

The American Philatelist -- January 2017
Letters to the Editor

Can Collectors of Different Sorts Successfully Unite?

In the November 2016 edition of The American Philatelist, the American Philatelic Society's energized and enthused executive director, Scott D. English, writing in his column complimented and commended the Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) for its invitation and having him participate in an effort to open communication and to explore collaboration between "the worlds of stamps and coins."

Scott's commentary noted that "coin collecting world, like us [APS], is wrestling with the health of local shows and clubs." Scott's theme was simple and candid: "Since we have the same issues, and confront the same difficulties, why not join and work together for solutions," and, as he amply stated, "it is not what you collect, it is that you collect." Collecting, that most universal passion, needs to unite us, not divide us.

On behalf of NCNA, its current President Fred G. van den Haak, plus Alexander B. "Xan" Chamberlain and James H. Laird, both primary benefactors, we thank Scott for his presence and participation, and we equally appreciate his efforts to advance and to enhance philately plus the whole world of collecting. NCNA remains willing to fund Scott's return in a few years, and continue the dialogue.

[Least it is overlooked, commendation and gratitude is acknowledged to the San Jose \(California\) Coin Club under the great leadership of Brian Jones for its organization and gathering in September that included \(our guest\), Scott.](#)

As the legendary Helen Keller once remarked, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

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