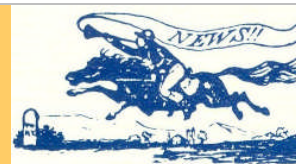


# Post Boy



January 2017  
Volume 50, Issue 1

MEETINGS 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 10:00 A.M. (9 A.M. FOR GOSSIP & TRADING)

SILVERADA ESTATES CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT 2301 ODDIE BLVD., RENO

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## President and Editor Comments:

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year in 2017. It's now less than 2 months to the APS show at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Those who receive a mailed Post Boy will have the APS show registration form included. For the rest of us, please go to the APS website to register and sign up for your favorite volunteer activity at the show. Don't forget that a free parking voucher is available for 2 hours of volunteer activity that day, and 8 or more hours of volunteer "work" will get you a free ticket to the March 4 Awards Banquet. Both the registration and volunteer forms can be completed on-line: <http://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE>

When the article on *Errors, Freaks and Oddities* was submitted to the editor, no images were provided. After looking around in the donation box I discovered a few items that fit the categories in the article. The U.S. Airmail Beacon stamp (C 11) with some printing plate wear is an oddity with some interesting observations recorded back in the 1960s. This item will be offered in the club auction on January 14.

As the new year commences the club is looking for a few volunteers to carry on some club projects: Number one on the list is the need for a Stamp Show Chair. The committee of 5 or 6 members is already in place. The reservation is made for July 28-29, 2018 at the Bowling Museum at the National Bowling stadium. A few dealers have already committed for the show.

Volunteers are also needed for a Donations Chair and a Meeting Refreshments Coordinator. One or two people are also needed for changing the Vassar Post Office display every two months and the stamp displays at South Valleys, Sparks and Carson City libraries.

And if there are still some volunteers left, then the Post Boy still needs a permanent editor. Members have been really good about submitting articles, quizzes, Member Spotlight, and other items which makes the job a lot easier. If the editor position seems too daunting a task how about doing the Post Boy Reporter page. It involves reporting what happens at the meetings and taking a few pictures of the club activities. If you enjoy reading the Post Boy, this is the year to contribute to make it even better.

If none of the above appeals to you, then the Program Chair, **Nadiah Beekun**, can always use a little help finding speakers and developing programs for our club.

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## Post Boy Reporter

The only event we had last month was the annual **Christmas Party** on December 10. It was held at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse in the afternoon. Members were worried about driving at night and possible icy roads as happened in years past when the party was held in the evening. This year something new was tried with the party starting at 1 p.m. It worked out OK, except it rained all day. Guess one can never predict what the weather will be on any December day.

There were 32 attendees consisting of spouses and other family members. A big thank you goes out to **George Ray** for securing the party site and supervising the table setup. Also helping were **Marla Wetterling**, **Barbara Stanfield**, **Dick Simmonds** and **Dick Dreiling**. **Barbara Diederichsen** helped with food coordination. **Marla & John Wetterling** brought the turkey and mashed potatoes, and **Kirsten & John Walter** brought spiral ham and hot veggies.

**John Wetterling** made sure everyone had a ticket for the gift exchange. **Dick Dreiling** kept track of the gift steals as the gift exchange got underway. There were 4 or 5 items that had the maximum 3 steals which involved gift cards to the Olive Garden, two philatelic items and a cheese knife set. The last gift selected was a 1985 coin proof set from the penny to the half dollar. The first person to select a gift was Glynis Littell and last was **Dick Simmonds** (after his previous gift was "stolen"). [Pictures from the party](#) are on the website.



Lining up at the food table



Glynis Littell had the first ticket for the gift exchange



## Errors, Freaks & Oddities

by Stan Cronwall

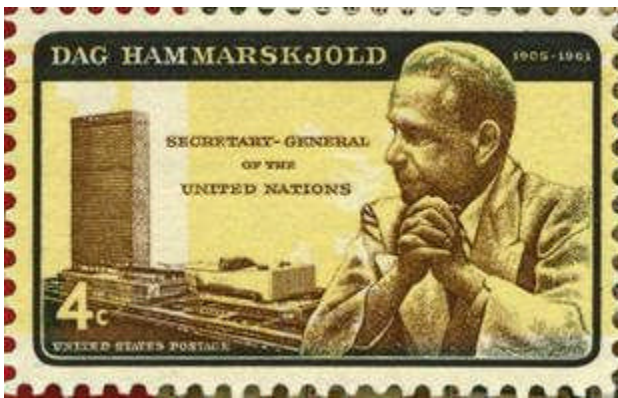
No, I'm not talking about the latest political circus in town or some carnival side-show, these are representative of the "Fly-specks" I wrote about a few issues ago.

Let's see if maybe a few definitions will help you as go through your collection(s) to see if you have something that is unique to your amassing of little colored pieces of paper.

Many articles have been authored on these subjects, but perhaps the best simplification in my memory come from a recent Linn's Collectors' Forum (October 24, 2016). The editor of this column offers up these as a way of defining E F & O's:

### Error:

"An error is the complete omission of an important element of stamp production (color or perforations completely absent, for example, or an inverted central vignette on a bi-colored stamp or a surcharge printed upside down)"



A great example of this is the famous inverted Jenny stamp (Scott C 3a), or more recently, the Dag Hammarskjöld stamp of 1962 with the inverted yellow background (Scott 1203), and the CIA invert of 1979 (Scott 1610C).

### Freak:

"A freak is a one-of-a-kind mistake in production such as improper perforation or poorly registered inking. Freaks are more common than errors, but because of the random way in which they are created, no two examples will be precisely the same, unlike errors."

As the Forum article suggests a good example of this might be a booklet pane that was miss-cut in the assembly process trimming off a portion of the stamps on the unstapled end.

This can also occur for full sheets. Worth checking if you are a sheet collector. Below are stamps with the perforations shifted to make some interesting examples.



Normal stamp



Pair with perforations shifted up about 4mm. No value on stamp.



Another perforation shift with the value on bottom of the stamp.

All of these stamps were found in a donation box mixed with many other denominations for use as postage.

These stamps will be offered in an upcoming club auction.

### Oddity:

An oddity is anything else that gives a stamp a distinctive or unusual appearance that varies from the intended appearance of a stamp, including such things as extremely poor centering or even worn printing plates (as illustrated below with Scott airmail C11).

(See the full article, on the next page, about this stamp that was in a recent donation to our stamp club.)



"Open-door" variety caused by a worn printing plate.



The normal stamp. The hut door is "shut."

Okay, now that you are armed with these simplified definitions, maybe it is time to look at what you have rejected for your collection and set aside. Are they candidates for the waste-basket, or to be donated to **Eugene Smoots** for the club's Penny Boxes, or re-packaged in some clever way for the club auctions or consignment events.

Looking through the penny boxes might yield some interesting freaks and oddities. You will never know what lurks in those boxes until you start the hunt. Starting with your own stamp accumulations is a great way to hone your searching skills. If you find something, esp. in the Penny Boxes, please write a report for the Post Boy.

Again, I wish you happy hunting.

*Stan Cronwall's 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; and, Post WW II Soviet Zone Hitler Head Obliteration stamps, covers & cards.*



## The "Open Door" Variety of the 1928 Beacon Air Mail - the Full Story

Though it isn't listed in catalogs and consequently doesn't possess the "price tag" favor for items they seek for their albums, the so-called "Open Door" variety of the 5¢ "Beacon" air mail (Scott's US No. C11) is striking enough to attract notice. The stamps showing the "Open Door" are by no means plentiful.

Henry M. Goodkind, whose study of the "Beacon" air mail stamp was published as a handbook by the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publications Fund of the Collectors Club in the 1960s.

Plate wear created the "Open Door" variety, Mr. Goodkind explains in his study of the "Beacon" air mail which also appeared serially in *The Aero Philatelist Annals*.



Both of these used "Open Door" varieties were mounted on an album page and donated to the NSSS.

The bicolored 5¢ air mail stamp picturing an air mail beacon at Sherman Hill, Wyoming, was issued July 25, 1928 in anticipation of a reduction in the domestic US air mail rate to 5¢ per ounce or fraction, effective Aug. 1, 1928.

The stamp was in use for about two years and just less than 107 million copies were produced at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and sold in postal installations.

It was produced on flat plate presses at the Bureau with a total of 55 plates being used to print the red frames and 40 plates required for the printing of the blue vignette which featured a view of the Sherman Hill airline beacon.

Many plates were needed to produce the stamp, partly because flat plate presses can't turn out as many stamps in a day as rotary presses can and partly because plates deteriorated during use necessitating replacement of plates so badly worn that printing quality was affected.

On certain of the vignette plates the wear occurred at the point where the door to the storehouse at the base of the beacon was located. Because of the wear there was a white area on the printed stamps giving the effect of an open door. This variety occurs on late printings of the "Beacon" air mail and is rather scarce, but demand for examples has never been great enough to give it anything like a stable value.

The engraved details of the beacon tower also showed wear as plates were used and consequently there are examples of the "Beacon" air mail on which the tower isn't as clearly printed as it might be and examples of this variety merit philatelic attention.

*Western Stamp Collector*, April 17, 1965 issue.



Normal stamp

# January Post Boy Quiz on Argentina

by Stan Cronwall

1. Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice collaborated to write and produce a musical which became a movie based on a fictional account of the lives of Juan D. Peron a two time President of Argentina and his wife Eva. The name of this musical and the movie adaptation is:  
a. Ascencion                      b. Evita                      c. Arriba
2. A set of stamps was issued in 1994, honoring Argentine Inventors. One of these was the man who invented the ball-point pen. His name was:  
a. Enrique Gonzalez Bic                      b. Torcuato Palma Agote                      c. Ladislao Jose Biro
3. Buenos Aires was the center point of the Argentine struggle for independence. From time to time, Buenos Aires maintained an independent government but after 1862 became a province of the Argentine Republic. The initial stamp design for Buenos Aires featured:  
a. A train                      b. A steamship                      c. A jungle scene
4. In 2004, Argentine cartoonist Dante Quintero's comic strip characters were featured on souvenir sheet. How many stamps were included in the sheet?  
a. 6 stamps & 2 labels                      b. 8 stamps & 8 labels                      c. 4 stamps & 6 labels
5. The coat of arms for Argentina was featured on a stamp in use from 1943-1950. What three words are inscribed on it:  
a. Independence, Progress & Liberty                      b. Honesty, Justice and Duty                      c. Liberation, Solidarity & Friendship
6. There was an unusual set of three stamps issued in 1939 for what purpose:  
a. The recording and mailing of flexible phonograph records                      b. Opening of the international bridge connecting Brazil and Argentina                      c. Low Handicap World Polo Championships
7. In 1985, a set of six stamps was issued featuring folk musical instruments. Which of the following was depicted in the series:  
a. Log Drum                      b. Swinnette                      c. Long Flute
8. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Argentine State Airline was commemorated in 1990 with a set of four airmail stamps. What planes were featured:  
a. Centaur A 1, Douglas DC 3, Boeing 747 & Lockheed L 1011                      b. Consolidated Vultee B 7, Curtis Mayberry Tr 28. De Havilland D 50, Aeropostale 1246                      c. Junkers Ju 52, Grumman SA 16, Fokker F 27, Fokker F 28
9. Argentina has had 30 Formula 1 Racing Drivers Which of these Argentine race car drivers was a Formula 1 champion and shown on a 1991 semi-postal souvenir sheet :  
a. Juan Manuel Fangio                      b. Felipe Massa                      c. Ayrton Senna
10. An instrument featured in tango music and dance is featured in painting by Aldo Severi on a stamp issued in 2001. The instrument is:  
a. Accordion                      b. Banoneon                      c. Violin

**Bonus:** In 1973, Argentina released an issue to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its first flight to the South Pole. The Scott Catalog caption says that the planes shown on the stamp are DC 3's. I don't think so. My guess is that they are U.S. made C 119's. What do you think?

This month's quiz is worth 110 Auction Bucks, including the bonus. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to Betty Mudge at either of the January meetings or email to [postboyquiz@renostamp.org](mailto:postboyquiz@renostamp.org)

**Dec. Quiz Answers:** 1.b, 2.c, 3. a, 4. a, 5. c, 6. b, 7. a, 8. b & c, 9. a, 10. b  
Bonus: c



## My Wife's Sable

by Robert Martin

A sable is not seen very often where we now live (Hawaii) so I was more than a little surprised to hear from my wife that she had a sable. In case you are not familiar with a sable, it is a coat made from the fur of a small animal indigenous to Siberia. Today, a full length sable coat costs about \$100,000. Many of you know that Linda is a quilter. As all self-respecting quilters do, she has acquired lots of fabric over the years, which is stored by basic colors, to be used when she desires a particular shade or pattern for a quilt she is making.



The name that quilters use for their collection of fabrics is “My stash.” Stashes can be quite large, and may be worth in the tens of thousands of dollars. Even though portions of stashes are regularly used, the shopping urge seems to result in trips to fabric stores with more and more fabric being added every month. (Sound familiar, stamp collectors?) Stashes are carefully protected from sunlight, dampness, infestations, etc. pretty much like how we stamp collectors protect our stamp collections.

This stamp portrays a sable. It is on a Soviet Union stamp issued in 1984. Scott No. 5286. (Scott for some reason never got around to listing the Soviet Union as a country, and still to this day lists stamps from the Soviet Union under “Russia.”) We stamp collectors know that Russia was only one of the “republics” in the Soviet Union. The full name for the Soviet Union was the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and is abbreviated on their stamps with “СССР.” The Soviet Union was created in 1917 and

broke up in 1991.

Linda’s sable is actually an acronym, not the animal or the coat made from its fur. S.A.B.L.E. stands for “Stash Acquired Beyond Life Expectancy.” (ED: That also sounds like what stamp collectors have.)

© **Robert Martin** is a member of the NSSS with an interest in educating children about our favorite hobby. He currently lives in Hawaii. This article appeared in the November issue of *The PhilatelicKid*. It is reprinted with his permission. He publishes *The PhilatelicKid* newsletter and maintains the website: <http://stampcollectingclubsforkids.org/>



### Vassar Post Office January-February display

Every two months the display is changed in two wall cases by the clerks' desks.

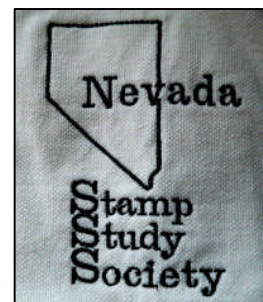
Themes are: Happy New Year & Valentine's Day



## Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

If you would like to have an advertisement in the Post Boy, please email [editor@renostamp.org](mailto: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 APS AmeriShow in March, it's great advertising for our club. Contact member **Dave and Susan Gehringer**, [ds-ginger@sbglobal.net](mailto:ds-ginger@sbglobal.net) or (925) 408-6807. They will need your shirt size and color when ordering. Cropped logo from a shirt is on the right.



**Wanted** - Covers from "cat mail" used in 1879 in Liege, Belgium. The city commissioned 37 cats to deliver mail to nearby villages. Contact member **Stan Cronwall** [stlaine@aol.com](mailto:stlaine@aol.com)

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:walter60@gmail.com).

**Wanted:** Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. Many of the stamp club members purchase auction and consignment lots at meetings. How about a short article on why the item was purchased and a scan of the item. Submit article to [editor@renostamp.org](mailto: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 (775) 851-7968 or [editor@renostamp.org](mailto:editor@renostamp.org).

### Wanted - Volunteers

Another reminder to please register and complete the volunteer form for the APS Amerishow Expo on March 3 - 5 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. If you volunteer for a 2-hour shift a free parking voucher is available for that day. For those who volunteer 8 hours or more a free Awards Banquet ticket will be provided. Volunteers are needed all day on Wednesday, March 2 and each day of the show.

The easiest way to register is online at: <http://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE>

From the APS website: Approximately 50 dealers, a dozen societies, 40 meetings and seminars, and first day ceremonies are expected at the Reno Sparks Convention Center. Show Hours: 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Friday/Saturday, and 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free, but registration is required.