

THE SRSC NEWSLETTER

The Santa Rosa Stamp Club: Promoting the study, knowledge and enjoyment of stamp collecting. *APS Chapter 1584*



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Club News

The Santa Rosa Stamp Club officially received affiliate status with the American Philatelic Society and the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies. Membership in these organizations gives our club access to guest speakers, access to the American Philatelic Research Library, assistance in preparing exhibits, and publicizes our Club to potential members.

Just after our first six months, the Club now has 27 paid members. The presentations at Club meetings continue to be excellent addressing such topics as collecting classic era stamps, the stamps of Indo China and Vietnam, and planning for the disposal of your stamp collection. Many bidders at our monthly auctions have succeeded in purchasing some excellent bargains. Future meetings will provide opportunities for members to trade stamps and show off their collections. A philatelic quiz with prizes is also in the planning stage.

Future Meeting Speaker Program

July 3 – Club stamp trading session

Aug. 7 – Craig Ellis, Starting up again as a stamp collector

Sept. 4 – Don Test and Paul von Gottfried, Collecting SON cancels and precancels

SRSC Meetings

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Lodge at Paulin Creek, 2375 Range Avenue, Building D, Santa Rosa. For information about Club membership call: 707- 545 – 0870 or send an email to: srsc2012@yahoo.com



Meet Your Club Members

Susan Dixon, our Club Treasurer, has agreed to be the first of our members to tell us about her background. We hope to feature at least one member in each of our future newsletters.

“Susan is my name and collecting is my game.” I spent 35 years as a teacher and 60 plus years as a collector. I grew up in Michigan, went to college at Miami University of Ohio and eventually ended up teaching junior high students in Santa Rosa. I was primarily an English teacher but I have also taught mathematics, humanities, journalism and other subjects.

I come from a long line of collectors and have collected something for most of my life. In addition to stamps, I actively collect Santas and mustard pots. Occasionally I collect Japanese dolls, tin toys and white pottery. Give me two of something and I am off on a new collection! Most of what I collect is relatively inexpensive which is one of the reasons why I collect worldwide stamps. There are many inexpensive stamps available and I am sure my “want list” will never be filled.

I am also an animal person. I volunteer at a Humane Society shelter and live with one large senior dog, three senior cats in a 137 year-old “senior” house. If you need a new cat in your life, let me know, I will help you pick one out.

Newsletter Feature Article

The World Before 1940
George Land

If you have ever been a worldwide collector for even the shortest time, you have noticed a bothersome problem for stamp collectors: We are flooded with new issues! Through the years, the flood grows steadily in tidal wave proportions. And it is not just Central African Republic, Grenadines, and Sand Dunes. It is also the good ol' "sensible" United States. The USPS is right up there, doing its share. To collectors with limited resources, and to anyone with common sense, this is a serious matter. Example: Scott's International Album covers the first one hundred years with its first volume. The next 66 years requires 41 volumes.

I have a solution . . . I only collect "real" stamps . . . nothing after 1940. I can sit back and laugh at the avalanche of labels, each claiming "stamp" status. I can rest assured that most stamps in my collecting interest were issued for postal duty. Some exceptions exist, of course. Russian commemoratives and Tannu Tuva, for example. But even these are in hot demand; try and find them!

If it is not in Scott's International, Vol. 1, then it is out of my area. Anything else I have is available in trade for your pre-1940. I'll let YOU worry about keeping up with contemporary stickers!

Look at the advantages: Only one album is needed. Scott's International is not ideal, but it is probably the best worldwide album ever published. It is not meant for "flyspeck" specialists. Space is provided mainly for face-different stamps, ignoring many watermark and perforation varieties. If these do not concern you, then you are probably compatible with the International. But some of the International shortcuts do become irksome.

Two problems bother me, especially. First, the British Empire is shortchanged to a greater degree than any other world area. Repeatedly, space is provided only for the two or three cheapest Victoria issues. KE7 does not fare much better. Conversely, the French Colonies receive much more space, though their inhabitants probably had less need for postage stamps. The British Colonial layout should be

declared an embarrassment to the Scott Company.

Secondly, I am bothered by Scott's policy of omitting space for higher catalog-value stamps. As a youthful collector, I appreciated this because I had very little money to spend. But as an adult with more cash, I believe they should include more medium-value stamps before reaching the upper limit. Most British Colonial KG6 sets are carried only to the shilling value. I do not believe the higher values are sufficiently expensive to warrant omission.

But in recent years, this problem has been solved by the Vintage Reprint series of the old Scott "brown" Internationals. This is like having a Scott Specialty album for every country up to 1940.

Some other advantages: I do not need to purchase many expensive mounts. Since pre-1940 stamps pre-date the era of gum hysteria, most of the existing mint stamps have already been hinged. Neither do I need a full set of Scott Catalogs. The Classic has everything I need in one volume.

The breadth of my collecting interest is almost manageable. For me personally, my academic interest in history is fed by seeing the world as it existed in past years. My other academic interest in geography is not compromised. The entire world is still open to me. I have the best of all possible worlds. I have made my peace with the philatelic world.

Attend a Stamp Show

ASDA Summer Stamp Show, July 6 – 8, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1177 Airport Blvd., Burlingame.

The 2012 *APS Stamp Show* will be held in Sacramento from August 16-19 at the Sacramento Convention Center. This is the nation's largest annual stamp show, an event certainly not to be missed. Go the APS website for further details: www.stamps.org/Stampshow

SRSC Officers

President	Martin Feibusch
Vice-President	Paul von Gottfried
Treasurer	Susan Dixon
Secretary &	Dennis Buss
Newsletter Editor	

Executive Committee Members

George Land	Don Test	Charles Stark
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