

P.O. BOX AD • SPARKS, NEVADA 89432

NSSS MEETS THE 2nd and 4th SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH,
IN ROOM 203 OF THE PHYSICS BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF
NEVADA. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND.



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STAMP
STUDY
SOCIETY

MARCH ISSUE -- 1988

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February Meeting Notes

Talking to Ruthe Dreiling on the phone, it sounded like we had some good, well-attended meetings in February.

At the first one Dick Dreiling gave a talk on How to Exhibit. This included some tips on page layout, what the judges like to see, and what to leave out. For beginners, there were some good basic pointers; Ruthe reported that club members appreciated the chance to hear about this subject.

At the second meeting, Margo and Josephine gave their first program. They talked about what they collect and why they like collecting. It sounds like they were pretty brave and worthy of praise for getting up to talk when they are so new to the hobby. Good for you, girls!

As of Saturday, Feb. 27, 176 frames were reserved for exhibits at NEVPEX. All 24 dealer tables are contracted and further requests are being turned away. Looks like the show is developing lots of interest -- hooray!

CLOSED ALBUM

On Tuesday, March 1, good NSSS member Art Swanson passed away after suffering a stroke. I will remember him as being always cheerful and pleasant, ready with a smile and a soft word of welcome. I guess all of us that knew him will miss him. I hope his wife La-Retta knows she has our sympathy and good wishes. It's hard to lose a friend.

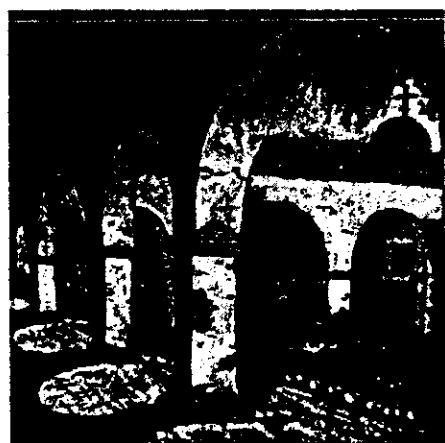
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SAN JOSE STAMP CLUB, INC.

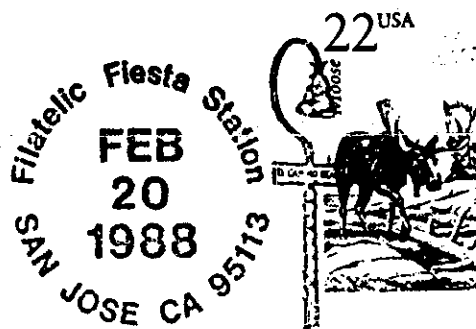
PRESENTS

FILATELIC FIESTA '88

FILATELIC FIESTA



MISSION GARDENS



FILATELIC FIESTA REVIEW

Once again, your "roving reporter" took notes while visiting a California stamp show. Arriving before opening time on Saturday morning, February 20th, I was able to stay until 5:30 that evening. Being short of funds, I steered clear of the dealers bourse, and concentrated on exhibits and exhibiting education.

The physical lay-out of the show was not the best, in my opinion. The bourse was in one separate room, and the exhibits were in two other hotel rooms on the second level. Meetings were held in hotel rooms with chairs instead of beds; that is, the rooms were converted from normal stay-over-night use. In spite of getting lost in the awkwardness of this arrangement, it seemed like everyone had a good time. There were plenty of people there all day and they were a lively group. It might be argued that a smaller cozy accomodation makes people friendlier and more comfortable, willing to stay around longer. Hard to say.

ELEPHANTS SHOWED THE WAY

As a court of honor exhibit, Mary An Owens' "The Elephant" was a fascinating display.. I studied it closely and took notes and tallies in order to better understand how to put together a good thematic exhibit. For this showing Mary Ann presented 150 pages of her total 307 making up the collection. She started collecting in 1961, and has shown this exhibit all over the world over the years. It is impressive. I kept asking myself " how and where did she find all this stuff?"

I was particularly interested in emphasis; how much of the exhibit had strictly elephant information and how much of it was philatelic comment? My rough (and often interrupted) count told me that 40 pages had only elephant facts, 75 had only philatelic comment, and 35 had some of both. Philatelic observations ran the gamut from year of issue, color varieties, parts of sets, routing of covers, when what country issued what, errors, to coats of arms.

Her material included essays, proofs, varieties, specimens, covers, cancels, dies, post cards, and of course - stamps. Phew! What a collection! It was easy to see why she had won so many awards everywhere she exhibited.

"IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT"

You've heard that expression before, haven't you? I heard a variation on that theme when I sat in on the judges critique for Larry Scott's "Napals' Postal Service" exhibit. One of the three judges was required to point out a few minor things that could have been done differently, but all three judges felt they were being forced to "nit pick." One judge advised Larry not to change his stuff; "it might go down to a vermeil." Congratulate Larry when you see him for winning his well deserved Gold!

AAPE MEETING NOTES

During the show, there was a meeting for members of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. Or, as Mary Ann Owens called us, the "Apes." Three members of the board were there to preside: Mary Ann Owens, Clyde Jennings, and Steve Schumann. The meeting was pretty informal, allowing for much casual discussion. Among other things, we learned about past and present requirements for becoming an APS accredited judge. It seems that in the past (around 1974) judges were not required to have exhibited their own collections. Some judges were recruited because of their business dealings with stamps, and extensive knowledge of certain issues. Now, however, there are very few of those judges left.

Another aspect of exhibiting was presented by Clyde Jennings. During a discussion of title pages and how they help judges when they are reviewed before the show, Clyde suggested the pre-show use of a synopsis. In a synopsis, he said, the exhibitor could explain and emphasize aspects of his exhibit that he normally would be prohibited from mentioning on his official title page. Clyde is pushing for more use of this idea -- it could be a "wave of the future."

A CHAT WITH FRANK

Frank Pennington was there. You remember Frank: he did the show cachet for NEVPEX 81 when the "Save Woodland Habitats, etc." block of four was issued in Reno. His cachet featured a Bighorn Sheep. Frank is considered to be a "Pioneer Cachet-maker."

While we were sitting in the lobby of the St. Clair Hilton between meetings (we being a group of six FDC collectors), Frank told several stories from his past.

When the Jimmie Rodgers stamp came out, Frank made a cachet for it. He didn't find out til later that at the same time he was designing the cachet, his cousin was designing the stamp. Close family.

We were discussing the popularity of sports issues. Frank mentioned that it wasn't true that the "Babe" pointed the way all his pictures show him doing. A legend or myth developed possibly created by a newsman.

I asked Frank about his cachet-producing methods. He's tried various things, but prefers to color with acrylic paints because after they dry, they can't be harmed by moisture, "even tears." When I expressed a concern about mixing up enough paint of certain shades to last for all the covers made at one time, Frank said he did end up with some variations. He'd "get up to get a beer, come back and make a change. Get up to get some more beer, come back and it would look different again."

I'll never make a good interviewer with my sketchy notes and mediocre memory, but I sure enjoyed visiting with Frank. I wonder if Dick Monty has him on tape. The AFDCS has been gathering tape recordings of famous FDC people and their stories for the society's archives.

I enjoyed this show -- especially all the people I talked with. I hope our NEVPEX is just as sociable.

... C. Scott

FILATELIC FLASHBACK

HISTORIC EVENTS OF THE SAN JOSE STAMP CLUB

Ralph Martin was elected president of the San Jose Stamp Club which was formed at a gathering of 21 local philatelists in June of 1926 in the rooms of the Junior Mercury Herald club. Other officers were chosen as follows: Everett Erle, vice-president; C.F. Barnes, secretary; J. Holbrook; treasurer; C.E. Dennis, reporter.

The charter membership of the organization was held open until July 15, 1926. After that time an initiation fee of one dollar was charged all new members. The dues were 25 cents per month, or \$2.50 per year in advance.

The club meet every Friday evening, and planned to devote one evening per month to a meeting with junior stamp collectors. Auctions were also being planned by the club.

The San Jose Philatelic Club was organized with the idea that the collectors of San Jose and vicinity should be given an opportunity to come together at regular intervals--compare notes on stamps in general and their collections in particular.

Some of the letters carried on the historic first flight of air mail between San Jose and Oakland carried a special cancellation designed by Dr. C.F. Barnes, club secretary. Collectors from all parts of the country sent letters for the first flight. First letters on the "shortest air mail route in the United States", carried a whole picture gallery of stamps and postmarks.

San Jose Philatelic Club had the first annual exhibition on Saturday, April 22, 1933 in the Convention Hall Chamber of Commerce, N.E. corner Market and Santa Clara Streets in downtown San Jose.

This year will mark the 62nd year of the San Jose Stamp Club, we invite you to visit our meetings and join our club. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Rose Garden Library Community Room, 1580 Naglee Avenue, San Jose. The club phone number is 408-238-4864.

Our programs are varied and interesting to all types of collectors; specialists, general collectors, or topicalists. Come and enjoy our slide programs, talks, swapping sessions, buying and selling, trading, auctions and be sure to attend the Saturday flea markets.



62 years old!
Can we do this well, too?
C.S.