U.S.A. ISSUE HANUKAH STAMP (AGAIN!)

Firstly, let me briefly explain, to those that are not aware.
Hanukah, is a Jewish festival, which takes place each year. It is called “The Festival Of Lights”.
This originates from Temple Times, after many battles, when the Jews beat the Greeks and regained Jerusalem. When they re-entered the Holy Temple, they could only find one small pot of oil, that had not been touched by the Greeks, to light the “Menorah”. (A “Menorah” is an 8 branched candelabra.)
This small pot of oil was to only have lasted for one day, but by a strange miracle it lasted for 8 days.
Thus, this event is commemorated each year by lighting candles in a “Menorah” – lighting an additional candle each night, for a total of 8 days. These candles are lit by another “Master” candle.
This is why the festival is called “The Festival Of Lights”.
It is also a custom for children to play with a spinning-top, which is called a “Dreidel”.

In 1996, Israel issued a stamp to commemorate Hanukah. It was a colourful stamp depicting a “Menorah” with all its candles lit.
This was a unique issue by Israel, for two reasons.
Firstly, it was the first self-adhesive stamp to be issued by Israel, and secondly, it was the first joint-issue with the United States of America.
The U.S.A. issued the identical stamp at the same time, the only difference being that the value was in Cents and not in Shekels.
This U.S.A. Hanukah was so successful in the U.S. that they re-introduced it again, the identical stamp in 1999. (But not as a joint-issue with Israel). The only alteration on the stamp, being that of the value of the current postage rate having increased from 32 Cents to 33 Cents.

The stamp was re-introduced, yet again in 2001, at 34 Cents. And yet again, in 2002 at 37 Cents. – These were the current postal rates at the time in the U.S.A. On both these occasions the stamp design was the same as the original 1996 design.
In 2004, the U.S.A. issued a Hanukah stamp yet again, but this time the design was different – instead of it depicting a “Menorah” (a candelabra), it depicted a “Dreidel” (a spinning-top) instead.

This year 2006, sees the U.S.A. issuing a new Hanukah stamp on 6th October. I cannot understand the early issue date, when Hanukah is not until Friday 15th December!.
At the time of writing this newsletter, I am unaware of the design of the stamp.

With the previous Hanukah issues from the U.S. – the American First Day Cover specialists, have produced very colourful designed covers. Over the years, I have managed to compile a collection of 3 albums of all these covers. Although, I must admit that for the last Hanukah issue, there was not such a great range of covers available.

At the time of compiling this newsletter, Clorano covers, Armstrong and Doris Gold are producing covers for this issue. – But I am sure there will be others too.

********************************************

NEW MEMBER:

015:–
EDWIN H. KOLODNY.
110 BLEECKER STREET, APARTMENT 24D.
NEW YORK,
NY 10012 – 2106,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

TEL:– (212) – 677 – 9500

EMAIL:– ekolc@yahoo.com

INTERESTS:– JUDAICA PHILATELY. – REGULARLY IN NEED OF FOREIGN (NON-USA, NON-ISRAEL) JUDAICA FIRST DAY COVERS AND CANCELLATIONS. – WILLING TO PAY FOR THESE.

********************************************
ADVERT

FOR SALE – SURPLUS HANUKAH STAMPS AND FIRST DAY COVERS – FROM PREVIOUS UNITED STATES HANUKAH ISSUES. –
FURTHER DETAILS FROM GARY – email: gary.goodman26@btinternet.com

WANTED – REGULARLY IN NEED OF FOREIGN (NON-USA, NON-ISRAEL) JUDAICA FIRST DAY COVERS AND CANCELLATIONS. –
WILLING TO PAY FOR THESE. –
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO OFFER?
CONTACT:- EDWIN KOLODNY – email: ekolc@yahoo.com

*********************************************

CAN YOU HELP?

HARRIET M. EPSTEIN (012), FROM THE U.S.A. WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF ANYONE HAS ANY INFORMATION - IF BELA LUGOSI AND CARY GRANT MAY BE CONSIDERED JEWISH. SHE KEEPS GETTING CONFLICTING INFORMATION ABOUT THEM.
HARRIET CAN BE CONTACTED BY E-MAIL.
HER ADDRESS IS:- harriete@cox.net

*********************************************
SAGA OF THE U.S.A. RABBI REVEL SHEET

Following the article in the last newsletter regarding the scarce and unique Rabbi Revel sheet – and also it being damaged too!.
I have been told from the auctioneers Harmer-Schau that it was resold to the under bidder. I.e. the person who came runner-up in the bidding.
I believe that person paid $7,450.

I wonder if he or she, spotted the damage to the sheet!!.
It is surprising the amount of people, that don’t check their stamps for creases etc.,!

**************************************************************************