

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/>



N.S.S.S.



POST BOY

June 9, 2007

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I've been waiting 6 long months for Summer to come and it's here at last! Now we can spend the next three or four months complaining about the heat.

The **Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show** is coming at us like a speeding train. Here's hoping everything was accomplished that needed to be accomplished by now. The postmark is done and the cachets should be almost ready (needed by the second meeting in June). The show will be held in the Bowling Stadium again (weren't they a Godsend). Louis' Basque Corner has been selected for the banquet. See page two for the menu. Sixteen dealers have signed on and we had to turn a couple away because there is no more room. It all seems to be coming together, now all we need is you. Be ready to volunteer for a position at the show. If you can't volunteer, try to come to the show to look at the exhibits and buy a philate or two from the dealers.

One more thing. We need more exhibits. We have plenty of exhibit boards and need more exhibits to fill them. More is better!

Take a look at the answers to last month's quiz, even if you didn't participate. Interesting stuff. Do you know the color of a purple finch? It ain't purple.

An opportunity was presented

to the club by PBS on channel five KNPB. By donating items to be bid on at the Lights! Camera! Auction show. There will be good exposure for the club and the stamp show in July. The auction was/is being held from June 4th to the 10th.

Did I mention we need more exhibitors? If you have one you would like to show, contact Jeanne Paquin. If you have a cachet, contact Duane Wilson. The cachets have to be ready by June 23rd at the absolute latest. Earlier is more better.

An excellent program from the APS was given at the last meeting. It was all about how to exhibit. The basic theme was balance and KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid). Excellent show. Thanks, Mike.

Elections! The president's term is coming to a close along with the treasurer's and two of our board members. Nominations have been made and the slate is on page 7. You can make your vote by mail or at the first meeting of July 14th. As usual, the new officers will be installed at the club Picnic in August.

COALPEX is coming in June 9-10 at the Walnut Creek Community Center at 1375 Civic DR. 10 - 6 on Sat and 10 - 4 Sun. They are still accepting exhibits. Contact David at: dmcnamee@aol.com.

Greater Reno
Stamp & Cover Show
Station
Reno NV 89510
28 July 2007



It has finally been decided to hold the banquet at Louis' Basque Corner. The price will be \$25.00 per person. Here is the menu;

First Course: Chicken with Spanish Rice

Choice of :

Top Sirloin Steak or

French Double Cut Lamb Chops

Soup du Jour

Tossed Green Salad with Louis' Special Dressing

French Bread, Basque Beans

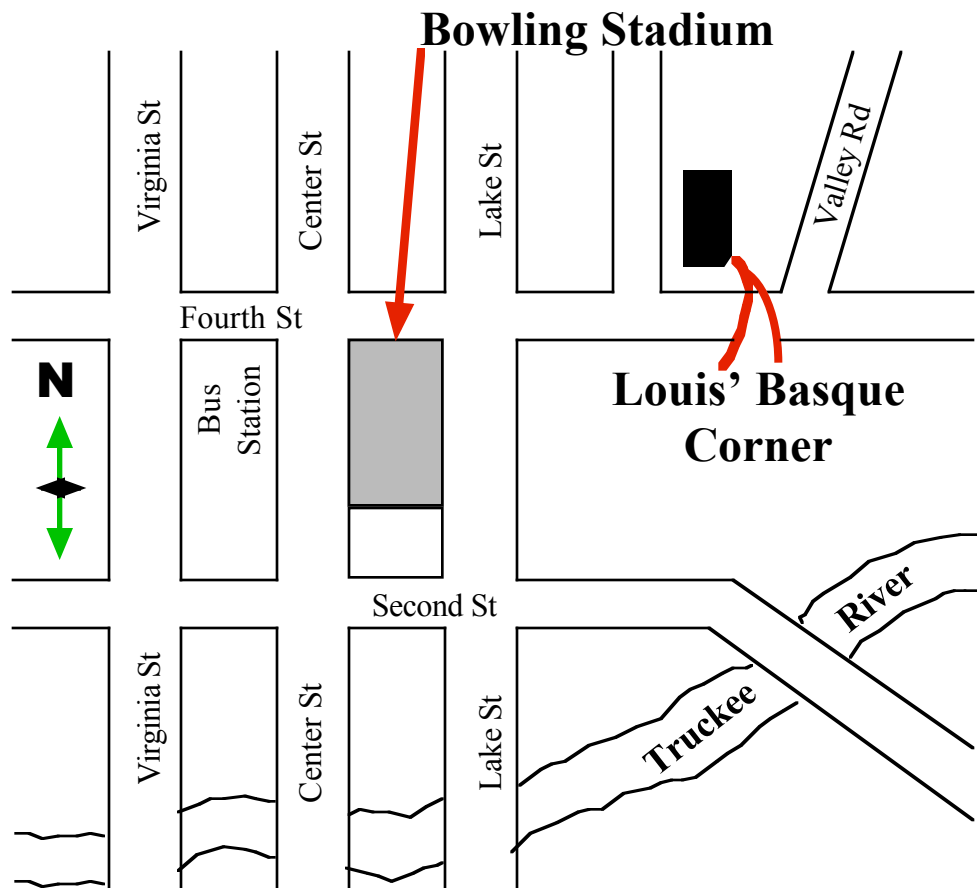
Potatoes

Complimentary Glass of Wine

or Choice of Milk, Coffee or Tea

Ice Cream

Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm and, if you like, come in at 6 for cocktails.



Centering

Linn's printed a letter from one of its readers last month that brought up the subject of high sales prices for well centered copies of relatively common stamps like the 3 cent Jefferson from the "Prexie" definitives of 1938 and some of the parks issues of 1934. Many of these stamps are going for hundreds and even thousands of dollars. What makes these stamps worth so much? Centering! Perfect centering, as determined the PSE (Professional Stamp Experts) in their stamp grading program. A stamp with a grade of 95 is really really good but 100 is perfect. They are great looking stamps. Really.

What did we do before the PSE started it's stamp grading program? Most of us judged for ourselves what made a stamp look good. Some of us referred to the Scott catalog as a guide. Stamps were graded according to Scott and our own good judgment.

In front of the Scott catalog is an information section of thirty or so pages. Each catalog is different dependant on the country(s) represented. It includes reports on paper types, printing techniques, perforations and of course, centering. The Scott recognizes four grades. Add to this gum condition and lightness of the cancelation for complete grading.



Grenada #8

Exceptions are made for some earlier stamps where the margins between stamps (on the sheet) were extremely close. Very fine can mean the perforations are touching the design on one side in the stamps of Grenada of the 1860s to 80's, e.g.

Much can be said for the grading of stamps. For one thing, if you have one that's exceptional you might be able to sell it for a bunch of money and buy a whole new collection. On the other hand, it may be raising the price of good

stamps. The PSE has introduced us to a new way of grading our stamps and it looks like its here to stay for at least as long as people are willing to pay outrageous prices for common stamps that are exceptionally well centered and are in exceptionally good condition. But will future collectors be willing to pay that much for those stamps?



a) Fine;
noticeably off center in two directions with design almost touching the perforations
Sct #222

b) Fine Very Fine;
are slightly off-center on two sides or widely off-center on one side. Perforations do not touch the design.
Sct # 224

c) Very Fine;
is a well centered stamp that is slightly off in one direction
Sct #159

d) Extremely Fine;
is almost perfectly centered. Imperforate stamps will have larger than normal margins.
Sct #512

<http://psywarrior.com/AxisPropIndia.html>

AXIS PROPAGANDA AGAINST INDIAN TROOPS

SGM Herbert A. Friedman (Ret.)



BNS 29 – TO INDIAN PATRIOTS

To the left is a propaganda leaflet from the British to the Indian troops and below is one from the Germans. Such propaganda littered the Indian soil during WWII. The British, of course, opposed the Indian revolutionaries while the Germans supported them. Germany wanted to tie the English army up in a fight in India so they could concentrate more on the eastern front.

This page of this site talks in great detail about this propaganda war. Psychological warfare is this stamp collectors forte and he is extremely knowledgeable about his subject. This page alone (there many more covering different subjects), and it is one page, is quite lengthy. I copied and put it into a word program. Without the pictures it came to 39 pages. Its liking buying a philatelic book and not having to pay for it. Not a bad deal.

If you want to find out what is written on these cards you will have to learn the Indian language or go to this site and it is all translated for you. There is also an historical background of the entire situation in India at the time along with many, many pictures of some great and very rare propaganda cards and leaflets.

If you are interested in propaganda, WWII, the Indian revolution, the British in India, you should visit this page. Then take the address and delete everything after ".com" to go to the home page of the site to see what else is available.

While there are few stamps on this page, it is still informative about this area and a great source for putting the era into perspective. After all, stamp collecting is about history.

I give this one my highest recommendation.



delta.gif (1104 bytes)146/8 44

How good are you at colors? This one tests your ability to do colors in foreign languages. You can do that. Hey, what color is Chile Verde? How often have you gazed on azure skies? Its easy, but beware the purple finch.

1. What color would a stamp be if the Italian catalog called it “verde mela”?
A) Purple B) Apple green C. Green
2. The French word “noir” describes a stamp that is what color?
A) Blue B) Purple C. Black
3. A stamp called “azul” in Spanish would be what color?
A) Red B) Blue C. Purple
4. What is the Italian word for “brown”?
A) Bruno (Marrone) B) Rosso C. Viola
5. A German catalog would call it “weinrot”. What color is it?
A) Green B) Purple C. Claret
6. The Spanish word :Gris” describes what color?
A) Purple B) Gray C. White
7. “Rouge, rot and rosso” all refer to what color stamp?
A) Pigeon’s blood B) Purple C. Red
8. The German word “Gelb” describes what color stamp?
A) Yellow B) Green C. Purple
9. What would “Flesh” colored stamps be called in French?
A) Roxo B) Chair C. Purpurot
10. The German word “citrongelb” refers to what color stamp?
A) Yellow B. Citron C. Ochre

Bonus question. What do the initials “PSE” stand for?

For those of you who may be interested, I have a translation of philatelic words in my possession. I will send it to those who have computers by e-mail and the rest by mail or I will bring it in to the meeting. It translates English into German, French, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. It includes colors so I can’t have it for you before the next Post Boy comes out.

Enjoy the quiz and good fortune with the answers.

For those of you who took "The World's Easiest Quiz" I will award 100 Auction Bucks. I'm just glad you gave it a shot.

1. The hundred years war lasted for 116 years (1337-1453) and was fought by five English and Five French kings. It started when the English king (Edward III) claimed the French Throne and the French king (Philip VI) claimed Guyenne.

2. Panama hats are made in Ecuador (where else?) Panamanians don't wear them either. They got their name in the 1800's because they shipped to the world from Panama.

3. Catgut comes mostly from hogs and sheep. It has many uses like surgical thread, musical instruments and badminton rackets. The word may have come from "kit", an old word meaning "small violin"..

4. Russia still used the old calendar in 1917 which means the revolution of October 25 actually happened on November 17 with the modern calendar. The communists up-dated Russian time keeping.

5. Made-in-America camel hair brushes are made from one of the most common animals in America, the squirrel. And, its the same in other countries. Camel hair coats, however, are made from cloth of the belly fur of the Bactrain camel.

6. It turns out the birds (first found on the Canary islands) were named for the islands. The islands were named for the Latin word "Canis" (dog) because they found a population of large dogs roaming the islands.

7. Albert Frederick Arthur George later became known as George VI. He was called prince Albert before he became king.

8. The purple Finch (the state bird of New Hampshire) has a crimson head, gray back and white belly and no purple.

9. The Chinese gooseberry is native to southeastern China. Another name for it is the kiwi fruit, so named for its resemblance to the kiwi bird. New Zealand is the world's leading producer and exporter of the fruit.



10. You'll never believe this! The thirty years war lasted for thirty years (1618-48). It began as a religious war between Protestants and Catholics and ended as a struggle for territory and political power.

Bonus: RMA refers to the Railway Mail System.

Guess it wasn't the easiest quiz after all. A hundred years war should last a hundred years and a purple finch should be purple. This just upsets my world.

2007

Nevada Stamp Study Society

Sample Ballot

This is not the official ballot but these are the names and positions of those who have been nominated. Any member of the NSSS, in good standing, who would like to run for one of these positions or any member who would like to nominate another member in good standing should contact Teri Edwards. Nominees and write-in candidates must agree to candidacy before the election.

The real ballot will appear in the July issue of the Post Boy and should be brought or mailed in by the first meeting in July (14th). Ballots will be counted on that day and the names of the elected officers will appear in the August issue of the Post Boy. Installation of those officers will be at the club picnic in August.

For the office of PRESIDENT of the club (vote for one only);

Mike Johnson

John Wetterling

Write-in _____

For the office of TREASURER

Paul Glass

Write-in _____

For the office of BOARD OF DIRECTORS (vote for two only);

Jean Johnson

Jeanne Paquin

Richard Simmonds

Write-in _____

The Early Days

C. Wm Brew

While looking through some early letters, the enclosed correspondence provided an insight to the lives of some of our ancestors.

In our everyday living in this century, the telephone is one of the most useful inventions. Our early settlers, farmers, businessmen and professionals managed through those days without the use of the phone. We would consider it an impossible situation today. Those hardy souls of yore took communications all in stride. They used the postal system. It was a great system which provided service twice a day. Sometime the mailman would pick up a letter in the morning and deliver it in the afternoon. Such was the benefit of those days. It was used primarily for conducting business. Buying and selling goods. Loans and payments were made with it. Legal council and property information were given through its use.

However, as time passed and education developed, the postal system became the instrument for private individuals to chit-chat. Family members used it as we use the telephone today. How is aunt Amy? Will you come over to dinner on Thursday evening? There will be a party for Laura Saturday night, please grace us with your presence. Thus there were many messages that passed through the mails in the early days. One example is an intriguing invitation to come to a Rip Van Winkle party. What's a Rip Van Winkle Party? Were you expected to stay for twenty years? That was the private mail conversation of those early days

Another characteristic that seems be lost these days is the beautiful

penmanship. The cover and letter below is an example of that writing.



Written during the Civil War (9-21-1864). Lincoln was still in office

These old letters provide another source of information of the *history* of this country. For those philatelists that delve into the past, letters can provide an excellent source of material. They are fascinating and intriguing. Who knows, you might run across some items that could have been written by an here-to-fore unknown relative. Such is the joy of stamps and envelopes.

As to the postal system of the early days, it was efficient and reliable as can be expected. With a much smaller amount of mail to be handled, they were able to provide two deliveries per day. There were probably some errors made as these can slip in at any time and by anybody.

Today the mail is an enormous undertaking and more errors do occur. However, for the amount of mail that is handled, the percentage of errors is about the same. It is still a good bargain, even at the increased prices.

How to Collect Stamps

Jeanne Paquin

No date as been set as of this time. We will be filming at the Media Center at 402 Kietzke Lane (corner of Peckham). Our show will be in honor of "The Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show." We will use decorative pictures supplied by USPS, and Rick Barberi, and since he is returning to work on June 4th, we will hopefully be able to schedule our filming in the week following. Also, a poster will be provided by Artown, which we will post in the back of the room.

I have asked Joe Tyler to help me, and will "teach" him how to use stamp tools so he can collect stamps. This show will show others about stamp collecting tools, and how to use them. It will be in a Martha Stewart format, very informal, but planned. This will be a "Learning show", which will be one-half hour in duration. If anyone has suggestions, I am more than willing to listen to your ideas. Also, I am seeking a volunteer to help plan the show along with me.

I am requesting our members come help set up the background, help with small details, cue cards, and be part of the audience. This is a club project, without your support we cannot do this. I will email and telephone everyone I can when the date is set. I am striving for a weeknight, and it will be in the evening after 5pm. Please try to keep your evenings free for this event. I will notify club members of the date of showing on the cable network. ." Hopefully we will also show the DVD of the show and the other previous shows at our show in July. Thrivent Financial Services has provided a small grant in order to help defray expenses.

