

# Post Boy



December 2021  
Volume 54, Issue 12

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](mailto:president@renostamp.org)

**Vice President** – Jeanne Paquin  
[vp@renostamp.org](mailto:vp@renostamp.org)

**Secretary** – John Walter  
[secretary@renostamp.org](mailto:secretary@renostamp.org)

**Treasurer** - Erik Fields  
[treasurer@renostamp.org](mailto:treasurer@renostamp.org)

### Directors:

George Ray

Dave Gehringer  
[dave@renostamp.org](mailto:dave@renostamp.org)

Howard Grenzebach  
[howardg@renostamp.org](mailto:howardg@renostamp.org)

Dave Parsons  
[davep@renostamp.org](mailto:davep@renostamp.org)

Eric Moody  
[eric@renostamp.org](mailto:eric@renostamp.org)

**PB Editor & Webmaster**  
John Walter  
[editor@renostamp.org](mailto:editor@renostamp.org)

<https://renostamp.org/>  
PO Box 2907,  
Sparks, NV 89432

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### Announcements

**Meetings – NO meetings in December.** The big social event is the Christmas / Holiday party on Dec. 11 at 1200 p.m. at the Silverada Clubhouse.

**Dec. 11 - Christmas-Holiday Party** - The social event of the year will be Saturday afternoon starting at noon at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse. For those who want to help with decorating the tables, that time starts at 11 a.m.

Family members are invited. This is a pot-luck meal with the main entrees being ham and turkey. Members are asked to bring pot-luck items, such as, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, Hors D'oeuvres, desserts, etc. Contact **Jeanne Paquin** (775-450-8443) letting her know what food you are bringing.

Please bring your own beverage (wine is OK), plates and utensils for everyone in your party.

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.

More information on page 3.

### On-Line Auction report by Dave Parsons:

The 14th NSSF auction wrapped up on November 24. This auction featured 77 lots with 62 lots being sold (80%). Total sales were \$642 with \$421.50 being from club items and \$220.50 from members. The net to the Club was \$443.55.

Through the first 14 auctions there have been \$12,104.75 in total sales and the net proceeds to the club have been \$3,663.43.

Thank you to all the sellers and bidders on this platform. You have made it a successful program enabling us to keep in touch during the pandemic. And special thanks to **John Walter** who has done yeoman-like work in getting the auction items on our website with the wonderful ability to view detailed pictures of the offered lots.

We hope to have a combination of live and online auctions in 2022. Stay tuned for details.

## Post Boy Reporter

**Nov. 13 Auction Bucks auction meeting** – The in-person meeting had 18 members in attendance including a new member, **Ken Hopple**, plus two spouses. **James Steckley** and **Dick Dreiling** arrived early to set up the table and chairs. The refreshments were provided by **James Steckley**. A new member joined Nov. 1, **Anthony Cueto**, who lives in Genoa.

**Barbara Stanfield** volunteered to be the meeting refreshment coordinator. **Jeanne Paquin** will coordinate the sign-up for the post-luck food at the Christmas Party on Dec. 11.

This was the first meeting for “Bring A Can If You Can” for dropping off canned food for the less fortunate. There will be a table by the entrance at the first meeting of the month for the food drop off. **James Steckley** contacted the local Boy Scout council regarding Stamp Collecting Merit Badge program. The council representative will get back to James when the council will schedule the merit badge classes. James also announced he has more donations that will be in this month’s online auction.

The club received a Thank You letter from **Scott English** regarding the donation of the Irwin Weinberg Rarities Vol. I & II auction catalogues to the APRL.

The main activity for the day was the Auction Bucks auction where members donated yard / garage sale type items to be auctioned using our hard-earned Auction Bucks which are awarded for volunteer activities. Mike Potter was the auctioneer with Dick Simmonds helping. A total of 59 lots were “sold” using 48, 110 auction bucks. Lots of nice items were donated including a new medical bed, color printer with new ink cartridges, stamp albums with stamps, a cover album, train set in original box, numerous framed prints and paintings, plus a few bottles of wine. Everyone had a great time and thanks for all the donations.



Some of the donated Auction Bucks auction items.

**Nov. 27 meeting** – The attendance was 22 members (including 4 on Zoom) and including one new member, **Scott Hansford**. **James Steckley** and Eric Fields arrived early to set up the meeting room. **Jeanne Paquin** passed around the Christmas party sign up list.

The raffle was conducted by **Betty Mudge** with 10 donated prizes. The Super Bonus Prize was won by **Scott Hansford**. The money prize of \$12.50 was won by **John Walter**.

The philatelic presentation was with **Dave Gehringer** discussing a recent cover from Log Cabin, CA, postmarked in 1931. He described his trip to visit the location with numerous stops. A local person directed Dave to the site of the original log cabin which is now a vacant lot. The stops along the way produced some very entertaining stories.

See page 9 for the cover that started his quest.



Dave Gehringer giving the presentation.

**Christmas/Holiday Party  
and Gift Exchange**

**Silverada Estates Clubhouse**

**2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno**

**December 11, 2021**

**11:00 a.m. - Room setup, Table decorations, and social time.**

**12:00 p.m. - Hors D'oeuvres, pre-meal snacks & conversation**

**12:30 p.m. - Main meal (turkey & ham entrees)**

**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 (wine is OK).**

**Spouses and family members are welcome.**

**If you have not signed up to bring a food item,  
please call Jeanne Paquin 775-450-8443 or email [vp@renostamp.org](mailto:vp@renostamp.org)**

**An accurate count for those attending is needed**

You may come early (no sooner than 11:00 a.m.) 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.

## New Members

The stamp club had three new members join in the past month.

**Anthony Cueto III**, lives in Genoa, NV, joined on Nov. 1. He collects U.S. mint stamps. He just started anew after many years away from collecting. He recently bought several large collections to resume the hobby. He will be attending meetings in the coming year.



**Ken Hopple** attended his first stamp club meeting and joined Nov. 13 at the Auction Bucks auction meeting.

Ken received his first stamp album for Christmas when he was 10 years old. It was a basic world album. Later he got a paper route and bought a global stamp album. Jumping forward 15 years he visited a stamp shop with his future wife, Karen, and she purchased a five-volume set of Scott International stamp albums. Now after 40+ years it has grown to 16 volumes of international and 3 albums of individual countries - U.S., Mexico, and Russia.

At the Auction Bucks auction he took home many auction lots using Auction Bucks donated by members. He seemed to have a fun time.

Ken is a life member of the Reno Coin Club and is the Chief Coin Pressor at the Carson City Mint.

**Scott Hansford** attended his first meeting on Nov. 27 and immediately joined. He and his family moved to Reno about 2 months ago from Bakersfield, California.

He has been collecting since around 8 years old when his grandpa Morris got him interested. Scott collects mainly USA including plate blocks and sheets.

He is looking forward to getting started again as his collection has been gathering dust the past few years.

Scott works as an Agent for New York Life Insurance Company.

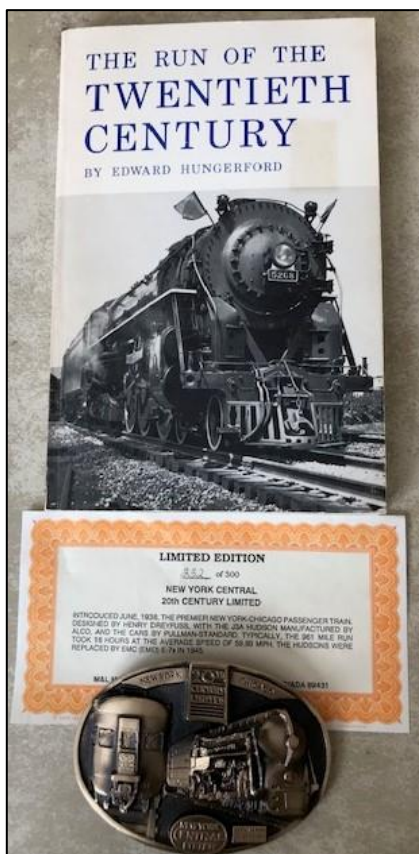




# The Famous Trains Issue of 1999

By James Steckley

In early 2019 I bought, at auction, an enlarged picture of the 33¢ Famous Trains issue Scott #3335 known as the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Limited. One of the trains shown is the streamlined J3A Hudson engine designed by Henry Dreyfuss and introduced by the New York Central Railroad in 1938. To the right of it in the picture is the first “Hudson” engine built by the Alco Co. in New York and made its first run as the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Limited in 1902 and an iconic train of that era was born. It was the railroad’s “cruise ship” of its time caring for its passengers with the best of everything.



This writing is not a history of the New York Central trains, just my experience after buying the picture and becoming enamored with the train’s design and its history.

Two more items (on the left) came to me over time, a large oval belt buckle commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Limited of 1938 (also known as the Empire State Express) with a picture on the front and statistics of the Hudson/Dreyfuss engine on the back. Next was a book written by Edward Hungerford in 1930 and reprinted in 1970, *The Run of the Twentieth Century*, detailing the 1902 version of the Limited and the train’s operation. Both items were from the Sparks Heritage Museum in Sparks, Nevada.

Later in 2019 I got the plans from Woodsmith magazine, to which I subscribe, for a J3a Hudson engine and tender. It was a must build! A perfect project to add to my collection of pictures, post cards and panes of the stamps of the Hudson/Dreyfuss engine.

Having been a woodworker since the 1970’s, I have the tools necessary to make the small parts and shape the larger ones. The wood used is African mahogany and Western Maple, two woods with good contrast. They are both fairly soft woods, so the shaping and sanding was

easy, just time consuming!



When making small parts like the wheels, if I need four, I make eight, if I need six, I make ten. That way I have a few to choose from if I find flaws in the pieces.

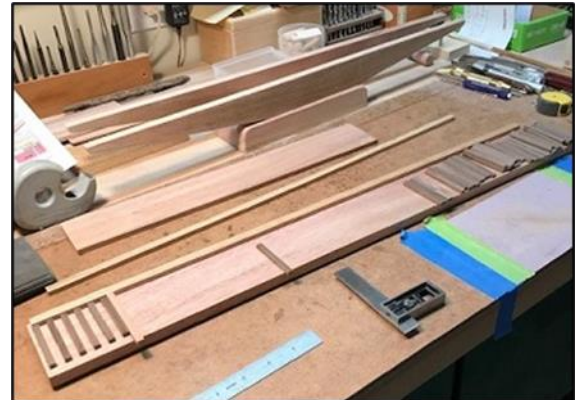


In fifteen days or so the 4-6-4 carriage was done. That's railroader-speak for 4 wheels in the front, 6 drivers in the middle and 4 wheels under the firebox and cab.

The engine can't go anywhere without coal and water and the J3a Hudson engine needs a lot of both! The tender is oversized to accommodate 56,000 lbs. of coal and 13,600 gallons of water. This tender needs 14 wheels to carry the load.

46 days later, the project was sort of done...it needed a place to sit. The stand needed to be 27" long and have some track for the engine and tender to sit on and look realistic.

The base is mahogany matching the engine and the ties (54 of them) are of Peruvian walnut, a very dark and dense wood. With all of the ties glued down and the two rails from a strip of O-gauge model train track installed the base was done...two weeks in the making. But who's going to dust it?



It definitely needed a case. The base of the display case is made from Brazilian ironwood, a very dense and very heavy wood. An acrylic top and no dusting required...of the engine and tender, that is. And so, after a few coats of lacquer the project was finished. A total of 60 days to complete it. My next project is a boat...it will probably take a few years.

The last two additions added to my 20<sup>th</sup> Century Limited collection are

two covers. The first one was a First Day Cover commemorating the first run of the J3a Hudson/Dreyfuss engine on that fateful day December 7, 1941. It didn't get much press because of the attack on the Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor. The second was another first run cover when the diesel engines took over on September 17, 1948. Thanks go to Howard Kadohiro for the cover. He gave it to me at the last meeting.

The last days of the Limited came in 1967 when, due to more air travel, it could no longer sustain itself. For 65 years the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Limited treated its passengers like kings and queens and then it was over.

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





## 2021 Volunteers & Associated Club 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 & club laptop computer)
  - Program Chair - **Dave Gehringer**
  - Get Well & Sympathy Cards – **Howard Grenzebach**
  - Donations Chair - **James Steckley**
  - Nomination & Election Chair - **John Walter**
  - Sign-In Log & Auction Bucks Accounting/Distribution – **Betty Mudge**
  - Silverada Clubhouse Meeting Place Liaison – **George Ray**
  - Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show Chair – **Erik Fields**
  - Post Office and Library Displays:
    - Vassar Post Office – **John Walter** (every 6-8 weeks)
    - Carson City Library – **John Walter & Dave Gehringer**
    - Vista Post Office – **Jeanne Paquin**
  - Storage Unit – **Mike Potter**
  - On line auctions - **Dave Parsons** (accounting) and **John Walter** (webpage)
  - Boy Scout Stamp Collecting Merit Badge Liaison – **Dave Gehringer**
  - Meeting Room setup - **Erik Fields, James Steckley and George Ray**
  - Council of Northern CA Philatelic Societies Liaison – **John Walter**
  - Penny Boxes – **Eugene Smoots, Dave Parsons, Jeanne Paquin**
  - Raffle Coordinator/Operator – **Betty Mudge**
  - APS Liaison & Ambassador Membership Program – **Mike Potter**
  - Membership Chair – **Mike Potter**
  - Member Database & Directory - **Harvey Edwards**
  - Librarian - **Dave Gehringer**
  - Webmaster - **John Walter**
  - Post Boy Editor - **John Walter**
  - Post Boy quiz master – **Eric Moody**
  - Youth Program - **Dave Gehringer**
  - Refreshments Coordinator – **Barbara Stanfield**
  - In-person Auctioneer (Auction Bucks Auction) – **Mike Potter: Assistant – Dick Simmonds**
- Original Post Boy articles from the following authors - **Pat Crosby, Tom Reyman, Howard Kadohiro, John Walter, Harvey Edwards, Howard Grenzebach, Stan Cronwall, and Emmanuel GPS, Betty Mudge, Tuck Vosburg, James Steckley, and Dave Gehringer.**



## December Quiz – Laughs in the Mail

By Eric Moody

Many comedians and comic actors of radio, film or television have been honored on stamps around the world. Several of them figure in this quiz.

1. A popular Latin American actor/comedian, he made a splash in the U.S. when he co-starred in the 1957 blockbuster film *Around the World in 80 Days*. After his death in 1993 he was remembered on stamps in his native Mexico (Scott #1818) and Cuba (#3696). He was  
(a) Louis de Funes (b) Bobo (c) Cantinflas (d) Leo Carillo
2. This irascible bulbous-nosed comic actor of the 1920s-1940s was often inebriated and profane in his movies, and professed to “hate children and dogs.” Nonetheless, he was honored on a U.S. stamp in 1980 (#1803).  
(a) Robert Benchley (b) W.C. Fields (c) Jackie Coogan (d) Wallace Beery
3. This famous but inept law enforcement unit appeared in many silent films and on a U.S. stamp in 1994 (#2826).  
(a) Phantom Legion (b) Hollywood Rangers (c) Charlie Chaplin’s Guard (d) Keystone Cops
4. The most popular comic duo of the 1940s and early 1950s, these actors starred in such films as *Buck Privates*, *Hold That Ghost* and *Lost in a Harem*, sometimes performing their hilarious “Who’s on first?” routine. Included in a 1991 U.S. “Comedians” set of stamps (#2566), they are  
(a) Laurel and Hardy (b) Martin and Lewis (c) Abbott and Costello (d) Burns and Allen
5. This stiff-faced, very wooden comic figure of films, radio and television appeared with his stage partner, Edgar Bergen, on a U.S. stamp (#2563) in 1991. He is  
(a) Buster Keaton (b) Fred Allen (c) Jack Benny (d) Charlie McCarthy
6. She was a vaudeville and burlesque comedienne, singing, dancing and doing comedy skits in the Ziegfield Follies from 1910 to 1923. Later she appeared in movies and became a popular radio personality – most notably as the character “Baby Snooks.” Depicted on a U.S. stamp (#2565), she was the model for Broadway and Hollywood’s *Funny Girl*.  
(a) Fanny Brice (b) Mae West (c) Zasu Pitts (d) Rosalind Russell
7. Arguably the most famous TV comedy show ever, this 1950s program - and/or its star – has been commemorated on stamps of numerous countries, among them the U.S. (#31871 and #3523), Ghana, Gambia, Mozambique, Comoros, Mongolia and Grenada. The show is  
(a) Sid Caesar Show (b) I Love Lucy (c) Jack Benny Hour (d) Milton Berle Show
8. This tall British actor, a founding member of the Monty Python comedy group in the 1960s, star of the *Fawlty Towers* British TV sitcom, and featured player in such films as *A Fish Called Wanda*, is one of several comedians depicted in an “Entertainers” stamp set (#1940-1942) issued by Ghana in 1997. He is  
(a) Peter Sellers (b) Eric Idle (c) Benny Hill (d) John Cleese

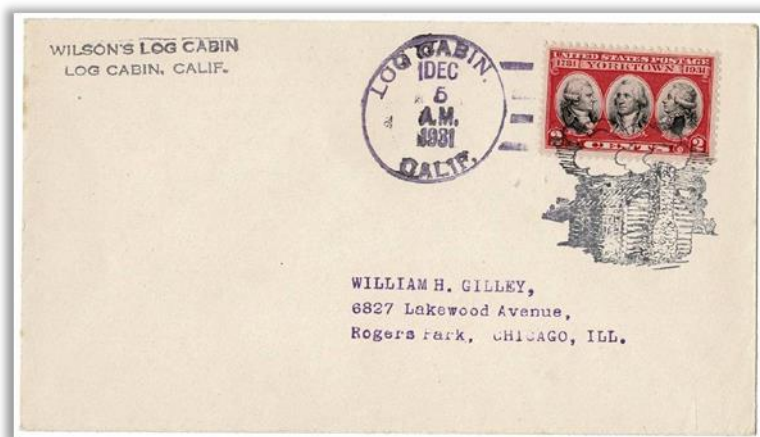


9. The star of many Hollywood films, including a series of "Road" movies made with a popular singer between 1939 and 1962, this wise cracking, world famous comedian spent a lot of his spare time playing golf or entertaining American troops overseas. Appearing on stamps of his adopted country - the U.S. (#4406), Turkmenistan, Ghana, Nevis, Grenada and Dominica, he is  
 (a) Jack Benny (b) Bob Hope (c) Groucho Marx (d) Danny Kaye
10. Though some may groan at the thought, these violently slapstick American movie comics have appeared on more stamps around the world than any other comedians. They are featured on issues of Mongolia (three sets in 1998, 2000 and 2001), Chad, Grenada, Gambia, Senegal, Guyana, Dominica, Mozambique, Antigua and Barbuda, Nevis, and Liberia. They are  
 (a) The Marx Brothers (b) Abbot and Costello (c) Laurel and Hardy (d) The Three Stooges
11. A favorite entertainer of John Ascuaga, who often had him perform in his Sparks Nugget showroom, this famed comedian of movies and, especially, TV, was depicted on a U.S. stamp in 2009 (#4414c), part of a set featuring stars of the early days of television. He was  
 (a) Danny Kaye (b) Red Skelton (c) Jackie Gleason (d) George Carlin
12. As husband and wife they made up a long-running comedy team on stage, screen, radio and television. She died in 1964, but he was still performing – and still chomping on his trademark cigar - at the time of his death in 1996 at age 100. This comedy duo, which appeared on a Grenada stamp in 1996 (#2554) and one from the U.S. in 2009 (#4414p), was  
 (a) Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz (b) Percy Kilbride and Marjorie Main (c) Ernie Kovacs and Edie Adams (d) George Burns and Gracie Allen

The December 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](mailto:postboyquiz@renotamp.org)

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

Cover from Dave Gehringer's presentation from Log Cabin, CA with enlargement of the corner card and cancel.



# Vista Post Office Display

Jeanne Paquin changed the post office display in Sparks with Christmas holiday stamps and covers.



Here are the two large frames that can accommodate lots of philatelic material.