

Nevada

P.O. Box 2907

Sparks, Nevada 89432

N.S.S.S. meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 am
in the NNMC at 1855 Oddie Blvd. in Sparks

<http://home.earthlink.net/~renostamp/>



N.S.S.S.



POST BOY

November 14, 2009

Finally! November. Time for the Auction Bucks Auction. It's a little cold outside but it will get hot inside for this meeting. Lots of goodies to look over and "buy!"

Sad news today. **Kay Williams** took a fall and it looks like some ribs may be broken. She wasn't able to make it to the last meeting. A card was passed around but if you missed signing it you may want to give her a call and wish her well. She will be missed. Lets hope she can make it to the Christmas party but, if she doesn't, Merry Christmas (and Happy Holidays) to you, Kay.

This first meeting of the month will not bring us any of our usual meeting expectations. There will be no raffle or our regular auction for stamps on the "string". New members; when you walk in the door you will find the tables strewn with fanciful objects. There will be some stamp related items but expect items like a microwave egg poacher or a crossword puzzle made out of dried macaroni. Can't tell you what you'll find on this day but bring your Auction Bucks with you because you can spend them on this day. If you don't have them yet, **Jean Johnson** will bring what you have earned for the year and give them to you. You can also bring some, no more than 5, items to give to the cause (cause you don't want them) and bid on the ones you want. If you don't have enough to bid with, Paul Glass will be happy to supply you with some for a small fee of \$10.00 (real money) for 500 bucks. Alcoholic beverages may be sold at this auction but may not be brought inside the building so leave it in the car. If you have a bottle to offer, fill out a form describing the item and it will be auctioned from that description and traded outside.

The **Christmas party** is ready to go and will be held on the second Saturday (the 12th) of December. The address is the Masonic Temple, 601 W. Peckham. A map is on page 8. Sign up for a side dish at the meeting and when you arrive at the party, bring enough utensils, plates and cups for you and your guests to use and one for the side dish. Presents will be traded, and fought over, so bring one for each guest too, so they can join in the fun. There is a price limit of \$10.00 for the gifts. We don't expect you to spend a lot and, at ten bucks, you will have to put some thought into it. Just make it something that will be fun.

PENPEX will be held on Dec. 5-6 at the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave. in Redwood City, California <http://www.penpex.org/>

Filatelic Fiesta will be held again this year on Nov 13-15 at the Santa Clara County Fair Grounds. for more details, go to <http://www.filatelicfiesta.org/>

Last month Charles White, our program director, brought in the post office to talk about itself. This came in the form of a very intelligent young woman, who has 25 years with the postal service, **René Brown**. She left a phone number for us if you have any questions regarding the post office or its operations. There have been many changes, including, of course, the rates, all of which are a balancing act between continuing good service while downsizing. For the next two years local offices will continue to consolidate. That means closing some offices. The good news is there are no plans to raise rates again next year. The bad news (maybe) is she's not sure if the post office will be able to continue to support our Stamp and Cover Show.

Several days before the program, Charles sent out e-mails asking for questions for René. There were some interesting inquiries. Why do the local post offices use red ink for their cancellations, it tends to bleed and stain when soaking. This may change now. Will the PO continue to support our Stamp and Cover Show? Answer is above. And why is "junk" mail so cheap to send? Well, that's the bread and butter for the Postal Service and the mailers do most of the work of preparing and sorting, which saves the PO time and money. And there were several other questions as well. All in all, it was a very good presentation and we were all glad René was able to take time out of her busy schedule for us. Kudos.



A message from the president;

The holiday season for many of us is a time for gathering with loved ones, parties and enjoyment. However, for too many in our region the holidays are a difficult time. More and more families, seniors and other members of our community are struggling to make ends meet, pay their bills, and put food on the table.

Many of these seeking help are in this position for the first time in their lives. The holidays are a time for giving and our neighbors need our help.

When you come to the Stamp Club Holiday Party on December 12th, please consider bringing a non-perishable, unexpired food donation. The Food Bank can always use canned meat, fish and nuts, peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, cereal, canned stews, chili, ravioli and other ready-to-eat meals, rice, pasta, canned fruits and vegetables, and powdered milk.

If you would rather make a monetary donation (cash or check) seal it in an envelope and give to one of the Club officers. We will see that the donations (both monetary and food) are delivered to the Food Bank. Thank you.

In August, the club was kind enough to recognize some of it's members for their accomplishments. Stan Cronwall presented the awards at second meeting of the month.



To barbara Stanfield for her many previously unrecognized contributions to the club. She is always willing to lend a helping hand at any time and for any cause. She has always been there for us

To Dick Dreiling for his many years of meetings, time served as president of the club as well as director, but above all, his contributions and many hours given to the development of Stamp and Cover Show, the Nevada State Fair, The Reno Air Show and all the time donated for the good of the club. Too much to enumerate here.



To Howard Grenzebach for winning a vermeil for the Post Boy, thanks to the foundation laid down by Bill Brew (who also won vermeil) and other Post Boy editors. The vermeil award was given by the Council Activities Committee (CAC) of the American Philatelic Society.

<http://www.kashmirstamps.ca/>



Collecting Kashmir

Sometimes the sites I offer you are exciting, sometimes they are informative. This one may make you feel like Indiana Jones. Kashmir is a country that exists in the northeast region of India or the northwest region of Pakistan, depending who you are talking to. It is a disputed area that both countries have threatened to go to war over several times. It is also just southeast of the now famous Swat Valley, an area once popular among tourists as the “Switzerland of the East.”

The site begins with the picture above and several links to other part of the site, the first page to go to is “Overview” where you will find a map of the area and a brief history. There are some great picture of both rare and common stamps from Kashmir as well as covers. Then on to “Production” where you will learn about papers, embossing and everything else you didn’t know about these stamps.



The site is quite sophisticated and deals with stamps that most of us are barely aware exist. There is much information to be had here and an amazing assortment of scans showing stamps and covers that had me in awe. Even if you are not interested in trying your hand at collecting this tough area, it is worthwhile going to this site and gawking



This quiz comes from an earlier issue of the Post Boy when I was just beginning as it's editor and it's a bit tougher than what you may be used to. No multiple choice answers here, so it will test your mettle.

1. While many collectors consider the Colombian series of 1893 as the first United States commemorative stamp, there was an earlier issue, which some think may qualify as well. What stamp was it? Hint; its a set of one.
2. Is there any difference between the terms "cancellation" and "postmark"? If so, what is it?
3. In printing, what is the difference between engraving and photogravure?
4. What is a "provisional" stamp?
5. What does the term "tete-beche" mean in printing parlance, and how does it occur?
6. The first nation to issue adhesive postage stamps was Great Britain in May, 1840. What was the second nation? Hint; its not European.
7. There is a United States stamp showing a one-armed man. Which stamp is it and what was his claim to fame? Hint; lost his right arm at the Battle of Shiloh.
8. There are many United States stamps depicting Benjamin Franklin. There is only one, however, depicting Franklin taking part in a dangerous experiment. Which stamp is it, and what was the experiment?
9. When was the first Christmas stamp issued by the United States, and what did it depict?
10. Who was the first identifiable African American shown on a United States stamp, when was it issued and what was he honored for? Hint; His middle initial is "T".

Bonus question; True or False? The Pony Express was activated in 1983.

There was no bonus question the first time around. I just thought I would throw one in so you might get one right. I know I would have a hard time doing well on this one if I didn't already have the answers. The hints weren't in the first quiz. Hope they help in this one. Enjoy the quiz.

US stamps this time. Bet everyone aced it.

1. C. The Iwo Jima Memorial is known as the Marine Corps War Memorial and is located outside the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. If you said Washington DC, your answer is correct.
2. C. Jefferson Davis was the president of the CSA and his picture appears on the first stamps of the Confederacy. He was an unpopular president during the war but gained the respect of Southerners for his defense of the South until his death in 1889. Seven southern states now celebrate his birthday, June 3.
3. C. The number is 716 and was issued on January 25, 1932. It shows a man sailing through the air on his skis.
4. C. The first organized game of football was played in New Brunswick, New Jersey on November sixth, 1869. Princeton was trounced by Rutgers, 6-4. The stamp, #1382, celebrates the 100th anniversary of that game.
5. C. The stamp honors the opening of the “universal and International Exhibition” in Brussels, Belgium. #1104 shows the US pavilion at that fair.
6. B. The first American Christmas stamp shows a Christmas wreath and a candle. It is #1205 and was issued on November 1, 1962.
7. C. In 1949, C-40 was issued to note the bicentennial anniversary of the founding of Alexandria, Virginia. It pictures the home of John Carlyle (one of the oldest in Virginia) and Gadsby’s Tavern Where Washington held his last military review in 1799.
8. C. The Soo Locks were completed in 1855 and operated by the state of Michigan until they were transferred to the Army in 1881. They allow ships to pass from Lake Superior to the lower Great Lakes. Sct #1069.
9. C. They were claret in color and printed by the BEP showing the Canal Zone Seal.
10. C. Thomas Hart Benton was at the forefront of the Regionalist movement and painted “Independence”. Sct #1426.

Bonus question. If selling monkeys to madmen gets the club a dollar you can earn auction Bucks!

Several people said no to the bonus question but the fact is, if it helps the club, it helps you. Monkeys to madmen? Sure, just do it for the club!

Cover of the Month

I am borrowing The Cover of the Month idea from James Sauer, the editor of the San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter and president of the club. The first cover will be one of my own, but I hope to hear from other members about their own favorite covers. Perhaps a Christmas cover for next month's issue of the Post Boy. It doesn't have to be spectacular, just something that's interesting to you.

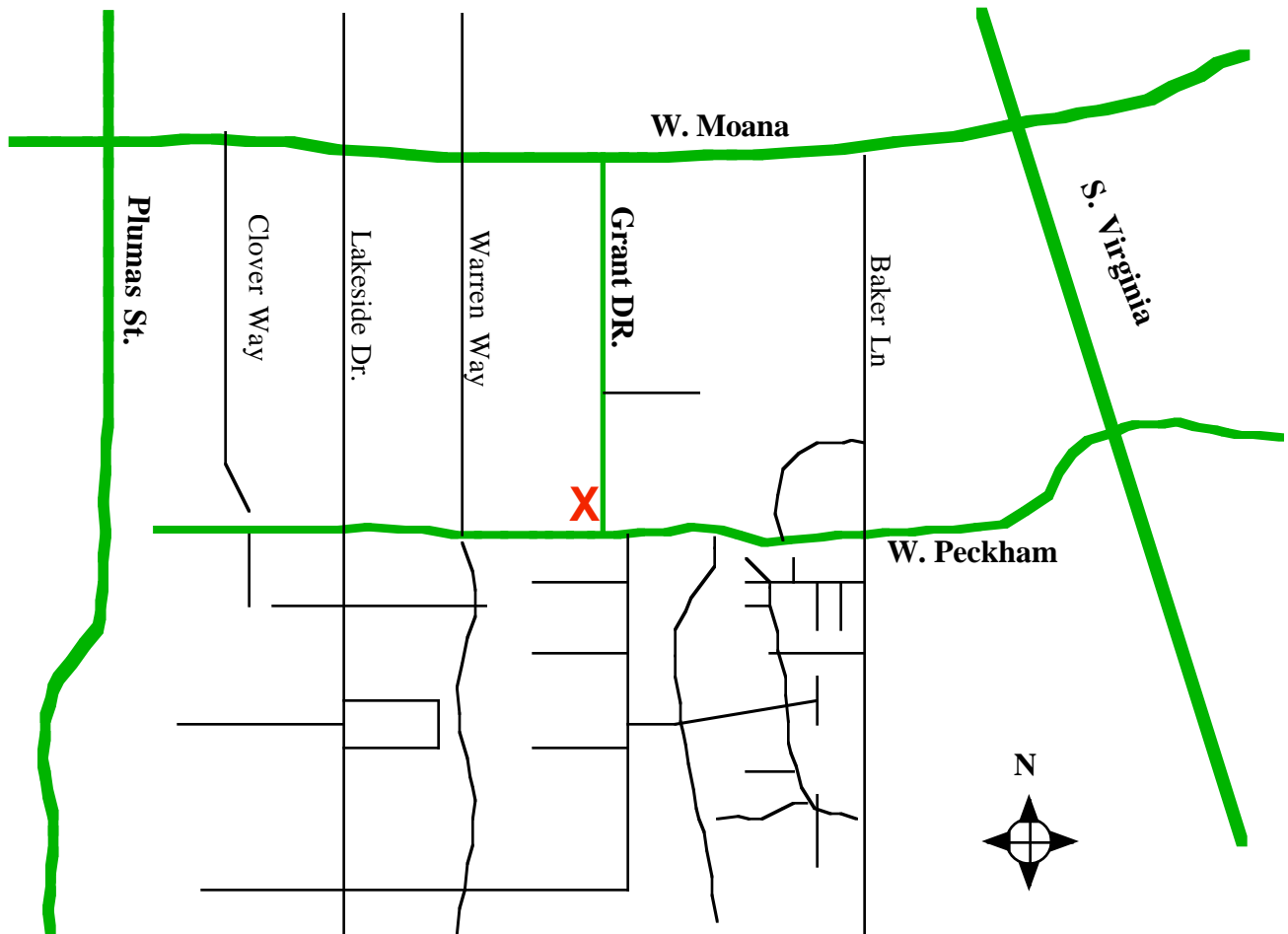


Last year I wrote an article in the Post Boy called "The Pony Express, Then and Now". It was in the November, 2008 issue. In it I described how a flood and ensuing mudslide blocked motorized traffic from several small towns in the western Sierras for a period of seventy six days. The National Pony Express Association headquarters was in on of the towns (Pollock Pines) that was cut off by these small disasters. They suggested, to the local post office, a revival of the Pony Express to move the mail until the roads were cleared. The post office agreed and the Pony Express rode again. There were several philatelic pieces made for the event with a special cancel that wasn't ready until the 29th of April, 1983.

This is one of those covers. The cachet was created by Clarence Sutton.

In April of this year a small group from the NSSS decided to make a trip to Sacramento for the Easter Seal show. One of the dealers made me an offer I couldn't refuse. A whole tub of covers for a very good price. Many in the club have benefited from that transaction. As I was going through the covers I had purchased I set this one aside, remembering the article, but not when I wrote it. Finally I found the article and all the particulars of it matched the cover. Now, I am very excited to show it to you. Now, if only I can find one of those covers that isn't philatelic.

The Christmas Party



While this map isn't perfect it is pretty accurate as far as where the streets end. For instance, Clover Way comes up short of Peckham and Peckham doesn't go all the way to Plumas. North is the top of the map and south is the bottom.

The easiest route is Virginia to Peckham to Grant, park the car and have a good time at the party. You can also take Grant, Lakeside or Warren from Moana but not Clover. Baker also reaches all the way to Peckham. If you're on Plumas, go to Moana then Grant and turn right. The party is where the big red X is. Don't get lost in the streets south of Peckham.

Have fun at the party and drive safely.