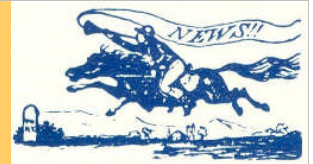


Post Boy



February 2017
Volume 50, Issue 2

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:

As the club gets ready for the APS AmeriStamp EXPO on March 3-5, there is still time to sign-up to welcome visitors to our NSSS booth. **Marla Wetterling** is the coordinator for the booth. She also welcomes ideas on attracting visitors to our booth. There will be a raffle box to award a free one-year NSSS membership for those who put their name in the box. There will also be other free stuff at our booth, so everyone, please stop by and say hello. If you plan to rest your tired feet during the show, how about staying for an hour to man the booth. That's right, the sign up is for only one hour increments at the booth.

As I was putting the APS show information together for this issue I realized there was more than I could fit on one page. All the latest show particulars start on page 3. The information is from the February issue of *The American Philatelist* and the APS website <http://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE>. This is the last Post Boy issue before the APS stamp show.

Don't forget our club is participating in the 2016 *Linn's* stamp poll where we vote for the best and worst stamp issues from the past year. The sheet with color images of each issue and the ballot is available at the next meeting. If you need a ballot I can send via email, but you must return it by Feb. 22 as that is the date I will send all the ballots to *Linn's Stamp News*. As the stamp ballots are totaled and published in *Linn's*, our club gets some recognition.

Over the past few years I have worn a number of hats performing duties for the club. I keep beating the drum asking for volunteers and every so often I receive a response. The latest one to respond is **George Ray** who will assume the chairmanship of the Donation Committee (so far it is a committee of one). So please give George any philatelic donations. He has the time to sort and then divert items to the Penny Boxes, raffle or the auction Blue Sheets to make a few bucks for the club. Thanks George!

For those who receive a mailed copy of the Post Boy (which is printed in black-and-white), please consider the emailed version that is in color and have live Internet links. If you have an email address, please let the editor know editor@renostamp.org. Everything is better in color.

Post Boy Reporter

Jan. 14 meeting - Attendance was 28 members. **Paul Glass** was mentioned in the American Philatelist as an Ambassador for the NSSS. The Ambassador program was started last year by APS to attract new members. Paul has all the information on APS membership.



The raffle had 10 prizes with **Stan Cronwall** winning both the Bonus Raffle prize and the money worth \$14.50.

The auction had 60 lots and 5 Blue Sheet (donations) lots with 18 items selling for \$264.20. Auctioneers were **Dave Gehringer** and **Howard Grenzebach** with helpers **George Ray** and **Dick Simmonds**. Press sheets were offered including Bugs Bunny and the other cartoon characters, Legends of the West and the hologram space sheets, pictured above.



New member, **Eric Fields** (on the left), joined today.

Jan. 28 meeting - There was discussion about the APS AmeriStamp Show, March 3-5, at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center - **Marla Wetterling** is coordinating the society booth activities. If you have an hour to sit at our show booth during the show hours, please contact Marla to sign-up. See full show details starting on page 3.

Attendance was 26 members and 2 guests. The raffle had 10 prizes with Bonus prize which was won by **Paul Glass**. The raffle money of \$10 was won by **Howard Grenzebach**.



The philatelic program was presented by **Stan Cronwall**. He discussed his new collecting endeavor with used/CTO stamps from DDR (East Germany). He initially brought a collection and now is "filling holes." He recently found 275 stamps (at 2¢ each) from the Penny Boxes to add or replace stamps already in the collection. He encouraged the members to do the same with their collections. Stan then talked about his two recent exhibits dealing with post-World War II German stamps and the use of obliterations to de-Nazify the stamps and post cards. Hitler head stamps were the first to be obliterated using cancelling ink and different shape cancelling devices. The post card obliterations didn't always work as intended since some small swastikas were missed in the indicia and some wording identifying the subject didn't make much sense. He showed some examples of both the stamps and post cards.



AMERISTAMP EXPO 2017

The American Philatelic Society's 60th annual winter meeting and stamp show will be held at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center on March 3-5. Admission is free. Meetings & seminars start on March 2.

The EXPO will feature 40 dealers, nearly 250 exhibit frames, and 16 participating societies, plus new stamp issues from the U.S. Postal Service (Friday at 11 a.m.) and the Marshall Islands (Friday at 1 p.m.). An APS membership meeting will be held at 9 a.m., March 4.

In addition to an alliance with the local Reno post office, and a partnership with OttLite, a major partner for this year's expo, is the National Association of Letter Carriers. A ceremony at 11 a.m., on Saturday, will help the union formally kick off its annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. This year marks the silver anniversary for the campaign and the APS is honored to host the occasion's ceremony in the Silver State. A PhotoStamps.com **personalized postage souvenir sheet** is planned to be dedicated as part of this celebration. Representatives from the Food Bank of Northern Nevada will join the letter carriers union, USPS, and APS in a ceremony. Artist Jeff Keane also has been invited to participate. Keane's father, Bill Keane, created the syndicated comic strip *The Family Circus*, which has been part of the fight-hunger campaign from the beginning. Bill passed away in 2011 at the age of 89, but Jeff Keane now carries on the legacy in helping create the strip.

"Keane's drawings served as a sort of unofficial logo for each year's drive," NALC President Fredric Rolando said in a tribute to the cartoonist in 2011. "His characters were so familiar to our customers that, when you saw the image of Billy, Jeffy, Dolly or P.J. on a promotional poster, bag or T-shirt, it seemed as if a close, trusted friend was encouraging you to dig deep to help feed the hungry."

In addition to this ceremony, the National Association of Letter Carriers will have a booth and display with different artifacts on the show floor. The local Food Bank will participate. Monetary donations will be welcome, and visitors are also encouraged to bring a canned food with them for this special event to raise awareness for the silver anniversary campaign. All proceeds will directly benefit the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

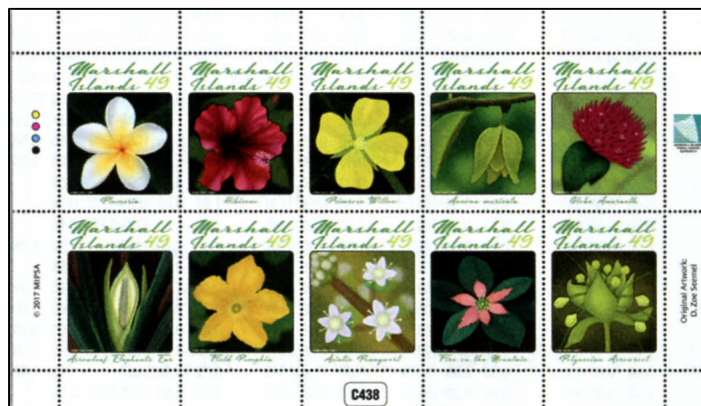
First-Day Ceremonies, Show Cancels



The United States Postal Service will issue the Barn Swallow forever stamped envelope in various sizes on Friday, March 3. An 11 a.m. ceremony will take place and will be hosted by the American Philatelic Society.

The illustration on the imprint was created by artist Matthew Frey and shows one bird perched and the other in flight.

The Marshall Islands first-day ceremony is set for 1 p.m., Friday, for a pane of ten 49-cent Flora stamps. The flowers shown are (top row, from left): plumeria, hibiscus, primrose willow, annona muricata, and globe amaranth; (bottom row, from left) arrowleaf elephants ear, field pumpkin, Asiatic pennywort, fire on the mountain, and Polynesian arrowroot. The stamps were designed by Uncover artist D.Z. Seemel.



The APS and USPS anticipate offering a different show cancel each day. On Friday, the pictorial cancel will relate to the first day of issues; on Saturday, the cancel will feature the Stamp Out Hunger theme; Sunday's cancel will relate to the 60th anniversary of AmeriStamp Expo. The APS also will sell special cacheted and canceled show covers.

Exhibits

AmeriStamp will host nearly 250 frames of exhibits, including 85 entries in the 18th annual Single Frame Champion of Champions competition (winners at World Series of Philately shows from the previous 12 months). What a great opportunity to see all these exhibits in Reno at the same time. John Hotchner will present two exhibits in the Court of Honor: "World Rarities & Uniquities" and "U.S. Postal Counterfeits from 1894 to Modern Times."

On-the-Road Courses

Instructor Wayne Youngblood presents "EFOs and You: How Your Collection, Knowledge Base, and Exhibit Can All Benefit From Postal Blunders," from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 2, the day before AmeriStamp opens. The course elaborates on errors, freaks, and oddities, including the how and why they are created, printing and processing (gumming and perforating), and the skills needed for identifying them.

Another course is perfect for anyone interested in Nevada postal history, revenue stamps, and collectible stock certificates. Instructor Michael Mahler presents "Ghosts of the Glory Trail: Nevada Revenue-Stamped Documents 1863-1873, a Geographic Analysis" — from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 4. Mahler — who has a related exhibit at the show will touch on U.S. documentary revenue stamps of the Civil War era, Nevada documentary revenue stamps and their use, mining stock certificates produced by the "silver fever" of 1862-64, and nine early mining rushes by which Nevada was settled. Participants will learn to appraise revenue-stamped documents of the 1860s to 1870s and identify the locations of the now-vanished "ghosts of the glory days" on a Nevada map.

Seminars, Meetings, Booths

About three dozen workshops, seminars, and society meetings are scheduled at AmeriStamp, including those focused on beginning collecting, specialized areas, and exhibits. Among those scheduled are the Beginning Collector's Series (11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m. March 3); Auxiliary Markings Club "Show & Tell" (1 p.m. March 3) and the ABC's of Collecting U.S. Perfins (1 p.m. March 4).

Aside from the APS and U.S. Postal Service, others with booths at the show include the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, American First Day Cover Society, Canal Zone Study Group, the Perfins Club, National Stamp Dealers Association, and Postmark Collectors Club.

Historical Displays

Special historical displays will be featured on the show floor. A historic post office service window with letter boxes, circa 1898-1923, will be on loan from the Sparks Heritage Museum and Cultural Center. The window was reportedly originally installed in the town of Orca (unknown location) before being moved to Olinghouse. According to some preliminary research provided by the American Philatelic Research Library, there was a town not far from Wadsworth named Ora, Nevada, which was a gold mining town later renamed Olinghouse.

A vintage 1929 Ford mail truck will be parked on-site, courtesy of the National Automobile Museum — The Harrah Collection. This is one of 1,400 vehicles originally amassed by Bill Harrah, founder of Harrah's Hotels and Casinos. Take advantage of a discount available for AmeriStamp Expo attendees to the National Automobile Museum.

Other Show Details

Ticket sales for the awards banquet, as well as course registrations for the Boy Scout Merit Badge Workshop and APS On-the-Road courses are available online. Registration closes in mid-February.

Obliterated Postcards – Postal History or Trash? Both

by Patrick Crosby

A collector might think that picture postcards sent without a complete, useful address and having no return address were sent to the Dead Letter Office (DLO) for destruction. I envisioned incineration. But this is not the case at all. Firstly, these items were not to be sent to a DLO branch and secondly, they weren't necessarily destroyed. On the other hand, similarly addressed first-class letters would be sent to a DLO branch. Western states including Nevada would send them to the San Francisco DLO branch.

Case in point are the picture postcards shown. All were mailed with insufficient addresses and without return addresses. These are referred to as "Dead Letters" or "Dead Mail", and are classified in U.S. Postal Laws & Regulations (PL&Rs) under Unmailable (or Nonmailable) Matter as "Address Defective." This means the addresses were either illegible, incorrect, or insufficient.

U.S. PL&Rs state that this type of first-class unmailable matter was not to be sent to a DLO branch, but instead "All other undeliverable domestic cards shall be held for reclamation two weeks and then, if not delivered, shall be disposed as waste by the postmaster...Before being disposed of as waste, the written communications...shall be canceled or mutilated so as to prevent the improper use of the correspondence." Most postmasters took this latter statement to mean obliterating names and/or the partial addresses. If the cards were only advertising matter no mutilation was necessary.

The postmasters were instructed to sell these items, if practical, to the highest competitive bid with the proceeds going to the office's "other postal revenue". If there was no sale, then these items could be delivered by postmasters to municipal authorities for distributions to hospitals, asylums, or other charitable or reformatory institutions. Under no circumstances were the postmasters to pay for disposal.



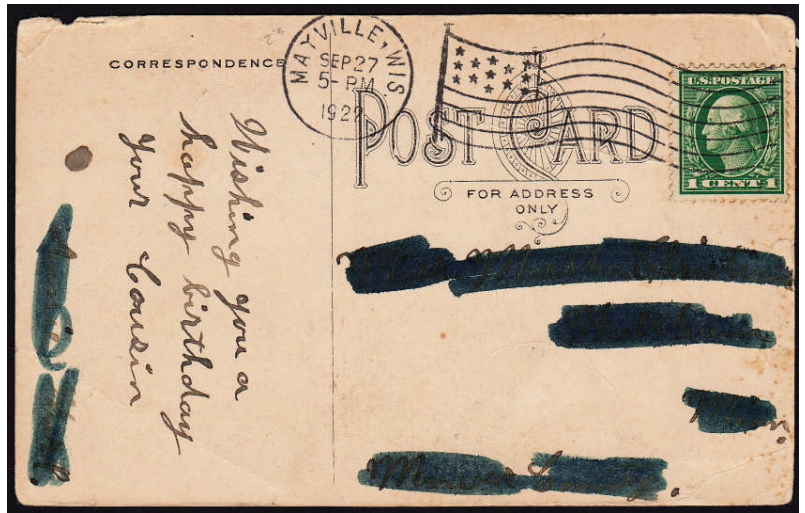
The first example, on the left, was mailed in 1914 at El Dorado, CA and addressed only to Placerville, CA, four miles away. There is no street address, box number, rural free delivery number, or General Delivery request. The addressee's name, Dora Kimball, was obliterated with black ink, but, as is often the case with these cards, can still be read.

The second example, on the right, was mailed in 1909 from Columbus, IN for local delivery in Columbus, which had a population of about 8,800 in 1910 – too many people for a postmaster to recognize every name. Having no street address, the entire address area was obliterated with scribbled pen. If there had been a return address, being for local delivery, this card would have been returned to the sender for free. The card is addressed to Miss Mary Ellen Galbraith, and I wish I could make out the bottom scribbled out word (it is not the county name).



The final example, from 1922, has all of the names and address obliterated with ink. It was addressed to Waltham, MN, Mower County. In 1920 Waltham had a population of about 180. The sender may have figured that everyone in Waltham knew everyone else, and so no further address was needed. But it was the responsibility of the postmaster at Mayville, WI where the card was mailed to determine that the item was undeliverable-as-addressed and process it as unmailable, and he did so in a thorough, heavy-handed fashion.

In the examples shown the address deficiency was the street address or other detailed directions. But the deficiency could also have been the lack of a city or state name. A postcard mailed to just Columbus, for example, would leave a postmaster scratching his head since there are at least 13 states with a Columbus.



An interesting point about all unmailable paper matter from the 1942 PL&Rs (World War II era) is the statement "In view of paper shortage, the burning of dead letters will be discontinued during the present emergency."

The latest obliterated postcard I have in my collection is from 1962. The cards I have cost from below \$.50 to \$2.50, so a small collection can be had cheaply. However, they are unsettling to look at and I fear an exhibit would not be a show favorite.

References:

Postal Laws and Regulations, see the free uspostalbulletins.com site for PL&Rs and Daily Postal Bulletins

U.S. Domestic Postal Rates 1872 – 2011 by Beecher and Wawrukiewicz, available from the American Philatelic Society at stamps.org

Patrick Crosby is a member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society and collects U.S. postal cards, especially used, including first days; the 1886 Grant Letter Card (or Sheet); UC16, the first U.S. aerogram; and postal history on business or picture post cards.

Reminder

With the AmeriStamp Expo the first weekend in March, the next issue of the Post Boy will be late. Normally the Post Boy is sent a week before our first meeting of the month - this means the issue is sent and mailed the first weekend of the month.

The editor will be busy the first weekend in March with lots of volunteer time at the stamp show. My duties will start on March 1 and not end until probably Monday morning on March 6. There will be lots of photos from the show and hopefully some stories contributed by our stamp club members in the March issue.

I doubt the mailed Post Boy will be in your hands by our next meeting on March 11, but the emailed issue should be delivered by March 10.

February Post Boy Quiz on Botswana

by Stan Cronwall

Looking back over the last few years of Post Boy Quizzes, we have never had one for a country in Africa. Part of the problem may be that they seem to change their names and governments on a frequent basis. This Quiz is for stamps of Botswana, a former British holding that has been operating under this name since September 30, 1966. Here goes. Grab your Scott Catalog Volume 1:

1. There are more Meercats in Botswana than any other country. Through the end of 2009, how many times have these animals appeared on Botswana stamps:
a. -0- b. 4 c. 10
2. Before its independence, Botswana was known as the British Protectorate of:
a. Tanganyika b. Bechuanaland c. Namibia
3. In celebration of Christmas in 1970, Botswana issued a souvenir sheet of 4 stamps. The subject matter was:
a. The Holy Family b. Three Kings c. Toys
4. Food crops were featured on a set of stamps issued in 2005. The crops were:
a. Rice, Wheat, Corn & Barley b. Peanuts, Yams, Oats & Brown Rice c. Beans, Millet, Sorghum & Watermelon
5. In 1984, the mining industry was the subject of a set of four stamps. The mine outputs were:
a. Palladium, Tungsten, Iron and Lead b. Diamonds, Lime, Copper & Nickel & Coal
c. Platinum, Lithium, Antimony and Magnesium
6. Mpule Kwelagobe a Botswana woman was featured on a stamp issued in 1999 because she:
a. Became Botswana's lead delegate to the United Nations b. Was elected Prime Minister of the country
c. Was crowned 1999's Miss Universe
7. The design of the Botswana Postage Due stamps of 1989 are basically the same as for the 1978 and 1984 issues with one exception:
a. The typeface for the words, "POSTAGE DUE" is bolder b. The grass is shorter and less well defined
c. The Zebra's stripes are thinner
8. The first joint issue of SAPOA (Southern Africa Postal Operators Association) featured the national birds of Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. This was a souvenir sheet from Botswana. What were the shapes of the stamps:
a. Hexagons b. Triangles c. horizontal and vertical rectangles
9. Botswana honored the 1988 State Visit of the then Pope by releasing four stamps. The Pope at that time was:
a. John Paul II b. John Paul I c. Paul VI
10. Some of the Wildlife Conservation stamp issued in 1987 were surcharged on stamps in 1990 and again in 1992. What animals were shown on the surcharged stamps:
a. Hedgehog, Square-lipped Rhino, Duiker & Caracal b. Giraffe, Side Striped Jackal, Banded Mongoose & Steenbok c. Cape Fox, Zebra, Hippo & Rusty Spotted Genet

BONUS QUESTION: Tourism is quite important to the economy of Botswana and has been featured on several sets of stamps. The 1999 tourism set calls special attention to:

- a. Rock Painting, Salt Pan, Other Rock Paintings & Baobab Tree
- b. Tourists and elephants, birds, crocodiles & game watching
- c. Petroglyphs, Stalactites, Traditional Fishing & Rock Painting from Tsodilo Hills

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 February meetings or email to postboyquiz@renostamp.org

<p>Jan. Quiz Answers: 1. b, 2. c, 3. b, 4. a, 5. b, 6. a, 7. c, 8. c, 9. a, 10. b Bonus: Any answer = 10 Auction Bucks</p>

Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

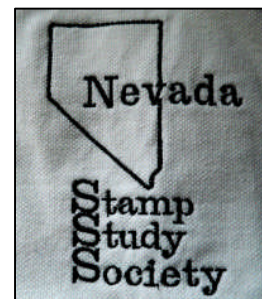
If you would like to have an advertisement in the Post Boy, please email editor@renostamp.org.

For Sale: Canada - large selection of mostly MNH stamps from 1982 on. Contact member **George Ray** 359-9296.

For Sale: U.S. Plate # Blocks MNH from 1930 on. Later years Plate # Blocks 15% off face value. Want lists requested for specific plate numbers/positions. Contact member **George Ray** 359-9296.

For Sale: My mom's collection of covers and U.S. stamps. Claudia Pettinar, 775-825-3524.

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@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.



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** email: 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 (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. aerogramme: #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.

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

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.



These dealer members of our stamp club will have a booth at the AmeriStamp Show:

Mark Baker - Mark Baker Enterprises

Peter Gutter - Gutter Pairs, Inc.

Nadiah Beekun - Classic Nevada (This is a Dollar Booth)

Please stop by, say hello, and look over their philatelic items.