

# UnHinged...by Ree Lee Fun

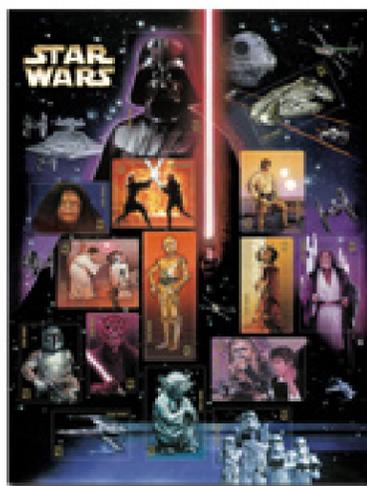


"My, my, darling, how many catalogue numbers did Scott change this year?"



"What kind of a vacation spot is this? There isn't a stamp collector in sight!"

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# StampChatter

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2007

Newsletter of the Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City

## From the President

I just received the following item in the mail. Enclosed was a "Save the Date" refrigerator magnet. My wife and I are very excited that my son and his fiancée have planned their wedding for June. What caught my eye was the stamp that they used. It was a personalized stamp from stamps.com on the Internet. Kristin Patterson used this same site to create the 49er cachet that was used for Penpex.

My son and his fiancée used a very romantic picture to put on the stamp that is very appropriate for a wedding announcement.



This cover will make a nice addition to my "Family Philately" collection.

When I first began collecting stamps many years ago, most of my United States used stamps came from the mail received by family, friends, and neighbors. I would tear off the nicely canceled and interesting commemorative stamps, soak them off the envelope, sort them, and place them in my album. That is almost impossible today. The mail that comes to my house is almost always franked by meters or bulk rate coils. The few commemoratives I receive are sent to me by my wife's mother in Maryland. I buy her a sheet of commemorative stamps, and she uses them on her letters to us. When I do find an interesting stamp, I often find that the postman has used a ballpoint or felt tip pen to obliterate the stamp. (See below) I save them for my topical collection entitled "Thank You Mr. Postman." So much for a philatelic friendly US Postal Service!



Jim Giacomazzi  
President, Sequoia Stamp Club

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## Upcoming Meetings

**May 8**  
New Zealand-Special  
and Joint Issues  
Fritz Gelb

**May 22**  
Film Night

**June 12**  
Live Auction

**June 26**  
Pizza Party  
Mountain Mike's  
Belmont

**July 10**  
Talk to Me?  
Miriam Thurston

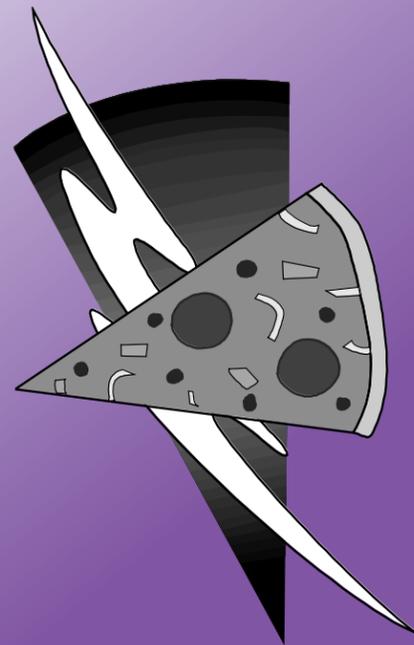
**July 24**  
PTPO  
Austrian Postal Stationery  
Jim Sauer

## It's All Happening at... Sequoia Stamp Club



## Free Pizza Meeting

Tuesday, June 26 2007  
 Mountain Mike's  
 "Pizza The Way It Oughtabe"  
 120 El Camino Real  
 Redwood City  
 A Couple Of Blocks  
 North of Whipple Avenue  
 6PM  
 This Will Be Our Regular Meeting



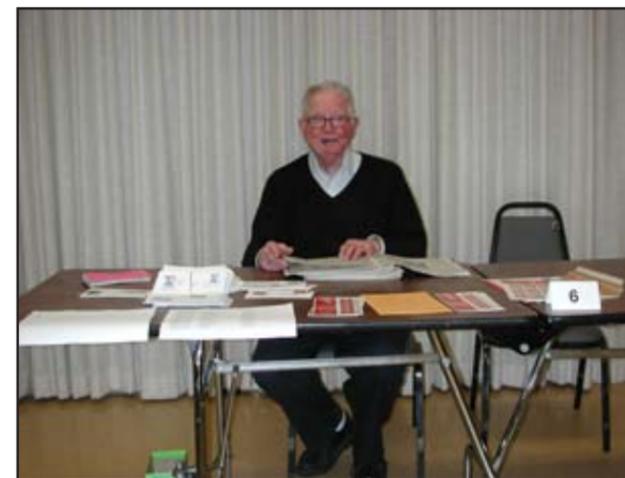
## PENPEX 2007

With all projects, there are busy times and there are slow times. At the moment with the show 7 months away for most of the PENPEX volunteers, it is a slow time. Since it is a good time to do planning, it means that we can be thinking of new ideas that will improve our show. And any show can always be improved upon.

Let me think out loud for a moment. We hold the show in December which is the rainy season in Northern California. Does the rain discourage people from attending? Or do more people attend because their outdoor plans are canceled? Either way people do come. So could we make a more pleasant experience for the attending people by offering an "umbrella" serve? Where we would walk people to their cars under big umbrellas so they do not get wet and thereby their stamps get home safely? This is a terrible experience that I have dealt with first hand. But fortunately, my car has heat and both my stamps and I did dry out with only a few wrinkles (on the stamps!)

I am not saying that an "umbrella" service will happen but if the idea is never brought to our attention, then it definitely will never happen. So I would like to hear your ideas as small or as big as they are. They might lead to the next best thing since sliced bread.

Kristin Patterson  
 PENPEX Chairperson



*Hank Washauer helping to sell covers, stamps and cachets from PENPEX at the Swap Meet.*

## The Caboose



### PENPEX COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Kristin Patterson
Vice-Chairperson	Ernie Lee
Secretary	Darlene Hickok
Treasurer	Bill Dutcher
Sequoia Pres.	Ed Rodriguez
Peninsula Pres.	Paul Ortega
Program/Graphics	Ed Bierman
Mailing List	Paul Swierstra
Facility	Kristin Patterson
Setup	Eduardo Martino
Bourse	Kristin Patterson
Registration Desk	Ernie Lee
Youth Center	Darlene Hickok
Exhibits	Vesma Grinfelds
Frames	Fritz Gelb
Seminars	Ed Rodriguez
Cachet Program	Hank Washauer Miriam Thurston
Silent Auction	Jim Mosso
Snack Bar and Dealer Lunches	Jim Gaicomazzi
Banquet	Darlene Hickok
Security/Insurance	Bill Dutcher
Welcome Area	Ernie Lee

## Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries - Continued

March 27, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

Meeting called to order by President Jim Giacomazzi at 8:00pm

**Correspondence:** Thank you letter from Lucile Packard Children's Hospital for the boxed donations of stamps for kids.

Bill Dutcher received mail from R. Corbett who is a distributor for Vidiforms Co. which supplies Showgard mounts to retail outlets. He enclosed an order form which would yield a 50% savings in cost. If anyone is interested Darlene Hickok, Club Secretary has the order form on file.

Bill Dutcher also received mail from John Hotchner about "Getting Started in Philatelic Exhibiting". See Bill for more information.

**Committee Reports:** Darlene Hickok reported that the youth club is alive and well. Donations are steadily coming in and thank you to all that donate.

Ernie Lee said that we still have openings in the Event Calendar after September.

**Old Business:** Sequoia Website was discussed

**New Business:** April 24th is Sequoia Stamp Club swap meet September 11th will be the 2nd swap meet 50c for a half table and \$1.00 full table. Only club members can rent a table.

Westpex coming up April 27-29th.

A motion was made and passed that we have our pizza party on a meeting night. That will be June 26th at Mountain Mike's.

Club picnic discussion was put on hold for now.

**Raffle Drawing:**

1st Drawing was won by Herb Nishio  
2nd Drawing was won by Ed Morey

Hank Washauer started his presentation on "The Best Things In Life Are Free". Nice presentation Hank.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm  
33 members in attendance

**MEMBERS - DON'T FORGET TO  
PAY YOUR 2007 DUES!**

April 10, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

Meeting called to order by President Jim Giacomazzi at 8:00pm

**Committee Reports:** April 24th is Swap Meet May 8th Fritz Gelb will be presenting New Zealand Jim Mosso still needs sales books from members

Ernie Lee needs articles for the Chatter. Spotlight on Members was suggested

Richard Griffone announced that dues are due! Did you know that Hank Washauer is our Northern Council rep for Sequoia Stamp Club? Well he is and he told us that if you would like to have a great time meeting people you can volunteer to sit at the Council table at Westpex. Go to Westpex and volunteer.

**Old Business:**

We have email!  
June 26th is our pizza party at 6:00pm at Mountain Mike's

**New Business:**

No new business but for the good of Philately:

If anyone has duplicates of Belgium, Jim Giacomazzi would be interested since he is starting a new country interest. He would be willing to trade.

If anyone is interested in Vance Auction on May 9th, Jim Giacomazzi has the catalog.

**Raffle Drawing:**

1st Drawing was won by Ciro Borghi  
2nd Drawing was won by John "Mitch" Michelin

Live Auction started

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm  
27 members in attendance



**1 cent Z-Grill  
displayed at Westpex.  
"The only copy in  
private hands."**

Photo taken by Ed Bierman

## Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries

February 27, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

Meeting called to order by President Jim Giacomazzi at 8:05 PM.

**Reports:** Treasurer's report given and attached.

**Correspondence:** Letter from The Recreation Department was read, in which they thanked us for the donation and is attached.

**Old Business:** Motion to have two drawings each meeting \$5.00 each to the Sales Books and Silent Auction with the first drawn name to have choice. S/D/P

Paul Swierstra distributed the list for the donation auction.

Our membership stands at 100

Guest Stephen Sexton was introduced. Motion to accept Stephen Sexton as a member S/D/P

Upcoming programs discussed Article on the Forever Stamp discussed. Peninsula Club now called Peninsula Philatelic Club WESTPEX will be held April 27-29

**Raffle Drawing:**

Drawing for the Circuit Books  
1st drawing was won by Bill Dutcher \$10.00  
2nd drawing was won Alain Ridard \$5.00

After intermission Ed Rodriguez presented a program entitled Postal Service in the Clouds a story about how the Incas communicated

After which the Silent Auction concluded  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM  
32 members were present.



March 13, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

Meeting called to order by President Jim Giacomazzi at 8:00pm

**Reports:** Kristin Patterson talked about PENPEX frames and took suggestions as to what to do with the plexiglass sheets.

**Old Business:** Ed Rodriguez announced that we still have event openings. Hank Washauer suggested a pizza party that was favorably accepted by all members present.

It was suggested that our wonderful website be updated.

**New Business:** Reminder that our raffle ticket winners get \$5.00 credit each for 1st and 2nd place. The winners can use the proceeds for auction items or sales book purchases.

Westpex coming up April 27-29th.

Our sympathies to the Holmes family on the passing of Wilson Holmes. Our thoughts are with you.

**Raffle Drawing:**

1st Drawing was won by Tom Whittemore  
2nd Drawing was won by \_\_\_\_\_  
(sorry, the secretary missed this)

Darlene Hickok asked to have the following members voted in the club:

Emily Brandsdorfer  
Paige Brandsdorfer  
Sarah Brandsdorfer  
Lea Brandsdorfer  
Samantha Tokash  
Renee Markels  
Lindsay Gelb

All were unanimously voted in. Congratulations to our newest youth members.

Donation auction started.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

**The USPS booth at Westpex promoting  
the new Star Wars sheet.**

Photo taken by Ed Bierman

## Collecting Maps on Stamps

By Marsha Brandsdorfer

The irony is that I collect maps on stamps. I am not into geography and I have not done much traveling at all in the past decade. It isn't that I don't want to, but now that I'm getting older, any extra money needs to be put away for my retirement within the next two decades. So, I travel through books and stamps. I decided about three years ago to collect maps on stamps because like knowledge itself, the availability of maps on stamps is endless.

I collect United Stamps and International used and mint stamps but mostly I just choose them because they are pretty and I enjoy the designs. My main enjoyment is in the art of each individual stamp. There are simple designs and I have also added to my collection many stamps with fine details that are extraordinary.

I store my endless supply in mini stock books. Using my tongs I carefully place them behind the white sheets to protect them. The stock books sit securely on my bookcase. There is no particular order to the stock books or the stamps in them. However, some stamps do unintentionally become arranged in an organized manner. For instance, at the Sunnyvale Stamp Club, last year I purchased from a member of the group numerous Egyptian stamps (see figure1) with defined maps. Since I bought a handful at one time, you can flip through the pages of one of my stock books and see these Egyptian stamps arranged in an orderly fashion.



Figure 1



Figure 2

United Nations' stamps (see figure2) are also a popular addition to my collection because of the stamps' constant use of the globe. A globe is considered a map stamp because on the globe, we see land and water. Globes can be found on many space stamps as well. So my maps on stamps have a dual role in topical collection, as some of them also contribute to the theme of space stamps (see figure3). I have many space stamps in my collection, because of a piece of land or water appearing on the stamps.



Figure 3

Russia is a popular country for my collection because Russia has many maps on stamps as well as many space stamps. And there are many stamps in my collection of countries I hadn't heard of before I started my stamp collection. Again, I choose these stamps because they add color and uniqueness to my collection. I could research more information on these countries if I desire with the use of the Internet.

I also enjoy treasure hunting for more stamps. The endless supply of maps on stamps makes my collection exciting for I never know what surprises I might find.

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**Editor's Note** - Marsha is a Sequoia Stamp Club member. She was bitten by the stamp bug when she was very young. Originally from Queens, New York, her father retired from the Post Office in New York City. Among her collecting interests are worldwide stamps of various topics. Marcia works as a Legal Secretary and is currently working on her first book about the profession.

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## Outtakes From the



## Swap Meet

## April 24

