

Post Boy

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



October 2023
Volume 56, Issue 10

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

Meetings –

Oct. 14 – In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a live auction. Members can have up to 5 items with more added to reach a maximum of 60 lots. A Board meeting will follow the regular meeting.

Oct. 28 - In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, the presentation will be “Joint U.S. Stamp Issues” by **Dave Gehringer**. Members can have up to 10 lots on the consignment table. Extra lots may be added as lots are sold.

Online Auction #30 – All lot descriptions and images are due by noon on October 15. The auction will start at noon October 17 and end at noon on October 26. Email auction lot info to **Dave Parsons**:
NSSSauctions@gmail.com

Upcoming special “meetings”: **Nov. 11** is the Auction Bucks auction where members can bid on donated garage sale type items using your hard-earned Auction Bucks.

December 9 is the Christmas/Holiday party with potluck food items and gift exchange.

July 27-28, 2024 – Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show at the International Bowling Museum, National Bowling Stadium. So, mark your calendar now. Volunteers will be needed – see **Erik Fields** if you want to help.

Take a look at the Quiz – “Flying on Stamps... Without An Airplane” on page 8. This is an open book test where everyone gets to research and look for the answers. Old Scott catalogs are the best resource, but doing a Google search works just as well. This is another interesting topic from our quiz-master, **Eric Moody**.

Post Boy Reporter

Sept. 9 meeting – The attendance was 23 including 3 members via Zoom. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. **Eric Moody** provided the refreshments.

James Steckley made announcements about USPS new stamp issues and British Empire Stamp Society presentations via Zoom. There are 15 albums donated mostly with covers. They will be in the October online auction.

John Walter discussed the current issue of the Post Boy and status of the website. The Vassar post office Sept. display consisted of material for the Reno Hot Air Ballon Races and the Reno National Air Races.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes and a bonus prize won by **Dave Gehringer**. The money of \$6.00 was won by **Eric Moody**.

The live auction had 66 lots with 53 lots selling for \$253.25. **Gary Atkinson** was the auctioneer with **Nadiah Beekun** and **Howard Kadohiro** helping.

Sept. 23 meeting – **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 25 including two members and one guest via Zoom. **Scott Mathews** also brought his son, Ben. Two people came early to ask about a collection and left before they signed our guest log. Refreshments were provided by **Erik Fields**.

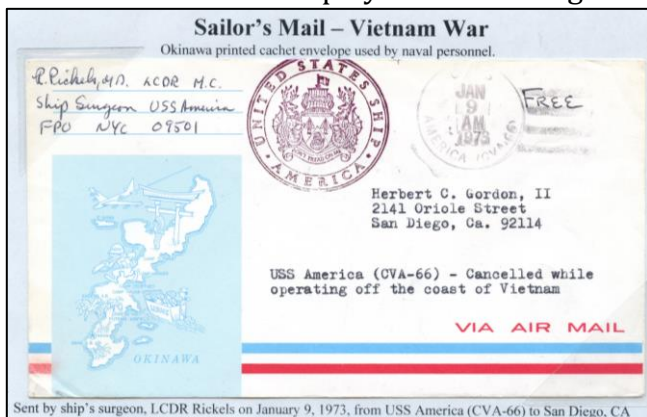
James Steckley announced the upcoming USPS new issues on Oct. 2 (Ruth Bader Ginsberg) and Oct. 10 (Winter Woodland Animals). He also announced upcoming stamp shows in Northern California. Future club activities include the Auction Bucks auction on Nov. 11 and the Christmas/Holiday party on Dec. 9.

Erik Fields confirmed dates for the 2024 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show as July 27-28 with same venue at the National Bowling Stadium. **John Walter** reported on the Post Boy newsletter, plus the Vassar Post Office, and Carson City library stamp displays during National Stamp Collecting Month.

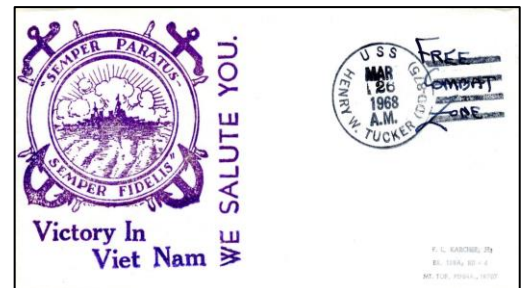
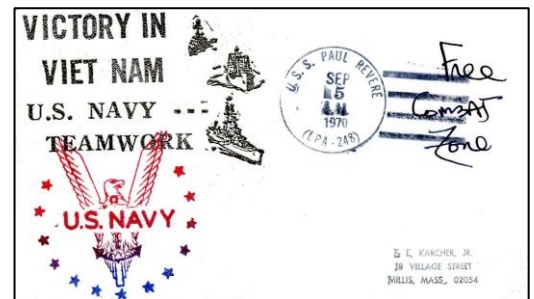
Mike Potter announced paid membership of 54 with about 10 members yet to pay for 2023-24 membership. He will contact those members again about renewing.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes. The bonus prize was won by **Scott Mathews** and the money prize of \$8.50 went to **John Walter**.

The program was a slide presentation on “Victory in Vietnam Covers” by **John Walter**. He purchased 10 of these covers at the Reno Stamp Show in July. To his surprise they were “famous” fake navy cancel covers supposedly from ships stationed off the Vietnam coast during the war. All the covers were produced by Fred Karcher, many addressed to his homes in PA and MA. Great presentation with lots of interesting information about the ships. The covers were on display at the meeting on a poster board.



Shown on the right are two of the fake covers with “Victory In Viet Nam” cachets.

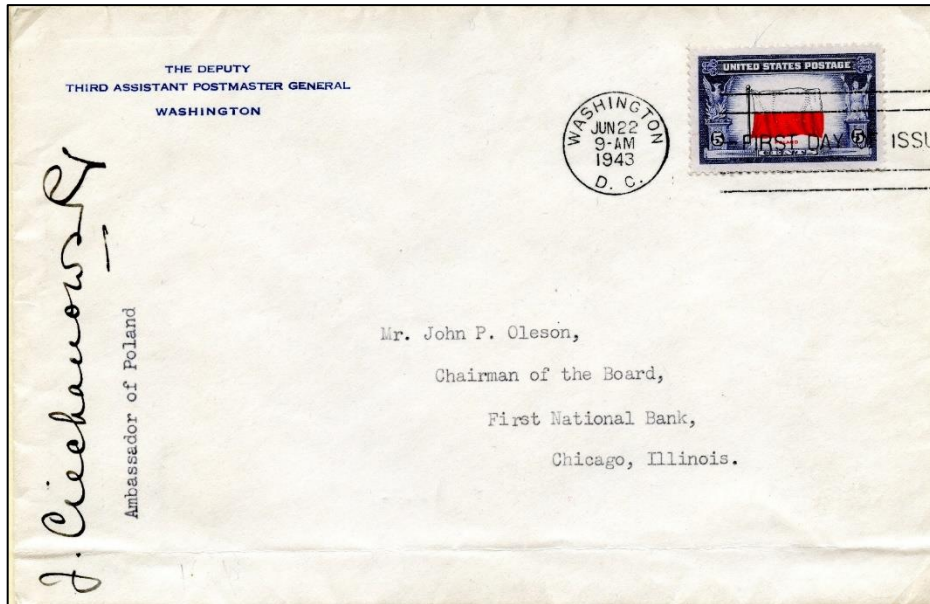


On the left is a legitimate sailor cover with “free” endorsement for postage. John showed a few other “real” covers from soldier’s stationed in Vietnam in the 1960s.

An Unusual First Day Cover

By Howard Grenzebach

First day covers have been collectibles for many years and are reasonably common. This one is a little different. It was sent to the Chairman of the Board of the First National Bank in Chicago. It was sent by Roy North, the Third Assistant Postmaster General whose duties at the time included selecting the designs to be used on postage stamps.



The stamp was issued on June 22, 1943. It shows the Polish flag, the flag of the first country to be overrun by the German army at the onset of World War II. It was also the first stamp of the "Overrun Countries" series. And the autograph on the side of the envelope? It is from the Polish (government in exile) Ambassador to America, Jan Ciechanowski.

Here is a copy of the enclosed letter:

**THE DEPUTY THIRD ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL
WASHINGTON**

June 22, 1943.

Mr. John P. Oleson,
Chairman of the Board,
First National Bank, Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Oleson:

The stamp on this letter, honoring the courage and valor of the Polish people, is the first in a series of postage stamps to be issued paying tribute to the overrun and occupied countries of Europe.

This is the first time that a postage stamp has been issued by this Government bearing a foreign flag as the central subject. To the right of the flag appears the "Phoenix," a mythological bird, signifying renewal of life; to the left is a figure of a kneeling woman with shackles falling from outstretched arms, symbolizing liberation.

It is a pleasure for me to send this first day cover to you.

Press release for the First Day ceremony:

For Release on Receipt,
Tuesday, June 22, 1943.

INFORMATION SERVICE
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, the Ambassador of Poland, Mr. Jan Ciechanowski, and the Deputy Third Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. Roy M. North, took part today in ceremonies in Chicago and Washington on the occasion of the first sales of the new five-cent stamp in honor of Poland. The stamp is the first of a series paying tribute to the overrun and occupied countries for their resistance to Nazi aggression.

In Chicago, Mr. Walker made a brief address (the text of which has been made public) in tribute to Poland, in connection with the sale of the first sheet of the new stamps there. Philatelic societies conducted ceremonies in the main lobby of the post office. Demand for the new stamps was so heavy that Chicago was forced to order a second million when the first million was near exhaustion.

At the Washington Post Office, Ambassador Ciechanowski received the first sheet of the Poland stamp sold at that office, presented to him by Mr. North, whose Bureau is in charge of stamp issues. At the presentation ceremony in the post office, the Ambassador made public the following cable which he had received from Poland's Finance Minister Strasburger, who is also in charge of Poland's postal and telegraph services:

As Minister acting for Polish posts and telegraph, request you kindly to transmit to United States postal authorities the deep-felt thanks of the Polish Government for their friendly gesture in issuing a Polish postal stamp. The Polish people welcome this manifestation as yet another evidence of America's great friendliness to Poland and also as an expression of the inexorable desire to build the future world on the basis of justice and equality which form the framework of American ideals."



The following is the second page of the First Day ceremony program:

Mr. North's statement on presenting the sheet of stamps to the Ambassador follows:

"Mr. Ambassador:

"Of all the countries in Europe that have been subjected to the wrath of the Axis aggressor, none has suffered more grievously than your native land which, at great odds, has given unstintingly of its life blood in resisting the forces whose objective is to destroy and enslave.

"The special issue of postage stamps which we are placing on sale today will carry a message of encouragement and hope from America to your countrymen that the shackles of oppression are about to be broken and from the ashes of destruction Poland will arise again to take its place among the Nations of the World.

"Your Excellency, I count it one of the highest honors that has come to me to have the privilege of presenting to you the first sheet of Poland stamps offered for sale through the Washington, D. C. post office on this date."

The reply of the Ambassador of Poland follows:

"It is most gratifying for the Polish Government and the Polish Nation that Poland has been chosen as first in the series of those countries in honor of which the Postmaster General of the United States is issuing special stamps.

"The Polish people will interpret this gesture, so friendly to my country, as a recognition that Poland was the first to take up arms against wanton aggression and imperialism, and in defense of the principles which the United Nations have inscribed upon their banner.

"It will serve as a precious encouragement to the people of Poland in their indomitable resistance to the invader.

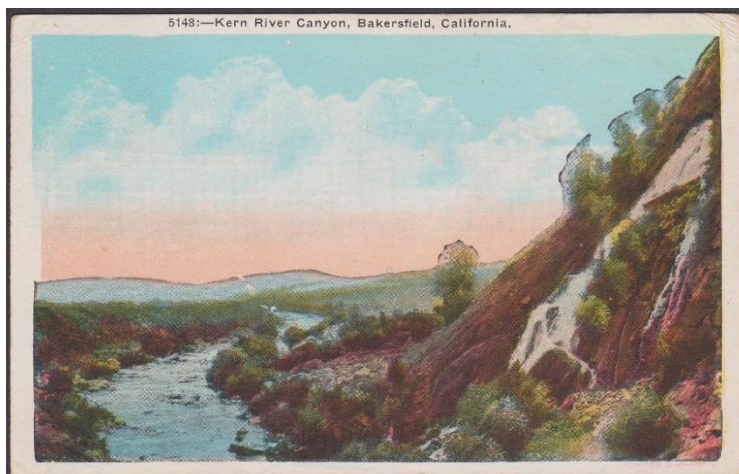
"On behalf of the Polish Government and the Polish Nation, and in my own behalf, I wish to express the warmest gratitude for this new proof of American understanding and friendship."

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Howard Grenzebach is currently a Director of NSSS and collects Worldwide pre-1950, early Grenada, and Swiss standing Helvetia.

By Patrick Crosby

The Giant Forest name refers to 1,880 acres inside Sequoia National Park which host easy access to giant sequoia tree groves and includes 40 miles of hiking trails. At one time there were 300 buildings in this favorite visitor area. But it was determined all the commercial activity was detrimental to the long-term health of the trees. Now the Giant Forest is a day use area with only 4 buildings.



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The Giant Forest coffee shop and post office. Also stores, a lodge and many cabins were once all together for the convenience of visitors.

Between the years 1995 and 2000 earlier buildings were demolished with accommodations and other commercial activity moving to Giant Forest Village Camp Kaweah Historic District just to the west, then the accommodations again to Wuksachi Village 7 miles north. The post office, still named Sequoia National Park, CA, moved to Lodgepole Village about 5 miles north.

References:

- [The Daily Postal Bulletin](#) (Washington, DC) (especially issues 10926, 12851, 14331 www.uspostal-bulletins.com)
- En.Wikipedia.org (searched especially Giant Forest)
- National Park Maps, npmaps.com
- Historical Map Archive, albamamaps.ua.edu
- postalhistory.com, U.S. Post Offices
- Helbock, Richard, [A Checklist of California Post Offices 1850-1989](#) 2nd edition (La Posta Publications 1992)

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.

Quiz – Flying on Stamps... Without An Airplane

By Eric Moody

Airplanes have often been depicted on stamps all over the world, but other kinds of aircraft and flying entities have also been featured. The following questions all relate to “flying objects” which are not powered airplanes - or flying animals or insects.

1. In 1983 the 200th anniversary of Stephen and Joseph Montgolfier’s invention and inauguration of flight in this type of craft was marked by France with a stamp (#1803). The flying craft was a:
(a) rocket (b) glider (c) hot air balloon (d) mechanized flying fish
2. A helicopter appears on this country’s 1987 stamp (#3081) that depicts activity at the Mirnij Research Station in Antarctica. The country is:
(a) Russia (Soviet Union) (b) Poland (c) Sweden (d) Hungary
3. This 1999 stamp (#2800) carries a picture of the flying machine designed by Leonardo da Vinci in the 15th century. It was issued by:
(a) Italy (b) U.S. (c) France (d) East Germany (German Democratic Republic)
4. This 1991 U.S. stamp (#2530) depicts a hot air balloon floating over:
(a) the Atlantic Ocean (b) mountains (c) farmlands (d) desert
5. Two stamps (#3187-3188) celebrating gliders and glider flying were released by this eastern European country in 1989.
(a) Slovakia (b) Romania (c) Hungary (d) Poland
6. During 1951-1954 this U.S.-administered Pacific territory issued stamps that portrayed a flying mythical “heavenly maiden.” The territory was:
(a) Guam (b) Ryukyu Islands (c) American Samoa (d) Marshal Islands
7. Three stamps (#395-397) which were issued by this famously maritime nation on the occasion of the International Life-Boat Conference in 1963, showed a helicopter lifting a man from a lifeboat. The country is:
(a) Canada (b) Italy (c) Portugal (d) Great Britain
8. Germany’s super-sized balloon airship the Graf Zeppelin was featured on stamps of both these countries in the 1930s.
(a) Germany and France (b) Germany and Spain (c) Germany and U.S. (d) Italy and Argentina
9. In 1955 this European country issued a set of postage stamps (#340-349) honoring Jules Verne, the 19th century French writer of fantastic novels. One of the stamps depicts a scene from Five Weeks in a Balloon: an elephant tugging on the anchor line of a manned balloon. The stamps were produced by:
(a) France (b) Monaco (c) Netherlands (d) Great Britain
10. This type of flying craft, associated with inventor Robert H. Goddard, is shown on a stamp (#C69) issued by the U.S. in 1964.
(a) hot air balloon (b) glider (c) drone (d) rocket

11. On a stamp (#C264) commemorating the hundredth anniversary of the event, an early manned hot air balloon is shown floating over this Latin American country's capital in 1862.
(a) Mexico (b) Brazil (c) Chile (d) Nicaragua
12. Lighter than air balloons used for military purposes and scientific research, along with other balloons employed in recreational flying, are shown in a four-stamp set (#2032-2035) produced by this nation in 1983.
(a) Canada (b) Australia (c) Japan (d) U.S.

The October 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: post-boyquiz@renotamp.org

Sept. Quiz Answers: 1. b 2. c 3. c 4. b
5. c 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. b 11. d
12. b (Sao Tome and Principe)

Carson City Library Display

To celebrate National Stamp Collecting Month, **John Walter** and **Dave Gehringer** put together a philatelic display at the Carson City Library. They made full use of the large display case using stamps, covers, maximum cards, postal history items, philatelic books and magazines. On the bottom shelf is a nice display of the Tools of the Hobby. Scattered on the shelves are some colorful first day covers.

To draw kids to the display, the bottom area has material on Animals on Stamps, the Art of Disney, Cartoon Characters, and Super Heroes. The top shelf has postal history covers from sailors and soldiers writing home during WWII and the Vietnam War. A new display board has nice engraved cachets of the first eight U.S. presidents on covers and maximum cards. Nevada Day is also represented with stamps and covers from the state.



Vassar Post Office Display for October

By John Walter

The two display frames at the main Reno post office have new material celebrating Nevada Day on October 31 (anniversary of statehood in 1864) and National Stamp Collecting Month.



John Walter visits the Vassar post office every 4-6 weeks to make sure fresh material is in the display frames. Six 8½" x 11" pages fix nicely in a frame. This is the first time larger pages with commemorative stamps were used. Four of these larger pages fit the frame. Have to remember that for future displays.

This is the month to share your hobby with family and friends.