Dated Journal

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Netherlands Philately

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately
Volume 47/3



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NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately; Volume 47/3

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Editor's Message

January, 2023

Dear Fellow Collectors,

A Happy New Year.

Part of last year's wishes have come true; most of the world seems to have learned how to live with Covid, travel is mostly unrestricted, and philatelic shows are being held again.

For 2023, we just wish that the stock market recovers soon, that inflation is brought under control, and that the war in Ukraine comes to a peaceful end, and of course good health for everyone. I hope that is not too much to ask for.

My wife and I resumed our wanderlust to pre-pandemic scale this year, with visits to the Netherlands (and France), England, Sacramento, and Washington D.C. between March and October. Our most recent sojourn was a three-week visit to Egypt and Jordan in November. Apart from the obligatory camel ride next to the pyramids, we climbed many steps to view rarely visited rock tombs. In contrast, tourists (almost) overwhelmed the temples of Luxor and the tombs in the Valley of the Kings, a true sign that leisure travel has recovered.

Ben

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Advice to Authors

Please submit your text in MS Word, and indicate where each illustration belongs. Submit illustrations as full color scans (at 300 dpi or better). Contact the Magazine Editor in case of questions.

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Luminescence colors in postal mechanization.

by Rien de Jong

INTRODUCTION

In the 1960s luminescent stamps came more and more into use. Luminescence is the collective name for fluorescence and phosphorescence. The term fluorescence comes from fluorite: a mineral consisting of the salt calcium fluoride (CaF2), a well-known fluorescent substance. The term phosphorescence means roughly: 'lights like phosphorus.' White phosphorus does indeed give off light in the dark, but in the case of phosphorescent powders the light has a different origin, namely the slow decay of electrons, that have been excited by light, to the ground state (lowest energy state of the substance).

During the manufacture of paper and printing ink a substance can be added that makes the stamps light up under UV light. We speak of fluorescence when the stamps light up strongly, but do not glow in the dark after the lamp is turned off. Under the UV lamp they mostly have a bright yellow or yellow-white color. Phosphorescent stamps glow less strongly under UV light, but they still glow a while after the UV lamp is extinguished.

Luminescence could have been a way against counterfeit stamps. In most countries, however, both phenomena are used for postal mechanization purposes. Nevertheless, several countries did issue luminescent stamps that had nothing to do with postal mechanization. Were these stamps then perhaps intended to combat counterfeiting or was it more a matter of what kind of paper was in stock?

As the experimental character disappeared and practically all stamps of a certain country had become luminescent, the interest of collectors shifted more and more to the historical backgrounds of the postal mechanization and the production technical aspects were largely neglected. All the more reason to pay some attention in this article to some technical aspects of luminescence in postal mechanization. By the way, luminescence nowadays does not guarantee against forgeries, because it is not too difficult to obtain luminescent raw materials for the production of printing inks and coatings.

LUMINESCENSE IN THE SERVICE OF POSTAL MECHANIZATION

Luminescent stamps can be recognized by the Facer-Cancelers that have come into use at the Post Office. In the 1950s, first tests were made with these machines. The Dutch firm Marchand - Andriessen, in cooperation with the postal administration, carried out the first tests as early as 1949. But it was the German postal administration that took the lead. In the spring of 1960, the first German postage stamps printed on fluorescent paper gradually came into use. These were initially the six stamps of the issue Bundespräsident Theodor Heuss (Michel catalog nos. 179, 181 and 183-186) (Figures 1 -12). The fluorescent dye 'Lumogen gelborange' (chemical name: salicylaldazine) was used as the luminous dye. Later that year, two more values of this series were printed on fluorescent paper, namely the 30 and 40 Pf (Michel catalog nos. 259 and 260) (Figures 13 – 16). Also, the color of these two stamps was changed to black-green and blue respectively. The corresponding stamps issued in 1954 on plain paper were colored light blue and dark reddish lilac, respectively. In addition, the size of these two stamps was reduced to the size of the lower values from 1954 (plain paper) and from spring 1960 (fluorescent paper).

Optical brighteners

Initially, the luminous dye was applied onto the stamps, but later it was added during the paper manufacturing process. This produced a yellowish color perceptible to the naked eye. Especially on the back of the stamp this is easily observable. To counteract the discoloration of the paper, 'warmers', also called 'optical brightners', were also added. These products are used to increase the reflection and brightness of the paper. This makes the paper appear whiter.























Figures 1 - 12: During the Spring of 1960, six values (5, 7, 10, 15, 20 and 25 Pf) of the 1954 issue of Bundespräsident Heuss were issued, this time printed on fluorescent paper.

Top row in daylight and bottom row under UV light.









Figures 13 - 16: In September 1960 two additional values (30 and 40 Pf) were issued on fluorescent paper. Both stamps were part of a series of seven values (30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90 Pf) issued in 1956/57. These stamps had already been issued in 1954, but this time they all received a different color. The UV-illuminated stamps are shown to the right of the corresponding stamps under daylight.

Optical brighteners can be applied to the paper as a coating, or added to the pulp. Due to the fact that brighteners generally contain chlorine compounds, they were virtually banned from the paper pulp. In England, the terms 'OBA (Optical Brightening Agent)-free' or 'whitening agent-free' paper was even introduced. As a result, instead of the original canary yellow color under UV light, a more white or bluish light was produced. In other words, optical brighteners convert UV fluorescent light into blue visible light.

GOUDA: MARK II FACER WITH A FLUORESCENCE DETECTION SYSTEM

Postcards with pink or yellow bar

On August 27, 1962, the Dutch Postal Service issues an 8 cents postcard where a luminescent bar is printed to the left of the stamp image.

Of the circulation of over 500,000, about 100,000 cards have a pink phosphorescent bar. The rest of the edition has a yellow fluorescent bar. The switch from phosphorescent to fluorescent was made because its facing effect was significantly better.

But before the finally approved postcard was issued, all kinds of tests were made how to apply the luminescent bar to the card (Figures 17 and 18). And during printing of the bar on the postcards, things could also go wrong (Figures 19 - 22).





Figures 17 - 18: Test post card with so-called 'all-over tagging' (phosphorescence over the entire stamp image). Printed by Pitney Bowes with a phosphorescent test ink (code: McD 144-II).



Figure 19: Example of a fluorescent bar on an 8 cent post card.

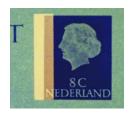


Figure 20: Example of a shifted fluorescent bar on an 8 cent post card.



Figure 21: A strongly shifted fluorescent bar.





Figure 22: A single bar (right) and a double (left) phosphorescent bar.

Of the total number of 500,000, over 200,000 cards were destroyed in April 1964. A plausible reason is, that effective July 1, 1964 the postcard rate was raised from 8 to 10 cents. It is not known how many cards with a phosphorescent bar were involved.

Subsequently, all Dutch postcards issued from 1971 onwards were provided with a phosphorescent bar. The phosphorescent bar may have been printed to the left, to the right or over the stamp image. The letterpress process was used to print the bar.

GOUDA STAMPS AND WHY GOUDA WAS CHOSEN AS A TEST LOCATION

On August 27, 1962 three stamps, known as 'Gouda stamps', were issued exclusively in the Gouda resort (NVPH 774-776). They were printed on fluorescent paper of German manufacture (Figure 23). The yellow fluorescence was evenly mixed through the paper pulp and contained no white fluorescent (optical brightener) addition.

These stamps and the accompanying postcard were intended for a test with a Facer-Canceler in the Gouda district. This machine had been manufactured by Werkspoor in Amsterdam, in cooperation with Pitney Bowes Inc. in Stamford (USA) (Figure 24). The prototype was an original design by the N.V. Technische Maatschappij Marchand - Andriessen, which had also designed the Transorma sorting machine.



Figure 23: The Gouda stamps printed on fluorescent paper made in Germany. Top row in daylight. Bottom row under UV light.

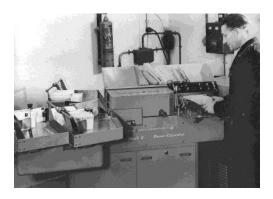


Figure 24: The 'Mark II Facer-Canceler' of Werkspoor in operation during the trials at Gouda. The trials lasted from November 1962 to January 1963.

Gouda was chosen for the trial for several reasons. First, because of its location near the PTT laboratory in Leidschendam, from where the trial was supervised. Secondly, because the former district of Gouda was not too large and it formed a rather enclosed area. It was necessary to 'saturate' the entire district with these special stamps, so that virtually no other ordinary stamps were left in circulation during the test period. For this reason, it took until November 8, 1962 before the test in Gouda began.

Creative workmanship

There was much enthusiasm among the public to purchase the stamps and postcard and then stick them on a self-made envelope or card and have them canceled on the first day of issue (August 27, 1962). This resulted in a wide variety of 'commemorative mail pieces.' Most pieces were canceled at the post office counter with a handstamp (with identification no. 2 or 8) (Figure 25) and taken home (Figures 26 - 33).



Figure 25: On August 27, 1962, people were waiting their turn in a long line outside the Gouda Post Office. This post office on the Oosthaven in Gouda was inaugurated in 1872 and served until 1998.

















Figures 26 - 33: Some examples of 'creativity' regarding the first day of issue of the fluorescent Gouda stamps. Devaluation at the counter: hand stamp nos. 2 and 8.

For a long time prices of up to ϵ 30.00 each were paid for this type of first day envelopes.

Nevertheless, hand-stamped pieces were also sent by mail that first day. In addition to hand-canceling, the manually-operated Universal canceling machine was also used to devalue the mail (Figures 34 and 35).



Figure 34: Hand stamp no. 8 placed on the first day of issue of the 8 c. post card. (With a Transorma operator identification mark 'TH' from 's Gravenhage).



Figure 35: A Universal machine cancel applied to the first day of issue of the 8 c. post card.

[This is a translation of the first part of the eighth chapter of 'In de ban van UV-licht, merktekens en codestreepjes.' Future issues of Netherlands Philately will have subsequent (parts of other) chapters of this book issued upon the 50-year jubilee of the Post Mechanization Group of Po & Po.]

The Colditz Story, Oflag IV C, a residence for troublemakers, the Dutch Guests. **(Part 2)**

For Hanny & Connie Becking

by Julian van Beveren

Kriegsgefangenenpost – Gebührenfrei!



Kriegsgefangenenpost - Gebührenfrei!

Red Cross 's-GRAVENHAGE



Figure 8: Similar Red Cross card in thanks and confirmation of receipt to the previous example from the same POW camp as per the framed Stalag VIII/C censors handstamp number 4 geprüft dated 7 Jan. 1941 and signed by F. Geerlings.

On this occasion we see that the postcard has entered the Dutch postal system at 's-Gravenhage, having received their roller cancel, POSTZEGEL RECHTS-BOVEN / IN DEN HOEK / VLUGGER VERZEND-ING, date obliterated by the German circular handstamp of 11.1.41. 16-17.

Nine of the Dutch first eleven football team at Juliusburg POW camp





Figure 10: This postcard sent to Hanny's sister Connie Becking has the normal handwritten instruction, "Kriegsgefangenensendung Gebührenfrei." It is likely that the photograph was taken at Oflag VIII/C Juliusburg, as the Voigtländer-named postcard is similar to other examples from that POW camp.

Bears the Colditz censor's handstamp in red ink of Oflag IV C gentift and sent under separate cover with the Red Cross to Connie at s' Gravenhage, Holland.

The pre-printed postcard of acknowledgement from Oflag VIII C Juliusburg with censor "5" handstamp passing it for transmission.

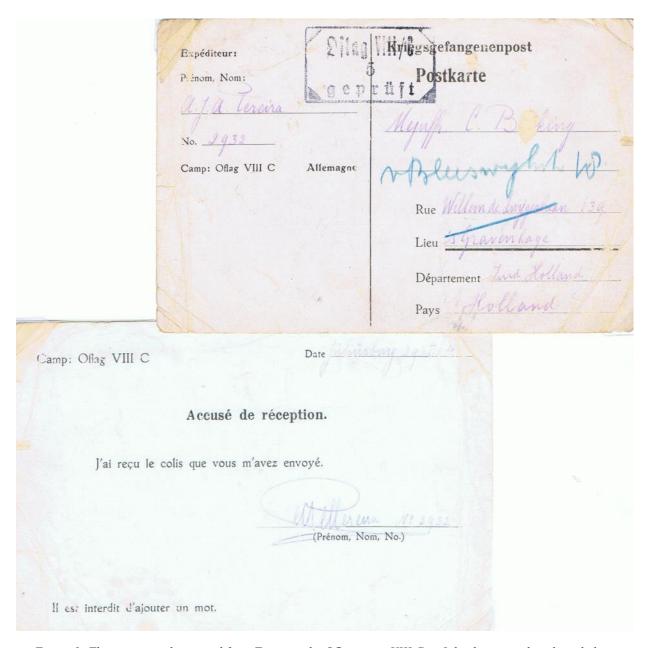


Figure 9: The pre-printed postcard from Tonny in the Oflag camp VIII C in Juliusburg simply acknowledges the receipt of the package in French. It is dated Juliusburg 29.1. '41 and signed by him.

The short line at bottom left again in French reads as follows:

"Il est interdit d'ajouter un mot." Which translates as, "It is forbidden to add any further words."

This time the postcard is sent to Hanny's sister Connie and redirected but with no postal date stamps at this stage.

Many French POW's were sent to Oflag VIII C too. Indeed in was the German intention to have made this camp an entirely French one.

Kriegsgefangenenpost from Oflag VIII/C Juliusburg from Kapt. A.J.A. Pereira to Miss Connie Becking

Kriegsgefangenenpo Correspondance des risonni Postkarte Cart	ers de guerre
Gesührenfrei! Franc de port!	from C. Becking
Absenders Envoi de Vor- und Zuname: Nom et prénom A. J. A. terreira Gefangenennummer: 2932 No. du prisonnier Lager-B-zeichnung: Nom du amp Offag VIII C	Empfangsort: Afranchage Lieu de destination Straße: Man Bleuswijkstraatio Rue Land: Landesteil (Provinz) usw.) Land Mand
Deutschland (Allemagne)	

Kriegsgefangenenlager	Dotum Whitesburg Well in Maark 1241
Camp des prisonniers	Datum: Whitesbury Welst : 17 Maard 1949 date
Leve Conny Takie undrangen heel hartelijk dank Ha	dje medenoeden doen meisje vanwege mijn onaardige han del
	ad northing held Had je kordna verhick med vacantic nid vory kary
pretruen; kreyerenwel zun asem bernam onlan	gagernichten um je verloving vandaar dat levenstechen Hoop met
	van toen, weet je nog wel San en je me tegenvallen. Her ist Sans
	hvirlangerg naar fan lûst en myn bordje zijst met sambal.
on the den Hang risgal to harden! Sink from ton	mymans, also me weer wat stund word it knowed in whole
	un hills long meisje Hard groehes thuis en vore jou liefs je Tour

Figure 11: Postcard from Tonny thanking Connie for all her help in arranging the Red Cross package, together with other family matters such as her engagement. Dated the 17th March 1941 from Juliusburg POW camp, showing another type of censor's handstamp, circular, showing the camp

Otlag VIII / C 7 geprüft.

Again with no postal markings, as sent to Holland under separate Red Cross cover for redistribution.

The text of the card shown in Figure 11 translates to: **Kriegsgefangenenlager**

P.O.W. Camp

Date: Juliusburg/Öelst; 17th March 1941

Dear Connie packet received, thank you very much. You really did not have to have gone to such trouble lass, though do not want to sound ungrateful, with an eye to the loss of points which you were just as much in need of. Had written just before we left our holiday camp; till now not received an answer. Eventually heard rumours of your engagement, of which heard no sign of life. Hope not taken in by that outlandish speech by that idiot over the telephone recently, if you recall. I'm sure with that issue we are in agreement. How are things at home? And all well with you? Will you remain in Holland after your marriage? I long to go to Jan Oost and have my bowl of rice with sambal. Is it still to be had in The Hague? Just watch out Connie dear when you write to me about such things, makes me fume! Easy for me to be so dictatorial at this distance, hey! So long lass, best wishes to all at home and my love to you, your Tonny.

The card shown in Figure 12 shows the Dutch sitting room at Juliusburg Oflag VIII/C, but was sent from Oflag IV C Colditz.



Figure 12: The postcard sent to Hanny Becking shows the Dutch officers crowded into their common room, with some enjoying what they like best, a good card game and socializing in general. This photograph whilst taken at the Juliusburg POW camp the postcard was sent from Colditz as seen from the total of three different censor handstamp examinations. Office IV C 2 gept in red ink, Office IV C 6 gept in blue ink and the faint Office IV C 14 gept in violet ink. No postal indications therefore sent under separate cover to Holland via the Red Cross.

The last postcard from Kapt. Tonny Pereira from Kriegsgefangenenlager Juliusburg is dated May 5, 1941 and is shown in Figure 13.

Kriegsgefangenenpos Correspondance des prisonnie Postkarte Cart	rs de guerre
Absender: Expéditeur: Vor- und Zuname: Nom et prénom Gefangenennummer: No. du prisonnier Lager-Bezeichnung: Oflag VIII C Nom du camp Deutschland (Allemagne)	Empfangsort: Straße: Van Bleiswijkshaal i 8 Rue Land: Landesteil (Provinz usw.) Dépt.
resplief van je Maar lon ik krijg hersek meer rebben die dingen relf broodsroodig. Street me ist met jou; alles eintstekend Hebrorig jaar opge	Datum: Whitesberry Delik 5 Mei 1941 A heelt bereiks daarom heelveel dank hij deze voor pakse Vond dan genoeg van R. Kruis en gemachtigde in Holland; pelle e dus lieven nieuws over jerelf, als je verloofde't goed vin M. Nor biecht over mijn plot seling weglijven kreeg geen as en te

Figure 13: This post card to Connie Becking in s'Gravenhage is in much the same friendly manner. Tonny making particular enquiry on her engagement and is interesting as for the first time a German blind postal date stamp is seen of, -9.5.41. 13-14, some four days after the postcard was written. Also seen yet another different type of censor's inspection handstamp, this time a triangular version, Oflag VIII C / 12 / geprüft.

Deutschland (Allemagne)

and Beierlanders, how ik alleen nog wat van Moerman en Brys. Van Fein en en sorte

The text of the card shown in Figure 13 translates to:

Kriegsgefangenenlager Camp des prisoners

Datum: Jŭliŭsburg/Öelst;5 May 1941

Date

Dear Conny. Afraid that previous thank you letter has not arrived for you, therefore

many thanks with this one for the parcel. Found it really kind of you. But Con., I

receive more than enough from the Red Cross organisation in Holland; you have

these things needed yourself. Send me rather news about you, such as being happy

about your engagement. How are things with you; everything outstanding? The

previous year had misgivings over my sudden posting requiring me being absent. Had

no time to catch my breath but understandably would have made Conny very angry.

Can't bring myself to talk about it. From The Old Bavarians I hear something of

Moerman and Bnys. From Fen's and consort absolutely nothing; my one concern. My

one desire here sometimes a small bowl of rice. Con write me back. Best wishes to all

at home and you with lots of love, Tonny.

[To be continued in future issues of Netherlands Philately.]

Returned for (additional) postage/post-franking. How it was done in The Netherlands with domestic and mail abroad. (Part 2)

by Adam van der Linden

[Because of its length, this article is published in several parts. This is part 2.]

Label removed/mailed again

This section contains the mail pieces for which the loose part of the label has been removed and the (additional) postage has been applied.



Figure 7: The Hague, 15/16 September 1947. Letter to Braunwald (Switzerland). Rate: letter 21-40 gram 32.5 cent, full amount of 32.5 cent postage applied. Service ('Dienst)' mail abroad was not free of postage.

Printing number L 2142-'46 not shown in de Vries.



Figure 8: February 23, 1949, Scheveningen to New York (USA). Rate: 20 cent for letter to 20 gram, air mail surcharge 20 cent per 5 gram, 8 gram 40 cent. Additional postage 40 cent, applied same day. Forwarded to New York, latest date on reverse March 4, 1949. Label with printing number L 1942-'48 not shown by de Vries.



Figure 9: Amsterdam-Central Station, October 27, 1949. Airmail letter sheet addressed to New York (USA). Rate: letter to 20 gram 20 cent. Air mail surcharge 30 cent effective October 17, 1949. Additional postage was applied and re-mailed the same day (first canceled at 9 am, second cancel at 11 pm). The addressee was not known in New York and the letter was returned to sender.

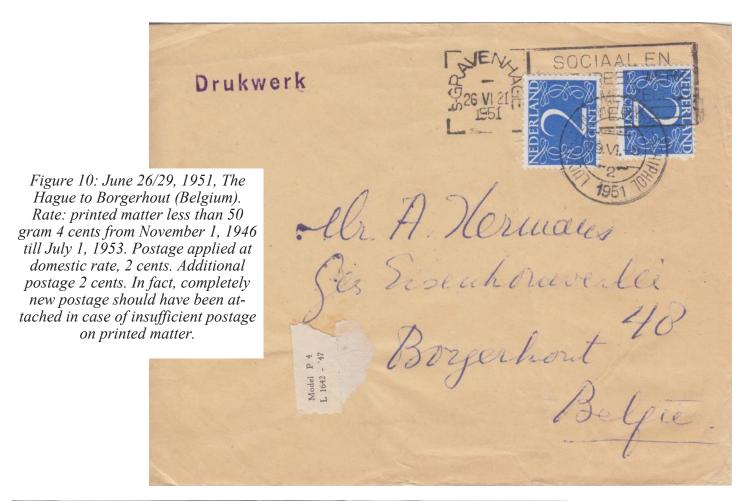




Figure 11: The Hague, June 30/ July 1, 1952. Air mail letter to Burlington (USA) changed to East Orange (USA). Rate: letter less than 20 gram 20 cent. Air surcharge 30 cent per 5 gram. The letter weighed 6 grams (see note at center left) requiring 30 cents additional postage.



Figure 12: Haarlem (station), October 2, 1953. Change of address to Düsseldorf (Germany). Rate: as printed matter 4 cent till July 1, 1953, then 5 cent, thus card was returned for 1 cent additional postage. New date of mailing October 13, 1953. This label with printing number L 1757-'53 is not shown in de Vries.

Supplementary postage applied 'ex officio' by the post service

Starting in the thirties, and especially by the larger post offices Amsterdam Central Station (Schiphol Airport), Amsterdam Package Post, The Hague, Rotterdam and Utrecht, applied supplementary postage 'ex officio' to mail pieces that had insufficient postage. Following the introduction of the Postalia franking stamp machine in the fifties, this method was used as much as possible. To prevent misunderstandings when using the Postalia machine for increased postage, the franking stamp was applied in red. Airmail was especially subject to this 'service' since it often had to make an airplane connection. The sender would receive a (double) card of which one part had to be returned with the requested postage applied. These cards were destroyed in due time after the stamps had been clipped out and auctioned via the Office of the Domains (see also the section 'Request for supplementary postage').



Figure 13: Bussum, 10/17 November 1937. Addressed to Prince Rupert (Canada). Rate: package 3 kg 1 guilders and 52.5 cents direct mail. The more expense route via Belgium was taken, requiring 25 cents additional postage.



Figure 14: Leiden, May 20/21, 1947. Airmail letter to Johannesburg (South Africa). Rate: letter till 20 gram 20 cent, air surcharge 40 cent per 5 gram. Upon checking, it turned out that the weight was 6 gram, after which 40 cent additional postage was applied.



Figure 15: Den Bosch/Amsterdam Package Service, July 27/28, 1947. Airmail letter to Melbourne (Australia). Rate: letter 20 cent, air surcharge 60 cent per 5 gram. Supplementary postage of 40 cent applied 'ex officio' in Amsterdam to be able to catch the (mail) airplane.



Figure 16: Velp. February 2, 1957. Air mail letter to Eastbourne (New Zealand). Rate: letter till 20 gram 25 cent, air surcharge 55 cent. Total 80 cent, 55 cent postage applied. The shortage of 25 cent was met by supplemental postage applied with the Postalia machine of the old type without date.



Figure 17: The Hague, May 17/18, 1966. Airmail letter to Phoenixville (USA). Rate: letter 40 cent, air surcharge 20 cent. 'Ex offico' franked with the new type Postalia machine.

Recent Issues



Day of the postage stamp October 17, 2022

The subject of the sheet with 10 stamps in two designs is the De Ruyter stamps of 1907. The stamps were designed by Sandra Smulders from Gouda. One stamp shows a gravure of a portrait of Michiel Adriaansz. De Ruyter, and the other a fragment of a print of a sea battle between the Dutch and English fleets. A part of the sea battle print flows over into the portrait stamp. Sanders added graphic elements in the form of wavy red and blue lines. The bottom five stamps in the sheet have been rotated 180 degrees with respect to the top five. Therefore, the blue wavy lines run along the center of the sheet.

December Stamps November 14, 2022

December stamps provide a reduced rate to mail Christmas and New Years wishes. This year the stamps were designed by illustrator Miriam Bos. Each sheet contains twenty stamps in ten different designs. The stamps present colorful, playful drawings.



See also https://www.postzegelblog.nl/

Coffee Hour at the Jansens in Dickinson

Marinus (Marty) Quist is a long-time member of the ASNP; only four current members have a membership number lower than his! He e-mailed me early November that he was going to be in my neighborhood later that month and if it would be possible to come by for a short visit. I readily agreed, but since I was travelling in Egypt, we had to play with the dates a bit. Fortunately, I had made it back home a few days before Marinus and his wife were going to drive back to Louisiana and we met on the 28th.

It's good Dutch custom (yes, my wife and I are Dutch) have coffee at the ready. Cookies are always available too, so time flew by while we were discussing various philatelic topics. The picture below shows Marty (left) and myself going over my exhibit of correctly addressed but returned mail.



During our animated discussion it turned out that Marty has wide ranging collecting interests, including sewing machines and railroad date nails! The latter collecting area was completely new to me, but those nails were tagging devices utilized by railroads to visually identify the age of railroad ties. I cannot wait to pay Marty a return visit to see all of his treasures!

By the way, Dickinson is 20 miles south of Houston (and 20 miles from the Gulf coast). If you are in the neighborhood, come by for a visit. The 'koffie staat klaar.'

New Member

Jeroen van Bemmel is the latest addition to our membership. He lives in Houston, TX and his collection interests are the Netherlands, Perforations and Cancellations.

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