

Palm Beach Stamp Club Newsletter



January 2025

Our club has moved forward with a new name, new website, and new meeting location. Reflecting on the old and new means taking time to look back at the past, acknowledging both the positive and negative experiences, and using those insights to set intentions and goals for the future, essentially creating a sense of closure on the old and anticipation for the new.

January is *National Hobby* month and *International Creativity* month, a sure signal that club members should get creative with our stamp and philatelic collections. We celebrate the New Year on the 1st; Sherlock Holmes birthday on the 6th; Benjamin Franklin Day on the 17th; and, National Handwriting Day on the 23rd – a clearly neglected skill in our schools today.

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Regards, Michael Swope

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2025
Global
Forever
Stamp
"Compass"

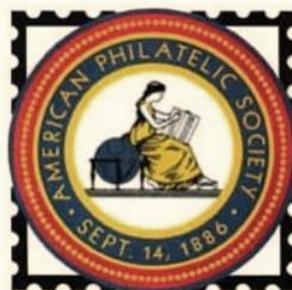


**Meetings: 1:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays**

**Mid-County Senior Center
3680 Lake Worth Road
Lake Worth, Florida 33461**

www.palmbeachstamp.club

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Membership Affiliate #81338**

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Digital Indexing

Marian Mills, Librarian and Director of Information Services at the American Philatelic Society is seeking volunteers to help index philatelic journals for the American Philatelic Research Library.

Digital Indexing is an important task that volunteers can help with from the comfort of their own home – all you need is a computer with spreadsheet software and internet access. Contact Marian at mmills@stamps.org

We have secured a new meeting location for our club at the Palm Beach Mid-County Senior

Center, 3680 Lake Worth Road, Palm Springs, Florida 33461. Our first meeting is January 14th at 1:00 p.m. We have yet to find a venue to hold our stamp shows and therefore, our Spring 2025 show is cancelled.

Our annual banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28th, with location to be determined. We will announce the winners of the 2024 news article awards at the luncheon. Watch for announcements on our website.

Elections were held at the December 10th club meeting and all current officers were re-elected. One addition brings club member Robert Mendelsohn on board as Financial Adviser to our Treasurer, Harry Clifford.

Please contact President Kaye if you are interested in leading a philatelic workshop or desire to make a presentation to the club.



January 12th, Second Sunday Stamp Show at Azan Shrine Center, 9:30 am-3:00 pm. 1591 West Eau Gallie Blvd., Melbourne, 32935

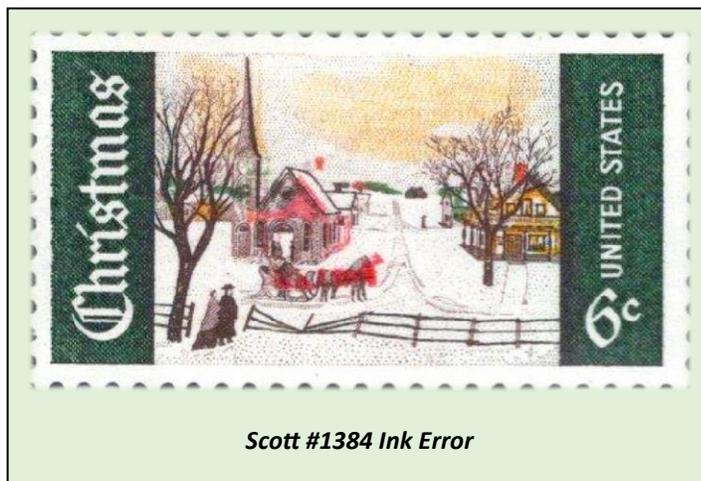
January 17th-19th, Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition. 801 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, 34236. 10a-5:30p Fri-Sat, 10a-3p Sunday.

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Winter Sunday in Norway Maine

Keith Lichtman

My love for collecting varieties, freaks and oddities lead me to start a specialized collection of the 1970 Christmas postage stamp “Winter Sunday in Norway, Maine”, Scott #1384. Postal authorities experimented with locally printed precancels in four cities; Atlanta; Baltimore; Memphis; and, New Haven. These precancels were sold to the public and could be used on any class of mail. So right away there are five varieties. Scott’s Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps & Covers lists 19 errors alone.



The stamps were poorly printed. Misalignment of colors and ink bleeding are common especially near the dark green borders. The misalignment of red ink results in the chimney floating above the roof and the horses having multiple heads. Other inking errors include a three-legged horse, broken fences, and the distant forest with light green, red, or yellow trees. Scott’s list several color omitted errors. The stamp was issued with tagging and, as with most tagged stamps, some sheets slipped through without tagging. Some sheets were misaligned during tagging leaving them with split tagging (where the top and bottom of the stamp is tagged and the middle is untagged). There exists very dark and very light tagging.



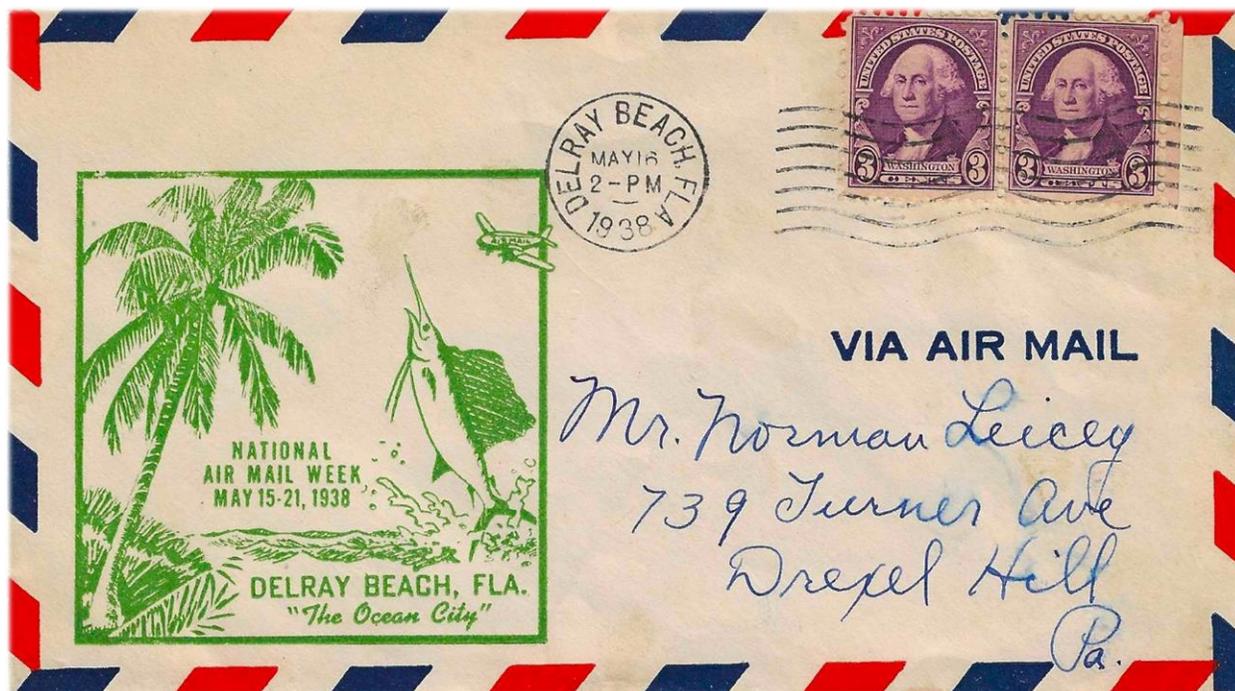
The ink used in the precancels have color varieties ranging from black to bright green. Commas between the city and state are found with round or square tops. Centering of the precancels vary from high and low to diagonal and upside down. The precancel can also be found on the gum side of the stamp.

Collecting or specializing on just one stamp or group of stamps can keep your collection growing and interesting.

The Winner Is: Delray Beach

Dan Maddalino

From the Sunday, June 19, 1938, issue of the Palm Beach Post. Page 16¹: Dateline - "DELRAY BEACH – The Delray Beach cachet which was used on all outgoing airmail letters from Delray Beach during (National) Air Mail Week (May 15 - 21, 1938) has been awarded the trophy as the best air mail cachet in the State of Florida."



"A group of men judged the cachets and selected one from each state. Herb Roth, noted cartoonist and winter resident of Delray Beach, drew the design which was a tropical one of palm trees in the foreground with the ocean as a background and a huge sailfish which completed the picture. The local Kiwanis Club had the cachet printed on thousands of envelopes which were free to the public." This cover is illustrated with this article.

1938 was the official twentieth anniversary of American air mail and celebrations were being held throughout the United States. In Palm Beach County, competition arose between its cities and towns with pageants, parades, essay contests, society balls, and civic organizations rallying their residents to use air mail. Businesses also placed the call for the use of air mail into their print ads. Some of the events held included designating a farm owned by A. B. Engle as an Official Air Mail Field (for one day only) to pick up the mail from the western communities. Also, the landing of an air mail plane on the Lake Worth Golf Course at the shores of Lake Worth and Lake Worth Road.

It then taxied west to Federal Highway and the City Hall where it picked up bags of Air Mail covers and flew them to Morrison Field (now known as Palm Beach International Airport) for processing. These philatelic events drew several thousands of revelers in celebration of Air Mail Week. The county set a goal of 50,000 air mail letters during this Week. Belle Glade supplied 39 commemorative air mail covers, Boynton (Changed to Boynton Beach in 1941) provided 3,000, and West Palm Beach lost count after “several thousand” covers were given away to the public. Eastern Air Lines made a special cachet and dropped off tens of thousands of commemorative covers all along its Florida route. Civic pride soared and stamp clubs thrived.

If you haven't explored the world of Air Mail Covers, you are invited to check out the American Air Mail Society at www.americanairmailsociety.org.

Ref: 1. www.newspapers.com/air-mail-week/1938/West-Palm-Beach,_November_21,_2024
Cover from the authors' collection

New Years Resolution



Did you know New Years Resolutions likely started over 4000 years ago in Mesopotamia?

Life at that time revolved around agriculture. The beginning of the calendar year started in the March/April time frame when the crops started to grow. This was a symbol of a new beginning and was paired with the Babylonian Akitu Festival. Citizens would make promises to the gods for the new year and use this as a moment to return borrowed tools, supplies and equipment.

They lived in a trade-based economy, so this was a good time to reset. If you kept your promise (the new year resolution) to the gods, it was said that good fortune would fall upon you.

Happy New Year!

Boston Tea Party

Pat Hensley

National Hot Tea Month is celebrated in January so I thought it would be fun to look for stamps about tea! The 1973, 8¢ Boston Tea Party stamps (Scott #1480-83) were issued by the United States Postal Service on July 4, 1973 in Boston. Each of these stamps celebrate an important event in American history - the Boston Tea Party. This event occurred on December 16, 1773, when American colonists protested against British taxes by throwing tea into Boston Harbor.



There are four different stamps in this series and each one depicts a unique part of the Boston Tea Party. The first stamp features colonists dressed as Native Americans to hide their identities. The second stamp shows tea being dumped into the harbor, which highlights the protest. The third stamp includes British ships that were in the harbor during the event, and the fourth stamp shows the Boston Harbor itself, where everything took place. Together, these stamps tell the story of how colonists took action against unfair taxes. The Boston Tea Party was important because it brought the colonists together in their fight for freedom from British rule. It inspired many people to stand up for their rights and helped lead to the American Revolution. The stamps serve as a reminder of how brave individuals can change history.

The History of Tea - Tea has a long and fascinating history that dates back thousands of years. The first known use of tea comes from China around 2737 BCE. According to legend, Emperor Shen Nong was boiling water when some tea leaves blew into his pot, creating the first cup of tea. The drink quickly became popular in China, where it was used for both its refreshing taste and medicinal qualities. By the Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE), tea had become a central part of Chinese culture, and it began to spread to other parts of Asia, including Japan and Korea. Tea was also traded along the famous Silk Road, helping it reach other parts of the world.

Tea arrived in Europe in the 16th century, brought by Portuguese and Dutch traders. The British developed a strong love for tea in the 17th century, and it became a key part of daily life. By the 18th century, the British East India Company played a major role in the tea trade, and the drink became a symbol of British society. In America, tea was popular until the American Revolution. Today, tea is enjoyed all over the world, with many countries developing their own special ways of drinking it.

References:

Smithsonian, Boston Tea Party; Stamps.org; Mysticstamp.com; Smithsonianmag.com; TeaUSA.org

Australian Air Pioneers

Carrying Postal History

Michael Rogers

In the late 1920's, Sir Charles Edward Kingsford-Smith and his co-pilot, Charles Ulm, accomplished several historic flights in their airplane *Southern Cross*. On June 9, 1928, they completed the first transpacific flight, travelling from Oakland, California, to Honolulu, Hawaii, to Suva, Fiji, and finally, to Sydney, Australia. It is believed sixteen covers were on this flight that are now quite valuable.

Of great significance to the people of the South Pacific were Kingsford-Smith and Ulm's later 1928 flights, September 28th and October 13th, from Australia to New Zealand and return. There are highly prized covers from these flights that bear dated New Zealand postmarks and next-day receiving marks at South Wales, Australia!

On March 30, 1929, Kingsford-Smith and Ulm, still in the *Southern Cross*, left Brisbane for London. However, their plane was forced down in the outback. They were lost for more than two weeks and the event became known as the "Café Royal Affair", as their cargo reportedly was coffee and whiskey. A search pilot lost his life in the effort to locate the pair and eight recovered pieces of mail were finally flown to London in June.

Major development of Australian airways began in 1934. Regular routes and schedules were established between England and the Netherlands to Australia and New Zealand. Kingsford-Smith and Ulm made several flights individually between Australia and New Zealand with abundant cacheted mail. Ulm's airplane was the *Faith of Australia*. Charles Ulm was lost on December 4, 1934, when his plane crashed at sea on approach to Honolulu. Charles Kingsford-Smith died on November 8, 1935, when his plane crashed in the Andaman Sea.

In 1978, the Australian Postal Commission issued the "Australian Aviators and their Planes" set of four postage stamps. Both Kingsford-Smith and Ulm were featured as part of the set.



Ref: Reprinted in part from *Linn's Stamp News*. May 17, 1999.

Betsy Ross

Michael Swope



Betsy Ross, born January 1st, 1752, became a skilled seamstress and upholsterer following her apprenticeship in 1773 at Philadelphia. A widow at age 24, she continued the upholstery business that she had shared jointly with her husband, and worked on uniforms, tents, and flags for the Continental Army.

Shortly after her first husband's death, Ross claimed she was recruited for a very important job. According to a speech her grandson gave to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania years after her death, George Washington, Robert Morris, and George Ross, visited Ross' upholstery shop in the summer of 1776. Washington and the two other members of the Continental Congress brought a rough sketch of a flag with thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen six-pointed stars. Ross suggested that the six-pointed stars be changed to five-pointed stars because they were easier to make. Allegedly, she showed them how to make the new stars by folding a piece of paper into triangles and with a "single snip of the scissors" she made a perfect star. The men agreed to change the design. Ross is said to have made the first American flag shortly after that meeting.

Ross continued working as a seamstress and upholsterer until near her death in 1836. The first day *Betsy Ross Issue* postage stamp and commemorative cover celebrate the 200th anniversary of Betsy Ross' birthday. The Scott #1004, 3¢, carmine rose stamp was issued and cancelled on January 2nd, 1952, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Ref: Cover from Author's collection; WomensHistory.org