

Birmingham – Ferndale Stamp Club Newsletter



August 2025

When the United States Constitution was adapted in 1789, it did not clearly define who had the right to vote. Instead, individual states made the decision and New Jersey was the only state that allowed women to vote – and they took that away in 1807. On August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment passed, granting women suffrage and right to vote.



Scott #1406

Notes from our club meetings –

Attendance was very good at our July club meetings with spirited discussion. Bloomfield Hills resident Mike Marienthal was welcomed as a new member. He collects U.S. covers and plate blocks.

An interesting historical account of “National Postage Stamp Day” (July 1st) was made by Marty Brown and Jerry Rito explored the connection between Evinrude outboard motors with Briggs & Stratton engines by researching a 1910 Maltese registered cover.

Bob Helbig was recognized for his excellent renovation of the club’s portable library cabinet.

Also noted: The passing of well-known philatelist and stamp examiner, William Crowe; the increase in First Class Postage to 78¢; the Haiman/Beech presentation at the Plymouth Historical Museum on July 18th

Club Meetings –

August 5th and 19th, 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.

Allen Park Stamp Club show, August 9th at Sokol Cultural Center, Dearborn Heights.

In This Issue

Page 2 – Canada Postal Card P4, Walter Koster

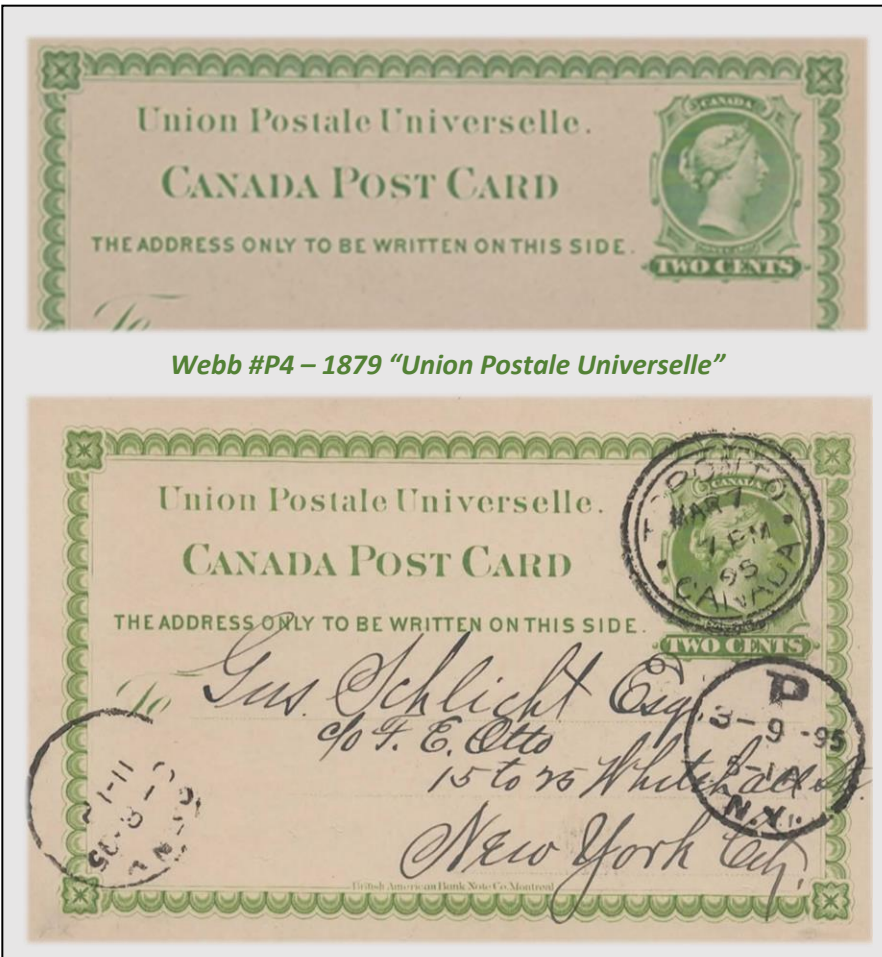
Page 3 – The Wizard of Oz, Michael Swope

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

Canada Postal Card - P4

Walter Koster

On August 1, 1878, Canada was admitted to the General Postal Union, later renamed the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.) in 1882. A new two-cent card, based on the previous P3 design, was created for use to Postal Union countries.



Webb #P4 – 1879 "Union Postale Universelle"

"Union Postale Universelle" was imprinted in the center of the card above an even bolder "Canada Post Card" imprint. The stamp was re-engraved, the frame slightly altered, and words "Canada" and "Postcard" added in small capitals above and below the medallion bearing a portrait of the Queen.

The size is the same as the P3 card at $4\frac{5}{8} \times 3$ inches (116 × 75 mm). Cards were printed on either smooth thin stock or clay toned stock.

The P4 card at left includes a double-ring Toronto, Canada, circle date cancels with Buffalo, and "P" (Paid) New York receivers.

In 1895, mail from Toronto to New York typically traveled by rail to Buffalo or Niagara Falls, then crossed the border, and continued again by rail to New York. The P4 card remained in use until 1896. Over 709,000 cards were issued. Webb lists three color varieties: yellow green, blue green and pale olive green. The earliest reported postmark (ERP) is August 15, 1879.

References:

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, Notes, Vol.1, No. 1, Nov. 1981

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

The Wizard of Oz

Michael Swope

On August 25, 1939, *The Wizard of Oz* opened in theaters around the United States and became one of the best-loved movies of all time.

Based on the 1900 children's novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, by L. Frank Baum (1856-1919), the film starred Judy Garland as the young Kansas farm girl Dorothy, who, after being knocked unconscious in a tornado, dreams about following a yellow brick road, alongside her dog Toto, to the Emerald City to meet the Wizard of Oz. Along the way, Dorothy encounters a cast of characters, including the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion and the Wicked Witch of the West. Though the scenes in Kansas were shot in traditional black and white, Oz appears in vivid Technicolor, a relatively new film process at the time. *The Wizard of Oz* won a Best Song Oscar for "Over the Rainbow," which became one of Garland's signature hits. Garland won a special award at that year's Oscar ceremony, for Best Juvenile Performer.

Filmed at MGM Studios in Culver City, California, *The Wizard of Oz* was a modest box-office success when it was first released, but its popularity continued to grow after it was televised for the first time in 1956. An estimated 45 million people watched that inaugural broadcast, and since then *The Wizard of Oz* has aired on TV countless times. Today, some of the film's famous lines, including "There's no place like home" and "Toto, I've a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore" are well-known to several generations of moviegoers.

Shown at right are United States postage stamps that were issued to honor both the movie and the actress who played "Dorothy". The 25¢ Scott #2445 was issued as part of the "Classical Films" set, released on March 23, 1990. The 39¢ Judy Garland, Scott #4077, was issued as one of the "Legends of Hollywood" series on June 10, 2006.

The Wizard of Oz has gained world-wide attention over the years and several countries have issued stamps to commemorate the classic film, including Antigua; Australia; Benin; Gambia; Guinee; Mali; Montserrat; Mozambique; and, Somaliland.

Ref: Stamps from Author's collection; History.com

