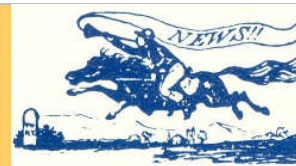


Post Boy



May 2016
Volume 49, Issue 5

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

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. President & Editor Comments
2. Post Boy Reporter
3. Philatelic Albinos
4. Removal of Toning/
Foxing From Older
Stamps
5. A Visit to the National
Postal Museum
6. Continued -
7. Quiz - Belize
8. Buy, Want, Sell, Trade
9. Printing & Perforating
Service

President and Editor Comments:

Nadiah Beekun joined the American Philatelic Society as a new member in March. **Paul Glass** received \$5 from the APS for sponsoring Nadiah's membership.

Marla Wetterling volunteered to coordinate the activities for the Holiday Party on Dec. 10. **George Ray & Barbara Diederichsen** also volunteered to assist Marla.

Stan Cronwall volunteered to Chair the Nominations Committee for the elections for Vice-President, Secretary and one Director. Now all we need is three volunteers for those offices. Nomination forms will be available at the next meeting on May 14. None of those positions require a lot of your time.

For those receiving the Post Boy in digital form (PDF-Portable Document Format), I have decided to add an Internet section at the end with links to interesting websites or educational forums. This issue has information on a stamp printing and perforation service available to anyone. Those members who get the Post Boy mailed will not have this information since they obviously don't have Internet or an email account.

This issue contains three original philatelic articles for your enjoyment. I am always appreciative that members take the time to write about their favorite hobby.

John Walter and **Eugene Smoots** attended WESTPEX the last weekend in April. John will report on the show and the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies meeting at our May 14 meeting.



WESTPEX dealer area - 75 dealer tables/booths at the show.



Shuyler Rumsey auction room active all 3 days of the show.

Post Boy Reporter

April 9 meeting - The meeting was well attended by 26 members. **Charles White** provided the refreshments. The raffle had the usual 10 items. No bonus prize was offered. **Bob Wolf** won the 50-50 money drawing of \$10.50.

The auction was conducted by **Gary Atkinson** and **Harvey Edwards** with assistance from **George Ray** and **Richard Simmonds**. There were 57 items in the auction plus one Blue Sheet (donated) item. A total of 28 lots sold for \$241.50 with 7 successful bidders.

Harvey Edwards had a Stamp Show Committee meeting after the membership meeting. Seven members attended. **Paul Glass** is working on a venue close to the Bowling Stadium for the Awards Dinner on July 23. Harvey reported that 10 dealers are committed to our show (with a maximum of 13 tables), plus the USPS. There was a discussion on the show cover with a decision needed on the postmark that week. The cover cachet solicited numerous suggestions with a theme for the national parks centennial. **John Walter** sent Linn's an ad for our stamp show for 9 weeks to appear in the issues from the May 23 to July 18.



Auctioneers Gary Atkinson and Harvey Edwards with help from Dick Simmonds in back.

April 23 meeting - There were 24 members in attendance. **Gary Dahlke** provided the refreshments for the meeting. The stamp show cancel was discussed and the members decided the Bighorn Sheep image looked the best. **Harvey Edwards** will research any copyright that might exist before submitting to the USPS for approval. The Bighorn Sheep is the NV state animal and seemed appropriate for the show cancel.

The USPS requests a list of stamp/stationery items to bring to our stamp show in July. Harvey needs to have the list by the May 14 meeting. Please look at upcoming new stamp issues from now until the show. There are numerous new issues scheduled in May and June, esp. the week of the NY World Stamp Show.

The raffle money was \$9.00 won by **Gary Atkinson** and the bonus raffle prize winner was **Stan Cronwall**.



Vassar Post Office Display

These are the display panels for May (Memorial Day theme) and June (Flag Day theme).

John Walter & Stan Cronwall change the display every two months.



Philatelic Albinos

By Stan Cronwall

Just as albinos are rare in the animal world, so too are those found in the World of Philately.

A few have been done purposely, while most of the others have come as the result of printing errors. Many of the more “seasoned” members of NSSS probably recall the time when Frank Fey (now deceased) brought in several pieces of U. S. postal stationery with the indicia totally without color but clearly showing the raised impression of the “stamp”.

These were from Frank’s extensive U.S. collection which has been passed on to grandson, Travis Fey, who is a long time NSSS member, or the items may have been sold off at auction with a portion of Frank’s holdings.

These items can probably be considered printing errors when the press was allowed to run out of ink.

Editor: Albino envelopes are relatively common from the 1880's on through 1965. They occurred when two cut envelope blanks fed through the press at the same time. The top blank received the ink and the bottom blank was also embossed but received no ink. When the blanks were separated and folded, one was normal and one was an albino. Missing color errors became much scarcer after 1965 when envelopes were inked and embossed first on paper from a roll and then cut into blanks. (The image on the right was scanned from an entire (U362) and contrast boosted to illustrate the embossing.) Ref: United Postal Stationery Society, U.S. 19th Century Postal Stationery Catalogue 2012.



An example of albinos created on purpose are the three semi-postal stamp set of French stamps shown on the left. (Editor: The image was darkened to bring out the impression on the albino stamp.) This set was issued by the Nazi collaborationist Vichy Government on October 12, 1942 to honor and benefit the Tricolor Legion. The Legion was formed in 1941 with the intent that it would fight with the Germans against the Soviets, but as a separate, independent French force. Hitler opposed this plan preferring instead to continue with the LVF (Legion of French Volunteers) which was incorporated into the German Wehrmacht against the Soviets on the Eastern Front.

The Tricolor Legion never reached operational status and was abandoned in the fall of 1942 lasting only six months. Members were absorbed into the LVF.

The tricolor is a reference to the French flag which has blue, white and red horizontal stripes.

The stamps were printed in sheets of 20 stamps and 5 albino impressions – 2 horizontal rows of 5 dark blue stamps, 1 row of 5 albino impressions, and 2 rows of 5 crimson stamps.

Sets of the three are fairly common and reasonably priced. The sheets of 20 are rare and command a significant price premium.

There is also a Vichy Tricolor Deluxe Sheet (souvenir sheet) which was produced by the Vichy Government Stamp Printery in Paris.

Stan Cronwall collecting interests include Germany: Third Reich 1933-45 and the areas it occupied (stamps covers & cards). He also collects U.S. World War II Patriotic Covers and Cards, Civil War Patriotic Covers (both U.S. and CSA), U.S Naval Covers, DDR stamps, Post WW II Soviet Zone Hitler Head Obliteration stamps, covers & cards.

Removal of Toning/Foxing From Older Stamps

by Dave Parsons

Occasionally we see a brown or rust colored smudge around the edge of older stamps. This article discusses a procedure that may be used to remove this toning. However, there is a caveat; this method has varying degrees of success depending on the nature of the mark and the composition of the stamp. As a caution, users should experiment with this technique on inexpensive or damaged stamps. It has been tested with engraved stamps and other printing processes, however, the user should satisfy themselves on its safety prior to using this on more valuable stamps. At the end of this discussion, the ethics of this technique will be addressed.

The basic procedure is fairly simple. It requires some simple clear household ammonia (very cheap) and a covered cup or tray, although an open dish likely will work fine. Simply immerse the stamp (don't do 2 at once) into the ammonia so that the stamp is covered. If the dish has a lid, you can swirl the liquid around the stamp. Leave the stamp in the solution for 30 (or up to 60) seconds then remove and rinse or soak for a bit before drying. More intense toning may require a longer time in the ammonia, however, there is a risk of the stamp-dye bleeding or fading. As mentioned earlier, experimentation is a good idea. And be careful not to inhale too much of the ammonia fumes!



The examples above and on the left, are the before and after scans of two U.S. 231's and a Wilding. All three were swirled in ammonia for about 60 seconds. Most of the toning disappeared and the underlying paper seems whiter and closer to original condition. For stamps that are oil-stained, this process does not appear to remove oil stains.

In most cases the toning reduces the value of the stamp, so there is not too much to be lost if the process fails. By reducing the toning, the collector is in effect negating the mold which is causing the discoloration. This mold could spread to other stamps in the collection, reducing their value. So the question asked- "Is this procedure unethical as it is not a natural process?" The author's opinion is that it is not counter to proper stamp treatment as it is akin to soaking hinges off stamps. It does not add anything to the stamp, such as the practice of re-gumming a stamp or repairing tears or removing postmarks. But the decision to reduce toning is one that can only be made by the collector. The author thanks Michael Generali of Texas for introducing this method. Good luck if you try it out!

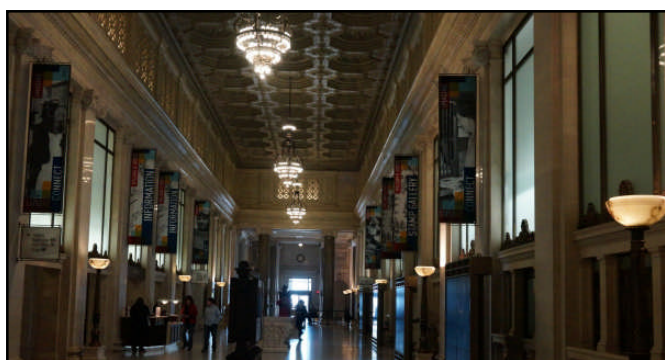
Dave Parsons' collecting interests include U.S. used and BOB, Mint U.S. Commemoratives, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, South Africa and Liberia. He can be reached by email at da.parsons@gmail.com.

A Visit to the National Postal Museum by Harvey Edwards

I am home now from a week in Washington DC. It was an eventful week, falling in the middle of the Cherry Blossom Festival. I saw the Easter egg roll at the White House (from afar), visited the Navy Museum, Navy Memorial, along with other museums and memorials along the Mall. I also visited the National Postal Museum. The museum is part of the Smithsonian and is free.



Getting to the museum was pretty easy using the Metro (the city's underground mass transit system). The Museum is located on the Red Line, across the street from Union Station. I arrived just before the opening at 10 AM. All bags have to pass through the security scanner and there's no entry until opening time.



The building itself is an attractive piece of architecture with its columns and high ceilings (left). You can walk the old lobby lined with post office boxes where customers used to pick up their mail.

The museum has multiple galleries, both upstairs and down. The William H. Gross Stamp Gallery is the world's largest gallery dedicated to philately. It houses the museum's stamp collection in hundreds of pullout

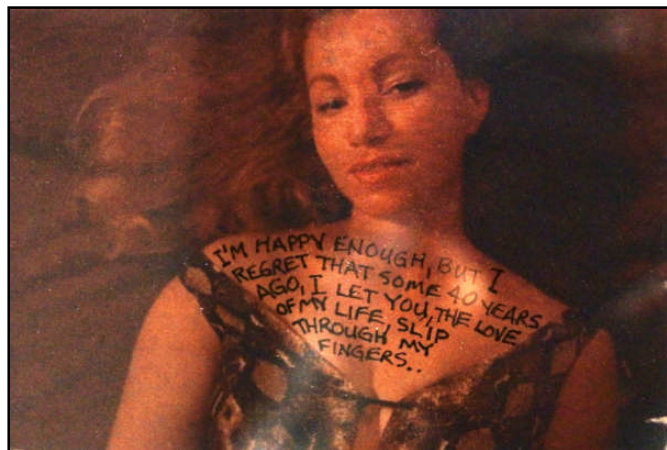
frames. A block of four inverted Jennies (right), the Z grill, the British Guiana one-cent magenta and other rare stamps as well as other not so rare stamps from around the world are on display. There are also several interesting covers in the collection ranging from the museum's oldest piece (the Silk Road Cover dated November 24, 1390) to Pony Express mail to a Hindenburg disaster card.

The Owney display shows an interesting story of the Railway Mail Service mascot from the late 1880s through the 1890s, traveling the world with the mail. Many of our members might remember Elna Brew. She spent years petitioning the post office for an Owney stamp and it paid off.



Other displays included the history of transporting mail including by wagon, rail, and air. One of the planes used a hook similar to the one used by the Railway Mail Service. The planes were fitted with a long take up with a hook and a winch that caught and reeled in mail containers. Another nearby display had the evolution of mailboxes. It's intuitively obvious but I had never thought about the fact that the first mailbox didn't appear

until after the first stamp appeared. Stamps prepay postal services and allowed mailers to have a supply of stamps on hand. They no longer had to go the post office to pay postage for each individual letter.



One area I found really interesting was the PostSecret Project. The project allows people to anonymously share their most personal secrets on a postcard. One card spoke of regretting letting go of their love 40 years earlier. The card on the left reads "I'm happy enough, but I regret that some 40 years ago, I let you, the love of my life, slip through my fingers.."

Another card (on the right) talks about her kids having allergies and how, when she doesn't want to share, she tells them that they are allergic to the candy.

There's so much more to write about the museum and its exhibits but I encourage you to visit yourself.



Harvey Edwards is a NSSS Director and the Chair of the Stamp Show Committee. He is an award winning exhibitor and winner of the Chaloner Award in 2015. Harvey's current collecting interests include submarines and Nevada history which varies based on the exhibit he is working on. He also collected St Pierre et Miquelon and pictorial cancellations.

Paul Glass was mentioned in the April issue of *The American Philatelist* as an Estate Advisory Service Volunteer (one of only two advisors in Nevada). Guidelines are published by the APS to guide the volunteers to help families of deceased members who neglect to provide instructions to their families. Paul is one of 187 advisors nationwide who can provide an examination of stamp collections and suggest methods of sale.

If you are an APS member and interested in helping families of APS members, contact Mercer Bristow at mercerc@stamps.org to enroll in this worthwhile program.

World Stamp Show - NY2016	May 28 - June 4, 2016
Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show	July 23 - 24, 2016
APS Summer Show - Portland	Aug. 4- 7, 2017
APS Winter Show - Reno	March 3-5, 2017

May Post Boy Quiz from Belize by Stan Cronwall

1. What country lies immediately to the north of Belize?
a. French Guinea b. Anguilla c. Mexico
2. What was the country name of Belize prior to its independence?
a. British Honduras b. Surinam c. British Guinea
3. A “crana” is featured on the lowest value of the 1974 definitive series. What is a “crana”?
a. A variety of fish b. A type of butterfly c. A type of bird
4. What American is shown on the 1976 Bi-Centennial issue?
a. George Washington b. William Wrigley, Jr. c. Charles Lindbergh
5. In what year did Belize achieve its independence?
a. 1953 b. 1963 c. 1973
6. What animal is shown on the 3-cent value of the Mayan pottery set issued in 1974?
a. Tapir b. Stag c. Jaguar
7. What is the occupation of the people shown on the lowest value of the 1975 set issued for Christmas?
a. Musicians b. Fishermen c. Shepherds
8. What distinguishes the design of the postage due stamps of 1976 other than the values?
a. Each has a different perforation pattern b. Each has a different border
c. Each has a slightly different size
9. What vehicle is shown on the Winston Churchill 50 cent issue from 1974?
a. Range Rover “Discovery” model b. Queen Elizabeth II’s Coronation Coach
c. Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow
10. What group of people is shown with Queen Elizabeth II on the 1977 set celebrating the 25th anniversary of her reign?
a. School children b. Her Majesty’s Honor Guard c. Bishops

Bonus Question:

A set was issued in 1991 that commemorates which important time in the history of Belize?

- a. A visit by Pope John Paul II b. The 10th anniversary of Belize independence
- c. 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain

With the bonus question, this month's quiz is worth 110 Auction Bucks, if all your answers are correct. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to Betty Mudge at the May meetings or email to

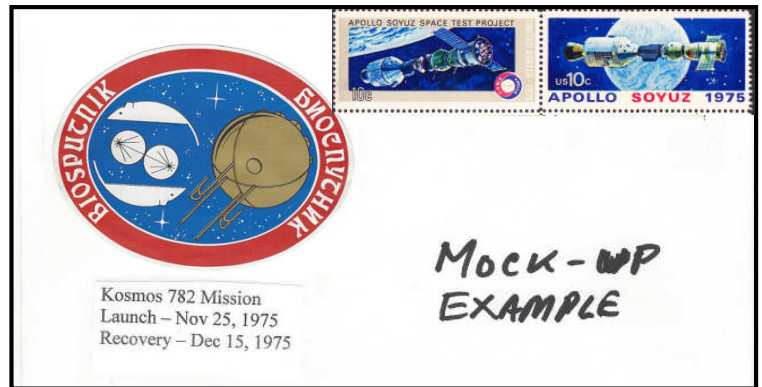
postboyquiz@renostamp.org

April Post Boy Quiz Answers: 1. a, 2. b, 3. c, 4. a, 5. b, 6. b, 7. c, 8. a, 9. a, 10. b. Bonus: b

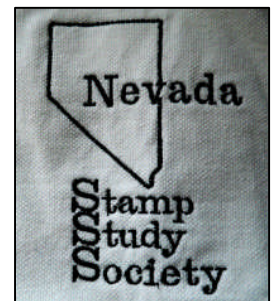
Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

If you would like to have an advertisement in the Post Boy, please email editor@renostamp.org.

WANTED: Apollo-Soyuz cover for Kosmos Mission 782. From a comment made to me at a previous Stamp Club Meeting, one of our members has an original commemorative cover for the 1975 Joint US-USSR biology research space mission (see rough mock-up picture of the cover on right). As the US manager for that mission, I would like to have a high-resolution scan of the cover. If you have the cover, please contact member - **Dick Simmonds**, Cell Phone (775) 972-3810; E-Mail: rsimmonds@unr.edu.



For Sale: Monogrammed shirts with the Nevada Stamp Study Society logo for \$25. The monogram can also be placed on a shirt you provide for \$15. Right now the shirts are dark blue with white monogram or white shirt with dark blue monogram. Members regularly wear the monogrammed shirt at meetings. With the upcoming Reno stamp show and the APS AmeriShow in March, it's great advertising for our club. Contact member Dave and Susan Gehringer, ds-ginger@sbcglobal.net or 925-408-6807. They will need your shirt size and color when ordering. Cropped logo from a shirt is on the right.



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 - pre-1950's, picture postcards from Scotland, preferably castles and abbeys. Contact member **Marla Wetterling** (775) 575-1337 or email: opusnrosebud@att.net.

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

For Sale - Album collections of Channel Islands & Jersey (MNH). Plus Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Canada, Great Britain with mint & used. Contact member **Jean Johnson** by calling 828-2158 and ask for Jean.

Wanted: Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. Are you curious about an item you saw or purchased from 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. Submit article to editor@renostamp.org

Needed: There is a need for someone to report on the club meetings as the **Post Boy Reporter**. A few pictures will always help. See page 2 of this newsletter for a sample of the reporting.

Printing and Perforating Stamp Service

by John Walter

I have been a subscriber (free) to the [Philosateleian Post blog](#) for over a year. Kevin Blackston is the webmaster in Jacksonville, Florida. He sends an informative monthly newsletter. The May newsletter had an interesting article on his acquisition of a stamp perforator - a vintage [Southworth hand perforator](#). His main interest was perforating his local post stamps.

In this month's issue Kevin "is offering [stamp printing and perforating services](#) to art stamp creators and local post operators. American Philatelic Society, Local Post Collectors Society, and Letter Writers Alliance members receive special discounts; [download an order form](#) today."

Kevin also produces free U.S. album pages (nearly 800). About once a quarter he updates and produces new pages for recent stamp issues. Using his album pages you will never have to buy U.S. album pages.

Also this month is a section on Cinderella Stamps. "[Ask Me About Cinderella Stamps](#) attempts to catalogue some of the material, with explorations of Gerald King's Alternative Lundy and Alternative Great Britain cinderellas, Tom Maringer's creations for J. R. R. Tolkien's Middle Earth, and many others. Such material is far beyond the scope of mainstream stamp collections, but it provides a fascinating adjunct to an already infinitely interesting hobby."

Sign up for the [Philosateleian Post Horn](#) and get the latest stamp collecting news by e-mail each month.

Every month in his newsletter Kevin asks for feedback or simply a reply to enter a monthly drawing for a philatelic item. I entered the raffle about 4 or 5 times in the past year. Lo and behold I have been the winner twice so far. I don't enter every month, esp. just after winning a prize. I feel that he does not get a lot of replies for the raffle and I feel a little guilty if I keep winning. This month he had two covers to give away.

The website has a great [Stamp Gallery](#) of U.S. stamp issues starting from 1851. This section alone provides a wealth of information.

The Local Post stamp page is also interesting to look at his latest creations.