

Stamp



Chatter

Volume 46 - Issue No. 3 w301

July, Aug, Sept, 2015

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, at 7:05 pm.

Refreshments are served and visitors are always welcome.

More info at:

www.penpex.org/ssc

President's Message:

At the Sequoia Stamp Club 2015 season midpoint, I have been impressed with the quality and substance of our meetings. Our members have stepped up to offer fun activities, lively auctions, and worthwhile presentations. Our VP, Jim Giacomazzi, has managed the Larry Christiansen consignment sale in two phases thus far. The May auction was our most successful live auction to date. In April, Ken Lewetzow and Wally Joliff presented our annual Philatelic Quiz. I won't look at newspaper stamps the same way again.



The six member presentations so far have been particularly strong. In February, Jim presented "The Berlin Airlift," a web-based presentation detailing the role of the "Candy Bomber." Ed Rodriguez presented "Inca Mailmen." Without written word, the Incas predated the Pony Express by centuries. Who knew a messenger's belt could hold so much information? Kristin Patterson educated us on early revenues in which she specializes. She provided depth of knowledge during her talk "Due to the Civil War." You can view it at www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKBcICTQDsg.

In May, Larry Christiansen gave a presentation on Wake Island. His first-hand account may well be the closest any of us will come to the island, as it is closed to non-authorized personnel. Cathy Phalen provided an overview of "Airmail Etiquettes," cinderella stamps issued by a number of private print houses from many countries. Many labels varieties exist, as they were not produced under any official edict. The talk was a great effort for a (cough) non-member to put forth. Our latest presentation by Ed Bierman on the "100th Anniversary of the Panama Pacific Exposition" gave a great sense of the architecture and other interesting features of the exposition.

Let's hope we can enjoy the same caliber of activities, auctions, and presentations in the latter half of 2015. Looking over the calendar of upcoming scheduled events below, I think there is no doubt that this will be the case.

Craig Butterworth, Sequoia Stamp Club President

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2015 Sequoia Club Programs & Stamp Calendar Schedule

- **June 30: SSC Summer Picnic** - 5:00 pm, Community Activities Building.
- July 14 - Philatelic Scavenger Hunt - Kristin Patterson
- July 28 - Swap Meet (members sell their material) - Craig Butterworth
- Aug 11 - EFO's (Part I - Errors) - Peter Adams
- Aug 25 - Live Auction - Christiansen Consignment Sale #2
Executive Board Meeting - 6:15 (Open to all members)
- **Sept 5-6: Great American Stamp Expo** - Napredak Hall, San Jose
- Sept 8 - APS Video - "The Guernsey Connection"
- Sept 22 - Philatelic Bingo - Jim Giacomazzi
- **Sept 29: Pizza Party** - 5:00 pm, Mountain Mike's Pizzeria

"Stamps R Us" Mid-year Report



We are continuing in the fine example set by Darlene Hickok and the Youth Group of mailing out monthly stamp packets and larger packets to our 35+ members. Each month we have mailed out a package of stamps to our members. We have also sent out the first of our twice a year larger mailing to each member.

The larger mailing has a MiniAlbum for stamps, some stamps identified so they can add them to the MiniAlbum, and packets of stamps related to the topics the member collects. Also included is philatelic material about stamps and a stamp related game. The next large mailing will include a Northern California MiniAlbum with places for stamps. At right is a list of the US Scott Stamp numbers needed for the mailing. If you have duplicates that you can contribute, please place stamps into glassines identified with their Scott Number and give them to any member of the Youth Committee. Thank you for any help you can give.

Preston Chiappa, Youth Group Co-Chair

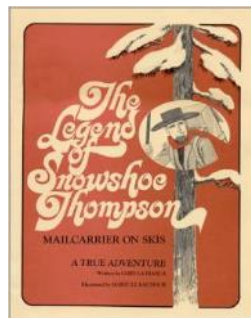
Scott #	Scott #	Scott #	Scott #
288	1430	2538	4063
291	1442	2651	4150
399	1526	2704	4201
400	1539	3130	4279
567	1663	3131	4346
740	1725	3139	4494
852	1764	3140	4541
894	1930	3316	4698
928	1957	3438	2869i
954	1996	3507	2869t
997	2182	3565	3105i
1120	2184	3897	3182j
1154	2196	4043	3209d
1245	2255	4050	3209g
1266	2263	4051	3649p
1373	2329	4056	

Closed Albums

Kristin Patterson received a call from Dorothy Pilkington to inform us that Rick Richardson had passed away on April 26, 2015, while in hospice care. He was 88 years old.

Rick and Dorothy lived in Hayward but moved to Yreka, CA over 10 years ago where they built a home in the mountains. Rick passed away at Coeur d'Alene, ID at the Lodge, a long-term care facility.

Rick joined the Sequoia Stamp Club in 1992 and was SSC life member #526. In 1996, he served as SSC President. A highlight during his term of office was when he recited from memory a poem about Snowshoe Thompson, the legendary postman of the Sierras. Rick was a long time U.N. stamp representative at west coast stamp shows and had a table at PENPEX for decades.



Rick Richardson (1927-2015)

During WWII, Rick served as a Private on the Light Dayton Cruiser in the Pacific and saw the skies light up when Hiroshima was bombed. He will be buried at Veterans Cemetery, Medical Lake, WA.

Newsletter Staff: Editor: Jim Giacomazzi, President's Message: Craig Butterworth, Feature Articles: Marsha Brandsdorfer, Graphics: Miriam Thurston, Caboose: Kristin Patterson, Youth: Preston Chiappa, Photographer: Ken Perkins, Printing: John Corwin, Webmaster: Ed Bierman.

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

The Art of Letter Writing

by Marsha Brandsdorfer



When I was a young girl, for several years, my parents took my two brothers and me on a summer vacation to a “bungalow colony” in Connecticut. This was the 1960s, when we could keep doors unlocked, and run around the grounds to meet with other children. At the end of each vacation week, before returning home, I exchanged addresses with the other little girls I met, so we could keep in touch and write each other letters. Back home, my mother would complain how I was using all her 5¢ stamps to write my new friends, but the scolding did not discourage me.

Throughout the past forty years, I have kept up with writing people I have met through the different places I have visited and lived, and people I encountered through specialized “pen pal” correspondence magazines. Now I often communicate via email, but still there are a few who I write who prefer a handwritten message to be sent through the U.S. Post Office. For those letters, I often post my envelopes with attractive commemorative stamps. Sometimes I enclose stickers, or other small gifts to the recipients of my letters. Just two years ago, I made bookmarks out of used commemorative stamps, which I included in my Christmas cards to friends. I was introduced to First Day Covers (FDCs) when I was in my early 20s by a pen pal who had sent an international FDC in each of his letters to me. Soon I became enthralled with the collecting of FDCs.

As well as being a fun, creative way to communicate, letter writing is important for the telling of history. For instance, there are numerous books which provide a compilation of letters from wars. Where else to get a better understanding of what men and women have gone through fighting in wars, other than by their letters to loved ones? There are also in existence prisoner of war letters, many of which were censored by their capturers afraid of the power of words, but still these letters remain for the prosperity of history. In the arts, we have Van Gogh’s letters to his brother Theo, and Franz Kafka’s letters to his friends and loved ones. These are just a few of the many examples that give us a better understanding of the thoughts and feelings of great artists and writers.

But now, today, since sending an email or a text message is a faster, more immediate way to communicate, and eliminates the wait for postal delivery, there is a decline in letter writing. Additionally it is cheaper, as a first class letter in the U.S. presently costs 49¢ to mail. However, letters are valuable. They are personalized. They are a part of history. To a collector, stamps and covers can be valuable. It is up to us to keep letter writing a continuing art.



Member Spotlight: Hideo R. Yokota

Hideo joined the Sequoia Stamp Club in 2004. He is not able to attend meetings due to family obligations, but he is a regular attendee at PENPEX and other stamp shows. At the most recent WESTPEX show he was awarded a medal honoring his 50-year membership in the American Philatelic Society (APS).

Hideo has collected stamps since he was seven years old. Over the past 70 years he has collected many different stamp issues, subjects, and topics. Some examples are mint and used US, Socked on the Nose postmarks, U.S. exposition cancels, machine and flag cancels, Duck stamps, perfins, precancels, playing card revenues, and used U.S. plate # singles. All these stamp specialties have been sold or traded for new items that he wanted to collect.

In 1978 he started a new sideline specialty of collecting the 3 different U.S. 16¢ Air Mail Special Delivery stamps which were issued in 1934-6. For over 20 years he searched high and low for everything that he could find on these stamps including covers and collateral material. By 2000 his accumulation of these 3 different AMSD stamps became the largest known collection in the philatelic world. After retiring in 2002 he decided to create a 160 (10 frame) exhibit for competition at the 2003 ARIPEX Stamp Show in Tucson, AZ, which was hosting the American Air Mail Society's annual convention. He spent hundreds of hours of labor in selecting, assembling, and organizing all the exhibit material and then designing each page, gathering the research information, preparing the text write-up, and then mounting the items. It took him 7 full months to finalize the 160 pages. At its premier showing, his exhibit won two "Grand" awards and two "Gold" awards. He was in complete shock as first-time APS World Series of Philately (WSP) exhibits that have never been displayed seldom win the "Grand" award.

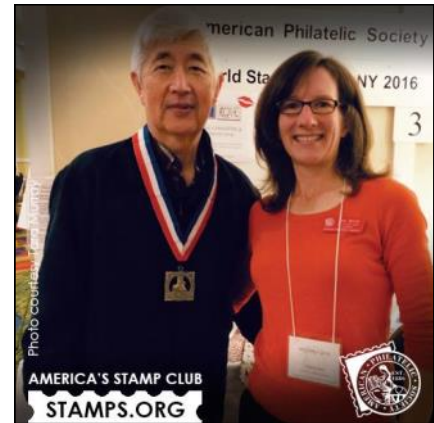


After his "Champion of Champions" entry at the 2003 APS Stamp Show he decided to send his exhibit on an epic quest - to obtain a "Gold" medal award from all the 30+ different APS WSP Stamp Shows across the country. After 11 years this monumental task was finally completed with the exhibit's final entry at the 2014 NAPEX Stamp Show. Hideo now has the distinct honor of being the first and only exhibitor to acquire 30 different APS WSP "Gold" medals with the same multi-frame exhibit.

He has generously donated a copy of his Grand Award exhibit on the "U.S. Air Mail Special Delivery Issues of 1934-1936" to the Sequoia Stamp Club reference library. This will give club members the unique opportunity to review and study the production and unusual usages of the 16¢ AMSD stamps.

Hideo has now discontinued his collecting passion for the 16¢ AMSD issues and his entire estate of these stamps, covers, and collateral material will be sold. His only remaining philatelic interest is the 1950 California Statehood issue (Scott #997) and the 1958-62 U.S. First Day Medallion Bullseyes. Let's hope that one day he will create a #997 exhibit and show it at PENPEX or another local Bay Area stamp show.

Hideo's greatest philatelic discovery remains in his family history album. A 1943 cover that he found in an auction catalog had been written by his mother and mailed from the Japanese detention camp at Amache, CO where his family had been relocated during World War II. He bought the cover and to him it is a treasure that is priceless.



Hideo receiving his 50-year member medal from Tara Murray of the APS.

A Bavarian Fantasy

(Inspired by two pages of stamps acquired at a club sale.)

By Ken Perkins

Early morning, March 20, 1920, Grafing, Germany, a suburb of Munich.

"Servus, Walter."

"Servus, Fritz. I'm surprised to see you here in our little post office so early this chilly morning. Do you have something to mail? Or can I get you some stamps to take home?"

"Well, some stamps, yes. But not the usual little ones, you know, those 3 or 5 pfennigs."

"Ach, you've got something big to mail...maybe a package for your sister Hilda in Berlin?"

"No, no, something a bit unusual, Walter. I want a little collection of our own Bavarian stamps before they disappear. You know, the ones with old Ludwig on them. We won't see him on any stamps anymore. Or anywhere else, probably."

"Yah, what a mess. First Ludwig gives up and holes up in one of his castles, and we get this fellow Eisner and his republic. Then Eisner's assassinated and poor old Ludwig runs off to Hungary."

"I think he's in Switzerland now."

"I don't know; last month it was what, Liechtenstein?"

"Liechtenstein, yes. A country you could toss a beer stein across! His Majesty the King, indeed."

"Anyway, Walter, I want some nice Bavarian stamps for my children to have, to remember the old homeland. Maybe one of each of the Ludwigs?"

"One of each! That will cost you a bit, Fritz. Remember, we've got these new ones with 'Volkstaat' on them too."



"Ach, I forgot those. Eisner again, with his 'Free Peoples' State of Bavaria'. So I'll need two of everything?"

"Right, two. And the most expensive ones are 20 Marks,"

"Marks, not Pfennig?"

"Marks."



"That's a lot of money, Walter. But Bavaria's just about finished, so it's a remembrance. They'll probably even paint the postboxes a different color. Besides, we just sold that old land of my father's up in Landshut, so I can afford a little luxury. But don't tell Marie...there'll be no end of it if you do."

"You mean it'll be the end of you, Fritz! Did you sell with or without the cows?"

"With. But there were only two scrawny ones left anyway."

"Alright, let me get the sheets of stamps. I just got some new ones; here, I'll cut them from the bottom edge. We'll leave the edge on: makes them look special, eh?"

"Yes, very fine. And can you cancel them to record the date?"

"Sure, no problem. Oh, did you hear? My friend Alex was in Munchen about a month ago, and heard about this fellow Hitler. He held a big meeting of the DAP, announced a program for Germany, and changed the party's name to the NSDAP."

"Never heard of him."

(cont'd on page 6)

"Oh, I'm out of a few values. Maybe you can go down to the Bahnhof post office in Glonn. He'll probably have the rest."

"Good. Well, I'll take what you have and go see Peter at the Bahnhof."

Kurt Eisner, in Nov. 1918 the first republican premier of the Bavarian Republic, was assassinated on a Munich street on Feb. 21, 1919, while on his way to resign from office.

The former king Ludwig then fled to Hungary, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland, returning to Bavaria in April of 1920. He died in Hungary on Oct. 18, 1921.

Adolph Hitler addressed some 2000 members of the DAP (Deutsche Arbeiterpartie - German Worker's Party) in the Festsaal of Munich's Hofbräuhaus on Feb. 24, 1920, setting out a 25-point program and changing the party's name to the NSDAP (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartie - National Socialist German Workers Party), later known as the Nazi Party.

Bavaria's postal system was merged with that of the Weimar Republic on March 30, 1920. My wife's father remembered seeing the bright Bavarian blue post boxes being painted a dull Prussian green.

The two pages of Bavarian stamps that triggered this fantasy were sold to me by Jim Giacomazzi at one of our club sales a couple of years ago. Who knows where they'll end up next?



PENPEX CABOOSE

PENPEX has restructured its governing organization to consist of a PENPEX Board of seven to eleven members, each with a 2-year term. Currently, PENPEX has eight board members. See the table at the right. Terms end on January 31 of the year listed.

PENPEX has sent out dealer contracts to 15 dealers including the Redwood City USPS. The 2015 show (Dec 5 & 6) will also have its renowned silent auction with over 500 lots. Something can be found for anyone from an individual stamp, boxes of philatelic material, or stamp catalogues; all at great prices.

PENPEX could not happen without generous volunteers who donate their time in helping with contacting all the dealers, getting exhibitors, set up and take down of the show, helping with the welcome table and youth area, serving food at the snack bar, assisting people at the auction, preparing for the awards banquet, and producing the show program.

Many specific details are already available on our website, www.penpex.org. We are always looking for more volunteers. We can use your help if you have an hour during the show or a couple hours before the show.

PENPEX Board	Name	Term Ends
Chair	Kristin Patterson	2017
Vice Chair	Craig Butterworth	2016
Secretary	Jim Giacomazzi	2017
Treasurer	Eduardo Martino	2016
Director at Large	Kjell Enander	2017
Director at Large	Jim Mosso	2016
Director at Large	Ed Rodriguez	2017
Director at Large	Stephen Sexton	2016

Awards and Recognition



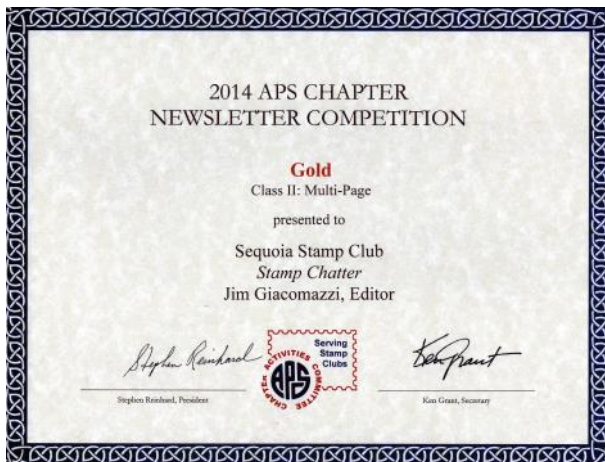
Richard Coleman receiving his plaque for Life Membership in the Sequoia Stamp Club. Richard has devoted much time and effort in promoting our “Stamps R Us” programs for youth.



Larry Christiansen receiving Life Membership plaque from President Craig Butterworth. Larry is our resident expert on Pan Am Clippers.



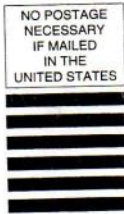
Postcard from Ed Bierman's PRESIDENT'S AWARD & Gold winning exhibit "A History of the San Francisco Cliff House" at SOPEX and multi-frame GRAND AWARD winning exhibit at COALPEX.



Congratulation to editor Jim Giacomazzi and everyone involved in the publication of our Chatter newsletter for receiving Gold in the 2014 APS newsletter competition.



Eduardo Martino was selected as this year's APS "Spark Plug" award winner. Eduardo does any task that is requested including PENPEX set-up, club librarian, and live auction recorder. Also, Eduardo received the Vignola Award from WESTPEX as a valued volunteer.



PHIL A. TELLICK
& SNAIL MAIL '4-EVER'
 By Miriam S. Thurston 2015 All Rights Reserved c



"WHAT IS A BUSINESS REPLY MAIL?"

PHIL: WHY ARE YOU COLLECTING ALL THESE REPLY ENVELOPES AND CARDS AND WHY DO YOU HAVE SO MANY AND WHERE DID YOU FIND THEM ?

SNAIL MAIL-4-EVER: I BEEN COLLECTING THESE REPLY MAIL ENVELOPES FOR A LONG TIME AND ON THESE REPLY MAIL THEY HAVE THE DIFFERENT USA STATES AND PERMIT NUMBERS AND ALSO THE DIFFERENT PATTERNS OF THE BLACK BAR CODES ON THE RIGHT SIDE WHERE NO POSTAGE STAMP IS REQUIRED.

I FIND THESE INSERTED IN MAJOR MAGAZINES, CHARITY ORGANIZATION BUSINESS AND ALSO LOOKING FOR THE OLDEST ONE.....



FYI:

Business Reply Mail (BRM) is used when the sender wants to get a reply back and is willing to pay for the return postage. BRM is used in a variety of scenarios, but a common one is surveys. You can send out a large sample and a greater percentage of response can be expected. The sender is only charged for the ones returned.

If the BRM is from a charity or an organization you support, you can put your own postage and save the organization the cost of the reply postage fee.

Question: Is BRM considered a philatelic collectable item?