Postmark Atlanta

Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club

Affiliate club #C-031583

American Topical Association affiliate chapter #151

AUGUST 2026 Newsletter

Our in person meeting location is Intown Community Church at 2059 LaVista Road NE, Atlanta, GA. Our meeting is on main level room 204 – 206, a large room with tables and chairs. Meetings are on the Second Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00.

The ZOOM meeting is on the 4th Monday. We will continue this as a "virtual" Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club meeting hosted by member Lloyd Nutter. Lloyd sends out a Zoom invitation a couple days before the meeting. If you do not get an invitation for the meetings, please contact Lloyd to make sure he adds you to his list. Emailing him: Stamps1840.2000@gmail.com. Also, if you need to test how Zoom works, Lloyd will be glad to give you a test.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 4 GA from 9 – 11 a.m. Stamp Trading at home of Don Laberteaux, 5008 Brandlwood Ct., Lilburn, Coffee, talking and stamps. Call Don at 770-381-7114 for details.

August 13 Fayette Stamp Club in person meeting on second Thursday. at 6:00 pm at Partners Pizza II, 216 Northlake Dr, Peachtree City, GA 30269.

August 9 Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club in person meeting 3:00 – 5:00 pm. Meeting at Intown Community Church, 2059 LaVista Road NE, Atlanta, GA. Room 204-206. Auction and Show and Tell.

August 15 Georgia Postcard Club meeting 11 am – 2 pm. NEW LOCATION First Baptist Church of Decatur, 308 Clairemont Rd. downtown Decatur. To enter come to the rear of the activities building where there is a door with an awning. Once there, you will see a sign giving you the cell phone to call for a club member to let you in.

August 18 Cobb County Stamp Club meeting. 2100 Roswell Rd., Suite 2216, 2nd floor (The Bridge Club) 1:30 pm. Program "Signers of the Declaration of Independence: A Georgia Postal History" by Steve Swain

August 21-22 Georgia Stamp, Postcard and Ephemera Show, Mimms Museum of Technology and Art, 5000 Commerce Pkwy, Roswell, GA 30076,, 10 am – 5 pm Friday, 10 am - 4 pm Saturday

August 24 Atlanta Stamp Collector's Club ZOOM meeting starting at 7:00 pm. Program by Terry Morris on Railroad Perfins

August 28-30 NAPEX National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington DC. McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr. McLean, VA This is a WSP show. http://www.napex.org

September 25-26 Columbia 2026 Summer Stamp & Postcard Show. Tri-City Leisure Center, 485 Brooks Avenue, West Columbia, 29169. Hours 11 am – 5 pm Friday and 10 am - 4 pm Saturday.

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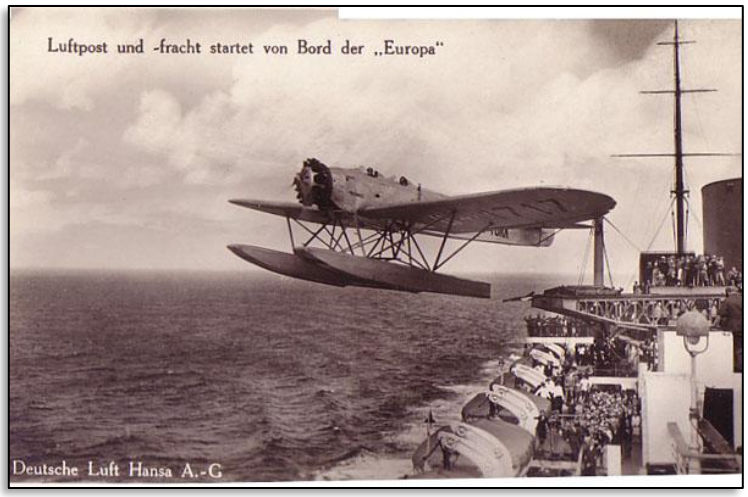
Catapult Mail via S.S. *Europa*,
20–21 August 1932 — Bremen to New York
By Dr. Mel Coe

The mail sent via catapult from Norddeutscher Lloyd ships is one-of-a-kind, with letters from the Europa's August 1932 westbound journey highlighting the service at its peak. The ship's Heinkel catapult aircraft first the He 12 and later the He 58 was launched several hundred miles off the American coast, carrying a mailbag directly to New York. The procedure cut delivery time by roughly a day, and the New York receiving mark on the back of this cover, (next page) Grand Central Annex, 20 August 1932, 8:30 PM, reflects that acceleration clearly.



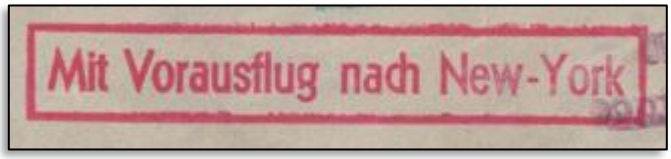
The system was not experimental in 1932; it was a practiced routine, and this piece shows it working exactly as intended.

The franking comprises three values from the Eagle on Globe airmail series, used throughout the late 1920s and into the early 1930s. The 10 Pf red, 15 Pf violet, and 1 Mark black-salmon stamps were designed by Ignaz Friedrich Wentzler, a sculptor and medalist who taught at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich. The composition shows his training: he rendered the eagle with the weight and posture of a sculptural figure, and its wings rose in a controlled, architectural sweep. The globe beneath is not decorative but symbolic, anchoring the design in the idea of international reach. The vertical writing and plain frames give the stamps a serious, modern feel, typical of art from the end of the Weimar period. Printed by the Reichsdruckerei in Berlin, the series remained in use until the Hindenburg Medallion definitives replaced it later in 1932.

Each stamp value on the cover plays a familiar role in period postal practice. The 10 Pf served as a general-purpose "make-up" value, widely used on domestic postcards and in combination with other stamps to meet foreign rates. The 15 Pf was the standard supplement for foreign letters, often appearing in mixed frankings on European mail. The 1 Mark is the long-distance indicator: a high-value airmail stamp used for transatlantic service, catapult dispatches, and Zeppelin mail. Its bicolor printing sets it apart visually and signals the higher tariff category.

The front of the envelope carries the full set of markings associated with the *Europa* catapult flights.

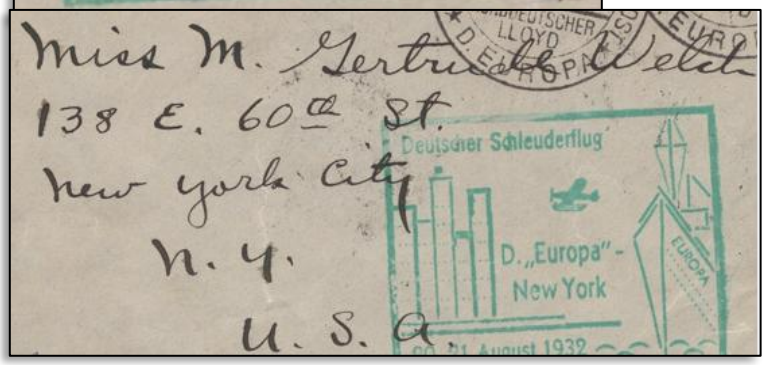
The blue Mit Luftpost / Par Avion etiquette and the red Eilbote / Exprès label indicate airmail transmission and express handling upon arrival.



The boxed red Mit Vorausflug nach New York handstamp shows that the cover was placed in the advance-flight mailbag.

The green cachet — “Deutscher Schleuderflug / D. ‘Europa’ – New York / 20.21. August 1932”, is the official shipboard marking applied for this dispatch. Along with the canceled sea post, these markings indicate the mail was properly prepared for catapult delivery.

The address, 138 East 60th Street, is within the delivery district served by the Grand Central Annex.



This section of Manhattan, between Lexington and Third Avenue, was a common residential area in the early 1930s, mostly with apartment buildings. City directories from the period list the address as residential, which aligns with the routing and handling evident on the cover.

The cover demonstrates the usual process for mid-period German catapult mail, including the ship's postmark, flight marking, catapult stamp, airmail and express labels, and a quick New York receiving mark. Nothing is out of sequence, and the franking is entirely appropriate for the service. It is a representative and well-preserved example of the *Europa*’s catapult operations during the final months before the Hindenburg definitives came into use.

References

Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung, 1926: “I. F. Wentzler und die Gestaltung der Luftpostmarken." (Wentzler and the Design of Stamps) - American Philatelic Research Library (APRL), Bellefonte, PA

Deutsche Reichspost archival rate tables, 1930–1933.

Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue (2016), Germany air mail section (Hindenburg Medallion), pg 163

Meyer, F. *Die Deutsch–Amerikanische Seepost: Geschichte und Stempel*. Berlin, 1987. Translation through MS/Word.

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, NYG&B's Online records & collections https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/online-records

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NEW POSTAL RATES EFFECTIVE JULY 12

Domestic post card $.65; 1st class letter $.82; 2 oz letter $1.11; non-machinable $1.31; USPS Priority mail flat rate envelope $12.90; USPS Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Envelope $35.90

Link to listing with all rates:
https://pe.usps.com/resources/PriceChange/July%202026%20Price%20Change%20-%20Notice123%20PDF%20-%207.2.26.pdf

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SISTER STAMP CLUB EVENTS

Our sister club West Toronto Stamp Club of Ontario, Canada, has two monthly online events – a Learning Workshop and a Discussion Group. They cover various topics. If you are interested in receiving their newsletter or online invitations, please contact Garfield Portch at Garfield.portch@gmail.com.

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Exhibits online

Scott Holmberg mentioned at a recent meeting the listing of exhibits now available online at the American Philatelic Research Library. The link to reach this page to see Mel Coe's exhibits is:

https://digital.stamplibrary.org/digital/collection/p17047coll6/search/searchterm/coe

You will need to scroll down to see his Japanese Revenue stamps and Marc Chagall exhibits. You can also change the search term on that screen to any topic or exhibitor in the Advanced Search field in the upper right corner.

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LEARNING ABOUT STAMPS ONLINE (LASO)

Monthly online meetings on various topics

If you are not a member, you can join (for free) at this link: https://learningaboutstamps.org/join/. You will then get email with a link to register for the ZOOM monthly meetings.

Also check out their links to other resources of help to stamp collectors.

https://learningaboutstamps.org/resources/

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All prior newsletters of the club are available on our club web-site. http://www.sefsc.org/atlanta-stamp-collectors-club.html Check out the additional content – prior presentations and news.

To access the Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club's website page:

1. Enter sefsc.org in your browser.
2. From the main top-of-page menu, hover over Stamp Clubs.
3. Hover over Georgia.
4. Click Atlanta Stamp Collectors Club.

Meeting information and monthly newsletters are available on our site.

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THE ATLANTA STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB LIBRARY

The library catalog for the club is posted on the club website. If you find a book you want to check out notify club secretary LeA Coe at leacoe3002@gmail.com and it will be available at the next in person club meeting. Books may be checked out by any club member and there is no due date.

A list of some books being removed from the library is attached. Let me know if you would like one of these books.

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If you are interested in presenting at our ZOOM meetings, please contact Mel Coe at mcoe@bellsouth.net to schedule a date.

LeA Coe, Secretary leacoe@bellsouth.net