

Birmingham – Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



July 2025

On July 24th, 1701, nearly 325 years ago, French explorer Antoine Laumet de Lamothe Cadillac established Fort Pontchartrain at a site that would become the city of Detroit.



Scott #1000

July is National Fireworks Safety Month – be sure to remember that when celebrating our Independence Day on July 4th. National Postal Workers Day is on July 1st; Bastille Day on the 14th; and National Hot Dog Day is the 16th.

Notes from our club meetings –

Attendance was good at our June club meetings with lively auctions and spirited discussion. We welcomed new club member Nick Relich – he collects stamps from the British Empire.

Club member Martin Brown lead presentations at both meetings in June. On the 3rd, he provided interesting information on World War II “V-Mail” and distributed a philatelic word search puzzle for members to solve.

At the June 17th meeting Marty passed out a (not-to-easy) philatelic crossword puzzle. He took some grief on a few of the answers.

The meeting on the 17th brought renewed discussion regarding club finances and current philatelic shows.

Preparations continue for BIRMPEX 2025, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, December 5th and 6th at Sokol Cultural Center.

Club Meetings –

July 1st and 15th, 6:00 p.m. at the NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham. We meet in Room #4 at the rear of the building.

Upcoming Events –

Modern Stamps Public Stamp Auction #530, August 9th, at their Oak Park facility.

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Ken Rusch, President
Fred Como, Vice-President
Phil Kwasny, Secretary
Robert Helbig, Co-Treasurer
Faisal Qureshi, Co-Treasurer
Michael Swope, Editor

Canada Air Special Delivery

Walter Koster



Scott #CE1

In 1942, Canadian airmail and special delivery services became available as a single, combined postal service. Between 1942 and 1946, four airmail special delivery stamps were issued. Canada's first airmail special delivery stamp (Scott #CE1) was issued on July 1st 1942. Printed in bright ultramarine, it shows a Trans-Canada airplane in flight over Drummondville, Quebec, the site of the Hemmings Falls hydro-electric dam, and one of Canada's most industrialized areas.

In combining both the six-cent airmail rate and ten-cent special delivery rate, the stamp was the first 16¢ stamp issued by the Dominion of Canada. Trans-Canada Airlines was created as a Crown Corporation and operated under its original name from 1937 to 1965, when it was officially renamed Air Canada. The airplane shown is a twin-engine Lockheed, Model 10 Electra, all-metal monoplane, the same type flown by Amelia Earhart in 1937.



Featured above is a First Day Issue cover franked with the 16¢ airmail special delivery stamp (Scott #CE1). Front postal marking includes double "Ottawa, Canada, 10, Jul 1, 42" circular date cancels and a "Fee Claimed by Officer at First Address" overprint in purple to signify the 10¢ special delivery fee was paid upon arrival at the receiving (New York) post office.

In April 1943, an increase in the airmail rate from six-cents to seven-cents necessitated creation of a new 17¢ airmail special delivery stamp (Scott #CE2). The dies of the 16¢ stamp were re-worked, the new rate was inserted, and the new stamp was again printed in the same bright ultramarine color.



Scott #CE2

Featured below is a First Flight cover franked with the 17¢ airmail special delivery stamp (Scott #CE2) issued to announce Trans Canada Airlines service from Toronto to Cleveland. Front postal marking includes a handsome shield cachet and "Toronto, Ontario, Aug 1, 1946" circular date cancels with seven wavy line machine cancels. *The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland* identifies this cover as 4613.



Reference:

Covers 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/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AMCN1-complete.pdf>

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Algiers Motel

Michael Swope



Featured above is a (c. 1956) Dexter Natural Color Publishers Company (New York) color post card of the infamous Algiers Motel, located at 8301 Woodward Avenue, Detroit. The motel was demolished in 1979 and is now a “greenspace”, locally referred to as Virginia Park.

The Algiers Motel “incident” occurred the night of July 25–26, 1967, when a task force of Detroit Police, Michigan State Police, and Michigan National Guardsmen responded to reports of a sniper at the motel. Three black teenage boys were killed and two white women and seven black men were wounded in the melee, which ultimately sparked the racially charged 1967 Detroit riots.

The post card is franked with the 3¢, deep violet, Statue of Liberty postage stamp, Scott #1057 and was cancelled at Detroit on June 5, 1959, eight years before the riots.

