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WORLD'S LARGEST WEEKLY STAMP NEWS AND MARKETPLACE

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Switzerland's Pro Juventute semipostals feature mushrooms and Christmas candles

Switzerland will picture mushrooms and Christmas candles on its four semipostal stamps to be issued Nov. 28

The stamps are inscribed "Pro Juventute" (for the young).

Ten percent of the sur charge on each stamp is ear marked for national child youth and family welfar work.

The remainder enables the Pro Juventute Foundation to promote and support numer ous projects for children young people and their families.

The semipostals conclude four-year series on the them of "Woods — Part of the Child's World." The previous semipostals in the serie featured woodland flower (Scott B572-75), trees (B581 85) and plants (B591-94).

One stamp in each of the latter two sets bore a design related to Christmas. For example, a 60-centime+30c stamp in the 1993 Woodland Plants set showed a Christmas wreath

Similarly, one of the 60c+ 30c values in the 1994 se depicts Christmas candles The warm, pleasant light of candles creates a festive at mosphere, enhancing the ap peal of wreaths, Christmas trees and decorated fin The other 60c+30c stamp shows the wood blewit (Lepista nuda) mushroom. This stamp will be available in both sheet and booklet form. The booklet contains 10 copies of the semipostal.

ln Switzerland, the wood blewit with its bright violet or brownish-lilac cap can be found in autumn in coniferous and deciduous woods, as well as in gardens and orchards. In some warmer spots, it can be found as early as May

The violet to whitish-lilac tender flesh of this mushroom is edible and has a perfumed to radishlike flavor.

The red boletus (Leceinum aurantiacum) is featured on the 80c+40c stamp.

The dark orange-red hemispherical cap of this mushroom can grow up to 6 inches wide. Its white scaley stem, which gradually turns from orange-red to reddish brown, is between 3 and 8 inches long.

The red boletus can be found under aspens from June to October but is be-

The 100c+50c semipostal shows shaggy pholiota (Pholiota squarrosa), a mushroom with reddish-brown scales.

The white to yellowish white flesh of the shage

and is not really recommended for eating.

This mushroom grows at the base of coniferous or deciduous trees, such as apple trees, and can be found between September and November.

Beat Brusch designed the semipostals. The Swiss firm of Helio Courvoisier SA printed them by multicolor reterrance in sheets of 100

Switzerland's 1995 Pro Juventute semipostals will start a series featuring animals that live in or near the water, brooks or streams

brook trout, a gray wagtail, spotted salamander and Christmas design. The issu date is scheduled for Nov 28, 1995.

In addition, Switzerland has released preliminary details for the rest of its 1995 stamp-issuing program.

be released March 7, 1995

Four will mark an niversaries of the Swis Wrestling Association, the Swiss Electricity Supplie Association, the Swiss New Agency and the United Nations

The others will show a beaver, map butterfly, green tree frog and owlet, all endangered indigenous animals

(Please turn to page 10)



Switzerland will issue four Pro Juventute semipostal stamps Nov. 28. One design shows Christmas candles. The other three feature mushrooms that can be found in Switzerland.

Recalled Legends orders of Oct. 1 total 287,000

By Michael Schreiber

Stamp collectors and others mailed 286,810 individual orders for recalled Legends of the West Oct 1

About 57 percent of the 506,000 or so orders received were postmarked Oct. 1.

Minnesota Diversified Industries, the firm hired by the United States Postal Service to process orders, was still counting as of 4 p.m. Oct. 19, but the search for Oct. 1 orders was near completion. The total of 286,810 orders postmarked Oct. 1 is not expected to change much.

Paul, Minn., is a contract nanufacturer. It contracts various manufacturing, engineering, quality control, warehousing, shipping and receiving services.

Among its U.S. stamp products are year sets, books packaged with stamps (such as the World War II Remembered series), commemorative panels, and stamps packaged for retail and vending sales.

form of disability.

The total number of recalled Legends orders received is still approximately 506,000. Only a few or no new orders were received each day in mid-October, according to Postal Service spokesman Robin Wright. The orders are being pro-

Although the official ordering period didn't close until Oct. 31, the 150,000 recalled Legends panes the Postal Service plans to sell likely will be filled entirely from orders postmarked Oct. 1.

A possible roadblock to the distribution of the 150,000 panes, set to begin Dec. 1, is a lawsuit filed Sept. 29.

In the suit, seven individuals seek a court order forbidding the Postal Service from

called Legends panes. Each plaintiff owns at least one recalled Legends pane purchased prior to the surprise announcement in June of the sale of 150,000 panes but after Postmaster General Marvin Runyon said in January that all recalled Legends

The 150,000 panes are from a group of approximately 2 million panes not destroyed out of a supply of 5.2 million panes. Sam Winters, chairman of the Postal Service's board of gotal Service's board of gotal Service's board of gotal Service's board of gotal 150,000 panes would be made available to collectors.

order to have all remaining recalled Legends panes destroyed, including the 150,000 being processed for possible sale.

German stamp to honor Revolutionary War general

An American flag is pictured on a German stamp commemorating Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben. This 1-deutschemark

stamp will be issued Nov. 9.
Steuben, a German soldier, supplied considerable aid to the Republication of the Repu

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST

Germany will issue a stamp Nov. 9 to mark the 200th death anniversary of Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, who trained American troops during the Revolutionary War.

ganizing, training and disciplining the American troops.

As a major general, Steuben led troops against the British at Monmouth and Yorktown. In addition, his Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States served as the official military guide until 1812.

Steuben was born Sept. 17, 1730, in Madgeburg. He was from a military family and entered the Prussian army in 1747.

He rose to the rank of cap tain during the Seven Year War. After dismissal from the army of Frederick the Great he served as court chamber lain for Prince von Hohenzo llem-Hechingen, then colone in Baden's army.

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Contents on page 3

PRINTED entirely on recycled paper MAILED: October 27 PAID CIRCULATION: 66,538 TOTAL DISTRIBUTION: 67,267 POSTMASTER: Address changes to Box 29, Sidney, Ohio 45365

States domestic airmail postal cards

States domestic airmail postal one of the briefest periods of all U.S. postal stationery cat-rate. egories. Between 1949 and

the bald eagle design evolved

into something that looked

less like a bird and more like

modern poster art.

Airmails

By Dan Barber

rates.

The history of United marked in Cincinnati, Ohio, postal card. While the domes-Jan. 26, 1949, this is an ex- tic airmail postcard rate of 4¢ cards spans only 26 years, ample of the first month of went into effect Jan. 1, 1949, usage of the card and the this 4¢ card was not released

This card, and the 4¢ rate.

until Jan. 10.

I've never seen a U.S. do-

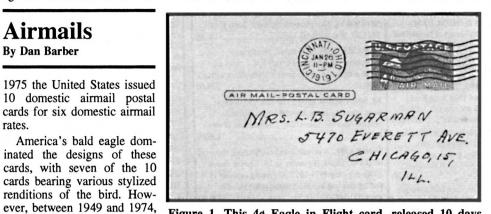


Figure 1. This 4¢ Eagle in Flight card, released 10 days after the first United States domestic airmail postcard rate took effect, was the first U.S. domestic airmail postal card.

Figure 1 shows the first lasted nearly nine and one- mestic airmail postcard with U.S. domestic airmail postal half years, longer than any 4¢ in stamps dated between card, Scott UXC1. Postother U.S. domestic airmail Jan. 2 and Jan. 9, 1949,

Jan. 1.

The 4¢ Eagle in Flight is the most plentiful of all U.S. domestic airmail postal cards, with slightly more than 100 million printed. Its history also includes two major varieties: a color specimen in deep red instead of orange red, and a pronounced cracked plate flaw variety.

No U.S. airmail postal card generated as much public interest as the 6¢ Boy Scout World Jamboree card, shown in Figure 2. This example was postmarked in Monterey Park, Calif., Dec. 26, 1967, only a few weeks before the domestic airmail postcard rate was increased to 8¢.

During the summer of 1967, Postmaster General Lawrence F. O'Brien received thousands of inquiries from the world over, all wondering why the host country

of the Boy Scouts at Farragut State Park in Idaho.

lease a domestic airmail postal card on Aug. 4, 1967, calmed the storm of protest. But a few critics maintained the United States should have

though some first-day-of-rate was not issuing a stamp to issued an international airmail cards are known canceled commemorate the gathering postal card for the convenience of the estimated 20,000 Boy Scouts who at-O'Brien's decision to re-tended from nearly 100 nations.

> What makes the Figure 2 card so unusual is that it had the shortest rate life of any U.S. domestic airmail postal

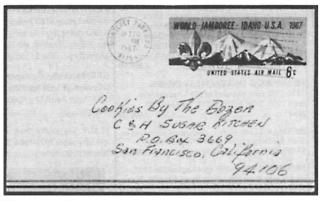


Figure 2. The most short-lived U.S. domestic airmail postal card, this 6¢ Boy Scout World Jamboree card was issued Aug. 4, 1967. The rate increased to 8¢ Jan. 7, 1968, which gave the card a working life of about five months.

The card and rate it paid lasted nine and one-half years.

Domestic Airmail Postal Cards and Rates

Date	Rate	Domestic Airmail Postal Card	Scott	FDOI
01/01/49	4¢			
		4¢ orange Eagle in Flight postal card	UXC1	01/10/49
		5¢ red Eagle in Flight postal card	UXC2	07/31/58
08/01/58	5¢			
		5¢ redrawn red Eagle in Flight postal card	UXC3	06/18/60
01/07/63	6¢			
		6¢ precanceled red Eagle in Flight postal card	UXC4	02/15/63
		6¢ Virgin Islands postal card	UXC6	03/31/67
		6¢ Boy Scout World Jamboree postal card	UXC7	08/04/67
01/07/68	8¢	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
		8¢ precanceled Stylized Eagle postal card	UXC9	03/01/68
		9¢ precanceled Stylized Eagle postal card	UXC10	05/15/71
05/16/71	9¢			
		9¢ Grand Canyon postal card	UXC12	06/29/72
		11¢ Stylized Eagle postal card	UXC14	01/04/74
03/02/74	11¢			
10/11/75		END OF DOMESTIC AIRMAIL RATES *		

⁻ Although it was a creation necessitated by U.S. Post Office Department bookkeeping rather than an operating rate, a 14¢ domestic airmail postcard rate was reinstituted Dec. 31, 1975, and endured until May 1, 1977. No postal cards were issued for this service, and even cards with stamps paying this rate are rare, and possibly non-existent.

Figure 3. This chart summarizes U.S. domestic airmail postcard rates and postal cards.

Jan. 7, 1968, when the rate in Figure 2. was increased to 8¢.

Jamboree card is one of the toughest U.S. airmail postal Figure 3 ought to help. cards to find with a proper

card, from Aug. 4, 1967, to thank for the example shown and May 1, 1977, after the

To put the history of U.S. The 6¢ Boy Scout World domestic airmail postal cards into perspective, the table in

While there was a domesdate, and I have dealer Kirk tic airmail postcard rate of S. Wolford of California to 14¢ between Dec. 31, 1975,

U.S. domestic airmail rate had ended Oct. 11, 1975, this 14¢ rate was little known and infrequently used, and no new postal cards were issued for it.

The 6¢ Virgin Islands and 6¢ Boy Scout World Jambo-

ree cards of 1967 had rate cards. lives of less than a year, and properly dated specimens are not easy to find.

However, the Scott Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps gives a slightly higher price to used examples of the 1972 9¢ Grand Canyon card, although it was available for about 19 months, longer than the Vir-

The 9¢ Grand Canyon card was simply not used often enough during 1972 and 1973 for used quantities to be plentiful today. It also had the lowest printing quantity of any domestic airmail postal card, with only about 41/2 million issued.

With only 10 U.S. domestic airmail postal cards, it like registered, special delivgin Islands and Boy Scout would not seem to be much ery or certified fees. ■

of a challenge to obtain a complete collection of this U.S. aerophilatelic specialty.

But, even with the help of friends like Wolford, it took me several years to complete my collection.

Some people love a challenge. That's why I'm looking for domestic airmail postal cards with special services,

