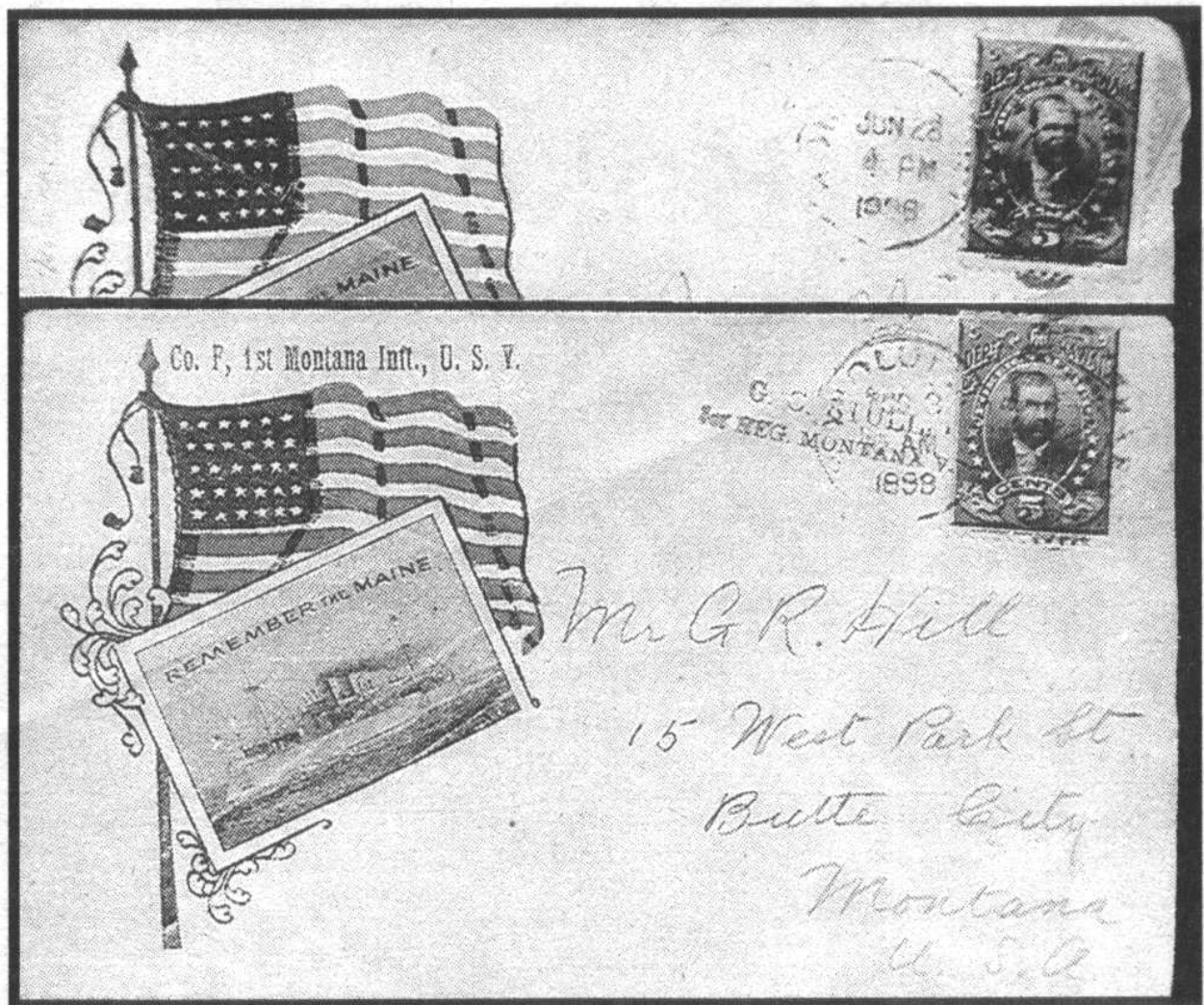


# PO'OLEKA O HAWAII



**The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society**

Number 80

October 2004

# Quarterly Calendar of Collector's Events

## OCT 2004

3	Hawai'i Quarterly Stamp & Coin	Queen Kapiolani Hotel, 10AM - 4PM
11	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	St. Louis Alumni Assoc. Club House, 7 PM - 9:30 PM
18	Winward Oahu Philatelic Society	Lois Opedal, 14 Aulike St., #403, Kailua, 7:30 PM
25	H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting	Linda Starr's House, Honolulu, 7:30 PM (Board Meets at this time)

## NOV 2004

8	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	St. Louis Alumni Assoc. Club House, 7 PM - 9:30 PM
12-14	HSNA Coin Show	Hawaii Convention Center, Rm 316
15	Winward Oahu Philatelic Society	Lois Opedal, 14 Aulike St., #403, Kailua, 7:30 PM
22	H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting	Linda Starr's House, Honolulu, 7:30 PM (Board Meets at this time)

## DEC 2004

12	H.P.S. Regular Meeting	St. Louis Alumni Assoc. Club House, 7 PM - 9:30 PM
20	Winward Oahu Philatelic Society	Lois Opedal, 14 Aulike St., #403, Kailua, 7:30 PM
26	<del>H.P.S. Executive Board Meeting</del>	<del>Linda Starr's House, Honolulu, 7:30 PM</del> <b>CANCELED</b>

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### PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

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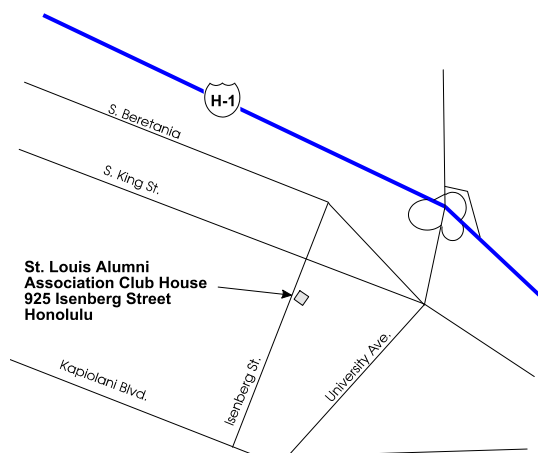
Articles and information for the publication should be sent to the Editor, C/O The Hawaiian Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 10115, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816-0115 or by e-mail at GCHANG@ASTOUND.NET. Contact the editor for guidelines for preparing text and illustrations for submittal. It's easy to do.

Cover Illustration: [US Patriotic Covers with Hawaiian Stamps and Cancels](#)

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## Monthly Meeting

The Hawaiian Philatelic Society meets from 7 PM to 9:30 PM on the second Monday of each month at the St. Louis Alumni Association Club House in central Honolulu. Each meeting includes a short business session, a program or slide presentation and an auction of about 125 lots. We invite you to attend, meet your fellow members, enjoy the program, and talk stamps. The public is welcome at all our meetings and we encourage you to become a member.



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# PO'OLEKA O HAWAII

The Quarterly Journal of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society

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Number 80

October 2004

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## Editor's Notes

By Greg Chang, Editor

Aloha! Once again my apologies for getting this issue out so late. In real time it is almost February. My goal, as usual, will be to get back on track and perhaps have an issue or two ready to go ahead of time. One problem I have been having is getting articles and items to publish. This will be my only time to ask for your help in getting me articles to publish into OUR journal. I can scrape and scrounge only so much. So, don't be surprised if you come across a recycled article or two.

Anyway, I've put together some "new stuff" in this issue. The first article by David McNamee (a fellow member of my local stamp club). He writes about the Western Philatelic Library. Although I have not had an opportunity to visit it, I have gotten some articles from them. Indeed, this is a philatelic treasure chest!

By now you probably know the Royal Philatelic Society of London decision in regards to the Grinnell Missionary stamps. Patrick Culhane, who provided us (for the past two issues) with an article on the background of the Grinnells, shares with us their response to the RPSL's findings and conclusions.

Once again there are details for recent issues from the Marshall Islands and the Hawai'i Post.

Finally, on the back page in the Potpourri section, is a short snippet I picked up – quite an Urban Legend!

So, that is that. Take care and the best of health to all. Until next time.....

Greg Chang

Editor



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# Treasure in Silicon Valley

By David McNamee  
dmcnamee@aol.com

There is a philatelic treasure in the San Francisco Bay area. The strange thing about this treasure is that maps to the treasure are readily available, but so few philatelists ever take the time to look for it.

The treasure is one of the country's largest public philatelic libraries, the Western Philatelic Library. For 35 years we have had the privilege of ready access to the stored knowledge of tens of thousands of books, pamphlets, journals, catalogs, and (lately) CDs and other media -- all about stamp collecting. From Abyssinia to Zeppelins, there are likely dozens of references available to answer your questions and enrich your collecting experience.

The motto of the Western Philatelic Library, *Access to Knowledge*, states its purpose succinctly. The Western Philatelic Library serves patrons from all over the United States as well as from countries all over the world. The library is managed by a (§501c3) nonprofit corporation, Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc. (FWPL) in space currently donated by the City of Sunnyvale, California, in the heart of Silicon Valley.

Recently I have been processing the latest enlargement of the philatelic collection: the 90 boxes comprising the nearly 1000 books of the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania library. Quite a few organizations over the past four years have turned their libraries over to WPL, and the SAS/O library is just the latest. Most club libraries are in a private home (perhaps in boxes) and access, conservation and service



become problematical. The WPL is staffed 100% by trained volunteers who spend their time focused on conservation of the materials and helping people find the information they need.

It is only natural that a library on the Pacific Rim would have specialized collections of Australasia, Oceania, Korea, and Tannu Tuva, and substantial holdings in all of the major Asiatic languages. The WPL has books and journals in most European languages as well, from Icelandic to Polish, and from French to Russian. The Library has incorporated the United States Postal Stationery Society and a number of other specialist groups that cut across geographic specialization, as well as club libraries from San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Specialists usually understand the value of a library of research material, but often general collectors do not see the treasure we have. In addition to hundreds of "alternative catalogs" that help with stamp and postal stationery identification beyond the meager listings in the Scott Catalog, there are hundreds of books on the enjoyment of stamp collecting and stamp collecting



fundamentals. Books by Herman Herst, Jr., are always popular.

There are more than 4000 bound volumes of stamp journals which represent approximately 50,000 separate issues of stamp magazines, newsletters, research journals, and newspapers from 1869 to the present day. There are another 30,000 items that have not been bound for one reason or another (incomplete set, short run, fragile, or just waiting their turn to go to the bindery).

Fortunately, the WPL has a computerized index and several filing cabinets of indexes and bibliographic aids to find all of the information you might need. Just today I went searching for books on the Hawaiian Numerals and found we have several classics for plating as well as a number of articles and other books relating to various aspects of that issue. The search took all of two minutes!

I hope that everyone reading this gets a chance to visit the WPL in 2005. The next best thing might be to meet the WPL and its volunteer staff at the WESTPEX stamp show April 15-17, 2005. The show is a big supporter of the WPL, and the FWPL bring our duplicates to the show to sell. The money we raise can provide us with funds to acquire new works, and it seems like there are new philatelic books published all the time.

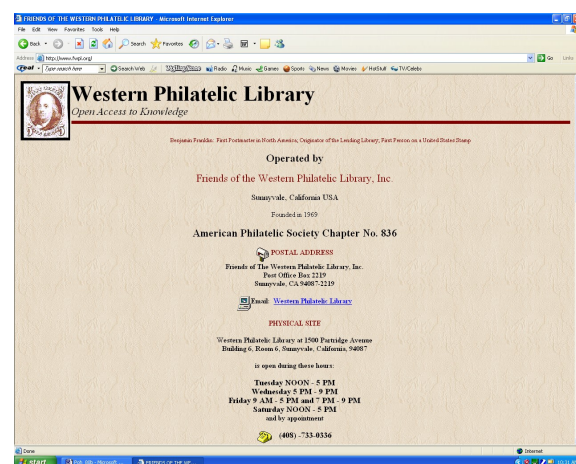
You do not have to be a member or join anything to use the WPL, including borrowing books. However, if you sign up as a member of the Friends of the WPL, you will receive the FWPL bi-monthly newsletter, *The Bay Phil*, with news of the WPL activities, new acquisitions and literature reviews. The cost is only \$15, and the benefits are ten times that much. The dues and excess contributions help to keep open this community resource for the

philatelic world. I hope each of you can take some time to discover what a treasure we have in Silicon Valley.

Contact information: Western Philatelic Library, PO BOX 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

**Location:** Bldg 6, Raynor Activity Center, 1500 Partridge Ave., Sunnyvale. TEL: 408-733-0336

**Web Site:** [www.fwpl.org](http://www.fwpl.org) or email me for more information at [dmcnamee@aol.com](mailto:dmcnamee@aol.com).



## WPL Website Home Page



## The Bay Phil

A publication of Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc., an organization of philatelists assisting in the growth and maintenance of the Western Philatelic Library, 1500 Partridge Ave., Bldg 6 Room 6, Sunnyvale, CA. Mailing Address: FWPL, P.O. Box 2219, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-2219.

May/June, 2002

Volume 50, Number 3, Whole number 223  
ISSN 8756-5153

### President's Message

The Western Philatelic Library has applied for, and has provisional approval of, a matching funds grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Final approval will be announced sometime after July. The grant is for up to \$50,000 which would be matched by cash donations to the WPL. If fully funded, within two years after final approval, this would provide \$100,000 for preservation of philatelic materials. The proposed work will encompass microfilming more than 20,000 pages of books and periodicals including fragile and hard-to-find material. We will also purchase a new microfilm reader/printer as part of this project. Matching grants are a test of the support of the members of the organization; you have the power to double your gift. We will need to come up with matching funds to cover our portion, so we hope you will consider supporting us in important work that otherwise we could not accomplish. We are off to a good start on raising the matching funds, having already received donations of \$2,000 from the United Postal Stationery Society and \$1000 from the Collectors Club of San Francisco. If you or any of the stamp clubs you belong to would like to make a donation to the matching funds for the National Endowment of the Arts grant, please send it to our post office box, noted at the top of this page. Your check should be marked "For NEA Matching Funds Grant." Your donation, as always, is tax deductible.

I noted the donation of Oliver Atchison's library of books on trains and rail history to the WPL a couple of issues back. The WPL has compiled a listing of the books and has passed that on to the Casey Jones Rail Road Unit of the American Topical Association. That listing is now available on their web site, at: (<http://www.usps.de/cjrra-wpl.html>), or you can get a hard copy for \$1.00 to cover copying and postage from: CJRRU, P.O. Box 4584, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-4584.

We have completed the cataloging of the library donated by the United Postal Stationery Society, and we are in the process of putting the items we can use on our shelves. We will also contact the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library in Denver to see which of the duplicates they can use in their collection.

Another WESTPEX is over, and I noted that the WPL's booth always seemed to have a good crowd going through our books and our sheets. The San Francisco Philatelic Society presented the Margaret Munda Memorial Award of Merit to Joseph D. Schwartz of Sacramento, California, for his exhibit "Palestine—1917-1948." This award honors a life membership in FWPL for the recipient. I will give you more information and how we did at WESTPEX in our next issue of the Bay Phil.

Stuart Leven, president

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## The Bay Phil

# Response to the RPSL Findings

*After two years of research and review, the Royal Philatelic Society of London came to an opinion in regards to the authenticity of the Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps. Although they concluded that the Grinnell Missionaries were not genuine in respect to known copies of the Hawaiian Missionaries, they did find that the ink, paper, and printing was consistent with stamps of that period. Below is the response statement written by representatives of the Shattuck-Grinnell families:*

October 22, 2004

Dear Friends,

We are writing to inform you that we have recently heard from the Expert Committee, Royal Philatelic Society London, concerning their conclusions about the authenticity of the Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps.

After a two-year review of the evidence, the Committee dismissed some of the earlier allegations against the stamps, but still arrived at the opinion that the Grinnells are forgeries. However, we are optimistic about the progress made, and believe future examination of certain details will ultimately lead to a positive conclusion about their authenticity.

The Committee has provided us, in summary form, the rationale behind their opinion. By this letter, we are making that opinion public. The stamps have been in the Committee's possession since February 2002, and the Committee will soon publish an article regarding the Grinnells that will describe the basis for their opinion.

We expect the Committee's publication will state facts about the Grinnells correcting misinformation and misinterpretation that originated over 80 years ago at a civil court trial. Contrary to earlier belief, modern scientific techniques now have confirmed that the paper and ink of the stamps and postmarks are appropriate for the period. That's a major finding. Further, the Grinnells are printed by letterpress in a manner consistent with the method used to print the genuine Missionaries. These significant, positive findings have been advanced by modern research and they directly contradict longstanding conclusions. They demonstrate that the history of the Grinnells is one of truths that eventually surface.

The Committee's rationale raises new questions related to interpretation of typographic characteristics and other issues. These will be the focus of future research. While expressing appreciation for the Committee's work, we respectfully believe their forgery interpretation and conclusion should be challenged by further study.

As this chapter concludes, we express our continued commitment to the truth about these stamps, and our renewed confidence in their ultimate acceptance by philately. Our confidence is strengthened by not only the scientific findings, now recognized, but also the existence of correspondence between Hannah Shattuck and missionary wife, Ursula Emerson, and the employment of Mrs. Emerson's son in the Government Printing Office of 1851 Honolulu. The historical facts yield a time line appropriate to the design of the stamps and tied to their dated postal markings. These circumstances could not have been manufactured by a latter day forger.

With a new chapter opening, it is an opportune time to thank you sincerely for your interest, contributions to the record and encouragement in our study of the Grinnell Hawaiian Missionary Stamps thus far. We hope you will follow our progress as the story continues to unfold.

Vince and Carol Arrigo and Patrick Culhane

## Marshall Islands – Pacific Reef Fish

Information for this and other current issues from the Marshall Islands are at: [www.unicover.com](http://www.unicover.com)

Recently, the Marshall Islands issued a miniature sheet of 10 - 37 cent stamps depicting common, but colorful creatures that inhabit the coral reefs of the Marshall Islands. The set was designed by Chris Calle. Chris has created more than 200 stamps for United States as well as several other countries. One example of his work is that design for the \$2.40 priority post 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary moon landing stamp (US Scott #2419).



The Emperor Angelfish, *Pomacanthus imperator*, can be found in the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, Indo-Australian Archipelago, China, Japan, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia (except Hawaii). They are alone or in pairs often seen near the entrance of caves and ledges that they will dart into when alarmed.



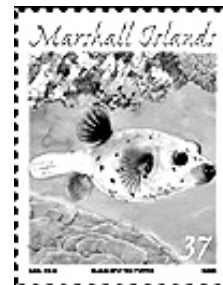
Pink Anemonefish, *Amphiprion perideraion*, typically is located tropical marine waters of the Western Central Pacific, from the Philippine Islands, north to Japan, throughout Micronesia, south to Australia and east to the Samoan Islands. The Pink Anemonefish inhabits coral reefs and is usually associated with the anemone *Heteractis magnifica*. It is sometimes seen associated with three other anemones: *Heteractis crispa*, *Mactodactyls doreenis* and *Stichodactyla gigantea*. Usually one adult pair

and several juveniles are present in each anemone. They feed on benthic algae and zooplankton.



Humphead Wrass, *Cheilinus undulates*, is a fish that is mainly found in coral reefs. It has a very slow breeding rate, but long lived and this has made it an endangered animal as it is not replacing it fast enough as the fishing rate. Its flesh is highly demanded in eastern Asia, selling at over a hundred dollars per kilogram. It is also known by the name Napoleon or Maori wrasse..

Moorish Idol fish, *Zanclus canescens*, are widespread in tropical Indo-Pacific Ocean, from the Red Sea to Mexico. It is a beautiful fish with a long, filamentous extension of one of the dorsal spines. Its drawn out snout enables them to eat small invertebrates that other short-snouted fishes cannot reach. They are commonly found around the coral reef in small groups of three to ten or more. In Hawaii they are called Ki-hi ki-hi.



The Black Spotted Pufferfish, *Arothron nigropunctatus*, is one of the most common pufferfish in reef waters. These fish come in color variants but all have those black spots giving them their name. they have sharp beak-

like teeth and they feed mainly on sea urchins and mollusks.



Snowflake Moray Eel, *Echidna nebulosa*, have a range from the Tropical Indo-Pacific Ocean to the Red Sea. The snowflake-like blotches are a unique characteristic for this species. They have a particular appetite for crustaceans. In Hawaii, they are known as PU-hi ka-pa.



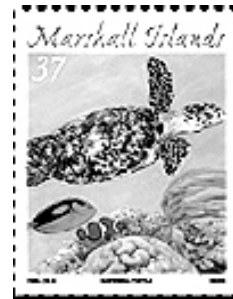
The Lionfish, *Pterois Volitans*, can be found though out the Indian, South and Central Pacific Oceans. They are best known for their poisonous dorsal spines.



Parrotfishes, *Scarus* sp., closely resemble the slender wrasses except for their exposed fused teeth that gives a beak-like appearance – hence parrot fishes. In addition, they have specially constructed pharyngeal teeth for crushing shells or skeletons of various animals. They tend to be found in large schools browsing over coral reefs.

Butterflyfish, *Chaetodon* sp., are usually deep bodied fishes with small mouths set

with rows of slender needle-like teeth like bristles. They feed on small invertebrates which they nibble or pick from the coral reefs.



Hawksbill Turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*, live on coral reefs where their favorite food, sponges, are plentiful. They can be found the tropical and subtropical Pacific Ocean. Like many other marine turtles, they are threatened by the loss of breeding and feeding habitats.



Triton's Trumpet, *Charonia tritonis*, are one of the largest mollusks found in Hawaii. Early Hawaiians used their shells as a blowing horn. They are one of the few predators on the Crown-of-Thorns sea star.



Oriental Sweetlips, *Plectorhynchus orientalis*, have a range that includes the Philippine Islands, Indo-Australian Archipelago, and the Indian Ocean.



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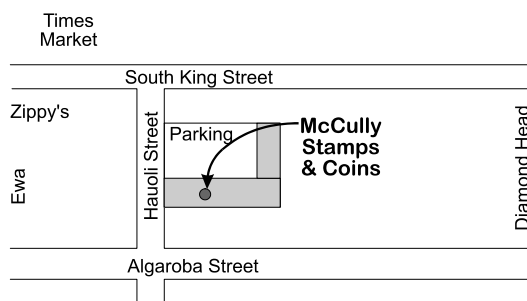
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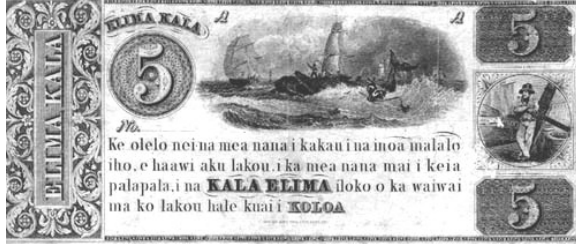
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## Selected Stamps from the Hawai'i Post

Information from Hawai'i Post website [www.hawaii-post.com](http://www.hawaii-post.com)

### Hawaiian Money



Two stamps were issued on July 6th 2004 depicting Hawaiian Money. Money in Hawai'i has a very colorful history and this is the first in a series of stamps depicting this theme.

Hawaiian money began with scrip. The earliest known scrip was printed for Ladd & Company, a sugar plantation near Koloa on the island of Kaua'i. The plantation began in 1835 on almost a 1,000 acres of land leased from King Kamehameha III. In 1837 the owners, Brinsmade, Ladd & Hooper decided to issue scrip to pay their workers. The scrip was redeemable at the company store in Koloa. The original scrip was small and crudely printed in Honolulu on old amateur theater tickets. It came in 3 denominations - Hapawalu (12.5 cents), Hapaha (25 cents) and Hapalua (50 cents). A plantation worker's pay for one day was food (usually fish and poi) and a Hapawalu scrip. Only 2 of the Hapawalu scrip have survived today, but none of the others.

In 1839, a much improved scrip was printed by the Boston Bank Note Company in Boston, Massachusetts. It was in two denominations, \$3 and \$5, both printed in dark brown ink on off-white paper with a blank reverse side. However, it is not known if the \$3 scrip was ever circulated, since the very few copies that have survived are not

signed and only surfaced recently, meaning they were probably held in bank vaults or archives for many years. The \$5 scrip is known to have been widely circulated at Koloa and the surviving copies are signed and unsigned.

The Ladd & Company scrip was in circulation for about 5 years until November 1844, when the plantation went bankrupt. The Kingdom of Hawai'i seized all their assets, putting them on sale to settle the land lease payments owed to them. About \$2,000 worth of scrip was outstanding at the time of the bankruptcy.



The \$5 stamp shows the \$3 scrip (Ekolu Kala) which depicts 6 sailing ships in the upper center, and 2 sailing ships at the lower left. At the right side is an eagle and shield printed sideways. The numeral "3" is in the upper left hand corner and is depicted on the postmark for this issue (below).



The \$8 stamp shows the \$5 scrip (Elima Kala) which has a whaling scene in the upper center, and a sailor leaning on an



anchor, middle right. The numeral "5" is in the upper middle left hand corner, and also in the upper right hand corner and lower right hand corner.



At the bottom center, both scrip are inscribed in Hawaiian "Ke olelo na mea nana i kakuiana inoa malalo eho, e haawi aku lakou. i ka mea nana mai ikeia palapala, i na KALA EKOLU (on the \$3 scrip, or KALA ELIMA on the \$5 scrip) iloko oka waiwai mak ko lakou hale kuai i KOLOA"

Translated this means "The person who signed this note below states that they will give to the person who reads this note the sum of \$3 (or \$5) out of their Kaua'i store in Koloa."

### Technical details of the stamps:

Colors: \$5 & \$8 stamps - Multicolored  
 Size: 32mm x 48mm.  
 Stamps sheet size: 30 (6 across, 5 down).  
 Perforation: 12.  
 Stamp design: Enelani.  
 Layout & Pre-press: Enelani.  
 Printer: Hawai'i Security Printers, Honolulu, Hawai'i.  
 Printing Method: 4-color (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black) printing process.  
 Sheet margin markings: HAWAII POST (top middle), "Traffic Light" showing 4 colors used in printing (lower left side), © 2004 Hawai'i Post (lower right side) & Hawai'i Security Printers, Honolulu, Hawai'i. (bottom middle)  
 Paper: GPA coated white stock with water-activated gum on the back.

### Ukelele

Two stamps and a booklet were issued on August 23rd 2004 in celebration of the 125th Anniversary of the 'Ukulele.

The British bark, the "SS Ravenscrag", arrived in the port of Honolulu on Saturday August 23 1879 from the Madeira Islands. She carried a total of 423 Portuguese passengers -



135 men, 115 women, and 178 children. The immigrants were employed as house servants and plantation hands, generally for 2 years, with wages averaging \$12 per month for men, and \$6 per month for women. The "SS Ravenscrag" was the second Portuguese immigrant ship to arrive in Hawai'i (the first "SS Priscilla" arrived on September 30 1878). Tradition has it that the "SS Ravenscrag" first brought to Hawai'i a musical instrument known in Maderia as the "braguinha". It was played publicly for the first time in Hawai'i by a Portuguese immigrant named Joao Fernandez. Hawaiians took an immediate liking to it.

In Portugal, the musical instrument called the "braguinha" was invented and manufactured in the second century BC by the Lusitani tribe who lived in the province of Braga in northern Portugal. Later, it was known in Madeira as the "Machete de Braga". Native Hawaiians originally had a musical instrument called the "ukeke", a crude piece of curved wood with two gut strings stretched tightly across and without much tuning. It mostly put out a monotonous sound. It is asserted that the 'ukulele derived its name from the strumming technique of the player whose fingers "jumped like a flea" across the strings. Uku in Hawaiian means "flea" and lele "to jump", hence the "jumping flea". It is also known as the "taro patch fiddle".

On board the "SS Ravenscrag" were three cabinet makers Augusto Dias, Jose do Espirito Santo, and Manuel Nunes. They each set up a shop where they made and sold

'ukuleles to Hawaiians for \$5 (quite a bit of money at the time). Manuel Nunes (on the \$8 stamp) had a store for many years on Alakea Street in downtown Honolulu. He claimed to have invented the 'ukulele and even put the claim on his label placed on all his ukuleles.



An Army Officer named Edward Purvis, arrived in Hawai'i in the 1880's and took up the 'ukulele, becoming very proficient at it. Augusto Dias, Jose do Espirito Santo, Joao Fernandez and Edward Purvis all played for King Kalakaua at 'Iolani Palace at various times.



The \$5 stamp shows an old photograph depicting three hula girls strumming their 'ukuleles on the beach with Diamond Head in the background.



The \$8 stamp shows a photograph of Manuel Nunes (in his later years) who made and sold 'ukuleles in Honolulu after arriving there in 1879. The postmark (below) shows one of his 'ukuleles.

A Booklet consisting of 2 panes containing 2 x \$2 and 2 x \$8 stamps was also issued. Each pane consists of 2 stamps and has a white margin all around. "© 2004 Hawai'i Post" is printed vertically on the lower right side margin & *Hawai'i Security Printers, Honolulu, Hawai'i.* is printed on the bottom margin of each pane.

The booklet is stapled twice at the left side. The front cover depicts a 'ukulele. The back cover has a list of the postage rates of Hawai'i Post.

### Technical details of the stamps:

Colors: \$5 & \$8 stamps - Multicolored

Size: 32mm x 48mm.

Stamps sheet size: 30 (6 across, 5 down).

Perforation: 12.

Stamp design: Enelani.

Layout & Pre-press: Enelani.

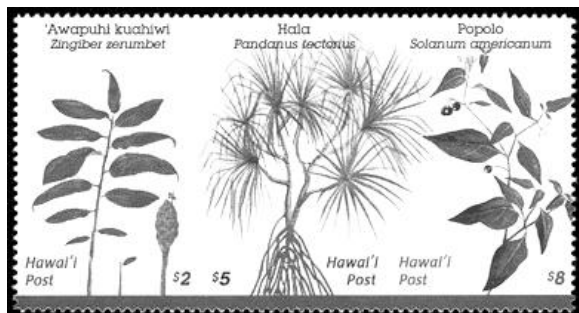
Printer: Hawai'i Security Printers, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Printing Method: 4-color (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black) printing process.

Sheet margin markings: HAWAII POST (top middle), "Traffic Light" showing 4 colors used in printing (lower left side), © 2004 Hawai'i Post (lower right side) & *Hawai'i Security Printers, Honolulu, Hawai'i.* (bottom middle)

Paper: GPA coated white stock with water-activated gum on the back.

## Medicinal Plants



Three stamps in a triptych and a mini-sheet were issued on October 8th 2004 which show medicinal plants of Hawai'i.

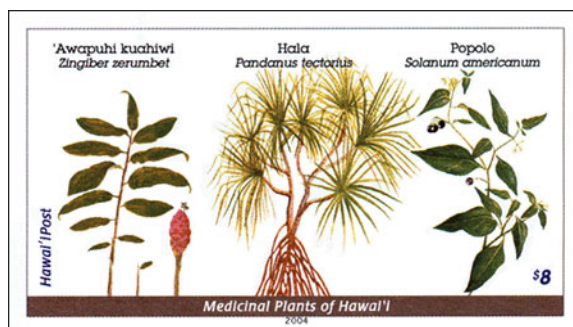
The triptych shows three medicinal plants of Hawai'i.

The \$2 stamp shows the 'Awapuhi kuahiwi (*Zingiber zerumbet*), also known as "Wild Ginger". This plant was probably brought to Hawai'i by early settlers from the Marquesas. It is found in lower forests and is a rhizome which grows to about two feet tall with a dozen or so leaves. The flower grows up separately from the leaves, but from the same spreading root. The flower head is topped by one or two very small flowers. The flower head contains a sticky sap which was used as shampoo by Hawaiians. Other parts of this plant were prepared by Hawaiians and used to cure headaches, toothache, fungal infections and various skin diseases. In modern days it is still used to cure stomach ache.

The \$5 stamp shows the Hala (*Pandanus tectorius*). Also known as the "Screw Pine". Hala is indigenous to Hawai'i and grows in coastal areas up to about 2,000 feet. This tree can grow up to twenty feet tall. It's main characteristic is its aerial roots which are very distinctive. Its main medicinal use by Hawaiians was for childbirth, pain relief and some infant diseases. Modern medicinal use has been discontinued.

The \$8 stamp in the triptych shows the Popolo (*Solanum americanum*). Also, known as the "Glossy Nightshade". Popolo is indigenous to Hawai'i and grows in the dry lowlands up to the damp forests. This shrub grows to about three feet tall. The main medicinal use by Hawaiians was for stomach ache and respiratory problems, like asthma. Modern use is for indigestion and colds.

The outer edges of the triptych are perforated (perf 12). The two vertical divisions between the 3 stamps in the triptych are rouletted (roulette 5).



The \$8 minisheet shows the same plants, but in one design with no perforations or roulettes.

The special postmark for this issue shows the flower head of the 'Awapuhi kuahiwi (*Zingiber zerumbet*), also known as "Wild Ginger".



### Technical details of the stamps and mini-sheet:

Colors: \$2, \$5 & \$8 stamps and \$8 mini-sheet - Multicolored

Size: 102mm x 70mm (mini-sheet)

Stamps sheet size: A triptych of 3 across.

Perforation: Triptych - outer edges, perf 12. The two vertical divisions within the triptych are rouletted 5.

Mini-sheet - imperforate.

Mini-sheet and triptych design: Enelani.



## Potpourri

*Odds and Ends*

### Lost in Translation


Some 50 or 60 years ago, a Frenchman wrote a blood curdling mystery tale, purely fictional, involving a Hawaiian "Missionary" stamp. The author concocted the name of Gaston Leroux as the central figure, and in the course of the tale, he did away with a well-known French philatelist, solely to permit his adding the rare Hawaiian stamp to his collection. It was a good tale, and no more, but as often happens, once a falsehood runs rampant, truth never seems to make equal speed.


The story was in fact good enough to get translated into English, and after some of the British magazines ran it, as fiction, it found its way to the United States. It lost more in translation than the usual story does; suddenly, people started believing it. Some time ago an American columnist for one of our philatelic magazines came across the yarn, and wrote it up as fact. Stamp collectors sometimes lie to add to their collections. They go into debt for them and occasionally they use rubber checks to further themselves. However, it is a relief to know that the first philatelic murder has yet to take place. The immortality that Gaston Leroux seems to have earned, although he never lived, will likely crop up again in the future.


*Editor's note: The columnist being referred to is Doug Storer, author of "Amazing but True! Stories behind the Stamps"*


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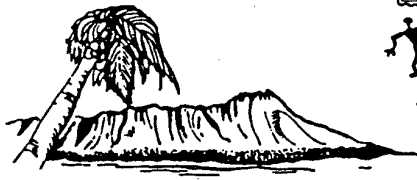
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