

# Stamp



# Chatter

Volume 46 - Issue No. 2 w300

April, May, June 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](http://www.penpex.org/ssc)

### President's Message:

Congratulations to Richard Coleman and Larry Christiansen, Sequoia's newest life members. Richard has been a member since 2002, and has a collector's résumé that includes being a stamp exchange manager, a leader of the Belmont stamp club, and a PENPEX volunteer. He has been involved in many of the youth activities provided by Sequoia Stamp Club, and recently took a leadership role with us.



Larry is a former 2-time, vice-president of SSC, and an active PENPEX volunteer. As a former Pan Am Airlines employee, he has given a variety of authoritative presentations to our club regarding the "Clipper" airplanes and associated philatelic ephemera. We are all grateful that he has chosen to share his collection with us in a pair of live auctions.

Congratulations, too, to Eduardo Martino, our latest "Spark Plug" award recipient. Eduardo is a very active PENPEX volunteer, without whom we may still be setting up tables and frames. He recently stepped into the position of SSC librarian, continuing what appears to be a personal policy of giving more to the club than most of us.

I am glad to be a part of a club as dynamic as it has been. I have enjoyed being a part of a team that provides a great collecting experience. John Corwin records reliable and accurate meeting minutes. Miriam has graciously stepped into the "Sunshine" position. Jim Giacomazzi actually loses sleep with the number of responsibilities he has taken on. I have been particularly grateful to the participants in the "Member Spotlight" portion of recent meetings. I really do enjoy hearing our members discuss their individual philatelic passions - however brief - and hope the rest of you do too.

Craig Butterworth, President - Sequoia Stamp Club

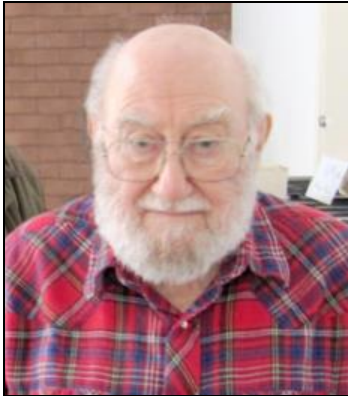
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### 2015 Sequoia Club Programs & Stamp Calendar Schedule

- Apr 14 – Philatelic Quiz – Wally Jolliff & Ken Lewetzow. Silent Auction.
- **Apr. 24-26: [WESTPEX](#)**, Marriott Waterfront Hotel, Burlingame
- Apr 28 – Live Auction – Christiansen consignment #1.
- May 12 – "Wake Island" – Larry Christiansen. Silent Auction. Gov. Board Meeting (6:00 pm) open to the public.
- May 26 – "Airmail Etiquettes" – Cathy Phalen. Silent Auction.
- June 9 – 100<sup>th</sup> Anniv of the Panama Pacific Expo. - Ed Bierman. Silent Auction.
- **Jun 13-14: [COALPEX](#)**, Civic Park Community Center, Walnut Creek
- June 23 – Members Live Action.
- **June 30: SSC Annual Picnic** –5:00 pm, Community Activities Building.

## In Memory of Martin Feibusch



Martin Feibusch, Sequoia Stamp Club member #494 and member since 1987 passed away on Feb. 8, 2015. On Saturday, Feb. 7, Martin was taken to a Santa Rosa hospital with complications due to an illness. His family was by his side as he passed away comfortably at 11:45 pm the following day. Martin is survived by sons Richard and wife, Carolyn, and Ronald and wife, Toni, his brother, Kurt Feibusch and wife, Eurydice, and granddaughters, Breanne and husband Joseph Miller, and Jillian, with great grandbaby boy to be, Jakob Hans Paniagua-Feibusch.

Martin Hans Feibusch was born on March 6, 1918, in Berlin, Germany. At the age of fifteen, due to the political climate in Germany, Martin's parents sent him from Berlin to the United States in 1933. He lived with his uncle Moritz in San Francisco, who died in the Hindenburg tragedy. He met Connie Kruger, his wife of 72 years, who passed away in February of last year. He received a Purple Heart while serving in the US Army during World War II in North Africa and Europe. Martin and his father operated a custom-made men's hat business in downtown San Francisco. In 1964 he purchased a toy store in Menlo Park, CA.

Martin was an avid stamp collector, focusing on Hindenburg first day covers among other collections and displays. He and Connie toured the country every year to present their stamp exhibits at philatelic conventions, winning many awards and recognition for their work. He was 4-time Chair for our PENPEX show in 1994, '95, '98, and '99. The Sequoia Stamp Club mourns his passing and remembers his contributions to the hobby.

### Fountain of Youth

The Sequoia Youth Group met several times in early March to prepare the big mailing to send to each youth member. We completed it for the nine new members and sent it out. We also sent out the membership dues reminder to all the youth members. We are working on the rest of the mailings and plan to complete them this April.

The youth group now consists of the following people: Preston Chiappa, Kjell Enander, Leroy Bertsch, and Richard Coleman. Our long time leader and founder of the youth group Darlene Hickok, is suffering from severe ill health and can only help us with the mailings via email and phone calls. We truly miss her happy personality and her knowledge of the youth group. We wish her well.

The small mailings to each youth member that are sent out each month are being done on schedule. We always appreciate the stamp donations many of you make to the youth group. That is where we get the stamps to mail out. We thank you.

Richard Coleman, Youth Group Chair



**Newsletter Staff:** Editor: Jim Giacomazzi; Feature Articles: Marsha Brandsdorfer; Features & Photographer: Ken Perkins; Cartoon: Miriam Thurston; President's Message: Craig Butterworth; Youth: Richard Coleman; Caboose: Kristin Patterson; Printing: John Corwin; and Webmaster: Ed Bierman.

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

## Identification of Silk Paper Revenues & Christmas Seals

By Craig Butterworth

We all know that removing a stamp from a sheet can devalue both the stamp and the sheet for a collector. Did you know, though, that removing a stamp from a sheet can actually turn it into a different stamp altogether?



One variation of certain 1862 - 1871 (first) issue revenue stamps was printed on silk paper. This silk paper was really more paper than silk. Small, short strands of red and/or blue silk fibers were added to the pulp prior to the creation of the paper. Once the stamps were complete, "silk paper" was identified with the aid of magnifying lenses. One or more of the short silk strands could be seen in the paper (usually when looking at the back of the stamp).

The manufacturing process was not infallible, however. Many of the individual stamps did not contain any silk strands at all. Herein is our conundrum. Remove one of these silk-less stamps from a sheet that is clearly a sheet containing silk threads - Scott #R10d for example - and now you have a stamp that can only be identified as R10b or R10c!

In another example, removing a single stamp can change the identification of a whole sheet of stamps. Most Christmas Seals printed in the U.S. were produced by more than one printer, and contain printers' marks. After 1935, these printers' marks took the form of letters (E for Eureka, as an example). The mark was usually placed on the 56<sup>th</sup> stamp in 100-stamp sheets. Starting at the top left of a sheet, one can count six stamps across and six stamps down to find the printer's mark. One can easily identify sheets made by Eureka, Strowbridge, or other printers.

Removal of this one stamp from a sheet can change the identification of the whole sheet. Scott# WX81 is a perforation 12.5 Christmas Seal printed in 1936. It was produced by three printers: Edwards and Deutsch, Strowbridge, and U.S. Printing and Lithographing. A collector might identify these sheets as WH81-D, WX81-S, or WX81-U. Without stamp #56 containing the D, S or U mark, the remaining stamps in the sheets cannot be identified with any of the three printing houses, and can only be identified as WX81.



Steve Morger preparing lots for upcoming sale.

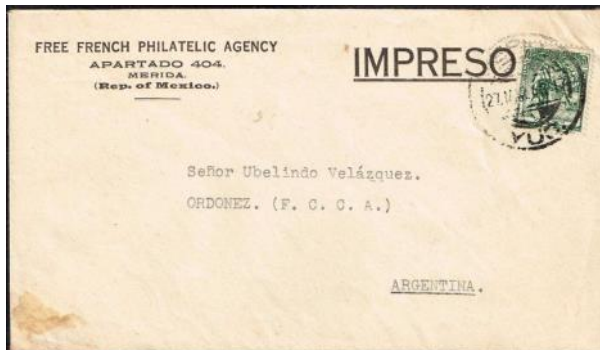
### Christiansen Consignment Sale Scheduled for April 28

The first Christiansen Live Auction sale will be held at the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The club arranged with Larry to help with the disposal of his collection on a consignment basis. On March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> a "lotting party" was held at the home of Jim Giacomazzi. About a dozen club members sorted through 13 banker boxes of albums, stock books, and glassines to prepare items for sale. Sales will continue throughout the year in silent auctions, at PENPEX 2015, and at another live auction to be held at the club meeting on Aug. 25. Highlights of the sale will be several foreign collections including Japan, Germany, and British Colonies. Opening bids are set low and lively bidding is expected on all items. Be sure to come to the auction and enjoy the fun. Sales at the auction will benefit both Larry and the club.

## Mexican Cover Mystery

From an email by Stephen Cary

There's a 1943 de Thuin cover on eBay I may bid on that has me puzzled. Please see attached images. It is one of de Thuin's typical covers. He sent out tons of these with his "come-on" letter advertising stamps at ridiculously low prices. I have dozens of these covers, but this one is odd. It was mailed from Mexico to Argentina, BUT has a U.S. censorship mark on the back. I am not sure how such a mark is possible. There is no Argentina or U.S. receipt mark anywhere. I believe the F.C.C.A. refers to Ferrocarril Central Argentino. The fellow selling the cover is in Chile.



Is it possible that the cover could have transited The Canal Zone and received the U.S. censorship mark there? Could the cover have been accidentally batched with other mail to the U.S., been censored, skipped a city receipt mark because it was not officially entering the U.S., then routed to South America? The lack of censorship tape is standard for these de Thuin covers. He sent them all out unsealed, only sealing his registered mail.

Very curious. Let me know if you have any ideas. Thanks for thinking on this when your time permits!

(Editor's note: Stephen will be presenting a program on Raoul Charles de Thuin forgeries on Nov. 10.)

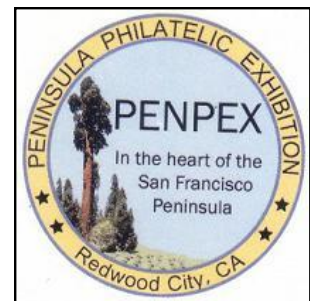
## PENPEX – A 501(c)(3) Organization

The Peninsula Philatelic Exhibition (PENPEX) held its first show on November 10 & 11, 1951. Since then 41 stamp shows have been held in Redwood City under the name PENPEX. PENPEX was incorporated as a non-profit public benefit corporation on January 7, 1994, but only recently did PENPEX receive its 501(c)(3) non-profit organization certification from the IRS.

What this means is that PENPEX is now exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions made to PENPEX under IRC Section 170. PENPEX is also qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522.

PENPEX has offered local stamp collectors the opportunity to purchase material, display their collections in competitive or non-competitive exhibit frames, bring in youth to enjoy stamp related activities, and meet up with other collectors from the area. We have been fortunate to have many great volunteers that have supported the show with their time, ideas, and labor. We also appreciate all donations that we have received and are looking forward to future ones.

We look forward to seeing you at the next PENPEX which will be held December 5 & 6, 2015 at 1400 Roosevelt Ave., Redwood City. Visit our website at: [www.penpex.org](http://www.penpex.org) for more information.



Kristin Patterson, PENPEX Chair

## Gone with the Wind

By Marsha Brandsdorfer

It has been over 75 years since the movie, *Gone with the Wind* premiered in Atlanta, Georgia on December 15, 1939. Originally a novel, *Gone with the Wind* was written by Margaret Mitchell, who was born on November 8, 1900, in Atlanta to an Irish-Catholic family. Numerous U.S. and international stamps have since been issued to celebrate the book, film, author, and actors. As a child, Margaret Mitchell became fascinated by the Civil War, as she would listen to tales expressed by her parents' families and friends who had experienced it. Margaret's father was an attorney and her mother was active in the women's suffrage movement. Margaret was very attractive as a young woman. Her beauty attracted her to her first husband, "Red" Upshaw, but the marriage turned traumatic, due to Red's alcoholism and vital temper.



After she divorced him, Margaret later married John Marsh, who was a caring and supportive husband. She worked as a journalist for the Atlanta Journal for a few years, writing feature articles. After injuring her ankle, she left her job and stayed home writing a Civil War era novel, which was to

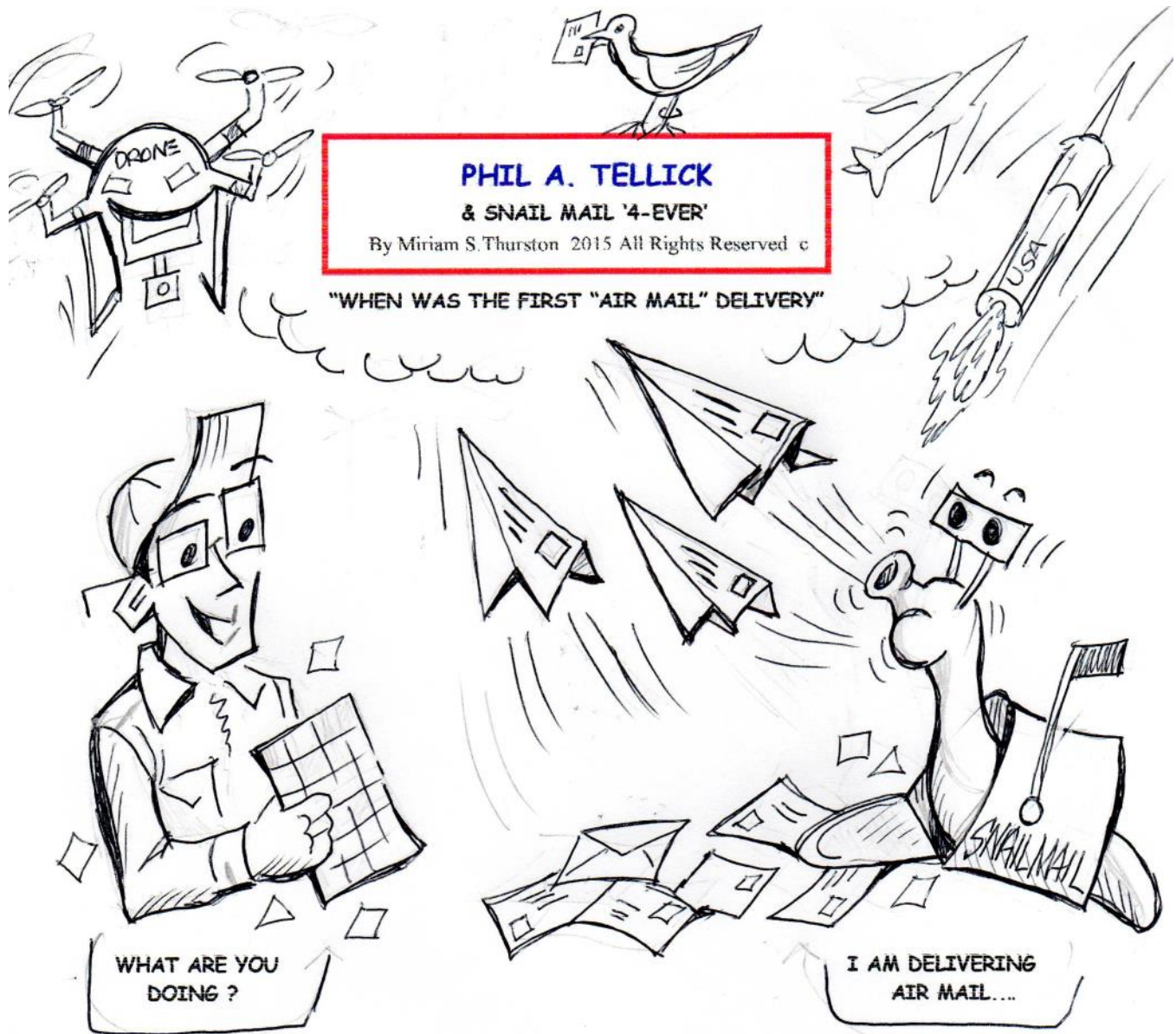


later become *Gone with the Wind*. She loosely based some of her characters on people and experiences she had in her life. The main character of Rhett Butler was influenced by her former husband Red, and the death of Rhett's daughter Bonnie, was based on her own fall from a horse, wherein she had been badly injured. Often Margaret would put down the book and not wish to continue, feeling a lack of confidence in her writing. However, John saw talent in his wife's storytelling, and would read the chapters, edit and proofread her writing, and provide encouragement.

When Macmillan Company sought out Margaret's novel, Margaret started to feel proud in the prospect of actually being published. After several months, Macmillan made Margaret an offer. Some modifications were made, including changing the name of Pansy O'Hara to Scarlett O'Hara. After Margaret's novel was published, it became a great success, and Margaret won a Pulitzer Prize in 1937.

Hollywood became interested in the successful novel, and thus the novel was to be turned into a screenplay. Margaret did not wish to be involved with the screenplay writing, and in fact, never wrote another novel. Turning *Gone with the Wind*, which was over 1,000 pages into a movie was a triumph task, with vast discussions on what to keep and what to leave out. The part of Rhett Butler was given to Clark Gable. The search for an actress to play Scarlett O'Hara was a vibrant hunt which took almost two years. British actress Vivien Leigh was chosen, who at the time, was young, unknown actress. The movie *Gone with the Wind* received thirteen nominations, and won eight Academy Awards in 1940, and has since become a great American classic.





**FYI:** After an intermittent series of government sponsored experimental flights between 1911 and 1918, domestic U.S. Air Mail was formally established as a new class of service by the United States Post Office Department on May 15, 1918, with the inauguration of the Washington-Philadelphia-New York route for which the first of special Air Mail Stamps were issued.

(From Wikipedia)



1928 cover celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of U.S. Air Mail.