



The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 14 Number 4 March/April 2021

UPCOMING MEETINGS (VIRTUAL)

March 25, 2021 – “The Romance of Railroads”

By Wade Saadi

“I will start with cameo covers, then full steam ahead to advertising covers, ending with a speck of Lionel (toy) trains.”

[Wade Saadi is the former president of the APS, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and the New York Collectors Club. He is the recipient of the 2015 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award from the Collectors Club of New York. He was the president of the organizing committee for World Stamp Show-NY 2016.]



1998



April 22, 2021 – “Pushing the Envelope: A History of the United States Post Office Through Stamps”

By Henry Lukas

[Henry Lukas is Education Director of the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History. Every month Henry sends by email a calendar/almanac illustrating a different stamp for every day in that month and the stamp's relevance to that day. The calendar for March 2021 can be seen on page 4 of this newsletter. What a treat!]



May 27, 2021 – “The Columbian Envelopes of 1893 – Front & Back”

By Dr. Marvin Platt



June 24, 2021 – “The World of Chemistry on Postage Stamps”

By Professor Dan Rabinovich

FROM THE EDITOR'S DEN

I recently received the following email from Westfield Stamp Club member Michael Frank, who is, as I am, a worldwide collector:

“Because of the dreaded COVID-19, I've been exposed to a number of collectors' stories through Stamp Chats or the Collectors Club of New York. The commonality is, they started collecting everything at a young age, and eventually got into specializing in a topic or an area, or got into covers (besides ordinary first day covers). Some stopped for years but came back later; some didn't.

I never stopped. But I never specialized. As a result, I am about 200 stamps short of completing my seven volumes of the International [Scott]. I did cut it off around 1965.

I never had the interest in studying perforation or watermark or color varieties; I do respect those who do. I am happy to have all major designs.

I like to see what was going on in many stamp issuing countries though without the scholarly depth. I don't want to go to a show and come away with a single item.

All hail the worldwide collectors!”

What a terrific accomplishment and a hearty congratulations to Mike who joins, what I suspect is, a very small group of collectors who have been able to approach filling the Scott International Stamp Albums.

Mike's email prompted me to retrieve an article that appeared in *Linn's Stamp News* in 1978 and that I had filed away in one of my clipping files. Titled “Two California Men Claim Success in Completing Whole World Collection”. The article was written by Stan Cornyn, a Warner Bros. record executive, and one of the two men mentioned in the article title. In 1971, along with his friend Murray Geller, a physicist and theoretical chemist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratories, they embarked on a quest to collect the world.

They endeavored to fill every space in the 1971 Scott International Stamp Album, which at the time was seven

[cont'd on pg. 3]

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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

or call

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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Jack Andre Denys- Jack Denys is reactivating the Albrecht Dürer Study Unit of the American Topical Unit and is editor of its quarterly publication: *Dürer Journal*. (see pg. 3)

Rob Loeffler - "Old Glory Stamps – There is a Difference". *United States Specialist* February 2021; 92(2):56-57.



March to April USPS Stamp Issues

Feb. 23 **Garden Beauty. Ten (55¢) forever definitive stamps, double-sided pane of 20 (pink flowering dogwood, rose-pink & white tulip, allium, pink & white Asiatic lily, magenta dahlia, yellow & pink American lotus, pink moth orchid, pink & white sacred lotus, orange & yellow tulip, yellow moth orchid). [reduced below]**



Mar. 9 **Colorado Hairstreak Butterfly. One (75¢) nonmachinable-surcharge rate definitive stamp, pane of 20.**

Apr. 9 **Espresso Drinks. Four (55¢) forever stamps, double-sided pane of 20. (caffe latte, espresso, caffe mocha, cappuccino).**

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From the Editor's Den *(continued)*

albums, but grew to eleven by the time their project ended in 1977. Of course they realized that there were certain unique stamps that would never be obtained.

The two collectors split their duties. Cornyn maintained the collection and provided the financing. Geller compiled statistics and maintained the wantlists. Over the years they spent most evenings and weekends sending out want lists, bidding at auctions, checking out ads and attending bourses. Remember, this is before the age of the Internet and they literally traveled the world going to stamp stores and searching through dealer's stocks. Both were "responsible for the hardest part: placating our wives and hiding the amounts of money being spent."

They never added up what it cost them, but it wasn't the finances that were the biggest obstacle. It was the availability of the stamps. They found that there was a diminishing number of dealers who will respond to worldwide collectors, especially when these collectors

are looking for very inexpensive stamps. Dealers felt this was *a foolhardy endeavor; nobody collects the world!* Murray Geller is quoted in the Linn's article: *...those great ranges of nickel stamps that are incredibly hard to locate. They're too cheap for most dealers. Hoards may exist, but not in any convenient dispensary.*

In the six years it took them to fill every space, their collection grew to 29 volumes (with interleaving, and blank pages to mount parts of sets that Scott does not illustrate) and contained 195,219 stamps.

Eventually they sold the collection in a series of auctions realizing somewhere north of a hundred thousand dollars. They accomplished what they had set out to do, were confronted with great skepticism and were often frustrated, but had a great time doing it and as Murray Geller is quoted *...Would we recommend that others follow our path and collect the whole world? 'Absolutely' For all the problems...it's been the most fun I've had since my honeymoon.*



Albrecht Dürer Study Unit

By Jack Denys

The Albrecht Dürer Study Unit, a study unit of the American Topical Association, was founded in 1978 and re-founded in 2020 and is devoted to furthering the collection and study of the philately of Albrecht Dürer, German Renaissance artist. The Dürer Journal is the primary means of communication among members of the unit and is published quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. Dues are \$24/ year (U.S.) and \$28 (International). All those who are interested are welcome to join. Contact Jack Denys at jdenys@verizon.net



Albrecht Dürer in fur coat (self-portrait).
Germany 2006



Albrecht Dürer's Monogram.
Germany 1971

Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528) created this drawing, formally called "Hands of an Apostle," on blue colored paper that he made. It was a sketch for a detail of a long-lost 1507 altarpiece. Today, it is in Vienna's Albertina Museum. A popular legend purports that Dürer used his brother's or mother's hands as a model. Scholars believe it is more likely that he modeled them after his own hands.



"Praying Hands".
Saar 1955



The Post Rider, (*Der Kleine Postreiter*) based on a copper engraving by Albrecht Dürer (late 15th century). German Democratic Republic 1990



"Praying Hands" appears on almost every kind of object imaginable: diner placemats, bookends, wall plaques, bumper stickers, necklaces, funeral cards, cremation urns and even on the tombstone of Andy Warhol.

Andy Warhol (1928–1987).
United States 2002



Spellman Museum of Stamps & Postal History

MARCH 2021

www.spellmanmuseum.org

1	2	3	4	5
<p>Yellowstone first National Park first opens 1872</p> 	<p>Texas declares independence 1836</p> 	<p>Start Spangled Banner becomes national Anthem 1931</p> 	<p>U.S. Constitution goes into effect 1789</p> 	<p>Boston Massacre 1770</p> 
<p>Joe DiMaggio dies 1999</p> 	<p>Barbie Doll debuts 1959</p> 	<p>Bell makes first telephone call 1876</p> 	<p>Lithuania independence 1991</p> 	<p>Girl Scouts founded 1912</p> 
<p>Ides of March</p> 	<p>First liquid-fueled rocket 1926</p> 	<p>Happy St. Patty's Day</p> 	<p>Barnum & Bailey circus opens 1881</p> 	<p>Daylight Savings Time 1918</p> 
<p>Jefferson becomes Secretary of State 1790</p> 	<p>Otis installs first elevator 1857</p> 	<p>Elvis joins the Army 1958</p> 	<p>O'Henry imprisoned 1898</p> 	<p>Beethoven dies 1827</p> 
<p>Niagara Falls freezes 1848</p> 	<p>15th Amendment goes into effect 1870</p> 	<p>Eiffel Tower opens 1889</p> 	<p>Watch our short video about our Museum Library on our website.</p> 	<p>America's ABC Libraries USA 20c Legacies To Mankind</p> 

References

Mystic Stamp Company. (2012). Online U.S. stamp catalog. Retrieved from <http://www.mysticstamp.com/index.asp>
United States Postal Services ©



ANSWERS TO JANUARY/FEBRUARY PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q1. Of the fourteen presidents of the Continental Congress, what seven can be found on philatelic items issued by the United States Postal Service?

Ans. See below

During the fifteen years (1774–1789) that the Continental Congress was our national government, there were fourteen different Presidents of the Congress. Seven of these men can be found on philatelic items issued by the United States Post Office Department or United States Postal Service and are described below.

1) John Hancock (1737–1793), a wealthy businessman from Massachusetts, served as the 3rd President from 1775 to 1777 and from 1785 to 1786. He has appeared on 1978 postal and paid reply cards. As President of the Congress in 1776 he was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence and can be seen on the adaptations of John Trumbull's painting of that signing depicted on the 1976 strip of four 13¢ commemorative stamps and the 1976 pane of five 18¢ stamps issued as part of the American Bicentennial Issue.



Adaptation of painting *Declaration of Independence*
by John Trumbull. 1976 (Scott 1691–1694)



1978 (Scott UX74) [one of four
postal cards for John Hancock]

2) John Jay (1745–1829), served as the 5th President from 1778 to 1779, attended Kings College (Columbia) in New York and became a lawyer. In 1789 he became the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and in 1795 became governor of New York. He appears on the 1983 commemorative stamp adapted from a 1783 Benjamin West painting that was issued for the 200th anniversary of the 'signing of the Treaty of Paris'. He is also seen on the 15¢ stamp, taken from a portrait by Gilbert Stuart, that was issued in 1958 as part of the Liberty Issue. Jay was also one of the three authors of the *Federalist Papers* along with Alexander Hamilton and James Madison.



Signing of the Treaty of Paris
by Benjamin West.
1983 (Scott 2052)



1958 (Scott 1046)

3) John Hanson (1721–1783), a planter from Maryland was the 8th President from 1781 to 1782 and the first president elected under the terms of the Articles of Confederation which he signed and which formalized the Continental Congress as the national government. He appears on a 1981 commemorative issued to commemorate the first elected President of the Congress. He can also be seen on two 1972 postal cards.



1981 (Scott 1941)



1972 (UX64)

[c ont'd on pg.6]

Q1. continued

4) **Samuel Huntington (1731–1796)**, 6th President of the Congress from 1779–1796), was a lawyer from Connecticut who signed the Declaration of Independence and presided over approval of the Articles of Confederations. He can be seen on Trumbull's 1976 painting *Declaration of Independence* which was adapted for the 1976 strip of four 13¢ stamps and pane of five 18¢ stamps,



Declaration of Independence by John Trumbull.
1976 (Scott 1687a-e, reduced)



Portion of Scott 1687 enlarged.

Thomas
McKean

5) **Thomas McKean (1735–1817)** was the 7th President serving in 1781 and signed the Declaration of Independence and can be seen in the Trumbull painting. He studied law in London and Delaware and was the only delegate of the Stamp Act Congress of 1765 who went on to become President of the Continental Congress. He was president of Delaware in 1777 and served as governor of Pennsylvania from 1799 to 1808. He can be seen in the Trumbull painting above.



Richard
Henry Lee



Declaration of Independence by John Trumbull. 1976 (Scott 1691-94)

6) **Richard Henry Lee (1734–1794)** was 11th President serving from 1784 to 1785. He was from the Lee family of Virginia and an early revolutionary who helped found the Committees of Correspondence. As a delegate to the Continental Congress he signed the Declaration of Independence. He also played a prominent role in framing the Northwest Ordinance.



Arthur
St. Clair

Inauguration of George Washington.
1939 (Scott 854) [Enlarged]

7) **Arthur St. Clair (1734–1818)** was 13th President serving in 1787. He was born in Scotland where he studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh. He served in the British Army during the French and Indian War and served in the Continental Army rising to Major General. He became a major landowner in Pennsylvania building iron mills in western Pennsylvania and was governor of the Northwest Territory from 1787 to 1802. He was present at George Washington's inauguration and is the first figure to the right of the man holding the Bible.

[Ref: "Presidents of the Continental Congress" by Paul Schumacher. *Scott Stamp Monthly* November 1999]





ANSWERS TO JANUARY/FEBRUARY PHILATELIC QUIZ



Q2. What United States postage stamp commemorates the Flushing Remonstrance?

Ans. **1957 Religious Freedom (Scott 1099)**

Peter Stuyvesant (1610–1672) was appointed director general of all Dutch possessions in North American and the Caribbean by the Dutch West India Company in 1645. He arrived in New Amsterdam (later New York City) in 1647 and immediately began renovating the government of the colony. In 1656 he issued an ordinance banning unauthorized religious meetings. Quaker ministers were often arrested and jailed and could be exiled from the colony.



Peter Stuyvesant organized the first volunteer firemen in America. 1948 (Scott 971) [300th anniversary]



On December 27, 1657, in response to his persecution of those who did not adhere to the Dutch Reformed Church, namely Lutherans and Quakers, Edward Hart, the town clerk of what is now the neighborhood of Flushing (1) in Queens, New York, sent a letter to Stuyvesant known as the Flushing Remonstrances. Written on behalf of the village's thirty inhabitants and signed

by them as well it was an act of resistance and an early declaration in support of the freedom of peaceful worship.

Stuyvesant's response was anger. He dissolved Flushing's town government and arrested four of the signers including Hart. Finally, in 1663 the Dutch West India Company, sponsor and investor in the Dutch colonies of North America sent Stuyvesant a letter ordering him to stop religious persecution.

Today, the Flushing Remonstrance is known as the 'religious Magna Carta of the New World' and was a major influence on our founders to include freedom of worship in the Bill of Rights.

Notes:

1) Flushing was established on October 10, 1645, and its charter allowed religious freedom as practiced in Holland.



Q3. Do you know of any United States commemorative postage stamps that feature signed designer art?

Ans: **1999 Year 2000 (Scott 3369)**

J.C. Leyendecker (1874–1951) was an American illustrator whose designs were on the covers of hundreds of issues of the *Saturday Evening Post*. He popularized the idea of a young Baby New Year to celebrate the coming of the new year. On December 27, 1999, the USPS issued its first New Year's stamp with a design taken from the cover of the January 2, 1937 *Saturday Evening Post*. This stamp depicts signed designer art as Leyendecker's signature can be seen near the lower right corner of the stamp. [Ref: "Unmistakably Leyendecker" by Wayne Youngblood. *Stamp Collector*, January 17, 2000.]



Q4. What country issued a series of stamps that came to be known as the "Rice Field Definitives"?

Ans. **Sierra Leone**

Rice is believed to have been domesticated in Africa around 1000 B.C. in the inland delta of the Upper Niger River in what is now Mali. But the most important rice region in Africa is the Rice Coast, that part of the West African coast south of the Senegal River to Liberia and includes Senegal, The Gambia, Guinee-Bissau, Guinee, Sierra Leone and Liberia. As early as the 17th century, rice was being sold to Europeans for provisions on their ships. Rice accompanied the slave ships to Brazil, the Caribbean and South Carolina, where by the middle of the 18th century rice plantations in South Carolina had become a very prosperous economy.

In May 1931 Crown Agents solicited designs from three security printers for a new definitive series of stamps for Sierra Leone. It was suggested the designs comprise "a vignette of His Majesty King George V...an oil palm, a Kola Nut tree and rice plants".

[cont'd on pg. 8]

Q4 continued

Waterlow and Sons Limited were selected for the nine lower values (12p to 1sh) showing a Rice Field and Oil Palms. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co's design of Oil Palms and Kola Nut tree was chosen for the four higher values (2sh to £1). The set of 13 stamps was issued on March 1, 1932 and ushered in a new era in Sierra Leone stamp design where scenes of local interest replaced formal royal portraits. [Ref: "Sierra Leone: 1932 Rice Field Definitives" by Majed Halawi. *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* August 2020; 51(3): 69–73]



Rice field and Oil palms. Sierra Leone 1932 (Scott 140)



Q5. What is the only postal authority that issues stamps in three different currencies?

Ans. **The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA)**

The UNPA was born on November 16, 1950, with the primary purpose to “issue definitive and commemorative stamps for philatelic purposes”. It is the only organization that is neither a country nor a territory that issues stamps and it is the only postal authority that issues stamps in three different currencies: US dollars, Swiss francs and Shillings (in Euros after 2000). Many of the stamps issued by the UNPA, especially those on controversial topics, such as those on Climate Change, have attracted the attention of the world's press.

In 1993 the UNPA began issuing stamps for endangered wildlife and Climate Change and continues today with stamps for those topics. Shown below are the 1993 stamps issued for Climate Change by the UN offices in New York, Geneva, Switzerland and Vienna, Austria. All depict loss of habitat due to climate change.



Coastal lands being flooded from hurricanes. Shown are a chameleon, palm trees on land being flooded by a storm, funnel cloud, deer, antelope and bird of paradise. United Nations – New York 1993 (Scott 633-636a)



Arctic/ antarctic ice melting due to global warming. Depicted are a large sun, polar bears, whales, elephant seal, penguins, melting ice due to climate warming United Nations –Geneva 1993 (Scott 240-243a)



Desertification due to drought, deforestation, or inappropriate agriculture.. Depicted are monkeys, bluebird, industrial pollution, dead tree, dry, caked ground, erupting volcano, nuclear power plant emissions, tree stumps and an owl. United Nations –Vienna 1993 (Scott 156-159a)

Ref.; “70 Years of the United Nations Postal Administration”. By Michael Barron *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* November 2020; 51(6):70-73]



E IS FOR EUROPA

In the early years after World War II several organizations were formed for European cooperation: the Council of Europe (1949), NATO (1949), the European Coal & Steel Community (1951) and the Treaty of Rome for the European Communities (1957). This spirit of cooperation exhibited by these multi-national institutions extended to the postal and telecommunication services and a plan for the European Postal, Telegraph & Telephone Community (P.T.T) was drawn up in 1955.

In January 1956 the six P.T.T. ministries of the European Coal & Steel Community (CECA) – Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands – decided to issue a common design stamp with the theme “Rebuilding Europe” and they are considered the first Europa stamps. In 1957 Saar and Switzerland joined the six and issued stamps with a common theme, but not with a common design. However, a common design was again adopted in 1958 and 1959. In 1959 the European Conference of Postal & Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) came into being and since 1960 oversaw the Europa stamp issues. Common design stamps for each year ended in 1973 and since then the members of CEPT have issued stamps without a common design, but with a common theme which changes every year. In 1993 PostEurop was formed and took over management of the Europa Stamps and introduced the Europa loga – the word *EUROPA* leaning to the right.

Europa 1956



Tower, scaffolding, European “E” flag. [Theme – “Rebuilding Europe”.] Belgium (common design) [1st Europa topical]

Europa 1957



Six flags forming “E”. [Theme – “Peace & Prosperity”.] Italy

Europa 1958



Script carried by dove of peace. [Theme – “Europe in Service of Peace”.] France (common design)

Europa 1959



Circular chain with 6 links. [Theme – “Unity & Strength”.] Germany (common design)

Europa 1961



19 doves flying as one & first appearance of CEPT emblem. [Theme – “Peace through European Unity”.] Great Britain (common design)

Europa 1964



Daisy with 22 petals for 22 members of CEPT, redesigned CEPT emblem with radio waves. [Theme – “Separate Entities in Service to a Common Good”.] Monaco (common design)

Europa 1966



“CEPT” as a sailboat. [Theme – “Ship Europa”.] French Andorra (common design)

Europa 1973



Three arrows forming stylized Posthorn [Theme – “Posthorn”.] Yugoslavia (last year of common designs)

E IS FOR EUROPA

Europa 1974 – “European Sculpture”



David (1623–1624) by Gian Lorenzo Bernini (1598–1680) Italian sculptor & architect. Italy



David (1501–1504) by Michelangelo (1475–1564) Italian sculptor, painter & architect. Italy

Europa 1981 – “European Folklore”



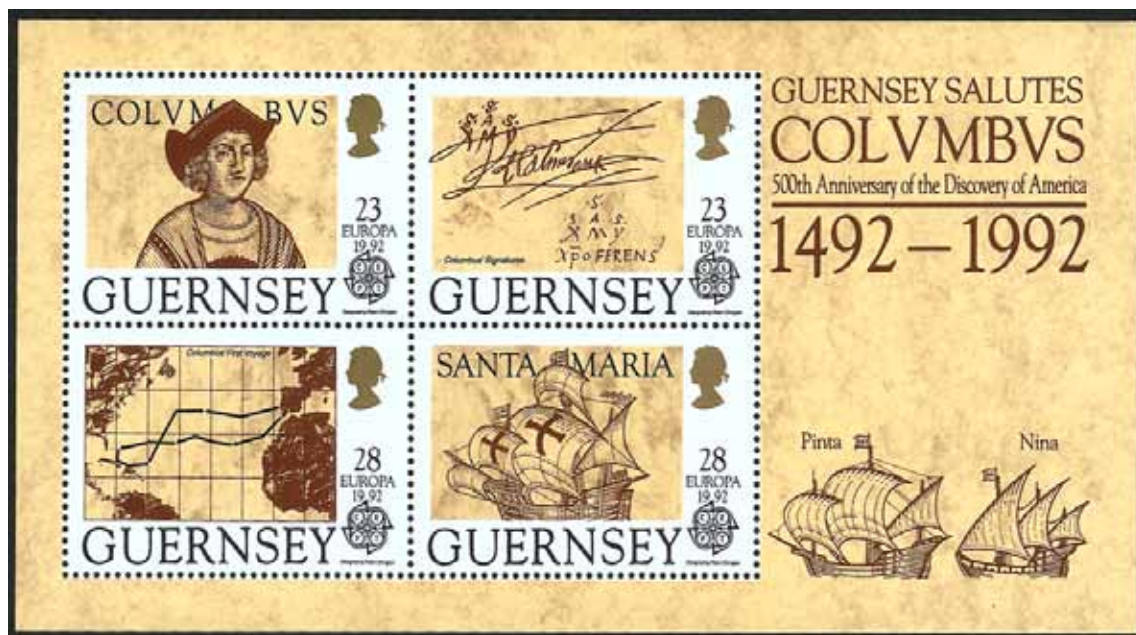
Troll Chasing Boy. Sweden



Lady of the Woods. Sweden

Europa 1992 – “500th Anniversary of the Discovery of America”

Christopher Columbus (1451–1506) Italian-born Spanish explorer who in 1492 sailed from Palos, Spain, with three small ships across the Atlantic Ocean and discovered the New World (Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola). Between 1493 and 1504 he made three further voyages discovering the South American mainland and the coast of Mexico.



Christopher Columbus, Columbus’ signature, map of first voyage in 1492 and *Santa Maria*. Guernsey



F IS FOR FAIRY TALES

Fairy tales are tales that have been told for thousands of years by civilizations around the world about magical and imaginary beings and lands and have gone through many versions over the centuries. They have been collected and popularized by a number of writers, two of the most famous being Hans Christian Andersen and the Brothers Grimm.

Hans Christian Andersen (1805–1875)

Danish author whose tales for children became world famous. With *Fairy Tales for Children*, a collection of nine fairy tales, published in three installments between 1835 and 1837, he entered a field in which he was to become the master that neither he nor his Danish critics realized at the time. He continued to write fairy tales until 1872, writing 168 altogether. Many have become classics all over the world and have been translated into more than eighty languages. In 1935 Post Denmark issued a booklet containing six panes of four stamps for the centenary of publication of the earliest installment of his “Fairy Tales”.



The Ugly Duckling



Hans Christian Andersen



The Little Mermaid

The Ugly Duckling was first published in 1843 and tells the tale of a duckling who suffers abuse from other farm animals for being an ugly little creature, but who grows into a beautiful swan. [It is the 1st Fairy Tale topical]
The Little Mermaid, first published in 1837, describes a mermaid who falls in love with a human prince and after taking a potion becomes human with legs and becomes the prince’s favorite companion.

Jacob Ludwig Carl Grimm (1785–1863) & Wilhelm Carl Grimm (1786–1859)

The Brothers Grimm were German authors who collected and published a wide-range of folklore during the nineteenth century. Their writings popularized European folk tales such as *Cinderella*, *Hansel & Gretel*, *Snow White*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Little Red Riding Hood* and many others.

Little Red Riding Hood is a European fairy tale dating back to the tenth century about a little girl on the way to see her grandmother who meets a big, bad wolf. The wolf impersonates the grandmother in order to eat the little girl, but is vanquished by a woodsman. Germany issued this set of four semipostal stamps in 1960.



The Brothers Grimm.
Germany 1985



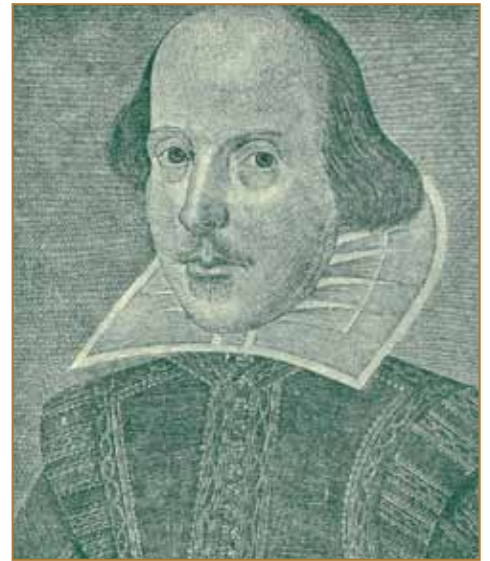
William Shakespeare

By Frederick C. Skvara

William Shakespeare, a middle-class Elizabethan Englishman, universally regarded as the world's greatest poet and playwright, who was described by his friend, Ben Jonson as "not of an age, but for all time". Details of his life are sketchy for it was nearly a hundred years after his death that the first biography of him was written, but we do have a record of his baptism in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, England, on April 26, 1564. He was the third child of John and Mary Shakespeare and his birthplace is generally regarded as the house on Henley Street that had been acquired by John Shakespeare around 1552.

As the son of a leading citizen, it is assumed that Shakespeare received his education at the free grammar school in Stratford, but when Shakespeare was 13 years of age (1577), his father's fortunes declined probably ending William's education and perhaps forcing him to take on an apprenticeship in one of the local trades. After marrying Anne Hathaway in 1582, they had three children.

What Shakespeare did between 1585 and 1592 is unknown, but he emerged as a playwright in London in the summer of 1592 and was associated with Lord Chamberlain's Men, a theatrical company with which he was probably associated as a player and playwright for the rest of his life. Over his lifetime 38 plays are attributed to him as well as numerous poems including his famous sonnets. He died on April 23, 1616, and was buried in the chancel of Holy Trinity Church in Stratford.



TRAGEDIES

Hamlet
Othello
King Lear
Macbeth

COMEDIES

The Merry Wives of Windsor
Much Ado About Nothing
As You Like It
Twelfth Night
All's Well That Ends Well

CLASSICAL PLAYS

Titus Andronicus
Julius Caesar
Timon of Athens
Antony and Cleopatra
Coriolanus

ROMANCES

Pericles
The Winter's Tale
Cymbeline
The Tempest
Henry VIII



Library, Stratford Grammar School



Anne Hathaway's Cottage

TRAGICOMEDIES

Romeo and Juliet
The Merchant of Venice
Troilus and Cressida
Measure for Measure
Two Noble Kinsmen

EARLY COMEDIES

Two Gentlemen of Verona
The Taming of the Shrew
The Comedy of Errors
Love's Labour's Lost
A Midsummer Night's Dream

HISTORIES I

King John
Richard II
Henry IV, Part One
Henry IV, Part Two
Henry V

HISTORIES II

Henry VI, Part One
Henry VI, Part Two
Henry VI, Part Three
Richard III

William Shakespeare



Shakespeare's home on Henley Street, Stratford-on-Avon, England where he was born and spent his early years.

There are no portraits of Shakespeare from life, but there are two representations of him that are considered authentic. The one shown on the first page 12 and below was done by Martin Droeshout at the request of two of Shakespeare's fellow actors, John Heminge and Henry Condell. It was used as the frontpiece to the first collected edition of his plays, the First Folio in 1623.



Gibraltar 1964. Droeshout portrait of Shakespeare and Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, England. [from the British Crown Colonies Omnibus issue of 1964 commemorating the 400th birth anniversary of William Shakespeare]



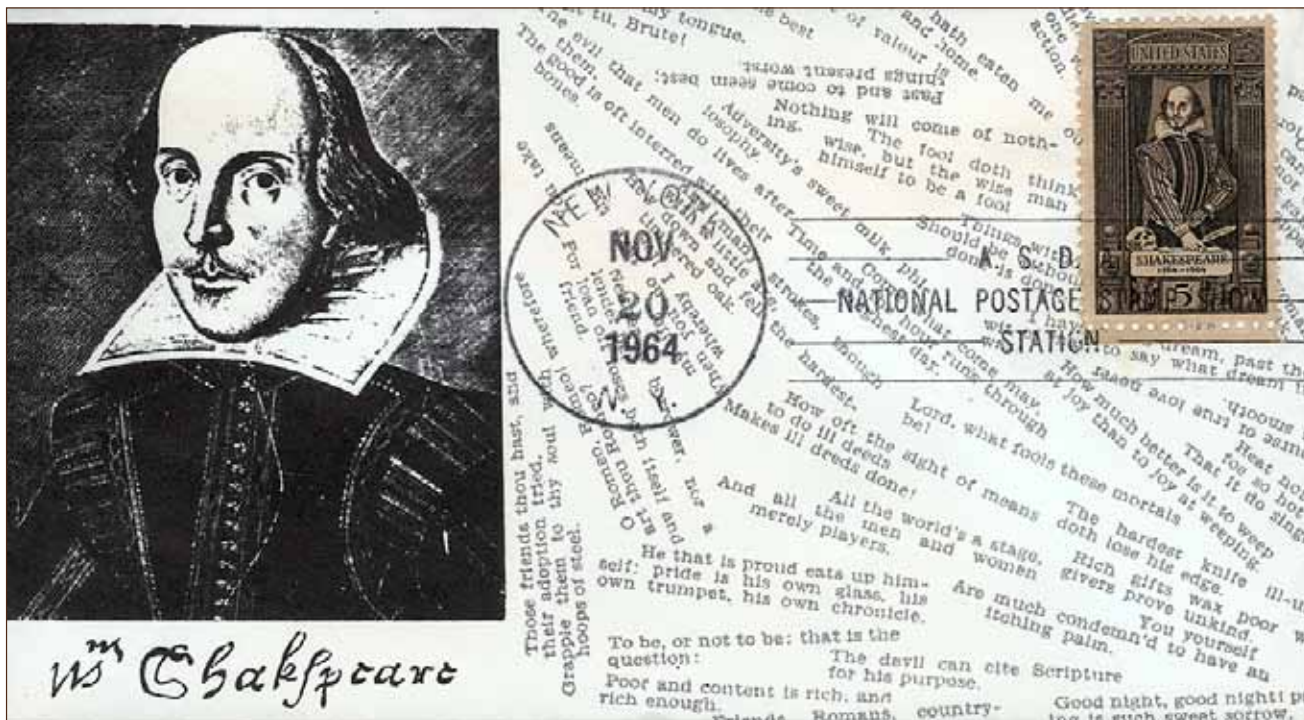
Sierra Leone 1989 showing the Droeshout portrait of Shakespeare and the Globe Theatre

William Shakespeare

The other authentic representation of Shakespeare is that of the half-length bust and statue on the chancel wall of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon where Shakespeare is buried. It was sculpted by Gerard Johnson, a stonemason from Amsterdam and was completed sometime between 1616 and 1623. It was commissioned by Shakespeare's son-in-law, John Hall, a physician who probably contributed his medical knowledge to Shakespeare for use in his plays. It appears to have been the basis for the design of the United States 1964 commemorative stamp honoring Shakespeare.



1907 label sold by Holy Trinity Church showing Johnson bust in the church's chancel



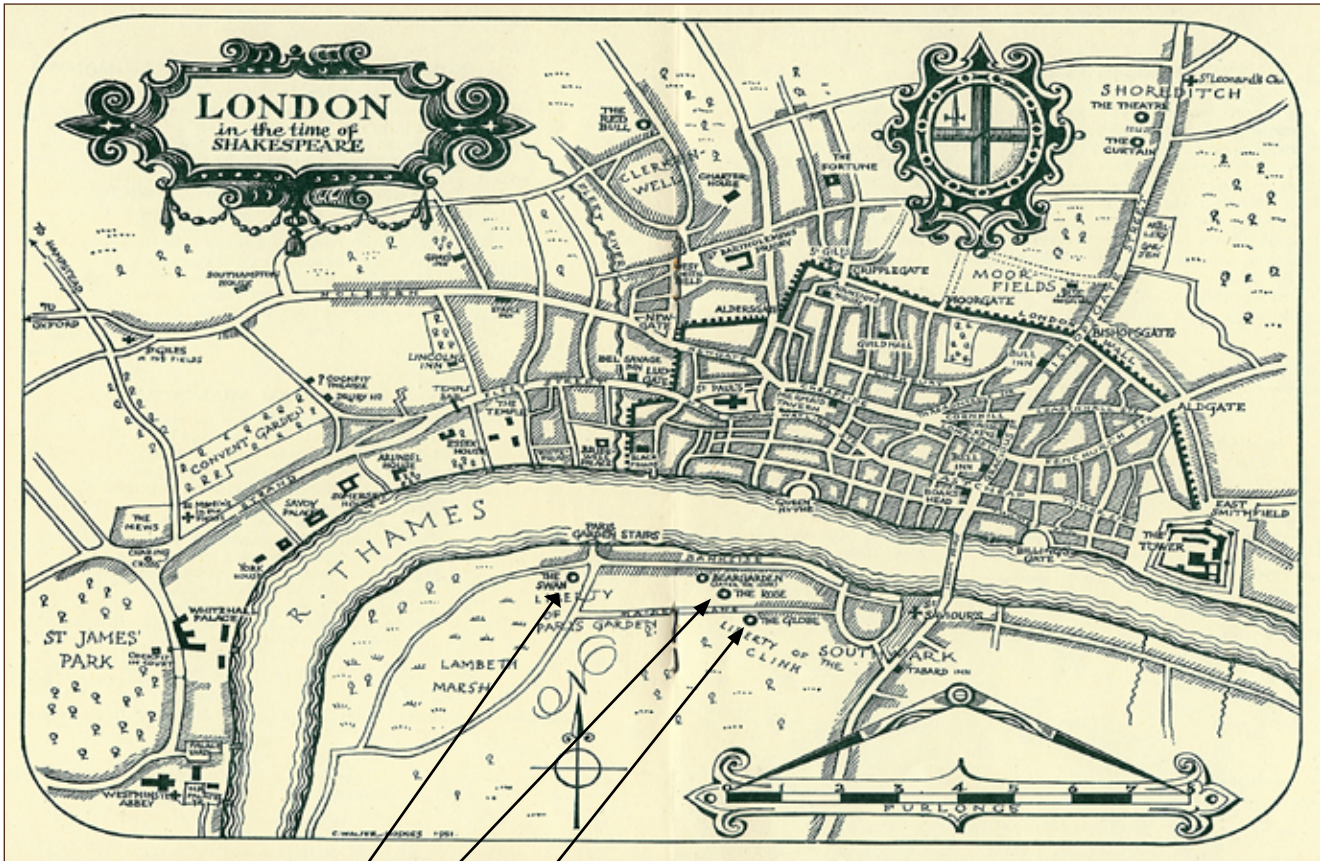
United States 1964. Droeshout portrait in cachet and quotations from Shakespeare. Joseph E. Martin first day cover.

The Chandos portrait is purported to have been painted by Richard Burbage, an actor in Shakespeare's group, but is not considered a true likeness. Nevertheless, it has been used on a number of postage stamps. It is now in the National Portrait Gallery in London. At one time it was in the possession of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, hence its name.



Sierra Leone 1989. Chandos portrait of Shakespeare and Shakespeare's Coat of Arms

During the reign of Elizabeth I (1558–1603) the national culture of England flourished, particularly in the field of literature as it was the time of Christopher Marlowe (1564–1593) and Edmund Spenser (1552–1599) as well as Shakespeare. Of particular enjoyment to the populus was attending plays and a number of theatres were built in the Bankside district of Southwark, London. The Rose theatre opened in 1587, the Swan in 1595, the Globe in 1599 and the Hope in 1613. So while the Globe theatre is not the first proper London theatre, it is certainly the most famous for it was the site of Shakespeare’s most famous plays. The theatre was built by James Burbage, father of Richard Burbage, the most famous actor of the day and for whom Shakespeare wrote most of his most powerful roles including Hamlet, King Lear and Othello. In 1613 a spark from a cannon on stage set fire to the thatched roof and the Globe was destroyed. It was rebuilt in 1614 and continued to hold plays until 1642 when the English Parliament under the direction of the Puritans issued an ordinance forbidding all stage plays in theatres.



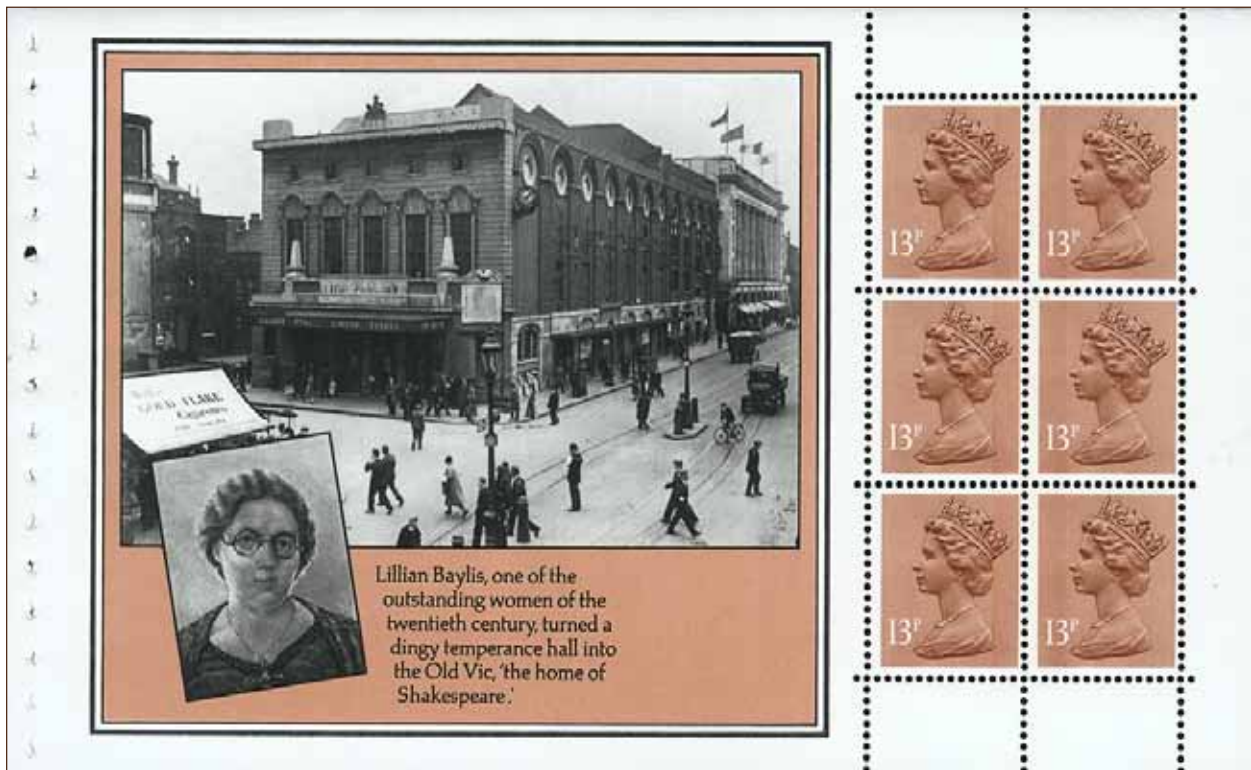
Map of London in Shakespeare’s time from *The Life of Shakespeare* by J.E. Halliday and drawn by C. Walter Hodges. The sites of the Swan, Rose and Globe Theatres can be seen near the south bank of the Thames River.



Great Britain 1995. Shakespeare’s Globe and the Bankside Theatres. The theatres depicted are left-to right: The Swan, The Rose, The Globe, The Hope and The rebuilt Globe.



A representation of the stage of the Globe Theatre in London, England. Postcard manufactured by Western Photogravure Co., Chicago and photograph by Chicago Architectural Photo.



Great Britain 1984. Booklet pane from *The Story of Our Christian Heritage* prestige booklet showing the Old Vic theatre. Lillian Baylis (1874–1937) took an old temperance hall and turned it into a theatre, ‘the home of Shakespeare’. She later laid the foundations for the Royal Ballet, the English National Opera and the National Theatre.

[to be cont. - In future issues we will take a philatelic look at some of Shakespeare's works.]



Ludwig van Beethoven, 250th Birth Anniversary – 2020

By Frederick C. Skvara

Ludwig van Beethoven was born in 1770 in Bonn, Germany and died in Vienna, Austria, in 1827. A number of philatelic items were issued in 2020 to mark the 250th anniversary of his birth and below are a few. One of the most unusual is from Spain and is an actual recording of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor with a removable, round stamp in the center. It actually works as I played it on a turntable, but the fidelity leaves a little to be desired.



Faroe Islands 2020 (Scott 760) [The designer dressed Beethoven in the Faroese national costume, surrounded by stylized images of two fishes (one of which may be cod), three seabirds (one is a puffin and one may be a cormorant), a sheep, starfish, and several flowers (one appears to be a marigold (the national flower). All are examples of Faroese flora and fauna.]



Printed on this stamps in a special metallic color is “BTHVN”, an abbreviation that Beethoven often used to sign letters and scores. Germany 2020.



Beethoven portrait by Joseph Karl Stieler (1820) & Beethoven's signature in silver foil embossing. Austria 2020.

MARCH/APRIL PHILATELIC QUIZ

- Q1. Who was the only man in the history of the United States to serve both as President and a justice of the United States Supreme Court?
- Q2. Who was the only United States President to obtain a patent?
- Q3. What is the first United States comic strip that used word balloons and multiple panels and is illustrated on a United States stamp?
- Q4. What feminine figure replaced Ceres, goddess of agriculture, on the stamps of Portugal?
- Q5. Can you name two stamps that depict the Mercator or Van der Grinten map projections of the earth?





Discover the World: *Montserrat*

Area – 40 sq.mi. Population – 4649 (2019)
(British Overseas Territory)



Map of Montserrat.
1951 (Scott 116)

Montserrat is a volcanic island in the Leeward Islands, part of the Lesser Antilles in the West Indies in the Caribbean Sea. It was discovered by Columbus in 1493, but wasn't colonized until 1632 when Irish Catholics from St. Kitts were sent there by Sir Thomas Warner, the British governor of St. Kitts. Additional large numbers of Irish settlers emigrated to the island, especially after Oliver Cromwell's victory in Ireland, and led to Montserrat's nickname as "The Emerald Isle of the Caribbean". Its Irish heritage is reflected in the coat of arms of the island which shows a lady in green representing Erin, the female personification of Ireland, who is holding a golden harp, a symbol of Ireland seen in Ireland's coat of arms. The Cross symbolizes Christianity.

Montserrat became part of the Leeward Islands Federation in 1871 which endured until 1956. In 1958 it joined the West Indies Federation which was dissolved in 1962 and Montserrat became a separate colony. Its first stamps were stamps of Antigua overprinted with "Montserrat" and issued in 1876. Montserrat's own stamps were first issued in 1880 showing a portrait of Queen Victoria and in 1903 it issued a set of stamps showing the symbol of the colony as seen on its coat of arms. There have been several sets in the first half of the twentieth century similar to those seen in other commonwealth countries showing local scenes and an inset of the British monarch at the time. Beginning in the 1960s they have issued a number of colorful sets and miniature sheets, many with topical appeal.



1903
(Scott 12)

Geographically, the island consists of a mountainous interior with three groups of mountains surrounded by a littoral zone. Rock cliffs arising from the sea have numerous caves housing a number of species of bats that feed on fruit, insects, nectar and fish. Several coral reefs surround the island. Twenty-five percent of the land is forested and Montserrat is home to a number of rare, endemic plant and animal species.

The principal crop of the island is sea island cotton (*Gossypium barbadense*) producing cotton lint, the remnant when cottonseed is processed in a gin. Other exports include lime products, peppers, live plants and electronic components. The economy of the island was devastated by a 1995 volcanic eruption and its aftermath.



Sea Island Cotton.
1943 (Scott 96)



Cotton ginning.
1955 (Scott 139)



Limes. 2001 (Scott 1043)



Peppers. 1965
(Scott 162)

The volcanic eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano began on July 18, 1995 and continued sporadically until 2010. It destroyed the capital of Plymouth (the defacto capital is now Brades), forced two-thirds of the population to flee and left the entire southern half of the island uninhabitable.



10th Anniversary of 1995 eruption of Soufrière Hills volcano. 2005 (Scott 1129a-c)