



WE EXPRESSIONS



Vol. 4-9; September 25, 2010

Women Exhibitors
APS Affiliate #260

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.

Chair: Ruth Caswell ruthandlyman@earthlink.net
Secretary: Vesma Grinfelds dzvesma@sprintmail.com
Treasurer: Liz Hisey lizhisey@comcast.net
Director at Large: Patricia Stilwell-Walker
psw123@comcast.net
Director at Large: Denise Stotts stottsjd@swbell.net
Editor of WE Think: Janet Klug tongajan@aol.com
Editor, WE Expressions: Anne Harris
gofrogger@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.aaape.org/weweb.asp>

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.

Hermann Oliver Albrecht, artist
1876-1944

Hi everyone,

I need some **NEWS**. I want to know what is happening in your neck of the woods. What is doing at your clubs or shows? Are you getting new exhibits ready for the new year or polishing up a current one? **WE** is about communicating. Me, 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 in advance for contributions,

Anne

A NEW EXHIBIT AT THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

Collecting History: 125 Years of the National Philatelic Collection Open August 4, 2010 to January 9, 2012

CATHERINE MANNING, January 24, 1881 – April 14, 1957



A native of Washington, Catherine Manning worked for the stamp dealer John Murray Bartels in the 1890s. When Bartels sold his business to Hamilton F. Colman in 1898, Manning joked that Colman inherited her along with the furniture and stockbooks. At work in Colman's office on May 14, 1918, she answered a frantic telephone call from William T. Robey and became one of the first philatelists to learn about Robey's purchase of a full sheet of the spectacular Inverted Jenny airmail error stamps.

Mrs. Manning's philosophy that it is better to generalize than specialize determined the National Philatelic Collection's trajectory from the time she succeeded Joseph Leavy as Government Philatelist in 1922 until her retirement in 1951. She organized the collection, processed thousands of specimens received from the Universal Postal Union and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, published articles, exhibited, and participated widely in the philatelic community, carving a place of distinction in the hobby. The philatelic collection quickly became the largest in the division of history, and in 1943 it was reorganized as a division in its own right. Manning was given the title Assistant Curator, becoming the first woman to achieve that rank in the Smithsonian outside of the sciences.

In a visionary speech before the first American Philatelic Congress in 1935, Catherine Manning shared her dream for a great philatelic center in Washington. She said, "I can picture it in my imagination with exhibition galleries, library, offices, committee rooms, and an auditorium." Her dream became reality in 1993 with the opening of the National Postal Museum.

You will find a new section, *Discussion Topics*, in this newsletter. WE members seem reticent to write articles for the newsletter, so *Discussion Topics* provides several opportunities for you to respond. Anne awaits your contributions.

Mark your calendars for Fest 3 to be held in Portland OR, Pipex 2012. Be thinking about what exhibits (notice that is plural) you want to bring/send. Michael Dixon, who is chair of the show, has reserved a large number of frames. WE wants to fill as many as possible.

I asked for 10-12 non-competitive frames for Fest 3. I have talked with some WE members and had e-mail from others who want to do different exhibits that what is traditional for a stamp show. So start thinking about your exhibits for these non-competitive frames. I will keep writing on this issue until I know WE has 10 of these frames filled.

Our annual meeting will be at AmeriStampExpo in Charleston SC, Feb. 11-13, 2011. Put the date on your calendars and plan to attend.

Don't forget to attend and support your local/regional shows.

Ruth

BRAGGING RIGHTS

Kudos to **Elizabeth (Betty) Nettles** for the **Best Display Award** at Stamp Show for her exhibit, *The Louisiana Purchase Exposition and the Mails*. Do you know she has an artifact in a picture-type frame inside the stamp frame? It truly catches your eye. You'll have to talk to Betty about how that item fit in the frame.

Many thanks to **Janice Weinstock** for promoting WE. Janice wrote an article about WE for the local library publication. She also donated WE publications to the library.

A big thank you to newsletter editor, **Anne Harris**, for finding a poem to put in the newsletter. Since no WE members wrote one, Anne found a poem related to stamp collecting for us.

Discussion Topics

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.

Rare 1897 Chinese stamp sells for £300,000



Zurich Asia Director Louis Mangin, poses with a rare 1897 one-dollar surcharge on a three-cent Red Revenue stamp Photo: REUTERS

The "Small One Dollar" stamp, one of 32 recorded copies in existence and described as "the king of stamps" in China, was the result of an error by the Chinese Post Office who printed the stamps with a typeface that was too small to read, meaning only a tiny number were ever made.

The sale came during a three-day auction in Hong Kong that ended on Monday having raised more than £2m, the latest in a series of record Chinese and Asian stamp sales this year that have seen prices of some stamps quadrupling in the last 18 months. The most spectacular price jumps have come in modern Chinese stamps as speculators and investors bet that China's rising wealth will continue to drive prices ever higher.

"There's been a huge amount of speculation going on in the last year and a half in some of the more modern People's Republic stamps that were printed after 1949," said Louis Mangin the director Zurich Asia which conducted last weekend's auctions. Among the highest prices was the HK\$1m (£83,000) paid for a complete sheet of Red Monkey stamps dating from 1980 which are not even rare, with some five million in circulation. However, they are highly sought after as they feature an auspicious year of the Chinese zodiac on an equally auspicious red background a colour which equates to wealth in China.

"Prices of old stamps are rising at perhaps 15 per cent a year, but the modern issues are growing at more than 100 per cent as clients speculate that values will continue to rise," Mr Mangin said. He added that the foreign buyers were among the speculators rushing to cash in on the new found wealth of Chinese mainland collectors. "Like all speculative investments, international clients are coming in to benefit from the market. The biggest buyer this weekend was a London investor who bought more than HK\$2m (£165,000). It's not just mainland Chinese." Other auctions houses confirmed the trend, with Rob Schneider, a principal with the Interasia Auctions describing price rises over the last two years as "pretty astronomical".

For example a sheet of souvenir stamps from 1964, released to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China that fetched HK\$9,200 (£765) in December 2008 made more than \$HK40,000 (£3,330) at auction last month.

No material in this publication may be reprinted in any form without previous permission.