

# First Issues

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The Official Journal of the First Issues Collectors Club APS Affiliate #232

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# The First Issues Collectors Club promotes the collection of the first postage stamps issued by any nation, province, city or other entity that has, at any time, issued postage stamps, and facilitates the exchange of information about these issues among stamp collectors.

**First Issues** (ISSN: 1547-2299), the official newsletter of the First Issues Collectors Club, is published quarterly. Submissions are welcome from members and others interested in the collection of first issues.

#### **Officers**

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# **Social Media Director Position Filled**

In the last issue we made a request for a volunteer to create a Facebook page and serve as the Social Media Director. I am pleased to announce we had a volunteer step forward to build and maintain a page. I would like to introduce Joseph Morris as our new Social Media Director. Joseph, FICC #277, recently joined FICC after viewing the First Issue APS Stamp Chat.

I have had the opportunity to interact with Joseph on Twitter through his personal account and an account he manages for the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors @ISWSC1. Through Twitter, Joseph shares his personal collecting interests and advocates for the ISWSC in a similar way to our FICC account.

The Facebook account was opened in late September. The account pulls our Twitter feed as content and Joseph adds additional related content. We started with a soft opening to build content. Now that the content is growing, we are ready for visitors. You can find the page at:

https://www.facebook.com/FirstIssuesCollectorsClub

We will advertise the page on Twitter and add the link to our website. If you are a Facebook user, I encourage you to like the page and please start viewing, liking and sharing content. Likes and shares on the page turn into greater outreach for FICC.

The use of YouTube and Twitter along with the revitalized website have helped us add 8 new members through October. Over the past 5 years we had added 3 members per year, so this has been a banner year for new membership.

Thank you again to Joseph for helping us to further expand our social media reach.

Kurt Streepy, Secretary/Treasurer

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# **Bits & Pieces**

# **Miscellaneous**

**Article Accuracy**: *First Issues*, the editor, and other officers of the FICC cannot be responsible for accuracy or originality of any information printed herein. Opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by *First Issues*, the FICC or its officers.

Articles Wanted: Articles, letters, comments, suggestions, album pages or anything else connected with collecting first issues are always needed. Send your copy to the editor (e-mail address on front page, postal address shown in the return address on outer cover). To be included in V29N1, articles must be received prior to Dec 15, 2020.

**Membership Directory**: Members may obtain a free FICC Membership Directory by sending a SASE (No 10 envelope with 1 ounce US postage) to our Secretary. You can also request the Directory via e-mail as an Excel spreadsheet (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

**Back Issues**: Back issues of *First Issues* are available from the Secretary for \$7.00 per volume (4 issues) or \$2.00 for single issues. A complete run of *First Issues* is available for \$10.00 on a USB Drive or Drop Box for Current members. Contact the Secretary for more information (contact information is on page 1).

**Article Index**: An index to the articles in *First Issues* from 1990 (V1, N1) to date is available on the web site (www.firstissues.org).

**Bylaws**: A copy of the FICC bylaws is available on the web site (www.firstissues.org). These were last printed in *First Issues* V26, N1.

# **Mail Bag**

#### **Club Improvements**

[You all] have brought the club into the 2020's with all the tech enhancements. It will grow the membership and make the club more fun and a greater source of knowledge.

Ron Zukin, FICC #203 e-mail: July 2020

## Macedonia Name Change

Tim, Have you heard if Macedonia is considering voting on changing its name to North Macedonia?

[Ed: See article on page 5 of this issue.]

Nick Blackburn, FICC #181 e-mail: July 2020

#### Macedonia Name Change

The internet at work – the day Kurt tweeted about India's first issue, we had a rush of visitors from... guess where.

[Answer: No surprise, 34 of the 45 visitors to the FICC web site that day were from India.]

Nick Blackburn, FICC #181 e-mail: Sep 2020

# Secretary's Report

**Membership News**: One new member joined FICC since the last Newsletter went to press.

• Mark Sachon, FICC #279, Pennsylvania, USA

Welcome to the club Mark.

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# Call for Mail Auction #106 Lots

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LOTS FOR MAIL AUCTION #106 is Dec 15, 2020.** Please send singles, sets, FDCs and covers related to first issues -- basically anything you think other FICC members would be interested in owning. The full set of guidelines governing the auctions is published in each auction mailing.

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- 1. Submit lots to: Tim Balm, 655 Goodpasture Island Rd Apt 216, Eugene, OR 97401-1534 USA.
- 2. Include an inventory with your name & address, 1-line descriptions of the lots including cat#, current cat value, and minimum accepted bid. [Note: Scott catalog is the default; first issues listed by other catalogs are welcome.]
- 3. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold -- split between the seller and the buyer.

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# The First Issues of Brazil << No One Remembers Who Came in Second >>

By Louis Laflamme, FICC #210

{Note: For additional information, members are encouraged to also re-read an earlier article on the forgeries of Brazil #1 by Bob Sylvester that appeared in the V6N1 edition of First Issues.}

The quote from the famous American pro golfer Walter Hagen (1892-1969) is mostly associated with sports, but it can also certainly apply to stamp collecting. Most collectors can identify Great Britain as the first stamp issuing country, but few are aware that Brazil came in second.

The large South American territory that would become Brazil was claimed by Portugal in 1500 and colonization began in 1534. After an uneasy union as a single country with Portugal that began in 1814, an attempt to return Brazil to the status of colony was made by the Portuguese government. Unhappy with that turn of events Pedro, the local regent and son of the King of Portugal, declared independence in 1822 and became Pedro I emperor of Brazil. By 1843, the country was ruled by his son Pedro II.

The adoption of postage stamps by Brazil came as part of a complete makeover of the postal system simplifying the rules and introducing the system of prepayment. This occurred at the instigation of Jakob Sturz, a German national serving as Brazilian consul to Prussia. He saw the vast benefits that a similar reform had produced in Great Britain and wanted Brazil to profit from that system. Postal rates would no longer depend on the distance traveled but were calculated according to weight and method of travel (land or sea), a major change in a country as vast as Brazil. As the Emperor once said, "No subject of the Empire shall be punished for living away from court."

Three denominations were needed to satisfy the new rates: 30, 60 and 90 reis. The postal authorities decided against using the emperor's portrait in the design because they thought that having it defaced by obliteration was disrespectful. They opted to simply display the numeral value over an elaborate engine-turned design with no mention of the country or currency. The first stamps, Scott #1-3 (125%), are shown below.



The stamps came to be known as Brazil's Bull's Eyes or *Olho de Boi* in Portuguese. They were produced locally using a printing press and engraving material that had been seized by customs – and which served to print currency at that time by the Brazilian mint. The lathework was used as an anti-forgery measure and was a common feature at the time for security printing.



Very similar designs are shown in contemporary banknotes from Brazil (at left) and from an American bank in Louisiana (at right).



#### Continued on p.4

Email to: editor@firstissues.org

# Brazil First Issue (continued from page 3)

The stamps were issued first in Rio de Janeiro on August 1, 1843 – and in the rest of the country on September 1, 1843. 210 different town cancellations are known and early date-cancelled stamps command a significant premium. There is no known first day of issue cover.

A total of six plates were used to produce the first issue. The first two plates are known as composites because they had 54 stamps of all three denominations divided into three blocks of 18 stamps. Plate 3 had 54 stamps of 30r, plate 4 had 60 stamps of 30r and plates 5 and 6 contained 60 stamps of 60r. Quantities printed were 1,148,994 for the 30r, 1,502,142 for the 60r and 349,182 for the 90r. The catalogues differentiate between fine (early), intermediate, and late impressions depending on the shades of the stamps that tended to be lighter as the plate wore down. These distinctions, however, have little impact on the stamps value. In the figures of #1-3 shown on page 3, the 30r and 60r are intermediate impressions, and the 90r is an early impression.

Popular among collectors, these stamps are uncommon in very fine used condition. Many were used on the flap of the envelope and destroyed upon opening the letter. On March 30 of 1846, a total of 466,711 remainders were incinerated.



Like most classic stamps, these were extensively forged with varying results. Some forgeries are easy to spot mostly by looking at the quality and design of the lathe work. The figures at left and right show such forgeries.



Other forgeries can be more deceiving – like the one at right by Sperati.

Fake early cancels are also known. So, as always, it is a good idea to have the stamp certified before investing a significant amount.



#### References

- 1. Canadian stamp news, March 7-20, 20.
- 2. https://www.linns.com/news/us-stamps-postal-history/2015/december/identifying-brazils-bulls-eyes-corresponding-plates-can-be-fun.html.

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## **Web Site News**

By Nick Blackburn, FICC #181

This article is available online at tinyurl.com/ficcreport. Type that address into your browser and the online version has all the links already in place, so from there you can just click.

#### WEB SITE TRAFFIC

Visitor numbers to the FICC website have stabilized at higher levels since the addition of Kurt's Twitter feed. The 30-day average currently stands at 16 visitors per day viewing 89 pages.

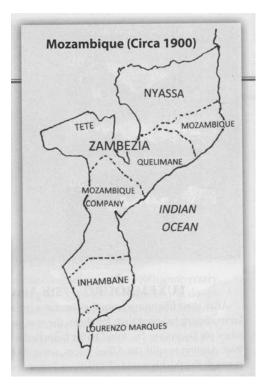
The listing of visiting countries now total 129, with Kuwait and Qatar the latest.

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Email to: editor@firstissues.org http://www.firstissues.org Page 4

# Geography of Mozambique and Neighboring Countries [circa 1900]

By Tim Balm, FICC #91



After the map of the Comoro Islands was published in the last issue, I found another map that was of great use in my album of first issues. This map was found in Bob Lamb's "World in a Nutshell" column published in the May 2020 issue of The American Philatelist. As with the Comoro Islands map, there was no citation as to where the map originated. So, I again presume it is in the public domain.

This map provides an excellent overview of the Portuguese areas in the eastern part of Africa. A copy of this map has been placed in my album with each of the countries shown.

Very useful – to me.

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# Republic of Macedonia Changes Name to North Macedonia

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

The Republic of Macedonia was formed as one of the new countries after the break-up of Yugoslavia in 1991 (following the death of Tito). Greece, however, objected to this name for the new country because a northern area of Greece is also known as Macedonia. Greece immediately requested the Republic of Macedonia to include a geographic qualifier (like Northern Macedonia) to distinguish it from the Greek area. [Editorial comment: wouldn't Greece calling their area "southern Macedonia" have achieved the desired differentiation without international discord?]

The issue continued to escalate until both countries agreed to negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations. On 12 June 2018, Greece and the Rep of Macedonia reached an agreement whereby the name "Republic of North Macedonia" would be adopted. Referendums were placed on voting ballots in both countries and approval of this solution was obtained. The new name became permanent on 12 Feb 2019.



#### Continued on p.6

Email to: editor@firstissues.org

# North Macedonia (continued from page 5)

Stamps of Macedonia have had this new name printed on the face starting with the stamp issued on 19 March 2019 (shown on page 5, 150%). It is a commemorative stamp celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of politician Jashar Shkupi. Scott lists the stamp as Sc#801 with a value of \$1.90 mnh.

When Nick Blackburn, #181, alerted me to this renaming (see Mail Bag on page 2), I searched eBay to see if there were any for sale. At the time I looked, there was only one seller (from Serbia) who had them listed. The list price was \$1.93 with international shipping of \$2.75. I bought 2 stamps to spread the shipping between them – making a total of \$3.30 each. If anyone is interested in adding this stamp to their collection, the second stamp is listed as lot 48 in the current auction with the \$3.30 price I paid for it.

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# First Stamps of Australasian New Hebrides Company (ANHCo)

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

The ANHCo (Australasian New Hebrides Company) was a private trading company headquartered in Sydney, New South Wales. It sailed between eastern Australia (Sydney), Port Vila (the NSW PO in New Hebrides), and 14 other islands in and neighboring the New Hebrides Islands Group -- including Futuna, Tonga and the Sandwich Islands. Because the ANHCo was subsidized by NSW, mail between Sydney and these islands only required NSW postage (no passage fee was imposed). Inter-island mail delivery was free until March 1897 when the ANHCo started charging for the transport. For this convenient service, the ANHCo charged a fee of 1d per ½ ounce for letters, 1d per newspaper, 1d per 4 ounce weight of printed matter, or per 8 ounce weight of parcel. An additional fee of 2d was charged for registered material.

On March 17, 1897, two lithographed stamps (roulette perforated 9) were issued at Port Vila (New Hebrides) to prepay for the inter-island collection and delivery service. These stamps are shown below (200%). Both stamps show a view of the Port Vila harbor. The 1d is in black on a lilac-rose background (240,000 printed), and the 2d is in blue on a red-brown background (120,000 printed).



Used stamps are cancelled with either a 26.5 mm CDS inscribed "PORT VILA POST" or a 26 mm CDS inscribed "TRAVELING POST OFFICE" (a shipboard cancel). The company closed at the end of 1899, so any stamps bearing a postmark after 1899 were canceled to order.

Upon closure, all remaining stamps (140,000 of the 1d and 94,000 of the 2d) were put in storage until they were later sold to a Sydney stamp dealer in 1912 or 1913 (references are inconsistent on this date). Mint ANHCo stamps found in the marketplace are undoubtedly from these remainders.

The only forgeries reported are (a) stamps overprinted "SPECIMEN" and (b) 1d stamps with 2½d surcharges.

#### References

- 1. Ringstrom, S and Tester, HE, "Private Ship Letter Stamps of the World", Part 2, 1981, p.7.
- 2. Billig, Fritz, "Billig's Philatelic Handbook", Vol 4, 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Edition, 1952, p.205.

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# Auction #105

Welcome to FICC Auction #105. The auction closes on Nov 30, 2020. Bids received that after will not be considered. Please read descriptions carefully; lots occasionally have very similar descriptions. If you have questions, please contact me. Also, I will email scans of any specific lots you wish to see. ... All catalogue values (CVs) are taken from the 2019 Scott Catalogues.

## **AUCTION RULES**

- 1. Highest bid wins. In the event of tie bids, earliest postmark or email date stamp breaks the tie. Bid what you are willing to pay; winning bids are rarely reduced.
- Auctioneer reserves the right to reject unreasonable bids. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Auctioneer's decisions are final.
- 3. All lots are sold "as is" without warranty by auctioneer or FICC. In case of a dispute, the auctioneer will contact the seller and provide the name of the buyer and nature of the dispute to allow direct settlement.
- 4. An expertizing policy exists for lots with a realized price of \$75 or more (contact auction manager for details).
- 5. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold. The fee will be split between the seller and the buyer.
- 6. Shipping charges are added to buyer's total. Lots will be mailed using normal USPS rates. Winning lots totaling more than \$200 will be insured, certified or registered.
- 7. Payment may be requested before shipment.
- 8. Bidding in this auction constitutes agreement to these rules.

## **SUBMITTING BIDS**

Submit bids by email (Auctions@firstissues.org) or postal mail (Tim Balm, 655 Goodpasture Island Rd - Apt 216, Eugene, OR, 97401-1534, USA). If you are submitting bids by postal mail, you can (1) enter your bids on the bid sheet on page 9 and mail that, or (2) you can place your bids on a separate sheet of paper giving lot number, description, and the amount you wish to bid. Please include your name, FICC#, and address. Phone bids are not accepted.

## #1s

<u>Lot</u> 1	<b>Description</b>	$\underline{\mathbf{CV}}$	Min Bid	Your Bid	Lot
1	Bermuda Sc#1 (wmk CC) used(I-cxI) hr f	\$1.75	\$0.75		1
2	Bosnia&Herz Sc#1a mhr vf	\$16.50	\$6.50		2
3	Chad Sc#1mlh f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15		3
4	Comoro Islands Sc#1 mnh vf [red ink transfer on gum]	\$0.30	\$0.15		2 3 4 5 6 7
5	Congo Dem Rep Sc#323 mnh vf	\$0.25	\$0.12		5
6	Costa Rica Sc#1 mhr f	\$0.40	\$0.10		6
7	French Morocco Sc#1 used(SON I-cxl) f	\$4.00	\$1.60		7
8	Gr Brit - Guernsey Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$0.35	\$0.12		8 9
9	Gr Brit - Jersey Sc#1 mhr vf	\$0.35	\$0.15		
10	Gr Brit - Wales Sc#1 mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10		10
11	Gr Brit - MEF Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$3.50	\$1.25		11
12	Greenland Sc#1 mnh vf [sl gum dist]	\$5.00	\$2.25		12
13	Italy - Aeg IsI - Calchi Sc#1 mhr f/vf [rnd UL crnr]	\$7.25	\$2.25		13
14	Italy - Aeg Isl - Caso Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$7.25	\$2.50		14
15	Italy - Aeg Isl - Lero Sc#1 mhr f	\$9.50	\$2.85		15
16	Italy - Aeg IsI - Lero Sc#1 mhr f/vf	\$8.00	\$2.80		16
17	Italy - Aeg IsI - Nisiro Sc#1 used(I-cxI) avg	\$9.50	\$3.80		17
18	Italy - Aeg Isl - Piscopi Sc#1 mhr f	\$8.00	\$2.40		18
19	Italy - Aeg Isl - Scarpanto Sc#1 mh f	\$9.50	\$3.30		19
20	Italy - Aeg IsI - Scarpanto Sc#1 mh f/vf [perf flt LR]	\$9.50	\$3.25		20
21	Italy - Aeg Isl - Simi Sc#1 mh f	\$16.00	\$5.50		21
22	Italy - Aeg Isl - Stampalia Sc#1 mh f [trop gum]	\$9.50	\$3.30		22
23	Lebanon Sc#1 mh f/vf	\$1.60	\$0.65		23
24	Leeward Islands Sc#1 mpg f/vf	\$3.75	\$1.50		24
25	Macau Sc#1a mng hr f/vf [rnd LR corner]	\$20.00	\$5.00		25
26	Malaysia Sc#1-3 used(I-cxI) f/vf	\$1.10	\$0.50		26
27	Malaysia - Kelantan Sc#81 used(m-cxl) vf	\$1.10	\$0.50		27
28	Marienwerder Sc#1 mvlh f/vf	\$0.65	\$0.25		28

#### Continued on page 8

Email to: editor@firstissues.org http://www.firstissues.org Page 7

# Mail Bid Auction 105 (continued from page 7)

#1	S	100	nt'	۸۱
#1	S (	CO	nt	a)

	<u>" 10 (00111 u.)</u>				
Lot	Description	<u>CV</u>	Min Bid	Your Bid	Lot
29	Morocco Sc#1-7 used(I-cxI) vf	\$2.30	\$1.15		29
30	Niger Coast Prot (Oil Rivers) Sc#1 mng f/vf	\$22.50	\$6.75		30
31	Orange River Col Sc#1 used(I-cxI) f/vf	\$0.75	\$0.25		31
32	Pitcairn Sc#1-8 (incl 5a,6A) mhr/mlh f/vf	\$66.75	\$25.00		32
33	Russia Off in China Sc#1-8 [#1-7 used, #8 mng with ink spot on front] f/vf [#7 rnd LL crnr, #8 sl crnr crease]	\$167.50	\$5.00		33
34	Schleswig Sc#1 mhr v/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10		34
35	Spain Sc#1a used(I-cxI) 4-mrgn [red town cancel]	\$25.00	\$15.00		35
36	Spain Sc#1b used(m-cxl) 4-mrgn [black spider cancel] [paper adh]	\$20.00	\$9.00		36
37	Spain Sc#1c used(I-cxl) 3+ mrgns [black spider cancel]	\$32.50	\$14.60		37
38	St Vincent - Gren Sc#1-2 mnh vf	\$0.50	\$0.25		38
	[MAYREAU inscr in bttm selvage]				
39	Tonga Sc#1a used(m-cxl) f/vf perf 12.5	\$7.00	\$2.80		39
40	Tuvalu - Niutao Sc#1 mhr vf [vert pr cars]	\$0.25	\$0.10		40
41	Tuvalu - Vaitupu Sc#1 mnh vf [vert pr cars]	\$0.25	\$0.12		41
42	Upper Silesia Sc#1-6 mhr f-f/vf	\$2.00	\$0.75		42
43	Wallis & Futuna Sc#1 mnh f	\$0.55	\$0.25		43
	Change of Government #1	ls (cont'd	)		
44	Egypt Sc#322-40 (Republic) MNH f/vf	\$53.05	\$23.00		44
45	Egypt Sc#337-40 (Republic) MNH f/vf (high values)	\$41.75	\$7.50		45
46	Kuwait Sc#155-72 (Independent State) mvlh f/vf	\$111.50	\$45.00		46
47	Kuwait Sc#72-81A (Brit Postal Admin) mlh f/vf	\$122.75	\$50.00		47
48	Macedonia Sc#801 (North Macedonia) MNH vf	\$1.90	\$3.50		48
49	Maldives Sc#20-28 (Sultanate) mlh/mnh f/vf [#21-22 mnh]	\$59.00	\$23.50		49
50	Papua New Guinea Sc#122-36 (Papua and New Guinea)	\$160.00	\$65.00		50
30	mvlh f/vf [many MNH]	Ψ100.00	ψ00.00		50
	BOB (Back of Book)	) #1s			
51	Ajman Sc#C1 used(CTO-mnh) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10		51
52	Austria Sc#B1-2 (B1: mh f/vf, B2: used(m-cxl)f/vf	\$2.00	\$0.50		52
53	Cuba Sc#J1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$5.25	\$1.75		53
54	Estonia Sc#B60-62 (Republic) (blocks/4)	\$11.80	\$5.00		54
	used(FDC SON cxl) vf				
55	French Sudan Sc#J1 mhr f/vf	\$0.40	\$0.15		55
56	Germany Sc#C1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$2.75	\$1.10		56
57	Greece Sc#C1-4 mhr/mh f/vf	\$27.20	\$9.50		57
58	Wallis & Futuna Sc#C1 mnh vf	\$2.25	\$1.10		58
	Misc Stamps from First Is	ssue Sets			
59	Georgia Sc#3,4,6,7,10,11 (3,6 used(m-cl), 4,7,10,11 mh/mhr	\$4.80	\$1.00		59
60	North Ingermanland Sc#2,3,4 mnh f/vf	\$7.50	\$1.50		60
61	North Ingermaniand Sc#3 mlh f/vf	\$2.50	\$0.50		61
62	North Ingermaniand Sc#4 mdg f/vf	\$2.50	\$0.50		62
02	-		Ψ0.00		02
00	Forgeries/Reprin	<u>15</u>	<b>64.00</b>		00
63	India - Hyderabad Sc#1 [Reprint - perf 12.5] mhr f		\$1.00		63
64	Samoa Sc#3d,5a,6,7a,8a [Reprints]		\$3.00		64
	Stamp on Stamp #	<b>#</b> 1s			
65	Dominica Sc#389 mnh vf [shows Dominica #1]	\$0.25	\$0.10		65

**END OF LISTING** 

# First Issues Collectors Club

# **Membership Application or Renewal Form**

Membership includes four issues of the FICC Newsletter, First Issues. Dues for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have United States mailing addressees are \$10.00 per year. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are US\$14.00 per year. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** and send to the postal address below or use the online PayPal feature at our web site, www.firstissues.org. Thank you for your renewal or new membership!

	new membership!			
	New Membership	□ Renewal	☐ Additional Contribution: \$	
	Electronic Copy (by E-mail)		☐ Paper Copy (by postal delivery)	
Name:				
	k		-mail*	
APS#	Other Member	ships:		
* Your tele	phone number and e-mail addres	s will be kept con	fidential if you wish.	
Send this fo	orm with your dues to: FICC, Po	O Box 228, Smith	ville, IN 47458, USA	
	-			

# **BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #105**

☞ ☞ Bidding Deadline is November 30, 2020

(email bids to auctions@firstissues.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FICC#: \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>

# IT'S RENEWAL TIME

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it has an expiration date of V28#4, that means your FICC membership expires with this issue. Please send in your dues renewal by December 15, 2020 to ensure that you do not miss an issue. Dues are \$10.00 per year for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have USA mailing addresses. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are \$14.00 per year. We believe this remains a bargain relative to most other stamp clubs with newsletters.

A membership renewal form can be found on page 9. If you have an email address, please include any changes. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** (not FICC), and mail your dues to Kurt at the address on the renewal form. If you wish to pay electronically using PayPal or Skrill/MoneyBookers, please contact Kurt Streepy for instructions.

## First Issues

Tim Balm, Editor 655 Goodpasture Island Rd Apt 216 Eugene, OR 97401-1534 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL

