

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

President: Mike Johnson
(775) 626-6545t
rpaycheck1@yahoo.com

Vice President: StanCronwall
(775) 849-7850
stlaine@aol.com

Secretary: Howard Grenzebach
(775) 972-6301
artfulputz@aol.com

Treasurer: Paul Glass
425-8939
pglass@charter.net

Editor: Howard Grenzebach
(775) 972-6301
artfulputz@aol.com

Proof Reader: Jim Biehl
West Chester, PA.

Directors:
Frank Fey
(775) 826-1476
frankfey@gbis.com

Sumayya Beekun (Jr. Rep.)

Jeanne Paquin
paquinj@sbcglobal.net

Mike Potter
359-9419
mpotter-134@aol.com

Jean Johnson
331-0816
jeasjo@hotmail.com

Ahh, June at last. The beginning of my favorite season. Warmer weather coming.

We were happy to see **Kay Williams** return to a meeting last month. Her arm is still in a soft cast and she isn't able to drive just yet. Hope to see you again, soon.

Be sure to read page two. Our time is up at the **YWCA** and we are not able to return to the **Heritage Museum** yet, as they have a large display in our regular meeting area. For the foreseeable future our meetings will be held at the **NNMC Mosque in Sparks**. Map is on page two. Don't worry, its easy to find.

By the way, attendance has been pretty low the past couple of weeks. There is plenty of parking space near the Mosque and the rooms are bigger (and a full kitchen) so be sure to come.

We still need more exhibits for the show so if you want to be an exhibiter, it might be a good idea to start with a one-framer of "My Favorite Things". Talk to **Jeanne Paquin**, she will help.

With the **Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show** rapidly approaching it is time to take a look at your schedules. We will be needing help to set up the tables for the dealers and we will spend a day setting up the

exhibit frames. Most of the work will take place the day before the show. if you have the time, please volunteer. We will also be needing people to take care of the welcome table. If you are coming to the show anyway, why not help out for a two hour shift. You can see the show before or after your shift and the work is real easy.

On page eight of this major philatelic publication I have made a copy of the ad for our show. Take it to the nearest copier (most libraries have one) and run off a few copies to put on the local supermarket corkboard. Check them every time you pass by. They may clear the board or someone might grab it to remind them to go to the show. Replace as needed.

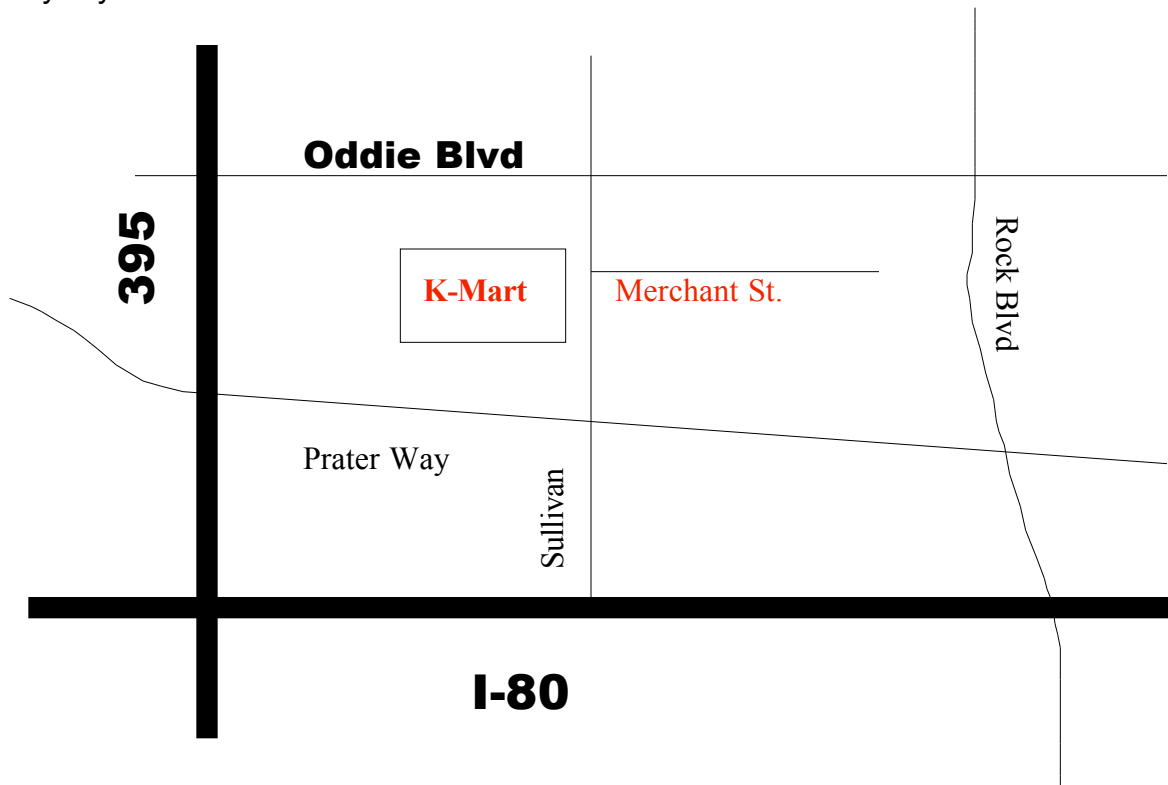
COALPEX, June 14-15, 2008 will be held at the Walnut Creek – Civic Center Assembly Hall, 1375 Civic Dr. It is brought to us by the Contra Costa County Philatelic Society.

ASDA Show in Santa Clara on June 27-29 at the Santa Clara convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway. 10-5 and 10-4. asda@erols.com

Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show will be held on July 12-13, 2008 at the National Bowling Stadium, 300 N. Center St. from 10-6 and 10-4. See our website at: <http://home.earthlink.net/renostamp/id6.html>

The time we paid for at the YWCA so we could have a place to hold our meetings is now up. Because the temporary dislocation from the Sparks Heritage Museum has been extended, possibly to September, we were without a place to meet. Fortunately, Nadiah came to our rescue and has secured a new meeting place for us at the NNMC Mosque in Sparks. Here is a map.

Take 395 to Oddie and turn East. Go to Sullivan and turn right. Take the first entrance and you are at the Mosque. You can also take the Rock Blvd. and turn west on Oddie and left at Sullivan. Of course, if, like Dick, you live where there are no modern highways, you can probably find your way around better than the rest of us anyway.



A third option is to take prater to Sullivan and turn north. The Mosque is across the street from K-Mart and next door to the Country Saloon. Hmmmmm.....they may get a little busy after the meeting.

If all else fails call Nadiah **762-4905** it's all her fault anyway.

Remember to support the museum. After all, they have given us a place to meet all these years without charge. Volunteer. Its easy, and you don't need to be a genius. You already understand history, after all, most of us have lived it!!

History of the Postage Stamps

of the *United States of America*

Stamp collecting has been around since the first stamp was created in 1840 when (as rumor has it) a lady in London collected as many of the penny blacks as she could find and used them for wallpaper in her tiny apartment. By 1885, history had gained on the stamp collection by 45 years. That is the year when John K. Tiffany was finishing up the first compendium of the philatelic past. It was first copyrighted in 1886 and published by C. H. Meekel in 1887.

Once past the book title, the portrait of Mr. Tiffany, the preface and introduction you find the table of contents which shows us that there are twenty-nine chapters in 275 pages. The last chapter is the "Publisher's Announcements". You may find that especially interesting as he offers a very complete catalog for five dollars among other things.

All such complaints aside about the origins of stamps, the book is a scholarly study of American stamps up to 1883 and talks of the contract for the stamps of 1885-89. Most of the pages are relegated to detailed descriptions of the stamps while at the end of the chapter he discusses the number of stamps issued and those that are destroyed. This may seem a little odd since, at the beginning of the book, the writer complains that because the printing of the stamps are contracted out and not printed by the US, the numbers of stamps are not available.

This book, of course includes the printings of postal stationary, postage dues, special delivery, newspaper stamps, revenue stamps and official stamps. There are many references to postal regulations of the time as well as the postal rates. He also covers colors and shades and changes in the gum as changes were made from the American Banknote company to the Continental Banknote Company. And I saw one reference to the Bureau of Engraving.

This may all sound a little boring and, admittedly, the book is a bit dry but information abounds and, if nothing else, it is quaint. I am trying to condense the original copy that was sent me by Guy Lizote into a lighter version to send across the internet (3.8 mb, at this point). The original book can be found at the library at Harvard and, probably in Washington DC. It was scanned by Google and can be found and downloaded at <books.google.com> and, since I now have a copy of Guy's copy, you can write me (artfulputz@aol.com) and I will send one to you via the internet. You may want to try Google to see what other books on stamps may be available. They would have to be out of print and in the public domain before Google will scan them.

<http://www.exponet.info>

or http://www.japhila.cz/hof/exponet_menu.htm

EXPONET

VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION EXPONET WILL BE HELD UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE MINISTER OF CULTURE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

This is a site that only deals in stamp exhibitions. Award winning exhibitions. How much do you want to learn about your stamps? This site has everything but you may have to learn a new language to get to all of the information. There are 384 exhibits from 87 different countries for your viewing pleasure, most of them, but not all, in English. All are brought to you through the courtesy of the Czech Republic.

I haven't looked at them all yet but most of the pages I saw came from American exhibitors. The page below comes from Jay Carrigan of Hendersonville, North Carolina. I'll bet you thought those Southerners were ignorant. Below is the first page of one of the eleven exhibits he has on this site. The title of the exhibit is a weighty "GERMANY - SOVIET ZONE 1945-1946, MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN THE 1945 ANTI-FASCIST ISSUE OF MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN". As you may have guessed, it is about post-WWII Germany and is only a one frame exhibit with 16 pages but the information about this area is useful to any who collect in this area.

The site opens with a series of flags representing the countries the exhibits hail from. Just click on one of them and a menu of the exhibits of that country will magically appear. You may recognize a few. "The Murder of Lidice" is there in case you missed it in a previous issue of the Post Boy. In the upper corner of the first page are a Czech flag on the left and an British flag on the right. If you click on a flag a menu of the exhibits, broken down by classes appears. One of the classes is "Exhibits for sale" where you can buy one for only € 80,000 (about \$120,000.00).

As usual, I can only describe a small part of the site. You'll have to go there and see it for yourself to appreciate what they have to offer. This is a simple site and I feel the Czechs have done a great service to the hobby by putting this in a form that the kids will understand. Go take a look then tell your children or grandchildren! Maybe word of this hobby will get around and new blood will learn just how fascinating philately can be.



Language is an important part of stamp collecting. We learn foreign languages as a part of our hobby whether we realize or not. This quiz deals with just that. How many foreign languages can you translate for this one? If you look at catalogs from other countries, like the Michel or the Hellas, then you can do this one. It just takes a little thought.

1. What does the German word "flugpost" mean?
A) Special delivery B) **Airmail** C) Postage due
2. What is the Spanish word for Postmark?
A) **Matasello** B) Besa mi C) Mucho gusto
3. What does the Italian word "Anullato" mean?
A) Annual flights B) Special delivery C) **Cancelled**
4. If a French stamp is described as showing "Armoiries", what does it show?
A) Sword fighters B) Presidents C) **Coats of Arms**
5. The German word "Rolle" describes what kind of stamp?
A) Roller cancelled B) **Coil** C) Special delivery
6. If you have a French stamp described as "Faux", what kind of stamp do you have?
A) **Forgery** B) Revenue C) Cinderella
7. What is the German word for a postage due?
A) **Freimarken** B) Briefmark C) Gedenkmarke
8. A Spanish stamp described as "Sin dentar" would be what kind of stamp.
A) **Imperforate** B) coil C) Perforate
9. What is the Italian word for "postmark"?
A) Affrancatura B) **Bollo** C) Cartolina
10. What kind of stamp would the Germans call "Zeitungsmarke"?
A) Revenue B) Official C) **Newspaper**

Bonus question: John Tiffany wrote a history book. True or false?

Well, maybe not so easy this time but if you have a translator then you are two steps ahead of everybody else. Maybe you still have the one I sent out a while back. If you don't, now would be the time to get one. On the other hand you can always check the internet. They have everything.

Ceylon is a beautiful island and aptly renamed. The quiz might be a little bit tough but I found all the answers in the Scott catalog. I also used the encyclopedia, the World Book, to expand on those answers. I hope you all had an easy time answering these questions and enjoyed sipping your Ceylon tea.

1. B. Ceylon is a large island located off the south east tip of India in the Indian Ocean. Arthur C. Clark, the science fiction writer, made it his home for many years.
2. A. Like most stamps issued in the British Commonwealth the first stamps of Ceylon were issued with a picture of the "Good Queen Vic".
3. A. This particular issue, #278, pictures a young woman tapping the sap from a rubber tree (and my dad kept telling me tires don't grow on trees).
4. C. This was one of the later issues of the set, being put out in 1946. It is #286 and shows a herd of wild elephants.
5. B. Pineapples are almost unknown in that part of the country (too much rain) and tea is a staple of most of the eastern countries but the staple food shown on #394 is the main staple of Ceylon, rice.
6. A. In 1972, Ceylon decided, in a peaceful manner, to change its name to Sri Lanka which means "Resplendent Land".
7. A. Dudley Senanayake was the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka from 1956 to 1970 when he lost the position to Sirimavo Bandaranaike. (#390).
8. A. Like I said last month, Kandy really is a city in Sri Lanka but the airport was opened in Colombo, Sri Lanka's largest city. The opening was celebrated on #417.
9. C. The stamp (#364) was issued to bring attention to the mosquito eradication program brought into Ceylon by the World Health Organization but the disease was never wiped out. Now research is directed towards a finding vaccine to prevent malaria from occurring.
10. C. The stamp is #379 and the girl pictured is picking tea, one of the major export crops from Ceylon.

Bonus question. Many foreign post offices were maintained on the island but it was the French who occupied it. See page three of last month's issue.

Did you feel the cool breezes coming off the mountains? The average temperature is 80 degrees on the lowlands along the coastal areas of the island while it is about 60 degrees at the higher altitudes. I guess Mr. Clark knew how to enjoy life.

In the magazine of the BDPH (Bund Deutscher Philatelisten) of December 2007 I read this article which I thought was interesting enough to present in an overview form to you, my stamp collecting friends. The article is presented as the personal opinion of Peter Feuser and is not underwritten by BDPH.

Subject is: DAMAGE TO CLASSICAL STAMPS through SULPHIDE. (lead)-sulfide [PbS] is formed during lack of fresh air by longer exposure in PVC foil containers, which contain sulphur and by combining with lead, contained in the paper used in classic stamp paper manufacture.

Simplified resume: Commercial PVC foils are causing severe damages to classical stamps. The transparent foils are used as stamp containers in albums as protectors or envelopes of covers (letters) and also as materials for exhibits. Damage is specified as: changing of original color by darkening, up to complete blackness, and by destroying the structure of the stamp paper structure. Damage has been observed by multiple collectors, but has not been acknowledged by PVC album etc. manufacturers. The chemical process has been tested and described affirmative by 3 material testing labs and has also been contested by 2 labs, hired by PVC album businesses.

The discoloration of classic stamps takes place in dark airtight storage, providing a low molecular connection (amalgamation) of substances able to migrate, which are contained in PVC, right from begin of the storing, or form in the process of aging. It is observed, that PVC incorporates a sulphur containing tin stabilizer and that stamps incorporate a high content of lead, this being feasible considering the methods of stamp fabrication of those (old) times. The end product of the sulphur containing stabilizer in the PVC foil and the lead in the stamps reaction in slow migrating is "Bleisulfid"=sulfide, an extremely difficult soluble, black colored metal salt. The extremely small traces of lead sulfide could be enough, to cause color change on stamps. The issue of (chemical) migration is not a theory, but a fact, as there are border values given for food and medical PVC containing packaging.

This article considers stamps of the German States up to Deutsches Reich, Michel # 3 & #8, which turn brownish to black, and also # 2 & # 7 which get dark and lose original color, as well as Danzig and they also relate to all classic stamps worldwide till 1875. Classic stamps are known to incline to oxidation on account of their color ingredients, especially orange, yellow and red toned, but since storing in PVC foils arrived in 1975 this is augmented in blue and green tones. Storing classic stamps and covers in a PVC envelope, that prevents air circulation, is the worst scenario, material in commercial common "Klemmtaschen"=mounts of Polystyrol & Photo corners, but not under PVC, especially under pressure, seem not to be affected. Short period PVC packaging and containment open on three sides (to allow air) is acceptable.

According to Peter Feuser's team ten thousands of high valued stamps became damaged through storage in PVC foils. The publisher of the BDPH reiterates in appendix, that in the light of the controversy with album manufacturers collectors should be aware of these arguments and recommends, to look at their collections frequently.

Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show

July 12 – 13, 2008
Saturday 10-6
Sunday 10-4

FREE
Admission

FREE
Parking*
*with validation

**Buy & Sell Stamps • Exhibits • Youth Activities •
Special Show Cancellation & Cover**


National Bowling Stadium.
300 N. Center St.
Reno, Nevada

<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp>
or 775-246-4769 for more information

Hosted by Nevada Stamp Study Society, PO Box 2907, Sparks NV 89432




Part of Reno's Artown Festival, July 1 – 31. The month long summer arts festival features more than 350 events produced by more than 100 cultural organizations and businesses in over 90 locations city wide, with major funding provided by the City of Reno.

Last month Paul Glass, John Walter, Laura Beck, Mike Potter and Barbara Stanfield helped some of the Boy Scouts earn a merit badge in stamp collecting. John was kind enough to take some pictures of the event.



These pictures were taken at the first meeting where the scouts were looking the hobby over and learning a little about stamps. The next meeting followed two weeks later with assignments given for the boys who were interested.

Four of the scouts completed all the requirements for their merit badges. That means four more collectors are hooked, even though they don't know it yet. We'll see them in the club a few years from now.

