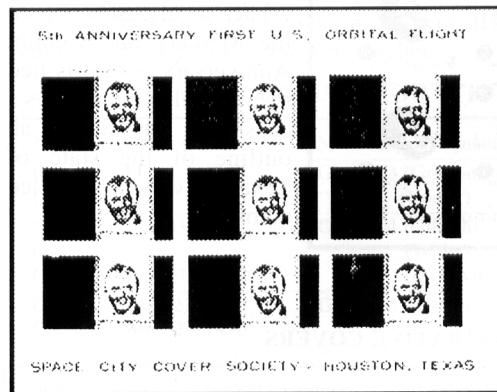


**AROUND THE UNIVERSE: NASA LOPOs – PART 1****Richard Jepeal**

*NASA Local Post Stamps And Covers Of The Space City Cover Society – Mercury and Gemini*

The Space City Cover Society was formed shortly before the fire deaths of astronauts Grissom, White and Chaffee during the testing of the Apollo capsule. The Society was first named the Space City Philatelic Society, but changed to the Space City Cover Society due to a chain of events.

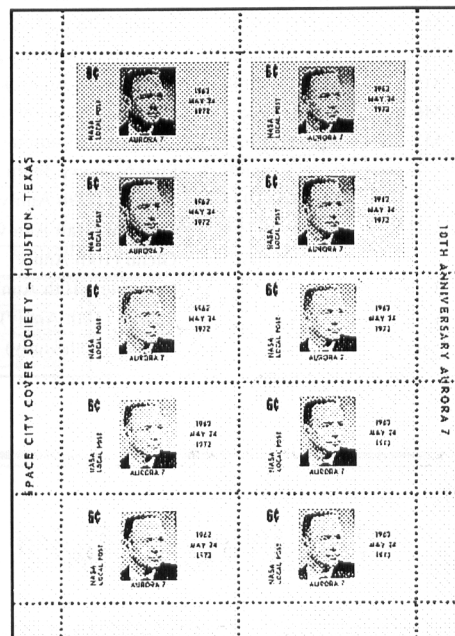


The Society attempted to get a NASA station cancel, but was informed that none was available as all mail, including NASA, was canceled at the main Houston post office. Therefore, the Society created a NASA Local Post which is permissible under postal regulations. The NASA Local Post is in no way connected with NASA.

Most of the early covers of the Space City Cover Society were made in quantities of 100 to 400.

**ANNIVERSARIES***Souvenir Sheets—*

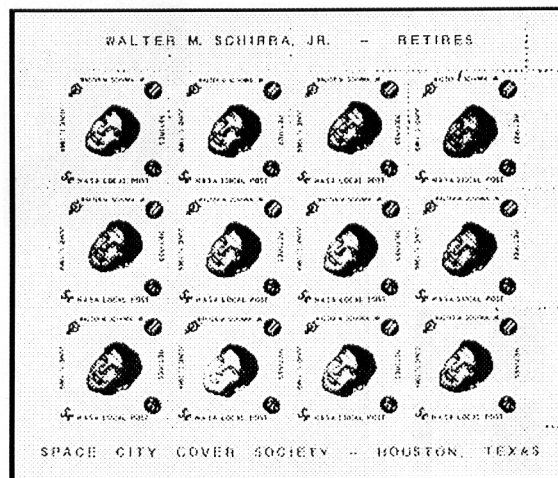
There are three different types of souvenir sheets. Type "A" has nine 5¢ stamps, three horizontal rows by three vertical rows, with inscription at the top and bottom of sheet. Type "B" has ten 6¢ stamps, five horizontal rows by two vertical rows, with inscription on the left and right side of sheet. Type "C" has twelve 5¢ stamps, three horizontal rows by four vertical rows, with inscription at the top and bottom of the sheet. The design of the local post stamps of type "C" are diamond-shaped, and are like the Special Event stamps (coming in part II) and shown in the Schirra example.



Cont. on Next Pg.

Cont. from Previous Pg.

Type "A" includes numbers M1 through M6. Type "B" includes numbers M8 through M13. Number M7 is type "C."

*Covers—*

All covers are considered first day covers of the NASA local post.

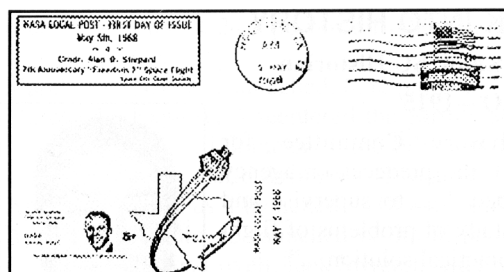
*Commemorative Cancel—*

Each local post stamp on the Mercury and Gemini Anniversary covers is tied by a cancel, which shows a capsule in orbit around an outline of the state of Texas, in various canceled colors.

## COMMEMORATIVE COVERS

Number	Date of Cancel	Astronaut	Stamp Color	Cancel Color
M1	Feb 20, 1967	Glenn (5th Anniv.)	Blue & Black	Green
M2	May 24, 1967	Carpenter (5th Anniv.)	Purple & Black	Blue
M3	Oct 03, 1967	Schirra (5th Anniv.)	Pink & Black	Purple
M4	May 05, 1968	Shepard (7th Anniv.)	Green & Black	Brown
M5	May 15, 1968	Cooper (5th Anniv.)	Orange & Black	Purple
M6	Jul 21, 1968	Grissom (7th Anniv.)	Or-Yel & Black	Black
M7	Apr 09, 1969	10th Anniv. Naming of First Mercury Team	Blue & Black	Red
M8	May 05, 1971	Shepard (10th Anniv)	Blue & Black	Blue
M9	Jul 21, 1971	Grissom (10th Anniv)	Yellow & Black	Red
M10	Feb 20, 1972	Glenn (10th Anniv)	Green & Black	Green
M11	May 24, 1972	Carpenter (10th Anniv)	Orange & Black	Brown
M12	Oct 3, 1972	Schirra (10th Anniv)	Purple & Black	Purple
M13	May 15, 1973	Cooper (10th anniv)	Dk Yel & Black	Red

*Tell A Friend About The Space Unit...*



## GEMINI ANNIVERSARIES

### *Souvenir Sheets—*

Each sheet contains twelve stamps, three horizontal rows by four vertical rows, with inscription on the left and right side of sheet.

### *Covers—*

The design of all Gemini Anniversary covers is the same with each individual having its own matching cachet.

### COMMEMORATIVE COVERS

Number	Date of Cancel	Mission & Astronaut	Stamp Color	Cancel Color
G1	Mar. 23, 1970	Gemini 3 (Grissom)	Yellow & Black	Red
G2	"	(Young)	"	"
G3	Jun. 03, 1970	Gemini 4 (Gilruth)	Blue & Black	Blue
G4	"	(White)	"	"
G5	Jun. 07, 1970	(McDivitt)	"	"
G6	Aug. 21, 1970	Gemini 5 (Cooper)	Lt. Green & Black	Green
G7	Aug. 29, 1970	(Conrad)	"	"
G8	Dec. 15, 1970	Gemini 6 (Schirra)	Yellow & Black	Red
G9	Dec. 16, 1970	(Stafford)	"	"
G10	Dec. 04, 1970	Gemini 7 (Borman)	Dk. Orng. & Black	Brown
G11	Dec. 18, 1970	(Lovell)	"	"
G12	Mar. 16, 1971	Gemini 8 (Armstrong)	Blue & Black	Blue
G13	"	(Scott)	"	"
G14	Jun. 03, 1971	Gemini 9 (Stafford)	Dk. Grn. & Black	Green
G15	Jun. 06, 1971	(Cernan)	"	"
G16	Jul. 18, 1971	Gemini 10 (Young)	Yellow & Black	Red
G17	Jul. 21, 1971	(Collins)	"	"
G18	Sep. 12, 1971	Gemini 11 (Gordon)	Orange & Black	Brown
G19	Sep. 15, 1971	(Conrad)	"	"
G20	Nov. 11, 1971	Gemini 12 (Aldrin)	Blue & Black	Blue
G21	Nov. 15, 1971	(Lovell)	"	"



Each Gemini flight carried two astronauts, therefore there are two covers in each set honoring both astronauts. The exception is Gemini 4, which has three covers to the set. Dr. Robert R. Gilruth was the Director of the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston (MSC). It was on June 3, 1970 that MSC became The Mission

Control Center for all U.S. manned space flights. I would like to thank L. H. Jaynes for his invaluable help in preparing this article. □