

ACROSS THE FENCE



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Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

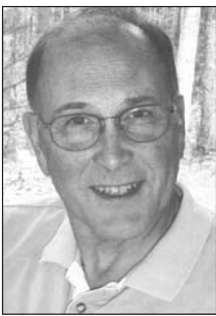
American Philatelic Society Chapter #350, American Topical Association Chapter #107

President's corner

Wiscopex Lives

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

Here's tangible evidence that Wiscopex 2010 in Oshkosh can be considered a success:



"Every dealer I talked with agreed they did well financially. In fact, one small-time dealer said he did so well he had to restock before he could do another show.

"At the next club meeting enthusiasm was so high that the possibility of hosting another show in 2011 was

raised. (Cooler heads prevailed; the proposal failed to gain enough support.)

Wiscopex, the annual philatelic exposition by the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, has always been a highlight of the year for stamp collectors around the state. It comes at a good time, in the spring, when spirits are quickening after the short days of winter. Typically, Wiscopex includes a good bourse of dealers who expect a good attendance and a stamp exhibition that showcases our hobby.

It features the annual meeting of the Federation and a ceremony at which exhibitors are honored and other awards are presented.

Finally, the tradition of moving the show to different host cities each year provides an opportunity for stamp collectors to meet other philatelists from various part of the state.

The Oshkosh Philatelic Society did a fine job of mounting a well-run show and proved in the process that a small club could make it work. The club even offered two commemorative cacheted covers.

Wiscopex '10 was a one-day show, which in recent years has become a lower-cost alternative to the traditional two-day shows. The awards were presented at a brief pizza party at the close of the show, instead of a Saturday-night banquet.

Personally, I like the two-day shows for several reasons: That way the WFSC annual meeting, which takes two or three hours, does not consume such a large percentage of the show's time; the awards can be presented with more fanfare at a dinner; I think dealers get more exposure for their travel and set-up time, and; I think it allows collectors more time to attend.

But I understand that small clubs have only so much help available to them.

Besides the workers in its own membership, the Oshkosh club relied heavily on help from other collectors and clubs. Rob Henak, a collector and exhibitor who has a major presence in several Milwaukee-area clubs, stepped in to coordinate the exhibits, notably. Wayne Youngblood, who edits this WFSC newsletter, graciously contributed nifty philatelic items that were used as door prizes.

The Badger Stamp Club in Madison allowed the use of its exhibit frames (a service it has provided several times) and an Oshkosh club member provided transportation for them.

Mainly, it took the determination of a few members and the cooperation of several others to do the myriad little details required to produce a major show – things such as setting up and tearing down, loading, producing a show program, moving furniture, carrying boxes, planning a layout and staffing the club table. The Oshkosh club proved that a small club can do a big job, and everyone involved can be proud of their efforts.

There was a time when each Wiscopex was scheduled years in advance, but lately it has been a year-to-year thing. The excuse seems to

be, "We did it just a few years ago. Give someone else a chance," or "Our club is so small, and the members are so old that we can't do it."

Ultimately, these are self-defeating excuses that, if continued, lead to a spiral into oblivion.

I prefer a can-do spirit of taking on a challenge, getting a job done and helping to blaze a path of success.

Since the close of Wiscopex '10, the Central Wisconsin Stamp Club in Plover and Wisconsin Rapids elected to apply to organize Wiscopex '11. That's the club to which I belong. It's not a large club, but many of its members are enthusiastic collectors who put on a small show annually.

We don't have easy access to some of the resources other clubs have, but we're located in the geographic center of the state, and we have experience and determination to make it another good show in the spring of 2011.

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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2010-11 Show/Bourse/Club Meeting Info Flier

The 2010-11 show/bourse/club meeting flier will be updated and sent with the September issue of *Across the Fence Post*. If you want your show or bourse to appear on the list covering events through the summer of 2011, please send details (no later than Aug. 10, 2010) to Karen Weigt, 4184 Rose Ct., Middleton, WI 53562-4339, 608-836-1509, or by email, kweigt@tds.net. Include a contact name, address, phone number and email address if one is available. The events calendar will also be published on the WFSC Website (wfscstamps.org). This is a very important listing to enable collectors to find shows and meetings in the areas where they either live or visit.

Clubs are Trump

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

Several stamp clubs take a hiatus in the summer, when members might be pursuing other pastimes.

When meetings start again it might be a good time to pay attention to the format and content of the club newsletter or announcement sheet. You'll want to make sure the essential details of your meetings are prominently listed, including the location and time of your meeting, its agenda (business item and program), who is responsible for opening up or bringing treats and the like.

You might list the officers, in case someone (a member or a prospective member) has a question. And it doesn't hurt to have another

person proofread the letter before it goes out; don't put all your trust in a "spell-check" computer program.

Use the mailing as a way to attract attention. Show enthusiasm. Talk up the program. Mention other philatelic tidbits. Make your club seem like the educational, informative, enjoyable organization that it should be.

Program ideas

The **Waukesha County Philatelic Society** gets a lot of mileage out of member-participation programs at its twice-a-month meetings. Show-and-Tell programs on various subjects (such as "My Favorite Cover") are easy to organize. Also, the club's continuing mini-exhibit contest generates involvement. The

winner of one month's competition (by vote of the members attending) gets to choose the subject for a future contest of a topical nature.

Some members of the **Northwoods Philatelic Society**, Iron Mountain, Mich., are interested in having educational programs more frequently in their meetings. Collectors from Green Bay and Outagamie clubs travel to meetings in Iron Mountain regularly and share information on their clubs' activities.

In February, the **Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club**, West Bend, had a small display of stamps and coins related to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. In March the club used a new topical exhibit by member Roland Essig on S&H Green Stamps to conduct a discussion of "Cinderella" stamps.

Al Vick Elected WFSC Treasurer

Delegates at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs elected Allen Vick of Stoughton, Wis., to serve as the next WFSC Treasurer. Al's two-year term of office was to begin July 1, 2010. Due, however, to the death of Chuck Green, who was WFSC's current treasurer, Al was appointed to take over as of April 18 to fill the vacancy.

Al is a long-time member of the Badger Stamp Club



Al Vick, WFSC treasurer

(Madison, Wis.) and the Wisconsin Postal History Society. He is familiar with the WFSC as he served as Southwest Region VP from 1979 to 1986. Al is a retired auditor for the state of Wisconsin and in recent years has annually audited the WFSC's financial records.

We welcome Al back to the WFSC's official family and look forward to working with him on a regular basis.

What others are doing

Guenther Heller, a colorful, enthusiastic member of the **Milwaukee Philatelic Society**, died Feb. 11. The club newsletter noted that Heller started collecting at the age of 55. Stamp collecting is an ideal hobby for older men and women, and if you are open to them you can find new members in their numbers. Heller had 40 years of fun with his hobby.

Shirley Stoffel, age 90, was chosen as the first honorary member of the **Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club**, West Bend, in recognition of her service to the club.

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

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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).

All show calendar information, along with all other editorial matter and listings, should be sent to: Wayne L. Youngblood, Editor AFTP, P.O. Box 111, Scandinavia WI 54977-0111. (youngblood@tds.net) phone: 715-467-4416.

Advertising material and payment should be sent to Dave Carney, Advertising Manager, AFTP, P.O. Box 55, Kimberly, WI 54136-0055. (dcarney@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.

Exhibiting 101: Basic Presentation, Part III

By Robert R. Henak

You may wonder why I am including yet another article on basic presentation. After all, as noted in a prior article, presentation technically accounts for only 20% of the adult medal level in Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Club shows such as Wiscopex, and a mere 5% of the final award in a national-level show such as Milcopex.

The answer is that, despite the technicalities, poor presentation easily can drop a quality exhibit a level or two simply because it makes the exhibit so difficult to judge. Poor presentation can distract the viewer from both the quality and importance of the material exhibited and the story the exhibitor is attempting to tell. Good presentation, combined with quality philatelic material, draws the viewer through the story.

In previous articles, we discussed the writeup and white space and the stuff that holds the exhibit together, including paper, mounts and page protectors. This month, we will go into a few more specifics of attaching the philatelic material to the page.

Although some collectors prefer keeping their collections in stock books or glassine envelopes, most of us prefer albums with a framed space for each item we wish to mount. Exhibitors face a similar choice, although it is never appropriate to just place pre-printed album pages, stock pages or Vario-type pages in the frames, at least for a competitive exhibit.

Some exhibitors choose to mount their covers or stamps on the page. Many, however, prefer some kind of frame or border around each item. Others prefer to use mattes behind each item. The decision is up to the exhibitor regarding what best emphasizes the philatelic material. A few factors should be considered, however.

Frames

I tend to use frames for those exhibits that have stamps or windowing, while I go without in my postal history exhibit. I find that frames help with correct placement of the material, as it is a lot easier centering the stamp within the frame lines than it is within a blank space on the page. Modern word-processing programs such as WordPerfect also allow you to set the size and position of the frame or box so you have a good idea of the appearance of the page even before you mount the philatelic material on it.

Although it is important that the frames allow breathing space for the material, it is important that each frame or box in the exhibit is larger than the philatelic material by approximately the same ratio. Few things are as distracting as an exhibit page where the frame around one stamp is much larger than the stamp while another barely gives room for the perforation tips.

I tend to use frames or boxes that are about .15 (15/100ths) of an inch wider and taller than the stamp (measured perforation tip to perforation tip) and about .2 (2/10ths) of an inch for covers, souvenir pages and other larger material. You can decide what you like best.

It also is important that the frame lines not be so thick as to be distracting. I tend to use the step just above "hairline" in WordPerfect.

As for color, with one exception, all frame lines should be the same color as the text, usually black. The exception is that you can use a colored frame line, such as red, to draw attention to especially important items in the exhibit. Use discretion, however. Usually no more than two or three items per frame should have colored frames. Your identification of what is "important" reflects on your philatelic knowledge. Splashing red frames around half the items in an exhibit suggests the exhibitor really does not know what is important and can negatively impact the medal level.

Finally, although many album pages have printed borders around the outer edges of the page, avoid these in a competitive exhibit, as they seriously detract from both the material and the story presented.

No Frames

As previously noted, I tend not to use frames in my postal history exhibit. This is a personal preference and many postal historians use frames. I choose not to do it in part because covers come in different sizes. Larger, business-size covers often have to be mounted diagonally on a page and my word processing program cannot handle diagonal boxes. Perhaps more importantly, older covers rarely have square corners, and mounting them inside a frame merely emphasizes that they are lopsided or were roughly or unevenly opened.

When mounting items without using a printed frame to help with placement, I use a standard T-square from an office supply store or a craft shop such as Michaels. Place the exhibit page on top of a stack of 20 or so pages so the top of the T will fit firmly against the side of the page, with the leg of the T going across the page at a right angle. A philatelic item such as a cover or souvenir sheet placed on the page above (or below) and flush against the leg of the T will be straight on the page.

If the leg of the T is a ruler, you also can use these measurements to align the item horizontally. For instance, if you wish to center a cover on the page, you would measure its width, subtract that measurement from the width of a standard exhibit page and divide the result by two to determine the width of the margin on each side of the cover. Thus, because a standard first-day cover is 6½ inches wide, you would mount the cover with 1 inch on either side to center it on the page. (8½ minus 6½ equals 2, divided by 2 equals 1 inch margins).

Another trick for helping with placement of the material on the page when not using visible frames is to use a frame that is slightly smaller than the philatelic item. For instance, with the same FDC, you could use a box that is slightly smaller than the item. When you mount the FDC on the page, if the entire frame is covered, then the FDC is in the proper position. Even with this technique, however, I still would use the T-square to make sure the item is straight on the page.

Matting

Matting the items in your exhibit is similar to matting a photograph. The philatelic item is mounted on a piece of appropriately colored paper, and the matted item then is mounted on the exhibit page.

Although matting is much more time consuming, at least initially, it can make for a very attractive exhibit if done properly.

I currently am working on assembling a display class postal history exhibit upon which I plan to use matting. Perhaps it is the prospect of having to matte five or more frames-worth of material that is causing me to procrastinate on that project. However, I know that once I have the items matted I will not have to rematte them when the inevitable revisions and remounting take place.

There are a number of considerations to keep in mind if you choose to matte your exhibit. First, just as your exhibit pages, mounts and page protectors should be archival and acid free to protect your philatelic material, so should the paper used to matte the items. Second, since you likely will be revising your exhibit over time and will not wish to go through the hassle of rematting the items, use card stock (90 or 110 lb paper) for the mattes. It will hold up better than standard paper. You can find different-colored card stock at craft stores that sell scrap booking supplies.

Third, as with the frame lines, be sure that the philatelic material is well centered on the mattes and that each matte is larger than the corresponding philatelic material by the same amount. To help make sure the mattes are straight and square, use a rotary cutter available from a craft supply store.

Fourth, use the same color mattes throughout the exhibit. A variety of colors will detract from your philatelic material. The one exception is that you can use a different color matte for the few, really important pieces in the collection. Like colored frame-lines, however, do not overdo it.

Fifth, when choosing a matte color, use something light, sufficient to set off the philatelic material while not detracting from it. If possible, use a color appropriate to the theme of the exhibit. Bob Mather, for instance, uses a light gray matte for his *Donkey in Man's World* exhibit, reminiscent of a color common for donkeys. As I recall, Roland Essig used a light blue in his *Man Beneath the Sea* exhibit.

Finally, unless you want your entire exhibit to look like every piece is a mourning cover, do not use black matting or black mounts.

* * *

Obviously, there is much more to know about presentation in an exhibit, and the exhibitor will learn more of the rules, guidelines and useful techniques over time. Those presented in the past three articles should be enough to get a new exhibitor started, however, while avoiding some of the more common mistakes.

Please remember: Milcopex this year has a section on locally judged competitive exhibits, as well as a section of non-competitive exhibits, including four- and eight-page non-competitive exhibits. Milcopex also will feature larger non-competitive exhibits. It is never too late to try your hand at exhibiting! See the Milcopex website, www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org, for an exhibitor's application, or contact me for information. henak8010@sbcglobal.net.

Father Augustine Serafini Joins Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame

On April 10, 2010, delegates at the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs Annual Business Meeting voted to induct Father Augustine Serafini of Oshkosh, Wis., into the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame. Father Serafini was recognized for his many contributions to philately and continued work in support of the hobby.

Father Serafini began collecting stamps in 1946 and is readily known in conjunction with the Collectors of Religion on Stamps. He is the current president and has served as editor of *The COROS Chronicle* since 1985. He is a member of many other national specialty organizations and is recipient of the American Topical Association's Distinguished Topical Philatelists Award for



2000. He is actively involved worldwide with the North American Philatelic Circle for the Stamps of the Order of Malta and the World Union of St. Gabriel.

Father Serafini is a prolific writer, having shared his philatelic knowledge through hundreds of articles appearing in a variety of publications. He has lectured at national and international philatelic events and has exhibited his collection, titled *The Sovereign Military Order of Malta*, on several occasions.

Father Serafini, a monk and ordained priest, co-founded the Monastery of the Community of Our Lady in Oshkosh, Wis. His Hall of Fame nomination was initiated by the Oshkosh Philatelic Society.

Exhibitor Prospectus for Milcopex Available

Exhibits still needed!

All members of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs are invited to participate in Milcopex 2010, Wisconsin's national-level stamp exhibition, celebrating our return to the Wyndham Milwaukee Airport & Convention Center (formerly Four Points by Sheraton Milwaukee Airport), 4747 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 24-26, 2010.

Also, Milcopex 2010 will, for the first time, include a section of locally judged exhibits subject to Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Club standards, rather than the more restrictive national standards applicable to regular Milcopex exhibits.

Milcopex 2010 also will include a section of non-competitive exhibits, including four- and eight-page exhibits designed both to introduce novice exhibitors to the pleasures of exhibiting and to give experienced exhibitors a forum for displaying subjects too limited for even a single-frame exhibit.

The theme for this year's show is "Innovations in Philately."

Milcopex 2010 gladly accepts exhibits of all types. Consistent with our show theme, however, Milcopex 2010 especially solicits:

1. Exhibits reflecting innovations in philately, in the delivery of the mails or in the production or distribution of stamps and other philatelic items, and
2. Exhibits from novice or intermediate exhibitors or newer exhibits from established exhibitors.

Milcopex prides itself on encouraging new exhibitors and new exhibits, and welcomes all classes and levels of philatelic exhibits, from youth or novice exhibits through the most advanced, championship-level displays, as well as from the mainstream to the esoteric. As an APS World Series of Philately show, the Milcopex Grand Award winner is eligible for the annual "Champion of Champions" competition at Stampshow 2011.

Although we would like you to join us, you need not attend Milcopex in person to participate. We accept mailed exhibits and those delivered by agents.

The various exhibitor prospectuses and other information about the show are available on the MPS website, www.milwaukeephilatelic.org, by mail from Robert Henak, P.O. Box 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217, or by e-mail: henak8010@sbcglobal.net.

"Meet the Press"es Course at Milcopex 2010 A Few Spaces still available!

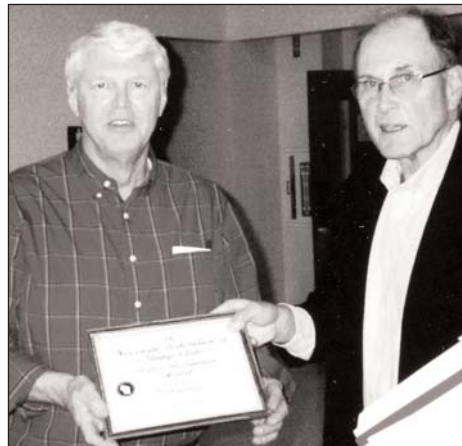
Noted philatelist and Wisconsin collector, Wayne Youngblood, will present a four-hour seminar over two days as a part of the "Innovations in Philately" theme of Milcopex. The workshop will introduce participants to the four basic forms of printing that have been used to produce United States and most stamps worldwide, including line engraving, photogravure, lithography and typography (now known as letterpress). The content of these classes will be similar (but slightly condensed) to parts of those offered by Youngblood during the annual APS Summer Seminar on Philately and at other WSP shows as a pre-course prior to the opening of those shows. This course, however, is sponsored by Milcopex and is more affordable to many.

At Milcopex, the class will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on both Friday, Sept. 24, and Saturday, Sept. 25. This will allow participants plenty of time to enjoy the show's bourse, exhibits and other educational offerings.

The fee for the class is \$35 if paid before July 31, 2010. After July 31, the fee will be \$50. Course materials will be distributed, and those completing the four-hour event will also receive several items, including a pair of the Stylized Eagle self-adhesive linerless test coil stamps (Scott TD123), which is currently valued in the *Scott Standard Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps and Covers* at \$30. That item is shown at right.

Reservations for the class, accompanied by the fee, should be mailed to MaryAnn Bowman, P.O. Box 11451, Waukesha, WI 53187.

Phil McCormick Receives Dealer Recognition Award



The 2010 WFSC Dealer Recognition Award went to Phil McCormick (left) of Neenah, Wis. McCormick was honored at Wiscopex 2010, held April 10 in Oshkosh, Wis. He is proprietor of McCormick Marketing and participates in all WFSC club shows in northeast and central Wisconsin, as well those in Madison and the Milwaukee area. He handles material in all fields of philately. McCormick was nominated for the award due to his valuable help to other dealers and to collectors in building their collections. He is recognized as a great example of what a stamp dealer should be, and was presented the award by WFSC President Maurice Wozniak (right).



Across the Fence Post

**Attend a show
near you
soon!**

July-August 2010

Minutes of the 79th Annual Business Meeting, WFSC, April 10, 2010

Minutes of the 79th Annual Business Meeting of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Saturday April 10, 2010, 1 p.m., Valley Christian School Oshkosh, Wis.

Attendance: Attendees included WFSC officers, committee members, nine club delegates and interested Wiscopex show attendees.

President Maurice Wozniak called the meeting to order and offered an invocation.

Roll Call: The roll call of clubs was taken by Vice President Jim Stollenwerk in the secretary's absence.

Membership: Paul Schroeder offered the following report in Chuck Green's absence. The membership total for 2010 is 769. We have a roster of 27 clubs with three reports pending. The current membership rate is \$1.50 per adult member with a club minimum of \$15 and a maximum of \$300. Member-at-large rate is \$10 annually.

2009 Minutes: Minutes from the 2009 Annual meeting, as printed in *Across the Fence Post* were unanimously approved.

Officers' Reports

President: Maurice Wozniak noted that times are changing, and many historically popular pastimes, such as professional baseball, have had periods of relative decline. Currently, the United States Postal Service and American Philatelic Society are both looking at long-range plans to survive downturns. Membership in APS has dropped from a high of 57,749 in 1993 to 38,000 today. Popularity affects our hobby only peripherally. If our interest is in finding and collecting stamps, covers or other things philatelic, we can do it whether there is an average of 1,000 other stamp collectors per state or just 265 per state. Individual enjoyment of stamp collecting does not have to change – and as we learn more and take advantage of the wealth of education available to us it can be even more enjoyable.

Vice-President: Jim Stollenwerk reported that he stood ready to step in when needed.

Secretary: Judy Essig was not present.

Treasurer: In Chuck Green's absence, copies of the balance sheet and the profit and loss statements for 2009 were distributed by Paul Schroeder. They showed assets and liabilities of \$9,986.23 for the year 2009 and a loss of \$243.57 on income of \$2,270.77.

It was learned after the close of Wiscopex 2010 that Chuck Green, who had been ill for some time, had died April 9 after passing relevant financial material to Paul Schroeder for presentation.]

Vice President - Youth: MaryAnn Bowman reported extensive activity.

Last April, she represented the Federation at Milwaukee's two-day Kidfest. Youth were introduced to the hobby with displays and give-away philatelic material. I presented one program at the event.

In May she prepared more than 70 stamp collecting goodie bags for children at the Mary Lasker first-day event in Watertown.

This past fall she organized and arranged for the visit of Alex Haimann, a collections specialist from the National Postal Museum. He attended 21 classes in five Waukesha schools. Each presentation was geared toward the curriculum the students were studying. I accompanied him on all of the visits.

During October's National Stamp Collecting Month celebration, the WFSC was involved in a special stamp collecting promotion at the Appleton Children's Museum. Several WFSC members helped out. The museum's target audience, however, was a

little too young to truly appreciate the hobby.

Bowman writes about youth and stamp collecting for the APS and American Topical Association. She has been instrumental in bringing about changes for the betterment of youth and philately. "Stepping stone" exhibits of four and eight pages are being experimented with on a national level.

Most recently, the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum appointed Bowman to its New Initiatives committee, where she will be heading up an aggressive youth program that she wrote and presented to the committee last year.

She thanked the Federation members who donated philatelic material to her over the past year, saying their support of youth philately is appreciated.

Northwest Region VP: Allan Marcus reported the Green Bay Philatelic Society is doing well. Meetings are well attended, and new members have joined after showing interest at their annual stamp show, Baypex.

The Northwoods Philatelic Society of Iron Mountain, Mich., is an enthusiastic group of approximately 25-30 avid collectors. At least 20 members attend monthly meetings at which an auction at every meeting encourages attendance.

The Outagamie Club of Appleton holds a small auction at each meeting and sponsors an annual show. The club believes stamp shows are the best way to interest the general public. The shows are always well attended and draw collectors from surrounding areas. Parents bring their kids, and teachers are becoming aware of the educational benefits of "collecting in areas of geography, history and famous people."

East Central VP: Vern Witt said he had visited four clubs in his area and presented all pertinent information from WFSC to members present and had received no requests, complaints or messages to be presented to the annual meeting.

Central Region VP: Mike Lenard said he had made no personal visits to any of the Central Region clubs in 2009, although telephone contacts were made with each club.

The Northwoods Club of Rhinelander disbanded in 2009 but will have a stamp/coin show in 2010.

The Minocqua Stamp Club (approximately 20 members) will be encouraged to join the WFSC in the near future.

The remaining clubs in his region are all active with various programs. Most memberships have remained constant or increased slightly.

Southeast Region VP-1: Art Schmitz reported it has been an interesting and eventful period for the clubs of the southeast region, which had been represented by three vice presidents. After the death of one regional vice president and resignation of another, Schmitz added those clubs to his duties and visited all the clubs.

The North Shore club is trying a luncheon at a nice restaurant as a meeting place.

It was a thrill to see a large turnout at the Waukesha club meeting. An interesting gambit developed by Paul Zientak of the Northwestern Mutual Club is a philatelic quiz based on U.S. stamps with only a small segment of the stamp showing.

ATA Chapter 5 of Wauwatosa, Milwaukee and Waukesha clubs all seem to be doing well. However, although the Milwaukee Club has 130 members, there was a little more than 10% represented the evening he visited, and this seems to be true of most of our clubs, he said. It may be an idea to work up a log of the total membership of each club and the number of attendees at each meeting with an eye to finding ways to

increase actual attendance, he suggested.

Southeast Region VP-2: Temporarily Vacant

South Central Region VP: Temporarily Vacant

Southwest Region VP: Valerie Cook, in a submitted report, said that her Janesville club had a successful show, but attendance has been going down. The club has been viewing stamp info from APS, thanks to Gary Wentworth, which has added greatly to meetings, she said.

The Rockford (Ill.) Stamp Club dropped out of the Federation. She has talked to the Badger Stamp Club and Monroe Stamp and Postcard Club, however, and both are doing fine.

Standing Committee Reports

Finance Committee: No report.

Publicity and Public Relations: MaryAnn Bowman noted that the Mary Lasker first-day event in Watertown was an opportunity for the Federation to showcase the hobby in a positive light in a small community. President Wozniak and Bowman planned and implemented the event. On the day of the event Bob Mather and Karen Weigt displayed exhibits of Wisconsin on stamps. Weigt and her daughter, Kiley, designed the cachet. It was a very successful event.

As noted previously, Bowman arranged for Alex Haimann, the collections specialist from the National Postal Museum to talk at five Waukesha-area schools and accompanied him during his three-day trip. He was extremely well received.

The WFSC is looking forward to two important events in Wisconsin. In 2011, the National Topical Stamp Show will be held in Brookfield (in June). In 2013, the APS Stampshow will be returning to Milwaukee after an absence of 16 years. Each of these shows will require Federation volunteers at the society table.

This summer the WFSC is sponsoring a bus trip to Americover in Oak Brook, Ill., on Saturday Aug. 7. Americover is the national exhibition and convention of the American First Day Cover Society. It offers a full bourse of dealers, many who do not usually attend Wisconsin shows. The bus will leave the Watertown Plank Road park and ride lot at 8:30 am and leave Illinois at 4 pm. The trip requires a minimum of 25 adults at \$30 each. Children's fare is \$10. This is not a money-making event but a service to Federation members. Rebates will be given if money collected exceeds the cost of the bus rental.

As always, your committee is looking for new ideas to promote the hobby.

Karen Weigt reiterated the information on the Mary Lasker event.

Weigt reports: "My biggest responsibility is to produce the annual show/bourse/club meeting information flier. Although it is distributed annually with the September issue of *ATFP*, it is continually updated throughout the year. The updates appear on the web site. Please be sure to let me know if your club changes its meeting place or time. I also need to know the date and location of your shows for coordinating the WFSC show calendar, the purpose of which is for publicity, and to avoid conflicting dates.

"As usual, I coordinated and staffed WFSC socie-

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ty tables at last fall's Milcopex and today's Wiscopex. I produced the stamp wallets stock cards we were giving out at the show. They serve to keep the WFSC name up front and create goodwill among our membership.

"Last summer, I somewhat grudgingly got an old job back – something I used to do as WFSC secretary. That is, I handle ordering name badges for our WFSC officers. In reality, though, it does fall into the realm of publicity and public relations. Our members can identify the WFSC officers, officers can take pride in their positions and the name of the Federation is out there on their jackets.

"As done in years past, immediately after Wiscopex 2010, I will prepare and send several press releases announcing actions taken at the event."

Judging Committee: Roland Essig said he mailed a questionnaire to all judges to update information. Several indicated they had not judged in a long time, which means we will have to do some retraining. Essig's report continued: "I have also sent e-mails to those clubs hosting shows offering to assist with the assignment of judges for the shows but have not received responses. Based on the number of judges it would be ideal to have each of them judge at least once a year. This may create a financial burden on the clubs as they may need three judges at a show. The Federation may want to consider assisting the clubs.

"Retraining of judges will require bringing them up to speed on the new categories and classifications as well as the rule changes. By following the APS judging manual an exhibitor will be prepared to exhibit beyond the state shows.

"At present there are no apprentice judges, although one individual expressed interest."

Wisconsin Stamp Suggestion Committee: Paul Schroeder reported he had not been as active as planned. He said he hoped to send an article to the *ATFP* listing names and asking for suggestions. He pointed out that the USPS works at least three years in advance when developing its stamp issue program.

He offered these thoughts: The pending issue is the Wisconsin flag – coil series set of six – with a 2012 issue date.

Subject and Individuals Suggestions: Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who died in 2005, was born and spent his early years in Wisconsin with later years in Arizona and Washington, D.C. Others include pianist Walter Liberace, Gov. Robert M. LaFollette Sr., and Environmentalist Aldo Leopold. Hollywood People: Don Ameche, Orson Wells, Spencer Tracy, Pat O'Brien and Frederick March. Wisconsin People: Rev. Claude Alouez, Helen Farnsworth Mears and Chief Oshkosh.

Committee on Exhibitions: No report.

Bylaws Committee: Karen Weigt noted that the Bylaws and Standing Rules are now posted on the WFSC website. Other than handling the transmission of these documents to Steve Kluskens, our Webmaster, there was no other action taken by the committee.

Special Committees/Projects and Other Appointees Reports

Newsletter: No Report [Editor's note: An extensive verbal report was given at the meeting. Essentially, production of the newsletter is going fairly smoothly. However, material is always needed, and it was suggested that member clubs could take turns submitting an article in each newsletter as a form of outreach and promotion. Also, feedback is important and welcomed by the editor to help gauge interest and provide material that is more appropriate to the membership. It was noted that the survey being taken by the Editorial Advisory Council should be a helpful thing.

Another very important point made is that advertising is what helps offset the production costs of the newsletter (printing only, as all else is volunteer), and that suggesting potential new advertisers is everyone's responsibility. Also, to help retain advertising, members should always make an effort to buy and sell stamps the ATFP advertisers. Even though many advertisers bear the cost to help support the Federation and the hobby, they do need to know that advertising in ATFP also makes business sense. Please patronize our advertisers!]

Advertising: No report

Editorial Advisory Council: MaryAnn Bowman noted that, in an attempt to tailor the content of the *ATFP* to meet the philatelic interests of the WFSC membership, a survey was developed and input was being sought at the show. She said there was some concern that the printing bills need to be offset by more advertising, but generating advertising won't happen without more input from readers.

Based on the results of the survey, the Council will attempt to solicit writers and articles to meet the philatelic interests of members.

Historian: Verna Shackleton brought the WFSC album to Wiscopex for visitors to see.

Bluebook: Jim Stollenwerk reported on a continuing project to update the *Bluebook*, a guide to producing a stamp show, and make it available on the WFSC web site.

American Philatelic Society: No report.

American Topical Association: Bob Mather summarized forthcoming ATA shows, notably the 2011 show in Wisconsin.

Cover exchange Program: MaryAnn Bowman said the 2009 cover exchange was successful. Twenty individuals or groups submitted 180 commemorative covers and 170 first-day covers, which were exchanged at the rate of participants sending in 10 all alike and receiving eight different. The promotion is held during October, National Stamp Collecting Month.

Wisconsin on Stamps: No Report

Awards Chairman: No Report

Webmaster: Steve Kluskens

"Website traffic was down 7% in 2009 from the previous year, the first time I've ever seen a drop for any website. The internet has matured into mainstream economy, so it will be subject to its ups and downs. Nonetheless, pages on the website were viewed more than 60,000 times in 2009. The most significant news of the year is the site's rise to No. 4 on Google searches for stamp clubs – Google being the dominant way people find things online. The site comes in No. 1 on searches for Wisconsin stamp dealers. These high rankings result from frequently updating the site with current information, such as schedules, events and club news."

Speakers Bureau: Karen Weigt reported two programs have been added to the listing, both from Badger Stamp Club members. Mike Lybarger's *Confessions of a Stamp Soaker* is a humorous presentation of his experiences as a part-time mail order

Getting club information into ATFP

To make sure your stamp club's activities and information are noted in the "Clubs are Trump" section of *Across the Fence Post*, please send newsletters or other information to President Maurice Wozniak, 1010 Berlin St., Waupaca, WI 54981 (mwoz@live.com).

Submissions of club news may be sent directly to the editor.

dealer. A new name on the list is that of Joe Lutz, who gives a program on Barcelona Local Tax Stamps. Weigt asked that others consider sharing their philatelic knowledge with fellow collectors.

She offered copies of the updated list to delegates for their clubs.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Awards

Hall of Fame: Verna Shackleton observed that the nominating procedure for a candidate is posted on the WFSC website.

She noted that the Wisconsin Hall of Fame album has been upgraded to modern archival format and materials by Karen Weigt who also digitalized it.

The Hall of Fame committee offered one candidate for the Class of 2010. The Oshkosh Philatelic Society nominated the Rev. Augustine Serafini of Oshkosh and it was seconded by the Outagamie Philatelic Society and ATA Chapter 5. His printed biography was distributed to all the delegates at the meeting to save reading time. The nomination was unanimously accepted by the delegates.

[Fr. Serafini was presented with a certificate by President Maurice Wozniak, signifying his honor at a party following Wiscopex 2010. See story on Page 4.]

Dealer Recognition: Maurice Wozniak announced the selection by the WFSC board of Phil McCormick of Neenah the Dealer Recognition award.

[He also was presented with a certificate at the party after Wiscopex 2010. See story on Page 4.]

Election of Officers: The Nominations Committee chairman, Paul Schroeder, offered a slate of candidates for officer positions, including incumbents secretary, Judy Essig; vice president, youth division, MaryAnn Bowman; and regional vice presidents Mike Lenard (Central), Allan Marcus (Northeast), Valerie Cook (Southwest), Vern Witt (East Central), and Arthur Schmitz (Southeast); and a new candidate for treasurer, Allen Vick. The slate was unanimously elected.

Appointments

Standing Committee on Exhibitions: Allan Marcus reappointed.

Nominating Committee for 2011 Convention: Paul Schroeder, Allan Marcus and Brian Leidtke reappointed in accordance with WFSC bylaws.

Hall of Fame Committee: Darren Mueller appointed member, joining Karen Weigt, chairman, and Art Gaffney.

Newsletter Editor: Wayne Youngblood reappointed.

Announcements: None

Closed Albums: The following individuals who died during 2009 were remembered after being mentioned by club delegates:

Art Petri - ATA Chapter 5, Milwaukee Philatelic Society

Cy Volk - Milwaukee Philatelic Society

Guenther Heller - Milwaukee Philatelic Society

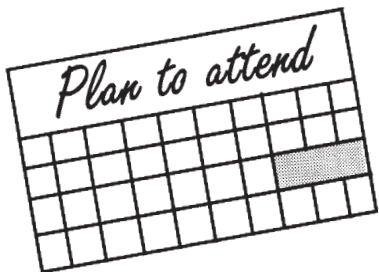
Mary Einwick - Waukesha County Philatelic Society

Pat Brookman - Central Wisconsin Stamp Club

A Motion of Thanks: Jim Stollenwerk offered a resolution to thank the Wiscopex 2010 host club, the Oshkosh Philatelic Society, and delegates passed the resolution by acclamation.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Jim Byrne and seconded by Jim Stollenwerk to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes amended by President Maurice Wozniak in absence of Secretary.



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.

2010 WFSC show schedule*

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

Sept. 24-26, 2010

Milcopex '10
Milwaukee Philatelic Society
 Wyndham Milwaukee Airport & Conv.Center (formerly Four Points by Sheraton Milw. Airport)
 4747 So. Howell Ave., Milwaukee, WI
Contact: Robert Henak, NSPS, P.O. Box 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217 - 414-351-1519, henak8010@sbcglobal.net, www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

Nov. 6, 2010

Cenwispex '10
Central Wisconsin Stamp Club
 Plover Village Hall, 2400 Post Rd., Plover, WI, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: J.D. Manville, P.O. Box 845, Stevens Point, WI 54481 (715) 498-1111

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

July 16-18, 2010

Crystal, Minn. - 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

Oct. 9, 2010

Monroe Stamp, Postcard & Coin Show
Monroe Stamp and Postcard Club
 Moose Lodge, 639 3rd Ave., Monroe, WI, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Contact: Earl Button, 1214 Second St., Monroe, WI 53566 (608) 328-2827, ebutton@tds.net

Nov. 20, 2010

Oshkosh Stamp Bourse
Oshkosh Philatelic Society
 Elk's Club, 175 Fernau St., Oshkosh, WI, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: Al Marcus - 920-725-0798, allan.marym@hotmail.com

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July 24-25, 2010

Prospect Heights, Ill.
MSDA Summer Stamp Show
Midwest Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Wingate Inn, 600 Milwaukee Ave.

Oct. 11, 2010

WaUSApeX '10
Wisconsin Valley Philatelic Society
 Wausau Labor Temple, Stewart and 3rd Aves., Wausau, WI, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Contact: WVPS, P.O. Box 71, Wausau, WI 54402-0071, mjlenard@aol.com

Aug. 6-8, 2010

Oak Brook, Ill.
Americover 2010
American First Day Cover Society
 Chicago Marriott Oak Brook
 1401 W. 22nd St

Oct. 23, 2010

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

Aug. 21-22, 2010

Lombard, Ill.
MSDA Summer Stamp Show West
Midwest Stamp Dealers Assoc.
 Lindner Conference Center
 610 E. Butterfield Rd.

Oct. 23-24, 2010

Tosapex '10
Wauwatosa 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: John Fagan - 262-251-0617, faganfalls@aol.com

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I'm cleaning out the stamp room again (still)!

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Nov. 19-21, 2010

Itasca, Ill.
Chicagopex '10
Chicago Philatelic Society
 Westin Chicago Northwest Hotel
 400 Park Blvd.

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Annual Meeting - Lundy Collector's Club
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(414) 464-6994
harryncarolschutta@gmail.com

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