

ACROSS THE FENCE



Vol. XXXI No. 1

January 2009

<http://www.WFSCstamps.org/>

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

American Philatelic Society Chapter #350, American Topical Association Chapter #107

President's corner

Resolutions

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

Several New Years ago, I stopped making resolutions. I figured I wasn't keeping them anyway, so why bother? But early this winter, while simultaneously a) getting ready for the holidays, b) preparing for a visit from my daughter and her kids, c) finishing up a couple of home-improvement projects and d) trying to have a life, it occurred to me that this stamp-collecting thing had gotten out of hand.

So, I'd like to share with you some of the resolutions I made. And then there are some that I considered and discarded and others that I figured didn't apply to me. You're welcome to share any of them that strike your fancy.

First, here are the ones that count:

1. Neaten the stamp room. Like many others' spaces, the place where I keep my collection could fairly be described as a hodgepodge. We needn't belabor that. Suffice it to say that I will mount those stamps and covers that are still adrift so they are properly displayed and protected.

I'll get rid of the unwanted stuff or extraneous stuff, cull the collections of magazines and

bulletins and sell, trade or donate it so that other collectors can have as much fun as I did in accumulating it.

This includes the hoard donated to the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, which I wrote about a year ago this month in this column. Ideas on how to use the boxes and bags of picked-over stamps have been scarce, so maybe it's time to do what the former collector originally intended – get rid of 'em. It'll free up all kinds of storage space in the house and garage.

2. Make realistic want lists. Basically, I have three collections, United States and Barbados country collections, and a St. Francis of Assisi topical collection. It's relatively easy to find the gaps in the U.S. and Barbados pages, but St. Francis is another thing entirely. I'd like to find a U.S. St. Francis cover postmarked with St. Francis and an Italian cover from Assisi, if they exist, for example.

I've got to make my want lists more compact and easier to carry.

3. Share. Bring a show-and-tell item to every stamp club meeting. I appreciate it when other club members bring things to pass around. Usually, these are pretty rare or esoteric, and in many cases I can't match them, but I can bring something.

Ray Perry of the Green Bay Philatelic Society feels the same way. In a recent club newsletter, he noted, "I thoroughly enjoy seeing other people's stamps. I like talking about how they collect, what they collect, how they got

started, some of their interesting experiences and finds along the way. It doesn't have to be a Cape triangle or a Jenny invert to be interesting.

"Please bring stamps to the meeting. Don't wait for Show and Tell night; bring them anytime." I resolve to do that.

4. Invest in the future of philately. Find at least one new member for the club and encourage kids to try the hobby.

These are two long-range resolutions, the kind that give me trouble, but they're absolutely essential to preserve this hobby we love. Every community has closet collectors, and when I find one I'll invite him to attend a stamp club meeting. (Incidentally, people who study these sorts of things tell us that having a circle of friends, such as at a stamp club, helps to keep us young.)

With youth, the hobby won't take with everyone, just as most of us didn't stick with it a generation or more ago. And let's get real: There

President's Corner continued on Page 3

Inside this issue:

1...President's Corner

1...We still need you!

1...Stampfest 2009 coming!

2...Clubs are Trump

3...Record prices for stamps

3...Who's Who in the Hall of Fame

4...Michael Jackson obituary

We - still - need you !

The Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs is seeking volunteers to fill the following positions.

Secretary: The Federation's secretarial duties may be divided among two or more people. We still need someone to fill this vital position. Duties are typical of a secretarial position: Prepare executive board meeting agendas, record and submit minutes, submit reports, respond to inquiries and maintain files.

Stamp Suggestion Chairman: Recommend to the USPS stamp subjects with Wisconsin connections and help to promote ceremonies in conjunction with stamps issued in Wisconsin or having Wisconsin connections.

Blue Book Coordinator: Ensure that the information and guidelines in the Federation's *Blue Book* procedures for stamp show organizers are accurate and up to date.

Chairman, Judging Committee. The chairman coordinates WFSC judges for shows with competitive philatelic exhibits.

Stampfest 2009 coming!

The Milwaukee Philatelic Society will present Stampfest 2009 March 7-8, 2009, at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 S. 92nd St., West Allis, Wisc.

The annual show will feature about 20 dealers, and there will be a fantastic youth table, as well as a Wisconsin Postal History table and a USPS booth with current stamps for sale.

The show also features free admission and parking, and should be convenient for all to have a pleasant outing for a day – or two!

For more information, contact Carol Schutta, publicity chair, 10250 W. Sharon Lane #5, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

Clubs are Trump

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

Nine members of the **Badger Stamp Club**, Madison, signed up for the club's Members Bourse, held after a regular meeting.

President pro-tem Chuck Shoemaker provided a rough list of some of the variety offered from members' collections: United States singles (used and unused), plate blocks and sheets, covers, postal cards, discount postage, Germany and DDR stamps, worldwide stamps (sets and singles) and covers, topicals, page lots and collections.

Some Badger members are dealers, but several of those taking part in the enterprise are not.

Each of the participants received a table free and could display and sell their wares to other members.

* * *

Program ideas

Way Out Topical Night at the **Green Bay Philatelic Society** had simple rules: 1. Bring a display of 6-12 stamps mounted on a single page. 2. Choose an appropriate title. 3. The stamps should depict a common topic consistent with the title. Place your identification on the back. After club members inspected the entries they voted for their favorites, and the top three vote-getters got cash prizes.

At Show-and-Tell night at the Green Bay club, about half the attendees brought something to pass around, and a lively discussion ensued.

"Airmail Carried by (Charles) Lindbergh" was a program put on by an airmail collector for

ATA Chapter 5, Waukesha. Members were asked to supplement the talk with their own airmail items for discussion afterwards.

At another meeting, **ATA Chapter 5** members were asked to bring items from their collections beginning with the letter S for discussion.

The **Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club**, West Bend, jumped on the "alphabet" bandwagon. Members were asked to bring something to a meeting starting with the letter C, and the individual with the most items won a prize.

Simple program topics from the **Waukesha County Philatelic Society**: "Foreign Post Cards," with examples from members' collections; and "Philatelic Web Sites I have Visited," with members sharing favorite Internet sites.

Another easy idea from the **Milwaukee Philatelic Society**: "anything you have in philatelic material on Halloween and Thanksgiving." Adapt that for any upcoming holiday or significant date on the calendar.

A record 128 lots were offered at the annual auction of the **Kenosha Stamp & Cover Club**. The event includes cheese tasting to further tempt members.

* * *

What others are doing

The **Wauwatosa Philatelic Society** has completely revised the club bylaws. That's not a bad idea after years of piecemeal amendments, for example, or when members aren't sure the current version is still apropos.

Missing volumes of the 2008 Scott stamp catalog belonging to **Badger Stamp Club**, Madison, finally turned up after a search lasting

several weeks. President pro-tem Chuck Shoemaker called off the posse.

The **Central Wisconsin Stamp Club**, Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids, changed its rules to allow officers to stay in their positions for more than two consecutive terms.

The **Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club**, West Bend, had a suggestion for a new series of U.S. stamps: post office buildings. "They are all unique and significant buildings," the club newsletter editor noted.

Milwaukee Philatelic Society has increased its payment for volunteers at the welcome tables and youth tables from five "stamp bucks" per hour to 10. Members can use accumulated bucks in an annual auction.

Information for "Clubs Are Trump" is gathered from club newsletters. Please send newsletters to Maurice D. Wozniak, 1010 Berlin St., Waupaca WI 54981.

Across the Fence Post Ad Rates (revised 1/06)

Type Size	Commercial Rate	Club Rate
A Full page (7 1/4"x(9 1/2")	\$42.00	\$33.75
B Half page (7 1/4" x 4 3/4")	\$26.25	\$21.00
C Large 1/4 page (4 3/4"x 6")	\$20.50	\$16.50
D Medium 1/4 page (4 3/4" x 3 3/4")	\$14.75	\$11.75
E 1/8 page (2 1/4" x 3 3/4")	\$7.50	\$6.00
F Econo Ad (2 1/4" x 2 3/4")	\$3.75	\$3.00
G Reduced Business Card (2 1/4" x 1 1/4")	\$2.75	\$2.25
H Back page (7 1/4" x 9 1/2")	\$57.75	N/A

Please make checks payable to :W.F.S.C.

Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs officers

PRESIDENT

Maurice D. Wozniak
1010 Berlin St.
Waupaca, WI 54981
715-258-2025
mwoz@live.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Stollenwerk
1020 Hazelwood Court
West Bend WI, 53095
Home: 262-306-0829
Cell: 262-305-1483
JSASTOLLEN@charter.net

SECRETARY

Vacant

TREASURER

Charles H. Green
5199 Bittersweet Lane
Oshkosh WI 54901-9753
(920) 426-1066
bgreen9001@yahoo

VP YOUTH DIVISION

MaryAnn Bowman
P.O. Box 1451
Waukesha, WI 53187

NE REGION VP

Al Marcus (maram@tds.net)
Green Bay Phil. Soc.
Northwoods Phil. Soc. (Iron Mountain)
Outagamie Phil. Soc.
Wisc. Postal Hist. Soc.

EAST CENT. REGION VP

Vern Witt
Fond du Lac Stamp Club
Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club
Manitowoc Phil. Soc.
Oshkosh Phil. Soc.
Sheboygan Stamp Club

SW REGION VP

Valerie Cook
Badger Stamp Club
Baraboo Stamp Club
Janesville Stamp Club
Monroe Stamp & Postcard Club
Rockford Stamp Club

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION VP

Art Gaffney
stehlee@aol.com
Waukesha County Phil. Soc.

SE REGION VP

Art Schmitz
pescador@milwpc.com
Am. Top. Assn. (Chap. 5)
Belle City Stamp Club
Kenosha Stamp & Cover Club
North Shore Phil. Soc. (Milw.)
Northwestern Mutual Stamp Club
Polish American Stamp Club
Wauwatosa Phil. Soc.

Art Petri

American Air Mail Soc. (Billy Mitchell Chapter)
Germany Phil. Soc.
(Chap. 18)
Italian American Stamp Club
Milwaukee Phil Soc.

CENTRAL REGION VP

Mike Lenard
mjlenard@aol.com
Central Wisc. Stamp Club
Chippewa Valley Stamp Club
Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club (Rhineland)
Wisconsin Valley Phil. Soc.

Swiss Rayon, U.S. “B” grill, bring record prices in '08

Wayne L. Youngblood

Despite a global financial crisis, rare stamps seem to be holding their own, as evidenced by at least two recent auctions; the late October Robert A. Siegel sale and the late November Rapp auction in Switzerland. The Rapp auction, one of the largest in the world, netted more than 17.9 million francs (about 17 million U.S. dollars). Part of the success, according to Rapp, is new clientele from the Internet. Collectors, dealers and investors from more than 30 countries were able to participate in the auction.

However, this should come as no surprise, since collectibles such as stamps and coins have historically done well during poor economic times. Relatively common material may sell for much, but rarities seem to take on a life of their own as desperate investors look for new – relatively liquid – places to invest their assets.

Among the most successful items in the Rapp sale specifically were collections from all over the world, many of which netted surprisingly high bids.

The particular highlight of the auction, however, was the “Rayon I” (Scott 9) with complete cross-border and full frame lines, which sold for 348,000 Swiss francs (\$330,000), making it the most expensive Swiss postage stamp in history. The catalog value for the stamp is \$140,000. A “Basel dove” horizontal pair also reached 153,000 francs (\$145,000).

In the United States, a stamp issued in 1868, a 3c 1861 series stamp with the so-called “B” grill (about 18mm by 15 mm, Scott 82) sold for \$1,035,000 (against a catalog value of \$240,000) in an auction at Siegel Auction Galleries in New York City. The amount includes the 15% buyer’s premium. The stamp was purchased by stamp dealer Harry Hagendorf, presumably for a client.

“Collectors who want rare stamps don’t seem fazed by the chaos in the financial markets,” according to Siegel Auction Galleries President Scott R. Trepel. “We had four bidders on the B Grill over \$600,000.”

Only four copies of the “B” grill are current-

President’s Corner continued from Page 1

are more attractive distractions today than there were when most of us started collecting. But if we can give kids an introduction to what we find so interesting, maybe they’ll pick it up again later.

That’s it. I had to draw the line somewhere.

But here are my duplicate and leftover resolutions, in case you can make use of them:

Join. From the American Philatelic Society to a national study group to your local club and its committees, you’ll enjoy the camaraderie.

Subscribe. Stamp publications need all the support they can get.

Volunteer. This has become a big issue with me as I see the WFSC falling short of what it



ly known. All four originated on the same cover found in 1969 (shown above right), which was mailed from Mason, Texas, to Germany. The stamps were eventually removed from the cover and dispersed to different collections.

The stamp that sold in October, not necessarily the nicest of the four (shown above), has a light, indistinct black cancel and a portion of a red, boxed cancel. It was part of a collection formed by Perry B. Hansen, a midwestern

banker. It was previously part of the Ishikawa collection and was sold in 1993 for \$85,000.

could be doing because we don’t have volunteers to devote a couple of hours per month to promote the hobby. [Editor’s note: Please study carefully the opportunities found on Page 1.] If your club is like the one I belong to, its officers have been in position for years. This is unfair, and in the long run it is stultifying. Step up and help – if not to actually hold a named position, then to lend a hand and learn the ropes. You’ll find it satisfying.

Pick a specialty. Really dig in to some aspect of stamp collecting that appeals to you. Yes, you can become an expert.

Try another field. Explore a new country or a topical collection or postal history to enhance an existing collection.

WHO’S WHO IN THE HALL OF FAME

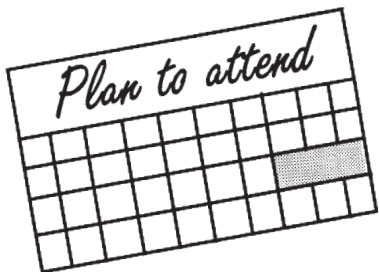
The Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame was established to recognize prominent Wisconsin philatelists for contributions to the hobby in the state of Wisconsin and beyond.

This series of short columns will familiarize *Across the Fence Post* readers with some of the individuals who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since 1976, as well as some of the interesting details about them.

Which individual most closely matches the following statements? The correct answer appears elsewhere in this issue of *ATFP*:

This month’s HOF member has been secretary for the Collectors of Religion on Stamps since 1983. This member also collects churches on German stamps. Outside of philately, this individual manages an apartment building complex in retirement.

- (a) Frank Moertl
- (b) Tom Sanford
- (c) Verna Shackleton
- (d) Paul T. Schroeder



Show Calendar and Registry

List your show, bourse, auction or other event here!
 Calendar listings are free for one WFSC member-club event per year. Classified advertising rates apply for all non-members and other events appearing in this section.

2008-09 WFSC show schedule*

*Some dates and details may be subject to change, and there will likely be additional listings.

Feb. 8, 2009

**Janesville Annual Exhibition and Bourse
 Janesville Stamp Club**
 Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Pl.
 Janesville WI
Contact: Gary Wentworth
 (608) 756-1380, wnstamps@aol.com

Feb. 21, 2009

**Stevens Point, Cenwispex '09
 Central Wisconsin Stamp Club**
 Episcopal Church Hall, 320 Oak Street,
 Wisconsin Rapids, WI
Contact: J.D. Manville, P.O. Box 845,
 Stevens Point, WI 54481
 (715) 341-5555, jadeco@charter.net

Mar. 14-15, 2009

**WISCOPEX/ROCKFORD '09
 (Annual Convention and Philatelic
 Exhibition of the Wisconsin Federation of
 Stamp Clubs)**
 Hosted by Rockford Stamp Club, Forest
 Hills Lodge, 9500 Forest Hills Rd.
 Rockford IL
Contact: Tim Wait, 1718 Northrock Ct.,
 Rockford, IL 61103 (815) 670-5869,
 t.wait@comcast.net

Answer to Who's Who quiz on Page 3:
 Verna Shackleton

Attention WFSC members:

As a special offer to collectors who read *ATFP* (and as a way to help the organization), I will send the WFSC 15% of all sales generated by this ad.

Please specify at the time of your purchase that this is the "WFSC Special."

**Dave's Stamps
 (Dave Carney)
 P.O. Box 55
 Kimberly WI 54136
 dcarney1@new.rr.com
 (920) 687-9077**

APS Lifetime member

Mar. 21, 2009

**Green Bay, Baypex '09
 Green Bay Philatelic Society**
 Best Western Midway Hotel, 780 Armed
 Forces Dr. (formerly known as Packer
 Dr.), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Ray D. Perry (920) 469-8925,
 fiveperrys@athenet.net

Mar. 7-8, 2009

**West Allis, STAMPFEST '09
 Milwaukee Philatelic Society**
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 So.
 92nd St., West Allis WI
Contact: Carol Schutta, 10250 W.
 Sharon Ln., #5, Milwaukee, WI 53225
 (414) 464-6994 harrycarol@hotmail.com
 www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

Apr. 19, 2009

**Madison, Danepex '09
 Badger Stamp Club**
 Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington
 Ave. (across from East Towne Mall),
 Wadison WI, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Contact: Bob Voss, 5533 Kevins Way,
 Madison, WI 53714 (608) 221-2311,
 lestamps@charter.net

Apr. 25, 2009

**Appleton, Outapex '09
 Outagamie Philatelic Society**
 Four Aces (formerly Columbus Club),
 2531 N. Richmond St., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Contact: Al Marcus, (920) 725-0798
 allan.marym@hotmail.com

May 9, 2009

**Sheboygan Falls
 Sheboygan Stamp and Coin Show,
 Sheboygan Stamp Club**
 Municipal Building, 375 Buffalo St.
Contact: Barbara Stohl, P.O. Box 907,
 Sheboygan, WI 53082, (920) 458-4883

June 13, 2009

**Rhineland, Annual Show and Bourse
 Northwoods Stamp and Coin Club**
 James Williams Middle School, 915
 Acacia Ln., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Larry Marten, 3295 Hancock
 Lake Rd., Harshaw, WI 54529
 (715) 282-5636, lfmarten@yahoo.com /
 Bill Julian (715) 277-2692

June 27-28, 2009

**West Allis, Tri-Pex Stamp Fair
 ATA Chapter 5 & North Shore Phil. Soc.**
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 So.
 92nd St.
Contact: Robert Henak, NSPS, P.O. Box
 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217
 (414) 351-1519
 henak8010@sbcglobal.net,
 www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

**Other major
 non-WFSC shows
 near Wisconsin
 (below):**

**May 22-24, 2009
 Arlington Heights, IL**

**Complex '09
 Chicago Area Philatelic Societies,
 Forest View Educational Center, 2121
 So. Goebbert Rd., Arlington IL**

**July 17-19, 2009
 Crystal, MN**

**Minnesota Stamp Expo
 Maplewood Stamp Club, Twin City Phil.
 Soc., Lake Minnetonka Stamp Club,
 Minn. Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Crystal Community Center, 4800 N.
 Douglas Dr. North, Crystal MN**

For maximum
 attendance,
 make sure
 your show's listing
 gets included in
Across the Fence Post!

Remember..
**Please use stamps
 on mail
 whenever possible!**

Obituary:

Michael "Mike" Jackson

Michael "Mike" Jackson, longtime stamp and supply dealer (Verus Stamp Co.) in the Chicago area, died Sept. 27, 2008, following a long battle with cancer. He was 58.

Jackson also was known for the Glenexpo shows he sponsored (with his local Glen Ellyn Stamp Club), which featured exclusively youth exhibits.

For his efforts involving both youth philately and the local philatelic community, Jackson was the 1999 recipient of the Saul Newbury Award from the Chicago Philatelic Society.

Not long before Jackson's death, the Glen Ellyn Stamp Club announced that it was establishing the Mike Jackson Youth Exhibit Award, a \$100 award to be given out annually to the most creative youth exhibit at Chicagopex. The first award was given in November.


— Randall Sherman

Lake Edge Stamp Service (L.E.S.S.) 

Robert T. Voss
 5333 Kevins Way
 Madison, WI 53714

lestamps@charter.net
 (608) 221-2311

03.09  Lots of Worldwide Stamps
 Bought and Sold 

 03.09

Roger H. Oswald
 R.H.O. Postal History and Stamps

Buy, Sell, & Trade
 Civil War Artifacts
 Postcards & Stamps
 Paper Americana

2514 Sheridan Pl.
 Manitowoc, WI 54220
 (920) 682-6793
 rhpostalhistory@att.net