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Zazzle.com.

**N.S.S.S. meets the
2nd & 4th Saturday
of each month
at 10:00 a.m.
in the NNMC located at
1855 Oddie Blvd. in Sparks.**

**Check out our
website @**

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

Editor's Byline

Marla Wetterling
Assistant Editor

Casey and I will be taking turns working on the Post Boy and I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Some of our fondest memories of stamp collecting is the friends we've made in the club and all the cool things we have learned.

As most of you know I work shift work and due to my new schedule in Jan. 2013 I'll be moving to 4am to noon so I'll be unable to attend meetings for the next few months, but I'll still keep you guys going on my months in the Post Boy.

To bring you a quote from the Delilah Radio Show, we all need to have an **Attitude of Gratitude.**

**May you
have a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!**

2013 STAMP SHOWS

<http://stamps.org/Show-Calendar>

Check out the above website for
upcoming Philatelic Shows.

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The first official US Christmas stamp was launched in 1962. This year, the US Post Office will print more than 4 billion Christmas postage stamps. They can even be bought at some ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines) using a bank card: 18 stamps are printed out on a sheet the size of a \$1 bill.

Christmas Stamps From Around the World!

Courtesy of:

<http://www.worldofchristmas.net/christmas-stamps.html>

Mail used to be sent free; the delivery was paid for by the recipient. But in 1837, an English schoolmaster named Rowland Hill noticed that the post office lost out too much by recipients refusing delivery. He proposed prepaid stamps in a pamphlet called *The Post Office Reform*. On 1 May 1840, the first stamps went on sale in Britain. (The Christmas card was invented 3 years later.) They were the One-Penny Black and Two-pence Blue stamps, featuring Queen Victoria. In 1870, the British Post Office introduced a half penny stamp for sending cards.

No provision was made for separating the stamps one from another. To do so required a knife or a pair of scissors. In 1847 an Irish engineer named Henry Archer submitted a plan to the British Post Office for perforating stamp sheets. By 1854 Archer's machine was sufficiently perfected to produce the first perforated stamps. The United States began using a perforating machine in 1857.

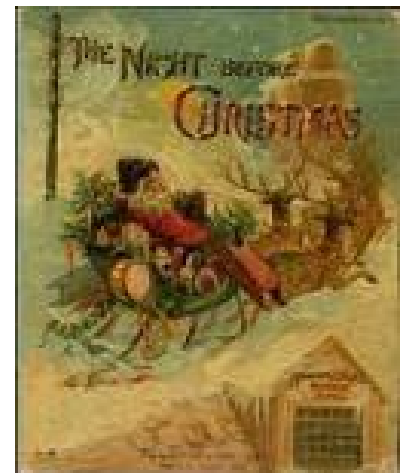
The first Christmas stamp Canada issued a stamp with the Mercator map "Christmas 1898" inscribed. Post offices in England and the Netherlands also issued stamps with Christmas-related themes. In the US, postcard artist Ellen H. Clapsaddle designed Christmas themes for stamps. However, none were special Christmas issues. The first postage stamp for Christmas was issued in 1937 in Austria: the Rose and Signs of the Zodiac stamp.



All about Christmas

The word philately was coined in 1864. It comes from two Greek words that mean "the love of tax-free things."

John Grossman, noted California collector/designer and long-time member of the Ephemera Society of America, has a collection of 200,000 Victorian Christmas stamps. He has licensed the stamp designs to the US Post Office via his business, The Gifted Line, John Grossman, Inc.



Auction Bucks Auction

Our last meeting was our annual funny money auction.

If you've never made it before, everyone brings in items and then you are able to shop or bid with your funny money that you've earned throughout the year by attending meetings and helping with club functions such as our annual stamp show or providing a presentation at a club meeting.

Special thanks to Jean and Betty for taking care of the auction bucks throughout the year and Charles and Howard for entertaining us throughout the auction.

Everyone seemed to have a great time this year.



Upcoming Presentations

Jean Johnson is our presentation coordinator and she is always looking for volunteers to speak at our meetings. The expectation is that they speak for 30 minutes and some choose to use Power Point programs or other audio visual aids, but some choose to do a more of a show and tell. Both methods work well.

The second meeting of each month is the meeting that we have a presentation. Sometimes several members get together and do a presentation together as we got to hear last month. So don't be shy, see Jean if you're interested in becoming a presenter. This is another great way to earn auction bucks. Paul Glass gave his presentation on how to prepare your stamp collection for your heirs and how to organize your collection to make it easier on your family or estate to liquidate your collection.

We have some very talented people in our club and this is a wonderful way for them to share their experience with Philately. I can still remember some from years gone by. A couple examples that come to mind are when we were watching a presentation from the American Topical Association and I realized that it was Terri Edwards speaking. Wow, one of our members is helping a national philatelic organization with the presentations that are available nationally to their members. Another presentation that I get a chuckle out of each time I think of it was when Laura Beck was talking about her life-long love of stamps and how she met her first boyfriend when she started collecting stamps around the age of 6.

Everyone has something to share and whether you decide to become a presenter or possibly an exhibitor these are two wonderful ways to improve our club and share your knowledge with others.





2013 Yearly Wrap-Up

We had a fantastic time at our Christmas party. It is always fun to catch up with everyone, especially some of those who haven't been able to make it to all of our meetings. Thank you goes out to Casey for reserving the Masonic Hall and coordinating the event. Special thanks to those that helped with the set up of the event: Barbara D., Barbara S., the Wetterling's, Gary and Rose.

We have lost a few of our members this year as well as some of our member's spouses. Please keep in your thoughts Elna Brew as she lost Bill in the Spring of this year and George Ray lost his wife late this summer. We also lost our much loved and appreciated Kaye Williams this year.

I just wanted to take a brief moment to say thank you to all of our elected officials as they put in so much effort to make sure our meetings are enjoyable and go smoothly, no small task, I can assure you.

Nadia will be leaving for Turkey later this spring to follow her husband and Sumayya who are leaving in January.

Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show



August 17th & 18, 2013
National Bowling Stadium

<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/id6.html>

Our annual stamp show has a schedule change due to a conflict with another Bay-area show. It is never too early to get involved. Teri and Harvey Edwards are coordinating the show and if you are interested in helping with the show please let them know. There will be committees set up for things like hospitality, set up and tear down, Public Relations, etc. So you can see that there are plenty of ways to get involved and everyone has something to contribute. A show of this magnitude would not be possible without all the support our club members provide.

Philatelic Exhibiting

Many of our members have found that exhibiting is a way that they can share their collecting interests with other people. Jean, Stan, Teri, Jeanne, Harvey, and others have exhibited in many other states as well as foreign countries. I have exhibited at our local show previously, but it is something that takes some technical tweaking to get the exhibit just right. You can click on the links below to see some websites that might give you some extra information and I found the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors extremely useful as you can click on the pictures and see the whole exhibit.

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors

<http://www.aape.org/exhibits.asp>

Stamp Clubs

<http://www.stamphelp.com/STAMP%20CLUBS%20&%20SOCIETY%20LINKS%20PAGE.HTM>

Pen Pals

I remember in middle school we had pen pals and it was interesting to write to people in other countries and states and see what types of things they are interested in and their cultures and traditions. We also have people who were club members and have relocated for various reasons.

Stefan is in Bulgaria. Jeanne is in Las Vegas, enjoying her new grandbaby. Elna is in Estes Park, CO. I bet she'll be having a snowy Christmas. How beautiful it must be up in the Rocky Mountains this time of year.

If you have the time and interest many people would like to stay in touch and there are others who like to trade stamps in the mail as well.

Stefan said he'd prefer to do pen pals in the mail, but currently there are some security issues between Bulgaria and the US and items going through traditional mail can take up to 3 months for delivery so email is much more practical.

I also participated in Mail for Heroes this holiday season and that was a very worthwhile effort to send holiday cards to wounded veterans through the American Red Cross. We sent about 50 cards back east to Maryland.

If you are in contact with any club members that have moved outside of our area and they'd like to be Pen Pals, please pass on their information and we'll post it here.

Stefan Boiadjiev
Kaiserslautern Str. 5
5800 Pleven
Bulgaria

Jeanne Paquin
925 Sunny Acres St.
N. Las Vegas, NV 89081

Elna Brew
P.O. Box 4275
Estes Park, CO 80517

December 2012 NSSS Trivia Quiz

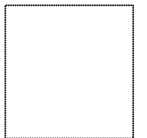
By John Wetterling



1. Who sang Holly Jolly Christmas on Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer?
 - a. Frank Sinatra
 - b. Burl Ives
 - c. Jerry Lewis
 - d. The Pink
 2. What brings Frosty the Snowman to life?
 - a. Horses hat
 - b. Santa's hat
 - c. Magician's hat
 - d. Policeman's hat
 3. Who sings White Christmas?
 - a. Frank Sinatra
 - b. Prince
 - c. Jim Nabors
 - d. Bing Crosby
 4. How _____ stole Christmas.
 - a. Charlie Brown
 - b. The Grinch
 - c. Snoopy
 - d. The Great Pumpkin
 5. _____ roasting on an open fire.
 - a. Chestnuts
 - b. Walnuts
 - c. Pecans
 - d. Peanuts
 6. Where does Santa live?
 - a. North Pole
 - b. South Pole
 - c. Canada
 - d. Mexico
 7. In what movie did the song White Christmas debut?
 - a. White Christmas
 - b. Holiday Inn
 - c. Charlie Brown Christmas
 - d. Frosty the Snowman
 8. In the Charlie Brown Christmas, who is the director of the Christmas Play?
 - a. Linus
 - b. Lucy
 - c. Snoopy
 - d. Charlie Brown
 9. I'll be _____ for Christmas.
 - a. sick
 - b. home
 - c. in prison
 - d. in love
 10. What is the name of Frosty the Snowman's wife?
 - a. Crystal
 - b. Snowflake
 - c. Dolly
 - d. Polly
- **** Bonus Question:
- Did Charlie Brown buy an aluminum Christmas Tree for the Christmas Play?
- a. Yes
 - b. No



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Friend's Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code