

Post Boy

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



July 2024
Volume 57, Issue 7

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 –

July 13 – 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.

July 27-28 - Reno Stamp & Cover Show – National Bowling Stadium, 100 University Way, downtown Reno. Free parking in the stadium garage and free admission. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be at the July 13 meeting. The stamp show opens at 10 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday. More show information: <https://renostamp.org/show.html>

July Online Auction #36 – All auction lot descriptions and images are due by noon on July 14. The auction will start at noon July 16 and end at noon on July 25.

Email lot information to Dave Parsons: NSSSauctions@gmail.com

Nominations & Elections – Nominations are needed by July 13 for the positions of Vice-President and Secretary (both 2-year terms), and two Directors (for 3-year terms). Nomination forms will be at the meeting. Contact **John Walter** if interested in running for office. The elections take place at the annual picnic on August 10.

NSSS name tag can be ordered from **Mike Potter**. The price is \$10.

New postal rates start July 14 – Last reminder for the increased rates.

First-class letter - 73¢	Additional oz. - 28¢
Post card - 56¢	Overseas - \$1.65

Reminder for the **annual club picnic on August 10**. A sign-up sheet for those attending will be at the July 13 meeting and the stamp show. We need an accurate count since the club will provide the grilling meats and buns with attendees supplying the salads, desserts, sliced tomatoes, onions, condiments and chips. Contact **Jeanne Paquin** if attending. Spouses and family members are welcome.

Post Boy Reporter

June 8 meeting – Erik Fields arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 24 members. There were no Zoom callers. **Ken Hopple** provided the refreshments. Two guests came, Greg and Jeanna, to enquire about selling or getting information about stamp collections.

James Steckley reported on the USPS stamp issues for release this month. He also discussed the upcoming Zoom webinar sponsored by the British Empire Collectors Club. No new donations reported. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of our stamp club. Volunteers are needed to start planning for the celebration.

John Walter discussed the Post Boy and the need for a new editor as he wants to retire from that position after 10 years.

Erik Fields reported on the Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show progress. All the dealer tables are sold. Exhibits are solicited for judging or display, plus one-page “My Favorite Thing.” Contact **Jeanne Paquin** for more information. **Harvey Edwards** showed a mock-up of the show covers for each day of the show. There is a price increase to \$3/show cover or two for \$5.

Dave Gehringer is looking for members to sign up to give a meeting presentation. June will be “U.S. Navy Ships – A life Story.” No program in July with the stamp show July 27-28. **Erik Fields** and show volunteers will discuss the July stamp show on August 24.

The raffle was conducted by **George Ray** with 10 donated prizes with the bonus item going to **Erik Fields** and the money of \$7.00 went to **Eugene Smoots**.

The live auction had 58 member lots and one donated lot. **Gary Atkinson** and **Mike Potter** were the auctioneers with **Dave Stafford** helping. A total of 37 lots sold for \$378.00

June 22 meeting – Erik Fields Arrived early to set up the meeting room. Attendance was 28 including two visitors who were inquiring about the value of some stamp items. **Will Eubanks** attended his first meeting and joined the club. **Dave Gehringer** provided the refreshments.

James Steckly reminded everyone of the new postal rates that start July 14. He also discussed the next few USPS postal issues that include new 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 5¢ and 10¢ definitive stamps for release on July 18. He also received a large donation of a “steamer trunk” filled with 10 albums and several hundred dollars in postage sheets. All the donations will be in upcoming club auctions.

John Walter discussed the Post Boy and the need for original articles. **Mike Potter** announced a new member joining today, **Will Eubanks**. The membership is now at 75. **Jeanne Paquin** volunteered to coordinate the food items for the club picnic on August 10. **Scott Mathews** donated a Bonus Prize for the meeting raffle. **Erik Fields** reported on the preparations for the stamp show.

Dave Parsons announced the next online auction will start July 16 with auction items and descriptions due by July 14. The auction will end July 25.

The raffle had 10 donated prizes with **George Ray** conducting the raffle. The Bonus Prize was won by **Scott Mathews** who also won the \$17 in the money pot.

The presentation was given by **Dave Parsons** discussing “Things I Like About Stamp Collecting” and a follow on with the “Ten Things I Don’t Enjoy About Stamp Collecting.” There was a lot of member participation at the conclusion with comments on both sides for likes and don’t enjoy about our hobby and collecting habits.



Dave Parsons

This was Dave's personal perspective on things he liked about stamp collecting:

1. Develop relationships
2. Gain understanding of history
3. Appreciate artwork, esp. engraved stamps
4. Treasure hunting for particular items
5. Philatelic puzzles
6. Learn about world currencies
7. Understanding different cultures
8. Trading – helping each other with hobby
9. Learning world geography
10. Ability to collect own interests – showed mushrooms on stamps

Members also added postal history with enclosed letters (like), canceled-to-order (CTO) stamps (dislike) plus a few more in each category.

That's Dave Parsons on the right giving his presentation using PowerPoint. He had a very attentive audience.

Things Dave does not enjoy about stamp collecting:

1. Forever stamps (postal value over time)
2. Self-adhesive stamps – not being able to soak
3. Proliferation of souvenir sheets for each stamp issue (from some countries)
4. Mass production of stamps, most with same denomination
5. Stupid commemorations
6. Perforations with irregular catalogue descriptions
7. Watermarks
8. Forgeries, counterfeits, and fakes
9. So many color variations (red, rose, carmine, etc.)
10. Cancellation value – color ink, fake cancels



New Member Profile



My name is Will Eubanks and I'm excited to be a part of the NSSS! I was born in 1997 in Atlanta and raised in the nearby suburb of Marietta, GA. I am currently working on my Ph.D. in chemistry at UNR—after graduation I hope to teach chemistry at the university level.

I started collecting stamps in my early teens and earned the stamp collecting merit badge on my way to the rank of Eagle Scout. While I've only recently gotten back into the hobby, my collecting interests include Great Britain and Commonwealth, German-speaking countries, and southern Africa.

He also added: I'd be glad to volunteer with anything that needs doing—setup, cleanup, technology, clerical things, or most anything else. Please let me know how I can help! (Will joined at the June 22 meeting.)

“Time On Bottom” Cancelations

By Patrick Crosby

The 1880's was a time of transition for postmarking devices. Many postmasters liked their distinctive, privately produced hand-cancelers. Theodore Bozarth in his monograph “Time On Bottom” Duplex Hand Cancelers lamented that these hand-cancelers of old provided the postmasters “...a personal pride in their job that is often lost today.” Leavitt machine cancelers were already marking government postal cards and by 1890 the American Postal Machine Company was fast becoming a dominant machine cancel manufacturer with its straight-bars, wavy-bars and, later, American flag killers.

In 1881 Walter D. Wesson of Providence, RI, entered the postmarking device business with his second patent for a duplex “Hand Stamp” – the right side would obliterate the postage stamp (the “killer”) and a Circular Date Stamp (CDS) would land to the left of the stamp where it was usually easy to read the city, state, date and time of postmarking. Other duplex hand-cancel devices were already on the market, but the Wesson included some patented features and were in use mostly from 1881 to 1892. The latest known usage is Dec 26, 1908 in Wesson's hometown. They were used in 30 post offices (including two Railway Post Offices) in 11 states. Whereas some of these post offices used only one device, the Boston, MA, post office had 28 varieties. The relatively small number of TOB cities/varieties and Wesson's unique style of putting the time of postmark horizontally at the bottom of the CDS makes these cancels a doable and enjoyable sideline for collectors. Although used on envelopes, the Wesson duplex cancelers were mostly used on government postal cards that today catalogue used for \$.45 to \$1.60. A little practice looking at postal history covers and the time on the bottom will jump out to your eyes.

Fig. 1

These illustrations from the fourth of five Wesson Hand Stamp patents shows an obliterating block (E) and where it is slipped onto a stud (D). The block could be made of cork, wood or metal with two perpendicular holes drilled through four sides, leaving four sides for printing surfaces and thus making it a multipurpose canceler. On the right side of Fig. 1 is the Circular Date Stamp (C) with movable type for the date and time.

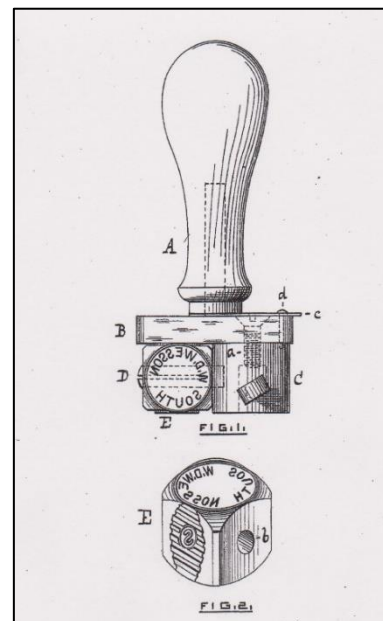


Fig. 2

There were five basic killer types, the earliest being various geometric designs which are called **Type X**. “The earliest known killers were apparently made out of cork and carved almost daily...”



Fig. 3

The **Type C** circular killer with eight horizontal bars was used only in Chicago, IL and Charleston, SC.



Fig. 4

Used only from Philadelphia, PA, and only with a "2", the **Type G** killer copied a John Goldsborough designed killer known as a "mule".



Fig. 5

The **Type H** Wesson killer is an ellipse with nine horizontal bars and was usually used for Collected Mail, which was mail brought to a post office by postal carriers. Although letters and numbers can represent a certain clerk or work station, in this Brooklyn, NY, example the "C" redundantly stands for Collected Mail. On this card to Germany (over-paid 1¢) note how the postal clerk angled the Wesson canceler to use only the needed killer portion on the 2¢ adhesive stamp.

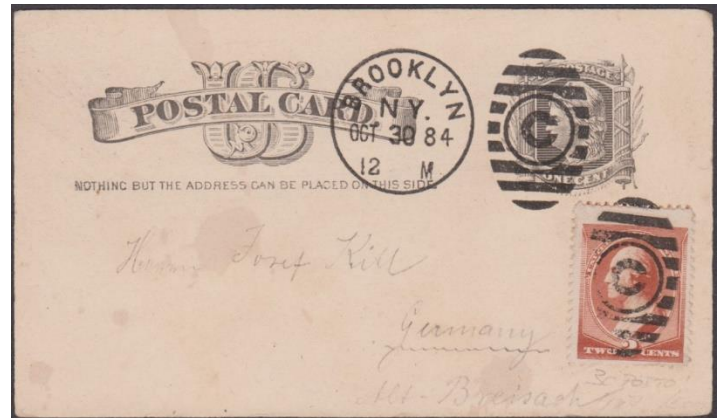


Fig. 6

A different looking CDS with "B" instead of the state abbreviation and a **Type H** killer - made for Philadelphia, PA, Station B (West Philadelphia) - the state, "PA", is in the killer.





Fig. 7

The **Type V** Wesson killer is an ellipse with six vertical bars usually denoting Deposited Mail, that is, mail brought by patrons to a post office. Sometimes a "D" in the killer also denotes Deposited Mail, as with the shown Central Falls, RI, cancel from 1906. Well into the private postcard era, Central Falls is the only post office known to have used a Wesson canceler on private postcards.

Fig. 8

Lastly is the reason I am writing this article, having just purchased this card for \$13.50. It has a **Type X** killer and an R.P.O. (Boston, Providence and New York City) CDS, but without the time on the bottom. Instead, there is a "T B E" (Train B East). Only two railway post offices used the Wesson duplex canceler, and since both travelled east and west bound there are four R.P.O. varieties. Walter Wesson's last three patents showed a direction in the illustrated obliterator block, and he may well have been planning to manufacture his devices especially for R.P.O.'s.



References:

- Theodore W. Bozarth, "Time On Bottom" Duplex Hand Cancelers, ed. Russell F. Hanmer (Lake Oswego, OR: La Posta Publications Vol. 5, 1990) [Available at pbbooks.com (Books on Philately website), \$12.00 + postage.
- <https://patentimages.storage.googleapis.com/15/2a/d4/274a121dacd1a3/US263268.pdf>, Patent No. 263,268 dated August 22, 1882.

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.

Going to Our Stamp Show

On July 27 and 28 the Nevada Stamp Study Society is hosting the 2024 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show. Once again, it will be held in the Hall of Fame Museum on the first floor of the National Bowling Stadium. It is located at 300 University Way with free parking in the bowling stadium garage. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.



Entrance to the Bowling Stadium with our show banner.

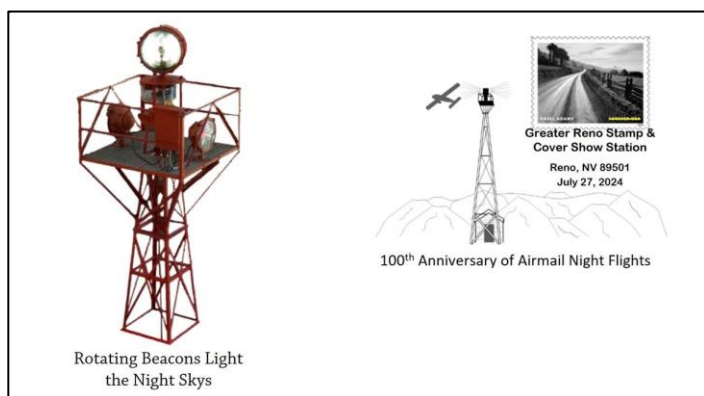
The staff at the bowling stadium have the room set up with the dealer booth spaces in place by Friday morning. Volunteers are needed on Friday starting around 11 a.m. The exhibit frames usually arrive by noon. The show programs need folding, so there is some easy work to do.

Dealers start arriving by 2 p.m. and continue to about 6 p.m. We have some paid workers to help with the dealer move in.

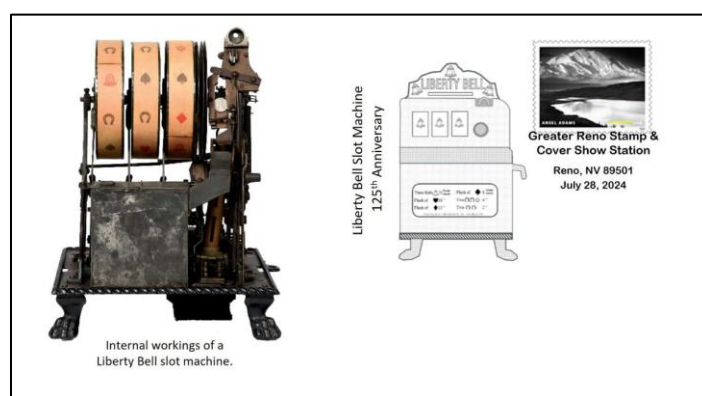
It's a good idea to come early in the day since the parking garage can fill up as other events occur downtown. The only afternoon Reno Aces baseball game is on Sunday at 4 p.m.

In addition to the dealer bourse and exhibits, we will also have a youth table and information to introduce new collectors to the hobby. Free stamps, album pages and hinges will be available.

A cachet cover with a special show cancellation for each day will be offered, along with hourly door prizes.



The July 27 cover with a special cancellation commemorates the 100th Anniversary of Airmail Night Flights across the U.S. Reno was a stop on these flights. This mockup cover has an Ansel Adams stamp.



The July 28 cover with a special cancellation commemorates the 125th Anniversary of the first slot machine, called the "Liberty Bell." The mockup cover above has an Ansel Adams stamp.

The show covers are \$3.00 each or two covers for \$5.00.

Before arriving at the show, consider some tips for a successful show visit. Create a want list. Pack a pair of tongs. Set your budget. Be prepared to convey to the dealer your collecting interests and standards, i.e., mint, NH, used, F-VF, VF, superb, graded, etc. If the dealer doesn't have your item(s) in stock, they may be able to watch for it and contact you if the item appears. Bring cash for most purchases, since not all dealers accept credit cards. Don't forget to wear your club name tag. The dealers do notice, and you can always ask for a discount as a club member. You also may consider contacting the dealer ahead of time to

see if they can bring something specific. Many dealers have large inventories, and they cannot bring everything to the show. If you click on the show page at <https://renostamp.org/show.html>, you will find a diagram of the dealer table placements and a list of the dealers with emails.

Some members have expressed a concern about the merits of doing a show. It seems like finding dealers and exhibitors who are interested in participating is becoming more of a challenge every year. In addition, our show does not make money for the club (last year it was a loss of \$400). Making money is not the reason we have these shows. The show is a very important element of the goals of the club, which are to help “connect and support stamp collectors of all ages and interests” as well as attract new collectors.

There are many folks in our community who have inherited a stamp collection from a family member or a friend and have no idea what they have or what they should do with it. For some, our stamp show is their “Eureka” moment of realizing they may have something special and not a random mess of little pieces of paper. In addition, any event, successful or not, contributes to making our community a more exciting place to live.

Our stamp show is an official Reno July Artown event. The stamp show is listed in the Artown pamphlet and is on their website: <https://artown.org/event-details.asp?ID=5187>. In previous years many attendees have said they are at the stamp show after seeing it listed in the Artown pamphlet.

Don’t forget the exhibits. There is space for up to 40 exhibit frames (16 pages per frame).

Club members are encouraged to write about one or more of their favorite items which tells why they like that item. The item can be one stamp, a group of stamps, or cover(s). You are the storyteller. The “My Favorite Thing” pages will be on display in the Bowling Stadium lobby and in the exhibit area. This is also a great way to let everyone know what you collect and what you get enjoyment from. Our website has some examples of “My Favorite Thing” pages and a few full exhibits at <https://renostamp.org/exhibits.html>.

The best thing about a stamp show is being able to interact with like-minded people about the joys of stamp collecting. Unlike our semi-monthly stamp meetings where we only meet for a few hours, you can spend two days with your stamp collecting friends.



Two exhibit frames from last year’s show with some “My Favorite Thing” pages.

July Quiz – Cowboys Around the World

By Eric Moody

1. This 20th century artist of the American West, who specialized in depicting cowboy scenes and was commemorated with a stamp in 1964, has a namesake museum in Montana.
(a) Frederic Remington (b) Charles M. Russell (c) Will James (d) William R. Leigh
2. Gauchos, the cowboys of South America, are depicted in a set of four Argentine stamps (#1741a-d) of 1992 that shows them:
(a) riding horses (b) branding cattle (c) wearing traditional costumes (d) herding cattle in a storm
3. Will Rogers, the famed American cowboy humorist, is honored on a set of 1939 stamps from this Latin American country, which he visited in 1931 after it experienced a catastrophic earthquake.
(a) Brazil (b) Chile (c) Mexico (d) Nicaragua
4. A mounted native stockman is shown cutting a steer out of a herd of cattle on a 1961 stamp (#331) issued by this country.
(a) Canada (b) South Africa (c) New Zealand (d) Australia
5. This actor, a Montana native who began his Hollywood career as an extra in silent Western movies and went on to star in such classic films as *The Westerner*, *High Noon*, and *The Hanging Tree*, was honored on a U.S. stamp (#4421) in 2009.
(a) John Wayne (b) Gary Cooper (c) Randolph Scott (d) Roy Rogers
6. A photograph of cowboys roping a wild horse appears on a 1975 stamp (#687) that celebrated the centennial of this western Canadian city.
(a) Vancouver (b) Regina (c) Calgary (d) Edmonton
7. A mounted charro, a horseman who historically might have been a working vaquero, is pictured on a 1994 stamp (#1893d) from this country.
(a) Spain (b) Venezuela (c) U.S. (d) Mexico
8. This Texas cowboy, who was also a rodeo and Wild West show performer, was portrayed on a 1994 stamp (part of a Legends of the West set) that had to be recalled and revised because it mistakenly featured a portrait of someone else.
(a) Bill Pickett (b) Charles Goodnight (c) Andy Adams (d) William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody.
9. Banjo Paterson’s famous 1890 poem “The Man from Snowy River,” in which riders from cattle stations (ranches) attempt to capture an escaped prize horse, is celebrated on a 2014 stamp of this country.
(a) Canada (b) New Zealand (c) Australia (d) South Africa
10. A colorful painting of a gaucho herding cattle, with an orange sun and a tall cactus in the background, is featured on a 1978 stamp (#1588) from this nation.
(a) Argentina (b) Uruguay (c) Venezuela (d) Brazil
11. The cowboy hero of many Hollywood Westerns, including *Stagecoach*, *Red River*, and *Hondo*, this actor was commemorated on a U.S. stamp (#3876) in 2004.
(a) Tom Mix (b) John Wayne (c) Audie Murphy (d) Randolph Scott

12. "Coming Through the Rye," a bronze sculpture of three cowboys on galloping horses by this artist of the American West, was depicted on a U.S. stamp in 1981. The artist is:
(a) Charles M. Russell (b) Albert Bierstadt (c) Frederic Remington (d) Maynard Dixon

The July quiz is worth 120 **Auction Bucks**. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Betty Mudge** at the next in-person meeting or email to: postboyquiz@renotamp.org

June Quiz Answers: 1. b 2. d 3. c 4. b 5. b
6. d 7. c 8. d 9. d 10. a 11. c 12. b

Vassar Post Office Displays for July

The first post office display frame has flag stamps and covers to celebrate the 4th of July. The other frame has covers and stamps for the Summer Olympic Games in Paris which starts July 26 and ends August 11. The stamp show postcards are displayed in each frame to remind postal customers of our stamp show.

