

E. L. Vanderford: 1913-1994

by David R. Torre, ARA

Introduction

Fish and game philately lost one of its most prominent collectors during September of 1994. Elmore Vanderford passed away in his sleep at his long-time residence in Sacramento California. Known better as E. L. Vanderford or simply “Van” in philatelic circles, he had suffered from a variety of illnesses in recent years, including a chronic heart condition and asthma. These robbed him of much of his energy and time. For this reason he recently was unable to keep up the voluminous correspondence that had maintained faithfully for over 30 years. Although alternating between good days and bad, he was able to derive a great deal of enjoyment and personal satisfaction from the fish and game renaissance of the 1990s. For this, the author will be forever grateful.

Van started to collect stamps in 1922, at age nine. The following year he bought his first hunting license and began a lifelong pursuit of duck hunting (see Figure 1a). When California issued it's first (now legendary) “BOY” hunting licenses in 1928, Van was the right age to qualify. Van's carefully preserved, unfolded license is the finest recorded used example of this rare fish and game artifact (see Figure 1b).

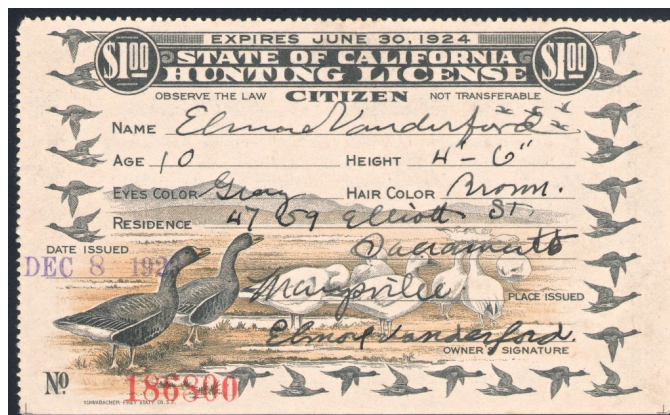


FIGURE 1A. AT AGE 10, VAN BOUGHT HIS FIRST CALIFORNIA HUNTING LICENSE.

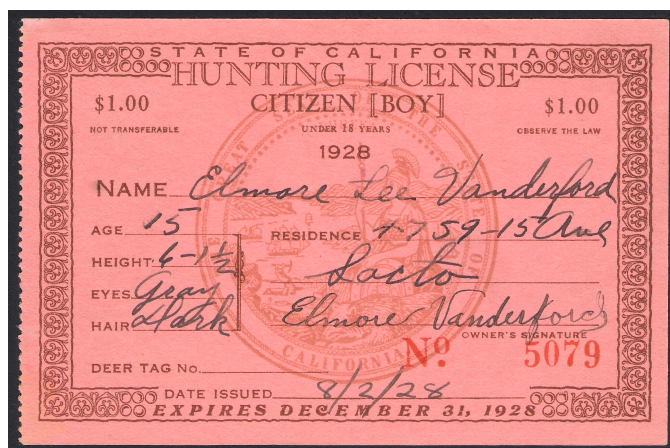


FIGURE 1B. AT AGE 15, VAN RECEIVED ONE OF THE SHORT-LIVED BOY HUNTING LICENSES.

It seems natural that one day his two great passions would become inextricably combined in the form of fish and game stamp collecting. For many years Van was a general collector of U.S. and British stamps. Eventually, he became interested in U.S. revenue stamps and joined the American Revenue Association. Through the ARA, he made contact with Frank Applegate and Bert Hubbard. Applegate and Hubbard were the two most influential state revenue dealers on the west coast. Applegate was one of the first dealers to specialize in fish and game stamps (see Figure 3a and b).

STATE REVENUE STAMPS

Approvals ready to submit - all states. State Game and Fish Stamps a specialty. U. S. Beer Stamps bought and sold. Pennsylvania Municipal and Township Real Estate Transfer Stamps wanted.

FRANK L. APPLEGATE

615 So. Oakdale Ave. Medford, Ore.

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FIGURE 3A. FRANK APPLEGATE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST STAMP DEALERS TO SPECIALIZE IN FISH AND GAME STAMPS. TWO ADS APPLEGATE RAN IN PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS ARE SHOWN HERE AND IN THE ILLUSTRATION BELOW.

it was the form of separation used at the time.

order was shipped in sheets of stamps on March 5, 1934. The use of specially overprinted Playing Cards for the Virgin Islands was discontinued in October 1938.

Editor's note: This article was prepared for and first appeared in the edition of Linn's Weekly Stamp for October 29, 1962, and is being reprinted.)

MORE NOTES ON HALLMARK DATEDS

The September 1962 issue were some dates that had appeared on playing card revenues used by the Ark card people on their playing

through the courtesy of Miller H. ARA 904, we are able to give following expanded list:

-61	1-20-62	APR 62
-61	1-26-62	MAY 62
-61	3-2-62	JUN 62
5-61	3-9-62	JUL 62
-61	3-20-62	SEP 62
9-61		

Bureau Precancel was issued in November 1962, so there may be no of these issued.

Hallmark playing cards are in West Germany and the U.S.

MEMBERS GIVE BACK ISSUES

would like to acknowledge the donation of three of our members by issues of The American Revenuer. They are Everett C. Robinson, #435, Robert C. Hooghkirk, ARA and Robert M. Leard, ARA

we were added to the supply of issues available to members, except a few copies which were needed to help complete the second set of magazine which we are attempting to publish for the use of the ARA

The American Revenuer

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

This issue completes the second year of the present editor's tenure. We have not been completely satisfied with the work and feel at times that progress is much too slow. We have frankly been quite disappointed at the scarcity of articles from the members. If the contributions of about half a dozen members were eliminated, there would be practically nothing to print. Surely, some of the members have something they can contribute for the information of their fellow members.

As has been our custom for several years, there will be no issue for July and August. Publication will resume in September.

At this writing, about 60 ballots have been received in our special election to fill the vacancy in the office of vice-president. All ballots must be received by June 15. If you have not yet sent in yours, do so promptly if you want it to count.

As was mentioned in an earlier column, the editor will spend about two months in Worcester, Massachusetts, again this summer. Would be happy to meet with any of our members in the area. If for any reason, you wish to write to the editor there, the address will be Honer Weob, Morgan Hall, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester 9, Massachusetts. Please do not send any mail there after the first of August, as we will be leaving there toward the middle of the month, although will be a couple of weeks before we arrive home.

Any non-urgent mail should be sent to the regular address and will be taken care of upon return.

Attention has just been called to an announcement that the government of the Isle of Man is considering the ordering of distinctive fiscal stamps to replace those of the United Kingdom overprinted "Isle of Man." It is further stated that a factor likely to influence the decision is the extent to which the new stamps would be in

June 1963

demand by philatelists.

It is said that comments on the proposal will be welcomed by The Government Secretary, Government Office, Isle of Man. Letters should quote the reference number S.2811/1.

In the opinion of your editor, this is an unfortunate development. One of the attractions of revenues has been that they are issued primarily for use. Something that can't be said for many postal issues. The editor collects postal issues too, but limits himself primarily to used items, stamps that have been issued and used for the purpose for which they are issued. But, everyone to his own opinions.

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A FINE used copy of this large proprietary stamp on violet paper

\$225.00

EDGEWOOD STAMP COMPANY
Boynton Beach, Florida

Ohio Revenue Stamps

Approvals on request.

10 Ohio cosmetic stamps (mint) \$1.00

C. A. REED

4059 Garrett Dr., Columbus, Ohio
ARA #339

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STATE GAME and FISHING STAMPS

Add them to your U. S. Ducks.

Also other State Revenues of all kinds on approval ready to send out.

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FRANK L. APPLGATE

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FIGURE 3B. ENLARGEMENT OF APPLGATE'S AD SUGGESTING COLLECTORS ADD OTHER FISH AND GAME STAMPS TO THEIR FEDERAL DUCK STAMPS - AND THAT IS WHAT VAN AND CHOSE TO DO.

Applegate and Hubbard introduced Van to state revenues, which at the time included the Kansas quail stamps and Virginia big game, National Forest and elk stamps. Being an avid hunter, Van immediately took a keen interest in the hunting license stamps and he began to buy these from them for his fledgling collection.

Three of Van's earliest hunting stamp purchases turned out to be rarities over time. It is believed that the 1938-39 Virginia National Forest stamps that were issued to hunters were serial numbered (as all used copies on or off license are numbered). Most of the stamps surviving today are likely unused remainders as they lack the number. In 1940, Kansas printed and issued their quail stamps as single stamp booklet panes with a tab at the left. They ran out of stamps at the end of the season and sold a small number of stamps to hunters and collectors from a proof sheet of ten. Van was fortunate to acquire this variety, probably from dealer Frank Applegate. The Virginia elk was one of my favorite stamps in his collection. It is unusually well centered and has huge margins (see Figure 4a, b and c).



FIGURE 4A. UNUSED NUMBERED 1938-39 VIRGINIA NATIONAL FOREST.

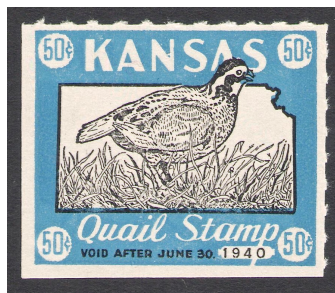


FIGURE 4B. 1939-40 KANSAS QUAIL FROM PROOF SHEET OF TEN.



FIGURE 4C. 1946-47 VIRGINIA RESIDENT ELK.

Collecting Fish and Game Stamps

Elmore's wife, Jane, shared in her husband's hobbies. She hunted ducks, loved to fish and also had a topical collection of fish stamps. In 1948 Michigan issued the first pictorial fishing stamps in the U.S. Van, having learned of these stamps and thinking they would make a nice gift for his wife, began to buy one for her each year directly from the state agency (see Figure 5). Van grew to like the fishing stamps himself and soon developed an interest in collecting fish and game stamps in general. It was not long before he was more involved in them than Jane was.



**FIGURE 5. THE EXACT STAMP THAT VAN GAVE HIS WIFE JANE IN 1948.
THIS BEAUTIFUL MICHIGAN TROUT STAMP INSPIRED VAN
TO MOVE PAST COLLECTING JUST HUNTING STAMPS.**

He began a practice of purchasing at least one or two examples of each stamp from various conservation agencies while they were still valid. This meant paying full face value. However, Van knew that (for various reasons) occasionally there were no remainders made available to collectors at a reduced fee following the season. As he learned of increasing numbers of state and local governments that issued stamps, he took on a series of “ordering partners” to help him with this task. Were it not for Van and his ordering partners, examples of many of the rarer fish and game stamps would not exist today—especially in unused condition (see Figure 6a, b and c).

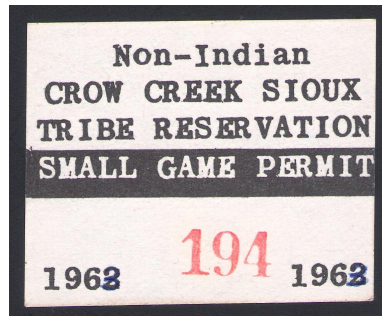


FIGURE 6A. IN THE CASE OF THE 1963 CROW CREEK SMALL GAME STAMP, NOT EVEN ANOTHER USED EXAMPLE HAS BEEN RECORDED IN OVER 50 YEARS.



FIGURE 6B. 1966 MARION COUNTY DUCK. VAN PURCHASED THE ONLY UNUSED EXAMPLE FOR 50 CENTS DURING THE SEASON.

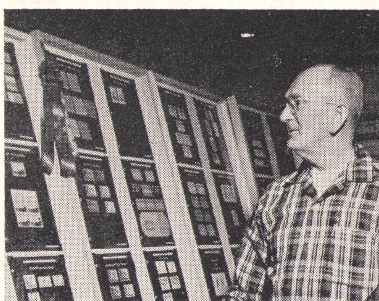


FIGURE 6C. 1970-71 MONTANA NR BIRD. \$25.00 MUST HAVE HURT IN 1971.

n the 1950s Van began to correspond with other collectors which he contacted through The American Revenuer. These included John Bobo, Charles Herman, Joseph Janousek, Morton Dean Joyce and John Theil. These pioneer collectors enjoyed sharing information and trading stamps among themselves. All the while, Van was becoming more infatuated with the hobby—and more knowledgeable. The thing that appealed to him the most was the “thrill of the hunt” for new and elusive items. Joseph Janousek in particular would have a big influence on Van’s life (see Figure 7).

REVENUE STAMP COLLECTOR'S WHO'S WHO

by William T. Norris



JOSEPH J. JANOUSEK

We are all familiar with the listing of State Game Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps that has been appearing in the American Revenuer for some time. For this interesting and excellent work we revenue stamp collectors are greatly indebted to Joseph J. Janousek of Glendale, Arizona.

Mr. Janousek was born August 28th, 1891 in a small mountain town in the northern part of Bohemia, which at that time was part of the Austria-Hungary Empire. He came to America as a young man, settled in Chicago, and was employed by the Chicago & North Western Railway where he spent 37½ years in several mechanical and supervisory positions in the maintenance of railroad equipment. About 10 years ago, illness forced Mr. Janousek to retire, and at that time he moved to Glendale, Arizona, a thriving city on the outskirts of Phoenix.

For over 40 years Mr. Janousek has collected stamps. His collections include postal, war savings, and an exceedingly fine collection of playing card stamps.

In 1948, when Michigan issued the first Trout Stamp Mr. Janousek started his collection of Game and

Fishing Stamps. He has found these stamps the most fascinating group collected up to the present time. Mr. Janousek has had to carry on an extensive lot of correspondence with state official and offices, not to mention other collectors, in his pursuit of these elusive stamps. His listing currently running in the Revenuer is the most comprehensive study of these stamps yet produced.

Since he moved to Arizona, Mr. Janousek has been active in stamp club affairs in the Phoenix area. On several occasions he has exhibited segments of his collection. His collection of Playing Card Stamps entered in the show held in commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Phoenix Philatelic Association, in March 1958, won an award. At that time the daily press gave considerable publicity to Mr. Janousek's collections of Playing Card Stamps, and also the Game Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps. This was the largest show ever staged in Arizona up to that time, and revenue stamp collecting certainly came in for some most favorable comment.

ARA members passing through Arizona should by all means make it a point to spend an hour with Joe Janousek and his charming wife, Theresa. It will be an hour well spent and long remembered—pleasant people, living in a pleasant home, amid pleasant surroundings. No matter how enthusiastic you may be about revenue stamp collecting, you are bound to pick up more of it from Joe Janousek.

PATRONIZE THE A.R.A. LIBRARY

May, 1960

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FIGURE 7. JOSEPH JANOUSEK WAS A KEY FIGURE IN VAN'S LIFE.

In April of 1959, Joseph Janousek started writing a regular column in *The American Revenuer*. In his column, Janousek attempted to list all of the fish and game stamps that had been issued up until that time. This was a significant event in Van's life for two reasons. First, Janousek enlisted the assistance of several fellow collectors, including Van. This had the effect of getting Van more involved in organized philately. Second, and far more important, it would later serve as the inspiration for Van to compile his own *Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps* – essentially an update of Janousek's work and the accomplishment that Van is most remembered for in philatelic circles (see Figure 8).

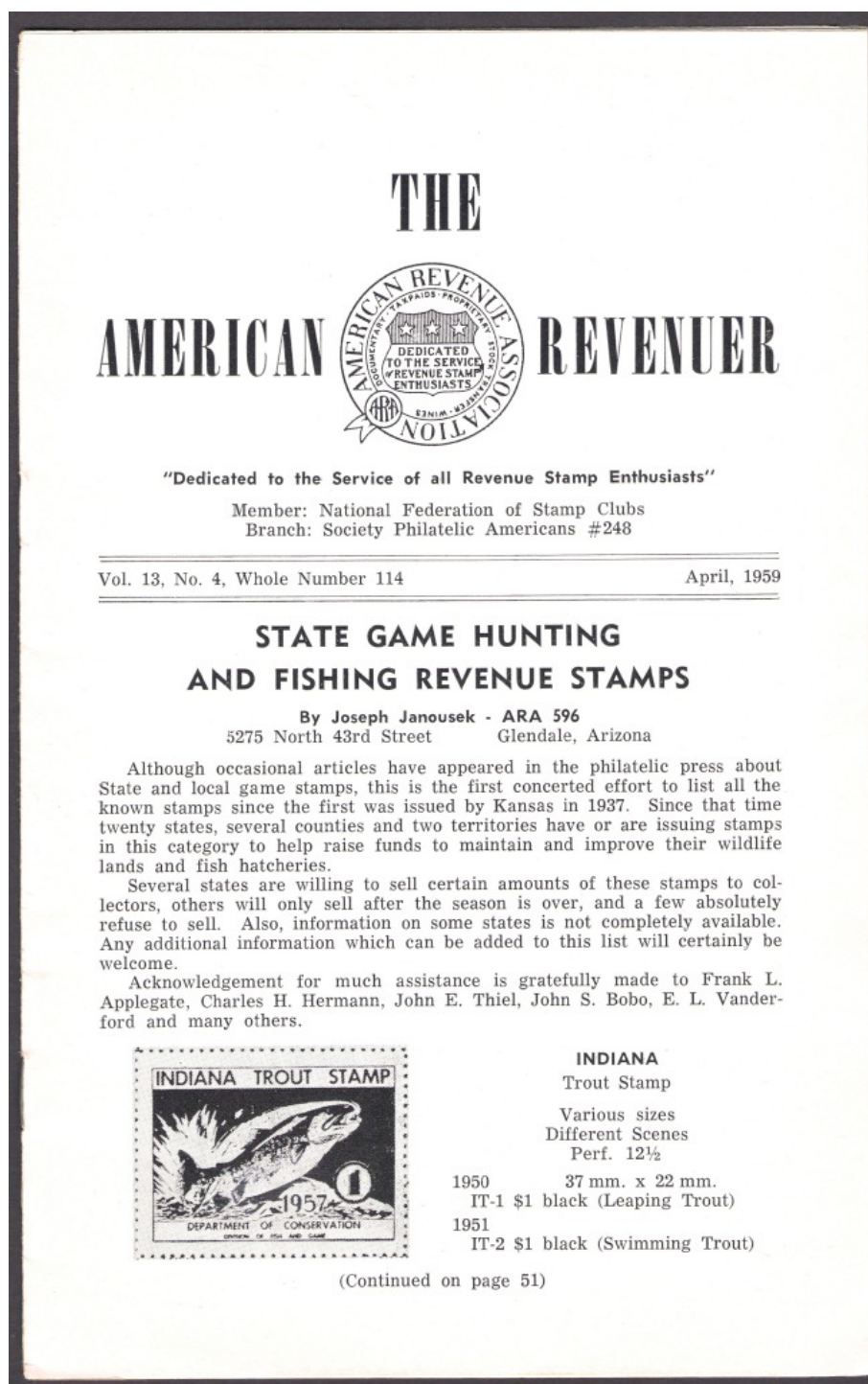


FIGURE 8. JANOUSEK'S WORK SERVED AS THE INSPIRATION FOR VAN.

Getting Involved With the SRS Newsletter

The State Revenue Society began publication of the SRS Newsletter in 1959. The newsletter always contained a great deal of information about fish and game stamps due in part to the fact that many SRS members (including editor David C. Strock) were interested in these stamps. Although Van did not contribute original articles in the beginning, many issues of the newsletter contained his additions and corrections to articles and news releases which had previously appeared. Van was becoming recognized by revenue collectors as an authority in the fish and game field (see Figure 9).

UTAH DISCOVERY - Mr. Vanderford sends a photocopy of a recent discovery, a 1940 Buck Deer stamp. This is black on pink, imperf all four sides. Purpose of the stamp appears to be to restrict the licensee to take Buck deer only - and in the Wasatch District only. Van would appreciate any information on this or other possible Utah stamps of a similar character.

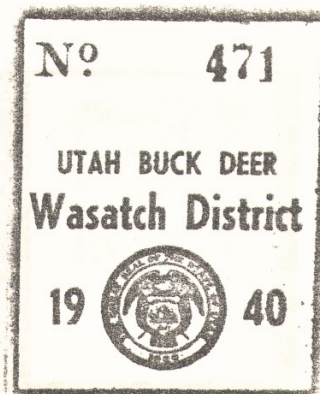


FIGURE 9. TYPICAL OF THE SMALL PIECES OF FISH AND GAME INFORMATION VAN SHARED WITH COLLECTORS THROUGH THE STATE REVENUE NEWSLETTER BEFORE EMBARKING ON HIS LIFE'S WORK, THE HANDBOOK OF FISH AND GAME STAMPS.

In the early 1960s Joseph Janousek passed away and Van helped his wife sell the collection he had formed. Van was able to add several major rarities to his own growing collection at this time. Most notable were the 1956 Delaware non-resident trout stamp (see Figure 10) and the Puerto Rico hunting license and validation stamp dating from the 1950s (see Figure 11). Both items were the only recorded examples and had been written up by Janousek in his State Game Hunting and Fishing Revenue Stamps column which was published in *The American Revenuer*.

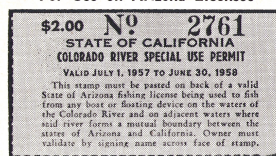
Delaware began issuing resident trout stamps in 1956. It is believed that Delaware also experimented with the idea of requiring non-resident anglers to purchase a separate stamp at a higher fee in 1956 (perhaps by cutting up a pane of proofs for unlike the resident stamps, the non-resident stamp is imperforate). In his column, Janousek reported that only three non-resident stamps were sold, which included one he had purchased for his own collection (see Figure 10). Delaware apparently decided against the idea and did not begin to print and issue separate non-resident stamps on a regular basis until 1972. The Janousek stamp reached legendary status during Van's lifetime and is probably the most iconic of all U.S. fishing stamps today.

STATE GAME HUNTING AND FISHING REVENUE STAMPS

By Joseph J. Janousek
5275 North 43rd Street
Glendale, Arizona

CALIFORNIA

Colorado River Fishing Stamp
For Use on Arizona Licenses



64mm.x34mm.

The fiscal year is July 1 to June 30
2 stamps per pane in booklets of 20
Roul. 9 1/2

- 1954-1955
C/AF-1 \$2 black on lemon yellow
1955-1956
C/AF-2 \$2 black on white
1956-1957
C/AF-3 \$2 black on light green
1957-1958
C/AF-4 \$2 black on yellow
1958-1959
C/AF-5 \$2 black on light green

Fishing License



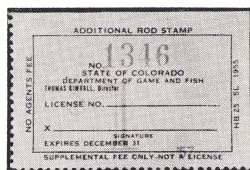
50mm.x30mm.

Golden Trout—Official State Fish
5 stamps per pane in booklets of 25
Black serial numbers printed on back
Roul. 9 3/4—straight edge L and R
1958. Issued on January 1st
CF-1 \$1 dark brown on pinkish buff

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COLORADO

Additional Fishing Rod Stamp
For Use on Certain Lakes and Streams

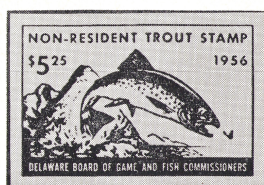


45mm.x30mm.

2 stamps per pane in booklets of 20
Lettering in black
Serial numbers and year in red
Printed on the back in black: "Sign
and paste to back of fishing license."
Perf. 12 1/2

1955 to date.
CX-1 \$1 black on white
(Same type stamp issued for each
year, only the year is changed by
red hand stamp)

DELAWARE Trout Fishing Stamp



50mm.x33mm.

Leaping Trout
Continued on page 45

The American Revenuer

STATE GAME (Continued)

1956. Resident Perf. 12
DT-1 \$2.10 black on light blue
Non-resident Imperf.
DT-2 \$5.25 black on greenish blue
(Only three stamps of the \$5.25 non-
resident stamp were sold. All the
others were destroyed.)
1957. Imperf.
DT-3 -2.10 blue on yellow
1958
DT-4 \$2.10 red on white

EDITOR'S NOTES

(Continued)

Our Canadian fellow member, Josef Schonfeld has published his Revised Literature List No. 2. Here again is another opportunity to garner those elusive books and pamphlets that treat revenue stamps. If you did not receive this list and are interested, send your request to Mr. Schonfeld at 4543 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver, 8, B. C., Canada.

Recently, one of our Internal Revenue Service District Offices came upon some old revenue stamps that had been around for quite a few years. The question was what to do with them? The local Postmaster advised that he would redeem the stamps and give the IRS people cash for the stamps if they (the Stamps) were stuck down on paper. So the IRS people went about the task of applying all the stamps to paper. I didn't observe this operation, but arrived on the scene just after the arrangement had been accomplished. Needless to say, the Postmaster got a wonderful bargain and didn't even know it.

Why not let me show you some of the STATE GAME and FISHING stamps that Mr. Janousek has been writing about. Also other state revenues, of course—on approval, and all ready to go.

FRANK L. APPLGATE

615 South Oakdale Ave.

ARA No. 10

Medford, Oregon
(127)

March, 1960

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HELP WANTED

Howard B. Beaumont (ARA 247), 506 Stevenson Lane, Towson, Baltimore 4, Maryland, is preparing an article for the Revenuer that will treat U. S. revenue stamps used for postal purposes.

For many years Mr. Beaumont has been interested in revenue stamps that have been subjected to postal use. While he is familiar with such material in the collections of some ARA members, he feels much additional light may be shed on this subject if other members make known their holdings of this type of revenues. As Mr. Beaumont is anxious to make the record as complete as possible he is requesting any information in the hands of other members relative to this matter.

About 30 years ago a group of collectors engaged in plating some of our revenue stamps. Mr. Beaumont advises that considerable pertinent data was gathered, and a fair start made on the overall project. No record of this effort has been published, and it will possibly be lost unless steps are taken to accomplish this project. Any member interested, or having information on plating U. S. revenue stamps might do well for our hobby by contacting Mr. Beaumont.

WANTED: 1st issue cancels, bank, R.R., insurance Co., printed, fancy, etc., also complete bankchecks. Will buy or trade. Contact

J. D. BULKLEY

45 Glover St. San Francisco 9, Calif.
(123)

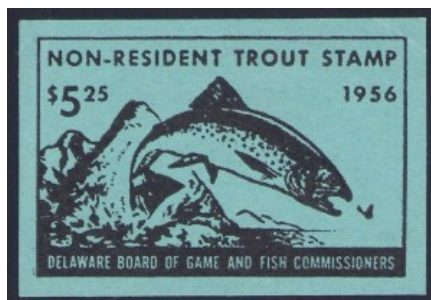


FIGURE 10. JANOUSEK'S ORIGINAL LISTING (ABOVE)
AND THE LEGENDARY 1956 DELAWARE NR TROUT STAMP.

Janousek also reported in his column that Puerto Rico first started using the license and stamp system in 1951. The license allowed the holder to hunt for all game for which there was a season, including waterfowl. The current \$10 Internal Revenue stamp was used to validate the license, which also served as a permit to carry firearms. The stamp was torn in half, with the bottom portion being affixed to the license and the top affixed to the license application. For his column, Janousek sketched a drawing of the missing top portion and used it for an illustration (see Figure 11a). For over thirty years, the Janousek/Vanderford/Torre license was the only example recorded (see Figure 11b). Then in the 1990s, waterfowl stamp collector Jeannette Rudy acquired a second example. The Rudy license is now in the Csaplár collection, along with several others from a collector's fantasy flea market find in 2015 (this will be the subject of a future blog post).



FIGURE 11A. JANOUSEK'S ORIGINAL SKETCH OF THE MISSING TOP PORTION USED TO ILLUSTRATE HIS COLUMN IN THE AMERICAN REVENUEUR.



FIGURE 11B. THE 1954-55 PUERTO RICO LICENSE WITH THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THE STAMP AFFIXED. THE STAMP WAS ORIGINALLY FOLDED OVER, HOWEVER, JANOUSEK SOAKED AND STRAIGHTENED IT OUT TO DISPLAY IN AN EXHIBIT.

The Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps

In the mid 1960s Dr. Kenneth Pruess, a serious collector of fish and game stamps, became the editor of the SRS Newsletter. He realized that Van had developed a tremendous amount of specialized knowledge — knowledge that should be published for the benefit of others. Pruess was able to persuade Van to undertake the considerable task (even then) of writing a comprehensive handbook on fish and game stamps. For over six years Van worked on this project. As each new section was completed Pruess would publish it in the SRS newsletter. By 1968 Van was given the title of Assistant Editor (Fish and Game) for the SRS. When all of the state and local governments that had issued stamps were covered, the sections were updated and in 1973 published by the SRS as The Handbook of Fish and Game Stamps [by] E. L. Vanderford (see Figure 12).

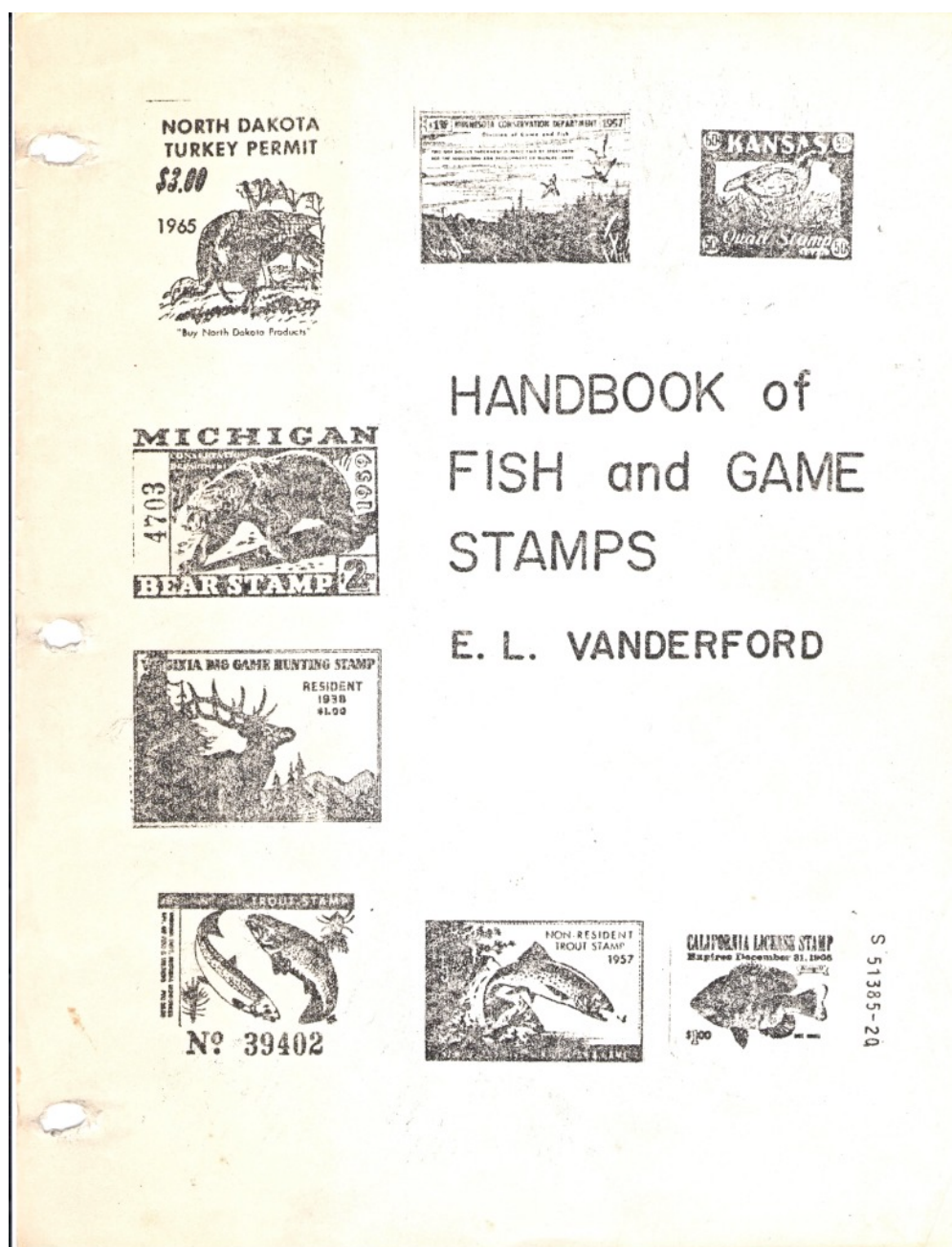


FIGURE 12. ORIGINAL FIRST PRINTING COVER FOR VANDERFORD'S LOOSELEAF HANDBOOK OF FISH AND GAME STAMPS.

This tremendous effort on Van's part was important to the hobby's development for many reasons. First, the regular publication of in-depth information about fish and game stamps over six-plus years resulted in a sizable contingent of what are now known as "old time" collectors. Many of these collectors would later get other collectors started and so on. Second, in an attempt to publish the most accurate and comprehensive information possible, Van expanded his network of correspondents. Consisting of license agents, license section supervisors and collectors from every stamp-issuing state, this network developed an unprecedented body of information about fish and game stamps. This information all filtered through Van to others, first via the SRS Newsletter and eventually his handbook. Finally, the handbook was a substantial philatelic work providing credibility and stability to this non-traditional collecting area. It served as the hobby's bible for nearly 20 years and is still a valuable reference today. Upon completion of the hand book, Van was elected to the SRS Board of Governors.

In the early 1970s Van made three important acquisitions that left him with the finest collection of fish and game stamps at that time. He purchased the collection of the late Mrs. Robert Powell of Iowa, the 1938 Pymatuning Lake waterfowl stamp and the 1973 Colorado North Central Goose stamp.

Mrs. Powell was a remarkable person. An attorney by trade, she was an avid sportswoman, a champion trapshooter and a wildlife artist of considerable merit. Her original artwork is featured on the album pages of her collection (see Figures 13a and b). Above all, she loved fish and game stamps. She did a fair amount of research which she published in the SRS Newsletter and on the exhibit pages of her collection. Her exhibit of fish and game stamps won at least one blue ribbon taking "First — U.S. Non-Postage" at WATEX in 1969 (see Figure 13c). In Van's own estimation, Mrs. Powell's collection exceeded his own at the time of her death.

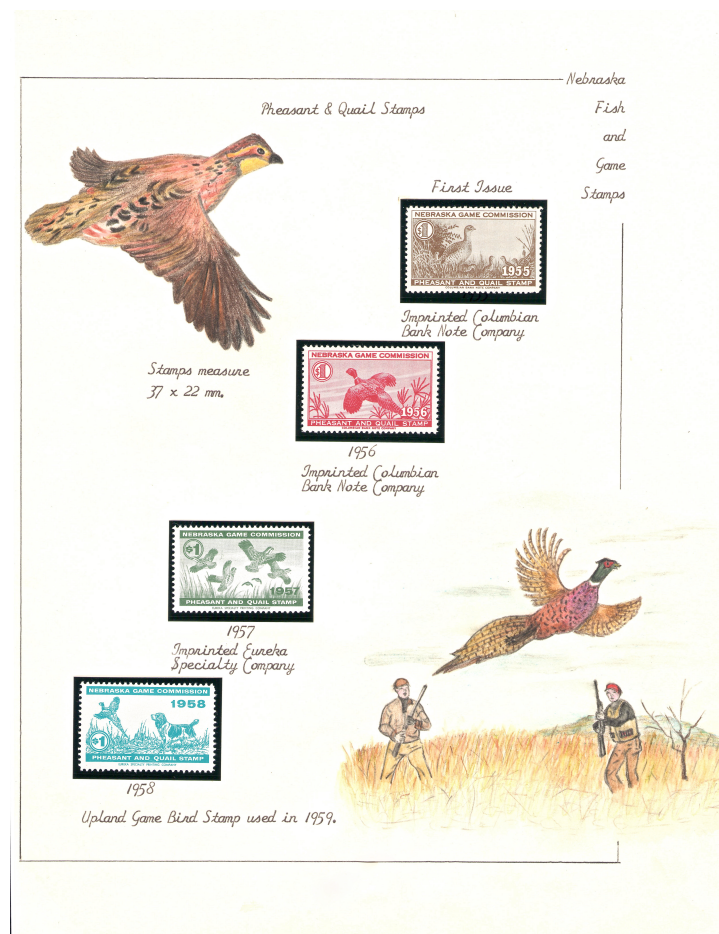


FIGURE 13A. NEBRASKA PHEASANT AND QUAIL ALBUM PAGE WITH MRS. POWELL'S ARTWORK OF A QUAIL IN FLIGHT AND PHEASANT HUNTERS.

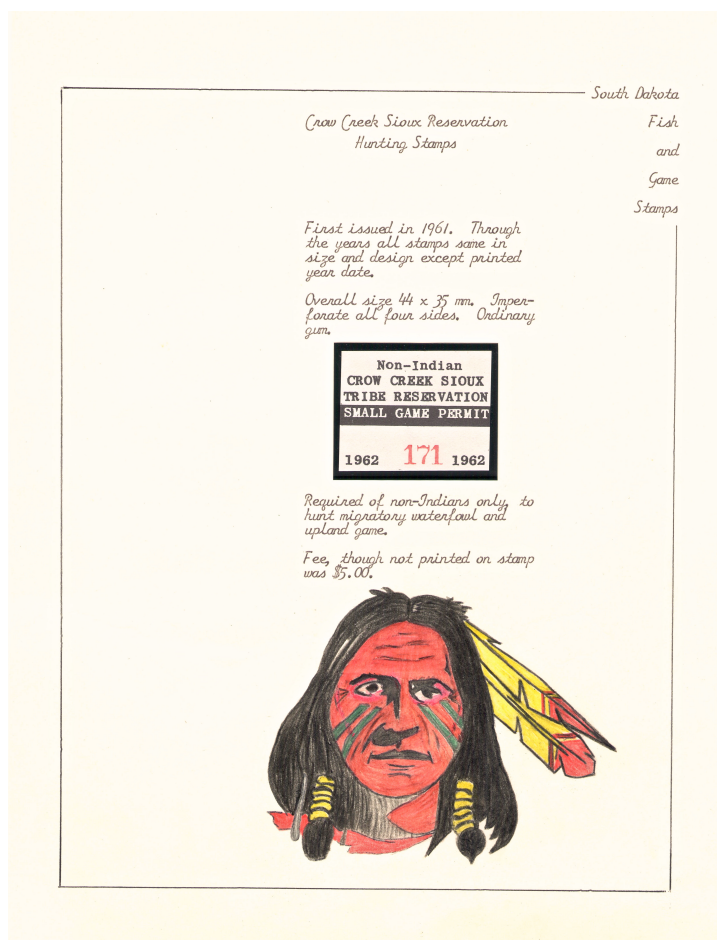


FIGURE 13B. CROW CREEK ALBUM PAGE WITH MRS. POWELL'S ARTWORK OF A SIOUX BRAVE. MRS. POWELL WAS ONE OF ONLY A HANDFUL OF COLLECTORS IN THE 1960S TO WRITE TO THE TRIBE AND PURCHASE AN EXAMPLE OF THEIR STAMPS.

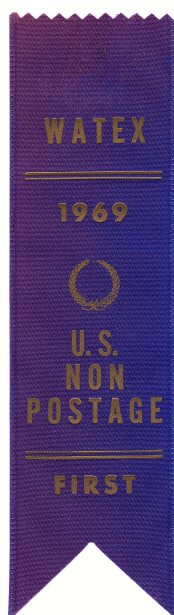


FIGURE 13C. ONE OF THE BLUE RIBBONS THAT VAN ACQUIRED ALONG WITH HER COLLECTION.

Two things distinguished Mrs. Powell's collection from Van's. First, she was a person of considerable wealth and could buy whatever she wanted. This often included high face value fish and game stamps which Van and other collectors could not reasonably afford. Second, Powell was one of the first fish and game collectors who desired to obtain both an unused example plus one on license showing the usage. Van was never very interested in saving stamps on license and this was always the major weakness of his collection. After buying the Powell collection intact, he sold or traded off nearly all of the licenses. These included some great rarities such as a pair of California 1958 inland fishing stamps with "Indian" No Fee overprint (see Figure 14). It should be noted that while Van chose not to keep them himself he was in fact the original source for many of the important licenses in collections today. (Even Mrs. Powell obtained many of her best licenses from Van prior to her death.)

CALIFORNIA SPORT FISHING LICENSE EXPIRES DEC. 31, 1958
VALID ONLY IN OCEAN WATERS
 See license stamp requirements below to fish elsewhere. **No Fee**
NO. 16931 NF

Name EMILY MCKINLEY Age 66
 Address 400 SADE OVE WAY Height 5-7
 City SEAL BEACH, CALIF Eyes BLUE
 Date Issued 11-18-58 Hair RED
 Weight 119
 Sex FEMALE

Emily McKinley
 SIGNATURE AT TIME OF PURCHASE
 Issued By F&G HEADQUARTERS INYO-MONO TROUT POSSESSION TAG NO.

CALIFORNIA LICENSE STAMP
 Expires December 31, 1958
 \$1.00
 Golden Trout - Official State Fish

CALIFORNIA LICENSE STAMP
 Expires December 31, 1958
 \$1.00
 Golden Trout - Official State Fish

INDIAN
 TO FISH FROM OR ON A BOAT OR OTHER FLOATING DEVICE ON THE WATERS OF THE COLORADO RIVER AND ON ADJACENT WATER WHERE SAID RIVER FORMS A MUTUAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE STATES OF ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA.
 FIRMLY AFFIX HERE A 1958 ARIZONA COLORADO RIVER SPECIAL USE PERMIT.
 PERMIT MUST BE SIGNED IN INK ACROSS THE FACE.

FIGURE 14. ONE OF THE GREAT RARITIES OF FISH AND GAME STAMPS, VAN SOLD THIS LICENSE TO THE ADVANCED COLLECTOR SYLVIA TOMPKINS SHORTLY AFTER ACQUIRING THE POWELL COLLECTION.

With the Powell collection came a large number of duplicates, for not only did Van already have most of the individual stamps, but Mrs. Powell collected multiples as well. Van was always somewhat of a dealer, though frequently helping collectors to add to their collections as little or no financial gain for himself. His attitude changed after purchasing the Powell collection. From this point on he began to think more in terms of making a modest profit. It may surprise many collectors to know that Van eventually built up quite a stamp business. There is no question that he amassed one of the largest stocks of fish and game stamps of all time. He ran a variety of ads to sell these stamps in hunting and fishing magazines, but operated fairly low key in philatelic circles.

Pymatuning!

The early 1970s was when Van acquired the two crown jewels of his collection. The 1938 Pymatuning Lake waterfowl stamp was the earliest state issued waterfowl stamp on record and the only recorded example. Discovered by Terry Hines over thirty years after it was issued, this stamp received a great amount of publicity in philatelic publications. For many years it remained the only Pymatuning waterfowl stamp known to collectors. Van obtained the stamp from Hines in a trade for several federal duck stamps he was missing (see Figure 15). Over time, several other Pymatuning waterfowl and fishing stamps have been discovered. However, the 1938 waterfowl stamp remains unique and this has earned it the nickname “the British Guiana of the waterfowl stamp hobby”.

July-August 1992

State Revenue Newsletter

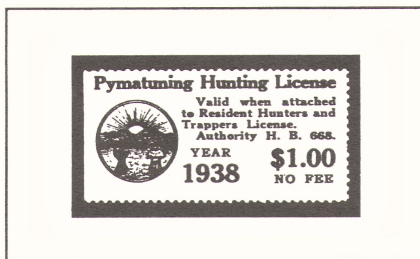
Page 5

Unique 1938 Pymatuning Lake Duck Stamp Discovered In 1971

By Terence Hines

The 1938 Pymatuning Lake duck stamp is one of the rarest of all state issued duck stamps. Only one copy is known to exist. The Scott federal/state duck stamp catalog lists another Pymatuning stamp from a later year and this, too, may be unique. Pymatuning Lake is a reservoir on the Ohio Pennsylvania border.

I discovered the 1938 stamp in Washington, D.C. in May 1971. My sophomore year at Duke University had just ended and I was flying back from Durham, N.C., to my parents' home in Hanover, N.H. I spent the day visiting friends and sight-seeing in Washington. It was, as I recall, a lovely, warm, sunny day. I happened to pass a small stamp shop and, of course, went in



and asked if they had any back of the book type of material. I do not remember either the name or address of the shop. I was handed a cigar box full of miscellaneous revenue and cinderella material. In this mess I noticed an odd hunting stamp with no state name, but a familiar state seal. I paid 25 cents for the stamp and left.

When I got home I unpacked and found

the stamp. A brief check in the back issues of the *State Revenue Newsletter* and relevant catalogs showed that it had not been previously reported. So I sent it to E. L. Vanderford, even then the acknowledged dean of state hunting and fishing stamp collectors. He had never seen the stamp before and offered me several mint federal duck stamps that I needed in trade. I was happy to accept the trade.

(Editor's Note: To date, no additional copies of the 1938 Pymatuning Lake duck stamp have been found. The stamp is in the David Torre collection that will be exhibited at the APS STaMpsHOW in Oakland, Calif., August 27-30. According to Torre, at least five other varieties of Pymatuning hunting and fishing stamps are known.)

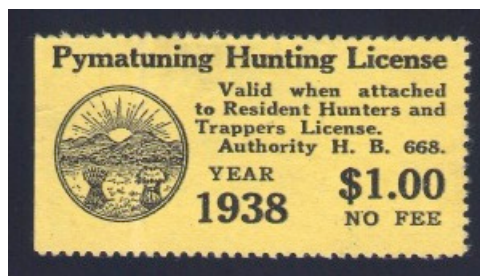


FIGURE 15. TERRY HINES HISTORIC ARTICLE (ABOVE) AND VAN'S FAVORITE STAMP, THE 1938 PYMATUNING FOR WATERFOWL HUNTING.

Acting on a tip from Ken Pruess, Van was able to obtain an unused example of Colorado's 1973 North Central Goose stamp. Collectors were unaware of this stamp and the copy Van obtained from a license supervisor following the season is one of two examples recorded in unused condition (see Figure 16). Van was favored waterfowl stamps in general because of his love of duck hunting; the Pymatuning and Colorado Goose stamps were two of his most prized possessions until he allowed me to acquire them in 1991.

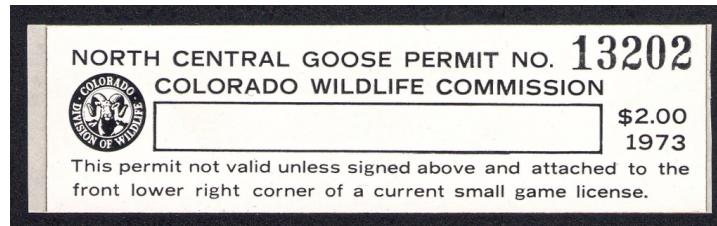


FIGURE 16. VAN WAS ABLE TO ACQUIRE ONE OF THE TWO UNUSED EXAMPLES OF THE 1973 COLORADO GOOSE STAMP THAT HAVE BEEN RECORDED.

Throughout the 1970s and early 1980s Van continued to be very active. He kept up correspondence, sold and traded stamps to other collectors and shared his vast knowledge. He had several more major articles published in the SRS Newsletter during this time, most notable being his "Check List of State and Locally Issued Migratory Waterfowl Hunting License Stamps" in 1977.

In 1979 he began an important correspondence with Don Terrell. At the time, Don was an intermediate collector of waterfowl stamps and an avid duck hunter. The two became close friends. Van inspired Don to write a column about fish and game stamps in *Sporting Classics* magazine simply titled "Stamps". The column ran for many years in the 1980s and resulted in hundreds of new collectors (see Figures 17a, d and c). The column initially focussed on state waterfowl stamps, then evolved to include all fish and game stamps.

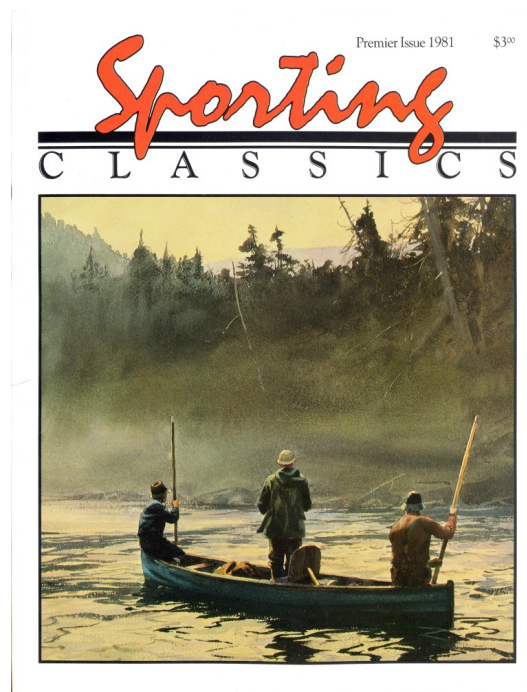


FIGURE 17A. VAN INSPIRED DON TERRELL'S COLUMN IN SPORTING CLASSICS MAGAZINE THAT RESULTED IN HUNDREDS OF NEW COLLECTORS.

S T A M P S

Don Terrell



The exciting world of wildlife stamp collecting is so broad it was difficult deciding on the subject for this first column. Certainly our federal duck stamp program produced one of the fastest growing hobbies in the stamp world, one which appeals not only to stamp collectors but to hunters and wildlife enthusiasts as well, and it would be hard to imagine anyone interested in sporting collectibles unfamiliar with federal duck stamps.

However, I'd like to devote our space this issue to another stamp series, certainly not so well known but more spectacular in size and at least as appealing to the eye, the state duck stamp programs. One of the nicest things about putting together a state duck stamp collection is the general availability of the stamps. Most states maintain a large inventory of obsolete stamps, which can still be purchased at face value by contacting the licensing section of the various state wildlife departments. The great majority of state stamps can still be acquired that way, and there are stamp dealers who can help find even the "hard to get" ones.

Taking a page from the federal governments duck stamp program, the state of California issued a pictured stamp for the 1971-72 waterfowl season, which it required waterfowl hunters to have in addition to the federal stamp. Several states had produced stamps in previous years, but California was the first to issue a pictured stamp available with a companion print, similar to the federal program.

Reproduced from a drawing by Paul B. Johnson, this stamp was issued originally for one dollar, and today in mint condition will bring more than one

The second California stamp, the one for the 1972-73 season, is worth \$400 to \$500 in mint condition.

hundred dollars. Ironically, the second California stamp, issued for the 1972-73 season also sold for one dollar, but because an employee of the wildlife department destroyed the unsold stamps at the end of the hunting season the value skyrocketed, and today that second stamp is traded for \$400 to \$500 each in mint condition.

In 1972 Iowa became the second state to institute a waterfowl stamp program, and this fine state came up with a couple of "firsts." This initial stamp was produced in full color from an original work by the well known Iowa artist, Maynard Reese, which was in contrast to the California two-color motif. It was also a perforated stamp, collectable in sheets. The California stamp was the peel off type affixed to a glassine backing.

Iowa has maintained its program as one of the most beautiful and highly sought after sets of state duck stamps. Because Iowa does not maintain a supply of stamps to provide collectors, they have become valuable, individually and as a set.

Maryland and Massachusetts joined the waterfowl stamp parade in 1974, followed by Illinois in 1975. Massachusetts

has one of the more interesting series of stamps, since their innovative program all depict paintings of decoys.

Obviously these early efforts were successful in raising needed funds for state waterfowl efforts, because now Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wisconsin, 19 states in all, have issued waterfowl stamps.

Several other states, including Ohio, Arkansas, Idaho, Louisiana and South Carolina are either considering or in various states of preliminary planning toward issuing stamps, and Ohio has even commissioned noted artist John Ruthven to do its first stamp. I understand he has chosen the wood duck as the subject.



Missouri, 1979. Value now approximately \$50.

South Dakota, which began issuing stamps in 1976, dropped its duck stamp program after only three years. However, their wildlife department continues to sell stamps for a special goose hunt annually. These stamps were originally issued as Bennett County goose stamps in 1974, but were changed in 1979 to include a broader area under the license.

Some of these earlier goose hunting stamps, issued since 1974, are difficult to

STAMPS



First Iowa stamp, 1972. Now valued at \$30.



Massachusetts, 1976. The only state to use decoys. Still available for \$1.25.



Second California stamp, 1972-73. Now valued near \$500.

find and are the prized possession of collectors. This stamp is printed in black ink on white, blue, pink, or green paper, depending on the year of issue, and has a drawing of a Canada goose on the stamp. Serious pictured stamp collectors consider this series a must.

The most difficult stamps to get seem to be the early California, Iowa, Michigan, and Missouri issues although they can be obtained from a dealer or sometimes from another collector.

Once you get all of the pictured stamps there is a myriad of non-pictured printed text stamps issued for hunting waterfowl to be added to a serious collection. In fact, E. L. Vanderford, the most widely acclaimed authority on municipally issued game and fish stamps, produced a handbook in which he cataloged all the known game and fish stamps. This catalog is several hundred pages long. Unfortunately, it's now out of print.

State stamps represent one of the most beautiful displays in stamp collecting and are found not only in albums but as framed wall displays as well. If you are not now a collector, I think state stamps would be an excellent beginning.

In coming columns we plan to discuss not only revenue stamps, but worldwide postage stamps picturing wildlife, and even some "Cinderellas" (non-required stamps) issued by various municipalities and conservation organizations relative to wildlife.

If you have a question or a special interest we would like to hear from you, so drop us a note. I'll try to print your question so everyone will have benefit of the information. If you would like to begin collecting state stamps, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope and I'll send you a list of states and to whom you should address your inquiry.

Although nearing 70 years of age, Van still loved to hunt ducks. Much of his correspondence at this time was filled with hunting stories. The following is an excerpt from a letter to Don Terrell dated January 24, 1980 (reproduced with Don's consent):

"Did have one freakish but red hot shoot Dec. 30th. My partner and I worked like beavers for six hours on a Friday afternoon putting out 6 doz. duck decoys, 2 doz. honker decoys and 5 large white swan like decoys as attractors. It was a pond of about 1000 acres of cultivated peat land which had been deliberately flooded to improve the soil. The only meaner stuff to try to walk in is quick sand. It's impossible to walk at all without a two inch round pole for support and even then you fall down every now and then. The secret to success is to fall forward on you knees so the water doesn't go over your waders. Anyway, Saturday's shoot was a bust—only one crippled 'Can' which even a big stray lab couldn't retrieve—also a bust in as much as I broke the magazine spring retainer latch on my Rem. 58 Sportsman. My buddy has a house full of guns but I did a double take Sunday morning when he brought out a battered old Rem. pump gun and said 'here use this, its the tightest shooting gun in the house.' From appearances I would be ashamed to offer it for sale in a flea market but we have hunted together for well over 40 years and I knew he wouldn't slip me a 'moldy fig.'"

"Just as we left about 4 AM it started to rain and the wind started to come up. Before we got there we had a miniature hurricane on our hands—including rain by the buckets full. Upon arrival it was immediately apparent our hard work of two days before (and decoys) were blown all over hell and there was no way we could possible use the site."

"We waited it out in the car until it started to lighten up when we noticed about 2000 swans in one corner of the pond and every duck in sight fighting the gale wind to pitch in near them. We worked our way around the swans so as not to alarm them and got 150 yards or so downwind of them. There was no cover to hide in but a drag line had cleaned out a ditch and we spread out about 100 yards apart and lay down against some small piles the bucket had dumped. It was miserable as hell lying there on my back but my favorite shot is one almost straight overhead."

"Those pintails — almost all drakes — just kept on coming and it was over all too quickly (7 bird limit here). They were all about 50-55 yards high — a little farther than I like to shoot 2 3/4" shells but my friend wasn't lying about that old Rem — I never had a single cripple. I just lay there on my back and marked where they fell. That Rem. looked like hell but it sure threw a tight pattern."

"Well to stamps..."

A Lasting Inspiration

In the early 1980s, Van began to liquidate his stock. In so doing, helping many new fish and game dealers, including David Curtis and Barry Porter, to get started. These dealers all helped to popularize the hobby. The January-February 1983 issue of the SRS Newsletter contained yet another valuable article by Van. It was titled "Some Additional State Duck Stamp Observations."

Although Van and I lived only 90 miles apart in northern California, we did not meet until 1985. By this time physical problems had started to limit the time he spent hunting and his previously unbridled enthusiasm for stamp collecting had been tempered by efforts on the part of a handful of print and duck stamp dealers to exploit the hobby for their own personal gains. A number of states had recently issued stamps which depicted waterfowl but were not required to hunt anything. Some dealers were promoting these for sale as "duck stamps." This prompted Van's last major philatelic article.

Filling an entire page, "State Duck Stamps near 50th Anniversary; Confusion over which are Genuine Lingers" appeared in Linn's Stamp News on July 6, 1987. In the article Van advised collectors, "If you enjoy collecting this type of material, by all means continue, but it is wise to be aware of what you are buying." He went on to inform readers about the important non-pictorial waterfowl stamps that were conspicuously absent from most dealer's state duck hype during the mid 1980s.

36 LINN'S STAMP NEWS JULY 6, 1987

State duck stamps near 50th anniversary; confusion over which are genuine lingers

By E.L. Vanderford

In the last few years, with both genuine and pseudo state duck stamps pouring out in ever greater numbers, there has been a great deal of confusion as to what is or isn't a genuine state duck.

Earlier duck stamps were all printed to indicate a hunter's fee payment, and no thought was given to potential profits from collector purchases of stamps and prints of the original artwork.

About 1982, a few large wildlife art suppliers saw the light and presented several states with propositions that were hard to refuse.

Instead of having to purchase stamps, the states were offered large numbers free, plus stocks of prints, cash payments, free advertising, royalties etc. The publishers retained the right to print and sell stamps and prints, and the multimillion-dollar state duck stamp industry was off and running.

The legislatures and governors of some states refused to authorize a compulsory purchase stamp. In some such cases, the stamp publishers sold fish and game officials on the idea of signing up anyway and declaring the stamps as "voluntary purchases."

The stamps were not genuine ducks and were not required to hunt anything. An excellent example is the 1983 North Carolina which brought in more than \$800,000. Had the state sold all the items given to it, the profit would have been more than \$912,000.

Other states which have non-required, non-genuine stamps are Georgia, New York and Pennsylvania. Although these are frequently seen advertised as state ducks, these issues are more correctly classified as voluntary purchase conservation stamps.

Another confusing point is the ever-increasing number of private or society issued stamps. Although these are unofficial and actually cinderellas, the advertising type often makes it difficult to determine their true status.

If you enjoy collecting this type of material, by all means continue, but it is wise to be aware of what you are buying.

Ohio issued the nation's first state duck



Figure 1. The rarest state duck stamp is Ohio's 1938 \$1. One has been reported.

stamp in 1938 (Figure 1). This stamp was required to hunt waterfowl on Pymatuning Lake and reservoir, straddling the Ohio-Pennsylvania border.

This \$1 stamp depicts the Ohio state seal with printed text and is thought to be unique. South Dakota was the second state to issue a duck stamp when in 1949 it came out with a \$1 resident stamp required to hunt waterfowl anywhere in the state.

These stamps, printed on colored safety paper by the Columbian Bank Note Co., show printed text with large ornamental scrolls (Figure 2). Copies which appear to be on



Figure 2. The first state duck stamp required to hunt statewide was South Dakota's in 1949.

white paper are defective due to being soaked too long in water.

Illinois, with its 1953 \$2 daily usage duck stamps, became the third state to issue waterfowl stamps. The fee was increased to \$3 in 1959.

These stamps were required to hunt on state-operated areas.

The design is that of the state conservation commission insignia showing a map of Illinois. The four tiny appendages at map corners represent a goose, a fish, a tree and a beaver. The stamps were discontinued after 1972.

Illinois daily usage goose and pheasant

stamps were first issued for 1959 and ended with the 1972 stamp. All years had \$5 face values, and the design was the same as that of the daily usage duck stamp.

California came forth when it issued a \$5 printed text stamp for hunting on the Honey Lake migratory waterfowl area for the 1956-57 season. With numerous changes in face value, these were issued through the 1968-69 season.

Covering 30 years, they are the longest run-



Figure 3. California's 1971-72 issue was the first pictorial art type duck.

ning series of state ducks. California issued the first pictorial state duck in 1971 (Figure 3). This was a \$1 bicolored stamp portraying pintails. These stamps had pressure sensitive gum on the reverse with a throwaway glassine backing.

This type gum was used through the 1978-79 season, and it should be noted that for some years the gum will seep through the stamp and ruin it. The 1975-76 and 1976-77 stamps are the worst offenders.

Contrary to most dealers' price sheets, California did not issue a 1977-78 \$5 duck. Hunters who purchased the \$1 1977-78 stamp prior to Jan. 1, 1978, were allowed to hunt the entire 1977-78 season.

After the beginning of the 1977-78 hunting season, the California legislature raised the hunting fee from \$1 to \$5. The \$5 stamp was not issued until Jan. 1, 1978, and hunters who had not bought a \$1 stamp as of that date had to buy a \$5 stamp to finish out the 1978 portion of the 1977-78 season.

Thus, the \$5 stamp was a 1978 issue, not

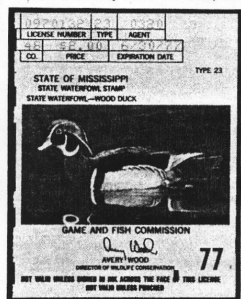


Figure 4. Mississippi's 1976 state duck issue was a card, not a gummed stamp.

1977-78. The California stamps for 1979-80 and 1980-81 exist completely imperforate. It is believed these were from a printing overrun, and none is known to have been issued.

Iowa's first \$1 duck in 1972 started a series which is probably the most popular of all state ducks. The face value was raised to \$5 for the 1978 and later seasons.

Many years of Iowa ducks exist imperforate, tele-beche, as gutter pairs and in various combinations attached to habitat or trout stamps.

In 1974, Maryland, with a \$1.10 stamp, and Massachusetts, with a \$1.25 stamp, joined the state duck group. A single new state duck arrived in 1975 when Illinois issued a \$5 plus \$50 issuing fee pictorial stamp.

A real furor was raised when Illinois' 1981 stamp portraying wigons incorrectly identified them as green-winged teals. The public purchased 274 stamps before the error became known to state officials, who then recalled all 1981 stamps. Ducks Unlimited received 1,500 error stamps to sell at fund raising events, and the balance were shredded. Corrected stamps were then issued.

Four states produced a mixture of new stamps in 1976. Indiana issued its first duck at \$5. Michigan's first was a \$2.10 stamp. South Dakota resumed with a pictorial \$1 value, and

Mississippi issued a \$2 computer card with a drake wood duck design imprinted directly on the card (Figure 4). Many collectors have chosen to add this card form to their collections.

Mississippi also speeded up the action in 1985 when it issued three types of ducks. These all have the same design, but the locations of the serial numbers differ. Type 1 has a vertical serial number, type 2 has a horizontal serial number and type 3 has a vertical silver stripe imprint with additional serial number.

In 1977, Minnesota had the lone new state stamp with a denomination of \$3 plus 50¢ issuing fee. Wisconsin issued a genuine \$3.25 duck stamp in 1978. Montana issued \$2, \$4 and \$3 pictorial game bird stamps required to hunt all game birds.

These are at times advertised as state ducks, but I find it difficult to take a general bird game stamp and declare it to be a state duck.

A banner year for states issuing duck stamps came in 1979, and the publishers of stamps aimed at collectors scored heavily.

Alabama issued a \$5 plus 25¢ issuing fee, Florida a \$3.25 value, Missouri a \$3.40 issue, Nevada a \$2 stamp, and Tennessee a \$2.30 resident and \$5.30 non-resident stamps. All were required to hunt waterfowl.

The parade continued in 1980. Delaware in-



Figure 5. John Ruthven's artwork is outstanding on Ohio's 1982 issue.

roduced a \$5 duck, and Oklahoma brought out a \$4 stamp. Montana released a no-fee, no-face-value bird art stamp portraying snow geese. It was not required to hunt anything and actually is a cinderella.

Three more states were added to the list in 1981. Arkansas and South Carolina each issued \$5.50 stamps, and Texas came out with a \$5 value.

In 1982, only one new genuine duck was issued. Ohio issued a \$5.75 beauty (Figure 5) greatly admired for its fine artwork.

That year also was the first in which a state issued a stamp in one form for hunting and an identical design in a different format to sell to collectors. Prior to 1982, North Dakota issued printed-text, \$9 small game and habitat stamps required to hunt 10 species of small game.

In 1982, a persuasive wildlife art salesman convinced the state officials to sell art type \$9 stamps portraying Canada geese.

Stamps printed for sale to collectors were in sheets of 30 (five by six) with perforated selvage on all four sides and plate numbers at all four corners. Stamps for hunters were issued from booklet panes of five (one by five).

Although neither is a duck stamp per se, many dealers have listed them on their price sheets as genuine state ducks.

Inasmuch as these were required to hunt 10 species of small game, it appears ludicrous to select one type (waterfowl) and classify them as duck stamps. However, the artwork by Richard Plasschaert is outstanding, and some collectors have included this stamp with their authentic waterfowl collections.

Also in 1982, South Carolina issued two types of stamps for the same season. Stamps with serial numbers on the reverse were issued to hunters. Stamps without serial numbers were produced to sell to collectors.

North Carolina and Pennsylvania came out with non-required voluntary purchase stamps. Purchase of these stamps conveyed no hunting or other privilege and they are more accurately described as voluntary purchase conservation stamps.

That same year, New Hampshire started issuing stamps from single-stamp booklet panes to hunters and stamps from sheets of 30 (five by six) to collectors.

It is interesting to note that several of the earlier booklet-type stamps sell at a hefty premium above the collector-type sheet stamps.

In 1984 and 1985 a strange situation occurred in Georgia. In 1984, Waterfowl U.S.A., a non-profit group, had stamps and prints made up and advertised them as Georgia's

first state duck stamps. None of these was sold by the state.

In 1985, a wildlife art firm signed a contract to supply Georgia with stamps, prints and services for the privilege of being the stamps' publisher.

This also was sold as the first Georgia duck stamp, and stamp sales were made from the Georgia fish and game office. Neither of these were required to hunt anything, and Georgia is still without a genuine duck stamp.



Figure 6. Although not a required state duck, Dan Smith's superb painting of wood ducks ranks Georgia's 1985 issue among the finest.

However, the painting of a pair of wood ducks in their natural habitat by Dan Smith has been widely acclaimed as wildlife art at its best (Figure 6).

In 1984, Maine checked in with a \$2.50 stamp, Oregon with a \$5 issue and New Jersey with three stamps. The New Jersey \$2.50 resident stamps were from booklet panes of five for hunter sales and sheets of 30 (five by six) for sales to collectors. A \$5 non-resident stamp was sold from booklet panes of five only.

Another banner year for state ducks came in 1985. Alaska's first duck was an outstanding painting of three emperor geese by Dan Smith. The stamp is a \$5 value printed in sheets of 30 (five by six) only.

Kentucky also came out with its first duck in 1985. This \$5.25 stamp came from vertical booklet panes of five (one by five) with a large agents' stub at the left side of each stamp.

Oregon, which first issued 30-stamp sheets in 1984, added booklets of 25 for sale to hunters in 1985. The booklet stamps in mint condition are scarce.

In 1985, New York issued a \$5.50 stamp which, according to the Albany office, was not required to hunt waterfowl or anything else. Purchase was entirely voluntary. These stamps qualify as voluntary purchase conservation stamps.

Four more new state duck issues came in 1986. Montana issued its first genuine duck in two forms. For sale to hunters, this \$5 stamp came in booklet panes of 10 (two by five). The stamps printed for sale to collectors were from sheets of 30 (five by six).

Utah issued a \$3.30, required duck as its first. According to the state office, these were issued from sheets of 30 (five by six) only.

Also in 1986, Vermont's first duck was a \$5 issue in sheets of 30 (five by six).

Washington also joined the ranks in 1986 with a \$5 duck. It came in two forms. The familiar sheets of 10 (five by six) were printed up to sell to collectors. Stamps for hunter sales were in booklets containing 25 single-stamp panes with selvage on all four sides for filling in hunter statistics and other information.

South Dakota resumed issuing resident state ducks in 1986 with a \$2 stamp depicting Canada geese. These were from vertical booklet panes of five.

In 1984, Wyoming issued a \$5 habitat stamp which was required for all residents and non-residents to hunt or fish.

The 1984 stamp portrayed a meadowlark, 1985 a Canada goose and 1986 a pronghorn antelope.

Some dealers have listed the 1985 as a duck stamp. To me, it is a required habitat stamp.

So far in 1987, two additional states have been added. West Virginia has issued four different \$5 plus 50¢ issuing fee stamps.

The design and cost for all is the same, but resident and non-resident stamps each exist in sheets of 30 and booklet panes of five. Stamps from booklets are for hunter sales.

Arizona has announced two types of \$5.50 ducks for July 1 issuance. Stamps will be in sheets of 30 (five by six) for collectors and in booklet form for hunters.

Although not confirmed as yet, Kansas may come out with a \$3 plus 25¢ issue fee stamp in 1987, and Idaho is expected to issue a \$5.50 duck. Both of these are supposed to be required stamps. ■

I feel the need to point out that virtually all serious waterfowl stamp collector's today disagree with Vanderford on one important point. We feel that if a stamp **was required to hunt waterfowl** it belongs in our collection – regardless if it was also required to hunt for additional types of birds or small game.

Unfortunately, from Van's point of view, the worse was yet to come. Later that year a New Hampshire "Governor's Edition" stamp appeared on the market (see Figure 18). Van was incensed at what he figured was a "blatant attempt to rip-off unknowledgeable stamp collectors." When he wrote to his long-time contacts at the New Hampshire Fish and Game License Section to get the facts, he was dismayed to learn they were not even aware of the stamp's existence. With each additional governor's edition stamp that appeared Van became more and more cynical and withdrawn. Despite this fact he kept up his correspondence and continued to share his knowledge with anyone who sought him out.



FIGURE 18. VANDERFORD WAS FURIOUS WHEN HE LEARNED THAT NO ONE IN THE NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME LICENSE SECTION WAS EVEN AWARE OF THEIR GOVERNOR'S STAMP EXISTENCE.

From 1987 to 1994 I tried to spend one day every month visiting with Van in his home. I listened to his stories about stamps and collectors and yes, duck hunting, for hours on end. For many years it felt like I was attending a class. Van was the professor and I was the student. I learned a great deal about fish and game stamps. As he had done for so many others, he succeeded in greatly elevating my level of interest and appreciation for this wonderful hobby.

Late in 1990 Jane passed away. Starting in 1991, Van sold or traded me and another collector friend most of the great rarities in his collection (see Figures 19a, b and c). These stamps helped to form the basis for the my first exhibit, Classic State and Local Fish and Game Stamps. The fact that the exhibit received so much attention and praise provided Van with a final sense of philatelic accomplishment—and deservedly so.

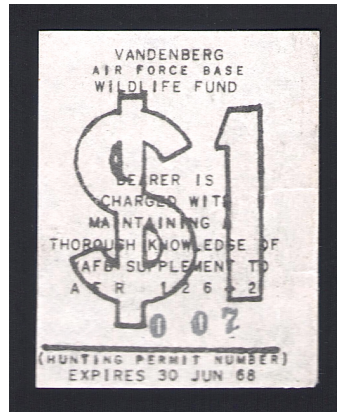


FIGURE 19A. 1967 VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE HUNTING STAMP – THE FIRST U.S. MILITARY ADHESIVE.



FIGURE 19B. 1968-69 MONTANA NR BIRD PAIR WITH IMAGE MISSING FROM THE BOTTOM STAMP. ALTHOUGH THE ERROR STAMP HAS SOME DAMAGE ALONG THE LEFT – IT IS STILL PRETTY AMAZING.



FIGURE 19C. 1959 ROSEBUD GAME BIRD, THE FIRST STAMP ISSUED BY A TRIBAL GOVERNMENT IN THE U.S.

Van also assisted the author with several articles (notably the two part series on Honey Lake and Illinois Daily Usage stamps which appeared in *The American Revenuer* in March and April of 1994) providing valuable insights which could not be obtained elsewhere.

Following Van's passing, his heirs consigned the remainder of his collection to Sam Houston Philatelics for public auction. The sale of Van's stamps took place in two auctions roughly a year apart, on September 21, 1996 and on September 6, 1997. There were still plenty of good stamps and one great one in the auctions. When Van sold me his stamps, he allowed me to choose what I needed and then sold me everything over the course of a couple of years – except one stamp.

The 1964 Crow Creek big game stamp has everything going for it. It is historically important as one of the earliest stamps issued by a tribal government; it is attractive, being printed in black ink with a red serial number on yellow paper (see Figure 20) and to complete the trifecta – it is unique. I admired the stamp greatly and really wanted it for my exhibit.

However, Van had already sold me his two favorite stamps, the 1938 Pymatuning and the unused 1973 Colorado Goose. The Crow Creek big game stamp was his next favorite and he simply wanted to keep it. Van wanted to keep something that he cherished to enjoy toward the end of his life. I understood completely and so the stamp went to auction and ended up fetching well into five figures and setting a record for a non federal fish and game stamp at public auction.

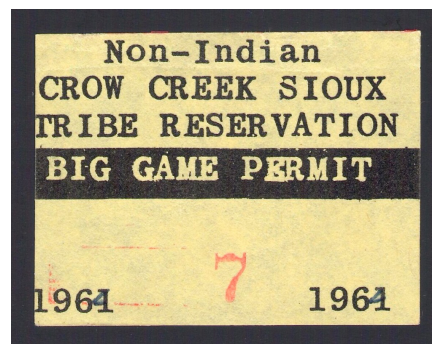


FIGURE 20. THE 1964 CROW CREEK BIG GAME STAMP SET A RECORD AT PUBLIC AUCTION.

The auction was a wonderful opportunity to acquire a number of very scarce to rare stamps that did not require spending large sums of money. The offerings of big game and trout stamps were especially strong and I felt that the bidding did not always take into account the true difficulty of acquisition factor (see Figures 21a, b and c). Many stamps sold very reasonably and the auctions did a lot to stimulate the market for fish and game stamps.



FIGURE 21A. SURCHARGED 1957 INDIANA TROUT, TOP PLATE # SINGLE.



FIGURE 21B. 1965-66 MARYLAND BIG GAME STAMP FOR ARCHERS, A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT STAMP AND A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE.



FIGURE 21C. ICONIC 1965 MICHIGAN CISCO NETTING STAMP, THE KEY TO THE SET.

In the years since Van has passed, my exhibit (featuring many stamps from his collection) was put on display at the Atlanta and Sidney Olympics, in the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in 1998 and won a grand award at a National show and was entered into the Champion of Champions in 2000. That same year it was featured in the Court of Honor at World Stamp Expo in Los Angeles, right next to Queen Elizabeth's.

In recent years I have enjoyed helping other collectors to acquire some of Van's best stamps for their own collections and exhibits (along with those from the Janousek and Powell collections that Van had previously sold or traded). It is hoped that through articles, exhibits and now the internet that Van's legacy shall live on to inspire future collectors and exhibitors.

Elmore Vanderford was always there for fish and game stamps. It is an understatement to say that without him our hobby would be nothing like it is today.