

Stamp



Chatter

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Jan, Feb, Mar, 2014

SEQUOIA STAMP CLUB

APS #687-54588

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

More info at:

www.penpex.org

New Club Leadership for 2014

The selection of officers for 2014 took place at the November 26 meeting. Kristin Patterson was elected as our new president by a vote of 33 to 9. She will be taking over from current president Hank Shoolman after her official inauguration at the first meeting in January.

Her goal is to make the club a warm and welcoming place for fellow collectors. It will be a busy year for Kristin, as she is also an APS Director at Large, on the board of WESTPEX, editor of the Women Exhibitors' newsletter, and Chair of PENPEX for the 8th year. Let's all do our best to support her by stepping forward when asked to help out with club activities. The following club officers were reelected to their positions: Steve Sexton - VP, Darlene Hickok - Secretary, Richard Griffone - Treasurer, Jim Mosso and Craig Butterworth - Directors at Large. Also elected as a new Director was Kjell Enander, who will be serving his first term on the Board.

Congratulations to all our newly elected officers.



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2014 Stamp Calendar & Sequoia Club Program Schedule

- **Jan 11-12: Stamp Expo, Napredak Hall, San Jose.**
- Jan 14 - Inauguration of SSC Officers. Past Presidents' present. Silent auction.
- Jan 21 - SSC Board meeting, 7 pm. Community Activities Building, RWC
- **Jan 24-26: Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Show, Double Tree Hotel, San Jose.**
- Jan 28 - Live auction (Anonymous Donation)
- Feb 11 - "State Narcotic Stamps" by Craig Butterworth. Silent auction.
- Feb 25 - Members live auction.
- Mar 11 - "Due to the Civil War" by Kristin Patterson. Silent auction.
- Mar 25 - "Mystery Box" by Miriam Thurston. Silent auction.

For a complete SSC schedule go to www.penpex.org/SSC/calendar.

Fountain of Youth

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This year's Youth Room at PENPEX was probably the most interesting one in years. Committee members Coleman, Bertsch, and Shoolman covered the room assisted ably by Joan Doherty and my son, Billy. We signed up ten (10) new members, many from the Cub Scouts and private schools. A PENPEX exhibitor from Sedona, Arizona, SIGNED UP, and will be replicating our Youth group in that state! She won the Silver Award for her Victorian exhibit at PENPEX. An educator, retired from the French International School in San Francisco, realizing the value of our hobby to entice children away from dangerous alternatives, will be promoting philately in the Redwood City school system. Our next meeting will be for 2014 mailings, date to be announced (probably in late January).



Respectfully submitted, Darlene Hickok, Chair.

Membership Side Car

By: Hank Washauer



One of our long time members, Diane Adler, passed away in Southern California. She will be remembered by many for her welcoming smile as she greeted guests at the front table for our PENPEX Stamp Show. She was the beloved wife of the late Sig Adler, who was a past president and also a highly respected member of the Sequoia Stamp Club. Diane will be greatly missed by her family and her many friends.

Another long time member, John Michelin, passed away on December 15. He served in the navy in WWII, and was a sheet metal man by trade. Along with his interest in stamps, John was an active member of the Italian Sportsmen Club, and loved to hike and fish in the Sierras. As a Scoutmaster he led his troops on fifty mile hikes well into his 70's. He was a great friend, always ready to help anyone and was loved by all who knew him. He touched many lives, and will be greatly missed.

On another note, don't forget that January is be kind to our Treasurer Month. Let's all make our Treasurer Richard Griffone happy by promptly paying our dues for 2014. At \$3.00 per year, this has got to be one of the best bargains around. Incidentally, you can always pay in advance for more than one year by including \$3.00 for each year. Dues may be paid in person at a club meeting or can be mailed to: **Treasurer, Sequoia Stamp Club, PO Box 235, San Carlos, CA 94070**

Factoid 1: Our regular membership stands at 119 and our youth stands at 45, making a total of 164 individuals that Sequoia Stamp Club keeps involved in philately.

Factoid 2: We all know about the four digit extension on zip codes. I thought that each house had it's own unique for digit extension; however, that is not true. All houses on the same side of the street have the same four digit extension.

Factoid 3: We now have all the latest membership data files in the cloud for use if needed thanks to Craig Butterworth.

Factoid 4: The data base has been checked with the Treasurer's list and is in sync.

PENPEX CABOOSE

PENPEX 2013, the 40th show, was a huge success thanks to the volunteers and participants. Lots of people attended on

Saturday and Sunday and some even attended both days.

We had perfect California weather. All the dealers who responded to a follow-up email were happy with the show and are looking forward to coming back next year. The show had 68 exhibit frames, the most PENPEX has had since moving from 12-page to 16-page frames. The Awards Banquet was again held at Harry's Hofbrau, a location that is only four minutes from the Community Activities Building. The awards were presented quickly and everyone enjoyed the hardy German meal with chocolate cake and ice cream



(l to r) Chris Thompson, Eduardo Martino, Ed Rodriguez, and Alain Ridard mounting the PENPEX Stamp



(l to r) Exhibits chair Vesma Grinfelds, Judge Dzintars Grinfelds, and Chief Judge Daryl Rieber at Awards Banquet.

See more photos and details at www.penpex.org.

for dessert. Congrats to Grand winner Terri Edwards for her "An Engineering Victory of the First Order: Hoover Dam" exhibit.

Again the youth area was packed, with fun activities and free give-aways for young collectors, some returning from the previous year and rejoining the Sequoia Stamps R Us youth program. There were also many Boy Scouts and Club Scouts that enjoyed hunting for stamps.

The silent auction, run by Jim Mosso and Richard Griffone had lots of bidding activity as people watched their lots as the clock struck 2:30 pm on Sunday. Winners were able to pick up their winning lots by 3:45 pm.

Many thanks to Joan Doherty, Kjell Enander, Aliya Leffler, Ken Lewetzow, and Cathy Phalen for helping at the snack bar on Saturday and Sunday. The snack bar again supplied patrons with tasty sandwiches along with the long-time favorites of donuts and cookies.

The show's success could only be accomplished by a hardworking team of philatelists and friends. The setup team lead by Eduardo Martino was on their game as we were ready for dealer move-in and exhibit mounting by 4:00 pm. (See photos on page 4.) Everyone involved is commended for a job well done!

As a thank you, PENPEX is inviting all show volunteers to a 10 am January 25th, wrap-up meeting followed by brunch at Sizzler, 1011



People viewing 540 silent auction lots before close on Sunday at 2:30.

The success of PENPEX is due to the volunteers that run the show. Shown on this page are photos of some of the PENPEX volunteers hard at work.



Richard Griffone and Jim Mosso setting up one of 18 tables for the silent auction.



Alain Ridard (left) and Larry Anthony pulling out the exhibit frames from pod.



(l to r) Franz Kemper, Chris Thompson, and Eduardo Martino discussing the delicate work of frame setup while Annie Wong has added the legs to the



Eduardo Martino (left) and Chris Thompson double



Darlene Hickok (left) explaining a stamp worksheet to scout parent.



Brian Jones explaining exhibiting to some of the Boy Scouts who participated in the Stamp Collecting Merit Badge workshop on Saturday.



Jim Giacomazzi (left) and Kristin Patterson entering silent auction bids into the computer at front table while Ray Boller and Richard Griffone work at the back table.



Jim Sauer (right) greeting attendees at the Welcome Table as they enter PENPEX.

Thanks to Ken Perkins and Ed Bierman for taking these great photos.

Outgoing President's Message:

2013 was one of the most glorious in Sequoia's 66 year history! Although we lost 5, membership was UP, thanks to the stewardships of Hank Washauer and Paul Swierstra. Hank also chaired the Members' Benefits Committee, offering useful suggestions to the Governing Board.

Our finances were strong, much to the credit of our Treasurer, Richard Griffone, whose PRO BONO work for Sequoia saved us thousands. Our Committees fared well: PENPEX had a good turnout (see "Caboose" herein), and the 10 years of hard work to build a Youth Group by Darlene Hickok were rewarded by a unique Youth Room at PENPEX (see "Fountain of Youth" also in this issue).

Our Speakers' Programs were fantastic: Don Windeler ("Minerals on Stamps"), and Michael Donofrio ("Fakes and Forgeries") prompted our people to demand extensions of their speaking times. The Christmas Party, orchestrated by Vice President Stephen Sexton, had 35 in attendance and Stephen also arranged the PENPEX Awards Dinner with 30 participants.

In short, ladies and gentlemen, Sequoia is operating as a well-oiled machine with dozens of members committed to its success. May each of you have a Happy Holiday and a wonderful philatelic New Year!

Respectfully submitted, Hank Shoolman, President of Sequoia (Sponsor of PENPEX)

Incoming President's Message:

I want to thank all SSC members who voted for me for your confidence in my ability to lead this great club. If you voted for someone else, or did not vote at all, I want to assure you that I am a president for all members.

The SSC Board may be lead by me, but things happen because of the willing board and club members who volunteer to fill positions. First **Steve Sexton** has already stepped forward as program chair. See "SSC schedule" on page 1 for dates in Q1 that he has already filled. Members interested in making a presentation or have an idea for a program should talk directly to Steve. **Dar Hickok** has graciously volunteered to be SSC secretary. She also chairs the Stamps R Us youth program and is always looking for donations and members to help out. **Richard Griffone** will be serving his 8th year as SSC Treasurer.

The 2014 Directors are **Jim Mosso**, who oversees the circuit sales books, **Craig Butterworth**, who willingly filled in the last four months of 2013 with the passing of Director Gil Goodrich, and **Kjell Enander**, who has been a great helper at PENPEX. Board members do not receive any compensation for their time or efforts, so make sure to thank them when you see them as well as other club volunteers for their efforts in the Sequoia Stamp Club.

Kristin Patterson

Newsletter Staff: Senior Editor: Hank Washauer, Managing Editor: Jim Giacomazzi, Feature Articles: Marsha Brandsdorfer, Graphics: Miriam Thurston, Caboose: Kristin Patterson, Printing: Darlene Hickok, and Photographer: Ken Perkins.

The **Stamp Chatter** is published quarterly by the Sequoia Stamp Club. Visit our website at: www.penpex.org or email us at sequoiastampclub@yahoo.com.

A Topic on the Back

'Maps on stamps' has long been a popular theme for topical stamp collectors. There's something for everybody; the CartoPhilatelic Society offers a list of 40,000+ items which runs to 750 printed pages. Map stamps have been issued by almost every country, and some of them have led to diplomatic crises and played a role in wars.

But how about 'stamps on maps'? A stamp printed on a map...does such a thing even exist? Indeed it does, but 'stamps on maps' would be an awfully small topical collection. I know of only one instance of stamps being printed on maps.

From the era of the first postage stamps down to the present day, nations have used stamps as one way of announcing their sovereignty to the world. On November 18 of 1918, in the aftermath of World War I, Latvia declared its independence from Russia, and newly independent Latvia needed stamps. But the Latvian postal authorities immediately ran into a problem. Soviet troops were occupying Latvian territory as fast as German troops were withdrawing from it. There were shortages of everything, including paper stock on which to print their first stamps.

Among the many things the retreating Germans left behind were maps; large numbers of unfinished maps which were stored in their Riga headquarters. So many, in fact, that they were being used in the Riga market to wrap fish. The map side of these foldable maps was finished, but their backs, which were to show the region name, scale, etc, were not yet printed. And they hadn't been folded yet, so they were nice and flat, just waiting to be run through a press again.



Thus were born Latvia's first stamps; Scott #1 and #2. Both stamps pay the same postage, 5 Kapeikas. Scott calls the imperforate stamps #1 while the stamps perforated 11.5 are #2. This is purely arbitrary since all 2.7 million stamps were produced by the same printer at the same time with the same design. About half were perforated, half were not. The stamps, printed in red, show 3 ears of grain in the center of a rising sun, with 3 stars spaced around the edges of the sun's rays, the name 'LATVIJA' curving across the top of the sun, and the value of 5 Kap. printed at the bottom.



The German military maps on the back of these stamps, which are upside down versus the stamp design, are usually printed in brown and black on dark cream gummed paper. At least 68 different types of maps of Latvia and parts of Lithuania are known to have been used to print these stamps, with about 11,000 maps in all being fed through the presses. As you can see from the scans illustrating this article, the maps themselves, made to a scale of 1:1,000,000 are filled with fine detail such as roads, railroads, buildings, fields, rivers, and forests. At the lower left corner of the map on the upper left stamp in the block of 4 shown there is even what looks like a windmill.

Even though these map stamps have never been rare or expensive, there are forgeries believed to have been made in the 1920s.



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One curious aspect of the maps used which is not apparent on most of the stamps is the longitude scale used. Western Latvia, for instance, is shown at longitude 39 degrees east. Current maps show the same area as 21 degrees 20 minutes east. What's going on here? Even though Germany agreed in 1884 to use Greenwich as the prime (0 degrees) meridian, for some reason these maps use a prime meridian centered on the little town of Ferro (Hierro in Spanish) in the western Canary Islands. Ferro, at the western end of the Greek world, was the prime meridian used by Claudius Ptolemy in the second century AD!

The Latvians must have been pleased with using the back of pre-printed paper for their stamps; a few years later another couple of issues were printed on the backs of unfinished banknotes. So there's another small topical collection: 'stamps on money'.

Most of the information in this article was found on a marvelous website on the Latvian map stamps established by Bill Apsit (www.apsit.com/mapstamp.htm).



[U.S. #398 1913 2¢ Panama-Pacific Exposition Commemorative](#)

By Ed Bierman

Continuing the celebration of 100 years since the publishing of the Panama-Pacific Exposition stamp commemorative is the 2¢ stamp from that series.

Issue Date: January 1913
 Quantity issued: 503,713,086
 Printed by: Bureau of Engraving and Printing
 Method: Flat plate
 Watermark: Single line
 Perforation: 12
 Color: Carmine



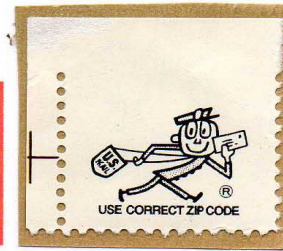
1913 2¢ Panama-Pacific Exposition Commemorative

The 2-cent stamp pictures the Pedro Miguel Locks, Panama Canal. Due to a postal error, the 2-cent was released later than the original set. The original showed the Pedro Miguel locks, but had been labeled Gatun Locks. These stamps were recalled and destroyed, though a few valuable proofs remain as evidence that this mistake was made. The stamps were re-printed with the generic label "Panama Canal".

This article was originally posted on Ed's blog on March 10, 2013. To read the entire article and view related video go to: www.penpex.org/2013/03/10/u-s-398-1913-2%C2%A2-panama-pacific-exposition-commemorative.



**PHIL A. TELLICK
AND SNAIL MAIL '4-EVER'**
By Miriam S. Thurston- All Rights Reserved C



"A LECTURE BY PHIL A. TELLICK IN THE MAIL ROOM OF SNAIL MAILERS".



WHEN YOU DELIVER MAIL AND THERE'S NO CANCEL ON THE STAMP, PLEASE DO NOT USE A BALL POINT PEN OR MAGIC MARKER TO DEFACE THE STAMP!



IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?



Good to the last piece

Great Turnout for Pizza Party

On Tuesday, Oct. 15 at Mountain Mike's in Redwood City, the Sequoia Stamp Club members were treated to an annual pizza blast. As the photo shows, there was a good turnout and a pleasant evening was enjoyed by all who attended. No one left hungry as it was all you could eat of Mountain Mike's tasty pizzas and since Tuesday is half-price night, it was a fun club activity that was well worth the cost.



Beer, pizza, hockey, baseball, stamp collectors...all in one place

Sequoia Club Makes Donation to Lucile Packard Children's Fund

At their meeting on November 26, the Sequoia Stamp Club Governing Board voted unanimously to make a donation of \$500 to the Lucile Packard Children's Fund in memory of members Bill Moll, Diane Adler, Gil Goodrich, and Walter Schafheitle, all club members who passed away during 2013. A letter of appreciation was received from the Children's Fund stating how grateful they were for the donation, and how our support will help provide compassionate, family-centered care for children and families throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. We are also involved with the Children's Hospital at Stanford through the efforts of LeRoy Bertsch. For many years, LeRoy has been active in a community service program of providing stamps for patients at the hospital. The thousands of stamps provided by LeRoy over the years have provided much needed therapy and activity projects for the patients. LeRoy has been a member of the Sequoia Stamp Club since 2005, and is also active in our Stamps R Us Youth program. LeRoy has a passion for stamps with a cancel from Basel, Switzerland, where his son currently lives. Let's all check our stamps to see if we can help him out.



LeRoy Bertsch