

STUCK ON STAMPS

Marilyn Monroe stamp fakes the body, signature

It's not Marilyn Monroe's body, it's not Marilyn's hand nor her signature! We are, of course, talking about the new Marilyn Monroe stamp issued June 1.

So don't fall in love with the stamp image as it pictures Marilyn only from the neck up! Her body is based on

the modeling of two friends of stamp artist Michael Deas of New Orleans. He based his design on a 1953 Monroe photo.

Deas liked the head in the photo but not the angle of the body. He changed the tilt of the head and added the hand. Two friends, Karen Conaway and Julie Gladson, modeled for the body. The hand belongs to Karen.

However, let's not stop yet. The signature on the Monroe stamp isn't Marilyn's either! But it's a close facsimile of the original, as penned by a secretary dealing with the volumes of requests received by Monroe.

Shuttle Challenger

The ill-fated shuttle Challenger, which exploded during launch Jan. 28, 1986, with the loss of the entire crew, finally appears on a stamp. But the new stamp isn't a memorial to that disastrous flight.

The new stamp shows Challenger in flight on Mission STS-7, June 8-24, 1983. The new Priority Mail stamp is being issued today. It was the Challenger's second flight, commanded by Rob-

ert Crippen, and carried Sally Ride, the first U.S. woman into space. For free first day of issue cancels, buy the new stamp(s) locally, affix to an addressed envelope, insert a thin card, tuck in the flap and mail in a larger envelope to: Challenger Stamp, Anaheim, Calif. 92801-9991, by July 21. The thin card inside will get you a better cancel and using address labels that peel off will keep your souvenirs clean.

50 years old

The 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter is marked by a new U.S. stamp and six stamps plus two souvenir sheets from the United Nations. The charter was signed June 26 at the Veterans Memorial Opera House in San Francisco by leaders of 50 nations weary of war.

The new international organization was created to help maintain peace and bring a better life to all peoples. Both the postal service and the UN mark the anniversary with special pictorial cancels. Free first day cancels may be obtained by sending stamped, addressed envelopes to: United Nations Stamp, San Francisco, Calif. 94188-9991 by Aug. 25. Stamps, souvenir sheets and covers with UN stamps may be obtained using a credit card and calling (800) 234-UNPA (8672).

John Foxworth of West Bloomfield is president of the American Philatelic Research Library. You can leave him a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then his mailbox number, 1900. His fax number is (810) 644-1314.



Challenger: A new stamp shows the space shuttle in flight on a 1983 mission that carried the first U.S. woman into space.

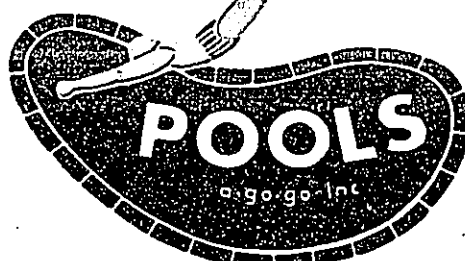
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