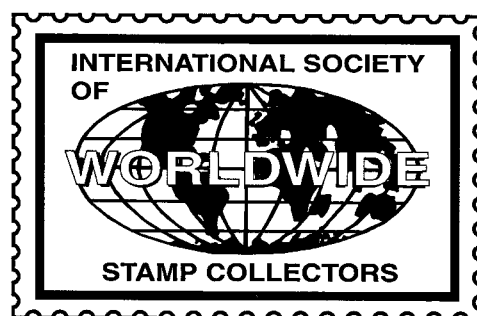


The Circuit

July/August 2005 • Volume 23 No. 4



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

www.iswsc.org

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

President's Column

by **Randy Smith (#1111)**
ISWSC President

As I write this column, it is July 4th and I'm in a hotel in Rapid City on a family vacation. The kids are in the pool with my wife supervising, so I'm taking a few minutes to complete a few ISWSC tasks I didn't get done before we left. Those plans were dashed when I had high-speed internet installed, upgraded my Virus and Firewall software, switched from Windows 98 to XP, and had my PC crash (hard) — but not necessarily in that order!

The computer crash was (somewhat) resolved by a local techie. However, I'm still working on some of the side effects. While most of my data was saved, I lost all of the e-mail I had received over the past few years. (I just preach back-ups to others — I don't do them myself!) I know I still had a few e-mails to return, but I don't have a record of it. If you sent me an email and are still waiting for a response, please send me another e-mail — but do so at my new address: rasmory4@frontiernet.net.

If all of the above change isn't enough, throw in a mailing address change for me, too. After consulting for seven years, I've joined Wells Fargo as an employee — ending a three year under-employment period. I work downtown Minneapolis and the building I'm in just happens to have a loop post office in it, so I've switched my Post Office box (which was close to my former employer). My new address is: P.O. Box 2085, Minneapolis MN 55402-0085.

Amidst all that change and computer turmoil, I've been struggling to work with Executive Director candidates so that Tony Zollo can pass the baton. (No, the candidates are not making that difficult — I am!) By the time you read this, I hope the board has made their appointment. We'll send an e-mail announcement once the decision has been made, but the announcement will need to wait until the next

issue of the newsletter. I held this issue a few weeks with the goal of making the announcement, but my computer and e-mail problems prevented that from happening.

Change isn't over for me yet — I only have a few months left to serve you as ISWSC President before my second term expires. And several other Board members are also completing their second terms, meaning new volunteers are needed for elections this fall. To help oversee the elections, we also need an Election Chairman. Finally, we also need to find a new "Whatzit?" coordinator. Following the death of John Pruitt. For more information on each of these, please see the separate articles elsewhere in this newsletter.

Happy stamping from Mount Rushmore!



Seeking Nominees for Elected Office

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

Continued on page 4

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googiepox@alephia.net

USA Circuit: Randy Smith (#1111)

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rasmay4@frontiernet.net

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

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Unit 30612, Box R-160
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ahorwedel@hotmail.com

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

*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, 2005

Whatzit? Coordinator Sought

Are you good at identifying the country a stamp comes from? Are you handy with reference materials? Do you like to solve a good mystery? If so, you are the person we're looking for!

The ISWSC is seeking one or more members to serve as coordinator(s) of the Whatzit? program. This program gives other members someone to turn to for help in identifying those difficult stamps.

The coordinator(s) are responsible for providing timely responses to member's requests for help and for writing a short Whatzit? column for the newsletter. The column highlights some of the stamps submitted for identification, sources for stamp identification, challenging stamps you've come across, or maybe even something that still as you stumped.

If this sounds interesting to you, or if you would like more information, please contact Randy Smith.



Elections Chairperson Needed

An Elections Chairperson is needed to oversee the balloting process for our upcoming election. This short term position (2-3 months, but only a few hours of work) requires an individual to receive and count ISWSC ballots. Each ballot postcard will be pre-addressed to you.

After counting the ballots and waiting for the deadline to pass, the Election Chairperson then sends the ballots to the ISWSC secretary who verifies the totals. Once verification has been completed, your duties are over.

If you would be interested in serving the ISWSC in this manner, please contact Randy Smith (see page 2 for contact information).



Dues/Advertising Policy

Dues Information:

Single/Dealer/Club membership: \$12.00*

Youth membership (under 18): \$10.00*

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

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

Advertising Policy:

For reasons of accountability, only members of the ISWSC, APS or ASDA may place ads. All ads dealing with philatelic concerns are acceptable. We reserve the right to edit out objectionable language. Advertisers are expected to respond to all inquiries, so be sure you can handle the responses before you offer to trade, buy or sell. If you have a bad result from answering an ad, contact the Editor. We will try to resolve the conflict.

Display Rates (Camera Ready*) per insertion:

Full page: \$75.00

Half page: \$40.00

Quarter page: \$20.00

Per column inch: \$5.00

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

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

Classified Rates per insertion:

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

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

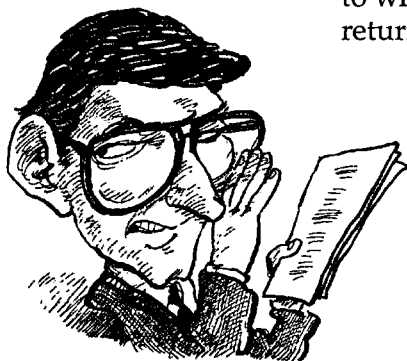
Make all checks payable to ISWSC in U.S. funds. Send text and payment for ads to the Editor. All addresses can be found on page 2.

Insurance Policy Pays Off

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

Over the past year, the ISWSC has had to place an insurance claim for a few mailings that became lost (for various reasons). While our insurance paid for these losses, there are a few things you can do to prevent future claims and keep our insurance rates low.

- 1 – When mailing items, use the recipients complete address and include our full return address. Placing those addresses inside the package will also help in the event the outside addresses are ruined.
- 2 – NEVER refuse a mailing. Doing so may lead to your removal from that program (i.e. Omni or Sales Circuit).
- 3 – If you will be gone for an



extended period of time (i.e. more than two weeks), notify the appropriate manager(s) far in advance of your time away. This gives the managers time to either hold mailings until your return or place you later in rotation.

- 4 – Notify your spouse, children or estate executor of what should happen to your collection upon your death or prolonged illness. For ISWSC material, make sure they are kept together with instructions as to who to contact if you are unable to return the materials.
- 5 – If a claim is necessary, contact the appropriate manager and the ISWSC Executive Director quickly. Insurance claims must be filled within a short period of time of the loss in order to be considered.



Seeking Nominations

Continued from page 1

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 for 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 Tony Zollo (#856) ISWSC Executive Director. Nominations must be received by September 15, 2005.



We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands



And we'd like it put it in yours!

Nutmeg Stamp Sales now offers one large sale a month (loaded with worldwide stamps!) and a "Baby Sale" for all you bargain hunters. This month alone more than 9,000 items are up for sale. One of them could be the stamp that's been eluding you for years.

Bids are welcome by mail,
telephone, fax, email or
via the

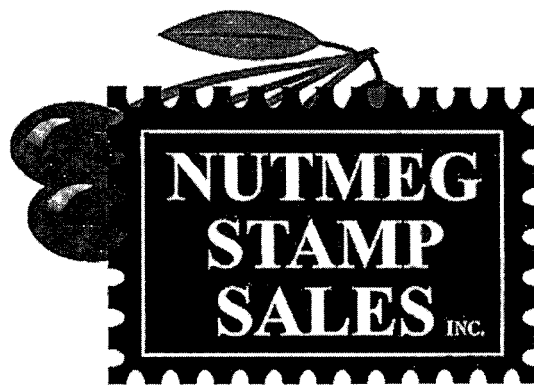
Nutmeg website.

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catalogue by calling

1-800-522-1607.

Save time by viewing
auction lots online at

www.nutmegstamp.com



P.O. Box 4547

Danbury CT 06813

Fax: 203-798-7902

Email:

info@nutmegstamp.com

Swap Circuit News

by Randy Smith (#1111)
ISWSC President

There are a couple of changes to report concerning the Swap Circuit program — both involving managers.

First, Andrew Titley (#2366) has stepped down as manager of the USA Circuits. Andrew is a student and is involved in a summer-long program, making continuing as manager impossible. My thanks to Andrew for getting the USA Circuits up and running and best wishes with your remaining schooling!

For at least now, I will manage the USA Circuit. This Circuit was delayed a bit, but now all members are on the requested number of Circuits and all are in member's hands. (Except the three that already made the rounds and came back to me right before vacation!)

*For those
who aren't
currently
participating,
now's a great
time to join.*

Unfortunately, I don't have as happy a story to tell for the Super Circuits. Although I'm pleased to announce Robert Armstrong (#1392) will be managing this Circuit, I've been slow in getting things up and running and turned over to him. It's a bit overwhelming to have to start all the Circuits up as a new manager, so I like to get them started, then turn them over to the new manager.

While I do have about half of the International Super Circuits out to members, I'm still working on getting the domestic Super Circuit going. I am hopeful that by the time you read this, I will have all Super Circuits out and Robert will be firmly in place.

If you are currently a Swap Circuit member, remember you can increase or decrease the number of Circuits you are on by contacting me. For Circuit types you currently participate in, you can be on up to four Circuits at no additional fee. If you currently are at five or more, you can increase to up to nine at no additional fee. You may increase above four Circuits or start a new Circuit type simply by sending me the proper stamp fee and a note indicating what you want.

For those who aren't currently participating, now's a great time to join. Just contact me via e-mail or letter (see page 2 for addresses) and I'll get you the complete details.

Happy swapping!

Grand Rapids Calls!

by Tom Fortunato (#379)
Vice President for Public Relations

The ISWSC will hold an open membership meeting during Stampshow'05, America's largest stamp show, this year in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The show takes place Thursday, August 4th through Sunday, August 7th at the Grand Rapids Convention Center.

The show is annually sponsored by the American Philatelic Society, this nation's largest stamp collecting organization. It will feature over 100 dealers from across the U.S., Canada, and Europe, along with meetings and seminars throughout all four days.

The ISWSC will be meeting at 11:30am on Sunday, August 7th. Please consider joining other ISWSC members for the meeting if you can!

If you plan to be at the show, read the schedule of events for up to the minute details. The hour long meeting will be hosted by Tom Fortunato. Contact him by email if you plan to attend at stampmf@frontiernet.net.



Stamp Collecting Theme Songs?

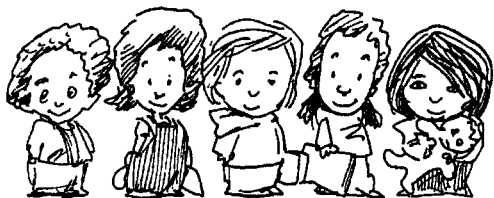
by Joseph Palko (#421)

Has the name of a song ever reminded you of your favorite hobby — stamp collecting? Or even the lyrics to a song? Here are a few that I came up with:

- Return to Sender
- Hey, Mr. Postman
- The Train They Call The City of New Orleans
- I'm Going to Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter
- Love letters in the Sand



Many Thanks...



A "Thank You" to the Vice President of Charitable Services:

Dear Mike,

What a pleasant surprise when I opened the first of two boxes that arrived today — the one with all the British stamps. The commemoratives will be very helpful, but the Machins will be put to good use as a member of our club gives me many, many topicals for any I give him. The youngsters show little interest in the definitives — but if they are animals, birds, insects, flowers, sports and space stamps, they show their pleasure.

And then I opened the second box and it was I that showed pleasure. My wife wanted to know what was wrong. Such great stamps — exactly the kind of stamps that the youngsters select.

And the boxes arrived at a good time. I had just spent three days at the PNSE (old SEPAD) stamp show and we had a bunch of youngsters. And this year they started a Beginners Table. And the adults were also welcome. But who knows if they are beginners or not. Several wanted stamps for their grandchildren. These stamps were supplied by the PNSE committee from donations, and were not well sorted as mine are for the two monthly stamp shows. I take out a lot of the definitives that aren't animals, birds, etc., as well as many topicals that are buildings, people, etc. So the youngsters are selecting the stamps of

Edmonton Stamp Club

Promoting the enjoyment of Philately since 1912

P.O. Box 399 • Edmonton, Alberta • CANADA T5J 2J6

Dear Sirs:

Many thanks for making available your YOUTH Merit Certificate for awarding at the EDMONTON SPRING NATIONAL, hosted by the Edmonton Stamp Club, April 1-3, 2005.

The jury was pleased to award the certificate to 15 year old **Mathew Padgham** for his five frame **Wild Cats of the World** exhibit.

His mailing address is 3304 Manning Crescent, North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7H 2R6, should you wish to contact him. He also won the AAPE Youth Grand award and an invite to the Youth Champion of Champions competition this year.

Many thanks to your society for making the certificate available for presentation at our Show.

Next year our regular Edmonton Spring National Show will be March 24-26, 2006, and hope we have the opportunity to award one of your Society's certificates again.

Sincerely,

John M. Powell
Edmonton National 2005
Exhibits and Awards Chairman

their choice with better results. Of course, when one of the youngsters is looking for presidents, he does not find any — so I tell him the next time he comes back I will have a box just of the presidents, going back to the mid-20's.

Thanks, THANKS, T-H-A-N-K-S for the attractive array of stamps. I know many a youngster will be pleased, and I am sure happy with the selection.

Sincerely,
Louis F. Calzi, Sr.
Tristate Coin & Stamp Show Youth Table
2223 Jenkintown Road
Glenside, PA 19038-5014

Art Stamp Collecting

by Paul T. Jackson (#2339)

The Circuit!!!

I'm a kid collector, for the last 60 years. One of the things that turned me on to stamp collecting was the "Truck Sheet." Back in the day, that dim dark past hidden in stories about a president who collected stamps, a king and later a queen who did the same. Where a truck from the Post Office came to my school and gave away pictures of the White House on a huge stamp.

Pen pals all over the world — what a great way to get stamps, learn languages, learn cultures, traditions. Of course, the computer and e-mail does that today — or does it? But how else could you travel, meet other people, make contact. My wife is constantly disturbed that I know some obscure answer on Jeopardy. And when I attribute it to stamp collecting she gets that "and I thought that was a waste of time" look.

Having spent some time in Korea, the great statistics of stamps collecting were brought into sharper focus. Counting the number and type of stamps issued by a country became an indicator of its goodness. Countries like Russia — who put out hundreds of issues in multiple formats with silly high values or long sets — were considered philatelic pigs. Gouging the stamp collector for money, commemorating events of dubious merit. Buying these stamps was equated with supporting the government of that country.

The Art stamp craze did some to abet this, but eventually the "Sand Dune" countries over worked the pockets of collectors. I'm sure I'm missing other examples along the way, but I collected as best as I could. There were periods of time when I could not get to my collection, sometimes for a year or two.

One things that always caused me wonder was "mint never hinged ... Why? The history of stamp collecting is really expressly against such an idea. Early pin boards of Nassau Street. The earliest collector who pasted the first issue on her dressing room wall (that may be a myth, but a motivational one).

Tropical Collector, particularly India were great collectors. It was a way to keep in touch with home. But it had drawbacks — stamps curl, get stuck to things. The solution: many early issues were ungummed so these things would not happen. Stamps that came with gum were often "soaked" to remove the gum. Aside for the "cottage industry" regumming, which sprang up around this concept, there is no rational reason for checking the gum.

A Perfin forerunner was the printing of the company name on the back of the stamp under the gum to prevent unauthorized use of company postage. Of course, the holes made ownership visible from both sides.

One area of feedback that is of interest is how many albums do you have? I started way back with one small paper-covered album of worldwide stamps, where some countries got half a page. What did you start with and how many do you have now for your worldwide collection?

Art Stamp Collecting

My wife succumbed to the reasoning that it was easier to have an album full of small pieces of paper than walls full of holes and hanging paintings to cover them up. She collected with some enthusiasm for some time, but eventually fell by the wayside when the numbers grew too high and expensive.

You know, back in the dark ages, a wife would go fly fishing or play golf to share a hobby with her husband, to connect on another level. It did make her much more tolerant of the vast and ubiquitous matter of worldwide collecting.

Still another great reason for collecting stamps was to modify the "jock" image. I was a big boy — played football, a weighman on the track team. I had a geek side, too — played chess, had an interest in politics and eventually was a mathematics major. But the stamp collecting seemed to convince the girls I was a "gentle giant." (Most Big Guys are push-overs anyway. Although if they have a military background that could be different.)

Any number of things can be gained from having an outsider look at what you are doing. But pointing out things are "stupid" isn't one you seek out. Keeping all those stamps, and where is one of them. That's why I joined ISWSC. Still waiting for the trading and exchanging to kick in. I've found an outlet in the 4-H locally and just recently I came up with a lesson developing the basic skills of learning using stamps. But I've yet to make contact with any other member. Don't have a membership list. Not sure, after two years, if we trade, exchange, use catalogs or what is a Circuit. Are there still more fees, other than membership, before I get to the trading part?

My wife has also indicated that all those catalogues are redundant. If I limit my collection to before a certain year, I'll need only one or two catalogues. I've often wondered why Scott provides a "brief" history or at least a chronicle of the country

at the beginning of each country listing, except those of South America. If you get stuck on "Postal History" or the beginnings of stampdom for a country these notes are very helpful.

Of course, "the proof is left to the student" is a great dodge of mathematicians, or "it's obvious" another. So what's your story? Why? Or How do you collect? Still waiting for feedback on the number of albums you use to store your worldwide collection.

As I collected the world, I noticed a number of patterns. If you look at the early issues, almost all are that almost square little profile of his or her majesty. The alternative is basic numbers or just text. After the Cape of Good Hope and its triangle, the size and shape of stamps seemed less rigid. Color became an element of attraction, and later different pictures in a series.

If you wanted to discover who started it and why among particularly the "classic" period, of early stamps it would be difficult. Closer to today, the advent of things like the three dimensional stamps — again depending on how it is defined — is easily seen. (The problem arises if you call pressed or relief stamps three dimensional.) The hologram which appears to give a depth to the subject of the stamp, the pressed out or stamped relief kind, and those that have a real depth of material.

An interesting area of collecting but by no means the end of the novelty in ideas for stamps. Recall the phonograph record stamp? The "Gold" stamps? Stamps shaped like their county of origin? And once the technology permitted, almost any shape that could be part of a tiling (mathematical term for congruent piece which fit together to cover a larger plane). I'm sure there are other "strange" stamps in this wide world. I'd like to hear about your example.

Perfins are another kettle of fish... At a time when postage was not a significant amount security was. The patterns of holes are many and varied. There exists a group who has produced a catalog/album of the more than six thousand patterns. The thrill of discovery is hard to come by in philately, except in the field of perfins where knowing who used which pattern — and proving it — is a task of some magnitude. If you consider the perfins of the world, it is even more so. With the hundredth anniversary of perfin use in the United States coming in 2008, this is a field to watch.

Do you write letters any more? Do you have a pen pal? On the web, do you discuss stamps with your fellow e-mailers? Have you ever thought of searching for famous stamp collectors? Will Smith,

Laura Bush, the Nobel Prize winners, local politicians (state, county, town). If you don't want to do it, send me the name, address and other information. I'd like to do an article on them, about their collection.

First Day covers are one of the best examples of an idea gone wild. In the beginning, it was the earliest use — back then when stamps were issued at one place, you had to know somebody. But when the Post Office saw the chance to make money at it, many places were available. But that wasn't good enough. They had to extend, for months, the period of time

for which covers marked First Day could be gotten. Well, that brought true collectors back to First Day of Use collecting. About the only thing that has changed is the amount of information that is available about an issue.

Of course, we can argue the meaning of First Day of Issue as opposed to what actually happens. You can order them as much as 90 days in advance and they are available up to six months after the date. The "history" which was to be highlighted by issuing the stamp was soon being given away by cachet

manufactures at a good price. I'm sure there are exceptions, but the majority of FDCs are valueless in the philatelic community. Just try to sell most of them for what you paid for them. Foreign postal authorities have quickly followed the American lead and the histories — "pages" which come with these First Day Covers — can be most instructive. They help in understanding the culture, traditions and society they are issued by.

Since the change-over on July 1, 1971 (sometimes referred to as the 7-1-71 affair), the Post Office has been moving away from the interest of collectors and becoming much more political. Mail is no longer an interest of the Post Office, packages and other things maybe. Incidentally, that date (7-1-71) was the last "record" first day cover use. More covers were serviced on that day and the surrounding months than any other or even possible stamp issued since.

Soon you'll have to explain why you use stamps on your letters. And yet they don't have to explain why we are issuing stamps for people who are not Americans, are opposed to the principles upon which this country operates, or have no possible connection to the United States in any way, shape, or form. The Post Office is rejecting our own history in favor of...

Well, I guess only the Postal Service knows. Who has influence on the stamps issued? Don't go the Citizens Advisory Group; there are collectors on that board and they are unable to turn the ship of fools.

*You do realize that
there are post offices
from which you can't
get a local postmark.
Send a letter to your
neighbor — it will go
several towns or
miles away to come
back next door.*

Membership Update

New Members

#2463 Holger Kaufhold (Exp 5/31/200)

Frans Beirenslaan. 193

B-2150 Borsbeek

BELGIUM

E-mail: holger_kaufhold@hotmail.com

B(2000-2005), C, Adv(35), Top(WWF, flora/ fauna, transport), 1-2, 8, 10(mint China, former USSR Republics, mint 2005 issues per topics, L(Dut, Ger, Fr)

#2464 Eric Hopper (Exp 5/31/2007)

30 Oxford Ct

Fredericton, NB E3B 2W8

Canada

E-mail: eric.hopper@gnb.ca

A, D, Int(35), Top(ice hockey, automobiles, music), 3(Bel railway cancels), 7(Scand, Ire, Can, Bel, Swi, Baltics), 10(figure skating, rabbits), L(Fr) non-exchanging

#2465 John D. Onstott (Exp 5/31/2006)

102 Curtis Ter NE

Port Charlotte, FL 33952-8201

Reinstated (formerly dropped)

#254 Dykstra

#278 Thomson

#675 Zelezny

#1681 Wright

#1688 Klein

#2130 Adams

Temporarily Away, Contact HQ

None

Address Changes/Corrections

#503 Keipura

333 Monterey St

Soledad, CA 93960-3026

#645 Holm

78 Jordan Ln

Mobile, AL 36608-2625

#666 D Briner

PO Box 128

Lahonda, CA 94020-0128

#877 Houser

106 Baseline Rd W Apt 1104

London, ON N6J 3V3

Canada

#1111 Smith

PO Box 2085

Minneapolis, MN 55402-0085

#1288 Shibrowski

4 Ridge Rd

Streator, IL 61364 -1428

#1317 Kolcz

729 Hickory Ln

Carol Stream, IL 60188-9145

#1658 Udeh

2945 McClure St Apt 303

Oakland, CA 94609-3565

#1877 Baker

298 Westberry Cir

Tallmadge, OH 44278-3617

#2300 Giammarino

zip code change to: 11577-1112

Returned Mail - Unknown Address

#701 Clanner-Engels

No such street

#2129 Schwartz

Forwarding order expired

New/Changed Email Addresses

#23 Bland

LenB28@earthlink.net

#288 Long

along33@cox.net

#389 Rem

ibrem@cox.net

#502 Bick

iibick@sbcglobal.net

#879 Fisher

rockstardals@earthlink.net

#1101 Dvinoff

advinoff@msn.com

#1844 Cochrane

lmc_stamps@dls.net

#1877 Baker

kentprof@aol.com

#2101 Schumer

jschumer@comcast.net

#2300 Giammarino

jerrymarie@prodigy.net

#2316 Ahmed

tabawa@yahoo.com

#2398 Nides

anidea@aol.com

#2431 Ahmed

tabawa@yahoo.com

#2442 Whadford

vicwhadford@hotmail.com

Bad email addresses/Returned emails

(email right one to Tom Fortunato:

stampmf@frontiernet.net)

None

Resigned

#767 Ciangetti

Deceased

We Need Your ZIP+4 Number:

None

Dropped - Dues Expired March 31

#114 Hanley

#131 Newkirk

#247 Contursi

#300 Thompson

#502 Bick

#525 Knoll

#690 Farrugia

#955 Falle

Continued on next page

A Mystery Solved

by Richard T. Barnes (#2425)

This article first appeared in the Edmonton Stamp Club Bulletin (Volume 90, Number 12).

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The only foreign stamp ever required to mail a letter in Canada was the Bahamas Special Delivery stamp (Scott #E1). This is an overprint on the beautiful 5d Queen's Staircase.

In February 1916, the Canadian post office arranged an exchange of special delivery stamps with the Bahamas. Six hundred of these Bahamas special delivery stamps were distributed on May 1, 1916, among four Canadian post offices — Ottawa, Toronto, Westmount and Winnipeg. A second consignment of Bahamas special delivery stamps was sent to Canada in early 1917.

A special delivery letter from Canada to the Bahamas was to bear the necessary Canadian postage, war tax and a Bahamas special delivery stamp. However, even before the second lot

of stamps was shipped, Canadian bureaucracy intervened and the arrangement was terminated. It appears that only some 430 of the original stamp shipment were used on postage. The remainders disappeared into limbo.

The mystery to me was how to identify the Bahamas special delivery stamp #E1 that was legal for use in Canada. Clearly, cancelled used stamps are

few and far between and covers are very expensive. There are three special delivery overprints on the Queen's staircase stamps. The first overprint was put over stamp on paper with the watermark Crown C.C. (Scott Wmk 1). These are the stamps that composed the first batch of stamps sent to Canada. Scott lists them as E1 Type I.

The second lot of stamps sent to Canada had the overprint on stamps using paper watermarked with the Mult. CA (Scott Wmk. 2). The overprint differed slightly in that the word "SPECIAL" was reset so it is a bit more to the right of the word "DELIVERY" beneath it (Scott E1, type II). The stamps bearing the other two overprints were used only in the Bahamas.

I was able to find this information after Mr. Alfred Peatman shared his extensive British Caribbean reference material with me.



Bahamas "Queen's Staircase" stamp pair. Overprinted "Special Delivery" (left) and unoverprinted (right).

watermarked with the Mult. CA (Scott Wmk. 2). The overprint differed slightly in that the word "SPECIAL" was reset so it is a bit more to the right

THE QUEEN'S STAIRCASE

2. THE OVERPRINTED STAMPS

(a) SPECIAL DELIVERY

**SPECIAL
DELIVERY**
MAY 1916. MARCH 1917.

**SPECIAL
DELIVERY**
JULY 1917.

**SPECIAL
DELIVERY**
1918.



Membership Update

Continued from page 10

#1317 Kolcz
#1450 Winkelmann
#1783 Hartig
#1888 Hammarlund
#2129 Schwartz
#2339 Jackson
#2380 Balander
#2382 Urish
#2418 Savard

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
28 Amberwood Place
Rochester, NY 14626-4166 — USA
Email: stamptmf@frontiernet.net



ADVERTISING

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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).

BREAKING UP 59-YEAR ACCUMULATION. Let me send you a stuffed envelope of old, new, mint and used, etc. Pick what you want at 1/3 SCV and return the balance. Gelfman (ISWSC #1849), Box 315, Old Bethpage, NY 11804 USA. [3-4/06]

DISCOUNT COLLECTIONS — Totally unpicked on clean fresh pages. Collector disposing of holdings. Long time APS member. Free lists. Darrell L. George (ISWSC #635), 19410 Cantrell Rd, Little Rock AR 72223 USA. [1-2/06]

WANTED: OLD HUNGARIAN CHEAPIES. Paying 1¢ each for used pre-WWII common needed for cancel collection. Ship all you have to: Jack Urish (ISWSC #2382), 1105 Levee St, Dallas TX 75207 USA. [7-8/05]

SEARCHING FOR TRADING PARTNERS. Can trade 1-for-1 or by catalogue value. I also collect revenues, perfins, precancels, sock-on-the-nose, covers, FDC's, souvenir sheets, etc. Long-term trading partners desired. Andy (Frank) Mosko (ISWSC #2218), 6761 E. Miami, Tuscon AZ 85715 USA (nuba5@comcast.net). [7-8/05]

JOHN KNUDSEN'S STAMP AUCTIONS: <http://www.stamphead.com/adsearch.php?seller=johnsim03>. (ISWSC #2448 & APS #145467) [3-4/06]

OFFER NO. 1 — APPROVALS: Good quality world used stamps for sale in packet approvals (not the common stamps). The price per stamp is US 10¢ each postpaid. Try one approval 200 stamp mixture. **OFFER NO. 2 — MALTA STAMPS:** 100 different used recent stamps. Includes high values and sets.. The price is US \$10 cash, postpaid. Please contact Joseph Farrugia (ISWSC #690), "Biancaville" Phillip Farrugia Street, Zurrieq ZRQ-05 MALTA. [3-4/06]

\$5/100 WORLDWIDE STAMPS from old collections. Nothing very expensive, just good stamps to fill holes in your collection. Send \$5-\$20. Roger Boneham (ISWSC #436), 7320 Turkey Run, Fort Wayne, IN 46815. [7-8/05]

LIQUIDATING MINT N.H. F-VF STAMPS of Germany/Berlin. Send SASE for listings. Other countries available: Austria, Greece, Japan, and Korea. Bob Colsten (ISWSC #2387), P.O. Box 1275, Chicago, IL 60690. [7-8/05]

1 KG. WORLD ON- AND OFF-PAPER mixture. Recent stamps even Malta H.V.'s and sets included. Mostly commemoratives and topicals. Price US\$50 postpaid to: Joseph Farrugia (ISWSC #690), "Biancaville" Phillip Farrugia Street, Zurrieq ZRQ-05 MALTA. [11-12/05]

AMERIPEX '86 #2216-2219 COMPLETE SET, 4 sheets. MNH-Extremely Fine. In original stamp show envelope. Mailed flat. \$14 Postpaid to U.S. addresses. Cochran (ISWSC #1844), 1632 Warrington, Crystal Lake, IL 60014-2020.

TRADE — CANADA & SOME WORLD for Middle East, North Africa, French West Africa including Trucial States, cinderellas, revenue. Richard Barnes (ISWSC #2425), 11715-123rd St., Edmonton, AB T5M 0G8 CANADA.

Where to Send What

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

Anthony Zollo, MD (#856)
P.O. Box 150407, Lufkin TX 75915-0407
iswsc@hotmail.com

Annual 250 Stamp Donations:

Mike Crump (#2126)
4708 Palm Aire Cir., Sarasota FL 34243-4938
desoto1947@yahoo.com

Payments for Advertisements:

Jennifer Arnold
2390 Willow Street, Lebanon OR 97355-3064
Ph: 541-990-9686; Fax: 541-259-4658
pizzazz@cmug.com

Roster Changes:

Tom Fortunato (#379)
28 Amberwood Pl., Rochester NY 14626-4166
stamptmf@frontiernet.net

Auction Bids & Lots and Payments:

Everett King (#1389)
P.O. Box 130, 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.