

# Post Boy



January 2020  
Volume 53, 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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## **Announcements**

### **Next regular club meetings:**

**Jan. 11, 2020** - 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. After the live auction there will be a Board meeting where all members are invited to attend.

**Jan. 25, 2020** - This is a Consignment Day where members can have up to 10 items for sale. The philatelic presentation will be by **Dave Gehringer** discussing "U.S. Coil Stamps - Basics and Beyond." After the regular meeting there will be a Stamp Show Committee Meeting. The Chair, **Erik Fields**, is looking for some volunteers to help with assorted duties. Contact Erik or come to the committee meeting to sign up.

The stamp club members will again participate in the Linn's Stamp Poll voting for best and worst stamps of 2019. Ballots and a color page with all the post office releases will be available at the next 3 club meetings.

Sad news to report that two of our members have passed away in December. **John Wetterling** unexpectedly died at home after recently moving to Oregon with his wife Marla. And then news came of **Bill Oliver**, an Honorary member for many decades, passed away in Sacramento. Please take the time to read tributes to both these individuals.

**John Walter** put many hours into uploading all the club photos taken in 2019. The activities recorded with these pictures are of members at meetings, the annual picnic, the stamp show, the Auction Bucks auction, the Christmas party, and all the philatelic displays at libraries and the post office. Here is the link to get you started:  
<http://renostamp.org/gallery.html>

With the start of a new year, now is the time to think about volunteering for different club activities and consider putting your name on the ballot for the open positions of Vice-President, Secretary or two Directors. Nomination forms will be available starting at the Jan. 11 meeting. A Nominations Chair is needed to coordinate the elections which take place at the annual picnic on Aug. 8.

## Post Boy Reporter

**December 14, 2019- Christmas/Holiday Party - Barbara Stanfield, Erik Fields and George Ray** came early to setup the room. The food coordinator was **Barbara Stanfield** who was also the chief room decorator. The attendance was 28 members, spouses and family. The turkey and ham were cooked by **Adriana Wolf**. The chief turkey carver was **Dick Simmonds**.

The Master of Ceremony was **Harvey Edwards**. The gift exchange went well with about 4 or 5 gifts “stolen” 3 times, mainly philatelic items. **Erik Fields, Steve Foster, Paul Glass and Barbara Stanfield** had the most items stolen. One of the items stolen 3 times and retired was a 3-volume set of U.S.19<sup>th</sup> Century Stamps.



Two of the tables with members and their spouses/family.



The other table with members and spouses.



Since the editor rarely has his picture taken at meetings, I thought I would include it with my wife.

All the party photos are here: [http://renostamp.org/holiday\\_party2019.html](http://renostamp.org/holiday_party2019.html)



## Closed Album - John Wetterling

By John Walter

John Wetterling passed away unexpectedly at his home in Oregon on Dec. 22, 2019. After his wife Marla retired this past summer, both John and Marla moved to Oregon to be near her parents. His last stamp club appearance was on Nov. 9 for the Auction Bucks auction

John was born in Berkeley, California in 1961. He started stamp collecting at a young age (4 or 5) with a Soviet Union album. His father felt it would be a good learning tool. Every year for Christmas, John would receive the past years stamps and supplement. He had to learn about the stamps by himself. By that he meant: perforations, colors, spellings, NH, used, type of cancellations, etc.

His father was the owner of a stamp shop in Northern California. John used to help at the stamp shop on the weekends. John remembers "stamps arriving in 55-gallon drums."

Like everyone else, John stopped collecting for a while and sold his collection to buy a car. Every now and again he would buy stamps for his grandfather's Swedish collection. When his grandfather was very ill, John told him he would continue his Swedish collection.

John's collecting was not just stamps. He also collected: Pre-Philately, Post Cards, Cancellations, Year Sets, Rocket Mail, Catapult Mail, and Post Paid Cards. If it dealt with Sweden postage, John collected it and did so for over 30 years.

John graduated from Oakland High School in 1979 and got a BA from California State Hayward in Political Science in 1982 and did graduate work in International Economics.

John moved to Reno in 1987 and married Marla in 1988. Marla joined the Navy in 1990 and they moved around for a while where John got to enjoy the perks of being a Navy spouse. They were stationed at: Corey Field in Pensacola, FL; Skaggs Island (near Sonoma, CA); Terceira Island, Azores; and then near Denver, CO.



**John Wetterling giving a club presentation on Swedish post cards in 2012.**



**John & Marla Wetterling at the 2018 club Christmas party.**

When Marla left the service, they relocated from Aurora, CO to Pensacola, FL where they opened a collectibles shop (Lillian Bridge Coins & Collectibles.) They didn't have the shop long as John followed Marla to Tucson, AZ for a job promotion.

They moved back to Reno in May 2000 and then a couple of years in Chilcot, CA near Frenchman's Lake, a short time in Rancho Haven, NV before finally moving to Fernley in 2004.

John & Marla have been members of the NSSS since 2001. John also collected military memorabilia and enjoyed following the Oakland A's.

As far as Nevada Stamp Study Society activities, John was always happy to volunteer: He was elected as Vice-President twice, served as Program Director, presented philatelic programs, contributed Post Boy quizzes, and helped at the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Shows and the Nevada State Fair.



**John giving a club presentation at the January 26, 2019 meeting.**



**John Wetterling giving a club presentation at the March 23, 2019 meeting.**

John and his boisterous "Quiet people!" will be missed.

*A memorial donation in his name can be made to the Sparks Heritage Museum, 814-820 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431. You can contact Marla Wetterling at 6422 Hilyard Ave., Klamath Falls, OR 97603.*



## Closed Album - William "Bill" Oliver

Bill Oliver passed away on Dec. 19, 2019 in Sacramento. Bill is survived by his wife Vivian of 73 years. Bill was 94.

He was an Honorary Member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society for many decades. (See Dick Dreiling's article below.)

Bill was very active in the world of philately, nationally and internationally, and began collecting stamps at the age of 11. He served as Chairman of the Board of WESTPEX for many years as well as being a Lifetime Member and one of the founding members of the Sacramento Philatelic Society. He was passionate about collecting and exhibiting stamps and specialized in the Philippines. Bill was a great friend and mentor to many.

From: *The Philatelic Prospector*, Sacramento Philatelic Society, Jan-Feb 2020 issue.

Many NSSS members have met and spoken with Bill over the years especially when attending the Easter Seal Benefit Show held each April in Sacramento. This year's Easter Seal Benefit will be on April 4-5.

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## The Birth and Trials of a Stamp Show

By Dick Dreiling

**The first Nevada Stamp Study Society stamp show was 1976 in Carson City with Bill Oliver as a philatelic judge. He traveled many times from Sacramento to give philatelic presentations at our club meetings and encouraged member participation. He was made an Honorary Member a few years later.**

The Nevada Stamp Study Society (NSSS) was established in Carson City, NV on August 5, 1975. The meetings were held in a room of the Ormsby County Library. At the time, I was on active duty with the U.S. Navy stationed at Naval Air Station Lemoore, CA about 30 miles south of Fresno. At the time, both my mother and I were single so whenever possible I would drive to Sparks on a Friday night and back to Lemoore on Sunday afternoon. One Friday evening Mom showed me a small article in the newspaper that there was to be a meeting of the stamp club on Saturday and asked if I was interested in going to the meeting. I was, but since she did not collect stamps, I told her it would not be fair for me to go and leave her home alone. She said she would go with me. So, we went to the meeting and were welcomed as visitors to the club. The meeting consisted of some routine business matters (BORING!) and then a very interesting USPS video was viewed describing how stamps were produced including design, selection of subject, engraving and printing.

Since the club met every other Saturday, we began to schedule meetings as a routine part of my visits. In late September I joined the NSSS but was told I would not be considered a charter member as that status was reserved for those who had joined during August. Silently I thought, 'Big Deal, who cares?'

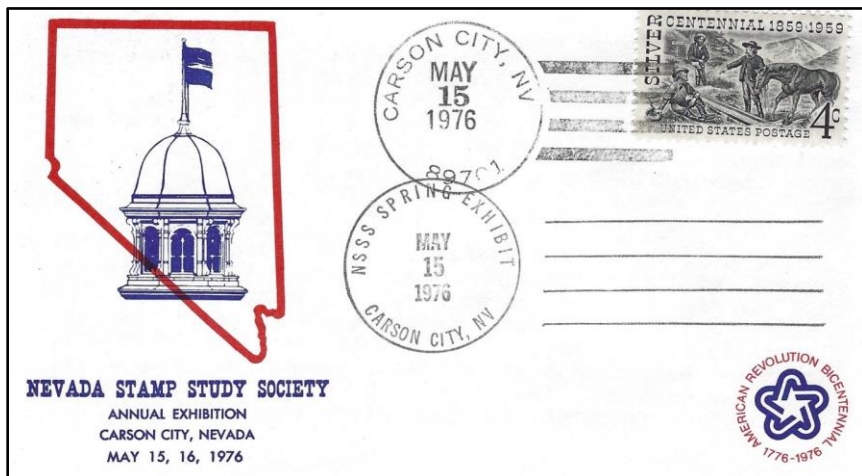
Soon the subject of a stamp exhibition was brought up at one of the meetings. It was considered a good idea, so planning began. Several of the members began to develop exhibits. I had never exhibited before, but I had been to several stamp shows and decided I would make an exhibit for the as yet unnamed show. I suggested we call it NEVPEX to stand for **N**evada **P**hilatelic **E**xhibition. I was told by the club president that since we were new to the game, we could not use the term -PEX. The decision was made to call it the "Spring Exhibition."

The room we used for meetings was large enough for the show and since we had no exhibit frames and did not know how to get any, we improvised. Large full 4' x 8' sheets of Celotex were propped up on the tables. Exhibits were mounted to the board by thumbtacks being careful to not put the tacks through the exhibit pages, but close enough that the head could support the exhibit pages. Since not all of the entered exhibit pages were in document protectors there had to be some method of protecting them from fingering, etc. The solution was simple! The entire Celotex sheets were wrapped in clear sandwich wrap! In lieu of trophies, the club ordered medals from APS.

One of the club members brought his portable engraving machine and as awards were determined by the judges, the names were secretly passed out to the lobby where the medals were engraved with the name of the winners to be presented at the Awards banquet.

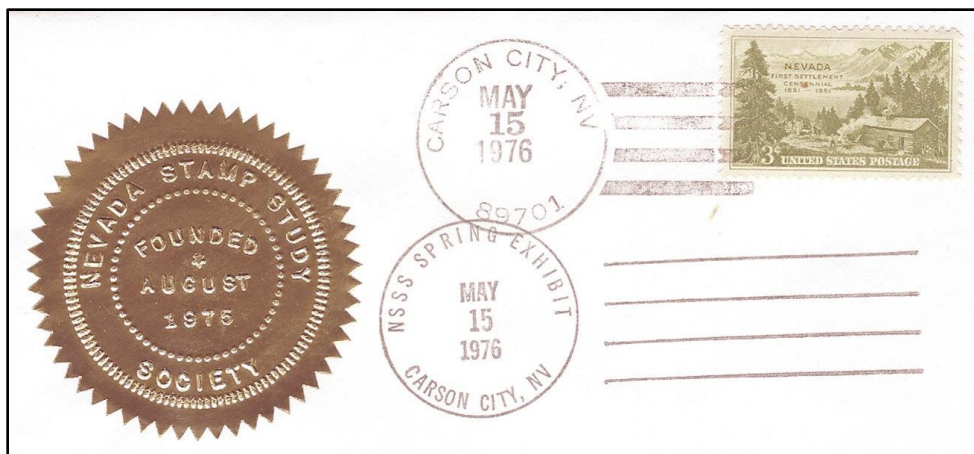
Somehow, they had found philatelic judges to judge the exhibits. The two judges were **Bill Oliver** and Adrian O'Neil, both APS internationally recognized judges! To their credit, they did not laugh at the improvised exhibit displays, but immediately went to work judging the novice exhibits as none of the club members had ever exhibited before. In fact, most had never even attended a stamp show before.

The decision was made to produce cacheted covers that we could sell to help defray some of the expense of the show. A design was made, and I think 50 covers were printed by one of the members (I don't remember his name). Larry "Skinhead" Wilhite, the club president's husband was a stamp dealer and he had a sheet of the 1959 Silver Centennial stamp which was applied to the covers. A rubber stamp canceling device was made. Bill Dunfield, the Carson City postmaster, was invited to set up a table so he could sell stamps. He informed us that we could not apply our cancellation device to valid stamps, that he was required to bring an official cancelling device. We asked if there would be any problem if we cancelled the covers after he had cancelled the stamps. He said no, so we applied the second cancellation ensuring we did not touch the stamp.



**First Nevada Stamp Study Society Spring Exhibit show cover.**

I think the club was delighted at the show attendance however, they were not delighted to find out they almost immediately sold out the entire supply of show covers. One of the club members was dispatched to the nearest stationery store to buy more blank envelopes. Since there was no time to get the cover printed, Mom suggested they also buy a supply of gold colored notary seals. The club had already ordered a club seal, so it was used to make additional show covers for sale. "Skinhead" supplied a couple of sheets of the 1961 First Nevada Settlement stamp.



**"Second" Nevada Stamp Study Society show cover at first Spring Ex-**

The Awards Banquet was held in a 'quickie' steakhouse similar but not as classy as a Sizzler. There were no large tables, so we sat at smaller tables and nearby booths. The meals were paid individually by the members, although the club did pick up the tab for our two judges, however, I don't remember if we gave them an honorarium or motel rooms for the night. I certainly hope so!

Our first national show was to host the annual convention of the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) in 1981. As a Life Member of the AFDCS, I went to one of their conventions back east and asked the Society president why they never had a convention out west. She replied, "We do! We've held conventions in Chicago." I explained to her that that was a whole lot of country west of Chicago. She asked if I would be willing to be the Show Chairman if they agreed to come to Reno. I said "definitely yes!" Since the USPS routinely schedules a First Day Issue at the AFDCS convention, I immediately sent a request to the Citizen's Stamp Advisory committee recommending they issue a stamp for the protection of Lake Tahoe. I got a reply back that they preferred to do a stamp subject that would have national appeal as opposed to just local interest. As a result, on June 26, 1981, a block of 4 "Save the Habitats" stamps became the very first First-Day Issue in Reno. I also contacted a professional cachet producer and requested they produce a colored cachet for us to use. They replied it would be too costly to us to get a special cachet, but they agreed to add our logo to the design they had already approved (at no cost). Needless to say, we bought a number of their covers to sell at the club table.



**First of many Reno First Day of Issue stamps on NEVPEX show cover.**

In subsequent shows, we hosted the Universal Ship Cancellation Society and the American Topical Society twice. *Dick Dreiling is the only Life Member of the NSSS, and we considered him a Charter Member. He is a past President, Director, Show Chair, Program Chair and still a member of the show committee. He collects, exhibits and gives public lectures on picture post cards of Reno. He also exhibits Apollo 11 covers, early Native Americans of Reno/Sparks and early cachet makers' covers. He enjoys talking about his George Linn first First-Day cover with a letter enclosure.*

## USPS Lunar New Year Stamp Issue

The Year of the Rat begins on January 25. The U.S. Postal Service will issue a stamp with a decorated Rat mask on January 11 to commemorate the event. According to the USPS, the mask "calls to mind the elaborately decorated masks used in the dragon dance, a hallmark of Lunar New Year parades." The mask is "a contemporary take on the long tradition of paper-cut folk art crafts created during this time of year," according to the Postal Service.

The Rat is the first of the 12 zodiac animal signs associated with the lunar calendar. This stamp will start the third series of Lunar New Year commemorative stamps issued by the USPS.



## January Quiz - Denmark

by Stan Cronwall

First a word or three about Denmark to help ground you. Officially it is the Kingdom of Denmark and is the southern most of the Scandinavian countries, being both Nordic and a sovereign state. It includes two autonomous constituent countries in the north Atlantic – the Faroe Islands and Greenland. Denmark is considered to be one of the most economically and socially developed countries in the world with a population of nearly 5.8 million including the Faroes and Greenland.

1. In 2014, a set of two stamps was issued featuring Danish designed chairs. Chances are you may have fallen off one of them. What made the chair designed by Hans Wegner potentially unstable?  
a. It had thin legs    b. It had only three legs    c. The seat was tilted toward the front    d. Who said it was unstable
2. Some might consider it strange, but Denmark has a very short history of issuing Air Post Stamps. When was the last time a new issue came out in this category of stamps?  
a. 1968    b. 1972    c. 1965    d. 1934
3. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Danish Aviation Company (Det Danske Luftfartsselskab) was marked by a regular issue in 1943. Oddly enough, the plane shown on the stamp is a German made Fw 200 “Condor” originally flown as a passenger plane. The Danish airline had purchased a number of these prior to the war. During the war, the Germans used these for long range recon missions against convoys, and Hitler even had one converted for his personal use. How many engines did this plane have?  
a. Three    b. Two    c. Four
4. Windmills have been an important part of Denmark’s history and development. However, there are only three stamps that have portrayed windmills and one is a peculiar side view where the signature mill blades are barely visible. Which stamp shows the windmill at this odd angle?  
a. Regular issue 423    b. Semi-Postal set B 6-8    c. Regular issue set 432-435
5. Even though Denmark was neutral during WW I, the nation did issue two Military Stamps in 1917. These were regular issues overprinted “S” and “F” which stood for “Soldater Frimaerke” or Soldier’s Stamp. What was the overprint color?  
a. Blue    b. Red    c. Brown    d. Black
6. Scott has a special paragraph near the beginning of the Denmark section that deals with the perforations and centering of the designs indicating that some are quite rare and will command premium pricing. This notation applies to?  
a. All stamps prior to 1870    b. Surcharged stamps of 1904-1912 and 1915    c. Regular issues Scott #9-37 and Officials Scott #01-09
7. Regular issues from 1946-1947 featuring a small version of the State Seal, was issued on two types of paper; ordinary and fluorescent. Which issues have higher values?  
a. Ordinary    b. Both are equal    c. Fluorescent
8. The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the allied invasion on D-Day was commemorated with a special stamp issued June 6, 1984. The center of the illustration shows what relic of that day?  
a. A wrecked airplane    b. A German underwater obstacle    c. An anchor



9. In 1956, a set of two stamps was intended to emphasize the close bonds between the northern countries. These stamps featured Whooper Swans. Does the number of swans shown on the stamp match the number of countries in this group of nations?
- a. Yes      b. One more swan      c. One less swan      d. No
10. It seems odd that on June 12, 1997, three stamps were issued but not as a set. Two were issued to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Copenhagen-Roskilde Railway with one showing modern trains under Carlsberg Bridge and the second with an early steam train under the same bridge. Why was the third stamp issued?
- a. To mark the opening of the new station in Copenhagen      b. The inauguration of a high-speed line between Roskilde and Copenhagen      c. The end of Railway Mail Service

### Bonus Question:

Denmark was neutral during WW I. At the beginning of WW II in the west, Germany overran Denmark in short order, but the country was treated leniently by the occupation forces allowing the central government to remain in operation.

Germany did not issue occupation stamps. The only Danish stamps that reflect on the conflict during that time are semi-postal with surcharges for the benefit of the Danish Red Cross. These were issues from 1939-1940 and 1941-1943.

However, in 1947, a set of four semi-postal stamps was released in memory of the Danish struggle for liberty and the liberation of Denmark. How many of these portrayed activities by the Danish underground forces?

- a. All four      b. One      c. Two      d. Three

The January quiz is worth **110 Auction Bucks**, including the bonus question. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to Betty Mudge at either of the January meetings or email to [post-boyquiz@renostamp.org](mailto:post-boyquiz@renostamp.org)

**Dec. Quiz Answers:** 1. d    2. a    3. c  
4. a, b & c    5. b    6. c    7. b    8. a, b & c  
9. a, b & c    10. c  
**Bonus:** No wrong answers

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## Buy Want Sell Trade

**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](mailto:classicnevada@yahoo.com).

**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... Contact member **Mark Baker** 530-417-1117 or Email [Mark@goldrushpaper.com](mailto:Mark@goldrushpaper.com).

**Wanted:** U.S. aerogramme: #UC49, and UC52 - must be used and addressed to an overseas address. Contact member **John Walter**, email: [walter60@gmail.com](mailto:walter60@gmail.com).

**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).

## Vassar Post Office Display

**John Walter** was at it again just after Christmas. He set up another post office philatelic display. The theme was for January “Happy New Year” and for February some love stamps and covers to celebrate St. Valentine’s Day.

This time John had a larger audience with many post office patrons in long lines stalled in front of the display cases. A few people did engage in conversation so that made an enjoyable set up time.

