



STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 2907 • SPARKS, NEVADA 89432



POST BOY

N.S.S.S.

Presents

The Post Boy

April, 1998

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Our first meeting in the new location was great success. We had 30 members and 3 guests. It was a little crowded but that will undergo a change in table locations at the next meeting. Whenever there is a change in something there are always some inconveniences that must be overcome.

Jerri Hanna provided the refreshments and Jerry Stanfield, our Treasurer, reported NSSS has \$1104.23 in its account. A definite improvement over the last year.

It was announced a Post-Card Show will be held at Lawlor Events Center on Mar. 28. You might find some goodies if you attend.

A board meeting is scheduled for Mar. 18 and the results will be announced at the Mar. 28 meeting. A table will be set up at the Post Office on Vassar St., on Mar. 25. If you would like to volunteer to man the booth, please contact Tom Morrissey or George Costello.

George Costello reported on the Junior program and after a slow start it looks like it slowly developing. The first meeting was attended by one student, the second by 15 students and the third meeting 18 students attended. Since then there has been a large increase in interest by the students and parents. So, the next meetings will show a definite improvement.

Jerry Stanfield made a motion to increase the door prize split to 50/50 instead of 25/75 as it is now. The motion was seconded by Dick Dreiling and passed by members present.

Cindy Scott, an active member of the Nevada Air National Guard, announced an open house at the airport on Sat. April 4th. There will be a Post Office truck in attendance and they will be selling stamps and provide a special cancel. If you desire to have this cancel, covers will be canceled on the spot.

"To promote and enhance the hobby of Stamp Collecting"

Cindy will be providing one of her great cachet covers for the occasion. Her covers are sold throughout the philatelic market. Mark the date on your calendar, Sat. April 4th.

The last question that was placed in the Post-Boy for 100 Auction Bucks seemed to be controversial. So, two winners were announced. Barbara Stanfield and Ed Kotsull.

This month's question was going to be a little easier. What great president's portrait is on the Washington 2 cent, carmine, SN 332, but that seemed to be a little too easy.

So, here is one for **100 Auction Bucks**.

There is one stamp with the picture of George Washington kneeling. Where did this take place. Also, on what date of issue and name the seven (7) places of First Day Issue?

This is some information about avoiding hidden costs in buying stamps. Consider buying stamps one at a time or by packet. If you are filling spaces in your collection, then it may be less costly to buy by packet and take the chance of finding the missing items. But, if you are down to a few missing stamps, then looking for them through a dealer's stock and buying them one by one. There are plenty of sources for the single stamp you may need. Auctions, sales, trading and etc. But, you must watch out for over prices stamps. Know you material. If you buy by approvals, then you face the cost of shipping unwanted stamps back to the dealer. Sometimes, it is best to accumulate a number of wanted items and request them all on the same order. This will also save you shipping costs. Question yourself, do you really need every new issue from a particular country? Maybe, they will be on sale as a yearly lot at a later date. When bidding at an auction, remember the 10 % or 15% buyers fee. You have to add this to your base bid, plus taxes, if required and maybe shipping and insurance costs. If your philatelic item is in the 3 or higher figures, then it is worth the cost of having it expertized. One case, Barry Krause displayed, was a Transvaal stamp, cataloging at \$1000. By having the stamp expertized, it turned out to be a counterfeit. The cost was \$20.00, instead of losing \$980. So, good hunting, but use prudence and care. You can acquire a very excellent collection by being alert to these hidden costs. With the money you save, you will have more money to spend on filling the albums.

Do you realize the amount of information you can obtain from a First Day Cover? A teacher once used FDC's to teach geography to his students. He would give copies of a FDC to his students and then provide them with a number of questions about the cover on which the answers could be found by examining the cover. I know that most of you are adults, but we have several juniors in the club now and this is mainly for them, but if you want to take a try at it, be my guest. For the Juniors, the following questions are worth **20 Auctions Bucks each correct answer**:

1. What anniversary was this cover issued?
2. What is the capital of this state?
3. Who sold this state to the U.S.?
4. What was the name of this purchase?
5. Who named this state and in what year?

The cover for this quiz will be found on the next page. Turn you answers in by the first meeting in April. You can give them to me at the meeting, then, or you can mail them to me through the NSSS P.O. Box 2907, Sparks, NV 89432. Good researching.

"The father took his little son to the hospital to see the family's new arrival. The boy stood in front of the large nursery window and peeped in at the babies. Noticing that two of the cribs were empty, he said, "Look Dad, they have two more traps set." (space filler)

Does political clout have anything to do with commemorative stamps? You bet. In the early days of postal history, the subjects were honored by having their own place in U.S. History. Today the subjects are selected by the "Party Line" and not by the truth.

In 1928, only six commemorative stamps were issued and for only four different occasions. Two of those, the Battle of Monmouth and Hawaii's Sesquicentennial issues, were commemorated by cheap overprints on ordinary stamps. When the request for issuing this stamp was made by Congressman Moore, the P.O. replied that a stamp could not be issued for this project was not a national or international character. This is where the Speaker of the House, Nicholas Longworth intervened. His congressional district included some of the towns along the Ohio River. The final decision was left up to the Third Assistant, only after the Post Master General suggested: "You may want to issue a stamp for this project, even though I have turned it down." Well, the assistant checked the cost of issuing 20 million stamps and it was \$1700. This was only \$400 more than the cost of issuing 20 million of regular stamps. So, for only \$400, the Speaker of the House and Congressman C. Ellis Moore, the Ohio River Canalization stamp was issued. So, I believe, the same policy goes today. If you have the right people behind you, a commemorative stamp can be issued.

Some of the new issues that are coming up in April are: Henry R. Luce, Great American Series, Cinco de Mayo, Celebration series and Tweedy & Sylvester, cartoon series.

Just recently there was a letter to the editor concerning the *Titanic*. Did you know that a ship by the name of *Titan*, was a ship that was considerable unsinkable, carried fictitious persons, but it was a real vessel. One of the largest passenger ships built at that time. The *Titan* was also in the same area as the *Titanic*, when it, too, hit an iceberg and sank. There were no survivors. People did not hear much on this event as it did not receive the publicity that the *Titanic* received. Of course, this happened in the late 1800s' and since the characters were fictitious, the book did not receive the same enthusiasm as *Titanic*. I think there is a movie about to be release on this ship, I am not sure. Does this indicate history repeats itself?

At our General Meeting on Mar. 27, 1998, Tom Morrissey presided. There were 30 members present and 2 guests. Frank Fey and Jean Levin.

The treasurer reported NSSS has \$1294.33 in its checking account.

Cindy Scott explained the program for the Air National Guard's 50 anniversary celebration at the ANG's air port. There will be displays as well as the U.S.P.O. booth and all covers may be canceled at this mobile booth. Also, stamps will be available for purchase. Cindy will have some of her special event covers, created by her, for sale as well.

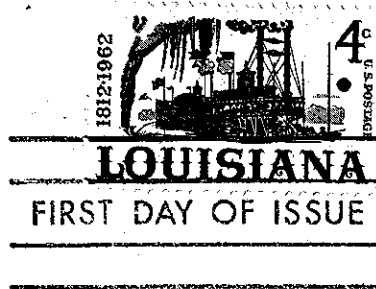
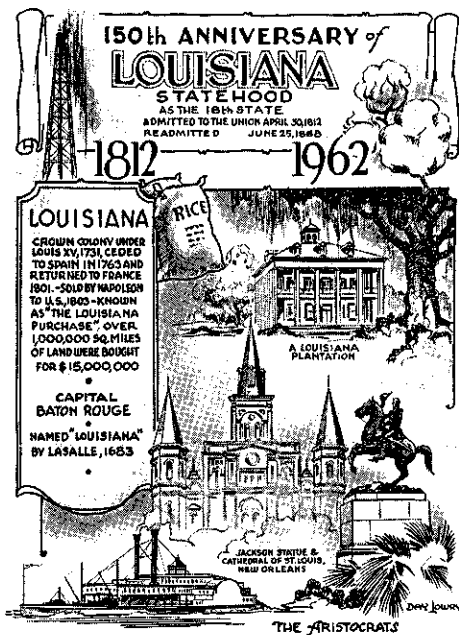
Tom reported on his pen-pal program. He does receive some very nice covers from other countries.

An award was given to Roger Lauderdale for his contributions to Nevada Stamp Study Society. Roger owns the Silver Circle Stamp store on California.

It was also announced that a life membership be presented to Rick Sorenson. The motion was presented by Jim Ringer and seconded by George Costello. The motion was voted for by those members present.

A discussion continued on a program changes for future programs. The first meeting of the month will be devoted to business, raffles, either no or a short program.

The second meeting will be the raffle, silent auction and program.



In the earlier part of this issue, I mentioned the purchasing of packets of stamps as a way of finding some of the missing items in your collection. In the recent issue of Stamp Collector, a writer, who goes under the name of "The Olde 49'er", purchases \$1.00 or \$2.00 mixtures and determines the Scott catalog value of the mixture. In the latest article, he purchased a \$1.00 packet or mixture and out of that package he found one stamp cataloging at \$1.40 and six stamps at \$44.25, plus 193 other stamps that had a CV of 10 cents each. Interesting way of filling a world wide collection. He has found this percentage of value in most of the packets he has purchased. He usually names the source of his purchase, thereby, you can buy them from the dealer, too.

Did I forget to mention that at the end of each issue of Post-Boy, there will be space provided for **WANT ADS**? If not, please feel free to get them to me before the next issue. Sell, trade, or buy ads will be printed.

CENTERING: This term refers specifically to the placement of a stamp design within the finished unit know as a stamp. the more perfect the centering and the3 larger the margins, the higher the stamp's grade. The more off center the design, the lower the grade of stamp. When stamp catalogs refer to stamps in a certain condition, such as fine or very fine, they are referring only to the centering. many other factors, such as general condition, cancel types and gum condition, also play major roles in the valuation of stamps. All other factors aside, however, the better-centered the stamp, the more desirable and attractive it becomes to a collector.

This little bit of information comes from the Stamp Collector. It is a good magazine and provides a lot of philatelic information and can be read in a short period of time.

The big drawing will be coming up on April 11th. So buy your tickets now. There is an old saying: "He who buys his tickets late has a better chance of winning."

The motion to put this on a 3 mo. trial basis was presented by George Costello.. After discussion, it was seconded by Vivian Scott. A majority of the members present voted in favor of the new program.

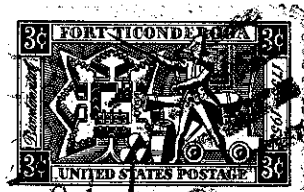
A program was presented by Larry Scott. The subject was Australia. He explained the formation of Australia by six different crown colonies. Each colony had its own postage system and stamps. Eventually, these were combined into one postal system and one source of postage stamps. A very interesting program, as always, from Larry.

The mini-auction was another success. 51 items were up for grabs and many members present came away with some fine bargains.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00.

As we get use to our new meeting place, it will feel more comfortable for all of us. A very good move. Whatever is going on, NSSS is experiencing a 65% attendance and that ain't bad. Most clubs rarely get above the 35% attendance.

Scott's no. 1071 is the Ethan Allen stamp. It was to honor this gentleman for his many achievements in the early days of the formation of the United States. His help in fighting the British for our independence. America could count on him when they needed. However, before the revolution began, and after, the name, Ethan Allen, spelled trouble. He originally organized his Green Mountain boys to resist the lawful jurisdiction of New York over his beloved Vermont. But, he switched over to supporting America when it began fighting against the British.



His greatest exploit was to capture Fort Ticonderoga from the British. He called on the fort's commanding officer to surrender "in the name of the great Jehovah and the Continental Congress. He took part in the invasion of Canada in 1775, but was captured by the British near Montreal. He emerged from British prison three years later as ready to fight as ever. At one point he was negotiating with Canada to have Vermont made a British province. At another point he felt the most sensible thing to do would be to declare Vermont an independent nation! Tyler called him "a blustering frontier hero and able-minded ignoramus of rough and ready humor." His goals did not always match those of the new nation. But Ethan Allen's pluck, independence, courage and spirit were typically American.

This is one of the many stories behind stamps. It can be interesting for the collector to study them and determine why the stamp was issued for the subject of the stamp.

Recently, there was an article explaining the new stamp for Henry Luce and in doing so, the writer mentioned that maybe the U.S.P.O. was beginning to provide stamps that honored great Americans. He stated that the U.S.P.O. stamp advisory committee may have come to the conclusion that issuing stamps for BUGS, Movie Stars (of little significance) and other subjects was not getting the true meaning for issuing stamps. Let's hope so.

Here is a symbols and abbreviations you might want to keep by your misc information center:

*	mint.	MB	Minimum Bid.
⊙	used.	MC	Maltese Cross.
⊞	block	MD	Minor Defect(s)
□	piece	ME	Mail Early
⊠	cover	Mi.	Michel Catalog.
ABNC	American Bank Note Co.	MNH	Mint, never hinged.
APO	Army Post Office,	MPO	Mobile Post Office.
APS	American Philatelic Society	MPP	Mailer's Precancel Postmark.
ASDA	American Stamp Dealers Association	M/S	Miniature Sheet.
Av. or Avg.	Average	MS	Matched set.
DEP	Bureau of Engraving and Printing.	NG	No gum.
Bklt.	Booklet.	NH	Never Hinged.
BNA	British North America.	OG	Original gum.
BOB	Back-of-the-book.	Opt. or Ovpt.	Overprint.
BPO	British Post Office.	P	Poor
Canc. or Ccl.	Canceled or Cancellation.	PB	Plate block.
CDS	Circular Datestamp.	PCL.	Precancel.
CMS	Complete Matched Set.	Perf.	Perforated or Perforation.
Comm	Commerorative.	PM	Postmaster or Postmark.
Cpl.	Complete.	Pmk.	Postmark.
CTO	Canceled to order.	PNC	Plate Number coil.
CV	Catalog Value.	PS3	Plate strip of 3.
Def.	Definitive.	PS5	Plate strip of 5.
DPO	Discontinued Post Office.	RG	Regummed.
EFOs	Errors, Freaks and Oddities.	RPO	Railway Post Office.
Est.	Estimated.	S or Sup.	Superb.
F	Fine	S/A	Self-adhesive.
FDC	First Day Cover.	SASE	Self-addressed, stamp envelope.
FFC	First Flight Cover.	Sc.orSC	Scott Catalog
FPO	Fleet Post Office.	SE	Straight edge.
G	Good.	Seten.	Se-tenant.
GD	Gum disturbance.	SG	Stanley Gibbons Catalog
GPO	General Post Office.	S/S or SS	Souvenir Sheet.
HH	Heavily hinged	UNPA	United Nations Postal Administration.
HPO	Highway Post Office.	USPS	U.S. Postal Service.
IC	Iron Curtain	UPU	Universal Postal Union
Imperf.	Imperforate.	VF	Very fine.
IRC	International Reply Coupon.	VG	Very Good.
LH	Lightly hinged.	VLH	Very Lightly Hinged
LP	Line pair.	w/o	Without
		Wmk.	Watermark
		W/W or WW	Wordwide.
		XF	Extra Fine.
		Yv.	Yvert et Tellier Catalog.