



# Waltham Stamp Club

FOUNDED APRIL 1951

AMERICA'S STAMP CLUB  
STAMPS.ORG

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



September 2021 Issue

Volume 2 Edition 1

In This Issue



- History of the Post Office Through Stam[s by Henry Lukas
- The Other Philatelic Museum (the National) by Stephen Neuman
- Horrible Hinges by James Hencke
- Great American Stamp Show in Rosemont Illinois
- World Expo 2026 Announcement and Show Level
- Spellman Museum Open House

The newsletter contents are divided into the following sections:

- Contacting the Waltham Stamp Club
- Stamp Club Events and Highlights
- Feature Stories and "phun" facts from our members
- Stamp Sales and Bourse Book Procedures
- Spellman Museum Activities of Interest
- Where to Go for Buying and Selling Stamps
- Appendices

website: [www.walthamstampclub.org](http://www.walthamstampclub.org)

*The meetings will resume at the SPELLMAN PHILATELIC MUSEUM*

*(On the campus of Regis College)*

*241 Wellesley Street, Weston, MA (use the rear parking lot entrance)*

### *From the editor's desk:*

Just as we all thought that the pandemic is ending and all of us would once again begin our normal lives, a new variant of COVID arises, more powerful than the original, more easily transmissible specially to people who have not been vaccinated. If you have not done so and are physically able, please take advantage of the vaccinations that are being given in our neighboring towns and in our state. Also take advantage of the booster vaccinations that will begin at the end of this month. Starting with the August 24 club meeting we can see each other in person, talk to one another face to face, share our stories, trade our stamp collections, buy, and sell our stuff. At the same time, we can share with others not able to attend and hold most of our meetings virtually. Norm has planned a phun filled schedule of events this year and of course there is the WALPEX show on Halloween weekend.

Most Waltham Stamp Club meetings will be held virtually in addition to being held at the Spellman Museum and will be available online utilizing ZOOM. The club has purchased video cameras and microphones that will be utilized so that all club members can participate and attend meetings starting in August. A guide to how to joins us virtually at our biweekly meetings is located at the top of the next page.

Our next WSC event will be a stamp auction on Thursday Sept. 9 at 7:30 pm, followed by a show and tell on Tuesday Sept. 21 at 7:00 pm.

**Reminder: WALPEX 2021 on October 30, 31 at the Boxboro Regency Hotel**  
**For more information contact:**

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.

### **Stamp Club Events and Highlights**

The Spellman Museum is open to the public. For the first time a new senior level of membership is available. The cost is \$25 and includes the free admission to the museum and all the benefits and advantages of being a being a member including discounts at the museum store, access to the philatelic library, stamp sales held each month, assistance in stamp appraisals, and the viewing of stamp exhibits in their renovated gallery. Related articles on the Spellman Museum including a feature article on the "other" philatelic museum follows in the newsletter.

A WALPEX committee meeting held on June 8 made the following assignments: Norm Shufrin chairman, Jessica Lauschner publicity and youth activity manager, Marc Butterline hotel coordinator, Jack Miller exhibit manager, Chris Brouady stamp dealer coordinator, Hugh Daugherty auctioneer, Marc Jasmin auction advisor, Rick Robinson phishbowl manager, and Steve Neuman volunteering schedule manager. If you have not already done so, please contact Steve Neuman by email [stevegetsall@aol.com](mailto:stevegetsall@aol.com) or by phone 508-395-4543. This is the biggest event for our club and the more of our members who participate the better it will be.

Let Norm know if you are interested in exhibiting at WALPEX 2021. Several of the stamp exhibitors and exhibits are listed below and in no particular order: Stamp prizes will be awarded for favorite exhibit(s).

- Betty Brodie – Art on Stamps, Marc Chagall
- Dr. Ian Sellick – Philatelic Phylogeny; and A Hertfordshire Valley Home,,
- Stephen Neuman – The Birth and Rise of Our Nation
- Jack Miller – Jewish National Fund History Through Its Labels
- Stephen Tauber – Personal Acquaintances on Stamps

The phishbowl is a major event and contributor to the financial success of WALPEX. The last event at WALPEX 2019 (last year's canceled because of COVID) was a huge hit as all four thousand phish were sold. Rick is hopeful that this year's phishbowl will be as well. Rick Robinson will be moving on and the club will need a new phishbowl chairman and additional volunteers. Please contact Rick at [cfrbjr@verizon.net](mailto:cfrbjr@verizon.net) or Norm at [normshu@verizon.net](mailto:normshu@verizon.net) if you are interested.

WALPEX 2021 will be held at the Boxboro Regency Hotel on October 30-31. The club's financial success in the past has been to a large extent due to the success of the show. It is perhaps the most attended stamp show in the Northeast. We are looking for more volunteers for the sign-in desks, stamp cover tables, the stamp exhibit room, and the youth center. We could also use help in setting up on Friday October 29 after 4 pm and for tear down on Sunday October 31 after 5 pm. The theme is Halloween and many thanks to Chris Calle for design of the cachet and cancel cover.

Many thanks also for the recent and generous philatelic donation in memory of Dick Spencer, former club secretary and a good friend to many at the Waltham Stamp Club.

### *Recent Waltham Stamp Club Activities and Meetings*

On July 20 the club held a phlea (flea) market sale for its members. In addition to the bourse book sales many club members brought in their own stamp collections for sale. The first hybrid club member and Zoom meeting was held in the Spellman Museum on August 24. A stamp auction is planned for Thursday Sept. 9.

Aug. 24 - History of the Post Office through Stamps by Henry Lukas

The presentation was given as part of the youth program, introduced both philately and history as topics. There are currently 85 children in the program. Every month the museum puts out calendars with stamps shown for each day showing people and events of the past.

The USPS is increasing the first-class postage rate to 58 cents and the first commemorative forever stamps costing 58 cents is the Happy Birthday stamp. Cardinal Spellman naturally collected stamps and so did Janet Yellen. Quizzed on the number of namesake Henry stamps issued by USPS he showed stamps of Longfellow, Thoreau, Henry Ford, Henry James, Patrick Henry, Lou Gehrig, Henry Knox, Henry Clay, and others. The US Constitution in Article 1 section 8 gave Congress the power to establish Post Offices and Post Roads. Today the Post Office is an independent agency of the executive branch.

Shown were photos of famous post offices, old and colorful mailboxes, post riders, steamboats, mail railway cars, mail trucks, and mailmen. Shown also were many stamps and postal history items from colonial days, westward expansion, civil war, world wars, late twentieth century and today. Key dates include following: First US postage stamp – 1847; first stamped envelope – 1853; registered mail began – 1857; pony express started and ended – 1860, 1861; free city delivery instituted – 1863; international money orders offered – 1869; US post cards issued – 1873; special delivery began – 1885; international parcel post instituted – 1887; first commemorative stamp issued – 1893; scheduled airmail service began – 1918; -V-mail – 1942; certified mail – 1955; zip code – 1963; US semi-postal stamp – 1998; first forever stamp – 2007; first woman postmaster general, Megan Brennan took office – 2015. Many other interesting postal history facts were presented and many thanks to Henry for presenting them.

### *Future Waltham Stamp Club Activities and Meetings*

The club under the leadership of Norm Shufrin is planning another exciting, informative, and enjoyable year for all its members. We request that all attendees at the museum be fully vaccinated for COVID. Most of all we hope many of you will participate.

Tue. Sept 21 - Show and Tell

Tue. Oct 5 – Workshop on Watermark Detection, demonstration of our new watermark detector facilitated by Jessica Leuschner

Tue, Oct 19 – Club Auction, stamps, covers, supplies, catalogs and more. Club members sell and public invited to bid.

Sat. Oct 30 and Sun. Oct 31 – WALPEX 2021 show at Boxborough Regency Hotel, Theme is Halloween

Tue. Nov. 2 Presentation by guest speaker and club member Robert Brew on “The Many Uses of Trees, a Philatelic Perspective”.

Sat. Nov 20 – Our semi-annual brunch meeting at 9:30 am at the Spellman Museum, presentation on “Philatelic Art on Postcards” by club member George Norton.

Tue. Dec 7 – Club member Nancy Meyer, presentation TBA

Tue. Dec 21 – Holiday Party, secret Santa gift wrap swap and holiday refreshments

Tue. Jan. 4 – Club Auction to start the new year, 2022

## *Feature Stories from Our Members*

### **The Other Philatelic Museum**

*By Stephen Neuman, Newsletter Editor*

As we have read in this newsletter and been told by Norm at our club meetings, we are indeed fortunate to hold our meetings and participate in the events at the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History. But there is another in our country and it is the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in Washington DC. The National Postal Museum is dedicated to the preservation, study, and presentation of postal history. As a parent and grandparent of my family who live in the DC area, I have had the opportunity to visit the museum but unfortunately, I have not. Yes, I have visited Washington DC numerous times - the monuments of past US presidents, the Smithsonian Institute, the National Air and Space Museum, the Holocaust Museum, the Arlington Cemetery, and others. The disinterest in philately by my family naturally did not warrant an interest in the Postal Museum. However, I alone am interested, and I do intend to visit the National Postal Museum sometime soon.

The National Postal Museum was closed during COVID and is planned to reopen at the end of August. The museum was established in 1993 by joint agreement between the US Post Office and the Smithsonian Institute. The museum is in the historic City Post Office building that was constructed in 1914 and served as the Washington DC post office till 1986. The museum occupies 100,000 square feet in the building and uses approximately one third for exhibition space. The National Postal Museum houses a research library, a stamp store, and a collection of stamps and philatelic material in the world including postal stationery, vehicles used to transport the mail, mailboxes, meters, cards and letters, and postal materials. One can even browse through a small-town post office from the 1920s.



**Figure 1 – National Postal Museum se-tenant**

On July 30, 1993, the Smithsonian National Postal Museum opened in Washington, D.C. On the same day the United States Post Office issued a four-stamp se-tenant, Scott #2779 – through #2782. See Figure 1 above. The first stamp features Benjamin Franklin, the first US Postmaster General. There are drawings of a post rider,

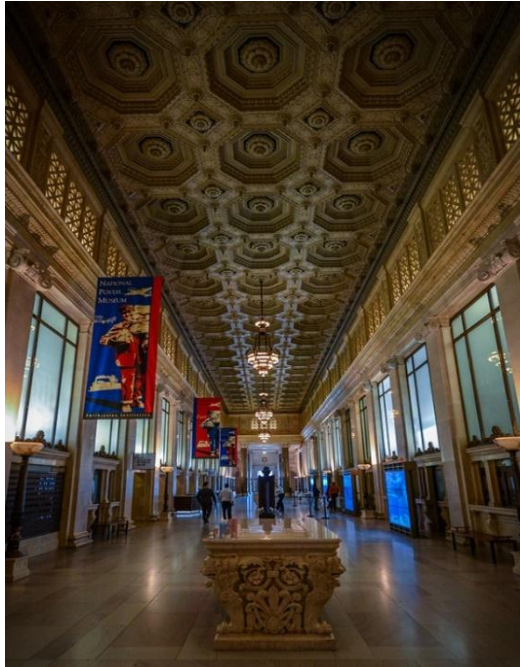
Independence Hall and the first printing press in America. The second stamp features railway mail service which was dominant for almost one hundred years since the mid-1800s to 1950. Included on the stamp are drawings of a pony express rider, a stagecoach and a civil war soldier receiving his wife's letters. The third stamp features Charles Lindbergh, the renowned aviator who flew solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Airmail service began in 1918 and the De Havilland WWI plane is featured with drawings of a railroad mail train and a mail truck. The fourth stamp features four older US stamps and a portion of a letter that says packages are more precious than gold dust. Amazon package deliveries, email and text messages were yet to come.

The National Postal Museum located opposite Union Station in Washington DC was established by joint agreement between the US Postal Service and the Smithsonian Institution.

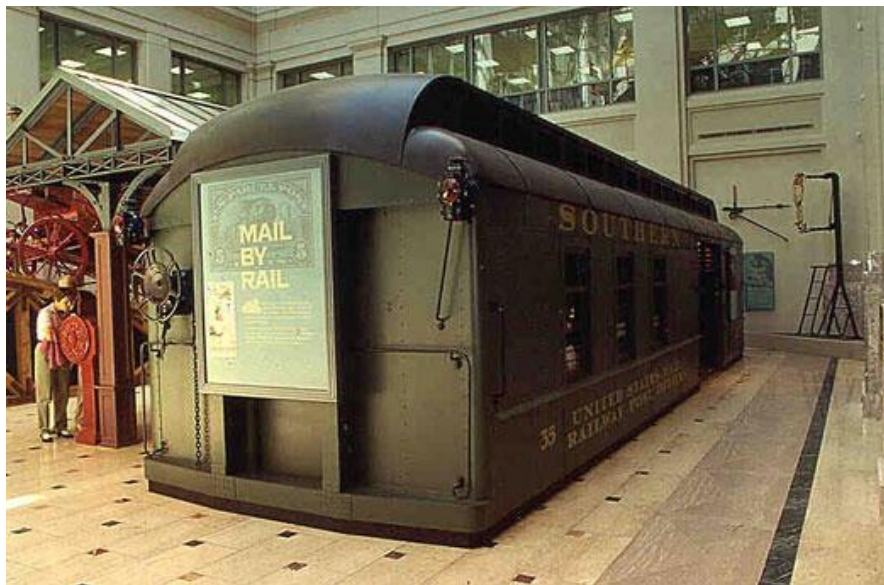


**Figure 2 above. The National Postal Museum located opposite Union Station in Washington D.C. at 2 Massachusetts Avenue.**





**Figure 3 above** The Historic Lobby, with its grandiose rosette ceiling, elegant marble floors, and classical columns is one of the most magnificent and historic spaces in Washington DC.



**Figure 4 above.** The mail railway car replica on exhibit at the museum (and note a stagecoach to its left.)



Figure 5 above. The William H. Gross Stamp Gallery – largest in the world



Figure 6 above. A wall display of old and colorful mailboxes.



## Horrible Hinges

*A letter written to the editor of Linn News by James Hencke, WSC Bourse Manager*

Dear editor, perhaps these photos will better illustrate the damage being done to our heritage. This is a follow-up to my letter of July 4, 2021.

The subject shown in the photos below is Scott number 1213a from Turkey, two 1213's in *tete beche* formation, that is one postage stamp printed upside down adjacent to another.

Questions:

1. Why hinge on the top & bottom, rather than re-hinging over the same mark/remnant?
2. Why hinge both instead of leaving one in NH condition?

As hinges have been considered "a necessary evil" for low to moderate value stamps ever since the beginning of the hobby, cannot we as collectors at least try to minimize the damage that we cause? Especially with today's generation of unremovable hinges.

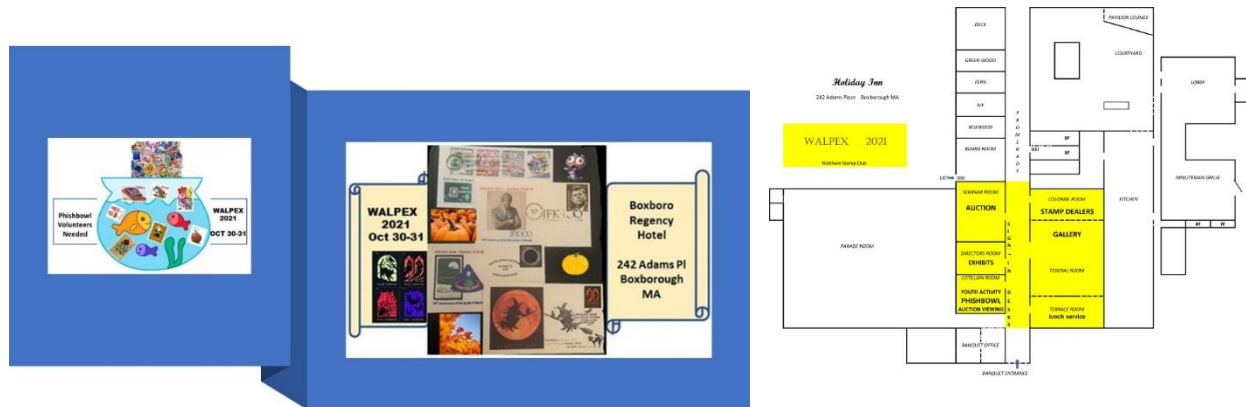
It is of no comfort to me for a collector to respond by saying that there is no difference in catalog value between a lightly hinged Stamp and one heavily hinged Stamp. "Never hinged" is an absolute term. There is no catalog Listing for "lightly hinged".

However, this absolutist view of cataloging is absurd. Any collector who is in the middle market, would rather have a specimen treated more gently.

How about it, guys? What damage is avoidable to the stock we pass on to future generations? Are we to act as "curators" of the material of the hobby we love? Or not?



## **WALPEX 2021 is coming in October and our club needs volunteers! Are you ready to help us?**



WALPEX is the largest annual event for our club. We all missed the event last year because of COVID. But this year on the Halloween weekend, October 30-31, we plan once again as in 2019 to hold the WALPEX event at the Boxboro Regency Hotel in Boxboro MA. Layout of rooms for the show are shown shaded in yellow. WALPEX is one of the most or in fact the most attended club show. Come join us.

The Northeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs will have their philatelic show as well at Boxboro Regency Hotel on September 24-26. Contact David Ball or Marc Butterline at [PhilatelicShow.org](http://PhilatelicShow.org) for details.

**Visit our Waltham Stamp Club website at**

<https://www.walthamstampclub.org>.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

We encourage our readers to contribute to the newsletter by writing a brief description of how they started their philatelic hobby and their interests in stamp collecting. Contribute "phun" facts of interest to our membership. We all have something to contribute and our stories and phun facts will be shared with others in our club.

You may contact the editor, Stephen Neuman by email or by phone if you wish to write or submit. I will also accept any comments on how we can improve the newsletter.

Email [stevegetsall@aol.com](mailto:stevegetsall@aol.com) or phone at 508-395-4543

## We Encourage APS Membership



Many of our club members are also members of the American Philatelic Society. Participants in the new WSC Stamp Sales Program who wish to sell stamps must be APS members. Aside from the informative American Philatelist monthly magazine, there are online stamp chats, free videos, a discount for stamps and books at the APS store, and on-line philatelic literature, articles, and pages from their Research Library. Go to the APS website at <https://stamps.org> for details.

Dr. Ian Sellick attended the Great American Stamp Show (GASS) in Rosemont IL from August 12 to 15. It presented the opportunity to meet many old friends. The show was held in the newly renovated Donald E. Stephens Convention Center and was well attended. Ian's favorite stamp exhibit among the thousand frames at the show was Vince King's "In the Beginning...Timbromanie, How the Proliferation of Postage Stamps Started a Collecting Revolution" containing magazine articles and general press about stamps and collections from inception in 1840s to the 1860s when philately became an organized hobby. The exhibit showed actual journals in custom display frames, contemporary puzzles and games, and a schoolboy album from 1856. This exhibit won a Gold although Ian believed it deserved better. The second exhibit shown in the photos below is the Paper Making exhibit by A.J. Valente. It described the history and technology of the American paper industry in the 1800s, and in Ian's opinion, something every philatelist needs to know.

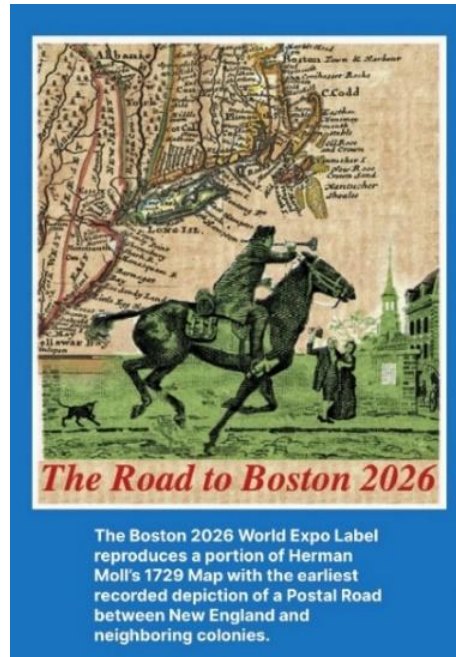




**Figs. left and center: Vince King exhibit. Stamp journal and stamp game**

**Figure on right – A.J. Valente on Paper making industry**

The World Expo, the twelfth international philatelic exposition, the first to be held in Boston and celebrates the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's birth. Plans are underway to make Boston the world's center of stamp collecting, postal history, and philately from May 23-30, 2026. The label below was unveiled at the GASS on August 12. The World Expo 2026 website is [www.boston2026.org](http://www.boston2026.org).



## Spellman Museum News and Events

The Spellman Museum is now open to many visitors including students four days a week from Thursday through Sunday, noon to 5pm. The museum is subject to state rules and regulations regarding masking and social distancing due to COVID. 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 click on the museum website for museum events and exhibits <http://www.spellmanmuseum.org/>

The Spellman Museum Open House on June 19 was an overwhelming success and many thanks to our club volunteers including Norm. The stamp galleries have improved lighting and brightly painted walls. Norm led guided tours, Joe Mullin, museum executive and Laura Duffy are shown in the photo below.



The tenth annual Spellman Symposium was held on Thursday September 9, 2021. The day featured several informative presentations on Wars and Innovations – A Postal Perspective. The “Going Postal” monthly shows, presented by Henry Lukas, educational director for the museum feature stories of historical events, famous people, and others as viewed on stamps celebrated during that month. YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV5-7MRRK-ND-k93RnXi7pQ>. .

**We at the Waltham Stamp Club are fortunate to have a philatelic museum where we hold our meetings and share resources such as the philatelic library and the stamp store. It is a place where we can exhibit our collections. It is only one of two such museums in our country, the other we know now being in Washington DC. But being non-profit, the museum has depended upon the help of volunteers. We encourage Waltham Stamp Club members to join the Spellman Museum. In addition to free attendance at the museum, the monthly newsletter, the library, and member discounts at the museum stamp store.**



### **Spellman Museum volunteers are needed!!!**

For those members of the club who have previously volunteered at the museum or have a sincere interest in doing so, please contact Nancy Meyer, Assistant Curator who will be creating a schedule of volunteers. You may contact her by email at [nancy\\_meyer@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:nancy_meyer@alumni.duke.edu).

### *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](mailto: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](mailto:samstampshop@comcast.net)**

**Marc Jasmin as [WWW.MGJPOSTALHISTORY.COM](http://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

**Brunelle Stamps & Coins**

Phone number: 603-432-2658

25 E Broadway Unit 1, Derry NH 03038

**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