



San Jose Stamp Club Newsletter



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Visit our website at:

filateliciesta.org

Northern California Trivia

- Q. What town was formally known as Logtown?
A. Mariposa.
- Q. What community received its name from the Carmelite friars who accompanied the Spanish settlers?
A. Carmel.

From *Northern California Trivia*
by Ernie & Jill Couch.

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Meetings

Our second meeting in April was a joke. For starters you didn't show up. I suppose it's possible that lack of a newsletter prior to our meeting may have contributed, however, I feel any impact was very likely minimal as everyone knows when and where our meetings take place.

Meeting attendance is a national problem, not just ours, and the major cause seems to be an attitude of the membership wherein most feel that as they have shown up at a meeting then they should be entertained.

Things would very likely improve if members would adopt an attitude of what can I do to improve our next meeting. Remember JFK's "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what can I do for my country?" Well, we need a large dose of what can I do as opposed to "Well, here I am, entertain me!"

I'm not asking for performances, just a little participation. Perhaps a "show and tell" where everyone has an opportunity to join in. Show us a recent acquisition to your collection that you got excited about—we will share the excitement with you, or an experience you enjoyed at a recent show or other event. Did you go to the first day ceremony at Westpex—if so—did you enjoy it, or was it a great disappointment—what would you've done differently?

This isn't rocket science, just a little sharing of stamps and/or experiences and your reaction/joy/disappointment.

Just a little adjustment in attitude could work wonders for all of us. I've been president of this group so long that I may be the cause—if you think so, help me and by so doing help the club. Better yet, be president—some new blood may be what we really need. You see what takes place at our meetings—perhaps a change of officers would infuse new energy into the group. Don't be bashful—speak out, you will be heard and considered by all; and with gratitude not derision or ridicule. We are like all groups: we get out of it what we put into it.

Filatelic Fiesta

We have our dates for Filatelic Fiesta 2009. It will take place January 30th through February 1st in the same location—Gateway Hall at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds on Tully Road in San Jose.

To date we haven't any sponsoring societies nor do we have a theme. Should you have any ideas or know of a group that may be a sponsoring group please make your ideas known to the show committee.

One point is painfully evident, we need a couple people to help at the youth table. We cannot expect Chuck Fissel to stay at the table, by himself, for three days without help. It's just not right.

The same situation holds true with the admission table. David Gilman was, for the most part, the only one working it.

Filatelic Fiesta is your show. It's not mine or the committee's—it's our show, the San Jose Stamp Club's. As members of the club we have a certain obligation to it. It does, after all, provide funds to the club for whatever we need to function. In past years these monies purchased a new set of Scott catalogs annually. It's also the source of funds for some of the food for the annual Christmas pot-luck. It's the meat dish—usually a ham. I know it's been awhile due to marginal proceeds from the show, but this will change. Funds to buy the frames last year came from monies advanced by members and donations (also by some members in addition to friends of the club). The advances by members will have to be repaid. The point being that the show is important to all of us and I feel we should all try to help support the show.

It was a long, frustrating journey to get Fiesta back on track. There were many setbacks and disappointments. We missed some shows and we were victims of Team San Jose. We've managed to retain our WSP status, but that's very fleeting if we do not continue to have a good, respectable and successful event every year.

