

201 Progress Drive • Montgomeryville, PA 18936



CONTACT: Jo Greenawalt
267.387.0030 ext. 5106

jo.greenawalt@impactthrift.org

NEWS – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RARE 1893 WORLD STAMP COLLECTION UP FOR AUCTION

Hatboro, Pa. (March 12, 2013) – A rare collection of worldwide postage stamps has been donated to Impact Thrift Stores in an original hardcover 1893 Scott International Album. It is now open for bids in a silent auction at one of the charity's stores at 14 E. Moreland Avenue in Hatboro, Pa.

This is a high quality collection, containing a surprising amount of increasingly rare stamps such as United States Scott catalog issues #1, 112, 114, 118 and 121 in used condition. U.S. unused issues in this collection include Scott numbers 112, 113, 115, and 116 (faults).

Philatelists will find attractive representatives of early face values to 24 cents, with national and continental issues up to 90 cent values. Items of particular interest and value include United States First Bureau Issue series, Scott numbers 219-229, in mint condition with some stuck down to the page; and the complete mint Columbian Set with the \$3, \$4, and \$5 issues stuck down.

Also included are U.S. Special Delivery E1, E2 and E3 mint, all stuck down; Postage Due 1st to 3rd issue, used and mint to 30 cents; plus Officials, Cut Squares, Revenues (including Scott #R84a), Hawaii and the Confederate States of America issues.

Worldwide stamps in this collection include Canada, France and her Colonies, German States and Colonies, Great Britain, Italy, Switzerland and Scandinavia, with some Asia. Much of this part of the collection is in mint condition stuck down to the page. There are several glassine envelopes containing loose, unsorted stock. There is some unused stock with no gum throughout the collection.

A professional reviewer assures that this is an exceptional collection, with the high probability that there are some valuable "sleepers" among the more well-known, high value issues. The newest date in the collection is 1893. The majority of stamps stuck down to the page are likely this way due to self-attachment through long years in slightly damp basement storage and not due to intentional mechanical attachment. They appear to be only lightly attached and would likely respond well to non-destructive steaming to release from pages if desired.

Silent auction rules require that bids be placed in person by adults 18 or older, and bids through agents and brokers are permitted. The collection will be auctioned intact only, so bids should be made accordingly. Each time a new bid is made, the auction close date moves out one week from that bid. When there have been no new bids for seven business days, the auction will be

considered closed and the highest extant bid will win the collection. At the time of this release, the auction was scheduled to end at close of business on Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

Bids may be made during regular store hours from 10:00 am - 8:00 pm Monday-Friday and 9:00am - 6:00 pm on Saturdays. Call store manager Ben Sheaffer at 215-957-6131 or send an email to hatboro@impactthrift.org for more details about the collection, auction rules and acceptable payment, and to schedule an appointment to review the collection before bidding.

Photos of selected parts of the collection may be viewed online at <http://impactthriftstores.org/2013/03/calling-all-philatelists/>.

All proceeds from the sale of donated merchandise to Impact Thrift Stores are used to financially support 16 charities, most of them independent and local to Montgomery and Bucks counties in Pennsylvania. Learn more about Impact Thrift Stores and their mission at impactthrift.org.

Media inquiries about this auction should be directed to Jo Greenawalt, Director of Development and Charity Giving, at 267-387-0030 ext. 5106, or jo.greenawalt@impactthrift.org.

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