

# The Circuit

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## THE "SAND DUNE" STATES OF THE TRUCIAL COAST

by Tom Fortunato (# 379)

The Gulf War heightened the average American's interest in the countries around the Persian Gulf. Probably only stamp collectors and oil workers know of the small "sand dune" sheikdoms that united to form the present day United Arab Emirates.

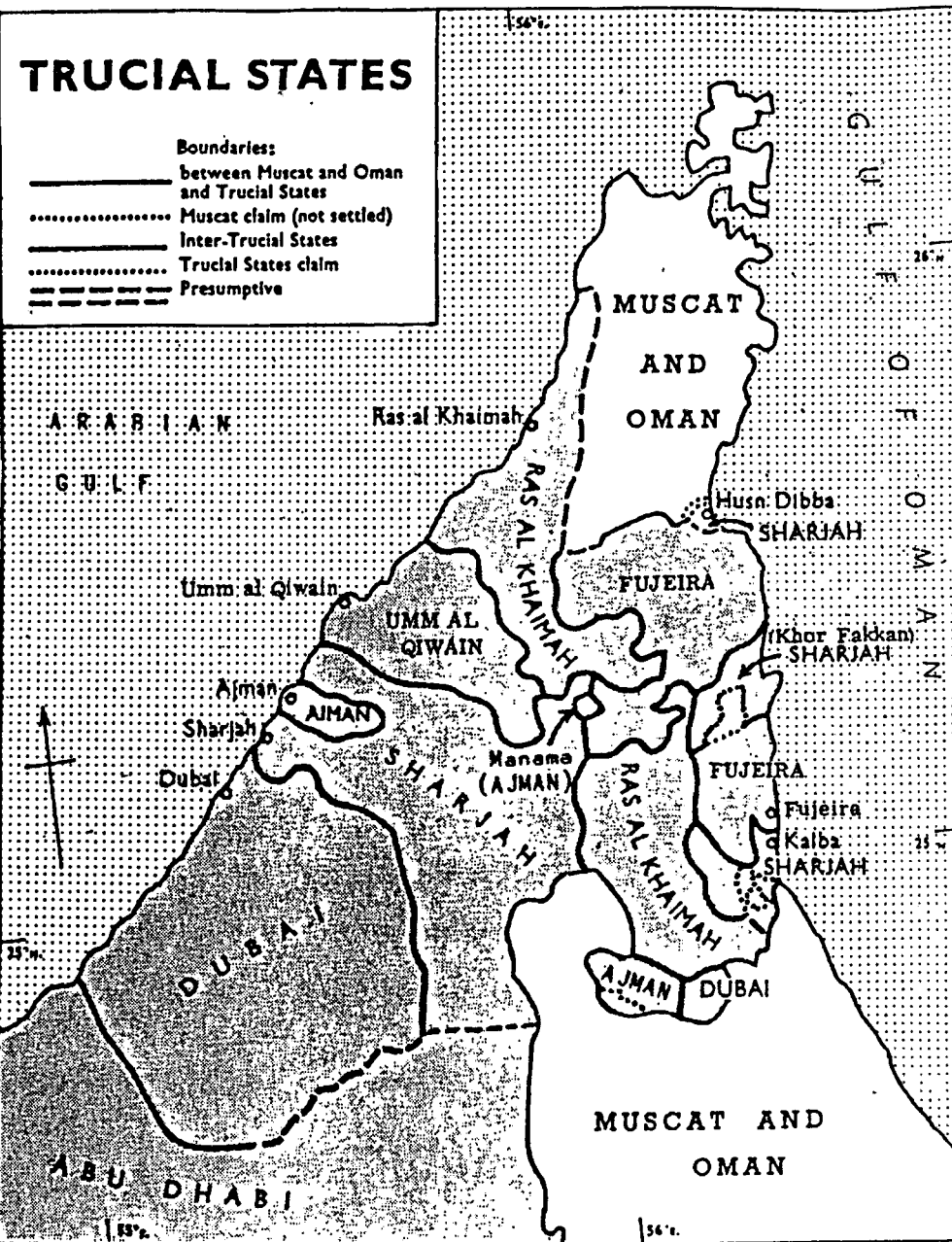
The UAE stretches from Saudi Arabia to the Strait of Hormuz. The best way I've located showing the various states in detail comes from The Official Trucial States Stamp Catalog of 1976 which was printed in Italy. Information on the history and curious boundaries of this area is very hard to find. The seven major states include Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujeira, Ras Al Khaima, Sharjah, and Umm Al Qiwain. Two other territories include Manama, a dependency of Ajman and Khor Fakkan, a dependency of Sharjah.

During the mid to late 1800's the entire region was menaced by pirates and thieves. The British signed the Maritime Truce Treaty with the sheikdom leaders in 1892 which offered the protection of the navy in exchange for the right to rule their foreign affairs. The motive of the British was to protect their trade routes and communications networks.

Beginning on August 19, 1909 postal matters were handled through an Indian Post Office branch established in Dubai. Stamps of India were used until 1947 cancelled by postmarks reading "Dubai Persian Gulf" and "Dubai." Between 1947 and March 31, 1948 stamps from Pakistan were used. After this time British stamps surcharged in naye paise and rupees were valid.

Eleven stamps inscribed "Trucial States" were issued exclusively by Dubai on January 7, 1961. These were the forerunners

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## SAND DUNES

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of the thousands of stamp designs printed by the individual states and dependencies from 1963 to 1973. They are only "wallpaper" to some collectors as their primary purpose was to raise revenue. Numerous overprints, gold foil stamps and excessively high face values did not help their legitimacy with collectors. Millions of CTO stamps were sold to packet makers.

The stamp designs range from the ugly to true works of art. Topical collectors will find a wealth of popular themes. Used CTO stamps are plentiful and cheap. Finding postally used stamps and covers can be a challenge. Unfortunately most major stamp catalogs do not list these stamps, or if they do they have "For the Record" status. Prices for mint issues vary greatly from dealer to dealer due to a lack of information. Speciality catalog prices are surprisingly high.

All early issues of the individual states had denominations in naye paise and rupees. In 1966 Dubai joined in a monetary union with another Gulf Country, Qatar. Stamps, coins and banknotes were then issued in dirhams and riyals. Between 1966 and 1968 all but one of the states converted to this currency. The holdout was the largest state, Abu Dhabi, which changed to fils and dinars in 1966.

In March of 1971 Great Britain announced that it would end all treaties with the states. All seven states entered into negotiations with Qatar and Bahrain in an attempt to form an Arabic union. By this time great oil reserves were found throughout the area. The talks broke down in part due to differences in oil strategies. Six of the seven Trucial states did agree to unite and formed the United Arab Emirates on December 2, 1971. Ras Al Khaima joined in February, 1972.

It was during the interim period between 1971 and 1973 that the individual states were most prolific in issuing their own stamps. It was their last chance to make money. By August 1972 the first UAE stamps were issued and eventually replaced the states own stamps.

Now-a-days the UAE has one of the most conservative stamp issuing policies in the world. Oil production has overtaken stamp production to the benefit of natives who enjoy a very high standard of living. ...

## FRENCH ISLANDS IN NORTH AMERICA LITTLE KNOWN BUT ISSUE ATTRACTIVE STAMPS

by Irving C. Whynot (# 490)

A few islands tucked away just 12 miles off the south coast of the Canadian province of Newfoundland are all that remain of France's once extensive presence in North America. The territory of St. Pierre and Miquelon is comprised primarily of two large islands and total under 200 square miles overall.

For collectors, stamps of the islands are attractive and depict many facets of the history of the islands and their inhabitants. Prominent are stamps relating to the fishing industry, a mainstay of the economy and now the subject of an international legal dispute between Canada and France.



Canada says that fishermen from the islands should be limited to a 12-mile zone around the islands. France claims an area 15 times that size, a move that Canada says would jeopardize the livelihoods of more than 75,000 Newfoundlanders. The dispute is before the international court.

The islands have a checkered history, changing hands several times during the French-English conflicts in the new world, and finally being designated as French territory in the 1814 Treaty of Paris. Originally a colony, the islands became a French overseas territory in 1946 and an overseas department in 1976. The first stamps used were French Colonial general issues from 1859.

The islands were once again the scene of military intervention during the Second World War. After the collapse of France, the islands were in the control of Vichy France and there were fears they would be used to supply German submarines prowling the North Atlantic.

A Free French naval force landed in the islands the day before Christmas, 1941. Stamps of the colony were overprinted F. N. F. L. for Forces Navales Francaises Libres (Free French Naval Forces). As Scott's



catalogue mentions, the circumstances of these overprints were unusual. With a few exceptions, these stamps fell into the hands of speculators within a few days. Remainders were later taken over by the Free French in Ottawa and sold to raise funds. Postally used covers bearing genuine stamps are much sought after, but many forgeries are known.

The stamps of the islands are wide-ranging in subject, but generally reflect life in the islands. Local landmarks and boats and the fishing industry are popular topics. A 1986 stamp marked the 450th anniversary of the discovery of the islands by Jacques Cartier in 1536. More unusual, perhaps, was a 1988 issue showing the schooner Nellie J. Banks, a well known rum-running vessel during the Prohibition era which was seized by Canadian authorities in 1938. Topical collectors especially will find much of interest here.

I first became interested in the stamps of St. Pierre and Miquelon when I visited there many years ago as a young journalist to write a series of articles for Canadian newspapers. I found a colony with very little industry other than the fishery, depending in large measure on heavy subsidies from France for survival. But the people were friendly and hospitable and made me feel at home, especially when it came to fantastic food and excellent wines. I departed with every intention of returning for another visit, but so far haven't managed to do that.

But my interest in the stamps of St. Pierre and Miquelon reminds me of the wonderful people there. ...



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Thanks to all of you who participated in our fall elections...to all those who voted, especially if for me, and most especially to those who stood for competitive elections. It is hard to overstate the great appreciation I have for those fellow members who offered themselves for, at best, two years of unpaid work on behalf of the society and, at worst, the risk of coming in second. Or maybe that should be the other way around. You are all winners!

In any case, thanks are also due to the outgoing officers who kept this group alive during its lowest points and delivered it in fine health to the new set of officers. With only a little help from only a few others, **Ken Jenkins** and **Herb Holland** shepherded us from struggling infant to viable APS affiliate. We have an all time high membership, a passable bank account, services that really work, a very readable newsletter, and a chance to make a statement about who worldwide collectors really are.

**Tom** and **Carol** as new Officers, **Ken Costilow** in his old post and I in a new one are anxious to do the best we can to take ISWSC the next steps into adulthood; but we'll need your help to determine just what sort of persona the mature society should exhibit. Will you take a few minutes to let me know what you think our emphasis should be in the coming year or two...

Should we be placing greater emphasis on preaching "the word" to young people and getting more involved in programs to foster growth in our hobby? Do you want more and different services for trading, exchanging, buying and selling stamps? Are we still at a growth stage where most of our energies should be plowed back into new member acquisition? Should we concentrate on revenue raising so we can afford newer and better services? This latter is a particular concern of mine now since the rather large postage rate increase early in the year. We will not be able to continue sending a nice newsletter six times a year at the current rates without some more revenue. **Rita Kallal** just told me that she is spending an average of 95c per mailing for overseas now, which comes to \$5.70 a year just for *The Circuit*, and with the cost of sending rosters and new member packets we are going well in the hole for every overseas member we recruit. There has been some sentiment in the past to have the USA members underwrite this expense in the interest of having foreign based members with which to trade and I have no

objection to that conceptually, so long as the club can afford it. So please send me your revenue generation ideas. We can, and may have to, raise dues but that will require a change to the By Laws. An alternative that I am favoring at the moment is to charge extra for a copy of the member roster; some of our members who do not want to exchange have no use for it anyway and the others should be happy to pay a dollar or two to get a fresh copy. That could be done without a vote of the membership, but I would be happy to hear reactions. (We will offer the rosters with an alpha index).

Speaking of the By Laws, look forward to a ballot soon to make a few corrections. There are a number of rather awkward little omissions in the current set, such as the fact that it doesn't say anything about when the terms of Officers and Board Members start and end, or how an interim officer would be chosen if needed, etc. If you have any suggestions please let me know.

**Rita Kallal** has asked once again that we try to find someone to take over as Editor of *The Circuit* or at least to help out with the page preparation. Members and officers are being helpful with contributions of material, but the page set-up is the onerous duty that few others can do. One happy coincidence in that regard is that I do happen to have the same computing facilities as Rita, namely Macintosh using *Word* and *Pagemaker*. I will be sending this column to her on a diskette which leaves her with only the page layout to do, no typing. Do any other members have Macintosh facilities they would be willing to help Rita out from time to time??? If someone else volunteers to be Editor it will be necessary for them to have access to a computer for page layout; if that is MS-DOS that is o.k., we will convert to that and the Macs can go silent. The unfortunate truth is that we really don't have much to gain by a volunteer Editor who cannot also do the page layout, that is what takes Rita the most time and is what she needs the most help with.

Another order of business is to fill the new Board of Directors. Our rules call for a Board of up to nine members which shall include the elected officers (**Dave Nelson**, **Ken Costilow**, **Carol Cervenka**) and the immediate past elected officers (**Ken Jenkins** and **Herb Holland**) with others to be named by the elected officers. Nominations being accepted...stay tuned.

... Dave Nelson (# 25), President

## CANADIAN 1992 ISSUES TO COVER WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS

Canada Post has announced subjects to be featured on 1992 stamps, with details on issue date and denominations to be released periodically during the year.

Sports subjects will include: the 75th anniversary of the National Hockey League; and two stamp booklets featuring sports of the winter and summer Olympics, along with a special souvenir edition featuring all Olympics stamps.

Canadian history will be recognized by a stamp marking the 50th anniversary of the Alaska Highway; a stamp and souvenir sheet commemorating the 350th anniversary of the city of Montreal and the

500th anniversary of the voyage of Columbus. This latter issue will appear in connection with CANADA 92, the World Philatelic Youth Exhibition in Montreal, March 25-29.

Various series will continue: a third set and souvenir sheet in the folklore series, featuring folk heroes; a Canada Day stamp marking the country's 125th birthday; a fifth stamp in the masterpieces of Canadian art series; a stamp booklet in the rivers series; an annual Christmas stamp; and a continuation of the World War II series with a stamp issue and souvenir sheet focusing on war events of 1942.

Other stamps will honor former Governor General Roland Michener; mark the 25th anniversary of the Order of Canada medal; the 150th anniversary of the Geological Survey of Canada; and Canada's involvement in space. ... **Irving C. Whynt** (# 490)

### CORRECTION:

The Beginner's Column on paper types in the Nov-Dec '91 issue contains an error..... **Deluxe** paper should read **Pelure** paper. Sorry for the error. ... The Editor

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S COLUMN

This is my last column as Secretary-Treasurer. By the time you read this, Carol Cervenka (#498) will have taken over the task. Please keep that in mind if you write as we don't want to cost the club unnecessarily for forwarding postage. I thank all of you for your support over the years, your kind words and the nice stamps you used on your covers to me. I hope I will continue to be in touch with many of you and perhaps do some stamp trading.

As promised last issue, a new roster of member is enclosed. It is in a new format. Unfortunately you will notice that most of you have not sent in your codes. The listing is still in numeric order, but to help those of you who have a name and no membership number, an alphabetical listing is included at the end of the roster. A members preference code list is also enclosed.

According to my records 33 USA members have failed to pay their dues. If I am in error on any of these please notify Carol. If she does not receive your dues soon, you will have been dropped from membership. The list follows: #4 Krupa • #63 Borkman • #121 Pruitt • #184 Greene • #199 Futrell • #212 Johnson • #213 Holtz • #285 Shamel • #293 Urdang • #300 Thompson • #306 Mengert • #314 Kirby • #328 Mello • #360 Matous • #367 Wiltse • #407 Jensen • #415 Ryle • #425 Wah • #434 Clarke • #440 Carroll • #442 Mines • #451 Wiskar • #454 Lovell • #472 Goldman • #496 Asselin • #497 Wood • #500 Knudsen • #505 McCann • #508 Barclay • #514 Byrkit • #515 Umlas • #517 Olmstead • #518 Volpon.

The club acknowledges with thanks the following donations:

1 Dunne	\$20.00
25 Nelson	145.00
30 Iverson	20.00
32 Terry	5.00
65 Komisar	10.00

### Qualifications Correction:

When I gave Dave Nelson my qualifications for the secretary/treasurer position over the phone, I didn't realize he had confused some of my experience. During my 5 years as Executive Director of the Dallas Epilepsy Association, I carried full financial responsibility for generating income and accounting for it. I reported to and carried

73 Compton	1.00
76 Poling	5.00
97 Burmeister	5.00
133 Bosler	2.00
159 Smith, Jr.	1.00
173 Erickson	3.00
175 Sanchez	5.00
181 Sandholdt	2.50
226 Trent	2.00
252 Treutler	5.00
254 Dykstra	5.00
295 Douglass	15.00
326 Souza	1.00
373 Berry	.40
392 Pelletier	.87
447 Valencia	5.00
530 Kuzmins	3.00
539 Szyrka	6.53
633 Farcás	1.80
635 George	1.20
654 Curry	5.00
657 Wollin	.80
658 Johnson	1.00

A Financial Statement for 1991 will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The following member has resigned for personal reasons: #58 Sherwood.

**Brightman #231** has rejoined and is restored to full membership. **Wah #425** was dropped some time ago in error. He is fully reinstated.

The following addresses are changed:

#110 Voshell - to: 426 So. 7th St., Philadelphia, PA 19147

#308 Foley - to: Box 183, Riva, MD 21140

#356 Sackett - to: PO Box 22, No. Middletown, KY 40357

#640 Berry - to: 3131 Timmons Lane #1017, Houston, TX 77027

All new members are included in the new roster. There are 27 of them, many from countries other than the USA. Our thanks to the regional secretaries and individual members responsible. ••• Herb Holland (#31), Out-going Secretary-Treasurer

out the wishes of a Board of Directors. When I joined the Epilepsy Foundation of America, my title was Program Resource Development Director, and my main responsibilities were writing grants, fund raising and membership development. At no time have I ever been the paid (or unpaid) Secretary-Treasurer of the National Organization. ••• Carol Cervenka (#498)

## PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER'S COLUMN

Let me first take this opportunity to thank those who voted in the recent election. Only one additional ballot was received after the deadline, making the final totals as follows with 109 total ballots: **President:** Dave Nelson - 78 Rima Carver - 31 • **V. Pres:** Ken Costilow - 81 Dick Hargrove - 28 • **Secy/Treas:** Carol Cervenka - 86 Leroy Curtis - 23.

As our club's Public Relations Officer, my main goal is to spread the word about the ISWSC. This will be done in a number of ways. A mass mailing is being planned to 815 U.S., 82 Canadian and 52 Foreign stamp clubs to recruit new members. Articles about our activities have been (and will continue to be) sent to the five major stamp publications in North America. Membership applications will be sent to stamp shows for distribution at their information tables. Plans continue to be made for the ISWSC meeting at the World Columbian Stamp Expo '92 in Chicago. A finalized date and time has not been given to us by the show's organizing committee, but it will be during the last weekend of the show, Friday May 29th - Sunday May 31st. I would encourage those planning to attend to write to me for the latest details.

### WORLD COLUMBIAN



**YOU** remain our greatest source for publicity. Tell your friends about us. If you belong to a local stamp club, tell them, too. It will be to everyone's benefit. We hope to have the new brochure and application ready for the next newsletter. If you recruit at least 5 new members in one year's time, your dues for the next year will be free! Sure we have the lowest dues of any stamp club, but you can spend those extra dollars on more stamps for yourself.

A major effort will be made in the next year to increase membership overseas. If you are aware of any stamp publications abroad, please write to me with their address and I would be happy to send them a press release. Help in translating our press release

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