British Empire and Commonwealth Games – Perth

The 1962 games were held in Perth, Western Australia, in late November and early December. The number of athletes participating dropped to 863 with the withdrawal of South Africa accounting in large part for the decrease. There were still 35 countries entered in the same nine events that had been the standard since 1950.

Australia continued to dominate the swimming competitions with Dawn Fraser winning two individual titles. England's Anita Lonsborough and fifteen-year-old Linda Ludgrove did manage to take five gold medals away from the Australians.

On the track, Bruce Kidd of Toronto won a gold medal and Peter Snell of New Zealand set a world record in the 880 yards. The three-mile title was retained by Murray Halberg, a New Zealander who had been stricken by polio as a child and had a withered arm. Pakistan came to the fore in wrestling by taking seven of the eight gold medals.

It was the closing ceremonies, however, that exemplified what the Commonwealth was really about. The Duke of Edinburgh had stayed to watch the festivities long after his scheduled departure time. The 700-voice choir had just launched into a rousing rendition of "Waltzing Matilda" and as the Duke started to leave in his open car the athletes of all races, creeds and colors marched out arm and arm totally engulfing the vehicle.

Two sets of stamps were issued for the Perth Games, one from Australia (Figure 9, Scott 349-350) and the other from nearby Papua & New Guinea (Figure 10, Scott 171-173). There was a machine cancel "Perth Invites / You To The / Games / Nov 1962" used in Melbourne and other cities (Figure 11). 25 hand cancels



Figure 10. Papua & New Guinea was the first non-host country to issue stamps for the BE&CG.

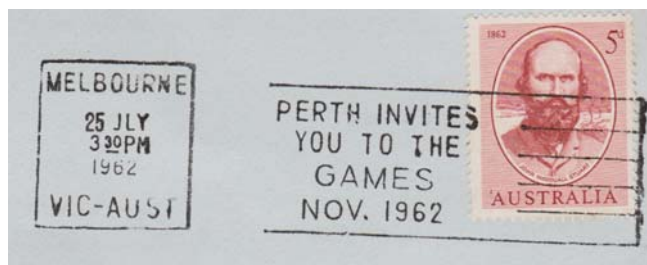


Figure 11. (Above) slogan machine cancel.

Figure 12. (Opposite) 25 event and venue postmarks.

were made available depicting Games venues and the Athletes Village (Figure 12). Australia Post also issued an aerogramme for the occasion (Figure 13).

The author (email: wgsilvester@shaw.ca) would like to correspond with other members who collect Commonwealth Games with the objective of expanding our joint philatelic knowledge.

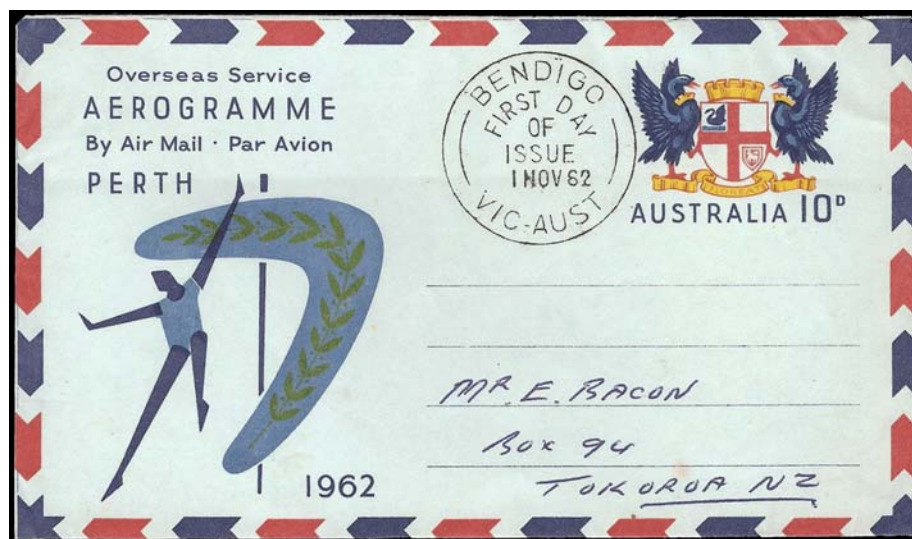


Figure 13. Australian aerogramme issued for the Perth games and postmarked on the first day of issue (and of the games) on 1 November 1962. The indicium reproduces Perth's emblem featuring Australia's famous black swans.



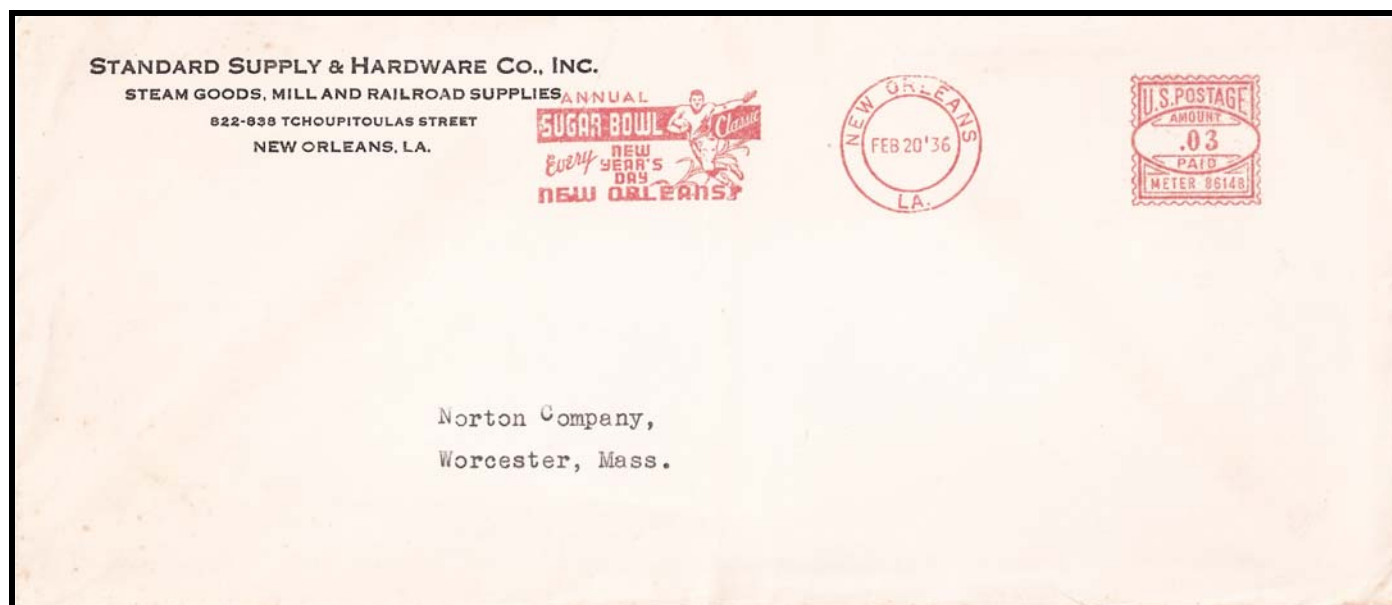


Figure 1. Slogan meter (1936) promoting New Orleans' "Annual Sugar Bowl Classic Every New Year's Day".

The Sugar Bowl, More Than Just a Football Game

by Norman Rushefsky

In the U.S., gatherings of friends and family, particularly during the Christmas and New Year's holidays, are typically accompanied by viewing American football on TV. College football games during this period are usually referred to as "bowl" games, harkening back to 1923 and the very first post-season college football game at the famous Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

The Sugar Bowl is a well-known annual football event held around the first of the new year in New Orleans and features two of the best college football teams (Figure 1). A little research of the history of

the Sugar Bowl indicates that this annual event was initiated by the business community of New Orleans in 1935, in the depths of the Great Depression, to promote sports and to foster revenue and spark economic growth in the city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana. This it has done quite admirably year after year despite setbacks to New Orleans by hurricanes.

I recently came across two covers from the 1930-1940 period having either a rubber stamped cachet (Figure 2) or printed advertising (Figure 3) featuring multiple sports but yet promoting the Sugar Bowl. The rubber stamped cachet of Figure 2 features cartoon-like characters illustrating the

sports of basketball, tennis, boxing, track (hurdles), sailing and of course football. This aroused my curiosity as I was not aware of these other sports being a part of the Sugar Bowl. A program from 1950 (Figure 4) features the Sugar Bowl trophy with the six sports.

Regarding basketball the Sugar Bowl has, since 1936, sponsored basketball events in conjunction with the annual football classic. On January 2 1936 the University of Pittsburgh



Figure 2. The Sugar Bowl was not just about football, but promoted other sports as well, evidenced by the multi-sport cachet at lower right on this 1940 cover.

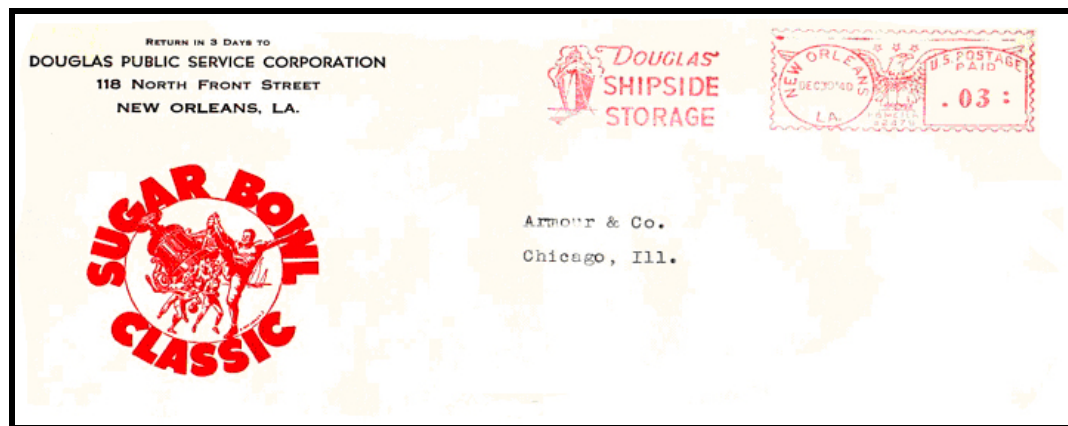


Figure 3. Commercial cover from 1940 with a printed cachet (lower left) depicting various sports, including football, associated with the Sugar Bowl Classic.

defeated national champion Louisiana State University, 52-47, in the first Sugar Bowl basketball game. In addition, the Sugar Bowl has been a sponsor for multiple local events in the sport. In 2008, the Sugar Bowl Committee (SBC) partnered with other local organizations to put together a successful bid to host the 2012 NCAA Men's Basketball Final Four, officially hosted by Tulane University. The SBC also worked with Tulane and the Greater New Orleans Sports

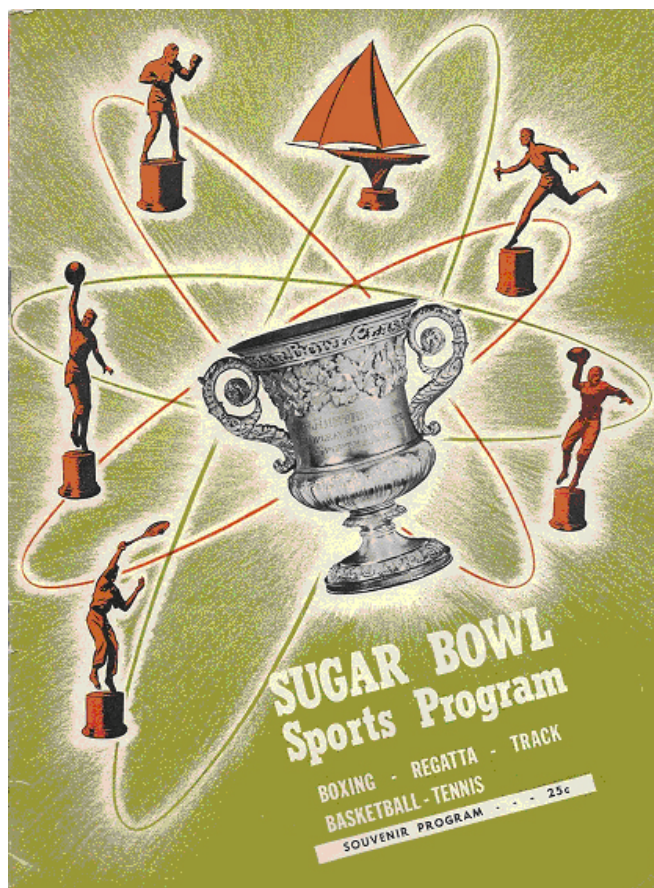


Figure 4. Sugar Bowl program from 1950 listing the bowl's sports program as including boxing, regatta, track, basketball and tennis – in addition to football.

Foundation to host the 2013 NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four. In recent years the SBC has additionally sponsored boys' and girls' prep school basketball tournaments.

As to tennis, this tournament began in December 1934 and national champion Wilmer Allison won the first Sugar Bowl tennis tournament de-

feating Berkeley Bell. World amateur tennis champion Bobby Riggs competed in the Sugar Bowl tournament in the years 1937-1941. He won the tournament in 1941.

In 1935 the First Sugar Bowl track meet drew champions like Glenn Cunningham of Kansas, Don Lash of Indiana and Chuck Hornbostel of Harvard. Since 1993, the two-day Allstate Sugar Bowl Track and Field Classic has been the largest high school track and field invitational in Louisiana, featuring more than 100 boys and girls teams from Louisiana and surrounding states.

The Sugar Bowl Regatta has been held on Lake Pontchartrain every year since 1935, except during World War II. The sailing competition is divided into two separate phases, spread out over four two-day periods, usually weekends, beginning in late November and concluding on New Year's Eve. The sailing competition features more than 200 sailboats competing in separate divisions. Sailing crews from all over the United States, including intercollegiate and high school teams, come to New Orleans not only to compete, but to take in the 60 and 70 degree temperatures and optimal wind conditions.

The Sugar Bowl Trophy awarded to winners is a replica of a silver wine bottle cooler made in London in the year 1830. The trophy is referred to as the Sugar Bowl trophy in view of the history of the site (the stadium at Tulane University) where the original Sugar Bowl was played from 1935-1974. This site was once the plantation of a colonial planter, who turned from the cultivation of chicory and indigo, the then current crops, to the raising of sugar cane, despite the warnings of others that cane juice would not crystallize. Success crowned his effort in accomplishing the supposedly impossible when his sugar boiler exclaimed "it crystallizes!" and he became the founder of a national industry. 🏆

A Father of American Golf

by Patricia Loehr

Charles Blair (C.B.) Macdonald, who would become a pioneer of golf in America, was born in Canada in 1855¹, many years before the sport became established in the Western Hemisphere. Growing up in Chicago, he left to study at St. Andrews University in Scotland where he learned to golf. Upon his return to Illinois he missed golfing so much that he set out to establish, nurture, and grow the sport in his adopted home.



Figure 1. Commemorative cancel of the first 18-hole golf course in America, the Chicago Golf Club course designed by Charles Blair Macdonald.

sometimes described in golf literature as a “father of American golf.” The cancellation in Figure 1 commemorates his 18-hole golf course of 1893.

Hoping to establish national golf competitions in the United States, some golfers, along with C.B. Macdonald, attempted to organize golf events in 1894. Because of controversy and disputes it was decided that a national competition could not be held unless it was sanctioned and administered by a national governing organization. As a result, representatives of five founding clubs met later that year to form what would eventually be named the United States Golf Association (USGA). One of the founding clubs – the Chicago Golf Club – was represented by Macdonald. As such, he may be better described as one of several “founding fathers of organized golf in America.”

The national association decided to hold three national competitions beginning in 1895: two for men and one for women². By winning

the first official United States Amateur Championship, C.B. Macdonald might again have earned the honor of being named the “father of golf in America.”

While golfers in the U.S. were getting organized, the 1894 (British) Open Championship on the other side of the Atlantic was played for the first time in England. Until then all Open Championships had been played in Scotland.

Having demonstrated his ability to design a golf course in Chicago, Macdonald desired to create an even greater course. Near the turn of the century he moved east to New York and set out to design an ideal course inspired by the famous classic golf holes he had played when he lived in Scotland, home to golf. The result was his masterpiece course named the National Golf Links of America. In his writings about golf and golf course design Macdonald refers to the course as “the National.” After it opened in 1911 at Southampton, New York many notable golf courses would follow making The National the beginning of the “golden age of golf course architecture in America.” That golden age of golf course design lasted until the middle 1930s.

Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, a neighbor club to Macdonald’s National, was formed in 1891. Beginning as a 12-hole course, six holes were added at about the same time the Chicago Golf Club became 18 holes. Shinnecock Hills is another of the five founding member clubs of the USGA and hosted the second U.S. Open Championship in 1896. In 1986 the club again hosted the U.S. Open Championship (Figure 2).

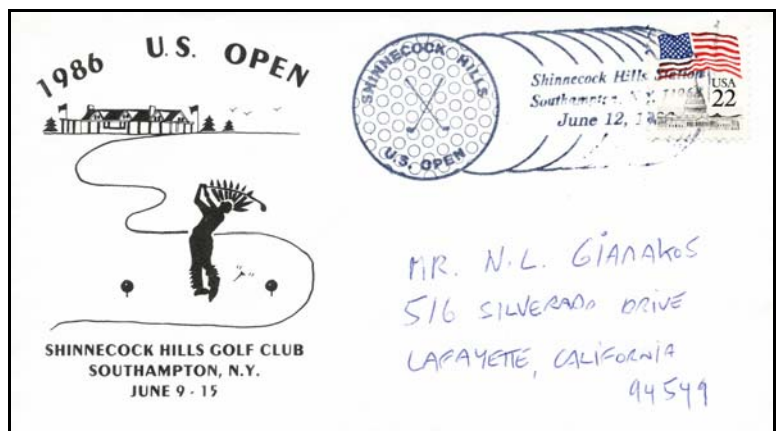


Figure 2. Commemorative cancel for the 1986 U.S. Open hosted by Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

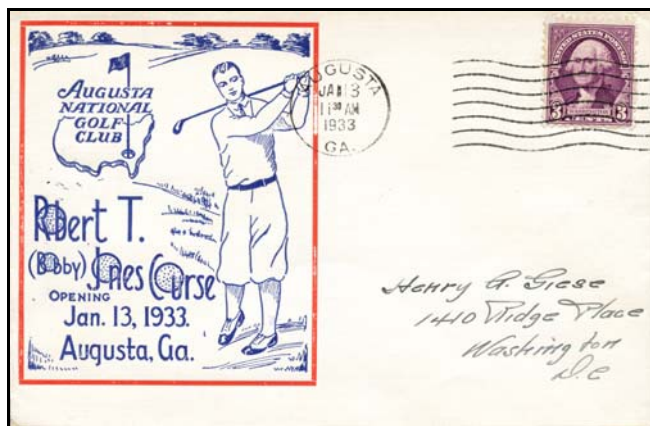


Figure 3. Commemorative cover marking the opening of the Augusta National Golf Club in 1933.

Between his increasing involvement in managing The National and designing golf courses, Macdonald found less time for playing competitive golf. He wrote a book of over 300 pages, titled *Scotland's Gift – Golf*. It was released in 1928 and is regarded by many as a classic of golf literature.

Charles Blair Macdonald and his contemporaries

Charles Blair Macdonald died in 1939. During his lifetime, golf benefitted from the enthusiasm of visionaries whose commitment and dedication toward establishing and growing golf in America gave future generations the opportunity to play and enjoy the sport.

John Reid (1840-1916) is often mentioned as the “father of golf in America” by many golf historians and especially the USGA. He represented St. Andrews Golf Club of Yonkers, New York when the USGA was formed, making it another founding club of the organization. Regarding the start of St. Andrews Golf Club in America, Robert Browning writes in *A History of Golf*: “... through the summer and autumn of 1888 golf so monopolized the available pasture land that ‘any cow who craved a little meadow-grass had to do her lunching at night.’ The next step forward occurred when five of these players got together to form the St. Andrews Golf Club (Yonkers), with Mr. John Reid ... as its first president.”

Dr. Alister MacKenzie who died in 1934 was a very active golf course designer who, along with former championship golfer Bobby Jones, designed the Augusta National Golf Course in Jones’ home state of Georgia. That club became another “National” and similar to Macdonald’s National it was



Figure 4. Stamp and postcard depicting the 16th hole at Cypress Point Golf Course. The card shows the public gallery at the Bing Crosby Pro-Am.

inspired by Jones’ love of the Scottish style of golf. Because MacKenzie died soon after the course opened in 1933 (Figure 3) he could only anticipate its impact on the golfing public when it began hosting an annual invitation golf tournament in 1934. This event is now known as The Masters.

Dr. MacKenzie wrote two books about golf and golf course architecture, one published during his lifetime³ and the other published about sixty years after he wrote it in 1933 titled *The Spirit of St. Andrews*. In that book he writes that his “personal preference is for the National [Golf Links of America]. Although not so spectacular as Pine Valley, it has a greater resemblance to real links land than any course in the East.” In the last few years of his life Dr. MacKenzie designed Cypress Point Golf Course (Figure 4) and the Pasatiempo Golf Course (Figure 5), both in California. While living in a home



Figure 5. Postcard of Pasatiempo Golf Course.



Figure 6. Meter stamp promoting Tillinghast's first golf course design, the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, in Shawnee on Delaware, Pennsylvania.

along the Pasatiempo course Dr. MacKenzie wrote his 1933 book and explains that, "One of the reasons why I, a medical man, decided to give up medicine and take to golf architecture was my firm conviction of the extraordinary influence on health of pleasurable excitement, especially when combined with fresh air and exercise."

Five golf course designers active during Macdonald's life became known as the Philadelphia School of Design. George Crump, Hugh Wilson, George Thomas, William Flynn, and A.W. Tillinghast (Figure 6) all resided and worked in Philadelphia when they began designing golf courses. There were countless course designers working in America at the beginning of the twentieth century. Two more noteworthy designers were Donald Ross, famous for the Pinehurst No.2 course⁴ (Figure 7), and Seth Raynor, first an assistant and then partner of C.B. Macdonald. Raynor assisted Macdonald in 1914 on a second golf course at the Greenbrier (Figure 8) and partnered with him in the early 1920s to design a resort course at the Mid-Ocean Club in Bermuda (Figure 9).

Golfer, course designer, and author, Charles Blair Macdonald who knew an America both before and after golf became established, is often quoted. In his 1928 book *Scotland's Gift – Golf* he wrote: "Any kind of golf is better than no golf at all, so we must strive to get the best possible." He lived that philosophy and made it his gift to golf. 🍷



Figure 8. In 1914, Seth Raynor and C.B. Macdonald designed the second course, known as "Old White," at Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

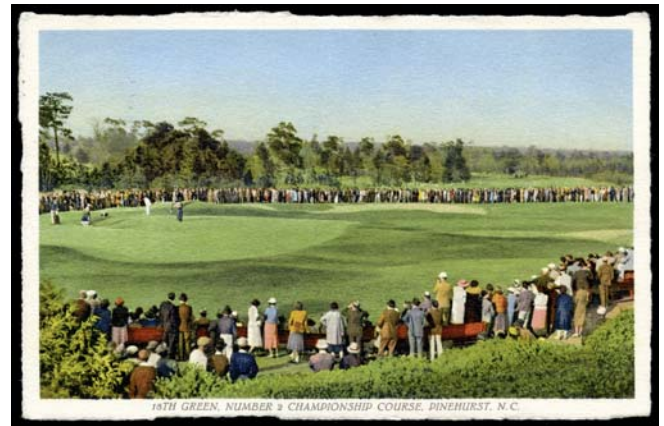


Figure 7. Postcard of the Pinehurst #2 championship course. At right, commemorative cancel honoring the 99th U.S. Open held at the Pinehurst course.



Endnotes

1. Sources vary as to Macdonald's birth year.
2. The founders of the USGA would most likely have known of the formation of the Ladies' Golf Union in 1893 in London and that they organized their first Ladies' Championship.
3. Dr. MacKenzie's first book was published in 1920 and titled *Golf Architecture*.
4. Pinehurst No.2 golf course is scheduled to host the U.S. Open Championship in 2014 and also the U.S. Women's Open Championship.

Sources

Browning, Robert. *A History of Golf*.
 MacKenzie, Alistair. *The Spirit of St. Andrews*.
 Shackelford, Geoff (editor). *Lines of Charm*.
 Shackelford, Geoff (editor). *Masters of the Links*.
 Wexler, Daniel. *The Book of Golfers*.
World Atlas of Golf (a compilation by several authors).



Figure 9. Postcard showing Mid-Ocean Golf and Country Club in Bermuda, completed in 1921.

BOOK REVIEW

by Mark Maestrone

The London 1948 Olympic Games – A Collectors' Guide by Bob Wilcock. Full color, softbound, 174 pages, in English. Published by The Society of Olympic Collectors, 2012. Mention you are a member of SPI and get a special price (postpaid): US & worldwide airmail £20 (or \$35), Europe £16.50, UK £12.50. PayPal payment and orders to: rfarleysoc@aol.com. By mail: SOC, 3 Wain Green, Long Meadow Worcester, WR4 0HP, England.

The “Austerity Olympics,” as London’s 1948 Games came to be known, were, indeed, conducted on a shoestring budget. These first post-World War II Olympics cost the grand sum of £750,000 (about £23 million in today’s currency). Compare that with the expenditure of approximately £9 billion on the 2012 Olympics and it’s clear that the 1948 organizers counted every penny!

It can safely be said that for Olympic philatelists, this was also something of an austere Games with just four host country stamps, one slogan Olympic machine cancel and no venue postmarks. There were also no official cacheted First Day covers, nor licensed picture postcards. Or looked at another way, a collector of the 1948 London Olympic Games actually has a fighting chance of assembling a complete collection.

The author, Bob Wilcock, is a long-time Olympic philatelist who has specialized in the Olympic Games of London (1908, 1948 and of course 2012). In this colorful and highly informative compendium, he concentrates not on the action on the field, but rather bringing together the various pieces of the collectibles puzzle from philately, to postcards and ephemera.

Naturally enough, philately takes center stage in the first two-thirds of the book. I found captivating the genesis of the four British stamps. At first, the plan was for only two stamps to be issued, the standard for commemorative sets at the time. This number was eventually increased to four. Some 15 artists submitted a total of 26 designs of which six were selected for presentation to King George VI for his approval. All the essays, some of the artwork, and the background stories of the process are told through the republication of Douglas Muir’s insightful and informative treatise on the “The 1948 Olympic Games Issue” which originally appeared in the *Philatelic Bulletin* in 1989. As Wilcock notes in his foreword, “all the artists designs

held by BPMA [British Postal Museum & Archive] are now reproduced together for the first time” in this book.

The many flaws and varieties identified on the four British stamps – most of which I’d never heard of – are carefully documented. Wilcock also covers the slogan Olympic machine cancel, the

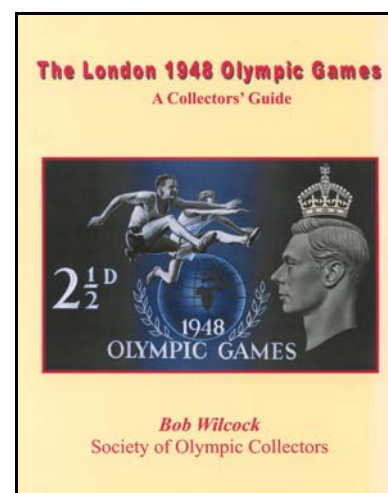
different types of Wembley circular date stamps, and the various other cancels that tell the story of these Games used from other post offices at remote venues and the multiple residential facilities set up for the athletes (a central athletes’ village would have been prohibitively expensive). Wilcock also documents the brief twelve-day torch relay from Ancient Olympia to Wembley’s Olympic Stadium.

The philatelic contributions from other countries, while small, are thoroughly covered. And because the Games would be nothing without the athletes, they, too, are introduced to readers through philatelic commemoration. It’s quite amazing how many Olympians from 1948 have been represented on stamps and, in some cases, postmarks. No less than five pages are required to record the many tributes to famous Czechoslovak long-distance runner, Emil Zátopek.

The final third of the book is devoted to the paper ephemera from these Games. Wilcock mentions that although detailed, this section is merely “representative ... of the fascinating material available to be collected.” Included are cigarette and other collector cards, vignettes and labels, programs, tickets, organizing committee publications, maps, and much more.

The production values are excellent. Printed on slick paper, the pages are overflowing with crisp, clear illustrations in full (and accurate) color. This durable softbound book measures 7.7" x 9.8" in size.

For 1948 Olympic collectors of all stripes, this guide is for you. And if you’re not yet a fan of these Games, after reading this book you will probably never again pass over those 1948 Olympic covers in the dealer’s box without stopping to take a second look!



REVIEWS OF PERIODICALS

by Mark Maestrone

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

September 2013 (#69). The Olympic Museum in Lausanne has been undergoing a major facelift both inside and out. Museum Director, François Gabet, talks about the changes and what visitors can expect to see when the museum reopens in December 2013. Brief articles in this issue look at famous French sportsmen: runner Alain Mimoun (by René Christin), and Roland Garros (by Jean-Pierre Picquot). In part 2 of his study on the highly sought-after “Pasteur” postal stationery cards from the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, Manfred Bergman looks at the events and the winners of the sports depicted on the cards. Additional articles in this issue cover swimming, cycling and pin collecting.

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

August 2013 (#41). We have a little bit of everything in this issue. In addition to the usual updates on new basketball-related stamps and postmarks from around the world, there is the next part of the complete overview of basketball Olympic stamps. Part 7 covers the IOC Centennial, the Barcelona Games in 1992 and the 1996 Atlanta pre-Olympic period. A whimsical article from Henk Knijnenburg tells about how he traced a cover purchased on Delcampe bearing his own personalized stamp and return address to a friend and philatelic dealer he'd lost touch with. Philately reunites old friends!

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

August 2013 (#159). As we approach another World Cup year in 2014, Wolfgang Marx continues his updates on the German private post issues devoted to the various football teams in the country. Austria Post has been promoting its personalized stamp program resulting in a number of issues for various Austrian sportsmen and women. Rufin Schullian reviews these personalized stamps which include winter sports stars from the 2007 Turin Olympics, and, of course, football.

Peter Leinemann examines the philately relating to the Under-19 Football European Championships held in 2009 in Ukraine. The 2013 Games of the Small States of Europe, which were held in Luxembourg, are covered by Ralph Letsch.

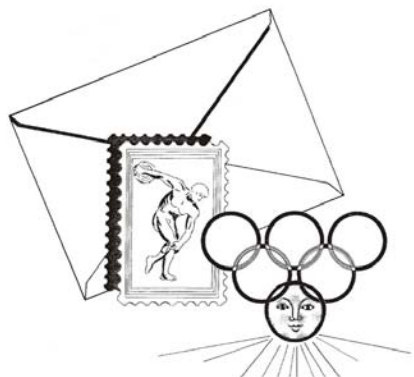
Last, but not least, Thomas Lippert delves into an area of Olympic philately that is rarely touched upon: QSL radio cards. These are cards exchanged in the mail, usually between amateur radio enthusiasts or radio stations and their listeners confirming that one party received the transmission of the other. Lippert opens his discussion with a card bearing a rubber-stamped reference to the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. Olympics for which cards are shown range from 1952 Helsinki on up to 1992 Barcelona.

Olympiaposten: NOSF Postboks 3221, Elisenberg, NO-0208, Oslo, Norway. [In Norwegian]

Vol.8, No. 2, 2013. As we approach winter, it is appropriate that we have an article on Norwegian skiers portrayed on foreign postal items by Dag Henriksbø. With a large pool of candidates to choose from, this is just Part 1 of his exploration. Also in this issue is a very instructive article by IOC Advisor for Collectibles, David Maiden, on “Olympic Collectibles and the IOC.” This article is in English.

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

September 2013 (Vol.30, #3). It seems that there are still interesting philatelic surprises to uncover and explain from the 2012 London Olympic Games. Apparently the elongated postmark discovered on some medalists covers was not an error, but a variety. Looking ahead to future Olympics, the Russian philatelic issues for the 2014 Sochi Olympic Games are presented as are the stamps and cancels from the recent 125th IOC Session in Buenos Aires, where Tokyo was selected over Istanbul and Madrid as host of the 2020 Olympics. The philatelic stamps and cancels from the session are presented. And finally, David Buxton's article is presented (posthumously) on “The Four Minute Mile & the Olympic Connection.”



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<u>Income</u>		
Dues	3,737.03	3,834.31
Interest	27.22	22.33
Donations	300.00	-
Publications/Advertising/	1,230.00	1,213.00
Total	5,294.25	5,069.64
<u>Expenses</u>		
Printing	2,459.10	2,639.50
Postage	1,870.91	1,719.49
Other (supplies, etc)	633.30	531.10
Total	4,963.31	4,890.09
<u>Auction activity</u>		
Receipts	230.75	362.24
Disbursements	(201.06)	(237.00)
Total	29.69	125.24
Net Income (loss)	360.63	304.79
Beginning Fund Balance	18,033.15	17,728.36
Ending Fund Balance	18,393.78	18,033.15
Cash and Investments:		
Total Cash and Investments	18,393.78	18,033.15
Fund Balance	18,393.78	18,033.15

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NEW STAMP ISSUES

by John La Porta

Austria: July 7, 2013. 100th Anniversary FC Wacker Innsbruck. €0.62 emblem of the soccer club. Offset printed in sheets of six.

Belarus: August 14, 2013. Leaders of Belarus Tennis. Se-tenant pair of nondenominated "P" international airmail letter rate stamps, Victoria Azarenka; Maxim Mirnyl. Offset in sheets of six.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: June 30, 2013. Mersin 2013 Mediterranean Games. 1m loggerhead sea turtle, emblem. Offset in sheets of 10.

July 29, 2013. Seventh World Paragliding Accuracy Championships. S/s with 1.50m stamp, paragliders.

Brazil: June 6, 2013. Road to Brazil World Soccer Cup/2013 Confederations Cup. Souvenir sheet with a se-tenant pair of 2.75r stamps, 2013 Confederations Cup emblem with rufous-bellied thrush; trophy.

June 13, 2013. Diplomatic Relations with the Czech Republic/Soccer. A se-tenant pair of 2.75r stamps, 1962 World Cup final scene; 1962 scene and the two national flags.

Canada: September 3, 2013. NHL Team Logos. Seven 63¢ stamps, Montreal Canadiens, Ottawa Senators, Toronto Maple Leafs, Winnipeg Jets, Calgary Flames, Edmonton Oilers, Vancouver Canucks issued in self-adhesive coils of 50 and one moisture activated adhesive souvenir sheet with all seven designs.

September 3, 2013. NHL Team Jerseys. Seven 63¢ stamps, Montreal Canadiens, Ottawa Senators, Toronto Maple Leafs, Winnipeg Jets, Calgary Flames, Edmonton Oilers, Vancouver Canucks issued in self-adhesive booklets of 10 and one moisture activated adhesive souvenir sheet with all seven designs. Seven postcards with each stamp design.

Central Africa: February 25, 2013. Bruce Lee. Sheetlet of four 750F values, souvenir sheet of one 2650F value all depicting various action shots of Bruce Lee.

February 25, 2013. Babe Ruth. Sheetlet of four 900F values and one souvenir sheet with one 3000F value. All depict Babe Ruth in action.

Cuba: 2013. World Baseball Classic. Pane of eight se-tenant stamps with two of each denomination, several designs include trophy, baseball, 14c pair, Cuban jersey, flags of Japan, China, Cuba, Brazil; pitcher; 65c pair, player making a catch; glove, flags of United States, Mexico, Italy, Canada; 75c pair, batter, helmet, flags of Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Spain; 85c pair, catcher's mask, flags of South Korea, Australia, the Netherlands, Chinese Taipei; catcher.

Curacao: May 13, 2013. Baseball. 65¢ player swinging at ball; 118¢ catcher; 175¢ pitcher; 181¢ victory; 301¢ outfielder; 350¢ out; 428¢ baseball diamond.

France: June 29, 2013. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. Pane of eight stamps showing riders in different jerseys in various locations, four €0.58 stamps. Annecy; Pic du Midi d'Ossau; Mont Ventoux; group of riders, Alpe d'Huez; two €0.80, Versailles; Calvi; two €0.95, Champs-Elysees; Mont St. Michel.

Estonia: August 23, 2013. World Championship of Finn Class Sailing. €1.10 sailing competition.

Gibraltar: May 31, 2013. Gibraltar Football Association Full Membership in the Union of European Football Associations. 54p Gibraltar coat of arms. Offset in sheets of 10.

Great Britain: August 8, 2013. Andy Murray's Wimbledon Championship. Souvenir sheet with four stamps, two nondenominated first class stamps, kissing trophy; serving; two £1.28 stamps, playing tennis; holding trophy.

Greece: June 4, 2013. Sailing Tourism. Two nondenominated stamps, basic domestic rate, basic international mail, €0.05, €0.30, €0.47, €3 different views of sailboats. Hellenic Offshore Racing Club provided the photographs for the stamp designs. Offset in sheets of 20 and booklets of 10 (self-adhesive).

July 18, 2013. First Ascent to Mount Olympus. The stamps depict different photographs of the mountain, €0.05, €0.10, €0.78, €3.50. Four souvenir sheets, each contain one stamp.

Guinea-Bissau: May 20, 2013. Racing Cars. Sheetlet of five 500FCFA stamps, Ford Fusion NASCAR. S/s with one 2,000FCFA stamp, Infiniti Red Bull RB9 F1.

May 20, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Sheetlet of five 600FCFA stamps, snowboarding, skiing, ski jumping, speed skating. Souvenir sheet with one 2,800FCFA stamp, female figure skating.

Guyana: April 29, 2013. Muhammad Ali. Pane of four se-tenant \$225 stamps, different black and white photographs of the boxer.

Hungary: July 4, 2013. World Fencing Championship. 300ft fencers. Offset in sheets of 35 and one label.

July 15, 2013. Hungarian Ski Federation. 500ft skiers, biathlon athlete.

August 2, 2013. World Wrestling Championship. 360ft wrestlers, building of Budapest.

Isle of Man: June 19, 2013. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. 1p Eugene Christophe; 40p Mark Cavendish; 42p Brian Robinson, motorcyclists; 69p Miguel Indurain; 73p Jacques Anquetil (the final three stamps show cars in the background) & 1.19 Bernard Hinault; & 1.20 Bradley Wiggins.

Italy: May 22, 2013. Italian Sport/ 12-foot Dinghy. €0.70 sailboats.

May 25, 2013. 150th Anniversary Italian Alpine Club. €0.70 mountaineer looking through telescope.

Jamaica: May 3, 2013. Beijing Olympics. Medalists. Five \$60 stamps, sprinter Veronica Campbell Brown with flag; sprinter Usain Bolt; hurdler Melanie Walker; sprinters Shelly Ann Fraser-Pryce, Sherone Simpson, Kerron Stewart; men's relay team Usain Bolt, Michael Frater, Asafa Powell and Nesta Carter.

Jersey: October 15, 2013. Nigel Mansell, Legacy of the Formula One Champion. 45p (the stamps show race cars), Lotus, United States Grand Prix, 1984; 55p Williams Honda, European Grand Prix 1985; 60p Ferrari, Brazilian Grand Prix, 1989; 68p Williams Renault, Hungarian Grand Prix 1992; Newman/Haas Lola Ford, Nazareth Speedway 1993; with Senna at Silverstone, 1991. Souvenir sheet contains the six stamps se-tenant. Offset in sheets of 10.

Liechtenstein: September 2, 2013. Sports and Touring Cars. 25r Aston Martin DB 24; 1fr Ferrari 250 GT PF; 1.40fr Jaguar XK 140; 1.90fr Mercedes S00 SL.

Lithuania: July 15, 2013. 75th Anniversary First Lithuanian Nations Olympics. 1.35 runners, national emblem.

Monaco: September 23, 2013. Yachting. Se-tenant pair showing Monaco in the background, €1 ship; €1.55 sailing yacht. Intaglio in sheets of 10.

Montenegro: June 7, 2013. Sports. €0.80 European Basketball Championship; €0.95 100th Anniversary Lovcen soccer club.

Mozambique: February 20, 2013. Cricket. Sheetlet of four, two 16.00MT & two 96.00MT stamps, all depicting various cricket action scenes. Souvenir sheet with one 175MT stamp depicting batsman.

February 20, 2013. Auto Racing. Sheetlet of four, two 16.00 MT & two 96.00 MT stamps and one souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamps, all depicting racer Giles Villeneuve.

February 20, 2013. The Best Golf Players. Sheetlet of four, two 16.00Mt stamps showing Ben Hogan and Jack Nicklaus, two 96.00MT stamps showing Bobby Jones and Arnold Palmer. One souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamps showing Annika Sorenstam.

March 25, 2013. Old Racing Cars. Sheetlet of six, five 16.00Mt and one 92.00MT stamps, Maserati 150f etc. Souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamp, Alfa Romeo, Bimotore.

March 25, 2013. Ice Sailing. Sheetlet of six, five 16.00MT and one 92.00MT stamps. Souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamp. All depict various boats sailing on ice.

March 25, 2013. F1 Champions. Sheetlet of five 16.00Mt and one 92.00MT stamps. Sebastian Vettel, Red Bull-Renault etc. Souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamps, Sebastian Vettel, The Grand Prix of Korea 2012.

March 25, 2013. 100th Anniversary Tour de France. Sheetlet of five 16.00MT and one 92.00MT stamps. Louison Bobet, 1925-1983, Winner of the Tour de France. Souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamp, Henri Desgrange 1865-1940, Maurice Garin 1871-1957.

March 25, 2013. Regatta Vendee Globe 2012-2013. Sheetlet of five 16.00MT and one 92.00MT stamps, all depict various action scenes of sail boats. Souvenir sheet with one 175.00MT stamp, racing sailboats.

Netherlands: August 12, 2013. 125th Anniversary Royal Dutch Swimming Association. Pane of 10 nondenominated "1" stamps, swimming pool; synchronized diving; water polo; diving; high dive; synchronized swimming; competition swimming; floating; finish; start.

Poland: August 3, 2013. Szczecin Tall Ship Races. Souvenir sheet with one 8.50zl stamp, sailing vessel Fryderyk Chopia.

Russia: June 25, 2013. 27th Summer Universiade. Souvenir sheet with one 25r stamp, stars.

June 29, 2013. Sochi Olympics. Three 25r stamps, two-man bobsled; Nordic combined skiing; figure skating. Offset in sheets of eight with a label.

August 10, 2013. World Track and Field Championships. 14.25r runners, emblem. Offset in sheets of 15.

St. Pierre & Miquelon: May 18, 2013. Rugby. €1.13 rugby scene, animal leaving paw print. Printed in sheets of 10.

San Marino: October 9, 2013. 10th Anniversary Rally Legend. Pair of se-tenant €1 stamps depicting Mount of San Marino in the background, Lancia Delta; Volkswagen Golf. Offset in sheets of 10.

October 9, 2013. 50th Anniversary Italian Thematic Philately Center. €1 stampless cover, stamp-on-stamp design which included dog and butterfly stamp for the 2000 Summer Olympics (Scott 1483a). Offset in sheets of 10.

Serbia: May 20, 2013. World Wrestling Championship. Stamp was obligatory on mail from May 20-26) wrestlers.

August: 50th Ljubicevo Equestrian Games. Triptych of four 22d stamps and a central label, different equestrian events. Offset in sheets of 20 and five labels.

Slovenia: May 24, 2013. European Basketball Championship. €1.33 emblems of the championship and FIBA Europe. Offset in sheets of six stamps and three labels.

Spain: July 9, 2013. Spain's Victory in Men's World Handball Championship. Souvenir sheet with €1 stamp, hand holding up the team ball.

Sweden: September 27, 2013. Table Tennis. Souvenir sheet with two se-tenant 6kr stamps, female player executing a loop drive; Jan-Ove Waldner's forehand serve.

Switzerland: May 31 2013. Ice Hockey World Championship Silver Medal. 1f aerial view of team around the goal. Offset in sheets of 10.

Togo: June 3, 2013. African Nations Soccer Cup. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Dieder Drogba etc. Souvenir sheet with one 2500F stamp showing Serge Gakpe.

June 10, 2013. Great Golfers. Sheetlet of four 750F stamps, Gary Player etc. Souvenir sheet with one 2,500F stamp, Tiger Woods.

Ukraine: May 25, 2013. 100th Anniversary First Russian Olympiad. Souvenir sheet with 4.80h stamps. Both sides medal.

Uganda: July 8, 2013. Tennis. Sheetlet of four, 1,000/, 4,000/, and two 7,500/ values. On souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ value. All stamps portray the Williams sisters Serena and Venus.

July 8, 2013. Soccer Players. Sheetlet of four, two 1,800/ and two 7,500/ values, souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ value. Roger Milla, Didier Drogba and other soccer players.

July 8, 2013. Basketball Players. Sheetlet of two 1,800/ and two 7,500/ values, souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ value. Scottie Pippen, Michael Jordan and other players.

July 8, 2013. Boxing Champions. Sheetlet of one 1,000/, 4,000/, and two 7,500/ values, Joe Frazier, Muhammad Ali. Souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ value, Floyd Patterson, Muhammad Ali.

July 8, 2013. Baseball Players. Sheetlet of four stamps, two 1,800/ and two 7,500/ values, Willie Mays, Dan Bankhead, Satchel Paige, Larry Doby. Souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ stamp, Jackie Robinson.

July 8, 2013. Olympic Champions. Sheetlet of four values, 1,000/, 4,000/ and two 7,500/, Jesse Owens, Abebe Bikila, Maria Mutola, Derartu Tula. Souvenir sheet with one 7,500/ value stamp, Stephen Kiprotich.

Wallis & Futuna: July 3, 2013. First Athlete of Wallis & Futuna. 75fr Petelo Sanele Vakilima in the javelin throw. Offset in sheets of 10.

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 - OCTOBER 2013

Auto Racing: 13X26-273.

Baseball: 13X19-054.

Cycling: 13722-502, 13913-970.

Tennis: 13823-113A, 13823-113B, 13824-071.



13722-502 Perry, IA 22



13823-113A Flushing, NY 23



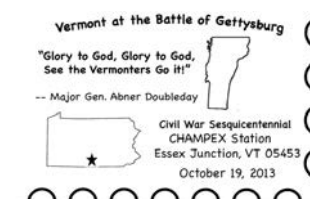
13823-113B Flushing, NY 23



13824-071 Newark, NJ 24



13913-970 Cascade Locks, OR 13

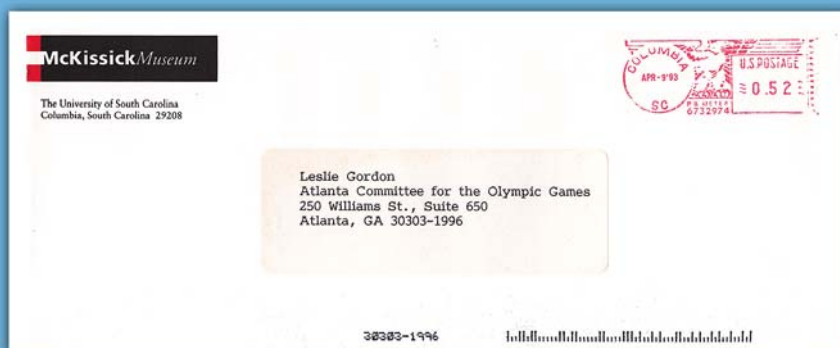


13X19-054 Essex Junction, VT 19



13X26-273 Randleman, NC 26

LAST CALL! 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games Mail from the Cultural Olympiad Office



For sale (all net proceeds benefit SPI), groups of 41 all different covers with a variety of corner cards (some ACOG), most with meters, some with stamps. Included in each group: 30 #10 covers, ten 9"x12" covers, 1 oversize cover with ACOG internal mail receipt marking. Cost per group: \$12 postpaid USA; \$19 postpaid rest of world.

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