

The PhilateliKid

The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)

Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)

www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org

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In the May 2022 issue of *The PhilateliKid*, we began brief descriptions of various “Back of the Book” (“BOB”) listings in the Scott Catalogues. In subsequent issues we looked at stamps which begin with the letter “B,” “C,” “CE,” “CL,” “CM,” “CB,” “CO,” “E,” “D,” “F,” “FA,” “J,” “K,” “L,” “LO,” “O,” “PR,” “PN,” “PS,” “WS,” “BK,” “Q,” “JQ,” “QE,” “CVP,” “WX,” “QI,” “#X,” and “REA.” This month we will look at “RV.”

Stamps Beginning with the prefix “RV”

Stamps in the Scott Catalogue with the prefix “RV” are Motor Vehicle Use stamps, which were issued during WWII, during a time when gasoline rationing was in effect. They authorized the use of that particular



vehicle for one year only. They had gum on the face of the stamp, and were affixed to the inside of the windshield of automobiles. Note how the \$5 purple stamp and the \$5 red stamp still have traces of gum on their face. Only 53 different types of stamps were ever issued, and they were discontinued in June 1946. They all are remarkably inexpensive, with 35

being cataloged in used condition at \$15 or less. The most expensive ones, RV23 and RV 24 catalog in used condition at \$25.00. The most expensive mint condition one catalogs at \$140.00. They were issued in varying denominations: 42¢, 84¢, \$1.25, \$1.67, \$2.09, \$2.50, \$2.92 \$3.34, \$3.75, \$4.17, \$4.59, & \$5.00.

General Bernardo de Galvez

In 2014, the U.S. Congress named Bernardo de Galvez an Honorary U.S. Citizen, an honor given to only 8 people. Why was he recognized 228 years after his death in 1786 at age 40? Who was he, and what makes him a famous person in American history?

The United States has given honorary citizenship to the following people: **Sir Winston Churchill**, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, **Raoul Wallenberg**, Swedish diplomat who rescued Jews in Hungary during the Holocaust He vanished after WWII into the USSR and was never seen again. **William Penn**, Englishman who founded the Province of Pennsylvania, **Hannah Callowhill Penn**, Administrator of the Province of Pennsylvania and the 2nd wife of William Penn, **Mother Teresa**, a Catholic nun born in Albania and citizen of India who founded the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta, **Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette**, a citizen of France who helped the United states gain independence, **Casimir Pulaski**, a Polish

military officer who saved the life of Gen. George Washington during the American Revolutionary War, , and died in that war at age 34, and **Gen. Bernardo de Galvez**. (See below for details.)



General Bernardo Vincente de Galvez y Madrid was a Spanish military leader who became the Viceroy of New Spain. New Spain included a huge tract of land in North America owned by Spain. Officially it was the Viceroyalty of New Spain, or Kingdom of New Spain. It was established in 1521 when the Aztecs were defeated. The territory eventually included what is now Mexico, Central America, portions of northern South America, a large part of the southern and Western United States, Florida, (which included Cuba), the Philippines, the Caribbean, Guam and several areas in Asia including Nagasaki, Japan, and Formosa, China. Mexico included the southern and western portion of the U.S. included what now are the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. In 1762 New Spain acquired the vast expanse of Louisiana from France, which later in 1801 was sold back to France, which subsequently sold it to the United States in 1803 (the Louisiana Purchase.)

During the American Revolutionary War against England, Spain officially was neutral, but unofficially New Spain was very helpful to the Colonies by allowing ships carrying war materiel to pass through New Spain up the Mississippi River. This was necessary because England had blockaded all the U.S. ports on the Atlantic Ocean. In addition to the passive assistance from New Spain, the Colonies also received military assistance including the battles at Baton Rouge and Mobile. However, because General Galvez never set foot on any of the original 13 Colonies, he has not been remembered as much as several other European military leaders who helped win independence, such as Marquis de Lafayette, Baron Friedrich von Steuben, Gen. Casimir Pulaski, and Gen. Tadeusz Kosciuszko, each of whom had been commemorated on U.S. stamps. The city of Galveston, Texas was named after him. In 1980 Galvez finally was commemorated on a stamp, Scott 1826 (above, left).

In 1900, Galveston, Texas, was the site of the deadliest natural disaster in U.S. history when a hurricane and subsequent flooding resulted in the deaths of approximately 8,000 people. I mention this because, although horrible, the deaths from the fires in Maui, Hawaii in August, 2023, are considerably fewer.



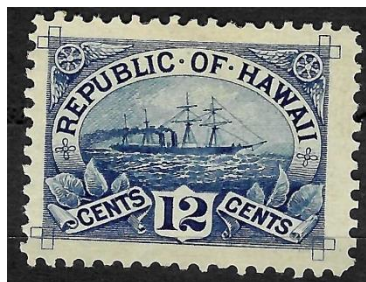
Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii

The State of Hawaii, (formerly called the Sandwich Islands) is located in the mid-Pacific Ocean, and is the most remote place on earth from any continent. The first king to combine the islands under one rule was **King Kamehameha (left)** in 1795. The Kingdom of Hawaii lasted until 1893. The last King was **King David Kalakaua (right)**, who reigned from 1874 until his death in 1891. After his death, his sister **Liliuokalani (right)** became Queen, until the monarchy of Hawaii was overthrown in 1893. It then became the Republic of Hawaii, which lasted only until 1898.

The United States overthrew the Republic of Hawaii, which then officially became a Territory of the United States. The Territory of Hawaii became a State on August 21, 1959, the 50th state. No state has joined since, making now the longest period of time the United States has gone without adding another state.



An interesting bit of trivia: King David Kalakaua became monarch by an **election**. The election was held by the legislature. Kind David won the election by a vote of 39 to 6.



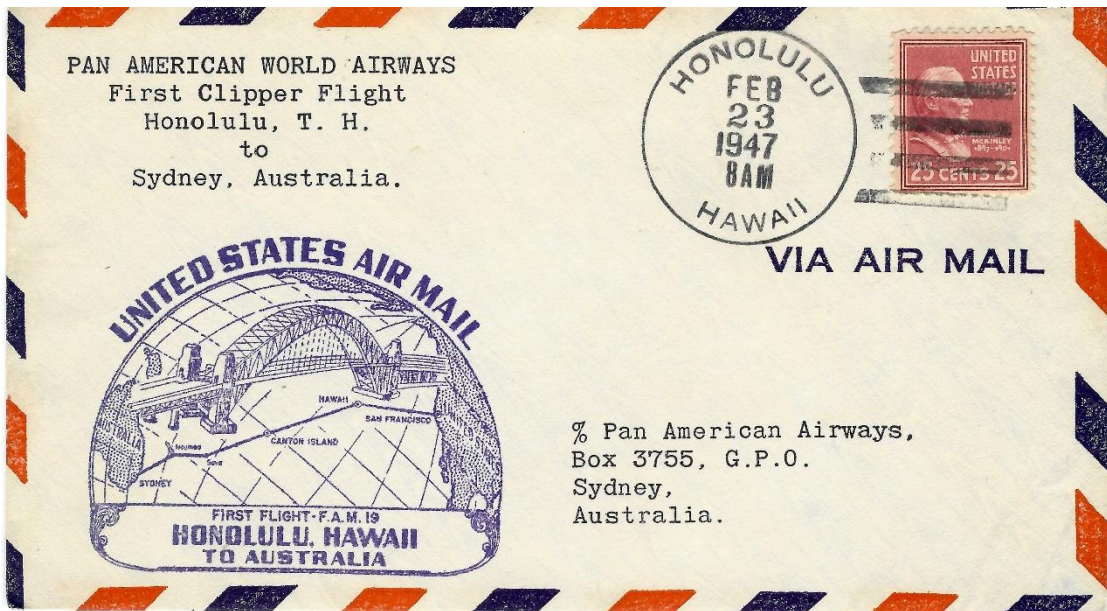
Republic of Hawaii Scott 78 (left)

**The first, and only, President of the Republic of Hawaii,
Sanford Ballard Dole, Hawaii Scott 79 (right)**



President Sanford B. Dole served as President of the Republic of Hawaii from June 1900 until the United States annexed Hawaii and it became a Territory on November 23, 1903. He

was born in the Kingdom of Hawaii, and lived in the Republic of Hawaii, and died in 1926 at age 82 in the



Territory of Hawaii, as a citizen of the United States. In case the name “Dole” sounds familiar, Sanford Dole’s cousin, James Dole, founded the Hawaiian Pineapple Co., which later was renamed Dole Food Company. The Territory of Hawaii, abbreviated T.H., used United States stamps. At left is a cover mailed from Honolulu, T.H. to Sydney, Australia, on 2/23/1947.

At right is U.S. Scott 1682, issued on February 23, 1976. It was part of pane of stamps that contained the flags of each State in the U.S. In the upper left corner of the flag of Hawaii is the “Union Jack.” After gaining independence from England in 1787, no State flag contained the Union Jack, the flag of England (United Kingdom, now), until Hawaii. This flag was adopted as the flag of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1845, and is still the flag of Hawaii. The eight horizontal stripes represent the 8 major islands of Hawaii. (Hawaii has 137 islands, mostly uninhabited.) The inclusion of the Union Jack symbolizes the close relation the Kingdom of Hawaii had with the United Kingdom. Hawaii was called the Sandwich Islands by Europeans and Americans, a name chosen by James Cook in honor of the 4th Earl of Sandwich, who was in charge of the Royal Navy at the time Cook “discovered” the Kingdom of Hawaii.



On August 8, 2023, a major hurricane passed near Maui, creating winds up to 80 miles an hour. Many wildfires broke out, probably caused by downed electric wires. Because of the steep mountainous terrain, many areas were inaccessible, and needed to be extinguished by helicopters, but because of the high winds, helicopters could not be used. The fires spread all around the city of Lahaina, the original capitol of Hawaii, which for decades a very popular tourist attraction. Sirens were located all over the island, to

alarm residents of an impending disaster. Everybody on Maui was trained that when those sirens went off, to immediately head for higher ground, because the expected disaster was a tsunami that would flood lower areas of the island. My wife and I lived on Maui for 10 years, and we knew exactly where we were expected to go, and understood that it might be days before we could return home.

When the wildfires started, the City of Lahaina was surrounded by fire, with the only way out to be the ocean. The fire department in Lahaina was quickly overwhelmed. A two-lane highway goes through Lahaina, but escape was impossible, except for a very few residents who got out early. The wildfires quickly overtook the cell phone towers in the area, making communication nearly impossible. Electricity and water utilities also stopped working. At one point the fire was spreading at the rate of 1 mile a minute (60 miles an hour) – way faster than anybody could outrun it on foot. Many people jumped into the ocean to escape the flames, but even then, sparks were flying at them. Many had burns and died. Some apparently died from drowning.

My wife, Linda, and I have been able to contact many friends we have who are still living on Maui. Three families we know had their homes completely destroyed. As of this writing, two families we know are still unaccounted for. One of the major health care centers (Kaiser) was completely burned to the ground. Many people needing medications such as insulin are having difficulty. Transportation is very difficult because many motor vehicles (thousands, apparently) have been destroyed. Autos of survivors clog the roads. Gasoline is unavailable because the gas stations that survived do not have electricity to operate their gas pumps. Because of many plastic and dangerous substances in homes, the ground, air, and water are all contaminated. The area is a total health hazard, both for residents, and first responders.

The agency responsible for sounding the emergency alarms realized that sounding the alarms would result in people doing what they had been trained to do, which would send them directly into the wildfires. Hence, at the time, officials believed the best thing to do was to NOT sound the alarms. In hindsight, there are many angry people who have lost their homes, belongings, and loved ones, who are very resentful. The federal government has sent emergency aid, but being a remote place, it takes a while for some items and skilled personnel to arrive. As I write this, over 114 people are confirmed dead, and 850 are still unaccounted for.

Hawaii is a nice place to be. Tourists come to Hawaii to get married, to celebrate anniversaries, or just to have fun. On the one island of Maui, about 150,000 people reside, but about a third are “snow-birds” who live there primarily in the winter months. The last year before COVID 19 hit, Maui had 2.98 million visitors – just on that one island. Hence, tourism is the major industry. COVID resulted in many hotels, restaurants and tourist attractions closing down, creating a very bad economy. Many people have been unemployed, or under-employed for months, and years. They have little or no savings remaining to “fall back on.” Many businesses are struggling. In “Paradise,” things are **not good** right now, and government officials are telling tourists to stay away from Maui. If you are able, there are many recognized charities that are helping, and they can use your donations. Keep these Americans in your thoughts and prayers.

Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more you will be sent a written receipt. You also can donate via PayPal on our website www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org or www.yummystampcollecting.org which redirects you to the same website.