PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

by Karen Weigt
WFSC President and Interim ATF P Editor

Patience with the pandemic

I know. This is absolutely the pits. One can’t make any plans. All is on hold. And it goes on and on. With the vaccine now in hand, though, perhaps we can look to getting back to normal sometime in late spring or early summer 2021.

I don’t know about you, but I’m anxious to meet again with my fellow philatelists. I miss the camaraderie at our local club meetings and shows.

I’m doubly anxious to get plans going for WISCOPEX 2021 and our Annual Business Meeting. Perhaps we can pull something together for fall 2021. This means we’ll be doing officer elections again by mail.

And, speaking of elections, I have announced that I will not run for another two-year term. I’ve held this position since 2013 and it is definitely time for me to move on. The WFSC needs new leadership with fresh ideas.

I, furthermore, want a bit more time in my life right now to do some other things. I have two captain’s chairs waiting in the basement for refinishing (something I enjoy doing). I also have many other household projects that require my attention. I have committed to serving as editor of Badger Postal History. Journal of the Wisconsin Postal History Society. I want to learn more about postal history, and what better way to do it!

Yes, it’s time for someone else to take over, and that take-over date is July 1 of this year. Please consider volunteering to be a candidate for a WFSC office. Brian Liedtke is chairman of our nominating committee. He needs to hear from you NOW! (See contact information in the box to the left.)

On a positive note, what we’ve gained from this pandemic situation is a more efficient means of attaining knowledge about our hobby. If we can learn how to navigate the web, we now have access to an abundance of information in all aspects of philately.

With the ease of a few clicks on the computer screen, we can find how-to videos, chat sessions with the experts, archived presentations, and exhibits. Via Zoom, we can meet with fellow collectors and participate in officer conferences. I bought a $40 webcam that simply plugs into my desktop computer. I just click on a link and I’m in the Zoom meeting room. As little as a year ago, we’d never have believed it were possible.

Although virtual conveniences are here to stay, there’s nothing that can beat the physical interaction we experience at a club meeting or stamp show. I’m so looking forward to saying goodbye to COVID-19.
WFSC SHOW SCHEDULE
No known 2021 shows within and surrounding Wisconsin at this time. Keep checking at www.wfscstamps.org for the 2021 show list as it develops.
Send your show listing information to Karen Weigt, 4184 Rose Ct., Middleton, WI 53562 — 608-609-6173 or klweigt@gmail.com.

MEMBERS ONLY CLASSIFIED AD
Union of South Africa (1910-1960). Looking for like-minded collectors. Contact Moody at rudolph912@gmail.com. Green Bay Philatelic Society

CLASSIFIED AD OFFER
All WFSC members are entitled to two free 25-word classified ads per year. Include your club membership (not counted as words). Send to Brian Liedtke, Advertising Manager, ATFP, 4625 So. Scot Dr., New Berlin, WI 53131, 414-731-9794, or admanager@wfscstamps.org.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE KEY
(see puzzle on p. 10)

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by Karen Weigt, WFSC President

FEDERATION NEWS

Fall Executive Board Meeting Notes - October 17, 2020, via Zoom.

Treasurer’s report — Al Vick’s January 1 thru September 30, 2020, report showed a balance of $9,620.86. Of that total, $966.55 is earmarked for other projects. Al will compose a letter informing clubs of the dues waiver for 2021. It will include a request for membership numbers and donations in lieu of dues. A motion was passed to extend the 2021 dues waiver to members at large. Al has about $100 worth of donated items to sell at the next WISCOPEX silent auction.

WISCOPEX 2021 possibilities — Due to uncertainty of the status of COVID-19, it was decided to postpone any plans for WISCOPEX to fall 2021. Venues to consider are the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport Hotel (Milwaukee) and a New Berlin elementary school.

ATFP — It was agreed to produce a January-February issue, edited by Karen Weigt, and with the reduced number of hard copies continued. Plans for future issue dates and content were deferred to the Editorial Committee. Ray Perry will set up a November 9 Zoom meeting.

It was announced that Darlene Waterstreet has completed an index for The Bulletin, the WFSC newsletter from 1932 through 1978. The file will be held until the hard copies, which have been shipped to the American Philatelic Research Library, are digitized and posted on the WFSC website.

Publicity and Public Relations — It was agreed to use the American Philatelic Society Zoom account on a trial basis before attaining a WFSC account that would involve monthly fees.

It was proposed to keep in contact with members by requesting one-page exhibits to be posted on the WFSC website. For the holiday season, though, we’ll request scans of favorite Christmas/holiday items.

Website Committee — Webmaster Greg Riesterer reported he has set up a free non-profits account with Google Drive. He explained how some of the services offered might be helpful to the WFSC.

CHICAGO 2021 — Karen Weigt requested a WFSC booth at the show, which may be canceled.

Women’s professional baseball league commemorative stamp — Due to health issues, Paul Schroeder had to refer the stamp proposal to Ray Perry for promotion to the U.S. Postal Service Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee.

Region VP Reports — Reports were provided by Anna Trischan and Ray Perry.

Next meeting date and format — It was agreed to hold the next Executive Board meeting on January 16, 2021, via Zoom.

HERE’S A BIG THANK-YOU!

For monetary donations to the WFSC in lieu of 2021 dues —

- Central Wisconsin Stamp Club ($50)
- Green Bay Philatelic Society ($45)
- Lakeland Stamp and Coin Club ($20)
- Northwoods Philatelic Society ($40)
- Wisconsin Valley Philatelic Society ($25)

$ $ HONORARIUM $ $ FOR CLUB EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM IDEAS

Up to $10 for activity sheets such as scavenger hunts, word games, etc.

Up to $25 for programs/lessons that detail skills or concepts being taught/presented. List materials needed, outline of procedure or important ideas within the concept.

Up to $50 for video or PowerPoint programs with script. Should be about 15 to 30 minutes in length.

Application on WFSC website.

CLOSED ALBUM

Thomas Boykoff

Thom Boykoff died December 28, 2020, at age 77. He lived in Madison, Wis., and was a longtime member of the Badger Stamp Club. He died of COVID-19 with underlying health issues of Alzheimer’s disease and cancer.

In addition to collecting stamps, Thom had an amazing collection of official photos, cards, stationery and other items of ephemera from dignitaries around the world. He had letters from every U.S. president since Ronald Reagan, holiday cards from Fidel Castro, etc. Thom had a very clever method of attaining these items and shared interesting stories with his fellow Badger Stamp Club members.

Thom was an attorney and spent a career in numerous posts in Wisconsin state government.

12-page, full-color booklet, $3 each Order from Aimee Devine,
2111 E. Luther Rd.,
Janesville, WI 53545
spanishmoss72@sbcglobal.net
Across the Fence Post

by MaryAnn Bowman, WFSC VP Youth Division
Chrmn. Publicity and Public Relations Committee

CLUB CONNECTIONS

Just like Rudolph, 2020 will go down in history. It was the year of social distancing and quarantines. We couldn’t gather as a club or attend stamp shows. But we did continue to celebrate the hobby and grow in the knowledge of things philatelic. The hobby brought the joy that stamp collecting brings: lifting our spirits as we followed stay-at-home orders.

Some clubs found ways to social distance while meeting in person with picnics and outdoor auctions. Other clubs maintained connections through newsletters while a few tried their hand at Zoom-type meetings and programs.

Several clubs as well as the Federation offered their members free dues. Clubs took stock by updating registration forms and taking membership surveys. Some clubs held elections while others maintained their officers for another year.

As of this writing, there is a glimmer of hope as vaccinations against the coronavirus begin to be distributed and administered. However, it will still be months before our lives will begin to return to some normalcy.

During these times, I hope that you have taken advantage of the many online offerings such as the American Philatelic Society Stamp Chat, the American Topical Association Warm Up to Topicals! Virtual Programs, as well as the many clubs and study units throughout the nation that have opened their meetings and programs to the public.

The Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, hoping to keep members involved, initiated a challenge for collectors to create a holiday greeting to post on the website. A donation auction of foreign stamps was offered during the last quarter. Please note that for this issue, an auction of choice U.S. mid-priced items is included.

As many clubs are not meeting and will not receive a copy of Across the Fence Post, club editors should consider making a copy of the auction and include in their newsletter.

Did you know that the WFSC has a YouTube channel? To date, two of the ATA Chapter 5 (Milwaukee) programs have been recorded and are available for your viewing pleasure. The first program showcased some of the Wisconsin post office murals created during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Presented by David Gates, author of “Wisconsin Post Office Murals,” postal historians as well as stamp collectors and lovers of all things Wisconsin, will find this an informative program.

The second program to be recorded was a presentation by Ellis Bromberg, former general manager of Milwaukee Public Television. Titled “Hanukkah: The World’s Most Important Jewish Holiday (Philatelically Speaking!),” this program covers the history of Hanukkah stamps from the first ones in 1972 from Israel, to the most recent ones: the 2020 Hanukkah stamps recently issued by the United States and Canada.

Now would also be a good time to think about creating a program so that when your club resumes meeting you will have a presentation ready to go. Collectors are reminded to check out the WFSC website for information about an honorarium that is available for club educational program ideas. You could get up to $50!

Although I don’t know when clubs will safely be able to resume their meetings, I am looking forward to once again receiving notices about the activities and projects that our clubs are engaging in.

Be safe — stay healthy!

Hank Schmidt, of Oshkosh, Wis., died in September 2020. He was 88 years old and had been living in a memory care center.

Hank was an active member of the Oshkosh Philatelic Society, having served as president and vice president for several terms. He was also extremely active in the now-defunct First Day Cover Collectors of Wisconsin. He was the group’s president for four terms and for eight years edited their newsletter titled The Wisconsin Cover Sheet.

Hank’s other memberships include the Wisconsin Postal History Society, Collectors of Religion on Stamps, American Philatelic Society, and the American First Day Cover Society, for which he contributed articles to First Days, journal of the AFDCS. He produced his own first-day covers identified under the brand name “Art Coy.”

Hank served six years as vice president of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. For several years he wrote a column about first-day cover collecting that appeared in Across the Fence Post.

Hank was inducted into the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame in 2003.

Roger Carlson

Roger Carlson, age 80, of Madison, Wis., passed away on November 3, 2020. He had endured a long battle with cancer.

Roger was an avid collector of worldwide stamps. He was a member of the Madison Stamp Club and the Badger Stamp Club, for which he had served a term as vice president and president.
DEALER SPOTLIGHT

This column features dealers who are WFSC members and/or participate at WFSC member club shows. A complete listing of dealers appears at www.wfscstamps.org. Please patronize our WFSC club-member and show dealers.

These dealer profiles are in response to a set of questions each received via email.

Dave Carney
Dave’s Stamps
Kimberly, Wis.

Getting started
In 1975 I attended WISCOPEX in Stevens Point. I learned about the Central Wisconsin Stamp Club at that show and became an active member. Jim Johnson, a dealer from Wausau, came to all the club meetings and brought stamps and supplies. We became friends and he invited me to go to stamp shows with him. I soon got the bug to become a dealer and did my first alone CENWISPEX show in 1980.

In 1983 I affiliated with a coin dealer in Wisconsin Rapids and opened a small coin and stamp shop. The coin dealer did well but I did not, so that venture didn’t last long. I was, however, still doing shows all over Wisconsin and Minnesota.

After I retired from teaching in Wisconsin Rapids, I moved to Kimberly. At that time, I did a few Milwaukee shows but stayed mostly in central and northeast Wisconsin. Minnesota was now too long of a drive.

In 2013, I sold my entire show stock and backup stock to a large dealer. The good part was I paid off my house with what I got for the stock. The bad part was I missed helping collectors build their United States collections. So I put my own U.S. collection into stock pages and stock cards and bought a few collections. Now I have an even better stock than the one I sold.

Material offered — I have all United States material. Sheets, plate blocks, coil strips, and singles both mint and used, including much back-of-the-book material.

Show participation — I do shows in Green Bay, Madison, Woodruff, Stevens Point and Oshkosh. All of which were canceled for 2020.

Contact information — I can be contacted by phone at 920-750-3117, email dcarney1@new.rr.com, or snail mail 313 Red Cedar Parkway, WI 54136-3305.

Interesting facts about me — I have been an officer in every club I have been a member of. Currently I am vice president of the Green Bay Philatelic Society and treasurer of the Oshkosh Philatelic Society. I was inducted into the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame in 2014.

WAYNE YOUNGBLOOD NAMED DISTINGUISHED TOPICAL PHILATELIST

Here he is again receiving a prestigious honor. This time it is the American Topical Association’s Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award. The presentation took place at the ATA’s annual meeting held via Zoom on August 22, in conjunction with Virtual Stamp Show 2020.

Among a plethora of recognitions and awards, Wayne is also a recipient of the American Philatelic Society Luff Award and Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs Hall of Fame. He is current editor of several national philatelic publications and former editor of Across the Fence Post.

Tom Broadhead, who introduced Wayne at the presentation, stated that Wayne is well known for his philatelic writing, editing, teaching, exhibiting, mentoring and more. Broadhead furthermore noted that Wayne is one of philately’s most prolific, engaging and interesting journalists. His writings appear in our most important philatelic publications and represent only a facet of Wayne’s talent that is abundantly on view for us to enjoy.

Wayne is also a stamp dealer and was featured in the October-November-December ATFP Dealer Spotlight. He resides in Prairie du Sac, Wis., and is a member of the Baraboo Area Stamp Club, the Badger Stamp Club (Madison), and the Wisconsin Postal History Society.

Congratulations, Wayne, for your well-deserved award!
For some of us who gather to chat Across the Fence Post, the greeting “Happy New Year” is especially joyful. We never expected to see so many new years, and the prospect of having one more is energizing, especially if there is the hope that the new one will be better than the previous one.

Celebrating the arrival of a new year has changed greatly over time. Our primitive ancestors, safely removed from the prying eyes of genealogists by two or more millennia, may have celebrated the astronomical new year with bonfires. In our modern age, we are more likely to overindulge while watching behemoths brutalize each other on the gridiron on television. Such is the march of progress.

Mark Twain’s words have the ring of eternal truth: “New Year’s Day is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual.” For collectors, however, the new year is a time to make resolutions that we will keep for album expansion.

We all live by calendars, and each is an opportunity to collect. Yes, calendars – plural. In our culture, the Gregorian calendar predominates with the year beginning on January 1. If we are students, parents, or teachers, the year begins in August. Baseball has its own calendar beginning with the hot stove season and progressing through spring training to the World Series. For Christians, the liturgical year begins with Advent which begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, and the holidays are holy days.

For stamp collectors, perhaps the obvious point of entry into a New Year’s topical or thematic collection is with the Lunar New Year issues which have become so popular with philatelic agencies around the world. They are colorful, easy to acquire, and generally reasonably priced. Souvenir sheets and small panes with printed selvages are attractive additions to an album. They are also a nice adjunct to a collection focused on folklore, dragons, or zodiac signs.

Did you know that on the Chinese New Year the dragon Nian emerges intent on eating farm animals and small children? The bright banners and fireworks scare the creature back into hiding for another year.

For the postcard collector, a New Year’s collection has many options for specialization. Early in the 20th century, postcards were a popular way of...
Happy New Year (cont’d. from p. 6)

celebrating the arrival of a new year and extending wishes to family and friends for a happy and prosperous new year. These cards are appealing in themselves and offer many options for the topical collector with special interests. There are, of course, the expected images of Father Time and the infant New Year.

The collector with strong ethnic identity may be drawn to cards with figures in ethnic dress or in the native language. A card with a Dutch boy in traditional clothes floating in a Delft shoe is hard to resist. The windmill in the background will attract the attention of the topical collector of all things related to mills.

Symbols of good luck (four-leaf clover, horseshoe, heart) are plentiful. Did you know that the New Year’s pig is a symbol of prosperity in Europe and that marzipan pigs were a special treat for children in parts of Germany and Austria on New Year’s Eve?

Rosh Hashanah cards reflect the religious character of the passage from one year to another. Some cards, such as the one depicting Stalin with the message “Happy New Year, beloved Stalin,” even delve into the world of politics and propaganda.

Of course, for those of us who gather here Across the Fence Post, it is the wish for a happy, prosperous, and philatelically productive year ahead that matters most. Thus, we extend to you the hope that 2021 will be mint, never hinged, and well centered!
Prior to the 1870s, the revenue stamps used in Spanish colonies were shared amongst all of the colonies. This began to change in the 1870s when specific stamps were issued for the specific colonies such as Cuba, the Philippines and Puerto Rico. This article will focus on the revenue stamps issued for Puerto Rico.

I was first introduced to the revenue stamps of Puerto Rico when I purchased a collection of U.S. colonial revenue stamps. Included with the U.S. administration issues were Spanish-era revenues. I had never encountered any of these stamps before and found them to be quite intriguing. There are many complex issues and overprints abound. Let’s take a look at what collectors may encounter.

**Documentary issues** are a series of attractive Allegorical issues. Each series is complex in a unique way. The stamps were issued without a colony name on the stamps themselves. Instead, the colony name was printed in the top selvage of the pane of stamps and different colors were used for similar denominations in each colony. Each series was good for two years.

**Receipt & Accounting stamps (RECIBOS Y CUETAS)** were issued as a tax on, as you might guess, receipts of business transactions. The initial issue was an overprint on a postage stamp. Subsequent issues specified the appropriate tax and later issues, when the tax was reduced to 2c, overprinted Allegorical documentary issues.

**Draft stamps (GIRO)** were issued for use on bank checks. The tax was based on the amount of the draft. Each series was good for one year. The final issue of 1898 utilized overprints of Receipt & Accounting stamps.

**Customs duties (ADUANAS)** initially utilized overprinted Draft stamps. Later issues were Allegorical stamps with a label specifying the specific customs duty. The final issues of 1898 were again generic but included overprinted Draft and Receipt & Accounting stamps.

**Permit stamps (POLICIA)** were issued from 1877 to 1881 and were good for the inscribed year.

The final tax stamps that will be covered are **Bond & Securities stamps (TI-TULOS)**. These were first put into use in 1865 and are not inscribed specifically for Puerto Rico. Starting in 1870, the year of use is inscribed on the stamps.

This ends the quick tour of Spanish-era Puerto Rico revenue stamps. A useful catalog that lists these stamps is *Spain Revenues – National – Provincial – Municipal – Corporative – Colonial*, by Paulo Barata (1991).
THE SILENT, SILENT DONATION
AUCTION OF UNITED STATES STAMPS
(proceeds to benefit the WFSC)

Rules and Regulations: You must be over the age of 18 to participate. Mail bids only. Lots sold at one bidding increment over next highest bid. Bidding increments are 25¢ up to $4.75, 50¢ up to $9.50, $1 for $10 and up. Auction closes February 28, 2021.

Scott catalog numbers and 2020 values are used throughout. Standard auction abbreviations apply. All lots have a minimum bid. Tie bids go to the earliest postmark.

Winners of lots will be notified by email and payment must be remitted to the WFSC before lots are sent. First-class postage costs will be covered by the WFSC but insurance or other special services will be at the expense of the winner(s) of the lots.

Send your bids to MaryAnn Bowman, P.O. Box 1451, Waukesha, WI 53187. Your bid sheet should include your:
• name
• mailing address
• phone number
• email address
• lot numbers and your bids.

DEADLINE
FEBRUARY 28, 2021

1. #230 MNH Great looker w/ small tears Cat. $32.50 Min. Bid $3
2. #294 MH F Cat. $16 Min. Bid $4
3. #295 M Disturbed Gum F Cat. $15 Min. Bid $4
4. #397 MNH F Cat. $35 Min. Bid $10
5. #398 MNH F Cat. $35 Min. Bid $10
6. #403 MVLH F Cat. $15 Min. Bid $3
7. #557 MNH F-VF Cat. $35 Min. Bid $10
8. #576 MNH Imperf Block of 4 Cat. $5.75 Min. Bid $3
9. #585 MNH F Cat. $37.50 Min. Bid $12
10. #589 MNH VF Cat. $57.50 Min. Bid $20
11. #590 MNH F Cat. $12.50 Min. Bid $4
12. #599 MNH Line Pair Cat. $4.75 Min. Bid $2
13. #602 MNH Line Pair Rough perfs at lower left Cat. $22.50 Min. Bid $3
14. #603 MNH F Cat. $7 Min. Bid $2.50
15. #614 MLH F Cat. $4.25 Min. Bid $1.50
16. #615 MNH F-VF Cat. $7.00 Min. Bid $3
17. #627 MNH F Block of 4 Cat. $16 Min. Bid $5
18. #639 MNH F Pair Cat. $6.50 Min. Bid $2.50
19. #642 MH F Cat. $3.25 Min. Bid $1
20. #649-50 MNH F-VF Cat. $6.25 Min. Bid $2
21. #665 Kansas Ovprt. MNH Avg. Pulled perf upper left corner Cat. $50 Min. Bid $10
22. #671 Nebr. Ovprt. MH Avg. Cat. $3 Min. Bid $1
23. #693 MNH VF Cat. $8 Min. Bid $3
24. #696 MH F Cat. $7.75 Min. Bid $3
25. #697 MH F-VF Cat. $4.75 Min. Bid $2
26. #699 MH F Cat. $8 Min. Bid $3
27. #710 MNH Strip of 3 top margin - Middle stamp has “gash over right eye” plate defect Cat. $25 (middle stamp) + $9 (other 2 stamps) Cat. $36 Min. Bid $18
28. #832 MNH VF Cat. $7 Min. Bid $3
29. C7-9 MVLH VF Cat. $11.25 Min. Bid $4
30. C8 MNH VF Cat. $4.75 Min. Bid $2
31. C9 MNH VF Cat. $12.50 Min. Bid $5
32. C11 MNH F Cat. $10 Min. Bid $3
33. C12 MNH F-VF Cat. $17.50 Min. Bid $6
34. RW1 F Cancelled Cat. $175 Min. Bid $60
35. RW4 NG SE on right side Cat. $65 Min. Bid $20
36. RW5 MLH with sm. signature at left not affecting design Cat. $75 Min. Bid $20
37. RW6 MLH w/disturbed gum Cat. $50 Used Min. Bid $20
38. RW7 MLH w/small signature at left Cat. $50 Min. Bid $20
39. RW8 MLH w/small signature not affecting design Cat. $50 Min. Bid $20

Across the Fence Post  January-February-March 2021  9
As collectors know, the world’s first prepaid adhesive postage stamp was Great Britain’s 1840 Scott 1, nicknamed the “Penny Black.” The one-pence paper rectangle shows the profile of a 15-year-old Queen Victoria, which, like Queen Elizabeth II’s Machin series, was a long-running royal favorite.

Each stamp is lettered to show its position on the large uncut sheet: A-A for the upper left, T-L for the lower right. The online stamp club Stamporama is attempting to compile a complete virtual set of Penny Blacks, inviting owners to report their stamps’ positions to its Penny Page. Moving your computer mouse above the cell shows who contributed.

Penny Black Crossword by Joe Kowalski, Fond du Lac Stamp Club

Across:
4. Football field general
5. That is (Latin)
7. Old five-cent metal
8. Weatherman Roker
10. Not you or Pine Tree State
13. Lung disease
14. "...-... Rider" (song)
17. Cleanup hitter, often
18. Land of Disney and NASA
20. Bayou State
21. Yes in Berlin
22. Non-Navy ship prefix
23. The Ocean State
25. Electronics maker or shirt size

Down:
1. 3.14159 etc.
2. British sports car
3. ___-GYN
4. Her Majesty (not Victoria)
6. Lei land
9. Poet Cummings
10. Yummy!
11. King of the Blues
12. Some crazy little women there
15. Shiny round music medium
16. Twelve-step program
19. Opposite of hi
21. Harry Potter creator Rowling
22. Yes in Cancun
24. Land of Lincoln
26. Light bulb & jet engine maker

See answers p. 2

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