

Volume 54 APR 2015

German Empire Germania Weimar Republic - 1920-1922

The Weimar Republic continued the use of the Germania definitive postage stamp designs of the German Empire through 1922. By then, the Germania issues had been replaced by new definitive stamp issues for the new republic.



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Between January 1920 and April 1921, new stamps of the Germania definitive design were issued by the Weimar Republic. They included new colors on some of the existing Germania issues, as well as four new bi-colored Germania Mark denomination stamps. The fourteen new stamps are shown in the images above.

As with the last Germania issues of the German Empire, all of these new stamps were Perforated 14 x 14 1/2, and they were **watermarked lozenges**. All of these new stamps were issued in sheet format, as well as in coils.



The 10 Pf., 15 Pf., 30 Pf., 40 Pf., and 60 Pf. denominations were also issued in booklets. Since some of the booklet panes contained multiple denominations, and se-tenant combinations of these stamps are collected, as well. Considering the special sheets for the printing of booklet panes had nine rows of stamps and a gutter row, these booklet stamps can be collected as booklet panes of six, tête-bêche pairs, and gutter pairs.

The mint and used sheet stamps, booklet panes, and combination pairs of this 1920-1921 Germania issue are not expensive, thus one can develop quite an attractive and specialized collection of these issues, without spending a lot of money.

The 30 Pf., 40 Pf., 50 Pf., 75 Pf., and 80 Pf. denominations come in **two types**. The Scott Catalog doesn't list them, but the Michel Catalog does.

It might be a good idea to look out for them, as the scarcer Type I varieties can catalog up to 40 times

the price of the common Type II varieties. I have been through a great number of these, and the Type I 30 Pf. in the adjacent image is the only Type I that I have been able to locate.

In the adjacent image, the stamp detail at the top is Type I and the detail at the bottom is Type II.

- On the Type I stamps the numbers in the corners are off-center, the cross at the top of the crown is obscure and barely recognizable, and the "DEUTSCHES REICH" in the bottom white background is shited, sometimes touching the frame line around the white background.
- On the Type II stamps the numbers in the corners are better centered, the cross at the top of the crown is outlined and distinct, and the "DEUTSCHES REICH" in the bottom white background is clearer and centered.

The easiest way to identify these is by the absence or presence of the distinctly outlined cross at the top of the crown.

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There are two very famous printing errors in this Weimar Republic Germania series. Some of the 1.25 and 2 Mark denominations were accidentally printed on paper with a **quatrefoil watermark**.

An authenticated example of the rare 1.25 Mark denomination is shown above. Though rare, they are available, with the Michel value being 600 Euros for a mint lightly hinged example and 1,300 Euros for a used example.

This watermark error also exists on the 2 Mark denomination. These are exceedingly rare and generally not obtainable, with the Michel value being 30,000 Euros for a used example.



In August 1921, the Weimar Republic released the four surcharged Germania stamps shown above. Michel lists two types on the overprint. The first type is a glossy or glazed looking overprint, and the second type is a matte looking overprint. The matte overprint is the scarcer of the two.



In 1922, the paper used for printing postage stamps was changed **from watermarked lozenges** paper **to watermarked network / webbing** paper.

In March 1922, some of the 75 Pf. and 1.25 Mark denomination Germania stamps were printed on the new **watermarked network** paper. They are shown above.

The 2008 Forever stamp from Sennett was issued in booklet form on October 25. The year-date on this new variety is smaller than the year-date on the convertible booklet variety from Sennett issued earlier this year.

The microprinting is also different. You can see both at the right.





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Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm., Geoff Owens presiding. 21 Members and 2 guests (Madeleine Myers and Aunt Lou) were present.

Officer Reports

- Secretary's report minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report none.
- Program VP's report Tonight is a spring cleaning bourse; members are to discuss their TEXPEX page display at the next meeting (April 8). There also a board meeting on that date. A TSDA bourse is planned for April 10-11 in Richardson.
- Editor's report Rick Houghland reported that the newsletter has been sent out.
- Membership report- no news today.

New Business

•Keith Johnson was accepted as a member.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- •Stuart Barzune showed a US plate block signed by the engraver, modeler and letter designer from a collection of similar items provided by his grandfather. He also brought a 1927 Yankees baseball signed by Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig, among others.
- •Stan Bartnikowski brought a Prussian stamp with a numerical cancel for a (now) Polish town.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

•Chris Sortwell, Tom Siegel and Stan Bartnikowski graciously donated door prizes for the membership. The album drawing was held.

Program

•The members' spring cleaning bourse was held, including discount US mint postage and FDCs from Jim Myers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

April 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. 22 Members and 1 guest (Aunt Lou) were present. Officer Reports

- Secretary's report minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report \$12,688.65 in the club accounts.
- Program VP's report Tonight the members are to discuss their TEXPEX page display.

- A TSDA bourse is planned for April 10-11 in Richardson. On April 22, Geoff will repeat his Biafra talk. Auctions will now be held twice a year, with the next auction scheduled for July 22. Each member is encouraged to bring at least two lots to the auction.
- Editor's report Rick Houghland reported that the newsletter will be published next week.
- Membership report- no news today.

Announcements

- Stuart Barzune has a stockbook of postal stationery, mainly from Gibraltar, for which he is seeking any information from the club members.
- Jack Urish auctioned off 4 items.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- •Paul Witthoeft brought a news item showing the poetry on the US Maya Angelou stamp issued yesterday was not written by Angelou.
- •Jack Urish showed a pair of submarine pictures and presented Sam Phillippi with a Great Britain stamp canceled in Dublin, prior to Ireland's independence.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

•Chris Sortwell, Sam Phillippi, Doug Moss, Stuart Barzune, Paul Witthoeft and Rick Houghland graciously donated door prizes for the membership. The album drawing was held.

Program

•Members presented and discussed the one-page exhibits submitted to TEXPEX.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Stamp & Tongs APS GOLD AWARD

Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society Newsletter

Rick Houghland, Editor

Stamp & Tongs is published monthly. Material in this newsletter may be reproduced in other philatelic publications if the sources are acknowledged.

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Membership is \$12 available to anyone of good character interested in philately. Membership applications at: www.dpcps2010.webs.com