

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

July 11, 2009

Summer starts in June but the dog days of summer begin in July. As a matter of fact so will the **Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show!** Are you ready to go?

--Closed Albums--

Don Bacon died on June 1st after a struggle with cancer. He died in his home in Tacoma, WA while on a hospice program. He had, for several years been a member of the NSSS.

John Van Alstyne, a dealer for Straley Stamps and long time dealer at the NSSS stamp show passed away on June 23 after a fight with cancer.

With the **Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show** coming up this month, bodies are still needed to man the welcome table and help with the set-up and tear-down of the show. You can sign up to help at the next meeting on the 11th of July. Prepare yourself to be a volunteer.

This year the show will include a visit from the the Junior Duck stamp champion, Diana Rodriguez, here in Nevada. A stamp has been created featuring her artwork. It will be used on the show cover along with a cachet created by Duane Wilson

Two years ago the Board decided to try **Louis' Baque Corner** for our Awards Banquet. The idea was a hit so we did it again the following year. The food was good, the service was great and the restaurant is convenient so we will be back again this year. Scroll down to page two to see the menu, cost and time. Mmmmmm, good eating.

Voting is also a responsibility we will be exercising this month. Our own Mike Johnson has accepted a position with a coin dealer and can no longer perform his duties as president. He is reported to be as happy as a clam with his new efforts but now we need to elect his replacement and a few other officials while we're at it. The slate and ballot is on page seven. Take a look at last month's Post Boy for a look at the candidates.

Frank Fey gave a presentation about sending stamps out to be expertized. Then Steve Foster showed us how to enlarge our stamps on the computer. Great Job, guys. Thank you.

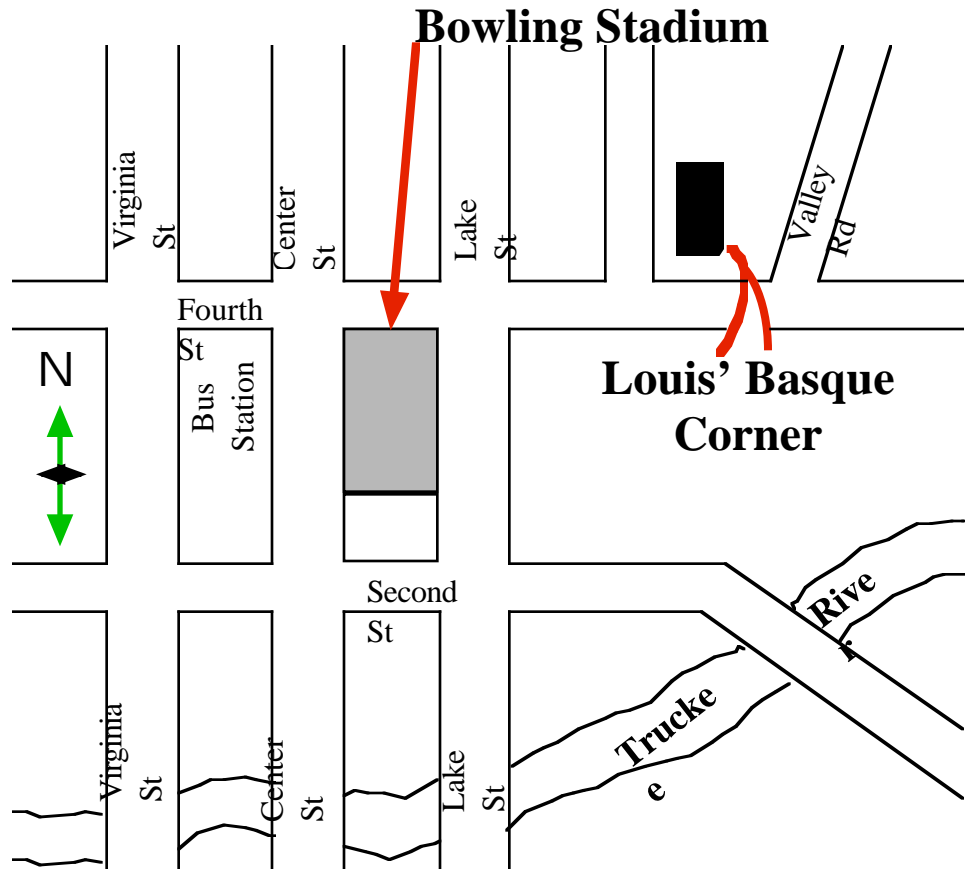
Once elected, the new officers will be installed in their offices at the club picnic. The **Picnic** site has been selected and the date is set for August 29th. It will be held at Bower's Mansion in the **South Side Pavilion**. 10:00am will find many of us there to help set the table, start the charcoals and getting the tables ready for the late-comers. Prepare to sign up for a side dish. Dick will be cooking the hamburgers.

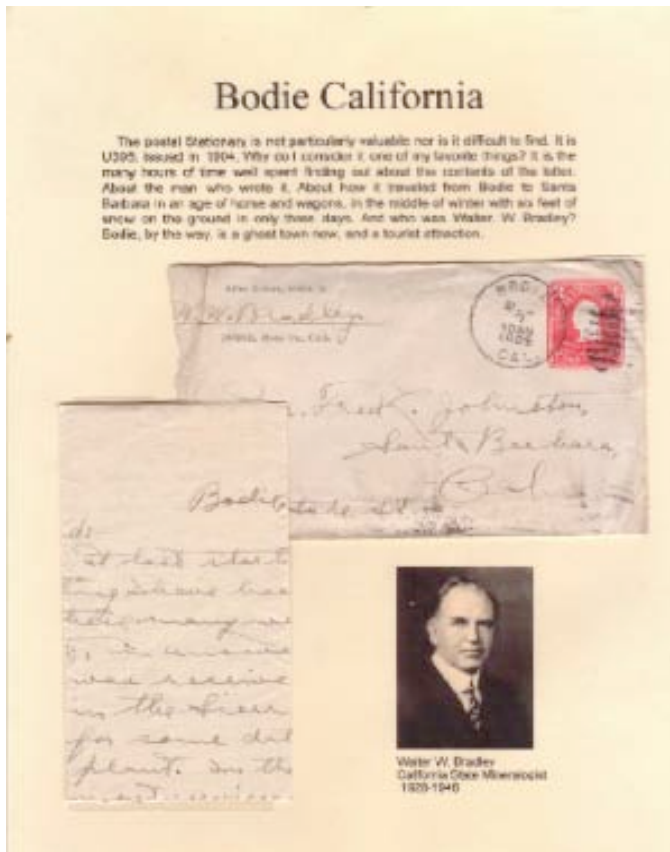
Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show will be held at the National Bowling Stadium on July 25-26. Hours are 10-6 and 10-4 (Sun)

The Awards Banquet will be held, again, at Louis' Basque Corner. You can sign up ahead of time at the meeting and make your choice of Lamb or Steak. The cost will be \$30. Here is the menu;

First Course: Chicken with Spanish Rice
Choice of:
Top Sirloin Steak or
French Double Cut Lamb Chops
Soup du Jour
Tossed Green Salad with Louie's Special Dressing
French Bread, Basque Beans
Potatoes
Complimentary Glass of Wine
or Choice of Milk, Coffee or Tea
Ice Cream

Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm and, if you like, come in at 6 for cocktails.





My Favorite Things

My Favorite Things isn't an exhibit like you may find at most stamp shows. It is simply an opportunity to show something you like personally. There are no rules of exhibition you must follow. Just your own rules. Present it in any way you like, its your peice representing your idea of collecting in one page.

The funny thing about this kiind of exhibit is that you find out people are really interested in what you collect and why you collect it. So tell them, they will appreciate it. And its fun too. It also anonymous. Your name goes on the back of the page so we know who to give it to when the show is over. Try it, you'll like it!

Blind Perfs A freak in which perforation holes are not completely punched through the stamp paper. This condition ranges from partially penetrated holes to cases in which there is no visible evidence of perforations other than perf pin indentations on the front or back. In some cases, blind perfs may affect only one or two holes on a stamp, but in more severe cases, blind perfs can give the impression of a completely imperforate or imperforate-between error. Blind perfs are not to be confused with missing perf errors, in which absolutely no traces of the perforation process are present. Stamps with blind perfs are collected by those who specialize in errors, freaks, and oddities and sell for significantly less than true imperforate errors.

Blind Perforations - an impression made by perforating pins in a place where perforations were intended, but from which chads were not removed. These interesting varieties are not imperforate stamps.

Blind Perforations - an impression made by perforating pins in a place where perforations were intended, but from which the chads were not removed leaving the impression that no perf hole is present. These interesting varieties are not to be confused with imperforate stamps. Blind perforations are considered freaks, not errors, and carry little, if any, premium over normally perforated copies.

<http://members.shaw.ca/rskulski/index.html>



POLAND AND WORLD WAR II

1939 - 1945



Roman Vladimir Skulski created this site in 2002 and passed away on March 30th, 2008. He lived some of the events he describes on this site.

Below the opening picture, you see above (from the first page), is a small memorium to Mr. Skulski. Below that are links that will take you into WW II year by year beginning with the invasion of Poland by Germany on September 1, 1939 followed by an invasion from Russia. The stories are told with the use of hand drawn maps showing the points of entry and sites of resistance and stamps commemorating battles and those involved in the resistance.

Mr. Skulski was a stamp collector. His collection (at least on this site) centers on this time frame and Poland's involvement in the war. They didn't sit on their hands. The Poles had an airforce that flew British Spitfires out of England. They had an army that fought the Germans in Tobruk in North Africa. They were the army that drove the Germans out of Monte Casino in Italy in 1943 after the American army failed to do so.

This is an excellent site created by a hero of that war. If you want to learn about WWII or just view the stamps of that conflict, go to this site. I'd be willing to bet (if I were a betting man) that you have some WWII stamps you didn't know you had! And don't forget to check out his dairy on the last page. You're going to like this site.

Hong Kong was a British Colony when this quiz was written by Bill Olcheski. In 1982. It was leased for 99 years by the British in 1898 and returned to the Chinese in 1997. Keep that in mind for the opening and other questions.

1. What is the political status of Hong Kong?
A) British Crown Colony B) Independent State C) Chinese Dominion
2. At the mouth of what river is Hong Kong located?
A) Zhu Jiang B) Yalu C) Yangtze
3. Which Monarch is shown on the first Hong Kong issue?
A) Queen Victoria B) King Edward VII C) George V
4. What animal is shown on the stamps issued for the Lunar New Year in 1973?
A) Rat B) Monkey C) Ox
5. What is the design of Hong Kong postage due stamps before 1986?
A) Number value B) Scales C) Monarch
6. What kind of dog is shown on the 1970 Lunar New Year stamps?
A) shar-pe B) Chow Chow C) Pekingese
7. What tunnel links Victoria (now Hong Kong City) and Kowloon? It appears on a 1972 stamp.
A) Chunnel B) Ena C) Cross Harbour
8. What King appears on the regular issues of 1912-14?
A) King Edward VII B) King George V C) King Edward VIII
9. The statue of what Queen appears on the 1962 stamps marking the centenary of Hong Kong stamps?
A) Elizabeth I B) Queen Victoria C) Queen Elizabeth II
10. What bird is shown on the stamp marking the centenary of the Universal Postal Union?
A) Sea gull B) Carrier pigeon C) Yellow-billed Loon

Bonus question: What is the first course at Louis”?

After copying the quiz out of Bill Olcheski’s book I find it is more than just stamps here. This is about the culture, geography, but most of all, the changing times since the quiz was written. Guess that’s what stamp collecting is all about!

Guyana is a small country, once a British colony in, well, you'll see where it is in the answers, populated by East Indians and African slaves

1. A. British Honduras is now known as Belize and Suriname is still Suriname. Guyana was once known as British Guiana.
2. B. Guyana sure sounds like an African name to me, but its not. Guyana is located on the Northern coast of South America, east of Venezuela.
3. B. Guyana, a country populated by East Indian and African descendants, gained their independence in 1966.
4. A. H. N. Critchlow was Guyana's first labor organizer who created the Guyana Labor Organization on the docks of Georgetown in 1919. (#306-07).
5. B. One of the answers I suggested was "Republican Day". I should have said Republic Day, a holiday celebrated in more than twenty-five countries, including Guyana and India, to commemorate the day they became a Republic. (#188)
6. B. Mohandas K. Gandhi is shown on #100 & 101 with a spinning wheel as a hero in the independence of India.
7. A. The Lords Prayer is depicted by a picture of a young girl kneeling in prayer by her bed, Scott #148.
8. A. A stamp from 1863 of British Guiana is shown on #197 and 199 to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Universal Postal Union agreement of 1874.
9. C. The Freedom Monument is shown on #s 222-225, issued in 1975 to celebrate Namibia's Independence, yet the country didn't gain "full independence" until 1990. For those of you who are wondering, Namibia used to be called German Southwest Africa!
10. A. Lions and tigers and, well.....maybe not bears or tigers, but the stamps were issued to show new coinage on which you may see big cats and.....a sea cow.

Bonus question. The question was about blind perms, what are they? On page three are three definitions, each only slightly different. They come from Champion Stamp Supply, MiMi.Hu and 1847USA.com

Of course, you know there are no lions and tigers in Guyana, don't you? But there are seacows also known as Manatees or Dugongs.

2008 Nevada Stamp Study Society Ballot

This ballot is to be executed on the 1th day of July, 2009 at the first club and last club meeting of the month. **Absentee ballots must be received by the day of voting.** Ballots will be counted at the meeting and installation of the elected officers at the Nevada Stamp Study Society picnic in August. Write-in candidates must agree to candidacy before the election.

For the office of PRESIDENT of the club (vote for one only);

Stan Cronwall

Write-in _____

For the office of TREASURER (vote for one only)

Paul Glass

Terri Edwards

Write-in _____

For the office of BOARD OF DIRECTORS (vote for one only);

Charles White

Casey Macken

Write-in _____

When you have made your selections, please fold the ballot and return it to the Nomination and Election Committee. Absentee ballots must be mailed to;

Nevada Stamp Study Society
P.O. Box 2907
Sparks, NV 89432

with the envelope marked BALLOT.

Welcome to The World of Stamp Exhibiting!

by Tom Fortunato

Continued from previous issue

A Look at a Judge's Scoring Sheet

Let's look at a judge's score sheet for topical/thematic exhibits. The score sheet has three major sections: General Impressions of the collection, Thematic Treatment, and Philatelic Material & Knowledge. Other exhibit types (postal history, etc.) have similar breakdowns but weigh each section differently.

General Impression means just that. The judge will overview your entire exhibit for the following items: title page, plan of collection, subdivisions and arrangement of philatelic material, the setting-off of stamps and philatelic material, neat, clear and brief text, mounting and general eye appeal.

The **Title Page** must be the first page in your exhibit and it must clearly state what your exhibit is all about. A good tip is to do your title page last even if you have a title in mind. The title page is often the most fun because you can use artwork, greeting cards, postcard pictures, computer graphics, almost anything goes; and as a set rule this is the only page which allows non-philatelic creativity.

The **Plan** of the collection is often where juniors become confused by judges notes and comments on their sheets. The plan is merely an outline and as you begin to develop as an exhibitor you will include a plan page as the second page in your exhibit. This outline, used as a reference tool, makes it much easier to subdivide and arrange your philatelic material. This plan page can and will affect your scores, between 18-25 points for development, in the Thematic Treatment section.

Subdivision and arrangement of stamps and philatelic material - Each page of an exhibit should have a well rounded mixture of philatelic elements: stamps, covers, cancels, maximum cards, souvenir sheets, postal stationery, meters, etc. Exhibitors should try to have at least two if not three elements on a page. More than this would be ideal.

Arrangement refers to the layout of each page and the "look" when all the pages are put together. A good example is if your exhibit contains only two or three covers. Mix them up! Don't put them on the same page, nor on adjacent pages when possible. This is one of the greatest challenges for an exhibitor.

Setting-off of philatelic material is an often mis-understood category. The stars of any exhibit should be the stamps, covers and other philatelic material. The material you select to show should speak for themselves.

You should always strive for **clarity and pertinence of text**. Many judges have used the term "telegraphed" when referring to text. This just means to make your statements non-wordy, brief, and concise. Most youth exhibitors (and adults, too!) have a tendency to get very wordy with the descriptive text in their exhibits. Forget it!

General impressions include mounting of materials and general eye appeal. Mount your material with clear mounts, which are preferred by most exhibitors and judges. They may be outlined in black pen, neatly, with a uniformly-sized border. The size of the mounts you use is very important. They can be trimmed to meet your needs. Don't make them over-sized. Eye appeal means exactly that! You'll want to design page layouts with individuality. Avoid them all looking the same.

The Judging Critique

A "critique" is the philatelic term describing the process of reviewing an exhibit, either in person or by mail. As an exhibitor, this is a vital way to learn how to improve your display.

"In person" critiques are best. If you exhibit at a regional or national show, a formal judges' critique is almost always scheduled. This is your opportunity first-hand to hear from the judges why they gave you the award level you received. It takes place in a meeting room away from the frames.

The jury chairman starts off with a few words about the show's exhibits as a whole and then invites exhibitors to ask about their own presentation, starting with the lower level awards. Often, certain judges are assigned specific exhibits to comment on, spending 3-4 minutes on each, then allowing other judges to add their observations. Many times judges will also offer to visit with you afterwards at the frames to give you additional tips for improvements.

Whether you attend in person or not, a written critique also will be sent to you after a show. It breaks down the exhibit into categories such as presentation, material used, philatelic knowledge, and alike. Each will be scored using a point system, with written suggestions to help you. This will not be an in depth review, but general guidelines to help you overall.

A "critique by mail" is another option. You send the 'judge' photocopies of your exhibit pages, either in whole or selected portions. This person will write ideas and comments on each page, mailing them back to you. I'd be happy to review any exhibit this way. All I ask is that you include return postage and be patient for my reply! Just remember, every judge has their own opinion. You make the final decision as to whether you follow his or her advice or not.

Awards

What awards can you expect to win when you exhibit? While there are standard award levels, special youth awards are available from a number of sources.

National level shows have five basic award levels. From highest to lowest, they are: Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze. Local and regional shows usually leave out the "middle" ones, opting for Gold, Silver and Bronze. Sometimes these are termed First, Second and Third place instead.

A variety of societies also offer specialty awards. Here are just a few of them

specifically for those under age 18. Each has their own requirements, and it's advisable to write to them for specifics, including a self-addressed stamped envelope.

American Topical Association - ATA Youth Award. Arlene Crosby, ATA Awards, 1348 Union NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505.

North American Youth Stamp Exhibiting Competition (available to national level APS shows only). NAYSEC Award, Ada Prill, 130 Trafalgar, Rochester, NY 14619.

International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors - ISWSC Youth Merit Award for best display of worldwide stamps. ISWSC Youth Merit Award, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2022.

A Stamp Exhibit Evolves

Have you heard the classic joke, "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" The answer is, "practice, practice, practice." So it is with exhibiting.

When you start thinking about an exhibit, you probably have some thoughts of what you want to show, what's to go on each page and the general flow of the story line. The tough part comes after you've put it all together and shown it for the first time. Your friends, relatives or the judges will all have suggestions on ways to improve it. Then additional material will come your way that you just have to fit into the exhibit somehow. Time to make changes!

It's a never ending process. As you graduate to higher levels of competition, the rules become more restrictive. Material acceptable at a local show, for example, may be (and often is) considered improper at regional, national and international ranks. The same goes for any personal drawings and artwork, or any non-philatelic items, like picture post cards, etc. These are strictly taboo. Remember, this is supposed to be a philatelic exhibit!

You can follow the general guidelines mentioned in the prior articles. Always strive for showing exclusively mint or used stamps in the exhibit. Yes, this can get expensive, but it's financially easier a little at a time. Don't forget that it also takes time to find what you're looking for. No one dealer will have everything you need and many surprises will come your way.

Replace colorful first day covers with commercial usages. While they won't look as pretty, they are appreciated more and add to difficulty of acquisition. Mount your material with clear mounts and avoid the black backed kind. When possible, type the text for your exhibit and keep it as short as necessary to get your point across. Always use a wide variety of philatelic materials, mixing them up on each page. This process can go on for years.

What sets the national and international exhibits apart at all levels is the depth and development shown. Rarer material is expected to be displayed. What might have started off as being a single frame exhibit of 16 pages is expected to be at least 2-3 frames at nationals and 4-10 frames at internationals. The exhibitor should have received a lot of help from experienced philatelist in determining appropriate material and had the flow structure critiqued many times as well.

No matter what level you're exhibiting at now, or if you're just starting to get your feet wet, it will expand your knowledge of all aspects of philately. And best of all, it's fun!

So remember, "practice makes perfect" when exhibiting!