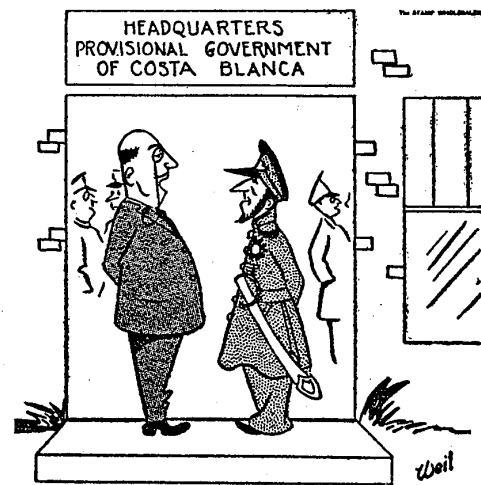


UnHinged...by Fun E. Bone



"As I see it, diplomatic recognition is of secondary importance. The main question is: WILL SCOTT RECOGNIZE OUR STAMPS?"



"Before we turn in the verdict, I'd like to know to whom the defendant is going to will his stamp collection!"

PENPEX
P. O. BOX 235
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070

Visit Us At
www.penpex.org
ed@biermans.com

Stamp Chatter

Volume 38,
No. 2, W 264

March/April
2007

Newsletter of the Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City

From the President

I am reaching a milestone birthday this year. I won't say which one, but I will tell you that I have received a lot of mail lately from Medicare providers. No one likes to think about getting older, but it is a fact of life. When you reach my age, it is important, as they say, to have your affairs in order.

At some point, all stamp collectors must decide what is to become of their collection. If you are fortunate, you might have a family member who is interested in collecting stamps, and who would be delighted to be the beneficiary of your holdings. I think a primary desire of most collectors is to leave their beloved stamps with someone who will care for them, and continue to enjoy and enhance the collection. But what if no family members have any interest in collecting stamps? One possibility is to leave instructions as to how your beneficiaries should handle the disposal of your collection.

If you are an APS member, the Society is able to offer assistance in the disposal of your philatelic estate through its Estate Advisory Service. Another possibility could be at some point to dispose of your collection yourself. This could be done through outright purchase, consignment, or a public auction.

Fritz Gelb has recently made contact with Mark Morrow, a buyer from Mystic Stamp Company. We have invited him to attend one of our meetings, perhaps around the time of Westpex, to provide club members with additional information regarding the disposal of philatelic holdings. It may not be the most pleasant topic, but it is one that all collectors must realistically think about at some point.

President's Message - Continued On Page 2

In This Issue

President's Message	1-2	St. Patrick's Day	4-5
Upcoming Meetings/Calendar	1	Meeting Summaries	3,6
		The Caboose	7

Upcoming Meetings

March 13
Sig Adler's Donations Auction

March 27
The Best Things in Life Are Free
Hank Washauer

April 10
Live Auction

April 24
Swap Meet

May 8
New Zealand-Special and Joint Issues
Fritz Gelb

May 22
Film Night

June 12
Live Auction

June 26
No Program Planned

July 10
Talk to Me?
Miriam Thurston

President's Message - From Page 1

One other thing to remember is that if a collection is being formed not only for current enjoyment, but also with the thought of eventually recovering much of your investment, preparation for that future moment of sale is an ongoing requirement.

According to the APS brochure on estate advice, the most important factors determining sale value next to scarcity and demand, are the quality of the material offered and the degree to which it is coherently organized.

Jim Giacomazzi
President, Sequoia Stamp Club



Pictured is outgoing Past President Ed Rodriguez (left) passing the gavel to incoming new President Jim Giacomazzi.

Special Auction
March 13 Stamp Club Meeting
Sig Adler's Donations
All Proceeds Go To
Sequoia Stamp Club
Covers & Misc.

Got PENPEX?

PENPEX 2007 is only 9 months away. I bet most think that nothing has happened in the last 2 months but PENPEX planning is a year-around event. In 2007, PENPEX will be using 16-page exhibit frames for the first time. Now all exhibits will be formatted the way all National and International shows are. There will be no need for people to change their layout to enter our show or change their exhibit after our show. This will encourage more exhibit entries from outside the local area. I anticipate that the jury will be happier judging standard frames than the 12-pages frames we use to have.

We owe a big thanks to the Council of Northern California Philatelic Society for making this possible. They contacted all clubs using non-standard frames that sponsor shows in the bay area and asked for a donation of \$500 toward the purchase of 16-page frames. With these donations, CNCPS submitted a matching funds request to WESTPEX. WESTPEX accepted the proposal leaving the Council with enough money to purchase 40 frames. Each A-frame has 2 sides for a total of 80 frames for exhibits. The frames were purchased from the APS who delivered them in February to Burlingame where they will be stored in a portable crate. Each show will contribute to the yearly storage rental and a once-a-year fee for delivery of the frames to their show.

For the PENPEX 2007, the frame crate will be delivered and left at the Redwood City Community Center. The set-up team will then move the frames when needed from the storage crate to their final spot in the center. The layout has not been determined but you can expect a new look. Once the show is completed, the frames will be placed back into the crate and the moving company will pick the crate up on Monday.

With the new frames also comes a new responsibility. PENPEX needs a volunteer to oversee the frames. This person will be in charge of checking that frames are received in good condition and keep track if parts are missing or if repairs need to be preformed after our show. If anyone can take on this role, please contact the Chair.

Keep informing people of our upcoming show.

Kristin Patterson
PENPEX 2007 Chair

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

February 13, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

February 28th is the Sequoia Executive Board meeting, 7:00pm.

Welcome back Ken Kunz and Tom Wittemore! Welcome to our guests this evening; Val from Little House Stamp Club and Diana Colby also from Little House Stamp Club. They both collect France. Also a guest tonight is Patricia McLaughlin from Kent, Washington. Patricia collects Columbia S.A. stamps.

Old Business: Amendment to PENPEX bylaws was discussed. Bill Dutcher said that the PENPEX by-laws have changed to state that the distribution of revenue would now be 90% to Sequoia Club and 10% Peninsula Club.

New Business: Mary Lewis and Marion Remelman were both voted in unanimously as our newest members. Congratulations and welcome to the club. Mary is from Palo Alto and collects U.S. and British Empire. Marion is from San Mateo and collects Russia and Israel. Bill Dutcher said that he received email from the Phillipines from someone who would like to have members join their club. If anyone is interested, please see Bill for more information. Frank Mott found an interesting quiz that asked a question about in which war was the battle of Balaclava fought. The answer was the Crimean War and was answered and won by Robert Eichenbaum from (we believe) the Belmont Club. Good going Robert. What did you win? I hope I got all that spelling correct. In the Fremont Stamp News our very own Stamps R Us Youth Club received a nice write-up. Thank you Fremont Club for the publicity. Our youth club is growing in leaps and bounds. Reminder that the Westpex Show will be the last weekend in April. More reminders will come. Kristin Patterson talked about PENPEX cache's. Fritz Gelb brought in some unusual stamps mostly from Switzerland to share with members. Among them were stamps with embroidery and wood stamps. Jim Giacomazzi and John Inglis both received 25 year awards from APS for a free or reduced membership. See them if you are interested.

Raffle Drawing: 1st Drawing was won by Alain Ridard. 2nd Drawing was won by Steve Morger.

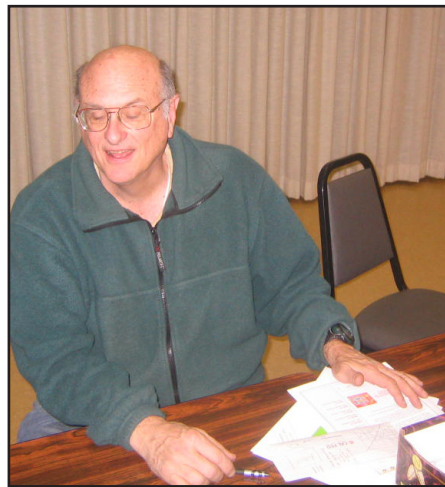
49 lots are ready for our live auction tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Live auction closed at 9:25pm.

32 Members in attendance. • 3 guest in attendance.

TIME OUT!



Sequoia Stamp Club Treasurer Richard Griffone deciding what to add to his collection by osmosis.



Did anyone see where that squished fly went?

What do you call a separated single from a block of four?

BLOCHBUSTERS

Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries

January 9, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Marsha Brandsdorfer has been nominated and unanimously voted in as our newest member. Marsha collects maps on stamps. Welcome to the club Marsha!

New officers were installed and sworn in:

President - Jim Giacomazzi

Vice President - Ed Rodriguez

Secretary - Darlene Hickok

Treasurer - Richard Griffone

Old Business: Bill Dutcher said that PENPEX books will close at the end of January. Those that have bills please get them to him by then. Bill Dutcher announced that the PENPEX Committee Meeting will be held this coming Saturday, January 13th at Fresh Choice. Bill also reviewed the cache program that Miriam Thurston and Hank Washauer has been working on. This is a very successful program. A big "thank you" goes out to Claude Godcharles for helping in making it successful too. Darlene Hickok mentioned that we have 3 new youth members that signed up at the Show.

New Business: The Sequoia Executive Board Meetings will be held on the following dates for the upcoming year at 7:00pm before the regular club meeting: February 27th, May 22nd, August 28th and November 27th

Ernie Lee announced that he is passing around the Event Calendar for 2007.

Our meeting was postponed for 5 minutes due to a coffee spill...\$%*@#

Ernie Lee passed out the CHATTER for January/February. IN COLOR wow!

A Canadian Catalog was donated to our club library. Thank you to whoever donated that.

Raffle Drawing: 1st Drawing was won by Jim Sauer. 2nd Drawing was won by Miriam Thurston.

Past Presidents Exhibits Presentation started with Paul Swiertstra up first with RPO Cancellations, followed by Hank Washauer with his postcard exhibits on old San Francisco. Ed Rodriguez ended by giving a nice presentation on mandated vs plebesite States.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Silent Auction closed shortly thereafter

28 Members in attendance

January 23, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Jim Giacomazzi read a letter from the PENPEX Executive Board stating that our club will receive \$900 from PENPEX proceeds. Marion Remelman was introduced as our guest this evening. Welcome Marion!

Committee Reports: Jim Mosso announced that he needs new sales books. Miriam Thurston still has cache's for sale at \$2.50 each for one-of-a-kind FDC's.

Old Business: The Club will hold a live auction on February 13th. The Sequoia Executive Meeting will be held February 27th at 7:00pm

New Business: Bill Dutcher talked about who are voting members are according to by-laws. Jim Giacomazzi said that if you are turning 65 watch your mail very carefully because you get tons of info. Jim also talked about auctions. The Victoria Stamp Company is having a huge auction. Vance Auctions hold them periodically. Something to look into if you like auctions. Joan Doherty told us that she was at Mr Z's and grabbed a Brookman Catalog that they were tossing out. She has donated it to the library. Joan also mentioned that she was reading the Nature Conservancy Magazine and came across a nice article about Duck Stamps. She passed that around. She also told us that she received a letter from a hopeful stamp swapping partner from Amsterdam. If anyone is interested in a stamp exchange she will give you the name and address. Jim Giacomazzi told us that if we frequent garage sales to be on the lookout for old stamp catalogs and books. He was telling us about his great "finds". Jim Sauer announced that he attended the Westpex Directors meeting and they discussed the new frame purchases between 5 clubs. Apparently, 40 frames will be stored in near Peninsula area and 60 frames will be stored in the San Jose area. Delivery charges and more information will be forthcoming. The old frames will either be tossed or sold. San Jose will have 115 page frames that they will be selling. It was suggested that the plastic front be salvaged. Ed Morey announced that the SIRS (Sons in Retirement Stamp Club) is currently recruiting members. See Ed if you are interested or would like more information.

Raffle Drawing: 1st Drawing was won by Jim Sauer (hey you won last meeting too!). 2nd Drawing was won by Eduardo Martino

Ernie Lee started his presentation on Philatelic Literature. He passed around lots of good material for us to look over and of course, he wanted it all back. Great presentation Ernie!

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm

Silent Auction closed shortly thereafter

Saint Patrick is believed to have been born in the late fourth century, and is often confused with Palladius, a bishop who was sent by Pope Celestine in 431 to be the first bishop to the Irish believers in Christ.



Saint Patrick was the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland who is credited with bringing christianity to Ireland. Most of what is known about him comes from his two works, the Confessio, a spiritual autobiography, and his Epistola, a denunciation of British mistreatment of Irish christians. Saint Patrick described himself as a "most humble-minded man, pouring forth a continuous paean of thanks to his Maker for having chosen him as the instrument whereby multitudes who had worshipped idols and unclean things had become the people of God."

Saint Patrick is most known for driving the snakes from Ireland. It is true there are no snakes in Ireland, but there probably never have been - the island was separated from the rest of the continent at the end of the Ice Age. As in many old pagan religions, serpent symbols were common and often worshipped. Driving the snakes from Ireland was probably symbolic of putting an end to that pagan practice. While not the first to bring christianity to Ireland, it is Patrick who is said to have encountered the Druids at Tara and abolished their pagan rites. The story holds that he converted the warrior chiefs and princes, baptizing them and thousands of their subjects in the "Holy Wells" that still bear this name.

There are several accounts of Saint Patrick's death. One says that Patrick died at Saul, Downpatrick, Ireland, on March 17, 460 A.D. His jawbone was preserved in a silver shrine and was often requested in times of childbirth, epileptic fits, and as a preservative against the "evil eye." Another account says that St. Patrick ended his days at Glastonbury, England and was buried there. The Chapel of St. Patrick still exists as part of Glastonbury Abbey. Today, many Catholic places of worship all around the world are named after St. Patrick, including cathedrals in New York and Dublin city



Why Saint Patrick's Day?

Saint Patrick's Day has come to be associated with everything Irish: anything green and gold, shamrocks and luck. Most importantly, to those who celebrate its intended meaning, St. Patrick's Day is a traditional day for spiritual renewal and offering prayers for missionaries worldwide.

So, why is it celebrated on March 17th? One theory is that that is the day that St. Patrick died. Since the holiday began in Ireland, it is believed that as the Irish spread out around the world, they took with them their history and celebrations. The biggest observance of all is, of course, in Ireland. With the exception of restaurants and pubs, almost all businesses close on March 17th. Being a religious holiday as well, many Irish attend mass, where March 17th is the traditional day for offering prayers for missionaries worldwide before the serious celebrating begins.

In American cities with a large Irish population, St. Patrick's Day is a very big deal. Big cities and small towns alike celebrate with parades, "wearing of the green," music and songs, Irish food and drink, and activities for kids such as crafts, coloring and games. Some communities even go so far as to dye rivers or streams green!



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY