

Lincoln Stamp Club

SOUVENIR SHEET FEBRUARY 2017

OFFICERS

President:
Mark Sellhorn (2017)
Vice President:
Bob Ferguson (2017)
Secretary:
Dale Niebuhr (2017)
Treasurer:
Dave Wallman (2017)
Board Member:
Joel Johnson (2017)

EXCHANGES

Manager: *John Schultz*

PRINT & WEB

Editor: *David M. Frye*
Archive: www.lincolnstampclub.org/news

MEETINGS

The Club meets the first and third Thursdays, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

LOCATION

St. Paul U.M. Church
1144 M St.
Lincoln, Neb.

CONTACT

E-mail:
questions@lincolnstampclub.org
Web:
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www.facebook.com/LincolnStampClub
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Lincoln, NE
68505-3942.

AFFILIATION

An American Philatelic Society (APS) affiliate:
APS #0799-064882.

CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR

by *David M. Frye*

Copies of this issue of the *Souvenir Sheet* went to the post office on Saturday, January 28, with the forever-rate Year of the Rooster commemorative stamp paying the new—as of January 22—first-class rate of 49¢. The mailing date marks the first day of the Year of the Rooster, which is one of the twelve animals tied to the Chinese lunar calendar.

This stamp, issued by the U.S. Postal Service on January 5, is the third rooster-themed stamp issued to celebrate the lunar new year. The first, the 29¢ Year of the Rooster issue, arrived on December 30,

1992. The second, using the same design but bearing the first-class rate of 39¢, appeared on January 6, 2005, as part of a twelve-subject retrospective on the Chinese New Year issues of 1992 through 2004.

The USPS plans to complete the current Celebrating New Year series, which began in 2008, in 2019. A recent postal service announcement shared some details of the current issue's design, noting, "Art director Ethel Kessler worked on the series with illustrator Kam Mak, a Hong Kong-born artist who grew up

in New York City's Chinatown and now lives in Brooklyn. The artwork focuses on some of the common ways the Lunar New Year holiday is celebrated. For the Year of the Rooster, the illustration—originally created using oil paints on panel—depicts a colorful rooster emblazoned on a red envelope. The color red symbolizes luck in Chinese culture, while rooster imagery is often used to ward off evil spirits. The characters at the top of the envelope form a common Chinese greeting of celebration and wish for prosperity and good fortune, used most frequently during Lunar New Year.



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"Kessler's stamp design also incorporates two elements from the previous series of Lunar New Year stamps: Clarence Lee's intricate cut-paper design of a rooster and the Chinese character for 'rooster,' drawn in grass-style calligraphy by Lau Bun."

The stamp images show the strong resemblance between the older roosters from 1992 and 2005 and the rooster highlighted in white on the margin and in gold on the 2017 stamps. The calligraphic "rooster" character repeats too.

See **Rooster** on p. 3

Club Notes

OFFICERS

Dale Niebuhr accepted an appointment to serve as Secretary.

EXCHANGE LOTS

Send your descriptions and prices to **John Schultz** (jschultz2@neb.rr.com) by Feb. 15, 2017, for the March exchange.

FORT HARDSTUFF DINNER

This annual Dutch-treat dinner will be held on Sat., Feb. 26, 6:00 p.m., at Ruby Tuesday's across the street from LINPEX. All members and families are invited. Make your reservations with **Joyce Rivera**, jojr79@aol.com or 402.432.2333.

CASEY CUP

The Club has decided to recognize Ken Pruess posthumously for his many years of devoted service to the Club by naming him to the roster of honored members.

MEETINGS

- **Meeting & Exchange:** Thursday, February 2.
- **Show & Tell and Program:** Thursday, February 16: *Presidents on U.S. Stamps* by **Bob Ferguson**.
- **Meeting & Exchange:** Thursday, March 5, 2017.
- **Show & Tell and Program:** Thursday, March 19: *Controversial U.S. Stamps* by **Bob Ferguson**.

February 2017 Exchange

The Club offers the following items at its monthly exchange. Make payments in cash or in personal checks made out to the Club. Proceeds from the sale of donations benefit the Club's general work. Sellers' initials appear in the last column. LSC lots are donations. Number your lots before the meeting.

| Lot # | Description | Catalogue | Minimum | Final | Buyer | Seller |
|-------|--|-----------|---------|-------|-------|--------|
| 01 | US 37 M 1¢-4¢ Pl. Blks. | \$35.00 | \$4.00 | _____ | _____ | JJ |
| 02 | US 4 APS books partially filled, Used | \$— | \$1.50 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 03 | US Sc. 3307 M Daffy Duck Sheet | \$14.00 | \$4.00 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 04 | US Sc. 146 Used, Av. to F, pen cancel | \$17.50 | \$1.50 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 05 | US Sc. 178 Used, Average to Fair | \$12.50 | \$1.50 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 06 | US Sc. 213 Used, Average to Fair | \$0.35 | \$0.10 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 07 | US Sc. 778a-d, 1936 Souv. Sh., MNH | \$1.75 | \$0.75 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 08 | US Sc. 797, 1937 Souv. Sh., MNH | \$0.60 | \$0.30 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 09 | US Sc. 2559, 2838, 2981 Sheets, MNH | \$40.50 | \$10.00 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 10 | Argentina Small Used Assortment, nice | \$— | \$0.60 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 11 | Australia Sc. 194-195 Used | \$0.70 | \$0.10 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 12 | Australia Sc. 988-991 Set, MNH, Nice | \$3.85 | \$0.75 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 13 | Austria Sc. 490, 1363, Mint and Used | \$0.40 | \$0.10 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 14 | Belgium Sc. 84 Used | \$0.60 | \$0.10 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 15 | Belgium Sc. 1116 Used Europa | \$0.20 | \$0.05 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 16 | Bhutan Mint & Used Assortment | \$— | \$0.15 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 17 | Canal Zone Used Assortment | \$— | \$0.50 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 18 | French West Africa Sc. 38, MNH | \$0.20 | \$0.05 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 19 | Gibraltar Sc. 147, MNH | \$0.20 | \$0.05 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 20 | Grenada Sc. 628-630 + others, M Asst. | \$1.20 | \$0.30 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 21 | Liberia Sc. 492, U | \$0.20 | \$0.05 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 22 | Mauritius Sc. 251, 255, 353, Mint/Used | \$1.35 | \$0.50 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 23 | Mongolia CTO Assortment | \$— | \$0.40 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 24 | Nicaragua Sc. 1050-1051, 1054, MNH | \$0.60 | \$0.30 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 25 | Norfolk Island Mint/Used Assortment | \$— | \$0.50 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 26 | Romania Nice Collection, Mint/Used | \$— | \$0.75 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 27 | San Marino Sc. 758-760+Others, MNH | \$1.20 | \$0.40 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 28 | Vatican Sc. 284, 372, MNH | \$0.40 | \$0.10 | _____ | _____ | LSC |
| 29 | Brazil Sc. 1276, MNH | \$2.25 | \$0.35 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 30 | Equatorial Guinea Sc. 569-577, U Set | \$— | \$0.50 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 31 | Great Britain Sc. 745-748 M Set, V. Nice | \$1.10 | \$0.50 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 32 | Great Britain Sc. 904-908 Str. 5, MNH | \$2.50 | \$1.25 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 33 | Finland Sc. 856a Complete Mint Booklet | \$3.25 | \$1.00 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 34 | France 150+ Stamps, Mint and Used | \$80.00 | \$20.00 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 35 | Ireland Sc. 996-1035, M Collctn. 1996 | \$68.80 | \$10.00 | _____ | _____ | JS |
| 36 | Sp. Sahara & Sp. Guinea Mostly M | \$90.00 | \$2.00 | _____ | _____ | JS |

CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR



Images: Author's Collection

Three Views: Images of one stamp, cropped from the full pane, show the appearance of the stamp under visible light, shortwave (266 nm) ultraviolet (UV) light, and longwave (365 nm) UV light, provided with a Philolux₃.

Rooster, continued from p. 3

When the USPS makes its first-day-of-issue announcement, it includes a host of technical details in its media release. The box below shows the list of details for this stamp.

Two lines in this list caught my eye. The first was the notation, “Microprint,” in the manufacturing process line, and the second was the note, “Phosphor Tagged Paper, Block,” in the paper type line. Microprinting appears on modern issues to identify legitimately printed stamps. Phosphorescent tagging enables the postal service’s sorting and canceling machines to identify the placement of stamps on envelopes so that the machines can orient the mail pieces properly as they are automatically canceled.



Microprinting: “USPS” near the feet.

One image here shows an enlarged portion of the stamp. The microprinted **USPS** is easy to spot in the light background near the rooster’s feet.

The group of three images shows one stamp from a pane of twelve under visible light and two wavelengths—266 nm and 365 nm—of UV light. The two UV-illuminated images illustrate the phosphorescent properties of the stamp’s ink and paper. The relatively uninked portions of the rectangular background in the third, longwave-UV image above, highlight the phosphor-tagged paper.

If you receive a letter—other than this newsletter—that bears this new Year of the Rooster stamp, consider bringing it to a Club meeting to share during our regular “Show & Tell.”

Year of the Rooster Stamp Details

Issue: Year of the Rooster Stamp

Item Number: 552000

Denomination & Type of Issue:

First-Class Mail Forever

Format: Pane of 12 (1 design)

Series: Celebrating Lunar New Year

Issue Date & City: January 5, 2017,
Seattle, WA 98134

Designer, Art Director, Typographer:

Ethel Kessler, Bethesda, MD

Artist: Kam Mak, Brooklyn, NY

Modeler: Sandra Lane/Michelle Finn

Manufacturing Process: Offset,
Microprint

Printer: Banknote Corporation
of America

Printed at: Browns Summit, NC

Press Type: Alprinta 74

Stamps per Pane: 12

Print Quantity: 15 million stamps

Paper Type: Phosphor Tagged Paper,
Block

Adhesive Type: Pressure-sensitive

Processed at: Banknote Corporation
of America, Browns Summit, SC

Colors: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black,
PMS 872/Gold

Stamp Orientation: Horizontal

Image Area: 1.42 × 0.84 in.
(36.07 × 21.34 mm)

Overall Size: 1.56 × 0.98 in.
(39.62 × 24.89 mm)

Full Pane Size: 7.24 × 5.92 in.
(183.90 × 150.37 mm)

Press Sheets: 21.97 × 11.97 in.
(558.04 × 303.91 mm); 1000 sheets

Plate Size: 144 stamps per revolution

Plate Numbers: N/A

Marginal Markings: Back—© 2016
USPS · USPS logo · Barcode
(552000) · Promotional text · Verso
—Celebrating Lunar New Year.

Source: http://about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2017/pr17_001.htm

STAMP SHOW



Saturday, February 25, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday, February 26, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Country Inn & Suites, 5353 N. 27th St.

Free Parking and Entry • Barrier-free Access

8 Stamp Dealers • US Postal Service Booth—Saturday • Free Evaluations
 Beginners' Table—Stamps 1¢ Each for Youth and 5¢ for Adults
 Collectible Envelopes Marking the 150th Anniversary of Nebraska Statehood

questions@lincolnstampclub.org • www.lincolnstampclub.org



| Linn's 2016 U.S. Stamp Popularity Poll | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Select from the following list the 2016 commemorative stamps ; 2016 definitive and special stamps ; and 2016 postal stationery that have the best and worst designs in your opinion, as well as those you feel are the most important and least necessary in subject. | | |
| VOTE BY THE NUMBER PRECEDING THE ISSUE NAME ONLY | | |
| Commemorative stamps | | |
| 1. Richard Allen | 2. Year of the Monkey | 3. Sarah Vaughan |
| 4. Shirley Temple | 5. World Stamp Show-NY 2016 | 6. Repeal of the Stamp Act, 1766 |
| 7. Service Cross Medals | 8. Views of Our Planets | 9. Pluto Explored |
| 10. Classics Forever | 11. National Parks | 12. Indiana Statehood |
| 13. Jaime Escalante | 14. Star Trek | 15. Wonder Woman |
| BEST DESIGN _____ WORST DESIGN _____ MOST IMPORTANT _____ LEAST NECESSARY _____ | | |
| Definitives and Special stamps | | |
| 16. Quilled Paper Heart | 17. Apples | 18. Grapes |
| 19. Red Pears | 20. La Cueva del Indio | 21. Columbia River Gorge |
| 22. Botanical Art | 23. U.S. Flag | 24. Moon |
| 25. USA Star | 26. Colorful Celebrations | 27. Eid Greetings |
| 28. Soda Fountain Favorites | 29. Star Quilts | 30. Pickup Trucks |
| 31. Henry James | 32. Pets | 33. Songbirds in Snow |
| 34. Patriotic Spiral | 35. Eastern Tailed-Blue Butterfly | 36. Jack-o'-Lanterns |
| 37. Kwanzaa | 38. Diwali | 39. Holiday Window Views |
| 40. Florentine Madonna and Child | 41. Hanukkah | 42. Nativity |
| BEST DESIGN _____ WORST DESIGN _____ MOST IMPORTANT _____ LEAST NECESSARY _____ | | |
| Postal stationery | | |
| 43. La Cueva del Indio stamped envelope | | |
| <i>Because there is only one 2016 postal stationery issue, there is no voting in this category. The La Cueva del Indio stamped envelope is eligible for favorite 2016 stamp voting.</i> | | |
| Now vote for your single personal favorite stamp issue of 2016. Your choice can be from the commemorative, definitive-special or postal stationery categories. Se-tenant issues (different designs in one pane) are counted as one issue. | | |
| MY FAVORITE 2016 STAMP (please write in number and stamp issue name): | | |
| No. _____ Issue _____ | | |
| SEND BALLOT TO: Linn's Stamp Poll, Box 4129, Sidney, OH 45365. All ballots must be postmarked by March 1, 2017. Photocopied ballots are acceptable. Stamps are pictured in the Dec. 19 issue on pages 20-21. | | |

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