



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: AMERISTAMP, Feb. 20-22, 2009; Arlington, TX. Sat., Feb. 21, 12 noon: Title & Synopsis Pages, by Pat Stilwell-Walker.

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

Satellite Mtgs: *Hudson-Fulton Stamp Expo*, Sept. 25-27, 2009, Albany, NY; will include mini-seminar on The Basics of Exhibiting, by Barb Harrison.

Keeper's Korner:

I'm writing this just before the start of the New Year, and thinking about upcoming WE events. The next WE meeting will be at AmeriStamp Expo, which will be held at the Arlington Convention Center in Arlington, TX. WE will meet on Saturday, February 21, at noon. Please make plans to be there. Pat Stilwell-Walker is giving a very timely and informative program on *Title and Synopsis Pages*. All of us want to craft these pages well, so come and hear what Pat has to say.

Denise, who sends the WE medals to shows that request them, reports that WE medals were sent to 7 national and 4 local/regional shows in the United States and to 1 Canadian show. The WE medals are encouragement medals, given to exhibitors who have received a silver, silver-bronze, or bronze medal. Several who have received them have sent thanks to WE.

Remember to send in your registration for the *Festival*. Janet has a wonderful list of presenters and topics. Each of us will find several sessions of interest, and you don't want to miss the fellowship of women interested in philately. Plan now for getting there and make lodging arrangements with the hotel. At \$85 for *Festival* including food and \$84 per night for the hotel, the weekend is a bargain. Do plan to be there.

Have a Happy New Year, and may all your exhibiting ventures be rewarding.

Ruth

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: Thinking of your OWN exhibits, which is your favorite and why? How did you come up with the idea? How long did it take to complete? How and from where did you gather needed material? Do you plan changes or additions in the future?

(From Jane K. Fohn) I have two that have been successful and can't decide which one is my favorite.

"The Alamo 9-Cent Stamp and Its First-Day Covers" (Scott 1043) was created from a nucleus of philatelic material and correspondence that my father, Gillis King, saved when he chaired the first day ceremony in San Antonio, TX. He was appointed by the Texas governor to serve as chairman of the program committee; and he was chairman of the Texas Heritage Foundation's stamp committee.

A few years ago, Phil Stager (Florida) put me in touch with Dr. Joseph Gelinas. Dr. Gelinas was a doctor stationed at Ft. Sam Houston and a member of the San Antonio Philatelic Association during the time the Alamo stamp was issued. After we were in touch, Dr. Gelinas sent me most of his material from that first day on June 14, 1956. I cried when he sent a cover signed by my father -- I had nothing like it.

This exhibit has been shown since 2000. There have been a number of changes re dos, and now it needs to be freshened up again. There is always new material. The exhibit is a memorial to my father.

My "Hillcountry Honkytonkin Rita: Labrador Retriever" grew out of boredom at the Austin, TX, stamp show. Not finding much at the show, I accidentally looked through a dealer's dog box. I found lot's of Labs and I began a collection for Rita. Then the material grew into her exhibit in which she tells her life story. This 13-year old Lab is a very smart dog.

I made a list of Labs from the ATA dog list. At first many of the meters and a good many of the stamps were in my "stuff." I searched the Internet. It is strange the way material just "falls" into my hands.

Rita has gotten a national vermeil on her exhibit. It had an AAPE critique. At first I used worldwide stamps, but it was suggested that I use U.S. since she lives in the US. A San Antonio dealer had most of the stamps, and I have Texas meters in my collection that will be perfect. A CD has been made of the first exhibit, and we will see how they compare. Rita's next outing will be Americover 2009.

(Editor's Note: On a very sad note, Rita passed away on Dec. 21, after a long illness with complications. Jane says, "I will be torn between doing the exhibit because I loved her so, or *not* doing it because I loved her so much. Time will tell. I probably will tell Ken Martin that I don't have the heart to reconstruct Hillcountry Honkytonkin Rita for Americover." We are very sorry for Jane's loss.)

(From Barb Harrison) I would have to say that Grandma's House 1870-1950 is my present favorite. It's a 7-frame display exhibit which was first shown at StampShow '06 in Chicago and won a gold. With some minor changes/additions, it has continued to do very well since then, getting mostly golds, a number of creativity awards, and various other special awards. If

you haven't seen it, Grandma takes you on a guided tour of her Victorian home, describing the contents of the house, rooms, etc. I "push the envelope" by including some unusual small antique items such as a door key, bottle openers, scissors, knitting needles, a miniature shoe penknife, and a card of old buttons. When I asked several experienced exhibitors about what kinds of collateral items could be included in a display, I was counseled that as long as it advanced the story and would fit into the frame, it could be used. So I took the ball and ran! Apparently the judges have liked my ideas, as has the general public, so it is a very satisfying exhibit for me. Whenever I have personally attended shows with "Grandma," I have had people come find me to tell me they love the story. It is very gratifying to see people lined up reading the pages, enjoying the thoughts the story brings back to them. A common comment is that it reminds so many people of their own grandmother's home.

I have been collecting small antique items, Victoriana, and covers relating to the Victorian period for many years. Not too long after just getting started in exhibiting (2004), I was sitting at a dealer's table at a show when lightning hit as I was looking through old advertising covers: Wouldn't it be neat to have a Victorian "doll house" made of covers and philatelic material, using many items already in my various collections, including tiny antiques? How about having Grandma take you on a tour? How about basing it on the Victorian house in which my husband grew up (just a block from my home)? How about embellishing the story a bit, make Grandma and Grandpa wealthy so as to widen opportunities for what to include in the home? How about making Grandma's story Part 1 of a series, and make Part 2 the story of Grandpa's travels? For the rest of that show, I spent every possible moment searching for material – and at every show I attended over the next year. I guess it took about 1½ years to complete. Meanwhile I was also looking for material for Part 2, which was just completed a few months ago. I continued to collect more "House" material, and put together a couple of 1-frames (although I knew they weren't really right for 1-framers), and I have a box of additional material waiting in the wings. I'll probably continue showing "House" in its present form for '09, after which I'll most likely turn it into a 10-framer, adding the attic, the nursery, and more material to Grandpa's den, the kitchen, and probably the bathroom.

Grandma's House has been a labor of love and I've enjoyed every minute of it. I've loved the Victorian period for many years, and since I know I'll never own a *real* Victorian home, I guess you could say that Grandma's House is my "dream home."

If you have an interest in doing a display exhibit, I can attest that it can be a LOT of fun!!! I'll be starting to write another new display exhibit right after the holidays, and it will be another one that's quite different. Perhaps you can come up with your own unusual idea, and perhaps an AAPE Creativity Award will be yours, too! Good luck.

(From Jane K. Fohn, on last month's question about mentors): When I wrote about my mentors for "The 9-Cent Alamo Stamp and Its First-Day Covers," I hit send too fast. I must add that Charlie Deaton, John Hotchner and Jeff Switt have been indispensable. Gentlemen, please forgive me--your names were written in my draft.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ANSWER FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: How did you get started in exhibiting? How well did you do with your first exhibit? What did you learn from it, both good and bad?

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!!

HOLD THE DATE: May 28 – 31, 2009.

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

If you are planning to attend, SEND AN E-MAIL NOW TO FESTIVAL ADDRESS BELOW STATING YOUR INTENTION, even if you will be sending your registration fee in later. A headcount is needed. For those who can: Please send in your registration fee as soon as possible as expenses are already being incurred which must be paid. The Festival Committee needs to know that you are coming!

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.

ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE REGISTRATION FORM. PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO LIZ HISEY. A HARD COPY WILL ALSO BE SENT BY SNAIL MAIL IN FEBRUARY.

ALSO ATTACHED IS THE SPEAKER/SEMINAR POSTER – TRY TO PRINT UP SOME COPIES TO POST WHERE THEY MIGHT BE SEEN BY POSSIBLE ATTENDEES AND ALSO TO TAKE TO SHOWS, STAMP CLUB MEETINGS, ETC.

SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL WE MEMBERS: If you are planning to attend the festival in Bellefonte in 2009, please also consider bringing an exhibit for other attendees to see. Exhibits will NOT be judged, but will be used for discussion and learning. 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. Exhibits do NOT have to be complete, but can be “under construction.” Please contact me if you have questions or want to volunteer an exhibit. (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 a partial list of seminars that are already included:

Cheryl Ganz – Women in Philately: Where We've Been, Where We're Going

Charles Verge -- Family correspondence & research

Denise Lazaroff -- Scrapbooking

Barb Boal – Photoshop Elements

Barb Boal -- Exhibit Page Layouts

Cheryl Edgcomb -- Creative 3-D Exhibits

Sue Dempsey -- How to get what you want from a dealer

Gretchen Moody -- Stamp Saturday (introduction to stamp collecting)

Barb Harrison – Collecting & Exhibiting Picture Post Cards 101

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 from their website: [Http://www.stampExpo400.org](http://www.stampExpo400.org). They advise early entry – entry fees can be sent after the first of 2009. Show date is Sept. 25-27, 2009. WE will have a table, shared with AAPE, who will help to “man” the table, and a 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 MEMBERS:

No new members this month. Current membership stands at 102.

