

# San Jose Postcard Club Newsletter

No. 37

Sept Oct 2018



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San Jose CA 95152-2042

Visit our online link @ Walt's website  
[www.thepostcard.com/walt/club.htm](http://www.thepostcard.com/walt/club.htm)

Meeting at 7:00 PM the second Wednesday of the month September through June—See map on last page

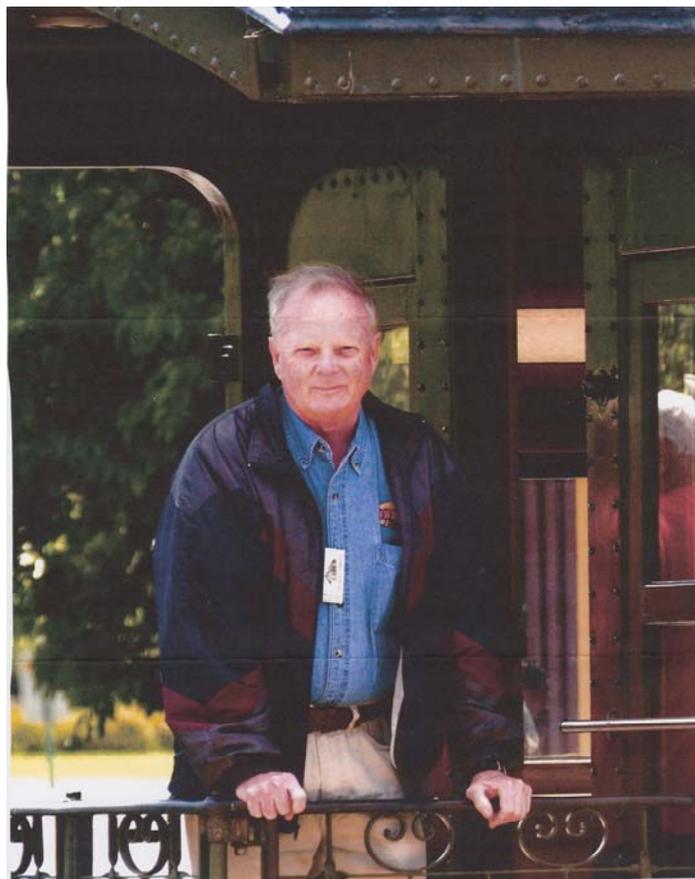
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## President's Message

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the death of a good friend, Hubert Jansen. I have always known him as a good man over the 15 years or so that we have been acquainted. His friends will miss him and his humble but effective leadership. We both liked trains, postcards, traveling and people in general. He was always pleasant and positive.

Most of us will not know when it is our time to leave this earth. All we can do is try hard to do our best in our daily lives. Life can be an exciting journey filled with a wide range of ups and downs. It is my job to leave this world in better shape than I found it. What more can I ask....

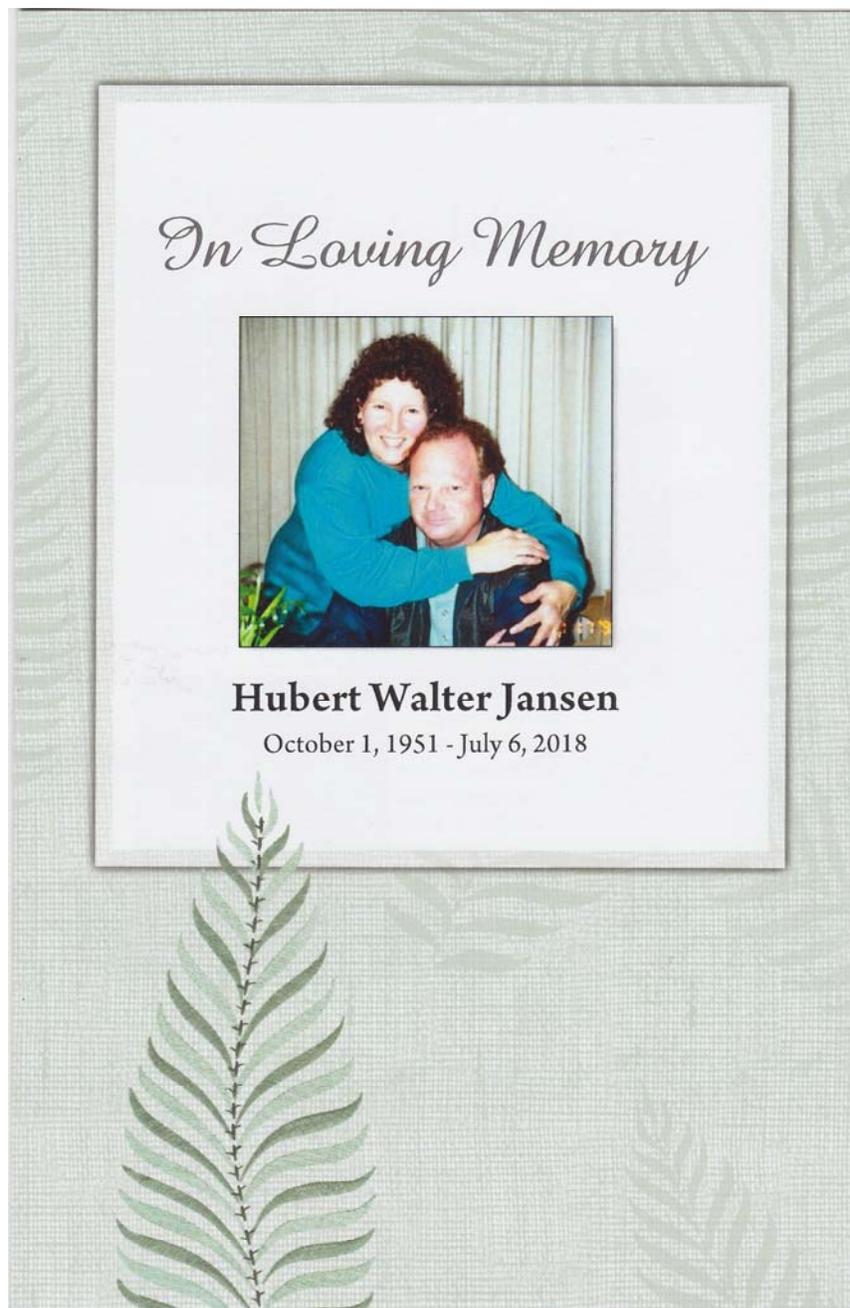
Bob Kavanaugh  
Acting President



*Rest In Peace  
Our beloved President  
Hubert Walter Jansen*

## Tributes to Former San Jose Postcard Club President Hubert Jansen

On August 4 a memorial mass was held for our highly regarded San Jose Postcard Club President, Hubert Jansen. We reprint here the cover of the program for his mass and some of the tributes made by friends.



## Tributes to Hubert Jansen *continued*

What can I say about my best friend of 31 plus years - Hubert W. Jansen. I am hearing from his friends, clients and acquaintances that he was kind, sweet, dependable, a wonderful human being, confidential, hard worker, didn't slow down, cared about others and competently ran his sign business. He had many interests including volunteering for local art and wine festivals, Past President of the Sunnyvale Jaycees, fan of the San Jose Sharks, the San Jose Barracuda, San Diego Gulls, was a member of the South Bay Historical Railroad group, member of the San Jose Stamp Club, President of the San Jose Post Card Club, member of the San Diego Electric Trolley group, commercial airline collectible group and more. He had a soft spot for our cats and animals in need.

He was alumni of Santa Clara University and supported the Archives Library. After he died, I talked to folks who were part of his life and loved him. They all had wonderful things to say about him. He had the unique ability to connect people with people of similar interests. Hubert was a parishioner of St. Lawrence the Martyr Parish and we loved to attend the Sunday 6 pm mass together. That always was our favorite mass because it used to be called the Young Adult Mass (when we were Young Adults). We all love Hubert and he will be missed very much. May God Bless Your Soul Always My Love.

With gratitude for being your partner  
Mary Ann



*Hubert (right front) at the September 2014 San Jose Postcard Club meeting about the history of hats.*

## Tributes to Hubert Jansen *continued*

### **Hubert Jansen and how I knew him as euologized by Richard Neyland at Hubert's Memorial**

"Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. When he isn't around, he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?" this quotation was said by actor Henry Travers as Clarence the Angel in the 1946 Oscar-winning award film, "It's a Wonderful Life" co-starring with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. Needless to say that with Hubert's untimely passing, a hole is left in each of us here today. Apart from my mother, he was the kindest and most considerate person I've ever known. We had a lot in common: an only child, single, Catholic, close in age, a keen interest in commercial aviation, and two of the last persons on the planet Earth without a cell phone.

I met Hubert on September 19, 1984 at the first Bay Area Airline Historical Society (BAAHS) memorabilia show held that day in Millbrae. We shared our interests and exchanged contact information, starting a friendship that lasted 36-plus years.

Hubert was born and raised in the San Diego area and lived in a modest home in nearby National City. His father Anthony was a blacksmith while his mother, originally from Germany, was a housekeeper. Hubert's interest in aviation began when his school bus rode past the Convair aircraft plant at Lindberg Field. Later, he would come up to downtown Los Angeles and visit the prevalent airline ticket offices for his collectables. In 1969 he migrated to the Silicon Valley where he obtained a graduate degree from Santa Clara University and acquired a realtor's license.

Except for the 1985 Airliners International convention held in San Jose, I did not see much of Hubert, until I started working for Delta Air Lines and started to take in the BAAHS shows. Later he suggested that I stay overnight at his condo in Willow Glen, where he regaled me with the latest additions to his collection.



*Hubert Jansen and Rick Neyland at the Coors  
Brewery in Golden, Co, June 2017*

## Tributes to Hubert Jansen *continued*

### Hubert Jansen and how I knew him *continued*



*A gathering to buy postcards at an Airline convention in Denver, CO in June 2017  
Hubert Jansen is front left.*

When he came to Los Angeles to attend the airline shows, he was happy to sleep on my sofa with light blankets and a small pillow, even though I bought him a comforter. One day he took a shower. I gave him a towel and a clean washcloth. Later I noticed a completely dry washcloth, as he had washed himself with a rag that I use for wiping down the bathtub! That was Hubert—so conservative. He liked animals and enjoyed walking my dog or playing with cats... but his only pet at one time was a goldfish.

He like to travel when he could, but usually down to National City to check oh the house. His favorite airline was Delta in which he owned stock, so he was a natural to be my travel companion when Delta started that program. Together we attended the AI shows in Seattle, Dallas, Houston, Atlanta, and Los Angeles. He loved doing things for people, whether it was at the shows passing out flyers, volunteering to sell tickets, or even washing my dishes or watering my lawn. "I have to be doing something," he would say.

We ate together, attended church together, watched airplanes and trains and just enjoyed each other's company. I will never forget these times. Hubert never cussed, or even said the word, "darn," or anything derogatory about anybody. As his physical conditions became an issue, he looked upon them as just a cross to bear.

We may never know why he was called home so early—Maybe the Good Lord just needed another Clarence the Angel.

## Tributes to Hubert Jansen *continued*

I will remember Hubert as a man very dedicated to the hobby of commercial aviation. I recall his expertise on different types of airliners including especially the Convair 880 and 990 four-engine jets that were developed in the early 1960s.

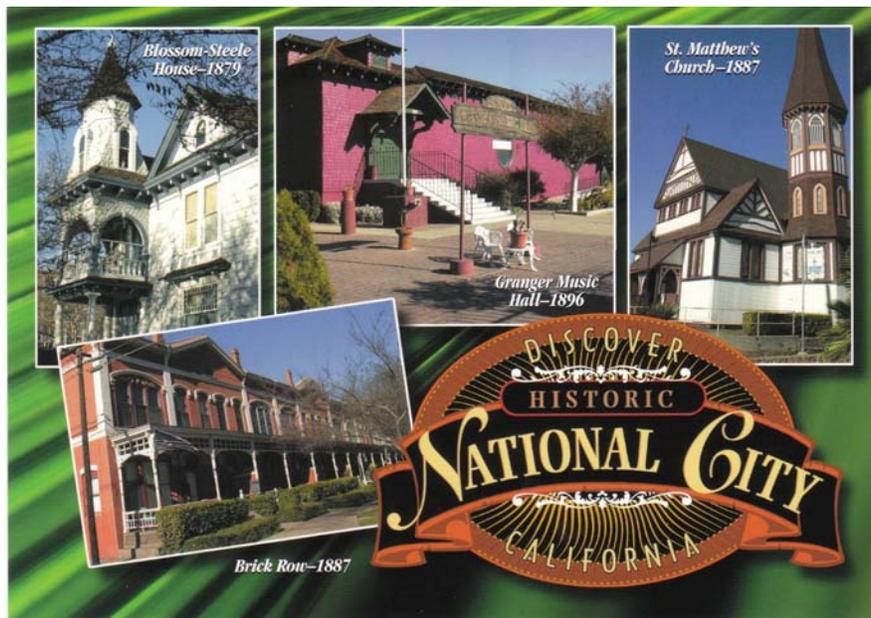
He was also a helpful person when it came to supporting the airline collectibles shows held in the Los Angeles area. He would distribute flyers about the upcoming shows at strategic locations around Los Angeles airport, especially areas where photographers would take pictures of the airport and air traffic departing and arriving.

He also had a big smile on his face at the shows where he greeted people coming into the show and handed out flyers for upcoming shows.

Armen Avakian

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For an interview with Hubert, see the March/April 2013 issue of the San Jose Postcard Club Newsletter. The below postcard, which was shown in that article, is from Hubert's collection.



*National City, California –chrome postcard from the 1990's depicting the city where Hubert used to live. National City is in Southern San Diego County and currently has a population of about 59,000. It is a major entrance point for vehicles manufactured in Japan and Europe which arrive at its port. It is also a drop off point for lumber coming from the Northwest by ship.*

*At one time a Spanish land grant, the town has many historical buildings from the 1800's including a brick row of apartments built in the Philadelphia style which formerly housed railroad executives. (At one time the town was the headquarters for the Santa Fe Railway). Other historical buildings include the oldest Southern California Episcopal church still on its original site and the Granger Music Hall built in 1896. There are also a number of Victorian homes.*

# Charles Weidner—Publisher

By Walt and Gail Kransky

Charles Weidner (1866 –1940) was a publisher of early Turn of the Century postcards showing many areas of California. Many were of the San Francisco Earthquake.

This article will be the first of a series that will depict many views of interest to all. ENJOY!



<<<<  
*Weidner  
Mule*



>>>>  
*Weider  
OFFICE*



<<< *Charles Weidner with his cards*

*Below: Charles Weidner's Desk*



## Postcards that Should Have Been

*by Shav La Vigne*

There are always interesting, mysterious, or intriguing, items or places in nearly every locality that beg to be made into postcards. One of these is the old lumber company incinerator located in Campbell, CA.

Thousands of people pass this visible icon every day traveling south or north on highway 17 looking toward Winchester Blvd. around Camden/San Thomas Blvd. Some of these people, like me, wonder what it is and why it has been standing in the same spot, very visible but unknown for many years. Some say it is ugly, some say it is beautiful. It has been described as a tower, a space ship, Darth Vader, and even a phallic symbol.



*Photo of incinerator at 720 Camden Ave., Campbell, CA*

Here is the history of the incinerator that I have been able to gather after making contact with as many people as I was able to find. Regretfully, it is not as complete as I would like to have it but it is enough to get a feel for what the thing is and was and why it exists.

It is located on the grounds of the Economy Lumber Company 720 Camden Ave., Campbell, CA 95008. Economy Lumber is a very busy place with a lot of yard traffic. I asked for, and was granted permission by Mr. John Saunders, to go onto the property to take the photos that are with this report.

The incinerator has been at its present location since the early 1950's. It was used to burn scrap wood products left over from the lumber operation up until 1962 when the county of Santa Clara banned the use of incinerators.

Larson Ladder Company was the original owner of the incinerator. They purchased it and used it at their Santa Clara plant on Martin Ave. sometime in the 1920's after moving there from their original location at Moorpark Ave. in San Jose.

## Postcards that Should Have Been      *continued*

As Larson Ladder Company grew into pallet manufacturing as well as ladders, they decided to move their operation from Santa Clara to Milpitas. It was at this time; the late 1940's to the early 1950's that the incinerator was sold to Campbell Lumber or Economy Lumber Co.

When the Campbell Lumber Company bought the incinerator from the Larson Ladder Co. in San Jose., it was disassembled, loaded on a truck, moved to Campbell; and reassembled at its present location. Campbell Lumber was a branch of Dougherty Saw Mills on Boulder Creek and the Lumber Company of San Jose. In the early 1950's the property was sold to the Economy Lumber Company.

In my effort to find out more about the history of this old incinerator I wrote to the Larson Packaging Company at 1000 Yosemite Dr. in Milpitas, CA. I know that Mr. Charles Larson, the grandson of Larson Ladder Company founder George Larson passed away in 2009. My hope was that his two living children, Susan and David, would be able to fill in any of the blanks for me. Unfortunately this hope has not, to date, been answered.

If any further information is learned, I will bring you up to date. If the reader is able to fill me in on any up to date facts, it would be greatly appreciated.

*Another view of the incinerator which was originally owned by the Larson Ladder Company. The company was particularly known for their orchard ladders. Washboards, ironing boards and other wooden items were also produced.*

*The incinerator is presently located at the Economy Lumber Company in Campbell, CA. This company has been in business since 1936.*



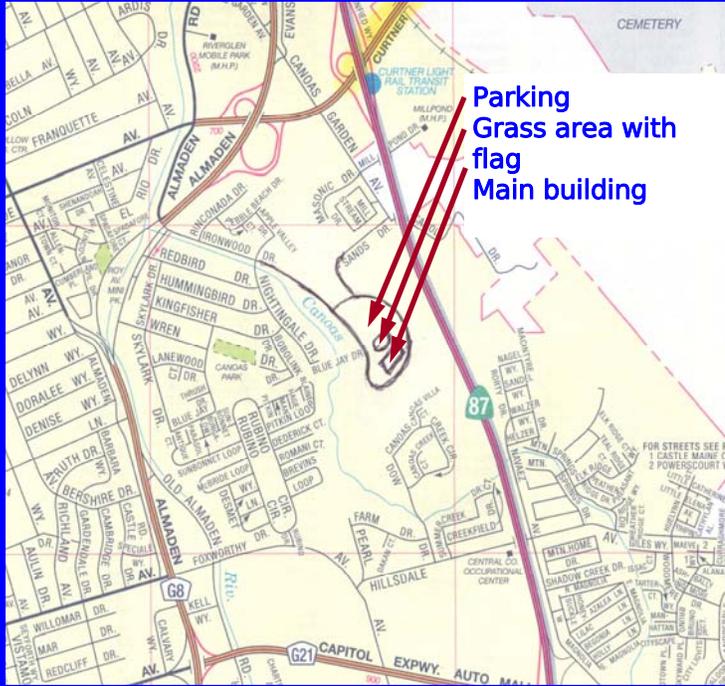
*Shav La Vigne is a member of the San Jose Postcard Club. The photos in this article are from Shav's collection. He would appreciate knowing if you have any postcards of this incinerator.*

Next 2018 Meetings: September 12, October 10, November 14 and December 12

## Show Calendar

Filatellic Fiesta Stamp Show 2018  
October 20-21  
Elks Lodge  
444 West Alma Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95110  
Sat 10am to 6pm  
Sun 10am to 4pm

Hal Lutsky's  
Vintage Paper Fair  
San Francisco  
Usually scheduled for January  
Details have not yet been  
announced



San Jose Postcard Club meetings are in the third floor dining room of Hilltop Manor, 790 Ironwood Drive, San Jose, CA at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June.

**Walt Kransky's website:** <http://www.thepostcard.com/walt/> has postcards and philatelic material including checklists. Questions for Walt? **Please use the word "POSTCARD QUERY"** in the subject line of your e-mail message to avoid spam.

## San Jose Postcard Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 32042, San José, CA 95152

Mr/Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Collecting interests \_\_\_\_\_

Member of other organizations \_\_\_\_\_

Family members that collect \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for membership in the San Jose Postcard Club and agree to abide by the Constitution and by-laws of the San Jose Postcard Club. Membership dues of \$15.00 for adults/families (\$6.00 Youths) is remitted herewith for the current calendar year. Check to: San Jose Postcard Club.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_