

November 9, 2006

**Ronald A. Robinson
Chairperson
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
Stamp Development
US Postal Service
1735 North Lynn St Room 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432**

Dear Mr. Robinson,

Benjamin Franklin is certainly one of the most famous individuals in the history of the world. Among his greatest contributions was the concept of simple bifocals, lenses created for distance and also near vision, both in one single eyeglass frame. He has never been recognized by any country with a stamp commemorating this incredibly useful achievement which has benefited billions and billions of people worldwide.

Several years ago I first wrote to your committee to suggest an original United States stamp. At that time a non-commercial website regarding the History of Eyeglasses, www.antiquespectacles.com, was in its infancy. This international endeavor now has the participation of over 450 institutions and over 2600 images exist on nearly 200 web pages comprising an online museum and encyclopedia. This is receiving international attention because it is filled with History, Science, Culture, and Art. “Ben Franklin: Father of the Bifocal” was recently added with over 100 images on two associated slideshows. All the prominent members of your committee might enjoy visiting this unique educational endeavor.

Kindly give serious consideration to the idea for a new US commemorative stamp – “Benjamin Franklin – Father of the Bifocal”.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

**David A. Fleishman, MD
Retired ophthalmologist
Sharon, MA**