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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Cheryl Ganz
President
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President's Column - Proud to be Your President

5/2/2023

The American Philatelic Society Board of Directors recently elected me as president to replace my dear friend Bob Zeigler, who resigned before the end of his term. I am honored to take on this new leadership role. Previously, I have served as chair of the Board of Vice Presidents. I am ready to work with the APS board, APRL board, Scott English, the headquarters staff, and members to expand outreach and to continue to provide our society's outstanding services.

I have been an active philatelist for most of my life, and I will be eligible for my 50-year membership medal in 2026. I was the collector child, accumulating stamps, postcards, coins, and seashells to display and rearrange in my room. In my teenage years, I learned about zeppelins from my grandfather. The first time that I held a zeppelin-flown piece of mail, I was smitten.

Zeppelin posts have sustained my collecting focus since, but my interests have expanded to include research, writing, presentations, and exhibiting. My collecting includes mail, postcards, and ephemera.

For members who have not yet crossed paths with me at a club meeting or stamp show, let me introduce myself. I am a Smithsonian Institution curator emerita following my retirement as the chief curator of philately at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum and as lead curator of the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery, the world's largest postage stamp gallery. Currently, I serve as one of the U.S. representatives of the Royal Philatelic Society London, on the Chicagopex stamp show committee, and as a member on the U.S. Postal Service's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, the committee that selects subjects and reviews designs for U.S. postage stamps.

My philatelic recognitions include the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, APS Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately, Collectors Club's Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award, Philatelic Foundation's Mortimer L. Neinken Medal, U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Distinguished Philatelist Award, Smithsonian Philatelic Achievement Award, and Aerophilatelic Hall of Fame.

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Club Blog & Website

Blog Updates No Activity

Website Updates

April 2023 Newsletter uploaded

Remember the dates!

President's Message

Collecting Alone Together

One of the interesting characteristics of collecting stamps is the dichotomy of it being a hobby you can do alone but can be so much better when you share your interests with others. As expected, the time we spend analyzing and mounting stamps into our collection is almost always done by oneself. However, we can complement the collecting experience by engaging deeper into the hobby in a variety of ways. Whether you are just getting started, have modest experience, or consider yourself an expert; you'll at some point want to consult with others about something.

The most "remote" way to connect within the hobby is to sign up for a publication like Linn's. While one probably wouldn't meet anyone reading Linn's, at least you'd know who some of the major players in the hobby are. Perhaps by writing a letter to the editor or submitting an article on your specialty, you'd get to know more people.

Consider joining American Philatelic Society, a national philatelic society, or the American Topical Society. They are a great way to be connected to people who share your collecting interests.

Of course, the 21st Century way to connect to people is over social media. It has the advantage to be in contact with people anyplace in the world. A posted question may draw responses from wide variety of people and provide insight not available locally. The challenge is to know whose advice you can trust. So many people post responses they don't really have the proper knowledge about but like seeing their comments debated.

If you want to make real personal connections with fellow collectors your best bet is to join your local stamp club. If you're reading this you're probably already a member of a club(s), so this is your invitation to invite others. I can only speak for myself, but it has been tremendously rewarding to have the friendships I've made as part of the SJSC. Wow, it has been a blessing to get to know each of you that I accept the challenge of being club president. Just speaking of my philatelic knowledge, it has grown by leaps and bounds from the club members who have shared their presentations.

If you like any of what I've written, please consider inviting a collecting friend to join the SJSC, a chapter of their local society, or the APS. Please also consider giving a presentation at an upcoming club meeting. NO, you don't have to be an expert on something to give a talk. Collectors at ANY level is invited and welcome to bring in your collection, share what you collect and discuss the challenges you're facing.

Brian

What's Coming Up?

May 13: The WPL is hosting an open house and sale. They are pricing excess books and donated collections. The doors are open from 9:00 am to noon. Ed Jarvis promises items are priced to sell. Bring cash or a check book, sorry no credit cards accepted.

June 7: Next SJSC meeting. Who's going to offer to give a presentation? It's your turn.

July 5: Our meeting is the day after a major holiday. Shall we go ahead meet or cancel?

July 15: Joint meeting in Watsonville with the Pajaro Valley and Monterey Stamp Clubs. It will be a great opportunity to extend our friendships to other local clubs. We're still in the planning stages and more details are coming, but please save the date.

Summer: Now that the pandemic has wound down, let's have a summer picnic again. Any volunteers to help organize it?

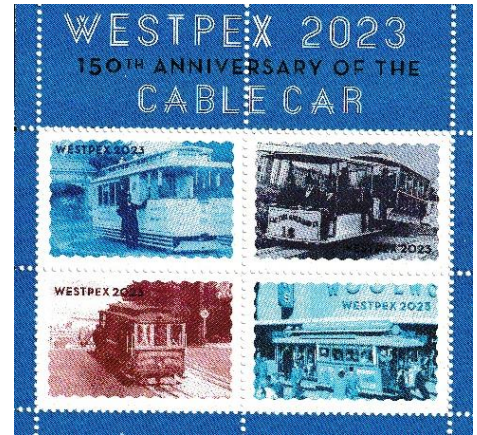
Trips? Last year I proposed we take some weekend day trips out, but the pandemic prevented us from being able to do them. Shall we try again this summer?

WESTPEX 2023

Written by: Brian Jones

We're fortunate to have a national caliber stamp show here in the Bay Area. WESTPEX brings in an amazing set of exhibits and dealers from around the world. Attendance this year was much better than last year as many more people appeared to ready to get out into public events. Show guests traveled from around the country and it was great to see people visiting from international locations like Portugal, England, and China. Exact attendance data is not available, but it did not appear to be fully back to pre-pandemic levels.

This year's theme was the 150th anniversary of the San Francisco cable cars. They issued a variety of show covers and a souvenir sheet.



The Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies had a meeting on Saturday. Ed Jarvis made a big announcement for the Western Philatelic Library (WPL): they've paid off their mortgage! The WPL is now planning to upgrade the interior lighting and other improvements. Their goal is to make it a resource to all collectors in the region. To continue the process of clearing out excess and donation, they are hosting an Open House and sale on Saturday May 13th from 9:00am to noon. Bring cash as they don't have the means to take a credit card.

The Council awards the Chaloner Memorial Award to someone who has made a major contribution to philately in the region. For 2023, it is awarded to Brian Jones for his work teaching the Scouting stamp collecting merit badge, serving as the President of the SJSC and General Chairman of Filatelic Fiesta. The award was presented by Council President Kristin Patterson and came as a complete surprise to me! I am very honored to receive this award and couldn't have done what I've done without the clubs support. It was very appropriate that the award was given to me by Kristin as she was very much a mentor when I first started in a leadership position with the SJSC and Fiesta.



San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

May 2023

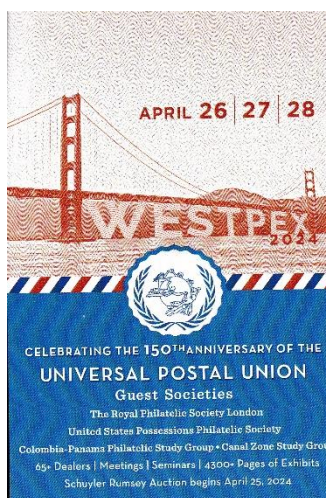
The bourse is the heartbeat of a stamp show and it was good to see some old friends there. Club members Gary Morris (dba Pacific Midwest) and Ron Biell (dba Euro-Asian Stamps) were just across the aisle from each other. This was A & D's last show with Jim Dempsey at 92 he is retiring after a long career. He had a very busy table all 3 days as so many wanted to get a last minute to shop from him. Most dealers gave a positive report on their business for the show. Another club member at the show was APS Executive Director Scott English. A few photos are attached for your review.



Another annual highlight of the show is the big Schuler Rumsey Auction. They always have an amazing array of items for bidding. This year this included two lots from the SJSC; a Scott 291, 50c Trans-Miss. In F/VF condition was given an estimate of \$600; and one of the Scott 5681 Tulips pane with no die cuts was given an estimate of \$300-#400. The 50c Trans-Miss realized only \$180 (a little disappointment); and the Tulip sheet got

\$425 (in expectation).

The 2024 show will be April 26 – 28th. Guest societies will be: The Royal Philatelic Society of London; US Possessions Philatelic Society; Colombia-Panama Philatelic Study Group; and Canal Zone Study Group. The theme is the 150th Anniversary of the UPU.



Gina Lollobrigida - Who knew?

From Linn's and the internet

James Sauer

Well unless you are a serious fan, or a San Marino collector, few know or knew of her artistic side. She was a many talented woman besides being very beautiful. But we're getting ahead of ourselves.

Born Luigia Lollobrigida in Subiaco in Lazio (about 40 miles from Rome), July 4, 1927, she was the daughter of a furniture maker and his wife. Her three sisters were Giuliana (1924-2005), Maria (1929-1982), and Fernanda (1930-1978). After the end of World War II in 1945, the family moved to Rome, where Lollobrigida took singing lessons, did some modelling, and participated in several beauty contests, placing third in the 1947 Miss Italy contest. In 1946, she began appearing in Italian films in minor roles.

In 1945 at age 18, Lollobrigida played a part in the comedy Santarellina by Eduardo Scarpetta at the Teatro della Concordia of Monte Castello di Vibio the smallest theatre all'italiana in the world, and the rest of her acting career is history.



Gina Lollobrigida



Interviewing Castro



Mother Teresa by Gina Lollobrigida, San Marino, Scott 1349.

By the end of the 1970s, Lollobrigida had embarked on what she developed into a successful second career as a photographic journalist. She photographed, among others, Paul Newman, Salvador Dali, Henry Kissinger, David Cassidy, Audrey Hepburn, Ella Fitzgerald, and the Germany national football team. In 1974 she managed to obtain an exclusive interview with Cuban leader Fidel Castro. Between 1972 and 1994 she published six collections of her photographs, including the 1973 title Italia Mia.

One of her many talents was painting, and she was very good at it. Good enough for San Marino to honor her with a stamp depicting Mother Teresa painted by miss Lollobrigida in 1996.

Lollobrigida retired from filming in 1997. She told PARADE in April 2000: "I studied painting and sculpting at school and became an actress by mistake ... I've had many lovers and still have romances. I am very spoiled. All my life, I've had too many admirers." After retirement she divided her time between her house on Vioa Appia Antica in Rome and a villa in Monte Carlo. After 2009, she refused visitors to her home.

In 2013, Lollobrigida sold her jewelry collection through Sotheby's. She donated nearly \$5 million to benefit stem-cell therapy.

It's interesting to note the many celebrities, particularly in the theatre, the many talents and contributions so many of them have made, for the most part unheralded.-J.S.

Submitted by Jim Sauer

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I believe that philately has a strong future. I also believe that the hobby is changing and collector interests and ways of collecting are changing. One of my goals as president is to ensure that APS continues strong programs while keeping its pulse on the changes that will allow us to improve, grow, and connect to our members.

I love stamp shows and all that comes with them — the exhibits, dealers, club events, great energy of collectors, and meeting new people. If you have never been to the Great American Stamp Show, I hope you will consider attending in this August in Cleveland, Ohio. Look for me and please say hello.

Past President Janet Klug once asked me, “Are you proud to be a stamp collector?” I had never thought about that question before, but have reflected on this many times in the decades since she posed the question. Yes, I am very proud to be a stamp collector. I am proud to be an APS member. I am proud to be your APS president.

Call for APS 2023 Summer Meeting



Pursuant to Article 3, Section 3.4 of the Bylaws, I hereby issue this official call for the 138th Summer Meeting of the American Philatelic Society for transactions of such business as may be legally brought before it. The convention will assemble at the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland, from August 10–13, 2023.

The membership meeting of the American Philatelic Society will be held at the convention complex, room 16. In the event the convention is canceled or delayed, the meeting will be rescheduled and held virtually/telephonically at a day and time to be announced.

Proposed resolutions shall be submitted to APS National Headquarters at least 30 days prior to the general membership meeting, which will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, August 12.

Cheryl Ganz, President, American Philatelic Society

San Jose Stamp Club

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Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

May 2023

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