



San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter



Whole number 195

July 2014



9 - 11—WE WILL NEVER FORGET

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Founded 1927, Club show since 1928
 Meets 7:00 PM, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
 Hilltop Manor in 3rd floor dining room
 790 Ironwood Drive, San Jose, California
 Driving instructions on the website.
 Annual dues:
Adults/families \$12 ~ Youths \$6
With hardcopy of newsletter \$20
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Harvey Milk stamp

The Harvey Milk stamp was a result of seven years of lobbying by a self-described drag queen (a biological man with implanted breasts) and former transsexual prostitute Nicole Murray Ramirez of San Diego.

Honoring predator Harvey Milk on a U.S. postage stamp is disturbing to say the least. Harvey Milk was a very disreputable man and used his charm and power to prey on young boys with emotional problems and drug addiction. He is the last person we should be featuring on a stamp.

Note the hypocrisy of the postal service's "Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee," which claims it "commemorates positive contributions to American life, history, and culture," but specifically states stamps "shall not be issued to honor religious institutions or individuals whose principal achievements are associated with religious undertakings or beliefs."

Randy Shilts, a homosexual San Francisco Chronicle reporter, wrote a favorable and sordid biography of Milk in "The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk."

According to Shilts, Milk repeatedly engaged in adult-child sex and advocated for multiple homosexual relationships at the same time.

Unfortunately, the deed is done. The United States Postal Service honored a child predator at the whim of a drag queen.

Furthermore, the radical homosexual lobby will undoubtedly encourage businesses to use these stamps—all in the name of inclusiveness, political correctness and diversity. This is not diversity; this is perversion.

What you can do...

1. Refuse to accept the Harvey Milk stamp if offered by your local post office.
2. Refuse to accept mail at your home or business if it is postmarked with the Harvey Milk stamp. Simply write "Return to Sender" on the envelope and tell your postman you won't accept it.

Tim Wildmon,
President American Family Association

It's everyone's choice, of course, however, I link this to one's core values. For those of you that think this is homophobic you're wrong, this has to do with whether or not one believes child predation should be an acceptable practice.-ed.

Early Newsletter

This edition of the SJSC newsletter is early due to my pending "revisit" to Korea. The Korean government has for some time now sponsored what they term "revisit" tours for veterans of the Korean War. All expenses are paid by the Korean government for one week and include tours of Seoul, a trip to Panmunjom and the DMZ, plus a trip to Incheon.

Having spent some time in all three of these areas I'm anxious to see what I know are incredible changes to these places. The best part is my brother is going with me as he also qualifies for the trip.

As I don't expect to return until the very end of June, or possibly the first part of July, I thought I'd better get the newsletter out early or it would be very, very late—and we can't have that...

American Philatelic Society

Being a member of the APS has many advantages with no downside. Yes, I hear those that say the APS does nothing for them—horse pucky! If you are one of those people then I say you are not reading, listening, and certainly not taking advantage of what the APS has to offer.

In addition, the *American Philatelist*, which offers articles on every conceivable philatelic subject you can think of—and a few you haven't—is a great learning tool. This would be particularly important for worldwide collectors, yet these are the people that reject membership the most.

I don't think I have to say too much about how important the APS expertizing service (APEX) is—accepted world wide for its quality opinions.

Cost—it's too expensive! What a crock! It's one of the best bargains in philately. There is no place one can get the reliable information that the APS provides for any less. And when an error does occur they quickly correct it. All-in-all a good buy.-ed.



The Prez Sez

pot-pourrie

Northern California Trivia

Q Where was George Lucas born?

A Modesto.

Q What half-hour western set in San Francisco in the 1850s aired on national television from 1957 to 1959?

A "The Californians."

From *Northern California Trivia* by Ernie & Jill Couch

"[T]he duty imposed upon [the president] to take care, that the laws be faithfully executed, follows out the strong injunctions of his oath of office, that he will 'preserve, protect, and defend the constitution.' The great object of the executive department is to accomplish this purpose; and without it, be the form of government whatever it may, it will be utterly worthless."

—Joseph Story

"Sell not virtue to purchase wealth, nor liberty to purchase power."

—Benjamin Franklin, *Poor Richard's Almanack*, 1738

There ought to be one day—just one—when there is open season on senators.

—Will Rogers

The Pen Made for the White House

By Dan Lewis from *Now I Know*, for *Readers Digest*.

The pens read "Skilcraft U.S. Government." And if you have worked for an American government institution, chances are you've used one. About \$5 million worth of these pens are sold every year (with 60 percent going to the military), and they have quite a story behind them.

To start, they're assembled by the blind. In 1938, in the midst of the Great Depression, the government stepped in to help blind workers, who were already at a competitive disadvantage. Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Wagner-O'Day Act, which required that the federal government purchase specific goods manufactured by blind Americans.

The Skilcraft brand came to be a decade or so later, in 1952. Today, the company employs over 5,500 blind workers in 37 states, producing an arsenal of office supplies, with the pens made in factories in Wisconsin and North Carolina. The pens must be produced to the specifications outlined in a 16-page document that was first promulgated more than 50 years ago. Among the requirements? The pens must be able to write continuously for no less than 5,000 feet and in temperatures up to 160 degrees and down to 40 degrees below zero—you know, just in case. 😊

"I ask, Sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people. To disarm the people is the best and most effectual way to enslave them."

—George Mason

Speech During Virginia's Convention to Ratify the Constitution, 1788

and which are not viable? How would you improve on them or implement them? Please send me an email right now or give me a call. If you have anything to say, I'd genuinely like to hear it.

—Brian

In the 4 previous columns I have outlined my ideas on how we can grow and revitalize our beloved hobby. This month I'm wrapping up this discussion summarizing my thoughts on a possible future for our favorite hobby.

I started this discussion making the point to entice both genders and all ages to get involved. Stamp collecting has so much to offer everyone in different ways, why not give everyone a chance to discover its values? It is surprising to me to see some who lead youth tables breaking the arm of any parent who touches a single stamp. Why? The hobby is blessed with an abundance of inexpensive stamps, why be so uptight? These inexpensive stamps are a great and largely untapped asset to philately. We need to find ways to make much better use of these stamps. Great things can come from getting parents involved with their kids collecting stamps and making it a family activity. I've had parents get emotional over the opportunity to use stamps to get back in touch with their heritage and teach their kids about it. Once the kids are raised and out of the house, adults have more time and perhaps the finances to build a wonderful collection. The challenge for the philatelic community is to show more adults the virtues of a stamp collection.

Let's keep the hobby relevant by embracing new technologies. There is no better way to break the perception of stamp collecting being stogy and outdated than to embrace new devices and Internet services. So many aspects of philately are enhanced by sharing our collecting that using social media web sites is a natural. Many of us already make big use of auction sites like ebay and Bid Start, but there are many other ways to use social media than is currently done by most philatelists. Since so many of us have exotic collecting interests, we can improve our collecting by connecting with people with similar interests. Not only will this help established collectors, it will show others that this is a vital and "current" hobby.

An integration of genealogy into philately is a natural fit. Many of us already base our collecting interests based on our family's heritage in another country, state, or city. A family with a rich history in medicine might want to collect stamps on this topic, and integrate family covers, postcards, and memorabilia into a collection. The challenge is to show non-collectors the values of integrating stamps into their understanding of their family history and topics.

Last month I wrote about how integrating scrapbooking materials and techniques into stamp collecting can grow stamp collecting. As I mentioned before, it's a logical fit due to the larger 12" x 12" format making mounting and displaying covers and sheets much better. The variety of colors and textures gives us the opportunity to add a lot of expression. One could even go "crazy" and use a few of the popular embellishments that are sold in craft and scrapbook stores.

If the philatelic community works together to communicate the fun for all ages and took greater advantage of the plethora of inexpensive stamps that alone would create a boost in the hobby. When new collectors see that the hobby is relevant to their own interests, uses current technology and can be integrated with other interests, we could see a real renaissance for philately.

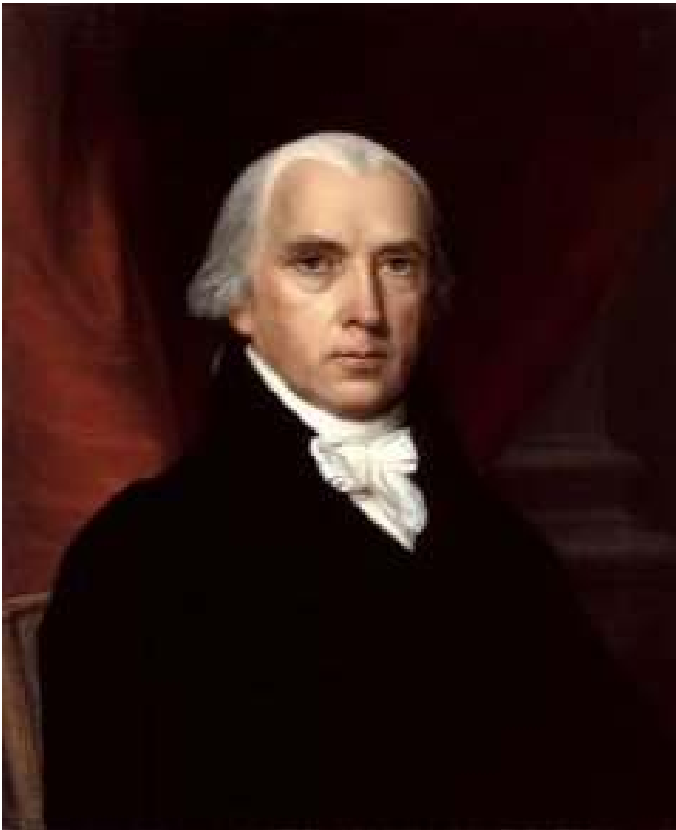
I beg and implore you to contact me with your thoughts and feedback on these columns. What ideas do you think are good

James Madison

Madison, who was born on March 16, 1751 in Virginia, was one of the most influential of all the Founding Fathers. He was a driving force behind the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and presented the first version of the Bill of Rights to Congress.

James Madison and Alexander Hamilton also wrote most of the Federalist Papers, which played a key role in getting the Constitution ratified.

Serving as Thomas Jefferson's secretary of state, Madison helped to negotiate the Louisiana Purchase. And as president, Madison served two terms and held office during the War of 1812.



James Madison, 1751 - 1836, Father of the Constitution.

But what else do we know about Madison?

1. Madison was introduced to his wife Dolley by Aaron Burr. Yes, in yet another Founding Father connection to Burr, Madison was taken with the young widow Dolley Payne Todd. Burr was staying at the Payne boarding house in Philadelphia (about three blocks from the current National Constitution Center) and asked Burr to arrange an introduction. The rest is history.

2. Madison and Burr were Princeton classmates. Madison graduated one year before Burr. The men were in rival debating societies at Princeton. Madison graduated in 1771; his roommate was poet Philip Freneau.

3. There was a 17-year difference in age between James and Dolley. The couple dated for just four months before their marriage in 1794. James was 43 years old; Dolley was 26. The couple were inseparable after the marriage.

4. Madison didn't fight in the Revolutionary War. Small in stature and sometimes sickly, Madison served briefly in the Virginia militia and then entered politics at a young age. He was also the youngest delegate at the 1780 Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

5. Madison really was the Father of the Constitution. He arrived 11 days early for the event, presented his Virginia plan of checks and balances as the foundation of the Constitution, and then worked tirelessly to get the Constitution ratified. Toward the end of his life, a modest Madison said the Constitution "ought to be regarded as the work of many heads and many hands."



James Madison, 4th President of the United States, 1809 - 1817, Scott 808, issued July 1, 1938.

6. Madison wasn't keen on writing the Bill of Rights—at first. Madison feared that actually listing individual rights in the Constitution would possibly limit other, unlisted rights. He had a change of heart when it became apparent that a Bill of Rights was needed to get the Constitution ratified. During the 1st Congress, Madison presented the first draft of the Bill, which he had written. It had nine articles with 20 amendments

7. Madison retired for about four years at the height of his political powers. After serving in the House for eight years, Madison walked away from national politics in March 1797 and returned to his estate at Montpelier. But Madison, along with his mentor, Thomas Jefferson, had formed an opposition party to the Federalists, and Madison wrote the controversial Virginia Resolution (in opposition to the Alien and Sedition Acts) during his time off.

8. Madison's likeness did appear on U.S. currency. If you have a Madison in your purse or wallet, it is a very rare \$5,000 bill. Some are still in circulation; a bill in very good condition went for more than \$100,000 at an auction in 2010.

9. We really don't know what Madison liked to eat. Biographers know a lot more about the meals that Dolley Madison served at social functions. One theory is that Madison liked Virginia ham. But he only weighed about 100 pounds and stood about 5 feet 3 inches tall.

10. Madison was a man of few hobbies. Unlike George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, who had numerous pursuits outside of work, Madison stuck with playing chess and reading Latin and Greek literature in their original languages.

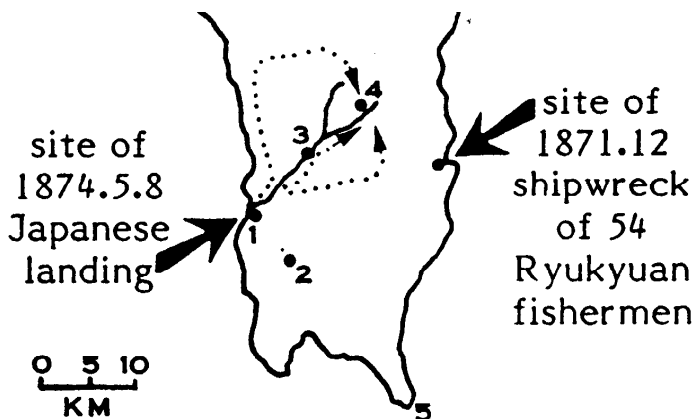
No bird soars too high if he soars with his own wings.—William Blake

Taiwan Expedition of 1874

On October 18, 1871, four ships which had carried the Nintouzei tax (poll tax) to the Ryukyuan Kingdom started from Naha for their homeland. They met a violent typhoon and one ship disappeared, one ship sailed safely, and two ships were shipwrecked; one reaching the eastern tip of Taiwan on November 6. Another ship reached the western part of Taiwan and this one was safe.

Sixty-six people landed on November 6, at the eastern tip of Taiwan called 高雄州恒春郡滿州庄九柵 (八遙湾 but three people who landed in a hurry died during landing. They began an extraordinarily hard journey to safety. According to two survivors, they reached the Mudan community on November 8 and were ordered to stay there; 66 men and women had some doubts and on November 9 started to escape, which started a massacre. Twelve survivors were rescued by local people and stayed there for 40 plus days, in the house of Yang Youwang; they returned via Tainan City and Fuzhou, 福州, China, and then back to Miyako. The distance of their wandering was roughly 100 km as the crow flies. The place of the murder was known as 双溪谷 and is now where the training of Republic of China (Taiwan) army, navy and air force personal takes place.

The 12 survivors stayed in the home of Yang Youwang 楊友旺 for 40 plus days where they recovered with sufficient food and care. Yang Youwang paid a considerable amount of money to calm down the aborigines. Originally they were angry for not being given two barrels of alcoholic drinks. The son and a nephew of Yang Youwang brought the 12 survivors out to safety. They stayed at the Ryukyuan House at Fuzhou, China for some six months finally reaching Naha June 7, 1872 with the men on another ship, which reached Taiwan on their way to Yaeyama. Yoh with some other people erected a tomb and have continued memorial ceremonies.



Place names in Japanese & (Chinese Wade-Giles)
 1 = Sharyoko (She-liao-kang) 2 = Koshun (Heng-ch'un)
 3 = Sekimon (Shih-men) 4 = Botansha (Mu-tan-she)
 5 = Garambi (E-luan-pi)

Yang Youwang (1824–1916) was the head of a township and he looked dignified in a formal Chinese uniform in a picture on the cover of the book of Miyaguni Fumio. He sheltered 9 people and saved three other people giving precious animals and clothing to the aborigines. He let his son and nephew go with the 12 people to safety.

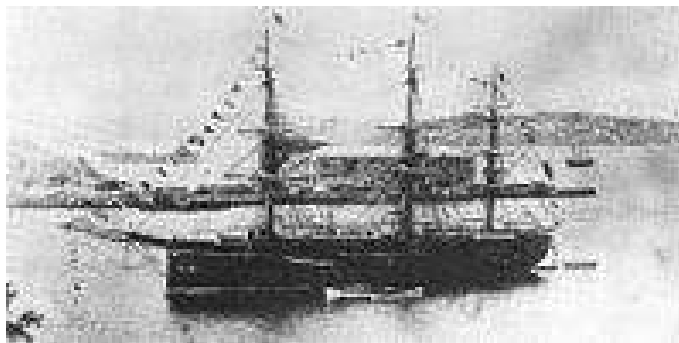
Lin Ajiu 林阿九 was head of a township and was the one who saved the Japanese. He later persuaded Wen Zhulei 温朱雷 who stole 44 skulls from a settlement into giving them to the Japanese army. His family has continued memorial services for the victims.

Deng Tianbao 鄧天保 and Ling Laosheng 凌老生 were also rescuers.



Saigo Tsugumichi.

The Japanese expedition of 1874 to Taiwan, usually referred to in Japan as the Taiwan Expedition of 1874 (Japanese: Taiwan Shuppei (台湾出兵)) and in Taiwan and mainland China as the Mudan incident (Chinese: 牡丹社事件), was a punitive expedition launched by the Japanese in retaliation for the murder of 54 Ryukyuan sailors by Paiwan aborigines near the southwestern tip of Taiwan in December 1871. The success of the expedition, which marked the first overseas deployment of the Imperial Japanese Army and Imperial Japanese Navy, revealed the fragility of the Qing dynasty's hold on Taiwan and encouraged further Japanese adventurism. Diplomatically, Japan's embroilment with China in 1874 was eventually resolved by a British arbitration under which Qing China agreed to compensate Japan for property damage. Some ambiguous wording in the agreed terms were later argued by Japan to be confirmation of Chinese renunciation of suzerainty over the Ryukyu Islands, paving the way for de facto Japanese incorporation of Ryukyu in 1879.



The Ryūjō was the flagship of the Taiwan expedition.

Interestingly, no Japanese stamp was found that commemorated in any way the expeditionary force and subsequent reparations for the death of the Ryukyuan sailors.-ed.

Washington's Cherry Trees

Washington's cherry blossoms have become an iconic image of springtime in the nation's capital. And while the trees can be appreciated solely for the ethereal beauty they cast on the shores of the Potomac River, the historical roots of the trees are more complicated.

Ann McClellan, a recognized expert on the trees who has written two books on Washington's annual festival celebrating the blossoms, said that the first trees given to Washington from Japan in 1910 were a symbol of international friendship.

"When they gave the gift of trees they were really giving something of themselves, because they were grateful to the United States for brokering the treaty of Portsmouth, which ended the Russo-Japanese War," McClellan said. "It was the first time Japan was treated as a bona fide member of the international community."



Centenary of U.S. - Japan Treaty of Amity and Commerce, Scott 1158, issued September 28, 1960.

The trees were given in honor of then-first lady Helen Taft, wife of the 27th president William Taft, who had developed an interest in the blossoming trees from her travels to Japan and was working to beautify the park area around today's tidal basin, which was a swampland at the time.

"Mrs. Taft had seen the trees, not blooming but saw how they were planted and thought Washington, which was just under construction at that time, would be a great place for them, and boy was she right," McClellan said.



Japan issued this souvenir sheet in addition to the two stamps being issued individually for the Centenary of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce. Scott 693-4 for the stamps and 703 for the souvenir sheet, for the visit of Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko to the U.S. utilizing the design of the stamps. Stamps issued May 17 and the souvenir sheet September 27, 1960. Japan has a history for some very esoteric reasons for the designs and issuing policies of their stamps and are all about giving respect and expecting it in return. It's not always easy to know precisely their intent.

Japan sent thousands of full-grown trees to Washington to beautify the park, but those trees would never be planted on the shores of the Potomac. After the Department of Agriculture inspected the trees, it was determined that the trees had to be destroyed.

"Of course, trees that have been in the ground have bugs, worms and all sorts of pests," McClellan said. "So the Department of Agriculture inspected them, deemed them impossible, and forced them to be burned."

The final decision to burn Japan's gift was made by President Taft himself. But instead of causing a diplomatic crisis, Japan sent 3,000 more trees in 1912 that met the Department of Agriculture's standards and were the start of the trees that still line the tidal basin today.

The trees, though planted successfully, were planted incorrectly. "In 1912, when they planted the gift, the gift came with instructions; it was in Japanese, and nobody bothered to read it," McClellan said. "Instead of planting the trees in groves and alleés as the instructions recommended, we instead planted them close together along the water's edge of the tidal basin." The mistake meant that the growth of the trees was irreversibly stunted, McClellan said: "What that does is it creates this lovely cloudlike effect because the branches intersect but it means that they can't grow to their full height. ... We're all agog, so it's fine, but that is one of the reasons they tend to be a little smaller here."

Since Mrs. Taft, first ladies have continued to play an instrumental role in maintaining the cherry blossoms. "The first ladies have been very involved ... especially Lady Bird Johnson was involved in them and the Japanese gave a gift of several thousand trees in her honor. Those are planted around the Washington Monument," McClellan said.

ABC News' Alexandra Dukakis, Patrick O'Gara, Tom Thornton, Chris Carlson, and Pat Glass contributed to this story.

Cherry Blossom Festival

*the light filling the air
is so mild this spring day
only the cherry blossoms
keep falling in haste—
why is that so?*

Ki no Tomonori
(c.850 - c.904)

In the nation's capital, it's a rite of spring: Locals and tourist alike flock to the Tidal Basin, enthralled by the gorgeous blossoms that celebrate our friendship with Japan.

That friendship found lasting expression a century ago, when the city of Tokyo gave 3,000 cherry trees to the city of Washington, D.C. On March 27, 1912, in a modest ceremony at the Tidal Basin, First Lady Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two trees, delighting a city for decades to come.

Since that spring day, Washington's cherry blossoms have remained an ever-renewing source of pleasure and pride. In 1927, local citizens held the first celebration of these stunning trees, and today the National Cherry Blossom Festival typically draws more than a million visitors.

In 2012, the festival honoring the cherry blossom centennial will include a parade and a host of concerts, exhibitions, and events that echo the spirit of Japan's gift of friendship. Because these spectacular trees flower so briefly, the Japanese often see

them as poignant symbols of transience—making every blossom an invitation to celebrate being alive.

Below is the pane of Scott 4652a, depicting the Tidal Pool surrounded by Cherry trees in full bloom with the Washington Monument and Jefferson Memorial at either end. To the right is the Japan Scott 3413, featuring five different versions of cherry blossoms and views of the Washington Monument and Jefferson Memorial and cherry blossoms.



Covers, Cards, Stamps, etc.

This cover was lot 690 in Schuyler Rumsey's Westpex sale this past April. A Wells Fargo & Co. envelope, from Mission San Jose with a violet, oval handstamp on a 1873, 3¢ entire to San Francisco. The description notes this as the only recorded example of this Mission San Jose marking. However, a friend, who also collects this area, tells me he has one and knows of another. I have not seen his cover but hope to compare the two in the near future—perhaps even track down the third example. Results, if any, will be reported here.



SIX CHIX

BY RINA PICCOLO



All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.—Abraham Lincoln

JULY MEETINGS ARE ON THE 2ND & 16TH
AUGUST MEETINGS ARE ON THE 6TH & 20TH

Show Calendar

ASDA Show
July 11 - 13

Westin Hotel, 1 Old Bayshore Hwy, Millbrae
Fri, Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 3
Free Admission

Vintage Paper Fair
July 26 - 27

Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park
9th & Lincoln, San Francisco
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 11 - 5
Free Admission

Gold Rush Paper Shoe
August 15 - 17

LaQuinta Inn
11131 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova
Fri 1 - 6, Sat 10:15 - 6, Sun 10:15 - 3
Free Admission



Parking
Grass area with flag
Main building
790 Ironwood Drive

The San Jose Post Card Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (excepting July & August) in the Hilltop Manor dining room at 7 pm.
Visit the SJSC website at: filateliefiesta.org

Advertisements

Members may place an ad here to run for three months unless sold. Three at a time or as space allows.
No politically incorrect, risqué, illegal or offensive material accepted. Editor will edit.

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2014 Scott catalogues includes U.S. Specialized 210.00

Taiwan 1117 NGAI Missing selvage Cat 800.00 - 250.00

Taiwan 1269a. MLH S/S Cat 27.50 - 20.00

Taiwan 1270 - 83 NGAI Cat 26.05 - 20.00

Taiwan 1319a. NGAI S/S Cat 20.00 - 15.00

Taiwan 1322a. NGAI S/S Cat 16.00 - 12.00

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Taiwan 1341a. NGAI S/S

Cat 16.00 - 12.00

Taiwan 1360a. MLH S/S

Cat 18.00 - 12.00

Taiwan 1364a. NGAI S/S

Cat 18.00 - 14.00

Taiwan 1567 MLH S/S

Cat 11.00 - 7.00

Taiwan 1856 - 63 MNH

Cat 16.75 - 13.50

Taiwan 2616 - 27 MNH

Cat 16.35 - 13.50

Taiwan 2827a. MNH S/S

Cat 6.00 - 4.75

Taiwan 2843b. MNH S/S

Cat 11.50 - 9.00

PLEASE NOTE - ALL USED SELF ADHESIVES HAVE ALL GUM REMOVED

All prices plus actual shipping or mailing costs if applicable.

I have many thousands of stamps/sets at 20 to 60% off Scott. Send me your want list or call me. Will e-mail scans.

Jim Sauer 408.445.2694 ~ hjamesauer@yahoo.com

Walt Kransky's website has changed:

Now mostly philatelic material, covers, etc.— a few postcards.

Website: <http://www.thepostcard.com/walt/>

E-mail Walt at wrsky@att.net

Walt's duplicate and extra postcards are still for sale

Please use the word "POSTCARD QUERY" in the subject line of your e-mail message to avoid spam. Thank you.

This is a member service - why not use it?