



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.



POST BOY

STAMP STUDY SOCIETY

NOVEMBER ISSUE, 1985

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At our first meeting in November, A WHITE ELEPHANT SALE will be held. This is a short notice of a future program, but the suggestion was made at the last meeting in October and those present agreed to proceed with it. The proceeds of this sale will go to the purchase of our new frames. Bring your items, whether new or used. If used they must be compete, and in good working order. Nothing that has to be fixed will be sold.

We received information that one of the member clubs of the Northern California Council is interested in purchasing 10 of our frames. We are selling them at \$70.00 per frame. We hope to sell all of our 100 frames by june of 1986.

We announced a program in which any member may donate the cost of one or more new frames. If you do so, your name, if you desire, will be attached to that frame on a metal tag. Since we are established as a non-profit organization, your donation should be deductible., this year.

The annual Christmas Party will be coming up soon, and as soon as a date is decided upon, you will be notified. In all probablity it will be held at the same location as last year, Toki-Ono's in Carson City.

The next few programs, after Nov. 9th, will be presentations of some of the history of the railroads and other interesting features of the State of Nevada. Somewhere along the line, a philetic auction will be held, so you members can pass along your duplicates and other philatelic items that you want to part with.

For those members that have not paid their dues at this time, this will be your last copy of the POST-BOY. Maybe this reminder will jog your memmory. The treasurer will more than happy to forward your new membership card for the 1985-86 season.

The following stamps will be issued in the next two months.

U.S.

- Nov. 6. 18¢ George Washington, coil, Washington, D.C. 20066.
- Dec. 4. 36¢ Mark Twain-Hailey's Comet aerogramme, Hannibal, MO. 63401.

Canada.

- Nov. 7. 2x34¢, 39¢, and 68¢ Christmas Stamps.
- Nov. 8. 34¢, 75th Anniversary of Royal Canadian Locomotives.
- Nov. 15. 34¢, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.
- Nov. 22. 34¢, Expo '86.

All Canadian stamps are issued from the Main Post Office and not at individual cities, as the U.S. promotes.

There are many cachets available, either for first day issue or events, which are listed in Linn's or the Stamp Collector. How to obtain them is also listed or you can contact your favorite cover dealer.

First Day Covers:

1. What is the design called that is often found on the left hand side of a first day cover?
2. What is the rule if a stamp of a denomination less than the first class rate is submitted for first day cancellation?
3. How can early first day covers be identified when they have no distinctive cancellation?

STAMP COLLECTING

In this world of drive and ambition, we must push ourselves to the utmost limit to achieve success. During the period of stress of doing this of striving to succeed or after retiring from such an active life, it is widely recommended that one pursue a less active and more passive hobby or activity. Insurance companies, doctors, psychologists all agree that hobbies and or activities be pursued to maintain a healthy balance as a part of our life.

An active sport can be tennis, golf, bicycle riding, jogging, handball, fishing, or racquetball. Any of one or a combination will suffice. One may want to try bowling or hunting. Any of these sports will keep you in the outdoors and keep the body moving.

As to the passive hobbies, painting, collecting or cooking and sewing would come under that group.

Not overlooking all of the above mentioned activities, this article will deal with the hobby of stamp collecting and the reasons why it could become an ideal passive hobby. It has a certain appeal that makes it a simple and inexpensive creative activity.

The purpose of this article is to provide one with enough information to give it a try. As you progress, material, books, and stamps will grow in volume. As a amateur photographer adds more sophisticated lens to his inventory, in order to reach perfection, the stamp collector will add items to his stock in order to expand his potential as a collector.

Stamps offer an endless study. From a single stamp, with many varieties to placing the stamp into its original sheet as when first printed. A collector can devote much of his time to collecting a particular subject, such as the Olympics, authors, animals, cats, boy scouts, or stamps pertaining to the Rotary organization. There are hundreds of subjects one may select for his own personal program.

To start your hobby, one may need as little as a binder with blank pages, and using the stamps off of envelopes one received in their daily mail. Or one can purchase kits, albums, tongs, guages, fluids, and packets of stamps. You may use hinges or mounts. It is suggested that one use hinges on used stamps and mounts for mint or unused stamps. The more expensive stamps should be placed in mounts, in order to preserve their condition. As you gain knowledge of this activity you will need a stamp identifier, perforation guages, watermark detectors and color identifiers. A good set of tongs is a must, to handle your stamps with the least amount of damage. Basically the above items are relatively inexpensive. In most sports, the equipment can run up to \$500 or more, just to get started.

Compare this to the \$10.00 to \$20.00 one should purchase to start in the hobby of stamps.

Collectors should also try to obtain and develop a library of books covering the subject one is collecting. The more informed one becomes the more collecting captivates your interest. As you gain knowledge one can strive for better quality of material, better means of displaying it. This, again, is the choice of the collector. It is not the prerequisite to enjoy this hobby.

One can collect mint or used stamps, or both. They can collect first day covers, precancelled stamps, plate blocks, coils, booklets or stamps which are not used directly for postage, such as revenues, or 'Cinderella's' (stamps which relate indirectly to stamp collecting). One might desire to collect cancellations or special events. As you can see the field of stamp collecting is varied and vastly wide in scope.

As one develops this hobby, they may feel that their interests might head into the creative field, such as preparing a collection for exhibition. This, again, depends on the collector's imagination. However, if one desires to enter into competitive exhibiting, there are certain rules one must follow, in order to meet the specifications of the accredited judges. There are many books on this phase of collecting and should be read first.

This hobby is world wide and one cannot help but developing a working relationship with collectors in other countries. Trading new issues is one of the benefits of such a program. Passing the latest information on the postal programs would keep you up to date on what is happening to the collecting hobby in that country. Should you visit that country, you would have developed a friendship that would make your visit a much pleasurable experience.

Other advantages of stamp collecting is the compactness of such a hobby. You can use the kitchen table or a small section of the bedroom for your work area. You can use a small section of the closet for storage. And best of all, when you have to carry it to a meeting or to a show, it is not a bulky item to handle. Consider the problem one would have to face if they were to 36 to 120 dolls or bottles or other collectible items to a meeting or exhibit hall, for display. One's stamp collection would only consist of 36 to 120 pages of 8½ x 11 paper stock, with the appropriate material mounted on them.

Many collectibles do have a monetary value to them, and certain specific stamp items are extremely valuable, but then, again, this is the choice of the collector. However, it is not, as stated before, the criteria of stamp collecting. One does not expect to recover his \$400 to \$1000 he pays for a set of golf clubs, after using them for 3 to 10 years, nor does a tennis player expect to recover his initial investment into the sport or hobby. Thus, stamp collecting should be done for the enjoyment of doing it and accomplishing some particular interest. Stamps provided one with a challenge and you may, just may, get some of your investment back from them.

Up until now, the term "Philatelist" has not been used. A "Philatelist" is someone who started into stamp collecting and progressed deeply into the subject to make it a part of his life. His knowledge is thorough and his enjoyment of the hobby is reflected in his collection. So by the time you have completed all or a majority of the listed above, you, too, can be considered a "Philatelist".

Know your stamps: No. 1s of the world

Anyone describing the benefits of stamp collecting is bound to mention that the hobby can teach us a great deal about history, sociology, geography, etc., as well as about the stamps themselves.

Novices and veterans alike can gauge how much they've learned by answering these general knowledge questions about stamp collecting.

This week's topic, number ones of the world, represents both beginnings and endings. Most catalogs, including Scott which is used predominantly in the United States, assign the number "1" to the first stamp issued by a country. For the collector though, obtaining number one for his or her favorite country is often the culmination of collecting efforts.

The questions range from easy to challenging. Most answers can be found by checking a catalog, but try to get them all on your own first.

1. Several number ones have nicknames. Which country issued the "bull's-eye"?

- a) Switzerland
- b) Spain
- c) Brazil
- d) Japan

2. The first stamp of which of these countries in the British empire did not picture Queen Victoria?

- a) Australia
- b) New Zealand
- c) Falkland Islands
- d) Malta

3. Greece, a center of ancient mythology, pictured one of the gods on its first stamp. Which one?

- a) Zeus
- b) Athena
- c) Apollo
- d) Hermes

4. France also used a mythological figure on its first stamp. Which one?

- a) Ceres
- b) Mars
- c) Cupid
- d) Vulcan

5. Poland's No. 1 appeared in 1860 while the country was under foreign domination. Poland had to wait more than 50 years for its second issue. What country ruled Poland in 1860?

- a) Germany
- b) Russia
- c) Lithuania
- d) Austria

6. Germany didn't become a unified nation until the early

1870s. In the 1850s, many individual German states issued their own stamps. Only one of their first issues pictured a person, King Frederick William IV. Which state issued it?

- a) Prussia
- b) Bavaria
- c) Baden
- d) Wurttemberg

7. Miguel Hidalgo, y Costilla was a Catholic priest credited with sparking the revolution which threw off Spanish rule in a Latin American country, which pictured him on its first stamp. What country?

- a) Argentina
- b) Chile
- c) Bolivia
- d) Mexico

8. The British colony of Uganda's first stamps were



The world's first stamp has letters in the two lower corners. Their meaning is not readily apparent.

produced by a missionary by what means?

- a) lithography
- b) woodcut
- c) pen and ink
- d) typewriter

9. The first stamp of this country, printed by the firm of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, was declared invalid for postage effective July 1, 1851. What country?

- a) South Africa
- b) Ireland
- c) Great Britain
- d) United States

10. What do the letters in the lower corners of the British Penny Black mean?

- a) They're the initials of the engraver.
- b) They're Roman numerals indicating the date of issue.
- c) They indicate the plate position of the individual stamp.
- d) They are a code for the type of ink and paper used.

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Sierra Stamps, Etc. would like to have at least four more members who would like to purchase new issues at %20 over my cost. Please contact me, if you would like to have this service.

Ans:

First Day Covers;

1. Cachet.
2. The date.
3. Postage must be added to bring it up to the first class rate.

Ans:

Quiz on No. 1 stamps:

1. b.
2. a.
3. b.
4. b.
5. c.
6. d.
7. a.
8. a.
9. a.
10. c.