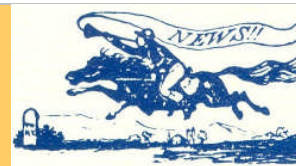


Post Boy



November 2015
Volume 48, Issue 11

MEETS THE 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:00 AM AT THE
SILVERADA ESTATES CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT 2301 ODDIE BLVD., RENO

Officers:

President - John Walter
president@renostamp.org

Vice President - Gary Atkinson
vp@renostamp.oeg

Secretary - Howard Grenzabach
secretary@renostamp.org

Treasurer - Mike Potter
treasurer@renostamp.org

Directors:

George Ray

Steve Foster
steve@renostamp.org

Paul Glass
membership@renostamp.org

Nadiah Beekun
nadiah@renostamp.org

Harvey Edwards
show@renostamp.org

www.RenoStamp.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. President & Temp. Editor Comments
2. Post Boy Reporter, Vassar PO Display
3. Great Britain Horizon Labels
5. Post Boy Quiz
6. Library Displays
7. Tips on Mailing - Using Older Stamps
8. Buy, Want, Trade list

President and Temporary Editor Comments:

By John Walter

The **2016 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show** will take place on July 23 and 24 in the International Bowling Hall of Fame Museum, National Bowling Stadium, 300 N. Center Street, Reno.

At the summer APS stamp show in Michigan, the APS board decided to have the **2017 winter APS stamp show in Reno**. I contacted Barb Johnson, assistant APS show manager, who promised to keep me informed about the venue site and dates.

The winter issue of the **Council Courier newsletter** mentions the NSSS numerous times. On the front page is a picture of **Harvey & Terri Edwards** with the Chaloner Award plaque. Also mentioned was the APS award for our website with a Vermeil presented at the summer APS show. The issue also had many photos from our July stamp show. The latest issue of the Council Courier is two clicks away on the main webpage: www.renostamp.org by the bottom of the page.

The **November 14 stamp club meeting** is the annual Auction Bucks Auction. This is one of the most enjoyable meetings because everyone has the opportunity to spend their hard earned auction bucks on numerous items donated by members. In the past, donated items included: wine, homemade jams and jellies, plants, puzzles, philatelic items, books, and all sorts of garage-sale items. So, start sorting through unwanted items to bring to the meeting. There is no raffle at this meeting. Coffee and refreshments will be served. The excitement starts at 10 a.m. For those who need extra auction bucks, they can be purchased from **Betty Mudge** at the rate of 500 auction bucks for \$10 (real money).

The **November 28 meeting** will have consignment sales and a philatelic program arranged by **Nadiah Beekun**. Following the presentation there will be a board meeting of officers & directors. Member can also attend the board meeting.

Just a reminder, the **holiday party is December 12** at the [Washoe Lodge](#) on Peckham at 6 p.m. More information about the party will be in the December Post Boy.

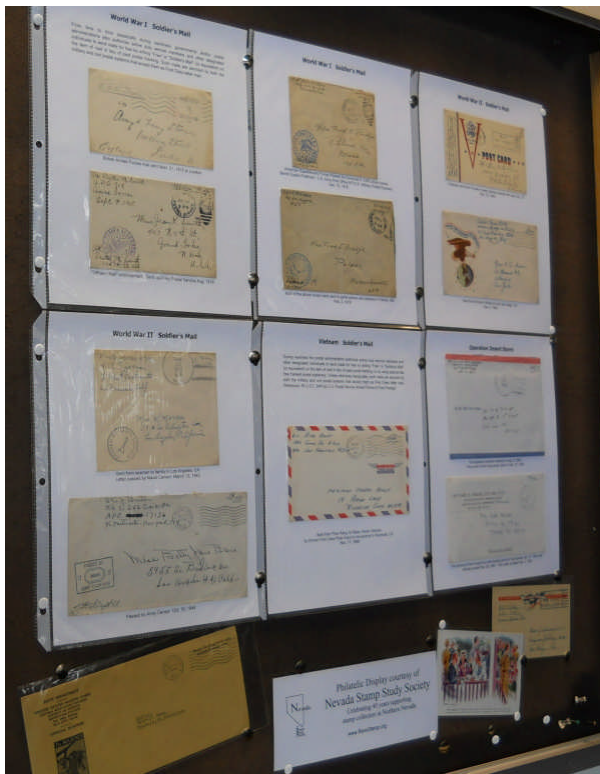
Post Boy Reporter

Sorry, there is not much to report from the meetings in October since the Post Boy Reporter was away on vacation. **Jason Garrett** joined the stamp club in October.

A program was presented by **Nadiah Beekun** at the Oct. 24 meeting titled "Tips on Mailing - Using Older Stamps." See her article on page 7.

Vassar Post Office Display

John Walter and **Stan Cronwall** change two display frames at the Vassar Post Office every two months. The pictures are from the new display changed on Nov. 3. A postal patron in line saw the display and asked if we still remember Al Shay who passed away a few years ago. This gentleman is a coin collector and remembers when both clubs put on a combined stamp & coin show over 10 years ago. Never know who you will meet while putting up a display. The display themes are celebrating Veterans Day on Nov. 11, with covers from WWI and WWII, Vietnam Conflict and the first Gulf War, and, of course, Christmas.



Volunteer Urgently Needed



A Post Boy Editor is urgently needed to start in January 2016. **John Walter** is currently filling in until a permanent editor comes forward. The template for the newsletter is established and makes the transition easy. No special word processing program is needed. MS Word is used now, but any of the free programs, such as, Open Office and Libre, would work OK. After putting the newsletter together, the file is then saved as a PDF (Portable Document Format)

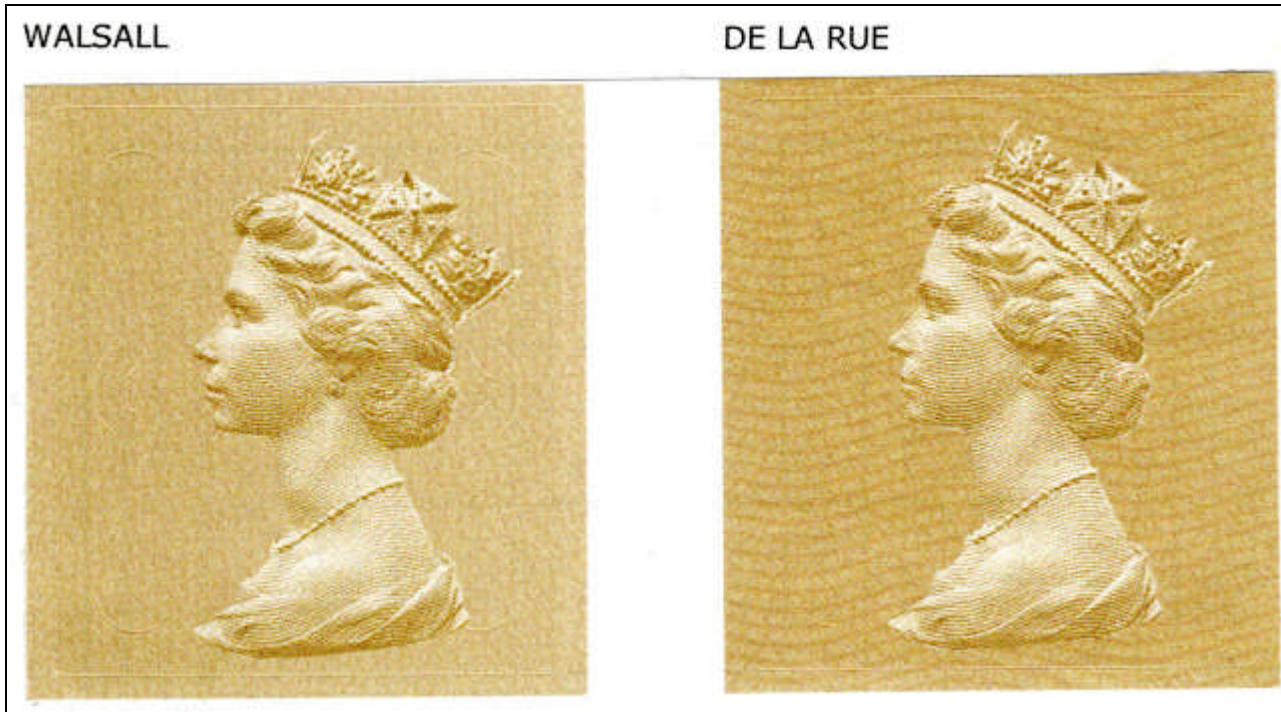
so anybody could read it, especially the Internet browsers. The Post Boy is a valuable asset to our stamp club since first published in 1975.

Great Britain Horizon Labels

by Dave Parsons

When sorting through the penny box recently, the item to the right was discovered. Was it a stamp or just a label like something from a Pitney Bowes machine?

Upon further research it appears this is a newer GB Horizon Label, first used as a trial in 2009 and then put into service in 2010. They are quite large at 60 x 65mm and either imperforate or die cut perforated (5 X 5) issues and have security feature-slits. The samples shown here have been reduced in size to take up less space. The labels were printed by De La Rue until 2012 when Walsall became the printer.



The images above are of the un-coded labels as delivered to the local post office. Service indicators are overprinted on each label. This block lettering on Horizon mail indicates a large array of possible services available depending on size, special handling and security. Below is a table that shows some of the current and past usages and which might be found on Horizon labels.

1LG - Large Letter Inland Mail	SU -- Surface mail overseas low cost
1PK - 1st Class packet Inland Mail	BF -- Parcels to Armed Forces overseas.
1af -- Articles for the blind (Free)	PE ---Economy parcels to overseas destinations
1st -- No charge certificate of posting request	PS -- Standard value parcels to overseas destination
2L -- 2nd class under 100g (RSF service)	SP -- Standard parcels (replaced by PE &PS)
2LG - Large Letter 5mm to 25mm thick (RSFO	RSF - Recorded Signed For mail
2PK - 2nd class packets	1SP - Small Parcel, less than 2kg
A ---- Letters, small packets sent by Airmail	1MP - Medium Parcels
AXX - Air-sure Tracking to safe countries	2SP - Parcel larger than an "SP" but still less than 2kg

BL --- Letters to Armed Forces at home or O/S	2MP - Bigger than an "SP up to 20kg
BLG - Large letters to British Armed Forces	BSP - Replaces small "BKP" to British Armed Forces
BPK - Packets to British Armed Forces	BMP - Replaces med. "BKP" to British Armed Forces
BFF - To "BRPO"s from Family and Friends	SD1 - Special Delivery by 1PM
FP - When re-posted after postage corrected	SD9 - Special delivery by 9AM
MOR - Mail Order Return service	IS --- International Service
RPR - Returned commercial Packet service	IT --- International Service, Tracked
SD -- Special Delivery	ITS -- International Service, Tracked Signed

Some of these service indicators were provided to replace all or a segment of a previous service. The dates and usages are listed in the Deegam Complete Machin Handbook. The indicators were printed with different typefaces and two languages, English and Welsh. When sold, each label is overprinted with a service indicator, the amount paid, post office location code, codes allowing the mail to be directed, tracked and the date of use. The label would have been printed for a particular transaction and is the normal form of label as seen by the public. The un-coded examples at the top of this article depict how the labels appear when delivered to the post office. However, the unused labels were not issued or made available to the public.

Collecting the Horizon labels can be interesting. The stamps themselves have different printers, 3 differing styles of security slits, and either perf 5 or imperforate. The overprints have different fonts, many different service indicators, 2 languages, VAT codes. Given the possible combinations of the preceding factors, Deegam has identified 699 unique labels. Another source indicated nearly 1000 different combinations exist.

In late 2015 the Horizon label was changed to the style on the right. The Queen's head is smaller, the background is white, and the wavy text fades away down the page. The date of issue of these new labels was September, 21, 2015.

So the answer to the lead questions is: even though the Horizons have many characteristics of stamps, they are labels. You can not go to a British post office and buy them and you could not even send one to yourself with certain service indicators. But they are attractive and can be collected.

Thanks to Charlie Jensen (FL) for providing some samples of these and for his analysis, Ian Ballock (GB) for the new white issue photo. Information was also gathered from the Deegam Complete Machin Handbook, which is a super comprehensive resource on all things Machin.



*Editor Comment: **Dave Parsons** has been helping Eugene Smoots and Betty Mudge with the Penny Boxes. He has been sorting thousands of stamps and has previously reported some interesting finds. The above story shows just how educational the Penny Box stamps can be. Dave's collecting interests include U.S. used and BOB, Mint U.S. Commemoratives, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, South Africa and Australia. He can be reached by email at da.parsons@gmail.com.*

November Post Boy Quiz

by Stan Cronwall

The Post Boy Quiz based on USA stamps.

1. The Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition issue was released in 1909. The main graphic featured . . . ?
a. Mt. McKinley b. William H. Seward c. Denali National Park
2. A Wildlife issue in 2012 featured a Bobcat. The face value of the stamp is?
a. 1 cent b. 45 cents c. 1.00
3. The 3 cent Peace Treaty of 1783 stamp was issued in 1933 commemorating the 150th anniversary of George Washington's official order marking the end of hostilities in the War for Independence. The stamp features?
a. Washington's Home at Mount Vernon b. Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge
c. Washington's Headquarters at Newburgh
4. In 2008, the US issued a single stamp for the Olympic Summer Games held in Beijing, China. The stamp graphic showed?
a. A Men's Basketball Player b. A Gymnast c. Ping Pong Players
5. A US \$ 5.00 stamp issued in 1918 was printed in two colors. The colors are:
a. Deep Green & Black b. Orange Red & Black c. Ultramarine & Black
6. Scott 3473 is a vertical format stamp with a face value of \$ 12.25 to be used on Express Mail (at that time). The main visual element on the stamp is?
a. Launching of a Saturn V Rocket b. A Bald Eagle c. The Washington Monument
7. The set of Transportation stamps issued 1981-1984 consists of how many stamps?
a. Four (4) b. Fourteen (14) c. Ten (10)
8. A stamp commemorating the 175th anniversary of the Bill of Rights was issued in what year?
a. 1951 b. 1966 c. 1971
9. The beautiful National Park set issued in 1934 included ten stamps. Some were laid out vertically and others had a horizontal format. What was the number in each format?
a. Four (4) vertical and Six (6) horizontal b. Two (2) vertical and Eight (8) horizontal
c. Five (5) vertical and Five (5) horizontal
10. A set of five stamps was issued in 1991 to honor famous comedians. Those honored included:
a. Martin & Lewis b. The Ritz Brothers c. Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy

BONUS:

The Maryland Tercentenary commemorating the 300th anniversary of the founding of the state was issued in 1934 and featured:

- a. Chesapeake Bay b. "The Ark" and "The Dove" ships c. The Liberty Bell

Each correct answer is worth 10 auction bucks. Email the quiz answers to [Betty Mudge](#) or give her the answers at the next meeting. This month's quiz is worth 110 Auction Bucks - total.

<u>October Post Boy Quiz answers:</u> 1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. b 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

Library Displays for Stamp Collecting Month

Thanks to Gary Atkinson and Stan Cronwall for setting up the library displays.



The two pictures above are the Sparks Library displays using two large display cases by the entrance.



These three pictures are from the South Valleys Library display.

Tips on Mailing - Using Older Postage Stamps

by Nadiah Beekun

Stamp Collectors know about having a lot of stamps taking up space in boxes, drawers and on stock pages. These are the extra ones you had to buy from the Post Office to get the ones you wanted. They are the duplicates that you got when you forgot your list of what you needed for your collection. They are the really great deal you got at an auction or at a garage sale. They also take up room...

The best use for this excess inventory is to sell them at a really high price. But since there are already loads of these stamps in everybody else's collection and Stamp Dealers will only give you 40 -50% of face, the next best use is as postage.

Using stamps to mail letters and boxes has been a long standing tradition, but now "forever" stamps and meter strips are being pushed as the "best" and "easiest" way to get your mail sent via USPS. True it is easier, but using your excess US postage stamps means that you are actually monetizing unproductive assets. It is also a great way to bring smiles to the faces of the mail handlers as well as the eventual recipients. The USPS is not as pleased because the really old stamps don't have the tagging that more recent stamps do so there is more handling required, but hey, you paid for the service, it is time to USE THEM! Also, saving those old stamps is COSTING you money, because as stamp prices continue to rise, it takes MORE of the vintage stamps to get the value that a forever stamp keeps pace with.

So how can you use your stamps most effectively?

Postal regulations stipulate that all US postage stamps are valid for postage except for certain issues created around the time of the Civil War. This means that you can use any denomination of stamp to mail a letter or a package, including using 49 1¢ stamps for 1 ounce of USPS service.

Again, according to postal regulations, all stamps must be placed on the FACE of any letter, the face being judged to be the side where the name & address of the recipient is located. This information is supposed to be located in the lower right hand quadrant of the letter, with the return address above & to the left. Typically, the return address is located in the upper left hand quadrant of the letter, but that is NOT mandated by the regulations, and that give you more room to be creative!



Regulations permit the use of multiple stamps on mail as long as they are US postage, have not been used before, and the denomination of the stamp is showing. This allows the use of LAYERING stamps on top of each other to reach the postage due. I just used 31 3¢ "Win the War" stamps on a letter that weighed 1.4 ounces and had a rigid object inside. The postage needed was 93¢ and I used a legal sized envelope with stamps layered like lizard scales along the top and left side. I can also use 2 6¢ plate blocks and add a 1¢ stamp to remit a payment to a billing department. ($6 \times 4 = 24¢ \times 2 = 48¢ + 1¢ = 49¢$) Just make sure that the denomination of all stamps used is visible to anybody checking. Also, you should NOT cheat by turning the .01 stamps upside down and pretend they are 10¢ stamps.

Using postage on Priority Flat Rate boxes is similar. But here, postal regulations are not as clear. The nature of these boxes is that they will weigh OVER 13 oz. and must therefore be accepted by a window clerk. Some window clerks allow the use of stamps anywhere on the package...others follow the regulations that apply to letters...stamps must be on the FRONT (address side). I have been trying to pin down this requirement, but have still not gotten a response from the USPS. That is why I (personally) place all info and ALL stamps on only the ONE side. As before, the Name and Address go into a space in the lower right hand quadrant, but ADDITIONALLY, I have to leave a space above for a "zero meter strip" to go as well as additional space for insurance/tracking labels. I therefore confine my artistic inclinations of decorating with postage to the right two-thirds of the box. Remember, if it fits, it ships...

The above also applies to using your own packaging, but here preparation is the key, because you have to figure out weight and postage before you get to the Post Office otherwise you will be standing off to the side, licking stamps, and thinking that it would be a lot faster to just meter it.

Editor Comment: Nadiah is a Director in the NSSS and the current Programs Chair. She owns Classic Nevada stamp store on Second Ave. in Reno. She exhibits regularly at the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show and collects Nevada stamps and ephemera, and topical roses.

Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

If you would like to have an advertisement added to the Post Boy, please email John Walter at editor@renostamp.org.

Sell - Large collection For Sale in its entirety: Confederate States of America, Canada, Postal Cards and History, plus much more. Most items were purchased via the Internet. Paid over \$11,000. Will sell all for \$5,000. Contact member **Micky Uhl** at (775) 378-3458 or email: malcolmuhl52@yahoo.com. Micky lives in the Silverada Estates.

Wanted - *Scottish Castle & Abbey Picture Postcards*. Looking for, pre-1950's, picture postcards from Scotland, preferably castles and abbeys. Contact member **Marla Wetterling** (775) 575-1337 or email: opusnrosebud@att.net.

Buy and Sell - almost anything philatelic and ephemera. This includes stamps, post cards, FDCs, photos and documents of mining, and also Western interest. Plus selling philatelic supplies. Contact member **Nadiah Beekun** at Classic Nevada, 28 W. 2nd Ave, downtown Reno, (775)762-4905, <http://www.RenoStamps.com> or email classicnevada@yahoo.com.

Wanted: U.S. aerogrammes: #UC46, UC49, and UC52 - all used and addressed to overseas locations. Also needed is FDC of UC63a. Contact member **John Walter**, email: walter60@gmail.com.

Wanted: Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. Are you curious about an item you saw on the consignment table or purchased in an auction? After doing the research why not write a short article for the PB. Did you win a raffle prize at a meeting and wanted to find more information on one of the items? A short write-up about your find will benefit all the club members.

Membership Renewals

Last Call for membership renewal. The club is asking all members to complete a new membership application to update their collecting interests and memberships in philatelic groups, such as, the American Philatelic Society. The updated information is needed for a 40th anniversary membership roster to be published soon. The membership renewal form was in the August issue of the Post Boy or download from the website: http://renostamp.org/pdf_files/membership_application.pdf

Currently, **Harvey Edwards** is acting as the [Membership Chair](#). Contact him if you do obtain or change an email address.

Don't forget, this newsletter is to inform of club activities, report on meeting business, philatelic events, and even gossip among its members. So if you have anything to share with others in the club, contact [John Walter](#).