

WE EXPRESSIONS

(WOMEN EXHIBITORS)

2008: Vol. 2-1

Jan. 27, 2008

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Chair: Ruth Caswell, ruthandlyman@earthlink.net Denise Stotts, stottsjd@swbell.net
Treasurer: Liz Hisey, lizhisey@comcast.net Ed., *WE Think*: Janet Klug, tongajan@aol.com

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*, Aug. 14-17, 2008, Hartford, Conn.

Next Workshop: *STAMPSHOW*, Aug. 14-17, 2008, Hartford, Conn.

Satellite Mtgs: *Sarasota Natl. Stamp Exhibition*, Feb. 1-3, 2008, Sarasota, FL, Ann Triggler & Liz Hisey.

ARIPEX, Fri., Feb. 22, 11 am; Phoenix, AR; Dalene Thomas.

SOPEX, April 5-6, 2008, Central Point, OR, Nancy Swan.

RMSS, Sat., May 17, 1 pm, Denver, CO, Dalene Thomas & Liz Hisey.

PIPEX, May 31, 2008, Seattle, WA, 12 noon, Ruth Caswell.

NTSS, June, Portland, OR, Dalene Thomas.

COALPEX, June 14-15, 2008, Walnut Creek, CA, Sat., June 14, 2 pm; Vesma Grinfelds. (Critique at 3 pm, followed by meeting at frames.)

PNSE, Sept. 5-7, 2008, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA; will include mini-seminar on The Basics of Exhibiting; time TBD; Barb Harrison.

Keeper's Korner:

What a remarkable group of women! I enjoyed meeting you at AmeriStamp Expo. We always have interesting conversations and discussions. I also get notes about good things that are happening. Keep up the good work!

You will find a wrap-up of WE happenings at AmeriStamp Expo 2008 elsewhere in this newsletter. The number of participants at our gatherings was not large, but we were still able to help each other with exhibiting issues.

WE needs a program topic for StampShow 2008. Please send your ideas to me by e-mail, regular mail, or phone. I want to hear about your ideas for WE programs.

Your administrative group recommended that WE establish dues of \$5 each year. This was done at the winter meeting, so you will find a dues statement in this newsletter. Unless you have paid dues recently, you need to send this statement with your dues to Liz Hisey. Alternatively, you may pay by PayPal sending to lizhisey@comcast.net and putting WE 2008 dues and your name in the subject/comment line. Please also tell us if you are an APS or AAPE member. WE gets support from each group, and each would like to know the number of members in WE.

In part because WE needed to open a bank account, the administrative group is now your Board of Directors. Two at-large representatives, Patricia Stilwell-Walker and Denise Stotts, were added to the Board, as was Janet Klug, Editor of *WE Think*. WE also has bylaws, drafted by Liz Hisey and approved by the Board after

discussion. In addition, a permissions sentence will appear in both *WE Expressions* and *WE Think*, so that those who want to copy or quote from either publication will need to ask first.

Thanks for all you do to promote WE.

Ruth

WINTER MEETING 2008 WRAP-UP: WE held their winter meeting on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at AmeriStamp Expo in Charlotte NC. The administrative group presented three items for discussion: yearly dues instead of donations, Celebration of Goals Met, and the WE program for StampShow 2008. The consensus was that WE should move from donations to yearly dues. The Celebration of Goals Met will occur at the summer meeting at StampShow 2008 and through on-line congratulations for those who cannot attend the meeting. Ideas for the meeting program at StampShow were sought. Barb Harrison gave a report on the newsletter and asked that members keep her informed of changes in both e-mail and regular mail addresses.

The special event, *Festival for Philatelic Women*, was announced. This event is currently scheduled for 21-24 May 2009, and members were asked to put the date on their calendars and to plan to bring friends.

The chair thanked all satellite meeting leaders for efforts in encouraging women to exhibit and become members of WE.

The program, *Interacting with Judges*, was a panel presentation by Patricia Stilwell-Walker, Charles Verge, and Darrell Ertzberger. Many good ideas about the judging process were presented. For those who could not attend, these ideas will appear in the upcoming *WE Think*.

WE also sponsored a Beginning Exhibiting Workshop for Women, led by Janet Klug and Ruth Caswell. Participants learned about the types of exhibits and about the process of getting an exhibit started. The workshop ended with an interactive presentation on using *Publisher* to craft an exhibit.

*****UPCOMING SHOWS*****

INVITATION FROM SOPEX: WE will hold a satellite meeting (Nancy Swan) at SOPEX 2008 (Southern Oregon), being held at the Padgham Pavillion at EXPO in Central Point, OR, on April 5 & 6, 10-5:30 and 10-4. It's an open show and they will be using 12 page frames. There will be 12-14 dealers. Nick Follansbee, show chair, is happy to welcome a WE satellite meeting, which will probably be around noon on April 6.

INVITATION FROM COALPEX: COALPEX 2008, which will be held June 14 and 15 in Walnut Creek, California, will host a WE satellite meeting (Vesma Grinfelds). The exhibition will be restricted to women exhibitors who need not belong to WE. There are 50 frames available. In consideration of others who may wish to participate, it is suggested that exhibits be limited to 5 frames or less. Special awards are available for novice exhibitors and "brand new" exhibits. Previous WSP Gold Medal exhibits will be judged head-to-head in a "best of the best" competition; all others will compete for the usual five medal levels and other awards. APS accredited judges will provide written feedback to all who exhibit. For additional information, email David McNamee, COALPEX Show Chairman at dmcnamee@aol.com. ***NO ENTRY FEES.***

Regarding the December newsletter:

(from Carol J. Edholm) I totally agree with Denise Stotts and Barb Harrison regarding Judges' Critiques suggestions, especially Barb's comment about judges not noticing things they want in an exhibit and it was there all along, well marked. (I will never forget ROMPEX 2003 where this happened to me!)

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: What kinds of exhibits are you working on? How many do you work on at one time? How do you acquire most of your material?

(Vesma Grinfelds) Currently, I'm contemplating working on an exhibit which is driving me "nuts" to say the least. It would be an exhibit on "provisional cancellations" during a very limited time period (max 1 1/2 years). Despite truly knowing the rarity of the material, I have procrastinated putting this exhibit together with constant questions about how to organize it! The material involved is for a very small country in between historical eras of occupation and independence.

How should this be arranged? The philatelic facts:

Alphabetical by cancellations is easy but totally boring.

Different cancellations types are not particularly interesting either.

Organizing by geographic areas is fairly easy but also pretty boring.

Organizing by chronology is confusing to the viewer as the historic facts are minute and confusing!

A historical approach is ideal but may require small military related maps all over the exhibit and create more confusion.

And then, many covers have cancellations from 2 different towns -- both being provisional!!!

What to do? Oh, what to do? How to organize?

As I procrastinate how to organize this unusual material, it sits in the usual shoe boxes. HELP!

(Denise Stotts) That depends on how you define "working on" - I am accumulating material for and thinking about several thematics and two traditional exhibits. I only actually work on layout and writeup one at a time - usually when I know I need to get it ready for a show. I acquire most of my material at stamp shows and a little bit at auction.

(Carol J. Edholm) I have been working on *A Tour of Philately* (display class) since 1999 or so and started competitively exhibiting in 2001. This is a difficult exhibit showing the various aspects of philately. I started this exhibit just to "get my feet wet." Talk about jumping in with both feet! -- The toughest part was how to organize it. I've had great mentors -- Ruth & Lyman Caswell, and Tony Wawrukiewicz of Portland, Oregon (who is also a judge). Tim Bartche and David McNamee are both great Judges to gain constructive insight into any exhibit! After several changes in the organization of the exhibit, we must have finally got it right (or at least on the right track) because I finally got a local Gold in September 2006 (METRO Stamp Show in Portland, Oregon)! I am so proud!

That METRO 2006 show was also where I received a Gold on *The Sacred Peafowl* exhibit (topical class). I started this exhibit in 2003; the METRO show was its third showing. Doubly proud! (My husband got a Gold on his topical exhibit, its second showing!)

I thought I would quit working on my *Tour* exhibit when I started the *Peafowl* exhibit, but who was I trying to kid?! The exhibit, both exhibits, have become "bad habits" -- it is second nature to spot items for them when I

am shopping for stamps for my personal collection. I am also working on turning my *Peafowl* research into a book to be published at a (much) later date.

To make matters worse, more complicated, difficult, challenging, however you want to look at it (I say fun!), I have started gathering material and information for 8 other exhibits! There is no set date on when to start showing the first of these eight works-in-progress. Call me insane if you wish; all I know is stamp collecting is in my blood and now exhibiting is a part of me, no matter how many ill-tempered judges view my exhibits. I am having too much fun! (I started collecting 35 years ago at age 10.)

I acquire most of my material from dealers at stamp shows. I will get some material off e-Bay, but only pieces I have not seen anywhere else. I used to buy worldwide stamps by the several-pound box, but decent mixes are getting more difficult to find (and in some ways, I am beyond the mixes -- but they are so much fun!). Stamp dealers across three states know to look for items for my Tour exhibit, and for any and all Peafowl items. I have yet to inform them of the other 8 exhibits I have started; I'll have to break them in slowly on that or they'll go into "topical shock"!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ANSWER FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: How do you keep track of what material you already have for an exhibit(s) when you go to a show? What steps do you follow in handling the material at home: 1) before you start organizing the pages? 2) As you work on organizing the pages? 3) As you work on the copy for the exhibit? 4) Do you sometimes you need to delete something you planned to use? Or need additional material? How do you go about getting that additional material?

EXHIBITING COURSE OFFERED BY APS: A newly revised Exhibiting Course given via the internet will soon begin. The course will again be taught by Janet Klug and Ann Triggler, both of whom are experienced exhibitors and judges. The text for the course has been rewritten completely to accommodate the new exhibiting divisions and classes. Information can be obtained from APS Director of Education Gretchen Moody at gretchen@stamps.org or by writing or phoning the APS. (Note from Barb: I took this course 4 years ago, when I first began to exhibit, and I found it to be extremely helpful. At that time, you would read the assigned chapters, prepare your "homework," and e-mail it to Janet/Ann, who then returned to you their comments and suggestions. I could proceed at my own pace, re-read chapters, and send questions to Janet/Ann. The course is now being redesigned so that there is even more and better interaction with the instructors with more feedback and guidance for the students. All in all, it was a wonderful and very worthwhile experience, and it should prove to be even *better* with the changes. I highly recommend your participation if you are a new exhibitor.)

WE ARE ON THE MOVE:

WHO IS EXHIBITING WHERE????

Our list of exhibitors is now so long that it has now become an **attachment** to the newsletter. Please be sure to click on **WHO IS EXHIBITING WHERE????** to read this impressive list. Does your name appear?? Have you send in shows recently entered??

WE PEOPLE IN THE NEWS: For anyone who hasn't seen the January issue of The American Stamp Dealer & Collector, you missed a wonderful Profile article of our very own Denise Stotts. Among many other very nice things, Denise is called an "exhibiting mover and shaker," gives details of her activities related to being Meetings Director of AAPE, and also tells of her connection with WE, calling us a "very active group that encourages and mentors women philatelic exhibitors. (They also refer readers back to their Nov.-Dec. issue for more about WE.) Denise is also called a respected APS leader and mentions her recent election as a Director-At-Large which places her on the APS Board of Directors. In both of the 2 great pictures that were featured, Denise is proudly wearing her WE button! Congratulations, Denise! WE're all proud of you! Keep up the good work!

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

IMPORTANT: Please inform editor immediately of any changes in e-mail address. Also – please keep up with your e-mail. Because of the time involved, your editor will NOT keep re-sending the newsletter to you if you have a full mailbox. If you have NOT received your newsletter by the last day of the month, contact the editor. If you do NOT receive a newsletter and wish to have it, contact Barb.

DUES FORM: Note that a Dues Form is attached. Official annual dues of \$5 was recently decided upon, payable in January. Please send your dues to Liz Hisey.

ANY PROBLEMS OPENING ATTACHMENTS ON WE EXPRESSIONS??
Please let Barb know if you have had any difficulties in opening any of the attachments on our newsletters.

BUTTONS, BUTTONS: WE buttons are being distributed to members at satellite meetings by the meeting leaders. If you are unable to attend meetings, you can e-mail Liz to request your button. **If at all possible**, please pick up your button at a meeting.

AAPE: If you are not already a member of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, we highly recommend you join (\$20/yr.). Benefits are: 4 very informative issues per/yr. of TPE (The Philatelic Exhibitor); critique service; mentoring. Contact AAPE Secy., our own Liz Hisey, for membership info.

REMINDER: Please do NOT forward the membership list to anyone. When a new member joins they will receive a dated copy of the most recent membership list, which is now being kept current and sent out to the membership by Ruth. Be sure to proofread your own info on the list and let Ruth know if there are any errors. If there are changes during a given month, everyone will receive a new list, with the current date, around the same time as the newsletter is sent.

POSSIBLE NEW MEMBERS: Please refer them to Barb or to Liz (Liz will receive their \$5 dues). Either one can receive the membership information, and then Barb will send a welcome e-mail & the current newsletter; Ruth will send the latest Membership List and Collecting Interests list.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- Welcome to Elizabeth Nettles, Ph.D., from St. Louis, a practicing Clinical Psychologist who somehow finds time to chair the St. Louis Stamp Expo, show 2 prize-winning exhibits, and has several other exhibits to mount when she has the time. (Does that sound familiar to anyone???) She has also done some philatelic writing, often with David Straight. Elizabeth extends an invitation to all WE members to come to the St. Louis Stamp Expo, Feb. 29-March 2, 2008.

BACK MATERIAL FOR NEW MEMBERS: When new members join, they receive a copy of the last newsletter, Membership List, and Collecting Interests List. Should any new member NOT receive a back issue or two, PLEASE e-mail Barb, who has been known to have an occasional “senior moment.” If any new member wants to hold a satellite meeting, e-mail Barb to request the poster and handouts you can use. (If you have not received a Membership List and Collecting Interests List, contact Ruth.)

IN CONCLUSION: We’re off to a busy start for 2008. WE was well represented at AmeriStamp Expo in Charlotte. I was delighted to meet several WE members for the first time, and it was just great to see WE buttons being worn. It was especially nice to see so many WE exhibits in competition.

We’ve been busy working on By-Laws and forming a Board of Directors. You will note some additions at the top of the newsletter. This group forms your Board of Directors.

Please let me know if you have any problems receiving your newsletters or opening attachments. If you have NOT received your newsletter by the end of the month, send me an e-mail. Also, PLEASE keep me informed of any changes in e-mail addresses and be sure to keep up with reading your e-mail as **full mailboxes cause problems when I send the newsletters**. If your mailbox is full, you may NOT receive your newsletters!

I’m curious to know: **Is the newsletter meeting your expectations? Do you have any suggestions? I would love to include more philatelic bios on some of our members from time to time. Will you write one and send it in? We also need people to write some articles on exhibiting, from a couple of sentences to a full page. We could also use some ideas for the monthly questions – and more people who will send in their answers! Without YOUR participation, we won’t have a newsletter!**

I hope to hear from YOU soon!

Barb, Editor



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