

Mayflower Minutes

West Suburban Stamp Club
www.thewssc.com

P.O. Box 700049
Plymouth, MI 48170
E-mail:
newsletter@thewssc.com
Meetings on the 1st and 3rd
Fridays of each month at 7:30.
(Doors open at 6:30)
Held at:
Plymouth Historical Museum
155 South Main Street
Plymouth, Michigan

CLUB MEETING INFORMATION

The April 5th, April 19th and May 10th Meetings (7:30 PM) will be LIVE at the Plymouth Historical Museum and via ZOOM. Doors open at 6:30.

NOTE—ONLY ONE MEETING IN MAY ON THE 10th

Due to scheduling conflicts with the museum the one May meeting will be on the 10th of May.

2024 PLYMOUTH SHOW SCHEDULES

IMPORTANT-There is no set-up on Thursday

Volunteer Opportunities and Schedule

Registration, See or contact Nick Fava to volunteer
Club Table, See or contact Tim Strzalkowski to volunteer
Dollar Table, See or contact Tabatha Herron to volunteer
Stamps in Your Closet, See or contact Andy Mazzara to volunteer
Friday, April 19

- 10:00 am Set-up
- 1:00 pm Dealer Move-in.

Need strong helpers to move dealer stock from vehicles to tables and adult supervision for youth helpers.

- 6:30 pm WSSC Club Meeting on-site at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

Saturday, April 20 9:30 am – 5:30 pm

Sunday, April 21 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

- 3:00 pm – Tear-down



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 5—Sarah Beckman Christmas Stamps
- April 19- Show Meeting Pizza
- May 10—What I Got at the Plymouth Show
- June 7—Giant Summer Auction
- June 21—TBD

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BRINGS



WSSC Club Officers:

President: Terry Savard, Vice President: Nick Fava, Secretary: Sarah Beckman, Treasurer: Jim Napiorkowski
Trustees through 2024: David Stanbury, Cary Johnson, Trustees through 2025: Rod Watts, Tabitha Herron
Newsletter Editor: Doug Becker, E-mail: newsletter@thewssc.com

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMED

It is coming up on WSSC officer election time once again. Chuck and Mike have volunteered to be on the 2024/25 nominating committee. The slate of nominees will be printed in the June Newsletter. Do some thinking on how you would like to serve and contact Chuck or Mike if interested.

HAVE YOU READ StampEd?

After you've finished reading the AP cover-to-cover, why not dive into the newest edition to the APS publication portfolio, StampEd? The first issue of our FREE digital quarterly magazine is available to read on StampEd.pub — where you can also find extended versions of the articles, sign up for the StampEd newsletter, and learn how you can support the magazine.

We hope you'll check it out and let us know what you think. You can reach the StampEd team at StampEd@stamps.org.

WSSC WEB SITE

West Suburban Stamp Club has a beautiful WEB Site maintained by Tim Strzalkowski. Web Site is at www.thewssc.com. Check it out as it has lots of club information and links to other philatelic sites. The past and present newsletters are always there also.

WSSC FACEBOOK PAGE

The West Suburban Stamp Club face book page is maintained by Nick Fava. If you are on Facebook please join our Group. Nick regularly posts interesting articles and information. Just look for **West Suburban Stamp Club** and join.

IS THERE A SHIP THAT IS ALSO A STAMP ISSUING ENTITY?

Is there a ship that is also a stamp-issuing entity? Yes! It is in the Atlantic, and most collectors worldwide have stamps from it. It is Ascension Island, a British possession in the South Atlantic off the coast of Africa. "But, wait!" you might say, "Ascension isn't a ship ... it is an island." Well, it is both, in fact. The island of Ascension was initially discovered by the Portuguese in 1501. It remained unsettled until French Emperor Napoleon was exiled to St. Helena in 1815, and (as a protective measure) a small British naval garrison was stationed on Ascension to keep an eye on potential French shenanigans in the area to rescue Napoleon from exile. It was at that time that the British Navy designated the island of Ascension as the "H.M.S. Ascension" and identified it as a "Stone Sloop of War of the Smaller Class." The island/ship remained under the supervision of the British Board of Admiralty until 1922. Since 1922 and through to the present day, the title H.M.S. Ascension remains intact. Today, the island remains classed as a "stone frigate." Why was this island declared a ship? It seems that title was bestowed on the Island by the British Navy to instill a greater level of discipline in the troops stationed there. In any event, Ascension remains the only ship that is a stamp-producing nation.

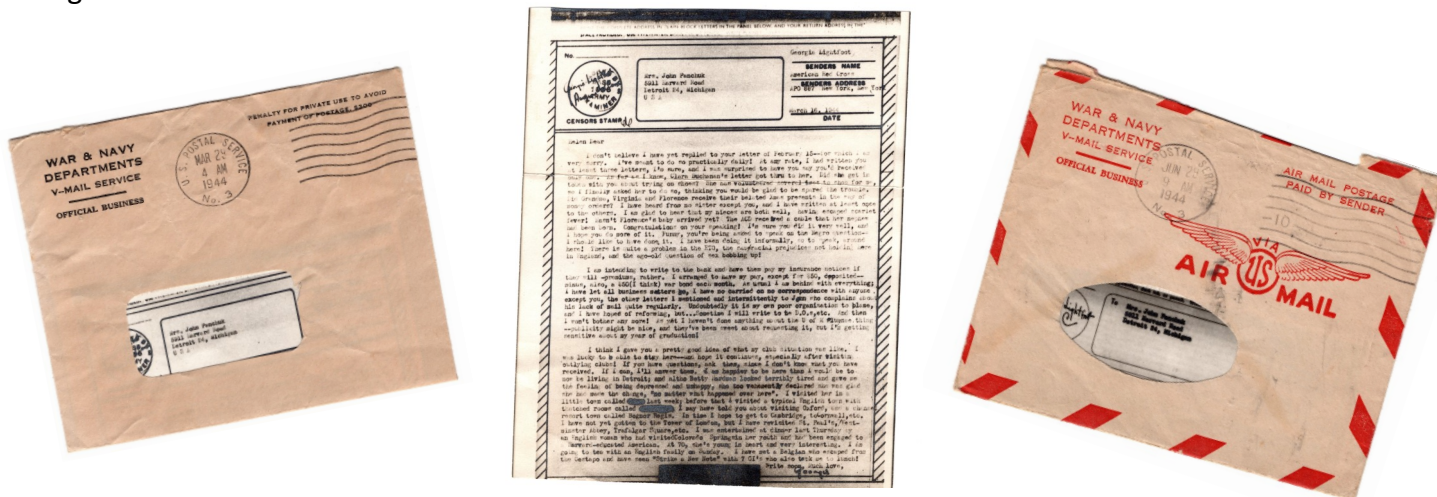
V or VICTORY MAIL

Following the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States declared war on Japan and entered the largest full-scale war in history. As war raged around the world, countries divided into Axis and Allied powers and battlefields spanned across Europe, Asia, and Africa. Members of the armed forces were deployed to the far reaches of the globe and were separated from their families.

In the days before email, cell phones, and text messaging, letters served as a vital link between loved ones and friends. Army Post Offices (APOs), Fleet Post Offices (FPOs), and U.S. post offices alike were flooded with mail sent by service members and sweethearts. According to the 1945 Annual Report to the Postmaster General, mail dispatched to the Army in that fiscal year reached 2,533,938,330 pieces compared to the prior year total of 1,482,000,000 and fiscal 1943 sum of only 570,633,000 items. The Navy received 838,644,537 in fiscal year 1945 whereas the prior period saw 463,266,667 mail items sent. The bulk and weight of parcels and letters was competing with military supplies in transport vehicles. Officials from the Post Office, War, and Navy Departments faced a large problem: Was there a way to save room for equipment and still deliver the mail?

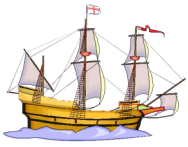
The answer was V-Mail. V or Victory Mail, was a valuable tool for the military during WWII. The process, which originated in England, was the microfilming of specially designed letter sheets. Instead of using valuable cargo space to ship whole letters from overseas or to overseas, microfilmed copies were sent in their stead and then “blown Up” at an overseas or domestic destination before being delivered to civilian or military personnel.

The first large Army operated V-mail station overseas was opened on April 15, 1943 at Casablanca, North Africa. Hastily set up in a field following the Allied invasion of North Africa, this makeshift station continued to operate until September 15, 1943. Between June 15, 1942 and April 1, 1945, 556,513,795 pieces of V-mail were sent from the U.S. to military post offices and over 510 Million pieces were received from military personnel abroad. In spite of the patriotic draw of V-mail, most people still sent regular first class mail. In 1944 for instance, Navy personnel received 38 million pieces of V-mail, but over 272 million pieces of regular first class mail.



V-Mail Letter as Received

4 X 5 Inches



Mini Auction April 5, 2024

1. US Used on Album pages 100+ stamps. Cat. \$68+
2. US assorted covers 20 items
3. US Used Scott 159, 161, 178, Mint no Gum 158, 185. Cat. \$232.50
4. Price Guide to A.P.O. of WWII Printed 1996
5. Cigar Box full of Older US used on paper, Must See!
6. United Nations FDC 30 items. Cat. \$38
7. Canada Covers (30) most are FDC
8. US Covers various events 20 Covers
9. US Used off paper, Mish Mash mostly earlier, some Back of Book
10. US Booklet Panes 14 All Different Panes 1 Value undetermined. Cat. \$67+
11. US Assorted mint (13) most MNH unless noted, 1 stamp used. Cat. \$21
12. US Mint hinged, mostly assorted air mail, some Postage Due, Special Delivery, a few used. Cat. \$60+
13. Take a chance, US Used #114, #65, #26. Cat. \$20. If #26 is 26E XF Cat. \$20,593.75
14. US Covers with Cachets (25)
15. US Covers (25) from the 40's thru 60's
16. British Commonwealth – (85) older stamps mounted on album pages from: Mauritius, Montserrat, Natal, Nigeria, Niue, New South Wales, North Borneo, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland Protectorate, & Papua.
17. Canada - #149-154 mint. King George V. Total Cat. \$89.15.
18. "N, O, & P" Countries – (250) older stamps from Norway, Nyassa, Niger, Nepal, New Caledonia, Oltre Giuba, Palestine, Pakistan, Panama, & Prussia.
19. Newfoundland – (49) older stamps mounted on album pages, many cataloging over \$1.00, up to \$12.50.
20. American Bicentennial Issues – (5) MNH Stamps & (5) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Bolivia #583a, \$25.00; Bolivia (3) Scott Noted but not numbered Souvenir Sheets, \$18.00; & Congo #390-394 & 395, \$13.70. Total \$56.70.
21. Jugoslavia – (136) older stamps mounted on album pages.
22. Nova Scotia - #8, 9, & 11 MH. 1¢, 2¢, & 8 1/2¢, Queen Victoria. Very nice looking stamps. Total Cat. \$45
23. Netherlands & Netherlands Antilles – (208) older stamps mounted on album pages.
24. Sweden – (5) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: #1611, 1909a, 2613, 2705, & 2737. Total Cat. \$36.75.
25. Italy – (54) older stamps from 1863 to 1927 mounted on album pages with approx. \$200.00 Cat.
26. "C" Countries – (284) older stamps from Cuba, Colombia, & Costa Rica.
27. Netherlands – (9) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: #1016a, 1039, 1062, 1068, 1069, 1162, B550a, B558a, & B618a. Total Cat. \$24.10.



Mini Auction April 19, 2024

1. Canada (30) Covers
2. United Nations First Day Covers (30)
3. US Mint no Gum Scott J18. Cat. \$605
4. US Revenues and Stock Transfer, Mint—RD 37, 30, 31, 104, 105. Used RD 76. Cat. \$192.50
5. US Covers (25) many earlier stamps 40's to 60's
6. US Mixed mint and used 15 Stamps from 1895—1926. Cat. \$44.05
7. Canada assorted in box. Take a chance.
8. US Scott #350 & #353 used on album page. Cat. \$307.95
9. US Mint 33 items hinged from Scott # 300—# 799. Cat. \$34.75
10. US Mint 32 Full .03 sheets 2 partial.03 (33) 4 full sheet .05. Face Val. \$58.00
11. US used Prexies in Cigar Box multiples of each sorted in envelopes.
12. United Nations Mint Complete thru 1980 including SS #38 plus minor assortment of more recent issues. Cat. 355.00+
13. US Mint assorted Some Xmas. Face Value \$10.00+
14. Canada FDC (30)
15. US used Full Set of 1938—39 Prexies & 1940 Famous Americans + others on album pages. Cat. \$17.00+
16. New Zealand – (78) older stamps mounted on album pages with many cataloging over \$1.00 each.
17. Canada - #155 & #156 mint. Total Cat. \$65.00.
18. “I, J, K, & L” Countries – (372) older stamps from: Luxemburg, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Libia, Liberia, Lebanon, Latvia, Italian East Africa, Kuwait, Korea, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, & Jordan.
19. American Bicentennial Issues – (23) MNH Stamps & (2) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Bangladesh #111-114a, Barbados #440-443, Benin #C247-C249, Belgium #942, Chad #C212-C214, Colombia #846, Chile unlisted souvenir card, & Costa Rica #C680-C682. Total Cat. \$50.00.
20. British Commonwealth – (107) older stamps mounted on album pages from Jamaica, Kenya & Uganda, Leeward Islands, & Malta.
21. “M” Countries – (332) older stamps from Mozambique, Montenegro, Moraco, Middle Congo, Mauritania, Martinique, Manchukuo, Malaya, Madagascar, & Macao.
22. Netherlands – (6) MNH Souvenir Sheets including #806, 1043, 1057a, B408a, B538a, & B547a and Netherlands Antilles – (3) MNH Souvenir Sheets including #439a, 931, & B157a. Total Cat. \$20.85.
23. Nicaragua – (116) older stamps mounted on album pages with many “Back of the Book”.
24. Italy – (51) older stamps from 1927 to 1932 mounted on album pages with approx. \$150.00 Cat.
25. Mexico – (131) older stamps mounted on album pages.
26. (10) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Solomon Islands #449, 547, 554a, 569, & 575; Maldive Islands #1764 & 2078; and Micronesia #132, 133, & 181. Total Cat. \$29.65.
27. Japan – (137) older stamps mounted on album pages. Many cataloging over \$1.00 each.



Mini Auction May 10, 2024

1. Canada FDC (30)
2. US Covers earlier postage 1940s & 50s (25)
3. US Various Coil Pair, some LP, some pair, Cat. \$ 85.40
4. US Single Mint NH
5. Various from 1965-1981 30 Items, Cat. \$11.78
6. United Nations FDC (25)
7. US Scott # 64 used VF, Cat. \$587.50
8. US Used Scott # 134, 135, 136 #139 damage to 2 corners, Cat. \$312.20
9. US Official Stamps (18) mint singles, (1) used Pair, Cat.\$27.28
10. US (2) Mint sheets of Scott #3784 Face Value \$14.80, Cat. \$22.00
11. Canada FDC (25)
12. US Air Mail Mint C23 thru C31 , C24 has a hinge mark, Cat. \$37.07
13. US Mint (14) Special Delivery E14 - E23, Air Post Special Delivery, Registration, Certified Mail, Cat. \$33.06
14. US Mint Great Americans Issue (51) 1980-1993, Cat. \$30.20
15. Mish Mash US Mint unhinged on album pages (76) from Scott 803-953, Cat. \$20+
16. Germany – (37) older stamps from the first 2 pages of a collection. Decent total catalog.
17. Canada - #162-172 Mint. Nice group of (11) mint King George V stamps. Total Cat. \$77.75.
18. France – (294) older stamps mounted on album pages. Many cataloging over \$1.00 and up to \$14.00.
19. Dutch Indies – (162) older stamps mounted on album pages.
20. Liberia – (7) MNH unlisted Souvenir Sheets featuring all of the U.S. Presidents. Included are the 2 rare complete sheets featuring our 43rd President, Al Gore! Total Cat. Priceless.
21. Fiume – (8) mint older better stamps from this rarely seen country. Total Cat. \$52.75. (Does not include #19, Cat. \$145.00, which is probably a forgery).
22. (205) older stamps including some from lesser known countries like: Armenia, Batum, Alexandretta, Angra, Colombia Antioquia Province, & China Japanese Occupation.
23. Great Britain Offices Abroad, Turkish Empire – An interesting Cover from G.B.O.A.-Turkish Empire. Cover is franked with (9) #59, 7 1/2p on 5p yellow brown stamps. The 1923 oversize Registered Cover was sent from Constantinople, Turkey to Pittsburgh, PA and includes the appropriate Receiving and Transfer postmarks. Cover is sealed with (3) red wax “American Y.M.C.A. Constantinople” logo impressions. Cover also includes the Auxiliary Marking, “Supposed Liable To United States Customs Duties”. Very interesting Cover that I’m sure no one has a comparable.
24. German Colonies – (15) older stamps from: Caroline Islands, Cameroun, German New Guinea, German East Africa, German South West Africa, Kiauchau, Mariana Islands, & Samoa. Total Cat. \$34.65.
25. American Bicentennial Issues – (9) MNH Stamps & (7) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Guatemala #C606a, C607a, C608a, & C609a; Guinea (2) unlisted gold foil Souvenir Sheets; Guinea Bissau #360-360E & 360F; India #C8; Israel #598; & Luxembourg #587. Total Cat. \$51.30++.
26. Jordan – (2) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: 100f Souvenir Sheet mentioned after #418, \$25.00, and 100f Souvenir Sheet mentioned after #462, \$18.50. Kennedy and Red Cross Topicals. Total Cat. \$43.50.
27. Italy – (69) older stamps from 1931 to 1938 mounted on album pages with approx. \$180.00 Cat.