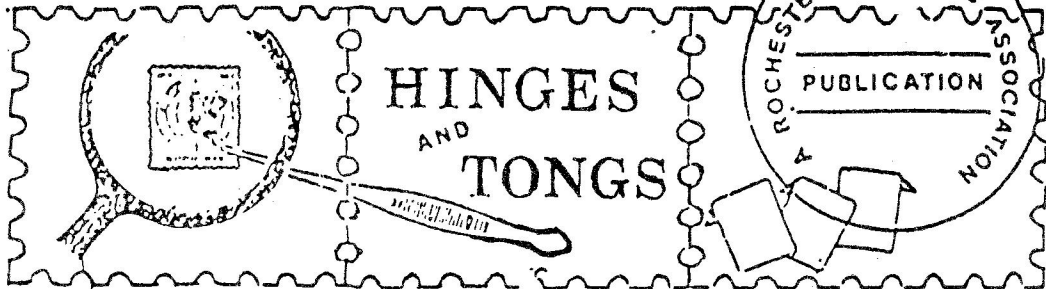


Martin Luther



1483-1983 USA 20c

The Martin Luther commemorative will be issued Nov. 11.



P.O. BOX 10206, BRIGHTON STATION, ROCHESTER, NY 14610-0806

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1983

Volume 83 Numbers 11/12



A single 32c commemorative will debut Oct. 28 for the centennial of the Dalhousie Law School in Nova Scotia.

Coming Events

Nov. 10 "Leavitt Machine Cancellations", slide program presented by the United Postal Stationery Society. 8:00pm.

Dec. 8 "Christmas Party", bring cookies or bake a cake! If you like also bring a \$2 or more Grab Bag Philatelic Gift to trade. Philatelic Bingo and more fun! 8:00pm.

REMEMBER ONLY ONE MEETING IN NOV. & DEC.....HAPPY NEW YEAR....

LINN'S STAMP NEWS NOVEMBER 7, 1983

Letter writing week follows stamp collecting month

National Stamp Collecting Month in October was followed immediately this year by National Card and Letter Writing Week (NCLWW) Nov. 1-7.

The annual event is sponsored jointly by the U.S. Postal Service and various trade and educational associations.

In support of this year's program, the Envelope Manufacturers Association of America donated more than two million envelopes bearing a logo depicting a heart with a quill pen.

These envelopes were made available to local postmasters for use with the Volunteer Scribe Program, in which students and local service groups help write correspondence for handicapped, elderly, hospitalized or otherwise needy individuals.

This year's program stresses the Volunteer Scribe Program

in keeping with the "Letters Lift Spirits" theme. In past years, the program has helped matched hundreds of volunteers with those in need of help.

Also during NCLWW, the revised edition of *All About Letters* was made available. The USPS produces the 64-page booklet on letter writing in cooperation with the National Council of Teachers of English. It is designed for students in grades 6-12.

The USPS and NCTE produced a second booklet, *P.S. Write Soon*, for students in grades 4-8. Both booklets are priced at \$2.50 each, or \$1.50 each for bulk orders of 20 or more.

Booklet orders or inquiries should be sent to the National Council of Teachers of English, 1111 Kenyon Road, Urbana, Ill. 61801-1096. ■

Mailing promotes Olympics

The U.S. Postal Service sent a promotional mailing, "The Olympic Challenge," to 18 million randomly selected households in October as part of its National Stamp Collecting

Month efforts.

The mailing featured an eight-page album designed to hold all the stamp and stationery items being issued by the USPS this year and next for the 1984 Olympics.

At least two million additional albums were sent to various post offices, especially in areas not covered by the mailing.

CONTINUED ON 3





Postes Canada
Canada Post

United States

Oct. 28, Santa Claus. Single 20¢ Christmas stamp. Horizontal, standard commemorative size, panes of 50. Santa Claus, Ind. 47579. Scott 2064. (Linn's Sept. 19, page 8)

Oct. 28, Madonna & Child. Single 20¢ Christmas stamp; Raphael painting. Vertical, standard commemorative size, panes of 50. Washington, D.C. 20066. Scott 2063. (Linn's Sept. 19, page 8)

Nov. 4, Olympics. Block of four se-tenant 35¢ airmail stamps featuring women's fencing, cycling, women's volleyball and pole vaulting. Horizontal, standard commemorative size, panes of 50. Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901. (Linn's Oct. 17, page 1)

Nov. 11, Luther. Single 20¢ commemorative marking 500th birth anniversary of religious reformer Martin Luther. Washington, D.C. 20066. Scott 2065. (Linn's Oct. 3, page 2)

Nov. 17, booklet. Flag Over Supreme Court \$4 booklet with two panes of 10 20¢ stamps each. New York, N.Y. 10001. (Linn's Oct. 31, page 7)

Dec. 29, Olympics. Single 28¢ airmail postal card featuring speedskating. Milwaukee, Wis. 53201.

Canada

Oct. 3, Locomotives. First set of four in Locomotives series (new Transportation theme, following ships and airplanes) featuring steam locomotives: one se-tenant 32¢ pair; single 37¢ stamp; and one 64¢ stamp. (Linn's Sept. 26, page 11)

Oct. 28, Law School. Single 32¢ commemorative for the centennial of the Dalhousie Law School, Halifax, Nova Scotia. (Linn's Oct. 3, page 9)

Nov. 3, Christmas. Three stamps for holiday use: 32¢; 37¢; and 64¢.

Nov. 10, Armed Forces. Two se-tenant 32¢ commemoratives honoring the Canadian Army and militia in conjunction with a number of regimental centennials.

Embargo to Israel temporary

The United States Postal Service has temporarily suspended Express Mail service to Israel at the request of the Israeli postal administration.

The action is the result of a labor dispute in Israel, according to the U.S. Department of State, and is not related to the current economic situation in Israel.

The embargo affects only Express Mail to Israel.

Until further notice, all international Express Mail intended for Israel will be returned to the sender endorsed "Service Temporarily Suspended," and postage will be refunded. ■

APS, Penn State prepare advanced level course

The first advanced level correspondence course in philately produced by Pennsylvania State University with the American Philatelic Society as technical adviser is expected to be released soon. Beginning and intermediate courses are already available.

Made possible by a grant from the APS, the noncredit courses in stamp collecting have been offered by the university for nearly three years.

Plans call for the development of correspondence courses in seven aspects of philately, from recreational stamp collecting to how to become a stamp dealer.

Philately, Beginning Stamp Collecting is now offered in two editions — one for youth and one for adults. Both courses are identical; however, youth assignments accommodate the limited academic background of young people.

The adult course assignments are more challenging and require basic research. Both courses are designed as a "how-to" for the beginner, and students are encouraged to establish a two-way dialogue with the instructor.

Lesson assignments enable the beginning collector to complete a variety of projects

leading to the initiation of a stamp collection.

Both courses were written by William Olcheski, an active philatelic writer for the past 28 years.

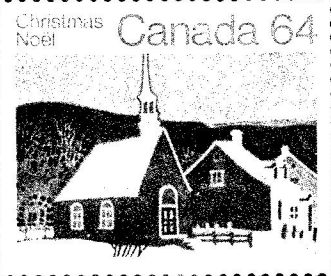
Philately, Intermediate Stamp Collecting I, second in the series, was made available in fall 1981. The course represents a natural progression from the earlier courses and is designed to expand the knowledge of the intermediate collector.

Course contents outline further sources of stamps, a guided search in the development of a personal philatelic reference collection and how to understand and participate in stamp auctions.

The course also provides a study of condition and value of stamps and practical advice on attending stamp shows and how to exhibit one's collection.

The second part of that course, Philately, Intermediate Stamp Collecting II, is also available.

Further information about the program may be obtained by writing Pennsylvania State University, Department of Independent Study by Correspondence, 128 Mitchell Building, University Park, Pa. 16802. ■



Search on for new PMG

The search has begun for a new U.S. postmaster general.

The U.S. Postal Service board of governors testified before Congress recently that it is actively looking inside and outside the USPS for a replacement for current Postmaster General William F. Bolger.

Sources indicate that a replacement for Bolger will take over on or before Jan. 1, 1985.

It is widely believed that Bolger, who has been at odds with the USPS board of governors with greater frequency in recent months, may choose to leave even earlier.

Lucrative positions for Bolger reportedly await him in the private sector.

Bolger has not indicated any definite date for his departure, but it seems fairly certain that a new postmaster general will be named during 1984.

NEWSBRIEFS

NOTES

Future Guest Speakers:

RPA Member, Bill Authur, has recommended a search for an out-of-town speaker to address the club at an 1984 RPA Meeting. The RPA Board of Governors welcomes this suggestion and now will accept speaker recommendations from the membership at large. Please submit a Name, Address, Phone#, Topic, and Price to any club officer. If the speaker is from out of town, we would require a volunteer to board the guest or a hotel room. Any RPA expenditures exceeding \$70 must be voted by the RPA membership in advance of the speaking date. The RPA would like your name suggestions for speakers!

The RPA is NOW a recognized Not-for Profit Educational organization, your donations and contributions are recognized as a legal tax deduction.....

USPS accepts charge cards

Philatelic mail orders from the U.S. Postal Service can now be charged to customers' VISA or MasterCard accounts.

The USPS began a limited test of charge accounts with some of its higher-priced subscription orders a year or two ago, most notably with its American Commemorative Panel program.

However, until this October, it carefully noted that regular mail orders to the Philatelic Sales Division could not be charged.

Now, with the October-November "Philatelic Catalog," the Philatelic Sales Division notes that all mail orders can now be charged to VISA or MasterCard.

Mail orders are still subject to the usual \$5 minimum and 50¢ per order handling fee.

Collectors may request a free copy of the current "Philatelic Catalog" from the Philatelic Sales Division, USPS, Washington, D.C. 20265.

Any interest in a RPA trip to PHILPEX, TORONTO Jan. 7, 1984..A one day trip by Bus or Train.....

continued from 1-7

Order forms included with the album permit recipients to acquire a support packet with a protective holder, mounting materials and an Olympic newsletter.

Customers can also reserve a copy of the USPS' upcoming hardbound Olympic album, *The 1984 Olympics: Sarajevo and Los Angeles*.

Collectors interested in any of these products but who did not receive the promotional mailing may inquire at their local post office. ■



+3c

Postal Service seeks 15% hike in first-class rate

The Associated Press and United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Postal Service said today it will seek to increase the cost of mailing a letter from 20 cents to 23 cents.

Robert L. Hardesty, chairman of the Postal Service Board, said increases would be sought for all classes of mail, but they would not take effect before Oct. 1, 1984.

The proposed increase for postcards, for example, would be 2 cents, from 13 cents to 15 cents.

Postmaster General William F. Bolger said, "I still think that 23 cents will be a bargain" for a letter.

The officials said the independent Postal Rate Commission would be asked within a few days to approve the new rates. The panel is allowed up to 10 months to consider such a case.

"Although prices have gone up nearly 25 percent since the last general rate filing, we are seeking only a 15-percent increase in the basic first-class rate. We are able to bridge this cost gap because of annual productivity increases averaging 3.5 percent since 1980," Hardesty said.

He said that 3½ years of rising costs have caught up with the Postal Service and it is now operating at a deficit.

The service has announced surplus for each of the last two fiscal years but said that it expects a loss of about \$800 million for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1984.

Hardesty said that without a rate increase the operating losses during fiscal 1985 could be more than \$2.3 million.

The Postal Service last raised its rates for first class letters in 1981 when the price jumped first to 18 cents and then to 20 cents in November 1981 — double what it cost to mail a letter six years earlier.

The announcement was not entirely unexpected. Postal Service officials have indicated for months they would seek an increase for late 1984.

Hardesty also said the Postal Service has delayed seeking a rate increase as long as it can.

"Management initiated discussions with the board for a general increase nearly a year ago," Hardesty said. "Because our financial performance has remained strong, the board has been able to defer a rate filing."

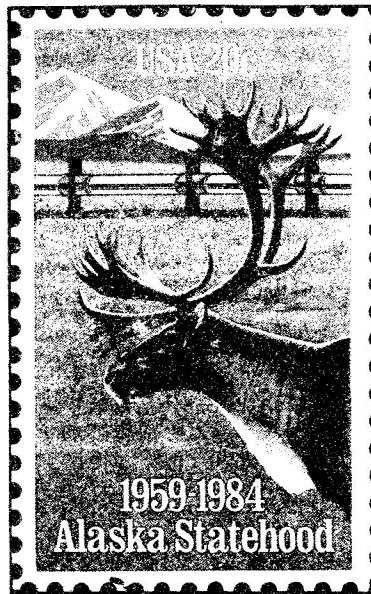
STAMP SHOWS

NEW YORK

Nov. 26-27

Buffalo, N.Y.

CHECOPEX '83 Stamp, Coin Exhibition and Bourse. Rescue Hose Auditorium, 72 Randolph Ave., Cheektowaga. Cheektowaga Stamp and Coin Society. D. LeBarron, 47 Elaine Court, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225. Admission free. Hours Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special show cancel available.



Hawaii Statehood 1959-1984



One of the first U.S. stamp issues of 1984 may be the 20¢ tribute to Alaska's 25th anniversary of statehood (left), if issued in Alaska on its exact anniversary date of Jan. 3. The 25th statehood anniversary of Hawaii will also get a 20¢ commemorative (above, unveiled recently), scheduled for release in Honolulu next year. Aug. 21, the exact anniversary date, is a likely day of issue.

ZIP+4 users get incentive discount

ZIP+4, the expanded U.S. ZIP Code, went into effect Oct. 1 and large mailers who use ZIP+4 became eligible for incentive discounts effective Oct. 9.

The discounts are 0.5¢ per piece for presorted mail and 0.9¢ per piece for nonpresorted mail.

Eligible mailings of letters would thus cost 16.5¢ presorted (down from 17¢) or 19.1¢ nonpresorted (down from 20¢). Similar discounts for postcards would apply: 11.5¢ instead of 12¢ presorted, 12.1¢ instead of 13¢ otherwise.

No new stamps are expected for the ZIP+4 rates, at least not initially.

These discounts are available for mailings of first-class letters or cards of at least 500 presorted pieces or 250 nonpresorted pieces. Pieces must also conform to size and address standards for sorting with new optical scanning

equipment.

Because of these requirements, only business mailers are expected to use ZIP+4 to any advantage.

Use of the expanded ZIP Code is strictly voluntary, and the incentives are intended to help the U.S. Postal Service encourage business use of ZIP+4 to help further automate the postal sorting process.

Businesses can contact the USPS for assistance in converting existing files and addresses to ZIP+4. Mailers need not notify businesses of their ZIP+4 number, since conversion will be on a much larger, full-list scale. ■

USPS sets withdrawals

The U.S. Postal Service announces that seven 20¢ 1982 commemoratives will be withdrawn from sale through the Philatelic Sales Division's mail order operation on Nov. 30.

They include: Libraries of America, Barrymores, Mary Walker, Jackie Robinson, Touro Synagogue, American Architecture, and Wolf Trap.

Precancel type chart

The National Association of Precancel Collectors is offering a free 16-page booklet on precancel collecting including a precancel type chart and a listing of discontinued post offices of New Jersey.

Also in the booklet are illustrations of postally used precancels from Clarksboro, Daretown, Delaware, Petersburg and Wildwood, N.J.

Other states illustrated are types 1 and 2 from Nassau, Del., and types from Prospect Park, Pa., and Fairchild, Wash.

There are stories on precan-

cels and illustrations from Mt. Arlington and Waterford Works, N.J.

The booklet will be sent free to anyone sending a stamped, addressed envelope to Secretary, NAPC, Box 121, Wildwood, N.J. 08260-0121.

Finger Lakes mini exhibit

The Nov. 9 meeting of the Finger Lakes Stamp Club will feature a mini exhibit competition.

The session will begin at 8 p.m. in Jordan Hall, New York State Experiment Station, Geneva, N.Y.

Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.

POST OFFICE BOX 3806
BRIGHTON STATION
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