

P. O. BOX 2907 • SPARKS, NEVADA 89432

N.S.S.S. meets on the 1st and 4th Saturday of each month in the Sparks Museum, at 10:00 a.m., corner of Pyramid and "B" St.



# N.S.S.S.

*Presents the*

**Post Boy**

Feb. 2000

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We have survived the Y2K bug and are now heading into this year with great expectations. We have lost our leader for the next 4 months, but the show will go on. In the meantime, our new Pro-temp President will be Ed Hartley.

NEVPEX 2000 will take place at its usual date. The fourth week in June. Dick Dreiling will be handling the show. The working time of his job with the Census Bureau will not interfere with NEVPEX.

There will be an attempt to list all of the members in N.S.S.S. with names, phone numbers and collecting interests. There is a need for more information to verify what is now available and enter items not known at this time. Mostly, verifying phone numbers and collecting interests. Hope to have this project completed for this issue of Post Bos, If not, it will be in the March issue.

George Costello was up and at 'em' at the first meeting in Jan. He thanked all those that visited him, called him or sent him cards. He is one amazing person. It was great to see him in action again.

There is still a need for a Program Manager. This entails setting up the programs for the year. At this time there is only one program per month, which is at the second meeting of the month. There are many sources for providing a good informative program for the club. APS, ATA, AFDCS and the National Air Mail Society have excellent slide shows, 20 minutes long, available for club use. Also, the members can provide informative, educating and interesting programs.

The refreshments for each meeting have been signed up for the year at this. If any changes need to take place, just contact someone to replace you for that meeting.

*"To promote and enhance the hobby of Stamp Collecting"*

George Ray is handling the Auction Bucks Program, for which NSSS thanks him very much. Contact him for receiving your reward for Auction Bucks.

At the Jan. 22, there was an auction of material George Costello brought from a collector who wanted to donate the proceedings to the Junior Program. There was a number of albums that featured only plate blocks and a number of albums that featured various countries. All this material was mounted on stock pages. The auction brought in quite a bit of money, which will be donated to the Junior Program. This will provide albums for all the Juniors now enrolled in this program. Quite an accomplishment by way of the work of George Costello.

You know you are feeling old today, this will change things. This is the mindset of most of the freshmen in college today. I will be inserting them at various places in the Post-Boy.

The people who started college this fall were born in 1980.

They never owned a record player. As far as they know, stamps have always cost about 32 cents.

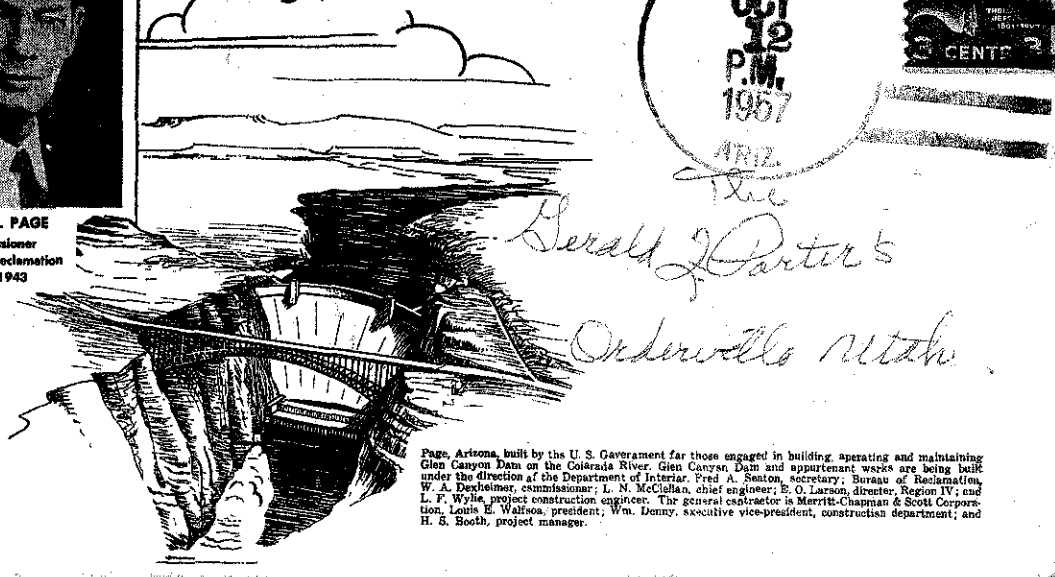
Which brings to mind in the news today, the U.S. Post Office is planning to raise the postage rate to 34 cents in 2001. Yet, they have shown a profit for the last 3 years.

First Day covers come in many shapes and sizes. The following covers show examples of them. After which there will be 5 Auction Bucks questions.



**JOHN C. PAGE**  
Commissioner  
Bureau of Reclamation  
1937-1943

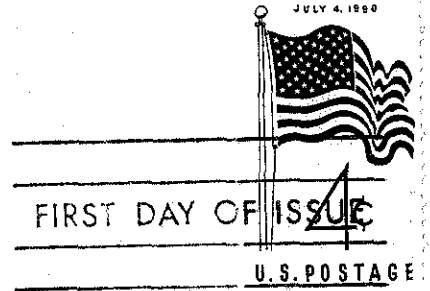
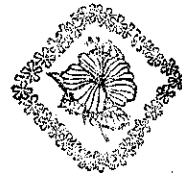
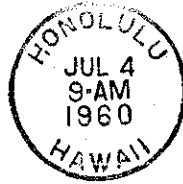
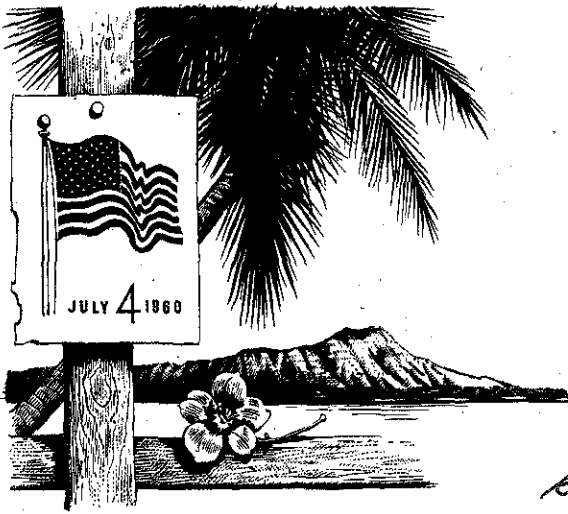
### First Day Cover Page, Arizona



Page, Arizona, built by the U. S. Government for those engaged in building, operating and maintaining Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River. Glen Canyon Dam and appurtenant works are being built under the direction of the Department of Interior, Fred A. Sexton, secretary; Bureau of Reclamation, W. A. Devolmes, commissioner; L. M. McClellan, chief engineer; E. O. Larson, director, Region IV; and L. F. Wylie, project construction engineer. The general contractor is Merritt-Chapman & Scott Corporation, Louis E. Wallson, president; Wm. Denny, executive vice-president, construction department; and H. S. Booth, project manager.

Here are some more>

2



*Steven D. Hans*

DESIGNER OF 50 STAR FLAG STAMP ISSUED JULY 4, 1960 AT HONOLULU, HAWAII



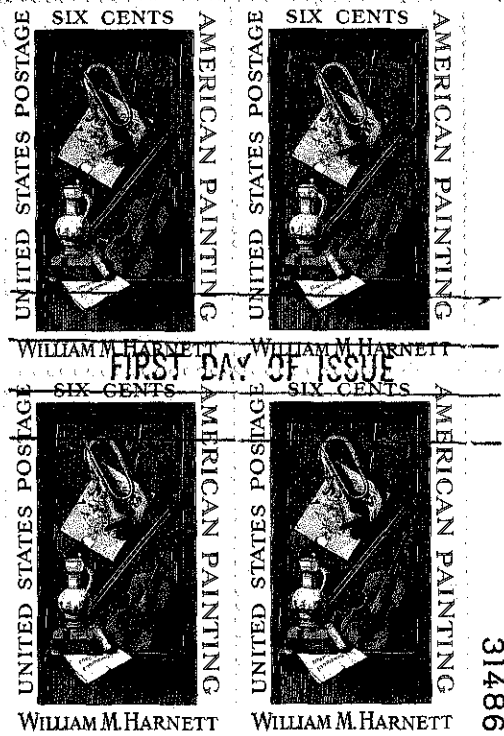
*Official First Day Cover*



AMERICAN PAINTING SERIES  
"OLD MODELS" BY WILLIAM HARNETT, 1822  
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON, 1878-1879

*Honoring*  
**WILLIAM M. HARNETT**

FAMOUS AMERICAN ARTIST  
STILL-LIFE PAINTER



31486

3

Here are two more:

International  
Year of Peace

Colorano "Silk" Cachet



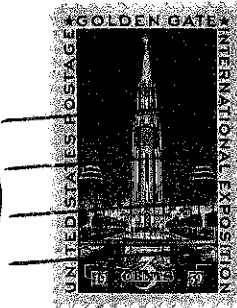
First Day of Issue



REPUBLIC  
Day of Issue  
OCT 28 1986  
Majuro  
MARSHALL ISLANDS

5

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
FEB  
18  
9:00 AM  
(GOLDEN GATE STATION)



M. L. Watson  
Orange City  
Fla.

GOLDEN GATE INTERNATIONAL  
EXPOSITION



TREASURE ISLAND  
NINETEEN THIRTY-NINE

# FDCs — eBay has advantages

By Marjory J. Sente

Recently I purchased the first-day cover shown at right on eBay. That on-line auction firm has increased my interest in some of my collections because it enables me to readily find material.

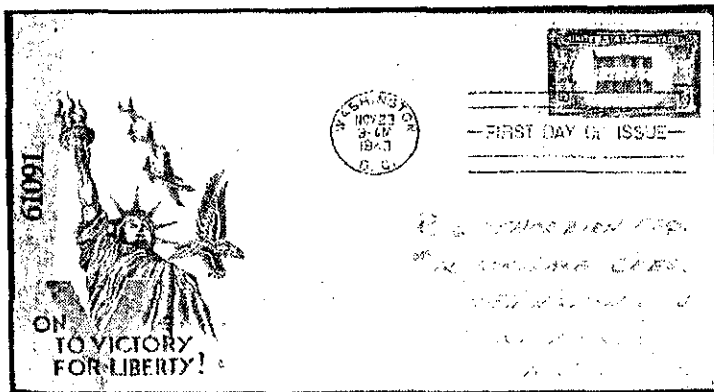
This Overrun Nations FDC was posted at Washington, D.C., censored at San Francisco and sent to New Zealand in 1943. It was offered on eBay by a dealer in Australia. The cover now resides in my collection in Pennsylvania.

Without eBay, my chances of acquiring this prize would have been slim. Also, it is easier to conduct searches online than to walk around a bourse browsing through box after box of covers, finding only one or two FDCs after a long day.

Whether you collect very common material or more exotic items, with patience, you are likely to see what you seek offered online. In mid-August, eBay's home page reported "2,683,920 items for sale in 1,627 categories now!" Of that vast total of items on sale that day, 6,862 were FDCs or related items.

To find the First Day Cover listing, look under the Coins and Stamps category that appears on the eBay home page.

"eBay seems to have a lot of FDCs, as well as commemorative panels, souvenir



This censored Overrun Nations first-day cover to New Zealand was in the stock of a dealer in Australia. The author — half a world away in Pennsylvania — was able to find and buy it in an on-line sale on eBay.

cards and other first-day-related stuff. Like everything else on eBay, most of it is described rather knowledgeably and priced fairly reasonably, though there are both bargains and beartraps to be had," notes another eBay devotee.

A quick look through the listings confirmed that observation.

Among the featured sales was a first Weschcke cachet for the 1925 Norse-American issue. This classic cachet was offered beginning at \$125. I found other early FDCs, as well as ones for U.S. issues as recent as the 33¢ Ayn Rand commemorative released earlier this year.

Many FDCs are offered as individual items, but one can find entire collections selling as one lot.

It would be numbing to scroll through 6,900 lots to find the few that interest you, so try to use the search engine effectively.

I'm interested in FDCs for the 1932 Washington Bicentennial series. My first search under "First Day Covers" was "Washington," and yielded 79 lots, of which five were

for the 1932 series I collect.

How you search is only limited by your imagination. You can search the name of your favorite cachetmaker. A search for "Collins" gave me 84 items. A search under "Rice" returned 10 lots — nine FDCs with cachets by F.R. Rice, and one featuring baseball star Jim Rice!

Searching typically, I found five windmill FDCs, and nine lots of lighthouses.

If you collect a specific issue, such as the 1965 5¢ Churchill commemorative (Scott 1264), search on the catalog number and the name as well. The catalog number brought up seven FDCs, while the Churchill search took me to 11 lots.

If you have a worldwide collection of

Churchill, and just search "Churchill," you would have to look at nearly 500 lots. However, searching under "Stamps" cuts that number to 67, including FDCs from Great Britain, Canada and Jersey.


The more you do searches, the easier it becomes to find the items that you want.

If you are doing the same searches everyday, up to three can be saved on your personal shopper (under "my eBay," a personal page that helps you track your bidding, purchases and more). You can also receive e-mail about new items listed under eBay's personal shopper service.

You can use the e-mails you exchange with the seller at the close of an auction to extend the transaction process, such as giving the seller your want list. Ask about other FDCs the seller might have. I recently bought two FDC lots and, by asking the seller if he had more of the same, was able to buy eight more.

You can sell as well as buy on eBay. Yes, there is the time and expense of listing the covers, but rewards abound.

You do get to interact with other collectors, who have common interests. You can liquidate material that has been around for years and you no longer want. And you are likely to get a better price for your material if you go directly to the collector market rather than selling to a dealer.

Happy collecting — and maybe I will see you on the net! 

## for buyers

Here are the Auction Buck questions:

1. What is a cachet?
2. Can you find the name of the cachet maker on any of these covers and who are they?
3. Was the correct postage used all of the First Day covers? Which ones did not show the correct postage?
4. Did all of the covers indicate 'First Day of Issue in the cancellation? Which covers did not use this in the cancellation?
5. Which cover is not a first day of issue?

20 Auction bucks for each correct answer.

Here are the answers for the January quiz.

1. Santa Ana and the Texans>
2. Col. William Travis.
3. There were 186 or 188 men in the Alamo at the time of the attack by Santa Ana.
4. Texas, 1836.
5. "Remember the Alamo."

Those freshmen think battle caps have always been screw off and plastic.  
They were too young to remember the space shuttle blowing up.  
They were 11 when the Soviet Union broke apart and do not remember the Cold War.

They never have seen a black and white TV.

That's just a few of the things us active senior citizens do remember.

Last thought for today:

We all have photgraphic memories, but some of just don't have film.