



# San Jose Stamp Club

## Newsletter



Whole number 173

September 2012



**9 - 11 - WE WILL NEVER FORGET**

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Visit our website at:

**filatellicfiesta.org**

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928  
Meets 7:00 PM, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays  
Hilltop Manor in 3<sup>rd</sup> floor dining room  
790 Ironwood Drive, San Jose, California  
Driving instructions on the website.

#### Annual dues:

Adults/families \$12 ~ Youths \$6

APS chapter # 0264-025791

This run of the newsletter  
commenced January 1998.

#### Correspondence to:

P O Box 730993, San Jose, CA 95173

#### Contents

Pot-pourrie & The Prez Sez . . . . .	2
Amami Islands . . . . .	3
Caeser Rodney . . . . .	4
B-17 . . . . .	5
Carl Schurz . . . . .	6
Covers, Cards, etc. . . . .	7
Show Calendar, Want ads . . . . .	8

### Summer Party

So much for the best laid plans of mice and men! The summer party planned for the home of Rich and Nicki Hall was not to be as Rich's father-in-law had a medical emergency causing the cancellation.

Larry Tuttle and his wife Hisa very graciously stepped-up and allowed the get-together to take place in their home. An eleventh hour phone blitz by Mary Ann Stanfield informed all of the last minute change and as a result a great time was had by all.

Very good food, and lots of it, was the hallmark of the doin's plus club cards and good company, made for another very successful summer outing. Those of you that shun this event are truly missing out. There's another opportunity in December where you and your significant other can break bread with both the San Jose Stamp Club and the San Jose Post Card Club. It would be very nice were you to attend.

### Newsletter Delivery

Once again those that receive hard copies of the newsletter received it late. This was due to computer problems that are still not resolved. The electronic copy was sent from another computer as Yahoo won't allow attaching anything to my e-mails. And if that wasn't enough it was frozen for several days—couldn't even log off—had to pull the plug to shut it down!

With any kind of luck I will have resolution by the end of August and get the September letter out in a timely manner—apologies to everyone.

A payment schedule for those receiving hard copies has not been worked out, however, will be soon. It's been proposed by President Brian to add the costs to your annual dues.-ed.

### Sequoia's Anniversary

On Tuesday, September 25th, 2012, SSC will celebrate 65 years at the Community Activity Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood City. The event will honor past club presidents along with a slideshow of early club photos. There will be refreshments including an anniversary cake and extra drawings for door prizes.

A 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary yearbook will be distributed along with newly designed membership pins, to all members.

AND, we've been invited! This is a chance for those who haven't been to a Sequoia meeting to meet their members—and some who are members of both clubs. This will be an opportunity for us to thank Sequoia in person for the use of their auction for OUR purposes. Please plan to attend and share in the celebration.

### StampShow

Once again Northern California has been the locale for a major stamp show, this time it was the APS' annual StampShow that took place in Sacramento from August 16th to the 19th.

Competing in the World Series Champion of Champions was SJSC member Ed Laveroni with his exhibit: *Imperial Postmarks of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, Chelyabinsk to Manchzhyyriya*.

Filatellic Fiesta committee member Akthem Al-Manaseer won gold for his *The Forgotten War IEF 'D' and War in Mesopotamia 1914 - 1918*; plus Military Postal History Society Award.

A vermeil went to supporter and good friend of the SJSC Kristin Patterson for her *The Proper and Improper Use of U.S. 1st Issue "Playing Cards" Revenue Stamps*. Her exhibit was also awarded the Ephemera Society of America award for using ephemera in her exhibit — talk about esoteric!

## Northern California Trivia

Q What town was once known as both Alden Grove and Illinoistown?

A Colfax.

Q Nearby granite quarries led to what communities name?

A Rocklin.

From *Northern California Trivia* by Ernie & Jill Couch



An early mail truck came out loser in this battle with a tree on the tree-lined Commercial Avenue, Boston.



Great Britain Battle of the Somme, 90th Anniversary, Scott 2418a.

**D**esign of this stamp commemorating the Battle of the Somme is a masterpiece. The barbed wire stems of the poppies denoting the battle field where so much blood was spilled and so much misery endured — to the flower denoting the dead and the recovery of the land — there was little recovery for the men who fought there.

If you are unfamiliar with this epic event, or with WWI, Google it for a very sad period in history.

**"On every question of construction carry ourselves back to the time when the Constitution was adopted, recollect the spirit manifested in the debates and instead of trying what meaning may be squeezed out of the text or invented against it, conform to the probable one in which it was passed."**

—Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Johnson, 1823

**A**re you having fun? I sure am! After being actively involved in our hobby for just over three years, I've gotten to know lots of people and I saw many of them at the APS STAMPSHOW in Sacramento. It was a blast meeting with everyone and seeing amazing exhibits. The amount of fun I'm having with stamp collecting has gone way up the more I've gotten involved.

Before I joined the SJSC, I was what I characterize as an "underground stamp collector" — I would just pop in anonymously at an occasional stamp show, buy a few stamps and go back into my hole. For many years, I didn't do anything with my collection because it had gotten boring and routine. Have you ever had a dry spell in your collecting? I decided to check out a SJSC meeting as an almost last ditch effort to jump start my interest in collecting. Wow, what a transformation it's been!

One of the highlights of attending the APS show for me was seeing one of the Boy Scouts who attended the merit badge program at WESTPEX this past March came up to the show for 2 full days! He's SO excited about stamp collecting, he convinced his parents to drive up and spend two nights in Sacramento so he could attend the show. I gave them a tour and introduced them to dealers who fit his collecting interest. It makes the work put into the merit badge workshops payoff when one sees a young person so excited about our hobby. I confess I took personal glee in being able to tell a few old curmudgeons, that yes, young people do still get excited about stamps.

At our meeting on September 5th, please come prepared to share your experiences and finds at STAMPSHOW or anything else you've been up to. We'll be starting a series of discussions on exhibiting.

Bob Bortfeld, owner of the Vintages of Los Gatos, will be a guest speaker at our meeting on September 19th, Bob's presentation will be: Mixed-Media Techniques For Enhancing Stamp Collecting Displays. Bob is an antiques collector and nouveau crafter. Vintages of Los Gatos is an antiques, crafts and gift store at 130C North Santa Cruz Ave. in Los Gatos. Vintages website is:

[www.vintagesantiques.com](http://www.vintagesantiques.com)

and you can read his blog "Postmark" at:

<http://vintageslg.blogspot.com/>

I ask again, are YOU having fun? One of my goals for the SJSC is to contribute to your fun with stamp collecting. Do you have an idea for what would make club meetings more fun? I'd love to hear it. Try getting more involved and you might be surprised at how your fun level increases. How about volunteering to give a presentation in October or November?



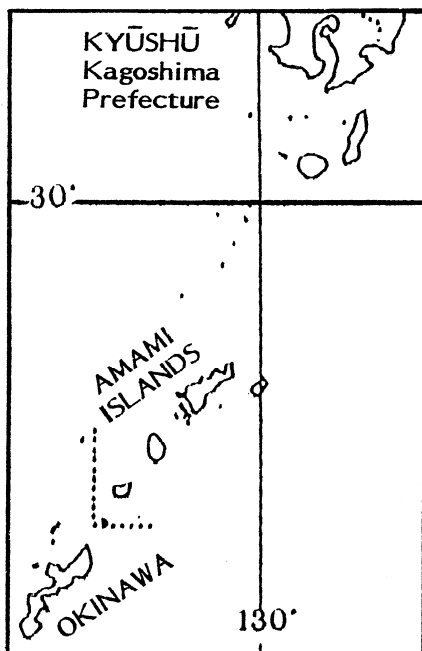
## Amami Islands

In 1609, the Shimazu clan of Satsuma invaded Okinawa, looted Shuri Castle, and took the Okinawan ruler, Sho Nei, to Kyushu and Edo (now Tokyo); he was later allowed to return to Okinawa as the nominal ruler, under certain restrictions imposed by Satsuma. Okinawa became semi-independent and was allowed to continue its tributary, educational, and cultural relations with China through the Second Sho Dynasty.

The Amami Islands were part of the Ryukyuan Kingdom until they were conquered by the Shimazu feudal lord of southern Kyushu in 1609. The Shimazu domain became Kagoshima Prefecture in 1871.

Okinawa's relations with China ended once Japan's government conquered Satsuma and then imposed Japanese rule over Okinawa in 1879. Under the Meiji regime, Japan's former feudal territories became prefectures, with Okinawa the southernmost of these. The Ryukyuan Kingdom was abolished; Sho Tai abdicated, as indicated above; and Sho Ten, the last crown prince of the Second Sho Dynasty, never ruled.

The eight Amami Islands are Amami Oshima (the largest), Kikai, Kakeroma, Yoro, Uke, Tokunshima, Okinoerabu and Yoron. They consist of three villages, ten towns and one city (Naze, population 41,922). The total population of the eight islands is 130,650 (2004).



During the Allied occupation of Japan after the 1941-45 Pacific War (WWII), the Amami Islands were controlled by the American military government of the Ryukyu Islands. They were returned to Japan on December 25, 1953 and made part of Kagoshima prefecture. Japanese stamps were issued on May 15, 1972, May 15, 1982, May 15, 1992, and May 15, 2002 to commemorate the reversion of Okinawa but the November 7, 2003 stamp is the first to be issued for the December 25, 1953 reversion of the Amami Islands.



In 1958, five years after the reversion of the Amami Islands to Japan, a Japanese artist named Tanaka Isson (1908-1877) moved to Amami Oshima and spent 19 years of his life painting nature scenes in the Amamis. One of his paintings, the source of the 2003 stamp design, is shown in the selvege of the 2003 sheet. The caption below it says the painting is now in the Tanaka Isson Memorial Museum (location not stated, however, it's located at Amami-Oshima Is., Kagosima, Japan). The seven lines of text above the painting says he titled it *Amami no mori—biro to bugenbirea*. Amami no mori means Amami forest. Japan Post's press release said the section shown on the stamp design includes *tsumabeni-cho*, *hishibana-deigo*, and *bugenbirea* and that bugenbirea flowers also appear in the top-left of the sheet's selvege.

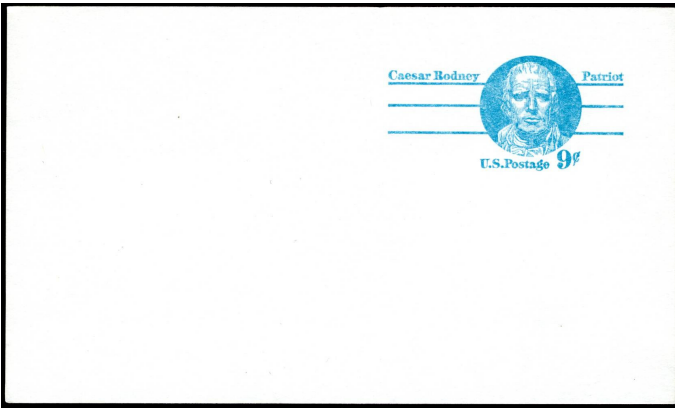
Various Japanese names have been used for the Amami Islands (1) as a group: Amami Shoto or Amami Gunto or (2) as part of a larger group: Nansei Shoto, Seinan Shoto, Satsunan Shoto, or Ryukyu Retto. The largest island, Amami Oshima is often called simply Oshima (Big Island), although that name is also used for 33 other Japanese islands. The entire group of eight islands is often called Amami Oshima.

There's more to this history that can be found at <http://williamsem.tripod.com/index.htm>.-ed.

## Caesar Rodney

I feel it is safe to say that most Americans over the age of twelve have at least heard of the famous ride that Patriot Paul Revere took in April 1775 to announce the British are coming. History has made him a hero of the American Revolution. However, there was another Patriot in Colonial times that made a ride even more heroic. Caesar Rodney made this ride on July 1-2, 1776.

Caesar Rodney took a leading role in events leading up to the American Revolution, always promoting the rights of American colonists against British policies. In 1765 he served as one of Delaware's delegates to the Stamp Act Congress in New York. In the summer of 1774, as speaker of the Assembly, Rodney took the extra-legal step of calling the Assembly into special session. At that session, he was elected one of Delaware's delegates to the First Continental Congress. He was later elected to the Second Continental Congress.



Caesar Rodney postal card, Scott UX70, issued July 1, 1976 at Dover, Delaware.

Rodney's belief in the American position, combined with England's increasingly hard-line stance, led him to believe that independence was the only answer for the American colonies. In all of this, Rodney and the others involved were taking a great risk, for they did not know whether they would succeed. A vote was taken the morning of July 1 if the colonies should declare independence from British control. South Carolina and Pennsylvania voted against it, Delaware's delegates were evenly divided, while New York abstained. Edward Rutledge, a delegate from South Carolina, "then requested the determination might be put off to the next day." After this vote, Thomas McKean sent by express courier a message to Rodney requesting his immediate presence to break the vote. In the Continental Congress each colony had one vote based on the votes of its individual delegates. Delaware had two other representatives. Thomas McKean would vote for independence, George Read would vote against it. Those votes would cancel each other out, leaving Delaware without a vote unless Caesar Rodney was present to vote for independence.

Rodney received McKean's message on the evening of July 1. Although he was sick from an affliction which deformed one side of his face and his physician advised Rodney that he was on his death bed. Though suffering from his illness, he nevertheless got up from his death bed and dressed himself. Then he mounted a horse, dashing away in the mud and rain and rode the 80 miles through a storm and arrived just in time for the calling of the Delaware vote. He voted yes. Once Delaware voted yes, Pennsylvania and South Carolina changed their minds and voted yes. New York followed the next day and voted yes. This made it unanimous. If Caesar Rodney had not made the ride and thus able to cast a vote, who knows how long it would have been, if ever, before the new colonies gained their independence from Great Britain.

After the ride, Caesar Rodney's health improved but he was briefly out of political office. In March 1778 he was elected governor of Delaware. He held that post until November 1781. After that, he lived quietly until his death in 1784.

From the internet.-ed.

## The Coat Hanger

Today's wire coat hanger was inspired by a clothes hook patented in 1869 by O. A. North of New Britain, Connecticut.

Albert J. Parkhouse, an employee of Timberlake Wire and Novelty Company in Jackson, Michigan, created a coat hanger in 1903, in response to co-workers' complaints of too few coat hooks. He bent a piece of wire into two ovals with the ends twisted together to form a hook. Parkhouse patented his invention, but it is not known if he profited from it.

Schuyler C. Hulett received a patent in 1932 for an improvement which involved cardboard tubes screwed onto the upper and lower portions to prevent wrinkles in freshly laundered clothes.

## Garbage Bags

The familiar green plastic garbage bag (made from polyethylene) was invented by Harry Wasylyk in 1950.

Harry Wasylyk was a Canadian inventor from Winnipeg, Manitoba, who together with Larry Hansen of Lindsay, Ontario, invented the disposable green polyethylene garbage bag. Garbage bags were first intended for commercial use rather than home use — the bags were first sold to the Winnipeg General Hospital. However, Hansen worked for the Union Carbide Company in Lindsay, who bought the invention from Wasylyk and Hansen. Union Carbide manufactured the first green garbage bags under the name Glad Garbage Bags for home use in the late 1960s.

From an e-mail...

**A government that robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. —George Bernard Shaw**



## B-17

The B-17—the “Flying fortress”, we remember it, at least those of us old enough—and most stamp collectors are old enough, to remember WWII! It was awesome in its day and is still revered as a plane a peg above. The USPS included it in its 50th anniversary of WWII series along with the spectacular P-51 “Mustang”, as illustrated below.



The B-17 “Flying Fortress” and P-51 Mustang, Scott 2838b.

Many stories have surfaced from the many WWII unique situations that occurred—none any more astounding than the following:

A mid-air collision on February 1, 1943, between a B-17 and a German fighter over the Tunis dock area, became the subject of one of the most famous photographs of World War II. An enemy fighter attacking a 97th Bomb Group formation went out of control, probably with a wounded pilot then continued its crashing descent into the rear of the fuselage of a Fortress named All American, piloted by Lt. Kendrick R. Bragg, of the 414th Bomb Squadron. When it struck, the Nazi fighter broke apart, but left some pieces in the B-17. The left horizontal stabilizer of the Fortress and left elevator were completely torn away. The two right engines were out and one on the left had a serious oil pump leak. The vertical fin and the rudder was damaged, the fuselage had been cut almost completely through connected only at two small parts of the frame and the radios, electrical and oxygen systems were damaged. There was also a hole in the top that was over 16 feet long and 4 feet wide at its widest and the split in the fuselage went all the way to the top gunner's turret. Although the tail actually bounced and swayed in the wind and twisted when the plane turned and all the control cables were severed, except one single elevator cable still worked, and the aircraft still flew—miraculously! The tail gunner was trapped because there was no floor connecting the tail to the rest of the plane. The waist and tail gunners used parts of the German fighter and their own parachute harnesses in an attempt to keep the tail from ripping off and the two sides of the fuselage from splitting apart. While the crew was trying to keep the bomber from coming apart, the pilot **continued on his bomb run** and released his bombs over the target! When the bomb bay doors were opened, the wind turbulence was

so great that it blew one of the waist gunners into the broken tail section. It took several minutes and four crew members to pass him ropes from parachutes and haul him back into the forward part of the plane. When they tried to do the same for the tail gunner, the tail began flapping so hard that it began to break off. The weight of the gunner was adding some stability to the tail section, so he went back to his position. The turn back toward England had to be very slow to keep the tail from twisting off. They actually covered almost 70 miles to make the turn home. The bomber was so badly damaged that it was losing altitude and speed and was soon alone in the sky. For a brief time, two more Me-109 German fighters attacked the All American. Despite the extensive damage, all of the machine gunners were able to respond to these attacks and soon drove off the fighters. The two waist gunners stood up with their heads sticking out through the hole in the top of the fuselage to aim and fire their machine guns. The tail gunner had to shoot in short bursts because the recoil was actually causing the plane to turn.



“All American”

Allied P-51 fighters intercepted the All American as it crossed over the Channel and took the picture shown. They also radioed to the base describing that the empennage was waving like a fish tail and that the plane would not make it and to send out boats to rescue the crew when they bailed out. The fighters stayed with the Fortress taking hand signals from Lt. Bragg and relaying them to the base. Lt. Bragg signaled that five parachutes and the spare had been “used” so five of the crew could not bail out. He made the decision that if they could not bail out safely, then he would stay with the plane and land it. Two and a half hours after being hit, the aircraft made its final turn to line up with the runway while it was still over 40 miles away. It descended into an emergency landing and a normal roll-out on its landing gear. When the ambulance pulled alongside, it was waved off because not a single member of the crew had been injured. No one could believe that the aircraft could still fly in such a condition. The Fortress sat placidly until the crew all exited through the door in the fuselage and the tail gunner had climbed down a ladder, at which time the entire rear section of the aircraft collapsed onto the ground. The rugged old bird had done its job—what a plane—**what a crew!**

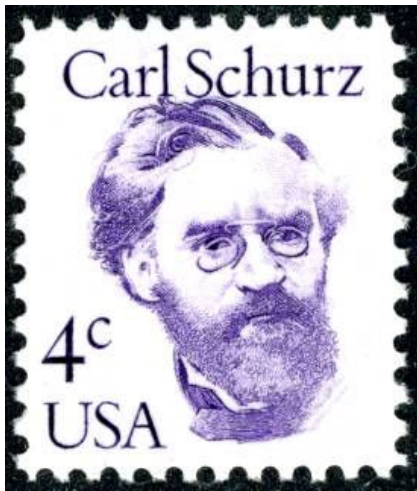
“it is one of my sources of happiness never to desire a knowledge of other people's business.”—Dolley Madison

## Carl Schurz

Carl Schurz was born in Cologne, Germany, on 2nd March, 1829. While studying at the University of Bonn he became involved in radical politics. Schurz took part in the 1848 German Revolution and was afterwards forced to flee to Switzerland.

Schurz spent time in France and England before emigrating to the United States in 1852. Schurz and his wife lived in New York for a while before buying a farm in Watertown, Wisconsin. In 1856 Margarethe Schurz founded the first kindergarten in America. A strong supporter of universal suffrage, Schurz once wrote: "Our ideals resemble the stars, which illuminate the night. No one will ever be able to touch them. But the men who, like the sailors on the ocean, take them for guides, will undoubtedly reach their goal."

A leading member of the Republican Party, in 1860 Schurz campaigned for Abraham Lincoln in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. After the election, President Lincoln appointed Schurz as U.S. envoy to Spain.



Carl Schurz, Scott 1847, issued June 3, 1983.

Schurz was an active campaigner against slavery and on the outbreak of the American Civil War joined the forces of the Union Army. He helped recruit Germans living in New York before being asked to negotiate with European governments on behalf of Abraham Lincoln.

On his return to the United States, Schurz served under General John Fremont, the commander of the Department of the West. Soon afterwards he was given the rank of brigadier general and placed in command of the 3rd Division of the Army of Virginia (26th June, 1862 to 12th September, 1862). Schurz also commanded the 3rd Division of the Army of Potomac (12th September, 1862 to 2nd April, 1863) and took part in the battles at Bull Run (July, 1862) and Fredericksburg (December, 1862). After the battle he was promoted to the rank of major general, replacing his friend and fellow German, Franz Sigel. Schurz also took part in the battle at Chancellorsville (May, 1863) and Gettysburg (July, 1863) before being given command of the 3rd

Division of the Army of the Cumberland (25th September, 1863 to 21st January, 1864).

After the war Schurz worked as the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune. This was followed by a period as editor-in-chief of the Detroit Post. In 1867 he became editor of the German language newspaper, the Westliche Post, in St. Louis, Missouri.

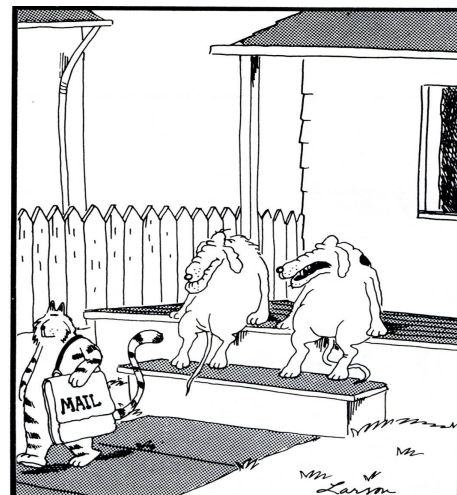


Major General Carl Schurz

Schurz remained active in the Republican Party and in 1869 was elected to the Senate. In 1872 he, like many Radical Republicans, supported Horace Greeley against Ulysses S. Grant, the official Republican candidate. Despite the efforts of Schurz and his close friend in Missouri, Joseph Pulitzer, Grant won the presidential election by 286 electoral votes to 66.

In 1877 President Rutherford Hayes appointed Schurz as his secretary of the interior. Over the next four years Schurz introduced civil service reforms and made improvements to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

After leaving office in 1881 Schurz returned to journalism and became managing editor of the New York Evening Post. He also wrote for Harper's Weekly, The Nation and had several books published including The Life of Henry Clay (1887) and Abraham Lincoln (1891). Carl Schurz died on 14th May, 1906.

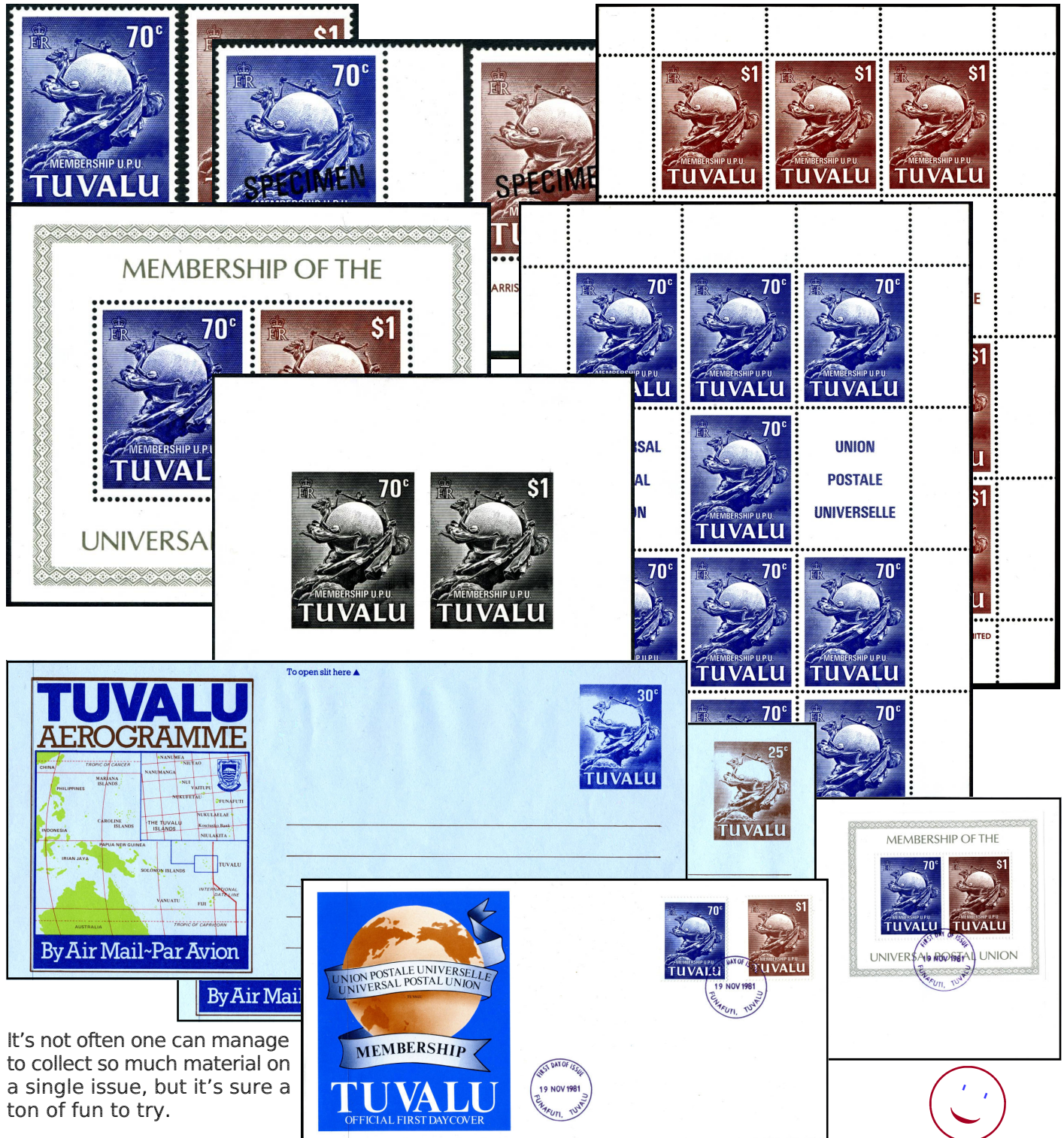


"We're gittin' old, Jim."



# Covers, Cards, Stamps, etc.

Making a career out of a single issue — so to speak. Beginning on November 19, 1981, Tuvalu, an independent state in the British Commonwealth located in the South Pacific Ocean, issued a pair of stamps, a souvenir sheet and a pair of aerograms to celebrate their admission to the UPU. The stamps and the indicia on the aerograms are simple but elegant — the monument in Bern, Switzerland in front of the UPU headquarters. Shown are the two stamps along with specimens and a black print; sheetlets of the stamps plus the souvenir sheet; first day covers of the stamps and souvenir sheet; and the areograms. Not shown are the first day areograms — hey!, there's only so much room here.



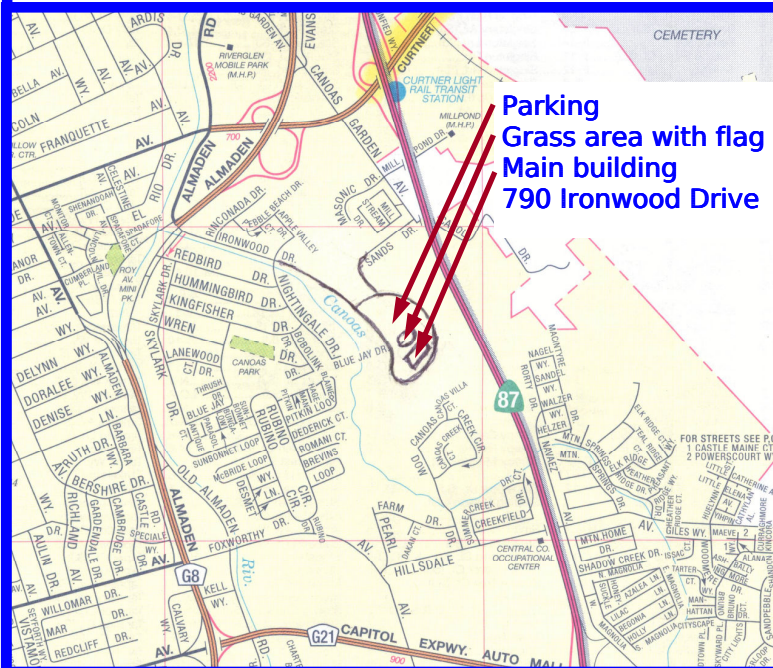
"A bookstore is one of the only pieces of evidence we have that people are still thinking." —Jerry Seinfeld

It's not often one can manage to collect so much material on a single issue, but it's sure a ton of fun to try.

"It is error alone which needs the support of government. Truth can stand by itself." —Thomas Jefferson



**SEPTEMBER MEETINGS ARE ON THE 5TH & 19TH  
OCTOBER MEETINGS ARE ON THE 3RD & 17TH**



#### Show Calendar

**Great American Stamp Expo**  
September 1 - 2  
Napredak Hall  
770 Montague Expressway, San Jose  
Sat 10 - 6, Sun 10 - 4  
Free Parking & Free Admission

**Humboldt Stamp Show**  
September 29 - 30  
Red Lion Hotel  
4th & V Streets, Eureka  
Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 4

**WINEPEX 2012**  
October 5 - 7  
Marin Civic Center, San Rafael  
Fri - Sat 10 - 5, Sun 10 - 3  
Free Parking & Free Admission

**The San Jose Post Card Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month  
(excepting July & August) in the Hilltop Manor dining room.  
Visit the SJSC website at: [filatelicifiesta.org](http://filatelicifiesta.org)**

#### Advertisements

Members may place an ad here to run for three months unless sold. Three at a time as space allows.  
No politically incorrect, risqué, religious, illegal or offensive material accepted. Editor will edit.

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**U.S.:** Legends of the West error sheet w/original mailer and all contents plus White Ace specialty pages.  
Cat \$240+++ - \$195.00

**Mozambique Company: C1 - 15 MNH**  
Cat \$9.85 - \$5.00

**Monaco: FIPEX issue 354 - 62 MNH**  
Cat \$23.95 - \$14.00

**Montserrat: UN 50th gutter pairs MNH 873 - 6**  
Cat \$17.00+++ - \$10.00

All prices plus shipping or mailing costs if applicable.

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**Walt Kransky's website has changed** — now mostly philatelic material, covers, etc.— a few postcards. Website: <http://www.thepostcard.com/walt/> e-mail Walt @ [wrsky@att.net](mailto:wrsky@att.net) Walt's duplicate and extra postcards are still for sale **Please use the word "POSTCARD QUERY"** in the subject line of your e-mail message to avoid spam. Thank you.

**This is a member service — use it!**