ΓLIDY

Meets 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Sparks Museum, corner of Pyramid and Victorian Ave.



N.S.S.S.

Presents

November, 2000

The Post Boy

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The annual Auction Bucks Auction is here again. the first meeting in November. Donate philatelic items or new non-philatelic items to be auctioned off at this time. In the past there have been many good items to bid upon. It has always been a lot of fun and enjoyment for all in attendance. So be there and have a good time. There will NOT be a mini-auction at this meeting.

Second item importance: The annual Christmas party is coming up in December. This great party will held at the Masonic Lodge located on Peckham Lane, just west of the Old Towns Mall. A very nice room with a kitchen attached. Great Gifts, at least \$5.00 or more in value. Most of those in the past have been much more and extremely nice. The manner in which the gifts are distributed is unique in itself, which adds to the fun of the party. ALSO, a great turkey dinner will be served. Bring you own bar drinks or wine. Also, Bring your own plates and utensils. Come early and enjoy an evening of socializing with the your members. Happy hour begins at 6:00 p.m and dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. Lighted parking lot is a great plus for this location.

The second meeting in November will provide an up-to date progress reports on N.S.S.S. This will include a report on the visit to the Vassar branch of the U.S.P.O.. This tour was arranged by Tom Morrissey. For those that missed it. There were two times of the tour. 10:00 a.m. on Thurs. Oct. 26th and 7:00 p.m. that same evening. The manner of handling mail has been changed since the last tour was held there. So it was a trip worth while attending.

Nadiah Beekun will be presenting the program at the second meeting in October. This will be on the Mauritius Postal Service. Nadiah just returned from that country. This program will provide information about their method of handling mail, including delivering mail in the slots of the fence.

"To promote and enhance the hobby of Stamp Collecting"

The year 2001 U.P.S.'s stamp program looks like it will have some very interesting issues. One issue will be in honor of the Pan-American Exhibition of 1901. It could show copies of the Pan-Am issues of 1901. A very pretty set of stamps. It will consist of a pane of stamps totaling \$2.47 cost. Also, Mexican Artist Frida Kahlo and Nobel winner Enrico Ferni. Norman Rockwell's, *The Doctor and the Doll* will on an issue as well as the first of ten legendary baseball playing fields. Alfred Nobel, the Nobel prize offerer:, Peanut's Snoopy, Porky Pig, Carnivorous Plants, Leonard Bernstein, Great Plains Prairie, Diabetes, U.S. Veterans and the Lunar New Year. There will some new special stamps. The Love stamp; Eid, a Moslem Holiday stamp; a Thanksgiving stamp as well as Madonna and Child and Four Old World Santas for the Christmas season. On the definitive list will be the Statue of Liberty, Farm Flag, Lily Definitives, Apple and Oranges, Washington Sculpture, Bison, Art Deco Eagle Mail Box, Hattie Carraway, Capitol at Night and the Washington Monument. Looks like a good year and some very interesting subjects. Keep your billfolds well stocked.

An Interesting Lighthouse Stamp

Every once in a while there pops out of the pages of history that relate to a recent issue of a stamp. In this case it is New Zealand's SC OY33, L17, which pictures a lighthouse. This lighthouse has quite a history. It is Smeaton's Eddystone lighthouse

It started in 1698 by a gentleman by the name of Winstanley. Henry Winstanley knew that there was a dangerous reef called Eddystone.

Mr. Winstanley started construction on the Eddystone and finished in 1698. The light, at that time, consisted of 60 tallow candles.

In 1703, a fierce storm tore the lighthouse to pieces. 5 men were lost, including Henry Winstanley.

In 1706, John Rudyerd begin to reconstruct the Eddystone lighthouse. He examined all the faults of the lighthouse built by Winstanley and with a new design he proceeded to rebuild this necessary guide to the ships passing the Port of Plymouth, England. At the 36 foot level, Mr. Rudyerd started adding rooms, a store, living room, bedroom and at the top was the kitchen. The ceiling of the kitchen supported the light. the final height of the lighthouse was 71 feet. It was finished in 1706.

Well-built to withstand all the fierce elements of the weather, this version of the Eddystone lighthouse lasted 51 years before tragedy struck again. This time the problem was not the weather but woodworms. The woodworms had eaten into much of the wooden structure. The only way to overcome this problem was to constantly replace the bad timber. They also tried copper sheeting, but this did little to stopping the rotting. In December of 1755, the duty keeper noticed smoke coming from the cupola. He roused the other two keepers, but they were unable to fight the blaze. Rudyerd's Eddystone lighthouse was now a burned stump.

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In 1759, John Smeaton was hired to rebuild the lighthouse. He was a road and bridge engineer and this was his first undertaking building a lighthouse. After surveying

the damage left from the fire, he proceeded to replace all the wooden structures with stone. In August, 1756, he began the project.

Working at low tides, his men were able to cut the base rock into steps These steps were designed to be fitted with precut stones. A lifting tackle was constructed to hoist the stones from the barges onto the base steps. It took several seasons, as it did with the construction of the first two lighthouses, to finally finish the job. A lantern replaced the candles and on Oct. 8, 1759, Mr Smeaton and his three keepers, had the joy of seeing the first light from Plymouth Hoe. This structure lasted until 1877, 118 years. It was replaced with a modern version of lighthouse for warning shippers of a dangerous rock.

The stamp, shown below, is the one described in the article above. It is one of a set of New Zealand Lighthouses, although, this lighthouse was built in England. I'm sure the others have hidden stories about them as well.

So, maybe you have a particular stamps with a lot of history behind it. Send it to the Post Boy Editor and it was be printed. Would appreciate it very much.

News

The Swedish Postal system is in the process of changing it operations. Sweden operates 900 postal service stations, plus 900 other stations located in supermarkets, gas stations and other locations. At present there is an agreement with Nordbanken to offer postal services at its banking facilities. On March 31, 2001 this agreement expires and in the process the Swedish Postal Services will be closing these locations. About 5000 employees will be affected. The Post Sweden plans to offset this employee reduction with an increase of locations in supermarkets, gas stations, etc. Also the rural delivery service will be expanded. They also that many of the Post Offices will have longer hours and will be more conveniently located for most customers.

Did I mention that the price a postage stamp will increase to 34 cents on Jan. 7, 2001? Well, if you didn't, now you know. The first stamp of 2001 will be a non-denominated "USA FIRST CLASS" Statue of Liberty. Others will follow shortly thereafter. This is for the domestic first class letter.

I goofed on the Christmas stamp announcement for this year. The U.S.P.O. did have the new designs for this year, but instead decided to use up the leftovers from last year and issue these new designs for 2001. So, there will be the Christmas stamps for this years Christmas cards, but not new designs.

Here are the answers for last month's mixed upped names. All the names were countries listed in the average stamp catalogue.

1. Austria

2. Lesotho

3. Paraguay

4. Uganda

5. Dub

The answers to this month's game will receive 20 Auction Bucks for the upcoming Auction Bucks Auction, at the first meeting in November.

The following identifying marks relate to a specific country. Can you name the countries?

1.

2.

3. DDR

4.

5. YKPATH**U**

Place your answers in the lines below.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

The Post boy will be a little short this month, due to my absence from Oct. 30 to Nov. 17th.