



San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter



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FREE

TIBET

Northern California Trivia

- Q. What was the former name of Loleta?
- A. Swaeger.
- Q. For what county did Crescent City serve as the first county seat?
- A. Klamath.

From Northern California Trivia
by Ernie & Jill Couch

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Westpex

Westpex is behind us for another year and what a show it was.

The theme was gold for the fiftieth anniversary of the show and in keeping with gold the grand prize was a gold double eagle — not too shabby.

With a projected venue of some 75 dealers, it was very disappointing that four dealers from England had to cancel as they could not fly out due to the volcano eruption in Iceland whose ash lingered over the English Isles.

It all started with the Tiffany dinner Tuesday evening, then the Collectors Club of San Francisco dinner Wednesday night, the Philatelic Rangers dinner Friday night and the Awards Dinner Saturday evening.

Kristin Patterson's book covering the first fifty Westpex shows, remember there was no show in 1997 due to the Pacific '97 International, was a great success. This is all the more remarkable as she only had about ten weeks from start to finish. It can be purchased online at westpex.org. A copy will be available at the May 5th meeting for all to see.

Local exhibitor winners include:

Youth Vermeil

Dzintars Grinfelds

California Collectors Club

The Republic of Central Lithuania

Gold

Henry Marquez

Fremont Stamp Club

Lima 1821-1879

Gold

Stephen D. Schumann

Filatelie Fiesta Chairman

New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940

Attendance was very good, especially on Friday the 23rd. More people than I've seen at the show in the 13 years I've been associated with the show were there. The dealers seemed to all be very, very pleased with sales and collectors were happy with the material available to them. The many local club members I spoke with seemed very pleased with the show and what they were able to find for their collections. All-in-all a very fine and productive outing.-ed.

San Jose Stamp Club

Our club is all but dead. We have about 25 members with six to eight attending meetings — this will not do. Unless there is an increase of involvement by you I can see no future for this group. We've been without a vice-president since Jack Brady passed away — no one wants to serve in that position. Our meetings are nothing more than bull sessions by those few in attendance — not unenjoyable, but not productive or conducive to a stamp club. Very, very few of you have shown or talked about any of your collections.

I am at a loss for any solutions and am about ready to throw in the towel. I've been president and the newsletter editor for some 13 or 14 years. All this time there have been no elections as no one wants to run for any of the posts in the club. There have been fewer than a dozen articles contributed by members. Many have ideas — speakers, auctions, films, etc. — but no one will step up to help accomplish any of these things. I guess you expect me to do it all. But I feel as I've done enough and without participation by you will do no more. I am ready to hang it up — kapootz — no more club, no more wondering, worrying, or feeling frustrated as to whether or not anyone would come up with an idea and be willing to help see it through to some kind of fruition. No more feeling I must do it all or it wouldn't get done.

This is not what I want to do, but am fed-up with the lack of participation, the lack of meeting attendance and the lack of any concern by you with regards to any of this. Perhaps it's time I returned to being a stamp collector.-ed.

Program

As I neglected to take into account my having to be at Westpex, Paul Johnson was unable to give his talk on airmails.

Paul doesn't drive any longer and I've been picking him up so that he can attend the meetings. Obviously that couldn't happen because I was at Westpex — so his talk has been rescheduled for May 19th. My apologies to everyone for my overlooking the conflict in the dates.-ed.

