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Filatellic Fiesta 2023

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the San Jose Stamp
Club on Facebook

APS Board of Directors Takes Action on Two World Series of Philately Shows

On January 26, the APS Board of Directors took action on two World Series of Philately shows, revoking the WSP status for SEAPEX and approving a bye request for the Plymouth Show.

SEAPEX

On June 12, 2023, the APS Board of Directors found the SEAPEX Committee violated the WSP rules. The Board gave the SEAPEX Committee until January 1, 2024, to remedy the violations. Although SEAPEX held a bourse-only show in September 2023, the Committee took no action to correct the violations or communicate with the APS. As a result, the Board unanimously approved revoking the WSP status for SEAPEX.

Plymouth Show (Scheduled for April 20-21, 2024)

The APS received a request from the West Suburban Stamp Club to waive the requirements under the approved rules for the World Series of Philately for the Plymouth Show. Specifically,

An emergency meeting of the show committee revealed the following deficits. First, the Plymouth Show has had a steady decline in attendance. Dealers have also decreased due to retirement and health reasons. Finally, inflation has continued to rise increasing the entire cost of the show. Declining revenues resulting in substantial financial losses at the past several Plymouth Shows demanded immediate action to downsize the Plymouth Show for 2024. The show committee will be reevaluating and considering options to bring back exhibits in 2025 and beyond.

The bye request was unanimously recommended by the Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ) and unanimously approved by the APS Board of Directors.

World Series of Philately

The World Series of Philately is the APS-accreditation process for national-level competitive exhibitions in the United States and Canada. The multi-frame Grand Award winner for each WSP show is eligible to compete in the [Benjamin and Naomi Wishnietsky Champion of Champions](#) held at the [Great American Stamp Show](#) each year. The WSP is part of a locally organized stamp show, not a standalone event. A bye or suspension does not necessarily mean canceling the entire show, only the sanctioned exhibition.

San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

February 2023

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Club Blog & Website

Blog Updates No Activity

Website Updates

January 2024 newsletter uploaded

Remember the dates!

Presidents Message

This month my message is going to be short and to the point. I'm asking everyone to speak up and say what you want from this club. I believe we have tremendous potential if we pull together and make it happen. As I've written before, I have ambitious plans for the club, but our plans needs to represent "our" goals, not just mine. I hope the plans will include actions that will keep both experienced and less experienced collectors engaged. Can we accomplish both? Let's try. I'm optimistic we can do this if everyone speaks up about what will make this club work for them.

EVERYONE IS ASKED TO SPEAK UP. YES, EVERYONE! If you're happy with the club or looking for a change, I'd really want

to hear from you. Whether you'd like to see a few minor tweaks or major changes, this is the time to give you input. Did you like the plans I sketched out in the January newsletter? Want some changes, additions, or deletions? No joke, speak up! If you'd prefer to talk it over, don't be shy to give me a call (you know the number).

Brian

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Club Notes:

Donations continue to be received. The exciting thing about them is that everyone is different. The latest one has some nice older stamps for which the catalog value doesn't represent how difficult it is find them. Collectors of almost anything may find something interesting among the donations. Help is needed to prepare the stamps for our charitable activities. There are also a surprising number of non-philatelic items in the donations. Anybody interested in a compass, sharpening stone, or a recipe box?

Social Media is suggested as a venue for making more people aware of the fun of collecting and perhaps checking out our club. We already have a Facebook page, but I rarely post. Perhaps more frequent posts would help and maybe opening an Instagram account could help raise awareness of the club. Will you step-up to taking control of this club activity? Perhaps start an Instagram account?

Vice President David Occhipinti would like to hand-off this responsibility. Please seriously consider taking this position. The main thing I need is someone to organize meeting presentations/programs. Got other ideas? Speak up!

Dues are now overdue. If this missed your attention earlier, it's time to get your check in the mail for \$12 made out to: "San Jose Stamp Club". Send to: 981 Shadow Brook Dr., San Jose, CA 95120

Exhibit Frames: No deal has been made regarding the exhibit frames.

Filatelic Fiesta is on Nov 16-17th and Chicagopex is on Nov 22-24. Therefore, we won't be in direct competition with this big national caliper show. It is my hope that we may be able to get some of our favorite dealers back to our show this year with this big show not in direct competition.

Philatelic Calander:

Feb 7; 7:00 – 8:30pm; Stamp Club Meeting

Pearl Ave Branch of the San Jose Library, in the Community Room
Club business and speaker

Feb 17; 9:00 – 11:00am; Western Philatelic Library Open House and Auction
3004 Spring Street (at 2nd Ave), Redwood City

A variety of philatelic materials will be up for auction and purchase.
If anyone wants to carpool, please email: sanjosestampclub@gmail.com

March 7; 7:00 – 8:30pm; Stamp Club Meeting

Pearl Ave Branch of the San Jose Library, in the Community Room
Club business and speaker

March 9 – 10; Sat: 10:00 – 6pm; Sun: 10:00 – 4:00pm.

NEW Local Stamp Show

Hosted by Tom Kinberg at Napredak Hall

16 dealers are confirmed to be part of the bourse

SJSC is requested to staff the registration booth and an 8' sales table

April 26 – 28: Fri & Sat: 10am to 6pm; Sun 10am to 3pm.

WESTPEX Stamp Show

SF Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel; \$5 admission good for all 3 days

The biggest stamp show in the western US.

May 11: 10am – 4pm; Scout-O-Rama in History Park

With Boy Scout Troop 290, a stamp booth is offered to event attendees
Participants get to build a stamp project created around one of the US
stamp sets like the State Birds & Flowers; Prexies; Liberty; Famous
Americans; & others.

TBD: Presentation at Pearl Ave Library

Host a program targeted to getting attendees interested in starting
collecting. Exactly what the program will be is undecided. A new
PowerPoint presentation will have to be created.

APS Member Appointed to CSAC

1/12/2024

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service today announced the appointment of business executive and stamp collector Graham Beck to the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC). CSAC members are appointed by the Postmaster General to provide expertise in business, history, science, technology, art, education, sports and other areas of public interest. Working together, they make recommendations for future stamp subjects.

An avid philatelist, Beck began collecting stamps at 8 years old as a fun way to learn about the world. His philatelic interests are varied but mostly center around topical and thematic collections. Since 2016, he has promoted philately through a YouTube channel, Exploring Stamps, that has gained more than 32,000 subscribers and nearly 4 million views during the past seven years. He is a member of a growing online philatelic community, producing educational and entertaining content for all levels of collectors.

Beck is a member of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the American Topical Association. He was honored with an APS Kehr Award in 2022 for making philately attractive to newcomers. Also that year, he was featured as one of the 76 most influential philatelists by *Linn's Stamp News*, in a special issue that recognized individuals who have had a positive influence on stamp collecting.

Beck is an associate director with Bristol Myers Squibb and has worked for many years in hotel management and the pharmaceutical industry. He earned a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University in geography and economics and a master's in business administration from Rutgers Business School.

Beck lives in central New Jersey with his wife, Laura, and West Highland terrier, Jonty.

Submitting Stamp Suggestions

Due to the time required for research and approval in the stamp selection process, ideas for stamp subjects should be received at least three years prior to the proposed issuance. Each submission should include pertinent historical information and important dates associated with the subject. Proposals must be in writing and submitted by U.S. Mail. No in-person appeals, phone calls or emails are accepted. Mail your suggestion (one topic per letter) to the address below:

Stamp Development

Attn: Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee

475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300

Washington, DC 20260-3501

Show Announcement: WESTPEX 2024

The sixty-fourth annual WESTPEX show will be held April 26 – 28, 2024 at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel, 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, CA, just a mile south of the San Francisco International Airport.

This open exhibition will feature over 250+ frames of exhibits, and participation by the Royal Philatelic Society London, United States Possessions Philatelic Society, Colombia Panama Philatelic Study Group and the Canal Zone Study Group. This is a World Series of Philately exhibition with the Grand Award winner eligible for the next Champion of Champions competition.

The shows bourse will include 70+ national and international dealers in stamps, postal history and stationery and supplies, filling the bourse with items desired by general collectors, specialists and exhibitors. The show will once again have a large four day auction by Schuyler Rumsey Auctions with a large number of lots ranging from single items to large collections which will be available for pre-auction viewing.

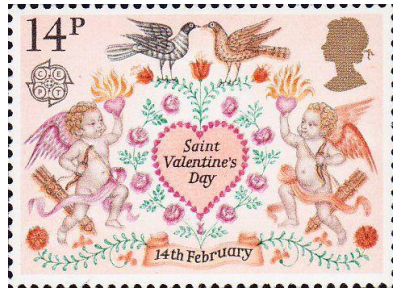
Numerous specialty societies, clubs, and study groups will hold a variety of meetings and seminars during the three-day event.

There will be a WESTPEX sponsored Youth Area with free stamps and supplies for young collectors. On Sunday, April 28, a Boy Scout Merit Badge program is scheduled.

Continuing the tradition of a local show theme, WESTPEX 2024 will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. WESTPEX will offer a special Cinderella souvenir sheet as well as cachet covers.

You will not want to miss this 64th annual WESTPEX Stamp Show. It will officially open at 10 a.m., Friday April 26. Complete show details, reservations, schedules, and theme story will be available at www.westpex.org.

Valentine's Day



Valentine's Day, also called **Saint Valentine's Day** or the **Feast of Saint Valentine**, is an annual holiday celebrated on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian liturgical feast day honoring one or more early saints named *Valentinus*, and is recognized as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

Several martyrdom stories associated with the various Valentines that were connected to February 14 were added to later martyrologies, including a popular hagiographical account of Saint Valentine of Rome which indicated he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire. According to legend, during his imprisonment, Saint Valentine healed the daughter of his jailer, Asterius, and before his execution, he wrote her a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell.

The day first became associated with romantic love within the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century, when the tradition of courtly love flourished. In 18th-century England, it evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). In Europe, Saint Valentine's Keys are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart", as well as to children, in order to ward off epilepsy (called Saint Valentine's Malady). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.

Saint Valentine's Day is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church. Many parts of the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrate Saint Valentine's Day, albeit on July 6 and July 30, the former date in honor of the Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and the latter date in honor of Hieromartyr Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni).



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