

# POWAY STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER

SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S BEST  
STAMP COLLECTING CLUB

APS #1 12097

May 13<sup>th</sup> 2026

## In This Issue

- Next Club Meetings and Presentations Schedule
- Club Notes
- Club Events
- Member Spotlight
- President's Message
- In The News
- Editor's Corner
- Article: Jim Grundy
- Article: David Klauber
- Article: David Waller
- Article: Manual Marti
- Article: Bill O'Connor
- Member Classifieds
- SDPL Events Schedule
- Stamp News 2026

## 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

## CLUB MEETINGS

### General Meetings

May 13<sup>th</sup>

**Hawaiian Stamps**  
**Arden Simoni**

Put on your Hawaiian Shirt and bring your Aloha attitude. Arden is going to discuss Hawaiian history and their stamps.

May 27<sup>th</sup>

**ReJoyce: Irish Literature on Stamps.**  
**Brian Morgan**

This presentation will outline some of the great Irish literary figures and how they are depicted on Irish stamps and feature some amusing postal references in James Joyce's novel Ulysses.

**Please remember to bring your badge or bring \$1**

[PSCphilately@gmail.com](mailto:PSCphilately@gmail.com)

### 2025 Club Board Members

**President** David Waller  
**Vice President** David Klauber  
**Treasurer** Bill Kolb  
**Secretary** Trice Klauber  
**Member at Large** Jim Grundy  
**Member at Large** Neal Lyles  
**Past President** Art Berg  
**Program Director** Bill Gallagher

### 2026 Club Volunteers

**Club Registrar** Trice Klauber  
**Auctioneer** Jim Grundy  
**Club Librarian** Jo Ashley  
**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

### Chair Positions

**Acquisitions** Trice Klauber  
**Comm. Outreach** TJ Ducat  
**SD Stamp Show** David Kaluber  
**SD County Fair**

### 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](http://Powaystampclub.com)



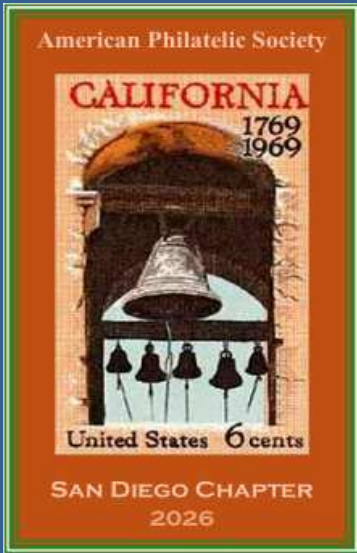
# CLUB EVENTS

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

|           |    |  |
|-----------|----|--|
| May       | 13 | <b>Arden Simoni</b><br>Hawaiian Stamps                     |
|           | 27 | <b>Brian Morgan</b><br>ReJoyce: Irish Literature on Stamps |
| 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 | <b>Ugly Stamp Contest Nominations for BOD</b>              |
|           | 28 | TBD – Presentation   |
| November  | 12 | <b>Elections for BOD</b><br>TBD – Presentation             |
|           | 19 | <b>No Meeting</b>  |
| December  | 9  | <b>Holiday Party</b>                                       |
|           | 23 | <b>No Meeting</b>  |



May 8, 1945, Victory in Europe (V-E Day)  
image obtained from the Washington Post.



### 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:

[dwall@dbwipmq.com](mailto:dwall@dbwipmq.com)

**Please contribute!**

### Club Website

[PowayStampClub.com](http://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 \$20. 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 \$200.

## Next Bid Board

The next Bid Board posting will be determined shortly. For more information and Bid Board rules visit the Club's website at [PowayStampClub.com](http://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:

[dwall@dbwipmq.com](mailto:dwall@dbwipmq.com)

**Special Thanks from the Editor to those who have stepped up and submitted articles for the Newsletter in 2026.**



## Member Spotlight!

By David Klauber



The Poway Stamp Club Newsletter highlights its new members in each issue. Since our last newsletter, one new member has joined. Today's spotlight is on our newest member.

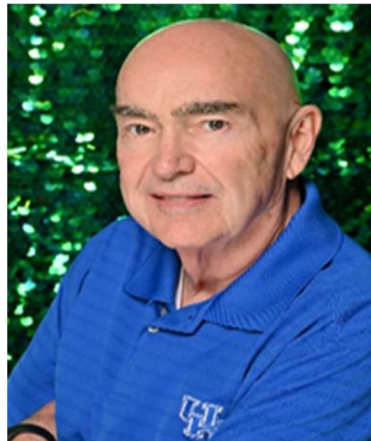
### Leigh Childs

#### **#640 Leigh Childs of San Diego, California,**

Leigh recently joined us at a club meeting, and our President, David Waller, nominated her for membership. Leigh became acquainted with the PSC after viewing the San Diego Library presentation before the Lowrider stamp release by D. Klauber. Leigh is new to philately, and we are excited to see her at our monthly gatherings. Welcome to the club, Leigh!

**This brings our total paid membership to 163. We look forward to getting together at PSC meetings with our new members.**

## Closing the Book



**Joseph Starnes**

**September 5, 1951 - April 19, 2026**

Joseph (Joe) Robert Starnes, passed away at age 74 on April 19, 2026. He was the oldest of three children born to Bayard "Mac" McIntosh, Jr. and Pricilla Jane Starnes. Joe was a native of Louisville, Kentucky.

In October 1973, Joe began an almost 34-year career with “Ma Bell telephone company,” starting with South Central Bell in Monroe, LA. He later transferred to New Orleans where he met his wife, Diana Tizzard, at work. They were married July 3, 1980. Later that year, they transferred to Pacific Telephone in San Diego, CA because of the weather. They welcomed their son, Brian, in December 1981. Joe retired from AT&T in June 2007, as a Sr Project Manager in Network Planning and Engineering in San Diego.

He was a longtime volunteer at the San Diego Philatelic Library after inheriting his dad’s stamp collection. The library thanks you for your service and will miss you.



---

## President's Message



Dear Members,

I was greatly disappointed to report that the Poway Stamp Club would not be participating in the San Diego County Fair this year. The reason, quite simply, was insufficient time to prepare a booth that fully represents our Club and Mission Statement. However, I am delighted to tell you that a preliminary proposal for 2027 has already been prepared and will be presented to the Board in July for review and approval. By starting our review process of this proposal in July it should provide some assurances that we will have sufficient time to develop, prepare, and execute a spectacular booth for the 2027 San Diego County Fair. It is my hope that this will be a booth that all of our members will be proud of and excited to participate in manning.

In our last Board meeting it was reported that the PSC has record financial reserves and most importantly those amounts well exceed those desired to ensure the Club's existence in the future. It is now time to consider utilizing some of those reserves to enhance our meetings and events, for the benefit of our members. The Board has already received input from one of our members on ways we can introduce more fun and community to our membership. I would like to hear from more of you on what you would like to see our Club do or participate in that would increase your participation so, please let me know.

With that said, it is important to remain diligent in growing our reserves and more importantly developing a pipeline to generate a consistent income into the future. My goal is to ensure that the Club's reserves remain at a level that would allow the establishment of more fun events for our members to encourage community and grow our membership. (*i.e.*, meeting our Membership Participation Goal "Goal 1" and Financial Diligence Goal "Goal 2").

Please help me in realizing these goals for 2026.

## In the News



**Boston World Stamp Expo 2026, May 23-30**  
at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC),  
located at 415 Summer St, Boston, MA.

From May 23 to May 30, the Boston 2026 World Expo will fill the halls and meeting rooms of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Spanning 352,000 square feet of exhibition space, the Expo will feature a vast bourse as well as hundreds of collectors' club and society meetings, competitive exhibitions, issuance ceremonies for new stamps and displays and exhibits by postal authorities of the nations of the world.

This event offers rare and remarkable opportunities for stamp collectors to connect in fellowship with colleagues and friends, build their collections, learn from experts and fully immerse themselves in their hobby. For newcomers, the expo offers eye-catching displays of visually stunning stamps, opportunities to learn about other countries and their cultures and a rich sense of tradition in a fun, family-friendly setting.

We look forward to seeing you there!



**May 25<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day 2026. The Service Cross medals are the second-highest military decoration for valor in combat, after the Medal of Honor.**

## Editor's Corner

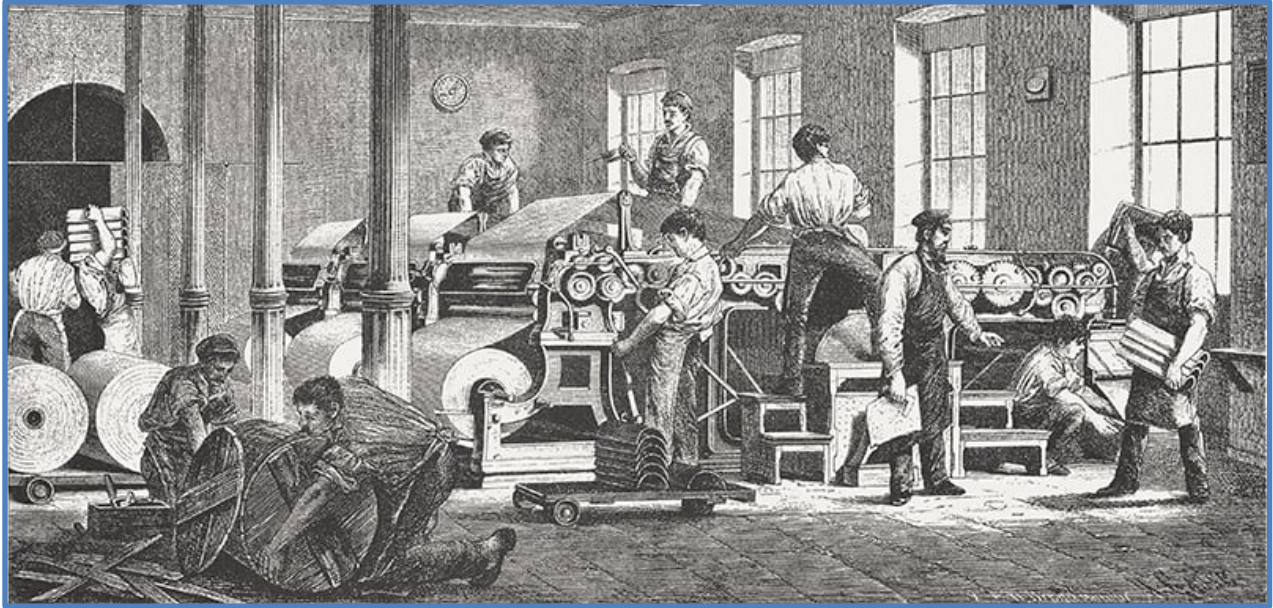


Image obtained from <https://blog.thelabelprinters.com/brief-history-of-printing-presses-part-3-the-industrial-revolution>.

To Our Readers,

As with many clubs across our country, I am concerned that too few individuals (*i.e.*, 4-5 individuals) perform most of the tasks required to maintain our Club (*i.e.*, membership >150). While these key members are extremely dedicated, there comes a time when they must step down. It is in these instances where their true contributions become evident. More specifically, when it becomes obvious that no one person is able to perform all the tasks performed by the person leaving. Further complications arise when a significant amount of time is needed to learn the tasks required.

So how does the Club prepare? Certainly, one option is to have someone train (*i.e.*, apprentice) with the current Chair. This can reduce or eliminate delays in time sensitive tasks if the current Chair can no longer perform their duties. It can also provide time for the Club to find a new Chair if the apprentice is unable to assume the position.

That being said, I would like one or more individuals interested in learning the Editor-in-Chief's position to begin apprenticing with me to avoid these potential problems in the future.

If you are interested, then please contact me at [dwaller@dbwipmg.com](mailto:dwaller@dbwipmg.com).

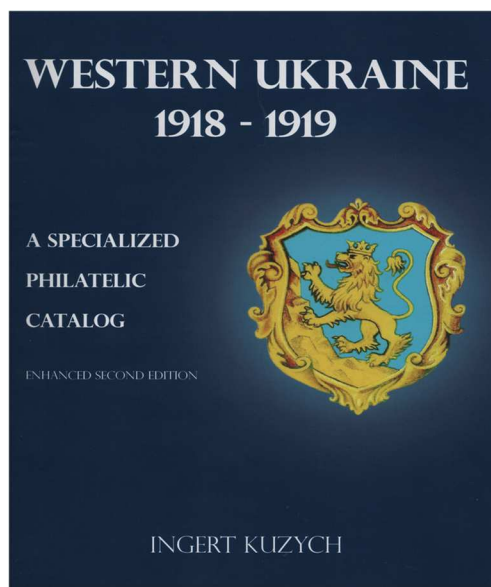
David Waller,  
Editor-in-Chief

---

At The SD Philatelic Library

## Western Ukraine 1918-1919: A Specialized Philatelic Catalog

by Neil Schneider



Western Ukraine 1918-1919: A Specialized Philatelic Catalog  
by Inger Kuzych

I recently acquired this catalog by Inger Kuzych. He is also the author of the Western Ukraine section of Scott Catalogs.

In the introduction after the index, Inger describes how his system separates the Kolomyia issues. These issues were previously grouped together by the *Illustrated Postage Stamp History of Western Ukraine 1918-1919* by John Bulat because they were released on the same day (*i.e.*, December 12, 1918). Much of the catalog follows the naming convention that John Bulat provided, except where further evidence indicated the date of release of stamps was reversed.

Numbering follows the chronological release of stamps. Major overprint errors are indicated by suffix letters. This catalog contains more details than I have encountered in other books. The introduction is followed by 14 pages of "A Concise History Of Western Ukraine". It starts from the 11<sup>th</sup> Century and the emergence of Galicia within the medieval Ukrainian state of Kyivan Rus. It was annexed by the Polish King Casimir II in 1349. It remained part of Poland until 1772 when the Austrian Empire acquired them.

During World War I in the last days of October 1918, word was received that the Austrians planned to concede control of Eastern Galicia to the Poles. In the early hours of November 1, 1918, sixty Ukrainian officers and about twelve hundred men disarmed the soldiers of non-Ukrainian nationality stationed in Lemberg, that occupied the principal government buildings.

Between November 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, the Rada adopted the name Western Ukrainian National Republic and the Ukrainians appropriated government administrative functions but only in the westernmost counties of Ukrainian Galicia, including the cities of Yaroslav and Peremyshl. By spring of 1919 its forces had grown to some 70,000 to 75,000 men. In November 1918, the Poles began an uprising against the Ukrainians. The Ukrainian retreated from Lviv to Ternopil, which became the provisional capital of the Ukrainian

At the end of December 1918, the Government moved from Ternopil to Stanislaviv, a larger city deemed to be safer. On January 3, 1919, the Ukrainian National Republic (Eastern Ukraine) and Western Ukraine signed the Fastiv Agreement creating a formal union between the Western and Eastern parts of Ukraine. An actual unification could not be concluded under wartime conditions and the governments continued to operate separately.

During April of 1919, a well-trained and fully equipped army of General Jozef Haller arrived in Poland from France. Ignoring and an armistice proposal, the Poles launched a general offensive against the Ukrainian army on May 14, 1919, on the pretext that the Ukrainians attacked first.

March 15, 1923, the Western Ukrainian Government publicly protested the incorporation of Eastern Galicia into Poland but then dissolved itself. Western Ukraine remained part of Poland until 1939 when they were occupied by the Soviet Union and became part of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Following the History, the catalog is divided into two parts:

### **Part I - A Catalog of Western Ukraine Postage Stamps**

Section 1. Austrian Stamps Used in Western Ukrainian Post Offices, 1918-1919

Section 2. Stamp Issues of the Western Ukrainian National Republic., 1918-1919

Section 3. Local Provisional Stamps and Local Private Ukrainianization in Western Ukraine, 1918-1919

Section 4. Occupational Stamp Issues, 1919

### **Part II - A Catalog of Western Ukraine Postal Stationery**

Section 5. Austrian Postal Stationery Used in Western Ukrainian Post Offices, 1918-1919

Section 6. Postal Stationery of the Western Ukrainian National Republic 1918-1919

Section 7. Local Provisional Stationery in Western Ukraine 1918

Section 8. Postal Stationery of the Ukrainian Galician Army, 1919

Section 9. Postal Stationery of Occupational Forces, 1919.

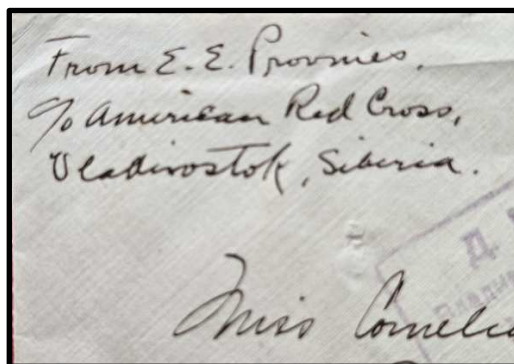
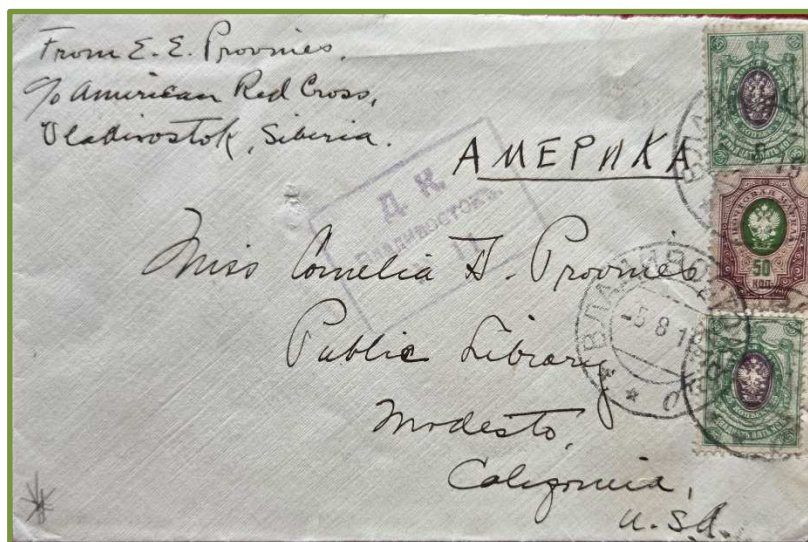
This catalog has expanded my knowledge of Ukrainian Philately. It has identified varieties and items in my collection I had not previously been able to identify. It has also reinvigorated my interest in covers from this period of Ukrainian postal history.



## Member's Articles

# Every Cover Tells a Story

by Jim Grundy



This cover interested me because of the Russian stamps, the unique spelling of AMEPAKA, and the American Red Cross return address in Vladivostok, Siberia. The First World War ended in Europe in 1918, but this cover was postmarked in East Russia in 1919. What was the American Red Cross doing in Russia in 1919?

The American Red Cross, YMCA, YWCA, the Knights of Columbus, and other organizations supported the Allies' efforts during the United States involvement in World War I. While the American Red Cross primarily focused on military men's health and other medical needs, the others had a broader influence. These groups provided a diverse array of activities to give a distraction from the War. They provided athletic equipment, movies, books, dances, and just a quiet place to relax. They would provide church services for soldiers on the front lines. They would

deliver mail and supplies to the places that normal routes didn't service. The answer to how the American Red Cross became involved in Russia has a lot to do with the events taking place there at the time.

In February 1917, labor strikes and demonstrations turned into a rebellion that forced the Tsar to step down. A Provisional Government was established, but soon a working-class-based party, the Bolsheviks, was formed to challenge it. The Provisional Government favored the Allies, while the Bolsheviks favored the Germans. When the American Red Cross began arriving in Russia to provide aid, the Bolsheviks did not welcome them. The Bolsheviks overthrew the Provisional Government and withdrew Russia from the Allied Forces fighting World War I. This takeover started the Russian Civil War. When the Armistice was signed, ending World War I, the Russian Civil War was still in full swing. Although the Red Cross workers favored the anti-Bolshevik fighters, they rendered aid to all who needed help. Besides helping the war victims, they cared for typhoid fever patients. The main American Red Cross location in Eastern Russia was Vladivostok. The American forces withdrew from Eastern Russia in May of 1919, leaving the anti-Bolshevik forces to protect the Red Cross workers. Because of the Bolshevik forces' advances, the Red Cross withdrew all its personnel from Russia by February 1920. The cover was postmarked on August 5, 1919. This would put the author of this cover in the center of the turmoil.



After learning how the Red Cross arrived in Vladivostok, I wanted to identify the person who sent the letter. This proved challenging because I couldn't get a clear spelling of the sender's last name. I searched every spelling of the name I could think of. I checked the rosters of Red Cross personnel in Vladivostok during this time period with no luck.

Because I was unable to identify the person at the return address, I focused on the letter's recipient. Once again, I searched, but this time I used the first name "Cornelia". Again, no luck. I added Modesto, California, to the search - nothing. It wasn't until I added the words "Public Library" to the search that I found success. The AI feature of Google offered a possible answer. Cornelia Douglass Provines was a librarian in Modesto, California, in 1919. A search revealed that Cornelia had three sisters, one named Eloise Elizabeth Provines. She was the E. E. Provines in the return address.

Elosie Elizabeth Provines was born in Healdsburg, Sonoma County, California, on September 18, 1880. It was hard for me to gather much more information about her. She graduated from Healdsburg High School in 1899. Like her older sister Cornelia, Eloise worked as a librarian in California for a good portion of her life. A short biography mentions that she registered for military service in 1919. She could have volunteered in the Army as a nurse, or she could have joined the Red Cross and been trained as a medical assistant. In 1925, four of her poems, called Siberian Sketches, were published. Their names were: Siberian Station, Despair, Execution, and Siberian Soldier 1920. These poems are very dark, depressing works, giving the impression that the events that she witnessed deeply affected her. I wish that there was a letter that came with the cover, so I could see what she was experiencing. Eloise married John E. Comerford, but no date or location was given. Eloise Elizabeth died on December 28, 1957, and is buried in Oliverhill Cemetery in Geyserville, California.



World Red Cross Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>. International Red Cross Stamp 1951, Scott # 1016.

# The 1875 “Centennial Printings” & Government Issued Reproductions The Controversy Revisited

By David. Klauber



Scott #3 - 1875



Scott #4 - 1875

(Courtesy D. Klauber)

Historically, the 1875 “**Centennial Issues**” mark a pivotal moment in the production of U.S. stamps. They were the first stamps produced directly by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), ending reliance on private contractors like Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson and bringing production under government control. The first and second stamps of the set, and later numbered (3 and 4), would be first 2 stamps created entirely by the BEP. It's unfortunate that these 1875 Scott #3 and #4 issues were labeled as postage stamps, because they were never meant to be, nor were they ever the third and fourth U.S. stamps printed.

In the 1870s the Post Office decided that it was a good idea to reissue a set of stamps containing all of America's earliest stamps. A reissuing approach was selected, because it was believed that many of the original issues had already become rare, especially stamp issues 1 & 2. John Tiffany, one of America's first stamp collectors (1842-97) speculated that the Government was advised to produce the 1875 “**Centennial Printings**,” to be displayed at the Centennial International Exposition of 1876 in Philadelphia, the United States' first International World's Fair.<sup>1</sup> It is believed that the Post Office also wanted to both display the BEP's stamp producing prowess but also sell the reissued sets to stamp collector fair attendees. As such, the 1875 reissues generally symbolize the beginning of organized American philately.



Post Office Aisle 1876 Centennial Exhibition (Courtesy D. Klauber)

From the start, the idea of “**Centennial Printings**” was controversial. What was mostly questioned is the validity of the 2 reproductions (SC#3-4) and to a lesser degree, the remaining 1875 postal re-issues. Many saw the set as mere specimens or souvenirs rather than postal stamps, even though all but two 1847 (5 & 10 cents) issues and the eight 1857-60 demonetized (1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 14, and 30 cents) issues, were usable on letters. Used examples exist for the valid re-issues (#102-111 and #123-132) but are scarce because most were bought by collectors and not placed into regular postal use. The invalid ones (#3-4 and #40-47) have no genuine postal use (only occasional favor cancels).

### 1875 Issues Not Valid for Postage

- Scott #3 and #4 (1875 official reproductions of the 1847, 5¢ Franklin and 10¢ Washington): These were new engravings (not from original plates). They were imperforate, issued without gum, and sold purely as collectibles/specimens. They were never valid for postage.
- Scott #40-47 (1875 reprints of the 1857-60 issue): Printed by Continental Bank Note Co. (perf 12, no gum as issued). These were reprints of demonetized or outdated stamps, making them not valid for postage.

### 1875 Issues Valid for Postage

- Scott #102-111 (1875 re-issues of the 1861-66 issue): Printed by National Bank Note Co. (perf 12, without gum as issued). These were re-issues of stamps that were still current and valid. They could be (and were) used for postage, often by collectors/dealers on registered or philatelic mail in the 1880s.
- Examples: 102 (1¢ blue), #103 (2¢ black), #104 (3¢ brown-red), #105 (5¢ brown), up through #111 (90¢).
- Scott #123-132 (1875 re-issues of the 1869 Pictorial issue): Also printed by National Bank Note Co. (perf 12, no gum as issued, un-grilled). These were re-issues of still-valid stamps and were valid for postage.
- Examples: 123 (1¢ buff), #125 (3¢ blue locomotive), #132 (90¢ Lincoln), etc.

Key distinction: Philatelic terminology matters here. “Reprints” and “reproductions” (the 1857-60 and 1847 groups) were of obsolete designs and were not valid. “Re-issues” (the 1861-66 and 1869 groups) were printed while the designs were still postally current, so they remained valid.<sup>2</sup> The debate has eased over the past 150 years, and the set is commonly listed in most U.S. stamp collections.

Current **philatelic lore** claims these printings were made for a U.S. stamp exhibit at the Centennial Exposition, though some believe they catered to collectors seeking unavailable issues. Despite existing stock and the fact that the "Centennial stamps" were never sold at the Exposition, experts like PF Chairman E. Coulter disputed any connection to the event. Others suggest that the Post Office simply sought profit through sample reproductions and reissues that were unlikely to be circulated. In the end, the "specimen" reproductions (3-4) and reissues could only be obtained by special order from the Third Assistant Postmaster General in Washington. So, when the Department was ready to furnish these un-exhibited, unneeded acts of "mistaken kindness" the following circular was issued<sup>3</sup>:

SPECIMEN POSTAGE STAMPS.  
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
Office of Third Assistant Postmaster General,  
Div. of Postage Stamps, St'ped Envelopes & Postal Cards.  
*Washington, D. C., March 27, 1875.*

The Department is prepared to furnish upon application, at face value, specimens of adhesive postage stamps issued under its auspices as follows:

Ordinary Stamps for Use of the Public.

1. Issue of 1847. Denominations, 5 and 10 cents. Value of set, 15

Specimens of stamped envelopes will not be furnished in any case.

E. W. BARBER,  
Third Assistant Postmaster General.

See: [Post Office Circular Announcing Reprints.](#)

### **Why create the 1875 "Government-issued reproductions" (U.S. Issues SC#3-4)?**

Many of the original dies for pre-1875 stamps were still available, but the simple idea of reprinting all previously issued U.S. stamps became more complicated when the Post Office Department realized that some of the key plates, such as those for the 1847

Issues (Scott #1-2), no longer existed. As a result, the Post Office decided to instruct the BEP to recreate these dies to produce new issues (Scott#3-4). There is also debate over whether the original 1847 "dies" had been destroyed.

## **The Die Controversy**

Philatelic sources explicitly note debate over "the veracity of the contention that the original 1847 dies had actually been destroyed." The core questions are:

- Was the 1851 destruction thorough? The certificate confirms the dies and plates, but missing transfer-roll records raise doubt. Some believe the dies or key tooling might have survived at the printer or a successor firm like the American Bank Note Company.
- How were later "reprints" possible? The American Bank Note Company, successor to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, produced reprints or reproductions of the 1847 designs around 1858, 1878, and 1895. This suggests not everything was destroyed, or that surviving transfer rolls or masters allowed reuse, challenging the official story that new dies were needed for the 1875 issues.

- Motives and implications for 1875: Skeptics question whether the “destroyed” story was exaggerated or incomplete to justify new engravings, or if it merely reflected the Post Office’s limited access to private archives. The 1875 stamps were produced as souvenirs or reproductions, with design differences that easily distinguish them from the original 1847 stamps.

In short, the mainstream philatelic view now accepts the 1851 die destruction as a fact and treats Scott #3 and #4 as faithful but newly engraved government reproductions created because the originals were gone. A minority or ongoing scholarly debate persists, however, centered on the incomplete records and later ABNCo printings, questioning whether the dies were truly and fully destroyed prior to 1875. This remains a noted point of contention in specialist literature, though it does not affect the stamps' catalog status or collectability.

## Then what are Scott Numbers 3 & 4?

What they are **NOT**.

- ✗ • **Reissues** (*a reprint of the currently available stamp*),
- ✗ • **Reprints** (*copies of the obsolete originals*),
- ✗ • **Special printings** (*original plate stamps for non-postal use, while originals are still valid for postage*) or
- ✗ • **Imitations** (*as they were government-issued*),

So, what's left? They must be;

- ✓ • **Government-issued reproductions** (not printed from the original plates, not valid for postage, and simply stated likenesses of Scott stamps #1 and #2). 4

## How to Identify Scott #3 and #4

As expected, the result of the new plates created two unique issues that differed from the originals in several important ways, including but not limited to the following:

### The Five Cents: General Differences

The hair on the right side of the head (left of the stamp) appears in heavy, dark masses in the original but looks too light, open, and airy in the reproduction. In the original, the mouth extends beyond the first dot on the right, ending where the second would be in the reproduction; in the reproduction, it ends at the first dot, followed by a space and then a second dot to the right. The eyes are clear and distinct in the original, with perhaps too much white in the right eye; in the reproduction, they are weak and indecisive. The shirt front in the original is terminated by a diagonal line that reaches the oval above the top of the 'F' in 'Five,' but in the reproduction, this line is more nearly horizontal, reaching the oval almost aligned with the top of the '5'.

## The Ten Cents: General Differences

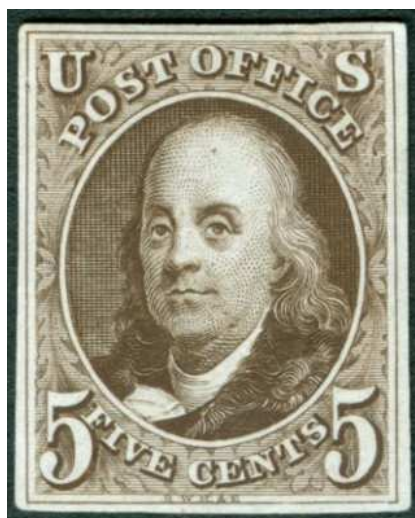
In the reproduction, a small white circle with a dark center appears in the hair on the right side of the stamp, but it does not appear in the original. The lips are larger, and the mouth is longer in the original than in the reproduction. In the reproduction, the lower lip is rendered throughout with vertical lines; in the original, there are three vertical lines, with the rest indicated by dots. In the original, the white cravat is separated from the inner colored line marking the oval by a fine white line, with a colored line above it; in the reproduction, the oval line ends at the cravat. The lines of the face are all too stiff and ridged, and the execution does not match the delicacy and boldness of the original.

## Circulation of the 5-cent Scott #1 vs. Scott #3

Between 1847 and 1851, the U.S. stamps #1-2 were printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson Bank Note Company and engraved by Asher B. Durand. They were printed on 200-subject plates, arranged in two panes of 100 in a 10x10 format, and issued without perforations.

- **Scott #1:** The original 5-cent Franklin stamp had a print run of nearly 4.4 million copies, of which 3.6 million were sold.
- **Scott #3:** The reproduction was limited to 11,450 copies, of which 4,779 were sold; the rest were destroyed.

This makes #3 about 753 times rarer than #1. Additionally, the #3s have a low survival rate, with far fewer surviving than the millions of the 1847 originals, so they are scarce today, especially in very fine condition. They are popular among collectors as an affordable way to own high-quality "versions" of the iconic first U.S. stamps.



SC#1 - 5¢ 1847 Orig.



SC#3 - 1875 Repro.

## Identifying (Scott #1 vs. Scott #3)

There are several ways to tell #1, the 1847 stamp, apart from #3, the 1875 reproduction. The Reproduction is slightly shorter and a bit wider than the First Issues.

#1 -18.00 x 23.50 mm

#3 -18.50 x 23.25 mm

The initials “R. W. H. & E.” below the central medallion on the First Issue are wider and far more legible than on the reproduction.

#1 - 3.75 mm

#3 - 2.50 mm

The vertical lines within the medallion of the original are sharp, but in the reproduction, they are less clear or almost invisible.

The position of the top of the frill on Franklin’s white shirt, where it meets the oval medallion frame.

#1 - On the original 1847, it touches somewhat lower, more on a line with the top of the letter “F” in FIVE.

#3 - On the 1875 reproduction, it touches the medallion frame, about the same vertical as the top of the numeral 5 in the lower-left corner.

### **Circulation of the 10-cent Scott #2 vs. Scott #4**

Between 1847 and 1851, the U.S. stamp #2 was printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson Bank Note Company. The stamps were printed from 200-subject plates and issued imperforate.

- **Scott #2**, the 10c Washington, nearly 865 thousand were printed, while
- **Scott #4** had only a printing of nearly 10 thousand, of which only about 3883 were sold; the rest were destroyed.

This makes #4 roughly 222 times less common than #2. Additionally, the 4s have a low survival rate, making them rare today.



Scott #2 - 10c 1847



Scott #4 - 1875 Repro

### **Identifying (Scott #2 vs. Scott #4)**

The 1875 ten-cent reproduction of the 1847 stamp is much easier to distinguish from the five-cent stamps. In reproduction 4, the eyes appear droopy and sleepy, unlike the original. This is how most experienced collectors tell these stamps apart. Here are other ways to differentiate #2 and #4:

The Reproduction is slightly shorter and a bit wider than the First Issues.

#2 -18.00 x 23.50 mm

#4 -18.50 x 23.25 mm

The initials “**R. W. H. & E.**” below the central medallion on the First Issue are wider and far more legible than on the Reproduction.

#2 - 3.75 mm

#4 - 2.50 mm

The white shirt collar,

#2 - On the original, it is distinct

#4 - On the reproduction, it is so dark that it almost blends with the dark collar of the coat.

The Outline on Washington’s coat

#2 - On the original, the left vertical edge meets the medallion edge and points to the middle of “T” in “TEN.”

#4 - On the reproduction, the left vertical edge of the coat meets the medallion edge at the right tip of the Numeral "X".

Regarding the reproduction, the serifs on the bottom left numeral “X” are farther apart than those on the right numeral “X.” Additionally, there is a **circle in the hair** to the left of Washington’s face, opposite his cheekbone.



In summary, Scott #3 and #4 are truly fascinating because they demonstrate a deliberate government effort to recreate philatelic history for public celebration. They introduced BEP to stamp production and are available in very limited quantities, featuring distinctive "tells" that make them exciting for collectors and detectives alike. These stamps capture the pioneering spirit of early U.S. stamp collecting and reflect the lively enthusiasm of the 1876 Centennial.

### **Other Notable Aspects Specific to Scott #3 & Scott #4**

- Paper and printing: Printed on bluish wove paper using line engraving on a flatbed "Spider" press with hand inking, producing sharp yet distinctive impressions.
- No postal use: Unlike some other 1875 special printings, these were *purely for philatelic/centennial display and sales purposes*.
- Collectability: They fill an important spot in U.S. classic collections. These stamps *bridge the 1847 "first issue" and later BEP productions*.
- High-grade examples remain in demand and are often *considered good value* relative to the far more expensive genuine 1847 unused stamps.
- These details, along with paper and impression features, make authentication easy for experts, and there are *no known dangerous engraved counterfeits*.

### **The Other 1875 “Reprints” & “Reissues”**

For the other stamps in the set, where the original dies still existed, new plates were created, and other modifications were made to support the effort. These included making the perforations larger; the old perforation 15 stamps were manufactured with a perforation 12, which was a common perforation wheel at the time. The stamps were also printed on different paper from the originals and in slightly different colors, creating an entirely new category of stamps. Except for reproduction issues 3 & 4, the other stamps in the series should be considered “**Reprints**” & “**Reissues**”.

The 1875 reissues are listed as “Ordinary Stamps for Use of the Public”.

*” It's too bad I don't have a time machine to go back and purchase a set of these beauties.” D.K.*

In E.W. Barber’s circular, they were identified as follows:

1. **Reproduction Issues 1847 (Scott #s 3-4)** - Denominations 5 and 10 cents. Set Value 15 cents. (Demonetized)



2. **Reprints 1851 (Scott #s 40-47)** - Denominations 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 30, and 90 cents; also, two separate designs of 1-cent carrier stamps. Set Value \$1.77. (Demonetized)



3. **Reissues 1861 (Scott #s 102-111)** - Denominations 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents. Set Value \$1.92.



4. **Reissues 1869 (Scott #s 123-132)** - Denominations 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents. Set Value \$1.93.



5. **Reissues 1870 (Scott #s 167-177)** - Denominations 1, 2 brown, 2 vermilion, 3,5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents. Set Value \$2.07.



Additionally, official, newspaper, and periodical stamps were available for sale. For these reissues, anyone could order them, but they were never regularly issued to the public.

| OFFICIAL STAMPS.  |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. <i>Executive.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, and 10 cents.  | Value of set, 22 cents. |
| 2. <i>Department of State.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents, and \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$20.                                 | Value of set, \$39.     |
| 3. <i>Treasury Department.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.   | Value of set, \$2.      |
| 4. <i>War Department.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.  | Value of set, \$2.      |
| 5. <i>Navy Department.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.   | Value of set, \$2.      |
| 6. <i>Post Office Department.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.   | Value of set, \$1.93.   |
| 7. <i>Department of the Interior.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.   | Value of set, \$1.93.   |
| 8. <i>Department of Justice.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.  | Value of set, \$1.93.   |
| 9. <i>Department of Agriculture.</i> —Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, and 30 cents.  | Value of set, \$1.93.   |
| NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL STAMPS.  |                         |
| 1. <i>Issue of 1865.</i> —Denominations, 5, 10, and 25 cents.   | Value of set, 40 cents. |
| 2. <i>Issue of 1874.</i> —Denominations, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, 96 cents, \$1.92, \$3, \$6, \$9, \$12, \$24, \$36, \$48, and \$60. | Value of set, \$204.66. |

**List of 1875 Official, Newspaper, and Periodical stamps**

This has made these stamps among the most valuable in U.S. stamp issues. Because stamp collecting in the United States was still new in the 1870s, only a few people took advantage of this remarkable offer. As a result, all the reissues are now very rare and highly valuable.

*“For most U.S. stamp collectors, these 1875 reissue stamps make up a majority of those very sad and pesky mostly empty pages in our albums”.* DK

For collectors, the 1875 reissues are true rarities; the most common is Scott# 40, with fewer than 4,000 copies sold. The 1857 reissues differ in shade from the originals, so confusion is unlikely. The 1861 reissues were printed on white paper in slightly different shades, with only 300 sets sold. The 1869 reissues are the most common but still exceptionally rare, with a total of 1,350 sets sold. For other reissues, the originals were still available at post offices; the special printing reissues show slight shade variations but are very difficult to distinguish from the originals. To obtain definitive information on these stamps and all reissues, a genuine certificate is highly recommended.

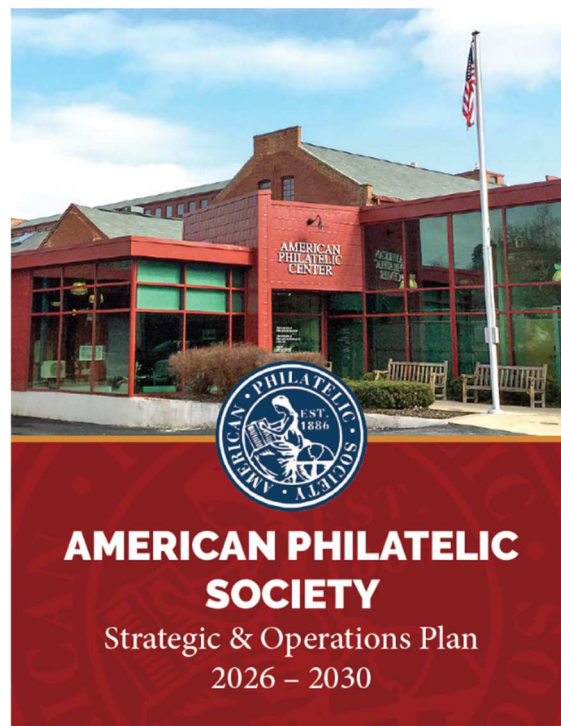
## Bibliography and for more additional information see:

1. History of the Postage Stamps of the United States of America, John K. Tiffany, 1886, C.H. Mekeel, St Louis, Mo. Publisher
2. Philatelic Foundation · 353 Lexington Ave, Suite 804, New York, NY 10016. Retrieved 2024-08-24.
3. Government Reprints of the 1857-60 issues, Inside the PF, Michael Zelenak
4. A Historical Catalog of U.S. Stamp Essays & Proofs - The 1847 Issue, by Clarence W. Brazer (1947)
5. The Micarelli Identification Guide to U.S. Stamps: *Regular* Issues 1847-1934. Author: Charles N. Micarelli; Pub Date: 2001; Publisher: Scott Publishing Co
6. The Scott Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps & Covers, Scott Publishing Co. 2018
7. The Postage Stamps of the 19th Century, 3 Volumes, by Lester Brookman (1967)
8. The United States 1847 Issue - A Cover Census, by Thomas J. Alexander (2001 USPS)
9. The 1847 Issue, by Harvey Mirsky - The U.S. Specialist (March 2006)
10. The 1847 U.S. Issue Stamps, by Frank Goodwin (1913)
11. The 5¢ 1847 Issue, Mekeel's Reference Manual
12. The 10¢ 1847 Issue, Mekeel's Reference Manual



## What's the Plan, Man!!

By David Waller



**Figure 1:** Image of the cover of the APS Strategic and Operations Plan 2026-2030.

As with many non-profit organizations around the world, the American Philatelic Society has been concerned over their future. The “Boomer” generation (*i.e.*, following World War II) that was inspired to collect by world events which pressured many to seek security by collecting things with potential value, has been aging and their numbers are now dwindling. Newer generations,

more accustomed to having all the things they desire at their fingertips, albeit at a price, have not been as diligent in collecting. Consequently, while their numbers are not nearly as large as the Boomer's, they have not been influenced like previous generations and the paradigm of collecting (*i.e.*, the hopes of striking it rich) does not appear to be part of their preparations for the future. Their focus seems to be more inspired by the accumulation of monetary wealth to support their needs. Therefore, the influx of members following the Boomer generation has been limited. So, what do larger organizations and societies do to maintain their vitality during these periods of generational fluxes. Well, the American Philatelic Society (APS) has recognized this dilemma and has been proactive in addressing this issue with their five-year **Strategic & Operations Plan 2026 - 2030**.

So how does the APS revitalize organized philately and grow its community over the next five years? To achieve this goal the APS has developed a clear, disciplined plan to strengthen the community that will modernize the infrastructure, grow membership, and ensure the future of organized philately, for the future.

The APS believes that “Organized philately has never been just about stamps. It’s about people. It’s about shared knowledge, mentorship, discovery, and the community that brings collectors together.” They recognize that “The ways people discover hobbies, connect with communities, and engage with content are evolving and if organized philately is to thrive, we must evolve with it.” Consequently, the APS has designed their strategic plans as their “roadmap for doing exactly that. It honors the traditions and programs our members value, while making the investments necessary to grow, modernize, and strengthen the APS community for the future.”

Now the APS understands that “growth isn’t just about numbers. A larger, more engaged community ensures we can preserve what matters most:

- Community and fellowship;
- Education and knowledge;
- Ethical marketplaces; and
- The shared infrastructure that makes philately meaningful.”

To achieve their goals, the APS will focus on five core priorities:

- **Operational Excellence** Modern systems, better tools, and a seamless digital experience that supports members and staff.
- **Leadership in Philatelic Content** Becoming the most trusted and engaging source of philatelic knowledge and storytelling.
- **Engaging On-Ramps** Creating clear, compelling pathways for new and returning collectors to join the community.
- **Culture & Community** Strengthening collaboration, volunteer engagement, and the member experience.
- **Financial Sustainability** Ensuring APS can invest in growth while maintaining long-term stability.

Will the APS achieve these five core priorities over the next five years? The author believes that it is possible with the key pillar supporting this plan likely to be membership growth. That being said, the APS’s plan recognizes the three key growth audiences:

- **Active collectors** who are not yet APS members;

- **Returning collectors and retirees** rediscovering the hobby; and
- **Curiosity-driven audiences** (i.e., those interested in history, geography, art, and culture).

The APS also understands that harnessing their membership can drive achievement of this goal. There are three key ways APS members can support its success:

1. **Invite Others to Join the APS Community** Promote APS membership to collectors you know who are not yet members.
2. **Get Involved as a Volunteer** Promote APS membership to collectors you know who are not yet members.
3. **Support the Mission Through Giving** Help fund the initiatives in the plan by donating to the Campaign for Philately.

For more information on the APS's Strategic and Operations Plan for 2026-2030 visit the APS website at <https://stamps.org/about/strategic-plan>. Please let me know your thoughts on the APS's Strategic Plan. Comments from our readers are always welcomed.



## **Trains on Postage Stamps**

**By Manual Marti**



### **America's 250th Anniversary Tour: The Return of a Legend**

In commemoration of America's 250th Anniversary (Semiquincentennial), the Union Pacific Railroad is undertaking a remarkable coast-to-coast tour featuring one of the most iconic machines in railroad history.

At the heart of this celebration is Union Pacific No. 4014, a 4-8-8-4 "Big Boy" steam locomotive, widely recognized as the largest operating steam locomotive in the world. Its wheel arrangement four leading wheels, two sets of eight massive driving wheels, and four trailing wheels was designed to haul heavy freight across the rugged terrain of the American West.



**Figure 1:** Image of the Union Pacific No. 4014, a 4-8-8-4 "Big Boy" steam locomotive.

The operational No. 4014 was restored by Union Pacific, completing its first run in 2019, and is often referred to as the world's largest operating steam locomotive, Figure 1.



Figure 2: Size comparisons of different forms of vehicle for travel.

Built in 1941 during the height of wartime industrial demand, No. 4014 was part of a fleet engineered for power, endurance, and reliability. After decades of service, the locomotive was retired, only to be brought back to life in a historic restoration completed in 2019. Today, it operates as an oil-fired steam engine, blending modern engineering with its original grandeur.

Big Boy No. 4014 serves as a moving tribute to American ingenuity and the enduring legacy of rail transportation. Its scheduled 2026 coast-to-coast tour offers a rare opportunity for communities across the nation to witness living history in motion an experience that connects past and present during this milestone anniversary. For information on the schedule of the Coast-to-Coast Tour go to: <https://www.up.com/about-us/history/steam/schedule>.

As it travels across the country, this legendary locomotive stands as a symbol of industrial achievement, but also as a powerful reminder of the role railroads played in shaping the United States.

### Trains on Stamps: A Lasting Fascination

“Trains on Stamps” has long been a popular and enduring theme among stamp collectors and model railroad enthusiasts alike. The powerful imagery of locomotives, symbols of progress, industry, and national expansion has made them a natural subject for philatelic commemoration.



Figure 3: Scott # 114

The United States first recognized this appeal with the issuance of its earliest postage stamp depicting a locomotive, Figure 3, part of the famed 1869 Pictorial Issue released by the United States Postal Service. This series marked a departure from traditional portraits of statesmen, introducing representations of American innovation, including rail transportation.

Since that initial release, dozens of U.S. stamps have celebrated trains in various forms. These include individual commemoratives, multi-stamp sets, and booklet panes, each highlighting different aspects of railroad history from early steam engines to streamlined passenger trains and modern locomotives.

For collectors, these stamps offer more than visual appeal; they provide a tangible connection to the evolution of transportation and the role railroads played in shaping the nation. For model train hobbyists, they serve as inspiration and historical reference, bridging two closely related passions.

Together, trains and stamps form a rich intersection of history, technology, and art one that continues to captivate collectors across generations.

### **Empire State Express - Speed and Prestige on Early U.S. Stamps**



**Figure 4:** Sc# 295 1901 2c Empire State Express, Carmine & Black

The classic *Empire State Express* is immortalized on U.S. postage in Figure 4, Scott No. 295, the 1901 2-cent carmine and black issue. This stamp captures one of the most celebrated passenger trains of its era, reflecting both technological progress and the growing importance of rail travel in the United States.

The Empire State Express was a premier named train and the flagship service of the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad, a predecessor of the later New York Central Railroad. Known for its speed and elegance, it symbolized the height of late 19th-century passenger rail innovation.

On September 14, 1891, the train achieved a remarkable milestone, traveling the 436 miles between New York City and Buffalo in just 7 hours and 6 minutes, including stops. This equated to an average speed of 61.4 miles per hour, with a recorded top speed of 82 mph an extraordinary accomplishment for the time and a testament to American engineering.



**Figure 5:** Logos such as these often adorned the ends of observation cars on the *Empire State Express*.

Scott 295 not only commemorates this achievement but also represents the broader story of railroads as engines of economic growth and national connectivity. For collectors, it remains one of the most iconic early U.S. stamps depicting a locomotive, blending historical significance with striking design.

### **Parcel Post Issue Motion and Utility in Early 20th Century Design**

The introduction of Parcel Post service in the United States marked a major advancement in the nation's postal system, and this progress was vividly captured in the 1912 issue of Parcel Post stamps by the United States Postal Service.



**Figure 6:** Scott # Q5 - issued 11/27/12 Steam locomotive, mail & passenger car approaching mail pouch pickup "From photo of train at Union Station, Washington D.C.".

Figure 6, Scott No. Q5 (issued November 27, 1912), features a dynamic scene of a steam locomotive hauling mail and passenger cars while approaching a mail pouch pickup. The design, noted as being "from photo of train at Union Station, Washington, D.C.," reflects both realism and artistic interpretation.

The locomotive depicted on the 5¢ stamp appears to resemble a 0-8-0 type characterized by eight driving wheels and no leading or trailing wheels commonly used for switching and freight service during that era. A 0-8-2 configuration is less likely, though not entirely impossible. Given the setting at Union Station, the locomotive would have belonged to one of the railroads operating through the nation's capital at the time, narrowing the possibilities for precise identification.

The artist enhanced the original photographic reference by adding a mail pouch on a trackside post and an exaggerated plume of smoke, effectively conveying motion and the urgency of railway mail service Figure 7. These elements transform the image from a static photograph into a vivid representation of the Railway Mail Service in action.



**Figure 7:** Proposed designs for Scott #Q5. The first was rejected because the mail bag pickup device was too inconspicuous. The second is much closer to the final design, but the mail pickup rack was an old style, replaced with a more modern one on the actual stamp. (Reproduced from Gobie’s book).

Additionally, surviving essays preliminary design proofs document the evolution of this stamp. As recorded by philatelic scholar Max G. Johl, these essays reveal the artistic decisions made before the final design was approved. The finished version, as cataloged by George T. Turner (often cited in philatelic literature such as *Gobie*), stands as a testament to the blend of technical accuracy and artistic license.

Today, Scott #Q5 remains a favorite among collectors, not only for its historical significance in inaugurating Parcel Post service, but also for its energetic portrayal of early 20th-century railroading and postal operations.

### **The Golden Spike: Central Pacific Jupiter and Union Pacific No. 119**

Few moments in American transportation history are as iconic as the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in 1869. This achievement, symbolizing unity and industrial progress, is forever associated with two legendary locomotives meeting nose-to-nose at Promontory Summit, Utah.



**Figure 8:** Completion of the Transcontinental Central Pacific Railroad 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2019

The Central Pacific No. 60 Jupiter commonly known as *Jupiter* was a 4-4-0 “American” type steam locomotive operated by the Central Pacific Railroad. Elegantly designed and brightly painted, Jupiter represented the western effort in constructing the transcontinental line across the Sierra Nevada and beyond.

Facing it was Union Pacific No. 119, another 4-4-0 “American” type engine representing the eastern builders of the First Transcontinental Railroad Completion. Built for strength and reliability, No. 119 symbolized the engineering power of the Union Pacific Railroad, Figure 8.

On May 10, 1869, at Promontory Summit, Utah, these two locomotives became immortalized in history as they participated in the ceremonial driving of the “Golden Spike.” This event physically and symbolically united the United States by rail for the first time, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Both engines were 4-4-0 “American” type locomotives, a configuration that became the dominant design of 19th-century railroading in the United States due to its balance of speed, stability, and versatility.

Today, Jupiter and Union Pacific No. 119 remain enduring symbols of American expansion, industrial ambition, and national unity, frequently commemorated in art, museums, and philatelic issues celebrating the golden age of railroads.

### Booklet Panes

Below are two booklet panes depicting various types of American Locomotives and Diesel trains (issued in 1994 and 1999).



**Figure 9:** Locomotives Scott #s: 2843-47, 1994 and All-Aboard Scott #s 3333-37, 1999 These are just a few examples of trains on stamps and their history. There are many more with the same fascinating stories they can tell.

## References:

<https://www.up.com/>

<https://alphabetilately.org/US-trains.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jupiter\\_\(locomotive\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jupiter_(locomotive))

<https://www.mysticstamp.com/TD/>



# Numeral Cancels on British Stamps Used in the United Kingdom, 1844-1906

by Bill O'Connor

The first paid postage stamps were issued in Great Britain in 1840. One problem that emerged quickly after the introduction of postage stamps was how to prevent the reuse of such small pieces of paper. The cancellation device or obliterator was introduced to make it more difficult to reuse a cancelled stamp.

The first obliterator used in the United Kingdom was the Maltese cross shape. Some later Maltese devices had numerals inserted to show specific locations. The Scott Specialized Catalogue indicates numbers 1-12; you can see the list after the stamps of 1841, and you may be surprised at the catalogue prices. Many of the Penny Black stamps of this period will have a red Maltese cross cancel applied in order to make the cancel clearer.



**Figure 1:** Three examples of the use of the Maltese cross cancel with numerals included.

Black was mostly eliminated as a color for stamps as most cancel devices used black ink to indicate a stamp had been used. In the United Kingdom, England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, specific numbers were used to show the location of the item to be sent. Generally speaking, each post office had specific numbers and/or letters attached to the cancelling device to show the location from whence the item came.

Additionally, the United Kingdom used a geometric design to encase the numbers/letters used. England and Wales used a circle or oblong pattern, Scotland used the rectangle, and Ireland used the diamond shape.



**Figure 2:** Circle Pattern; 162, Cardiff, Wales; and 466, Liverpool, England.



**Figure 3:** Rectangular Pattern; Two examples of 131. Edinburgh, Scotland.



**Figure 4:** Diamond Pattern ;62 Belfast and 172 Derry, Northern Ireland.



**Figure 5:** Diamond Pattern; 186 Dublin and 303 Limerick, Southern Ireland.

What follows are some general examples of the use of the numeral in mostly England. The stamps used are generally Queen Victoria, but I have added a couple of Edward VII stamps that were in use up to 1911.

Cambridge, 158, is a major University town in England. The duplex cancel allows the numeral and the town name to be seen. This always seems to me a little over done, as it makes the numeral superfluous.



**Figure 6:** Cambridge, Numeral, 158

Guernsey, 324, is part of the Channel Islands. If I remember correctly, it is not technically part of the United Kingdom. It does have its own postal service, and I do remember with great joy a wonderful camping trip as a child some 70+ years ago.



**Figure 7:** Early British Stamps on Piece, Guernsey, Numeral, 324

This next example is from Hemel Hempstead, 353. This is Scott number 58, the smallest British stamp ever issued. The pair of stamps together make it much easier to determine the numeral cancel.



**Figure 8:** Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, 353; Listed in the 1881 Census with a fine church.

Salisbury, 683, is a well-known city with a notable ancient stone monument, and one of the most impressive cathedrals in Britain. The stamp used is a large revenue one, that was legal for postage for a short time during Victoria's reign.



**Figure 9:** British Revenue Stamp, Salisbury, 683.

The next two examples are from Tewkesbury, 788, and Warick, 848. The two stamps are from King Edward VII's reign 1901-1910. The half penny green stamp paid the domestic post card rate, and the one penny red stamp paid the international post card rate. The Army Official stamp from Warick may indicate a military establishment close by.



**Figure 10:** Tewkesbury, 788, and Warick, 848, numeral cancels on Edward VII stamps.

Middleborough, 946, at the 1881 census, one of the larger towns in Yorkshire. The stamp is the 2 penny Jubilee stamp of 1887. One of the best cancels in my collection. The Flemington, Devon, A23, is also a Jubilee stamp from 1887; this small town had a population of 1235 in 1881.



**Figure 11:** Middleborough, 946, and Flemington, A23.

London and Holyhead TPO, Numeral and Letter K48, was a main train route from London to Wales. This is another Queen Victoria Jubilee stamp; this could have been used for both registration and postage.



**Figure 12:** London and Holyhead, K48.

The final example selected is, 025, Bletchley Station, Buckinghamshire. This was a town of 514 in 1881. The name was changed to Bletchley in 1899. Some may remember that this was the location of Bletchley Park, noted for its code breaking skills during World War II.



**Figure 13:** Bletchley Station, 025.

#### **References:**

- British Post Office Numbers, 1844-1906, by G. Brumell, R.C. Alcock, LTD., 1946, is still a very good source for the numbers associated with the United Kingdom.
- Numeral Cancells of England, Scotland, and Ireland, loose leaf binders, by Tom Current, Lord Byron Stamps, 1987.
- Scott Classic Specialized, 1840-1940; my edition was 2022.

---

## Seeking Presentations

To submit ideas for future presentations or to secure a time slot for your presentation, email Bill Gallagher @ [ors2@cox.net](mailto:ors2@cox.net) or text or call me @ 760-840-0459.

---

## Member Classifieds

Members, if you would like to have a **FREE** advertisement in the PSC Newsletter, please email: [\*\*PSCphilately@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:PSCphilately@gmail.com)

#### **For Sale:**

- Christmas seals for sale. Singles or full sheets of most dates. Some covers with seals tied by the cancel. See Bob at a PSC meeting or call **(858) 278-7873 Bob Schappelle.**

**Stephen Pattillo – Quality Stampshows Presents  
Your 2026 California One-Day Show Schedule!**

**9:30 AM to 4 PM**  
**Free Parking & Admission**  
**Free Appraisals**  
**Buying & Selling**



PO Box 604  
Fullerton CA 92836  
562.694.2828  
number1banana@hotmail.com  
www.stampshowsteve.com

| The "Original"<br>Van Nuys Sunday<br>Stampshow          | The "Quality"<br>Sunday<br>Stampshow                                   |
|---|--|
| Masonic Hall<br>14750 Sherman Way<br>Van Nuys, CA 91405 | Brookhurst Community Cntr.<br>2271 Crescent Ave.,<br>Anaheim, CA 92801 |
| January 4   | February 8   |
| February 1  | March 29   |
| March 1   | April 12   |
| May 3   | May 17   |
| June 7  | June 21  |
| July 5  | July 12  |
| August 2  | August 16  |
| September 6   | September 20   |
| October 4   | October 18   |
| November 8  | November 29  |
| December 6  | December 20  |

**Plan Ahead for OrcoExpo 2026!  
January 9-11**


**Wanted:**

- U.S. Columbian issue stamps with fancy cancels. Top prices paid. Contact West Virginia **Bob McArthur** at [rmatsukasa@gmail.com](mailto:rmatsukasa@gmail.com) or call (858) 486-9932.
- Puerto Rico Town cancels. Bring to meeting. Will trade or buy? See **Manuel Marti** PSC # 410.
- U.S. Used Forever Commemoratives, on paper OK. Small quantities or by the pound. Contact Swamy Iyer at [gsgazett@ix.netcom.com](mailto:gsgazett@ix.netcom.com) or call (951) 331-0480.

**Bargain Lists:**

- You May see the most current Lcstamps lists on our Club: [powaystampclub.com/lc-corner](http://powaystampclub.com/lc-corner).

**Complete your U.S. and  
International Stamp Collections**  
• Country Price Lists • Collections • Mixtures • Special Offerings  
**www.Lcstamps.com**  
( 60+ years of serving the stamp hobby)



**D & P Stamps**  
San Diego, CA  
Phone: 619-987-1019  
Email: [pat@dpstamps.com](mailto:pat@dpstamps.com)  
[www.dpstamps.com](http://www.dpstamps.com)

**We carry the World from A to Z  
covering the Classics through Current**

**We have a very extensive stock in the following areas:**

- *Portugal and Colonies*
- *France and Colonies*
- *Italy and Colonies*
- *British Colonies*
- *Latin America*
- *Middle East*



SEE THE DIFFERENCE  
**AMERICANA**  
★ **STAMPS** ★

📍 Angelo Ismirnioglou  
📞 (949) 519 - 8627  
✉ info@americanastamps.com

Join Us at our Booth at the  
**San Diego Stamp Show**

Auction Preview!  
1,000+ Lots

Accepting  
Consignments

[www.americanastamps.com](http://www.americanastamps.com)

### Newsletter Disclaimer

The information contained in the Poway Stamp Club Newsletter is for general information purposes only. All information is provided in good faith, however the Club makes no representation or warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability, availability, completeness or authenticity of any information presented. Any use of the information contained herein is solely at your own risk and Poway Stamp Club assumes no liability.

---

## San Diego County Philatelic Library Events

**Stamp Exchange Extravaganza** (formerly Swapex)

Saturday, May 2, 2026, 9:00 AM to Noon

**German Collectors Club**

Saturday May 9, 2026, 9:00 AM to Noon

# Stamp News 2026

## New Stamp for 2026

The schedule of stamp ceremonies and releases happening at the Boston 2026 World Exposition, include:

- May 23: Treasures of the Revolutionary Era, to be dedicated at the opening ceremony;
- May 24: Stamp Encore;
- May 25: American Bison;
- May 26: Postcrossing;
- May 27: International Peace;
- May 28: North American Soccer; and
- May 29: Figures of the American Revolution.



*Treasures of the Revolutionary Era stamps will be issued as part of the opening ceremony for the 2026 Boston World Exposition, Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00am in the BCEC Ballroom (Level 3). To mark the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the U.S. Postal Service presents this 20-stamp prestige booklet as part of a broader USPS initiative commemorating 250 years of American independence. Centered on 10 compelling objects from the era, the booklet offers a vivid connection to the symbols and stories that helped shape the United States. The featured objects range from simple tools to powerful symbols of national purpose drawn from museum collections and historical archives. To complement the stamps, the booklet also includes images and background text that place each object in historical context, connecting everyday experiences to the larger forces at work during the Revolutionary era.*



*The **American Bison stamp** will be issued as part of the 2026 Boston World Exposition, Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am on the Show Floor Stage: Exhibit Hall A. The buffalo's epic story has played an enduring role in shaping America's identity. Honoring our national mammal while saluting historic philately, this unique stamp features a contemporary photograph of a bison inset with artwork evoking a 1923 stamp issued when the species was beginning to rebound from near extinction.*



*The **Postcrossing stamps** will be issued as part of the 2026 Boston World Exposition, Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am on the Show Floor Stage: Exhibit Hall A. Since 2005, Postcrossing has inspired more than 805,000 people in more than 200 countries and territories to send more than 85 million postcards to eager recipients around the world. Issued in panes of eight, these triangular stamps' colorful illustrations by Jackson Gibbs playfully acknowledge the great distances postcards often need to travel and the efforts of the dedicated workers who help them reach their far-off destinations.*



*The **International Peace Stamp** will be issued as part of the 2026 Boston World Exposition, Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am on the Show Floor Stage: Exhibit Hall A. Celebrating the goal of international peace, this stamp features a photograph of an origami crane - a global symbol of hope, peace and healing.*



*The **North American Soccer Stamp** will be issued as part of the 2026 Boston World Exposition, Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am on the Show Floor Stage: Exhibit Hall A. Excitement is high as players and fans await the start of the 2026 FIFA World Cup co-hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada. The United States alone will host 76 World Cup matches in 11 locations.*

