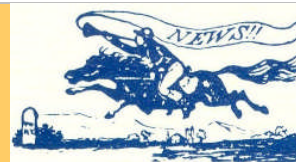


Post Boy



December 2018
Volume 51, Issue 12

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 - Harvey Edwards
president@renostamp.org

Vice President - John Wetterling
vp@renostamp.org

Secretary - Stan Cronwall
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Announcements
2. Post Boy Reporter
3. Christmas/Holiday Party
4. A Tale of Two Holiday Cards
5. Why Time Flies
6. Quiz - U.S. Holiday Issues
8. Closed Album - Rick Barbieri
9. Volunteer Activities
10. Vassar Post Office Display

Announcements

Special club event:

Dec. 15 - Christmas-Holiday Party - The social event of the year will be Saturday afternoon starting at 1 p.m. at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse. Family members are invited. This is a pot-luck meal with the main entree being turkey and ham. Food items needed will be salads, desserts, mashed potatoes & gravy. Please bring a beverage (wine is OK), plates and utensils for each individual.

There is a gift exchange. If you want to participate, bring a wrapped gift (no more than \$15 value) for each person attending and mark philatelic, male or female. The gifts can be "stolen," after unwrapping, up to three times. Confused? Come and participate in the fun.

Contact **Marla Wetterling** to sign up for the pot-luck food items you are bringing. More information on page 3.

Next regular club meeting: Jan. 12, 2019 - This is an Auction Day meeting where members can put up to 5 items on the auction table using the [NSSS Auction Sheet](#) with the Minimum Bid. Preceding the auction will be announcements and a raffle.

The rumor about a postal rate increase is true. On Nov. 13, the Postal Regulatory Commission approval an increase in the first-class rate to 55¢, effective Jan. 27, 2019. So, for those collecting recent Forever stamps your holding will increase 10% in value. The rate for an additional ounce will decrease from 21¢ to 15¢. So, a 2-ounce first-class item will be 70¢. The current 35¢ post card and \$1.15 1-oz. first class international rate will remain the same.

**I'D RATHER BE
COLLECTING STAMPS**

Robert Martin had the above bumper stickers printed and is making them available. If interested, please contact **John Walter** who will order some for our members. Robert lives in Hawaii so one shipment to the club will work better than individual requests. Robert is a member of the NSSS.

Post Boy Reporter

November 10 meeting - There were 22 members and 2 guests in attendance. Both guests joined the club. **Eric Moody** collects German Colonies and **René Remy** collects Western Europe (1950-2012). **Harry Pinkham** and **Erik Fields** arrived early to set-up the tables and chairs. Refreshments were provided by **Marla & John Wetterling**. There was no raffle since this was an Auction Bucks meeting.

Before the Auction Bucks auction started, **Harvey Edwards** showed a video saluting the military veterans in the stamp club. **Erik Fields** and **Harvey Edwards** were the Auction Bucks auctioneers with **Dick Simmonds** and **Marla Wetterling** helping. A total of \$44,845 Auction Bucks were spent on 88 lots. Winning bids ranged from \$5 AB to \$8,000 AB (for two boxes of White Ace Cover Albums). Most wine/alcohol bottles went for \$1,000 AB to \$3,000 AB each.

To prepare for next year's auction members are reminded to sign-in at each meeting (earn \$100 AB) and note on the sign-in sheet volunteer hours spent on club activities.

November 24 meeting – **Harry Pinkham** and **Erik Fields** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. There were 27 members and five guests in attendance. Visitors included Jacqueline & W.E. Egger (collects U.S.), Victoria & Ray Palacio (childhood collector) and Chonghua Zhong (China). They all plan to return in January. Refreshments were provided by **Steve Foster**. **John Wetterling** presided over the meeting. The raffle table had 10 prizes and a Bonus prize won by **Paul Glass**. **Dick Dreiling's** raffle ticket was picked for the money of \$10.50.

The consignment table was overflowing with items for sale. Announcements included: The passing of Honorary Member **Rick Barbieri** (closed album obit on page 8); **Gary Dahlke** being treated for cancer; **Stan Cronwall** waiting for his cancer treatment; and, **Mike Potter** recovering from shoulder surgery.



Some items in the Auction Bucks auction.



Gary Atkinson, Victoria Palacio, Erik Fields, Bob Wolf, Marla Wetterling.



Nadiah Beekun

The presentation title was changed from previous announcements. **Nadiah Beekun** discussed selecting an item to mount on a page with some explanation why this is of importance to the collector. It was a talk on "My Favorite Thing" pages. All collectors have some odd ball items that beg for a short write-up. Nadiah showed a few items from 1937 and 1941 from the Woodbridge Stamp Club (Constitution and show programs). She also showed an early Great Britain stamp with Queen Elizabeth as a child.

**Christmas/Holiday Party
and Gift Exchange**

Silverada Estates Clubhouse

2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno

December 15, 2018

12:30 p.m. - Hors D'oeuvres, pre-meal snacks & conversation

about 1:00 p.m. - Main meal (turkey entree)

If you want to participate in the gift exchange:

**Bring a wrapped gift (no more than \$15 value) for each person attending.
Tag gift if specifically for female, male, or philatelist.**

Please bring a plate and silverware for each person and your own drink.

Spouses and family members are welcome.

**If you have not signed up yet to bring a food item,
please contact Marla Wetterling ASAP**

Email: marla@NvStampSociety.org or phone number is 775-575-1337

She needs an accurate count for those attending

You may come early (no sooner than 1130) to help with the setup and table decorations.

The Silverada Estates continues to ask for donations of nonperishable food items for distribution to those less fortunate. You can bring the items to the party or meetings throughout the year.



A Tale of Two Holiday Cards

By Patrick Crosby

The two cards shown, one from 1906 and one from 1907, are from an era when picture postcards were popularly used for season's greetings. They were a quick, simple way to wish the best with only 1¢ postage required instead of the 2¢ postage an envelope would cost. And besides, there was a picture postcard collecting craze going in full swing.



So why was the 1906 card (on the left) "Returned for Postage"? Because not until March 2, 1907 (effective date – often incorrectly noted as March 1, 1907) was correspondence allowed on the left portion of the address side. Before this date only the sender's name and address were allowed to qualify for the 1¢ card rate. Otherwise, as with the 1906 card, 2¢ letter rate postage was required.

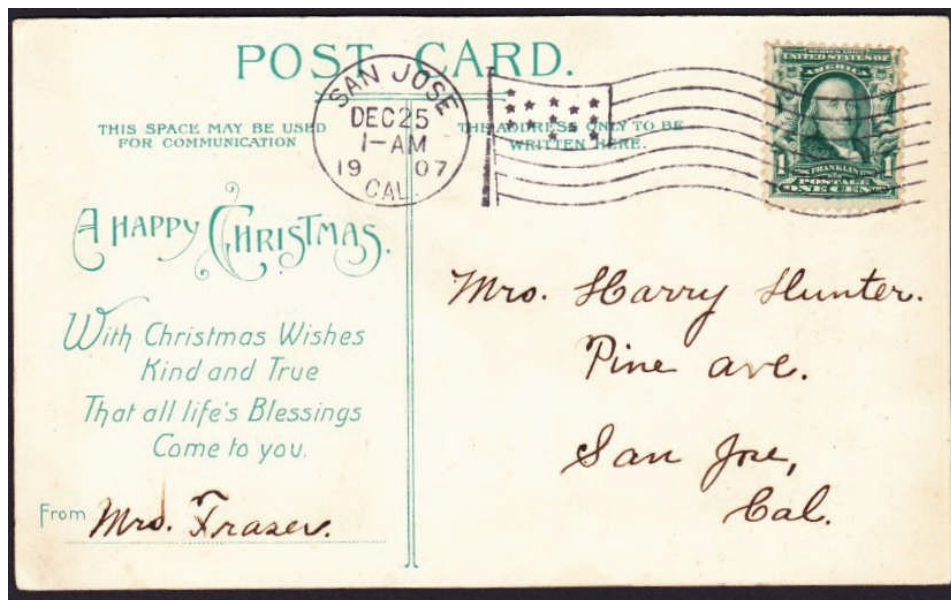
On December 22, 1906 this card received a Brockton, MA machine flag cancel. But it wasn't until December 30th that additional postage was received from the sender or addressee and placed over part of the flag cancel. A rubber stamp "This is the Mail You sent postage for" and a December 30th Brockton handstamp were applied. The card was received in Purling, NY on December 31st.

The picture side of the card (on the right) is highlighted with glitter. Less than 2 months later (February 16, 1907) this card would not have been allowed in the mail stream because of the glitter unless it was enclosed in an envelope or properly coated (the latter starting April 26, 1907). There was legitimate concern with glitter (particles of glass, metal, mica, sand, tinsel, or similar substances) damaging postal equipment or injuring postal employees.

Before the left side correspondence area was allowed to be used in the U.S. domestic mails there were cards, especially some made in Germany for use in the U.S., which included such a space, like on the 1906 card shown. In deltiology (the hobby of collecting postcards) these would be called "divided backs." So, there was some confusion. Adding to the confusion was that such correspondence on cards arriving in the international mails were allowed by the U.S. without additional postage due beginning August 21, 1906. Cards from a few countries, notably Canada, Germany, Great Britain and France, were allowed even earlier with varying effective dates. For example, for Canada this was February 11, 1904.



Was there a Grinch involved in the holding for additional postage and subsequent late delivery of the 1906 card? Probably not. A true Grinch would have also charged the required penalty of “double the deficiency” for being shortpaid – another 1¢ due.



Having seen many postcards from 1907 my observation is that it took many months before the public warmed up to the idea of using the left portion of the address side of a card for correspondence, even if it had a divided back. Finally, around the holidays in 1907 usage is common. For a challenge, try finding domestically used postcards close to March 2, 1907 with a message on the left of the address side.

This 1907 card was postmarked on December 25th and may have been delivered on the same date since the San Jose, CA post office was large and would deliver mail as needed on holidays. This card's greetings ring true over 110 years later.

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.

Why Time Flies – One Theory

Why time moves faster as we get older is a matter of arithmetic. As you age, each unit of time comprises less of your life. For example, when you're 10 years old, one year is 10% of your life. At age 50, one year makes up only 2% of your life. At 75, one year is 1.3%. It's a simple concept defined by numbers.



10¢ American Clock pane stamp issued in 2003.

Czechoslovakia stamp showing Prague Astronomical Clock issued in 1978.



December Quiz – U.S. Holiday Issues

By Stan Cronwall

I had originally planned for the December Quiz to be on Denmark. For some reason I still harbor the idea that maybe some of you will be intrigued by, or at least become interested enough in one of the Quiz Countries to consider starting a new chapter in your philatelic life.

Given the fact that roughly 85% of our Nevada Stamp Study Society members report they collect at least something related to U.S. stamps and postal history, I am persuaded to make this Quiz on the annual Christmas holiday and celebrations among other religions and groups.

1. One of the fairly recent U. S. Christmas stamps has micro-encapsulation of a pine tree scent, although some may think it smells more like Tidy-Bowl. In what year was this tried?
a. 1985 b. Never happened; just a figment of the quiz master's imagination c. 2011
2. The first EID stamp was issued September 1, 2001. One of prime movers behind this stamp was a junior member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society with the support of his family. Is this a true story, false or just another bit of NSSS lore?
a. True b. False c. Another bit of NSSS lore
3. A U. S. stamp designated as a Christmas issue was released on November 2, 1965 based on a watercolor by Lucille Gloria Chabot of an 1840 weather vane from the People's Methodist Church in Newburyport, Mass. The weather vane subject was?
a. A dove b. A reindeer c. An angel with a trumpet
4. According to its founder, Kwanzaa celebrates the seven principles of African Heritage. It is an annual holiday affirming African family and social values and is held from December 26 to January 1. It was devised in 1966 by Maulana Karenga a professor of African Studies at California State University at Long Beach. It was conceived as a non-political and non-religious holiday not as a substitute for Christmas. The first Kwanzaa stamp was issued in what year?
a. 2009 b. 1961 c. 1989 d. 1997 e. 1969
5. Most U.S. collectors are familiar with the first self-adhesive U. S. Christmas stamp issued November 15, 1974. Often, they are unhappy because the stamps and the covers or cards bearing them have become or are the process of becoming discolored due to the adhesive. These stamps were die-cut. This process included crossed slashes through the dove image which was done to prevent the removal and re-use of the stamp. What other measures were taken to discourage or prevent a second use?
a. Stamp will separate into layers if soaked b. Stamps were inscribed "Precanceled" c. Stamps were perf 10.5 x 10.5 d. Stamp color changes to all red copy and number if re-used
- b. Hanukkah was first commemorated on a U.S. holiday stamp in 1996. The same basic design was carried forward in 1999, 2001 and 2002. In 2004, the design changed. The new focal point on the stamp was?
a. Sabbath Candlesticks b. a different rendering of a Menorah c. a Dreidel

- c. The first few U.S. Christmas stamps seemingly avoided dealing with any directly religious symbols. Seemingly it was just fine to merely use symbols such pine cones, candles, wreaths, holly berries, mistletoe, and reindeer. All this changed with showing a painting of the Madonna and Child. In what year did this happen?
a. 1956 b. 1959 c. 1962 d. 1966 e. 1970
- d. One of the Christmas issues from 1976 shows the painting of a winter scene by artist Nathaniel Currier of Currier & Ives fame. This is identified as Scott stamp design A 1092. What does the painting portray?
a. Children sledding and skating b. Washington's Army at Valley Forge c. Ice Fishing
- e. One Christmas stamp is just begging to be made into a single frame exhibit. It was issued in 1969 and is titled "Winter Sunday in Norway, Maine". What is intriguing about this issue is the fact that there are so many Scott listed variations. While some of them seem to be priced out of reach for the average joe or jane collector, many are probably just hiding out in club "penny boxes" of used stamps, or are still on covers and cards lurking in dealer 50 cent or dollar boxes. Just how many variants are there?
a. 10 b. 12 c. 15 d. 17
10. The Madonna and Child have been a favorite topic on Christmas stamps in most years. Between the years 1966 and 2015, this image (whether explicitly mentioned in the stamp description or not) has seldom missed being featured on one of the Christmas issues. In these 49 years, how many times have we missed seeing some depiction of The Madonna and Child?
a. None b. Three c. Five d. Seven e. Nine

Bonus Question: Get out your magnifiers for this one. There are thousands of potential minutiae when it comes to looking for little errors on Christmas stamps. For example, you may have the 1988 issue with the one-horse open sleigh. But, do you own one which has a glitch in the curlicues on the sled runners?

Here are a few you might want to consider chasing in your spare time. However, you first must decide if these are true or not?

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Are there blue Christmas bulbs on the 1990 Christmas tree issue? | T F |
| 2. Is there a 2008 Christmas stamp featuring a Nutcracker with a top hat and cane? | T F |
| 3. In the 1998 Christmas wreath series does the one with chili peppers include green Jalapenos? | T F |
| 4. Does the Charley Brown Christmas set of 2015 include a snowman wearing a fedora? | T F |
| 5. Is the absence of presents on the window sill of the 1980 issue due to missing ink colors? | T F |

The December quiz is worth **150 Auction Bucks**, including the bonus. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to Betty Mudge at the Christmas party or either of the January meetings or email to postboyquiz@renostamp.org

<p>Nov. Quiz Answers: 1. c 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. b 6. a 7. b 8. b 9. c 10. a, b, c, d Bonus: c</p>

Closed Album

Richard Anthony Barbieri (1954-2018)



The family announced the sudden passing of Richard Anthony Barbieri at his home in Reno on November 5, 2018. Rick was born on April 26, 1954 in Reno.

He graduated from Earl Wooster High School in 1972. In 1973 he began working at the downtown Reno location of the United States Postal Service. He held various positions over the years, most as a window clerk, and retired in 2009 as the Philatelic Clerk at the Vassar Street location.

In 2010, he married the love of his life, Kristie Burton. Those past eight years were the happiest years of his life. Rick was multi-talented and had many interests including restoring his 1940 Chevy, exceptional woodworking, bow hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, bowling, gardening, stamp and coin collecting.

Heart issues plagued Rick for most of his adult life, but four open heart surgeries did not keep him down. He lived, loved, laughed and worked like every day could be his last. It was all about family. The day before Rick died, he became a grandfather for the first time.

Harvey Edwards remembers Rick “from a couple of our stamp shows before he retired. He worked with Duane Wilson to make sure that we had all the show covers ready and was conscientious in trying to make good, clean covers. My recollection is that he had several episodes with his heart, even before he retired.”

Duane Wilson commented: “I don’t know if I can add anything other than Rick was always a real friend to stamp collectors and was always willing to help get a special cancel approved and give pointers on how to design a cancel that would look good on covers. He cancelled hundreds of covers for me and every one of them was perfect. I can still visualize him using two hands on the rubber stamp and delicately easing it down on the cover so as not to smudge the cancel. I know that after he retired, the philatelic window was never the same and closed a short time later. Anyway, he was as nice a guy as you’d ever want to meet, and I feel really bad that he’s gone.”

Stan Cronwall said that “Rick was a very good friend to NSSS. While never an active member in my years (starting in 2000) he was an advocate for the club and a collector himself. He ran the Philatelic Window at Vassar for years until he was forced to retire because of his heart problems.

“We’ll probably never know how many NSSS members were referrals from Rick. He represented the post office at our annual Stamp Shows for many years bringing a lot of post office material that in theory he was supposed to turn in due to some odd policies in how USPS does things with older issues.”



Volunteer Activities

At the end of the year the stamp club recognizes those members who have served the membership in various ways. If you don't see your name on the list, there are things you can do to enhance your club participation. Our president can fit your skills to different club activities. In addition to the officers and directors, here are our extraordinary volunteers:



- Historian – **Dick Dreiling** (member since 1975)
- Archivist - **John Walter** (using the NSSS website)
- Program Chair - **John Wetterling** (**Nadiah Beekun** retired in July)
- Refreshments Coordinator – **Marla Wetterling** (**Barbara Diederichsen** retired in August)
- Get Well & Sympathy Cards – **Stan Cronwall**
- Holiday Party Site – Reservations & Set-up - **George Ray, Marla Wetterling & Barbara Stanfield**
- Holiday Party - Turkey entree preparation – **Marla Wetterling** & Kirsten Walter
- Silverada Clubhouse Meeting Place Liaison – **George Ray**
- Donations Chair - **George Ray**
- Sign-In Log & Auction Bucks Accounting/Distribution – **Betty Mudge**
- Post Office and Library Displays:
 - Vassar Post Office – **John Walter & Stan Cronwall** (every two months)
 - Carson City Library – **John Walter & Dave Gehringer** (October 2018)
 - South Valleys Library – **John Walter & Howard Kadohiro** (October 2018)
 - Zephyr Cove - **John Walter & Dave Gehringer** (September 2018)
 - Minden Library – **Dave Gehringer & John Walter** (August 2018)
- Storage Unit – **Mike Potter**
- Auctioneers – **Gary Atkinson and Erik Fields**
- Auctioneer's Assistants – **George Ray, Dick Simmonds**
- Auction accounting - **Mike Potter & Harvey Edwards**
- Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge Liaison – **Paul Glass**
- Meeting Room setup - **Eric Fields, Harry Pinkham and George Ray**
- Council of Northern CA Philatelic Societies Liaison – **Harvey Edwards**
- Penny Boxes – **Eugene Smoots and Betty Mudge**
- Raffle Coordinator/Operator – **Betty Mudge**
- APS Liaison & Ambassador Membership Program - **Paul Glass**
- Librarian - **Dave Gehringer**
- Webmaster - **John Walter**
- Post Boy Editor - **John Walter**
- Member profile page for the Post Boy – **Dave Parsons**
- Post Boy quiz master – **Stan Cronwall**
- APS Estate Advisory service - **Paul Glass**
- Youth Program - **Dave Gehringer**

Vassar Post Office Display



Every two months **John Walter** and **Stan Cronwall** change a stamp collecting display at the main post office on Vassar St. Two locked wall displays are available. The new material for December and January is obvious – Christmas & Hanukkah plus Happy New Year. The current displays use commemorative pages and covers. As the displays are exchanged postal customers frequently ask questions and relate stories about collecting in the past or family members that took up the hobby. It's a fun activity that doesn't take too much time. More time is spent trying to select material than the actual set-up. And, of course, information on our stamp club is available.

2018 Sparkling Holidays Souvenir Sheet

If you try to remove the backing paper on the souvenir sheet the die-cut stamp comes off with it. A helpful trick is to place the sticky part of a sticky note or removable tape over the die cuts of the stamp on the souvenir sheet and then peel the selvage and stamp off at the same time. After you affix the souvenir sheet to the envelope, you can remove the sticky note or tape easily. The editor tried this simple solution and it works.

The 50¢ souvenir sheet is only available online or through the USPS catalog or by phone. A block of 100 was ordered and received within a few days.

