



ECHOES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2015

GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD & SOLDIER'S CEMETERY

By Phil Bronner



One historic site I absolutely had to see, and was not disappointed, was the Gettysburg Battlefield. As a "student" of American military history, I've read numerous accounts of the Gettysburg battle, and have seen television historical accounts, but until seeing, driving and walking the battlefield, you just have no idea. The Battlefield comprises 10 square miles, some of it still on private property, and therefore inaccessible to the average tourist. It is the site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War. 93,000 Union troops clashed with 75,000 Confederate troops resulting in 51,112 killed, wounded and missing.

The Union forces had 356 cannon while the Confederates had 275. Cannon fire, utilizing solid shot, case and shell shot (with a fuse cut to detonate the shell spewing shrapnel above troops), and canister (a tin filled with iron balls, turning a cannon into a huge shotgun) were devastating on the battlefield.

The Minié ball, with its hollow base, allowing it to expand and fit into the rifling grooves in the barrel, allowed infantry to increase their killing range from a mere 100 yards with muskets, to over 400 yards under ideal conditions. The large size and soft lead of the Minié ball resulted in shattered bones, and devastating wounds. This was a primary reason for the huge number of amputations.

There are over 1400 battlefield monuments, tablets, markers, etc. on and around the Gettysburg battlefield. Two of interest are shown below:



On the left, the monument to the 90th Pennsylvania Infantry, below the monument to 21st Pennsylvania Cavalry. (Continued to page 4.)



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *President's Message*
- *Club Calendars*
- *Monthly Quiz*
- *See page 3 for Member Dealer Info.*

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BALLOT
INCLUDED WITH
THIS MAILING!
DON'T FORGET TO
VOTE!
SEE BALLOT FOR
INSTRUCTIONS!!!

ECHOES

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

It is hard to believe another year is coming to a close. We have lost some good members and we have gained some new members. Thank you to the members who do so much every month: the silent auctions, the auctions, the shows, the website, the Echoes, the library, and I am sure I have forgotten some things. It takes a team to make a club like ours work and be successful. We are fortunate to have many good people.

Looking ahead to a new year, I would like to hear your suggestions on what you as members would like to see happening with our club. Feel free to contact me by phone or at a meeting.

Our elections are upcoming, and ballots will go out with this issue of the Echoes. Please have them in by the meeting on November 11.

Our Christmas Party will be on December 9th, the last meeting of 2015. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, bring a gift around \$5.00 in value, white elephant or not!! We hope to see you next year!



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



We're back, safe and sound from a great vacation. In 40 days, we traveled through 23 states, saw over 50 historical and interesting sites, and logged 8,791 miles! The Jeep and Camper functioned perfectly! Since many of the places we visited have been the subject of postal issues, I'll give a presentation early next year on the trip tied to postal issues! I sure could use some help with articles! Anyone out there interested in writing for the Echoes? We are coming to the close of another year, elections in November, and swearing in and the Christmas Party in December. For you new members, we have only one meeting in November and one in December as people are always busy around the holidays.

If you haven't already, get your dues in! You don't want any interruption in receiving the Echoes, do you? Hope you enjoy this issue.

The ECHOES is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. *If you do NOT get your ECHOES the first week of the issue month, let me know! I will get another mailed out to you! Remember, email delivery = COLOR!!*

DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All submissions of articles, illustrations, letters, etc., by members of the Greater Eugene Stamp Society will be considered. We reserve the right to edit for length and content. Also, any material might be denied publication based on its inflammatory nature, bias, its poor quality, readability, obviously inappropriate subject matter, or the lack of space in the current publication. These deci-

sions are based on the discretion of the editor. All material must arrive typewritten please (!) to the editor either at a scheduled meeting, by mail, or email. Timeliness of submissions and space will determine when they will appear in the Newsletter. Cutoff dates for all submissions will be the 15th of the month prior to the 1st day of the month the issue is to come out. Don't bold, italicize or underline. Do not use cen-

tering. Use a plain background and standard typefaces.

Many thanks for all who send material! We really appreciate it!



**Electronic submissions via
email preferred!**

FOR OUR CLUB RAILROAD ENTHUSIASTS...The Union Pacific's
North Platte, Nebraska "Bailey Yard" by Phil Bronner



While on vacation, we heard of a huge rail switching yard and decided to check it out. The above photo shows "most" of the yard!

This is the largest railroad classification yard in the world. The yard covers 2,850 acres and reaches a total length of 8 miles. It is comprised of 315 miles of track, and every 24 hours, the Bailey Yard handles 10,000 railroad cars. Of those, 3,000 are sorted daily in the yard's eastward and westward yards, nicknamed "hump" yards. Using a mound, cresting 34 feet for eastbound and 20.1 feet for westbound trains the two hump yards allow four cars a minute to roll gently into any of 114 "bowl" tracks where they become part of trains headed for dozens of destinations. Together, these two yards have 18 receiving and 16 departure tracks.

Bailey Yard daily handles an average of 135 trains bound for cities as distant as the East, West and Gulf coasts of American as well as the Canadian and Mexican borders.

SUPPORT OUR CLUB MEMBERS !!

Carol Furness has **Carol Furness Postcards** in her home in Drain. Please call her for an appointment. She is also a regular at Piccadilly. Drop in!

Mike Hardy sells on eBay as "Mkhard69". He also sells from his home! Call him!

Paul Renner sells as "PNC" on eBay and has been known to sell at Piccadilly. He is now a full-time dealer!

Clarín Lewis has a booth in The Mercantile Vintage Mall at 145 Pioneer Parkway East, Springfield. He is also now a dealer.

Mike Luttio is a full-time dealer who sells at our shows and at buy, sell, trade nights. Call and leave a message if you'd like to deal with him outside of "hours."

Bill Witcraft of Dothan, Alabama sells on eBay as "Sergeantmajorbill."

Space is available at no charge for club members who wish to let others know they are available to sell philatelic items!

The large white building on the left of the photo is the Locomotive Repair Shop, and can handle the repair of 750 engines a month. The little white building below and further left of that is the "Golden Spike Tower", an 8 story museum/gift shop with an open observation deck on the 7th floor and an enclosed observation deck on the 8th. There is an inline repair facility for railcars, capable of repairing 18-20 cars an hour. Shifts at the entire facility run 24/7. The shop replaces 10,000 pairs of wheels yearly.

I'm not a big "train guy"...but I was impressed!

G.E.S.S. member Harry Shepherd, the President of the Coos Bay Stamp Club has established a web site for the Coastal Clubs (Coos Bay and Reedsport). He has added links to some good auction and retail sites. The Oregon Coast Stamp Clubs website can be reached at:

www.Oregoncoaststampclubs.com

How many of our G.E.S.S. members are named "Mike"? Or Michael?

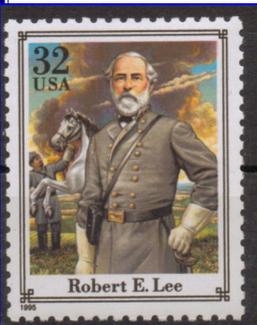
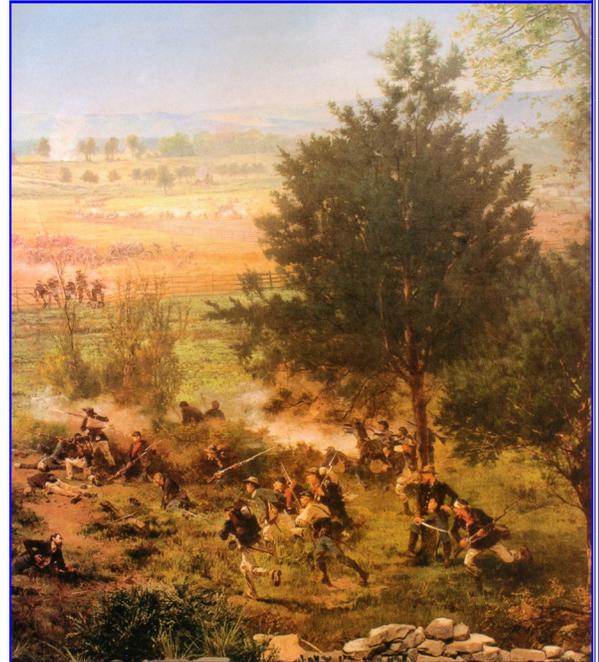
SEVEN !!!!!

GETTYSBURG BATTLEFIELD AND SOLDIER'S CEMETERY (continued from page 1)

Major Alfred J. Sellers of the 90th Pennsylvania earned the Medal of Honor for his actions on July 1, when he succeeded in having the regiment change front and resist the enemy attack from the north. The regiment has one of the more unusual monuments on the battlefield. According to oral tradition, an artillery shell smashed into a large oak tree, causing it to rain branches and pieces of splintered trunk down on the soldiers below. A soldier spotted a nest filled with baby robins that had survived their fall to earth. In the heat of battle the soldier picked up the nest and put it back up in the shattered tree. The monument shows the nest with babies and mother robin, and when viewed from the left side, a cannon ball can be seen in the shattered tree top! The monument was dedicated in 1888.

The second monument depicted, is located just outside the battlefield along the Baltimore Pike, where Pvt. George W. Sandoe of the 21st Pennsylvania Cavalry, a local militia unit, became the first Union soldier to die at Gettysburg when he fell on June 26 in a clash with Confederate cavalry. This monument was dedicated in 1894.

The new visitor's center contains not only a bookstore/giftshop, but also restaurants. The theater and museum, as well as the Cyclorama are all available with one ticket. They are well worth the time (we spent almost 4 hours in the Museum alone!) The Cyclorama is a very unique experience and should not be missed if you are fortunate enough to visit Gettysburg. Cycloramas were popular in the 1800s and were unique viewing experiences prior to the advent of motion pictures. A large oil painting on canvas, in a 360° circle, allowed viewers, standing on platforms in the middle to "experience" an event (usually a famous battle or religious event). The Gettysburg Cyclorama, originally painted by Paul Philippoteaux in 1883 is 377' long, 42' high, and weighs 12.5 tons. It was purchased by the National Park Service in the late 1940s, and underwent a 13 million dollar restoration in 2003, prior to its installation in the new Visitor's Center that opened in 2008. It is three-dimensional in that there is a sloping foreground with stone walls, shattered trees, battle debris, etc. up to the bottom of the painting. The scene is of "Pickett's Charge" on the last day of the battle. Through sound and light effects, the battle comes alive! (The artist even painted himself into the painting, as a Union officer, leaning against a tree, with a drawn sword resting on his knee! See photo at right!)



Confederate General R.E. Lee, (left) who had always chosen the ground on which he fought was defeated at Gettysburg, a location neither he, nor Union General G.G. Meade had chosen. Lee, seriously underestimated General Meade and the federal forces, and overestimated the abilities of some of his generals. The troops of both sides fought heroically, in battles so intense, that the fighting in a peach orchard and a wheat field forever identifies them as "THE Peach Orchard", and "THE Wheatfield."

At the conclusion of the battle, both armies moved on, leaving 21,000 wounded being taken care of by overworked medical personnel and civilians, and hundreds more dying each day, and the dead lying in the fields and streets where they had fallen, not to mention over 1000 dead horses and farm livestock. It fell upon the town of Gettysburg, population 2400 to attempt to bring order in the aftermath of the battle, repair damage, and hastily bury the dead. A national cemetery was planned and laid out on Cemetery Hill, on 17 acres purchased by the State of Pennsylvania. Close to 3,500 Union dead were reinterred in the new cemetery only after many months, as well as 1,664 unknowns. Interestingly enough, there are no (known) Confederates buried in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. The removal of Confederate dead from field burial plots was not undertaken until 7 years after the battle, upon the initiative of the Ladies Memorial Associations of Richmond, Raleigh, Savannah, and Charleston. In three and a half days, I feel I've only scratched the surface of understanding this battle. For Philatelists, there are several postal issues with respect to the Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg itself. How many can you find?

CALENDAR

SIGN-UP SHEETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MEETINGS!

NOVEMBER

- 7: Cottage Grove Library, 1-3 pm, Vanderplaat
- 11: Veterans Day
- 11: Club Meeting, 7-9 pm, Elections
- 26: Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER

- 5: Cottage Grove Library, 1-3 pm, Vanderplaat
- 6: Hanukkah begins at Sundown
- 9: Club Meeting, 7-9 pm, Christmas Party , Officers installation.
- 25: Christmas Day
- 31: New Year's Eve

NOTE: Northwest Philatelic Library is open on Saturdays, 10 am-2 pm, during the Stamp Fair and Collector's Corner.

NOVEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 
8	9	10	11 	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 
6 	7	8	9 	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 		



"To discourage anybody from shaking the gifts one of those boxes has been filled with hornets. Yep, I hate to think what those hornets might do if anybody shook their box."

Repetitive Events:

- Rose City Stamp Fair, 2nd Saturday of the month, OSS Clubhouse, Portland.
- Collectors Corner, 4th Saturday of the month, OSS Clubhouse, Portland.



GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY

PO Box 40068
Eugene, Oregon 97404

The Greater Eugene Stamp Society (G.E.S.S.) meets the second and fourth Wednesday at Saint Jude's Catholic Church, 43rd Avenue and Willamette Street. Visitors are always welcome! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for trading, bid board, and socializing. The business meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Applications are available at the meetings, at the GESS sponsored local Stamp Show held in March and September each year, or by contacting the club at the above address. Dues are \$15 a year for adults, \$5 a year for Juveniles under 18 years of age. Visit us on the web at: www.greatereugenestampclub.weebly.com

GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

NOV: Kyle, M.; Palmer, R.

DEC: Hulin, G.; Kwiatkowski, M.; Murray, Bo; Shepherd, H.

NEW WEB SITE & E-MAIL

Our new website is up and running at:

WWW.GREATEREUGENESTAMPCLUB.WEEBLY.COM

We also have an e-mail address at:

GREATEREUGENESTAMPCLUB@YAHOO.COM

**Answers to the quiz below:
Don't Peek!!!! Cover this box with a piece of paper!**

- 1. Emily Dickinson
- 2. Fifty
- 3. James Madison
- 4. Venezuela
- 5. Cordell Hull, 1933-44
- 6. Knoxville, Tennessee
- 7. The Philippines
- 8. 11 cents
- 9. Poet
- 10. Fredericksburg, Virginia

U.S. Stamp Quiz No. 36

(from 100 Trivia Quizzes for Stamp Collectors by Bill Olcheski copyright 1982, APS)

1. What poet is shown on an eight-cent stamp of 1971?
2. How many stars are on the flag stamp issued in 1968?
3. Who is on the four-cent value of the 1938 definitives?
4. Simon Bolivar was on a 1958 stamp. From what country does he come?
5. The man who served as Secretary of State longer than any other is on a 1963 stamp. Who is he?
6. A block of four stamps saluted the 1982 World's Fair. Where was it held?
7. The President of what country was featured on the first Champion of Liberty stamp?
8. What was the denomination of the 1965 stamp honoring the International Telecommunications Union?
9. Sidney Lanier appeared on a 1972 stamp. What was his occupation?
10. When the five-cent James Monroe stamp was issued in 1954, what was the first day city?

Give yourself five points for each correct answer for numbers 1-4.

Give yourself ten points for each correct answer for numbers 5-7.

Give yourself twenty-five points for each correct answer for numbers 8-9.

Give yourself fifty points for a correct answer to number 10.

Remember to:

Check the Sign up sheets for Cookie Monster (CM); Presentations; Show setup, tear-down and cleanup; Show Exhibit, Ride Share, and New Member Guide!

Also, let's each try to get one new member to join our Club in 2016 !!!