



P.O. Box 2907 Sparks, Nevada 89432

N.S.S.S. meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am
in the Sparks Heritage Museum at Pyramid and Victorian Avenue

N.S.S.S.



POST BOY

October 16, 2002

Closed Albums

Al Green, a former member of the NSSS, passed last month on September 9th. I'm sure he will be missed by those members who shared our club with him.

This issue is a little past the normal printing date and I will try to be sure to it doesn't happen again. With the influx of motorcycles to our fair city during "Street Vibrations", I was kept quite busy at the club I work for and was unable to attend to the business of putting out this fair publication. My apologies to the members who may have been affected by this omission.

Our president, **Dick Dreiling** spent a great deal of time at the State Fair this year and my hat's off to him for his contributions on behalf of the NSSS. He spent his time helping to find new members for our club as well as introducing many children to stamp collecting. He spent approximately 57 hours setting up a booth at the fair and giving out free envelopes of stamps to the kids and passing out applications to lots of potential new members. Dick has been tireless in promoting our hobby.

We have an exciting program ready for our next meeting. We are going to make some first day covers with the help of **Jeanne Paquin**, our newest member and **Cindy Scott**. At our last meeting (Oct. 12th) Jeanne passed out a list of items we should all bring to complete our projects. For the benefit of those of you who were unable to attend that meeting, I will print that list elsewhere in this issue. The stamps that will be used are the revalued EID, Kwanzaa and Hanukkah stamps. Be prepared, I think this one's going to be fun.

I would like to remind those members that haven't yet paid their dues that they are due. Dues are only \$17.50, so, bring it with you to the next meeting on October 26th.

We have two major events coming up. The first, The Club Auction, is slated for the first meeting next month (Nov. 9th). That is the time to bring all that stuff you've been saving all year to auction off. don't forget your "Auction Bucks". The second is the Christmas Party which will be held on December 14th. All the particulars will be forthcoming in a future issue.

President:

Dick Dreiling
35 Mc Lemore Ct.,
Sparks, NV 89436
(775) 425-0623

Vice President:

Jim Ringer
605 E. Huffaker Ln.,
Reno, NV 89511
(775) 853-3137

Secretary/Editor:

Nadiyah Beekum
2560 Howard Dr.
Sparks, NV. 89434
(775) 355-1461

Treasurer:

Michael McAuliffe
4820 Pinespring Dr.,
Reno NV 89509
(775) 826-1848

Editor:

Howard Grenzebach
180 Pompe
Lemmon Valley, NV 89506
(775) 972-6301

Directors:

Nadiyah Beekum
2560 Howard Dr.
Sparks, NV. 89434
(775) 355-1461

Stan Cronwell
10000 Blue Spruce Dr.,
Reno, NV 89511
(775) 849-7850

Frank Fey
2601 Monterey Circle
Reno, NV 89509
(775) 826-1476

James S. Goodwin
50 E. Quail St.,
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 358-7781

Ed Hartley
1285 Baring Blvd.,
PMB # 306
Sparks NV 89434
(775) 626-8513

Al Shay
2930 Outlook Dr.,
Reno, NV 89509
(775) 825-8304

Brandon Wimbley (Jr. Rep.)
3965 Pargue Verde,
Reno. Nv 89502

Rural Free Delivery

Today it is difficult to envision the isolation that was the lot of farm families in early America. In the days before telephones, radios, or televisions were common, the farmer's main links to the outside world were the mail and the newspapers that came by mail to the nearest post office. Since the mail had to be picked up, this meant a trip to the post office, often involving a day's travel, round-trip. The farmer might delay picking up mail for days, weeks, or even months until the trip could be coupled with one for supplies, food, or equipment.

John Wanamaker of Pennsylvania was the first Postmaster General to advocate rural free delivery (RFD). Although funds were appropriated a month before he left office in 1893, subsequent Postmasters General dragged their feet on inaugurating the new service so that it was 1896 before the first experimental rural delivery routes began in West Virginia, with carriers working out of post offices in Charlestown, Halltown, and Uvilla.

Many transportation events in postal history were marked by great demonstrations: the Pony Express, for example, and scheduled airmail service in 1918. The West Virginia experiment with rural free delivery, however, was launched in relative obscurity and in an atmosphere of hostility. Critics of the plan claimed it was impractical and too expensive to have a postal carrier trudge over rutted roads and through forests trying to deliver mail in all kinds of weather.

However, the farmers, without exception, were delighted with the new service and the new world open to them. After receiving free delivery for a few months, one observed that it would take away part of life to give it up. A Missouri farmer looked back on his life and calculated that, in 15 years, he had traveled 12,000 miles going to and from his post office to get the mail.

A byproduct of rural free delivery was the stimulation it provided to the development of the great American system of roads and highways. A prerequisite for rural delivery was good roads. After hundreds of petitions for rural delivery were turned down by the Post Office because of unserviceable and inaccessible roads, responsible local governments began to extend and improve existing highways. Between 1897 and 1908, these local governments spent an estimated \$72 million on bridges, culverts, and other improvements. In one county in Indiana, farmers themselves paid over \$2,600 to grade and gravel a road in order to qualify for RFD.

The impact of RFD as a cultural and social agent for millions of Americans was even more striking, and, in this respect, rural delivery still is a vital link between industrial and rural America.

Parcel Post

The establishment of rural delivery was a heady taste of life for rural Americans and soon increased their demand for delivery of small packages containing foodstuffs, tobacco, dry goods, drugs, and other commodities not easily available to farmers.

Private express companies and country retail merchants fought long and hard against parcel post, but rural residents represented 54 percent of the country's population, and they were equally vociferous. While the question was still being hotly debated in Congress, one of the express companies declared a large dividend to stockholders, and public indignation at so-called exorbitant profits helped decide the issue for Congress.

Parcel post became law in 1912, and service began January 1, 1913. It was an instant success. In all parts of the country, enthusiastic advocates of the service celebrated by mailing thousands of parcels in the first few days. The effect on the national economy was electric. Marketing and merchandising through parcel post gave rise to great mail-order houses.

Montgomery Ward, the first mail-order house, started with a one-page catalog in 1872. After parcel post began, the mailorder catalog became the most important book in the farmhouse next to the Bible; it was, in fact, often called - "The Homesteader's Bible" or "The Wish Book."

Sears, Roebuck and Company followed Montgomery Ward in 1893. In 1897, after one year of rural delivery, Sears boasted it was selling four suits and a watch every minute, a revolver every two minutes, and a buggy every 10 minutes. After five years of parcel post delivery, Sears had tripled its revenues.

Supplies Needed for the First Day Cover Workshop

Suggested items to bring

Colored pencils (any type)

Glue Stick

Regular pencil

Scissors

Ruler

Artist Chalks (optional)

Black Sharpie Pen

Christmas paper (if you want to make your own envelopes)

Printed Holiday Paper

If you have questions call, Jeanne Paquin (885-7768)

Okay, this is the list. If you are not a professional artist, amateur artist or studied art in college, you'll be just fine. Artistic talent is not a requirement. There will be cut-outs available or use the Christmas or holiday paper you bring with you as a source of artistic talent. You're going to have a good time.

www.jaypex.com

Collection Index
(Very much a work in progress)



APS # 51714

Jay T. Carrigan
39 Foxglove Road
Hendersonville, NC 28739
(USA)

phone: (828) 698-7836
fax: (828)
698-6365

email: jay@jaypex.com

There are many websites on the internet offering information for philatelists. The trick is in knowing which are the product of someone who knows what he is talking about. There are a few sites I have offered on this page where it was assumed the person had good knowledge of their subject. This was based on the presentation. Many other sites had a reputation to back them up. This time I offer a site from personal association. I have known Mr. Carrigan for a little over a year now. He, as I, are members of the Third Reich Stamp Club and the Allied Occupation Stamp Club, online.

Mr. Carrigan's information comes, for the most part, from other respected sources as he admits himself. He generously provide this information for our use. This particular page tells us about the forgeries and genuine stamps of several European countries and how to identify the differences. He also sells many of the stamps shows, so you can be pretty sure of buying the genuine article.

This is not the prettiest website I have ever seen (Mr. Carrigan is not an artist), but is laid out in a fairly easy to use manner. Find a link that catches your eye and click on it. You will get the information you need to identify your stamp. The site is somewhat limited in it's scope and Mr. Carrigan is expanding it as he finds the time to do so. If you have any questions or suggestions for improving the site, send Jay an email (the link is at the top of the page). He will be happy to hear from you and will incorporate any good ideas you may have for him and will answer your philatelic questions.

I have relied on his expertise many times, myself. He has helped me to determine a number of forgeries I found in a collection of post-war material I recently purchased. He was also very helpful in finding the real stamps that were difficult to identify as genuine.

Try this site. You'll like it. Mr. Carrigan takes a great deal of pleasure in helping his fellow philatelists find their way around some difficult subjects. And buy a philate or two. I think we should support and keep people like him in the hobby.

Time for a tough Quiz. If you don't know "Machins" you're going to have a hard time with this one. Good Luck!

1. True or false: Machin is the surname of the artist who sculpted the plaster relief of the Queen's profile upon which the stamps' design is based.
2. Which of the following firms have printed Machin definitives?
 - A. De La Rue
 - B. Harrison and Sons
 - C. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.
 - D. John Waddington PLC
 - E. Perkins, Bacon & Petch
3. True or false: NVI stands for "Not Valid for Inland mail."
4. True or false: Fluorescence is the afterglow of phosphor tagging after ultraviolet light has been shut off
5. Which of the following are abbreviations for gums used on Machin stamps?
 - A. GA
 - B. ACP
 - C. OBA
 - D. PVA
 - E. APS
6. True or false: No denomination of Machin has ever been issued in more than three different colors.
7. True or false: The 60p Machin was never issued in sheet format.
8. True or false: The colors of the first decimal Machins were selected by teams of housewives and postal workers.
9. True or false: Today, Royal Mail restricts the Machin series to 25 different colors.
10. True or false: There are over 20 varieties of the 1p Machin that can be distinguished with the use of standard philatelic tools.
11. True or False: Double-headed Machins were issued in 1990 picturing Queen Elizabeth II and her mother, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, on the occasion of the Queen Mother's 90th birthday.
12. True or false: I find Machins terminally boring and can't imagine why anyone would want to collect them.

Once again I took the test without cracking a book and missed five (including #'s 2 and 5). Guess I've found the tough material I've been looking for. Watch out for numbers 2 and 5. There are multiple answers (credit will be given for each multiple). If you answer all these right, you're a genius. 50 extra Auction Bucks for being a genius.

A little more difficult than the last one. Number two gave most players a bit of trouble. The most popular answer was George W. Carver. It was, unfortunately, not the most correct answer.

Here's the answers for last month's quiz.

1. Moby Dick. This test is apparently a little old. While I don't show any Moby Dick issues in my 1992 catalog, I seem to remember an issue recently. Could be wrong.
2. Booker T. Washington. The George W. Carver stamp (#953) was issued on January 5, 1948. The first Booker T. Washington stamp (# 873) was issued with the "Famous Americans" set in 1940.
3. 1962.
4. Franklin D. Roosevelt. I'm sure we all remember pictures of President Roosevelt, the stamp collector.
5. Harriet Tubman helped more than three hundred slaves escape through the "underground railroad".
6. Citizen Kane. Seems Citizen Kane is not a popular governmental figure.
7. Lake Placid, New York.
8. Babe Zaharias and Bobby Jones. #'s 1932 (Babe Z.) and 1933 (Bobby Jones) were issued Sept 22, 1981.
9. \$2.60. The issues were C13-15. The denominations were .65, \$1.30 and \$2.60.

Several more answer sheets were submitted to this quiz than in the past and a few more people have more auction bucks to bid with when the auction come up in a few weeks. Don't let them outbid you. Answer this weeks quiz. Get Auction Bucks.

Remember, half the people you know are below average.