



# WE EXPRESSIONS



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APS Affiliate #260

Women Exhibitors  
Supported by AAPE

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

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"The greatest discovery of my generation is that man can alter his life simply by altering his attitude of mind."

James Truslow Adams  
1878-1949  
American historian.

Please everyone,

I still need **NEWS**. What is happening at your clubs or at shows you have attended? Are you getting new exhibits ready for the new year or polishing up a current one? **WE** is about communicating. Myself, as editor, am trying to do this, but I need help; I need input from the world outside of Eastern Washington. So, please send me any kind of article you want.

Thank you, Barb Harrison for contributing your story.

Thank you in advance for contributions,

Anne

# KK

## Keepers Korner

Your newsletter will arrive a day or two late, because your *Keeper* is chair of exhibits for SEAPEX which is happening next weekend. I was putting items on my to-do list back, until Anne reminded me that now is the time. I'm in the throes of putting together the SEAPEX program, and I empathize with all who do these tasks. Little errors keep cropping up here and there, a bit like errors on stamps.

Please support your local shows with your volunteer time, exhibits, and attendance. We have several exhibitors who have stepped up to help us fill the frames. Your local show will have similar needs in any given year. Local shows are important, as they give us an opportunity to put up our first-time exhibits, or those on which we want feedback before entering a national show. Support Your Local Shows!

I think you will find a few responses to the *Discussion Topics* in this newsletter. Please keep those responses coming. Although these topics are fictional, they resemble the conversations that WE members have had at satellite meetings. I look forward to reading your responses.

WE satellite meetings have not appeared in KK for awhile. These are a good time for WE members to meet and discuss issues related to WE and philately in general. If there is a local/regional/national show near you, please consider leading a discussion at satellite meeting. Most shows have room for one more event. They may actually be looking for a group to fill their meeting space.

Upcoming events include the WE Membership Meeting at AmeriStampExpo in Charleston SC, February 11-13, 2011. WE meeting will be on Saturday with time and place to be announced. Don't forget that WE has several non-competitive frames reserved for Fest 3 at Pipex, Portland OR, May 2012. No one has filled my mail box with suggestions for these frames. Perhaps that should be the next discussion topic.

Now back to SEAPEX program formatting.

See you at the shows. Wear your WE buttons.

Ruth

## **HOBBIES HELP KEEP YOU SANE!**

**by Barb Harrison**

After 6 years of exhibiting, I lost all vision in one eye due to cataract complications (3 surgeries in 8 months, including complete corneal transplant), totally changing my life. I can no longer see to work on exhibit pages because everything is a fuzzy blur, with straight lines still appearing to me to be crooked. My brain hasn't accepted the vision changes, I can't drive, I have difficulty reading. What to do as weeks drag into months, with imperceptible improvement in my eyesight?

I began working on parts of my stamp and PPC collections that have been set aside for the past 6 years. I started separating my better linen cards out of the state binders and into a LINEN collection. I also pulled out 5 boxes of letters written by my dad during WWII and began transcribing them. His letters are also a treasure trove of interesting WWII ephemera, linen postcards, and letters from my great-grandmother and other relatives. All the letters include family history in addition to information about prices, shortages, rationing, Air Force life and such. Although this began as a historical piece for my family, I quickly decided to incorporate the letters into a WWII 1943-1945 collection.

Another project I can see well enough to work on is incorporating my worldwide stamp collection (2 Citation albums) into my dad's 3 Citation albums. He was my stamp buddy in the early 70s and after his death my worldwide and U.S. collections just sat for many years, as I continued to accumulate. I have now finished combining the two worldwide collections in addition to pulling out and placing into stock books topical stamps on about 30 specific subjects. Now I am enjoying arranging the many stock books of topical stamps into my new topical collection.

There has been pain, frustration, and forced change in my lifestyle, but I have been able to keep both busy and sane because of my stamps, covers, and postcards. I've been hoping to work on some of these projects for years, and now I'm finally having the enjoyment and real pleasure of bringing them closer to completion.

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade!

## **BRAGGING RIGHTS**

Dear Ruth,

Enjoy receiving WE Newsletter every month. I am attaching a notice on a continental philatelic exposition during the bi-centennial celebration of Paraguayan independence. Just as Dila and I have enjoyed participating in philatelic events in the US we would greatly enjoy showing off our country and what we can do to our WE friends.

By the way both Dila and I participated in the World Exhibition LONDON 2010 and both won Gold. Dila's gold was for a traditional presentation "POSTAL STAMPS OF PARAGUAY XIX CENTURY". She is now in Lisbon participating in the World Exhibition PORTUGAL 2010 and her same collection has won another gold.

Best regards

Roberto

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

As some of you might be aware of, the Greater Houston Stamp Show has a one frame color competition each year - 2011 will be our 8th year for this fun type of exhibiting - at our awards dinner in September, the color for next year was chosen - it will be PURPLE! The show next year will be Sept. 16-18 and we expect the one frame portion of the show to fill quickly, so if you would like to participate, please get your entry in early. Of course, we are always very happy to have multiple framers too! For more info and a prospectus, go to [www.houstonstampclub.org](http://www.houstonstampclub.org).

Denise Stotts

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The WE Membership Meeting will be at AmeriStampExpo in Charleston SC, February 11-13, 2011. The WE meeting will be on Saturday with the time and place to be announced.

## Comments to the Discussion Topics

(Topics are revisited below the comments.)

From Karen -

I would like to comment on the Pepi situation. I too have a 3 frame exhibit that garners gold and best in show at a local level but is stuck at silver bronze in the national shows.

I have been told by several judges that the problem is size. It seems that 3 frame exhibits are in limbo because they have to be at least 5 frames to go higher. There is no category for 2 and 3 frame exhibits (there ought to be) and they must compete with much larger exhibits even when they are complete and you have everything available on the subject in the frames.

I was told to find a way to expand the exhibit. This may mean a change of category from thematic to display. I am currently researching alternate views of my subject to see if expansion to 5 frames is possible. It may be. It may also take another 10 years to find what I need as we don't get to very many stamp shows.

I recently found a bit more material that was not available before that directly relates to the topic in question, but it is slow going. I would suggest something similar to Pepi as I have heard this from enough judges to feel that it is the only option.

From Pat Stillwell-Walker -

**Sulu** has a treatment problem with her exhibit and likely that treatment problem impacts the judge's ability to appreciate her knowledge. If she is being congratulated on the quality of her material, she doesn't need to spend more money, she needs to learn how to convey what she knows about her stuff in an accessible manner. If Sulu has done any personal study or research on her material, maybe she should advertise that fact. I would wager that when her exhibit wins a gold, somebody on the jury is a bit familiar with her subject and when she doesn't there isn't one.

There is an easy way to get a treatment checkup. Sulu should have a friend (preferably a fellow

exhibitor who is NOT also a collector of her stuff too) read her title page and JUST the headings on her pages to see if the exhibit story can be followed easily.

Use the AAPE title page/synopsis critique service to get those two important pages a thorough review.

**Pepi** needs to **make a decision**. Is she exhibiting to win the best award that she possibly can or is she doing this exhibit for the love of her off-beat topic? If the former, Pepi needs to be aware that three frame exhibits will rarely win gold medals, and have a difficult time winning vermeils **unless** the subject that is being presented **cannot be expanded**. Since her theme is not a usual one, and it is a Display exhibit which opens the door to a rich array of possible material, I imagine most judges think her topic can be developed more either deeper or wider, resulting in the silver judgment. Also, since she is getting varied and contradictory suggestions from judges, she needs to work especially hard on her title and synopsis page making sure the **purpose of her exhibit** is not in doubt.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS REVISITED

The names are fictional and any resemblance to real people is entirely coincidental.

How do the people in these fictional situations

Move To the Next Level

Ceci the Collector

Ceci is an avid collector and has LOTS of philatelic items and ephemera in her XYZ collection. She has a room with boxes of *stuff*. Ceci walked into a local stamp show and saw exhibits for the first time. She also attended the WE meeting at the same show, and raised the question of how she should get started to craft an exhibit.

Pepi the Perpetual Silver

Pepi has a three-frame display exhibit that is stuck at the Silver Award level. Her XYZ topic is a bit unusual. It is not a traditional thematic theme, but one of her choosing and one in which she is very interested. Pepi has talked with the judges but found their comments to be varied and sometimes contradictory with each other. Pepi has tried to follow the judges' suggestions, but each revision has resulted in another silver.

### Sulu the Sophisticated Exhibitor

Sulu has a five-frame traditional exhibit on XYZ (issues around 1930). She has the necessary requirements for traditional exhibits in pre-production material, stamps, and usages. Sulu gets Vermeil and Gold Awards, but she wants Gold and is seeking a Grand Award. Judges frequently congratulate her on quality of material in the exhibit, but she has not heard (or does not interpret what she hears correctly) the steps to be a consistent Gold.

## INFO

**DUES:** When paying your dues by mail, please send your checks **ONLY** to our Treasurer, Liz Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33872. Dues may also be paid with Paypal at [lizhisey@comcast.net](mailto:lizhisey@comcast.net)

If you are not yet an AAPE member, contact Liz Hisey, AAPE Secretary at [lizhisey@comcasr.net](mailto:lizhisey@comcasr.net)  
Or go to [aape.org](http://aape.org) and click on Join the AAPE.

Liz Hisey also has the WE buttons.

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