

NSSS - On the Rocks?

by Stan Cronwall

I'm getting very concerned about the future of Nevada stamp Study Society, and here is why:

1. Attendance is down for the regular meetings and has been trending down. (*Editor: Average attendance at meetings is around 20 members.*)

2. Participation is down for all of what formerly were major NSSS events:

: the annual Christmas Party (December)

: the annual Picnic (August)

: Auction Bucks auction (November)

3. Participation is down for activities within the regular meetings:

: Members signing in for meetings - again averaging about 20

: Members arriving to help set up for the meetings

: Lots for the Auction Days

: Lots for the Consignment Days

} even though the maximum # of lots were increased to 10/member earlier this year

: Sales of Lots from both Auctions and Consignments

: Donations for the Raffle

: Ticket Sales for the Raffle

4. Volunteering is generally down:

: Volunteers for the annual stamp show

: Participation in some aspect of the Show set-up/tear-out or even working the Front Table

: Exhibits for the Show

: "My Favorite Things" pages for the Show

5. Other examples of flagging interest:

: Show Banquet attendance is down

: Almost nobody wants to serve as an Officer or Board Member

: The average number of members doing the Post Boy Quiz is down to roughly FIVE

: The Post Boy has been without a permanent editor for over a year

: Only a few people have written articles for the Post Boy despite appeal after appeal

I think we need to devote a major portion of a meeting, or perhaps even an entire meeting to an open discussion of what the NSSS membership wants to have in the way of meeting content.

I fear we are rapidly becoming nothing more than a loose affiliation of people who get together twice a month to drink coffee and eat donuts. There are some who never even talk to anyone at the meetings.

Stan Cronwall served as President of the NSSS for 8 years, past Program Chair, currently serves on the Stamp Show Committee and helps with stamp displays around town (Vassar PO and local libraries).