

PERRYSCOPE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GARFIELD-PERRY STAMP CLUB

FIRST THURSDAY each month at the DOUBLETREE HOTEL - 6200 Quarry Lane - INDEPENDENCE, at 7:00 PM

June 2025

Weygandt offers to support your collecting interests

GP member Bob Weygandt wants to help fellow club members with their collections.

He explained how he'd like to help at the club's May 1 meeting.

On occasion, he said, he has access to old stamp albums, covers and other collectible items. It's material, he said, "that I believe should be enjoyed by our membership."

He invited members to tell him of their collecting interests and he will review the material he comes across to see what might be available to share.

He's more than happy to help fill a few holes or even spark a new area to explore.

Already, more than a dozen members have benefitted from Weygandt's foresight and thoughtfulness.

Let Weygandt know of your interests at rweygandt9861@gmail.com.



Thatcher wins McKinley show Grand Award

GP trustee Carol Thatcher won the Grand Award at the McKinley Stamp show March 1-2 in Canton for her exhibit "U.S. First Ladies: U.S. Philately."

There have been just six first ladies depicted on U.S. stamps and stationery.

Martha Washington has appeared on three stamps and seven postal reply cards. Abigail Adams, Dolley Madison, Lady Bird Johnson, and Nancy Reagan have each appeared on one postage stamp.



Thatcher
after Thatcher's exhibit was on display.

The exhibit defined interests of different aspects of U.S. philately

Eleanor Roosevelt appeared on three stamps. All were part of the exhibit.

A stamp for Barbara Bush was unveiled May 8 at the White House after Thatcher's exhibit was on display.

portraying first ladies. It included mint, unused and postally used stamps, coils, souvenir sheets, per-fins, precancels, plate blocks, postal reply cards, first day covers with cachets and first day ceremony programs.

Thatcher is a member of the McKinley Stamp Club, Stark County Stamp Club, American Philatelic Society, Scouts on Stamps Society International, American Topical Association and United Postal Stationary Society.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Touro Synagogue's role in U.S. history

Last month I showed a couple of Hanukkah covers from my United States Judaica cover collections. Another of my collections is the 1982 Touro Synagogue stamp. Again, I collect first day covers of the U.S. stamp with different cachets.



The Touro Synagogue was built in 1763 in Newport, Rhode Island. It is the oldest synagogue building still standing in the United States, and the only surviving synagogue building in the U.S. dating to the colonial era. In 1946, it was declared a National Historic Site.

On August 17, 1790, George Washington visited Newport. The synagogue's warden, Moses Seixas, wrote to Washington expressing the support of the congregation for his administration and good wishes for him. Washington sent a letter on August 21 in response, which read in part:

"...the Government of the United States ... gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance. ... May the children of the Stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants; while everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.

"May the father of all mercies scatter light and not darkness in our paths and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in his own due time and way everlastingly happy."

The letter is considered a semi-

nal statement on religious freedom in American history.

Nearby is a cover with a Powell Cachet, featuring George Washington (Figure 1). Zoila Powell specialized in limited edition watercolors. Five copies were produced.

Another cover (Figure 2) shows an exterior view of the synagogue and is designed by Karen's Cachet. Karen Sabinsky's hand-colored design features the synagogue with a Star of David and a Torah above. This was produced in a limited edition of 248.

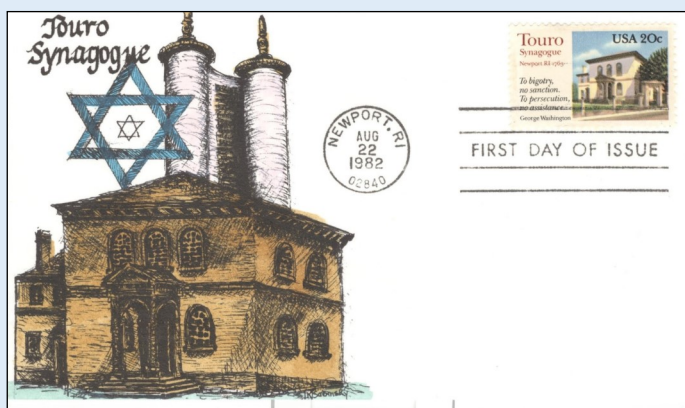


Figure 3

The final cover (Figure 3) is a Dorothy Knapp cachet. It shows an exterior view of the synagogue with the wording, "A Tribute to

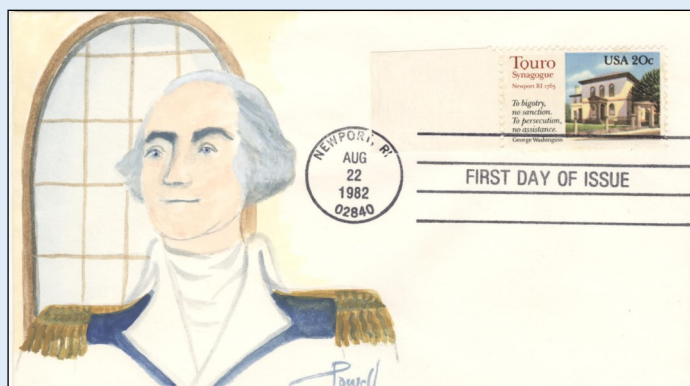


Figure 1



Figure 2

Religious Freedom." Dorothy Knapp's hand-painted designs were usually in groups of 50 or less.

I hope all of you continue to enjoy your collecting and that you are enjoying the search for new material. Be sure to visit a stamp show this summer.

Don't forget that our July and August meet-

ings will be on Zoom. Links will be sent via email in advance.

Philatelically yours,
Howard S. Chapman

How Oberlin got its start

By Dennis Sadowski

The city of Oberlin had its origins in the minds of two ministers who envisioned an intentional religious community focused on simple living and following God's commandments in order to realize "the Christian conversion of humankind."

The Rev. John J. Shipherd and fellow missionary Philo P. Stewart made plans in 1832 to find land west of Elyria, where they were living with their families. They settled on a location nine miles away in heavily forested Russia Township, a tough place to farm but idyllic, they thought, for their commune.

The ministers' desire to start a faith-based community emerged during the second Great Awakening, a Protestant rebirth during the late 18th and early 19th centuries that sparked antebellum social reform movements. They were especially inspired by the celebrated ministry of the Rev. John Frederic Oberlin in France.

Prior to starting their community, Shipherd began ministering at the First Presbyterian Church in Elyria soon after arriving in Cleveland from Vermont with his family on Oct. 7, 1830. In less than two years, however, he was out of a job. His congregation wasn't too happy with his push for temperance.

Along the way, Shipherd sent reports about his ministry to the Rev. Absalom Peters, corresponding secretary of the American Home Missionary Society in New York.

One such report survives. It is in an Elyria postal history exhibit by GP member Dave Wessely.

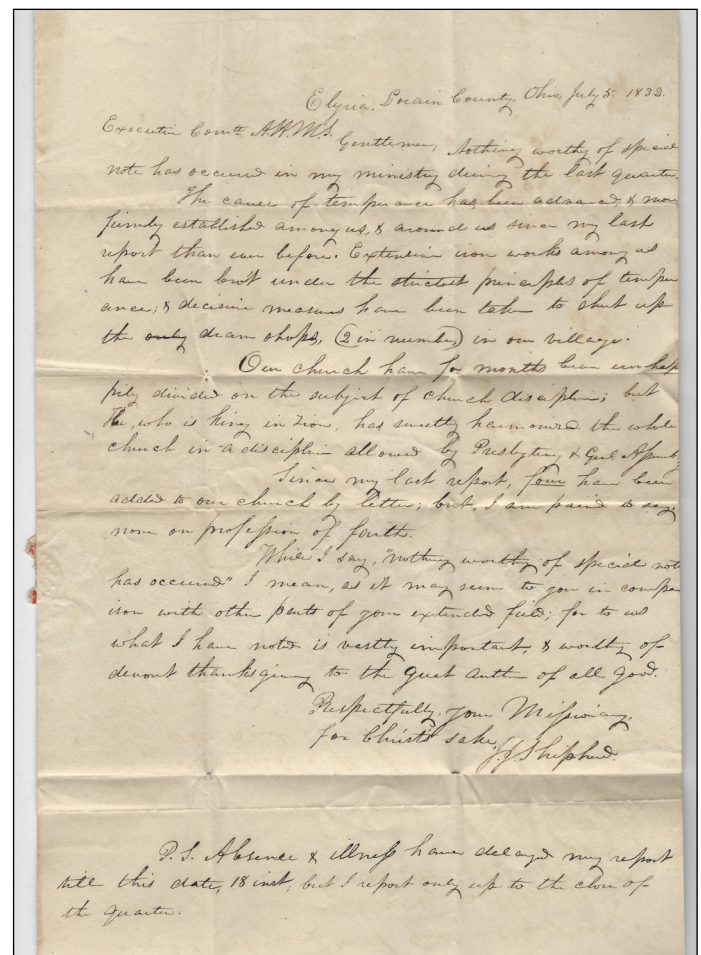
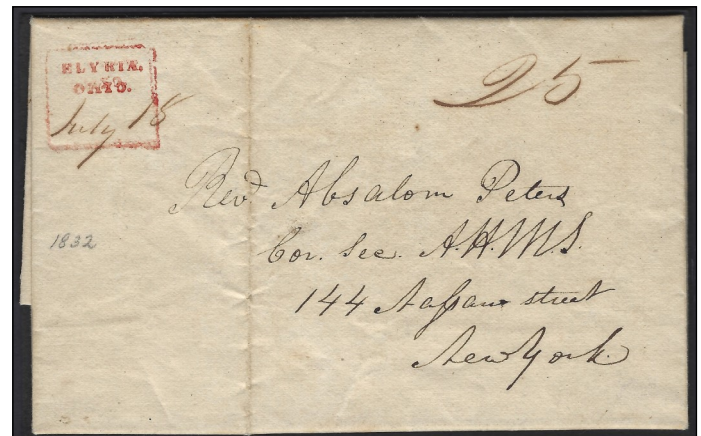
The one-page letter is dated July 5, 1832, weeks before Shipherd lost his church position. It is postmarked with a boxed Elyria, Ohio, cancellation with a manuscript date of "July 18." The number "25" is written in the upper right corner indicating the postage rate for a letter traveling more than 400 miles.

The box cancellation was used from 1829 to 1833.

In his correspondence, Shipherd opened by writing: "Nothing worthy of special note has occurred in my ministry in the last quarter." He described his efforts to teach discipline in Christian principles and "the cause of temperance has been advanced & now firmly established among us."

He indicated the church had four new members "by letter, but I am pained to say none on profession of faith."

Perhaps having second thoughts, Shipherd decided to clarify his opening, penning that he meant "in comparison with other parts of your extended field; for to us what I have noted is vastly important and worthy of devout thanksgiving to the great author of



A letter dated July 5, 1832 from the Rev. John J. Shipherd to a religious adviser in New York described life ministering in Elyria, Ohio, provides insight into life in pioneer days.

all good."

Surviving letters such as Shipherd's offer a glimpse of pioneer life nearly two centuries ago. That it was written by an individual of historical significance makes it all the more meaningful when studying history.

Upcoming events

June 6-8: NAPEX, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, Virginia

June 20-21: Colopex 2025, Madison County Fairgrounds, 205 Elm St., London, Ohio

June 29, July 20, Aug. 24: Canton Stamp Show, Lincolnway Stamps, Holiday Inn, 4520 Everhard Rd., Canton, Ohio

Aug. 1-2: CINPEX 2025, United Methodist Church, 3682 W. Fork Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio

Aug. 14-17: Great American Stamp Show, Renaissance Convention Center, 1551 North Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg, Illinois

Aug. 22-23: AIRPEX 2025, Dayton Stamp Club, Bobel Banquet & Event Center, 3119 Stop 8 Rd., Dayton, Ohio

GP programs

The club meets the first Thursday of the month except July and August. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at Wyndham Independence, 6200 Quarry Lane, Independence; (216-447-1300).

Club members are invited to meet for dinner at 6 p.m. at The Sanctuary Restaurant at the hotel.

Upcoming programs are:

June 5: Chris Fortunato, "The Blessed Virgin Mary on Stamps."

July 3 and Aug. 7: Member Show and Tell; meeting takes place via Zoom. Link will be emailed in advance.



Club Officers

Howard Chapman, president

Ray Beer, vice president

Clint Many, secretary

Ken Nilsestuen, treasurer

Rocco Caponi, Chris Duston, Carol Thatcher, trustees

Matt Liebson, legal adviser

Perryscope is published 10 times a year by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club.

Editor: Dennis Sadowski

Send news and information to Perryscope@garfieldperry.org.

The club is online at garfieldperry.org

All science is either physics or stamp collecting.

— Ernest Rutherford, father of atomic physics

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