

## AmeriStamp Show

by John Walter



First Day ceremony for the Barn Swallow stamped envelope. Our newest NSSS member, Scott English, is on the left.

I had the distinct privilege of mounting four exhibits that John Hotchner sent to the show. Two exhibits were in the Court of Honor - *U.S. Postal Counterfeits from 1894 to Modern Times* and *World Rarities & Uniquities*. Both exhibits filled a total of 15 frames and each unique item passed over my hands - really nice feeling.

Two of our members won exhibiting awards - **Terri Edwards** won a Gold and Best Postcard Exhibit for *An Engineering Victory of the First Order: Hoover Dam*, and **Dick Dreiling** won a Large Vermeil for his *Reno Nevada - A Pictorial Look at Earlier Times* post card exhibit. Congratulations!

The NSSS booth had lots of volunteers throughout the show. Thanks to **Marla Wetterling** for managing the sign-up sheet for the volunteers. Two new members were recruited: **Brian Moody** from Sparks and **Scott English**, the Executor Director of APS. At the NSSS booth, **Dick Dreiling** provided an 8-page free handout on *Philatelic Nevada*.

I represented our club at the APS Ambassador meeting on Saturday. **Paul Glass** is our club representative on this APS committee to encourage APS membership at our local club meetings. Paul was busy all day Saturday with the Boy Scout Merit Badge program.

We were also represented at the APS general meeting on Saturday by **Robert Martin**, **Zolennia Schar** and myself.

**Dick Simmonds** and a crew from the Sparks Heritage Museum delivered the old Wadsworth post office display on Thursday and returned it to the museum on Sunday.

At the APS membership town hall meeting, **Scott English** commented that there were more volunteers than jobs - nice surprise. We should all be proud that so many NSSS members gave many hours of their time.

A comment from APS President Mick Zais that the banquet was the most attended of any winter stamp show in a long time. The NSSS had a total of 16 attendees.

Speaking with Megan Orient on Sunday evening as I left the show, she considered the show a success, although Sunday was slow for the number of attendees - there was about 5 inches of snow at my house. Most dealers I spoke with had a good show - a few expressed disappointment with the low attendance, esp. on Sunday.

Some stories from the show:

**Dealer from Surrey, England**- I collect properly used U.S. aerogrammes (letter sheets) sent to overseas destinations. When I asked Steven Taylor if he had any, I was given a handful of the early 10¢ aerogrammes (UC16 and varieties UC16a, b, d), to take a look. He quoted a price of \$2.50 for any cover. I took them all since they catalogue \$7.00 to \$12.50 each.

**Philatelic Youth Leadership Program** at the APS booth - They had many items, such as, full sheets of stamps for 75% of face, large assortment of covers for 25¢ each, and on Saturday and Sunday Colorano Silk Cacheted FDC **sets** for 25¢ unaddressed - not 25¢ a cover but that price for a whole set of covers. For example: A set of 20 cachet covers for the 1994 Legends of the West; A set of 15 covers for the 1997 Classic American Dolls; A set of 10 covers for the 1973 Postal People set; And, a set of 22 FDCs for the stamped envelope 1980 America's Cup winners - "Limited Edition of 1400." Yes, that means some covers were only a penny per cover. With these prices I felt like supporting the Philatelic Youth Leader program. Also unopened packages of stamp mounts strips were only \$1.50 - both clear and black mounts. I took a few of those home also.

**Inverted Jenny (C3a)** - I don't know how many members looked at the Court of Honor frames in front of the APS booth. If you bypassed the frames you really missed something. Frame 1 was a Free Frank letter signed by George Washington, Frame 2 was a full sheet of the Dag Hammarskjold Invert error with letters concerning the printing error. AND Frame 3 had two copies of the Inverted Jenny C3a, one of which was recovered in England and presented to the APS at the 2016 World Stamp Show in NY. I actually dismantled the pages from these frames and put them in their respective folders. How many collectors can say they touched the page that held two C3a error stamps. I did not notice during the show that a security guard was posted at these frames until I went to remove the pages from the frames. The guard had his eyes on me the whole time.

When I asked **Scott English** if I could borrow the C3a page, he informed me the stamps were insured and he has personal contact and phone number of the FBI agent who helped return the stolen stamp last year. Oh well!

Let us know your stamp show stories?



Terri Edwards at her post card exhibit on the Hoover Dam. She won both a Gold and Best Post Card Exhibit awards.



Dick Dreiling accepting his Large Vermeil award at the banquet.