



The PHILATELIC REVIEW

The Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California
And Federation Reporter
August 2002

SESCAL report

SESCAL 2002, the 58th annual Stamp Exhibition of Southern California, sponsored by the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, will be Friday-Sunday, Oct. 4-6, at the Radisson Los Angeles Airport Hotel, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Show hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday.



Admission is free, and there's a reduced parking rate with validation.

This year's show will be host to the annual conventions of the China Stamp Society and the Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania.

The Federation will also hold its regular meeting at 3 p.m. Saturday.

The rest of the meeting schedule has not been completed as of this writing in mid-August.

The Republic of China Post Office will be at SESCAL, along with

dealers, exhibits and the 25th annual exhibit of philatelic literature, including handbooks, catalogs and periodicals in paper or electronic format.

The cancel and theme for the show are expected to be based on the Spay/Neuter stamp to be issued Sept.

20, reports Bob de Violini.

Full details of the schedule, when completed, will be posted on the SESCAL Web site at <www.sescal.org>. The Web site already has details on hotel reservations, a link to a map to the hotel and a tentative dealer's list, included later in this issue. Much of the information in this issue was downloaded from the Web site.

SESCAL is one of the APS World Series of Philately exhibitions. The 2002 Grand Award winner is eligible to compete in the Champion of Champions exhibition at Stampshow 2003, Aug. 7-10 in Columbus, Ohio.

More information about the show may be obtained from chairman Wallace Craig, P.O. Box 3391, Fullerton, CA 92834; e-mail: wamcraig@aol.com.

The hotel

The Radisson Hotel at LAX completed a \$20,000,000 renovation last year, with 40,000 square feet of renovated banquet and meeting facilities and 600 redecorated guest rooms including 12 luxury suites. The guest rooms and suites now all have dual-line phones, data ports, voice mail, coffee maker, 25-inch TV, iron and ironing board, hair dryer and comfortable new mattresses.

You will also find the Century Restaurant and Bakery, a Starbucks Coffee Bar, a 24-hour business center, fully-equipped fitness center, an Olympic-sized pool, and many other amenities.

The SESCAL rate is \$96 per night, single or double. One- and two-bedroom suites are also available. Reservations may be made by calling the Radisson directly at (310) 670-9000, or, if you prefer, you may use the Radisson's nationwide reservations number, (800) 333-3333. Reservations at the Radisson Hotel at LAX for SESCAL 2002 must be received by Sept. 19.

You may also download the reservation form from the SESCAL Web site to print out and mail or fax to the hotel. The hotel's fax number is (310) 670-7852. The reservation form is in the Acrobat PDF format

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About us

The Philatelic Review is published three times a year by The Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California.

The SESCAL Web site, which also includes information about the Federation and a list of member clubs, is at <www.sescal.org>

News about Federation or club events and other articles should be sent to the editor, John Weigle, at P.O. Box 6536, Ventura, CA 93006-6536 or, by e-mail, to <jweigle@vcnet.com>

Officers:

President: Jerry Harwood, 3600 S. Harbor Blvd., No. 84, Oxnard, CA 93035-4136 <jwhh1939@aol.com>

President-elect: William O'Connor, <conocon@aol.com>

Vice President: Kenneth Weber, 1220 Johnson Drive, No. 104, Ventura, CA. 93003 <kencar@venturalink.net>

Secretary: Carolyn Clary, P.O. Box 3485, Anaheim, CA 92801

Immediate Past President: Bill Estes, 8331 Castano Place, Sun Valley, CA 91352

Treasurer: Waltraud Helms, 11925 Ringwood, Norwalk, CA 90650-7773

SESCAL chairman:
Wallace A. Craig, P.O. Box 369, Placentia, CA 92870

<WAMCraig@aol.com>21

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and requires the Acrobat Reader. There's a link to download the Reader on the SESCAL site if you don't have it already.

The Radisson, the closest hotel to LAX, is on the north side of Century Boulevard between Vicksburg Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard. It is 1.5 miles west of the 405 Freeway, and one mile north of the 105 Freeway's termination at Sepulveda Boulevard. The Radisson's shuttles circle the airport terminal area about every 10 minutes around the clock.

The dealers

This is a preliminary list of dealers as of Aug. 7. The dealers are listed alphabetically, with phone and fax numbers, along with mailing and e-mail addresses and Web site URLs, where known. The listing will be updated as more answers are received, so it's wise to check the Web site periodically to see if your favorite dealer(s) will be there.

Ameen Stamps: 8831 Long Point, Suite 204, Houston, TX 77055. (713) 468-0644

Asia Philatelics: E-mail: asiaphil@concentric.net. P.O.Box 1607, San Jose, CA 95109. (408) 238-0893

A & D Stamps: 2541 Venado Camino, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. (510) 935-8212. Fax: (925) 935-9277

Armstrong Philatelics: E-mail: armstrong@stamp1.com. Web: www.Stamp1.com. P.O. Box 4089, Chatsworth, CA 91313-4861. (818) 360-4861

Barrett & Worthen: E-mail: brookman@brookmanstamps.com. Web: www.brookmanstamps.com. 10 Chestnut Dr., Bedford, NH 03110. (603) 472-5575

B.J.'s Stamps: E-mail: info@bjstamps.com. Web: www.bjstamps.com. 6342 West Bell Road, Glendale, AZ 85308. (602) 878-

2080

Richard A. Champagne: Box 600372, Newton MA 02160. (617) 969-5719

Coast Philatelics: E-mail: Chizz5@aol.com. 1113 Baker St. Costa Mesa, CA 92626. (714) 545-1791

David Cobb -- Newport Harbor Stamp Co.: P.O. Box 3364, Newport Beach CA 92659. (800) 722-1022. Fax: (949) 509-0445

Friedman's Cover Corner : E-mail: covercnr@eaze.net. Web: www.covercorner.com. P.O. Box 300459, Arlington, TX 76007-9459. (817) 467-1841

Douglas Gary: P.O.Box 457, Campbell, CA 95009. (408) 274-3939.

Harold Goldstein: P.O. Box 691176, Los Angeles, CA 90069. (310) 271-5503

Harry Graetz: 2231 Condolea Terrace, Leawood, KS 66209.

David Grossblat: P.O. Box 26387, Phoenix, AZ 85068. (602) 863-2242. Fax: (602) 942-4339

Gutter Pairs, Etc.: E-mail: mgutter@msn.com. P.O. Box 20305, Carson City, NV 89721. (775) 842-6241

George W. Holschauer / Colonial Stamp Co.: 5757 Wilshire Blvd., Penthouse #8 Los Angeles, CA 90036-3635. (323) 933-9435

Robert R. Johnson, Inc.: 760 Market St., Suite 501, San Francisco, CA 94102. (415) 421-2422. Fax: (415) 291-8324

A. Keith Kaufman — M/NH Philatelics: 6345 Bristol Pkwy, PMB 249, Culver City, CA 90230. (310) 822-9385

Kirk's Stamp Co.: E-mail: krkstpc@goldstate.net. P.O.Box 74, Clipper Mills, CA 95930. (530) 675-2687. Fax: (530) 675-1522

David Kopljar/Interstamp: P.O. Box 827, Solana Beach, CA 92075. (858) 755-2259. Fax: (858) 755-9113

William Litle: P.O. Box 911, Gar-

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More on SESCAL dealers ...

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den Grove, CA 92642-0911. (714) 537-8522

Marcel Philatelic: E-mail: marphilstamp@email.com. P.O. Box 93219, Los Angeles, CA 90093. (323) 874-0245. Fax: (323) 874-4970

Oakmore Stamps: E-mail: oakmore@earthlink.net. (818) 710-8974

Pacific Midwest Co.: P.O. Box 1696, Daly City, CA 94014. (650) 994-1117

Stephen Pattillo/Stamps Wanted: E-mail: number1banana@hotmail.com. P.O. Box 604, Fullerton, CA 92832. (714) 995-0548

Stanley M. Piller: E-mail: stmpdlr@aol.com. 3351 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94610. (510) 465-8290. Fax: (510) 465-7121

Gary Posner: E-mail: garyposnerinc@aol.com or garyposner@garyposnerinc.com. Web: www.garyposnerinc.com. 1407 Ave. Z, PMB 535, Brooklyn, NY 11235-3811. (800) 323-4279; (718) 251-1952. Fax: (718) 241-2801

Quality Philatelics: P.O. Box 2870, Newport Beach, CA 92663. (714) 642-7529

Michael Rogers: E-mail: mrogersinc@aol.com.

Web: www.michaelrogersinc.com. 199 East Welbourne Ave., Suite 3, Winter Park, FL 32789. (800) 843-3751

Sherry Straley Stamps: 2214 Arden Way, #199, Sacramento, CA 92825. (916) 486-9339

Bill Stein: E-mail: stampman@pacbell.net. 3030 Bridgeway Ave., Sausalito, CA 94965. (415) 331-7399, (800) 487-8267

Vogt Stamps/Mr. Z's Stamps: E-mail: vogtstamps@aol.com. 1231 Burlingame Av., Burlingame, CA 94010. (650) 344-3401

Larry Weinstock: P.O. Box 92030, Portland, OR 97292. (503) 762-4116. Fax: (503) 762-4118

Wulff Stamps: E-mail: service@wulffstamps.com. Web: www.wulffstamps.com. P.O. Box 661746, Sacramento, CA 95866. (916) 489-0656; (800) 884-0656

SESCAL chairman's column

Come enjoy your hobby and the show

As many of you are aware I retook the chairman's position in early July. Since then I have been doing my best to play "ketchup." With one of the greatest committees which one could ask for, it looks as though we are going to have a great SESCAL. During all the time I have been living in Southern California I always went to SESCAL. I can never remember not enjoying myself.

The one thing which makes stamp collecting enjoyable is the people we meet. The Internet is great, but it does not give one someone to talk with. The

meetings, I have found, have always been interesting. Many times I have attended meetings which are for areas I do not collect. One will be surprised at the information which can be obtained.

I can not express how much one can gain by attending a SESCAL. This is your show. SESCAL belongs to the Federated Clubs of Southern California and as such you all have the right to suggest improvements of changes

Come out and enjoy yourself

— Wallace Craig

President's column

SESCAL committee faces difficult task

To our workers and supporters:

Your task is a difficult one. Anyone who has done what you're attempting can attest to the work and anxiety connected to delivering the 50-plus dealers to SESCAL. We all need to work as a team, even though

there's not a lot of accolades connected with the job, to be successful this year.

This year will be a very important one in determining whether we can sustain SESCAL in the future. Sue

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Minutes of the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California

Meeting of June 15, 2002

Meeting called to order by our president, J. Harwood, at ORCOPEX in Anaheim, Calif., with 10 representatives present.

There was a presentation of the treasurer's report. The total of the Federated Philatelic Clubs is \$323.03.

The president thanked the chairman of ORCOPEX for having the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California at ORCOPEX.

Mr. R. Willing discussed the showing of all funds. It was brought out all areas have a yearly audit on all accounts.

The reason for the "Permanent Exhibition Committee" (P.E.C.) was discussed. This will handle costs for

new frames, payment of storage of frames or replacements of storage boxes for the SESCAL frames.

It was noted the P.E.C. and SESCAL are under the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California.

Mr. R. Clary has been forced to resign from SESCAL due to difficulties. Wallace Craig will run SESCAL as an active c-chair.

SESCAL will be Oct. 4, 5 and 6.

**Respectfully submitted,
Wallace A. Craig,
Secretary pro tem**

Introduction to UPU illegal stamps effort

By Les Winick

Reprinted with permission from the Chicago Collectors Club Web site <www.AskPhil.org>.

AskPhil.Org, and the Collectors Club of Chicago, our sponsoring organization, want to work with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in its campaign to publicize the large number of illegal labels that are being marketed as postage stamps that have been sprouting up throughout the world.

The UPU has sent AskPhil a listing of labels that some of its 189-strong member nations have reported to them as being "illegal." We intend to publicize this listing and keep it current as information is supplied to us by this international organization. We hope that by making the public aware of what is being offered, what is illegal, then potential buyers can make an informed decision on the status of the labels.

The UPU has a history of not interfering with the rights of its individual member nations. But it has played a role in

subjects that directly affect our hobby.

The UPU has consistently had a strong role in philately starting in 1897 when uniform colors were suggested for postage stamps. At that time, the 55 nations recommended that the stamps for the international letter rate were to be a dark blue, the stamp for the postcard rate was to be red, and the stamp for the international printed-mater rate was to be green. No specific shades of red or green were mentioned.

The International Reply Coupon (IRC) was created by the UPU in 1906 so that an addressee can exchange it for postage. The IRCs are ordered by postal administrations from the UPU headquarters in Berne, Switzerland.

The UPU also plays an important role in stamp verification. In addition to receiving copies of every postage stamp of every denomination and type used in the territory of each member nation, it requires that each nation send examples of every stamp to every member country of the UPU.

Organized philately and illegal issues

Here is the background of how another philatelic group tried handling what it called "issues harmful to philately."

In 1929, a commission was named by the International Federation of Philately (FIP) named "Commission Against Issues Harmful to Philately." Basically, their concern at the time was to investigate the excessive number of surcharges. Twenty-one years later, on March 21, 1950, a list with 18 issues was distributed. These included 10 issues from Belgium, three from Saar, one from France and four from French Morocco.

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More on President's message ...

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from A&D states that "some shows have a waiting list, others have disappeared." Let's work together and make this and future SESCALS successful.

— **Jerry Harwood**

More on UPU illegal stamps effort ...

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In August 1950, the FIP commission sent all national federations and postal administrations guidelines explaining that unnecessary issues should not be authorized at exhibitions, should not be included in new issue services and should not be allowed in stamp sales conducted by member societies.

Reaction to this proposal ranged from laughter to cries of “undemocratic” and “unworkable.” Of the 24 FIP national federations, only three appointed commissions to promote the guidelines. The president of the FIP commission resigned. In October 1955, FIP sent a letter to all postal administrations advising them that FIP “has no intention of imposing its views on postal administrations regarding their stamp issues.”

It is interesting to note that FIP sponsored its own overprint at the 1985 Israel international stamp exhibition, with a portion of the funds going to FIP.

In spite of its promise not to interfere in postal matters, FIP published guidelines in 1965, describing which stamps it considered undesirable. This included excessively long commemorative series, excessively high face value stamps, miniature sheets, a theme foreign to the country of issue, and issues produced in abnormally small quantities.

A group of stamp dealers sued the FIP president for material damages, which was dismissed by the court. The court handed down a very important decision that continues true today. The court ruled that collectors had a right to be warned, even if this opposed the interests of the dealers.

By 1970, several FIP members complained about the list and East Germany requested that the list be stricken from the records and the commission dissolved. The role of the commission was changed to a Commission for Prevention of Forgeries and Undesirable Issues.

What FIP or any other body of collectors or dealers must realize is that no one can dictate to the postal administrations what they should or should not issue as stamps. Not even the UPU can do this.

Knowledgeable collectors buy from strength

Every postal administration has the right to issue whatever it pleases. The market and need for the issue will tell the individual postal administration whether or not it made the correct decision. If the stamp(s) do not sell, the postal administration will not make the same mistake twice. It can't afford that luxury.

For the past several years, what started as cinderellas and “carriage labels” have evolved into a huge market of labels that are counterfeits of legitimate stamps, “stamps” not valid for postage from territories that don't have their own stamps, labels from non-existent countries, and the list goes on.

We have no problem for those who wish to buy these issues, knowing what they are buying and collecting, but

unfortunately, many of these products are being sold to unsuspecting consumers. A set of three labels featuring golfer Tiger Woods sold on the Internet auction firm eBay on Nov. 26, 2000, for \$1,225. Who profited? Certainly not the postal administration since the labels were inscribed “Turkmenistan” and they have a very conservative stamp issuing policy, having issued only 65 stamps since 1962. Not the stamp trade, since it was a speculator who was the seller. And what will happen when the buyer or his family tries to sell this “keepsake?” The stamp hobby will be characterized as a bunch of “crooks” for wanting to take advantage of the seller. This has happened many times to many dealers.

However, another scenario has entered the scene. In September 2000, a shipment of 630,000 German Johann Strauss postage stamps, Scott 2045, were seized by German customs. They were going to be used for bulk mailers. These stamps were not perforated, and did not have the fluorescent added. They would have eventually ended up being sold to collectors as “varieties” and offered at a premium. The German philatelic publication that reported this seizure, stated that this was “yet another” shipment of modern forgeries.

While many of the forged stamps are designed specifically for us, the collectors, they are also being sold to business firms to be used as postage in many nations. The UPU is the only organization in the world that is equipped to stop this proliferation of spurious material.

The counterfeiting of postage stamps is a very real threat to postal revenue due to the large volume of mail. It is even a greater threat to the stamp-collecting public.

The UPU has requested from every one of its member nations that the Berne, Switzerland, UPU headquarters be informed if any member-nation has knowledge of any illegal label, being sold as a stamp, that involves their country. The UPU has already received a number of notifications, and has forwarded them to AskPhil.

We will publish these countries' lists and the material that they have described as “illegal.” These are simply labels, printed for the exploitation of collectors, dealers and businesses. When an individual buys these labels, thinking they are stamps, the hobby pays the bill.

AskPhil feels that a widespread distribution of this information will only help the philatelic hobby in the short and long run.

Editor's column**A note on Les Winick's article**

Ordinarily, Federation clubs are welcome to reprint anything that appears in the Reporter because it's all produced by members of the Federation. Les Winick's article in this issue is an exception, however. We were granted permission to print it only in the Reporter. I would guess that member clubs could get permission to reprint it by writing to the Chicago Collectors Society, as I did, and explaining what you want to do and why.

On to other things ...

Some of you might have wondered why the masthead has said the Reporter is published quarterly and you keep getting only three issues. Treasurer Waltraud Helms told me after she received the first version of this issue that the number of Federation meetings was cut to three from four several years ago, but the publication schedule was never changed in the masthead (and no one passed the word to me when I assumed the editorship). I changed the masthead and revised this column to explain what we've done.

* * *

Please send news of your club shows and other events to me so I can include them in the Reporter. Some — make that all — clubs need all the publicity they can get, and the Federation can at least help spread the word of successful programs and other efforts to other clubs.

As a start, I'm happy to report that the Ventura County Philatelic Society's VENPEX in March was a tremendous success at its new location. We had bigger crowds than we've had in many years (it was impossible to determine crowds when the show was in the Esplanade, since every shopper seemed to look at something on a dealer's table or in the exhibits).

The 2003 show is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, March 15-16, with Federation President Jerry Harwood as chairman.

— John Weigle

**FPCSC Philatelic Review
c/o Waltraud Helms
11925 Ringwood Ave.
Norwalk, CA 90650**

TO: