



Women Exhibitors
APS Affiliate #260

WE EXPRESSIONS



Supported by AAPE

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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: AMERISTAMP, 2009.

Satellite Mtgs: *PNSE*, Sat., Sept. 6, 11 am, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA; will include mini-seminar on The Basics of Exhibiting, by Barb Harrison.

Hudson-Fulton Stamp Expo, Sept 2009, Albany, NY; will include mini-seminar on The Basics of Exhibiting, by Barb Harrison.

Keeper's Korner:

It is an honor to be your *Keeper*. It was great to meet so many WE members at StampShow, to see what WE is accomplishing, and to see WE buttons everywhere. Thanks for wearing WE buttons!

At the WE meeting, all present helped members *Celebrate Goals Met*. Congratulations to all who set a goal and were able to accomplish it. Members in attendance gave Janet a long list of sessions they would like to see at the Festival. Denise reported on publicity, and Joann talked about exhibits at the Festival. Liz gave a report on our finances telling us that WE is doing fine with money in the bank. Janet gave the program on *Exhibiting Basics* with members contributing ideas through discussion.

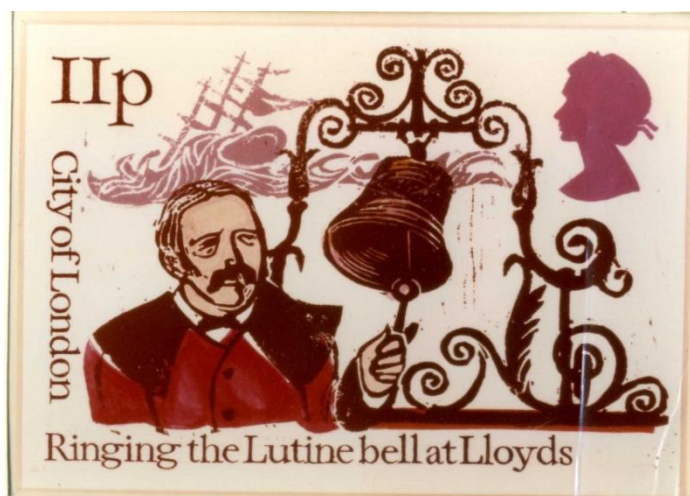
The *Sterling Achievement Award*, sponsored by WE, was awarded for the first time at StampShow. Denise now has medals in hand, so be sure to request this award for your local/regional show or for the WSP show near you.

You'll hear more about the *Festival* in coming months. Be sure to send your registration in now. The Festival Team would appreciate having your registration as soon as possible.

Thanks to all who exhibited at StampShow and congratulations on your awards.

Ruth

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: Tell us about your very first exhibit. Why did you do it? How long did it take you to complete it? How did it do? Has it been changed? What did you learn from it?



(Norma Nielson) Actually, I'm still working on my first exhibit! I happened to attend my very first meeting of the local stamp club on a night when they were reporting exhibiting results from the nearest national-level show. I had *no* idea what they were talking aboutI literally sat there trying to figure out "what's a frame?" Over the months that followed I learned the answer to that question and several others. Ultimately I decided that the only way to really learn about exhibiting was to try it. But I also decided that if I knew nothing about exhibiting, I should choose a topic that I did know something about. The idea of an exhibit on Lloyd's of London was

born. In a total fluke one of my first searches of eBay turned up the large unadopted essay for £10 that remains on my title page to this day. By March of the following year, my exhibit debuted as a one-frame exhibit containing the essay and a bunch of mint stamps. It received a bronze medal.

That was about four years ago. Since then I have read a half dozen histories of Lloyd's – some located through eBay and others through interlibrary loan. I have learned much about exhibiting through the generosity of local collectors and dealers. But I also found it necessary to follow up on most of that information with additional research of my own. Eventually I gained the knowledge that leads to confidence and began to acquire additional interesting items. Most of these were bought through eBay and a few at shows I was attending. For my topic, however, the need for early material, mostly from Europe, also led me into the world of auctions. Sometimes I have placed mail/email bids, but when it's something I really need, I have arranged to bid by phone.

The exhibit first reached five frames for StampShow in 2007. [I still tease the local collectors who are now my friends who once wondered whether it would be possible to fill a single frame on such an esoteric topic!] In June 2008 it won the Reserve Grand at NTSS.

It was invited to travel with a Canadian judge to SUNSTAMP in Brisbane, Australia in August 2008. That national level show will be the first time the exhibit has been judged under FIP rules. One important reason I accepted this invitation is the mixed information I have received about how the revenue stamp items that fit my topic so well will be received under FIP. If it fares well there, given the topic, I plan to enter it at the London 2010 show for its first appearance at an international-level show... and could well find myself back down in the bronze levels.

Note from Norma for those looking to fill 120 frames at RMSS in 2010: A few of us are targeting London 2010 (in May, of course!) for our first foray into international exhibiting. Once again a scheduling conflict is going to add an extra layer of difficulty to WE's ability to meet its goals.

Editor's Note: Let's hope that those WE members not exhibiting in London will help to fill the gaps.

(Nancy Swan) My First Exhibit - At the 1970 Christmas pot luck of the Southern Oregon Philatelic Society, my husband and I were asked were we going to exhibit at the club show in April!? We had just moved to Medford and joined the club! The members of SOPS were very strong on exhibiting - as a challenge, to organize their material, and to show the public what the hobby had to offer. They offered to help us. We chose our Japanese Quasi-National Parks stamps and covers as the most cohesive section of our national parks material in a world wide, very eclectic collection.

It was researched, organized, typed up on quadrille pages, mounted and shown in April. We received a bronze! The exhibit went through more research, a couple of redos (and is due again), and I ended up writing it up for the "Japanese Postal Bell." The exhibit is not very costly and doesn't have exciting peripheral material, but some of the pages are included every year when we do a club exhibit in the USPS display case.

People enjoy the idea of other countries' national parks and the beauty of the Japanese stamps and cachet covers. The exhibit is still doing its job of interesting others in stamp collecting!

(Carol J. Edholm) My very first exhibit is one I am still showing, now titled *A Tour of Philately*. I started it in @ 1996-1997 as a teaching tool for our educators and youth. When I made the decision to exhibit, I decided to take that teaching tool and turn it into an exhibit. What a fun way to get my feet wet, I thought. Well, it has been anything but! It is fun, but no simple task. It has gone through several organizational and title revisions. At one show, a judge commented on it as having one of the best presentation styles at the time.

I first showed my *Tour* at a local stamp show in 2001 winning a Silver; same show the following year earning another Silver (with changes between shows). Showed in 2002 at a National stamp show winning a Bronze. A judge at that show told me he was impressed with the exhibit winning a bronze. His first national show years before, he didn't even place. I have received lots of encouragement from judges and other collectors over the years. I have 6 mentors who have been simply wonderful! At a local show in 2005, I walked away with the show's People's Choice Award and AAPE Silver award. I have showed this exhibit at local and national shows winning anywhere from a Silver Bronze to a Vermeil, but the icing on the cake was the Gold at a local show in September 2006! I am still expanding the exhibit and will continue to show it well into the future.

What did I learn? Like anything else -- patience, hard work and perseverance will help you obtain your gold - I mean goal! I really didn't get into exhibiting for the awards, though those are good ways to recognize our accomplishments. I got into it for fun and to show off parts of my collection. Exhibiting was a new challenge to me. I've enjoyed it thoroughly and look forward to many more years of exhibiting. Both of my exhibits will be at SEAPEX in Seattle, WA, in early November. I'm also trying my hand at the one-page exhibiting for the club showcase portion of the show's exhibits.

I started my second exhibit in 2003, *The Sacred Peafowl* (peacocks, peahens, peachicks). I've always enjoyed peafowl and it never dawned on me until 2003 at a show in Oregon, "Why wasn't I collecting peafowl stamps, specializing in this topic?" I cleaned out every dealer at that show of their peafowl stock! This exhibit has not been shown that often, but has won awards from Silver to Gold! I have more in the works.....

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ANSWER FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: Tell us about your “stamp den,” work room, hobby room, stamp desk, or whatever. Is this where you prepare your exhibits? Does this space work for you? Why or why not?

PLEASE SUBMIT QUESTIONS OR TOPICS FOR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS, AND ALSO SEND IN YOUR RESPONSES –THIS IS AN EASY WAY THAT WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER!!

ANOTHER GOAL WAS REACHED! (from Nancy Swan) I did reach a goal this year - to organize, document, increase research and begin an exhibit of my Jackson Co. covers. Lots more to go. I began the year by participating in a new listing of Jackson Co. Postal History holdings which some fellows upstate are working on to update a previous publication. Turns out I have some pretty good stuff and some "only knows." It is a responsibility.

HOLD THE DATE: Festival for Philatelic Women

Save these dates: May 28 – 31, 2009

Remember that Women Exhibitors (WE) will be conducting a Festival for Philatelic Women at the American Philatelic Center, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, May 28 – 31, 2009. (You need not be a WE member to attend.)

There will be seminars, “how-to” demonstrations, workshops and other programs to help women get the most from their stamp collecting hobby. If you have suggestions for topics to be included, please contact the Festival address below.

There will have ample time to make use of the American Philatelic Center and all it has to offer stamp collectors. The cost to attend the Festival for Philatelic Women is \$85 and covers daily lunch, dinner, and all activities. Hotel and travel expenses are on your own.

For more information contact Women Exhibitors, 7277 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Email: WEfestival@comcast.net.

WE (Women Exhibitors) is open to all, but philately is explored from a woman’s point of view.

SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL WE MEMBERS: WE Festival is looking for exhibits: If you are planning to attend the festival in Bellefonte in 2009, please also consider bringing an exhibit for other attendees to see. WE hopes to have a variety of exhibits displayed which will provide opportunities to share ideas and to ask questions about the various types of exhibits and exhibiting in general. Please contact me if you have questions or want to volunteer an exhibit. (Joann Lenz; joann@stampsjoann.net)

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY:

WE has been invited to have a table at the **New York State Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Stamp Exposition** to be held on the concourse of the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY, on **September 25-27, 2009**. The stamp exposition will be one of the largest that the northeast has seen in many, many years and the expectation of the expo is to draw 1500 to 2000 people per day. There will be competitive exhibits, and WE are encouraged to participate. Security (24 hour) will include patrols by the Capitol police, private security, plus the NY State Police substation. There will be plenty of space for exhibits (something akin to Washington '06!!), and the entry fees will probably be about \$10/frame. The bourse will include nearly 200 dealers. Activities will include speakers, school competitions, entertainment, First Day ceremonies, and much more. There will be booths for the UN and numerous foreign countries.

WE need volunteers to man the WE table to speak with visitors, tell them about WE, talk about exhibiting, and give out some information. Two members are already planning to be there to help: Maureen Lynch and Barb Harrison (who is organizing the WE presence and will hold a WE satellite meeting with a mini-seminar on Basics of Exhibiting). Please email Barb if you can help.

Further details will be announced as they become available.

WE MEMBERS "IN THE NEWS"

- **Pat Stilwell-Walker** was featured in Profiles: People in the hobby, in the July-August issue of The American Stamp Dealer & Collector. It was a great full-page article, with 2 nice photos, giving her background and highlighting just some of the things she had done for our hobby. The article even put in a nice plug for WE! It was a very enjoyable article. Keep up the good work, Pat!
- **Dila Eaton**, of Paraguay, was written up in the July-August issue of The London Philatelist, having been the speaker at the June meeting in London. She shared with them her Gold Medal exhibit, speaking on The Origin and Evolution of the Paraguayan Mails. She was able to overcome the trauma of her luggage, including her exhibit, being lost at Heathrow! Fortunately, it was recovered in time for her presentation. Great job, Dila!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- Welcome to **Eileen Meier**, of Clifton Forge, VA. Eileen enjoys collecting picture postcards and philatelic items with a Halloween theme, and hopes to share some articles with WE about her early days as a collector and exhibitor. We'll look forward to hearing from you, Eileen.

MAGAZINE RECOMMENDATION: The ASDA Journal carries many articles supporting women exhibitors and collectors, and has mentioned WE as a group and highlighted several individual members during the 2 years of its existence. If you want to read some wonderful, timely articles about our hobby, and especially about the PEOPLE in our hobby, both past and present, do consider subscribing to this well written, colorful magazine. You can subscribe online at www.americanstampdealer.com. You will love it!

