

P.O. BOX AD, SPARKS, NV 89432

NSSS MEETS THE 2nd and 4th SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH,
IN ROOM 203 OF THE PHYSICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF
NEVADA. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.



STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

JULY ISSUE, 1985

POST BOY

OFFICERS:

Pres:

Bill Brew

Vice Pres:

Ruthe Dreiling

Sect:

Dorothy Johnson

Treas:

Gloria Greene

Board Members:

Jack Barriage

Bill Brew

Ruthe Dreiling

Al Greene

Gloria Greene

Dorothy Johnson

Jessie Rogers

Show Chairman:

Jack Barriage

Program Chairman

Al Greene

Post-Boy Editor

Bill Brew

Representatives:

APS:

Ruthe Dreiling

CNCPS:

Jessie Rogers

AFDCS:

Dick Dreiling

COPO:

Al Greene

1985 can go by as the year of the best NEVPEX show that was ever staged in Nevada. The response of the dealers was great, the response of the members was outstanding, the response of the visitors was indicated by having our largest attendance, the response from the American Topical Assoc. was a praise of excellence, and the response from the American Philatelic Society was the offer of cosponsoring our show in 1988. Also, the response of the exhibitors was overwhelming, more than we could handle.

I want to thank all those members that helped Dick Dreiling in setting up and taking down the show, as well as those that helped during the show. Without your help, NEVPEX-TOPEX '85 would not have occurred. Thank you very much.

This is the year for electing new officers and board members. The nominating committee is working on that project and the results should be in by the end of July. I believe the election will be held at the last meeting in Aug.

The next annual picnic will be held on Sept. 7, at the Rock Blvd. picnic park next to the Truckee river. The time will be from 11:00 a.m. until we finish. Meat and drinks will be furnished by the club, with willing members bringing the salad and deserts. A beautiful place to visit and chat.

Our next event for this year will be the Reno Air Races. We will have more information on that at a later date. Jack Barriage has acquired a source of post cards; featuring air planes. The races will be held from Sept. 12th to the 15th. We plan to man a booth and will probably require the same number of people for each of the four days as we had last year.

With summer in full swing, many members plan to go on vacation during July and August. With this in mind try to work in visits to philatelic sites or philatelic programs, and when you return maybe you can share those experiences with us.

The show schedule for northern California has dropped off, but the stamps keep rolling on:

July 18	22¢ Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi, New York, N.Y. 10001.
23	18¢ George Washington/Monument, Wash. D.C. 20066.
25	8¢ Gen. Henry Knox, Thomaston, ME 04861.
26	22¢ Korean War Vets., Wash. D.C. 04861.

IT IS TIME TO RENEW. YOUR DUES
ARE STILL \$6.00.

Here is some information concerning NEVPEX-TOPEX '85. Al Greene won the President's Award for his exhibition on 'Coming to terms with Heraldry'. It was a fine, well displayed piece of work. We congratulate Al for his outstanding efforts. It won't be long before Al is in the Tournament of Champions group. Cindy Scott won the Apfelbaum Award and the Americana Unit award from ATA. Cindy entered her first complete exhibition titled, 'Who Said That;'. Congratulations, Cindy.

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Guernsey:

1. What British honor is Queen Elizabeth II shown wearing on a 1977 issue?
2. In what body of water are the Guernsey Islands?

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The "Penny-Black" Valentine

by

Van Dyk MacBride

For many years the only known example of the use of the United States 10¢ black stamp of the 1847 issue on a Valentine, has been considered the outstanding example of all postally used Valentines. Valentine uses of our other "first" stamps; --the 5¢ stamps of the same 1847 issue, are also very rare but quite a number are known, most of which were recorded by the present writer in an article in the The Americana Philatelist of February 1948. But only one such use of the 10¢ stamps is still known, and that was on a beautiful Valentine cover mailed in February, probably in 1848.

Now this first Valentine use of one of the first stamps of a major country must move over and make room for another,--and a much earlier one. For here is pictured the of all firsts,--the "Penny Black" stamp of Great Britain issued on May 6, 1840, used to mail a Valentine on February 13, 1841. This is then the first adhesive stamp issued by any government used on, or for, the first St. Valentine's Day that occurred after its issue!

The Valentine on which it was used, is wholly characteristic of the period. It was before the day of ordinary use of envelopes, so it is in the form of a double-page lettersheet folded, sealed, and thus mailed. The folded outer page bears the address,--sent by a young lady to one "Mr. Watt" in Dundermline, Scotland, and the copy of the "Penny Black" stamp. The latter is most unusual and rare in itself as it shows part of the plate imprint at the left. It is canceled with the usual Maltese Cross design in red. On the "overleaf" or folded reverse of the lettersheet appears the postmark of Edinburg, Scotland, reading "FEB/W-13-A-/1841", in dark red, and the sender's seal in red wax. The opened lettersheet measures approximately 7 3/4 x 10 inches.

On the inner page is the Valentine design. It is a coloured lithograph showing a girl's head with the figure in a yellow gown and a blue headdress, surrounded by red roses and green and yellow leaves, --all forming a heart.

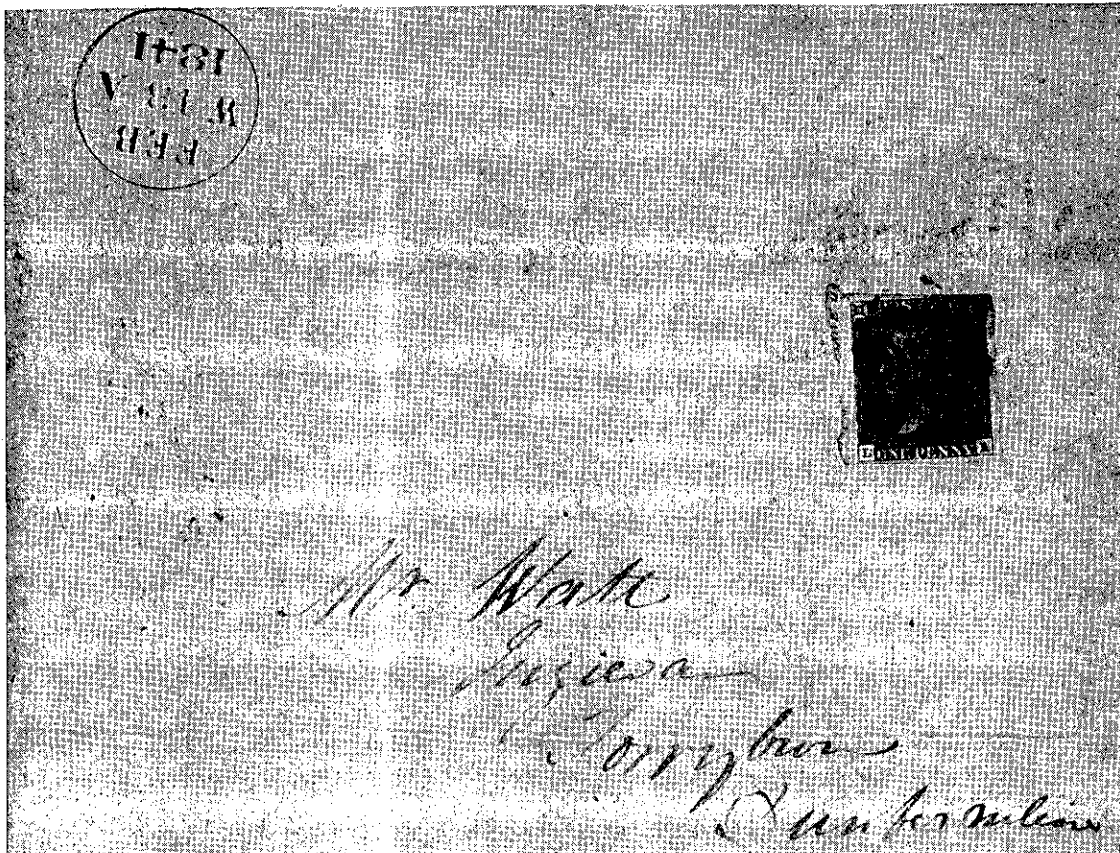
The girl is characteristic of their day and time. Below is the poem in printed script reading:

As Roses other flowers excel,
So Wedlock's charms still weal the bell,
'Mong joys of human life.

No pleasures can with those compare,
Which faithful love alone can share,
'Twixt happy Man, Wife.

There are many "first" or "first and only" uses known to collectors of old postally used Valentines. Thus, this the "Penny Black" Valentine is a striking example of Valentine Day customs and usages of 114 years ago.

Below is a picture of that particular cover.



Portion of outside of folded Valentine showing address and Edinburgh, Scotland, postmark dated Feb. 13, 1841 and "Penny Black" stamp with part imprint, canceled Maltese Cross in red.
—The MacBride Collection.

I wonder where it is today. This might be a challenge to those who collect post cards, especially, those that pertain to a particular Holiday.

Rudick Enterprizes
P.O.Box 2324
Sparks, NV 89432
Dick & Dee Dreiling

Sierra Stamps Etc.,
P.O.Box 922
Sparks, NV 89432
Bill & Laura Brew

Silver Circle Stamps
522 California Ave.,
Reno, NV 89509
Roger Lauderdale

Silver State Stamps
P.O.Box 2083
Sparks, NV 89432
Art & La-Retta Swanson
Canada and United States

Ans;

Guernsey:

1. Order of the Garter.
2. English Channel.