

NORTHWEST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS PRESENTS

**THE THIRTY-FOURTH JOHN D. ARN PHILATELIC SYMPOSIUM
AT MOSES LAKE WASHINGTON**

**** Saturday, April 11, 2026 ****

**BEST WESTERN LAKE FRONT INN & CONFERENCE CENTER
MOSES LAKE, WASHINGTON**

The Moses Lake Philatelic Day was established in 1990 by John Arn of the Inland Empire Philatelic Society in Spokane. For over 30 years it has served as a popular gathering of philatelic minded people in the northwest. Good fellowship, and a time to renew friendships and meet collectors with similar interests. We have moved the date to April 11 this year to avoid conflict with Easter weekend.

Once again the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs is supporting the symposium by assisting with the cost of the venue. We will have four speakers for the symposium again this year. As usual, we will have two auctions where participants enter the lots. Sellers pay just one contribution of \$4.00 – there are no other Auction fees for the buyers or sellers.

This complete program is listed on the Federation website: www.nwfedstamps.org

Often we have a little extra time between presentations. Other participants can give short “clothesline” presentations of 5-10 minutes. If willing to do one of these, please indicate on your Registration Form.

I sincerely hope you can help make it a successful event this year.

Jim Hirstein
jhirstein@hotmail.com

FRIDAY EVENING EVENTS (April 10)

Hospitality Room will be at the Best Western Lake Front Inn from 5:30 – 7:00. Wine and snacks will be available. About 7:00, meet at the Super China Buffet, 711 N. Stratford Rd. in Moses Lake, for a **no-host dinner**.

THE MOTEL

The Best Western Lake Front Inn & Conference Center is initially holding a block of rooms at the group rate of \$139.99 per night (plus taxes) for single non-lake view rooms, and \$149.99 (plus taxes) for a double queen, for Friday and Saturday nights. This rate includes a Breakfast Buffet both Saturday and Sunday morning. Call the Lake Front Inn 509-number directly, the Best Western 800-number and website will not have the special rates. Please make motel reservations by March 18, 2026.

**Be sure to identify you are with the “stamps group”
This is the phrase for the reduced rate.**

TWO AUCTIONS

Auction Managers: Tri-Cities Stamp Club, WA
Auctioneer: Mike Zak

AUCTION I – SILENT AUCTION. You may enter as many lots as you want here. Starting price should be around \$3.00. Bidding increments are not applicable. Lots are awarded to the highest bidder at the end of the designated time. **The Silent Auction is scheduled to end at 3:40 p.m.**

AUCTION II – REGULAR FLOOR BID AUCTION. Everyone is urged to enter at least three lots. Additional lots may be entered at the discretion of the auctioneer. Time constraints limit floor lots to not more than 150. Opening bid will be \$3.00 or the sellers stated minimum selling price. Bidding increments will be announced by the auctioneer. **Minimum price, if any, must be stated on the lot card.**

Precautions are taken to safeguard auction lots. Insurance is the responsibility of the seller. The Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, Inland Empire Philatelic Society, the Inland Northwest Philatelic Day Committee, the Best Western Lake Front Inn & Conference Center, their agents, officers, employees, volunteer or paid assistants, or any other person authorized to perform any task in connection with these auctions shall NOT be liable for damage or loss or claim thereof of any kind for any reason whatsoever.

ALL PARTICIPANTS:

1. Please enter material in both auctions.
2. Turn lots over to the Auction Managers during registration.
3. Very, very important! Please have lot identified by catalog reference: Scott, Brookman, or Other (show year of catalog). State the catalog value, use (used, mint, never hinged, etc.), and condition. Add any “unique” information. Complete Data is essential for top price.
4. A non-refundable fee of \$4.00 will be collected regardless of the number of lots entered in either or both auctions. **Total auctions cost is \$4.00 to each participant entering lots.**

REGISTER EARLY – BY TUESDAY, MARCH 17 and you will receive an advance supply of auction lot cards that can be filled out before you arrive at Moses Lake.

**LOT NUMBERS WILL BE ASSIGNED DURING AUCTION REGISTRATION
ON SATURDAY MORNING.**

**FAIL SAFE DIRECTIONS to Best Western Lake Front Inn & Conference Center
3000 Marina Drive, Moses Lake, WA**

On Interstate 90 from the west – Exit 176 W Broadway Ave. As soon as you cross Interstate 90, the Best Western is on the left.

On Interstate 90 from the east – Exit 176. The exit intersects W Broadway Ave and the Best Western is directly in front of you across Broadway.

JOHN D. ARN PHILATELIC SYMPOSIUM – PROGRAM

MOSES LAKE, WASHINGTON

Saturday, April 11, 2026

8:00 A.M. **Philatelic Day Registration – Log in Auction Lots – Renew and Make New Acquaintances – Coffee, Rolls, etc.**

8:50 A.M. **Welcome / Announcements**

9:00 A.M. **Larry Crain – Mystery History Covers**

10:00 A.M. **Clothesline Presentations**

10:15 A.M. **BREAK – Finish Entering Auction Lots and Auction Lot Viewing**

11:00 A.M. **Kristin Patterson – The Story of the US Playing Card Company through their Tax Stamp Uses**

12:30 P.M. **LUNCH**

1:30 P.M. **Vera Felts – The Northern Pacific Railway and its Poster Stamps**

2:30 P.M. **Joe Voice – The April 1926 Startup of Contract Air Mail Route 5**

3:30 P.M. **BREAK – Silent Auction Closes 15 minutes after the last talk**

3:45 P.M. **Registrant's Participation – Clothesline Items or One-Page Showings**

4:15 P.M. **LIVE AUCTION BEGINS**

5:30 P.M. **LIVE AUCTION ENDS – We will try to settle the auctions before dinner**

6:00 P.M. **DINNER – (We often sit and visit after the dinner)**

MEET THE SPEAKERS 2025

Larry Crain – Medford, OR: I collect one country from each continent: US, Colombia, Tannu Tuva, New Zealand, Iceland, and Mozambique Company. Thematically I collect New World archaeology, astronomy, geysers, stamp shapes, etc. I exhibit in local and national shows: mostly vermeils and silver-bronzes. I like doing fun, sometimes outside-the-box exhibits, such as: Around the World in 80 Covers, Are We There Yet?, E for Effort, Rate Change Confusion, February 29, Easter Island, US Post Offices Named El Dorado, Math Quiz, Mystery History Covers, and others to come. I am a member of APS, AAPE, ATA, Copaphil and Southern Oregon Philatelic Society. I am currently editor of the newsletter for the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, president of the Northern California Council of Philatelic Societies, past-president of SOPS, and co-editor of Codex Filatelica (of the now defunct Meso-American Study Unit). I have given presentations in Oregon, California, Nevada, Washington, and Iowa – usually on something having to do with “fun collecting.”

Kristin Patterson – San Jose, CA: My collecting interest started at the age of 10 when I began trading playing cards on the grade school playground in a suburb of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The goal was to acquire playing cards with as many different back designs as possible. About the time my playing card collection reached 800 cards, I discovered that U.S. postage stamps could be collected. Stamp collecting has been an on-and-off hobby since age of 13. In 1998, these two collecting hobbies merged when I discovered that the U.S. Government had issued revenue stamps as a means to cover the tax on playing cards. I have multiple playing cards stamps exhibits. In 2024, my first 10-frame exhibit entitled, *United States Playing Cards Tax Stamps and Uses (1894-1965)* won a Gold Award at ChicagoPex. I have written philatelic articles and given many presentations.

Vera Felts -- Sequim, Wash.: I am a general collector of stamps of the U.S., Canada, Scandinavia and Thailand. And a topical collector of myriad themes. I concentrate primarily on collecting Gastronomy related items but that crosses over into textile handwork, diseases and body parts, UNESCO world heritage, "Veras" on stamps and many other topics too numerous to mention. Originally from rural Illinois, from 2009-2019 I was Executive Director of the American Topical Association (ATA). Prior to that, I did extensive volunteer work for such organizations as the American Philatelic Society, Washington 2006, and the St. Louis Stamp Expo. My "home" local stamp clubs have been the Southern Illinois Stamp Club (15-year newsletter editor) and the Strait Stamp Society. I was selected by *Linn's Stamp News* as one of the 100 Most Influential Philatelists. Known everywhere as the "gingerbread lady" for spearheading holiday fundraisers, and I also have followed in Anne Harris' shoes by keeping Arn Symposium participants well supplied with cookies.

Joe Voice – Pasco, WA: I started collecting and researching stamps about 1996. I soon extended my interest into postal history – in particular, researching Varney Air Lines and collecting associated material from Contract Air Mail routes 5 and 32. After listening to a clothesline presentation on the Varney Airgram given by Howard Ness here at Moses Lake years ago I expanded my Varney Air Lines research and collecting into these. That research resulted in my generation of a design type catalog of the Varney Airgram presented in a three-frame competitive exhibit I've shown at the Willamette Valley Exhibition, PIPEX and SEAPEX. I'm in the process of consolidating the results of my research in these areas into a book entitled *Walter T. Varney, Varney Air Lines and the Varney Airgram*. My other current collecting interests include Greenland postal history, AMG Germany, covers from the 2-cent US Airmail rate period and local bicycle post issues/covers. I continue to enjoy research much more than collecting, leading into philatelic exhibiting starting in 2021. I've written technical articles that have been published in the journal of the Allied Military Government Collectors Club. My research for a US Navy patrol aircraft exhibit produced information correcting and expanding upon previous published information. This new information is being incorporated into the latest revision of the Trans-Oceanic Record Flights section of the American Air Mail Catalogue currently in preparation by the American Air Mail Society.