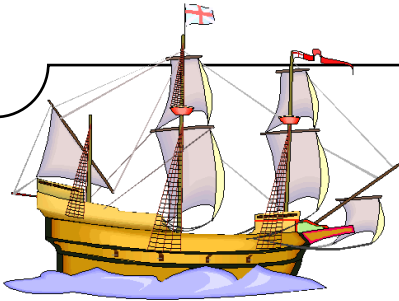


April 2026



# Mayflower Minutes

West Suburban Stamp Club

<https://westsuburbanstampclub.org/>

P.O. Box 700049  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
E-mail:  
newsletter@thewssc.com  
Meetings on the 3rd Friday of  
each month at 6:45. (Doors  
open at 6:00)  
Held at:  
Plymouth Historical Museum  
155 South Main Street  
Plymouth, Michigan

## CLUB MEETING INFORMATION

The April 17th Meeting (**6:45 PM**) will be LIVE at the Plymouth Historical Museum and via ZOOM. Open at **6:00 PM**.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE INFORMATION

We are looking to fill 6 open positions for the 2026/2027 Term. Openings are due to term limits. The open positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 2 Trustees.

Please give serious thought to taking on a position of leadership in our club to keep it strong and healthy. Contact Doug Becker or Carol Ann Beier if interested.

## WSSC MEMBERSHIP—DUES PAYMENT

Annual dues are \$15.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Nick Fava at [westsuburbanstampclub@gmail.com](mailto:westsuburbanstampclub@gmail.com).

Dues can be paid at a meeting or by check to: West Suburban Stamp Club, P.O. Box 700049, Plymouth, MI 48170

## AREA STAMP SHOWS

### BIRMPLEX 2026 - April 12, 2026

Infinity Hall , 16650 E. 14 Mile Road, Fraser, MI

Sponsor: Birmingham Stamp Club, Contact: Martin Brown,

Website: <https://birminghamstamp.club/>

Contact Email: [blestday@yahoo.com](mailto:blestday@yahoo.com)

### KAZOOPEX 2026 - April 17, 2026 - April 18, 2026

Kalamazoo EXPO Center, 2900 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI,

Sponsor: Kalamazoo Stamp Club,

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/KalamazooStampClub>



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 17— Wally Ogorek, Part 2—Covers of the Rich and Famous
- May 15—Doug Becker. Riding the Rails
- June 19—Giant Auction
- July 17—TBD
- August 14- TBD

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Pg. 2 Club Officers & Info & Article.
- Pg. 3— Article Cont.
- Pg.4- Auction Lots.

## **WSSC Club Officers:**

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

Trustees through 2026: John Beeskow, Ray Gunther. Trustees through 2027: Doug Becker, John Beckmann.

Newsletter Editor: Doug Becker, E-mail: [newsletter@thewssc.com](mailto:newsletter@thewssc.com)

## **ARTICLES WANTED FOR NEWSLETTER**

Would welcome any writeups or articles on stamp collecting related subjects. Keep your eyes open and submit any article you write or find.

## **PROGRAMS NEEDED FOR 2026 MEETINGS**

Looking for someone to present a topic for discussion at a 2026 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.

## **THE HIGHWAY POST OFFICE (MAIL ON WHEELS)**

After months of planning, the first trip began on February 10, 1941, and covered 283 miles round trip. The route required two clerks, a clerk-in-charge and a driver who doubled as a mechanic. The route had 23 stops along the way. The bus was to adhere to a strict schedule of time. The clerks would begin their day every morning around 3:30 AM. By the time the driver came in at 5 AM the bus was loaded with mail and he made his final check of the vehicle. The bus left at 5:33 AM and was to arrive at Harrisonburg by 11 AM. Then it would leave Harrisonburg at 4 PM before returning to DC by 9:30 PM so that the mail could be transferred to the trains before midnight. The initial cost of the White bus was \$11,960



Highway Post Office bus #1 in Strasburg, Virginia, February 10, 1941.



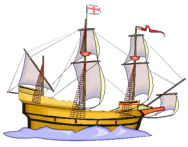
Two clerks sorting mail in HPO bus. The man on the left is sorting letters into the pigeon holes, while the man on the right is canceling envelopes.

On July 2, 1965, postal officials determined that the Washington/Harrisonburg route was no longer saving money. The installation of a postal distribution center near Harrisonburg made the route unnecessary and it was shut down on August 21, 1965. A report stated the reasons for the discontinuation was due to “the effects of the new sectional center distribution established throughout the surrounding regions... and the effectiveness of the re-routing of the Baltimore and Martinsburg to operate between Baltimore and Winchester.” Officials estimated that they could save \$60,000 a year by removing the route and that in addition to being covered by the automatic distribution center, they could return to contracting with Star Routes carriers if needed. On July 30, 1965, Virginia Representative John Marsh, Jr. wrote to the Postmaster General on behalf of his constituents regarding the job loss from the removal of the HPO route. Assistant William Hartigan responded on August 2, saying that no postal employees would lose their jobs. The Post Office found places for all the employees affected by the change. In fact, the only employees who didn’t go to work after the removal of the HPO were two clerks who took their retirement after working 37 years. As the bus rolled into the garage on August 21, 1965, the first route of the Highway Post Office was shut down with no fanfare.

The discontinuation of the first route was the beginning of the end. As mail processing machines became more reliable, new distribution centers were created that changed the way mail was distributed to local post offices. On June 30, 1974, the Highway Post Office carried its last piece of mail. Ironically the main reason the HPO service was created was due to the closure of railroad lines, but the Railway Mail Service continued to run for at least three more years after the HPOs, ending in 1977.

Article from Smithsonian National Postal Museum

For complete article visit their website  
[National Postal Museum |](http://www.nationalpostalmuseum.gov)



# Mini Auction April 17, 2026

1. 2 Specialty Series Binders in VGC. No Pages included, 2 Post Type
2. Used US Dept of Interior (4) Used Stamps O15-O18 mounted on album page. Cat. \$22.00
3. Used US Official (2) Post Office Dept. O48 & O49 and (1) Navy Dept. O37, mounted on Album Pages. Cat. \$19.21
4. US Mint Full sheet Sonoran Desert Issue. Cat. \$8.12 Face \$3.30
5. US Mint Full Sheet Insects and Spiders. Cat. \$12.50 Face \$6.60
6. US Coil issue from 1923-1932 mounted on album page, these are mixed as MH and MNH. Cat. \$170.00+
7. US Mint Mini sheet Legends of Baseball. Cat. \$12.50
8. US Mint Issue of 1922-1926. Random check shows hinge marks. Cat. \$374.23
9. US Mint Exploring the Solar System Mini Sheet. Cat. \$14.28 Face \$5.00
10. US Mint Mini sheet Probing the Vastness of Space. Cat. \$12.50 Face \$ 3.60
11. US Mint (61) stamps .37 issue from 2003-2004 mounted on pages. Face \$22.57
12. US Mint Mini sheet US Stars and Stripes. Cat. \$12.50 Face \$6.60
13. US Mint US Postal Savings #PS 4 MNH and PS 11 MH. Cat. \$10.70
14. US Mint W. E. Coyote and Road Runner Mis Cut by Postal Service. Cat. \$20.00 + Face \$4.29
15. US Mint W.E. Coyote and Road Runner Normal Cut. Cat. \$25.00 Face \$3.30
16. Worldwide Revenues – (66) older Foreign Revenue Stamps. Very interesting accumulation.
17. St. Vincent – (8) MNH Souvenir Sheets including #1192, 2163, 2269A, & 2959-2963. Total Cat. \$38.00.
18. Great Britain - #133-138 plus an extra #135 (shade variety). Total Cat. \$282.50.
19. Iceland – (21) older stamps including #C3. Total Cat. \$71.25.
20. (143) stamps mounted on both sides of a stock card from Ifni, Tanger, Spanish Sahara, Finland, Aland, Andorra & France.
21. Tannu Tuva – A complete mint set of the 1935 Zoological Issue. Stamps are mounted on an illustrated display page by the Tatham Stamp Co. Interesting item.
22. Switzerland – (187) older stamps mounted on album pages with values seen up to \$17.00.
23. Great Britain – (41) older stamps from 1902 to 1947. Total Cat. \$112.40.
24. Sweden – (377) older stamps mounted on album pages with values seen up to \$25.00.
25. (4) MNH Souvenir Sheets featuring Horses from Finland #826, Indonesia #1374 & 1375 (Perf. Variety), and Antigua / Redonda #586. Total Cat. \$31.75.
26. Norway - #17 & #19 used, both faulty and #20 used, sound. Total Cat. \$230.00.
27. Mish-Mash – A full box of misc. Stamps, Sets, & Souvenir Sheets. Includes some better ones.

