



Stamp Chatter

Volume 34
No.3 - W 242

May/June

Visit www.penpex.org for online color version of this newsletter.

New PENPEX/Sequoia/Peninsula Website

If you haven't heard, there is a new Website address for our club and information about Penpex at www.penpex.org. We hope that you take a few moments to look it over.

On the site you'll find out the latest about Penpex and then each club has its own section.

Under Sequoia you will find the club schedule and list of good links to philatelic web sites. There is also the Kid's

club schedule and information on there.

One interactive features we are developing is a newsletter you can subscribe too. There is a link on the left hand side of the home page to join the Penpex newsletter. Its free and private – we won't give out your address to anyone. Once we begin, you'll get a monthly reminder of meetings coming up and information about Penpex. So check out the site today.

Meeting Notes From Darlene

February 25, 2003



New Issue Celebrating the Louisiana Purchase

Meeting called to order by President Ed Rodriguez at 8:03 PM

Discussion: Reading of minutes from last meeting deferred. Minutes are available for members to read

Old Business: No old business

New business:

President Ed is starting a new Youth Club Committee.... stay tuned!
President Ed also is in need of a Program Chair that I think Larry volunteered for.

Fritz told the club that Seig is doing pretty well but they won't operate on him. Paul also saw him about a week ago and said he looked well.
John mentioned to the club that John Moore's wife passed away. Our sympathies certainly go out to the family.

Table of Contents

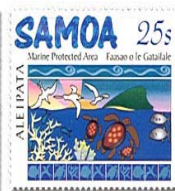
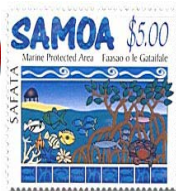
1	Headline Article Meeting Notes
2	Online Philately Classic Issues New Issues
3-4	Meeting Notes
5	Did you know — facts from the world of stamps.
6	Peninsula Page Stamps-R-Us
7	Penpex Caboose

Upcoming Meetings

May 13	Live Auction
May 27	Open
June 10	Tony DeAngelis Italian States
June 24	Video

Online Philately

New Zealand Post 



One of the best country Web sites for collectors is the New Zealand Post site at www.nzpost.co.nz/. There are plenty of pictures and background information on current and past NZ issues. The site itself is very easy to navigate and ordering is easy — I've personally ordered on this site a number of times and received stamps within 10 days. The exchange rate also makes buying direct a good deal. NZ also serves as the distributor for a number of small South Pacific Island, including: Vanuatu, Tonga, Pitcairn, Samoa and Niue, as well as distributing stamps for the Ross Dependency and Hong Kong. If you collect South Pacific Island stamps — this is a great destination to visit.

New Issues



This year celebrates the centennial of the first flight of the Wright brothers in December of 2003. Many countries will be celebrating this tremendous technological breakthrough with commemorative issues.

Pictured here is the UN commemorative of that event. To commemorate the centenary of first flight, UNPA is issuing for the first time a tête-bêche stamp in the denominations of 23 cents and 70 cents. A tête-bêche stamp is a pair of stamps connected together with one right side up, the other upside down. When the two stamps are combined, a full rotation of a propeller in motion can be seen. The tête-bêche stamp was designed by Robert Stein (United Nations).

<http://www.wrightstories.com/index1.html>

<http://www.centennialofflight.gov>

Classic Stamps

Mauritius was the first British colony and the fifth country in the world to issue postage stamps. The definitive issues from 1860 onwards, notably the Queen's head and Arms types, are some of the rarest of stamps



in the world — only 26 pieces survive, 12 of 1 Penny cancelled and 2 mint, and 6 of Two Pence cancelled and 6 mint. The estimated value of each of these stamps is over 1 million US Dollar. <http://www.stampsmauritius.com/Stamps.htm>



Cover on the left: The 1847 Post Office Mauritius envelope is also known as the Ball Cover since the envelopes contained invitations to a ball hosted by the wife of the island's Governor.

February 25, 2003 cont.

Paul will soon have a list of members available.

Ken who applauded it visited our web site. Everyone should take a look, it is very nice. Darlene passed around the sympathy letter for the Swonger Family so everyone could sign it before mailing.

Darlene also mentioned that she still has calendars for sale.

Hank said that the Board decided not to have a Penpex show but wants the Sequoia Club to seed the money for a one-day show on June 22nd. The first Executive meeting the bourse will be discussed as well as communication needs.

We had a thrilling expertizing session where we thought Mitch had a \$11,000 find but Bill said he thought someone went scissors happy. Oh well Mitch, maybe next time.

Expertizers were Ed Rodriguez, Bill Dutcher and Jim Mosso. Forgive me if I missed anyone. Thank you all.

Silent auction started at 8:30pm

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Herb won 1st prize - \$10 certificate

Chris won 2nd prize - \$5 certificate

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

March 11, 2003

Meeting called to order by President Ed Rodriguez at 8:00 PM

Discussion: Reading of minutes from last meeting deferred. Minutes are available for members to read.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Our Club voted for Janet Klug for APS President

Hank volunteered for the Publicity Committee

Ed has a video on the Airmail Story. He may not be back from Hawaii in time for the next meeting so needs a volunteer to be

March 11, 2003 cont.

guardian of the movie and show it at the next meeting. Larry volunteered. Thank you Larry!

Paul said that Tom Klein is doing okay and might be moving to Kansas.

Larry made a comment that his sheet is not filling up with presentations for the meetings. He passed the sign-up sheet around again.

Larry also asked for a show of hands for those in favor of the annual BBQ. Miriam is going to find out if we can have it at her condo facility.

Darlene asked for a show of hands of those going to Westpex in April. She wanted to know if anyone wanted to carpool. Jose said that the trip to Westpex should be better on Sunday – both for parking and sales.

John Inglis gave us a list of new APS members that live in the area so we can invite them to our Club. The secretary will do the honors.

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Stu Phillips: \$10 certificate

Fritz Gelb: \$5 certificate

President Ed handed out the quiz with 16 questions on it. Most of the prizes went to those with between 7-12 correct.

Auction ended

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

March 25, 2003

Meeting called to order by President Ed Rodriguez at 8:02 PM

Discussion: Reading of minutes from last meeting deferred. Minutes are available for members to read.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Ed announced that the Executive Board Meeting will be held at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room in our building.

The Swonger family sent a nice thank you note acknowledging our sympathy letter.

Pres Ed was reminded that we didn't do anything for our Past President Paul, so Ed

March 25, 2003 cont.

gave him a T.P.O. packet which Tony found (somewhere). He said that he didn't have that one so was very pleased with the selection.

Ken introduced a guest from Oregon – Bud McLellan. We also had 2 other guests attend – Eve Santos and Michael Manas. Welcome to all and we are happy they attended.

Paul brought in boxes of supplements for the youth club to check so invited the entire club to go through them. Thank you Paul.

Darlene gave a briefing on the Youth Club and said that until the membership grows the Stamps R Us Club will meet monthly. The library has given approval for the change in the schedule. The revised schedule has also been given to Sequoia High School for the Senior Volunteer Program. Darlene will also be working on posting the monthly meeting with online calendars and newspapers/newsletters.

If anyone would like an establishment to be notified give Darlene the address and she will send them a schedule.

Ed Bierman brought in some underwater pictures to share that he took with his new underwater digital camera. They were really nice. If anyone wants to talk scuba talk to Ed.

The video on the Airmail Story was started and lasted about 45 minutes. Really interesting and informative video.

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Dar won the \$10 raffle and was so excited she missed who won the \$5 to put in the minutes (sorry).

Auction ended

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

April 8, 2003

Meeting called to order by President Ed Rodriguez at 8:00 PM

Discussion: Reading of minutes from last meeting deferred. Minutes are available for members to read.

Old Business: No old business.

April 8, 2003 cont.

New Business

Ed announced that the Newsletter should be on schedule soon. Paul and Ed Bierman have been talking.

Summer picnic vote was taken and quite a few members are in favor of the picnic. A date of July 26 or 27 was suggested. Also suggested by Jim Mosso (I believe) was that we charge a \$5.00 fee as a show of faith on attending the picnic. Kristin volunteered to coordinate the picnic. Thank you Kristin.

Chris Christiansen talked about the member bourse or flea market that we used to have and would like to have again. A date of August 12th was suggested or January 27th was also suggested. The Club decided to call it the flea market.

Our secretary handed over a check to Pres Ed to explain that the check in the amount of \$300 was given to our club from PENPEX as a show of a job well done. Thank you PENPEX. Peninsula Club also received \$300 from PENPEX.

Chris Thompson told us that his neighbor has Alheimers and an adult went into his house under the pretense of helping him and stole stamps, coins, etc. Chris just wanted to be aware of people like this. RATS.

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Aldo won the \$10 raffle

Jim Giacomazzi won \$5 raffle

Miriam gave her presentation on framing after a short break. It was really a nice presentation and Miriam is certainly talented. Thank you Miriam for showing us what we can do with some of our prized possessions. She even handed out a card for 10% off at Corners where she works.

Auction ended

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Did you know?

— interesting facts, humor and stories from the world of stamps

The History of U.S. Postcards

The official figures from the U.S. Post Office for the fiscal year ending June 1908 showed that nearly 680 million postcards were mailed that year in the U.S.? That was at a time when the total population of the U.S. was only 89 million. While collecting postcards is still a popular hobby (deltiology), few realize how important they were at the beginning of the 20th Century. Before wide spread use of the telephone, the postcard was the most convenient way for people to quickly communicate with one another.

During the next couple of issues of the *Chatter*, we'll take a look at the development and use of postcards in U.S. postal history.

Pre-Postcard Era, Pre-1898

Due to government regulations concerning the use of privately printed cards in the mail, postcards, as we know them, were a long time in developing. The direct ancestor were envelopes printed with pictures on them. Envelopes printed with comics, Valentines and music were common themes. During the Civil War, *Patriotic Covers*, were extremely popular.

The first postal type card in this country was privately printed by J.P. Carlton and H.L. Lipman. The "Lipman Postal Card", as we now call them, had a blank front for writing messages and the back was inscribed with three lines—one with their patent mark, the other two for addressing and stamping. They advertised their product as a cheaper way to send rapid correspondence at half the price of paper. Lipman cards disappeared after 1873, when the U.S. government introduced Government Postals.



An example of a Lipman Postal Card. Next time — the Pioneer Era, 1870-1898

Call for Articles

If you have an interesting story, essay or cartoon that you would like to share with the *Chatter*, please send it to me for inclusion in our newsletter. This page is meant for others to share their knowledge and love of the hobby with others. Stories or articles should be between 200 to 400 words.

I prefer an electronic copy, via e-mail to, ed@biermans.com, or you can also give me a hard copy to scan.

The *Chatter* reserves the right to edit or reject any material sent to it.

Sequoia Officers

President: Ed Rodriguez
Vice President: Ed Bierman
Secretary: Darlene Hickok
Treasurer: Richard Griffone

Stamp Chatter Staff

Editor: Ed Bierman
Distribution: Paul Swierstra

Peninsula Club



The Peninsula Stamp Club meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM , with the exception of one month off for summer and one month off for Christmas. We meet at the Villa Cafe, 4000 S. El Camino, San Mateo. This is a dinner meeting with a charge of \$15, and is followed by an invited speaker. The topics are selected to include as many aspects of philately as possible. The meeting is open to all whether or not the person is a member of the club. However, membership is encouraged.

It is helpful to have information as to who will be attending. For contacting or additional information use 650 343-5195 or e-mail at labpath@aol.com. Paul Ortega and Vesma Grinfelds are officers who are available for assistance. Our club has been a member of the American Philatelic Society for over 50 years, and we are most interested in its success.

Stamps R Us Notes

'Stamps R Us' is the youth program of the Sequoia Stamp Club — it's purpose to promote the love of stamp collecting to youth in our area.

The Youth/Beginners Club is now meeting once a month at Schaberg Library from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Darlene will be there setting up at 2:00pm. Letters about the Youth/Beginners Club have been sent to a few Boy Scout addresses and quite a few Senior Centers. This will be an ongoing process. Please give Darlene any addresses that you would like to see receive information about the Youth and Beginners Club.



2003 Commemorative Issue:
Pelican Island National Wildlife
Refuge

The budget has been passed for this year and we will revisit the Youth/Beginner Program after 1 year to see if we want to continue with the effort.

Sadly enough only 1 youth member attended the club meeting and won a prize for keeping me company. We had a visitor from the Redwood Church Bible School. He is running an educational stamp program for students to find stamps from missionary countries. He needed a few stamps, which I gladly let him look for. If any student wants to further his/her stamp hobby he will certainly send them our way.

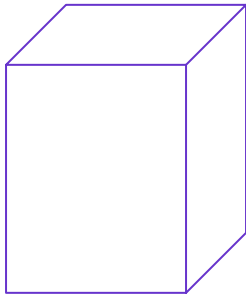
When Ed gets the Youth Committee formed I hope we will be able to spread the word faster about the Stamps R Us Youth Club and expand our membership. We are still in need of members to give a presentation or show-and-tell session. It doesn't have to be long. In fact, short sessions are best. Talk to Darlene to sign up. If any of you need more cards, let me know. I hope you all are still passing them out to youth and families.

Submitted by Darlene Hickok, Youth Chairman

The Caboose

Let's think Outside the box on this one!

Do You know of a stamp store, vendor, stamp supplier, etc. who should be at our Penpex 2003 bourse?



Let us know! We'll contact them for you!

Maybe, you'd like to see Ebay at our bourse. Just give us the contact info and we'll check it out for you.

Call Tony de Angelis with any great ideas! 347-1630



Old Glory picture postal cards.
Available April 3rd, Five .23 cards in sets of 20.



Officers

Co-Chairs — Tony De Angelis & Ed Rodriguez
Vice-Chair — Darlene Hickok
Secretary/Treasurer — Hank Washauer

Activity Chairs

Program & Mailing List — Ed Bierman
Set-up — Larry Christiansen
Bourse — Tony De Angelis
Registration Desk — Darlene & Hank
Exhibits — Vesma Grinfelds
Youth Center — Kristen Patterson
Awards — Paul Ortega
Judges — Martin Feibusch
Seminars — Ed Rodriguez
Cachets/Cancel — Miriam Thurston
Banquet — Mary Tomson/
David Hodgson
Public Relations — Hank Washauer/
Tony De Angelis
Silent Auction — Jim Mosso
Snack Bar — Fritz Gelb

New U.S. Issues — May to June

May 4 — Audrey Hepburn
Commemorative

May 22 — First Powered Flight
Centennial

June 13 — Southeast Lighthouses, Five
stamps in commemorative pane of 20

June-July — "Presorted First-Class"
American Eagle, definitive 10k roll

Penpex
PO Box 235
San Carlos, CA 94070

* * * * *
* Don't forget to *
* invite a friend to a *
* meeting. *
* Visit us at: *
* Wwww.penpex.org *
* E-mail editor: *
* ed@biermans.com *
* * * * *

And finally.....



Because of patriotic fervor over the last year, demand for the flag coil issue has bypassed what stamps have been produced by the U.S. To meet the demand, *Stamp Collector* reported on April 21, 2003 that the Banknote Corp. of American has received an order to produce 10 million coil rolls of 100 of the .37 Flags. The one pictured here is the current design and it isn't known how the new version will differ when it is produced

Other stamps with patriotic themes have been planned already for 2003. In February, a .37 flag definitive in ATM pane of 18 was issued. On April 3, a prestige booklet of 20 .37 stamps (5 designs) was issued. This series depicts Uncle Sam, Fan, Election Ribbon, Star-Spangled Banner Sampler and Lady Liberty. (see page 7)