



# The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club  
 American Philatelic Society Chapter #540  
 American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 12 Number 4 March/April 2019

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**March 28, 2019** – “The Union of South Africa: The Darmstadt Trials of 1929”

*By Eddie Bridges*



*Drommedaris* (Jan Van Riebeck’s ship). South Africa 1935 booklet pane with 1934 stamp (Scott 48j; SG 56e). This is not one of the stamps in the 1929 trials, but this image was used on stamps of those trials, I believe ?



**April 25, 2019** – “Transatlantic Mail”

*By Carol Bommarito*

## 2019 PROGRAM

*Submitted by Edward J. Grabowski and Robert Loeffler  
 Co-Chairmen, Program Committee*

**May 23, 2019** – First Annual Members’ Bourse

**June 20, 2019** – “Mail Between Italy and Great Britain 1875 - 1914”

*By Martino Laurenzi*

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## 2019 WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB SHOW

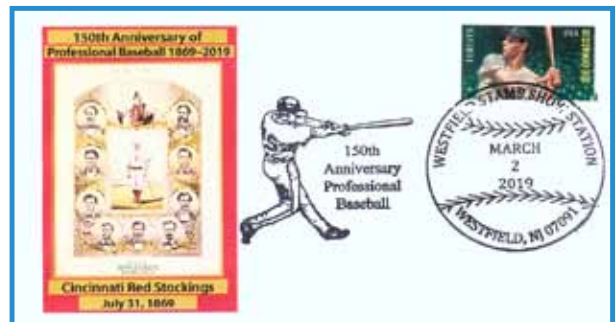
*Editor*

The snowy, slushy and rainy weather the night before our show on Saturday, March 2nd definitely had an impact on attendance at the show and we had less showgoers than we have had at past shows. But those brave souls who did show up seemed to be enjoying themselves at the booths of our dealers and at the exhibits.

And speaking of dealers, we owe them a very big thank you for fighting the elements and supporting our club. Dealers Drew Wintringham, Audrey Yankelun, The Excelsior Collection, Barry & Gerry Covers, Jim Chada and Mountainside Stamps set up a full range of material. I hope their sales were good. And once again, the smiling, knowledgeable representative from the Westfield Post Office, Ms. Lee, was on hand with a great selection of current USPS products. It is very nice to pick up the new issues which she always brings and not have to order them from “The Cave” and then have to remove all the shrink wrap and cardboard packaging that enclose the ordered stamps.

Unfortunately we only had twelve frames of exhibits, not enough to bring in judges, so all exhibits were non-competitive. I encourage our members to put something together for next year’s show. Remember, one of the exhibit categories is “Pages from Your Collection”, which as its name implies is just a showing of pages from your collection and not a specifically prepared exhibit. You don’t have to follow any rules for this category.

The theme for this year’s show was the **150th Anniversary of Professional Baseball**. A special cancel and cachet was prepared for our show cover shown below. If you didn’t make the show and want one of the covers, I will have some at the March 28th meeting. Cost: \$3.00



## The Westfield Philatelist

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## The Westfield Stamp Club

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Meetings are held at 8:00PM on the fourth Thursday of the month except for November (third Thursday) and July and August (summer recess). The club meets in the Community Room of the Westfield Town Hall located in the center of Westfield at 425 East Broad Street.

Dues are \$8.00 per membership year which runs from September 1 to August 31.

The club newsletter will be published every two months from September to June.

For information visit  
our website

[www.westfieldstampclub.org](http://www.westfieldstampclub.org)

or call

Nick Lombardi

908-233-3045

## Recent Articles Written By Members

**Roger S. Brody** - (1) "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises: Nabisco". *The United States Specialist* 2019; 90(1):7–12. (2) "And the Band Played On — America's Centenarian Enterprises: Coca-Cola Company". *The United States Specialist* 2019; 90(3):103–109.

**Frederick C. Skvara** - (1) "Ships That Never Sailed". *Topical Time* 2019; 70(1):45–48. (2) "William Christian (1743–1785)". *Americana Philatelic News* 2019; 49(243):7. (3) "Jaime Escalante (1930–2010)". *Americana Philatelic News* 2019; 49(243):8. (4) "The Grand Canyon National Park Centennial". *Americana Philatelic News* 2019; 49(243):9–12. (5) "Americana Obscura: The Royal Air Force Centenary". *Americana Philatelic News* 2019; 49(243):18–19.

## MARCH/APRIL USPS STAMP ISSUES

March 22 **Star Ribbon**. One (55¢) definitive forever stamp.

April 2 **Marvin Gaye (1939–1984)**. One (55¢) commemorative forever stamp. (Music Icons series).

American singer, songwriter and record producer who shaped the sound of Motown. Awards: Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award; Rhythm & Blues Music Hall of Fame, Songwriters Hall of Fame and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

April 10 **Post Office Murals**. Five (55¢) commemorative forever stamps.

April 23 **Maureen "Little Mo" Connolly Brinker (1934–1969)** One (55¢) commemorative forever stamp.

American tennis player; winner of nine Grand Slam singles titles; first woman to win all four Grand Slam tournaments during the same calendar year.

This information was obtained from *Linn's Stamp News*, the *USPS Postal Bulletin*, and *Wikipedia*



## MARCH / APRIL PHILATELIC QUIZ



- Q1. What United States stamp depicts a woman wearing a Phrygian cap? Hint: She is on a state flag.
- Q2. What country lists its name on its stamps in three languages?
- Q3. What country was the first to issue stamps specifically intended to be used on Christmas cards?
- Q4. What country was the first to issue a stamp showing an autograph?
- Q5. In 1902 Henry Leland named a car after a French explorer. That car is still being manufactured. Who was that explorer and what is the name of that car?

## Baseball in the United States: The Beginning

By Frederick C. Skvara

Even though television ratings of baseball games lag behind those of professional and collegiate football and basketball, baseball has a place in American society that those other sports do not enjoy. It is played everywhere by millions of boys and girls in thousands of youth teams on sandlots and playgrounds. Countless men and women play baseball and softball in community teams representing factories and department stores, and in urban and rural leagues across the country. Baseball's standing as the National Pastime remains intact.

The May 29, 1939, issue of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* in its "Stop Press News" column carried an image of the Centennial of Baseball commemorative postage stamp to be issued on June 12, 1939, in Cooperstown, New York. It is the site of the centennial celebration of the game and where the first game was said to have been played under organized rules in 1839. Postmaster James A. Farley announced at a baseball writer's dinner on February 6<sup>th</sup> that a baseball stamp would be issued.



Centennial of Baseball. 1939

The stamp, which shows a sandlot baseball game, was designed by William A. Roach, a designer with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. James T. Vail engraved the frame and lettering and Charles A. Brooks engraved the image of the baseball game. The stamp was intaglio printed on the Rotary Press in sheets of 200 without a watermark and perforated 11 x 10½. Four plates, 22385 through 22388 were used to produce a total of 81,269,600 stamps that were distributed as panes of fifty stamps.

Suggestions as to who should be shown on the stamp included Abner Doubleday and Alexander J. Cartwright as each of them have been credited with founding organized baseball.

Abner Doubleday (1819–1893) was born in Ballston Spa, New York, approximately seventy miles east of Cooperstown, New York. Following his graduation from the Academy at West Point, he served in the Mexican War and with the Union Army during the American Civil War engaged in the battles at Fort Sumter, Fredericksburg and Gettysburg as well as others. He rose to the rank of Major General.

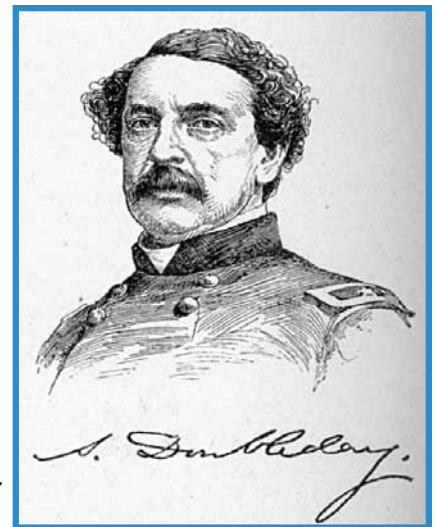
The claim that he invented baseball did not come from Doubleday. Indeed, he made no mention of the game in his writings and baseball is not mentioned in his *New York Times* obituary. It actually stems from a 1908 report by the Mills Commission (organized by Albert Spaulding, a sporting goods entrepreneur) that concluded that baseball was invented by Abner Doubleday in Cooperstown, New York in 1839. The report also stated that Doubleday had invented the word "baseball", designed the diamond and had written the rules for the game. But no written records support the commission's claims which in essence relied on a letter from an elderly gentleman named Abner Graves who in 1839 was a five-year-old boy living in Cooperstown. Graves may not be the most reliable source as he later murdered his wife and spent the last days of his life in an asylum for the criminally insane. Further, Doubleday was at West Point in 1839 and there is no record that he traveled to Cooperstown.

What we do know is that Shane Ryley Foster published written rules for "baseball" in 1845 for a New York team called the Knickerbockers. The team was founded by a New York bookseller, Alexander Cartwright (1820–1892) who umpired the first-ever recorded United States baseball game played under a set of organized rules on June 19, 1846, in Hoboken, New Jersey. Cartwright, a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame was officially credited as inventing the game of baseball by Congress on June 3, 1953.



July Fourth  
by Grandma Moses. 1969

The centerpiece of the 1951 painting, *July Fourth*, by the American folk artist Grandma Moses (Anna Mary Robertson Moses 1860–1961) shows four boys playing baseball on a green field. The painting was given to the White House by Otto Kallir, a Vienna art dealer who moved to New York City in 1939.



# Baseball in the United States: The Beginning

By Frederick C. Skvara

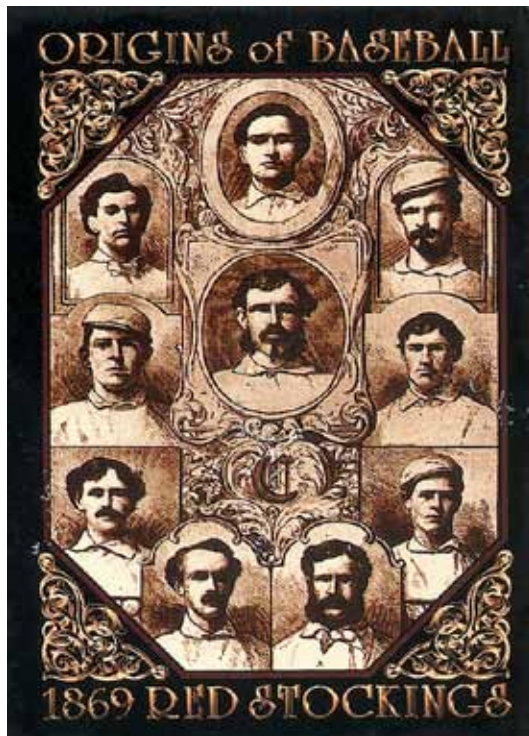
Nineteen years after the Cooperstown game, the first formal governing body for baseball, the National Association of Base Ball Players (NABBP) was founded as an amateur organization in 1858 and by 1867 its membership had grown to over 300 clubs (its members were clubs, not individual players). Although some players were being paid in secret as early as 1860, the opening of the first fully enclosed ballpark, the Brooklyn Union Grounds, in 1862 gave the owners the ability to charge admission and provided the teams with the money to hire professional players.



In 1869 the NABBP allowed professional teams and twelve existing clubs of the association declared professional status. The first team to sign an all-salary team was the Cincinnati Red Stockings who signed ten men for eight months on March 19, 1869.

Professional Baseball, 100th Anniversary 1969

Their first game as an all-professional team was on May 4, 1869, when Cincinnati defeated the Great Westerns 45 to 9.



The 1869 Cincinnati Red Stockings Team

In their inaugural season in 1869, the Cincinnati Red Stockings posted a record of 60 wins, no losses and one tie and went on to win 81 consecutive games before they lost to the Brooklyn Atlantics on June 14, 1870. In 1871 a Boston businessman formed the Boston Red Stockings composed of former players of the Cincinnati Red Stockings who had been brought to Boston by their manager Harry Wright. They played their inaugural season as the Boston Red Stockings that year and joined the National Association of Professional Base Ball Players (NAPBBP). The franchise went through several name changes eventually operating as the Boston Braves from 1912 until they moved to Milwaukee in 1953 (Milwaukee Braves) and to Atlanta in 1966 (Atlanta Braves). The original Boston Red Stockings team and its successors (the Braves) are the oldest continuously playing American professional sports teams. On February 2, 1876 the NAPBBP was replaced by the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs (i.e. National League).

The Boston Red Sox were formed in 1901 and originally known as the 'Americans' took the name Boston Red Sox in 1908, adapting it from the Boston Red Stockings and were a member of the American League which was founded in 1901.

In 2000 the legally separate entities, the National League and the American League, were merged into a single organization, Major League Baseball, led by the Commissioner of Baseball.

## The ten members of the 1869 were:

- Asa Brainard, Pitcher
- Doug Allison, Catcher
- Charlie Gould, First Base,
- Charlie Sweasy, Second Base
- Fred Waterman, Third Base
- George Wright, Shortstop
- Andy Leonard, Left Field
- Harry Wright, Center Field, Manager
- Cal McVey, Right Field
- Dick Hurley, substitute



Jack Norworth (1879–1959), an American songwriter from Philadelphia wrote the lyrics to *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* in 1908 and Albert von Tilzer (1878–1956) composed the melody. It has been a favorite of ballpark organists for decades, but it wasn't until 1976 that fans were led singing the song during the seventh-inning stretch. For the 100th anniversary of the song, the USPS issued this 42¢ commemorative, the design of which is based on a c.1880 American Eagle Tobacco Works trade card. The words of the song title replaced the words on the trading card and the first six notes of the chorus are seen on the bottom of the stamp.





# ANSWERS TO JANUARY / FEBRUARY PHILATELIC QUIZ



**Q1. What is the first United States joint issue?**

Ans. **1959 St. Lawrence Seaway (joint with Canada)**

Over the years a number of postal administrations have jointly issued stamps commemorating the same subject. To be considered a “joint issue”, rather than several countries just issuing stamps for the same subject, there has to be an agreement between the postal administrations and advance planning. The design can be identical or similar, except for the country name and denomination, or quite different.

The first joint issue of the United States marked the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. On June 26, 1959, the United States and Canada each issued a similarly designed stamp for that event.

The Saint Lawrence River flows from Lake Ontario 800 miles to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, an inlet of the Atlantic Ocean. But it is not fully navigable and the idea of making it full navigable and connecting the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean began as early as 1896. World War I and lobbying by railroads and seaports against the project delayed the ratification of the pact between the United States and Canada. It wasn't until 1954 that construction on the Seaway began. The Seaway which runs from Montreal, Quebec, to Lake Erie consists of portions of navigable channels within the river, locks and canals along the banks that bypass areas of rapids and several dams. The resulting 2,300 mile waterway allows oceangoing vessels to travel from the Atlantic Ocean as far inland as the western end of Lake Superior and it remains one of the most important commercial routes in North America.[Ref: (1)*Encyclopedia Britannica 1968*; 19:909–10” and (2) “Joint Issues: When Different Countries Celebrate Together” by Michael Baadke. *Linn's Stamp News*]



Identical designs showing the Canadian Maple Leaf and the United States Bald Eagle overlying a map of the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. United States 1959 (Scott 1131); Canada 1959 (Scott 387)

**Q2. What are the Cod Islands?**

Ans. **Saint Pierre et Miquelon**

Saint Pierre et Miquelon is a French collectivity consisting of several islands, the largest of which are Saint Pierre and Miquelon. They lie in the Atlantic Ocean just south of Newfoundland, Canada surrounded by the Grand Banks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The chief occupation of the islands is fishing, particularly cod fishing and they have been referred to informally as the Cod Islands. These islands have always been associated with fishing and as early as the 16th century, Basque fishermen visited the Grand Banks, the nutrient-rich area around SPM where the Labrador Current mixes with the Gulf Stream, making it the greatest cod-fishing region in the world. Permanent French residents were on Saint Pierre et Miquelon by the middle of the 17th century. Saint Pierre is French for St. Peter, the patron saint of fishermen. [Ref. *Encyclopedia Britannica 1968*;19:921–22]



Map of St. Pierre et Miquelon and showing Grand Miquelon & Petite Miquelon separated by a spit of land. The much smaller Saint Pierre is in the lower right corner. Two fishermen frame the map. SPM 1932 (Scott 136)



Cod, fishing net, fish processing plant. SPM 1947 (Scott 328)



Atlantic Cod (*Gadus morhua*) SPM 1957 (Scott 351)[Cod is popular as a food and its liver has been used to make cod liver oil, a rich source of the Vitamins A & D.]



**Q3. What United States President held more high federal offices than anyone in the history of the republic?**

Ans. **John Quincy Adams**

John Quincy Adams was born July 11, 1767, in Braintree (Quincy), Massachusetts, and served as our 6th President (1825–1829). Politics ran in the Adams family as his father was John Adams, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and the second president of the United States. His son Charles Francis Adams served as Abraham Lincoln’s ambassador to Britain. John Quincy Adams’ public career included minister to the Netherlands (1794–1797) and Prussia (1797–1801); U.S. senator for Massachusetts (1803–1808); minister to Russia (1809–1814) and to Great Britain (1815–1817); Secretary of State (1817–1825) under President James Monroe where he was the principal architect of the Monroe Doctrine and negotiated the sale of Florida from Spain; President of the U.S. (1825–1829); elected to the House of Representatives from Massachusetts in 1830 where he served until his death on February 23, 1848. [Ref: “A Great American Hater” by Andrew Delbanco. *New York Review of Books* January 17, 2019; 31–33]



John Quincy Adams 1939 (Scott 846) [Photograph of a bust by John Cruickshanks King, in the U.S. Capital.]



**Q4. Which country issued a 1966 Christmas stamp showing Albrecht Dürer’s famous pen and ink drawing: Praying Hands?**

Ans. **Canada**

Albrecht Dürer ((1471–1628) was a German painter, engraver and woodcutter from Nuremberg. He received a number of commissions for large altar oil-on-panel paintings, such as *Adoration of the Trinity* (1511) for a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity and All the Saints. In 1507 Jacob Heller (c.1460–1522), a German patrician and patron of the arts commissioned Dürer to produce an altar piece for the church in the Dominican Monastery in Frankfurt am Main. The work, *The Assumption and Coronation of the Virgin* was completed in 1509 and consists of a triptych with the interior painted by Dürer and the exterior painted by Matthias Grünewald (1470–1528) and is named the Heller Altarpiece. One of Durer’s pen and ink drawings for the work shows the hands of an apostle, clasped in prayer, kneeling near the Virgin Mary’s tomb. According to Jack Denys, who has an exhibit on Albrecht Dürer, “Praying Hands” are actually the “Hands of an Apostle” and that is the correct title. [Ref: (1) *Oxford Companion to Art*, ed. Harold Osborne 1970; 337–340. (2) Jack André Denys, personal email.]



“Hands of an Apostle”. Canada 1966 (Scott 451–452)



“Hands of an Apostle”. Saar 1955 (Scott B106)



**Q5. What United States stamp shows a portrait of a poet and six of his poems?**

Ans. **Ogden Nash (Scott 3659).**

Ogden Nash (1902–1971), a United States poet noted for his sophisticated light verse including puns and epigrams, was born in Rye, New York, but was raised in Savannah, Georgia. He dropped out of Harvard University after one year for financial reasons and took a number of odd jobs. In 1930 he began a long relationship with *The New Yorker* magazine and three years later began writing fulltime. In 2002, the USPS issued a 37¢ commemorative in the Literary Arts series for the 100th anniversary of Nash’s birth. It was the 18th stamp in that series. The design is an oil painting by Michael Deas based on a 1952 black and white photograph by fashion photographer Kay Bell Reynal. The background on the stamp shows six of Nash’s short poems in their entirety without titles. The poems and lines are separated by slashes (/).

