



N.S.S.S. Post Boy



N.S.S.S. meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am in the NNMCM at 1855 Oddie Blvd. in Sparks

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

Volume 44, Issue 2

February 11, 2012

Nevada Stamp Study Society Board of Officers

President:
Stan Cronwall

Vice President:
Jeanne Paquin

Secretary/Editor:
Casey Macken

Treasurer:
Terri Edwards

Directors:
Charles White
John Walter
Harvey Edwards
Paul Glass
Jean Johnson
Junior Representative
Travis Fey

Editor's Byline

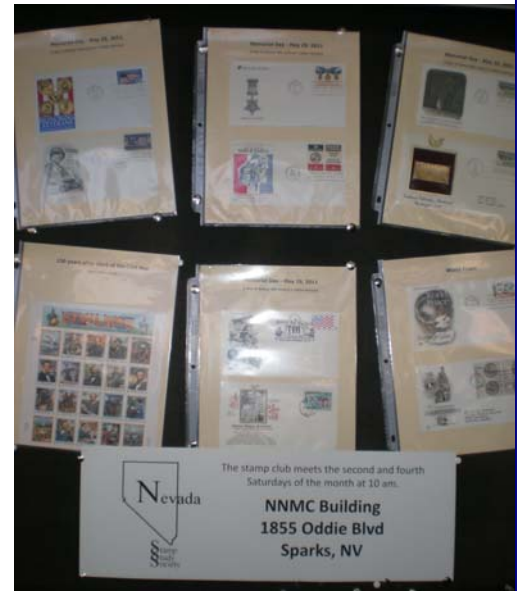
Patriotic February

Casey Macken
Secretary/Editor

NSSS won the Christmas display at the Sparks Heritage Museum and I am sure it had nothing to do with Dick Dreiling and Dick Simmons volunteering there.

On January 14th we had a board meeting. In general, club is good financially, we are moving back to the Sparks Heritage Museum eventually, details need to be ironed out. John Walters will meet with the museum in February to define the details.

continued on page 3



Wanted: 4 to 6 page exhibits

John Walter

For the past two years the NSSS put stamp collecting material in two display cases in the main Reno Post Office on Vassar Street. Every two months the display is changed. The locked display cases are on the wall just before people encounter the postal clerks to conduct business. The area of the display cases is locked after normal post office hours.

The display cases measure approximately 32" by 32". As you can see in the picture above, there is enough room for 6 pages and the club information poster. To encourage members who may be

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Editor' Byline
- 1 Wanted: 4-6 Page Exhibits
- 2 Are Forever Stamps A Good Investment
- 3 Calendar of Events
- 4 Why Exhibit? Part One
- 7 Post Boy Quiz

continued from page 1

We are looking for a replacement for Kay Williams to send out sympathy and get well cards.

Laura Beck has moved to California to be near her family so now we need someone to be in charge of selling raffle tickets each meeting.

We need to find outlets for the penny box materials. Did anyone decide to enlarge their own collections by collecting a different country or type of philatelic material? The boxes are there for the members to look through. If you want to take a box, a baggie or whatever home to search through it just let me know.

We have remote displays at the Vasser Post Office, Sparks Library and North Valley libraries

There are several offices due to be vacated: Vice-President, Secretary and two Directors. We are also looking for a new Program chair for April to replace Stan who is irreplaceable.

The stamp show will be July 21st and 22nd. We have judges but no exhibits. Do not forget to work on your "My favorite things" for the club or can you expand to only sixteen pages for an complete exhibit. Bring these to the meeting on February 25th.

Speaking of forgetting, Betty Mudge, chairman of the Auction Bucks reminds everyone to sign in at the meetings and write what you have done for the club for your auction bucks. If you have forgotten what earns bucks, then just look at the front of the sign in book.

The picnic will be on August 11th at the Silverado Clubhouse. We will have the picnic and the bourse sale as we did last year. Let's give our thanks to George Ray for arranging it again.

Sunday, July 10th, 2011

General Commentary: Are "Forever" Stamps a Good Investment



In 2007, the U.S. Postal Service sold its first "Forever" stamps, which pictured the Liberty Bell, for 41 cents each. These were marked "USA FIRST-CLASS FOREVER", indicating that the stamps would always be sufficient to pre-pay the first class rate, regardless of how much the rate increased in



the future. Recently, the U.S.P.S. decided that, beginning in 2011, all first-class stamps will be Forever stamps. Both frequent mailers and collectors have sometimes pondered the question of whether Forever stamps are a good investment.

My response is that, in general, they are probably not. Over the last 80 years, postal rates have increased at a compounded annual rate of approximately 3 1/2% per year. This is about the same as the average annual inflation rate for the U.S. over the last 100 years (3.43%), implying that the buying power of the cost of a stamp has remained pretty much the same.

Furthermore, as any U.S. collector with some experience with the stamp market knows, it is often possible to purchase large quantities of "discount postage", either from dealers or through stamp auctions, at 85% to 90% of face value. Dealers pay

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REGULAR MEETING

NNMC

FEBRUARY 11TH 10:00AM

Auction meeting

NNMC

FEBRUARY 25TH 10:00AM

Consignment Sales with
Presentation

MY FAVORITE THINGS

Stamp Shows

NOVAPEX

March 3-4. Redding

<http://www.reddingstampclub.com/index.html>

FRESPEX

March. 24-25 Fresno (near Clovis)

<http://www.frespex.org/>

SOPEX

April 14-15 Southern Oregon

<http://www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm>

WESTPEX

April 27-29 San Francisco Airport

<http://www.westpex.com/>

APS Stamp Show

August 16-19, Sacramento

thinking of doing a stamp exhibit, this is a great opportunity to give it a try.

Cheap material and a simple story line is all that is needed. The penny box is a great source for material. Using excess material from your own collecting interests should be able to yield a nice mini-display.

If 6 pages seem like too much, then a 4-page exhibit will do nicely. A poster in the middle of the display with the 2 exhibit pages on each side with our club name on the bottom all fit perfectly. This is illustrated in the picture below.

If anyone wants to "synchronize" display pages with the posters, here are the poster themes: United States Flag, Nevada, Mr. Zip, Joint Issues, Black History Month and Fancy Cancels.



Other suggestions include: Christmas, Ballooning (to coincide with the Reno Balloon Festival), Classic Cars (Hot August Nights), Classic Airplanes (Reno Air Show), and Pony Express (reenactment each June through Carson City). I'm sure there are many more activities in the Reno area that can be depicted on stamps and covers.

Also don't forget the NSSS sponsors stamp collecting displays in the local libraries: South Valleys, North Valleys, Sparks, and Carson City. This month a stamp vending machine is on loan from Don Olson which will be on display in the Sparks Library during February.

Last, but not least, you can earn auction bucks for time spent in activities that benefit the club. So not only will you learn something developing a mini-display, but you actually get rewarded at the same time. What a deal!

about 30% less when buying it wholesale. Undoubtedly, this will also be the case with Forever stamps.

However, there may be some instances in which the inflation-linked rates of Forever stamps could give some added protection to the philatelic investor. Every once in a while, the Postal Service issues a souvenir sheet or booklet in lower-than-normal quantities. Those speculating on such items will benefit from the fact that even if collector demand does not increase for what they've purchased, their purchase's value will be linked to future rate increases. The same applies to those who purchase plate number strips and other positional items, and it also holds true if other countries hop on the bandwagon, and issue such stamps in low printing quantities.



Why Exhibit? Part One

Tom Fortunada

Despite our best efforts, the number of collectors (including youngsters) exhibiting at the 34 national-level stamp shows around the country seems to be declining.

Why is that? Why aren't you exhibiting? Perhaps you feel that the stamps and philatelic material you have aren't good enough to exhibit. Nothing could be farther from the truth! You may not (and should not) start at a national level show, but at least get started at a local or regional exhibition. Every exhibitor has to start somewhere and get his or her feet wet!

As time passes, you'll find better material to replace the more common items you begin with. Be patient, as this does take time!

Perhaps you don't "know the rules." The best place to start is with a copy of the actual guidelines that the judges use when giving awards to exhibits. It will give you an idea of what a judge looks for and what you should think about, too. Here in the USA, a rules book can be purchased through the American Philatelic Society at P.O. Box 8000, State College, PA 16803, or phoning (814) 237-3803.

You could just be a little scared too! Few want to enter a world you know nothing about. Believe me, not everyone has a mentor to show them the ropes helping to show what to and what not to do. But there are many experienced exhibitors out there willing to lend a hand if only asked.

This primer on exhibiting for young or old is meant to at least tempt you to get started. It's not as hard as you might think. Read on and see how easy it can really be. You are also welcome to contact me with your questions and comments.

A Philatelic Elements Shopping List

Here is a very useful checklist that can serve as a basis for acquiring material for your exhibit. It will help you obtain the variety of material you need. Even the experienced exhibitor can refresh their knowledge by reviewing these definitions.

Using this checklist will not only enable you to exhibit your subject with a good variety of material, but it will also introduce you to some new and challenging philatelic areas. Later, your checklist can be adapted to determine which elements you can use. While topical/thematic exhibits use these elements extensively, all exhibits show some of them.

Essays are trial designs for a stamp unlike the final accepted work in some way- major or minor. Oftentimes, several designers are asked to send in sketches of their proposals. Those not selected remain as essays. In fact, even the accepted design may become an essay if additional changes are made to it before production.

Proofs are a test printing of a stamp from an original plate or die.

Trial colors are a test of the stamp design printed in different colors to find out which are the best colors to use. Trial colors are types of proofs.

Specimens are final examples of approved regularly issued stamps but without postal validity. At the turn of the century it was common for countries to issue specimens as examples for other countries to view as acceptable and valid stamps. Such would have "Specimen" overprinted on them, or perforated into the design to stop people from using them in the mail. Specimens continue into this day primarily for journalist use. They are overprinted in a variety of ways.

Printing varieties entail an assortment of possibilities. Paper varieties are just that- stamps issued on different paper varieties. Perforation varieties are stamps issues that through the production process are found with different perms. Watermark varieties are symbols in the stamp paper that can be seen where the paper is slightly thinner. Sometimes paper having a different watermark was used to produce stamps, intentional or not.

Production formats are important. It's good to show not only single stamps, but pairs and blocks if they are significant, including any with special production salvage markings on them.

Coils are stamps produced for vending machines or ease of use.

Booklets are another production format.

Miniature Sheets contain multiple stamps mostly with the same design.

Souvenir Sheets are similar to a miniature sheet but imply some form of commemorative inscription in the sheet margin.

Panes are typically the sheet form found in a post office. Then there are complete sheets as printed at the printers.

Stamp types include

Definitives (used for a prolonged period of time),

Commemoratives (having a short usage),

semi-postals (with regular postal value and a tax for a worthy cause),

Postage Dues, and

Revenues (exclusively to denote a tax paid),

There are more types as well, but these are the most common.

Postal stationery

are specially made envelopes, post cards or letter forms for use in the mail with postal value.

Aerograms are thin paper letter forms used for international mail.

Envelopes and **Postal Cards**

Look as you would expect, but have prepaid indicia on them denoting their postal value. Also in this category are wrappers, commonly used for mailing newspapers and pamphlets.

Cancellations and **Postmarks**

are found on covers and other postal documents. Common types are machine, hand, and pictorial. These explain in what manner they were applied or their intent. **Backstamps** are routing cancellation marks applied to the reverse of a cover showing where and when a letter passed through postal handling.

Don't overlook **meters**. These are common today, especially on bulk and commercial mailings. Several companies around the world make meter machines, and their types and history are fascinating.

When it comes to **Covers** (envelopes or similar wrappings which carried mail), those postally used and non-philatelic in origin are best.

Censored Covers are mail pieces which were opened for inspection. Always look for **Auxiliary Markings** which denote special handling, delays, etc. Whenever possible, explain the route a cover may have taken from origin to destination.

A **maximum card** is a post card bearing a stamp cancelled on the picture side. Ideally, the stamp used, cancellation and picture post card should all be related by topic in some way.

This is just a short list of the possibilities!

ADVERTISEMENTS

For Sale; Stamps and Covers at my online store at Wensy.com. Type "artfulputz" in the search box click on "user" then "go". You'll have to join but it's easier than eBay. Most prices start at 1/3 of Scott. Contact Howard at artfulputz@aol.com

ClassicNevada Stamp & Supplies
Buy & Sell Stamps, Postcards, FDCs and Photos and Documents of Mining + Western interest
Nadiah Beekun - Philatelist
151 N. Sierra, Reno, Nevada 89501 inside the [Antiques & treasures Mall](#), [Check out our website](#); Renostamps.com (775) 762-4905 classicnevada@Yahoo.com

WANTED: Germany Third Reich postcards from the **Eric Gutjahr Studios** - B/W or color, photo or illustrated mint or used. Paying \$35.00 and up depending on subject matter and condition Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com

WANTED: Germany Third Reich postcards from the **Heinrich Hoffmann Studios** (Hoffmann was Hitler's personal photographer) B/W or color, photo or illustrated, mint or used. Paying \$ 45.00 and up depending on subject matter and condition. Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com

[**WANTED:** Germany Third Reich postcards from the **Carl Werner Studios** - B/W or color, photo or illustrated mint or used. Paying \$35.00 and up depending on subject matter and condition Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com

WANTED: Germany Third Reich "**Kinder Cards**" mint or used-these are cards showing children "playing at war" usually with some junior sized weapon, helmet and/or uniform Most are color but some can be B/W. Most are illustrated, but some are photography. Paying \$35.00 and up depending on subject matter and condition Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com.

WANTED: Germany Third Reich illustrated postcards by the **artist Wolfgang Willrich** -B/W or color, mint or used Paying \$35.00 and up depending on subject matter and condition. Stan Cronwall 849-7850 or stlaine@aol.com

Wanted; the 1949 Silver Wedding issue. Have you seen this stamp? There are several like it from other British colonies. I need about half of them to complete my collection. Contact Howard at (775) 677-7143 or artfulputz@aol.com



BENNY'S BIN
Art Deco Jewelry
One of a kind Odds & Ends Victoriania
Jacqueline Bloomquist
151 N. Sierra Reno, NV 89501
inside the Arts & Antiques Mall

Davies Stamps
Worldwide Stamps & Supplies
Discounted
Arline & Edward Davies
Owners
1631 Picetti Way (775) 835-0195
Fernley, Nevada 89408
Stamps2go.com.com,
Stamporama.com
eddavies@sbcglobal.net

WANTED - US Aerogrammes addressed and used to overseas locations. Needed: UC42, UC44, UC44a, UC46, UC49, and UC52 to UC62, UC63a and UC64 Paying up to 100% of SCV John Walter john@walter-us.net

February 2012 Quiz

Switzerland

1. A souvenir sheet was issued in 1974 for the centenary of the Universal Postal Union. What did it show?
A) 1920's postal couriers B) medieval postal couriers C) modern postal couriers
2. What Swiss military unit is honored on a 1965 stamp?
A) Infantry Brigade B) Women's Navy Auxiliary C) Women's Army Auxiliary
3. Two 843 stamps are shown on a 1968 issue. From what cities do they come?
A) Bern and Lucerne B) Geneva and Zurich C) Geneva and Lucerne
4. What type of transportation is shown on a four-stamp issue of 1947?
A) Trains B) Planes C) Automobiles
5. What is the central design of the National Defense semi-postals of 1936?
A) Seated Helvetia B) Alpine herdsmen C) Crossbow and apple
6. A 1980 semi-postal series shows trade and craft signs. What business does the 40 +20 value stamp show?
A) Barber B) Baker C) Butcher
7. What weed appears on the 1960 semi-postal?
A) Chicory B) Dandelion C) Queen Anne's Lace
8. The "Ville de Lucerne" appears on a 1975 stamp. What is it?
A) Airplane B) Ship C) A dirigible
9. A souvenir sheet of four stamps was issued September 29, 1934. What did it honor?
A) iBRA International Stamp Exhibition Nuremberg
B) Swiss National Philatelic Exhibition at Zurich
C) International Philately Festival Rome
10. Alexandre Yersin appears on a 1971 stamp. What was his occupation?
A) Bacteriologist B) Surgeon C) Physicist

Bonus Question: What are backstamps?