



WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH



NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
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A 41 CENTS RATE FIRST DAY COVER

by Richard B. Krakaur M. D.



The other day I thought it would be a good idea to send myself a 41cents rate first day cover. So I found a large envelope and attached a sheetlet of twenty 2cents stamps plus a 1cent stamp and brought it to friendly postal clerk to hand cancel and mail. This is the result! The down line post office had to strike it four times with a heavy bar cancel. Fortunately they did not do it to the 1cent stamp but the hand cancel is invisible over the stamp itself. The only evidence of the date is at the bottom where a "MAY 14" can be found hiding among all the other markings. What a "crash" to a good idea.

Splendid APS Visit via Scenic Highways

by Virginia Randolph

Four club members, Matthew, John, May Day, and myself, made an activity-packed trip to the APS hq in Bellefonte PA recently. Going up by one set of country roads on a Friday and returning by a different beautiful mountainous route on Saturday, we were able to pack in:

- Two visits to the APS sales division where many circuit books are available for browsing as well as to make one's own circuits to take out overnight or to carry back. There are also items that have been donated to the APS for sale, such as collections and covers and post cards at very advantageous prices.
- Several visits to the APS library and its super-helpful staff, which were selling over-stock auction catalogs and periodicals at \$1-2 per pound.
- A stamp show, SCOPEX, sponsored by the Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society featuring 11 dealers, held in the APS building;
- An old restored car exhibit and judging event on the streets of Bellefonte accompanied by music of a similar vintage, a food court with funnel cake, fried items and other health food.
- Historic train rides of the Mount Nittany – Bald Eagle lines, including a railway express car with doors open to allow happy riders on sofas a good view.
- Opportunities to feed very prosperous carp and mallard ducks and ducklings with food from a nearby dispenser.
- A bit of very discreet dumpster diving to retrieve some package wrappers of philatelic interest.

To our delight APS library and sales division was open on Saturday to accommodate those attending the stamp show and other APS seminar activities. A good time was had by all...

Editor's Corner

This issue of the *Washington City Despatch* welcomes three new contributors: Richard Krakaur, long time member of WPS and two long time members of CCW, Virginia Randolph and Pat Sluby. Thanks to you all.

A note was received from Ann Weimer thanking the club for our card of condolence. She reported that John was really happy to see what was going on at our meetings and looked forward to coming each time -- and how it was her pleasure to bring him. Yes, John will be missed.



A MAIL CARRIER IN THE FAMILY

by Pat Sluby

Pat reports that the first female mail carrier in Washington county, Pennsylvania was her husband's great aunt.

Rosella M. Bush, born December 27, 1891 in North Strabane, Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, was one of eight children born to Alfred W. And Mary A. (Butcher) Bush. In 1917, Rosella began working for the U.S. Post Office and for 40 years delivered the rural mail for Canonsburg R.D.1. Reportedly, she was the first female mail carrier in Washington County. Rosella died, unmarried, August 27, 1977, at Washington, Pennsylvania.

CLASSIFIEDS

Members may place classified ads in the newsletter for free on a space available basis. The submission date for ads is the same as for other submissions, the last meeting of even numbered months. Send you copy to the Editor, C. A. Stillions at the address in the panel on the last page. Hand written or typed, mailed or hand delivered, faxed or emailed, any way is acceptable, but email is preferred.

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, DC 20032-2601.

WANTED: Long time general collector wants to swap, trade, or otherwise dispose of world wide collection. Call Jerry Sherman at 202-362-6229 to arrange time and place to meet.

WANTED: Articles for the newsletter especially articles on District of Columbia Postal History. See your newsletter editor.

ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

by Martin Fleischer, Recording Secretary

2 May President **Matt Cassetta** presided. Eighteen members present. Treasurer, **Joel Fassler**, reported briefly on the club's financial situation. The previous fiscal year saw a balance of \$3,000 to the club. This fiscal year saw a balance of about \$4,000. **C. A. Stillions** announced that he has exhibitor entry forms for the following: BALPEX, 31 August - 2 September and APS Stamp Show 2007 in Portland, Oregon. **Lorraine Bailey** circulated examples of the WSCC cachet for the Jamestown FDC ceremonies. It depicts Capt. Christopher Newport and his three ships of first colonists. The club's name is part of the design. **Virginia Randolph** informed the membership that she can provide blanks for the United Stamp Society circuits books. Any member wishing to sell stamps through this circuit should see Virginia. **Martin Fleischer** suggested that some members might wish to participate in the National Postal Museum's "Philately in Action" program (Friday, 24 August 2007, 1 - 3 P.M.) Its purpose is to introduce interested museum goers to the joys, techniques and tools of collecting. Some years back the CCW participated in a similar program. Members with an interest in this should contact **Matt Cassetta** or **Martin Fleischer**. We can try to formally arrange something with the NPM or simply show up -- think about it.

The annual album competition was very informative. Displayed were a vintage Russian stamp album (ca 1918), an album of Statue of Liberty Restoration commemoratives, 1968 Mexican Olympics, G. B. Machin, Olympic Host Country Issues, U. S. A., Newfoundland's Third Industrial Issues, and Spanish Phillipines albums. The voting for best album resulted in a tie -- **Don Peterson's** Spanish Phillipines Album and **Milton Holmes'** Olympic Host Country. The membership refused to place one album ahead of the other and unanimously approved the awarding of a \$25.00 prize to both.

6 June President **Matt Cassetta** presiding, fourteen club members were present.

There will be a club meeting the evening of Wednesday, July 4th.

Matt Cassetta informed members that the of June 20th will take up the issue of venue for the annual awards banquet. **Joel Fassler** was kind enough to circulate fine photographs of the former WPS DeVoss and CCW Gantz trophies. The trophies have been retired and are expected to be deposited in the APS archives.

WSCC members were introduced to new member, **Daniel Piazza**, attending his first meeting. Daniel is Winton M. Blount Research Coordinator at the National Postal Museum where he coordinates research projects, plans for various symposia and working with philatelic scholars in conjunction with museum Web site. His philatelic interests are Italy and Colonies, Vatican City, and U. S. Bureau issues.

New circuit books and old abounded. And did one and all have a piece of that great apple pie?

20 June President **Matt Cassetta** presiding, 21 members and guests present.

Matt Cassetta reported that all information gathered in discussions with various restaurant venues will be turned over to an Awards Banquet Committee. The committee members are **John Hardies**, **Gerry Marandino**, and **Don Peterson**. They are empowered to decide which restaurant will be the site of the next Awards Banquet and all other aspects for planning a successful banquet.

The WSCC was pleased to welcome back **Jerry Sherman** to our meetings. Jerry was a Life Member of the CCW going back many years. The membership looks forward to Jerry's presence at future meetings.

Jeff Meade visited with us. Jeff is School & Tours Coordinator at the National Postal Museum. He hopes to forge a close relationship with the WSCC. Jeff can be reached at the museum at meadej@si.edu or at 202-633-5529.

The club also welcomed **Joan Dixon** for the first time. Joan is seriously thinking about collecting: inheritance of a family member's collection has been the impetus.

The Club was visited by **Ivana Gaubeca** and **Antoinette Molina** (of Panama) who are interns at the Smithsonian. Antoinette is in possession of her grandmothers's world-wide collection which is extensive. She needs advice on its quality and value. Any help from the membership would go a long way. Don Peterson has more details.

The main event of the evening was the members auction. Lots of old albums and stock books galore were offered. Boxes, tins, and hugh bags of stamps were knocked down from \$1.00 to \$6.00. The Auction brought in over \$300.

WSCC MEETING PROGRAMS JULY -- AUGUST 2007

- July 4** **Phil's-atelic Quiz Night:** A quiz will be administered by Professor Phil Uhlmann and prize money will be awarded, \$10 for 1st place and \$5 for 2nd place. After the meeting we will adjourn to the Mall for the annual National Fireworks Display.
- July 18** **SINGLE ITEM CAPITALIST AUCTION:** An auction sale in which each club member may bring ONE AND ONLY ONE ITEM to auction off. The benefits of the sale accrue to the member
- August 1** **Circuits, Swap, and Talk**
- August 15** **Club Auction:** Auction sale of donated philatelic material for the benefit of the club.

COMING EVENTS

Upcoming area and regional club sponsored stamp shows and other philatelic events

August 24 **Philately in Action,** Learn the basics of stamp collecting using the tools and reference materials that collectors employ. Every visitor can create a stamp collection to take home. ASL interpretation will be available for this program. National Postal History Museum, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C., 1 to 3 pm.

August 31-September 2 **BALPEX, Baltimore Philatelic Society,** Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd., I-83 Exit 20 E., Hunt Valley. Contact Robert E. Gibson, Sr., balpex@aol.com; www.balpex.org; 410-332-4741.

September 7-9 Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, **Associated Stamp Clubs of Southeastern Pennsylvania & Delaware, Inc.,** Valley Forge Convention Center, 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia. Contact Chip Blumberg, pnse@earthlink.net; http://pnse.home.att.net; 610-828-8631.

November 9-11 **VAPEX, Virginia Philatelic Federation, Inc.,** Holiday Inn - Patriot, 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg. Contact David B. Collins, rainbowx2@cox.net; http://members.aol.com/vashow/; 757-872-6264.

Congratulations to Paul Magid. Paul won the Grand Award at NOJEX for his British Imperial Airways exhibit. He is exhibiting it the Champion of Champions competition at the APS show in Portland, Oregon in August 2007.

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.

Meeting 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.)

POSTMASTER

THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY!

Gerry Marandino, Executive Secretary

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