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BABY MAIL!

John Hotchner, father of four, thinks birth announcements make good postal history. We do, too!

The Periodicals

A wide-ranging sampling of excellent society journals!

Dr. Everett L. Parker



Here is another eclectic selection of philatelic journals for you to consider. The world of philatelic literature has so much good reading material available!

Books and monographs are appearing regularly, reflecting the depth of research being conducted by philatelists around the world. But one often overlooked facet of philatelic literature is the many society journals being published. The hope is that you will find a particularly interesting article and will want to join that society or study group. To that end, contacts are listed for each publication.

* *Pitcairn Log* is the journal of the Pitcairn Islands Study Group. While some might not recognize the name "Pitcairn," it is the South Pacific island known for the "Mutiny on the Bounty." The April-June 2017 issue included information about an "air drop" by parachute of mail scheduled in 1951, but which didn't actually happen until 1983. This is the first time facts about the earlier event have been uncovered and it's an interesting story.

Also, Capt. Julius Grigore wrote about opening Pitcairn to postal communication with the world in the 1920s, and there was a lengthy research piece on how the famous mutiny occurred—the short answer: blame it on paradise! There is also an article about a "mysterious" 1940s cover that appeared to be used twice, and there was information on a society auction recently ended.

The journal is printed in color in the 8.5 x 11 inch format and saddlestitched. For information, contact Dr. Vernon N. Kisling, Jr., P.O. Box 1511, High Springs, FL 32655. His email is: vkisling@aol.com.

* *Yule Log* is the quarterly publication of the Christmas Philatelic Club ... where it's always the holiday season! The January-March 2017 issue included

a lengthy overview by Christine Sanders on collecting Christmas-related philatelic material (excellent for newcomers to the topic), and Dr. Marion Rollings wrote about Yule-related philately on the Internet. All of the articles were nicely illustrated in color.

Christine Sanders is journal editor. It is produced in the 8.5 x 11 inch format and saddlestitched. For information, contact secretary/treasurer Jim Balog, P.O. Box 744, Geneva, OH 44041. His email is: jpb4stamps@windstream.net.

* *The Journal* is a publication of the United Nations Philatelists, Inc. The April 2017 issue included the first part of a series on "The Leticia Incident," a territorial dispute between Columbia and Peru. The article was nicely illustrated with covers, maps and other illustrations in color. Also, Blanton Clement Jr. wrote about the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, and Bill Ingram contributed a review of U.N.-related stamps issued in 2016.

Blanton Clement of Morrisville, Pennsylvania is editor. For information, contact secretary Kenneth Grant, F-11960 Kessler Rd., Baraboo, WI 53913. His email is: kenneth.grant@msn.com.

* *The SOSSI Journal* is a publication of the Scouts on Stamps Society International. The January-February 2017 issue contained information about an update to the society publication *Canadian Boy Scout & Girl Guide Philatelic Catalog*. The update includes a number of older covers which were not in the earlier version, and some recent material. As well, some of the material in the sections for both the 8th World Jamboree in 1955, and the 15th World Jamboree in 1983 have been reorganized. The new book is available online.

Also, Bill Shea reported on the forthcoming 2017 National Jamboree, which will be held in July in West Virginia. Randall S. Frank reported on a presentation given by Hallvard Slettebo on "Scouting Around the World." The presentation was given to a large audience at the Royal Philatelic Society London last October.

There were several other informative ar-

ticles, including Frederick P. Lawrence's "updates to the classics corner" and Kathryn Johnson's article on making a new first day cover exhibit. The journal is produced in the 8.5 x 11 inch size and in color. Since I received the electronic version, I can't address printing quality. Patrick R. Rourk of Norwood, New York is the editor. For information, contact Secretary Jay Rogers, 15 Hickory Court Ln., Hendersonville, NC 28792. His email is: Secretary@sossi.org.

* *Naval Log* is the journal of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society. A recent issue included the usual plethora of columns dealing with all aspects of military ship cancels. Richard Jones reported on a destroyer named after Lenah H. Sutcliffe Higbee, a pioneering U.S. Navy chief nurse. Also, John Young discussed early hand-drawn cachets on Navy Day covers. He also wrote about Deep Freeze 2016 in Antarctica. There was information on Bob Rawlins being inducted into the USCS Hall of Fame, and two pages of photographs were devoted to the annual convention earlier in the year.

Also, John Lyding reported on ships named after Medal of Honor awardees, and Steve Henderson covered unusual Navy censorship markings. The journal is produced in the 8.5 x 11 inch format and printed on coated stock paper in full color. It is saddlestitched, and Richard D. Jones of Ormond Beach, Florida is the editor. For information, contact secretary Steve Shay, 747 Shard Ct., Fremont, CA 94539. His email is: shaymure@flash.net.

* *Vatican Notes* is the journal of the Vatican Philatelic Society. It purports to be the only society devoted exclusively to Vatican City and Roman States philately. A recent issue of the journal included a postal history retrospective of the 1936 Catholic Press Exhibition stamp issue. This is actually the first part of a series, written by Greg Pirozzi. The exhibition was opened on May 12, 1936 by Pope Pius XI to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Vatican City newspaper.