



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.



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THE POSTBOY .... March, 1991

**RUTHE RECOVERED** We missed Ruthe at the last February meeting and phoned her at work. She's almost recovered -- when she fell she thought she cracked a rib.

**REFRESHMENTS** Kay Williams outdid herself at the last February meeting. She brought in rolled thing-gummies with cream cheese, a dip, and assorted fresh vegetables (I hate that modern term 'veggies'!). This was not just refreshments but more like a feast! I felt guilty from the last meeting with my K-Mart chocolate chip cookies...

**NEVPEX NEWS** Ruthe said Dick's company did not get the bid for the job back East, so, for the present, it seems Dick will stay in the area and be Show Chairman. You might have heard my sigh of relief in Reno; I'd about decided to resign as Show Chairman as I'm not qualified, and am doing too much now. It's too bad Dick didn't get the promotion but we are tickled he won't be

leaving the Reno area.

I reported our show listing will be printed in the 'American Philatelist' (and other publications as soon's I get them notified).

**PROGRAMS** Jack Barriage asked for someone to do the program for next meeting and as far as I know there was no response. Ruthe made a suggestion which will be put on the board agenda that Jack could designate members for upcoming programs. We all have collections and items we are proud of, and others need the learning experience of our presentations.

Good examples of this were the last two programs. Jack Barriage radiated his enthusiasm explaining his Canada First Flight collection, and Bill Brew did likewise while telling of his slides and collection of St. Lucia.

**KIDS** Ron Schultz asks we remind everyone there are only TWO more meetings to bring in stamp donations for the kids.

Larry Casteel, a POD Supervisor, can be reached at 786-5523 for any donations or help with this program.

**STAMPS AFIELD** Scott's Stamp Monthly almost always carries short anecdotes or stamp stories -- it is a fine magazine.

For instance there is a new series of stamps out on Canadian folklore. SC 1291 pictures a werewolf --these beasts are really people who were derelict in their religious duties! But they could be saved -- another person could strike the animal and draw blood, and it would return to human form bearing the scar from the blow that saved it.

Another Canadian stamp, SC 1292, pictures the ogopogo, an aquatic monster with a horse's head and serpent body living in cold, bottomless Lake Okanagan in British Columbia. The local Indians first knew of it, as, when angered, it would lash their canoes with it's tail. Soon special ceremonies and canoe markings were made before water travel. Modern scientists are still looking for it.

Our own bald eagle, shown on SC 1909, was made from a photograph of an eagle named "Igor". The photo, taken by Galicz in 1975, was selected by the POD believing Galicz and his eagle were residents of New York.

The bird was born, raised and lives in Canada, and after laying some eggs, had her name changed to "Igora". She belongs to George Galicz, of Newton, British Columbia, and was rescued from the water near Prince Rupert in the early 60's and taken to Galicz, who runs an animal sanctuary.

Igora is alive and well and now over 30 years old. She is still with George Galicz.

A pair of US stamps were made from the same painting, SC 644 and SC 1728, showing General Gates accepting defeated General Burgoyne's sword at Saratoga with many officers and soldiers looking on. SC 1728 has been enlarged and shows clearly the faces nearby. In 1961 a noted philatelist wrote that one of these faces was a "Major General Arnold" near General Gates.

Arnold made many contributions to the American struggle but is remembered for his later acts of treason -- could it be that the traitor was portrayed on a US stamp?

We can find little known facets of US history by learning the stories behind foreign stamps. The Maldive Islands issued a series depicting US involvement in the beginning of WWII. Did you know the initial Japanese attack on Wake Island on December 11 1941 was repulsed by a few soldiers and 1,100 armed civilians? Of course the Japs returned 12 days later with much greater strength and took the island.

Another oddity in our heritage came to light. John Philip Sousa wasn't always that way. This famous composer and bandmaster named John Phillip Ochs made an acronym with his father's initials and "USA" from his new country, and called himself Sousa.

Franklin D. Roosevelt made a lesser known achievement --

three US stamps are based on his sketches, and he designed a third. The three were the National Defense series of 1940 (SC 899 - 901) and he designed the 1934 Airmail Special Delivery stamp, SC CE1.

For air buffs Tanzania pictures the Hadley Page HP-42 in SC 676. This large flying boat was a biplane with unequal wings; the lower wing was much shorter. It was the first aircraft to have a separate crew compartment, now called the flight deck.

It was also the first plane to have a metal skin (except on the aft fuselage and wing surfaces). Passengers rode in two compartments separated by the wing structure.

Another article caught my eye in the February, 1991, issue. Les Winick, in 'Why collect stamps? an opinion', had several good points, one of which I am living proof!

He mentions people who die soon after retiring, mainly from boredom. But with absorbing interests such as stamp collecting, people go on to healthy happy lives. And your hobby need not be a solitary pursuit. In between album sessions you can attend stamp meetings or shows. My other interest is girl watching, but he didn't mention that.

But along this line he did mention a benefit of stamp clubs I hadn't realized. A man in his 60's told Les he went to stamp clubs in his area to meet women! He's having a ball -- he gets invitations to dinner, dances and other social functions! More than one kind of prospecting....

Your editor recently joined ASDA's collector program; he's now an ASDA 'PUG' (for Philatelic User Group). One sidelight is the 'Pug NEWSLETTER' containing several good articles.

Herman Herst, Jr., in his article 'Get rich with Auctions ... "Exploring the Auction myth!"' mentions one priceless bit of information we probably all can do without.

If you are 'Hoist by your own petard' what are you hoist with? Well, a petard was an ancient explosive device to breach castle walls!

March meetings are on the same dates as February's, March 9th. and March 23rd. See you there...



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