

Nevada

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
<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/>



Stamp
Study
Society

N.S.S.S.

POST BOY

November 11, 2006

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Its time for the **Auction Bucks Auction**. The first meeting of November is when it is held and all the new members finally get to find out what these little "Bucks" are for. If you want to know what happens at this event refer to the September issue of this august publication. If you don't have a copy, go to our website (address is in the masthead).

Speaking of coming events, you may also want to prepare yourself for the **Christmas Party**. It will be held on the first Saturday of December (2nd) at the Masonic Temple. Address is 601 W. Pekham. Turn west on Pekham off Virginia Street. Its six blocks on the corner. Guests are always welcome, just be sure to bring one present for each guest and yourself so that everybody gets a gift when we exchange. Don't spend a lot of money, We keep a ten dollar spending limit which is about enough for a couple of candy bars or a half gallon of gas. No need to be extravagant.

We had a good program this meeting and it was brought to us by the hard work of **Jeanne Paquin**. We finally had the opportunity to see one of the TV productions made by Jeanne for and about the NSSS starring such notables as our representative from the USPS, **Rick Barberi**, the space expert **Richard Simmonds** and (with a small blush) myself. And **Joe Tyler** who moderated and held the show together. Thanks to all it was a great production. Thank you Jeanne!

During October, for stamp collecting month, a table was set up in the main post office on Vassar St. to promote the NSSS and stamp collecting among the the locals of Reno. A lot of questions were answered and many people were made aware of our club. It was an overall success.

The Heritage Museum is selling space in the museum for groups and businesses to decorate for Christmas. This is a fund raising effort so the NSSS decided to help and bought a space. Now we need your help to decorate our area. The theme will be "Christmas around the World" and we will decorate with stamps, etc. If you want to contribute, come to the next meeting with your ideas and decorations.

SACAPEX Nov 5 & 6 at 10-6 and 10-4, featuring a silent bid sale on Saturday at noon. CNCPS will have a meeting on Sunday at 1:00. Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 H St. (H at Carlson) in Sacramento.
sacramentophilatelicociety.org

SUNPEX Nov 11 and 12 from 10-6 and 10-4. The Western Philatelic Library will be present. No exhibits. Sunnyvale Community Center on 550 East Remington Dr. in Sunnyvale.

PENPEX is from Dec 2 to 3 and will feature a silent bid auction. 10-5:30 and 10-4. Community Activities Building, 1400 Roose-velt Avenue in Redwood City.
penpex.org/penpex_show.htm

Post Boy? What does it mean?

I was pondering nothing (and everything) one day when I happened on the name of our publication. “Hmmmmm” I thought, “the Post Boy”. Just what, precisely, does that mean? I know what “boy “ means. That would be a lad, a male child that is still testing his limits. He is on his way to adulthood but hasn’t yet achieved it. So what about “post?”

I looked it up and found a rather large number of definitions for the word “post”. It is a stick stuck in the ground to support a gate. Of course, that would be a gate post so there is also fence post. After all a fence without a gate is just a prison. Can’t be what I am seeking. There is a position of office or a military position or a place that a military person is assigned, like guard duty at the Army Post. Accounts are posted in certain order under certain headings. Sounds like work for an accountant. I guess that’s similar to the military postings.

And then there’s “run your head against a post”. That means to go to work heedlessly or stupidly as if you had no sense! Well! I’ve done that before. Glad I’m retired. Let us not forget posterior, a slightly different meaning coming from the word post and it has the same meaning as after.

Post, I understand is a Latin word meaning “after”, thus we have post-meridian, or after the median or afternoon, post factum (after the fact), post mortum (eew), posthumous (double eeww) and post-haste which sounds like after being too fast to get the job done right but it probably means something else.

Oops! Where did that last one come from? Post-haste? Could that mean after you hurried? No! Actually it means to hurry as in horses are placed along the road to expedite the journey and the riders can run “post-haste”. I suspect we’re getting closer here, to the answer of my query. This sounds a little like the Pony Express. At least we’re into the area of moving the mail. How do we move it? First we post it so it will go to the post office.

Well, so far we’ve come close, having gotten into the postal system but lets not forget the original intent of all this mucking around in the first place. What about the Post Boy? and what does it mean?

“The old original post [paper] with the stamp in the corner representing a post-boy riding for life, and twanging his horn.”- Mrs. Gaskell.

By golly, that’s it. Take a look at the masthead on the front page of this paper and you’ll see a small logo on the right side that bears an uncanny resemblance to this definition. A close look reveals a horn in his hand, pressed against his mouth. I guess that’s called “twanging”. And he’s riding for life, or so it appears. Mrs. Gaskell neglects to mention the large banner proclaiming “NEWS” but the above is, most likely, only part of the quote.

As mentioned in an earlier issue, the Post Boy logo was borrowed from an old advertisement that was looking for riders for the Pony Express. Newspapers or letters are all the same. They bring us news. What more appropriate name and logo could you have for a newspaper. My hat’s off to Peter Blackmore, who gave us the logo and I would assume, the name as well. It has been with us through all these years.

Are You an Active Member?

By Karen Weigt

Published January 1996 in "Across the Fence," Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, APS Chapter 350

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"To be an active member,
The kind that would be missed,
You're more than just contented,
That your name is on the list.

You attend all the meetings,
And mingle with the flock,
You always greet the others,
With praise and never knock.

You take an active part,
To help the work along,
You're one who's always seeking,
To do more than just belong.

You work on committees,
To keep the club running slick,
You do the work that's needed,
And don't complain and pick.

You come to meetings often,
And help with hand and heart,
You're more than just a member,
And take an active part.

Think this over, members,
You know what's right from wrong,
Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?"

I found a version of this verse in a 1989 issue of The Postrider, newsletter of the Central Coast Stamp Club. Since the author was cited as "unknown," I took the liberty of making some changes to try to

neutralize the negative tone of the original text.

Stamp Crossword Solution



Winick Snippets

By Les Winick

As syndicated in 435 non-philatelic newspapers

A new use for postage stamps has been described by Constance Schrader in her new book, "No More Wrinkles." She advises readers to buy a sheet of commemorative stamps to stamp out wrinkles. Her advice is to wet the back of a stamp and paste it over a wrinkle on your face. Hold the skin smooth with one hand while applying the stamp with the other so that you don't paste in the wrinkle. Long wrinkles may require several stamps.

According to the book, covering the skin irritates the skin underneath the stamp causing the body to respond with a rush of blood and fluids to the surface area. This blood rush should wipe out the wrinkle temporarily.

The author suggests that after using about 60 of the 100 stamps on the sheet, wrinkle-making habits will become modified and your face will look smoother. Some skin care experts prefer surgical tape. Schrader likes stamps because they are easier to remove from the skin.

<http://home.no.net/bhb2/commem.htm>



History on Stamps

presents

Dramatic Commemorative Issues

Wow! Neat title. Dramatic in itself. It makes a true statement though. This site is about stamps as the progenitors of history. Of course, not all presented on these stamps is history. Sometimes its propaganda.

When I first saw the site, I was looking at some of my favorite post-war (WWII)



stamps, like this one of the Main Post Office in Warsaw. Its a series of before and after pictures of several buildings in that Polish city. In this site I learned about the destruction of Warsaw during the invasion by the Germans in 1939, the further destruction during the ghetto uprising in 1943 and again in 1944. Gotta admire those Poles. Nobody's going to oppress them without a fight.

Poland is not the only country represented on this site. The picture at the top of the page comes from a Romanian stamp issued during WWII. The author also talks about Bulgarian, Italian, Norwegian, Romanian, Serbian and Soviet stamps. All of them are about rebellion and defense of one's country. Each stamp tells a story



and each story is presented on these pages.

The only drawback on this site is that you must visit each page in sequence. You cant jump from Bulgaria to Romania. The good thing is the pages load fast. I like the site and hope you enjoy it too.

I don't know about you but I've been enjoying these quizzes in other countries so much I thought I would give you West Germany this month. Grab a beer out of the fridge, nibble eine kleine bratwurst und enjoy der quiz!

1. The confession of Augsburg appears on a 1980 stamp. Of what religious group is it the official creed?

- A) Lutheran B) Catholic C) Vodou

2. What book is honored on a 1980 commemorative?

- A) A German Dictionary B) Gutenberg Bible C) Das Kapital

3. The 25th anniversary of Germany's membership in what organization is the subject of a 1980 stamp?

- A) SEATO B) Nato C) United Nations

4. What famous author, a nazi victim, appears on a 1979 stamp?

- A) Anne Frank B) Gutenberg C) Oskar Schindler

5. Gustav Stresemann, Ludwig Gudden and Carl von Ossietzky appear on a 1975 souvenir sheet. What is their claim to fame?

- A) Nazi internees B) Peace Prize winners C) Economic giants

6. The world championships of what sport is marked by a 1975 stamp?

- A) Ice Hockey B) Horse racing C) Soccer

7. What German Chancellor appears on a 1976 stamp?

- A) Kurt Georg Kiesinger B) Georg Gobel C) Konrad Adenauer

8. What saint is the subject of a 1974 stamp?

- A) Peter B) Nicholas C) Thomas Aquinas

9. What device invented by Wilhelm Shickard appears on a 1973 stamp?

- A) Calculator B) Modern Press C) Ball point pen

10. Germany's first poetess appears on a 1973 stamp. Who was she?

- A) Roswitha B) Isolde C) Golda Meir

For a 10 Bucks bonus. For a 10 Bucks bonus. In what country is Box 506 Located?

I have been to Germany and seen the destruction created by WWII. I understand it is much better now but I hope the beer is the same. It was great then!

With town names like The Crane and Holetown, Barbados lies north of the Equator and suffers a temperature range from 65 to 90 degrees. I should suffer like that!

1. A. Barbados is a part of the West Indies which are located in the Caribbean Ocean. In the south eastern sector is a group called the Windward Island which include St. Lucia, Grenada, Dominican, Barbados and a few others.

2. B. The Churchill Memorial set was issued on January 24, 1966. This was a common design used in many of the British Colonies. #281-284 (CD319). The common designs for most countries can be found in the front section of the catalog. In catalogs where the US and Great Britain are combined, British CDs are at the start of the British issues.

3. C. Barbados gained it independence in 1966. The stamps (#290-93) show the coat of arms.

4. A. #302 celebrates the 20th anniversary of the UN Economic Commission in Latin America with a picture of the UN building in Santiago, Chile.

5. B. The first black member of the Barbados Assembly was Samuel Jackson Prescod, AKA Samuel Jackman Prescod. #362-363. Sorry for the misspelling.

6. A. #364 shows the coat of arms for the 5th anniversary of their independence.

7. C. #s 396-411 (c) has more orchids than you can shake a stick at and a few more orchids than that. Good thing Nadiah collects Roses. Oops, there's a "Rose Marie" orchid in there. Wonder if that counts.

8. C. This was from a 2 stamp (#438-39) set that was issued when the Prudential Cup was won by the West Indies team in 1975.

9. A. #B2, the St. Vincent Relief Fund stamp was issued on May 29, 1979 to aid the victims of the eruption of Mount Soufriere. You have to help your neighbor.

10. A. Stylized flowers are shown in the background of the stamp. There is a different one for each denomination. #s J10-15.

Bonus: National Stamp Month (October) was declared by Ronald Reagan at the beginning of his presidency in 1981.

I had the privilege of visiting the Caribbean islands several times in my younger days and, except for the hurricanes, I envy their life-style.

PO Box 506, Lisbon

During World War 2 there were families split up by that war. Many English were married to Germans or were related in other ways as there had always been a kinship between the peoples of these two countries. There have always been close relationships between people who lived in belligerent countries. Many Americans with German names had family in that country and the opposite is also true. Did these people stay in touch during the war? Could they?

Once the war was under way all contact between the Allies and the Axis ceased to exist. Postal services were suspended and business and political actions became moot or illegal. The only trade now was of bullets and bombs and it wasn't friendly! But not all countries were belligerent. Switzerland, Spain and Portugal, to name a few, were neutral. Some countries tried to remain neutral but weren't allowed (Denmark, the Netherlands and Belgium were some). Franco had been helped by Hitler in dominating Spain so their "neutrality" was questionable at best. Switzerland claimed neutrality but was soon surrounded by Germany, Italy and Vichy France. Their neutrality couldn't be assumed nor could they be reached anyway.

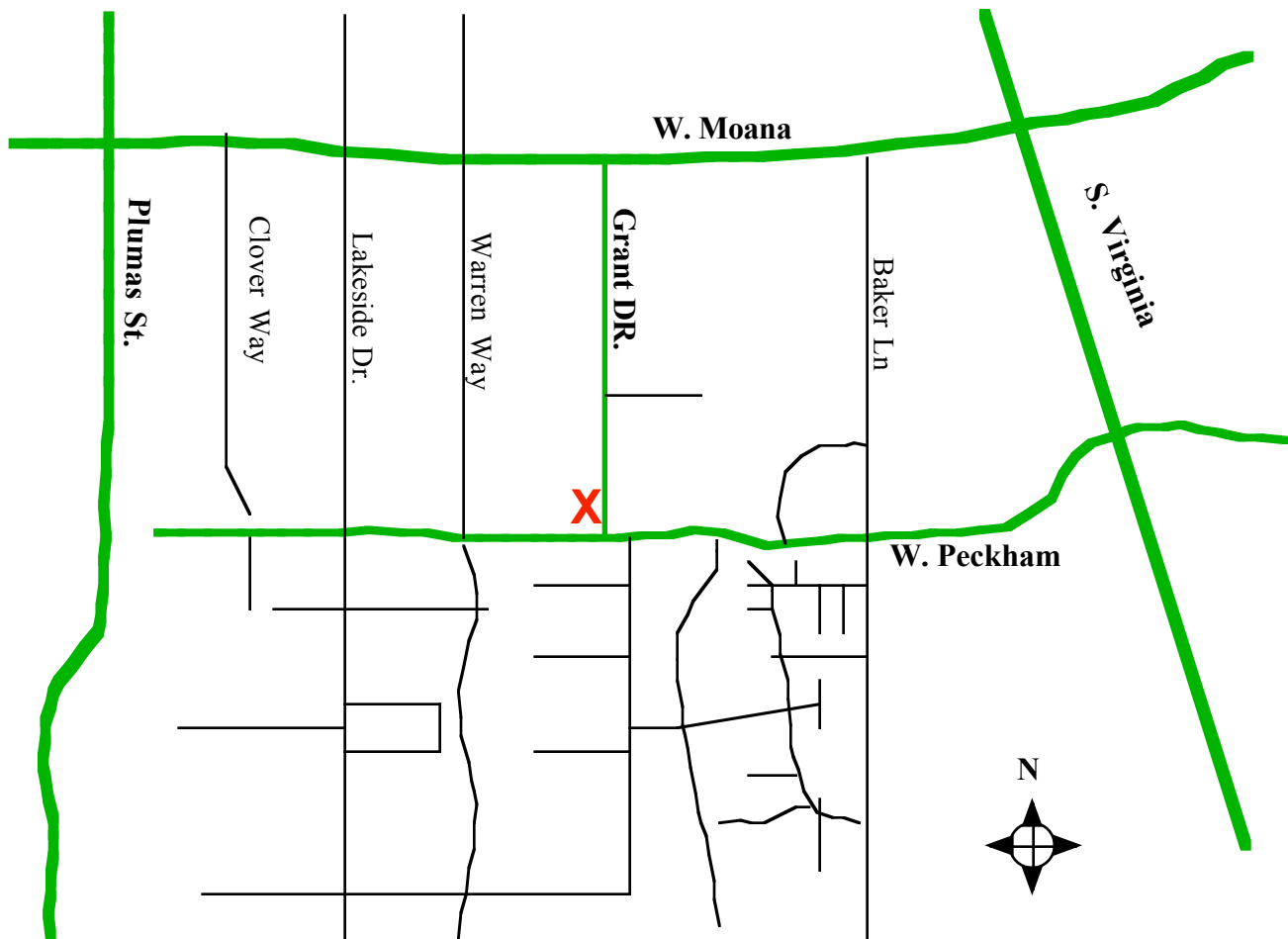
Ahh, but Portugal! Portugal had access by air, land and sea to all the countries involved in the fighting and it was neutral. It soon became a land of mystery and intrigue. Spies were everywhere, spying on each other. Enemies could meet if they had to and trades could be made and no one would be the wiser. What a perfect place for the Thomas Cook & Sons Travel Agency to set up shop. Were they spies? Ummmm.....could be.

This same company had set up shop during WWI in several countries to allow contact between civilians living in the warring nations. They were, essentially, a post office between Great Britain and Germany that was used by people who had family and friends that could not be reached by any other means. The British government asked them to do the same again shortly before the second world war began. The offices they set up in Switzerland and the Netherlands were shut down immediately at the beginning of the war and only the office in Lisbon, Portugal remained. The address was P.O. Box 506, Lisbon.

The way it worked was simple. you wrote your letter in placed it in an envelope along with appropriate Portuguese stamps and addressed it to the place you wanted it to go. A return address was unnecessary. Then you placed this envelope in another and addressed it to PO Box 506 in Lisbon. They would take the original envelope, frank it properly and send it on. Keep in mind, the British authorities knew about the Lisbon address and so censors would read the letter. After all they don't need spies using the system, what? It was shut down by the Germans (also aware of it) in 1943. They stopped accepting letters from this address.

More than a quarter of a million letters were sent from Great Britain to that address in Lisbon during the three years it was operational and over 150 thousand letters were sent from enemy countries before the Germans shut it down. Most letters sent to box 506 will be franked with British stamps. Mail coming from one of the Axis or overrun countries would only have the Lisbon address and German stamps on them. The forwarded letters would be hard to identify as all would have Portuguese stamps and a Lisbon cancellation. If a letter were still enclosed it might provide a clue. Do you have one in your collection? There may be large numbers of them still floating around that are unrecognized for what they are and the ones that have been found have become rather pricey (\$100 or more). It might be worth the time it takes to search through your collection.

To the Christmas Party



While this map isn't perfect it is pretty accurate as far as where the streets end. For instance, Clover Way comes up short of Peckham and Peckham doesn't go all the way to Plumas. North is the top of the map and south is the bottom.

The easiest route is Virginia to Peckham to Grant, park the car and have a good time at the party. You can also take Grant, Lakeside or Warren from Moana but not Clover. Baker also reaches all the way to Peckham. If you're on Plumas, go to Moana then Grant and turn right. The party is where the big red **X** is. Don't get lost in the streets south of Peckham.

Have fun at the party and drive safely.