

Organizing

My, how things change with time! In November 2000, I ran an article in the Sierra- Diablo Matchcover Club Bulletin on Minor Politicals...And I was lamenting what a mess it was to try and organize them coherently. Some years before, I had written a smaller piece about what a lackluster category Minor Politicals was and how I had no use for them, whatsoever. I ended that earlier summation with an offer, I believe, to give those I happened to have to somebody...anybody...who wanted them. I ended up giving them to Stan Tombs, if I remember correctly.

Well, now I collect them! *[Actually, I beginning to believe that , given enough time, I'll end up collecting everything!]* Anyway, now I had to deal with organizing them. It was challenging, to say the least. You can't organize them by the candidate's last name, because there are more than a few that don't have any names. You can organize them by state and/or city...because most don't have that! By dates? Nope! Most aren't dated. By political party? Most don't indicate a party affiliation. Boy, that doesn't leave much!

So, what I settled on is the *office* the candidate is running for. Now, right off the bat, there are still some covers that aren't going to have that, either (see the office listing below), but they're few. Thus, my Political albums are organized by office, and then by size within each office, and finally alphabetically within each size. Here are the offices I have so far:

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|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| -Alderman | -Board of Commissioners | -Circuit/Court Clerk | -City Comptroller |
| -Assemblyman | -Board of Finance and Control | -Circuit Court Judge | -City Council |
| -Attorney General | | -City Clerk | -Congressman |



Minor Politicals

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| -Constable | of Schools | <i>break this one down</i> | -Register of Wills |
| -County Assessor | -County Tax Collector | <i>later on to Circuit, Superior, etc]</i> | -Republican Party |
| -County Auditor | -County Treasurer | -Justice of the Peace | -Secretary of State |
| -County Clerk | -Democratic Party | -Lieutenant Governor | -School Board |
| -County Commissioner | -District Attorney | -Magistrate | -Sheriff |
| -County Controller | -District Supervisor | -Mayor | -State's Attorney |
| -County Coroner | -Flood Control District Director | -Propositions/Initiatives | -State Auditor |
| -County Drain Commissioner (!) | -Freeholder <i>[I have no idea what that is]</i> | -Prosecutor | -State Controller |
| -County Engineer | -Jailer | -Prothonotary <i>[Don't know what that is, either]</i> | -State Representative |
| -County Recorder | -Judge <i>[I might have to</i> | -Register of Deeds | -State Senator |
| -County Superintendent | | | -State Supreme Court |

Whew! Who knew?! I assume there are some others sub categories I haven't come across yet, but look!...I don't have a single Dog Catcher cover! That must not be an elected office anymore. I've never seen it on a ballot here in California.

Anyway, after all of this comes my Foreign section. There are foreign political covers, as well, you know. Problem is, I can't read most of them. Normally, whoever gave it to me has either translated it or at least pointed it out specifically as a Political cover. I currently have 846 Minor Political covers, but there must be thousands. John Nichols, NM, reported having 1,324 in May 1993.

