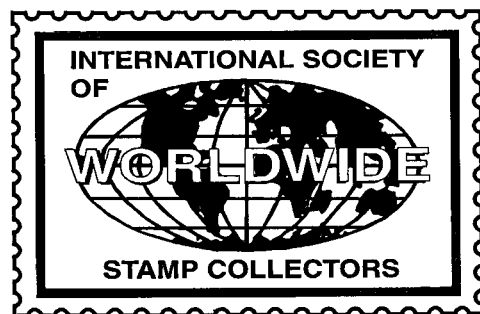


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November/December 2006 • Volume 24 No. 6

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

President's Column

by Joanne Berkowitz (#98)
ISWSC President

It's been a quiet summer, stamp-wise. We are in the midst of a virtual board meeting but will be unable to wrap it up in time to get minutes into this issue. We are in the process of revising the bylaws to more accurately reflect what we do. Since bylaw changes require a vote of the membership, we will hold the proposed changes until the next election and save postage that way.

We still need new board members-anyone interested? It's pretty easy. We meet 3 or 4 times a year by email (you must have a computer and email access). We are always in need of new ideas and one of the best ways to get them is from our newest board members.

As always, membership is our biggest issue. If you are a member of a local stamp club and would be willing to talk about us to your members, we will be happy to send you brochures with applications. Word of mouth is our best member soliciting tool. I also have the pages I used for our display at Washington 2006 and would be happy to loan them to anyone who wants to put up a display at a local show.

Thanks to Rich Rizzo for continuing to promote the club. His letter to the editor about our free stuff for kids was published in the September American Philatelist. We have been very successful at getting letters and articles published in newspapers and journals.

When I need a break from more intensive philately, I look for stamps to put in my Single Specimen World Gazetteer Stamp Album. If you are looking for an interesting and educational project for a new or younger collector, this album is it. It has spaces for a single specimen from every stamp issuing entity along with a brief country description and map. It's not easy, there are some pretty obscure countries, but it is a fun project. The album is published by Terra Nova Publishing and no, I don't get a kick back!

I had someone ask me how people collect the world and I had to explain that everyone does it differently. Let us know how you collect the world and consider putting it into an article that we can share through The Circuit.



Election Time

It's election time again! This year, there are two "At Large" ISWSC Board positions up for election. At Large members participate in all Board meetings and perform tasks as assigned by the ISWSC President.

Although there are an equal number of candidates to positions available (meaning the election is uncontested), the bylaws require a minimum number of votes for the election to be valid,

**Ballots must be
postmarked by
January 15th and
received by January
31st to be counted!**

so your vote is important! (It is also possible to have write-ins...) Please take a few minutes to read the bios written by the two candidates, then vote on the enclosed ballot and mail

Continued on page 4

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*Phone or send your questions to the appropriate
volunteer. Please include a self-addressed
stamped envelope or IRC for a reply.*

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*Represent the ISWSC, distribute stamps
to youth programs in their region.*

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*Please remember that the Editor does not mail out The Circuit.
If you have any questions about your Circuit mail service,
please contact Terry Myers. Thank you!*

**DEADLINE
FOR THE
NEXT
ISSUE:**

JAN. 20, 2007

The Washington Monument

by Roger Boneham, PhD (#436)

In 1783 the Continental Congress voted to erect a statue of George Washington. Twice, once in 1816 and again in 1832, Congress proposed building a tomb in the Capitol building to hold George Washington's remains. Both times, members of Washington's family opposed the proposals since he specifically requested burial at Mount Vernon. Finally, in 1833 the Washington National Monument Society was formed.

The Society announced a competition for the design of the monument. The winning design was by Robert Mills. His design was an elaborate circular colonnade with large marble columns enclosing a courtyard in the center of which was a 600 foot tall obelisk. The Society began raising funds for the monument in 1833 and started construction in 1848. It soon became obvious that the cost of the structure would be much more than they had from donations. So the planned obelisk height was reduced to 500 feet and the colonnade eliminated.

On July 4, 1848 a large parade, led by President James K. Polk in his official carriage, went from City Hall to the monument site. Almost 20,000 people gathered at the site and along the parade route. The cornerstone, a block of white marble weighing over 12 tons, was lain with much fanfare.

By the early 1850's the Society had nearly run out of funds. The State of Alabama offered a stone plaque for the inside of the monument in place of money. This offer was widely publicized by the Society which invited other states, cities, and private organizations to donate plaques for the monument. The idea being that the publicity of donating a state plaque would also help in raising money from the public. This offer was later extended to foreign governments.

There are almost 200 memorial plaques in the walls of the monument. All of the states are represented along with some cities, private societies, and nine foreign countries. By 1856 the height of the



Fig. 1:
U.S. Scott #3473
Washington
Monument.

Dues/Advertising Policy

Dues Information:

Single/Dealer/Club 1 yr. membership: \$15.00*
Single/Dealer/Club 2 yr. membership: \$27.00*
Single/Dealer/Club 3 yr. membership: \$39.00*
Youth 1 yr. membership (under 18): \$12.00*

*Plus 250 large commemoratives for the Youth Program or equiv. donation in US\$. Dues include six newsletters per year. You may sign up for up to three years at a time. For an application or further information send SASE or IRC to: ISWSC, 9463 Benbrook Blvd. #114, Benbrook, TX 76126, USA.

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.

Election Time

Continued from page 1

it in today. In order to be valid, your ballot must be postmarked by Jan 15, 2007 and received by Jan 31, 2007.

Special thanks to Lauren Cochrane (#1844) for serving as the Election Chair!

Duncan Koller (#2154)

I am 60 years old and began collecting when I was around 10. I am a retired Colonel from the USAF (28 years) and have recently retired from a second job as a high school teacher. I now find much more time to devote to my hobbies and traveling.

I graduated from Oregon State University with a BS in Zoology and also hold MA and EdD degrees from Chapman University and the University of Southern California. While on active duty with the Air Force I served on a number of boards and committees in community and educational organizations. My only publications are a couple of articles in military periodicals relating to military operations strategy.

I started out as worldwide collector but then specialized in Germany and Great Britain. As those collections matured, I rediscovered the fun of worldwide collecting. In addition to the ISWSC, I'm a member of the Germany Philatelic Society (GPS), the American Philatelic Society (APS), and the Oregon Stamp Society (OSS). My main area of interest now is postally used stamps of the world prior to 1950.

During the past two years I have had the pleasure of serving as one of your Directors-At-Large and I was fortunate to meet several of you at Washington 2006. I see our membership numbers as the biggest challenge facing ISWSC. I would very much like to continue to serve the ISWSC.

Randy Smith (#1111)

My past participation in the ISWSC has included serving for four years as President and serving for several years as the Swap Circuit coordinator, including stints as manager of the Regular, Super, and USA circuits. Currently, I serve on the Board as immediate past President. I have enjoyed this volunteer work and would be honored to further serve the ISWSC as an At Large member of the Board.

As with many other stamp organizations, membership continues to be one of the biggest issues facing the ISWSC. If the ISWSC is to continue as a viable organization, it is important that we expand our membership base – especially outside of the

United States. Working with the Board, I pledge to discuss ways to spread the message of the ISWSC and attract new members to the society. Beyond membership, I also want to work on revitalizing and expanding the programs we offer, with emphasis on programs that will create more membership value for overseas members. I would also like to strengthen the role of the regional representatives, as they are invaluable partners in spreading the message of ISWSC around the world.

On the personal side, I am 42 years old and have been collecting stamps since I was 7. While I don't get a great deal of time to work on my own collection, I enjoy helping my son (age 11) and daughter (age 7) get started in the hobby. When I do carve time for my own stamping pursuits, I collect everything that catches my eye, with specialized collections of USA, Scandinavian countries, Machins, and Poland. My most recent philatelic passion is collecting clowns on stamps, with the goal of exhibiting in the near future.



Eyes Open

by Bill Kiepura (#503)

If something looks odd about the stamps you examine, there are many reasons why it might be different.

Years ago, around 1930, I was looking at a quantity of the 2¢ 1903 Scott 319. I noticed that on a number of copies a line had been recut. This was reported in the *Shift Hunters Letter*. Later on, one observant chap realized that this had to be a die variety: there were too many copies to be a recut on the plate. So now we have a Die 2 of this stamp.

Linn's reported that there were some postal forgeries of recent Sweden. No details were given except that they were sold in small towns. So if you are working with recent Swedish mixtures, check all copies to see if they differ from the rest of the group. You might have a postal forgery.

If you are lucky enough to be on the sucker list for the Nigerian scam artists and you saved the covers (hopefully you sent no money), you may have a postal forgery. Cherish it.

Billig's Handbook lists a postal forgery in Lombardy Venezia, the 15¢ value. Normal stamps he priced at 25¢. The postal forgery was valued at \$100. No price was given for a forgery on cover. Who knows—you may have this stamp in your collection.

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