

## Ethiopia: Exotic Attraction

By Doug Files



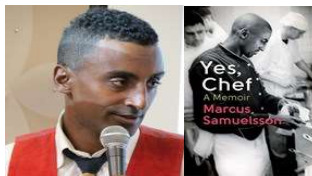
Photo by Jean-Francois Paumier; Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the [GNU Free Documentation License](https://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/gpl-2.0.html), Version 1.2 or any later version published by the [Free Software Foundation](https://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/fdl.html); with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is included in the section entitled [GNU Free Documentation License](https://www.gnu.org/licenses/old-licenses/fdl.html). [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1894\\_4G\\_Ethiopia\\_unused\\_Mi5.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1894_4G_Ethiopia_unused_Mi5.jpg)

As the newest member of the Ethiopian Philatelic Society I have no business writing for Menelik's Journal. I have never been to Africa nor do I seriously collect Ethiopia's stamps. But then I rarely run with the pack. When Ulf Lindahl suggested that I describe my interest in Ethiopian philately I forged blindly ahead.

As a child I relished exotic locales; this fact was instrumental in my collecting foreign stamps, starting at age 8. Fast forward nearly 50 years and I have mostly collected European and North American stamps. When I began, collecting was a solitary activity, but over the years I have expanded my knowledge and friendships by belonging to clubs and philatelic societies. Gradually I came to value these relationships over any philatelic item. So there I was at the start of 2020. Eclectic to a fault, I was searching for a new country to collect and Ethiopia stood out. A dealer sold me a collection at the Atlanta show in January – back in the old pre-viral days when we could attend stamp shows in person.

Why Ethiopia? It may seem offbeat but my interest was piqued by the captivating book *Yes, Chef: A Memoir*. Celebrity chef Marcus Samuelsson describes in his 2012 autobiography how he was born in Ethiopia and adopted into a family in Sweden. He diligently worked his way up the ladder in high-end European restaurants before establishing restaurants of his own in New York City – and now other American cities. His most famous current eatery is Red Rooster in Harlem. Ulf Lindahl has eaten there and gives it a thumbs up.

• continued on Page 3



Ethiopian-Swedish-American Chef Marcus Samuelsson and his Memoir

Images from Wikipedia, licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) license. By Source (WP:NFC#4), Fair use, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=55785624>

**Meetings and Activities**  
Meetings begin at 7:30 pm

**Nov 2—ZOOM 7:00 pm Board Meeting**

**Nov 2— ZOOM 7:30 pm Club Meeting & Program**

**Nov 14-15. MSDA ,Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 7500 Tylers Place Blvd, West Chester OH Jim Bardo, 847-922-5574.**

**Nov 16—ZOOM 7:30 pm Club Meeting & Program and 2021 Elections**

**Dec 7—6:30 pm—Club Holiday Dinner @ Wellington Inn RSVP to Frank Miller 937-898-2628 by Nov 30**

**Dec 21—ZOOM 7:30 pm Club Meeting & Program**

### Barnam & Bailey Circus Souvenir Sheet



This Circus Souvenir Sheet special issue was only available with purchase of the 2014 Yearbook from the USPS (cost \$64.95). This variety of #4905c has serpentine die cutting around the three stamps, are punched out from the press sheets and lack the white press sheet margin.

This one from the year book has a current offering price of \$81.00