

UnHinged...by Miss PerfA. Rate



"Miss Deutsch, people that buy stamps are called customers, not suckers!"



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

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Stamp Chatter

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Newsletter of the Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City

From the President

A computer can be a stamp collector's best friend. Some of you may be like a colleague of mine who doesn't own one and refuses to get on board with any of the new technology. She still has her faithful typewriter and her rotary telephone. But my computer is a tool that I could no longer do without. I am composing this article while sitting at my computer, and when I am done I will email it to the editor of our newsletter. I have a scanner, so I can include photos and pictures in my article to make it more interesting. I can also use the spelling and grammar check to pick up and correct my numerous typos.

The efficiency of a computer can be especially helpful to a stamp collector. It is a good way to make an inventory of your collection or to keep up a want list. You can create your own format with a spreadsheet or purchase software that is specifically designed for that purpose. You can use it for your collection. Jim Mosso has a great program that I borrowed to print pages for my British Machin Head collection. A computer can also be used as an aid in creating exhibits. Last year I used my computer to design the pages for my Penpex exhibit. I was pleased with the layout, and especially happy when I received an award.



A computer is an efficient tool for handling a large amount of data. For the Penpex silent auction, Kristin Patterson developed a program to handle all the bidder and seller information. Data must still be entered, but then the lots can be sorted by buyer, sales tax automatically computed, and totals prepared for each winning bidder. It still takes some time to complete this operation, but it is carried out with much greater speed and accuracy than trying

President's Message - Continued on Page 2

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Upcoming Meetings

September 11
Swap Meet

September 25
Quiz Night
Bill Dutcher

October 9
Live Auction

October 23
Film

November 13
TBA - Ed Rodriguez

November 27
Covers From Long
Gone Airlines
Ernie Lee

December 1 & 2
PENPEX

December 11
Christmas Holiday
Party

To me the biggest advantage of having a computer is access to the Internet. I can access many services of the APS through their web site, including the Library and the Stamp Store. I can buy and sell stamps on sites such as ebay. I can access catalogs and bid via the Internet with auction companies like Harmer-Schau and Vance Auctions. I can check out web sites that are dedicated to stamp collectors such as the Glassine Surfer. I can even read our own club newsletter on the Sequoia Stamp Club website.

The Internet can also be a great source of information. I purchased the illustrated cover at a recent silent auction. When I got home I did a Google search on Col. C. F. Dickel and found a three page article on him posted on the website for the New York State Military Museum. He had been a member of the German army, and at the outbreak of the Civil War was operating a riding academy in New York. He organized the Fourth New York Volunteer Cavalry, was appointed a colonel, and placed in command. The unit was never a day absent from the scene of active operations, and served with credit under General Fremont. An old cover becomes so much more interesting when you are able to gather some information on the people involved in the correspondence.

So add a computer to your stamp collecting tools along with your tongs, perforation gauge, and watermark detector. The costs for a computer are coming down at the same time that capacity and speed are increasing. They are available for free use at most libraries. You'll be amazed at how much a computer can increase the fun and knowledge you can get from our great hobby.

Jim Giacomazzi
President, Sequoia Stamp Club

Dear PENPEX Volunteers;

The Dec. 1 and 2 PENPEX 2007 show is now less than 3 months away. Your involvement is crucial. First, Vesma Grinfeld and Jim Mosso are accepting exhibit entries and silent auction lots, respectively. An exhibit prospectus can be downloaded at www.PENPEX.org.

Second, the day before the show on Friday, Nov. 30, we need people (men and women) to help set up the venue from 4 to 9 pm. Also, on Sunday from 4 to 7 pm, we need help with take down of tables and exhibit frames. Please contact Eduardo Martino if you are available.

Speaking of exhibit frames, this year will be the first time we will be using the standard 16-page medal frames. The frames will be delivered in portable pods by the storage company on Friday morning. The show needs a responsible, detail-orientated person to oversee the careful unpacking and set up of these frames. It should take only a couple hours on Friday. An additional 2 hours is needed at the end of the show on Sunday to pack the frames back into the pods. This person does NOT need to lift frames as our step volunteers will do that, but we do need someone to orchestrate the careful assembly and repacking of the frames. Please contact Kristin Patterson if you are interested in this position as it takes no time during the show.

Let us talk next about the food during the show. Last year, the show snack bar was located for the first time in the kitchen area of the main hall and was a huge success. People felt it was easy to access; hot items were hot and cold items were cold; a great variety of choices; and as always the staff was commended for their friendliness. Jim Giacomazzi who ran the snack bar last year with his wife, Kathy, has offered to pickup all supplies. So the time consuming work is done and now we need volunteers to run the store front on either Saturday from 9 am to 3:30 pm and/or Sunday 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Also, each dealer gets a free meal on Sat. and Sun. as part of their table fees. We need someone who can make sandwiches (put meat on bread as the dealers put on their own condiments) and deliver the goodies to the dealers. The person who takes this job will be the dealers' best friend. Please contact Kristin Patterson, if you are interest in any of the food related jobs.

Next, the position of the all important greeter who welcomes attendees to the show, gives out programs, and answers people's questions. Ernie Lee will be taking names for this sit down, no lifting job.

Last and most important to the future of philately is the youth area. We are looking for members and their children or grandchildren to volunteer for a couple of hours at the youth area during the show hours. Please contact Darlene Hickok to sign up for a few hours.

Remember, for variety, you can volunteer in more than one area. Also, get a buddy to sign up with you and the time will fly by.

Kristin Patterson
2007 PENPEX Chair

The Caboose



PENPEX COMMITTEE

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



Thank You Kristin for
the Great Pictures!



SEQUOIA STAMP CLUB BBQ
AUGUST 21, 2007

Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries - Continued

August 28, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

No Guests and correspondence.

Committee Reports: Richard Griffone read his Treasurer's Report. Jim Mosso told us that the new sales books have been ordered. They will be .35c each of 3 for \$1.00. Ernie Lee is passing around the 2008 Events Calendar for members to sign up to give a presentation. Ernie announced that the Club Swap Meet will be September 11th. The price for a half table is .50c and a full table is \$1.00. Tables are for members only but anyone can come in to buy from the Swap Meet. The Executive Board By-Laws have been voted in and changed unanimously to change the date to drop a member for non-payment of dues from October 1st to July 31st. Kristin Patterson talked about the PENPEX Show and called for volunteers. She is in need of volunteers for the snack bar and also for the frames. Jim Giacomazzi has the PENPEX forms for exhibiting. Jim Mosso has the PENPEX lot forms. They can be turned in to Bill Dutcher.

Old Business: The August 21st BBQ was fantastic. Everybody had a great time and enjoyed fabulous food.

New Business: (We have voted in a prior member- have a call to Jim about this). Executive Board met this evening at 7pm and discussions are mentioned in Committee Reports above. Jim Giacomazzi has heard from Leroy Harbaugh. Leroy is thinking about us and will be at 530 Pine St in Redwood City if anyone would like to visit him. Steve Morger is acting Librarian in Leroy's absence. Ernie Lee has the 2004 Scott Catalog on CD and is willing to share with members. Let him know which country you would like to checkout. Ed Morey donated a large group of stamps to the youth club. Thank you Ed!

For the Good of Philately: Ernie Lee attended the APS show in Portland. 104 Dealers were in attendance. Ask Ernie about his trip, he has quite a story to tell about all his adventures there. Paul Swierstra has ordered a coil of 100 of the new issue Blooms stamps. If anyone would like a set of 10 get in touch with him to purchase a set.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Philip Tang
2nd Drawing was won by Jack Drach

John Michelin started his presentation on Sailing Ships. Great presentation John.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm
Silent Auction Completed 9:20
31 members in attendance

2007 APS Stamp Show

Aug. 9-12, 2007 • Portland, Oregon



The registration area and displays of show covers at the 2007 APS Stamp Show



During the show, the American Air Mail Society sponsored a tour of the Pearson Aviation Museum (Pictured above) housed inside an old hanger (Pictured below) in Vancouver, Washington.



Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries

July 10, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

A moment of silence was given in memory of Miriam Thurston's daughter. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Miriam.

Reading of minutes from last meeting deferred. Minutes are available for members to read.

No guests this evening.

No correspondence this evening.

Committee Reports: The pizza party was lots of fun. Be sure to put it on your calendar for next year! Thank you, Paul Swierstra, for the coupon that reduced our cost of the pizza party.

New Business:

Penpex:

Hank Washauer said that he still has FDC for sale at \$2.00 each. See him if you are interested. Jim Mosso reminded us to start on auction items now for December, which is fast approaching.

Old Business:

Our annual club picnic will be August 21st in the back of our meeting room.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Darlene Hickok
2nd Drawing was won by Fritz Gelb

For the Good of Philately: Miriam Thurston had a display at the main RWC library, which was excellent.

Philatelic Quiz is tonight's program by Bill Dutcher.

1st place went to Jim Giacomazzi
2nd place was Jim Mosso

3rd place winner was Jose Lopez

Let's hear it for the "J's"

Meeting adjourned

Silent auction end at 9:20pm

Due to publication deadline, I was not able to print the Meeting Summaries for July 21. Thank you for your cooperation. - Editor

August 14, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Introduction of Guests: None

Correspondence: Hank Washauer talked about the Redwood City Parks & Rec survey. All of those that can access the internet should login to www.redwoodcity.org/parks to complete this important survey. Hank also said that he is passing around a signup sheet to receive the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies Courier Newsletter by email. Jim Giacomazzi announced that the Harvest of Gems and Minerals Show is September 15/16 from 10am to 5pm in our same building. Free admission.

Committee Reports: Events: Ernie Lee: John "Mitch" Michelin is giving a presentation on "Sailing Ships" next meeting (August 28th).

Old Business: The August 21st BBQ is ready. The cooks have met and have set the menu. Bring your best buddy and your appetite!

New Business: New member Jeffrey Caldwell was voted in unanimously. Welcome Jeff! Jim Mosso said to get your Penpex auction lots together. Now is the time! The Executive Board Committee meets before our next meeting, August 28th at 7:00pm. Please be on time.

For the Good of Philately: Ernie Lee attended the APS show in Portland. 104 Dealers were in attendance. Ask Ernie about his trip, he has quite a story to tell about all his adventures there.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Hank Washauer plus a Canadian prize (darn the secretary missed this one again)

2nd Drawing was won by Herb Nishio Live Auction started at 8:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

29 members in attendance

Writers Wanted

Would you like to write an article for the Stamp Chatter? Do you have an interesting philatelic subject or collecting area you would like to share?

Contact Ernie Lee at (650) 455-1710 for more details.

ESCAPE TO MANILA

By Marsha Brandsdorfer



When I was working as a volunteer usher one evening at the San Jose Repertory Theater in San Jose, I had a conversation with an elderly woman patron. I noticed that she had a German accent. She had told me that she was Jewish. I asked her if she lived in Europe during WWII, and if she had been a survivor of one of the camps. She said that she grew up in Germany, but that she and her family escaped to the Philippines because of the persecution of the Jewish citizens of Germany. I was surprised. I had never heard that Jewish people had escaped to the Philippines during this time.

The next day I did a search on the Internet. There didn't appear to be much information at all on the subject. However, I discovered a book called "Escape to Manila: From Nazi Tyranny to Japanese Terror" by Frank Ephraim (who apparently himself was a German refugee in the Philippines with his family when he was a young boy).

I ordered a copy of the book so that I could read about the subject. The author stated that there were approximately 1,200 German and Austrian Jews who took refuge in the Philippines. Thinking about that, it really was not a lot. Perhaps that was why there was not a lot of information on the subject?

By the late 1930s, the situation for the Jewish people in Germany continued to get worse for them due to persecution by the Nazis, so they were motivated to get out of their country. At first, some of the Jewish people felt denial, but then as things began to get worse, many of them realized that they had to leave. They did hope that by going to Manila, they might be able to eventually immigrate to the United States.

The Jewish community in Manila prepared for the refugee's arrival. Rabbi Schwartz re-established the Sunday school at Temple Emil. The Sunday school had been abandoned in the late 1920s. They created a position for a Sunday school teacher, and they structured some activities, including plans to prepare the young boys for Bar Mitzvahs. The Board at Temple Emil wanted only to contribute a small sum of money to the new teachers' salary. This showed that although the Manila Jewish community wanted to help the refugees, they were still reluctant to go full force.

The Jewish refugees who were to arrive in Manila had to be put on an "approved" list by the Manila Jewish Refugee Committee to be granted a visa to enter the Country. The author was not clear on how to get on the "approved" list, except that he did state that the refugees would have to obtain affidavits, I assume from friends or distant relatives who could vouch for the refugees as good or contributory citizens.

As the situation worsened in Germany and Austria, the Jewish people became more desperate to get out of their countries. By the end of 1938, about two hundred refugees came to the Philippines without an approved visa. The Manila Jewish Refugee Committee sought to provide initial financial aid and shelter for the new arrivals.

Not everyone was favorable to the refugees' approaching arrival. General Emilio Aguinaldo of Mindanao did not want them to come to the Philippines. He said, "The Jews are dangerous people to have around in large numbers." He had said that they control and absorb the population of the areas where they settle.

However, many Filipinos were accepting of the Jewish people. They did not condemn them for their faith, as the Nazis did.

There was support from President Quezon who donated acres of his personal property to be established into a working farm for Jewish refugees. (By 1940, a farmhouse would be established on this land. It was called Marikina Hall.) [See Figure 1 for Picture of President Quezon]



Figure 1



Figure 2

The refugees arrived by ship. Some people were able to enter the city of Manila in the Philippines by way of Shanghai. Since the language and culture were so different from their own, they were apprehensive about their new venture. They had to give up their homes and their jobs to make a new life for themselves in the Philippines, but here most of the Philippines were accepting of their religion, so they could be free with their identities. [See Figure 2 for map of Philippines. This stamp shows ships traveling to and from the Philippines since 1565]

The Jewish Germans would have to get used to the Filipinos particularly in business where wages were quite low and the Filipinos worked at a much slower pace than the Germans were used to, and often were late to work. The Germans were much more interested in promptness and precision.

Also, the hygienic conditions in Manila were not as good as they had been in Germany. Many of the refugees got body rashes, fever, and had other problems. Thus, medical care was a concern. [Although Manila had some wonderful nature – see Figure 3 showing birds and fish, but still the city was not without disease]

Some Jewish doctors gave medical treatment for free to refugees that they knew could not afford to pay, but that upset the Filipino doctors who felt they were losing business by this competition. Even refugees who could pay, preferred to go to the Jewish doctors who had been educated at some of the best medical schools in Germany and Austria. Because the Filipinos felt threatened by this competition, doctors were instructed by laws not to practice medicine since they were not certified by the Philippine government.

As the Jewish community grew, they tried to get on with their lives. They published a bi-monthly Jewish newspaper called "The Star" which printed announcements of Sunday school activities. There were short articles and ads.

Jobs, however, were limited and many of the refugees were on a welfare system. Refugees were also encouraged to work outside of Manila since jobs were limited in Manila for everyone.

Ironically, there was a need for a sausage maker at a sausage factory. Ironic, since sausage was not kosher, but this was a good job for a Jewish immigrant, since it provided steady work.

Due to the ongoing war, by 1940, the situation had become so bad in Europe that it became nearly impossible for anyone to migrate to the Philippines. On December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. The following morning, the Japanese air force paid a violent visit to the Manila area. This raid brought the Philippines into WWII. The Filipinos, out of caution, arrested the German Jewish refugees. Morton Netzorg, Secretary of the Jewish Refugee Committee went to the various police stations to explain that the Nazis persecuted them, and thus, they were allies, not enemies.

The Japanese took over occupation of the Philippines. Schools were not allowed to teach English, history or geography. Only math and music were allowed. Propaganda classes were taught about the Japanese regime and Japanese language classes became mandatory.

Propaganda was also in the media, since the Japanese took over control of that as well. In the local papers they ran an article indicating that since the Jewish people had no homeland, they were "parasites of the countries in which they live." The Japanese instituted martial law in Manila. To protect their entering troops, they warned that anyone trying to harm a Japanese soldier would be shot to death. The Japanese put Americans and Europeans into internment camps. The Japanese warned that anyone who did not cooperate would be "severely dealt with." It was decided that the Jewish refugees who lived in the Philippines would be considered "stateless." However, they would be treated just like every one else who was not Japanese.

The outside world would know little about the situation of the Jews in the Philippines, since the Japanese did not allow for anyone to represent them. No Jewish leader or Rabbi would be allowed to communicate with anyone in the United States about their situation or their needs. There was little contact between the United States and the Jewish people because of this.

Some refugees were imprisoned and tortured by the Japanese for information, much of it was due to paranoia. For instance, the Japanese found a note in a convert with a sentence, "Butch has presented us with more dependents." This was actually in reference to a cat that gave birth to kittens. But the Japanese soldiers thought it was a code for a Jewish conspiracy against the Japanese.

NEXT ISSUE: *The Americans Surprise Attack The Japanese In The Philippines. A Stamp Collector Risks His Life Trying To Save His Collection.*



Figure 3