Nevada Stamp Study Society

The Post Boy

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

November 2026
Volume 59, Issue 11

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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President – Jeff Waldman
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Announcements

November Meetings

Nov. 14, 2026 – No Zoom. Auction Bucks Auction meeting starts at 10 a.m. Coffee and refreshments are available. There is no raffle. Members bring garage/yard sale type items for auction using hard earned Auction Bucks which are awarded for different club activities.

Nov. 28, 2026 – In person and online Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a philatelic presentation. Members are allowed 10 lots on the consignment table.

Online Auction #46 – Starts at noon on Tuesday, Nov. 3 and ends at noon on Nov. 12. https://www.renostamp.org/auction/ Send lot descriptions and images to **Dave Parsons**, NSSSauction@gmail.com

Buy Want Sell Trade page is open to members. It's been a few years since this page was in the Post Boy. The only limitation is space. See page 10.

Stamp Shows (regional and APS show):

Nov. 7-8, 2026, SACAPEX, www.sacramentostampclub.org

Dec. 5-6, 2026, PENPEX, Redwood City, CA, www.penpex.org

2027 Shows:

Feb. 5-7, 2027, Arizona National Stamp Show, Mesa, AZ, https://arizonanationalstampshow.com/

Apr. 23-25, 2027, WESTPEX, San Francisco Marriott Hotel. www.west.px.org

Apr. 30-May 2, 2027, PIPEX, Clackamas, OR, www.pipexstampshow.org

July 10-11, 2027, Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show, Reno Sparks Convention Center.

Aug. 19-22, 2027, Great American Stamp Show, Albuquerque, NM, www.stamps.org/events/great-american-stamp-show

Post Boy Reporter

Oct. 10 meeting – Attendance was 23 members plus 2 members on Zoom. The refreshments were provided by **James Steckley** with **Maggie Griener** bringing homemade zucchini bread.

Jeff Waldman, President, had a few announcements including the SACAPEX show in Sacramento on Nov. 7-8. **John Walter** had a slide presentation showing the latest USPS new stamp issues. He also went through the Oct. Post Boy newsletter. He also showed some headlines from Linn's Stamp News on some interesting philatelic topics: Inverted Jenny stamp (C3a) position 9 (locket) sold at auction on Sep. 1 for $439,200; Living persons may be considered for postage stamps is a new ruling from the Citizens Advisory Committee.

Erik Fields, Show Chair, announced the confirmed dates for the 2027 Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show on July 10-11 at the Reno Sparks Convention Center.

The raffle, administered by **George Ray**, had 10 prizes with the bonus prize to **Carrie Brugger** and the money prize of $13.00 going to **Betty Mudge**.

The live auction had 52 member lots and 5 donations with 52 lots sold for $372.50. The auctioneer was **Gary Atkinson** with **Nadiah Beekun** helping.

Oct. 24 meeting – The refreshments were provided by **Steve Foster**. Attendance was 21 with one potential new member. One member attended using Zoom.

Jeff Waldman, President, made a few announcements. **Maggie Greiner** will coordinate the Christmas/Holiday Party for Dec. 12. She will prepare the turkey with the attendees supplying the side dishes, condiments, and desserts. A signup sheet will be at the Nov. meetings.

John Walter showed slides of the last stamp issues in 2026: Christmas (Oct. 2), Know the Facts About Fentanyl (Oct. 6 for 82¢+18¢), and Diwali (Oct. 21).

Mike Potter, Membership Chair, reported 67 members have renewed for 2026-2027 .

George Ray conducted the Raffle which had 10 prizes. **Pete Test** won the bonus prize. Scott Mathews won the money of $18.00.

The presentation was "Bonne Fête, 1918 Postcard" given by **John Walter**. The postcard was interesting with two censor marks sent from an American soldier stationed in France in Oct. 1918. John found it interesting since it was addressed to his hometown in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Also shown were two Draft Board postcards notifying a Wilkes-Barre resident of an appointment for a draft physical and the second card disqualifying the person and placing him in Class V – the bottom of the classifications.

The full story on the postcard starts on page 4.



Issued in 2001 (#3546).

First U.S. stamp issued for Thanksgiving.

2026 Salute to our Military Veterans

As a tribute to our members who served in the military, the Nevada Stamp Study Society salutes you for your serve. These are the members who provided information on their active-duty military service and any overseas assignments:



Scott 3508

Joe Allen, Navy, Spain, Bermuda-LAJES

Gary Atkinson, Captain, Army, 1973-1980

Nadiah Beekun, MS2, Navy, 1977-1981 Italy

Harvey Edwards, ETN2, Navy, 1973-1979 Submarine duty

Terri Edwards, Captain, Army, 1981-1985 West Germany

Gary Gregory, Army,

Howard Grenzebach, E3, USAF, 1960-1964 Spain

Michael Hendrick, USAF, 1976-1979

Marc Lane, Marine Corps,

Merle "Scott" Mathews, Navy, 1973-1982 Diego Garcia (Indian Ocean)

Kenneth Milliard, Army, 1968-1971 Vietnam (Bronze Star)

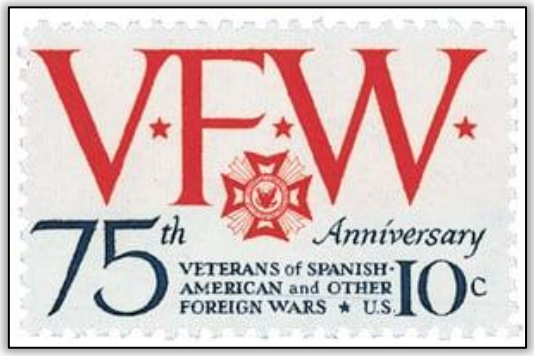
David Parsons, 1st Lt., Air Force, 1970-1972

George Ray, Sgt., Marine Corps, 1955-1959

Thomas Reyman, Capt., AZ Air National Guard, 1967-1980

James Steckley, Coast Guard, 1963-1967

John Walter, Major, USAF, 1969-1989 Japan, Guam



Scott 1525

Veterans Day began as **Armistice Day**, a holiday marking the end of World War I. The fighting stopped at the "11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" 1918.

November 11, 1919: President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first Armistice Day observance.

1938: Congress made November 11 a federal holiday dedicated to the cause of world peace and honoring World War I veterans.

1954: After World War II and the Korean War, Congress changed the name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day so that all U.S. military veterans would be honored, not just those who served in World War I. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation.



Scott 1802

Bonne Fête 1918 Postcard

By John Walter

This postcard was a donation to the Sparks Heritage Museum and **James Steckley** wanted more information. The postcard was sent by a soldier in France in 1918 to my hometown, Wilkes-Barre, PA. That got me interested in researching this card.



Let me start with the picture side.

"Bonne Fête" as it appears on a picture postcard, especially in French-speaking regions, is a light, cheerful greeting that works for:

- Name days (very common in France, Belgium, Switzerland)
- Local or national holidays (Fête nationale, Fête des mères, etc.)
- Seasonal celebrations (Carnival, Saint-Jean, Epiphany)
- General festive wishes when the sender doesn't need to specify the occasion

"Bonne Fête" was especially common on early 1900s French picture postcards with floral or Art Nouveau designs

A 1918 French postcard with "Bonne Fête" carries a very specific flavor — In that wartime context, it almost never meant "Happy birthday." It was tied to name days, morale, and small civilian celebrations that continued despite the war.

In 1918, France was still in World War I (1914-1918). Daily life was strained, but people continued to mark:

- Name days (the most common meaning of *Bonne fête* at the time)
- Local village fêtes that survived even during wartime
- Religious feast days (Saints' days, Assumption, All Saints, etc.)
- Patriotic morale-boosting celebrations
- Family occasions where "fête" simply meant "a special day"

- So, on a postcard, *Bonne fête* was a gentle, uplifting greeting, a way to send warmth to someone far away — often a soldier, a displaced family member, or someone living under rationing.

It's the equivalent of: "May this day be a bright one for you, even in these times."

Address side of card:



James was curious about the censor mark; I was immediately drawn to the city address where I was born.

October 3, 1917: AEF regulations granted soldiers, sailors, and Marines serving overseas the right to send ordinary letters/postcards free of postage by endorsing the envelope/postcard "Soldier's Mail" (or "Sailor's Mail," "Marine's Mail") and "On Active Service" (OAS). [1]

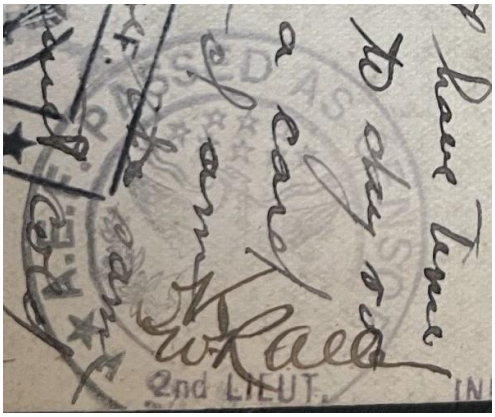
"To write home frequently and regularly, to keep in constant touch with family and friends, is one of the soldier's most important duties. Mothers and fathers will suffer if they do not hear often from sons fighting in France. In the present large companies, it is not possible for officers to write letters for their men, and every man must do it for himself." [1]

— General Orders, No. 66, from the General Headquarters, A.E.F., May 1, 1918

The postmark was dated Oct 7, 1918, with APO 788 = American Expeditionary Forces, II Corps (serving with the British Expeditionary Force), 1918. In the circular postmark double ring – "U.S. Army Postal Express Service."

The message read: "Oct. 6, 1918
Dear Helen, I did not have time to write a letter today so am dropping you a card to let you know I am well, hope you are the same. It has been quite cold here lately. I have not had any …….. So am still waiting to hear from you. Yours Always, Corporal James L. Watts US Army"
It was difficult to read some of the words under the censor mark. Even AI could not help.

The two censor rubber stamps:

	
The square censor stamp: PASSED BY BASE CENSOR AEF 15 (typical censor of U.S. military mail from soldiers serving in France during World War I)	**The round censor stamp:** A.E.F. PASSED AS CENSOR 2nd LIEUT INFANTRY signed by WR Allen (also a typical censor mark used for A.E.F.)

Addressee:
The last element I looked for information on Miss Helen Steinbrenner (and various spellings) and Covell St. I was able to verify that Covell Street still exists today but no number 69. Miss Steinbrenner did not appear in the 1920 Federal Census. My search ended here.

Addendum: World War I key dates:

- **June 28, 1914**: Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated in Sarajevo, triggering the events that led to war.
- **July 28, 1914**: Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, marking the beginning of World War I.
- **April 2, 1917**: President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war against Germany.
- **November 11, 1918**: The Armistice took effect at 11:00 a.m., ending the fighting on the Western Front.
- **June 28, 1919**: The Treaty of Versailles was signed, formally establishing peace terms with Germany.

During World War I, more than 4 million Americans served in the U.S. military

- American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) sent to Europe: 2,057,675 military personnel. About half of those in France served in combat units.
- Approximately 116,500 Americans died during the war. Roughly 204,000 were wounded.

References:
1. https://www.theworldwar.org/learn/about-wwi/soldiers-mail
Multiple questions posed to Microsoft CoPilot (AI) and Google search.
http://www.worldwar1.com/dbc/facts.htm

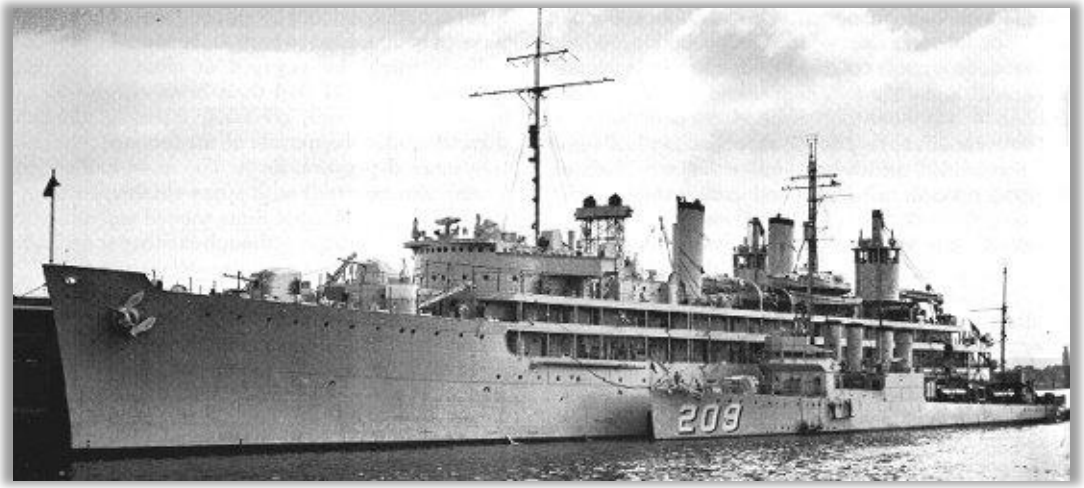
This article is dedicated to all veterans and their families and the sacrifices they have made. Help honor veterans and their families on Nov. 11. Thank you for your service!

Two 1940 Ship Covers

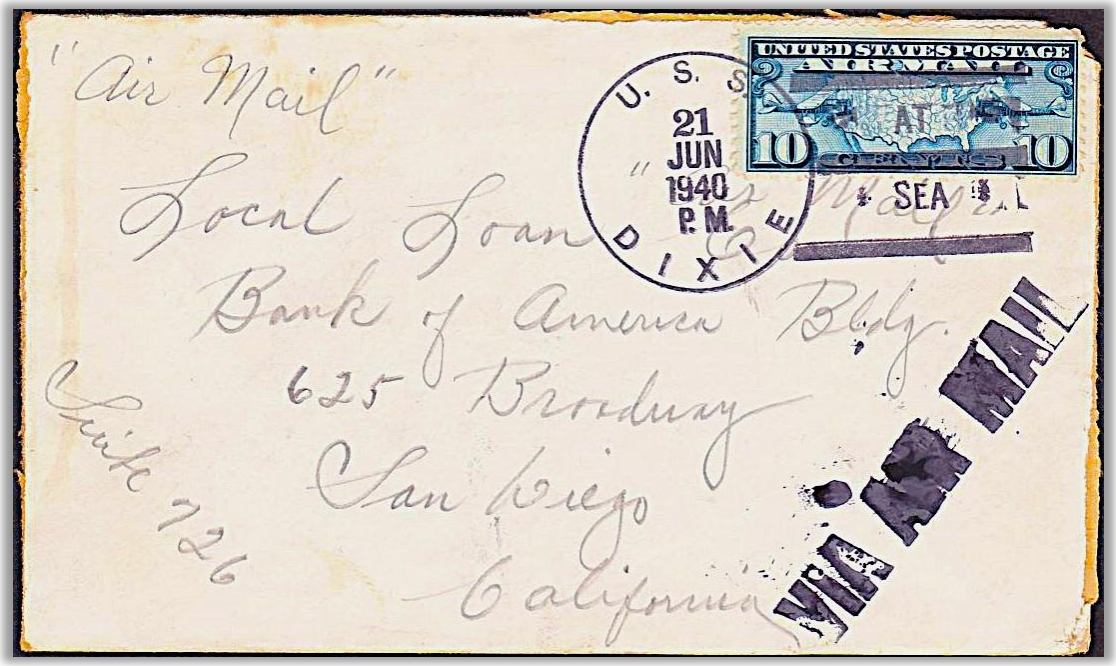
By Patrick Crosby

These two U.S. Naval ship covers show the tie-in and similarities they have with each other. The USS *Dixie* was a destroyer tender, and the USS *Bagley* was a destroyer. Both covers were posted on board via airmail to Local Loan Co. in San Diego, CA, four days apart. Both ships spent time in Pearl Harbor on the island of O'ahu in Hawaii. However, one sailor paid 10¢ postage and the other 20¢ to the same loan company.

The USS *Dixie* was brand new and the first of five *Dixie*-class destroyer tenders. When she was decommissioned in 1982, she was the oldest vessel in the Navy's fleet at the time.



As the photo of USS *Dixie* from 1940 shows, a tender is much larger than a destroyer which at the time were bare bones, but fast and maneuverable. While a group of destroyers escorted larger vessels or when docked, a tender ship operated alongside, restocking the destroyers and having the personnel perform machinery, metal, and navigation instrument repairs. A tender provided fresh water and electricity when a destroyer went "cold iron" for certain repairs.



USS Dixie was built in Camden, NJ and was commissioned April 25, 1940. After trials she was sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on June 20, 1940, and the next day the cover was posted "At Sea" as the postmark shows. Sailing towards the Panama Canal the cover was likely transported to the U.S. Virgin

Islands, and the U.S. territory enjoyed a special 10¢ per ½ ounce airmail postage rate to the continental U.S. and included airmail, if needed, on the mainland.



Four days earlier the second cover was posted on the USS *Bagley* (launched 1936, decommissioned 1946) which was in Pearl Harbor, with the postmark lightly reading "Honolulu T.H." The sailor marks the cover "Clipper Mail," with "Clipper" being a common name for Pan Am's transoceanic routes.

The USS *Bagley* cover also had a special rate from the Territory of Hawaii to mainland U.S., but it was 20¢ per ½ ounce. At the time the airmail rate within the continental U.S. was 6¢ and it wasn't until December 25, 1941, that overseas military personnel were allowed the same domestic airmail rate.

In October 1941 USS *Dixie* sailed for San Diego to tender the destroyers there and so was not in Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack on U.S. ships December 7, 1941. But USS *Bagley* was and immediately began firing on the Japanese dive bombers with some success. Within two hours USS *Bagley* was heading out of the channel for open seas and was not damaged.

References:

Anthony S. Wawrukiewich and Henry W. Beecher, *U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-2011* (Bellefonte, PA: American Philatelic Society, 2011)

En.wikipedia.org, esp. "USS *Dixie* (AD-14)" and "USS *Bagley* (DD-386)"

November Quiz: Columbus Sails … The Mail

By Eric Moody

Columbus Day in October reminded some of us that the Italian-born explorer, who sailed on expeditions for the Spanish Crown between 1492 and 1504, and brought the New World to the awareness of Europe, has been featured on many postage stamps. A number of these, commemorating Christopher Columbus and/or his voyages, are featured in this quiz.

1. This country, where Columbus made his first New World landfall in 1492, was one of many around the world to issue stamps (#640-643) commemorating the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America – although it was done early, in 1988.
   (a) Jamaica (b) Dominican Republic (c) Bahamas (d) Cuba

2. Situated on an island where Columbus landed and established an ill-fated fort with a garrison in 1492, this country produced a set of four commemoratives (#854-857) in 1992, one of which depicts the explorer's party coming ashore.
   (a) Dominican Republic (b) Haiti (c) Dominica (d) Curacao

3. The first U.S. stamps to celebrate Columbus's discovery of America were issued during the year of the Columbian Exposition (World's Fair) in Chicago. The year was
   (a) 1904 (b) 1898 (c) 1892 (d) 1893

4. In 1976 this Caribbean nation, on one of whose islands Columbus landed in 1498, released a stamp (#262) which depicted a painting of the explorer's ships sailing through the Bocas (straits).
   (a) Cayman Islands (b) Curacao (c) Trinidad and Tobago (d) Bahamas

5. This remote Asian country issued a souvenir sheet of two stamps (#2071) in 1992 to commemorate Columbus' discovery of America.
   (a) Nepal (b) Mongolia (c) Kyrgyzstan (d) Brunei

6. The 500th anniversary of the discovery of the Americas was marked in 1992 by the U.S. with the release of a single stamp and two sets. The single, depicting Columbus's first New World landing, was issued to celebrate the World Columbian Stamp Expo of that year; one of the sets replicated the century-old Columbian Exposition set on six souvenir sheets, while the other (#2620-2623) recalled Columbus's
   (a) mainland landings (b) settlements (c) first voyage (d) third voyage

7. Columbus was honored in 1952 by this European country which issued a large set of stamps (#308-319) just after the 500th anniversary of his birth.
   (a) Italy (b) Spain (c) Portugal (d) San Marino

8. Which one of these European countries did not postally celebrate Columbus and his discoveries in 1992?
   (a) France (b) Great Britain (c) Luxembourg (d) Ireland

9. Modern historical research has established that the discovery of the South American mainland by Columbus and the first landing of Europeans on it, by a party of his men, occurred in 1498. The landing was on the coast of what is now this country, which issued a stamp (#136) in 1893 commemorating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the continent's mainland.
   (a) Panama b) Brazil (c) Venezuela (d) Surinam

10. An impressive painting, "Inspiration of Christopher Columbus" by 19th century artist Jose Maria Obregon, was reproduced on a 1992 stamp (#1726) issued by the painter's native country, which is
   (a) Spain (b) Mexico (c) Columbia (d) Cuba

11. In 1930 a set of fifteen stamps (#418-432), a "tribute" to Christopher Columbus, appeared from this country.
   (a) Italy (b) Portugal (c) Venezuela (d) Spain

12. This African nation issued two stamps (#679-680) in 1992 that celebrated Columbus' s discovery of America. They featured depictions of Columbus' fleet, a globe, pre-Columbian artifacts, and fruits and vegetables – but no image of the explorer himself.
   (a) Liberia (b) Burundi (c) Nigeria (d) Morocco

Each correct quiz answer is worth 100 Auction Bucks. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Maggie Griener** at the next in-person meeting or email to: postboyquiz@renostamp.org

October quiz answers: 1. b, 2. c, 3. d, 4. c, 5. c, 6. c, 7. b, 8. a, 9. d, 10. c, 11. b, 12. d.

Buy Want Sell Trade

Members can request an ad to Buy, Want, Sell or Trade philatelic items. Contact the editor.

Buy and Sell - almost anything philatelic and ephemera. This includes stamps, postcards, FDCs, photos and documents of mining, and Western interest. Plus selling philatelic supplies. Contact member **Nadiah Beekun** at (775) 762-4905, http://www.RenoStamps.com or email: classicnevada@yahoo.com.

Buying: Stamp Collections Worldwide & United States, Large or Small Estate. Postal History, Post Cards, Ephemera, Stock Certificates, Checks, Old Business Ledgers and Billheads, Mining Lumber, Staging & Express, Pony Express, California Gold Rush. Photographs 1840's - 1920's, California & Nevada Oil Paintings, anything Rare from California or Nevada History... Contact member **Mark Baker** 530-417-1117 or Email Mark@goldrushpaper.com.

Wanted: Articles for the Post Boy newsletter. How about a short story on some of your favorite items, recent purchases, country, or topic you are working on, etc. Submit article to editor@renstamp.org