



## **Daniel Shifrin Pharmacy Stamp First Day Cover Collection**

**The U.S. pharmacy stamp was introduced on November 10, 1972. The 8-cent stamp bears the word “PHARMACY” against a black background. The stamp also contains a yellow mortar and pestle and two medication bottles. The stamp honors the men and women in the pharmacy profession.**

**On the day a new U.S. postage stamp is first introduced, it is the practice of the U.S. Post Office to hold a ceremony at a location with some tie to the stamp. The pharmacy stamp was introduced in Cincinnati, Ohio, where the American Pharmaceutical Association (now known as the American Pharmacists Association) was then holding its annual meeting.**

**In stamp collecting parlance, a “first day cover” (FDC) refers to postal card or envelope bearing a stamp postmarked on the day of its issuance. Sometimes the postal card or envelope used for the first day cover may contain a printed design or inscription – called a ‘cachet’ (pronounced “ka-chay”) – related in some way to the new stamp. These cachets may be designed and produced by specialized design firms for organizations, businesses, or individuals with a particular interest in the commemorative stamp. Such “cacheted FDCs” are highly collectible.**

**An extensive collection of cacheted FDCs for the 1972 pharmacy stamp has been compiled by pharmacist Daniel Shifrin. His collection began with encouragement and advice from George Griffenhagen, a noted historian of pharmacy and a longtime AIHP member who died in 2019. Mr. Griffenhagen, an avid pharmacy philatelist, wrote the captions describing the cachets in Mr. Shifrin’s collection**

**AIHP thanks Mr. Shifrin for sharing his collection with the Institute and allowing us to exhibit it in our digital library.**





**A first day cover (FDC) is an envelope or post card bearing a stamp, which is cancelled on the day the stamp is initially placed on sale by the postal authorities.**

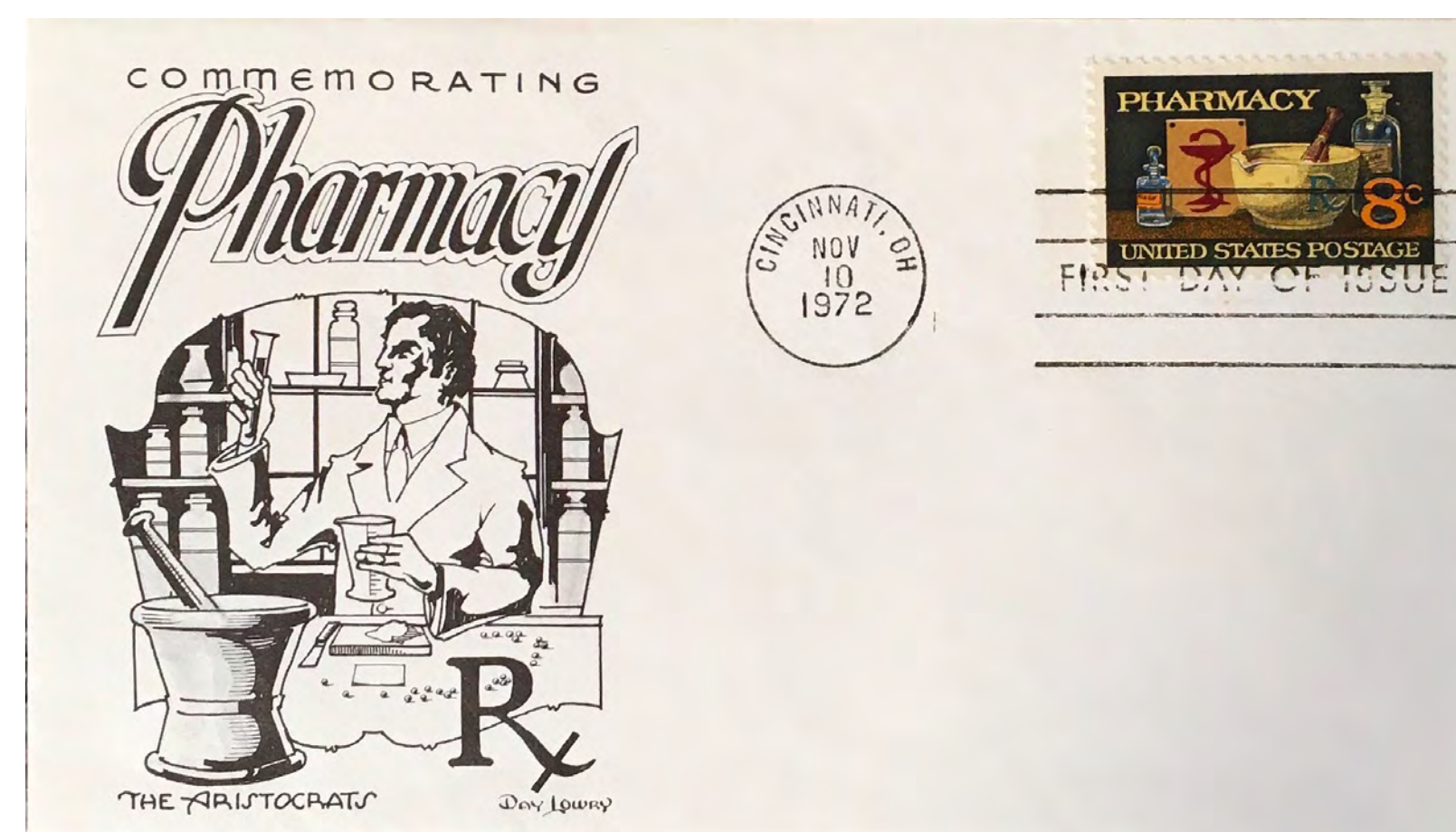
**This slide identifies the components of an FDC. An FDC with the pharmacy stamp (A) is shown above with a Cincinnati, Ohio, “First Day of Issue” cancellation (B). The location of the stamp’s issuance is the only place where the “First Day of Issue” cancellation is used.**

**The FDC cachet (C) is a design or inscription related to the subject matter of the stamp.**





**Anderson Historical First Day Covers with cachet printed in both black and purple by pioneer designer C. Stephen Anderson.**



**Aristocrat Cachets (Wilrens Cover Service) of Richmond, VA (founded 1936) produced this black cachet designed by Dan Lowry.**



**Artopages, operated by Jim Novotny of Bowling Green, OH, featured the cachets of pioneer designer Alton A. Weigel.**



**Artmaster, with C.A. Zoeller of Louisville KY at the helm, produced quality FDCs, including this black cachet.**

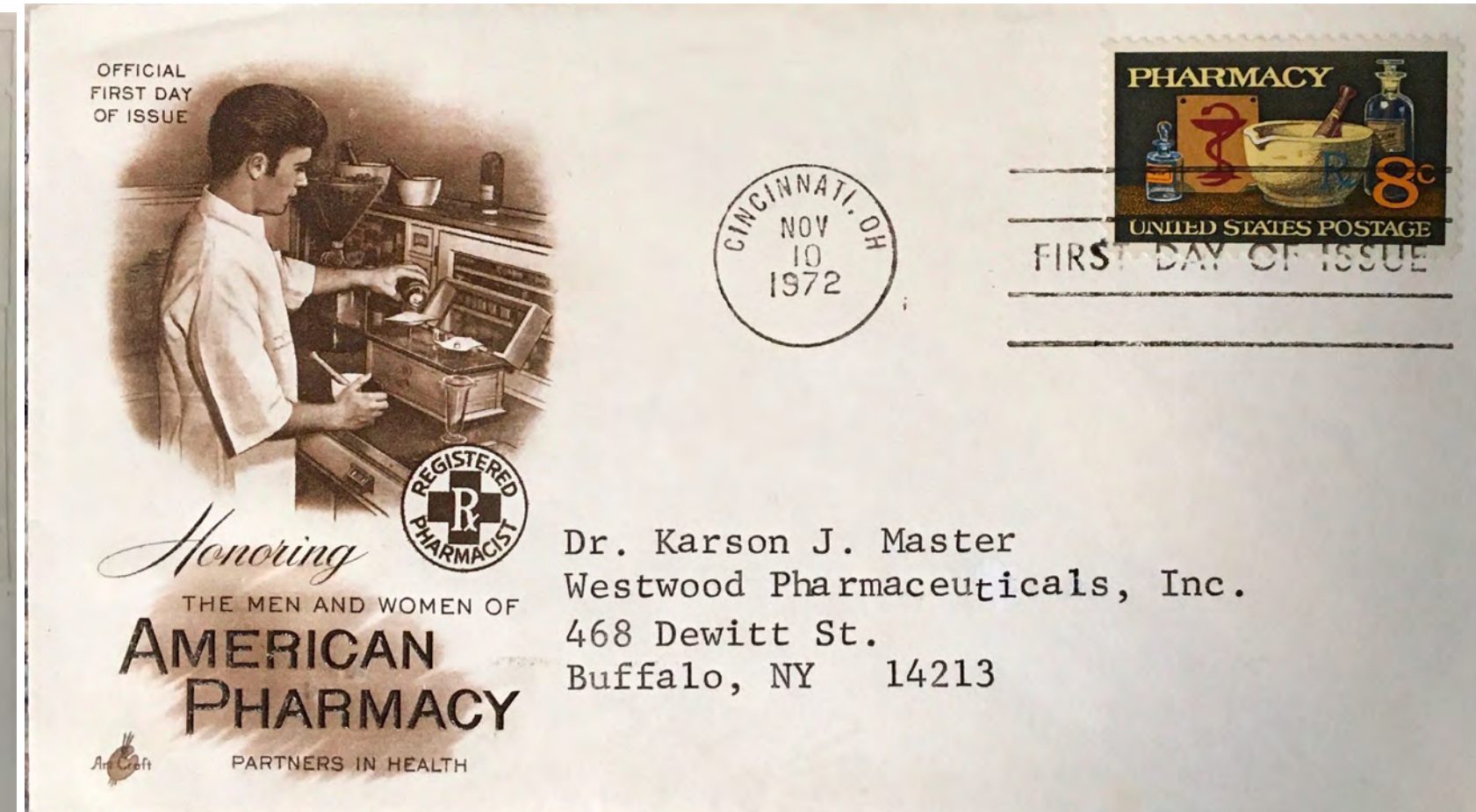


**Schering Corp. created its own cachet, which was printed in sepia by Artcraft. Schering used the same illustration on a large souvenir plaque.**



**Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp. created this orange and black cachet for their FDC.**

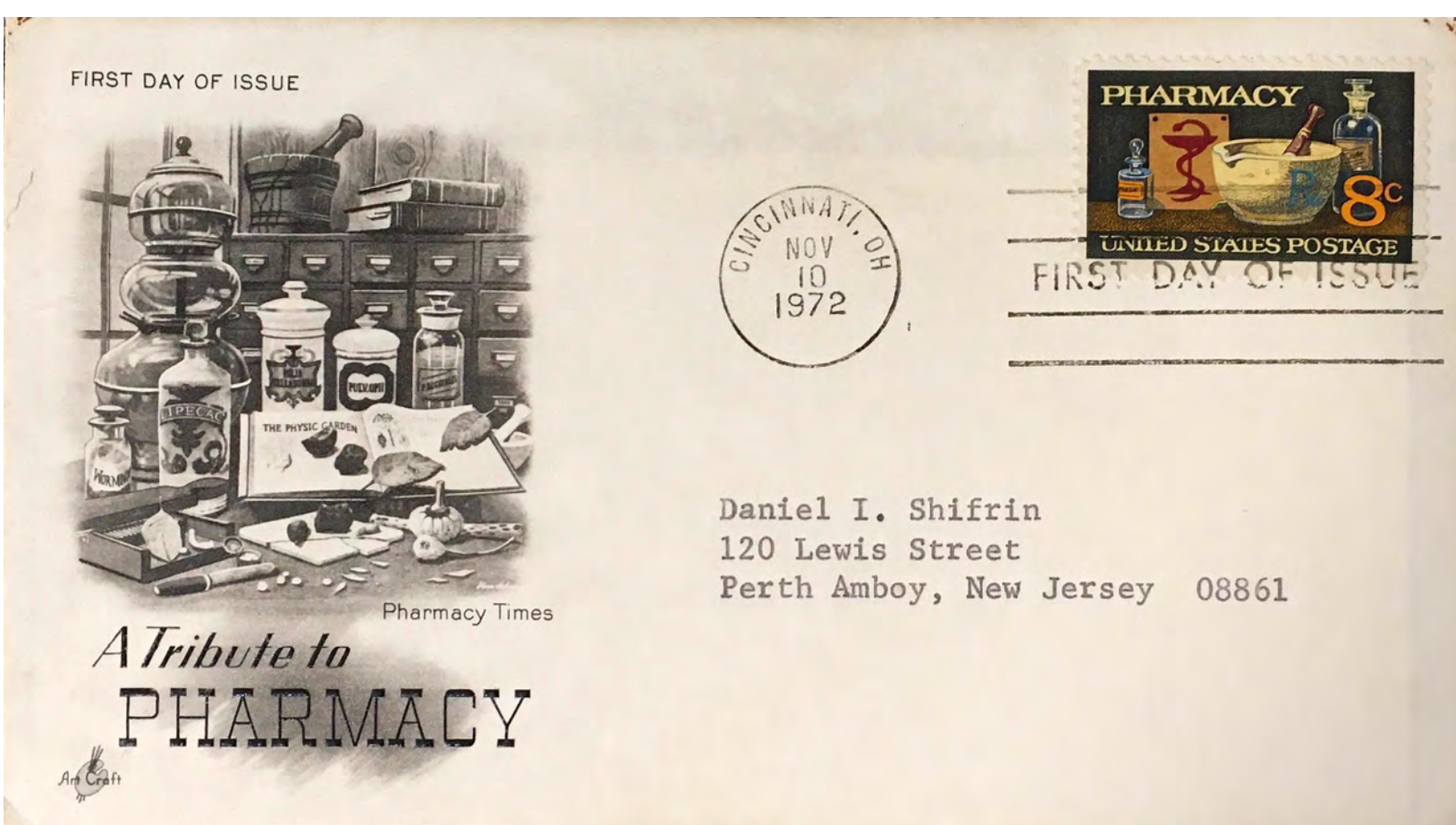




**Artcraft, Washington Press (Maplewood, NJ), founded by Leo August with his brother, pharmacist Samuel August, produced this cachet.**

**ICI America Inc. used the Artcraft cachet printed in brown with insert signed by W.K. Abbott, Marketing Manager, Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics.**

**Drug Topics adapted the Artcraft cachet printed in blue for its FDC of the pharmacy stamp.**



**Pharmacy Times had Stevan Dohanos create a special cachet entitled “Pharmacy Memorabilia.” Insert signed by Irving Rubin, Editor.**

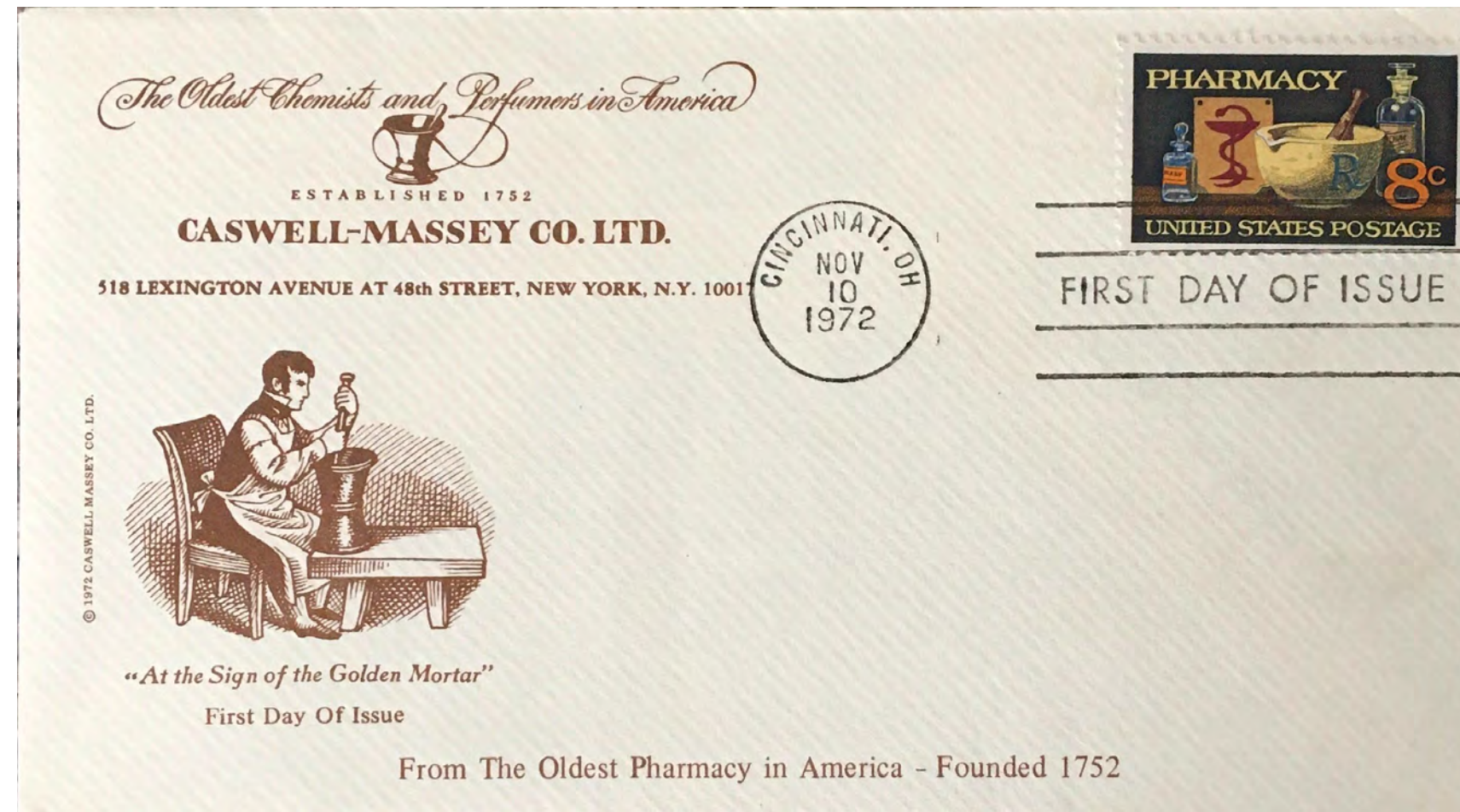
**David “C” Cachets offered an alternate printed cachet which was hand colored by David Pritchard, Jr.**

**David “C” Cachets, operated By David Pritchard, Jr., of Thomas, KY, selected the pharmacy coat of arms as the black printed cachet.**





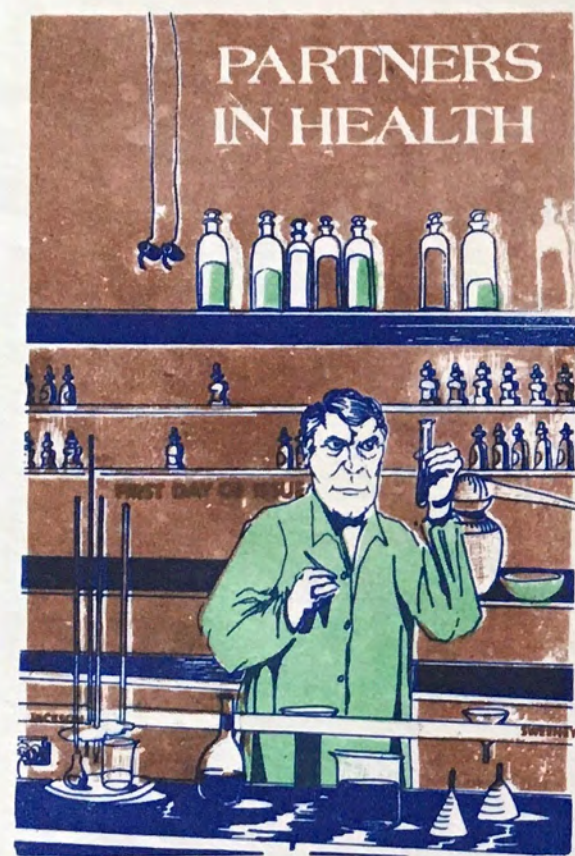
**Ellis Animated Covers offered a humorous approach with a multicolor cachet by Richard Ellis of Mountain Terrace, WA**



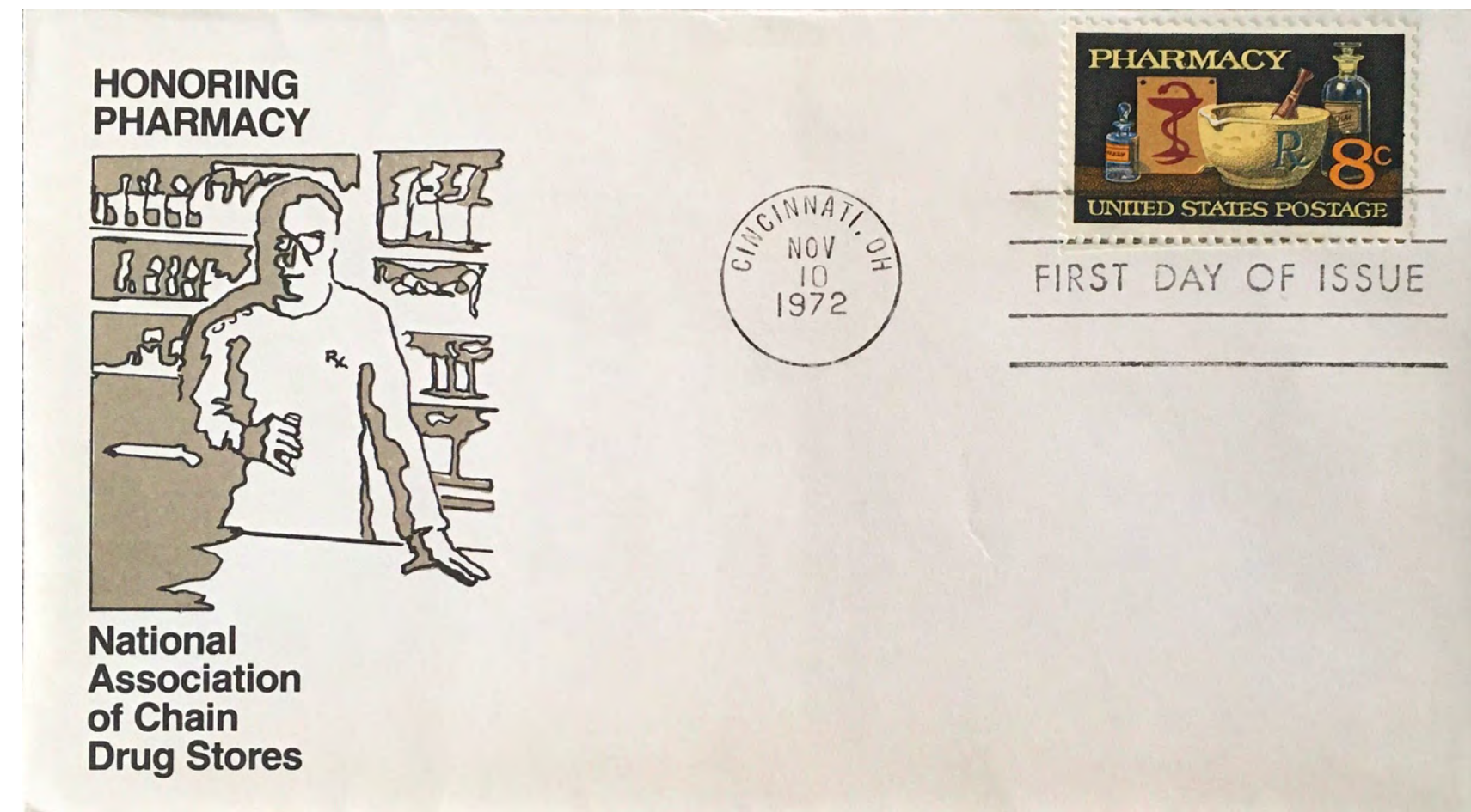
**Caswell-Massey Co. produced this sepia cachet on ivory cover describing themselves as “The Oldest Pharmacy In America.”**



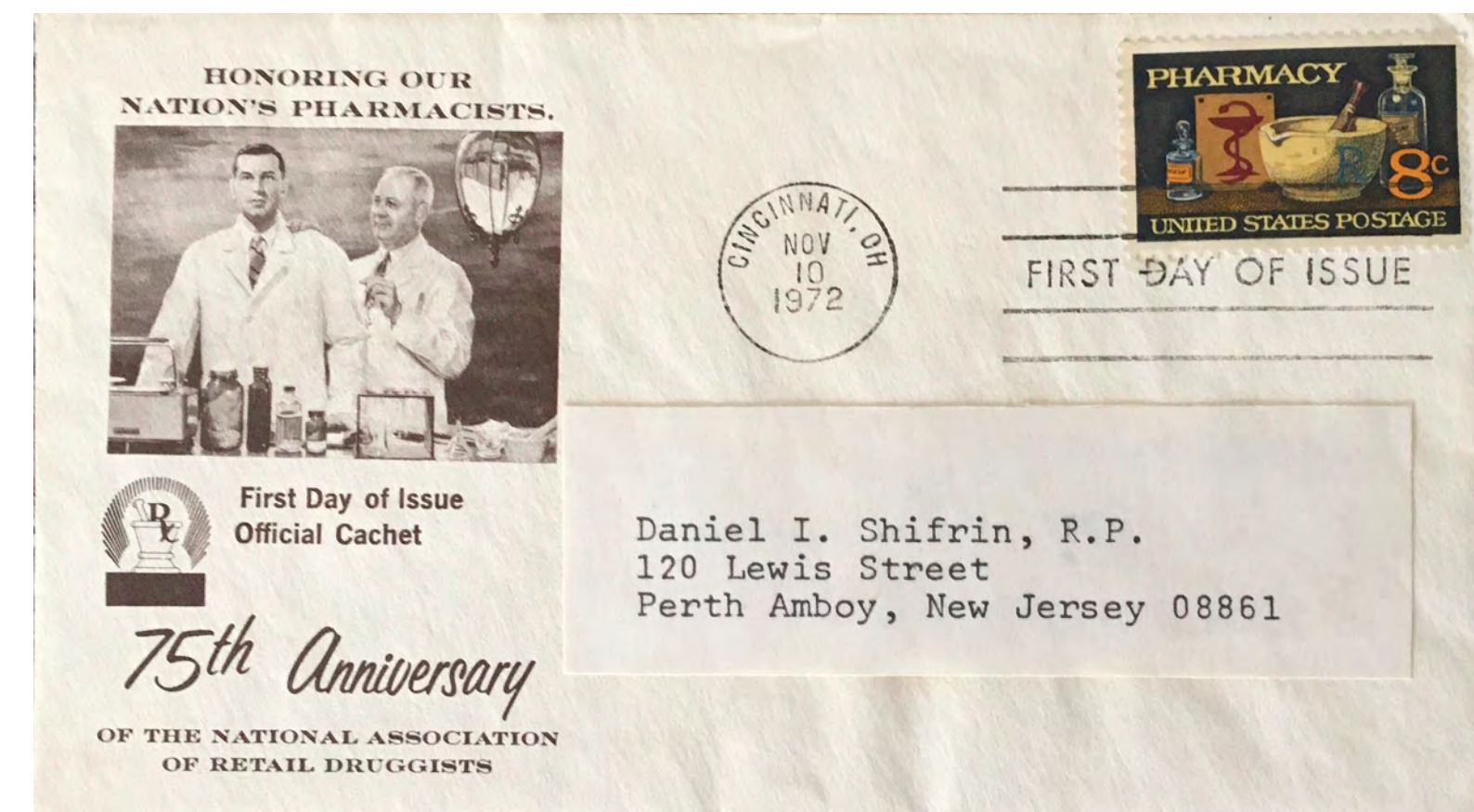
**Overseas Mailers of Hicksville, NY, featured the brown, green, and blue Jackson cachet, plus an auxiliary red cachet from Caswell-Massey of New York.**



**Jackson Cover Service of Plainfield, NJ, provided this brown, green, and blue cachet inscribed Jackson Sweeney First Day Of Issue.**

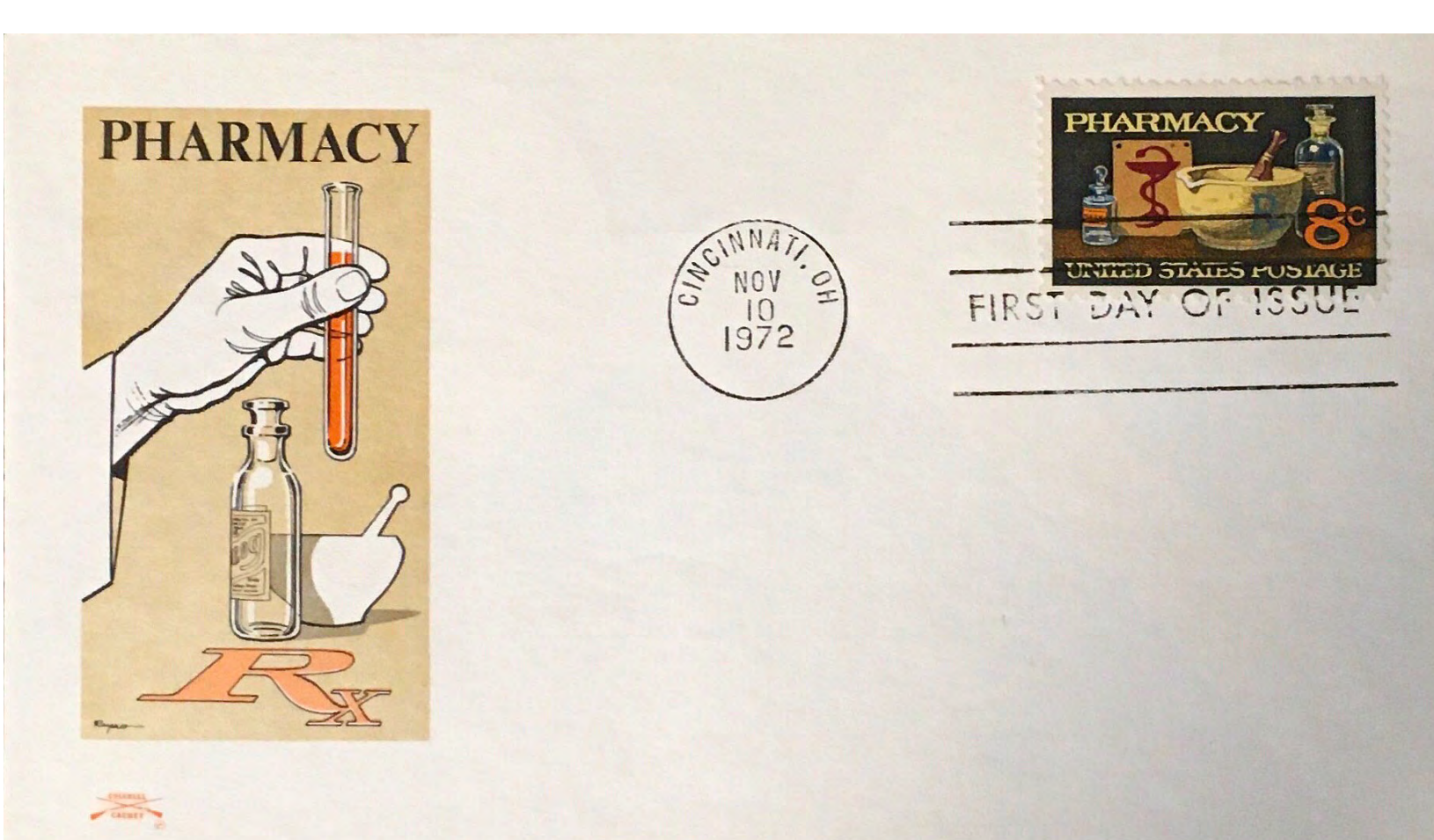


**The National Association of Chain Store Drug Stores prepared this black and tan cachet “Honoring Pharmacy”.**



**National Association of Retail Druggists developed this brown cachet from Parke-Davis.**

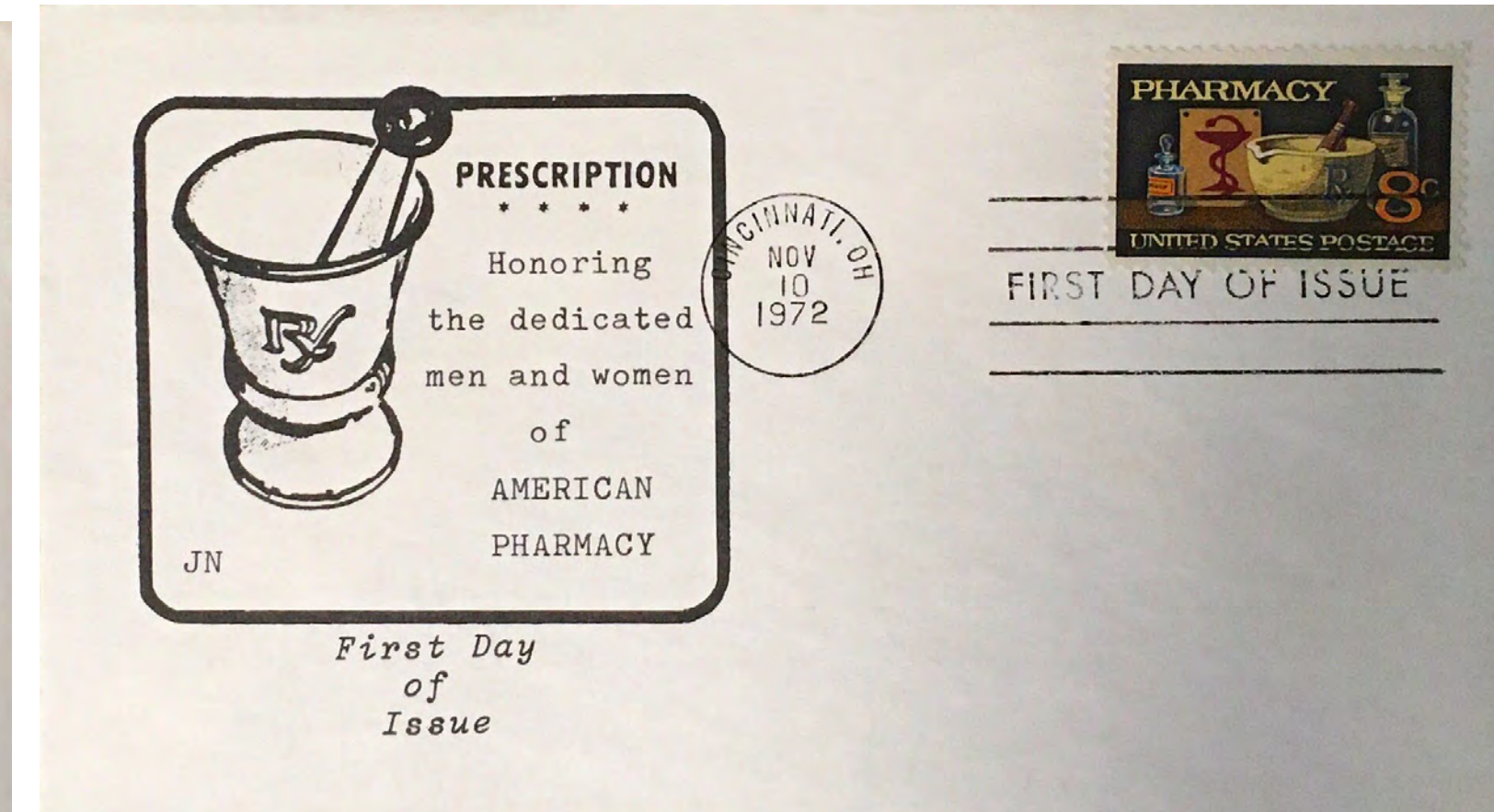




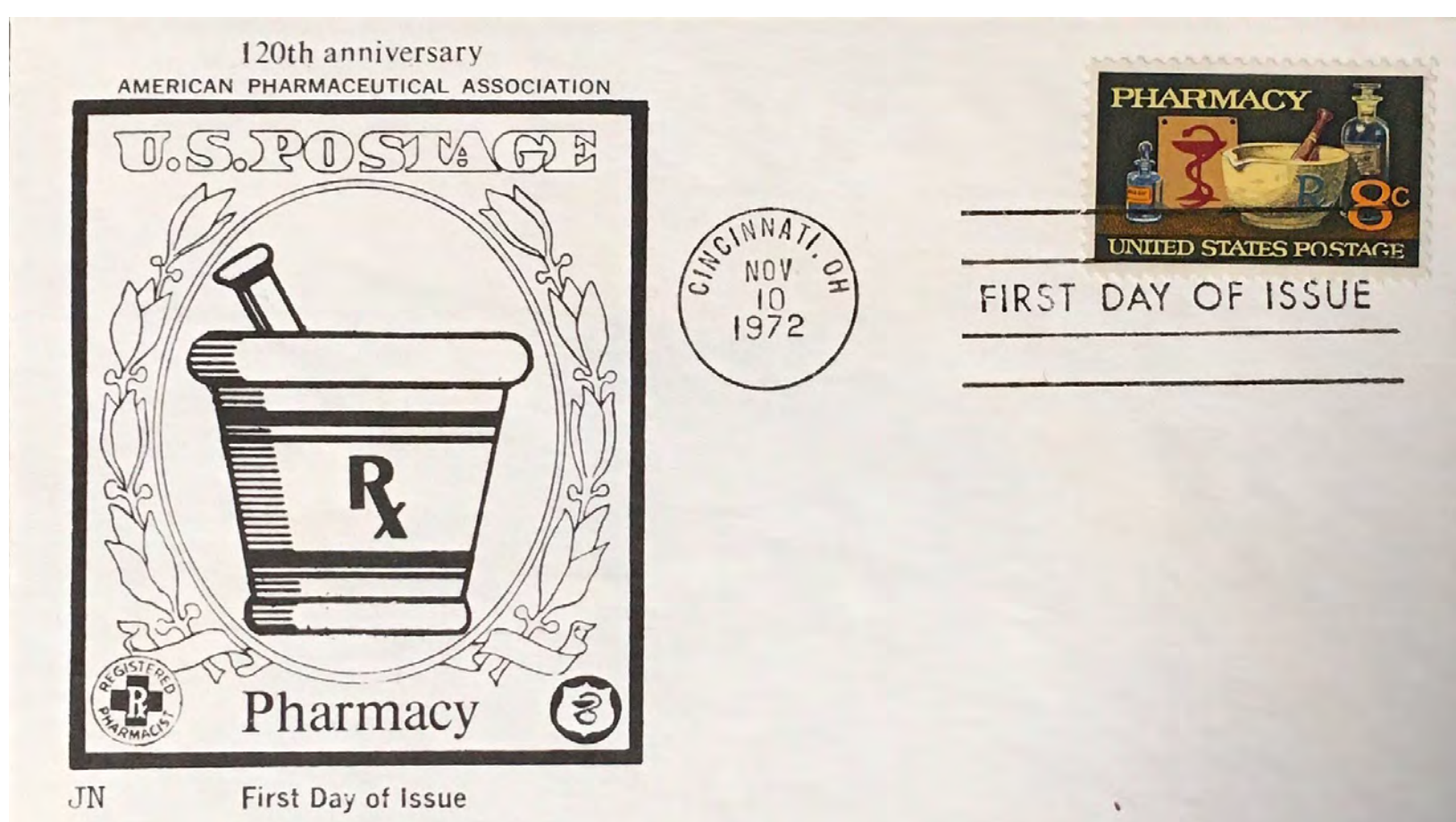
**Colonial Cachet by Robert F. Rinse of Warren, MI created this black, tan, and orange cachet.**



**The Hamilton County Pharmaceutical Association, Cincinnati OH, issued this black cachet designed by E. Inman. It credits William Davies as opening the first American pharmacy in Boston.**



**JN Cachets, operated by Charles E. Nicklin of Muncie, IN, promoted this black cachet via the American Pharmaceutical Association Journal.**



**JN Cachets added a second black cachet recognizing the 120th anniversary of the American Pharmaceutical Association.**



**JN Cachets offered a third black cachet with the APhA logo.**



**Geigy Pharmaceuticals used this black and gold cachet for its FDC with insert signed by Jack Shotsberger, VP, Marketing.**





**Fleetwood of Cheyenne, WY, produced this engraved black and green cover. The same cover was also made with a silver or bronze medallion.**



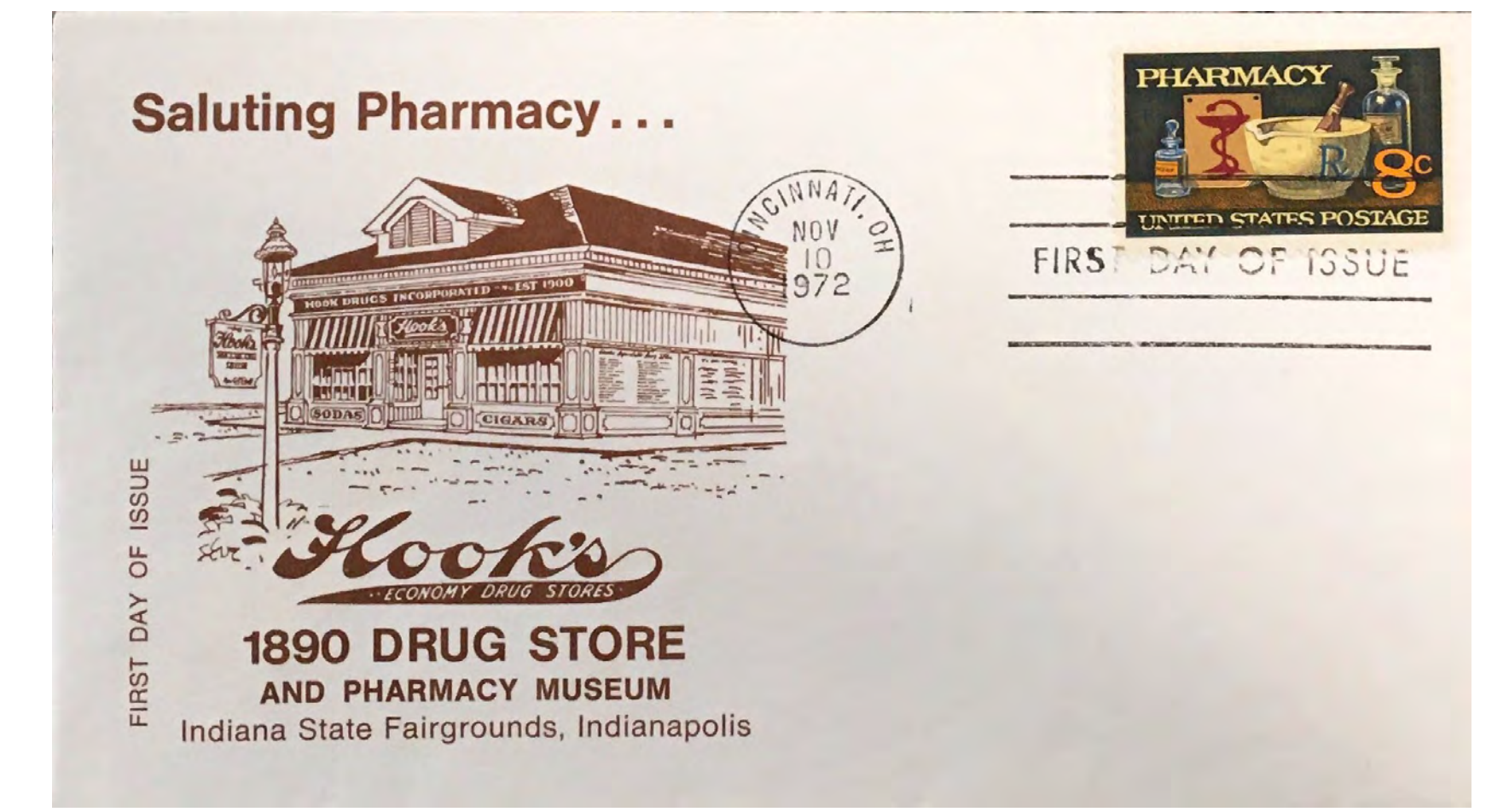
**Bazaar Cachets, launched by Herb Benjamin of West Newton, MA, produced this black, sepia, and orange cachet.**



**House of Farnham is America's oldest steel die engraved FDC producer. This red and blue cachet was designed by Ralph Zimmerman.**



**Eli Lilly and Company used this black, burnt orange, and blue cachet to honor the profession of pharmacy.**



**Hook's 1890 Drug Store and Pharmacy Museum is featured on this brown cachet "Saluting Pharmacy." The museum is located on the Indiana State Fairgrounds.**

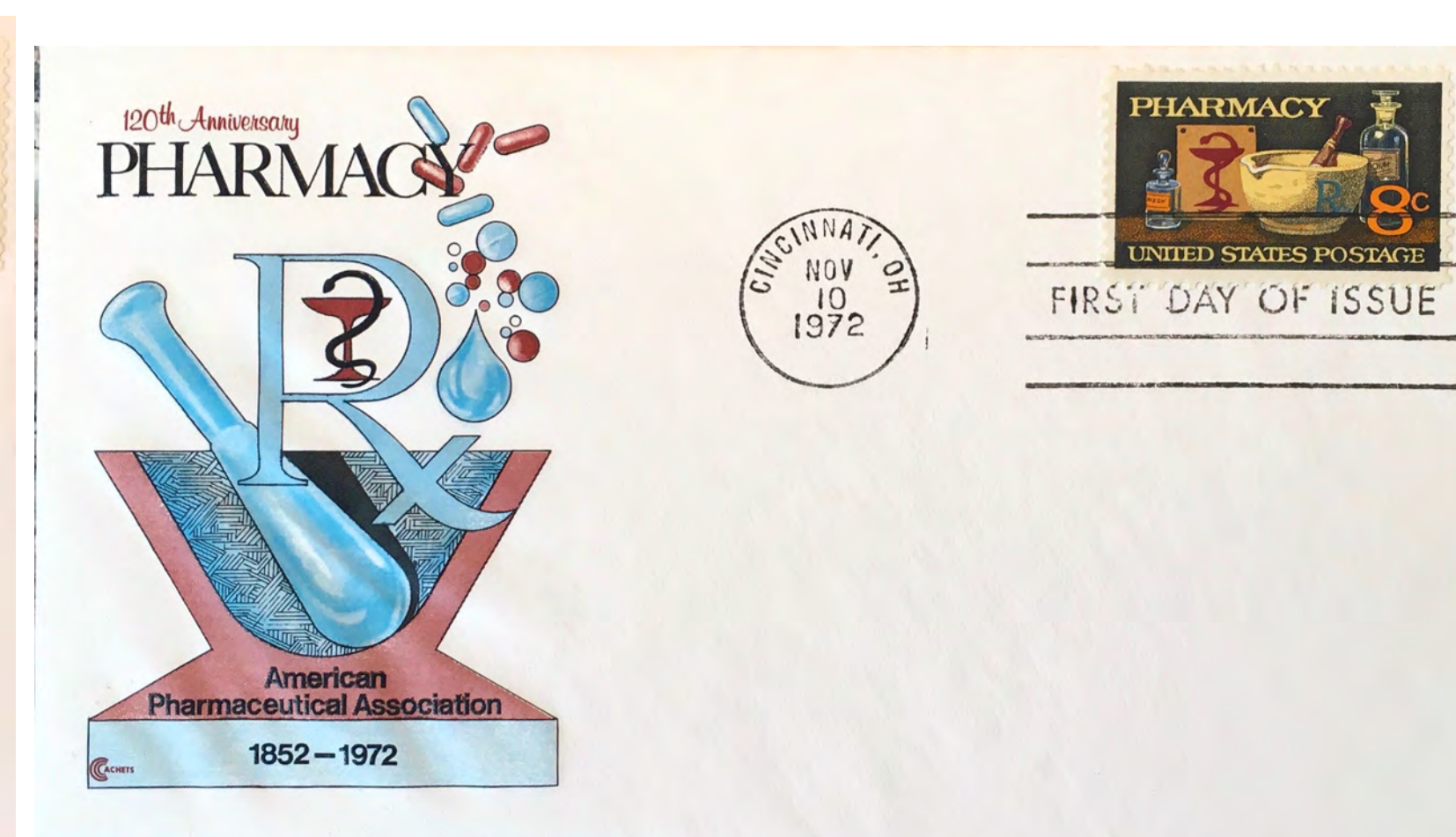


**Hook's Drug Stores of Indianapolis, IN, issued a brown cachet which records the company's first pharmacy, founded in 1900.**





**Hook's Drug Stores added this green cachet recognizing the chain's 75th anniversary.**



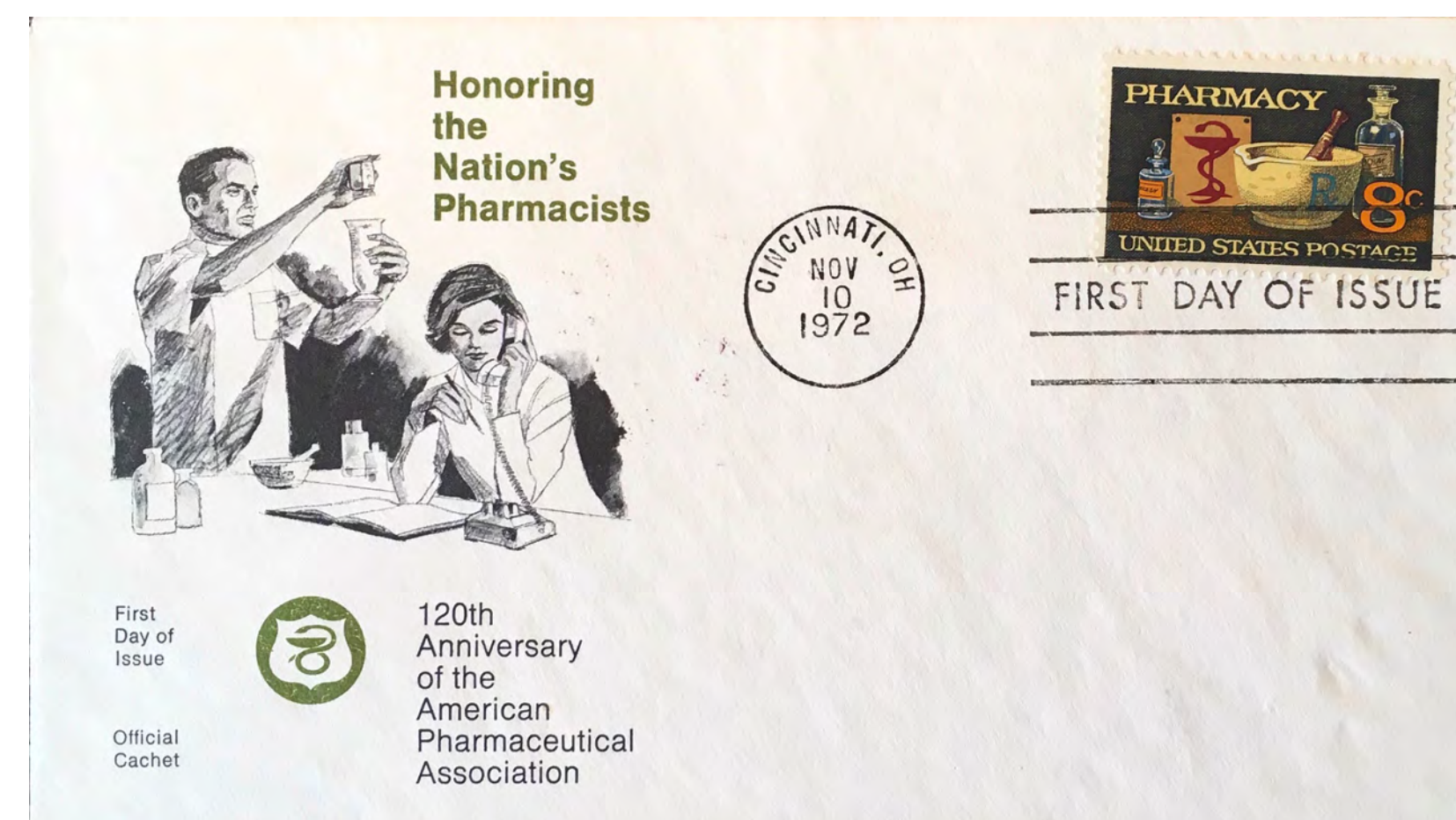
**Cover Craft Cachets of Patterson, NJ created this red, blue, and black cachet with an insert describing the symbols of the pharmacy stamp.**



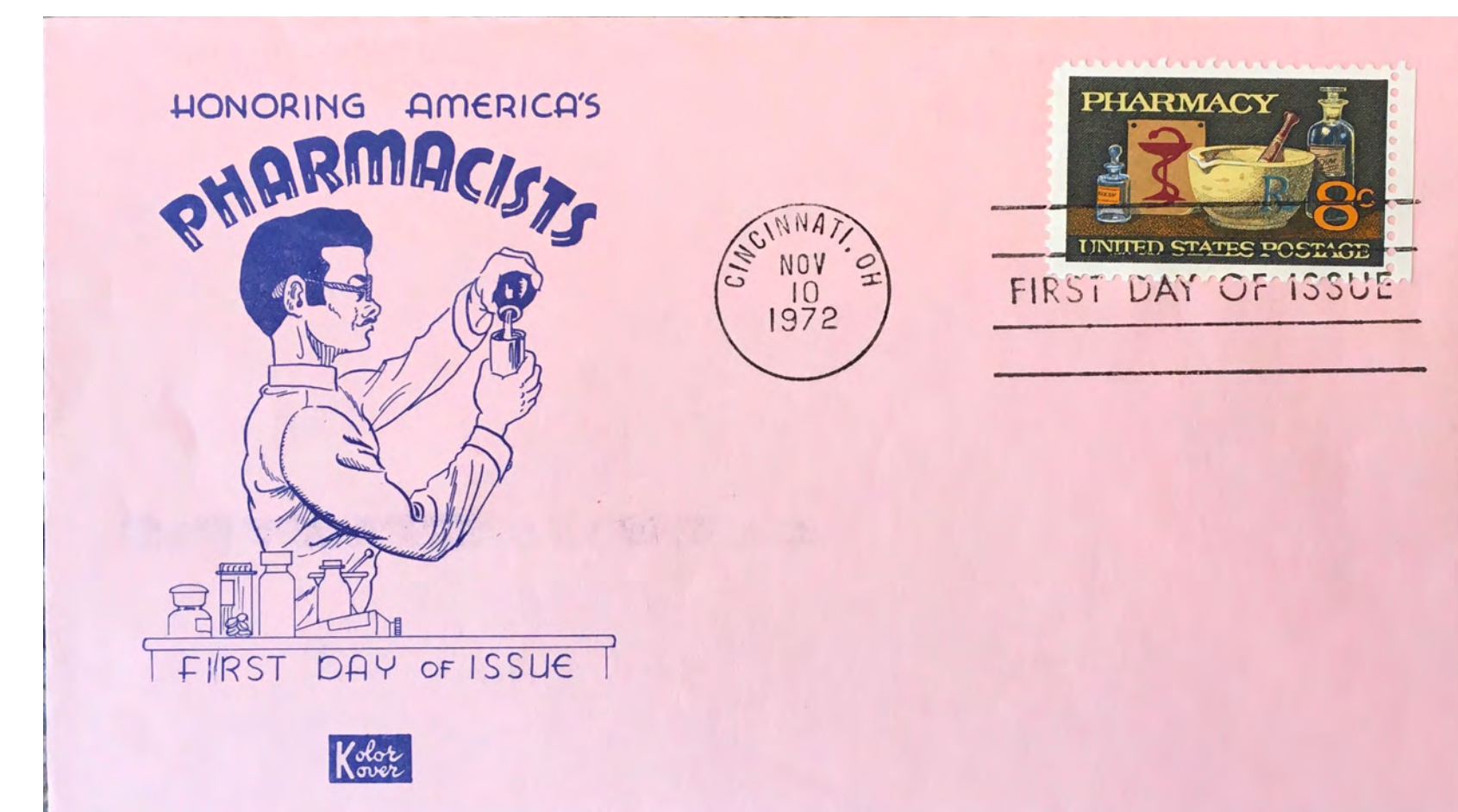
**Unknown green, orange, and violet cachet hand drawn on an air mail envelope.**



**American Druggists' Insurance Co. of Cincinnati, OH produced this black cachet with blue eagle and insert.**



**The American Pharmaceutical Association's "official" cachet, in black and green, was designed by Bernard Sanders.**



**Kolor Kover, Norman Thomas of Jackson, MI, obtained the services of Hiriam I. Swindall to create this cachet printed in blue on both white and pink covers.**

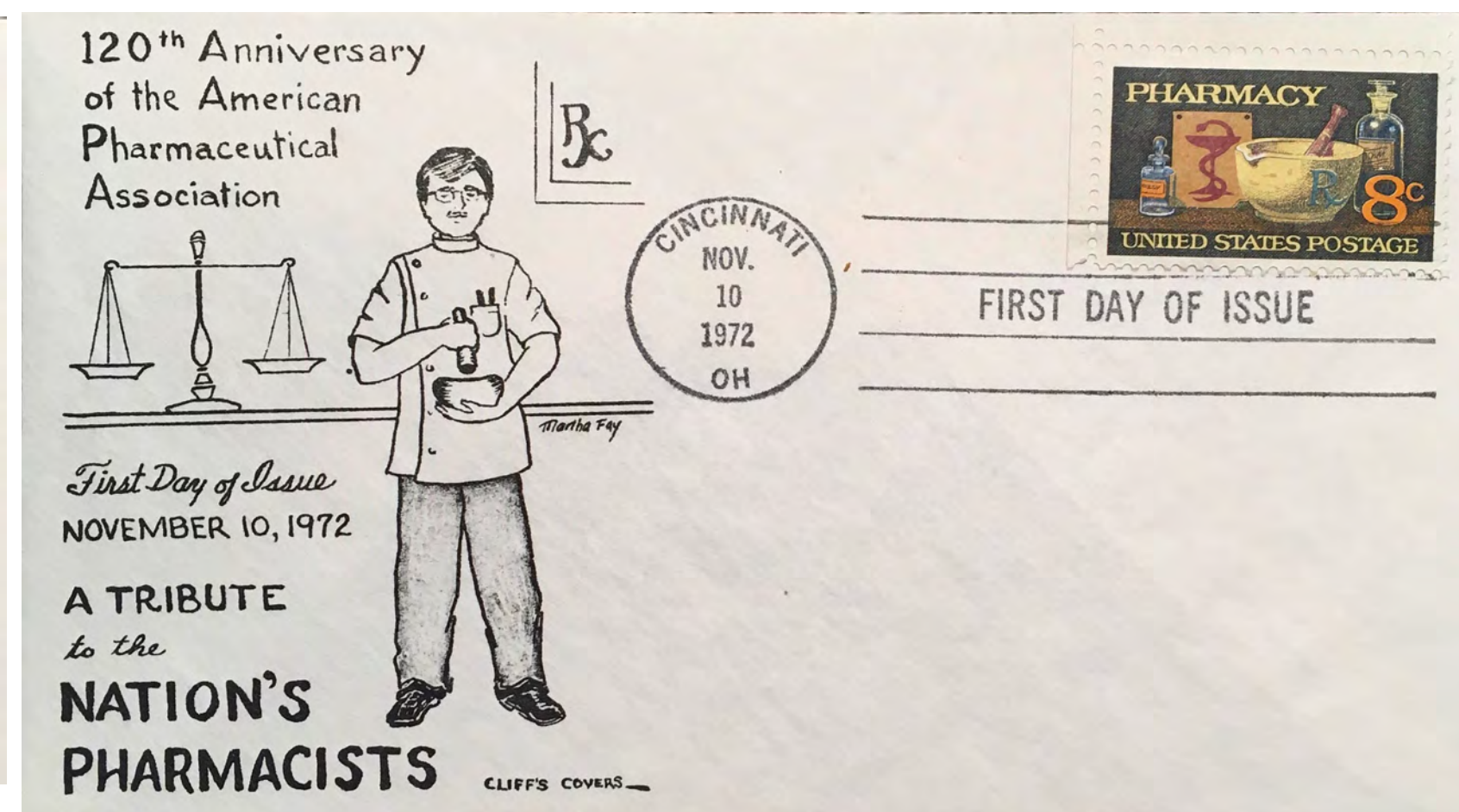




**Lorstan Cachets of Stratford, CT, offered this black engraved with blue printing cachet.**



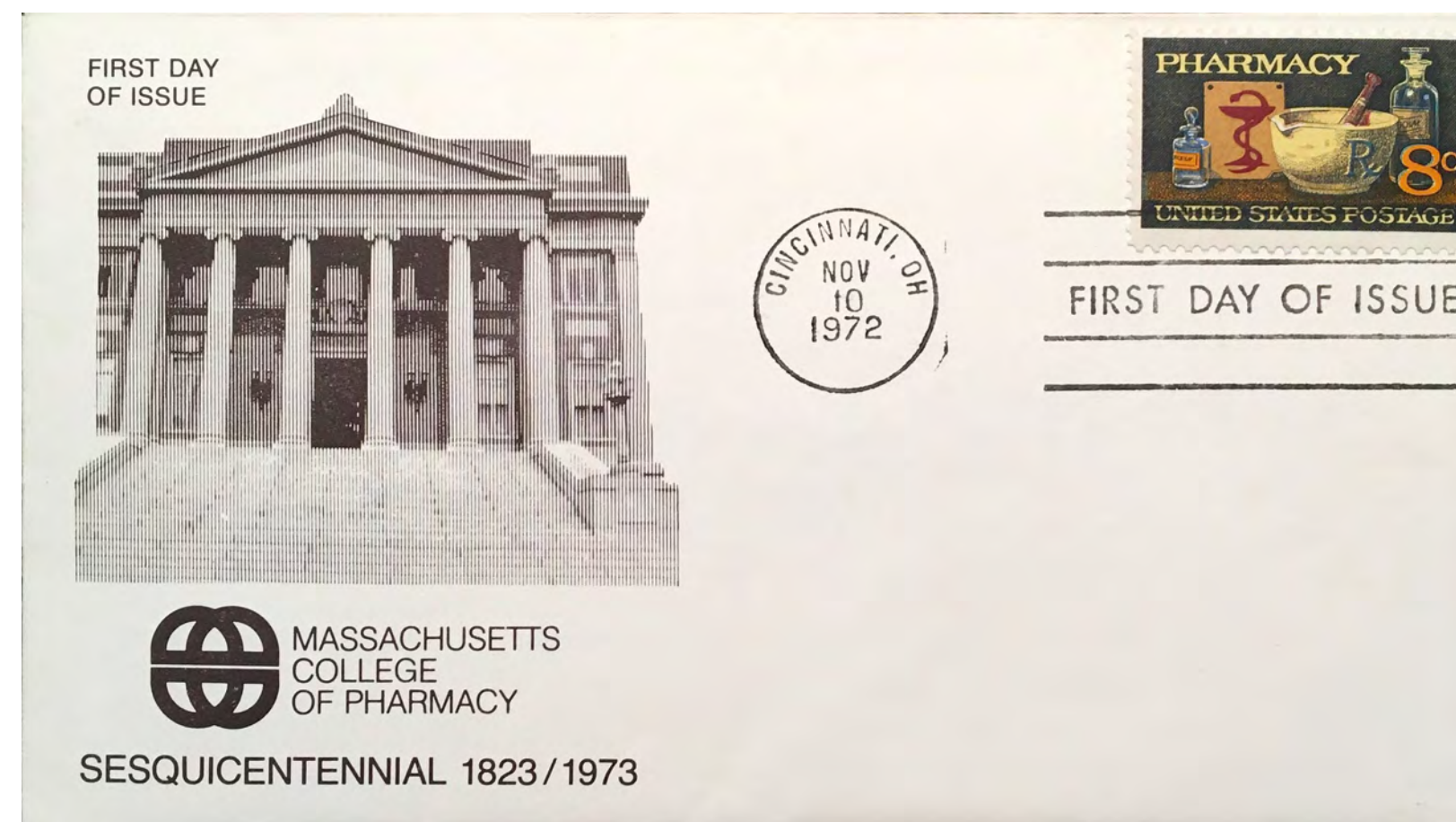
**Marg, the trade name of Edmund J. Shea of Wellesley, MA, operating as Shea Advertising, featured duo tone cachets such as this one.**



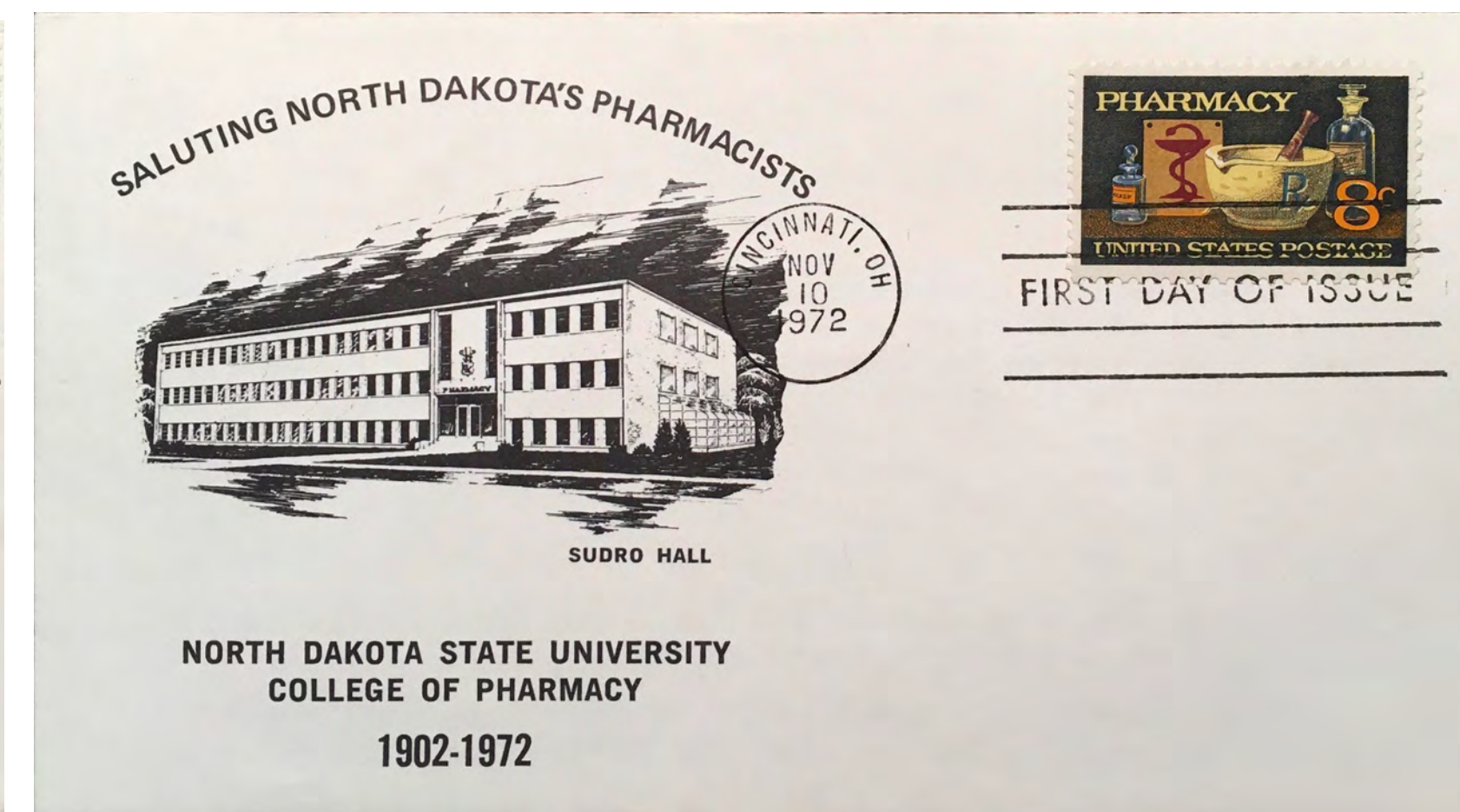
**Cliff's Covers, operated by Clifford Elliot of Sycamore, IL, had Martha Fay design this black cachet.**



**Motor City Stamp & Cover Club FDC was prepared by Maurice L. Ouellette of Allen Park, MI. The cachet is burnt orange.**



**Massachusetts College Of Pharmacy's black cachet observes the beginning of its sesquicentennial year.**



**North Dakota State University College Of Pharmacy's black cachet was developed by the Fargo-Moorhead Stamp Club.**





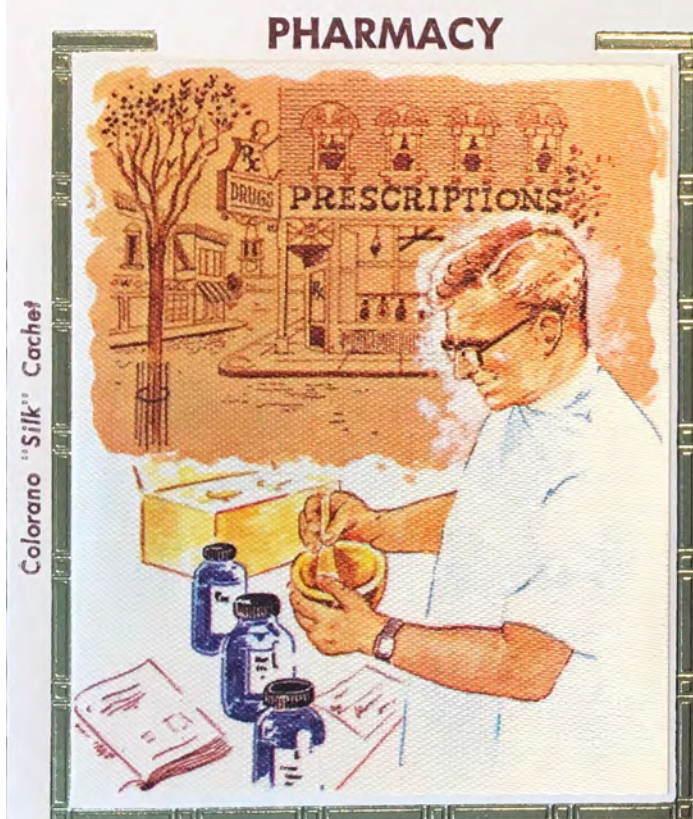
McDOWELL APOTHECARY SHOP  
DANVILLE, KENTUCKY  
1795-1972

First Drug Store West Of The  
Allegheny Mountains



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**George W. Grinder of Danville, KY,  
had this black cachet of the McDowell  
Apothecary Shop.**



PHARMACY

PRESCRIPTIONS

First Day of Issue



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**Colorado ‘Silk’ Cachet launched a new era  
in FDC collecting when Ray Novak of  
Bellrose, NY, applied multicolor silk  
cachets to covers.**

The Tri-State Cover Society

HONORS



SECUNDUM ARTEM

The Men and Women of Pharmacy

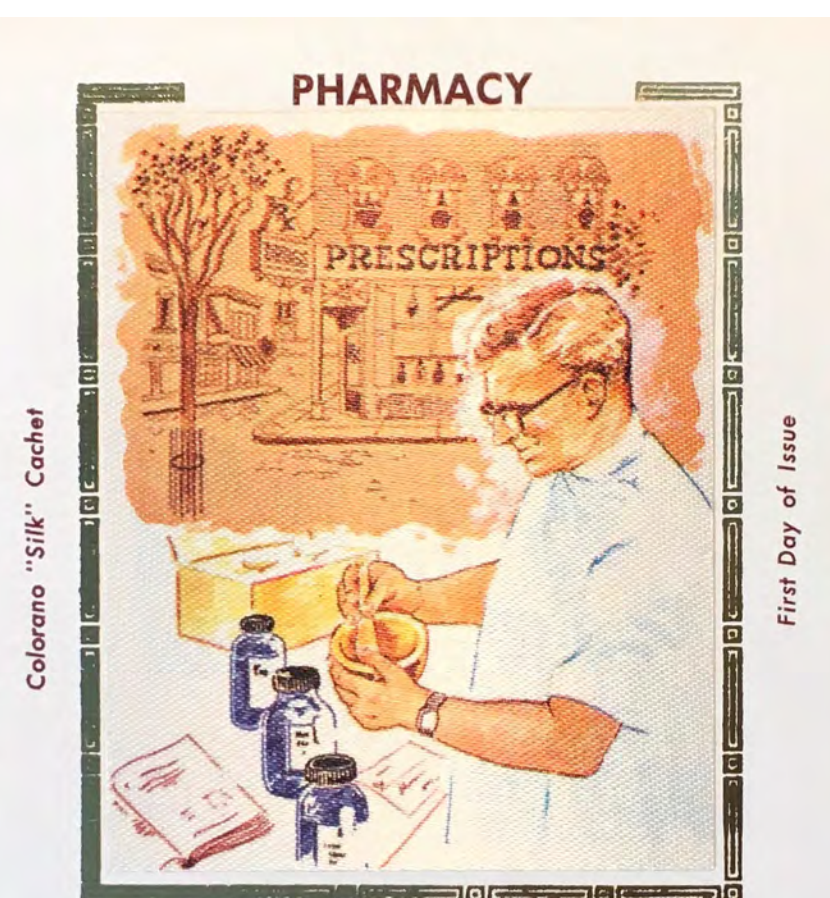


FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**Tri-State Cover Society of Cincinnati,  
OH featured this green and red cachet  
prepared by Ralph A. Weil.**



INTERIOR OF THE A. SPIEGEL DRUG STORE MILWAUKEE WIS.



PHARMACY

PRESCRIPTIONS

First Day of Issue

Colorado "Silk" Cachet



FIRST

UNITED STATES POSTAGE

**Colorado  
“Silk” Cachets  
also issued an  
FDC as a 3  
1/4” by 5 1/2”  
card.**

PHARMEX

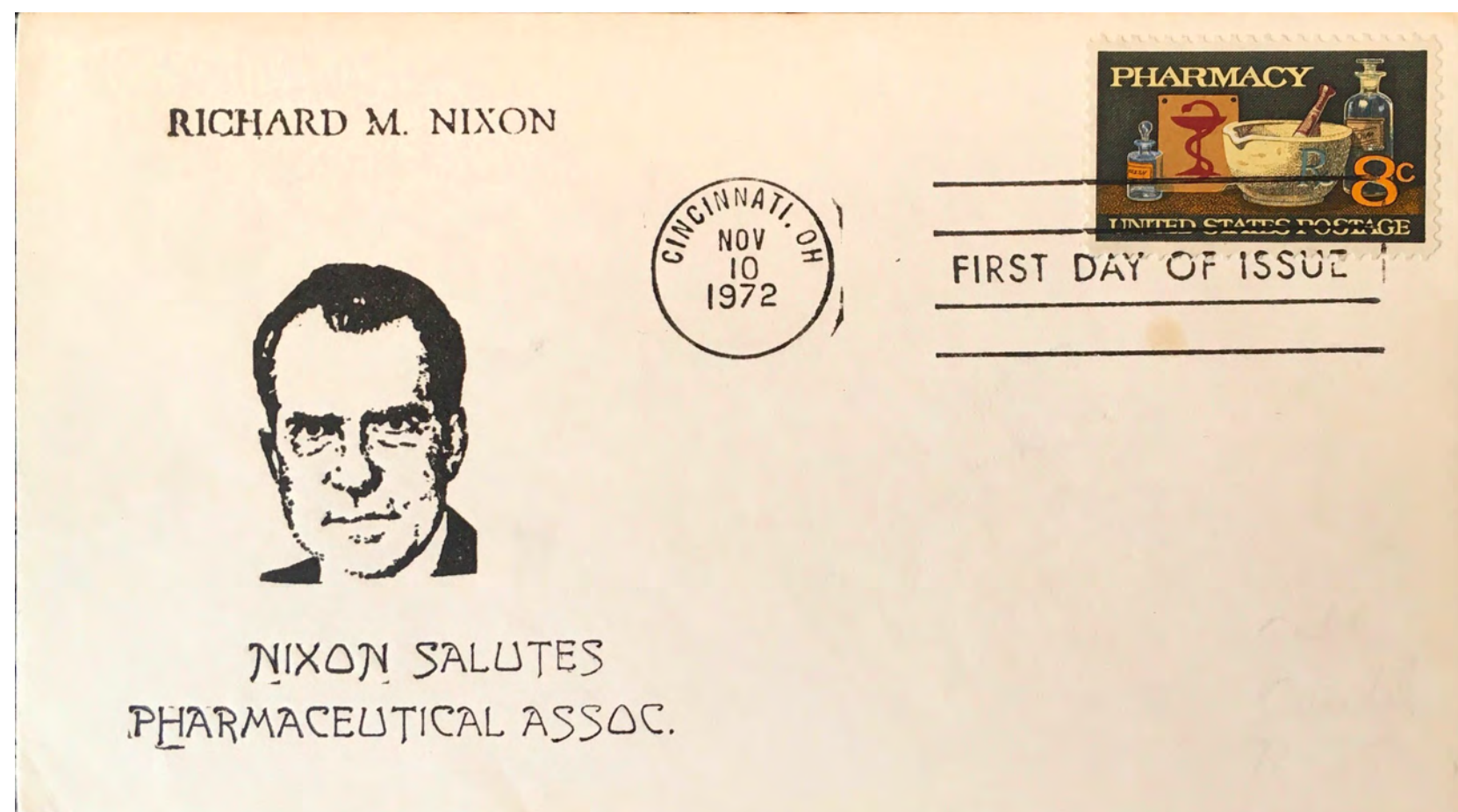


First All-Pharmacy  
Philatelic Exhibit

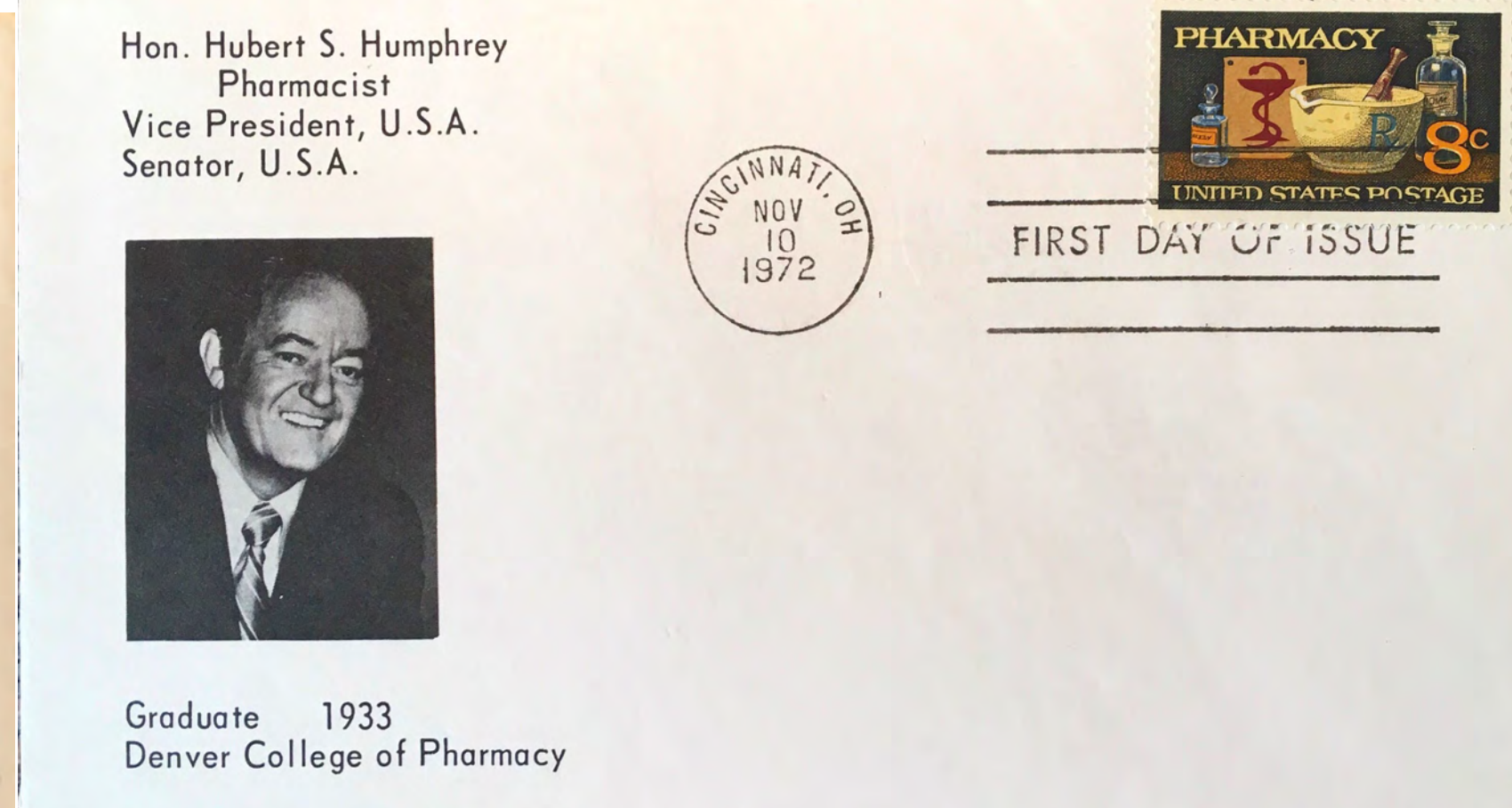


**This red cachet received a special  
“Pharmex Station” cancellation in  
conjunction with the “First All-  
Pharmacy Philatelic Exhibit.”**

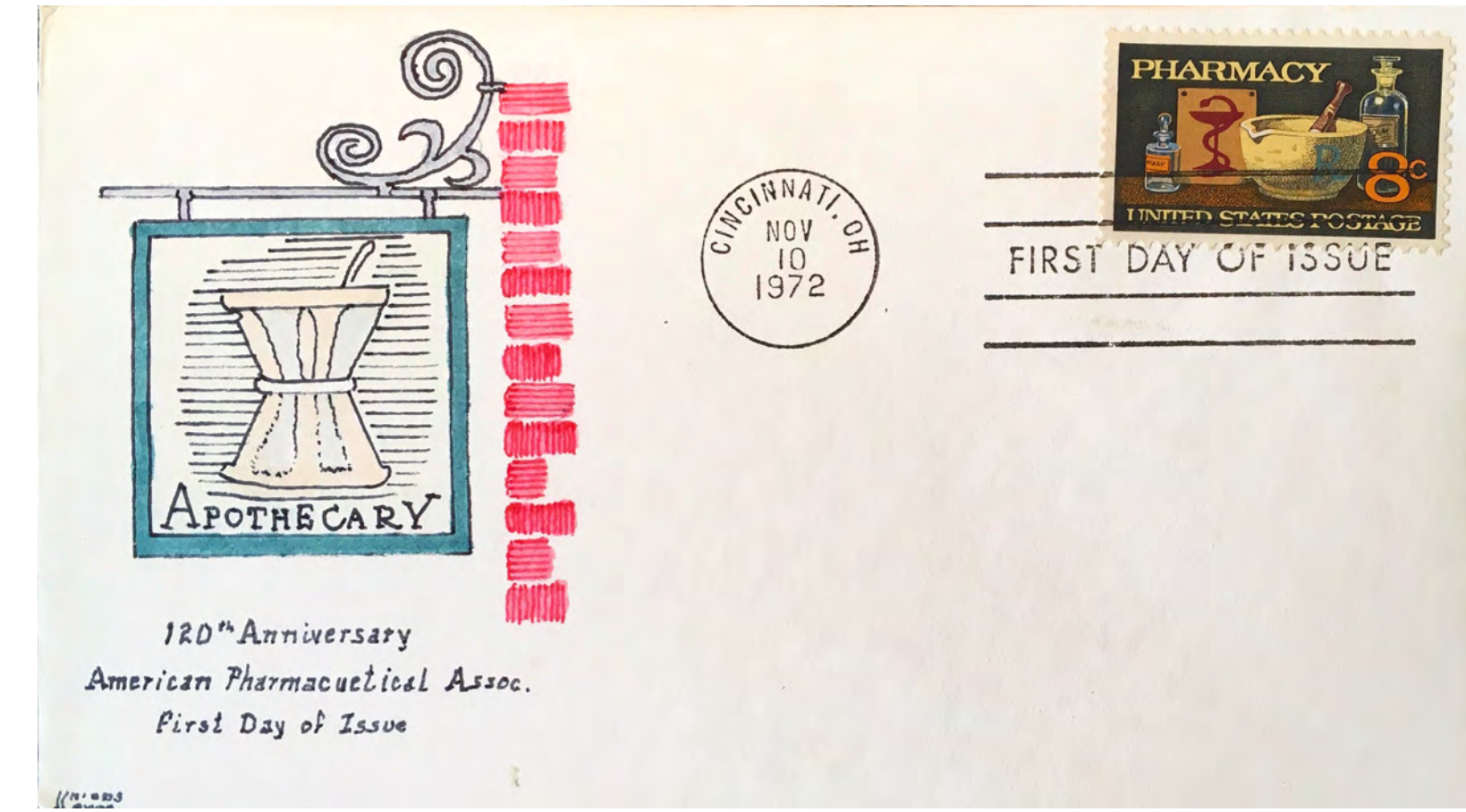




**George H. Golden Of Canton, TX, prepared this black cachet having Richard M. Nixon saluting the (American) Pharmaceutical Association.**



**Andrew T. Cavacos of Baltimore, MD, prepared this black printed cachet incorrectly identifying “Hubert H. Humphrey” As “Hubert S.”**



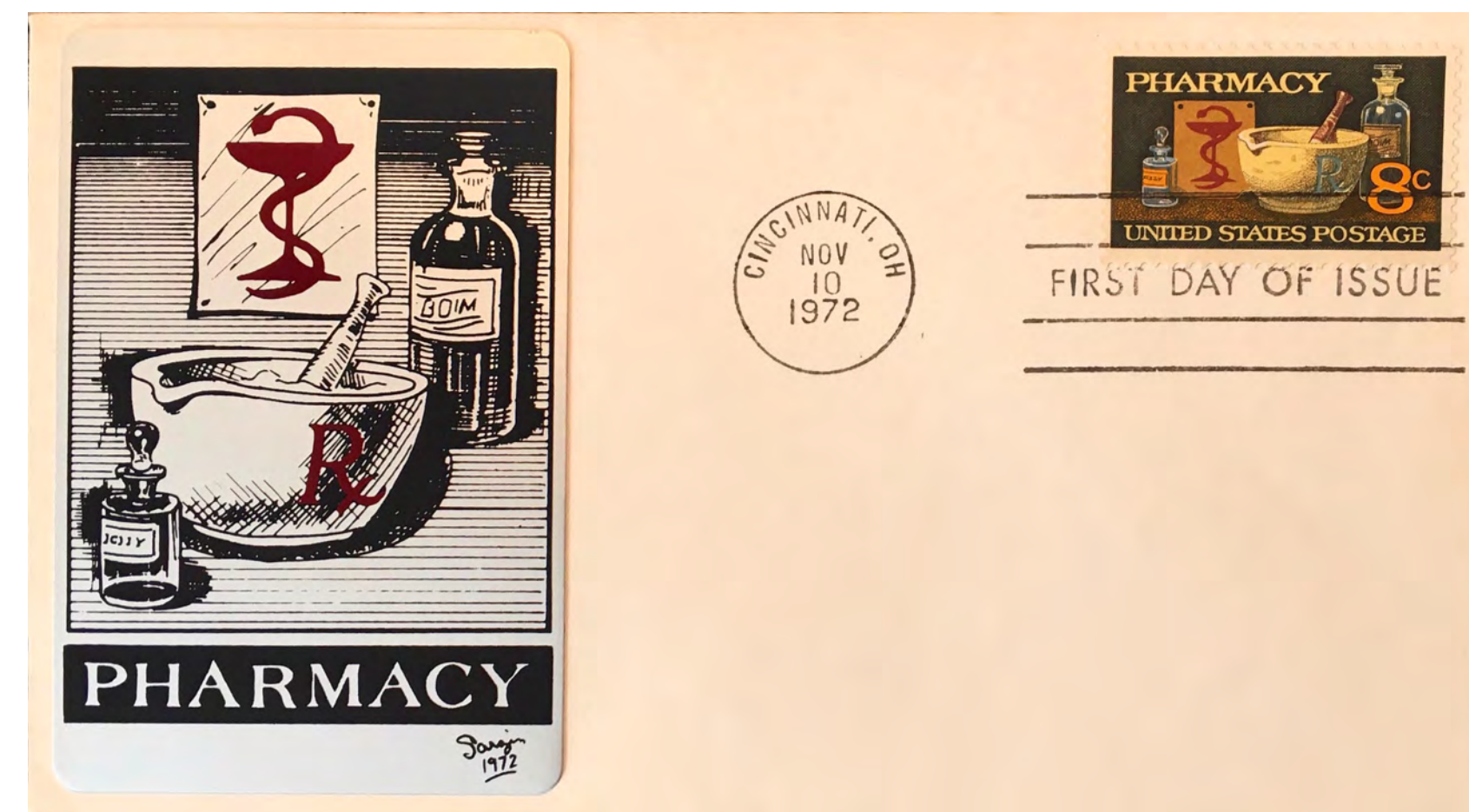
**Ken Kribbs of Kribbs’s Kovers, Jekyll Island, GA, produced this hand-drawn cachet honoring the 120th anniversary of the American Pharmaceutical Association.**



**Frank J. Ulrich of Sun City, CA produced this yellow, orange, and blue hand-drawn cachet.**

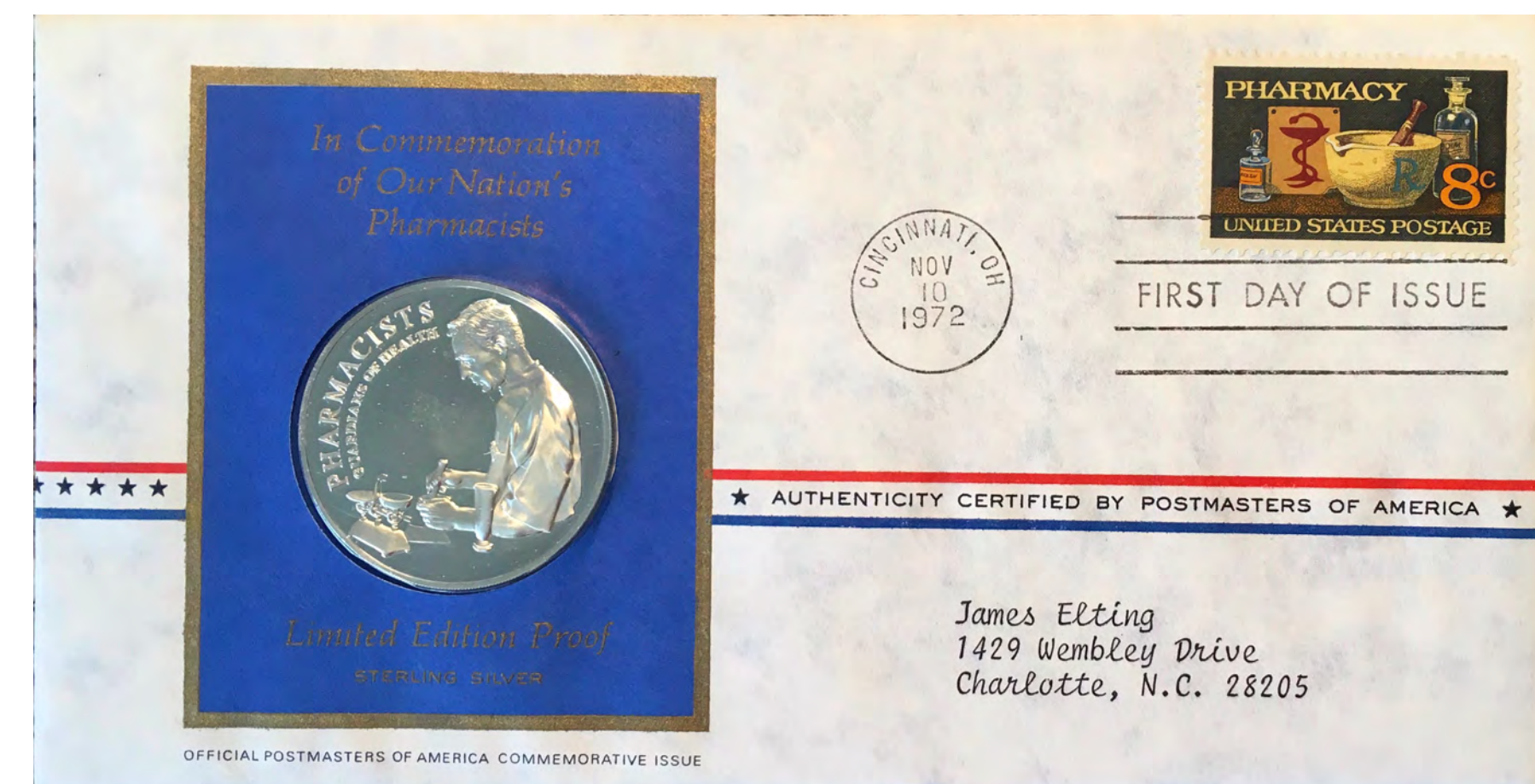


**Ross Foil Cachets, produced by Ross Wetreich of Long Island, NY, featured a metallic foil cachet.**



**Sarzin Metallic, created by Clyde J. Sarzin, offered this black and red metallic cachet.**

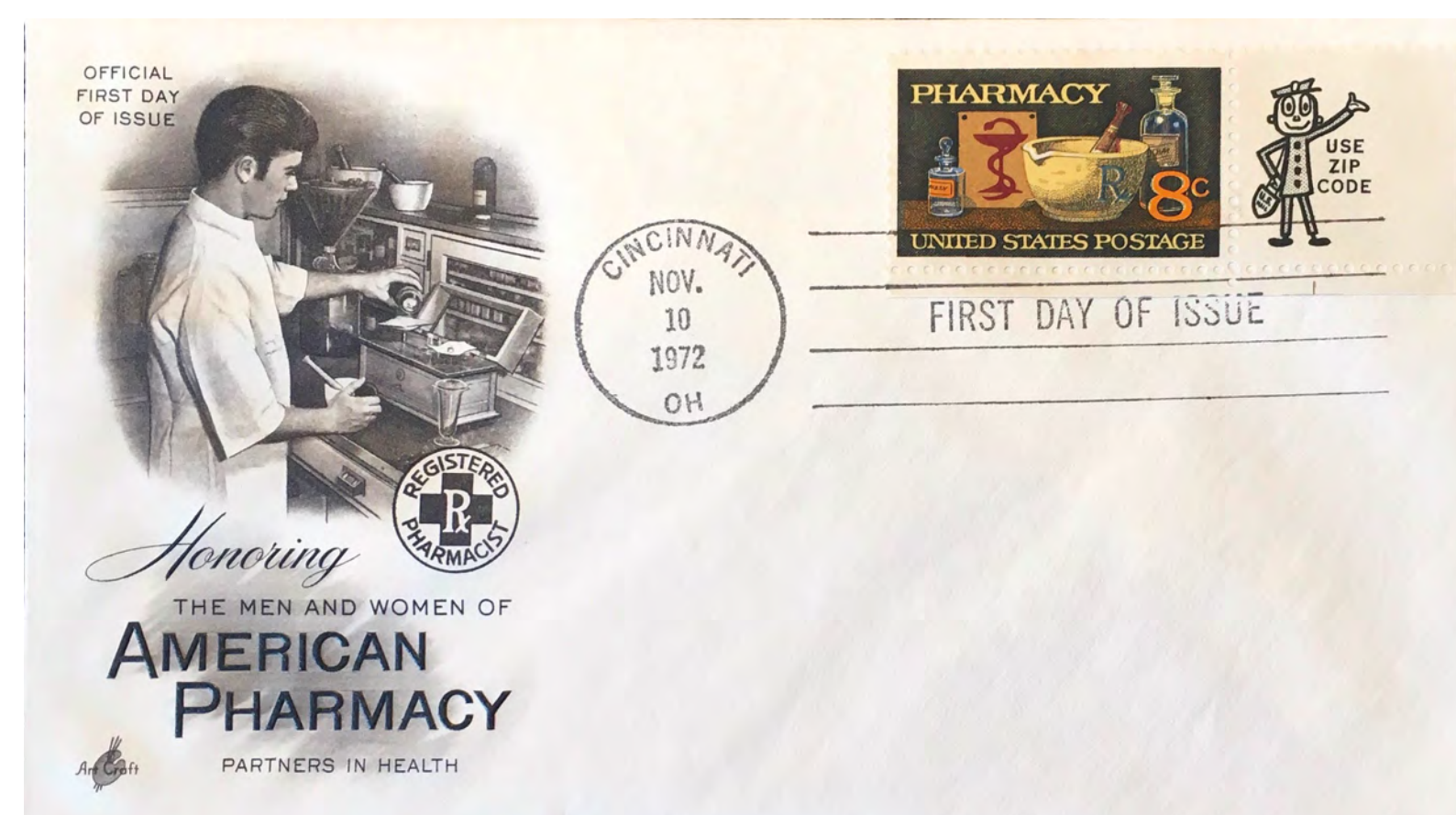




Southern Commemorative Society of Birmingham, AL offered these unique philatelic covers with silver (above) or bronze (below) medallions as well as six different apothecary weights. The cachets are printed in black, blue and red.

New Jersey Pharmaceutical Association used black artcraft “Pharmacy Times” cachet with own logo on the back flap.

Postmasters of American Cachet included a sterling silver medallion sculptured by Norman Nemeth and minted by the Franklin Mint.



Artcraft/Mr. Zip FDC prepared using the pharmacy stamp adjacent to the Mr. Zip image from a sheet of pharmacy stamps.



Artcraft FDC used several U.S. stamps to produce this multiple combination cachet of the pharmacy stamp.



**Southern Commemorative Society of Birmingham, AL offered these unique philatelic covers with a...**



**... half-scruple apothecary weight.**



**... one-scruple apothecary weight.**



**... two-scruple apothecary weight.**



**... half-dram apothecary weight.**



**... one-dram apothecary weight.**



**... two-dram apothecary weight.**



The pharmacy stamp itself is not without its share of errors. The most notable error is the deletion of the blue and orange color. There are many unlisted perforation and color shift errors. With the actual stamp on the right for comparison, the following are examples of some of these errors.

