



Women Exhibitors
APS Affiliate #260

WE EXPRESSIONS



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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: STAMPSHOW '09, Aug. 6-9, 2009; Pittsburgh, PA.

Festival for Philatelic Women, May 28-31, 2009; Bellefonte, PA. Keynote speaker, Dr. Cheryl Ganz, *Women in Philately: Where We Were, Where We Are, and Where We're Going*. Lots of other great workshops, seminars, social events.

Satellite Mtgs: *Hudson-Fulton StampExpo 400*, Sept. 25-27, 2009, Albany, NY; will include mini-seminar on *The Basics of Exhibiting*, by Barb Harrison, on Sat., 1-2 pm, room TBD.

Keeper's Korner: First, I want to convey, from all of us, best wishes for a speedy recovery to Liz Hisey. Since the last newsletter, Liz has spent time in a hospital, but is now home and responding to e-mails.

You will read in this newsletter two articles about the *Festival*. One is the current list of speakers. I'm sure as scan down the list, you will be amazed at how many of these sessions you want (and need) to attend. The second article is *About the Festival* and tells you why you *really* want to attend the *Festival*. Send in your registration, make plans to attend with your philatelic friends, and be rewarded with a weekend of philatelic friendships and information for your future philatelic ventures.

I've not written much lately about the satellite meetings. These gatherings at local, regional, and national shows give us a chance to meet each other and to talk about our philatelic interests. If you are attending a show in your area, be sure to schedule a meeting at your show.

Your board just approved changing the wording for the *Sterling Achievement Award*. The new wording is:

"The award is given to recognize an exhibit that has been awarded a bronze, silver-bronze, or silver medal that shows merit in philatelic knowledge, subject knowledge, material, or treatment; and to serve as an encouragement to a promising exhibit."

The WE award is available for local, regional, and national shows, so be sure to request an award for the show in your area.

Your WE board is hard-working. They regularly carry out their duties from wherever they are, and work for the best interests and promotion of WE. Whenever you see a member of the board, please remember to thank her for all that she does for WE.

I am glad that Carol Edholm wrote about SEAPEX for the February newsletter. I serve as exhibits chair for the show, and was very pleased to have several new exhibitors, both adult and youth. Carol mentors the youth exhibitors, and Lyman and/or I mentor many of the new adult exhibitors. It is very rewarding to see new exhibits in the frames, and I believe the mentors are as happy as the exhibitors.

I do need to correct one of Carol's statements in the article. The *Hall Philatelics Youth Championship Award* was the award Amber received, not the Jim Hall SEAPEX One-Frame Award. Amber's exhibit happened to be one-frame, but there was no one-frame award for this show.

I take the blame, as WE did not have a satellite meeting at this show. But WE members did do a lot of talking with each other and other exhibitors.

See you at the Festival.

Ruth

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: How do you like the new Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Forms being used by APS judges? Do you find them helpful? Are they better than the old evaluation forms? How do you feel about removing the "points"?

(In response to some recent communication with John Hotchner concerning use of the new forms, he offered the following:)

I had my first experience using the UEEF at Sandical recently, and found it a good combination of utility for both the judge and the exhibitor. I have never received one, but the reports I get back from exhibitors are mixed. Communication in the best of circumstances is an inexact science - and written communication the worst of the alternatives as both ends of the equation start out with assumptions the other does not understand. Thus, the UEEF is an attempt to substitute written information for what one might get in critique or at the frames where clarification can be asked for and usually obtained. It is better than where we have been, with no feedback for mail-in exhibits (except for what they might ask for by proxy, email, phone, or letter - but most didn't), but it is far from nirvana.

Regarding point qualification for Internationals, one can apply based on receiving a national Vermeil, NOT a specific number of points. That does not mean one's exhibit will be accepted. Organizing committees often have more requests than they can accept, and each has its own selection criteria.

Regarding points and percentages, there is always a hunger for precision, even if it is largely meaningless, or results in confusion. What I have found internationally is that some judges start from 0 and add points according to their perception of how well the exhibit meets the categories. Others start from full points and deduct according to perceived faults. The agreed number once the judges of a given team sort it all out is notional, and a different jury might well arrive at different points. And often they do arrive at different points, unless one is in the Point Stratosphere, at near perfection. For the rest of us, the points too often lead the exhibitor to think that if they can just get one more point in treatment and one more in scarcity, they will get the next medal level at the next show. And so they make improvements, they think, and the medal level at the next show stays the same or maybe even

the points go down. The points, then, must be looked upon as a general guide, but the truly useful information comes in complete sentences and paragraphs.

While I was not involved in developing the UEEF, I think that the thought behind it took this into account. It is helpful for the exhibitor to know how the categories are weighted, but NOT helpful - and often creates misimpressions - for judges to assign points in place of - or even in addition to - text comments. In other words, as comforting as it is to cling to the seeming specificity of points, it is much less useful than a well stated comment. Of course, not all judges are schooled in that art, but I am hopeful that our performance will improve as we use the new form and get more experience. The form itself is perhaps not yet the best it can be to promote understanding by exhibitors, and if you find things about its language that you think could be improved -- or about the process, for that matter -- they should be addressed to Steve Reinhard, chairman of CANEJ.

One of the nice features of the UEEF is that the judge's name who filled it out is present. I'm thinking it would be good to add an email address or mailing address for the judge to promote dialogue when the exhibitor wants to pin down the meaning of a comment. Most judges are happy to do this as they have very specific things in mind when they write the comments.

(submitted by John Hotchner)

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ANSWER FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: Most shows require that exhibit pages be enclosed in protective "plastic" pages, with exhibitor's name on the reverse of each. What advice can you offer, from your own experience, concerning "plastic" pages (what kind, where to purchase, prices, etc.), what kind of paper to use (why, weight, color, etc.), how best to include your name on the reverse of each page, and how to number the pages (on reverse) to show their position in the frame. (These issues suggested by Carol Edholm.)

If you've never sent in your answers to a monthly question, this is a good time to do it!

HELP!! SUGGESTIONS FOR MONTHLY QUESTIONS ARE NEEDED FROM YOU, in addition to your answers!! 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!!

QUICKLY APPROACHING: May 28 – 31, 2009.

******Festival for Philatelic Women******

There will be 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.

The Festival Committee needs to know that you are coming!
PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM TO LIZ HISEY. (More info can be found on the AAPE website by clicking on WE.) **SEE ATTACHMENT FOR DAILY SCHEDULES AND FURTHER DETAILS******

PLEASE NOTE: Anne Harris will **NOT** be renting a van to drive from Pittsburgh to Bellefonte due to high plane fares and no response to her offer.

EXHIBITS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT FESTIVAL: A number of members will bring some exhibits for display. These will NOT be judged, but will be used for discussion and learning, providing a springboard for sharing ideas and asking questions about exhibits of various kinds. Exhibits may still be “under construction.” If you have not yet contacted Joann about bringing your exhibit, please contact her **IMMEDIATELY.** (Joann Lenz; joann@stampsjoann.net)

WE FESTIVAL SEMINARS: The Festival Committee is working very hard to put together an enjoyable and helpful learning experience for all who attend. To whet your appetite, here is the latest list of seminars that are already included:

Cheryl Ganz: Women in Philately: Where We Were, Where We Are, Where We're Going

Charles Verge: Family correspondence & research

Ruth Caswell: Creating a Philatelic Exhibit Workshop

Gretchen Moody: Stamp Saturday (A program for beginners)

Janet Houser: Learn, do, teach . . . Mentoring New Collectors

Barb Harrison: Collecting & Exhibiting Picture Post Cards 101

Barb Boal: Using Photoshop Elements for Exhibit Pages

Marj Sente: Experiences & Evolution of an Exhibitor

Gini Horn: Using the American Philatelic Research Library

Cheryl Edgcomb: Creating 3-D Exhibits

Denise Stotts: Philatelic Elements in Thematic Exhibits

Barb Boal: Layout & Design for Album & Exhibit Pages

Sue Dempsey: How to Get What You Want from a Dealer

Roundtable Discussion: How Exhibits are Judged

Betsey Carter: Artful Philately

Patricia Stilwell Walker: Title Page & Synopsis Workshop

Liz Hisey: Exhibiting & Judging Display Exhibits

Denise Lazaroff: Using Stamps in Scrapbooking

Nancy Clark: Tools to Build a Talk

Nancy Clark: Where and How to Publish Your Research

Janet Klug: Beyond Googling

In addition, APS will provide a Stamps by the Bucket booth. We need volunteers to help staff it and collect money for the stamps bought by the bucketful. Lots of fun for little money!

HUDSON-FULTON: Exhibit Entry Forms are available at the website: [Http://www.stampExpo400.org](http://www.stampExpo400.org). Take a look around the site, which includes a wealth of information – it's going to be an exciting show. They have even posted the Synopses and/or Title Pages along with the listing of exhibits. Let's have a good WE representation in this competition – applications and fees are now being accepted, and the frames could fill up early. Show date is Sept. 25-27, 2009. WE will have a table, shared with AAPE, and a WE satellite meeting. If you can help by spending a few hours at the table, please e-mail your editor. So far we have 2 people: Maureen Lynch & Barb Harrison.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER: Welcome to:

- Susan M. Baker, of Flower Mound, TX, who joined at AmeriStamp.

++++**OTHER STUFF**++++

REMINDERS:

- Be sure to let editor know of any changes of e-mail address, mailing address, or phone number.
- If you have NOT received your newsletter by the last day of the month, contact Barb via e-mail.
- If you have not received your WE button, contact Liz to make arrangements. Remember to wear your WE button at local meetings and shows.
- If you are not yet an AAPE member, contact Liz Hisey, AAPE Secy., for info.
- Ruth keeps the membership list current and sends it periodically to everyone. Be sure to proofread your own info on the list and let Ruth know if there are any errors. Should you not receive the list, please let us know.
- Please do NOT forward our membership list to anyone.

IN CONCLUSION: There is still time to plan to attend the Festival in May. A lot of people are putting in considerable time preparing a wide variety of seminars for you to attend. Some who cannot attend have requested written summaries of the seminars. Those speakers who are willing to prepare summaries will have them included in upcoming issues of *WE Expressions* or *WE Think*. But to get the most information, plan to attend in person.

Ruth mentioned that Liz was hospitalized. Just to prove that “you can’t keep a good woman down,” Liz was e-mailing from the hospital! I wouldn’t be surprised if she’s put together a new one-framer while she’s been recuperating. Bob’s been taking good care of her and threatened to chase her out of the kitchen! So glad you’re feeling so much better, Liz!

Barb, Editor



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