

# Mobile Post Office Society

## PUBLICATIONS

AFFILIATE NO. 64 - AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2008

POSTAL HISTORY OF MAIL TRANSIT, TRANSFER AND DISTRIBUTION BY RAIL, WATER, HIGHWAY AND STREET CAR.

### THE U.S. RAILWAY POST OFFICE POSTMARK CATALOG

This is an update of the original U.S.R.P.O. POSTMARK CATALOG Volumes I, II & III, completed in 1995. Started by Charles L. Towle, acknowledged Dean of U.S. railroad postal historians and completed by MPOS Treasurer Fred Mac Donald. Recorded alphabetically are all reported RPO markings (currently more than 16,000) with route data (such as shape, dimensions, colors, dates of usage recorded, unusual killers, special notes, mileages of routes, catalog numbers, etc.) plus a valuation system. All markings (actual size) are shown on the left hand page (about 30 to a page), with the descriptive material on the opposite right hand page. All pages are loose-leaf 8½" x 11" punched for 3 ring binder filing. Issued in 56 page sections, three per year.

VOLUME I Revised 2001 - 7 Installments	(A - D)
VOLUME II Revised 2004 - 7 Installments	(E - N)
VOLUME III Revised 2006	(O - Z)
EACH VOLUME	38.00
SET OF 3	110.00

### POSTAL MARKINGS OF U.S. WATERWAY ROUTES (1839-1997)

A 196 page book on the history of U.S. postal markings applied to waterway mail. It combines research work initiated by C.L. Towle, J.L. Kay and H. Meyer along with a catalog of postmarks of all waterway routes and a partial listing of waterway and rail combination routes.

(MacDonald) (196 pages) (Hardbound) 40.00

### DIRECTORY OF RAILWAY POST OFFICES (1864-1977)

A listing of the Railway Post Offices, operated by the U.S. Postal Department and the U.S. Postal Service, over railroads and waterways, included the dates of establishment, discontinuances and changes of name and operation. The author, John L. Kay, is a retired RPO Clerk and does extensive research in this field.

(Kay) Revised serially beginning 1997

Complete (455 pages) 46.00

### U.S. ROUTE AND STATION AGENT POSTMARKS

This book is also the work of the late Charles L. Towle and replaces VOLUME 1 of THE U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS CATALOG. It covers the development of railroad mail, route agents and their duties, waterway mail routes and agents, station agent postmarks, the distributing post office and how to use the Catalog. Section 1 has 1,569 railway route agent postmarks and 184 waterway agent postmarks listed and illustrated. Also included are route agent names, work periods and routes 1837-1861 (John L. Kay), postmark index, station postmarks indexed by station name, selected bibliography, 18 full page illustrations, plus 20 cover illustrations.

(Towle) (485 pages) (Hardbound) 40.00  
Addendum pages of new markings (loose-leaf) 6.00



### THE U.S. TRANSIT MARKINGS CATALOG - VOLUME IV

Revised catalog being issued serially beginning in 1996. Originally begun by Charles L. Towle, this is now being updated and revised by Fred Mac Donald. The catalog will consist of sections on Local Mail Agents, Transfer Clerks and Transfer Offices, Terminal markings - Rail, Truck and Air, Air Mail Field RMS & PTS markings, Received and Due markings, Train Late and Auxiliary markings, and Separating Post Office markings. Same style as the U.S.R.P.O. Catalog

Complete (236 pages) 20.00

### DIRECTORY OF ROUTE AGENTS

This is the companion publication to the DIRECTORY OF RAILWAY POST OFFICES (1864 - 1977), also by John L. Kay. This covers all the route agents in the 1837-1882 period.

(Kay) (168 pages) Loose-leaf 18.00



## THERE WERE STARS IN THOSE CARS

Author and MPOS member D. J. Rohrer spent his working life as a Railway Postal Clerk. This monograph has seventeen short stories about his reminiscences of the Railway Mail Service. Lots about life inside RPO cars but relatively little philatelic information.

(Rohrer)(24 pages)

6.00

### MPO SELECTION SERIES

These monographs are a collection of articles selected in the field of transit post offices - markings, history, modes of conveyance, routes, day to day operations of the Railway Mail Service, etc, and generally too long to be published in TRANSIT POSTMARK COLLECTOR, but not long enough for monograph of their own. Contents are as follows:

#### VOLUME 1

- 1866 inspection tours of the restored postal service in the South (Stanton).
- Mail contracts for steamboat lines and railroads as restored in former Confederate territory.
- Regional organization of the Railway Mail Service(Towle).
- Early Austrian transit markings (Schoenfield).
- Rules and Regulation for the guidance of clerks-in-charge of the Railway Mail Service (1935).
- Budd 1963 RPO cars (Boucher - The Mixed Train).

#### VOLUME 2

- The RPO What Was it?
- Instructions issued by the 2nd Asst. PMG, 1896 (Relative to the transportation of mail by railroad).
- The Grand Jct. & Durango RPO (Ozment).
- Trip Report Instructions for RPO Clerks (1916).
- Use of RMS schedules in researching (Towle).
- Instructions to Railway Postal Clerks (1883).

#### VOLUME 3

- Early St. Louis Street Car RPO Service (Schulz).
- 1902 Postal Laws and Regulations - Transportation of mail on electric and cable cars (Stanton/Truax).
- The Railway Mail Service(1899).
- Railroad Transportation of the Toms River & Philadelphia RPO (Wentzel).
- List of official abbreviations of RPO titles (1947).

#### VOLUME 4

- The Baltimore Streetcar R.P.O.s - Daily Operation, circa 1919 (Baker).
- A Chronological History of the Highway Post Office (Jarnick/Keller).
- Boston & Portland Railroad Mail Routes - The first Decade 1835 - 1845 (Stanton).
- The foreign Mail Service at New York.
- Mail Service on the Suncook Valley Railroad(Moulton).

#### VOLUME 5

- The Railway Mail Service (Rice).
- New York elevated Train Mail (Marguilis).
- A survey of Post Office Department Schedules of Mail/Train Routes (Scheer).
- Post Office Work & Methods (Mayo - 1903).
- The U.S. Railway Mail Service (Bradley - 1901).
- Second Division RMS Schedule No. 1 (Nov. 1, 1877).
- Rules & Regulations for the Guidance of Employees in Terminal Railway Post Office (1931).

VOLUME 1 (38 pages)	8.00
VOLUME 2 (64 pages)	8.00
VOLUME 3 (48 pages)	8.00
VOLUME 4 (52 pages)	8.00
VOLUME 5 (48 pages)	8.00
ALL FIVE VOLUMES	30.00

## THE FIRST HIGHWAY POST OFFICE

Introduction of highway post office service between Washington, D.C. and Harrisonburg, VA. by James H. Bruns.

(84 pages) 12.00

### THE BEGINNINGS OF THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE

Includes the work of George B. Armstrong in founding the RMS. Also includes a supplemental bibliography of National, State and Canadian transit mail literature.

1906 Reprint (36 pages) 6.00

### COLLECTION & DISTRIBUTION WAGON SERVICE

(1896 - 1904)

This monograph, by James H. Bruns, Curator of the National Philatelic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution, is but one of many of his works. The 1890's were an innovative period for the US POD. Street Car RPOs were introduced to pick up, sort and cancel mail along prescribed routes; Rural Free Delivery was begun; Pneumatic Tube Systems were installed in several cities to carry mail to and from the main post office and selected cities; and two specially constructed Collection and Distribution Wagons, resembling miniature railway mail cars, were tried. This is the story of the latter experiment. A very complete history of this service in Washington, New York City, Buffalo and St. Louis. Includes pictures, maps, tables and a Postmark catalog section with cancel illustrations and a Scarcity Scale.

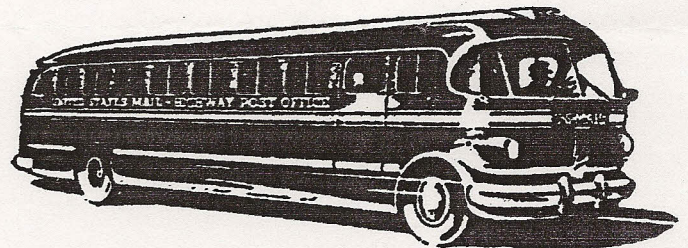
(Bruns) (56 pages) 8.00

### A HISTORY OF THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE

A reprint of material originally published by the Columbian correspondence College, Washington, D.C. in 1903. This monograph provides a capsule history of the establishment of the U.S. Post Office, and proceeds through the stage coach era, the first use of railways in the carriage of mail, and the establishing of railway mail service. also a brief discussion of the "daily life of a railway mail clerk"

Currently out of print

(36) pages 5.00

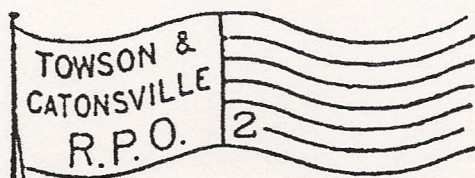


### U.S. HIGHWAY POST OFFICE COVER CATALOG

Besides the preface, this catalog includes an HPO cover valuation system; alpha index of all 410 HPO routes; 30 pages of first trip and last trip HPO details, with cancel illustrations; an HPO cancel type chart; experimental HPO routes prior to 1941; temporary HPO routes since 1941; HPO fairs, exhibits and special events; the Butterfield Overland Mail Caravan; special HPO first trip folders: and the "RPO Bus".

(42 pages) (Loose-leaf) 14.00





### STREET CAR MONOGRAPH SERIES

For a number of years, 14 cities in the U.S. operated street railway post office cars, which picked up mail, cancelled it, and sorted it enroute. MPOS has published a series of monographs covering these interesting operations. While most ran from the late 1890's until the early days of World War I, Baltimore had cars operating in 1929! These monographs cover historical synopsis, history of the various routes, maps, pictures, details of the cars, and listings and illustrations of the various markings.

WASHINGTON, DC (Stanton & Truax) (48 pages) 9.00

### THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE

This monograph covers the origin and development of the RMS. It was published in 1909. The author, Clark E. Carr, entered the postal service in 1861 and spent a quarter of a century in the service during the time the postal railway mail service was conceived, inaugurated and brought into a high state of efficiency. His duties brought him into intimate personal contact with George B. Armstrong, who founded the service, with George S. Bangs, who established and put into operation the fast mail, and James E. White, who perfected the system.

(Carr) (48 pages) (5 1/2" x 8 1/2) 8.00

### 29 YEARS TO OBLIVION

This monograph, written by member Ed Bergman, contains detailed listings of the last operating trips for nearly 950 railway post offices that were removed from postal service during the period 1948 - 1977, together with a discussion of the causes and effects of this removal of a vital transportation service and communications link. Also included are a number of photos of RPO cars, and some "last trip" cancels.

(Bergman) (79 pages) 7.00

### U.S. NARROW GAUGE

#### Mail Routes & Postal Markings

Complete with all information on all narrow gauge railroads in the United States. With changeover dates to standard gauge, listings of all known markings with MPOS numbers, tracings of each style and alphabetical listing by state.

Compiled by James Felton (78 pages) 12.00

### INTERNATIONAL TPO MARKINGS SERIES

Interest in transit markings extends beyond the borders of the U.S. With this in mind, MPOS has published several monographs dealing with markings used in other countries. These monographs contain railroad route histories, listings of routes, illustrate equipment used, and show maps of routes and illustrations of cancel applied. Titles issued so far in this series are:

DANISH RAILWAY POST OFFICE(Goodbody) (27 pages)	8.00
THE RAILWAY POST OFFICES OF SWITZERLAND (Goodbody)(26 pages)	8.00
THE TRAVELING POST OFFICE OF CHILE (Vamos)(32 pages)	8.00
ALL THREE VOLUMES	20.00

### MAIL TRAVEL GUIDE

Pages are being issued serially started in 1992 - two installments per year of about 50 pages each installment. Authors are Fred MacDonald and John Kay. Listings are alphabetical by state and then the original railroad that operated the earliest mail carrying operations. This is followed by railroad name changes and names of their destination. Also noted are Civil War interruptions, steamboat or ferry portions, Star Routes and changes to HPO routes. . Installment are automatically sent to all current patron and sustaining members when issued, as part of their annual dues.

Installments Each 10.00  
2 Installments for 15.00

#### Installment

#### States

1 - 1992	AL, AZ, AR, AK, CT
2 - 1992	CA, CO, DE
3 - 1993	FL, GA, ID
4 - 1993	IL
5 - 1994	IN, KY
6 - 1994	IA, IND. TERR.
7 - 1995	KS, LA
8 - 1995	ME, MD, MA, NV
9 - 1996	MI, MS, MT
10 - 1996	MN, NH
11 - 1997	MO
12 - 1997	NE, NJ
13 - 1998	NY
14 - 1998	NM, NC, OR
15 - 1999	PA
16 - 1999	OH
17 - 2003	RI, SC, VT, WA
18 - 2004	TX, WV
19 - 2005	WI, VA, WY
20 - 2006	ND, SD, OK, UT
21 - 2007	TN, ERRATA



## TRANSIT POSTMARK COLLECTOR

This is the MPOS bi-monthly newsletter containing articles on RPO and HPO operations, postal history and all other subjects of interest to the SCOPE of MPOS members. Back copies are available as follows:

VOLUME VII (1980-1982) (Hardbound) (Index)	30.00
VOLUME VIII (1983-1985)(Hardbound)(Index)	35.00
VOLUME IX (1986-1988)(Hardbound)(Index)	35.00
VOLUME X (1989-1991)(Hardbound)(Index)	35.00
VOLUME XI (1992-1994)(Hardbound)(Index)	40.00
VOLUME XII (1995-1997)(Hardbound)(Index)	40.00
VOLUME XIII (1998-2000)(Hardbound)(Index)	40.00
VOLUME XIV (2001-2003)(Hardbound)(index)	

## MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

COLORADO RR GUIDE - Volume 1, No. 2; July 1893 issue of the Official Railway Guide to Colorado. This booklet contains timetables of all Colorado railroads of this pioneer period, plus rail fares from Denver to all stations. A number of interesting advertisements are shown, as well as schedules of lines connecting with Colorado railroads. (120 pages) (6"x9") 8.00

## CENTENNIAL CATALOG OF ARIZONA RAILWAY POSTAL MARKINGS

Charles L. Towle (47 pages) 8.00

## MAIL TRAIN SCHEDULES - RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE

A railway mail clerk's value to his crew rested on his knowledge of schemes and schedules. MPOS has reprinted early schedules of three divisions. Each contains an introduction by Charles L. Towle, in which he describes the value of schedules to persons researching RPO routes changes.

SEVENTH DIVISION 1888 - Missouri, Kansas,  
Texas, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico and the Indian Territory  
(20 pages) 4.00

EIGHTH DIVISION 1887-1888 - Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah & Washington. This reprint also includes of general orders, showing weekly changes in the orders over a period of several months.

(60 pages) 6.00

## CROSS - REFERENCE NEWS FROM THE CITIES

An index to the column in our Transit Postmark Collector.

Compiled by David Gentry (28 pages) 5.00

## 1868 OVERLAND MAIL CONTACT

A reprint of letters and telegrams presented to the House of Representatives relative to contracts for carrying the overland mail. 6"x9" soft bound

(82 pages) 8.00

## ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLICATIONS

ALL PRICES shown are postpaid EXCEPT for orders going outside the USA - mail or E-mail order and we will provide a proforma invoice with shipping charges included. Will ship the cheapest way unless another service is requested. If via UPS or FEDEX, provide your account number for collect freight shipment. All books are shipped Book Rate in the USA.

All publication prices are subject to the MPOS Member's discount of 20%. The discount is limited to one copy of each publication. Payment must accompany your order.

MPOS PATRON members are entitled to a 40% discount on hardbound books, but limited to one copy of each publication.

All publications are 8 1/2" x 11" stapled soft cover unless otherwise noted.

Please write your order on a separate piece of paper and include your name, mailing address and Membership No. along with your check payable to MPOS. MPOS does not ship books on credit.

Please keep this brochure for future reference.

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