

DRIFTWOOD



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Newsletters of the Long Beach Stamp Club published almost every month throughout the year. Meetings are usually on the first, third, and sometimes fifth Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of **MILLIKAN HIGH SCHOOL, 2800 SNOWDEN AVENUE, IN LONG BEACH, CA**. Visitors are always welcome. Address dues, payments, and correspondence to the Club at Box 90042, Long Beach, CA 90809-0042 or our website www.LongBeachStampClub.com.

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Club Historian	John Warden	(562) 495-2588

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily conform to or reflect those of the Board of Directors or of the membership.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

ALL meeting dates include a combination auction and bid board. Scheduled meetings are as follows:

2012

MARCH 6 & 20

APRIL 3 & 17

MAY 1 & 15

JUNE 5

MEETING SCHEDULES FOR:

JULY, AUGUST, AND

SEPTEMBER, TBA.



STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW

STEVE'S QUALITY STAMP SHOW this month will be held on March 18, 2012 at the Anaheim Plaza Hotel, 1700 South Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92802. Hours are 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Parking is free.

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

THE Club will hold its annual white elephant sale at our March 20, 2012 meeting.

STAMP OF THE MONTH

TAIWAN — The Chinese stamp market is in large part driven by investors. Chinese collectors buy stamps in much the same way that American's invest in mutual funds. There is a lot of money being made in China right now, and a not-insignificant portion of it is going into the stamp market.

The market for People's Republic of China stamps has been hot and volatile for as long as most people can remember. Some of that has begun to spill over into the market for Taiwanese (Republic of China) stamps.

The 1954 set of four stamps commemorating the first anniversary of the opening of the Silo Highway Bridge (Scott 1092-95) is high and the prices are rising.

The *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* values the mint set without gum as issued at \$317.50. The set is currently selling at retail for \$400 and is a good buy at that price.

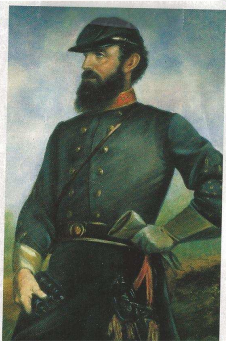
Centering was a real problem with this issue, and true VF centering is difficult to find, but is not that critical to the value. Avoid missing or blind perforations, and buy the best centered set that you can find.

AT WAR WITH BRITAIN — AGAIN

JUNE 18, 1812

PRESIDENT James Madison signs a declaration of war against Great Britain and begins the War of 1812. In the request sent to Congress on June 1, Madison referenced the American belief that the British were inciting American Indians on the northwestern frontier and were behind the unrest associated with Tecumseh's pan-Indian movement in the Ohio Valley. He also cited grievances over British violations of American neutral shipping rights along with the British policy of boarding American merchant marine vessels and impressing into its navy both AWOL British sailors and American citizens alike.

STAMP QUIZ FOR MARCH



DO you know who this officer is?

What is his rank?

Give the scott number of the stamp honoring this soldier.

If you think you know the answer; please send it to the Club's P.O. Box or you can e-mail your answer to leb_dorbaumann1@verizon.net.

{Answers must be received on the Saturday preceding the first meeting of the month.}

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

ROBERT WRENN

DAVID DUSENBURY

MICHAEL CONTRERAS

CHUCK SOOTER

ART LUTHER

LARRY STAAB



SONGWORKS WOWS PHILATELISTS

By A. J. Manker, Secretary

NINE days after our installation banquet, the Long Beach Stamp Club had their installation banquet at Khoury's Restaurant. Not only did they enjoy having their event at the same restaurant, but the attendees were introduced to some great barbershop singing by the newly formed quartet, **Songworks**. Pictured from left: Kirt Thiesmeyer, Les Weiser, Dan Barling, and Cory Brendel.

The quartet showed up in their flashy red jackets, which caught everyone's attention. The audience loved their song selections, and many were singing along with them. Les noticed one particular woman singing along, so the quartet went to her table and sang "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" to her. She came to me afterwards and was thrilled by all the attention. She said she comes from a singing family.

The quartet introduced the various singing parts to the audience and then surprised them by asking me to join the quartet in singing "My Wild Irish Rose". Wow, I got to sing with Songworks!

Cory brought his ukulele and played and sang "The Way You Look Tonight." Les joined him by playing a few measures with his harmonica. These guys know how to entertain and made this a very enjoyable evening for all.

They ended their performance by singing Happy Birthday to one of the members who was celebrating her 90th birthday.

How did Songworks get this gig? Well, some of you may know that I belong to the Long Beach Stamp Club. I gave a presentation on barbershop singing at one of our Club meetings and introduced the members to the **Masters of Harmony**. Since then, some of the Club members have attended some of our performances. So, knowing I was a barber shopper, a board member approached me and asked if "my" quartet would sing at their installation banquet. I told them I did not have a quartet, but would ask if one of the MOH quartets would sing for them. They, like us, have limited resources and said they could not pay the quartet, but would buy their dinner. From my e-mail request, Songworks said they would do it. They sang for their supper and made many philatelists happy.

By the way, in case you don't know, a philatelist is a person who studies or collects postage stamps.