

San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter



Whole number 207

July 2015



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
 APS chapter # 0264-025791
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Happy 4th of July

REMEMBER WHAT YOU'RE CELEBRATING

June Meeting

For those that missed the June meeting, you missed more than a meeting. Kristin Patterson was our speaker and, as usual, made an outstanding presentation on a facet of playing card revenues.

President Brian has been working on improving speakers for our benefit, and in addition to Kristin's talk, has several other well known and advanced collectors committing to a presentation. Serious collectors are busy collectors, and they take the time to put together a program for us — the least we can do is show up to listen to them. And God forbid, we learn something. Folks, it's just plain rude not to show appreciation and respect for their time and effort. You want programs, then show up for them.-ed.

More on the June Meeting

It was good to see Jim Steinwinder in attendance. Jim has been undergoing chemo and radiation for his illness, but seems to be getting the upperhand. Says nothing like a little cancer is going to do him in — way to go Jim.

Also at the June 3rd meeting was Ron Yamagami who seems very upbeat and positive regarding his recent surgery. He carries his mask with him in the event someone shows up with a cold or some such, as his immune system took a heavy hit and he can't risk catching anything.

David Gilman was also present. As most of you know, David had a severe coughing seizure which, evidently stressed his internal organs some way and he was in the hospital for several days. He was looking good and we were glad to see him.

Missing was David Occhipinti who was not feeling so well. David has good, bad and indifferent days, but for him to miss a meeting he must be feeling very poor indeed. We wish you well, David, and hope to see you very soon.

Nancy Lee Drew

It's with great sadness that I report the passing of Nancy Drew. Nancy was, of course, wife of long time club member John Drew. Nancy passed in her sleep after a long battle with Alzheimer's which caused a severe lack of recognition the past several months.

A graduate of San Jose State (Kappa Alpha Theta), Nancy was an elementary school teacher at Noble School in the Berryessa District, a member of Foothill Church, Lucile Packard Thrift Shop, PEO, Tokalon, Eastern Star and the East Valley Artists; she also taught children to read at Foothill Church's preschool.

Always accepting of the reference to Carolyn Keene's character from *Nancy Drew Mysteries*, she was always the epitome of graciousness—just a really nice and great lady.

For those who knew her she will be missed and long remembered.

Rest in Peace Nancy, and God speed.



World Stamp Show
 NY 2016
 May 28 - June 4, 2016
 Javits Center

- Over 200 Dealers
- 60,000 Exhibit Pages
- 50 Convening Societies
- 8 Amazing Days

GRAND RAPIDS
 STAMP SHOW
 August 20-23, 2015
 DeVos Place Convention Center

pot-pourrie

Northern California Trivia

- Q Where was the world's largest "Outdoor Rummy Game" staged?
A Portuguese Square, Ripon
- Q What bizarre exhibit toured California in the late 1800s as proof of two bandits' deaths?
A The head of Joachim Murrieta and the hand of three-fingered Jack.

From *Northern California Trivia* by Ernie & Jill Couch



Hunter and hunted — win some, lose some, yes the world is a dangerous place!!! Greenland, Scott 117, issued February 9, 1984.

Only in California by Janet Hearne circa 1993

And don't call them "Meter Maids". Objectives of the California Association of Parking Controllers: "Primary objectives are to: unite parking controllers and obtain better benefits; educate the public about the duties of parking controllers while promoting and improving the public image of controllers. [The Association] works for the passage of legislation requiring a 6-12 month jail sentence for persons convicted of assaulting a parking controller.

Or, how about Chester Greenwood? In 1858 at the age of 15, he was ice skating and kept getting irritated at how cold his ears got. He tried wrapping his head in a scarf but that proved to be too bulky and itchy. He went home and fashioned two ear shaped loops from wire and asked his grandmother to sew some fur on the loops. These became the first ear muffs which he patented and ended up making a fortune on his invention by supplying the US soldiers with ear muffs during World War I.

"A free people [claim] their rights as derived from the laws of nature, and not as the gift of their chief magistrate."

—Thomas Jefferson, Rights of British America, 1774

The United States is 3rd in murders throughout the world! But if you take out Chicago, Detroit, Washington D.C., and New Orleans, the United States is 4th from the bottom for murders. Believe it or not, these four cities also have the toughest gun control laws in the United States!

The Prez Sez

"The Legacy Letter"

One of the most common topics of discussion I have with collectors is what will become of our collections when we each pass-on. For far too many of us, there is no one in the family interested in stamps to pass the collection to. Consequently, many fear that their family will get cheated when the collection is sold.

Some of us would like to see our collection stay intact and kept by our decedents as a memory of us. Personally, I dream that a future grandchild or other relative will continue to build on my modest collection.

A great way to facilitate this is to write a "legacy letter". A letter is placed in the front of an album (or a prominent place adjacent to the collection) and explains who assembled it and something about your passion for your collecting. I don't remember where I saw this, but I think it is a fantastic idea.

My own collection was started by my grandmother Esther Jones, and significantly contributed to by a friend of my Aunt Dorla. While growing up in central New York during the 1930's, she made friends with an elderly neighbor who collected stamps. When he passed away, he left his collection to Dorla. It was collected in a set of handmade leather notebooks. Sadly, it was water logged when fire hoses put out an attic fire during the 1960's. Dorla dried out the collection, but the water ruined all the mint stamps and leather books. Fortunately, the valuable used stamps survived in good condition. I own the US 1 & 2 (and many other nice stamps) from this gentlemen's collection.

For those who chose to have their philatelic holdings sold for their heir's financial benefit, a different kind of letter is more appropriate. Providing written instructions on who to contact for the various components of your collection would be very helpful. Also, notes and comments about value and what to kind of financial offer to expect would really help whoever has to clean out your office.

Of course, you can choose a mix of these options with a favorite part of your collection being kept by the family as a memento, while other pieces are sold or donated.

Even the most modest collection can serve as a wonderful remembrance. A simple letter can enhance this greatly. It is well worth your time to write. I'd LOVE to read yours when you write it.

—Brian

In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from? BECAUSE: When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf.' He had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into caddie.

Awarded Medal of Honor After 151 Years (2014)

WASHINGTON (AP)—A century and a half after his valiant death at the Battle of Gettysburg, a Union Army officer is being awarded the nation's highest military decoration, thanks to a decades-long campaign by his descendants and Civil War buffs.

The White House announced Tuesday that President Obama approved the Medal of Honor for 1st Lt. Alonzo H. Cushing, who was killed standing his ground against Pickett's Charge during the pivotal, three-day Battle of Gettysburg.

Congress granted a special exemption last December for Cushing to receive the award posthumously since recommendations normally have to be made within two years of the act of heroism and the medal awarded within three years.



Brevet Lt. Colonel Alonzo H. Cushing

Alonzo H. Cushing graduated, and was commissioned, from the United States Military Academy at West Point in the class of June 1861. Born in what is now Delafield, Wisconsin, he was raised in Fredonia, New York. Cushing was the commander of Battery A, 4th United States Artillery, Artillery Brigade, 2nd Corps, Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg.

Official Citation

On the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 3, 1863, Cushing commanded 126 men and six cannons positioned on Cemetery Ridge. In the face of Lt. Gen. James Longstreet's Assault, Cushing's battery took a severe pounding by Confederate artillery. Cushing and his battery stood at the apex of the assault where Confederate Maj. Gen. George Pickett intended to pierce the Union line.

Within just a few hours, all of Cushing's officers had been killed, and all but two of his guns had been silenced. During the Confederate cannonade, he was wounded in the abdomen, as well as the right shoulder. Refusing to evacuate, despite his severe wounds, he directed the operation of his two remaining guns — firing in the face of the enemy. When the rebels were less than 100 yards from his position, Cushing was shot in the head, and died instantly. His actions materially aided the Union Army's successful repulse of the Confederate assault. History shows that the Confederacy would be on the defensive from this point forward, and never again mount a major offensive.

The fierce battle near the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, resulted in more than 51,000 casualties. Confederate soldiers advanced into the Union fire but eventually retreated with massive losses. Four months later, President Abraham Lincoln memorialized the Union war dead in his Gettysburg Address.



The Gettysburg Cyclorama, painted by French artist Paul Dominique Philippoteaux, in 1883, depicts Lt. Gen. James Longstreet's Assault on July 3, 1863. In this segment of the cyclorama, Cushing is pictured in the center, leaning against the left side of the canon.

The battery had the misfortune of being in the center of the maelstrom on the third day of the pivotal battle. His battery was under fire for an hour and a half. "It was left in shambles and destroyed." Six men were killed and 32 were wounded. Given the status of his wounds and his battery, Cushing had every reason to withdraw.

It would appear that he was going to show the Rebels one way or another that his battery would be in action to the end. It was upholding the highest level of what the Army says is honorable service.



Medals of Honor, Army, Navy & Air Force, Scott 2045, issued June 7, 1983.

Margaret E. Zerwekh, 94, of Delafield, has been an integral part of the campaign, writing to Wisconsin congressmen. She's conducted research, and lives in a house on property formerly owned by the Cushing family. "He saved the Union and he needs to have recognition for it," Zerwekh said late Tuesday. "It is about time."

The Cushing name is prominent in Delafield, his birthplace in southeastern Wisconsin. A monument to Cushing and two of his brothers — Naval Cmdr. William Cushing and Army 1st Lt. Howard Cushing — stands at Cushing Memorial Park, where the town holds most of its Memorial Day celebrations.

Wisconsin lawmakers pushed through an amendment to a defense spending bill to award Cushing in 2010, but then Sen. James Webb, D-Va., stripped it from the bill because he said it was impossible to go back 150 years to determine who should receive the award. Webb predicted it could open an endless series of claims and argued at the time, "The better wisdom would be for Congress to leave history alone."

From the internet.-ed.

New Sweden Set from 1938 Commemorates Colony

Collectors in Sweden seek out booklet pairs with one straight edge; coil and sheet varieties also exist for this intriguing set with an Americana theme.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, the major European powers were actively seeking to establish colonies in Africa, Asia and America. There were a variety of reasons for these expansionist policies, but the businessmen of the day were mainly looking for valuable commodities and profitable opportunities for trade.

In some rather isolated cases, religion and persecution in the homelands were important factors in making groups of people willing to start an entirely new life in unmapped territories often thousands of miles away.

Many of the early colonists were ill prepared for the challenges that would confront them in their new environments.

Some had problems with the climate; others encountered a hostile native population. Still others were able to eke out an existence that eventually resulted in the establishment of villages and towns. If their settlements were not properly defended, they could be taken over by some competing European power. Many of the Caribbean islands were claimed by several European powers during different periods of time.



Sweden had colonial aspirations in common with several other European nations, but unlike most other Europeans, the Swedes were quite happy to trade with distant nations like China without wanting to establish colonies.

However, in the 1630s Sweden made a determined effort to establish a colony in north America. Called New Sweden, it was located in what are today the states of Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. This was during the reign of Queen Kristina (1626-89).

Kristina was only six when her father died in 1632 at the battle of Lutzen in Germany, and the country was run by a caretaker government. Sweden's involvement in many years of warfare in Europe had drained the country's resources and perhaps it was the prospect of quick profits that prompted Sweden to dispatch ships to the east coast of North America to establish a colony.

In April 1938, Sweden released a splendid set of five different stamps marking the tercentenary (300th anniversary) of the New Sweden colony.

The 15 öre stamp depicts the two ships that carried the colonists to Delaware: the *Calmare Nyckel* and the *Fagel Grip*. Many on board these first two ships to New Sweden were Dutch and not Swedish. Today it is hard to imagine the hardships of the colonists' life onboard the ships during the many weeks/months of sailing across the Atlantic.

The colonists arrived in a country inhabited by the Susquehanna and Delaware Indians. The 5 öre stamp shows the Swedish Governor Printz negotiating a treaty with the chief of the Algonquins. They were able to strike an agreement that allowed the Swedes to settle in the area.

On March 16, 1638, a ceremony was held that completed the purchase from the Indians. A pole carrying the Swedish Coat of Arms was put into the ground. This ceremony is shown in the design of the 20 öre stamp.

The main feature of the Coat of Arms is the three Crowns, which are also featured prominently on the 5 öre stamp. Also featured on the 20 öre stamp is an Indian smoking a peace pipe;

thus it appears relations between the Indians and the Swedes were peaceful enough. The 30 öre stamp is devoted to Holy Trinity Church in Wilmington. It was built in 1698-99 and is reportedly the oldest church in the United States still in use today. It looks very much like any Swedish church from the same time period.

Finally, Queen Kristina adorns the 60 öre value. Kristina was crowned Queen of Sweden in 1644 but abdicated ten years later and moved to Rome, where she died in 1689. There is little to suggest that the queen took any active interest in Sweden's distant colony.

In 1938 Finland also released a commemorative stamp marking the anniversary. The 3½ Markka stamp depicts a couple of Finnish settlers hard at work, apparently being observed by a somewhat grim-looking Indian. Interestingly, the stamp has text in English. Finland was part of Sweden until 1809.



Finland, Scott 214, issued June 1, 1938.

When the Swedish settlers arrived in Delaware in March 1638 they purchased land in the Wilmington area from the Indians and immediately started building Fort Christina.

At the time the commander of the Swedish expedition was Peter Minuit. The people behind him were the New Sweden Trading Company (owned jointly by Swedish and Dutch interests) which hoped to be able to bring home tobacco and leather products from the New World.

At first the company had a hard time finding people willing to leave Sweden in search for a better future in North America, but this changed as the years went by. New Sweden comprised a number of forts and small settlements located mainly on the western shore of the Delaware River.

If relations with the Indians were essentially good, it was quite a different matter as far as the Dutch and English were concerned.

In 1655 the Dutch launched attacks on Fort Christina and the other settlements. The Swedes were unable to resist the vastly superior Dutch forces, however, the Dutch dominion was short-lived, as the English took over the area in 1664.

The population of New Sweden was never very large. When the last Swedish governor left in 1655 the colony had an estimated population of about 400.

The Swedish government tried to regain the colony through diplomatic means, without success, as were the demands for economic compensation.

New Sweden was never a financial success, but it led to an influx of Swedish and Finnish immigrants long after the colony had ceased to exist. From 1696 until 1783, clergymen were sent from Sweden to the Swedish communities in Delaware where they ministered to an estimated 800 colonists.

Johan Risingh, the last governor, maintained a diary of day-to-day events in New Sweden. It gives interesting insights into the contacts with the Indians and daily life in the colony. Many other important documents and eye-witness accounts of Sweden's North American colony remain in Swedish archives.

A closer look at the Swedish 1938 commemorative issue shows us the stamps in this set were released April 8 and are listed in the Scott Catalogue as 268-74, and thus seven stamps comprise a complete set. However, preprinted albums in Sweden have spaces for 15 different stamps. All five values exist as coils, perforated 12½, vertically (Scott 268-72), and the 5 and 15 ore stamps were released in sheet format, perforated 12½ on all four sides (273-74). These two low values were also issued as booklets containing 18 stamps.

In the booklet production process, the booklet panes have straight edges on the left and right sides resulting in pairs of stamps with perforations on three sides and four sides. Scott lists those stamps perforated on three sides as minor varieties (273a. And 274a.)



Sweden, Scott 273a. - 274a.

Swedish collectors prefer to add the booklet pairs to their collections. Such pairs are quite scarce and command higher prices than the individual stamps. The Swedish Facit catalog designated them BC- or CB-pairs.

Due to the increased value of booklet pair, fakers have taken to creating such pairs by simply using scissors to remove perforations from one side of a pair of sheet stamps. When acquiring such pairs, one must be aware and check to make certain the straight edge is wide enough.

The engraving is by Sven Evert, who was the predecessor of Czeslaw Slania. The stamps were recess (intaglio) printed.

The issue of New Sweden stamps created a lot of media attention both in Sweden and Delaware. Large numbers of first-day covers with pictorial cancels were produced.



Cover posted January 1, 1939 to Los Angeles, and paying the airmail rate.

In the United States, the Swedish-Finnish Tercentenary was featured on a 3¢ commemorative stamp issued June 27, 1938. The stamp (Scott 836) shows the landing of the Swedes and Finns in Delaware in 1638.



Landing of the Swedes and Finns

One of the two ships crossing the Atlantic was the *Calmare Nyckel*. When the Kalmar Localpost (a privately operated mail service) issued its first two stamps in 1945, the 4 and 8 öre values depicted the ship on its way to America. The stamps were only valid on printed matter within the city of Kalmar, located on the east coast of Sweden. Today the stamps are worth a couple dollars each, but on genuine commercial covers are very scarce.



The Kalmar Localpost stamps in blocks of four from a booklet pane.



“Kalmar Lokalpost” cover using three 4 ore stamps.



The Swedish booklet with the common design showing a 1938 United States issue with two of the Swedish issues; and a young boy soaking stamps, Scott 1588a.

The U.S. booklet with the common design showing the 1938 United States issue with the two Swedish issues; and a young boy working on his stamps, Scott 2201a.



Nearly 50 years after the New Sweden Tercentenary stamps were issued, two stamps from the Swedish set were depicted on one of the 22¢ Stamp Collecting booklet stamps issued January 23, 1986, in advance of the Ameripex 86 International Stamp Show (Scott 2200). Shown on the same stamp is the U.S. 1938 Tercentenary issue.

The tercentenary was a major event in 1938. On June 27, 1938, a monument was unveiled at the Fort Christina State Park by Prince Bertil, Duke of Halland, in the presence of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The prince’s father, the Crown Prince of Sweden, had taken ill during the crossing of the Atlantic, but still managed to give a message over the radio. In his speech, Roosevelt also claimed to have roots going back to early Swedish settlers in America.

Swedish-American relations thus have a very long history. However, the major influx of Swedish immigrants to the U.S. took place in the late 19th century, when more than one million Swedes left their homeland in search of a better life on the other side of the Atlantic. Most were able to realize their dreams, though a few returned home in disappointment. Even today America and the American way of life attract many young Swedes



Swedish Pioneer Centennial, Scott 958, issued June 4, 1948.

who probably have a very rosy picture of life in the United States based on the plethora of U.S. shows on Swedish television.

The log cabin is believed by many to be a genuinely American invention, however, it was those early Swedes who introduced this type of building technique when they arrived in Delaware in 1638. This is but one of many Swedish contributions to what has become an American culture.

The original article was from either Linn’s or Scott’s Stamp monthly, I can’t remember which, and supplemented with verification and information from the Scott Catalogue, the internet, and my collection.-ed.

Covers, Cards, Stamps, etc.

This month's offering is courtesy of Richard Clever, and is a recent addition to his Mongolia collection. Posted December 4, 1908 (4-XII-08) in Troitskosavsk, Russia, it would seem to be a Russian cover, however, notwithstanding it's franked with Russian stamps, and from a Russian border town located some 4 km from the Mongolian border, there is a serious question regarding pedigree. We have on the Mongolian side the Chinese Kiachta (Maimaichin), then the Russian Kiakhta as a kind of suburb of Troitskosavsk. The caravans from Mongolia crossed the Mongolian-Siberian border at the small village of Kiakhta — entry point to Russia. Russian Kiakhta did not have its own post office. All mail from China and Mongolia had to go through the border post office at Troitskosavsk — remember it's only 4 km north of the Mongolian-Siberian border. Troitskosavsk belonged to the Zabaikal Oblast (Transbaikal Region). For this reason many Russian experts are of the opinion that Troitskosavsk does not belong to *RUSSIA ABROAD*. Troitskosavsk belongs only to Mongolian postal history as the mail starts it's journey south across Mongolia and on to China; or mail comes from China across Mongolia and the Mongolian-Siberian border to Troitskosavsk. Any letters or mail (covers) have to touch Mongolian territory. I hope that It's all very clear to the reader as we will not take questions...

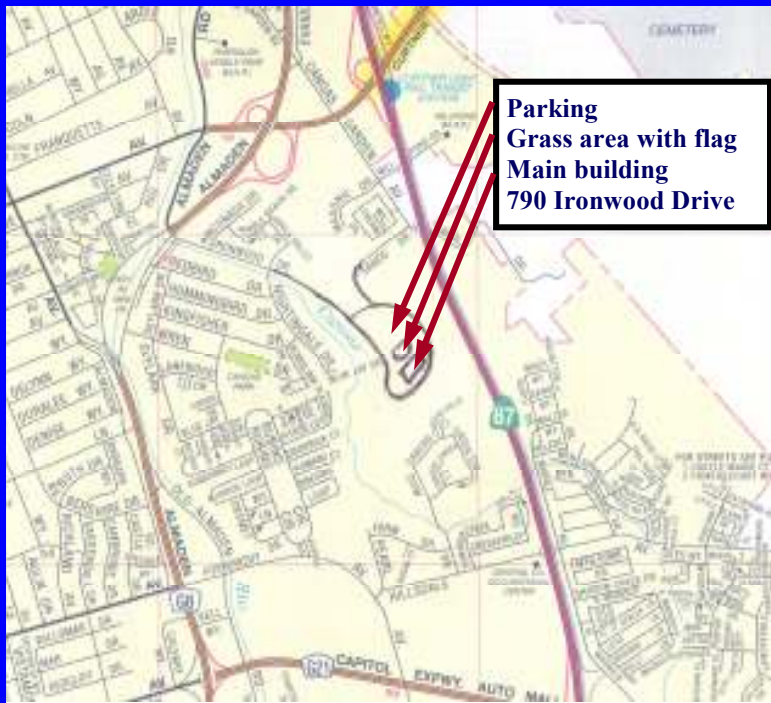


Example is leadership.—Albert Schweitzer

"Freedom had been hunted round the globe; reason was considered as rebellion; and the slavery of fear had made men afraid to think. But such is the irresistible nature of truth, that all it asks, and all it wants, is the liberty of appearing."

—Thomas Paine, Rights of Man, 1791

**JULY MEETINGS ARE ON THE 1ST & 15TH
AUGUST MEETINGS ARE ON THE 5TH & 19TH**



Show Calendar

July 10 - 12
ASDA Show

CANCELLED

July 25 - 26
Greater Reno Stamp & Cover Show
National Bowling Stadium, 300 N Center St., Reno, NV
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4
Free Admission

August 1 - 2
Vintage Paper Fair
Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park, S.F.
9th Avenue & Lincoln Way
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 11 - 5

September 5 - 6
Great America Stamp Expo
Napredak Hall, 770 Montague Expressway, San Jose
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4

**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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Published by Stanley Gibbons 5.00

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Many new postcards and philatelic material added including checklist additions.

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

E-mail Walt at wrsky@att.net

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

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