

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 the Plymouth Historical
Museum
155 South Main Street
Plymouth, Michigan

WSSC FUN FILLED CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY PARTY



A big thank you to Terry and Leanne Savard for organizing the event and donating the decorations, drinks and special cake for the party. Also a thank you to Ron and Carol Beier for leading the gift exchange and to our WSSC Board for setting up the fun filled evening. There was lots of delicious food and desserts . The white elephant gift exchange was fun for all except those that had their prized possessions taken in the second round. If you missed the event you should plan to attend next year, as you missed out on a fun evening.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Jan 5—Ed Duban Potpourri of Unrelated Covers .
- Jan. 19—TBD
- Feb. 2—TBD
- Feb. 16- TBD

MEETING DATES FOR 2024

Below is a list of meeting dates for 2024. If there are any changes, they will be published in the newsletter.

January 5 & 19	July 19
February 2 & 16	August 2 & 16
March 1 & 15	September 6 & 20
April 5	October 4 & 18
Plymouth Show April 20 & 21	November 1 & 15
May 10	December 13, Holiday Party
June 7 & 21	

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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

MAYFLOWER MINUTES EARNS LARGE SILVER

Mayflower Minutes received a large silver medal in the 2023 Star Route competition of the American Philatelic Society. The competition allows local clubs to submit their newsletter and website for consideration by a panel of judges. Mayflower Minutes was among 30 newsletters submitted. The Grand Award went to GRSC News, published by the Greater Richmond Stamp Club in Virginia. There were five judges reviewing the newsletters and each made comments on content and design. Some of the suggestions have been made in this issue.



Overall Score: 62.92

Judges' Feedback

Judge information is anonymized.

Content Comments

Judge 1: Too many pages of auction instead of information for members.

Judge 2: Consider using philatelic images rather than clip art. If the Zoom meetings recorded consider including the recording link to view afterward (stored on YouTube). Consider adding highlights from previous meeting, a leadership column which could be published with each issue or rotate through the year (Presidents message, treasurer report, membership report etc). For member recognition consider introducing new members, new board members, anniversary dates, those seen in the news, awards received.

Judge 3: Unfortunately, the overwhelming impression is that this Plymouth, Michigan club suffers from an all-around lack of member enthusiasm. The contents are rather uninspiring and seem to consist mostly of listings for the next club auction, the names of officers and pleas for volunteers. Not much sense of who the membership is or what they're interested in collecting.

Judge 4: Rather than a preponderance of clip art, use photos of members and club activities as well as stamp images to engage your readers.

Judge 5: Excellent coverage of Plymouth Show - otherwise nothing noted, leadership content dominated by asking for newsletter input or other volunteers.

Design Comments

Judge 1: The URL for the club is buried on the back page and should be prominently shown on the front page.

Judge 2: Thank you for the submission.

Judge 3: The layout feels a little thrown-together: random font sizes, no real sense of design. I realize there isn't much material to work with but some effort to keep what there is consistent and tidy would make a big improvement.

Judge 4: Interesting that there were no minutes or highlights of your meetings or events given that the title of your publication. Telling about your events or member activities will add life and vibrancy to the newsletter.

Judge 5: Put the club website link in the masthead - I found it in the Plymouth Show exhibits plea discussion! Lots of space devoted to auction lists.

Looking for your input/comments on our newsletter—Please E-mail: newsletter@thewssc.com

2024 CLUB DUES REMINDER

WSSC dues for 2024 are still \$12.00. Please pay Jim at the January meetings or mail them in to the WSSC mailing address.

TWICE A MONTH MEETING STATUS

The executive team has determined that the club will continue to meet twice a month with exceptions as noted in the schedule as shown below.

WSSC STAMP SHOW PREPERATION TIME

We are looking for a bourse chairmen, exhibit committee members and others to help with the Plymouth Show. Talk to Tim for more information and get on board to help keep our show strong.

First show committee meeting was held in December. First priority is to review financial data from last year's show. Exhibitor requests have been sent out by Terry.

WE NEED PROGRAMS FOR 2024 MEETINGS

If you have a topic you would like to share with the Club please advise Charlie Wood. You will receive either funny money (\$15) or a gold tong for your effort.

We can always use members or guests who are knowledgeable about various aspects of philately to give talks at our meetings. By the way, Charlie is also looking for someone to assist him with coordinating the programs.

Please consider presenting a program.

PROPOSED U. S. POSTAL RATE INCREASE JANUARY 21, 2024

First class Forever rate will go up to 68 cents per ounce from 66 cents.

Product	Current Prices	Planned Prices
Letters (1 ounce)	66 cents	68 cents
Letters (metered 1 ounce)	63 cents	64 cents
Domestic Postcards	51 cents	53 cents
International Postcards	\$1.50	\$1.55
International Letter (1 ounce)	\$1.50	\$1.55

PLYMOUTH SHOW EXHIBITS

The Plymouth Show will be coming up on April 20th and 21st. Start working on your exhibits now if you plan to have an exhibit at the show. That date is coming up fast. Contact the Exhibit Committee for more information, www.thewssc.com.



CONTRACT AIR MAIL ROUTE 27—JULY 17, 1928

Contract Air mail Route 27, as originally placed in operation, was unique in that it serviced a greater number of cities than any previous Contract Air mail route. The inaugural service covered the vast automobile district of Michigan. It had three distinct northern terminals: from Chicago to Kalamazoo, where it split into three segments to Muskegon, Detroit and Bay City. Many changes were made after its inception in an endeavor to simplify and improve service. The cachet illustrates the map of the original routes of CAM 27. A dot was filled that corresponds to the postmark of the city on the first flight cover. As cities were added the route map was modified. For CAM 27, a set of first flight covers would include both east and west bound flights with a couple of exceptions. The exceptions would be the cities of Muskegon, Detroit and Bay City for only one direction. The other exception would be Kalamazoo which had four directions for covers.



Cachet showing the map with the 13 original cities.



Cachet updated 11/27/1928 adding Flint and Pontiac



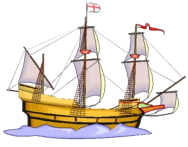
Cachet updated on 4/1-2/1929 adding Toledo and Cleveland. Also shows Detroit to Flint. Note that flight did not go over Lake Erie at this time.



On 5/14-15/1929 the first amphibian flight over Lake Erie took place. The Detroit to Cleveland segment was flown by Amelia Earhart.

Other cities were added to CAM 27 as follows: 3/5/1930 Mishawaka, 12/8/1930 Fort Wayne, 2/10/1933 Columbus and 2/11/1933 London Ontario and Buffalo.

Air Mail was a high priority during this era and first flight covers are available for air mail routes throughout the United States and foreign countries. This is an interesting part of postal history. This is but one example.



Mini Auction January 5, 2024

1. Canada used Scott 39, E3, mint never hinged Scott 66, \$77.50 Cat.
2. U.S. mint postage over \$8.00 face
3. U.S. mint Scott 297, no gum, (2) 670, 343, 441, 279b never hinged. Cat. \$111.00
4. U.S. Mint, Scott J25. Cat. \$100
5. U.S. Scott 704-715 on covers from 1932
6. Canada mint never hinged, Scott 54. Cat. \$160.00
7. U.S. used on pages including Scott 246-257, 258-282, 300-307, 414-421
8. U.S. used, Scott E7, 415-418, 421, 572, 573. Cat. \$124.00
9. U.S. mint, Scott C18. Cat. \$50.00
10. U.S. post/postal card selection
11. Canal Zone used, Scott 92, 93, 94. Cat. \$172.00
12. U.S. mint/used postage dues including (7) J86 never hinged, J85, used Scott J60, J73 pair, Cat. 132.95
13. U.S. used Scott 191. Cat. \$360.00
14. U.S. mint Scott 403, appears never hinged with small gum disturbance. Cat. \$390.00
15. Canada cover lot with some better stamps
16. Great Britain – (2) Nice used Sets plus a Single. Includes #251, 286-289, & 309-312. Total Cat. \$99.75.
17. Hungary – (280) older stamps with some better Semi-Postals.
18. (12) MNH Souvenir Sheets plus (1) CTO S.S. Included are Cayman Islands #353a, Barbuda #422, Dominica #373a, 1113, 1114, 1116, 1117, & 1119 CTO, Great Britain #874a & an unlisted, New Hebrides, French #151, Sri Lanka #588a, Papua New Guinea #424a, Australia #648 & 675a, New Zealand #B111a, & Congo #751a. Total Cat. \$28.05+.
19. Canada - #140, 141-145, & 146-148 MH. (2) Complete Sets & (1) Single. Total Cat. \$109.00.
20. (14) mint World War I era Charity and Child Welfare Stamps from Germany & adjacent countries.
21. Christmas Stamps from Greece & Gambia – (9) MNH Stamps in full Sets & (4) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Greece #2002 and Gambia #2668-2673, 2773, & 2904-2908. Total Cat. \$52.00.
22. Yugoslavia – (2) used Souvenir Sheets with First Day Cancels. Includes #C33 Perf. 11 ½ x 12 ½ (excellent condition) Cat. \$105.00 & #C33a Imperf. (tear on right side) Cat. \$105.00. Rarely seen. Total Cat. \$210.00.
23. Korea – (273) stamps from 1949 to 1979. Many cataloging \$1.00 or more.
24. Canada - #126a MH, 1 cent orange yellow Block of 4. Perf. 8 vertically. Imperf. Horizontally “by favor” of Postmaster. Total Cat. \$65.00.
25. Great Britain - #87 used with clear “Liverpool” circular datestamp. Beautiful stamp. 1sh salmon. Cat. \$288.50.
26. Bonus Lot – One Pound of older mostly worldwide stamps off paper. That’s a lot of stamps.
27. Bonus Lot – Statesman Deluxe Worldwide Album in near mint condition. Already loaded with hundreds of stamps.





Mini Auction January 19, 2024

1. Canada used, Scott 27. Cat. \$140.00
2. U.S. used on pages. Cat. \$87.00
3. U.S. used on page including Scott 257, 258. Cat. \$136.00
4. U.S. used, Scott 229. Cat. \$150.00
5. US Covers
6. Canada used, Scott 4, Cat. \$225.00
7. Mish Mash
8. U.S. on pages. Cat. \$59.00
9. U.S. used, Scott 259. Cat. \$70.00
10. US Postal Cards
11. U.S. used 212-215, 219-228. Cat. \$200.00
12. U.S. Scott 290, gum loss, thin. Cat. \$150.00
13. U.S. mint, Scott 240. Cat \$500.00
14. U.S. mint, Scott 254, never hinged. Cat \$550.00
15. U.S. used Post Card Selection
16. Great Britain - #81 used with a clear Liverpool circular datestamp. Beautiful stamp. 2p lilac rose. Cat. \$125.00.
17. Germany – (261) older stamps
18. Ghana – (11) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: #254a, 310a, 558, 81a, 529, 335a, 194a, 199, 41a, 307a, & 326a. Total Cat. \$44.30.
19. Canada - #128a MH, 2 cent green, Block of 4, Perf. 8 Vertically. Imperf. Horizontally “by Favor” of postmaster. Total Cat. \$65.00.
20. Fiume – (29) all mint but one stamps with Total Cat. over \$125.00.
21. Christmas Stamps – 22 MNH Stamps & 1 MNH Souvenir Sheet. Included are: Germany #B878-79, B895-96, B928-29, B946-47, & B860-61, Ghana #2387-2390, Guyana #3558-3561, & 3562, & Hong Kong #1018-1021. Total Cat. \$41.65.
22. (16) MNH Souvenir Sheets. Included are: Vatican City #717a, Tanzania #309a & 322a, Penrhyn #111-113, Grenada #365a, Dominican Republic #474-478, Chad #C181-C185, Yugoslavia #1092, Sharjah-unlisted, and Ajman-unlisted. Total Cat. \$33.00+.
23. Canada - #135 MNH, 3 cent brown. Cat. \$115.00.
24. Korea – (262) stamps from 1979 to 1993.
25. (12) mint World War I era Charity & Child Welfare Stamps from Germany and adjacent countries.
26. Bonus Lot – One Pound of older mostly worldwide stamps off paper. That’s a lot of stamps.
27. Bonus Lot – Statesman Deluxe Worldwide Album in good condition with several hundred stamps mounted.

