



# WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH



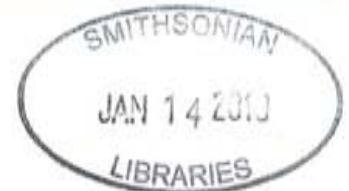
---

AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER OF  
THE WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB  
VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1 WHOLE NUMBER 25 JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2010  
On line @[www.destampclub.org/despach.htm](http://www.destampclub.org/despach.htm)

---

## WSCC Rings Out 2009

By Janet Hughes



Stamps were not the only items featured on December 16<sup>th</sup>, as the WSCC celebrated the season with the Annual Christmas Potluck and Donation Auction. One very colorful platter was designed by our own Recording Secretary, **Jeff Meade**. Yes, those are deviled eggs in the front, dyed red, with green yolks and paprika on top. They were good too, as were all the other home-made breads, chips, dip, sushi, casseroles, meatballs, cookies, pies, and candy provided by the WSCC members in attendance. Top that off with eggnog and punch and it is safe to say that no one went hungry.

Similarly, the items donated for the auction ranged from the likely, predictable, and anticipated bags of used stamps on and off paper to the more esoteric Polish “doggie clean up” bag, mint and never hinged. We even had a beautiful hand-made throw pillow in a philatelic design, crafted by our own **May Day Taylor**.



Here we have some of our members, enjoying the evening. From the left, **Gerard Marandino** shows off a plate commemorating Queen Elizabeth’s coronation. His next stop is Antiques Road Show. Next is **Tanika Williams**, who is smiling because she finally outbid **Jeff Meade** for her Jamaican stamps. Next is **Lorraine Bailey**, contemplating an item won. **Bill Sandrik** is smiling, probably because the next items up for bid are disinfected covers with special markings. Finally, **the Fleishers** and **John Hardies** are waiting for the great bargains brought in by the **Piazzas** who just finished moving. The auction was a great success and brought in a whopping \$385 for the good of the club.

## Annual Herbert Cover Contest Coming February 3

The Annual Herbert Cover contest is always an exciting and highly unpredictable WSCC event. Last year's contest featured a category for the 'ugliest (world-wide) stamp issued in 2008.' Not to be outdone, this year's contest will feature a similar category, but for U.S. stamps only. Does the U.S. really design 'ugly' stamps? The categories for this year were devised by the winner from last year: **Bill Sandrik**. Good luck to everyone .

### TO BE DECIDED BY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS:

1. Most unusual stamp that is not made entirely of paper, used on a cover originating outside the United States.
2. Most interesting U.S. related cover from a member of the military.
3. Cover with the most ornate or embellished written address.
4. Cover with the most attractive stamp issued in 2009 from a foreign country.
5. Cover with the ugliest U.S. stamp issued in 2009.

### TO BE DECIDED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES:

6. The earliest cover originating in the Far East and sent to the U.S.
7. Earliest use of a Postal Card sent to the United States from abroad with additional stamps added.
8. Earliest use of a U.S. Postal Card sent to a foreign country, with or without added stamps.
9. Cover with the most Postage Due stamps of the same denomination.
10. Earliest use of one of the 2009 Holiday Greetings stamps from the U.S. (Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa) used from Maryland, Virginia or Washington, DC. (FDC are excluded)

All items submitted must have been used (cancelled with a postmark or other device). Unless otherwise specified a cover can be an envelope, post card, or postal card, folded letter, postal stationery, or document that shows payment of postage and/or postal fees.

## Cecil Uyehara Presents WSCC Program On Japanese Furusato Stamps

By Bill Hughes



The WSCC was honored to have **Mr. Cecil Uyehara** as a guest speaker at the meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Mr. Uyehara** has written articles and books on several philatelic subjects including *Afghan Philately, 1871-1989*, published in 1995, which won a vermeil award at the Pacific-1997 conference. His latest book, *The Japanese Furusato Stamp Program, 1989-2007*, published in 2008, is the only book in either English or Japanese on this unique program.

The furusato stamp is a blend between a national stamp and a state (prefecture) stamp. Initially the sale of a furusato stamp was restricted to the prefecture and the main post office in Tokyo. Today the furusato stamp is sold in most major post offices across the country. Like a national stamp, the furusato stamp can be used for local or international postage.

The Furusato Stamp Program is the result of successful urbanization in major centers and less progress in outlying regions and islands. The purpose of the Furusato Program was to draw attention to attractions in all the regions. Many Japanese feel a kinship to their family origins which are frequently geographically based. As urbanization has progressed, there has been a weakening of the feeling of kinship to their origins. The Furusato Program was designed to help strengthen the Japanese ties to their family origins.

Planning for this program began in 1988 with production beginning at the start of the Japanese fiscal year in April 1989. As the Furusato program is a mini decentralization in power, it was viewed with some trepidation. A two-year "Cycle One" was instituted, which amounted to a trial program. Essentially the prefecture was and is allowed to create designs and prototypes but the design, artist selected, and production is still controlled from the central postal authority.

The initial name of the program was "Chiho Kitta". Unfortunately the nuance of the term is one of "country bumpkin" and the program was not well received. Then someone, who was a genius in PR, changed the term to "furusato" which has a nuance of "rosy hominess". The program became an instant success.

Japanese national commemoratives recognize a specific event covering a short period or a national theme with a fixed number of stamps produced. There is repetition in Japanese national stamps. Themes such as letter writing day are repeated at the same time in each succeeding year. The furusato stamp also has themes, but these are more about attractions to that particular prefecture and of longer duration than a specific event would be. There are also no hard and fast rules about the number of stamps produced for a furusato issue. Because of the differences between definitives, commemoratives, and the furusato stamp categories, Japanese stamp catalogers developed a furusato numbering system of its own. Scott followed suit and has labeled them 'Z' types.

Examples of furusato stamps and **Cecil's** book were also passed around for viewing. **C.A. Stillions**, WSCC President, presented a WSCC Certificate of Appreciation from all of us to **Cecil Uyehara**.

## New Titles in the NPM Library Provided by Dan Piazza

Many new books and pamphlets continue to come into the NPM Library each month and many can be sources of information for research and study. We have selected a few to list here. Additionally a catalog of all the holdings in the library are available online at <http://sirris-libraries.si.edu/#focus>. The library continues to be accessible on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month as well as daily. Here are some titles that may be of special interest.

Australia-USA mail via London, Dale Forster, 2006.

Nineteenth century wars in Egypt and the Sudan : an illustrated postal history of selected covers, cards and autograph letters, from the collection formed in the nineteen-seventies, by John Firebrace, 1997.

The coming of the frontier press : how the West was really won, by Barbara Cloud, 2008.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing by T. Sutton Jett, 1952.

The 2 Cent Harding memorial issue : rotary press, perf. II, strip of three, Matthew Bennett International, 2007.

Haiti's 1902 provisional issue, Peter C. Jeannopoulos, 2008.

British Commonwealth revenues, J. Barefoot, 2008.

Folded typewriter postcards : effective economical commercial communications - types, usages, rarity, development, growth, and decline, by Robert M. Bell, 2008.

Swiss Post International activity in Italy : the Baveno story by Charles J. La Blonde, 2009.

Poste maritime française : premier service postal du Pacifique sud : consultat de France de France [sic] à Panama 1843-1848 by Louis-Eugène Langlais, 2006.

Poste maritime française : consulat de France à Panama, 1848-1881 ; deuxième service postal du Pacifique sud, 1872-1874, by Louis-Eugène Langlais, 2008.

Brasil 1844-1846 : "inclinados" : selos do império do Brasil (segunda estampa) = Brazil 1844-1846 : "slanted numerals" handbook : stamps of the empire of Brazil (second issue) by Walter Gonçalves Taveira, 2001.

The error world : an affair with stamps, by Simon Garfield, 2009.

A history of nursing through philately, by Margaret B. Ritchie, 2007.

Concise guide to the Queen issues of Labuan, by Raymond Price, 1991.

The postage stamps of the Falkland Islands and dependencies, by B. S. H. Grant, 1952.

The mute cancels of Russia, 1914-1917. Pt. 2, by Arnold Levin, 2001.

Ethiopia : Haile Selassie, the exile, the restoration, the deposition : history, stamps and postal history, 1936-1974, by Roberto Sciaky, 2003.

Madagascar: rail and mail services, by Colin W. Spong, 2003.

Ghajar covers and postal history classic specialized catalogue, 1868-1925, by Iraj Eftekhari, 2003.

Ethiopia, 1867-1936 : history, stamps and postal history, by Roberto Sciaky, 1999.

20th century American newspapers in content and production, by William R. Lindley, 1993.

Behind the headlines : the story of American newspapers, by Thomas Fleming, 1989.

Propaganda postcards of the Luftwaffe, James Wilson, 2007.

Peru : cancellation handbook 1858-1873, by Erik A. Emsing, 2008.

Catalogue of Philippine postal slogan cancels. vol.1, Becker, Hans-Werner, 2008.

## Sandrik and Walker Win Gold at VAPEX '09

By Don Peterson

There's gold in Williamsburg. WSCC members **Bill Sandrik** and **Dan Walker** won Gold Awards for their exhibits at VAPEX 2009 at Williamsburg, Virginia, November 13-15, 2009. **Bill** won a Gold for his multi-frame exhibit, "Quarantine and Disinfection Mail", and a Gold for his single-frame exhibit, "Austro-Americana Shipping Line." **Dan** won a Gold for his single-frame exhibit, "Grenada's War Tax Issue June 1, 1916-June 13, 1919. Our congratulations to **Bill** and **Dan**.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By C.A. Stillions

It is the New Year again and time to determine our officers for the year. Nominations open at the first meeting in January and close at the second meeting with the election immediately following. The Treasurer and the Executive Secretary have indicated they do not wish to continue as officers. The Treasurer keeps track of our money and pays the bills while the Executive Secretary keeps track of the membership. If you have an interest in serving the club in either of these capacities, please let Bruce Kellogg know as he is heading up the nominations committee.

This year in addition to nominations of officers at the first meeting, there is a By-Law change to be voted upon. It has been proposed that proxy voting be permitted for the election of officers. This issue will be voted upon, if the change passes, proxy voting will be allowed for the 2010 election of officers. Both January meetings are important, so please plan to attend.

## UPCOMING WSCC MEETING CALENDAR

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 6   | Voting on Changes to By-Laws and Nomination of Officers |
| January 20  | Nominations for and Election of Officers                |
| February 3  | Annual Herbert Cover Contest                            |
| February 17 | Member Auction (auction proceeds go to the members)     |

## Membership Update

Much to our surprise and pleasure, a new member joined the WSCC at the Annual Holiday Party. **Member Jeff Meade** introduced **Vikram Raghavan**, who found **Jeff** from his facebook page attached to the club's website. **Vikram** began collecting as a child, but recently picked up the habit again when his mother threatened to throw his stamp collection away while he was in law school. His philatelic interests included postal history and collecting India. Welcome to **Vikram** from the WSCC.

## Upcoming 2010 Philatelic Show Schedule

Metro Expo DC Washington, Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon, VA, **January 15 – 17**. Coming as it does just before the January 18 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the Metro Expo DC show has created a cacheted “Mourning Cover” honoring the civil rights leader.

Vienna Stamp Show, Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna, VA, **January 23 – 24**.  
Sat. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Fairfax Stampfest, Elk's Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd. (Rte. 50), Fairfax, Virginia, **February 6 – 7**  
Sat. 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alan Blair will also conduct an auction in conjunction with this show on **Sat., Feb 6** starting at 7:00 p.m.

## Newsletter Editors Leaving for “World Tour”

By Bill and Janet Hughes



Some time ago we were at one of the local bourses and found this post card. It reminded us of the many 1950's post cards that Janet's Grandmother loved to send years ago.

We also have an RV, which isn't much bigger than the one hooked on the back of that little car. We have been on three cross country trips in it, with 2 large dogs and a cat.

The last two years have been quite eventful. We took over virtually all aspects of creating and publishing a print document. We were honored to be selected for the 2008 De Voss Award as well as the award at NAPEX. Our goal for the club was to focus on the people, the club doings and outside sales events. We think that we achieved this. On a personal basis, we have felt a great satisfaction in enhancing our own skills in creating a semi-commercial publication.

As we step down from responsibility for the newsletter, we intend to remain regular members of the club. The freedom from a regular production schedule will allow us to return to more travelling and especially visiting aging members of the family.

This is our last issue. The President has the opportunity to select our successor and we will remain available as mentors for the next issue and the turnover of club property. We wish them success.

## ACCOUNTS OF MEETINGS

By Jeff Meade, Recording Secretary

**4 November 2009** Vice President Don Peterson presiding, 20 members, 1 guest attending.

Vice President Don Petersen introduced visitor David Straight, a frequent APS columnist noted for excellent research and quality writing. Mr Straight is a librarian at the Washington University in St. Louis, visiting WSCC for the fall Museum Advisory Council (MAC) at the National Postal Museum. Mr. Straight is one of three philatelists on the MAC.

Vice President Don Petersen informed the club that the next meeting would focus on discussing the club's bylaws and revise them as necessary. He suggested that members familiarize themselves with the bylaws, which are available on the WSCC website. Member Virginia Randolph informed the club that Jules MacKaller, the brother of former member Larry MacKaller, called to let her know Larry passed away. Larry was the oldest continuous member of the WSCC, joining shortly after his return from WWII. Several members, including Tadas Osmolskis, Joel Fassler and Milton Holmes spoke fondly of Mr. MacKaller. Member Tadas Osmolskis suggested a motion to admit new "members" that have filed WSCC applications. Member Gerry Marandino noted that the requirement to vote on a new member is rarely enforced. The vote "passed," but will form the basis for the discussion of bylaws on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**18 November 2009** President C. A. STILLIONS presiding, 17 members, 1 guest attending. President C.A. Stillions introduced guest George Gilmore, from the Christ United Methodist Church's Methodist Men's Group. Mr. Gilmore invited WSCC members to the November Men's Breakfast. Breakfasts are held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Breakfast admission is \$5, and the breakfast runs from 9am to 11am.

President C.A. Stillions presented the club with a cover and letter from an APS member in Mongolia. The letter advertised the gentleman's covers and philatelic items, which include items from China, Russia, the Soviet Union, Germany and Mongolia. Member Virginia Randolph informed the Club that Melody Palmer from the APS circuit office called to say that a box of circuits just arrived in Atlanta from the WSCC. This box was postmarked "July."

President C.A. Stillions introduced the topic of the evening, a discussion of the by-laws. President C.A. Stillion noted that two key themes recently surfaced regarding the Constitution and Bylaws: Proxy voting and the approval of new members. A listing of the new members was circulated and the Club voted unanimously to approve all new members in good standing (dues are current). Those members were: Joyce Adams, Charlotte Brown, Frank Correl, Ida Marie Giusti, Robert Grafton, Rene Held, Janet Hughes, William Hughes, B.F. Jewell, Douglas Lehman, Jules MacKallor, Jeff Meade, David Michener, Mathew Morey, Daniel Piazza, Jill Piazza, Arnold Taylor, May Day Taylor, Carl Troy, David Wallestad, Geraldine Whitley, Tanika Williams.

Issue #2 was Proxy Voting. After much discussion of the pros and cons, President Stillions created a committee to write the language for Proxy Voting for the By-laws. Committee members were: Dan Piazza, Tadas Osmolskis, and Geraldine Whitley. Suggested language for Article IV, Section 4 of the By-laws reads: "Any regular or life member in good standing who will be absent from the annual election of club officers, may authorize another regular or life member in good standing to cast a proxy ballot on the absent members' behalf. The absent member must notify the sitting executive secretary and recording secretary in writing of their intention to exercise this option. Such notification may be made by mail or e-mail and must be received at least 72 hours before the election meeting begins. The absent member must clearly state who is to vote on their behalf, and the absent member may not contest or dispute the vote cast by their proxy. Members acting as a proxy must be physically present at the meeting to vote, and no member may act as a proxy for more than three absent members."

**2 December 2009** President C. A. STILLIONS presiding, 15 members, 3 guests attending. Vice President Don Peterson noted that the pre got together meetings, usually held at the Cantina Marina, were moving to the Lapidus Restaurant, located inside the Skyline Motel. Member Bill Hughes introduced the evenings' guest speaker, Cecil Uyehara, as well as Mr. Uyehara's wife, Allie and son, Geof. The details of the presentation are included earlier in this newsletter.

**WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH**

January - February 2010

Page 8

**16 December 2009** President **C. A. STILLIONS** presiding, 32 members, 8 guests attending. Member **Jeff Meade** introduced visitor **Vikram Raghavan**, who subsequently joined the WSCC. Member **Pat Sluby** introduced a new book by **Paul Sluby Sr.**, titled "Bury Me Deep." The book documents burial sites and burial traditions in the Washington DC area. The event of the evening was the Annual Holiday Party and Donation Auction, the proceeds of which go to the club. Details of the party and auction are included elsewhere in the newsletter.

**Stamps for Sale: Order from Stamps for a Living Business, FO18/JHP/OT-Dept., 2700 M L King Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20032-2601, or call Mark Melanson, 202-645-4953.**

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB** web site: [www.destampclub.org](http://www.destampclub.org)

**President:** C. A. Stillions, 1435 Fourth Street, S. W., No. B212, Washington, DC 20024-2227, email: [castillions@aol.com](mailto:castillions@aol.com), FON/FAX: 202-484-6425

**Vice President:** Don Peterson, [dpeterson4526@comcast.net](mailto:dpeterson4526@comcast.net)

**Executive Secretary:** Gerard Marandino, 5105 Skyline Village Court, Alexandria, VA 22302, email: [gmarandino@alum.mit.edu](mailto:gmarandino@alum.mit.edu)

**Recording Secretary:** Jeff Meade

**Treasurer:** Joel Fassler, P. O. Box 1211, Silver Spring, MD 20910, email: [senttome@erols.com](mailto:senttome@erols.com)

**Newsletter Editors:**

**Webmaster:** Daniel Piazza, email: [dpiazza3@verizon.net](mailto:dpiazza3@verizon.net), FON: 202-633-4737

**FDC Manager:** Lorraine Bailey, email: [Alsaceleb@aol.com](mailto:Alsaceleb@aol.com)

**Circuits Manager:** Virginia Randolph

**Historian:** Herb Trenchard, email: [trenchardh@si.edu](mailto: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.

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.)