

Perforations



Last month, **Bill Schultz** talked about US and Canadian air mail stamps - “dead” issues that is both rich in history and affordable in top conditions. Bill covered many aspects of the subject from balloon mail, controversial issues and air mail societies.



This month we'll look at the list of topics available from APS to begin filling in the program for 2024 and any other ideas the group wishes to bring up.



Collecting Air Mail Philately

Prepared by
Bill Schultz
For

The Lake County Philatelic Society September, 2023



The Remaining Local Stamp Show

November 23

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	
			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

November 17 - 19 CHICAGOPEX

Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Blvd
Itasca IL



Meeting Schedule 2 pm – 4 pm Grayslake Library

100 Library Ln
Grayslake IL 60030

October 23

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 23

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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December 23

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Holiday Brunch 02 December 11:30 - AM



1455 N Dilleys Rd
Gurnee IL



The Columbians – The nation’s first commemorative stamps were issued for the World Columbian Exposition held in Chicago during 1893 and consisted of 16 postage stamps (Scott 230-245) and a special orange printing of the Special Delivery stamp (Scott E3) for Expo use.

Controversy – The stamps were printed by the American Banknote Company (ABC), who currently held a four-year contract for the production of United States postage stamps due to expire on 1893 November 30 – but these stamps were so different that Postmaster John Wanamaker executed a new contract with American Banknote specifically for the Columbian stamps without any competitive bidding process.

Terms which allowed the company to charge 17c per thousand stamps, in contrast to the 7.45c per thousand it had been collecting for stamps of the 1890 definitive series.

This arrangement prompted considerable public criticism— not diminished by ABC's argument that the Columbians' size (double that of normal stamps) warranted a higher price and incoming Postmaster General Wilson Bissel (under the reassumed Presidency of Grover Cleveland) in March 1893, attempted to renegotiate the stamp contract on terms more favorable to the Post Office.

Next Meeting:

2-PM on Tuesday October 24, 2023
Grayslake Library and Via ZOOM?

Any Changes will be posted on: lcpshome.org



Dave Schenkel / Tom Willer – Co-presidents
Officers: Ron Bruner – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Gary Olson – Treasurer

The first 15 denominations were placed on nationwide sale by post offices on Monday, 1893 January 02 and for the first time included stamps denominated \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5 – up till then no US postage stamp previously issued had cost more than 90c. The 16th stamp; the 8c, to provide for the newly lowered registered letter fee—was added in March. As a result, the face value of the complete set was \$16.34 (~\$400 in today’s currency), a substantial sum of money for your average stamp collector. Unsold stamps were destroyed after the Columbian Issue was removed from sale on 1894 April 12 after the ABC printed more than 2 billion stamps with a total face value exceeding \$40 million.

In addition to the postage stamps, four denominations (1c, 2c, 5c and 10c U348-U251) postal stationery envelopes were produced.

In general, the opinion regarding the issue was mixed. The set sold well but approval was not universal. An organization known as the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was created in protest of the creation of this set, deeming the Exposition in Chicago insufficiently important to be honored by postage, while some collectors balked at the Post Office Department’s willingness to profit from the growing hobby of philately. Ridiculing the \$5 stamp, the *Chicago Tribune* stated that it could be used for only one purpose: mailing a 62.5-pound package of books at the book rate.

The major fallout from the Columbian issue, was while all previous US stamps, had been produced by private security printers on limited-term contracts periodically presented for bidding. proved to be the last US stamps printed by a private company for many years. For during early 1894, the ABC failed to secure a renewal of its stamp contract because the US Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) submitted a (controversial/contested) lower bid.

From here on, the BEP then enjoyed a monopoly on US stamp production for about 50 years when in 1943 the ABC would again produce US stamps (the *Overrun Countries series (Scott 907-921)*, which required special multicolor printing pushed by President Roosevelt) and the BEP subsequently resumed its exclusive role in production, only gradually relinquishing it over the next 62-years with US stamp operations at the BEP ceased entirely in 2005.



The set was reissued in 1992 in the format of six politically incorrect souvenir sheets:



New Issues and last Issues of 2023

