
WSCC Interim Bulletin

THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB MARCH 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By C.A. Stillions

The elections have determined your officers for the coming year. Your new officers are Vice President, **John Hardies**; Executive Secretary, **Jill Piazza**; and Treasurer, **Bruce Kellogg**. Returning officers are **Jeff Meade**, Recording Secretary, and myself, **C. A. Stillions**, President. Thanks go to your retiring officers; **Don Peterson**, **Joel Fassler**, and **Gerry Marandino**. They have served the club well and deserve our thanks.

It takes more than elected officers to run the Washington Stamp Collectors Club. It takes volunteers in some not so glamorous positions. The most important one is Newsletter editor. **Janet and Bill** have done a great job these last two years but must now set it aside and attend to some family business. The newsletter does many things; it provides the contact, sometimes the only contact, between members and the club, it notifies the members of meeting programs and up-coming events, it tells non-attending members what great programs they missed, and it also provides club gossip and dealer info. Being Editor is a very important position in the club. Anyone interested should contact me or another officer pronto.

As **President C.A. Stillions** has stated, the editors, Bill and Janet Hughes, are willing to make this an educational and fun job. Please



club needs a newsletter editor. The previous pass on all the background information that will consider this and contact one of the officers.

UPCOMING WSCC MEETING CALENDAR

- March 3 **Philatelic Quiz**, Professor Phil will administer one of his legendary quizzes
- March 17 Swap and Trade
- April 7 **Roundtable discussion**: Albums, kinds and usages for stamp collections (baseball parking restrictions in effect)
- April 21 **Donation Auction** (baseball parking restrictions in effect)
- May 5 **Hungerford Album Competition** (baseball parking restrictions in effect)
- May 19 **Swap and trade** (baseball parking restrictions in effect)

Annual Herbert Cover Contest Undaunted by Snow

With the Washington area experiencing many event cancellations due to the overwhelming amounts of snow, the WSCC rallied in support of the Annual Herbert Cover contest. With 10 very difficult categories, the winners are shown here. Top points were garnered by **C.A. Stillions**; second and a close rival was **Dan Piazza**. Third place was won by **Jeff Meade**.

1. Most unusual stamp that is not made entirely of paper, used on a cover originating outside the United States



Bhutan Cover to Bombay submitted by Dan Piazza

2. Most interesting U.S. related cover from a member of the military.



Soldier Letter from 1898 submitted by C.A. Stillions

3. Cover with the most ornate or embellished written address.



Cover from Monaco submitted by Mr. Daniel Piazza

5. Cover with the ugliest U.S. stamp issued in 2009



Cover with Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis submitted by C.A. Stillions

4. Cover with the most attractive stamp issued in 2009 from a foreign country.



India-Philippines Joint Issue S/S on cover Submitted by Jeff Meade

6. The earliest cover originating in the Far East and sent to the U.S.



Cover from Peking to Ohio submitted by C.A. Stillions

7. Earliest use of a Postal Card sent to the U. S. from abroad with additional stamps added.



Post Card from Newfoundland to New York Submitted by C.A. Stillions

8. Earliest use of a U.S. Postal Card sent to a foreign country, with or without added stamps.



Post Card from Greece to Washington D.C. 1881 Submitted by C.A. Stillions

9. Cover with the most Postage Due stamps of the same denomination.



Cover with 3 1-cent Postage Dues Submitted by Dan Piazza

10. Earliest use of one of the 2009 Holiday Greetings stamps from the U.S.



Cancellation dated 20 November
Submitted by C.A. Stillions

Congratulations to the entrants and the winners! Next year will be even more challenging!

ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

By Jeff Meade, Recording Secretary

6 January 2010 President C.A. Stillions presiding, 21 members, 3 guests attending. **President C.A. Stillions** introduced visitor **Pierce Bolan**. He collects worldwide and was looking to merge some of his collections. He visited the club to see if anyone would like to purchase material from various countries, especially Poland. **Mr. Bolan** completed a WSCC application form and was ratified by majority vote. **Member Gerry Marandino** notified the club that a potential member, **Vikram Raghavan**, needed to be ratified. **Vikram** was ratified as a member by a majority vote. **Vice President Don Petersen** notified the club that **Member Gerhard Wolff** recently suffered a mild stroke. Don spoke with him and that he is a little slower and a little slurred, but joked that he is still collecting Bolivian Zeppelins. Don was passing a card around for members to sign. **Vice President Don Petersen** informed the club that the *Stamps for a Living* program is moving buildings and they are holding a “liquidation” sale. The club is meeting at 9:45 am February 25th for a visit and that he needs names of members interested in participating. **Member Jill Piazza** informed the club that **Dr. Catherine Golden** is speaking National Postal Museum on Sunday, January 10, 2010 at 1pm. Dr. Golden’s lecture, *Only a Penny: The Victorian Revolution*, details the introduction of stamps into the English postal system.

President C.A. Stillions introduced the night’s featured debate on the Proxy Voting Amendment. **Member Daniel Piazza** read the motion created at the Wednesday, November 23rd meeting and mailed shortly after to all members. **President Stillions** noted that the *Despatch* editors sent out a modified version, at his request, indicating the mailed statement needed additional modification. President C.A. Stillions fielded questions and responses throughout the debate. Discussion followed. **Member Bruce Kellogg** recommended that the language which says “notify the Executive Secretary and the Recording Secretary” be changed to read “Executive Secretary or the Recording Secretary.” **Member Matt Cassetta** stated that he is a Life Member and is frequently out of the country and is looking for ways to stay involved with the club and its organization. **President C.A. Stillions** stated that he felt the amendment would prove a long-run detriment to the club by creating a loop hole for members to participate from a distance for meetings featuring serious club business. **Member Jeff Meade** stated that membership in a club entails the benefit of participation, regardless of circumstance. Club officers have a duty as elected officers to ensure that members have the ability to voice concern and see that their ideas are relevant and acted on. The vote passed with 18 YES, 2 NO, 1 ABSTAIN. **President C.A. Stillions** ratified the vote, effective January 6th, 2010.

Nominations for WSCC Officers for 2010 were made: **President: C.A. Stillions, Vice President: John Hardies, Executive Secretary: Jill Piazza, Recording Secretary: Jeff Meade, Treasurer: Bruce Kellogg.**

20 January 2010 President C.A. Stillions presiding. 18 members and 2 guests attending. **President C.A. Stillions** introduced visitors **Andrea** and **Veronica**, from La Paz, Bolivia. The ladies came to the WSCC to find out more about their grandfather’s collection, a man whose collecting founded the Bolivian National Collection. **Andrea and Veronica** are interested in learning more about stamp collecting. **Member Virginia Randolph** notified the club that APS is imposing a 5% fee on APS circuit sales. The circuits distributed by the WSCC cost around \$10 to circulate, and club members voted to stop circulating the books based on the new APS fee. The decision to drop the APS circuits will take effect on February 1st, 2010. **Vice President Don Petersen**

informed the club that the *Stamps for a Living* program is moving buildings and they are holding a “liquidation” sale. The club is meeting at 9:45 am February 25th for a visit and that he needs names of members interested in participating no later than February 18th. **President C.A. Stillions** introduced the night’s featured event: the annual vote for club officers. No additional nominations were submitted, so the slate nominated on 6 January was ratified by acclamation.

3 February 2010 President C.A. Stillions presiding, 18 members attending. **President C.A. Stillions** noted that the club still needs editors for the *Despatch*. He also noted that **Gerry Marandino** has agreed to volunteer to organize the Annual Member Dinner. **President C.A. Stillions** provided the club with updates on upcoming events: Annual Sundman lecture at the National Postal Museum; Fairfax stamp show on February 6/7; Member Auction on February 17. The event for this meeting was the Annual Herbert Cover Contest, which was won by **President C. A. Stillions**. Second place went to **Daniel Piazza**.

17 February 2010 President C.A. Stillions presiding, 18 members attending. **President C.A. Stillions** asked if any members attended the recent First Day Ceremony for the new Navy stamps. **Member Virginia Randolph** mentioned that her friend attended the ceremony at Ft. McNair and said a busload of New Yorkers showed up even in the snow and that the event was fairly well attended. **President C.A. Stillions** notified club members that the new **Vice President, John Hardies**, will be heading up a new committee to review and update the Bylaws and Constitution, including evaluating the club’s status as a 501(c)3 in accordance with Washington DC regulations. **Executive Secretary Jill Piazza** thanked club members who responded to the email request for updating member contact information. She also asked that members check their names on a spreadsheet she brought that indicated those who responded and those who had not. The spreadsheet included a new category, “collecting areas,” and she asked that all members check and make sure that information is correct as well. **President C.A. Stillions** introduced the program for the evening which was an auction with proceeds going to the members.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB web site: www.dcstampclub.org

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Membership information may be obtained from the Executive Secretary. Dues are due June 30th and are \$16.00 a year for resident members, \$8.00 a year for non-resident members, and \$8.00 a year for junior members. Meetings are held the First and Third Wednesdays of the month at Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street, S. W., Washington, DC starting at 7:00 PM. (Enter Church Education wing from I Street, S.W.)