

SPELLMAN

MUSEUM OF STAMPS
AND POSTAL HISTORY

LET'S REMEMBER DECEMBER!

HAPPY MONTH 12 FROM THE SPELLMAN!

As 2022 Draws
to a Close,
Let's Tie it all
Together!



We love December for so many reasons - but here is a new one to add to the list: December is National Tie Month. Tie Month?

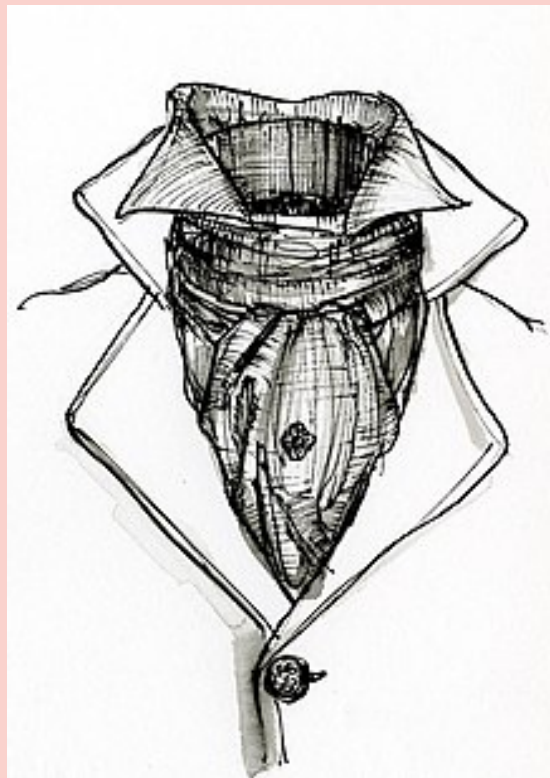
Why? We take 31 days to honor an often required yet maligned strip of cloth that's been an essential part of business attire for centuries. 2022 has introduced the open shirt with suit or sport jacket look - some of us love the look of a well-tied neck accessory, some of us prefer the look of a crisp open shirt. Thoughts? Hundreds of postage stamps feature individuals from so many walks of life and profession with one common element - the necktie. Elvis, Beethoven, George Bush and Mr. Rogers all shared this choice of haberdashery.

Did you know....

- Neckties evolved from the silk scarves worn by Croatian soldiers; at the time, they were called cravats.
- The most expensive tie ever made cost \$220,000. The Satya Paul Design Studio created the tie containing 271 diamonds and 150 grams of gold.
- At one time in history, touching a man's necktie could induce a duel.
-

While ties are no longer as popular as they once were, postage stamps feature them on prominent and fascinating men domestic and international.

Above, right: the cravat. And, Emanuel



de Geer wearing a military sash over a buff jerkin and sporting a cravat with it in the year 1656.



CHRISTMAS POSTAGE STAMPS

The U.S. Post Office Department issued its first Christmas stamp in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on November 1, 1962. (at left). Customers had requested such a stamp for years. During the stamp dedication ceremony, Postmaster General J. Edward Day said that the stamp would be the first in a series of Christmas stamps.

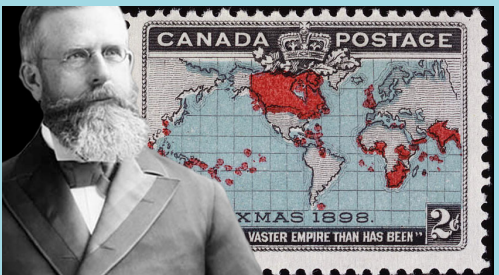
A CHRISTMAS (STAMP) STORY WORTH TELLING...

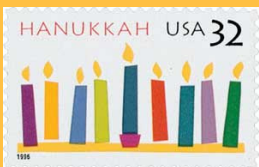
In the summer of 1898, Postmasters from all over the British Empire gathered in London to hammer out a landmark agreement to establish a standard rate for postage across the empire. It didn't matter if you were in England, India, or Canada, if you wanted to send a letter it would cost you exactly one penny.

Representing Canada was Sir William Mulock, giant in the history of Canadian mail — in fact, in the entire history of Canadian communication. As a cabinet minister, Mulock worked hard to build connections between Canada and the rest of the world.

As Postmaster General, Mulock passionately believed it should cost less for people to send a letter. He spent ages campaigning for lower postal rates across the British Empire, the other countries were reluctant to sign on. Finally, when Mulock announced he was lowering Canada's rates whether or not anyone else agreed, they finally organized the Imperial Postal Conference, where Mulock would be able to make his case. It was a smashing success. Mulock got what he wanted: penny postage across the empire. Even Australia and New Zealand eventually signed on. All British subjects would now be able to send a letter for one British penny.

To celebrate, Mulock was planning to release a new stamp. He personally oversaw the design, hovering over the artist's shoulder to make sure every detail was just right and generated the most expensive stamp Canada had ever produced, and featured the message "WE HOLD A VASTER EMPIRE THAN HAS BEEN" — a line from a popular poem celebrating Queen Victoria's recent diamond jubilee.





WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN DECEMBER?

National Cat Lover's Month:

A PURRFect Way to Honor Your Feline! PAWS for a moment to recognize your favorite feline. Or, your favorite feline-featured postage stamp.

National Sock Day - December 4! That's worth giving a 'darn' about! *"Honey, where are my socks?"* The average American family loses 60 socks annually — that is approximately a loss of \$300! This should keep us on our toes!

December 13 is National Ice Cream Day: a perfectly good reason to get a pint or three (who's counting) of the good stuff to share with your friends and family.

Hanukkah Starts December 18 - Light Your First Candle at Sunset: What is Hanukkah and why is it celebrated? The eight-day Jewish celebration commemorates the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, where according to legend Jews had risen up against their Greek-Syrian oppressors in the Maccabean Revolt.



DID YOU KNOW?

12 - what is a 12 all about?

The number 12 is ubiquitous — it's:

The number of months in a year
The hours on a clock face, and
The number of members on a typical court jury.
and.....

There are 12 inches in a foot.

A dozen is a quantity that means twelve.

A gross is twelve dozen.

In astrology, there are 12 signs in the Zodiac.

Twelve tribes were started after Moses led his people out of Egypt.

Twelve in Roman Numerals is XII.

A group of twelve things is called a Duodecad.

The 12th moon of Jupiter is called Lysithea.

D12 is a rap group also known as the Dirty Dozen.

In English, twelve is the largest number that has just one syllable.

There are twelve pairs of ribs in the human body — normally.

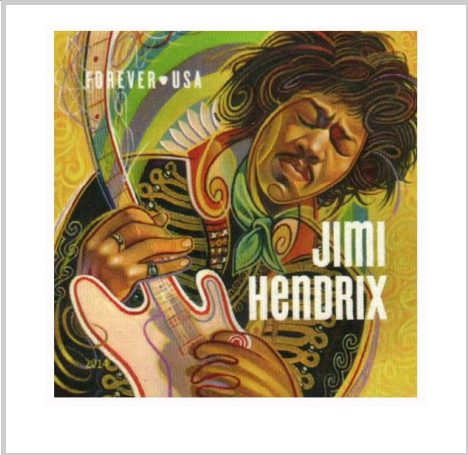
The number of keys on any standard digital phone

The number of knights sitting around the table with King Arthur

Number of face cards in a deck of cards.



*Decembers birth flowers are the Holly and Narcissus
and the gemstone is the Brilliant Blue Topaz*



NOTABLE BIRTHDAYS IN MONTH 12:

- Woody Allen: December 1**
- Jim Morrison: December 8**
- Kirk Douglas: December 9**
- Taylor Swift: December 13** Did you get your concert tickets?
- Ludwig Von Beethhoven: December 16**
- Jane Fonda: December 21**
- Louis Pasteur: December 27** Got Milk?
- Denzel Washington: December 28**

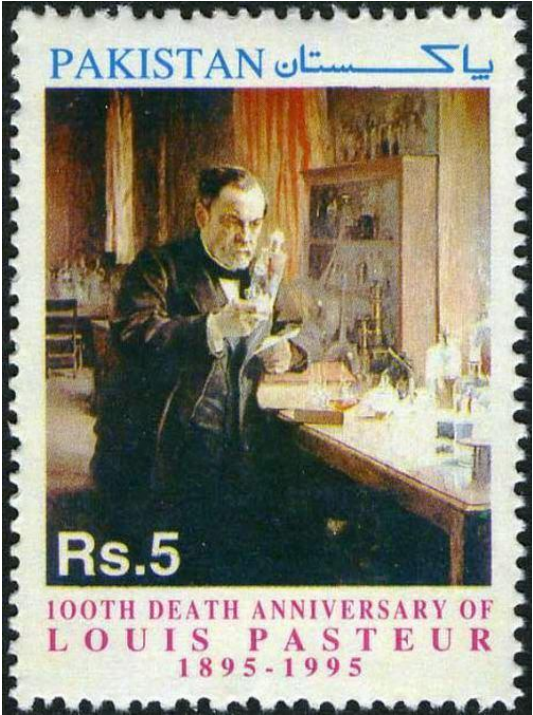
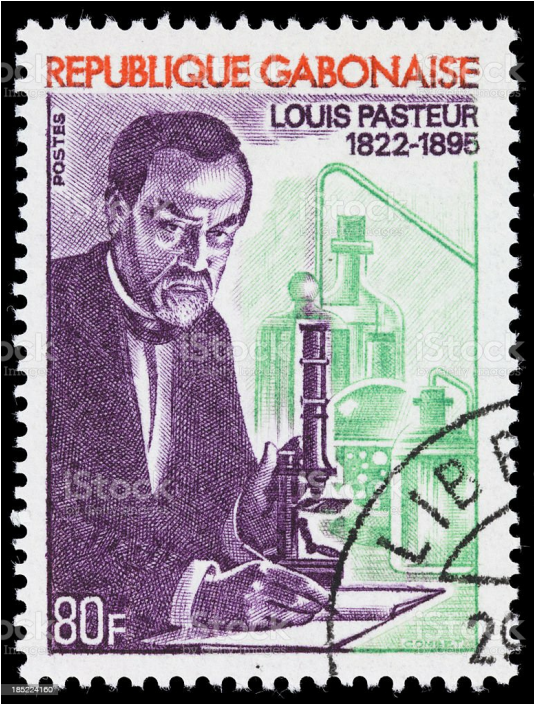


Oh, we were in a Purple Haze and didn't mention Jimi Hendrix birthday is/was November 27, born in 1942 and died in 1970. We missed honoring him last month - its not too late!

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE 1970'S ROCKER? TELL US NOW !

Have a birthday in December?
Send us an email and we'll mail you some stamps! And, Happy Birthday!

CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE! CELEBRATE!



LOUIS PASTEUR

Nine small postage stamps in various denominations were issued in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Louis Pasteur in 1922.

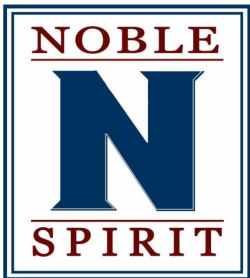
In addition to inventing the process of pasteurization, Louis Pasteur began working on several different vaccines for prevalent diseases at the time. This included rabies. To create the vaccine for rabies, Pasteur infected a group of rabbits. He went on to remove some of the infected tissue, dried it out, and then reinserted it into the rabbits. This is the concept behind a vaccine: using the disease to fight itself. When you are vaccinated, the immune system is given something that looks similar to a particular bacteria, which helps it become stronger if it becomes actually infected.



AND - LET'S SPEND A MOMENT
OR TWO ON CHRISTMAS

- 1. A popular tradition in Japan is to eat KFC for Christmas. It is so popular, in fact, that orders must be placed two months in advance.
- 2. The original location for the 1947 movie, “Miracle on 34th Street,” was the New York Macy’s in Herald Square. However, for the remake in 1994, Macy’s refused to participate, so the fictional Cole’s was created.
- 3. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer got his start as an advertising gimmick for Montgomery Ward in 1939.
- 4. Christmas trees usually grow for nearly 15 years before they can be sold.
- 5. One in three men wait until Christmas Eve to do their holiday shopping.
- 6. Paul McCartney earns \$400,000 a year from his “Wonderful Christmastime” song, widely regarded as the worst song he ever recorded.
- 7. More than 400,000 illnesses are caused by spoiled Christmas leftovers.
- 8. Did you know that Oklahoma was the last U.S. state to declare Christmas a legal holiday in 1907?
- 9. Christmas is not the actual date of Christ’s birth; in fact, He was not even born in winter.
- 10. Toys for Tots was founded in Los Angeles, California in 1947. A handmade doll was the first donation, and more than 5,000 toys were collected during that first drive

Saturday, December 3 - Meet the Expertiser!
for our treasured members only -
The Spellman is hosting William T. Crowe
who will take a look at your intriguing stamp.
Reservation required; RSVP here.
Become a member today so you can join us!



Specializing in stamps,
antiques, books, and
collectibles.
The Spellman
Museum of Stamps
and Postal History
Official Events Sponsor



Mass
Cultural
Council

Power of culture

Spellman
educational programs are supported in part by a
grant from the Weston Cultural Council, a local
agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural
Council. The Spellman is grateful for all forms of
support, both financial and via collections.

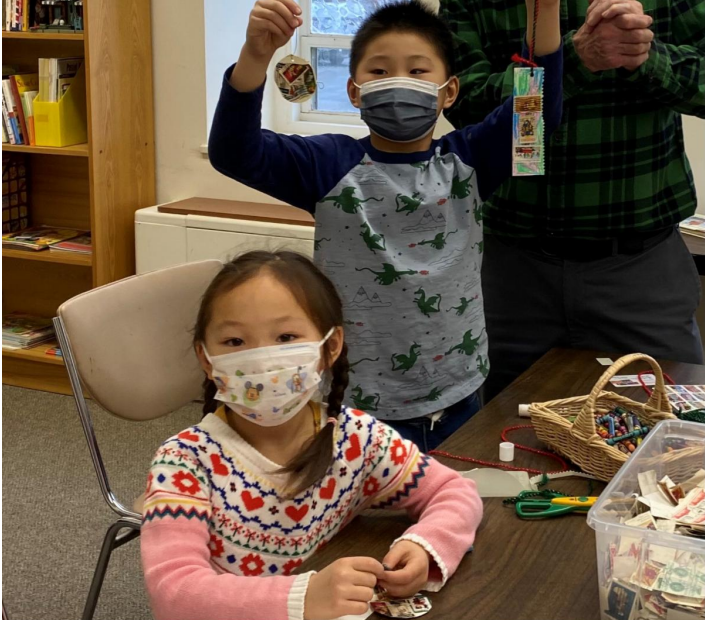
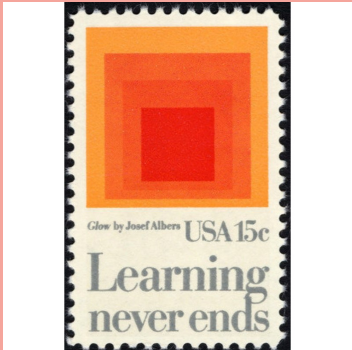
WHY STAMPS?
WHY THE
SPELLMAN?

ITS EASY – WE ARE FUN!
STAMPS ARE TINY PIECES
OF BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK
THAT ENGAGE AND
INSPIRE SO MANY
PEOPLE.

WE ARE FASCINATED BY
THE PLEASURE THESE
TINY ADHESIVES
PROVIDE TO
COLLECTORS OF ALL
AGES.

WHAT IS YOUR
FAVORITE STAMPS AND
WHY?
SEND US A NOTE AND
LET US KNOW – WE
WANT TO TELL YOUR
STORY!

OUR FAVORITE?
THE HOMAGE TO A
SQUARE BY JOSEF
ALBERS



STAMP COLLECTING IS EXCITING! INTERESTED IN JOINING A STAMP CLUB?

Would you be interested in meeting other stamp collectors? Do you want to share your collection with other philatelists and even sell and buy some stamps? Did you collect when you were young and have now retired and thinking of starting up collecting again? Here are a few of our favorites:

The Waltham Stamp Club meets twice a month in the evenings at the Spellman Museum.

The Samuel Osgood Club meets twice a month in the evenings in North Andover. Contact Mike Rivet at 978-474-4674 or [by email](#).

Cape Cod Area Philatelic Group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:15 pm. Meetings are held at the Yarmouth Fire Station #2 Meeting Room, 340 Main Street (Rte 6A), Yarmouth Port, MA, 02675 for more information, please contact [Peter Bono by email](#).

Newburyport Stamp Club meets at 1:30 pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Newburyport Community Center in the Council on Aging section, 331 High St., Newburyport, MA 01950; mailing address Newburyport Stamp Club, Box 5647, Salisbury, MA 01952.

Sudbury Stamp Club meets on the second Monday of each month and is eager to welcome new philatelists. Call Sharon K. Wilkes, Program Coordinator, Sudbury Senior Center at 978-443-3055 to join.

Winthrop Stamp Club generally meets twice a month on the second and fourth Thursdays beginning at 1:00 p.m. and ending by 3:30 p.m. at the Georgetown Senior Community Center, 51 North Street, Georgetown, MA. Contact Richard L. Johnson, President 978-664-2996 or by [email](#).

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH!

The Spellman Museum is a treasured resource, locally and nationally, and beyond!

As a 501(c)3 support-driven entity, we appreciate all forms of support.

If you have a collection to be evaluated, feel free to call or [email Joseph Mullin](#), Executive Director, to arrange the visit. He can be reached at 781-768-8367.

If you'd like to support the museum with a donation, please visit [spellmanmuseum.org](#)

If you'd like to visit the Museum, simply stop by Thursdays - Sundays, noon - 5pm. Or, feel free to call to schedule a private tour.

**We joyfully welcome all!
Plus we are really fun!**

781-768-8367

YOUTH AND SENIOR MEMBERSHIPS ARE MORE AND MORE POPULAR!

The Museum continues to offer a complimentary, one-year membership for children. Youth members receive a monthly packet of topical stamps, worksheets and philatelic information, a discount in the Museum store, a monthly stamp calendar plus free admission for themselves and the family. For more information, contact [Jessica Leuscher](#).

Our seniors are a treasured segment of our membership. Established last year, this \$25 membership offers those individuals all of the benefits and joys of membership. [Contact us for more information!](#)

*Have ideas? Want to share?
[Please send us any and all ideas!](#)*

