

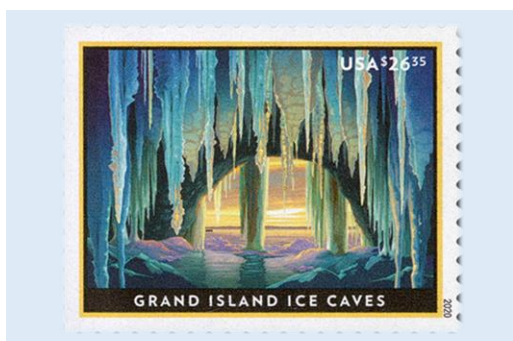
Birmingham - Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



October 2025

On October 15, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed legislation establishing the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, at the shore of Lake Superior. It was the first national lakeshore in the United States. The park is known for its 15 miles of colorful cliffs of sandstone that reach 200 feet tall and are surrounded by different rock formations such as natural archways, caves, and more.

Scott
#5430



At our September 2nd meeting, we greeted new club member Evert VanRaden from Ypsilanti. He collects U.S. and Worldwide. Also in attendance was guest Terry Rudd from Sterling Heights. Welcome to our club!

Dana Markey brought show-and-tell to our meeting on the 16th, showing a copy of the December, 1981 "Michi-Gander" newsletter from the Michigan Stamp Club. Interestingly, our own Richard Chellevold was the Michigan

Stamp Club's Secretary who wrote the newsletter. Also, Ken Rusch made a presentation and provided handouts on French "Spy" stamps, used by the French Resistance during World War II

Club Meetings –

October 7th, 6:00 p.m. at the NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham, and October 21st, 6:00 p.m. at Shield's Restaurant in Troy, for our annual banquet.

Upcoming Events –

Kalamazoo Fall Stamp Show, October 10-11, Kalamazoo EXPO Center, 2900 Lake St, 49048

MotoPex 2025, October 17-18 at Sokol Cultural Center, Dearborn Heights, 48127

Modern Stamps Public Stamp Auction #532, October 25th, at their Oak Park facility.

KentPex 2025, October 25-26, at American Legion Post, 2327 Wilson Ave, Walker, 49534

AAPEX 2025, Oct 31-Nov 1, at Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, 48105

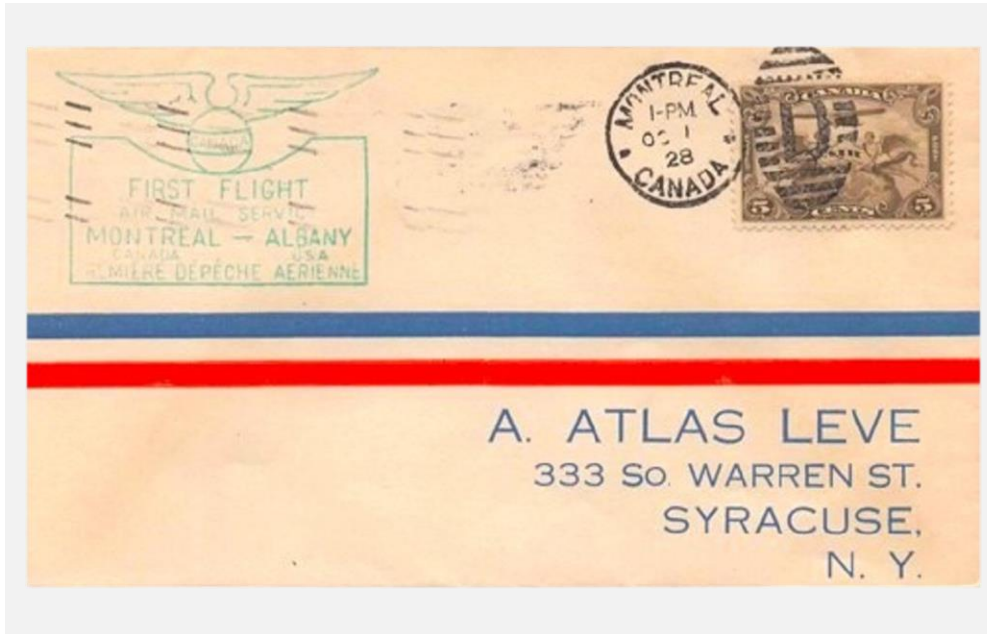
In This Issue

Page 2 – Foreign Air Mail Route, Walter Koster
Page 3 – Six Flags Autoworld, Michael Swope

Foreign Air Mail Route No. 1

Walter Koster

Foreign Air Mail Route No. 1 (FAM-1) was the first regularly scheduled foreign airmail service, beginning in October 1928 between Montreal and Albany. The service was authorized by Congress in March 1928. The Post Office Department designated any contract air mail route flown by an airline into/from a foreign country or into/from the U.S. as a "Foreign Air Mail" route. Foreign Air Mail routes quickly became known as FAM's.



Featured at left is a First Flight Cover (FFC) issued to announce Montreal to Albany air service, performed by Canadian Colonial Airways under U. S. Foreign Air Mail Route No. 1. The cover is franked with Canada's first air mail stamp, the 5¢ brown olive "Winged Figures on Globe" stamp (Scott #C1), which was issued only ten days prior, on September 21, 1928. Front postal marking

includes a "Montreal, Canada, 1pm, Oct 1, 28" circular date cancel, with a strikingly deep "D" killer. Ruminants of a seven-line wavy machine cancel are also visible. *The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland* identify this cover as #2847.

The official "First Flight" cachet was applied in green in Montreal. Mail arriving at Albany was forwarded by overnight train to New York City, and by train or domestic air routes to Utica, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and eventually Erie and Cleveland. Mail arriving at Montreal was dispatched by domestic Canadian service to Ottawa. Pilots included Billy Hughes from Montreal to Albany, and Paul E. Reeder from Albany to Montreal. The Fairchild FC-2 was among the aircraft types used. Eastern Air Lines purchased Colonial in 1956, giving Eastern its first route to Canada.

References:

Cover from Author's collection.

The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland, Published through Sponsorship of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society and Auspices of the American Air Mail Society,

<https://www.americanairmailssociety.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/10/AMCN1-complete.pdf>

Aerodacious, Canadian First Flights, Canada First Flight Index, <http://www.aerodacious.com>

Six Flags AutoWorld

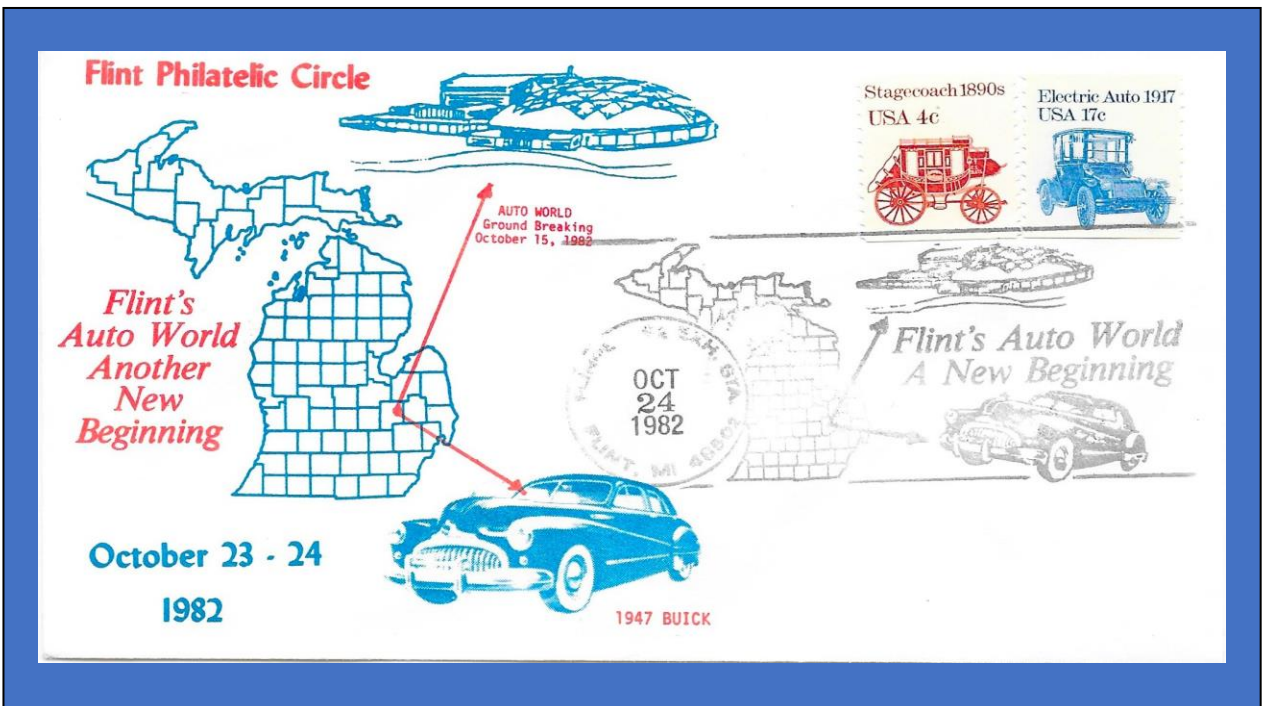
Michael Swope

AutoWorld was a short-lived indoor theme park in Flint, Michigan, developed as a tourist attraction for its host city. It opened as "Six Flags AutoWorld" on July 4, 1984.

The idea for AutoWorld originated as early as 1969, when Charles Stewart Harding Mott (1875-1973) advocated for the Flint community to display its pride as one of the main centers in the history of automaking.



After fifteen years of planning, AutoWorld opened with great fanfare, including a parade. Most experts predicted that AutoWorld would draw one million visitors per year; however, it soon became clear that these figures were overestimated. By the fall of 1984, attendance had already begun to decrease. When it became clear that AutoWorld would not reach its attendance target, financiers permanently closed the park in January, 1985. It was demolished in 1997.



This commemorative cacheted cover was created shortly after AutoWorld's groundbreaking ceremonies on October 15, 1982. It is franked with the 1982 Transportation Issue, 4¢ Stagecoach (Scott #1898A) and 17¢ Electric Auto (Scott #1906) postage stamps and cancelled at the Philatelic Exhibition Station (probably at a Flint Stamp show) on October 24, 1982, twenty months prior to the official opening of AutoWorld.

References: Cover from Author's collection; Wikipedia.org