



Western Philatelic Library Gets a New Look!

A new **Safety Committee** has been formed by **Roy Teixeira** (Chair), **Ed Jarvis** and **David McNamee** to address critical safety issues with the building housing the WPL. The Safety Committee has solicited WPL supporters for funds to accomplish specific site improvements that enhance the safety of volunteer staff, visitors and the philatelic literature collection.

Among the first actions was to press the Board to acquire adequate insurance to cover the liabilities and risks of owning its own premises. Funds were raised to hire an electrical contractor to audit the complex circuits and repair as necessary, upgrade the lighting where required and install lighted EXIT signs.



New electrical outlets for the coffee bar/snack are.



Safety push-bars were added to the two glass doors to conform to standard building codes. These first efforts were high on the list of safety and security projects.

Future projects include a better security fence and gates for the parking area. Also, there are items that are clogging the aisles between the stacks still left over from our move to the building from Sunnyvale; these represent a safety issue for emergency egress.

Ed and Judy Jarvis have contributed a microwave, coffee maker and cabinets for the coffee bar/snack area. **Roy Teixeira** has spent countless hours cleaning up the inside and outside, painting and working with the various contractors. On behalf of all members, we owe a big “Thank You” to Ed, Judy and Roy.

These projects may seem dull when reading about them, but if you come down to Redwood City for a visit to WPL, you will see that we are beginning to look like a real library: clean, lighted, safe, and organized with study tables and WiFi access – all the “mod cons” as they say (modern conveniences).

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CNCPS Elected Officers and Appointed Positions 2018-19

Contact Information: Nigel Moriarty

1110 Hillcrest Dr, Lafayette, CA 94549-3113 [dues, official correspondence]

President: Larry Crain — larry.crain@gmail.com

Vice President: Dave Epps

Treasurer: Nigel Moriarty — nw_moriarty@yahoo.com

Secretary: Robert Pope

Immediate Past President: Akthem Al-Manaseer

Awards Chair: Vesma Grinfelds

Council Frames Coordinator: Randy Tuuri

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

Judges Coordinator: David McNamee

Speakers' Bureau: Kristin Patterson

Special Advisor: Vesma Grinfelds

Web Master: Ed Bierman — edbierman46@gmail.com

MEETINGS in 2018: **WESTPEX (NOON, April 29, ROOM TBA)** and SACAPEX (TBA)

*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, exchange of membership recruiting and retention ideas through the *Council Courier*, 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:

Stamp collectors should be excited about spring because the year's run of shows has just begun (such as NO-VAPEX in Redding the first weekend of March). However, there may be some trepidation also about spring cleaning. Do we ever want to spring clean our collections? That is wipe clean the dusty album tops, wash the page protectors (not that we won't find they need it when we remount our exhibit), throw out the old (covers . . . heaven forbid!!) or clean out the stamp area (we can do if it is only re-arranging -- vacuuming not).

Spring means more sunlight hours to read that blurred cancel on a stamp by tipping it from side to side to catch the gleam of the black ink. Spring means warmer tap water to soak that collection on paper bought at a winter club auction. Spring means having light in the dark corners of a room to sort those newly-soaked stamps or having space to open more than one album at once or more than one catalogue.

Spring means getting active again with your collection, with your club or with your exhibiting. Welcome to spring. Welcome again to our hobby. And welcome especially to WESTPEX April 27-29 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott in Burlingame. Join the Council Sunday at 12 for its annual general meeting. Stay afterwards to hear Bob Grosch talk about the Boston negative cancels.

Larry Crain

More Pictures of Safety Improvements at WPL



New lighted EXIT signs with battery back-up add to safety for volunteers and visitors



Additional lighting makes this a work area rather than a dark corner where "stuff" accumulates

The Western Philatelic Library is a precious asset that needs people to invest their time to help out. If you are short of time, WPL is a charitable organization that will accept your \$\$.

Introduce a Fellow Collector to your next Club Meeting. The hobby grows richer when we expand our social contacts and friendships.

San Francisco Bay Area Postcard Club

The SF Bay Area Postcard Club is alive and well, still meeting in the same place in Fort Mason. They invite you to attend a meeting and to experience their side of the hobby.

Meetings: 4th Saturday of every month except Dec.

Location: Fort Mason, Room C-260, Bldg C, San Francisco, CA Verify meeting place as it sometimes changes.

Contact: Lew Baer, P.O. Box 621, Penngrove, CA 94951

Email: editor@postcard.org

Website: www.postcard.org/

Southern Oregon Philatelic Society

The annual SOPS Stamp Show is right around the corner (April 14-15). If you are in the area, you will be in for a treat: the show is part of a greater celebration in Medford, the Pear Blossom Festival with parades, good munchies, and fun for all. The show has a special 1-page contest for club members with awards for the best Pear Blossom theme.

Fresno Stamp Club/FRESPEX

The Fresno Stamp Club has a very good web site www.frespex.org with information about the club and its annual show. This year the show was held March 10-11, but we received notice of it too late for the January *Council Courier*.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:
WESTPEX, Sunday, April 29, 2018
Burlingame, CA
Room TBA @ NOON

This year, they repeated their very successful **FRESPEX Raffle** featuring five valuable lots. It is a great money raiser — check out their web site for this year's winners.

Fresno Stamp Club President **Rod Kirby** invites visitors to their meetings on the first Sunday of each month at 2 PM at the Fresno City College Main Dining Hall (map on web site).

Alameda Stamp Club

John Kofranek announced that the May meeting (May 15) will feature a presentation by him on "How to Exhibit." including how he would like it to be and what the judges are looking for.

If interested in this, the club meets the third Tuesday of each month except November and December at 7 PM at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1910 Santa Clara Ave. (enter from Chestnut Street) refreshments are served!

The club has agreed to organize an auction once each quarter, so the remaining 2018 dates are April 17, July 17 and October 16. All are welcome to join in the fun!

San Jose Stamp Club/

Filatelic Fiesta

The Filatelic Fiesta show, sponsored by the San Jose Stamp Club suffered some delays whilst the show committee was reorganized following the loss of several key members. As a result, the usual dates are not available. **Same venue, San Jose Elk's Lodge, but a NEW DATE**

OCTOBER 20-21, 2018

U.S.C.S.

USS *Saginaw* Chapter No. 59

Steve Shayis scheduled to give an informative talk at WESTPEX on his collection of “Naval Unofficial First Day Covers” in the Newport Room at 12:30 PM Sunday, April 29.

Nevada Stamp Study Society

The Reno Stamp Show is set for July 28-29 at the first floor Hall of Fame at the National Bowling Center in Reno. They are still looking for exhibits, so contact **Dick Dreiling**, the Exhibits Chair. Novice exhibitors pay no fee to exhibit! Others are charged a modest frame fee.

The Reno Stamp and Cover Show is always fun, and the banquet is delicious!

The Nevada Stamp Study Society meets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month except December: 9 AM for trading, meeting starts at 10 AM, at Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd., Reno. If you are visiting Reno on one of those Saturdays, drop in for coffee, refreshments and good fellowship.

Fremont Stamp Club

Dave Epps announced earlier that COALPEX would not occur this year. The attendance just was not enough to support a show. The remaining funds were turned over to the Council.

The Fremont Stamp Club's **Henry Marquez** won a **Large Gold with Felicitations** at BRASÍLIA 2017 for his exhibit “Lima 1821-1884: Republican Postal History Until Early UPU.”

Congratulations, Henry!

The New Stamp Exhibitions from our Northern Neighbors

As we reported in the last issue, a new **Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition** was held on March 17-18, 2018, by the Greater Eugene Stamp Society (GESS) and the Salem Stamp Society (SSS). The exhibit lasted two days, one day in each city. The joint exhibits chair **George Struble** reports (excerpts):

Thank you for inquiring about our Willamette Valley show. I thought it came off very well. We had 13 exhibitors, including three youth (from San Diego) and six novice exhibitors!

Attendance was quite good in Eugene, and moderate in Salem. And people *did* look at the exhibits. I was impressed by the *quality* of the visitors too; the People's Choice awards went to “Little-known ships at Pearl Harbor” in Eugene and “Oregon Territory Mail” in Salem. Often People's Choice awards go to something cute, like frogs getting married!

I was expecting that some exhibitors would be willing to show their exhibits in their home city but not want them to travel to the other city. I tried to head that off by a decree that only exhibits shown in both cities would be judged.

Want YOUR club's news featured?

Make certain your newsletter editor sends a copy of the club's newsletter and press releases to the Editor of the *Council Courier*:

David McNamee
PO BOX 37
Alamo, CA 94507



The Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition in Eugene

And all exhibits *were* shown in both cities. Two exhibitors took their exhibits home Saturday evening instead of letting me store them overnight at my house, but both were in Salem bright and early Sunday morning.

I had great cooperation from everyone. Both clubs really were ready to take this step toward including exhibits in their shows again after a few decades absence. The Salem club had been working up to this by including in each meeting a “Frame of the Month” show-and-tell; that helped wrap our members’ minds around preparing an exhibit.

Our judges were **Larry Crain** and **Lisa Foster**. They did excellent work, giving very valuable advice to the exhibitors. I had served as mentor to several of the exhibitors, but with only minimum involvement with some. Larry and Lisa took that some huge steps further; I observe that after training as a judge, they think about exhibits differently than I do!

People comment that having the show in two cities takes more work dismantling and remounting the exhibits and frames. Yes, it is more work than one

show, but a lot less work than *two* shows. My estimate is 1.2 times the work of one normal show.

I have heard a suggestion that instead of the two-day-two-city show, we alternate shows between Eugene and Salem. Both clubs have both a spring and a fall show, always sharing the same weekend and most of the dealers. Have one show with exhibits in the fall and the other in the spring? I doubt it: (1) the fall shows are too close to SEAPEX, and (2) I doubt that we have the energy or the exhibitor interest for two shows a year; I'm certainly not willing to run both! But a spring show could alternate years in the two cities. We will have some discussions.

This *was* more work than I foresaw. It was work I wanted to do, so I'm not complaining. Next year, I will see to it that I have fewer other commitments during this period.

Thank you, George, for an enlightening report. There are some words of wisdom as well as encouragement, so perhaps others will be more willing to introduce judged exhibits into their local bourse.

VALLEJO STAMP CLUB

The long-time stalwart of the Vallejo Stamp Club, **Michael (Stan) Turrini**, reluctantly announced that after 70 years, Vallejo Stamp Club was folding. The club had shrunk to only three active members, and they decided to close the doors.

Stan has agreed to once again be part of the WESTPEX opening ceremonies as Westley the Squirrel. DON'T MISS IT!!

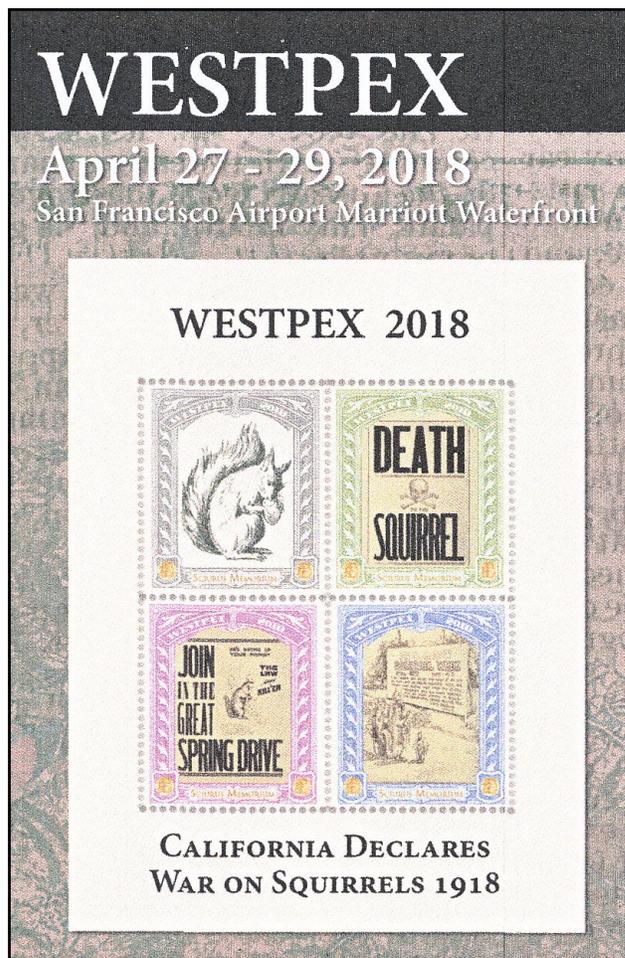
WESTPEX

The new Vice Chairman of WESTPEX, **Daryl Reiber**, was introduced by **Clyde Homen** to the 50-member WESTPEX Committee of volunteers at the March 26 final contact meeting prior to the show **April 27-29, 2018**.

WESTPEX is hosting a number of specialist societies with 60-odd seminars and meetings, most open to the public. The featured societies include the American Airmail Society, the Rhodesian Study Circle and Women Exhibitors. If for no other reason, you should go to WESTPEX for some of these meetings and displays. Tables will be set up for information on these and other stamp societies. Stop by and chat.

On Thursday (the 26th) before WESTPEX officially starts, the organization Women Exhibitors will conduct an all-day seminar with presentations covering the full range of exhibiting experience open to both men and women. WEFest VI will feature 6 presentations:

- “You’ve Had Your Arm Twisted to Exhibit — Now What?” with Larry Crain
- “Adding Old(er) Material to an Exhibit: What, Where and How” with Pat Stillwell Walker
- “Layout Challenges in Exhibiting” with David McNamee
- “Types of Postal History Exhibiting: Purpose and Plan” with Tony Wawrukiewicz
- “An Opportunity to Exhibit Anything” with Tim Bartshe
- “An Exhibit Judge for a Day” with Liz Hisey.



Sequoia Stamp Club

Sequoia has published a handsome annual portrait of the club with numerous stories with pictures illustrating the club events of the past year and the people who worked to put them on as well as club members enjoying themselves. The publication also includes a full roster with contact information as well as collecting interests.. Handsome and useful!

The Sequoia Stamp Club meets the Second and Fourth Tuesdays at 7:05 PM in the Redwood City Community Activities Building (where PENPEX is held). Visitors are welcome and there are refreshments served! Their Club Program Schedule is posted on their web site and published in their newsletter *Stamp Chatter*.

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 Fourth Quarter 2017

MAR 3-4: **NOVAPEX**, Redding, CA

Grand Award: **Dennis Hassler**
Gold Rush Days

MAR 17-18: **Willamette Valley Stamp Exhibition**, Salem/Eugene, OR

Grand Award: **Larry Maddux**
Development of Oregon Territory Postal System 1847 to 1859

New Council Judges

Ralph Nafziger from Oregon and **Mark Woodward** from Redding are the latest to sign up for training as a Council Certified Philatelic Judge. Their first experience will be as part of the jury at SOPEX.

When you train as a judge, you get a better understanding of exhibiting techniques. Exhibiting makes you a better collector by training you to be selective in what you collect, as well as teaching you about the rich philatelic background of your subject. Judging makes you a better exhibitor because you learn how to organize your thoughts and communicate why you collect and exhibit what you do.

To sign up for judges training, contact David McNamee at dmcnamee@aol.com.

SHOW SCHEDULE & JUDGES

CNCPS Judges Chair **David McNamee** announced the Exhibition Show Schedule and Judges for 2018:

Congratulations

To **Jessica Rodriguex**, the first recipient of the “Collectors Club Award of Merit,” earned at Sandical 2018 for her exhibit *Costa Rica: 1889 Soto Series*.

NOVAPEX Redding, CA March 3-4

CNCPS HOLMSTEN Award Show

Judges: Larry Crain + Bill Willis

FRESPEX MARCH 10-11, Fresno

Bourse Only

SOPEX APRIL 14-15, Medford, OR

Judges: David McNamee + Lisa Foster + Ralph Nafziger (Apprentice) + Mark Woodward (observer)

RENO STAMP SHOW JULY 28-29, Reno, NV

Judges: Dzintars and Vesma Grinfelds

WINEPEX OCTOBER 5-7, San Rafael

Judges: Stephen Schumann + David McNamee

EBCC SHOW OCTOBER 27-28, Walnut Creek

Judges: Behruz Nassre + Akthem Al-manaseer

SACAPEX NOVEMBER 3-4 Sacramento

Judges: Nestor Nunez + Bob Grosch

PENPEX DECEMBER 1-2 Redwood City

Judges: Nestor Nunez + Bill Barlow

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

www.norcalstamps.org

Consider exhibiting — it's fun!