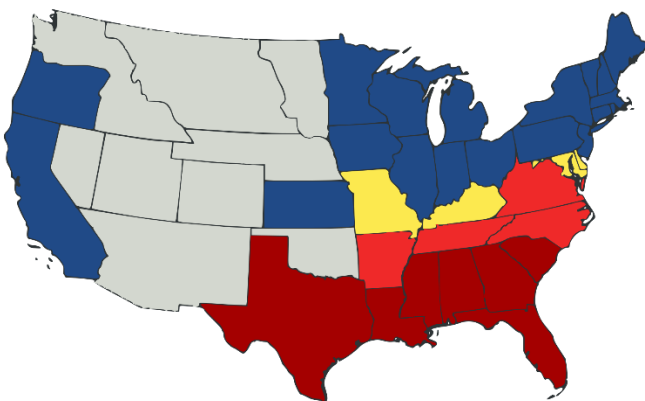


Early Civil War Postal History

By Doug Files



United States map at the beginning of the Civil War

Status of the states, 1861 Slave states that seceded before April 15, 1861 Slave states that seceded after April 15, 1861 Border Southern states that permitted slavery but did not secede (both KY and MO had dual competing Confederate and Unionist governments) Union states that banned slavery Territories

Image by Júlio Reis - This vector image was created with Inkscape, and then manually edited, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1710095>

Background

Throughout the early history of the United States national leaders had disagreed about whether or not to permit slavery. Many southerners felt slavery was necessary for their way of life. As the 1800s progressed many northerners increasingly opposed the practice on moral grounds. New states only were permitted to join the U.S. when a slave state and a non-slave state joined together. This balanced the power of the south and the north. Multiple Congressional compromises tamped down violence. But the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860 brought matters to a head. Lin-

coln opposed slavery in the Western territories and southerners felt this would tip the delicate U.S. political balance in favor of the north.

Angry and fearful leaders in South Carolina sponsored a state convention which unanimously voted on December 20, 1860 to secede from the United States. Within the next six weeks Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Texas also voted to leave the union. On February 4th 1861 the states listed above formed the "Confederate States of America" which they declared to be an independent

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Meetings / Activities

Meetings are held on 1st and 3rd Mondays (adjusted for holidays) at Christ Church 3440 Shroyer Rd Kettering OH 45429

For the Zoom invitation and link, please email daytonstampclub@gmail.com

Member's Socializing and Silent Auctions begin at 7:00 PM - Club Meeting & Programs begin at 7:30 PM Board Meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

2/1 Mid-Winter Stamp & Coin Show, Mozelle Hall, Ashland Fairgrounds, 2042 Claremont Ave., Hrs: 10am-3pm, Tom Zuercher, 419-496-1317.

2/3 Club CASH Auction PREVIEW 7-7:25PM Holograms on Stamps DSC Member Speaker - Mike Komienksy 2/8-9 MSDA Cincinnati (Greenhills) Stamp Show. America Legion Post 530, 11100 Winton Rd. Greenhills

2/10 Board Meeting

2/17 No Meeting Presidents' Day Holiday - Church Closed

2/21-22 Toledo Stamp Expo'101, Stamp Collector Club of Toledo, Graystone Banquet Hall, 29101 Hufford Rd, Perrysburg. Email: cschaf-stall82@gmail.com.

2/24 4th Monday AUCTION #2 - Club CASH Auction

3/1-2. McKinley Stamp Club Show of Canton, St. George Serbian Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St. NW. Canton

3/3 Member Bourse & Club Open House - Buy, Sell, Trade

3/8 Saturday Ohio Precancel Club Meeting Hosted by Dayton Stamp Club 9am-2pm All members welcome to buy, sell, trade, and talk about precancels

3/10 Board Meeting

3/14-16 Garfield-Perry March Party, Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Best Western Plus, 15471 Royalton Rd., Strongsville.

3/17 ***SILENT AUCTION 7-7:20PM*** Team Stamp Quiz Competition

3/29-30 MSDA Columbus Stamp Show, Westgate Park Shelterhouse, 3271 Wicklow Rd. Columbus.

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country. President Lincoln formally took office on March 4th 1861 and he felt that his oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution included a mandate to maintain the United States as one political entity. He declared in his Inaugural Address that slavery was the primary difference of opinion between the sides, and that no state had the right to secede from the Union. He would not invade slave states but he would protect federal property in the south, such as mints and military forts. His administration would not attempt to recapture seized Southern post offices. But if any state refused to accept mail then delivery would end at the state line.

On April 12, 1861 Confederate military forces opened fire on Fort Sumter, South Carolina. Four thousand shells were fired at the Union troops inside, and the fort's commander surrendered the next day. Lincoln called for volunteers to enlist in the military, at which point Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas and North Carolina also seceded and joined the Confederacy.

Postal history

The beginning of armed conflict in April caused great confusion among postal authorities. John H. Reagan who had been appointed Postmaster General of the Confederacy ordered Southern postmasters to return the U.S. stamps in their inventory to Washington, DC. Not all postmasters complied but some did. The following month

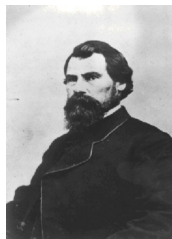
Confederate leaders invalidated all United States stamps. They planned to issue their own CSA stamps instead which took several months to print and distribute. In the meantime most Southern post offices permitted senders to pre-pay for mail delivery at the post office. Covers sent during this period were stampless. Alternately, over 100 post offices let contracts to print local provisional stamps until they received the new issues. Many Confederate provisional stamps are quite difficult to find today.

The North also invalidated all previously-issued stamps on the basis that some Southern post offices still held significant supplies of them. The new series of Union stamps bore Arabic numerals instead of Roman numerals to distinguish them, but the same individuals' portraits still appeared on the same denominations.

The cover shown in the illustration is addressed to William C. Rives, Jr., Esquire, of Boston, Massachusetts. It was mailed from the South on about August 14th, 1861. This date is printed in the lower left corner of the cover. The first dated



Confederate stamp
image from the National Postal Museum, <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/a-nation-divided/the-confederate-postal-system>



Postmaster General of the Confederacy John H. Reagan
Image from the National Postal Museum, <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/a-nation-divided/the-confederate-postal-system>



1861 National Postal Museum Cover
Image by U.S. Post Office - U.S. Post Office, Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Photo image obtained/rendered by Gwillikers, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?curid=12809731>

cancel was applied at Richmond, Virginia on the 17th of

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Meetings / Activities

4/7 My Biggest Stamp Mess with Photo - Member Participation 4-6 Minutes
4/14 Board Meeting
4/21 **AUCTION #3 - Regular Member Auction**
5/2-3 Ohio Precancel Club (OPC) SPRING Gathering. McKinley Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 2370, 5024 Monticello Ave NW, Canton HRS: Fr9am-9p Sat9am-3pm. Bill Latchie 740-260-2891 or Marty Adams.
5/5 Rattlesnake Island Post DSC Member Speaker - Jack Matheney
5/12 Board Meeting
5/19 **SILENT AUCTION 7-7:20PM***** Red, White, and Blue item from your Collection
Member Participation 4-6 minutes
6/2 **>>Club CASH Auction PREVIEW 7:00-7:25PM<<** International Baseball DSC Member Speaker - Joe Shearer
6/9 Board Meeting
6/16 **AUCTION #4 - Club CASH Auction**
7/7 German Influence on Airmail to South America DSC Member Speaker - Jeff Fisher
7/14 Board Meeting
7/21 Picnic at Church Picnic Shelter - 6:30 PM
8/4 My Other Hobby - Member Participation - 4-6 minutes
8/11 Board Meeting AIRPEX Preview
8/18 Panel of DSC Members Discuss What and Why They Collect Foreign Stamps Led by DSC Member Carol Costa
Aug 22-23 (Fri-Sat) *AIRPEX @ IBEW Hall (F:12-6pm; Sa:10am-4pm)**
9/1 No Meeting Labor Day Holiday - Church Closed
9/8 Board Meeting AIRPEX Review
9/15 **AUCTION #5 - Regular Member Auction**
9/29* 5th Monday Stamp/Cover That Illustrates an Item on My Bucket List (or would, if I had a one) Member Participation - 4-6 minutes
10/6 **>>Club CASH Auction PREVIEW 7:00-7:25PM<<** Mineral & Fossil Stamps DSC Member Speaker - Greg Brown and Pat Westby10/20 **AUCTION #6 - Club CASH Auction**
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DSC NEWSLETTER

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Ohio Mother of U.S. Presidents

"Mother of Presidents" is sometimes used to refer to Ohio. Seven United States Presidents were born in Ohio. They are Ulysses S. Grant (Point Pleasant), Rutherford Birchard Hayes (Delaware), James Abram Garfield (Orange Township - now Moreland Hills, Ohio), Benjamin Harrison (North Bend), William McKinley (Niles), William Howard Taft (Cincinnati), and Warren Gamaliel Harding (Corsica, now Blooming Grove). William Henry Harrison, born in Virginia but settled in Ohio, is also claimed as an Ohio president. <https://www.ohiohouse.org/museum/ohio-presidents/about> & <https://www.cleveland.com/travel/2016/02/meet-ohios-8-presidents-and-th.html>

Ulysses S. Grant, 18th President Served: 1869-1877 Point Pleasant

Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th President Served: 1877-1881 Delaware

James A. Garfield, 20th President Served 1881, Moreland Hills

Benjamin Harrison 23rd President Served: 1889-1893 North Bend

William McKinley 25th President Served: 1897-1901 Niles

William Howard Taft 27th President Served: 1909-1913 Cincinnati

Warren Harding 29th President Served: 1921-1923 Blooming Grove

William Henry Harrison 9th President Served: 1841 lived in North Bend

Ulysses Grant



1938 Scott 823

James Garfield



1882 Scott 205

William McKinley



1904 Scott 326

Warren Harding



1938 Scott 833

Rutherford B. Hayes



1923 Scott 565

Benjamin Harrison



902 Scott 308

William Taft



1930 Scott 685

William Henry Harrison



1938 Scott 814

— Continued from page 2

August. The private Adams Express Company transported the envelope from Virginia to Kentucky because the regular mail no longer functioned between the south and the north. Adams Express, American Letter Express and Whiteside's Express were the main companies which moved mail in early 1861 from south to north and vice versa. Then on August 26th, 1861 the U.S. Post Office demanded that all mail – private and public – be stopped from moving across the border to and from Confederate states. After that, only small amounts of “flag of truce” mail passed through military channels and minor illegal private mail carriage across lines continued.

The Adams company cancelled the cover shown on August 21st and then the regular Louisville post office cancelled it in blue the following day. About four days thereafter the cover arrived in Boston, but the recipient had moved. The letter was forwarded to Caldwell, New Jersey and 6 cents postage due was charged for the forwarding service.

Overview

This illustrative cover thus demonstrates how mail travelled from the south to the north during a limited time in the first year of the U.S. Civil War. In its travels this letter was carried by the Confederate system, the Union system and a

private carrier. Its passage across the border between south and north occurred only a few days before the Postmaster General of the United States forbade mail to move across the border. This letter thus illuminates an interesting time in American postal history. Investigating covers such as this can help us feel linked to a time long past.

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Meetings / Activities

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Stamps DSC Member Speaker -
Greg Brown and Pat Westby
10/13 Board Meeting
10/20 **AUCTION #6 - Club CASH Auction**
11/3 *****SILENT AUCTION 7:00-7:20PM***** Round-Table Discussions on Buying & Selling via APS, eBay, & HipStamp
11/10 Board Meeting Set 2025 calendar & budget review
11/17 Club Election for 2025 & How to Evaluate (or Research) a US Cover DSC Member Speakers - Dennis Callison & Doug File
12/1 HolidayPEX Party Starts at 6:30 pm at Church Dinner Party at Church
12/8* 2nd Monday **AUCTION #7 - Auction - Type TBD**
12/15* 3rd Monday Board Meeting



Saturday, February 8, 1PM – 3PM
VALENTINE FAMILY DAY
Make your own valentines and crafts, take home or mail your work!
Attendance is free; All ages welcome

Saturday, February 15, 11AM
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AMERICA'S FIRST POSTMASTER
Wellesley native and Colonial era postal history collector Dr. Tim O'Connor joins the museum as Benjamin Franklin and discusses his life as a Founding Father, Boston native, and America's first Postmaster General. This is the first in a series of programming focused on the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, which began in April of 1775. Attendance is free; All ages welcome

RSP: RSP: amahanay@pellmanmuseum.org

February Dayton Stamp Club Meetings

February 3 — Dayton Stamp Club Meeting — **Club Cash Auction Preview**
Club Meeting & Program—Holograms on Stamps, DSC Speaker Mike Komienksy

February 10 — Board Meeting

February 17 — **NO MEETING** — Presidents' Day Holiday

February 24** 4th Monday Club Meeting & Program **Auction #2 –Club Cash Auction**

Are you curious about precanceled stamps? Do you have a well organize collection of precancels? Or Do you have a pile of precancels accumulating in a box or glassine? Or just interested in these fascinating used stamps with mostly cities and states printed on them. Join us Saturday March 8th from 9am-2pm at Christ United Methodist Church. Marty Adams and Bill Latchic and other members of the Ohio Precancel Club will join members of the Dayton Stamp Club to buy, sell, trade, and talk about precanceled stamps. We hope many Dayton Stamp Club members will stop by between 9am—2pm!

Precancels are postage stamps that have been canceled before being used on letters or packages. Typically they are stamps cancelled with two lines, and the city and state where they were mailed. There are many ways you can collect them. Most are very affordable. Above all, the best part of collecting precancels are the other great collectors you'll meet along the way. Precancels are split into two general categories—Bureau issued and Locally issued. Bureau precancels were printed by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving in large quantities for mass mailers. Bureaus are cataloged by style of cancel on specific stamps by Scott number. Locally issues precancels were produced by individual post offices and are generally known as Town & Type precancels. T&T precancels are cataloged by style of the cancel, including the method of printing and the font and punctuation regardless of the stamp. Although, many collectors do collect T&Ts on specific stamp issues.

[An A.B.C. of Precancel Collecting](#) is a free pdf from the Precancel Stamp Society (PSS). It is an excellent resource for understand the fun world of precancel collecting. Membership is free the 1st year. Application can be found at precancels.com. The Ohio Precancel Club is a branch of PSS and was formed in 1959 and currently holds two regular meetings per year spring and fall in Canton, Ohio. Membership to Ohio Precancel Club is free. Membership applications will be available at the March 8th meeting or ask Susan Kolze for one.

Precancel collectors love cataloging and counting precancels stamp and all their variations. The two catalogs the are essential for collecting precancels are the [PSS Bureau Precancel Catalog, 6th Ed, \(2020\)](#) 9,416 Bureau precanceled stamps listed and [PSS Town & Type Catalog of the US, 8th Ed, \(2019\)](#) 21,347 Towns & 42,509 Types cataloged. Both are available in the Dayton Stamp Club library or directly from the PSS at precancels.com in paper, pdf, or database format.

MARCH 8 Saturday

Ohio Precancel Club Meeting

Hosted by Dayton Stamp Club

All members welcome to buy, sell, trade, and talk about PRECANCELS!

Dayton Stamp Club Auction Information

Regular Member Auctions (1/6/2025, 4/21/2025, 9/15/2025)

Regular member auctions are just like auctions we had in past years.

Members may put up to five items for sale, either for cash or stamp bucks. Use the standard club form and submit your list before the auction begins.

The club may also put in lots of stamps from the club inventory, stamp bucks only.

Club Cash Auctions (2/24/2025, 6/16/2025, 10/20/2025)

During this auction, better stamps from the club inventory will be sold, cash only.

Club Cash Auction Preview Nights (2/3/2025, 6/2/2024, 10/6/2025)

Stamps to be sold at club cash auctions will be put out for viewing (and taking pictures if you want) from 7:00 to 7:25 the meeting before the club cash auction meeting. Auction preview sheets will be available which will list the items, catalog value, minimum bid, and any other pertinent information about the stamp. You can make notes on the preview sheets and take them home for reference to prepare for the coming auction.

Silent Auctions (3/17/2025, 5/19/2025, 11/3/2025) - How They Work

The silent auction came about as a way to move some of the more common philatelic items that have been donated to the club.

During this auction, these stamps from the club inventory will be sold, stamp bucks only.

A silent auction uses a paper bid sheet next to the item being offered for sale. The sheet contains the item description and multiple lines for incremental bidding. Each new bid must be on a separate line with your name and bid amount so it is clear who has the highest bid and what that bid is. All bidding is in stamp bucks.

The starting bid per item is \$5 stamp bucks. Bids need to be raised by a minimum of \$5 up to \$25. Once the bidding exceeds \$25, bids must be in \$10 increments.

Bidding starts at 7pm. The last bid on the sheet at 7:20 pm wins the item. If two people are having a spirited arm-bumping, pencil-hoarding competition at 7:20, we will convert that item to a live auction between those two people. The Westby's will collect the items and tally the winning bids. Present your stamp bucks to Pat and Eric before the meeting starts at 7:30 to claim the won items.

Don't forget to bring your stamp bucks (and a box or bag to carry your winnings home)!

MONDAY February 24

Club CASH AUCTION

This is the 4th Monday in February