

Post Boy

Connecting and supporting stamp collectors, of all ages and interests, in Northern Nevada since 1975



February 2024
Volume 57, Issue 2

In-person & Virtual meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday starting at 10:00 A.M.
Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd, Reno ([map](#))

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Announcements

Meetings –

Feb. 10 – In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a live auction. Members can have 5 auction lots, more can be added up to total of 60 lots.

Feb. 24 – In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, the presentation will be “U.S. Joint Stamp Issues” by **Dave Gehringer**. Members can have up to 10 lots on the consignment table. Extra lots may be added as lots are sold.

The Internet connection at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse is now very stable. Zoom visitors report a solid connection during the meetings. If unable to attend meeting in person, please consider “Zoom attendance.” The Zoom ID and PSWD are sent via email with the meeting notices. Currently, the ID and PSWD will remain the same unless compromised.

Online Auction #33 – All lot descriptions and images are due by noon Feb. 11. The auction will start at noon Feb. 13 and end at noon Feb. 22. Email auction lot info to **Dave Parsons**:
NSSSauctions@gmail.com

Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. – Carson City Library - The Nevad Stamp Study Society will present an informational stamp collecting seminar at the Carson City Library. The title will be “Introduction to Stamp Collecting.” Please contact Dave Gehringer if you can attend to support the library program.
He plans to have lots of show-and-tell material for the attendees.

July 27-28 – Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show at the National Bowling Stadium, 300 University Way, Reno. Exhibits are needed from members. There is NO exhibit frame fees for the show.

Post Boy Reporter

Jan. 13 meeting – Eric Fields and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 20 including 2 guests. One guest, Bill, started collecting in the early 1950s and wanted some information on a few items. Steve was the other guest who accomaned Bill. Both had a good time and met and spoke with many club members. **John Walter** provided the refreshments.

James Steckley reported on the new USPO issues released in January. He collects the high value U.S. issues and will be purchasing the pane of 4 for the Pillars of Creation and Cosmic Cliffs priority mail stamps. Contact James if you want the single stamps at face. James also reported his Zoom attendance at the Sequoia Stamp Club meeting in Dec. with the PENPEX report with pictures. James also reported receiving one box of covers as a donation. The covers are in today's live auction.

Membership report by **Mike Potter** reveals 63 members to start the year. **Dave Parsons** announced Auction #32 starts Jan. 16 and ends Jan 25. So far there are 99 lots. **John Walter** reported on his club activties which includes the Post Boy, updating and archiving all the club information, and Vassar post office displays for Dec. and Jan.

Eric Fields reported on the Reno Stamp Show, July 27-28. The venue is reserved, has some dealer checks, the Exhibior's Prospectus will be done shortly. **Harvey Edwards** had two mock-ups of show cancels; 125th Anniverary of the Liberty Bell Slot Machine and the 25th Anniversary of the Recovery of Grissom's Liberty Bell 7. Also discussed was the 100th Anniversary of post office night deleivery project with Reno as part of the project.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 donated prizes and the bonus prize went to **Scott Mathews** and the money prize of \$12.50 went to **Eugene Smoots**.

The live meeting auction had items and donated items. **Mike Potter** was the auctioneer with **George Ray** helping. Fourty items sold and all the donated items sold for a total of \$311.00. **Steve Foster** helped the treasurer to calculate the items sold and commissions.

January 27 meeting – The attendance was 26 including one member via Zoom and two visitors. The visitors, Linda with her grandfather-in-law's stamp collection and Pam with her grandparent's stamp and coin collections needed advice about selling. **Erik Fields** and **James Steckley** arrived early to set up the meeting room. **Harvey Edwards** provided the refreshments.

James Steckley showed images of the new stamp issues for Feb. He received one donation of an old H.E. Harris album. James also reminded everyone of upcoming stamp shows and online philatelic webinars, esp. the British Empire Stamp Collectors and American Topical Association programs. You do not need to be members of either organization to attend the webinars.

Mike Potter reported membership at 63. **Dave Parsons** reported on the online Auction #32 with 107 lots, with 44 lots sold for a total of \$288.25. **John Walter** discussed his activities with archiving all the NSSS files, pictures, etc. on the club laptop, website, external hard drive, and "in the cloud" using One Drive. A new Vassar post office display and Carson library display are new for February. Pictures of both displays are on page 9 and 10.

Dave Gehringer is asking members to consider doing a meeting presentation. It could be as simple as a 5-minute show-and-tell, to a 30 minute PowerPoint or something in between.

Erik Fields presented a treasurer's report with 2023 income of \$2,897.46 and expenses of \$3,569.95. The largest expenses were the new laptop computer, liability insurance, storage unit and post office box rental. The bank account and cash box have \$10,666.52 in total funds.

Erik also discussed the 2024 Reno Stamp & Cover Show with two dealer checks and several verbal commitments for the show. He is preparing the Exhibitor Prospectus which will again have free exhibit frames. Help is needed as show preparations progress. Show post cards will be printed to take to WESTPEX in April.

At the Board meeting, discussion about “joining” the new <https://philately.live>. Philately Live is advertised as a “mapping of the entire worldwide Philatelic Community.” It is geared more toward the young audience (less than 44 years old) getting involved using AI and ChatBot technology. **Nadiah Beekun** volunteered to investigate further before committing our club to join. Thousands of organizations are now on the website.

The philatelic presentation was by **Harvey Edwards**. Originally titled “Inspired by the Post Offices of India.” It was revised to show his experiences sending postcards back home and to a nephew during his recent cruises and travels around the U.S. and world. He had very interesting interactive maps showing the U.S. cities, and even more interesting were the maps of Australia and the South Pacific, Japan (including South Korea and Taiwan), and India.

Shown here are some cancels from those locales. Harvey illustrated many tourist post cards and the ease and difficulty he had in purchasing and locating stamps in several countries.

The international postcard rates varied from 32¢ (South Korea) to \$1.70 (Australia).



Japan



Taiwan



South Korea

National Air Mail Week

May 15 -21, 1938

By Howard Grenzebach

The year is 1938 and the Great Depression is in full swing. Europe is at peace, but Hitler is at work to bring that peace to an end. The airlines in the US are struggling, FDR is president and the 1939 World's Fair in San Francisco is just around the corner. Do these things have anything in common? Well, yes but only when you get rid of Hitler.

In that year a new stamp was issued, C23 to celebrate 20 years of airmail service. Airmail has been a boon to the air transport industry so, the president along with James A. Farley chose to initiate National Air Mail Week which ran from May 15 to 21, 1938 in which the citizens were encouraged to send letters by airmail and, they did.....in droves.



Stamp collectors, of course, rose to the call by creating covers to celebrate the occasion in every state and from every major city. The cover you see here was created in San Francisco and, no doubt with the aid of the city, to advertise the coming World's Fair in 1939. Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Alaska also participated.



The other side is clean except for the aging gum. It also has a nice invitation to all to visit the Fair being held on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay.

If you would like to see these covers, go to <https://www.aerodacious.com/> and click on the “National Air Mail Week” link. California produced 43 different covers, this being one of them. The most cities represented were in Pennsylvania with 74 and least was in Oklahoma with one. Nevada had eight covers, one from Reno but, sadly, none from Las Vegas were shown on that site. Most of the covers sport the C23 stamp issued that year, a few used three cents in postage (money was tight) and very few had no postage at all.



The Reno Cover

The cover responsible for all this falderah was found in a group of stamps won in the club meeting raffle. It's from San Francisco and is a left-over that never fulfilled its purpose to be mailed in that week.

The raffle is only a dollar (for the good of the club) and every now and then you find some wonderful things.

More information on National Air Mail Week can be found at the American Air Mail Society on <https://www.americanairmail society.org/wecollect/national-air-mail-week/>

Howard Grenzebach is currently a Director of NSSS and collects Worldwide pre-1950, early Grenada, and Swiss standing Helvetia.



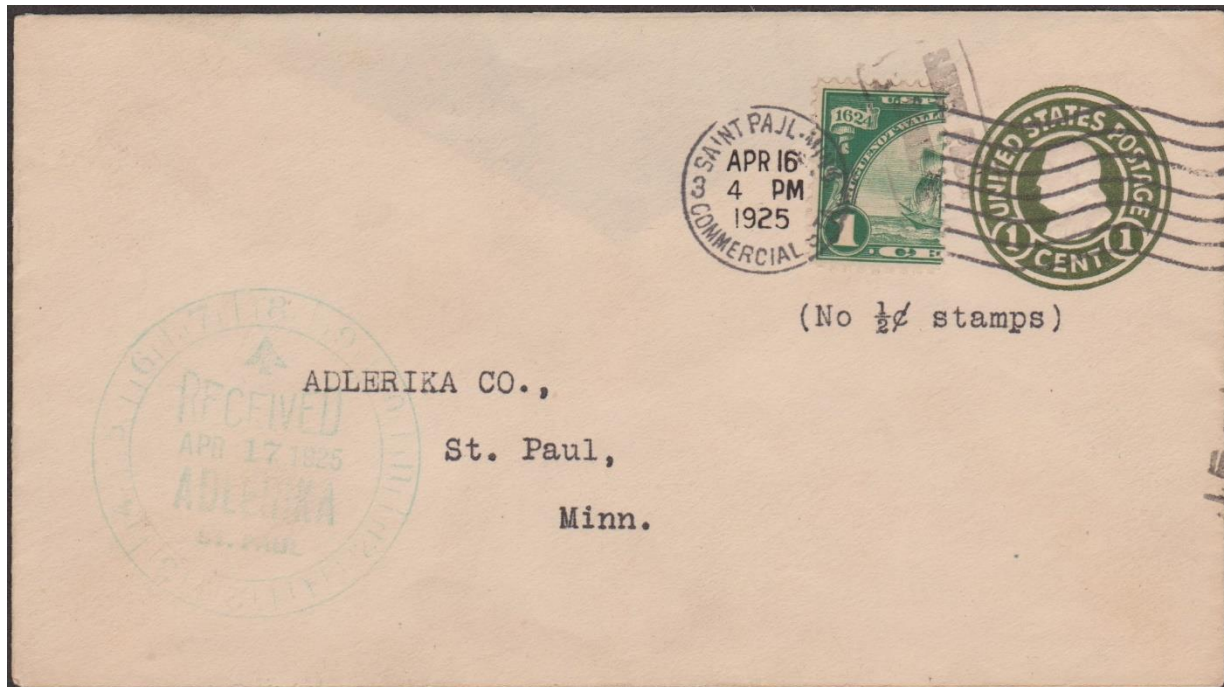
C23 – Bicolor Eagle airmail stamp

A Common Cover with a Bisected Stamp

By Patrick Crosby

The use of only a portion of a stamp by itself or with other stamps was sometimes necessary because of a lack of a proper postage denomination at a post office. These portions of stamps are “fractional” usages and are usually cut in half and called “bisected” stamps. A bisected 1¢ stamp provides two ½¢ stamps.

Stamps might be scissor or knife cut, privately perforated, or just torn apart. The cut might be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Sometimes approved, other times just tolerated, the use of fractional stamps was supposed to be for emergency purposes. The Scott U.S. Specialized catalogue does not list any unofficial bisects on cover after the 1880's. As an example of possible value, the 1873 2¢ brown Sc. 157 has a 2019 catalogue value of \$27.50 on cover, but lists “Vertical half used as 1¢ on cover” at \$1000.



Not nearly as valuable or scarce is the featured cover mailed from and to St. Paul MN on April 16, 1925. Just the day before the rate for a single printed matter (third class) cover had changed from 1¢ to 1½¢ and many post offices had not yet received a supply of ½¢ or 1½¢ stamps.

Addressed to the Adlerika Co. the sender types “(No ½¢ stamps)” on the cover, which explanation the USPOD appreciates. Using a common 1¢ postal stationery envelope (Sc.U420) the cover is uprated to the new printed matter rate with a vertically perforated bisect of the 1924 1¢ commemorative stamp Sc.614. Noticing a problem, a few days later in a *Postal Bulletin* the USPOD reminds postmasters that their patrons are not allowed to cut stamps in half – “All matter bearing stamps cut in two should be held for postage.”

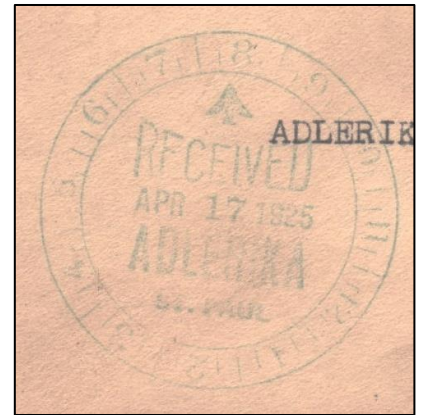
The bisected Sc. 614 is perforated 11, but the right, cut side it is perforated 12, and it seems this was to be done by the local post office.

With fractional usages the stamps must be on cover and tied to the cover by a postal marking. In this case the bisect is tied not only by a machine cancel, but also by a boxed “SAINT PAUL, MINN.” handstamp.

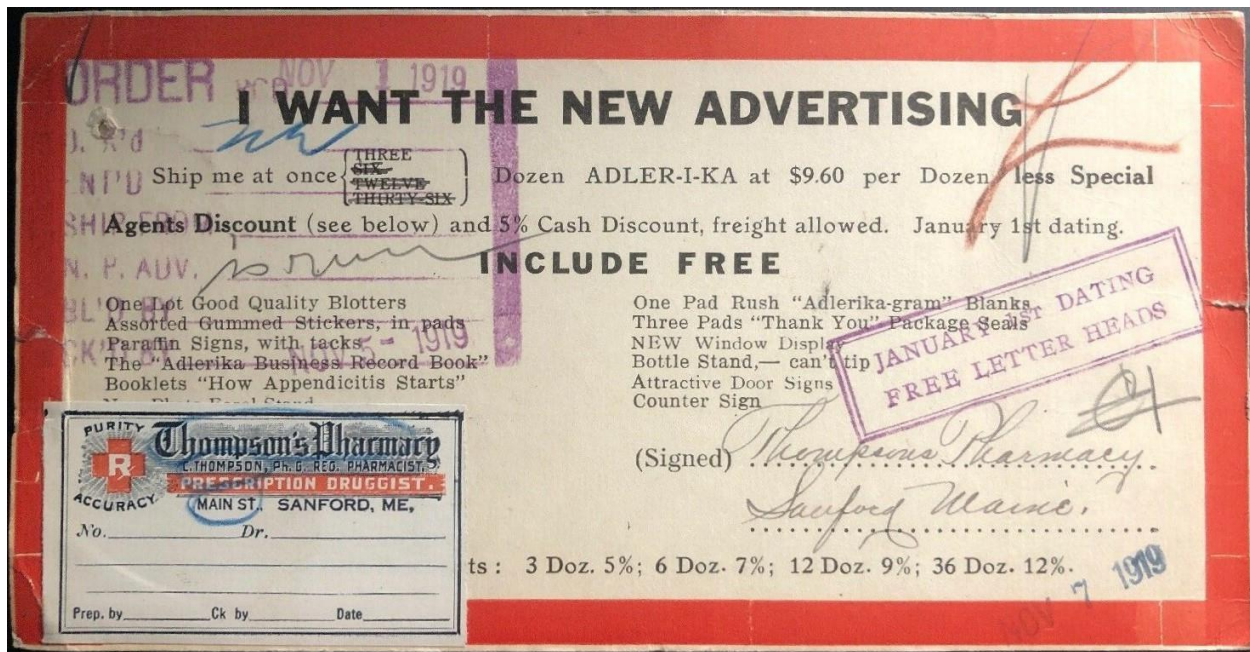


Sc.614, perforated 11, issued in 1924.

There is a light Adlerika docketing handstamp at the bottom left showing the cover Received the morning after mailing. Whoever mailed this cover also mailed many others at the same post office, same date and time of day. Would you like the right half of the commemorative bisect on an Adlerika cover? No problem. Other individuals/"companies" prepared multiple covers posted around the country for no legitimate business purposes. Third class matter is not time sensitive and the postmark is not to have a date, but for favor purposes many post offices dated these items. I paid \$11 for my Adlerika bisect cover, but you can find one for up to \$200 online that comes with a useless expertizing certificate. On the reverse a previous owner writes in pencil, "This cover was legally used tho not listed by Scott. I paid 1.50 for it in 1928."



Adlerika docketing handstamp enlarged.



Reply from a druggist for ADLER-I-KA and free drug store advertising items.

The Adelerika Co. was founded in 1902 developing a "medicine" called Adler-I-KA. It was Dr. Adler's Cure for Appendicitis, also good for gas, constipation and heartburn. After the Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration (the FDA's name for three years) was established in 1927 it was found that the potion didn't cure anything. In fact, there was no Dr. Adler. Nonetheless, extensively advertising in newspapers across the country using glowing testimonials, the Adlerika Co. continued on until about 1944. If you decide to add an Adlerika bisect cover to your collection, consider also a nice Adlerika Bowel Cleanser dose glass (readily found online) as an interesting, complimentary item.

References:

- Rodney A. Jewell, Lynn R. Batdorf, Steven J. Rods, eds. Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting, 2nd ed. (Katy, Texas: United States Stamp Society, 2016) p. 711.
- *The Postal Bulletin* (Washington, DC, April 29, 1925, Vol. XLVI, No. 13761) for free at <http://www.uspostalbulletins.com/>

Patrick Crosby is a member of the Nevada Stamp Study Society and collects U.S. postal stationery, stamps, and postcards with an emphasis on postal history.

February Quiz – All About America

By Dave Gehringer

There's more to collecting U.S. than just regular postage – here's more.

1. On U.S. Postal Cards, who was pictured as subjects of the first three issues?
a) Martha Washington b) Betsy Ross c) Liberty d) Dolly Madison
2. If George & Martha are together on UY5 who is with Sherman on UY4?
a) Gen. Washington b) Gen. Grant c) Gen. Sherman d) Gen. Custer
3. What is the nickname for the Revenue Stamp R133?
a) Persian Rug b) George's Necklace c) Super Stamp d) Magic Carpet
4. New York Bird Stamps are printed in sheets of how many?
a) 10 b) 20 c) 30 d) 40
5. The Confederate States 1861 Postmaster's Provisionals were printed in what value?
a) 1¢ b) 2¢ c) 3¢ d) 4¢
6. The rare U.N. stamp issued in N.Y. which was available pre-canceled was:
a) Scott 1 b) Scott 2 c) Scott 3 d) Scott 4
7. The "B" series (semi-postal) stamps issues beginning in 1998 were first issued to support:
a) Stop Family Violence b) Vanishing Species c) Breast Cancer Research
d) Families needing financial relief from 9/11
8. The difference between two Air Mails stamps C58 & C62 is:
a) Color b) Value c) Subject d) Frame Lines
9. Regarding the wording in Booklet Panes Slogan #4, it includes:
a) Your mailman Deserves Your Help b) Add ZIP to your mail
c) Mail Early in the Day d) Use Zip Code
10. How many stamp denominations were produced for the Columbian Set of 1893?
a) 10 b) 12 c) 14 d) 16
11. Coil Stamps were first produced on a Flat Plate Press. Sheets were cut into strips and the strips were glued end to end for the desired length. The pair where the cut occurred was called:
a) Cut pair b) Line pair c) Paste-up pair d) End pair

The Feb. 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: post-boyquiz@renotamp.org

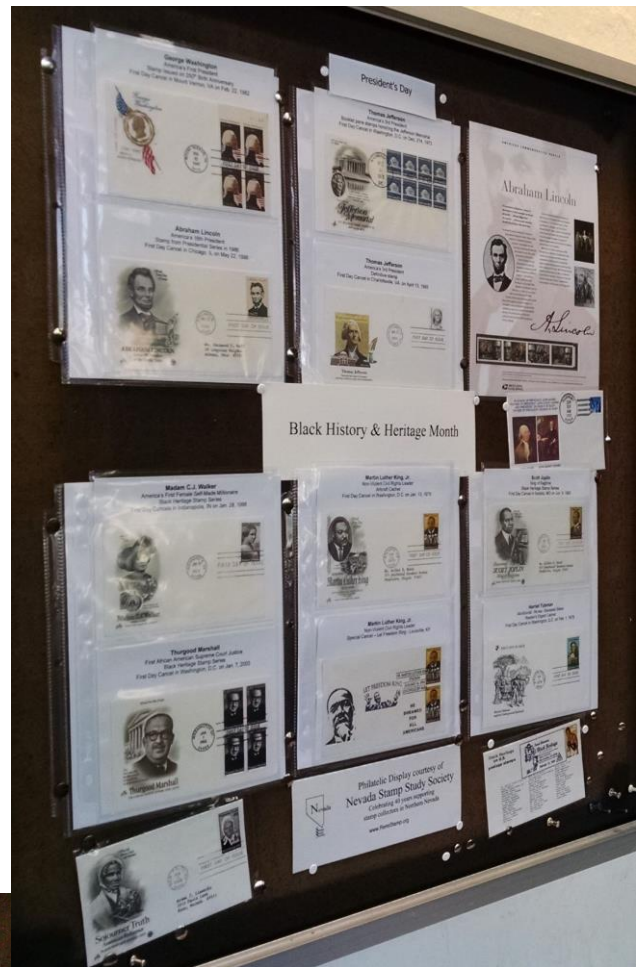
Jan. Quiz Answers: 1. c 2. b 3. c 4. d 5. a 6. c 7. b 8. d 9. b 10. c 11. a 12. d
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Vassar Post office Display

The display was changed this month by **John Walter**.

The display frame on the right has material for President's Day, celebrated this year on Feb. 19.

There are also some covers marking Black History and Heritage Month.



The other display frame has material for Valentine's Day.

This was one of the few days the picture could be taken from the front of the frame.

Most days the light reflection from the fixture above the frame and the large window in front of the frames acts like a mirror.

Carson City Library Display

The stamp club has full use of two large display frames at the entrance to the library for the month of February. **John Walter, Dave Gehringer** and **Harvey Edwards** set up the display.



This display case had items for: Lunar New Year, Album pages, Vintage Valentine post cards, Space, American Indians, Gold Replica stamp covers, Animals on stamps, Art of Disney, Superheroes, and Cartoon characters.



This display case shows: Classic Cars, American Presidents, Nevada Stamps, Horses on Stamps, and Baseball.