

LINCOLN STAMP CLUB

SOUVENIR SHEET December 2021

Club Happenings Last Month

November 18 Meeting

OFFICERS

President:

LaVonne Uffelman (2021)

Vice President:

Brad Shay (2021)

Secretary:

Mark Sellhorn (2021)

Treasurer:

Dave Wallman (2021)

Board Members:

Curtis Peacock (2021)

Larry Spreeman (2021)

EXCHANGES

Manager: *Dale Niebuhr*

APS AMBASSADOR

Dale Niebuhr

MEETINGS

The Club meets the second
Thursday, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

LOCATION

College View Adventist Church
48th & Prescott St.
Lincoln, Neb.

CONTACT

E-mail:

questions@lincolnstampclub.org

Web:

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Facebook:

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LincolnStampClub](http://www.facebook.com/LincolnStampClub)

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Lincoln, NE
68506-6756

AFFILIATION

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

We met with 20 members and 4 guests attending. **LaVonne** talked about LINPEX 2022 on February 26-27 at the Country Inn and Suites. **David Frye** is working on the cachet and cancel for the show. The plan is to use the Mystery Method stamp and a similar cachet. **This is a good time to think about doing an exhibit. We want to fill 20 frames and everyone is welcome to enter.**

The slate of existing club officers was nominated to continue next year, but all other nominations are welcome and can be submitted to any of the officers. The club will vote next month.

The meeting continued with an expanded member show and tell.

LaVonne Uffelman showed her collection of indicia stamps and decoder.

Tom Johnson showed his EFO collection on postal stationery.

Kurt Meyer showed his US, Germany and worldwide collections.

Brad Shay showed his maxicard and picturecard collections.

Cynthia Carlson showed her US definitives catalog and dental hygiene collection.

Dave Wallman showed the Nebraska covers from his 7/1/71 cover collection.

Sandy Lewis showed a cover with 22 Statue of Liberty stamps on it.

Ken Nickerson showed his Japan collection.

John Radway showed his Commercial Air Mail route collection.

Dale Niebuhr showed his worldwide collection and different albums.

Joel Johnson showed a framed set of the first 40 Christmas stamps.

Stephen Allen showed covers and autographed pictures of the Blue Angels.

Matt Allen showed a collection of foreign covers and postcards.

Keith Riese showed a book of Iran stamps and offered it for sale.

Mark Sellhorn showed his Hitler head stamp obliteration collection.

The December meeting will be a member buy and sell opportunity. Look through your duplicates and forgotten collections for items that might appeal to other members. You can have a full or partial table and if you let **Dale Niebuhr** know ahead of time, he will have your name ready to let everyone know who's material is who's. With the number of members that we have at each meeting and the number of new members, there is sure to be something that will catch your eye and need to be added to a collection.

Fourth Bureau Issue

How to quickly differentiate between the flat plate and the rotary press stamps.

If you rely on your perforation gauge, you are doing it the most time consuming way. Here are several other techniques to quickly and reliably separate the flat plate stamps from the rotary press stamps. Some of these can be used instantaneously, by visual inspection, with no tools required. They can be used individually, or in combination.

1. If the stamp has a straight edge with a line of color in the margin on the straight edge side, it is a flat plate stamp. Rotary press stamps were printed with gutters between the panes to accommodate the perforating operation. As a result rotary press stamps do not have any natural straight edges. Flat plate stamps were printed without gutters but had center lines (cutting lines) between the panes. The panes were separated from each other by cutting along the lines. For each stamp that has a line of color, there was another straight edged stamp adjacent to it that may not have a line of color. This is also a flat plate stamp. While it is possible that a rotary press stamp will be found with a straight edge, it will be the result of someone cutting off the perforations on one side. This is quite uncommon, but you should always check one of the other characteristics described below to be sure that you are not dealing with a modified rotary press stamp.

2. If the stamp has ink spots on the back, it is a flat plate stamp. The cause of the ink on the back is that the sheets were stacked in a pile while the ink was still damp. There was some amount of back transfer from the damp ink from the top of each sheet to the back of the next sheet up in the stack. The resulting ink spots were on the paper before the sheets went through the gumming operation, so they are under the gum on mint stamps. Sometimes the ink spotting is quite extensive but usually there are at least some ink spots. The ink on rotary press stamps was thoroughly dried on the press before the gumming station, and the gum was thoroughly dried before the stamps were re-rolled prior to being perforated off-line. Note that just because a stamp lacks ink spots on the back, it is not necessarily a rotary press stamp. But if it does have ink spots it is definitely a flat plate stamp.

3. If the stamp has gum, and the gum has ridges (usually vertically) or “gum breakers” (always horizontally) it is a rotary press stamp. These ridges and/or breakers were applied to lessen the tendency of the rotary press stamps to “remember” that they originated on a roll. They tended to curl. The ridges/breakers helped to keep them flat. The flat plate stamps have no gum ridges or breakers. However, a rotary press stamp could have been re-gummed and then it would not have gum ridges or breakers. Thus a mint appearing stamp that lacks gum ridges or breakers is likely a flat plate stamp but it should be double checked by one of the other techniques presented here.

4. If the stamp has a plate number in the attached selvedge, and the stamp is a corner stamp, it is a rotary press stamp. Flat plate stamps always have their plate numbers in the middle of their marginal selvedge, not in the corners. Only the 2¢ rotary press stamps made from experimental electric eye plates do not have their plate numbers adjacent to the corner stamp.

5. In the “Size Matters” article in the August Forum, it was pointed out that the rotary press stamps are always either taller (vertical definitives) or wider (horizontal definitives) than their look-alike flat plate brethren. This is because the plates were originally laid down flat, then bent into a semi-circle (180°) for use on the rotary press. The bending process elongated the designs in the direction of bending. The figure from that article is repeated below. The lower frame lines of the 1¢ definitives are aligned and the right frame lines of the 25¢ definitives are aligned. The dimensional difference is shown at the opposite side of the stamps. It is very quick and easy, if you have a flat plate stamp to use as a gauge, to lay it on top of the stamp that needs to be identified, align the frame line, and observe if the test stamp is the same size. If it is, it’s a flat plate stamp. If not, it’s a rotary press stamp. A rotary press stamp can also be used as a gauge. If you can find a stamp that is significantly off-center, it makes a better gauge stamp because the frame line will be right at the edge for easier alignment.



Figure 1a Figure 1b
Size differences of flat (underneath) and rotary stamps

6. The colors of the flat plate stamps are usually darker and more intense than the rotary press stamps, as shown in the above figure. This is also due, at least in part, to the bending process to which the rotary press plates were subjected. As the plates were stretched in the direction of bending, the engraved design features became flatter. The reduced depth of the “valleys” could hold less ink, thus the resulting stamps were usually lighter and less well defined. Several stamps, notably the ½, 2, 7, 10 & 15, are more difficult to tell apart color-wise, so this technique is not recommended for these denominations. Several denominations have distinctive shades, either in the flat plate or in the rotary press stamps, which positively identify them as either flat or rotary. You will be able to identify these by inspection as your skills increase, assuming that your ability to distinguish colors is not impaired.

7. If the stamp is of the \$1, \$2 or \$5 denomination, it is a flat plate stamp. These dollar denominations were not manufactured on the rotary press.

8. With a few notable exceptions, 4th Bureau flat plate sheet stamps are perforated 11 on all sides. The exceptions are the “headache” perforation varieties that occur on the 2, 4, 5, 10 and 25¢ denominations. These varieties are at least partially perforated gauge 10 at the top or the bottom except for the 25¢ where the perforation variety occurs at the left or the right edge. Rotary press stamps are perforated 10 on all sides, or 11 on the shorter sides and 10½ on the longer sides.

Club Notes

We will meet in person at our new location, College View Adventist Church, 48th and Prescott. Please join us in the company of other philatelists.

Welcome

The Lincoln Stamp Club welcomes guests to every meeting of the Club. Dues are only \$12/year. Membership forms are on the Web: www.lincolnstampclub.org/membership/.StampClub.

Facebook

The Lincoln Stamp Club is on Facebook. Please "like" the Club and share its updates with your circle of friends.
[Facebook: www.facebook.com/Lincoln](https://www.facebook.com/Lincoln)

Meetings

- Meeting:** Thursday, December 9
Election of 2022 officers
Club member buy and sell
- Meeting:** Thursday, January 13
LINPEX prep

Coming Up
LINPEX 2022
February 26-27, 2022
Country Inn & Suites
5353 N. 27th St.
Lincoln, NE

Exhibit something you collect!!

LINCOLN STAMP CLUB
PO BOX 6756
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