



# TEE TIME

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## TEE TIME

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Effective January 1, 2010 dues for U.S. and Canadian members are \$15.00 per year. All other countries dues are \$18.00 per year. Mail to: IPGS, PO BOX 2183, Norfolk, VA 23501-2183 USA.

Information about membership in IPGS is available from Ron Spiers, 8025 Saddle Run, Powell, OH 43065 USA. (email: [rwspiers@aol.com](mailto:rwspiers@aol.com))

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*Past Issues of TEE TIME* (numbers 1 through 88) are available at \$2.50 each or \$1.50 each when six or more are ordered at the same time. Postage included for U.S. Members. Overseas, airmail is the only way we can ship. Postage is extra. *TEE TIME*, PO Box 2183, Norfolk, VA 23501-2183 USA.

### EDITOR'S CORNER

With the article by Luciano Calenda, pages 11-12, we now know that the China cards are being made on some home printer and not by the China Post.

John Gray writes that the New Forest Golf Club smiler (see last issue) sheet is listed as BC-160 in the list of business customized sheets. This can be found on the website: [www.smilers-info.com/business-15.htm](http://www.smilers-info.com/business-15.htm). The sheet was issued on July 28, 2008.

The editor has changed software for producing Tee Time. We are now using Adobe Indesign CS4.

### COVER ON FRONT PAGE

An unannounced pictorial cancel was used by the Cincinnati Philatelic Exhibition Annual Stamp Show held in Cincinnati, Ohio 46245 during their exhibition and stamp show held August 1, through August 2, 2009.

I found the illustration on the front page and the one below on eBay.

I have attempted to contact the person selling the covers for this show and have not received a reply from my several emails. If anyone would like to try and obtain this cancel try: Jim Siekermann, 941 Conca St., Cincinnati, Ohio 45218.

CINPEX STATION  
CINCINNATI, OH  
45240  
AUGUST 1, 2009





## President's Message

It is with great reluctance that I announce the individual who volunteered to become IPGS auctioneer has had to withdraw his offer for the present at least. That means we are still without an auction unless someone else volunteers to take over the responsibility. The auction is a benefit to both those looking for golf related material as those hoping to sell off duplicates. It hits me as hard as anyone since I have a lot of material which I had hope to submit for the auction.

## AUCTIONEER STILL NEEDED

We are pleased to welcome one new member:

597 Kurth, Walter J., 2111 Dundee Place  
Stillwater, MN 55082-5365

According to his application, he collects all varieties of material related to golf.

## DUES INCREASE IN 2010

After 22 years we are going to have an increase in dues with the color printing costs and higher postage rates. Also, for now, there will be no discounts for multiple year payments. The new rate structure is:

US and Canada	\$15.00 per year
Overseas	\$18.00 per year

If you owe dues, you will receive an envelope with the December issue of *Tee Time*. **Please remit promptly. Thank you.**

I have managed to delete my email address book recently. If you think of it send me your email address: [poststat@juno.com](mailto:poststat@juno.com).

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Editor's Corner continued:

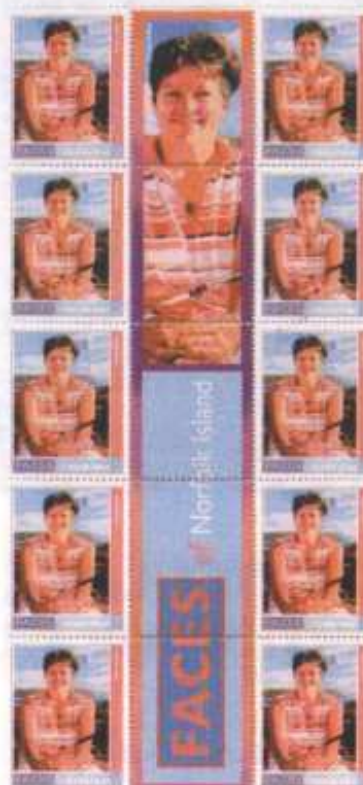
We still need more articles. A few were sent in and I do appreciate them. A backlog is needed so the editor can select articles for a balanced issue. Please drop me a note letting me know what you have to publish.

## NEW ISSUES

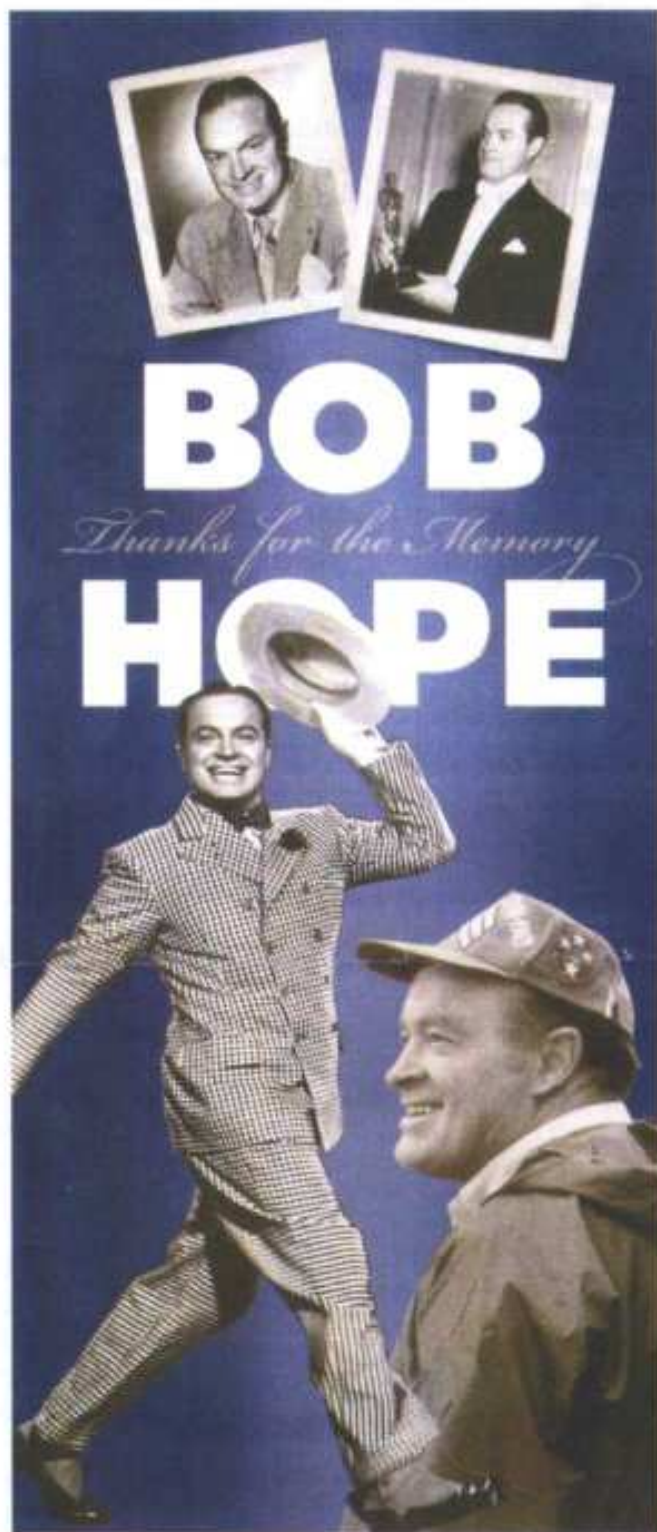
North Korea: Issued May 2, 2009. Previously reported in the last issue. This is one additional stamp in the set of four that has a golf theme. Full sheet of nine stamp has a golfer in the sheet margin to the right.



Norfolk Island, Darlene Buffett. Reported in the last issue we now illustrate the gutter strip of 10.







*At left, the selvage of the 2009 pane of stamps issued by the USPS honoring Bob Hope, the entertainer.*

**L**eslie Townes Hope, affectionately known as Bob, had a lifelong interest in the sport of golf. He reminisced about it to Dwayne Netland. The result is a book of those reminiscences published in 1985 that display Hope's instinctive ability to make people laugh.

Bob Hope the entertainer enjoyed and continued his involvement in golf throughout his life. Of the thirteen chapters in the book, five are named after friends recognized by Bob Hope as significantly contributing to his golfing experiences. They are entertainers Jackie Gleason and Harry Lillis "Bing" Crosby, former Presidents Dwight Eisenhower and Gerald Ford, and professional golfer Ben Hogan.

Bob Hope and Bing Crosby became friends when together they made a series of "Road Show" movies. Both were avid golfers and appear in one of three illustrations on the British aerogramme in Figure 1. Each is shown holding a golf club in the drawing on the reverse side.

Bing Crosby (Figure 2) is often credited with introducing and popularizing the concept of the professional-amateur (pro-am) team golf event. The first of these was known as the "Crosby" or "Crosby Clambake" which began in the 1930s at Rancho Santa Fe in southern California, eventually moving to northern California courses on the Monterey peninsula in the 1940s. Celebrity golf events caught on and well-known singers, actors, professional athletes and former Presidents became hosts to similar tournaments.

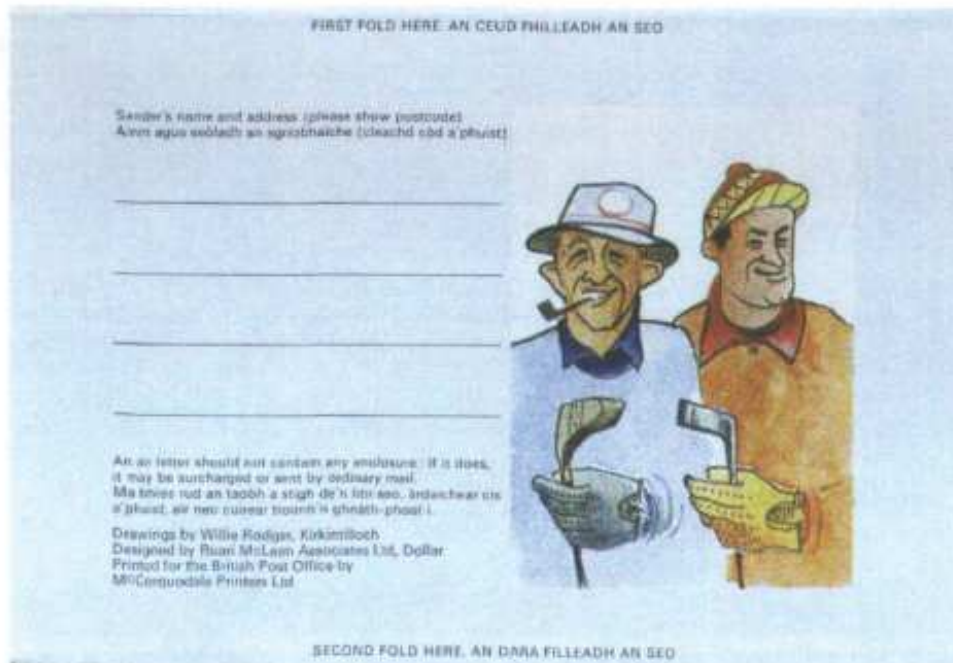
The Desert Classic in Palm Springs, California did not begin with Bob Hope as its celebrity host, but he became involved with it in the 1960s. The Desert Classic tournament began in 1952 as the Thunderbird Invitational pro-am at the Thunderbird Ranch and Country Club (Figure 3). In 1960 the tournament was renamed the Palm Springs Golf Classic and eventually the Bob Hope Desert Classic.

The tournament was very successful in providing funds to build and support the Eisenhower Medical Center (Figure 4) and other Palm Springs charities. Palm Springs with its many golf courses, the Bob Hope Desert Classic and the Dinah Shore Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) golf tournament that began in 1972 made it the "Winter Golf Capital of the World" (Figure 5).

## Bob Hope, Entertaining Golfer

by Patricia A. Loehr



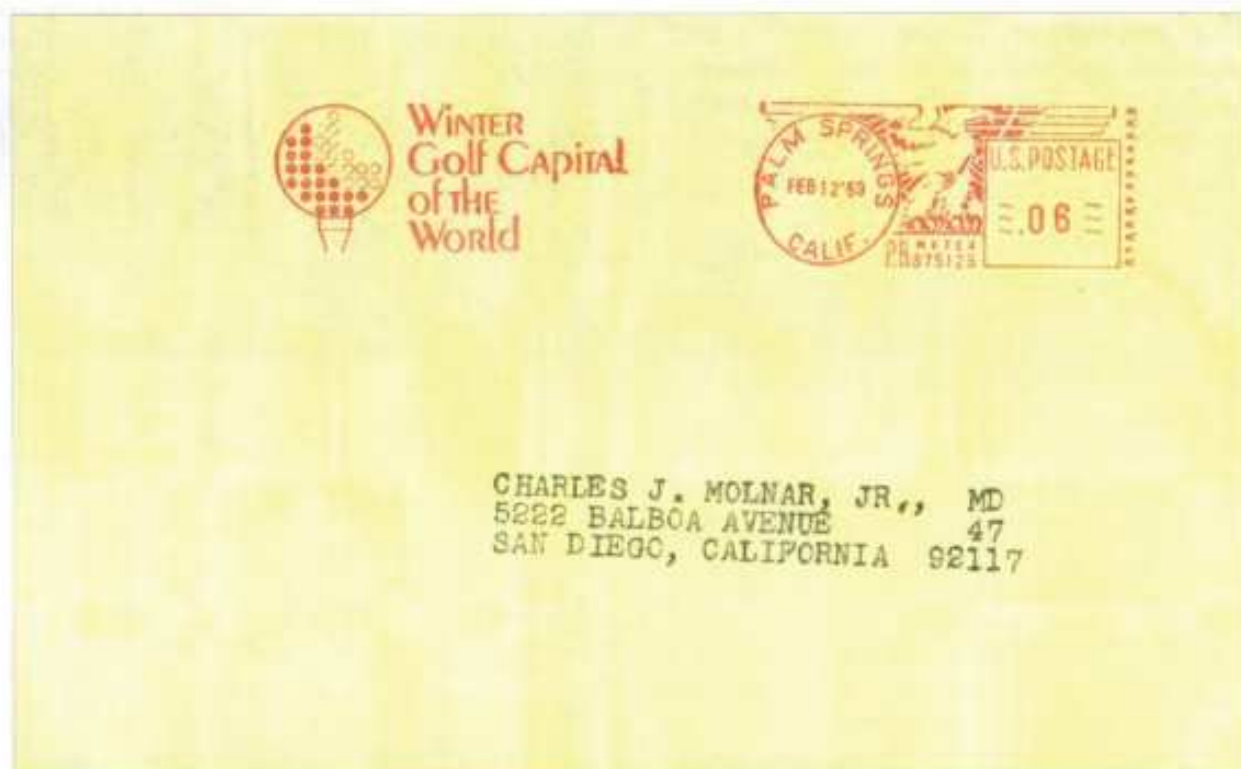


Figures 1 & 2. British aerogramme (left) depicting movie and golfing pals, Bing Crosby and Bob Hope. 1994 Legends of American Music stamp commemorating Bing Crosby (above).

Figure 3. Postcard showing the Thunderbird Golf and Country Club in Palm Springs, CA, a mecca for golfers.



Figure 4. 1973 Bob Hope Desert Classic commemorative cover with tournament cachet and President Eisenhower stamp.



**Figure 5.** Palm Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau slogan meter from 1969 promoting the town as the "Winter Golf Capital of the World."



**Figure 6 (left).** Another avid golfer, President Gerald Ford played in pro-am tournaments with Bob Hope while in the White House as well as in retirement.

Jackie Gleason asked President Gerald Ford in 1975 to play in the Invarry golf event he hosted in Florida. Partnering with Gleason, Bob Hope and professional golfer Jack Nicklaus, President Ford became the first United States President while in office to play in a pro-am golf event.

For the 1995 Bob Hope Desert Classic tournament, Hope formed a pro-am team consisting of former Presidents Gerald Ford and George Herbert Walker Bush, along with the sitting president, Bill Clinton, and the winner of the Classic from the previous year, professional golfer Scott Hoch. President Gerald Ford was commemorated in 2007 with a United States commemorative stamp (Figure 6).

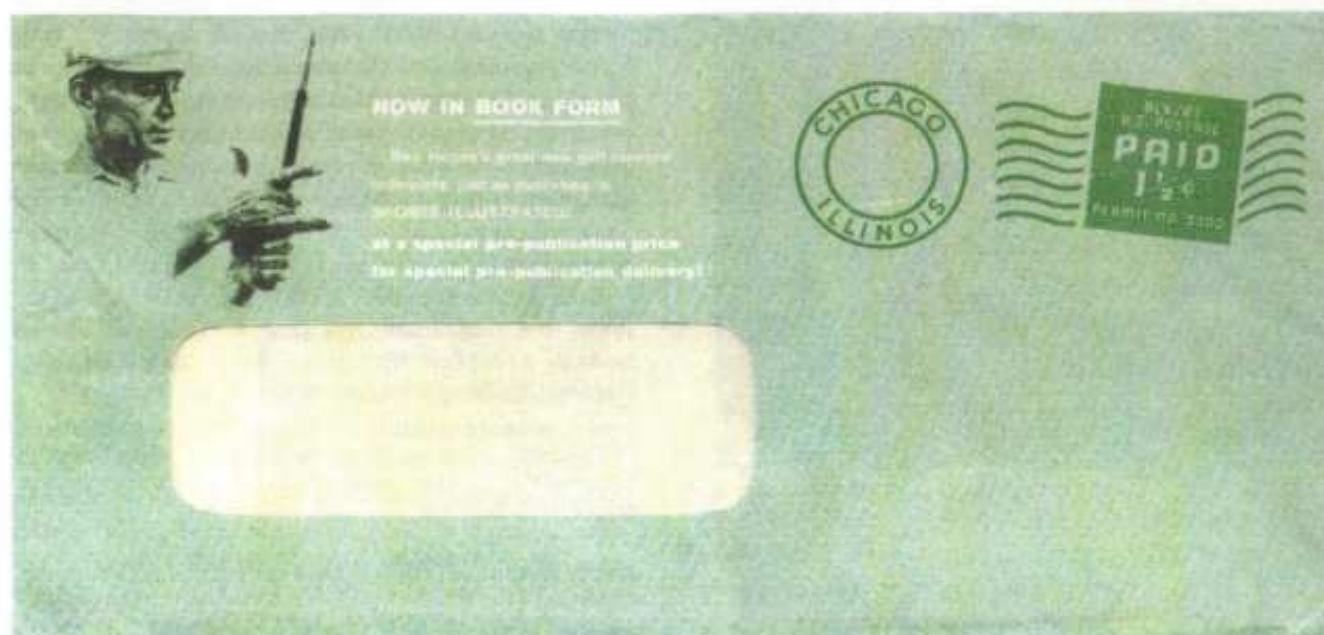


**Figure 7.** Commemorative cancellation for the 1981 Bob Hope British Classic.

Inspired by the success of his Bob Hope Desert Classic, Hope wanted to inaugurate a similar tournament in Great Britain with the proceeds used to build a theater in the British village of Eltham where he was born. The first Bob Hope British Classic was held in 1980 and after a few years time the theater was built (Figure 7).

Bob Hope received golf tips, advice and lessons from some of professional golfing's most accomplished players such as Ben Hogan. Together with Herbert Warren Wind, Hogan authored "Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf," described as "the landmark golf instruction book of all time" (Figure 8).





**Figure 8. Advertising cover promoting Ben Hogan's groundbreaking golf instruction book "Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf."**

During his career Hogan won 64 Professional Golfers Association (PGA) tournaments and was one of the original thirteen players inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame when it opened in 1974. Bob Hope was inducted in 1983 (Figure 9).

In 1979 the United States Golf Association awarded Bob Hope the prestigious Bob Jones award for his many contributions to the sport. The award is named for legendary golfer Robert Tyre "Bobby" Jones, Jr. The Bobby Jones and Babe Zaharias commemorative stamps were both issued on September 22, 1981. Like Ben Hogan they were part of the initial group of thirteen inductees into the World Golf Hall of Fame (Figure 10).

In December 1993 Bob Hope was featured on the front cover of *The American Philatelist*, the Journal of the American Philatelic Society (Figure 11). He is shown surrounded by golf balls. The article provided insight into Hope's work providing entertainment to men and women in the United States armed forces. Bob Hope began his domestic and overseas tours in 1941 working with United Service Organizations (USO). It is most likely that in



**Figure 10. Bobby Jones and Babe Zaharias were two of the original thirteen inductees into the World Golf Hall of Fame.**

some way golf went with him and at times became part of the show.

In the article Bob Hope is pictured receiving an award in 1992 from the United States military. The U.S. Congress, in 1997, recognized Hope as an honorary veteran of the United States Armed Forces – the only person ever to have received such recognition.



**Figure 9. World Golf Hall of Fame slogan meter. Hope was inducted in 1983.**



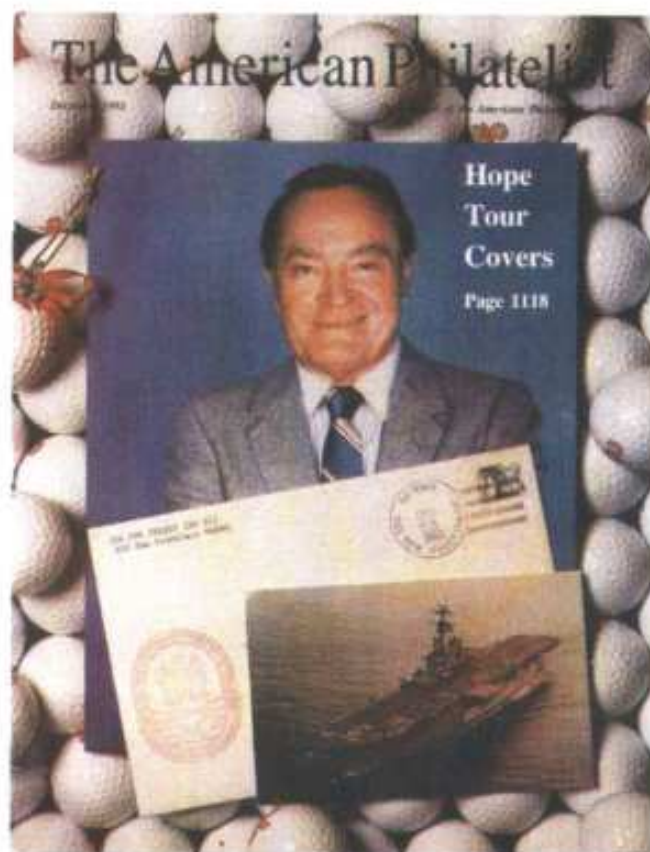


Figure 11. Bob Hope on the December 1993 cover of *The American Philatelist*.

## USPS Tribute To Bob Hope On Carrier Midway

by Mark Maestroni

**A**s a tribute to Bob Hope's legendary support of the men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces both here and overseas, the USPS arranged for the First Day Ceremony of the new 44¢ stamp honoring Hope to be held on the USS Midway. The longest-serving Navy aircraft carrier of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Midway is now a floating museum in San Diego, Calif.

The event on May 29, 2009 coincided with the 106<sup>th</sup> birthday of the renowned entertainer. Seated on the chilly flight deck of the immense ship, some 250 to 300 visitors were serenaded by a 19-piece Navy band, then regaled with plenty of anecdotes and postally-related Bob Hope jokes by the many speakers. And of course a birthday party wouldn't have been complete without a slice from one of the two giant cakes decorated with the new stamp!

On May 29, 2009 – Bob Hope's birthday – the USPS immortalized him on a U.S. postage stamp honoring his remarkable life (see following article).

Bob Hope gave much to golf and from his life story received much in return, or as his theme song goes, "Thanks for the Memory."

### Bibliography

Hope, Bob and Netland, Dwayne. *Bob Hope's Confessions of a Hooker: My Lifelong Love Affair with Golf*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Co., Inc., 1985.

Miller, Jerry. "Thanks for the Memory: Bob Hope stamp to debut May 29 with San Diego ceremony." *Linn's Stamp News*, May 25, 2009.

Perret, Joseph M. "Bob Hope's USO Christmas Shows: Lebanon and Desert Shield." *The American Philatelist*, December 1993.

Van Natta Jr., Don. *First Off The Tee*. New York: Public Affairs, 2003.

Wexler, Daniel. *The Golfer's Library: A Reader's Guide to Three Centuries of Golf Literature*. Ann Arbor, Michigan: Sports Media Group, 2004.



Bob Hope's daughter, Linda, delivering a few words about her Dad while standing next to an enlarged image of the newly unveiled stamp. Seated behind her are Jean Picker Firstenberg and Michael Daley.

In her comments, Hope's daughter, Linda, suggested that her "Dad would have been thrilled by this honor, but he probably would have joked about the increase in the price of stamps." Quoting from one of her father's monologues: "Have you seen the new commemorative the Post Office is issuing? They feature pictures of people who died of shock when they heard what a stamp will cost."



Linda Hope added: "Dad loved golf. He often said he only did show business to pay greens fees."

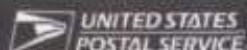
Postmaster General John E. "Jack" Potter had been scheduled to attend attesting to the importance the USPS had placed on this unveiling ceremony. However, Master of Ceremonies, David Failor, Executive Director of Stamp Services for the USPS expressed the PM's regret in not being able to make it. Instead, Michael J. Daley, Vice President, Pacific Area for the USPS was the senior postal official present.

Additional speakers included Mac McLaughlin, President and CEO of the USS Midway Museum and Jean Picker Firstenberg, Chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. Also present on the dais was Kelley Hope, Bob's son.

Following the ceremony, all participants graciously agreed to autograph programs and other Hope memorabilia at a nearby signing table (Figure 1).



Kathy Clements (right) of the Claude C. Ries Chapter of the American First Day Cover Society helping with cancellations at the USPS booth.



# BOB HOPE

## COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

**David E. Failor**  
Executive Director, Stamp Services  
United States Postal Service

### PRESENTATION OF COLORS

**Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps**  
Serra High School  
San Diego, CA

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

**Mac McLaughlin**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
USS Midway Museum

**Michael J. Daley**  
Vice President, Pacific Area  
United States Postal Service

### FIRST-DAY-OF-ISSUE CEREMONY

USS Midway Museum

SAN DIEGO, CA

May 29, 2009

11:00 A.M.

### OFFICIAL STAMP DEDICATION

**John E. Potter**  
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer  
United States Postal Service

### REMARKS

**Linda Hope**  
Daughter, Bob Hope

**Jean Picker Firstenberg**  
Chair, Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee

### FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

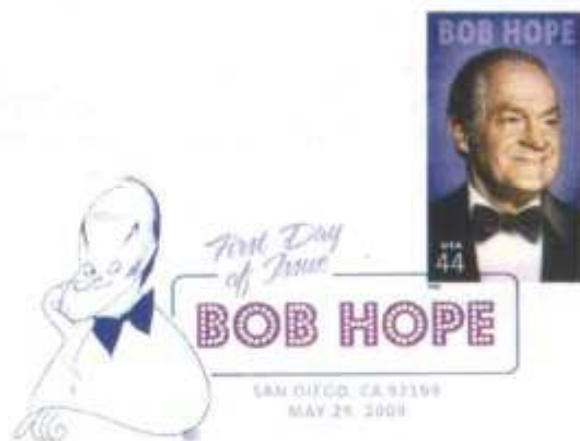
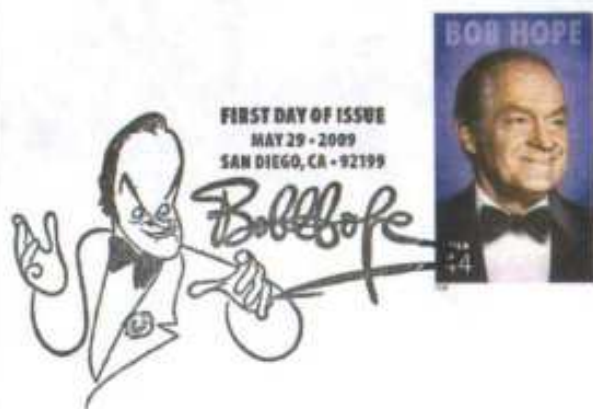
**David E. Failor**

SAN DIEGO, CA • 92199



Figure 1. First Day Ceremony Program with autographs of the participants. At the last minute, the Postmaster General, John E. "Jack" Potter, sent his regrets that he could not attend, however it was evidently too late to change the program.





**Figures 2 & 3. The official First Day cancels: the standard black handstamped version (left) and a color laser printed cancel (right). The latter was available for sale at the USPS booth pre-printed on #6 envelopes.**

The stamp, designed by artist Kazuhiko Sano of Mill Valley, Calif., was printed in panes of 20 self-adhesive stamps. The 44¢ value pays the 1 ounce domestic first class letter rate.

The reverse side of each stamp's selvage was printed with text encapsulating Hope's contributions:

**Bob Hope  
(1903 - 2003)**  
*enjoyed a lifetime  
of success on stage and in  
radio, television, and film.  
He moved to America  
from England as a child  
and quickly discovered a  
natural talent for making  
people laugh. Hope  
traveled around the globe  
performing for U.S. troops  
and hosted numerous  
highly rated TV specials.*

For the many stamp collectors in the audience – and there were many, judging from the lines at the USPS booth – two different first day cancellations were available. In addition to the regular black hand-applied rubber cancel (Figure 2), the colorful digital postmark could be purchased already applied to covers (Figure 3). I spotted both collectors and non-collectors asking for the special cancel on all manner of collectibles. An obvious vehicle was, of course, the official First Day Ceremony Program.

Following the ceremony, which was free to the

leisure – quite a bonus considering that the normal entrance fee to the ship is \$17 for adults.

Since the USPS now sells all new issues nationwide on the first day, other cities also offered a special first day cancel (Figure 4). This postmark was available from at least six post offices in Ohio on May 29.



**Figure 4. First day cancel at 6 Ohio cities.**

The six post offices were: Canal Winchester, OH 43110; Columbus, OH 43235; Latham, OH 45846; Marlon, OH 43302; Rarden, OH 45671; and Vinton, OH 45686. It is possible that other post offices used the special cancellation as well.

One other post office – this one with a golf connection – is known to have used a special cancellation to commemorate the “second day” (Figure 5). The World Golf Hall of Fame at St. Augustine, Florida 32084, offered a variation of the first day postmark in Figure 4 (here, the image of Hope is reversed).



**Figure 5. Second day**

In addition to Hope's distinctive signature is the song title he adopted as his personal catchphrase: “Thanks for the Memory” – a fitting epitaph for this





One of the earliest Chinese postal stationery cards issued in 1995.

by Luciano Calenda

[The following article first appeared in the April 2009 issue of *Filabasket Review*, the journal of the International Filabasket Society. It is reprinted with their, and the author's, kind permission.]

I am firmly convinced that we all must say "STOP" buying any kind of new postal stationery cards (and envelopes) from the P. R. of China once and for all! Let me explain why ...

Because of the uncontrolled landscape of postal stationery cards issued by the P.R. of China, some time ago we [International Filabasket Society] decided to no longer catalogue these items, unless they were issued directly by the National Postal Authorities and regard important sports events. In fact, in the past we tried to understand the origin and the typology of these items and we discovered that 99% of the recent stationery cards are printed "on demand" by private organizations, such as universities and colleges, manufacturing firms, mobile telephone and insurance companies, national lotteries and even basketball clubs. Furthermore, in most cases, the basketball element that makes an item of interest for our collections is really very, very marginal and is not the main subject of the card. We also discovered that 500 pieces was the minimum quantity of postcards to be accepted, and printed, by the postal authorities; very recently we checked again and were told that the minimum quantity had been reduced to 100 pieces costing \$90USD.

It is clear that anybody, at very little cost, can create his own unique postal stationery cards, perfectly legitimate from a postal and philatelic point of view because they are controlled, printed

and sold directly by the national postal authorities. The consequence of this situation is that these postcards cannot be refused in an official exhibition, although their use is not "recommended" by juries and experts, mainly in the area of thematic philately.

In conclusion, a collector can buy such items for his personal pleasure only because he knows that they are not important from a philatelic point of view. As always I repeat, *everybody is free to collect what he wants and spend his money as he likes.*

But recently the situation changed drastically! What until a few months ago could be considered "acceptable," although not "recommended," now must be refused and considered absolutely invalid from a philatelic point of view! Here is the whole story ...

At the beginning of this year several Chinese dealers offered on eBay a "new generation" of basketball postcards. They were very attractive and colorful, depicting very interesting subjects such as NBA players or action shots of the games. Last, but not least, they were cheap: \$2.00USD each.



It is really difficult to resist this sort of thing.

## Chinese Postal Stationery: Stop It!





**Three types of indicia on the Chinese postcards: (1) red bull (top left); (2) rat (top right), and (3) lotus flower (above). The lotus flower card has a bar code and serial number at lower left.**

Everything seemed to be okay, although the previous concerns were still valid. However, in scrolling down the eBay screen, one was confronted with the shocking announcement accompanying the offers of these postcards:

*"This prepaid postcard with a special indicium (red bull head, 1), which is different from other stamps, moreover the postcard with a unique bar code. The backside of this kind of prepaid postcard is blank, you can print pictures you like with a printer, so it is a great gift for your friends and family.*

*Attention: We can only offer this kind of prepaid postcard, now only this kind of prepaid postcard is personalized postcard\* you can print pictures on it. Other Chinese prepaid postcards/covers/lettercards cannot be used in this way. Other Chinese prepaid postcards/covers/lettercards should be applied and approved by China Post. Now we can offer following service:*

*A) 2 dollars per piece (airmail postage included). You give us your photo/picture, we printed it, then mailed the prepaid postcard direct to you by airmail.*

*B) 1 dollar per piece (postage excluded). You give us your photo/picture, we print it, then packed it well and mailed to you by registered letter, the postage is 4 dollars for each time.*

*If you have other requirement, please contact us.\**

\* It is not exactly so: this personalized service for postcards currently applies also to other postcards having two more types of indicia: the rat (2) and the lotus flower (3). Furthermore, this kind of postcard is printed on slightly thinner paper.

If you read this offer carefully you'll realize that it is an enormous trick!

To demonstrate what I am talking about, let me use a normal "official" postal stationery card issued by Italy (bottom): it has a blank side and an address side with an indicium prepaying postage (exactly as the Chinese postcards).

If I print something with my printer (as suggested by the Chinese dealers) on the reverse of this postcard (which is completely blank just like the "basic" Chinese cards) what is the difference with those offered on eBay?

None, none at all!

While these items can be mailed they have no validity from a philatelic point of view, because the drawings (or words, or pictures) printed on them are privately created by individuals or organizations. For this reason they cannot be used in official exhibitions.

By the way, everyone can do what they wish with their printers for their own pleasure – but not for exhibition purposes.

In conclusion:

- This kind of postcard, offered on eBay, does not have any philatelic or thematic validity!
- The money you spend on these items is wasted for exhibition purposes.
- These postcards have the same value as labels or "Cinderella" items!
- I stopped even downloading the images from the internet.



**Standard Italian postal stationery card with blank reverse side.**