



First Issues

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The First Issues Collectors Club

promotes the collection of the first postage stamps issued by any nation, province, city or other entity that has, at any time, issued postage stamps, and facilitates the exchange of information about these issues among stamp collectors.

First Issues (ISSN: 1547-2299), the official newsletter of the First Issues Collectors Club, is published quarterly. Submissions are welcome from members and others interested in the collection of first issues.

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President's Message

The last few months have been rich in philatelic events. Tim Balm already mentioned in the last Newsletter the display of the famous and unique British Guiana one-cent magenta stamp at the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. where it will stay until November 2017.

But another equally significant event took place in London, U.K. in May. The Mauritius "Post Office" printing plate resurfaced after 80 years and was displayed during Europhilex on May 13-16. The complete story was featured in the *American Philatelist* issue of May 2015 and is a fascinating one. The one-penny orange and two-pence blue "Post Office" stamps of 1847 may not be unique, but they are some of the rarest and most desirable stamps in the world, and the first colonial issue of the British Empire. The small copper plate where the two figures were engraved was last seen at the 1935 Silver Jubilee exhibition in London and was thought to be lost. The article also mentions that private reprints were done in Paris in 1912 and also in the 1930's. I will never own the original stamps, but I am happy to have one of those reprints in my reference collection. [See page 6.]

An exciting first also occurred in Canada in July. For the first time in its history *Canada Post* recalled a stamp. The stamp, issued on July 3, was part of a series depicting UNESCO world heritage sites, and the wrong image was used for the Alberta Dinosaur Provincial Park. The complete issue was immediately recalled, but some had already sold to the public. Nobody knows how many. Some have already appeared in the secondary market. As one commentator wrote, Christmas came early this year for Canada stamp collectors.

Louis Laflamme

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Visit us on the World Wide Web at <http://www.firstissues.org>

Bits & Pieces

Miscellaneous

Article Accuracy: *First Issues*, the editor, and other officers of the FICC cannot be responsible for accuracy or originality of any information printed herein. Opinions expressed in the articles are those of the writers and are not necessarily endorsed by *First Issues*, the FICC or its officers.

Articles Wanted: Articles, letters, comments, suggestions, album pages or anything else connected with collecting first issues are always needed. Send your copy to the editor (e-mail address on front page, postal address shown in the return address on outer cover). **To be included in V24N1, articles must be received prior to November 15, 2015.**

Membership Directory: Members may obtain a free FICC Membership Directory by sending a SASE (No 10 envelope with 1 ounce US postage) to our Secretary. You can also request the Directory via e-mail as an Excel spreadsheet (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

Back Issues: Back issues of the newsletter are available from the Secretary for \$7.00 per volume or \$2.00 for single issues. Electronic copies are available on a CD-ROM for \$10.00. Refer to the web site (www.firstissues.org) or contact the Secretary for more information (contact information is on pages 1 and 9).

Article Index: An index to the articles in *First Issues* from 1990 (V1, N1) to date is available. For a hard copy, send your request to Tim Balm (contact information is on page 1).

Bylaws: A copy of the FICC bylaws is available on the web site (www.firstissues.org). These were last printed in *First Issues* V18, N4.

Mail Bag

Kyrgyz #1

Hi Tim,

Just a fast note to thank you for sending along the Kyrgyz Express Post #1--many thanks. A full set (1-3) of these stamps must already be a pricey piece! New stamps from the European area are simply so expensive--not sure how or why people still collect these areas. Even Canada is immensely overpriced today. Makes our postal rates seem like a bargain.

Jerry Walls, FICC #245

Email: August, 2015

[See Lot 2 of Auction 85 on page 7 if you want a KEP Sc#1 for only \$15 – about 62% of SCV.]

Secretary's Report

Membership News: No new members have joined FICC since the last Newsletter went to press.

FICC [illegible]

Call for Mail Auction #86 Lots

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF LOTS FOR MAIL AUCTION #86 is Nov 15, 2015. Please send singles, sets, FDCs and covers related to first issues -- basically anything you think other FICC members would be interested in owning. The full set of guidelines governing the auctions is published in each auction mailing.

1. Submit lots to: Tim Balm, 4912 Regency Ct #208, West Chester, OH, 45069-6779 USA.
2. Include an inventory with your name & address, 1-line descriptions of the lots including cat#, current cat value, and minimum accepted bid. [Note: Scott catalog is the default; first issues listed by other catalogs are welcome.]
3. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold -- split between the seller and the buyer.

FICC ~~☒~~[illegible]

Heightened Importance of Buyer Beware for Internet Stamp Sales

Based on information from APS notices and other philatelic publications, sometime in mid 2014 eBay® discontinued partnering with the APS to help identify stamp forgeries offered for sale. Whether I have been more vigilant since that time or whether its another reason, I have personally noticed more fakes and forgeries in the listings recently. Contacting the sellers and offering my suspicions (in as gentle a manner as I can manage) yields only minor success in getting the auction listings changed. This is why I feel the need to voice my concerns to the FICC membership. To be clear, I do not advocate staying away from internet sales – they can be a very useful way to acquire stamps for your collections. I am simply advocating that everyone needs to be extremely vigilant in their purchases. A caveat emptor (or buyer beware) attitude may be more important than ever with internet transactions.

FICC 

New #1 for Afghanistan Listed in 2016 Scott Catalogues

I am fortunate to live in a community where my local library buys a new set of Scott Catalogues every year for their reference section. Whenever I have need to get the latest pricing or see the newest stamps, these volumes are always at my disposal. Last July, I went to my library to update pricing of stamps on my “want list” before attending StampShow 2015. At that time, the library had the new 2016 Scott Volumes 1, 2, and 3 on the reference section shelves. I pulled Volume 1 and scanned the page that lists all the new additions, deletions and changes to the numbers from the 2015 edition. To my surprise, I saw that Scott had added a listing for Afghanistan #1. I quickly turned to the Afghanistan listings and saw that the new #1 was a 1-shahi stamp that looked just like the #2 stamp – except for the notation that #1 was 30 mm in diameter. There was no indication of the diameter measurements for the #2-4 stamps for comparison. I also noted from the picture of the new #1 in the catalogue, that many of the dots in the outer circle often looked like dashes instead of dots.

When I got home, I pulled my album containing Afghanistan to check my copies. I have multiple used copies of #2-4, and one of the 1-shahi stamps had a diameter of 30mm. All others had a diameter of 27 mm. I did a mental “happy dance” because I would not have to go in search of this new #1. Shown at left (150%) is the newly listed Sc#1 (near left) and Sc#4A (far left) for comparison.

The New #1 has a catalogue value of US\$1350.00 mint and US\$60.00 used. This is slightly higher than the US\$925.00 mint and US\$50.00 used for the 1-shahi Sc#2. [Note, prices for Afghanistan #2 increased substantially from the 2015 SCVs of US\$550.00 mint and US\$25.00 used.]



FICC ☞

☆☆

#1a's for French Offices in Turkey Now Listed in 2016 Scott Catalogue

After noting the information on the new Afghanistan #1 listing in 2016 Scott Volume 1, I checked Volume 2 and saw changes for Sc#1 in the French Offices in Turkey for all four areas: Cavalle, Dedeagh, Port Lagos, and Vathy. In each case, the listing for #1 now indicates the overprint is in red, and a new listing for #1a states the overprint is in carmine. A subtle distinction. All the best to those of you who will now go about trying to determine if your album contains #1 or #1a for these areas. I hope you have a good color guide to assist you.

The SCVs are identical for the red overprint (#1) and the carmine overprint (#1a) in three of the four areas. Only in Vathy were the SCVs different for #1 and #1a. 2016 SCVs for all four areas are shown in the table below.

		Mint (hinged)	Used
Cavalle	#1	US \$25.00	US \$21.00
	#1a	US \$25.00	US \$21.00
Dedeagh	#1	US \$17.50	US \$15.00
	#1a	US \$17.50	US \$15.00
Port Lagos	#1	US \$30.00	US \$30.00
	#1a	US \$30.00	US \$30.00
Vathy	#1	US \$8.50	US \$7.50
	#1a	US \$10.00	US \$8.00

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The Lost Colony With A Huge Thirst For Stamps

By Paul Talbot, FICC non-member

[This is another re-publishing (with permission) of information disseminated by paultalbot.com in Coronado, California, USA in a July 19, 2014 broadcast e-mail to his customer base. The first article in this series appeared in V22N3.]

“Why would a country with less than 700,000 people and an area smaller than the state of Delaware need more than 800 stamps?”

“[*Portuguese India*] was established by the Portuguese in 1505. Mail service between Goa, the main city, and Lisbon, began in 1825. The first stamps appeared in 1871 [*see horizontal pair of Sc#1 at right, 150%, 2013 cert*]. The same design was repeated over the next 2 years on stamps with different types of paper, printings, and perforations.” [*Before the end of the 1870s, over 65 different stamps had been issued.*] “In the 1880s this obscure colony issued more than 100 [*additional*] stamps.

“When a special airline was set up to serve the colony [*in 1955*], why were the only airmail stamps ever issued already 17 years old and long gone from the post offices?

“When you look at the stamps of Portuguese India, these are the kinds of bizarre philatelic behaviors you uncover.

“Collectors who specialize in this all but forgotten corner of the world will tell us these numbers are low. When you count up the number of inverted and double surcharges, overprint varieties, and even secret printings, the number soars higher.

FICC 

Singapore and Straits Settlements First Issued Stamps


By Paul Talbot, FICC non-member [re-titled by FICC editor]

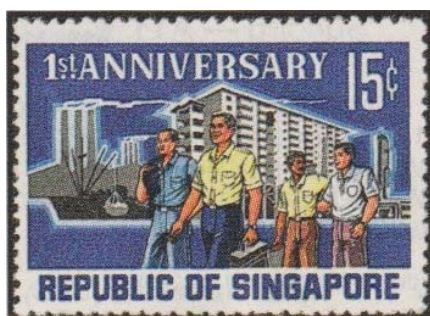
[This is another re-publishing (with permission) of information disseminated by paultalbot.com in Coronado, California, USA in a March 21, 2015 broadcast e-mail to his customer base. The first article in this series appeared in V22N3.]



“The first Straits Settlements stamps were issued in 1867. They were overprints on India stamps, but curiously, did not use the words Straits Settlements. Only a crown [*overprinted atop Queen Victoria’s head*] was used to differentiate them from India stamps.” Sc#1 (150%) is shown at left.

Stamps of the Straits Settlements were also used in Singapore until their first stamps went on sale in 1948.

 “The first Singapore stamps depicted King George VI.” Stamps perforated 14 from this series (Sc#1-20) were issued first – in 1948. Stamps perforated 18 (Sc#1a-20a) were issued from 1949-1952. Sc#1 is shown at near right (150%) and Sc#1a is shown at far right (150%).



“When Singapore was granted independence in 1965, it took over its own postal services from Malaysia. In 1966 it joined the Universal Postal Union. [*The first set of stamps issued post independence are Sc#73-75 on August 9, 1966. Curiously, these stamps state “1st Anniversary Republic of Singapore” on the stamps, but the previous stamps listed in Scott for Singapore were issued on August 8, 1963 (pre independence).*]

FICC 

President's Message (continued from page 1)

Shown at right is a picture of the Mauritius #1-2 reprints made in Paris in 1912. Note the two-pence on the left and the one-penny on the right. These Paris reprints were made in orange (like these), blue and black.

FICC ~~✗~~[illegible]

Confusing Catalogue Numbering of Kyrgyz Express Post First Issue

By Tim Balm, FICC #91

As discussed in the last Newsletter (V23N3), a new independent company, the Kyrgyz Express Post (KEP), has been granted permission to issue stamps for Kyrgyzstan – in addition to Kyrgyzstan’s own internal postal authority. Further, the KEP is recognized by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) for transporting mail internationally.

The KEP issued their first set of stamps on November 18, 2014. Five different stamps were issued on that date – and different catalogues are numbering them completely differently. To me, Scott has chosen the most confusing catalogue numbering. Let me explain.

The five different issued stamps were: (I) a 25-som stamp depicting mail delivery on horseback, (II) a 50-som stamp depicting mail delivery by train, (III) a 250-som stamp depicting mail delivery by automobile, (IV) a 500-som stamp depicting mail delivery by jet, and (V) a 700-som stamp showing a dove carrying a letter.

These five stamps were printed in mini-sheets with the following formats:

- A mini-sheet of 4 different stamps showing all four modes of mail transportation (I – IV) (shown below, left at 50%),
- A mini-sheet of 4 stamps showing only the jet (IV) (shown below, center at 50%), and
- A mini-sheet with the dove (V) surrounded by 8 non-stamp labels to form a 3x3 pane (shown below, right at 40%).



Michel assigned #1 to be the 25-som stamp, #2 to the 50-som stamp, #3 to the 250-som stamp, #4 to the 500-som stamp, and #5 to the 700-som stamp. Very clean, very straight forward. The KEP web site has adopted the Michel numbering. [Possibly Michel adopted the KEP numbering – I do not know who was first.]

As reported in the last Newsletter, Scott designated a single stamp from “format b)” to be Sc#1. The transportation mini-sheet (“format a”) is Sc#2 with the 25-som stamp being Sc#2a, the 50-som stamp being Sc#2b, the 250-som stamp being Sc#2c, and the 500-som stamp remaining Sc#1. Lastly, Scott designated 700-som stamp as Sc#3. I will not speak for others, but these numbering decisions by Scott simply confuse me.

While I'm "ranting", let me also question why KEP printed a 25-som stamp. According to the KEP web site, mailing rates are as follows: 50 som for a postcard, 150 som for a standard letter (<50 gms), and 50 or 100 som increments for heavier letters. The fee for registration is 100 som added on to the mailing rate. ... So, why a 25-som stamp? It would seem to me that 50-, 150-, 250- and 500-som denominations would be a better choice. But, no one asked me.

FICC 

Auction #85

Welcome to FICC Auction #85. The auction closes on Oct 31, 2015; bids received that after will not be considered. Please read descriptions carefully; lots occasionally have very similar descriptions. If you have questions, please contact me. Also, I will email scans of any specific lots you wish to see. ... All catalogue values (CVs) are taken from the 2016 Scott Catalogues.

AUCTION RULES

1. Highest bid wins. In the event of tie bids, earliest postmark or email date stamp breaks the tie. Bid what you are willing to pay; winning bids are rarely reduced.
2. Auctioneer reserves the right to reject unreasonable bids. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Auctioneer's decisions are final.
3. All lots are sold "as is" without warranty by auctioneer or FICC. In case of a dispute, the auctioneer will contact the seller and provide the name of the buyer and nature of the dispute to allow direct settlement.
4. An expertizing policy exists for lots with a realized price of \$75 or more (contact auction manager for details).
5. The club receives a 10% fee from each lot sold. The fee will be split between the seller and the buyer.
6. Shipping charges are added to buyer's total. Lots will be mailed using normal USPS rates. Winning lots totaling more than \$200 will be insured, certified or registered.
7. Payment may be requested before shipment.
8. Bidding in this auction constitutes agreement to these rules.

SUBMITTING BIDS (NOTICE NEW ADDRESS FOR BIDDING!!!)

Submit bids by email (Auctions@firstissues.org) or postal mail (Tim Balm, 4912 Regency Ct #208, West Chester, OH, 45069, USA). If you are submitting bids by postal mail, you can (1) enter your bids on the bid sheet on page 11 and mail that, or (2) you can place your bids on a separate sheet of paper giving lot number, description, and the amount you wish to bid. Please include your name, FICC#, and address. Phone bids are not accepted.

#1s

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>CV</u>	<u>Min Bid</u>	<u>Your Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>
1	French Morocco Sc#1 used(m-cxl) avg [SON cxl]	\$4.00	\$1.25	_____	1
2	KEP (Kyrgyz Express Post) Sc#1 mnh vf [corner selvage]	\$24.00	\$15.00	_____	2

Change of Government #1s

3	Germany Sc#1612-13 (reunification) cto-ng(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.85	\$0.40	_____	3
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#A1s/K1s/L1s/N1s

4	Italy Sc#NE1 mh f/vf	\$12.00	\$4.80	_____	4
5	Italy Sc#NE1 mvlh f/vf	\$12.00	\$4.90	_____	5
6	Italy Sc#NE1-2 mh f/vf	\$24.00	\$9.60	_____	6
7	Italy Sc#NE1-2 mnh/mh f/vf [N1 is mnh]	\$24.00	\$9.80	_____	7
8	Italy Sc#NJ1-7 mh f/vf	\$9.65	\$3.85	_____	8
9	Italy Sc#NP1 mh f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.40	_____	9
10	Italy Sc#NP1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$1.20	\$0.55	_____	10
11	Italy Sc#NP1-2 mhr f/vf	\$1.90	\$0.75	_____	11
12	Italy Sc#NP1-4 mh f/vf	\$4.10	\$1.65	_____	12
13	Italy Sc#NP1-4 mhr f/vf	\$4.10	\$1.45	_____	13

BOB (Back of Book) #1s

14	Australian States - New South Wales Sc#B1-2 mhr f/vf	\$422.50	\$148.00	_____	14
15	Belgium Sc#J1 used(m-cxl) avg [signed F.O.] [small thin]	\$2.00	\$0.50	_____	15
16	French Polynesia Sc#C1 mhr f/vf [5-8 clipped perfs LR]	\$1.25	\$0.30	_____	16
17	Germany Sc#B1 mhr f/vf	\$0.45	\$0.25	_____	17
18	Germany Sc#OL1 mh f/vf	\$1.20	\$0.50	_____	18
19	Greece Sc#NRA1 mlh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	19
20	Hong Kong Sc#J1 mh vf	\$2.75	\$1.25	_____	20
21	Italy Sc#B1-3 mnh f/vf	\$125.00	\$56.25	_____	21
22	Italy Sc#B1-4 mlh f/vf	\$67.75	\$27.10	_____	22
23	Italy Sc#C1 mlh f	\$24.00	\$8.40	_____	23
24	Italy Sc#C1 mvlh f/vf	\$24.00	\$9.60	_____	24
25	Italy Sc#C1 (+C2) mlh f	\$48.00	\$16.80	_____	25

Continued on page 8

Mail Bid Auction 85 (continued from page 7)**BOB (Back of Book) #1s (cont'd)**

26	Italy Sc#C1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$40.00	\$18.00	_____	26
27	Italy Sc#C1 used(l-cxl) vf	\$40.00	\$20.00	_____	27
28	Italy Sc#CB1-2 mh f/vf	\$6.40	\$2.55	_____	28
29	Italy Sc#CE1-2 mnh f/vf	\$80.00	\$36.00	_____	29
30	Italy Sc#D1 mh avg [ink transfer on back]	\$2.40	\$0.75	_____	30
31	Italy Sc#E1 mlh avg	\$47.50	\$14.25	_____	31
32	Italy Sc#E1 used(h-cxl) f/vf	\$1.20	\$0.45	_____	32
33	Italy Sc#E1 used(m-cxl) f	\$1.20	\$0.40	_____	33
34	Italy Sc#E1-5 used(h-cxl) f/vf	\$4.60	\$1.60	_____	34
35	Italy Sc#E1-5 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$4.60	\$1.85	_____	35
36	Italy Sc#EY1 used(l-cxl) f [perf 14]	\$0.60	\$0.25	_____	36
37	Italy Sc#EY1 used(l-cxl) f/vf [perf 14]	\$0.60	\$0.25	_____	37
38	Italy Sc#EY1 used(m-cxl) f/vf [perf 14]	\$0.60	\$0.25	_____	38
39	Italy Sc#M1-13 mh f/vf [M1 creased]	\$13.00	\$5.20	_____	39
40	Italy Sc#M1-13 mlh f/vf	\$13.00	\$5.30	_____	40
41	Italy Sc#MC1-5 mlh f/vf	\$8.85	\$3.55	_____	41
42	Italy Sc#MCE1 mnh f/vf	\$3.50	\$1.60	_____	42
43	Italy Sc#MCE1 mvlh f	\$3.50	\$1.25	_____	43
44	Italy Sc#O1 mnh f	\$3.25	\$1.30	_____	44
45	Italy Sc#O1-2 used(-cxl) f	\$9.50	\$3.80	_____	45
46	Italy Sc#P1 used(m-cxl) 2-mrgn	\$110.00	\$38.50	_____	46
47	Italy Sc#Q1 mh f [mnh with badly disturbed gum]	\$125.00	\$50.00	_____	47
48	Italy Sc#Q1-6 used(m-cxl) f-f/vf	\$476.50	\$190.00	_____	48
49	Italian States - Sardinia Sc#P1 used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$17.50	\$7.90	_____	49
50	Italian States - Sardinia Sc#P1 used(l-cxl) f/vf [REPRINT]	\$17.50	\$0.90	_____	50
51	Italian Soc Republic Sc#E1 mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	51
52	Italian Soc Republic Sc#EY1 mhr f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	52
53	Italian Soc Republic Sc#EY1 mlh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	53
54	Italy-Off in Tripoli Sc#E1 mh f	\$19.00	\$6.65	_____	54
55	Italy-Off in Tripoli Sc#E1-2 mh avg	\$25.50	\$7.65	_____	55
56	Italy-Off in Turkish Empire Sc#E1 mnh avg	\$3.25	\$1.15	_____	56
57	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#C1-4 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$8.30	\$3.35	_____	57
58	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#C1a-4a cto(l-cxl) f/vf	\$8.30	\$3.75	_____	58
59	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#C1a-4a mh f/vf	\$4.25	\$1.70	_____	59
60	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#E1-2 cto(l-cxl) ng f/vf	\$12.75	\$5.75	_____	60
61	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#J1 mnh f/vf	\$4.75	\$2.15	_____	61
62	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#J1-9 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$108.50	\$43.50	_____	62
63	Italy-Aegean Islands-Rhodes Sc#Q1-2 mnh f/vf	\$13.00	\$5.85	_____	63
64	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#C1 mnh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.12	_____	64
65	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#C1 mh f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	65
66	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#EY1 mnh f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.35	_____	66
67	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#J1 mnh f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.35	_____	67
68	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#J1 used(l-cxl) f	\$0.80	\$0.35	_____	68
69	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#J1 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$0.80	\$0.35	_____	69
70	Italy-Trieste Zone A Sc#J1-6 used(m-cxl) f/vf	\$26.70	\$10.70	_____	70

#1 Twins

71	Falkland Islands Sc#84 (twin to #2L1) mhr f/vf [pulled UR perf]	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	71
72	Hungary Sc#7a used(m-cxl) f	\$20.00	\$7.00	_____	72
73	Ireland Sc#19 mlh f/vf	\$6.00	\$2.40	_____	73
74	Italy Sc#1LN7A (twin to #1LN1) used(l-cxl) f/vf	\$0.25	\$0.10	_____	74

End of Listing

First Issues Collectors Club
Membership Application or Renewal Form

Membership includes four issues of the FICC Newsletter, *First Issues*. Dues for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have United States mailing addressees are \$10.00 per year. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are US\$14.00 per year. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** and send to the postal address below or use the online PayPal feature at our web site, www.firstissues.org. Thank you for your renewal or new membership!

- ☐ New Membership
 ☐ Renewal
 ☐ Additional Contribution: \$_____
- ☐ Electronic Copy (by E-mail)
 ☐ Paper Copy (by postal delivery)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone* _____ e-mail* _____

APS# _____ Other Memberships: _____

* Your telephone number and e-mail address will be kept confidential if you wish.

Send this form with your dues to: Kurt Streepy, 3128 E. Mattatha Dr., Bloomington, IN 47401, USA



BID SHEET FOR AUCTION #85



Bidding Deadline is October 31, 2015



(email bids to auctions@firstissues.org)

Name: _____

FICC#: _____

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Bid</u>

IT'S RENEWAL TIME

Check your address label on this newsletter. If it has an expiration date of V23#4, that means your FICC membership expires with this issue. Please send in your dues renewal by November 30, 2015 to ensure that you do not miss an issue. Dues are \$10.00 per year for members who receive the Newsletters electronically or who have USA mailing addresses. Rates for members with non-U.S. addresses who receive the Newsletters via postal mail are \$14.00 per year. We believe this remains a bargain relative to most other stamp clubs with newsletters.

A membership renewal form can be found on page 9. If you have an email address, please include any changes. Make checks payable to **Kurt Streepy** (not FICC), and mail your dues to Kurt at the address on the renewal form. If you wish to pay electronically using PayPal or Skrill/MoneyBookers, please contact Kurt Streepy for instructions.

First Issues

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