



# The Philatelic Prospector

A publication of the Sacramento Philatelic Society P O Box 13284 Sacramento, CA 95813

December 2009

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings,

SACAPEX is now behind us and it was a very good show. I would like to thank all those who volunteered throughout the show with the setup, take down, registration desk and preshow activities.

This last year has been very good at the club with high attendance at the meetings, a wide variety of stamps available, and good companionship. As we look forward to next year, let us all consider what we can do to maintain our club at the Wednesday night meetings. One item would be that our club circuit could use help with "set up" or "take down" on meeting night. The club is very fortunate to have a stamp circuit due to the extra work done by Katie and John Pavalasky. Let us thank them and also offer them a hand when they need a little extra help.

A stamp tip from the president:

Keep all piles of stamps away from the vacuum cleaner exhaust.

Ernie Teays  
SPS President

## SACAPEX 2009

### **SACAPEX 2009 was another success!**

If you didn't have a chance to make it to this year's SACAPEX, you missed two days of fun. Over 500 people attended this years event and enjoyed the 28 dealers who provided a wide variety of material for stamp collectors to choose from.

Our Silent Bid Sale this year had a whopping 266 lots! We had 75 frames of exhibits that were worth taking the time to view. The kid's table was busy and door prizes were a plenty.

In total this is a wonderful experience for any stamp collector, whether beginner or expert.

We look forward to seeing you next year, November 6th and 7th!

## 2010 Membership Dues Renewal Notice

Please remember that 2010 Sacramento Philatelic Society membership dues should be renewed and paid before the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dues are \$12 until then (\$6 for Juniors) – after Jan 6<sup>th</sup> dues are \$15 (and \$7.50 for Juniors).

*Merry Christmas*

**Christmas Party  
& Potluck**  
December 16th, 7 to 9PM

Bring food or goodies if you like!

Gift Exchange for those who wish to participate.  
Philatelic gifts \$5 to 10.  
(remember Club Circuit Gift Certificates).

## NOTES FROM THE WEB



For a holiday related website we have the **Christmas Philatelic Club** based in Harmony, Minnesota. This site includes both normal postage stamps and Christmas Seals.

On the home page is a

list (29 pages in PDF format) of Christmas stamps of the world. Most interesting is the “Exhibit Library”. Members can order photocopies of exhibits for a nominal copy & postage fee. This unique service includes 44 exhibits – some nearly 100 pages in length! There is also a list of Christmas related resources from organizations to books and websites. Membership is \$20/year and includes their quarterly journal the *Yule Log*. Their website is <http://www.hwcn.org/link/cpc/>.



The **Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society** is based in Rochester, NY and has a website at <http://cscss.home.att.net/>.

The society publishes the bible of US Christmas Seal collecting – *Green’s Catalog* – which is also available now on CD! In fact, the society states that “Keeping Green’s Catalog current and making it more useful is a

primary goal of the CS&CSS.” There are several versions of Green’s catalog but the complete comb bound is only \$46. Prices on the other catalogs offered are also reasonable.

Membership is \$15/year and includes issues of the *Seal News* newsletter.



Next is a website titled “**The Lure of Forgeries – an introduction to the stamp forgeries of Portugal**”. This site deals with forgeries from a bit different point of view though – the author specifically collects FORGERIES – and tries to avoid buying REAL stamps!!!

The site starts with a description of what a forgery is as opposed to reprints, cinderellas, handmade imitations or

computer printouts. The definition used is “printed from a plate of any type that was made or used specifically as a tool to imitate authentic stamps with deceitful intent”. The site is found at <http://www.portugal.tabacaria.com.pt/introduction.htm>.

Go to the bottom of the first page and click on “General index of pages on forged stamps” to get to the index of images. Included are early embossed issues (1853-76), Colonies – Ceres issues, the India natives and the Mozambique Company elephant stamps with more to come. There is also a section on reprints of the classic Portuguese stamps from 1863 to 1953 (although not forgeries).

Each page displays an genuine stamp along with 1 or more examples of forgeries followed by a very good description of the distinguishing features of the forgeries and how to tell them from the genuine stamp. Also included are notes on the forger when available.

This is a very well done personal website with very usable information (in both English and Portuguese) for the average collector!



There are several sites on the web that help you identify those “unknown” stamps that are sitting in a binder or glassine envelope somewhere. Here is a well organized site by Rick Scott called “**Unidentified Philatelic**

**Objects**” or UPO’s for short. The site is found at <http://home.att.net/~RickScott/Unidentified/Unident.html>.

Stamps are organized by region as well by “UPO #” which appears to be the order that they were added to the website. Each index page is a set of thumbnail images – click on an image and you get a page with larger image and whatever notes Rick has assembled for the stamp.

You can help by emailing information on stamps which aren’t identified yet – there are plenty of those. You can also submit your own UPO’s to be added to the website.

This site is a nice complement to others on the web such as Stefano & Casper’s “**Here you can identify your weird stamps...**” at <http://www.raster.it/stefano/a/> (which has been recently expanded). There are so many odd stamps out there that it never hurts to have another resource!

## POSTAL NOTES & ODDITIES

### Pet Post



In December 1954, the postmaster in Orlando, Florida received the following letter:

Dear Sir:

I am sending my chameleon because I live in Fostoria, Ohio and it is too

cold for him here. Will you please let him loose.

Sincerely yours,

David

P.S. Could you let me know if he arrives there OK?

Thank you very much. I am so worried about him.

On December 7, 1954, David received the following response:

Dear David,

I received your chameleon yesterday and he was immediately released on the post office grounds. Best wishes for a merry Christmas!

Sincerely,

L.A. Bryant, Jr.

Postmaster

## NEW ISSUES – U.S.A.

The US Postal Service unveiled the design for the Boy Scouting 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary stamp on November 12, 2009 during an event at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum.



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The **Celebrate Scouting** stamp will go on sale July of 2010 and will be dedicated at the Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill near Bowling Green, Virginia. The Boy Scouts of America will celebrate it's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary on February 8, 2010.

In conjunction with the *Celebrate Scouting* announcement and Veteran's Day observances, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) announced it will begin a nationwide effort to support U.S. Armed Forces personnel serving overseas and veterans by sending letters and care packages using the Priority Mail Flat Rate Box through the Postal Service. Local DC-area scouts mailed letters and shared news about the scouting stamp from the museum this morning. The letter writing campaign continues the BSA's longstanding tradition of service and performing "a good turn" daily.

A number of US Senators and Representatives have taken leadership roles in scouting and worked to bring the Celebrate Scouting stamp to life. They include Rep. Pete Sessions, R-TX; Sen. Dick Lugar, R-IN; Rep. Ike Skelton, D-MO; and Sen. Ben Nelson, D-NB.

There have also been several stamps whose release has been delayed into 2010. These include the following:

### American Treasures – Edward Hopper



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This next stamp in the American Treasures series will feature a 1935 painting by Edward Hopper, "The Long Leg". The scene is a sailboat sailing off Cape Cod with a lighthouse in the background. The original painting hangs in the Huntington Library in San Marino, CA.

## Flags of our Nation – Set Number 4



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This fourth set of state flags includes the flags of Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina and North Dakota along with a US Flag design that incorporates more of the "purple mountains majesty" design which was vignettted in the 1996 5c Non-Profit Organization non-denominated stamp shown.

## Silent Bid Sales / 2010

Start getting those items read for selling at one of the sales. It is never too early to start in order to get into the sale. Too many times we wait until the last minute & then can't find the time to get things together.

The dates for the Silent Bid Sales have been set for 2010.

They will occur on the first Wednesday of the month:

- Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> (material must be turned in by 1/27)
- May 5<sup>th</sup> (material must be turned in by 4/28)
- Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> (material must be turned in by 7/28).

Here are a few reminders about our sales:

The minimum bid should be \$1 & start in increments of \$.25

Bidding should be in increments of \$.25

Lots you bid on must be picked up the night of the sale

Lots not sold must be picked up the night of the sale.

In fairness to all, we appreciate you making access to the lotting cards to anyone interested (don't block the table so someone can't outbid you). The sale is done to be a **time of fun** as well as getting some of that excess out of your house & into someone else's collection.

Lotting cards can be picked up at any time in order for you to get ready ahead of time. Lotting sheets will be available at the Wednesday meeting **three weeks** prior to the sale.

## SACAPEX 2009 Palmares

### **Grand Award**

Dennis Hassler California Express Companies 1849 – 1895

### **LeRoy D. Armstrong Memorial Award - Best Exhibit by a Sacramento Philatelic Society Member**

James Stewart 100 Years of U. S. Postal Cards

### **United States Stamp Society Award**

James Stewart 100 Years of U. S. Postal Cards

### **American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award**

Peter Thy My Other Bechuanaland Postal Stationery Collection

### **Sterling Achievement Award**

Jean Johnson Celebrating the Chinese New Year

### **Court of Honor**

Stephen D. Schumann New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940

### **GOLD Award**

Dennis Hassler California Express Companies 1849 - 1895  
Clyde J. Holmen Philatelic Journey on the Beira Railroad  
Stuart Leven Carrying the Mails in Sarawak  
Kristin Patterson Wisconsin Civil War Documents Authorized by Samuel Dexter Hastings  
James Stewart 100 Years of U. S. Postal Cards

### **VERMEIL Award**

Joe Ross Life Policy Duty Stamps  
Peter Thy My Other Bechuanaland Postal Stationery Collection

### **SILVER Award**

James W. Busse Bundesrepublik Deutschland Weihnachtssiegelmarken  
Jean Johnson Celebrating the Chinese New Year  
Bob V. Short California Missions

### **SILVER-BRONZE Award**

Bob V. Short Appearances of George and Martha Washington

### **BRONZE Award**

Sherry Bradley Nordic Cooperation  
Sherry Bradley California Cancels  
Joseph S. Wheeler Posters 1967 – 77

### **Participation Certificate**

Joseph S. Wheeler Posters 1946-67  
Sherry Bradley Discontinued California Cancels

### **Jury**

Steve Schumann  
Garvin Lohman

## NATIONAL SHOWS

FEB	5-7	<b>Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition</b> Sarasota Philatelic Club <a href="http://www.sarasotastampclub.com">www.sarasotastampclub.com</a> Sarasota, FL
FEB	5-7	<b>COLOPEX</b> Columbus Philatelic Club <a href="http://www.colopex.com">www.colopex.com</a> Columbus, OH
FEB	12-14	<b>ARIPEX</b> Arizona Fed. Of Stamp Clubs <a href="http://www.aripexonline.com">www.aripexonline.com</a> Mesa, AZ
FEB	26-28	<b>St. Louis Stamp Expo</b> Area Clubs <a href="http://www.stlstampexpo.org">www.stlstampexpo.org</a> St. Louis, MO
MAR	19-21	<b>Garfield-Perry March Party</b> Garfield-Perry Stamp Club <a href="http://www.garfieldperry.org">www.garfieldperry.org</a> Cleveland, OH
APR	9-11	<b>Philadelphia Natl Stamp Exhibition</b> <a href="http://home.att.net/~pnse/">http://home.att.net/~pnse/</a> Oaks, PA
APR	15-18	<b>Sprint Postage Stamp Mega-Event</b> American Stamp Dealers Assn. <a href="http://www.asdaonline.com">www.asdaonline.com</a> New York, NY
APR	16-18	<b>TEXPEX</b> Southwest Philatelic Foundation <a href="http://www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.htm">www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex.htm</a> Dallas, TX
APR	24-25	<b>Plymouth Show</b> West Suburban Stamp Club <a href="http://www.plymouthshow.com">www.plymouthshow.com</a> Plymouth, MI
APR-MAY	30-2	<b>Philatelic Show</b> Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs <a href="http://www.nefed.org">www.nefed.org</a> Boxborough, MA
MAY	14-16	<b>Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX)</b> Rocky Mountain Phil. Exhibition, Inc. <a href="http://www.rockymountainstampshow.com">www.rockymountainstampshow.com</a> Denver, CO
MAY	14-16	<b>ROPEX</b> Rochester Philatelic Association <a href="http://www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html">www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html</a> Rochester, NY
MAY	28-30	<b>NOJEX</b> North Jersey Fed. Stamp Clubs, Inc. <a href="http://www.nojex.org">www.nojex.org</a> Secaucus, NJ
JUNE	4-6	<b>NAPEX</b> Nat'l Philatelic Exhib. of Washington D.C. <a href="http://www.napex.org">www.napex.org</a> McLean, VA

JUNE	4-6	<b>PIPEX</b> Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs & Inland Empire Philatelic Society <a href="http://www.spokanecollectors.org">www.spokanecollectors.org</a> Spokane, WA
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**Only World Series of Philately (WSP) shows are included**

For more shows and contact details go to:

[http://www.stamps.org/directories/dir\\_ShowCalendar.htm](http://www.stamps.org/directories/dir_ShowCalendar.htm)

## STAMP SHOWS in Our Area

JAN	15-17	<b>SANDICAL *WSP</b> San Diego County Philatelic Council Al-Bahr Shrine Temple San Diego, CA <a href="http://www.sandical.org">www.sandical.org</a>
JAN	29-31	<b>Orcoexpo</b> Stampwants.com Embassy Suites Anaheim South Garden Grove, CA <a href="http://www.stampshowsteve.com">www.stampshowsteve.com</a>
FEB	19-21	<b>APS AmeriStamp EXPO</b> American Philatelic Society Riverside Convention Center Riverside, CA <a href="http://www.stamps.org">www.stamps.org</a>
MAR	6-7	<b>NOVAPEX</b> Redding Stamp Club Senior Citizens Hall Redding, CA <a href="http://www.reddingstampclub.com">www.reddingstampclub.com</a>
MAR	13-14	<b>FRESPEX 2010</b> Fresno Philatelic Society Veterans Memorial Building Clovis, CA <a href="mailto:stars-tamps@thegrid.net">stars-tamps@thegrid.net</a>
APR	10-11	<b>Easter Seals Benefit Show</b> Sacramento Philatelic Society Easter Seals Building Sacramento, CA <a href="http://sacramentophilatelicsociety.org">sacramentophilatelicsociety.org</a>
APR	23-25	<b>WESTPEX</b> Western Philatelic Exhibitions, Inc. San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel Burlingame, CA <a href="http://www.westpex.com">www.westpex.com</a>

## CALL FOR ARTICLES

If you have a collecting interest that they would like to share with the club and feel more comfortable doing so in written form, please send it to me via email at [nzstampsinca 'at' gmail.com](mailto:nzstampsinca@atgmail.com). You can also get a printed version to me at one of the Wednesday meetings – I can scan and/or retype it as necessary. Typical articles will run from ½ to a full page of text and images.

## SPS CALENDAR

**Regular meetings are held every Wednesday evening from 7 –9PM at the Easter Seal Center, 3205 Hurley Way.**

Dec	9	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	16	<b>SPS Christmas Party, no club circuit</b>
	23	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, <b>no club circuit</b>
	30	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit
Jan	6	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	13	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	20	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	27	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
Feb	3	Silent Bid Sale, <b>no club circuit/no 2¢ boxes</b>
	10	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	17	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	24	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
Mar	3	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	10	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	17	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	24	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	31	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
Apr	7	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	10-11	<b>Easter Seals Benefit Show</b>
	14	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	21	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	28	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
May	5	Silent Bid Sale, <b>no club circuit/no 2¢ boxes</b>
	12	Regular plus <b>BOD meeting (8:45)</b>
	19	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	26	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.

We normally have our club circuit and penny boxes available for your shopping pleasure at each meeting. There are also members who enjoy just talking about their collections or helping you with yours. You might even find a member with a similar interest as you have and you can initiate a stamp swap. Come see us – it's a lot of fun. 'Shoe Boxes' of 2¢ stamps can be taken home to search through during the week.

## First Day Cancellation Information

All **first day cancellations** may be received after affixing stamps and sending to:

**Customer Affixed Envelopes**  
**Postmaster**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (first day city)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ - 9991 (5 digit ZIP + 9991)

Up to 50 FDCs may be submitted for cancellation at no cost, additional covers are charged 5¢ each. If you want them returned without addresses, you must enclose a self addressed envelope, with sufficient postage applied, to insure their return. There is no charge for this service.

## MEMBER PRESENTATIONS

Jan	20	Harry Mueggenburg – Hawaii First Day Covers
Feb	17	Joanne Berkowitz – Dr. Doctor Postcards

Let's try for a member presentation the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month!!! If you have a topic or area of interest that you would like to give a short presentation on, please contact Fred Rickert.

## Officers & Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Ernie Teays
<b>Vice President</b>	Ken Hilmer
<b>Secretary</b>	Keith Loder
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Pavalasky

### Board of Directors

Joanne Berkowitz	(thru 5/2010) <b>(Chair)</b>
Katie Pavalasky	(thru 5/2010)
Ken Hilmer	(thru 5/2011)
Jim Stewart	(thru 5/2011)
Dean Carl	(thru 5/2012)
Harry Mueggenburg	(thru 5/2012)

### Committee Chairmen

Easter Seal Show	Katie Pavalasky
Library	Ken Hilmer
Membership	Debbie Jean Hopkins
Programs	Fred Rickert
Prospector	Doug Elliott
SACAPEX 2010	Dean Carl
Website	Dean Carl

## VISIT THE SPS WEBSITE

**Can't find your prospector?**

**Can't remember what is when?**

**Dean Carl** continues to amaze those of us who are computer challenged. Updates get done so quickly that we wonder how he does it. The SPS website at [sacramentophilatelicsociety.org](http://sacramentophilatelicsociety.org) is where you can keep up with current activities, future events, see copies of the Prospector from the last twelve months, and explore links to other websites of interest.

## Current USPS Rates

Domestic:

First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz) - 44¢
First-Class Mail Letter (2 oz) – 61¢
Rigid Envelope Surcharge - 20¢
Postcard - 28¢
Large Envelope (2 oz) - \$1.05
Certified Mail - \$2.80

International:

First-Class Mail Int'l Letter (1 oz)
to Canada - 75¢, Mexico - 79¢, other countries - 98¢