

Closed Album - Stan Cronwall 1937-2019

Stan Cronwall started collecting stamps when his grandmother gave him some stamps and an album when he was just ten years old. And, like most of us, stopped when he was 14 or 15, started again in his late twenties, stopped again and started up in 1994 or 1995. He joined our club when he met Jim Ringer at the Sparks Heritage Museum.

Stan collected stamps from the Democratic Republic of Germany (DDR); U.S. Naval covers, Civil War Covers and specialized in Germany 1933-1945, stamps, covers and cards.

He was a History major in college, specializing in the Balkans and Near East and was an amateur historian on World War two; especially the European Theater which explains his specialty. "Appalling" is the word Stan used to describe the enormous amount of reading he did to research his material. His expertise showed in his exhibiting skills with 17 different exhibits to his name. He mainly exhibited locally at the Reno Stamp Show, currently called Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, and the Nevada State Fair. He received numerous awards for his exhibits.

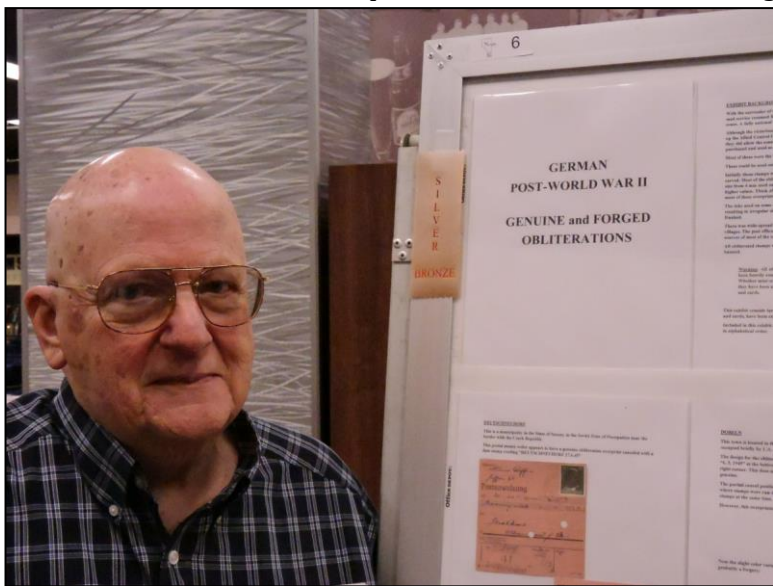
Stan Cronwall joined the Nevada Stamp Study Society (NSSS) in May 2000. He became a club Director within months of joining and was elected NSSS President two years later, serving 2003-2005. Stan later served three additional consecutive terms as NSSS President from 2009-2015. In between his Presidential stints, Stan served as Director and interim Vice President. Stan has also served as the club's Program Chair and is a regular contributor to the club's Post Boy newsletter.

Stan also was active in many other club activities, having served as the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show (GRS&CS) Chair in 2002, the Bourse Co-Chair and then Chair from 2002 through 2006, and Show Security Chair from 2003 through 2018. Stan has also attended local, regional, and national stamp shows as a NSSS ambassador promoting the NSSS and GRS&CS.

Stan has actively worked to introduce the public to stamp collecting. Stan initiated setting up a stamp display at the Vassar Post Office (starting in 2010) and helped set up additional displays at local libraries. Stan provided guidance and answers as a NSSS representative to novice collectors as well as non-collectors about their material along with information about the club.

In 2010, he participated in the NSSS display in Carson City for First Day of Issue for the Nevada Flag stamp. Also, in 2010, participated in the Duck stamp First Day display at Cabela's.

With all these accomplishments since joining the NSSS, Stan received the club's highest recognition with the Dreiling Award presented at the July 13 stamp club meeting.



Stan next to one of his many German exhibits in the 2016 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show



Stan receiving the Dreiling Award on July 13, 2019

He was a member of the American Philatelic Society, German Philatelic Society, and Military Postal History Society.



Elaine and Stan at the 2016 stamp club Holiday Party

Additionally, Stan was active at the Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City. He served three consecutive terms on the Board of Trustees and one term as Vice President. Stan headed up the Museum's membership drive starting in 2006. He organized the Museum's direct mail marketing program for the Railroad Symposium from 2002-2007 and was responsible for symposium security from 2002-2006.

Stan served in the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1966 working in intelligence - sometimes he described himself as a spy in our conversations. But it was not a career he wanted for himself. He had a business in Tucson before selling and moving to Reno.

Stan passed away on Oct. 26, 2019, two weeks short of his 82nd birthday. At his bedside were his wife, Elaine, and sons, Eric and Jason. He also has four grandchildren.

Over the last few months the stamp club meetings did not seem to be the same without Stan. He had opinions and suggestions on many subjects, always striving to make the stamp club better. The editor also misses him since we had lunch "meetings" once or twice a month. Those conversations are sorely missed.

Stan's favorite philatelic item is this uncut sheet of 15 Nazi Germany 1939 post card proofs that never made it into production because of the start of WWII. He gave a short presentation on the item at the May 25, 2019 meeting. **He also "plated" a complete sheet using individual cards.**



Stan showing off his gift exchange item in 2018

