



WE Expressions



APS Affiliate #230

Women Exhibitors

Supported by AAPE

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CAROL A. BOMMARITO SIGNS THE USPCS ROLL OF DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS



This year Carol Bommarito was asked to sign the United States Philatelic Classics Society's Roll of Distinguished Philatelist. She joins a handful of other women who have received this honor, proving that there is a place for women in all areas of philately.

This honor "recognizes exceptionally meritorious service to U. S. philately through published research, award-winning collections, active participation in the organization and promotion of philatelic exhibitions and sustained administrative service to the national or international organizations which furthered United States philately."

The list of women signers is:
1989 Susan McDonald
1994 Barbara Mueller
2004 Patricia Stilwell-Walker
2009 Cheryl Ganz
2018 Patricia Kaufmann
2023 Carol A. Bommarito.

The citation read at Carol's signing, which took place at the USPCS meeting at GASS in Cleveland, follows:

What is remarkable about Carol's philatelic achievements is that they were accomplished in 11 years. She says she embarked unknowingly on a very challenging collecting path. As a

retired interior designer, she had a good eye, quickly bought a good amount of beautiful material which became the basis of a sprawling collection. Learning such a great amount so quickly, putting it into some kind of acceptable exhibit, also in short order, are big accomplishments. The "acceptable exhibit" resulted in high level medals, special awards and large golds. She won the Nojex Grand and was in close competition for the 2019 Champion of Champions. Outside the U.S. her exhibits have received international gold and large gold at every show she entered. She was recently asked to exhibit at IBRA where her exhibit was awarded another large gold.

She is an APS member and has written for the AP. She is a member and Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and is their United States Northeast Representative, and has contributed to their journal, *The London Philatelist*.

She was on the NY2016 organizing committee. Boston 2026 has also enlisted her help where she holds the position as "artistic director."

Carol belongs to the Collectors Club and is a past board member. She renovated the façade of the CC's building, returning it to its Stanford White appearance, also renovated and decorated the main two floors and was awarded the Collectors' Club President's medal for this impressive work.

She is active in the Club de Monte Carlo, exhibits rarities there and has

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[WSP Exhibitions](#)

Stamp shows have returned! Check the APS website to confirm all upcoming shows.

<https://stamps.org/events/wsp-shows>

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shown large exhibits in *The Americas Display* and *The Maritime display*.

The Academy of European Philately asked her to join and since has contributed to their *Opus XXI* which focused on Germany.

She is a member of the *Collectors Club of Chicago*, where she gave her first presentation, and the *Civil War Philatelic Society*.

But, with all of these activities, her main efforts recently have been directed to the *United States Philatelic Classics Society* where she serves on the board. Not long after joining, she was approached by then President Fred Gregory about taking on the *Advertising Sales Management* position. She accepted at a time when print advertising was seriously in decline. With thoughtful strategy and persistent hard work, she managed to bring *Chronicle* advertising pages to near the all-time high. She continues the struggle to keep advertisers on the roster and to prospect for new advertisers.

Nearly 7 full years ago, she conceived the idea of a *USPCS/RPSL* exchange. After several visions of the exchange and years of postponement, the outstanding result was finally seen on May 18 at the *Royal Philatelic Society London*. The *Classics Society* showed a display of an overview of classic U.S. material as the first part of the exchange. Carol single handedly organized and promoted this display and related activities. She successfully enlisted help in creating and printing needed material and producing a video of the event.

She has revamped the *Chatter* advertising guidelines, has created the *Spotlight On Advertiser* section as well as contributing regularly to content.

For her enthusiastic work for the *United States Philatelic Classics Society*, for her many contributions to the study of *Postal History* and contributions to the hobby in general, she was asked to sign *The Role of Distinguished Philatelists*.

Since this citation was written, the second part of the *USPCS/RPSL* exchange has very successfully taken place at the recent *GASS*. The *RPSL* showed near 50 fames of outstanding British and British Colonies material in the *Court of Honor* in Cleveland.



Luff Award Winners: GASS 2023



Liz, Cheryl, Trish, and Carol.
Shared to **WE** Facebook page by Cheryl Ganz Aug 16.



Cheryl introduced Trish for the Luff and other awards.
Shared to **WE** Facebook page by Cheryl Ganz Aug 16.



Marjory and Frank with 50 year APS medals!
Shared to **WE** Facebook page by Cheryl Ganz Aug 16.

Susanna Mills, APS Editor, presenting at GASS 2023 banquet.



Women Exhibitors Meeting

Resources:

There were 14 attendees at the **WE** Meeting August 13th during GASS 2023. Attendees shared information regarding what exhibits they had at the show, at home and/or planned to create in the future.

In response to a question asked, attendees shared resources for 11 x 17 exhibit pages. 11x17.com - [Binders, Dividers, Clipboards, Filing & more.](#) For Ruby Paulina 17x11 Sheet Protectors. They are a smidgen longer than others, three hole punched, for archival material and the pieces go in and out easily. If desired, the exhibitor can cut off the 3 hole punch side. Amazon.com has 12 X 19 plastic envelopes that can be used to transport pages in one frame per envelope.

<https://www.atlanticprotectivepouches.com/> also offers exhibit sheet protectors, but there is a minimum order of \$300. They can be slow to respond, so it was suggested to write in the message line, "Friend of Janet Klug."

If the exhibitor does not have enough material for 11 x 17 pages, then consider 12 x 12 pages, they work well for European covers. Printing may be difficult as it is not a paper size.

To print their pages, an exhibitor takes their exhibit on a thumb drive to FedEx, and uses their Laser Printer with the exhibitor's own paper. The exhibit prints out nicely.

Next **WE** meeting planned for The Great American Stamp show in Hartford Connecticut, August 15-18, 2024. Exact day and time to be determined. We hope to see many of you there!



Judges Feedback Session
Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association

Women Exhibitors 2020-2022 Board

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Vacant.....Dir-at-Large



The show is down! Madames President Cheryl and Dawn. Shared to **WE** Facebook cite by Cheryl Aug 16

Welcome New **WE** Members

WE welcomes new members who joined at GASS 2023:

Catherine Gilbert, Columbus, OH. Collects Elephants, Red Panda, Snow Leopard.

Jane Snowdon, Cos Cob, CT. Collects Gliders, UK and Commonwealth, Early Railroad.

Laurelei Fox, Youth from Maple Shade, NJ

Michele D Brown, Kennewick, WA. Collects WC Hardy, First Day Covers and Stamps, FDC for Jazz & Music, Elvis.

A Practical Guide to APS Volunteer Work Week

by Melanie G. Rogers, APRL President



One of the main reasons I participate in organized philately is for experiences. I like attending live events and getting to travel. That and my work offering volunteer days prompted me to fly out to Bellefonte, PA, to volunteer at the American Philatelic Society's annual volunteer work week in July.

Many of the volunteers are spouses, and they each volunteer, which is great for the APS. The departments working with volunteers include the library, circuit sales, expertizing and education. While the publications team did not have any volunteers this year, they told me they were open to it.

As **WE** is focused on women, I want to mention the majority of volunteers were older white men. I was the youngest by at least 20 years. But this is not specific to this event, this is also true of APS membership as a whole. If more of us volunteer, we can start to shift this dynamic.



The event takes place the entire week, but volunteers do not need to go for the entire time. APS will accept volunteers for one day or up to five. If you live in the area, you can volunteer outside of that special week too. The doors open officially at 8:30 a.m., but Leonard and Darlene Bloom, who volunteer year-round, helped us get in as early as 8 a.m. But just as promptly, most days, the doors close at 5 p.m., so don't expect to be able to stay late.

This was my second time attending the event, and I volunteered at the library again. Last year, I feel like I learned the ropes, learned what to expect. So this year, I was able to dive right in. Sundman Hall served as the intake center for donations - there were at least 12 pallets of donated boxes at the start of the week. We got through two on Monday alone.

What does it mean to "get through" a pallet? It means unpacking a box and sorting the material in relevant piles for distribution to other locations in the library. The piles included auction catalogs, books, stamp catalogs, journals, research files, archive material and more.



On day two, I moved to the second floor of the library to focus on auction catalogs. Last year, I learned how to look them up in the online catalog, checking whether the library had one, two or no copies. If the library had two copies, the auction catalog was set aside for recycling or for making available to volunteers. This year, there was a table of free stuff for volunteers - duplicate material that would otherwise be recycled. I found five auction catalogs for myself.

I do not recommend going to this event if you are looking to be social. It's not that kind of thing. Most volunteers come there to work, so the week lives up to its name.

I do recommend attending if you want to help the society progress. It was quite apparent by the end of the week that the volunteers had made a huge difference in a number of departments. I felt a nice sense of accomplishment after having processed over a dozen boxes of auction catalogs.

It was also fun to discover auction catalogs from the late 1800s and a whole collection from a Portuguese auction house that APRL did not have at all.

Some tips if you want to volunteer:

1. Monitor the APS website for the Volunteer Work Week event page. Each year, the staff add a registration page where you can identify which department to help out. This also helps with planning for the number of attendees and ordering enough t-shirts.
2. Let the staff know if you have food allergies. They will take it into account for the thank-

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you lunch and snacks.

3. Include time for self-care while you are volunteering. Many of us can be heads down, concentrating on a task and then forget to stop for a snack or lunch. It's also good to take a break so you can re-engage with a fresh mind.
4. Consider switching volunteer activities. There is lots of flexibility during the week. You do not have to spend all hours on the same task. The staff understand people's desire for variety.
5. Wear comfortable clothes you don't mind getting dusty. Especially if you volunteer for the library, you will likely sort dusty materials. I also found myself washing my hands several times each day.
6. Make time for yourself during the week. Circuit sales and the library will stay open late during the week - this gives you time to shop and do research for your own projects. Also, on Thursday night, the local Mount Nittany Stamp Club usually hosts a speaker and holds a meeting open to volunteers - a "can't miss" event!
7. Consider staying at the Best Western. The APS rate (\$85 per night before taxes) was about half of other area hotels. It includes breakfast and parking is free.
8. Most places in the area close by 9 p.m., so it's hard to get a late-night snack. But you can stop by a grocery store and stock the fridge in your hotel room.
9. The weather varies as does the APC building temperature. Make sure to bring rain gear as well as layers in case it gets hot or cold.
10. The weekend before VWW, there is usually an art fair in State College. I went to this last year, and it was quite stimulating.



SEAPEX Board Secretary Lisa Foster (left) presents the SEAPEX Distinguished Service Award to Ruth Caswell, one of the four founders of the new WSP show

Topical and Thematic Collecting and Exhibiting
with Dr. Jean Wang, APRL Trustee & Grand Award-winning exhibitor

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023
7 PM EASTERN

Join Dr. Jean Wang - APRL Trustee, Grand Award-winning exhibitor, and leukemia researcher - for a guided tour of the ins and outs of thematic and topical collecting and exhibiting. Whether you're an emerging philatelist branching out into topical collecting or an established collector looking to learn more about exhibiting thematic philately (or anything in between), this Stamp Chat offers a wealth of information for collectors of every level.

The video presentation is now available at [Stamp Chat: Topical and Thematic Collecting and Exhibiting with Dr. Jean Wang - YouTube](#)

Editor's Remarks by Laurie Anderson

It seems like time flies by so quickly these days and there is just never enough time to do everything I want on any given day. And I am sure many of you feel the same way. Putting together this quarterly journal for everyone is a perfect example. Just when I think I have time to assemble everything, something else in life pops up and becomes more time sensitive. With that being said, I hope you all will take some time to find a way to contribute to the journal. Without all of your contributions, we cannot have the journal. Take it as an opportunity to share your love of the hobby with your fellow philatelists. You just might make someone's day!

Thinking Theme: A Regular Column that Explores Thematic Exhibiting

by Michele M. Bresso, PhD

Time to branch out . . . way out!

As a thematic philatelic collector in the United States, I'm grateful for the many resources available—from national and regional organizations to local stamp clubs and shows. Online resources are plentiful, too. We can collect, trade, sell and exhibit to our heart's delight. Still, why should we limit our philatelic activities—shopping, research, and friend-raising—to just our country of origin? No matter where you live, you will benefit from going beyond your national boundaries.

In this quarter's column, I'm pushing you go farther afield. It's a big wide world out there. Stamps, ephemera, and relationships with collectors in other countries await! You'll be amazed at how your collection can grow . . . or take an interesting turn . . . by building friendships with collectors around the world.

Here are four ways I have practiced what I'm preaching:

1. After being approached by a young collector in Germany who wanted to know more about my typewriter collection, I used the opportunity to understand his own area of interest: perfins. Perfins are stamps that have initials or a name perforated across the stamp. Years ago, companies that purchased large quantities of stamps for business mail had their stamps perforated to discourage theft of the valuable postage. I knew very little about this area of our hobby, but his passion for the topic drew me in. Today, I've added perfins (Fig. 1) to my typewriter thematic collection because some are marked with initials representing companies that manufactured typewriters.



Fig. 1: The initials "RK," perforated in this U. S. Scott 807, represent the Remington Rand Corporation, whose predecessor brought the first commercial typewriter, the Remington Model 1, to the market in 1874.

you have philatelic friends who can and do. One stamp buddy from New Zealand recently traveled to Taiwan. I was delighted to receive a postcard from him from that country to add to my cats on stamps thematic collection. It depicted a feline postal carrier on one side (Fig. 2) and wonderful

foreign stamps and cancels on the other. It's a keeper!

3. Joining philatelic groups from other countries can also further your knowledge base and your collection. A series of



Fig. 2: Front (left) and back of a die-cut postcard featuring a motorcycle-riding feline postal carrier on one side and beautiful Taiwanese stamps and pictorial cancels on the other. It was a perfect surprise gift from a philatelic friend from afar.

FDCs for a pair 1961 Philippine issues featuring typewriters caught my eye (Fig. 3), and I'm working to collect them all. Joining the International Philippine Philatelic Society provided me new resources for my search and opportunities to connect with collectors who have knowledge on the topic. I am also now a member of the British Thematic Association. Not only do I enjoy BTA's virtual meetings full of fascinating philatelic information, but the connection to UK philatelic exhibitors is also a boon. I'm learning from others and finding new opportunities to exhibit, including BTA's annual traditional exhibit program (fall) and its one-page exhibit program (winter).



Fig. 3: These 1961 stamps (Philippines Scott 845-846), commemorate the Philippine Government Employees Association and feature a government employee using a typewriter. Pictured is one of several FDCs for these issues now in my collection. With the help of the International Philippine Philatelic Society, I'm tracking down more covers as well as information about the cachets' creators.

4. The fun of building friendships with people from around the world brings joy to my collecting experience. These days I treasure my communication with collectors from India, Portugal, Cypress, Germany, New Zealand, Canada, Colombia, Puer-

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to Rico, India, and the United Kingdom. We find opportunities to send items to one another that may enhance each other's collections. On multiple occasions, my far-flung stamp buddies have procured new issues from their countries for my collection. Additionally, I learn so much from my foreign friends. Just getting the chance to better understand a new-to-me culture is so enriching. The impact is powerful: I am a more well-informed collector and a more well-rounded human.

While I've been collecting stamps for nearly 60 years, my past three years' activities have seen burgeoning involvement with collectors and organizations in other countries. What a joy! From personal experience, I can advocate to you with confidence to make a conscious effort to expand your international connections. Your collection, along with your renewed love of philatelic adventure, will thank you!

Watch for it: First Day Cover exhibit for the Ruth Bader Ginsberg by Norma Nielson



I think I might try my hand at a First Day Cover exhibit for the Ruth Bader Ginsberg stamp being released in the US on 10/02/2023.

It will have all the problems of "modern crap" and will take a good long while to accumulate the material. But if a few people - like you - keep your eye open for unofficial first day cancels and usages, that will help immensely. And feel free to spread the word to others.

If you have anything to share, please consider sending it to me at Norma Nielson, PhD
1561 Braeman Village Eugene, OR 97405.

U.S. Postal Service to Unveil Stamp Honoring Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The first-day-of-issue ceremony for the new Forever stamp commemorating the legacy of the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was held on Monday, October 2, 2023 at the National Portrait gallery in Washington, DC.

Details: The United States Postal Service is proud to announce the dedication ceremony for a new Forever stamp honoring Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, celebrating her groundbreaking contributions to justice, gender equality and the rule of law.

About the Stamp: The Ruth Bader Ginsburg stamp features an oil painting of her in her black judicial robe and iconic white collar. The stamp captures her enduring spirit and tireless dedication to upholding the principles of the Constitution.

Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with a portrait by Michael J. Deas based on a photograph by Philip Birmingham.

The Ruth Bader Ginsburg stamp is being issued as a Forever stamp in panes of 20. Forever stamps will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail 1-ounce price.



Kristin Shafer sharing her exhibit, "The Philatelic History of the Archipelago of Tui Tui" to Anne Payton during the Evergreen Stamp Club bourse July 15, 2023.



2023 APS Awards and Honors

The Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards

2023 APS Awards and Honors: The Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Awards National Service



Michele M. Bresso, PhD

Michele M. Bresso has been collecting stamps since she was nine, thanks to a gift of stamps from her fourth grade teacher. A retired educator, she often used stamps in her public speaking and leadership communication classes as topic catalysts for students' speaking and research assignments. She also made it a practice to provide stamps to any students interested in starting a collection of their own.

Bresso serves on the board of the American Topical Association and is co-coordinator of ATA's My One-Page Exhibit Program since 2020. She has presented philatelic programs on many topics both in person and virtually. As Vice President of the Knoxville (Tennessee) Philatelic Society, she organizes and schedules monthly stamp programs for members.

Bresso is affiliated with several other philatelic organizations - such as Women Exhibitors, the American First Day Cover Society, and Graphics Philately Association - and enjoys engaging with philatelists from around the world. She has published articles in several philatelic journals including *The American Philatelist* and *Topical Time*.

Way to go

Michelle and Lisa!



Lisa Foster

Lisa Foster, a Washington state native and lifelong/third generation stamp collector, is a 25-plus year member of the APS with additional philatelic memberships with the American Topical Association, American First Day Cover Society, and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. Her collecting interests are primarily U.S. and postal history with a focus on marcophily. She has exhibited on a variety of topics, including American Postal Machine Co. flag cancels, invalid postage use, The Great American Eclipse, George Washington, and the Salish Sea. Her mission is to "Preserve the hobby and Promote Stamp Collecting for All" through volunteering, exhibiting, judging and promotion of philatelic activities.

Foster is the current President of *Women Exhibitors (WE)* and has been a **WE** member since its inception in 2007. Lisa has served as president and journal editor of *Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps* since 2018.

In 2016, Foster received the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs Club Member Service Award as a member and exhibits chairperson of the Evergreen Stamp Club (ESC). She currently serves as the ESC's president. In 2017, she received the SEAPEX Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her service as secretary to the board of directors and exhibits chairperson during the probationary qualifying period and initial years as a national-level stamp exhibition and WSP show.

A member of the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs (NWFSC), Foster has been a Regional Philatelic judge since 2015, served on the committee to promote exhibiting and was awarded the Northwest Distinguished Philatelist Award for outstanding and distinguished service to philately in 2019. She entered the APS apprentice program to become a National Philatelic judge in 2019 and was accredited in 2022.



Michelle and Lisa receiving their volunteer recognition certificates.



Youth Philatelist



YPLF Collectors



Cheryl Ganz will be Naina's mentor.
Posted by Chicago Collectors Club
August 14



Laurelei Fox received the StampShow Youth Grand award for her exhibit "The Life of St. Patrick in Ireland".



Young Female Philatelists Christina Esbeck received the Grand AAPE Youth Champions of Champions award for her exhibit "Cupcakes".



Some of the Youth collectors enjoying the awards banquet at GASS 2023

"Thinking of You" First Day Ceremony



Christina Esbeck presenting for the first day ceremony at GASS 2023

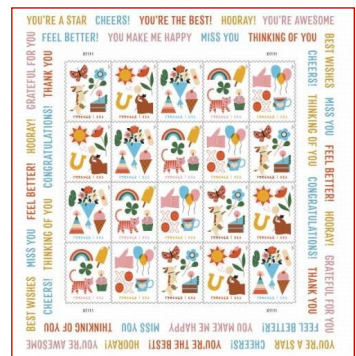
Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association



Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association



Photo by Lloyd A. de Vries, American First Day Cover Association



Josephine Baker

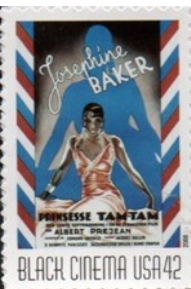
Performing Artist and Hero of France

Thomas W. Broadhead – broadhea@utk.edu

Born Freda Josephine McDonald on June 3, 1906, in St. Louis Missouri, she began her performing career at the age of 13 on the streets. Taking the last name of her second husband, she moved to New York in 1921, performing in chorus lines, where she became known for her introduction of physical comedy.



In 1925, Baker left New York for Paris, where performing opportunities were many more than in the racially segregated United States. There, one of her most memorable performances at the Folies Bergère was the seductive “Danse Sauvage,” where she wore little more than a skirt of artificial bananas, shown in the maximum card (reduced, far left) and as a design element at upper left on the French stamp, the first to honor her, in 1994 (left). Baker’s talents on stage took her to many European countries and to the big screen, where she starred in four French films, including “Princesse Tam Tam” (1935), included as part of the United States recognition of Black Cinema in 2008 (right).



She renounced her United States citizenship in 1937, becoming a citizen of France. During World War II, Baker notably continued to perform, but also played an important role in the French Resistance, gathering strategic information from unsuspecting Germans who attended her performances and met with her. Who would suspect? After the war, she received numerous recognitions, including the Resistance Medal, Croix de Guerre, and named as a Chevalier of the Légion d’Honneur. She was supportive of the civil rights movement in the United States and was the sole woman speaker at the March on Washington (1963). Baker’s later life was one of economic struggle, and she settled in Monaco, becoming close friends with Princess Grace and Prince Rainier, who became her patrons. Four days after a performance in Paris celebrating her 50 years in show business, Josephine Baker died on April 12, 1975. She was honored with the 2006 stamp of Monaco (right) celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Princess Grace Theatre.



Josephine Baker received a funeral with full military honors in Paris, followed by interment in Monaco, where she had made her home. In May 2021, a petition drive was launched to have her remains buried in the Panthéon, the burial place in Paris of many French heroes and luminaries. In August, it was announced that her remains would be reburied in November. After objections from her son, a symbolic casket with soil from

places where she had lived, was interred in the Panthéon on November 30, 2021. A block of four French stamps was issued, and cachets (at left) marked the event and the ultimate recognition of her contributions to society as an artist and military hero.

Entrée au Panthéon de Joséphine BAKER



Paris - 30 novembre 2021



Editions J. F. Courbevois
Photos Harcourt : DR



Note: In order to fit and be legible, the layout was recreated to best match Thomas' one page exhibit.

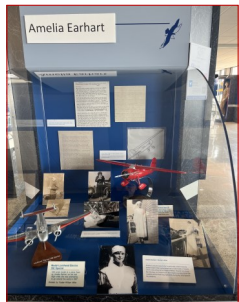
Wander Womyn

While in Cleveland OH for GASS we visited the *International Women's Air & Space Museum* at the Burke Lakefront Airport. Entry was free and it is open seven days a week from 8 AM - 8 PM.



The museum's mission is to "Collect, preserve, and showcase the history and culture of women in all areas of aviation & aerospace; educate people of the world about their contributions; and inspire future generations by bring the history to life."

Although a work in progress, it was fun and inspiring. The museum has displays on several women including Amelia Earhart, Ruth Nichols, Bessie Coleman, Harriet Quimby, Katarine Wright, the WASP,



Jackie Cochran, the Mercury 13 and many more!

One poster honored Dr. Sian Proctor, the first African American woman to pilot a spacecraft, with the launch of the *Inspiration* in September 2021. Aboard that mission, she also became the fourth black woman in space.



Purple plane photo



This is a 1963 Pilurs-Smith DSA-1 Mini-plane built by Tracy Pilurs, winner of the 1962 Women's National Aerobatic Championship. Tracy Pilurs was a pilot, writer, and artist before her death in 1999.



Some of the Judges in action at GASS 2023



Posted by Chicago Collectors Club August 14

Team Kroft



WE Want to Know

Have you ever wanted to give feedback on what you read in **WE** Expressions or share a thought or just say thank you to one of our members? Well now you can....because "**WE** Want to Know"!

After receipt of the January 2020 **WE** Expressions, Women Exhibitors email box was filled with kind words of encouragement. The journal would not be possible without the submissions for publication from our members.

You did a great job on what I am sure was a challenging **WE** issue (both on the topic and the short time frame.) It was nice to reread Janet's past articles as well as comments about her. I feel very fortunate to have known her.

Thanks, Kristin

Simply stellar! Thanks for this tribute issue. I sent it to Russ and he cried. Hugs, Cheryl

Remember, send in your comments and remarks to be published in future journals...your words may just make another persons day!

Comments to: womenexhibitors@gmail.com



Ruth speaking at **WE** meeting August 14 during StampShow 2010. Ruth was the **WE** Chair from 2007-2011



WE Sterling Achievement Award Winners

A special congratulations to the following Sterling Achievement Award winners for their fine exhibits at recent stamp shows:

Donald Bourassa - *A Study in the Design of Queen Victoria Postage Stamps During the 19th Century* at GASS 2023.

If your show has competitive exhibits and is interested in awarding the **WE** Sterling Award please contact Joan Harmer at Awards@AAPE.org or call her at (914) 962-2652.

Editor's Note: My apologies to all **WE** award winners. Due to time constraints to get this journal out, not all **WE** Sterling Achievement Award Winners since the last issue are listed. Will try to get them all together for the next issue.



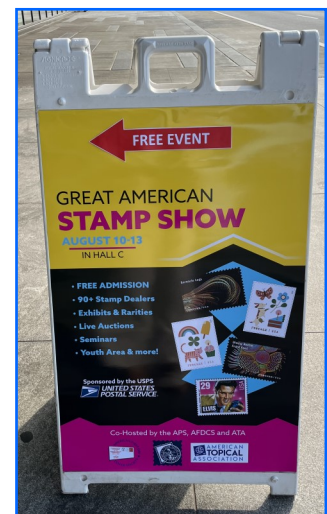
Several of the judges enjoying the banquet at GASS 2023



Michele Bresso, ATA Presents speaker, "How to Create a Meaningful Topical Stamp Collection", August 12, 2023



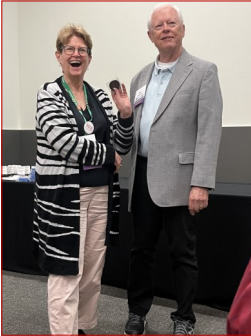
Laurie Anderson volunteering at the ATA Booth



Photos of Award Winners at GASS 2023



Jean Wang won the NTSS Grand Award



Pat Stilwell-Walker receiving one of many awards



Liz Hisey receiving one of her two awards



Vickie Canfield Peters receives a Large Gold for editing the Airpost Journal.
Shared by Cheryl Ganz August 16

Dawn and Jean at the Medal Ceremony.
Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association



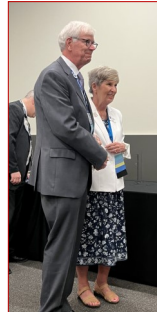
Cynthia Scott receiving her award



Marjory Sente receiving her award



Jean receiving the Biology Unit First Award at the Medal Ceremony
Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association



John Hamman receiving his award



Jane Snowden, first time exhibitor, receiving a Large Vermeil



Dawn receiving one of her many exhibiting awards at the Medal Ceremony.
Photo by Igor Grigorian, American Topical Association



Mark Thompson receiving one of his awards.



Laurie Bernstein receiving her award



Vicky Hadley receiving her award



20th Maynard Sundman Lecture “U.S. Zeppelin Postage Stamps”



Thursday, Nov. 2, 4:00 p.m. ET
Onsite & Online, via Zoom

Dr. Cheryl R. Ganz, President of the American Philatelic Society and Curator Emerita Smithsonian Institution.

Everyone wants to own a set of zeppelin stamps from the 1930s. But why did the Post Office Department issue four zeppelin stamps to subsidize a German aircraft’s operations during the Great Depression? Why were the values of these stamps so high and who received all that money? How did the rates and routes change from 1930 to 1933? Why were zeppelins important to transoceanic mail service?

Learn the stories about these zeppelin stamps that are so iconic to philatelists today. Dr. Ganz will trace production of the issues at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing from source materials to die proofs to certified plate proofs with marginal markings. The first days of issue examples will cover the various city postmarks and private cachets. Finally, she will illustrate when and where Graf Zeppelin flew mail with U.S. franking and the many ways that passengers, crew and collectors sought to create varieties.

To attend via zoom, copy this link into your browser:

https://smithsonian.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bAg2l0f8TxW-KkApw1GrgA#/registration

To register in person, copy this link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Kl6bmOQU_k6Tt4zdX8XRHBd866CBSetHgtLsTgX2O8JUOVVGUEVLTUYyNTBEVFg4V0U0NjZJTklGOS4u

To learn more about Cheryl and the Sundman Lecture, use this link:

<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/the-20th-maynard-sundman-lecture>

Good Luck Cheryl!



The Festival organizing committee: Liz Hisey (hotel & catering arrangements), Pat Walker (festival chair), Ruth Caswell (WE chair), Janet Klug (seminars, facility, program), Denise Stotts (publicity). Not in photo: Joann Lenz (exhibits chair).

The first Festival for Philatelic Women held at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania May 28-31, 2009.

Cachet Makers Bourse



Left: Casey Jo White at her table for the cachet makers bourse.



Right: Cynthia Scott at her table for the cachet makers bourse.



Stories and submissions for the next journal are due by December 15, 2023. Start writing and send them in now!

Famous Women Philatelist: Ruth Caswell by Kathy Johnson



Photo courtesy WE Expressions Q2, 2020 page 4, lower right

Ruth Caswell, WE founder, has died. So many of us cherish Ruth for how she encouraged us to collect, exhibit and enjoy our hobby of stamp collecting. It is here we remember Ruth as a founding member of Women Exhibitors, our organization.

This article reflects not only on Ruth's accomplishments in philately, but also on how Women Exhibitors got started, which is inexorably tied to Ruth. Ruth Moffett Caswell was born May 7, 1935, and died August 7, 2023.

Ruth hails from the Pacific Northwest, where she was known to many for her work in the Puget Sound Collectors' Club as well as the Evergreen Stamp Club. In fact, Ruth was honored as recipient of the Northwest Distinguished Philatelist Award.

You may remember Ruth's exhibits, including: "U.S. Advertising Covers for Book Publishers and Sellers, 1855-1910" Single Frame Grand at Seapex 2014.

"Literacy" a display exhibit won Ruth Caswell a Vermeil at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in 2010 and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Award of Honor as well as the Ephemera Society of American, Certificate of Appreciation Ruth was instrumental as head of the Puget Stamp Group, acquiring frames for exhibits and collaborating with NW Stamp Dealers' Association for a venue. She served as exhibits chair for the shows. She led the group that started the non-profit corporation, SEAPEX, and that successfully applied for 501(c)3 status. Caswell, as head of the Puget Stamp Group, was the driving force in the effort to make SEAPEX a WSP national show. She served as President of SEAPEX for two years and remained an active member of the SEAPEX board.

Our fondest memory of Ruth is tied to the founding of Women Exhibitors, our group. Ruth was a visionary founder of Women Exhibitors, a national organization to promote and encourage women exhibitors. As history, the first "WE" meeting was held on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at AmeriStamp Expo, Riverside, CA. This prelimi-

nary organizational meeting was chaired by Ruth Caswell.

Abbreviated minutes from the meeting begin with: Our thanks go to Ruth for identifying the need for a women's forum and for making initial arrangements to get together in Riverside. Within the first 20 minutes, we had chosen a name (WE - Women Exhibitors), decided on an e-mail newsletter (edited by Barb Harrison), adopted a Statement of Purpose (above), chosen a "Keeper of the Crazies" (aka Chair - Ruth Caswell), and decided to meet as a group twice annually - at StampShow (APS summer meeting) and at AmeriStamp Expo (AAPE/APS winter meeting). During the following discussion, we decided that we would each toss in \$5 toward start-up expenses, and Liz Hisey volunteered to be "Keeper of the Money" as Treasurer/Membership Chair. Thank you to Liz for her continued engagement with WE.

This first meeting was pivotal, everything that is our organization, WE, came from this date and time. Here are excerpts from discussions held, which as readers now we can see are still our focus. What visionaries, what wonderful women of WE!

Meeting discussion:

- WE will foster women's interests in exhibiting and help women to feel welcome as exhibitors.
- WE will be educational, and NOT political.
- WE will offer friendship to other women exhibitors (wannabe's, newbies, experienced), act as mentors, and endeavor to invite other women to attend shows with us.
- WE will endeavor to work toward holding satellite meetings at local shows and other national shows, to reach out to as many women exhibitors as possible. This can be done by our members contacting show committees requesting meeting space at their shows, preparing handouts to give to women at shows, putting up small posters about WE (including contact info - Ruth, Liz, and Barb, plus space for local contact info), writing articles for inclusion in newsletters, etc.
- Barb Harrison will write the articles for TPE, the AAPE journal.
- WE members are encouraged to write Letters to Editors of various groups such as APS (The American Philatelist), Topical Times, etc.

...continued on page 18

- Barb will send a “welcome” e-mail to new members and will also send updated member lists out periodically as new names are added (or changes are made).
- The newsletter will include a “calendar” of who will be attending which shows.
- Ruth will organize the next **WE** meeting to be held at StampShow in Portland, OR, Aug.9-12, 2008.
- All **WE** members: Be thinking about seminar topics for future meetings.
- Survey: Ruth, Liz, Janet, and Barb will construct a brief survey about **WE**, which will be e-mailed to members in an upcoming newsletter.

This meeting was a wonderful example of what women with a purpose can accomplish in just one short hour! Thanks, everybody, for helping us to get off to a good start.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Ruth Caswell for her vision and engagement to philately, specifically women in philately, the hobby we so love.

Ruth Caswell Memorial



As many of you know, Ruth Caswell passed away August 7, 2023.

I am sure that Ruth’s daughter, Barbara, would appreciate receiving mail filled with fond remembrances of Ruth. Send

to: Barbara Roewe at 148 Steelhead Drive Silver Creek, WA 98585.

Ruth Moffett Caswell passed away August 7, 2023. Ruth was a recipient of the Northwest Distinguished Philatelist Award and was known to many for her work in the Puget Sound Collectors’ Club, the Evergreen Stamp Club, Puget Stamp Group, SEAPEX and a founder of Women Exhibitors, to name a few.

Ruth’s memorial service will be held 2023 November 4 at the V.R. Lee Building (in Recreation Park), 221 SW 13th St, Chehalis, WA 98532.

Album Closed

In Memory of Ruth Caswell, who gave so much to the hobby.



Carol Edholm, **WE** Membership
4404 - 224th Place SW
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

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

WE is on the web at www.aape.org/weweb.asp or WomenExhibitors@gmail.com