

# The PhilateliKid

**The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)**

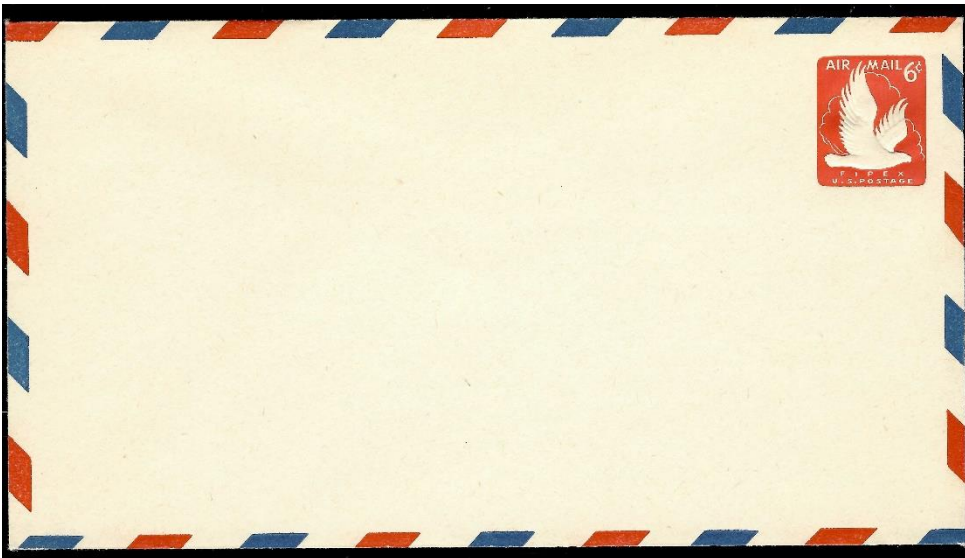
**Collect Stamps (The Most Educational Hobby)**

[www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org](http://www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org)

April 1, 2024

In the May 2022 issue of *The Philatelikid*, we began brief descriptions of various “Back of the Book” (“BOB”) listings in the Scott Catalogues. In subsequent issues we looked at stamps which begin with the letter “B,” “C,” “CE,” “CL,” “CM,” “CB,” “CO,” “E,” “D,” “F,” “FA,” “J,” “K,” “L,” “LO,” “O,” “PR,” “PN,” “PS,” “WS,” “BK,” “Q,” “JQ,” “QE,” “CVP,” “WX,” “QI,” “#X,” “REA,” “RV,” “RY,” “-P,” “UX,” “SPCVP,” “U,” and “UY.” This month we will look at “UC.”

## Stamps Beginning with the prefix “UC”



Air Post Stamped Envelope commemorating FIPEX, Scott UC25 ^^

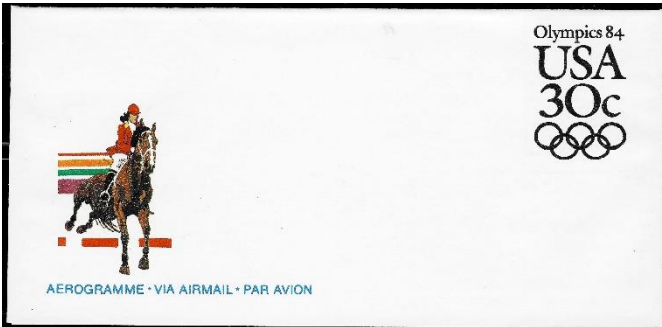
lozenges (parallelogram.). Air Post Stamped envelopes were issued only by the Post Office.

The second type of postal stationery that Scott uses the same “UC” prefix for is Air Letter Sheets. A letter sheet is a large piece of paper (large than an envelope) which, when properly folded resembles an envelope with the front having the preprinted stamp, and space to write the return address and the addressee. The inside of the sheet is where the sender can write the message. The Post Office forbids ANY enclosures, such as a photograph, or even a small piece of paper such as a used stamp. No tape or stickers may be used to seal. The letter sheet, when properly folded, has areas that have moisture-activated gum (“Lick and stick”) so that when folded and sealed, the Air Letter sheet has the appearance of an envelope. Air letter sheets can be collected in mint, unfolded condition, but in used condition they are folded. Air Letter Sheets are issued only by the Post Office.

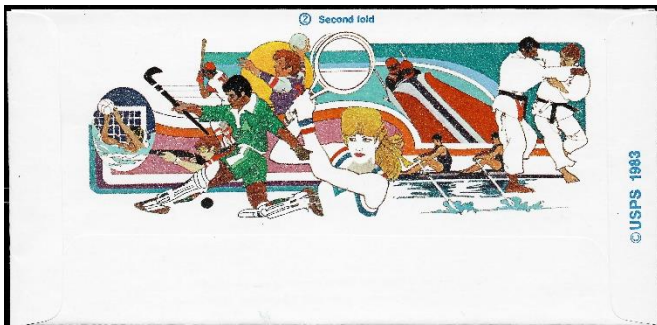
Stamps in the Scott Catalogue with the prefix “UC” are not stamps at all. Included in this prefix are two entirely different types of postal stationery. The first kind are Air Post Stamped Envelopes. They are stamped envelopes, just like the stamped envelopes listed under the prefix “U” (see February 2024 *The Philatelikid*.), but they have a higher face value because they pay to have the envelope delivered, at least partially, if possible, by airmail. Air Post Stamped Envelopes stand out from all other envelopes because they

have a distinctive border of red and blue

Air Letter Sheets are very unusual because USED Air Letter Sheets are a lot rarer, and a lot more valuable, than mint Air Letter Sheets. For example, the 2023 Scott Catalogue values the Montgomery Blair 39¢ Air Letter Sheet (see below) in mint condition at \$1.40, but a USED copy of the same Air Letter Sheet has a value of \$16.00. (The \$16.00 value in Scott is in italics, meaning the editors of the catalogue do not have much information about such an item because it is rarely sold, and the value listed is an educated guess.) Also, an Air Letter Sheet that is used, but has a First Day of Issue (FDOI) cancel is not worth nearly as much as an Air Letter sheet with an ordinary cancel. The same Montgomery Blair Air Letter Sheet used, but with a FDOI cancel



Obverse side of folded Air Letter Sheet Scott UC57  
 Note the printing in French: Aerogramme and Par Avion  
 The USPS rarely uses foreign languages on stamps!  
 has a value in Scott of only \$1.75. Interestingly enough, even a used FDOI copy is listed as worth more than a mint copy!



Reverse side of folded Air Letter Sheet Scott UC57  
 Although Air Letter Sheets could be used for mail within the United States, they were intended to pay the postage to international addresses.

**Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids** is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are greatly appreciated and if \$10 or more you will be sent a written receipt. You also can donate via PayPal on our website: [www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org](http://www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org) or [www.yummystampcollecting.org](http://www.yummystampcollecting.org) which redirects you to the same website.



Unfolded Air Letter Sheet Scott UC62