

Post Boy



September 2021
Volume 54, Issue 9

In-person & Virtual meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday starting at 10:00 A.M.
Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd, Reno

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Announcements

September Meetings:

Sept. 11 – (In-person & Zoom) – Saturday at 10 a.m. Zoom instructions will be sent a few days before the meeting.

Sept. 25 – (In-person & Zoom) – Saturday at 10 a.m. Zoom instructions will be sent a few days before the meeting.
The philatelic presentation topic is “Foreign Air Mail Routes 1920-1940” by **Tom Reyman**.

Masks are required at meetings while indoors.

2021 Elections Results – No candidate for President, Erik Fields re-elected Treasurer, Howard Grenzbach re-elected as Director, and Jeanne Paquin elected as a Director.
See Post Boy Reporter for **NEW** officers and directors. They are also listed on the left.

Take a look at the quiz on “Postal Nevada.” Some humor is good when learning Nevada history.

Online Auction #12 – Online bidding will start Sept. 14 at noon, ending Sept. 23 at noon. Auction instructions are on the webpage.
<https://renostamp.org/auction> Send images and lot descriptions to **Dave Parsons** at: NSSSauctions@gmail.com by noon Sept. 12.

Upcoming event – Auction Bucks auction – Nov. 13. This is the only meeting where you can spend your hard-earned Auction Bucks to purchase real items – philatelic and other “stuff.” Members donate yard/garage sale type items for the auction. A few members usually bring a few bottles of wine or other “valuable” items to spice up the bidding. It’s a fun time for all. Spouses are invited to help spend your bucks.

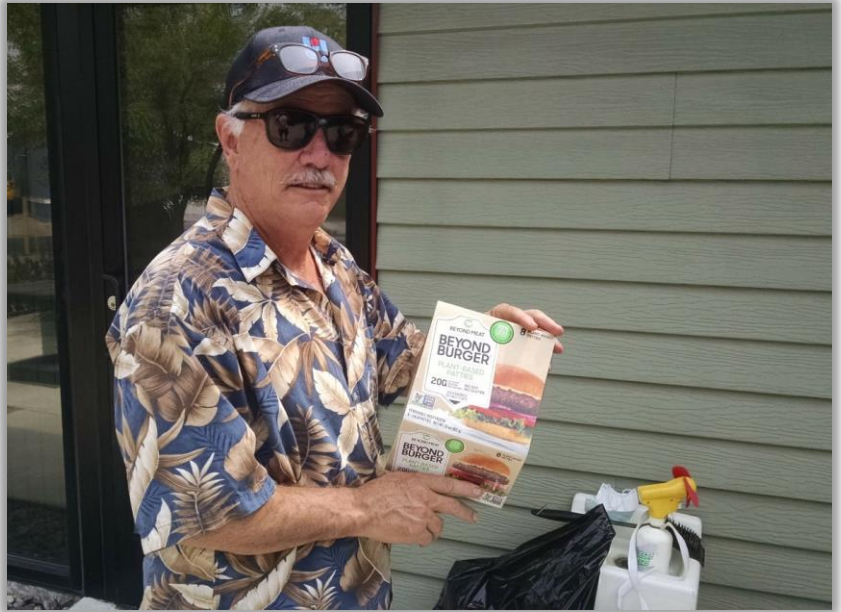
Post Boy Reporter

Aug. 14 picnic – **George Ray** & **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. **Nadiah Beekun** and **Barbara Stanfield** arrived early to set up the food table. **Mike Potter** did the shopping for the meat and also served as the grill master.

About 24 attended the picnic. I didn't do a count until people were leaving, so might have missed someone. The only business was the elections. **Erik Fields** was re-elected Treasurer, **Howard Grenzbach** re-elected as Director and **Jeanne Paquin** as new Director. No nominations for President so that office is still open.

We had 2 visitors. Christine Lazzarini donated 10 boxes of stamps, catalogs, magazines and albums. Alisa Del Rio had a U.S. stamp album and foreign post card album for members to take a look at.

There was lots of food and social time with masking when not eating. A new food addition this year was some Beyond Burgers that a few people tasted. I have to admit, the beef burgers and hot dogs tasted great coming off the grill.



Mike Potter with the Beyond Burgers.

Aug. 28 meeting – **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. The computer, projector, camera and screen were set up by **Harvey Edwards** and **John Walter**. Total attendance was 25. In-person was 19 attendees including a visitor John Helmreich who had questions about an inherited collection. There were six Zoom attendees.

The meeting was conducted by our new president, **James Steckley**. James assumed the office from his V-P position. Appointed by the Board was a new V-P, **Jeanne Paquin**, and to fill Jeanne's Director position, **Eric Moody** was appointed. This completes and fills all Board positions.

James Steckley as Donations Chair received 10 boxes of donated material. The donated items will be in future on-line auctions. See article about donated auction catalogs (page 4) and a club donation to the APRL. **Jeanne Paquin** discovered an Iceland revenue stamp in the penny box with a catalog value of \$10. It will be in a future on-line auction.



James Steckley's first meeting as president.

Dave Parsons reported on the August on-line auction – 54 of 57 items sold for a total of \$387.25 with \$93.63 going to the club treasury. The Sept. auction will start Sept. 14 and end Sept. 23.

Howard Kadohiro talked about exhibiting with 9 members having an exhibit at the stamp show plus 4 other exhibits for a total of 34 frames. He also discussed developing an exhibit on “Last Chance Joe” and is looking for post cards or other items about the Sparks Nugget casino/hotel and Last Chance Joe material.

Erik Fields reported on the stamp show from July 24-25. There were 235 attendees over the 2-day show. The dealer feedback included comments that our show was one of the “better run shows” they have participated in. Requests were received from collectors in Japan, Canada, and The Netherlands for our show cancel. Erik had a large handful of cover requests he picked up at the club’s post office box. The full financial report will come at a later meeting.

Betty Mudge conducted the raffle with 10 prizes and a bonus prize going to **Eugene Smoots**. The money prize of \$5.50 was won by **John Walter**.

The door prize of an unopened 2013 Inverted Jenny pane was won by **Betty Mudge**. The free table actually had 3 tables of donated items including philatelic journals and some old Scott catalogs (from 1923, 1934 and some more recent).

The philatelic presentation was conducted by member **Scott English**, Executive Director of the APS. The Great American Stamp Show held in the Chicago area Aug. 12-15 was a big success. There were 2,500 registered participants (2,200 at Omaha show in 2019), 78 dealers and 50 societies were present. One dealer from Phoenix reported his best and second-best sales days ever at the show.



Scott then reported on the American Philatelic Society. About \$800,000 in revenue was lost because of the pandemic closures but 2020 year ended with +\$75,000. The Internet sales were the best since 2008. Expertizing services had the 2nd highest submissions in the last decade and new members were the 2nd best year in a decade. Scott renewed his contract and will stay at the APS through 2023.



Some members at Sept. 28 meeting.



John Helmreich, Howard Grenzebach and Erik Fields.

Auction Catalogs After the Auction...

By James Steckley

At the August 14 picnic, a visitor, Christine Lazzorini, stopped in with a donation of ten very heavy boxes. Among the many copies of the *American Philatelist*, odds and ends and some stamps, there were 95 auction catalogs dated between 2000 and 2006 from most of the major auction houses. What to do with them?

Tuck Vosburg and I were talking, and he told me of an article in the current AP issue about the American Philatelic Research Library collection of auction catalogs and the duplicates that were for sale. I sent an email and asked if any of these auction catalogs would be useful for the APRL collection.

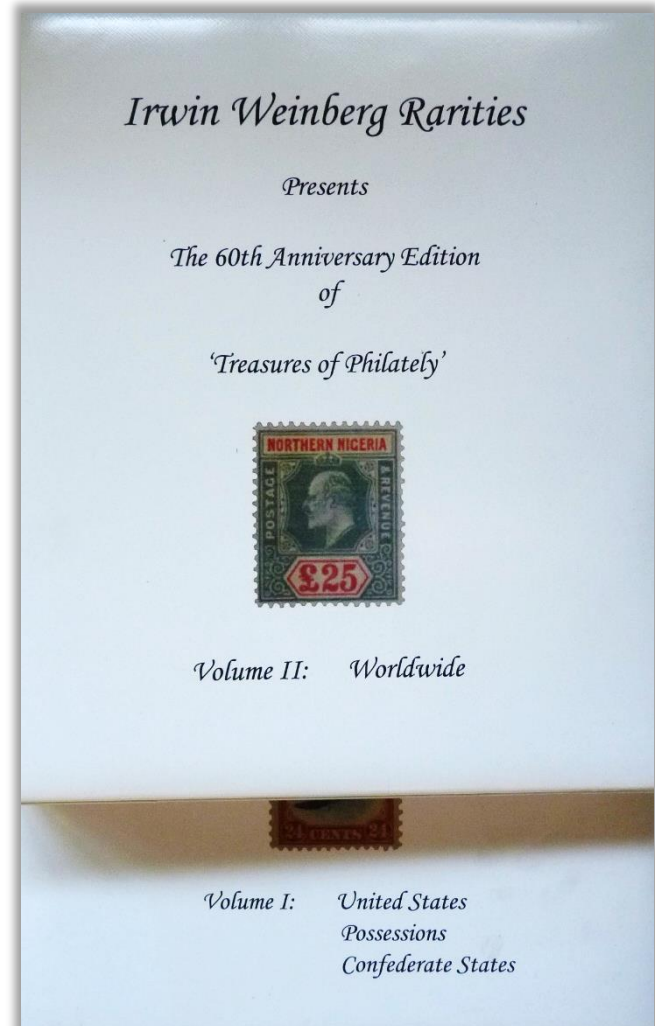
I received an email acknowledging my request, and in a few days received a complete list of the library collection from the auction houses of Cherrystone, H.R. Harmer, Schuyler Rumsey, Nutmeg, Shreves and Robert A. Siegel. A crosscheck with my inventory showed that we had 12 catalogs that could be added to the APRL.

What perked my interest was a two-volume catalog in a protective case from the Irwin Weinberg auction house that covered their 60th Anniversary of Treasures of Philately in 2003.

Since the APRL does not currently own any catalogs from Irwin Weinberg, these will be the first two to begin their collection.

In short, if you have some old catalogs in good condition, check with the APRL by email for their current list and you may be able to add to it. I'm sure they would appreciate it as they are used in research and expertizing.

James Steckley, our current President and Donations Chair, is a member since 2018 and his main collecting interest is U.S. Revenues.

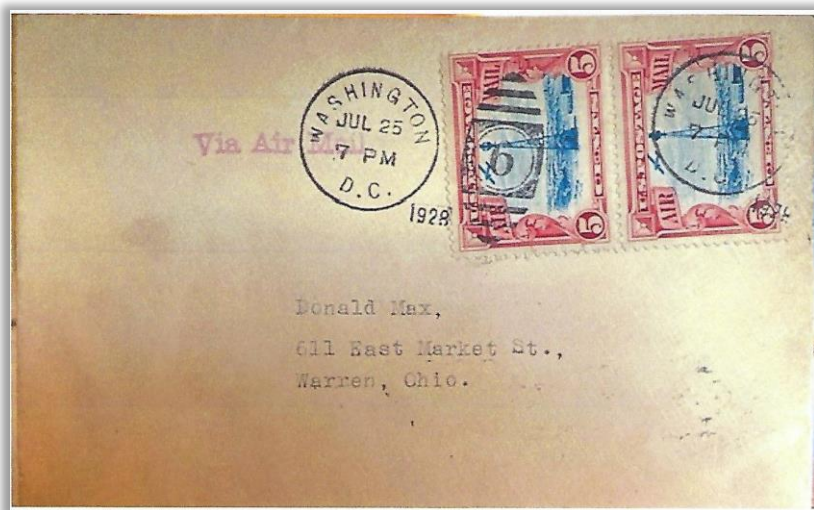


The New U.S. Airmail Rate of 1928

By Tom Reyman

In the early 1920's, the postage rate for Air Mail correspondence was based on how far the mailing would travel. The Post Office had established postage zones and flights within a zone were the least expensive, typically 10¢ per ½ ounce. Zone to Zone or heavier letters required more postage. Since regular, ground-based mail was only 2¢, people tended to use Air Mail for only the most important correspondence. In an attempt to increase Air Mail usage, it was clear that the Post Office needed to reduce the postage charges for this service to encourage more use of Air Mail.

As a first step towards this goal, the C11 "Beacon" 5¢ stamp was issued on July 25 of 1928 even though the base rate was still 10¢ per ½ ounce. At a minimum, two C11 stamps were required on a letter when the stamp was issued. Finally, on August 1, 1928, the Post Office changed the base rate for Air Mail to 5¢ per ounce. This rate applied to mail sent anywhere in the U.S. and did away with the previous rate zones.



This is a First Day Cover for the C11 Air Mail stamp dated July 25, 1928. On that date, the basic rate was 10¢ for ½ ounce, so two C11 stamps were needed to meet the postage rate. Washington, DC to Warren, Ohio.
(Scan courtesy of Jack Sheldon)



An August 1, 1928, cover with the single 5¢ C11 stamp. The envelope is imprinted with the information about the rate change. The route was from Lansing, MI to Detroit, MI.



Another August 1, 1928, cover. This one has the C11 5¢ stamp on a typical regular Air Mail envelope. The route was from New York City to Washington D.C.

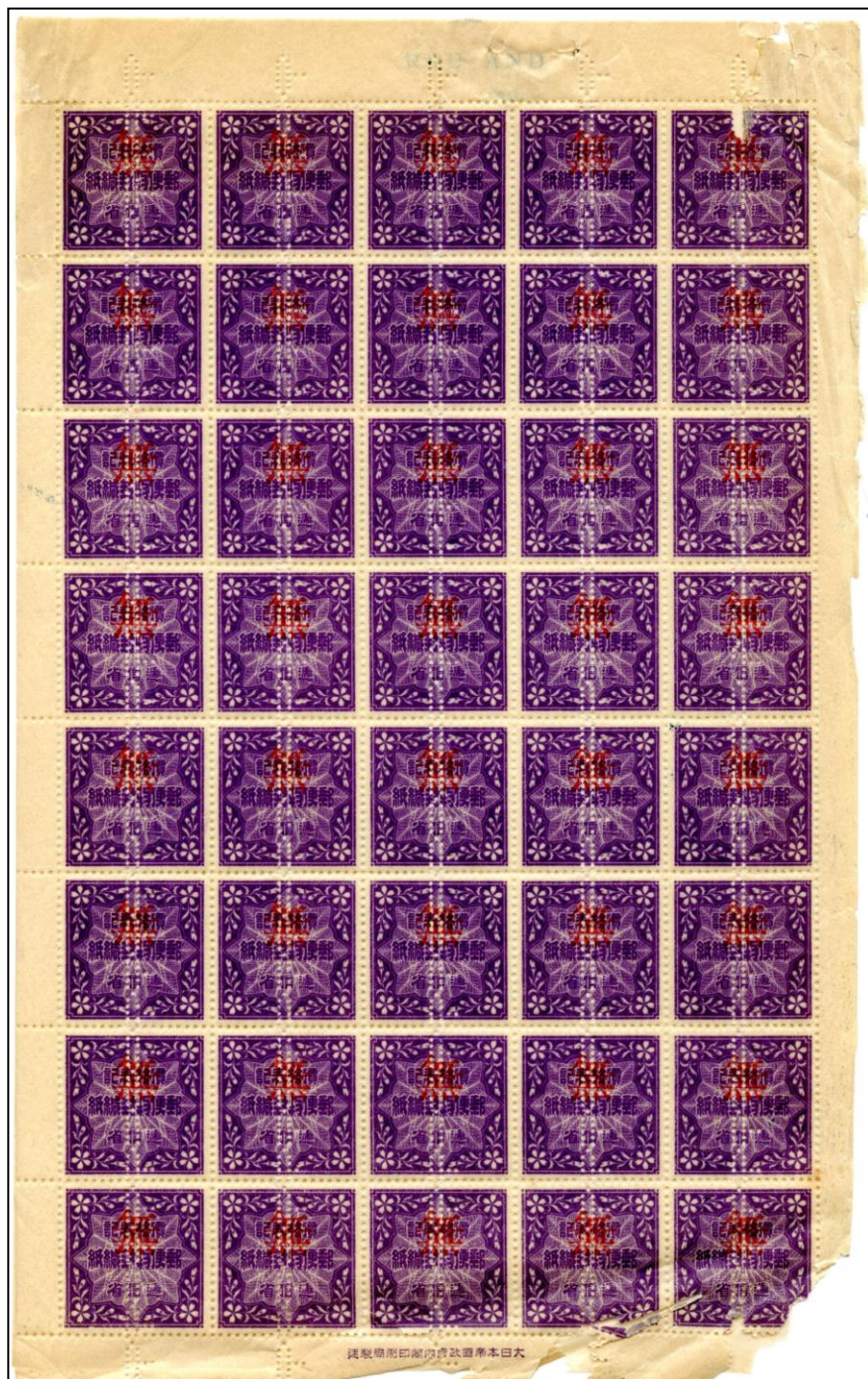
Tom Reyman is a Nevada Stamp Study Society member whose collecting interests are U.S. FAM covers, general Air Mail covers, Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail stamps and covers, and Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) covers.

Japanese Revenue – Official Mail Overprint

By John Walter

A couple of years ago Nadiah Beekun showed me the large sheet of stamps illustrated below. She thought I would know off the top of my head what they were since I collect Japan. They definitely looked Japanese, probably revenue with an overprint.

Before looking up the stamp in the revenue catalog I offered to buy the sheet from Nadiah for \$8.00. Thank goodness I have a reference book on Japanese revenue stamps. The illustrations were all in black-and-white (with Japanese descriptions) which makes it a little more challenging.



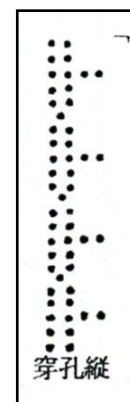
On page 129 I found the stamp was in the section for Official Mail with a price of ¥200 or a little over \$2.00 in either mint or used condition. The color description, perfs and overprint all matched. The full pane was in damaged condition but a welcome addition to my Japanese collection

Official Mail, Catalogue #305, Perf. 12x12, with perfin, in sheet of 5 x 8.



Description in revenue catalog.

Perfin closeup →



Reference: *Standard Catalogue of The Japanese Revenue Stamps*, edited by M. Shimomura, 2003, page 129.

John Walter is a member since 2007 and he collects U.S. used postal stationery, Japan, People's Republic of China, and lately U.S. Navy hospital ship covers.

Worth A Dollar?

By Stan Cronwall

The story is what makes it worth a dollar.

This is a stamp (Scott 909) issued by West Germany in the period 1964-1966 that freaked out some Germans.

They thought they saw a likeness of Adolf Hitler in the tree over-hanging the roof of the Ellwangen Castle Gate.

For older Germans, they saw Hitler in a top hat which was his choice of civilian non-threatening clothing when he became Chancellor under President Hindenburg.



A second freak-out came in 1969 with a set of two stamps (Scott 993 & 994) showing the likeness of the Junkers Ju 52 plane that was used extensively during WW II as a bomber, air ambulance, and transport.

This issue celebrated the 50th anniversary of German air-mail service. The Ju 52 was initially used in civilian passenger service and did carry mail.



Some Germans incorrectly thought that the number on the fuselage D -2201 was the same as the one used on Hitler's personal Ju 52. They were wrong. Hitler's plane carried number D-2600.

Stan Cronwall is a "forever" member (passed away in 2019) and his collecting interests included Germany: Third Reich 1933-45 and the areas it occupied (stamps, covers & cards).

Editor: There are still a few of Stan's unpublished articles in the queue.

Germany Third Reich books and research material (from the estate of Stan Cronwall) is available for loan. Contact club librarian **Dave Gehringer** ds-ginger@sbcglobal.net or call 925-408-6807.

Dave added a 3-volume set of books on Nazi Germany 1923-1945 post cards to the club library. They were donated by the estate of **Stan Cronwall**.

September Quiz – Postal Nevada

By Eric Moody

By special request, here are some questions relating to stamps, post offices and “postally commemorated” personalities associated with the State of Nevada.

1. The 1951 U.S. stamp (#999) celebrating Nevada’s first settlement, at Genoa in 1851, showed a painting by German-born Nevada artist
(a) Richard Guy Walton (b) Albert Bierstadt (c) Hans Meyer-Kassel (d) Joanne De Longchamps
2. This longtime Hollywood costume designer who won several Academy Awards spent part of her childhood in Searchlight, Nevada. Depicted on a 2003 U.S. stamp (#3772c) which was part of a series honoring “behind the scenes” personalities in the film industry, she was
(a) Gladys O. Knight (b) Martha Gould (c) Gloria Vanderbilt (d) Edith Head
3. Nevada’s first post office opened in December 1852, when the area was still part of Utah Territory. It was designated
(a) Carson Valley (b) Mormon Station (c) Walker River (d) Genoa
4. A renowned American circus clown who occasionally appeared (in his “Weary Willie” persona) in Nevada casino showrooms during the 1960s and ‘70s, he was honored on a 1988 Gambia stamp (#768). This famous showman was
(a) Willard Scott (b) Emmett Kelly (c) Larry Harmon (d) Marcel Marceau
5. This native Norwegian, John _____, gained fame by carrying mail on skis through the snows of twenty Sierra Nevada winters (1856-1876) between Placerville, California, and Genoa or Virginia City in Nevada. He was best known as
(a) “Cross-Country” Peterson (b) “Avalanche” Algaard (c) “Rip” Nilsen (d) “Snowshoe” Thompson
6. A famous Nevada literary figure, he has appeared on stamps around the world and on two U.S. issues, in 1940 (#863) and 2011 (#4545). He is
(a) William Sidney Porter aka “O. Henry” (b) Samuel Clemens aka “Mark Twain” (c) Bret Harte (d) Walter Van Tilburg Clark
7. When dusty little Las Vegas’s first post office was established in 1893, the town was still located in
(a) Nye County, Nevada (b) Utah Territory (c) Lincoln County, Nevada (d) Arizona Territory
8. Nevada’s statehood centennial stamp in 1964 (#1248) featured a colorful picture of
(a) Carson City (b) Reno (c) Las Vegas (d) Virginia City
9. The post office in this small southern Nevada town closed on June 11, 1938, as the rising waters of Lake Mead, newly created by Hoover Dam, were lapping at its walls.
(a) Callville (b) Nelson Landing (c) Logandale (d) St. Thomas
10. A short-lived post office existed in this Nye County mining boomtown – the site of Nevada’s “last gold rush” (in automobiles!) - during the spring of 1928.
(a) Wahmonie (b) Weepah (c) Goldfield (d) Rachel

11. A stamp commemorating the discovery of silver in Nevada (#1130) was issued in 1959. It carried a fanciful picture of this person at the discovery.
(a) Kit Carson (b) John C. Fremont (c) Henry Comstock (d) Mark Twain
12. The first American to win a Nobel Prize in physics (1907), he grew up in Virginia City during its early years. He has been honored on numerous stamps from other countries - Sweden (#769), Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia, Malagasy Republic (Madagascar), Comoros – though not yet the U.S. This renowned scientist is
(a) James Palomar (b) Albert Michelson (c) William Roentgen (d) George Santayana
13. (Bonus question) The first post office established in a Nevada “railroad town” was in this place in 1868.
(a) Verdi (b) Wadsworth (c) Reno (d) Elko

The September quiz is worth **130 Auction Bucks**. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Betty Mudge** at the next meeting or email to postboyquiz@renotamp.org

Aug. Quiz Answers: 1. c 2. b 3. c 4. d 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 9. c 10. d 11. b 12. b
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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 Western interest. Plus selling philatelic supplies. Contact member **Nadiah Beekun** at (775) 762-4905, <http://www.RenoStamps.com> or email: 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.

For Sale: Black Showgard & Prince stamp mounts mostly in strips, many different sizes. Contact member **Mike Potter** at (775) 359-9419 or email: potter0465@sbcglobal.net.

Wanted: U.S. Navy hospital ship covers. Contact member **John Walter**, email: walter60@gmail.com.

Wanted: Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. How about a short story on some of your favorite items, recent purchases, country, or topic you are working on, etc. Submit article to editor@renostamp.org

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

Vassar Post Office Display

By John Walter

The philatelic display was changed on Sept. 1 at the main Reno post office. The stamp club has exclusive use of two locked wall frames in the lobby as customers line up for the postal clerks. This new display has Tom Morrissey hand-painted covers designed for the Reno Championship Air Races. The stamp club used to have a table at the air races to sell covers with special cancels. Tom was a member until his passing.

The second frame is material related to Nevada history with the anniversary of statehood on October 31. A few extra covers related to Pony Express re-enactment are also included.

The displays are changed every 4 - 6 weeks depending on monthly events, holidays, etc.



Display with Tom Morrissey hand-painted cachet covers for Reno Championship Air Races.



Display with Nevada history with covers and stamps.