



The Philatelic Prospector

A publication of the Sacramento Philatelic Society

P O Box 13284

Sacramento, CA 95813

March/April/May 2007

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

From time to time I am tickled with philatelic tidbits. Those pieces of information that relate somehow to this wonderful hobby of ours, no matter how off-the-wall those pieces may be. I have decided to share some of those tidbits with you in this issue. Enjoy!



Famous Quote:

"We cannot put the face of a person on a stamp unless said person is deceased. My suggestion, therefore, is that you drop dead."
J. Edward Day (U.S. Postmaster General)

Special Date:

On the 6th of May this year, three minutes and four seconds after 2 a.m., the time and date will be 02:03:04: 05/06/07.

Comedy:

"A native American group has filed a class-action lawsuit against the government for mismanagement of oil, gas, grazing, timber and other royalties since 1887. They're seeking \$100 billion. Here's the good news: The government has responded what I believe is an appropriate counteroffer: A two-cent Navajo stamp."
Stephen Colbert (Comedian)

Famous Quote:

"Be like a postage stamp. Stick to it until you get there."
Harvey Mackay (American Businessman)

Trivia:

What stamps are called "Curly Heads"? King Alfonso XIII of Spain was 12-years-old when his portrait appeared on the country's colonial issues in 1898, which was a bad year for Spain in general. The stamp was nicely engraved to accentuate, maybe exaggerate, his curly locks.

Mr. Zip Was Employed Somewhere Else First:

Mr. ZIP was based on an original design by Harold Wilcox, son of a letter carrier and a member of the Cunningham and Walsh advertising agency, for use by a New York bank in a bank-by-mail campaign. Wilcox's design was a child-like sketch of a postman delivering a letter. The figure was used only a few times, and then filed away. Later, AT&T acquired the design and made it available to the Post Office Department at no cost.

Happy Stamping!

-Dean Carl
SPS President

IT'S ELECTION TIME

It's that time of year again. **May 30th** is the date for this year's election of officers for 2007-8. You will find below the list of candidates for the 2 openings on the Board of Directors and also the new slate of officers. Keep in mind that this is your club and it is up to you how this club functions. Once each year you have the opportunity to vote on the persons you trust to make decisions for you, the member. Make sure you come out and cast your vote for the candidates that will ensure the club will function properly for another year. **The election will take place at 8:00 pm on May 30th.**

Nominees for this year's election for officers are:

President	Dean Carl
Vice President	John Sumpter
Secretary	Al Williams
Treasurer	John Pavalasky

Nominees for Member of the Board of Directors 2007-2010 are:

Joanne Berkowitz
Brian Freeman
Ken Hilmer
Katie Pavalasky

The new officers will take office at the meeting on June 6th.

SACAPEX 2007

Keep the dates November 2-4, 2007 open on your calendar.

John Sumpter, SACAPEX 2007 chairman, is looking for volunteers to help in many areas. There are already many changes happening as we head for the coming show.

We would still like to have people working with our chair people to learn the routines involved. We do need to have people who can step into a slot in the event someone gets sick or needs to have somebody take over for them.

If you would be willing to involve yourself, please contact **John Sumpter** (209-957-7196 or jsumpter@pacwest.com). He will be looking for **YOU** to volunteer.

Plans are already being formulated for **SACAPEX 2007**.

ANOTHER NEW ISSUE EVENT

We will be helping the USPS at an event in Old Sacramento on May 26th. The event will be a 2nd day event for the 'Star Wars' issue. We will be working on 3000 cachets for the USPS as well as providing canceling to the public at the event. This is happening during the Jazz Jubilee, so we should encounter a much larger attendance than usual. We will be asking for volunteers at the regular Wednesday evening meetings.

Where – Stage Nine Store in Old Sac.

When – May 26th from 1-5.

SILENT BID SALE – AUGUST 8, 2007

The Silent Bid Sale on May 2nd, though smaller than usual, was still very successful. Some of the items starting with minimum bids of only \$1 went for a great deal more. These times are done as a 'fun time' event.

A REMINDER – Silent Bid Sale night is for that event only. No other sales should occur on that night.

It is never too early to start getting your material ready for the next 'Silent Bid Sale'. The next silent bid sale is scheduled for August 8th.

NEW MEMBERS

Our membership continues to grow each week. If you haven't introduced yourself to the new members, you have missed a great opportunity to increase your circle of friends.

New members who have joined since the last Prospector include:

Lakeisha Backey	01824
Kay Buie	01825
Tyler Smith	01826
Gary Meyers	01827
Lloyd Money	01828
Bud Getty	01829

EASTER SEALS BENEFIT SHOW - 2007

The **Easter Seals Benefit Show** turned out to be another great success, in spite of a few hitches here & there.

The initial report is that we turned over more than \$5375. That amount includes 2¢ sales throughout the year as well as amounts taken in at the show.

Thanks to each of you who volunteered your help to Joanne Berkowitz in the kitchen area, Dave Anderson in the ES Material Sales area, John & Cheryl Sumpter in the registration & Prizes area, & to all who helped in setting up the show & in taking it down. The only way the show can be successful is with everyone cooperating & participating.

NEW ISSUE ARTICLE

Problems have already been seen on the new Jamestown souvenir sheets. We got a call from Fresno that there were two different colors of blue found in a pad of these stamps at one of the substations. We were able to get four copies of each, prior to even checking with the local post offices here in Sacramento. Before they arrived (from Fresno) five sheets were obtained from a North Sacramento station. The same problem was seen in their supply. The 'blue' background on the reverse side of the sheets will range from a medium sky blue to almost a cobalt blue. The first sheet torn up to make 1st Day Covers went from the light blue at the top of the sheet to very dark in the middle & back to light blue at the bottom. At this point we think the light blue is what they are supposed to be. This is based on the fact that all of the background blue on the stamps on the fronts of all the sheets is the lighter shade. The problem is so widespread that it would appear that wrong color shading will probably be of no greater value for any of them.

NEWS FROM OTHER AREAS

Ekko Stamps

By Dean Carl

Occasionally my search for something Elgin, Illinois related takes me into an unknown realm. My latest find of an Ekko stamp ranks high on the "You bought what?" meter. This is not an uncommon question for me to hear, as I do have a tendency to find the unusual philatelic item. I take great delight in the little oddities that I find. Then again, it may be that I enjoy the puzzled looks of "Why?" on collector's faces.

My latest find is an Ekko stamp, also known as a "Verified Reception Stamp". This is a Cinderella stamp and it comes with a big piece of radio history. Verified reception stamps were produced beginning in 1924, by the American Bank Note Company and remained popular until 1930. Other companies soon began to produce a likeness to the EKKO stamp, but it was the EKKO Company in Chicago, Illinois that began the craze. Ekko came up with the gimmick of selling broadcast radio stations on the idea of giving verified reception stamps to their listeners. This promotion would enable the station to determine both the size and location of its listening audience.



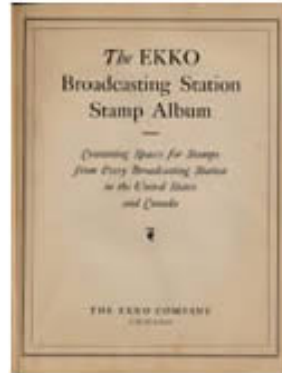
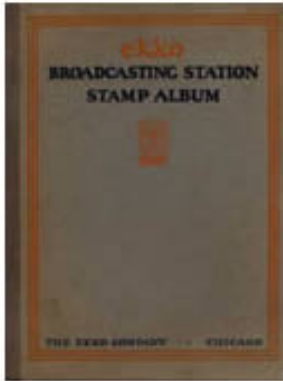
WLIB Elgin, Illinois Ekko Stamp.

Ekko offered stamp collectors a verified reception album for the cost of \$1.75. This album contained seventy preprinted pages that had an outline of the stamps that were currently available. With each outline there was the broadcast station call letters and wavelengths. A map was also inside the album that showed the location of each station that was involved in the promotion. Spaces were provided for the addition of later releases. Stamp collectors also found "Proof of Reception" cards enclosed that they were to fill out with information on their listening of that particular station. When the radio station received the proof of reception card, they checked the card for accuracy. If the information matched the programming days and times for that station, the station would mail the listener/collector the appropriate verified reception stamp to place in their album.

Other countries jumped on the EKKO promotional idea and included Canada, Mexico, and Cuba. There were over 700 radio stations that participated in the use of verified reception stamps. If you are looking for a new collecting area, perhaps the Ekko stamps are right for you. Take it from me, you'll get used to being rated on the "You bought what?" meter.



Ekko Stamps come in a variety of design and call letter colors.



Pages from the 1924 Ekko Album, which was 70 pages in size.

SPS CALENDAR

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

May	16	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	23	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	30	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
		Election of Officers for 2007-8
Jun	6	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	13	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	13	BOD meeting (8:45)
	20	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	27	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
Jul	4	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	11	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	11	BOD meeting (8:45)
	18	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	25	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.

Each meeting we normally have our club circuit and penny boxes available for your shopping pleasures. 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.

Identifying stamps

If you would like to help, **Katie** is conducting a stamp identification workshop at the first meeting each month. This not only helps the circuit, but keeps you sharp as well.

Officers & Board of Directors

President	Dean Carl
Vice President	John Sumpter
Secretary	Al Williams
Treasurer	John Pavalasky

BOD

Brian Freeman	(thru 5/2007)
Katie Pavalasky	(thru 5/2007)
Harry Mueggenburg	(thru 5/2008)
Jim Stewart	(thru 5/2008) (Chairman)
Nabil Haddad	(thru 5/2009)
Ernie Teays	(thru 5/2009)
Dean Carl	(thru 5/2007)

Committee Chairmen

Easter Seal Show	Katie Pavalasky
Library	Ken Hilmer
Membership	Debbie Jean Hopkins
Programs	Harry Mueggenburg
Prospector	Arlene Simmons
SACAPEX 2007	John Sumpter
Website	Dean Carl

Stamp Shows In Our Area For 2007

Save the dates for the following shows in our area.

JUN	1-2	Sacramento Stamp Fair Knights of Columbus Hall 5961 Newman Ct. Sacramento
JUN	9-10	COALPEX Walnut Creek Civic Center, WC
JUN	22-24	ASDA Santa Clara Show Santa Clara Convention Center 5001 Great America Pkwy. - SC
JUL	28-29	Reno Stamp Show 300 N Center St. National Bowling Stadium, Reno
OCT	5-6	WINEPEX San Rafael
OCT	27-28	East Bay Collectors Club Walnut Creek Civic Center, WC
NOV	3-4	SACAPEX Scottish Rite Temple Sacramento
NOV	10-11	SUNPEX Sunnyvale 1121 S. Chance Ave., Fresno, CA
DEC	1-2	PENPEX Redwood City

VISIT THE SPS WEBSITE

CAN'T FIND YOUR PROSPECTOR?

CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT IS WHEN?

It's easy to find what you need by visiting our website. **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 can be accessed at

sacramentophilatelicsociety.org

The website 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.

Useful (or Useless) 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)

The normal limit to submit for FDCs is 20 per request. 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.