WELCOME TO
THE JUDAICA THEMATIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 19

JUNE 2007

This month we welcome another two members to our society:-

NEW MEMBERS:-
021:- SEYMOUR NUSSENBAUM,
57B YORKSHIRE DRIVE,
MONROE TWP.,
NEW JERSEY, 08831
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
TEL-NO:- 609-409-1740
EMAIL:- synus22@verizon.net / and / synus22@gmail.com

INTERESTS:-
COLLECTS A WIDE RANGE OF PHILATELIC JUDAICA. BESIDES ISRAEL,
COLLECTS MINT STAMPS, FIRST DAY COVERS, POSTMARKS, METERS,
PICTURE POSTMARKS, POSTAL HISTORY, STATIONERY ETC, ETC, ALL
WITH A JEWISH CONNECTION.
LOOKING TO SWAP – AS HE HAS MANY DUPLICATES.

022:- LOUIS SCHONFELD,
OHIO,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
EMAIL:- ischon@adelphia.net

INTERESTS:-
COLLECTS ALMOST ALL POPULAR JUDAICA ITEMS INCLUDING JEWS
DEPICTED ON SPORTS CARDS AND TRADING CARDS.
IN PHILATELY, PREFERS JEWS OR THOSE OF JEWISH DESCENT WHOSE
PORTRAIT APPEARS ON MINT STAMPS ISSUED BY CENTRAL AND EAST
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.
HAS A COLLECTION OF SEVERAL THOUSAND DISTINCT BASEBALL
CARDS OF JEWISH PLAYERS – AND MAY BE AMONG THE MOST
COMPLETE COLLECTIONS OF ITS KIND. THESE INCLUDE CARDS ISSUED FROM THE 1880’S THROUGH TO THE PRESENT DAY. IN ADDITION, HAS MANY DUPLICATES OF THESE CARDS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR TRADING. ALSO HAS WORTHY COLLECTIONS OF JEWS DEPICTED ON CARDS FROM ALL SPORTS AND ALSO THE SAME FOR THOSE IN TELEVISION, FILM, THEATRE AND OTHER CELEBRITY VOCATIONS.

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IDEAS AND “FOOD FOR THOUGHT”. New member Louis Schonfeld, sent me correspondence, for possible publication, which consisted of some very good ideas, and maybe possibilities for the future. I would be very interested in hearing what other members views are of the following, and whether we could action any of the points:-

Louis Schonfeld writes:-
“I would consider myself a beginner in Philatelic Judaica. I would like to work with you and the other members in developing ways for us to increase our, and explore additional avenues of utilization:

1:- How can we as an organization or via a third party agent purchase all forthcoming Judaica issues to be released. This would involve learning of upcoming issues that may appear in postal issues of countries; obtaining the funds to make “bulk purchases”; overseeing the distribution of the incoming stamps. This recommendation doesn’t include the entire administrative network required to do a proper job – such items would include soliciting/recording incoming funds from subscribers, obtaining and sorting the incoming materials, and developing a timely and workable distribution of the materials to the subscribers. Of course, there are other issues to be addressed, but benefit to the membership would be phenomenol.

2:- Investigating a merger(s) or some collaboration with other like minded Philatelic Judaica groups such as the Yahoo group. I am sure there are others as well.

3:- Continue the work of Richter and Reuter, even if in a less formal presentation. In other words – continue the identification and updating of Judaica stamps using an Excel spreadsheet format that would be shared with all interested parties.

4:- Identifying and describing the various topical sub-groups that appear to make up the main body of Philatelic Judaica. I for one have no particular interest in collecting stamps designed by Jews that does not include Judaica content. I don’t have a name
for sub-topical interest, but I can identify what I am looking for: individuals depicted who are of Jewish descent or of partial Jewish descent (if recognized within their peer society as being Jewish or “partly” Jewish), depictions of items that include art, architecture and photographs of distinctly Jewish items. – For example, Synagogues, Jewish ritual items, other Jewish identified property.

I personally, at this point at least I don’t go in for the biblical stuff, because so much of it is tinged with Christological meaning. I don’t mean this statement to be my comprehensive position on this issue. Only some quick and random thoughts that others may have considered as well. I don’t think anyone at this point wants to impose their considered opinion of what should comprise the body of our interest. Even though, for now, it would be only fair to be more inclusive than exclusive in our considerations of what should be included and what may not be.

5:- Eventually, I would like to move forward in creating a stamp “album” for Philatelic Judaica. I have such an album but the issues illustrated are only through 1990. Since then there must be several hundred additional philatelic Judaica issues.

6:- Finally, for now, it seems that we compile a list of reference books that would assist in identifying and learning more about the stamps in our collections.

I am sure that others have additional suggestions and can clarify or elaborate further on some of these random thoughts”.

Louis Schonfeld.

Some good points have been raised. – Please send in your comments, thoughts and suggestions

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CATALOGUE NUMBER
I have mentioned this subject before, but stamp dealers may not realise it, but they are turning business away. I have recently contacted a number of dealers for their lists. But when I received their lists, instead of a Year and a description, they just list Stanley Gibbons numbers and a price. This is useless, after-all how many of us have an up to date Stanley Gibbons catalogue?. – Or how many of us actually use Gibbons numbering?. (You know my opinion – I don’t even use catalogue numbering at all.) Catalogue producers, often change their numbering, so you need an up to date catalogue to ensure that they are the correct catalogue numbers. There is only one place for these type of lists, from “can’t be bothered dealers” - and that is in the bin!.
"THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT ON STAMPS – A COMPREHENSIVE CHECKLIST"

This publication was mentioned in last month’s newsletter. Dr. Steve Carol, the author of these works, has contacted me, to inform me that this was last published in 1991 – although he has kept a list of updates since.

Dr. Carol has asked me to tell fellow members, that he is part of a pro-Israel radio show that is broadcasted every Sunday at 12 Noon Arizona time. – This can be heard via computer streaming.

A description of the show, is as follows:-

MIDDLE EAST RADIO FORUM – (MERF)

Middle East Radio Forum – (MERF) is talk-radio at its best, bringing hard facts and objectivity to a sophisticated audience. Each and every Sunday, host Attorney William J. Wolf invites to the MERF microphone, experts on the history and current events of the Middle East, with particular emphasis on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, the poster boy of all Muslim/non-Muslim disputes worldwide.

History Professor, and Judaica Stamp Collector, Dr. Steve Carol, Middle East Consultant for the Salem Radio Network, a frequent guest on the show, provides detailed historical overviews and his own perspectives on current political developments in the Middle East. His analyses enhance listener insight into current events, linking them to well-documented history.

MERF focuses on a variety of topics and issues that affect the region and influence events worldwide in addition to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the misnamed War on Terror, the threat posed by Iran, the Iraq War, the threats and atrocities perpetrated by Hamas, Hezbollah, Al Qaeda and other terror groups, Israel’s internal political strife and more.

MERF draws on a wide variety of well known and highly respected experts in addition to Dr. Carol, including Daniel Pipes, Steven Emerson, Robert Spencer, Nonie Darwish, Rachel Erhenfeld, Orde Kittrie, Mitchell bard, and Gerardo Joffre, among others. MERF also sponsors vigorous debate between experts of different or opposing political points of view. When MERF paired Devin Sper with Professor Menachem Klein, Dr. Zuhdi Jasser with Dr. Carl Goldberg and Devin Sper with Dr. Mike Newcombe of Air America, opinions sharply differed, providing diversified perspectives for the listening audience.
Broadcast live from Phoenix, Arizona every Sunday at Noon on KKNT 960 AM, a Salem Radio Network affiliate, MERF is also available worldwide on the internet at www.kknt960.com (adjust for your time zone).

Listeners are encouraged to call in on-the-air by calling 602-508-0960 (toll-free @ 1-888-960-9696), and can also contact Bill Wolf at host@middleeastradioforum.org.

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“DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?”
I was “taking stock” of my philatelic collections the other day.
I seem to have so much but so little space to house everything.
My main collecting interest in Judaica, which takes up a fair amount of space, along with my postmark collection.
I also have albums and space dedicated to my Israel and Great Britain collections.
Including Great Britain First Day Covers, Year Books and Presentation Packs.
Infact, to be honest if someone made me a decent offer for these G.B items, then I would probably not hesitate but to sell them. (This amounts to a staggering £10,000).
I also have other “side”- collections, such as an album of Post-Offices on stamps, and an album of Bananas on stamps.
However, I noticed that a lot of space is taken up by many items that I have acquired and purchased, over the years, - of items that I don’t really collect.
I found that in many of the philatelic magazines and journals that I have read, there have been “Market Tips” about various issues that have been recommended as “Investment Items” – or details of stamps that have sold out quickly, within days of their release.
Being a stamp collector I have often been tempted and bought many of these mentioned items.
It is all this material, that is rapidly taking up valuable space, where my actual collecting themes could be housed.
I have just recently taken the task of listing all these items, that I don’t collect, and which are just taking up room, with the view of selling them immediately.
Amazingly, this amounts to well over 550 saleable items, - this also includes duplicates, (as certain stamps in blocks, can be split down into singles).
I have not priced them up at catalogue prices, as catalogue prices are highly inflated, and don’t always reflect the true market price. But I have priced them up at an average dealers price, taking the price from a couple of dealer’s price lists.
This comes to a staggering figure of over £3,500.00.
I have a list available of these items for sale. However, due to the length of the list, it is only available via e-mail.

I doubt that I am the only collector in this situation. I am sure if other collectors took the time to take stock, then I am sure that there are other collectors reading this
newsletter now, that would be in a similar familiar situation!.

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ADVERTS:-

EXCHANGE
LOOKING TO SWAP JUDAICA THEMED STAMPS.
– I HAVE MANY DUPLICATES.
CONTACT:- SEYMOUR NUSSENBAUM
EMAIL’ :- synus22@verizon.net or synus22@gmail.com

(57B YORKSHIRE DRIVE, MONROE TWP, NEW JERSEY 08831. U.S.A.)

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EXCHANGE
EXCHANGE YOUR JUDAICA DUPLICATES ON A ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS.
SUIT BEGINNERS AND MEDIUM RANGE COLLECTORS.
REQUEST MY LIST OF AVAILABLE MATERIAL.
CONTACT:- RALPH LANESMAN
EMAIL:- lanesman@013.net
OR WRITE:- 29/2 HAYOVEL STREET, RA’ANANA, 43400, ISRAEL.

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OFFER OF UKRAINE AND ROMANIAN STAMPS:-

JUDAICA COLLECTOR TRAVELLING TO UKRAINE IN THE SUMMER.
IF ANY COLLECTOR WANTS ANY SPECIFIC ITEMS FROM THIS COUNTRY.
PLEASE LET ME KNOW. –
(I DON’T REQUIRE PAYMENT IN ADVANCE; HOWEVER AFTER THE ITEMS
ARE PURCHASED AND RECEIVED BY THE REQUESTER, I DO EXPECT
THAT THEY HONOR THEIR COMMITMENT.)
CONTACT:- LEON SCHONFELD – EMAIL:- ischon@adelphia.net

ALSO HAVE A FRIEND IN ROMANIA, WHO WILL PURCHASE STAMPS TOO,
ON OUR BEHALF.
CONTACT:- LEON SCHONFELD – EMAIL:- ischon@adelphia.net

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CAN YOU HELP?
LOOKING FOR A RELIABLE SOURCE OF JUDAICA PHILATELY OF HUNGARY.
CAN ANYONE HELP?
CONTACT:- LEON SCHONFELD – EMAIL:- ischon@adelphia.net

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AN IDEA
Other members of the society, may also be travellers, or have personal connections in countries where Judaica is available and can be purchased.
Or may be just visiting a City that has a Stamp Shop!
Even an informal buying network, like this, may be very useful, and of benefit to us all.
What do you think?.

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MORE JUDAICA CONNCETIONS FROM THAT BEATLES ISSUE FROM G.B.
My thanks to new member Seymour Nussenbaum, for informing me of yet another Judaica connection, from The Beatles issue, that Great Britain released in January.
It appears actually, that there are a number of Jewish personalities that appear on the stamp!.
One of the stamps depicts the Sergeant Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band album.
It is on this album sleeve, that pictures the following Jewish personalities:-
Albert Einstein (physicist),
Tony Curtis (actor),
Lenny Bruce (comic),
Bob Dylan (musician),
Marilyn Monroe (actress),
Karl Marx (philosopher/socialist)
Leo Gorcey (although his face has been painted out of the album cover because he requested a fee!),

Then there are the following personalities, but there is a debate whether they are Jewish or not:-
Richard Merkin (artist),
Simon Rodia (creator of Watts Towers),
Wallace Berman (artist),
Richard Lindner (artist),
Max Miller (comic),
Larry Bell (artist),
Issy Bonn (comic),
H.C. Westermann (sculptor).

Of course, all the above personalities, will probably just be a minute dot on the stamp – even with a very high-powered magnifying glass.

This stamp must be a contender for the most Jewish people on a stamp – unless you know otherwise!!.

TRANSLATION OF ROMANIAN LABEL
(CHOLOAUS REMEMBRANCE DAY STAMP)
Many thanks to members Harriet Epstein, and Esme Lori who have kindly sent me a translation, of the Romanian text that was on the label attached to the Holocaust Remembrance Day stamp – as requested in the last Newsletter.
The text states: “This memorial statue located in Belzec commemorates the 550,000 Jews who died in this extermination camp between 1942 and 1943”.

AND FINALLY – THANK-YOU.
Thank-you to everyone who has contributed towards the Newsletter. Whatever your comments are, - send them in. The more debate and input we have, the more interesting the Newsletter becomes.

And don’t forget your ADVERTS too!