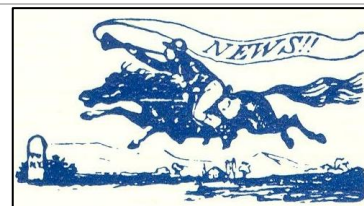


The Post Boy

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



January 2026
Volume 59, Issue 1

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

From the Editor: John Walter

As announced in December, **Will Eubanks** resigned as Secretary and Editor of *The Post Boy* due to work commitments in South Carolina. **Maggie Griener** was unanimously elected by the Board as the new Secretary—congratulations to Maggie!

After seeking volunteers for Editor without success, the previous Editor will resume those duties again and revert the newsletter format as it was before for simplicity. Thanks to everyone for supporting our organization during this transition. Please continue to support Maggie and contribute articles to the Editor.

January Meetings

Jan. 10, 2026 - In person and online Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a live auction. Members can have 5 auction items and can add more lots up to the limit of 60 lots.

Jan. 24, 2026 - In person and online Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a presentation by **Jeff Waldman** on "Foreign Counterfeits."

Members can have 5 consignment items and can add more when items are sold.

Online Auction #43 - Starts at noon on Jan. 13, ends at noon on Jan. 22. Send the lot descriptions and images by noon on Jan. 11 to **Dave Parsons** – NSSSauctions@gmail.com

Mike Potter renewed the club's status as APS Chapter #088229.

John Walter renewed the club registration with the Nevada Secretary of State as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

New Year's Greeting! By President, Jeff Waldman

I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season! Did you receive any stamp-related gifts? I did. I was given a nice handheld magnifier with a whopping 18 tiny light bulbs so you can easily adjust the light intensity as needed.

What a special year 2025 was for the club organization! The well-attended Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show was followed by our 50th Anniversary event. Many members were involved in setting up the event, but special kudos to **Jeanne Paquin** and **Maggie Greiner** for their hard work in preparing the celebration and serving everything. At the event a new President was elected, and several volunteers received award plaques. **James Steckley** took in a very large club donation and subsequently held a donation-only auction that turned out to be a huge success. **Dave Parsons** ran multiple online auctions, one of which received a record number of bids and value. And if you missed the Holiday event in December, you missed a lot of great food and a fun gift exchange. **Maggie Greiner** took the lead and cooked a large turkey with all the fixings, and the Board has chosen her to be our new Secretary as well!

On a sadder note, 2025 was marked by the loss of multiple long-standing club members, including the club's founder, **Dick Dreiling (1939-2025)**, and longtime member **Barbara Diederichsen (1931-2025)**. They both contributed so much to the club's organization over their long memberships.

It is at this time of year that we celebrate the tireless club volunteers for 2025. See the next page for the volunteer list. I want to give a special call-out to **John Walter** who continues to cover so many club roles, including graciously editing this issue of the Post Boy as we transition the task to a new member. The loss of an editor has become a critical situation for the club as we endeavor to keep the publication coming each and every month. We really need someone to step up for this role as soon as possible, and as always, we need more articles and content.

With that, let me wish you all a safe and prosperous New Year, and let's make 2026 the best year ever for the club! Happy collecting!



2026 Lunar New Year stamp
for Year of the Horse.

2025 Linn's Stamp Poll

The next three stamp club meetings will be an opportunity to participate in the annual Linn's Stamp News poll for the best and worst stamp issues of 2025.

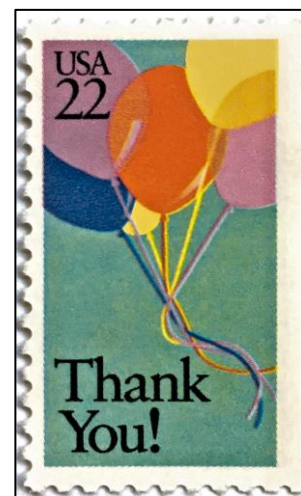
Every member needs to complete a ballot. A color image of each stamp will be available for reference at the meetings. This is a club project so let's have some fun. The ballots needs to completed and sent by Feb. 28.

You may vote again at a future meeting, especially if you forgot which stamp you voted for previously.

2025 Volunteers & Activities

At the end of each year the stamp club recognizes those members who have served the membership in various ways. If you don't see your name on the list, there are things you can do to enhance your club participation. Our president can fit your skills to different club activities. In addition to the officers and directors, here are our extraordinary volunteers:

- Archivist - **John Walter** (using the NSSS website & club laptop computer)
- Program Chair - **Dave Gehringer**
- Get Well & Sympathy Cards – **Howard Grenzebach**
- Donations Chair - **James Steckley**
- Nomination & Election Chair - **John Walter**
- Sign-In Log & Auction Bucks Accounting/Distribution – **Maggie Griener**
- Silverada Clubhouse Meeting Place Liaison – **George Ray**
- Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show Chair – **Erik Fields**
- Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show cover cachets & cancels - **Harvey Edwards**
- Post Office and Library Displays:
 - Vassar Post Office – **John Walter** (monthly)
 - Carson City Library – **John Walter & Dave Gehringer**
- Storage Unit – **Mike Potter** (now closed)
- Meeting Live Auction Accounting - **Erik Fields & Steve Foster**
- Auctioneers for live auctions – **Gary Atkinson, Mike Potter, Howard Grenzebach**
- Auctioneer's Assistants – **Nadiah Beekun and Howard Kadohiro**
- Online Auctions - **Dave Parsons** (auction master) & **John Walter** (webpage)
- Meeting Room setup - **Erik Fields**
- Council of Northern CA Philatelic Societies Liaison – **John Walter**
- Raffle Coordinator/Operator – **George Ray**
- APS Liaison & Ambassador Membership Program – **Mike Potter**
- Membership Chair – **Mike Potter**
- Member Database & Directory - **Harvey Edwards**
- Librarian - **Dave Gehringer**
- Webmaster - **John Walter**
- Post Boy Editor – **Will Eubanks**
- Post Boy quizmaster – **Eric Moody**
- APS Estate Advisory service – **Gary Atkinson**
- Youth Program Chair - **Dave Gehringer**
- Refreshments Coordinator – **Barbara Stanfield**
- Special events – 50th Anniversary Celebration and Christmas/Holiday party – **Maggie Griener and Jeanne Paquin**
- Original Post Boy articles - **Pat Crosby, Tom Reyman, John Walter, Maggie Griener, David Stafford, Will Eubanks, Erik Fields, and Dave Parsons.**
- Penny Boxes – **Eugene Smoots, Dave Parsons, and Jeanne Paquin** – Activity will end in 2026.



2025 Annual Christmas/Holiday Party

By Margaret Griener

The annual Christmas/Holiday party was held on Saturday, December 13, 2025, with 30 members and family guests attending. Christmas carols were playing, and **Barbara Stanfield** had decorated the tables with colorful and festive tablecloths with rosemary, evergreen, and Christmas card centerpieces. **Erik Fields** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs.

Maggie Griener and **Jeanne Paquin** planned the event, with Maggie cooking the turkey again this year. A delicious assortment of side dishes and desserts were provided by the members.

After lunch the Santa gift exchange was held with Junior Member **Donny Sehr** and his sister, Emma, assisting with drawing a number for a gift. That person can either open a gift or steal a previously opened gift. Wine was a popular item stolen a few times a Trader's Joe's gift card was stolen three times.

Everyone enjoyed themselves. Merry Christmas and farewell to 2025. See you in January 2026, wishing you a happy and successful New Year.



George Ray was the first to pick a gift. He then had 3 gifts stolen – 3 bottles of wine and a stamp album.



Most of the party attendees.



Jeanne Paquin and Donny Sehr.



Steve Foster with a stamp album and cover. It was subsequently stolen 2 times.



Jeff Walman with a large book on Corvettes. It was stolen a little later.



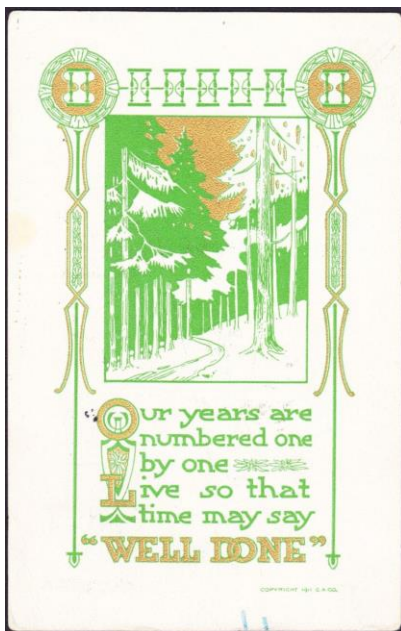
Jr. member, Donny Sehr, served as the Master of Ceremony.

New Year's Greetings By Patrick Crosby

A Happy New Year! A postcard shows a dove decorating an embossed golden bell to ring in the New Year. Mailed from Madison Square Station in New York City, the 2¢ stamp to pay postage to Germany fell off. The cancellation from 12/27/1910 shows a gap in the wavy killer bars where a postage had been (the lines are light on the right side). This happened often enough for the New York postal clerks to have a special auxiliary handstamp reading “Postage Stamp Detached Before Receipt at New York For(eign) Sta(tion)”, implying that full postage had been paid.



A second card (below) shows a pleasant road through a winter forest, multiple hourglasses, and sentimental prose. The card was mailed from Oakland, CA, to a lady at Kahn Bros., a long-time defunct department store in Oakland. The card had to be forwarded to a street address for the addressee in Fruitvale, which is a neighborhood in Oakland and at the time had an Oakland branch post office. The card received two of the same postmarks from the originating Oakland post office spanning 1911 and 1912 – December 29 and January 1. The promotional postmark was for the “World’s Panama-Pacific Exposition In San Francisco 1915” (Bomar SF15-15) and is very common being in use until after the fair ended on 12/4/1915.



Patrick Crosby collects U.S. postal stationery, stamps and postcards with an emphasis on postal history.

USPS Postmark Policy Changes Submitted by Dave Parsons

The U.S. Postal Service's new postmark process could lead to late fees and penalties when mailing time-sensitive documents (e.g. mail ballots, utility and other routine bills).

How does new USPS postmark rule affect election ballots?

Why is USPS changing postmark rules in 2026?

What are 2026 USPS shipping rate increases?

The [U.S. Postal Service](#) is making new changes in 2026, including adjustments to the [postmark process](#), which could result in late fees and penalties for anyone mailing time-sensitive documents such as tax returns or bill payments.

For decades, the postmark – an official mark that shows where and when mail was accepted by the Postal Service – has been used in law as proof that an individual met a deadline, such as submitting a ballot by Election Day.

A USPS postmark used to indicate the date when mail was dropped in a mailbox or submitted at the post office counter. Now, USPS is clarifying in a new rule that the postmark will reflect the date an envelope is first processed by an automated USPS sorting machine, potentially days after it was dropped off – not the actual drop-off date.



Mail sorting at Jacksonville, Florida mail facility.

Changes to USPS are part of its Delivering For America initiative that includes consolidation of mail processing and modernizing infrastructure to fit a time when the volume of paper letters is dropping and the number of packages is increasing.

How does the new postmark rule affect your mail?

For a long time, Americans have assumed that mail will be postmarked the day it is mailed and may not be prepared to account for the extra days.

Tax payments, charitable contributions, legal filings, rent payments and other bills or items that rely on postmark dates for deadlines can be impacted by later postmarks and risk late fees, penalties, or delinquency.

Many states also accept ballots that are postmarked by Election Day.

Time-sensitive mail should be mailed several days before the deadline. People can also go inside their local post office and ask for a hand-stamped "manual postmark" on the date or use certified mail.



Mail sent from Carson City to another address in Carson City received these Sacramento cancels. This means the mail went about 125 miles each way to be delivered a few miles between addresses. The spokesperson at the Reno mail facility explained the canceling machine needed a part so mail went to Sacramento for canceling.

When do USPS postal shipping rates go up and how much more will it cost?

While the cost of a First-Class Mail stamp is currently 78¢ and goes up 29¢ per additional ounce. This price has been in effect since July 2025. The next possible price change is anticipated in mid-2026.

Shipping costs for Priority Mail, Priority Mail Express, USPS Ground Advantage and Parcel Select rates will increase on Jan. 18, 2026. Prices are based on the package's weight and the distance it is being shipped.

- Priority Mail prices start at \$10.45 per package and \$11.90 for a flat-rate Priority Mail envelope. This is an increase of 6.6%.
- Priority Mail Express packages start at \$32.50 and flat-rate envelopes start at \$33.40. This is an increase of 5.1%.
- USPS Ground Advantage starts at \$7.20 and will increase by 7.8%.
- Parcel Select will increase by 6%.

Modernization push

[Post office modernization](#) is also on the way for the new year.

USPS announced redesigned, technology-forward lobbies are coming to retail locations nationwide in a modernization push that officials say will make post office visits faster, easier and more convenient for customers to ship and pick up mail.

“Modernizing our retail spaces is about meeting customers where they are today,” said Tracy Raymond, director of retail operations in the news release. “People expect speed, clarity and technology-driven convenience – and that’s what our new lobbies deliver, while still offering the trusted, in-person attention that defines the Postal Service.”

The upgraded post office lobbies will feature 24/7 smart lockers, enhanced self-service kiosks, Rapid Drop mobile app, digital information displays, and streamlined layouts. They will also provide more government service hub options such as passports, fingerprinting and identity proofing.

References:

- Federal Register, Effective Dec. 24, 2025.
- USA Today, Dec. 30, 2025

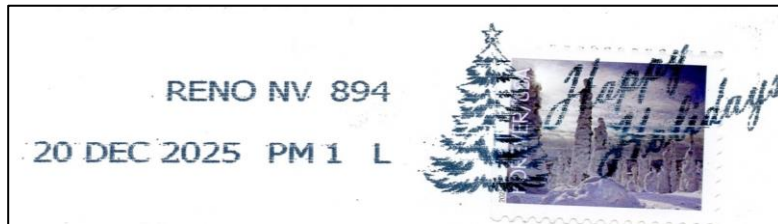
Dave Parsons collecting interests include U.S. used and BOB, Mint U.S. Commemoratives, Canada, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, South Africa and Liberia.

Postmarks from 2025 Christmas Mail

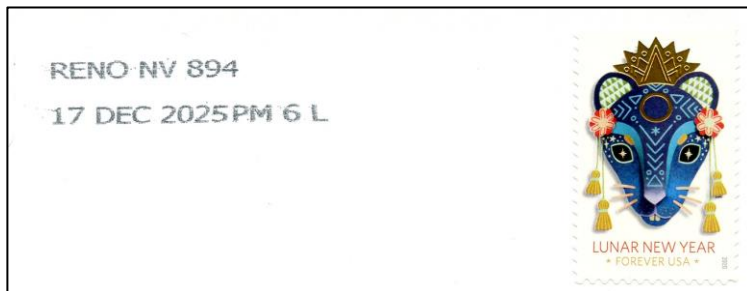
By John Walter



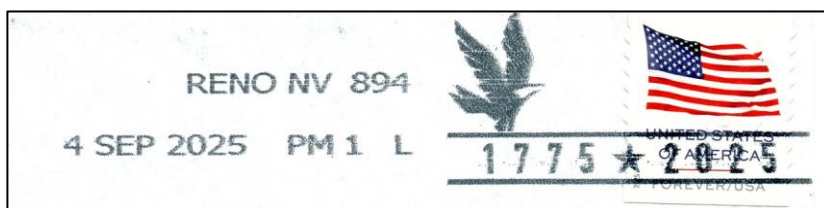
Mailed from insurance agency in Reno to my Reno address in December. The Christmas card was trucked to the Sacramento mail facility (about 125 miles) for a postmark. Then it was trucked back to Reno to be delivered. The card traveled about 250 miles roundtrip, including going over Donner Summit twice. The distance is about 6 miles from the insurance agency to my house.



This is the normal Christmas or seasonal sprayed-on postmark used this time of year. The graphic is a Christmas Tree with cursive *Happy Holidays*.



Interesting Reno postmark without the graphic to cancel the stamp. Notice the sprayed-on dated cancel is smaller.



Sprayed-on postmark that began appearing across the country in July 2025 and ended in late September. As the 250th Anniversary of Independence approached this year, interesting the postal service started

things off last year. Look for different updated pictorial postmarks this year.

Quiz: Mark Twain Around the World

By Eric Moody

Probably still the most universally known of American writers, Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) has a long-standing connection with philately. Pictures of him, images of objects associated with him, and representations of his famous fictional characters have appeared on many postage stamps of his own country and numerous others. These questions all relate to the “postal Twain.”

1. Mark Twain made his first appearance on a U.S. stamp in 1940, thirty years after his death. His most recent appearance, on Scott #4545, occurred in
(a) 2000 (b) 2008 (c) 2011 (d) 2020
2. In 2000, a stamp (#371) featuring Twain and Tom Sawyer was issued by the Muslim majority region of strife-ridden Bosnia and Herzegovina. The issuing authority was
(a) Herzegovina (b) Bosniak (c) Montenegro (d) Eastern Rumelia
3. San Marino, in 2000, produced a stamp that featured some of Twain’s most famous characters from his books, along with an image of the author himself doing this:
(a) playing cards (b) reading a newspaper (c) writing at a desk (d) sitting in a rocking chair
4. An enthusiastic participant in the capitalist system, Twain would probably have been surprised to see himself on a stamp (#2403) issued by this communist country in 1960 on the 125th anniversary of his birth.
(a) Peoples Republic of China (b) Russia (c) Cuba (d) Yugoslavia
5. This British colony in the Caribbean issued a stamp (#671) in 1985, on the 150th anniversary of Twain’s birth, that featured a fanciful image of him riding Halley’s Comet – which passed near our planet in both the year of his birth and that of his death.
(a) Montserrat (b) British Virgin Islands (c) Cayman Islands (d) Turks and Caicos
6. The first U.S. stamp (#863) portraying Twain appeared in a set that celebrated famous American
(a) humorists (b) journalists (c) authors (d) Nobel Prize winners
7. On a 2020 stamp from Guinea-Bissau, Mark Twain is presented as a member of this group.
(a) writers (b) riverboat pilots (c) abolitionists (d) Freemasons
8. In 1948 a set of airpost semi-postals commemorating famous authors of the world, among them Mark Twain (#CB10), was produced by this European country.
(a) Hungary (b) Great Britain (c) France (d) Poland
9. On a 1985 U.S. aerogram (#UC60), a foldable lettersheet for foreign mail, Twain is featured along with Halley’s Comet, Huckleberry Finn, and
(a) a book (b) Theodore Roosevelt (c) Stormfield, his Connecticut home (d) a steamboat
10. Both of Twain’s most celebrated juvenile characters have made appearances on U.S. stamps, Tom Sawyer in 1972 (#1470), and Huckleberry Finn in a set commemorating “classic books” that was issued in this year.
(a) 1973 (b) 1983 (c) 1993 (d) 2003
11. Mark Twain stopped at this Indian Ocean island in 1896 while on a world speaking tour. In 2008 the nation of which that island forms the principal part, issued a set of stamps (#1052-1056) depicting famous authors who mentioned the place in their writings, one being Twain. The island, which shares its name with the country, is
(a) Madagascar (b) Mauritius (c) Comoros (d) Seychelles
12. On the fiftieth anniversary of Twain’s death, in 1960, this eastern European nation produced a nine-stamp “cultural anniversaries” set that featured him (#1341) along with Leo Tolstoy, Daniel Defoe, and various other writers, composers, artists and scientists.
(a) Bulgaria (b) Czechoslovakia (c) Romania (d) Poland

The January quiz is worth 120 Auction Bucks for all the correct answers. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Maggie Griener** at the next in-person meeting or email to: postboyquiz@renostamp.org
December quiz (Hats) answers: 1. c, 2. c, 3. d, 4. b, 5. d, 6. b, 7. c, 8. d, 9. a, 10. c, 11. b, 12. d, 13. b.

Vassar Post Office Display

The two display frames at the Reno main post office have new displays for January. The left frame has some Commemorative Stamp Panels with past Lunar New Year's stamps. This year will celebrate the Year of the Horse. A previous Year of the Horse stamp is on a FDC in the lower right of the frame.

The right display frame has covers for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday celebrate on Jan. 19. The bottom of the frame has covers celebrating the semiquincentennial of American Independence 1776-2026.



This is the best picture of both frames. It is taken at an angle to reduce the glare from overhead lights and outside light in front of the displays.

Monthly post office display by John Walter.