

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Mid-August 2011 Deposit Balance \$ _____

Bad dates are a bummer

Unfortunately, sometimes a post office clerk does not check the date in his postmark device closely. We had 17 covers for the *USS Arlington* christening return with 2010 in the date, the rest of the covers were canceled with the correct year date by Pascagoula. No note was enclosed to warn me, but I found them when getting ready fill orders. They have been returned for replacements and a refund. Then, christening covers for *USS Anchorage* from Westwego came in with all 100 covers canceled with the wrong year, 2010. These have been returned for a refund of postage and replacement covers. In the last mailing, you may have found your SASE taped shut, as I had to retrieve covers from about a dozen envelopes. Servicing covers for events is always a challenge. You never know what will happen next. I find myself at the mercy of those doing the cancels. But, most clerks do a great job overall.

Clearwater FL CONA pictorial

Centennial of Naval Aviation Post Office Station



U S Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater
May 8, 2011 Clearwater FL 33762

The latest word on the Clearwater FL pictorial for the Centennial of Naval Aviation is reported to be approved. My covers had been returned, with a letter telling me that they "did not take part", but latest news from Kansas City is that the Postmaster will order the postmark and have it available. The chapter covers have been returned to Clearwater.

Key West FL CONA pictorial

Centennial of Naval Aviation Post Office Station



Naval Air Station Key West
May 8, 2011 Key West FL 33040

Things are looking bleak for the Key West FL pictorial for CONA. I did not initially plan a cancel in Key West, but an employee at NAS Key West emailed and asked why no cancel at Key West, one of the oldest Naval Air Stations in the nation. So, the cancel was submitted and it appeared in the Postal Bulletin. The chapter covers were submitted, but no covers have returned. About a week ago, my original letter of request sent to Key West in March, came back to me. It had been opened, and taped shut, then a custom label with a red hand on it reading "Postmark not available in Key West". The letter of request, the camera ready artwork and the form for submission to the Postal Bulletin were still in the envelope. An additional yellow "Nixie" label was also applied reading "Return to Sender - Not Deliverable as Addressed". No other communications were received from Key West. Further information from a collector who called the Key West postmaster was told that they were not going to have the cancel and would be returning all covers on hand. This new development followed a message I had from the USPS Cancellation Services in Kansas City several weeks ago, advising me that the cancel would be issued. Stay tuned.

China's Submersible Completes Fifth Dive Test In Pacific Ocean

BEIJING, Aug. 2 (Xinhua)

China's manned submersible *Jiaolong* recently completed its

fifth dive test in the Pacific Ocean, during which it reached a depth of 5,180 meters, the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) said Tuesday.



Deep Dive vessel *Jiaolong* tethered to mother ship *Xiangyanghong 09*

The administration said that Monday's dive saw the submersible conducting a series of undersea missions, including collecting sediment and microbe samples. The *Jiaolong* has conducted four dives in the Pacific Ocean since July 21, reaching 5,188 meters during its deepest dive, according to the administration. The *Jiaolong*, designed to reach a maximum depth of 7,000 meters, completed 17 dives in the South China Sea between May 31 and July 18 last year, reaching 3,759 meters during its deepest dive. China is the fifth country to send a man 3,500 meters below sea level, following the United States, France, Russia and Japan. Anyone get dive covers?

USS William P. Lawrence pictorial cancels returned to some collectors

Collectors who used the address in the Postal Bulletin, P B Box 9998, Mobile AL, had their covers returned "Return to Sender, No Such Address". If you had that problem resend you covers to: Postmaster - Secretary (A), Mobile MPO07, 250 Saint Joseph St., Mobile AL 36601-2001 and include a note explaining what happened.