



P.O. Box 2907 Sparks, Nevada 89432

N.S.S.S. meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Sparks Heritage Museum at Pyramid and Victorian Avenue
<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/>



N.S.S.S.

POST BOY

President: Terri Edwards

22 Hilltop Dr.
 Carson City, NV 89706-7771
 (775) 246-4769
renostamp@earthlink.net

Vice President: John Wetterling

1054 Rimfield Dr.
 Fernley NV 89408
 (775) 575-1337
opusnrosebud@msn.com

Secretary

Treasurer: Michael McAuliffe

4820 Pinespring Dr.
 Reno NV 89509
 (775) 826-1848
mike291911@aol.com

Editor: Howard Grenzbach

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

Directors:

Frank Fey

2601 Monterey Circle
 Reno, NV 89509
 (775) 826-1476
frankfey@gbis.com

Paul Glass

320 Carlene Dr.
 Sparks, NV 89436
 425-8939
pglass@charter.net

Mike Johnson

2980 Lida Lane
 Sparks NV 89434
 626-6545
rpaycheck@msn.com

Tara McAuliffe (Junior Rep.)

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

Jeanne Paquin

610 E. Proctor #16
 Carson City, NV 89701
paquinj@sbcglobal.net

Mike Potter

1085 Emerson Way
 Sparks, NV 89431
 359-9419
mpotter-134@aol.com

April Showers..... Well, I think we had those in March, along with snow, sleet and drizzling rain. That's okay. Spring will soon be with us.

Those of us who read this rag online will notice a few small changes. The download format allows for the addition of color without all those pesky extra printing costs. If you still receive this in the mail, take a trip to the library and check us out at our club's website. The library will let you print it out there and it won't cost an arm and a leg. Watch for more changes (mostly in the masthead) as this will be an evolutionary process.

Next month's program will come from the American Topical Association. Terri & Harvey Edwards have been putting programs from the ATA on CDs (Terri does the narrations) so we will benefit from his work.

This month we were all delighted by the program given by Howard, about making album pages on your computer. How easy it really is when you know how. Not only that, the information can be applied to other uses such as making exhibit pages cachets and cancellations.

The Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show will be ready to go in July. This is the last chance to come up with a cachet or cancel for the stamp show covers. They are due next month. So you best get hopping on it while there's still time. If you need a copy of the requirements for the postmark, I can email a copy of the postal

regulations or see me at the next meeting and I will give you an abbreviated copy.

Be sure to take a look at the second page of this month's Post Boy. There will be a few changes to the delivery of the Post Boy and for the auction string. Those changes will be implemented with the coming meeting.

The **CNCPS** is looking for volunteers to help man the table at the **WESTPEX** show at the end of April. If you would like to spend an hour or two to help the Society out, please contact me at one of our meetings or e-mail me. Address is in the left column.

Looks like the **The Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show** will be going off smoothly this year (July 15-16). There are 14 dealers signed up already, with one more to fill the tables. The association with Artown has given us more local advertising plus we will be a part of the Artown booklet. Should be a big turnout this year. We can always use fresh exhibits, so if you have one started, talk to Dick Dreiling and get it entered. Banquet facility isn't decided yet but the price should be under \$25. We are hosting the **CNCPS** meeting, so be prepared to meet some collectors from clubs in Northern California.

WESTPEX is coming up on Apr 28-30 in Burlingame (S of SF, on Hwy 101) at the SF Airport Marriott Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Hwy. 10-6, Fri., Sat. & 10-4 on Sun.

A meeting of the board of directors of the NSSS was held at the end of the regular meeting of March 11, 2006. Two items of interest to the membership were discussed and decisions made.

The first item of interest is the auction that is held on the first meeting of the month. Because of present limitations, not all members who want to place items on the auction board are able to do so. There is room for 63 lots after which, no more lots are accepted. The following changes have been made to allow for more participation;

1. The number of lots a paid membership may place on the auction board is reduced from six items to five. A family with a single (family) membership may place a total of 5 lots for auction.

2. The board has established a minimum bid of \$1.00 per lot. Items less than \$1.00 may be grouped into a single lot to be sold as a single lot.

3. There will continue to be a total of 63 auction items. Club members will get priority based on a first come, first serve basis. Items for the club (blue sheets) will be put up in any remaining spaces.

4. A lot may be put on the string two consecutive times.

Hopefully, this will allow more members access to the auction process. If you still have problems getting your items on the string, it may help to arrive a little earlier to beat the crowd. As noted in the third rule change, first come, first serve remains the same.

The next item of interest involves this newsletter, the Post Boy. In order to make more efficient use of the club's funds, sending the Post Boy via e-mail will save the club money in terms of printing costs and postage. That savings can then be diverted to other, more useful areas such as Junior clubs, advertisement and the general costs of running the club.

Not all members have access to e-mail and will continue to receive their Post Boy through the mails. Those members with e-mail address will begin to receive the Post Boy via their computers in the form of a PDF (**P**ortable **D**ocument **F**ormat) beginning with the next issue. If you prefer the hard copy of your Post Boy, you must make a request through Howard Grenzebach (artfulputz@aol.com). A free PDF reader is available from Adobe at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>. This will allow you to read but not write a PDF document.

What advantage to you? If you get it on-line, the Post Boy will be prettier (in color)!

The Big Race

C. William Brew

The Pony Express had a short lived life, but its final days were probably its most exciting times. Especially the run from Reno to Virginia City via Geiger Grade. Wells Fargo had served Virginia City by way of a light two-horse wagon until the railroad came through the Truckee Meadow in 1868, then, it found competition from the Union Pacific Express Company. The two firms fought a daily race from the eastbound Central Railroad train station at Reno, C Street to the Comstock, in Virginia City. However, Wells Fargo was not to be outdone, so they purchased a famous race horse and hired a famous Pony Express rider, of the Overland Express, and decided to set a record. The Union Pacific met the challenge with a five horse change between Reno and Virginia City. Heavy betting pressed throughout this western area.



The day was July 3, 1869, when the first run would take place. The streets were lined with residents and visitors, eagerly awaiting the big event the Central Pacific puffed into Reno and with both riders mounted and ready. The first bag was tossed to the Union Pacific rider just before the train stopped. He thundered across the wooden planks at Lakes Crossing just as the Wells Fargo rider carefully tied his mailbag across his back. Then this famous rider raced down the main street, with

the crowds of Reno cheering. He soon closed up the gap on his competitor. The U.P.E. rider was changing horses at Huffakers Station, when the Wells Fargo rider passed him. This is where South Virginia and Pueblo Street intersect today

The rider continued increasing the distance between his competitor, since the U.P.E. rider had to stop to make his change of horses. The trip to Virginia City took the Wells Fargo rider one hour and four minutes, The U.P.E. rider took an hour and ten minutes.

It was five o'clock and the people of Virginia City were waiting for the first rider to appear at the north end of C Street. They were in a cheering mood and lined the entire street to the Wells Fargo building. The biggest crowds were at the post office and when the first rider appeared, they started yelling and shouting. His horse was in a lather as sped down the final stretch. The cheering rose to a crescendo. it was one of the greatest rides in this Pony Express rider's career.

May I mention that the rider for the Union Pacific Express was Frank Henderson, a great horse rider of the era, but the winner was Pony Bob Haslem, the greatest Pony Express rider of the 1860's.

The picture, above, is Scott No. 1154, issued July 1, 1960, commemorating the Centenary of the Pony Express and all those rugged individuals who were a part of the growth of the postal system.

<http://www.gps.nu/jerry/index.html>

Odds Ends Gems



Odds Ends Gems is the work of Jerry Jensen, a respected, involved and active member of the German Philatelic Society and a dedicated exhibitionist. Hmmmm. Did I say that right? Jerry put this site together in a most imaginative way. The letters forming the name of the site may seem a little out of line but that's because they're hopping up and down and doing back flips.

On this site, Jerry treats us to his sense of humor as well as his irreverence towards taking ones self (or this hobby) too seriously. With this site, Jerry delights us with several exhibits he has put together, and won many awards for. There are several ideas included for exhibits and collections you may want to take up. here are some of the pages he offers us;

[Crown and Eagle exhibit](#): This one's a bit stodgy but a good exhibit and you have to start somewhere.

[I want a Date But I'm Fussy](#); Now, who comes up with a name like that for a postal exhibit? This is a rather entertaining idea for Jerry's exhibit and an interesting idea to build a collection around.

[We were all good friends in 1909](#): Wow! Another one of those great titles. This one's about a special rate between Germany and the US.

[The Bounty's Legacy](#): this one gets you away from German stamps and away from stamp collecting, if you like.

There are several more exhibits to see on this site and they are definitely worth the visit. This site is educational, interesting and may even provoke you to build a exhibit of your own.

This one could be a real “poser”, but fear not all the answers are available in the Scott Specialized catalog. Well, most of them are. The bonus question, as usual, can be answered by reading the Post Boy, front to back. Or back to front, if that’s your bag. Good luck and good answers to you all.

1. What building appears on the ten cent stamp in the 1954 liberty series?
A) The White House **B)** Independence Hall **C)** Capitol Building
2. What famous bandmaster appears on a 1940 issue?
A) Morton Gould **B)** Artie Shaw **C)** John Philip Sousa
3. The independence of what country is marked by a 1960 commemorative?
A) Mexico **B)** Sweden **C)** France
4. Gutenberg was commemorated for the printing of the first book What was it?
A) Koran **B)** Bible **C)** Principia Mathematica
5. What sport is featured on a 1974 US envelope?
A) Tennis **B)** Ping Pong **C)** Golf
6. How many sheep appear on the stamp honoring the American Wool Industry in 1971?
A) Two **B)** Four **C)** Six
7. What was the denomination of the postal card honoring the US Coast Guard in 1965?
A) Four cents **B)** Six cents **C)** Ten cents
8. A Washington Irving story was the inspiration for a 1974 stamp. What was it?
A) Johnny Appleseed **B)** Rip Van Winkle **C)** Legend of Sleepy Hollow
9. What color is the five dollar Alexander Hamilton stamp of 1956?
A) Red/Blue **B)** Black **C)** Red
10. What ship appears on the twelve cent stamp of 1869?
A) SS Adriatic **B)** Constitution **C)** Merrimack

For an extra ten Auction Bucks, tell me who Pony Bob Haslem was.

There’s one question about envelopes and one about postal cards. You need the Specialized for that, and what year did they print that Gutenberg stamp, anyway?

Not too difficult. All the answers were easy to find in the Scott US Specialized.

1. **C.** The Library of Congress was so honored on April 21, 1982. This library is open to any American citizen who chooses to go to Washington, or you can visit online at <http://www.loc.gov/homepage/lchp.html>
2. **B.** Gustaf Mannerheim (#1165) was a citizen of Finland who led the resistance against the nazis and the USSR during WWII. Eventually he became President of his country.
3. **A.** #1454 is a part of the National Parks Centennial issue celebrating 100 years since the establishment of the national park system in 1872 by President Grant.
4. **A.** #1381 and 1382 picture a baseball player and football player to honor 100 years of professional baseball and intercollegiate football.
5. **A.** Frederic Remington, portrayer of the wild west in sculpture and paintings is shown on # 888.
6. **A.** Christopher Pullman designed four different quilts in the forms of a basket for this issue which were printed in setenant blocks. # 1745-1748.
7. **A.** C45 was issued to commemorate the 46th anniversary of the first flight by a motor powered airplane made on Dec 13 1903 at Killdevil Hill.
8. **A.** In 1815 we took a little trip, down to Lousiana on the mighty Missisip. the battle of New Orleans was fought on January 8, 1815, two weeks after the Treaty of Ghent was signed ending the War of 1812. Both side were unaware that the war was over. #1261
9. **A.** Harlan Fiske Stone served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1941 until his death in 1946. Though he was a conservative, he often joined Oliver Wendell Holmes and Louis D. Brandeis in upholding liberal values. he was also responsible for the appointment of Edgar J. Hoover as director of the FBI. # 965
10. **A.** Virginia Dare, the first child to be born to English parents in America and a member of the so called "lost colony" was born on Roanoke Island. # 796

Bonus: George Washington. If you read [Winick Snippets](#) on page 8 last month, you would know why.

Another bonus question in this issue can be answered by by reading the Post Boy. It's in there, somewhere.

The Serious Collector?

Just who is a serious collector and who is just “playing” at it? In an article by Janet Klug, a serious collector is defined by certain criteria as given by John Lievsay. There re 12 points and may be more. Perhaps you are a serious collector. Here are the criteria;

- ~Has equipment that includes a magni-fying glass (up to 25X), a pocket micro-scope, tongs, watermark dish and fluid, perf gauge and, maybe, an ultraviolet scanner.
- ~Inserts extra pages in their album for varieties/covers or makes their own.
- ~Promptly puts new stamps in the album.
- ~Owns a standard/foreign/specialty cata-log and/or handbook for reference.
- ~Belongs to the APS and/or specialty club.
- ~Subscribes to Linn’s or other publication.
- ~Has a budget (\$1,000 or more), bids at auction sales and checks prices realized.
- ~Insures his/her collection and keeps a list and location of holdings.
- ~Has obtained certificates for the most valuable of the collection.
- ~Belongs to a local stamp club and attends meetings. Also volunteers to help with shows and social events.
- ~Attends a national or local stamp show and looks at the exhibits, maybe spend some money at the bourse.
- ~And has at least one junior or adult to whom they act as a mentor.

- ◇ The above is an abbreviated list from the article but the gist of it is there.
- ◇ This would probably include many of us as “serious” collectors, but I question if this is all there is to it. Why can’t a serious collector be one that has a smaller budget or doesn’t own a pocket microscope? Is it necessary that a serious collector meet all of these criteria? I can see attending meetings and helping out the club, if you belong to one and I’m sure many serious collectors don’t belong but does his/her studying on their own. I think of myself as being serious about my stamps but haven’t insured them. Just laziness on my part and the confidence that it (fire, theft, whatever) won’t happen to me.
- ◇ We may not meet all the criteria of serious stamp collecting but I’ll bet we meet all the criteria of enjoying our collections. We do attend meetings (right?). We make a study of our own interests in the hobby. We own the equipment we need to do that study whether or not it’s a 25X magnifier or watermark detector. We may not have a strict budget but we know when we’ve spent too much (usually at the bourse). So, have you decided? Are you serious? If you are not serious, so what? You are a collector like the rest of us, serious or not. This is a hobby. We are not firemen or doctors (as a group) and need not worry about lives lost due to inattention to the hobby. We are allowed to sit back and enjoy it as we see fit. Lets not put labels on ourselves or others, serious or not.
- ◇ In fairness to Janet Klug, who is the president of the APS, she has never asked the members to be too serious and to enjoy the hobby. The article was meant only to define the “serious collector” who often defines him/herself as one. I have been picking at the definition in this article. Perhaps you would like to help define the serious collector, or at least your image of that person. Ms. Klug invites us all to add to the list, so if you think there is more to the serious collector than is mentioned here, write your definitions down and send them to;

**Janet Klug
P.O.Box 250
Pleasant Plain, OH 45162**

Get your ideas out early or bring them to me and we can send it as a club effort. That ought to tell Janet that the Nevada Stamp Study Society is a group of serious collectors. But not too serious.

Winick Snippets

By Les Winick

As syndicated in 435 non-philatelic newspapers.

Have you ever wondered if the parlor game "Post Office" had anything to do with stamp collecting? It certainly does and can be traced back to the Civil War.

Troops were not issued the comforts such as soap, stationery and other personal necessities. President Lincoln approved the United States Sanitary Commission on June 13, 1861 with the purpose of dealing with the health and general comfort of Union troops. The work of the Commission was to be supported by public contributions.

"Sanitary Fairs" were organized to raise funds for the Sanitary Commission. These fairs are similar to church sales and bazaars that are held today. One of the booths at a Fair was a Post Office. A personable young lady, known as the "Postmistress," was on duty. A gentleman in the crowd was told that mail was waiting for him at the Post Office. It was the task of the postmistress to get as much money out of the young man as possible. The young lady would deliver a blank envelope for a donation, and then would state that there was also a "postage due" charge. Upon payment of the additional fee, she would kiss the gentleman, to the cheers of the watching crowd.

The Post Office proved so popular, that "Sanitary Fair Stamps" were issued. Although these "stamps" were not valid for postal service, they were sold at the fair "Post Office": with the approval of the local postmaster. Sanitary Fair Stamps were applied to letters along with other stamps that actually paid the postage.

Many of these letters that were postmarked at these Fairs are worth several thousand dollars today.



It was also during the Civil War that another group used stamps to promote good will. The newly formed Young Men's Christian Association found that many soldiers did not have stamps to use on their mail. The Post Office Department sent these letters to the dead letter office since most of them did not have a return address.

The YMCA left quantities of postage stamps in various Post Offices with instructions for the postal clerk to use them on soldier's mail if the envelope did not have any stamps or were short the correct amount of postage. They also left a label which was to be applied to the front of the envelope advising the recipient of the letter that the YMCA furnished the stamps and the group could use a donation to help carry on its charitable work.

The postal clerks were happy to put the stamps and the label on the envelopes rather than go through the paper work of sending the letter to the dead letter office.