

Post Boy

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



June 2023
Volume 56, Issue 6

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

Officers:

President – James Steckley
president@renostamp.org

Vice President – Nadiah Beekun
vp@renostamp.org

Secretary – Jeanne Paquin
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

Meetings –

June 10 - In person and online via Zoom starts at 10 a.m.
After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there will be a live auction. Members can have up to 5 lots on the auction table. Extra lots may be added up to 60 total lots.

June 24 - In person and online via Zoom starts at 10 a.m.
After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there will be a philatelic presentation by James Steckley "The 20th Century Limited J3a Dreyfess Engine." Members can have up to 10 lots on the consignment table. Extra lots may be added as lots are sold.

Online Auction #28 – All lot descriptions and images are due by noon on June 25. The auction will start at noon on June 27 and end at noon on July 6. Email auction lot images & info to **Dave Parsons**:
NSSSauctions@gmail.com

2023 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, July 29-30. Free admission and parking, National Bowling Stadium, 300 Center St., Reno. Member exhibits are needed. No frame fees. Arrangements are being made for a show presentation on Saturday, July 29.

Nominations for Elections – Reminder elections are coming soon. A full slate of candidates is needed by the end of July. Elections will take place at the annual picnic on August 12.
The open positions are President, Treasurer, and 2 Directors. The Nomination Form can be obtained from **John Walter** at club meetings.

Post Boy Reporter

May 13 meeting – The attendance was 20 members. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. Three visitors attended with items to sell. Refreshments were provided by **Howard Grenzebach**.

James Steckley received a large donation from **Nadiah Beekun** which will be in today's auction and the June online auction.

Erik Fields reminded members about the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, July 29-30. The dealer's and exhibitor's prospectus are on the club's website. <https://renostamp.org/show.html>

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes and a bonus prize won by **Scott Mathews**. The money of \$11.50 was won by **Betty Mudge**.

The live auction had 49 lots sold with a total of \$551 with \$290 of that from donated lots. **Gary Atkinson** was the auctioneer with **Nadiah Beekun** and **Howard Kadohiro** helping.

May 27 meeting – Attendance was 25 members including two members via Zoom. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to setup the tables and chairs. Refreshments were provided by **Betty Mudge**.

James Steckley discussed upcoming USPS new issue stamps for June – the Waterfall pane of 12 and the Federal Duck stamp. He also discussed a recent online APS presentation on airmail covers including catapult, balloon, rocket, etc.

John Walter reported on his activities with the Vassar post office displays, the Post Boy newsletter, and the club website. **Erik Fields** completed the IRS form for the club's non-profit status.

Erik Fields reported on the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, July 29-30. Eight dealers are confirmed. There will be competitive exhibits. **Donny Sehr**, junior member, mentioned he will provide a new exhibit for the show.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes. The bonus prize was won by **Donny Sehr** and the money prize of \$10.50 went to **Robert Bernal**.

The philatelic presentation was multiple reports on the WESTPEX stamp show with stories and purchases made. **Dave Gehringer** won a Rumsey auction lot for a coil pair of 10¢ Washingtons (Scott 356) that completed his album page of the Washington-Franklin coils. He also purchased a couple of Navy covers including one with a cancel on the USS West Virginia, Sept. 2, 1945, in Tokyo Bay for Japan's surrender.



John Walter showed 4 used aerograms (UC39) addressed to Moscow, USSR; Rome, Italy; Buxtehude, West Germany; and Operation Deep Freeze cachet sent to Dundee, Angus, Scotland. All aerograms sent in 1971. The Operation Deep Freeze aerogram was canceled on board the *USCGC Staten Island*. The *USCGC Staten Island* became the fourth United States ship to circumnavigate the North American continent traveling some 23,000 miles in 1969. The vessel was also in the USSR navy 1944-1952 on the "lend-lease" program. The ship had a very interesting 30 year history.

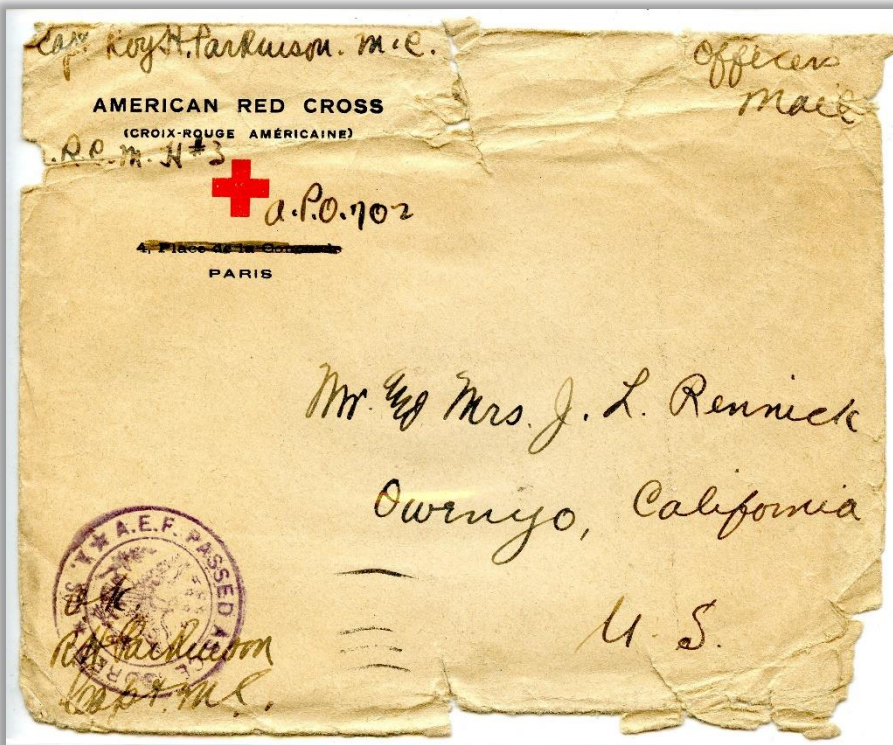
Howard Kadohiro showed covers and information on an in-law involved in the Bataan Death march in the Philippines during WWII. He showed a letter dated in Feb. 1942 and a POW camp cover, Wake Island Japanese POW camp cover from a U.S. civilian contractor, plus a few others. All great covers and stories from the presenters.

Raffle Prize – A WWI Soldier's Cover & Letter

By John Walter

Raffle prize donations are solicited from members for each stamp club meeting. On May 27 I won a raffle prize that was a real surprise. It was a ratty looking cover with tears, missing sections, heavy fold along the top since it was an odd size and too tall for a regular cover sleeve.

But what a wonderful cover it turned out to be with an 8-page letter from a WWI soldier stationed in France in 1919. Here is the story where my research led me from the town it was addressed to and the easily read letter which was still in very good shape.



The cover was sent by Capt. Roy H. Parkinson, M.C., A.R.C.M.H. (American Red Cross Military Hospital) #3, A.P.O. 702. The corner card already had preprinted American Red Cross, Paris.

Notice the A.E.F Passed Censor in the lower left. Capt. Parkinson censored his own letter.

It was also endorsed for free mailing as "Officer Mail." Usually the A.E.F mail I have seen has the "Soldier Mail" for the free mailing.

There is no postmark on the front or rear of the cover.

The cover was sent to Owenyo, California. The town was located in Inyo

County, about 5 miles north of Lone Pine. It's claim-to-fame is the location on the Southern Pacific Railroad and in 1911 a big ceremony took place for the joining of the two branches of the Southern Pacific – the standard-gauge "Jawbone" (Owenyo) Branch and the narrow-gauge Owens Valley Branch. The town was abandoned in the 1960s, and all that remains are a few building foundations. It is a ghost town.

Now to a local connection. The Carson & Colorado Narrow Gauge Railroad line ran along the east side of Owens Valley with stops in small towns and mining camps. The railroad was built from Mound House, Nevada to Keeler, CA. By 1900 the Carson & Colorado was sold to Southern Pacific which then shifted the northern terminus from Mound House to Fallon, NV. In 1910, Southern Pacific built the new standard gauge line north from Mojave, CA to Owenyo.



1911 photo of celebration joining both branches of narrow- and standard-gauge tracks. Tracks were actually side-by-side.



http://www.owensvalleyhistory.com/carson_n_colorado/page51d.html

One of the narrow-gauge steam locomotives built in 1907 and used on the Southern Pacific line was engine #8. This is the locomotive on display at Lillard Park, Sparks, in front of the Sparks Heritage Museum on Victorian Square since 1975. How about that.

Here is an undated photo of engine #8 in the Owenyo train yard.

I tried looking for Jack L. Rennick, the addressee, but could not find definitive information of an individual by that name in Owenyo.

Paris France
May 3rd 1919.

My dear friends,
Jack & Susan:

Thanks for letter dated April 6. You must have written me just as soon as you received my new address. Well I tell you, you can't make me sore by dropping me a line now and then.

I am glad that you received my Italian pictures. That trip was a wonder and to morrow I am going to put in a request for a leave to England the first week in June.

The weather should be delightful then and I am anticipating a very good trip. I want to see what they have in the way of new eye work. I have seen most of the things there in that line in Paris and after I finish Edinburgh and London I will be fairly well fixed. The opportunities here have been excellent.

Now I am going to send you a snap shot of me and Jack will really think I am a Frenchman by the looks of my mustache. I have gained a lot in weight too so I may look a little strange.

This is the craziest country imaginable and hope I am in the proper mood to tell you about them and that my memory is good. The crazy things they do would make an American dog laugh.

There is no use in my even attempting anything on paper.

Well I must beat it to bed as it is after 11 P.M. and I was on duty until nearly 1 A.M. - this morning.

Keep on writing until you hear from me at N.Y. I will drop you a card from there as soon as I land.

With best wishes
Roy

address:
Capt. Roy H. Parkinson, M.C.
A.R.C.M.H.#3
A.P.O. 702
Paris, France

Next is the letter from Capt. Parkinson. Here are images of the first and last pages.

I debated whether to include the 8-page letter but found it interesting. The letter is written and numbered on the first side, but both sides are used for a total of 8 pages.

Here is the entire letter:

Paris France
May 3rd 1919

My dear friends, Jack and Susan:

Thanks for letter dated April 6. You must have written me just as soon as you received my new address. Well I tell you, you can't make me sore by dropping me a line now and then.

I am glad that you received my Italian pictures. That trip was a wonder and tomorrow I am going to put in a request for a leave to England the first week in June.

The weather should be delightful then and I am anticipating a very good trip. I want to see what they have in the way of new eye(?) work. I have seen most of the things here in that line in Paris and after I finish Edinburgh and London I will be fairly well fixed. The opportunities here have been excellent and I have surely taken full advantage of them.

I have nearly finished the Louvre galleries and have taken in about 8 first class operas so am well pleased with my stay here.

I can not tell just how much longer I will be kept but feel that I will be one of the last to leave France. However it is intended to have all Americans off French soil by August and by the looks

of things I think they should easily succeed.

I shall be awfully glad for the French are getting mighty tired of us and are as anxious to get rid of us as we are to get away. We are now of no great use to them so they are through with us as we are of them.

This view may seem a little surprising to you but take the tip from one right on the ground.

Page 2 -

All officers and men coming back from the Army of Occupation in Germany have very favorable things to say about their treatment and the people there. Only just last night I admitted an officer just from there and I quizzed him pretty carefully and he agrees exactly with what others have said.

The people where he was billeted took just as good care of him as if he was their own son and when he left the young lady of the house promptly and apparently sincerely kissed him good bye. All of the boys are feeling very different and would much rather be billeted among the Germans than the French.

Peace had surely better be signed before we all get back or American public opinion may be changed in regard to Germany. Of course we know in many cases the treatment is to create a favorable American opinion but they have done more than just enough to create a favorable opinion.

I would not mind going up there for a short time say a month.

I am anxious to go to England for I like the English people very much. I was surely treated splendidly when I was over there in England last August.

I have some relatives of friends of mine waiting for me and anticipating my visit. Nearly all of our men or rather the officers are enthusiastic about them and I am awfully glad to see it. There is no reason for us to be jealous and envious of each others greatness rather we should both be glad and proud of each others good qualities.

America and Great Britain together can control the world so that the English speaking people have at last become supreme.

Page 3 -

The Latin races or rather nations are quite high strung and excitable. Another 1000 years from now will I feel see (sic) nearly the last of them.

It seems to me that they are going to go the route of the North American Indian. However that would conform to the general law of the rise and decay of races and nations.

The most remarkable examples being the Ancient Egyptians and Babylonians. The Greeks came nearly doing the same thing.

But it takes about 3000 to 3500 yrs for them to finally loose all trace of their ancient characteristics and form. Egypt under the Ptolemy was not the Egypt under the Pharaohs.

The last forceful Egyptians life was seen around 1200 to 1500 B.C. so that they have been extinct long enough to enable us to judge the amount of influence they actually had on the world. There is really no history more fascinating than that of Egypt. I am sorry that I will have to return home without having had the opportunity of visiting it.

However as soon as I make my home if I ever do I shall go there and study things a little in the actual ground. Italy was really a most enchanting country from the standpoint of the traveler

and historian. I must not get started off on Italy for I never would stop.

I guess I had better talk of something that is nearer home and that will be of more interest to you.

I am not terribly surprised to learn that Jack has the mountains in mind again. Jack those Alps in Franco Italian country were some mountains. However the yellow metal is particularly conspicuous by its absence but it is a rough country.

Page 4 –

Now C.L.D. Jones of Co E – 324 Inf comes my way I will classify him “D” and start him toward sunny Calif. Suppose he will never fall in my hands unless he is a Lieutenant or above in rank for this is an officers hospital and we have generals, colonels and majors here galore. General Pershing has not been here since I have been here but can tell how long it will be until he finally falls into our clutches.

I have not seen Pres. Wilson yet but Admiral Grayson his physician was out to one of the operations where I was yesterday. Here is where the celebrities come. I am surely lucky to get this assignment for the opportunities are surely great. There are any number of countesses giving us parties and dances but I have not attended any yet. However I will so pretty soon for I do not want to pass it up while I have the chance.

Now I am going to send you a snap shot of me soon and Jack I will really think I am a Frenchman by the looks of my mustache. I have gained a lot of weight too so I may look a little strange.

This is the craziest country imaginable and hope I am in the proper mood to tell you about them and that my memory is good. The crazy things they do would make an American dog laugh.

There is no use in my even attempting anything on paper.

Well I must beat it to bed as it is after 11 p.m. and I was on duty until nearly 1 a.m. this morning.

Keep on writing until you hear from me at N.Y. I will drop you a card from there as soon as I land.

With Best Wishes Roy

Address: Capt. Roy H. Parkinson, M.C.

A.R.C.M.H. #3

AP0 702

Paris France.

As you can tell from the letter, Capt. Parkinson was a physician working at the American Red Cross Medical Hospital #3 in Paris. World War I began July 28, 1914, the U.S. entered the war April 6, 1917. The war ended November 11, 1918.

References:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carson_and_Colorado_Railway
- Speck, Gary B., *Exploring a Ghost Railroad*, Nov. 2001. <https://freepages.rootsweb.com/~gtusa/history/usa/ca/ccrr.htm>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Owenyo,_California
- Strong, Mary Frances, *Owenyo – Where the Narrow Gauge Met the Standard*, Desert Magazine, July 1972, http://www.owensvalleyhistory.com/stories/exploring_a_ghost_railroad01.pdf
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Pacific_8

John Walter collects U.S. used postal stationery, U.S. naval covers esp. hospital ships, Japan.

A Langton's Pioneer Express Cover

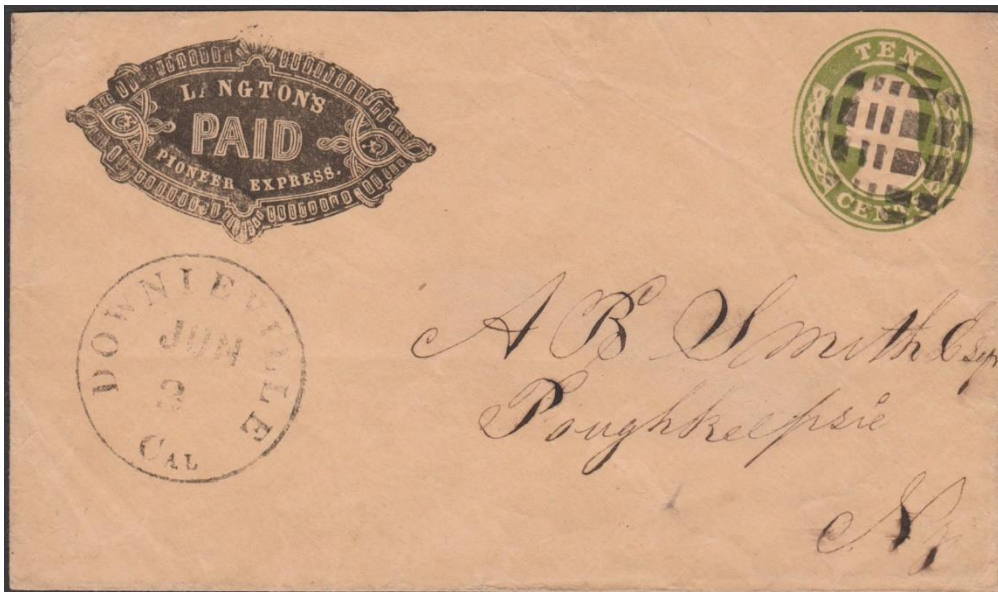
By Patrick Crosby

After being declared prohibited in 1845 by the USPOD (United States Post Office Department) private express companies were allowed in 1852, but with an assurance that the USPOD would get their letter postage revenue. This was accomplished by requiring all private mail carriers to use government stamped envelopes for all correspondence paying the correct postage rate. In the event no suitable stamped envelopes were available, postage stamps could be substituted. In addition, private express fees were also charged, sometimes noted with a private frank (a mark indicating postal charges were paid, also a verb), which could be a handstamp, an imprint, or a local stamp of an express company. If an express company picked up and delivered an item with no post office services needed, they still had to pay USPOD postage. All along, exceptions were made for remote areas not near any post offices.

In the mining areas of California and Nevada Territory the need for miners and businesses to communicate with the outside world was met by private express companies. Samuel W. Langton established his Langton's Express in February 1850, operating into 1865 under various combinations of owners and 7 different names, all starting with "Langton's". No covers from Langton are known until 1852 since he had not been using a frank or other company handstamp. With some mining camps having only a brief life, a Langton's express served at least 173 camps and towns between Marysville, Nevada City, and Downieville, CA and Virginia City, N.T. (Nevada Territory).



From the Grass Valley Telegraph March 18, 1856



By the time the featured cover was posted the company was known as "Langton's Pioneer Express" and his imprinted frank includes "PAID" meaning the express fees. Over the years Langton used different franks, the one on this cover being referred to as the "football" frank which has 2 subtypes and is seen in 4 colors. Black is the most common with over 100 covers known. [This cover's frank is Haller FL3, ty. 4]

The featured 10¢ government stamped envelope is the highest value of the first set of U.S. envelopes. It paid the domestic letter postage rate for over 3,000 miles, this cover being sent to Poughkeepsie, NY. The envelope is Scott U18a and United Postal Stationery Society number 28a, the "a" referring to yellow green instead of green - both colors valued used at \$180. Langton's Pioneer Express carried the cover from some

unknown mine to Downieville, CA (post office: 1852 to present), where it entered the U.S. mails on June 3rd. The year? The envelope issue year was 1853 and the next 10¢ envelope issue was in 1860. Also, the variation “Langton’s Pioneer Express” was used from 2-23-1855 until 8-24-1864. So, the year is likely anywhere from 1855 to 1861. There are no markings on the cover’s reverse.

Samuel Langton died on August 24, 1864, succumbing to his injuries after his buggy had encountered a logging wagon in Silver City, N.T. Two of his brothers and his wife, Anne, took over the company, then sold out to a Downieville banker on 11-21-1865. Smart move since the buyer was squeezed out of business by Wells, Fargo & Co. only 10 months later.

References:

- Prior, Scott W., *Expressing with Samuel W. Langton 1852-1865*, <http://www.rfrajola.com> [This is a philatelic exhibit providing much more and complete information on Langton’s expresses than other sources.]
- *Laws Relating to the Service of the Post Office Department* (Washington DC, 1852), [see www.uspostalbulletins.com]
- Perlman, Michael, *Western Express Usages of Ten Cent Stamps and Entireties*, www.westerncoversociety.org
- *A Terrible Accident* (Gold Hill Daily News, Gold Hill, N.T.) 13 August 1864 (see www.chronicalingamerica.local.gov)
- Dan Undersander, editor, *Catalog of the 20th and 21st Century Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the United States* (Chester, VA: United Postal Stationery Society 2016)
- *Scott 2019 Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps and Covers*, (Sidney, OH: Amos Media, 2018) [Langton’s only local stamp is listed under Local Stamps, Humboldt Express]

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



Some of the members at the May 27 meeting. Very attentive group listening to the president’s announcements.

Quiz – Patriotic Celebrations

By Eric Moody

1. “Bicentennial” stamps commemorating the 200th anniversary of the American Revolution and the establishment of the nation, were issued by the United States during this period:
(a) 1970-1976 (b) 1967-1977 (c) 1974-1985 (d) 1971-1983
2. In 1916 this South American country issued stamps (#220-221) as part of a centennial celebration of its independence from Spain.
(a) Argentina (b) Chile (c) Brazil (d) Venezuela
3. In 1995 the U.S. issued a set of stamps (#2981a-j) commemorating the 50th anniversary of
(a) Memorial Day (b) Thanksgiving (c) the end of World War II (d) the end of Prohibition
4. This African country produced an American Bicentennial set of stamps (#C244-C246) in 1976 that depicted famous paintings of the Battle of Bunker Hill, the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Franklin, and Presidents Jefferson and John Adams.
(a) Rwanda (b) Burundi (c) Ghana (d) Liberia
5. 1968 saw the 50th anniversary celebration of the establishment of a republic in this western European country (commemorated on stamps #820-822).
(a) Belgium (b) Hungary (c) Austria (d) Portugal
6. This nation’s monarch is pictured – in photos by famous photographers – on stamps (#2017-2021) of 2002 that commemorate the ruler’s fifty-year reign.
(a) Netherlands (b) Denmark (c) Spain (d) Great Britain
7. The birthday of this European nation’s leader was celebrated annually with a postage stamp marking the occasion. The last of these stamps (#B271) was issued in 1944. The country is:
(a) Yugoslavia (b) Soviet Union (c) Germany (d) Italy
8. The storming of a prison by a mob in 1789 initiated a popular revolution in this country. The event is celebrated annually as a national holiday, and the bicentennial of the revolution that it set off was marked with the issuance of several stamps (#2139, 2143, 2160, 2162, etc.) in 1989.
The country is:
(a) Brazil (b) Italy (c) France (d) Spain
9. A 1997 stamp (#1613) celebrating the 50th anniversary of this Asian nation’s independence carries portraits of three army officers.
(a) India (b) Burma (c) Indonesia (d) Malaysia
10. This large country’s centenary as a nation occurred in 1967. The celebration was marked with the issuance of a stamp (#453) that carried depictions of the newly-adopted national flag and a Centennial Emblem.
(a) Australia (b) Mexico (c) Chile (d) Canada

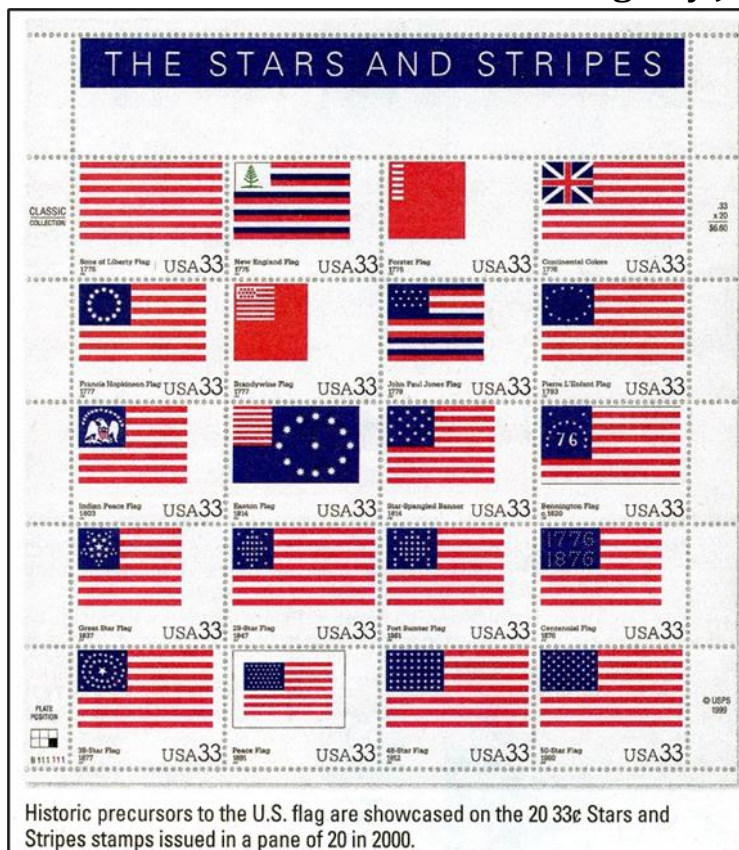
11. Several leaders in this country's successful fight for independence from Britain are depicted in a set of stamps (#206-213) released in 1966, the 50th anniversary of a momentous Easter Week Rebellion.
(a) Singapore (b) Pakistan (c) Ireland (d) Kenya
12. The anniversary of the revolution that established a communist government in this country is celebrated every year. In 1989 the 30th anniversary was commemorated with a four-stamp set (#3090-3093). The country is:
(a) North Korea (b) Cuba (c) Vietnam (d) Yugoslavia

The June 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

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

A historical correction on the May quiz: Question #3 had the “Teddy Bear” being named for Theodore Roosevelt after he visited Australia and encountered a koala. Actually, the cuddly stuffed toy was created after Teddy went on a hunt in Mississippi in 1902 and refused to shoot a captured bear. Subsequent political cartoons showed the popular President sparing a cute little cub, and enterprising toy makers took the cue.... This error points out the dangers of relying on faintly remembered stories instead of checking facts!

Flag Day June 14



What we know fondly as the “Stars and Stripes” was adopted by the Continental Congress as the official American flag on June 14, 1777, in the midst of the Revolutionary War. Colonial troops fought under many different flags with various symbols— rattlesnakes, pine trees, and eagles—and slogans— “Don’t Tread on Me,” “Liberty or Death,” and “Conquer or Die,” to name a few.

The Declaration of Independence made the adoption of an American flag necessary. Previously, each colony or special interest had its own flag.

On the 14th of June, Congress made the following resolution: “The flag of the United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white on a blue field ...” Official announcement of the new flag was not made until Sept. 3, 1777.