

Stamp



Chatter

Volume 49 - Issue No. 1 w311

January-March 2018

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.

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 235
San Carlos, CA 94070

More info at:

www.penpex.org/ssc



2018 The Year of the Dog

President's Message:

Christopher J. Palermo

Winter both brings our club year to a close and opens the best time of the year to work on stamps. As colder, wetter weather means more indoors days, these are the ideal times to reach further completion of your key collections, explore a new interest or mount accumulated material.

Now is also the time when many of us reflect on the year, both by giving thanks for the incredible wealth of landscape, people and experiences we enjoy in the Bay Area, and by planning for the future. Now is the time to thank those around us for all they have contributed to our hobby. Consider making a year-end gift to a philatelic association, or to our youth program. Express thanks to everyone in our club who has contributed so much to the past year: our silent auction team who has cheerfully handled the accounting details for hundreds of silent auction lots; our live auction team, especially Jim, who have done huge amounts of work to sort, select, and price live auction lots; our youth team who have sent out (by their count) about 90,000 stamps over the course of the year; our Vice President who kept our meeting programs running; the PENPEX Board and our numerous show volunteers; and everyone else who has made a material contribution to our club. Any effective club is only as good as its volunteer members and we have great ones!

From me, a hearty THANK YOU to you, who have sustained our club with our membership, always had a good word for me and helped me find the right path to lead us over the past year. I look forward to 2018 and hearing more about your collecting triumphs; please share them with the club via a talk, slide presentation or even a quick show-and-tell. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and warmest wishes for a happy New Year.



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2018 Sequoia Stamp Club & Stamp Show Schedule

- ◆ Jan. 6-7: **Sacramento Stamp Fair**, Scottish Rite Temple
- ◆ Jan. 9: Installation of Officers. Past President's Exhibit. - Silent Auction
- ◆ **Jan. 20-21: Great American Stamp Expo**, Napredak Hall, San Jose
- ◆ Jan. 23 Philatelic Currency Quiz - David Abrams; Silent Auction
- ◆ Feb. 13 Live Auction - Larke Consignment (Jim)
- ◆ Feb. 27 Presentation: Smithsonian Postal Museum (Peter Adams) - Silent Auction
- ◆ Mar. 13 Presentation: Traditional Peru to 1950 (Henry Marquez) - Silent Auction
- ◆ Mar. 27 Live Auction - Members (Auctioneer - Wally)

In Memory of Paul Swierstra

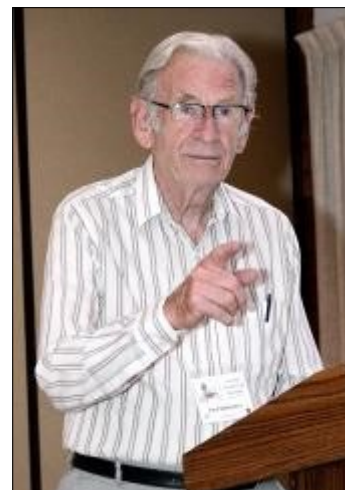
On November 30, 2017, Sequoia Stamp Club member #385, Paul Swierstra, passed away. He joined the club in 1977 and served the longest to date as club President, totaling 5.5 years. He was also the club archivist for over 15 years while helping with club membership. Having been born in the Netherlands, he was a avid

Dutch collector but also enjoyed collecting RPOs (Railway Post Offices) cancels along with his search for cancels from every post office in Paris, France which was close to being complete.

Paul was always good natured until the very end. He had a memory for what every member of the club collected. So when he came across an article or book related to your collection, he would pick it up for you. When the club needed someone to step up, it was Paul who would fill in. He will be missed by all who knew him. May he rest in peace.



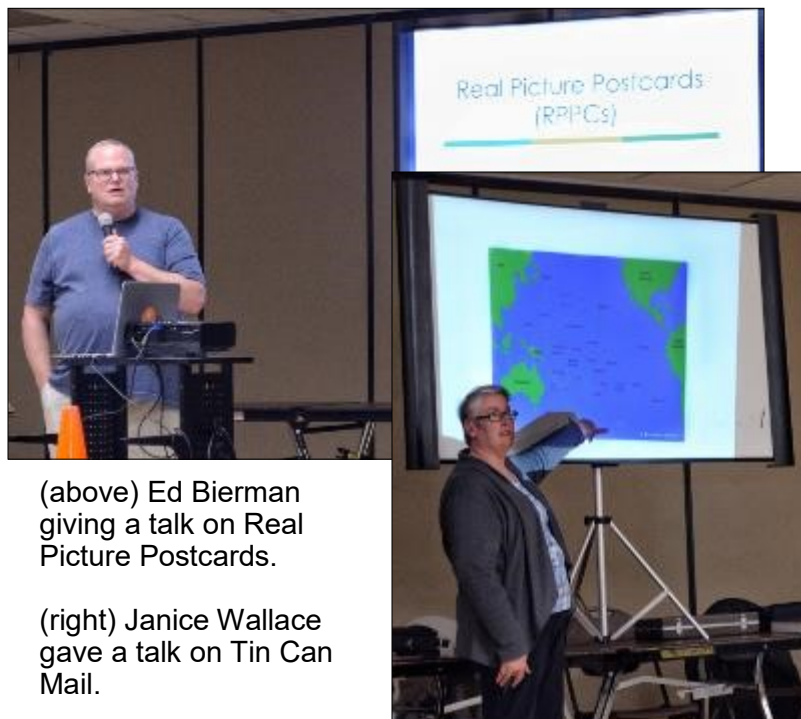
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Photos from Recent Club Activities



Thank you to Vesma Grinfelds for all her years of support managing Exhibits at PENPEX. She is turning over the job to Ed Bierman next year but will be around to assist.



(above) Ed Bierman giving a talk on Real Picture Postcards.

(right) Janice Wallace gave a talk on Tin Can Mail.

Newsletter Staff: Editor: Ed Bierman, President's Message: Chris Palermo, Feature Articles: Marsha Brandsdorfer, Cartoon: Miriam Thurston, Caboose: Kristin Patterson, Youth: Preston Chiappa, Photographer: Ken Perkins, 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/SSC or email us at sequoiastampclub@yahoo.com.

Patterson Honored with the Chaloner Memorial Award

The Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies' highest recognition award for service to Council area philately was awarded to Sequoia Stamp Club member, Kristin Patterson at the PENPEX 2017 Awards Banquet. The recipient's name is engraved on a perpetual trophy plaque and presented with a small engraved plaque as a personal memento. The photo at right shows Larry Crain, Council President, next to Kristin with the Chaloner plaque along with a personal plaque.



Kristin joined SSC in 1997 and quickly took a leadership role by serving as SSC President from 1999 through 2001 and again in 2014. As many members are aware, she has given numerous presentations on Tax and Playing Cards Stamps to not only our club but to many of the area clubs.

She has served as PENPEX Chair for the past twelve years, putting together a great local show which everyone looks forward to attending. For fourteen years, she has been active with WESTPEX, a National Show in Burlingame, and in 2009 was elected to their Board. She has also been active with Filatelic Fiesta, a National Show in San Jose. The Council's Northern California map that is on display at area shows, was created by Kristin.

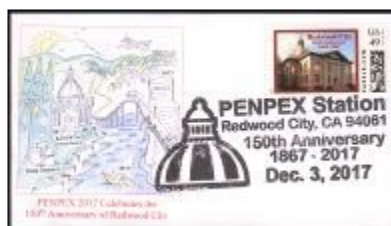
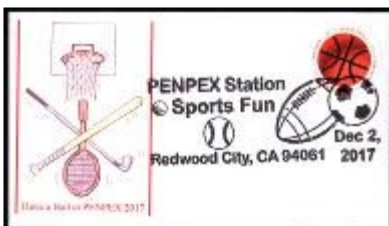
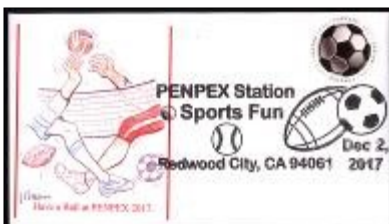
The Award is named for Council Past President Henry Chaloner (1946), who exemplified the character and the level and variety of activities in support of organized philately in our area. The award recognizes special individuals who embody the qualities of service and leadership in philately in the Council area. The award was first given to Henry Chaloner in 1952; later it was made into a memorial award in his name. The Council is on its fourth plaque in order to hold all the names! A picture of each plaque and entire list of names is at <http://norcalstamps.org/past-chaloner-memorial-trophy-winners>.

Redwood City Library Stamp Display

In every issue of the *Stamp Chatter*, we see Miriam Thurston's artwork on the back page with your Phil A. Tellick cartoon and philatelic lesson. The public also gets to see her artwork at the Redwood City Public Library at 1044 Middlefield Road. Each year in November, she creates a colorful, stamp display with sheets of postage stamps along with hand drawings showing the fun of stamp collecting.

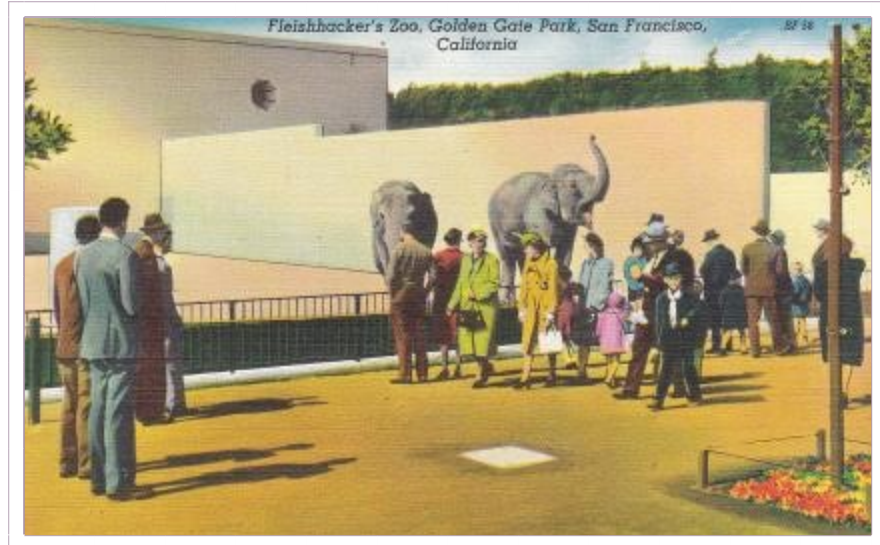


If you would like one of Miriam's art pieces, buy a PENPEX cachet for \$2. For the past twelve years, Miriam has been drawing the cachets for PENPEX.



Postcard Corner

This linen postcard is from the 1930s showing the elephant enclosure at the zoo. The San Francisco Zoo was originally named the Fleishhacker Zoo after its founder, banker and San Francisco Parks Commission president Herbert Fleishhacker. In 1929 a zoo was planned next to the then largest swimming pool in the country the Fleishhacker pool. The area was also already home to a children's playground, an original (circa 1921) Michael Dentzel/Marcus Illions carousel and the Mother's Building, a haven for women and their children.



The original exhibits were populated with animals from Golden Gate Park, including two zebras, a cape buffalo, five rhesus monkeys, two spider monkeys, and three elephants (Virginia, Marjorie, and Babe). The first exhibits built in the 1930s cost \$3.5 million, which included Monkey Island, Lion House, Elephant House, a small mammal grotto, an aviary, and bear grottos. These spacious, moated enclosures were among the first bar-less exhibits in the country. In 1955, a local San Francisco newspaper purchased Pennie, a baby female Asian elephant, and donated her to the zoo after many concerned children donated their pennies, nickels, and dimes for her purchase.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco_Zoo

Holiday Party

The final meeting of the year was a fun affair with holiday treats and time for chatting, exchanging Christmas Cards (with stamps), and anticipating the chance to win 1 of 9 raffle prizes.



John Corwin with the extensive spreadsheet of SSC members and the meetings they attended.



Scott #1 US -
1847 5¢
Franklin.



Mike McGee, (left) winner of the special drawing of a US #1 stamp, shaking hands with SSC President Chris Palermo.

PENPEX Caboose

This year's PENPEX Stamp Show ran extremely smoothly due to all the volunteers that helped out. This year, PENPEX had several new volunteers who chipped in. As many hands make light work. All volunteers are invited to the Wrap-up meeting and Appreciation Brunch on January 20, 2018 at 10 am at Sizzler, 1011 Veterans Blvd.,



At left: (l-r) Franz Kemper and Joe Coleman looking over show floor plan. Right: (l-r) Frame setup with Kjell Enander, Eduardo Martino, John Corwin, and Franz Kemper. Lower left: Joe Coleman securing an exhibit frame.



Above: Kristin Patterson and John Corwin setting up the map of Northern California clubs and shows.



Left: Kjell Enander stocking the frig for the snack bar. Above: (l-r) Jim Giacomazzi and Jim Mosso laying out the auction lots. Right: Richard Griffone covering auction tables.



Photos by Ken Perkins.

During the PENPEX show

The show attendance was constant on Saturday with a good number returning on Sunday for the auction and more buying at the dealer tables. PENPEX got great feedback from the dealers who were happy with the show. We also had Bill Shilstone from the Redwood City *Climate Magazine* at the show both days interviewing people for an upcoming article. So look for an article about PENPEX in the next issue of *Climate*.



Left: Jolene Abrahams selling raffle tickets by showing off one of 12 bottles of wine that could be won. Below: David Abrahams and Jim Southward running the Welcome Area.



Miriam Thurston (left) and Peter Adams (right) standing in front of their exhibits.

Above: Preston Chiappa (standing) working the Youth Area. Right: PPX dealer and exhibitor, Richard Clever, receiving award from Vesma Grinfelds.



Right: PPX judges (l-r) Bob Grosch and chair Daryl Rieber closely examining an exhibit. Below: Annie Wong assembling dealer meals.



Patrick Ford (left) showing his recent purchase from Jean, USPS employee.

photos taken during the show.



The One-Cent Magenta

By Marsha Brandsdorfer

The one-cent magenta stamp started its simple beginnings in the British Guiana, now known as Guyana. Stamps in British Guiana were normally printed in London. But, in 1856, when a shipment was late, a local newspaper, the Royal Gazette, printed provisional stamps. The number of stamps printed is unknown, but the stamps were cut from sheets and initialed by postal employees to guard against counterfeits. To date, only a single one-cent magenta stamp exists from this printing and it was initialed by postal employee E.D. Wright.

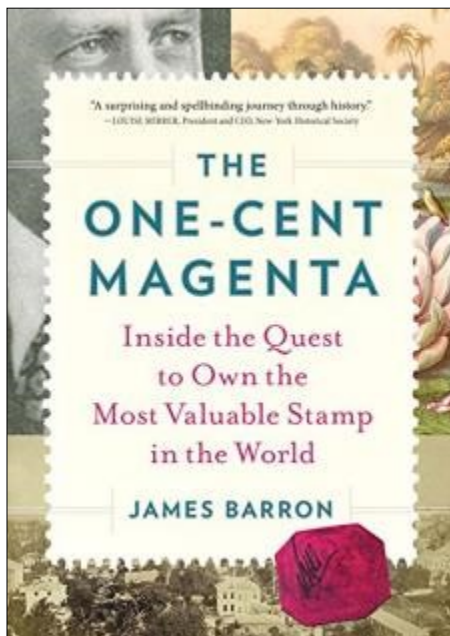


Mostly forgotten about until 1873, the stamp was then found by a twelve year old collector, Louis Vernon Vaughan, at his uncle's house. The corners of the stamp were cut off, but it is unclear whether Vaughan found it this way or if he cut the corners off himself. His goal, however, was to sell it so that he could have money to purchase other stamps for his collection. He sold it for six shillings to a stamp dealer, who would then sell it to Thomas Ridpath of Liverpool, England who paid £120 for the one-cent magenta. The stamp would continue to just go through just a few sales in its long lifetime, but each time the stamp sold, it became more valuable.

For instance, the French aristocrat, Philippe Arnold de la Renotière von Ferrary, next bought the stamp for £150 in 1878. After his death, his collection was seized from the French government and auctioned, and the one-cent magenta was sold in 1922 to Arthur Hind, the richest man in Utica, New York for £7000. Then when Hind died in 1933, his widow entrusted the stamp to Finbar B. Kenny, the manager of Macy's stamp department.

Kenny made arrangements to have it appear at the 1939 New York World's Fair so he could promote it. Having seen the stamp at the New York World's Fair, investor Frederick Trouton Small bought the stamp for \$50,000. When Small decided to sell it, stamp collector Irwin Weinberg, enlisted help from several investors to purchase the one-cent magenta in 1970, at an auction held by leading stamp dealer Robert A. Siegel.

After purchasing the stamp for \$286,000, Weinberg promoted it by displaying it at philatelic conventions throughout the world. Then by 1980, when Weinberg's investors wished to sell the stamp, he returned to Robert A. Siegel to handle the sale. The next buyer was John E. du Pont, who bought the stamp for \$935,000. He was a huge collector who had inherited his fortune from his family.



By the 1990s, du Pont was failing with mental illness and was convicted of murdering the Olympic medalist wrestler Dave Schultz in 1996. Du Pont spent fourteen years in prison for the murder, never seeing the stamp again as it laid in a bank vault. After he died in a Pennsylvania prison on Dec. 9, 2010, his possessions were sold. The one-cent magenta was auctioned off by Sotheby's auction house.

The June 2014 sale went to Stuart Weitzman, a famous shoe designer, who bought the one-cent magenta for \$9,480,000. Weitzman has loaned it to the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C., where it has been scheduled to be exhibited until September 4, 2018. For those who can make it to Washington, this is the opportunity to see a rare, unique stamp with a long history.

References to this article were from "The One-Cent Magenta: Inside the Quest to Own the Most Valuable Stamp in the World" by James Barron.



SARDINIA #1
5c black

PHIL A. TELLICK
AND SNAIL MAIL '4-EVER'
By Miriam S. Thurston- All Rights Reserved C

Phil and his wife are vacationing in Italy.
Can you answer the following questions?

Questions

1. "La Stampa" in Italian means?
 - A. A post office
 - B. Philatelic Office
 - C. Newspaper Press Office
 - D. Flamingo Dance Studio
2. Italian word for stamp?
 - A. Carica Stampa
 - B. Philotela
 - C. Franco Bollo
 - D. Poste
3. Phil's wife's name is?
 - A. Envelopa
 - B. Jenny
 - C. Penelope
 - D. Mailene



Answers: 1: C; 2: C; 3: B

Early Italian Postal History—Preunification

From Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamps_and_postal_history_of_Italy

The Cavallini ("little horses") of Sardinia was an early private mail service, notable for the introduction of prepaid stamped letter sheets in 1819. In 1850, Count Camillo Cavour drafted a postal reform system along the lines of other European states, including postage stamps, for which a new word - francobollo - was coined. The reform went into effect 1 January 1851. The government settled on the house of Francesco Matraire in Turin. Matraire produced stamps with an embossed profile of Victor Emmanuel II.