



The Philatelic Prospector

A publication of the Sacramento Philatelic Society, est. 1914
P O Box 13284, Sacramento, CA 95813

February 2012

A Note from the President

Greetings

The Easter Seals Benefit Show will be here very soon. The show is quite successful and helps to raise money for Easter Seals. The success of the show is attributed to the volunteer effort of the club members.

Friday night, help will be needed with setting up dealer tables, the Easter Seals sales table and chairs. Sunday, after the show, help will also be needed to take down the chairs and tables.

Come and enjoy searching the mounds of stamps and also consider helping at the registration table, the club circuit or the Easter Seals sales table.

Ernie Teays
SPS President

February Silent Bid Sale

We had a smaller than usual turnout for the sale but it was still a lot of fun. There were 18 consigners this time with 146 lots for sale with a total minimum bid of \$2800.00. Fifty-nine lots sold for a total amount of \$950.

Don't wait for the last minute – get started now preparing your lots for the May 2nd sale!

Please be aware that the normal August bid sale has been cancelled due to a date conflict and the fact that the APS 2012 Show will be in Sacramento that month.

2012 Easter Seals Benefit Show

This year's Easter Seals Benefit Show will be held on Saturday March 31st from 10AM to 6PM and Sunday April 1st 10AM to 4PM.

The Golden Gate Precancel Society will hold their meeting on Saturday at from 10 to 4PM. The California Revenue Society will hold their meeting on Saturday from 1 to 3PM.

If you are unable to make it to a club meeting to sign up to help with the show you can call Katie at 916-359-3720.

Where is Rocket Mail?

Mike Rottmiller suggested I include an interesting article from the January 1957 issue of Mechanix Illustrated in the newsletter. The article, "Mail Via Rocket" by Frank Tinsley is one in the "Amazing Marvels of Tomorrow" series.

The article describes the future capability of transporting documents from New York to San Francisco and back within two and a half hours!

The process involved a microphoto machine to convert the documents to microprints, pneumatic tubes for transport to the central post office, a fast convertiplane on an hourly schedule between the city and the rocket base, and a rocket – of course!

According to Hall L. Hibbard, the head of Lockheed's Missile division, this service should be possible by 1965... Apparently they invented the fax machine first!



Junior Members Corner



Happy 2012!

There are many interesting holidays in January February that would make for interesting stamp collecting.

In January there was Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Did you know there was a Stamp Series in the United States called "Black Heritage Series"? You can even find free album pages for it at:

<http://stamps.org/userfiles/file/albums/BlackHeritage.pdf>

In February there is Presidents Day, George Washington's Birthday, and Lincoln's Birthday. These are collectable topics that have many stamps on the subject. Perhaps you could be collecting Presidents or Washington or Lincoln.

Then there is Valentine's Day. The United States "Love" stamps would be a fun way to symbolize a Valentine's Day topical stamp collection.

Whether you collect by topic, country or world-wide; there is always something around us that would be a story that could be told through stamps.

Happy Stamp Collecting!

-Dean Carl

2012 Black Heritage Series:

John H. Johnson



The USPS Manager of Stamp Services had this to say about the upcoming release, "We are proud to immortalize John H. Johnson as our latest inductee in our Black Heritage stamp series. He was the trailblazing publisher of *Ebony*, *Jet* and other magazines as well as an entrepreneur.

In 1982, he became the first black person to appear on *Forbes* magazine's annual list of the 400 wealthiest people in America. His magazines portrayed black people positively

at a time when such representation was rare, and he played an important role in the civil rights movement. President Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1996."

The Postal Service has recognized the achievements of prominent African Americans through the Black Heritage series since 1978.

In the United States, the first stamps were put on sale July 1, 1847. They were the 5-cent red-brown Benjamin Franklin (3,712,200 printed) and 10-cent black George Washington (891,000 printed).



5 cent



10 cent

VALENTINE'S FUN!

1) Does the Date of Valentine's ever change from February 14th?

- a) No b) Yes c) Maybe

2) What does the word "Valentine" mean?

- a) Heart b) Sweetheart c) Love

3) What is the name of the winged child who shoots arrows at unsuspecting Valentines?

- a) Cupid b) Cherub c) Claude

4) What flower is most commonly the symbol of Valentine's Day?

- a) Lilly b) Red Rose c) Poinsettia

5) When was the first recorded day that a Valentine was ever sent?

- a) 1838 b) 1415 c) 1972



Answers:

1) a) No 2) c) Love 3) a) Cupid



Stamp Shows in Our Area

MAR	3-4	NOVAPEX Redding Stamp Club Senior Citizens Hall Redding, CA www.reddingstampclub.com
MAR	24-25	FRESPEX 2012 Fresno Philatelic Society Veterans Memorial Building Clovis, CA starstamps@thegrid.net
MAR/APR	31-1	Easter Seals Benefit Show Sacramento Philatelic Society Easter Seals Facility Sacramento, CA starstamps@thegrid.net
APR	14-15	SOPEX 2012 Southern Oregon Philatelic Society Jackson Co Fairgrounds Central Point, OR www.norcalstamps.org/sopex.htm
APR	27-29	WESTPEX Western Phil. Exhibitions, Inc. San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel Burlingame, CA www.westpex.com
MAY	11-13	PIPEX Northwest Fed. of Stamp Clubs Doubletree Hotel at Lloyd Center Portland, OR www.pipexshow.org

APS Online Courses & Other Activities

Starts FEB 21	Basic Stamp Collecting Course (4 weeks) Instructor: Ada Prill www.stampcampus.org
MAR 12-23	APS Stamp Cruise West Indies & The Southern Caribbean APS Stamp Cruise Information
MAR 14-15	Collecting the British Machins Instructor: David Alderfer Prior to St. Louis Stamp Expo stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses
MAR 21-22	Financing the Civil War Instructor: Ron Leshner Prior to the Garfield-Perry March Party stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses
APR 25-26	Understanding and Identifying US Grills Instructor: Rich Drews Prior to WESTPEX stamps.org/On-the-Road-Courses
Year Round	Collecting First Day Covers Part I (5 lessons) and Part II (4 lessons) Instructor: Marj Sente www.stampcampus.org

Member Presentations

Feb 15	Preparing an Exhibit
Mar 21	Show and Tell

National Stamp Shows

FEB	24-26	ARIPEX Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs Mesa, AZ www.aripexonline.com
MAR	16-18	St. Louis Stamp Expo St. Louis area clubs St. Louis, MO www.stlstampexpo.org
MAR	23-25	Garfield-Perry March Party Garfield-Perry Stamp Club Cleveland, OH www.garfieldperry.org
Mar/Apr	30-1	Philadelphia Nat'l Stamp Exposition Assoc. Stamp Clubs of SE Pennsylvania & Delaware, Inc. Oaks, PA www.pnse.org
APR	28-29	Plymouth Show West Suburban Stamp Club Westland, MI www.plymouthshow.com
MAY	4-6	Philatelic Show Northeastern Fed. of Stamp Clubs Boxborough, MA www.nefed.org
MAY	5-6	ORAPEX RA Stamp Club, Ottawa Phil. Society Ottawa, Ontario CANADA pinet.robert@gmail.com
MAY	18-20	ROMPEX Rocky Mountain Philatelic Exhibition, Inc. Denver, CO www.rockymountainstampshow.com
MAY	11-20	ROPEX Rochester Philatelic Association Rochester, NY www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html
MAY	25-27	NOJEX North Jersey Fed. Stamp Clubs, Inc. Secaucus, NJ www.nojex.org

Only World Series of Philately (WSP) shows are included
For more shows and contact details go to:
<http://stamps.org/Show-Calendar>

New Members

Sacramento Philatelic Society membership for 2011 totals 248. New members and their collecting interest since the last newsletter are:

- 1970 **Mima Dordevic**
- 1971 **Marc Irish**
- 1972 **Kenneth Kreitzel** – US & UN
- 1973 **Larry Vivian** – Ships
- 1974 **Ron Tranquilla** – Precancels & Perfins (US & WW), Postal History (covers)

SPS Calendar

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

Feb	15	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	22	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	29	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
Mar	7	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	14	Regular plus BOD meeting (8:45)
	21	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	28	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	30	Setup for Show
	31	Easter Seals Benefit Show 10AM-6PM.
Apr	1	Easter Seals Benefit Show 10AM to 4PM.
	4	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	11	Regular plus BOD meeting (8:45)
	18	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	25	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
May	2	Silent Bid Sale, no club circuit.
	9	Regular plus BOD meeting (8:45)
	16	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	23	Meeting, 2¢ boxes, club circuit.
	30	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.

Prospector Distribution

If you are reading this online right now, you are one of those helping us to reduce our costs.

It currently costs more than \$1 to produce the hard copies and mail them to each member or family.

If you have an email address we will send an email to you with the newsletter attached.

To see the Prospector at our website:

1. Go to www.sacramentophilatelicsociety.org
2. Look under the Prospector section for **[Find the Prospector newsletter here.](#)**
3. You will be able to read past issues as well as the current issue.

If you need help please ask Dean Carl, Doug Elliott or Al Williams about your problem.

Call for Articles

If you have a collecting interest that you would like to share with the club but feel more comfortable doing so in written form, please send it to Doug Elliott via email at nzstampsinca@gmail.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. Or mail a copy to me at PO Box 1547, Oroville CA 95965. Typical articles will run from a half to full page (or two) of text and images.

Officers & Board of Directors

President	Ernie Teays
Vice President	Kent Burrow
Secretary	Cynthia Leffler
Treasurer	John Pavalasky

Board of Directors

Dean Carl	(thru 5/2012)
Harry Mueggenburg	(thru 5/2012)
Joanne Berkowitz	(thru 5/2013) (Chair)
Katie Pavalasky	(thru 5/2013)
Sherry Bradley	(thru 5/2014)
David Coleman	(thru 5/2014)

Committee Chairmen

Easter Seals Show	Katie Pavalasky
Junior Members	Dean Carl
Library	Ken Hilmer
Membership	Debbie Jean Hopkins
Programs	Fred Rickert
Prospector	Doug Elliott
SACAPEX	Joanne Berkowitz / Kent Burrow
Silent Bid Sale	Al Williams
Website	Dean Carl

Current USPS Rates

Domestic:

First-Class Mail Letter (1 oz) - 45¢
First-Class Mail Letter (2 oz) – 65¢
Rigid Envelope Surcharge - 20¢
Postcard - 32¢
Large Envelope (2 oz) - \$1.08
Certified Mail - \$2.85

International:

First-Class Mail Int'l Letter (1 oz)
To Canada or Mexico - 85¢, Other Countries - \$1.05

Visit Our Website

Dean Carl does a great job with the SPS website at [sacramentophilatelicsociety.org](http://www.sacramentophilatelicsociety.org). A calendar of events, membership forms, copies of the Prospector back to 2004, and links to philatelic-related websites are all there!

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. First day cancellations are usually available for 60 days after the day the stamp is issued.

Detailed instructions are found on the American First Day Cover Society's website at <http://www.afdcs.org/servicing.html>.