



The Masonic Philatelist

A QUARTERLY
ISSN 1069-3580

VOL. 59

MARCH 2003

NO. 1

A 20 year old George Washington, received the Entered Apprentice Degree 250 years ago at the Lodge of Fredericksburgh A.F. & A.M. in the old brick building at the city Market Place. this cachet by GWMSC

250th Anniversary Sta.
George Washington enters Freemasonry at Lodge of Fredericksburg # 4, AFGAM FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22401
November 4, 2002
1752 - 2002

USA 37

Clifford Alan Parker
Grand Master

The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 59 No. 1

March 2003

Dr. Allan Boudreau

Editor & Publisher

U. S. Postage Firsts

The text in this issue was
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Joseph Nathan Kane

The Copy was extracted from

Famous First Facts

By Joseph Nathan Kane

Permission to reprint this
Material has been granted to the
Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

Brother Kane authored many
Reference books and more than
A thousand articles in
National magazines
And syndicated newspapers

Brother Kane was a Past Master
Of King Solomon Lodge No 232
In New York City and Past
President (1976-80 of The
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Printing in the U. S. A.
By Quiz Graphic Arts, Inc.
Ord, Nebraska 68862

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The MASONIC PHILATELIST
is published quarterly (March, June,
September, December) by the
Masonic Stamp Club of New York,
Inc. Third Class Postage Paid at
Ord, Nebraska. ISSN 1069-3580.

POSTMASTER: Send address
changes to MSCNY, Collectors
Club, 22 East 35th Street, New
York, New York 10016.

WHERE TO WRITE: For infor-
mation regarding articles,
manuscripts for publication, new
member applications or renewals
write The Secretary, MSCNY, 22
East 35th Street, New York, New
York 10016.

REGULAR MEETINGS: 2:00
p.m., Second Wednesday each
month except June, July, and
August at:

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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was or-
ganized in 1934 for the purpose of encourag-
ing research and study in Masonic Philately,
and to establish bonds of good fellowship
among Masons who are stamp collectors. The
need for the organization has proved itself
through the years with its ever-increasing
membership and the formation of other Mason-
ic stamp clubs in the United States.

The Editor invites all members to submit
items of information and articles on the sub-
ject of Masonic Philately. Typewritten copy
and/or camera ready items will result in the
best possible presentation of your material if
it is selected for use.

The First**AIRMAIL**

Airmail pickup from a steamer at sea was made June 12, 1929, by Lieutenant Commander George R. Pond and L. V. Rawlings in a Fairchild monoplane equipped with a cable device to drop mail and pick up simultaneously, invented by Dr. L. S. Adams. The plane left Keyport, N.J., at 5:58 P.M. and contacted the S.S. *Leviathan*, 60 miles at sea, which had sailed at 3:30 P.M.

Dirigible to drop mail by parachute was the *Graf Zeppelin*, which flew over Washington, D.C., on October 15, 1928, for about 20 minutes and dropped a pouch and a postcard picture of Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin. The packet was held for postage, as no stamps were used. The zeppelin landed at Lakehurst, N.J., October 15, 1928, at 5:38 P.M., completing its 6,300-mile trip from Friedrichshafen, Germany.

AIRMAIL SERVICE

Airmail contractor (domestic) was the Varney Air Line, which operated a single-engine Swallow biplane on April 6, 1926, between Pasco, Wash., and Elko, Nev., where connections were made with the Post Office Department's transcontinental line. Chief pilot Leon Cuddeback took off from Pasco. Franklin Rose, who took off from Elko, Nev., crashed in the desert.

Airmail experimental route was flown May 15, 1918, between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Pa., and New York City by planes and pilots supplied by the War Department. Lieutenant Torrey H. Webb in a Curtiss JN-4 left Belmont Field, L.I., N.Y., with two sacks containing 2,457 pieces of mail and flew to Philadelphia. Lieutenant James Clark Edgerton continued the trip to Potomac Field, Washington, D.C., in a relief plane. The 218 miles were covered in 3 hours 20 minutes. A similar service started from Washington, with Lieutenant George L. Boyle flying east. A broken propeller forced his descent at Waldorf, Md. The mail was carried by motor truck to Philadelphia, then flown to New York City by Lieutenant H. Paul Culver.

Airmail long-distance night service was established on July 1, 1925, from New York City to Chicago, Ill., over a 774-mile course. The first plane, from Hadley Field, New Brunswick, N.J. (the New York area), was piloted by Dean C. Smith. It was followed by a second plane piloted by J. D. Hill. The first plane eastward was simultaneously dispatched from Chicago, was piloted by Shirley Short, and was likewise followed by a second plane carrying the surplus mail.

The First

Airmail pilot was Earl Lewis Ovington, who was sworn in on September 23, 1911, at Garden City, Long Island, N.Y., as "air mail pilot number one." In his Blériot monoplane, *Dragonfly*, he delivered airmail from Postmaster General Frank Harris Hitchcock at Garden City to postmaster William McCarthy at Mineola, L.I., a distance of six miles, inaugurating the first official airmail service authorized by the Post Office Department. The first mail consisted of 640 letters and 1,280 postcards that bore the cancellation "Aeroplane No. 1, Garden City Estates, N.Y." Flights were made from September 23, 1911, to October 1, 1911, during the International Aviation Tournament held at the Airdrome, Garden City, L.I., N.Y., except for September 29 and October 1. This was not a regularly scheduled flight, since the service was performed without expense to the Post Office Department. (*Records in Division of Main Service, Post Office Department, Washington, D.C.*)

Airmail regular service was established August 12, 1918, by the Post Office Department between New York City and Washington, D.C. Ben B. Lipsner was the first superintendent of airmail. The pilots were Ed. V. Gardner, Maurice Newton, Max Miller, and Robert F. Shank.

Airmail regular service between New York and Chicago was scheduled to take off at 6:15 A.M. from Belmont Park, L.I., on December 18, 1918. Leon D. Smith, in a 450 h.p. de Havilland-Liberty, was unable to take off. At 7:30 A.M. he took off in another airplane, which was unable to fly farther than Bellefonte, Pa. The mail was then flown to Williamsport, Pa., where 266 pounds of mail was placed on a Chicago-bound train.

Airmail regular transcontinental through-service was established between New York City and San Francisco, Calif., July 1, 1924, when the airmail-railroad service was discontinued. The first westward flight of this service was made by Wesley Leland Smith, who flew from New York City to Cleveland, Ohio, and the first eastward flight by Claire K. Vance, who flew from San Francisco, Calif., to Reno, Nev. The service was daily including Sunday, with 14 stops en route.

Airmail service between North and South America was inaugurated May 14, 1929, from Miami, Fla.

The First

Airmail service from ship to shore was inaugurated August 13, 1928, by the Trans-Atlantic Aerial Company when an amphibian was launched from the *Ile de France*, 400 miles at sea. Three sacks of mail, including two packages of films, were delivered at New York City 15 hours before the ship docked. Service was discontinued September 28, 1928.

Airmail service to a steamer at sea was made August 14, 1919, when an Aeromarine flying boat piloted by Cyrus Johnston Zimmermann dropped a bag of mail on the forward deck of the White Star liner *Adriatic*, an hour and a half after the ship had left the pier in New York City.

Airmail stamp. See Postage stamp

Airmail transatlantic service was inaugurated on May 20, 1939, by the *Yankee Clipper*, a Pan American four-engine 41½ ton airplane that left Port Washington, N.Y., on 9:07:48 P.M., flew to Horta in 20 hours 16 minutes, and arrived in Lisbon, 6 hours 54 minutes later, on May 21, 1939, at 8:42 P.M. Arthur Earl La Porte was captain.

Airmail transcontinental flight was from San Francisco, Calif., to New York City. The plane left San Francisco at 4:30 A.M., February 22, 1921, and arrived at Hazelhurst Field, Long Island, N.Y., at 4:50 P.M. on February 23, 1921, 33 hours 20 minutes later. The actual flying time was 25 hours 16 minutes; the average speed for the 2,629 miles was 104 m.p.h.

Airmail transcontinental service (combination airplane-railroad) began on September 8, 1920, when 16,000 letters reached the West Coast in 22 hours less than the best train time. The mail was carried by planes during the day and by trains at night, a service of 63 hours for the flight west and 78½ hours for the eastward flight. The various sections and the dates of first service were: New York City to Cleveland, July 1, 1919; Cleveland to Chicago, May 15, 1919; Chicago to Omaha, May 15, 1920; and Omaha to San Francisco, September 8, 1920.

Airplane mail pickup by which planes snatch mail from the ground without landing was demonstrated on October 1, 1929, by Pennsylvania-Central Airlines at Washington, D.C. Despite rain, 253 successful pickups were made in 255 attempts. The pickup device was authorized by the Post Office Department for use on PCA, later known as Capital Airlines, and was used on regular schedules at Beaver Falls and Newcastle, Pa., and Youngstown, Ohio, on the Pittsburgh-Cleveland route.

The First

Autogiro mail delivery direct to a post office took place May 25, 1935, in Philadelphia, Pa. Pilot Louis Levy landed an autogiro on the roof of the Market Street Post Office and handed a sack of mail from the Central Airport, Camden, N.J., to Postmaster General James Aloysius Farley. A few minutes later, pilot James Garrett Ray swooped down in another autogiro, took a sack of mail, and followed Levy back to the airport.

Autogiro mail delivery regular service began July 6, 1939, when Captain John MacDonald Miller flew an Eastern Air Line autogiro from the roof of the Philadelphia Post Office to the Central Airport, Camden, N.J., six miles away, in 6 minutes. The autogiro made the round trip to its starting place in 14 minutes.

Balloon flight carrying mail dispatched from a post office and using postage stamps was made by John Wise in the *Jupiter* on August 17, 1859, from Lafayette, Ind. He carried 123 letters and 23 circulars in a pouch. His destination was New York City, but instead he landed at Crawfordsville, Ind., about 27 miles south of the takeoff. On July 1, 1859, he endeavored to fly mail from St. Louis, Mo., to New York City, but he jettisoned it in a storm.

Helicopter airmail and express service was inaugurated in a Sikorski S-51 on October 1, 1947, by Los Angeles Airways, Inc., Los Angeles, Calif., to serve the San Fernando Valley area. On May 20, 1947, the company received the first Civil Aeronautics Board certificate, which covered a three-year period. Service was extended October 15, 1947, and January 8, 1948, to serve 42 communities. During the first three-year period, 200,000 flights were made and 13 million pounds of mail carried. Pilots on the first flight were Boyd Kesselring and John De Blauw.

Helicopter airmail and express service to carry passengers was Los Angeles Airways, Inc., which instituted the combined service on November 22, 1955, between Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif.

Helicopter airmail delivery by commercial helicopter was made July 5, 1946, between the Bridgeport, Conn., post office and the airport. The pilot was D. D. ("Jimmy") Viner, chief pilot of Sikorsky Aircraft, Bridgeport, Conn.

Helicopter airmail experimental tests were made July 8, 1946, from the Lockheed Airport, Burbank, Calif., by the Post Office Department and the Army Air Force. For three weeks, two weekly trips were made to Long Beach, Calif., to the north, and to Santa Ana to the south, serving 24 post offices en route.

The First

International airmail was inaugurated March 3, 1919, between Seattle, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Canada (74 miles), by Edward Hubbard of the Hubbard Air Service, who piloted a Boeing Type C open cockpit biplane with pontoons. William Edward Boeing was a passenger on the flight. Regular service under contract began October 14, 1920, and continued under successive contracts until June 30, 1937.

Jet-propelled airplane to transport mail was a P-80 Shooting Star that on June 22, 1946, carried a letter addressed to President Harry S Truman. It was piloted by Captain Robert Atkinson Baird III of Clarksdale, Miss., who left the Schenectady County Airport, Schenectady, N.Y., and arrived at the National Airport, Washington, D.C. (370 miles), in 49 minutes. Another jet-propelled P-80, piloted by Major Kenneth Oscar Chilstrom of Elmhurst, Ill., left for Dayton, Ohio, with a letter for Orville Wright and, after a stopover at Wright Field, arrived at Chicago, Ill., in 2 hours 2 minutes.

Letter to encircle the world by commercial airmail flight. See under Postal service

Missile mail (official) was dispatched from the submarine U.S.S. *Barbero* (SSC-317), about 100 miles at sea off the Atlantic coast, to the Mayport Naval Auxiliary Station, near Jacksonville, Fla., on June 8, 1959. Bearing four-cent postage rather than seven-cent airmail stamps, 3,000 letters were shot in a 36-foot Regulus 1 winged missile at about 600 m.p.h. The missile landed 22 minutes after being launched. The letters, signed by Postmaster General Arthur Ellsworth Summerfield, were addressed to President Dwight David Eisenhower and to other government officials and important personages. The project was under the supervision of Captain Arnold Schade.

Pacific airmail flight and the first air crossing from California to the Philippines was made by the *China Clipper* of Pan American Airways, Inc., commanded by Edwin Charles Musick. The plane left San Francisco, Calif., November 22, 1935, at 3:46 A.M. Pacific Standard Time and made stops at Honolulu, Midway, Wake, and Guam, landing at Manila, P.I., November 28, 1935, at 11:31 P.M. having covered 8,210 miles in 59 hours 48 minutes. It carried 58 sacks of mail containing 110,865 letters. The return trip started December 1, 1935, from Manila and was completed December 6, 1935, at 10:37 A.M. at San Francisco, Calif. The eastbound flight was made in 63 hours 24 minutes, the total flying time being 123 hours 12 minutes. (*William Stephen Grooch—From Crate to Clipper*)

The First

Parcel post domestic air service was authorized June 29, 1948 (62 Stat. L. 1097), and began September 1, 1948. The country was divided into eight postal zones, the maximum rate being 80 cents for the first pound and 65 cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

Parcel post international air service was inaugurated March 15, 1948, between the United States and 21 countries in Europe and Africa. Service to South America was instituted on September 4, 1948, and to the Pacific area on September 11, 1948.

Rocket airmail flight was made February 23, 1936, at Greenwood Lake, N.Y., in the *Gloria*, an 11-foot rocket with a 15-foot wing spread. The fuel was liquid oxygen and alcohol. The inventors of the rocket were Willy Ley, Louis Goodman, and Hugh Franklin Pierce. The flight was sponsored by Frido W. Kessler. The rocket carried 4,323 letters and 1,826 postcards. Each cover was franked with special rocket stamps in addition to the regular postage stamps.

Rocket (steam-driven) to carry mail was launched May 24, 1969, from the Proving Grounds, Las Cruces, N. Mex. under the guidance of Professor John F. Porter of the Electrical Engineering Department of the Northrop Institute of Technology, Inglewood, Calif. The rocket was 85 inches tall, 6 inches in diameter, weighing 42 pounds at lift-off. It carried 400 first-day covers in a container 14 inches tall and 5½ inches in diameter. It rose to about 600 feet altitude. The steam was derived from heating 22 pounds of water to 475° Fahrenheit.

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The First ENVELOPE

Airmail letter sheet depicted an airplane in blue on white stock and was placed on sale January 12, 1929. The stamped sheet, issued by the Post Office Department, was designed to be folded and serve as an envelope. It cost 5 cents.

Commemorative envelope issued in 2 sizes by the U.S. Post Office Department was the 8-cent rose red "Salute to Bowling," designed by George Giusti. Depicting a bowling ball and pin, it was issued August 21, 1971, at Milwaukee, Wis., in honor of the Seventh World Tournament of the International Bowling Federation. The sizes were No. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$, 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; and No. 10, 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Envelope folding and gumming machine was patented on February 8, 1898, by John Ames Sherman of Worcester, Mass., who received patent No. 598,716 on a "mechanism for folding and sealing envelopes." It reduced the cost of a completely gummed envelope ready for market from 60 cents to 8 cents per 1,000.

Envelope folding machine that proved practical commercially was patented on January 21, 1853, No. 9812, by Dr. Russell L. Hawes of Worcester, Mass. It was not self-gumming, but nevertheless it enabled three girls to produce the finished product at the rate of about 25,000 envelopes in ten hours. (*U. S. Envelope Co.—An Early History of the Envelope*)

Envelope machine patent was No. 6,055, granted on January 23, 1849, to Jesse K. Park and Cornelius S. Watson of New York City on "an improvement in machines for making envelopes." Other patents on improved machines were granted shortly thereafter, with the result that this patent had but little value.

Envelope with an outlook or window was patented by Americus F. Callahan of Chicago, Ill., who obtained patent No. 701,839 on June 10, 1902. It was first manufactured in July 1902 by the U.S. Envelope Company of Springfield, Mass., to which company the patent was leased.

Liberty Bell on an envelope was on the 2-cent Sesquicentennial Exposition envelope, which was issued in carmine on white July 27, 1926, at Philadelphia, Pa.

Stamped envelope (U.S.) See under Postage stamp

ENVELOPE MANUFACTURER was a Mr. Pierson of New York City, who manufactured envelopes in a little store on Fulton Street in 1839. Prior to the manufacture of envelopes, letters were folded and the name and address written on the blank side.

The First

PHILATELIC AGENCY. See under Postal service

PHILATELIC AUCTION was held May 28, 1870, from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. at the Clinton Hall Book Sales Rooms and Art Galleries, New York City, by Leavitt, Streibeigh & Co., auctioneers. About 14,000 stamps in 269 lots were offered for sale. The highest price for a single lot was \$38 for 1,800 stamps; the highest price for a single stamp was \$11, the lowest 35 cents. The bid for the first lot, 100 foreign stamps, started at 25 cents and closed at 60 cents. The total receipts for the day were approximately \$500.

PHILATELIC MAGAZINE

Philatelic magazine (club organ) was *The American Journal of Philately*, the journal of the New York Philatelic Society, published March 1, 1868, at New York, N.Y. It consisted of 16 pages and was edited by John Walter Scott.

Philatelic magazine was the *Stamp Collector's Record*, which consisted of 4 pages, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$, 2 columns to a page, published December 15, 1864, at Albany, N.Y., by Samuel Allan Taylor. It was issued on the 15th of every month and sold for 50 cents per annum. The rate for advertising was 15 cents a line. Issue No. 9 was published Oct. 1865 at Boston, Mass.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Philatelic Society was the New York Philatelic Society, organized March 21, 1867, in New York City, by 8 collectors of postage stamps. A constitution was adopted January 19, 1868. The first officers were Rev. J. A. Morley, D.D., LL.D., president; H. Grafton, M.D., and Willard K. Freeman, vice-presidents; John Walter Scott, treasurer; Charles Watson, secretary; George H. Earl and G. P. Ten Broeck, directors.



*The First***POST OFFICE**

Airplane post office was Flagship Station 1, officially opened and dedicated May 15, 1938, by Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt during National Air Mail Week. It consisted of an American Airlines sleeper plane which, with wings removed, was set up as a special post office on Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. Stamps were to have been sold in the plane, but this was found impractical and a station was set up in an adjoining building. The plane was exhibited and viewed by 78,636 people during the week it was open.

Colonial post office. See Postal service: Parliamentary act to establish a post office

Naval post office aboard a naval vessel was established August 20, 1908, on the U.S.S. *Nebraska*.

Open-air post office was opened October 1, 1917, in St. Petersburg, Fla. It had a roof, but no sides or enclosing walls. A lobby 18 feet wide extended around three sides of the building. The floor was made of pink natural colored stone resembling sandstone.

Post office act. See Postal service: Parliamentary act to establish a post office

Post office building (U.S.) built for that purpose was the Custom House and Post Office in Newport, R.I., built in 1829 and occupied in 1830. An act of Congress approved May 24, 1828 (4 Stat. L. 303), authorized the erection of the building. The title to the site was vested in the government on November 12, 1828.

Post office (colonial) for the collection of mail was established by order of the General Court of Massachusetts on November 5, 1639, in Boston at the house of Richard Fairbanks for "all letters which are brought from beyond the seas, or are to be sent thither." He was allowed a penny for the transmission of each letter and was accountable to the authorities in charge of the colony.

Post Office Department of the United States was temporarily established by act of September 22, 1789 (1. Stat. L. 70), which also created the office of postmaster general. The act of February 20, 1792 (1. Stat. L. 234), was the first to provide in detail for the Post Office Department and the postal service generally. The Post Office Department became an executive department by act of June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. L. 283), although it had been known as a department for many years. The change of status was made during the term of Postmaster General John Angel James Creswell of Maryland, who served from March 5, 1869, to March 17, 1873.

The First

Post office fully mechanized was opened October 20, 1960, in Providence, R.I. A \$20 million experimental installation designated Project Turnkey and built by Intelex Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, was leased to the Post Office Department for 20 years. Letters were electronically faced and canceled and automatically transported to 300 destination bins at the rate of 18,000 per hour.

Self-service post office was an unattended unit installed in the Wheaton Plaza Regional Shopping Center at Wheaton, Md., on October 17, 1964. Located on a concrete island in the parking area, it dispensed stamps, envelopes, and postal cards at the same price as at stamp windows. It had a machine to make change for coins and bills, a scale for weighing letters and parcels up to fifty pounds, and a zone map for calculating parcel postage.

POSTAGE METER. See under Postal service

POSTAGE STAMP

Adhesive stamps were used by the City Despatch Post, established February 15, 1842, by Alexander M. Greig, with principal office at 46 William Street, New York City. They were engraved by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, New York City, and printed in sheets of 42. They were a 3-cent denomination and sold for \$2.50 a hundred stamps. Local delivery service was authorized by act of Congress July 2, 1836 (5 Stat. L. 80), "an act to change the organization of the Post Office Department." On August 1, 1842, the City Despatch Post was acquired by the United States government for \$1,200 and was named the United States City Despatch Post. Alexander Greig was appointed a clerk in the new service and served until November 24, 1844. (*Elliott Perry and Arthur G. Hall—100 Years Ago. February 1842—August 1842: Centenary of the First Adhesive Postage Stamps in the United States*)

Airmail stamps were issued May 13, 1918, and consisted of three denominations, 6-cent orange, 16-cent green, and 24-cent carmine, rose, and blue, all with airplanes depicted on them. The 24-cent stamp was placed on sale May 13, 1918; the 16-cent on July 11, 1918; and the 6-cent on December 6, 1918.

American woman whose likeness appeared on a U.S. stamp was Martha Washington, shown on the 8-cent violet-black postage stamp issued December 6, 1902.

The First

Black American depicted on a U.S. postage stamp was the educator Booker T. Washington, whose likeness was on the 10-cent brown stamp first placed on sale April 7, 1940, at Tuskegee Institute, Ala. The stamp was one of the Famous American Commemorative series issue of 1940. A 3-cent deep blue stamp depicting the log cabin in which he lived had been issued April 5, 1936.

Block-of-four postage stamps combined in 1 design in which each stamp is an entity were the multicolored Cape Hatteras National Seashore stamps issued April 5, 1972, at Hatteras, N.C., second in the series marking the 100th anniversary of the national parks. The upper left stamp in the block showed a ship's hull pounded by the Atlantic Ocean; the upper right, the Cape Hatteras lighthouse. The two bottom stamps showed seagulls perched on driftwood. Combined, the 4 two-cent stamps paid the basic domestic first-class surface rate.

Books of postage stamps were issued April 16, 1900, as follows: books containing twelve 2-cent stamps, priced at 25 cents; twenty-four 2-cent stamps, 49 cents; and forty-eight 2-cent stamps, 97 cents. (*Records in Division of Stamps, Post Office Department, Washington, D.C.*)

Brothers to be pictured on individual postage stamps were John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 35th President of the United States, whose likeness appeared on the 5-cent blue-gray placed on sale May 29, 1964, and the 13-cent brown, on sale May 29, 1967, at Brookline, Mass., and Robert Francis Kennedy, U.S. senator from New York, whose likeness was on the 15-cent blue issued January 12, 1979.

Certified-mail stamp was issued June 6, 1955, at Washington, D.C. It was a vertical 15-cent red stamp that pictured a uniformed letter carrier on a light graduated background. It was for use on first-class mail, in addition to regular service, on which proof of mailing and delivery was desired at a cost less than registered mail. No indemnity value could be claimed.

Christmas-stamp annual series depicting both a religious and nonreligious subject was the 8-cent series issued November 10, 1971, at Washington, D.C. The religious stamp, multicolored with gold, was an adaptation of Giorgione's *Adoration of the Shepherds*, designed by Bradbury Thompson. The nonreligious stamp was dark green, red, and multicolored, designed by Jamie Wyeth and printed by rotogravure on the Andreotti rotary press. It was entitled *A Partridge in a Pear Tree*.

The First

Christmas-stamp regular issue was placed on sale November 1, 1962, at Pittsburgh, Pa. It was a 4-cent red and green stamp printed on white paper, showing burning candles and an evergreen wreath with a red bow and the inscription Christmas 1962. It was designed by Jim Crawford, printed by the Giori press, 400 subjects to a sheet, in 4 panes of 100 each. On the first day, there were 491,312 covers canceled. The issue consisted of a billion stamps.

Coil multicolored postage stamp was the 6-cent American flag issued May 30, 1969, in Chicago, Ill., in connection with the Combined Philatelic Exhibition of Greater Chicago (COMPEX). It was printed on the 9-color Huck press by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., in coils of 100 stamps.

Commemorative postage stamps issued by the Post Office Department were the Columbian series of 1893, which depicted incidents in the discovery of America by Columbus. The stamps were of sixteen denominations and ranged in value from 1 cent to \$5. They were issued January 2, 1893, with the exception of the 8-cent stamp, which was issued March 3, 1893. The World's Commemorative Exposition at Chicago, Ill., was held from May 1, 1893, to October 30, 1893, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus.

Departmental postage stamps were authorized by act of Congress of March 3, 1873 (17 Stat. L. 542), to be issued July 1, 1873, but they were placed in use May 24, 1873. The various departments had special colors assigned to them: Agriculture, yellow; Executive, carmine; Interior, vermilion; Justice, mauve; Navy, blue; Post Office, black; State, green; Treasury, brown; War, dull rose. The denominations were 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, 6 cents, 7 cents, 10 cents, 12 cents, 15 cents, 24 cents, 30 cents, and 90 cents.

Dual-purpose postage stamp was the Air Post Special Delivery 16-cent stamp used for prepayment of the 6-cent air postage and the 10-cent special delivery fee. This horizontal stamp bore a reproduction of the great seal of the United States of America and was printed in blue ink. It was offered for sale on August 30, 1934, at the American Air Mail Society Convention Station, Chicago, Ill.



The First

Encased postage stamps were introduced by John Gault of Boston, Mass., who obtained U.S. patent No. 1,627 on August 12, 1862. He inserted an unused postage stamp in a circular brass disc faced on one side by a transparent sheet of mica that allowed the value to be seen. The denominations of the stamps were 1-cent and 30-cent Franklin; 5-cent Jefferson; and 3-cent, 12-cent, 24-cent and 90-cent Washington. On the reverse side was advertising of the issuing firm. Due to the coin scarcity, these discs became popular and served in place of coins. They were sold to stores, bars, etc. at up to 20 percent above face value. They were produced by the Scovill Button Works, Waterbury, Conn.

First-day special cancellation was prepared for the Virginia Dare commemorative stamp released August 18, 1937, at Manteo, N.C. The 1-inch-square blue 5-cent stamp commemorated the 350th anniversary of her birth.

Also claimed for the Ordinance of 1787, 3¢ violet stamp issued July 13, 1937, Marietta, Ohio.

Flag (American) depicted on a postage stamp was shown on the 30-cent blue and carmine stamp issued May 15, 1869, which depicted an eagle with outstretched wings, facing to the left, resting on a shield with flags grouped on either side.

Flag series honoring countries overrun by Axis forces was printed by the American Bank Note Company, New York City and Chicago, and issued June 22, 1943, at Washington, D.C. The first country honored in the multicolored Overrun Nations Series was Poland. The other stamps in the series, which were issued at a later date, commemorated Czechoslovakia, Norway, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, Austria, Denmark, and Korea—all of which were invaded and controlled by Axis powers during World War II.

Fluorescent-coated (or -tagged) postage stamp was the 8-cent fire-red stamp depicting a jet airplane soaring past the dome of the Capitol, issued August 1, 1963, at Dayton, Ohio. Under fluorescent light, the stamp glowed an orange red. The stamp was the regular airmail stamp issued December 5, 1962, at Washington, D.C., to meet the new postal rates in effect January 7, 1963.

Fractional-denomination postage stamp was the 1½-cent light brown Warren Gamaliel Harding stamp placed on sale March 19, 1925, at Washington, D.C. With the exception of the numeral, the stamp was the same as the 2-cent memorial stamp issued September 1, 1923. A ½-cent Nathan Hale stamp was placed on sale April 4, 1925, at New Haven, Conn., and Washington, D.C.

The First

Gravure-printed postage stamp was a horizontal 5-cent stamp printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., and issued November 2, 1967, at Washington D.C. It was printed with red, yellow, blue, and black inks and featured a photographic reproduction of Thomas Eakins' oil painting *The Biglin Brothers Racing* surrounded by a gold frame. The original picture, which depicts a sculling scene on the Schuylkill River near Philadelphia, Pa., hangs in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Imperforated un gummed sheet of postage stamps was the Byrd stamp souvenir sheet made for the National Stamp Exhibition at Rockefeller Center, New York City. The stamps were issued on February 10, 1934 and contained six 3-cent blue "Little America" stamps. Each plate contained 150 subjects in 25 panes of six stamps each.

Jew depicted on a postage stamp was Samuel Gompers, whose likeness was on the 3-cent bright red violet postage stamp issued January 27, 1950, at Washington, D.C., to commemorate the centenary of his birth. The stamps were printed by rotary press, 70 stamps to the pane. Gompers (1850-1924) had served as president of the American Federation of Labor from 1886 to 1894 and 1896-1924.

The Four Chaplain's stamp placed on sale May 28, 1948 at Washington, D.C. depicted four chaplains George L. Fox, Clark V. Poling, John P. Washington, and Alexander D. Goode.

Memorial stamp was the Lincoln 2-cent memorial issue commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and placed on sale February 12, 1909. This stamp was red, the size and shape of the regular issue of postage stamps. It depicted a profile of the head of Lincoln from Saint-Gaudens's statue in an oval with the words "1809 Feb. 12 1909" on a ribbon below. (*Records in Office of Third Assistant Post Master General, Post Office, Washington, D.C.*)

Moon cancellation was made July 20, 1969, by a die proof with the words *Moon Landing, U.S.A. — July 20, 1969*. A 10-cent airmail commemorative showed Neil Alden Armstrong stepping onto the moon from *Apollo XI*. The stamps were 1.05 by 1.80 inches and were issued in panes of 32. The plates used for printing the stamp were made from a master steel die that had been on board the *Apollo XI* landing module and had made the round-trip journey to the moon.

The First

Mourning stamp was the 15-cent black postage stamp issued June 17, 1866, which depicted President Abraham Lincoln. A 10-cent and a 12-cent black stamp showing portraits of George Washington were issued on July 1, 1847, and July 1, 1851, but these were not "mourning" stamps.

Motion picture actress depicted on a postage stamp was Grace Kelly, whose marriage to Prince Rainier III of Monaco on April 19, 1956, was commemorated by a series of eight Monacan stamps (1, 2, 3, 5, 15, 100, 200, and 500 francs), sold only on the wedding day.

Native American pictured on a postage stamp was the Nez Perce warrior Chief Joseph. The likeness was based on an oil painting by Cyrenius Hall in the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C. The 6-cent vertical stamp was first placed on sale November 4, 1968, at Washington, D.C., to commemorate the opening of the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C. Chief Joseph's garb was red, yellow, blue, and black, shown on a brown background. The stamp was designed by Robert J. Jones. This 5-color vertical stamp required 3 passes—2 by offset, 1 by Giori. The warrior's hair is printed black by intaglio with blue tones by offset.

● On May 7, 1907 Pocahontas was featured on the 5¢ Jamestown Commemorative Stamp.

Newspaper stamps were issued September 1865, under act of February 27, 1861 (12 Stat. L. 168), for prepayment of postage on bulk shipments. The stamps were a 5-cent blue Washington, a 10-cent green Franklin, and a 25-cent red Lincoln, on unwatermarked paper, without gum, typographed by the National Bank Note Company. The stamps were 2 by 3¼ inches and were discontinued July 1, 1898.

Non-pictorial postage stamp was the 5-cent ultramarine Toward United Nations stamp issued April 25, 1945, at San Francisco, Calif., to commemorate the opening session of the United Nations at San Francisco in 1945. It was designed by Victor S. McCloskey and was printed on a rotary press, in sheets of 200 stamps, 4 panes of 50 each.

Nurse (individual) depicted on a postage stamp was Clara Maass, commemorated by a 13-cent stamp issued August 18, 1976, at Belleville, N.J. It was printed on the 7-color gravure press of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in colors of yellow, magenta, cyan, black, blue line, and black line.

The First

Offset-printed postage stamps were the 1-cent gray green issued December 24, 1918, the 2-cent rose carmine issued March 15, 1920, the 3-cent violet issued March 22, 1918. Each bore the profile of George Washington and were unwatermarked.

One-color one-size series of postage stamps was the parcel post issue of 12 red values: the 1-cent, 2-cent, 5-cent, and 25-cent issued on November 27, 1912; the 10-cent, on December 9; the 4-cent, on December 12; the 15-cent and 20-cent, on December 16; the 75-cent, on December 18, 1912; the \$1, on January 3, 1913; the 50-cent, on March 15, 1913; and the 3-cent, on April 5, 1913. They were printed 45 to the page, 180 to the sheet.

One-dollar-valuation postage stamp was the salmon color \$1 stamp depicting Isabella Pledging Her Jewels, after the painting by Antonio Muñoz Degraín, issued January 2, 1893. The issue ceased April 12, 1894.

Paintings depicted on postage stamps were placed on sale January 2, 1893. They were the 2-cent brown violet Landing of Columbus, after the painting by John Vanderlyn in the rotunda of the Capitol, Washington, D.C., and the 15-cent dark green Columbus Announcing His Discovery, after the painting by R. Balaca.

Parcel post postage-due stamps were authorized by act of August 24, 1912. The stamps were printed in dark green and issued in sheets of 180 stamps, 4 panes of 45 each, the 1-cent and 5-cent on November 27, 1912; the 2-cent on December 9, 1912; the 10-cent on December 12, 1912; and the 25-cent on December 16, 1912.

Parcel post stamps were the series of 1912-1913, placed on sale January 1, 1913, with the inauguration of the parcel post service. The issue consisted of twelve red stamps, from 1 cent to \$1, prepared in three groups of four stamps each. The working personnel of the Postal Service was depicted on the first group, the transportation of mail on the second group, and the manufacturing and agricultural interests of the country on the third group.

Perforated postage stamp was the 1-cent blue Benjamin Franklin, perforation 15, issued February 24, 1857. Originally issued in sheets July 1, 1851, the stamp bore the inscriptions "U.S. Postage" and "One Cent." The picture on the stamp was modeled after the bust of Franklin by Jean Jacques Caffieri. All U.S. postage stamps issued previously were imperforate, as were many after 1857.

The First

Perforated postage stamps were contracted for February 6, 1857, and were delivered to the government February 24, 1857. The designs were the same as the 1851-1855 issue with the addition of three new values, the 24-cent portrait of Washington, the 30-cent profile bust of Franklin, and the 90-cent portrait of Washington. The stamps were printed by Toppan, Carpenter and Co. of Philadelphia, Pa. Previously imperforate stamps had been used.

Phosphorescent-impregnated postage stamp was the 4-cent red violet Abraham Lincoln of the Liberty issue, reproduced from a portrait by Douglas Voik in the Mellon collection, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. It was placed on sale November 19, 1954, at New York City, without impregnation. The tagged stamp, which had a brief afterglow when exposed to ultraviolet light, was issued November 2, 1963.

Postage-due stamps were authorized March 3, 1879, and were issued in light brown May 9, 1879, in 1-cent, 2-cent, 3-cent, and 5-cent denominations. On September 19, 1879, the 10-cent, 30-cent, and 50-cent denominations were issued. The stamps were printed by the American Bank Company on unwatermarked paper, 1 by 25/32nd of an inch upright rectangles.

Postage stamp featuring a work of art in true color was the 4-cent stamp placed on sale October 4, 1961, at Washington, D.C., to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Frederic Remington, artist of the West. Shown on the stamp is a portion of Remington's oil painting *The Smoke Signal*, which is the property of the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Tex. The stamp was printed on Giori presses in gradations of red, blue, and yellow on white paper.

Postage stamp in 3 colors printed in 1 passing of each sheet through the press was the American flag stamp—horizontal, in red, white, and blue, with a dark frame—first offered for sale at Washington, D.C., on July 4, 1957. The stamps were printed on the Giori press, which had 3 ink fountains and printed 3 different colors simultaneously.

Postage stamp issued jointly by 2 countries was the 4-cent green and rose Mexican Independence stamp commemorating the 150th anniversary of Mexican Independence, issued by the United States and Mexico on September 16, 1960, at Los Angeles, Calif. It was designed by Leon Helguera and Charles Chickering.

The First

Postage stamp issued on the date of the event it commemorated was the Project Mercury commemorative of 1962, placed on sale throughout the nation on February 20, 1962. This 4-cent dark blue and yellow stamp showed the spaceship in which Colonel John Glenn orbited the earth. Three million covers were canceled the first day at Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Postage stamp of the United States having the same design as that of another country (Canada) was issued June 26, 1959. The inscriptions, denominations, and sizes differed, however. The denomination of the United States stamp was 4 cents, that of the Canadian stamp 5 cents. The design featured two interlocking links superimposed on a map of the Great Lakes with the St. Lawrence leading from them toward the sea. Within the left link was a maple leaf, Canada's emblem, and within the right link was a bald eagle, the United States emblem. The stamps commemorated the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Postage stamp on which was inscribed the name of a living American was the issue of 1927, a 10-cent blue stamp which pictured the *Spirit of St. Louis*, Colonel Charles Augustus Lindbergh's airplane, in flight, with "Lindbergh Air Mail" above it. In the background to the left appeared the coastline of the North American continent with the words "New York" in small dark letters, and to the right the coastline of Europe showing Ireland, Great Britain, and France, with the word "Paris" in small dark letters. A dotted line connected the two cities, showing the route of the flight. The stamp was first placed on sale June 18, 1927, in St. Louis; Detroit; Little Falls, Minn.; and Washington, D.C. The issue included special booklets of six stamps which represent the first and only airmail stamps issued in this form.

Postage stamp printed on the 9-color Huck press was the 6-cent multicolored Christmas stamp depicting a portion of the *Annunciation*, the painting by the Flemish artist Jan van Eyck, issued November 1, 1968, at Washington, D.C.

Postage stamp to honor a black woman was the Harriet Tubman stamp issued February 1, 1978, at Washington, D.C.

Postage stamp to picture an airplane was the 20-cent parcel post stamp "Aeroplane Carrying Mail," issued on December 16, 1912, and placed on sale January 1, 1913, the date of the inauguration of the parcel post service.

The First

Postage stamps commemorating the National Recovery Act were sold August 15, 1933, in Washington, D.C., by Postmaster General James Aloysius Farley, who went behind the grille at the Post Office and sold 100 NRA stamps to Recovery Administrator Hugh Samuel Johnson.

Postage stamps depicting scenes were the series of 1869, issued from March 1, 1869, to April 9, 1870. The designs were furnished by the National Bank Note Company of New York City, which received a contract on December 12, 1868, for furnishing the stamps. There were ten denominations. The 2-cent depicted a post horse and rider; the 3-cent brown a locomotive; the 12-cent ultramarine blue, milori green, a steamboat; the 15-cent Prussian blue, the landing of Columbus; and the 24-cent light green, the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The 1-cent ochre, the 6-cent ultramarine blue, and the 90-cent black and carmine stamps carried portraits of Franklin, Washington, and Lincoln respectively; the 10-cent orange and 30-cent carmine and blue stamps pictured an eagle resting on a shield.

Postage stamps depicting the American eagle were the 1-cent carrier's stamps in blue issued November 17, 1851.

Postage stamps in coils were issued February 18, 1908, and were coarsely perforated. 8½ holes to two centimeters. They were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., for the Post Office Department. In 1902 sheets of 400 stamps were cut into strips of 20 and spliced together into rolls which were prepared for vending and affixing machines by commercial organizations. These stamps were perforated on two sides only, either horizontally or vertically, two sides being imperforate.

Postage stamps issued by the Post Office Department were authorized by act of Congress of March 3, 1847 (9 Stat. L. 201), and first placed on sale in New York City on July 1, 1847. The issue consisted of two stamps, a 5-cent red-brown stamp depicting Benjamin Franklin, and a 10-cent black stamp bearing the likeness of George Washington. They were printed by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson of New York City. They were withdrawn from use on June 30, 1851. The issue consisted of 3,712,200 of the 5-cent denomination and 891,000 of the 10-cent denomination. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing began the printing of stamps with the 1894 issue of the "triangle" design stamps. (*U.S. Post Office Department—A Description of United States Postage Stamps*)

The First

Postage stamps (U.S.) issued in a foreign country prior to sale in the United States were offered at the Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition (CAPEX), Toronto, Canada, on June 10, 1978. The minisouvenir sheet had eight 13-cent stamps. The complete uncut sheet consisted of 6 souvenir sheets (46 stamps) and sold for \$6.24. The stamps depicted wildlife: 4 birds and 4 mammals that share the U.S.-Canadian border. The issue was offered for sale in the United States on August 28, 1978, at the Philatelic Bureau, Washington, D.C.

Postage stamps to picture a woman were the Columbian commemorative stamps of 1893. Queen Isabella was depicted on three varieties which were placed on sale January 2, 1893. The 5-cent stamp (35,248,250 issued) was in chocolate brown and depicted "Columbus Soliciting the Aid of Isabella"; the \$1 stamp (55,060 issued) was in rose salmon and showed "Isabella Pledging Her Jewels"; and the \$4 stamp (26,350 issued) was in carmine, with portraits of Columbus and Isabella. Women were also shown as characters in group scenes in this set, but their identity was not given. The first American woman's portrait on a stamp was that of Martha Washington on an 8-cent dark-lilac stamp issued December 6, 1902. The portrait was after the painting by Gilbert Stuart.

Postage stamps to picture the coat of arms of the United States were the 10-cent yellow and the 30-cent blue and carmine stamps of the issue of 1869, on sale from March 1, 1869, to April 9, 1870.

Postage stamps without a denomination were the Christmas stamps printed in plates of 200 subjects in 4 panes of 50 each and issued October 14, 1975, in Washington, D.C. The stamps sold for 10 cents each and were printed before the postage rate was increased to 13 cents. One was based upon a painting by Domenico Ghirlandaio (c. 1470) in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the other, upon a Christmas greeting card produced by Louis Prang in Boston in 1878.

Postage stamps without the words United States or initials U.S. were the Pilgrim Tercentenary issue placed on sale December 18, 1920, at Provincetown and Plymouth, Mass. They were designed by C.A. Huston and issued in sheets of 260 stamps in 4 panes of 70 each. There were 3: the 1-cent green stamp, *The Mayflower* (137,978,207 stamps issued); the 2-cent red *Landing of the Pilgrims*; and the 5-cent blue *Signing of the Compact* (11,321,607 stamps issued).

The First

Precanceled stamps printed on rotary presses at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were issued April 21, 1923. This initial order embraced 1-cent stamps of the 1923 series. One-cent precanceled stamps in coils were first issued January 7, 1924. Prior to the addition of precanceling devices to rotary presses, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing precanceled 1-cent stamps in sheets for a limited number of post offices with electrotype plates containing 400 stamps each. The records indicate that Bureau precanceled stamps of this style were first issued to the New Orleans, La.; Augusta, Maine; and Springfield, Mass., post offices in January 1917.

President's wife depicted on a commemorative postage stamp was Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt) whose picture appeared on the 5-cent light purple stamp issued October 11, 1963, at Washington, D.C., on the anniversary of her birthday. (Martha Washington's likeness was shown on the 8-cent dark lilac regular issue placed on sale December 6, 1902.)

Pressure-sensitized-adhesive postage stamp was the 10-cent Dove of Peace precancelled Christmas stamp issued November 15, 1974, at New York City. It depicted a dove weather vane.

Printed matter on the reverse side of postage stamps was the Postal People special set consisting of 10 different 8-cent stamps printed on the same sheet in yellow, red, blue, black, and green, in panes of 50, on the Andreotti press and issued simultaneously on April 30, 1973, at more than 4,000 post offices and branches throughout the country during the observation of Postal Week. Each sheet contained 200 subjects in 4 panes of 50 each.

Public exhibition of postage stamps was held from May 10, 1876, to November 10, 1876, in the United States Building at the Centennial Exhibition at Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, Pa. It was arranged by John Walter Scott. The first important exhibit by collectors opened March 11, 1889, at the Eden Musee, New York City; 31 exhibitors showed 272 sheets of stamps from 161 countries, valued in excess of \$200,000.

Registry stamp was a 10-cent, light blue stamp issued December 1, 1911, to prepay registry fees and not valid for postage. The design showed an eagle perched upon a rock, with wings extended. Issuance was discontinued on May 28, 1913.

The First

Seal of the United States on a postage stamp was on the 16-cent dark blue special-delivery air-mail stamp first offered for sale at the American Air Mail Society Convention Station, Chicago, Ill., on August 30, 1934. On February 10, 1936, the same stamp appeared as a bicolor: the border in red and the seal, the central design, in blue.

Sheet of souvenir postage stamps was the White Plains Commemorative issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of White Plains. The sheet consisted of twenty five 2-cent horizontal rectangle stamps printed in red ink. The margins of each sheet bore the inscription "International Philatelic Exhibition, October 16 to 23, 1926, New York, N.Y., U.S.A." The sheets were placed on sale October 18, 1926, and were not issued to postmasters for sale to the general public. They were printed in sheets of 100 subjects in 4 panes of 25 stamps each separated by 1-inch gutters with central guidelines. The stamps were 2-cents each, perforated 11. On the same date the regular sheets containing 100 stamps were also placed on sale.

Sheet of postage stamps to contain more than one variety of stamps was placed on sale May 9, 1936, in a temporary post office at Grand Central Palace, New York City, during the Third International Philatelic Exposition, May 9—May 17. The sheet consisted of four purple un gummed imperforate 3-cent stamps—one of the San Diego Exposition issue of 1935, one Texas Centennial issue of 1936, one Connecticut Tercentenary issue of 1935, and one Michigan Centenary issue of 1935—surrounded by a white border on which was lettered "Printed by the Treasury Department, Bureau of Engraving and Printing" at the left; "Under Authority of James A. Farley, Postmaster General" at the top; "In Compliment to the Third International Philatelic Exhibition of 1936" at the right; and "New York, N.Y., May 9—17, 1936," at the lower edge. About two thirds of the total issue of 2,809,039 sheets was sold during the exposition.

Special delivery stamp was a 10-cent dark blue oblong depicting, in an arched panel, a mail messenger running; the description alongside read: "Secures immediate delivery at a special delivery office." Service was authorized March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. L. 388), in 555 post offices, in places with 4,000 or more in population, and put into operation October 1, 1885. The stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Company and were available at all post offices on August 4, 1886. Service was extended to all post offices on September 6, 1888.

The First

Special-handling stamps were authorized February 28, 1925, and placed on sale April 11, 1925, at Washington, D.C. They were printed in dark green, value 25 cents, and intended for use on 4th-class mail.

Stamp collecting agency. See Postal service: Philatelic agency

Stamp for balloon mail was engraved by Mrs. J. H. Snively and privately issued by John F. B. Lillard for use on mail carried June 18, 1877, on the balloon *Buffalo* from Nashville Tenn., to Gallatin, Tenn. Only 23 of the 300 stamps were used. They sold for 5 cents each.

Stamp to depict a living American was the multicolored 10-cent moon stamp, size 1.05 by 1.80 inches, issued September 9, 1969, to commemorate the moon landing of *Apollo XI* on July 20, 1969. The mission was carried out by astronauts Neil Alden Armstrong, Colonel Edwin Eugene Aldrin, Jr., and Lieutenant Colonel Michael Collins, with Armstrong in command—and it was Armstrong who first set foot on the moon. The stamp was printed in sheets of 128 and panes of 32 stamps, instead of the usual sheets of 200 and panes of 50, and was a horizontal stamp.

Stamp (U.S.) cancelled by a foreign country was the 5-cent multicolored postage stamp commemorating the 100th anniversary of Canada's achievement of federation, issued May 25, 1967, at the United States Pavilion at Expo 67, Montreal, Canada. The date of issue and cancellation coincided with President Lyndon Baines Johnson's visit to Ottawa and Montreal. The stamp was designed by Ivan Chermayeff of New York City and showed a symbolic depiction of the scenic grandeur of Canada.

Stamped envelope (phosphor coated luminescent tagged) was the 5-cent bright purple eagle regular issue of January 5, 1965. It was tagged on August 15, 1967, at Washington, D.C. A 1" by ¾" vertical block of phosphorous ink glowed red on airmail envelopes and green on regular mail envelopes when under lights.

**The First**

Stamped envelopes issued to commemorate an event were the 3-cent green stamped envelopes printed on a Hartford press set up in the Post Office Department in the Government Building at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, Pa., between May 10 and November 10, 1876. A shield design showed the initials "U.S.," a man on horseback above a locomotive pulling cars, the dates 1776 and 1876, and the words "three cents." (*Annual Report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1876*)

Stamped envelopes (U.S.) were issued in June 1853, under act of August 31, 1852 (10 Stat. L. 141), and were manufactured by George F. Nesbitt & Company of New York City under a contract dated October 25, 1852. They showed the profile of George Washington in an oval, the value above, and "cents" below. They were printed on white and buff paper. The first series included a 3-cent red, a 6-cent red and green, and a 10-cent green. (*Thomas Doane Perry—Guide to the Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States*)

Stamped envelopes with the identical design issued in various denominations were the 1932 Washington Bicentennial envelopes issued at Washington, D.C., on January 1, 1931, in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington on February 22, 1932. The denominations showing his residence at Mount Vernon, Va., were 1-cent olive green, 1½-cent brown, 2-cent carmine, 4-cent black, and 5-cent blue. The 3-cent envelope, stamped in bright purple, was issued June 16, 1932.

Twin postage stamps were issued September 29, 1967, and first placed on sale at the Kennedy Space Center, a branch of the Orlando, Fla., post office. A single horizontal design picture was perforated through the center. Each section or half was of the 5-cent denomination and could be used separately. The pair could be used as a 10-cent stamp. The stamp on the left depicted an astronaut in space and the stamp on the right showed the Gemini spaceship with the earth in the background. It was designed by Paul Calle of Stamford, Conn. Each sheet contained 200 subjects in 4 panes of 50 each.

The First

Two-color postage stamp produced by the rotary process at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., was the 3-cent deep blue and carmine International Red Cross issue released November 21, 1952, in New York City. The stamps were printed 200 subjects in 4 panels of 50 stamps each.

United Nations postage stamps in U.S. denominations were placed on sale October 24, 1951, on United Nations Day in New York City. Six stamps were issued on that date: 1-cent magenta, 1½-cent blue green, 3-cent magenta and blue, 5-cent blue, 25-cent olive gray and blue, and \$1 red; 5 denominations on November 16, 1951: 2-cent purple, 10-cent chocolate, 15-cent violet and blue, 20-cent dark brown, and 50-cent indigo. The stamps were only valid for use from United Nations Headquarters.

Vice President of the United States depicted on the postage stamp of a foreign country was Vice President Richard Milhous Nixon. The stamp was a green 2-cent postage stamp issued by Ecuador on May 15, 1958. It bore Nixon's likeness and the flags of the United States and Ecuador.

Watermarked postage stamp was the 1-cent blue-green Benjamin Franklin stamp issued April 29, 1895. The initials *USPS* were watermarked in double-lined capital letters, each letter 16 mm high. These initials appear 90 times on each pane of 100 stamps. (This was the same stamp that was issued October 10, 1894, on unwatermarked paper.)

POSTAL CAR (steel).

Mail car (steel) was built by the Standard Steel Car Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., and exhibited May 4-13, 1905, at the International Railway Congress, Washington, D.C. It was lighted with acetylene gas and lined with fireproof composite board. The inside length was 65 feet 2 inches. It was framed of steel posts and girders, covered with steel plates, and insulated with hair felt. It was placed in service June 7, 1905, by the New York, Salamanca and Chicago Railroad Company. (*Erie Railroad Employees' Magazine*, July 1905)



**Discover stamp collecting...
the hobby of a lifetime.**

The First**POSTAL CARD**

Airmail postal card was the 4-cent card issued January 10, 1949. It depicted an eagle in flight, printed in orange-red on buff stock.

Airmail postal card commemorative was the 6-cent multicolored card issued March 31, 1967, at Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the purchase of the Islands from Denmark by the United States.

Commemorative postal card depicted the uplifted arm of the Statue of Liberty holding a flaming torch. It was issued May 4, 1956, at New York City to commemorate the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibit (FIPEX) at the Coliseum, New York City, from April 28 to May 6, 1956. It was a 2-cent deep carmine and dark blue triangular design on buff stock.

International postal card was the 7-cent single and identical 14-cent reply-paid postal card designed by Suren H. Ermoyan and placed on sale at New York City on August 30, 1963. It depicted a map of North America, highlighting Alaska and the United States and was printed on white stock by offset. It bore the slogan, "World vacationland, USA" against a bright blue background to publicize the Visit USA program.

Paid-reply postal card was the 1-cent black on buff reply-card attached to a 1-cent black on buff message card issued October 25, 1892, as a souvenir of the Columbian Exposition, depicting President Ulysses Simpson Grant. It was sold as two unsevered cards, 1 for the message and 1 for the reply. The message card had originally been issued as a single card on December 16, 1891.

Pictorial postal cards printed by the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., were issued June 29, 1972, at Boston, Mass., in observance of Tourism Year of the Americas. There were 5 pictorial cards, each 6 x 4¼ inches printed in black and dull orange on beige stock; three 6-cent cards for regular domestic surface mail; a 9-cent airmail card for domestic airmail, including Canada and Mexico; and a 15-cent card for international airmail beyond Canada and Mexico. Each featured 4 outstanding tourist attractions on the reverse side.

The First

Postal card was issued May 1, 1873, under act of Congress of June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. L. 304). A 1-cent stamp printed on the upper right-hand corner showed a profile of the Goddess of Liberty looking to the left and surrounded by a lathework border with the words "U.S. Postage" inserted above, and "One Cent" below. The body of the card was light buff, the printing velvet-brown. The size of the card was 3 x 5½ inches. The cards were made by the Morgan Envelope Company, Springfield, Mass. The first known cancelation was May 12, 1873.

Postal card depicting other than the Liberty head showed the 1-cent brown on buff portrait of Thomas Jefferson and was issued August 24, 1885.

Statue of Liberty depicted on a postal card was the 4-cent deep red and ultramarine on buff stock issued November 16, at the American Stamp Dealers' Association National Postage Stamp Show, New York City, held November 16-18, 1950. It showed the Statue of Liberty with the inscription In God We Trust.

Street scene was the 4-cent dull blue and red designed by Gerald N. Kurtz, issued September 26, 1964, at Washington, D.C., to publicize the U.S. Social Security System in connection with the International Social Security Association conference at Washington, D.C.

POSTAL DIRECTORY was *A List of Post Offices in the United States with the Names of the Postmasters on the first of July 1855, also the Principal Regulations of the Post Office Department*, compiled by Daniel Tompkins Leech of the Post Office Department and printed by George S. Gideon, Washington, D.C., in 1855. It contained 146 pages of directory, 48 pages of regulations, and 6 pages of miscellaneous material.

POSTAL FRAUD ORDER. *See under* Postal service

POSTAL ROUTE. *See under* Postal service

**The First****POSTAL SAVINGS BANK.**

Postal savings bank was authorized by President William Howard Taft on June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. L. 814), when he signed the "act to establish postal savings depositories for depositing savings at interest," introduced by Senator Thomas Henry Carter of Montana on January 26, 1910, an act which created a board of trustees consisting of the Postmaster General, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General, severally, acting ex officio, for the control, supervision, and administration of the postal savings system. Postal savings service was established initially at 48 second-class post offices on January 3, 1911. The service was gradually extended to other post offices. Attention was drawn to postal savings by Postmaster General John Angel James Creswell in 1871, but no action was taken despite the fact that 80 such bills were introduced into Congress between 1873 and 1910. Deposits in 11 months reached a total of \$11,000,000, which was distributed among 2,710 national and state banks.

POSTAL SAVINGS STAMPS were issued December 22, 1910. Five denominations were issued in accordance with the authority conferred upon the Post Office Department by act of Congress of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. L. 814), establishing postal savings depositories. Their use was discontinued on September 23, 1914. (*Edwin Walter Kemmerer—Postal Savings, An Historical and Critical Study of the Postal Savings System of the United States.*)

POSTAL SERVICE

Airplane mail pickup. *See under* Airmail service

Autogiro mail delivery. *See under* Airmail service

Balloon flight carrying mail. *See under* Balloon

Coin-operated mailbox was the Mailomat, combining a postage meter with a United States letter box. Manufactured by Pitney-Bowes, Inc., Stamford, Conn., the first machine was installed at the General Post Office, New York City, on May 17, 1939. It was covered by patent No. 2,290,920, granted July 28, 1942, to Linden A. Thatcher of Stamford, Conn. Coins were dropped in slots, the desired stamp denomination was dialed, and the letter was inserted in a letter slot. The machine did the rest automatically—printed meter stamp with postmark and date of mailing and held the letter for scheduled collection. It provided postage from 1 cent to 33 cents, including airmail, spe-

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cial delivery, etc. It obviated the need of ordinary adhesive stamps, operated day or night as "a self-service postoffice," and speeded mail because metered mail needs no post office "facing," canceling, or postmarking.

Collection and delivery of mail in automobiles owned by the government were made October 19, 1914, in Washington, D.C.

Dead letter office of the Post Office Department was organized in 1825 in Washington, D.C.

Dirigible transfer of mail to a train. See under Aviation—Airship

First-day special cancellation. See under Postage Stamp

Free city delivery of mail was authorized by act of March 3, 1863 (12 Stat. L. 705). City delivery service was placed in operation July 1, 1863, in 49 cities with 440 carriers at an annual cost of \$300,000. On January 3, 1887, free delivery service was extended to cities of over 50,000 population and

Highway Post Office Service was approved July 11, 1940. The first route was established February 10, 1941, between Washington, D.C., and Harrisonburg, Va. Mail was transported in large bus-type vehicles equipped with facilities for sorting, handling, and dispatch of mail.

International airmail. See under Airmail Service

International dogsled mail left Lewiston, Maine, on December 20, 1928, with Alden William Pulsifer, postmaster of Minot, Maine, in charge and arrived January 14, 1929, at Montreal, Canada. A regular 8-foot mushing sled weighing 200 pounds was pulled by 6 blackhead Eskimo dogs. They averaged 9 miles an hour (7 to 8 on bare ground) and covered from 40 to 60 miles a day. The mail pouch contained 385 letters which were placed in government stamped canceled envelopes. The trip was not an official one. The sled returned to Lewiston on February 2, 1929, having passed through 118 cities, and having covered 600 miles, of which 90 percent was bare of snow.

Jet-propelled airplane to transport mail. See under Airmail service

Legislation permitting postage stamps of the United States to be illustrated in color was enacted June 20, 1968 (82 Stat. L. 240). Previously, stamps could be shown only in black and white.

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Letter carriers' uniforms were authorized by act of Congress of July 27, 1868 (15 Stat. L. 197), which authorized the Postmaster General "to prescribe a uniform dress to be worn by the letter-carriers." On October 31, 1868, Postmaster General Alexander Williams Randall approved a standard uniform.

Letter to encircle the world by commercial airmail was dispatched from New York City on April 19, 1937. It was routed via San Francisco, Hong Kong, Penang, Amsterdam, and Brazil and was returned to New York on May 25, 1937.

Mail chute (such as those used in office buildings, hotels, apartment houses, and other structures at which mail is dropped from the upper stories) was installed in 1863 in the Elwood Building, Rochester, N.Y., after plans prepared by James Gould Cutler, the architect of the building, who received patent No. 284,951, on September 11, 1863. The device was later developed and suited to the requirements of the Post Office and public use by Joseph Warren Cutler, under a series of about 30 patents issued to him.

Mail delivery by steamboats was authorized by act of Congress of February 27, 1813 (2 Stat. L. 805). The postmaster general was granted the power to transport mail "in any steamboats or boats . . . the pay not [to] be at a greater rate, taking into consideration distance, expedition and frequency, than is paid for carrying the mail by stages on the post road, or roads, adjacent to the course of such steamboats."

Mail franking privilege was granted to members of Congress and private soldiers in service on November 8, 1775. Regulations of January 9, 1776, provided that soldiers' mail was to be franked by the officer in charge. On April 3, 1800 (2 Stat. L. 19), free franking of mail during her natural life was granted to Martha Washington. (*Edward Stern—History of Free Franking of Mail in the United States*)

Mail fraud legislation was enacted June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. L. 322), forbidding "fraudulent lottery, gift enterprise, or scheme for the distribution of money, or of any real or personal property, by lot, chance, or drawing of any kind, or in conducting any other scheme or device for obtaining money through the mails by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises. . . ." (*Chapter 335—42nd Congress, session 2. 1872*)

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Mailbox (drive-up) to enable automobilists to post letters without moving from the seat of their cars was installed in July 1927 at Houston, Tex. The box had metal handles 8 to 10 inches long and was tilted 4 inches. The boxes were known as "courtesy collection boxes."

Mailbox locker was invented in 1810 by Thomas Brown, who was governor of Florida from 1849 to 1853. His mailboxes consisted of a series of numbered pigeonholes with glass fronts that enabled people to see whether there was any mail for them in their respective boxes.

Missile mail (official). See under Airmail service

Money order system was established on November 1, 1864, in order to promote public convenience and ensure safety in the transfer by mail of small sums of money. Foreign service was authorized July 27, 1868. The first agreement was made with Switzerland effective September 1, 1869. Service was extended to Great Britain on October 2, 1871, and to Germany on October 1, 1872. (*U.S. Post Office Department—Official Postal Guide*)

Navy mail service was established May 27, 1908, when an appropriation was made for the year ending June 30, 1909 (35 Stat. L. 417), to designate enlisted men of the Navy as naval mail clerks and assistant naval mail clerks to receive \$500 and \$300 extra respectively. The U.S.S. *Illinois*, *Prairie*, and *Rhode Island* were the first vessels afforded postal facilities, naval post offices having been established thereon August 15, 1908.

Newspaper wrappers were issued in October 1861 under act of February 27, 1861 (12 Stat. L. 167), in manila and buff, bearing a 1-cent blue stamp with the head of Franklin. In 1863 a 2-cent wrapper was added, bearing a black stamp with the head of Jackson.

Ocean mail contracts were authorized by act of March 3, 1845 (5 Stat. L. 732, chap. 43), "to provide for the transportation of the mail between the United States and foreign countries." The first contract was made in 1847, with the Ocean Navigation Company, for the transportation of United States mail once a month between the ports of New York City; Southampton, England; and Bremen, Germany, the compensation to be \$18,666 for each round trip. The *Washington*, pioneer of American ocean steamers, started this service June 1, 1847. The contract expired June 1, 1857.

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Overland mail service to the Pacific Coast was begun on September 15, 1858, by the Overland Mail coaches, the old John Butterfield stage line. Stages left Tipton, Mo., and San Francisco, Calif., simultaneously every Monday and Thursday. The route was operated under government contract authorized by act of March 3, 1857 (11 Stat. L. 189), for six years at a cost not to exceed \$300,000 per annum for a semimonthly service, \$450,000 for a weekly service, and \$600,000 for a semiweekly service. The contract was signed on September 18, 1857, at \$600,000 a year for six years, for semi-weekly trips in both directions, in "good four-horse post coaches or spring wagons suitable for the convenience of passengers as well as safety and security of the mails." The specified running time for the 2,800 miles was to be not more than 25 days. The first trips were made in a few hours less than 24 days. (*Le Roy R. Hafen—Overland Mail, 1849-1869*)

Parcel post convention was negotiated with Jamaica, British West Indies, July 22, 1887 (25 Stat. L. 1393), and upon the adoption of the treaty, a feathered fan was sent to Mrs. Grover Cleveland by Jamaica officials.

Parcel post domestic airmail service was begun September 1, 1948. Overnight delivery of packages was planned. Service was authorized June 29, 1948 (62 Stat. L. 1097). The country was divided into 6 postal zones, the maximum rate being 80 cents for the first pound and 65 cents for each additional pound or fraction thereof.

Parcel post service was authorized August 24, 1912 (37 Stat. L. 559), when appropriations were made for the service that started January 1, 1913. Previously the weight limit of mail had been four pounds. The rates of the parcel post service depended upon the weight of the package and the distance carried.

Parliamentary act to establish a post office in the American colonies was passed in April 1692. A royal patent had been granted to Thomas Neale, February 17, 1691, by the sovereigns William and Mary, with "full power and authority to erect, settle and establish within the chief parts of their Majesties' colonies and plantations in America, an office or offices for the receiving and dispatching of letters and pacquets, and to receive, send and deliver the same under such rates and sums of money as the planters shall agree to give, and to hold and enjoy the same for the term of 21 years." Neale did not come to America but named Andrew Hamilton as postmaster general, an appointment which was confirmed April 4, 1692, by the British Postmaster General.

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Permit mail was authorized April 28, 1904, and went into use October 1, 1904. Order No. 1,052, dated September 20, 1904, signed by Postmaster General Henry Clay Payne, permitted 2,000 or more identical pieces of 3rd or 4th class mail to be mailed without stamps affixed. The denomination of the postage, the place of mailing, and the permit was printed in the place of where the stamp would be affixed, and the fee paid in money.

Philatelic agency of the Post Office Department was placed in operation December 1, 1921, under Percy Warder Gibbon. Sales for the fiscal year were \$20,906.50.

Pony Express mail left St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif., simultaneously April 3, 1860, carried by Henry Wallace riding west and John Roff riding east. The westbound packet was delivered in ten days, the eastbound in eleven and a half. (According to some accounts, the first rider westward was William (Billy) Richardson or John Frey, and the first rider eastward was Samuel Hamilton, who rode 20 miles in 59 minutes.) The route was through Fort Kearney, Fort Laramie, Fort Bridger, Salt Lake City, Camp Floyd, Carson City, Washoe Silver Mines, and Placerville. Until the service was discontinued on October 24, 1861, a rider left St. Joseph at noon and Sacramento at 8 A.M. every day except Sunday. It was a private enterprise under a charter granted by the state of Kansas to the Central Overland and Pike's Peak Express Co. The charge was \$5 a half ounce. (*Waddell F. Smith—Story of the Pony Express*)

Postage-canceling machine patent was issued to Marcus P. Norton of Troy, N.Y., who obtained patent No. 25,036 on August 9, 1859, on a post-marking stamp to blot, cancel, and efface with cancellation showing date and post office of cancellation.

Postage meter was officially set at Stamford, Conn., November 16, 1920. Although the idea of metered mail originated in 1900 when the American Postage Meter Company of Chicago, Ill., was organized for that purpose, it was not until September 1, 1920, that the Post Office Department approved of it. The acting assistant postmaster general informed the Pitney Bowes Postage Meter Company of Stamford, Conn., that its machine would be acceptable to the department. About \$2 million was spent on research and development of the machine. (*Metered Mail—Postage Meter Co.*)

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Postal directory. *See* Postal directory

Postal fraud order was authorized by the act of Congress of June 8, 1872 (17 Stat. L. 322). The act granted the postmaster general, in cases in which fraud was practiced, the right to stamp mail, registered mail, and money orders "fraudulent" and return them to the sender instead of making the delivery to the addressee.

Postal route was between New York City and Boston, Mass. On December 10, 1672, Governor Francis Lovelace of New York announced that monthly service would be inaugurated January 1, 1673. The first trip was made January 22, 1673.

Postal service act under the Constitution was signed by President Washington, February 20, 1792 (1 Stat. L. 232). This act set the rates at 6 cents for letters to be carried not more than 30 miles, 8 cents between 30 and 60 miles, 10 cents between 60 and 100 miles, and 12½ cents between 100 and 150 miles.

Postmen's uniforms. *See* Postal Service: Letter carriers' uniforms

President's wife to frank mail was Martha Washington. On April 3, 1800, an "act to extend the privilege of franking letters and packages to Martha Washington" (2 Stat. L. 19) was passed. This privilege was granted her "for and during her life."

Railroad post office was tested July 7, 1862, and placed in operation July 28, 1862, on the Hannibal and St. Joseph (Mo.) Railroad during the administration of Postmaster General Montgomery Blair. The idea was originated by William Augustine Davis and the mail car built at Hannibal, Mo. (*J. L. Bittinger—The Railway Postal Service*)

Railroad post office for the general distribution of mail was tested July 1, 1864, regular service commencing August 28, 1864, on the Chicago & Northwestern Railway between Chicago, Ill., and Clinton, Iowa. George Buchanan Armstrong, one of the two special agents commissioned on December 20, 1864, to superintend postal matters, was appointed general superintendent of the Railway Mail Service on April 4, 1869.

Registration of letters was authorized by act of Congress of March 3, 1855 (10 Stat. L. 642). The system was placed in operation July 1, 1855. The fee was 5 cents.

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Right-hand-drive automobile for the delivery of mail was a Crosley, placed in service in Cincinnati, Ohio, from December 27, 1951, to January 6, 1952, for special delivery service. On January 7, 1952, it was placed in service for letterbox delivery on a mounted route. It is possible that some of the early makes of automobile, that had right-hand drives, may have been used earlier.

Rocket airmail flight. See under Airmail service

Rocket (steam-driven) to carry mail. See under Airmail Service

Rural free delivery was established October 1, 1896. Three routes were designated in West Virginia, one from Charles Town, one from Uvilla, and one from Halltown.

Rural free delivery appropriation was made through the efforts of Thomas Edward Watson, a member of Congress from Georgia, 1891-93. Watson was the Populist Party's nominee for Vice President, and later its choice for President. Representative Watson's bill was introduced in 1893. (*U.S. Department of Agriculture—Yearbook, 1900*—"Free Delivery of Rural Mails," by C. H. Greathouse)

Special delivery service was authorized by act of March 3, 1885 (23 Stat. L. 388). The service was established October 1, 1885, and at first was restricted to free delivery offices in towns of 4,000 or more inhabitants. An additional charge of 10 cents a letter was made for this service, and a blue special delivery stamp was issued on October 1, 1885. On August 4, 1886, the service was extended to all free delivery offices. (*Louis Melius—American Postal Service*)

Street letter box was invented by Albert Potts of Philadelphia, Pa., who obtained patent No. 19,578 on March 9, 1858, on "a mode of attaching metallic letter-boxes." The box had a center hole through which the shaft of an ordinary cast-iron lamppost was placed. Boxes were erected on August 2, 1858, in Boston and New York City. (*American Gas Light Journal, Oct. 1, 1869*)

Strike of postal employees was a wildcat strike of locals of the National Association of Letter Carriers that began in New York City on March 18, 1970, and spread to parts of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. On March 23, 1970, President Richard Milhous Nixon declared a state of national emergency and called out 30,000 troops (15,000 Army, Navy, and Marine Corps reservists from the New York City area; 12,000 members of the Army and Air National Guard in New York; and 2,500 men on active duty in New York) to handle the mail. The strike ended March 24, 1970.

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"V" mail film was dispatched overseas from New York to London on June 22, 1942. It consisted of a partial roll of film on which there were only 212 individual letters. A complete roll of film contained 1,600 letters.

Vending machine (coin-operated) to dispense postage stamps. See Vending machine: Vending machine (coin-operated) to dispense postage stamps

Woman railway postal clerks were Maude and Mary Olson, daughters of a Galva, Ill., postmaster, who substituted for Colonel Charles Northrop, who was taken ill in September 1896. They served on the "Dolly," the Galva and Burlington Railroad Railway Post Office, later known as the Galesburg and Burlington Railway Post Office.

Zone numbers (two-digit postal zoning system) were put into use by the Post Office Department on May 1, 1943, at Pittsburgh, Pa. and later in 125 of its large-volume offices. The five-zone-number system, commonly referred to as the Zip (Zone Improvement Plan) Code, was inaugurated in July of 1963.

POSTCARD

Postcard (private mailing card) was authorized May 19, 1898 (30 Stat. L. 419), for use after July 1, 1898. Private mailing cards of the same form, quality, and weight as the government stamped postal card with a written message could be mailed for 1 cent. (The postcard was privately printed; the postal card with the monetary impression was produced by the government and required no additional postage stamp.)

POSTMASTER

Postmaster general appointed from the ranks was Jesse Monroe Donaldson, appointed by President Harry S. Truman on November 24, 1947, to take office December 1, 1947. The son of a postman, he became a letter carrier in 1908 and rose to first assistant postmaster general, an office to which he was appointed July 6, 1945.

Postmaster general (colonial) was Andrew Hamilton, appointed April 4, 1692, by the postmaster general of Great Britain, under an act of Parliament of April 1692 establishing post offices in the American colonies.



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Postmaster general of the United States was Samuel Osgood, who was appointed by President George Washington and who served from September 26, 1789, to August 19, 1791. His office was authorized by act of Congress of September 22, 1789 (1 Stat. L. 70), which gave the general supervision of the post office to a postmaster general under the direction of the President. Other postmasters under Washington's administration were Timothy Pickering, appointed in 1791, and Joseph Habersham, in 1797. (*Daniel Calhoun Roper—The U.S. Post Office*)

Postmaster general of the United States to become a member of the President's Cabinet was William Taylor Barry, appointed by President Andrew Jackson, who served from April 6, 1829, to April 30, 1835. Barry resigned under congressional charges of inefficiency and corruption. Previously, the postal service had been under the Treasury department.

Postmaster general under the Continental Congress was Benjamin Franklin, who was appointed July 26, 1775, by the Second Continental Congress at a salary of \$1,000 a year and who served until November 7, 1776. He served the crown as deputy postmaster at Philadelphia, Pa., from 1737 to 1753, and as deputy postmaster general for the colonies from 1753 to 1774. (*Ruth Lapham Butler—Dr. Franklin, Postmaster General*)

Woman postmaster appointed after the adoption of the Constitution was Sarah De Crow, who was made postmaster at Hertford, N.C., on September 27, 1792. She was the only woman among 195 postmasters.

Woman postmaster (colonial) was Mary Katherine Goddard, appointed postmaster at Baltimore, Md., in 1775. She served until November 14, 1789.

POSTMEN'S UNIFORMS. See Postal service: Letter carriers' uniforms

**The First****STAMP**

See also Postage Stamp

Consular service fee stamps were authorized by Congress April 5, 1906 (59 Stat. L. 102), effective June 30, 1906, to show the payment of prescribed fees. The denominations were 25-cent green, 50-cent carmine, \$1 dark violet, \$2 brown, \$2.50 dark blue, \$5 brown red, and \$10 orange. Congress discontinued their use June 28, 1955 (69 Stat. L. 187), effective September 30, 1955.

Hunting permit stamps (federal) were the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps showing mallards alighting, issued to licensed hunters in 1934. They were blue, sold for \$1, and were issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This issue was void after June 30, 1935.

Motor boat stamps were required after April 1, 1960, on applications for certification of motorboats of more than 10 h.p. A \$3 blue stamp with red numbers covered the fee for a 3-year period, and the \$1 rose red stamp with black numbers covered the fee for reissuance of lost or destroyed certificates.

Revenue stamp of \$10,000 denomination was the bright green stock transfer revenue stamp issued in 1944 without gum. It was overprinted in black "series of 1944-1945."

STAMP, TRADING. See Trading stamp

STAMP ACT REPUDIATION was made on November 23, 1765, by the Court of Frederick County, Frederick, Md. The British Stamp Act of March 22, 1765, levied by England under King George III had placed a tax of one shilling on every pack of playing cards, ten shillings on every pair of dice, etc. These 12 "immortal judges" strenuously opposed England's impost legislation by declaring that "all proceedings shall be valid and effectual without the use of stamps." (*Souvenir of Historic Frederick—Marken and Bielfeld, Inc.*)

STAMP CATALOG

Postage stamp catalog was compiled by A. C. Kline, 824 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1862. It listed 1,500 varieties of stamps and was published in Philadelphia. Its title was *The Stamp Collector's Manual. Being a complete guide to the collectors of American and Foreign postage and despatch stamps.*

STAMPED ENVELOPE. See Postage stamp: Stamped envelopes (U.S.)

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

On January 13, 1934 a group of Masons gathered together in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum on 23rd Street in New York City and it was not for Masonry alone. All had another interest in common; they were stamp collectors.

Presiding over this group was one of the greats of both Freemasonry and Philately, the late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, Charles H. Johnson. It wasn't long before the original small group was joined by many more and the Masonic Stamp Club of New York was well on its way. The meetings were primarily for the purpose of exhibiting collections, listening to talks on stamps, stamp collecting, postal history and, especially, the many Masons involved in these areas.

It may be well to mention, at this point, that the Club is open to every Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge and jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of New York who has any interest in stamp collecting and especially to those interested in Masonic Philately.

Late in 1938 the Club petitioned President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Mason and stamp collector, to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington (another Mason) as the first President of the United States. The following year, on April 30, 1939, this stamp (Scott's #854) was issued. When it became known that the stamp would be issued, the Club prepared a special envelope as a Masonic souvenir. On the day of issue, first day covers were mailed to Masons all over the world, who paid the sum of ten cents for each cover. The proceeds of this effort were contributed to the George Washington Masonic Shrine at Tappan, New York.

The Club outgrew various subsequent meeting rooms at Masonic Hall and in 1944 initiated meetings at the Collectors Club in New York City where they meet today through the courtesy of the Collectors Club. Membership now numbers over 600 and is scattered all over the United States and many foreign countries.

In the early 1940's members of the Club started serious study of Masons on postage stamps and the term Masonic Philately was born. The first such topical collection to draw a major prize was the Masonic Philately exhibit at the 1947 CIPEX.* Interest in this area of philately has grown to the extent that Masonic Philately is a regular speciality and exhibited at many of the Major stamp shows. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York continues its long standing practice of participating in the ASDA show in New York City each November.

In March 1944 a small Club publication was begun and entitled, **The Masonic Philatelist**. This has grown to a substantial quarterly magazine now in its 37th volume and edited by Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.

Over the years the Club has sponsored dozens of first day cachets honoring Masons and Masonic events - George Washington, Fiorella La Guardia, The Masonic Building at the New York World Fair, The 100th Anniversary Celebration at the Obelisk in Central Park are some of the more popular cachets issued. All proceeds from the sale of Masonic Cachets are given to Masonic Charities.

The Club has encouraged the establishment of other Masonic Stamp Clubs and a source of pride was the establishment of the George Washington Chapter No. 1 in Washington, D.C. (now the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club).

Brothers interested in membership which includes regular mailing of the **Masonic Philatelist** are invited to send a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) to The Masonic Stamp Club, Box 10, Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Street, New York, New York 10010.

* *Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition, New York City, May 1947*



The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc

ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. was organized in 1934 for the purpose of establishing bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors and students of postal history, with the goal of encouraging discussion, research and study in Masonic Philately. The need for and the usefulness of the organization has proved itself through the years with a continuing supportive membership, a developing literature, widespread interest, and increased recognition of Freemasonry.

Membership is open to all Master Masons throughout the world who are in good standing in a Lodge and Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Annual Dues of \$15.00 per year brings to you *The Masonic Philatelist*, a quarterly philatelic journal published by the Club. All Dues income is used for printing and postage! All officers of the Club volunteer their services. All members are eligible to receive the Degree of MASTER OF PHLATELY. This Degree, which is not an official Masonic Degree, is worked occasionally.

INCLUDE PAYMENT OF US \$15.00 WITH YOUR APPLICATION

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.
THE COLLECTORS CLUB
22 EAST 35TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016-3806

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

NAME OF LODGE.....#.....LOCATION.....

OTHER MASONIC ACTIVITY.....

PHILATELIC
ACTIVITIES.....

DATE.....APPLICANTS SIGNATURE.....

IMPORTANT: TO AVOID DELAY IN PASSING ON THIS APPLICATION PLEASE INCLUDE SATISFACTORY PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP IN YOUR LODGE SUCH AS A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE LODGE OR A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR CURRENT DUES CARD



THE COLLECTORS CLUB
FOUNDED 1896

22 EAST 35th STREET • NEW YORK, NY 10016 • (212) 683-0559

February 4, 2003

Dr. Allan Boudreau
Masonic Stamp Club of New York
One Washington Square
New York, NY 10012-1601

Dear Dr. Boudreau,

Our Board of Governors and membership gratefully acknowledge your organization's contribution, in December 2002, to the Collectors Club. Your generosity helps make possible the Club's many activities in our newly renovated building and promotes the cause of philately. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Reinhard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Reinhard
President