

Post Boy

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



November 2023
Volume 56, Issue 11

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 –

Nov. 11 – No Zoom meeting today, only in-person meeting starts at 10 a.m. The Auction Bucks auction will start about 10:15 a.m. after a salute to our military veterans.

No raffle today. Coffee and refreshments will be available.

This meeting is when members get to spend their hard-earned Auction Bucks on donated garage sale type items. Donated items can be anything from philatelic (stamps, covers, albums), to DVD movies, wine, craft items, live plants, music CDs, etc. See page 3 for more information.

Nov. 25 - In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, the presentation will be coordinated 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 #31 – All lot descriptions and images are due by noon on November 26. The auction will start at noon Nov. 28 and end at noon on Dec. 7. Email auction lot info to **Dave Parsons**:
NSSSauctions@gmail.com

Dec. 9 – Christmas/Holiday Party – same venue as the meetings with potluck meal and gift exchange starting about 11:30 a.m. following by opening gifts.

The club is in the process of purchasing a complete 2022-year 6 volume set of Scott Catalogues which can be borrowed from one meeting to the next. There is also a Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue that is available for members. See **Dave Gehringer** to sign out any of the catalogues.

On Oct. 23, 2023, the United States Postal Service announced 86 stamps for its **upcoming 2024 stamp program**. This is not a complete list. When available, the new stamp image will be shown at each meeting. Postage rate increases are proposed for January 21, 2024.

Post Boy Reporter

Oct. 14 meeting – The attendance was 17 members including one member via Zoom. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. **James Steckley** provided the refreshments.

James Steckley made announcements about USPS new stamp issues in Oct.; APS Stamp Chat webinars attended on Devils Mail and UN & League of Nations; **Jeanne Pacquin** is recovering from surgery; lots of donated items will be in upcoming meeting and online auctions.

John Walter had a slide presentation showing the Carson City library's two large display cases with stamps and covers to celebrate National Stamp Collecting Month. All the library patrons pass by the display cases as they enter the library. There is also a display at the Vassar post office with album pages of stamps and material for Nevada Day.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes and the bonus prize won by **Eric Moody**. The money of \$11.50 was won by **Tuck Vosburg**.

The live auction had 49 members lots and 13 donated lots. A total of 49 lots sold for \$671.50. **Steve Foster** was the auctioneer with **Howard Grenzbach** and **Dave Parsons** helping.

A special treat at the meeting was an annular solar eclipse seen with 85% of the moon obscuring the sun. Special viewing glasses were available and since it was a partly cloudy day, the clouds provided a viewing by the naked eye. See photo on right.



Annular solar eclipse as viewed at stamp club meeting venue.

Nov. 25 meeting – **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 20 with one member via Zoom and two visitors, Judy Miske and her husband, Ed. Judy is an eclectic collector who has a broad range of interests. Refreshments were provided by **George Ray**.

Auction Bucks were distributed by **Betty Mudge** for the Nov. 11 auction. **James Steckley** reported on upcoming online presentations by the APS and the British Empire Study Society. He also announced the dates for upcoming regional stamp shows.

Tom Reyman announced the new National Arizona Stamp Show (formerly Airpex) is Feb. 16-18, 2024, in Phoenix. The club online auction #30 ended Oct. 26 with 56 of 91 lots selling for \$608.25.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 prizes. The bonus prize was won by **Scott Mathews** and the money prize of \$11.00 went to **Erik Fields**.

The presentation was a video on the basics of collecting. It was very informative, although dated. **Dave Gehringer** is soliciting speakers for future presentations at club meetings.



James Steckley with guests Ed and Judy Miske.

Auction Bucks Auction



Nov. 11, 2023

Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd, Reno

Auction starts around 10:15 - After the **Salute to our Military Veterans**

There is NO raffle at this meeting.

The meeting on November 11 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.

- 😊 Arrive early with your donated items and to view the other items in the auction.
- 😊 Coffee and refreshment are provided.
- 😊 Donated items can include wine, books, music CDs, plus much more.
- 😊 There will be some philatelic items offered.
- 😊 This meeting is strictly to spend your Auction Bucks. Come and enjoy the fun.
- 😊 Earned Auction Bucks were distributed to members at the Oct. 28 meeting. If you did not receive your bucks, **Betty Mudge** will have them available on Nov. 11.



Some philatelic and non-philatelic items from 2021 Auction Bucks auction.

2023 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

Gerry Barrett, Army

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

Tom Hamilton, Marines,

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

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

Kenneth Milliard, Army, 1968-1971

John Muise, Army , 1949-1975 Korea, Vietnam (2 tours)

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

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

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



The cachet is an original painting by Mel Crawford.

"Speed" Holman, An Aviator

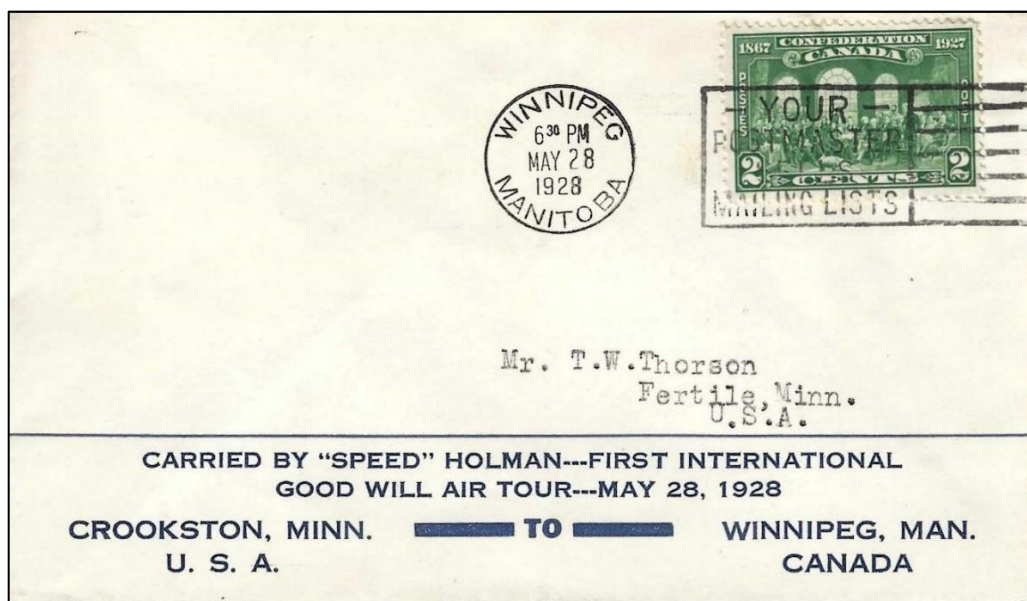
By Tom Reyman

Following World War I, there were many surplus military aircraft available for purchase at very low prices. Some planes were bought by former military pilots and others who began using them to display their flying skills as "barnstormers" at county fairs, airplane races, and stunt flying demonstrations. Charles "Speed" Holman at 19 years old acquired a war surplus Curtiss JN-4 "Jenny" airplane when his father purchased one for him. He quickly learned how to fly the plane and, because of his "dare devil" personality, developed into one of these stunt pilots who gained a widely known reputation for his flying abilities.

Holman was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota and showed natural ability as a pilot with his airplane. In the early 1920's, he flew in many of the air races that were scheduled around the U.S. Midwest. He also performed aerobatic stunt flying at the many annual county fairs. When Northwest Airways was able to secure a U.S. Post Office contract in 1926 to fly mail Contract Airmail on CAM 9, Holman was selected to be the company's first pilot. He also became the company's Operations Manager in 1927 when the airline added passenger service. In 1928, true to his "dare devil" ways, he challenged the existing record of 1,111 consecutive inside loops by reaching 1,112 loops. He pressed on and, after five hours, had reached 1,433 inside loops. This record stood for 22 years!

He continued to fly and entered many air races, winning the 1927 New York to Spokane Air Derby and the 1930 Thompson Trophy Race. During an air demonstration at the new Omaha, Nebraska airport on May 17, 1931, Holman was killed when his plane crashed during a dive.

The cover on the right was issued to commemorate the "Good Will Tour" that Holman made from Minnesota to Winnipeg, Manitoba in May of 1928, an international flight, Canada to U.S. It is listed in the Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland as AMCN # 2829.



References:

- The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland; Sixth Edition of the American Air Mail Catalog, Edwards Brothers, Ann Arbor, Michigan; 1997, Pgs. 100-101.
- <https://Historynet.com/aerobat-speed-holman.htm>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles W. "Speed" Holman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_W._%22Speed%22_Holman)

Tom Reyman is a Nevada Stamp Study Society member whose collecting interests are U.S. FAM covers, general Air Mail covers, Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail stamps and covers, and Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) covers.

When the Southern Florida Wetland Crossed the Red Line

By Patrick Crosby

In the September 2017 *Post Boy* club member Stan Cromwell (since deceased) lamented the large quantity of postal issues that had been released in the 1990's and so in 2000 he drew his red line in the sand – no more new U.S. first day covers for him. He asked other members to comment on their “red line in the sand” day. I knew immediately when mine was and, having just recently purchased the offending item, here is my reply.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) went bonkers in the 1990's and until 2010 with copious amounts of merchandise and excessive postage stamps and postal stationery for sale. My specialty was U.S. postal cards including new issues. I had already cut down on the number of each new stationery issue (including envelopes and aerograms) I was buying.

But when I called the Stamp Fulfillment Center in Kansas City to place an order and asked for two sets of the just issued Southern Florida Wetland cards (a package of 10 cards) I was told they were sold out. Wait a minute – these cards had been issued only 2-3 weeks previously! “Sorry, but these were a special issue and went quickly.” Aargh! I never heard of a “Special Issue” card. Another USPS rip-off! The Post Office lost a long-time collector customer that day. My only regret is that I didn't quit collecting the new issues years earlier.



Full pane of 10 39¢ stamps. This was pane number 8 in the 12-pane series of Nature of America.

From 1999 to 2010 the USPS issued the Nature of America series of 12 panes of postage stamps. Each pane depicted a large scene which included 10 self-adhesive stamps. When the eighth pane in the series, Southern Florida Wetland, was issued on October 4, 2006, the USPS also decided to issue postal cards with the same overall design on the view side, while the 10 different stamp designs were printed as postage on the address side.

The normal size of a postal card was not large enough to effectively show the overall design, so they made each card 5" x 7". This was larger than was allowed to receive the reduced card postage rate of 24¢, and instead the letter rate of 39¢ was required. The USPS probably assumed the increased size and cost would limit the cards' usefulness.



The view side of the postal cards and the address side of the cards.

The cards were printed in pairs with micro-perforations between each pair of cards. Five pairs including all 10 stamp designs were loosely stacked (no binding) and then shrink-wrapped. \$3.90 worth of postage sold for \$7.95 – if you were lucky enough to find them.

Only 10,000 shrink-wrapped sets (100,000 cards in total) were produced. Cards that had already been shipped to Stamp Distribution Offices were recalled. Dealers and collectors in the know jumped to make large orders for the limited supplies from the Stamp Fulfillment Center.

By the time I made my phone call they were gone. There were only two other places the cards had been for sale by the USPS – the first day city for the cards and the stamps, Naples, FL, and the Mega-Event Stamp Show in New York City October 5-8.

WARNING: Do not be fooled by a seller's comment, "In original Post Office packaging." This is not a good thing and may result in wavy, deformed cards as the wrapping keeps shrinking. Shrink-wrapping on postal cards should be removed ASAP. The information labels on the wrapping can be clipped and saved. The cards I just bought ended up being shrink-wrapped and warped.

The United States Postal Card Catalog values a set of 10 mint cards (S492-S501) at \$35. My 2019 Scott Specialized (UX478-UX487) at \$9 per pair, or \$45 for all 5 pairs. I paid \$21 at the APS Store at <https://www.hipstamp.com/>. Of course, these are all mint prices since legitimate usage of these black sheep cards are scarce.

References:

- Lewis E. Bussey and Bill Geijsbeck, "Southern Florida Wetland Postal Cards" Postal Stationery, Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society 49 (Jan-Feb 2007): 3-4.
- United States Postal Card Catalog 2020, United Postal Stationery Society, edited by Lewis E. Bussey, 2015, available at <https://upss.org/>.
- Scott 2019 Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps and Covers (Sidney, OH: Amos Media, 2018).

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.



Steve Foster, Auctioneer, and Dave Parsons, helping.

Club Pictures



Viewing solar eclipse: Dave Parsons, Dave Gehringer, Scott Mathews, and George Ray. (All nice head shots.)



Raffle table with 10 prizes and the bonus prize. 9-23-23 meeting.

Quiz – The Fuhrer’s Face

By Eric Moody

Adolph Hitler, chancellor and later Supreme Leader (Der Fuhrer) of Germany, 1933-1945, was, among other things, an egotist. He liked seeing his picture on numerous postage stamps of Germany, its allied nations, and territories occupied by Germany. The following questions all relate to these philatelic portraits.

1. The first German stamp to bear Hitler’s portrait, a semi-postal (#B102), was issued in:
(a) 1933 (b) 1937 (c) 1939 (d) 1941
2. Hitler stamps overprinted “Ostland” (#N9-N28) were used during 1941-1943 in German-occupied parts of this country.
(a) Bulgaria (b) Yugoslavia (c) Russia (d) Norway
3. In 1941 Germany issued a semi-postal stamp (#B189) that pictured both Hitler and this other fascist leader.
(a) Benito Mussolini of Italy (b) Francisco Franco of Spain (c) Vidkun Quisling of Norway (d) Oswald Mosley of Great Britain
4. A “Feldpost” stamp (#MQ3) was issued by Germany in 1944. An overprint of a Hitler portrait definitive (#520), it was this type of stamp:
(a) Postage Due (b) Military Air Post (c) Official (d) Military Parcel Post
5. During 1942-1944, this former part of Czechoslovakia was a semi-autonomous German “Protectorate.” An issuer of numerous Hitler portrait stamps (#62, 90, B9, B25, etc.), it was:
(a) Slovakia (b) Czech Republic (c) Bohemia and Moravia (d) Sudetenland
6. Stamps bearing Hitler’s likeness and the inscription “Deutsches Reich Generalgouvernement” were produced by this country from 1941 to 1943, during its occupation by Germany.
(a) Poland (b) Austria (c) Belgium (d) Hungary
7. This heavily agricultural region of the Soviet Union, which endured German occupation during World War II, had stamps (#N29-N48) that were overprints of Germany’s Hitler portrait definitives. It was:
(a) Georgia (b) Ukraine (c) Moldova (d) Belarus
8. The infamous stamp (#B170) showing Hitler gently cradling the head of a child as she greets him on his birthday, appeared in:
(a) 1935 (b) 1939 (c) 1940 (d) 1944
9. Hitler was no doubt gratified to see himself depicted, along with Mussolini, on a 1941 stamp (#B195) that celebrated the retaking of a lost territory – Bessarabia - by this country.
(a) Bulgaria (b) Hungary (c) Romania (d) Austria
10. In 1941 this country issued stamps (#413-418), depicting Hitler and the country’s leader, that celebrated an alliance between the two nations. The celebrating country was:
(a) Spain (b) Japan (c) Russia (Soviet Union) (d) Italy

11. Poland, overrun by German forces in 1939 at the start of World War II, issued its first wartime stamp bearing Hitler's portrait (#N76) in:
(a) 1939 (b) 1941 (c) 1943 (d) 1945
12. Germany's last stamps featuring Hitler (#529, B252, B271) were issued in this year:
(a) 1942 (b) 1944 (c) 1945 (d) 1946

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: post-boyquiz@renotamp.org

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

Vassar Post Office Display

The Reno main post office on Vassar Street has a new philatelic display this month. **John Walter** changed the two display cases with material for Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. All postal patrons must pass by the display cases to access the postal clerks. While setting up the display a few patrons always seem to make several comments about being a past collector, esp. when younger, or remembering looking at a stamp album belonging to a family member.

