



WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH



NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
VOLUME 1 NUMBER 5 WHOLE NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2006

A POST OFFICE BY ANY OTHER NAME ...

BY Phil Uhlmann

At a recent meeting of the Graebner AFDCS Chapter 17 in Ballston / Arlington, Virginia, the subject came up about holding a first-day ceremony for some new stamp "at Brentwood". It occurred to me that I had in fact once visited the Brentwood, Maryland Post Office located a block southeast of Rhode Island Avenue in a very industrial, frankly unremarkable, area. Thus I thought, "Why would they want to do a first-day ceremony there for?" But I held my thoughts to myself – a good thing, to, for it finally dawned on me that they were actually referring to the huge "Brentwood" postal complex in Northeast D. C. and not the one across the Eastern Avenue border.

Historically, it appears that the name "Brentwood" shared by both of the aforementioned facilities derives from the estate built by one Robert Brent in 1817. Robert Brent was the first de-facto mayor of Washington, DC.

The "huge Brentwood postal complex" is now called the Joseph Curseen, Jr. and Thomas Morris, Jr. Processing & Distribution Center and is located at 900 Brentwood Road, NE in Washington, DC. It's named for the two postal workers that died from anthrax exposure while processing the mail there in 2001.



President's message ...

Something to Consider!

What do some of the other stamp clubs in the area have that WSCC doesn't? The answer -- a "PEX". For example, the Annapolis Stamp Club has ANNAPEX, Springfield Stamp Club has SPRINGPEX. Bowie has BOPEX. The Baltimore Philatelic Society has BALPEX. Should we have an annual stamp show in DC? I think we should, but there are a lot of questions to answer before this can happen. Where would we hold it? What time of year? Who would run and work the PEX? Could we keep it going on an annual basis? Could it be profitable? And finally, what would we call it? DCPEX? WASHPEX? (I guess the name CAPEX has already been taken.) I don't know about you, but I think it would put WSCC on the map. Of course, there would be benefits as well, such as increased membership, increased treasury (I hope), and increased publicity.

Well, I throw this on the table once again. I know that the topic has come up in the past, but it never seems to garner more than a few minutes of discussion. I think it is time we look at the idea again, and this time, with more discussion. WSCC is new, there are more members than in the past two decades, and what the heck. Most of all, we need a person or persons who has an interest in chairing the PEX committee -- a team who can answer the questions and make it happen.

Don

EDITOR'S CORNER

As I set up this edition and reading over Don's President's Message, it hit me that Don may be on to something. A WSCC Stamp Show would give us all something that we can get behind and work together on. A long time ago the old Washington Philatelic Society and the old Collectors Club of Washington got together and started NAPEX. Over time NAPEX became more and more run by the suburban clubs and the influence of the WPS and CCW faded. As their influence faded so did the clubs. But now with as a new dominate club in the city, we should consider having a stamp show. Not so much for the money that could be earned, but for the publicity it would give us within the collecting community. That publicity would make us known to new collectors and attract them to our club. I think we should really consider having a stamp show, not a big one like NAPEX; but, a small local show more like Annapolis's, Bowie's, or Gaithersburg-Rockville's. Stamp shows are a lot of work; but they are also fun, promote camaraderie, and can make money. We should give it some thought.

C. A. Stillions, Editor

WSCC MEETING PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER -- DECEMBER 2006

6 September **Our Circuit Books**, Virginia Randolph will give an overview on the United Stamp Society sales books, explaining how the system works should anyone want to make up books for sale.

20 September **Stamp Collecting Tools**, Members are to bring and be prepared to explain various equipment/tools they use in the hobby, e.g. Ultraviolet lights, perforation gauges, micrometers, millimeter devices, etc. Anything they use that helps them determine the authenticity of a stamp or cover.

4 October **DeVoss - Gantz Annual Awards Banquet**, for details see page 2

18 October **Member Auction**

1 November **Show and Tell (non-stamp collectibles)**, Members to bring items they collect that are not philatelic and explain them.

15 November **Open**

6 December **Open**

20 December **Holiday Party and Donation Auction**

COMING EVENTS

1 - 3 September **BALPEX2006**, annual exhibition and bourse of the Baltimore Philatelic Society, Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, I-83 at Shawan Road (Exit 20 East), Hunt Valley, Maryland

8 - 10 September **Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition**, annual exhibition and bourse of the Associated Stamp Clubs of Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (SEPAD), Valley Forge Convention Center, 1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

DeVoss - Gantz Awards Dinner

The first annual Washington Stamp Collectors Club DeVoss – Gantz Awards Dinner will be held Wednesday October 4 at 7 PM in the Gold Room of the Orleans House Restaurant, 1231 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. There are three choices for the dinner:

Broiled Haddock	\$20
Baked half chicken	\$20
Prime Rib	\$25

This includes salad bar, coffee/tea and ice cream. The price includes, as well, taxes and gratuity.

Tickets will go on sale at the first meeting in September or may be ordered by mail from the Executive Secretary at 5105 Skyline Village Court, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Two awards are to be presented. One to the club member and one to a non-club member for outstanding philatelic service to the local / regional area.

CLASSIFIEDS STAMPS FOR SALE

37 + 39 cents Hi-Ends	\$17.00 a pound
34 cents and under Low-Ends	\$ 9.00 a pound
Christmas	\$1.00 a pound
Bulk Stamps	\$1.00 a pound
Appraised value 38 cents and over	5 or 10 cents a piece
Plate # stamps	5 cents a piece
Foreign Stamps	\$15.00 a pound

Order from: **Stamps for a Living Business**, FO18/JHP/OT Dept., 2700 M L King Avenue, S. E., Washington, D. C. 20032-2601.

Long-time collector liquidating large accumulation of stamps, souvenir sheets, booklets, some covers, primarily 1950-1988 though there are some earlier items. Send email to acraven@mindspring.com detailing what you collect (country, era, mint/used, etc.) for a list of items that may interest you. Most countries represented. Heavy British Commonwealth, Andorra, worldwide booklets. Sorry, no classic USA.

ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

July 5th –

The official part of the meeting was a reminder of the quiz scheduled for the next meeting, and a request for nominees for the awards dinner. The balance of the meeting was taken up by pleasant chat and discussion.

July 19th –

The official business part of the meeting included the report that the flyer for the club was in development. The remainder of the meeting was taken up by the ever-popular philatelic quiz. This year's version was based on the recently-issued "Wonders of America" series. The winner of the quiz, (and a sheet of the stamps), with 20 correct answers was our esteemed editor, C. A. STIMMONS.

August 2nd –

The official portion of the meeting included planning and discussion for the club dinner, details of which are elsewhere in the newsletter. The remainder of the meeting was more pleasant chat and discussion.

August 16th –

The entire meeting was taken up with the club donation auction. Tadas Osmolskis took on the duties of auctioneer, and spirited bidding by the membership resulted in the club raising a total of \$137.00.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB

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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.

POSTMASTER

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY!

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