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INSIDETHIS ISSUE

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## meets the 2nd \& 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse located at 2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno

## President and Editor Comments:

I'm still recovering from attending two large stamp shows in the past month. First was WESTPEX which I attended from April 29 to May 1 in Burlingame, CA.

I attended the meeting of the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies, of which we are a member. I'm a member of the United Postal Stationery Society and attended their general meeting.

I just returned from the World Stamp Show 2016 in New York. This was my first international show and even with five days at the show did not see everything. I only attended one of the seven first day ceremonies. I did volunteer 6 hours at the front registration desk which gave me the opportunity to speak with people from both the U.S. and several overseas countries. Three specialty association meetings were attended and a few other seminars. Wearing my NSSS shirt made me stand out and a few APS employees spoke with me about the winter show in Reno. In particular, Jay Bigalke and I discussed an article for the American Philatelist about Reno or silver mining for an issue before the Reno show. Megan Orient and I again discussed some items also concerning the Reno show.

Overall, I'm glad I made the trip to NY, and had a few days to spend with relatives on Long Island after the show

A recent acquisition by Dave Gehringer of an old exhibit of leather postcards put together by Dorothy Mitchell will be displaced at our stamp show in July. The exhibit will be at least two frames and not judged - it's for everyone's enjoyment.

Nominations are being accepted for three elected positions: Vice-President, Secretary, and a Director. The Nomination Form is on page 7. The completed form must be returned to Stan Cronwall by July 1.

A Board meeting was held on May 28. Paul Glass has volunteered to evaluate the award of Auction Bucks for volunteer activities. Harvey Edwards has volunteered to develop criteria for an award (instead of a plaque) presented to a member who has made a significant impact for the good of the club, through their contributions of time, energy, and expertise. Naming of the award is still to be decided. I'm sure they will both appreciate input and ideas from fellow members. Both these items will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting on August 27.

## Post Boy Reporter

May 14 meeting - The meeting was well attended by 26 members and one visitor, Mark. Betty Mudge provided the refreshments. The raffle had the usual 10 items with a bonus prize won by Mike Potter. Don Garrett won the 5050 money drawing of $\$ 9$.

A new member, Ryan Baum, joined after picking up some flyers at WESTPEX. Ryan is from Davis, CA. He collects Western Express, CA and NV postal history.


The live auction had 55 lots with 29 sold for a total of $\$ 178.65$. The auctioneers were Gary Atkinson and Charles White with George Ray and Dick Simmonds helping.

John Walter gave a brief report about his experience at WESTPEX. Eugene Smotts also attended WESTPEX and told of winning a lot in the Rumsey auction at the show.

May 28 meeting - There were 23 members in attendance. This was a consignment day with the sell price on each item. Refreshments were provided by Bob Wolf. The raffle table had 10 prizes plus a bonus item won by John Walter. The 50-50 money raffle prize was won by Dick Dreiling. The Greater Reno Stamp \& Cover Show on July 23-24 has 11 paid dealers plus the USPS. Exhibit prospectus' are starting to arrive. The cover cancel of the state animal, the Bighorn Sheep, was approved by the USPS. Harvey Edwards showed an example of the show cover with an illustration from the Great Basin National Park.

Members are encouraged to do a one-page My Favorite Thing for the show. The philatelic program given by Stan Cronwall, Harvey Edwards, and Nadiah Beekun discussed the process and guidelines for the pages.

Jean Johnson received a surprise when she had a request for a single $5 \notin$ Apple coil, and a $10 ¢$ Pear coil (sold in coils of 10,000 ), and was given both stamps by Gary Dahlke.


# Legends of the West Recalled Stamp - Story Behind the Issue by John Walter 

The idea and suggestions for the article came from Vern Watts with input from Dave Parsons when preparing for the February meeting program.

When planning the 1994 "Legends of the West" commemorative sheet, the USPS decided to include the famous African-American cowboy Bill Pickett, inducted into the National Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame in 1971, among the sheet's 20 subjects. Pickett is credited with the invention of steer wrestling, also known as bulldogging. Little did the USPS know this would lead to one of the most embarrassing and infamous mistakes in their history.


Stamp artist Mark Hess designed the stamp using a famous photograph (on the far left) that had been identified as Bill Pickett. In January 1994, two months before the scheduled release date, the Pickett family informed the USPS that the stamp actually pictured younger brother and fellow cowboy star Ben Pickett. Within weeks the USPS announced a recall and destruction of the sheets. The problem was that over 5 million sheets had been shipped to post offices across the country, and 183 sheets had been sold to the public before the scheduled release date (some as early as Dec. 1993).

Since the few sheets in the hands of the public were being sold at astronomical prices, the USPS decided to do something it had never done before: sell a limited number of the recalled and unissued stamps to the public. In an attempt to satisfy collectors' demands and offset the $\$ 1.2$ million printing costs, the USPS reached a compromise with the Pickett family who were promised that none of the error sheets would be sold, and announced a controversial decision to sell 150,000 recalled sheets by lottery.

Meanwhile, the USPS redesigned the stamp using a corrected photograph of Bill Pickett, and the sheet was issued nationwide in October 1994. For the first time in its history, the Post Office sold an unissued and recalled stamp to the public, and sold stamps to collectors for the first time using a lottery system. And for the first time, a stamp was recalled due to a design error rather than a production or printing error.

Collectors that were able to obtain both the recalled and issued sheets immediately noticed a difference in the Pickett stamps. The recalled stamp depicts a younger man with a wide, light-colored hat. The issued stamp depicts an older, thinner man with a smaller darker hat. In addition, the red border of all stamps in the sheet is thicker on the issued versions.

A collector or someone who's heard rumors that there's a rare version of the sheet will want to know if the sheet they have is the recalled version.


Compare your sheet to the two pictures on the left.

The picture on the left is the recalled, and rarer of the two. Notice that Ben's right sleeve touches the red frame that borders the stamp. Also compare the hats and faces, in the recalled stamp Ben looks much younger and his hat is in better condition. For the pedantic, notice that the red frame that borders each stamp is dark blood red on the recalled sheets, and is bright red on common sheet.

The pane of 20 stamps was finally issued on Oct. 9, 1994 for the face value of $\$ 5.80$ (Scott value of $\$ 15$ MNH and $\$ 10$ used).. The reverse of the full sheet is illustrated below. A press sheet was also issued which consisted of 6 panes for a face value of $\$ 34.80$ (Scott value is $\$ 90$ ).


And if that was not enough to gouge stamp collectors, a set of 20 postal cards (UX178-197) was issued for $\$ 7.95$ (Scott value $\$ 22$ ). On top of that, the USPS had three first-day-of-issue cities - Tucson, AZ; Lawton, OK; and Laramie, WY.

Another interesting fact is Scott catalogue has a USPS estimate of only 10,000 First Day Cancels for the postal cards, with a value of $\$ 1.50$ for any card with a FDC.

On the other hand, FDC for the stamps from any of the above cities were from 191,393 cancels in Lawton to 429,680 in Laramie, with a value of $\$ 2.25$ from any city. That value is about double for other 29 9 FDC of that time period.

So it looks like this is an interesting collecting area with stamps, FDCs with cachets, postal cards and the recalled sheet of 20 which has a value of $\$ 240.00$

- more with the blue USPS envelope. The recalled sheet was sold through the lottery system for $\$ 5.80$ plus $\$ 2.90$ surcharge. The official announcement from the Post Service read that to "balance the interests of the philatelic community with respect for the interests of the Pickett family" it would sell 150,000 original panes. All the rest were destroyed by the USPS.

In the U.S. Postal Service booklet available with the issued sheet, Roy Rogers offers introductory remarks of the "Legends of the West" as "The color, romance, and character of the old West come together appealingly in this issue of stamps, as they do in the fascinating photographs and narratives of Legions of the West."

The US Postal Service had never before collectively honored, in this fashion, prominent characters and features of the American frontier until the issue of this commemorative sheet. Several aspects of this issue are notable and distinctive: 1 . Never before had stamps been published with such vivid color and clarity of production. 2. Also unusual is a brief biographical summary of each character or feature on the back side of the stamp (illustrated above). 3. This issue covers a representative assortment of individuals both Native and American, along with other factors influencing the development of the Western frontier.

Just another reason collecting stamps is as much a history lesson as it is a "pride of ownership" experience.

## Buy Me! Buy Me Now!! by Stan Cronwall

Maybe you heard this almost whispered at WESTPEX, or perhaps it was a croaking rasp at the last Reno Show.
An old friend, a mystery guest, or someone else????? No it is a strange voice reaching out to you from the boxes of what a dealer claims is "unsorted" or just plain cheap covers and cards. These used to be 25 or 50 cents. Now, they have been upgraded to a buck or two.

These are where the philatelic gems are hiding out. Remember reading about the Mark Twain cover found because the dealer had no idea of who Samuel Clemens was? You are missing out if you don't spend some time going through the dealer junk boxes.
This is where you find those bits of something that you cannot do without even though they do not fit anywhere in your various collections.

These are exactly what you should be unearthing from that box or stack of stuff that would make fascinating additions to the assortment of oddball items that are displayed in our "My Favorite Things" frames.

A few years ago, our own Howard Grenzebach sold a cover from the ghost town of Bodie, California that was on display. He was offered $\$ 250.00$ but felt that was "too much", and instead accepted $\$ 150.00$

Keep in mind that you'll never sell it or even get an offer unless people can see it.
Show us what you've got!

Dave Parsons will present the philatelic program at the June 25 stamp club meeting. He will discuss and demonstrate computer programs for "Free Digital Perforation Guide, Centering, and Measurement Tool".

Pictured to the right is the program "ePerforationGauge" which works like an onscreen perf gauge.


# June Post Boy Quiz from the United States <br> by Stan Cronwall 

1. The $200^{\text {th }}$ anniversary of what university is marked by a stamp issued in 1954?
a. Harvard University
b. Columbia University in New York
c. University of Virginia
2. What is the denomination of the stamps in the Overrun Countries series of 1943-1944?
a. 5 cents
b. 3 cents
c. 10 cents
3. Who is the artist who is pictured on the 5 cent stamp in the 1940 Famous American series?
a. Andrew Wyeth
b. Daniel Chester French
c. Frederick Remington
4. What was the last year in which Hawaii issued its own stamps?
a. 1940
b. 1898
c. 1900
5. What is shown on the 80 cent airmail stamp issued in 1952 ?
a. The Statue of Liberty in New York
b. Diamond Head in Honolulu, Hawaii
c. The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco
6. What ship is shown on the 3 cent commemorative released in 1947?
a. The frigate USS Constitution b. The battleship USS Missouri c. The submarine USS Nautilus
7. What U.S. President is featured on a 5 cent stamp issued in 1875 ?
a. Benjamin Harrison
b. Ulysses S. Grant
c. Zachary Taylor
8. What sport is featured on a U.S. envelope released in 1971?
a. Swimming
b. Golf
c. Tennis
9. What do all U.S. issues from 1847 to 1894 have in common?
a. All were printed in a single color
b. All were perforated
c. All were printed by private firm
10. What Indian appears on the 5 cent stamp in the Jamestown Exposition set?
A. Pocahontas
b. Chief Stinking Saddle Blanket
c. Sacajawea

BONUS QUESTION: What was the airplane shown in the 1923 set of U.S. air post stamps?
A. Curtis Jenny
b. De Havilland Biplane
c. Boeing Model C

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 February meetings or email to postboyquiz@renostamp.org

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

## Nevada Stamp Study Society

2016 Nomination Form
There will be three (3) elected positions open in 2016. "Any member of the NSSS in good standing (one who is not in default in the payment of dues or other indebtedness to the Society, and against whom no charges are pending) shall be eligible to hold any office in the Society..."

Vice-President: Serves for 2 years from Aug. 2016 to July 2018. "The Vice President shall assist the President and act in his/her place when necessary." (Bylaws; Article VI, Section 3)

Secretary: Serves for 2 years from Aug. 2016 to July 2018. "The Secretary: (a) Shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Society and the Board of Directors which shall be permanently filed. Results of board meetings shall be conveyed to the membership. (b) The Secretary shall attest all legal documents and shall perform such other duties as are delegated elsewhere in the Bylaws. (c) Shall edit and approve all official notices to be published in the Post Boy. Shall be charged with the collection and preservation of all general records and official documents of the Society, except as otherwise herein provided. (d) Shall compile and send a list of members of the Society to all members upon publication of same." (Bylaws; Article VI, Section 4)

Director: Serves for 3 years from Aug. 2016 to July 2019. "shall have supervision of such activities of the Society as may be assigned to them by the President or the Board of Directors, and shall help to promote the Society. At a minimum, a Director will supervise and report on the activities of one of the standing committees." (Bylaws; Article VI, Section 6)

A candidate for any of the three elected positions may submit a short resume outlining their organizational and leadership qualities, and should list any goals they may have for the Society. Any information provided by the candidate is voluntary and is not a requirement to run for office.
The slate of candidates will be published in the August issue of the Post Boy with elections taking place, by secret ballot, on August 13, 2016 at the picnic.

All nomination forms must be returned by July 1, 2016 to the Stan Cronwall, Chair, Nominations and Election Committee.

I am a member in good standing and meet the requirements to run for the elected position of

Signature of candidate $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

Print name: $\qquad$

## Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

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

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.


Looking For: Barbara Stanfield remembers loaning her husband's exhibit on Nursing on Stamps to a club member. She cannot find the exhibit at her home. The last time she remembers it was at the NV State Fair in 2010. Anyone remember this exhibit or have this exhibit at home? Please contact Barbara at 825-1350.

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 - must be used and addressed to an overseas address. 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 writeup about your find will benefit all the club members. Submit article to editor@renostamp.org

Wanted: Advertisements for philatelic items you may be seeking for your collection or an exhibit. You may be surprised by the items our members may have lurking in their collections. Also wanted are advertisements for items or duplicates you want to sell. Contact the editor 651-7968 or editor@renostamp.org.

## Special Internet Page

## Inverted Jenny Website

While at the World Stamp Show-NYC 2016, I attended a meeting sponsored by Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries that developed a new online reference site devoted to the Inverted Jenny: the rare 1918 24\$ carmine and blue airmail error stamp that shows the Curtiss Jenny airplane in the central vignette flying upside down.

The information published at http://www.invertedjenny.com provides detailed background about the 100 error stamps discovered in a single sheet by collector William T. Robey on May 14, 1918.

It's a significant resource for the philatelic researcher, potential Inverted Jenny owner, or inquisitive collector.
The new website offers five main sections for collectors to explore: History, Production, Discovery, Sale records and Biographies. All are illustrated with historical photos and pictures of the stamps involved.

Siegel president Scott R. Trepel expects to add more information to the site to encourage visitors to return again and again. He wants to include a section about the upright variety of the $\$ 2$ Jenny Invert stamp issued in 2013, and has plans for a downloadable curriculum about airmail and the original Jenny stamp that teachers can use in the classroom.

The site's current History section presents a lengthy but well-written history of early airmails, starting with the 1859 mail-carrying balloon Jupiter and continuing through the airmail service sanctioned by Congress that began in 1918.

The Production section zeroes in on the development of the 24 \$ Jenny stamp, created in 1918 specifically for the new airmail service.

There has always been speculation about how the invert error was created, but as the site explains, it's not possible to know with certainty exactly what happened that resulted in the inverted airplane vignette. Trepel believes, however, that it wasn't just a matter of one stamp sheet positioned incorrectly on the press.

How he came to that conclusion is convincingly described on the website. Photographs make it all easier to understand, including one that documents the absence of a single perforation hole between two of the stamps from the sheet.

The Production section also includes information about the designer and engravers who worked on the stamp, the process of manufacturing the printing plate, and even the debate about the true day of issue for America's first airmail stamp.

This all leads quite naturally into the story of Robey's purchase of the sheet of 100 inverts, in the section titled Discovery. A collector eager to obtain the new bicolor airmail stamp, Robey wrote to a friend days before the stamps were placed on sale that it would be a good idea to watch for inverts, considering that two different plates were used to print the stamp. The website tells the story of his lucky find, and follows his efforts to find a buyer for his sheet at what he considered to be a fair price.

The interactive page of sale records opens up to a reconstructed sheet showing 98 of the 100 stamps, each pictured in the most recent photograph known. Photographs have not been found for two stamps, from positions 49 and 79, and their whereabouts since being sold to Col. Edward H.R. Green in 1918 are also unknown.

"Position 49 - that should be a beautiful stamp," Trepel said. It's from a section of the sheet that includes invert stamps with terrific centering, such as the position 58 stamp (image at left) that Siegel sold May 31 auction at World Stamp Show-NY 2016 for $\$ 1.35$ million. That stamp has been nicknamed "Jenny 95 " in reference to the XF-Superb grade of 95 it received on its 2005 Professional Stamp Experts certificate, the only Jenny Invert to obtain that lofty grade.

By clicking on any of the stamp pictures you'll get an enlarged image and the stamp's entire known history, including extra photos, condition details, a historical summary, a list of owners, a list of certificates issued, sales transactions with current catalog values and prices realized, and a "graph of realizations for this position in relation to catalogue value."

The Biographies section identifies the many past and present owners of the 100 Jenny Invert stamps, where known, an illustrated list that includes more than 180 names. Some are quite well known, including William H . Gross, Robert E. Zoellner, and Donald Sundman. For a few, little more than their names are known.

The Inverted Jenny website continues the Siegel company's commitment to research and record-keeping that includes The Siegel Encyclopedia, stamp census data, a power search, and more that can be found on the firm's home site at siegelauctions.com.

Along with the launch of the new Inverted Jenny website, Siegel recently posted a new YouTube video with information related to the famous error. The almost 11 minute video gives an entertaining history of the famous error stamp and the inauguration of airmail service in Washington, D.C.

It features Trepel in a small plane flying alongside the actual Jenny airplane that was displayed during World Stamp Show-NY 2016 in New York City.


Yes, that's me by the Jenny airplane at the World Stamp Show.

