



WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH



NEWSLETTER OF THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB
VOLUME 3 NUMBER 5 WHOLE NUMBER 17 SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2008



INSIDE
THE
DESPATCH

Philatelic Conservator Speaks at
WSCC Meeting Page 2

National Promotion for "Stamps
For a Living" Program Page 3

WSCC Member Signs Roll of
Distinguished Philatelists Page 3

WSCC Meets 'Somewhere Under
The Rainbows' Page 3

"Horror-ific" Display During Show And
Tell "D" Night Page 6

President Stillions' Message and Upcoming
Philatelic Events Page 5

NPM Library Adds to Holdings Page 4

New and Current Member Updates Page 7



AWARDS DINNER TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

The WSCC Annual Awards Dinner will be Wednesday October 1, 2008, 7 PM at Tony Cheng's Seafood Restaurant, 619 H Street, NW (2nd Floor), Washington, DC 20001. (SECOND FLOOR is important!!) Tickets for the dinner are \$25/person. Checks should be made out to WSCC. See Gerard Marandino for your ticket at the next meeting.

DUES NOTICE



Dues for the WSCC club year starting JULY 2008 through JUNE 2009 should be sent to : **GERARD MARANDINO, Executive Secretary, 5105 SKYLINE VILLAGE COURT, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302. REGULAR MEMBERS \$16, JUNIOR AND NON RESIDENT \$8. As of mid-August only 38 of 80 members had submitted their dues. Checks should be made out to WSCC.** Dues can also be paid at the club meetings.

Philatelic Conservator Speaks at WSCC Meeting

By Martin Fleischer

On July 2nd, the WSCC welcomed HELEN YOUNG, Philatelic Conservator at the National Postal Museum. Ms. YOUNG emphasized the distinction between conservation and restoration. Very little restoration is performed at the NPM conservation studio. Often the condition of a stamp or a cover, though a bit torn, soiled, etc., is a key element in the history of the object's use, collection or has an attached importance. Conserving items in the museum's collection is a different story. Work is performed so that the object can be exhibited and safely handled by philatelic researchers. Much time is devoted to stabilizing items, which usually means eliminating or reducing its acidic environment. Certain types of album pages are separated from stamps, singles, blocks, or even sheets. Ms. YOUNG spoke about one full sheet of the 12 cent Washington (Scott type A-16), which had to be separated from its old backing, pH "neutralized" and re-backed so it could safely be stored, handled and eventually exhibited. With millions of items in the care of the NPM, priorities must be set. Often, first aid goes to those items which are to be exhibited.



Ms. YOUNG responsively and concisely answered the many questions which club members asked. Her presentation was most informative and DAN PIAZZA's occasionally commentary from a curatorial perspective added a rounded picture of a phase of work which a select, fortunate, few perform to preserve some of the true treasures of America. Thank you Ms. YOUNG.

JOEL FASSLER confers with Ms. YOUNG after the presentation on sources for conservation information and assistance.

There is more information available on conserving and preserving stamp collections on the National Postal Museum web site at http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/stamp/5d_preserving1.html.



WSSC Member Signs Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

As reported on May 26, 2008 in Linn's Stamp News, RICHARD F. WINTER, a long-time member of the WSSC, was one of three international selectees recently invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain July 26th at Stratford-upon-Avon, England. The roll was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of King George V, who was the first signatory. WINTER is an expert on foreign rates and treaties and the steamships that carried transatlantic mail. He has authored more than 80 articles on transatlantic mail and co-authored (with Walter Hubbard) *North Atlantic Mail Sailings, 1840 – 75*. This book was chosen for the 1989 Cabeen award. In addition to numerous awards for outstanding scholarship and research, WINTER has received 10 gold medals for his transatlantic mail exhibits. The WSSC congratulates him for this latest achievement.

WSSC Members Somewhere under the 'Double Rainbow'

By Phil Uhlmann

I arrived late for the WSSC "Warm Up" at the Cantina Marina on Wed., 18 June, where there were seven members already seated around an outdoor table. However, potentially heavy weather was threatening, with a thunderstorm approaching from the west. Now, even though I'm a New Yorker, I made it known to all that



I really feared lightning, and that I was ready to "bolt" out of there at any time. The wind did, in fact, pick up, and there was a noticeable temperature drop, but the anticipated storm never quite materialized. But by that time we had all high-tailed it away from the site after scrambling to tally up our bill (Thanks, Jill, for your expertise in doing this). In the calm following this scenario we were treated to the sight of a magnificent "double rainbow" to the east (it was even played up in the next day's papers) - before we all departed for the meeting itself. The evening program was a

member auction, where we all tried to find the "Pot o' Gold", as TADAS, our auctioneer, would say, at the end of that beautiful display. An evening to remember, for sure!

National Promotion for Stamps for a Living Program

JEFF MEADE informed the club at the meeting on August 6 that he and DON PETERSON have had discussions with MARK MELLINGER, Director of the Stamps for a Living program, on how to promote the program on a national level among school teachers. Ideas are being formulated to both help teachers promote philately in all its aspects, especially as a teaching tool, and to increase support for the stamp program. JEFF will inform the club of future developments.

National Postal Museum Library Adds To Holdings

DAN PIAZZA, Assistant NPM Curator and WSCC member, has provided the WSCC newsletter editors with lists of several new books which have been added to the holdings of the NPM Library. The editors are providing a list of some of these books, as space permits. Thanks to DAN and to the NPM Librarian.

The Córdova issue of 1899 : Department of Antioquia // a study by Dieter Bortfeldt.
HE6185.C7 B67 2005 Imprint: Bogotá : COLOMPHIL, c2005.

Women on stamps // by Betty Killingbeck.
HE6183.W6 W362 1978
Imprint: Milwaukee : American Topical Association, c1978-<c1993>

British East Africa : the stamps, postal stationery & cancellations // by John Minns.
HE6185.A418 M56 2006 Imprint: Carmel , Calif. : G.T. Krieger, 2006.

Story of the "Titanic" postcards : 24 ready-to-mail cards // Frank O. Braynard.
G530.T6 B73 1988
Imprint: Mineola , N.Y. : Dover , 1988.

European partly paid letters in the early years of stamps // Heiner Zinoni.
HE6185.E85 Z56 2006a Imprint: [S.l. : H. Zinoni, 2006]

Universal Ship Cancellation Society handbook.
HE6184.C3 U62 2003
Imprint: [New Canaan , CT] : The Society, 2003]

United States promotional slogan cancellations 1899-1940 //
Robert J. Payne ; HE6183.C3 P39 2007 Imprint: Las Vegas , NV : Bart Billings, c2007.

The postal tariffs of Cameroun under French administration, 1916-1959 // M.P. Bratzel, Jr.
HE7369 .B73 2007 Imprint: Windsor, Ont. : MPB Canada, c2007.

Private mail carriers of Colombia // edited by Dieter Bortfeldt, with Carlos Valenzuela A. and Alfredo Frohlich.
HE6855 .P75 2006 Imprint: Bogotá : COLOMPHIL, c2006.

Essays on the revenue stamps of Hawaii // Randall E. Burt. HJ5334.5 .B87 2006
Imprint: Central Lydbrook : Clive Akerman, 2006.

Articles to Detail Holdings of Philatelic and Postal Archives

DAN PIAZZA has published the first installment of a series of articles that will detail the holdings of philatelic and postal archives in the Washington, D.C. area. This can be found in the PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW, Vol. 57, No. 2, 2008, pp. 118 ff. In the past, many of us have had to cull the various registers and published volumes of all holdings, including a separate volume on Confederate archives, to build up a working list of available materials. Dan is providing a long needed service to philatelic researchers.

President STILLIONS' Message

At our first meeting in October, which is on the First this year, we will honor two outstanding stamp collectors; one of our own for their outstanding service to the Club, the DeVoss Award, and one to someone outside the Club, the Gantz Award, for outstanding service to the hobby.

The award for Outstanding Service to the Club is named for James T. DeVoss. Jim was a life member of the club who died this past spring. He was an Army Officer in the 1940's, 1950's, and 1960's and when stationed in Washington was an active member of the Washington Philatelic Society. He served as President of the WPS from 1958 to 1961. As a member in 1947, he donated the trophy that started the outstanding service to the club award. After his military career, Jim became the Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society and let the effort for the American Philatelic Center building. The trophy he donated in 1947 was retired when the WPS and CCW merged, but the award carries on.

The Outstanding Service Award given to non-members is the Gantz Award. The Gantz Trophy was an award the Collectors Club of Washington give to the best exhibit in a special annual competition. The origin of this award appears to have been lost in time as no one today can recall who Gantz was, nor how the trophy came to be. If anyone knows the story, we would sure like to hear it. Anyway, the WPS-CCW merger agreement provided for the naming of the Outstanding Service Award to a non-member to be the Gantz Award.

The 2008 awards will be presented at our annual DeVoss –Gantz Awards Dinner on October 1st at Tony Chen's Seafood Restaurant, 619 H Street, N. W., beginning at 7 P. M. Please plan to attend as it promises to be a fun evening.

WSSC MEETING PROGRAMS September and October 2008

- 3 September** **Speaker - Robin Gates Elliott, "Philatelic Propaganda: Border Changes in Eastern Europe, 1938 – 1941."**
- 17 September** **Swap and Trade**
- 1 October** **Annual Awards Dinner, Tony Cheng's Seafood Restaurant, 619 H Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001 (Second Floor)**
- 15 October** **Member Benefit Auction**

COMING PHILATELIC EVENTS

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

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.

“Horror-ific” Display During Show and Tell “D” Night

By Martin Fleischer

During the program event for August 6th, the members and guests were treated to a wide diversity of material. Each item displayed was to begin with a letter “D”.

C.A. STILLIONS displayed a cover marked “Deficiency in Address.” All of the cancelled markings were Washington, D.C. The exact type of deficiency marking is unique.



BILL SANDRIK exhibited an array of “disinfected” covers from the 19th to the 21st century. Early disinfected mail was specially marked in blue, then in magenta and finally in black, which remained the standard.

He also displayed the outside of a package that had been delayed in route because of the 2001 anthrax problems. The package was marked with a unique sticker that has not been found on any other irradiated packages.



JANET HUGHES presented a cover from Macon, Alabama with two 1894 cds representing Alabama DPOs (Discontinued Post Offices). The cover was one of many which JANET and her husband BILL HUGHES discovered in a cache of 19th century material once owned by BILL’s great grandfather, who was the Postmaster of Birmingham, Alabama from 1897 – 1905.

JOEL FASSLER showed a group of U.S. postal stationary items. They represented doublings of embossed and/or over-printings; downward placement of embossing and double printings of rate changes.

DAN PIAZZA exhibited a fantastic group of original drawings for the Vatican air-mail series: obelists of Rome, 1959. There were 10 values in this engraved set, Scott C35 – 44. The drawings were by A. Grassellini. Most of the drawings were monochrome but a few were in striking water colors.

PHIL UHLMANN spoke about U.S. denominations, pointing out that for 26 years 3¢ denomination did first-class letter duty. Since 1975, there have been 60 stamps of various designs issued without denomination. Most were to fill the need of postage increases before printing of new stamps reflected the increase.

MAY DAY TAYLOR ‘horrified’ everyone as she displayed a series of First Day covers with a horror theme. Both the U.K. and Ireland have issued special series in honor



of Bram Stoker, the author of *DRACULA* and other novels of horror and the occult. Recently, the USPS issued stamp featuring Bela Lugosi in the role of Dracula. It is interesting to note that images on the European stamps more closely follow the Stoker writings while the U.S. example is inspired by Hollywood.

VIRGINIA RANDOLPH presented material on Djibouti lent to her on behalf of GEORGE BROWN. It appears that most of the Djiboti material found today is CTO. This collection represents a unique accumulation of postally used items.



FRANK CORREL presented a sampling of dog sled stamps and covers. The Sirius Sled Patrol operates in northeastern Greenland. Founded in 1950, members of the patrol are former military personnel who patrol, aid, and rescue. The twelve-dog teams are sledged by volunteers. Scott 101 and 362 (Greenland) commemorate the patrol. Recently, Denmark issued its first dog sled stamp.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this very informative and educational Show and Tell event.

WSCC Member Updates

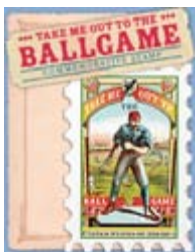


In June, WILLIAM H. DAVIS, Arlington, VA was welcomed as a new member of the WSCC. During the months of July and August, the WSCC welcomed JULES MacKALLOR, Springfield, VA and JOYCE ADAMS, Washington, D.C. We are very happy to have these collectors with us.

During August, the WSCC bid farewell to two of our steady members. The first, ERIC BROWN, has been with the club for many years. He is moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico. His new address is 350 Jefferson St., N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87108. The second, JERRY PETERSON, has been with us this year while working on a special assignment and is returning to his home in Boulder, Colorado. We will miss you both. Best wishes in your future endeavors.



“Take Me Out To the Ballgame” Brings Dividends to the WSCC



The First Day of Issue ceremony for the 2008 'Take Me Out to the Ball Game' 42¢ commemorative was a by-invitation-only affair on the South Lawn of the White House attended by **PRESIDENT BUSH and MRS. BUSH** as well as Postmaster **JAMES POTTER**, former baseball player **FRANK ROBINSON**, and fewer than a dozen philatelists. Ceremony programs and other memorabilia were hard to come by; the White House interns distributing them were under strict orders not to give out extras. However, a set of event handouts—a program, poster, commemorative postcard, and hand-held paper fan from the White House South Lawn—serviced with the stamp and first date of issue postmarks from McPherson Station or National Capitol Station was donated to the club and auctioned off to help defray the cost of renting the church hall for our annual holiday party. The auction resulted in over \$50 for the WSCC. Thanks to the donor from all of us.

ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

By Martin Fleischer, Recording Secretary

2 July 2008 President **C.A. STILLIONS** presiding, 28 members and 2 guests present. The president announced that nominations for the DeVoss and Gantz Awards are now solicited. The DeVoss Award acknowledges the contributions of a club member while the Gantz Award recognizes philatelic achievement within the Washington community. Names of candidates should be submitted to any officer of the club.

JERRY PETERSON, club member for the past year, will be returning to Boulder, Colorado. The membership has enjoyed and appreciated his world-wide collecting comradeship and wishes him all the best for the future.

The Executive Secretary has officially called for submission of membership dues. **GERARD MARANDINO** kicked off the official offering of tickets for the Awards Banquet on 1 October. He also shared a letter from member **DAVID JECKLING** who is well and especially compliments the club on its newsletter.

C.A. STILLIONS announced that the update of "Washington, D.C. Machine Slogan Cancels" will be available on the WSCC website. The new listing includes over 240 examples dating from 1891 to 2001.

DON PETERSON announced the passing of **JAMES KERR** of Easton, MD. A long standing member of the club, JAMES was one of the foremost specialists in the stamps of Korea. He was a multiple award winning exhibitor and perhaps is the best known for his KOREAN KINGDOM and EMPIRE PHILATELIC CATALOG and HANDBOOK. The club's sincere condolences go out to the KERR family.

President **STILLIONS** and vice president **PETERSON** welcomed **HELEN YOUNG**, philatelic conservator at the NPM, who was the guest speaker for the evening.

16 July 2008 President **C.A. STILLIONS** presiding, 15 members, 1 guest present. Executive Secretary **GERARD MARANDINO** reiterated the call for submission of dues for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. He also stated that he will not be present at the August meetings. Those wishing Awards Banquet Tickets should obtain them by sending a check for \$25 per ticket to him.

JOEL FASSLER, club treasurer, reported that the checking account contains \$4,000 while two CDs are active, \$5,000.00 (one year) and \$15,000 (long term).

President **STILLIONS** announced that the club officers are accepting nominations for the Gantz and DeVoss awards. He also read portions of a letter from **ARNOLD TAYLOR** who has attended many club meetings. **ARNOLD** was so touched and pleased in all the efforts from members **MAY DAY TAYLOR** and **VIRGINIA RANDOLPH** in helping him to fill a long "last stamp for the set" want list that he has sent along a contribution to the club for \$31.60. He thought that was a reasonable amount of the stamps value since **MAY DAY** and **VIRGINIA** refused payment for the stamps.

DANIEL PIAZZA reported on a special First Day of Issue Ceremony held at the White House. The event also coincided with the annual T-Ball contest for children. Special memento baseballs were distributed to the participants.

6 August 2008 President **C.A. STILLIONS** presiding, 20 members, 2 guests present.

MILTON HOLMES introduced his visiting son and daughter-in-law, **GARY and DIANE HOLMES**. **JILL PIAZZA** passed around a Thank You card for members' signatures to be sent to **HELEN YOUNG**, conservator at the National Postal Museum, in appreciation for her talk to the club on July 2nd.

JEFF MEADE spoke on his Stamps for a Living discussions as reported elsewhere in the newsletter. The event for the evening was Show and Tell "D" Night, as reported earlier in this newsletter.

20 August 2008 President **C.A. STILLIONS** presiding, 19 members present. The president stated that the next two club meetings in September will coincide with Washington Nationals home games. Drivers should be aware of special parking restrictions on those evenings.

DON PETERSON offered a possible candidate for this year's GANTZ award. Formal nomination and voting will take place at the meeting on 3 September. **PAT SLUBY** exhibited a very handsome commemorative cachet honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority at Howard University. Members of AKA came to Washington for a celebration in July.

The main event was a donation auction. Stock books, stock sheets and a 2008 Scott catalog (P-S1) were available. Philatelic Congress books, 2006 and 2007, brought \$20. Numerous boxes of stamps and covers along with a bundle of "irradiated" covers fetched good prices. One lucky club member won a fully preserved, open jawed, and mounted piranha fish. The club benefitted to the sum of \$144.

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

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

THE FOLLOWING NOTICE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MEXICO-ELMHURST PHILATELIC SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (MEPSI)

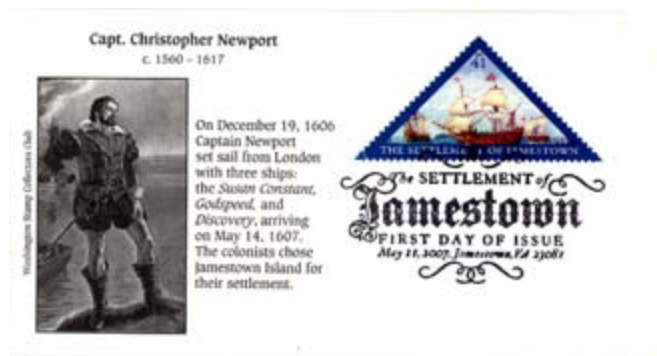
Mexico-Elmhurst Philatelic Society International (MEPSI) is the largest and oldest (begun in 1950) society in the world devoted solely to Mexico philately. MEPSI has an informative quarterly journal, MEXICANA. MEPSI also has an extensive library, auctions, circuits, and expertization. They hold annual meetings in the US and Mexico.

www.mepsi.org

For membership information, contact:

Michael Roberts
MEPSI Treasurer
5881 W. 75th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90045-1706 USA
mepsi@ca.rr.com

LORRAINE BAILEY posts the following covers for sale. Please see her at the meetings for more details.



One stamp covers are \$3.00.



A cover with 2 stamps is \$6.00.

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.

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.)