MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB

Number 2 **MERC NEWSLETTER** Dec. 25, 1962

Ben Papell - Editor 143-30 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing 54, N.Y.

Comments on the first MERC NEWSLETTER were very favorable and I'm happy that my first effort pleased you. Several members felt that I should send the complete roster to all...I agreed...and it's enclosed. New members will be listed in the MERC NEWSLETTER as they join the club and an additional roster sheet will be made as soon as there are enough new members to fill it. New members since the roster was published:

70) Miss Anna M. Moody.....4609 Milton Ave. East....Tacoma 22, Wash.
71) Raymond DuBeau.....17W254 Babcock Ave,,.....Elmhurst, Illinois
72) John Ranto.....10 Cranbrook Road, Box 2584....Hamilton Sq., N.J.
73) Joseph Duszkiewics.....577 Doat St.....Buffalo, 11, N.Y.

COVER BANK: 12 members have now joined and I found 8 covers for them...I'd suggest that anyone joining the BANK should send in uncommon cities - most members have the common ones. The following

SALES: member's covers are offered for sale: (plus 5¢ postage)

AF Acad., Colo...$1.25	Buffalo, N.Y.....40¢	New York, N.Y....60¢
Anacortes, Wash.....60¢	Dayton, Ohio.....40¢	Phila., Penna....60¢
Baltimore, Md.....50¢	Hamburg, N.Y..$1.10	Toledo, Ohio.....60¢
Brooklyn, N.Y.....60¢	Milwaukee, Wis...60¢	Tucson, Ariz.....60¢

• Several of the official cities (MARION, OHIO and WARREN, PENNA.) did not sell the Merc stamp on 2-20-62. The inspector assigned to these cities had to handle 2 cities. In one case, the inspector was held up by a storm and arrived after the PO had closed. The other, had to travel 66 miles and also failed to arrive before closing time. If you have verified any other cities please let me know. No Merc stamps sold in WYOMING - no inspectors assigned to handle the distribution there.

• In talks with several dealers and collectors all agreed that a plate block on cover dated 2-20-62 from any city but Cape Canav to be worth $5. Your collection does not require one but if you must have a plate on cover do not pay more than $5 for it. I have a few BROOKLYN, N.Y.

• Would like to know if any member has a plate on cover for sale of any city but Cape Canav...I will sell these for you for $5. I will file this info for the benefit of anyone who may be looking for one.

• JAMES TRUMPY (#3) has volunteered to operate a SOURCE OF SUPPLY and will send in at least one source in each issue beginning with the next MERC NEWSLETTER. MRS. CARL H. SANDERS (#14) will send a small source of supply for a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Patronize the following dealers as they are good friends of this club and are doing all they can to help the club:

Alfred Boerger P.O. Box 12, Sta. A Toledo 5, Ohio	Space Craft Covers P.O. Box 2296 Huntington, W. Va.	L. B. Cooper 509 32nd Ave. So. Seattle 44, Wash.

JOIN the COVER BANK and the SALES DEPT....the more members we have who patronize these features, the more benefits we can offer our members!!

Cooperate with the purpose of this club...don't pay more than $1.25 for a cover. No more room...A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. See you in the next issue.....BP

Number 3 MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB
MERC NEWSLETTER
Jan. 15, 1963

Ben Papell - Editor 143-30 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing 54, N.Y.

The OFFICIAL NAME of this club is: MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB.

• REGARDLESS of what anyone says there were only two printings of the Mercury stamp. The first printing was completed prior to the time of the space flight...the second and final printing was accomplished afterward to satisfy the demand for the stamp by collectors:

	DATE OF PRINTING	AMOUNT PRINTED
First Printing	October 1961	120,433,600
Second Printing	February & March 1962	200,041,400
	TOTAL Stamps Printed	320,475,000

• The MIDVALE, UTAH cancel of 2-19-62 is authentic....letter from postmaster confirms fact that clerk left the previous day's date in the cancelling machine and when collector brought covers in next morning, they were run through the machine and cancelled with the 19th slug.

• I have been advised by the P.O. Dept. that there were no shipments made to any of the post offices in Wyoming prior to 2-20-62 and no provision was made to cancel covers on the date of the flight. Further info is being sought and will be reported here as soon as it arrives.

ALE DEPT. The following member's covers are offered for sale:

AF Acad, Colo..$1.25	Anacortes...50¢	Tucson...60¢	Dayton...40¢
Cedar Rapids.....85¢	Brooklyn....50¢	Phila....50¢	Toledo...50¢
New York, N.Y.....50¢	Milwaukee...60¢		

The SALES DEPT. has sold 6 covers...Send in uncommon cities reasonably priced...the cost to you is just 10¢ per cover to pay postage.

• If you have a PLATE ON COVER for sale @ $5, do NOT send it to me.... just let me know you have it and I will list it here next month...I have PB's for sale @ $5 each: Brooklyn, N.Y. and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. (Not interested in Cape Canavs at this time).

• The following members have COVERS TO SELL: Nos. 1, 14, 27 & 28. See address in Roster. Send them a stamped self-addressed envelope for a list of what they have. (Got covers to sell? We'll list 'em here for you).

PLEASE send me a list of all covers in your collection. They'll be made into a master list, mimeographed, and sent to all members...Member #22, Miss Patricia Seifert, PO Box 167, Sta. B, Dayton 7, Ohio, is compiling a list of all the different postmarks for each city. You can be of assistance! Just send her a stamped self-addressed envelope for information as to how you can help...Thomas J. Ortman, PO Box 66, Rohrerstown, Pa. sells album pages for Mercury Covers.

If you want some club flyers to send out with your correspondence, send me a self-addressed stamped envelope...the flyers are free...

I need the cooperation of all members to make this NEWSLETTER interesting and informative. Send me any bit of info you know you know about Merc covers so that all members may be informed. Remember, this club is operated for the benefit of all members. See you next issue.....BP

PS: Enclosed is a list of all new members who have joined our club since the original Membership Roster was printed.....BP

MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB

Number 4 **MERC NEWSLETTER** March 9, 1963

Ben Papell - Editor 143-30 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing 54, N.Y.

With this issue we have reached the anniversary of John Glenn's historic flight that made all Americans proud of him. This past year has seen another orbital flight and many successful launchings of other missiles and rockets. Most important of all has been the increase of knowledge by our space scientists, and who knows what another year may bring! By that time orbital flights may be commonplace and we may make tremendous strides in our ultimate project - that of sending a man to the moon.

Send the following new members a card of welcome and start an exchange with them:

83) Bill Ronson.....52 West 88th St.....New York 24, N.Y.
84) Alfred Szobel.....3214 W. Crystal St.....Chicago 51, Ill.
written 85) H. L. Parrish Jr.....2701 Dunoon Drive.....El Paso, Texas
86) Ann D. Karlsen.....2636 Monmouth Ave.....Los Angeles 7, Cal.
87) Joseph R. DeLillo.....326 Morris Ave.....Elizabeth, N.J.
88) Miss Iris Banks.....1915 Crotona Ave.....Bronx 57, N.Y.
89) Charles Wiggin.....P.O. Box 4597.....Miami Beach, Fla.
write 90) John Sokolowski.....87-47 146th St.....Jamaica 35, N.Y.

Incidentally, Charles Wiggin (#89) once flew with the Wright Brothers and holds one of the earliest pilot's licenses issued in this country - Number 175. He is a newcomer to Mercury cover collecting and will welcome all help.

Beginning with this issue, this office will not attempt to regulate the prices on covers. Pay as low or as high as you wish for the best offer you can get.

•The following members have covers for sale: 1, 27, 28. Send a stamped envelope for list. (If you have covers for sale let me know and I'll list your number here.) Member #14 has advised me that she was listed in error as having covers for sale...sorry, she has none for sale.

The following MERC COVERS are offered for sale through the club:

AF Acad, Colo....$1.25	Toledo.....50¢	Los Angeles.....50¢
Brooklyn, N.Y.....50¢	Phila.....50¢	New York, N.Y....50¢
Milwaukee.....60¢	Dayton.....40¢	Cedar Rapids.....85¢
Buffalo.....40¢	Anacortes...50¢	

(Send 5¢ postage for each three (3) covers you buy)

•The following members have SPACE & ROCKET covers for sale: #80 - Joseph Martinez, #28 - Harold Luhman, #83 - Bill Ronson. Send stamped envelope for list of covers. #71 - Raymond DuBeau will send info on MISSILE and ROCKET launchings. This is free for a stamped self-addressed envelope.

DISCONTINUED.... Due to a lack of interest on the part of our members, I have discontinued the COVER BANK. All covers left in the bank have been returned.

•I have a quantity of the original list of 305 cities that were given the Mercury stamp to sell on the day of the Glenn flight. A stamped self-addressed envelope will bring one or more...just ask for 'em! Need some CLUB FLYERS to send out with your mail? These are free for the asking...just send me a stamped self-addressed envelope.

REMEMBER - its your club - send in news! See you next issue.....BP

MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB

Number 5 **MERC NEWSLETTER** April 17, 1963

Ben Papell - Editor 143-30 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing 54, N.Y.

•The Mercury Cover Club was started in September 1962 and from a modest beginning now has 107 members. This is due in part to those members who publicize the club every chance they get. Club flyers are free for the asking - just send a large stamped addressed envelope for a supply.



Included with this issue of the MERC NEWSLETTER is a biography of Col. John Glenn (courtesy of Member #30, John Fitzpatrick of Space Craft Cachets). Also, I'm sending you a complete new page 2 of the Roster of Members #51 thru #100.....

I would like to know if any member has over 200 of the official cities in his collection. Let me know how many different you have. I will mention the one who has the most.

• From my observation I would say that a Glenn autographed cover is not rare. Many collectors have written telling me they have one in their collection. If you want one, pay a reasonable price for it as the re-sale price may be less than you paid for it!



Member #99 has an 8mm film showing the Glenn flight from start to finish. This is free on loan to members who send 20¢ for postage...will be sent on a first come, first served basis. Film runs about 10 minutes. Send Mr. Davis a stamped addressed envelope if you want info about this free offer.

• Norman Erickson (Member #44) entered 3 frames of Merc covers in the Federation of Iowa Stamp Clubs show and won a 3rd prize in the misc. class. Let me know if you enter any Merc covers in an exhibit and I'll give you a write-up.

The following members covers are FOR SALE through the club:

New York, NY...50¢	Baltimore, Md...75¢	Cedar Rapids, Iowa...85¢
Brooklyn, NY...50¢	Buffalo, NY.....50¢	USAF Acad., Col....$1.25
Los Angeles....50¢	Colonia, NJ.....$1.	Columbia, Mo.....$1.50
Toledo, Ohio...50¢	Rahway, NJ.....$1.	Milwaukee, Wis.....60¢

- Send 5¢ postage for each three (3) covers you buy -



The following members have covers for sale: #1 and #3. Send a stamped addressed envelope for list.

Here are some more sources of supply:
(Courtesy of James Trumpy, Member #3)

Boston(Roxbury Sta) - 35¢ from V.R. Wailly, PO Box 26, Roxbury 19, Mass.
Detroit & Beech, Mich. - $1 from Harry Benedict, 563 Sunningdale, Mich.
Greensboro, NC - $1 from Dorn Good Stamps, PO Box 2255, Greensboro, NC
Jacksonville, Fla. - $1 from Jax Coin & Stamp Shop, 436 West Adams St., Jacksonville 2, Florida
Knoxville - $1 from K. J. Evers, 4600 Winterset Dr., Knoxville 8, Tenn.
North Hollywood, Cal. - 50¢ from Murray Harris, 4953 Cartwright, North Hollywood, Calif.

•If there is something you want to appear in the MERC NEWSLETTER, write to me about it and if it can be arranged you'll find it in a future NEWSLETTER. Please...enclose a stamped envelope if you wish a reply from the Director...postage costs make it impractical to answer all the wonderful mail I receive.....See you next time.....BP

Number 6 MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB
MERC NEWSLETTER
June 15, 1963

Ben Papell - Editor 143-30 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing 54, N.Y.

At the last ASDA Show I met Charles Chickering of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. He had designed the Mercury stamp and I prevailed upon him to autograph some Merc covers for me. There are just 12 and these would enhance any Merc collection. Make me an offer, either in cash or covers. I'll announce later on what I shall do with them.

The following members have covers for sale: 3, 21 and 107 (send stamped env. for list)	• LET ME KNOW....if you have any covers for sale and I'll list them in the next NEWSLETTER • LET ME KNOW....if you move. I wouldn't want you to miss any of the NEWSLETTERS • LET ME KNOW....if you have any POSITIVE information as to the total number of covers from any city. (Will compile and publish)

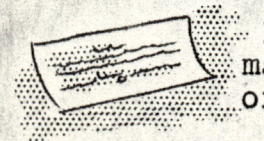
• Member #22 (Pat Seifert) has completed her notes on the different cancellations used on Merc covers and will soon publish a booklet listing all those known. Altogether there will be 520 different cancels listed. Price will be $2 with $1 being returned to all who helped her by sending in a list of cancels in their collection according to Pat's classification. Members buying this booklet may get $1 refunded by sending in their list. I urge all our members to buy this as it will help them in their collecting. Do not send any money in advance - pay for it after you receive it. Pat is not looking for any personal monetary profit... as soon as she gets her outlay back, she'll turn all rights and profits over to the club for the benefit of all members. Incidentally, Pat just won a gold medal with an exhibit of 278 different Merc covers!

On another sheet I have listed all members who have joined since the last NEWSLETTER.....send them a note of welcome.
The correct address of member #90 is 87-84 146th St., Jamaica 35, N.Y.

Please answer all letters from members asking for trades, info, etc. It is common courtesy to do so. You'll help make this a better club for all by cooperating. If you request info, enclose a stamped env.

• MORE SOURCES OF SUPPLY (courtesy of James Trumpy, member #3):

TUCSON - 2 for $1 from Arizona Pioneer's Historical Museum, 949 E. 2nd St., Tucson, Arizona
ORLANDO - $2 - Florida Stamp & Coin Co., Washington Arc, Orlando, Fla.
SEATTLE - 25¢ - Stamp Co. of Seattle, 1824 Broadway, Seattle 22, Wash.
YORK - $1 from R. Barnhart, 111 No. Keesey, York, Penna.
WHITE PLAINS - $1 from Frasek Company, White Plains, N.Y.



I will insert any 3x6 sheet with the NEWSLETTER for $1 per mailing. Members may dispose of dupes or seek covers by sale or trade. Both sides of sheet may be printed or typed.

• I would like to make this a better-reading NEWSLETTER. But frankly, I am all out of info about Merc covers. With 108 members in the club, I had expected to get many articles about Merc covers to put in our NEWSLETTER. I am sure some of you must have some news I can put in our club paper. How about sending it in? Anything at all about Mercs! Lend a hand, Merc collectors...PLEASE?.....BP

Number 7 MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB MERC NEWSLETTER Aug. 20, 1963

Editor: Ben Papell
142-10 Roosevelt Ave.
Flushing, N.Y. 11354

Asst. Editor -- Marge Finger
Catalog Editor - Pat Seifert

• I have looked over Pat Seifert's book classifying all cancellations of Merc covers and I must say that she has done a remarkable job! Space will not permit a proper comment but it does reflect the many hours of work and the many, many letters she had to write to assemble all the information for the benefit of the club. This was a selfless task well done, Pat, and your editor salutes you.

• I heartily recommend this booklet to every Merc collector. Although the cost of the booklet is $2, Pat will return $1 if you will send her a list of the covers in your collection ACCORDING TO HER CLASSIFICATION.

• Send Pat (member #22) a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a list of her classifications and any other info you require.

• James Trumpy (member #3) has also done a bit of research on the cancels and has asked me to tell all who buy Pat's booklet to write him (enclose a stamped envelope).....he'll send his info free of charge.

Send a letter of welcome to these 3 NEW MEMBERS:

109) Otto C. Elmer.....720 Hillsdale Ave.....Akron 3, Ohio
110) George H. Collins.....48-50 38th St.....Sunnyside, N.Y. 11101
111) Seymour M. Kessler.....68 Swan Lane.....Levittown, N.Y.

MERCS FOR SALE --- Members #3 and #107 have Mercs for sale. Send THEM each a stamped self-addressed envelope for list....

GOODWILL AMBASSADORS. P.O. Box 26, Sta. A., Flushing, N.Y. 11358 have several Mercs cancelled on the USS GENERAL WILLIAM MITCHELL for sale at $3.50 each.

MERCS FOR SALE THRU THE CLUB (write to Ye Editor - note new address)

Baltimore, Md..75¢	Jefferson City, Mo..$2.10	Newark, NJ...$1.25
Los Angeles....50¢	Columbia, Missouri..$2.10	New York, NY...50¢
Kokomo, Ind....50¢	Cedar Rapids, Iowa....85¢	Brooklyn, NY...50¢
	Davenport, Iowa.....$1.00	

Send 5¢ extra for each 3 covers you want (supply on some is limited).

Your editor cannot mention covers you have for sale unless you send them in to be placed in the Sales Department.....

SAVE MONEY ON A MAILING! Covers YOU WANT?...Covers TO TRADE?...Covers TO SELL?..

• I will insert any 3x6" sheet in a NEWSLETTER MAILING at $1 per mailing. Send me $1 and 125 sheets (printed, typed, mimeod)....any wording, but it must pertain to Mercs or to John Glenn....both sides of 3x6" sheet may be used. Why not try it?

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS

On or about Sept. 1, your editor will move to:
142-10 ROOSEVELT AVE., FLUSHING, N.Y. 11354
Please address mail to me there after that date.....BP

Editor: Ben Papell - 142-10 Roosevelt Ave. - Flushing, N.Y. 11354

It has been reported that several dealers have raised the prices of Merc covers they have in stock. Undoubtedly this is due to their popularity and the dwindling of available stocks. However, I urge all members NOT TO GO OVERBOARD and pay ANY price just because they do not have these covers in their collection. Wait, and the prices will go down when the dealers realize that we are not blindly rushing to buy them. While some scarce covers can command a good sum, the dealers have been raising the prices of ALL Merc covers.

Remember....you want to get some fun out of your collecting ....paying exhorbitant prices is NOT FUN!.....

- LEON DRISSE, member #56, recently sent me a photo showing the exhibit he prepared at a stamp show in France. It was done very well and won Leon a prize.
- HENRY PENTON, member #55, exhibited some Merc covers at the Cuy-Lor Stamp Show and won a third prize there. It seems that Merc covers win a prize whenever they are exhibited!
- JOHN HALL, member #19, has five 33 1/3 RPM records containing a complete account in detail from the moment John Glenn arose until the blast off. It also has an actual recording in his voice of his re-entry to the earth's atmosphere, and the President's personal commendation of honors for him. Mr. Hall will not sell these, but will trade them for covers he needs. He also has a duplicate lot of 100 diff. Mercs to trade. Send him a stamped envelope for his list.
- For those interested in side items to add to their Merc collection... there is a medal showing John Glenn's head in a space outfit, and on the obverse, a design of the launch....nickel silver is $1.25 and sterling silver is $3.75....sold by Wendell-Northwestern, Inc., 2424 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis 6, Minn. They have other space medals for sale...send them a stamped self-addressed envelope for list.

• LOSE YOUR NEWSLETTER? I have a supply of all MERC NEWSLETTERS issued to date...available to MEMBERS ONLY at 10¢ each postpaid.

I have had several copies of the NEWSLETTER returned because a member MOVED and did not give me his new address. These are sent out by 3rd class mail....the P.O. does NOT forward them and they are returned to me at a cost of 8¢ each. Unless I have your correct address you will not get the NEWSLETTER. Also, please include your ZIP CODE NUMBER when you write me....help the P.O. to expedite delivery of mail!

I am especially pleased to edit a 2-page NEWSLETTER at this time. This is due to the splendid cooperation of several members who sent in some newsworthy items. I'd like to publish a 2-pager like this every month ...but, we need your help...come on, members, how about it?



Your editor would appreciate receiving a small supply of ADDRESSED LABELS from all members to use in correspondence and in the mailing of the MERC NEWSLETTER...thank you.....



PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS

On or about Sept. 1, your editor will move to:
142-10 ROOSEVELT AVE., FLUSHING, N.Y. 11354
Please address mail to me there after that date.....BP

Number 10 MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB
MERC NEWSLETTER
April 1, 1964

EDITOR: Ben Papell 142-10 Roosevelt Ave. Flushing, N.Y. 11354
Assistant Editor - Marge Finger Catalog Editor - Pat Seifert

• SAT EVE POST of Feb. 22nd had a nice pix of Glenn on the cover and a story with pictures inside..... don't know what the bookstores will charge for it but if any member wants a copy I will try to get it for you. Send me $1 and if it is less, I will return balance in 5¢ stamps.

• IF YOU SERVICED COVERS on 2-20-62 why not write a short account of it for the NEWSLETTER? If you have any anecdotes on this, let me know and we'll print it here.

GIVING UP collecting Mercs? Let me know and I'll remove your name from the mailing list.

FOR SALE The following members have Mercs for sale: #22 and #3

TO TRADE The following members have covers to trade: #22 and #99

WRITE TO THEM if you wish to buy or trade. Enclose a 5¢ stamp if you want a reply. DO NOT WRITE TO ME about selling or trading. If you wish to be listed under "FOR SALE" or "TO TRADE" send me 50¢ for each listing you wish. These are good for one year.

• NEW MEMBER -
#123 - G. Harry Cusack
213 Tuscan Road
Maplewood, N.J. 07040

• CHANGE OF ADDRESS - #86
~~#64~~ - Mrs. Ann D. Karlsen
405 W. Adams Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90007

AUCTION

PAT SEIFERT HAS POSTPONED HER MAIL AUCTION of Mercs to August as the response from our members has been poor. If you have any Mercs you wish included in her sale, please write and include a stamped envelope for her answer.

Please send Pat (member #22) a complete list of all covers in your possession. In a short time we'll list all known covers alphabetically so members may have a check list. Your cooperation is needed to make this a more complete list. Please write Pat soon. Thanks.

NYWF As I am 5 minutes away from the World's Fair, I offer to help any member secure covers or any other article on sale there. Just send me enough money for the purchase & postage. Please make your request clear (no charge for this service, of course).

Q&A Beginning with the next issue, I will have a question and answer section in which JIM TRUMPY (member #3) will attempt to help you by answering all your questions and problems on Mercs...so send your questions to Jim (new address in NEWSLETTER #8).

IF YOU HAVE MOVED send me your new address (NEWSLETTERS sent out third class mail are not forwarded by the P.O. and when returned to me cost 8¢ each.) If I get any NEWSLETTERS back and do not have a new address on file, I will assume you are no longer interested in Mercs and will remove your name from the mailing list.

ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE who don't answer your mail even when a stamped return envelope is enclosed? Don't be discourteous, especially when a member is thoughtful enough to enclose postage....and don't forget to send return postage when writing to me. See you next issue.....BP

JOHN H. GLENN, JR.

MERCURY COVER COLLECTORS CLUB

John Herschel Glenn was born July 18, 1921, in Cambridge, Ohio. His father, a retired owner of a plumbing and heating business, and mother now live in New Concord, Ohio. Glenn's wife is the former Anna Margaret Castor, whose parents are Dr. and Mrs. H. W . Castor. The Glenns have two children, John David, born in 1946, and Carolyn, who was born the succeeding year.

John Glenn was raised with his sister Jean, in the town of New Concord, Ohio. He graduated from the New Concord High School in 1939. It was during his second year at Muskingum College that the second world war broke out. Two weeks following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Glenn enlisted as a naval aviation cadet and in March of 1942 he began training. A year later he graduated and was commissioned in the Marine Corps. Glenn was assigned to Marine Fighter Squadron 155 and was busy for a year fighting F4U fighters in the Marshall Islands. After the war and until June 1948, Glenn was assigned to Fighter Squadron 218 which was on North China patrol. During the year and a half from June 1948 to December 1950 he was an instructor at Corpus Christi, Texas. He then went into the amphibious warfare training at Quantico, Virginia.

During the Korean War, Glenn was assigned to Marine Fighter Squadron 311 where he was on more than 60 combat missions. Later, during the war he became an exchange pilot for the Air Force and was on 27 combat missions for them. During the last week of fighting in the Korean War, Glenn shot down 3 Russian MIGs over the Yalu River region. Because of his war record he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross 5 times and is the holder of the 18 Cluster Air Medal.

After Korea, Glenn attended test pilot training school at Patuxent River, Maryland. After his graduation from the school, he was assigned as project officer to a number of experimental aircraft including the F8U and the F8U-1. While serving as project officer of the F8U Glenn made the headlines by taking a jet from Los Angeles to New York City in 3 hours and 23 minutes.

From November 1956 until his selection as an astronaut candidate, Glenn was assigned to the Fighter Design Branch of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics in Washington, D.C. He has had over 5,000 hours of flying - this includes 1,500 hours in jet aircraft.

At 9:47 A.M., E.S.T. on February 20, 1962, John Glenn was sent into orbit after 11 postponements. During the take-off he was subjected to a little under 8 g's (8 times weight of his body on earth). However, because of this severe pressure, his re-entry was more taxing. Glenn had been in the capsule since 6:03 A.M.

Besides all the necessary electrical equipment, Glenn had a personal equipment kit containing 3 drugs: morphine, a pain killer; wyamine, a stumulant; and tigan, an anti-motion sickness drug. He found it unnecessary to use any of these medicines.

Because of electronic difficulties, Glenn flew the ship on almost all of the last two orbits manually. This was good because it proved that a man could control a space ship for long periods of time in a weightless state.

Glenn landed at 2:02 P.M., E.S.T., 166 miles due east of Grand Turk Island. This was 6 miles from the destroyer NOA which picked the capsule up 18 minutes later. During this time Glenn experienced a slight case of seasickness, however he later stated that he believed he would have become ill anyway because of the heat he had experienced and the sudden cooling. Glenn was taken to Grand Turk Island where he went through debriefing. Col. John Glenn is now awaiting further orders after taking his place in history.

Biography of John Glenn courtesy of the Space Craft EXPLORER
EDITED BY John Fitzpatrick (Merc Club Member #30) of Space Craft Cachets