

Nevada

P.O. Box 2907 Sparks, Nevada 89432

N.S.S.S. meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am
in the Sparks Heritage Museum at Pyramid and Victorian Avenue
<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/>



N.S.S.S.



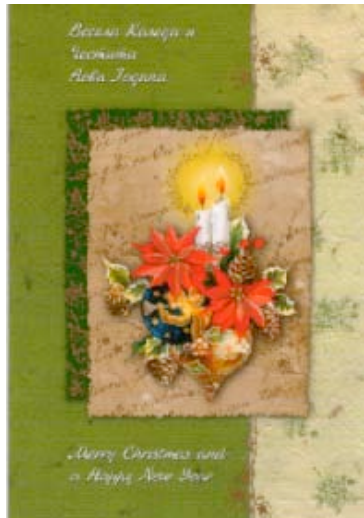
POST BOY

March 14, 2009

February always seems to zip right by. I think they should give it more days!

There is a note I received from Don Bacon. Wish I could have printed it sooner. You will find it on page seven.

Stefan Boiadjeiv sends us Christmas Greetings from Bulgaria with a nice little card that is written in Bulgarian and English. It even has a little "smiley" face on the back. My guess is that Bulgarian mail truly is "snail mail". Paul Glass



received it only last month. Then again, it may have sat in US customs for quite a while. Thank you Steffan and we all hope your Christmas was very merry too.

Speaking of Paul Glass, he is trying to get some more volunteers to help with the Boy Scout program. There are several Scouts that would like to earn a merit badge in stamp collecting. Last turn year he had to turn away six Scouts because we didn't provide enough councilors. Can you spare a little time to help a Scout? Talk to Paul Glass if you can.

John Walter has offered to e-mail the NSSS members files for making album pages. His e-mail address is on page one of this newsletter. The album pages are in Adobe portable document format (PDF). Almost every country has pages that were created by William Steiner. His copyright permission reads: "You may use this album page file to print album pages for yourself, your friends or your children. You may give copies of the file to other people, and you may post the file on bulletin board systems or web pages. You may NOT modify this file, and you may NOT charge any fee for it, or use it in any commercial activity without my specific written permission." Samples of album pages may be viewed at: albmpages.com Ed and Arlene Davies have donated a CD to the NSSS library with over 50,000 album pages created by William Steiner.

FRESPEX 2009, March 14-15 10am - 6pm, 10am - 4pm Veteran's Memorial Building, 453 Hughes Avenue (block east of Clovis Ave at 5th Street) Clovis, California

Easter Seals Show April 4 & 5:

Over a million .02-cent stamps, Easter Seal Center, at 3205 Hurley Way, Sacramento, CA

PACQUEBOTS

By Bill Brew

Haste, haste, post haste. This statement wrote on the face of the letter was to inspire the carrier to put forth all his effort to deliver it as quickly as possible. Sometimes the statement would read "Hast, Hast, Post Hast with all diligence" or "for Her Majesty's especial affairs," or "Hast, Hast, Post Hast, Hast for life." Whose life it referred to was never determined. The mail routes were very treacherous.

Communications were important then as they are today. The first 1500 years of this AD period, communications received very little attention. In the last 500 years, however, this changed.

Messages that contained military instructions, carried by special couriers, were replaced with messages referring to the development of the country. This was primarily due to the trade that began to develop between nations. Businessmen became involved with this new trade and now they needed to know their orders and shipping times as well as payments. Later the public began using the same mail system,

At first the leaders of the country developed a wariness for the use of the mails. They believed their enemies were using the mail to send messages that would usurp their power. This produced a system of spies that would try to intercept the letters and identify the person who could produce a threat to the leaders. Soon messages were sent by putting them in very unusual places. Such as in the linings of the trunks or in the hems of the dresses and other secretive places.

Gradually, mail became more common and less secretive. Businessmen required information that would enable them to do the job of providing goods for their nation. Thus the "Paquetbargue" or, as the name developed, "Packetboat", came into prominence.

The business between Ireland and England was the first to use the packetboat operation. In 1598 the countries suspended the trade barriers. The packetboats carried goods and mail. Soon England required the services of two boats. One to be stationed on each coast, to insure prompt delivery.

The first link was between Port Patrick in Wigansire, Scotland and Donaghadee, Ireland. The distance was only 21 miles apart. Due to the extreme land distances to get to these ports, the postal system replaced the first link with connections from Holyhead, England to Dublin, Ireland. Later they connected the port of Milford, England to the Port of Waterford, Ireland. The change reduced the land travel time. The use of larger boats and bigger harbors reduced the travel time over the water.

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As we all know the Heritage Museum (our usual meeting place) is undergoing a facelift. In the upstairs area there are several small rooms that were once used for offices. Those offices are being removed and turned to one large meeting room. Below is an artist's concept of what the meeting room will look like and where we will be when all is done. Thank you Dick Dreiling.



Last month Stan Cronwall asked a question of the club members but there were no answers forthcoming, so here is my attempt;

Stan, there are a few album makers that I'm aware of that make DDR albums. Lechturn (Lighthouse) and Paolo come to mind. These albums are expensive and could easily cost more than the stamps. I would suggest making your own album. That way you can control the extent of the collection should you wish to confine it to a limited number of years or subjects.

Stan, your second question is a toughie. I am not an exhibitor and cannot be sure of exhibition rules that might apply. Be that as it may, I am of the opinion that trial colors are not printed in any specific order and so, can be displayed in any order, unless, of course, a second printing is done where the colors are changed. Then there would be a second set of trial proofs issued at a later date requiring a second display.

Don't know if this helps a lot but I hope it does. - Howard

<http://www.afsecstampclub.org/>

Wanna swap a philate with Me?

This club was started when I was just a young collector. My father was in the Army and we were on the move again, heading to California in our brand new 1954 Ford. I don't remember the club, but

I was a "dependent" and the club was meant for men and women in the service of our country. Well, take a look at the club now. Even has its own website!

Its called the **Armed Forces Stamp Exchange Club** but do not despair, they have invited the rest of us to join them. For over forty years membership was restricted to members of the Armed Forces and Federal government employees. Guess they figured that was most everybody anyway. The original purpose of the club was to provide members of the armed services with a stamp exchange service that was adapted to a group of men and women who changed addresses often.

The website is not the center of club activity but rather to let the world know of its existence. There is some information available through the site though, for instance they show an auction that was presented to its members in October, 2008. It doesn't show the results of that auction though. As a member of the club you can enter material to be sold. Like our own club there is a ten percent seller's fee and no buyer's fee. Sounds like a pretty good deal to me.

Another part of the site that interested me was the "Reference and Society" page. It is a group of stamp societies that are available to peruse. You can even join the Canadian Forces Philatelic Society, that is if you are a member of or retired from the Canadian Armed Forces. Not to worry though, they also have associate memberships for those who do not meet the eligibility requirements.



To join the club all you need do is download the PDF file for the application, pay the nominal fee (less than \$10) and mail it in. If you don't have a computer, just ask someone who does and they can download the form for you. Of course, you can also go to the library where your computer is waiting for you to do it yourself. I'm sure the librarian will be glad to help (they always are). Then you can trade stamps with our GI's all over the world. Or sell your stamps in auction or just read their bulletin. Its a great way to get to know some of the guys who protect you.

The subject of this month's quiz is Germany, the 70th quiz in Bill Olcheski's "100 Trivia Quizzes For Stamp Collectors". It's a good book for stimulating your thoughts about philately.

1. An open book appears on a 1972 stamp? What does it represent?
A) International Book Year B) End of the occupation C) Libraries
2. What Socialist leader appears on a 1970 stamp?
A) Karl Marx B) Friedrich Engels C) Jane Fonda
3. What Pope is the subject of a 1959 stamp?
A) Pius XII B) Leo III C) John XXIII
4. A 1969 souvenir sheet shows Marie Juchacz, Marie Elizabeth Luders and Helen Weber honors the 50th anniversary of;
A) Universal Women's Suffrage B) An event in WWI C) Gutenberg
5. A 1965 issue marks the 125th anniversary of postage stamps in Great Britain. Where do the illustrated stamps come from?
A) Great Britain B) Thurn & Taxis C) Brazil
6. What US President appears on a 1964 issue?
A) Franklin Roosevelt B) H. S Truman C) J. F. Kennedy
7. The re-election of what German President is marked by a 1964 stamp?
A) Heinrich Kohl B) Heinrich Luebke C) Theodore Heismann
8. A 1961 stamp honors the Boy Scouts. Who is shown on the stamp?
A) Saint George B) Lord Baden-Powell C) Lord Fauntleroy
9. What early automobile appears on a 1961 stamp?
A) Mercedes (1929) B) Volkswagen (1937) C) Gottlieb Daimler's (1886)
10. What American Statesman appears on a 1960 issue?
A) George C. Marshall B) George Patton C) Eisenhower

Bonus question: What does "Paquebot" mean?

I am reminded of a German fellow who was disgusted when we couldn't communicate even though we tried German and Spanish (my Spanish is poor, my German is worse). It seems Europeans don't understand why we Americans aren't multi-lingual. They forget, they can't cross the street without changing languages while we can cross the continent in English!

For those of you who read the Post Boy on your computer, congratulations, you got all the answers right. If you didn't get them all right, you didn't notice the answers were printed in red.

1. C. #711 is the low value of the set at 20 haleru and pictures a carp. The other four stamps in the set show a beetle, partridge, butterfly and rabbit.
2. A. The set was produced to show the architectural beauty of the cities and towns of Southern Bohemia. The souvenir sheet features the largest city, Prague. (# 719).
3. C. The stamp was issued to celebrate 10 years of Chinese-Czechoslovakian friendship. What else would you show on a stamp but the Stamp printing works. (#939).
4. A. The Scott describes it as "Hand of Philatelist with tongs and two stamps". I see; a stamp covered, mostly, by the stamp in the tongs and a third stamp printed on the second stamp. Since "three" was not an option, two is the answer. (#988).
5. B. The objective of the Vostok II was to test the effects of prolonged space flight on a human being. Gherman S. Titov, the pilot experienced the world's first case of space sickness. The stamps, #1105-10 were issued to publicize the Soviet space program.
6. C. One of the stamps in the set (#1312-17) shows a hunting dog with a pheasant in its mouth, therefore, the answer is both, dog and bird. The rest of the set shows various dogs.
7. A. Two sets were issued for the Olympics in 1972. The first was for the Winter Olympics and no cycling, diving or canoeing was pictured on them. A bicyclist is shown on the low value in the Summer Olympics set.
8. C. The clock stamps were issued in 1979. Nice stamps. (#2260-64)
9. B. Orange is a poor color for surcharges and deep Purple is a musical group so the answer is "Green".
10. A. Kennedy Airport in New York is shown on C76 with a Lunar Lander.

Bonus question. According to Al Harris the gum on modern US stamps can be removed with denatured alcohol. See the January issue and the up-date in March.

I don't think I mentioned it above but the country in question here was Czechoslovakia. I am amazed that anybody can spell that except the Czechs!

Hi,

We just got here on Dec 20 but the moving truck didn't make it until Dec 29. The apartment was empty except for the things we brought in the car and a few things we had time to shop for before the afternoon snow. We were welcomed with about 10 days of snow, then 10 days of rain and now 10 days of morning fog during our first month here. The last two days have been nice (compared to the last month) and we went to the State Historical Museum yesterday and the glass museum today. Both are in the downtown Tacoma district so we are also learning our way around.

All the boxes are unpacked and it's a good thing we have a garage since there is one less bedroom and smaller closets to put things in. Each move since Lancaster was a ton lighter until this one. We were shocked when the estimator said we gained 1600 pounds in Reno. The scale said we were 900 pounds lighter so the final moving bill (based on weight and distance) was several hundred dollars under the estimate.

We enjoyed our four years in Reno and the stamp club was one of the best parts - the people, the programs, the auction, the social events and especially the show. Thanks!

Hope you have a great 2009!

Don Bacon

I 'm sure Don would appreciate a note or phone call from you too.

Stefan also left a Christmas message and some nice stamps for us. If you collect Bulgarian stamps here is an opportunity to acquire some of the latest issues.

Stefan Boiadjiev



*Season greetings to all.
Merry Christmas!
With best wishes in the
new 2009.
Stefan
12.01.08.*

A Christmas message from Stefan, and some nice stamps too.

Welcome to The World of Stamp Exhibiting!

by Tom Fortunato

Elements of a Cover... Take a Closer Look!

Covers are important to every exhibit. Judges will especially reward you for showing unusual covers which tell a story, and they needn't be expensive.

The most commonly found cover is a first day cover (FDC). You probably have some in your own collection. Philatelic bureaus, companies and individuals produce them with a design on the left side of an envelope displaying a design relating to the stamp. This design is known as the cachet (pronounced ca-shay) and often times is quite detailed and colorful. Use them very sparingly, if at all, in your exhibit.

A better cover is a non-philatelic one, also known as a commercial cover. These show actual usage of the stamp on an envelope mailed at the proper postage rate. You and your family make these up every week with letters posted to a relative or when a bill is mailed. While these covers aren't as flashy as a FDC, they are much harder to find covering a specific topic, especially foreign ones.

You can "top" a singly franked cover with one showing multiple copies of the stamp you wish to highlight in a strip or block. Heavier envelopes weighing more than a regular letter or ones needing special services like insurance, certification or registration are a good source for these, or those going overseas. Avoid mixed-franked covers which have too many stamps not of the type you are writing about.

Auxiliary markings are great finds on covers, adding interest and philatelic elements to your display. Any marking applied by a post office falls into this category. A redirected cover has the original mailing address crossed off and a new one hand written or labeled over by a postal worker. Be on the lookout, too, for "fingers", markings that point to the sender's address with comments like return to sender, undeliverable, etc.

Backstamps are postal routing markings found on the back of some covers, showing a location where the mail passed through or its final destination. Registered covers always have these types of markings and should be noted in your write-up. If multiple backstamps are shown, list them (city and date) in order of their date.

Don't neglect the cancel on the front of a cover! It should "tie" the stamp to the envelope. If the stamp missed the cancel, don't bother showing the cover, as it could easily be faked! Occasionally you can mention if the cancel used was done by hand or machine, as there are several types of each. Pictorial cancels, almost always hand stamped, are easy to recognize because of their interesting designs.

The rough seas and turbulent weather created a difficult problem for the packetboats. Piracy was the second difficult problem they had to overcome. Trade had now developed between France, England and Holland. The boats had to be on the alert for pirates from these actions. One ship, the "Speedy Post," was hijacked 5 times in 7 weeks. This was at the docks at Dover. Eventually these ships were outfitted with brass guns.



Figure 1. The Gripsholms

By 1837 mailing was more secure and the reliability improved. The shipping of goods and mail increased. Spain, Italy, Switzerland and the New Americas created an increase in trade.

In 1840 letters sent by the packetboat cost twelve times as much as it did to send them by land. Letters sent by private ships cost eight times more than by land mail. Private ship mail was stamped "Ship Mail" and "Packetboat", or some form of the spelling, was stamped on letters using that service.

England was paying Ireland 4000 pounds per year for handling the mail between the two countries. Ireland thought they should receive more and a bitter argument developed. Ireland resolved the problem. Ireland reverted to transporting the mail, goods and passengers by using "Wherries". A "Wherrie" is a boat that would hold only 10 passengers, some goods and the mail. Because Ireland owned the Wherries, the

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money generated by their use went to Ireland. This action reduced the quality of the service and the business world loudly complained to England. England finally gave in and raised the annual fee to 8000 pounds. Ireland restored the packetboat service and everyone was happy again.

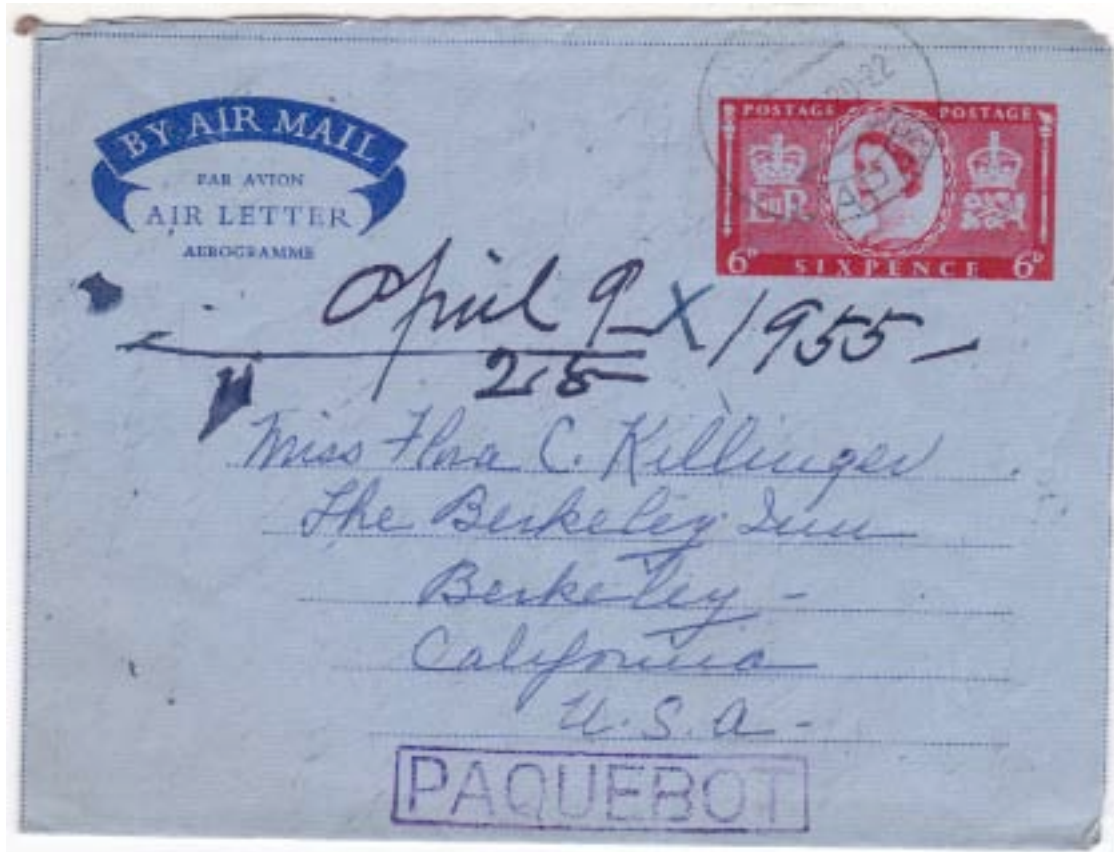


Figure 2. An aerogramme mailed thru the paquebot system

Steamships gradually replaced the 3 and 4 masted "Paquetboats". Packetboats are still in use, primarily in the small islands of the world. Figure 1 is an example of this type of mail transportation. This letter was mailed on board the Swedish-American liner, the "Gripsholm". It was traveling from Sweden to America. It is dated May 30, 1936. The US 3 cent stamp was used as it was mailed after the ship's departure and presumably near to landing in the US.