



POWAY STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER

SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S BEST STAMP COLLECTING CLUB

APS #112097

January 8th 2026

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Club's Mission Statement

To promote a closer social relationship among stamp collectors of Poway, San Diego, and vicinity, and to assist in spreading the knowledge of stamps and the pleasures derived from stamp collecting to those interested in philately.

Contact Us

Poway Stamp Club
12675 Danielson Court #413
Poway, CA 92064

Club E-mail

PSCphilately@gmail.com

CLUB MEETINGS

General Meetings January 14th

Club Elections and Ugly Stamp Contest

The meeting will begin with our regular Club business followed by the Ugly Stamp Contest and then member trading and socialization. Members are encouraged to bring stamps and other items for sale or trade with other Club members.

See Ugly Stamp Contest Rules on the Club's website.

January 28th Presentation

Great American Stamp #2179 by Bob Apgar

Dr. Virginia Apgar was a renowned anesthesiologist and avid stamp collector. She developed a system to ascertain the health of a newborn called the Apgar score, which is still used today. For this

2025 Club Board Members

President	Art Berg
Vice President	David Klauber
Treasurer	Bill Kolb
Secretary	Trice Klauber
Member at Large	Jim Grundy
Member at Large	David Waller
Past President	Thor Strom
Program Director	Bill Gallagher
Library Rep.	Art berg

2025 Club Volunteers

Club Registrar	Trice Klauber
Auctioneer	Jim Grundy
Club Librarian	Scott Boyd
Newsletter Editor	David Waller
Guild Contributors	Jon Schrag
	Bob McArthur
	Manual Marti
	Jim Grundy
	David Klauber
	David Waller
Library Rep.	Neil Schneider
Opp. Drawing	Scott Boyd
Webmaster	David Klauber

2025 Club Representatives

Federated Rep.	Bill O'Connor
S.D. Phil. Council	Nick Soroka
Rep. (Alternate)	Art Berg
APS Ambassador	Trice Klauber

PSC Website

Powaystampclub.com



contribution she was honored with Stamp #2179 in the Great Americans Issue 1986-1994. Our speaker Bob Apgar will share his unique perspective of this famous American/family member.

Please remember to bring your badge or bring \$1

CLUB EVENTS

Below is the meeting schedule for 2026; all events are proposed and subject to change as necessary to accommodate other events such as auctions.

January	14	Club Elections and Ugly Stamp Contest
	28	B. Apgar & PSC Elections
February	11	Angelo Ismimioglou Eureka, Express Franks Found
	25	Bob Schappelle Precancels
March	11	Ron Couchot Haitian Air Mail
	25	Member's Voice Sale
April	8	Stephen Gill Fun with Stamps
	22	TBD – Presentation
May	14	TBD – Presentation
	28	TBD – Presentation
June	10	TBD – Presentation
	24	TBD – Presentation
July	8	TBD – Presentation
	22	TBD – Presentation
August	12	TBD – Presentation
	26	Member's Voice Sale
September	9	TBD – Presentation
	23	Large Voice Sale
October	14	Ugly Stamp Contest
	28	TBD – Presentation
November	12	TBD – Presentation
	19	No Meeting
December	9	Holiday Party
	23	No Meeting

American Philatelic Society



SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
2026

Meetings

Club meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of each month except November & December at:

Philatelic Library
12675 Danielson Court #413
Poway, CA 92064

APS

The Poway Stamp Club and many of its members are members of the American Philatelic Society (APS). If 33% of our members are also members of the APS, then the Club receives a free year's membership to the APS.

Please join the APS!

Participation

All Club members are encouraged to provide input for the Club's monthly newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise is important and should be shared. Submit your article to:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com

Please contribute!

Club Website

PowayStampClub.com

Visit our Club's website to find a schedule of activities, resource links, and contact information as well as our newsletter.

Take a look!

CLUB NOTES

Club Meetings

The Poway Stamp Club meets twice a month, except in November and December, on the second and fourth Wednesday at 12675 Danielson Court, #413 in Poway. The meetings begin at 6:30pm.

Membership

It is time to inspire others to collect stamps. Enroll a new member today. Give a gift that could last a lifetime. Annual memberships to the Poway Stamp Club are \$10. For those individuals who are already philatelic collectors (and have been a member of the Club in good standing for two years), a lifetime membership in our club could be the perfect gift. Lifetime memberships are \$100.

Next Bid Board

Our next Bid Board will be held January 31st through February 14th and submissions will have to be into Trice by January 26th, 3:00pm. Make sure that you visit the website and place your bids. For more information and Bid Board rules visit the Club's website at PowayStampClub.com.

Club Newsletter

We Need You!



All Club members are encouraged to provide articles for the monthly newsletter. Join our Internationally recognized Writers Guild and submit your items to the Club's Editor today.

E-mail:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com.

Member Spotlight!

By David Klauber

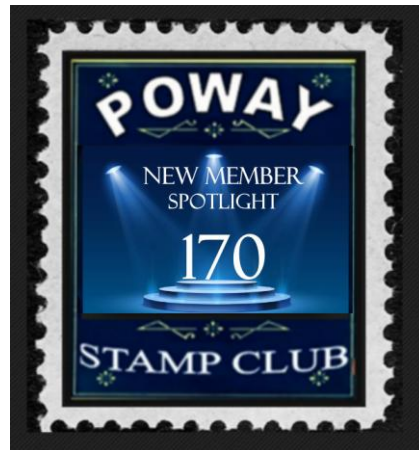


The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its newest members in each issue.

Some new members are drawn to the Poway Stamp Club because of a collection they have inherited or from a compelling interest in collecting stamps. Many of our members have similar stories to tell about how they found our Club and we would like to hear more on your experiences with stamp collecting. So, please join us at our next general meeting to talk about stamps.

We have **no new members** since our last newsletter. Our total paid membership is 170.

We always look forward to meeting with our new members at PSC meetings.



Membership Renewal

It's that time again, if you have not already renewed your membership to the Poway Stamp Club, please do so. Membership fee for 2026 is \$10 and if you have been a member in "Good Standing" for at least two years you might also consider becoming a Life Member. The cost for a Life Membership is \$100.

If you have any questions, please contact Trice Klauber at:

indvsmama@gmail.com

In the News

Danish postnord Will End Its Services After 400 Years



Figure 1: postnord Truck on a rainy day.

In a recent article from The Economist Magazine (November 29, 2025) Denmark will be the first European country to dissolve its postal collection and delivery services. The article reports that this action was demand driven. Over the past 25 years the volume of letters has declined by 90%. In 2024 alone it fell 30%, the result of a new law that ended Denmark's universal service obligation and opened the market to competition. The new law also scrapped the postal service's exemption from value-added tax so postage for a standard domestic letter shot up to 29 Kroner (*i.e.*, \$4.50).

The United States Postal Service serves the world's largest single market: North America accounts for 37% of the global postal revenue. It reported a \$9 Billion loss on November 14th and its accumulative losses since 2007 come to more than \$100 Billion. Henrik Okholm of Copenhagen Economics, a consultancy believes that "others will follow Denmark-not immediately, but perhaps in a decade".

Most Comprehensive Worldwide Stamp Collection Ever Assembled

In the December 2025 issue of the American Philatelist, John Seidl talked about the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum, Figure 1. He believes that the worldwide stamp collection displayed there is the most comprehensive collection ever assembled. The collection contains more than six million stamps and includes specimens from virtually every postal-issuing country since the 19th century as well as postal artifacts.

The core of the Smithsonian's collection was established in 1886 when the U.S. Post Office Department transferred its archives to the Smithsonian. Over time with major contributions from

private collectors, such as Benjamin K. Miller whose collection is on loan from the New York Library, and historical donations from the Universal Postal Union (UPU), this collection has become one of the most comprehensive collections on display.



Figure 1: The Smithsonian Institute's National Postal Museum in Washington D.C.

The **Benjamin K. Miller Collection** is a unique collection of stamps and other philatelic materials donated to the New York Public Library in 1925 by Milwaukee attorney Benjamin Kurtz Miller (1857-1928). This collection has been considered the first complete collection of U.S. stamps ever assembled and is often referred to as the "crown jewels" of U.S. stamp collecting.



A



B

Figure 2: A-Black and white photograph of Benjamin K. Miller (1857-1928} and
B-The Universal Postal Union, an agency of the United Nations.

The **Universal Postal Union** was established in 1874 and is the second oldest international organization worldwide, headquartered in Berne, Switzerland. Now a United Nations specialized agency, the UPU is the primary forum for cooperation between postal agencies, both public and private for its 192 member nations. The organization fulfils advisory, mediation, and liaison roles, sets the rules for international mail exchanges and makes recommendations to stimulate growth in mail, parcel and financial services to improve the quality of service for customers.

The UPU's donations have been significant because its member nations regularly shared new stamp issues with the Smithsonian, which helped ensure its global collection's completeness.



Figure 3: The Universal Postal Union monument, sculpture by René de Saint-Marceaux, 1909; in Bern, Switzerland.

Among the museum's most celebrated stamps are:

- The 1851 Hawaiian Missionary stamps;



- Early issues of Japan's dragon series,



- China's large dragon issues,



- Colonial stamps from the British Empire, French Territories, and Spanish Caribbean; and
- The zeppelin airmail stamps of Germany marking historic flights.

The UPU is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC and is open every day at 10:00am with the exception of certain holidays; admission is free.

Boston 2026 World Exposition; Volunteers Needed!

By David B. Waller



Figure 1: New stamps celebrating the Boston 2026 Exposition.

In the December issue of *The Philatelist* there was an article titled “The Road to Boston 2026” by Yamil M. Khouri, Jr. requesting those interested in volunteering for the Boston 2026 World Exposition to begin signing up online. Volunteers are needed from Thursday, May 21st, two days before the show's opening, through Monday June 1st, two days after closing. There will be 2- to 4-hour shifts mornings, afternoons, and evenings.

Steve Kennedy, the Volunteer Chairman, estimates that around 500 volunteers will be needed and while philatelist will be required for certain positions, volunteers need not be stamp collectors. No experience is necessary for most positions. To learn more and sign up for the event, visit Boston2026.org and click on the "Volunteers" tab at the top.

Volunteering at the Boston 2026 World Exposition is your chance to be part of one of the most exciting philatelic events of the decade, contribute to its success, and connect with collectors and dealers from around the world. Don't miss your chance to help make history at Boston 2026!



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The Philatelist, January 2026
APS Celebrates its 1,500th issue of The Philatelist

At The SD Philatelic Library

Postage Stamps of the Russian and USSR; Specialized Catalog Volume 2

by Neil Schneider

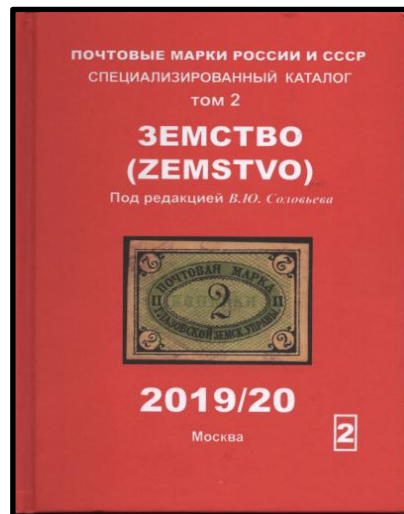


Figure 1: Postage Stamps of the Russian and USSR; Specialized Catalog, Volume 2 (Zemstvo)
Edited by V. Yu. Solovyov 2019/20 Moscow
(Cover Translation)

Forward from book: “The 2nd volume provides information on the issues zemstvo stamps with illustrations for all issued stamps and detailed description of the types and varieties.”

This is a must have volume for the collector of Zemstvos (Russian Empire Locals). Mostly written in Russian, color descriptions and other details like printing process and colors of stamps are also translated into English. Listings are in alphabetical order, as long as you know the Cyrillic alphabet. Color variations are often side by side. Paper colors are another way to separate similar issues, and this is provided in both languages. This is only one of the five volume set of books of stamps of Russia and the USSR.

The Russian post in the nineteenth century was a monopoly of the state through the Imperial Post. Most state post offices, however, were in towns, leaving many rural areas a long distance from the nearest post office. The Zemstvo post (or Rural Post) was introduced in 1864 to fill this gap and at first it operated without official approval. In 1870, a law was passed formalizing the arrangements which stated that “The Rural post is authorized to carry ordinary correspondence, also journals, circulars, remittances, registered letters, and other mail from the post town, to all more or less distant portions of the district as may be deprived of postal communications.”

The law also stated that “The Rural post is authorized to employ special postage stamps on the express understanding that their design differs entirely from those used by the Imperial Post” The postmen were also not allowed to use the post-horn emblem of the Imperial Post on their bags. The first Zemstvo Post was established in Vetluga in 1864, but no stamps were used.



My specific interest is Zemstvos from local Ukrainian cities and Oblasts (provinces). My collection now consists of about 160 stamps from Aktyrka, Alexandria, Annaniev and about 30 other locations. The years range from late 1870s up until about 1902. Although many of the designs were shared between multiple locations, many are unique to the local post office.



Editor's Corner

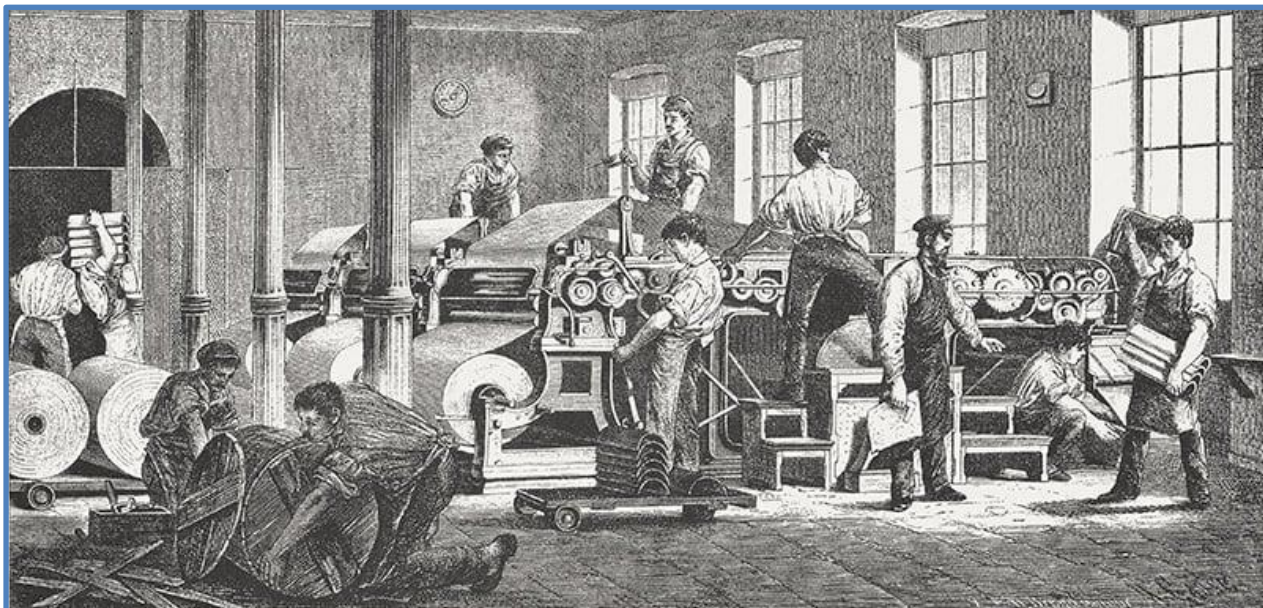


Image obtained from <https://blog.thelabelprinters.com/brief-history-of-printing-presses-part-3-the-industrial-revolution>.

To Our Readers,

Happy New Year. I have been honored to be Poway Stamp Club's Editor-in-Chief in 2025 and look forward to continuing in 2026. That being said, I would like to ask for your help. It is always good practice to transfer our knowledge of the things that we do to another in the event we are no

longer able to perform them. This creates a smooth transition with minimal interruption for our readers. I would like to engage an apprentice who will learn the process of preparing the monthly Poway Stamp Club Newsletter with the hopes of taking the position of Editor-in-Chief sometime in the future.

If you are interested, please contact me at dwaller@dbwipmg.com.

David Waller,
Editor-in-Chief

Member's Articles

Every Cover Tells a Story

by Jim Grundy



Figure 1: Cover from Jim Baguley to Mr. Oswald Reuss.

This patriotic World War II cover caught my attention for two reasons: one, the strip of two-cent Prexy coils on the front, and two, the very active battle scene on the back. This picture was made by Thomas Kirksey in 1941. It shows a large ship on fire with sailors jumping overboard and already in the water. Aside from all that, there is an American airplane flying right over the Haruna, a four-engine bomber approaching the ship, two “V” formations of aircraft overhead, and another ship on the horizon. The picture is titled “THE FIGHTING IRISH-CAPTAIN COLIN KELLY, JR., SINKS THE JAPANESE BATTLESHIP HARUNA”. What did Captain Kelly do to cause all this mayhem?



A



B

Figure 2: A-Image of Captain Colin Purdie Kelly and B-Image of a B-17 Bomber

Colin Purdie Kelly, Jr. was born on July 11, 1915, in Madison, Florida. His family was well-to-do and had a strong military heritage. Family members had fought in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, with several others attending West Point. He was an excellent student, and after graduating from high school in 1932, he entered West Point. 1937 was a busy year for Kelly. He graduated from West Point, married Marion Wick, and entered flight School. He graduated from Flight School as a B-17 bomber pilot and was stationed in New York State, where he was promoted to Captain. In early 1941, he was transferred to a B-17 bomber group in Hawaii. That summer, he was ordered to lead a group of nine B-17 bombers from Hawaii to Clark Field in the Philippines. He was stationed at Clark Field when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

The attack on Pearl Harbor alerted the cadre at Clark Field that there was a good chance that they would be next. Captain Kelly's B-11 bomber, along with several others, was ordered to a smaller airbase in the Philippines. The following day, many Japanese planes attacked Clark Field. This attack destroyed most of the bombers and fighter planes, plus it did significant damage to the airstrip and surrounding buildings. Kelly's group of B-17s was ordered back to Clark Field, where they would be given orders on what their mission would be. Kelly's bomber, along with two others, was to locate a Japanese aircraft carrier that was rumored to be in the area and sink it. As the bombers refueled and took on bombs, an air raid alert was sounded, and the three bombers took off immediately. Because of the air raid, Captain Kelly's plane could not completely refuel and only had three 600-pound bombs instead of the standard number of eight they would usually carry.

The story continues as the three bombers flew north, looking for the enemy aircraft carrier, Kelly noticed a Japanese landing force near Aparri on the island of Luzon. He radioed Clark Field,

telling them what he had seen, and asked for permission to attack them. He was permitted to attack. Kelly's B-17 would be the first to attack. The plane climbed to 20,000 feet, and Kelly looked for a target. He spotted a large ship that he thought was a battleship (the Battleship Haruna). His crew dropped their three bombs. The first two missed, but the third landed next to the ship, causing an enormous geyser of water.

Kelly's attack had alerted the enemy fighter planes supporting the invasion force to Kelly's presence. Kelly climbed to 22,000 feet, knowing that the enemy fighters could not fly that high, and headed back to Clark Field. There was a problem. Kelly's bomber would have to descend and land at Clark Field. This would make the bomber vulnerable to the enemy. As they descended, the enemy airplanes attacked, tearing the bomber to pieces and setting it on fire. Kelly struggled to keep the plane level and ordered his crew to bail out. Just as the last crew member left the plane, it exploded and crashed five miles north of Clark Field. Kelly's bomber was the first B-17 lost during World War II. Kelly's body was recovered next to his plane. His body was returned to Madison, Florida, and buried in the Oak Ridge Cemetery.

The facts prove that Thomas Kirksey's rendition of the events of December 10th is a complete fabrication. The official report on Captain Kelly's encounter with the Japanese landing force reveals that the Japanese ship that was attacked was not the Haruna and that, if any, the damage to any Japanese ships was minor. However, the story of Captain Kelly's brave efforts made him one of America's first war heroes after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. His bravery in the face of a large enemy force and his self-sacrifice to save his crew members provided an example that no matter what the situation may seem, you must keep fighting.



United States Use of PERFINS

by David B. Waller



Figure 1: Images from United States PERFINS: The Classics and rarities by Bob Hodges.

The term perfin is an abbreviation for **PER**Forated **I**nitials or **PER**Forated **I**nSignias and this unique security feature was first used in the United States in 1908 (Figure 1). In the American

Philatelist (Magazine of The American Philatelist Society), July 1995, Ken Lawrence wrote:

"On May 4, 1908, Postmaster General George von L. Meyer issued an order that relaxed the rule on defacement of U.S. postage stamps. The new rule read as follows:

"United States postage stamps, to be acceptable for postage, must be absolutely without defacement: Provided, that for the purpose of identification only, and not for advertising, it shall be permissible to puncture or perforate letters, numerals or other marks or devices in United States postage and special-delivery stamps. The punctures or perforations shall not exceed one thirty-second of an inch in diameter, and the whole space occupied by the identifying device shall not exceed one-half inch square. The puncturing or perforating must be done in such manner as to leave the stamp easily recognizable as genuine and not previously used. The use of ink or other coloring matter in connection with such puncturing or perforating is prohibited."

(<https://norbyhus.dk/perfin18.html>)

The earliest recorded U.S. PERFIN, "BFC CO", was found on cover in 1908. The cover was of the B.F. Cummins Company of Chicago and was postmarked on 26 May 1908.



Figure 2: Images obtained from The United States PERFINS; The Classics and Rarities by Bob Hodges MEMPHEx 2014.

So why were PERFINS used? PERFINS were created primarily to discourage theft of postage stamps by employees of commercial businesses. In many countries, including the U.S. and Great Britain at the beginning of the 20th century, post offices allowed unused stamps to be exchanged for cash. By perforating their stamps with an identifying pattern, companies ensured that if the stamps were stolen, they could not be cashed in by unauthorized individuals because the post office would not accept the altered stamps for redemption. The stamps could, however, still be used for legitimate postage by the rightful owner.

In essence the PERFIN holes acted as a security measure, proving the stamp was used by the company and not being sold on the black market. Since a pilfered stamp would still have the company's initials, it was useless to the thief because they could not sell it. Consequently, it discouraged this behavior. In addition, the presence of the PERFIN pattern made it virtually impossible for an employee to redeem unused stamps for cash at the post office, a practice that was sometimes possible with regular stamps.

The use of PERFINS was a business practice, not a postal service requirement, and was first granted permission in the United States in 1908. Because of this alteration PERFINS are collected

by specialists who focus on the different patterns, company initials, and historical use of these stamps.

The use of PERFINS has declined significantly since the 1940s, due to the widespread adoption of postage meters. Figure 3 shows Scott #834 with ESSO PERFIN from 1937. Today, the United States Postal Service generally does not offer refunds for purchased stamps. The only exceptions are for defective or damaged stamps, or in some cases, specific conditions for high-volume mailers and certain types of pre-canceled stamps. Therefore, the original anti-theft purpose of PERFINS for cash redemption is largely obsolete in the U.S. postal system.

Today there are approximately 6,500 different U.S. PERFIN patterns known. The patterns normally consist of company or organization initials, letters, numerals, symbols and/or combinations (see *United States Perfins; The Classics and Rarities* by Bob Hodges MEMPHEX 2014). (Google AI)

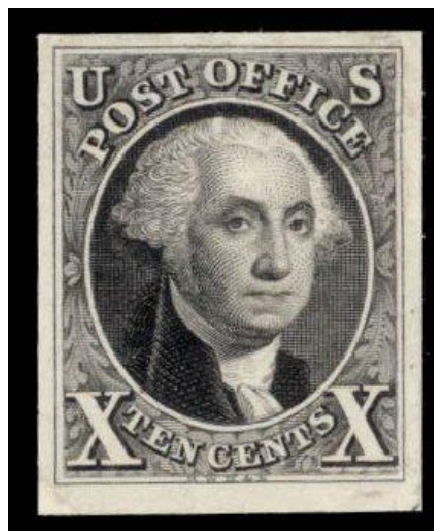


Figure 3: PERFIN from around 1937 showing “ESSO” PERFIN on Scott #834.



Editor's Choice

Most Iconic Early U.S. Postage Stamp



(Image taken from USPhila.com)

Scott #2 is this month's Editor's choice for the most iconic early U.S. stamp. The selection of subject matter, (*i.e.*, G. Washington our first President) as well as the choice of color; black (*i.e.*, a dominant color providing the greatest contrast to the white paper), the high value denomination

make this 1847 definitive issue U.S. stamp my choice for this month's most iconic stamp.

Spanish-American War Cachet

by Manuel Marti



The Spanish-American War brought an end to almost four centuries of Spanish presence in the Americas, Asia, and the Pacific; the United States meanwhile not only became a major world power, but also gained several island possessions spanning the globe, which provoked bitter debate over the wisdom of expansionism. This public passion created immense political pressure, pushing President McKinley and Congress toward intervention, driven by a mix of genuine humanitarian concern for Cubans, expansionist desires, and an outraged sense of national honor after the Maine explosion.



Figure 1: Spanish-American War Patriotic Cachet Surry, ME, Dr. Who Stamps
Sold for \$30.00 on eBay.

The Spanish-American War (April 21-August 13, 1898) was fought between Spain and the United States. It began with the sinking of the U.S.S. *Maine* in Havana Harbor in Cuba, and resulted in the U.S. acquiring sovereignty over Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines, and establishing a protectorate over Cuba. It represented U.S. intervention in the Cuban War of Independence and Philippine Revolution, with the latter later leading to the Philippine-American War.

Public passion played a decisive role in pushing President William McKinley and Congress toward intervention. This pressure stemmed from a combination of genuine humanitarian concern for the suffering of Cubans, expansionist ambitions, and an outraged sense of national honor following the explosion and sinking of the U.S.S. *Maine* in Havana Harbor. Sensationalist “yellow journalism” amplified these emotions; historian W. Joseph Campbell argues that American newspapers exaggerated Spanish atrocities in Cuba to boost circulation, helping to fuel popular support for

war. Similar sensational coverage surrounded events in the Philippines, where U.S. intervention in the Philippine Revolution later led to the Philippine-American War.

As for the stamps being used, most are incidental. It's all about the caches, corner cards, sender (soldiers letters) and/or postal markings. Following are some examples of these caches, of which some are in my collection. Some of the Characteristics of Spanish-American War Cachet Covers are:

Patriotic: The covers often display patriotic imagery such as American flags, eagles, U.S. Navy warships (like the U.S.S. Maine), soldiers, and pro-intervention slogans like "Our War with Spain".

Embossed: Many of the designs were embossed, adding an elaborate quality that was popular at the time. (*note: some of these covers might or might not be embossed*)

Military Mail: Some covers are soldier's letters sent to/from military stations in Cuba, the Philippines, or training camps in the U.S. (such as Camp Cuba Libre in Florida).

The figures below show two 'all over' cache covers, one that bares the American Flag, Figure 1, the other bares the Cuban Flag, Figure 2.



Figure 2: Spanish-American War Patriotic-Cuban Flag from Epping, NH, Forwarded to Boston, MA (forwarding postal cancels on back of cover-not shown) being offered on eBay by PostalStationery.com \$110.00.



Figure 3: Patriotic 1898, Spanish-American War Patriotic cover Philadelphia, PA, 2 diff flags, "Our War With Spain" for Cuba's Freedom. Offered on HIPSTAMP by northstamp \$75.00.



Figure 4: Machine canceled from Toledo, OH to Detroit, MI., Sept 12, 1898 (late usage). Cover stained at bottom, but nice flag cancel (cover in Marti collection).



Figure 5: Patriotic. The query connects the Golden Rule (a concept of ethical treatment) with Winslow, Indiana, the Spanish-American War (1898), and "for humanity's sake," likely referencing the humanitarian spirit of the war, particularly the rescue of the U.S.S. *Winslow* by Spanish forces, a heroic act of humanity amid conflict that inspired national pride, despite the ongoing war for Cuban liberation and American expansion. (Cover in Marti collection).



Figure 6: Military. Below cover with corner card from Camp Alger with a "Soldier's Letter" at upper right and paying 2c postage due upon arrival.

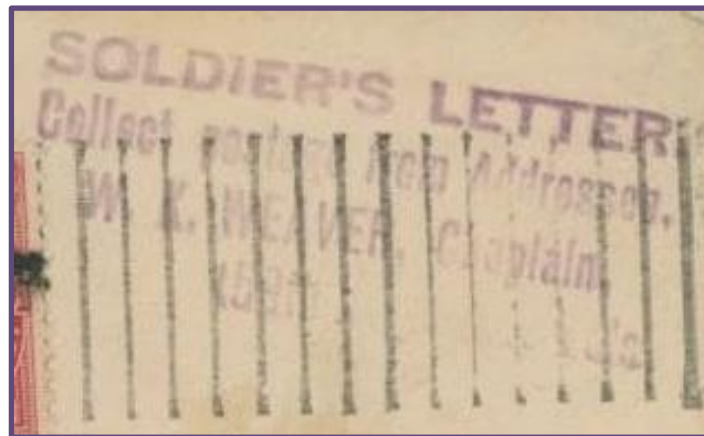
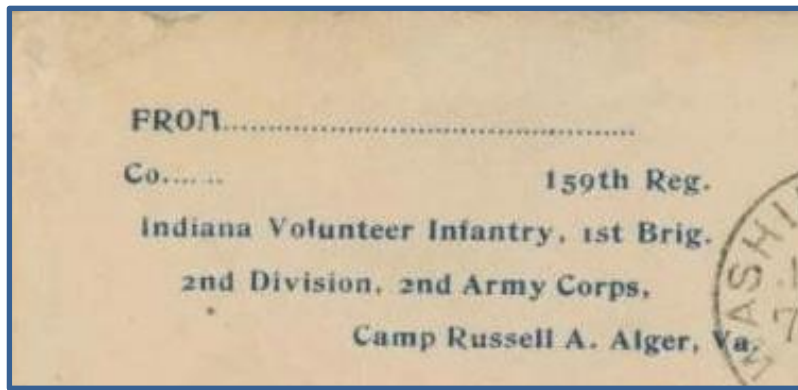


Figure 7: Soldier's letter paying 2c upon arrival in Amherst, MA. Camp Alger, near Falls Church, VA, was an army camp established on May 13, 1898, for the Spanish-American War.

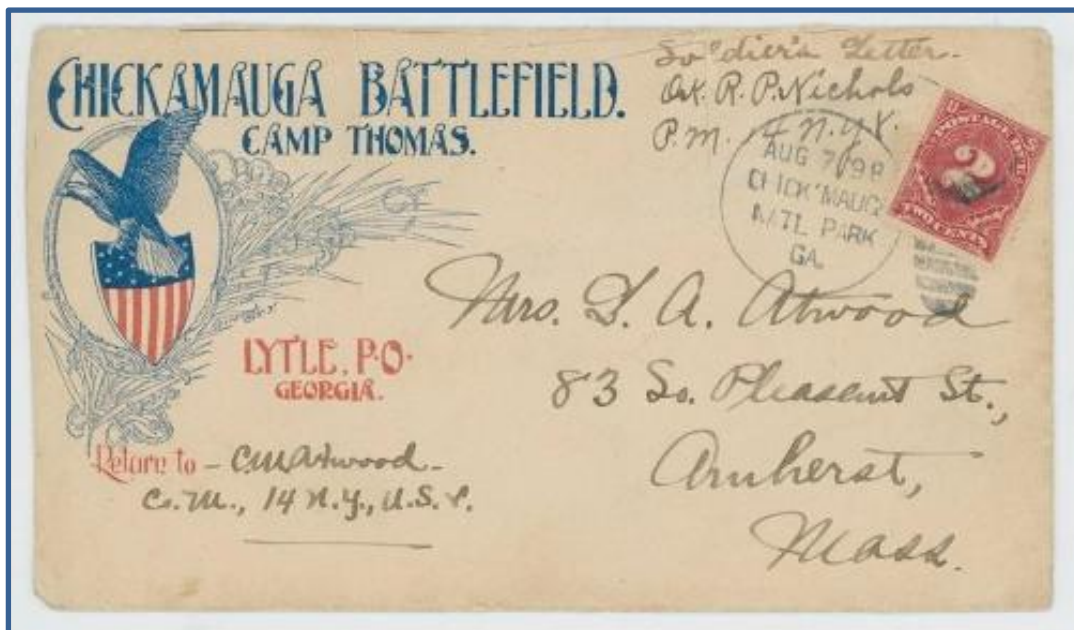


Figure 8: Military. Cover from Camp Thomas established in 1898 at Chattanooga National Military Park, Chickamauga, Walker County, GA. Named Camp George H. Thomas on April 23, 1898.

Soldiers letter (Figure 8) from a C.M. Atwood, Co M, 14th N.Y. Late usage Aug 7th, 1898 with postage due upon arrival. The 14th Infantry Regiment was one of twelve New York State National Guard infantry regiments that were federalized for service in the Spanish-American War. The 14th Regiment was mustered in at Camp Hempstead, NY and departed for Camp George H. Thomas in Chickamauga Park, TN the next day.



A



B

Figure 9 A-B: Military. PMC (Private Mail Card) Spanish-American war, Admiral Dewey, to Florence, Italy. Dr. Who Stamps sold on eBay \$66.00.

Admiral George Dewey was the U.S. naval commander who achieved a decisive victory at the Battle of Manila Bay in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War (1898), destroying the Spanish Pacific fleet in a single morning with virtually no American casualties, making him a national hero and signaling America's rise as a world power. His famous command, "*You may fire when you are ready, Gridley,*" initiated the attack (Captain Charles Vernon Gridley was the commander of the U.S.S. *Olympia*, Admiral George Dewey's flagship), leading to the capture of the Philippines and establishing U.S. naval dominance in the Pacific.

My most recent acquisition is a Spanish-American War patriotic cover featuring the flags of the United States and Cuba, addressed to Melvil Dewey (no relation to Admiral George Dewey). The design is a corner card produced by the Brandon Printing Co., depicting American and Cuban flags flanking an American eagle. This example is in the Marti Collection, adding further provenance and collector interest.

The significance of this cover lies in its distinguished recipient. Melvil Dewey, creator of the Dewey Decimal System, was a fundamental figure in the development of modern American librarianship. By the age of 25, he had devised and copyrighted the Dewey Decimal System. He later helped in founding both the American Library Association and the first formal library school at Columbia University in 1884. Dewey served as New York State Librarian from 1888 to 1906 and, as Secretary of the University of the State of New York, acted as its chief administrative officer, overseeing the State Library and managing the university's affairs.

Dewey resigned as Secretary in late 1899 following disputes with State Superintendent Charles R. Skinner, amid allegations of sexual misconduct and criticism of Dewey's documented racial and anti-Semitic views. Regardless of these controversies, his influence on library organization and information science remains profound, making this cover notable not only as a patriotic artifact of the Spanish-American War era but also as a piece linked directly to a major figure in American intellectual and cultural history.



Figure 10: Spanish-American War patriotic cover featuring the flags of the United States and Cuba, addressed to Melvil Dewey (no relation to Admiral George Dewey).

Acknowledgments: Pratt Institute Libraries, Hipstamp, eBay, Wikipedia, mrfancycanceluser, larrysellcoversuser, and drwhistampuser.



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San Diego County Philatelic Library Events

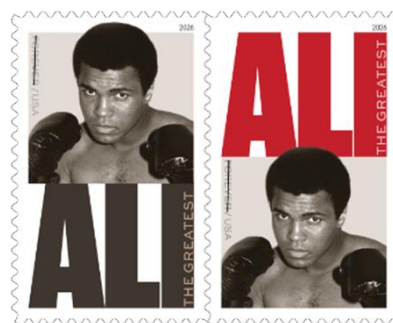
No events for the SDCPL have been scheduled as yet.

Stamp News 2026

New Stamp for 2026

Muhammad Ali

Known as "The Greatest," Muhammad Ali (1942-2016) was a three-time world heavyweight boxing champion. He challenged the best fighters in the world - and the world itself. As a boxer, activist and humanitarian, he defied expectations to become a globally celebrated cultural icon. The stamps feature a 1974 Associated Press photo. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps. The Muhammad Ali stamps will be issued Jan. 15 in Louisville, KY.



Colorado Statehood

In 2026, Colorado will be honored with a stamp for its 150th anniversary. Renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and the awe-inspiring beauty of the Rocky Mountains, our 38th state joined the Union 100 years after the United States declared independence from the United Kingdom. The Colorado Statehood stamp features a photograph



of the Weminuche Wilderness area of the San Juan National Forest. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with a photograph by Colorado nature photographer John Fielder (1950-2023). The Colorado Statehood stamp will be issued Jan. 24 in Denver.

Black Heritage: Phillis Wheatley



The 49th Black Heritage stamp commemorates Phillis Wheatley (circa 1753-1784), the first author of African descent in the American Colonies to publish a book. As an enslaved woman with an education and prominent social connections, Wheatley occupied a unique and remarkable place in Colonial Boston, and she is often called “the mother of African American literature.” Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with a portrait of Wheatley by artist Kerry James Marshall. The Phillis Wheatley stamp will be issued Jan. 29 in Boston.

<https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2025/1029-usps-provides-sneak-peek-at-2026--stamps.htm>



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