

# Perforations



Last month, **Dave Sadler** rambled through 33 PowerPoint slides showcasing the USPOD/USPS's contributions to celebration of our nation's independence from 1876, 1926, 1976 and our current Semiquincentennial. In all, we looked at over 200 issues and why they were chosen.



This month, **Bill Schultz** will introduce us to the APS's "**The Hub**", its online community engine of **Stamp SCHOOL**, connecting collectors across generations through group discussion areas, files sharing, events, and private messaging. It allows members to search for and connect with others based on location or philatelic interests, fostering a collaborative environment for philatelic discussions and knowledge sharing. All you need is internet access and an account.



Americana Issue

For years, the United States Post Office Department (USPOD) and now, the United States Postal Service (USPS) have issued series of "**Definitive**" stamps — a postage stamp that is part of the regular issue of a nation's stamps, available for sale by the post office for an **extended period of time** with no set quantity of printing and designed to serve the everyday postal needs of the nation.



Prominent Americans

This month we will look at the "**Great Americans**" series. This series issued from 1980 December to 1999 July (in three sets), with a basic design having much in common with the preceding "**Americana (1975-1981)**" and "**Prominent Americans (1965-1978)**" but with a far more range of subjects — subjects that were well-known from a number of diverse fields and ethnicities.

Only two presidents were subjects in this series: **Thomas Jefferson** and **Harry S. Truman**. Without presidents, we see an enormous increase in the prominence of women – 16 among the **Great Americans** — a significant contrast to earlier definitive issues. In addition, were the first definitive series to offer stamps devoted to notable Native Americans (4), and African-Americans (2).


Other than who were honored, the USPS was able to add "**variety**" to collectors. Such as, printing methods, phosphors/tagging, perforations and gum types (shiny/dull) due the experimentation of the era in stamp

production. Varieties enough to keep a collector interested — but not nearly as interesting as the Elizabethan coils of Canada or the Machin stamps (gazillion varieties) produced in the United Kingdom.

Some of the varieties were generated by experimentation in tagging, color or press.



Blue-violet      Gray-violet      Gray-blue

Next Show							Next Meeting						
June 26							April 26						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
29	30						27	28	29	30			
<b>MSDA Stalene Stamp Show</b> 12-13 June First Christian Church Highway C Kenosha WI							<b>APS "HUB"</b>  The Hub						

**Next Meeting:**  
**2:00-PM on Tuesday, 28 April 2026**  
 Grayslake Historical Society — Any Changes will be posted on: [lcpshome.org](http://lcpshome.org)



**Tom Willer - Presidents**  
**Officers:**  
**Bill Schultz – Vice President**  
**Dave Sadler – Secretary**  
**Gary Olson – Treasurer**

In the list below, the Varieties Column indicates the type that can be found: Tagging (T), Colors (C), Perforations, Gum (G) and Printing Methods (M) or none (—).

Scott	Issue	DATE	Varieties
1844	1c Dorothea Dix	— 1983.09.23	T, P, M
2168	1c Margaret Mitchell	— 1986.06.30	C
1845	2c Igor Stravinsky	— 1982.11.18	—
2169	2c Mary Lyon	— 1987.02.28	T, G
1846	3c Henry Clay	— 1983.07.13	—
2170	3c Paul Dudley White, M.D.	— 1986.09.15	T, G
1847	4c Carl Schurz	— 1983.06.03	T
2171	4c Father Flanagan	— 1986.07.14	T, P, C, M
1848	5c Pearl S. Buck	— 1983.06.25	T, C
2172	5c Hugo Black	— 1986.02.27	C
2173	5c Luis Muñoz Marín	— 1990.02.18	T
1849	6c Walter Lippmann	— 1985.09.19	—
1850	7c Abraham Baldwin	— 1985.01.25	T
1851	8c Henry Knox	— 1985.07.25	T
1852	9c Sylvanus Thayer	— 1985.06.07	—
1853	10c Richard Russell	— 1984.05.31	T
2175	10c Red Cloud	— 1987.08.15	T, P, G, C
1854	11c Alden Partridge	— 1985.02.12	T
1855	13c Crazy Horse	— 1982.01.15	T, C
1856	14c Sinclair Lewis	— 1985.03.21	T
2176	14c Julia Ward Howe	— 1987.02.12	T
2177	15c Buffalo Bill Cody	— 1988.06.06	T
1857	17c Rachel Carson	— 1981.05.28	T
2178	17c Belva Lockwood	— 1986.06.18	T
1858	18c George Mason	— 1981.05.07	T
1859	19c Sequoyah	— 1980.12.27 - First	—
1860	20c Ralph Bunche	— 1982.01.12	T
1861	20c Thomas H. Gallaudet	— 1983.06.10	T
1862	20c Harry Truman	— 1984.01.26	T, M, P, G
2179	20c Virginia Apgar	— 1994.10.24	T, C,
2180	21c Chester Carlson	— 1988.10.21	T
1863	22c John J. Audubon	— 1985.04.23	T, P, M
2181	23c Mary Cassatt	— 1988.11.04	T, G
2182	25c Jack London	— 1986.01.11	T, M, P
2183	28c Sitting Bull	— 1989.09.14	—
2184	29c Earl Warren	— 1992.03.09	—
2185	29c Thomas Jefferson	— 1993.04.13	—
1864	30c Frank C. Laubach	— 1984.09.02	T, P, M
2933	32c Milton Hershey	— 1995.09.13	—
2934	32c Cal Farley	— 1996.04.26	—
2935	32c Henry R. Luce	— 1998.04.03	—
2936	32c Lila & DeWitt Wallace	— 1998.07.16	C
1865	35c Charles Drew	— 1981.06.03	T
2186	35c Dennis Chavez	— 1991.04.03	—
1866	37c Robert Millikan	— 1982.01.26	—
1867	39c Grenville Clark	— 1985.03.20	T, P
1868	40c Lillian Gilbreth	— 1984.02.24	T, P, M
2187	40c Claire Chennault	— 1990.09.06	T, G
2188	45c Harvey Cushing, M.D.	— 1988.06.17	T
2938	46c Ruth Benedict	— 1995.10.20	T
1869	50c Chester W. Nimitz	— 1985.02.22	T, P, M, G
2189	52c Hubert Humphrey	— 1991.06.03	T, G, M
2940	55c Alice Hamilton, M.D.	— 1995.07.11	T
2941	55c Justin S. Morrill	— 1999.07.17 - Last	—
2190	56c John Harvard	— 1986.09.03	—
2191	65c H. H. "Hap" Arnold	— 1988.11.05	—
2192	75c Wendell Wilkie	— 1992.02.16	T, G
2942	77c Mary Breckinridge	— 1998.11.09	—
2943	78c Alice Paul	— 1995.08.18	T, C
2193	\$1.00 Bernard Revel	— 1986.09.23	—
2194	\$1.00 Johns Hopkins	— 1989.06.07	T, G
2195	\$2.00 William Jennings Bryan	— 1986.03.19	T
2196	\$5.00 Bret Harte	— 1987.08.25	T



Great Americans – Issues 1 and 2



Great Americans – Issue 3



A Press Floating P#



A or D Press Corner P#

For printing methods, the "A" and "D" presses are the two stand outs: the **5-Color Gravure/3-Color Intaglio A Press (702)** [floating plate numbers and web with no center gutter or selvage between sheets (later they corrected this "flaw")] and the **6-Color Offset/3-Color Intaglio D Press (902)** [standard "corner plate blocks" with selvage all around].

**Perforation Methods** — In mid-1984, the **A press** was used to print sheets of the with straight edges on the three sides of each pane that did not have margin. In order to perforate this output, the Bureau was to use the **L-perforator**.

The other method was the **Eureka Off-Line Bullseye Perforator** — in 1985 saw the first use of the present-day off-line for the sheet definitive stamps. This machine took a roll of printed stamps and perforates it two adjoining panes across the web at a time, separates it into sheets four panes square.

Note: the first Die Cut definitive was issued (issue 3, this series #2942).



10 April

New Issues — April 2026

24 April

18 April

