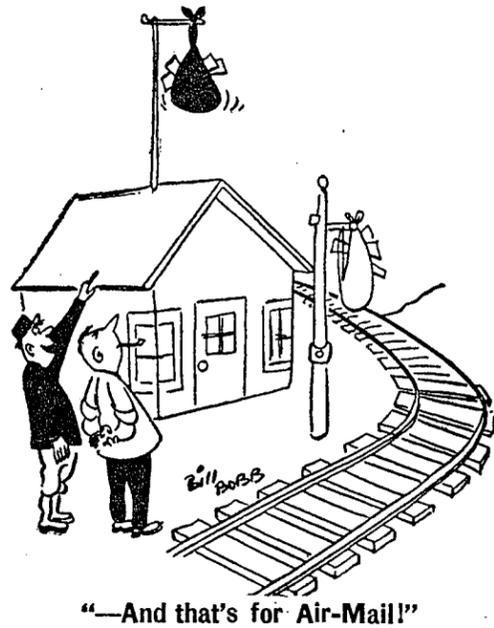


UnHinged...by Yu O'Tide



"—And that's for Air-Mail!"



"I still say it's a phoney, the original had two moles on the left cheek!"

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Stamp Chatter

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November/December
2007

Newsletter of the Sequoia Stamp Club, Redwood City

From the President

My thoughts for this month's newsletter come from the Disney classic "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." It would be a real pleasure to be spend time with Happy and Bashful, Doc and Dopey, and even Sleepy and Sneezzy. But I would have a problem with Grumpy. I do not find it pleasant to spend time in the company of grumpy people. I especially would not want Grumpy to be a member of my stamp club.

Grumpy would complain about everything. He would criticize the elected officers, but never run for office himself. He would carry around copies of the club by-laws and Robert's Rules of Order in his pocket to make sure that everything that takes place at the meeting is done according to the "rules". He would review the minutes carefully to check for errors or omissions. He would be opposed to any changes or new ideas, and constantly remind everyone how great the club used to be in the good old days. He would criticize the programs for being too long and too boring, often leaving in the middle of a presentation, but never offering to make a presentation himself.

You will never find Grumpy participating in the club auctions because there would never be anything that he could use for his specialized collection of inverted overprints on Zululand revenues. Heaven forbid that he ever expand his interest to other areas.



President's Message - Continued on Page 2



The holidays are here at the USPS

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Upcoming Meetings

November 13
Getting Started in Exhibiting
Dr. Edward Laveroni

November 27
Covers From Long Gone Airlines
Ernie Lee

December 1 & 2
PENPEX

December 11
Christmas Holiday Party

January 8, 2008
Installation of Officers
Past President's Exhibit

January 22, 2008
Film

Grumpy is a serious collector and does not have time for social events such as club picnics and pizza parties. He would prefer to not have young people around period. To him stamp collecting and having fun are mutually exclusive. Exhibiting is out of the question because he prefers that other people not know what material he has in his collection. Grumpy believes that communication is very important among club members, but does not want to be called at home. And don't even bring up the idea of email to Grumpy – he's got along without a computer for all these years, and doesn't see any need for one now. Grumpy always attends the annual club show, but never volunteers to participate on any of the committees. He has many suggestions for improving the show, but really doesn't want things to go too well because then he would have nothing to complain about. I guess Grumpy just likes being grumpy. Aren't you glad that we don't have a Grumpy in our club! Let's all keep a positive outlook, a friendly attitude toward others, and a smile on our face. That's what makes Sequoia Club special and makes all the members look forward to our gatherings. I'll see you when I get back from Ireland, and I hope there are no leprechauns or dwarfs of any kind waiting for me there.



Jim Giacomazzi
President, Sequoia Stamp Club

Dear PENPEX Volunteers;

The 2007 PENPEX show is always held the first weekend in December. This year it is the earliest possible date, Dec. 1 and 2. Which means it is closer to Thanksgiving and further from Christmas. Hopefully this will bring more people since they will be around from the weeks before celebration with family at Thanksgiving. And at the same time everyone will have money to spend on stamp gifts.

I am delighted that so many people have volunteered to assist. There is always something to be done. If you have time before and after the show, you can help with setup and takedown (Eduardo Martino). If you have an hour or two (and they do not have to be consecutive) during the show, you can assist at the welcome table (Ernie Lee), the snack bar (Kristin Patterson), youth area (Darlene Hickok), or auction room (Jim Mosso). Make sure to contact the chair person for that area whose name is in parentheses.

Most importantly, tell your friends, neighbors, coworkers, and relatives about the show. Remember there will be many dealers, a silent auction that will close at 2:30 pm on Sunday, a youth area for beginners and young experienced collectors, diverse philatelic exhibits, and lots of friendly people to socialize with. Also purchase your banquet ticket (Joan Doherty) for \$30 per person. The banquet will be held at a new venue, Arrivederci & Bella at 487 Seaport Court in Redwood City. The location is at the far east end of Woodside Road which turns into Seaport Court.

Lastly, there will be a PENPEX all-committee meeting on Wed., Nov. 14 at 7 pm at the Redwood City Activity Center. If you cannot attend make sure to give Kristin or Hank a status report on your area and any last minute concerns.

Enjoy your stamp hunting.
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

PENPEX

December 1 and 2, 2007

Sat. 10 – 5:30 pm & Sun. 10 – 4 pm

Community Activities Bldg.
1400 Roosevelt Ave.
Redwood City, CA

17 Dealers, Show cachet with show cancel
Huge silent auction, multiple raffle items,
Youth Area (free give-aways for all kids),
40 exhibits frames and Awards Banquet.

Snack bar serving hot and cold snacks.

Website: www.penpex.org
Email: penpexredwoodcity@yahoo.com

**FREE
PARKING!**

**FREE
ADMISSION!**



Pictures from
PENPEX 2006

Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries - Continued

October 9, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Guests: Aaron Horton is our guest tonight and welcome back John Thomas

Correspondence: SUNPEX Show at the Sunnyvale Community Center, 550 E. Remington Dr., November 10-11th.

Committee Reports: Ernie Lee said that the 2008 Events Calendar is wide-open. Joan Doherty is getting the PENPEX banquet together. This year's banquet dinner will be held at Arriverderci Italian Restaurant, 487 Seaport Ct., Redwood City. It looks like tickets will be sold for \$30 and the menu will include choices like Filet of Sole Dore, Chicken Piccata and Lasagna A'lla. More information will follow.

HGHankHank Washauer is looking to nominate officers for next year. See him if you would like to be involved.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Worthy mention that next year Veteran's Day will fall on our Tuesday meeting. An article was brought in and passed around about historical John Dusel.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Larry Christiansen
2nd Drawing was won by Ed Rodriguez

Live Auction started

Meeting adjourned and swap meet started at 9:00pm
In attendance 29+



October 23, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Guests: Aaron Horton has been nominated and unanimously voted in as our newest member. Welcome Aaron!

Correspondence: Bill Dutcher received incoming email from a person who wants to dispose of a collection. Bill said that he will help where needed.

Committee Reports: Jim Mosso said that sales books are on sale; 3 for \$1.00 or .35c each. Kristen Patterson has flyers available to advertise PENPEX. Darlene Hickok announced that it is time to think about raffle donations. Joan Doherty said that she has PENPEX banquet dinner tickets available - \$30 each. Jim Giacomazzi has PENPEX exhibit forms available.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Jim Giacomazzi passed around an article about Earl Apfelbaum, Inc. from Belmont. Joan Doherty passed around an article about the APS Show. John Dusel gave a reading about the USS Akron where his father (then Mayor of Redwood City) and him and his brother was able to take a tour in 1932. George Henderson shared with us that he has been testing magic tape on the backs of his stamps. He claims it leaves no marks. We don't know what the long-term effect is yet. Thank you George for sharing that with us.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by John Dusel
2nd Drawing was won by Jose Lopez
3rd special Canadian Drawing was won by Miriam Thurston
4th special Canadian Drawing was won by Chris Thompson

Ed Rodriguez started his presentation on Tristan da Cunha. Very interesting Ed. Great presentation!

Meeting adjourned and swap meet started at 9:20pm
In attendance = 35+

ESCAPE TO MANILA PART 2 - CONTINUED

By the end of 1948, approximately six hundred Jews left the Philippines, most for America. A small number decided to remain in the Philippines, at least for the time being, particularly if they were able to secure jobs or careers in the Philippines, or wished to continue their studies in engineering or medicine. The author and his family went to America. (See Figure 4, Stamps from the Philippines showing Manila Bay at sunset – peaceful).



Figure 4

Sequoia Stamp Club Meeting Summaries

September 11, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

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

Guests: No guests

Correspondence: Bill Dutcher told us that he received a letter asking for any interest by our members to Canadian official first day covers.

Committee Reports: Ernie Lee announced that he has the 2008 Event Calendar up and available.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Ernie Lee has the newest Chatter for members to pick up

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Ed Jesswani
2nd Drawing was won by Ray Bollerli

Ernie Lee announced that he has the Scott Catalogue CD. If you are interested you may check them out with him to take home.

Meeting adjourned and swap meet started at 8:10pm
31 members in attendance

Articles and Pictures Wanted
If you have any articles or pictures you would like to write or share
Contact
Ernie Lee at
650-455-1710

September 25, 2007

Redwood City Community Activities Building

Meeting called to order by Vice President Ed Rodriguez at 8:00pm – Jim Giacomazzi is on vacation

Guests: No guests

Correspondence: No correspondence

Committee Reports: Bill Dutcher reminded us that he has the forms for the PENPEX lots.

Ed Rodriguez announced some program changes coming up:

- Vesma Grinfelds will give an "Exhibiting" presentation on October 23rd
- Ed Rodriguez will give his presentation on the "Volcanic Post Office" on November 13th
- Ernie Lee will give a presentation on "Long Gone Airlines" November 27th

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Ernie Lee has the newest Chatter for members to pick up before you leave. Hank Washauer reminded PENPEX board members that the Board meeting is November 7th at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room in our building complex. Hank also said that volunteers are needed for PENPEX so please volunteer early. Joan Doherty told us that she attended the Gem and Mineral Show that was held in our meeting room and that is was a very nice show.

Raffle Drawing:

1st Drawing was won by Richard Griffone
2nd Drawing was won by Jim Sauer

Program started by Miriam Thurston on Sculpture Artists on Stamps. Great presentation Miriam!

Meeting adjourned and swap meet started at 9:10pm

ATTENTION ALL SEQUOIA CLUB MEMBERS NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE SEQUOIA STAMP CLUB BY-LAWS:

ARTICLE II, MEMBERSHIP • SECTION IV ITEM 1, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

NOW READS AS FOLLOWS:

1. A MEMBER SHALL BE DROPPED WITHOUT NOTICE FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES WHEN NINE (9) MONTHS IN ARREARS. WHILE IN ARREARS HE/SHE WILL BE CONSIDERED A NON-MEMBER.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT "NINE (9) MONTHS" BE CHANGED TO " SIX (6) MONTHS.

THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE IS TO ALIGN THE MEMBERSHIP DROP DATE WITH THE PUBLISHING OF THE BI-MONTHLY CHATTER. ALL PAID UP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING THE CHATTER AS LONG AS THEY ARE ON THE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS. THE CHANGE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE CLUB'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE FIRST REGULAR CLUB MEETING IN JANUARY. A TWO THIRDS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THAT MEETING IS REQUIRED TO PASS THE AMENDMENT.

ESCAPE TO MANILA PART 2

By Marsha Brandsdorfer



On September 21, 1944, there was an air raid by the Americans over the Philippines as an attack against the occupying Japanese. (See Figure 1, US stamp of military airplane).

Their surprise attack was against the Japanese military bases, their airfields and their ships. After the raids, the surviving Japanese took over some of the buildings where the Jewish people lived to use for storage for their military supplies, as they wanted to build their defense on land in preparation for future battles. They also took over the Temple Emil. Therefore, much of the religious items from the temple were distributed to some families in the Jewish community. Religious services would now have to be held at homes, since the people were without a synagogue to pray in.

There was a shortage of food and medicine after the air raids. The Japanese tried to get Filipinos and refugees to help them with their labor in their war against the Americans. The sausage factory was closed due to lack of meat after the Japanese soldiers came into the factory to steal whatever was available.

In early 1945, American troops invaded the Japanese in Manila. Military planes smashed through the gates of the Santo Tomás Internment Camp, liberating European and American prisoners. Among the liberated were approximately two hundred and fifty Jewish people. The prisoners had been incarcerated for approximately three years and were now in need of proper medical care and nutrition.

The “Battle for Manila” would last for about a month. Many civilians tried to seek coverage from the fighting. The Americans told them to stay off the streets. Many people sought shelter in hospital buildings made of concrete. The author says he and his family kept an emergency supply of some food, water, a teapot, their old German passports, and other items in case they had to evacuate their home quickly. Sure enough they saw the Japanese light up some nearby homes, so the author, his family, and other family members had to leave their home. The Japanese shot and murdered civilians. They also bayoneted many individuals.

Some civilians were wounded or killed by friendly fire by the American troops. As fighting intensified, the Japanese continued to burn houses and many people perished in the fires. The Japanese set the Temple Emil on fire. Here, I quote from Mr. Ephraim’s book, a story about a stamp collector trying to save his collection:

“Meanwhile a young man by the name of Kurt Broniatowski, who lived with his mother a few blocks away and had stored his stamp collection with Albert Welisch, ventured toward the Welisch home. He did not know that the Welisch family was now safely behind the battle lines. As he entered the back porch, a guerrilla dressed in an American army uniform came out of the kitchen that led to the porch and shot him.”

A short time later two physicians, residents of Manila, entered the house and asked the guerrilla what was going on. Broniatowski, who was bleeding from his mouth tried to explain what had happened, but before he could do so, the guerrilla fired two shots into him to prevent him from talking. Confronted with the rifle held by the guerrilla, and noting that others were in the house with the obvious intent to loot the premises, the two doctors retreated.

The author does go on to explain that Broniatowski died from his wounds. I wished that the author had



Figure 1

written more details about Broniatowski and his stamp collection, but he hadn’t. Broniatowski’s collection was valuable to him; he unknowingly risked his life to save it. The author says that he and his mother and father were staying in a nearby shelter. However, the day before Broniatowski was killed, their shelter received a direct hit from a missile. He and his family rushed out of the shelter and hid in a ten foot trench made of logs and covered with soil. They had to stay there for a few days while the battle continued. They had to rely on their emergency food and water supplies to survive.

By March 3, 1945, the battle finally ended. The author compared the damaged city as “second only to that of Warsaw.” He said one hundred thousand Filipino civilians were killed. Americans lost 1,010 soldiers and 5,565 were wounded. However, sixteen thousand Japanese soldiers lost their lives during this aggressive fight.

After the battle, it was time to pick up the pieces. A Jewish sergeant or corporal would serve in each community as a contact to handle the logistics in helping their people. Food, soap, spare uniforms were given to the refugees. Soon the Philippine Civil Affairs Units brought food and clothes to the refugees.

News of the outside world came to the refugees. They learned about what the Nazis had done to their people. They learned about the concentration camps and deaths. News of President F.D. Roosevelt’s death was spread on April 13, 1945. (See Figure 2, US stamp of President F. D. Roosevelt).

News of the defeat of the Nazi army and their surrender on May 7, 1945 followed. Then on August 6, 1945, the people learned of the atomic bomb that had been dropped on Hiroshima. Then there was the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, and the Japanese surrendered.

The Jewish people could celebrate their freedom. Service for the fall holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur followed. In October 1945, a group called Kvutazat Chaverim initiated activities for Jewish youth, including social events, study of Jewish history, language (Hebrew), and celebration of the Jewish holidays. As children gathered, they could discuss their experiences during the war.

It was determined that the refugees would have to leave Manila in order to have a financial future. Arrangements would be made for Jewish Americans to return to their states. As for the European Jews, since they were considered “stateless,” arrangements would be worked on to see if they too could immigrate to the United States.

Just as many of the Europeans had been accepted in the Philippines by way of affidavits, affidavits were needed to be provided by distant relatives or friends for immigration to America. Many of the Jewish refugees would leave the Philippines for America on small ships or military ships.

Meanwhile in Manila, money was raised to help rebuild Temple Emil and to provide a memorial for the Jewish victims who died during the war in the Philippines. By February 1947, a monument was created and placed in the Cimiterio Del Norte, where seventy-five names were engraved on it. A ceremony was held at the monuments unveiling. In a message written by the current President of the Philippines, Manuel Roxas, which was read by U.S. Navy Commander Julius Edelstein, he said, “... Freedom, equality and the dignity of the individual could not be stamped out by the Japanese in the Philippines any more than by the Nazis in Germany.”



Figure 3

The restored Temple Emil opened on August 17, 1947, also with a ceremony. A plaque was secured to the temple in honor of the Jewish servicemen and women who died in WWII helping to liberate the Filipinos from the Japanese.

A Jewish homeland, the State of Israel, became established on May 14, 1948. (See Figure 3, Israeli stamp showing homes).



Figure 2

Continued on Page 6