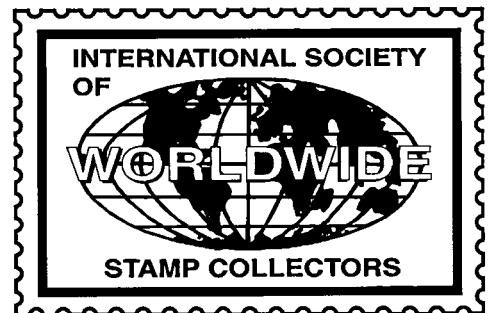


Vol 20 #3

Property of  
American Philatelic Research Library  
P. O. Box 8000  
State College, PA 16803

# The Circuit



Affiliate of: APS (#153) & ATA (#89)

[www.iswsc.org](http://www.iswsc.org)

May/June 2002 • Volume 20 No. 3

**The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors**

## Curling, Anyone?

by Don Plaskett (#1257)

If you want to get youngsters interested in this fascinating hobby, try sports. Sooner or later they will discover that Canada issued three stamps about curling.

Curling? What's curling? Well, it's played on ice just like hockey, which may explain why no one south of Minneapolis has ever heard of the game. We do have ice hockey in Tallahassee, but curling —well maybe some day.

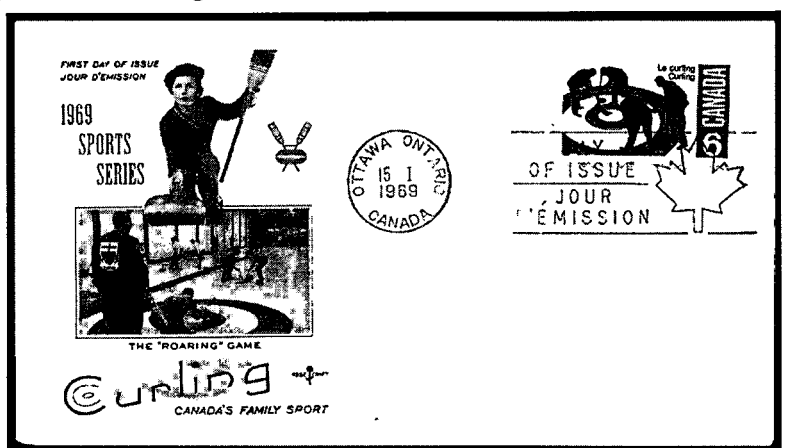
If you go back to the 1500s in northern Europe, several countries had their own versions of the game. Scotland is probably the country that put it all together, as they did with golf. "Kuting" stones have been dug up in Scotland dating back to 1511.

### First Rules in 1739

The first approach to any kind of rules came in 1739. Curling is a popular sport in the "cool" countries of northern Europe and curling is number one in many places in Canada during the winter months. All of the stores in small communities close up during "Bon spiel" (tournament) time.

So, exactly what is curling? If you have ever watched lawn bowling (see Australia Scott #595, #1106 and New Zealand #551) the scoring is similar. Both are games of strategy controlled by the "Skip" or final player. From there on the similarity ends.

A bullseye or "house" in curling is the target for players to amass the greatest number of points. The strategy is whether to block the opposing team with guards or to eliminate the opposition with well directed shots.



*Canada Scott #490 on a FDC from the 1969 Sports Series. Both the stamp and cachet are good illustrations of the target.*



*Scott #1196 shows a Curler in action*

Each team is composed of four players, a "Lead" who will begin the strategy, a second who will protect the Lead's shots with guards or eliminate the opposition. Likewise for the third player, but the "Boss Man" is the "Skip" who directs the strategy from the far end.

Each player gets two shots for each end and a broom to be used when he is not delivering the "stone." The broom is the kitchen variety of the corn broom, only the straw is longer. These brooms are being supplanted by "push brooms" just as golfers may use a putter with an extended shank. Curlers will swear on 40 Bibles that they can draw the "stone" or "rock" from 20 to 30 feet down the ice when called for by the Skip. And I believe them.

### What is the Rock?

The rock? Through the centuries, the rock has evolved into a 44 pound rounded granite stone about

Continued on page 4

## OFFICERS, MANAGERS & SERVICE CONTACTS

**President:** Randy Smith (#1111)  
P.O. Box 21115  
Eagan, MN 55121-0115 – USA  
rasmarty4@earthlink.net

**Executive Director & Immediate Past President (Board Member):**  
Anthony Zollo, MD (#856)  
P.O. Box 15047  
Lufkin, TX 75915-0407 – USA  
zolloam@lcc.net

**Secretary:** Joanne Berkowitz (#98)  
125 43rd Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819-2101 – USA  
joannebe@pacbell.net

**Vice President for Charitable Services:**  
Mike Crump (#2126)  
P.O. Box 57  
Yorba Linda, CA 92885-0057 – USA  
StampGuy47@aol.com

**Vice President for Public Relations:**  
Tom Fortunato (#379)  
42 Maynard St.  
Rochester, NY 14615-2022 – USA  
stampmtmf@frontiernet.net

**ISWSC Board:**  
Joan Roderick (#669)  
12 Red Oak Road  
Asheville, NC 28804 – USA  
jnroderick@earthlink.net

**ISWSC Board:** Ken Costilow (#142)  
Virginia Beach, VA – USA  
kcos32@cox.net

**Immediate Past Secretary (Board Member):** Dalene Thomas (#101)  
8612 W. Warren Lane  
Lakewood, CO 80227-2352 – USA  
dalene1@wideopenwest.com

### AUCTION

**Manager:** Everett King (#1389)  
P.O. Box 127  
Whitethorn, CA 94586 – USA  
Ph: 707-986-7230  
stamps@whitethorn.com

### WHATZIT? COORDINATOR

**Manager:** John D. Pruitt (#121)  
1151 George Road  
Meadowbrook, PA 19046-1109 – USA  
Fax: 215-947-7305  
jdupruitt@comcast.net

## SALES CIRCUIT

**Manager (U.S.):**  
James M. Gaul (#1853)  
1920 Fawn Lane  
Hellertown, PA 18055 – USA  
terrynjim@enter.net

## OMNI CIRCUIT

**Manager:** Jim Millette (#1314)  
8901 Marcel Cadieux (#207)  
Montreal, PQ H2M 2L9 – CANADA  
jmillett@globetrotter.net

**Co-Manager:** David Paul (#59)  
2 Heritage Drive  
Belchertown, MA 01007 – USA

**Co-Manager:**  
Thomas Pomaski (#410)  
stamper10@earthlink.net

## SWAP CIRCUIT

**Coordinator:** Randy Smith (#1111)  
P.O. Box 21115  
Eagan, MN 55121-0115 – USA  
rasmarty4@earthlink.net

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

## REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

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

### Australasia:

Noel Routley (#1610)  
C/- Post Office  
Redesdale, 3444 – AUSTRALIA  
routley@netcon.net.au

### British Isles: Position Currently Vacant

### Canadian Secretary:

William Silvester (#1058)  
378C Cotlow Road  
Victoria, BC V9C 2G1 – CANADA  
wgsilvester@shaw.ca

### Cuba:

Adrian Portuondo (#952)  
Apartado 9009  
Santiago 90900 – CUBA

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jennifer Arnold  
310 NW Juniper Lane  
Albany, OR 97321 – USA  
Ph: 541-967-7043  
Fax: 541-967-9515  
pizzazz@cmug.com

## SWAP CIRCUIT MANAGERS

*According to the first initial of your last name.*

### Regular (A-I) Circuit:

Scott Sadger (#882)  
2140 Miller Road  
Buchanan, MI 49107 – USA

### Regular (J-Z) Circuit:

Randy Smith (#1111)  
P.O. Box 21115  
Eagan, MN 55121-0115  
rasmarty4@earthlink.net

### Super Circuit:

William Silvester (#1058)  
378C Cotlow Road  
Victoria, BC V9C 2G1 – CANADA  
wgsilvester@shaw.ca

### CTO Circuit:

William Silvester (#1058)  
378C Cotlow Road  
Victoria, BC V9C 2G1 – CANADA  
wgsilvester@shaw.ca

### Small (Definitives) Circuit:

Kenneth Wills (#2150)  
5308 Shadow Glen Drive  
Grapevine, TX 76051 – USA  
wills@airmail.net

### Eastern Europe:

Jan Szpyrka (#539)  
ul.Srebrna 29  
PL-44121 Gliwice – POLAND  
szpyrka@zeus.polsl.gliwice.pl

### Scandinavia/Baltics:

Martti Vihanto (#830)  
P.O. Box 34  
FIN-20521, Turku – FINLAND

### Western Europe:

Alan Horwedel (#796)  
CMR 477, Box 160  
APO, AE 09154-0288 – USA  
Akazienweg 10  
D-74321 Bietigheim-Bissingen  
GERMANY  
ahorwedel@hotmail.com

*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!*

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:**  
**MAY 20, 2002**

# President's Column

by Randy Smith (#1111) – ISWSC President

The past few months have been busy ones for the ISWSC! Here's just a sampling:

Under the leadership, dedication, and just plain hard work of Tony Zollo (#856), the issue of the OMNI material lost following the sudden death of the previous OMNI manager has now been resolved. Unfortunately, much of the lost material was not recovered, however the ISWSC received a settlement check under our insurance policy. Using these funds, we were able to reimburse OMNI participants whose material was lost at 50% of Scott catalog value. The Board will continue to discuss methods to help protect ISWSC property held by our volunteers to help prevent such a loss from occurring again.

My sincere thanks to Tony, Jim Millette (#1314), and Tom Fortunato (#379) for all their work in resolving this difficult issue and to the OMNI participants for their patience and continued support of the program.

- At the February Board meeting, your directors approved entering *The Circuit* in C6NPLE, Canada's Sixth National Philatelic Literature Exhibition. Participation in such events, including the APS Stampshow 2002 literature competition, will help bring exposure to the ISWSC. Hopefully along the way, we'll even pick up a prestigious award (or two)!

- The Board also approved two expenditures for advertisements in stamp publications. Three consecutive ads will be placed in *Global Stamp News* and ads will be run in stamp publications in Australia and New Zealand. Results of these ads will be monitored to determine if these efforts should be continued and/or expanded.

- Members are encouraged to write an article about worldwide stamp collecting (or some aspect of it) for their local stamp organizations and/or *Linn's*, *Global Stamp News*, *Stamp Collector*, etc. When doing so, please include a short paragraph about the ISWSC and where to write for more information (see Tony Zollo's address on page 2). These initiatives, coupled with the continued word-of-mouth advertising of all our members will result in some great exposure for the ISWSC!

- Under the direction of John Pruitt (#121), the Whatzit? service is being re-energized. This service enables members to submit stamps needing identification. John will coordinate receiving requests for help, working with a panel of other volunteers, and sending information concerning

## 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.

\*\*Discounts for three or more insertions of same ad. Yearly display rates available. Write to ISWSC past president Tom Fortunato (see p. 2) for special rates.

### 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.**

Continued on page 6



*Good curling form is a joy to behold — as the above illustrations show.*

## Curling, Anyone?

*Continued from page 1*

six inches thick. The original stones had holes drilled in them for the fingers — much like a bowling ball — but the Scot's got smarter around 1775 and attached a handle to the stone. This handle allowed the curler to direct the stone exactly where the Skip wanted it according to his strategy plan. This seems to be the reason for giving the Skip a broom.

Each player throws two stones toward the "house" at the other end of the ice — a distance of 126 feet. Although it may sound like a feat of strength, if the ice is keen the curler doesn't have to lift the stone very high to make it slide toward his target.



*The Rock: a "stone" sprouting the handle*

### Enter the "Sweepers"

The curler depends on the other two members of the team to sweep his stone into the target, or wherever directed by the Skip. The stone has to make it over the "hog line" or the stone is eliminated. "Hog line?" Naw, you don't even want to hear about that!

Got the idea? When all four members of the team have thrown their two rocks each, the score (which you will never believe or figure out) is recorded on a score board at one end of the rink. "Cliff hangers" develop when Skips are faced with that crucial shot which makes or breaks the game.

On a cold winter's night in Canada, curling is a most popular sport for service clubs, senior citizens,

social groups, neighborhoods or anyone else who wants two hours of fun and exercise. You are guaranteed to keep warm.

It all comes together when a "Bonspiel" is organized and teams will travel for hundreds of miles to participate and bring home the prizes. The pinnacle of curling is to participate in the "Golden Broom" — similar to what the Masters is in the golfing world.

I watched teams compete in the Golden Broom held at Duluth, Minnesota, a few years ago. What a sight to watch curling teams from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Italy, Germany and — of course — Canada, USA and Scotland.

A team from Hibbing, Minnesota, won the world championship, although this news wasn't covered by ESPN! Every shot was thrown so smoothly, swept in perfect rhythm coming to a stop precisely were the Skip called, making it a day I shall never forget.

Later in the week I dropped into a shoe store in Minneapolis to inquire if they had any "curling shoes." The shoe is light weight, rises above the ankle and has a smooth sole which slides great distances on ice. The clerk asked: "Curling shoe, what's that?"

To the best of my knowledge, Canada has issued three stamps illustrating curling: Scott #490 shows the Curlers moving their stones towards the target; Scott #1647 which looks like two curlers drawing a guard to protect the stones in the house; and Scott #1196, which is indistinct because of the stamp design, but the curler has delivered a perfect shot that should put a smile on the Skip's face!

So why not try to stimulate some youngster to collect sports stamps?



*Scott #647: players guarding the stones*



# Minutes Of ISWSC Board Of Directors February 2002

by Joanne Berkowitz (#98)  
ISWSC Secretary

*The ISWSC Board met via e-mail over  
a two week period Feb.15-28, 2002.*

The January minutes were moved and approved.  
The following action items were moved and approved by the full vote of the board:

1. An advertisement for the organization will be placed in Global Stamp News to run in three consecutive issues for a cost of \$216 for a 1/12 page ad.
2. ISWSC will contribute \$395.74 to the amount from the insurance for the OMNI loss, which will allow the owners of the missing stamps to be reimbursed at 50% of catalog value.
3. The executive committee and secretary (currently Randy, Tom, Tony and Joanne) will be designated as signatories on the checking account and the signature card will be updated to reflect current position holders.
4. ISWSC will contribute \$30.00 for advertisements in stamp publications in New Zealand and Australia.
5. It was voted to spend \$20.00 to enter *The Circuit* in the Canadian 6<sup>th</sup> National Philatelic Literature Exhibition.

## Other Business:

1. We will ask our insurance carrier whether we are covered for loss due to irradiation damage in the mail for items such as circuits and mail sales. The problem of irradiation damage was discussed and the consensus was to wait to see what the USPS plans to do.
2. It was felt that an article published in Linn's would be an effective means of promoting the club. We could take an article from the circuit and send it along with a press release in the hope of getting it published.
3. The entire board expressed its appreciation to Tony Zollo for all the work he has done on the OMNI loss.
4. A treasurer position for the society was discussed. It was generally felt that having a treasurer with some financial expertise is a good idea.
5. Plans for Washington 2006 were discussed. A table seems too expensive unless we can share it with another group, which is currently not allowed. We will definitely have a meeting for members

and continue to discuss other ways to promote society membership at the show.

6. The question of having an internet sales program was discussed briefly. While there is interest in this idea, it will take someone with time and knowledge to do it.
7. Joanne Berkowitz reported that she has begun sending membership renewal cards to those whose ISWSC membership has recently expired.
8. The budget was discussed and the plan is to do quarterly updates as many income and expense items do not change frequently enough to warrant monthly updates.
9. A discussion was held concerning changing the title of the VP for Charitable Services position. At a future meeting, the board will make a recommendation to the membership concerning a new name for the position. Any name change will require a change to the ISWSC bylaws and, therefore, approval of the membership.



## INEXPENSIVE ALBUM PAGES

A group of stamp collectors have gathered on the Internet to create album pages for every stamp ever issued. They have already created pages for almost all small countries, and most of the larger ones, such as France, Germany, the US and Canada. There are album pages for over 300 countries; over 25,000 pages in total! Visit my web site at [www.albumpages.net](http://www.albumpages.net) for a complete list of the countries and time periods currently available.

As the exclusive US distributor for printed StampAlbums.com pages, I am authorized to print any of the pages on heavyweight 8½ X 11 paper OR on paper which matches Scott International or Specialized pages in weight, color, and size (and has the holes in the right places).

I can print you pages for an entire country, a particular range of years, or even just the air mail or semi-postal issues! And the cost per page, including the paper, is just 20¢ per page for the 8½ X 11 and 25¢ per page for the International or Specialized-sized. Send me an LSASE and I'll send you the complete list of pages currently available. Sorry, pages are available only to US addressees. Please add \$2.95 shipping for any quantity of pages.

**Richard Simpson**  
HC79 Box 52E, Romney, WV 26757  
[Rsimpson@141.com](mailto:Rsimpson@141.com)

# Swap Circuit Manager Changes

By Randy Smith (#1111)  
Swap Coordinator

Participants in the Regular (J-Z) circuits will be saddened to hear that Jack Searles (982) has decided to step down as circuit manager, effective immediately. Jack has been an excellent manager and has served in that capacity for over eight years. My sincere gratitude goes to Jack for his efforts as manager and for all of his suggestions and assistance over the years. Thank you!!

Because of Jack's "retirement", I will now be managing the Regular (J-Z) circuits and William Silvester (1058) will manage the Super circuits. Thank you, Bill, for agreeing to manage the Super circuits in addition to managing the CTO circuits. The transition of responsibilities is already underway and should be almost completed by the time you receive this newsletter.

Swap Circuit members are asked to note these manager changes so that notification of extended absences, etc. are sent to the proper manager(s). Outstanding circuits can be returned either to the new manager or to the manager listed on the routing sheet accompanying each circuit.

Members having any questions, or ISWSC members who would like information about joining the Swap Circuit program, should contact me by mail at P.O. Box 21115; Eagan, MN 55121 or via e-mail at rasmory4@earthlink.net.



## President's Column

Continued from page 3

identified stamps back to the submitters. Some of the items submitted will also wind up in the newsletter so the rest of us can learn to identify the stamps, too. (For more information on the Whatzit? program, please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter.) Thank you, John, for stepping forward to fill this role!

Finally, I want to thank all of the many ISWSC volunteers who work so diligently on behalf of the society. You'll find many of their names listed on page 2, but I'm sure there are many more who make valuable contributions without ever being recognized. For all of your efforts, I'm extremely grateful!

Until next time - Happy Stamping!



# Yugoslavia May Be Changing Postal Policies

by Miloie Chastven (#1429)

I wish to inform our members about a change in Yugoslavia Issue policy for 2002 year and up. Recently, I was in contact with a person that has direct contact with a government office, and according to information from there, Yugoslavia will restart to use postage like payment for service.

From 1992 and till 2001, Yugoslavia issued small quantity of issued set, (approx. 50-60,000 of each common set) and just for popular thematic like "Europa" they printed approx. 100,000 of each. This result of this policy is that post canceled material from Yugoslavia, for this period, is hard to find. Especially with envelope, where existed two kinds of postage:

- a) sticker with value paid - no stamp in all,
- b) stamp, canceled, with added cancel "franked by sender" - which mean that sender is philatelist subscribed for new issue, directly from official post office.

CTO (cancelled to order) material will not be difficult to find because enough sets are sold abroad for "cash" purpose, but it is not point for philatelist who collect postally used material.

According last information, new policy of Yugoslav Post Authority will be: "back with stamp use on post office", BUT again we have "pop" in style:

They will issue set/s with large quantity printed stamp (value for domestic and worldwide service), and high value stamp from same set will be low as possible, which will again cause trouble for philatelist.

I wish to say, that I have this information second-hand, not from an officially authorized person. I hope that it is correct information. We will see it in near future.

## MORE NEWS ABOUT STAMPS FROM YUGOSLAVIA

By new information from Yugoslavia, this country changed its name and now officially, Yugoslavia DOESN'T exist, that means we have one more "dead country" in topic.

By a new agreement between two republics, the new name for the federation is "Serbia and Crna

Continued on page 8

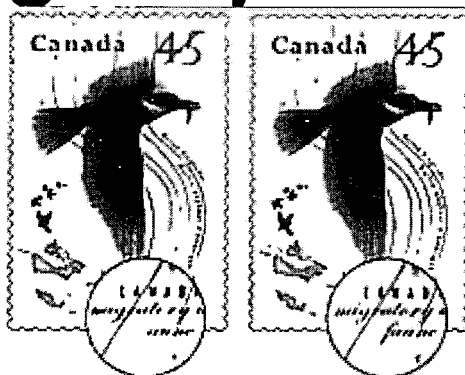
# Canadian Migratory Wildlife Issue Error

by Jim Wiseman (#1636)

On August 15, 1995, Canada Post issued se-tenant commemorative stamps featuring four of the many wildlife species which migrate between Canada and Mexico. The Wildlife illustrated included an insect (the monarch butterfly), a mammal (the hoary bat) and two birds (the northern pintail and the belted kingfisher).

This time, however, it is not the wildlife but the stamps that have returned.

One of the four Migratory Wildlife stamps contains a typographical error — the letter “F” is missing from the word “Faune” on the Kingfisher design. As a result, on September 26, 1995, Canada Post issued a limited quantity (3.2 million stamps) of the issue, with the text corrected.



*The error stamp is on the left and the corrected version on the right.*

Typographical errors of this type are not a common occurrence. Canada Post investigated the problem and determined that while there were a number of circumstances that led to the mishap, in final analysis it was found to be the result of simple human error.

If you collect Canada issues, keep an eye out for this one. It is not hard to find and can be found on paper mixtures or in dealers stockbooks.

It is also not a rarity, so don't be duped into paying too much for it. The original is Scott #1564 and catalogues 40¢ used, 66¢ mint. The corrected version is Scott #1567 and catalogues 40¢ used, 70¢ mint.



## Ephemeral Ephemera

by Anne Murphy (#1774)

Recently I received a request from an American stamp collector, via the Internet, for any Australian stamps which show clearly the location and cancel date. These stamps proved to be more elusive than I expected, as most only have a vague print or a heavy smudge rather than a clear and complete location and cancel date.

The request started me thinking about the nature of the things we collect. My friends consider me a serious collector but they are basing their judgement on the size of my collection (if you allow me a little boast, my worldwide collection numbers in excess of 11,000 stamps). But I don't have great knowledge of the academic side of stamp collecting and until now I've always thought within a (perforated) square.

Apologies for circumventing the point and that is: I began to look at franking marks and franked stickers and I noticed that these too have interesting details in them. One example, pictured, shows basic caricatures of koalas, while the other shows minute detail of desert pea, native orchid and heather and other Australian state emblems. Who designed these? And why is it I had only noticed this type of design in ornate cancels such as those on first day covers etc?

My not so serious collection now includes an album specifically devoted to interesting franking marks. Perhaps they have minimal value in terms of

*Two  
interesting  
frankings  
from  
Australia*



money, but they intrigue me and I keep my eyes peeled for these truly ephemeral images.

One thing I've learned over the years is that collectors often ignore the most common things. For example, my father owns a 1913 Vermorel, a common, mass-produced French car. But as I understand it, Dad's Vermorel is only one of two complete, original examples still in existence in the world and this is probably because most of them were junked.

So, I have a soft spot for common and overlooked ephemera. I would be interested to hear of other collectors who have also been inspired by these minimalist postage designs.





# Aerogramme Odyssey

by Ken Kurze(#1428)

Our son recently returned from a 15-month around-the-world trip. Before he left, he asked what he could get me for my stamp collection while en route. I quickly realized that to ask him to bring back whatever was available at post offices — in this age of too many entities issuing far too many stamps — would be ridiculous. I pondered what to ask him to look for to bring/send to me, and then I had it: buy whatever aerogrammes are available, write us a few lines on each, and mail. Result: I now have a nice selection of current aerogrammes and "on-the-spot" reports. In short, pleasing philatelic souvenirs.

While I save any aerogrammes which come my way and have bought some when abroad, they are not a speciality of mine. I did think that some ISWSC members might be interested in the results of this "aerogramme caper." Listed below, by category, are all the places our son visited, some 30 in all.

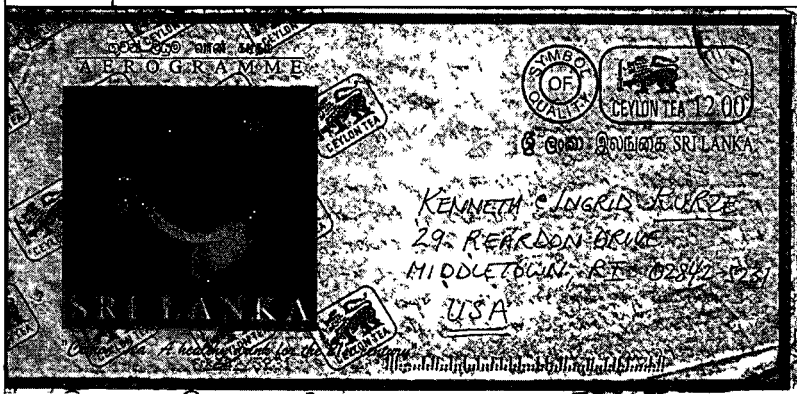
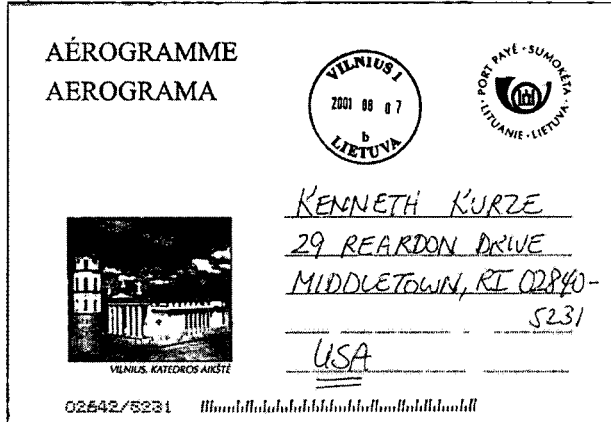
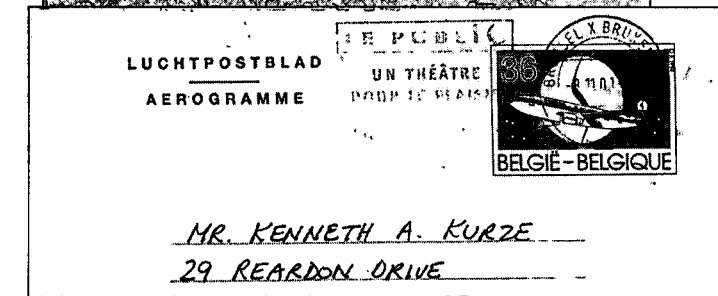
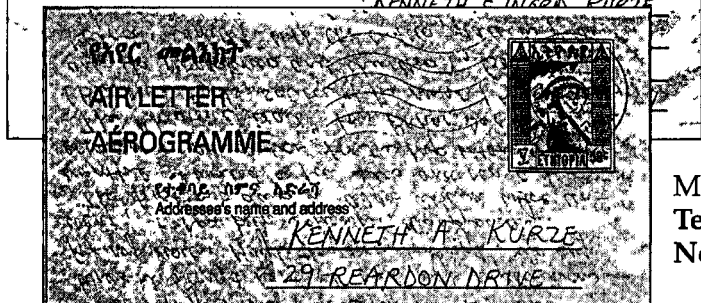
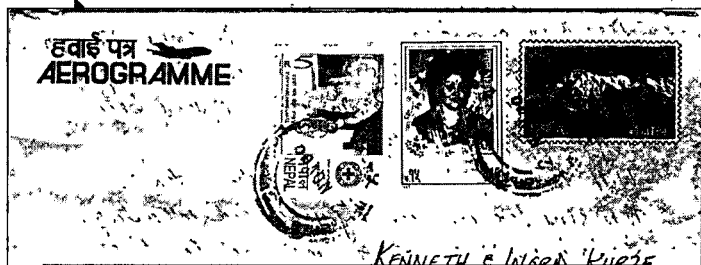
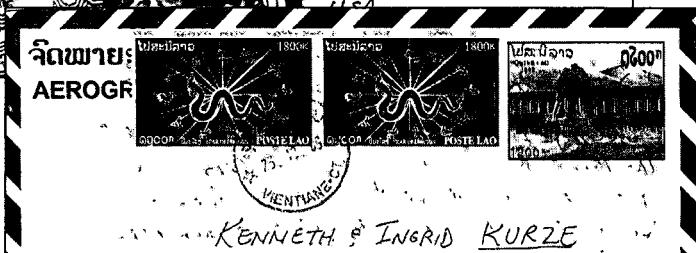
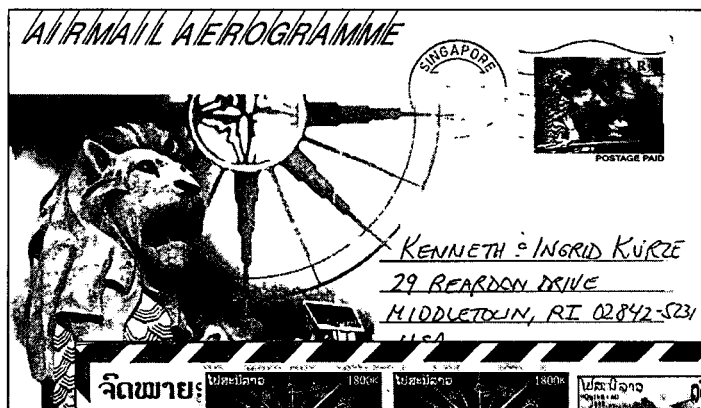
## Aerogrammes available with Imprinted Stamp

and mailed: Australia, Singapore, Laos, Thailand, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Greece, Italy, San Marino, Lithuania, France, Belgium, Netherlands. (15)

Temporarily out of stock: Myanmar (Burma) (1)  
Never or no longer issued/available: Canada, New Zealand, Indonesia, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Vatican City, Germany, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Iceland. (14)

This informal survey, while hopefully interesting to some collectors, is not foolproof. Some capital-city post offices were not visited; in other places the post office was in another city, branch office or transportation facility.

Some of the more interesting aerogrammes sent are illustrated here.





# Whatzit? Coordinator Appointed

by John Pruitt (#121)

As the new coordinator of the "Whatzit?" column I'm seeking members for an informal panel of ISWSC members who can help identify items. If you're from the country that issued the stamp, you have a jump on the rest of us. If you can read the language, you can help us out. If you're a collector of revenues or cinderellas, we'd like to use your expertise.

We'd like to get panelists in or from as many countries as we can. In particular we have a need for panelists from countries that do not use the Roman alphabet. Do you read a Cyrillic language? Do you read Arabic, Farsi, Chinese, Japanese, etc? Can you read the inscriptions on stamps from the native feudatory states of India, Turkey (before or after 1919), Ethiopia? There are too many of these places to name, so if we missed yours, don't hesitate

to volunteer anyway.

So please volunteer for the "Whatzit?" panel. I don't expect to ask anyone for help more than two or three times a year. When an ISWSC member sends a picture of a stamp from your area to me, I'll send you a photocopy by e-mail, fax or regular mail and ask for whatever information you can give. As soon as I have the needed identification I'll send it on to the requesting member. We'll print a selection of the items in the "Whatzit?" column of The Circuit.

To volunteer (or to submit pictures or copies to be identified) write me:

John D. Pruitt

1151 George Road

Meadowbrook, PA 19046-1109

jdpruitt@comcast.net • Fax: 215-947-7305



## Whatzit?

Here's an example of how someone who can read Cyrillic letters could help. There is nothing on this stamp that I recognized. Fortunately the book *Identify your Stamps* by E. J. Felix has a section on "Cyrillic inscriptions found on stamps" which identified this inscription as Sunday Postal Tax on Bulgarian stamps. It is Scott RA2 and shows a sanatorium for postal workers, the beneficiary of the tax. If you wanted your letter delivered on Sundays or holidays, you had to add this stamp.



Bulgaria, Sc #RA2

Sadly, even Felix's book lacks an identifier for Arabic inscriptions. This example had me baffled.



Libya, Sc #573

The two young people seem to be rising out of a map of North Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, 10 or more countries. The third one I checked, Libya, had denominations without decimals or the currency name like this stamp. Further search found it, Scott 573, commemorating the Second Arab Youth Festival in 1975.



## Yugoslavia

Continued from page 6

Gora" (Srbija and Montenegro). For the next 6-12 months, it must be approved by parliament. After that, this new federation will be working for next three years, and after that period they will decide about the future.

What does this mean in philately?

Simple — no more issues with Yugoslavia name. How it will work in the future is a big question. Until last year, German Mark was in use monetarily in Montenegro, and Yugoslavian Dinar was in use in

Serbia. More recently, it is the Euro in Montenegro and Dinar in Serbia. Because of this difference, stamps in/on Montenegrin soil were marked as Yugoslavia with A or B inscription, and on Serbian soil it was all issue of Yugoslavia.

How it will work today, nobody knows yet, but proposal is that they will issue new stamps with the names of Srbija and Montenegro. Lets live and see.

More information can be obtained by e-mail at: Milco\_d@netvision.net.il



# Thank You!

**I**would like to extend a great big "Thank You" to all of you who have submitted articles to *The Circuit*. You have probably already noticed the great variety of information in this issue.

Anyone that is still thinking about writing, but hasn't done it yet, there is always the next issue. You don't have to be a professional writer to be included in *The Circuit*. Your fellow members are interested in what you have to share, not necessarily how it is worded.

So thanks again for making *The Circuit* what it should be: an interesting and informative newsletter for ISWSC members around the world!



# Where's a Lawyer When You Need One??

**T**he ISWSC would like to apply for 501(c)3 non-profit tax exempt status with the IRS, but we need a volunteer to lead the charge!

If you are a current or retired lawyer or tax accountant, or if you have experience filing for non-profit tax exempt status, you may be perfect for the job. We are looking for someone who can take charge of this project and make it happen.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Randy Smith or Tony Zollo. Thank you!!

# Coins, Currency, Stamps, Coin & Stamp Supplies and Collectibles

**T**he following is a list of 2002 coin and stamp expos presented by Bick International. For brochure applications and general information about the shows, please contact :

Bick International  
Israel I. Bick, Managing Director  
P.O. Box 854  
Van Nuys, CA 91408 USA

**St. Nicholas Encino C.C.**  
**"COIN EXPO"**

March 15-17, 2002

**St. Nicholas Encino C.C.**  
**"STAMP EXPO"**

March 22-24, 2002

**Pasadena Convention Center**  
May 3-5, 2002

**Hollywood Renaissance Hotel**  
May 10-12, 2002

**Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas**  
May 24-26, 2002

**Glendale Civic Auditorium**  
May 31, June 1-2, 2002

**St. Nicholas Encino C.C.**  
**"STAMP EXPO"**  
June 21-23, 2002

**Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City**  
**(Week before ANA)**  
July 26-28, 2002

**St. Nicholas Encino C.C.**  
**"COIN EXPO"**  
August 9-11, 2002

**Pasadena Convention Center**  
August 30-31, September 1, 2002

**Glendale Civic Auditorium**  
September 13-15, 2002

**Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City**  
October 18-20, 2002

**St. Nicholas Encino C.C.**  
**"STAMP EXPO"**  
October 25-27, 2002

**River Palms, Laughlin, Nevada**  
**(Week before Santa Clara)**  
November 15-17, 2002

**Pasadena Convention Center**  
November 29-30, December 1, 2002

**Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas**  
December 13-15, 2002

**Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood**  
December 27-29, 2002

# Twentieth Century, But Limited

by Napoleon

In 1900, France issued the Liberty, Equality, Fraternity stamps and started using many new cancel formats. Some literature on French cancellations stops naming (Type 16, Type of 1885, etc.) cancels at this point. This article reviews a few of the more interesting ones from the early 20th century.



Fig. 1 – Precancels

By this time, France had settled on what would be its long-term use of the term *affranchissements*. Earlier this term appeared in circular date stamps when paying a fee for some special service. Starting in 1922, precancels have *AFFRANCHTS* in a line between two semi-circles. Figure 1 shows two examples, one on the Liberty, Equality, Fraternity issue and the other on the later rectangular Liberty and Peace issue. The Liberty and Peace stamp existed in both ordinary and precancel form; the used precancel is worth about forty times the ordinary stamp.

Figure 2 shows the 20th century large wavy-edged, ondule, railpost cancel. The next article in this series will have more information on ondules and other railpost cancellations.



Fig. 2 – Railpost cancel

Figure 3 is an octagonal cancel for overseas mail, in this case going from le Havre to New York. The mail was serviced by postal brigade E, as shown at the bottom of the octagon.

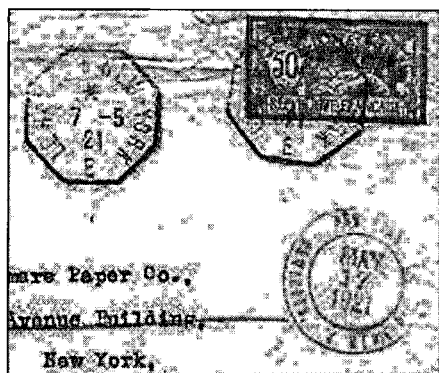


Fig. 3 – Overseas mail sent by ship

For stamps canceled with triangles, here's much of the story. Triangles indicate postage due use. Figure 4 gives examples of such use. In the upper left is a basic postage due cancel. The

upper right has an R in the triangle, for payment of a document fee. The lower two stamps, one with an A and the other with a B, are postage due precancellations.

During the first world war, most of Belgium was occupied by German troops. The Belgian army continued to fight, often being in France. Mail from the Belgian government and Belgian forces in France was identified by special cancellations.



Fig. 5 – WWI Belgian cancellations

The government mail had a circular date stamp with "LE HAVRE (SPECIAL)" at the top and "SEINE INFRE" (Department of the Lower Seine) at the bottom. An example appears in Figure 5. In the same figure is an example of an army mail cancel; note the number 8 in this cancel. The number designates the origin of the mail. Infantry divisions 1-6 used their own division number. Cavalry divisions 1 and 2 used 7 and 8 respectively. The central headquarters cancel had no side numeral. The cancellation in Figure 5 was from the second cavalry division on the date of the armistice, 11-XI-18.

## Detective Case

The diamond-of-dots, losange, cancel had gone out of normal service long before the Liberty, Equality, Fraternity issue was released. Nonetheless, the stamp in Figure 6 was canceled with an anchor in a losange. Why was the anchor cancel used?

New Year's Day cards were extremely popular in France at this time. This created a massive mail surge at New Year's, and all available cancels were used, no matter how old! It is a very nice strike of the cancel, so while the postal clerks may have been rushed, they took the time to do a nice job.

[napoleon@voyager.net](mailto:napoleon@voyager.net)



Fig. 4 – Triangles (postage due)



Fig. 6 – Detective



# ADVERTISING

## 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 = 2 words; ZIP code = one word. make all checks payable to ISWSC in U.S. funds. Send text and payment for ads to the Editor (address on page 2).

**FOR SALE OR TRADE** — world B.O.B. collectors — chance of a lifetime! Complete set BOB pages, clean and unused, worldwide 1840-1940, "brown" International, Vintage Reproductions. All Special Delivery, Postal Tax, Dues, Officials, etc., etc. Everything EXCEPT regular postage, semi-postals, and airmails. George Land (#241), 4024 Fairlands, Pleasanton CA 94588, USA. [5-6/02]

**WANTED:** MAHATMA GANDHI used/mnh stamps, M/S, S/S, FDCs, commercially-used covers, cachets, cancellations, specimen, colour trials and any related philatelic material. Manohar Balwant Kawali (#2207), "Kawali House" 384, Yadav Patil Wadi, Veer Savarkar Marg, Prabhadevi, MUMBAI 400 025, INDIA. [5-6/02]

**CLEARING OUT WORLDWIDE STAMPS** — Mini lots of 100 diff your choice: Worldwide, Canada, Germany or Scandinavia. No damaged. All commemoratives and large. \$5 US bill. Bonus envelope worth at least \$2 included free (could be one stamp or a dozen). Jim Wiseman (#1636), 24 Delaney Drive, Truro NS B2N 6K3 CANADA. [5-6/02]

## Is There a Boy Scout in the House?

by Heather Wood (#2321)

President Randy Smith encourages us to reach out to new members. The Boy Scouts have a Merit Badge for stamp collecting, and they also have a magazine, *Boy's Life*.

If any of our members is a Boy Scout or Scoutmaster, we'd like to help them put together something about ISWSC for that magazine.

Please contact Heather Wood (#2321):

444 W 54th St., #7  
New York NY 10019  
(212) 957-8386  
hwood50@aol.com

## Stamps, Memorabilia & Collectibles

BUY, SELL, TRADE & APPRAISE for beginners or advanced collectors: Kennedy, Princess Diana, Hollywood, Beatles, Churchill, Lincoln, James Dean, Disney, Elvis, Marilyn Monroe, Bruce Lee, Movies, Sherlock Holmes, Judaica, Space, Star Trek, Streisand, and all Thematics.

U.S., Great Britain and Israel  
are a few of the countries we deal in.

### FREE PRICE LISTS

Outside the U.S. please send \$2, 3 IRCs or \$3 in complete mint topical sets of your country.

VISA, MasterCard, Discover  
and American Express accepted.

### BICK INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 854, Dept. ISWSC, Van Nuys, CA 91408

ASDA, PTS, APS

Phone 818/997-6496 • Fax 818/988-4337

E-mail: iibick@aol.com

Visit our website [www.bick.net](http://www.bick.net)

[11-12/02]

## Where to Send What

### Membership Renewals, Applications, Changes in Mailing Address, Etc:

Anthony Zollo, MD (#856)

P.O. Box 15047, Lufkin TX 75915-0407

zolloam@lcc.net

### Annual 250 Stamp Donations:

Mike Crump (#2126)

P.O. Box 57, Yorba Linda CA 92885-0057

StampGuy47@aol.com

### Payments for Advertisements:

Jennifer Arnold

310 NW Juniper Ln, Albany OR 97321

Ph: 541-967-7043; Fax: 541-967-9515

pizzazz@cmug.com

### Roster Changes:

Tom Fortunato (#379)

42 Maynard St., Rochester NY 14615-2022

stamptmf@frontiernet.net

### Auction Bids & Lots and Payments:

Everett King (#1389)

P.O. Box 127, Whitethorn CA 94586

stamps@whitethorn.com

### Text for Articles for *The Circuit*, Corrections for Articles:

Send to Jennifer Arnold (see above) via USPS, fax or email. When emailing graphics for publication, please use a higher resolution (150 dpi). Please contact the Editor if you have any questions about format.