

West Suburban Stamp Club

Mayflower Minutes

<https://westsuburbanstampclub.org/>

June 2026

.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 June 19th 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 (Pending) and 1 Trustee.

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.

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

LOCAL STAMP SHOWS

Midwest Stamp Dealers Association Ann Arbor Show
Friday – Saturday June 5-6: Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-3
Morris Lawrence Bldg. Washtenaw Community College
4800 E, Huron River Dr, Ann Arbor 48195



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- June 19—Giant Auction
- July 17—Show & Tell: How I started Stamp Collecting
- August 14— TBD
- September 11 -Giant Fall Auction

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

Early Mail Routes in the United States

Barbara, Catherine, and I spent half of the month of February 2026 on a ship sailing the Caribbean. The highlight of our cruise was a stop in Panama to see and experience the Canal Zone. We saw the locks, watched a documentary about the canal, and we climbed on board the first continental railroad to cross the American Continental Divide.

One of the more meaningful parts of the trip came as we were reminded about the way mail and supplies once crossed the United States when the middle of the country was not yet settled. Where it takes about 3,000 miles to move anything from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast in the United States, the same crossing can be made in sixty miles across Panama.

As the west coast became more and more settled, a reliable mail route between east and west was needed. A person in Boston or New York City might need to communicate with someone in San Francisco or Los Angeles. Their mail would have been consigned to a ship heading for Panama. The mail would have been offloaded and added to a pack train heading for the sixty-mile trip across the mountains to the Pacific coast. The mail would then be added to the cargo on another ship heading for the western cities. Once the train tracks were laid across the mountains, a steam locomotive replaced the pack animals in moving not only the mail, but goods as well. Much of the California gold was moved through this route.

When the Golden Spike was hammered in place it declared the transcontinental railroad completion. Mail routes from coast to coast began to change. Shortly after the turn of the Twentieth Century, the Panama Canal was completed signaling more change. Ships carrying mail no longer needed to be offloaded on one coast only to be loaded on another ship docked on the opposite coast.

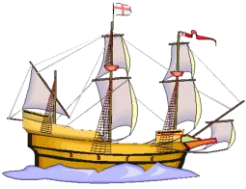
Barbara and I have a collection of Canal Zone stamps that is nearing completion. With this beautiful mail moving history in our nation's past, we would like to add one central cover to the collection. We are looking for an envelope or folded letter that bares the postmarks, the ship marks, the route marks of a letter traveling through this Panama route. Can you help us find a good clean example



Article Courtesy of Everett Klein

barbandev@aol.com





Giant Auction June 19, 2026

1. Scott Specialty Album 2 Post, fair condition
2. Worldwide covers, some US and Canada the rest Worldwide
3. US Mint, good for postage assorted plate blocks. Face over \$35.00
4. US Used Official stamps from Department of Treasury and War Department Issued in 1873 mounted on album page Cat. \$168.00+
5. US Mint Random check shows MNH Issued 1929-1939, Quantity 100 mounted on pages lower denominations
6. US Used cut corners from Official Envelopes, Quantity 15 issued as early as 1870's. Cat. \$14.00+
7. US Mint Scott #1354a, MNH Full strip US Flags. Cat. \$5.19
8. US Mint Full sheet "Greetings from State" Scott #3745a, 50 stamps Cat. \$31.88
9. US Mint NH Scott # 597,598,599,686,604,606, Coil stamps issued 1923-1932. Cat. \$10.00+
10. US Used Scott #279-284, issued in 1898. Cat. \$24.00+
11. US Used Scott #264-275, issued in 1895. Cat. \$63.00+
12. US Mint NH, random check issued 1925-1928 mounted on album page. Cat. \$86.00+
13. US Mint?? No gum with hinge mark, no cancellation marks. Cat. MH \$205.94 Used XF \$80.31
14. US Mint, Regular Issue of 1954-1965, 29 stamps
15. US Mint, some have hinge marks quantity 63 stamps mounted on pages issued from 1926-1943
16. Japan – (138) older used stamps mounted on album pages.
17. Great Britain - #14, 16, 17, & (5) #20's (shade variations). All used. Total Cat. \$261.00.
18. Sweden - #248-262 mixed mint & used short set, only missing #259. Total Cat. \$73.15.
Also an additional (91) mint & used stamps. Some better.
19. (257) mint & used older stamps mounted on two (2) sided stock cards from Netherlands Antilles, Angola, Portugal, Sweden, Ireland, plus a few others.
20. Italy – (107) older used stamps mounted on album pages. Also (13) Roman States, (probably reprints).
21. Tonga – A nice group of (17) Foil Coin and Peel & Stick mint stamps.
22. Switzerland – (69) older used stamps including a group of semi-postals. The best (7) stamps Cat. \$24.50.
23. (310) older mint & used worldwide stamps mounted on (7) stock cards including a group from New Zealand.
24. Hungary – (392) older mint & used stamps mounted on album pages.
25. Great Britain – "Britannia Rule the Waves", (2) #173 used, both shade variations of the 2sh6p issue. Includes the Deep Sepia Brown and Sepia Brown varieties. Printed by Waterlow Brothers & Layton. Total Cat. \$320.00.
26. (118) worldwide older Revenue & Local stamps. Have fun figuring these out.
27. (1,000+) worldwide mint & used stamps mounted in a homemade album.