



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

It's B-A-C-K again. With the passing of Dale Pulver (see inside) who edited this for a number of years, it's time to put *The Perryscope* back in business. It is our intent to publish every second month with the next due in Aug. Do you have something of which you are particularly proud and want to show off? Send it along with its story, and we will feature it in a future issue. Either send a scan via email or a very good copy (B&W) to me at the address below.

Not only do we mourn the passing of Dale one day before show opening but also that of Tom Allen this past October. Both individuals were a wonderful asset to our organization and philately in generally. They are sorely missed. Both obituaries are on the next pages.

First of all, some new business. As you might have noticed, we are going to one meeting a month (first Thursday). Hopefully we can encourage more of you to attend on a regular basis. Also there will be no meeting during July and August. Thus the first meeting in the fall will be on Sept. 4 at 7:00 PM at a new place. We have had a number of issues with the Holiday Inn, particularly with the food service, so the Board decided to find a location that might be better suited for those who don't wish to go downtown. For the foreseeable future we will meet at Shula's Steak House located in the Doubletree Hotel in Independence located near the I77 and I480 interchange. They offer great steaks, good sandwiches and salads in a private meeting room just off the bar. Prices are a bit higher than the Holiday Inn, but the quality is well worth it. How about joining us at 6:00 for a meal and fel-

lowship? A map and directions are on the back page.

Though a final financial report has yet to be issued, if you along with the other 1570 folks attended the March Party you know it was the same as the years before, lots of FUN!! I was the chairman of this shebang, and I can tell you that I couldn't possibly have pulled it off without Rocco Caponi both as Exhibits and Co-Chairman, Dave Wessley as Bourse Chairman and Hans Pohler with his years of experience for all of his advice and backup. Then there were Grant and Marie Ricksecker at the front table, Matt Liebson as Publicity Chairman, Hans and wife Gloria at the Junior Activities table, Denise Stotts with her coordination of everything, particularly taking down the exhibits and keeping the exhibitors and others happy and on the straight and narrow, Bob Toth as Awards Chairman and lots and lots of you who contributed to the overall success. Just to give all an idea of the how well we work together as a team, from the time the show closed until the exhibits were down and packed up was 45 minutes. All frames were dissembled and put back in storage and the dealers were mostly out of the building in two hours. What an effort!!!!

Put on your calendar, the 2009 March Party will be on March 27-29, again at the downtown Masonic Auditorium. The past year was dedicated to Tom Allen, and his prize winning Ohio City exhibit was on display. Next year we will honor Dale Pulver, and we will have one of his exhibits as well.

Roger Rhoads, (rrrhoads@aol.com), Editor

WALLY GUENTHER
Plain Dealer Reporter

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS — Thomas Allen researched the history of 19th-century Cleveland postal markings, published numerous articles and won national and international awards for his exhibits.

The 65-year-old University Heights resident, who had a private law firm in downtown Cleveland, died Oct. 17 at the Cleveland Clinic.

He died of complications from emphysema and heart disease, according to the Cuyahoga County coroner's office.

Allen got into the stamp/postal marking collection as a teenager. One of his first collections was a series of envelopes and letters to and from the Civil War's southern prisoners at Johnson's Island in Sandusky Bay.

"Tom Allen collected envelopes, what they call covers, that the prisoners of war wrote home," said Hans Pohler, president of the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, a Greater Cleveland organization. The envelopes had initials of the censors who read the letters, routing markings, border markings between the North and South, and a United States stamp of that period, he said.



Thomas F. Allen 1942-2007

From the Cleveland
Plain Dealer

Tom had suffered from a bad cold when he returned from a show on the West Coast. Eventually he checked himself into the hospital, fully expecting to be home in a very few days. While there he suffered a fall and perhaps a stroke. Several days later he passed away without ever being discharged. RRR

His overall collection showed how rates, markings and ink stampings changed through the end of the Civil War.

The U.S. Postal Service began using stamps in 1847.

His first exhibit of the Johnson's Island Prisoner of War covers won a silver medal at the 1978 March Party Stamp show, annually hosted by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, a Greater Cleveland organization.

The exhibit of postal markings earned a gold medal and the American Philatelic Society medal of excellence at the 1993 AIRPEX, a national stamp show. His full postal history, including a stamped and stampless exhibit, won an international gold medal in Brussels, Belgium, in 2001.

He sold the exhibit in 1995.

Allen also had a Cleveland col-

lection of letter envelopes from the early 1800s through the Civil War period, including manuscript markings before postage stamps were used, said Pohler. He sold that collection last year.

He co-authored a 1991 handbook on 19th-century Cleveland postal markings.

Allen is a past president of the United States Philatelic Classics Society. He was the editor in chief for one year of the organization's publication, the *Chronicle*.

He joined the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club in 1976 and he served as its president, secretary and longtime treasurer.

Allen was a member of the Ohio Postal History Society since 1976, and was its treasurer the past 12 years. He served as treasurer of several other philatelic organizations.

He judged numerous exhibits as an American Philatelic Society accredited judge.

Allen was born in Norwalk and graduated from Norwalk High School. He graduated from Yale University in 1965, magna cum laude, and the Yale Law School in 1968.

He joined the Squire Sanders & Dempsey law firm after graduating and became a partner in 1978. He left the firm in 1991 to open his own law office. His emphasis was on tax, estate, trust and related matters.

To reach this Plain Dealer reporter:
wguenther@plained.com,
216-999-4875

Dale had been fighting a loss of lung capacity for several months and had been on oxygen for over a year. During the week prior to the show, I spoke with him to find he had just returned from a short stay in the hospital and thought everything would be fine. On the Monday before opening, I spoke with him and he was obviously quite concerned about his health and had called for a nurse to visit. On Tuesday he went to his doctor and passed away suddenly in the office. RRR

From *Linn's*. His last column on Mexico appeared in the April 7, 2008 issue after a lapse of several months. Other obituaries appeared in the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society *Chairman's Chatter* and the Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International quarterly *Mexicana*, to both of whom he had made significant contributions.

Dale R. Pulver, 1929-2008

Dale R. Pulver, a prominent philatelic researcher and authority on the stamps and postal history of Mexico, died March 26 in Cleveland, Ohio. He was 78.

Mr. Pulver originated the Mexico column in the May 9, 1983, issue of *Linn's Stamp News* and had written the monthly column continuously for 25 years. His final column appeared in the issue of April 5.

Mr. Pulver also wrote *Introduction to the Stamps of Mexico*, published in the *Linn's Handbook* series in 1992.

In the introduction to Mr. Pulver's book, *Linn's* then-editor-publisher Michael Laurence recalled that a reader once wrote: "I've never collected Mexico, but I always read Dale Pulver's column because it's so interesting. I learn something new every time."

Fred Baumann, Mr. Pulver's editor at *Linn's* during the 1980s and 1990s, described Mr. Pulver as "a natu-



Dale R. Pulver

ral writer ... leaving an editor like me with very little to do.

"He was an award-winning exhibitor who was always willing to take the time to explain the fine points of any subject in stampdom, with a humble, genial manner that belied his great depth of knowledge and expertise.

"As such, he was a superb choice to explain the bewildering complexities of 19th-century Mexican philately and postal history, and to

unravel the Exporta series of modern Mexican definitives that he did so much to popularize."

Mr. Pulver was born June 18, 1929, in Rochester, N.Y., and started his education in a one-room stone schoolhouse in Spencerport, N.Y. His interest in stamps began at age 8 (in 1937) when he received a stamp album as a Christmas gift from his aunt.

He attained a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering at Cornell University, where he was a member of the Big Red marching band.

Mr. Pulver was a United States Army veteran who served a 17-month tour in Korea. After his service, he was employed as a chemical engineer at the former Diamond Alkali Co. in Painesville, Ohio, for 34 years, retiring in 1986.

He and his wife of 50 years, Christine, met at a church social group. They had three children.

His career included a five-

year assignment in Mexico, from 1964-69, where he moved with his family, and it was there that his interest in the philately of Mexico was kindled.

He wrote a series of articles in 1978 for the U.S. Philatelic Classic Society's *The Chronicle of the U.S. Classic Postal Issues* on the postal history of the Mexican-American War, winning the Ashbrook cup.

Some of his many exhibits were shown internationally, and won awards at Israphil 85 and Ameripex 86.

His article on "The Analysis of Postal Markings on Pre-Stamp Covers of Mexico" in *The Congress Book* of 1987 won the McCoy award for the best article in the annual publication.

In addition to his love of philately, Mr. Pulver was a lifelong fan of woodworking and carpentry. He also devoted time to community volunteer work.

Mr. Pulver was preceded in death by his wife Chris-

tine and parents Arthur and Inez Gertrude (Stamp).

He is survived by daughters Emilie Grace Pulver of Chicago, Ill., and Clara (Brian) Wilson of Elyria, Ohio, and son Dale A. Pulver of University Heights, Ohio; grandchildren Maria, Elizabeth, Evan, Timothy and Stephen Wilson; sisters Joyce Bennett of Lyndonville, N.Y., and Marylou (Charles) Stage of Spencerport, N.Y.; and brother Merle (Margot) Pulver of Whitehall, Mich.

Memorial services were held April 1 at Advent Lutheran Church in Mentor, Ohio, with inurnment at Mentor Cemetery.

The family suggests contributions be made to the Advent Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, 7985 Munson Road, Mentor, OH 44060; or to the American Philatelic Research Library for acquisition of Mexican philatelic research material, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823. ■



In memoriam
They are sorely
missed

