

## United States Stamp Program 2012 –

This far there have been 82 different regular stamps issued this year in various designs/formats. There are still more than 65 more stamps to be issued including the last of 10 of the "Flags of Our Nation" Series (16 August) that began in 2008. There will be no Legends of Hollywood this year – in its place, there will be a four stamp issues honoring "Great Film Directors" - Frank Capra, John Ford, John Huston, and Billy Wilder to be issued 23 May.

The list thus far is presented below.

- | Scott #      | Description                                                                  |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4590a        | (25c) Spectrum Eagle #4585-4590 coil strip of 6 (3 Jan)                      |
| 4591         | (44c) New Mexico Statehood pane single                                       |
| 4596a        | 32c Aloha Shirts #4592-4596 pane strip of 5                                  |
| 4601a        | 32c Aloha Shirts #4597-4601 coil strip of 5                                  |
| 4602         | 65c Wedding Cake                                                             |
| 4603         | 65c Baltimore Checkerspot pane single                                        |
| 4607a        | 65c Dogs at Work #4604-4607 block of 4                                       |
| <b>4612a</b> | 85c Birds of Prey #4608-4612 strip of 5                                      |
| 4617a        | 45c Weather Vanes #4613-4617 strip of 5                                      |
| 4622a        | (45c) Forever Bonsai #4618-4622 set of 5 DSB singles                         |
| <b>4623</b>  | (45c) Forever Lunar New Year: Year of the Dragon                             |
| 4624         | (45c) Forever John H Johnson                                                 |
| 4625         | (45c) Forever Heart Health                                                   |
| 4626         | (45c) Forever Love Ribbons                                                   |
| 4627         | (45c) Forever Arizona Statehood Centennial                                   |
| 4628         | (45c) Forever Danny Thomas                                                   |
| 4632a        | (45c) Forever #4629-4632 Four Flags coil strip of 4 (AVR)                    |
| 4636a        | (45c) Forever #4633-4636 Four Flags coil strip of 4 (APU)                    |
| 4640a        | (45c) Forever #4636-4640 Four Flags coil strip of 4 (SSP)                    |
| 4644a        | (45c) Forever Four Flags #4641-4644 DSB block of 4 (APU)                     |
| <b>4648a</b> | (45c) Forever Four Flags #4645-4648 DSB block of 4 (SSP)                     |
| 4649         | \$5.15 Sunshine Skyway Bridge Priority Mail                                  |
| 4650         | \$18.95 Carmel Mission Express Mail                                          |
| 4652a        | (45c) Forever Cherry Blossom Centennial #4649-4650 pane pair                 |
| 4653         | (45c) Forever William H Johnson                                              |
| 4663a        | (45c) Forever Twentieth-Century Poets #4654-4663 block of 10                 |
| <b>4665a</b> | (45c) Forever The Civil War 1862: A Nation Touched With Fire #4664-4665 pair |
| 4666         | (45c) Forever Jose Ferrer                                                    |
| <b>4667</b>  | (45c) Forever Louisiana Statehood Bicentennial (30 April)                    |



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**US One-Hit Wonders:** The Postal Department has made some interesting decisions over years gone by - two of which are:



The short lived **Registration Stamp** of 1911 was not for postal use. It was affixed to an envelope to show that a person had paid the fee to have their mail registered. Registering your mail guaranteed special handling of what you were sending.

This stamp (Scott F1) was eventually discontinued due to confusion over how to use the stamp properly. It can still be used however to pay for the first 10¢ of having your mail registered, but now any stamp can be used to pay for this.



The **Certified Mail Stamp** of 1955 (Scott FA1) was used on first class mail for which no indemnity value was claimed, but for which proof of mailing/delivery were needed at a cost than that of registered mail. The person sending the letter received a receipt and the addressee signed another when delivered the letter. This second form was kept at the post office for six months.



In 1955 the cost of the service was fixed at 15¢ in addition to the regular postage fees. Today we use a bar coded form that attaches a tracking number to the item mailed and check delivery status on the INTERNET all for the cost of \$1.25.