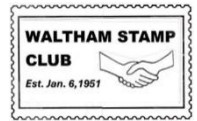




Waltham Stamp Club



FOUNDED APRIL 1951

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

May 2025, Volume 5 edition 5

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A Thank You to Our Writers in 2024 – 2025



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
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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

As editor of our award-winning newsletter, I look forward to another banner year. The late winter and early spring has brought us below average temperatures and considerable rainfall but the hope is for warmer weather to arrive. April showers bring us May flowers and there are rainbows that follow the storm. Some of us were not so lucky as several floods and tornados hit the Southeast.

In the philatelic world we see some changes that may bring more collectors to the hobby. During COVID, when we needed to be home, people spent time with their books and hobbies. Topical stamp collections like the arts, sports, flowers, insects, and others became fashionable. Although stamp dealers are older and now fewer, more people have gone to the internet to buy and sell stamps.

In Boston and the surrounding area, we are looking forward to the Twelfth International Stamp Show to be held in Boston in celebration of the 250th anniversary of our country's independence. Boston 2026 will be held at the Boston Seaport Convention Center. Last month the Post Office issued a set of stamps commemorating the battles of the American Revolution. In addition, a pair of beautiful art design in stamps depicting Boston North Church and the Midnight Rider will be issued by the USPS to commemorate Boston 2026.

In this issue we have feature article from Stephen Tauber, a regular contributor to our newsletter, on perfins and the exhibit at the Spellman Museum; Stephen Neuman on the flower stamps that bloom in spring, and George Norton on the Language of Stamps. Stamps have been used to convey coded messages by their location and orientation on cards and envelopes

As the 2024-2025 season concludes I would like to thank all our feature article contributors who have made the newsletter a success and an award winner. My thanks go to Robert Brew, John Everett, Celine Poulin-Lape, Bruce Humphrey, Frank Slack, George Norton, Jeff Shapiro, Gail Mays, Stephen Tauber, and without being modest, the editor Stephen Neuman.

Our next meeting will be on May 6, after our barbecue, when we will hold our annual election for officers for the stamp club. The meeting on May 20 will feature a presentation by Frank Slack on the multi-colored Spanish Stamps and stamp errors.

Schedule for Summer 2025

- May 6, 2025 ANNUAL MEETING/BARBECUE – Election of Officers
(Details will follow/ RSVP needed)**
- May 20, 2025 PRESENTATION – “The 1st multi-colored & perforated Spanish stamps & their errors” by WSC member, Frank Slack**
- June 3, 2025 PRESENTATION – “Poster Stamps (part 2)
by WSC member Bob Brew**
- June 17, 2025 CLUB AUCTION – Last auction before the Fall – lots of bargains**
- July 15, 2025 SUMMER GET TOGETHER: BOURSE BOOKS**
- August 19, 2025 SUMMER GET TOGETHER: BOURSE BOOKS - AND OUR
ANNUAL SUMMER PHILATELIC PHLEA MARKET**

Future Philatelic Shows

Dedham Show – first Sunday of each month, May 4 and Jun 1 at the Holiday Inn in Dedham MA.

Nashua Show – at the Eagle’s Wing Convention Center on the third Sunday of each month, May 18 and Jun 15.

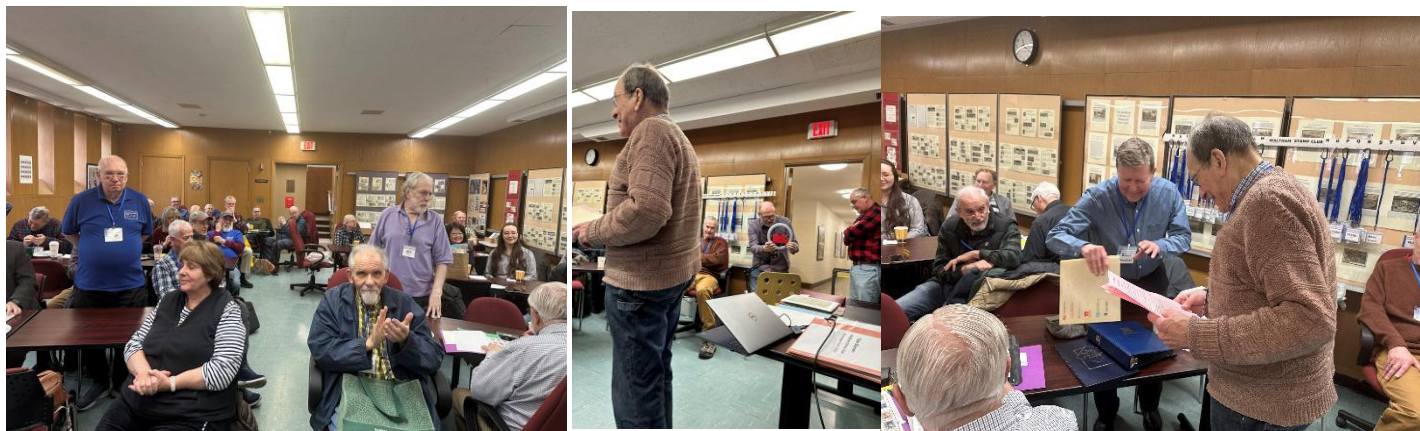
Recent Waltham Stamp Club Activities and Meetings

- On March 4, Rick Barrett gave a great presentation on Buffalo Cinderellas, based on his book, *The Gentleman, the Huckster, and the Pan American Exposition*:
 - Rick grew up in Buffalo area and for his tenth birthday received a Liberty US Stamp album. As a youngster he worked in an Orchard Park stamp store where he often was paid his salary in postage stamps.
 - The Pan American Exposition was held in Buffalo in 1901 and was the subject of the two-color commemorative stamps issued in US, Scott #204-299, popular six transportation series stamps.
 - Rick collected stamps and poster stamps from the Pan Am Expo. Each of the poster stamps were issued in five different colors (red, green, blue, brown, or purple), and each with twenty different designs of the buildings from the expo.
 - Poster stamps, unlike postage stamps, are also referred to as Cinderellas.
 - The only building remaining today from Expo is the Buffalo History Museum.
 - The Raynor Hubbell Stamp Company was the largest in the East between New York City and Chicago. By 1900 the stamp company was housed in the lobby of the Elliot Square Company building, one of the largest buildings in Buffalo.
 - The RH Stamp Co. sold more than 40,000 stamp packets, each containing more than ten poster stamps from the Expo and each packet sold for ten cents each.
 - Later on, R Hubbard became known for his large collection of US Confederate stamps. He retired in 1948 outside of Williamsville MA.

- William B Hale was the publisher of Stamp Collector's World by the turn of the twentieth century in 1898. Known as the "Huckster" he made his money by making forgeries and washing cancellations from stamp sales and selling them.
- Hale visited many stamp clubs on the East coast and in the bourses of Paris His motto was "watch out for me".
- Many of Hale's stamp collections came from the popular poster stamps of the Pan American Exposition. Also, many were forgeries.
- Stories of William B Hale of his trips abroad were publicized and his lavish lifestyle preceded him. Expenses were not always paid but he cleverly avoided imprisonment and remained in business.
- In 1906 he could not advertise anymore but that did not stop him from selling forgeries and fakes. In 1926, he spent a year in jail, but he did not stop and in fact by 1926 he was making as much as \$3500 a day. In 1929, he made the front page of the Charleston SC newspaper.
- He got out of an Atlanta GA prison, and he died in 1930, He is buried in Hubbardston, Forest Hill cemetery.
- The following are highlights of the April 5 presentation by Ken Flowers on Gems from the vault. Ken is the new curator for the Spellman Museum.
 - Stamps from Hamburg, Germany vintage 1860's including a leather and wood bound book with beautiful reproductions on sheets.
 - A counterfeit Red Magenta whose value if authentic would be approx. 9.5 million dollars. The museum collection includes stamps that precede and follow the stamp from British Guiana.
 - Show covers signed by Henry Ford.
 - A presentation of Zodiac stamps from China. The collection includes a set of silver blocks, each 500 grams wt. The box of stamps probably a gift for a foreign diplomat.
 - Covers from the Civil War, several hand painted cachets. The success of the Union army over the Confederates is depicted by an eagle chasing rooster. Letters from famous military officers and several that were sent to Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederates.
 - The Penny Black stamps, including stamp blocks and singles. The sheets of stamps were printed from engraved plates, there are 12 columns and twenty rows or a total pf 240 which is also the number of pence to the pound. As the plates wore the color changed from very black to gray.
- On April 15, Clark Frazier gave an excellent and informative presentation on expertizing and grading stamps.
 - One expertizes stamps to verify the identity and condition for purposes of validation and identification of forgeries or alterations of stamps.
 - Gum condition to determine if the stamp was never hinged, hinged or has no gum.
 - Third party grading such as the Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) introduced in 2001 (scale of 10 to 100) or the Philatelic Foundation (PF) (2005 ranging from 50 as Very Good to 98 Superb).

- The Philatelic Stamp Authentication and Grading (PSAG) since 2009 is a group of stamp experts from US and Canada that will expertise for you and determine stamps' values.
- Stamp experts use reference collections of authentic stamps, reference books and auction catalogs, the internet, philatelic journals, and libraries such as those in National Postal Museum and in Spellman to determine grading.
- Stamp characteristics such as paper, printing method, stamp gum, perforation, color, centering, cancel, overprinting, not only determine the grade and condition of the stamp but can be used to determine if the stamp is authentic and not a fake or forgery.
- Stamps can be damaged by improper handling, removal from paper, hinge removal, water, or excessive moisture or from environmental effects such as smoking or air pollution. Colors can be changed from sun exposure, and proximity to chemicals and plastics.
- Be careful with internet stamp auctions and buying from eBay. The stamp seller's reputation is paramount.
- Stamp Expertizing websites include following:
 - www.philatelicfoundation.org
 - gradingmatters.com, professional stamp experts
 - stamps.org/Certificate-Archive, APS
 - www.stampauthentication.com
 - www.aiep-experts.net, Int'l Assoc. of Philatelic Experts
- Also, useful web sites, www.stampsmarter.com, www.theswedishtiger.com, and www.siegelauctions.com

The 2025 Scavenger Hunt led by Stephen Tauber saw a record of nine participants. The top three winners this year are Tom Barner, Jeff Shapiro, and Bruce Humphrey. A photo of the event is shown below. The presentation of awards was made by Stephen at our Saturday Brunch meeting on April 5.



Visit our Waltham Stamp Club website at
<https://www.walthamstampclub.org>
 Your comments and suggestions are welcome.

The WSC website has been updated to include WALPEX 2024 photos, a link to, and a brief description of the Boston 2026 World Expo and the schedule for club activities for this coming year. Our thanks to Ed Sterling, web master and social correspondence chairperson.

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 or phone at 508-395-4543

Feature Stories from Our Members

Perfins at the Museum

By Stephen Tauber

As volunteers sort through donations received by the Spellman Museum, they extract various types of stamps. Primarily, items which might enter the Museum's reference collection are set aside for further consideration by the curator and the Museum's acquisition committee. Stamps are categorized according to whether they are to be processed as country material, topical, postal service, or according to other philatelic categories. On a regular basis United States perfins appear; these are considered to constitute one of those categories.

Over the years the Museum had accumulated thousands of U.S. perfins. Over a period of more than one year those on hand were organized according to their patterns into what Curator Nancy Meyer then qualified as being a collection — no longer an accumulation.

Perfins

Perforated Initials or Perforated Insignia

These were introduced as a security measure to discourage the pilferage of postage stamps by office employees.

The practice of creating perfins was introduced in 1868 in Great Britain, where unused stamps could be returned to the post office for a cash refund. Use of perfins quickly spread to many other countries.

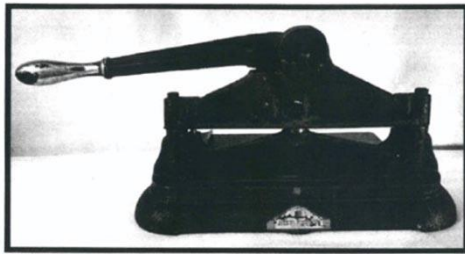
The United States Postal Service in 1908 authorized companies to punch their postage stamps with patterns to identify ownership.

A brief history of perfins, published in the newsletter of the Waltham Stamp Club, which meets in this building, is shown in the next four pages..

At the instigation of Executive Director Howard and Curator Meyer an exhibit on perfins, almost exclusively on United States issues, was organized. This was mounted in the side gallery on seven double-sided pull-out panels. The opening page thereof is shown in Figure 1 (left).

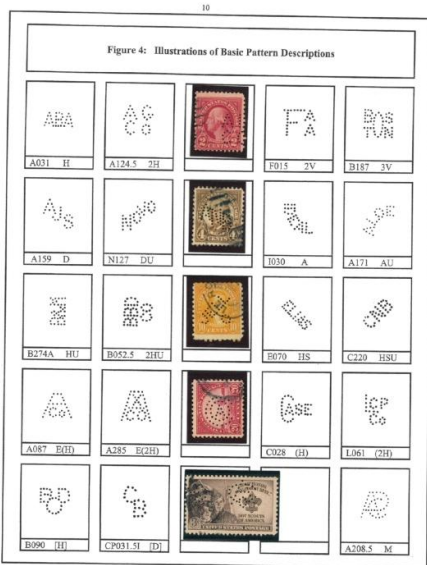
The exhibit is organized into several sections:

- General information about perfins
- Information available from the Perfins Club's catalogue of United States perfin patterns
- Museum's holdings of U.S. perfins
- Donations
- Covers
- New information.



Cummins No. 53 18-tilt perforator with perfin G129 (GM&O) used by Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad

General information includes the history of perfins, a little about the associated technology, and their usage. One historic perforator is illustrated in Figure 2 (left). An early perforating device, manufactured by the Cummins Company is shown. Details of making the actual holes are not presented.



Explication of the Perfin Club's catalog includes the characteristics of perfin patterns and the organization of the pattern descriptions. This includes a presentation of basic pattern descriptions, as shown in Figure 3, as well as complex combinations.

Figure 3 (left)



Figure 4

Among the holdings of the Museum, the examples in the collection which are the scarcest are shown (cf. Figure 4). A rating of A means that no more than 10 examples of that pattern are known completely in undamaged stamps. (The Museum's example of pattern M155 is, unfortunately, faulty.) The B+ rating signifies that there are 11–20 known examples.

Examples shown of perfin donations include not only U.S. material, but also worldwide accumulations, as in Figure 5. From the patterns to be seen, at least the following countries are represented: Great Britain, Japan, New South Wales, and Switzerland. Figure 6 adds Australia, Austria, Bavaria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, and Romania. An example is shown of the deed of gift involved in making significant donations, and the point is made that donations extend to support of the Museum's library.

The importance of covers in identifying the users of specific patterns is illustrated by items such as shown in Figure 7. The single letter M in a square might plausibly be associated with a company whose name begins with that letter. The square, rotated to have its angles directed to the compass directions, actually represents the company name — a rebus for "Diamond".



Figure 5



Figure 6

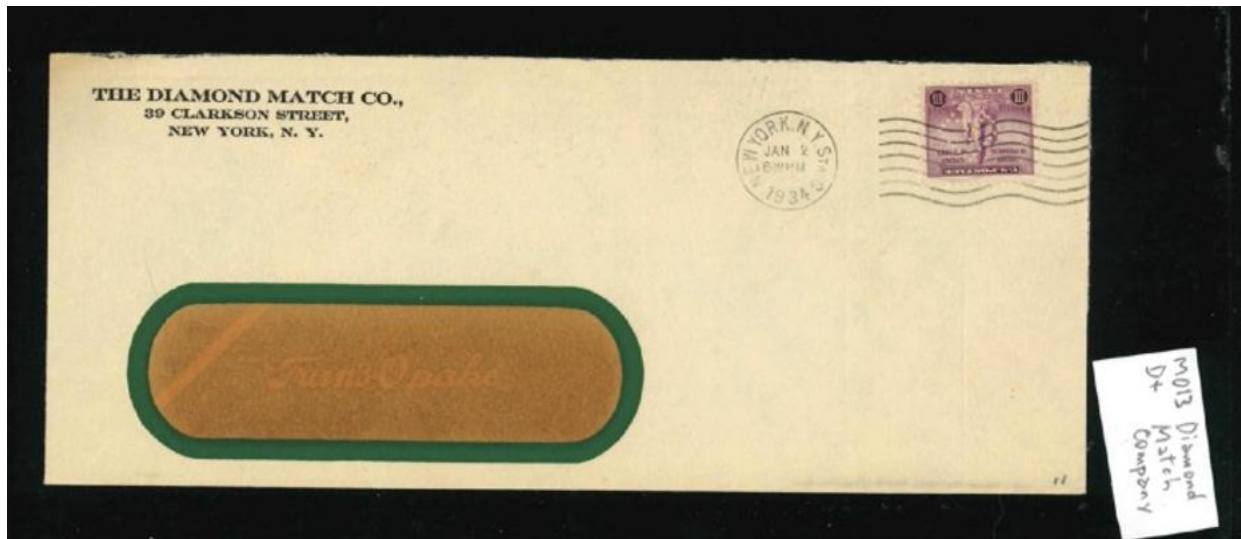


Figure 7

The final section of the exhibit actually touts the Museum as a research institution: the discovery of new information while working on its holdings of perfin. This information is sent to

the editor of the "Catalog of United States Perfins", and it is included in the periodic publication in *The Perfins Bulletin* of edits to the catalog. There are examples of newly identified towns from which given patterns were mailed and identifications of a newly recorded user. In the latter case, a scan of the discovery cover [N.B.] is retained in the archives of the Perfins Club.

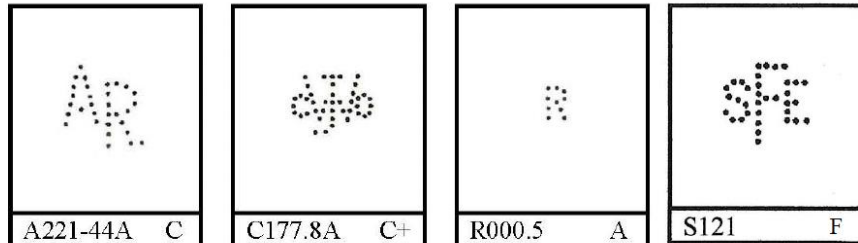
In one case, material found at the Museum provided evidence that a change which had been made in the most recent edition of the catalog should actually not have been made. What was at issue was a pair of related patterns, with and without one additional hole. (Such holes are frequently used to distinguish among offices of the same company.) In this instance the editor had concluded that the pattern without that hole was due to the pin making the extra hole having broken off; this was plausible because the pattern with and without the extra hole had been found together in a commemorative stamp. What the Museum's holdings of this pattern showed was that the conclusion, though plausible when made, was patently incorrect. As shown in Figure 8, this SFE pattern without the hole commonly has appeared on both of two adjacent stamps and twice together on a larger stamp. This argued very strongly that the pattern without the extra hole was distinct from that with that hole, rather than an artifact of a broken pin. In the January-February 2025 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*, the list of updates to the catalog reintroduced this pattern to the canon (Figure 9).



Figure 8

Table 3: Illustrations

Perfin	Page	Addition or Correction
A221-44A	A-39	T Replace illustration
C177.8A	C-19	T Replace illustration
R000.5	R-3	T Reinstate perfin
S121	S-15	T Reinstate perfin



April Showers Bring May Flowers

By Stephen Neuman

There have been many stamps depicting flowers as the subject but one of the first issued in the US was in January 1991. The stamp was issued in January 1991 in Washington DC. The stamp was issued as a rate change stamp prior to knowing what the new rate would be for first class mail. The rate change denomination followed in alphabetical progression, and in this case for the sixth time, it bears the letter “f”.



The stamp, Scott # 2517, pictures a red tulip with a single green leaf. The design is the work of Wallace Marosek who produced the artwork when he was student at the Yale University School of Art and Architecture. Marosek’s paintings, mostly of nature and beautiful landscapes are featured in SoWa Boston, the art and design guild of South Boston.

As with most other floral design stamps, the printing is done by a photogravure process. Photogravure is a direct image printing process where the image is etched into a plate using a photographic process. Photogravure is usually photographed using a very fine screen. The screen breaks up the subject into very tiny dots which are then etched into a plate. The depressions formed from this process hold the ink and when the paper comes in contact with the plate the ink is lifted onto the paper. Multicolored stamps utilize four different colors (magenta, cyan, yellow, and black) and four separate plates. Electronic engraving today utilizes computer generated images.

Four months later, the 29-cent red tulip stamp was issued from Rochester New York, Scott #2524. This was the first time in US history that the design for a non-denominated stamp was used again on a denominated stamp. The 29¢ stamps were also printed as sheets, booklets, and coils.

In the merry month of May when flowers in the spring bloom in full, the USPS issued the first in a series of booklets featuring garden flowers. Booklet panes of five different stamps were issued on May 15, 1993 in Spokane Washington. Part of the reason was the large sale of the previous flower stamps in supermarkets and other retailers. TV commercials and full-page ads including in stamp publications announced that “the flowers are in bloom at your post office – buy them while they last. And pick up a bunch.”



Engraved by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Richard Everett, the stamps featured artwork by Ned Seidler. Seidler had previously designed the 1984 block of four Orchids stamps ((US Scott #2076-79). The Garden Flowers stamps depicted a bouquet spread across five stamps, with multiple blooms of each flower contained to each stamp. Using photographs and flower books as his inspiration, Seidler produced his paintings through a combination of watercolor and gouache, a type of thicker watercolor.

Ned Seidler was a gifted and talented freelance illustrator and artist, born and raised in New York and studied at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. He created more than thirty stamp designs for the US Post Office including the twenty garden flower stamps for each season, the four fruit berries stamps, and the apple and orange fruit stamps. Several of his nature paintings were exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC.

The May 1999 stamp issue of wild tropical flowers (Scott # 3310 - 3313) and like others, photogravure is used in the printing process. The stamp was issued from Honolulu; Hawaii was created as a single piece of art with a continuous design. The bird of paradise flower is a member of the family native to South Africa.

The royal poinciana has brightly colored flowers that grow in immense clusters. Each flower on the 40-foot-high tree has five red petals, with one streaked yellow. Also known as the “flame tree,” the royal poinciana grows in Hawaii,



Madagascar, and Bermuda. Native to Asia, the hibiscus is Hawaii’s state flower, and the Chinese hibiscus is one of several varieties. The flower of the Chinese hibiscus can vary in color, but is usually a single blossom of red, white, or pink. The gloriosa lily has slender, vinelike petals that are scarlet and gold. An ornamental plant native to Africa and Asia, it must be grown in greenhouses during winter months in the United States.

The stamp was issued in a new format, described by the USPS as a "convertible booklet," the Tropical Flowers stamps have 12 stamps on the back side of the release liner paper and eight stamps on the front. The 1999 "Tropical Flowers" stamps are the first illustrated by botanical artist Steve Buchanan. Created as a single piece of art, the four stamps form a continuous design.

Steve Buchanan is a contemporary artist who gave up a life of concert halls and classrooms for brushes and bugs. He works in studio overlooking the Connecticut hills making realistic drawings with an electronic stylus and with tinting and shading using a mouse. His 1999 Insects and Spiders stamps issue has sold over sixty million copies making it the sixth most of any commemorative series. He is also responsible for stamps depicting reptiles, carnivorous plants, American motorcycles, and pollinators such as butterflies and bees.



In March 2005 the tulip was once again introduced to collectors with. A stamp issued in Chicago IL as a booklet of four different spring flowers (Scott # 3900 -3903) . Three of the plants on the Spring Flowers stamp se-tenant were imported into America. The yellow or yellow-and-orange daffodil is a wild narcissus that came from Europe. The hyacinth, of the lily family, originated in the Mediterranean region and Turkey and was brought to western Europe in the early 1500s. The hyacinth flowers are blue, pink, white, yellow, or purple.

The tulip came from southern Europe and Asia. Various colored, tulips display one or two hues. The name tulip comes from the Turkish word for turban. Turkish tulips were brought to Europe in the 1500s. Interest in the flower developed into a craze in Holland

between 1634 and 1637. Many people lost fortunes investing in tulip bulbs. Finally, the Dutch government was forced to regulate the tulip market.

The iris is native to temperate climates all over the world. Blooming in many shades and combinations of colors, its name comes from the Greek word for rainbow. Each daffodil, hyacinth, and tulip grows directly out of a bulb, a short, underground stem with a large bud. The iris grows from a rhizome, an underground stem that is usually elongated. In most parts of the United States, bulbs and rhizomes can be left in the ground over the winter to bloom again spring after spring.

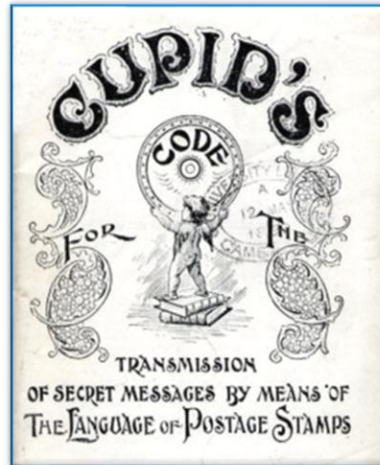
The Language of Stamps

By George S. Norton



Stamps have been used to convey coded messages by their location and orientation on cards and envelopes. This “Language of Stamps,” began in England in the latter part of the 19th century. Picture postcards were then coming into their own in what is known as the Golden Age of post cards (c. 1890 to 1915), but the amount of space available for communicating one’s thoughts and feelings was limited. And, there was no privacy for intimate messages - anyone could read whatever was written on the card.

In 1899, the Englishman George Bury published a little booklet titled *Cupid's Code for the Transmission of Secret Messages by Means of the Language of Postage Stamps*.



The use of coded language on mail was not new. In the pre-stamp period, generally postal fees were paid by the recipient. However, some correspondents placed a “secret” mark on the cover that conveyed a brief message known only to the recipient. At a glance, the message was conveyed without the need to read the cover’s contents, delivery was refused, and the payment of postage avoided. With the introduction of cheaper postal rates and the postage stamp in 1840, this abusive practice generally died out.

The position and orientation of the stamp can be used as an additional coded message. As the postage stamp language developed, by the turn of the 20th century the rules began to receive their particular chapter in the etiquette books along with the languages of flowers, handkerchiefs, and fans. Interest in this new form of language is reflected in many countries by mention in magazines and specific manuals and rapidly spread through gossip. Entrepreneurs were quick to jump onto the bandwagon and started publishing and marketing the idea through postcards depicting the postage stamp 'codes'.



“To you my life”

The secret code cards for the Language of Stamps were primarily for expressions of love and affection.



The postcards often carried an additional illustration to indicate the stamp codes were designed to convey expressions of love and affection. This postcard, mailed from Paris to Youngstown, Ohio in 1950, illustrates stamps from Switzerland with explanation of the codes in both German and French.



French and German language of stamps postcards with a variety of each country's stamps.



As will be noted the location and orientation of the stamps have a different meaning depending on the country and the code used. This card from Finland explains “Interpreter with Stamps - I can express the following things if they are placed on cards as in these examples.”



This is an example from France of a “bilingual” secret of stamps code card showing both the languages of stamps and of flowers. Actual used French and Great Britain stamps are glued onto the card. The card explains “Hearts too separated are made up through us keeping their dear and sweet secrets for themselves.”



A different approach to the language of stamps is illustrated on this card with images of stamps from twelve countries in Europe, each country signifying a different coded message. The card was mailed in Canada about 1906.



A language of stamps postcard from Sweden explains “to express any of the following possibilities, the stamp is placed in the corresponding position indicated.”



This French postcard used the popular sower stamps introduced in 1903 imposed on *The Gleaners* (*Des glaneuses*), an oil painting by Jean-François Millet completed in 1857 and held

in the Musée d'Orsay, in Paris. Note the postcard was mailed from Paris in 1913 using a 5c sower stamp to pay the postcard rate postage.



Two additional postcards from France feature the sower issue stamps. Each postcard features a separate secret code. The postcard on the left was mailed in 1912 from Thienen, Belgium.



The left postcard printed in England featured fanciful stamps reading Love Post. On the right the postcard is one of a "Comique" series from London during World War I featuring military figures in uniform.



As the language of stamps evolved, additional variations of the codes appeared when instead of using one, two stamps were used in combination. These two German real photograph postcards used the President Paul von Hindenburg 1930s definitives and President Theodor Heuss 1950s definitives. Poems on the bottom of each card read:

How far away lies the beautiful life,
in which I was so happy for so long.
Dearest thoughts fill my longing,
and the hope of a reunion.

If you want to know how I feel,
look carefully at this card.
You'll always be in the picture,
even if I can't write much.

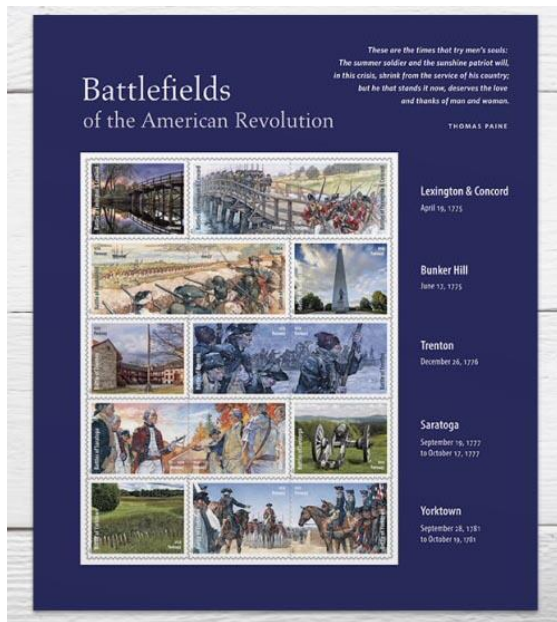
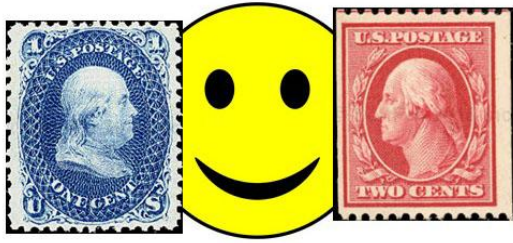


Two postcards from the Netherlands use stamps with simulated cancellations. The used postcard on the left was mailed in 1901 from Vieux-Dieu, Belgium, to Hamburg.



Two postcards from Switzerland illustrate different stamp codes, designs, and manufacturing styles. The postcard on the right has all of the stamps printed with raised embossing.

Phun Facts



The battlefields of the American Revolution are commemorated by the USPS in a pane of fifteen stamps that were issued April 16 . The pane pairs photographs of the five battlefields and historic sites with dramatic paintings of the pivotal moments in the American Revolution by artist Greg Harlin, whose illustrations span two stamps each. Art director Derry Noyes designed the stamp pane.

The stamps were issued from Concord, Massachusetts. The five battles, from top to bottom, are Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, Trenton, Saratoga, and Yorktown, The American Revolution lasted more than six years (1775-

1783) before the Treaty of Paris was signed and the British evacuated the country. The thirteen colonies became the United States on July 4, 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

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 April 2025 journal has a feature article on post offices in the "Stans", Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

The APS offers a reduced rate of membership for seniors. The APS offers expertizing services and stamp stores that can be found on the HipStamp website.

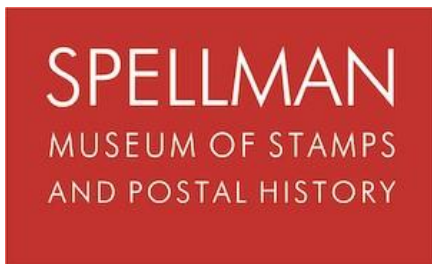


Remember the Dates

Boston 2026, the twelfth international philatelic exhibition will be held at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center on May 23-30 2026. The show commemorates the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of our nation's birth.



In anticipation and to commemorate the event, two intaglio-printed stamps will highlight the special role of Boston in the American Revolution as we prepare to celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed these stamps with digital illustrations by Dan Gretta featuring the Old North Church and a "midnight rider" on horseback in colonial garb.



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.



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 at www.spellmanmuseum.org and enjoy!

We encourage our club members to 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 is 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. The senior rate of membership is \$25 a year. In addition to free attendance at the museum, there is a monthly newsletter, the philatelic library, and member discounts at the museum stamp store.

There have been many renovations at the museum in the past year. All of the galleries have been updated with new collections. The Spellman Museum features extraordinary exhibits that illustrate national and world history, social movements, pioneers, and human achievement, connecting visitors with the shared human experience through stamps.

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