



News from the American Philatelic Center
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Contact: Fred Baumann

American Philatelic Center • 100 Match Factory Place
814-933-3803 ext. 212

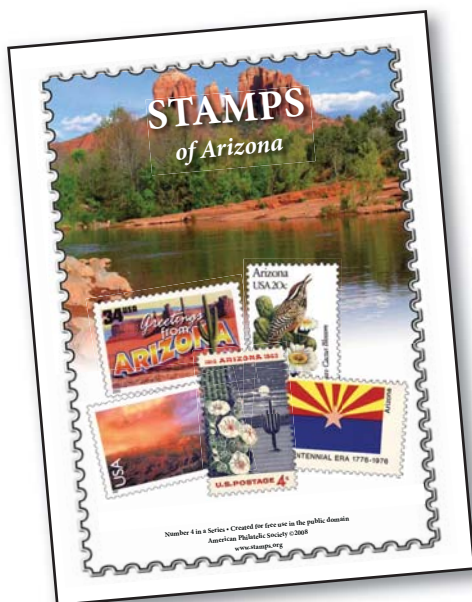
e-mail: fred@stamps.org

• Bellefonte, PA 16823
• 814-933-6128 (Fax)

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Stamps of Arizona Album Now Available



The American Philatelic Society is pleased to offer a 21-page *Stamps of Arizona* album. The album was created to promote the hobby to adult and juvenile beginners who have an interest in the history of Arizona. In addition, text on the rear cover promotes ARIPEX 2009, the 51st annual exhibition of the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs January 23-25 at the Tucson Convention Center, as well as APS AMERISTAMP EXPO/TEXPEX 2009 February 20-22 at the Arlington Convention Center in Arlington, Texas. (Learn more about AMERISTAMP EXPO/TEXPEX 2009 at <http://www.stamps.org/Ameristamp>.)

The mini-album showcases United States stamps and postal stationery related to the Arizona's distinctive history and geography, its people, plants and animals. Created for free use in the public domain — with generous permission from Scott Publishing Co. to use its copyrighted catalogue numbers — it is available as a pdf file that can be viewed or downloaded and printed at <http://www.stamps.org/Albums/arizona.pdf>

The album has spaces for 83 stamps including a 10-stamp Nature of America pane, plus four postal cards. Facing pages of text describe how the issues relate to the “Grand Canyon State,” from the arrival of the earliest peoples there some 27,000 years ago to the state’s modern prosperity based on the so-called “Five Cs:” copper, cattle, cotton, citrus, and the warm, dry climate that makes the state attractive to tourists. Pages include “Arizona Prehistory and History,” “Arizona and the Path to Statehood,” “Arizona from Wild West to U.S.,” “Arizona Chapters in American Sagas,” “More Arizona Connections,” “Arizona’s Natural Resources and Wonders,” “Arizona Flora and Fauna,” “Arizona Signs and Symbols,” and “Arizona Scenery on Postal Cards.” A blank “Arizona” page is also available at the end of the album, which collectors may use as they choose, including printing multiple copies to mount First Day Covers or Arizona postmarks.

The earliest stamp is the 1934 2¢ Grand Canyon commemorative from the National Parks issue (Scott 741). The most recent is the 2008 42¢ Arizona stamp (Scott 4277) from the ongoing Flags of Our Nation series that is currently under way. Famous people with an Arizona connection on stamps in the album include eight U.S. Presidents, explorers Francisco Coronado and John C. Fremont, Wyatt Earp, Geronimo, Nellie Cashman, Dr. Walter Reed, General John Pershing, Frank Lloyd Wright, Fiorello La Guardia, Charles Mingus, Cesar Chavez, Ferde Grofe, Jesse Owens, and John Wayne.

The album was prepared with help from Lisa Dembowski, Education Director of the Postal History Foundation in Tucson. Other sources included the American Topical Association’s 11-page Arizona checklist published in 2003, and the Postal History Foundation’s own mini-album, *Exploring Arizona Through Postage Stamps*, prepared by Ranyta Sullivan more than 30 years ago.

The album is not exhaustive. It was created with places and text for affordable U.S. issues, to appeal to beginners and interested non-collectors, including teachers, scouts and students, as well as general collectors who have an interest in the history of the state. The 2009 Scott catalogue value of all items needed to fill every space is \$54.75 mint, and just \$29.30 cancelled.

The *Stamps of Arizona* album is number 4 in a series, following similar albums for North Carolina, Connecticut, and Texas. All of these and other APS albums are available at http://www.stamps.org/Education/edu_AlbumPages.htm. Future albums are planned in conjunction with 2009–2011 APS shows in Pennsylvania, Virginia, California, South Carolina, and Ohio.