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Portu-Info

for Portuguese Philately



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ISPP SERVICES

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Back Issues of P-I: most are available for \$3/each (postage included; \$4/each outside USA, airmail postage included). Issues from whole number 107 (Vol. 28 No. 1) are \$4 (\$5 outside USA) from John K. Cross (see under **LITERATURE** above).

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The ISPP (founded 1961) is an organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting study and collection of philatelic material of Portugal and her past and present overseas territories.

Editor's Notes

The ISPP and I, personally, are indebted to and extend our deep sense of gratitude to Richard Hanchett for rescuing and sustaining *Portu-Info*, and thereby the ISPP, through a time of uncertainty. *Muito obrigado*. His unstinting efforts on our behalf kept alive the journal, the major cohesive force of the Society, for two years while I attended to personal matters – and while Richard served two other organizations as their editor!

Richard's efforts in support of the ISPP were always intended to be on an interim basis (although 2 years might be stretching the concept of "interim" a mite), and he fulfilled the voluntary position with dedication and profound

professionalism – no slacker, he.

I will endeavor to sustain his example.

Note that Richard not only continued *P-I*, but also took on the added responsibility of adapting a new format, the templates of which he has graciously shared with myself.

Nor has Richard "retired" from service to the ISPP. He has become the Chairman of the Board of Directors (see later in this issue).

Kudos also to Clyde Homen in his administrative support of Richard and also to those members who eased his duties by supplying articles, notes and observations.

KEEP 'EM COMING!

CLOSED ALBUM

John Nelson Liles 1928 - 2012

After a valiant battle with metastatic prostate cancer, John entered into eternal rest December 7, a few weeks after his 84th birthday.

John served the ISPP as Awards Chairman and Director. He was responsible for the design and production of ISPP pins and t-shirts, and produced the colorful award certificates. His two main collecting interests were the Ceres issues of Portugal and the Azores and the Lusiadas issues of Portugal and Mozambique. He exhibited widely to the gold level and wrote a seminal two part study of the Ceres which appeared in *Collectors Club Philatelist* in 1995, this in addition to numerous articles in *Portu-Info*.

His non-philatelic career was a distinguished one. An engineering graduate of Texas A&M, he was called into the Army during the Korean conflict and served through the Vietnam conflict, retiring as full colonel. He then resumed his career as an engineering consultant.

He is survived by his wife Barbara and daughter Barbara Ann. John will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family.

Cape Verde: Another Crown Forgery by Paul Hartman

I believe I have discovered yet another forgery of the Cape Verde Crown issue in addition to the five types reported by David Davies in his seminal *Forgeries of Portugal and Colonies*, although it does seem to conform to some of the characteristics of the Oneglia forgeries.

The (illustrated) 50 reis (green) stamp in question is perforated 11½ unlike any of the originals; the paper is coarse and spongy, reminiscent of newsprint paper; and the color is paler than the originals. The mute cancellation is unlike any noted for Cape Verde in either the series in the Portuguese Philatelic Society *Bulletin* (1980 [Nov.], 73:5-14; 1981 [May], 75:5-6; 1988 [Feb.], 102:10) or the compilation by Félix Gómez-Guillamón in the *Boletim Clube Filatélico de Portugal* from 1997 (Mar., no. 375) to 2000 (Set., no. 389).



The key identifying feature is a thickening of the horizontal line above the value panel, most visible over the "50" and the "R" of REIS and its displacement upward. The "5" also tilts to the right rather than to the left.

The item in question appears to be made from an altered cliché of the 5r black: the shapes of the letters in "REIS", especially the upcurve of the right toe of the "R", are identical to those of the 5r; the flaw in the "C" of "CORREIO" (the "fang") is exactly the same as in two specimens I have of the 5r Crown.

New Companhia de Moçambique Provisional Issues Forgeries

And while on the topic of forgeries, the editor has two others to record:

1. The first forgery involves the 1895 and 12½ – a paper not even used for the surcharge PROVISORIO/25 on 80r. (Previously mentioned in *P-I* no. 147¹ were forged 11½ **Seligmann forgery!** It has the classic surcharges on *pontinhado* paper, both perf. 11½ forged cancel of 10.MAI.98 (without horizontal

bars demarcating the date tablet) for a Seligmann – almost 3 years to the day after the devaluation of the original.² Note also the too thin letters & numbers of the surcharge and the lighter colored ink than the originals.



2

The other is a forgery of the 1899 25/PROVISORIO on 75r. At first glance this might fool some because the surcharge is on a red stamp, but the much redder **115r** rather than the carmine 75r! As an additional deceit, the underlying stamp is actually a **Breuckheimer**

forgery! The surcharge type is much thicker (heavier) than the originals, although the overall dimensions and spacing of the elements is very close to original except that PROVISORIO is 0.5-1.0 mm too long.



Perhaps interestingly, both the forged surcharges on forged stamps came from a dealer in Poland (two different dealer names, but both actually the same outfit).

¹ (Cross, John K.). “Companhia de Moçambique: The 1895 Provisional 25 on 80r Elephant Surcharge” [conclusion]. *Portu-Info* 2003 Jan.-Mar.; 147:22-23, 27.

² *Ibid.* [part 1]. *P-I* 2002 Oct.-Dec.; 146:161-162.



UPDATE: India Revenue

This report of an unrecorded India revenue offered on eBay (see the front cover) is the third “installment” of surcharged/overprinted revenues in *P-I* since the revised edition of Barata’s seminal *Revenues of Portugal and Colonies*.¹ Although difficult to discern, the base stamp is the gray blue 1T. This 20r/1T would be Barata no. 18A under the listing for the 1899 Contribuição Industrial. It has the type II (“fantasy”) font; the surcharge color may be what Barata referred to as “two o/p” – “red and

black overprints superimposed”. (A second copy has also been offered on eBay.)

UPDATE: Nyassa Varieties

Having found a variation of an uncatalogued variety noted in a previous listing,² I decided to explore the Clube Filatélico de Portugal auctions of Bob Huggins’ Nyassa material³ to discern if there may have been further items acquired since Bob’s contributions in *P-I* no. 140. I found 11 more unlisted, and the necessity of five corrigenda.

The five corrigenda are:

1. The variation is the 1901 Carlos 300r single imperf. on right sheet margin.
2. 1918 2c/20r double sur. has at least two different shifts, one horizontal, one vertical.
3. 1918 3½c/25r (no Prov.) both mint & “used”.
4. The auction did not include the elusive (phantom?) 1921 Lisbon 2½c/25r inverted sur. (*P-I* no. 141).
5. The 7½c/75r horizontal pair imperf. between of 1921 was given as a **LISBON** sur. In *P-I* no. 140 but is a **LONDON** sur. In the auction. Probably the latter is correct, the former a misprint. (London illus. on cover.)

The other 10 (besides #5 above) are:

1898 Neto 50r o/p inverted (also “used”)

- 1901 Carlos 20r double perfs. top (below)
1903 London 50r PROV, no 50reis on top (noted in literature)
1903 London Sur. All 3 completely imperf.
1903 London PROV completely imperf.
1903 Lisbon 65r/80r sur. Invert
Ditto sur. to top (last 2 in combined scan)
1911 Manuel 500r double REP (not illus.)
1921 London 7½c/75r horiz. pair imperf between
1921 Lisbon ½c/5r LR crnr horiz. pair imperf. bottom marg
1925 Pombal postal tax due (MULTA) showing 3 different shifts



¹ *Portu-Info* 2007 Jan.-March; 163:15-18 and 2007 Oct.-Dec.; 166:124-126. Earlier additions were incorporated by Barata.

² (Cross, John K.). “Nyassa: Uncatalogued Varieties”. *Portu-Info* 2001Jan.-March; 139:27-29; 2001 April-June; 140:69-70; [Note] *P-I* 2001 July-Sept.; 141:92; 2011 Oct.-Dec.; 170:6-7.

³ Previous CFP auctions from #21 (24.11.2007) to date with illustrations and prices realized can be accessed as follows: www.cfportugal.pt; in the column on left side of page click “Próximo” under “Leilões”; on the displayed page (near the middle) click the underlined “Pode consultar os leilões ...”; click the first line under a catalog. The Huggins’ Nyassa are in auctions 26 (04.12.2010) and 27 (07.05.2011). Featured also are errors in multiples, covers, surcharge and PROVISORIO forgeries, and Waterlow profs, sample stamps and sample sheetlets. His spectacular Inhambane is featured in auction 28. Auctions are open to **members only**.



Postal History of Two Pre-WWI Foreign Naval Ships Off Portuguese East Africa

by John K. Cross

S.M.S. Schwalbe

*S.M.S. Schwalbe*¹ was the first (German) Imperial Navy light cruiser built specifically for foreign service; he was commissioned in May, 1888.

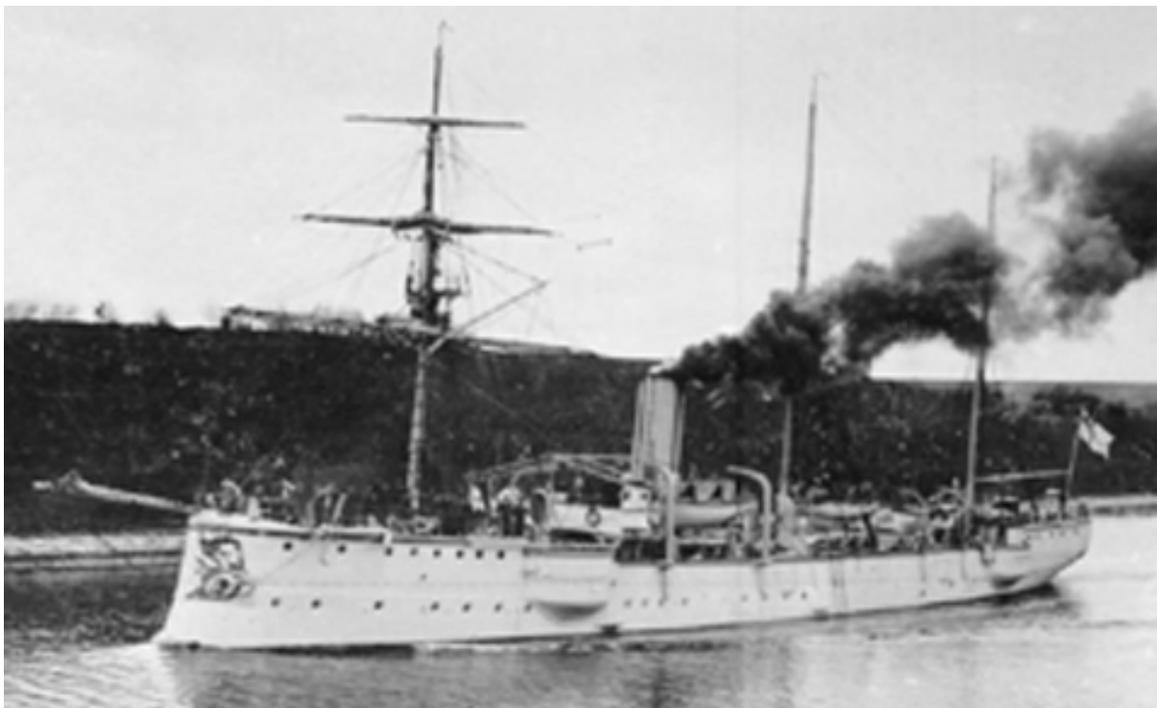
His first assignment was to Zanzibar and the coast of the newly formed German East Africa

where, as a member of the East African Cruiser Squadron, he helped suppress the Arab revolt against German sovereignty by participating in the blockade. The *Swallow* remained in East African waters for a couple of years after the squadron was disbanded, again occupied with smothering dissent. He was ordered home to Kiel in August, 1893 whereupon he was

decommissioned.

At the outbreak of the Second Boer War (11 October 1899 until 31 May 1902), British warships began searching merchant vessels for contraband. Quite certain that the sympathies of the German Empire were firmly with the Boers, suspicions about how this emotional support might manifest itself materially led to British warships seemingly concentrating on ships of the

Deutsche Ost-Afrika Linie (DOAL). The DOAL passenger/mail ships were no exception. Among others, the *Bundesrath* was taken prize outside Delagoa Bay (Lourenço Marques) in December, 1899 and interned at Durban. Upon the intervention of the German government, all ships were released, with an indemnity being paid by the British government.



For the protection of the German merchant ships, the *Schwalbe* was pressed into service to join the S.M.S. *Condor* on the East Africa station at the beginning of 1900. He was initially stationed before Durban, and later at East London, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Delagoa Bay. On July 5 the *Schwalbe* returned to Dar-es-Salaam (from whence he was soon transferred to East Asia as part of an increased military presence engendered by the Boxer Rebellion).

The illustrated postal card is datelined Lourenço Marques 20/V 1900. Although the 10

reis “Africa” card was still valid, it would have been insufficient postage to German East Africa. Rather than being mailed in L.M., the card was posted on board with a German 5 pf. stamp tied by a cancel reading: KAIS. DEUTSCHE / MARINE - / SCHIFFSPOST / N°. 17 / 21.5 / 00. The “N°17” correctly designated the S.M.S. *Schwalbe*; the ship’s name also appears in the dateline.

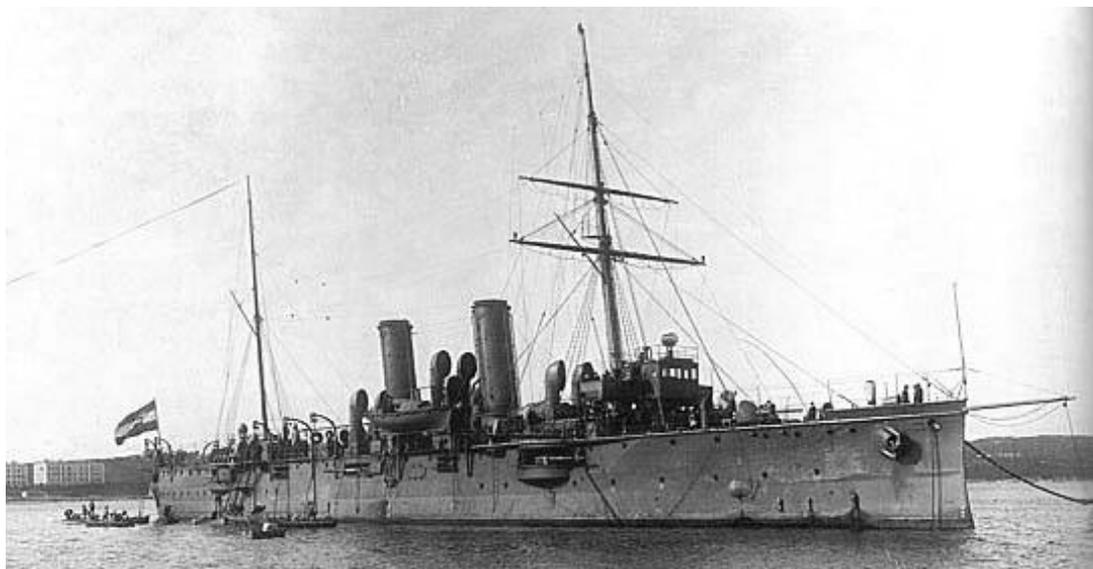


S.M.S. Zenta

The S.M.S. *Zenta*, named after the town of Senta, was a small light cruiser built for the Austro-Hungarian Navy. *Zenta* was originally conceived for foreign cruise deployment, primarily to show the flag abroad despite the

Austro-Hungarian empire having no great colonial ambitions.

His maiden voyage, began in November, 1899, was to the Far East, calling at Port Said, Suez, Aden, and Colombo. He reached Singapore in January 1900 where he stayed for



14 days, continuing her voyage to Hong Kong, Macau, and onwards to Shanghai and Japan.

News reached Austria-Hungary that the Boxer Rebellion in China was fast getting worse. *Zenta* was recalled to assist in the evacuation of international embassy staff as well as the Austro-Hungarian delegation. Seventy-five members of his crew (out of a compliment of 308 officers and men) were attached to the relief expedition led by British Admiral Seymour.

He returned home in December 1901 and was placed in reserve until October 1902 when he was sent on another foreign tour. This was again a strictly commercial/political voyage -- "showing the flag". He proceeded through the Suez Canal and down the East Coast of Africa to Cape Town. From there *Zenta* sailed for South America, to Montevideo and then to Buenos Aires, arriving in May, 1903. He then went to Rio de Janeiro in June before heading back across the Atlantic, visiting among other ports Funchal, Cadiz, Tangier, Malaga, Tunis and Corfu prior to returning home to Trieste.

A "political" tour of the East Coast of Africa

was appropriate for the *Zenta* as the Austrian Lloyd Steamship Line had been and was sailing in those waters (usually as far south as Durban where the ships turned northward again).² However, the regular service between 1902 and early 1907 apparently was not profitable and thus was discontinued.

Although I found no specific references to East African ports-of-call, the illustrated picture post card ("Souvenir de Lourenço Marques") documents that he was in Lourenço Marques on my birthday: January 15.

The cancel reads: K.u.K. KRIEGSMARINE / 15 / 1 / 03 / S.M.S. ZENTA.³

Even though there are eight lines of text (in Hungarian?) on the picture side, two aspects of the card point to the conclusion that either this card was not sent through the mails or, if so, it was under separate cover: with text, the correct postal rate should have been 20 reis, but there are no postage due markings; this was still a period when correspondence received a datestamp upon arrival, yet there is none on the card.



- ¹ S.M.S. = *Seine Majestäts Schiff* (His Majesty's Ship). *Schwalbe* is German for swallow (the bird). It is my understanding that German ships were/are referred to by masculine pronouns.
- ² Experimental service was begun with two voyages by the *Styria* (summer of 1900 and winter 1900-01) and one by the *Carinthia* (early 1901). After the Second Boer War service was every two months from late summer 1902 to winter 1903 (*Carinthia*, *Galicia*, *Cleopatra*, and *Africa*). Regular monthly service began in late 1903 and lasted until about March, 1907; *Africa*, *Bohemia* and *Koerber* rotated in this service. (Illus. AFRICA/OE LLOYD 6/6/06.)
- ³ The Dual Monarchy of the Empire, in which the Emperor of Austria was also the King of Hungary, was reflected in the navy's title, the Imperial and Royal Austrian Navy. K. u K. (Kaiser und Koenig). kriegsmarine = navy.



WHY DO I COLLECT PORTUGAL & COLONIES?

by Steve Bonowski

The “flippant answer” to the title question might be that I don’t have the foggiest notion why. Another response might be, and this is partially true, because the colonial Ceres issues (1914 – 1926) are pretty. But the actual answer is more complex than a one sentence sound-bite.

I started collecting in 1960 at age 10. I remember the exact day and circumstances, but that is a story for another time. I continued to collect through high school and college, but not at a constant rate due to little money. My parents helped by giving me a 1963 edition of the H.E. Harris Senior Statesman album. (This was my main album until I bought parts 1 through 5 of the Scott blue international album in the early 1980s.)

After graduating from college in the early 1970s, and beginning to work steadily in other than part-time jobs, I purchased the obligatory subscription to *Linn’s Stamp News*. *Linn’s* was quite amazing back then, with several mail auctions published in every issue along with a host of dealer ads. In early 1976, I answered an ad by a gentleman in Ohio, next to my home state of Indiana, named Jim Lemmon. I still have his original response and a number of his lists and letters.

He got me at least modestly interested in Portuguese materials, and, even when I wasn’t buying, his opinions on the philatelic world made for fun and interesting reading. He tried to get me to join the ISPP, but I was then headed towards a specialty in Canada, at least for a while. By the end of the 1970s, I sold off some of my Portuguese material, but I decided I wanted to retain a strong interest in at least one colony and selected Timor.

In 1988, I found my interest re-kindled in Portuguese colonies by an auction ad in *Linn’s* from the former California dealer, Peter Kenedi. The public auction, in late March, featured a “gold medal” Portuguese colonial collection, among other offerings. And indeed it was. I still have the catalog, and, while I don’t review catalogs from many auction houses, I have yet to see a Portuguese colonial collection that surpasses the one in that auction.

All major colonies, except Macau, were represented in the sale. I surprised myself by being successful on five of the seven lots I bid on. Three, naturally, were from Timor. The other two were specialized collections of the Angola and Mozambique Ceres sets. “Specialized” is not an exaggeration. All items in the two lots were

mint, and included all papers, perfs, multiple shades, plate flaws (“*fendas*”), and numerous other varieties. The overall collection must have come from Portugal as catalog numbers for the Ceres came from the Eladio de Santos catalog.

To illustrate, the Angola Ceres set has 40 major numbers by Scott. The collection came with 305 stamps, and I’ve since added around 20 to it.

Thanks to these purchases, my interest in Canada began to wane while my interest in Portuguese colonies, and later, Portugal itself, was burning hot again. I re-established my relationship with Jim Lemmon and finally took him up in 1991 on his suggestion to join the ISPP. Once Jim went out of the business, I found other dealers like Adirondack Stamps and Michael Rogers. Adirondack went out of business in the 2000s, but I still found sources for my items. I bought two collections from a well known Chicago area collections dealer in the 2000s. One was all colonies and the other was Portuguese India only.

Fast forward to 2013, I continue to pursue P & C as my primary collecting area. I added a 12th international binder last fall and now have each colony in a single volume instead of being scattered in the alphabetical sequence. Much work remains to be done re-arranging pages for several colonies, working in material newly purchased over the past two years, and finishing the assimilation of the all-colonies collection bought some 10 years ago.

I collect some other areas, as part of a worldwide collection contained in the same Scott Parts I – V. But Portuguese colonies offer some interesting and fun “challenges” that other areas don’t (although I’m slowly getting into Mexico). All the early colonial issues have perf and shade varieties, most of them reasonably priced in the Scott catalog. As an aside, I’ve picked up several publications from the ISPP literature service, including an older Afinsa catalog and D.J.

Davies’ book on forgeries.

Other varieties can be found, also at reasonable prices. And the allure of collecting clearly struck cancellations, as well as the scarcer cancellations, is very high. As one example, I have one Carlos Neto and two Carlos Mouchons with clear, socked-on-nose Ilha do Principe cancels. Prince Island had few residents in the 1890 to 1910 time frame, so those cancellations can be hard to find.

I expect to continue with collecting P & C, and membership in the ISPP, as long as I continue to generally collect. “Stamping” is my indoor hobby; hiking & mountaineering is my outdoor hobby. They complement each other nicely.

(The author now resides in the intermountain region of the western USA)



ISPP Board of Directors

Self-nomination, i.e., selfless volunteerism, of a board minimum number -- rendering a need for voting nugatory -- has led to the following constitution of the ISPP Board of Directors:

Returning: Stephen S. Washburne, Gene Fricks and Roy C. Teixeira. (Hal A. Reynolds magnanimously decided to step aside to avoid the extra effort of an election.)

Ernest E. (Gene) Fricks, FRPSL (currently appointed interim Director of the ISPP) Sketch:

Having been a member of ISPP for over a quarter century, I consider it worthwhile to give back to the organization for some of the enjoyment it has afforded me. My collecting interests include Mocambique and, lately, continental Portugal, especially the modern rates. My philatelic experience over the past forty

some years gives me some insight into what makes for a survivable and viable organization in a world of evolving entertainment interests. I served the APS for two terms as a vice president, did a turn as ISPP librarian, have been a Governor of the Collectors Club in New York for a total of twenty-five years and editor of *The Collectors Club Philatelist* for sixteen. A substantial undertaking has been the assembly of a database of philatelic journal article titles and associated bibliographical information for the APRL; as of June 1st, we are approaching 300,000 titles in the database.

In non-philatelic life I am a retired Air Force officer and have worked as a technical management consultant for a number of years.

Roy C. Teixeira (current Board member)

I have been collecting stamps since 1970. My collecting interests are Portugal and Colonies, Israel, Norway and the Faröes. I joined the ISPP in 1973. I have previously served as ISPP President (October, 1995 - September, 2006) and Board member from December, 2006 - to the present.

My other Philatelic affiliations include: American Philatelic Society, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, American Philatelic Congress, Clube Filatelico de Portugal, Collectors Club of San Francisco, Military Postal History Society, Northwest Philatelic Library, Portuguese Philatelic Society - UK, Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, Sunnyside Stamp Society, Western Philatelic Library (six year term as board member).

My wish has been and will always be to promote Portuguese Philately not only on the national level but worldwide.

Our New Board Members:

Ron van der Holt, Philatelic Vitae:

Philately has been my passion and except for

the usual hiatus in late teens, I've been collecting since 1967. I've collected Goa (Portuguese India) since 1991, specialising in postal history, and recently I've started collecting Timor and Nyassa. My philatelic interests continue to diversify.

Twenty years ago, the first philatelic society I joined was the ISPP. I've had the pleasure of making many friends among ISPP members either at WESTPEX or at gatherings of the Portuguese Philatelic Society in the UK and Portugal.

I currently edit the *Bulletin* of the Portuguese Philatelic Society and have done so for about 10 years. Beginning in 1997, I published several articles in *Portu-Info* and was awarded the John K. Cross Award (for writing excellence) in 2001. I have published articles in *The American Philatelist* and *Stamp Magazine* (UK) and will continue to publish articles in *Portu-Info*.

I sincerely want to take a more active part in the ISPP. I believe in an inclusive ISPP, that welcomes the novice and advanced collector alike. I believe philately continues to be relevant.

I take a forward view that we need to attract new members, retain the members we have, embrace technological advances in terms of presenting our hobby to the world while create a community where we share knowledge and enthusiasm for our hobby.

Richard M. Hanchett, Philatelic Vita:

I began collecting stamp around the age of ten and returned to collecting in 1985 as a serious collector. Following a trip to India and Nepal, I joined the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle as a Life Member and took over as the editor of the NTPSC journal, *Postal Himal*, in 2001. When I began looking for a new collecting interest in the early 2000s, I decided on Portugal and its ex-colonies as my wife is of Portuguese ancestry. I then joined the ISPP as a Life Member.

In 2011 I accepted the position of interim editor of *Portu-Info*, as I was concerned that the membership would suffer if there was no journal (it having been a year since the last *Portu-Info* appeared). There are only two things that sustain an organization such as ours: auctions and a journal. We unfortunately no longer seem to have auctions and that meant that the only sustaining link was the journal.

My goals for the Society are to see that the journal is published on a regular schedule and also to try to get auctions reinstated. I also

would like to see a Port O' Call meeting begun at the NAPEX show in Virginia (first weekend in June) as well as the one at WESTPEX. During my time as editor, I have tried to publish a variety of articles from different authors as well as encouraging attendance at our WESTPEX meeting.

The Directors have decide among themselves that Richard M. Hanchett will be the new Chairman.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ BOOK REVIEW ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Pré-Filatelia Portuguesa - Marcas Postais Utilizadas em Portugal Continental na Época Pré-Adesiva (1799 - 1853) by Luís Brito Frazão FRPSL. 613 pp. + 4 p. index + 12 p. booklet of price quotes from the 2013 edition of Afinsa + ancient map of post offices (9½x10¾ in.; 40x26 cm) + cd. 9½ by 10½ inches (24 x 27 cm); perfect bound, card cover; Oficina Digital-Impressão e Artes Gráficas, Taboeira, Aviero, Portugal; September, 2012. (Printing of 500, with 100 of these signed.)

Available 90 euros (soft cover) or 125 euros hard bound from the author + postage; equivalent US dollars to Luis Frazão, Rua S. Francisco de Salles 17 A-4ºE, 1250-230 Lisboa- Portugal; or bank transfer to BANCO ESPIRITO SANTO, Account: Luis Virgilio Brito Pereira Frazao, IBAN. PT50 000700000419300018323 SWIFT/BIC. BESCPTPL. The editor will also accept US checks & arrange for delivery (address on Table of Contents page). Contact the editor for mailing prices.

(A further volume, which should appear within a few months, will treat the pre-adhesive markings of the Adjacent Islands [Açores and Madeira] and the overseas domains.)

This tome begins with a 28 page introduction which is then repeated in its entirety in ENGLISH (except for the footnotes). Unfortunately, the Portuguese “*marcas*” is translated as “postage stamps” rather than just “markings” (which include both handstamps and manuscript applications). The main body of the text requires almost no knowledge of Portuguese except for the district introductions (see below).

“This work is the third published on the subject.” “More than 20 years have elapsed [since the second], and the need was felt for a revised, corrected and updated new presentation [which is of a larger size and has more pages].”

A number of provisions follow the previous

work by Guedas de Magalhães and Andrade e Sousa (abbreviated AS/GM in text): the ID (catalogue number); rarity scale from 1-10; and four parts under every listing consisting of town name, rate markings, prepaid (*pago*) mail and registration (*segura*) markings (the last 3 also now include manuscript markings).

The innovation that immediately strikes the casual browser is the overall organization of the postal offices. Rather than being listed in strictly alphabetical order, the relevant offices appear (alphabetically) under the rubric of one of six districts, from north to south. Because of their importance, Lisbon and Porto are listed separately.

A forward is presented for each district, together with the corresponding postal map drawn from an official 1818 map. (The entire map, but from 1801, is also included as a separate and is available on the included compact disk.) Of great utility is the inclusion of dual indices, one by district/post office and the other an alphabetical listing of all offices regardless of district.

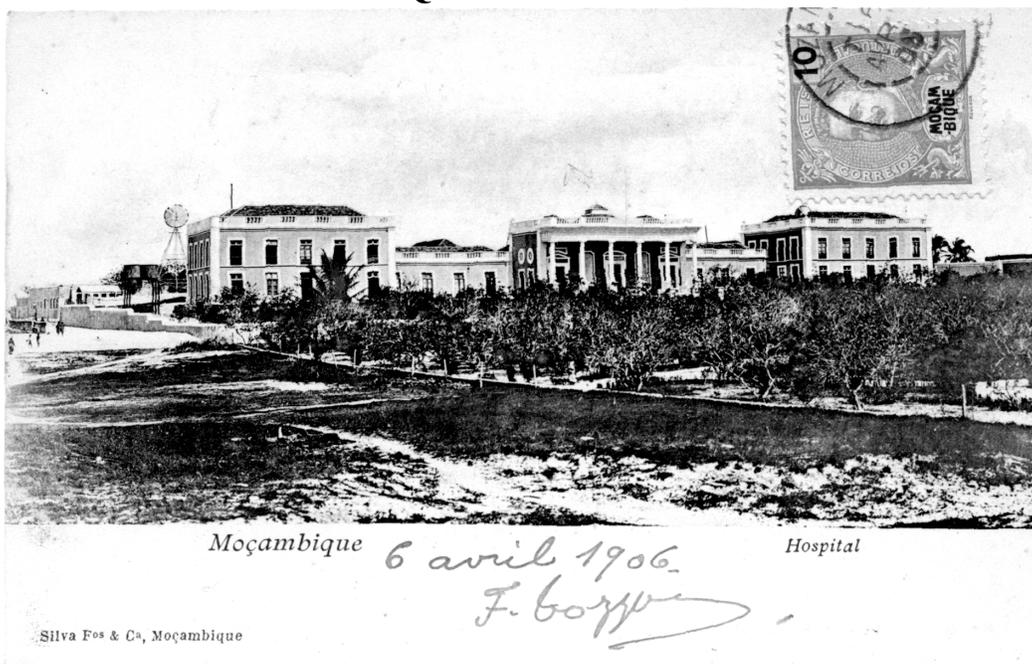
Further innovations include all markings in FULL COLOR from actual strikes rather from drawings; markings known in different colors are listed by time period of color rather than just a notation of various colors being extant; for each post office a document chosen for its rarity or postal history importance has been illustrated full size.

One of the topics in the Introduction is an explanation of the postal rate structure (for an

understanding of the rate markings). While the scarce to very scarce letters in the earlier period (1 August 1799 to 23 April 1801) were assessed rates according only to weight, afterwards, and until 30 June 1853, rates were determined by both weight and distance. But ... as explained, distances in the tables were not always the same as on the ground. To facilitate the interpretation of postal rates, every post office has the distances to a certain number of neighboring or important places (Lisbon and Porto). To expand on these, the compact disk has 138 images for separate post offices and the rates (increasing every 10 leagues) to other towns. (Unfortunately, the scans are identified only by number; the offices seem to be randomly – not alphabetically – included.)

Overall, this is an impressive magnificent body of work, a must for one's philatelic library.

❖ ❖ ❖ MOZAMBIQUE MYSTERY CANCEL ❖ ❖ ❖



Mozambique (town) to France, printed matter rate. Obviously French cancel MOZAM(BIQUE) T/6 / AVR /06. UPU regulations allowed mail to be posted in a ship's mail box with "local" stamps while the ship was in port. However, the two French lines servicing the port – Comp. Des Messageries Maritimes and Comp. Des Chargeurs Réunis – had no ships by this name in service!

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