



Feb. 3

P.O. BOX AD • SPARKS, NEVADA 89432

Meetings are held on the **SECOND** and **FOURTH** Saturdays in room 203 of the Physics Building, University of Nevada, Reno. All stamp, card and cover collectors are welcome to attend.



POST BOY

STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

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NEVPEX UPDATE Dick Dreiling reported progress on '91 NEVPEX --a glitch in scheduling will set it back a week to the 4th. week of June. So setup is on Friday, June 21st., and the show runs on Saturday and Sunday, June 22nd. and 23rd. An Exhibit Chairman is needed, as Dick is overloaded. He finished a plea for any kind of help with the flat statement, "No help, no more shows!!" Jack Bush will act as Exhibit chairman in name only handling mailings.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN During January's last meeting Gus asked again for someone to be program chairman -- and Jack Barriage came forward. Jack's always taken an active role with club activities, and we know he'll do very well!

SICK LIST Nan Bittner was quite ill for January's first meeting, and still hasn't recovered. She sent Gus a note to be read at the second meeting. Dee Dreiling was in the hospital for kidney stones, and she is recovering nicely -- that is until she was exposed to the bill! THAT set things back a bit!

Gus Geiger is much improved, but is still very uncertain of the effects of his chemotherapy. He looks fine and feels great. Dorothy looks fine (and relieved) too!

POSTBOY EDITOR This is the first edition for your new editor, Jack Bush. I will try and cover everything and will appreciate your comments or tips on anything philatelic.

STAMP STORIES Lois and Doug Willick unearthed a bonanza of newspaper stamp stories over 50 years old. They were turned over to the club and Ruthe copied a few to send out with the last PostBoy. Meeting comments were favorable -- in fact Ray Ely brought in some on display pages along with the actual stamps featured. This would make a fine collection!

STAMPS AFIELD Scott has issued a new number (2516) for the booklet Christmas tree stamp of the pair issued for Christmas, 1990. They found differences in printing and color between the booklet and sheet stamps of the Christmas tree. Number 2516 has a blotchy red background, and the tree bands and 'Greetings' are yellow green rather than the blue green of the 2515 stamp.

Differences also were found in the Antonello Madonna stamp, but

Scott is not issuing any new numbers or sub categories for it as yet.

The new postage rates go into effect February 3rd, and the transition stamp is an 'F' flower stamp with a red tulip, green stem and leaf and a yellow background. A much nicer stamp than the 'E', or especially the 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D'!

Something else new -- the POD has made a special 'non-stamp' stamp they call a "make-up" stamp. It has a dash border around the inscription "This U.S. stamp, along with 25c of additional U.S. postage, is equivalent the the 'F' stamp rate." Sort of covering your tracks whatever the new rate turns out to be....

I thought they had us all geared up to a new rate of 30c, and now this... Sure be harder for booklets, etc.

I suppose you've all received your POD flyers with the new rates so I won't repeat them here. I've got mine posted on my bulletin board until I can get used to these newfangled things....

A 'Stamp Collector' feature story tells of the first joint U.S. and Switzerland issue. The stamps, coming out February 22nd., honor the 700th. anniversary of the founding of Switzerland.

A story in Linn's tells of plans the POD has for 50 new stamps over a 5 year span featuring leaders, maps, and scenes from WW II. They will be in sheetlets of 10 every year.

That'll do it for now. February's meetings are on the 9th and the 23rd... See you then!

STORIES IN STAMPS

By I. S. Klein

FIRST WAR PRESIDENT



A QUARTER century after the American Revolution, England entered a European conflict which led her to impress American seamen for her navy. James Madison, one of the framers of the new Constitution, became president in 1809 and tried vainly to settle the issue with England peaceably. But impressment continued, and in 1812 Madison declared war—the first war of the United States since its independence. It lasted two years, and it established American rights on the seas.

Madison was one of Thomas Jefferson's disciples and a leader of the Jeffersonian party. He had been secretary of state under Jefferson for the entire two terms. Thanks to his knowledge of shorthand, the proceedings of the convention of 1787, which framed the Federal Constitution, have been saved for posterity.

In his second term, Madison approved the establishment of a national bank, after having vetoed the measure previously.

U. S.—1903
James
Madison
\$2
steel blue.

When his term ended in 1817, he retired. He died in 1836, at the age of 85. His portrait appears on the \$2 stamp, first issued in 1894, then in 1903.

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NEXT: What is the story of Siegfried?

STORIES IN STAMPS

By I. S. Klein

SIEGFRIED



THE fair Brunhilde lay asleep within a ring of fire. Only he who could pierce that ring would gain her love.

The orphan, Siegfried, brought up by a Nibelung dwarf, was sent out in search of the dragon who was guarding the ring of power. Forging a magic sword, he slew the dragon and accidentally tasted of its blood. That gave him the power to know the language of the birds, and from one of these he learned of Brunhilde's plight.

Guided by the bird, Siegfried found Brunhilde, and crossed the ring of fire unharmed. With a kiss he awakened her, and to him Brunhilde yielded her affection.

This legend is the third of four operas that make up "The Ring of the Nibelung," by Richard Wagner. It is illustrated on one of the series of stamps issued in 1933 by Germany, honoring the great composer.



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STORIES IN STAMPS

By I. S. Klein

CASTLE OF THE SHOGUNS



FOR nearly three centuries, the Tokugawa Shoguns, a series of feudal dictators, ruled Japan and kept the real emperor under their thumbs. From the end of the 16th century to late in the 19th century, great feudal castles harbored the nobility that waged almost constant petty wars.

Today, few of these mighty fortresses remain, and the most noted is the castle at Nagoya, which is shown on the Japanese stamp of 1926 illustrated below.

Here, as in many famous Japanese temples and shrines, are splendor and extravagance. The pagoda-like roofs of the castle are a copper bronze, and at the top are the full gold dolphins, eight feet tall, estimated to be worth a half million yen in gold bullion.

The palace within the castle grounds is an imposing structure, where the Shoguns were entertained when they visited Nagoya. Today, a suite of rooms is reserved for the emperor's family.



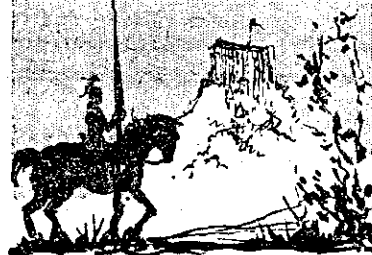
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NEXT: What castle in Slovakia is built on the side of a rock?

STORIES IN STAMPS

By I. S. Klein

CASTLE THAT CLIMBS A ROCK



ACTUALLY climbing a huge rocky slope in northern Slovakia, the venerable castle at Orava stands today above the river Vah, one of Czechoslovakia's most historic and picturesque fortresses. The castle, clambering the entire height above the valley, reaches its summit 360 feet up, where the citadel seems to hang out into space.

Being near the Polish border, Orava castle, which dates from the 13th century, guarded the pass for the Hungarians. Late in the 17th century, however, the stronghold fell to the invading Turks. But when King John Sobieski of Poland forced the invaders out of Vienna, in 1683, he reconquered Orava castle.

Spreading over successive levels of the high slope, the castle is one of the rare sights of Czechoslovakia. Its picture appears on the 40-haleru stamp of 1926-7.



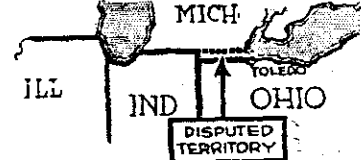
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NEXT: What two states almost had a war?

STORIES IN STAMPS

By I. S. Klein

The STATE THAT WAS NOT WANTED



MILITIA from the territory of Michigan faced soldiers of Ohio across the Maumee river at Toledo, in the summer of 1835. Rancor over the boundary was intense, while the Michigan Legislative Council sought to hold to territory that, it contended, an earlier ordinance had given it.

In the midst of this struggle, the Michigan council voted for admission into the Union, and on Nov. 1, 1835, the de facto state of Michigan was set up. But Ohio protested, and so did the south, which wanted a slave state admitted to offset the free state of Michigan.

So it was not until Jan. 26, 1837, that Michigan became a full-fledged state, after Arkansas had come in, and Ohio got the disputed Toledo area while Michigan got the northern peninsula.

On Nov. 1, 1935, however, the United States issued a special stamp commemorating the "100th anniversary" of the entry of Michigan into the Union, thus recognizing Michigan's statehood from 1835 on.

U. S.—1935
Michigan
Centennial
3c purple

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