



WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH



NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
VOLUME 3 NUMBER 2 WHOLE NUMBER 14 MARCH-APRIL 2008

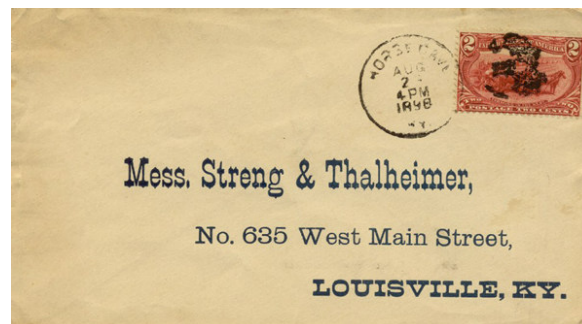
GARFIELD TROUNCES CLEVELAND NEWFOUNDLAND “SINKS” but the UNION PREVAILS...

**FRENCH FABLES Attract Believers,
and it was a real horse race!**
Read on for the SANITIZED version.....

By Martin Fleischer

The categories for this year's Joseph Herbert Cover Contest were concocted by an inspired Lorraine Bailey (last year's winner). The first seven categories were voted on by the attendees and the last four categories were judged by a panel of judges appointed by President Cassetta. All of the entries were extremely interesting and the membership appeared to enjoy viewing all of the entries. In that sense, every entry was a winner. Thanks to all who took the time to scour their collections for suitable material!

1: Most interesting postmark which uses an animal in its name. Won by Bill Sandrik.



2. Most interesting modern postal marking(s). Won by Bill Sandrik.



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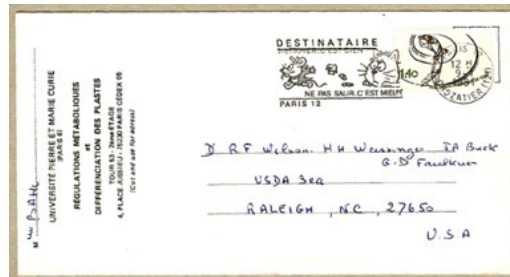
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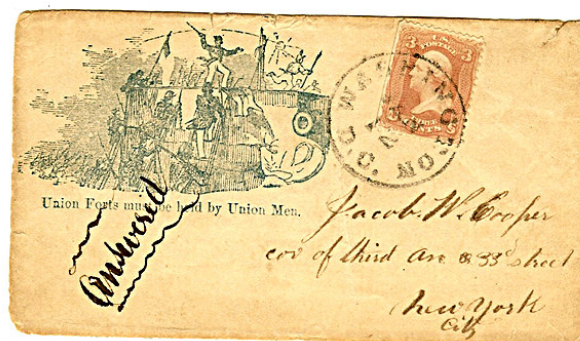
3: Most attractive cacheted foreign first day cover.
Won by Bill Sandrik.



4. Most interesting slogan or pictorial
Postmark. Won by Virginia Randolph.



5: Most interesting use of patriotic cover. Won by C. A. Stillions.



6: Most interesting "wrecked" cover. Won by C. A. Stillions.



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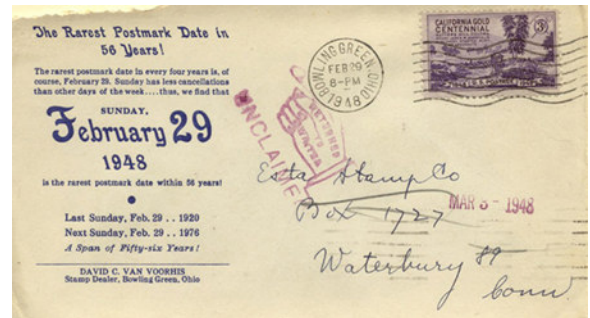
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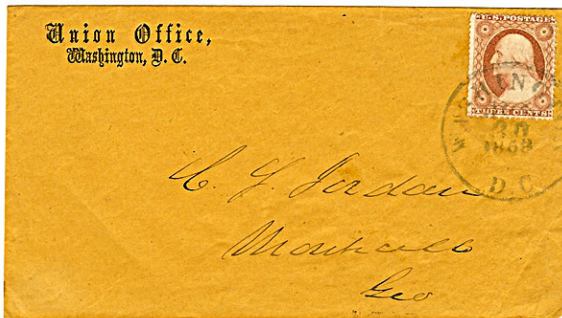
7: Most interesting postmark with a president's last name (state of Washington or Washington, D.C. do not count). Won by C. A. Stillions.



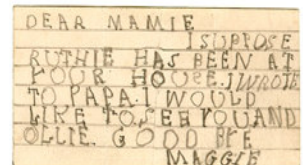
8. Earliest leap year cover (February 29) Won by Bill Sandrik.



9: Earliest illegal usage of a postage stamp to pay postage (labels do not count). Won by C.A. Stillions.



10. Smallest Cover. Won by C.A. Stillions.



11: Earliest inauguration day cover. Won by C. A. Stillions.



Jamestown Settlement Stamp Club Favorite

While the votes for the cover contest were being tallied, the members cast their votes in Linn's 2007 U. S. Stamp Popularity Poll. The results were as follows:

Commemorative stamps:	Best Design:	Louis Confort Tiffany
	Worst Design:	Jury Duty
	Most Important:	Settlement of Jamestown
	Least Important:	Yoda
Definitive, Airmail and Special stamps:	Best Design:	Hagatna Bay, Guam
	Worst Design:	Hershey's Kiss
	Most Important:	Liberty Bell Forever
	Least Important:	Hershey's Kiss
Postal Stationery:	Best Design:	Horses stamped envelope
	Worst Design:	Star Wars picture postal cards
	Most Important:	Pacific Lighthouses picture postal cards
	Least Important:	Star Wars picture postal cards
My Favorite 2007 Stamp:	Settlement of Jamestown	

All the ballots were sent on to Linn's.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By C.A. Stillions

No one is more surprised to be in this position than I. When I was first nominated for this position, I stipulated that I would only take the position if someone would come forward to take over the newsletter editorship. Well someone did. Now you have a new President and a new newsletter editor, actually co-editors, Bill and Janet Hughes. This newsletter is their first effort. If this issued newsletter is like the draft I saw, they will be off to a very fine start.

The rest of the leadership team is Don Peterson, Vice President; Martin Fleischer, Recording Secretary; Gerry Marandino, Executive Secretary; and Joel Fassler, Treasurer. Martin, Gerry, and Joel are hold over officers and I wish to thank them publicly for their providing continuity in leadership. Many thanks go to Matt Cassetta and John Hardies, retiring President and Vice President, for their service to the club.

Our club is one of the few stamp clubs that is experiencing a growth in membership. For that, the club owes our past president Matt Cassetta its thanks. With growth comes problems and opportunities of its own. I will be calling upon many of you to help solve these problems. If you see an opportunity or a problem, please don't hesitate to bring it to my attention or to the attention of the other club officers.

WSCC MEETING PROGRAMS MARCH - APRIL 2008

- 5 March** **Show & Tell "P" Night**, Members are to bring a philatelic item that begins with the letter "P" to show and talk about.
- 19 March** **Swap and Trade Night**
- 2 April** **Professor Phil's Phils-a-telic Quiz No. 3**
- 16 April** **Donation Auction**, auction of philatelic material for the benefit of the club.

Looking ahead to May and June 2008

- 7 May** **Hungerford Album Competition**
- 21 May** **Swap and Trade**
- 4 June** **TBD**
- 18 June** **Member Auction**

Another Excursion to 'Stamps for a Living'

by Phil Uhlmann

On a sunny but cold Valentine's Day, 14 February 2008, six WSCC'ers led by Don Peterson visited the "Stamps for a Living" program at St. Elizabeth's Facility in Southeast D.C. Besides Don, the attendees were Lorraine Bailey, John Ehrlich, Bill Sandrick, Geraldine Whitley and myself. As this was Geraldine's first visit to this unique philatelic operation, her "oohs" and "aahs" were predictable and fully understandable as they reminded the rest of us of our own initial reaction to this remarkable program. We were at the site for about 1 ½ hours, culminating in the transactions of approximately \$175 between our group and "Stamps for a Living".

COMING PHILATELIC EVENTS

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

2008

- March 8-9** **20th Annual Stamp Show, Tidewater Stamp Club**, Easton Volunteer Fire Department Auditorium, Aurora Street & Creamery Lane, 315 Aurora Park Drive, Easton, Maryland. Contact Hope Messick, phalarope@dmv.com; 410-822-6471.
- March 29-30** **SPRINGPEX08, Springfield Virginia Stamp Club**, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield, Virginia, Contact Springfield Stamp Club, www.springfieldstampclub.org.

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April 19-20 **Vienna Quarterly Coin and Stamp Show**, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna, VA , Saturday 10 am – 6 pm, Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

April 27 **Franconia Stamp Show**, Volunteer Fire Dept., 6300 Beulah St., Franconia VA 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

May 10 **Fairfax Stampfest**, Elk's Club, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

June 6-8 **NAPEX, National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, D. C.**, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7928 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia. Contact Thomas Lera, frontier2@erols.com; www.napex.org: 703-205-0600.

July 19-20 **Fairfax Stampfest**, Elks Club, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA Sat. 9:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

August 9-10 **Vienna Quarterly Coin and Stamp Show**, Vienna Community Center, Vienna, VA Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

August 22-24 **AMERICOVER, American First Day Cover Society**, Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church, Virginia. Contact Doug Kelsey, americoverexpo@aol.com; www.afdcs.org.

August 29-31 **BALPEX, Baltimore Philatelic Society**, Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road, I-83 Exit 20E. Contact Robert E. Gibson, Sr., balpex@aol.com, 410-332-4741.

September 26-27 **The Postal History Symposium**, National Postal History Museum, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N. E., Washington, DC. Contact Allison Marsh, marsha@si.edu.

September 28 **Franconia Stamp Show**, Volunteer Fire Dept., 6300 Beulah St., 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

October 18-19, 25-26 **AAFSW Book Fair & Stamp Corner**, State Department, 22nd and C Streets, N. W., Washington, DC

October 18-19 **Fairfax Stampfest**, Elk's Club, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA Sat., 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m, Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

October 26 **Franconia Stamp Show**, Volunteer Fire Dept., 6300 Beulah St., 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

2009

June 5-7 **NAPEX, National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, D. C.**, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7928 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia. Contact Thomas Lera, frontier2@erols.com; www.napex.org: 703-205-0600.

14 WSCC Members Hear Sundman Lecture

Text by Daniel Piazza; Photos by James O'Donnell

Fourteen members of the WSCC visited the National Postal Museum on Saturday, February 9 to hear the Sixth Annual Maynard Sundman Lecture, which featured Mystic Stamp Company president Donald Sundman and APS past president Janet Klug discuss their new book, *100 Greatest American Stamps*. Members Robin Gates Elliott, Cheryl Ganz, Tadas Osmolskis, Dan & Jill Piazza, Virginia Randolph, Bill Sandrik, C.A. Stillions, May Day Taylor, Herb Trenchard, Phil Uhlmann, and Dan & Pat Walker, and Richard Winter were in the standing-room-only crowd of 86 attendees.

Sundman regaled his audience with tales of having owned, sold, and traded several of the great rarities over the years. Klug explained that the 3¢ Locomotive from the 1869 series (Scott #114) is one of her all-time favorites because it was the first classic U.S. stamp she owned that didn't feature "a dead white guy." Both authors also spotlighted several issues that didn't make the cut. After the show, audience members queued up to have their programs and books signed by the speakers.



Smithsonian Chief Curator of Philately and WSCC member Cheryl Ganz begins the lecture by encouraging audience members to join a stamp club.



WSCC member May Day Taylor and Neal Parr have their copies of *100 Greatest American Stamps* autographed by Klug and Sundman



Western Cattle: Mystic Stamp Company President Don Sundman discusses the \$1 Western Cattle in a Storm (Scott #292) which is often cited as the most beautiful U.S. stamp design of all time.

ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

by Martin Fleischer, Recording Secretary

2 January 2008 President **Matthew Cassetta** presiding, 20 members present. In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, President **Matthew Cassetta** opened the floor for nominations for all elected officers for the year 2008. All nominations were moved and seconded by the membership. The slate stands as follows:

President: Clarence A. Stillions
Vice President: Donald Peterson
Executive Secretary: Gerard Marandino
Recording Secretary: Martin Fleischer
Treasurer: Joel Fassler

President Cassetta announced that further nominations will be called for at the January 16th meeting, after which voting will take place.

After the business was concluded, the annual cover contest was held and while the cover contest votes were tabulated the members participated in Linn's 207 U. S. Stamp Popularity Poll. The results of both can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

16 January Executive Secretary Gerard Marandino, presiding, 24 members and 2 guests present. As no challenges or further nominations to the various club officers slots were presented, **Virginia Randolph** moved that the slate of candidates be closed. Seconded by **Tadas Osmolskis**, it was moved and seconded that a vote be taken. A 'up or down' vote on the whole slate yielded 24 'yea' and 0 'nay'. The officers of the WSCC for 2008 are:

President	Clarence A. Stillions
Vice President	Donald Peterson
Executive Secretary	Gerard Marandino
Recording Secretary	Martin Fleischer
Treasurer	Joel Fassler

President C.A. Stillions presided from this point on.

C.A. Stillions announced the passing, on January 11th, of Life member JEROME SHERMAN (retired Administrative Judge, D.C.) JERRY was also the guiding hand of the Palisades Stamp Club (N.W.) for many years. The WSCC extends sincere condolences to the SHERMAN family.

DON PETERSON announced that BILL and JANET HUGHES will edit the WSCC newsletter for the year 2008.

A letter thanking the officers and membership of the former Washington Philatelic Society for assuring that the WSCC

receive \$20,000 out of proceeds from the Turner Collection auction was presented to president STILLIONS for signing and posting

C.A. Stillions announced that HERB TRENCHARD presented the Board of Trustees of the APRL with \$50,000 at the annual APRL meeting held at the APS STAMP Show. The contribution triggers the naming of a research room, at the library, in honour of GEORGE T. TURNER.

Executive Secretary GERRY MARANDINO asked the membership for suggestions on venue for our next annual Awards Banquet, since the Orleans restaurant has finally closed.

6 February President **C.A. Stillions** presiding, 19 members and 1 guest present.

VIRGINIA RANDOLPH reported that Ellie, wife of club member LARRY MACKALLER had suffered a stroke. A get-well and encouragement card was circulated for members to sign. Larry has been a member of the club for almost 50 years.

LORRAINE BAILEY announced that early inquiries at the Pines of Florence restaurant, Arlington, VA, show promise as a possible venue for the Annual Awards Banquet. No motions to proceed with this venue were proposed.

MARTIN FLEISCHER presented his scheduled program on the stamps of the Indian Native States. Through informative maps and handouts as well as examples of stamps, covers and revenues, an introduction to this collecting area was presented. After the presentation, DON PETERSON put up for auction five Varrio stock pages filled with Indian States material. Final bid was \$41.00.

20 February President **C. A. Stillions** presiding, 22 members and 3 guests present. C.A. Stillions announced that the meeting programs for the next two months have been established and will be listed in forthcoming newsletters.

The evening's highlight was a member auction. TADAS OSMOLSKIS conducted the auction. Highest bids were received on a huge bag of mint Canada, a triple bag of Australia/New Zealand and a large envelope of U.S. high-end value material. A nice collection of Liberia on album pages went for \$30; an interesting collection of 1950's small-town Alaska covers brought \$20; and the Scott Classic Catalogue brought \$35. Total for the auction was \$291.00.

CLUB WEBSITE UPDATED

A redesigned Washington Stamp Collectors Club Internet site has gone live at www.dcstampclub.org. It contains information on how to attend meetings or join the club, read back issues of the *Washington City Dispatch*, and contribute to the D.C. Postal History Project. Questions and comments about the new site as well as suggestions for new content should be directed to the webmaster, Daniel Piazza, at dpiazza3@verizon.net or 202-633-4737.

NPM Library Open One Saturday a Month through May 2008

The National Postal Museum Library (<http://www.sil.si.edu/libraries/npm>) was opened on some Saturdays this past summer as an experiment to encourage further use of the facility. The results demonstrated some public interest, and the pilot program has been extended. The library will be open from 10 AM to 4 PM on the third Saturday of each month through May 17, 2008.

On the Metro, take the Red Line to Union Station; if driving, there is ample parking in the Union Station garage. On entering the museum, tell the volunteer at the reception desk or a security guard that you wish to use the library and ask them to contact library staff. The phone number is 202-633-5544.

At the end of the trial period, the results will be evaluated to see whether there was enough public use to justify making these once-monthly Saturday hours permanent. So "use them or lose them!"

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

By Bill and Janet Hughes

Hello to everyone in the WSCC circulation world. We wish to commend C.A. Stillions for the great newsletters of the past two years and hope to maintain his standards of excellence. We will happily accept suggestions and articles on philatelic subjects for future editions. You can email us at jmhughes02@yahoo.com.

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 your copy to the Editor, Bill and Janet Hughes 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.

WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB

web site: www.dcstampclub.org

President: C. A. Stillions, 1435 Fourth Street, S. W., No. B212, Washington, DC 20024-2227, email: castillions@hotmail.com, FON/FAX: 202-484-6425

Vice President: Don Peterson, dpeterson4526@comcast.net

Executive Secretary: Gerald Marandino, 5105 Skyline Village Court, Alexandria, VA 22302, email: gmarandino@alum.mit.edu

Recording Secretary: Martin Fleischer

Treasurer: Joel Fassler, P. O. Box 1211, Silver Spring, MD 20910, email: senttome@erols.com

Newsletter Editor: William and Janet Hughes, 2205 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22301, email: jmhughes02@yahoo.com, FON: 703-549-3860

Webmaster: Daniel Piazza, email: dpiazza3@verizon.net, FON: 202-633-4737

FDC Manager: Lorraine Bailey, email: Alsaceleb@aol.com

Circuits Manager: Virginia Randolph

Historian: Herb Trenchard, email: trenchardh@si.edu

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
5105 Skyline Village Court
Alexandria, Virginia 22302