

# Palm Beach Stamp Club Newsletter



July 2025

Independence Day on July 4<sup>th</sup> is a federal holiday which commemorates the ratification of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress in 1776, establishing the United States of America, and separation from British rule. Not coincidentally, July is National Fireworks Safety month!

A true coincidence, however strange and patriotic, are three of America's founding fathers perished on a Fourth of July: John Adams (our nation's second president) and Thomas Jefferson (our third president) died five hours apart on July 4, 1826. James Monroe (our fifth president) died on July 4, 1831.

Please welcome new club member Valerie Hatcher and give a shout out to club member Don Hensley who is recovering from a back injury.

*Regards, Michael Swope*

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*US Scott #1693*

**Meetings: 1:00 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays**

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

[www.palmbeachstamp.club](http://www.palmbeachstamp.club)

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**Chapter Affiliate #923  
Membership Affiliate #81338**

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## July 2025



It's official: the revamped and reformulated American Philatelic Society's new website launches to the public on Monday, June 30! If you have an account on the current website, you need to reset your password before logging in to the updated website.

President Richard Kaye has made two powerpoint presentations on "The Joy of Stamp Collecting" at Palm Beach County Library branches this year, and a third is scheduled for October. These presentations have been very well received and have led to new club members. Kudos to Richard and his outreach efforts!

Our June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting featured a presentation by Keith Lichtman on detecting water-marks and Dan Maddalino provided information on foreign postal history - focusing on German covers, at our meeting on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Club members are urged to share their philatelic interests at meetings.

Our newest club member Valerie Hatcher is a teacher and President Kaye with club member Keith Lichtman will work with her through the summer to adopt philately into her classroom. This clearly demonstrates the value and outcome our club seeks through outreach efforts.

The Embassy Suites Hotel at 1601 Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach, 33406, has been selected as the venue for our club's Fall stamp show on Saturday, November 1, 2025. See the show flyer on the club website.



July 13<sup>th</sup>, Second Sunday Stamp & Coin Show at the Azan Shrine Center, Sunday 9:30-3:00. Melbourne, 32935.

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# Collecting Errors, Freaks & Oddities on a Budget

Keith Lichtman

I am always trying to find new ways to collect United States postage stamps without breaking the bank. With that in mind, here is how I made a collection of errors, freaks and oddities (EFO's). With a sharp eye, you too can find all types of EFO's at a reasonable price.

Misregistered postage stamps, more commonly known as “color shifts” are the easiest to spot. A color shift occurs in the printing process when one or more of the ink plates do not line up properly. One of the easiest stamps to find with a color shift is the 5¢ Canada Centenary issue, Scott #1324. (Figure 1). On many stamps from this issue, you will find the dark blue shifted to either the right or the left. I bought mine for 25¢. You can also find shifts in the letters and denomination that are printed in black ink, but they are going to be more difficult to detect.



Figure 1. Scott #1324. Left stamp has blue color shift. Right stamp has blue and black color shift.

Another easy to find color shift is the 6¢ American Legion stamp, Scott #1369, with a gap between the wing and the shield and/or the black wing touching the blue shield. (Figure 2).

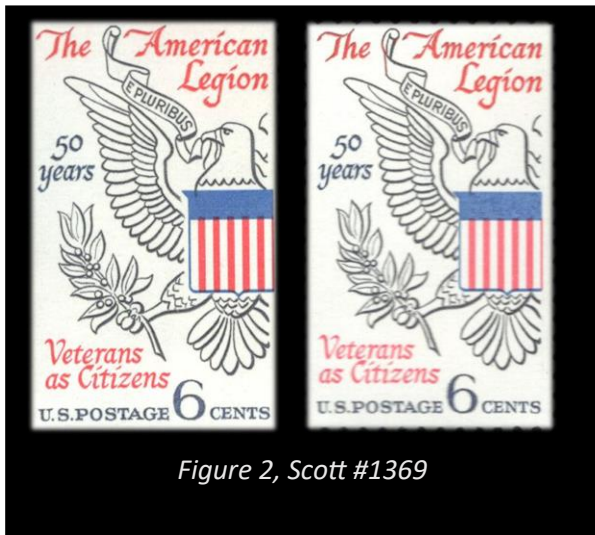


Figure 2, Scott #1369

While browsing on stamp sites for color varieties, I spotted a stamp that looked odd. When I clicked on the image to enlarge it, I found that it was misregistered. The stamp was the 6¢ 1970 Nativity, Scott #1414. (Figure 3). A close look at this stamp shows the angel on top of the barn is blurry and the Nativity scene below looks almost like it was double printed. With patience you can find this stamp offered for less than 35¢ because it is quite common. While you're focusing on this stamp, check the blue description below the picture. Finding missing letters in the description is another challenge.



Locating stamps with ink smears takes more patience. I found the 5¢ Kennedy Memorial stamp, Scott #1246, with an ink smear on the bottom and a 4¢ Champion of Liberty stamp, Scott #1125, with a blue smear across the top at the amazing price of just 15¢ each. (Figures 4 & 5)

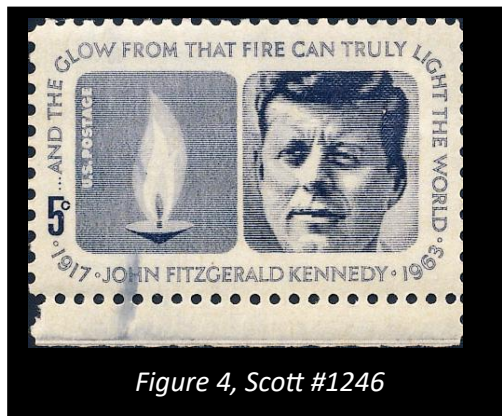


Figure 4, Scott #1246



Figure 5, Scott #1125



Figure 3, Scott #1414

Broken "T" in LOTTO

One of my favorite finds is a ten-stamp plate block of the 6¢ Christmas stamp, Winter Sunday in Norway, Maine Scott #1384. (Figure 6). Stamp number seven in the block is the "Broken Fence" variety. Not only is the fence broken, but the horse is missing its front legs. I purchased this stamp on eBay for less than \$4, including shipping. This particular issue is loaded with freaks and oddities – color shifts, color changes, and missing colors.

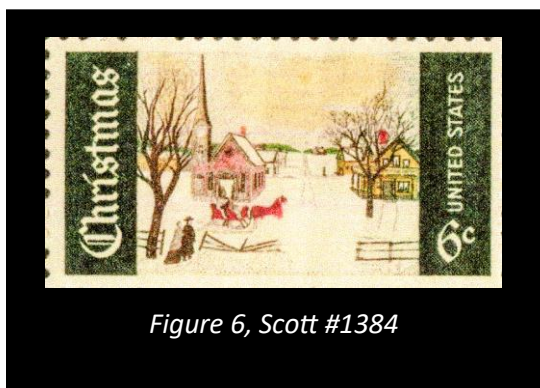


Figure 6, Scott #1384

Stamps from the 1960's thru the 1980's are your best bet for finding inexpensive freaks and oddities. It takes a keen eye to spot these special stamps, but they can be found. Dealers do not take time to sort and check every stamp they sell. Economically it is not worth their time.

Scanning auction sites for errors, freaks, and oddities is the best way to learn about them. It will help you to both identify and value them.

I recently saw the 5¢ Humane Treatment of Animals stamp, Scott #1307, on auction. (Figure 7). The dog's tongue was shifted to the left and it sold for a few dollars. I started searching dealer listings for the stamp and found many with the tongue shifted left and right and down for 25¢.

Another way to learn about errors, freaks, and oddities is to join the EFO collectors club. Published quarterly, the articles and auctions provide a reference catalogue not found in any books.

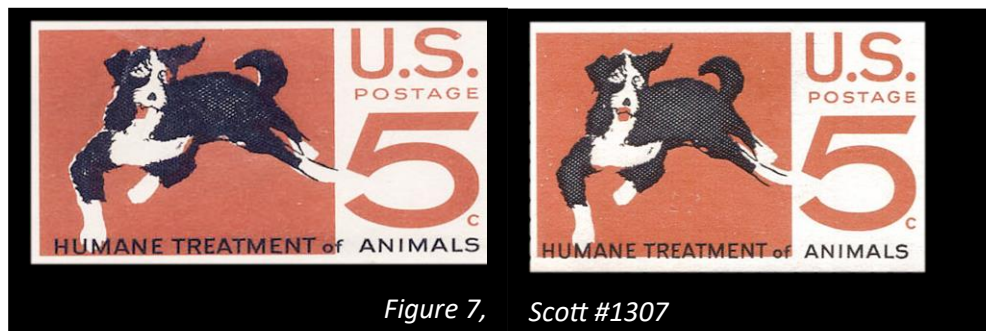


Figure 7, Scott #1307



At some point you may become hooked on these abstract stamps. You may want to raise your budget for that auction purchase of that special stamp that catches your eye, however, don't overbid. Stay in your budget. Most stamps found on auctions come up again and again. Be patient. Bid on it. If you lose, wait till next time, or the time after that. Be careful that shipping costs don't put you over your budget. But, before you bid, look for that stamp in dealers' lots. You just might get lucky to find it for 25c. Enjoy the hunt.



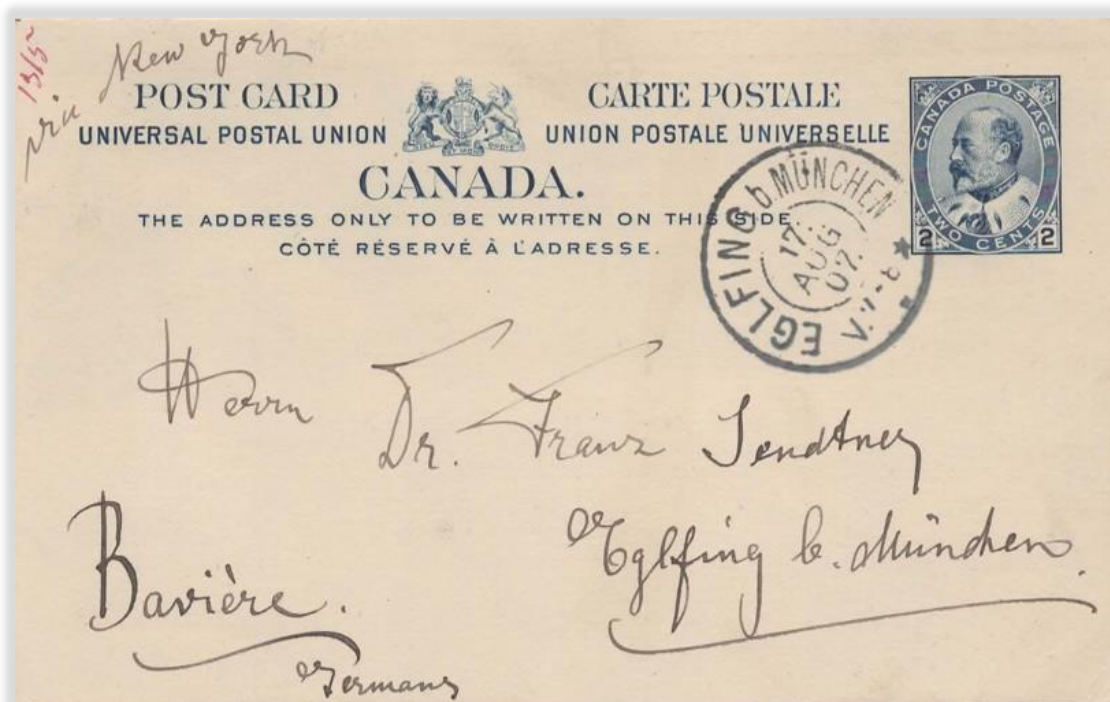
**Have a safe holiday!**

# King Edward VII Postal Card

Walter Koster

After the death of Queen Victoria on January 22, 1901, it became necessary to issue a new set of regular issue stamps. The Prince of Wales, an avid stamp collector and later named King George V, volunteered to design the new series with the aid of J. A. Tilleard, the first curator of the Royal Philatelic Collection. On July 1, 1903, the new series depicting King Edward VII was issued (Scott #89-94).

A new 2¢ Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.) card was also issued, once again beautifully replicating the frameless design, bilingual inscriptions, and reproduction of the British Coat of Arms of the P15 postal card. The stamp in the upper right-hand corner resembles the two-cent carmine King Edward VII stamp (Scott #68), printed in deep blue on the new (Webb #P25) postal card. The earliest reported postmark (ERP) for the P25 card is February 20, 1904.



The P25 card above includes an "Eglfing b. München" circular date cancel which translates to "Eglfing near Munich." Eglfing is a municipality in Bavaria, Germany, 68 km southwest of Munich and 92 km (57 miles) north of Innsbruck, Austria.

## References:

*The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada*, by Winthrop S. Boggs, Volume 1, Copyright 1945

*Canada & Newfoundland Postal Stationary Catalogue*, Fourth Edition, J. F. Webb, 1983

*Canada, Its Postage Stamps and Postal Stationery*, by Clifton A. Howes, [eBook #37457]

*The British North America Philatelic Society, Ltd. (BNAPS) Postal Stationary Study Group, Postal Stationary Notes*, Vol.1, No. 3, May 1982

*The Postal History of the Post Card in Canada 1878 – 1911*, Allan L. Steinhart, 1979



# World UFO Day

Pat Hensley

This Roswell UFO Encounter - 50th Anniversary cover was released on July 2, 1997, to commemorate a strange event that occurred in Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947. The cacheted cover features a special postmark which cancelled the affixed 3¢ Palomar Mountain Observatory (Scott #966) and 29¢ Space Fantasy, (Scott #2741) postage stamps.



Something crashed onto a farm near Roswell in 1947 and people thought it might be a UFO, or spaceship from another planet. The U.S. military said at first that it was a “flying disc,” but later said it was just a weather balloon. This caused many people to believe there was a cover-up.

World UFO Day is celebrated every year on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, a day meant for people to look up at the sky and think about the possibility of life beyond earth. UFO stands for "Unidentified Flying Object," which means anything in the sky that cannot be easily explained. Some people believe that UFOs are spaceships from other planets. Others think they might just be airplanes, weather balloons, or even tricks of light.

July 2<sup>nd</sup> was chosen because it is the date of the infamous Roswell event in 1947, which left many people wondering if our government was hiding something about aliens. Over time, Roswell became one of the most well-known UFO stories in the world.

People celebrate World UFO Day in different ways. Some host sky-watching parties or UFO-themed events. Others use the day to talk about space, aliens, or the possibility of life on other planets. The main idea is to think about the mysteries of the universe and to keep an open mind. Whether or not UFOs are real, World UFO Day reminds us to be curious and to explore the unknown.

## References:

Mystic Stamp Company. (n.d.). 1997 32c Roswell Alien. Retrieved from <https://www.mysticstamp.com>  
History.com Editors. (2018). Roswell. Retrieved from <https://www.history.com/topics/paranormal/roswell>  
World UFO Day Organization. (n.d.). What is World UFO Day? Retrieved from <https://www.worldufoday.com>  
<https://www.wincalendar.com/World-UFO-Day>

## FAM 7 First Flight

Dan Maddalino

The first flight of FAM 7 (Foreign Air Mail Route 7) between Miami, Florida and Nassau, Bahamas occurred on Wednesday, January 2, 1929, with Harry Rogers piloting a Sikorsky S-38 Amphibian named “Nassau Air Limited”. This thrice weekly service was lobbied for by Bahamian officials as a tool to increase tourism. Pan American Airways (PAA) was the carrier and had arranged the first flight event before the United States and the Bahamian post office departments sealed an air mail exchange contract. A U.S. airmail rate of seven cents per half ounce was proposed for this service, then rumored to be lowered to five cents, but no date had been established. So, covers franked with either seven cents or five cents were accepted for this flight.

The cover shown at right is franked with a 5¢ “Beacon on the Rocky Mountains”, Scott #C11 and the 2¢ “Washington at Prayer”, Scott #645, postage stamps for the expected rate of seven cents per half ounce. The five-cent rate was made official on March 20, 1929.



On the day of the flight, Pan American accepted *only 83 philatelic covers* to receive the purple cachet shown. Mail waiting for the return flight from Nassau consisted of approximately 2,000, mostly commercial, (non-philatelic) covers. They received a small two-line handstamp in red ink stating, “By First Air Mail/To Miami, FLA.” Even without a formal airmail contract, Pan American agreed to carry the Bahamian mail on its return flight to Miami.

FAM 7 was plagued with seasonal ridership and shut down and restarted several times over its fourteen-year existence. In 1943, FAM 7 was discontinued and the Miami-Nassau route became part of FAM 5, also out of Miami, Florida.

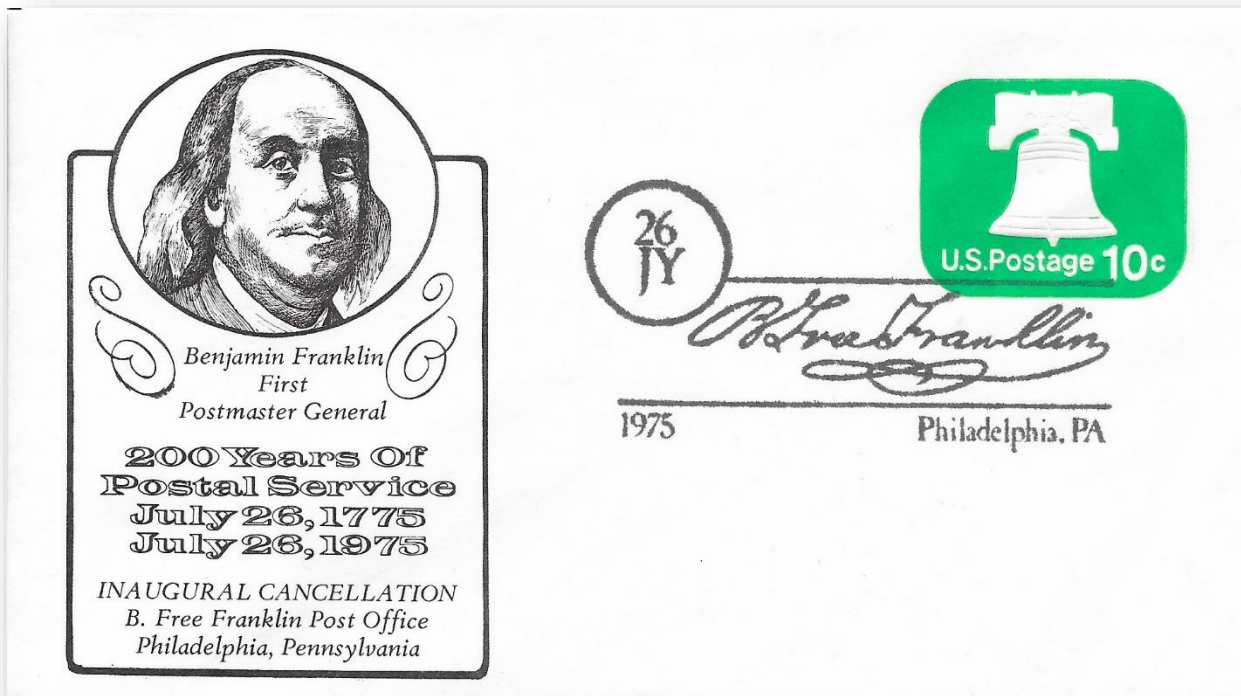
*References: Miyanishi, Ron (Ed.) American Air Mail Catalogue, Sixth Edition, Volume Three (2009) Mineola, NY; Cover from the collection of the author.*

Want to know more about your American airmail cover? See Dan at any Palm Beach Stamp Club meeting to schedule use of an *American Air Mail Catalogue* at meetings.



# 250 Years of Postal Service

Michael Swope



The United States Postal Service is celebrating its 250th anniversary! The USPS was established on July 26, 1775, by the Second Continental Congress. The postal service is launching several initiatives to commemorate this milestone, including new stamp issues, a prestige booklet, and various events and releases throughout the year.

Featured above is the 10¢, emerald green, Liberty Bell stamped envelope, Scott #U567. The cachet commemorates the United States Postal Service bicentennial anniversary in 1975; the first United States Postmaster General, Benjamin Franklin; and, the first United States Post Office – the “B. Free Franklin Post Office” at 316 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – a house once owned by Franklin. That post office remains in operation today and houses a small museum on the second floor. The cancellation is a facsimile of a franking technique used by Franklin, where the use of the word “Free” between his first initial and surname alluded to gaining freedom from the English government.

In 1753, Franklin, a meticulous record keeper and so skillful at running postal operations in Philadelphia, was appointed by the British Crown as joint postmaster for all thirteen colonies. His loyalty, however, lay with the colonists. This is why he was appointed the first Postmaster General by the Continental Congress only three months after the battles of Lexington and Concord.

References: Cover from Author's collection; History.com