



WE Expressions



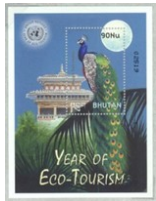
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Women Exhibitors

Supported by AAPE

Peafowl Postage Stamps....by Carol j. Edholm

Q2 2019 Volume 13, Issue 3



Flannery O'Connor

I had never heard of Mary Flannery O'Connor (1925 - 1964) until the United States Postal Service came out with a postage stamp in her honor on June 5, 2015. This stamp was issued as the 30th stamp in the Literacy Arts series. The watercolor painting completed digitally stamp is based on a black and white photograph of O'Connor when she was a student at Georgia State College for Women from 1942 to 1945. The design shows O'Connor surrounded by Peacock feathers, a symbol often associated with her.



Plate Number Block courtesy of Carol j. Edholm

Okay, so she's a writer. But what does that have to do with Peafowl? Who is this person, really, and why would the USPS issue a Peafowl stamp in her honor?" Off to the computer to do some research.

First thing I discovered is that she raised Peafowl on her family's Andalusia (dairy) Farm in Georgia. Okay, that makes sense of why ocelli feathers are on her stamp. Let's explore a little bit more about this Peafowl lover.

Flannery O'Connor was born March 25, 1925, in Savannah, Georgia, the only daughter of a devout Roman Catholic family; her father was a real estate agent. The family moved to Milledgeville when she was 12, then to the Andalusia Farm after her father passed away on February 1, 1941, from systemic

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Chair Chit-Chat by Lisa Foster

Whose says philately is a winter hobby? Although summer is finally here, I am still inside playing with stamps: Busy preparing for a Regional Exhibition this month, creating Club Showcase exhibit pages, preparing to judge a show in Reno and getting ready to attend StampShow/NTSS in August.

I am looking forward to our meeting August 2nd and I hope to see many of you there.



Carol Edholm at PIPEX Vermont, AAPE Awards of Honor and ATA 1st Place Medal for *The Sacred Peafowl*

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WSP Exhibitions

- July 19-21, Minnesota Stamp Expo Crystal, MN
- July 26-28, Americover, St Louis, MO
- August 1-4, Stampshow/NTSS, Omaha, NE
- August 30- Sept 1 BALPEX Baltimore, MD
- September 13-15, SEAPEX, Tukwila, WA
- September 20-22, MILCOPEX Milwaukee, WI

lupus erythematosus. She graduated from Peabody High School in 1942 where she volunteered as the school newspaper's art editor. After earning a Social Sciences degree at Georgia State College for Women in 1945, she attended the Iowa Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa to study journalism, then to New York for Yaddo, a retreat for artists in Saratoga Springs, New York. She then lived in Connecticut with friends.

After being diagnosed with lupus at age 25, O'Connor moved back to Georgia where her mother assisted in her care. She used crutches to get around and attend church. She raised Peafowl and built a strong reputation as a writer. O'Connor led the way of Southern Gothic writings with *Wise Blood* and *The Violent Bear It Away* as well as many writings of short fiction. The formal USPS announcement stated that O'Connor "crafted unsettling and darkly comic stories and novels about the

potential for enlightenment and grace in what seemed like the worst possible moments." She was known to have said that "modern writers must often tell 'perverse stories to shock a morally blind world.' It requires considerable courage not to turn away from the story teller." She used regional settings, grotesque characters in violent situations, unsentimental acceptance or rejection of limitations or imperfections or difference of these characters - disability, race, criminality, religion and sanity - as well as morality and ethics issues in her stories. Her omnibus collection, *The Complete Stories of Flannery O'Connor*, won the 1972 National Book Award for fiction and was named the *Best of the National Book Awards 1950 - 2008* by a public vote. She passed away at the young age of 39 on August 3, 1964.

Interesting history of the writer O'Connor, but now let's delve

into the Peafowl world of O'Connor:

In 1932, at the age of 5, O'Connor trained a Bantam hen (chicken) to walk backwards which ended up being filmed by Britain's *Pathe News* and shown around the world (<https://www.britishpathe.com/video/you-reverse-1>). This experience started her fascination with birds, whereby, she started collecting them - the more unusual, the better. As often in those days, girls were expected to sew Sunday dresses for themselves in high school. Instead, O'Connor sewed a complete outfit for her duck and took the duck to school to model it.



Source: No. 3196: Flannery O'Connor
<http://www.uh.edu/engines/epi3196.htm>

continued on page 7...

Interim Editor's Remarks - Lisa Foster

I have enjoyed my role as Interim Editor of WE Expressions, but I could not have done it without the contributions of our members, submission of items for publication and the assistance of Laurie Anderson in laying out the journal.

As you may have noticed, our new editor Janet Klug was unable to assume the role until the October 2019 issue. I am looking forward to seeing the evolution of WE Expressions with the expertise she will bring. Please support her in the endeavor by continuing to send forward articles, announcements, exhibit pages, show reports, and other items of interest for publication.

Women Exhibitors 2016-2018 Board

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“Breaking the Ice”

Focus on Melodye McGroarty

Well, my name is Melodye McGroarty and I am a native of Las Vegas, Nevada and, except for a brief stint in Arizona for my first husband's law school, I have lived here all my life. I now live in the mountains outside of Las Vegas at an elevation of about 7500 feet. I started collecting back in the early 1970's when I caught the "stamp flu" from my Dad.

I collect US stamps on an occasional basis now and Nevada stamps and postal history as much as I can. I have the most fun collecting Faroe Islands stamps and postal history. I think I joined AAPE and WE because I am fascinated by the idea of exhibiting and want to learn all I can. I have never gone beyond writing small articles for my local stamp club newsletter and I confess to being terrified of the idea of putting an actual exhibit together. I would love to try a one-frame exhibit of a facet of Faroe Island philately.

I find the selection of topic to be the most daunting; I mean, what exactly is "enough" material for an exhibit? Even a one frame one.



A few years ago, one of our stamp club members who was a seasoned exhibitor conducted a class on the subject for us but became ill and passed away before he could finish. I even have a frame of my own that I purchased from his widow.

I decided to collect the Faroe Islands for a very straightforward reason. They achieved postal independence in 1975 and since at that time I was looking to add another country to my collecting activity, I figured it would be "easy" to collect "everything". Well, as any experienced collector knows, there is no such thing as a complete collection. It took me years to get interested in the country itself and its history. It is a tiny island chain (it would fit tightly into the Las Vegas valley area) but it has a complex history and a fascinating ecology and culture. Now I find it difficult to the point of impossibility to walk away from a cover or a postmark from the Faroes.



I felt I might be able to learn from WE and I do like supporting philately in general. I enjoy reading

the AAPE journals from cover to cover and I read the entire WE newsletter I just received and enjoyed it thoroughly. I have also gone on the website and read the older issues that are available on the site.

I ran into one of the WE officers at the Mesa APS show and exhibit and was given your brochure at a "class" that was given during the show. That show was the actually first one I have ever been able to attend. I was absolutely fascinated by the exhibits and made sure I looked through each and every one.

Thank you for your interest and your welcome. I look forward to the upcoming newsletters and news of any nearby shows and exhibits.



The Life Cycle of my Homestead Act Exhibit

Part 4: Homer Goes Out to Pasture by Sheryll Ruecker

Well, are you on the edge of your chair? Has the suspense of the last 9 months been unbearable? And did I hear right that somebody set up a Facebook group called “Where’s Homer?” to record possible sightings? Ahem, perhaps not...

You may remember that my Homestead Act exhibit, which was shown in the noncompetitive class at PIPEX 2017 went up to SEAPEX in September as a competitive entry with the pseudonym “Homer n’Darange.” No changes were made between PIPEX and SEAPEX.

I didn’t go, but was surprised and delighted to receive phone messages and emails from friends at the show. My serious New Hebrides French Military Franchise essays exhibit won a Vermeil, and Homer won ... a Silver!!! Both exhibits received special awards as well. Homer’s WE Sterling Achievement Award was an elegant pin of the Penny Black. It is given to exhibits whose award level is less than a Large Silver but shows promise.

Mark Loomis was kind enough to talk with the judge who wrote up the EEF comments for both exhibits. Apparently one was an article (the essays) and the other was a museum display (Homer). At first, I took these comments negatively, but then came around. The essays need to have an article written

about them, and I have the material and the enthusiasm to do it.

And as for the Homestead Act exhibit, I had written it up with the aim of giving viewers a taste of the hardships homesteaders faced. Bringing the Act to life for them. Well, isn’t that just what a museum would try to do? My scrap-booking style of presentation, quoting of letter excerpts and arranging the pages in a non-traditional order... Yes, I had tried to emulate what I would expect to see in a museum.

It didn’t take me long to make it all happen. Homer was going out to pasture, to Union County Museum! Conveniently, the museum Treasurer was coming into town to spend time with family the following weekend, so we connected at Sherwood Library on a beautiful sunny afternoon in late September. I gave her the exhibit pages, all the letters and covers, and my research notes.

She said that Baker County’s museum had loaned them its homesteading exhibit just after the sesquicentennial of the passing of the Homestead Act. But now Union County Museum could make its own, as there was no shortage of helpers to make displays.



It has been said that giving philatelic material to a museum takes it out of the market. Hence collectors miss out on acquiring items they would otherwise buy at, say, an auction of a deceased collector’s estate. However, as it was letters I was donating, I didn’t think it applied in my case.

I didn’t regret my decision, but after a while I did miss Homer, so I bought a (very) few covers addressed to the La Grand Land Office. However, they are not half as good as the letters I had the pleasure and privilege of reading and sharing with others through my Homestead Act exhibit.



Homesteading today

WE Want to Know

Have you ever wanted to give feedback on what you read in WE Expressions or share a thought or just say thank you to one of our members? Well now you can....because "WE Want to Know"!

Here are just a few examples of some previous words and thoughts shared by our members after the January 2019 issue:

"I want to congratulate you on another fabulous newsletter. Superbly done and each article interesting, I stayed up nearly all night reading it.

You did a wonderful job on Jean's Spotlight interview, striking just the right note with the illustrations. It is a privilege to ask people such questions and hear their answers, and Jean rose to the task beautifully. Who would like to have that privilege and do the next Spotlight interview, I wonder? Step forward please!"
Sheryll Ruecker

"This newsletter that you gave birth to has really become a formidable communication device and looks like it is building a strong community within the domain of women exhibitors, without excluding men - a difficult challenge that you have brought off beautifully. I also note that you are retiring as "interim editor" and have recruited a new editor, you can rest in your laurels for starting a wonderful (and now quite large) newsletter with a very positive and inclusive message. And I appreciate the reference about the STEM posters, and glad that opens up a new domain for future exhibition."
Dr. Bennett Shapiro

"Wow! What a wonderful WE Expressions (as usual). As one of those at the original founding of WE meeting I wish I could have been in Ariz. Your woman-focused articles fit right in with an article I am doing (as a past president & current chapter historian) for our local League of Women Voters newsletter - we made local headlines as we were refounded (originally est. 1920)

in Medford, OR 1939. Our League of Women Voters of the Rogue Valley will host the state convention this year. Thanks a g a i n ."
Nancy L. Swan

"I shared your newsletter pdf with a dear friend, JJ. She is an amazing mail artist & she LOVES Eleanor Roosevelt so, I told her to check out page 6. She says:

'Page 6? Heck!! Check out page 3 - Backyard chickens!! YES!

And that giant penguin mail stamp in page 8! Lordy!! And did you read about the cockroach exhibit on page 9?! "The devil made me do it"!!!! God, this is priceless!! Please tell our new friend I love the newsletter; I just might join for \$5!

Thanks a million! JJ'

So, you have a new group of zealots.

Take care & keep your flag up!"
Polly

So send in your comments and remarks to be published in future journals...your words may just make another persons day!

Comments to:

womenexhibitors@gmail.com



Cathie Stumpenhuis at PIPEX
Silver Medal, ATA 3rd Place Medal and WE Sterling
Achievement Award for *Lovely as a Tree*

Philatelic Survey by Lisa Foster

I have been working with Stacy Adam, a graduate student whose thesis includes the promotion of women in philately. Thanks to all of you who have already participated. Stacy has indicated she encourages all philatelists, male and female to participate in order to capture varying perspectives. If you haven't already, please spend a few minutes to respond to the brief survey.

<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/dKCNjG>

Stacy is also distributing another survey to women who do not identify as stamp collectors. Stacy plans to share her findings with Women Exhibitors (WE).

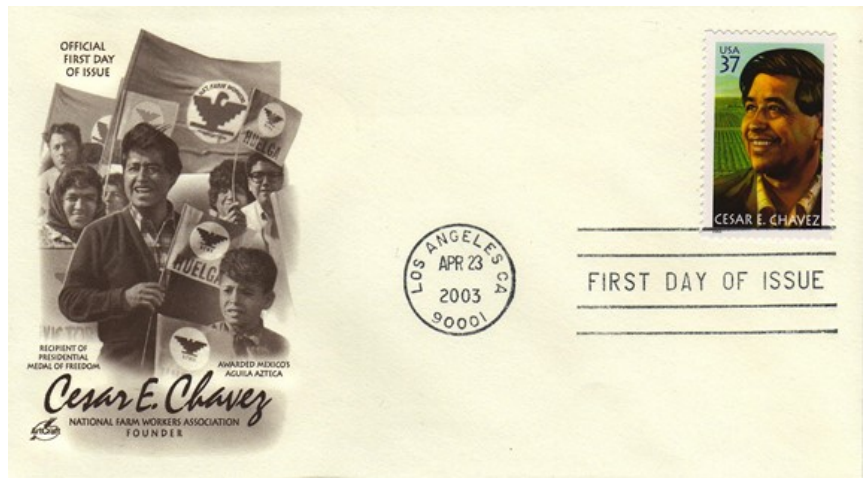


“Agitators”

by Kris McIntosh

As you do your grocery shopping, do you ever think about the people who grew, picked, processed, delivered that item to the shelf? Do you consider if the workers who pick the crops are paid at least a minimum wage, given a morning break or a lunch break, provided with adequate and accessible bathrooms and drinking water? Before the 1970’s, they were not.

In 1962, Cesar Chavez (1927-1993), and Dolores Huerta (1930 -) co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, later renamed the United Farm Workers (UFW). In just eight years, by 1970, the organization had grown to over 50,000 dues paying members thanks to the tireless work of its founders. Chavez and Huerta helped farm workers understand that there is strength in numbers and that by using nonviolent strikes and boycotts to protest low wages, poor working and living conditions, change would come. The UFW’s strike against table grape growers lasted for five years, but Chavez’s use of fasting as a type of protest as well as a 340 - mile march inspired Americans to join in the boycott of table grapes. Farm workers in Texas, Wisconsin and



Ohio were also organized and went on strike. The UFW worked to change policies such as farm owners hiring illegal immigrants, and ensuring the passage of state laws allowing farm workers to bargain collectively. In 1963 Huerta lobbied the California legislature and won for farm workers the rights to disability insurance and Aid for Dependent Families. The Arizona law preventing farm workers from striking during harvest time was also overturned. In 1975, with Huerta as the UFW’s chief lobbyist, Governor Brown was able to push through the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act to protect farm workers from unfair labor practices. It also protects the unions right to collective bargaining.

On April 23, 2003 the Postal Service issued in Los Angeles, CA, the 37 cent Cesar E. Chavez com-

memorative stamp. It was designed by Carl T. Herrman and illustrated by Robert Rodriguez.

Because Dolores Huerta is still alive, the USPS description gives all credit to Chavez for the creation of the UFW and the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act. The first day cover cachet by Artcraft adds to your knowledge that Chavez also received the Medal of Freedom (1994 presented by President Bill Clinton, posthumously). Dolores Huerta received the Medal of Freedom in 2012, presented by President Barak Obama.

As is so often true in history, a woman’s role in a movement is overshadowed by a man’s work. May the USPS someday recognize and honor the work of Dolores Huerta, also an agitator for farm worker’s rights.

WE Fest 2020

The WE Fest committee for Chicagopex 2020 is busy preparing for a fun filled, informative, and celebratory event next year. The committee consists of Show Liaison Cheryl Ganz, members Melanie Rogers, Kathy Johnson, Jackie Alton, Betty Lewis, Carol Edholm (Registration), and Alexia Steffen (Advertising). We hope to advertise the event nationwide starting this fall. If your local show is seeking advertisements send us an email at womenexhibitors@gmail.com.

O'Connor purchased her first pair of Peafowl with chicks in 1952, and the flock expanded from there. She raised more than 40 Peafowl alongside ducks, ostriches, emus, toucans and other exotic birds. She often wrote about her Peafowl. One writing stated that visitors to the family farm "are squalled at by peacocks whose blue necks and crested heads pop up from behind tufts of grass, peer out of bushes and crane downward from the roof of the house, where the bird has flown...." She described her Peacocks in an article that first appeared in *Holiday* magazine, September 1961 issue, under the title, *Living with a Peacock*

(<https://holidaymag.wordpress.com/2012/03/30/living-with-a-peacock-by-flannery-oconnor-september-1961/>).

This essay, renamed *The King of the Birds*, was later included in a collection of her non-fiction writings titled "Mystery and Manners". (A book based on this story is also on Amazon.com; just type in "The King of the Birds by Flannery O'Connor" in Amazon's search feature.) A popular quote: "I intend to stand firm and let the peacocks multiply, for I am sure that, in the end, the last word will be theirs." How many of us can relate to this? She wrote of her Peafowl eating her mother's garden flowers, then nesting in them; eating the figs out of the fig trees planted by her uncle; the dairyman complaining of the Peacocks eating the peanuts off the peanut hay; and the dairyman's wife complaining of finding them ravaging her garden vegetables. In her writings, O'Con-

nor referred to Peacocks in the mythical sense (Hera and Zeus), in the Biblical sense (Peacock as a symbol of immortality or fertility) and as food for royalty. (These stories are well-known in various cultures around the world, and I hope to write about them in the future.) She loved incorporating images of Peafowl into her books; critics thought this as eccentric.

Her fondness for the birds we all love and adore has become part of her legacy. She was known to send dropped train feathers in letters to friends and to the local ladies to decorate their hats.

After her death, there were over 100 Peafowl at the farm. O'Connor's mother donated two pairs of Peafowl to Stone Mountain Park outside of Atlanta, another pair to a hospice, and another to a monastery. By the time Andalusia Farm became a historic site in 2003, all the original Peafowl had died. In 2009, a Peafowl-loving donor made sure that Peafowl once again resided at O'Connor's home, a Peacock and two Peahens, housed in a spacious aviary. The Andalusia Farm was finally donated to O'Connor's Georgia College alma mater in 2018. After extensive renovations, the farm opened to the public as a museum, complete with staff and two Peafowl, Astor & Mrs. Shortley (named from characters in *The Displaced Person* short story).

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The O'Connor stamp was first issued in McLean, Virginia, denominated for three ounce mail (93 cents, self-adhesive). This stamp is a "Forever stamp" and will always pay the three ounce rate.



First Day Cover courtesy of Loretta Smith

...continued on page 8

Peafowl Postage Stamps....continued from page 2

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<https://dappledthings.org/8779/peacock-memories-flannery-oconnors-most-memorable-writing-might-have-been-a-non-fiction-essay/>

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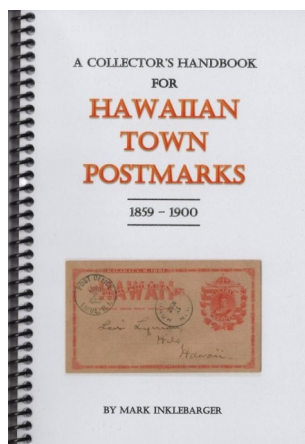
Lisa Foster at PIPEX Large Vermeil and APS Medal of Excellence post-1980 for *The Great American Eclipse*



Northwest Distinguished Philatelist 2019 Winners: Roger Heath received the award from Executive Secretary Larry Crain and Lisa Foster received the award from Chairman Eric Knapp

Tools of the Trade

On April 6, 2019 at the Twenty-Ninth Annual John D. Arn Philatelic Symposium at Moses Lake, Ina Inklebarger gave a presentation on "A Survey of Hawaiian Town Postmarks."



Ina shared resources, including a discovery tool, "retroReveal.org", a web-based image processor to assist in identifying hidden text in documents. It was recommended to be used to separate cancels from scanned covers for further study. The "Bridger & Kay Cancellation Gauge" was designed to measure the diameter of a full or part of a circular cancellation, to check perforations of a stamp on a cover. The "Cozy Magnifier" was named as one of the best apps to turn your cell phone into a magnifier for use at stamp shows and on the go.



Ina and Steve Inklebarger

During his presentation "Philatelic Advice for Historians", Richard Sola referred attendees to the Global Philatelic Library (globalphilatelibrary.org) which is a consolidated listing of philatelic publications, archives, museum items, etc. held by libraries. So far 27 libraries have contributed their listings.

Vintage Toys and Collections Fair by Kristin Patterson

In January 2019, I got a call from a Livermore Hagerman Guild volunteer. She had found my name on the internet and was looking to expand the Livermore Vintage Toys and Collections Fair by adding coins and stamps. That sounded like a great idea. The event was held at Hagemann Ranch on Sunday, February 24 and I knew just the stamp-collecting couple that lived in town. So, I told her that we could host a table.

I then contacted the director of the Stamps R Us program that is a youth program run by Sequoia Stamp Club volunteers. The program has about 35 members who receive a mailing every month with two being large mailings that contain stamps and worksheets. On the application form the kids mark what their specific interests are and stamps that relate to that are mailed to them. Also, at the annual PENPEX stamp show held in Redwood City, CA, the Youth Program hosts tables with fun stamp-related activities for the kids. Kids get to take lots of stamps home with them.

Stamps R Us lent me two bins of stamps; U.S. Flags and 1938 Presidential Issue stamps. The goal of the flag activity was to find 25 different stamps. One boy did it in less than 5 minutes and went on to find over 40 stamps.

For the Prexies, I created a worksheet where the stamps could be hinged inside a box with the president's name below. See Figure 1. I decided to show the stamp images for those that did NOT match their face value with the number of their presidency or who were not U.S. presidents. For example, Lincoln was the 16th president (no image) while Theodore Roosevelt was the 26th president (image of 30¢ stamp shown).

I called my Livermore friends and learned that they had a previous commitment that day. So, I asked a Sequoia Stamp Club member if he would be willing to help. He was very enthusiastic, and we would make it a day. But the day before the Fair, he had caught a cold from his 7-year old son; there was no way that he could attend. So last minute, I called Jim Sauer who was just as enthusiastic about helping.

U.S. Presidential Series of 1938 (Called "Prexies")



1938 Presidential Issue Stamps worksheet

...continued on page 10

We drove up together with stamps, worksheets, prizes, and signs packed in my car. Jim had also brought a couple of his personal albums with pages he had designed on his computer and printed. He wanted to show youngsters and parents that computers are more than just a platform for video games.

While most booths had a simple 8' front table with their toys displayed, we needed more room so that kids and adults could sit down and actually play with our toys. We found two more tables and made an alcove with two tables set up for the projects as shown in Figure 2. We also gave away free philatelic magazines.

If it looks like we are in a barn, it is because we were. It worked out fine as we were out of the sun and wind. Jim and I had lots of fun while kids hunted for 25 different U.S. flag stamps to win a prize. We encouraged the kids while we talked with their parents. Most of the parents had collected as kids, but now were busy with family and work.

STAMPSHOW 2019 Exhibiting SEMINARS

Anyone attending any of the seminars who is willing to take notes and write a summary to publish in the next WE Expressions, please notify/submit to the editor at [wom-enexhibitors@gmail.com](mailto:womenexhibitors@gmail.com). Members who are unable to attend would be very appreciative!

Advanced Mounting Techniques for Exhibitors - Dr. Edwin An-



Jim Sauer standing behind Flag Stamps Project table at Hagemann Ranch.

In the photo (above), the two boys on the left had been brought to the fair by their grandfather who was happy to see them enjoying playing quietly without holding an electronic game. After 15 minutes of working on finding U.S. flag stamps, their grandfather wanted to take the boys to the big barn. But both boys wanted to stay because "We are having fun." They wrote their names on their pages and we told them they could come back. In less than 15 minutes, they were both back. The grandfather said the boys pestered him the entire time about coming back. So, they worked another 10 minutes on the flag stamps and then worked 15 more minutes on the Prexies.

Participants were shown how to mount stamps on their pages with hinges. When they were done, the pages were put in clear sheet protectors for them to take with them. Sequoia Stamp Club

Stamps R Us youth program registered four new members.

Kristin Patterson has exhibited in APS StampShows and AmeriStamp Expos, Washington 2006 International Show, and other WSP and local shows. She has been a WE member since 2007. If you have any comments, you can contact Kristin at Kristin_email@yahoo.com.

drews, August 01, 2019, 12:00 p.m.

Exhibit Freedom Allowed by the Judging Manual - Mike Ley, August 02, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

How to Build a Topical Exhibit - Dr. Edwin Andrews, August 02, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

Becoming an Exhibitor, Never Exhibited: Learn How to Get

Started, Michael Zolno August 02, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Open Forum - August 03, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

Taking the Next Step as an Exhibitor: Improving your Exhibit - Michael Zolno, August 03, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

*Schedule is subject to change

PIPEX 2019 Feedback Session Insights by Lisa Foster

This was a great exhibition with THREE female judges including Chief Judge Kathryn Johnson of IL, Jane Sodero of AL, and Norma Nielson OR. Additional jury members included Mark Banchik of NY, Alan Warren of PA and apprentice Mark Loomis of OR. The feedback session was positive and informative.



Some common themes, or information shared for the general exhibitor included the following: Titles should reflect what the jury is going to see. Some exhibit titles were unclear, for example, the exhibit, “What do I do now?” The jury suggested changes to other exhibits for clarity,

such as addition of subtitles, or dates.

If using a town cancel as a philatelic element, look up the toponymy (the study of the place names) to ensure that historically the name of the town is related to your topic.

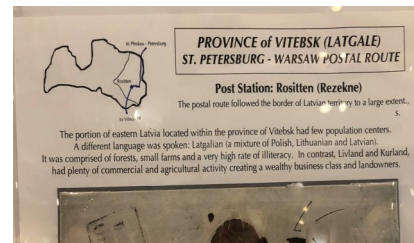
A practical idea given to one exhibitor was to photocopy the exhibit, cut out some text, enlarge some fonts and lay out to see.

When showing scans of the other side of the cover, the scan should be at least 25% smaller.

When scanning markings to show, increase the scan at least 25%. The exhibitor does not always need to use the entire item; scan and use only the area wanting to highlight, for example markings.

Exhibits which tell a story....suggested using two fonts,

or two colors, one for the storyline and one for the philatelic story.



The jury noted the maps used on Vesma Grinfelds' exhibit were small enough to be helpful, but not so large as to be distracting. (see photo map above).

There was a lot of focus on exhibit endings. Think of it in terms of an epilogue (a section at the end that serves as a comment on or a conclusion to what has happened, a final or concluding act or event). Suggestions for the last page included the next stamp issue, the next rate, a mourning cover, the war ended.

WE Meeting at Pipex

At the WE meeting on May 11, 2019, 13 current members attended and one new person signed up! President Lisa Foster led the meeting with discussion about the upcoming shows in Omaha and about WE Fest in 2020. Lisa asked the group to go around the room and introduce themselves and their collecting interest. WE truly is a diverse and extremely creative group.

So spread the word about this amazing group! Encourage others you know to come to a meeting! They may learn something new and they will certainly like who they meet!



L to R: Laurie Anderson, Jane Sodero, Cathie Osborne, Alexia Steffen, Anne Harris, Vesma Grinfeld, Jack Congrove, Carol Edholm, Marjory Sente, Sheryll Ruecker, Cathie Stumpfenhaus, Lisa Foster and Norma Nielson (new). Not pictured: Steve Brandt

SEAPEX 2019 to celebrate 50th anniversary of Manned Moon Landing

by Jack Congrove

The Seattle Philatelic Exhibition (SEAPEX), an American Philatelic Society (APS) national-level stamp exhibition, will take place on 13-15 September 2019, at the Tukwila Community Center located just north of the SeaTac Airport at 12424 42nd Avenue South, Tukwila, Washington.

This year SEAPEX is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 first manned landing on the Moon. This summer the United States Postal Service will be issuing two commemorative stamps to mark this anniversary. Many other countries also will issue, or have already issued, stamps to commemorate this historic achievement. SEAPEX will have a special exhibit honoring the anniversary.

The show will host a special ceremony on Saturday at noon to honor the astronauts from all the Apollo missions and to recognize the contributions to this program made by Seattle area companies and individuals. One of these contributions was the construction of the Lunar Rovers produced at the Boeing facility in Kent, Washington, only a short distance from the SEAPEX venue. A special postmark and illustrated souvenir covers will also be available.

The show hours are 10 AM to 6 PM Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM Saturday, and 10 AM to 4 PM Sunday. Parking and admission are free.

The show will feature 25 stamp dealers and more than 3,200 pages of exhibits. As a World Series of Philately (WSP) show, the Grand Award winners for the single-frame and multi-frame exhibits will be eligible to compete at the APS Champion of Champions competitions against winners from other national WSP shows next year in St. Louis, Missouri, and Hartford, Connecticut.

The Scandinavian Collectors Club will hold their convention at the show. Also, the AFDCS and American Topical Association will have booths. The Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs will host a town hall meeting.

The event will also host free activities for youth and educators throughout the weekend. Starting Saturday morning, the show will hold a full-day Boy Scout stamp collecting merit badge seminar. Please contact the class coordinator, Rick

Crooks (rbcrooks@comcast.net) to sign up early as registrations are limited.

Experts will be available to provide free stamp evaluations, or what to do with that old stamp collection. The United States Postal Service and United Nations Postal Administration will be on hand to sell current postal items.

The show hotel is the Residence Inn South Seattle/Tukwila at 16201 West Valley Highway, Seattle. The SEAPEX rate for a studio suite is \$119. Contact the hotel at (425) 226-5500.

Visit the website (<http://seapexshow.org>) for exhibit prospectus and application, event schedule, exhibit listing, links to the hotel, and other details. Also visit us on Facebook: Seapex: Seattle Philatelic Exhibition.

**Seattle
Philatelic Exhibition
SEAPEX 2019**

**an APS-accredited
NATIONAL Stamp Exhibition**

50th Anniversary



First Man on the Moon

**FREE PARKING
FREE ADMISSION**

**30 Stamp Dealers
200 Frames of Exhibits
Scandinavian Collectors Club
UNPA Postal Booth
Scout Merit Badge Seminar
Show Cachet and Cancellation
What's in Your Attic Evaluations
Free Stamps for Youth/Educators**

September 13-15, 2019
Fri. 10AM-6PM
Sat. 10AM-5PM
Sun. 10AM-4PM

**Tukwila Community Center
12424 42nd Avenue South
Tukwila, Washington**

<http://www.seapexshow.org>
Facebook: Seapex: Seattle Philatelic Exhibition

Philatelic Rarity by Lisa Foster

The Exhibit Evaluation Form indicates rarity is rated on the “challenge” and “difficulty of acquisition”. Rarity, worth 20 points can raise or lower an exhibit by one or two medal levels. To ensure the jury grants the exhibit rarity points, it is important to highlight rare, or hard to acquire items.

Recently my exhibit, “The Great American Eclipse 2017” received a score of 16 points which is not common with an exhibit with such modern material. In the synopsis I stressed the difficulties of acquisition and reasons behind those difficulties. For example, listing requested eclipse cancels which were not fulfilled by the eclipse station postmaster; noting those eclipse post offices not published in the USPS bulletin; and inclusion of a statement that the event covers are not easily reproducible at this point as the window of opportunity to obtain the event cancels has passed.

Although the word “rare” can be used in the synopsis, it should not be stated in the exhibit. Rare items can be exhibited with color mounts, boxes, different color type face, or a similar method identified on the title page. In addition, the exhibitor needs to write a statement with the philatelic item explaining why it is considered rare.

Rarity is usually conveyed with statements such as “number reported,” “number recorded”,

“number seen by the exhibitor,” or a number according to a published census.

In my eclipse exhibit, most cachet maker’s covers were noted with the exhibited cover in relation to the number produced. For example, “Eclipse Event Cachet (#2 of 2) by John Byrnes of Onedog Cachets”, or “Event cover with pictorial cancel, 5 of 15 by Kevin Colton of KCS Cachets, NY.” First Day Covers, Event Cachets and canceled to order items are relatively easy to quantify as the cachetmaker usually signs/initials the cover and frequently quantifies the item. The American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS) offers a Cachetmakers Directory, and FDC Cachet Catalogs for reference.

For guidance on how exhibitors were supposed to determine the rarity of their philatelic items, I asked APS Philatelic Judge Mark Schwartz:

Good, maintained censuses are not common but can be the source of a lot of information. I use the Postmaster Provisional census on the USPS website for lots of key information in my NT Provisional exhibit. Some is the one of X type, including “one of three known domestic first day of uses”; one of 4 pairs on blue paper (and the best example); one of two known set-tenant pairs on cover; one of two covers sent to Tennessee; the second latest use of the NY Provisional on cover.”

The U.S. Philatelic Classics Socie-

ty (USPCS) has online image censuses (<https://www.uspcs.org/resource-center/censuses>) maintained by members. Censuses available include, "1847 Issue Covers, "Postmaster Provisional & Covers," "US City Despatch Covers", and "Columbian \$Value Covers."

In addition, the United States Stamp Society (usstamps.org) has a Registered Mail Study Group whose members have undertaken projects including a census database of known covers bearing registry exchange office labels. The American First Day Cover Society published a book of the Census of First Day Covers with the 2c Lincoln Memorial Issues of 1909.

Mr. Schwartz indicated he would also search organization’s journals for articles on the subject, and either read the article or contact the author. If the exhibitor is unaware of journals published the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) is a great start.

When conducting an APRL search by a specific topic, or type of cover, for example, “Flag Cancel”, one of my collecting interests, It can be noted that many of the articles and books are published by the Machine Cancel Society which may be able to assist. In addition, many of the articles were written by the same individuals, who can now be considered as "expert" resources

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and contacted for assistance.

In addition, the APRL has census related articles including but not limited to, "Census of Spanish Military Expedition Covers from Mexico 1862," "Census of the 1902 Issue: Largest Multiple on Cover," "Census of US Classic Plate Blocks," "Census of US match and medicine stamps," "Judenpost Stamps on Cover: A preliminary census," and many more. The exhibitor should pay attention to the publication date of the census as there may have been additional items located since then. The online censuses are a work in progress and updated as items are identified.

Frequently it has been suggested I peruse auction catalogues for like items to determine if any of what I have are out there. The Robert Siegel Website <https://siegelauctions.com> has the Siegel Census which was compiled in the course of research and catalogue production and includes many of the rarest United States and Worldwide stamps.

Richard Frajola maintains images

censuses for covers on his website (philamercury.com). Phila Mercury is "an online image and description database for United States covers that is free, open-access, and non-commercial." The site contains a wide variety of data on more than 20,000 US covers, including highly specialized areas of postal history, including Pony Express, California Penny Post, and California Overland directive handstamps.

The website also contains a message board for philatelists. If the item has only a few known items, the exhibitor can post on the board and get examples or sources from others. (see image below)

Collect and compare images of all the like items you can find. Additional data sources, retail price lists, copies of expert certificates, individuals and exhibits. In addition to attending stamp shows, exhibits can be seen online. EXPONET, a virtual international philatelic exhibition contains more than 1000 active exhibits which are searchable by multiple criteria including subject,

class/type, country, and time period. The website stampontheweb.com lists resources for over 4000 online exhibits with links to the hosting websites.

If recorded census information cannot be located, and you have years of collecting in an area, and haven't found an item, or similar item, be sure to let the jury know in the synopsis. You should also note in the synopsis, if you own all known covers, especially if they are not included in the exhibit.

In the exhibit note "only (insert #) known", or "less than (insert #) known" and hopefully a viewer will inform the exhibitor of others known and/or refer to a source who may have knowledge of other such items.

If a census has not already been published, the exhibitor can compile their own spreadsheet with the unique identifier attributed to the philatelic item as the heading, where and when another was seen, offered, or sold. When sufficient items are listed, share the list with other philatelists online or in publication.

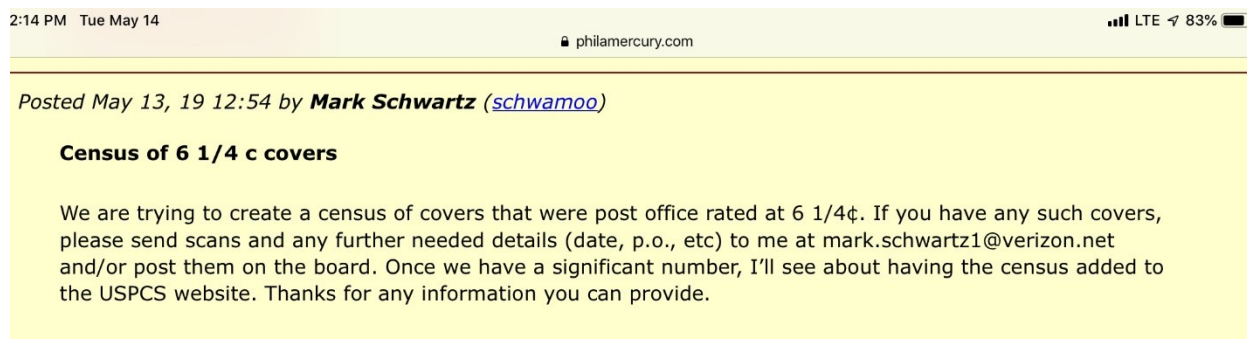


Photo Caption "Posted on behalf of Bill Schultz who is collecting the census."

AAPE Open Forum May 11, 2019 by Lisa Foster

At PIPEX 2019 AAPE Vice President, Kathryn Johnson held an AAPE Open Forum meeting. After opening remarks, she asked if the attendees had any topics to suggest. Exhibitor Ross Marshall indicated he had quite a few. The meeting that progressed was interesting and informative. The first topic surrounded how the jury chooses to observe exhibits at shows, as a group or in teams. Kathryn said it was up to the exhibitions Chief Judge and gave examples on criteria used to base that decision such as jury makeup, the show floor plan, and so on.

The second topic discussed was judging by frame numbers, in chronological order, versus judging by exhibit type (postal history, then traditional, then display, etc.). Some juries do evaluate single frames, then multi-frames, then youth. Some shows do put all the society exhibits together, otherwise the exhibits are frequently placed throughout the show floor. As exhibiting has grown, many exhibits do not fit into “categories”.

Ross asked his third question, “Why is the special knowledge judge not my first responder?” It was explained that the jury is a team and the first responder is only the spokesperson for the team. In addition, the first responder writes the evaluation on behalf of the team.

Noting previous medal levels in the synopsis was the fourth discussion topic. Exhibitors are discouraged from putting previous medal levels in the synopsis, but it is very important to note what has changed since it was last exhibited. In the synopsis, exhibitors were encouraged to add comments such as, “over the

past two years I’ve added material, adjusted the headings, highlighted...etc.”

It was suggested that if the judges had prior knowledge of medal levels maybe they would be more consistent. With the implementation of points, the medal levels have expanded. Chief Judges are now provided a track record of exhibits, but they aren’t shared with the jury until after deliberations. If the resulting medal levels changed, the jury will return to the exhibit and review it. Medal levels may have changed not because of the jury, but because of changes made to the exhibit. If the jury consists of an expert in the exhibitor’s area, it may help or raise the bar and make it more difficult to get a level. Every result is an “opinion” of the jury.

The fifth topic was regarding sharing with the exhibitors what the members of the jury exhibit. CANJ recently suggested the judges refresh their collecting interests and focuses on the website.

Providing quality feedback was the focus of another discussion.

Historically the judges had the Title Page and Synopsis months in advance as the exhibits filled up, now they receive them 3-4 weeks before the exhibition. For the exhibitor, the best feedback is provided one on one at the frame, but then the information is not available to the novice or exhibitors who are not present. Currently, exhibitors submit a “Synopsis” which is defined as a “a brief summary”, an abbreviated version of what is shown in the frames. The exhibitor should think of the synopsis as “Ancillary Notes”, covering what is not in the exhibit.

The final area of discussion surrounded the idea of limiting shows to two, three or four frame exhibits and decreased frame fees. Although fun for the jury, the exhibits take longer to judge and provide lots of feedback to exhibitors as they are often newer exhibits or cover different topics. The Rockford IL Stamp Show restricts exhibits to 2-3-4 frames, BALPEX has a two-three frame class, and SOPEX is a 1,2,3 frame exhibit show.



Anne Harris at PIPEX Vermeil for *Chantecler– A Play in Four Acts*

AAPE PANEL DISCUSSIONS – APS/ARIPEX 2019

by the AAPE Educational Committee: Michael Zolno (Chair), K. David Steidley & Lisa Foster

At the APS AmeriStamp Expo, held in Mesa AZ in February, AAPE held two Panel Discussions. One designed to appeal to those considering exhibiting – “Reasons to Exhibit” and the other for the newer exhibitor – “Improving Your Exhibit”.

“Reasons to Exhibit”

The panel consisted of Mike Ley, Richard Drews, Pat Walker and K. David Steidley and was moderated by Michael Zolno. There were 20 participants. The most relevant reasons for exhibiting mentioned were:

- Competing – make your exhibit the best it can be.
- Focus – adaptive process of focusing and refocusing collection/exhibit, with an emphasis on the fact that it is ongoing.
- Having fun – if you can’t, don’t, enjoy the process of creating and making an exhibit – then don’t do it.
- Learning – in designing and building you exhibit the necessary research leads to new knowledge regarding the collection.
- The hunt for new material – this is a given. By exhibiting you let more people know what you are seeking and will learn of new and unexpected items to add.
- Promote philately – exhibiting is a way of promoting our hobby and not just to fellow

collectors. One can seek out other venues for displaying your exhibit, e.g. schools, libraries, civic organizations and public buildings, that will expose non and casual collectors.

- Expanding your network – to more collectors and dealers that can lead to new material, ideas and knowledge. And you just might find others with similar collecting interests.
- The Process of formulating the exhibit/collection is likely to lead you in new directions and expand the vision of your collection and exhibit.
- Feedback – from judges & other collectors is part of the process of learning and improving your exhibit and expanding the collecting vision.
- Developing & editing the “Story” about your exhibit, collection. This is an ongoing process that involves adapting new material and ideas and finding ever better ways of telling the “story”.

One of the most encouraging outcomes was that at least three of the participants said that were seriously considering exhibiting in the near future.

“Improving Your Exhibit”

Pat Walker, Mike Ley, K. David Steidley and Ron Cipolla were on the Panel moderated by Michael

Zolno. There were 18 participants and a lively discussion ensued. Suggested ways for improving an exhibit were:

- Set clear-cut goals and objectives that are reasonable and measurable. Examples mentioned: time-frame for completing the exhibit (name of show for first entry), award level – both initial and ultimate – with a time-frame, number of shows in a given time-span, and number of frames.
- Clearly communicate to judges and the viewers. Tell them, clearly, what you your concept and story is and how your exhibit accomplishes this. This is a re-iterative process where your goal is zero ambiguity.
- Sell your exhibit – to judges, other collectors and yourself. Believe in your story and how you are presenting it – show confidence. Important – you must sell yourself first. If you haven’t done so – STOP! – revise until you do.
- Immediacy – your exhibit needs to communicate NOW! If what you are trying to tell isn’t obvious right away – you need to revise until it is.
- First impression – very important – you have seconds to catch the eye of a viewer – whether or a judge, fellow collector or casual observer.
- Two-way communication with judges

...continued on page 17

- listen to the feedback and use what they have to say for improving your exhibit. Find a positive way to interact with them.
- Manage expectations - yours, judges and viewers. Expressed in the synopsis and title page. Your expectations need to be reasonable.

(where we are hoping to have a Panel for those looking to move-on to international exhibiting). If you are interested in being on a panel, or would like to host a panel at your Show or do a presentation - please contact Michael Zolno at mzolno@aol.com. Hope to see you at a future program.

Also, if you are interested in being a member of the AAPA Education Committee contact Michael Zolno at mzolno@aol.com.

The Educational Committee is planning on holding similar Panel Discussions at the APS Summer Show, SESCAL and Chicagopex



Laurie Anderson at PIPEX Vermeil, AAPE Awards of Honor, and ATA 2nd Place Medal for *Go for the Gold! The Introduction of Women in the Olympics*

Atlanta Stamp Show to Celebrate 100 Years of American Women's Voting Rights by Scott Mark

In January 2020, the Southeastern Stamp Expo will celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's voting rights in the United States as its annual show theme. As a result, the show's organizers are actively seeking potential exhibits that may contribute to the story of Women's Suffrage and the eventual enfranchisement of female citizens.

The Southeastern Stamp Expo is an APS World Series of Philately Event, held annually the last weekend in January. Show dates for 2020 are January 31st to February 2nd. The venue for the show is the Hilton Atlanta Northeast in Peachtree Corners, Georgia, located in Atlanta's northern suburbs. All aspects of the show are contained within the Hilton. A show rate of \$104 per night has been negotiated

for those attending the show.

Along with the celebration of Women's Suffrage, the Expo will also welcome the France and Colonies Philatelic Society for their Annual General Meeting.

To support the show theme, show organizers have initiated two projects to create single frame non-competitive displays. A frame of worldwide stamps that honor women's suffrage will be prepared, along with a First Day Cover exhibit on the cachets of the United States 50th anniversary of the women's vote stamp that was issued in 1970.

Show organizers are actively soliciting other exhibits that can expand the story behind the show's theme. These exhibits may be competitive or non-competitive. The show may have some latitude

to assume part or all of the shipping costs for non-competitive exhibits that are accepted by the show.

Show organizers anticipate a jury announcement and availability of the exhibiting prospectus by the end of July 2019. Non-competitive exhibits accepted by the show will be exempt from any frame fees.

The Expo's organizing committee would be delighted to hear from any exhibitor who may have an interest in supporting the show's theme. Inquiries will be gratefully received at ses-tampexpo@gmail.com. More information on the show is available at the show's website at www.sefsc.org.

WE Sterling Achievement Award Winners



Sterling Achievement Award

A special congratulations to the following Sterling Achievement Award winners for their fine exhibits at recent stamp shows:

Michael Burdett - *The Liberty Bell: An American Icon* at Rockford 2-3-4 Expo

Norma Nielson - *Where are Faberge's Easter Eggs* at Willametter Valley Stamp Expo

Alan Hanzl - *Czechoslovakia's Art on Stamp Series* at March Party

Lawrence Gregg - *Happy Hour Special— Oysters and Beer* at SPRINGPEX

Heinz Selig - *Lavenu and Umgebung* at St Louis Expo

Eric Bridge - *Famous American Series 1940* at Parforex 59

Rick Stankiewicz - *More than 50 years of Migrating Birds Hunting Stamps* at KAPEX

Rod Watts - *Great Britain— Reign of George VI* at Plymouth Show

Jack A. Elder - *The Red Cross in WWI (1912-1923)* at WESTPEX

Robert Jobe - *Stamps That Are More Than Just Paper* at WI-SCOPEX

Robert Benninghoff - *Postcards from Portugal* at Philatelic Show

Cathie Stumphouse - *Lovely as a Tree* at PIPEX

Lloyd Hogg - *USA 1934-35 3c Mothers of America Stamp - Postal Usages* at ROPEX

Thomas C. DeSha - *Early transatlantic Air Services and the Evolving War in Europe* at RMSS

Larry Crain - *"Easter Island Cancels"* at SOPEX

If your show has competitive exhibits and is interested in awarding the WE Sterling Award please contact Bill Johnson at williamdaddy51@yahoo.com or call him at (785) 925-1789.

Best of luck with your future exhibits.



Marjory Sente at PIPEX Large Gold for *The 1932 Washington Bicentennial Commemorative Stamps*

Women Seeking Change/

Women's Suffrage American Philatelist Proposal by Lisa Foster

It's a common saying, "Hurry up and wait", but in the case of our AP Proposal it has been true. WE Contributors frequently ask me for an update, and/or status report on the articles submitted, and sadly I have not been able to provide any further information.

All the proposals were sent in, but not acknowledged with the departure of the then AP Editor. In June, the APS announced they had chosen Thomas Loebig to be the Chief Content Officer effective June 25, 2019. According to press releases Mr. Loebig plans to attend StampShow in August, where I hope to meet with him in person. Thank you all for your patience and continued enthusiasm with this important project.

Upcoming WE Meetings:

StampShow 2019

"A Plan to Promote Women in Philately"

Friday August 2 at 10 AM

SEAPEX

Saturday September 14 1 PM



Vesma Grinfelds at PIPEX Gold Medal for *Latvia: Postmarks and Postal Routes of the Pre-stamp Era*

Women Exhibitors Membership Report

Currently, there are 100 active paid members.

Submitted by Carol J. Edholm **WE** Membership Chair



WE FEST VII

Join us at CHICAGOPEX 2020

November 18-22

at the Westin Chicago Northwest Hotel
Itasca, IL



Everyone Welcome! Women and men!
Beginning, advanced and future exhibitors!

Wednesday 11/18/20: Local Tour followed by evening pizza party.

Thursday 11/19/20: Exhibiting Seminars (Lunch included).

During CHICAGOPEX: Additional exhibiting seminars and socials

Sunday 11/22/20: WE Fest Farwell Breakfast

For more information on Women Exhibitors, visit the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors website at <http://aape.org/weweb.asp> or womenexhibitors@gmail.com

Carol Edholm, WE Membership
4404 – 224th Place SW
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Statement of Purpose: *To provide a vehicle through which women exhibitors can encourage each other through sharing information, ideas, experience, advice, problems, and solutions.*

WE is on the web at www.aape.org/weweb.asp or WomenExhibitors@gmail.com

Album Closed

Louise B Toft



Louise B. Toft, 79 (born March 1, 1940), of Champaign, IL passed away March 12, 2019 at home. Louise, a stamp collector since she was 10 years old, she was a member of the Champaign-Urbana (CU) Stamp Club for over 20 years, serving as President from 2003-05 and chairing the annual stamp show for more than a decade. In addition, she consistently won exhibit prizes at regional CUPEX shows. (to see full obituary and write on the tribute wall go to <https://www.owensfuneralhomes.com/notices/Louise-Toft>)

