d AMERICA'S STAMP CLUB STAMPS.ORG

Waltham Stamp Club

FOUNDED APRIL 1951

WALTHAM STAMP CLUB Est. Jan. 6, 1951

A member of the American Philatelic Society from 1968 (Chapter #683), the United Stamp Societies, Inc., and the Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs.

NOV 2026 VOLUME 7 EDITION 2

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The newsletter contents are divided into the following sections:

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The club website: www.walthamstampclub.org
The meetings are at the SPELLMAN PHILATELIC MUSEUM
(On the campus of Regis College)241 Wellesley Street, Weston, MA (use the rear parking lot entrance)

The Waltham Stamp Club meetings are held virtually in addition to being held at the Spellman Museum and are available online utilizing ZOOM. You may join a zoom meeting using a PC or mobile phone. You can download the ZOOM app if you do not already have it. A meeting ID and password will be sent to you in the meeting invitation as well as a link to the website. Your display name once you have joined ZOOM will be shown. You have the option to connect the audio and/or video for others to hear and see you at the meeting. There is also a telephone number provided in the invitation to the meeting so that you may participate without an internet connection.

From the Editor

This past year has marked a very successful time for our stamp club. Our membership is strong, increasing and revitalized. Bob Brew has completed his first year as club president. The WALPEX show has had its largest attendance ever. Boston for the first time has hosted its first international stamp exhibition and volunteers from the club and from the Spellman Museum were well represented at the show. We are recognized as the premier stamp club in the Northeast and WALPEX as a model for a well-organized and managed stamp show. Articles written by our members have also appeared in the American Philatelist, the monthly publication of the American Philatelic Society. Post Crossing is a relatively new and different way for people to communicate by sending postcards to each other and has been brought to WALPEX for the first time. A set of four Post Crossing stamps were issued by the USPS at Boston 2026.

Jeff Shaprio, member of the Waltham Stamp Club and former club president, passed away this past summer. He was acknowledged as an authority of modern US postal history and he was appointed as the Vice President of the American Philatelic Society from 2016 to 2022. His exhibit on Give My Regards to Broadway was featured at WALPEX by his wife Susan. His article on post WWI German inflation appeared in the January 2024 Waltham Stamp Club newsletter.

This issue of the newsletter features WALPEX 2026 written and illustrated by our editor, an article by George Norton on America's Isolationism and an article by Mark Hauser on Why We Collect Stamps Why No Two Stamp Collectors Are Alike. Jessica Leuschner wrote an article on Post Crossing and their appearance on WALPEX. And did you know there was an oil company in Massachusetts; well then read about it in this edition of phun facts.

In the past year we have gained more than a dozen new members. We are a very active club and many of our members are active in other philatelic groups such as the American Philatelic Society, the American First Day Cover Society, the American Topical Association, and the Northeast Federation of Stamp Clubs. We are also close and symbiotically part of the Spellman Museum of Postal History as we hold our meetings there and many of our members are volunteers work there. The museum is only one of two philatelic houses in the United States that offer exhibits and library, the other being the National Museum in Washington DC.

The winter and spring club meetings feature presentations, stamp auctions, brunch, bourse, and a holiday party for Xmas and New Year. The club meetings are also on Zoom but the joy is meeting with others and sharing our stories with friends. If you have something to say, feel free to contact the editor and offer your news article or other for the enjoyment of our readers.

Schedule of Events for Fall-Winter 2026-27

November 3 ..... Presentation by Frank Slack, "From White Queen to Black Majority Rule: Rhodesian and Zimbabwean Independence Viewed through Philately"
November 14 ..... Fall Bruch, Treasures from the Vault with Ken Flowers from Spellman Museum
December 1 ..... Stamp Collecting Basics: Paper, a presentation by Bob Brew
December 15 ..... Holiday Party
December 29 ..... *Fifth* Tuesday meeting – bourse and trading

The schedule for 2027 winter and spring will be presented on Tuesday January 5. 2027.

Future Philatelic Shows

Dedham Show – first Sunday of each month Nov 1 and Dec 6 at Holiday Inn at 55 Ariadne Road in Dedham MA
Nashua Show – third Sunday of each month at the Apple Grove Events Center at 19S Depot Rd in Hollis NH on the third Sunday of each month, Nov 15 and Dec 20.
New England Stamp Show Jan 8-9 at the Verve Hotel, 1360 Worcester St in Natick MA

Recent Waltham Stamp Club Activities and Meetings

- On September 15, Charlie Giorgetti gave an informative and entertaining presentation on the Postal History of the 1930 Graf Zeppelin and the First Pan American Flight.
    - In the early twentieth century, Hugh Eckener led the German Zeppelin company during the zeppelin golden age between WWI and 1937.
    - Zeppelins were used for intercontinental air travel and mail transport. In WWI they were used by the German military for bombing missions.
    - In May- Jun1930 the first Pan American flight, Graf Zeppelin was flown from Germany (Friedrichshafen) to Spain (Seville) in Europe to Brazil (Rio de Janeiro) to United States (Lakehurst NJ) in America
    - There were also zeppelin flights over the Pacific Ocean, Japan.
    - The flight between Germany and US is legendary in philately because of the issue of Graf Zeppelin airmails, Scott #s C13 (65c), C14 ($1.30), and C15 ($2.60) that were used for financing the flight.
        - Ninety-three cents of every dollar in stamp and cover sales was given to the Zeppelin company.
    - Collectors of covers and postcards that show cachets of the first flight, postmarks and cancels of same are valuable to philatelists and are of considerable worth. Many worldwide stamps celebrated the anniversaries of the historic flight.
    - There were 590 flights total and more than one million miles for the Graf Zeppelin over the eight- year period that ended with the Hindenburg (not a Graf Zeppelin)

disaster in 1937. Amazingly there were no people who died prior to that flight, but zeppelin flights have ended because of that event.
    - Jim Hill and Cheryl Gail put together a catalog of Zeppelin stamps and postcards, and covers that is available on website, www.zeppelincatalog.org.
        - A description of how to use the catalog is available on the cover page.
- On October 6, Norm Shufrin gave an informative and enjoyable presentation on the Doane Experiment.
    - The US Post Office during the years 1903 to 1906 conducted a large-scale test to determine the effectiveness of standardized rubber handstamps used for stamp cancellations. The goal was to modernize and measure postal marking quality in low volume fourth-class offices.
    - Type 1 Doane cancels have five bars with a number in them. They were issued from just one month from Aug to Sept 1903.
    - Type 2 Doane cancels have two sets of "railroad tracks" with a number in them. They were issued from Sept 1903 until end of June 1905. Approximately 17500 Doane handstamps were issued.
    - Type 3 Doane cancels have four solid bars with a number in them and were issued from July 1905 until fall 1906. Approximately 12000 handstamps were issued.
    - By late 1906 the Doane experiment was concluded and adopted a standard four bar cancel without numbers.
    - The Doane experiment provided a method for compensation of the postmasters at the fourth-class post offices. Unlike the third class larger post offices, the postmaster did not receive a fixed salary.
    - The compensation formula for the fourth class post offices known as the Pendleton Act System and featured the following:
        - 100% of first $50 of annual receipts, 60% of next $100, 50% of next $200, and 40% of all remaining receipts.
        - Formula above applied to receipts from postage stamps, stamp envelopes, postal cards, periodical and official stamps.
        - The post office's compensation was calculates and if bey end of March the receipts rose above $1900, the office was promoted to third class and the postmaster received a fixed salary.
    - The Doane Experiment lasted three years and provided a better and more uniform system for an expanding rural free delivery (RFD) system
- The Show and Tell on October 20 included the following:
    - Frank Slack presented covers that included bisected stamps and a postage due stamp, neither with correct value owed.
    - Steve Tauber presented postal history covers that reminded him of his own travels when he was younger.
    - Peter Lenk showed airmail stamps with color variations and oddities.

- Jeff Brigham showed Swiss stamps on cover that included the places he and his wife recently visited.
- David Ball showed a postcard from Salzburg Austria from Albert Einstein but it turned out was from Brandeis and was a reproduction. One may collect post mail from notable people.
- Bob Brew showed poster stamps from a 1923 pageant in Elmira NY.
- Dave Miller showed a cover from March 1915 that was sent from Moscow to Switzerland in 1915 that may have traveled elsewhere in Europe because of the war.
- Charlie Garniewicz showed a cachet of USS Constitution printed by a Worcester company.
- David Fillingham showed some of his wine stamp collection.
- Joel Goldberg showed a cover from an old post office in Brookline that became the one in Coolidge Corner.
- James Hencke showed letters and covers from trading ports in China and India, several dealing with opium.

- On Nov. 3, Frank Slack gave a The presentation that was "From White Queen to Black Majority Rule: Rhodesian and Zimbabwean Independence Viewed through Philately"
  - Rhodesia got its name from Cecil Rhodes, who mined gold and diamonds in South Africa. His body is buried in what is now Zimbabwe, but the country is trying to repatriate his bones to England in return for native Rhodesian remains.
  - A 1953 first day cover celebrating the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II was shown.
  - In 1964 Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland obtained independence, becoming Zambia and Malawi respectively.
  - Southern Rhodesia asked for independence as well, but was denied by Great Britain, which said they should hold elections. But the white minority government led by Ian Smith did not want to.
  - On 11/11/65 they declared independence anyway but were recognized by very few governments worldwide.
  - They produced their own stamps, but mail to Great Britain was marked as postage due that the country and its stamps were not recognized.
  - There was a lot of confusion as to how much postage due to charge since there were no official rates.
  - British MI% actually produced a fake Southern Rhodesia stamp to undermine their postal service.
  - Some Rhodesians put both Rhodesian and British postage on their letters to try and make sure they got through.
  - In 1972 the “Bush War” started, which was Southern Rhodesian black guerrillas fighting against the white government. They were supported by South African police, and postal markings for the SAP can be found on covers.
  - In 1975 Mozambique achieved independence, but did not recognize Rhodesia (Portugal had).

- In 1976 Kissinger tried to broker peace, but failed. Guerrillas at that time shot down some Air Rhodesia planes with surface to air missiles. (Postcard showing typical planes of the airline shown)
- In 1979 a local bishop negotiated peace and became president of "Zimbabwe-Rhodesia" but it still wasn't recognized. Covers with that country name shown.
- In late 1979 the British actually retook full control of Rhodesia and lifted sanctions as part of the process of moving towards elections in Feb. 1980.
- The elections were held and independence was a chieved on 4/18/80 as the country Zimbabwe.
- A First Day / Last Day cover for Zimbabwe / Rhodesia was released

Feature Stories from Our Members

WALPEX 2026 Highlights

by Stephen Neuman

Eight years ago, we had our last stamp show at the Minuteman High School in Lexington MA. It had a large area for dealers and exhibits and a balcony where you could see from below. It also featured a kitchen where we served coffee and refreshments to dealers and patrons. Stamp dealers had to be turned away. It was my second year with the club and I thoroughly enjoyed the show. The recent show was the 71st and the only one missed was in 2020 due to COVID.



WALPEX 2018 with Rick Robinson, Nancy Meyer, and Jim Nalbandian at the Phishbowl (bottom left photo)..

WALPEX 2026 was a huge success. Our attendance figures were record breaking. The theme was the Celebration of America's 250th anniversary and the first day covers featured two of the Massachusetts' signers of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams and John Hancock. The cachet on the cover was designed by Chris Calle, and the cancel has the signatures of the men who helped give birth to our country.



As the manager for WALPEX volunteers I was happy to receive many positive responses from our membership. Chris Brouady was show chairman and Norm Shufrin was show organizer. Peter Lenk, Robert Brew, Ed Sterling, David Ball, were supported by Jessica and Donald Leuschner who traveled from Maryland. Gail and Robert Mays led the phishbowl and were supported by Rick Robinson, Peter French, Jim Nalbandian, Frank Silveira, Don Jennings, Carl Westlund, David DuBois, Greg Cahill, Mark Hauser, Bill StAndre and James Hencke. Celine Poulin was in charge of the stamp exhibits and was helped by Jack Miller and others. Missy Buck sold the show covers and did very well. Stephen Tauber, Fred Sholds, and Charles Hollander also attended. If I missed someone, I sincerely apologize and I hope to see you again next year.

The pictures below tell a story. Visitors came from all over New England.



On Saturday October 24 the parking lot was full and lines of people were coming into the hotel To register and pay the modest admission fee. Norm and Bob take center stage below. Also shown are Jessica and Don Leuschner, and James Hencke.

The phishbowl was fantastic and a financial success. Shown below are Gail and Robert Mays as well as Rick Robinson in front of a large display of prizes (photo top right). The phish bowl was even more exciting this year as there were phish that sold four for a dollar and super phish that sold for four for two dollars. The youth table is shown with Jay Paton holding a poster that I made (photo bottom right). Stephen Tauber (top right) and Celine Poulin (top middle) are sorting through envelopes for prizes. Foster Miller (bottom middle)is selling first day covers and holding a poster that I also made. I was told that for the show next year we will purchase the posters. I guess mine were just not the best, but no one was brave enough to tell me. Just kidding!



Twenty-five stamp dealers were present at the show including the Spellman Museum. Club member Clark Frazier representing Clark Philatelic did well and others told me that this was one of



their best shows ever. Shown below is the Spellman Museum director Brian Howard (bottom middle) and George Norton talking with Mark Butterline (top left).

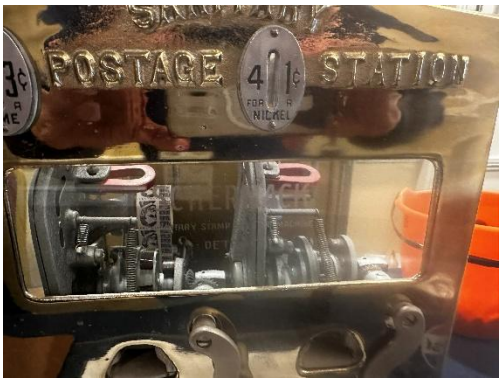
There were twelve different stamp exhibits totaling thirty-two frames. Celine Pouline (top right) did a masterful job in organizing and presenting and collecting the votes. Susan and (in memory of) Jeffrey Shapiro presented Give My Regards to Broadway, a collection of covers and photos. Missy Buck (bottom middle) was helping as others looked.



The winners were Robert Brew for Aviation Poster Stamps and first place, Jeffrey Shapiro. Other exhibits included James Hencke for Bela Patel's India and Canadian Revenues, Peter Lenk for Double Transfers, David Ball for Ukraine War and Polar Stations, Tom Ball for Zoology Stamps, and Stephen Neuman for Thirteen States Form a New Government.

A surprise guest came to our show on Sunday Oct. 25; Lucas Hartwell came to see David Ball and presented an old postal machine called the Sanitary Postage Station. The device (shown below) would dispense postage stamps: four penny stamps for a nickel or three three-cent stamps for a dime.

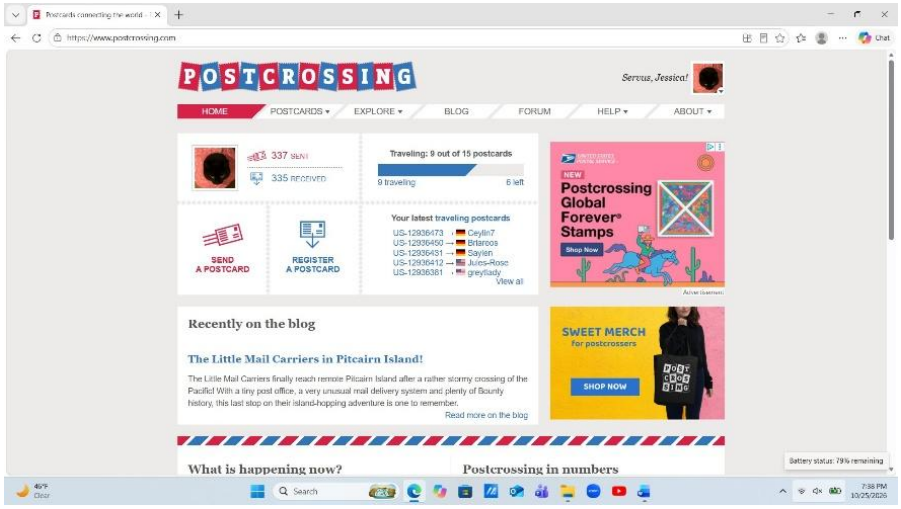




What is Postcrossing?

by Jessica Leuschner

In simple terms postcrossing is a group of people that exchange postcards by sending and receiving cards with random people. There are over 800,000 members in over



two hundred countries and the postcrossers have sent postcards traveling over 283,448,821,609 miles throughout the years.

When signing up for postcrossing all you'll need is an address to send and receive postcards from and a profile page. You'll also need an active email which is kept private and just used so postcrossing can reach out to you if needed. The email is not shared with other postcrossing members. When you make a profile you'll give a description of the post cards you'd like to receive and people typically give writing prompts to help people determine what to send you a message about. You can update your profile as many times as you'd like and I've changed multiple times already. Originally I had listed my favorite postcards to receive would be equestrian cards and I was quickly flooded with them! I've updated the profile to now include animals and plants in general.

When you register to be a postcrosser you'll be allowed to have 5 post cards traveling at one time. In order to send a card you'll click on the "Send a Postcard" icon and you'll receive a random postcrosser that you'll send the card to. The Postcrossing site will give you a unique code to write on the postcard and it will show you that individual's profile page which will help you to select a card to send to them. Once you've addressed the postcard and mailed it you are done! When that postcard arrives the recipient will register the card into the website, and you'll receive a post card from a random post crosser in return. The number of traveling post cards you can have a time builds the more you send and I've currently sent over 300 hundred postcards can have 15 postcards traveling at one time. It will eventually hit a limit at 100 traveling postcards which is crazy! I have a hard time keeping up with the 15.

This year at WALPEX 2026 you might have noticed a Postcrossing Meetup. These are sessions where a group of postcrossers will meet at a planned location to sign and trade postcards. Typically, the organizer will design a meetup card that is appropriate for the event. I've seen Meetups at coffee shops, restaurants, libraries, and of course philatelic events. The Meetup cards can then be sent to other postcrossers throughout the year. The





Meetup card created for WALPEX 2026 is below and I've also included an image of the backside so you can see how the postcrossers sign the cards at the meeting. Several people (with neat hand writing) will sign the cards with a pen but most have purchased a personalized stamp to use to save their hand during the Meetups. As you'll see I'll be investing in a smaller self inking stamp because mine is taking a decent chunk of area.

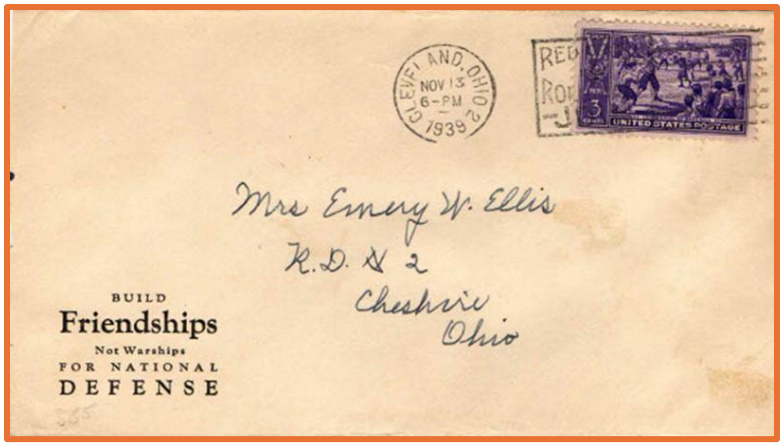


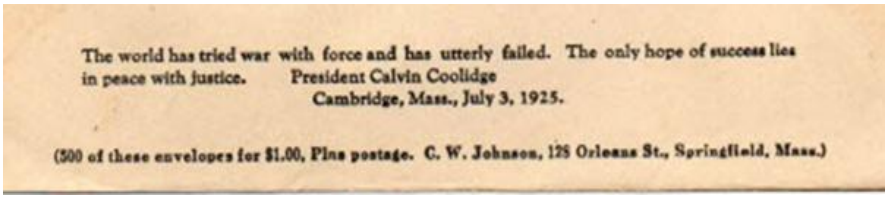
Postcrossing at WALPEX 2026, Saturday October 24,2026

America's Isolationism

by George S. Norton

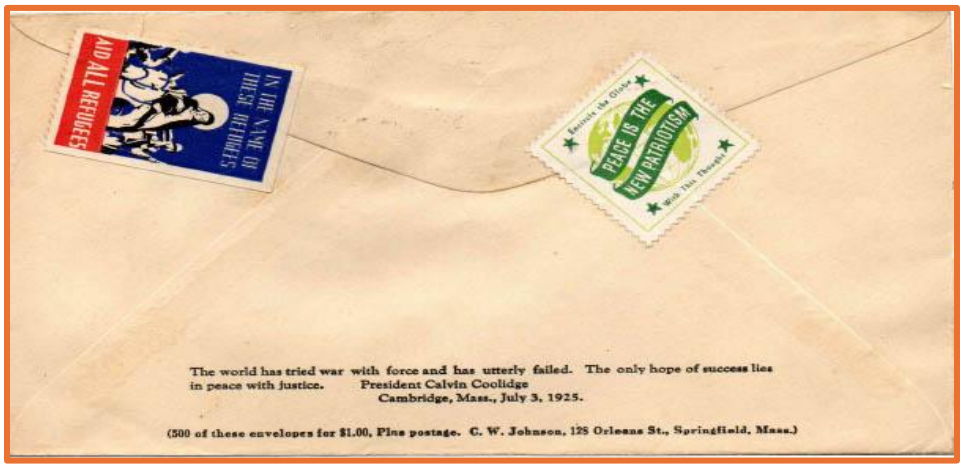
It is enlightening to find examples of postal history that document the temper of the times. World War II began in Europe on September 1, 1939. For more than two years the United States remained officially neutral in the conflict and Americans debated whether to stay out of the war or to join the Allied forces fighting Nazi Germany. The cachet on this cover from November1939 reflects the isolationism and anti-war sentiment held by a large percentage of Americans: "Build Friendships Not Warships for National Defense." It was created by C. W. Johnson of Springfield, Massachusetts, who sold 500 of these envelopes for $1.00.





Johnson added to the back of the envelope a quotation from President Calvin Coolidge from July 3, 1925, during an address for the 150th anniversary of George Washington taking command of the Continental Army. “The world has tried war with force and has utterly failed. The only hope of success lies in peace with justice.” In the context of the aftermath of World War I and European debt, the president argued that international disputes should be settled through arbitration and judicial rules rather than armed conflict.

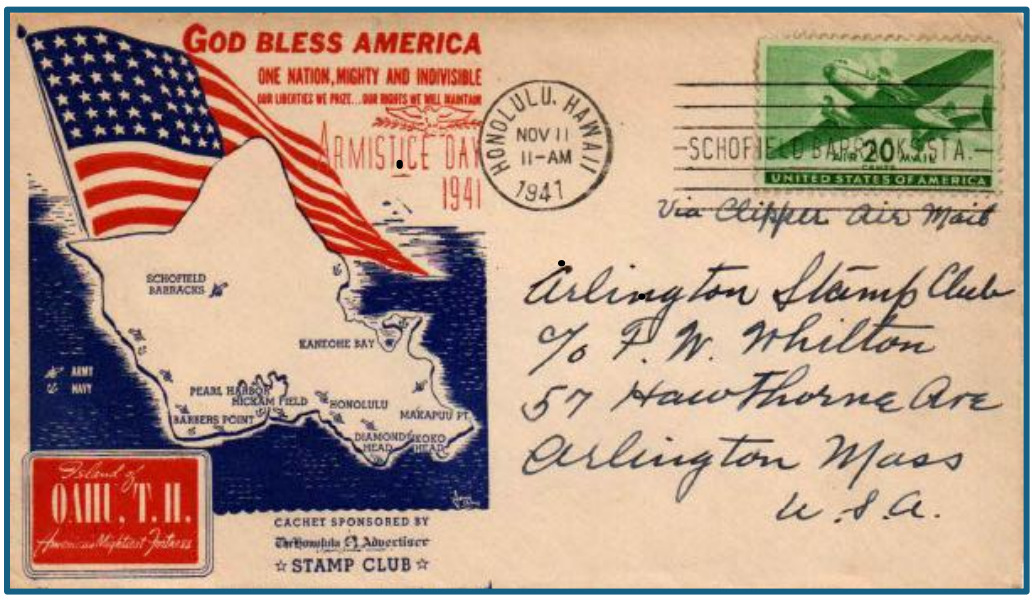
As a nice all America touch, the stamp chosen for this mailing was the popular Centennial of Baseball commemorative.



As a bonus, the cover bears two patriotic and propaganda labels on the back (the correct placement of such labels under postal regulations). One expressed “Encircle the Globe with this

thought PEACE IS THE NEW PATRIOTISM." The other proclaimed "IN THE NAME OF THESE REFUGEES - AID **ALL** REFUGEES" with the image of the Holy Family - Jesus, Mary and Joseph fleeing the Roman province of Judea to Egypt to escape the massacre of the children of Bethlehem planned by King Herod.

Less than four weeks before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the Honolulu Advertiser Stamp Club sponsored a cachet cover commemorating the 1941 anniversary of World War I Armistice Day.



The cover was cancelled on November 11, 1941, at Schofield Barracks. Featured were an American Flag, a map of the Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii "America's Mighty Fortress," and the legend "God Bless America – One Nation, Mighty, and Indivisible – Our Liberties We Prize… Our Rights We Will Maintain." The red box at the lower left reads "Island of Oahu. T. H. – America's Mightiest Fortress."

Schofield Barracks was established in 1908 to provide mobile defense of Pearl Harbor and the entire island. It has been the home of the 25th Infantry Division, nicknamed the "Tropic Lightning" division, since 1941, as well as the headquarters for United States Army Hawaii. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 – a day that will live in infamy."

Noted is that the cover was sent to the Arlington Stamp Club in Massachusetts via Air Mail with the 20 cent clipper air mail stamp paying the postage rate.

A Collection of Articles on Why We Collect Stamps

By Mark Hauser M.D.

The following articles represent the second installment that first appeared in the September 2026 WSC newsletter.

Why No Two Collectors Are Alike: The 23 Dimensions of Collecting Joy

One of the most fascinating aspects of philately is how differently each collector experiences joy from the hobby. Even two people specializing in identical material may be motivated for entirely different reasons.

Below are 23 dimensions of collecting joy—a framework you will later explore through a formal survey.

Core Motivations

- The thrill of the hunt
- The pleasure of discovery
- Pride of ownership

Aesthetic Motivations

- Beauty, engraving, color, design
- Layout and visual harmony on album pages

Cognitive Motivations

- Deep learning
- Solving puzzles and identifying varieties
- Organizing, cataloguing, and curating

Historical Motivations

- Connecting with past eras
- Understanding postal history
- Following geopolitical stories through stamps

Emotional Motivations

- Nostalgia
- Sentimental attachment
- The comfort of focus and calm

Social Motivations

- Sharing knowledge
- Club membership and fellowship
- One-upmanship (friendly or competitive)

Legacy Motivations

- Building something lasting
- Feeling part of a larger tradition

Practical Motivations

- Bargain hunting
- Financial appreciation

- Completing a set or series

Each collector's unique pattern across these 23 dimensions is like a **psychological fingerprint** of their collecting personality.
Understanding your own pattern may enrich your enjoyment—and make collecting even more meaningful.

The Collector's Prefrontal Cortex: Oversight, Discipline, and the Art of Restraint

Collectors are often celebrated for passion, curiosity, and enthusiasm — but there is an equally important side to collecting that doesn't get as much attention: discipline. Behind every well-organized album, curated exhibit page, or carefully chosen acquisition is a part of the brain working quietly and efficiently in the background.

That part is the Prefrontal Cortex, the "executive center" of the mind.

1. Judgment and Prioritization

This region helps collectors decide:

- what to pursue
- what to ignore
- when to upgrade
- when to pass on something that "isn't quite right"

Collectors know the pleasure of selectivity — not just buying, but **choosing well**.

2. Organization and Curation

The Prefrontal Cortex loves:

- arranging pages
- adding annotations
- refining categories
- building logical sequences

This is why many collectors experience intense satisfaction simply from reorganizing their material.

3. Budgeting and Restraint

Collectors joke about "never having enough money for stamps," but in reality, most employ remarkable restraint.
That is the Prefrontal Cortex setting:

- spending limits
- priorities
- long-term collecting goals

Without this oversight, collecting can tip into something less structured — even overwhelming.

4. The Difference Between Collecting and Hoarding

Healthy collectors can differentiate:

- value from clutter
- meaningful material from endless accumulation
- emotional attachment from disorganized saving

This ability comes directly from healthy prefrontal control.

5. The Cognitive Joy of Editing

The brain's executive functions also make it pleasurable to:

- remove lesser items
- reorganize a page
- refine a specialty
- choose a "best example"

For many collectors, this "editing" is as joyful as acquiring.

✨ The Balanced Brain of a Collector

A collector's joy isn't just about seeking — it's about shaping.
The Prefrontal Cortex provides:

- limits
- structure
- taste
- direction
- refinement

It transforms raw instinct into art, turning a pile of material into a thoughtful, meaningful collection. Collecting is a dance between desire and discipline — and the Prefrontal Cortex is the quiet choreographer behind the scenes.

The Seven Collector Personality Types

Which one are you?
Collectors come in many varieties — each with a distinct way of approaching the hobby. While most of us blend several traits, one or two tend to dominate. Here are seven archetypes frequently seen in the philatelic world:

1. The Hunter

Always searching, scanning, flipping pages at lightning speed.
Lives for the moment of "There it is!"

2. The Historian

Collects for context and story.
Every stamp is a doorway into geography, politics, culture, or postal systems.

3. The Aesthetician

Values engraving, color, symmetry, margins, and visual elegance.
A beautifully centered stamp brings genuine joy.

4. The Completionist
Loves full pages, complete runs, and tidy checklists.
An empty space is a personal challenge.

5. The Curator
Organizes, reorganizes, and organizes again.
Pages are works of art — well-balanced, annotated, and thoughtfully arranged.

6. The Investor
Enjoys the strategic side of collecting.
Knows market trends, auction results, and the rarity tables.

7. The Social Collector

Thrives in clubs, meetings, and conversations.
Collecting is a pathway to friendship, sharing, and community.
Most collectors will see themselves in several categories — and that's the fun of it.
Which types describe you? Which ones describe your friends in the club?

Why Completing a Page Feels So Good: The Neuroscience of Closure

Few pleasures in philately compare with finishing a page in an album. Why does that final stamp — the one that fills the last empty rectangle — feel so satisfying? Neuroscience gives us a surprisingly insightful answer.

1. The Brain Loves Patterns
Humans crave symmetry and completion.
An incomplete page creates a tiny sense of tension.
A completed page creates resolution.

2. The "Zeigarnik Effect"
A classic psychological principle:
We remember **unfinished tasks** better than finished ones.
Your brain doesn't like "open loops."
A missing stamp is an "open loop" — filling it closes the circuit.

3. Dopamine Marks Achievements
Finishing a page triggers reward signaling in the same system involved in:

- solving puzzles
- finishing a book
- completing a project

The brain celebrates small victories.

4. Order Out of Chaos

Album pages impose structure on a world full of randomness.
Filling them confirms:

- mastery
- progress
- control
- completion

5. The Aesthetic Finale

A full page is visually satisfying — like a finished painting or a completed quilt. Your brain responds to coherence, balance, and harmony. This is why collectors often flip back through their albums just to admire the pages they've completed — it's a genuine neurological reward.

We Encourage APS Membership

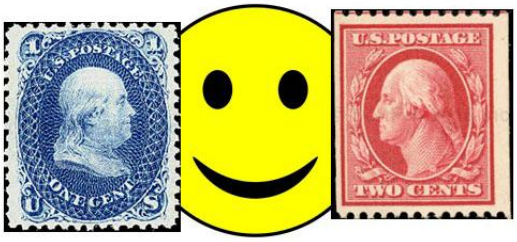
We at the Waltham Stamp Club encourage all our members to join the American Philatelic Society. As APS members you can participate in the educational experience of other philatelists by attending online seminars or sharing the resources of the large research library. There is a monthly stamp journal, the American Philatelist, and a weekly online newsletter. The October 2026 American Philatelist features articles on Revenue Stamps including those from WWII American Motor Vehicles and those from the British Commonwealth. There is also an article on John Coulthard, a philatelic artist.

The new team at the APS has made a commitment to work more closely with the stamp clubs and also recognizes our club as a leader and an excellent producer of stamp shows like WALPEX.

We encourage our readers to volunteer to contribute to our newsletter as writers or as editors. Each of you has your own story to tell.

Please contact our editor Steve Neuman at stevegetsall@aol.com or 508-395-4543

Phun Facts



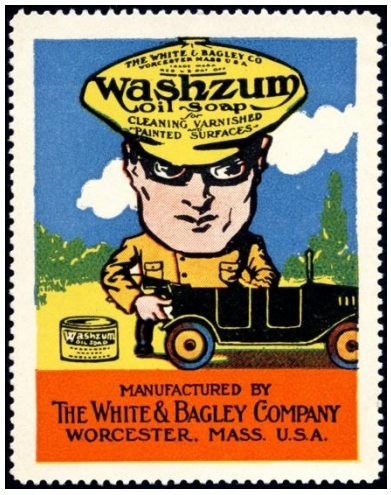
Oil in Massachusetts

By Robert Brew



When one thinks of states with an oil industry, Massachusetts doesn't typically come to mind. However there has been an oil company in Worcester since the late 19th century. F.W. White and H.P. Bagley founded their company in 1888. At first, they focused on industrial lubricating oils, but with the rise of the automobile around 1900 they felt this could be a major new market for them. In 1905 they introduced one of the first major national brands of motor oil, Oilzum. Their first advertising figure was the Oilzum Kid, a cartoon boy with buck teeth, but he was quickly replaced by Oswald the Chauffer, a driver wearing a large cap and goggles. He has been their symbol ever since. White and Bagley not only sold oil to ordinary motorists, but also got involved in automobile racing. In 1906 they famously provided the oil for the Stanley Steamer driven by Fred Marriott at Ormond Beach, Florida. He set a land speed record of 127 mph.





Oilzum's reputation spread and by 1912 they had a nationwide distribution network. They expanded their product line by introducing Washzum Oil Soap for washing the varnished surfaces of cars, and also Cleanzum hand cleaner. It's not

clear how successful Washzum was, but Cleanzum was sold at least into the 1930s. In 2023 an 8 oz can of Cleanzum sold at auction for $230. All Oilzum ephemera appears to be highly collectible, including of course a set of 3 poster stamps which were produced and are pictured here.

In 1986 the company was sold to Drydene Oil Company, which was then acquired by Castrol in 1991. In 2010 Oilzum was sold again to Dennison Lubricants. Dennison is still actively operating in Worcester with about 100 employees, and they are still filling 1 quart cans, 5 gallon pails, and 55 gallon drums with Oilzum oil. The oil is not just repackaged from another motor oil company; they buy refined oil and then blend their own mixture with proprietary additives and specialty components. And Oswald the Chauffeur still appears on their products!



SPELLMAN
MUSEUM OF STAMPS
AND POSTAL HISTORY



Spellman Museum News and Events

The Spellman Museum is open to many visitors, including students, four days a week from Thursday through Sunday, noon to 5pm. It is a philatelic gem that is great for all ages. The Spellman Museum is located on the campus of Regis College: 241 Wellesley St., Weston, MA 02493; tel. 781-768-8367.

Just a reminder about the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History as I recently renewed my membership. The annual fee is reduced for seniors as myself.

Refreshed with new content and easy-to-access design, the Spellman Museum website continues to be a vital tool and resource to friends, members, visitors and philatelists near and far. Stay updated and visit often for new and exciting content, featuring exhibit updates, stamp shows and live programming. Please take a moment to visit the website www.spellmanmuseum.org and enjoy!

Volunteers are needed to support philatelic activities at stamp store, and in helping in locating, identifying, sorting and evaluating stamps for young and old collectors as well for the museum



Museum Director Brian Howard at the Exhibit Booth in Boston World Expo 2026

The following are just a few of the many nf the many recent addition of book titles and publications that have been added to the Spellman Library in past two years:

Balloon Mail during the 1870-1871 Paris Siege
Bibliography of the Philately and Postal History of the United States
Cold War: Polar Military Conflict Mail
The Fathers of Philately
Fiskalniye mari Rossii – Revenue Stamps of Russia
The History of Nepalese Postage Stamps
Israel Postal Service Specialized Stamp Catalog Moriah
Kiwi Catalogue and Handbook of New Zealand Revenue and Railway Stamps
Letters in the Wind – Aerophilately
New York City Foreign Mail 1845-1878
The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union, the Postal Card Whirlwind
A Specialized Chinese Stamp Catalogue
US Variable Denomination Stamps
V-Mail Envelopes

Where to Go for Buying and Selling Stamps

The last page(s) is always for the WSC members who are selling stamp or stamp collecting related supplies, online, so you can buy from a WSC member.
If you are selling online and a WSC member and want to be listed on the last page, email Stephen Neuman at stevegetsall@aol.com (508) 395-4543 or find us at a meeting.
Also, if you want to help with the newsletter, you can reach out to me for that too.

eBay:

Clark Frazier as CLARKPHILATELICS
Hipstamp.com:

Clark Frazier as
CLARKPHILATELICS

Dave Loving as Sam's Stamp Store
Stamps2Go.com:
James Capelle as JCAPWET

Email and Web Pages:
Dave Loving as samstampshop@comcast.net
Marc Jasmin as WWW.MGJPOSTALHISTORY.COM
And at https://stampauctionnetwork.com/auctions.cfm

Brick and Mortar Stamp Stores

Sam's Stamp Shop
Phone number: 508-222-3444
405 Old Colony Road, Norton MA 02766

Falmouth Stamps & Coin
Phone number: 508-548-7075
11 Town Hall Square, Falmouth MA 02540

Kappy's Coins & Stamps
Phone number: 781-762-5552
534 Washington Street, Norwood MA 02062