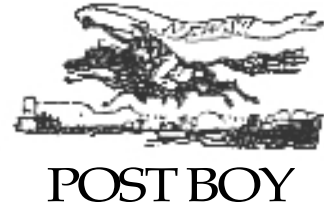


P.O. Box 2907 Sparks, Nevada 89432

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.



April 10, 2004

President:

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

Vice President:

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

Secretary/Editor:

Nadiah Beekun
2560 Howard Dr.
Sparks, NV. 89434
(775) 355-1461

Treasurer:

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

Editor:

Howard Grenzbach
180 Pompe
Lemmon Valley, NV 89506
(775) 972-6301
artfulputz@aol.com

Directors:

Ed Davies
1001 Sharrow Way
Carson City, NV 89703
883-7147

Terri Edwards
22 Hilltop Dr.
Carson City, NV 89706-7771
(775) 246-4769

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

Tara McAuliffe (Junior Rep.)
4820 Pinespring Dr.
Reno NV 89509
(775) 826-1848

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

Brandon Wimbley
3965 Parque Verde,
Reno, Nv 89502
(775) 827-2999

At this writing the sun is out and gentle breezes are blowing. The temperature is a balmy sixty-eight or seventy degrees, and not a cloud in the sky. The nights are cool and the stars are twinkling brightly. When's it going to snow again??

I have just returned from my annual trek to Palm Springs, playing golf with some friends of mine. The weather was beautiful and I hear it was the same here. Glad the weather was good to you too, but somehow, I always feel better when I leave the snow, ice and wind behind (but a little bad to leave you in it). It's good to be back. Sorry to have missed the last meeting.

Nadiah Beekun went to a meeting to celebrate "Turn off the TV Week", and took advantage to promote the **NSSS**. **Keith Carvin** brought his stamp display and garnered much attention with it at the booth given to Nadiah by the group sponsoring the event. stamp collecting has received a big boost and we may be seeing a few new members as a result. Thank you Nadiah and Keith.

Speaking of promotion, The **Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show** still wends its way

closer to its opening day and help is still needed. **Wayne Wilson** is in charge of production of the Show cancellations, so designs will be needed. Any ideas? Put it down on paper and hand it over to Wayne. One copy will do initially. If accepted, seven more copies (eight in all) are necessary for the final. Get them in early for consideration.

This month I have spent a little extra time on the internet filling the pages of the Post Boy. On page two is a story I read about why our hobby may be in decline. This type of knowledge may help us to turn this trend around. On page three is a webpage that offers a difference of opinion about one of the answers from the quiz page. Then, of course the usual computer page with a nod to one of our newer members. You might enjoy this site too.

Speaking of the quiz page, why not take a look, if you haven't turned one in yet it's an easy way to earn a few extra bucks for our auction (kind of like a garage sale of the best kind - you don't need money) in November. Bring the answers in this meeting or next. Earn some bucks

Plagerized from the "**Collector's Cafe (stamps)**"

<http://www.collectorcafe.com/article.asp>

Collecting Stamps – A Forgotten Pastime

Bill Wardley

What has happened to stamp collecting? The pastime has completely missed new generations. Only a few decades ago most of us would have had been introduced to stamp collecting in our youth and a fair proportion of us would have actually started a stamp collection. Today, however, stamps do not get a mention in a youthful market dominated by games consoles, television and the Internet. What is the reason for this? Is stamp collecting not being promoted to the younger market? Are they just not interested? In an effort to fathom this riddle I have tried to identify reasons why people do (or did) actually take up stamp collecting as a hobby.

Education

Stamp collecting can teach children an awful lot. From those tiny little pieces of paper a child can learn about geography, history, monetary systems and currencies.

So why are parents not encouraging their children to take up stamp collecting these days? The obvious answer is because children nowadays have a far greater source of education and information at their very fingertips. The Internet can provide answers to every question with the immense level of information freely available.

Vital Skills

As well as educational benefits, stamp collecting also develops vital disciplines such as organisational skills and bargaining skills.

These skills were once an important part of anyone's life, but are these skills that people can do without in today's world? Who needs to be organised when everything can be recorded and in some cases, done for you, by a machine? The ability to barter is without doubt a lost art. Almost everything nowadays is offered to us at a fixed rate and we never really get the opportunity to haggle for anything.

Peer Pressure

If a child started collecting stamps what would his/her peers say? Would that child be ridiculed for partaking in a "geeky" hobby? The answer, most probably, is yes. Fear of ridicule and exclusion plays a large part in children sticking to the norm. Unfortunately for stamp collecting, the norm at the moment in time is computer games, TV and pop music.

It has been claimed that stamp collecting attracts children with the greatest intellectual curiosity. As a rule, are children less curious in today's world? Or is it more a case of children are still curious but now they have a far easier and far more extensive means of satisfying that curiosity?

I believe the major leaps in technology have had a massive effect on the number of children taking up stamp collecting. It maybe said that too much television warps the mind, but with so many educational channels available today, it is far more accurate to say that television feeds the mind. Couple that with the largest information library the world has ever known; the Internet and you can see why children do not need to start collecting stamps in order to aid their learning, develop skills or satisfy their curiosity.

This is a response to question # 7 in the quiz answers on page number 6. Check out your answers and come back to this page.

As near as I can tell the question should have been for 1846 rather than 1845 when the rates were still somewhat unsettled. Below is the website's address. You may wish to take a look at it for yourself. There are some very interesting stampless covers and a lot of useful information for the stampless cover collector.

<http://thesaltsailor.com/rhodeisland/stampless1.htm>

Postal Rates prior to 1846 were exorbitant and just a little bit confusing. The postage was rated on the number of sheets and the distance the mail had to travel. Only on mail weighing more than 1 oz did weight come into consideration. (**Letters weighing more than 1 oz were rated at a quadruple rate and one additional rate for each 1/4 ounce thereafter.**) This is the reason that most personal mail during that period was sent on a single folded sheet that served as both the wrapper and the letter itself.

The postal rates from 1799 to 1816 for single letters (one sheet) were as follows:

Distance	Rate
Under 40 Miles	8 Cents
41 to 90 Miles	10 cents
91 to 150 miles	12 1/2 cents
151 to 300 miles	17 cents
301 to 500 miles	20 cents
Over 500 Miles	25 cents

As can be seen by the above table, sending mail any distance in those days could cost as much as a man made in a week. The 1816 to 1845 postal rates varied slightly in distance and cost from the previous rates but were still expensive. In 1846 the rate was set at 5 cents for half ounce letters sent under 300 miles and 10 cents for letters sent over 300 miles. In 1851 the post office finally initiated a reasonable rate structure with all half ounce letters traveling under 3000 miles rated at 3 cents.

I have changed the fonts from what was used in the site and underlined the information that applies to the answer for question number 7 in the quiz, and have made no other changes. Someone may wish to go a little further in the research to offer a little more clarification on this. If you do, email me at artfulputz @aol.com and I will post it in the next issue of the Post Boy.

Lockheed, manufacturer of the Trident missile, transmits data from its Sunnyvale, California headquarters to its plant 30 miles away in Santa Cruz via carrier pigeon.

Last month I presented a website called “My Hungary Collection Special”, a delightful site, indeed. It might be easier to find if you had an address. So sorry, my bad. Here it is; <http://home.hccnet.nl/w.h.m.van.gennip/>

And now for the next page;
<http://www.imnahastamps.com/>



Having discovered a collector who, aside from his specialty, collects Vietnam, I offer Imnaha Stamps put together by Andrew Crenshaw. This site centers on Military mail of Vietnam, which is a rather difficult area to collect. The site includes listings and pictures of 1945 overprint issues and several covers that used these issues (rare items, indeed). Later covers from the 60's and 70's and documents as well as I.D. cards are also shown. Sometimes it is difficult to tell a military cover from any other type of cover so an English-Vietnamese glossary of military terms is also included. To follow the movements of the South Vietnamese units, Mr Crenshaw has built a list of the KBC numbers and their corresponding locations. You can download this list in PDF format if you have Adobe Acrobat which you can also download.

The first page is about the terms and markings found on military mail. There are pictures of covers and the specific markings on them. I also saw warning about fake covers being made in Vietnam to fool collectors. There is a list of terms and their English interpretations, some in special sections for the separate forces (Navy, Marines, etc.). After that a good list of references.

Military I.D. and Certificates also has a link to civilian I.D. cards. The military cards are shown with an explanation of each via a link on this page.

The KBC (Khu Buu Chinh) is the military postal distribution code, or APO numbers as we know it in the US. This is followed by another page showing military insignia.

VNAF Postal History is a page about the Vietnamese Air Force and covers the training history under the French and Americans and shows several very nice covers from their units.

Airborne Division Mail shows a few covers, including one with a military stamp and one fake cover.

Society of Indochina Philatelists - News and Information is the page of that society. This gives some information about the society and the opportunity to join.

Viet Minh Overprints - A Comprehensive Reference is the last page of the site and my favorite. It shows all the overprints of the Viet Minh as well as the varieties of each. It refers to them by Michel number but gives a cross reference to each of the catalogs that list them. At the top of this page are four tabs, each of which take you to “Covers”, “Reference”, “Locals” and “Stamps” (it opens on this). The “Cover” page shows a small multitude of overprint covers. The reference page has a few references including Ho Chi Minh's declaration of the independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Finally “Locals” which has many of the local issues of North Vietnam.

A very comprehensive site of the common and unusual from Vietnam during very troubled time in their history. I recommend this site, even if you're not interested in their stamps.

<http://www.epmsite.com/>

At the first meeting of March a selection of stamps from the “Dune” states were brought into question. The above mentioned site address will take you to an interesting page called the “Emirates Postal Museum” and is all about the “Dune” states (that term is not used on the site). The opening page shows a picture of the “Certificate of Posting of registered Articles”. The site is a series of links to the postal authorities of the several Emirate states, such as Sharjah, Qatar and Kuwait. There are postal museums, stamp exhibitions, postal history, postal news and all the other things you might expect to find in a stamp site. It will be an interesting investigation into what is usually described as “wallpaper” stamps. While most of the stamps were made for beginning collectors (they did produce some beautiful stamps) many were actually used in a post office. Try it, I think you'll like it.

April Fool to you all, hope you had a happy and enjoyable April First. Too bad this quiz is nine days too late for the funny stuff. Maybe next year. This quiz has a little more to do with geography than usual, so get out the gazeteer and enjoy.

1. When did the Phillipines become independent and begin issuing their own stamps?
A) July 4, 1939 B) July 4, 1946 C) July 4, 1993
2. Who is on the seven-cent 1938 definitive?
A) Andrew Jackson B) James Madison C) James Polk
3. On what denomination stamp does Elias Howe appear?
A) Three cents B) Five cents C) Ten cents
4. Who is shown on the thirteen cent stamp of the prominent American series of 1965-78?
A) Andrew Jackson B) Henry Ford C) John F. Kennedy
5. What explorer is shown on the one-cent stamp issued for use in Cuba under US military rule in 1899?
A) Columbus B) Pizzarro C) Admunsen
6. Stamp collecting is honored on a stamp. In what year was it issued?
A) 1970 B) 1972 C) 1974
7. A sentry box at Morro Castle appears on a 1971 issue. Where is Morro Castle?
A) Porto Rico B) Cuba C) Phillipines
8. What is the color of the stamp honoring Frances E. Willard in the famous Educator series?
A) Ultramarine B) Magenta C) Brown
9. The Christmas stamp of 1970 showed four toys. What are they?
A) Jack-in the-box, stuffed animal, rattle, airplane B) Bike, doll, truck, game
C) Locomotive, trike, horse, baby carriage
10. What ship appears on the 1944 steamship issue?
A) Savannah B) Sagadohock C) Merrimack

Another easy one (no fooling). Hope you got them all right and Mr. Scott didn't lead you astray. I didn't see anything tricky in this one, so you should ace it handily.

The answer to question number 7 brings up more questions. I researched on the internet and came to a different conclusion and you may too. Number 3 was also an interesting question. All the others are pretty straight-forward and the answers the same way.

1. - B. Dictionaries (you probably have one of his). The Scott number is 1121, issued on October 16, 1958, on the occasion of his 200th birthday.
2. - A. James Monroe was our fifth president and was put on the 5 cent stamp of the 1938 presidential series, Scott number 810.
3. - C. Number 877 is the five cent stamp that honors Dr. Walter Reed, famous for finding the causes of the dreaded "yellow fever".
4. - A, two. The FIPEX souvenir sheet, #1075, was issued to commemorate the Fifth International Philatelic EXhibition and shows the three and eight cent liberty stamps.
5. - C. A painting by John Singleton Copley of his daughter, Elizabeth Clarke is shown on number 1273.
6. - C. A Part of the "Famous Americans" issue, Victor Herbert was honored for his accomplishments as an American composer and co-founder of the American Society of Composers.
7. - A. Five Cents. I find the answer to this question to be quite concise. I think the question may be questionable. See page three for an explanation of postage rates in 1845.
8. - B. Four. The reason for issue of #1772 is obvious. The stamp shows the faces of four children of different races.
9. - A. The one dollar value of the parcel post issues, #Q12, shows a grove of oranges growing in Florida.
10. - C. The Virginia of Sagadahock and the seal of Maine is shown to commemorate 350 years of shipbuilding in America. Number 1095.

The answers in the book I am currently using for these quizzes are usually simple one or two word answers. Often times I am led to the internet to expand on these answers which in turn leads to some interesting websites. This is one of them. It's the story of Dr. Walter Reed. <http://www.wramc.amedd.army.mil/welcome/history/>. I hope you find it interesting as I did and I hope you have aced another quiz.