



# The Westfield Philatelist

Newsletter of the Westfield Stamp Club

American Philatelic Society Chapter #540

American Topical Association Chapter #113

Volume 16 Number 2 November/December 2022

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**November 17, 2022 – “Deciphering the Many US Fractional Transportation Series Coil Denominations.”**

*By Robert Loeffler*



During the 10-year period between 1981 and 1991, the USPS released a series of decimal valued coil stamps. To make sense of the reason for so many seemingly strange values, one has to understand the rates they each met. I will attempt to show in chronological order the various rate tiers each satisfied.



**December 22, 2022 – Holiday Party Buffet, Donation Auction**

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## FROM THE EDITOR’S DEN

### Call for Contributions

I would welcome contributions from our members: short notes on a favorite stamp/cover, recent purchases for your collection(s), new philatelic interests, show experiences, news of your philatelic activities, how you arrange your collections, etc. Anything to do with philately is okay.

The requirements are simple: 1) text should be in Microsoft Word (.doc) or rich-text format (.rtf). Images should be separate (tiff or high-res jpg) files.

## USPS 2022 Holiday Stamps



*Virgin and Child* by Master of the Scanluzzi Lamentation – Francesco Granacci (1469–1543)



“Holiday Elves” designed by Don Clark who also designed the 2018 Dragon stamps. Christmas Elves also appeared on one of the stamps from the 2005 Christmas cookies set. Christmas elves have appeared on a number of stamps from the Nordic countries, as well as Canada and Ireland. The American Topical Association has Christmas checklists that list Christmas Elves.

*The Westfield Philatelist*

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**WESTFIELD STAMP CLUB  
SHOW COVER SALE**

Just in time for the holidays, the club is selling show covers from past annual shows. If you didn't have a chance to purchase one at the show or perhaps you couldn't make the show, now is your chance. All covers include a double-sided stuffer card with information about the show's cover and theme. At the show they sold for \$3.00 each. But the sale price is \$2.00 each or \$5.00 for all three. Shipping is a flat \$1.00 for one or three. **Checks should be made to the Westfield Stamp Club and sent to :**

**Frederick C. Skvara**

**PO Box 6228**

**Bridgewater, NJ 08807**



Because of the pandemic, meetings are currently virtual on the fourth Thursday of the month except for November (third Thursday) and July and August (summer recess). 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

# MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

## Awards by Members

NOJEX 2022 – October 14–16

**Roger S. Brody** - 1) “America’s Embossed Stamped Revenue Paper” (Reserve Grand Award; Large Gold; Sidney Scheider Memorial Award: Best Exhibit by North Jersey Federated Stamp Club Member; United States Philatelic Classics Society Medal) 2) “In Cahoots” (Non-Competitive) 3) “Dream Covers” (Non-Competitive)

**Lou Caprario** - 1) “Pre-Prohibition United States Beer Stamps 1866–1919” (Large Gold; American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Excellence for Best Treatment) 2) “The 1908 Christmas Seal – The First National Issue” (Non-Competitive); 3) “Christmas Seals and Their Lapel Button Complements” (Non-Competitive)

**Allan Fisk** - (Single Frame) “Flight 93 ‘Let’s Roll’” (Large Silver)

**Nicholas Lombardi** - “The 1903 Two Cent Washington Shield Issue” (Large Gold)

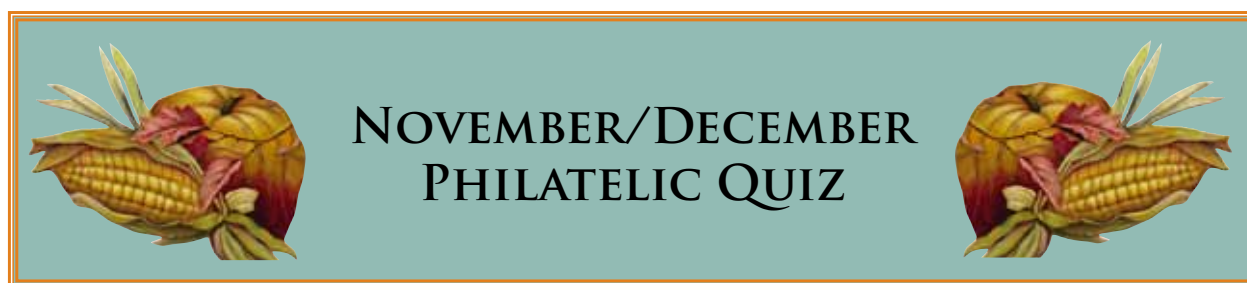
**Bruce Marsden** - “Switzerland Engineering and Landscapes Definitive Issue of 1949.” (Gold; American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence: 1940–1980)

**Paul Schumacher** - (Single Frame) “U.S. Scott #1874a (Large Silver; American Philatelic Society Medal of Excellence: post 1980; Errors, Freaks & Oddities Club Award)

**Joseph Fisk Steinberg (grandson of member Allan Fisk)** - (Single Frame) “Ol’ Blue Eyes” (Silver Bronze Medal; American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Gold Award of Honor)

## Recent Publications by Members

**Frederick C. Skvara** - 1) “William Johnson, M.D. & Skunk Cabbage” *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately*, July/September 2022;66(3):61. 2) “First International Medical Olympiad, 1996” *Scalpel & Tongs: American Journal of Medical Philately*, July/September 2022;66(3):62.



- Q1. Who is the most frequently commemorated Black American on United States postage stamps?
- Q2. Do you know the connection between what is depicted on the 5¢ 1965 Traffic Safety Issue (Scott No. 1272) and what is shown on the 29¢ 1991 stamp from the World War II sheetlet (Scott No. 2559g)?
- Q3. When did public service messages first appear on United States booklet panes?
- Q4. What state’s flower, seen on the 1982 State Birds & Flowers Issue, is both a medicine and also highly poisonous?
- Q5. Are there any United States postage stamps issued after 1874 (date of organization of the UPU) that are denominated in Roman numerals rather than in arabic numerals??

# ENGLAND HAD THREE KINGS IN 1936

By Michael Frank

Not too many people can remember the upheaval in England in 1936. Unlike the modern Prince Harry, who was way down the line of succession when he gave up his royal duties, Edward VIII was already king when he abdicated. Why did he do it? To marry the woman he loved, Wallis Simpson, a divorcee from Baltimore.

Britain issued a set of low-value regular stamps, which are readily available. Australia did some patterns. The bulk of the Crown colonies never got started with stamps, but there were coins issued.



If you look on the Net, one of these stamps is shown with an ad for a London stamp dealer right on the selvage.

His years as the Duke of Windsor, when his brother was King George VI, and rumors of Nazi sympathizing were prevalent, are beyond the scope of this article.

The events of early September will have a big impact – after all, Elizabeth II was monarch as long as most of us can remember – as there will be all new stamps and coins showing Charles III. For Charles, his second marriage; for Queen Consort Camilla Parker Bowles, her second, after a divorce. How things have changed!

## Edward's Farewell

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Following is the text of the farewell broadcast of former King Edward, who was introduced to the radio audience as "His Royal Highness Prince Edward":

At long last I am able to say a few words of my own. I have never wanted to withhold anything, but until now it has not been constitutionally possible for me to speak.

A few hours ago I discharged my last duty as King and Emperor. And now that I have been succeeded by my brother, the Duke of York, my first words must be to declare my allegiance to him. This I do with all my heart.

You know the reasons which have impelled me to renounce the throne, but I want you to understand that in making up my mind I did not forget the country or the empire which, as Prince of Wales and lately as King, I have for twenty-five years tried to serve.

But you must believe me when I tell you that I have found it impossible to carry the heavy burden of responsibility and to discharge my duties as King as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love.

And I want you to know that the decision I have made has been mine and mine alone.

This was a thing I had to judge entirely for myself. The other person most nearly concerned has tried up to the last to persuade me to take a different course.

I have made this the most serious decision of my life only upon the single thought of what would, in the end, be best for all.

This decision has been made less difficult for me by the sure knowledge that my brother, with his long training in the public affairs of this country and with his fine qualities, will be able to take my place forthwith without interruption or injury to the life and progress of the empire, and he has one matchless blessing, enjoyed by so many of you and not bestowed upon me, a happy home with his wife and children.

During these hard days, I have been comforted by Her Majesty, my mother, and by my family. The Ministers of the Crown and in particular Mr. Baldwin, the Prime Minister, have always treated me with full consideration.

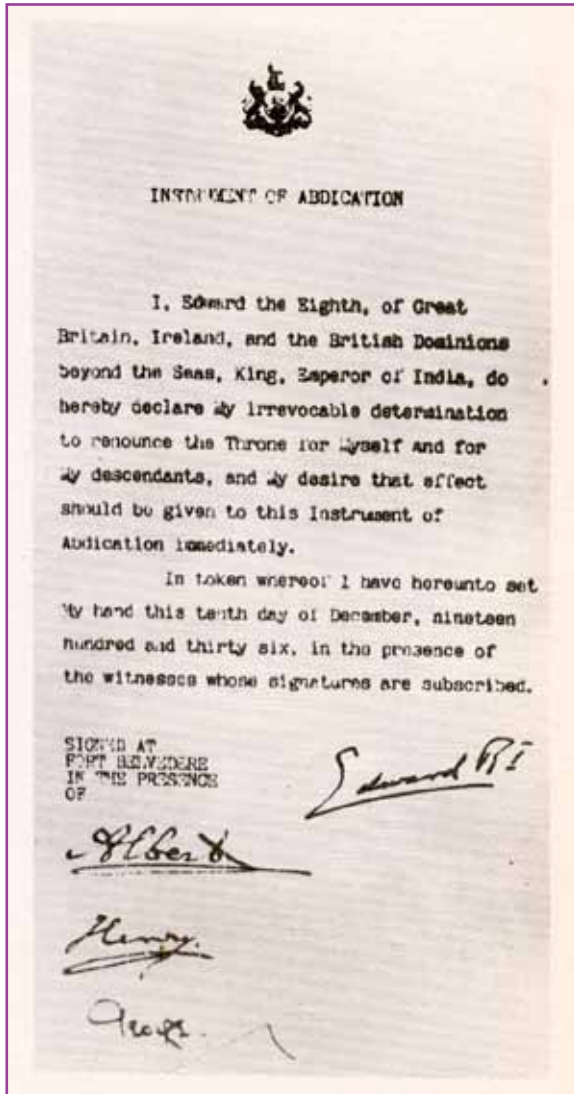
There has never been any constitutional difference between me and them and between me and Parliament. Bred in the constitutional traditions by my father, I should never have allowed any such issue to arise.

Ever since I was Prince of Wales and later on, when I occupied the throne, I have been treated with the greatest kindness by all classes of the people wherever I have lived or journeyed throughout the empire. For that I am very grateful. I now quit altogether public affairs and I lay down my burden.

It may be some time before I return to my native land, but I shall always follow the fortunes of the British race and empire with profound interest and if, at any time in the future, I can be found of service to His Majesty in a private station I shall not fail.

And now we all have a new King. I wish him and you, his people, happiness and prosperity with all my heart. God bless you all! God save the King!

Copyright 1936, by M. C. DIZEN





Interior of envelope containing the documents on the previous page. (reduced)



UNITED STATES “AMERICAN CREDO” SERIES

By Frederick C. Skvara

Recently I came across an article in my clipping file that I had saved from a 2010 issue of *The United States Special-ist*, the journal of the United States Stamp Society. In a simulated “interview” with Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield our member Stevn J. Rod asked the PMG several questions about his eight years at the helm of the postal department. Below is one of those questions:

Q. “With so many stamps issued under your watch during your eight-year tenure, is it possible that you have a favorite?”

Ans. “Yes, that’s easy for me to answer. The “American Credo” stamps. They represent famous sayings that are our treasured words of freedom?”

There are six stamps in the series, five were issued in 1960 and one in 1961. All have the same common design with a quote from the person commemorated, a facsimile of their signature and a relevant symbolic device. Frank Conley designed the series and Robert J. Jones was the engraver. Each of the Artcraft first day covers shown repeats the quotation on the stamp along with a portrait and a small image relevant to the person and/or the quotation.

Arthur E. Summerfield was appointed the 54th PostmasterGeneral in December 1952 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower and served in that capacity from 1953 until 1961. He was born in Pinconning, Michigan, on March 17, 1899 and died on April 26, 1972.

As Steve mentions in his ‘interview,’ under Summerfield’s watch the USPOD issued the nineteen stamps in the “Champion of Liberty Series” that started on August 31, 1957, with the stamp for Ramon Magsaysay, as well as the eighteen stamps in the “Liberty Series” that also first appeared in 1957. The first stamp issued while he was



PMG was the “National Guard” issue on February 23, 1953. He was also responsible for creating the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Committee in 1957.

Additional interesting information I picked up from Steve’s article concerned the stamp issued on January 15, 1957: “Honoring those who helped fight Polio.” In order to remind people to take their polio shots, he ordered Postmasters to sell the 3¢ Polio stamp whenever a window patron asked for a 3¢ first class stamp and ordered an additional 75 million stamps for that purpose. In addition, the stamp remained on sale for two years even after the first class letter rate went to 4¢ on August 1, 1958.



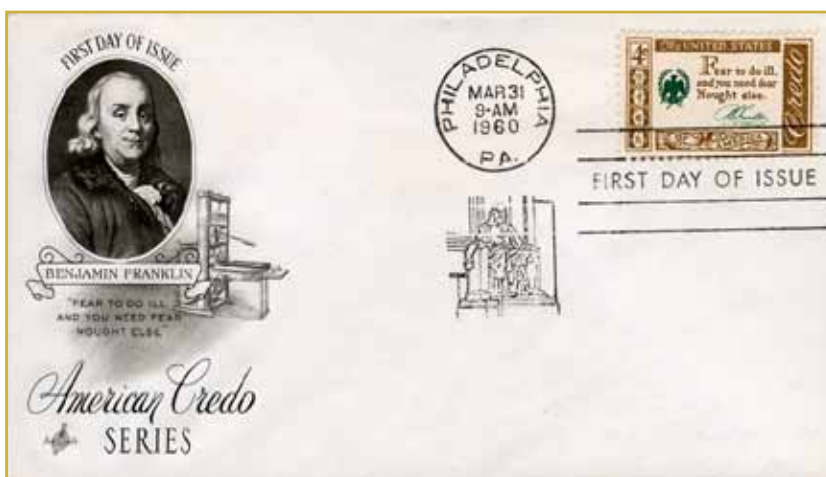
**4¢ George Washington – January 20, 1960**

The quotation on the stamp is from Washington's Farewell Address in 1796 and the scales of justice are symbolic of that quotation. It was first placed on sale at Mount Vernon, Virginia, images of which are seen in the cachet and near the cancellation on the cover.



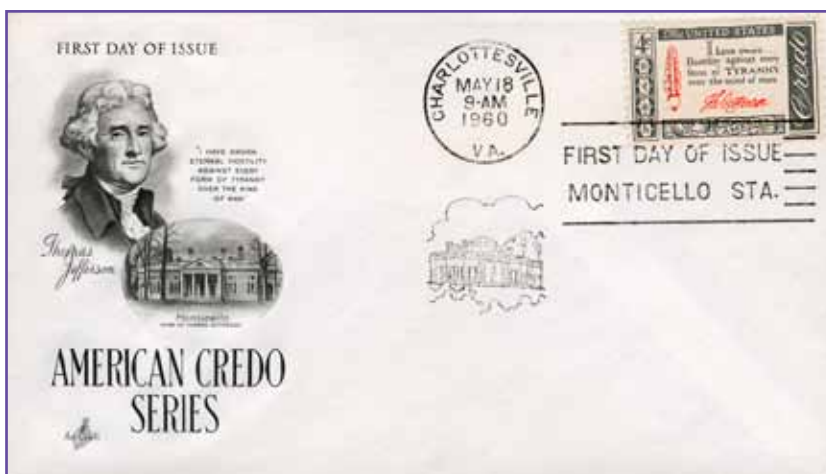
**4¢ Benjamin Franklin – March 31, 1960**

The quotation is from the 1740 edition of *Poor Richard's Almanac* (15th page devoted to September). The symbolic device is a dove within an olive wreath. It was first placed on sale in Philadelphia. A printing press can be seen in the cachet and a drawing of Franklin's statue on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania is near the cancellation.



**4¢ Thomas Jefferson – May 18, 1960**

The quotation is from *Collected Writings* – Volume 10. The symbolic device is a hand holding aloft a flaming torch. It was first placed on sale at Charlottesville, Virginia. Images of Monticello can be seen in the cachet and near the cancellation.



### 4¢ Francis Scott Key – September 14, 1960

The quotation is from the “Star-Spangled Banner” and the symbolic device is stars and a bursting bomb within a circle. It was first placed on sale in Baltimore, Maryland. An image of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812 is seen in the cachet and an image of a damaged flag is near the cancellation.



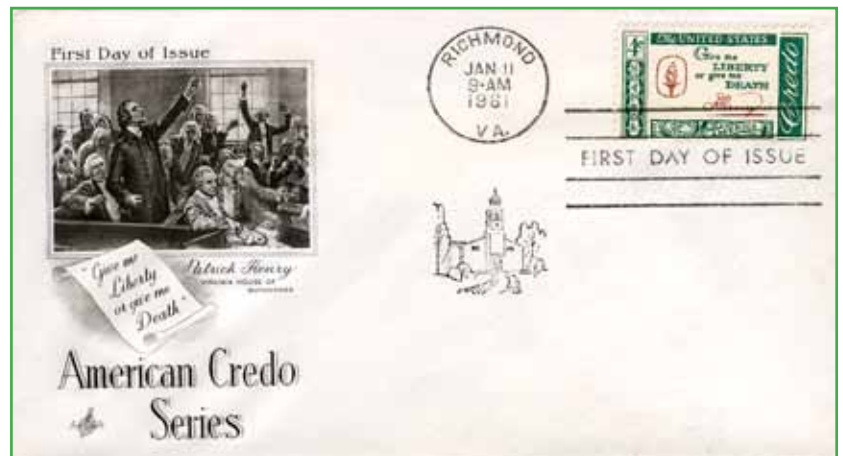
### 4¢ Abraham Lincoln – November 19, 1960

The quotation is from a letter Lincoln wrote to H.L. Pierce of Boston in 1859 and the symbolic device is a seated figure of Freedom, holding an olive branch. An image of the Lincoln Memorial is in the cachet and a drawing of a bust of Lincoln is near the cancellation. The stamps was first released in New York City.



### 4¢ Patrick Henry – January 11, 1961

The quotation is from his speech before the Virginia Provincial Convention on March 23, 1775 in Saint John’s Episcopal Church in Richmond, Virginia. The symbolic device is a flaming torch. The cachet shows Henry giving that speech. There is a small drawing of the church near the cancellation. The stamp was first placed on sale in Richmond, Virginia.



As the only large city which could be reached from the scattered colonies, Philadelphia was selected as the meeting place for representatives from the colonies. In 1774 the first inter-colonial Congress met in Carpenter's Hall, but it was in Independence Hall that several memorable gatherings were held at which important decisions were made.

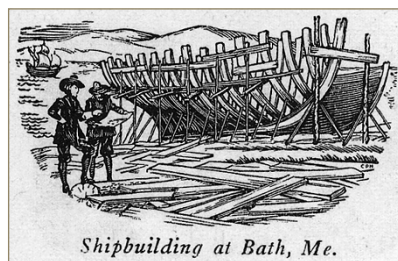


Originally hung in the State House Steeple (renamed Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Liberty Bell now lies near there in the Liberty Bell Center. The bell was recast several times before the final version was hung in 1754. It was rung on July 8, 1776, at the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. It cracked irreparably when rung to commemorate George Washington's birthday in 1846 and has not rung since.

On July 4, 1776 the Declaration of Independence was formally approved by the second Continental Congress. The vignette shown is adapted from John Trumbull's painting *Declaration of Independence in Congress at the Independence Hall, Philadelphia, July 4th, 1776*. The painting wasn't finished until 1819. The five men standing in front of the seated John Hancock are Ben Franklin, Robert Livingston, Roger Sherman, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams.



George Washington's home in Mount Vernon, Virginia was one of the finest plantations in the country. Here the "Father of His Country" became famous as a liberal host and congenial master. Today, this historic mansion is one of America's most important public shrines.



Continuous shipbuilding began in Bath, Maine from the 1740s

In May of 1776 George Washington, Robert Morris and George Ross, uncle of the late husband of Betsy Ross, approached Betsy Ross, an upholsterer in Philadelphia, to sew the first American flag. Following a design and color scheme prepared by Washington and George Ross, she finished the flag in late May or early June, but it wasn't until 1777 that Congress placed its official stamp of approval on the Stars and Stripes and made it the national emblem.

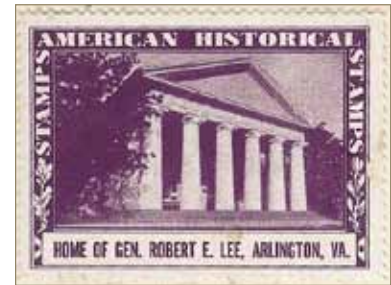
American built ships, commanded and manned by American seamen, fought to uphold the honor of their country on the sea. The most famous of these fast frigates, the *Constitution* ("Old Ironsides"), survived all its engagements and is still afloat. One of six frigates authorized by the Naval Armament Act of 1794, it was built in Boston and launched in 1797.







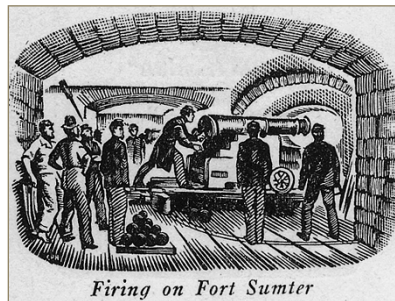
On the night of September 13, 1814, the British bombarded Fort McHenry in Baltimore during the War of 1812. When dawn came on September 14, and the U.S. flag over the fort was still flying, Francis Scott Key wrote the poem that became our national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner".



Robert E. Lee was a U.S. General and commander of the Confederate army of Northern Virginia during the American Civil War. In 1863 his invasion of the North was repulsed by General Meade at Gettysburg and he surrendered to General Grant in 1865. His home in Arlington, Virginia overlooks the Capital across the Potomac River and is a national shrine.



During the American Civil War, the first battle between iron clad warships, took place on March 9, 1862, at Hampton Roads, Virginia, between the Union *Monitor* and the Confederate *Merrimack*. (The *Merrimack* was built by the North, salvaged by the South from the Norfolk navy yard and rechristened *Virginia*). During the battle the *Monitor* was disabled.



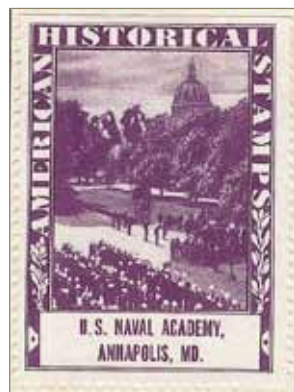
The architect for the Lincoln Memorial was Henry Bacon. Daniel Chester French, an American sculptor, designed the statue of Lincoln that was carved by the Piccirilli Brothers, Italian-born American marble carvers and sculptors. The memorial is modeled after the Greek Parthenon with the Doric columns representing the 36 states in the union at the time of Lincoln's death. The memorial was dedicated in 1922.



The cornerstone for the U.S. Capital was laid by George Washington on September 18, 1793. The original design was by William Thornton, an architect and physician, but several other architects, including James Hoban, architect of the White House, were involved. By 1811 Benjamin Henry Latrobe had renovated the Senate wing and completed the House wing. Charles Bulfinch completed the building following the destruction by British troops during the War of 1812.



The West Point Military Academy, on the west bank of the Hudson River in New York state was established on March 16, 1802, by Thomas Jefferson. Its gray and black stone (granite) buildings occupy high ground overlooking the Hudson River. It lies about 50 miles north of New York City.



On the banks of the Severn river at Annapolis, Maryland, is the United States Naval Academy where young men and women are trained to be officers in the Navy and Marine corps. It was established in 1845 under Secretary of the Navy, George Bancroft. It is located on the grounds of the former Fort Severn where the Severn River flows into Chesapeake Bay. It replaced the Philadelphia Naval Asylum that served as the first United States Naval Academy from 1838 to 1845.

This completes my tour through the American Oil Company's  
*The American Historical Stamp Album*



# ADOPTION OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN FOR CHRISTMAS SEAL CAMPAIGNS, PART 1

By Frederick C. Skvara

In 1959 the National Tuberculosis Association decided on having a national chairman for the Christmas Seal Campaign, a practice they continued for a number of years. Many of these chairs were from the worlds of entertainment and sports and often had some connection to tuberculosis or other lung diseases.

## 1959 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Katherine LaBruce Rowe (1923–2006)**, an illustrator and graphic designer from Richmond, Virginia. The two young children depicted on the seals feeding winter birds and squirrels represent two of her children.

**National Chairman: “Red” Albert Schoendienst**

“Red” Schoendienst was a second baseman and later manager of the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team. He developed tuberculosis and was successfully treated.



## 1960 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Philip Richard Costigan:** He was born in England and has designed Swedish crystal, English textiles, posters, silverware and fine china, eventually moving to the United States. His uncle retired to the United States, contracted tuberculosis and died here. Costigan thought about doing a seal because of his connection with the Tb nurses at the Reading, Pennsylvania, Chest Clinic where his uncle was treated. The design shows “Child carollers singing joyfully of peace and love.”

**National Chairman: Steven Dohanos (1907–1994)** Dohanos designed over 100 covers for the *Saturday Evening Post*, dozens of United States postage stamps, served on the Stamp Advisory Committee and also designed the 1941 Christmas Seal. He had tuberculosis, but with education, treatment and rest he recovered.



## 1961 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Heidi Brandt:** Montana-born artist, illustrator, writer and fine-art photographer, she won a Fulbright Scholarship in 1956 to study in Germany. The design reflects togetherness and scenes of family life: “mother puts a star atop the tree, children help decorate the branches, father hangs the wreath, a daughter wraps a Christmas present, a musical family trio is joined by grandpa, grandma rocks the baby and a puppy joins in the merriment.” She also designed the 1956 seal and as we shall see the 1966 seal.

**National Chairman: Charles O. Finley.** Owner of the Kansas City Athletics baseball team and a major insurance company, he developed near-fatal tuberculosis at age 28.



### 1962 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Paul Dohanos** The design of artist and son of Steven Dohanos shows a tree being decorated by a boy and girl who are hanging the double-barred cross, the symbol of the National Tuberculosis Association, on the tree.

**National Chairman: Jacqueline Kennedy (1929–1994):** First lady of the United States from 1961 until 1963 said: “Christmas Seals are a tradition in our family. I can’t think of a year when we didn’t have them.”



### 1963 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Judith Campbell Piussi** – She states the scenes portray a place of peace, wonder and gladness, all the things which Christmas Seals help protect.” “It’s the holiday season. Snowflakes are starting to fall at twilight. A snowman is finished and his scarf is waving in the wind. A cheery little house has a warm light and the children have gone inside from their play.”

**National Chairman: Ann Landers (1918–2002):** American advice columnist and media celebrity who said, “Tb and the problems that come with it can be eliminated if everyone pulls together – with “Christmas Seals.”



### 1964 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Gaetano di Palma** – A scientific illustrator at the American Museum of Natural History. The design of a beautiful green stocking and a Santa Claus in a bright red suit with the children “expresses how Christmas time is especially for children. There is a spirit of giving and sharing that is more meaningful and happy because of children.”

**National Chairman: Betsy Palmer (1926–2015):** American movie and Broadway actress as well as a television guest star who asked to learn about the disease firsthand by going to a hospital.



1965 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Frede Salomonsen** – The design is called “Kernels of Life” by the designer who believes that Christmas Seals “provide a priceless opportunity for everyone to take part in the effort to eradicate Tb and control other respiratory diseases.”

**National Chairman: Commander Scott Carpenter(1925–2013):** American naval officer and one of the Mercury Seven astronauts selected for NASA’s 1959 Project Mercury. His mother died of tuberculosis.



1966 Christmas Seal

**Designer: Heidi Brandt** – The designer combined “flora from anywhere in America and a sweet bird of the imagination.” A total of eight seals make the design, four with a green background and four with a white background. See 1961 for biography.

**National Chairman: Meredith Willson (1902–2084):** American composer, musical arranger, playwright and writer who wrote the book, music and lyrics for the 1957 Broadway musical *The Music Man* and the 1951 song “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas.” He can be seen on a 1999 United States commemorative postage stamp, one of a set of six issued for “Broadway Songwriters.”



1967 Christmas Seal



**Designer: L. Gerald Snyder** – Called the “Holiday Train”, it is filled with Christmas gifts and symbols. This was the first ten-unit design in Christmas Seals.

**National Chairman: Robert Morse (1931–2022):** Two-time winner of the Tony award, he was a stage and screen actor whose most famous role was in the 1961 Broadway play *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. In his later years he had a role in the television series “Mad Men.” His wife was had tuberculosis.



[to be continued]

# S IS FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES

Sherlock Holmes, the fictional detective, was born in January of 1854 in England, educated in public schools and at Cambridge University. He began a career as a private consulting detective working out of his suite at 221B Baker Street in London. His fictional assistant, Dr. John H. Watson (c.1852–1929) received his medical degree from the University of London Medical School in 1878 and joined the Army as a surgeon and after recovering from wounds received in the Second Afghan War returned to London where he first met Sherlock Holmes. Watson documented many of Holmes' most interesting cases.



Sherlock Holmes  
Nicaragua 1972



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
Great Britain 2009

Arthur Conan Doyle (1859–1930) was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and while studying medicine at Edinburgh University medical school in the 1870s, he had his first fiction published. As a ship's doctor he travelled to Greenland and West Africa in the 1880s and served as a doctor in the Boer War in South Africa from 1899 to 1902. He was knighted as a result of his pamphlet, *The War in South Africa*.

Although he wrote a number of historical novels, he is most remembered as the creator of Sherlock Holmes who was introduced to the public in 1887.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle  
& Sherlock Holmes.  
Comoro Islands 1980



Three portraits of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and three actors who played Sherlock Holmes (Michael Caine, Peter Cushing & Robert Downey, Jr.) Republic of Guinea 2010

# S IS FOR SHERLOCK HOLMES



L to R:

- 1) Sherlock Holmes & Dr. Watson in “The Reigate Squire” (*The Strand Magazine*, June 1893)
  - 2) Sherlock Holmes & Sir Henry Baskerville in “The Hound of the Baskervilles” (*The Strand Magazine*, April 1902)
  - 3) Sherlock Holmes & Inspector Lestrade in “The Six Napoleons” (*The Strand Magazine*, May 1904)
  - 4) Sherlock Holmes & Mycroft Holmes in “The Greek Interpreter” (*The Strand Magazine*, September 1893)
  - 5) Sherlock Holmes & Professor Moriarty in “The Final Solution” (*The Strand Magazine*, December 1893)
- Great Britain 1993

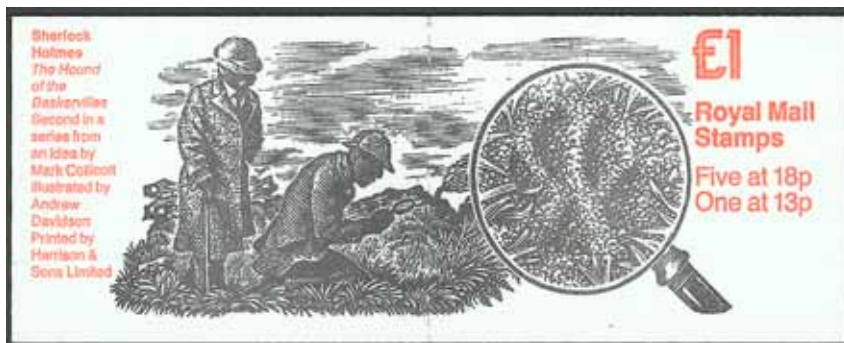
Holmes is examining a wall with a magnifying glass while Inspector Lestrade holds a lit match to provide light. The magnifying glass reveals the letters “RACHE”, one of the keys to the case. “A Study in Scarlet” was the initial Sherlock Holmes adventure and introduces us to the detective and Dr. John Watson. It was first published in *Beeton’s Christmas Annual*, November 1887.

Great Britain 1987 (bklt.cvr)



“A hound it was, an enormous coal-black hound...Fire burst from its open mouth, its eyes glowed with a smouldering glare, its muzzle and hackles and dewlap were outlined in flickering flame.”

“The Hound of the Baskervilles”  
Great Britain 1997



Holmes is studying the footprint of a large hound. “The Hound of the Baskervilles” was first published in installments in *The Strand Magazine*, August 1901 to April 1902. Great Britain 1987 (bklt.cvr)

## ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PHILATELIC QUIZ

**Q1.** Who was the first living person to be depicted on a United States commemorative postage stamp?

Ans. **Eden Nybakke (Scott 286)**

In 1884 Eden Nybakke came to the United States from Sweden and moved to Cass County, North Dakota. While working on a farm owned by the Amenia and Sharon Land Company in Amenia Township in Cass County, a photographer took a picture of Eden with his team of horses and plow. Late in 1888 the Post Office Department was planning a series of stamps for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition that was going to be held in Omaha, Nebraska, from June 1 to November 1, 1898. They selected the photograph of Eden as typically portraying western farm life. Although it was first selected for the vignette on the \$2.00 value, it finally wound up on the 2¢ stamp. Eden Nybakke died on June 19, 1934. [Ref: "First Living Person on a United States Stamp" by C.E. P. *The Posthorn*.]



**Q2.** What were the first United States commemorative postage stamps issued without values?

Ans. **United States 1975 Christmas Stamps (Scott 1779–1580)**

The practice of issuing stamps without denominations was begun by several British colonies in the 1850s. They used identical designs but changed the color to indicate different values allowing the postal authorities to save money as they only had to use one die or plate.

The first stamps issued without value by the United States were the two Christmas stamps issued on October 14, 1975, as the first class rate was expected to increase from 10 cents to 13 cents, but the rate hike was delayed and the stamps remained at 10 cents. A similar situation occurred in 1981 and the Christmas stamps (Scott 1939, 1940) were issued without denominations, but valued at 20 cents.

"Letter stamps" to cover the domestic rate began with the orange "A" stamp issued on May 22, 1978 with a value of 15 cents. All of these non-denominated stamps are still valid for postage and can be used in combination with other stamps to make the current domestic rate. But they are only valid for domestic use since UPU regulations state that all stamps used for international mail must have the value printed on the face of the stamp.



Madonna & Child  
c.1470–1475 by  
Domenico Ghirlandaio (1448–1494)



Christmas Card by  
Louis Prang 1878



**Q3.** Who led the only substantial force of foreign allies to serve on United States soil for an extended period of time?

Ans. **Comte de Rochambeau (Scott 703)**

As we know France supported the American colonists against Great Britain in the American Revolutionary War and by 1776 was giving financial aid and sending military supplies. On July 11, 1780 a French land force of 5,500 troops landed in Newport, Rhode Island, under the command of Marshall Comte de Rochambeau (1725–1807), a French nobleman and general. After nearly a year they marched south to rendezvous with George Washington near New York City and then moved to Virginia. In Virginia, along with the French fleet of Admiral Francois de Gasse (1722–1788), they trapped Lord Cornwallis' British Army at Yorktown and forced the British to surrender in October, 1781.

Comte de Rochambeau's force was named Expedition Particulière by the French government and has been described as the the only substantial force of foreign allies ever to serve on United States soil for an extended period –from July 1780 to October 1781.

## ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PHILATELIC QUIZ

Q3 (cont.).

On the 150th anniversary of Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, the United States Post Office Department issued a 2¢ commemorative on October 19, 1931 and was first placed on sale at Yorktown, Virginia, and Wethersfield, Connecticut (it was at Wethersfield that Washington and Rochambeau laid the plans for the Yorktown campaign).

On the left in the stamp is a portrait of Rochambeau from an old engraving by T.D. Booth of Joseph D. Court's painting furnished to the Post Office Department by the Library of Congress. The portrait of De Grasse on the right is also from an engraving supplied by the Library of Congress. In the middle of the stamp is Washington's portrait taken from a painting by John Trumbull and is at the Yale University. It is from an engraving by A.B. Durand in Vol. 1 of the *National Portrait Gallery of Distinguished Americans*. [Ref: 1) "The Yorktown Issue 1931". *The United States Commemorative Stamps of the Twentieth Century*, Volume 1, By Max G. Johl, H.L. Lindquist, Pub., 1947: 168–175. 2) *United States Specialist*, July 2009: 325.]



Scott 703 with plate numbers identifying it as from the first plate layout.



Scott 703 with horizontal guideline and arrow. I am not sure what plate layout these stamps are from as, it appears to me, there are contradictory statements in Johl's book which says there are guidelines in the second plate layout and the 2009 article in the *United States Stamp Specialist* which says the second plate layout did not have horizontal guidelines and arrows. I would appreciate if one of our members could clarify the discrepancy for me.



Q4. Before Alaska was sold to the United States, the Russian Czar offered it to what other country?

Ans: **Liechtenstein**

After the bloody and expensive Crimean War (1853–1856) against the combined forces of the Ottoman Empire, British Empire and the Second French Empire, which Russia lost, the already weak Russian economy deteriorated further and was in need of money to pull itself out of a recession. Russia realized that the cost of maintaining the Russian colony on Alyaska, as the anglicized version of the Russian name of the colony was called, was greater than the income it was receiving, mainly from furs.

[Russia's presence on Alyaska began in 1741 when a Russian expedition led by the Danish navigator and cartographer Vitus Bering (1681–1741), in the service of Russia, discovered the Alaskan mainland and opened Alaska to Russian hunters. On August 14, 1784 a Russian fur trader, Grigory Shelikhov founded Three Saints Bay Colony on Kodiak Island living there with his wife and several hundred men. After several more trading posts were established, the Russian-American Fur Company was organized in 1799 and in 1808, a permanent settlement was established on Baranof Island named Novoarkhangelsk (New Archangel) which became the capital of Russian America until its sale in 1867.]



As Russia looked around for buyers, it approached the House of Liechtenstein, with whom the House of Romanov had good relations. Russia knew that the royal family of Liechtenstein had a large gold reserve which Russia badly needed so Tsar Alexander II offered the land to Johann II, Prince of Liechtenstein. But the Liechtenstein royal family had concerns



Coat-of-Arms  
House of Liechtenstein

about governing the huge land of Alyaska so far away from Vaduz and they declined the offer. Russia then offered the land to President Andrew Johnson which was accepted and the purchase was completed by treaty on October 18, 1867. Note: Liechtenstein is the country featured in the “Discover the World” on page 18. [Ref: 1) “Russia Almost Sold Alaska to This tiny European Country Instead of the US” by Lawrence W. Reed. *The Epoch Times* March 16, 2022. 2) “How One of the Smallest Countries in the World Nearly Bought Alaska”. by Calin Aneculaesei, *History of Yesterday*; September 10, 2022.]



Tsar Alexander II  
Russia 1917  
(Scott 140)



Prince Johann II.  
Liechtenstein 1917  
(Scott 6)



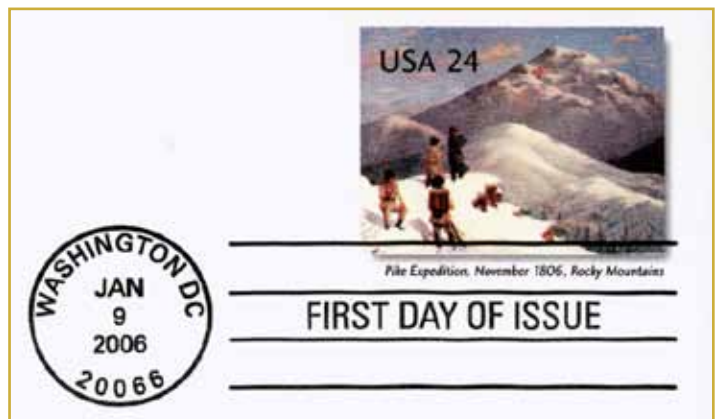
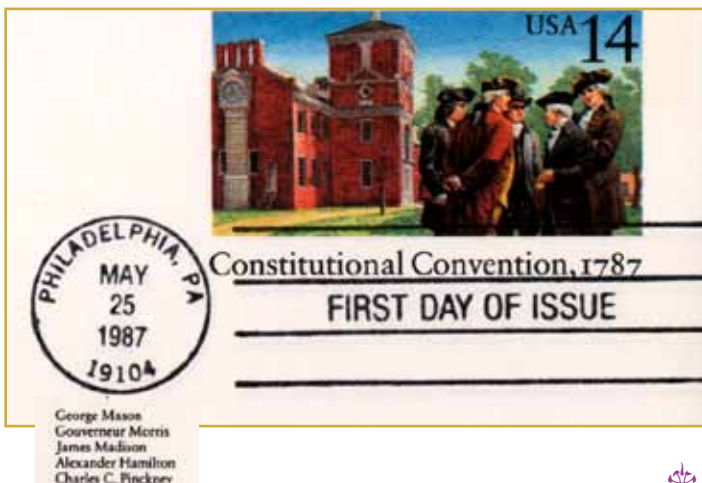
**Q5.** What are the first and last postal cards printed on the five-color Roland Man 800 offset press?

**Ans:** **The 1987 Constitutional Convention (Scott UX116) and 2006 Pike’s Peak (Scott UX449) postal cards**

In 1987 the United States Government Printing Office installed the 5-color Roland Man 800 offset press and issued the first postal card from that press on May 25, 1987 – the 14¢ Constitutional Convention 1987 postal card. The design shows the five delegates named on the card outside the State House (now Independence Hall) in Philadelphia.

The last postal card produced on that press was the 24¢ Pike’s Peak card marking the 200th anniversary of Lieutenant Zebulon Pike’s expedition to the American Southwest and shows Pike viewing the mountain through a spyglass while his three companions watched. The image is from a lithograph of a painting by Edgar Spier Cameron (1862–1944) originally reproduced in a 1902 edition of the *The St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper.

Pike was born in New Jersey on January 5, 1779, joined the army, commissioned a lieutenant and assigned to frontier duty. On July 5, 1806, Pike was sent to explore the Arkansas and Red rivers reaching the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains four months later as winter approached and the weather turned cold. Pike and three companions – John Hamilton Robinson, a civilian surgeon, and Privates Theodore Miller and John Brown – set out to climb a large “blue mountain”, but after two days they only reached the base of that mountain which Pike named Grand Mountain, but is now named after him –Pike’s Peak. After a four day trek from the base they had to return, frozen, hungry and sore and never reached the top of Grand Mountain which is 14,115 feet in height. But they did succeed in climbing a smaller peak, Mt. Rosa (11,499 feet) south of Pike’s Peak and is the one on which they are standing in the image on the postal card. This was the first recorded ascent of any mountain in the American West. Pike became a brigadier general and fought in the War of 1812 and was killed at the Battle of York, Canada in April 1813 at the age of 34. [Ref: 1) “The U.S. GPO Acquired New Printing Press in 1987” by John M. Hotchner. *Linn’s Stamp News* November 8, 2021 2) *Linn’s U.S. Stamp Yearbooks*, 1987 & 2006.]





# DISCOVER THE WORLD: LIECHTENSTEIN

Area – 62 sq.mi. Population – 39,000 Capital: Vaduz



The independent Principality of Liechtenstein lies on the east bank of the Rhine River between northeast Switzerland and western Austria. With a land mass of 62 square miles it includes a narrow strip of arable land along the Rhine and, as it lies in the Alps, 92 named mountains. It is the fourth smallest country in Europe. The last surviving member of the Holy Roman Empire, it is the only country in Europe named after the family of its monarchy. The current head of state is His Serene Highness Prince Hans-Adam II.



Relief map of Liechtenstein. 1958 (Scott 324)



Liechtenstein Castle, Austria. 1977 (Scott 626)

Liechtenstein Castle in Lower Austria was built between 1130 and 1135 by Hugo of Liechtenstein and is considered the ancestral home of the Liechtenstein family, but it wasn't until 1608 when Karl I (1569–1627) founded the House of Liechtenstein as a princely house.



Vaduz Castle. 1920 (Scott 42)



Coat-of-Arms of Schellenberg 1965 (Scott 396)



Coat-of-Arms of Werdenberg-Vaduz 1964 (Scott 386)

In 1699 the family purchased the small Lordship of Schellenberg and in 1712, the county of Vaduz acquiring Vaduz Castle. The castle was built in the 12th century by the counts of Werdenberg-Sardans and is now the residence of the sovereign of Liechtenstein. In 1719 Charles VI, as Holy Roman Emperor, decreed that the two lands were to be united as Principality of Liechtenstein and it became a member state of the Holy Roman Empire and Prince Anton Florian (1656–1721) became the first ruling prince of the principality of Liechtenstein. It was included in the German

Confederation until 1806 when it became independent under Johann I Joseph, Prince of Liechtenstein (1760–1836). From 1924 it has been included in the Swiss customs and monetary union.

Its economy is built on electronics, dental products, metal manufacturing, ceramics, pharmaceuticals and precision instruments and tourism.

Austrian stamps were first issued under the Austrian Administration of the post office on February 1, 1912, showing a portrait of Prince Johann II (1840–1929) of Liechtenstein who allied the principality with Switzerland. Liechtenstein took over the administration of the postal service between 1918 and 1921 when Switzerland began to administer the post office.



Princely Hat and Prince Anton Florian [2019 - 300 anniversary of principality (embroidered stamp)]



View of Vaduz & View into Rhine Valley. 2013 (Scott 1576-77) [Landscapes by Hans Kliemand (1922–1976)]