

The Oxcart

Society for Costa Rica Collectors



The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations and the Postal System By Dr. Hector R. Mena

Inside this issue:

- 64 President's View
- 64 Secretary's Report
- 65 New Issues
- 66 The Atlantic railroad
- 71 Publications for Sale
- 71 Useful and Classified
- 72 Auction #197
- 72 Prices realized #196
- 75 Expofila 2009
- 76 Society Information
- Enclosures:
- 77 Ballot
- 78 Dues

Three articles related to mail sent from the railroad town of Peralta to other sites were presented in recent Repertorio Filatelico No. 321, 322 and 323. This is a review of those articles.

Peralta was founded at the mile 55 inland from the Atlantic shore at a site where the elevation toward the Central Costa Rica plateau starts. The importance of the station was that a large car depot was built since the locomotives had to reduce their load when starting the steep climbing. However, after the Atlantic railroad was closed in 1995 the town has lost all importance and it is now a small village of a couple of dozens houses along the abandoned lines by the Reventazon River.

I have taken advantage of these articles to review the history of the construction of this railroad which was critical to the economy of Costa Rica in the last Century.

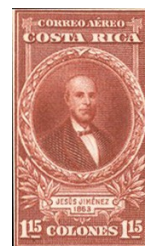


Jose Maria Castro

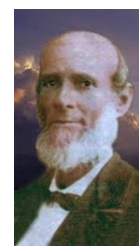


After Costa Rica developed an export crop in the form of coffee the opening of a port in the Atlantic Coast became a critical issue. For years the crops were taken by ox or mule to the Pacific Coast and from them around the world to the markets in Europe and the USA.

The first efforts to build a railroad to the Atlantic were started by President Jose M. Castro who contracted with John C. Fremont in 1866. This American builder failed



Jesus Jimenez



to start construction and the next President, Jesus Jimenez, contracted with Edward Reilly in 1869 with the same results. After the dictatorship of General Tomas Guardia was consolidated, a new contract was negotiated with Henry

Tomas Guardia



Meiggs in July 1871. The contract included a 26 mile line connecting the four Central Valley cities starting from Alajuela to Cartago passing by Heredia and San Jose. This line was started in August of 1871 and successfully completed in November 1873.

(Continued on page 66)

President's View By Raul Hernandez



The end of the year 2009 is approaching and there are two important things on the agenda: membership dues renewal and the election of Officers and Directors.

It is everyone's knowledge that the postage cost have increased dramatically during the last few years and even though the Socorico Board has for several years made every effort not to have a dues increase, it cannot be ignored this time. The annual cost of producing and mailing is well above the dues paid by the members at this time, but it costs more to print and distribute a quality publication

like *The Oxcart*. Starting in 2010, members will be able to obtain the journal electronically at a very low cost, with savings for both the Society and membership. Membership dues reflecting the increase are attached as well as an election ballot for the period 2010/2011.

Due to health reasons I am considering resigning as President of Socorico at any moment. I would like to get names of prospective candidates interested in helping the Board. I have served as President of Socorico for almost six years and I feel that it is time to get someone new to take over. Any interested member please contact me.

The CD of *The Oxcart Issues #1-100 1960-1985* has just been produced and is now on sale. The CD also contains "The Costa Rica Philatelist" 1952-1955, and the "Earl Fossum Index to Costa Rica Philatelic Literature", 1863-1973. This is a nice compendium of Costa Rica philatelic material no longer in print. Please see page 71.

I would like to thank the Socorico Board members for all their volunteered hard work done this year and wish the best to all Socorico members and their families during the coming holidays and the New Year.

Secretary's Report By David Carter



Pages 77 and 78 of this issue require your attention. Please fill them out and return them to me in the enclosed self-addressed security envelope. I need to hear from you by January 31, 2010. Don't forget to add the correct postage!

Annual dues for those

receiving *The Oxcart* at mailing addresses in North America will now be \$15. If you live elsewhere in the world, it is \$21.

It is our hope that most of you will choose the newly available electronic copy of *The Oxcart* delivered by email in PDF format.

This is a greener and a

less costly way to deliver the information to you and it will save money for you and Socorico. It can be had for the ridiculously low price of \$10 per year delivered to you anywhere in the world.

Pages 77 and 78 are waiting for your attention.!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Leonard Middlebrooks, Slidell, LA

Jack Oliver, White City, OR

New Issues By Rafael Pinto

The schedule for 2009 is:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. 25th Anniversary of the Foundation of "Hogares CREA" Association | February 25 |
| 2. Birth Centenary Carlos Luis Fallas | April 30 |
| 3. Children's Literature | May 27 |
| 4. Alberto Martén, founder of "Solidarism" in Costa Rica | June 19 |
| 5. 60th Anniversary of ICE (Costa Rica Electric Institute) | June 30 |
| 6. Diplomatic Relations Costa Rica-Switzerland | July 8 |
| 7. National Parks 2009 - Natural wonders | August 24 |
| 8. America UPAEP 2009 "Traditional Games" | September 9 |
| 9. Christmas Stamps for the Children's Village Orphanage | December |

There will be nine issues this year, the final one being the Christmas Stamps.

Issue date: September 9, 2009
 Face value: 135 colones
 Printing: offset
 Number: 30,000 each in panes of 4 (2x2)
 Perforation: 11
 Theme: UPAEP - Traditional Games

Note: on lower right side advertising of The National Philatelic Show EXPOFILA 2009 held from Oct 3-11, 2009.



The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations, and the Postal System



Road San Jose to Limon 1873



"From there, after an overnight stay and a dawn departure, a traveler was able to reach San Jose by half past three."

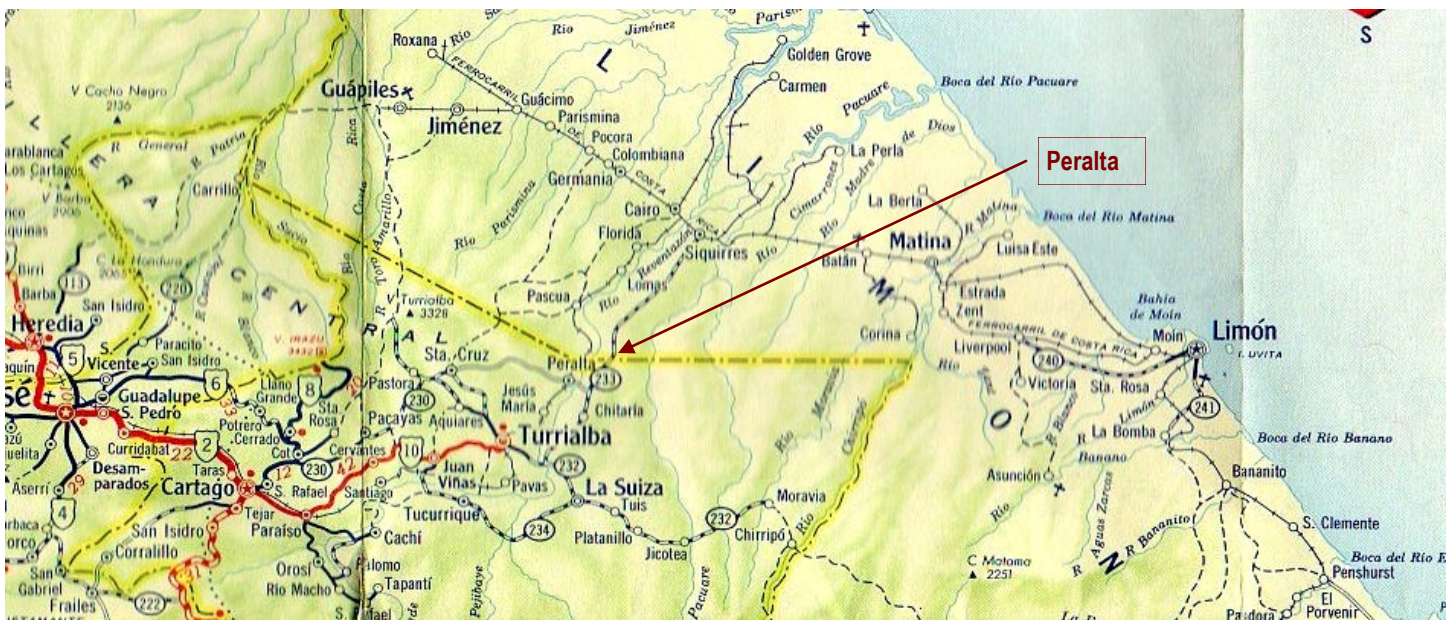
The construction of the Atlantic line was started in May 1872. Since Meiggs was busy with his construction railroad line in Peru and Chile he brought his nephews Henry and Minor C. Keith to supervise the works in Costa Rica. However, the connection was not completed for 18 more years. The first line was established along the Pacific coast ending in Limon (Moin) as the shipping point. The rail connected to Matina, later moved north toward Cairo and Roxana. The initial plan was to extend this line West through Guacimo, Jimenez and Guapiles in direction to Rio Sucio. The project was started in 1879 and by 1882 the line extended to a site next to the Sucio River which name was changed to Carrillo. In the past the route used to travel from

the Central valley to the Atlantic went from Heredia North to the Sarapiquí River by land and then by boat on the San Juan River to Greytown in Nicaragua. That was the general route followed by the railroad builders to reach the central plateau. In July of 1880 a 29 mile mule road from Sucio River to the capital was opened. Regular train service began as soon as the road was completed. A train left Limon at 8AM arriving in Carrillo in mid afternoon. From there, after an overnight stay and a dawn departure, a traveler was able to reach San Jose by half past three. The combination of steep gradient and lack of money to pay the defaulted 1871-2 foreign bonds stopped the construction and it was never finished. In 1891 the

route used to travel from Carrillo and the town, except for two buildings, became part of the river course. Two years later the Government allowed the abandonment of the line between Toro Amarillo and Sucio Rivers, therefore ending the line outside the town of Guapiles. The incomplete line was a commercial success because it allowed the cultivation of bananas along the rail to be exported in Limon. In 1883 more than 110,000 banana stems were exported. The United Fruit Company created by Minor Keith dominated the banana trade for the next 100 years.

The rail line was rerouted from La Junta near Cairo along the Reventazon River. The last section of the railroad was the most challenging. A steep climb from Reventa-

(Continued on page 67)



The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations, and the Postal System

zon to Cartago started at 200 feet elevation and over the next 52 miles went to 4500 feet. This problem created the population of Peralta. The line was completed in December 1890 at the cost of thousand of lives including Minor Keith siblings and a great economic cost for a developing country. After this date the Central Valley plantations were able to export their coffee crops quicker and the banana plantations took up developing an agricultural colossus of great socio economic importance to the country. It also opened the very fertile land of Turrialba and surrounding area to move the produce and other agriculture products required by the most populated Central Valley cities. (Cartago grows 80% of the country's produce)

Since 1882 the railroad towns were served by railroad postal clerks called "ambulantes". They collected mail along the route where no postal service was available, cancelled the stamps and sorted it for distribution to the final destination. It was on the line from Limon to Carrillo that the first ambulante cancellation was recorded in 1883, although the mail service had been approved since 1882. Collection of ambulante cancellations has become one of the most sought after parts of our

hobby and covers with these markings have obtained premium prices. The ambulante service was mostly between Limon and San Jose. The service was available on other branches like the original line called Linea Vieja (Old Line) and other branches like Zent. The service was also available on the Pacific Railroad lines.

Although we conclude this summary here, we have since been informed that our member and Associate Editor of the Costa Rica Postal Catalogue Mr. Alvaro Castro has a book in print entitled "El Correo Ferrovial de Costa Rica" a bilingual publication.

References:

- Repertorio Filatelico numbers 321, 322, 323 (2009).
- "Men Who are Making America" 1917 by BC Forbes.
- Pedro Wessen blog, Janna Crabb blog, and other internet sources



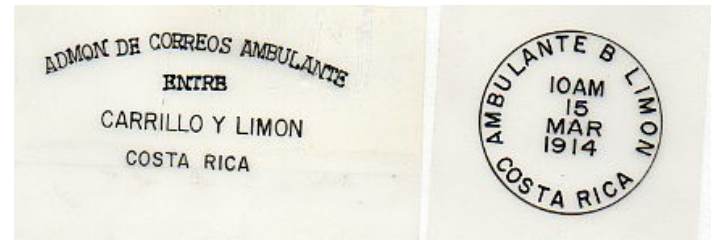
A bond in default and not worth the paper it is printed on. Today, it can be found in nice condition on the collector's market for under \$25.



Ten miles out of Limon



On the way to San Jose ca. 1904



Ambulante Cancellations- Limon to Carrillo was the first ambulante. Limon to San Jose was extensively used.



Peralta valley and mountains to climb



Peralta abandoned railroad station in 2008. The tracks ran in front of the building.



Minor C. Keith



Henry Meiggs

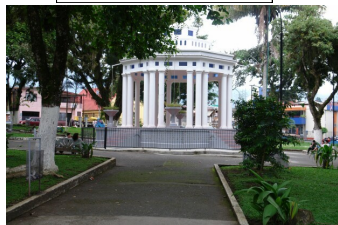


Bernard Soto



Jose J. Rodriguez

Turrialba Park 2008



The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations, and the Postal System

People and Places

Minor Keith: Born in Brooklyn in 1848 and died in Islip New York, June 1929. After building the Atlantic railroad in Costa Rica and the United Fruit Company, he returned to railroad building in 1912. His new company built 800 miles of lines from Guatemala South.

Henry Meiggs: Born 1811 in New York died in economic ruin in Lima in 1877. He was ruined in the lumber business by the Panic of 1837; moved to West Coast where he became involved in business that brought him in trouble with the law. He was more successful after moving to South America to develop railroads in Chile and Peru

Jesus Jimenez: President 1863-66 and 1868-69. Born in Cartago 1823, died 1897. The first stamp issue appeared in his period, he was the father of thrice president Ricardo Jimenez (please see picture on the front page).

Tomas Guardia: President 1870-76 and 1877-1882. Born in Bagaces, Guanacaste in 1831 and died 1882. Deposed Jesus Jimenez, started the liberal revolution, abolished the death penalty, expelled Bishop Thiel and the Jesuits from CR (please see picture on the front page).

Bernardo Soto: President 1885-90. Signed the "Soto-Keith" contract in 1884 which in exchange for raising money at lower interest to finish the Atlantic railroad gave Keith 800,000 acres of tax free land along the railroad plus 99 years lease on the train route operation

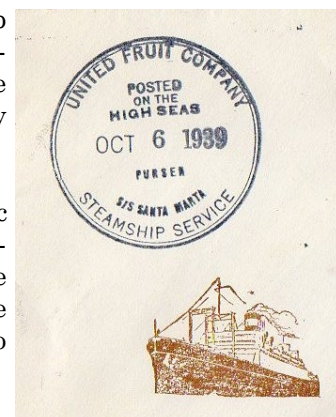
Jose J Rodriguez: President 1890-94. Inaugurated the Atlantic railroad but his interest was centered in maintaining his political power at all cost and then to transfer power to his son in law Rafael Iglesias.

Turrialba Park. Main city of prosperous agriculture area in Cartago. Site of Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Science sponsored by AOS.

Capacity in train cars of each railroad station about 1950

- Limon: 1000 cars
- Siquirres 300 cars
- San Jose; 272 cars
- Peralta: 150 cars
- Turrialba: 90 cars
- Cartago: 82 cars

These are the 6 largest stations of the main railroad and its Atlantic branches. The above stations from the early 1900's were illustrated (except Siquirres).

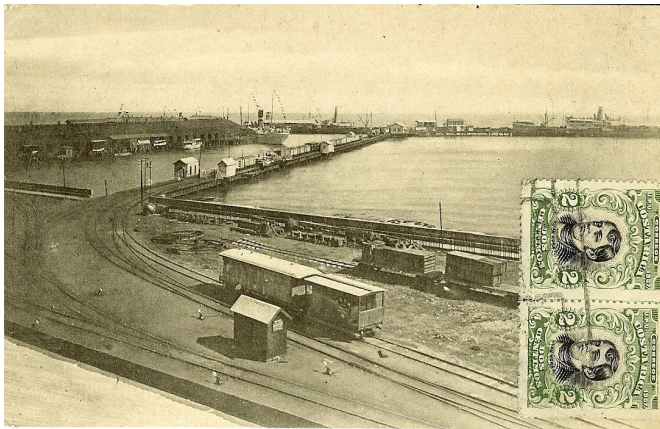


The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations, and the Postal System

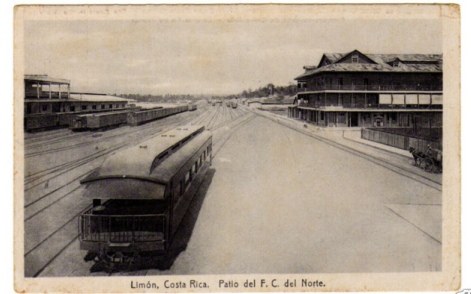
People and Places



Left - Turrialba Station
Right—San Jose station early in the 20th century



Limon Station and Depot - two views. With a capacity of 1,000 cars, it was the largest station on the line.



Peralta RR Station in better times.

Train by the Reventazon River 1914

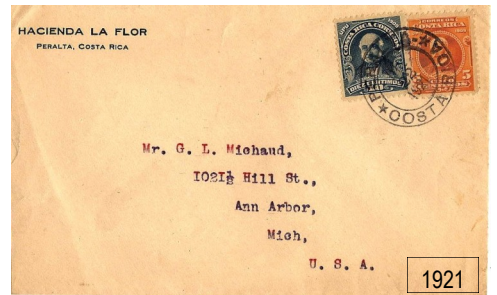
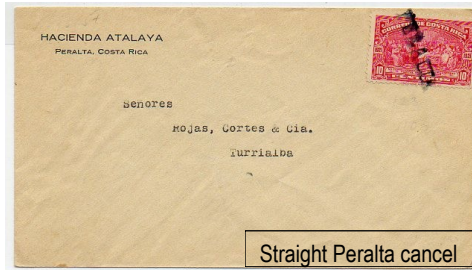


Fot. Paynter Bros, San José. C. R. En la estación del ferro-carril de Cartago. (Costa Rica.)

Cartago station

The Atlantic Railroad, Peralta and other stations, and the Postal System

Covers from Peralta



Socorico Publications for Sale

New CD Available

The Oxcart Issues #1 to 100 (1960-1985) on CD-ROM.

The CD also includes the complete run of the Costa Rica Philatelist 1952-1955, precursor to The Oxcart, and The Index to Costa Rica Philatelic Literature (1863-1973) by Earl Fossum and Hector Mena; both are out of print. Produced for SOCORICO by member Richard S. Simpson.

Postpaid anywhere in the world, **\$15 for members and \$30 for non members.** This is a "must have" item for the Costa Rica collector. Order today from the Society Librarian, at P.O. Box 14831, Baton Rouge, LA 70898 USA.



New The Oxcart Issues #1 to 100 (1960-1985) on CD-ROM. Includes the complete run of the Costa Rica Philatelist 1952-1955. Produced by Richard S. Simpson. \$15 for members and \$30 for non members postpaid.

New Costa Rica Graphic Philatelic Record. Edition 1.0 Includes Gold winning exhibits from Roland Nordberg, Frederick Mayer, Carlos Saenz. Also samples of fake stamps, interesting items of prior sales and a revenue stamp album. \$10 for members and \$20 for non members postpaid.

Mena-Rohmoser Costa Rica Documentary Revenue Stamp Catalogue. Second Edition 2006 by Hector Mena, Rafael Pinto and Fernan Pacheco. Softbound, VI + 96 pages. \$15 members, \$25 non-members, weight 16 ounces.

Costa Rica Postal Catalogue, Third Edition 2004, by Hector R. Mena. Softbound. VI + 260 pages. \$25 members, \$40 for non-members. Included is the July 2005 1st revision on a CD in Adobe Acrobat format with most illustrations in color. Weight is 34 ounces. Domestic postage is \$3.00 US media rate. Consult www.usps.gov for international rate choices.

The Oxcart Available are issues #101 through #167 at \$3.00. Issues #168 on are \$4.50 each plus postage, weight is 2 ounces per issue.

Airmail Postal History of Costa Rica, 1999, by Richard Saundry, Fred O'Neill et al. Softbound (tape). VI + 121 pages. \$15 members, \$25 non-member, weight 12 ounces.

Costa Rica Postal Stationery, 1998, by H. Dana Mitchell. Softbound (tape). IV +41 pages. \$5 members, \$10 non-members, weight 6 ounces.

History of Revenue Stamps of Costa Rica (1870-1970), by Alvaro Bonilla Lara. Softbound (tape). VII + 232 pages. \$20 members, \$30 non-members, weight 31 ounces.

The Index to Costa Rican Philatelic Literature, Part II (1974-2000), Third Edition by Hector R. Mena. Unbound, 88 pages, \$5 for members, weight 9 ounces.

The Index to Costa Rican Philatelic Literature (1863-1972) by Earl G. Fossum and Hector R. Mena. Softbound (tape), 124 pages. \$5, weight 14 ounces.

Catalogo de Sello Postales de Costa Rica, 2nd edition 1978, by Carlos Saenz. Softbound (stapled) 104 pages. \$10 members, \$20 non-members, weight 9 ounces.

Ordering: please order from the Society Librarian at P.O. Box 14831, Baton Rouge, LA 70898 USA. Please specify shipping method and remit sufficient postage. The US domestic book rate is \$2.38 for the first pound and 39 cents for each additional pound. Other countries will be shipped by the best available rate. Please consult the USPS web site for rates (www.usps.gov).

Useful and Classified

Resources

The Steiner Album for Costa Rica is a free download from the Socorico website at: <http://www.socorico.org>

On-line discussion group for Costa Rica philately started by Socorico Director David Giles:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Costa_Rica_Philately

Exchange

I would like to exchange German stamps for Costa Rica, Honduras or Nicaragua. Please contact wolfgangbruegmann@gmx.de Or write to Wolfgang Brüggmann, Hauskoppel 1, D22111 Hamburg, Germany.

The Alvaro Castro Costa Rica Albums

1. Costa Rica Stamps-The First Century

\$50 plus \$15 airmail postage.

2. 1965 to the Present

\$54 plus \$15 airmail postage.

3. Costa Rica Postal Stationery

\$39.50 plus \$13.50 airmail.

Edited by Alvaro Castro, these are high quality albums in attractive three ring binders. They may be obtained from Editorial Tecnica Commercial, Postal Box 8182, San Jose Costa Rica 1000. or contact Alvaro Castro at: acastro@ulacit.ac.cr.

MAIL AND INTERNET BID SALE 197 BY HECTOR MENA AND RAUL HERNANDEZ

**“The closing
date is
December 30,
2009 at noon.”**

Send all bids and payments to Raul Hernandez, 4204 Haring Road, Metairie, LA 70006 USA or rherna3870@aol.com. The closing date is **December 30, 2009 at noon**. The winning bid will be one raise over the next highest bid. All the lots of this auction are illustrated in the Socorico website with complete auction conditions. The same information can be

obtained by phone, fax or mail from R. Hernandez. A buyer's fee of 5% will be charged, but it will be waived if payment is received within 15 days after notification. If no payment is received 30 days after notification the lot will be assigned to the second highest bidder. The cost of postage is additional. Packages over \$100 will be sent insured and foreign

ones will be sent airmail registered. Consult www.usps.com for postage rates Submit items for the next auction by **December 30, 2009 by noon** to Hector Mena, P.O. Box 14831, Baton Rouge LA 70898.

The partial lot listings start on the next page. All the lots are listed on the Socorico website.

PRICES REALIZED AT BID SALE 196 BY RAUL HERNANDEZ (LOTS REALIZING \$3.00 OR MORE)

Lot	Bid \$	Lot	Bid \$	Lot	Bid \$	Lot	Bid \$	Lot	Bid \$
2	36.00	39	41.00	72	5.00	105	4.25	158	10.25
3	21.00	40	5.00	73	11.00	107	6.00	159	11.25
4	26.00	41	6.25	74	9.25	108	6.00	160	9.25
5	21.00	42	10.25	75	8.25	111	5.25	161	7.75
6	6.00	43	6.25	76	10.25	112	3.25	162	8.00
7	57.00	45	6.25	77	10.25	113	3.25	163	12.25
8	190.00	46	6.25	78	62.00	115	3.25	164	11.25
14	31.00	47	5.25	79	5.25	116	3.75	165	8.25
15	8.00	48	26.00	80	5.25	117	12.25	166	6.25
16	3.25	49	7.25	81	9.25	118	4.75	167	9.75
19	9.25	50	26.00	82	7.50	119	88.00		
20	22.00	51	8.25	83	11.50	120	21.00		
22	46.00	52	3.00	84	46.00	121	77.00		
23	15.50	54	10.00	85	3.00	122	15.25		
24	12.50	55	4.25	86	20.00	123	2.25		
25	21.00	56	16.50	87	26.00	124	12.00		
26	36.00	57	19.50	88	3.25	125	10.25		
27	145.00	58	31.00	89	29.00	143	5.00		
28	4.25	59	62.00	91	12.25	145	5.00		
30	31.00	60	3.25	92	12.25	149	5.25		
31	22.00	61	3.25	93	8.25	150	4.25		
32	20.00	62	10.00	94	10.25	151	4.25		
33	26.00	63	3.00	95	4.25	152	7.25		
34	16.50	64	5.25	96	5.25	153	12.50		
35	90.00	68	10.00	96A	12.00	154	12.50		
36	42.00	69	5.25	100	5.25	155	12.50		
37	10.00	70	10.25	102	2.25	156	8.25		
38	15.50	71	9.25	103	5.25	157	8.25		

Lot #	Description	\$Rsv
Surface Stamps		
1	58 1905 surcharge 2 blocks of 20 no hinge, tropical stains	4.00
7	148 1928 surcharge on Bolivar block of 70 stamps split MNH	4.00
Air Mail Stamps		
11	C11-13 surcharges on revenues 2 nd printing og hinged	20.00
13	C31-45, 55-6 used mounted	25.00
14	C46-54 Health Day o/p og light hinge	35.00
15	C57-66 Soccer stadium MNH	25.00
16	C81-91A, C124-27 Presidents: 1943, 45 and 46 og trace hinge	6.00
17	C81 to 127 as above complete presidents used	3.00
19	C103 to 119 overprints og high values NH	7.00
23	C141 to 158, 4 issues of 1947 og some hinged	5.00
25	C159 to 177, 3 issues of 1947 (locomotive, Roosevelt, Theater) og mounted	7.00
30	C197-10 Fair og mounted	7.00
31	C197-10 as above used	4.00
33	C227-45 industries og trace hinge mounted	7.00
47	C371/99 Presidents, Indian art og mounted	5.00
53	C452-71 churches 1967 issue MNH	7.00
Air Mail Proofs, Varieties and Specimens		
62	SPA2-5, SPA2a-5a surcharge proofs of o/p on onionskin and newspaper	20.00
63	P14h, P14j o/p proofs in pairs on black and red on white paper	10.00
64	SA15-27 1934 Definitive issue o/p specimen 25 items MNH	20.00
66	SNEA46-54 Child Congress non emiss o/p specimen MNH	40.00
67	MNEA46-54 Child Congress non emiss o/p muestra MNH	40.00
68	MA46a-54a Pan American Day o/p muestra MNH	40.00
69	SA57-66 Soccer o/p specimen MNH	20.00
70	SA74-80 University o/p specimen MNH	10.00
71	SA94-102 San Ramon o/p specimen MNH	40.00
72	OPA104 "1945" o/p on newsprint two vertical pairs, OPA104a on onionskin	4.00
73	OPA117s o/p proof in red onionskin, OPA117b in black single and block of 4	3.00
74	PPA163a Columbus 45c imperf plate proof vertical pair gutter	25.00
75	PPA182a, 83a, 86a, 88a National Theater proofs corner pairs marks of hanging	20.00
76	CPA181-89 (no 15c) as above imperf pairs on ungummed paper	18.00
77	A180-89 as above margin blocks of 4 with perforated hole MNH	18.00
78	A190 Columbus vertical pair with s/c displaced down and oblique MNH	5.00
79	PPA209a-15a Agricultural Fair central vignettes proofs (5)	35.00



Lot 11



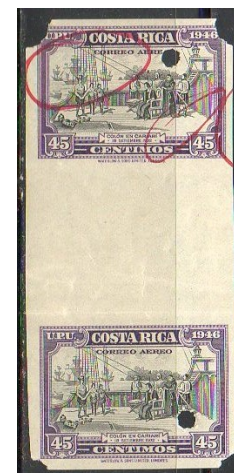
Lot 25



Lot 30



Lot 68



Lot 74



Lot 80



Lot 93



Lot 124



Lot 172



Lot 180

Lot #	Description	\$Rsv
80	PPA209a-15a as above central vignettes proofs (5)	35.00
81	PPA209a/15a as above but pineapple missing (4)	20.00
84	PPA328-31 Lawyers Congress imperf plate proofs singles	20.00
85	A486b 40c Mexico Olympics block of 4 imperf horizontal MNH	10.00
86	A486b as above imperforate in between og hinged	10.00
87	A486d as above imperf upper margin MNH	10.00
88	A488b 65c Mexico Olympics "impiada" pos 64 block of 25 MNH	5.00
89	A511a 1.10C Cancer horizontal pair imperf between MNH	5.00
90	A548a 60c Liberia vertical pair imperf between	8.00
91	A560a 25c Tourism block of 4 imperf horizontal in between RLC MNH	10.00
92	A566b 15c as above block of 4 imperf right margin RLC MNH	6.00
93	A570a 60c as above horizontal pair imperf between MNH	9.00
94	A588a 20c OAS block of 10 imperf right margin MNH	6.00
95	A588 as above block of 9 overinking of circle mid row MNH	5.00
97	A606c 4S Clubs 20c block of 4 imperf right margin	5.00
98	A608a Roberto Brenes 20c vertical pair imperf horizontal MNH	8.00
99	A635-8 1.40C Orchids block of 4 shifted colors on orchid MNH	8.00
101	A654c as above vertical pair imperf lower margin MNH	5.00
102	A654c as above horizontal pair imperf lower margin MNH	5.00
103	A655 1.25C as above block of 4 shifted perforations MNH	4.00
104	A656a 10c United Nations vertical pair imperf between MNH	6.00
105	A656c as above imperf upper margin MNH	3.00
106	A656c as above imperf upper margin LUC block of 4 MNH	6.00
110	A669a 1.10C Editorial Costa Rica vertical pair imperf horizontal MNH	5.00
111	A670a 5C as above horizontal pair imperf vertical MNH	5.00
117	IA799-800 National Anthem imperf pairs folding marks in between	8.00
118	A828a 3C Fauna imperf left margin pair	9.00
Air Mail Covers		
124	C2, C4 (4) + 156 to New York Aug 1932	2.00
127	C11 + 139 FDC Dec 1931 to New York	4.00
128	C12 + 139 + 110 FDC Dec 1931 to New York	4.00
Miscellaneous / Revenue Stamps		
171	Venditti flight not used, horizontal pair	9.00
172	NE1 Columbus non emis 1892	4.00
180	R1375-6 Type G 500 and 1000C o/p specimen	3.00

EXPOFÍLA 2009

On October the 3rd through the 11th, Expofila 2009 was held at the Museum of the Central Bank in San José , Costa Rica organized by the Costa Rica Postal and Revenue Society. Congratulations to the Society, the judges and winners. Information tells us that the exhibit was a success - Raul Hernandez.

The following SOCORICO members were awarded medals:

Alvaro Castro: Gold on the SCADTA and its presence in Costa Rica as well as on the 1910 issue.

Jorge Beeche: Vermeil on the study of the 25 cts (1910).

Rafael Pinto: Silver on the 1945/1946 Mauro Fernández issue and the Centenary of the Birth of Alberto Brenes 1976.

César Alonso Sancho: Silver, International Children's year (1979)

Giana Wayman: Vermeil, Official mail 1863/1900.

Francisco Pérez: Silver, Christmas Postal Tax issues.

Gilberto Corrales: Bronze, Costa Rica on world philately.

Exhibit judges were: **Fred O'Neill, Enrique Bialikamien,
Mario Masís and Juan Reinoso**

THE OXCART

EDITOR

William E. Critzer
1360 Trinity Drive
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Phone:/Fax 650-234-1136
williamcritzer@yahoo.com



Carts drawn by oxen were used from the beginning to move Costa Rican coffee to market. The oxcart has become an honored symbol of the history and culture of the country and its people.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Raul F. Hernandez
4204 Haring Road
Metairie, LA 70006
RHerna3870@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Rafael Pinto
P.O. Box 155-1000
San Jose, Costa Rica
rafapinto@racsa.co.cr

ELECTED DIRECTORS

David Giles
Ottawa, Canada

Position 2 is vacant

Please volunteer to fill it !

SECRETARY

David Carter
215 South Western Ave.
Butte, Montana 59701
DCarter@mtech.edu

TREASURER

Leslie E. Bissell
1102 Grand, Suite 804
Kansas City, MO 64106
kcleslie@aol.com

LIBRARIAN

Dr. Hector R. Mena
P.O. Box 14831
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
Fax 225-246-9108
hrmena8@cox.net

AUCTION MANAGERS

Raul Hernandez—Business
Hector Mena—Philatelic

WEBMASTER

Richard Simpson
RSimpson@141.com

FIND US ON THE INTERNET!

www.socorico.org

The Oxcart is published quarterly by the Society for Costa Rica Collectors, Inc. This issue is printed and mailed from Menlo Park, California. All rights are reserved under copyright conventions. The reproduction of original *Oxcart* articles for profit, without the expressed permission of the editor or author is prohibited. Other uses of the material are permitted when the editor is notified and a courtesy copy submitted.

Ballot for the Election of Socorico Officers and Directors for the term January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011

Office and Candidate	Select with X
President (Vote for 1)	
Raul F. Hernandez, Metairie, LA USA	
Vice President (Vote for 1)	
Rafael A. Pinto, San Jose, Costa Rica	
Member at Large (Vote for 2)	
David Giles, Ottawa, Canada	
No Candidate—Please volunteer !	

The Socorico By-Laws designate four officers to be chosen by election. All other officers are appointed

Condensed biographies submitted by the candidates are shown below. Officers serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for direct cash expenses incurred on behalf of Socorico.

Please send your ballot in the enclosed security envelope which is pre-addressed to David Carter, Secretary, 215 South Western Avenue, Butte, Montana 89701 USA. Email: dcarter@mtech.edu

Please add the correct postage, and enclose your 2010 dues and this piece of paper in the security envelope. Complete the other side of this page which has your personal selection for email or paper delivery of *The Oxcart* starting in 2010 and determines your dues amount. **Remember, you can save money by selecting the electronic copy!**

Raul F. Hernandez was born in Costa Rica in 1943; he is married and the father of two daughters. Raul worked as a chemical analyst at Standard Fruit Co. in Limón, Costa Rica and transferred to New Orleans in 1967. He is currently Laboratory Manager for a multinational petrochemical company. Raul is the incumbent President of Socorico, first elected for the 2004-5 term, and also has served for the past six years as Bid Sales Business Manager. He is a past editor of *The Oxcart* and for several years was Secretary of Socorico. He is also a member of the APS and the Costa Rica Revenue & Postage Society.

Rafael A. Pinto was born in Costa Rica in February 1957. Around 1967 he began a worldwide collection using the Minkus Global Album. Once he entered college, stamps were left alone for a period of almost 20 years. In 1997 he assisted with an Exhibition at the Post Office and restarted his enthusiasm for stamp collecting, investing in classic stamps as well as errors and other material. In 2000, he got started in Costa Rica Revenues with a base collection that was given by Fred O'Neill. Rafael is a member of the Board of Directors and a founder of the Costa Rica Revenue & Postage Society. He is currently working on preparing the first edition of the "Costa Rica Municipal Revenue Stamps Catalogue". He is the incumbent Vice President, having been first elected for the 2006-2007 term.

David Giles was born in North Bay, Ontario, Canada in 1965. He is employed as a location manager for Alliance Car & Truck Rentals, in Ottawa, Ontario. He is the incumbent Member at Large, first elected for the 2008-9 term. David is the Treasurer of the Ottawa Philatelic Society, Canada's oldest local stamp club. He is also President of the Americana Series Study Group of the United States Stamp Society, and the editor of *The Iron Betty*, the newsletter of the study group. He has been a member of the APS since 2004. His main collecting interests are Costa Rica and British Empire & Commonwealth of the reign of King George VI. He also collects United States Air Mail, with an emphasis on the postal history of Texas, and studies the United States Americana Series.

Select your dues on page 78 (over)

Delivery of *The Oxcart* starting with issue #198 in 2010 will be based on the option you choose below.

If you are NOT a dues paying Socorico member or Life Member, future issues will be available to your philatelic organization, philatelic library or government agency ONLY by email of an electronic copy in PDF format.

The printed and electronic copies have identical color and information content. Every person wishing to receive *The Oxcart* in 2010 must register below (even if your dues have previously been paid) and return this page to the Secretary. An addressed envelope has been included for your convenience in responding.

Registration Section

First Name	Last Name	Street Address	State	Postal Code	Country

Email Address:

2010 Annual Dues Categories (indicate one only)

\$15 My mailing address is in the US, Canada or Mexico, and I still want *The Oxcart* delivered by mail.

\$21 My mailing address is elsewhere in the world and I still want *The Oxcart* delivered by mail.

\$10 I want to save money and receive by email the electronic copy of *The Oxcart* in PDF format.

I previously paid my Socorico dues for 2010. Check the yellow box to switch to the electronic copy delivered by email and we will extend your membership through 2011.

I am a philatelic organization, philatelic library, or government agency, and currently receive a complimentary printed copy of *The Oxcart*. In the future I want to receive by email the electronic copy of *The Oxcart* in PDF format and I have registered above.

I am a Life Member of Socorico and I still want *The Oxcart* delivered by mail. Check the yellow box if you are willing to switch to the electronic copy in PDF format delivered by email.

Members paying for two years can save: \$29 for two years by mail in North America; \$41 for two years by mail elsewhere; or \$19 for two years by email anywhere in the world.

Every person wishing to receive *The Oxcart* in 2010 must register above and return this page to the Secretary.

Best wishes for 2010

Cast your vote on page 77 (over)