

Birmingham - Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



May 2024

Everything we see around us is the result of a creative idea that eventually materialized. May is "Creative Beginnings" month and as philatelists, we celebrate creativity through our collections.

May is also "Older Americans" month where we celebrate the societal contributions of older persons across the nation.



Scott #2011

Be sure to remember your mom on "Mother's Day", May 12th and Memorial Day will be celebrated this year on May 27th.

Notes from club meetings:

Plans are already being put in place for BIRMPEX 2024, September 13 & 14 at Sokol Cultural Center in Dearborn Heights.

Club members reported that the March, Michigan Stamp Club's "MICHIPLEX" show at Sokol Cultural Center was successful.

At our April 16th meeting, Martin Brown made an interesting presentation on a one peso, Servico Sanitario (Sanitary Service) revenue stamp from Argentina.

Club meetings – May 7th & 21st, 6:00 p.m. at NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham. Meetings are currently held in room #4 at the rear of the senior center.

Modern Stamps Sale #519, at their Oak Park facility on May 18, 2024 at 12:00 Noon.

Lansing Coin & Stamp Show, Royal Scot Bowl, 4722 West Grand River, Lansing - May 19, 2024.

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

Blue Water Bridge

Wally Koster



A United States "Port of Entry" was established in 1836 when the first license to provide commercial ferry service between Port Huron, Michigan, and (then known) Port Sarnia was issued. Initially, ferry service was performed by a sailboat; then, steam and paddle wheelers soon followed. Vessels capable of carrying automobiles began service in 1921.

The Blue Water Bridge, designed by Polish-born lead engineer Ralph Modjeski, spans the St. Clair River that links Port Huron, Michigan, United States, and Point Edward, Ontario, Canada. It was fully opened to traffic on October 10, 1938 and connects Highway 402 in Ontario with both Interstate 69 and Interstate 94 in Michigan.

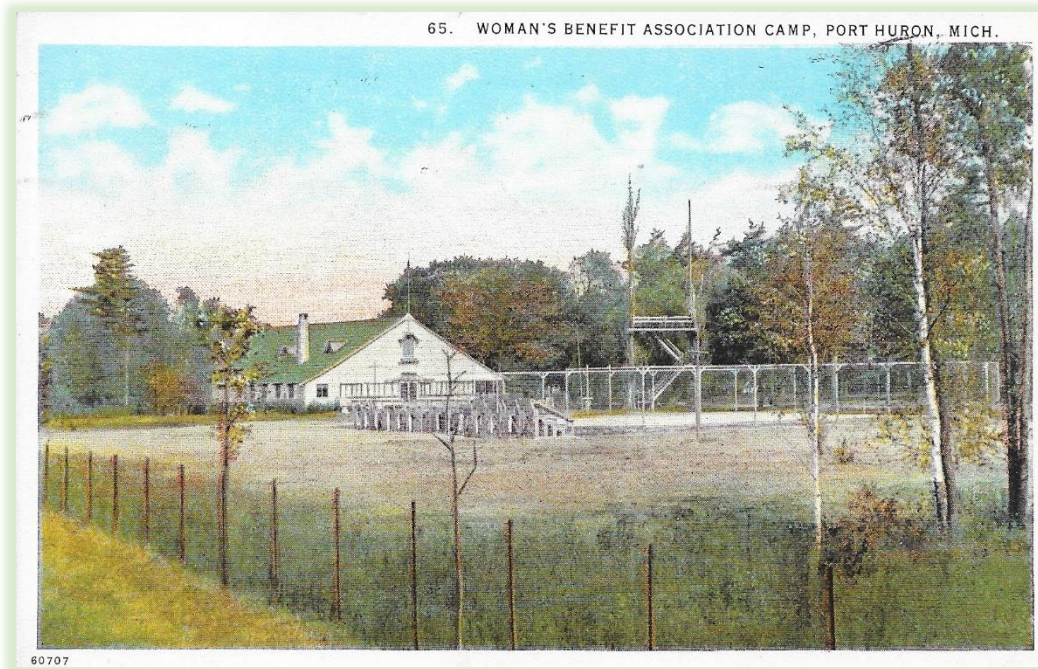
This commemorative Dedication Cover was created for and sponsored by the Port Huron – Sarnia Stamp Club. It is date cancelled October 8, 1938, at Sarnia, Ontario, and franked with the 20¢, dark carmine, Special Delivery Express (Scott #E6); the 3¢, carmine, George VI (Scott #233); and, the 10¢, carmine, Memorial Chamber (Scott #241) postage stamps.

Front post marks include a circular "Sarnia, ONT., 12:30pm, October 8, 1938" and "Blue Water Bridge Opening October 8, 1938" slogan cancel #665. The reverse features a "Sarnia, ONT., 12, October 8, 1938" double cancel.

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

Women's Benefit Association Camp

Michael Swope



Formed in 1898, the “Ladies of the Maccabees”, renamed “Women’s Benefit Association” in 1915, was the female auxiliary of the “Knights of Maccabees”. Essentially a fraternal benefit society that offered life insurance and other financial policies, the W.B.A. became the “North American Benefit Association in 1966 and then, “Woman’s Life Insurance Society” in 1996. It was the first fraternal benefit society operated exclusively by and for women. Its corporate headquarters was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 and is located at 1338 Military Street, Port Huron, Michigan.

The Women’s Benefit Association operated summer health and exercise camp clubs for members in Sugar Creek, Pennsylvania; Salamanca, New York; Hollister, Missouri; and, Port Huron, Michigan.

The Commercial Chrome post card was published (c. 1925) by H. H. Hamm Company of Toledo, Ohio. It is franked with the 2¢ carmine, Washington, postage stamp, Scott #554. It was postmarked at Port Huron, Michigan on September 2, 1926 and mailed to Cleveland, Ohio.



*Ref: Cover from Author's collection
BluewaterHealthyLiving.com*