



STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

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POST BOY

N.S.S.S.

Presents

The Post Boy

October, 1998

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N.S.S.S. had the pleasure of presenting one of our members, George Costello, with the APS Spark Plug award. This was given to him at the last meeting in September. George is the going force behind many of the programs N.S.S.S. provides for the club and the community.

We appreciate your great efforts, George. Thank you very much.

The elections have been held and George Costello will be our vice-president for another term. Dick Dreiling and Dan Forgues will be added to our Board of Directors for a two-year term. N.S.S.S. is still looking for a secretary to take minutes of the general and board meetings. Also, to keep the minutes in a chronological order. The Post-Boy will still be provided by Bill Brew. As N.S.S.S. continues to grow, 53 active member now, there is need for more participants at the officer level. There are several vacancies for our standing committees. The elected officers and board members are assigned as chairman of these committees, but each needs members to round out the committees. Check with Tom Morrissey about serving on these committees.

AUCTION BUCKS AUCTION will be coming up at the first meeting in November so keep working on accumulating them. This year's auction will be the best ever. Many good items to bid upon. Philatelic and non-philatelic donations will be in abundance. .

On my last tour, we stopped at a little old gold mining town named Oatman, AZ. Wild? mules roam the street and are fed by the visitors. Carrots and peanuts, in that order. I presented several post cards to the Post Mistress for cancellation. A very interesting cancel, but she wouldn't give me the card back as, she said, it must go through the mails. I received it two days after we returned.

"To promote and enhance the hobby of Stamp Collecting"

INSPIRATION FOR TODAY:

Do more than exist; live. Do more than touch; feel. Do more than look; observe. Do more than read; absorb. Do more than hear; listen. Do more than listen; understand. Do more than think; ponder. Do more than talk; say something. by John H. Rhoades.

Every once in a while the Editor goes mind blank on what to write and so I threw in the above paragraph as a starter.

The following 5 difficult questions are yours to answer and they are worth 50 Auction Bucks **EACH**:

1. Name three prominent Native Americans involved in resisting Custer who have been honored philatelically?
2. (a) When and from whom did the US acquire Alaska? (b) As a US possession, what three types of status has Alaska had?
3. (a) What is a trident? (b) What country issued trident overprints and trident stamps?
4. (a) Canada has recently issued a stamp commemorating its Dinosaur Trail. Where is that piece of scenic highway? (b) What has the subsequent fossil search been called?
5. Why are certain US bluish paper stamps issued around 1909 called "star plates"? What was their main characteristic?

GOOD LUCK!

Postmarks! That is an interesting subject to collect. And very reasonable in price. Some are very scarce. Such as American City in Storey County. This was later known as Comstock. Nevada Ghost Town. (NGT) This was only in operation from Mar. 1866 to Feb. 1868. Another and there are many, was Hunter, in White Pine County. It operated from June 1877 to Feb. 1878.

However, you can start by locating and acquiring all the known post offices along a certain highway route in Nevada. Try Highway 80 or 50. Or even Reno to Carson City. When you start searching for these postmarks you may uncover cancels from post offices you never knew existed.

Also, there were a variety of cancellation marks that would add to your curiosity. One book that would be of big help to you is '*Nevada Post Offices*' by James Gamett and Stanley W. Paher. This book is obtainable in most of the local book stores. It is in the Washoe county Library.

There are a variety of cancellations that can form a collection. Circles, stars, crosses, irregular designs, letters and numbers, just name a few. Sometimes the cancel was associated with a particular city or location. Dayton, Spring City and Mason Valley had a cancel using a small solid star within a larger star outline. Other cancels were rarities in themselves, such as the horse and rider cancel, the maltese cancel and the specially designed cancels for outgoing foreign mail from New York City.

Of course, covers are the best source of these cancels, but there are stamps which have "*socked on the nose*" cancels. These stamps have cancels centered on the stamp so all the information about the city, time and date printed in entirety. This, by the way, is the basis for another form of collecting.

So there is another side of stamp collecting, besides the stamps themselves. Cancels are fun to collect and provide a source of satisfaction when your selected area is complete.

I wonder what the price of a set of Zeppelins will be in the year 2050. In a catalog dated 1944, a set of these great jewels was priced at \$55.00 and a set of blocks of 4 was priced at \$230.00. At the same rate of increase, a set of three would be, believe it or not, \$88.000. Want to speculate?

Did you hear of America's forgotten president? If you were to run through the list of all the elected presidents of the U.S., this man's name would not be on it. But, he was the president of the United States. Can you name him?

Here is the story. According to the laws of the United States Constitution, President James Knox Polk's term of office was to officially expire at noon, March 4, 1849, which happened to fall on a Sunday. Since President-elect Zachary Taylor, holding true to his deep Episcopalian beliefs, refused to take the Oath of Office on a Sunday, the swearing-in ceremonies for Taylor and his Vice President, Millard Fillmore, were postponed until noon, March 5, the following Monday.

Although it has never been officially proven by any competent, legal authority, many historians have widely accepted the idea that Senate President Pro-tempore David R. Atchison, a pro-slavery advocate from Missouri, acted as President of the United States during this 24-hour interim period. Rumor has it that Atchison's "administration" was relatively peaceful, being interrupted occasionally by friends and acquaintances facetiously asking him if he could assign them to a government position.

After his death in 1886, Mr. Atchison's name took its place among the many prominent but sadly forgotten Americans who have served this great land., later, the city of Atchison, Kansas, was named in this memory. No U.S. stamp has ever been issued to honor him.

Now you know the rest of the story.

Above story was obtained from the Vol. 38, No.3 of Topical Time dated magazine.

An interesting program for N.S.S.S. would be to have each member pick a first day cover and mount it on a single page, along with all the stamps that could be related to the cover. Such as, a ship first day cover, along with stamps that have ships on them. Each member could give a small presentation of their subject and how they came across all the material to make up the sheet.



This is an article about Nevada's first settlement, which is in dispute, these days, in Genoa, Nevada.

Genoa, the first settlement

Cover recalls early Nevada history

By WILLIAM C. BREW
For Stamp Collector

Genoa, Nev., is a small quiet community at the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Its peaceful atmosphere belies its hectic, turbulent past.

The cover in Fig. 1 is a first day issue commemorating the centennial anniversary of Genoa as the first settlement in Nevada. The stamp is Scott #999 issued on July 14, 1951.

Charles R. Chickering designed the stamp and L. W. Staehle designed the cachet, which depicts the original building built by John Reese and the surrounding valley and mountains. The words, "Battle Born", truthfully stated the birth of Nevada and its entry into the U.S.

This first organized community was called Mormon Station. Capt. Joseph DeMont and his clerk, Hampden S. Beatie led a small group of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) to the Genoa area. Their intentions were to go on to California to the newly discovered gold fields.

However, several members of the group decided that there was more money to be earned through the sale of supplies to the settlers passing through the area. A trading post was established, no floors and no ceiling, but suitable to the purpose.

In June 1851, John Reese arrived from Salt Lake City with a substantial number of wagons filled with supplies. He built the first permanent structure to house these supplies. Other members of the group began farming so as to produce fresh vegetables, corn and wheat. A lively trading post

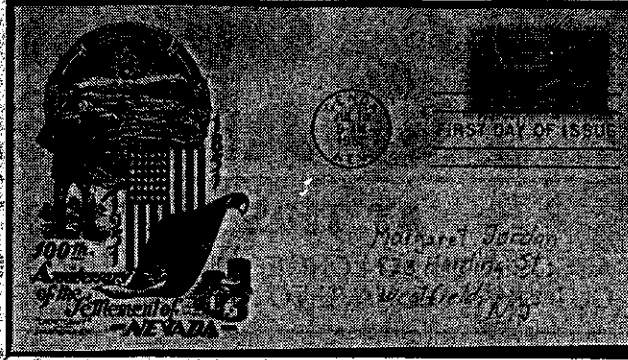


Fig. 1: First day cover marks Nevada's first settlement. 3c stamp (#999) was issued July 14, 1951.

was established.

The settlers met at John Reese' home, about 100 of them and set the rules for surveying, buying and selling land. These meetings resulted in a petition to request a territorial government as part of the Utah Territory. The U.S. Government recognized and granted their petition.

Territorial name

Genoa received its name from Elder Orson Hyde, who became the first probate judge of the newly formed territory. He likened the area to birthplace of Christopher Columbus.

In 1855, Brigham Young called all his members back to Salt Lake City who gave up their farms and developments to do that. Those non-members remained and took over all the area. In a short time, 1857, they petitioned the U.S. government to establish the Nevada Territory. President Lincoln granted their petition in March 1861.

With the Civil War in full force, President Lincoln faced problems of finances and more votes to pass his bills. President Lincoln was looking for a source of this needed support Nevada, with

its mining sources and the votes that would be available, became the ideal solution.

The word spread very quickly and with a small amount of effort, the people of the Nevada Territory petitioned the government for statehood. Although the population was under the amount required for statehood status, Lincoln granted Nevada statehood in 1864. Interestingly, due to the urgency of the situation, the tabulated vote was sent by wire. The message took 12 hours to send and at a cost of \$3,400. Thus, the term "Battle Born," was added to its flag.

Busy town

Genoa as an active community during these hectic days became involved with the mail system. It played an important part in the development of the U.S. Mail system. With the migration of the people from the east to California, mail was part of their supplies.

The miners in California were getting the mail from the east by boat to San Francisco. Individuals and freight wagons carried the mail to the gold fields. In

the summer the trails between Placerville and Genoa, were passable, but when the winter set in, travel ceased.

There was one individual who became a legend for his exploits of carrying the mail during the winter months. His name was Snowshoe Thompson and he traveled from Placerville, also known as Hangtown, to Genoa and on to Carson City. He is buried in the cemetery at Genoa and is honored yearly on Snowshoe Thompson Days.

In 1860, Russell, Majors and Waddel began the famous Pony Express system. They advertised "Delivery to the East in 9 days." This East was considered St. Joseph, Mo., and it was another four days before the mail actually reached the East Coast cities.

On Apr. 3, 1860, the Pony Express rider left San Francisco and headed to Sacramento. He passed through Placerville, over the Sierra Mountains and into Genoa. From there he went on to Carson City and stations eastward.

Genoa, Nev., is a pleasant area to visit, with its fort, old stores and museum adding to its nostalgic and sometimes violent past.

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- Via Western & Express & Stagecoach*, Oscar Osburn Winther.
- History of Nevada*, Russell R. Elliott.
- Nevada Place Names*, Helan S. Carlson.
- Around Douglas and Beyond*, Jane Lehrman.
- Tales of Nevada*, Norm Nielson.

A short news letter this month.