

## **Twelfth Blount Postal History Symposium: Political Systems, Postal Administrations, and the Mail**

Discussion published by Susan Smith on Monday, November 28, 2022

Type:

Symposium

Date:

December 8, 2022 to December 9, 2022

Subject Fields:

Communication, Government and Public Service, Political History / Studies, Nationalism History / Studies, Social History / Studies

**Twelfth Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposium:**

***Political Systems, Postal Administrations, and the Mail***

**Hosted by the Smithsonian National Postal Museum**

**and co-sponsored by the American Philatelic Research Library and the American Philatelic Society**

**December 8 and 9 on Zoom**

**Registration is free but required. [Register here](#)**

In countries around the world, postal administrations and their missions, practices, and regulations serve as reflections and agents of state goals and ideals. Like the administrations, be they privatized, quasi or fully governmental, these ideals and goals can vary widely. In all cases, they shape the relationship that citizens, subjects, or residents have to the mail and the post office, including their expectations and decisions on how and when to use them. By sending and receiving mail or by using other offered services, individuals participate in communities or networks - familial, commercial, social, or other. Moreover, the acts of using and engaging - even the potential for these - with postal services may simultaneously reinforce and challenge the postal administration and its political foundations.

**Schedule (Eastern time). Schedule is subject to change.**

**Thursday, December 8**

**9:45 - 10:00 am**

**Welcome**

**10:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
**Messaging**

**Session One - The Varying Purposes of Stamp**

Moderator: Elizabeth Brown

K. Andrea Rusnock. *Postal Politics: Soviet Stamps of World War II*

Laura Goldblatt and Richard Handler. *The Eagle, the Rocket and the Moon: U. S. Postal Iconography at the End of History*

A. M. LaVey. *Politico-Philatelic Semiosis in Russia's 2014 Crimea Issues*

Discussant: William Moskoff

**12:00 - 1:00 pm**

**Lunch break**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm**

**Session Two - Postal  
Networks and the Flow of  
Information**

Moderator: Susan Smith

Rocio Moreno Cabanillas. *The Reform Postal Systems in the Process of Structuring and Construction of Imperial States in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century*

Perola Goldfeder. *'Gathering Vassals Around the Throne': The Political Economy of Postal Communications in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Brazil*

Francesco Morriello. *From Three Months to Three Seconds: The Evolution of Mail Delivery from the Renaissance to the Present Day*

Discussant: Richard Morel

**3:00 - 3:15 pm**

**Break**

**3:15 - 5:15 pm**  
**American Life**

**Session Three - The Postal Service in**

Moderator: Jenny Lynch

Rebecca Brenner Graham. *Why the U. S. Ended Sunday Mail in 1912*

Alison Bazylinski. *Rethinking Postal Politics: The National Association of Letter Carriers*

*Ladies' Auxiliary, 1905-1925*

Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris. *Big Mail: From Public Good to Private Profit*

Discussant: Lynn Heidelbaugh

**Friday, December 9**

**10:30 am - 12:00 pm                      Session Four - Regimes in Flux: Their Impact  
on Postal Operations and Stamp Design**

Moderator: Scott Tiffney

Roger Santala. *Lion or Eagle: Sovereignty, A Postal  
Authority, and the Mails. Finland  
1890-1918*

Earl Toops. *Regime Change in Vietnam: Issues of the Provisional Revolutionary  
Government and Restoration of Postal Services in the Defeated South*

Discussant: James Grayson

**12:00 - 1:30 pm**

**Lunch break**

**1:30 - 3:30 pm**

**Session Five - Stamp  
Iconography in Fascist  
Regimes**

Moderator: Sheila Brennan

Daniel Piazza. *The 'Fascist Style' in Italian Philately, 1922 -  
1941*

Zachary Agatstein. *'Hitler's Mundane Messengers': The Banal Nationalism of Third  
Reich Postage Stamps*

Guillermo Navarro Oltra. *Historical Figures on the Postage Stamps of Franco's Spain:  
The Catholic Monarchs*

Discussant: Stanley Brunn

**3:30 - 4:00 pm**

**Closing Remarks**

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URL:

<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/the-twelfth-blount-postal-history-symposium-political-systems-postal-administrations-and-the...>

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