



BIRMINGHAM & FERNDALE STAMP CLUB

October 2022

Halloween, October 31st, is a 2000-year-old celebration of “Samhain”, which is the Celtic New Year and end of summer. Revelers lit bonfires and wore costumes to ward off evil spirits.



U.S. Scott #5138

October is National Stamp Collecting month – share your passion for our hobby with friends!

Notes from September club meetings:

Our club banquet is set for October 18th at Shield's Restaurant, 1476 W. Maple Road, Troy, MI. This dutch-treat pizza dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

February 18th and 19th are tentatively set for our FERNPEX-2023 show at the Royal Oak Elks Lodge.

Our philatelic community continues to see low turn-out at club meetings and shows, believed to be due in part by Coronavirus fears. In an effort to boost communality, we will begin to reach out to local publications for free advertisement of our activities.

Club member Chris Crossley made an enlightening presentation on a connection between President James Buchanan and Queen Victoria from covers in his collection.

Upcoming events:

Club meetings – October 4th at NEXT Senior Center, Birmingham; October 18th at Shield's Restaurant, Troy

Motor City Stamp Club, MOTOPEX - 22, October 14th and 15th, at Sokol Cultural Center, Dearborn Heights

Modern Stamps sale #505 – October 29th at its Oak Park Facility

Ann Arbor Stamp Club, AAPEX-2022, November 4th & 5th, Lawrence Building, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor

St. Mary's Hospital

Michael Swope



This featured postcard was mailed from Detroit to Buffalo, New York, on August 8, 1928 with a 1¢ Franklin postage stamp (Scott #632). It bears a Detroit Railway Mail Service-RPO cancellation.

St. Mary's was Detroit's first hospital. It was established by Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul on June 9, 1845, when Detroit had a population of about 11,000 people. For its first five years, it was known as St. Vincent's Hospital, and located at Randolph and Larned streets. On November 6, 1850, it moved to a new brick building on Clinton Street near St. Antoine, with room for 150 patients. This new building was on land donated by Monique Beaubien, who requested the hospital's name be changed to St. Mary's.

It served as a military hospital during the Civil and Spanish-American wars and offered charitable, non-sectarian care. As Detroit's population grew, so did the need for hospital beds. The 325-bed hospital on this postcard opened on November 21, 1879 at the northeast corner of Clinton and St. Antoine.

In 1948, it was purchased by a group of medical doctors and renamed Detroit Memorial Hospital. It closed in 1987 and was demolished in February, 1990.