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- The D.K. Southern Provisionals Collection
- The Mirsky 1847 Issue Collection
- Scarsdale Collection Part 7: Beer Stamps

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- Siegel PDF Catalogue Project
CONSIGNMENTS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR 2012 RARITIES OF THE WORLD SALE
My opening remarks in the 2011 Rarities of the World catalogue presented the Philatelic Black Hole metaphor to explain why so many great items have apparently vanished from the market and why last year’s offerings were light in every auction firm’s saleroom.

Those remarks drew a lot of response, mostly in the tone of agreement. Collectors confirmed that they spent 2011 puzzling why the catalogues in their mail boxes were fewer and thinner than the previous years’ supply. Colleagues confirmed that their sales were down and their vaults a bit more roomy than usual. The general consensus was that demand was strong, realizations were good, and it was actually an opportune time to sell, but many sellers were apparently watching from the sidelines.

In my comments I offered words of hope: “...eventually a Philatelic Black Hole will give up its mass. The generations of collectors who bought in Rarities sales past will eventually sell. The tremendous holdings of stamps and covers which lie in dark bank vaults will come back into the market one day. Until then, we wait.”

My words were strangely prophetic.

Looking at the 2012 selling season, the Siegel firm is the singularity from which a gamma burst of philatelic treasures will emanate.

The Frelinghuysen collection is a super-massive Philatelic Black Hole. It was started back in the 1920s and closely held by the family. It contains rarities purchased from the legendary Lapham collection through the equally legendary stamp dealer, Warren H. Colson—items not seen since the 1936 Third International Philatelic Exhibition (TIPEX) was held in New York City. Among these long-lost artifacts are the “other” Annapolis entire, the uncancelled Alexandria stamp from Ferrary’s collection, and the Millbury cover from the Dutcher collection.

The theme of Postmasters’ Provisionals continues with the sale of the D.K. collection of Southern Postmasters’ Provisionals of the American Civil War. Spectacular stamps and covers pictured in catalogues and books will now become available to collectors.

From the estate of Harvey Mirsky, a well-respected member of the international collecting community, comes his wonderful award-winning exhibit collection of the 1847 Issue.

Finally, if revenue stamps are your interest, the Scarsdale collection of Beer Stamps will present a special opportunity to acquire many of the finest and rarest of these fascinating and attractive issues.

If our experience preparing these collections for auction is any guide, then collectors can expect to have a lot of fun in 2012.
The Frelinghuysen name has been associated with the highest echelon of philately since the early years of the 20th century. Yet, for all of the family’s collecting activity, the philatelic world has been almost totally unaware of their collecting legacy.

With the sale of the Frelinghuysen collection in March, the full extent of this important holding will be unveiled. The offering of rare U.S. Postmasters’ Provisionals is one of the most significant ever made.

Rarities last seen when the Lapham collection won the Grand Award at the 1936 TIPEX exhibition will be presented in a two-volume catalogue and sold in an unreserved auction.

Shown above:
• One of two recorded Annapolis, Maryland, provisional entries (Scott 2XU1), discovered in 1895, ex Castle, Earl of Crawford, Caspary (bought and sold privately) and Lapham
• One of six recorded examples of the Alexandria D.C. provisional (Scott 1X1a), discovered in 1879, sold to L. W. Durbin, ex Ferrary and Lapham
• One of eight recorded covers with the Millbury, Massachusetts, provisional (Scott 7X1), discovered ca 1896, sold to New England Stamp Co., ex Dutcher and Lapham

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
The Frelinghuysen collection contains an extraordinary wealth of New York provisional material, including plate reconstructions, rare multiples on and off cover, “RHM” initials and a July 15, 1845, cover to Germany. Much of the Frelinghuysen New York collection came from Henry G. Lapham’s specialized collection, which won a Gold Award at the 1926 New York show. Lapham’s best New York material was later included in the Grand Award collection of United States Postmasters’ Provisionals exhibited at TIPEX in 1936.

Lapham’s philatelic secretary, A. Nicholas Reggio, was instrumental in forming the plate reconstructions. Reggio’s handwritten notes appear on the pages in the Frelinghuysen collection (see back cover).

Above:
Unused vertical pair of New York provisional, Positions 35/40, top stamp with “ACM” initials, bottom stamp unsigned—a previously unrecorded variety

Above and left:
• Providence R.I. provisional (10X1) tied by red “Paid” handstamp on letter from Coggeshall find, ex Slater and Lapham
• St. Louis, Missouri, 10¢ on Greenish (11X2), original gum, with full corner sheet margins
For the on-line Frelinghuysen catalogue and to register for Live Internet Bidding, please go to siegelauctions.com
The D.K. Collection of Southern Postmasters’ Provisionals of The American Civil War

The D.K. collection comprises only adhesive stamps and press-printed provisional envelopes. It was formed during the past two decades, a period of great opportunity in Confederate philately. During this time the closely-held collections formed by the Kilbournes, Dr. Simon, Birkinbine, Hill, Dr. Skinner and the Hall family were sold, unleashing many of the rarest and most desirable items. In our opinion, the D.K. sale in March is the most outstanding auction of Confederate provisionals since our sale of the Lilly collection in 1967.
For the on-line D.K. catalogue and to register for Live Internet Bidding, please go to siegelauctions.com
THE HARVEY MIRSKY COLLECTION

For the past 20 years, Harvey Mirsky built his collection of 1847s, applied his brilliant mind to related research, and served the collector community through his published articles and work with collector groups. His loss has been felt by the stamp community, but his knowledge and discoveries will pass to future generations when the Siegel firm presents the Mirsky collection in a special single-owner auction this Spring.

Unusual covers showing domestic use of the 1847 issue, including the remarkable combination of 5¢ and 10¢ rates on one cover

10¢ 1847 block with original gum, ex Green, Klein, Kapiloff and Zoellner
OF THE UNITED STATES 1847 ISSUE

A few highlights of cross-border mail between the U.S. and British North America

1847 Issue used to Chile and Germany, each with unique markings carefully researched by Harvey Mirsky

For the on-line Mirsky 1847 Issue sale catalogue and to register for Live Internet Bidding, please go to siegelauctions.com
The sixth sale of the Scarsdale collection was devoted to U.S. Revenue stamps. The sale drew widespread and intense bidding, demonstrating the growing interest in these beautiful stamps. The Siegel firm is pleased to present the seventh Scarsdale sale, which features one of the finest and most complete Beer Stamp collections ever offered. The sale will be held in February 2012.

For the on-line Scarsdale catalogue and to register for Live Internet Bidding, please go to siegelauctions.com

Year after year, the Rarities sale succeeds in bringing together buyers and sellers for the world’s rarest, finest, most fascinating and most valuable stamps.

And, year after year, there are some clients who waited too long to consign.

These two magnificent covers have never been available at auction. Their owners will benefit from the international attention the annual Rarities sale commands. Do your items deserve the world’s attention?

Please call 212-753-6421 and speak with us about having your stamps or covers featured in this year’s Rarities of the World sale.
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Black Hole Radiation

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**Siegel's 2011 Sales Total $18.2 Million**

The Siegel firm’s 2011 sales total was $18,221,986, comprising 14 auctions and 10,075 lots sold. In dollars and lots, 2011 sales were down 20% from 2010. Individual sale totals are listed below (adjusted for returns and after-sales).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sale</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lots</th>
<th>Hammer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1004 Eubanks 1869 Pictorial Issue</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>1,137,055</td>
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<tr>
<td>1005 New Amsterdam City Despatch</td>
<td>3/2</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>313,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>1006 Wagshal, Part 4: 1¢ Perforated</td>
<td>3/2</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>851,920</td>
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<td>1007 United States Stamps</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>1,456</td>
<td>1,249,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>1008 Andromeda Bank Note Covers</td>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>265,565</td>
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<tr>
<td>1009 Golden Hawaii</td>
<td>5/24</td>
<td>875</td>
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<tr>
<td>1010 2011 Rarities of the World</td>
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<tr>
<td>1011 U.S. &amp; Foreign</td>
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<td>1,125,785</td>
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<tr>
<td>1012 Artemis Fancy Cancellations</td>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>77</td>
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<td>1013 Laehder U.S.</td>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>427</td>
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<tr>
<td>1014 Outstanding U.S. Stamps</td>
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<td>1015 Scarsdale Pt. 6: Revenues</td>
<td>11/15</td>
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<td>828,945</td>
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<tr>
<td>1016 C.S.A., U.S. &amp; Foreign</td>
<td>11/15</td>
<td>1,047</td>
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<tr>
<td>1017 U.S. Stamps</td>
<td>12/13</td>
<td>1,073</td>
<td>1,069,270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2011 Total Lots and Sales (w/premium) | 10,075 | $18,221,986 |

Scott R. Trepel commented on the results:

“Our 2011 sales were price-strong and volume-soft. However, at $18.2 million, the Siegel firm still leads the market in U.S.-based sales, and our market share continues to grow.”

Looking at the start of the 2012 year, Trepel continued:

“Our holiday gift basket was filled with treasure. We signed the Frelinghuysen, DK, Scarsdale and Mirsky Estate deals within a period of weeks, which sets the pace for 2012. Our team is hard at work on these and other consignments, and the catalogues should start rolling off the presses.”

In response to recent increases in the buyer’s premium at other firms, Trepel offered the following comments:

“The costs of overhead and marketing have been rising at a faster rate than the rate of revenue growth, which remains fixed as a percentage of sales. If we can grow sales, we can hold the line at the 15% premium. That’s our goal, and we hope potential sellers will help us reach that goal! [laugh] Seriously, I strongly believe that reducing transaction costs is in everybody’s best interest. We will continue our efforts to increase revenue through volume rather than rate hikes.”

**Siegel PDF Catalogue Project**

In response to the demand for easily downloadable PDF files of past Siegel sale catalogues, we have created a new section of our website: Past Sales: PDF Catalogues. Currently there are 250 sale catalogues dating back to the Hale collection sold in April 1954. Major name-sale catalogues such as Lilly and A. T. Seymour (shown at left) are now available, and we are adding 100 catalogues per month. The content of all catalogues is searchable by keyword and easy to print. Soon it will be possible to carry an entire run of Siegel catalogues on an iPad or other portable device.