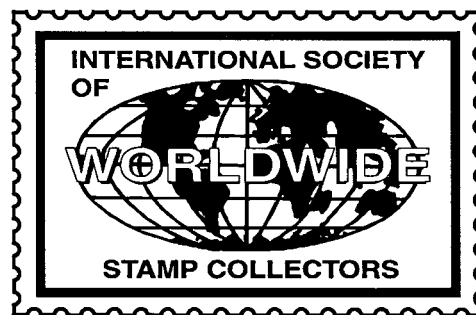


The Circuit



Affiliate of: APS (#151) & ATA (#89)

www.iswsc.org

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The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

President's Column

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

Although the elections are not official yet, I'm comfortable in congratulating Ken Willis (#2150) and Duncan Koller (#2154) on being elected to the ISWSC Board of Directors. (If you recall, Ken and Duncan were the only names on the ballot to fill two positions!) In order to declare them officially elected, however, we still need to tally all the votes (including any write-in candidates) and ensure enough of the membership voted in the election (as per our bylaws). Official results will be included in a future newsletter.

While we welcome Duncan to the Board, we also say farewell and thank you to Rick Simpson (#1703) who has completed his two-year term on the Board. Of course, Rick isn't going very far — he's still serving as the ISWSC Webmaster. (Have you seen the redesigned site at www.iswsc.org? It's awesome!) Thank you, Rick, for your continued work on the website and for all your efforts on the Board.

Although we are primarily a virtual society (we exist mainly through the mail via our programs and newsletter and electronically through e-mail and our website), there are actually names and faces behind the scenes that make the society function. In order to keep the society functioning, it is imperative that members continue to step forward and fill leadership roles.

Currently, the biggest need is for an Executive Director to succeed Tony Zollo (#856) who announced his resignation in our last newsletter. Followed next in need (but equally as hard to replace as Tony!) is finding a Vice President for Public Relations. Tom Fortunato (#379) has graciously continued to perform the tasks associated with this role, despite being unable to officially serve in the position. (Our bylaws restrict the number of years a person can serve in an elected position.)

Editor's Note: Please accept my apologies for the delay in getting this issue of the newsletter to you. I have a serious illness in my family requiring me to be away from home quite a lot.

By now, you may have heard of the demise of the Junior Philatelists of America (JPA). The JPA, the only United States group (to my knowledge, anyway!) devoted primarily to encouraging young people to collect stamps, had just celebrated it's 60th anniversary but had been struggling financially for many years. I am saddened that a solution wasn't found to save the JPA, but am encouraged that the American Philatelic Society (APS) has announced a new structure within the APS to help fill the void left by the JPA.

Remember folks, we each need to take steps to nurture, support, and grow our wonderful hobby. If we don't, who will be there to take over when we close our albums for the last time? Help promote the hobby by bringing a someone new to a local club meeting or stamp show, then help to mentor them in their collecting. You'll be glad you did (and so will I)!

Happy Stamping!



3M: Make the Most of your Membership

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

Yes, 3M may also be that large corporation that had its start in Minnesota, but in this case, it's a reminder to get the most out of your ISWSC membership by participating in all the programs it

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Please include a
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envelope or IRC for a
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**DEADLINE
FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE:**

JAN. 20, 2005

*Please remember that the Editor does not mail
out The Circuit. If you have any questions about
your Circuit mail service, please contact Randy
Smith, Tom Fortunato or Tony Zollo. Thank you!*

Share Your Stamp Story

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

Some of you may recall that when I'm not able to work on my collection, one of my favorite pastimes is to read — especially when the publication relates to stamps!

Recently, I began a new job in downtown Minneapolis. Rather than add to the long stream of cars on the freeway, I've been riding the Hiawatha Line — a new light rail transit system. Instead of concentrating on the bumpers in front of and behind me, I now find myself with an extra 5 hours of reading time each week!

One of the first books I selected for my weekday trips was *Nassau Street*, by Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr. Herst, who passed away in 1999 at the age of 90, is a world famous figure in philately, but is probably known to younger generations only through his prolific writing about stamp collecting. In the 300 pages of *Nassau Street*, Herst shares some of his experiences as a stamp dealer, recalling some of the personalities of the time, some great stamp finds, and even a few stories about the ones that got away.

Herst's style of writing is so engaging that it's hard to put the book down — even when my train reaches my destination! While the stories in *Nassau Street* occurred well before my time, they remind me of my all to infrequent stops at a stamp shop in Minneapolis. While going through their nickel box, selecting some supplies I needed, or gazing at stamps I could only dream of owning, I always enjoyed the banter and stories told by the regulars.

While the store is gone now, I am able to attend some of the auctions called by one of the owners of that shop. And while I'm browsing through the individual stamp lots or large box lots (often still with only the dream of owning it some day!), I once again am able to enjoy the banter and countless stories that are told.

Just like Herst, I bet many of you have an interesting story or two to tell about stamp collecting. And just like me, I bet many of you would be interested in reading it! With that in mind, I'm challenging each of you to write to me (see page 2 for contact information) with your stamp stories. With your permission, I'll also include some of them in future newsletters. I look forward to hearing from you!



Dues/Advertising Policy

Dues Information:

Single/Dealer/Club membership: \$12.00*

Youth membership (under 18): \$10.00*

Family membership (up to 4 persons in one residence): \$19.00*

*Plus 250 large commemoratives for the Youth Program or equiv. donation in US\$. Dues above are for one year and include six newsletters per year. You may sign up for three years at a time. For an application or further information send SASE or IRC to: ISWSC, P.O. Box 150407, Lufkin TX 75915-0407, USA. There will be a \$2 per year discount if the renewal is received at least one month prior to the current expiration date.

Advertising Policy:

For reasons of accountability, only members of the ISWSC, APS or ASDA may place ads. 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: \$75.00

Half page: \$40.00

Quarter page: \$20.00

Per column inch: \$5.00

Six repeat insertions of the same ad for the cost of five ads (one free). We will also offer a two-sided insertion for \$125 per issue.

*Camera Ready means ready to paste up or scan and print. Reductions and typesetting extra.

Classified Rates per insertion:

First 30 words, including name, address, and ZIP code are \$3. Additional words are 20 for \$1.

NOTE: State abbreviations = one word; "P.O. Box 1234" = two words; ZIP code = one word.

Make all checks payable to ISWSC in U.S. funds. Send text and payment for ads to the Editor. All addresses can be found on page 2.

Stories Behind the Stamps: Simpson and His Donkey

by William Silvester (#1058)

In 1965, Australia and her dependencies issued common design stamps to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the landing of Australia New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) forces at Gallipoli, Turkey, during the First World War. Depicted on these stamps is a statue of a man holding another man who is astride a donkey. The design on the stamps was done by Cari Andrew based on a statue by Wallace Anderson at the Shrine of Remembrance

in Melbourne. The statue is called "Simpson and his Donkey." What is the story behind this work of art?

The man shown standing beside the donkey is John Simpson Kirkpatrick, one of Australia's best known historical figures. John was born in South Shields, England in July 1892 to Robert and Sarah Kirkpatrick. In his youth he spent his summers giving donkey rides to children at the local fair. When his father died in 1909, John joined the Merchant

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3M: Make the Most

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offers. The ISWSC has a variety of programs designed to help you put more stamps in your collection. In this edition of the newsletter, I'll highlight the Swap Circuit — one of the easiest and cheapest ways to convert your quality duplicates into stamps that you want to place in your collection.

Here's how the program works. Participants are grouped into a 4 or 5 member circuit. The first member of the group is sent a routing sheet (containing the names and addresses of the other members of the circuit and the manager who creates the circuits) and a packet of all different stamps. The first member selects the stamps he/she wants, then replaces them with an equal number of quality all different stamps. The routing sheet and the stamp packet is then mailed to the next member of the circuit.

The process continues until the last member receives the packet and makes his/her swaps. Then the packet is mailed back to the manager of the circuit, along with mint postage for sending out the next circuit. The manager then changes the order of the members, creates a new packet of stamps, and sends it back out to the participants. Once all members of the circuit have been in each position on the circuit (from first to last), a new circuit is formed with a new grouping of participants.

There are five circuit types to select from: Large, Small/Definitive, CTO, Super, and USA.

- The **Large circuits** consist of 100 stamps that are considered "large" in size — more than 1" x 1½" (approximately) in size. Because the Large circuits are the most popular,

participants are broken into three groups, each with its own manager.

- The **Small/Definitive circuits** contains 100-150 stamps that are smaller than 1" x 1½" in size or that are definitives (of any size).
- **CTO, or Cancelled To Order, circuits** contain 100 stamps and are the only circuit where CTO stamps can be traded.
- The **Super circuits** are the same as the Large circuits, however each stamp packet contains 200 stamps instead of 100.
- Finally, the **USA circuit** contains nothing but USA stamps (100 per packet). Stamps in all circuits types must be off paper, but they may be mint or used, hinged or unhinged.

In order for the program to operate, annual fees are charged to Swap Circuit participants. (The term "fee" is used to distinguish them from the separate dues charged annually to be an ISWSC member. ISWSC membership is required to participate in any ISWSC program.) Except for the programs' annual fees, no cash is needed — for each stamp you select, you simply replace it with another stamp, without regard to the catalog value! In order to maintain the quality of the program, members are, however, encouraged to only swap desirable stamps — common and damaged stamps are not allowed.

Now is the perfect time to join the Swap Circuit program! To join, complete the form accompanying this article (page 5) and mail it with your fees to the address on the form. If you would like more information prior to joining the program, please contact Randy Smith (postal and e-mail addresses are listed on page 2).



ISWSC SWAP CIRCUIT MEMBERSHIP FORM

To join the ISWSC Swap Circuit program, please complete this form and return it with Randy Smith
 your fees to: PO Box 21115
 Eagan, MN 55121
 USA

Member #:	PLEASE PRINT
Name:
Mailing Address:
E-Mail:
Collecting Interests:

If this is a new address, please check here:

	# CIRCUITS REQUESTED ¹	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
	USA/CANADA MEMBERSHIP	INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP
	STAMPS	MONEY ²
1) MONETARY FEE <i>US \$2.00 (or equivalent in mint stamps)</i>
2) STAMP FEE <i>Please specify quantity of circuits requested:</i>
LARGE CIRCUITS <i>The fee for up to 4 Large Circuits is 100 large stamps or \$5.00. The fee for up to 9 Large Circuits is 200 large stamps or \$10.00.</i>
SMALL/DEFINITIVE CIRCUITS <i>The fee for up to 4 Small/Def. Circuits is 100 small stamps or \$5.00. The fee for up to 9 Small Circuits is 200 small stamps or \$10.00.</i>
CANCELLED TO ORDER (CTO) CIRCUITS <i>The fee for up to 4 CTO Circuits is 100 CTO stamps or \$5.00. (4 circuit maximum.)</i>
SUPER CIRCUITS <i>The fee for up to 4 Super Circuits is 200 large stamps or \$10.00. The fee for up to 9 Super Circuits is 400 large stamps or \$20.00.</i>
USA CIRCUITS (USA stamps only) <i>The fee for up to 4 USA Circuits is 100 USA stamps or \$5.00. (4 circuit maximum.)</i>
Totals:

¹ This is the number of circuits (per type) you want to be on at the same time. USA/Canada circuits take approximately 1 month to circulate, International circuits take approximately 1 1/2 months to circulate.

² Checks must be in US funds and should be made payable to ISWSC. Cash is sent at your own risk.

Overpayment of fees, if any, should be (check one): Donated to ISWSC Returned

Questions? Write to the address above or send an e-mail to rasmay4@earthlink.net. **THANK YOU!!!**

Simpson and His Donkey

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Marine and the next year sailed to Newcastle, Australia. Shortly after arrival, he and some other crew members jumped ship. For the next few years he drifted around Australia working at assorted jobs from cane cutting to cattle driving to the goldfields, eventually returning to coastal shipping.

When war broke out in 1914, John was in Perth and three weeks after the outbreak of hostilities he enlisted in the 3rd Field Ambulance Corps. Previous to joining the army he had dropped the Kirkpatrick part of his name and enlisted as John Simpson fearing that his having deserted the Merchant Marine might bar him from joining the army. He had hoped that he would be shipped home to England for basic training but was diverted to Egypt when it was found that England was not equipped to handle a large colonial contingent.

Eight months later, April 1915, John Simpson, stretcher bearer with C Section, 3rd Field Ambulance, 1st Australian Division, Australian Imperial Force, landed at ANZAC Cove in Gallipoli, Turkey. Wading ashore under heavy fire from the Turkish Army, half of the 1500 men in the first wave were casualties. Simpson spent the following days, under heavy fire, carrying the wounded to a makeshift Red Cross station on the beach.

The Australians had only managed to secure a 500 acre beachhead as the Turks continued heavy rifle and artillery fire on their position.

Amongst the supplies landed were a number of donkeys. Some of these had been deserted and Simpson caught one, variously called Abdul, Murphy or most commonly, Duffy, to help him carry the wounded from the beach. Making a head stall from bandages he made frequent trips back and forth from the beach to the aid station. Technically, he was supposed to report to headquarters for instructions but decided that his time would be better spent helping the wounded. For four days he continued his work technically AWOL and his commanding officer turned a blind eye to his actions.

Twelve to fifteen times a day, Simpson and his donkey traveled up Shrapnel Alley, the main supply route to the front, and into the killing grounds where the opposing trenches were only 15 yards apart in places. Leaving his donkey under cover he would

make his way under fire to where ever the wounded lay and carry them back to safety.

Being unable to find fodder for his donkey, Simpson moved in with the 21st Kohat Indian

Mountain Artillery Battery who had brought food for their own animals. They called him 'Baladur' meaning 'bravest of the brave'. Simpson escaped death so many times it was incredible to those who observed his actions. He had adopted a fatalistic philosophy and often said "The bullet hasn't been made that'll stop me." For four weeks he dodged bullets though several of his donkeys were killed.

On May 19, 1915 the Turks launched a massive counter attack, intending to drive the Australians from the beach. 45,000 Turks surged forward and for eight hours the battle raged until 8,000 Turks were dead and the attack thrown back without loss of a single foot of trench.

As the attack came to an end, Simpson set out with his donkey to gather the wounded. On his way back with a wounded man he was warned about the

presence of a Turkish machine gunner. Simpson grinned and carried on. Moments later the rattle of a machine gun split the air and Simpson fell, dead before he hit the ground. The frightened donkey carried on to the aid station with the wounded man on his back.

When the men who knew him asked where he was they were told "at Heaven's Gate, helping

the soldiers through."

A statue of Simpson and his Donkey, made and cast in Melbourne in 1986, is now outside the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. Though posthumously nominated for many military awards, including the Victoria Cross, he received none. In time, as his fame grew, he has been commemorated on stamps, coins, medallions, statues, and the current Australian \$100 bill. In 1965 Australia issued a set of three stamps (Scott #385-387) and similar common design singles were released by Christmas Island, Cocos Islands, Norfolk Island (shown above) and Papua New Guinea.



Twelve to fifteen times a day, Simpson and his donkey traveled up Shrapnel Alley, the main supply route to the front, and into the killing grounds where the opposing trenches were only 15 yards apart in places.

