

**COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PHILATELIC SOCIETIES  
COUNCIL COURIER — JANUARY 2017**

**A Fiesta in San Jose!  
San Jose Stamp Club Hosts a Fabulous Fiesta**

Gone is the cold and cavernous concrete warehouse that housed *Filatelic Fiesta* at the county fairgrounds for nearly a decade, and enter a warm and friendly San Jose Elks Club facility abounding with creature comforts. The Elks Club had been used by the FF Committee as the site of their Awards Banquet, so a working relationship had already been established. Everything comes with a price, and the Elks Club is no exception — the facility is only available Saturday and Sunday for a 2-day show rather than the previous 3-day event. Nevertheless, it was a 2-day show of exceptional quality, and the crowds appeared to be even larger than at the old fairgrounds location. Several nice touches included easy freeway access, plentiful free parking, free admission, information tables for Council and APS materials set up near the admissions desk, coffee/bottled water and snacks set up in a hospitality area with comfortable chairs and café tables nearby, easy access to restrooms and meeting rooms, and helpful San Jose Stamp Club members wearing Club shirts for easy identification to guide you and answer any questions you may have. The facilities were well organized with 24 dealers + USPS and APS. Bourse Chair, **Wayne Menuz**, had to make a trip to the hardware store to supplement the interior lighting and obtain more extension cords, but that is an example of the “can do” attitude that met every challenge in settling in to a new venue. The 125 competitive exhibition frames were in an adjacent well-lit area. The exhibits were all of very high quality, and judged by team from APS CANEJ — the best of the best. **Lester Lanphear III** won the Grand Award with his exhibit, *U.S. Departmentals, 1873-1884*.

From all the feedback from exhibitors, dealers and patrons, *Filatelic Fiesta* 2016 was an unqualified success. Hats off to General Chairman **Brian Jones**, and **two dozen others from the San Jose Stamp Club**. Many of the Committee had years of experience working on WESTPEX, and the confidence and competence gained from that experience was evident where ever you looked during *Filatelic Fiesta*.

The Council is proud to have *Filatelic Fiesta* in our area. If you could not get to the show this year, circle the date for **11-12 NOV 2017**. *Don't miss the fun!*