

Post Boy



November 2021
Volume 54, Issue 11

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

Officers:

President – James Steckley
president@renostamp.org

Vice President – Jeanne Paquin
vp@renostamp.org

Secretary – John Walter
secretary@renostamp.org

Treasurer – Erik Fields
treasurer@renostamp.org

Directors:

George Ray

Dave Gehringer

dave@renostamp.org

Howard Grenzebach

howardg@renostamp.org

Dave Parsons

davep@renostamp.org

Eric Moody

eric@renostamp.org

PB Editor & Webmaster

John Walter

editor@renostamp.org

<https://renostamp.org/>

PO Box 2907,
Sparks, NV 89432

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Announcements

November Meetings:

Nov. 13 – In-person only – Auction Bucks auction - Saturday at 10 a.m.
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 some bottles of wine and other “valuable” items to spice up the bidding. It’s a fun time for all. Spouses are invited to help spend your bucks.

Nov. 27 - In-person and Internet - Saturday at 10 a.m. Zoom instructions will be sent a few days before the meeting. There will be a philatelic presentation at the meeting. The topic will be sent with the meeting announcement.

Eric Moody, the PB Quizmaster, warns this month’s quiz is more challenging than usual. The topic is “Private Posts Around the World.”

Online Auction #14 - Online bidding will start Nov. 16 at noon, ending Nov. 24 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 Nov. 14.

December 11 – Christmas Party – Spouses and family members invited to pot-luck party at the Silverada Estates. More info in Dec. Post Boy. The food sign-up list will be passed around at the next two meetings in Nov.



Well, if you didn’t tune in to the APS Awards Ceremony for stamp club website and newsletter competition, here are the results. A total of 29 websites and 28 newsletters were entered in the competition.

Large Gold for our website <https://RenoStamp.org>

Large Gold and Grand Champion for our Post Boy newsletter. WOW! Full details on page 2.



Friday, October 15, 2021

The American Philatelic Society is proud to re-launch the chapter newsletter and website competitions, now named the Star Route Awards. Since the mid-1900s, the Star Routes were the most challenging routes in the country to deliver U.S. mail. Congress called for contractors to deliver the mail with “celerity, certainty, and security,” soon replaced with three stars. Our chapters serve and grow the hobby in those same tough terrains with that same mission. We are excited to share our winners of 2021 Star Route Awards.



Congratulations to the Nevada Stamp Study Society on the status of Grand Champion – Large Gold Medalist for Star Route 2021!! Your medals are attached here for your Newsletter. Thank you for submitting your newsletter to Star Route 2021. We look forward to seeing the growth of your newsletter in the next year and will be in touch soon with any feedback given by the judges.



Congratulations on Your Star Route Large Gold Medal which is attached here for your website <https://RenoStamp.org> Thank you for submitting your website to Star Route 2021. We look forward to seeing the growth of your website in the next year and will be in touch soon with any feedback given by the judges.

All the best,
Erin Seamans
Development Assistant & Content Manager
 American Philatelic Society
 100 Match Factory Place
 Bellefonte, PA 16823 USA

Post Boy Reporter

Due to the increased positivity rate (over 12%) for COVID-19 in the local area, both in-person meetings were suspended in October.

Oct. 9 meeting – The Zoom meeting had 13 members attend. Announcements included: **James Steckley** has 15+ donated lots that will be in this month's online auction; **Erik Fields** and **Harvey Edwards** has the 2022 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show venue reserved for July 23-24 at the National Bowling Stadium Museum and possible themes for the stamp show were mentioned; the Penny Boxes with foreign stamps are being organized by **Jeanne Paquin**; SACAPEX (Sacramento Stamp Show) is scheduled for Nov. 6-7.

Dave Parsons reported online Auction #13 will start Oct. 12 and new sellers are needed.

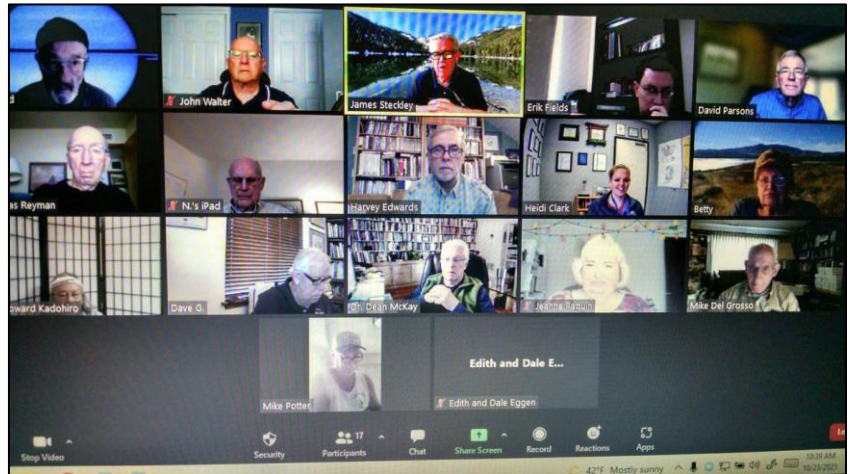
The raffle drawing for an unopened pane of the 2013 Inverted Jenny stamp (face value \$12) was won by **Howard Kadohiro**.

A **board meeting** followed with 7 members present. **Erik Fields** reported the club has \$12,364 in the bank. Motion was made and passed to reimburse **Dave Parsons** for use of his personal Zoom account over the past 18 months. Money was also approved for \$85 to update the club laptop computer with a Bluetooth dongle and memory upgrade. Exhibit frame fees were discussed for the July stamp show. Committee reports were received from: Donations, Webmaster, Post Boy editor, Programs, Online Auctions, Penny Boxes, Auction Bucks, and Membership (74 members).

Oct. 23 meeting – The Zoom attendance was 17 members plus Heidi Clark, Postmaster Vista Post Office, Sparks. **James Steckley** reminded everyone this is the 38th consecutive meeting via Zoom.

Dave Parsons reported on the Oct. Online Auction – There were a total of 96 lots with 74 sold (77%) with \$489.60 in gross sales. Online Auction #14 will start Nov. 16 and end Nov. 24 at noon.

The Christmas party signup list will be at the next two November meetings. A volunteer is needed to coordinate the pot-luck food items and cooking of the Turkey and Ham. **Jeanne Paquin** volunteered after the meeting to serve but she needs help.



Screen shot of those attending the Oct. 23 meeting.

Heidi Clark, Postmaster Vista Post Office, Sparks had an open forum discussion on any post office issues. The club has two large display cases available at the Vista PO. Mail delivery issues were explained concerning extending the delivery out 1-2 days. Obliterating postmarks using magic markers and pens especially over high denomination stamps already postmarked was addressed. She would like to know when that happens from mail at Vista PO since use of markers is not the policy. Central mail processing includes all mail from Elko to Susanville comes to Vassar PO processing then sent back to be delivered. Mail delivery notification app via email will notify customer of delivery.

When a tracking bar code is applied that item will be scanned up to 13 times before delivery. The Vista PO receives at least 3 truckloads of packages from Amazon from midnight to 6 a.m. for the "last mile delivery." That involves about 2,500 packages per day. FedEx and UPS usually have at least one truckload for that last mile delivery.

The Mail Recovery Center (Dead Letter Office) function was discussed. Also, some duties of the Postal Inspectors and enforcement issues were mentioned. Sounds like any one of these topics could be a program by itself.

2021 Salute to our Military Veterans

As a tribute to our members who served in the military the Nevada Stamp Study Society salutes you for your serve. These are the members who provided information on their active duty military service and overseas assignments:

Gary Atkinson, Army, Capt. 1973-1980

Nadiah Beekun, MS2, Navy, 1977-1981 Italy

Richard Dreiling, CWO-4, Navy, 1957-1987 Vietnam (2 tours), Japan

Harvey Edwards, ETN2, Navy, 1973-1979 Submarine duty

Terri Edwards, Captain, Army, 1981-1985 West Germany

Howard Grenzebach, E3, Air Force, 1960-1964 Spain

Charles "Chip" MacLeod, E-5, Army, 1969-1972 Vietnam, Japan

Barbara Mathews, AKSN, Navy, 1973-1974

Merle "Scott" Mathews, Navy, 1973-1982 Diego Garcia (Indian Ocean)

David Parsons, 1st Lt., Air Force, 1970-1972

George Ray, Sgt., Marines, 1955-1959

Thomas Reyman, Capt., Arizona Air National Guard, 1967-1980

Richard Simmonds, Colonel, Air Force, 1964-1985

James Steckley, Coast Guard, 1963-1967

John Walter, Major, Air Force, 1969-1989 Japan, Guam

Vern Watts, Army & Alaska Army Nat. Guard Vietnam

Marla Wetterling, CTR3, Navy, 1990-1995 Azores

Robert Wolf, BM3, Navy, 1952-1956 Korea, Germany, Greece,

Robert Wolf, Sgt. 1st Class, Army, 1962-1979 Iran, Vietnam (Bronze Star)

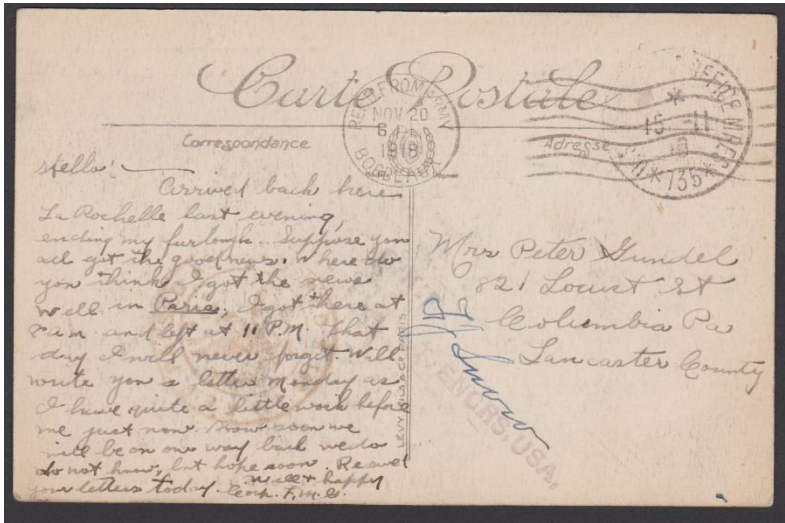


This list is a little shorter this year. Paul Glass, Bill Littell and Brian Moody passed away since last November.

"That Day I Will Never Forget"

By Patrick Crosby

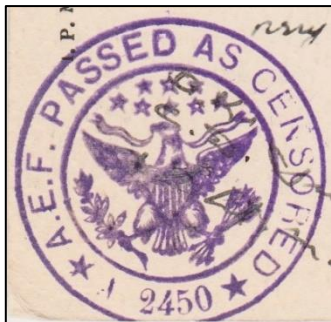
On the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" in 1918 a ceasefire was declared to end the hostilities of World War I. The formal end to the war with Germany was June 28, 1919 with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. But on that November day people filled the streets of Paris as in other Allied Powers cities (like New York City) in celebration. On both sides of the conflict there were over 17.6 million deaths, over 43% of which were civilians. France alone lost over 1.4 million soldiers, about 4% of their population, and areas were heavily damaged or destroyed.



Caught up in the excitement of the day was U.S. Army Corporal F.M.G. and when he returned to where he was stationed in the French seaport city of La Rochelle he wrote:

Arrived back here La Rochelle last evening ending my furlough. Suppose you all got the good news. Where do you think I got the news Well in Paris. I got there at 8am and left at 11 P.M. That day I will never forget.

Corporal F.M.G. chose a picture postcard (right) of the Place de la Republique, a square in Paris which features a 31' bronze statue of Marianne, considered the personification of the French Republic. She is holding an olive branch in her right hand. Below her are three statues that represent liberty, equality, and fraternity. At the base is a lion guarding a ballot box.



Sample censor handstamp.

After the corporal's message was written it was read and approved by a U.S. Army censor (appears to be T.J. Snow with the army engineers) and a typical "A.E.F. Passed As Censored" double ring circle handstamp with eagle was applied, which is indistinct on this card. The card was put into the military mail system and a postmark for November 15, 1918 from APO (Army Post Office) 735 was applied which also reads "U.S. Military Post Office MPES" (MPES = Military Postal Express Service). No postage was necessary since letters and cards mailed between the U.S., its possessions, and the American Expeditionary Forces at this time were allowed free of postage. Corporal F.M.G. should have

included his name and organization in the upper left, but the U.S. Post Office Department didn't mind minor infractions by our service personnel. When the card arrived in the U.S. a machine postmark was applied whose circle date stamp reads "Rec'd From Army, Bordeaux, Nov 20 1918". Bordeaux is the regional capital of the area in France which includes La Rochelle.

Today large gatherings are suspect because of Covid. The 1918 influenza pandemic was in full swing in November of that year. As is today, there were safety precautions circulated to prevent the spread of this flu, and I hope those who were celebrating were careful. One of the reasons Germany determined their chances of victory were poor in the end was because so many of their soldiers were unavailable and dying from this flu.

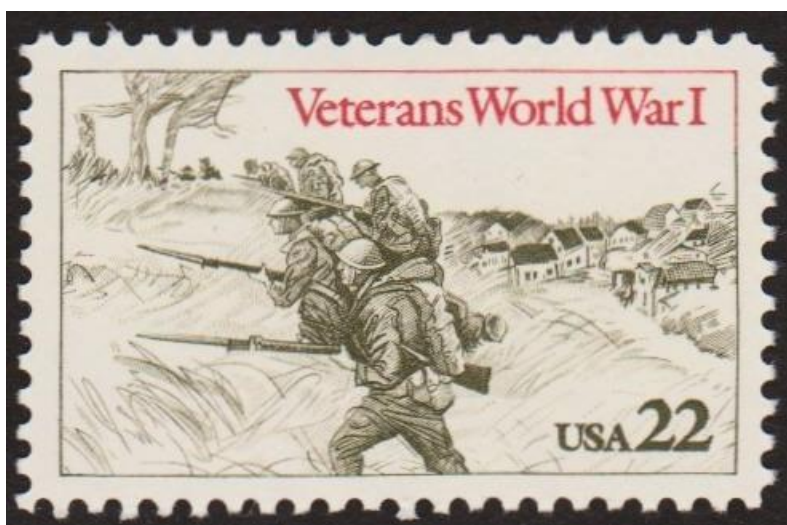
Also, not to be forgotten are all our veterans who have served and preserve our country. Thank you! On the first anniversary of Armistice Day, November 11, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson eulogizing fallen Allied soldiers wrote in part:

Out of this victory there arose new possibilities of political freedom and economic concert. The war showed us the strength of great nations acting together for high purposes, and the victory of arms foretells the enduring conquests which can be made in peace when nations act justly and in furtherance of the common interests of men.

In 1938 Armistice Day, November 11th, became a federal holiday in the United States dedicated to the cause of world peace. In 1954, 9 years after a World War II veteran Raymond Weeks from Alabama started promoting the idea of including all veterans on this day, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day intending to honor all members of our armed forces either living or dead.



Left – France Sc #895, Soldier's Grave in Wheatfield.



U.S. Sc #2154, depicting the Battle of Marne, France

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.

November Quiz - Private Posts Around the World

By Eric Moody

1. After establishing a national postal service in 1871, this European country permitted local private mail companies to issue their own stamps and operate within the boundaries of their cities or towns. These private companies, which primarily delivered circulars and other printed matter, continued to exist in numerous communities until 1900, when local mail delivery was assumed by the country's national postal system. This country is:
(a) Great Britain/UK (b) Germany (c) France (d) Spain
2. In 1895 the Oceanic Phosphate Company, which was mining guano on this small Pacific island now claimed by France, issued a set of postage stamps that illustrated various features of the island. The stamps were used on mail carried privately between the island and San Francisco. This isolated, watery mining site is:
(a) Tahiti (b) New Caledonia (c) Clipperton Island (d) Wallis Island (in Wallis and Futuna Overseas Territorial Collectivity)
3. This company, which operated a very commercially important canal, issued stamps in the late 1860s for use on mail transported on its ships. The company was:
(a) Suez Canal Company (b) Panama Steamship Company (c) Kiel Canal Consortium (d) Erie Canal Company
4. In 1929 Martin Harman, owner of a small island just off the coast of England, ran afoul of the law when he began coining his own currency (Puffins) and issuing stamps for use on mail privately transported from his island to a post office on the mainland. The coinage ended but the stamps were allowed to continue – as they do to this day. The island is:
a) Isle of Wight (b) Foulness Island (c) Isle of Sheppey (d) Lundy Island
5. Since 1981 this European country's official postal authority has allowed church and youth groups (such as Boy Scouts) to operate local mail services at Christmas time. The groups generally use their own stamps on mail that they collect and deliver – most commonly holiday greeting cards. Profits from the once-a-year operations go to charity. The country is:
(a) Great Britain/UK (b) Germany (c) France (d) Spain
6. Pete's Post and Go Postal are two of the numerous registered private "postal operators" permitted to carry mail in this country since it deregulated mail service (i.e. ended the government's postal monopoly) in 1998. The mostly local companies have their own stamps and generally act as "feeders" into the national mail system. This country is:
(a) Canada (b) Australia (c) South Africa (d) New Zealand
7. Before 1863 this country's national postal service did not deliver mail directly to street addresses, instead having recipients go to their local offices to pick up letters and parcels. Up until that year, homes and businesses that wanted mail brought to them relied on usually private local delivery services ("carriers") to convey it. These "carriers" often used their own stamps. The country is:
(a) Canada (b) United States (c) Great Britain/UK (d) France

8. In 1897 the Australasian New Hebrides Company produced stamps for its “inter island” postal service. They were actually used in:
(a) Australia (b) New Hebrides (c) Singapore (d) New Guinea
9. In 1891 this German colony contracted with the private firm of Schuelke & Mayr to provide mail service from the coast to military posts on Lake Victoria. The service was plagued with problems and lasted only 1 ½ years. A set of “African lake post” stamps was prepared by the company but not placed in use before its contract expired. The colony was:
(a) Kamerun (b) German Southwest Africa (c) German East Africa (d) Togo
10. John Lorne Campbell, the owner (“laird”) of this small island off the coast of Scotland, in 1958 issued a pictorial stamp for optional use (alongside official British postage stamps) on letters mailed on the island. All money received from sales of the stamp, which depicted a landmark hill and Shearwater seabirds - and was denominated in “2 Shearwaters,” went to the Shipwrecked Mariners Society. The island is:
(a) Skye (b) Jura (c) Arran (d) Canna
11. The Pony Express of 1860-61 for a while had its own stamps and stamped envelopes. During part of 1861 eastbound letters sent from the West Coast carried Pony Express stamps along with U.S. postage stamps, the latter covering the cost of delivery after the letters were deposited into the U.S. mail at a post office in the Midwest. Used for less than half a year, the Pony stamps – which depicted a rider on a galloping horse - were prepared in San Francisco in the summer of 1861 by Wells, Fargo & Company. At that time Wells, Fargo was a partner in the famed fast mail experiment – but who established the Pony Express?
(a) Wells, Fargo & Company (b) Butterfield Overland Mail Company (c) Ben Holladay (d) Russell, Majors & Waddell
12. When Mozambique was a Portuguese colony two private companies, both chartered in the 1890s, were for a time allowed to use their own stamps in the areas of the colony under their control. These two companies were:
(a) Mozambique Company (b) Zambezi Company (c) Lake Tanganyika Company (d) Nyassa Company

The November quiz is worth 120 **Auction Bucks**. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Betty Mudge** at the next in-person meeting or email to:

postboyquiz@renotamp.org

Oct. Quiz Answers: 1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d
5. b 6. C 7. c 8. b 9. c 10. d 11. b
12. d

Carson City Library Display

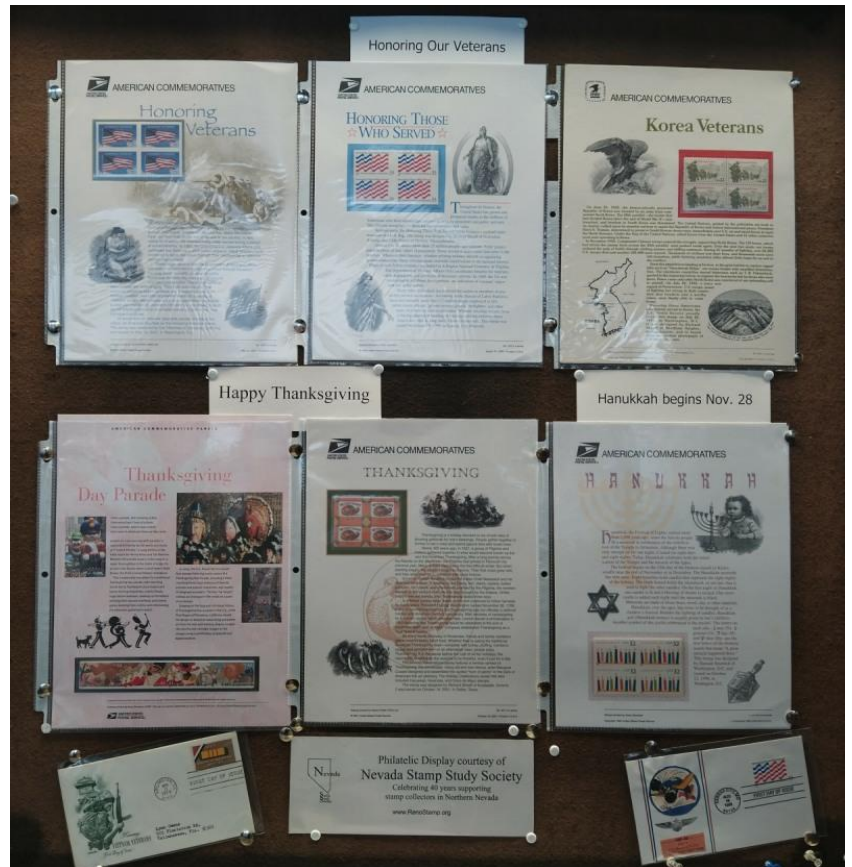
Two large display cases were filled with multiple small collections of stamps and covers for National Stamp Collecting Month in October. Also displayed were tools of the hobby, posters and related books. The display was put together by **John Walter**. John and **Dave Gehringer** set up the display at the library.



Vassar Post Office Display

Two wall frames at the main Reno post office on Vassar Street had new displays installed on Nov. 1.

The frame on the right had material for Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and one page with Hanukkah stamps.



The display frame on the left is for December. It has stamps for Christmas and Kwanzaa which starts December 26.

The display frames were set up by **John Walter**.