



Happy Halloween

*The Legend of
Sleepy Hollow*

POWAY STAMP CLUB NEWSLETTER

SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S BEST
STAMP COLLECTING CLUB

APS # 112097

October 14th 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 Meetings

General Meetings

October 14th

Ugly Stamp Contest and Nominations for 2027 Board of Directors

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

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.

October 28th

StampCertCentral.com

By Steve Gill

Steve will walk us through the use of a centralized repository for Philatelic Certificates.

Please remember to bring your badge or bring \$1

Club E-mail

PSCphilately@gmail.com

2026 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
	Richard Fewell
	Bill O'Connor
	Bob McArthur
	Manual Marti
	Jim Grundy
	David Klauber
	David Waller
Library Rep.	Neil Schneider
Opp. Drawing	Jo Ashley
Webmaster	David Klauber

Chair Positions

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

2026 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



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.

October	14	Ugly Stamp Contest Nominations for BOD
	28	StampCertCentral.com Stephen Gill
November	12	Elections for BOD Pizza Party TBD – Presentation
	19	No Meeting
December	9	Holiday Party
	23	No Meeting

Club Meetings

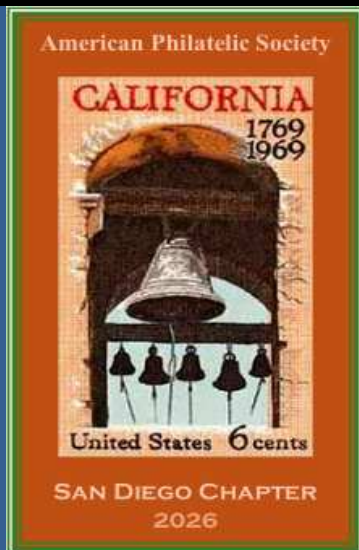
The Poway Stamp Club meets twice a month, except in November and December, on the second and fourth Wednesday at 12675 Danielson Court, #413 in Poway. The meetings begin at 6:30pm.

Membership

It is time to inspire others to collect stamps. Enroll a new member today. Give a gift that could last a lifetime. **Annual membership is \$20 and due on or before January 1, 2027 and late on February 1st.** 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 will be held on October 10th- 24th. Lots must be submitted on or before October 5th to be included in this auction. For more information on Bid Board rules visit the Club's website at **PowayStampClub.com**.



Meetings

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

The San Diego 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!

Participate

Club members are encouraged to contribute articles for the Club's monthly newsletter. Your knowledge and expertise is important and should be shared. Submit articles to:

dwaller@dbwipmg.com

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.

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.

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

Members Spotlight

By David Klauber



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

We have no new members since our last newsletter.

This brings our current paid membership back to 173. We look forward to getting together at PSC meetings with our new members.



President's Message

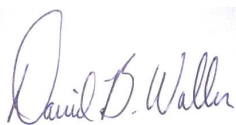


Dear Members,

The year is coming to an end with only a couple months left in 2026. When we began this year, I set three goals that I thought would help grow our club. Those goals included increasing PSC membership participation in Club events, increasing our Club's financial resources, and increasing donations to our Club with the development of an Acquisitions Chair position. I am pleased to announce that we did see a small increase in membership participation, a significant growth in the Club's financial resources and with the help of our new Acquisition Committee Chairperson the number of donations increased.

In the coming year, I am hoping to see a greater interest in helping our Club continue to grow and succeed by expanding our membership participation. It is time to begin redistributing the workload by harnessing the capabilities of our members. Let us begin that redistribution by reducing the tasks currently performed by our Board members. While we have experienced significant success in obtaining donations this year, our Acquisitions Chair will be unable to continue in 2027 because of other responsibilities she currently performs for our Club. Further, to attract potential candidates in this Chair position, we will limit the number of auctions at our General Meetings to once per month or once every other month in the coming year to reduce the amount of work required for each meeting. This will also allow the new Chairperson the opportunity to focus on securing new donations. As of our last meeting, there is no philatelic material left for auction. Consequently, the Acquisitions Chair will be empowered to secure new philatelic material as soon as possible for these auctions.

While the Acquisitions Chair is an important position to fill quickly, there are a number of other positions available for interested members. Please consider contributing in 2027 and ask me how you can help. We can discuss options that will meet your desired level of commitment. Thank you for your service.



In the News

Holiday Party

by Trice Klauber

The PSC Holiday Party - The Club has confirmed that we will celebrate the holiday this year with a dinner/gathering. We will celebrate the holidays on **December 9th, 2026, at 6:00 pm**. A Map to the restaurant is included below.



**OLIVE GARDEN
11555 CARMEL MOUNTAIN RD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92128**

The Club pays for members who are current as of this notice. Members are responsible for their guests' expenses. Each additional guest costs \$25.00, plus any alcohol purchased. All alcohol must be paid for when served; no tabs. All dinners include a choice of entrée **from the menu below**, soup or salad, coffee, tea, or soft drinks. A dessert will also be provided.

We have 120 seats, and Trice is now accepting RSVPs and collecting guest meal payments; we appreciate your cooperation in collecting guest pre-payments before the event. However, we will accept at-the-door guest payments, though we discourage them. We need a headcount from those planning to attend by November 25th. Below is a copy of the menu. Please do not send Trice your choices; you will order at the restaurant after being seated.

LARGE PARTY DINING

For groups of 10 or more

Customize a menu especially for your guests! Includes unlimited breadsticks and famous house salad or homemade soup, fountain drinks, fresh brewed iced tea, hot coffee and tea.



Unlimited Breadsticks 140 cal each
our Famous House Salad 150 cal per serving
or Homemade Soup 110-230 cal per serving



Unlimited Fountain Drinks, Fresh Brewed Iced Tea, Hot Coffee & Tea 0-170 cal per glass

INDIVIDUAL ENTRÉES



Spaghetti & Meatballs 1120 cal



Tour of Italy 1550 cal



Fettuccine Alfredo 1310 cal



Shrimp Scampi 510 cal



Lasagna Classico 940 cal



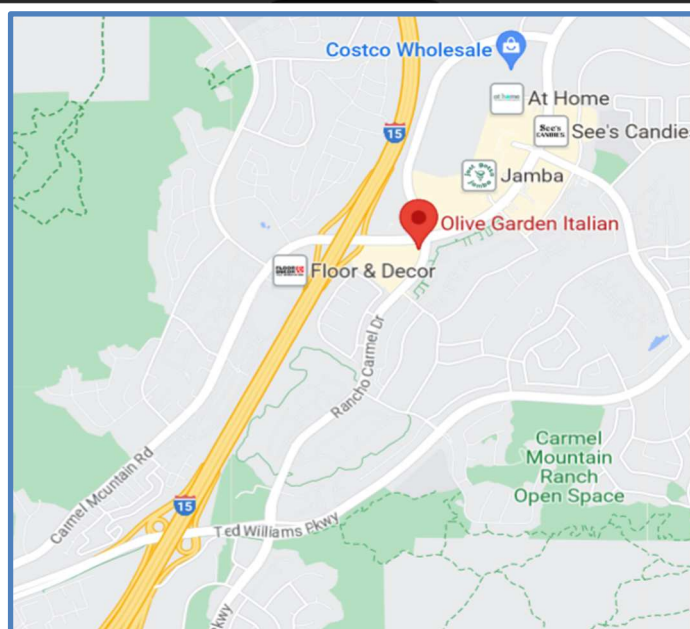
Chicken Alfredo 1570 cal



Eggplant Parmigiana 1070 cal



Chicken Parmigiana 1020 cal



Map

Olive Garden, Carmel Mountain Rd.

Directions: From Interstate 15, take the Carmel Mountain Road exit. Turn East. The restaurant is on the corner of Carmel Mountain Rd. and Rancho Carmel Drive.

American Philatelic Society

Help Grow the Future of Philately

This fall, as APS celebrates **140 years of serving collectors**, we're inviting members, APS chapters, affiliate organizations, and dealers to help us grow the next generation of the hobby. Over the coming weeks, you'll see special emails and resources from APS that make it easy to introduce friends, fellow collectors, club members, customers, and philatelic connections to everything APS has to offer.

There's never been a better time to join. New members can receive **25% off their first year of APS membership** while gaining access to a growing list of benefits, including our upcoming **state-of-the-art website**, new **online education programs**, the return of in-person learning with **Summer Seminar**, expert services, reimagined research resources, a **trusted marketplace for buying and selling philatelic material**, and a vibrant community of collectors from around the world.

When new members join and list **your name and APS member number as their referral source**, you will get recognized for helping grow the APS and acknowledged in *The American Philatelist*.

Know someone who would benefit from APS membership? **Share the link** info.stamps.org/aps140 and remind them to use promo code **APS140** to receive **25% off their first year of membership**. Help us build the future of philately together.

PHILATAIPEI World Stamp Exhibition

November 19-24, 2026

Taipei City, Taiwan



Editor's Corner

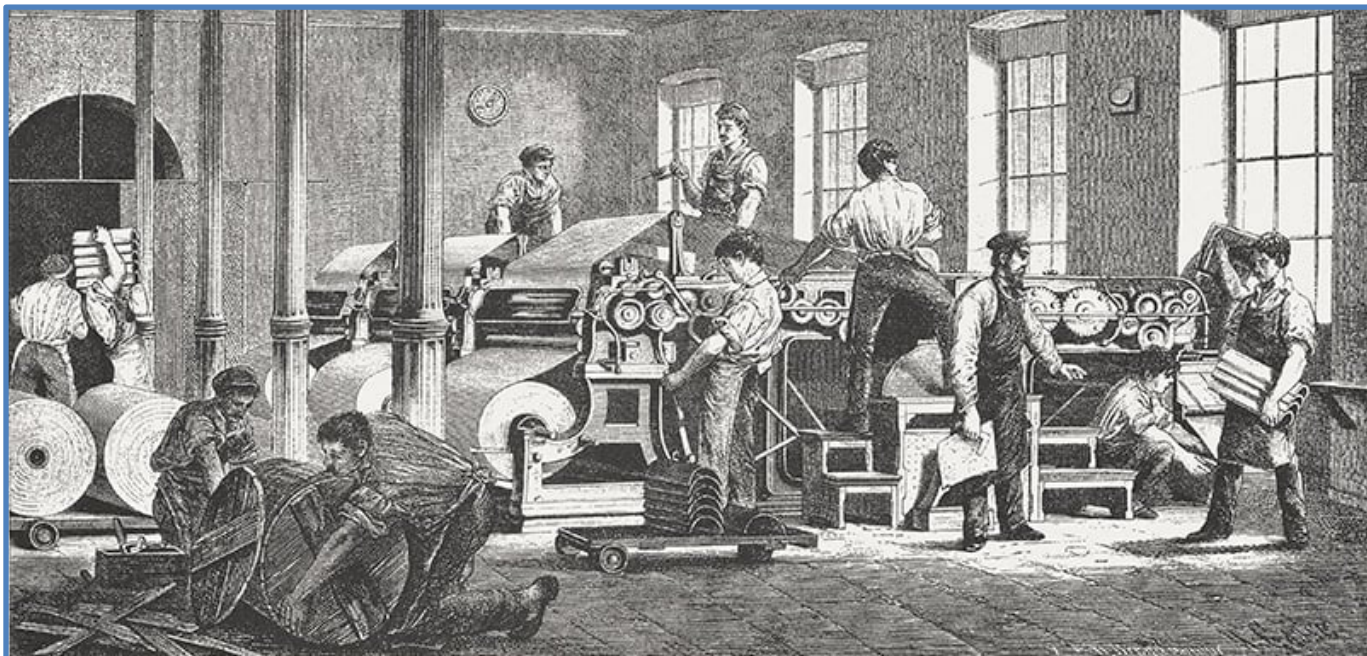


Image obtained from <https://blog.thelabelprinters.com/brief-history-of-printing-presses-part-3-the-industrial-revolution>.

To Our Readers,

Our President has requested all members to consider contributing their time at events and in the overall management of our Club in 2027. As Editor, I hope that you will also consider contributions to the Club's newsletter. If you have knowledge of a particular area of stamp collecting and a computer, you are a perfect candidate to write articles for our Newsletter. I recommend starting by selecting a topic that you are very familiar with and envision writing to an audience that has no experience in the area. This will allow you to write the article starting from the basics and developing your story to whatever level you choose for your readers. It is very satisfying to see your work published and will likely inspire you to write on other topics and more frequently. If you have concerns, never fear, your Editor is always available to help.

David Waller,
Editor-in-Chief

At The San Diego Philatelic Library

The G.H. Kaestlin Collection of Imperial Russian and Zemstvo Stamps

by Neil Schneider

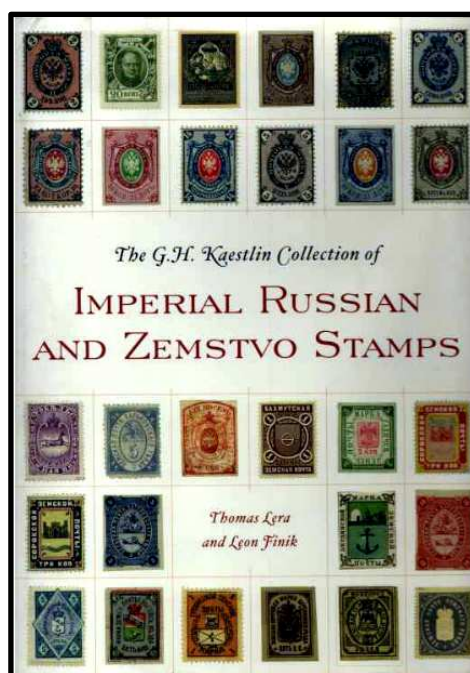


Figure 1: The G.H. Kaestlin Collection of Imperial Russian and Zemstvo Stamps
Authors: Thomas Lera & Leon Finik Publisher: Smithsonian Scholarly Press.

In February of this year, I wrote an overview of the book of the Fabergé Collection of Zemstvo Stamps. This collection is of a similar time period in the Romanov Empire. However, it includes not only Zemstvos but Imperial Russian stamps of the period, too.

From the book: “The first regular postal system arose under Peter I (the Great: r. 1682-1725), and it was separate from the foreign-run relays. He established state post offices, in a number of cities, appointed postmasters and their assistants, and recruited postilions (post riders) to carry the mail. For the first time, by decrees of 1713 and 1714, the private sector was granted access to relay horses after which transportation of people and mail by post roads would be closely intertwined, even up to the 20th Century.”

Postmarks first appeared in St Petersburg in 1765. Up to 1855 postal communication was almost entirely limited to nobility and the merchants. In 1843 an advancement was the change to charges only by weigh, no longer by distance and weight. 12 years later adhesive stamps were introduced. In 1845 the first postal stationery was introduced in St Petersburg and 1846 in Moscow. The first postage stamps were approved for issue in 1856.

The design for the first stamps was prepared by the Gottlieb Haase and Sons Company of Prague and engraved by Franz Kepler of the State Printing Office. Stamps were printed in two separate operations - the frame in brown ink and the center in blue with an embossed coat of arms on whit gummed paper (Figure 2).



Figure 2: One of Russia's first stamps.

Records show that perforating machines were delivered in time for the initial printing, however they were unreliable and to meet the deadline, imperforate sheets of the 10 Kopek stamps were shipped.

The State Printing Office authorities were very quality conscious. Of the 122,647 10-kopeck stamp sheets printed (including both imperforate and perforated), 9,815 were rejected and destroyed there are no inverted or missing centers, no color shifts or other obvious mistakes, although there is one error, and inverted watermark on the 10-kopeck perforated stamp, of which only two copies have been found.

An important event in the evolution of Russian postage stamps was the establishment, by the August 27, 1874 decree, of rural administrations, or zemstvos, which among other things allowed them to issue their own stamps.

In 1874 Russia became one of the original 22 countries forming the General Postal Union (later the Universal Postal Union). After the history lesson of Russian Philately begins the pictures of the G. H. Kaestlin Collection of Imperial Russian Stamps and covers, including Poland and the Levant. On page 71 begins my area of special interest the Zemstvo. I collect only those from the rural areas that are now part of Ukraine. Thirty-four provinces had a number of zemstvo (from *zmlia*, "land") institutions, including a provincial zemstvo board and county-level zemstvo administrations.

In 1865, the zemstvo began issuing their own postage stamps. By 1870 zemstvo posts had spread to 29 provinces, ultimately forcing the Tsar to relent. In August of that year he sanctioned the embellishment of the Russian Rural Post. The zemstvo were not allowed to use the post roads only the country (back) roads. The Zemstvo stamps designs shall have nothing in common with State postage stamps. Letter carriers may display the arms of the province or county but not the post horn, on their bags.

The Imperial Post were suspicious of the zemstvo and put every conceivable obstacle in their way. If a letter transferred to the zemstvo from the Imperial post a 10-ruble fine was imposed. About 165 zemstvos were eventually recognized as having issued postage stamps with the 52-year period of the rural posts' operation, 1865-1917 (Figure 3).

Since paper stock was in great demand stamps were arranged in the way that economized on paper. A coat of arms was a favorite design theme. Quality of reproduction were widely variable. Here are examples of a few Starobelsk (2nd from the right) is one of the Zemstvos I collect.

Conclusion: I learned a lot I didn't know about the history of Zemstvo stamps. I learned about the various printing processes and how some of the stamps in my collection were produced. This is a great introduction to Zemstvo stamps and has a lot of interesting images of rare and common Zemstvo Stamps. I give it two thumbs up.



Figure 3: image of Figure 86 and 95 from the book



Figure 4: left image- unique arrangement of stamps to conserve paper.



Member's Articles

Every Cover Tells a Story

by Jim Grundy



This cover celebrates two historic feats (Figure 1). First, it is the First Day Cover honoring

the fiftieth anniversary of Chuck Yeager becoming the first person to break the Sound Barrier in level flight in 1947. The second is the added cachet of Captain Andrew Green becoming the first and only person to drive a supersonic vehicle on the surface of the Earth. There is an interesting connection between the cover and Yeager and Green breaking the Sound Barrier.

Now, a short Physics lesson. The speed of light is constant at approximately 186,000 miles per second. However, the speed of sound is not constant. Several variables control it. Temperature and altitude are the two main controlling factors. Both, individually or in combination, affect the movement of the particles in the air. This movement affects air density, which controls the speed of sound. To break the sound barrier, Chuck Yeager flew at 45,000 feet and 700 miles per hour, and Andrew Green had to drive over 760 miles per hour to accomplish the same feat. When the sound barrier is broken, the air molecules are compressed, creating a high-pressure wave in front of the vehicle. This high-pressure wave creates a sonic boom and instability in the air flowing over the vehicle. Unless the vehicle is properly designed to handle this high-pressure wave, it could lead to a tragic result.

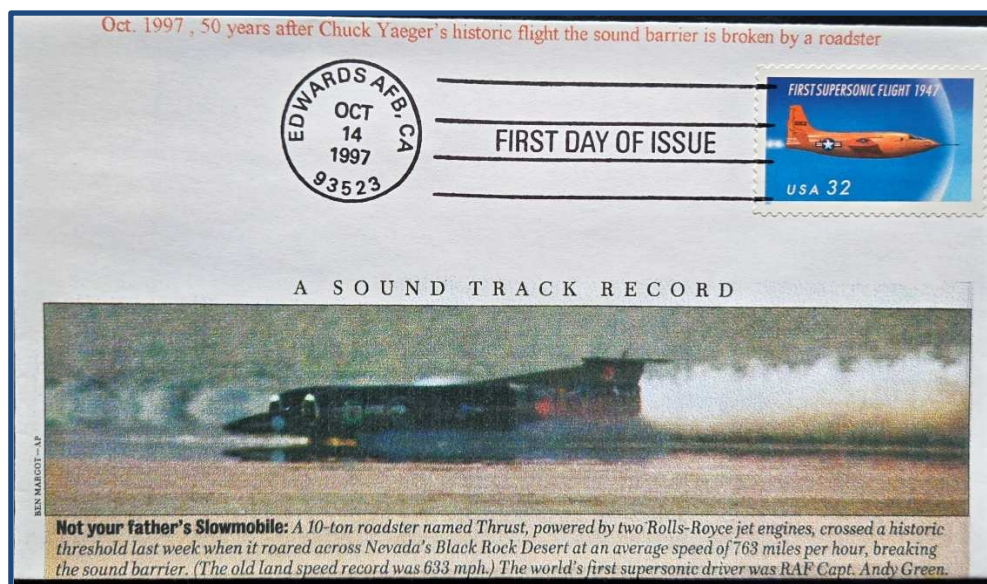


Figure 1: First Day Cover honoring the fiftieth anniversary of Chuck Yeager becoming the first person to break the sound barrier in level flight in 1947.

Charles Elwood Yeager was born on February 13, 1923. In 1941, at age 18, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces. He dreamed of becoming a pilot, but because of his age and education, he didn't qualify. The pilot qualification standards were lowered because of the need for more pilots after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and he was accepted into flight school. He received his pilot's wings in March of 1943 and was sent to Great Britain as a fighter pilot. He became a decorated war hero with 11.5 enemy airplanes shot down. After the war ended, he was assigned to be a test pilot.

One thing that became obvious during the Second World War was that a new type of aircraft was needed. Airplanes that could fly at high altitudes and faster than the speed of sound would be the next generation of aircraft. In 1944, Bell Aircraft was contracted by the Air Force to build such a vehicle. By 1945, Bell had designed and built the X-1. Several years of testing and modifications



Figure 2: Brigadier General Charles E. Yeager and image of General Yeager at the cockpit of the X-1 “Glamorous Glennis”.

were needed before an attempt could be made to break the sound barrier. The attempt was scheduled, but the civilian test pilot who had done much test flying of the X-1 wanted a large sum of money to make the flight. The Air Force rejected his demand and enlisted

a 24-year-old test pilot named Chuck Yeager to make the flight. On October 14, 1947, Chuck Yeager flew the Bell X-1, named “Glamorous Glennis” into aviation history, becoming the first person to pilot an airplane faster than the speed of sound in level flight.

Andrew Duncan Green was born on July 30, 1962. He was granted a Royal Air Force scholarship to the University of Oxford, where he graduated in 1983 with first-class honors in mathematics. In 1986, he qualified as a fighter pilot. He would be active as a pilot and advisor for the RAF throughout his career. He had a reputation for being an excellent pilot and officer.

It is not clear how Andrew Green met Richard Noble. Noble, an English entrepreneur, financed a team of engineers that developed a jet-powered car called the Thrust2. In 1983, Noble drove the Thrust2 to a land speed record of 633 miles per hour. Noble wanted to build a car capable of 1000 miles per hour. In the early 1990s, Noble reassembled the Thrust2 team to build the ThrustSSC (Supersonic Car, Figures 3-5). The team designed and constructed a vehicle that was 54 feet long, 12 feet wide, powered by two Rolls-Royce jet engines, and weighed 10.5 tons (21,000 pounds). Because of his high-speed fighter pilot experience, Andrew Green was chosen to drive this beast. After many tests, the ThrustSSC was ready to attempt to break the sound barrier. Noble and his team returned to the place where Noble had set his record in 1983; The Black Rock Desert in Nevada. The ThrustSSC's first attempt at the sound barrier was on September 25, 1997, but it was not fast enough at 714 miles per hour. On October 15, 1997, fifty years and one day after Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier, Andy Green broke the sound barrier and set the land speed record with a two-way average of 763 miles per hour. At this speed, ThrustSSC was using 4.8 gallons of fuel per second and covered a mile in 4.7 seconds.

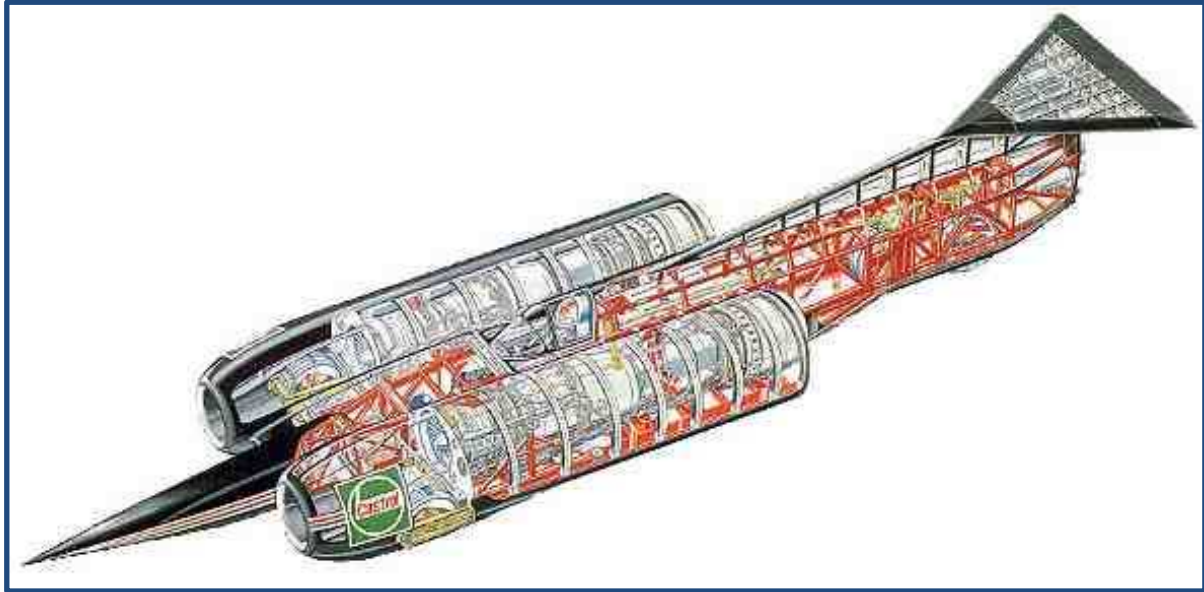


Figure 3: Diagrammatic representation of ThrustSSC.



Figure 4: ThrustSSC.

Both Yeager and Green continued their military careers after breaking the sound barrier. Yeager would retire after 33 years of service. He authored several books and became one of the featured characters in “The Right Stuff”. Chuck Yeager is said to have flown 360 different types of aircraft before his death on December 7, 2020. Andrew Green would retire after nearly 40 years of service in 2016. He would continue to pursue speed records. He currently holds the land speed record for diesel-powered and hydrogen-powered cars.



Figure 5: ThrustSSC in operation and Andrew Green disembarking ThrustSSC.

Chuck Yeager was constantly asked, “What is the right stuff?” One of his answers was, “It’s experience. Being in the right place at the right time and surviving.” Both Chuck Yeager and Andrew Green had the right stuff!



Beautiful U.S. Flat Plate Engravings and EFOs for Scott 568



By David Klauber

The U.S. Scott #568, the 1922 25¢ Niagara Falls stamp, is a striking design from the Fourth Bureau series, featuring a detailed engraving and subtle symbolism that evokes a serene, meditative mood. Issued on Armistice Day, it celebrated and restored symbols of strength and beauty following WWI.



Typical Example of U.S. 568 “Niagara Falls” Stamp
Courtesy: David Klauber

Overall Concept and design - The Niagara stamp, designed by Clair Aubrey Huston, uses a horizontal format that lets the falls fill the vignette, better conveying scale and motion. The water, surrounding cliffs, mist, and distant elements create depth and atmosphere. The frame's design is relatively restrained (sharing elements with neighboring values, such as the 20¢ Golden Gate). This restraint helps the eye focus on the central scene rather than being distracted by decorative elements. As a result, the stamp feels more like a warm, engaging picture and less like a strict, formal portrait. Huston was best known for designing the 1918 24¢ Curtiss Jenny airmail stamp (famous for the Inverted Jenny error, though his original design showed the plane upright).



Source photo used for the vignette design.¹

This photo was taken from Goat Island and inspired by the charming vignette engraved on the stamp. Interestingly, some viewers mistakenly associated it with Frederic Edwin Church's painting "Niagara," which was considered but ultimately rejected.

Engraving - The skilled engraver Charles Chalmers produced the stamp's vignette. The deep-to-yellowish green ink used in the flat-plate printings was chosen to enhance the sense of cool water, foliage, and shadow. Fine line work captures the texture of falling water and rock with the precision typical of the best Bureau of Engraving and Printing work of the period. A well-centered stamp has a strong visual presence and a slightly somber, contemplative quality that collectors often describe as "haunting."

Symbolic importance - The falls themselves carry manifold layers of meaning—raw natural force, the border between nations, and a site of tourism and conservation; Niagara Falls State Park was America's first state park. Among the Fourth Bureau landscapes and icons (Golden Gate, Buffalo, Arlington, etc.), many single it out for that distinctive atmospheric quality. Additionally, the later rotary-press printings (Scott 699) exist in somewhat different shades, but **the original 1922 flat-plate 568 is the classic version** most often praised for its appearance.

Why It Was Produced - Under the Harding administration, the Post Office Department deliberately broadened its subject range to include iconic American scenes and symbols. The stamp was part of a major redesign that replaced the long-running Washington-Franklin portrait series.

Postal clerks complained that the series featured overly similar portraits and closely related colors, causing frequent mix-ups at busy post offices and revenue losses when the wrong denomination was applied. The goal was both practical (easy visual distinction at a glance) and cultural—refocusing public attention after World War I on enduring national symbols and landmarks rather than wartime themes. Niagara Falls was selected as a natural wonder of international fame and became **the first U.S. postage stamp with a 25-cent denomination**. The issue was produced from plates 14062-65, 16626-29, and 17442-45. In short, Scott 568 was produced for practical postal reasons (clear denomination identification and a modernized definitive series) while deliberately celebrating one of North America’s most spectacular natural landmarks.

#568 Yellow green, deep yellow green, dark yellow green, deep bluish green, dark bluish green, dark green.

Value: 25 cents

Printing Method: FLAT PLATE

Gum Breakers: No

Subject: Niagara Falls

Number Issued: 107,616,077

Perforations, wmk.: 11, Unwatermarked

Scott # Issued: 568, November 11th, 1922

Known listed types:

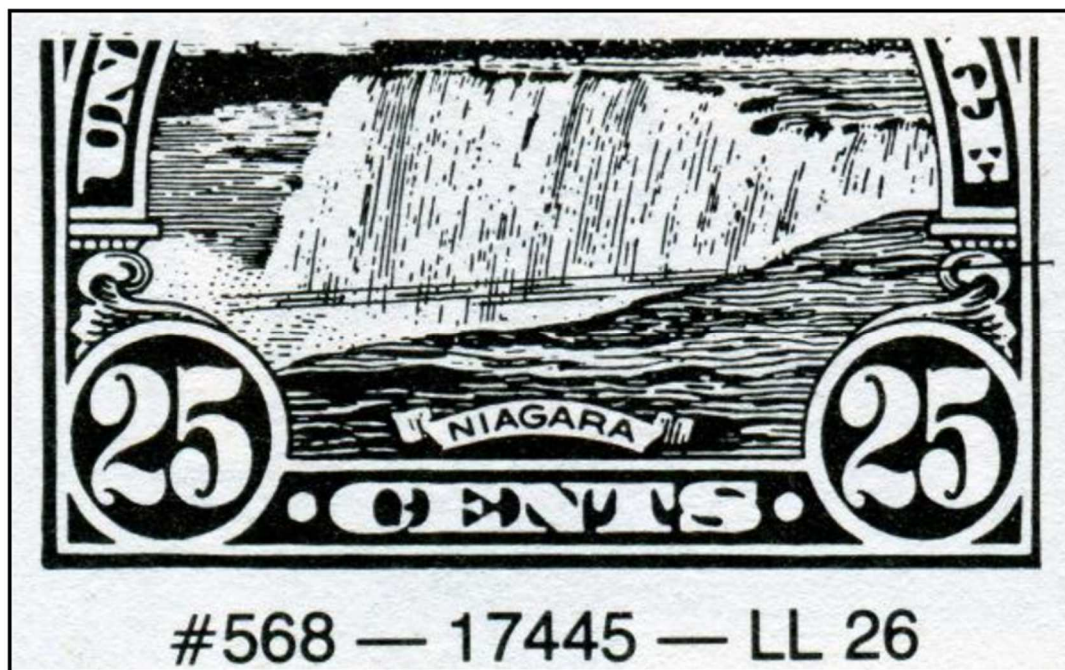
- **#568a:** Printed on “**special booklet paper**,” the 25¢ Niagara Falls Stamp – on SBP from July 27 to August 17, 1928 – had only 33,000 Impressions on SBP for this issue
- **#568b:** Imperforate horizontally (pairs or strips; scarce, with catalog values in the thousands for hinged examples).
- **#568c:** Perforated 10 on one side (left or right, due to the stamp’s horizontal orientation). This rare production error resulted from a defective perforating wheel (part of the pins changed from gauge 11 to 10 during repair, affecting a short period around early 1923). The Siegel Auction Galleries census records roughly 6 used singles, 1 unused single, and examples in a block of 8. Highly valuable (examples have realized thousands at auction). Many show transitional perfs.

Plate varieties: “Bridge over the Falls” (a distinct plate flaw showing lines resembling a bridge; extremely rare, with only a couple of examples known and used for illustration in specialized catalogs). It occurs only on the **flat-plate Scott #568 stamp**.



Example of the U.S. 568 “Bridge over the Falls” Error
Robert Siegel Auction Galleries, Jun 2009, Sale 975, Lot 1983

The “Bridge over the Falls” is a listed plate variety (a consistent plate flaw sought by stamp specialists, not a major production error such as an invert or missing color). The variety is recorded in one of my favorite reference books, Loren C. French’s *Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties* (page 142), as occurring on plate 17445, lower-left pane, position 26 (LL 26): “Four parallel lines across bottom of falls, the ‘bridge over the falls’ variety.”



The 'bridge over the falls' variety.

French describes as: "17445 - LL 26: Four parallel lines across the bottom of the falls.

Visual description: Four (sometimes described as parallel or near-parallel) fine horizontal lines appear across the lower portion of the cascading water of the falls. These lines create the optical illusion of a bridge or structure spanning the base of the falls—hence the name. The lines are inked elements from the plate and are constant on stamps from that specific plate position. They stand out against

horizontal and vertical lines used to depict the falling water and mist. Similar-looking lines appear on rotary-press Scott 699 examples but are unrelated scanner artifacts, inking variations, or different plate flaws and are not linked to this French-listed variety.

Cause: The lines are a classic, constant plate flaw that arises during the preparation or use of the steel printing plate. Typical causes for such parallel line flaws on engraved flat plates of this era include:

- Accidental scratches or tool marks on the plate surface (from a burnisher, engraver's tool, or handling).
- Transfer-roll or siderography imperfections that transferred unintended lines into the design area during plate making.
- Progressive wear, corrosion, or damage that left raised or recessed linear marks that took ink. Because the defect is constant (appearing in the same position on successive sheets printed from that plate), it is classified as a plate variety rather than a freak.

Rarity and Collectability

- **Overall scarcity:** The basic stamp is common (tens of millions printed). The specific plate position (one stamp out of every 400-subject plate, and only from **plate 17445** (while the flaw was present) makes examples of the variety considerably scarcer than ordinary 568s. The number of surviving copies depends on how many sheets were printed from that plate after the flaw developed and how many collectors saved them.
- **Market presence:** It is primarily of interest to plate-variety specialists and Fourth Bureau collectors rather than to the general market. It is not listed as a major error in the main Scott listings. Examples appear occasionally in specialized literature, auction descriptions of plate varieties, or advanced collections.
- **Relative rarity:** Far rarer than ordinary used or mint 568s, but not in the league of major errors. Plate-variety collectors regard examples as desirable and moderately scarce.

In summary: The “**bridge over the falls**” error is a unique and well-known variety on Scott 568, from plate 17445 LL 26. It results from unintended parallel lines on the plate that create the impression of a bridge across the lower falls. Collectors appreciate this item, and it is genuinely rare.

References

1. The Swedish Tiger, #568 - 1922 Perf 11 25¢, <https://www.theswedishtiger.com/568-scotts.html>



The Founding of the United Nations: A Story Told Through Stamps

By Manuel Marti



For stamp collectors, few international organizations offer a more fascinating collecting theme than the United Nations. Its stamps document not only the organization itself, but also the extraordinary diplomatic effort that brought the United Nations into existence at the end of World War II.

The story begins before the United Nations was formally established at the Quebec Conference in August 1943, Secretary of State Cordell Hull and British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden agreed to draft a declaration that included a call for “a general international organization, based on the principle sovereign equality of all nations.” An agreed declaration was issued after a Foreign Ministers Conference in Moscow in October 1943. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt met with Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin in Tehran, Iran, in November 1943, he proposed an international organization comprising

an assembly of all member states and a 10-member executive committee to discuss social and economic issues. The United States, Great Britain, Soviet Union, and China would enforce peace as “the four policemen.” Meanwhile Allied representatives founded a set of task-oriented organizations:

the **Food and Agricultural Organization (May 1943),**



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition and food security

the **United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (November 1943)**,



During its brief existence, from 1943 to 1948, UNRRA was active in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and Asia. In the aftermath of the Second World War, it repatriated over 7 million displaced persons; provided education and training; and delivered millions of tons of food, fuel, clothing, medicine, and other necessities.

The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) operated from 1943 to 1948, and while UNRRA itself did not issue its own official postal stamps (*the UN Postal Administration wasn't founded until 1951*), member nations and related transition agencies released philatelic material.

the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (April 1944)**.

Purpose and Mission

It aims to build lasting peace and security through international cooperation in education, the sciences, and culture. It protects global cultural and natural heritage, famous for designating World Heritage Sites. It sets international norms and standards to advance quality education, freedom of expression, and scientific collaboration.



UNESCO is the United Nations organization that promotes cooperation in education, science, culture and communication to foster peace worldwide.

SC#33-34

the **International Monetary Fund**

IMF fosters economic growth and employment by providing temporary financial assistance to countries to help ease balance of payments adjustment and technical assistance. The IMF currently has \$28 billion in outstanding loans to 74 nations.



SC#90-91

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) fosters economic growth and employment by providing temporary financial assistance to countries to help ease balance of payments and technical assistance.

the **World Bank (July 1944)**

The World Bank focuses on poverty reduction and the improvement of living standards worldwide by providing low-interest loans, interest-free credit, and grants to developing countries for education, health, infrastructure, and communications, among other things.



SC#546-547

The World Bank focuses on poverty reduction and the improvement of living standards worldwide by providing low-interest loans, interest-free credit, and grants to developing countries for education, health, infrastructure, and communications, among other things.

and the **International Civil Aviation Organization (November 1944)**.

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is a United Nations agency which helps 193 countries to cooperate together and share their skies to their mutual benefit.

298-99 1978 ICAO



31-32 1955 Intl Civil Aviation Organization

Representatives of 50 nations met in San Francisco April-June 1945 to complete the Charter of the United Nations. In addition to the General Assembly of all member states and a Security Council of 5 permanent and 6 non-permanent members, the Charter provided for an 18-member Economic and Social Council. The decisive step came in San Francisco in 1945. From April through June, representatives of 50 nations met to complete the Charter of the United Nations.

For collectors, the San Francisco conference provides a particularly interesting historical theme because it represents the transition from wartime alliance to a permanent international organization.

The completed Charter established several major bodies. The General Assembly would bring together representatives of all member states. The Security Council would consist of five permanent members and six non-permanent members under the original Charter arrangement. Other institutions included an 18-member Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice, a Trusteeship Council, and the Secretariat, headed by a Secretary-General.

Below are some of the stamps for the various bodies/organizations which were created during the founding of the United Nations during its early period

Security Council of the United Nations stamps



SC#65-66

International Court of Justice



SC#88-89

Trusteeship Council



SC#73-74

Secretariat



SC#181-182

The Roosevelt administration strove to avoid Woodrow Wilson's mistakes in selling the League of Nations to the Senate. It sought bipartisan support and in September 1943 the Republican Party endorsed U.S. participation in a postwar international organization, after which both houses of Congress overwhelmingly endorsed participation. Roosevelt also sought to convince the public that an international organization was the best means to prevent future wars. The Senate approved the UN Charter on July 28, 1945, by a vote of 89 to 2. The United Nations came into existence on October 24, 1945, after 29 nations had ratified the Charter.

Authors comment: Having lived in NYC for many years and working city blocks from the United Nations, I had the pleasure to see and witness a few historical events. I also had the opportunity to purchase quite a few new issues. The lines were long and remember spending hours preparing covers. Those were the good old days.

Resources:

<https://www.state.gov/>

<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/un>

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/history-of-the-un>

<https://www.cfr.org/ten-best-ten-worst-us-foreign-policy-decisions/creation-of-the-united-nations/>



Forever Stamps; Impact on the U.S.P.S. Budgetary Losses

By David Waller



A July 2026 publication by Reuters noted some of the challenges facing the U.S. Postal Service resulting in continually rising postal rates. Reuters summarized these problems.



Figure 1: First Forever postage stamp produced in the United States Scott No. 4128.

“WASHINGTON, July 11 - The cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service will raise the price of stamps for mailing a first-class letter to 82 cents from 78 cents, effective Sunday. Here are the details:

- U.S.P.S., which has warned it could run out of cash early next year, announced in April it would raise mailing costs by 4.8%.
- U.S. Postmaster General David Steiner told Congress last month the agency, which has had net losses of about \$120 billion since 2007, has a broken business model and needs help from lawmakers to turn around its operations.
- The volume of first-class mail, its most profitable product, has dropped to 1960s levels as communication has largely gone digital. Yet the agency must maintain costly nationwide delivery operations.
- Steiner thinks Americans would be willing to pay 90 or 95 cents per letter, when much of the world pays \$2 or more.”

Reporting by David Shepardson; Editing by Cynthia Osterman

It appears that continually increasing the postal rates will not solve the agency’s problems even if it were raised to 95 cents as suggested by the Postmaster General. Steiner’s statement that the Post office’s business model is broken is not news and is a menacing echo from the past (*i.e.*, 2007). Further, the decrease in volume based on e-mail and other similar forms of communication was not unexpected and constantly raising postal rates to compensate for more efficient communication methods clearly was not the best approach.

While there are likely several facets to the Agency’s losses, the Author was initially convinced that a significant portion of this deficit was due to the issuance of the “Forever” stamps. The U.S. Forever postage stamp (*i.e.*, a stamp that carries the current postal rate for one-ounce postage no matter the date it was purchased) was conceived and developed by the United States Postal Service (U.S.P.S.) leadership in 2006. The concept was inspired by a similar non-denominated "regulatory" stamp previously introduced by the United Kingdom's Royal Mail to bypass the hassle and additional cost of issuing supplemental cent-value stamps during price increases.

The author has attempted to answer the question as to whether the Post Office’s attempt to save money by issuing “Forever” stamps helped or hindered their financial position. With some

estimations, guess work, and some handwaving it seems that “Forever” stamps impact did not achieve its goal of conserving the Agency’s resources but was not as damaging as initially thought. The “Forever” stamps contribution to the deficit appears to only be about 6-10% of the currently reported losses (*i.e.*, this number will vary significantly based on the presumptions that the author made in his calculations in the absence of specific data, see Table 1). The available data utilized for these calculations was obtained from the Internet and included annual sales of the “Forever” stamps (where available), annual volume of mail transported, and the differences in the one-ounce postal rates.

It is important to note that the U.S.P.S. is self-funded and does not operate on a traditional tax-appropriated federal budget. For fiscal year 2025, the Office reported \$80.5 billion in total operating revenue and nearly \$89.8 billion in operating expenses, resulting in a net loss of \$9.0 billion. Since the agency is self-funded, Congress did not approve or vote on the first "Forever" stamp that was introduced and issued on April 12, 2007 (Figure 1).



Figure 2: Unveiling of the first Forever stamp April 12, 2007.

Table 1:

Forever Stamp Estimated Loss Calculation Table

Year	Stamp Price	Forever Stamps Sold (B)	Mail Moved Billions (B)	Difference from 2007 (Cents)	Est. Sold (B)	Est. Losses (B)
2007	0.41 (05/ 2007)		212.2	0.00	11.56	0
2008	0.42 (05/ 2008)		202.7	0.01	10.88	0.109
2009	0.44 (05/ 2009)		177.1	0.03	9.52	0.286
2010	0.44		170.6	0.03	9.52	0.286
2011	0.44		168.0	0.03	8.84	0.265
2012	0.45 (01/ 2010)		159.8	0.04	8.84	0.354
2013	0.46 (01/2013)	68*	158.4	0.05	8.84	0.442
		Total Mailings	1248.8			
		Est. Sales	\$30.2 B			1.742

2014	0.49 (01/2014)		155.4	0.03	8.43	0.253
2015	0.49 (01/ 2015)		154.2	0.03	8.43	0.253
2016	0.47* (04/ 2016)		153.9	0.01	8.43	0.084
2017	0.49 (01/ 2017)		149.5	0.03	7.87	0.236
2018	0.50 (01/ 2018)		146.4	0.04	7.87	0.315
2019	0.55 (01/ 2019)		142.6	0.09	7.87	0.708
2020	0.55	Est. 56.2***	129.2	0.09	7.03	0.712
		Total Mailings	1,031.2			
		Est. Sales ***	\$24.7 B			2.561
2021	0.58 (08/ 2021)		128.9	0.03	6.91	0.207
2022	0.60 (07/ 2022)		127.3	0.05	6.59	0.330
2023	0.63 (01/ 2023) to 0.66 (07/ 2023)		116.2	0.08	6.28	0.502
2024	0.68 (01/ 2024) to 0.73 (07/ 2024)		112.5	0.13	5.97	0.776
2025	0.78 (07/ 2025)	Est. 31.4***	108.7	0.23	5.65	1.300
		Total Mailings	593.6			
		Est. Sales ***	\$13.8 B			3.115
Estimated loss 2007-2025						\$7.4

* Reported sales from 2007 to 2013

** Purchased but not necessarily used. For this purpose, it is presumed to be a loss once purchased.

*** Number obtained as an estimated percentage of those reported for 2007-2013 based on mail moved.

Table Calculations/Presumptions:

Calculations

1. The number of Forever stamps sold in subsequent years is extrapolated using the 68 billion sold from 2007-2013 for the succeeding year groupings 2014-2020 and 2021-2025. These groupings were selected because, "The exact cumulative number of Forever stamps produced by the USPS since their introduction in 2007 up to 2025 is not publicly disclosed or tracked as a single official total figure, though production runs routinely number in the billions across hundreds of individual designs." (Google AI)
2. The estimated annual Forever stamps sales were calculated as a percentage of the total mail moved in a grouping divided by the estimated number sold as determined in 1 above.
3. The difference in each grouping is determined by the current prices minus the last reported price in the grouping above.
4. The losses are calculated by multiplying the difference (column 5) by the number sold (column 6).

Presumptions

1. The numbers provided by the internet for columns 1, 2 and 4 are accurate.
2. The 2007-2013 sales of 68 billion is accurate.
3. The stamps sold were immediately used, so the impact on losses reported here could be substantially more.
4. The number of Forever stamps sold in groupings 2 and 3 will be proportionate to that in group 1. Consequently, a percentage calculated from the numbers provided in group 1

were used to create a percentage which was used to calculate that number for groups 2 and 3.

5. The final calculation of the losses due to the sale of Forever stamps will vary as much as 100% but weighted toward the upper end of the range.



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October 4	October 18
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San Diego Philatelic Library Events

No SDPL events reported for October:

Stamp News 2026

New Stamps for 2026

Issued in time for Christmas 2026, this stamp features a richly symbolic depiction of the Virgin Mary and the Christ Child painted around the year 1500. Distinctive for its large central figure of Mary in red garments and an array of background details, the painting is in the collection of the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts.



Now known by the modern title *The Virgin and Child Enthroned*, this painting bears a close resemblance to other works in collections in Europe and the United States. Art historians who have compared the various paintings have concluded that this version shows the influence of Rogier van der Weyden, one of the most successful Netherlandish painters of his day. Since the foliage is painted in a manner that resembles embroidery, art historians have attributed this painting to an unnamed artist known only as “The Master of the Embroidered Foliage.”



For years, fentanyl has fueled a national overdose crisis, deeply affecting families and communities. But with growing awareness, improved resources, and better access to treatment and recovery support, progress is being made. With the *Know the Facts About Fentanyl* semipostal, the U.S. Postal Service will raise funds for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) — the world’s largest funder of substance use and addiction research and a component of the National Institutes of Health — to advance research and raise awareness to combat this ongoing epidemic while providing a message encouraging hope, healing, and recovery.

Most of the approximately 80,000 annual overdose deaths in the United States involve fentanyl and other extremely potent synthetic opioids. Sustained research to prevent and treat addiction, deploy overdose interventions, and sustain recovery is critical to build on current progress in addressing the overdose epidemic.

Sold at a price of \$1.00 per First-Class™ stamp, this stamp is a semipostal. Net proceeds from this stamp will be distributed to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.



The annual autumn festival Diwali celebrates the triumph of good over evil. Also known as Deepavali, it is among the most important events on the Hindu calendar and is usually observed over five days. A colorful new stamp honors this joyous holiday with an image of a rangoli, a vibrant floor pattern traditionally made from materials such as colored rice powder, chalk, and flower petals.

During the holiday, it is customary for people to create rangolis in and around their homes. The intricate designs, which often feature floral imagery, geometric shapes, and religious iconography, are thought to bring good fortune.

On the Hindu calendar, Diwali falls on the eve of, or on, the new moon that occurs between mid-October and mid-November. In 2026, the main day of the festival will be November 8. The *Diwali* stamp is being issued as a Forever[®] stamp.



Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

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