

WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Like most stamp collectors, I started out as a boy trying to get one copy of each stamp from every country on earth.

However, as I grew older, I started to specialize; and being Canadian I chose to collect Canada. Some people specialize in Germany, others in Gr. Britain, or France. However, whatever the “specialty” we all reach a stage where we can’t add to our collection any further. It might be because of scarcity of items, but usually it’s because of expense.

Every collector who reaches this stage has the same question: **“What do I do now?”**

The answer: **Diversify – Dig Deeper – Research!**

In 2008 I started to collect Hawaii and as had happened before, I soon reached the point where I had copies of all the Hawaiian stamps I could afford. Several trips to the islands had aroused my interest in their history; culture; geography; and their decline as a nation. I still wanted to pursue this collecting area; so again that question: **“What do I do now?”**

I have tried to demonstrate the answer on the following pages.

While Hawaii issued only 88 stamps including 6 “officials” I believe the following will show **there is no end** to the collecting possibilities if you expand the focus, and do some research.



SCARCE MNH block identifying **two** of my “DIVERSIFICATIONS”

Today’s research and “digging” has been made much easier through the internet. **Google** has been invaluable in finding information. The first piece leads you to the second; and the second to the third; and so on. It’s fascinating. My collecting has again become educational; and my growing knowledge has heightened my collecting interest. **There is no end.**

However, most of my motivation and direction has been given by **Fred Gregory** through his **“Post Office in Paradise”** website (www.hawaiianstamps.com). He has enabled me to know what to look for and has saved me many, many steps along the way... **Mahalo Fred!**