



Strait Stamp Talk



Sep-Oct 2019

Your Stamp Collecting Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue

Strait Stamp Society meets the first Thursday of the month at the Sequim Library 630 N. Ave., Sequim, Washington at 6:00-8:00 pm. No dues - Donations only. Strait Stamp Talk is a bi-monthly newsletter for the Strait Stamp Society. Send Philatelic news and articles to the editor Dick McCammon, 76 Roberson Rd., Sequim, WA 98382-7335.

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President's Message

Welcome to our Sep-Oct Newsletter



Wes Falor

Photo by Karen Mckee

Hope everyone has recovered from our show by now. I want to thank all of you for the time and effort that you committed to making our show once again a successful and fun event. The dealers I talked to said that they had a good show and those who came to our dinner greatly appreciated our hospitality.. A special thank you to everyone who showed up to do the set-up. it is so much easier when many hands are doing the work. My impression was that our turnout was about normal and there seemed to be a fair amount of material being brought in and being offered for sale, more so than last year. My guess is that the great article and photo in the paper helped significantly.

Sep 5th MEETING

After the general meeting, there will be a show and tell that begins with the letter "C." Bring any questions you have about stamps or stamp collecting.

Oct 3rd MEETING

After the general meeting, there will be a show and tell that begins with the letter "D." This will be followed by a Silent Auction. Forms can be downloaded from our website straitstamp.org

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Clallam County Fair August 15-18, 2019



Fair History

The first county-wide celebration began as an attempt by several civic leaders to boost the morale of Clallam County citizens, following the Panic of 1893. The Panic of 1893 was a nationwide depression that caused bank closures and railroad bankruptcies. In an effort to showcase the natural harbor at Port Angeles, the U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet, based in San Francisco, was invited as the city's guest. It came as quite a shock when the U.S. Pacific Fleet's commander, Rear Admiral Lester A. Beardslee, accepted the invitation. The successful invitation encouraged the leaders to invite the governor of Washington, civic leaders from Victoria, British Columbia, British Royal Navy ships, and other dignitaries. September 1895 was a busy month for county residents, as they prepared the community for the celebration.

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Pacific Fleet in Port Angeles Harbor

On October 2, 1895, six of Admiral Beardslee's Pacific Fleet steamed into the harbor at Port Angeles. The ships saluted the townfolk with cannon fire and music. The naval crews slept on shore in tents erected throughout the city. During the day, they would provide exhibitions on military drills and hold band concerts in the evenings. Naval ball teams played against local teams.

The county-wide celebration included an agricultural fair sponsored by the Clallam County Horticulture Society, held in the three-year-old Opera House, on First Street in downtown Port Angeles. The magnificently decorated auditorium, stage, and galleries were crowded with exhibits. Outside space was filled with pens and stalls full of livestock.

The celebration continued for three days. On the evening of October 4th, a Harvest Home Ball was held. This gala event was the highlight of the festivities and was attended by almost everyone in town. The Pacific Fleet continued to visit the area every summer until the 1930s and the fair continued to be held in the Opera House until 1920. In 1903, efforts were made to obtain land from the federal government for city park land, a city cemetery, and county fair grounds. In February of 1904, a bill passed through Congress that transferred land to the City of Port Angeles and the property became known as Lincoln Park.

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Secretary Notes



July 11th meeting

There were 17 members at the July 11 meeting. Wes brought a good selection of donations for shopping, both before and after the short agenda.

Cathie reported on show progress, and before she left, had more volunteers covering empty bases. It was agreed to take an ad in the SEAPEX program and to enter our club frame at that show. We also got notice that Vera Felts, of the American Topical Association, will be looking for a house in Sequim soon, with a request that anyone that hears of one let her know. The next planning meeting will be July 23 at Cathie's house (donuts included), and Burger King will be July 24. Both are at 9:30. Don McIntyre visited with Dean Kennedy, and said he would welcome visitors at Sinclair Place.

For the letter A: Roger H. did Ambulate postmarks from Aapau and Appenzell. Phil had a cover with the Alcoholism stamp on it. Jim Harris talked about Abyssinia, which is now Ethiopia, and related that Rastafarians take their name from the family name of Haile Selassie: Ras Tofar.

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"I'm looking for a mid-19th century stamp from Tibet."

Fair History (cont'd from page 18)

An agreement, in May of 1920, between the City of Port Angeles and the Board of Clallam County Commissioners provided a site for the Fairgrounds adjacent to Lincoln Park. The Fair has been held in its present location since that time. The Granges ran the Fair from 1931 until 1961, when the County Commissioners designated the Clallam County Fair Association to operate and maintain the annual county fair. In May of 1991, Clallam County assumed operations of the Fair. It is now operated by the Parks, Fair, and Facilities Department.

Historical photo courtesy of the Bert Kellogg Collection from the North Olympic Library System and the Peninsula Daily News.



Secretary's Notes (continued from Page 19)

Jim K. showed Advertising covers—two lovely match and medicine covers, and two of competing newspapers. Bill H. showed Associated Stamps of the West, poster stamps showing places of interest in the U.S., issued in 1941. He also showed good examples of the new Skagit River stamp and talked about the one showing on the Snake River. Rick K. had an Algerian Ambulante, and an Austrian mobile post item. Mark W. talked about the Allegory stamps of Czechoslovakia, especially the Agriculture and Science issue. He had a lovely notebook with all the stamps and varieties!

More shopping concluded the very interesting evening.



Pres. Message (continued from Page 17)

For our Sept. meeting, remember to bring in something that is tied to the letter "C" like Canada, Cuba, Camels. Costa Rica, Canal Zone, Cayman Islands, Confederate States etc.. For the month of October the letter is "D", again an easy letter to come up with lots of ideas plus there will be a silent auction, so bring in lots of goodies to sell. As a note to the powers that be, I will not be able to attend the Oct. meeting as I will be in Hawaii, thus Dick and Cathie will be in charge of the meeting.

Hope this finds all of you getting ready to enjoy our great fall season. Happy Stamping!



August 1st meeting



Sequim Gazette photo by Matthew Nash

Members of the Strait Stamp Society—Well, almost