

The Post Bop

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

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Nevada Stamp Study Society

P.O. Box 2709 Sparks, NV 89432 renostamp.org

In-person and virtual meetings: 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 10 AM Silverada Estates Clubhouse 2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno (map) (Google Maps) All are welcome!

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Sat. July 26–Sun. 27 Reno Stamp and Cover Show in lieu of regular meeting. See update below.

Sat. Aug. 9 50th anniversary celebration.

Tue. Aug. 12–Thu. 21 Online Auction #41. Lots are due to **Dave Parsons** by Sun. Aug. 10.

Upcoming Events

Sat. July 12 In-person and Zoom meeting starts at 10 AM. After announcements there will be a live auction. Members can have up to 5 lots on the table—more can be added to a total of 60 lots.

Important! Stamp Show Venue Update

Our show is usually held in the Hall of Fame room of the National Bowling Stadium. It appears that the Hall of Fame is gone and the room is now leased to a third party. Tentatively 75% of the show will still be held in the Hall of Fame room, with 25% somewhere else. Further details will come by email or at the 7/12 meeting. (Updated 7/10)



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The Post Boy Reporter

Sat. June 14

Refreshments were provided by **Dave Gehringer** (doughnuts), **Maggie Griener** (banana bread), and **Dave Stafford** (apples).

President **James Steckley** pointed out that nomination sheets were available for the upcoming August elections. The vacant positions are President, Secretary, and Treasurer. As of now, only the Treasurer position has a nominee (current Treasurer **Erik Fields**).

In addition, sign-up sheets were available for the stamp show. James showed the (mostly empty) sheets and encouraged people to sign up for setup, the welcome table, and tear-down. Show Chair **Erik Fields** announced a total of 11 dealers committed, a full complement.

Membership Chair **Mike Potter** announced that he had just received delivery of the new name tags, and that he would distribute them at the next meeting. Mike also reminded volunteers that the storage unit clean-out was scheduled for Thu. June 19 at 9 AM. [This was later cancelled, as the unit was cleared out before then.]

Donations Chair **James Steckley** showcased 5 lots for the day's auction, all from a single donation. One caveat, however, was the mounting of the stamps—all the mounts were completely stuck to the pages, *i.e.*, the entire back of each mount had been moistened.

Jeanne Paquin reminded members to submit exhibits for the show; some old exhibits may need to be displayed to fill space. **Dave Gehringer** reminded members to sign up for monthly presentations, as several months are still open.



Pete Test (top left), **Barbara Stanfield** (bottom left), and NSSS founder **Dick Dreiling** (right), 6/28.



James Steckley with his snazzy T-shirt, 6/28.

Sat. June 28

Attendance was an impressive 32, with Tom Reyman (Phoenix, AZ) and Robert Martin (York, PA) joining *via* Zoom. **Dick Dreiling**, founding member of the NSSS and many-time former president, also attended the meeting—he was given a welcome and received rousing applause. We wish Dick good health. **John Walter** announced the death of longtime member **Marcia Smith**. An article about Marcia will likely follow in the August *Post Boy*.

Mike Potter provided refreshments. As Membership Chair, **Mike** also announced that as of the beginning of the meeting, 16 members had renewed for the 2025–26 year. He encouraged members to renew ASAP. In addition, plans have been made to vacate the storage unit by the end of August.

President **James Steckley** reminded the club that no nomination for President has yet been made; elections are coming up in August. As Donations Chair, **James** also announced the receipt of a large collection (12+ boxes!) from a donor in Carson City that has previously contributed. An engaging discussion followed regarding the best way to sell the collection: in lots at an all-donation auction as done previously, at the stamp show for the public to bid on, or at the show in a dealers-only auction.

Dave Parsons announced the next online auction. Lots will be due by Sun. Aug. 10 and the auction will run Tue. Aug. 12–Thu. 21. He encouraged members to submit lots. Following the raffle, **Dave Gehringer** gave part 2 of his presentation on fancy cancels.

2025 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show by Erik Fields



Banner outside the bowling stadium.

On July 26 and 27 the Nevada Stamp Study Society is hosting the 2025 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show. Once again, it will be held at the National Bowling Stadium at 300 University Way in downtown Reno. Free parking is available at the bowling stadium garage. Show hours are 10 AM–6 PM on Saturday and 10 AM–4 PM on Sunday.

Volunteers are needed on Friday starting around 11 AM to help set up exhibit frames, help dealers set up, and fold programs.

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 1 PM.

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.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Nevada Stamp Study Society as well as the 250th anniversary of the United States Postal Service. Cachet covers with a special show cancellation for each day will be offered. The show covers are \$3 each or two covers for \$5.

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 may also 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 visit the stamp show website, you will find a diagram of the dealer table placements and a list of the dealers with emails.

Our stamps show is an official Reno July Artown event. The stamp show is listed in the Artown pamphlet and is on their website. In previous years many attendees have said they are at the stamp show after seeing it listed in the Artown pamphlet.

Club members are encouraged to show and write about one or more of their favorite items for the *My Favorite Things* exhibit. The item can be one stamp, a group of stamps, or cover(s). You are the storyteller. The *My Favorite Things* 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 also has some examples of *My Favorite Things* pages and a few full exhibits.

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.

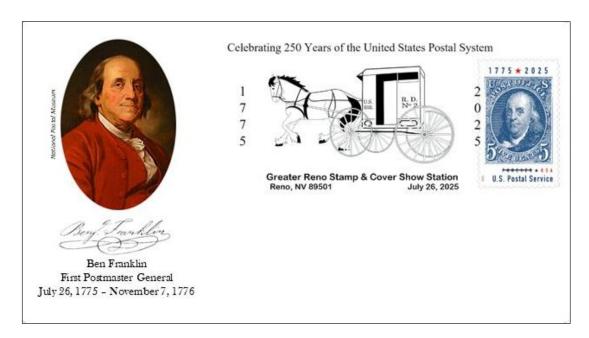


My Favorite Things exhibits, 2024.

Reno Stamp Show Covers

courtesy of Harvey Edwards

Saturday, July 26, 2025



Celebrating 250 Years of the United States Postal System









1782-1837

1837-1970

1970-1993

1993-Present

On July 26, 1775, Benjamin Franklin was appointed by the Second Continental Congress as the first Postmaster General of the United States Post Office. He served in the position until November 7, 1776.

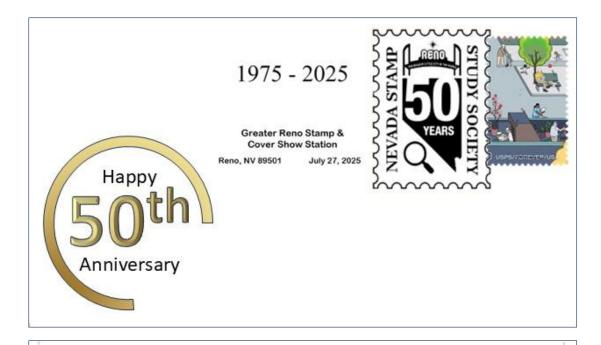
Prior to that appointment, Franklin had been appointed as the Philadelphia Postmaster in 1737. In 1753, Franklin and William Hunter became joint Postmasters General for the Crown. Franklin was dismissed as Postmaster General for the Crown in 1774 for being too sympathetic to the colonies.



The Post Office Department was created in 1792 with the passage of the Postal Service Act and elevated to a cabinet-level department in 1872. The Post Office Department became the United States Postal Service, an independent agency, under the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970.



Sunday, July 27, 2025



Nevada Stamp Study Society Past Presidents

Tony Amaral (1975-1976)

Ruthe Dreiling (interim 1976-1977)

Laura Wilhite (1977-1978)

Ruthe Dreiling (interim 1978-1983)

Bill Brew (1983-1985)

Jack Barriage (1985-1987)

Dick Dreiling (1987-1989)

Gus Geiger (1989-1991)

Jerry Fenwick (1991-1993)

Al Shay (1993-1997)

Tom Morrissey (1997-1999)
Dick Dreiling (1999-2003)
Stan Cronwall (2003-2005)
Terri Edwards (2005-2007)
Mike Johnson (2007-2009)
Stan Cronwall (2009-2015)
John Walter (2015-2017)
Harvey Edwards (2017-2021)
James Steckley (2021-2025)





International Postcards Due 6 Cents

by Patrick Crosby

From 1876 to 1925 a typical card could be mailed between most countries in the world for about 2 U.S. cents. So how is it that the two featured cards mailed to the U.S. each have 6¢ postage due even after some postage had already been paid?



The postcard with a French postage stamp (Scott 168) dated Nov. 24, 1923, and mailed from Algeria shows the city of Algiers on the Mediterranean coast in Algeria where after over 90 years of French colonization Europeans made up almost a fifth of the population. Most countries belonged to the Universal Postal Union (UPU) which provides uniform rules for the treatment of mails between countries. At this time the international card rate from Algeria (and France) was 30 French centimes. There were no Algerian stamps yet and the 25-centime French stamp was properly used but underpaid the rate by 5 centimes. Please note that at this time some countries, including France, were in the early stage of hyperinflation. Since the UPU uses the French franc as a base for exchange rates between member countries and the franc was unstable, rates became based on the value of a gold franc of 100 centimes weighing 10/31 of a gram and having a fineness of 0.900. The 30-centime postage rate for this card would have been 10 centimes a bit over 2½ years prior.

For most years of the UPU a country would be due double the amount of the deficiency if a letter or card was underpaid. However at the UPU Congress, Madrid 1920, it was agreed that any deficiency would require a minimum postage due amount of 6ϕ , thus the "T 0.30" [due 30 centimes] at the left of the stamp and the New York, NY, opera glasses due handstamps. This minimum due amount rule was in effect from 1/1/1922 until 10/1/1925 when the amount became a reasonable 2ϕ . So for being underpaid less than $1/2\phi$ the addressee pays 6ϕ (2 x Sc. J63), and the original postage was moot. An international card with this minimum due amount is unusual to find because of the rule's short duration, some countries being able to lower the minimum due amount, and some countries refusing to comply.

Six British colonies, including Queensland, united to form the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. The Queensland post office became part of the federal Australian post office in 1912 and in 1913 the first Australian postage stamp was issued, the previous colonies' stamps being used until then. The second postcard is an RPPC (real photo postcard) of a reading room and is mailed from Brisbane in the state of Queensland 11/29/1912. Australia's first international card rate was 1 penny beginning in July 1912, whereas Queensland's rate had been $1\frac{1}{2}$ pence.



I'm not sure why 6¢ postage was due on this card. No one in Australia thought anything was wrong. The marking "U.S. Charge to Collect 6 Cents" sure makes it sound like a minimum penalty was applied, but as mentioned above, there was no minimum penalty in effect until 1922. Perhaps a U.S. postal clerk made a mistake thinking the Queensland 1-penny postage (Sc. 113) was not valid. It was not only valid, but it paid the correct Australian 1-penny international card rate and there were no Australian stamps yet. Perhaps the clerk thought the card being from Queensland was underpaid and now required the letter rate of 2½ pence, 1 penny already paid. Whatever the reason, the U.S. clerk felt it was 1½ pence (3¢) underpaid and charged double the deficiency, paid by two U.S, postage due stamps. Since the due stamps are on cover, determining the watermark or if there is one can't be done. So I have to say they are Sc. J40 (used stamp value each \$5) and not Sc. J33 (\$50) or J47 (\$60). Shucks.

References

- James Peter Gough, <u>The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union</u>, <u>The Postal Card Worldwide 1869-1974 Vol. 1 and 2</u> (The Royal Philatelic Society London 2019)
- Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry W. Beecher, <u>U.S. International Postal Rates</u>, <u>1872-1996</u> (Portland, OR: CAMA Publishing Co. 1996)
- <u>Scott 2019 Specialized Catalog of United States Stamps and Covers</u> (Sidney, OH: Amos Media, 2018)

Quiz: Baseball Mail by Eric Moody

No, we're not talking about letters attached to speeding balls—that hasn't happened yet. The subject of this quiz is baseball-themed stamps issued by the U.S. and other countries which have adopted the American "national pastime" game, or have, for one reason or another, recognized it postally.

- 1. In this year the U.S. issued its first baseball stamp. Showing a "sandlot" game being played, it celebrated the supposed centennial of the sport.
 - (a) 1919 (b) 1929 (c) 1939 (d) 1949
- 2. In 1964 two baseball stamps (#604-605) appeared from an unlikely source. The stamps, which commemorated the 8th Annual European Baseball Championship series, held that year in Milan, Italy, were issued by
 - (a) Switzerland. (c) Yugoslavia.
 - (b) San Marino. (d) Vatican City.
- 3. 1938 saw Panama celebrating that year's Central American Caribbean Games with a set of stamps depicting athletes playing baseball (#C44), basketball, and soccer, as well as boxing and
 - (a) fencing.
- (c) wrestling.
- (b) weightlifting. (d) swimming.
- 4. A great American player, he was honored with two sets of stamps (#3476a-d and 3477a-d) issued by Grenada in 2004.
 - (a) Willie Mays (c) Lou Gehrig
 - (d) Jackie Robinson (b) Babe Ruth
- 5. One of the stamps in a 2001 U.S. set depicting iconic major league ballparks ("Legendary Playing Fields") features a picture of this famous home of the old Brooklyn Dodgers.
 - (a) Shibe Park
- (c) Ebbets Field
- (b) Veterans Stadium (d) the Polo Grounds
- 6. This major league player from Puerto Rico was commemorated on a 1984 U.S. stamp (#2097). A Hall of Famer whose career was cut short when he died in a 1972 plane crash near his island home, he is
 - (a) Lefty Gomez.
- (c) Juan Marichal.
- (b) Luis Aparicio. (d) Roberto Clemente.

- 7. In 1984 the fiftieth anniversary of professional baseball in this country was marked with three stamps (#1617–1619) that featured two players and the businessman/newspaper owner who popularized baseball there in the 1930s. The country is
 - (a) Australia. (c) Colombia.
 - (b) Japan. (d) Venezuela.
- 8. A place that has provided U.S. major league baseball with numerous players, this Caribbean island country issued a stamp (#4014) in 1999 that showcased baseball at the Pan-American Games held that year in Canada. It is
 - (a) Cuba.
- (c) the Dominican Republic.
- (b) the Bahamas. (d) Jamaica.
- 9. This Asian nation celebrated twin Little League championships that it won in the U.S. in 1973 with two stamps (#1845–1846). A perennial Little League "powerhouse", it is
 - (a) South Korea.
- (c) the ROC (Taiwan).
- (b) the Philippines. (d) Japan.
- 10. The old Negro Leagues were commemorated on two U.S. stamps (#4465-4466) in 2010. Featured on one of them was Negro National League founder
 - (c) Connie Mack. (a) Josh Gibson.
 - (b) Rube Foster. (d) Larry Doby.
- 11. In 1982 the 27th World Amateur Baseball Championship series was held in this mainland Asian country and celebrated with a postage stamp (#1311). The host country was
 - (a) China.
- (c) South Korea.
- (b) Thailand. (d) North Korea.
- 12. American Baseball's iconic though unofficial "anthem", which is often sung by crowds in ballparks, was celebrated on a 2008 U.S. stamp (#4341). The song is
 - (a) Centerfield.
 - (b) Casey at the Bat.
 - (c) Take Me Out to the Ballgame.
 - (d) Glory Days.

The quiz is worth 120 Auction Bucks. Please give your answers to **Maggie Griener** at the next meeting or email them to postboyquiz@renostamp.org. June answers: 1c, 2d, 3b, 4d, 5c, 6b, 7a, 8b, 9d, 10c, 11b, 12d, 13d.

Vassar Post Office Display

This month we celebrate America's birthday on July 4th. Covers on display at the main Reno post office were issued for the 200th birthday. As the nation gets ready to have a big party next year for the 250th birthday celebration, these covers have stamps and information on the Declaration of Independence, the Continental Congress and the steps needed to approve the Constitution.

The second display frame have covers and stamps on the U.S. flag and some stamps issued on July 4th.



It's always difficult getting a good picture face-on with the glare from outside and lights overhead. But this one turned out okay. As you can see, six display pages fit nicely in each

Our stamp show post cards are in the bottom of the frame.