

MARCH 1994



P.O. BOX 2907 SPARKS, NEVADA 89432

STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

Ruthe Dreiling conducted the meeting on February 12th in the absence of President Al Shay and Vice President Lee Graybeal. There were 22 members and 2 guests.



Ron gave covers for the raffle and Ivan Horsky was winner of the cash.

POST BOY

Ruthe has received information asking if NEVPEX would host TOPEX in 1995. This is possible and work will be started on space, meals and other requirements. Their dates are the same as NEVPEX. Jerry Fenwick will work with Ruthe.

Dot Geiger furnished cookies, vegetables and dip today and all of the members enjoyed them. Thanks Dot.

Tom again asked for help at NEVPEX. Jack Barriage will be awards Chairman, do cachet for the cover and purchase stamps. The Post Office will set up a booth. Headquarters will be The Holiday Hotel on Mill Street, 30 rooms have been reserved, \$42.00 plus tax of 9%. As the dinner prices have increased so much, after discussion it was decided to have breakfast buffet on Sunday morning at 8:00 A.M. for \$9.95 per person, tip and tax included. We will be out in time for 10:00 A.M. opening of the show.

A new member, Jurgen Zindel, was welcomed. His address is 53 West 9th Street #5, Reno, 89503. Phone 324 4933. He collects Germany. Please add this name to your membership roster.

The auction of Mr. Duncan's collection was held. Ron served as the auctioneer and \$335.00 was realized. This amount will be added to the club treasury. A few items remained and will be auctioned at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

February 26th meeting was opened at 2:10 P.M. with Ruthe again serving as Chairman.

We are all members of NSSS so let each one of us be thinking of NEVPEX in June and volunteer for a job that we will be able to do to help make this show a success. Ivan Horsky will help Bill Brew with the exhibits.

Ron announced that a security person from UNR told him we must keep the front door locked. This means we will have to be in the building between 1:30 P.M. and 2:15 P.M.

Covers from Tom and Ron were raffled and Dr. Sand won the cash.

Polar covers and cancellations were shown by Tom today. He has many very pretty and unique covers.

We all enjoyed refreshments furnished by Jessie Rogers and Dorothy Johnson. Thank you both.

Posted on the auction board today were 57 lots. Ron and Carol McCabe were the auctioneers. 24 lots remained unsold.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

The next meeting is March 12th at 2:00 P.M. Refreshments will be furnished by Walt Sommer. Our program will be brought by Jack Barriage.

On March 26th Dr. Sande will provide refreshments and Larry Scott will have the program.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU WHO HAVE MARCH BIRTHDAYS!

March 6 Bob Norris

March 10 Roger Lauderdale

March 13 Ed Hartley

March 20 Laura Brew

LET US ALL REMEMBER NEVPEX AND BE THINKING WHAT WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE SHOW

Gallery Planned for Duck Stamps

The National Postal Museum of the Smithsonian Institution will have a permanent gallery devoted to the popular federal duck stamps, thanks to a \$500,000 pledge from Jeanette Cantrell Rudy of Nashville, Tennessee. This is the largest pledge to be made by an individual donor to the museum.

The 800-square-foot gallery is scheduled to open in the summer of 1995.

"I am thrilled about the opportunity to leave my collection to the National Postal Museum, where it will be cared for and seen by many people for years to come," Rudy said.

Duck stamps are printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing as part of a program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Profits from the stamps, which are sold to license waterfowl hunters, are used to acquire and preserve waterfowl habitat.

The American Philatelist

Rate hike likely in '95

Postmaster General Marvin Runyon renewed his pledge to hold a 1995 postal increase to or below the rate of inflation as the lengthy process to determine next year's rates got under way, according to an Associated Press report that appeared in the Dec. 23 *Dayton Daily News* and elsewhere.

The board of governors of the United States Postal Service, which proposes postal rates, was scheduled to meet Jan. 4, but was not expected to announce a formal decision on rates at that time. Such an announcement is believed likely later this month.

Once new rate proposals are formally announced by the board, they are submitted to an independent postal rate commission, which conducts hearings for 10 months or more before responding to the USPS with its own rate recommendations.

The gap that can arise between what the USPS requests and what the PRC is willing to allow has sometimes angered top USPS officials in recent years, including the last PMG, Anthony M. Frank.

Runyon's commitment to keep the next increase under the inflation rate, which is expected to total 13 percent to 14 percent between 1991 and early 1995, would seem likely to mean an increase to 32¢ or 33¢ next year. However, according to the AP story, at least one unnamed industry group has speculated that the new rate could be as high as 34¢ to 35¢.

The current 29¢ first-class domestic letter rate took effect nearly three years ago, Feb. 3, 1991. In the 36 years beginning with 1958, the rate has been increased 12 times, with each rate hike necessitating new stamps. ■