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## Welcome to DELPEX 2024

For 2024 our annual DELPEX stamp show celebrates the sesquicentennial of the Universal Postal Union, formed in 1874 to expedite mail handling between member countries and regulate postal rates.

A warm welcome is extended to our previous DELPEX visitors and newcomers alike. Take your time examining the exhibits, but don't forget to fill out the enclosed ballot naming your favorite. The winner gets a special award.

This year, we are repeating our "Members' Showcase" exhibit, a selection of pages showing the range of interests of our members. The dealers in our bourse area trade in a wide range of philatelic material at very attractive prices. In the back of the room, the Postal Service station has on hand a full selection of recent issues plus a lot of older stock. Their staff will be happy to service your show covers with a special cancel. The souvenir covers are available at a separate table in the lobby, both unserviced and already prepared. Many philatelic publications are available at our reception table at no cost.

Over the years, one of our show's most popular features has been the bid board auction, which closes at 3:30 PM. The lots are displayed all day on the bulletin boards at the side of the room. Don't forget to sign in at the reception desk so we can send an invitation next year. Above all, relax, enjoy the show and spend the day involved in your favorite hobby.

## Doh Grapes,

Chairman, DELPEX 2024

## DELPEX 2024 Events

Join the Auction Action! Check Our Twenty-sixth Annual Bid Board.

Saturday, May 4, 2024
10:oo Show Opens

10:30 Judging of Exhibits
3:30 Exhibits may be removed from frames
3:30 Bid Board Closes. Bidders Pay for Lots
5:00 Show Closes

## Bid Board

The bid board auction is open to all attendees. Successful bidders must be present or lot will revert to next-highest bidder. A $15 \%$ commission is charged on all lots.

## Awards

All of the exhibits will be judged independently according to DELPEX exhibition rules. First, Second and Third Place ribbens will be awarded, if merited. There will be a "Best in Show" award as well.

## Robert \& Dorothy Brandeberry Award

The exhibit receiving the most ballots cast by the public will be awarded the Robert and Dorothy Brandeberry Memorial Award. Vote by filling out the ballot available by the exhibits and place it in the box located there.
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## DELPEX 2024 Show Cover

## DELPEX 2024



> Honoring the Sesquicentennial of the
> Universal Postal Union

The 2024 DELPEX show cover will be franked with a stamp issued in 1974 for the centennial of the U.P.U, in keeping with this year's show theme, along with a $25 \$$ stamp to make up the current first class rate. The cachet includes an illustration of the organization's logo.
Both prepared covers and unstamped show covers for those who wish to prepare their own are available at a table in the hall's lobby.

The personnel at the USPS sub-station at the rear of the hall will gladly apply a special show cancel for you.

Prepared covers are also available by mail from:

> Secretary, BVSC, 602 Garden Gate Dr., Middletown, DE 19709
All mail orders for covers must include a \#10 size self-addressed envelope and a check or money order in the amount of $\$ 2.00$ per cover payable to DELPEX. Please do not mail cash or postage stamps in payment.

## The DELPEX Dealers

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3 -Geezers Tweezers
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Pikesville, MD 21208
(ad on page 13)
4- Engler Stamps
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(ads on page $2 \& 22$
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8 - Albert's Stamps
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9 - R.J. Marolda
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10 - Eastern Shore Stamp Company
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Middletown, DE 19709

## The DELPEX Dealers

11 - Robert C. Swed
U.S. Postal History and Pre-190o U.S. Stamps 1204 Elderon Drive
Wilmington, DE 19808-1910 (ad on page 10 )
12 - Wayne Gehret
Covers, Collections, Mint Sheets
P.O. box 686

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13 - R.A. Houser Rare Stamps
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14 - Matalavage Stamps
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US/Worldwide Covers
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## The Journal of the Brandywine Valley Stamp Club

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## Exhibit Judge

Tom Pesikey: Born and raised in Memphis, TN, Tom holds degrees from both Penn State and Memphis State Universities. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, Tom was employed for ten years at Boeing Vertol and twenty-two at ICI/Astra-Zeneca. He's married, with five children.

His collecting interests include mint and used United States stamps, mint Bermuda and automobile topicals. Some of his other interests are his church choir, classic sports cars, pistol and rifle target shooting and also those Disney comics which have been illustrated by Carl Barks.

## Exhibits

Frame No
Title
1-10 Eagles on United States Postage
Eagles have appeared on United States postage since 1869, when they made their debut on the first series of definitive stamps having designs other than portraits. Other than our national symbol, they also represents the Postal Service, government agencies and their official mail and our armed forces. As a symbol of flight, they are shown on issues representing speedy delivery, such as air and express mail. State seals and many private organizations have incorporated eagles in their symbols. On a number of issues, the on stamps focusing on the bird itself. All of the above appear in their own categories, though there is some overlap. All forms of postal issues are included.
John Graper, Wilmington, DE (BVSC)
11-13 Pan-American Test Flights of November 1, 1946 On November1, the U.S. Post office standardized airmail rates to the Western Hemisphere at $10 \Phi$ per $1 / 2$ ounce. On that date, Pan-American and the USPO offered a one-day special whereby the mailer could send an airmail letter to 28 different countries and have PAA date-stamp the arrival, place return postage on it and return it to the sender. This exhibit covers the complete set of covers for the test flights, including sample covers with abberations, in five major sections.
Macario Sarreal, Cherry Hill, NJ
14 Civil War Benevolences - Precursors to the American Red Cross
Highlighting Ladies Aid/Soldiers Aid Societies, Women's Central Association of Relief, U.S. Sanitary Commission, U.S. Christian Commission and Clara Barton - American Red Cross
Karl Autenrieth, Hockessin, DE (BVSC)

## BVSC Members' Showcase Exhibitors

| Karl Autenrieth | Greg Ajamian | Bud Barker |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chuck Buboltz | Kevin Dawson | Fred Ferst |
| John Graper | John Howker | Stan Jones |
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## United States Postal Service

## DELPEX Sub-station

Recent United States stamps and philatelic material are on sale at the USPS substation at the show. Your stamped covers can be serviced with the special show cancellation at this counter.

## Talleyville

The Talleyville Postal Store, in the Talleyville Post Office at 3911 Concord Pike, operates from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM weekdays and 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Saturday.

The convenient hours and self-service display area make this the perfect spot for browsers.


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## The Universal Postal Union

The Universal Postal Union is a specialized agency of the United Nations which coordinates postal policies among member nations and facilitates a worldwide postal system. It is headquartered in Bern, Switzerland and comprises one hundred ninety-two member states.

It was founded in 1874 as the General Postal Union and is among the oldest intergovernmental organizations. It adopted its current name in 1878 and operated as an independent agency until its incorporation into the United Nations in 1948. The Union sought to standardize international mail delivery by establishing a uniform postal rate and equal treatment between foreign and domestic mail.

The UPU consists of four bodies: the Congress, the Council of Administration, the Postal Operations Council and the International Bureau. The Telematics and Express Mail Service cooperatives, which provide international express mail delivery are also overseen by the organization.

Before the establishment of the UPU, each pair of countries that exchanged mail with each other had to negotiate treaties with one other. In the absence of a treaty, mail had to be forwarded through an intermediate nation. Negotiations often took years. As an example, talks on a treaty between the U.S. and France began in 1852, but it was not signed till 1857, but ratifications were not completed till 1874.

In the face of such difficulties, U.S. Postmaster General Montgomery Blair called for an international postal congress in 1863, but there was no general agreement, and the defeat of Napoleon III in 1870 and unification of the German Empire led to the proposal of another intrenational conference by German Postmaster General Heinrich von Stephan in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland. All of von Stephan's proposal were agreed to, and the Treaty of Bern established the General Postal Union.

The treaty provided that:

1. There should be a uniform flat rate to mail a letter anywhere in the world
2. Postal authorities should give equal treatment to both foreign and domestic mail
3. Each country should retain all the money it had collected for international postage.

An important result of the treaty was that postage stamps of the originating nation should be accepted along the entire route, rather than having the stamps of each country on the route applied. One rule was that denominations had to be in numerals to facilitate comprehension, and another was that each class of mail had to have the the same color in each country, i.e. surface mail in red and air mail in blue. This became irrelevant with the proliferation of multicolored stamp throughout the world.

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## Delaware Postal History

Robert C. Swed
In 1683, William Penn authorized the establishment of a weekly post to New Castle, Delaware. New Castle remained the only post town within what are now the boundaries of the state of Delaware until 1775. As late as 1790 , there were only three post offices in Delaware: Wilmington, Dover and Duck Creek (now Smyrna). By 1798 the number of offices had grown to twelve.

While Delaware became a state on December 7, 1787, the statehood postal system officially started on September 2, 1788. Before this date, the British postal system was still largely in use.

The Delaware population expanded from 59,000 in 1790 to 73,000 in 1820, but the number of towns with post offices increased at an even greater rate, from the first three formed in 1788 to twenty-six by 1820 . In 1850 there were 72 towns with post offices. In all, 268 different town or location-named post offices have existed. The maximum number in existence at any one point in time was about 200, due to closed and combined post offices. Today only about 65 towns in Delaware have townnamed post offices, and that number is likely to decrease in the future.

The study of Delaware stampless cover cancellations as well as stamp usages until about 1920 are subjects which continue to be examined by a few Delaware postal history collectors. New cancellations continue to be discovered, as well as earlier dates of first known use, differently colored cancels and interesting historical information.

If you have a collection of Delaware postal history covers, or are interested in this subject, you should consider joining the Delaware Postal History Society. One of the projects now in progress is a census of all known stampless covers from Delaware. For further information, write to Bob Swed at 1204 Elderon Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808, or call (302) 994-6086.

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## The Brandywine Valley Stamp Club

A.P.S. Chapter 268 - A.T.A.Chapter 133 invites you to get more fun from philately.


Formed by the merger of the former DuPont and Wilmington Stamp Clubs, the Brandywine Valley Stamp Club offers interesting programs on all aspects of philately for the novice and long-time collector alike, as well as the opportunity to meet with others with similar interests.

Our meetings are at The Summit Retirement at 5850 Limestone Rd., Hockessin, DE 19707 at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month. The annual dues are $\$ 15.00$ or $\$ 35.00$ for 3 years. For a free copy of the club's award-winning monthly newsletter, The First State Philatelist, send your name and address to:

## Secretary, BVSC, 602 Garden Gate Dr., Middletown, DE 19709

For more information about the club and directions to our meeting place, vist our web site at: www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com

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The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to The Summit Retirement Community, which has made its facility available to the Brandywine Valley Stamp Club and the DELPEX committee for their meetings.

## Benefits of membership include:

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