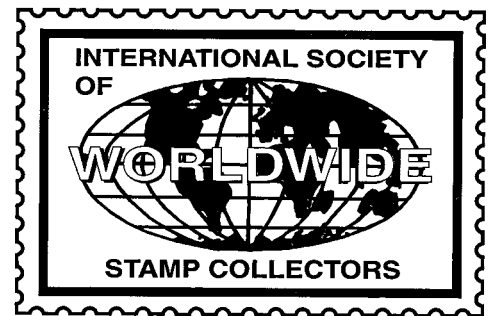


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The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

President's Column

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

Summer has arrived in the Midwest! As I'm writing this, my wife is busily preparing a meal for our first picnic of the summer. And my kids (ages 4 and 7) are busy asking me if I'm done writing this column yet as they know it has to be completed before we can go...

As usual, this newsletter is packed with articles. Of special note are the articles announcing the need for candidates for our upcoming elections and for an Election Chair, the testing of a proposed electronic version and distribution of the newsletter, notification of upcoming bylaw changes, and more. I encourage you to take time to read every article in the newsletter!

During the past month, I was forwarded a letter from an ISWSC member asking about ISWSC dues and Swap Circuit fees. Since this is a question I often hear, I thought it best to address these issues in my column, rather than writing directly to the member.

The first question raised was concerning the contribution of 250 stamps for the youth program. The ISWSC application states members are "expected" to support the youth program through an annual donation of stamps or an equivalent financial contribution. Our website indicates members are "required" to do this. Nowhere, however, does it state what is the financial equivalent of 250 stamps!

This question raised two thoughts in my mind. First, one of the guiding principles of our society is the encouragement of stamp collecting (usually targeted at youth) around the world. It is through this portion of your annual dues that we help make this goal a reality. Second, as frustrating as it may

be, we purposefully don't dictate a financial equivalent of 250 stamps! Our hope would be that you give what you can to help spread the joy of stamp collecting around the world – whether that be a few stamps, some supplies, a dollar or two, or something significantly more.

The second question raised was concerning fees associated with the Swap Circuit. Although the main comment was concerning confusion over the fee structure, I'd like to reiterate to all members that Swap Circuit fees are separate from dues charged to belong to the ISWSC.

ISWSC dues are charged annually to become (and remain!) a member of the ISWSC. These monies are used primarily to produce, print and mail *The Circuit*; cover administrative costs of operating the society; promote

the ISWSC; etc. Individuals must be a member of the ISWSC to participate in any of the ISWSC programs – sales circuits, the OMNI program, Swap Circuits, auctions, etc.

Swap Circuit fees, on the other hand, are annually charged only to those ISWSC members who choose to participate in the Swap Circuit program. (The word fee is deliberately used to help distinguish them from ISWSC dues.) These fees are used to cover all expenses of running the Swap Circuit program – no ISWSC dollars are used. Examples of Swap Circuit expenses include postage and supplies (glassines, envelopes, etc.) and the purchase of additional stamps to "sweeten" the circuit and replace damaged stamps.

Finally, the last question raised concerned finding the right place to send a question, submit ISWSC dues, etc. In each issue of *The Circuit* (except our

As always, I encourage you to contact me with questions or comments concerning the ISWSC. It is through your comments, ideas, and suggestions that we continue to improve as a society.

Continued on page 3

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

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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 Randy Smith, Tom
Fortunato or Tony Zollo. Thank you!*

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:
JULY 20, 2003

Bylaw Revisions to be Proposed

While preparing for the elections, the ISWSC Board recently re-read the bylaws and determined that they are in need of revision. (The current bylaws are available on our website at www.iswsc.org or a printed copy is available by writing to the ISWSC.)

The most notable revisions being considered are clarifying which positions are elected vs. appointed, who serves on the ISWSC Board, and the duties and responsibilities of those serving in elected or appointed positions.

During its meeting in July, the Board will discuss potential changes and make a recommendation to the membership. The proposed changes will then be published in the next newsletter and a ballot question will be included for you to vote on adopting the proposed changes.

If you have any questions or would like to make suggestions concerning revising the bylaws, please contact ISWSC President, Randy Smith (#1111).



President's Message

Continued from page 1

membership issue printed every other year), page 2 is dedicated to listing contact information for everyone involved in ISWSC leadership positions. Instead of taking space to repeat contact information in each article, the information is presented here for your reference.

In addition, most articles include the ISWSC membership number of the author (if applicable) and those referred to in the article. This number can then be used to find the individual's contact information in the membership issue and/or in the membership updates included in each edition of the newsletter.

If you can't find the contact information you are looking for, please contact either Tony Zollo (#856) or myself – either of us would be happy to help you!

As always, I encourage you to contact me with questions or comments concerning the ISWSC. It is through your comments, ideas, and suggestions that we continue to improve as a society.

Happy Stamping!



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.

ISWSC Board Meeting

The following article is based on the ISWSC Board meeting minutes taken by ISWSC Secretary, Joanne Berkowitz (#98).

The ISWSC Board recently held its first e-mail meeting following the election of Ken Wills (#2150) and Rick Simpson (#1703). During the meeting, in which all Board members participated, the following items were discussed and/or action taken:

- The financial report for the first quarter of 2003 was reviewed.
- Membership statistics were reviewed, as were past recruitment techniques. The decline in membership appears to be over, with a slight increase in overall membership compared to one year ago.
- Tony Zollo (#856) was reappointed as Executive Director for 2003.
- Tom Fortunato (#379) was reappointed to the Executive Committee for 2003.
- Consensus was reached that the current bylaws are in need of revision and simplification. Randy Smith (#1111) will present proposed

revisions to the bylaws to the Board at their meeting in July. Following discussion and revision by the Board, the final proposed bylaws changes will then be presented to the membership for a vote on their adoption.

- A suggestion was made to create a new class of membership based on electronic distribution of The Circuit. A sample PDF version of the newsletter was reviewed, as were costs associated with printing and mailing The Circuit. It was agreed that ISWSC members would be sought to help test this potential delivery option prior to its adoption. (Editor's note: See related article on page X).
- The following positions will be on the ballot in November: President, Secretary, Vice President of Public Relations, and Vice President of Charitable Programs.
- Scheduled Board meetings will be held each quarter, with other meetings held as needed. The next scheduled meeting of the Board will be in early July.



Nominees for Elected Office Sought

One of the historical strengths of the ISWSC has been the number of members who have stepped forward to serve the society in various capacities. This strength must be relied upon again as nominees are now being sought for the following elected positions:

President

This person presides at all meetings of the ISWSC and its Board. He/she performs all duties incident to the office as described by Robert's Rules of Order and recommends such action as he/she believes will increase the effectiveness of the organization.

Secretary

This person keeps a permanent record of all society Board of Director proceedings, including Board meetings and votes. The Secretary also attests to all legal documents of the Society and performs other duties as requested by the Board and/or the Executive Director.

Vice-President for Public Relations

This person performs duties with respect to promoting the ISWSC, monitors and assists the ISWSC Regional Representatives, and is responsible

for securing an Elections Chairman

Vice-President for Charitable Programs

This person serves as Chairperson of the Youth Program and assumes other responsibilities as assigned by the Board. This person also serves in place of the President, should the President be absent or unable to serve.

The term of office for each position is two years with a maximum of two consecutive years in the same office. Individuals in these positions, along with two at-large directors elected in opposite years, comprise the ISWSC Board and are responsible for the oversight and management of the ISWSC.

Any member of the ISWSC is eligible to run for elected office. To express your interest in running for a position, to obtain more information, or to recommend a fellow member for an office, please contact Randy Smith (#1111), ISWSC President, or Tom Fortunato (#379), ISWSC Vice President for Public Relations. Nominations must be received by September 15, 2003.



ISWSC Helping Kids Around the World

Submitted by Mike Crump (#2126)
Vice President For Charitable Services

Hello, Deon: I have two packages on the way to you: One is mostly stamps and packets that you can distribute to the kids. There is also a little book on collecting. Also a second package containing publications from the U.S. and some bulk stamps on-paper. Good luck with the stamp proposal and let me know if I can be of help. — Mike

Hi Mike! We have just received the packages - and what a surprise! The kids are absolutely delighted!!! — and so am I! I am having a field day going through the publications, some of which I have never heard of before.

It is rather difficult to find the words to thank you for what you have done for us! All these goodies are very, very useful indeed!

I have hundreds of low value RSA stamps, mainly definitives, which may be of use for youth

programmes. Do let me know if you can use such material and I will send you some. All stamps are in good to fine used condition and quite attractive. Kids should like them.

The kids are doing very well with the stamps and learn a great deal as well. There has been a great deal of new interest and I think we are on to something good here.

I had a word with one of the teachers at school the other day. He said "Do you remember the days when most of us collected stamps? These days most of them 'collect' drugs." How true! When I was 15, I did not know that drugs could be anything else than headache tablets!

Thanks again and please let me know if I can do anything for you.

Best wishes,
Deon Botha (& Co.)



Whatzit?

by John D. Pruitt (#121)

One of our members sent in three 1916-18 Austrian stamps (two regular postage and one newspaper stamp) with the "Rzp.Polska" overprint illustrated. These stamps are not in Scott or Michel but have been identified with the help of Hank Bieniecki of the Polonus Philatelic Society. They are listed in the Barefoot Catalog of "Poland 1918 Locals."



Poland local

Poland proclaimed independence in November 1918, at the end of World War I. Much of the country used locally overprinted German and Austrian stamps until the central Polish postal system was operational. While more local in usage, they are comparable to the regional issues listed as Scott #11-77.

Their use was terminated in January 1919.

Rzp.Polska stands for "Rzeczpospolita Polska" (Polish Republic), which was also the name of the Polish Commonwealth (elective monarchy, with a strong nobility) which existed from 1572 until 1795, when the partitioning by Austria, Prussia and Russia was completed. The Austrian stamps bearing this

overprint were issued in Tarnow (in formerly Austrian Poland) on December 9, 1918. The overprints on the stamps are about the right size to be genuine, Bieniecki noted, but it would take expertization to make sure.

The Latvian example is typical of stamps that crop up in mixtures. It is not in Scott. I found a Latvian-English internet dictionary and was able to learn that



Latvia unknown

"dzelzceli" means "railroad", and "laikraksti" means "newspaper". I could not find the other words. My guess is that these stamps were for newspapers carried by rail, but I would appreciate any reader's identification of these items.

If you have stamps that need identification, please send photos or photocopies to:

John D. Pruitt (#121)

1151 George Road

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jdpruitt@comcast.net

Fax: 215-947-7305



How Did You Start Collecting Stamps?

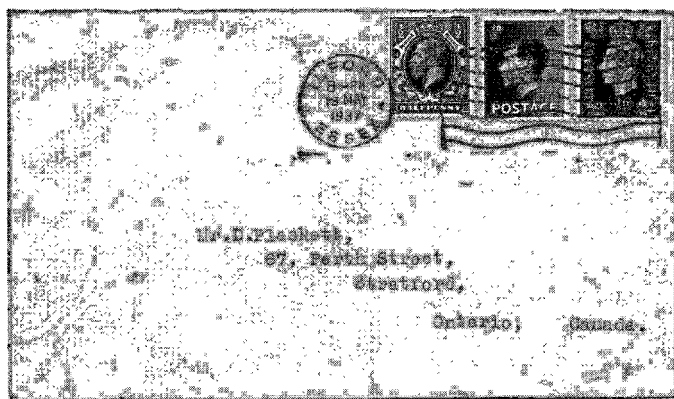
by Don Plaskett (#1257)

This article first appeared in the July-September issue of The Postscript, the newsletter of the Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club. Reprinted with permission.

Do you remember how you got started collecting stamps? When or why? I believe two boyhood pals who lived around the corner got me started in most everything — raising pigeons, bantams, guinea pigs, etc. When they took up the coronet, I played the trumpet, briefly.

As a youngster, I always had a paper route, so when collection day came on Saturday, it was time to splurge a few pennies on chewing gum with an enclosed stamp, usually from Belgium, like Scott #68 which must be worth all of fifty cents now!

My uncle pumped gasoline (there were no electric pumps back then) at a local Shell station. The owners had a sale promotion involving sending collectors a stamped post card from their service stations around the world. While it was a thrill to receive the cards in the mail, I don't know whatever happened to them. Perhaps they were sold in my grandfather's bookstore where I sold a few stamp packets and actually did very well. My prices were probably too low!

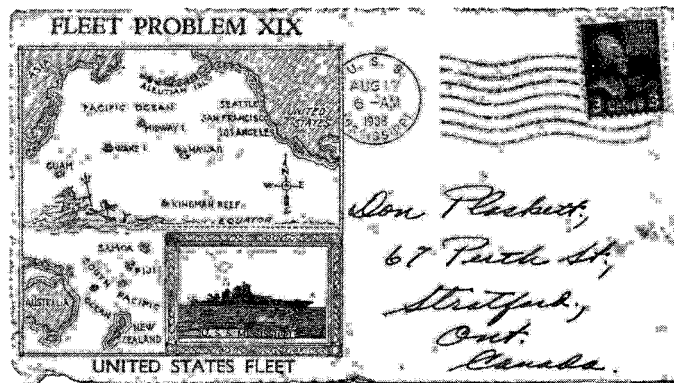


My uncle in England learned about my hobby, so he mailed me the above cover with stamps of three British Kings: George V, Edward VIII and George VI. Is the "three kings" cover valuable today? Well, maybe, but at least I now have some proof I was a stamp collector back in 1937!

As I aged, my collecting experienced peaks and hollows. Somehow, in 1938, I began writing to a sailor aboard the *USS Mississippi*. Steve Salay always sent me the most beautiful covers, with photos of some ships. I don't know what happened to Steve, or his ship, because I became involved in a war of my own.

Stamp collecting took a back seat again in 1947 when I was married and infant television captured

much of our attention. But, my stamp album was always there, awaiting my return.



Learned About Stamp Clubs

I traveled around Ontario with Bell until retiring to Florida in 1979. For the first time, I discovered there were stamp clubs. I learned more attending meetings of the Tallahassee Stamp and Cover Club than I had picked up over the past 42 years. Good quality programs introduced me to the hobby and provided a source for adding to my collection while serving as an outlet for me to sell and trade duplicates.

I am asked frequently how much my collection is worth. I really don't know, but I learned at our stamp club meetings that I should be inventorying each of my albums to establish a value. That's my next project and I have started on it. Stamp clubs can also advise collectors about how their heirs can best dispose of their collections.

Where Do We Go From Here?

So, where do I — do we — go from here? Finding used stamps is a challenge with automation, so many self-adhesives being issued, and meter cancels. I once worked in a small office where I saw the mail clerk canceling letters in a meter machine. I suggested people usually consider envelopes with meter cancels as "Junk" mail, but people who see stamps on covers tend to open them because they seem more personal. Now she orders stamps from the Fulfillment Center and is on the mailing list for the United States philatelic magazine. But, addresses change and people move. So, guess who gets the the covers returned by the post office!

Stamp clubs can be a vital resource for you. I urge members to become involved, to run for office, volunteer to present a program, encourage youth (which I once was, believe it or not) to take up stamp collecting. There's no greater hobby in the world.



The Luxury of Travel

(Islands of the South Atlantic)

by Jack Searles
searles@eznet.net

Published in the Olean Stamp Club Newsletter, APS Chapter 1442. Reprinted with permission.

Recently, I had a convergence of thoughts. While driving along, enjoying the freedom of movement and travel, I was thinking about the purchase of stamps I recently made for 25% of catalogue value.

My mind began to wander and my creative thoughts began to flow. You know, we are lucky. If you or I want to travel to another state or city or town we simply hop in our cars and away we go. This is truly a wonderful luxury that does not occur in many parts of the world. One of those places where this luxury of travel does not occur as regularly as here in New York State, is Tristan da Cunha.

Tristan da Cunha is a remote, almost circular island in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean discovered by the Portuguese explorer Tristao da Cunha in 1506. Tristan was formally annexed by the British during August of 1816. It has a whopping population of about 300 souls. This island is the largest island in the Tristan group, composed of a series of smaller uninhabited islands, named Nightingale, Inaccessible, Middle and Stolenhoff, respectively.

So what about the freedom of movement on Tristan? Well, the Royal Mail Ship *St. Helena* calls at Tristan only once per year, on its January/February voyage. Of course, that's the summer season for them. According to reports, the RMS *St. Helena* only stays for two to three days per year, during which

Continued on page 9

Sales Circuit Update













by James M. Gaul (#1853)
ISWSC Sales Circuit Manager

Greetings, fellow members! For my third column in this newsletter I'll be brief and save more room for scans of sample pages from books currently in the Sales Circuit inventory. Hope I can entice a few more of you to participate!

For the month of April I have received 16 sales books to be entered into the inventory.

- Four of the books will be put in Group1 with a total net value of \$165.00.
- Three of the books will go in Group3 with a total net value of \$195.00.
- Seven books will go in Group4 with a total net value of \$420.00
- One book for Group6 (see above right).
- One book for Group 8 & 9, with a net of

[illegible]

Car# 560	Car# 570	Car# 620	Car# 640	Car# 780	Car# 790
					
CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang
\$450 7.10	\$375 1.60	\$250 1.20	\$575 7.60	\$1.10 .50	\$1.60 .70
Car# 740	Car# 800	Car# 810	Car# 820	Car# 830	Car# 850
					
CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang	CV 1964 Ford Mustang
\$175 .80	.50 .20	\$125 .80	\$175 .80	\$350 2.70	\$3.00 1.90
Page				Net Value \$13.50	

\$165.00.

Here's a sample page from a book currently in the inventory. This one pertains to the country of HUNGARY and will be part of a Group 5 circuit! It has already been out twice, but still has good remaining value left in it!

Here's a sample page from another book currently in the inventory that will be part of a Group 6 circuit. This is a new submission and contains stamps from the country of JAPAN. Net value is over \$100.00.

That's it for now, I await your email, snail mail, or phone call to get you started in the Sales Circuit as a buyer, seller or both! Take care and keep on stampin'!



Collecting One Stamp Per Country

by Richard Rizzo (#2215)

When I started collecting stamps as a young boy, I was always fascinated with the stamps of the many mysterious countries around the world. Even though I specialized in collecting United States and United Nations stamps, I always kept the worldwide stamps I received from family and friends.

Eventually when I was about eighteen, I invested in the *Minkus Supreme Global Stamp Album* to store these stamps. However, the vast number of new stamps being issued every year combined with family and work responsibilities resulted in having an accumulation of worldwide stamps and not a collection.

After over forty years of collecting worldwide stamps, I found that I had over one thousand stamps from countries like Hungary and the Soviet Union and not a single stamp from Kuwait, Norfolk Island, or Zambia. So about four years ago, I decided to start a collection of one stamp per country.

Armed with just my old *Minkus Supreme Global Stamp Album* and *Compton's Encyclopedia* on CD-Rom, I developed a list for my one stamp per country collection. My list includes not only current countries of the world but countries that no longer exist ("dead countries"), post offices abroad, military occupations, etc.

For a single country like Angola I would have two entries, one for Angola as a Portuguese colony and another as an independent republic. In the case when a country issued stamps, stopped issuing stamps, and resumed issuing stamps, I would have two entries for that country. As an example, I would have one entry for the Lithuania for the period 1918 to 1940 and another for after 1992.

For each stamp issuing entity I collect one mint stamp and one used stamp. I prefer that the stamp depict something about the country from which it came. For instance the stamp for Argentina in my collection has Eva Peron on it and the one from Spain has General Franco. I also made a separate section for Locals and Bogus country issues. This section is for entities like Carpathian Ukraine, a small part of Czechoslovakia that in March 1939 was an independent country for about three days and issued only one stamp, to an entity like Abkhazia, a province of Soviet Georgia that since 1994 has issued hundreds of stamps whose postal validity is very questionable.

My one stamp per country collection has about

eleven hundred entries and is displayed in three Lighthouse Vario albums.

About eight months ago I decided to expand my list by drilling down a level. I decided to add an entry for every time in a country's history that it had a major change in its form of government. As an example, for the Caribbean island of Dominica I originally had two entries, one for when it was a British colony and another for when it became independent. Upon delving further into Dominica's philatelic and political history, I learned that Dominica issued

stamps as a British colony from 1874 to 1890. It then came under the administration of the Leeward Islands and stopped issuing its own stamps. In 1903 Dominica

as a British colony started issuing its own stamps again. In 1967 Dominica in preparing for independence became an associated state of Britain. Since 1978 Dominica has become an independent country. I now have four entries for Dominica.

In order to be able to research a country's history at this level, I have invested in the *Scott Stamp Atlas*, the *Stamp Atlas* by Stuart Rossiter, *Linn's World Stamp Almanac*, and *Scott's Classic Specialized Catalogue*. Also, articles in *The Circuit* and other philatelic publications help. I use multiple reference books because one source will list the small Caribbean island of Redonda and another will not.

I was amazed how many facts in these books contradict each other when researching those small areas of the world like the many different stamp issuing entities during the Russian Civil War. When this occurs, I choose the fact that seems the most reliable. I can say that all these reference books will agree that the United States became independent on July 4, 1776 and Britain issued the first postal stamp in 1840.

At my present rate of progress, I have at least seven more months of research on my expanded list. Since I enjoy collecting stamps and studying history, my research has been a fun experience. However since collecting one stamp per country is an ever-expanding collection, my research will never truly be done.

Did you know that Yugoslavia formally changed its name Serbia and Montenegro on March 14, 2002 and East Timor became an independent country on May 20, 2002?

Since collecting one stamp per country is an ever-expanding collection, my research will never truly be done.



The Luxury of Travel

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passengers get ashore only if the weather is obliging.

But this is not the end of my story because you see, Tristan da Cunha is a dependency of St. Helena. St. Helena was also first claimed by a Portuguese navigator. He was Juan da Nova Castella, sighting land on May 21, 1502. The island was named for Saint Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great. After its discovery, this island was used by the Portuguese as a fresh water stop for their fleets returning from the East Indies.

During this time, its location was a closely kept Portuguese secret, until 1588 when that the English navigator Thomas Cavendish located the island. The secret was out! From that year forward the island was intermittently used by the Portuguese, English and Dutch.

In 1633, the Dutch formally annexed the island but did not occupy it. Occupation of the island had to wait until May, 1659 when the English East India Company claimed the island under a charter from Charles II. The first inhabitants of the island were company employees, English settlers and slaves from South Asia, the East Indies and Madagascar.

Still unable to place St. Helena? Well it is actually quite famous! You see, Napoleon was exiled to this land in 1815. With this famous dignitary came a large garrison of British soldiers and naval ships on constant patrol in case of a rescue attempt. When Napoleon died in 1821, almost all of the garrison was withdrawn. But St. Helena has been visited by many other dignitaries, like Charles Darwin in 1836 on the homebound leg of his voyage on the Beagle. Dinizulu, the son of Cetwayo of Zulu War fame, and his entourage were confined on the island, as were 6,000 Boer prisoners of war during the Boer War.

With its up and downs, St. Helena survives with a current population of 5,800 individuals. The island economy has become almost totally dependent upon a single commodity — New Zealand flax — used as ropes and string. St. Helena is also serviced by the *RMS St. Helena*.

While this has all been interesting — to me at least — it is still not where I want to be. Rather my destination is another dependency of St. Helena located almost exactly in the middle of the South Atlantic, namely Ascension Island. Like St. Helena, Ascension was first spotted in 1501 by Juan da Nova Castella, but the finding went unrecognized. The official discovery of this island had to wait for Alfonso d'Albuquerque, who in 1503 rediscovered

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What Do You Think?

I received these emails in response to John Bunker's question in the May-June issue of *The Circuit*:

I agree whole heartedly with John Bunker's "What do you think" article in *The Circuit*. I think there are very few people collecting only small or only large stamps. Yes, when you think of comemorative, you think of large stamps but they are not all large. There are plenty of small ones also. If you collect a particular country you collect the small stamps as well as the large.

So why don't we just collect stamps? CTO's are different, they should have a seperate designation. Doing this would make it easier to swap stamps and it would be much less work on our swap managers. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

God Bless

Vincent Maiorana

112 Ashmore Rd.

Greer, S.C. 29650-2926

vmaiorana@aol.com

What is really important is for all Swap Circuit members to adopt a version of the "golden rule." Put into the circuits the kinds of stamps you would like to find in them.

This means put in interesting, useful stamps, stamps from unusual countries, new issues, higher values. Even though the stamps are large there is no sense in putting in the Nigerian definitives of 1973, Netherlands investiture of Queen Juliana (#304), Canada's 1937 coronation issue, etc. The same applies to the Christmas issues of larger countries. These are the stamps to donate to groups that give stamps to kids, or to put in that old box in the attic.

If you have seen a stamp in the Swap Circuits or dealers' nickel-boxes many times, there is no point in wasting everyone's time and postage money by putting it into the Swap. No one has a use for it.

The Swap Circuits are not a way to get rid of unwanted stamps, they are a way for serious collectors to exchange useful stamps to put into their albums!

John D. Pruitt (#121)



Membership Update

New Members

#2387 Bob Colsten (Exp 5/31/2004)
PO Box 1275
Chicago, IL 60690-1275
A, C, Int, EE, Top(Christmas, Europa), 8

Reinstated (formerly dropped)

#25 Nelson
#195 Wilhelm
#331 Brightman
#705 Schusshman
#877 Houser
#2238 Bienvenu
#1198 Mroz
#2300 Giammarino III
#2316 Alderson

Temporarily Away, Contact HQ

None

Address Changes/Corrections

Press Parker
719 Moosehead Lake Rd
Greenville, ME 04441-9727
#25 Nelson
1500 Lynn Dr
Boulder City, CO 89005-3417
#296 Polchinski
PO Box 376
Yonkers NY 10704-0376
#365 Maddock
1055 Ogden St #4
Denver, CO 80218-2807
#403 Swisher
Box 11766
Jacksonville, FL 32239-1766
#1073 Josse
350 Sharon Park Dr Apt J25
Menlo Park, CA 94025-6887
#1085 Mosley
209 Commercial Ave
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-2733

Returned Mail - Unknown Address

#1708 Collman

New/Changed Email Addresses

Press Parker eparker@midmaine.com
#1057 Djerahian leondjer@yahoo.com

Bad email addresses/Returned emails

(email right one to Tom Fortunato:
stampmtf@frontiernet.net)

Resigned

#109 Hoover husband dies, no time for hobby

#356 Sackett deceased
#529 Kleintank
#889 Elam job eliminated
#1503 Miller health
#2345 Dant

We Need Your ZIP+4 Number:

None

Dropped - Dues Expired in May

#136 Lacher
#260 Consenheim
#429 Gross
#830 Vihanto
#896 Bunker
#1612 Hohl
#1857 Kastenzholz
#2100 Lambert

We need to update our records!

With a large membership, our records are always being updated. It has been a long time since we updated basic information, such as phone numbers, APS and ATA membership numbers, and age. We'd like your assistance in improving the data base, so send this information along by mail or email to:

Tom Fortunato
42 Maynard St,
Rochester, NY 14615-2022
USA
Email: stampmtf@frontiernet.net



Articles Needed

We need you ... to submit an article or item of interest to *The Circuit*!!! As an ISWSC member, you are encouraged to contribute to *The Circuit* because each member has his/her unique perspective to collecting worldwide stamps. Please consider writing an article about your specific area of interest.

Be sure to include your name and member number when submitting material for publication in the newsletter. You can contact the editor at the address listed on page 2.



Online Newsletter to be Tested

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

During the last ISWSC Board meeting, it was suggested that an optional new membership classification be created for those wanting to receive The Circuit electronically. In addition to reducing postage costs, this option would enable timely delivery of the newsletter to all members — especially those overseas.

In the future, this option may also allow for reduced membership fees for this classification (based on reduced printing and/or postage costs), color illustrations, special newsletter content available only in the electronic edition, hyperlinks to related web sites, etc. By producing an electronic version of the newsletter, the formation of a newsletter archive (and possibly making past issues available on our website) is simplified.

Prior to creating this new membership classification, the Board is seeking your input concerning this delivery method. An informal poll

is being conducted to judge popularity of this potential option. To participate in the poll, please contact Randy Smith (#1111) with your thoughts concerning this delivery option. In addition to indicating if you would (or wouldn't!) be interested in this delivery option, please include any comments or suggestions you may have concerning this potential delivery method and membership classification.

ISWSC members are also being sought to help test potential delivery methods of an electronic version of the newsletter. Members interested in helping will be given instructions concerning how to locate the newsletter on the internet, then will be asked to download, view, and print the document. Feedback on your experience will then be solicited in order to judge the ease and feasibility of each delivery method tested. To participate in this test, please send an e-mail to Randy Smith (#1111) at rasmmary4@earthlink.net.



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the island on Ascension Day. Currently, this island has a population of about 1,350 individuals, of which 850 are St. Helenians, 100 Americans and 350 are British (165 of which are members of the Royal Air Force). Both the US and British Air Forces maintain a presence on this island.

So what does this have to do with stamps? Well, it was a wonderful deal on Ascension Island stamps at 25% of catalogue value that sent me on this trek. After all, you can't own Ascension Island stamps and not know where it is located — can ya??!! Well, look for it in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean, almost exactly between South America and Africa, far off the coasts of Brazil and Angola, respectively.

Now that we have arrived at Ascension Island, what about its philatelic history? Well, the stamps of Great Britain stamps in values ranging from ½d to 1s were used on Ascension Island prior to 1922. In that year, Ascension Island became a dependency of

St Helena, and stamps of St. Helena overprinted "Ascension Island" were used for postage.

Since the end of World War II, Ascension Island has participated in all the colonial omnibus issues. All told, my catalogue tells me that through 1994 this island has issued a total of 574 commemorative and regular issue stamps, plus 6 postage due stamps.



A few examples of stamps from the author's collection.

There is only one post office on the island, located in the town of Georgetown. Flora, fauna, and historical events are common themes on these very collectable British Commonwealth stamps.

Oh — and guess what? You can visit Ascension Island via the *R.M.S. St. Helena* which makes its rounds annually. So much for the luxury of travel!



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).

DISPOSING OF W/W STAMP ACCUMULATION. While they last. USA customers only. \$1.50 brings 110; \$3.00 brings 245; \$6.00 brings 540. Norm Chrystie (#400), 34 Redwood Road, Saugerties, NY 12477. [7-8/03]

Many Thanks

from John M. Powell
Edmonton National 2003
Exhibits & Awards Chairman

Many thanks for sending me one YOUTH Merit Certificate to have awarded at the EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL, hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club, March 28-30, 2003, following our request forwarded by Bill Sylvester of Victoria, BC.

The jury were pleased to award the certificate to Orrin Essau for his two-frame *Track & Field* exhibit. Many thanks to your society for making the certificates available.



Meet Us in Columbus This August!

Ohio has always been a state active in philately, which is probably why centrally located Columbus was chosen as the site for Stampshow, scheduled for August 7-10. This show is annually sponsored by the American Philatelic Society and is the largest gathering of stamp collectors nationally.

ISWSC Vice President of Public Relations, Tom Fortunato, will again be hosting a meeting for all ISWSC members during Stampshow 2003. Our meeting will be held on Saturday, August 9th at 4pm in Room #C110. Make your plans to attend the show and our meeting now!



Election Chair Sought

An Election Chair is needed for the ISWSC elections which will be held in November 2003.

The duties of this person will be to receive written ballots by mail, tally the votes for each candidate and/or question on the ballot, and mailing the ballots and final results to the ISWSC Secretary for verification. The name and postal address of the Election Chair will be printed on each ballot (postcard). No computer experience or access is required, however both may be helpful to record ballots, communicate with the ISWSC Board, etc. The person serving as Election Chair cannot be a candidate for office during this election.

If you would be interested in serving in this position, please contact Tom Fortunato (#379), Vice President of Public Relations.



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.