



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



POST BOY

N.S.S.S.

November 13, 2004

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Did you vote? Hope your candidate won. Well, it's November, snow has fallen, Thanksgiving is a few weeks away and cold weather has come to town. Christmas and New Years are just around the corner. Happy holiday season.

The display at the Vassar Post Office was changed, thanks to **Mike Johnson**. This one includes a copy of the Post Boy. Perhaps this will attract new members to our club. new material for these displays are always welcome from our members. Perhaps you have something from your specialty to offer. The display doesn't have to win Vermeil or Gold from the APS. All we want is to show something about collecting to the rest of Reno and Sparks. How about showing a little of your collection.

It's finally here! The Auction of the year, so get out the things you have been saving to share with our members and bring them for the next meeting. Don't forget, these are donations and hopefully you won't have to bring them home with you. No leftovers from your last garage sale. unless you think someone really, really wants them. Philatelic items are preferred (after all, this is a stamp club), but not necessary (after all, this is for fun). Another item not to forget is those auctions bucks you have worked so hard for all year. This is your opportunity to spend them. See page three to find out what you need to do to earn them next year (hint: The Post Boy quiz is one way). The regular auction will not be held.

We need to thank **Ed and Arline Davies** again for another excellent program from the APS. This month the program covered Fakes and

forges. What was learned from this program? A lot. I didn't know that the first forgery was discovered only four months after the first stamp was issued. Don't know whether to laugh or cry.

Next month's program is from **Bill Brew**. It will come in the form of a slide show program about St. Lucia which Bill put together himself and used in several shows. Looking forward to this one.

Next month will be the Christmas party. If you prefer, it will be the Hanukkah party, Mohammed party or to celebrate the equinox. **Dick Dreiling** will cook the turkey, **you** will bring the salad, desert, cranberry dressing or hummus, etc. All you need do is sign up for whatever dish you want to bring so that there will not be too much duplication. You will also need to bring whatever serving ware is required for the dish. Don't forget to take it home when you leave.

SACAPEX show has come and gone. Hope you didn't miss it. Next show is the;

Santa Clara Stamp & Collectibles Expo at the Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great American Parkway on **Nov. 18 to 21**. It opens at noon on Thursday and 10:00 on Fri., Sat. & Sun., closing at 7:00 (3:00 on Sun). There will be a \$4.00 admission charge.

San Francisco Stamp Fair will be held on **Nov. 27 and 28** at the Cathedral Hotel, 1101 Van Ness (at Geary) from 10:00 to 6:00, closing at 4:00 on Sunday.

PENPEX, in Redwood City on **Dec. 4 and 5** at the Community Activities Bldg., 1400 Roosevelt Ave. from 10:00 to 6:00 (5:00 on Sun). They will have a special show postmark. See page 2 for directions.

BITS AND PIECES

There will be a board meeting after the Auction on Nov. 13. All members are welcome.

The last regular meeting of the year will be on the 27th of November. Terri and Harvey Edwards will hold a meeting of the 2005 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show Committee immediately following. As with all meetings, members are invited to attend

On January 5, 2004, the National Postal Museum, which has held a large stock (7.8 million) of twentieth century revenue stamps given to it by the IRS (for exchange, sale or destruction), has made a decision to destroy those stamps early next year. I received this information from Eric Jackson's Revenue Stamps website. They have had an ongoing forum about this issue since it became a issue. The majority of people (at least 5 to 1) responding to the forum have been against the destruction of these stamps as they are historical documents. Others feel that the release of these stamps to the public would kill the value of the rarer items in circulation now. People who had invested in these rare items would lose their money.

This is the story in a nutshell and it is, of course, much more complicated. You may be aware of this story because it has been published in most of the major philatelic magazines. If you're interested in delving deeper into to it, go to <http://www.ericjackson.com>. They have the complete story, opinions, documents and history. He also provides addresses where you can voice your opinion to the proper authorities. By the way, Eric Jackson feels the stamps should be released to the public rather than be destroyed.

What is happening with the very popular photostamp program from the USPS? As you may recall the program was given to Stamps.com to develop as an experiment, to see if there would be public acceptance. The public responded with enthusiasm. In spite of the extra cost and time involved, Stamps.com customers bought them by the boatload. In one of the more recent issues (Oct 7) of Linn's the announcement was made that the trial is ended and the USPS will probably kill the program.

Whoops! Isn't this a little bit like killing the golden goose? It seems likely the USPS was collecting a small part of the profits generated by this program and couldn't those profits go towards reducing the cost of a regular postage stamp? Just some wishful thinking. What happened? Why would they consider ending such a successful program? Fact is, it hasn't been ended yet, it is just being reviewed. The speculation about ending the program comes because the USPS has refused to extend the trial period to cover the very profitable Christmas season despite Stamp.com's request.

There have been problems. The unbomber (remember him?) has been put on a US stamp. Stamps.com has a department that screens the pictures proposed for these stamps, but they can and do, occasionally, miss a face or two. Ted Kazinski, the unbomber, was put on a stamp because the picture was taken while he was still in college and his face was clean shaven. And nobody noticed Milosevic, after all, he looks like everybody's father. The Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee advised against this program. They felt that images on stamps should be carefully chosen rather than selected at the whims of the public. HmMMMM, maybe they have a point there.

I was reading about a Cyber Stamp Club in Linn's and decided to put something about it in this space. I sat down at the computer and typed in "cyberstampclub.com", hit enter and viola, up came the stamp club I was looking for. As soon as the page finished loading, it went blank. I don't know why it did that. I'm not really a master of computers and once in a while they do strange things to me that I just don't understand.

So what is a "Cyber Stamp Club"? You collect your stamps on a computer. The idea is to gather the image of the stamp you want or need to put in your cyber stamp album. Apparently there are rules, like you don't collect the stamp from an online catalog and you don't gather stamps from other's collection unless you are trading with them. Not sure of these rules since I couldn't keep the website open. Sounds like an interesting way to collect stamps.

If you want to go to the PENPEX stamp show in Redwood City, here are some directions; Take Hwy 101 or 280 to Woodside Rd., go north on Valota Rd., approx. one mile to Roosevelt Ave., right two blocks, show on left.

AUCTION BUCKS 2002

THE PURPOSE OF THE AUCTION BUCKS PROGRAM IS TO INVOLVE NSSS MEMBERS IN THE CLUB'S ACTIVITIES.

THE 2002 AUCTION BUCKS AUCTION (PHILATELIC AND "WHITE ELEPHANT") WILL BE HELD 9 NOV, 2002.

YOU MAY EARN EXTRA BUCKS BY FOLLOWING THESE RULES AMENDED FOR THE 1999 YEAR BASED ON MEMBER INPUT.

- 1. PROVIDING A NEW MEMBER -----200 BUCKS
- 2. NEW MEMBER ("JUMP START" BONUS)-----250 BUCKS
- 3. PROVIDING A PROGRAM-----150 BUCKS PER SUBJECT
- 4. PROVIDING REFRESHMENTS-----100 BUCKS
- 5. SELLING DOOR PRIZE TICKETS----- 25 BUCKS
- 6. DONATING DOOR PRIZES----- 5 BUCKS EACH (LIMIT 5)
- 7. PROVIDING AUCTION ITEMS----- 5 BUCKS EACH (LIMIT 6)
- 8. DONATED ITEMS FOR GOOD OF CLUB----- SAME # OF BUCKS AS
AUCTION YIELDS OR EQUAL TO VALUE OF ITEM
- 9. OFFICERS BOARD MEETING----- 50 BUCKS
- 10. COMMITTEE CHAIR ATTENDING MEETING----- 25 BUCKS
- 11. CLUB MEMBER ATTENDING MEETING----- 10 BUCKS
- 12. MEETING ROOM SET UP OR DOWN----- 5 BUCKS EACH
- 13. HELPING ON THE YOUTH PROGRAMS----- 10 BUCKS PER HOUR
- 14. HELPING ON AN ORGANIZED SHOW----- 10 BUCKS PER HOUR
- 15. ANY CLUB ACTIVITY (EXCEPT MEETING)----- 10 BUCKS PER HOUR
- 16. PROVIDING ORIGINAL POST BOY ARTICLES----- 100 BUCKS - 1/2 PAGE
(MAY BE EDITED) ONE PAGE LIMIT- 200 BUCKS - 1 PAGE
- 17. CORRECT POST BOY QUIZ ANSWERS----- BUCKS VARY PER ISSUE
- 18. PENNY BOX DONATIONS----- .02 BUCKS PER STAMP

- MEMBERS (THAT'S YOU) YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING IN "OUTSIDE MEETING" ACTIVITIES HOUR VALUES TO A "BUCK" CHAIRPERSON. PLEASE COUNTYOUR PENNY BOX DONATIONS TOO.
- AUCTION BUCKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY.
- YOU MAY CARRY AUCTION BUCKS OVER FROM A PREVIOUS YEAR'S EARNINGS
- BUCKS MAY BE USED TO BUY OR SELL PHILATELIC ITEMS BETWEEN MEMBERS.
- BUCKS MAY BE PURCHASED: 500 BUCKS FOR \$10.00 (REAL MONEY)

GETTING INVOLVED IN NSSS ACTIVITIES IS THE BEST WAY TO EARN BUCKS !!!

GET INVOLVED !!

<http://www.postalhistory.org/>

postalhistory.org

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To many collectors, the cover is a mystery and this is exactly what makes covers so attractive to the collector. There are mysteries to unravel such as how did this cover travel from point "A" to point "B"? What was the mode of travel, bus, train, plane or mule? Is there historic significance for this cover? What are the markings on the cover, what do they mean. How does it fit within the scheme of postal development? There are all kinds of questions to be answered with even the simplest of covers, so I give you Postal History.org. This page was created by John R. Tollan, one of the better informed philatelist of our time.

The first page made available to you is called "Country Resources". When you click on this link, it gives you four headings; General Resources, Country, Postal History Topical Links and Specialists Links. The first has only one link which gives you four sites one Society and several dealers. The second heading gives you many countries and each country link will connect you with sites specific to that country, broken down into "sites", "societies" and "dealers". The Postal History Topical links is organized according to how you collect your postal history. Advertising, Disaster mail, Maritime and Postcards are only four of the twenty one categories offered. last of all is the Specialist Links which give you "Articles", "Exhibits", "Societies Lists" and more. This alone is probably more information about postal history than you'll ever need, but there's much more to see.

The next three pages are "Register for Postal Historians". This tells you about historians, their area(s) of specialization and contact information. Have a question, ask a specialist. The "Postal History Site Ring" is a ring of sites about postal history, another source of information on the subject. Last is the "Gold Postmark Award" which is an award given to sites that Mr. Tollan feels is justified to receive special recognition. At present there is only one site mentioned.

At the top of the page are more links that are very useful, one of which is called "Useful Stuff" and it is full of the same. Here you will find a world clock, currency converters, postal rates, translators and much, much more. There are also several philatelic links not mentioned on other parts of this site.

While I have told you a lot about this site, there is still more that I haven't mentioned. This is a very useful site for the aspiring postal historian or the person who is just curious. Be careful if you decide to visit this site, it just may turn you into a postal historian, but don't think this is a bad thing. The world and our hobby could use more historians. I give a strong recommendation to visit this site. It has a great deal to offer to the newbie as well as the experienced philatelist.

If you can get the answers to me before the next meeting, I will try to get your Auction Bucks for you to use at the Auction. You can use e-mail or snail mail. Good luck.

1. Which was issued first, the Harry S. Truman stamp or the Lyndon Baines Johnson stamp?
A) Harry S. Truman B) Lyndon Baines Johnson C) Both at the same time
2. What photographic inventor is shown on a 1954 issue?
A) Jacque Daguerre B) George Eastman C) Fox Talbot
3. What mountain appears on the Alaska stamp of the "Territorial Issues" series?
A) Mount Saint Elias B) Mount Foraker C) Mt. McKinley
4. What president appears on a two cent stamp issued for the Canal Zone in 1949?
A) Theodore Roosevelt B) Franklin Roosevelt C) Herbert Hoover
5. Who is on the fourteen cent 1938 definitive?
A) Millard Filmore B) Franklin Pierce C) James Buchanan
6. In what year did the US adopt adhesive stamps?
A) 1847 B) 1851 C) 1857
7. The Battle of Yorktown is the subject of a 1981 stamp. In what other year was a Battle of Yorktown stamp issued?
A) 1931 B) 1951 C) 1976
8. What color is the 1940 stamp showing Booker T. Washington?
A) Dark brown B) Green C) Carmine rose
9. Who is on the eighteen cent stamp of the 1938 definitive?
A) Abraham Lincoln B) Andrew Johnson C) Ulysses S. Grant
10. Who appears on both the two dollar and the five dollar stamps of 1918?
A) George Washington B) Benjamin Franklin C) John Marshall

Bonus Question for an extra 10 Auction Bucks;
What does the "S." in Harry S. Truman stand for?

Harry Steve Truman maybe? This one might be a little tougher than you think. Then again, maybe not. But it is tricky. Good luck! May you answer all and the bonus too. Try to get the answers in early. You may need a few extra bucks for the Auction.

Wow, nine definitives and an airmail, all with the year of issue. How much easier can it get? I suppose you will say something about having the right answers to choose from (number 9), and you would be right. Guess what? I don't plan on being perfect for a while.

1. - A) William Penn was one of the United State's most famous Quakers, but is probably more famous for having Pennsylvania named after him. #724 was issued for the 250th anniversary of his arrival in America.

2. - C) Martha Washington is on the one and one half cent of the "Prexie" issue (# 805) as the wife of the first president (on the one cent) of the United States.

3. - C) Again, Martha Washington takes the honor on # 556 of the regular definitive issue of 1922 and all subsequent printings of that issue up to 1929.

4. - B) General Tadeusz Kosciuszko fought in the American Revolution. This stamp, #734, was issued for the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the granting of American citizenship to him in 1787.

5. - B) The 1959 petroleum issue is # 1134 and is in the beginning of the second year of the four cent cost of mailing a domestic letter.

6. - A) William Christopher Handy will be remembered for as long as there are jazz buffs and stamp collectors. # 1372 was issued eleven years after the death of this writer of many well known blues pieces such as, the Beale Street Blues and the Saint Louis Blues. He was also a businessman, starting his own music publishing company in New York City in the early 20's.

7. -A) Showing a stethoscope and a microscope, # 1263 was issued to make the American public aware of the "Crusade Against Cancer". A note at the bottom of the stamp stresses "Early Diagnosis Saves Lives".

8. - .A) As are all the high values in the Famous American series, #883 honoring Ethelbert Nevin (an American Composer) is dark brown.

9. - B) . The four freedoms mentioned on #908 are the freedoms of speech and religion as well as the freedoms from want (not war) and fear.

10. - A) Montgomery Blair served as postmaster general under Abraham Lincoln from March 5, 1861 to September 23, 1864. He was duly honored on an airmail stamp, # C66. He called the first International Postal Conference, the forerunner of the UPU.

Other than calling want war, it wasn't too bad of a quiz. The stamps were easy to look up and answers readily at hand. Of course, everybody gets #9 right. Hope you all scored 100.