

# Post Boy



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

<http://renostamp.org>

Volume 45, Issue 02

February 9, 2013

## Nevada Stamp Study Society

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## Editor's Byline

*"The postage stamp is a flimsy thing. No thicker than a beetle's wing and yet it will roam the world for you exactly where you tell it to-EV Lucas"*

### Casey Macken

Secretary/Editor

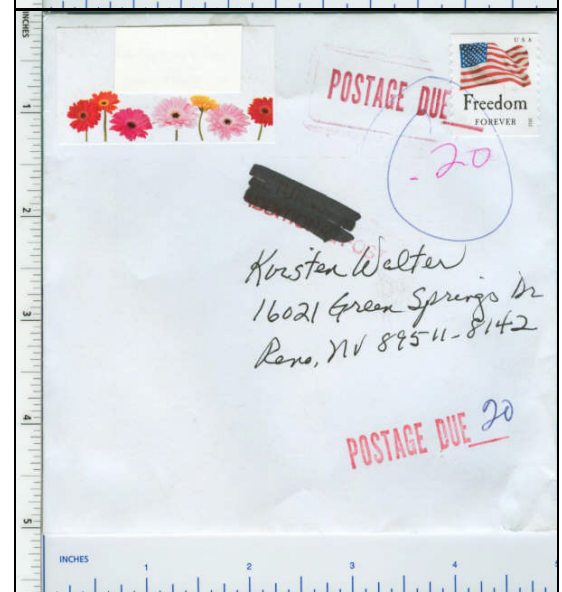
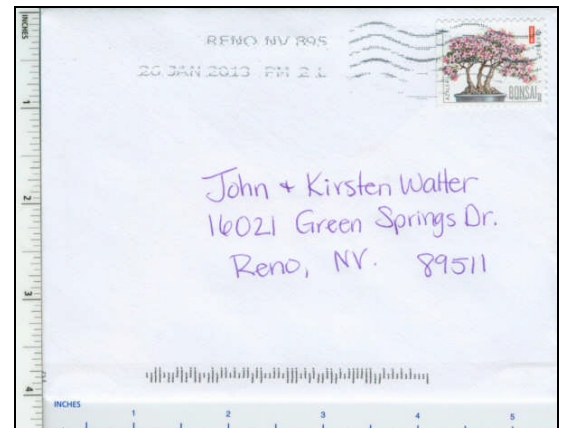
Is it already time for Valentine's Day. The year is going by quickly. Which this reminds me; we need assistance on the Post Boy, calling dealers for the stamp show, writing quizzes and articles, doing presentations, soaking stamps, organizing stamps, and basically anything that will help keep the club organized and moving forward. We are also looking for a cover theme

*continued on page 3*

## Postage Due - For What?

John Walter

I received these two letters in the mail on the same day (January 28). Both were small envelopes, but one had postage due of 20-cents. Why? Notice also there is no postmark on the postage due envelope.



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

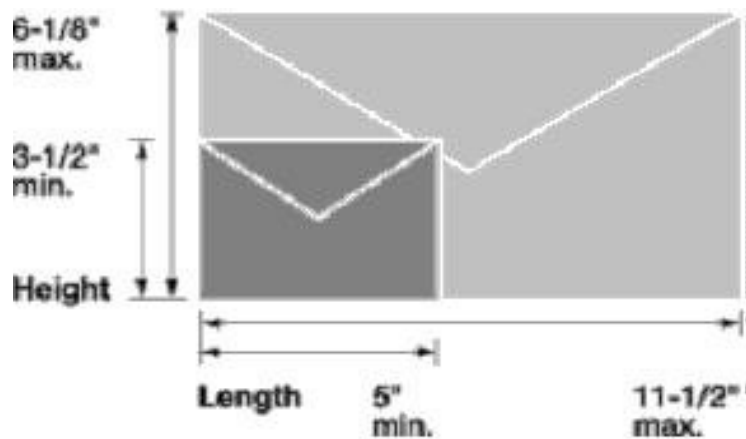
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The first envelope measured 5½ inches wide and 4 inches high - no extra postage. The other envelope measured 5 inches by 5 inches, which is slightly larger. Neither envelope contained more than a simple bi-fold card.

My wife was a little upset about the mail-person (female) coming to the door and demanding 20-cents before giving her the letter. Then my wife came to me and asked "How come I had to pay extra postage. I thought the Forever stamp was always good - forever."

I didn't have an immediate answer, but thought maybe the postage-due letter was too small. Then I looked at our other mail and noticed the even smaller envelope, also with a Forever stamp, and no extra postage needed. So I had to fire up the old computer and went straight to Google.com and typed in "small letter postage" without the quotes. Up came the USPS website page with the following information:

"Sizes For Letters: You probably have a picture in your mind of what a "letter" is. Possibly you're using a standard No. 10 envelope for your letter, so that's easy to picture. However, if you decide to create a mailpiece with its own special envelope or if you are designing a piece that will be folded to letter-size, be sure to keep in mind the following size requirements for letters:" (see graphic below)



Everything looked OK since both envelopes were over the minimum size of 3½ inches by 5 inches. Further on down the USPS web page was this table and wording:

Dimension	Minimum	Maximum
Height	3-1/2 inches	6-1/8 inches
Length	5 inches	11-1/2 inches
Thickness	0.007 inch	1/4 inch

To be eligible for mailing at the price for letters, a piece must be:

- Rectangular
- At least 3-1/2 inches high x 5 inches long x 0.007 inch thick.
- No more than 6-1/8 inches high x 11-1/2 inches long x 1/4 inch thick.

"First-Class Mail letters that have one or more non-machinable characteristics will pay a non-machinable surcharge. Customers can be unpleasantly surprised that they must pay extra postage when, for example, they mail a square greeting card. The Postal Service charges extra postage because mailpieces that are rigid, square, or unusually shaped, often jam postal equipment and are difficult to process. This costs the Postal Service time and money—and may also damage your mailpiece. "

Mystery solved. It's been a while since I've received a square envelope in the mail. That was the problem. I told my wife to call her friend before she sends any more square envelopes because of the 20-cent surcharge.

Another tip on the USPS website:

*"0.007 inches? How do I measure that? As a guide, an index card is thick enough.*

*What is high? What is long? Length is the side parallel to the address. Height is the side that is perpendicular to the length."*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### REGULAR MEETING

NNMC

FEBRUARY 9TH

10:00AM

Auction meeting

NNMC

FEBRUARY 23RD

10:00AM

Consignment Sales with Presentation

### Stamp Shows

#### SANDICAL

February 8-10, 2013 San Diego

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

#### NOVAPEX 2013

March 2-3, 2013 Redding, CA

[bobgrosch@frontiernet.net](mailto:bobgrosch@frontiernet.net)

#### Frespex 2013

March 9-10, 2013 Clovis, CA

[starstamps@thegrid.net](mailto:starstamps@thegrid.net)

#### Westpex 2013

April 26-28, 2013 San Francisco, CA

<http://www.westpex.com>

for the stamp show. In September, the USPS is coming out with a reprint of inverted Jenny but that might be too late. The show is in August. Are you working on your exhibits, we need those too!

Did you vote for the most popular 2012 stamp in the *Linn's Stamp News* poll? Check with John Walter for the voting form. If you have not seen the new web site, it is up and running. It looks fantastic. Make sure you check it out.

Betty Mudge, the chairman of the raffle committee and the sign in book, reminds people to write down the reason for your volunteer hours and to print legibly. We are also looking for some better for the raffle prizes.

Harvey and Teri Edwards brought the refreshments and Jackie Bloomquist won the \$9 in the raffle. See why we need more items for the raffles. Was it the 16<sup>th</sup> that we had all that fog, I thought I was entering a Twilight Zone when I got to Sparks. The day did warm up outside but not inside. We are checking into how to resolve the room temperature.

A show meeting was held after the regular meeting and we will be doing the show this year so clear your calendars for a least a couple of hours each of the days, August 16, 17 & 18. We will be presenting the 2013 Holmsted award which is in honor of Leonard Holmsten. The award includes the name on an engraved perpetual trophy plaque that the recipient (and the club) get to display for one year. So do you want to exhibit?

Do you have any questions that we can put to the club? Send an email with a question and/or pictures for next month. Maybe we can identify the country, the stamp or just help in general. Let me know.







## New Website for Stamp Club

John Walter

Above is the main masthead for the club's new website: [www.renostamp.org](http://www.renostamp.org). At the NSSS Board of Directors meeting on January 12, it was decided to develop a new website, since the present site had space limitations.

John Walter was appointed (volunteered) for the assignment.

The new website allows for unlimited web space and bandwidth. Lots more pictures can be added, early issues of the Post Boy with higher resolution pictures, member exhibit pages, original articles, etc. The only limitation now is lack of imagination. So we are looking for new ideas to enhance our presence on the Internet. Please send all suggestions to

[webmaster@renostamp.org](mailto:webmaster@renostamp.org)

Website pages include:

**Home** - This is the welcome page mentioning our upcoming Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show and our meeting information.

**Reno Stamp Show** - Has all the current information about our show on August 17 & 18. Dealer bourse information, contact for application and tentative layout of the show. A dealer list will be posted as they are confirmed. The dealer contact information will be posted so members can contact a dealer if they are looking for some specialized material to be brought to the show. On a separate page is the Exhibitor Prospectus, judges, awards and other information as it becomes available. Local tourist and visitor websites are listed.

**Upcoming Events** - As event dates are confirmed, they will be posted on this page.

**About Us** - More information on our meetings, areas of member interest and specialization, and some community projects the members are involved with. The APS chapter affiliation number and APS logo are on this page. This might be moved to the home page as the site is further developed.

**Membership** - The membership application with dues structure, official mailing address and member benefits are included. This is the page to download PDF documents for the Auction & Consignment Sales Sheets, and the Auction Bucks earned for volunteer activities.

**Gallery** - This page will be a gateway for pictures taken at club activities, including meetings. Currently there are a few pictures of the stamp display at the Sparks Library last year. This area will require more time to fully develop since the plan is to view the pictures using JavaScript, so pictures can be viewed as a slideshow instead of one at a time. Just keep looking for this to happen.

**Links** - Nadiyah's store link is first and foremost because of her continued help with a meeting place, storage units for our material, directing potential new members to our meetings, providing help and advice on buying & selling philatelic material. Other links include philatelic sites, links from articles mentioned in the Post Boy and local Reno sites.

**Post Boy** - The last twelve issues of the Post Boy are in PDF and easy to download with a right click of the mouse.

**Library Holdings** - The list on the website will be updated by the Librarian, Terri Edwards. As soon as that is accomplished, the new library holdings will be posted. Eventually, the library material will be housed at our meeting site at the NNMC Building. Remember, only paid members can utilize the library material.

**Contact Us** - The Officers & Directors are listed. Click on the name and email can be sent using the website email forwarding capability. This way no private email address is listed.

As you can see there is plenty of information already available for member's use. If you file away your electronic version of the Post Boy, and can't immediately remember (find) where it is stored, come to the website. You should be able to find what you are looking for within a couple of mouse clicks. Enjoy!

**Post Boy Quiz-Cronwall**  
**Odds & Ends of Philatelic History**  
February-\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name

In 559 BC, Cyrus of Persia developed a "secret" method of carrying messages. A courier's head would be shaved and the message written on his scalp. He would then be locked up until his hair grew to conceal the message, when he would be sent on his way! At the destination, his head was again shaved and the message "delivered"

1. The Republic of China was newly formed in 1912. Its first stamps were overprinted issues of:  
a. The Royal Chinese Post      b. The Imperial Chinese Post      c. The Revolutionary Chinese Post
2. When Libya became a colony of Italy, the first issue was overprinted "Libia" on stamps of:  
a. Italy      b. Egypt      c. Morocco
3. The last horse-drawn mail coach route in Denmark ended in:  
a. 1892      b. 1912      c. 1932
4. Daily mail service between Sacramento and Portland began in 1860. How many scheduled days did it take during the summer?  
a. 3      b. 5      c. 7
5. The U.S. Post Office established a Dead Letter Office in what year:  
a. 1797      b. 1825      c. 1861
6. The U.S. issued its first air mail stamp for the Panama Canal Zone overprinted on a regular Canal Zone stamp in:  
a. 1902      b. 1917      c. 1929
7. The Ryukyu Islands issued stamps during what time period:  
a. 1870-1896      b. 1907-1929      c. 1948-1972
8. The Government of Kuwait assumed responsibility for its postal service in 1959. Prior to that time, it had been operated by:  
a. Great Britain      b. Iraq      c. France
9. Christmas seals were first placed on sale in Denmark, Norway and Sweden in:  
a. 1885      b. 1904      c. 1916
10. The idea for a stamp booklet was granted a U.S. patent in 1884. The U.S. Post Office showed no interest and the idea was dropped. The U.S. finally issued its first stamp booklet in:  
a. 1900      b. 1906      c. 1917

Bonus Question:

How many U.S. cities had post-office street car routes?

Answers January

1. Great Britain
  2. Eleven
  3. Yambo
  4. 10,000
  5. Goldbeater's Skin
  6. Channel Islands
  7. HPO
  8. 1885
  9. Dinah Washington
  10. USA
- BQ: Benjamin Franklin



Return Address  
NSSS  
PO Box 2907  
Sparks, NV 89432

BULK RATE  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO.  
00000

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address  
Street Number and Name  
City, State 98765-4321