



COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PHILATELIC SOCIETIES
PO BOX 37, Alamo, CA 94507

COUNCIL COURIER

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The Greatest Show on Earth



Grand Opening of 50th WESTPEX in 2010. **Ed Jarvis** (left) Chairman and **George Shallimoff** (right) Vice-Chairman with dignitaries representing the specialist convening societies Polonus Society and Scandinavian Collectors Club.

It is not too much over-the-top to identify **WESTPEX** with the tag of "The Greatest Show on Earth." Within the Council area, it is definitely the largest annual activity, with pre-show guest speakers and APS seminars, and a philatelic exhibition of well more than 300 frames (nearly 5000 pages), 80 dealers from all over the world, multiple society meetings and seminars, and a first class auction.

There are so many things going on and so many things to see, you feel like a kid in his first stamp shop.

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The week leading up to WESTPEX includes and APS 2-day seminar on *Collecting Western U.S. Postal History*, a special edition of the Collectors Club dinner meeting with a special speaker, and meetings (and a reception) of the governing board of F.I.P., the international sanctioning body whose relationship with world philately is like APS is to the USA collecting community. WESTPEX is the place to be in the last week in April.

WESTPEX 2014



75th Anniversary
Golden Gate International Exposition

Special Souvenir Sheet sold only at WESTPEX

This year's theme is the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate International Exposition held at Treasure Island. At the entrance of the show you can purchase a number of souvenirs and interact with numerous society reps at information tables, including your CNCPS officers. **Clubs: Remember to bring your information fliers for the Council Table!**

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NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

WESTPEX, Sunday 27 April 2014 NOON
Newport Beach Room

CNCPS Elected Officers and Appointed Positions 2014-15

Contact Information

CNCPS — PO BOX 37, Alamo, CA 94507 [dues, official correspondence]

President: Dr. Akthem Al-Manaseer

Vice President: Larry Crain

Treasurer: Nigel Moriarty

Secretary: Gayle Hamilton

Immediate Past President: David McNamee

Awards Chair: Vesma Grinfelds

Council Frames Project: Randy Tuuri

Editor, *Council Courier*: David McNamee — dmcnamee@aol.com

Judges Coordinator: Tim Burgess — pennyred@earthlink.net

Speakers Bureau: Kristin Paterson

Special Advisor: Vesma Grinfelds

Web Master: Tim Burgess — pennyred@earthlink.net

Youth Coordinator: vacant (apply within!)

MEETINGS in 2014: WESTPEX (**April 27, NOON**), WINEPEX (October), PENPEX (December)

*Subject to change — watch the **Council Courier** for exact times and places*

What Does the Council Do?

A number of questions arise at this time every year (dues collection time) about what the clubs get for their ten bucks. It is a fair question, because a lot of what the Council does is not visible to everyone or not associated in people's minds with the CNCPS.

Perhaps some clues can be seen by the Committees that are part of the Council:

The *Council Courier* and the web site attempt to keep clubs and member societies aware of what is going on in our area (Northern California, Northern Nevada and Southern Oregon).

The Council promotes local philately through support for clubs through the Speakers' Bureau for club programs and support for stamp shows through:

- Publicity
- Exhibition Judges for local shows
- Loan of exhibit frames

The Chaloner and Holmsten awards are two of the ways that the Council encourages local philately.

The Council provides a training ground for future leaders in organized philately on the local, area and national levels.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Fellow Collectors:

Congratulations to Randy Tuuri for receiving the 2013 Chaloner Award, which is given to an individual with exemplary service to philately. Also, join me to congratulate Terri Edwards for receiving the 2013 Leonard Holmsten Award. This award is given to the highest scoring exhibit displayed by a Council member at a designated show. Last year's designated show was the Reno stamp show and this year will be at the SOPEX 2014 show (southern Oregon) on April 12-13. I encourage you to exhibit.

We have a vacant position "The Youth Advisor," If interested, please let me know ASAP.

At WESTPEX 2014, the Council will have a table where fliers can be placed promoting Council clubs. Over the years, about 20 of our clubs have had material placed there – some are diligent in being sure that their information is up to date and in sufficient amounts – others are not. I encourage you to update your flyer. Email me your updated flyer or bring them to the show.

The Council table will be occupied at the following time slots:

Friday 10:00-4:00 April 25, 2014
Saturday 10:00-4:00 April 26, 2014
Sunday 10:00-12:00 April 27, 2014

We have four **2-hour time slots** still to be filled. It is an opportunity to advertise your club information and meet other club members. The Council will provide cookies and snacks to attract individuals to the table. If interested to signup please use the following link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/o/10CoC4EACA92FA7FD0-westpex>

or email me: akthem@pacbell.net

Our next Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday April 27th at the WESTPEX 2014 show in Newport Beach room at 12 pm.

Please send me an email if you have any thoughts or questions that you wish to be discussed at the next Council meeting — or even better, why not join in the discussion at the meeting? Meet me at the Newport Beach Room at WESTPEX on Sunday 27 April at Noon.

Akthem Al-Manaseer, CNCPS President

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR CLUBS

Club and Society Fliers (information sheets) and sample newsletters are ways that people find out about you and join. You should take advantage of opportunities to showcase your group. The Council has a table at WESTPEX, plus we use these fliers at Council shows.

To make certain that your group is represented:

- Give a set of fliers to any Council Officer. They will see that the supply reaches the right place.
- Bring a set of fliers to WESTPEX for the Council information table Friday morning April 25 (best) or at any time during the show.
- Email Akthem at akthem@pacbell.net.
- Mail a set of fliers to the Council at CNCPS, PO BOX 37, Alamo, CA 94507.

Keep Your Club Contact Information Up-to-Date on the Web Site!

COALPEX UPDATE

Good news! **Dave Epps** and **Ken Goss** of the Fremont Stamp Club and **Barbara Herbert** of the Alameda Stamp Club are organizing volunteers among their respective club members for the revival of COALPEX.

As reported last quarter, Jim Dempsey is leading the effort to revive COALPEX, the June exhibition and bourse that last operated in 2009. Dempsey has made financial guarantees to the show for whatever seed money the show needs.

The proposed timing is **mid-June 2015**. Planning typically takes 9-12 months, and it takes *at least* 6 people. COALPEX is the show sponsored by **CO**ntra Costa and **AL**ameda County clubs and their members.

David McNamee has agreed to gather the names of people who want to get involved in this project. Contact him by email at dmcnamee@aol.com and volunteer today.

Around the Council: Clubs and Members

San Jose Stamp Club

Brian Jones reports: the San Jose Stamp Club tried at Filatelic Fiesta this year a new approach to attract new members. The club hosted a "hospitality area" with the idea that club members could engage guests in conversation that would encourage them to come visit a club meeting. It has been my feeling that just passively leaving fliers on a table is not terribly effective. We wanted to try talking to people one-on-one. While we have not seen a hoard of visitors at our meetings, I think we need to do this at more local shows and not just once a year. I also encouraged other local clubs to help staff the area and bring their own fliers to hand out.

We enticed them to visit the area with free coffee, snacks (donut holes, cookies), philatelic slide shows and the opportunity to buy items at our club sale. It may not be possible to repeat this setup at some shows due to space problems, but we may be able to pull off a simpler version of this at other shows and bourses.

Sacramento P. S.

Joanne Berkowitz asks: Did you know that the Sacramento Philatelic Society will be celebrating their 100th anniversary in 2014? Our Sacapex cachet this coming November will feature a drawing of our first meeting place that someone found and framed for us with a 100th anniversary theme.

We are just starting to work on a celebration banquet or party and/or other activities. We have reserved display areas in several local libraries for a philatelic themed display. If you have any thoughts or ideas for us, they'd be appreciated.

Keep up with SPS through their web site:
www.sacramentophilatelicsociety.org.

Southern Nevada S.C.

No, Las Vegas is not part of our Council! But the new Vice President of the Southern NV Stamp Club is **Jeanne Paquin**, formerly of the (Northern) Nevada Stamp Study Society. Jeanne sends her best wishes to the CNCPS.

The first issue of *Stamp Express* for 2014 includes a survey (and results) that are intended to strengthen member numbers, encourage new members, and generate enthusiasm among long-time members.

Members were asked about their satisfaction with 2013 activities, their expectations for 2014 and specific suggestions for changes or for new activities, which generated a long list of interesting ideas. Give it a try in your club!

Normally, what happens in Las Vegas, stays in Las Vegas, but this is another good idea too good to hide. SNSC sponsors an activity called "SCOUTQUEST," a day-long activity for Scouts looking to earn their Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. With a lot of volunteer support, 27 Scouts spent the day soaking, hinging and page mounting; learning to use catalogs, and thoroughly enjoying themselves!



Robert Hitpas of SNSC at SCOUTQUEST January 2014

Fremont

Seven members of the Fremont Stamp Club volunteered to help bring back COALPEX. **Dave Epps** is the main contact for the club on this project. Way to step up to the plate, Fremont!

Sequoia Stamp Club

Hank Washauer reports in *Stamp Chat-ter*: At their meeting on November 26, 2013, the Sequoia Stamp Club Governing Board voted unanimously to make a donation of \$500 to the Lucile Packard Children's Fund in memory of members Bill Moll, Diane Adler, Gil Goodrich, and Walter Schafheitle, all club members who passed away during 2013.

A letter of appreciation was received from the Children's Fund stating how grateful they were for the donation, and how our support will help provide compassionate, family-centered care for children and families throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

We are also involved with the Children's Hospital at Stanford through the efforts of **LeRoy Bertsch**. For many years, LeRoy has been active in a community service program of providing stamps for patients at the hospital. The thousands of stamps provided by LeRoy over the years have provided much needed therapy and activity projects for the patients. LeRoy has been a member of the Sequoia Stamp Club since 2005.

CCSF

On April 23, the Collectors Club of San Francisco will be hosting Cheryl Ganz, former curator at the Smithsonian and an expert on Zeppelin mail for an evening talk and dinner meeting prior to WESTPEX. The meeting will be at the show site, the Airport Marriott in Burlingame. For information on signing up for the dinner meeting and hearing Dr. Ganz, see the WESTPEX web site www.westpex.com.

FWPL

The Friends of the Western Philatelic Library have moved into their new building at 3004 Spring Street in Redwood City, and they are working hard to get the Library in working order. Stay in touch with the WPL through their web site www.fwpl.org.

USCS

The USS *Saginaw* Chapter 59 of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society sends out a colorful and informative monthly newsletter. For only \$6 a year you can join. Their next meeting will be at WESTPEX on Sunday 27 April at 12:30 PM — but check the WESTPEX Schedule to be sure of the time and the room location.

Alameda

Alameda has joined with the Fremont Stamp Club to help bring back COALPEX. **Barbara Herbert** is the main contact for the club on this project. Thanks,

Barbara!

Redwood Empire

The welcome mat is always out in Petaluma at 6 PM on the third Wednesday of the month when the Redwood Empire Collectors Club meets. In addition to a nice meal at a local restaurant, the meetings include a speaker on any number of wide-ranging philatelic topics.

In February, the speaker was Bob Dyer, who gave an interesting slide show featuring historic picture postcards and covers from Petaluma's famous egg and egg hatchery industry. The dinner meetings are held at Cattlemen's Restaurant in Petaluma at the Penngrove Exit on Highway 101 on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6 PM. The portion sizes are so large that most of the club takes home half the meal!

If you want to present a topic or just want to come and listen, contact Bob Dyer on 707-763-2934 or at nrdyer@comcast.net. Give them a try if you live nearby.

Do you want YOUR member's pictures featured?

Make certain your newsletter editor or publicity chair sends photos to the Editor of the *Council Courier*:

David McNamee
PO BOX 37
Alamo, CA 94507
or by email
dmcnamee@aol.com



Nevada S.S.S.

Everything seems to be new about the Nevada club!

A warm welcome to Marla Wetterling, the new Editor of *Post Boy*, monthly journal of the Nevada Stamp Study Society. The *Post Boy* has a new look, too! If you want to keep up with this very active group, send an email to Marla at opusnrosebud@att.net.

Attached to this newsletter is the exhibitor's prospectus for the 2014 Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show Reno July 26-27, held at the National Bowling Stadium. They are looking especially for Nevada-themed exhibits to help celebrate the state's 150th year.

The Nevada group has a newly revamped web site which you ought to check out: www.renostamp.org.

Finally, the Nevada Stamp Study Society has a new meeting place. It meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings at 10 AM at the Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno, NV.

Santa Rosa

The Santa Rosa Stamp Club celebrates their second anniversary since being organized by a team led by Martin Feibusch. Their newsletters are informative and colorful with articles on various aspects of philately. If you live near Santa Rosa, you might want to check out this group. Dues are only \$5 + \$5 new member fee upon joining. More information at srsc2012@yahoo.com.

Southern Oregon

The Southern Oregon Philatelic Society is putting the finishing touches on the SOPEX stamp show and exhibition for April 12-13, 2014, at the Jackson County Expo Park in Central Point, Oregon.

SOPEX is pleased to be offering the Leonard Holmsten Award for the best exhibit by Council club members. Leonard attended SOPEX once as an exhibitor (*Dung Dung Island*) and again as a Council judge.

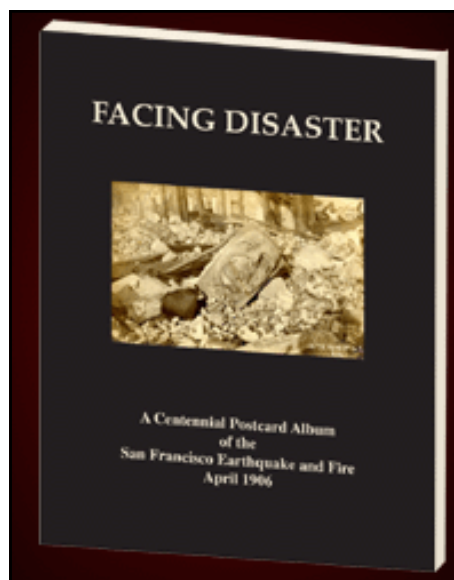
If you are going to exhibit there, be reminded that SOPEX frames are **12 pages**, and they limit exhibits to 48 pages (4 frames) to ensure maximum opportunity for people to show their stamps.

While you are visiting the Medford, Oregon area, take in the Pear Blossom Festival, including the parade downtown. SOPEX is part of the Festival activities, and local club members compete for the Pear Blossom Plaque with exhibits that best exemplify the Festival theme.

SF Bay Area Postcard Club

The SF Bay Area Postcard Club meets on the fourth Saturday of every month except December at Room C-260 at Fort Mason in San Francisco Noon to 3 PM. The meetings always have a special presentation and plenty of time for buy, sell and swaps.

Their very informative web site includes exhibits of postcards, FAQ (frequently Asked Questions) and answers, and archived copies of their newsletter.



The web site also includes ordering information for their publication, *Facing Disaster*, the story of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire through images reproduced from over 300 postcard images which show scenes before and after the destruction of San Francisco and its rebuilding, as well as the earthquake's devastating effect on the outlying communities of the Bay Area and elsewhere.

California Collectors Club

Vesma Grinfelds reports:

Long time California Collectors Club members, **Suchada Nilchan** and **Pierre Hahn** were married on December 26, 2013! Sue has a wide range of philatelic interests and Pierre (also a member of the Collectors Club of San Francisco) primarily specializes in France, Switzerland and the U.S. They did miss a January meeting due to their reception dinner!

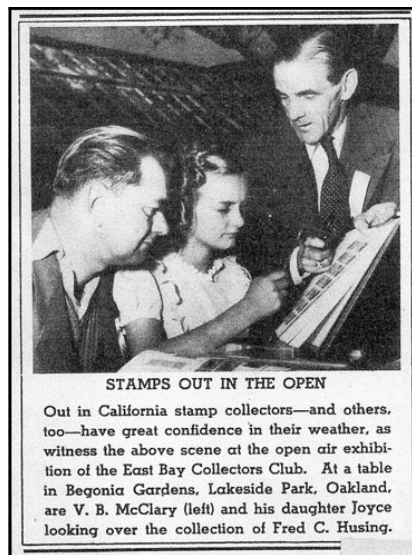


Congratulations to Sue and Pierre!

Vesma further reports that the Club recently purchased a complete set of used 2013 Scott catalogs. Individual volumes may be borrowed by Club members at no charge. **California Collectors Club** meets at 6:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month at St. James Episcopal Church, 4620 California St., Between 8th and 9th Ave., San Francisco.

Your Council Web Site

www.norcalstamps.org



STAMPS OUT IN THE OPEN

Out in California stamp collectors—and others, too—have great confidence in their weather, as witness the above scene at the open air exhibition of the East Bay Collectors Club. At a table in Begonia Gardens, Lakeside Park, Oakland, are V. B. McClary (left) and his daughter Joyce looking over the collection of Fred C. Husing.

From the December 1946 issue of *Philately*, featuring the East Bay Collectors Club show. This article and recordings of the history of Bay Area Philately are on our web site.

The Council web site has a lot of information:

- Officers and Committees: list of current leaders and their contact details
- About the Council
 - Chaloner Trophy Recipients
 - Holmsten Awards
 - Bay Area Philatelic History Project: Recordings made of Bay Area leaders about the early days of philately in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Shows: A schedule of stamp shows in the Council Area
- Exhibitions
 - CNCPS Judges Roster
 - Apprentice Judge Expectations and Evaluation
 - Judges Pledge
 - Frame Care and Use
 - Exhibit Chair Guidelines
 - Exhibitors' Title Page and Synopsis Guide
 - *APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Scoresheets*: via link to APS

Council Shows Report

NOTE: The *Council Courier* will publish only the highlights of each stamp show. We will not publish the full palmares — that information is available on the CNCPS web site: www.norcalstamps.org.

Results for First Quarter 2014

March 1-2: NOVAPEX (Redding)

Grand Award: **Ron Williams** (picture below)
Great Britain Two Pence & Half-Penny



March 8-9: FRESPEX (Fresno)

Grand Award: **Brian Clague**
Hagerstown Banking and Postal History



Exhibits Chair Art Olney with FRESPEX Winners Jean Kasper and Brian Clague

SHOW SCHEDULE & JUDGES

CNCPS Judges Chair **Tim Burgess** announced the Exhibition Show Schedule and Judges for 2014:

NOVAPEX MARCH 1-2, Redding

Judges: David McNamee, Bill Willis, and Len Lukens (Apprentice)

FRESPEX MARCH 8-9, Fresno

Judges Steve Schumann, Daryl Reiber

SOPEX APRIL 12-13 Medford, OR

Judges David McNamee, Eugene Walters

RENO STAMP SHOW JUL 26-27 Reno, NV

Judges Bill Barlow, Ed Laveroni

WINEPEX OCTOBER 3-5 San Rafael

Judges Tim Bartshe, Nigel Moriarty, and Larry Crain

EBCC SHOW OCTOBER 25-26 Walnut Creek

Judges Tim Burgess, David McNamee, Behruz Nassre (Apprentice)

SACAPEX NOVEMBER 1-2 Sacramento

Judges Steve Schumann, Henry Marquez

PENPEX DECEMBER 6-7 Redwood City

Judges Akthem Al-Manaseer, Bob Grosch

Schedule: Second Quarter 2014

April 12-13: SOPEX (Medford)

April 25-27: WESTPEX (Burlingame)

Contacts and information for these shows can be located through the CNCPS web site:

www.norcalstamps.org

Consider exhibiting — it's fun!

**Next Council Meeting at WESTPEX
at NOON April 27. See you there!**

NOVAPEX Show March 1-2, 2014



Scouts helping out in Redding mounting exhibit pages for NOVAPEX



Dealer Richard Clever of Asia Philatelics with NOVAPEX customer Wallace Craig

FRESPEX Show March 8-9, 2014



FRESPEX is family friendly and fun!

Then comes the show itself, with more specialist society meetings and seminars than you can possibly attend, a multi-day major auction by Schuyler Rumsey, the aforementioned huge exhibition, and dealers stashed in numerous rooms. If you have not experienced WESTPEX, get to Burlingame for at least the official show days, 25-27 April. It is an experience not to be missed.



WESTPEX Office during set-up day. **Ed and Judy Jarvis** in the background and WESTPEX Treasurer & CFO **Bill Barlow, Jr.** in a purple shirt processing mailed-in exhibits.

Putting on a major event like WESTPEX takes a lot of hard work by a lot of volunteers. People from all over the Bay Area and as far away as Sacramento devote countless hours so that you can have one of the finest stamp shows in the country. If you see a WESTPEX volunteer (usually wearing a special t-shirt), why not thank them for all they do for you.



Ed Laveroni (center) directing the frames set-up crews on the Thursday before the show opens. WESTPEX volunteers number approximately 50 at showtime. If that role interests you, identify yourself to the WESTPEX booth at the show lobby.

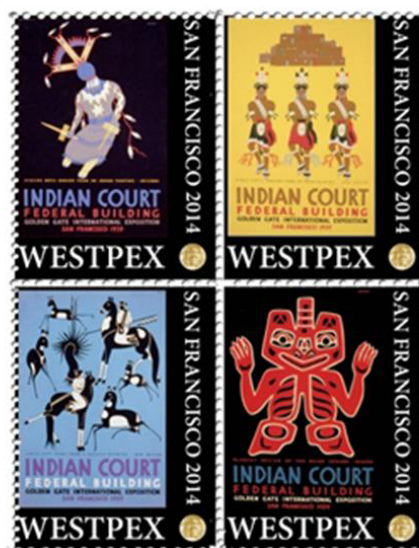
WESTPEX, Inc. Press Release

(Excerpt):

A pre-show event at the hotel on Wednesday April 23, 2014 will feature the **Collectors Club of San Francisco dinner meeting** at 6 PM, and they will be hosting Cheryl Ganz, curator of the National Postal Museum, whose talk is titled "Zeppelin Mail." Details and reservations for all events are available from Judy Jarvis, P.O. Box 210579, San Francisco, CA 94121-0579, phone 415-387-1016/ email judyjarvis@westpex.com.

Continuing the tradition of a local show theme, WESTPEX 2014 will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Golden Gate International Exposition (GGIE). The GGIE celebrated the completion of the Bay Area's two major bridges, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (1936) and the Golden Gate Bridge (1937). WESTPEX will offer a special Cinderella souvenir sheet (illustrated below) as well as cachet covers. The show will officially open at 10 AM Friday April 26, and you will not want to miss this 54th WESTPEX Stamp Show. Complete show details, reservations, schedules, and theme story may be found at www.westpex.org.

WESTPEX



75th Anniversary
Golden Gate
International Exposition

Eight Philatelic Giants Come to WESTPEX

WESTPEX has arranged for a 2-day APS "On the Road" seminar, *Collecting Western U.S. Postal History*, April 23-24, 2014, as part of the ongoing educational opportunities afforded the philatelic community by generous grants from the WESTPEX Board. Eight giants of Western Postal History will be sharing their knowledge with the fortunate participants in this year's pre-WESTPEX seminar. If you are interested in next year's offering, monitor the WESTPEX web site www.westpex.org for news of next year's seminar.

The eight speakers during the 2-day event are:

- **John Birkinbine, II**, is well known as a dealer for 68 years, and he is also a Champion of Champion exhibitor, a former accredited judge and an ardent collector and authority on western U.S. postal history.
- **Dr. Robert Chandler**, retired historian for Wells Fargo Bank and past president and current secretary of the Western Cover Society, has been a prolific contributor to the literature on Wells Fargo, Butterfield Overland Mail, Pony Express material, service contracts, and other expresses.
- **Richard Frajola** has worked for several auction houses as well as his own. He is an exhibitor, and he owns and moderates an online postal history forum. He has a website that features exhibits, articles and a book on the Pony Express co-authored with George Kramer and Steve Walske.
- **Fred Gregory** is a philatelic author and webmaster for www.hawaiinstamps.com, as well as an APS expertizer. He is an avid historian of California, the West and Hawaii, and he is a past chair of the Friends of the Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, the world's leading repository of Western Americana original source material.
- **Paul Harter** studies the movement of mail in the west, concentrating on the Butterfield Overland Mail, of which he has the most complete collection.
- **George Kramer**, a frequent participant in the Champion of Champion exhibitions, has immense knowledge of western postal history, as demonstrated in his exhibits, books and articles. He believes in sharing his knowledge and his material through exhibits and published articles. He is a co-author of *United States Telegraph Stamps and Franks* (1992) and *The Pony Express: A Postal History* (2005). He is the 2013 Luff Award recipient for *Exceptional Contributions to Philately*. He recently won the Grand Prix d'Honneur at Brasiliana 2013 with "U.S. Domestic Mails 1776-1869."
- **Scott Trepel** is president of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries in New York. He has published numerous articles in philatelic journals, and he is the 1869 Section Editor for the U.S. Classics Society's journal. He has published books on the City Dispatch Post and the Pony Express.
- **Steve Walske** is an award-winning exhibitor, researcher and author, with special interest in French and U.S. Postal History. He co-authored *Special Mail Routes of the American Civil War: A Guide to Across-the-Lines Postal History* with Scott Trepel and *The Pony Express: A Postal History* with Richard Frajola and George Kramer. He is also a frequent contributor to the *Chronicle*, *Western Express*, *Collectors Club Philatelist*, and *Les Documents Philateliques*.