

Post Boy



August 2020
Volume 53, Issue 8

Virtual meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday starting at 10:00 A.M. - until further notice

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Announcements

2020 Elections took place at the July 25 meeting. New officers are Vice-President: **James Steckley**, Secretary: **Paul Glass**, Directors: **George Ray** and **Dave Parsons**. Continuing to serve on the Board are: President; **Harvey Edwards**, Treasurer: **Erik Fields**, Directors: **Dave Gehringer**, **Howard Grenzebach** and **Howard Kadohiro**.

Regular virtual club meetings in August:

August 8 and August 27 - Both meetings will be virtual using the Zoom app. Instruction to log into the meetings will be sent a few days before each meeting.

The **August picnic is canceled** because of the pandemic guidelines.

Membership is extended for one year - NO dues payment until August 2021. At the July 11 Board meeting the decision was made to extend membership one year.

Penny Boxes - Any member interested in foreign stamps? **Betty Mudge & Eugene Smoots** have the Penny Box stamps separated by country. Make an arrangement to get a country box to look through and pay 2¢ a stamp and return the rest. Sort of like approvals. Email Betty pennybox@renostamp.org or give her a call.

Show cancellation covers - By mail, the covers are \$2 each with an SASE. Standard first class (55¢) should cover the postage for 4 covers without a stiffener. Anything more add additional postage. There is a discount when ordering more than 20 covers. Contact Harvey Edwards email president@renostamp.org.

Please stay safe. Use facial covering when out and about along with social distancing. Don't forget frequent handwashing is essential. Keep working on your favorite hobby. The club wants to hear about your philatelic endeavors when we can meet again in-person.

Post Boy Reporter

July 11 virtual meeting - This meeting was a little different with five Board members at the Silverada Clubhouse with lots of electronic equipment (two laptops, extra monitor, large projection screen, projector, PA system, plus no-touch thermometer, hand sanitizer and masks). **Harvey Edwards** wanted to test having a virtual meeting from the clubhouse with members safely at home. It worked pretty well except for losing the Internet connection a few times. A total of 18 members (including the five onsite) were in attendance. Thanks to **Dave Parsons** for allowing the club to use his paid Zoom account so we can have these virtual meetings.



Harvey Edwards conducting the virtual meeting at the Silverada Clubhouse.

The day before the meeting, the governor issued orders going back to Phase 1 with close contact activities canceled. All bars not serving food were closed, plus mandatory masks because of increased COVID-19 cases in Washoe and Clark counties. Oh well! So, no picnic in August.

As explained in the July Post Boy, **Harvey Edwards** is going forward with the stamp show covers with the two special cancellations approved by the USPS. The club election will take place at the July 25 meeting. **John Walter** reported a new philatelic display was setup at the Carson City Library for the month of July. He also reported the website is updated after each meeting and the Post Boy will continue with at least 10 pages each issue. Our club was mentioned in *Linn's Stamp News*, July 13 issue, as offering virtual club meetings. It's always nice to get a Shout Out in the philatelic press.

All in-person stamp shows are canceled, looks like, for the rest of this year. But there are numerous opportunities for virtual activities: philatelic programs, even a stamp show, one-frame stamp exhibits with judging, panel discussions with Q&A, etc. The editor has a full page of these activities as the last page in this Post Boy. Mailed copies will not have this listing since those individuals do not have Internet or email. **Paul Glass** will email a list of APS activities open to both members and non-members. **Robert Martin** reported mailing 19 kits to students enrolled in the Stamps for Kids program in Hawaii. The kits consisted of a 16-page album, stamps, and some supplies.

Board meeting - After the regular meeting there was a Board meeting with all officers and directors present. **Erik Fields** reported the treasury has around \$11,000. Erik will file paperwork at the end of the year for a tax status change from 501(c)(7) to 501(c)(3). The club will order a 2021 Scott U.S. Specialized Catalog due in October. **Harvey Edwards** and **Erik Fields** are exploring having a club PayPal account for a payment option for the show covers and other payments. **John Walter** submitted a written report for his activities over the past 4 months. The big decision was made to extend memberships through July 2021. No membership dues this year.

July 25 virtual meeting - **Harvey Edwards** conducted the meeting via Zoom with 18 attendees. The elections took place with the results on page one. **Harvey Edwards** mentioned some of the decisions from the July 11 Board meeting (see above paragraph). Harvey picked up the special show cancel covers from Charlene at the post office. Details about the cancels were in last month's Post Boy. *Linn's Stamp News* has an article about our show cancel covers in the Aug. 10 issue.

Members have been asking about having auctions during the pandemic restrictions. **Dave Parsons** volunteered to investigate having an on-line auction with information, including images, on our website. The on-line bidding would end the day before our meeting with final bidding at the meeting via Zoom. **Howard Grenzebach**, **Harvey Edwards** and **John Walter** would help. Harvey will conduct the Aug. 8 meeting from the Silverada Clubhouse.

New Zealand Microlight Air Service

By Tom Reyman

In August 1985, the Timaru Herald newspaper, published in Timaru, New Zealand needed to speed up the delivery of news items from communities surrounding Timaru so that they could be published in a timely manner. This was before email was available and the usual surface delivery of information usually required a slow two or three days. Staff members of the newspaper decided to use airborne delivery and initiated a delivery service using microlight aircraft to deliver the needed information from the outlying areas to their newspaper. To help to defray the costs of this service and to provide stamp collectors with a souvenir of the flights, covers were prepared with a \$1.00 NZ company stamp in addition to the regular 25 cent NZ required postage. Initially, about 450 covers were prepared but these sold out quickly and additional covers were prepared.

The communities serviced were Fairlie, Geraldine, and Temuka, with Timaru as the hub. Timaru is approximately 155 km/95 miles South of Christchurch on the East Coast of the South Island of New Zealand. The distance to the surrounding communities from Timaru are: 20 km/12 miles (Temuka), 40 km/25 miles (Geraldine), and 60 km/35 miles (Fairlie), well within the operational range for the small microlight aircraft.

The first flight of five aircraft occurred on August 16, 1985, a Friday afternoon, and flew from Fairlie to Geraldine to Temuka reaching the Timaru Herald at 3:00 P.M. These craft brought information as well as packages and mail. Subsequent flights over the next three weeks brought more information for the newspaper to publish and more mail and packages. Despite the initial success of the service, it was terminated as the local winds and weather conditions made flying too difficult for the light aircraft.



Two examples of the microlight covers are shown here. The first envelope is from August 19, 1985 for the initial flight from Fairlie to Geraldine to Timaru. The second envelope marked the flight from Fairlie to Temuka to Timaru on August 23, 1985. The cost of delivery of this mail was covered by the addition of the \$1.00 company stamp to front of the envelope. The regular NZ postage of 25 NZ cents was still required to meet postal expenses. The newspaper reported that the service paid for itself during the time it was operational.

Tom Reyman is our newest NSSS member whose collecting interests are U.S. FAM covers, general Air Mail covers, Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail stamps and covers, and Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) covers.

Tin Can Mail

By Emmanuel GPS

What is Tin Can Mail?

What can you do when you live on an island with no deep-water port in the early 1900s?

This is Niuafu'ou, a volcanic Tongan island: postal deliveries were received via the so called "Tin Can Mail" system of having mail thrown overboard in biscuit tins and retrieved by local swimmers. After a shark killed a Tongan swimmer in 1931, swimming was banned and canoes had to be used.

This is an island unlike any you're likely to have seen before, and it's seriously remote. The protective caldera almost makes it look like a huge walled fortress. Part of the kingdom of Tonga, the island is inhabited, and has been for most likely thousands of years. The population of around 600 individuals are, however, in constant threat of the active volcano that they're living on. In fact, the island ceased to be inhabited for some 12 years from 1946 until 1958 after a devastating eruption.



Niuafu'ou (volcano)



Niuafu'ou from the International Space Station, 2005-03-19

Highest point	
Elevation	260 m (850 ft)
Coordinates	15.60°S 175.63°W﻿•﻿
Geography	
Location	Tonga, Oceania
Geology	
Mountain type	Shield volcano
Last eruption	March 1985

The specially marked Tin Can covers of the 1930s and 1940s became collectors' items after an Englishman, Charles Ramsey, became the first and only white man to swim out with the mail. A German trader, Walter Quensell, cashed in on what had become a major tourist attraction with visiting cruise ships, by stamping all the mail and sending it on.

EmmanuelGPS@gmail.com, a native Frenchman, is a past Director and life member of <https://www.rotaryonstamps.org/> and the lead person of the Inverness (California) stamp club where he resides. He owns this highlighted 1937 cover.

New Member Profile - Tom Reyman

Thomas (Tom) Reyman has been a resident of Arizona for over 60 years having moved from New York in 1957 with his parents. After completing his university studies, he worked at a succession of manufacturing companies in the Phoenix area. In 1998, Tom semi-retired to become a part-time instructor at a local Community College (2 year) teaching manufacturing-related courses. Currently, Tom and his wife Mary Anne are retired and living in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Tom has collected philatelic material since age 9 but has been much more active in the last 35 years. He is a member of the American Philatelic Society (APS), the American Air Mail Society (AAMS) The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society (CAS), the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS), the Nova Scotia Stamp Club (NSSC), and two local stamp clubs (Phoenix and Mesa, AZ). His main collecting interests are U.S. FAM covers, general Air Mail covers, Canadian Semi-Official Air Mail stamps and covers, and Cape Breton (Nova Scotia) covers. He is a regular contributor of stamp-related articles to the CAS, AAMS, and Nova Scotia Stamp Club publications.

Thanks to the late Gary Dahlke, Tom was receiving the Post Boy for over a year. With his passing he decided to become "legal" and officially join our stamp club. Tom says "The club is impressive - well- organized, has a website AND a great newsletter, and is in the 21st century with a Zoom meeting to keep the members informed. As a member of the Phoenix Philatelic Assoc. (PPA) we have none of that. I hope to change the PPA through an ad hoc group of 5 people but that may not be worth the trouble. That is why I joined the Nevada club. Thanks for accepting me as a member."

Tom plans to participate in the Zoom meetings and to contribute articles to the Post Boy.

New Members Profile - Trice and David Klauber



Trice and David Klauber joined our stamp club in June. They attended one of our stamp club meetings a few years ago. Since that time, the Nevada Stamp Study Society and their stamp club in CA have exchanged newsletters. They have a daughter and grandchildren in the local area and visit regularly. So hopefully we should see them at one of our in-person meetings in the future.

David is the editor and publisher of the Poway (CA) Stamp Club newsletter and Trice is the secretary. They both write articles for the newsletter and are very involved with all their club activities.

David collects classic U.S., proofs & essays, and errors & oddities.

Trice collects China (all), Manchukuo, Mongolia, Iceland, and South Africa. They are both members of the American Philatelic Society and Poway (CA) Stamp Club.

Trice and David reside in Julia, California.

August Quiz - Afghanistan by Stan Cronwall

For what appears on maps to be a fairly small and insignificant nation, Afghanistan has certainly been a dominant factor in our news for what seems like a very long time. What do we really know about the country?

It is landlocked in south and central Asia bordered by Pakistan on the south and east, Iran in the west, the former Soviet Socialist Republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan in the north, and China in the far northeast. After the 3rd Anglo-Afghan War in 1919, the nation became foreign influence free and eventually became a monarchy. Fast forward to the late 1970's. In a series of coups, it first became a socialist state then a Soviet Union Protectorate.

Today, Afghanistan is defined as a Unitary Presidential Islamic Republic with some 35 million people. As of 2016, the IMF ranks the country as 167th of 186 in per capita GNP.

1. In 1973, an Afghan stamp was issued that one might think resembles a painting by Salvador Dali, part of an Alexander Calder mobile, or just a depiction of a bad dream. In fact, the subject was a stylized?
a. Fish b. Dancer c. Buzkashi Horseman
2. Postal Tax stamp revenues were used in support of various Afghan sponsored causes. The letter "C" shown on many of these issues indicates that the monies generated went to the Red Crescent Society. This organization is an aid group very much like?
a. The Red Cross b. Wounded Warriors c. Child Aid & Welfare
3. Stamps dating from the time of the Kingdom of Kabul featured what animal?
a. Snow Leopard b. Tiger c. Afghan Hound
4. If you have managed to collect the imperf versions of Air Post Stamps C13, C14 and C14 A, you know they are valued at approximately 50% more than the perfs. The four-engine prop plane shown in the graphic element is flying over?
a. Kabul Airport b. The Palace Grounds c. Hindu Kush Mountains
5. The first time an individual was shown on a stamp was 1936. The stamp was issued to mark the 19th year of Independence. The person pictured was?
a. Ahmed Shah b. Mohammed Nadir Shah c. Nour Mohammad Taraki
6. Given that Afghanistan is such an important element in the illegal drug trade growing extensive fields of poppies, it is interesting that in 2003 a set of three stamps and a souvenir sheet were released under the title of "Day Against Narcotics." The souvenir sheet and one of the stamps included a graphic element not often found on stamps. What was it?
a. Syringes & Capsules b. Poppy Flowers c. Skulls
7. A two stamp set was issued on May 29, 1948 to commemorate Children's Day. It was only valid on that date. Proceeds were used for child welfare. The child depicted on the stamps engaged in what activity?
a. Playing b. Begging c. Praying
8. The first Afghan Air Post stamps issued in 1939 featured a biplane. This basic design and very dated plane were also used on stamps issued in 1948. In 1951-1954 the plane shown was a more modern two engine type, and by 1960-1963 the aircraft had been upgraded to a four-engine prop type.

The Afghan state airline, ARIANA, was not commemorated on Air Post stamps, but on a set of two regular issues in 1965 on the occasion of its 10th anniversary of service. What type of planes are shown?

- a. Ilyushin b. Boeing c. Lockheed d. Airbus e. Douglas f. Tupolev

9. Over the years, at least three different monuments have been erected in the style of an obelisk much like our own Washington Monument; the Tomb of Gohar Shad in Herat, the Minaret at Herat, and the Independence Monument. Which of these important symbolic buildings has been seen most often on Afghan stamps?
- a. The Minaret b. The Tomb of Gohar Shad c. Independence Monument
10. In the history of Afghan postage, only three issues have been released in a shape other than the more traditional rectangles either vertical or horizontal, and early on squares or diamonds. What other shape has been used?
- a. Rounds b. Triangles c. Hexagons

Bonus Question: The only Afghan stamp that even hints at the long running military conflicts with the British Empire was issued in 1967 depicting the British withdrawal during one of these conflicts. The battle took place west of Kandahar on July 27, 1880 and has been called, "the Long Retreat to Kandahar." This battle was a part of the second of three Anglo-Afghan wars. The battle involved 2,500 British and Indian troops of the Bombay Army versus Afghan forces of 3,000 cavalry and 9,000 infantry. For Scott, the stamp is described as "Retreat of the British at _____." What would fill in the blank space?

- a. Kabul b. Kandahar c. Helmond Province d. Maiwand e. Kush Mountains

The August quiz is worth **110 Auction Bucks**.

Please complete the quiz and give your answers to Betty Mudge at the next in-person meeting or email to postboyquiz@renostamp.org

July Quiz Answers: 1. d 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. e
6. c 7. a 8. a, b & c 9. b 10. b
Bonus: "Any one answer or no answer."



Computer screen image of 17 of the 18 members present at the July 25 meeting. Nadiah Beekun checked in late (her usual routine) and does not appear when photo taken.

Any Internet device can be used to attend these virtual meetings. There is no need for a webcam or microphone devices.

Vassar Post Office Display

By John Walter

A new philatelic display celebrating America's birthday (July 4) was installed at the main Reno post office on Vassar St. **John Walter** and **Mike Potter** took the time on a hot afternoon to work on the new display.

The club has exclusive use of two locked wall frames that all customers must walk past before seeing the postal clerks.



The photos are taken at an angle because of severe glare from the light overhead and the reflection from the large window in front of the display.

If any member wants to help with the display, please contact **John Walter**.

Carson City Library Display

By John Walter

With public institutions gradually reopening, the stamp club was fortunate to have a display case at the Carson City Library for the month of July. The display was set up in the morning when the library was closed to the public, but employees were busy filling the on-line reserve orders for library material. The library is open from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. The display case is at the entrance to the library.



Buy Want Sell Trade

For Sale: The entire estate of **John Wetterling** which consists of mostly Swedish material along with some U.S. and other countries. The catalog value is roughly \$50,000 with \$3,000 to \$4,000 in U.S. There is a large quantity of stamps including binders, notebooks, pages, and singular stamps, booklets, postcards, postal history and lots are already in order by Scott catalog. For those who remember John, he did many stamp club meeting presentations on things like rocket mail, balloon mail, ship mail, etc. Somewhere in the collection is a Hindenburg postcard which was his favorite most recent find. **Marla Wetterling** is selling everything for \$10,000, nothing is being held back. Please text Marla at 775-223-4181 if you are interested or have questions. She will rent a U Haul to be delivered to Northern Nevada. She currently lives in Klamath Falls, OR.

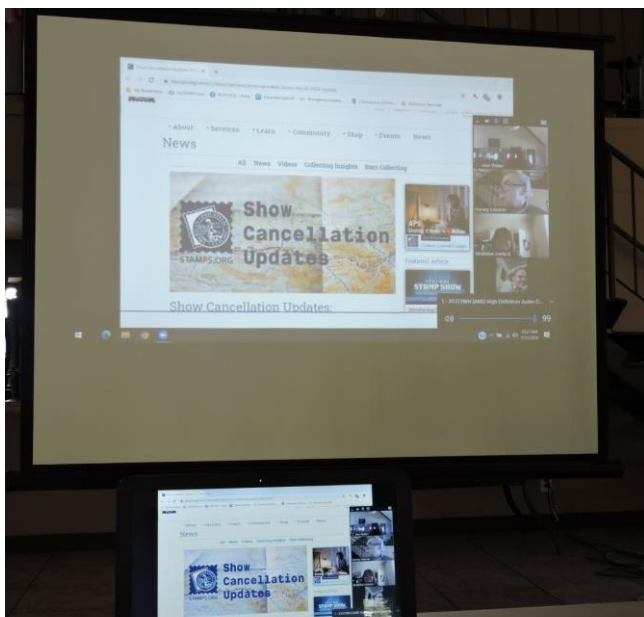
For Sale: Black Showgard & Prince stamp mounts mostly in strips, many different sizes. Contact member **Mike Potter** at (775) 359-9419 or email: potter0465@sbcglobal.net.

Buy and Sell - almost anything philatelic and ephemera. This includes stamps, post cards, FDCs, photos and documents of mining, and also Western interest. Plus selling philatelic supplies. Contact member **Nadiah Beekun** at (775) 762-4905, <http://www.RenoStamps.com> or email: classicnevada@yahoo.com.

Buying: Stamp Collections Worldwide & United States, Large or Small Estate. Postal History, Post Cards, Ephemera, Stock Certificates, Checks, Old Business Ledgers and Billheads, Mining Lumber, Staging & Express, Pony Express, California Gold Rush. Photographs 1840's - 1920's, California & Nevada Oil Paintings, anything Rare from California or Nevada History... Contact member **Mark Baker** 530-417-1117 or Email Mark@goldrushpaper.com.

Wanted: U.S. aerogramme: #UC49, and UC52 - must be used and addressed to an overseas address. Contact member **John Walter**, email: walter60@gmail.com.

Wanted: Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. Now that everyone has been home for a few months and looking at or working at your favorite hobby, how about a short story on some of your favorite items, recent purchases, country or topic you are working on, etc. Submit article to editor@renstamp.org



Laptop and projection screen at July meeting.



Harvey Edwards conducting the July 11 meeting with 4 other members who are using social distancing and masks.

This Internet page is only in the digital edition of the Post Boy since mailed copies are sent to members who do not have email or Internet access.

From the <https://stamp.org> American Philatelic Society website:



Highlights of the week will include:

Buy and Sell stamps: We will be connecting attendees directly with APS Dealer members, the largest dealer community in the world, to conduct virtual transactions.

Two First Day of Issue Celebrations, in conjunction with USPS:

- **Thursday, August 20:** The "Innovation" pane of 20 Forever Stamps with 5 designs, hosted by the [American First Day Cover Society](#).
- **Friday, August 21:** The "Thank You" booklet of 20 Forever stamps with 4 designs, hosted by the [American Topical Association](#).

Interactive Panels:

- Topics will include "The Future of Philately" and "Navigating Collecting during COVID-19."
- **"Stamp Expert House Call":** Send photos or scans of items you would like help in identifying or valuing. We will have experts on hand to give you feedback! The session will be sponsored by the APEX, the American Philatelic Expertizing Service.
- **AMA (Ask Me Anything) sessions:** Scheduled sessions include "Ask the Editor" with [The American Philatelist](#) Editor in Chief Gary Loew; "Ask the Librarian" with [APRL Head Librarian Scott Tiffney](#); "All about Social Media" with [Social Media Manager Heidi Lauckhardt-Rhodes](#).

Show attendees are also invited to submit scans of items they would like help identifying during the show's "Stamp Expert House Call."

Exhibits: Attendees will be able to show their exhibits in a virtual format

Awards: The APS, ATA and AFDCS will announce the winners of their annual awards. There will be an evening session for the APS/APRL Honors for winners of the Luff, Peterson, Mueller, and Allen Awards, along with other APS awards.

Meetings: The co-sponsors (APS, ATA and AFDCS) will all hold online public meetings during the Virtual Stamp Show. Other clubs, societies and affiliates are welcome to schedule virtual meetings during the show.



Free Access to APRL Digital Continues!

Due once again to the overwhelming demand and use over the last several months, the APRL has decided to extend further free access to the library's online digital collections database, APRL Digital. Members and non-members can continue to enjoy free access until the end of August 2020.

<https://stamps.org/services/library>

Keep chatting about stamps!

To date, we have produced over 60 hours of video conversations about stamp collecting!

This week there are two great topics: Building a stamp collecting YouTube page and a mysterious stamp in an unusual rate.

[Register for Stamp Chats!](#)



The Collectors Club of New York offers free virtual seminars twice a month on Wednesday's at 2:30 PDT.

<https://www.collectorsclub.org/>

All About Stamps is having a festival on-line. There are a few exhibits to view and other philatelic info.

<https://www.allaboutstamps.co.uk/stamp-festival>

The website Stamp Forum, <http://www.thestampforum.boards.net> offers a variety of linked messages, or threads, relating to many aspects of the stamp hobby.

Visitors can either browse the board's entries or search the site for messages about topics that interest them.

Membership is free; however, you will need to join, read the forum rules and introduce yourself to the group to post messages.

The forum publishes a free quarterly newsletter, called the *Stamp Forum Newsletter*. The site provides a page-flip option for both computers and mobile devices for reading the newsletter, or you can download either a high-or low-resolution portable document format (PDF) file.