

Stamp



Chatter

Volume No. 50—Issue No. 2 w288

Apr May June 2012

SEQUOIA STAMP CLUB

Club meetings are held every **second and fourth Tuesday** of each month at the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City, CA at 7:15pm. Refreshments are served and visitors are always welcome.

More info at:
www.penpex.org

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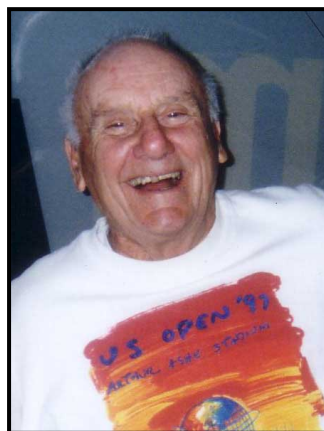
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President's Message:

The February issue of the American Philatelist had a column in their Chapter Chatter section reminding clubs of the importance of recognizing hard workers. The Chapter Activities Committee of the APS helps member clubs out in this endeavor by providing a Certificate of Award (also known as the "Sparkplug Award") which clubs can award to a deserving member. This is one way to say "Thanks" to a special member who has gone out of his way to help the club, often without reward or proper recognition.

This year's choice for the "Sparkplug Award" is Severin Morger. Steve (as he is more commonly known to members) is a retired middle school PE teacher and lives in San Carlos.

He has been a member of the Sequoia Stamp Club for over twenty years and is a life member of the APS. His stamp collecting interest is worldwide stamps up to 1940. Steve enjoys attending local



shows, and one of his favorite activities is trading stamps with fellow members and participating in stamp exchanges through the

mail. He has an extensive collection, especially British related, of which he is deservedly quite proud. But it is his service to the club that makes him stand out and deserve recognition.

(Cont' page 2)

Election Results:

At the February 28th meeting, two important votes took place. The first vote was on the adoption of the revised club by-laws. In the previous Chatter, an insert was included with the details of the proposed changes. The major revision involved changes in the make up of the Executive Committee, providing for three Directors at Large elected directly by the membership. The motion to accept the changes to the by-laws was passed by a vote of 43-2.

After the favorable vote on the by-laws changes, a special election was held to select the three new members of the Governing Board. Six outstanding candidates gave short speeches as to why they should be elected, and then the voting took place by secret ballot.

It was a very close election, with only seven votes separating first and last place. The top vote getters were Ed Rodriguez, Gil Goodrich, and Kristin Patterson. Congratulations to our new Governing Board Members for 2012.

President's Message (cont')

Steve has served as secretary to the Sequoia Club, and currently does a fantastic job as the person in charge of the silent and live auction activities that are so popular. Because of his integrity, members have absolute trust that everything will be done above board and have complete faith in how the exchanges are carried out. He has become Jim Mosso's right hand man in carrying out the PENPEX silent auction, helping to set up and supervise the room throughout the show. When members were called upon to provide one page exhibits for PENPEX, Steve came through by exhibiting some of his infamous Disney material which proved to be quite popular with the youngsters.

But it is Steve's behind the scenes activities that are so valuable to us. Because he is a member of Costco, he has volunteered each year to make the purchases for the PENPEX snack bar. When we hold our picnic in August, it is Steve who drives out to Armadillo Willy's in Foster City to pick up the food. If we need a cake for a special occasion,

Steve is the person we call on to pick it up because we know he will never say no to our request for help. It seems as if Steve is willing to do whatever it takes to make the operation of the club successful.

Besides stamp collecting, Steve also enjoys following all sports. In his younger days he played football for the Gaters at San Francisco State, and at one time was the number one player on the tennis ladder at Burton Park in San Carlos. Now he would rather watch others play and then go out to eat with the Red Morton lunch bunch. He is becoming proficient with his home computer and follows stamp sales on Ebay as well as sending entertaining emails to his buddies. I never met a single person who ever had anything bad to say about Steve.

On behalf of the Sequoia Stamp Club I want to thank Steve for his ongoing dedication and commitment. It is due to the efforts of members like Steve that we have become one of the most successful clubs in northern California. I feel very privileged to have Steve as a fellow club member, a stamp collecting partner, and a good friend.

Sequoia Club History:

This year Sequoia celebrates its 65th anniversary. We are very proud of our heritage. Join us on September 25 for an anniversary celebration. Here is a club photo from the year 1983. Do you recognize any of the faces? (See names below) According to Hank Washauer, 13 of our current 116 members were also club members in 1983.



Seated (l to r): Barbara LeBlanc, Eva Gibson, Hank Washauer, Dennis Matheny, and Landry (Dusty) Dorster. Standing: George Guthörlein, Cy Thompson, Paul Swierstra, John Dusel, John Millar, Dr. Shearman Henri, Noreen Will, and Joe Ginsburg.

U.S. Stamps And America's Pride in Space Exploration

By Marsha Brandsdorfer

At this time President Obama has put a halt on continuing the United States space program to save on funding as our country is in economic disaster. How does this affect stamp topical collectors and the American public? It could mean that there would probably be no more U.S. space stamps issued for a long time.

Recently I read an interesting non-fiction book published in 2007, entitled Too Far From Home: A Story of Life and Death in Space by Chris Jones. This book is an in-depth look at how dangerous, yet important, space travel is and the challenges needed to try and keep astronauts conditionally safe and psychologically sound while in space.

Jones wrote about astronauts Donald Pettit, Kenneth Bowersox and Nikolai Budarin, who "lost their ride home" from the International Space Station when the Columbia shuttle heading back to earth destructed on its descent killing seven astronauts aboard in 2003. After months of waiting, Pettit, Bowersox, and Budarin finally departed the International Space Station and they arrived safely home by way of a Russian capsule.

The author explained that often the American public is unexposed and, perhaps for the most part, uninterested in space travel until a tragedy such as what happened with the Columbia occurs.

To expose Americans to the celebration of space expedition, pride needs to be represented on U.S. Stamps as they were in the stamps below. More U.S. stamps need to be issued to commemorate our achievements and U.S. space explorations need to be brought back.



1969 Scott No.: C76 (First Man on the Moon, airmail stamp)

1975 Scott No. 1556 (Pioneer)

1975 Scott Nos. 1569-1570 (Apollo-Soyuz)

1978 Scott No.: 1759 (Viking Missions to Mars)

Four New Life Members Chosen

At the Jan 10th meeting Jim Giacomazzi, Kristin Patterson, Darlene Hickok, and Ed Rodriguez were presented life membership awards. Jim joined the club in 1992, serves as auctioneer in live auctions, and is currently serving a fourth term as club president. Kristin joined the club in 1997, has served three terms as club president, has been chairperson of PENPEX since 2006, and was recently elected an APS Director at Large. Darlene has been a club member since 2001, currently serves as secretary of both Sequoia and PENPEX, and is chairperson for the Sequoia Stamps R Us Youth Group. Ed joined Sequoia in 2001, has served seven terms as Sequoia presi-



dent, and serves as chairman of the program committee. Both Kristin and Ed have just been elected to serve on the newly established Governing Board. Congratulations to our new life members!

PENPEX Caboose

Just to keep the great local show of PENPEX in your thoughts, we had a great wrap-up meeting and appreciation brunch on Saturday, March 3. During the hour-long meeting, we heard from committee chairs that enjoyed wonderful success in their areas. The committee elected the incumbent officers for PENPEX 2012: Kristin Patterson, Chair; Jim Giacomazzi, VC; Darlene Hickok, Secretary; and Eduardo Martino, Treasurer. Much thanks goes to the PENPEX officers and other generous volunteers. Save the date for PENPEX 2012 – December 1 and 2. For updated information visit www.penpex.org.



Notice: Dues & New Ending Time

If you are not a life member or have not paid in advance, please send in your dues of \$3.00 in the enclosed envelope. The Governing Board has voted to pay the cost of adding ½ hour to our meetings, so starting March 27th, the new time schedule for our meetings will now be **7:00 to 9:30pm**.

Upcoming Stamp Show Events:

WESTPEX 2012 Stamp Show, San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront, April 27-29.

Newsletter Staff: Editor: Hank Washauer, Production: Jim Giacomazzi, Feature Articles: Marsha Brandsdorfer, Graphics: Miriam Thurston, PENPEX Caboose: Kristin Patterson, Printing: Darlene Hickok, Distribution: Paul Swierstra.

The Chatter Newsletter is published quarterly by the Sequoia Stamp Club. Club meetings are held every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood City, CA at 7:15 PM. Refreshments are served and visitors are always welcome. Email us at sequoiastampclub@yahoo.com or visit our website at www.penpex.org.

STAMPS R US NEWS

Chairpersons: Darlene Hickok and Richard Coleman. Committee members: Leroy Bertsch, Kjell Enander, Gil Goodrich, Hank Shoolman, and Henry Washauer. All volunteers are welcome to attend youth group meetings and assist in the distribution and mailing of materials.



Help get the word out to the youth in our community that stamp collecting is a fun and educational activity. Our Youth Group has mountains of stamps for beginners to sort through and pick out their favorite topic such as sports, movie stars, and famous people. They will see grades improve in history and geography as they learn more about historical figures such as Chief Joseph and Clara Barton. They can make friends, trade stamps, and participate in social activities with other members of the Stamps R Us club.



Upcoming Sequoia Club Programs

- April 10 - Art on Stamps (Miriam Thurston)
- April 24 - Live Auction (Members)
- May 8 - Forensic Philately, UNTEA Forgeries (Ed Burfine*)
- May 22 - Meeting of the Governing Board at 6:15 pm.
- May 22 - The Era of the Rubber Stamp (Hank Washauer)
- June 12 - Live Auction (Donated Items - All proceeds go to assist our friends at the San Jose Stamp Club)
- June 26 - Wrangel Issues – (Hank Shoolman)

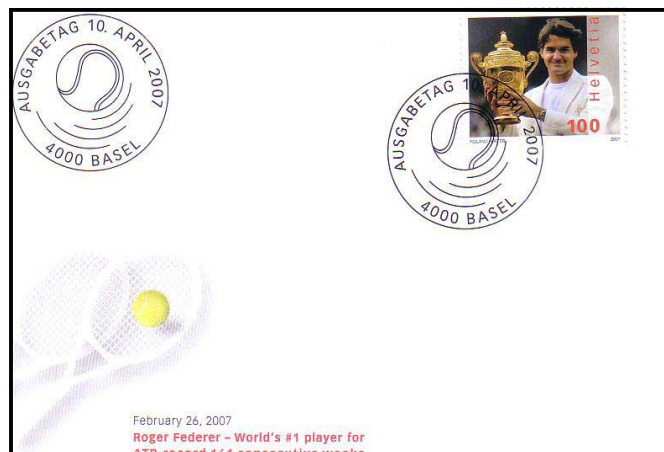


- Make a special effort to attend on May 8. Bio about Ed Burfine:

My focus is Netherlands New Guinea and the United Nations mission during the transition for Dutch rule to Indonesian rule. During that period there were many forgeries. I am in the process of categorizing the forgeries and publishing a monograph on them.

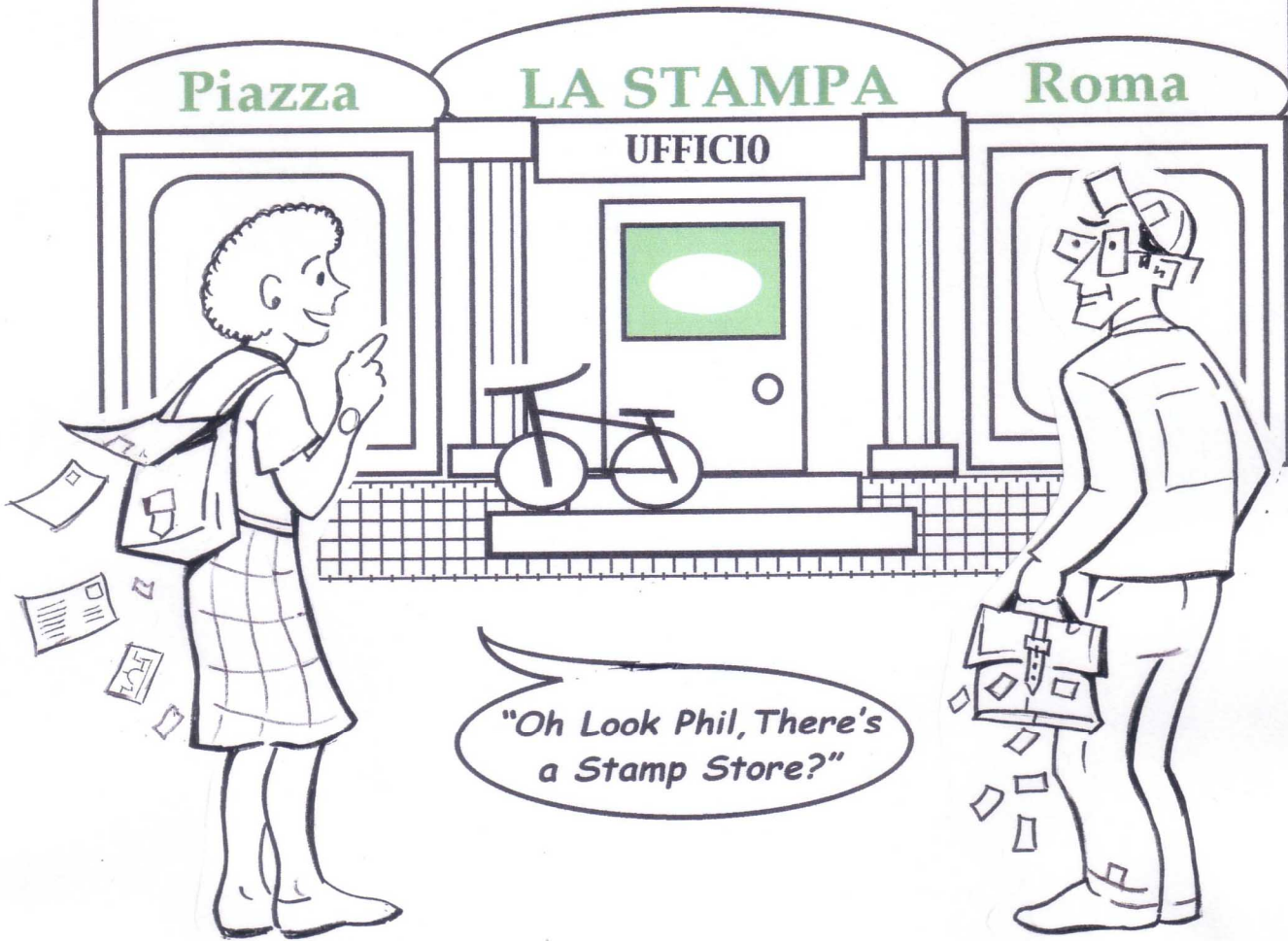
Cover of the Month

This 2007 Swiss FDC features a stamp with Roger Federer who at the time had been ranked the world's number one player for 161 consecutive weeks. He is currently ranked number three, but after his recent win at Indian Wells improved his record to 39-2 since last year's U.S. Open. This cover would be a nice addition to a tennis topical collection. It is also an illustration of how the Swiss postal administration judiciously allows the use of living persons on postage stamps. Let's hope that the U.S. is just as wise when it begins to picture living people on stamps.



"PHIL A. TELICK AND HIS WIFE ARE VACATIONING IN ITALY"

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FYI

I - "LA STAMPA" in ITALY is:

- A- Post Office
- B- Philatelic Office
- C- NewsPaper Press Office
- D- Flamingo Dance Studio

II - ITALIAN Word for STAMP is:

- A- Carica Stampa
- B- Philotela
- C- Franco Bollo
- D- Poste

III - PHIL's Wife's name is:

- A- Envelopa
- B- Jenny
- C- Penelope
- D- Mailene



A MESSAGE from the SNAIL MAIL:

"When you Mail Out Post Cards from Foreign Lands it takes 'FOREVER' to get to it's Destination".

Answers to FYI: 1. C, 2. C, 3. B.