

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

November 10, 2007

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The month of a little craziness is here at last. The first meeting this month we have our **Auction Bucks Auction**. The new members will finally find out why they answer all those quiz questions and what the bucks will do for them.

As I mentioned in the last issue, bring something in you don't want anymore. It doesn't have to be stamp related but it is nicer if it is. Last year I bought an egg poacher for the microwave. I never did get it to work right so maybe you can have it this year. Whatever you bring for the auction will disappear and you don't get anything for it. Whatever you buy with your auction bucks won't cost you a thing. It is just appreciation for all the hard work you've done for the club all year. If you don't feel you have enough bucks to bid on whatever you want, you can always buy more. They are 500 auction bucks for ten real bucks. The money goes into the club's coffers.

The **Reno Gazette Journal** has finally recognized our hobby this past month in the Business section on Tuesday, October 23rd. They wrote up **Peter Gutter** (pronounced Gooter) in a small business profile. The headline read "**Stamp Hobby Blossoms in Home-Based Business**". It was a nice write-up for Mr. Gutter, giving his e-mail, website and phone and how he started and runs Gutter

Pairs. If you didn't get a chance to read it you can find it in the archives on the paper's website at RGJ.com/business.

Christmas is coming soon and so is the **Christmas party**. If you are going, there are two things you have to do. Get a present, one for each person in your party, but nothing over ten dollars. Get ready to make a dish for the dinner. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting so we don't have too much duplication. **Dick Dreiling** will make the turkey and stuffing so don't bring a turkey. It will be held on the first of December (Saturday) at the Masonic Temple. The address is 601 W. Pekham. Turn west on Pekham off Virginia Street. Its six blocks on the corner. I will have a map for you in next month's issue.

As of January 1st we will need a new program director. Mike Potter will be unable to continue in that position, Any Volunteers?

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

PENPEX Dec 1-2, Sequoia Peninsula Stamp Clubs, Community Activities Bldg., 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City.

The Man With The “Broken Hat”

Who is that man standing there with the funny looking hat? It's said by some to be Christopher Columbus's navigator owing to his prominent place in the picture on Scott #231. What about the other people in the picture. Not many of them stand out but



Three do. Christopher Columbus is obvious. He stands in the front of the crowd with his staff held high and his sword touching the ground. Some consider it funny that the picture of Columbus on the one cent issue, supposedly representing him the day before, he is clean shaven. Hmmmmm. Some people have to shave two or three times a day.

On the left side of the group is a man with his gun slung over his shoulder. His name is Alonzo de Ojeda. He was know chiefly for his ferocity as an Indian fighter. After Columbus' voyages he joined up with Amerigo Vespucci to continue explorations.

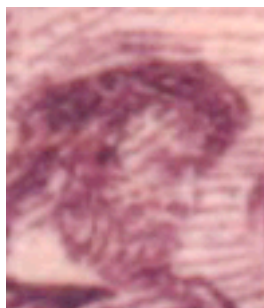
The third man is Martin Alonzo Pinzón, the captain of the Pinta. He was also a highly experienced navigator and may well have been Columbus' navigator. He made the voyages with Vincente and Francisco, his brothers who were navigators, like Martin. They are often credited with the success of Columbus' first voyage.

It is the third man, Martin Pinzón who sports the “Broken Hat”, which is a plate flaw. On the two cent stamp of the Columbian issue of 1893. Almost a billion and a half of the two cent denomination were

printed but only a small portion of those were are the broken hat variety. The flaw itself has changed slightly with each printing, so by comparing copies of the stamp the differences can be seen as the “v” widened with each printing.

The engraving was done from a painting called “The landing of Columbus” by John Vanderlyn, 1836, who often painted scenes from American history. It was placed in the Capitol Rotunda in 1847. The stamp was engraved by Douglas Ronaldson. If you look closely at the right side you will see an indian child peeking out from a tree. Its easier to see if you have the stamp and a magnifying glass.





It's not difficult to tell the difference between the broken hat variety and the normal stamp. If you look at the stamp on the left you'll see the regular issue. Notice the brim of the hat is complete. On the right side is the broken hat. It's easy to see the "V" notched into the brim



The broken hat is the most collected variety in US stamps, possibly because it is not as expensive as an inverted Jenny and far simpler to find. The number is 231 and the broken Hat is not mentioned in my old Scotts ('92 and '97) but at one time was listed as #231c.

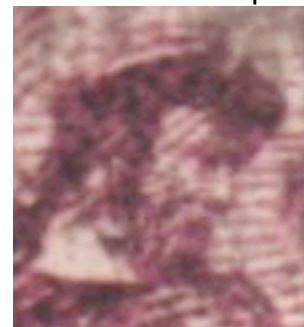


#231



Broken Hat

On the surface the normal stamp looks like the variety so you will need a loupe to discover the difference. Or, you can do as I do and put it on your scanner to make it as big as you want. There are a large number of used broken hats somewhere in the world still waiting to be discovered. If you have a large stash of the two cent Columbians it may behoove you to look through them a little closer. As I was writing this article I decided to take a look at one I had in a collection I acquired that had no US stamps in it that I could use. It is the first 2 cent I chose to look at close up and look at what I found. It is a used stamp and a picture of the close-up is at the right. Hard to see the notch for the ink of the cancellation but it's definitely there. The used stamp catalogs at 45 cents so they must be fairly common. Bet this club can find a bunch if we look.



Postscript; Just looked at my other copy of the used 2 cent Columbian and its a broken hat too.

<http://www.unostamps.nl/>

UNOstamps



Do you collect the stamps of the United Nations? If you do, you'll love this site. If you don't, you'll love this site anyway. These stamps are oriented to the UN, not just stamps issued by the UN. They depict specialized agencies, programs and the people that make the UN function.

Typically, when I send you to a new site, it is a place full of information and is not a commercial site (there are exceptions, of course). This one is little different. No commercialism here, just lots of stamps, pictures and maps to look at, broken up into a multitude of pages.

The first page (home) give you a welcome to UNOstamps and a small package of 25 stamps to see. And, a very, very brief description of where the menu is located (it on the left). Click on the introduction first and learn a little about the site and what you'll find there. There will be a link in most every paragraph, all the links at the top of the page and the links at the left. Its amazingly easy to navigate!

A good place to start after you've read the introduction would be the next link down, Countries and Territories where you will find links to fifty-one countries. Each link will show the flag of that country, a map of it and some information about the country. You know, the population, government, the kind of stuff you learned in school. And then stamps. Do you know where Abu Dhabi is located? Click on the Abu Dhabi link and take a look at the map. Then read and learn something about Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan and the country he lived in.

There are two catalogs (Subject and Persons) and no stamp values, just where to find the material you are looking for on his site. He has "Coins" and "Other Items" , both of which are ephemera related to the UN in some way. A weblog where you can read his thoughts and gain insight to the author. He even has a newsletter with a quiz. Finally, you will have to take a peek at the awards his site has justly earned.



Ascension Island, the
U.P.U. issue #59

I think you will enjoy this site. There is information up the wazoo (whatever that is) and lots of stamps, though this site is less philatelic than I usually present to you, the knowledge you will find there is more than worth the short trip to the internet. Here's another website that I highly recommend. By the way, the author of this site is Maxim van Ooijen of the Netherlands. We shared an e-mail as I was writing this article. Nice guy. Write him if you have a moment.

Where the heck is that? This time I didn't take this test from Bill Olcheski's book. I used my encyclopedia, The World Book, and my stamp album. Some of them are dead countries. Some are stamp issuing entities that no longer issue stamps. See if you can find out where they are.

1. Where is Anjouan?
A) Near Madagascar B) In the South of France C) Turkey
2. Where is Lombardy-Venetia?
A) Spain B) Northern Italy C) Turkey
3. Where is Carinthia?
A) Italy B) A province of Austria C) Turkey
4. Where is Cilicia?
A) North Africa B) Southern Iraq C) Turkey
5. Where is Dalmatia?
A) An island off Italy B) Croatia C) Turkey
6. Where is Cape of Good Hope?
A) South Africa B) South America C) Turkey
7. Where is Bohemia and Moravia?
A) Germany B) Czech Republic C) Turkey
8. Where is Danzig?
A) Poland B) Germany C) Turkey
9. Where is Eastern Rumelia?
A) Bulgaria B) Greece C) Turkey
10. Abyssinia is now known as?
A) Somalia B) Djibouti C) Ethiopia

Bonus question. What beauty secret do stamps hold.

Dead countries aren't really dead, just the names they used to use. The Confederate States of America are a "dead" country but Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi are still with us. Anjouan is still around too and still retains it's name. Its just part of a larger country now and doesn't issue it's own stamps. Hmmm. Which one(s) is a part of Turkey?

Many countries issue stamps that are used by their colonies, and they are of the same design. These are called “Common Design Types” in the Scott and are found in the front section of the book. This should’ve made the quiz easy for you.

1. **B.** The Europa issue of 1973 showed a posthorn and arrows. Actually, the arrows formed a posthorn. Interesting design.
2. **A.** So far, there is no common government among the countries of Europe and the euro had started as a common currency until several years after 1971. The answer must be “common effort”.
3. **A.** The Scott doesn’t give much information about the designs so I must assume the Golden Key is the key to the common effort.
4. **A.** The tenth anniversary of CEPT was celebrated by a stamp issued in 1969.
5. **C.** I always thought the first issue of Europa had an oil derrick as its design. Shows how much I know. It was a stylized “E” with a dove on top.
6. **C.** There were 19 doves flying in the formation of one dove to represent the 19 countries that had become members by 1962.
7. **A.** 1964 was the fifth anniversary of the establishment of CEPT. There are 19 petals in the daisy that is part of the design to represent the 22 members.
8. **B.** A young tree with 19 leaves was issued in 1962 but the fruit didn’t appear until three years later in 1965.
9. **A.** The first Europa issue in 1956 had only six members that issued stamps. Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.
10. **A.** The first Europa issue was a common design stamp, CD1. The first issue of the Europa countries was of similar design and issued separately by five of the six countries (Luxembourg didn’t issue one). You will find the design shown under each of the five. It represented the coal and steel industries for the rebuilding of Europe.

Bonus question. You Get 100 Auctions Bucks every time you bring refreshments.

CEPT is the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations. They are in charge of setting the themes and parameters for the designs of each year’s issues. Learn something new everyday, don’t we? Next month is the Christmas quiz. You shouldn’t do badly on that one.

Staffa

Where and what is a Staffa? Its an island of the "Inner Hebrides" off the coast of Scotland. Only half a mile in length, it is largely uninhabited. Its only residents are the puffins, a strange little bird that reminds me of a fat black and white parrot that can't fly. Their most famous attraction is Fingel's cave. It was named long ago by the Norsemen who



first settled it. The stamps issued for Staffa can only be described as cinderellas even though they have a price printed on them. They don't do postal duty, unless, of course. the puffins have learned to write.

Eynhallow



Eynhallow was also first settled, and named, by the early Vikings. The Norsement have long since gone and much of what is left behind has yet to be discovered. No one has lived on the island since the 1850s. A mysterious stone structure that may have been a church is all that stands as a testimony to mans exisance there. It was also the summer home of the Finfolk, wrested from their sorcerous grip by the Guidman of Thorodale (<http://www.orkneyjar.com/folklore/finfolk/eynfree.htm>). This is an old Norse like the telling of Beowolf, full of invisible people and the slaying of monsters in the pursuit of a lady love.

There are other islands in the Orkneys with names like Sanda and Bernara. The stamps were issued for the philatelic market but have no postal use or value. The dates I've seen on the cancelled stamps are all in the 1970s. But why were they issued? I don't really know and my research has uncovered nothing. Still, you can go visit these interesting islands. Tours are available. And,perhaps. you can find a puffin to write to.

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

Winick Snippets

By Les Winick

As syndicated in 435 non-philatelic newspapers

William Faulkner, the noted author, was fired from his job as a postmaster in 1921. A postal inspector found that Faulkner left the mail sacks while he went to read poetry with friends, and often refused to open the post office window until he read all the magazines that were received by his customers.

After he was discharged from the post office, he told friends that he would "no longer be at the mercy of any s.o.b. who had two centers for a stamp."

The U.S. Postal Service issued a 22 cent stamp honoring the author on August 3, 1987.



Did you know that George Washington has its own Zip Code - 98824? That's for the town of George, in the state of Washington.



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.



The Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee gets thousands of suggestions for stamp designs each year. Among the rejected ideas were the ten most wanted criminals; "Whooda Tom," the world's champion hog caller; and a request signed by all the students in an elementary school asking that a stamp be issued picturing a cat that came in to study with them each day.



The lowest post office in the world is located in Death Valley, 280 feet below sea level. It is also the hottest area served by the Postal Service.