Scouting stamp debuts July 27 in Virginia; ceremony planned at centennial jamboree

By Jay Bigalke

This year marks the centennial celebration of the Boy Scouts of America. The group has been honored before on United States stamps and postal stationery, but this year the postal honor is a bit vague.

A new 44¢ stamp inscribed with the word Scouting will be issued, but the stamp design doesn't specifically address the Boy Scouts of America by name. Officials with the U.S. Postal Service have stated that organization anniversaries are not honored on stamps.

Even so, the connection to the Boy Scouts is obvious. The new 44¢ Scouting stamp will be issued at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, a U.S. Army installation located near the town of Bowling Green.

The 2010 Boy Scout Jamboree will take place at Fort A.P. Hill from July 26 through Aug. 4.

The stamp's July 27 first-day ceremony will be held during the

IF THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL IS AUG. 23, 2010 (082310), IT'S TIME TO RENEW



The United States 44¢ Scouting stamp to be issued July 27 at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia.

jamboree in the court of flags area. The 11:30 a.m. event is free and open to the public.

The Postal Service recommends visitors enter at the main entrance gate off route 301. To

enter the military base, visitors should be prepared to show a driver's license or other government-issued identification. Visitors are asked for a \$10 donation to aid in the restoration of the site and to help defray the cost of the amenities and services provided to jamboree visitors.

From the main gate, visitors will be directed to parking at the jamboree welcome center. From the welcome center visitors can enjoy a scenic two-and-a-half mile walk along Thomas Road to the jamboree headquarters or take a jamboree bus from the welcome center to the Heth/Headquarters area bus stop.

Visiting hours for the public are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the ceremony.

The ceremony will include leaders of the Boy Scouts of America, according to the Postal Service, but details of who will participate

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These proportions of the control of

U.S. Scouting stamp ceremony at Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia

Continued from page 1 in the ceremony were not provided to Linn's prior to press deadlines.

The Postal Service ordered 40 million Scouting stamps from printer Avery Dennison of Clinton, S.C.

The stamp design was created by illustrator Craig Frazier of Mill Valley, Calif.

Two images of scouts are shown on the stamp.

The figure in the foreground standing on a mountain peak has binoculars, boots, a cap and a backpack. A larger background silhouette shows a second scout with a brimmed hat and kerchief

looking to the left through binoculars.

Frazier has also designed other items for the Postal Service, including the 37¢ Nurturing Love stamped envelope (Scott U651) issued in 2003 and the two versions of the 2006 39¢ Love: Two Bluebirds stamp (3976 and 4029).

The Postal Service will offer two first-day covers for the Scouting stamp.

An uncacheted FDC with a digital color postmark will be offered on Postal Service envelopes at \$1.50 each. An uncacheted FDC with a black postmark will cost 82¢.

Previous U.S. stamps





Designs of the Fort A.P. Hill, Va., pictorial first-day cancel and the digital color postmark for the Scouting stamp to be issued July 27.

and postal stationery have honored scouting.

A 4¢ stamp with a design by Norman Rockwell was issued in 1960 for the 50th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America (Scott 1145).

The Boy Scouts 75th anniversary was celebrated with a 22¢ stamp in 1985 (Scott 2161). The stamp

was part of a set of four stamps for International Youth Year that also celebrated the 75th anniversary of Camp Fire.

A 32¢ stamp in the 1998 Celebrate the Century pane for the 1910s also honored scouting (Scott 3183j).

In 1967, the United States celebrated the World Jamboree with a 6¢ airmail postal card (Scott UXC7) that shows the Boy Scouts emblem in the design.

The Scout movement began in England in 1907 under the leadership of British army officer Robert Baden-Powell.

The Boy Scouts of America was officially incorporated Feb. 8, 1910. William D. Boyce is credited with bringing the scouting movement to the United States.

In 1911, the Scout oath was established:

"On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times;

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to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."

Its merit badge program was also established in Scout 1911. Today, this program offers 121 different badges that help Scouts learn about sports, crafts, science, trades, business and future careers.

Stamp collecting, aviation, carpentry, athletics and hiking are among the many merit badges that nizations." Scouts can earn.

bonds during World War I, raising \$355 million.

During World War II, the Boy Scouts assisted with the war effort by helping with the war bond and savings stamp programs,

and by collecting needed material such as aluminum and rubber.

The first national Boy Jamboree took place in 1937. Approximately 20,000 Scouts attended the event.

The group's web site describes the Boy Scouts of America as "one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development orga-

Scouts are encouraged Boy Scouts sold liberty to participate in citizenship activities, personal fitness and other pursuits.

> Famous Boy Scouts include President Gerald R. Ford, astronaut Neil Armstrong, movie producer Steven Spielberg, and Wal-

44¢ Scouting stamp

FIRST DAY - July 27, 2010; city - Fort A.P. Hill, Va., and nationwide. DESIGN: — designer, typographer and artist— Craig Frazier, Mill Valley, Calif.; art director— Derry Noyes, Washington, D.C.; modeler - Avery Dennison; engraver - Trident.

PRINTING: process— gravure; printer and processor— Avery Dennison, Clinton, S.C.; press— Dia Nippon Kiko; inks— yellow, magenta, cyan, black, Pantone Matching System blue 299, PMS red 485; paper – prephosphored, type I; gum – self-adhesive; print quantity – 40 million stamps; format – panes of 20, from 160-subject cylinders; size - 0.84 inches by 1.42 inches (image); 0.99 inches by 1.56 inches (overall); 5.85 inches by 7.25 inches (full pane); plate numbers— "V" followed by six single digits; marginal markings— plate numbers in four corners of pane (front); "©2009 USPS," USPS logo, bar code "465400" in two corners of pane, price ".44 x 20 = \$8.80," plate position diagram, brief paragraph about scouting on the release paper of each stamp (back); USPS item No. - 465400.

First-day cancel ordering information

Collectors requesting first-day cancels are encouraged to purchase their own stamps and affix them to envelopes. The firstday cover envelopes should be addressed for return (a removable label may be used), and mailed in a larger envelope addressed to Scouting Stamp, Postmaster, 117 Milford St., Bowling Green, VA 22427-9998. Requests for first-day cancels must be postmarked by Sept. 27.

The Postal Service's uncacheted FDC for the 44¢ Scouting stamp is item No. 465461 at 82¢. USPS order numbers for stamps and FDCs also appear in Linn's 2010 U.S. Stamp Program on page 36.

Mart founder Sam Walton.

A nonprofit national stamp club studies postal items related to both the Boy Scout and Girl Scout movements. The Scouts on Stamps Society International has a web site at www.sossi. org with more information. Collectors can also contact SOSSI secretary Lawrence E. Clay, Box 6228, Kennewick, WA 99336.

Technical specifications and first-day cancel ordering information for the 44¢ Scouting stamp are provided in the box on this page.

Note that mail-in requests for the first-day cancels are being handled by the Bowling Green post office and are not being sent to Fort A.P. Hill for cancellation. ■



Scouting stamp really commemorates Boy Scout centennial

The United Postal Service is issuing a new 44¢ stamp July 27 inscribed "Scouting," and calls the issue "Celebrate Scouting." Yet nearly all the first-day cover cachets produced for this stamp will specifically honor the Boy Scouts of America in some form.

Very few, if any, of the FDCs will even mention any other scouting organization.

The stamp obviously honors the Boy Scouts of America. This year is the group's centennial. The first-day ceremony is being held at the Boy Scouts' National Scout Jamboree. The figures on the stamp appear to be male, and the smaller one is wearing the red flannel jacket that, at least in the 1960s.



This painted, hand-tooled leather event cover for the Native American Gathering of Nations was the overall winner of the American First Day Cover Society's 2008 cachet contest.

was often worn by older Boy Scouts, Explorers and adult leaders. The only Scouting officials involved in the announcement of the stamp last November were from the Boy Scouts of America.

The Girl Scouts of Amer-

1912. Camp Fire Girls, now simply Camp Fire, started in 1910, but wasn't incorporated until 1912, so it isn't that organization's centennial that is being commemorated.

Whatever official pronouncements to the conica wasn't formed until trary that the Postal Service

issues, this generic Scout- the organization. ing stamp is really commemorating the founding of the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. Cachetmakers are now beginning to recognize that.

There's another factor at work. Many male stamp collectors were Boy Scouts, and many of them earned the stamp collecting merit badge. The Girl Scouts don't have an equivalent. The closest is a badge for general collecting.

There is, therefore, a greater affinity between Boy Scouts and stamp collecting than between any other Scouting organization and philately.

Cachetmakers will commemorate the Boy Scouts of America centennial, even though the stamp

At the Americover show in August, the American First Day Cover Society will announce the results of its 2009 cachet contest. There are 16 categories, including two for young cachetmakers and one overall bestof-the-best prize.

Shown here is the painted, hand-tooled leather event cover by Elena Cornejo that won overall in 2008. The cover, for the Native American Gathering of Nations, also won the event-cover category.

This is Tom O'Hagan's final year as chairman of the contest. John Byrnes, a retired business education teacher and golf coach, and president of the Ajo Unified School District doesn't explicitly mention board, will succeed him. ■





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