









Washington-Franklin Stamps

Last month Bill Schultz demonstrated the "Joy of Identifying the Washington-Franklin Series" of stamps produced a century ago. Again, the Post Office was facing financial problems and did its best to cut down production cost.

This month, Tom Willer will continue to document how we became involved with stamp collecting — a project that started in April.





This month, the USPS marks a historic milestone with the issuance of a new Forever stamp celebrating the bicentennial anniversary of the Flag Act of 1818. Today's issuance coincides with the 68th annual Appleton Flag Day Parade, recognized as the nation's oldest Flag Day parade.

In all, Congress has issued three laws that defined the flag of the United States. Unlike most laws passed, these three laws are remarkably short (twitterable), the shortest being a sentence of 31 words, and the longest being a title and two sentences of 117 words.

Flag Act of 1777: The Flag Act of 1777 was passed by the Second Continental Congress on 14 June 1777, in response to a petition made by an American Indian nation on 03 June for "an American Flag." As a result, 14 June 14 is now celebrated as Flag Day in the United States.

The text of this law is "Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Treasures' Report: Total - \$ \$3,351.29 (\$1,500.00 in a CD)

Local Stamp Shows MSDA MILWAUKEE STAMP SHOW
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport
6401 South 13th ST
Milwaukee WI
June 30 and July 1

MSDA Spring Show Ramada Inn Wheeling 1090 S Milwaukee Ave Wheeling, IL July 7 and 8



MSDA Chicago Stamp Show
Holiday Inn Oakbrook Terrace
17 W 350 22nd St
Oakbrook Terrace, IL
September 8 and 9

Next meeting:

7-PM on Tuesday 26 June 2018 at the Grayslake Library 100 Library Lane - Grayslake IL 60030



Officers:

Dr Tom Willer – President Bill Schultz – Vice President Dave Sadler – Secretary Ed Pieklo – Treasurer Flag Act of 1794: (15-star, 15-stripe "Star-Spangled Banner" flag) The Flag Act of 1794 was signed into law by President George Washington on 13 January 1794. It changed the design of the flag to accommodate the admission into the Union of the states of Vermont and Kentucky. It provided for fifteen stripes as well as fifteen stars. This would be the only official flag of the United States not to have thirteen stripes.

As passed: An Act making an alteration in the Flag of the United States. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That from and after the first day of May, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, the flag of the United States, be fifteen stripes alternate red and white. That the Union be fifteen stars, white in a blue field.

Flag Act of 1818: The Flag Act of 1818 was enacted by Congress on 04 April 1818. It provided for the modern rule of having thirteen stripes to represent the original thirteen colonies and having the number of stars match the number of states. It also provided that subsequent changes in the number of stars be made on 04 July, Independence Day.

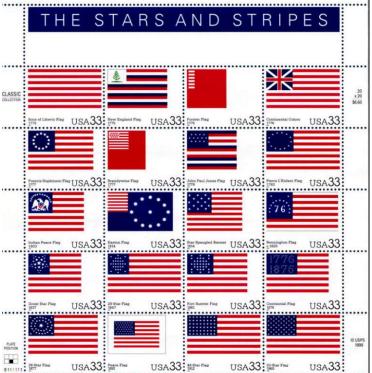
As the result of the lack of a Flag Act between 1794 and 1818, there were no official U.S. flags with sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, or nineteen stars. No flag laws were enacted to accompany the admission of new states to the Union during this period. The states that were not added to the flag until 1818 are Tennessee (01 June 1796), Ohio (01 March 1803), Louisiana (30 April 1812), Indiana (11 December 1816), Mississippi (10 December 1817).

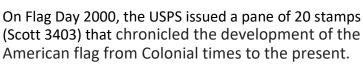
The text of this change: An Act to establish the flag of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress Assembled, That from and after the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white: that the union be twenty stars, white in a blue field.

And be it further enacted, That on the admission of every new state into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect of the fourth day of July then next succeeding such admission.

The first state admitted under this act was Illinois (03 December 1818) with the official flag unveiled on 04 July 1819.





Each flag has an interesting story behind it. For example, the design of the Francis Hopkinson flag was once attributed to Betsy Ross (Scott 1004).

Historians now believe this often-told tale is untrue. Adopted on 14 June 1777, the birthday of the Hopkinson flag is celebrated each year as Flag Day. This was the first flag to feature both the stars and stripes in its design.







