



The

Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

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Issue: October 2019

**Most Meetings Held the first Tuesday of Every Month at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Site: Berkshire Commons, 5485 Perkiomen Avenue (Route 422)
Turn North on Lincoln opposite of the Dairy Queen.
Proceed 300 feet, turn left on Washington and look right of center at the stop sign.**

Tuesday, October 1 at 7:00 p.m.

The Postal History of Great Britain “Royal Covers”

...presented by Dave Hunt

Join us for an in-depth look into another corner
of the fascinating world of postal history.
Dave's programs are always comprehensive and
well presented—you are guaranteed to find this enjoyable!

Special Reminder!

Saturday, November 2 is our 19th Stamp Show—mark your calendars.

In A Way, The Inverted Jenny Stamp is also Commemorative



Every new stamp collector quickly becomes aware of the fabled “Inverted Jenny” stamp soon after picking up his or her first stamp tongs.

It is the stuff of legends, each stamp worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. It happened when a two-color stamp was misprinted. A sheet of 100 stamps was fed upside down into the press, resulting in an airplane flying bottoms up.

This two-step operation also resulted in planes located too high, too low, to the right and to the left. These varieties are, in order, called “high flying,” “landing,” “fast,” and “low.” The landing planes, if certified, are called “grounded” if the wheels crash into the word “CENTS,” as the example above shows. Although technically these oddball stamps are errors, they were prophetic—or even commemorative depending on when they were printed.

This issue of stamps was America’s first airmail stamps. In February of 1918 postal officials announced that service by plane would begin April 15 of that year. The route would be between Washington, D. C., Philadelphia and New York.

However, the date was pushed ahead ‘til May 15 as until suitable airfields could be found! Good thing as well. Congress did not approve the new postal rate until days before the first trip and the airplanes, Curtis JN4-H models were not delivered until May 13—unassembled!

The first plane leaving Washington, D. C., took off in the wrong direction and crashed 20 miles south of take off—upside down! (See what I mean about commemorative / prophetic?)

If you look closely at the stamp you can read a number on the side of the plane, 38262. That was the actual number of a Jenny.

On July 15, 1918, Congress dropped the rate to 16 cents, ending most Jenny usage. The replacement stamp was one color--only green, also ending the variable plane positions.

CLUB NEWS FROM SEPTEMBER:

At the September meeting, Carlson Chambliss won the attendance drawing of \$5 (welcome back Carlson) and Mike Matus won the 50/50 drawing of \$9.

SOMETHING OLD AND SOMETHING NEW

THE OLD

A QUOTE FOR TODAY....

“Old age ain't no place for sissies.”

~~~ Bette Davis

I CAN RELATE TO THAT!!!!



Have you ever looked at this stamp and thought that something was missing !!

There is: the artist eliminated the cigarette that was in her hand!

THE NEW

Spooky Silhouettes stamps with rainbow foil effect arrive Oct. 11



The United States Postal Service is turning on the special effects for its 2019 Halloween stamp issue. The non-denominated (55¢) Spooky Silhouettes forever stamp set of four will be issued Oct. 11, just in time to mail Halloween greetings. The stamps are being printed by flexography using rainbow foil, according to technical details published by the Postal Service on Sept. 12.

The four images show spooky scenes captured as silhouettes through Gothic style windows. On the first stamp, an arched window frames a raven on a bare tree branch with a black cat below against a yellow sky background. Two cathedral style windows show wispy ghost figures, one sad and one smiling. Behind them is an orange tint. On the third stamp, a window with heavy curtains reveals a giant spider approaching its web. The background is a deep glowing red. The final stamp depicts another arched window with three flying bats. Black stars are also visible in the deep purple sky.

“Halloween has long been a holiday that lets us delight in the things that scare us,” the Postal Service said in its description of this issue. “As autumn approaches, these new stamps offer fun, frightful scenes that symbolize this annual celebration. “Four stamps feature digital illustrations in which traditional Halloween motifs are rendered as black silhouettes in eerily backlit windows. Artist Tyler Lang created the artwork. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps.” Forty million stamps are being printed and processed by USPS contractor Ashton Potter using the Gallus Arsona EM 410 flexo press. The Spooky Silhouettes set is the first U.S. stamp issue printed on this press, according to USPS published records.

**By Michael Baadke
Linns Stamp News**