

**The American Philatelist — November 2016**  
**by Scott English, APS Executive Director**

(An article highlighting the San Jose Stamp Club  
and the Scott English “Meet and Greet”, September 18, 2016.)

**Do You Know the Way to San Jose?**

The following day, I attended a conversation called “Stamp Collecting in the 21st Century” sponsored by the San Jose Stamp Club, of which I am a proud member. The event was a panel discussion with Brian Jones, president of the San Jose Stamp Club, Kristin Patterson, former APS director-at-large and current APRL trustee, and myself. Even for a sunny September Sunday, we had a good crowd on hand to discuss the hobby, participate in an auction and enjoy a little fellowship. The conversation once again highlighted the importance of using technology to engage collectors in the internet age and how to get young collectors more involved.

One of the attendees, Preston Chiappa, has a great youth program through the Sequoia Stamp Club, which extended a membership to the executive director of the APS. Sometimes getting supplies for young collectors can be a challenge, particularly stamp albums. Thanks to generous donations from our members, we were able to ship 20 slightly used stamp albums to them to share with young collectors. We may have an item or two to help clubs engage young collectors — just let us know — we want to help where we can.

After the dinner, I was fortunate to spend some time talking a little more in depth about the hobby at the club level with Brian, James Steinwinder, and former SJSC Club President James Sauer. Also joining us, the new editor of the SJSC newsletter and the Lauson H. Stone Fellow for the 2017 Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship Class, Jessica Rodriguex. The Lauson H. Stone Fellowship is sponsored by Harlan F. Stone and Helen M. Galatan-Stone in memory of his father.

San Jose’s club has been very effective at growing their membership and they have an incredible base of volunteers to support local club events, like Filiatelic Fiesta. Brian and the rest of the club are not just a stamp club, but almost like family, having cookouts and other social events. Thanks to all of the SJSC members and the attendees for taking time out of their busy schedule to share with us what’s on their minds.

