

The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

A Universal Stamp Album Page

by Bernard V. Sigg (#748)

If you have been frustrated in your search for a suitable collection format to mount your collection, I offer you my solution to use in any way you desire.

The Problem - A space for every stamp you wish to mount does not exist in any album available from commercial sources. I tried everything - single albums -- Scott's Internationals -- misc. supplements - Result?: Frustration.

The Solution - The binder was easy. I found (at a discount office supply store) one-inch 3-ring binders at 97¢ each available in boxes of twelve. My entire worldwide used collection with spaces through 1955 is housed in 157 volumes.

The page was next - use your imagination -- what do you want? Numerical order (my choice) -- set compatibility -- exotic display, etc. My system is a three step system - (1) Master-Master, (2) Master, (3) Album Page, and the use of a copy machine.

Master-Master -- one page -- (See Figure 1) This is the foundation of the whole system. The page was drawn by hand and then copied. I tried 5x5 stamps but found 4x5 is better considering today's larger stamps. My Master-Master page has 20 blocks. Each block has small spaces at the bottom for recording information -- catalog number/value/condition/perf/watermark/etc. Again the choice is yours.

Master - As many as

(Continued Page 2)

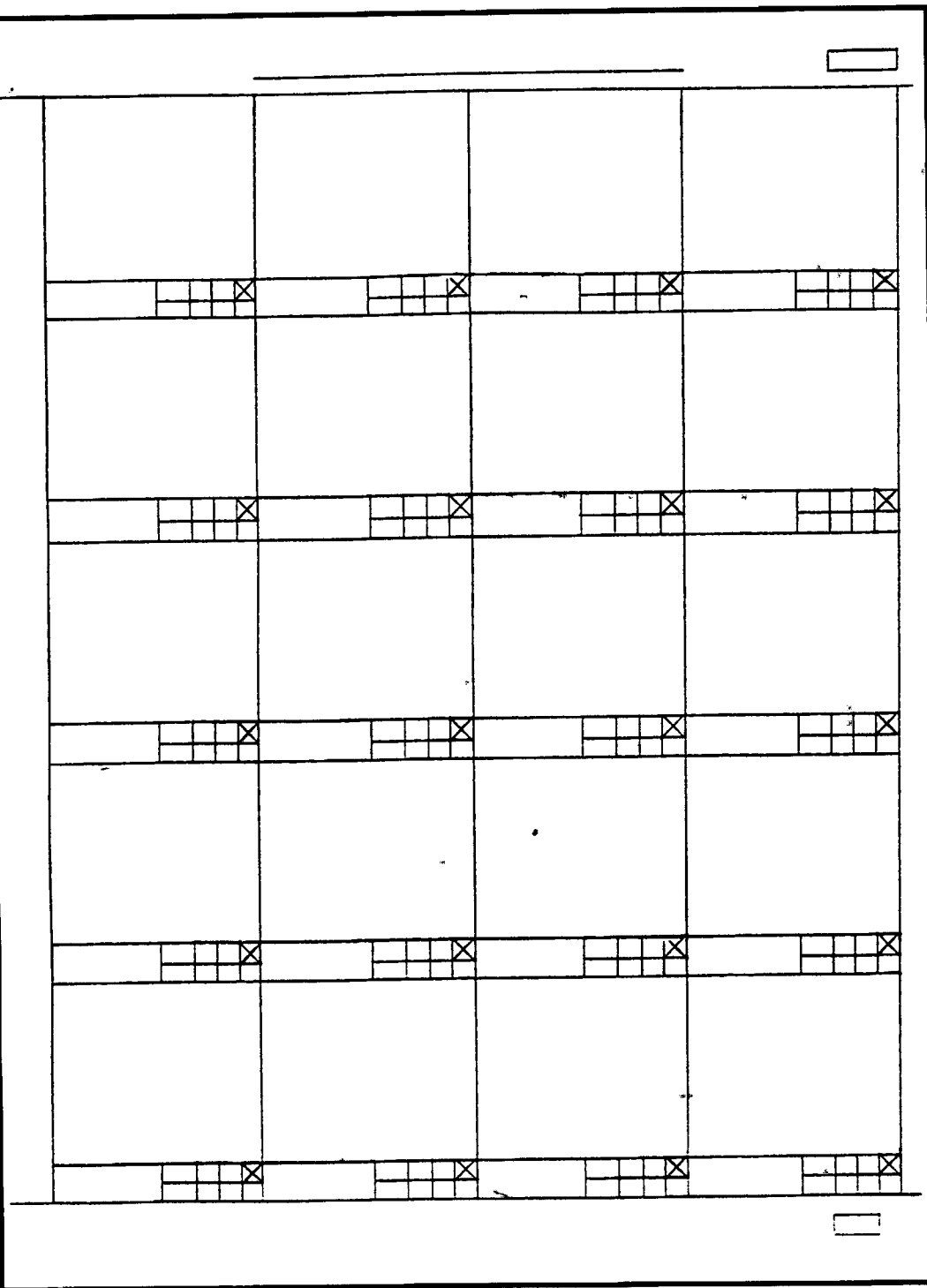


Figure 1: Master-Master Page

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Ken Jenkins (#15) • Herb Holland (#31) •
and the Elected Officers.

Deadline: Next Issue
August 20, 1994

Items received after deadline
will appear in another issue..

Album Pages (Continued from Page 1)

required - 1 copy each. You type numbers on a copy of the Master-Master to make Master originals for each set of 20 stamps. Thus Scott # 1-20 becomes a Master, Scott #21-40 another, Scott #C1-C20 another, any 20 stamps or whatever.

Album Page -- To create an album for a country, say Australia, all that is necessary is to select Masters for the desired stamps; copy the Masters, type Australia at the top of each page, punch holes on the left and instant stamp album (See Figure 2). My Australian Album has spaces for Scott # 1-1500, C1-C20, L1-L100. For Blocks and multi-stamp sets, using one number -- just copy a Master-Master and type it to suit and insert it in numerical order.

Depending on how many stamps are actually in a binder -- 2000 to 3000 -- is about the limit per one-inch binder. As my albums are strictly alphabetical by choice, my binder contains Ascension, Australia, Azerbaijan, and Azores, and has the country names typed on the end and is #8 in my series of albums. USSR (Russia) requires three binders with pages 1-6400, B1-180, C1-C140, L1-L20, N1-N60, plus Armies and Offices.

If any member would like a copy of my Master-Master please send an SASE to me at P. O. Box Q, Titusville, FL 32781

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(Editor's Note: This idea could be easily adapted to using a computer to layout and generate the different pages.)

Figure 2: Page 1 for Australia AUSTRALIA

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20

The President's Column by Tom Fortunato (# 379)

This issue features a roster of the membership. It has been almost two years since the last one, and boy have we grown! Excuse the rather small type used, however we have had to consider the expenses involved with its publication. All good philatelists should have a magnifying glass handy! My thanks to Joe Doles (# 933) who spent many hours preparing our membership list for this roster.

As you read in the last *Circuit*, we are in need of a new newsletter editor by the end of the year. If you have any experience in this area, please write or phone me for details.

Two ISWSC meetings are scheduled soon. The ISWSC will meet at STaMpsHOW'94 in Pittsburgh, PA on Saturday, August 20. Another meeting will be held during Phil-Ex at Toronto's Convention Centre on Saturday, September 10. Come join us! ••

New Sales Circuit Manager Named

Jim Watkins (#372) has been named the new manager of the US ISWSC sales circuit program. The former manager, Judy Hungerford, had to leave the position due to time restraints. Jim has been and will continue to be a co-manager of mail sale/auctions, fulfilling bids. Any US member interested in the sales circuit program may contact him at 2123 Cedar Way, Stockton, CA 95207. Include a #10 SASE for details on buying or selling stamps through this service. ••

Join the Sales Circuit

Send for details
to sell and/or buy
fellow members' stamps
at bargain prices

Send a #10 SASE to:
James Watkins
2123 Cedar Way
Stockton, CA 95207

Currently Available to
US members only

Beginner's Column by Al and Mildred Felnberg (#361)

Semi-postal stamps is the topic for today. They are a form of a tax on postage. Scott lists them with a "B" in front of the number. In some countries they are mandatory and must be used on all mail; in other instances they are voluntary. I collect them because I find them to be very educational. You can learn a lot about a country from these semi-postals. They usually portray the purpose for which they are issued. A good bit of the funds go to charity, youth programs, hospitals, etc.

Some collectors believe these stamps were issued primarily for collectors and refuse to collect them. In most cases they cost more than regular postage issues but were issued in lesser quantities therefore increase in value faster. Like regular stamps, price is based on supply and demand.

My favorite semi-postals come from Belgium. Some may say that there are too many of them and too costly, but I find them fascinating, colorful and

beautiful stamps. Quite a few are engraved and I have always preferred engraved stamps.

The best way to collect them is to buy complete sets. Broken sets are very hard to fill. If you find them too expensive you may want to buy short sets avoiding the most expensive stamps in the set, thus you can have a few stamps from each set. Of course, like any broken sets they have little value when you dispose of your collection. Some early semi-postals are regular issues overprinted or surcharged with the extra denomination. Once you start collecting semi-postals you will find it hard to stop.

Some countries issue semi-postal airmails. Scott catalogues list them with a "CB" in front of the number.

I don't recommend semi-postals for everyone but for those of you who can spend the extra money I'm sure you'll find them as fascinating as I do. ••

Debs 1992 Supplement Released

A supplement to Debs first worldwide album was issued a few months ago. It adds about 1,600 1992 issues to the main album, covering almost 10,000 stamps and souvenir sheets in all.

Unlike the album, the supplement was printed on single sided paper and developed completely electronically. The resulting print provides sharp, clear images. A brief errata notes corrections to the main album itself. Some 1991 and 1993 issues were printed in error. The validity of some of the Russian local overprints, such as Chechenya, are written of here as well.

The supplement is available for \$25 (plus \$6 shipping) from the publishers. Topical collectors will appreciate the well annotated index of 1992 issues. Its extensive listing is quite detailed, allowing quick access to the actual issue in the album. This is offered separately at \$20.

* For further details, write: J.H. Debs Co., 1738 Union St., Suite 100, San Francisco, CA 94123 or phone (415)474-5046. ••

Stamps at Face Value

Many members are opting to pay their dues in face value mint stamps in full sets from their native country. An updated list of these is now available to any ISWSC member wishing to purchase them at very reasonable prices. They are great for any topical or country collector. For the latest list, send a SASE or IRC to the president, Tom Fortunato, whose address is in the masthead. ••

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TOM ALLISON,
OMNI MANAGER
BOX 252
WILLMETTE, IL 60091-0252

Secretary-Treasurer's Report by Carol Cervenka (# 498)

The new 1994-95 ISWSC Roster is being mailed with this issue of *The Circuit*. PLEASE THROW OUT YOUR OLD ROSTERS AND OLD UP-DATE PAGES! We have received complaints from former members that they are still receiving mail several years after they have resigned for one reason or another. Rosters seem to have a half-life akin to plutonium! The new Roster (and the inevitable up-date page) is as current as we can make it. It also contains the listings for members #1178 through #1189 which were inadvertently left off of the May-June up-date pages.

Another former member writes that he received 20+ trading inquiries within a 2 week period. He is one of the few members we had in a very popular country. I'm sure you can understand that overseas postage — to say nothing of the work involved in replying — would badly dent the budget of most retired folks. NO NON-USA MEMBER IS OBLIGATED TO REPLY UNLESS YOU SEND AN INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPON! Think how you would feel if the you got that volume of mail from overseas members! We are fortunate in the USA to enjoy a standard of living that many nations do not have. An IRC can truly help you establish good trading relationships without unduly penalizing your potential overseas trader.

How many of you have searched the discount stores, looking for philatelic items to give a child or grandchild? Frustrating wasn't it? H.E. Harris & Company reports that worldwide collecting kits ranging in price from \$5.95 to

\$19.95, will soon be available in Wal-Mart stores. If you don't find them in YOUR Wal-Mart, ask the Manager to stock them. The kits contain a small album, stamps, a magnifier, and hinges. Just right for that youngster you've wanted to interest in stamp collecting! Hopefully, this will lead to better availability of basic philatelic supplies in other mass markets, too. The decline in new collectors is often due to the difficulty of finding supplies to keep interest levels high. Gone are the days many of us remember when finding packets of stamps and other supplies was as easy as going to Woolworth's. Congratulations to H.E. Harris for an eagerly awaited marketing move!

Jim Watkins has a number of older Scott catalogues he will send to youth groups (or anyone who wants/needs them); all he asks is payment of postage/shipping costs. If you are interested, write to: Jim Watkins, 2123 Cedar Way, Stockton CA 95207.

We have several new youth members. Please help these young people by sending some stamps to them, if you can. Most are beginners and will be able to use nearly anything in the way of philatelic items. Quite a few enrolled as a result of the *Good Housekeeping* mention on page 88 of the June issue. Mail continues to pour in! Over 200 requests for information have been received and more are expected. Many will join JPA (also mentioned) but we hope we can show these young new ISWSCers that we truly want them in our Society, too. ••

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Memb. APS RPSC ISWSC

Educate Kids - Give Them Stamps

Leader to Leader Program

by Albert H. Feinberg, Program Coordinator

Considering that we have not advertised this program as of the writing of this letter, we are getting some response. Most comes from names of leaders that I get from *Linn's* or *The American Philatelist*. When I see these ads I send out a copy of our introduction letter and an order blank. The response hasn't been that great only about one in three reply. Most just ask questions although some do order our albums. I get a greater response from members of their clubs seeking free stamps. Most children do send the required SASE. I send the free stamps regardless.

We are still working on the booklet that we are preparing. That thus far has copy of all our Beginner's Columns from *The Circuit*. I am working with Tom Fortunato to work out the bugs. The booklet was his idea. We made a couple draft copies and sent one each to Tom and Carol Cervenka for their suggestions. Hope to have it ready for use in the near future.

I sent letters of introduction to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. No answer from the Boy Scouts but the letter from the Girl Scouts was returned with no forwarding address. We matched a few clubs and hope they work out. So far I haven't heard from any matched club leaders.

Was visited by member John Rose (# 1011) which proved to be very interesting. We discussed his future albums and shared notes. John seems dedicated to producing various albums to be photographed by youth club leaders. Nice to have him aboard.

That's it for now. ••

CLASSIFIED ADS

TRULY WORLDWIDE APPROV-ALS.

All countries including U.S. Complete sets or penny packet approvals. Discount with ISWSC number. Comprehensive New Issue Service info. Dave Becker, Box 3284-H, Portland, OR 97208 (5/6)

ALWAYS TRADING POT-LUCK.

Send 150 or more large your country (duplicates OK), I return same number Australia/NZ mixed used. Crowe (#459), PO Box 33-724, Takapuna, Auckland 9, New Zealand (4/6)

GERMAN CLIPPINGS.

Current mix of latest commemoratives, high value pictorials. Nice variety, high catalog. Quarter pound \$10.00 postpaid. Guaranteed. James Paton, Box 766, Berkeley, CA 94701 (3/3)

WORLDWIDE CLIPPING Mixture.

Attractive lots strong in recent medium/high value commemoratives, pictorials from Commonwealth/Africa/MidEast. Many popular countries including Papua, Bahamas, Barbados, Caymans, Zambia, Bahrain, etc. Quarter Pound \$20.00. Half Pound \$65.00 postpaid. Guaranteed. (ISWSC #411, APS #134607) James Paton, Box 766, Berkeley, CA 94701 (3/3)

POSTALLY USED APPROVALS.

Attractive reasonable modern quality Commonwealth, Europe, Africa, MidEast, Topicals, etc. Countries like Greenland, Iceland, Faroes, Germany, Kuwait, Papua, BWI, Zimbabwe, Uganda. Topics like Birds, Butterflies, Sports, Ships, Flags. State your areas/countries/topics. Friendly personal service. James Paton, Box 766, Berkeley, CA 94701 (3/3)

COLLECTOR MADE PACKETS 100

Different. U.S., Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, French Colonies. \$4.00 each. Darrell L. George, 19410 Highway 10, Little Rock, AR 72212 (3/4)

QUALITY WORLDWIDE STAMP

Service (QWWSS). Subscribe to our service, receive exciting QWWSS selections of quality stamps from around the world at fair prices on approval. Send right now for subscription details to: QWWSS, P. O. Box 2516, Springfield, VA 22152-2516 (2/4)

The American Topical Association.

World's largest topical/thematic philatelic society offers 96 page journal, sales service, slide programs, translation service, handbooks, checklists, information board and more! Low dues. write: ATA, P.O. Box 630-B, Johnstown, PA 15907 USA.

A SURPRISE IN EVERY package! 111 different worldwide, used, unused, mostly large. Scott retail \$75.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. \$9.50 plus 50¢ shipping. Burt (#189), 188 N. Holmes St., Memphis, TN 38111 (2/3)

FOREIGN STAMPS at 12% of Catalog

value. \$100.00 Cat. value for \$12.00, No US, most will catalog at or over 25 cents. Jack Sackett, PO Box 22, No. Middletown, KY 40357 (1/3)

FOREIGN LOTS FOR DEALERS, \$10

to \$1,000 lots, at 12% of current catalog value, mint and used, no damaged, Not a bunch of junk, will contain a fair amount fo higher catalog value stamps. Call (606) 362-4654 or write Jack Sackett, PO Box 22, No. Middletown, KY 40357 (1/3)

The following classified ads are part of an agreement to jointly advertise each other's organization through our official publications. The ISWSC assumes no responsibility for the content of offers made here. When responding, mention that you saw their ad in the ISWSC Circuit!

Amistad - Newsletter 3 times a year in

Spanish, mostly with offers for exchanges. One year with your ad in each; US \$5 payable in banknotes or face value mint stamps. Newsletter only; US \$3. write: Amistad, Apdo. 434, Holguin 80100, Cuba

Club EchangeTout - philatelic exchange

and correspondence. All advertisements are free. 3 issues a year. Sample copy- US \$2 or 4 IRCs. Information- US \$1 or 2 IRCs. write: Duong Hoi Louis, 20 Rue Eguison-Menpenti, F-13010 Marseille, France

Universal Union of Collectors - qtrly

newsletter, primarily in Spanish. Articles on all aspects of philately. Over 200 members. Dues- US \$5 per year. Send SASE or IRC for details. write: UNION, 10450 Pomeroy Road, Downey CA 90241 USA.

International Philatelic Swap Sheets -

newsletter. All collectors ads are free. Stamps, coins, telephone cards, etc. Check copy/edition, L 1, US \$2, AUST. \$2, or 200 large used, undamaged stamps. write: Stan Jardine, 108 Woodchurch Lane, Prenton, Birkenhead, Wirral, Merseyside, England 142 9PD.

Cover Collectors Circuit Club.

World's largest stamp exchange organization- over 25,000 active members in nearly every country. US/Canadian members originate circuits to members of their choosing. All others send a circuit on to the next member. Life membership US \$7.50 plus supplies. Send SASE or IRC for details. write: CCCC-I, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY

Advertising Policy: All ads dealing with philatelic concerns are acceptable. We reserve the right to edit out objectionable language. Advertisers are expected to respond to all inquiries, so be sure you can handle the responses before you offer to trade, buy or sell. If you have a bad result from answering an ad, contact the editor. We will try to resolve the conflict.

Display Rates (Camera Ready*) per insertion:

Full Page	\$40.00**
Half Page	20.00**
Quarter Page	10.00**
Per column inch	2.00

* Camera Ready means ready to paste-up and print. reductions and typesetting extra

** Discounts for 3 or more insertions of same ad. Yearly display ad rates available. Write to ISWSC Editor or Fax direct 24-hr. line 1-(318) 325-4539 for special rates.

Classified Rates per insertion: First 30 words, including name, address, and zip code are \$3.00. Additional words are 20 for \$1.00. State abbreviations are one word. "P.O. Box 12345" is two words. Zip Code is one word.

Make all checks payable to ISWSC in US funds. Send payment along with copy to the Editor.

Multi Hobby Club of Madrid - newsletter 3

times a year. Subscription, US \$5, 15 IRCs or mint thematics in full sets with a face value of US \$7. Also runs a new issues service. For info, send 1 IRC or equivalent. write: Multi Hobby Club of Madrid, P.O. Box 35007, Madrid, Spain

Ciao Europa - newsletter in English, French

and Italian. Hobbies, penpals, etc. Sample issue and a one advertisement, US \$2. write: Ciao Europa, Casella Postale, I-92100 Agrigentq, Italy.

Der Treffpunkt - qtrly newsletter.

Collectors and international correspondence. Sample copy and personal ad DM 4, US \$3 or 4 IRCs. Yearly airmail subscription and an ad DM 12, US \$10 or 10 IRCs. write: Der Treffpunkt, P.O. Box 100433, D-70829 Gerlingen, Germany.

Florence Worldwide Service - qtrly

newsletter for collectors and pen-pals. Latest issue and one advertisement in the next issue, US \$7. Further information, send US \$1. Payment by banknotes or IRCs (rate 2 IRCs=\$1). write: Florence Worldwide, T.T.-C.P. 106, I-50100 Firenze, Italy.

British Africa collectors - join the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa.

Auctions, library, translations, expert committee, awards, award winning journal. 150+ members worldwide. Free member ads. APS affiliate. Annual and regional meetings. Basic dues US \$20. Inquiries: David Wessely, 125 Elma Drive, Elyria, OH 44035 USA

J. H. All Hobbies - qtrly newsletter.

Latest issue, US \$4 or 6 IRCs. Your 30 word ad, US \$1 or 1 IRC. write: Jacques Herrijgers, 1 Nachtegallan, B-1701 Iitterbeck, Belgium.