

# Birmingham – Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



## December 2025

Angels are often depicted in Christian art as messengers, with trumpets representing the proclamation of good news. The Christmas angel symbolizes the announcement of Jesus' birth, reflecting the biblical story of the Nativity. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Scott  
#1276



The U.S. Postal Service has announced that USPS Operation Santa is now open for letter adoption for the 2025 holiday season. Starting now, individuals, families, and community groups can go to [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://uspsoperationSanta.com) to adopt letters to Santa and help make the holidays brighter for children and families across the country. This year, USPS is placing a special emphasis on adopting family letters — including a new way to do it as a team — to help ensure letters from the same household are adopted and fulfilled together.

We had good turnout at our November 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup> meetings. The club voted to delay stamp catalogue purchases until 2026 and authorized a two-year renewal of the club website domain. President Rusch is finishing an update of the club roster and our treasurer, Bob Helbig, is happy to collect dues for 2026.

Last-minute preparations for our December 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> stamp show were discussed and finalized. Everyone enjoyed folding show announcement flyers and stuffing them in envelopes for mailing!

### Club Meetings –

December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at the NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham.

### Upcoming Events –

December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, BIRMPEX stamp show at Sokol Cultural Center, Dearborn Heights.

December 6<sup>th</sup>, Modern Stamps Public Stamp Auction #533, at their Oak Park facility.

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# Canada Webb P3 Postal Card

Walter Koster

Canada Post Office Order No. 2 dated December 12, 1876, effective January 1, 1877, established a new two cent postal card rate from Canada to Great Britain. The previous rate was one cent. At the same time, the card rate to Newfoundland (which would not officially join the Dominion of Canada as its tenth province until March 31, 1949) was raised from one cent to two cents. As a result, a new line engraved 2¢ card was issued.

The front of the new card bears the lettering “Canada Post Card” in an arched banner with “to United Kingdom” directly below. Printed in yellow green, the P3 card is similar to the blue 1¢, P1 and P2 cards which had the same Queen Victoria medallion and a different border with corner piece added.

The P3 card was also cut to the same size as the 1¢ P1 and P2 cards, approximately  $4\frac{5}{8} \times 3$  inches (116 × 75 mm). Card stock was medium thick with a light yellowish buff appearance. The card at left shows a Montreal, Canada, circular date cancel of January 17, 1887, and a Mannheim, Germany, receiver. The earliest reported postmark (ERP) is April 9, 1877.



Webb #P3, 1876 United Kingdom



## Reference:

*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. 1, November 1981

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

# Frostbitten Convention

Michael Swope



The Northwest Territory was established by the Northwest Ordinance, enacted by the United States Congress on July 13, 1787. The souvenir cacheted cover (above) celebrates the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its implementation. The cover is franked with the green 1¢ Franklin and the red 2¢ Grand Canyon postage stamps (Scott #552 & 741). It was cancelled at Battle Creek, Michigan on September 30, 1937. The celebration, however, is bereft of the confusion and hostilities caused by the ordinance that led to a boundary dispute between Michigan and Ohio in 1835.

The Toledo War (1835–1836) resulted from poor geographical understanding of the Great Lakes along with conflicting state and federal legislation from 1787 to 1805 and varying interpretations of the laws. The situation came to a head when Michigan petitioned for statehood in 1835 and sought to include the disputed territory within its boundaries. The only blood spilled in the conflict was the non-fatal stabbing of a law enforcement officer.

The United States Congress proposed a compromise whereby Michigan gave up its claim to the strip in exchange for its statehood and the remaining three-quarters of the Upper Peninsula. At the Ann Arbor Statehood Convention (known as the *Frostbitten Convention*) on December 14, 1836, while facing a dire financial crisis and pressure from both Congress and President Andrew Jackson, the Michigan government accepted the compromise, resolving the Toledo War.

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