

# Mayflower Minutes

West Suburban Stamp Club  
[www.thewssc.com](http://www.thewssc.com)

P.O. Box 700049  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
E-mail:  
[newsletter@thewssc.com](mailto: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 4th and 18th Meetings (7:30 PM) will be LIVE at the Plymouth Historical Museum and via ZOOM. Doors open at 6:30.

## WSSC "THE PLYMOUTH SHOW" MAY 23 and 24

Combining forces, the West Suburban Stamp Club, "The Plymouth Show" and Michigan's Premier Coin & Currency Show will be on Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24. .

## WSSC WEB SITE UPDATE

Exciting news, we have an updated website. Please visit us at <https://westsuburbanstampclub.org/>

Nick is our new WEB Master and he has done a nice job of updating it. He also is in charge of our Facebook page. Thanks Nick, for working on both of these sites.

Also a big thanks to Tim for setting up and working our website for many years. Your work is greatly appreciated.

## APRIL 4th MEETING, WHAT'S YOUR OTHER HOBBY, MEMBER PARTICAPATION

What's your other hobby??? Come and tell us about it. Bring some items to show or pictures to share. There will be a time limit so all have a chance to participate.

## WELCOME TO ERNIE'S MICHIGAN HISTORICAL ARCHIVES!

Ernie's Michigan Historical Archives - A searchable database of Michigan's letters from the past... Bringing history to life.

Check out this site, it's fantastic.

<https://erniesmi.net>



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 4—My Other Hobby, Member Participation
- April 18—Bill Chase, New Zealand Special Issues
- May 9—Pre Show Planning
- June 6— What I Got at The Plymouth Show
- July 18-TBD

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**WSSC Club Officers:**

President: Sarah Beckman, Vice President: Ron Beier, Secretary: Nick Fava, Treasurer: Bill Chace.

Trustees through 2025: Rod Watts, Tabitha Herron. Trustees through 2026: John Beeskow, Ray Gunther

Newsletter Editor: Doug Becker, E-mail: newsletter@thewssc.com

**PROGRAMS NEEDED FOR 2025 MEETINGS**

Looking for someone to present a topic for discussion at a 2025 meeting. If you would like to talk about something in your collection, see Charlie Wood. It can be as simple or complex as you want. Do whatever you feel comfortable with.

**DOOR PRIZES NEEDED**

Looking for donations of door prizes for our meeting raffles. If you have items that would be appropriate for our raffles, talk to Jim. Current stock of items is getting low.

**AUCTION INFORMATION**

Jim would like feedback on any requested type of items for the U.S. portion of the auction. If an item is not bid on at an auction, that item will be relisted at a future auction.

**Benjamin Franklin and the Hutchinson Affair**

In December 1772, Franklin was in London for business, serving as an agent of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. While there, he received a parcel containing letters from an anonymous sender. The letters were intercepted correspondence between Massachusetts Gov. Thomas Hutchinson, Lt. Gov. Andrew Oliver, and authorities in Britain. The letters discussed the revolts happening in the North American colonies and requested reinforcements and permission to impose harsher treatment of the colonists.

Franklin, who stood with the colonists, forwarded these letters to the Massachusetts House of Representatives with explicit instruction to discuss them only in committee and not publish them. Despite his instruction, the letters were leaked and published in the Boston Gazette in June 1773. The result was civil unrest and eventually the Boston Tea Party in December 1773.

As suspicion of who had released the letters to the public began to spread, Franklin took action and wrote a letter published in the London Chronicle claiming responsibility, in part, for the letters. As a result of these actions, Franklin was removed from his position in 1774.

After Franklin's dismissal, the colonies were put under more scrutiny. The British government authorized its postal workers to open and read correspondence between colonists. With tensions rising to the point of war, the colonists formed their own postal service. William Goddard, a fellow postmaster and printer, established the Constitutional Post. Its mail carriers had to be highly regarded and carried the mail under lock and key, working as guards as well as delivering the mail. By the end of 1775, there were 30 post offices operating as part of the Constitutional Post.

So what did the Second Continental Congress do? It set the stage for change. Shortly after the start of the Revolutionary War, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in May 1775, and what happened at the Second Continental Congress set the stage for the American postal system of today. The war brought new concerns in terms of correspondence and security, and due to the nature of the highly trusted postal workers in the continental post services, it was agreed that the Constitutional Post would be converted into the official postal system of the new nation, with Franklin as the postmaster general. To assist with the passing of military information from Congress to the Continental Army, the mail carriers were made exempt from military service.

Following in the footsteps of Franklin, the United States Postal Service continued to innovate after the Revolution to ensure that the mail could be delivered more quickly and efficiently. For instance, postal workers were originally on horseback, traveling along approximately 2,400 miles of road created by the United States government. But as settlement moved westward, the postal system began to use stagecoaches.

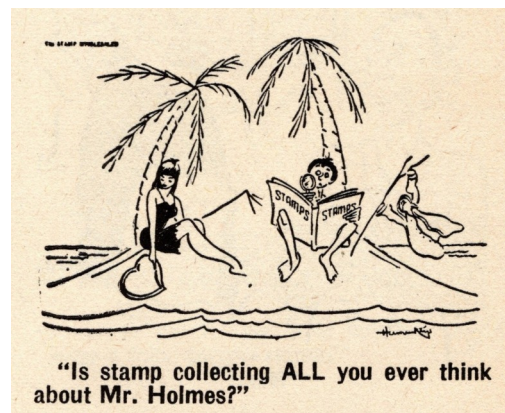
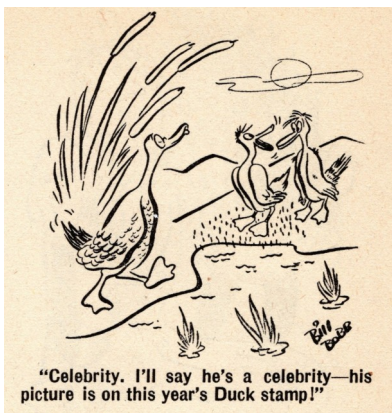
In 1813, just six years after the launch of commercial steamboats, Congress permitted contracts with steamboat companies to transport the mail. By 1848, mail was being transported by steamboat to California via the Isthmus of Panama.

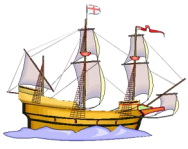
After the Civil War, the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad allowed for mail to be sorted and transported across the United States. Train services would handle up to 93% of non-local mail sent in the United States from the 1860s to the 1970s. With the rise of the automotive industry and the movement of the population into cities, the postal service began using automobiles. This also gave carriers the ability to carry packages in addition to letters.

As technology continued to evolve, the postal service began to send mail via planes in 1911. This allowed for mail to be delivered across continents in the shortest period of time. In 1924, the first transcontinental delivery of mail by air took one day, ten hours, and 20 minutes. Today, the same flight only takes six to seven hours.

The modern postal system continues to innovate, using automated sorting services and other types of technology to improve the way mail is delivered. Today, the United States Postal Service is the largest postal system in the world, delivering to more than 165 million addresses across the country and its territories.

By The Wyoming LLC Attorney Team

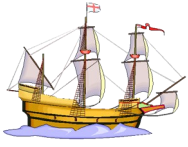




# Mini Auction April 4, 2025

1. Book , 1990 Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps
2. Canada Over 25 FDC
3. US Mint Set of 50 FDC, all of U.S. State flags in its own special album. Est. Cat. \$75.00
4. US Mint hinged Airmail Scott C7-C11 mounted on album page. Cat. \$21.00
5. US Mint never hinged from 1966-1972 mounted on album pages. Face \$9.50-\$10.00
6. US used Columbian Expo Scott #230-237 mounted on album page. Cat. \$71.00
7. US 40+ Envelopes with Cancelled postage issued by "76" Philadelphia Commission
8. Canada Mint Scott #54 hinge mark on selvaige not on stamp itself. Cat. \$165.00
9. US mint NH 1986 Issue Set, Presidents of the US. Cat. \$20.00
10. United Nations Assorted FDC (40+)
11. General 1 Burgundy Binder 2" 2 Post no markings, 1 Scott Specialty Series 2" with 2 flat post type
12. US mint Voyages of Christopher Columbus Set. Cat. \$26.00
13. US mint 7 Booklets of various Issues. Face \$26.00+
14. US Mint. 100+ stamps mounted poorly on album pages, possible hinge marks, album pages have mounting provisions on both sides. Est. Cat. \$20.00+
15. US Mint NH Scott #3000 Comic Strip Classics, Full Sheet. Cat. \$8.85
16. British Commonwealth – (176) older stamps from Great Britain, New Zealand, Malta, Hong Kong, Aden, Gold Coast, Nigeria, Ceylon, Jamaica, and others. Includes a very nice Jamaica Slogan Cancel of "SMOKE JAMAICA CIGARS" with Cigar graphic.
17. Great Britain - #1 used Penny Black. Four Clear Margins. Nice Stamp. Cat. \$375.00.
18. Grenada – A Manilla Stock Card loaded with lots of older stamps.
19. Norfolk Island – (19) Glassine Envelopes with mostly MHN modern stamps.
20. Great Britain Offices Abroad – Morocco & Turkish Empire – (8) Mint Light Hinge stamps. Included are Morocco #34, & 46-47 and Turkish Empire #26, 31, 35, & 57-58. Total Cat. \$36.35.
21. Australia – (130) older stamps mounted on album pages.
22. British Guiana - A Manilla Stock Card loaded with lots of older stamps.
23. Great Britain - #32 used 1 1/2p, Plate #3. Clear Edinburgh Circular Datestamp. Cat. \$114.00.
24. (1,000) Foreign used stamps off paper sorted into envelopes of 100 and 50.
25. 1952 Scott "Modern Postage Stamp Album" with about (500) older worldwide stamps including a few better U.S. Back of the Book.





# Mini Auction April 18, 2025

1. US general, 2 binders originally for Plate Blocks.
2. US Album specially made for collection of The History of America in Stamps. Cat. must see to appreciate
3. Canada 25+ FDC
4. US 30 Envelopes Pre print with postage, various rates and types.
5. Scott 2019 Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers.
6. US Mint Airmail, 18 Singles, random check MNH 2 Plate Blocks. Cat. \$15.00+
7. US Used Envelopes corner cut off , Assorted 15 pieces some from the 1870's. Cat. \$14.00+
8. US Mint NH 1929 Issue Kansas Overprint Scott # 658, 659, 660. Cat. \$13.00
9. US Mint 5 booklets Various Issues. Face \$16.50 +
10. US Mint Scott J18, Postage Due, Mint no gum Hinge Mark Grade XF. Cat. \$571.00
11. US Mint 1992 Issue Voyages of Christopher Columbus. Cat. \$26.00
12. US Mint Scott J25 Hinged VF Postage Due. Cat \$80.00
13. US Mint NH Scott #2647-2696 1992 Commemoratives "Flowers" mounted on Album pages. Cat. \$28.00
14. US Airmail Mint Hinged Scott C16, C17, C19 and C20. C21 and C22 are used. Cat. \$16.00+
15. US Mint hinged Famous Americans Qty. 35. Cat. Est. \$17.00
16. Great Britain - #96 used 2sh6p with Four Clear Margins. Cat. \$210.00.
17. British Commonwealth – (181) older stamps from Bermuda, Australia, Antigua, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Jamaica, British Guiana, British Solomon Islands, Gilbert & Ellice Islands, Trinidad, Trinidad & Tobago, Virgin Islands, Canada, and others. Some Better.
18. British Guiana - A Manilla Stock Card loaded with lots of older stamps.
19. Cyprus – A Manilla Stockcard loaded with (18) #102 Cards containing both mint and used modern stamps.
20. Bavaria – (62) older stamps mounted on album pages.
21. Grenada – A Manilla Stock Card loaded with lots of older stamps.
22. Great Britain Offices Abroad – Morocco – (16) Mint Light Hinge stamps. Included are #209-11, 213-14, 263-67, 403, 411, 414-16, & 440. Total Cat. \$36.20.
23. Great Britain - #61 used 3p, Plate #16. Four Clear Margins. Cat. \$50.00.
24. (1,000) Foreign used stamps off paper sorted into envelopes of 100 and 50.
25. 1952 Minkus "New World Wide Postage Stamp Album" with hundreds of older stamps mounted.

