

Post Boy

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



September 2024
Volume 57, Issue 9

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

Officers:

President – James Steckley
president@renostamp.org

Vice President – Nadiah Beekun
vp@renostamp.org

Secretary – Will Eubanks
secretary@renostamp.org

Treasurer – Erik Fields
treasurer@renostamp.org

Directors:

Dave Gehringer
dave@renostamp.org

Jeanne Paquin
jeanne@renostamp.org

Dave Parsons
davep@renostamp.org

Eric Moody
eric@renostamp.org

John Walter
editor@renostamp.org

PB Editor & Webmaster

John Walter
editor@renostamp.org

<https://renostamp.org/>

PO Box 2907,
Sparks, NV 89432

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Announcements
2. Post Boy Reporter
3. New Member Profile
4. 2025 Scott catalogs online
5. Linn's Stamp News Digital
6. 2024 GASS
7. 2 and 6 Pence
8. Burning Man Post Office
9. Quiz – Day at the Beach
10. Vassa Post Office Display

Announcements

Meetings –

Sept. 14 – 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. Donated lots will consist of entire Scott albums with stamps.

Sept. 28 – In person and online via Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, the presentation will be on GASS (Great American Stamp Show held Aug. 15-18) by **John Walter and Dave Gehringer**.

Members can have up to 10 lots on the consignment table. Extra lots may be added as lots are sold.

September Online Auction #37 – All auction lot descriptions and images are due by noon on Sept. 15. The auction will start at noon Sept. 17 and end at noon on Sept. 26.

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

Last reminder about **annual dues**. The renewal date is August 1 of each year. August was the month the club was incorporated as a Nevada non-profit in 1975. The dues remains \$20 for individuals and \$25 for a family. Please pay either the Treasurer **Erik Fields**, or Membership Chair **Mike Potter**.

Lots of information in this Post Boy on various topics including the Great American Stamp Show, 2025 Scott catalogues online, Linn's Stamp News digital only, Burning Man post office, Vassar post office displays and of course this month's quiz, Day at the Beach.

Post Boy Reporter

Aug. 10 picnic – **Erik Fields** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 23 members and family. **Gary Atkinson** brought his gas grill from home and was the grill master for the hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers. The club provided the grill meats and buns and everyone brought a dish, snacks, condiments, or desserts.



Gary Atkinson did all the grilling.

James Steckley conducted the election which was by acclamation with one nomination per office. **Nadiah Beekun** was re-elected as Vice-President, **Will Eubanks** was elected as Secretary, **Eric Moody** re-elected as Director and **Jeanne Paquin** elected as a Director. Congratulations to all the new officers.

Two new members joined at the picnic. Their profiles are on page 3.

Aug. 24 meeting - Attendance was just under 30, with none attending *via* Zoom. **Gary Atkinson** provided refreshments and assisted **Mike Potter** and **Jeff Waldman** with the setup of audiovisual equipment.

President **James Steckley** welcomed guests Mike Bonaventura (sp.?), who collects United States, and Jennifer Mudge, who brought a binder of stamps from a relative.

Betty Mudge reported that the sign-in sheet from the July 13 meeting had mysteriously vanished. Members who attended that meeting signed a new sheet that **Betty** passed around. Secretary **Will Eubanks** agreed to take over responsibility of the sign-in sheet starting after the Auction Bucks auction in November.

Dave Gehringer was scheduled to give a presentation on his and **John Walter's** trip to GASS (the Great American Stamp Show) in Hartford, Connecticut. However, both Dave and John tested positive for COVID few days after the show. James reported that both were okay and recovering—Dave in Minden and John with his family on Long Island, NY. Dave's presentation was postponed to September.

Treasurer **Erik Fields** reported that finances were in order. The Reno Stamp and Cover Show had a net deficit of ~\$1200. Erik explained that a deficit was expected, as the show is part of the Society's contribution to the Reno community. He reported that the show was a success, and that members of the community greatly appreciated the show. However, he noted that volunteers might be needed for next year's show to assist the Post Office team with prep and canceling the show covers. In addition, Erik and Membership Chair **Mike Potter** reported that (as of the beginning of the August 24 meeting) 31 of 75 members had paid their 2025 dues—several more paid during the meeting.

James Steckley announced four new US issues: "Holiday Joy" (4 designs) and a Christmas design featuring Madonna and Child are due to release on September 14. Other new releases include a design commemorating the 250th anniversary of the First Continental Congress, and a duck stamp for sale in 30 states.

James reported that no new donations had been received but reminded all that the newly acquired Holmes Collection would be part of the September auction. The main collection is ten volumes: nine sparse to

moderately filled worldwide albums (each to start at \$20), plus one US volume with significant catalogue value. Mint sheets and other miscellany complete the donation.

George Ray sold \$23 in raffle tickets. **Howard Grenzebach** won the money while newcomer **Margaret Griener** won the bonus.

James announced two new members who joined at the August picnic: **Margaret Griener** and **Carol Martin-Thurman**. He also reminded all that NEVPEX/Reno Stamp Show covers were for sale for \$1 for older covers, and \$3 or 2 for \$5 for 2024 covers.

Howard Grenzebach reported that **Ken Hopple** had successfully completed heart surgery and was recovering well. Ken sent his thanks to the group for the get-well card.

New Member Profiles

Two new members attended the picnic on Aug. 10 and joined the club.



Carol Martin-Thurman moved from Elko and now lives in the Silverada Estates. She has been a stamp collector for about 20 years. Her passion started as she bought collections, mostly U.S. She also collects coins and art, mostly paintings and carvings.

She is looking forward to participating in club activities and the live meeting auctions.

When you see her at the meetings, please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome.



Margaret "Maggie" Griener also joined the club at the picnic social. She collects Classic U.S. up to about 1954 and worldwide. While at our stamp show in July she purchased a nice set of the U.S. Zeppelins set MNH. Her other interests are Somalia Coast and the Vatican, both of which are large collections.

Her newest interest is the Columbian Exposition Issues of 1893, including the EXPO postal cards.

Maggie is very sociable and eager to discuss her philatelic interests.

When you see her at the meetings, please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome.

2025 Scott Catalogs Online

By Howard Grenzebach

The 2025 Scott Catalogs are available to you right now at no cost. The catch? You need a computer and an on-line connection. I discovered it while looking for something stamp related.

The first webpage opens with pictures of stamps from each country. Just click on the country you want and, voila, the first page of the catalog appears. To use it, there is a small learning curve that's not difficult. Most of the 2025 volumes are available on that opening page.

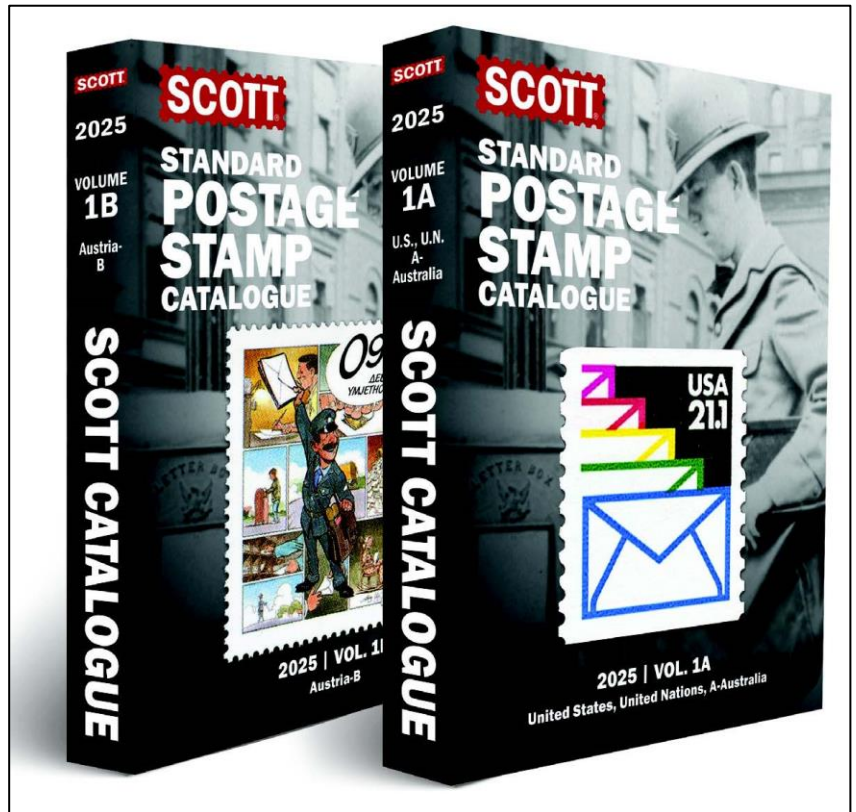
At the top of the page is an arrow pointing down. Hovering your cursor over it brings a small drop-down menu you can use to set it up to your specifications. It gives you "contents", "search", "archive", "settings", "thumbnails", "Exit" and "Full Screen". "Settings" and "Full Screen" seem to be useful but I'm less sure about the rest. The arrows on the left and right side of the page advance the pages in either direction. The arrow at the bottom (pointing up) allows you to advance through the pages at a faster clip by scrolling through the thumbnails of all the pages. The archive (mentioned before) allows you to change countries without going back to the beginning as long as the country is in the volume you are using.

Here is the address: <https://reader.scottonline.com/volumeset/library.html>

Once you find the page you want, you can enlarge it by double-clicking on it and enlarge it further by scrolling from the mouse at any point on the page. Scrolling without enlarging first will advance the pages. Be careful, they move fast.

I had one small problem at first that may be attributed to the download speed of the computer. When opening the site, it may be a good idea to go get a cup of coffee while it's opening. While I was scrolling through some pages the catalog went blank, and I had to start over.

All-in-all, this looks like a pretty good deal. A free catalog? And you don't even have to go to the library. Still, there's probably a lot more to be learned about the workings of it which I guess is just a matter of using it.



Howard Grenzebach collects Worldwide pre-1950, early Grenada, and Swiss standing Helvetia.

Linn's Digital Only

Scott Stamp Monthly in print will continue

Aug 27, 2024

The cover of the final print edition of the Linn's Stamp News, serial No. 5,000, has an Aug. 26, 2024, cover date.

Jay Bigalke, Editor, Linn's Stamp News



This week's issue of *Linn's Stamp News* marks the moment it will be produced only in a digital format. The final print edition, the 5,000th issue, is currently with the printer and operating under a slight delay. (The PB editor's copy arrived Sept. 3.)

[Scott Stamp Monthly](#), which resumed in March 2023, will continue to be available as a print product with a digital edition. Those with current *Linn's* print-only subscriptions will have their SSM subscription extended, or be given a credit toward purchases on [AmosAdvantage.com](#).

In a memo to staff members, Amos Media CEO Rick Amos attributed this decision to a bigger focus on digital and website content.

"It should not come as a surprise there has been shift in readership and advertising from print to digital," Amos said. "Additionally, the increasing variable costs of a weekly print magazine is unsustainable, and as a result we are going to move to a digital only future for the *Linn's* brand, which will allow us to reach

those seeking instant access to philatelic news, interactive content, improved searchability, real-time updates, as well as reach new audiences."

Just like the previous print issues, the digital-only issues will continue to be loaded into our archive available to subscribers. There, subscribers can view each issue and also download a PDF copy from the digital reading platform.

Future *Linn's* issues will continue to report the news and happenings in the philatelic marketplace, and some weekly columns may move to the monthly print SSM.

We also plan to utilize some of the digital tools available via the reading platform for use in our digital editions. We are working on a future launch of our website that will include new features and take advantage of new options that are possible with a digital-only platform. As we continue to develop that platform, we are open to your suggestions at linnseditorial@amosmedia.com.



The best photo I could take of the famous 1918 Inverted Jenny stamp on display at GASS. The stamp belongs to the APS. It is mounted on a single page, so you must get really close to appreciate the stamp.

2024 Great American Stamp Show

This is just a brief report on GASS held in Hartford, CT on Aug. 14-18. At least six NSSS members attended: **John Walter, Dave Gehringer, Robert Martin, Trice and David Klauber**, and of course **Scott English**.

Information about the show is here: <https://stamps.org/great-american-stamp-show>. There were 167 exhibits with 867 frames listed in the 130-page program. Participating were 79 dealers, 49 societies, and 11 cachetmakers. Plus, there were numerous meetings scheduled each day of the show. More than enough activities to keep busy the entire four days of the show. Dave and John also attended evening hospitality suites from the Universal Ship Cancellation Society and the American First Day Cover Society. Dave even won two raffle prizes at the AFDCS activity.

The USPS first day ceremonies were for the Pinback Buttons and Autumn Colors stamps. Th UN had a first day for World Heritage Republic of Korea stamps. All well attended ceremonies.

These cover purchases by **John Walter** are just a preview for a presentation at our meeting on Sept. 28.

I collect U.S. aerogrammes addressed to foreign destinations. I found these on the first day of the show.



Letter written by a son to his mother in the Germany Russian Zone on May 6, 1947. It had a receiving cancel on May 17. The letter was written in German, so I asked someone at the German Society booth to take a look and he did a partial translation for me.

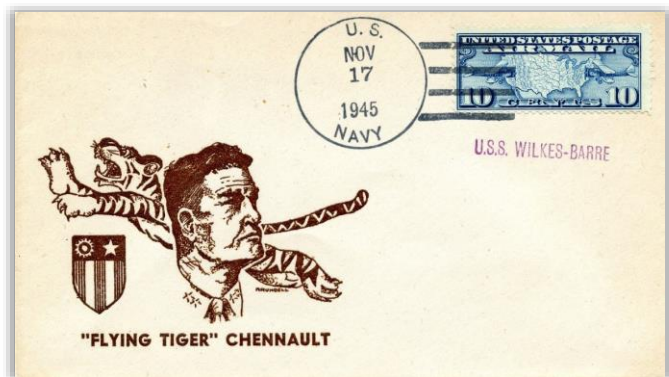


Sent April 25, 1968, from San Jose, CA to a vacationing friend in Papeete, Tahiti. There is a receiving cancel on the back, April 27, 1968. That's 2 days to delivery. Wow! The letter writer mentions fishing in a Sierra stream.

I also collect U.S. Navy hospital ship covers. I did not find any at a reasonable price but found something better.



A great cover addressed to W.G. Crosby a prolific navy cachet cover maker. Note on back "First day ship P.O. RARE about 50 made".



A nice USS Wilkes-Barre cover with a nice cachet. Wilkes-Barre, PA is my hometown and always wanted a cover like this. Found it for \$2.00.

2 and 6 Pence

By Howard Grenzebach

These are expensive stamps yet most of us have 2 or 3 copies. The problem isn't having them, it's telling them apart, then it's wondering why they're so expensive.



The first stamp on the left is easy. It's the least expensive and simplest to identify. Its number Scott 222 with a value of \$45.00. Look at the medallion. The background has both horizontal and diagonal lines forming a mesh. The other two have horizontal lines only.

Scott 173 and 179 are the real problem. Scott 173 is expensive (\$190.00) and the way to separate it from the lesser Scott 179 (\$75.00) is to figure out which stamp's frameline is wider (vertically) than the other. To do that I sliced the end off a stamp I hoped was the lesser of the two and laid it over the hopefully more expensive one. You can see the result below by enlarging the page.....whew, got it right.



Don't worry. The stamp is alright. I cut it electronically. The shorter frame is the more expensive stamp.

Now, back to why they are so expensive. It's a matter of how they are collected. In Great Britain (and probably the rest of Europe) the cancel is important. They want to see where it was mailed from and when. That requires a well centered and clear cancel.

The stamp on the right was mailed from Saint (St.) Andrews, Scotland on May 29, 1894. The cancel is clear and well centered on the stamp but is diminished somewhat because part of it falls off the left side of the stamp. Stamps with unclear or smudged cancels have little or no value to collectors on the continent.



Howard Grenzebach collects Worldwide pre-1950, early Grenada, and Swiss standing Helvetia.

2024 Burning Man Post Office

I was curious if Burning Man has a post office on site this year. There was a time when the U.S. post office had a trailer for burners to use. On my return from GASS on Aug. 27, I encountered about a dozen burners waiting for pick up at the Reno Tahoe Airport. I asked if they were headed to Burning Man and they all said yes.

I asked Copilot, my AI assistant, the question about a Burning Man post office. **Returned by Copilot:**

Ah, **Burning Man**—that magical, ephemeral city that springs up in the Nevada desert! 🌟🔥 If you're planning to attend Burning Man in 2024 and want to send or receive mail, you're in luck! There's a functioning **"post office"** right there on the playa.

Here's how it works:

1. Address Format:

- To maximize the likelihood that your mail will actually reach its recipient, have your letter or package sent via **U.S. Mail** to the **Gerlach Post Office**. (No UPS or FEDEX packages)
- The address format should be as follows:
- Your Name (as shown on a government-issued photo ID)
- General Delivery
- Gerlach, NV 89412

2. General Delivery:

- When you send mail to someone at Burning Man, they can pick it up at the **Gerlach Post Office** during the event.
- Make sure to use the recipient's **legal name** (as shown on their ID) to ensure smooth delivery.

3. Remember the Basics:

- Burning Man is all about **radical self-reliance**, so if you're expecting mail, keep an eye out for it at the post office.
- And hey, maybe consider sending a postcard or a letter to a fellow Burner—it's a delightful way to connect in this temporary city of creativity and community.

So, whether you're sending love letters, cryptic messages, or glitter-filled envelopes, the Gerlach Post Office has got you covered! 📬🌈🌟

And hey, if you need more info or have any other Burning Man-related questions, feel free to ask—I'm here to help! 🎉🔥📧

(Editor Comment: The emojis are from Copilot.)



Scenes from Burning Man on the Black Rock City playa in Nevada on Aug. 28, 2024.

Jason Bean/Reno Gazette Journal photo

References supplied by Copilot:

- <https://help.burningman.org/hc/en-us/articles/360024768991-Mailing-address-to-send-mail-to-someone-on-the-playa>
- <https://www.knpr.org/show/knprs-state-of-nevada/2022-09-01/did-you-know-theres-a-functioning-post-office-at-burning-man>

September Quiz – Days at the Beach

By Eric Moody

Beaches, whether seaside or lake side, have made for scenic subjects on many stamps, as have the recreational activities associated with them. The following questions all relate to “postally depicted” beaches around the world.

1. Associated with wave-swept beaches, surf boarding was celebrated on a set of stamps (#3858-3861) issued in 2013 by this country, which boasts Bondi Beach as its most famous venue for the sport.
(a) Brazil (b) South Africa (c) Australia (d) Spain
2. Sunny tropical beaches and boats are shown on some of the stamps in a 1969 set (#290-293) promoting tourism in this Caribbean country.
(a) Barbados (b) Bahamas (c) Jamaica (d) Cuba
3. This popular, often colorful, beach feature is shown on a U.S. booklet stamp of 1990.
(a) ice cream cone (b) beach blanket (c) inflatable plastic raft (d) beach umbrella
4. Stamps (#216-217) depicting the “bathing” (swimming) beach at Brosten on the Baltic Sea were issued in 1936 by
(a) Germany (b) Poland (c) Danzig (d) Latvia
5. World Health Day is the subject of a set of stamps, one (#2729) showing a woman with a busy beach behind her, that was issued by this country in 1963.
(a) Sweden (b) Brazil (c) Mexico (d) Russia
6. A sea turtle crawls across a beach on this 2006 stamp (#480c), part of a set promoting tourism in this sun-drenched country.
(a) Philippines (b) Jamaica (c) Oman (d) Australia
7. A picturesque beach on Palmi Island is the subject of this 1973 “Tourism issue” (#847) from
(a) Philippines (b) Korea (c) Spain (d) Thailand
8. This 2007 set of “Seaside Resort Scenes” stamps from Great Britain contains pictures of all the following except:
(a) beach balls (b) beach chairs (c) sand castle (d) carousel horses
9. In 1972 the U.S. issued several stamps (#1448-1454, C84) celebrating the centennial of the country’s national parks system. One, showing the Cape Hatteras lighthouse in the background, depicts people on a beach doing this in the surf.
(a) swimming (b) wading (c) fishing (d) posing for photos
10. In the following year, 1973, this Asian country issued a stamp (#1141) depicting Chichijima Beach at one of its national parks.
(a) Korea (b) North Korea (c) China (d) Japan
11. A man and a woman sitting on a white sand beach are featured on a 2002 stamp (#1021) from this tropical country which advertises itself as “The Treasured Islands of the South Pacific.”
(a) Solomon Islands (b) Tonga (c) Samoa (d) Marshall Islands

12. In 2009 a South American nation issued a 12-stamp set (#3116a-l) that was devoted to the depiction of beach scenes at its famous "carnival" city.
 (a) Venezuela (b) Brazil (c) Colombia (d) Argentina
13. (Bonus) A pair of stamps (#743a-b) showing paintings of the beach at Papeete Bay were produced by this French South Pacific territory in 1998.
 (a) Wallis and Futuna (b) Cook Islands (c) French Polynesia (d) New Caledonia

The September quiz is worth 130 **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

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

Vassar Post Office Display

The display at Reno's main post office was changed to remind patrons about the Great Reno Balloon Race which is Sept. 6 -8. Two patrons at the post office asked me about the ballon race and the covers.

The other display case has covers and stamps on American Lighthouses.

