

# Stamp Chatter

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Newsletter of the Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City

## From the President

The American Philatelist ran an article in their March issue written by Ada M. Prill titled "What's It Really Worth?" What caught my eye was the quote..."Value your collection for the pleasure it gives you, not for what someone else would pay for it and your hobby will reward you well." When I was a youngster, every kid in the neighborhood collected bubble gum cards. The most popular were usually baseball and football cards. We all thought we were collecting them, but in reality we mainly used them in a game locally called "flipping cards," a mild form of gambling. If you won, you were collecting: if you lost, you were merely rearranging your collection. When collecting baseball cards became all the rage three decades later I could have kicked myself for not having saved instead of gambling the cards away. (There's a moral here somewhere.)

The interesting part of having collected stamps for some fifty odd years is that, unlike the baseball cards, I enjoy the visual impact of a well organized philatelic collection. (Mine or someone else's). I appreciate the enthusiasm and pride the collector places in their hobby. Mostly I get engrossed in the historic, topical, artistic, and sometimes intangible values shown in their display.

I think we have that richness of diversity right within the Sequoia Club. Speakers we've had for programs and the exhibitors at shows like PENPEX are a strong indication that their collections are valued less for monetary reasons and more for any number of the other, personal reasons. I invite all of our members to share their collecting interests with other club members. Program time slots will be made available for all who care to share their interest with the rest of us.

By the way, I would have sold the baseball cards early on in the "craze phase" because the only pleasure they gave me was monetary.

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## Upcoming Meetings

5/11	Council/APS — Hank
5/25	Other Hobby Night
6/8	Live Auction
6/22	Video: Mexico 1914, Denver Eagle
7/13	Kiloware
7/23	Identification of Unknown Stamps

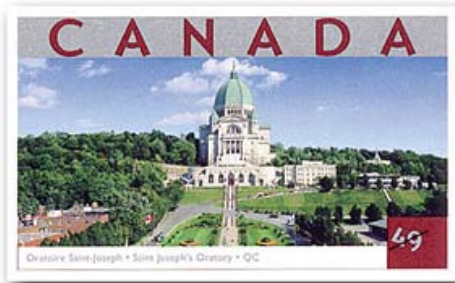


American Choreographers: This pane of 20 stamps honors four extraordinary choreographers — George Balanchine, Martha Graham, Agnes de Mille and Alvin Ailey.

# Going from a stamp collection to a stamp collector

The following is from portions of an interesting article on the Linn's Web site. By Michael Baadke

To start a stamp collection all you need is a stamp. You can find one on your daily mail, pick one up at the post office, or buy one from a stamp dealer. But are you a stamp collector? Michael Baadke offers the following as ways someone moves from a collection to being a collector:



## 1. Accumulate

Most collectors aren't content with just the stamps that they have at home. Being a collector is a continual looking for that item on his/her "want list." It will give you focus in looking for the stamps that you want.



## 2. Protect

How should you store your stamps? Protecting your collection is an important part of enjoying your stamps for many years. Stamps are fragile, and the collectible value of stamps depends upon them being undamaged. Glassine envelopes, stock books, album pages and cover protectors are important steps in protecting your collection.

## 3. Organize

One of the most fun tasks, in the editors opinion, is organizing your stamp collection. An organized collection leads the collector toward a finished presentation, such as a stamp album or exhibit pages. Selecting a method of organization again depends on the type of collection. One collector may choose to keep together all stamps from a single country. A topical collector may disregard the country of origin and, instead, keep together stamps that show common elements in the design. Thinking of creative ways to show off your stamps can be an exciting part of the hobby as a collector.

## 4. Study

Finally, learning about the stamps you collect will help you in all other areas of the hobby, including the accumulation of stamps, and protecting and organizing your collection. It is probably the single most important distinction that separates someone who collects stamps and a stamp collector who takes the time to become an expert in the items that he/she collections. In addition to the education value of studying your collection, a collector is able to make better decisions about buying stamps or making an exhibit. You can increase your knowledge of the stamps and covers you collect by reading general philatelic publications (like Linn's Stamp News), specialized catalogs, books about stamps and covers, and journals from stamp societies.

Michael Baadke finishes by saying, "Stamp collecting goes much deeper than the simple accumulation of stamps. It is a process that involves the care and study of stamps, to preserve them for future collectors, and to share information that all stamp collectors can use."

[http://www.linns.com/howto/refreshers/buildcollection\\_19980413/refreshercourse.asp](http://www.linns.com/howto/refreshers/buildcollection_19980413/refreshercourse.asp)

## Stamp Meeting Notes

### February 10, 2004

Called to order: President Ed Rodriguez at 8 p.m.

Meeting Notes:

Correction to December 9, 2003 Minutes

**Error:** Newsletter stated that the Saturday Night dinner was not well received.

**Corrected:** Newsletter should be corrected to state that some attendees were not happy with the beef and/or the portions of their meal. Others were happy with the camaraderie and meals. David and Mary from the Peninsula Club did a great job coordinating the banquet.

Jack Drach was re-introduced as a returning member. Welcome back Jack!

President Ed asked for a moment of silence in memory of Bernie Abrams who passed away on January 31, 2004. Bernie's obituary was passed around for members to read. Ed Rodriguez mentioned that Bernie was a magician as well as a philatelist. General Patton called upon him to perform during the war. Great man – he will be missed.

Hank suggested that Sequoia Club and PENPEX split the cost of the flowers for Bernie. It was motioned and seconded to split the cost.

President Ed talked about the brainstorming list from last August. We will re-address the list at a later meeting.

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 7pm is the next Executive Board Meeting.

Kristen Patterson mentioned that she thought the kiloware program had a few flaws with the way it was being handled so Ed Rodriguez will change some things like make little boxes available at different tables that can be traded around.

Larry Christensen said that there are a few slots open for club events. Some suggestions were –

expert partners, question/answer session, have the post office come in or invite other clubs to expertise.

Ed Rodriguez played auctioneer for our live auction. We had 39 lots, 11 sellers, total sales \$218.00 with the club taking in \$30.80.

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Sorry the secretary missed this important feature

### February 24, 2004

Called to order: President Ed Rodriguez at 8 p.m.

Meeting Notes:

The meeting was started by members introducing themselves and what their collecting interests are.

Ed Rodriguez summarized what was discussed in the Executive Board meeting. The Secretary has a copy of the minutes if any one would like to read it.

The Chatter Newsletter was passed around and will be mailed to those not present at the club.

Another kiloware is planned for July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Ed Bierman started his presentation on private mailing cards. Another great Sequoia Stamp Club event. Nice job Ed! Very informative.

Silent auction ended and 9:00pm

Raffle of circuit book certificates:

Ken Kunz won 1<sup>st</sup> raffle \$10.00

Jose Lopez won 2<sup>nd</sup> raffle \$5.00

### March 9, 2004

Called to order: President Ed Rodriguez at 8 p.m.

Meeting Notes:

Hank Washauer reported as Chairman of Publicity that we are still listed in the San Mateo Times.

Ed Rodriguez explained that the kiloware boxes that are spread around sell for 5c each. Money from that goes to Rich Griffone, Treasurer.

Short meeting due to Ed Rodriguez having to go home to tend to his wife, Sue. She had surgery and is doing well.

**March 23, 2004**

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

Meeting Notes:

Hank Washauer reported that the board meeting went well. Everything looks good for PENPEX.

Articles for the Chatter needs to be submitted to Ed Bierman ([ed@biermans.com](mailto:ed@biermans.com)), snail mail to 4000 Farm Hill Blvd. #112, Redwood City CA 94061 or you can give your article to the secretary to mail for you.

Paul Swierstra asked if everyone received the last Chatter. He has extra's so pick one up at the meeting or let him know and he will mail one to you.

The Club picnic was discussed and Miriam Thurston will find out if the clubhouse at her complex will be available for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in July. She will let us know.

Raffle of circuit book certificates:  
Jack Drach won 1<sup>st</sup> raffle \$10.00  
Jose Lopez won 2<sup>nd</sup> raffle \$5.00

Kristin Patterson gave a wonderful presentation called "Due to the Civil War". It certainly peeked my interest in revenues. Once again, another great event by a Sequoia Stamp Club member.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Darlene Hickok, Club Secretary



**New May/June U.S. Issues**

Lewis & Clark  
Isamu Noguchi  
National WWII Memorial  
American Choreographers  
Summer Olympic Games  
American Toleware  
Wilma Rudolph  
Harriton House postal card  
USS Constellation

**Stamp Show Calendar**

**May 7-9  
WESTPEX**

San Francisco Airport Marriott,  
1800 Old Bayshore Highway,  
Burlingame.  
Contact Edward Jarvis,  
[ejarvis@westpex.com](mailto:ejarvis@westpex.com);  
[www.westpex.com](http://www.westpex.com);  
415-387-1016

The inverted Jenny is landing in San Francisco at WESTPEX 2004. Be sure to see the special exhibit of the APRL copy of inverted Jenny.

You will find the 44 year tradition of 300 frames of international exhibits, a team of renowned judges, 70+ dealers from around the world, meetings and seminars on every facet of philately, plus the world famous sights of San Francisco.



## 1904 St. Louis World's Fair

The Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 was by all accounts the most beautiful, educational and exciting of all the international exhibitions of global culture ever presented. The world was at peace and technology promised a future beyond all imagination. 62 nations and 43 states brought their treasures and their civilizations to St. Louis to display and demonstrate humanity's advancements since the Louisiana Purchase.



Built on over 1,200 acres in the heart of St. Louis, it was the largest fair ever held. With its immense architecture, broad boulevards, curved bridges and landscaped water vistas, the beauty of the Fair was unmatched! For 7 months in the summer of 1904, the city of St. Louis became the "World's University." The Fair offered its students an opportunity to learn first hand about the wonders and the cultures far removed from their everyday lives.

Cities at the turn of the century were expanding quickly, but not always in a structured, logical manner. The Fair was designed to demonstrate a model urban community of the future. The layout of this miniature city was carefully planned into different zones, each with a specific purpose. The Fair had limitless educational opportunities, little to no crime and an almost constant state of celebration. It truly became an ideal, utopian society.

The Fair planners celebrated a glorious past, acknowledged the accomplishments of the present and offered a glimpse into the possibilities of the future. The people of St. Louis put everything they had into celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase, and the result was the most spectacular World's Fair ever created.



Check out: <http://www.tlaupp.com/>



### Sequoia Officers

**President:** Ed Rodriguez  
**V-President:** Jim Giacomazzi  
**Secretary:** Darlene Hickok  
**Treasurer:** Richard Griffone

### Stamp Chatter Staff

**Editor:** Ed Bierman  
**Distribution:** Paul Swierstra

# Peninsula Club Page



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](mailto: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

### March 23, 2004

Schaberg Library is closed. Haven't been able to find a spot to meet yet.

I have received a few emails regarding the youth club and have mailed information out to them. They are anxious to come for a visit.

I mailed packets out to our existing youth members from the APS All Star Stamp Club in which they are automatically enrolled as a member.

~Darlene



## The Caboose

I found a copy of a “Guide To The Grading of United States Postage Stamps” floating around someplace (stamp periodicals are always floating around). It is issued by PSE (a division of Collectors Universe-NASDAQ:CLCT) and I quote:

“In 2001, Professional Stamp Experts presented to the philatelic community a grading system for United States Postage Stamp. It was both bold, and controversial. For the first time, all attributes of a stamp-centering, soundness and eye appeal-were incorporated it not a single grading model, and a method for arriving at a single net grade for a stamp was outlined.

In the ensuing two years, we have discussed our model with many of the nation’s leading dealers and collectors. We have examined and graded over 20,000 stamps, and carefully observed where our system worked, and where improvements were needed. If there were inconsistencies we made changes.

In the spring of 2002, we began publishing the *Stamp Market Quarterly*, later, we noted the advent of *The Scott Valuing Supplement* that utilized a similar format to list prices for stamps in six grades. It has been a productive couple of years.

The spring and summer of 2003 has witnessed an expanding interest and discussion of the subject of grading. Why this is happening is obvious. A consistent, logical and understandable grading system is both needed by the market and long overdue.

This booklet will examine the why and how of U.S. stamp grading, and present our current model for fairly and for fairly and impartially evaluating single U.S. stamps and coil pairs.



We do not at present grade pairs or blocks of sheet stamps, and coil pairs. We do not a present grade pairs or blocks of sheet stamps, coil strips of three or more stamps, covers, proofs or essays. As in the past, we remain open to input and constructive criticism from the philatelic community.”

If space permits we will print more of these educational articles so you can prepare for the Silent Auction in the future.

For more information visit:  
<http://www.psestamp.com/>



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## New Canadian Issue Honors Hardware



The editor thought this was an “interesting” topic for a stamp. Canada issued an interesting brightly red stamp honoring local hardware stores around the country. Issued on April 19, 2004, Canada Post commemorates the 40th anniversary of the founding of Home Hardware. Home Hardware's pride as a Canadian company is depicted on the stamp through the use of the Canadian map, which displays every Home Hardware location and demonstrates the company's national scope. The company remains the country's only 100% Canadian, dealer-owned and operated major retailer.

We can only hope that Home Depot will be so honored someday!

