

NOTES ON RECENT CANEJ MEETING

The APS Committee on the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ) held its semi-annual meeting at APS StampShow in Richmond on August 14, 2010. The following were some of the items discussed.

- Recently, several of our WSP shows have placed the title pages and/or synopsis pages of accepted exhibits on the web, either on a protected site or one open to the general public. While there are various positive reasons for doing this we have had some exhibitors complain that they did not want their materials on the web. Henceforth, any WSP show that intends to place the title pages and/or synopsis pages of accepted exhibits on the web, before, during or after the show, must provide a space on the application where exhibitors can opt out and refuse to grant permission.
- Some suggestions relative to Literature exhibiting were considered. The first related to having a C of C for Literature Grand Award winners. Since there are currently only three annual literature competitions, and the American Philatelic Congress has a similar award, it was decided not to grant this request. Secondly, there was a concern that the same piece of literature could win the Literature Grand Award at more than one show in a given exhibiting year. Currently, once a multi-frame or single frame philatelic exhibit has won a grand award it may not be shown again competitively in the same exhibiting year. It was decided to bring the Literature Class in line with the philatelic classes. Going forward, a piece of philatelic literature will be able to win only one grand award in a given exhibiting year. Lastly, there was a suggestion that when a piece of literature wins a Grand Award it be banned from competitive exhibiting forever thereafter. That suggestion was rejected.
- The Campaign for Philately Committee asked CANEJ to consider whether APS membership be made a requirement for exhibiting at any WSP show. While this might, on the surface, seem like a “no brainer” the discussion brought out several problems. First, some of our smaller shows are having difficulty getting enough exhibits to meet our minimum requirements. This might make it even more difficult. Secondly, shows would become “club” shows, with only “club” members being allowed to exhibit. We would no longer have “open” shows. Finally, what would happen when a convening society intends to have many foreign visitors bringing exhibits? Most would more likely not be APS members. Do we want to tell them that they can’t exhibit? After the discussion it was decided not to approve this idea.
It was suggested that APS ask shows to supply them with names and addresses of exhibitors and that APS could then cross reference these with the APS membership list and solicit those exhibitors who were not members.
- A discussion was held centered on the total feedback process of judges to exhibitors. While the use of the UEEF has generally been a success and now provides feedback to exhibitors who are not present, some improvement in feedback offered to present exhibitors seems to be in order. One concept discussed was increasing the feedback “at the frames” and decreasing the time spent at the formal critique. A subcommittee was formed to look into this process and report back at APS AmeriStamp Expo in February. The members of the subcommittee are Tim Bartshe, Mark Banchik and David McNamee.
- The APS Board had asked CANEJ to look into the possibility of having literature competitions for show programs, newsletters and articles. The Chapter Activities Committee now has annual

competitions for show programs and newsletters. CANEJ feels that this competition should be expanded to include all affiliates. Relative to articles, CANEJ sees no viable way to judge a single article. Since the book, magazine, newspaper, etc. that includes the article is not being judged there are no technical items to be evaluated. Basically, all that can be evaluated is the content of the article, and it is felt that in most cases the author will know more about the content than the judges. A series of articles can be bound and entered into WSP competitions as a "handbook."

- The problems associated with the decreasing number of judges, and the lack of a significant number of apprentices, were discussed. We now have about 100 judges of which perhaps 75 or 80 are "active." Recently we have had a number of requests to be placed on the inactive (emeritus) list. These requests were from people who are well up in years, medically unable to continue or without the necessary funds to continue. We need to increase the numbers of judges. The "Guide to Participating in the APS Judge Apprenticeship Program" is badly out-of-date. Liz Hisey will head up a subcommittee to rewrite this document.
- There was a request from outside the committee to allow the web version of the Classics Society "Chronicle" to be entered in our Literature competitions. We presently have a policy not to accept any web material, as it is felt that it is not "permanent," and can be changed instantly. We rejected the request, but, as this is being written, we have received further information and may reconsider.

So, you can see that your APS Committee is hard at work. I want to thank all 14 members for their efforts on your behalf.

You may always contact me at sreinhard1@optonline.net.

Thank you,

Stephen Reinhard, Chairman
CANEJ