

ACROSS THE FENCE



Vol. XXXIV No. 1

January 2012

www.WFSCstamps.org

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

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

President's corner

By Greg Schmidt, President of WFSC



Greg Schmidt

Unfortunately there is no President's Message in this issue of *Across the Fence Post*. For reasons out of his control, Greg Schmidt was unable to provide his regular column. Please look for a message in the March issue.

— Wayne

Wiscopex '12 in Madison plans 9 a.m. Delegates Meeting; 3:30 p.m. Awards Ceremony

Delegates! Plan to get to Wiscopex '12 early. This year's Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs annual business meeting occurs at 9 a.m., rather than the usual early afternoon hour. You'll need check-in time, too, which can be done at the WFSC table located in the hallway next to the exhibition hall.

The awards ceremony, scheduled for 3:30 p.m., includes a very special gift for all who attend. Arrange to stay for this event honoring exhibitors and outstanding Wisconsin philatelists.

March 15 is the deadline for exhibit entries. Clubs are urged to participate in the new team exhibits category, a 16-page frame made up of four, four-page exhibits. Entries for the open, single-frame, youth and youth competitions are also encouraged. Request a prospectus and exhibit entry form from Exhibits co-chairman Karen Weigt, 4184 Rose Ct., Middleton, WI 53562, (608) 836-1509, kweigt@tds.net.

Wiscopex '12 will be held on Sunday, April



15, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave., Madison. General Chairman Bob Voss can be contacted at P.O. Box 35, McFarland, WI, (608) 836-1033, email lestamps@charter.net.

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.

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New Irish TV Stamps

On Nov. 24, 2011, An Post released three stamps (shown below) commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first Irish television broadcasts. The stamps feature TVs and a hand-held device, evoking a sense of past, present & future. The first is black and white, the other two are full color. Screens depict *The Late Late Show* (Gay Byrne), *Hubble*, with Emma O'Driscoll and newscaster Anne Doyle.

Irish television broadcasting became 50 years old on New Year's Eve 2011. The stamps and first-day cover were designed by Ger Garland, and represent a rapidly growing theme on postage stamps: Television.



Across the Fence Post

New ATFP Editor Needed Urgently!

Due to the recent out-of-state move of editor Wayne Youngblood, *Across the Fence Post* urgently needs a new editor. **If a new editor is not found soon, the ATFP schedule will continue to be seriously disrupted for the foreseeable future.** This appointed and non-reimbursed position is an important one for for the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. *ATFP* not only serves as primary mouthpiece and calendar for the WFSC, but also provides educational and entertaining material for collectors in Wisconsin and other locations.

Please consider this opportunity. it's a great way to serve our organization and build important skills as well. If you are interested in full details, please contact Editor Wayne Youngblood (wystamps@gmail.com).

Clubs are Trump

By Maurice D. Wozniak

Alex Gill of West Bend is well into his year as a member of the Young Philatelic Leaders Fellowship of the American Philatelic Society.

Gill, one of two junior fellows in the program, was formally introduced to the society at the APS Stampshow in Columbus, Ohio, last August. Now in its third year, the program is designed to develop leadership in the stamp-collecting hobby by pairing interested young collectors with mentors to guide development in some aspect of philately.

Alex has chosen the author track to build on his writing skills. Other tracks in the program are exhibiting and dealing.

"I look forward to meeting other youth stamp collectors, expanding my knowledge of philately and meeting prominent collectors at stamp shows," Alex said. "Most importantly, I hope to inspire and encourage people to discover and enjoy the hobby of stamp collecting."

He has been a member of the Ben Franklin Stamp Club sponsored by the Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club and has taken part in other club activities near his home.

The fellowship program allows participants to take part in activities such as visiting the National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C., attending two APS Stampshows and the winter Ameristamp Expo, visiting the APS headquar-



Alex Gill

ters in Bellefonte, Pa., and other events. His expenses will be paid for these events.

It's a significant honor for Alex, and it underscores the value of clubs trying to develop young peoples' interest in the hobby.

* * *

Program ideas

A show-and-tell program at the **Kettle Moraine Coin and Stamp Club**, West Bend, had a theme of the oldest material in members' collections. A prize of a souvenir sheet went to an 1808 stampless cover with a mermaid cancel. The youth meeting continued a scrapbooking project for the modern travels of Owney the stamp dog.

Members of **American Topical Association Chapter 5**, Waukesha, heard about hand-drawn and hand-painted philatelic covers.

A Milwaukee Philatelic Society show-and-tell on unusual items turned up interesting things, such as a 16-page booklet from France with a donkey on the cover; items on the Washington Park Zoo (Milwaukee), which was started in 1892; and Taco Bell Batman cups.

The year's schedule of events for the **Green Bay Philatelic Society** includes slide shows, show-and-tell, and regular auctions.

* * *

What others are doing

The **Oshkosh Philatelic Society** has changed its meeting room in the Evergreen Nursing Home. The club now meets in the Commons Area in the lower level.

Eight new members were added to the rolls of **American Topical Association Chapter 5**, Waukesha, through a table at Milcopex in September, pushing membership to 69. The club used the semi-postal stamp for Vanishing Species for its mailing of the members' materials.

A member of a stamp club from Escanaba, Mich., visited a meeting of the **Northwoods Philatelic Society**, Iron Mountain, Mich., and brought along several remainder lots from his club's auction. Northwoods members also approved the purchase of packs of hinges for a 6th grade stamp club in the Wausaukee schools.

Members of the **Central Wisconsin Stamp Club**, Plover and Wisconsin Rapids, enjoyed searching through several cartons of donations made by a former member who moved away from the area. Much of the material was added to a silent auction feature of the club's fall show.

* * *

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

Call for Materials

Your input to *Across the Fence Post* is urgently needed. Please consider writing a letter to the editor, a feature or even a caption for your favorite cover or philatelic item.

Please send submissions to Editor Wayne Youngblood (wystamps@gmail.com) or P.O. Box 4601, St. Louis, MO 63108-4601.

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Across the Fence Post is the official publication of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit organization. WFSC also is a life member of the APS (since 1953). For more information about WFSC, please contact the Central Office.

AFTP is published monthly September through April, and every other month May through August (10 issues per year). News of Wisconsin collectors, club news and gratis original philatelic features are welcomed. The editor accepts submissions in any format, but prefers email if possible. Editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to submitted copy.

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Unless explicitly stated by an officer in conjunction with official WFSC business, opinions expressed by the editor or individual authors are not necessarily endorsed by the WFSC.

Submission deadlines for editorial and advertising materials are for the 1st of the month preceding month of publication (i.e. Jan. 1 for Feb. issue).

Show calendar information and their editorial matter and listings, should be sent to: Wayne L. Youngblood, Editor AFTP, P.O. Box 4601, St. Louis MO 63108-4601. (wystamps@gmail.com) phone: 314-454-9689.

Advertising material and payment should be sent to Dave Carney, Advertising Manager, AFTP, P.O. Box 55, Kimberly, WI 54136-0055. (dcarneyl@new.rr.com) phone: 920-687-9077. For a complete list of advertising rates and policies (display, classified and listings), request a copy from the advertising manager.

Early Example of Badger Philatelic Publishing

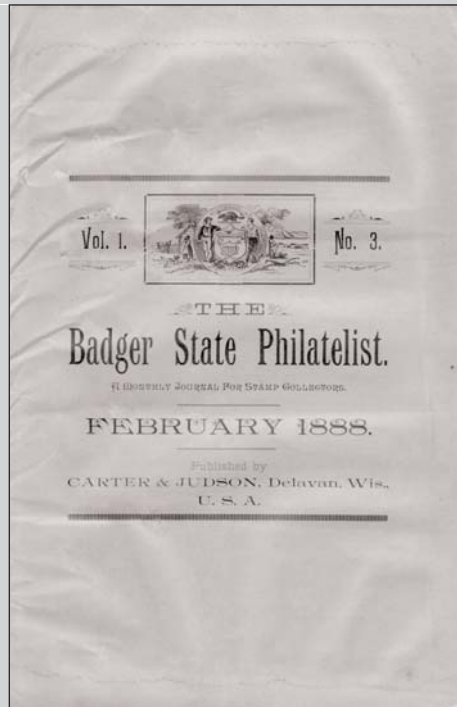
By Maurice D. Wozniak

An example of an early stamp collecting publication produced in Wisconsin was given to me by John Hotchner at the American Philatelic Society Stampshow in Columbus, Ohio, this past summer.

Hotchner, a former member of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee of the United States Postal Service, is a longtime writer and editor in the hobby. He said he had found the modest little magazine in a hodge-podge of philatelic miscellany he bought recently and wanted to pass it on to someone who might have an interest in it.

The item is the February 1888 edition of the *Badger State Philatelist* ("A Monthly Journal for Stamp Collectors"), published in Delavan by Carter & Judson. N. E. Carter was listed as editor and also had small advertisements in the issue for the sale of stamps; H. B. Judson was a commercial printer in Delavan and had a full-page ad to promote a "great slaughter" in his prices for fine job printing.

I at first thought it might have had a connection with the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, although the publication predated the organization by several decades.



Unfortunately, that does not seem to be the case. *The Badger State Philatelist* apparently went out of business after about two years of

publication. A prominent collector in Wisconsin told me she thinks she has a complete run of the publication.

It is an interesting example of the kind of publication of its time, whether in the hobby or outside. Fully half of its 16 pages (including the cover sheet) consists of advertisements, mostly for philatelic items. A Delavan shoemaker had a prominent ad, and at least three purveyors of rubber stamps promoted their services.

The main feature article was a biography of stamp dealer Ernest F. Gambs, who got interested in stamp collecting about the age of 14 in St. Louis, Mo., and went on to establish a stamp business there and later in San Francisco, Calif. In a brief note elsewhere in the issue, the editor apologizes for not having an illustration of the subject.

Interestingly, the identical article, with the engraved portrait of Gambs and credited to the *Badger Philatelist*, can be found on the John D. Apfelbaum web site (www.apfelbauminc.com/PhilatelicLibrary).

Most of the remaining editorial matter consists of articles titled "Bogus Stamps" and "What to Collect," as well as pages of reprinted items, notes and gossip.

New Warman's U.S. Stamps Field Guide Released (2nd Ed.)

By Wayne L. Youngblood

Our own Maurice Wozniak sent me a copy of the new *Warman's U.S. Stamps Field Guide*, which he edited, to review. In the absence of any form of company press release, I set out to find out more and found the following on amazon.com: "Warman's U.S. Stamps Field Guide is the essential guide you need to assess your stamp collection, whether you are an expert or just starting out. This little guide covers almost every stamp from the beginning (1847) through 2008. It also includes airmail

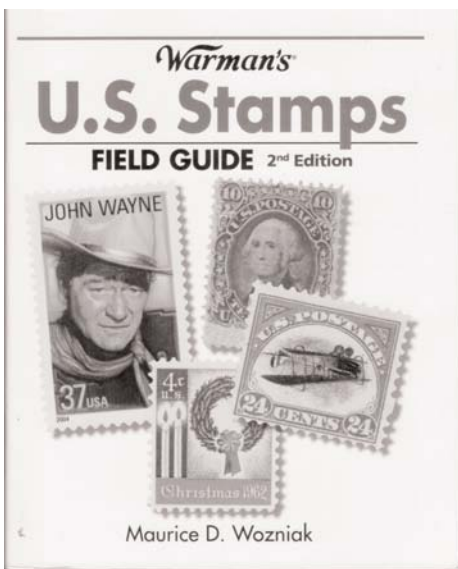
postage from 1918-2007. There are also over 900 beautiful, full-color photos that help enhance the look and feel of this pocket guide. The advice on what to collect, how to collect, and where to find stamps is very helpful if you're a beginner. Featured are stories about the first stamps, the 2-cent reds, the Elvis stamp, and the 'upside down' Jenny to name a few. Its ease of use and convenient size make it the perfect carry-along guide to flea markets, stamp shows, auctions, and estate sales."

One may seriously question the ethics of this "review," which was planted by an F&W Publications employee, but fact of the matter is, editor Maurice D. Wozniak does a good job with this little book (4¼ by 5¼ inches, 512 pages, Second Edition, \$14.99), given the limitations not being able to use Scott catalog numbers to identify stamps. This, of course, is not a huge problem for commemoratives, but for anything prior to 1938 actual collectors would need a Scott, Brookman, Gibbons or some other catalog for guidance. Still, the Warman Guide can fill a niche.

This "take-it-with-you collecting resource" is indeed handy and colorful, and Wozniak's introductions to each section are interesting. Promotional material states this is "a guide you can really carry along to estate sales, garage sales, and flea markets... ..to make on-the-spot appraisals easy." Not so much. Nor does it really contain "Accurate prices in Unused and Used condition," nor a "State-of-the-market report."

But this little book is an ideal stocking stuffer or gift to someone who is just beginning their philatelic journey, whether they are child or adult. In addition to his section introductions, Wozniak also has "featurettes" on Christmas stamps and Errors, Freaks & Oddities. Each is accessible to virtually any reader and could help spark interest.

The essential question (as it is for any book) is whether the guide is worth the money you have to shell out for it. It is. Wozniak's editorial work saves a misguided attempt to compete with Scott and turns it into a useful guide to stamp collecting for those not already deeply involved in the hobby.



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Across the Fence Post

January 2012

Odd stuff? Always!

What can I find for you?

...or for your exhibit?

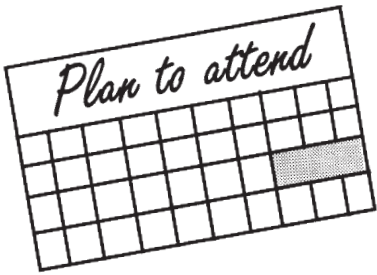
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Show Calendar and Registry

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.

2012 WFSC show schedule*

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

Feb. 12
Annual Exhibition and Bourse
Janesville Stamp Club
 Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Pl.
Contact: Gary Wentworth
 (608) 756-1380, wntamps@aol.com

Apr. 28
Outapex '12
Outagamie Philatelic Society
 Location to be announced.
Contact: Gene Clark, (920) 731-2430

Jan. 14-15
West Allis, Wis.
Polarpex '12
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall
 1435 So. 92nd St.

May 5-6
West Allis, Wis.
Maypex '12
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall
 1435 So. 92nd St.

Mar. 3-4
Stampfest '12
Milwaukee Philatelic Society
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall 1435 So. 92nd St., West Allis WI, Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Carol Schutta
 10250 W. Sharon Ln., #5, Milwaukee, WI 53225 (414) 464-6994
harryncarolschutta@gmail.com

May 12
Danepex '12
Sheboygan Stamp and Coin Show, Sheboygan Stamp Club
 Municipal Building, 375 Buffalo St., hours unknown
Contact: Barbara Stohl, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082 (920) 458-4883

Jan. 21-22
Prospect Heights, Ill.
MSDA Winter Stamp Show
Midwest Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Comfort Inn (formerly Wingate)
 600 Milwaukee Ave.

May 25-27
Arlington Heights, Ill.
Complex '12
Chicago Area Philatelic Societies
 Forest View Educational Center, 2121 So. Goebbert Rd.

Mar. 24
Baypex '12
Green Bay Philatelic Society
 St. Matthew Catholic Church, Multipurpose Rm., 2575 So. Webster Ave. (parking in rear), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Ray D. Perry (920) 469-8925, fiveperrys@athenet.net

Aug. 4
Woodruff: 7th Lakeland Coin and Stamp Club Summer Show
 Woodruff Town Hall, Hwy. 47E. Lakeland Coin and Stamp Club
Contact: Dean Marin
 9030 Blumstein Rd., Woodruff WI 54568 (715) 356-9453

Mar. 9-11
Lombard, Ill.
ASDA Show
American Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Lindner Conference Center, 610 E. Butterfield Rd.

June 16
Rhineland: 31st Annual Bourse
 James Williams Middle School
 915 Acacia Ln.
Contact: Larry Marten (715) 282-5636
lrmarten@yahoo.com
 Bill Julian (715) 277-2692

April 15
Wiscopex '12
Annual Convention and Philatelic Exhibition of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs (hosted by the Badger Stamp Club, replaces Danepex)
 Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave. (across from East Towne Mall)
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Bob Voss, P.O. Box 35, McFarland, WI 53558 (608) 838-1033
lestamps@charter.net

Other major non-WFSC shows in or near Wisconsin (right):


Mar. 10-11
Rockford '12
Rockford Stamp Club
 Forest Hills Lodge, 9500 Forest Hills Rd.



July 20-22
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

Apr. 14-15
Prospect Heights, Ill.
MSDA Spring Stamp Show
Midwest Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Comfort Inn (formerly Wingate)
 600 Milwaukee Ave.

Aug. 4-5
Niles, Ill.
NSDA Show
 T. Kurzinski (815) 262-9117, House of White Eagle, 6839 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Please use stamps; we're all collectors.

I collect the Wisconsin Statehood issue ...and I need your help
Wanted: FDCs, first-day ephemera, USPOD Announcements, errors, color varieties, usages, event covers or anything else that might enhance an exhibit.

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