

LINCOLN STAMP CLUB

SOUVENIR SHEET
FEBRUARY 2026

Club Happenings Last Month

January 8, Meeting

OFFICERS

President:

Bob Akaki (2026)

Vice President:

Mike Ley (2026)

Secretary:

Mark Sellhorn (2026)

Treasurer:

Dave Wallman (2026)

Board Members:

Curtis Peacock (2026)

Larry Spreeman (2026)

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:

www.lincolnstampclub.org

Facebook:

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

Mail:

PO Box 6756

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AFFILIATION

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

ANNIVERSARY

1964—2026

Sixty-Two Years

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Cynthia Carlson

Brad opened the meeting with 17 members present. And introduced our new President **Bob Akaki**. We all appreciate Bob stepping up to help keep our club running.

Bob talked about the new stamps coming up. He discussed that the Denmark Post has stopped as of 1-1-2026. With postage rates of \$7.65 we can all appreciate our .78 cent stamp costs. The Club's WWII exhibit for LINPEX can still accept more pages, all are welcome. Contact **Mark Sellhorn** with name and topic of page. Also let **Mark** know if you are planning on doing a framed exhibit. A LINPEX volunteer sign up sheet was sent around. The Miller sale for this Sunday was discussed, this will be the last opportunity to attend. A discussion of how to sell on EBay was held with **Brad Shay** answering several questions.

Door prizes were given, a puzzle to **Larry Spreeman, Tom Johnson LaVonne Uffleman, Dave Hillgoss** and **Greg Christ** won books of .37 & .04 cent stamps.

The February 12th meeting will be a program from **Henry Sweets** "The 4 Mark Twain stamp issues from Hannibal MO."

SHOW AND TELL ITEMS;

Brad Shay passed an early cover that had a forged postmark and stamp.

Henry Sweets showed an envelop with 9 cancelations from Virginia in U.S. to Cork Ireland going through China.

Bob Akaki showed a Canadian 1898 Xmas stamp showing the map of the British Empire, discussing that .01 cent could get a letter anywhere in the British Empire.

Cynthia Carlson shared an article about the USPS new rule change of where and when dates of postmarks are applied. Which can affect timing of time sensitive materials including mail-in ballots.

Mark Sellhorn shared a letter written to Doris Day asking for a dance for a friend.

Tom Johnson showed a bulletin about Rules for 1920 Aircraft Pilots.

Kay Navotney showed a leather card with a donkey weather forecaster.

LaVonne Uffeman, shared information about an artist that does stamp art pictures.



HAPPY VALENTINES DAY



NEW USPS RELEASES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2026



(Continued from page 3)

In 2025 all undeliverable items are funneled to the MRC in Atlanta Georgia. Unclaimed items of value over \$25. are held for 30-60 days before being auctioned through platforms like GovDeals.com. The revenue goes to the Post Office.

When a USPS regional plant can't decipher a name on a letter a picture of the addresses is electronically sent to the U.S. Postal Service Remote Encoding Center, (REC) in Salt Lake City Utah. Previously there had been 55 REC centers. There experts (Keyers) review the image on computer screens and try to decipher it and type it into the system. With an average of 4 seconds an item. The data is sent back to the original plant and a barcode is printed on the envelope to continue on. If it can't be deciphered a hands-on inspection is needed as a last option before sent back to sender if possible.

The MRC Center employs over 730 and work never stops, 24 hours every day of the year and processes approximately 2.3 million images a day.

Thank you, to Dave Hamilton for materials used in this article.



January Meeting and Member Sale





WHAT DO YOU COLLECT?

DEAD LETTER OFFICE (DLO)



Dead Letter Office Identifiers used 1877-1956

Triangle-Returning division of DLO, sent back letter to original mailer.

Star of David-Minor division of the DLO, returned letter which had items of insufficient value, but not stamps, money, deeds etc.

Circle-Minor Division for item that had been opened and found to contain no items of value.

Square-used by the property Division of the DLO identified items of a bulky sort. A rare one to find.

The DLO officially established in U.S. 1825 in Washington DC to process mail that could not be delivered or returned.

The term Dead Letters term was first used by Benjamin Franklin.

Clerks worked to decipher items and parcels that had illegible addresses, vague or partial addresses. Also to identify the sender with using insufficient postage, so the item could be returned and posted correctly.

If they could not identify any addresses then the item would be opened. The paper would be recycled and packages contents sorted, stored and later auctioned off. By 1850's the DLO had a room created by various members of DLO to hold items to show the public. The most strange items such as skulls, dentures, the hair of the assassin of President Garfield, pistols, live rattlesnakes (that were later placed in alcohol to display), went to a small museum. The DLO museum also preserved the history of the Post Office with displays of a stage coach, postal uniforms and other objects. These are now in the museum of Smithsonian's Natural History or the National Postal Museum in DC. Money found would go to the U.S. Treasury, Reading materials were donated to Washington DC charities If no one came to claim the items they would be auctioned off with money going to the Postal Office.

In mid 19th century DLO was staffed mostly by women and retired clergymen, who were believed to have the moral character required to open mail, a power granted by Congress exclusively to DLO.

Mail volume during Civil War surged. The DLO gained fame for its attempts to return photos of soldiers to families. In 1899 the DLO was moved to 11th and Pennsylvania Ave so visitors could see the work and skill of the staff and see the odd items from the mail. It became a popular tourist attraction and was known as more friendly and welcoming than the Pension and Patent offices that were also visited by tourists. This was probably the result of the almost entirely feminine staff. The location is now a Trump hotel.

With WWI in 1917 causing massive mail volumes Congress authorized satellite DLO branches and Dead parcels branches in other cities.

In 1994 DLO name was changed to Mail Recovery Center (MRC) (continues on previous page)



Club Notes

We meet in person at our 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: [Membership: www.lincolinstampclub.org/membership/.StampClub](http://www.lincolinstampclub.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 February 12, 2026

Program; The 4 Mark Twain stamp issues from Hannibal Missouri. By Henry Sweets.

LINPEX; Friday-Saturday February 27-28,2026.

March 12, 2026 Club Buy and Sell event..

**BOSTON 2026 WORLD STAMP SHOW
BOSTON CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTER
MAY 23-30, 2026**

Please make note of the year date behind your name on the label. If it isn't **26** your \$12. dues are needed to our Treasurer Dave Wallman. Thank you all.

LINCOLN STAMP CLUB
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