

Post Boy

Connecting and supporting stamp collectors, of all ages and interests, in Northern Nevada since 1975



July 2022
Volume 55, Issue 7

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

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Announcements

Nominations and Elections – Candidates are needed for the office of Vice-President, Secretary and one Director position. Contact **John Walter** if interested in any office. Nomination forms need to be completed by July 9.

Voting is Aug. 13 at the annual picnic held at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse.

July 9, 2022 – In person and online meeting via Zoom. Meeting starts at 10 a.m. but sign in early to socialize. There is a live auction with members allowed 5 lots. After the membership meeting concludes there will be a Board meeting.

July 23-24 - Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show at the National Bowling Stadium, 300 N. Center St., Reno. Show opens at 10 a.m. both days. **Volunteers needed** for setup of exhibit frames on July 22 at noon; registration table to welcome visitors; and take down of exhibit frames on Sunday at 4 p.m.

USPS Postage rate increases start July 10:

- Domestic first-class letter increases from 58¢ to 60¢ for the first ounce, and from 20¢ to 24¢ for each additional ounce.
- Domestic postcards increase from 40¢ to 44¢.
- International letters and postcards increase from \$1.30 to \$1.40 for the first ounce. There are also increases for other classes of mail.

APS Great American Stamp Show – Sacramento, Aug. 25-28.

Admission is free, but you must register to attend. Registration is available at the door or in advance using the online form available here:

<https://stamps.org/great-american-stamp-show/preregistration>

The **July 8-10, 2022, WSP San Diego Virtual Stamp Show** is now online. Exhibits available for public viewing on the web site beginning June 27. Awards will be posted the morning of Saturday July 9.
<https://sandiegostampshow.org/>

Membership renewal is due Aug. 1. Dues is \$20; family is \$25. See page 10 for more information.

Post Boy Reporter

June 11 meeting – Attendance was 30 including 24 at the meeting and 6 online. Included were three visitors from previous meetings. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. **George Ray** also arrived early to get the coffee pot on. Refreshments were provided by **Dick Dreiling**.

More donations were received including a priority mailbox stuffed with used stamps. Some U.S. plate blocks were placed in the raffle. **James Steckley** also received some Highway Post Office covers with first and last trip cancels. Reports were given on the Post Boy, website, and upcoming stamp show. A signup sheet was started for volunteers needed for the stamp show setup, registration table and take down of the exhibit frames. The Exhibitor Prospectus is now posted on the website <https://RenoStamp.org/show.html>.

The raffle drawing was conducted by **George Ray**. The drawing had 10 donated prizes along with a bonus prize won by **Erik Fields**. The money prize of \$9.50 was won by **Dick Dreiling**.

John Walter presented a slide program with pictures taken on the tour of the Vassar post office plant. Photos were shown of the various sorting machines for first class mail, parcels, and large magazine-size mail.

Gary Atkinson was the auctioneer for the live auction with **Nadiah Beekun** and **Howard Kadohiro** helping. There was a total of 44 member lots and 13 Blue Sheet (donation) lots for a total of 57 lots. A total of 46 lots sold for \$337.00.



Live auction with Gary Atkinson as auctioneer with Nadiah Beekun and Howard Kadohiro helping.

June 25 meeting – Attendance was 28 members (24 in-person and 4 online via Zoom). **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to setup the tables and chairs. Refreshments were provided by **Dick Simmonds**.

Erik Fields reported that one dealer table is still open for the July 23-24 stamp show. The show post cards will be mailed the first week in July. Exhibits are urgently needed, whether competitive or non-competitive. Our junior member **Donovan Sehr** submitted an application to exhibit at the show.

James Steckley displayed a couple of albums with thousands of stamps to be in the next on-line auction. **Eugene Smoots**, **Jeanne Paquin** and **Dave Parson** reported on the Penny Boxes (selling stamps at 2¢ each). The foreign stamps were reported as “overflowing” and “tons” available to the members. **Mike Potter** reported membership at 74. **John Walter** put up a new display at the Vassar post office, and the Carson City library will have a display for the month of July.

Dave Parsons reported the next online Auction #20 will start July 12 at noon and end July 21 at noon. Auction lots must be submitted by noon July 10.

The raffle was conducted by **Betty Mudge** with 10 prizes. The bonus prize was won by **Eugene Smoots** and the money prize of \$11.00 also went to **Eugene Smoots**.

Harvey Edwards had all the electronic gear setup for both the Zoom audience and the excellent video presentation “No Longer in Service” part 2. Most of the discussion centered on postal history in rural areas of NV and comments by our Congressman Mark Amodei concerning rural post offices and suggestions for improvement.

Closed Album – Russ Dyer

Russell “Russ” Dyer passed away in late 2021. He joined our stamp club in 2019 and immediately was helping with the annual stamp show. The picture of Russ on the right was taken at the 2021 stamp show. Russ collected mainly U.S. issues. He was awarded a 25-year pin and certificate from the APS in 2020.

Russ received his B.A. in Geology from Rice University in 1971, and his PhD, also in Geology at Stanford University in 1983.

From 1982 to 1988, he was an Assistant Professor (Geology) University Texas at El Paso. He developed curricula and taught Structural Geology, Tectonics, Field Geology, Introductory Geology, Physical Processes and various advanced courses.

Starting in 1988 he held various positions in the Yucca Mountain Project, U.S. Department of Energy. His last seven years until 2009, he was Special Assistant/Chief Scientist, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (SES)

The Yucca Mountain Project was the attempt of the U.S. Government to characterize and develop a geologic repository system for the permanent disposal of high-level nuclear waste and commercial spent nuclear fuel. During his 22 years with the project, he was often called on to provide briefings to members of congress and their staff, and to other influential decision makers for industry and state and national political groups.

Russ served on active duty in the U.S. Navy from 1971-1976 as a communications/intelligence officer, and as a Vietnam veteran. He joined the Naval Reserve Intelligence Program in 1976 until his retirement in 2000. During this time, he had eight command tours and various staff assignments. Last command was of Naval Reserve Intelligence Area Six, comprising all Naval Reserve Intelligence personnel in Texas, Oklahoma and parts of New Mexico and Louisiana (about 600 personnel). Russ retired from the naval reserves with the rank of Captain (O-6).

Russ was a member of the Sigma Xi, Geological Society of American Geophysical Union, American Institute of Professional Geologists, Senior Executives Association. He published or presented over 100 papers, reports, abstracts and presentations in various publications and forums. He held Top Secret, SCI and Q clearances through either D.O.D. and/or D.O.E.

Rus was twice recognized with a Presidential Rank Award (Meritorious Executive: 2000 and 2009).

I hope everyone in the stamp club had a chance to talk with Russ when he attended the regular meetings. He was an outstanding individual, and we are proud that he was a member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society.



1974 Mineral Heritage issue

Going to Our Stamp Show

By John Walter

On July 23 and 24 the Nevada Stamp Study Society is hosting the 2022 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show. Once again, it will be held in the Hall of Fame Museum on the first floor of the National Bowling Stadium. It is located at 300 North Center Street with free parking in the stadium garage. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

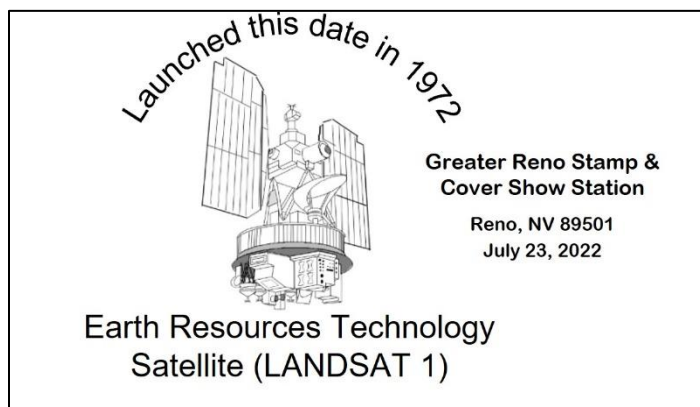
In addition to the dealer bourse and exhibits, we will also have a youth table to introduce new collectors to the hobby. Free stamps, album pages and hinges will be available.

We are looking for volunteers to help during the show. If you are interested, either e-mail Erik Fields **cheney44@charter.net** or call his cell phone at (775) 232-4760. We will also have a sign-up sheet at our next club meeting on Saturday, July 9.

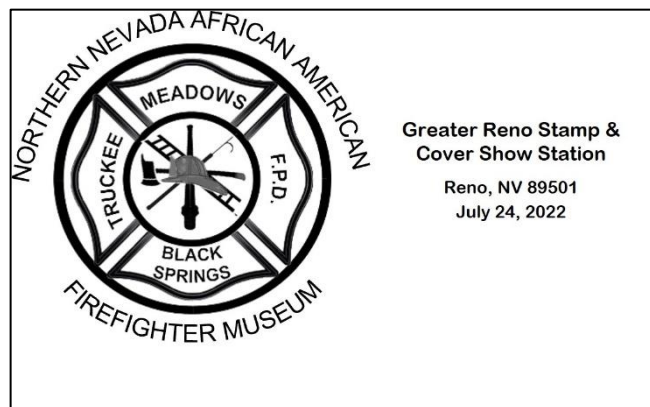
A cachet cover with a special show cancellation for each day will be offered, along with hourly door prizes.



Entrance to the Bowling Stadium with our show banner.



July 23 Pictorial Show Cancel.



July 24 Pictorial Show Cancel.

Before arriving at the show, consider some tips for a successful show visit: Create a want list. Pack a pair of tongs. Set your budget and stick to it. You want to avoid buyer's remorse. Be prepared to convey to the dealer your collecting standards, i.e., mint, NH, used, F-VF, VF, superb, graded, etc. Let the dealer know what kind of material you are looking for. If the dealer doesn't have it in stock, they may be able to watch for it and contact you if the item appears. Bring your checkbook and some cash, since not all dealers accept credit cards. Don't forget to wear your club name tag. The dealers do notice, and you can always ask for a discount as a club member. You also may consider contacting the dealer ahead of time to see if they can bring something specific. Many dealers have large inventories, and they cannot bring everything to the show. If you click on the show page at <https://renostamp.org/show.html>, you will find a diagram of the dealer table placements and a list of the dealers with emails.

Some members have expressed concern of the merits of doing a show. It seems like finding dealers and exhibitors who are interested in participating is becoming more of a challenge every year. In addition, it does not make very much money for the club, if any. This may be true; however, making money is not the reason we have these shows. The show is a very important element of the goals of the club, which are to help “connect and support stamp collectors of all ages and interests” as well as attract new collectors.

There are many folks in our community who have inherited a stamp collection from a family member or a friend and have no idea what they have and what they should do with it. For some, our stamp show is their "Eureka" moment of realizing that what they have may be something special and not a random mess of little pieces of paper. In addition, any event, whether it's a minor league baseball game, concert, art event, or stamp show, whether successful or not, contributes to making our community a more exciting place to live.

Our stamp show is an official July Reno Artown event. The show is listed on their website: <https://artown.org/event-details.asp?ID=5187> and in the Artown pamphlet.

Don't forget the exhibits. There is space for up to 40 exhibit frames (16 pages per frame). Club members are encouraged to write about one or more of your favorite items and tell why you like that item. The item can be one stamp, a group of stamps, or cover(s). You are the storyteller. The “My Favorite Thing” pages will be on display in the Bowling Stadium lobby and in the exhibit area. This is also a great way to let everyone know what you collect and what you get enjoyment from.

The best thing about a stamp show is being able to interact with like-minded people about the joys of stamp collecting. Unlike our semi-monthly stamp meetings where we only meet for a few hours, you can spend two days with your stamp collecting friends.

John Walter serves as Secretary of the NSSF, is the Post Boy editor, webmaster, and provides stamp collecting displays at the main Reno post office on Vassar Street and local libraries. He collects used postal stationery especially U.S. aerograms sent to foreign addresses. Recently he started a new collecting area – U.S. Navy hospital ship covers and cancels.



My Favorite Thing page from Stan Cronwall.
More pages can be viewed on the club website
<http://renostamp.org/favorites-1.html>

The Lexington-Concord Stamps of 1925

by Patrick Crosby

Postmaster General Harry Stewart New was not happy. The United States Congress had mandated the issuance of postage stamps for the 150th (sesquicentennial) anniversary of the Revolutionary War battles of Lexington-Concord. At the time a postmaster general was a powerful member of the U.S. President's cabinet. He was also in charge of his political party's patronage (deciding to whom the party would grant favors). Postmaster General New explained in a letter that "...the postal service can have too many varieties of postage stamps" and the Post Office Department "...discourages such legislation." Sounds like "Mind your own business!" to me. The Lexington-Concord stamps were only the third set of commemoratives issued in over three years, 9 stamps total.

The first battles in our Revolutionary War for independence from the British were in the Lexington and Concord area of Massachusetts and certainly deserved postal recognition. A set of three commemorative stamps was issued April 4, 1925, shown below.



The 1¢ green Washington at Cambridge (Sc. 617) shows George Washington taking command of the American volunteers on July 3, 1775, the place now referred to as the birthplace of the U.S. Army. However, the battles had already taken place on April 19, 1775. The stamp paid the 1¢ rate for postcards and third-class mail (printed matter) for 11 days, then not really needed. On April 15, 1925, the U.S. Post Office Department (with P.G. Harry New) dealt a blow to the picture postcard industry by doubling the domestic postcard rate to 2¢ (the current letter rate) while keeping the rate at 1¢ for government postal cards. This unexplained inequality lasted for over three years. Also on April 15, 1925, the third-class rate jumped to 1½¢. So, finding a single 1¢ stamp on cover in the first 11 days would be a score.

The 2¢ red "The Birth of Liberty" (Sc. 618) is from a mural by Henry Sandham of the Battle of Lexington (also on a 1975 10¢ U.S. bicentennial issue, Sc. 1563). The stamp paid the 2¢ domestic letter rate and, beginning April 15, 1925, the postcard rate. Until October 1, 1925, it also paid the 2¢ Universal Postal Union (UPU) card rate. Oddly, during this time the domestic and UPU international rates for postcards were the same.

The 5¢ blue "The Minute Man" (Sc. 619) shows a statue sculpted in 1874 by Daniel Chester French that is in Concord, MA. The minutemen were trained and outfitted colonial militia, composing about 25% of America's trained soldiers and among the first to fight in the American Revolutionary War. On the base of the monument and on the stamp is the first verse of the poem *Concord Hymn* by Ralph Waldo Emerson (Sc. 861 in the Famous Americans issue) with the famous patriotic line "the shot heard round the world". The stamp paid the 5¢ UPU international letter rate.

The three stamp designs' common features include on the sides a pair of muskets and a powder horn hanging from a strap. Very romantic, but it is reported that both the British and the Americans used previously prepared paper cartridges for loading their muskets because of speed—three to four rounds per minute could be fired as opposed to one round using a powder horn.

These attractive stamps are easy to find with good centering, and I recently paid \$6 from the APS Stamp-Store for the lightly-hinged mint set shown above.

Uses of the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps on post cards.



The detached pair of 1¢ Sc. 617 has an Aurora, IL, May 13, 1925 Universal machine cancel.

The 2¢ Sc. 618 has an Excelsior, MN, July 6, 1925 duplex handstamp.

First day covers for all three denominations were prepared in Boston, Lexington, Cambridge, Concord and Concord Junction, all MA. My 2019 Scott Specialized values the 1¢, 2¢ and 5¢ first day covers, any town, respectively at \$30, \$40 and \$75 (with one minor exception). A collection of covers of the stamps' most common usages mentioned above could be supplemented with usages for other postal services like registry or special delivery, but these would be difficult to find. I'll be keeping an eye out for a single 1¢ stamp being used on a postcard to Canada or Mexico—while the U.S. domestic rate for postcards jumped to 2¢ on April 15, 1925, the treaty rates to these countries remained at 1¢ until October 1, 1925.



Shown above is a related pioneer postcard, "Greetings from Historic Battle Fields," produced by the American Souvenir Co. and postmarked in Boston on June 19, 1900. The multi-view side includes the Concord Minute Man, the Battle Bridge (Old North Bridge), the Lexington Soldiers Monument, and a couple of powder horns. The address side did not include the required UPU inscription "Post Card" (in any language) so it was treated as a letter. It was also oversized for international card rates. The 5¢ letter rate was required. Shortpaid 3¢, it was marked in Boston as the equivalent 15 French centimes due ("T 15" in circle, French is the official language of the UPU). In Germany the deficient amount was properly doubled which equaled 30 centimes and converts to 25 German pfennig, as marked by the "25" in blue crayon. Once reaching the addressed Bremen, the card was forwarded within Germany to Schlangenberg.

References:

- Rodney A. Jewell, Lynn R. Batdorf, Steven J. Rods, eds. Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting, 2nd ed. (Katy, Texas: United States Stamp Society, 2016) p.195.
- Scott 2019 Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps and Covers (Sidney, OH: Amos Media, 2018).
- Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher, U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-2011 (Belleville, PA: American Philatelic Society, 2011) [Available from APS].
- Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher, U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996 (Portland, OR: CAMA Publishing Co. 1996) esp. pp.102, 103 and 142 [available from APS].
- [En.wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org); search "Battles of Lexington and Concord" if you'd like to read about the history of the battles.

Patrick Crosby is a member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society and collects U.S. postal stationery, stamps and postcards with an emphasis on postal history.

Call for Volunteers: For our stamp club to grow and thrive we are always in need of members to help in various capacities. This list is not all inclusive but gives a good indication of those needed immediately.



- Nominations for elected offices of Vice-President, Secretary and one Director.
- Social Media coordinator – mainly monitor Facebook page.
- July 22 Stamp Show set up at the bowling stadium – noon until 6 p.m.
- July 23 Stamp Show – 2-hour time period at registration desk – 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- July 24 Stamp Show – 2-hour time period at registration desk – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- July 24 Stamp Show – take down exhibit frames and pack up tablecloths – 4 p.m.- done.

Volunteers needed throughout the year:

- Give a presentation at member meeting on your favorite topic/item you collect – 30 min.
- Write a one- or two-page article for the Post Boy.

July Quiz – U.S. Firsts (Part II)

By Eric Moody

1. An American Indian first appeared on a U.S. postage stamp in
(a) 1869 (b) 1875 (c) 1893 (d) 1898
2. The first fictional character from American literature to be featured on a U.S. stamp was
(a) Tom Sawyer (b) Rip Van Winkle (c) Paul Bunyan (d) Dorothy from *Wizard of Oz*
3. The American bison (buffalo) made its initial appearance on a stamp in
(a) 1869 (b) 1898 (c) 1923 (d) 1970
4. The first foreign monarch to appear on a U.S. stamp was
(a) King George III (Great Britain) (b) King Louis XVI (France) (c) Queen Isabella (Spain)
(d) Queen Elizabeth II (Great Britain)
5. California was first depicted on a stamp in
(a) 1913 (b) 1934 (c) 1923 (d) 1904
6. The 1870-1871 definitive set included for the first time an image of
(a) the statue of liberty (b) a Postmaster General (c) a Civil War general (d) a U.S. flag
7. The first ocean-going ship depicted on a stamp was
(a) USS *Constitution* ("Old Ironsides") (b) SS *Adriatic* (c) John Paul Jones' *Bonhomme Richard*
(d) Columbus' *Santa Maria*
8. The first stamp honoring an assassinated President appeared in
(a) 1869 (b) 1882 (c) 1866 (d) 1875
9. This type of postal service got its first stamps in 1913:
(a) Airmail (b) Parcel Post (c) Certified Mail (d) Special Handling
10. The Post Office began issuing annual Christmas stamps in
(a) 1946 (b) 1950 (c) 1959 (d) 1962
11. The first Polish patriot to appear on a U.S. stamp was
(a) Jan Paderewski (b) Thomas Masaryk (c) Casimir Pulaski (d) Tadeusz Kosciuszko
12. A horseman carrying mail – an express rider – was first shown on a stamp in
(a) 1940 (b) 1869 (c) 1960 (d) 1893
13. (Bonus) An elephant appeared for the first time on a U.S. stamp in
(a) 1966 (b) 1993 (c) 1942 (d) 1970

The July quiz is worth 130 **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

June Quiz Answers: 1. c (#975 in 1948) 2. a (#2012) 3. b (#116) 4. c (#796) 5. b (#1 in 1847) 6. c 7. d (#234 in 1893) 8. c (#716) 9. b (#144) 10. d (#860 in 1940) 11. b (#114) 12. a (#296) 13. a (#Q8 Parcel Post)
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Membership Renewal for 2022-23

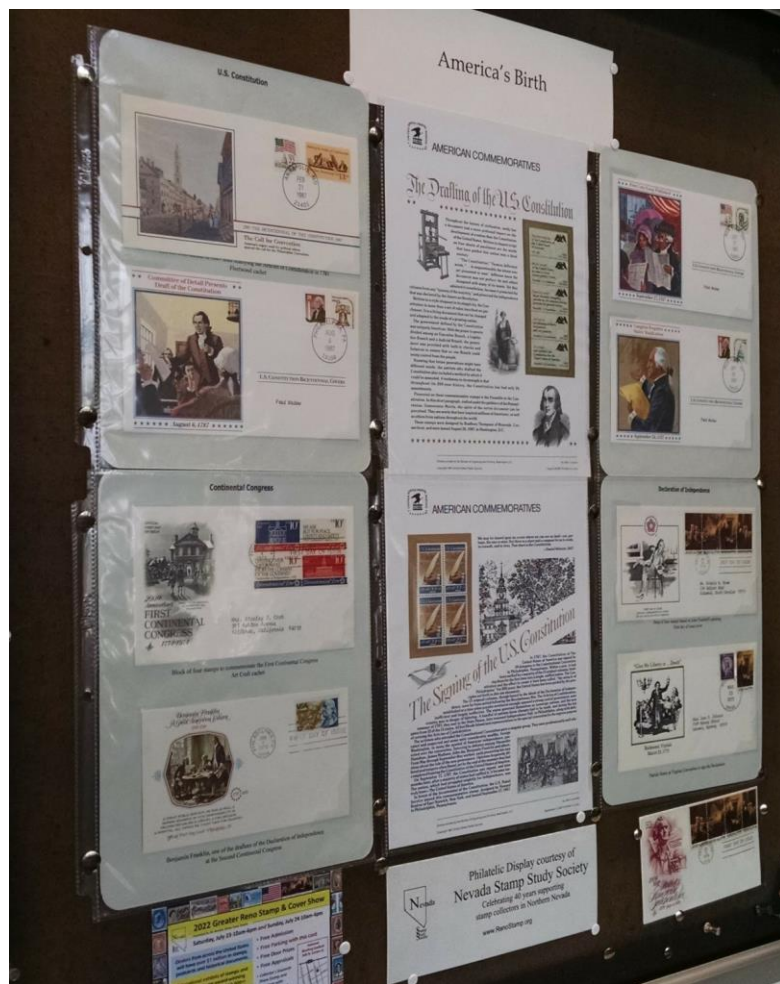
By Mike Potter, Membership Chair

After 2 years of suspended (free) dues for members who joined prior to Aug 2019, dues is again being assessed and is due August 1. The membership year is Aug. 1 to July 31, 2023.

The dues help cover the NSSS yearly expenses which include the post office box rental, liability insurance, website fees for hosting and domain name, storage unit, along with donations to the Silverada Estates for allowing us to use their clubhouse for our meetings.

Membership dues (\$20 for single or \$25 for family) can be paid at a meeting or mailed it to NSSS, P.O. Box 2907, Sparks, NV 89432.

Vassar Post Office Display



The two wall display frames available to the stamp club were changed the last week in June.

The philatelic themes are America's Birth and Celebrate July 4th. The stamps and covers show some early flag stamps and cachets. Other covers celebrate the Drafting of the U.S. Constitution and the Signing of the U.S. Constitution.

Information about the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show is also displayed in the frames.