



Women Exhibitors
APS Affiliate #260

WE EXPRESSIONS



Supported by AAPE

Vol. 4-2(10); February 25, 2010

Ed., *WE Exp.*: Barbara Harrison, barbandwill@comcast.net
Chair: Ruth Caswell, ruthandlyman@earthlink.net
Secretary: Vesma Grinfelds, dzvesma@sprintmail.com
Treasurer: Liz Hisey, lizhisey@comcast.net

Dirs. at Large: Pat Stilwell-Walker, psw123@comcast.net
Denise Stotts, stottsjd@swbell.net
Ed., *WE Think*: Janet Klug, tongajan@aol.com
Web Site: <http://www.aape.org/weweb.asp>

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

Next Meeting: StampShow 2010, Aug. 12-15, Richmond Convention Center, Richmond, VA. WE meeting details TBA.

Keeper's Korner:

Be sure to put Fest II on your calendar now and make plans to attend. Fest II will be held in conjunction with Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (RMSS), May 12-15, 2010, at the Crowne Plaza, DIA, in Denver, CO. You'll read more about Fest II in this and upcoming newsletters. The registration cost is \$65.00. There will be a track for beginners and one for intermediate exhibitors. You don't want to miss this WE event.

WE had to cancel our meeting at AmeriStamp Expo in February. There was no one to conduct the meeting. Many could not work one more stamp show into their budgets. The good news is that WE will have a Celebration Brunch at RMSS, where WE met its goal of 120+ frames.

I've heard from several of you that you are starting new exhibits, some of which I hope to see at RMSS. Keep up the good work.

Ruth

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: Do you belong to any local stamp clubs? (Which ones?) Do you attend regularly? What are the meetings like? Is there a newsletter? What are the pluses and minuses of membership? Does the club put on any kind of show annually? If so, what is it like, where is it held, how is attendance, what are the fees?

(from Nancy Swan) I belong to the Southern Oregon Philatelic Society headquartered right here in Medford. Our family joined the club at the Christmas potluck two months after moving here in 1970! Without this club I never would have started exhibiting and probably wouldn't even still be involved in the hobby. The members of SOPS provided information, non-threatening exhibiting lessons and opportunities, contacts with dealers and the programs and fellowship to encourage involvement.

There are two club meetings a month, the first and third Thursday evenings. The first is a regular meeting with refreshments and a program (usually presented by a member or involving members) or a quarterly auction. We also have a brief birthday recognition (pennies in box for club benefit) and door prizes (donated by members). Members have name tags and visitors are recognized. The second monthly meeting is the SWAP - a non-structured opportunity to show, sell, buy and trade stamps and covers, look at the APS circuit books or look through the club's boxes of covers and table of stamps. We also hold our show committee meetings on SWAP night. There is a monthly newsletter with the last meeting's minutes (humorous), reminders of shows and events, and feature articles.

The club's first stamp show was in 1953, and SOPEX has been an annual event of the area's April Pear Blossom Festival since 1962. We've had a special Pear Blossom Festival cachet cover in April since 1965 and our cachet chairwoman annually also designs a local history special show cover and cancel. In addition to philatelic exhibits, club members are encouraged to use stamps and covers to develop displays following each year's Pear Blossom theme - special Pear Plaque and good PR! We encourage youth exhibits and have a "Beginners' Table" of free stamps and information. SOPEX is held in a building of the Jackson County Fair EXPO complex. Entry to the show is free and everyone gets a program and has a chance at door prizes. There are over a dozen dealers. We put out postcards, posters, philatelic PR and get local media PR. Since we are far from large metropolitan areas our attendance now runs about 350 [economy?]. (SOPEX is the largest competitive exhibit show between Redding, CA and Portland, OR!) In the 1970s the club also began sponsoring the Fall Filatelic Frolic (a mini bourse with occasional non-competitive displays in our meeting room) in October for Stamp Collecting Month. Club members put philatelic displays in the main post office display case every March/April and October. We've also participated in festivities for post office "birthdays" and dedications and airport air mail commemorations.

The Southern Oregon Philatelic Society has been member of the NW Federation of Stamp Clubs since 1954, as well as being a chapter of APS and a member of the Council of Northern California Philatelic Societies. At least half of the members belong to APS as individuals as well as other national philatelic societies. Some of our members are also members of the club in the next county.

The Southern Oregon Philatelic Society is a friendly place to enjoy sharing the hobby. The active members include a couple in their twenties, two ninety year olds, dealers, new collectors and international exhibitors. I cannot think of any minuses of membership in SOPS unless one dislikes people and/or philately!

(from Vesma Grinfelds) I belong to 5 local stamp clubs: Collectors Club of San Francisco, California Collectors Club, San Francisco Pacific Philatelic Society, Sequoia Stamp Club and Peninsula Stamp Club. Wow! That many!!

The Collectors Club of San Francisco has monthly meetings dinner meetings featuring a speaker. I am the Secretary and this group is heavily involved with WESTPEX; numerous members participate as Committee Members making for a very successful show. There is a monthly Bulletin with an announcement of the next speaker. Wonderful dinner and camaraderie - superb group. BUT, membership is by invitation only after a

presentation on a philatelic subject is given to the membership. There are currently about 60 members in the greater northern California area.

The California Collectors Club meets twice monthly. There we have a multi-cultural gathering of collectors. Featured are auctions at each meeting where bidding is unpredictable. This group has a very early APS chapter number and, years ago, hosted a Show. Lots of entertainment with members limited with language skills and still interested in philately! Attendance is usually about 15.

I am also a member of the San Francisco Pacific Philatelic Society, which annually contributes a substantial award to WESTPEX. This is a very friendly group embracing lots of new world-wide collectors. They meet monthly.

The Sequoia Stamp Club hosts an annual Stamp Show in December named PENPEX. I have been the exhibiting Chairman of this Show for many years. This Show embraces novice exhibitors and new exhibits in an attempt to spur exhibiting! This is clearly the most widely attended and successful local stamp club with 30-40 members attending bi-weekly. There are speakers and sales conducted, nice newsletter and web-site. Low dues fee.

The Peninsula Stamp Club has annual meetings at WESTPEX hosting a featured speaker. This year's speaker is Bill Dwyer on the subject of: "Get All Your e-Bay Questions Answered". This group, although, not functioning on all cylinders, keeps alive by hosted a speaker at its annual meeting with a current subject of interest to the general public. They are hoping to find someone to "resurrect" weekly/monthly meetings.

All of the Clubs to which I belong have different perspectives and emphasis. One is serious philatelic (and social) and most are "down to earth" combining philatelic information with social interaction. The bottom line is: for any Philatelic Club to be successful there must be social interaction with Club activity! Many attendees look forward for these meetings to be a bond between their interests and the real world!

(from Terri Edwards) I belong to the Nevada Stamp Study Society (NSSS). NSSS meets the second and fourth Saturdays of each month in Sparks, Nevada. This is the first and only stamp club I've belonged to so I don't have anything to compare, but I'm told we have phenomenal participation. We have about 60 members and will regularly have around 40 at each meeting. One meeting in the month will focus on an auction of members' material limited to 6 items per person. We regularly have 50 to 60 items. The other meeting in the month is a consignment sale and the focus is some type of presentation by a member, or APS/ATA slide or DVD program. Each meeting includes refreshments and a raffle. Raffle prizes are donated by members and the grand prize is half of total raffle receipts that day. The Club has a monthly newsletter that contains information from the last meeting, upcoming events, educational material and a quiz. It's a great group of people.

The Club does put on an annual show. It is the ***Greater Reno Stamp and Cover Show to be held August 21-22 this year in the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.*** We have 60 frames of exhibits (mostly from our Club membership), 16 dealers, the Nevada Duck Stamp contestant entries and winner, and the USPS. Attendance is usually between 300 – 400 people. Attendance is free, exhibit entries are \$6 per frame. In the past several years, we have initiated a couple of things that seem to be successful. Exhibits that have received vermeil or higher awards at a WSP show compete in the Silver State Challenge. Entering an exhibit in the Challenge provides an opportunity for aspiring but less experienced exhibitors to examine nationally recognized exhibits, yet the more experienced exhibitor competes at the WSP level. Less experienced exhibitors gain from the Silver State Challenge yet compete on a local level. We also started a Club exhibit called "A Few of My Favorite Things." Members put together one page on something they really enjoy and the pages are put together to form the exhibit. We had 4 frames at the last show. If you've ever wondered what Reno is like or haven't been here in a while, we invite you to our show – and we'd love to have an exhibit or two!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ANSWER FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: What 3 suggestions could you offer to fellow exhibitors (newbie or experienced) as to how to come up with the topic, or theme, or story, for your next award-winning exhibit?

PLEASE SUBMIT QUESTIONS OR TOPICS FOR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS, IN ADDITION TO YOUR RESPONSES – THIS IS AN EASY WAY THAT WE CAN LEARN FROM EACH OTHER!! IF YOU HAVE NEVER SUBMITTED ANY MATERIAL FOR OUR NEWSLETTER, HOW ABOUT MAKING A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT SOMETHING AT LEAST ONCE (OR POSSIBLY TWICE?) DURING 2010.



Franceska Rapkin

(May 15, 1936 - December 13, 2001) England

Franceska Rapkin was a pioneer in the advancing of thematic philately and its recognition and inclusion in international philatelic exhibitions. She was a co-founder and first chairperson of the British Thematic Association from its formation in 1984 until 1995, when she was made an honorary life member. She served as a member of the Thematic Commission of the International Federation of Philately (FIP), and the American Topical Association named her its Distinguished Topical Philatelist in 1999. Rapkin founded the Society of Olympic Collectors in 1984 and was its chairman until 1996. She edited the society's journal, *The Torchbearer*, from 1984 to 1993. She was Secretary of the jury at Olympilex 1996 and Commissioner of OLYMPHILEX 2000. Her thematic collection "Olympic Games 1936" received the first Olympic philatelic gold medal.

An FIP accredited judge, Rapkin wrote *Guidelines for Thematic Judges and Exhibitors at Local and Federation Level* (c. 1989), and *Guidelines for Successful Exhibiting* (1991). Rapkin served as secretary of the Melville and Youth Committee of the British Philatelic Federation from 1975 to 1981, and was on its council from 1982 to 1991. She received the medal of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in 1989. Rapkin wrote extensively and built important collections in her other philatelic fields: Germany and States, thematics, exhibiting, and the promotion of the hobby among young people. In 1999 she was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists established by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in 1921.

AmeriStamp Expo – February 19-21 at the Riverside Convention Center in California

Just concluded, this annual show, jointly sponsored by the APS and AAPE, features the Single Frame Champion of Champion competition with 26 entries. In addition, there was a strong Open Competition of over 60 single frame exhibits. AmeriStamp Expo also accepts non-traditional multiframe exhibits: Picture Post Card class, Display division, Illustrated Mail division (all present) as well as Thematic and Cinderella, although there were no entries. One fun aspect of the exhibits is that winner of "Most Popular" awards at other WSP shows are gathered for a contest of the most popular of the most popular – decided by attendee vote.

WE members Liz Hisey, Jane Sodero, and Rich Drews were on the Jury. The following WE members had exhibits: Ruth Caswell (vermeil), Dr. Kwame Obeye-Amin (aka Michael Dixon) (vermeil), David Eeles (in the C of C), Vesma Grinfelds (gold), Anne Harris (silver), John Hotchner (gold), and Pat Stilwell Walker (2 exhibits in the C of C). John Hotchner and Joann Lenz's joint exhibit on US Postal Counterfeits was in the Court of Honor.

Although several of the named exhibitors did not attend the show, WE members Jean Kasper and Bethel Strawser were quite visible as Volunteers.

A full list of winners can be found here: http://www.stamps.org/AmeriStamp/2010_Palmares.pdf. WE members should consider AmeriStamp Expo as an excellent place to show their one frame or multi-frame Display exhibit – next year the show will be in Charleston, SC, February 11-13. **(Submitted by Pat Stillwell Walker)**



WE FEST II

Dates: May 12 through 16, 2010 – being held in conjunction with and to take advantage of Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. Independently of WE Fest II, Women Exhibitors will be the main Society meeting at the Rocky Mountain Show. WE members have entered over 120 frames of exhibits.

Where: Crowne Plaza, Denver International Airport, 15500 E 40th Ave, Denver, CO 80239

Basic Schedule:

Wed., May 12 – evening, “Get Acquainted” Pizza Party

Thursday, May 13 – full day of seminars

Friday, May 14 – one morning seminar, then “sessions” at stamp show

Saturday, May 15 – one morning seminar, then “sessions” at stamp show

Sunday, May 16 – farewell Brunch

Also – elective seminars of general interest will be offered to all attendees at the stamp show.

WE Fest II will have two “tracks” that attendees may select:

Beginning Collecting/Exhibiting /Non Traditional Exhibiting
Intermediate/Advanced Exhibiting

Because WE Fest II is being held just before and during an actual stamp show, the sessions are being designed to take full advantage of what this offers. Some examples of sessions which will have a “hands on” component using the actual exhibits/bourse are “Casing the Bourse” for new collectors and “Understanding the various types of exhibits” for new exhibitors. More experienced exhibitors will have to opportunity to understand the mechanics and process of judging. New exhibitors will be encouraged to bring their own material to work with during the sessions.

Registration cost will be \$65 which will cover the Wednesday evening get-acquainted gathering, Thursday lunch and the farewell brunch on Sunday – attendees will be on their own for other meals.

For further information contact WEFESTIVAL@COMCAST.NET

SEE ATTACHED BROCHURE FOR FURTHER INFO & WHICH CAN BE USED AS A HANDOUT & FOR SENDING IN REGISTRATION.

APS Education Course goes “On the Road”

The American Philatelic Society is offering the *Computers in Philately* course, taught by APS Instructor George Fekete, April 21 – 22, 2010 prior to WESTPEX as part of its continuing education series. The computer has a plethora of uses for the philatelist. Students taking this course will receive a toolkit designed to optimize use of the computer for a variety of philatelic tasks in this hands-on course. Software and technology that can be used to take advantage of graphics, drawing, scanning, database, publishing, and commercial philatelic applications will be covered. Students are invited to suggest topics not mentioned in the course description for possible integration into the curriculum. Computers will NOT be provided in this course, so each student should bring a PC or Mac. A basic knowledge of computer use is necessary to receive the most benefit from this course.



George is a lifelong stamp collector, a life member of both the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library. From 2003 – 2007 he served on the APS Board of Vice Presidents. His other philatelic memberships include the APS Writers Unit 30, United States Stamp Society, Empire State Postal History Society, Auxiliary Markings Club, American Philatelic Congress, and the Rochester Philatelic Association. George has taught *Computers & Philately* with *American Philatelist* editor Barb Boal, and he assisted Dennis Gilson in teaching the Washington-Franklin course at APS Summer Seminars.

Course cost is \$195 for APS members and \$295 for nonmembers and will be held at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, WESTPEX host hotel. WESTPEX, April 23 – 25, 2010, is celebrating its 50th anniversary with 75 dealers from around the world. You can register for this course at the American Philatelic Society website, www.stamps.org, on the Education page or by contacting Gretchen Moody, 814-933-3803. A \$15 discount is available until March 31, 2010. Learn about other “On the Road” courses at the APS website.

APS Education Course coming to the National Postal Museum

The American Philatelic Society is offering the *Washington-Franklin Issues* course, taught by APS Instructor Dennis Gilson, **June 2-3, 2010** prior to NAPEX as part of its continuing education series.

This class is not just for the expert collector, but for anyone who has collected, wants to collect, or is a bit intimidated by the thought of collecting these classic issues. Included will be hands-on sessions where you will use a variety of stamps from the series and be guided through the identification process. You will leave the course with resource materials to use for future collecting of the Washington-Franklins.



Dennis Gilson will teach this special two-day course using the latest technology to bring students the clearest understanding of the differing types of stamps in this series. The first day will include instruction on identifying the 2-cent and 3-cent types, use of the *Micarelli* guide, and time to examine the stamps. The second day will emphasize recognizing fakes and forgeries. By the end of this course you will be able to accurately identify 200+ varieties of the Washington-Franklins, and correctly sort the stamps by Scott numbers. While there are no prerequisites, a basic understanding of perforations, watermarks, and the different printing methods and papers used during the early U.S. stamp period will make it easier for you to learn all that this course covers. The introduction to the *Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue* will provide participants with much of the basic information.

The cost of the course is \$195 for APS members and \$295 for nonmembers and will be held at the Smithsonian’s **National Postal Museum** in Washington, D.C. Register for this course at the American Philatelic Society website, www.stamps.org on the Education page or by contacting Gretchen Moody, APS Director of Education, 814-933-3803. A **\$15 discount** is available until March 31, 2010. NAPEX, June 4-6, 2010, is a World Series of Philately stamp show hosted by D.C. area collectors beginning in 1950. Learn about other “On the Road” courses at the APS website.

