



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 54 No. 12 December 2025

U.S. Semi-Postal Stamps

By Doug Files

Background

How many U.S. semi-postal stamps can you name? If you track modern U.S. stamps, you might come up with quite a few. Compared to countries like Switzerland, the U.S. has issued comparatively few semi-postals. But we will discuss the ones that have been in use over the past 30 years. First let's review what semi-postals are and how they began. Semi-postal stamp issuance was authorized in 1997 by Congress. In 2002 Congress defined semi-postals as "stamps that are sold for a price that exceeds the postage value of the stamp." More colloquially, semi-postals are stamps sold above face value to promote a cause. The amount above face value, that is, the amount that goes to charity, is called the "differential".

The first semi-postal item worldwide was a postal card issued by Great Britain in 1890. It bore a face value of one penny but it sold for sixpence, with the extra funds going to help postal workers.



1897 New South Wales, Australia tuberculosis semipostal

Image by Telegram man - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=135908954>

Other nations followed. For example, New South Wales and Victoria in Australia issued semi-postal stamps in 1897 which supported tuberculosis homes. The issuance of semi-postal stamps became commonplace in European nations during the early 20th century. For example, many countries emitted semi-postals to help soldiers injured in the First World War. The amounts of the differentials, or surcharges, increased over time, until at one point the Federation International de Philatelies boycotted any semi-postal with a fee greater than 50% of the stamps face value. They argued that such issues

"exploited" collectors, taking advantage of their desire for a complete collection.

Non-European nations have also issued semi-postals. Falkland Islands issued a rebuilding fund stamp after the invasion by Argentina in 1982. That same year Tonga issued a cyclone relief stamp. New Zealand has issued "health stamps" annually since 1929 to benefit the sick. And India issued a mandatory refugee relief stamp in 1971.

The fact that its use was mandatory really made it more of a postal tax stamp than a semi-postal, however. Despite these examples, over the decades most semi-postals were European. Meanwhile the United States held off issuing semi-postals for many decades. Finally a breast cancer research semi-postal was issued in July 1998 following a Congressional requirement for the U.S.P.S. to do so. Other U.S. semi-postals followed, including a re-issue of the breast cancer stamp several years later. Most of the early U.S. semi-postals were Congressionally mandated and the legislature directed which executive agency would receive the fees charged. This policy has changed in recent years, with the postal service being granted more leeway in the topics covered.

Breast Cancer Research Semi-Postal

The first U.S. semi-postal stamp was issued July 29th, 1998 after Congress directed the U.S.P.S. to issue it. This first stamp was sold for 40 cents but the first class postage rate at the time was only 32 cents. Most instances where the first class rate increased after that, the price of the stamps was increased proportionally. By law 70% of the charitable proceeds is given to the National Insti-

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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.

DECEMBER

12/1 DSC HolidayPEX Party Starts at 6:30 pm at Church Dinner Party at Church

Dec 6-7— MSDA Cincinnati Stamp Show. American Legion, 11100 Winton Rd. HRS: Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 10am-3pm. Midwest Stamp Dealers Association. Michael Mules, PO Box 411, Salem Lakes, WI 53168-0411. PH: 414-234-9867. Email: msdastampshow@gmail.com. Website: www.msdastamp.com.

12/8** 2nd Monday **AUCTION #7 - Auction** - Member Cash OR Stamp Bucks
12/15** 3rd Monday Board Meeting



LOOK TO 2026

DSC MEMBERS —

- ◆ Have fun collecting stamps
- ◆ Ideas for club programs
- ◆ Encourage new members
- ◆ Participate in meetings
- ◆ Recruit youth collectors
- ◆ Visit stamp shows

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Change of Important *Linn's Stamp* Contact Numbers

When choosing a new toll-free number for Scott Stamp LLC, it was hard to resist one that collectors would instantly recognize: 888-542-1868.

That last set of digits, 1868, marks the year the first Scott catalog appeared. The correlation felt too perfect to pass up. The number not only connects callers to the right departments but also harkens back to the foundation of organized stamp collecting in the United States.

The year 1868 was one of great significance in U.S. philately. It saw the nation's first wide use of grilled stamps — experiments designed to prevent reuse — and the earliest beginnings of what would become generations of cataloging work by the Scott brand. In a sense, every call to Scott Stamp LLC now rings with a bit of history.

Collectors can reach us at our toll-free line, **888-5421868**, or at our local Troy, Ohio, number, 937-345-3996. Both numbers connect to the main switchboard and provide options directing you to the right team.

If you get our voice mail, be sure to leave a detailed message and we will answer your mes-

sage and promptly return your call. Or, if you prefer email, here are the best ways to reach us:

- *Linn's* customer service: linns@scottstampllc.com
- General customer service: cuserv@scottstampllc.com
- *Linn's* editorial team: linnsedit@scottstampllc.com
- Scott catalog editorial team: scottedit@scottstampllc.com
- Scott Stamp Monthly editorial team: scott@scottstampllc.com
- Classified ads: classifieds@scottstampllc.com
- Advertising team: ads@scottstampllc.com

Each address connects directly to the department you need — whether it's a subscription question, a catalog correction, or a story idea for *Linn's*. These small details help ensure smoother communication as we continue updating our systems under the Scott Stamp LLC umbrella.

It's a small but satisfying touch that our new phone number, and even our new email domain, reflect the shared heritage of *Linn's Stamp News*, *Scott Stamp Monthly*, and the Scott catalog. The 888 prefix gives us a nationwide presence, while the "542-1868" sequence connects the present with our past.



There are some **simple ways of caring for your collection** as a beginner. Try to handle your stamps as little as possible, instead use tweezers. This prevents dirt and oils from your hands getting onto the stamps and reduces the risk of tearing. It's always best to keep your stamps in an album, this prevents light damage and keeps them safe. You should also think about where you keep your stamp album to avoid anywhere that might be damp.

There are many places to buy stamps but why not first ask your family to see if anyone has an old collection you could have. You could also collect the stamps from your own post or ask family and friends to keep theirs.

1914 War Relief Fund Stamps

This series of Great Britain stamps were issued during the first World War to raise money for the War effort. They were published by Winox Limited of Richmond Surrey in sheets of 40 stamps with 4 image designs. The central image was printed in black and the borders in one of four colors, Brown, Grey, Blue and Purple.

Remember Lusitania



The RMS Lusitania (RMS - Royal Merchant Ship - Great Britain) was sunk by a torpedo from a German U-Boat on May 7th, 1915. There were 1,195 souls lost during this tragedy, including 128 Americans. This event triggered the chain of events that led to the U.S. entering World War I.

Kultur Has Passed Here



The image on this stamp was drawn by Louis Raemeakery for 'The Century Magazine', published by Barron Collier, for a

series of patriotic cartoons. The word Kultur refers to German Culture or civilization during the period of the world wars.

The Zeppelin Triumph



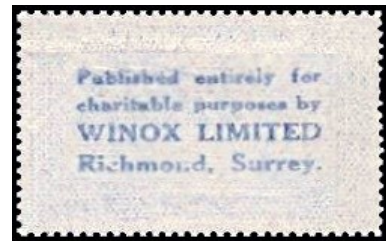
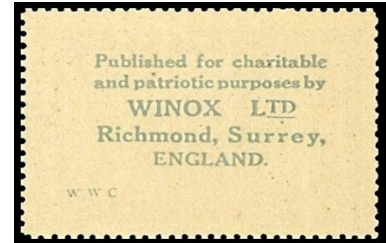
The image on this stamp was another drawing by Louis Raemeakery for 'The Century Magazine'. This stamp was issued in 1914 as a form of British propaganda to suggest the cruelty of the Germans.

Remember Edith Cavell



Edith Cavell was a British nurse and member of La Dame Blanche. She is celebrated for treating wounded soldiers from both sides of World War I. She helped some 200 allied soldiers escape German-occupied Belgium and return to active service which in wartime was a death penalty offence under German military law. Despite international pressure for mercy, she was sentenced and shot.

Each stamp also has the name of the publisher printed on the back of the stamp. Here are three varieties of these, some with the initials W.W.C.



The stamps were produced in set groups of 4. They have a very elaborate border and the 2-color printing process gives them an elegant look. A nice but challenging series to collect. Very scarce.



By Tony Kosarew



Breast Cancer Research semi-postal
Image from National Postal Museum, <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/art-of-the-stamp-the-artwork-stamps-with-a-story/the-breast-cancer-research-semipostal>

tutes of Health and 30% is given to the Department of Defense's Medical Research Program. (This is stated in the present tense because the breast cancer research stamp is still on sale as of Autumn 2025.)

Artist Whitney Sherman of Baltimore worked with USPS art director Ethel Kessler to create the watercolor image used for the stamp. Kessler was a breast cancer survivor, which lent passion to the artwork. Sherman's designs went through many steps and sketches to arrive at the final version. The image that was chosen features a woman reaching over her shoulder as if performing a self-exam of her breast. Small text

runs in a circle stating, "Fund the flight. Find the cure." Initially many people thought postal customers would refuse to pay a voluntary surcharge for postage stamps. However, Senator Diane Feinstein engaged interest groups and shepherded the legislation through Congress. As mentioned above the re-issued breast cancer stamp is still available; Congress has extended its sale at USPS through the end of 2027. Over nearly 30 years 1.1 billion breast cancer stamps have been sold and \$98 million has been raised for breast cancer research.

September 11, 2001 = Heroes of 2001

After the terrorist attacks of 9-11 a semi-postal stamp was issued to support the families of emergency responders who were killed or disabled. Originally it was a 45-cent stamp which covered the 37-cent first class rate plus a surcharge of 8 cents. Scott has listed this sobering semi-postal as #B2. The photo chosen for the design was famous in that era and it shows an American flag being raised by firefighters at Ground Zero after the attacks. The photo was taken by Thomas E. Franklin of New Jersey and the stamp was designed by Derry Noyes. The contract printer was Ashton-Potter, which produced 205 million stamps by the offset process. The differential was donated to the Federal



Heroes of 2001 semi-postal
Image from National Postal Museum website,
<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/exhibition/long-may-it-wave-conflict-and-exploration/september-11th-2001>

Emergency Management Agency. The Heroes of 2001 semi-postal was withdrawn from sale on December 31, 2004.

Stop Family Violence

In 2003 the U.S.P.S. issued a third semi-postal, labelled "Stop Family Violence". Its cost of 45 cents covered the 37-cent first class postage rate at that time, as well as an 8-cent differential, which was given to the Department of Health and Human Services to distribute to women's shelters and domestic violence programs. Again, the postage stamp arose out of a specific law which



2003 Stop Family Violence semi-postal
Image from the National Postal Museum website, https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_2003.2029.66

commissioned it, the Stamp Out Domestic Violence Act of 2001. Scott lists this stamp as #B3. Art director Carl T. Herrman chose artwork by a child who had expressed her sadness about domestic violence. Contractor Avery Dennison was chosen to print 125 million copies of this semi-postal by the gravure printing process.

Note: The gravure printing process involves engraving recessed cells onto a metal cylinder which collects ink and then transfers it at high speed to panes of stamps.

Save Vanishing Species

The next U.S. semi-postal was 8 years in coming. It was for endangered species of animals and it was issued September 20, 2011 in Louisville, Kentucky. As of this year more than 71 million vanishing species semi-postals have been sold, leading to raising \$8 million. These stamps were originally sold for 55 cents, which covered 44 cents + 11 cents. The extra fee goes to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support Multinational Species Conservation Funds. The particular species protected are elephants, rhinoceroses, turtles and tigers. The tiger design on the stamp was chosen by Nancy Stahl and her work was supported by art director Derry Noyes. Avery Dennison printed the stamps by the gravure process. In 2017 Congress passed a law authorizing the U.S. Postal Service for a 10-year period to issue semi-postal stamps for whatever causes it feels are in the national interest and appropriate.



2011 Save Vanishing Species semipostal

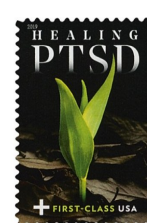
Image from National Postal Museum, https://postalmuseum.si.edu/object/npm_2011.2065.77

Alzheimer's disease

As part of this program an Alzheimer's stamp was issued on November 30, 2017. It was sold for a little over a year, withdrawn in January 2019, then resumed in October 2020. As of June 2025 more than 12 million Alzheimer's semi-postals had been sold, raising \$1.6 million. The donated funds go to the National Institutes of Health to fight this disease. The artist was Matt Mahurin and the art director was Ethel Kessler.



2017 Alzheimer's disease semi-postal
Image from USPS website, <https://>



2019 Healing PTSD semi-postal B7
Image from USPS website

Healing PTSD

Two years later, In December 2019 a PTSD semi-postal was issued (Scott #B7). About 20 million of these stamps have been sold, raising \$2 million. The fees are given to the Department of Veterans Affairs to support PTSD patients. The artist was Mark Laita of California and the art director was Greg Breeding of Virginia. A 2002 law specified that the cost increment above face value – which is called the "differential" – had to be at least 15%.

Rates of semi-postals

Two semi-postals which were directed by Congress to sold are still on sale by the U.S.P.S. These are Scott #B1 and B5, Breast Cancer Research and Scott #B4 Save Vanishing Species. Thus these have been on sale significantly longer than most commemoratives. To keep them on sale through rate changes, U.S. semi-postals bear no denomination. Starting with B2, they simply say "First class +" The

(Continued on page 9)



BOSTON 2026 WORLD EXPO

For Immediate Release

Mail Art Entries Welcomed

The “Rebellion! International Mail Art Show” taking place during Boston 2026 will highlight “mail as art” produced by young and old from around the world. Here is an opportunity to display your artistic talents!

Mail art has a long history and includes drawing, printmaking, photography, collage and more, decorating mail pieces in a myriad of ways. See examples at zmagmailartistgroup.com.

The premise is simple. Use an envelope (any size up to 9x12 inches or an A4 sheet) or post card as a canvas and create a design related to the theme of rebellion, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. Any art medium may be used. Be creative and colorful! Additional design work on the reverse is allowed. When completed, address the envelope to the coordinators, add postage, use an optional cardboard stiffener and mail the envelope. Do not include a note or other enclosure. All entries will be displayed in the joint Youth/Beginner’s area on the exhibition show floor as well as online at rebellion2026.blogspot.com, where full project details can be found. For privacy concerns, entrants may consider writing their return address on the reverse rather than the front, which will not be shown.

Entries must be received by May 1 and cannot be returned. Send your mail art to:

Rebellion! mail art
144 Moody St.
Building 18
Waltham, MA 02453
USA

Boston 2026 World Expo takes place May 23-30, 2026, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. Full show details may be found at Boston2026.org and on X and Facebook. Sign up to be added to the Boston 2026 email list and receive updates when available.

Thomas M. Fortunato



Alderney and Guernsey celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas with two sets of seven stamps

BY LINN'S STAFF



A set of seven Alderney stamps issued Oct. 30 by Guernsey Post shows the first six subjects in the 12 Days of Christmas. The stamps are denominated 64 pence, 69p, 92p, £1.37, £1.47, £1.81 and £1.90.

Stamps from Guernsey in the Oct. 30 Guernsey Post issue show one example of the subjects in the later verses of the carol. The 64p stamp in both the Guernsey and Alderney sets features a design commemorating the 12 Days of Christmas.



A polar bear mailing letters can be seen on one of the 10 stamps in a set of December stamps issued by the Netherlands in 2019.

Black Heritage: Phillis Wheatley



The Phillis Wheatley Black Heritage stamp, with art by Kerry James Marshall and design by Antonio Alcala, honors the 18th-century poet and literary trailblazer.

The 49th Black Heritage stamp commemorates Phillis Wheatley (circa 1753-1784), the first author of African descent in the American Colonies to publish a book. As an enslaved woman with an education and prominent social connections, Wheatley occupied a unique and remarkable place in Colonial Boston, and she is often referred to as "the mother of African American literature." Antonio Alcala, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with a portrait of Wheatley by internationally acclaimed artist Kerry James Marshall. The Phillis Wheatley stamp will be issued Jan. 29 in Boston.

First Day of Issue. The first-day-of-issue event for this stamp will take place on January 29, 2026, in Boston, Massachusetts.

New book details 250-year history of U.S. Postal Service

A new, richly illustrated book about the 250-year history of the United States Postal Service is now available for purchase.

Delivering for America: How the United States Postal Service Built a Nation was authored by James H. Bruns.

Bruns served as curator of the National Postal Museum's National Philatelic Collection from 1983 to 1997 and as the museum's director from 1987 to 2000.

The book discusses in detail the essential role of the USPS in U.S. history, from its beginnings in 1775 to key modern innovations such

as automated sorting equipment and electric delivery vehicles.

"Readers will gain a deeper understanding of not just the history of the mail but of America itself — where we've been, who we are, and where we're headed," said Amity Kirby, licensing and creative manager for the USPS. "Additionally, the book serves as a reminder of how the Postal Service is a vital part of the nation's infrastructure, connecting and empowering every American household and business through the mail."

Brun's narrative is enhanced with numerous rare photographs,



A new book written by James H. Bruns, a former director of the National Postal Museum, tells the 250-year history of the United States Postal Service. *Delivering for America: How the United States Postal Service Built a Nation* is available from the Postal Service's online Postal Store and other retail outlets.

documents and artifacts such as postal uniforms, handstamps and pneumatic mail systems.

"The book delves into how the U.S. mail system has grown with the needs of the nation: delivering by horses, trains, trucks and planes — and even into space," the USPS said.

Delivering for America: How the United States Postal Service Built

a Nation is a 496-page, coffee table-size book that may be purchased from the Postal Service's online Postal Store (<https://store.usps.com/store/home>), select post offices around the country, and retailers such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

The suggested retail price is \$50, according to the USPS.

136th Garfield-Perry

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Sun. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Scan code or visit

www.garfieldperry.org

The American First Day Cover Society is the largest not-for-profit first-day cover society in the world.



More information about the AFDCS is available online at www.afdcs.net or by writing the AFDCS at Post Office Box 57, Somerset, WI 54025-0057.

December Dayton Stamp Club Meeting

December 1, 6:30 pm — Dinner Party at Church

December 8, 7:00 pm - Club Meeting & Program—In person & Zoom -Auction #7

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.

December 15, 7:00 pm Board meeting

The First and Last Nazi-Era Christmas Stamp 1944-1944

While the Christmas tree and many yuletide traditions emanate from German culture, one does not usually associate Christmas joy with Nazi-occupied territories of the World War II era. And yet, there is a Nazi-occupation stamp that indeed acknowledges the celebration of Christmas. The stamp was produced by German authorities in the waning years of World War II on the German-occupied Greek island of Rhodes.

Germany occupied Rhodes, formerly held by Italian forces, after Italy made an armistice with the Allies in September 1943. Recognizing the strategic importance of Rhodes, the Germans wrested the island from the Italian forces, thereby blunting a potential British capture.

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In December 1944, the German commander on Rhodes ordered that Italian stamps of Rhodes be over-printed "Weihnachten 1944" (meaning "Christmas 1944"). Each troop on the island received two stamps for use for mail being sent home to Germany. The stamp is not listed in Scott; however, Michel lists it under Greek Island Feldpost for Rhodes, #121.



The only other Christmas-related stamp connected to Germany during World War II was a non-denominated green eagle stamp issued in 1944 (Scott #MQ2) used to send packages to troops for Christmas.

Video Pick: You Got the Whole World in Your Hands!

Learn About the Top Five Most Popular World Postage Stamp Catalogues

Do you use the Scott Catalogue or the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue? Those are the two best-known stamp catalogues, but they are not the only catalogues out there. This video, "The Ultimate Guide to Postage Stamp Catalogues," discusses the five major world catalogues currently in use. The video delves into the history and significance of stamp catalogues, demonstrating their essential role as a tool for collectors. From the well-known Scott Catalogue to the greatly detailed Michel Catalogue, discover the features, characteristics, and, most importantly, price ranges of these worldwide catalogues used by so many. To view the video, you can click the image below (if you are reading this news-letter electronically) or go to the following website address: stam-paware.weebly.com/video.html.



USPS Stamps for 2026

A sneak peek at the stamps of 2026



The Postal Service's 2026 Stamp Lineup will Feature an array of Cultural and Historical Subjects.

*Jan. 9, Angel's Trumpets. Two 4¢ definitive stamps (one design), pane of 20, coil of 10,000; Kenosha, Wis.

*Jan. 15, Muhammad Ali. Two (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 20; Louisville, Ky.

*January?, Love Birds. Four (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 20.

*Jan. 24, Colorado Statehood. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp; pane of 20; Denver, Colo.

*Jan. 29, Phillis Wheatley. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp, pane of 20; Black Heritage series; Boston, Mass.

*Feb. 3, Year of the Horse. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp, pane of 20; Lunar New Year series; Houston, Texas.

*?, Bruce Lee. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp, pane of 20.

*?, Harriet Powers. Four (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 20.

*?, Lowriders. Five (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 15.

*?, Sunflowers. Single (78¢) forever stamp, double-sided pane of 20.

*?, A Day at the Beach. Four (78¢) forever stamp, double-sided pane of 20.

*?, Figures of the American Revolution. Twenty-five (78¢) forever commemorative stamps: Abigail Adams, John Adams, Agwalondonwgas (Good Peter), James Armistead, Cornplanter, John Dickinson, Benjamin Franklin, Elizabeth Freeman (Mumbet), Bernardo de Gálvez, Nathanael Greene, Alexander Hamilton, Lemuel Haynes, Patrick Henry, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Marquis de Lafayette, James Madison, Thomas Paine, Esther De Berdt Reed, Paul Revere, Deborah Sampson, Baron von Steuben, Mercy Otis Warren, George Washington; pane of 25.

*?, Route 66. Eight (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 16.

*?, Bald Eagle. Five (78¢) forever commemorative stamps; pane of 20.

*?, American Bison. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp; pane of

16.

*?, International Peace. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp; pane of 20.

*?, Declaration of Independence. Single (78¢) forever commemorative stamp; pane of 20.

*?, Sarah Orne Jewett. Single (\$1.36) 3-ounce rate stamp, pane of 20, Literary Arts series. Continued from page 19

*?, Squirrels & Chipmunks in Winter. Four (78¢) forever stamp, double-sided pane of 2

***Asterisks** precede entries with new or changed information. New/changed information is presented in bold italics.

Stamp printing contractors are identified in the listings using the following abbreviations: AP (Ashton Potter USA Ltd.), and BCA (Banknote Corporation of America). **Details of each issue** listed in this program are given in the cited issues of *Linn's*. Stamps are self-adhesive unless otherwise noted

(Continued from page 4)

first semi-postal, the Breast Cancer Research stamp, sold for 40 cents and it paid the first class rate of 32 cents plus an 8-cent fee. When the first class rate rose to 33 cents in January 1999 the 40-cent rate was kept the same, and the amount of fee was decreased to 7 cents. The same thing was done when the postal rate rose to 34 cents. But when first class mail rose to 37 cents and then 39 cents the price of the stamps was increased to 45 cents. On May 14, 2007 the first class mail rate increased to 41 cents and the price of the breast cancer semi-postal was increased to 55 cents.

Originally the rule had been that the extra fee charged could not exceed 15% but in 2007 this was changed to read that it must exceed 15% and there was no cap on how much could be charged. The total price has to be divisible by five, however. In theory people using the breast cancer stamp are supposed to affix extra postage to make up the current first class rate, if they bought the stamps at a cheaper rate in the past. (They were not issued as Forever stamps.) However, there is no reliable way to determine when the stamps were purchased. So the postal service just treats them as if they were purchased recently. Currently the U.S.P.S. website lists semi-postals as costing 90 cents each, while the first-class postal rate is 78 cents to send a one-ounce letter. Thus the differential which goes to charity is 12 cents per stamp.

Marketing

The current U.S.P.S. plan was to emphasize marketing of the Alzheimer's stamp in September, the Breast Cancer stamp in October, the Save Vanishing Species stamp in November and the Healing PTSD stamp in December. The marketing pushes may involve selling t-shirts, using mottos and holding special promotions, such as raffles. Outside organizations cannot lobby for sales of the stamp or promote their causes on postal property, however. And postal employees cannot solicit donations from customers. Employees may wear a promotional t-shirt for that stamp during the month listed above.

Overview

The U.S. Postal Service was a latecomer to offering semi-postal stamps, starting a full century after European nations offered them. However, postal customers have proved willing to spend extra for stamps that promote certain causes. And large amounts of donations have been raised for charity over the ensuing 27 years. It appears that semi-postals are here to stay in the United States despite the 6 years since the last one was issued. At the time of the writing of this article, four were still on sale on the U.S.P.S. website: Breast Cancer Research, Save Vanishing Species, Alzheimer's and PTSD. We will see what the future brings for American semi-postal stamps.

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USPS employees can help promote semipostal stamps, USPS website, <https://news.usps.com/2025/05/28/usps-employees-can-help-promote-semipostal-stamps/>, accessed 2 Sep 2025

Stamp collecting is a fun and addictive hobby that explores history, geography, art and politics. It can be a therapeutic activity or an opportunity to meet likeminded people and join clubs and societies

Stamp collecting is also a great hobby to encourage young people to be a part of Stamp Collecting. It's an activity away from technology that can connect children to the older generation, who may have also collected when they were younger.

The possibilities of what to collect are endless. You may only wish to collect stamps from one country or stamps that focus on one event. Commemorative stamps depict numerous themes, you could choose anything from cats to aeroplanes. It may be best to start with a larger theme and then break it down to find an area you enjoy. Why not think about what interests you and build a collection around that. The more passionate you are about the subject the more likely you are to continue to collect.





A permanent-rate stamp issued Nov. 6 by Canada Post shows a rendition of the Nativity scene with Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the foreground and the three wise men, the star of Bethlehem and an Angel in the background.

AIRPEX2026

FRIDAY, August 21 and SATURDAY, August 22, 2026

Dayton Stamp Show

World Wide & United States Stamps



Map to Emerge Center

2960 W Enon Rd, Xenia, OH 45385

