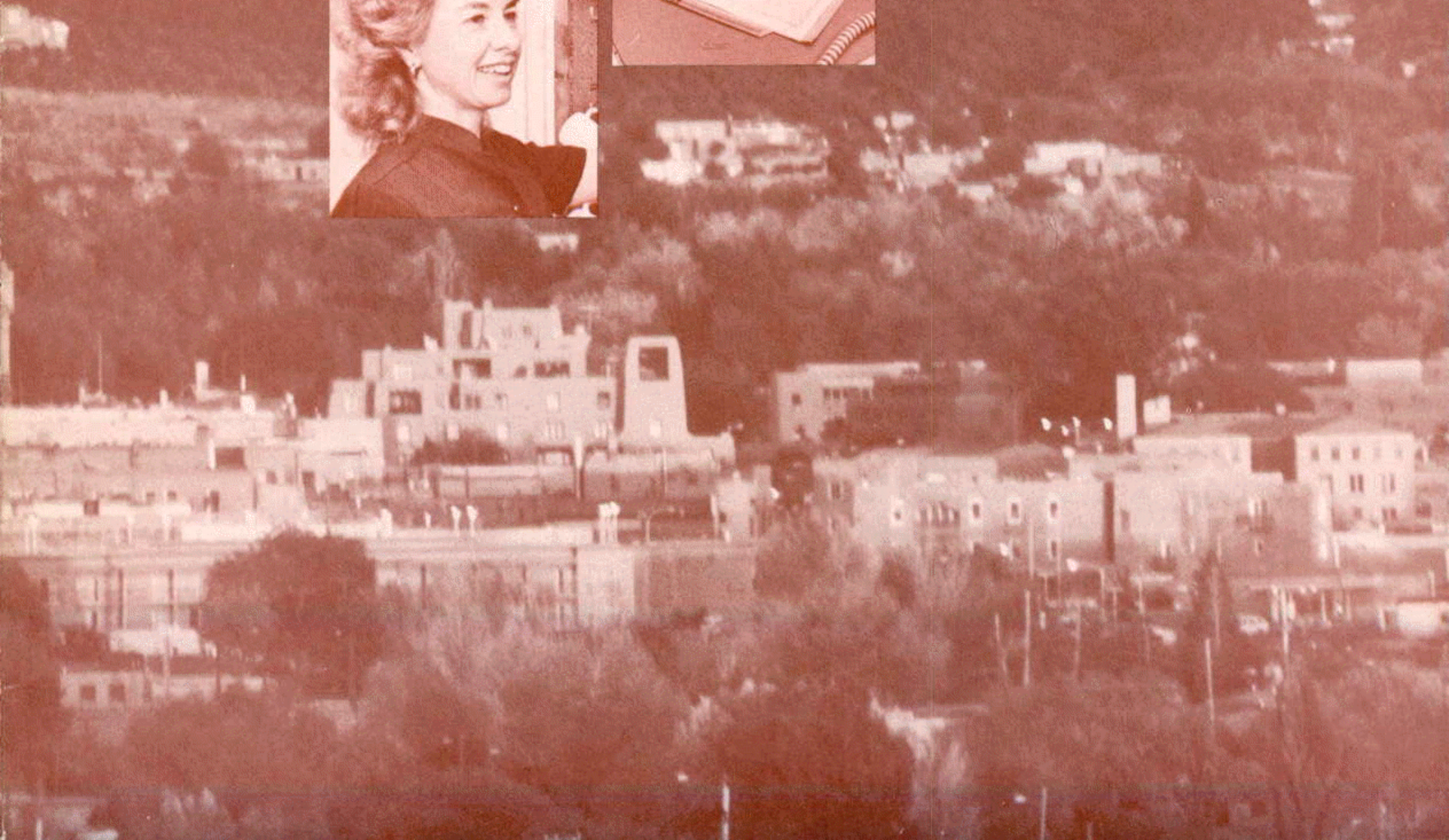


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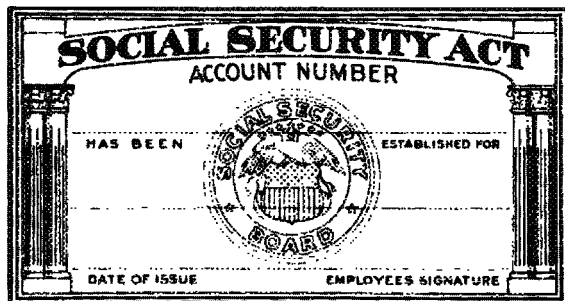
FEBRUARY 1986



SSA in
Old Santa Fe



History Room Gets Art For Original Social Security Card



Acting Commissioner Martha McSteen presents Emily Bailey of Greensboro, Md., with a 50th anniversary paperweight. Shown in the background from l. to r. are SSA Historian Sid Leibovitz, Andy Jackson (brother of Mrs. Bailey), and Parker Bailey (husband of Mrs. Bailey).

The SSA History Room at central office now has the drawing used to create the original Social Security card.

Frederick Happel, an artist and photo engraver who died in the 1960s, did the sketch almost 50 years ago. He left it to his niece, Emily Bailey of Greensboro, Md. She is not certain just how the Government solicited her uncle's work, but says "he submitted three designs for the card to the Social Security Board. One was selected."

Mr. Happel received \$60 for his work. The card is similar to the one issued today except that the words "Social Security Act" are spelled out in big letters across the top.

Mrs. Bailey presented her uncle's sketch to Acting Commissioner Martha McSteen during a brief ceremony in the History Room.

"When Social Security celebrated its 50th birthday in August," Emily Bailey said, "I thought it would be a good idea to show the sketch and tell the story of Uncle Fred to my local newspaper."

"Uncle Fred was a very talented artist. Not only did he design the original Social Security card, but he also came up with the Flying Tigers emblem for General Chennault in World War II."

Branch Manager Jack Hartman, Cambridge Md., saw the newspaper article in the Star-Democrat and sent it to SSA Historian Sid Leibovitz. Sid contacted Mrs. Bailey and asked her if she would donate the sketch to Social Security's History Room.

"We are very appreciative of this contribution," Mrs. McSteen said, and she presented Mrs. Bailey with a paperweight embossed with the anniversary logo as a token of our gratitude.

Scanning Social Security

BUY U.S.
SAVINGS
BONDS.

Bonds are big-More SSAers have discovered the benefits of buying U.S. Savings Bonds.

The 1985 Savings Bond Campaign was one of the most successful in SSA's history, and represented a 50 percent increase over the previous year. Over 16,000 employees either bought bonds for the first time or increased the amount of their purchase.

With 36,384 bond buyers, SSA's bi-weekly investment in savings bonds is \$643,241.60 or nearly \$17,000,000 annually.

Awards for helping inform employees about bonds during the campaign have gone to everyone from the Commissioner to the canvassers. The Atlanta Region received special commendation for earning 800 awards, and the Southeastern Program Service Center received a gold star for having over 50 percent participation 5 years in a row.

HEADQUARTERS

We get patent-A copy of the patent for a mechanical device used in Social Security's early recordkeeping operation is now in the SSA History Room. Dr. Myer Stolar, who, with Gustave Chesler, invented the machine almost 50 years ago, presented the document to SSA.

The machine eliminated the need to manually remove the perforated strips from ledger sheets used to keep individual wage records for people covered by the program.

Every time a new Social Security card was issued, a ledger sheet would be headed with the person's name and

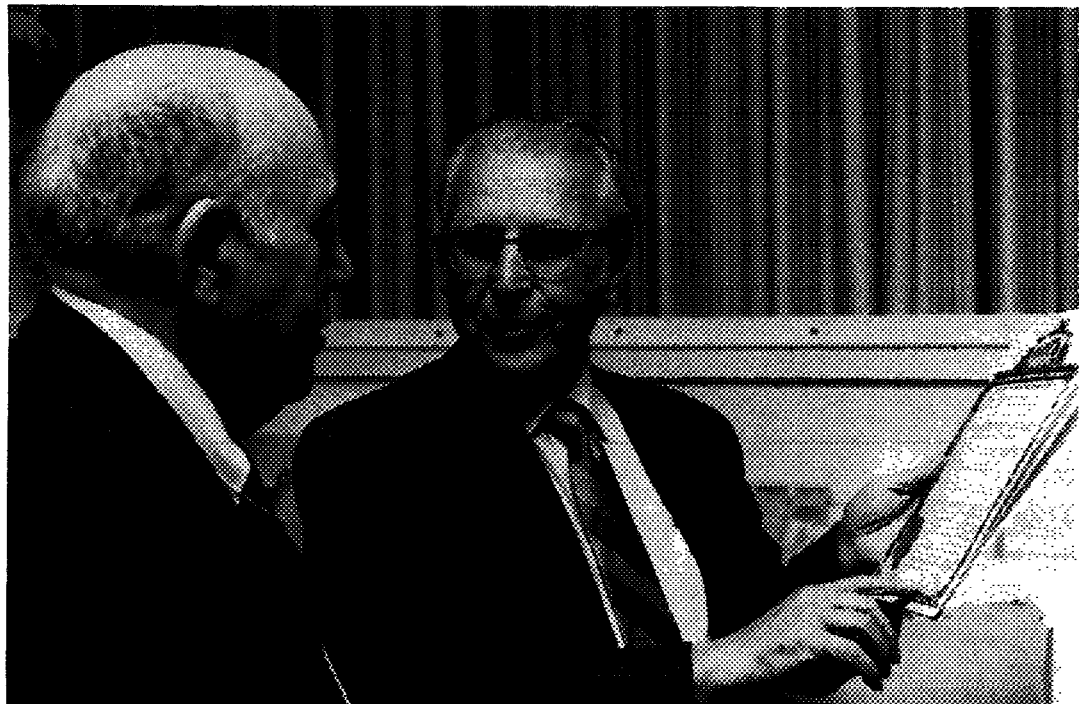
number. As a 1955 OASIS article explained, "The sheets were in continuous form, with perforated strips on each side to permit rapid feeding and accurate placement of the heading information.

"Before the ledger sheets could be filed for future posting operations, they had to be separated and the perforated strips removed from both sides. 'A simple task, ' you may say-but think of doing that manually for all the 3.3 million ledger sheets which were in the original group to be established.

"The task was started manually but before it was finished, two employees (Myer and Gus) had devel-

oped a machine which simultaneously stripped the sides, separated the ledge sheets and stacked them for filing. A manufacturer agreed to produce these machines, and they were used until the elimination of individual ledge sheets."

Dr. Stolar said that Social Security had the device patented in the names of the inventors with the stipulation that "the U.S. Government could make use of the equipment without any payment of royalties. The patent was later bought by private industry. When I left to go to medical school, the sale of the patent helped finance my education."



Dr. Myer Stolar and SSA Historian Sid Leibovitz discuss a mechanical device Myer invented while working for Social Security 50 years ago.