

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

October 13, 2007

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My, my, my. September showed up and the summer just went away. Brrr. This month promises more in the change of the seasons. Time to turn those heating units on.

One thing we have to look forward to in November is the locally famous **Auction Bucks Auction**, so I will begin to educate the new members in this issue. Every year, in November, we, the members of the NSSS succumb to a bit of madness in the form of an "Auction Bucks" meeting. When you walk in the door that day you will find the tables covered with all manner of odds and ends, many but not all related to stamp collecting. Last year we had a purse made of stamps. You may bring a few items if you wish but don't expect to bring them home and don't expect to be compensated for them. Everything will be auctioned off in return for Auction Bucks. Then the "bucks" will be recirculated next year when you turn in a Post Boy quiz (1200+ Bucks a year) or volunteer to help at a club function. How much are your efforts worth? In reality, not a dime but your contributions to the club are rewarded with more buying power at this function. A list is posted on page 10 so take a look and see how you can earn "Bucks"!

Congratulations to **Jean Johnson** for winning Bronze at the Portland APS Stamp show for her

"Celebrating the Chinese New Year" exhibit. Jean may say it was "only" bronze but at a major stamp show that is quite a feat for a new exhibitor. Several of our members attended that show including **Stan Cronwall** who brought back the Stampshow book. I'll bring it in for the meeting. There were lots of dealers, booths and tons of exhibits along with club meetings and seminars galore. Impressive show. We all should've been there.

Lots of shows to see in the next two months

23rd Annual Humboldt Stamp Show Sept 29 to 30 at 1924 4th St, Red Lion Hotel in Eureka, CA. Sat 10-5 and Sun 10-4.

WINEPEX October 5 to 7 at the Marin Center (behind the Veterans Auditorium), Avenue of the Flags (on 101 North or South, exit Civic Center-Terra Linda) in San Raphael. 10-6, Sun 10-4.

62nd Annual Eastbay Collectors Club Show Oct 27-28 at 1375 Civic Dr. in Walnut Creek. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Theme is the 70th anniversary of Amelia Earhart's final flight which left from Oakland.

SACAPEX will be held in Sacramento on Nov 3 and 4 at the Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 8th St, from 10-6 and 10-4. A silent auction will be held on Sat.

SUNPEX Nov 10-11 at the Community Center Gymnasium on 550 East Remington Ave. in Sunnyvale, CA. 10-6, Sun 10-4

Love in the Mail

Below is postcard I ran across while surfing the internet. Its written in Swedish which, of course, made it difficult to read. Fortunately, a translation came with it. This is the language of love, in stamps. Around the beginning of the 20th century, in Europe and America, it became popular to send secret messages to a loved one or a potential lover by placing the stamp on the envelope in a certain manner.



Keeping in mind that in the early Nineteen hundreds there were no rules telling us where to put the stamp on the cover. It could be placed on the left, right, top or bottom, even in the middle. You could put on the back if you wanted. This allowed the "language" to be more complex. A stamp placed up-side-down in the upper right corner might mean "I love you", while if it were put in the upper left corner, you might be saying "Burn my letter". Note the many positions indicated in the postcard. Each one delivered a different message. Some were simple like "Yes" or "No". Others might be an admonition of faith like "Fidelity is its own reward". Every now and then an offer of closer friendship could be turned away with a stamp that said "I am engaged to be married" or "My heart belongs to another". A date could be made with "Meet me as usual" or hearts would be broken with "Do not write again", all with a simple stamp. I wonder how many messages I have sent unintentionally with a carelessly placed stamp. I think I told Sierra Pacific Power that I love them once. Or maybe I said to meet me in the alley. Hmmm.

I'll bet you thought this story was over but there are two more covers to show you.



The postcard above is from England. The stamps are like movie stamps (not real). Different countries gave different meanings to the placements but the theme was all the same. Love was in the mail and the postman could deliver your kisses. The postcard below is French and the stamps, real. Do I feel a new collection coming on?



http://www.japhila.cz/hof/0171/index0171_001.htm

THE MURDER OF LIDICE



What do stamps have to offer us? They can send us to far off lands. We learn the postal systems of countries. We have neat little pieces of art on neat little pieces of paper. But. What about murder?

This site brings us murder, not of a person but of an entire village in Czechoslovakia in 1942 at the hands of the nazi party.

On May 27th, 1942 two Czechoslovakian agents, trained in the UK were sent on a mission to assassinate Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich, the "Reichsprotector" of Bohemia and Moravia (Western Czechoslovakia). The nazis believed the assassins hid in Lidice. After fulfilling their mission. They retaliated against the small village. Any male over 16 was shot or hung. All of the women and children were sent to concentration camps. The village was razed to the ground, then burned. It was the intent of the nazis to erase the village from memory and history. Sadly, it was all a mistake. The assassins were never there.

This is a sad story, told in stamps, postcards and covers, about another nazi atrocity, but it is one that needs to be remembered or we may suffer, as it is in history, the pain of repetition. Lidice has not been forgotten as the nazis would have had it but remembered by the Czechs and the rest of the world.

Go see this exhibit. It is put together by Phil Rhoades who has won awards for this and his "Overrun Nations" exhibit. Don't see it because it has won awards, go because it is important to see it. Its important to remember Lidice.



This time no single country is involved, rather, several countries in Europe. This quiz is all about EUROPA. Now take your cup of hot chocolate and sit by the fire to do this one, cause "Baby, Its Cold Outside!" At least it was when I copied it from Bill Olchesli's quiz from "100 Trivia Questions for Stamp Collectors".

1. What is the central design feature of the 1973 issue?
A) Posthorn B) Posthorn & Arrows C) Posthorn & Eagle
2. The 1971 issue uses three characteristics to describe the European community. They are Fraternity, Cooperation and?
A) Common Effort B) Common Government C) Common Currency
3. What symbol appears on the 1968 issue?
A) The Golden Key B) The Golden Hine C) A Gold Euro
4. In what year was the 10th anniversary of CEPT observed?
A) 1969 B) 1970 C) 1971
5. What was the design of the first EUROPA issue?
A) Oil Derrick B) An "E" C) An "E" and Dove
6. How many doves appear on the 1961-62 issue?
A) 14 B) 17 C) 19
7. What flower appears on the 1964 issue?
A) Daisy B) Rose C) Chrysanthemum
8. In what year did leaves and fruit show on EUROPA stamps?
A) 1964 B) 1965 C) 1966
9. How many countries issued EUROPA stamps in 1956?
A) Six B) Eight C) Eleven
10. What two industries are represented on the first issue?
A) Coal And Steel B) Transportation and Energy C) Oil and Farm

Bonus question. How many auction bucks can you earn for providing refreshments?

I wonder if you were singing that song while you were doing this quiz? I was. It was done by the likes of Bing Crosby, Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald. Would you like the lyrics? Go to; <http://lyrics.christmas-presents-ideas.com/baby-its-cold-outside-lyrics.html>. Good song but the tune might baffle you a little.

By now you may have learned something about where these countries are. I got quite a bit out of it.

1. **B.** Bahrain is an Island off the coast of Saudi Arabia, in the Persian Gulf. Manama, by the way, is its largest city.
2. **C.** Grenada is located about 90 miles north of Venezuela in the Caribbean. They are a part of the West Indies. The Grenada Grenadines are a chain of islands just off their coast.
3. **A.** Burundi is situated in the mountains, between Rwanda, The Congo and Tanzania in the central part of Africa. You may remember it as half of Ruanda-Urundi or, the Belgian Congo.
4. **A.** The Isle of Man is an Island located halfway between Ireland and England in the Irish Sea. They speak a language called "Manx" and have a cat they invented by the same name.
5. **A.** Angola is on the Atlantic side of southern Africa. Once known as Portuguese West Africa, the major industry in the 1600 - 1700s was the slave trade.
6. **A.** San Marino, one of the world's smallest countries and the oldest republic (since 300 AD) can be found entirely surrounded by the northern part of Italy.
7. **C.** Cape Verde is a group of 15 islands that are situated off the west coast of Africa, about 400 miles west of Senegal. It once prospered as a center for the slave trade but later became a nation of farmers.
8. **B.** Bhutan is a country of hardy mountaineers who reside between India and Tibet in the Himalaya mountains. They put out some really interesting stamps.
9. **B.** Dominica sits on the eastern most edge of the Caribbean Sea, forming part of the border between the Caribbean and the Atlantic. Dominica was given the Latin name for the Day of its discovery, Sunday.
10. **B.** Andorra is another of the world's smallest countries and lies between France and Spain. It was, for many years, administered by those two countries.

Bonus question. Because of its size and color it The Notopher stamps was known as the Blue Flea.

Good thing to find all these countries. I think we should do it again. Soon.

Do you have a regummed stamp?

Often, the best way to know for sure that the 1893 five cent Columbian you have in your album is not regummed is to have bought it hinged or, better yet, without gum at all. However, that may be a little rash. There are other ways to figure out if it has been to the stamp repairers. I got these bits of useful information from Jay Carrigan, a knowledgeable member of the Third Reich Stamp Club on Yahoo.

There are four tips here and you will need some special tools in order to perform the feats of philatelic magic. First you will need stamp tongs but as an experienced stamp collector, you probably already have a pair. Skin will also be necessary, preferably on the inside of your wrists. Hair will also be required. You can usually find the best on the back of your hand (of course you will need hands). Breath will also be compulsory in this experiment. And, finally, eyes to see what transpires as you perform the operation. OK. If you have assembled all the tools you can begin.

It also helps to have a NH stamp for reference, but it usually suffices to have a cheap stamp from the same issue or time period.

1. Feel the perf tips by rubbing them across a sensitive area of skin (inside of wrist is good). Regummed stamps will usually feel sharp and cause some minor pain while original gum will hardly be felt at all.
2. Holding the stamp with tongs, rub the face across the hairs on the back of your hand several times. Original gum should curl while regummed will stay flat.
3. Lay the stamp face down in the palm of your hand and gently blow on it. Again, original gum should curl and regummed will lie flat.

The old-fashioned way is to carefully inspect the perf tips to see if there are fibers indicating separation after gumming. However, some master regummers are pretty good at sanding the perf tips to simulate this.

Jay Carrigan <www.jaypex.com>

If you have a computer, or access to one, you might enjoy visiting Jay's website. It's full of information about German stamps. You may even find something that will fit into your own body of philatelic tidbits.

Here's a tidbit from another member of that club, Anthony Torres; A neat trick if you are soaking stamps off of strongly colored paper is to add a good dose of table salt (NaCl) to the soaking bath. It keeps the dyes in the paper from running. Then you can soak the removed stamps (minus the colored paper) to get the salt out. Works great on red Christmas envelopes.

United States Offices in China

Jack Searles

The US presence in China at the end of the last century and the beginning of this century is well documented. China was a common missionary station, attracting many US nationals. Adventurers, seamen, “Yankee” traders, and ambassadors and their entourages all migrated to China in the hopes of benefiting from trade with the newly “opened” China.

During this period, China fought a number of wars (e.g., the Sino-French War of 1885 and the Opium Wars) with western powers and Japan, all of which resulted ultimately in the defeat of China. In part as retribution for the cost of these wars these foreign powers were able to demand concessions from China. These concessions oftentimes were presented as being in the best interest of China or as modernizing China. Under this guise, railroads were built, loans approved, areas leased, reduced land tariffs coerced, rights of local jurisdiction and police power imposed and mining exploration authorized. A great power rivalry ensued with Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Japan and the United States all seeking to acquire and exercise control over various “spheres of influence”.

This heady atmosphere plus a series of devastating natural disasters created the opportunity for a widespread anti missionary anti foreign uprising. This uprising came early in 1900 when several missionaries were killed in Shantung and other provinces in Northern China. The uprising quickly spread throughout China, and more Europeans were killed. With both the implicit and explicit support of Tzu Hsi, the Empress Dowager, this movement was fanned by a Chinese secret society called I Ho Ch’uan (Righteous Harmonious Fists or Boxers). The uprising became known as the Boxer Rebellion. On June 9, 1900, the first Boxer attack on foreign property in Peking occurred. By June 10, it became quite clear that foreigners in the Legation quarter would be the target of Boxer attacks. Regular mail service ended. Austria-Hungarian, French, German, British, Italian, Japanese, Russian and United States nationals congregated and fortified the legation quarter in Peking. And so began the Siege at Peking, a siege that lasted until August 14, 1900. The siege was broken when 18,000 allied troops from the US, Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia and Japan converged on Peking. For about a year, there was an unprecedented alliance which occurred the eight major military powers against a common enemy, China.

The Boxer Rebellion ended and more concessions were given by China to the

victorious military powers. Relative peace was restored, and with it regular mail service.



The US Post Office opened an American Postal Agency in Shanghai, China in 1867. The period after the Boxer Rebellion, however, was inflationary in China and the local currency ultimately reached a point where it was valued at about one-half its US equivalent. On May 24, 1919, the US Post Office addressed this issue by overprinting the then current 1917-19 series of definitive stamps. On the low value of the overprinted series, the overprint read SHANGHAI 2c CHINA. These stamps went on sale in Shanghai on July 1, 1919. These overprinted stamps were issued in denominations ranging from 1c through \$1.00 and the surcharge applied was two times original value of the stamp. The stamps were intended to be sold in Shanghai at the surcharged price in local currency. These stamps were valid for prepayment of mail dispatched from the US Postal Agency at Shanghai to addresses in the US. This practice continued until December 22, 1922 when all foreign post offices in China were closed. For a short period of time after these stamps were withdrawn from usage in China, they were available in the US from the main post office in Washington, DC but were not distributed to local postmasters. All told, a total of eighteen face different stamps were issued for "Offices in China" between 1919 and 1922. These very collectable US stamps are listed in the Scott Catalog as K1-K18. Generally, used copies of these stamps are deemed to be more valuable than mint copies, but by all means, give some serious consideration to acquiring any legitimate copies of any of these stamps.

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<http://www.jacksstamps.com/philart.html>

<http://www.stamps.org/CAC/index.htm>

AUCTION BUCKS 2007

The purpose of the Auctions Bucks Program is to involve NSSS members in the club's activities.

The 2007 Auction Bucks Auction (Philatelic and "White Elephant") will be held on 10 Nov, 2007.

You may earn extra Bucks by following these rules ammended 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 item----- 5 Bucks each (limit 5)
8. Donated items for the good of the club -----Same # of Bucks as Auction yields
or equal to value of the item
9. Officer's Board meeting----- 50 Bucks
10. Comittee 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 meetings)----- 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 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 count your 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 !!