

George Toth, LCSW-R  
[mrgeOrge397@gmail.com](mailto:mrgeOrge397@gmail.com)

**Amazing Philatelic Exhibit: Hypnosis and healing from symbolic representation to therapeutic reality, using a very rare Pony Express stamp**



**Broken Foot Flaw, (very rare, only 10 examples known to exist, and 1 of two known used examples). Previously owned by US Ambassador William J, Middendorf II, of the Netherlands**

**Statement of Purpose:** To startle, amaze, and share emotion with a fascinating stamp experience of self-hypnosis, visual imagery, and healing, using the Pony Express stamp, (US Scott # 143L3, position 9, broken leg flaw).

**Story:** The Pony Express mail operated from April 3, 1860, to October 26, 1861. It was formed as a private and government mail service. The plan was to deliver mail quickly and regularly by horseback in a relay time system. It began first between Saint Joseph, Missouri and San Francisco, California (see map showing routes). Horseback riders were required to be about age 18, weigh less than 125 pounds, and be willing to risk their lives. The job was extremely dangerous, riding across rough terrain, night and day, and in all weather conditions. They were often chased, robbed, and tortured. Pony Express horses needed to be trained, strong, fast, fearless, and patient. Both men and horses were under great stress and anxiety. The pony express broken foot flaw is symbolic for men and horses needing healing. The need to heal physical, emotional, and spiritual stress were all connected in the past, and are connected today. Humans and horses are currently used together in clinical mental health treatment and in healing centers around the world. Thus, the story continues to expand from 1860 and into the future by healing with stamps, along with self-hypnosis, and visual imagery. The pony express stamp is a symbolic representation of healing from the past to a current therapeutic clinical healing reality.



**Normal mint pony express stamp**

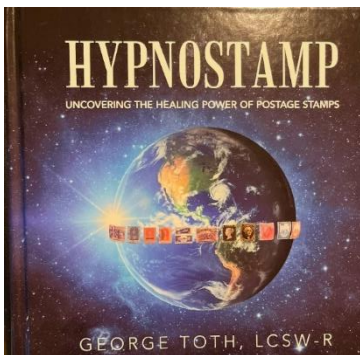
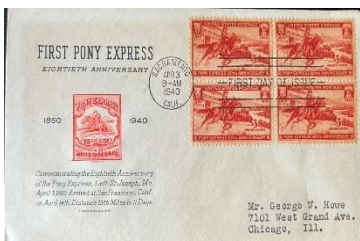


Image of "The Pony Express Rider", by Maynard Dixon, with permission of Wells Fargo Bank.

Award winning book, Great American Stamp Show, Cleveland, Ohio. 2023.  
**Hypnostamp: Uncovering the Healing Power of Postage Stamps, Pages 94-98.**



First pony express, 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary 1940



Animal assisted therapy in Isreal 2009



French pony express!

**NB:** All stamps are enlarged by about 30%, All covers reduced by about 30%. How does this exhibit make you feel?

**George Toth, LCSW-R**

[mrge0rge397@gmail.com](mailto:mrge0rge397@gmail.com)

**Amazing Philatelic Exhibit: Hypnosis and healing from symbolic representation to therapeutic reality,  
using a very rare Pony Express stamp**