

# The Cover Story

## Holiday Gathering 2019

There was a nice size crowd of 59 members, spouses and family members present on 12.19.19 for the annual food feast that included hearty giggles and fellowship. The tables were laden with all kinds of foods thanks to the creative nature of the membership of the CFSC. After everyone was fed – the entertainment started. First



up was the acknowledgements of the fourth quarter birthdays – Don DeGraw won the \$10 door prize for his guess of 21 against the pre-selected number of 27. Next up was the recognition of those of the membership that attended the most meetings in 2019. David Zambon, Josh



Furman and James Archbold received a \$10 door prize for attending 21 meetings. Rodney Robertson was given a \$5 lottery ticket simply because he has always been in the group of top attendees but mobility issues

after a fall in the summer restricted his attendance at meetings while he healed.

Moving on to the GLUE Awards, David Zambon, Thomas Lera and Josh Furman were recognized for being runner ups; each received a \$10 door prize. After a process that involved an onion, lime, orange, carambola, coconut and pomegranate (see **picture on front cover**) the 2019 GLUE winners were announced as Mel Borofsky, \$50; David M. Allen, \$20; Phil Fettig, \$20, Robert Fisher, \$10; Newt Kulp, \$10; and A. Stephen Patrick, \$10.

Special thanks to A&R Stamps (Phil and Ann Fettig) for providing the mystery box that was auctioned for \$55 to benefit the treasury of the CFSC. We deeply appreciate your unfaltering support.

Thank you to one and all for playing! See you all for the Holiday Gathering of 2020.

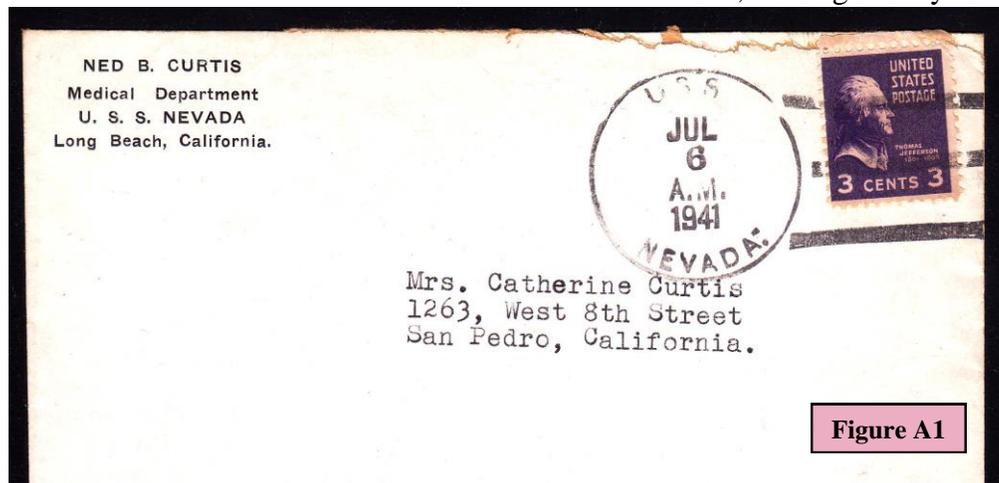
# Mail Home from Pearl Harbor in 1941

by Phil Fetting

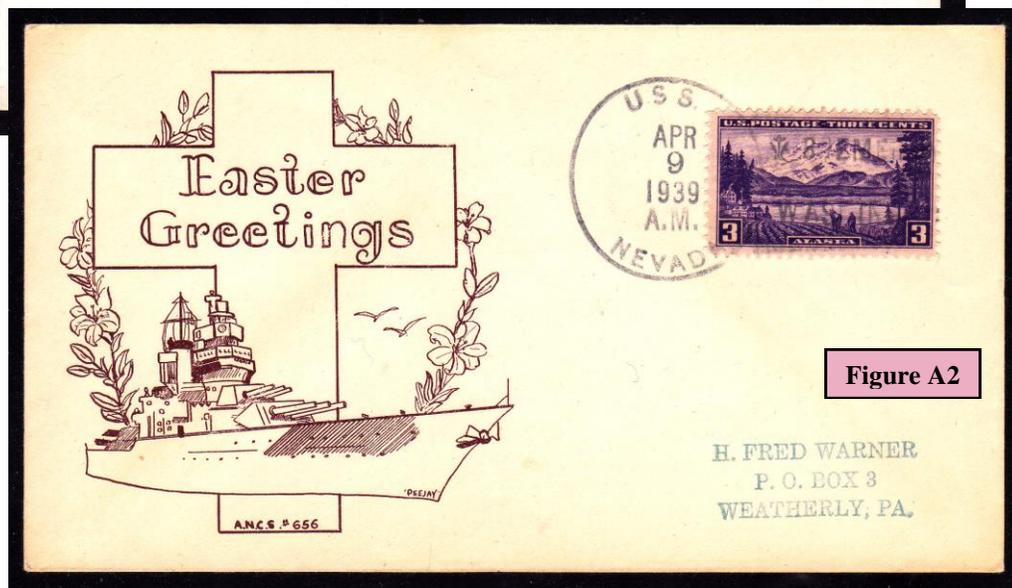
Right off the top I have to say I wish I had the letter that was in **Figure A1**. I obtained this item for a Pearl Harbor attack exhibit. This is a good item, even with the rough edge, because it is not philatelic and has a 1941 date. What makes it a gem in my eyes, is the story that research revealed. I will get to that in a moment, but first, a little history of the Battleship USS NEVADA (BB-36).

Launched in 1914, the NEVADA served in World War I and in the later years both in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans prior to World War II. **Figure A2** is a philatelic Easter cover from the NEVADA with a Scott 800, the Alaska Territory issue for postage. On December 7, 1941 the NEVADA was moored a short distance from the USS ARIZONA when the attack started. The NEVADA, although hit by a bomb and possible torpedo was able

to get underway and attempted to leave the harbor before she was run aground to keep from sinking and blocking the channel.



Now we get to Pharmacist's Mate Second Class Ned Curtis, an enlisted man who was trained in medical matters. Ordered to help evacuate a damaged part of the ship, Curtis climbed a tall mast while planes were strafing and, ignoring orders from a wounded officer, placed him in a stretcher and, with help, lowered him 3 deck levels to safety. During this effort Curtis was severely burned and had to be evacuated.



Pharmacist's Mate Curtis was awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest military award for his actions.

After repairs the NEVADA served in WWII including the recapture of locations in Alaska (Remember the Scott 800), Normandy, Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Japan. She survived efforts to sink her as a target in the July 1946 Bikini Atomic Test. In a final twist of irony, the USS NEVEDA was used as a practice target and sunk July 8, 1948, by U.S. Navy torpedoes and gunfire.....off the island of Hawaii.

This cover did not quite fit into an article I was writing regarding letters to and from home during World War II. However, please watch the February and March issues of the *Philatelic Missive* for the "Rest of the Story".