

# Post Boy



April 2017 Volume 50, Issue 4

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

#### **Officers:**

**President -** John Walter <a href="mailto:president@renostamp.org">president@renostamp.org</a>

Vice President - Gary Atkinson vp@renostamp.org

**Secretary -** Howard Grenzebach <u>secretary@renostamp.org</u>

**Treasurer -** Mike Potter <a href="mailto:treasurer@renostamp.org">treasurer@renostamp.org</a>

#### **Directors:**

George Ray

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Harvey Edwards show@renostamp.org

Dave Gehringer <a href="mailto:dave@renostamp.org">dave@renostamp.org</a>

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#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1. President & Editor Comments
- 2. Post Boy Reporter
- 3. Member Spotlight & Stamp Shows
- 4. A Private Mailing Card
- 6. My Approach to the APS
  Winter Show in Reno
- 7. Buy, Want, Sell, Trade
- 8. Quiz Terminology

#### **President and Editor Comments:**

**Club elections** are coming in July with candidates needed for the following offices: a President and a Treasurer, each with 2 year terms, and two Directors with 3 year terms. Urgently needed is a Nominations and Elections Chair to coordinate the election process. The nomination form will be in the May issue.

Two members responded to my request for articles on their experiences at the recent Reno APS AmeriStamp Show. Thanks to **Pat Crosby** and **Stan Cronwall** for sharing information about their new philatelic purchases made at the show.

Talking about Post Boy articles, recently there has been an uptick in the buying of consignment and auction items at the meetings. I'm sure the members have an interest in short articles concerning why the item was purchased and the author's current collecting interests. The information can serve sellers as what to offer in the future and buyers for specific items they are searching for.

Thanks to **Dave Gehringer**, the stamp club will have a display at the Zephyr Cove Library for the month of April. This library by the shores of Lake Tahoe is one of six Douglas County libraries. Dave also reserved display cases at the main library in Minden, NV for August 2018. It's nice to spread our wings to outlying libraries. In the past our displays have appeared in the North Valleys, South Valleys, Sparks and Carson City libraries. The last three libraries host annual displays in various months during the year. Plus the club has two display cases at the Vassar (main) post office.

This cover was in my raffle pile I won at the last meeting. It will be displayed at the Vassar PO for the Nov. display for Veterans Day. I always seem to find a use for material I ac-



quire at club meetings. What do you do with your raffle winnings?

#### **Post Boy Reporter**

**Mar. 11 meeting -** There were 31 members in attendance and one visitor, Mark. **Bob Wolf** provided the refreshments. The raffle was conducted by **Betty Mudge** with the usual 10 donated prizes and a Bonus raffle prize going to **Howard Kadohiro**. **David Pointon** won the raffle money of \$14.50.

The auction had 60 items and 7 Blue Sheet (donated) items with 30 items sold for a total of \$237.25. The auctioneers were **Gary Atkinson** and **Harvey Edwards** with assistance from **George Ray** and **Dick Simmonds**.

One new member joined, **Roy Kirk**, who collects Korea. A former member re-joined, **Darrell MacFarland**.



Members looking over the auction items

**Mar. 25 meeting -** There were 27 members and two guests in attendance. The two guests, Barb and Jacqueline brought two boxes of inherited stamps, albums and supplies to sell. They sold everything to various members. This is a great opportunity for those members who purchased some of the items to do a short article for the Post Boy.

This was a Consignment Day where members were able to have 10 items for sale at a stated price. The consignment table was overflowing with items with many purchases being made.

The refreshments were provided by **Dick Simmonds**. The raffle was conducted by **Betty Mudge** with 10 prizes, and a Bonus Prize going to **Chip MacLeod**, and the money prize of \$10.50 went to **Gary Atkinson**.

The philatelic program was presented by **Dave Gehringer** on "An Introduction to Naval Covers." Literature is available with information on each naval vessel, their postmarks and even post mark scarcity scale. Slides of the different types of post marks starting in 1908 were shown. Of interest was in the early 1900s one-penny picture post cards of the ships and their post marks were shown. Dave's interest is in covers with the USS Enterprise post mark. There were 8 ships by this name, the last being the largest aircraft carrier in



service from 1961 to 2013. Wikipedia has some great on-line information about this ship.

If you are interested in giving a meeting presentation on your favorite collecting topics, please contact **Nadiah Beekun** or **John Walter**. A presenter is needed for the April 22 meeting. If there are no volunteers for a full program, there will be a show-and-tell from members about interesting items in their collection, or a recent purchase. There needs to be 3 or 4 volunteers to speak for about 5-10 minutes each. Take your choice — full program for 30-40 minutes or discuss an interesting philatelic item for 5-10 minutes.

## Member Spotlight -Erik Fields by Dave Parsons

In order to inform NSSS members about their fellow members, the Post Boy will feature different members in its issues. This is a good chance to find out what others are interested in and the background of the member.

This month's featured member is **Erik Fields**. Erik was born in Oakland and now lives in Reno. Erik has lived in many places along the way including Berkeley, Vallejo, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Santa Rosa and Sparks.



Erik is a relatively new member of the NSSS having joined about 4 months ago. Erik worked at the recent APS AmeriStamp show, manning the Stamp Buddy booth and helping to set up Exhibits.

Erik's collecting interests are pre-1930 U.S. and BOB, plus Duck stamps, however he has recently expanded into German stamps. He started collecting stamps at age 5 upon the urging of his parents to collect something (his brother went the coin route). Erik is a Certified Internal Auditor and is a member of the related Professional Institute. Erik is married to Holly and they have one son, Charles (21). Erik is also interested in video games, music, guitar, and music theory.

When asked what his dream stamp (under \$5000CV) would be, Erik mentioned that he

would like to have the 1930 \$2.60 Graf Zeppelin stamp, similar to the one depicted on the right. Certainly a fine stamp and desired by most U.S. collectors.



Erik enjoys all the people at the NSSS, and thinks it's made up of a swell group of guys and gals. He says he feels at home with other collectors.

Erik's email is cheney44@charter.net.

## Upcoming stamp shows and bourse that members have attended in the past

**Easter Seals Benefit Stamp Show** - April 8-9 at the Easter Seals Society, 3205 Hurley Way, Sacramento. There will be 11 dealers, the Millions of Stamps table for 2¢ each, hourly door prizes, Precancel/Perfin Group meeting Saturday morning and the CAL Revenue meeting on Saturday afternoon.

**WESTPEX** - April 28-30 at the Marriott Airport Hotel in Burlingame, CA. There will be 75 dealers and over 300 exhibit frames. Lots of meetings and other events scheduled before and during the show. <a href="http://westpex.org/">http://westpex.org/</a> for all the info.

**COALPEX** - June 17-18 in Walnut Creek, CA. It is sponsored by 5 local area stamp clubs and the show sponsors are looking for exhibits. There is NO entry fee for exhibits. Contact <u>David McNamee</u>.

## A Private Mailing Card By Patrick Crosby

When the USPOD issued its first government postal card (gpc) in May, 1873 it provided a less expensive way of communicating by mail, if you didn't mind the loss of privacy. At the time the domestic letter rate was 3¢. However, the reduced 1¢ rate did not include non-post office issued cards, which are termed postcards (or post cards). The 3¢ rate lasted well into 1883 when it dropped to 2¢, which is illustrated in Example 1 from 1887.



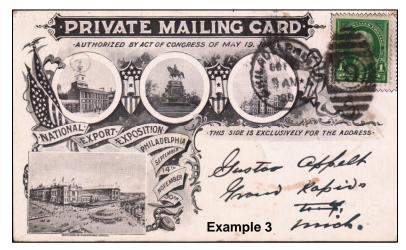
July 1, 1898 ushered in the short-lived Private Mailing Card (PMC) era when postcards used domestically were allowed at the same rate as postal cards. I say short-lived because this era, with its special rules, lasted less than 2½ years. To receive this lower postage rate, the address side (called the face or front by stamp collectors) needed to include "Private Mailing Card," "Authorized by act of Congress of May 19, 1898," and, if for resale, an oblong box in the upper right corner stating "Place a onecent stamp here." Requested, but not required, was the statement "This side is exclusively for the ad-

dress."



Example 2 shows why the post office wanted all this room – for postmarks and auxiliary markings. Its first postmark from 11-17-1900 is partly under the stamp since the card was mailed without postage. It was held in Washington, D.C. until it was franked 11-21-1900. Notice also that the post office later corrected the street address from 1728 to 1128. The reverse side of the card has a received machine flag cancel from Bridgeport, CT dated 11-22-1900.

Example 3, which is the star of this article, meets all the wording requirements for the 1c rate, but it certainly does not fulfill the intent of "This side is exclusively for the address." Also, the post office wanted this statement to be in the lower left corner, as with example 2. But this card was for a National Exposition and the post office probably did not want to disrupt the flow of mail for these irregularities. This strikingly beautiful card was from the first U.S. exposition to take advantage of the reduced 1¢ rate for Private Mailing Cards. Although not a World Fair, the National Export Exposition – Philadelphia included displays of manufactured goods from over 4,000 exhibitors.



This wasn't the first time that the USPOD bent the rules for an exposition. At the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition many expo view cards were printed on the 1¢ gpc Scott UX10, which was larger sized than allowed for international mail in order to receive a lower postal card rate. Most of these expo postal cards when used internationally are seen with a 1¢ Columbian stamp (Scott 230) added for the 2¢ international postal card rate instead of with 4¢ added for the correct 5¢ letter rate (the latter is much sought after and expect to pay upwards of \$400). It was up to the originating Universal Postal Union country to apply the UPU rules, which the USPOD chose not to do until immediately after this expo ended 10-30-1893.

This article brings up an important point for collectors of postal history on postcards. The PMC era ended 12-24-1901 when all the wording requirements were replaced for the simple "Post Card" logo to enjoy the 1¢ rate. Cards with the old wordings remained valid and are seen used many years after, but they are outside of the PMC era and should be valued considerably lesser than those used during the PMC era.

To give examples of value, I purchased Example 3 at the recent AmeriStamp Expo in Reno for about \$45. Although used during the exposition in Philadelphia, PA, it does not have a special expo cancel. Not long ago I purchased the much older, pre-PMC Example 1 for \$22.50, and Example 2 PMC with its auxiliary markings for \$12.

#### References:

Postal Markings of United States Expositions, William J. Bomar, 1986, available through <a href="www.amazon.com">www.amazon.com</a>
U.S. Domestic Postal Rates 1872-2011, Beecher and Wawrukiewicz, available from the American Philatelic Society at <a href="www.stamps.org">www.stamps.org</a>

**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.

#### Announcement



This is the public service announcement for the upcoming "Hobbies & Collectibles" educational seminars at the Churchill County Museum.

Harvey Edwards and Dave

Gehringer will present the session on Stamp Collecting on April 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Fallon.

The discussion will consist of a slide presentation, displays of stamp album pages and covers, the tools of the hobby and some giveaways.

## My Approach to the APS Winter Show in Reno By Stan Cronwall

Having been to one of the huge APS Summer Shows in Portland a few years ago, I knew what to expect albeit on a reduced scale.

If you go to one of these (or any Show for that matter) you might want to do some homework ahead of time to find out just which dealers will be on hand. This is especially important if you go with a "Want List".

For me, receiving a postcard from A & D Stamps (Jim & Sue Dempsey from California) meant that their gigantic "Wall-O-Stamps" inventory would be in Reno.

I had a short "Want List" which consisted of 3 items I need to complete a planned one-frame exhibit that goes way beyond my philatelic experience and knowledge. It has been about three years in the planning and gathering stage. The "Want List" included a set of four mini-sheetlets, a souvenir sheet and a single stamp all from different countries.

Beyond A & D, I hoped that the APS Winter event would attract one or two additional dealers who travel with large inventories.

About a week ahead of the Show, I checked with the APS website to see the dealer line-up and found there would be two others; A to Z Stamps (Michael Ball from Phoenix) and Ed Dimmick who has been a part of our own "Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show" for many years.

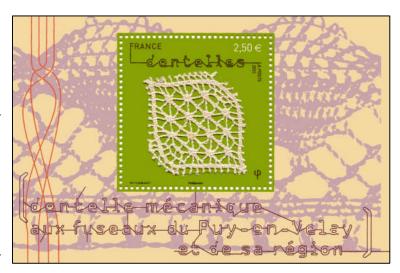
Even though these dealers have large inventories, there is no guarantee that they will carry multiples of what you are trying to find.

That's not to say the "Want" items might not be lurking in some other dealer's stock, but in this specific instance - probably not.

Although I wasn't scheduled to work the NSSS booth until the first shift on Sunday, I felt that I should maximize my chances to find my "Want List" items by being at the Show when the "bell rang" on Friday. By volunteering to work the NSSS booth, I was provided with an APS Badge and volunteer ribbon which allowed me to "jump" the line and go to our friendly confines probably a good 20 minutes before the rush of other early birds.

Shopping was not allowed until the bell rang at 10 a.m., but you could walk the aisles and locate where your primary dealer prospects were located, and say "hello" to those who have been a part of our local stamp shows over the years.

When the "bell rang" at 10 a.m. on Friday, one of my targeted dealers immediately had all the chairs in his double booth filled. The next aisle over had both of my alternatives. One booth had all chairs filled but the other had one chair open. I sat and gave my short list of "Wants" to a dealer helper. After a few minutes he returned, "No luck", but with a recommendation to visit one of the others on my preferred list.



The end result was that I did find 1 out of the 3 "Want List" items spending a total of \$28.00. The illustration above is one of the four miniature sheets, I purchased, with a quilted stamp from France Scott #4092-95. Each quilted stamp and surrounding selvedge is a different color — purple, beige, green and blue.

My scheduled stint at the APS Stamp Show on Sunday morning didn't happen. Overnight, the weather gods dumped 6-7 inches of Sierra Ready-Mix out here in the Somersett community where plows came two days after the storm. To me it wasn't worth risking life or limb to slide-in sideways at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, so I called in my excuses.

**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.

### Buy, Want, Sell, Trade

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

**Buying :** Stamp Collections Worldwide & United States, Large or Small Estate. Postal History, Post Cards, Ephemera, Stock Certificates, Checks, Old Business Ledgers and Billheads, Mining Lumber, Staging & Express, Pony Express, California Gold Rush. Photographs 1840's - 1920's, California & Nevada Oil Paintings, anything Rare from California or Nevada History... Call member Mark Baker 530-417-1117 or Email <a href="Mark@goldrushpaper.com">Mark@goldrushpaper.com</a>.

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.

**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, <a href="http://www.RenoStamps.com">http://www.RenoStamps.com</a> or email: <a href="mailto:classicnevada@yahoo.com">classicnevada@yahoo.com</a>.

**Wanted -** pre-1950's, picture postcards from Scotland, preferably castles and abbeys. Contact member **Marla Wetterling** (775) 575-1337 or email: <a href="mailto:opusnrosebud@att.net">opusnrosebud@att.net</a>.

**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: <a href="walter60@gmail.com">walter60@gmail.com</a>.

**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. What about your purchases made at the APS AmeriStamp Show? Let us know why you bought a certain item. Submit article to <a href="editor@renostamp.org">editor@renostamp.org</a>

**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 <a href="editor@renostamp.org">editor@renostamp.org</a>.

**Wanted:** Cacheted and uncacheted covers from smaller towns and cities with the JFK commemorative issued on May 29, 1964. This year is JFK's 100th birth anniversary. Contact Henry Scheuer, <a href="mailto:HenryInNewYork@gmail.com">HenryInNewYork@gmail.com</a>. Over 4,000 different city postmarks are known for the first day of issue.

## **April Post Boy Quiz on Terminology** by Stan Cronwall

This quiz will test your philatelic knowledge of terminology.

- 1. What is unusual about a bi-sect stamp?
  - a. A stamp is usually cut in half diagonally b. The only valid portion has the face value shown
  - c. The only valid portion does not show the face value
- 2. What is a "blind perforation?"
  - a. A totally missing perforation b. Perforation not punched due to a broken, blunt or missing pin in the comb c. Only ½ the perforation side is punched
- 3. What is "tete-beche?"
  - a. Two same value stamps side-by-side b. Two adjoining stamps with one being upside down in relation to the other c. The lowest and highest face value stamps in a set side-by-side
- 4. What is a "dandy roll?"
  - a. The final roller on a Giori Printing Press b. A roller of mesh used in the manufacture of the paper which produces the watermark c. The machine used to keep newly printed sheets flat
- 5. What are "Cinderellas?"
  - a. These are perhaps better described as "wishful thinking" issues such as air mail stamps from countries with no airports b. Disney stamps issued by any country c. Seals, local revenues, labels, poster stamps and like "non-postage" materials
- 6. What is a "Doctor Blade?"
  - a. The informal title of the person responsible for the operation of the machine producing press sheets
  - b. A metal blade used to clean surplus ink from a cylinder or plate c. The edge on the machine that creates serpentine separations between stamps
- 7. For Spanish-speaking countries, a stamp with word "Correos" has what meaning?
  - a. An airmail stamp
- b. A stamp depicting a bull fight scene
- c. Postage
- 8. Stamps coated with phosphorescent material to enable mechanical sorting are called what kind of stamps?
  - a. Lighted
- b. Tagged
- c. Phosphors
- 9. When the term "roulette" is used in connection with stamps, it means?
  - a. A process similar to perforating but in the form of long cuts in the margins between stamps to facilitate separating the stamps
     b. A failed process with resultant incomplete perforations due to incorrect machine settings
     c. Incomplete perforations due to unusual paper thickness
- 10. What are "fugitive colors"
  - a. Ink colors for stamps which are prohibited by the government due to political implications
     b. Colors that run together when stamps are removed from the surfaces to which they are attached
     c. Inks which are specially produced in order that they will change or wash out if there is an attempt to tamper with the stamp such as removing the postmark

**Bonus Question:** What is the term applied to impressions taken from an approved die, plate or stone in which the design and color are the same as the stamp to be issued to the public?

- a. Pre-Issues
- b. Proofs
- c. Printer's Waste

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 April meetings or email to <a href="mailto:postboyquiz@renostamp.org">postboyquiz@renostamp.org</a>

Mar. Quiz Answers: 1. b, 2. a, 3. c, 4. c, 5. b, 6. a, 7. c, 8. a, 9. b, 10. a
Bonus: All answers are correct