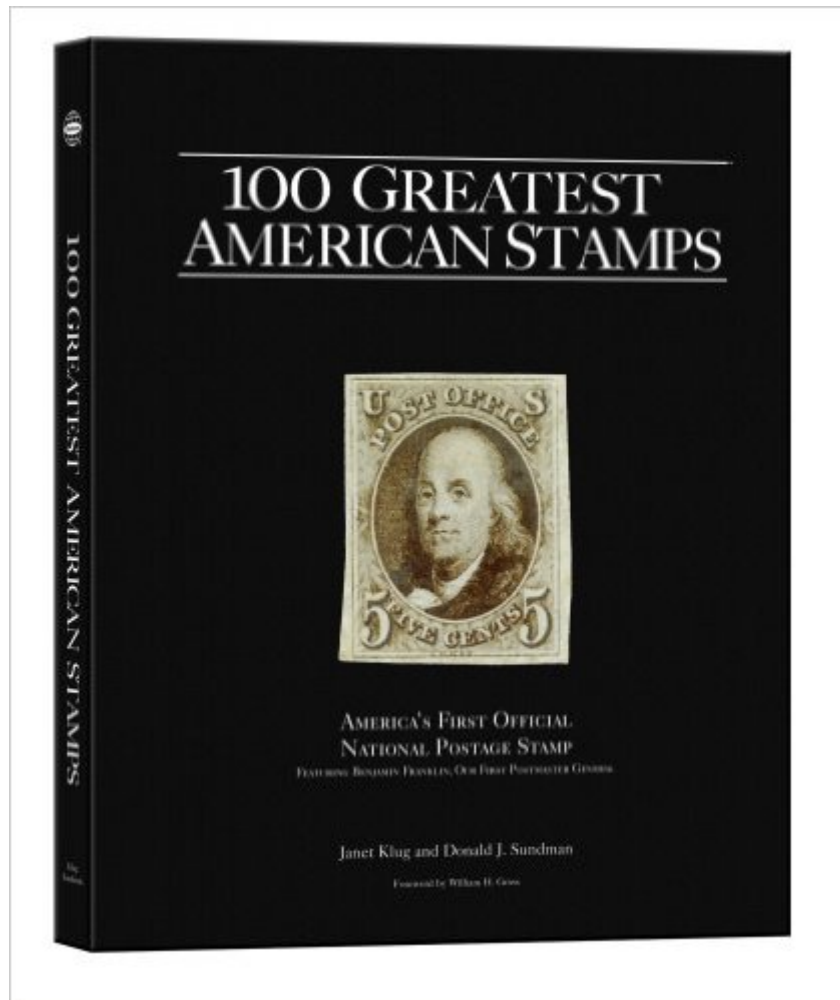


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100 Greatest American Stamps



Synopsis

Book by Janet Klug, Donald Sundman

Book Information

Hardcover: 144 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (16 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Despite the oversized glossy pages, slick graphics, and the heft generally associated with superior products, the supposed highlight and key selling point for this production was woefully inadequate. The stamp images are of surprisingly very poor quality. A solid 80% of the pictures are blurry. I have no idea why the first review claimed the stamps illustrated were "crystal clear". My sense is that that person is some relation to Mr. Magoo. That - or his crystal is shockingly opaque and requires some urgent cleaning. It's not evident whether the authors hired an incompetent graphic designer -or- if they themselves provided the stamp imagery and the designer was forced to use what was available. Regardless of the reason, this book is nearly worthless for the purpose intended. Notably, many of the images appear to have been taken directly from the internet. Scanning apparently too difficult a task. Why this issue wasn't addressed when the prepress proofs were available for review is a mystery. Suffice to say, the few sharp clear images - and they truly are a small lonely handful - are only marginally worth the price of even a used copy of this so-called "coffee table" production. The written context saves this from a single star. Personal Note:- Just for comparison's sake, and without any effort at all, I found an 1869 30 Cent Shield on the internet. It took two minutes. Make your own comparison and judge for yourself. Open the book to Page 27. Now, copy the address below and replace the three (3) "dots" with the actual period symbol (no spaces) for this free Imageshack address:img22 dot imageshack dot us/img22/8563/186930cents dot jpgBe honest.

Stamp collecting's biggest names collaborated to create one remarkable book! With entertaining stamp stories and large, crisp illustrations, 100 Greatest American Stamps is perfect for stamp collectors and history buffs alike. The 100 Greatest American Stamps were selected by a group of philately's leading experts, dealers and collectors. The finalists range from the greatest U.S. stamp rarities to controversial issues and common commemoratives that are perennial favorites. Janet Klug (immediate past-President of the American Philatelic Foundation and a Linn's contributor) and Donald Sundman (President, Mystic Stamp Company) tell the in-depth story behind the stamps. Extra-large, crystal-clear images showcase each of these legendary stamps. The detail is impressive - I saw new details on stamps I only thought I was familiar with. Leafing through the pages was like peeking into the world's most exclusive collections. Readers will see the love letter carried in the Alexandria Postmaster Provisional (Blue Boy) cover, examine the famous Ice House Cover, and marvel over other unique items! Related collectibles, including banknotes, medals, and war bond posters, add historic perspective. Issue quantity and historic market values are included, making it fun to trace the market trends. Additional treats include the history of collecting, honorable mention, and a philatelic timeline that shows the important role of U.S. stamps in American history. Collectors will find the introduction fascinating. Bill Gross, who became the only person to assemble a complete 19th century U.S. stamp collection with his acquisition of the 1st $\hat{A}$ Z Grill, tells us what inspires him.

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