



# NEWSLETTER

Vol. 47 .No. 4 July August 2019

## Innovations of the Second Bureau Series

By Douglas Files, part 2 of 2

### Booklet Stamps

The red 2-cent stamps were also issued in 1906 in booklet format, which was still a novelty for the Post Office Department. The first bureau series had been issued in booklets beginning in 1900. Booklet panes contained 6 stamps each and their production was technically difficult in that different plates were needed. Initial booklets only covered the 2-cent red stamps but later the 1-cent green postcard rate ones were also issued in booklets.



Booklet Pane of 2-Cent Stamps SC #301c  
Public Domain, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series\\_of\\_1902](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series_of_1902)

### Martha Washington

The issue of 1902 did not show the very first woman on an American stamp. Queen Isabella of Spain had been depicted on an 1893 Columbian, but the 1902 eight-cent stamp showed Martha Washington, wife of George. At the time showing a woman on a stamp was as revolutionary as the patriots depicted.

### Imperforate stamps



Imperforate Five-Cent Stamp SC #315  
Public Domain, Smithsonian Institute National Postal Museum, <https://arago.si.edu/index.html>

The 1-cent, 2-cent, 4-cent and 5-cent denominations were issued in imperforate format in 1906 for use in vending machines, which needed special perforations. Engineers attempted to create machines which could handle normal 100-stamp panes, but they were unsuccessful. Instead, private companies purchased imperforate panes of 400 stamps cut strips and perforated them to fit their machines. These were the first imperforate stamps issued by the Post Office since 1856.

An engaging story arose out of the issuance of the 1-cent and 2-cent imperforate stamps. They were initially issued in Chicago, so an entrepreneur transported them to New York telling dealers there that the imperf sheets represented an error. Dealers bought them for up to \$25 per sheet. A few days later they appeared at the New York post office on sale at face value (\$2 per sheet). —Continue Page 6



Privately Perforated Coil Stamps for Machines; SC 320. Public Domain, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series\\_of\\_1902](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series_of_1902), Private perforations (L-R): Schermack, US Auto Vending, Brinkerhoff, Mail-O-Privately Perforated Coil Stamps for Machines Meter, International Vending Machine

### Meetings and Activities Meetings begin at 7:30 pm

**July 1—Patriotic Presentations to honor Independence Day (member participation, 4-6 minutes)**

July 8 Board Meeting

**July 15—Club Auction #3 (philatelic material only)**

**July 21 - Akron, OH Montrose Stamp Bourse, Holiday Inn Akron-West, Sun, 10-4. Free**

Aug. 1-4 — APS/ATA Joint National Stamp Show, Omaha NE

Aug. 5-10 — Perfin/Precanel, 98th Annual Conference, Omaha, NE

**Aug 5 -Media Show from ATA – “Walt Disney’s Empire” Appoint Nominating Comm. for 2019 DSC Officers**

Aug 12 Board Meeting

**Aug 19—How I Started Collecting Stamps (member participation, 4-6 minutes)**

**Aug 23-24 (Fri-Sat) \*AIRPEX @ IBEW Hall (F: 12-6pm; Sa: 10am-4pm)\***

**August 25 - Akron, OH Montrose Stamp Bourse, Holiday Inn Akron-West, Sun, 10-4. Free.**

**Sept 2 - Labor Day (Church Closed) No Meeting**

Sept 9 Board Meeting

**Sept 16 -Club Auction #4 (philatelic material only)**

• continued Page 6

DSC NEWSLETTER

Published by: DAYTON STAMP CLUB, INC., PO Box 1574, Dayton, OH 45401  
Club Meetings: Christ United Methodist Church, 3440 Shroyer Rd, Kettering OH ---- 7:30 PM  
Editor: Bill Smith, 329 East 1<sup>st</sup> St., Suite 311, Dayton, OH 45402 Phone (937) 344-3155  
Email: wesjemail@gmail.com Website: [www.daytonstampclub.com](http://www.daytonstampclub.com)

Contents of the DSC NEWSLETTER are copyright @ 2009 by the Dayton Stamp Club, Inc. Permission for reproduction in whole or part is granted to other philatelic organizations for internal nonprofit use provided that credit is given to the DSC NEWSLETTER and the authors of the reproduced material. A copy of the publication in which the material is printed is requested.

CLUB OFFICERS 2018



President	Mike Komieny
First Vice President	Ed Peck
Second Vice President	Clay Goffinet
Secretary	Doug Files
Treasurer	Dennis Rose
Chairman, Board of Directors	Susan Diamond



Dayton Stamp Club (an ATA Affiliate Chapter) Supports ATA Publications

**American Topical Association (ATA) Affiliate Chapter** – Vera Felts, executive director of the American Topical Association, presented a certificate of affiliation to the Dayton Stamp Club (DSC) club.

DSC was first affiliated with the ATA in 1983 or 1993. At that time we were chapter #82 so the ATA awarded DSC the same number again. The club will receive the Topical Time magazine and our topical activities may be mentioned in the chapter section.

Vera brought in 28 vintage topical handbooks and gave them to club librarian, Jack Matheney. The ATA also has 10 DVDs available for club presentations. Each one costs only \$5.00 to members.

Affiliate Chapters do not have to pay ATA dues as long as at least 6 of club members maintain ATA membership. DSC liaison to the ATA is Carol Costa.



Vera Felts, Executive Director of the American Topical Association presenting DSC Certificate of Affiliation



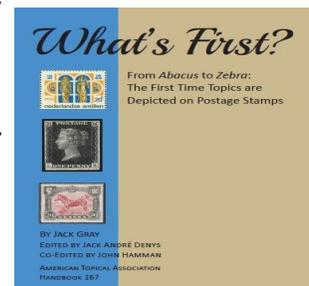
**American Topical Association presentation** – Susan Diamond, chair of DSC Board of Directors, presented the American Topical Association with a check from the Dayton Stamp Club for \$500.00 to support their printing of books to attract new stamp collectors.

DSC board voted unanimously to support philately and the ATA. The large check presented to Vera Felts was cour-

DSC Chairman Susan Diamond presents to Vera Felts, ATA Executive Director, a check for \$500. to ATA in support of philately and the ATA

tesy of Mill Cliff Collectibles.

The ATA book, *What's First?*, won first prize in the Christophe Gartner International Philatelic Literature competition. To order the book, *What's First*, contact ATA <http://www.americantopicalassn.org/home.shtml>



# Dayton Stamp Club — Member Benefits

Dayton Stamp Club (DSC) is the only stamp club in the Dayton area and has a long, proud tradition of serving its members, welcoming visitors and promoting philately. DSC is an affiliate Chapter of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the American Topical Association (ATA).

Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, except for certain holidays. A social hour is around 7:00 pm with business meeting at 7:30 pm and program begins after. The Precancel/Perfins Study Group meets the first Monday of each month (except for special holidays) at 6:30 pm.



Members have a wide variety of collecting interests and eagerly share with others interested in postal history, stamp related topics, stamps, covers, post cards, exhibiting or having fun.



- Club meetings are fun, educational and entertaining with special programs
- Newsletter published 6 times a year
- Club Library available to all members and covering wide philatelic topics
- Club auction by members offering stamps and other philatelic material 5 times a year
- Club member Bourse 2 times a year to sell, buy or trade philatelic material and stamps
- Special events and presentations
- Affiliate chapters of APS & ATA
- APS Sales Circuit Books at regular meetings
- Discount U.S. and world-wide stamps for sale, mint and used
- AIRPEX—the annual Miami Valley Stamp Show hosted by the DSC members
- Stamp Bucks—attending meetings, working for DSC, participating in Programs at meetings. Used to “buy” during auctions
- Learning from other Members

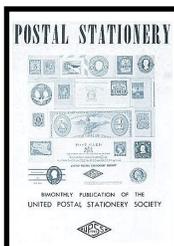
## NEW DSC Membership Program starting July 2019



**Philatelic Club Memberships** – Susan Diamond, Board Chair, announced that DCS is starting a program to give away magazine subscriptions or membership to philatelic clubs.



Each month, at the first meeting of the month, the President will draw a member's name. **IF** that member is present at that meeting, the club will pay for a one-year philatelic organization membership for that individual of his/her choice from the list.



Some of the organizations on the list are the American First Day Cover Society, the American Philatelic Society, the American Revenue Association, the American Stamp Dealers Association, La Posta (postal history), Linn's Stamp News, the Precancel Society, and the United Postal Stationery Society.

Other organizations may be considered, subject to approval of DSC board of directors.

A Club member (Gabe Greve) has volunteered to run the new program, to keep track of who had won and to gather addresses so that DSC treasurer could pay for the subscription or organization dues.



# Mourning Covers

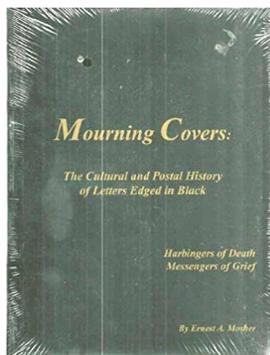
Mourning covers can be defined as black-edged post-letters used in most countries, especially during the 19th and early 20th centuries, as harbingers of death and messengers of grief.

These death related letters are characterized by a mourning mark, almost always black, and have been carried in the public mail system of at least 250 different countries.



Circa 1916-1917: Philippopolis (Plovdiv), Bulgaria, to Constantinople (Istanbul), Turkey. Registered mail, censored by both the Bulgarian and Turkish military and civil authorities.

## Comprehensive book: Mourning Covers: The Cultural and Postal History of Letters Edged in Black



Written by Ernest A. Mosher, Mourning Covers is the most, if not the only, comprehensive guide to the field. Although geared toward the serious philatelic collector, there is still much that to be learned by anybody with an interest in social or even family history.

Lavishly illustrated and enthusiastically written, this three hundred plus page book is a glorious if sometimes sobering reminder of the days when the mailman did not only deliver bills and flyers.

**What is a mourning cover?** - by Amy Hanson <https://amyhanson.org/blog>

Most popular throughout the 1900s and into the middle of the next century, mourning letters are identified by their black bordered envelopes. The cards held within were a memorial of the dead, a harbinger of bad tidings, a tangible announcement of the passing of a loved one.

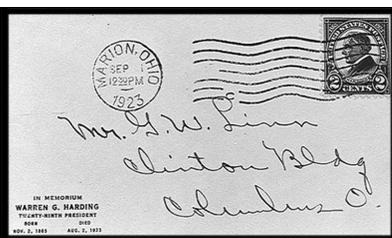
What was once a fragile paper touchstone for the bereaved has become, for the collector, a highly sought after prize. It's a lesson in social custom of days long gone, and a fascinating glimpse at frugality and ingenuity of an earlier age. Look between the leaves of those envelopes which still hold their enclosures, and one is more likely to find a long, newsy letter than a generically sterile card that states just the facts.

Often, too, once the period of mourning had passed, the grief-stricken found that they still had an ample supply of the carefully purchased, requisite stationery on hand. And, depending on a family's circumstance, that paper was too expensive to feed to the fire. So the sheets that had been hitherto been used only for their intended purpose were now reincarnated as plain, everyday letter paper, answering the confounding question of why some letters on mourning stationery have absolutely nothing to do with death at all.



Of course there are many fine, and beautiful, examples of fancy cards and stationery, where the envelope's content was a single calling card acting as an invitation to a funeral or memorial service.

But far more interesting to the armchair historian are those envelopes that, when carefully opened, still hold pages of spidery handwriting on stationery meant for mourning.



First Day Cover created by George Linn, Founder and Editor of Linn's Stamp News. 2-cent Harding 1923 SC #611

But, however these letters were intended, for the modern collector they have become a compulsive and often elusive companion. Whether one collects for the stamp and cover alone, or for the social history contained between an envelope's leaves, mourning covers are a gratifying philatelic sideline and can be easily found at local and national stamp shows. It's a fair bet, too, that your favorite antique store even has a few of these gems stashed away, making the hunt that much more pleasing

—continued on Page 5

# Dayton Stamp Club Meeting Programs

## Needs Your Participation

### July 1 — Patriotic material from your collection

What is a Patriotic Cover—a mailable envelope bearing a patriotic legend, picture, or design and manufactured privately for use in wartime.

Examples of Patriotic Covers:



### July 15—Club Auction #3

Gather your duplicates, display them on card or in envelopes, and price to sell.

Come to the meeting looking for that fabulous treasure and be prepared to bid!

Plan on making that sell or buy!

### August 19—How I Started Collecting Stamps

Short story about how you began collecting stamps. You might have your first stamp or album as an example. What got you started?

### August 23-24 AIRPEX 2019

More information coming before the show. Mark the dates and plan to attend. Great opportunity to purchase supplies and stamps for your collection. Supporting the dealers encourages them to return each year.

This is the ONLY stamp show in Dayton, annually. Tell your friends, bring the family and volunteer to help with set up, the day of the show and clean-up.

There will be a youth area to get those kids interested.

---

— continued from page 4 **Mourning Covers**

### **A Mourning Stamp?**

In April 1866, the Post Office Department issued a 15-cent black Lincoln stamp. The stamp is usually categorized as a regular issue intended to pay the first-class rate to France or Prussia.

Many believe with its release so soon after Lincoln's death and in a black color indicated that it was issued as a commemorative mourning stamp. Up until this stamp issue, the persons featured on American stamps had been dead for several years, if not decades.



The 15-cent Lincoln stamps issued April 1866 (SC #77)



## Mourning Stamps and Covers Club

The Mourning Stamps and Covers Club (MSCC) promotes the association of mourning stamps and cover collectors in activities conducive to the common growth in knowledge and enjoyment of all aspects in this field of philately.

The MSCC was founded in 2006 and has an international membership. It publishes a quarterly newsletter of approximately twenty pages entitled *Mourning Notes*, available by e-mail in color or by regular mail in black and white. Meetings of the club have been held at various conventions of the American Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, as well as at smaller regional exhibitions.

For more information contact MSCC: <http://www.mscc.ms>

## —Innovations 1902 Second Series Continued from Page 1

All known 4-cent imperforate stamps were prepared with oblong “hyphen-hole” perforations called Schermack type III; they are very rare and none are known in the natural imperforate form. Each stamp can sell for \$50,000 at auction. The other denominations of imperforate stamps exist with a variety of perforations made by five companies: Schermack, U.S. Automatic Vending, Brinkerhoff, Mail-O-Meter and International Vending Machine.

### Coils

Another turn-of-the-century innovation was coil versions of the 1902 series. Strips of 1-cent, 2-cent and 5-cent stamps were produced for use in vending machines. The 5-cent stamps were only offered as vertical coils while the lower denominations were issued in horizontal and vertical coil versions.



Coil Benjamin Franklin 1-cent; SC #316; Siegel Auctions valued 2015; \$310,000.

These stamps stand out as rarities, partly because of their short usage period and partly because they were so novel that collectors did not yet recognize them as a separate variety.

Dealers thus made little effort to purchase them. Even the most common coil stamps of this issue command \$2,500 when sold, and others even more.

The scarce 2-cent vertical coil catalogs close to a half million dollars.

Caveat emptor (buyer beware): most copies of these coils which have not been seriously authenticated are probably forgeries.

### Overview

The second bureau issue introduced innovations and improved aesthetics for U.S. stamps. The set featured an American woman and contained new denominations. Designs were more intricate than prior stamps had borne.

More importantly the formats for selling the stamps expanded to include booklets as well as imperfs and coils for vending machines.

We can learn much from this attractive issue. Over a century later the designs stand as a benchmark to which other stamps are compared.

### References

General Issues of 1902 to 1908, Stamp Collecting World website, [https://www.stamp-collecting-world.com/usstamps\\_1902.html](https://www.stamp-collecting-world.com/usstamps_1902.html), accessed 7 Nov 2018

Series of 1902-1903, Mystic Stamp Company website, <https://www.mysticstamp.com/info/series-of-1902-03/>, accessed 7 Nov 2018

Second Bureau Issues (1902-1908), Arago, People, Postage and the Post, Arago website, Smithsonian National Postal Museum, <https://arago.si.edu/index.html>, accessed 7 Nov 2018

Series of 1902 (United States postage stamps), Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series\\_of\\_1902\\_\(United\\_States\\_postage\\_stamps\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series_of_1902_(United_States_postage_stamps)), accessed 7 Nov 2018.

Continued from Page 1 -  
Meetings and Activities

**Oct 7 Precancel/Perfins Study Group 6:30 pm**

**Oct 7 Solve My Mystery: Bring in a philatelic item you can't ID**

Oct 14 Board Meeting (set 2019 calendar & budget review)

**Oct 21 - Club Members Bourse #2 (aka Sell, Buy, Trade)**

**Nov 4—Precancel/Perfins Study Group 6:30 pm**

**Nov 4 - Club/Guest Speaker – TBD**

**Nov 9 & 10 — MSDA Cincinnati Stamp Show Four Points Sheraton, West Chester, OH Saturday 10 to 5 and Sunday 10 to 3**

Nov 11 Board Meeting

**Nov 18—Club Auction #5 and Elections (philatelic material only)**

**Dec 2 - Club Holiday Dinner @ local restaurant, 6:30 pm— Mark the date RSVP Needed**

Dec 9 Board Meeting

**Dec 16—No Meeting – Enjoy the Holiday Season!**

### **Dayton Stamp Club Dues are Due**

Checks made payable to: Dayton Stamp Club. • Membership Year: July 1 to June 30 - \$15.00  
Family Membership: \$15.00 for the first member, plus \$5.00 for each additional member (\$20.00 maximum family membership)  
Or Mail to DSC, P.O. Box 1574, Dayton, OH 45401