

# ACROSS THE FENCE



Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By WFSC President Karen Weigt

## WISCOPEX Wrap-Up



It happened again! — another great convention at the Retlaw-Plaza Hotel in Fond du Lac. For those who didn't make it, WISCOPEX '15 was held May 16-17, with a variety of activities to appease attendees of all stripes. All could not have happened, however, without the many volunteers who stepped forward to provide their time and effort. (See our "thank-you" on p. 2.)

All but just one or two of the dealers are looking forward to signing up again for 2016, when WISCOPEX will be held once more at the Retlaw, April 30 to May 1. For 2016, though, the Fond du Lac Stamp Club will host the event. Clarence Davis, the club president, is serving as general chairman, with Bill Manka taking over as bourse chairman. (See contact information on p. 11 within the show's listing on the WFSC Show Schedule.)

Most impressive at this year's event were the extraordinary national-level exhibits

(see winnings on p. 4), our great slate of seminar speakers, banquet speaker John L. Leszak, a successful donation auction, impressive youth/beginner's room, expert appraisers, and full-time presence of the Fond du Lac Post Office with an extremely pleasant clerk who provided superb cancels!

Delegates at the 84th Annual Business Meeting took a serious look at *Across the Fence Post's* financial health. They concluded that some clubs might consider reducing the number of copies requested. This would help considerably in mailing costs.

Elsewhere scattered throughout this July-August *ATFP*, are announcements of further actions occurring at the convention: inductees to the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame, a new East Central Region VP, new WFSC certified judge, 2015 WFSC Dealer Recognition Award, etc.

Of personal regret at the convention meeting was Aimée Devine's reminder that she is stepping down as *ATFP* editor. It has been pure pleasure working with her and I will miss her. Looking forward, though, is Michael Mules taking over with the September issue. I have

confidence all will go well with him in charge. He is mega-smart, always being one step ahead when I've called for his help as WFSC's VP.

We learned at the meeting, too, that Dave Carney is retiring his position of *ATFP* ad manager. I thank Dave for his many years of service. Fortunately, I have had the pleasure of appointing John St. Onge, of Waukesha, Wis., to fill that position. I and members of the WFSC Executive Board are delighted to have John aboard as a member of the "official family."

With WISCOPEX '15 now history, I'll be spending the next two months reviewing committee appointments, which will appear in my September message.

With WISCOPEX '16 safely in the hands of the Fond du Lac Stamp Club, the WFSC can look to WISCOPEX '17. We urge our member clubs to consider hosting the 2017 event. Perhaps two or three clubs in close proximity can work together. Another option is to work in cooperation with the WFSC as the Fond du Lac Stamp Club did in 2014. The result was a significant increase in club membership and renewed confidence and enthusiasm to stage a philatelic event.

Best wishes to all for a great summer! ☺

July/August 2015

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Chapter 350

Chapter 107

[www.wfscstamps.org](http://www.wfscstamps.org)



"Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs"

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## ATFP in Transition

Please note that both editor and ad manager positions for *ATFP* are in transition. Our new editor, as of the September issue, is Michael Mules, who is also the WFSC's VP. Effective immediately, send all editorial material to Michael at P.O. Box 6, Salem, WI 53168, or by email to [pnc5dealer@gmail.com](mailto:pnc5dealer@gmail.com).

Effective as of July 11, our new ad manager is John St. Onge. Send all ads and ad payments

to John C. St. Onge, 2711 River Edge Ct., Waukesha, WI 53189, or by email to [jcstonge@gmail.com](mailto:jcstonge@gmail.com).

The WFSC is extremely grateful to Aimée Devine, who served as *ATFP* editor since 2012 and achieved a gold award in the 2013 American Philatelic Society Chapter Activities Committee Newsletter Competition.

The WSC also thanks Dave Carney for his many years of efforts to secure ads and handle ad payments. ☺



# Huge Thanks for Your Help with WISCOPEX 2015

Badger Stamp Club (use of exhibit frames)  
 Fond du Lac Stamp Club (volunteer help)  
 Milwaukee Philatelic Society (monetary donation)  
 Bob Mather (show buttons)  
 John Paré (monetary donation)  
 Clarence Davis, Pres., Fond du Lac Stamp Club (show contact, coordinate publicity drops and show helpers)  
 Aimée Devine (youth and beginner's room)  
 Rob Henak (exhibits chairman)  
 Greg Schmidt (full-time go-to assist)  
 Al and Agnes Vick (Wisconsin Postal History donation sales)  
 Bob Voss and Michael Mules (bourse co-chairmen)  
 Nancy Warner (donation auction chairman)

WISCOPEX 2015 Planning Committee (MaryAnn Bowman, Aimée Devine, Ken Grant, Michael Mules, John Paré, Al Vick, Maurice Wozniak and others in the WFSC "official family" who contributed comments)

15 dealers  
 Auction donors (64 lots)  
 Appraisers (Dave Ritger, Larry Glenzer, Paul Schroeder, Pete Smith)  
 Banquet setup (Dixie Borchert, Aimée Devine)  
 Dealer assist (Dixie Borchert, Greg Schmidt)  
 Exhibit frames transportation (Nancy Warner)  
 Exhibitors (two clubs, competitive and non-competitive)  
 Judges (Ken Grant, Dan Undersander)  
 Photos (Aimée Devine, Michael Mules, Karen Weigt)

Publicity (MaryAnn Bowman – mailing, Karen Weigt - press releases)  
 Seminar speakers (Chris Barney, Dave Burrows, Aimée Devine, Larry Glenzer, Rob Henak, Jim Sorenson and Greg Schmidt.)  
 Setup/takedown (David, Dixie and Angie Borchert, Aimée Devine, Rob Henak, Bill Manka, Bob Mather, Greg Schmidt, Paul Schroeder, Al Vick, Bob Voss, Nancy Warner, Karen Weigt)  
 Show cover/cancel design and canceling (Karen Weigt, Paul Schroeder)  
 Society table (Dave and Dixie Borchert, Greg Schmidt, Paul Schroeder, Diane Schwark, Karen Weigt)



## Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs Officers

### PRESIDENT:

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 -Northwoods Philatelic Society  
 -Oshkosh Philatelic Society  
 -Outagamie Philatelic Society  
 -Wisconsin Postal History Society  
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 -Sheboygan Stamp Club

### SW REGION VP:

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 -Badger Stamp Club  
 -Baraboo Stamp Club  
 -Janesville Stamp Club  
 -Monroe Stamp & Postcard Club

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION VP:

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 -American Topical Association (Chapter 5)  
 -Germany Philatelic Society (Chapter 18)  
 -Italian American Stamp Club  
 -Milwaukee Philatelic Society  
 -North Shore Philatelic Society (Milwaukee)  
 -Northwestern Mutual Stamp Club  
 -Waukesha County Philatelic Society  
 -Wauwatosa Philatelic Society  
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 -Central Wisconsin Stamp Club  
 -Chippewa Valley Stamp Club  
 -Lakeland Stamp & Coin Club  
 -Wisconsin Valley Philatelic Society

*Across the Fence Post* is the official publication of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. WFSC also is a life member of the APS (since 1953). For more information about WFSC, please visit the website, [www.wfscstamps.org](http://www.wfscstamps.org).

*ATFP* is published monthly September through April, and every other month May through August (10 issues per year). News of Wisconsin collectors, club news and other gratis original philatelic features are welcomed. The editor accepts submissions in any format, but prefers email if possible. The 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 the 1st of the month preceding month of publication (i.e. Jan. 1st for Feb. issue). Editorial matter should be sent to: Michael Mules, Incumbent Editor *ATFP* (as of Sept. issue), P. O. Box 6, Salem, WI 53168. Phone: 414-234-9867 (pnc5dealer@gmail.com)

Send advertising material to John St. Onge, Advertising Manager, *ATFP*, 2711 River Edge Ct., Waukesha, WI 53189-6806. Phone 262-893-5210 (jcostonge@gmail.com). For a complete list of advertising rates and policies (display, classified, and listings), request a copy from the advertising manager.

# 2015 Hall of Fame Inductees

By Karen Weigt

Three outstanding philatelists joined the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame on May 16, 2015. The induction ceremony of Carl Kannewurf, Jim Stearns, and Allen Vick took place at the WISCOPEX '15 Awards Banquet held at the Retlaw Plaza Hotel, Fond du Lac, Wis.

**Carl Kannewurf**, of Illinois, was a longtime member of the Wisconsin Postal History Society and had spent decades researching and collecting postal history items of Kewaunee County. He and his wife, Patricia Sharpe, lived in Illinois, where he was a professor at Northwestern University and vacationed regularly at the property in Door County. Thus, his interest in the area.

After more than 20 years in planning, the Kannewurfs were finalizing plans to write their history of Kewaunee County postal history in 2008 and have it published in 2009. Hundreds of hours of research and years of acquisition of covers and photographs had been expended in the work. Unfortunately, at that



**Figure 1. Kannewurf's book, "Here Comes the Mail."**

time, Patricia suffered some serious illness and Carl passed away from a stroke. Patricia died a month later. Their voluminous research was inherited by Virginia Johnson, another veteran Kewaunee County historian, who edited their transcripts of research and produced the 294-page book that Carl had envisioned. Titled "Here Comes the Mail," it was published in 2010 by Silverdale Press, Sturgeon Bay, Wis. (Figure 1). The book serves as a model for postal historians of other Wisconsin counties to follow.

Carl was posthumously nominated by the Waukesha County Philatelic Society with seconds from the Wisconsin Postal History Society and the American Topical Association Chapter 5.

**Jim Stearns**, of Iron Mountain, Mich., is a founding member of the

Northwoods Philatelic Society and has served as the club's secretary since the mid-1980s (Figure 2). He also is the northernmost member of the Green Bay Philatelic Society and has served as a past-president of the Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada Stamp Club. On the national level, he received his 25-year pin from the American Philatelic Society at the APS's 2001 Stamp Camp, where he is a frequent participant.

Jim has been a part-time dealer in stamps and postcards since 1974 and has participated as a dealer at shows in both Wisconsin and Michigan. While marketing postcards, he encourages postcard collectors to look beyond the picture and philatelists to look beyond the stamp and cancel.

Jim is a true ambassador for philately. He helps to ensure that the NPS's biennial Stamp Camp for Kids in the Iron Mountain area takes place. He has spoken to school children, the Kiwanis Cub, and other adult groups. He furthermore has worked with local Boy Scouts pursuing their stamp collecting merit badge.

He wrote an extensive article on Moroccan stamps that appeared in *Across the Fence Post*. He has created exhibits, two of which are available on the WFSC website. Being community minded, with other NPS members, Jim was instrumental in developing and marketing two covers to help raise money for local charities.

Jim's nomination states: "He is highly respected among the philatelic community ... and has been instrumental in countless ways in promoting our wonderful hobby."

Jim was nominated by the Northwoods Philatelic Society (Iron Mountain,



**Figure 2. Jim Stearns**

Mich.) with seconds from the Bay de Noc Stamp and Coin Club (Escanaba, Mich.) and the Green Bay Philatelic Society.

**Allen Vick**, of Stoughton, Wis., is a member of the Badger Stamp Club (Madison), the Wisconsin Postal History Society, the Oklahoma Postal History Society, American Air Mail Society, life member of the American Philatelic Society, and founding member of the Four Lakes Postcard Club (Figure 3).

Al served as president, vice president, and secretary of the now disbanded Madison Stamp Club. He has been active throughout the years in local club shows and is on the WISCOPEX Planning Committee.



**Figure 3. Allen Vick**

Al's service to the WFSC goes back to 1979, when he was first elected as southwest region VP. He's been the WFSC's auditor intermittently since the late 1970s, and became treasurer in 2010, stepping in at a desperate time of need to fill the position at mid-term when the then-treasurer became ill and passed away.

When not working on his postal history, airmail covers, and postcard collections, Al keeps busy serving in the American Legion Honor Guard, which performs military rites at veteran's funerals. He also collects, repairs, and restores antique clocks; and tends to a huge vegetable garden each summer.

Al's service to philately spans 50-plus years. He has answered the call to organized philately when needed, and as WFSC southwest region VP was instrumental in reviving the Badger Stamp Club in the mid-1980s. Al says he has gotten a lot of enjoyment from the hobby and has always felt an obligation to give something back.

Al was nominated by the Badger Stamp Club with seconds from the Waukesha County Philatelic Society and the Wisconsin Postal History Society.

## 2015 WISCOPEX Palmares

May 16-17, Fond du Lac, Wis.

### CHAMPION OF CHAMPION COMPETITION

Larry Nix- *Libraries and the Mail in America 1900-1960*

Also: **Champion of Champions**

Robert R. Henak- *The U.S. Prevent Drug Abuse Stamp and Its First Day Covers*

John Paré- *The 1948 Wisconsin Issue: Production, First Day Covers, Postal Uses*

### ADULT COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

#### Multiframe Gold (First Place Ribbon)

Robert R. Henak- *SPUDS: The Cultivation and Uses of Potatoes in the U.S. at the Turn of the Last Century*

Also: **Best of Show; Essig Most Popular Exhibit**

#### Multiframe Silver (Second Place Ribbon)

Robert Jobe- *Freely Associated States - Precanceled Booklets and Panes*

Also: **American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Silver Award of Honor**

Ramona Witte- *The Art of Stamps: Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*

Also: **Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award**

### NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

Wendy Jobe- *The Meaning of Love*

Roland Essig (Deceased)- *Select Pages from Circus Collection*

#### Badger Stamp Club Team Exhibit:

Charles Shoemaker- *Mail from Greenland to Canada 1930's/1940's*

Allen Vick- *U.S. Army Postal Service Liberation of Belgium 1944-45*

Karen Weigt- *U.S. 1999 University of Wisconsin Postal Card First*

*Day Cancel Varieties*

Bob Voss- *19th Century Semipostals*

#### Waukesha County Philatelic Society Team Exhibit:

Frank Kos- *Malaria*

Robert Mather- *Mismatches*

Robert Ulatt- *Mermaids*

George Strieter- *Mailboxes*

Judges: Ken Grant, Dan Undersander

## Wisconsin Postal History Society Wins WISCOPEX '15 Club Award – AGAIN!

The Wisconsin Postal History Society once again won the WISCOPEX Club Award by earning the most points for exhibits entered at WISCOPEX '15.

The purpose of this award is to encourage WFSC clubs to promote exhibiting. Points are credited to each club for which the exhibitor holds membership. The point system is as follows: Champion of Champions – 5, Best of Show – 4, any 1st Place – 3, any 2nd Place – 2, any 3rd Place – 1.

Here are the points earned by each club at WISCOPEX '15:

Wisconsin Postal History Society – 9 points

Badger Stamp Club – 8 points

American Topical Association Chapter 5 – 6 points

Milwaukee Philatelic Society – 6 points

Baraboo Stamp Club – 2 points

Central Wisconsin Stamp Club – 2 points



*Congratulations*

**Wisconsin Postal History Society!**

## Closed Album - Frank Moertl

Frank Moertl, of Hartland, Wis., died on May 9, 2015, at age 89. He had resided for the past several years at St. Anne's Center in Milwaukee, Wis., in various levels of resident care.

Frank was a charter member of the Waukesha County Philatelic Society and served as the group's president, secretary and treasurer. He was also a member of the Milwaukee Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association Chapter 5.

As an avid postal history researcher, Frank was especially active in the Wisconsin Postal

History Society. He was secretary-treasurer for the WPHS from 1974-96. He

later served as president for several years. Frank did an amazing amount of work on revising and updating WPHS publications and authored many of his own. He had a special interest in Wisconsin ink-jet cancels and return-to-sender markings, as well as postal forms and labels. His later interest included personalized postage stamps.

Frank was an active exhibitor and Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs certified judge. For about 10 years, he was chairman of the WFSC Judging Committee. He was a WFSC southeast region VP and served

on the WFSC Hall of Fame Committee for numerous years.

Frank was inducted to the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame in 1991. He was honored with the Greater Milwaukee Area Distinguished Philatelist Award in 1992. In 2014, he received the initial Wisconsin Postal History Society's Frank Moertl Lifetime Achievement Award.

Frank will be remembered by many in the philatelic community for his abundant contributions to the hobby, his warm smile, and gentle demeanor. ☞



## Bill Birch Receives WFSC Dealer Recognition Award

Bill Birch, proprietor of Lake Country Stamps, Hartland, Wis., was honored with the WFSC 2015 Dealer Recognition Award. The presentation took place at the WISCOPEX '15 Awards Banquet.

Bill started collecting stamps when he was nine years old. While primarily interested in U.S., he also had accumulated worldwide stamps which he began trading. Bill says, "The trading and selling of the worldwide stamps actually was more fun than collecting and he knew at a young age that he wanted to be a dealer."

Upon retirement from his job as an engineer, he decided to turn his hobby into a business. He attended Waukesha County Technical College

for a certificate in small business management, and then obtained a license to do business in the state of Wisconsin.

Although a somewhat new Wisconsin dealer, he has earned the favor and respect of his customer base that continues to grow. He furthermore is more than willing to cater to the youth. Bill carries a wide range of moderately priced inventory of worldwide and U.S. stamps and covers.

Bill says the best part of being a dealer is the social interaction with both collectors and other dealers at stamp shows.

Bill has been a member of the Waukesha County Philatelic Society for 27 years. Six years ago, he joined the American Topical Association Chapter 5.

On the national level, he's been a member of the American Philatelic Society for 27 years. 

**Karen Weigt  
presenting  
Bill the  
Dealer  
Recognition  
Award at  
the banquet.  
Congratulations,  
Bill!**



## Don Kurki Elected New East Central Region VP



Don Kurki, of Fond du Lac, Wis., is the new WFSC East Central Region VP. He was elected to the position at the WFSC's Annual Business Meeting held at WISCOPEX '15, on May 16, in Fond du Lac, Wis.

Don started collecting stamps 48 years ago at age nine. His interests are U.S. 1847 to 1965,

U.S. EFO's, Scandinavia 1840-1935, and Canada 1850 to 1955.

He has been a member of the Fond du Lac Stamp Club for over 30 years. He is also a member of the American Topical Association Chapter 5, Scandinavian Stamp Collectors Club, United States Stamp Society, and a life member of the American Philatelic Society.

Don has lived in Fond du Lac for 31 years and recently joined the Mach Funeral Chapel after 31½ years at the Uecker-Witt Funeral Home, both in Fond du Lac. Don's wife, Barb, is retired from teaching kindergarten for 35 years in the Rosendale-Brandon School District. They have one son and two grandsons.

Don replaces Darren Mueller, who held the East Central Region VP position since 2012. The WFSC thanks Darren for his service. 

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"Wisconsin Federation  
of Stamps Clubs"



## Dan Undersander New WFSC Judge



Dan Undersander, of Madison, Wis., has completed the apprenticeship requirements for certification as a WFSC philatelic exhibits judge. He received his certification after apprenticing at WISCOPEX '15, May 15-16, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Dan is a prolific exhibitor of U.S. material. He is nationally known as a leading authority on experimental coils and test and specimen stamps. He also

specializes in U.S. postal stationery essays and proofs and wrappers. He authored several books on postal stationery in conjunction with the United States Postal Stationery Society.

Dan is a member of the Badger Stamp Club (Madison) and many other national and specialty organizations. He was inducted to the Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame in 2003.

Our congratulations to Dan and many thanks for pursuing the judgeship. 

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September 25-27

9/15

## Art Schmitz Publishes War Memoir

By Gaylord Yost

I wonder if our members are looking for a little relaxing read? Here's a good one. A WFSC member and veteran of World War II recently got the urge to write about his life in the military and some of the difficulties of collecting stamps while in uniform.



Art Schmitz,  
author of  
**A Tourist in  
Uniform**

I've never heard Art Schmitz scream during the years I've known him, but nevertheless he ended up in a Screaming Eagles uniform for the 101st Airborne. Here is a man who couldn't stop collecting stamps even while the Battle of the Bulge was raging around him.

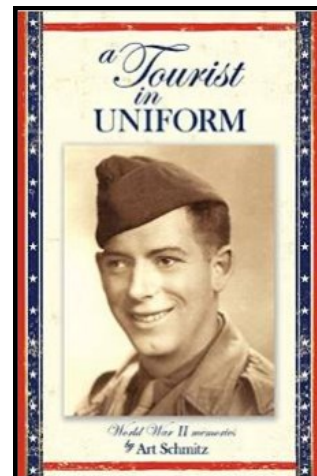
I purchased this little gem of a book because, as a boy, I too was a stamp collector and lived through the war, following the events in great detail in the newspapers. It is a book with a philatelic theme. I heartily recommend it to all philatelists who want an interesting read of how a stamp collector kept his interest alive even through the hell of war.

Get a copy of the book by emailing Art Schmitz at [pescador@milwpc.com](mailto:pescador@milwpc.com) or send a check for \$14 plus shipping to him at Arthur Schmitz, 3615 North 47th St., Milwaukee, WI, 53216-2902. ☞

## From the Dust Jacket:

Art Schmitz, an American World War II veteran born and raised in Milwaukee, tells the story of his time in the war. Including the introduction and the prologue, this story covers a time span of better than fourteen years, from approximately 1932 to 1946. It is the story of the gradual and uneven progress of Art's maturity as he moves from a sheltered home life to the relative freedom of manhood that he experiences during the war.

The story recounts the satisfaction of his wanderlust as he visits thirteen different states, only seven of them being military settings, in his time as a soldier in the United States. He continues to travel extensively while serving his country abroad in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, France, Belgium, Germany, and Austria. Finally, with the war over, he experiences returning home and the ensuing celebration and reunion of his family, and the realization of a new age of peace. ☞



## Aimée Devine Honored with WFSC President's Award

By Karen Weigt

Aimée Devine was honored with the President's Award at the WISCOPEX '15 Awards Banquet. WFSC President Karen Weigt made the presentation, lauding Aimée for her outstanding service to the federation.

Karen related that in what seems like just a handful of years, Aimée has become a treasure to not only the WFSC, but also the American Topical Association and the American Philatelic Society. She's even more beloved at her home club, the Janesville Stamp club, and, too, as a member of the Badger Stamp Club (Madison).

Aimée became involved with the Janesville Stamp Club for the purpose of introducing stamp collecting to youth. Over time, though, it seems that whenever and for whatever, Aimée has come to the rescue. When the WFSC was in dire need of someone to take over as editor of *Across the Fence Post*, Aimée stepped up. When

DANEPEX and WISCOPEX needed someone to handle the youth and beginner's room, Aimée was there.

For some time, Aimée has added many youth resources on the WFSC website. She's a member of the WFSC Website Committee, she's the WFSC Facebook Administrator, and she served on the 2013 WFSC StampShow Planning Committee and the WISCOPEX 2015 Planning Committee. She's the source of idea after idea.

On top of all of this, Aimée is a most wonderful person and the WFSC is delighted to have her a part of its administrative fraternity. ☞



Karen Weigt  
presenting the award  
at WISCOPEX.

## Editor's Farewell

It is with great sadness that I give up the editor's position, but I've been ordered by my doctor to give my wrist some rest. Since most of my day is spent on the computer schooling my children and evenings find me online doing philatelic projects, I couldn't refuse Michael Mules' gallant offer to take over as editor, thus lessening my burden. Many thanks to MaryAnn Bowman and Karen Weigt for all their help — they are both Philatelic Super Women. A thousand thank yous to everyone who sent in material to be published. Please show your support for our new editor by flooding his mailbox with articles, stories, and letters for this fine publication! ☞



## WISCOPEX Photos



The set up crew enjoyed the Friday night fish fry at a local restaurant.



Dixie Borchert helping out at the society table.



Dealer Michael Mules chatting with customers at his table.



Banquet favors reflected a circus theme.



Paul Schroeder busy canceling covers at the society table.



Guest speaker John L. Leszak kept the audience in stitches with his recollections of 50 years as a dealer.



Congratulations to Bill Birch of Lake Country Stamps for receiving the WFSC Dealer Award.



The seminar on removing adhesive stamps proved to be very popular.



The silent auction was a popular place towards the end of each auction.



Phil McCormick busy helping customers.



Karen Weigt presenting Al Vick (above) and Jim Stearns (at right) their WFSC Hall of Fame awards. Congratulations to both men and thank you both for your many years of service to the hobby.



**Wisconsin Federation  
of Stamp Clubs  
84th Convention  
2015 Annual Business  
Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, May 16, 2015  
1 p.m.  
Retlaw Plaza Hotel  
1 North Main St.  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin**

**Delegates Present:** Larry Nix, Badger Stamp Club; Clarence Davis, Fond du Lac Stamp Club; Robert Jobe, Baraboo Area Stamp Club; David Burrows, Green Bay Philatelic Society; Larry Glenzer, Central Wisconsin Stamp Club; Jim Cormany, Wauwatosa Stamp Club; Paul Zientek, Northwestern Mutual Stamp Club; Milt Wirth, Norwoods Philatelic Society; Allen Rinnemaki, Milwaukee Philatelic Society; Rob Henak, Milwaukee Philatelic Society (alternate); John St. Onge, Waukesha County Philatelic Society; Bill Lothary, Janesville Stamp Club; Sandra Kemp, Oshkosh Philatelic Society; Jan C. Brock, Sheboygan Stamp Club; Greg Schmidt, Wisconsin Postal History Society

**WFSC Board and Committee Chairs:** Karen Weigt, President; Ken Grant, Secretary; Al Vick, Treasurer; Mike Sagstetter, Central Region VP; Brian Liedtke, Nominating Committee Chair; Rob Henak, Judging Committee Chair; Paul T. Schroeder, Wisconsin Stamp Suggestion Committee Chair

1. Karen Weigt called the meeting to order at 12:59 p.m.
2. Karen Weigt read the WFSC Invocation.
3. Roll Call of Clubs: Ken Grant read the Roll Call of Clubs. Fourteen clubs responded as present.
4. Membership Totals: Al Vick reported that there are 696 paid 2015 members.
5. Approval of Minutes: Clarence Davis moved and Jim Cormany seconded a **motion to approve the 2014 Annual**

**Business Meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.**

**6. Reports of Officers**

A. President Karen Weigt: Karen reviewed her activities for the last year: Presided over all Executive Board meetings; been in contact with all WFSC officers, committees and appointees; had contact with almost all WFSC clubs in one way or another; staffed the WFSC table at MILCOPEX 2014; participated in the first-day-of-sale event at Rudolph, Wis., last October; again led the WISCOPEX Planning Committee on all aspects of this year's event; produced all the graphical items involved with WISCOPEX 2015; regularly contributed to *Across the Fence Post* and assisted with its production; coordinated the WFSC's show calendar and produced the annual show/bourse/club meeting info flier; and will continue to try to sustain the WFSC's standing as a premiere organization.

B. Vice President Michael Mules: No report.

C. Secretary Ken Grant: During the past year, as WFSC Secretary I have prepared and distributed agendas for WFSC meetings, taken minutes of Executive Board Meetings and circulated them to board members and interested parties, e-mailed club contacts as necessary with WFSC information, collected delegate information and documents for the Annual Business Meeting.

D. Treasurer Al Vick: Al Vick reviewed the year's expenses, particularly the newsletter, which is the Federation's largest expense. A detailed financial status for 2014 and membership report was distributed. In 2014 income was \$5,938.90 and expenses \$6,394.56. Our December 31 balance is \$8,645.75. Al reported that State and Federal annual reports have been submitted as required. This is required to maintain our non-profit tax exempt status. Audits are done in two-year segments. The last audit was for the years 2012 and 2013. The next audit for 2014 and 2015 will be done shortly after the end of 2015. No findings have been noted on previous audits. **Moved by Jim Cormany second by Paul**

**Zientek a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Passed unanimously.**

E. Vice President Youth Division MaryAnn Bowman: Attended first-day-of-issue ceremony in Rudolph, Wis. Prepared packets of teacher materials as well as gave small envelopes to each student in K4 to 5th grades and challenged them to create a cachet. Envelopes were submitted for a first-day cancel. Inside each first day was a stuffer offering additional first-day covers in return for a SASE. New content continued to be added to the Youth Resources section of the WFSC web pages. Spearheaded campaigns to promote youth philately in other stamp organizations resulting in the APS Stamps Teach program, a youth e-publication *Topical Tidbits* for ATA and a youth program for the AFDCS. Continue to serve on the Smithsonian's Council of Philatelists for the National Postal Museum. Currently working with the chairman of the Youth/Beginner area for the 2016 international show in New York.

F. Northeast Region VP Maurice Wozniak: No report.

G. East Central Region Darren Mueller: No report.

H. Central Region Mike Sagstetter: Mike reported on the new meeting location for the Wisconsin Valley Philatelic Society. Membership remains relatively stable.

I. Southeast Region Art Schmitz: Some of the local clubs in my district have been visited at least once, but illness kept me from visiting all the clubs between the winter board meeting and this convention. The German Philatelic Society has not yet found a new meeting place.

J. Southwest Region John Paré:

- Badger Stamp Club -- I am a member of the Badger Stamp Club and attend meetings regularly. The club is healthy, maintaining a membership of around 100 members, thirty of whom attend regular club semi-monthly meetings. Monthly auctions usually included 60-90 lots with active bidding.
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The club sponsors DANEPEX annually attracting good attendance and several exhibitors.

- Baraboo Stamp Club -- I visited the club once in the past year. The membership is very small but it appears that those who do attend do so regularly. The club conducts auctions, as well as show and tell meetings. Two members are active exhibitors. The club owes its long-time existence to the stable and reliable leadership of Ken Grant.

- Janesville Stamp Club -- I visited the club once in the past year. I also attended their most recent show. The club has an active membership of 20+ members under the long-time leadership of Art Menz. Aimée and Thomas Devine represent the next generation of leadership and they are already leaving their mark. The club's annual show is well attended and while they do have exhibitors who exhibit at their show, I would encourage them to exhibit at WISCOPEX which, I believe, would raise the quality of their exhibits once they are judged by certified judges. I believe the young exhibitors particularly would benefit from help provided by experienced exhibitors acting as mentors. Overall, the club seems to be on-going and in good shape.

- Monroe Stamp and Postcard Club-- I did not visit the club this year nor did I attend their show. I did attend their 2014 show and had a long conversation with two of the club officers. Both were concerned about maintaining their membership because like many clubs they experience attrition when members resign or pass away and the club struggles to replace those members. I will make an effort to attend a club meeting before the next Annual Meeting.

#### 7. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Finance Committee: Al Vick reported the Finance Committee meets informally at WFSC board meetings on the activities of the Finance Committee. There have not been many issues for the committee to discuss.

B. Publicity and Public Relations: No report.

C. Judging Committee: Robert Henak reported that we now have six accredited WFSC judges: Ken Grant, Robert Henak, Brian J. Liedtke, John Paré, Dan Undersander, Tim Wait. The increase of judges is a result of the adopted Judging Committee proposal to provide an alternative means of gaining accreditation for apprentices who have demonstrated significant experience on a national as well as state level. Anyone else who may be interested in either exhibiting opportunities or becoming a WFSC judge should contact Committee Chair Robert Henak.

D. Wisconsin Stamp Suggestion Committee: No activity this year.

E. Committee on Exhibitions: All three members (Paré, Glenzer, and Voss) have been active.

F. Bylaws Committee: No report.

#### 8. Reports of Special Committees/ Projects and Other Appointees

A. *Across the Fence Post* Editor: Aimée Devine reported that she has met regularly with the Editorial Advisory Council to plan issue content; tried to have the publication out in a timely manner; contacted the printer each month, along with Myra Reilly and Steve Kluskens; entered the APS CAC (Chapter Activities Committee) Newsletter competition.

B. Advertising Manager: Dave Carney reports that last year the WFSC worked out a compromise for the MILCOPEX banner ad on the front page. This is ad space we have not offered to others, but the Milwaukee Philatelic Society sent checks for that space in the April and May issues of this year. If the board wants to offer that ad space to everyone, I think it should have it on the ad information that goes out to all advertisers. I also believe that the cost of that space should be double the \$25 that someone else decided to charge for the MILCOPEX ad last year. Dave added that he personally thinks the Executive Board needs to examine the position of *ATFP* ad manager. If it really wants an ad manager,

then all contacts for advertising should go directly to that manager and all ads should be paid for in advance. It is very frustrating when individual members or officers contact an advertiser without any involvement of the ad manager. During the 15 plus years that he has been ad manager, he has tried to get many dealers involved at various state stamp shows in advertising in *ATFP*. As he only travels to few local stamp shows, he is resigning as ad manager as of the May 16th meeting in Fond du Lac.

C. Editorial Advisory Council: Aimée Devine reported that during the past year, she met regularly with MaryAnn Bowman to plan issue content for *ATFP*; met regularly with Karen Weigt to plan and discuss issue layout; and entered the APS CAC Newsletter Competition.

D. Historian: John Paré reported that he continues to perform all the tasks assigned as the WFSC historian. All records are stored conspicuously at his home at 405 Perimeter St., Mount Horeb, WI 53572. In the event of his unanticipated passing, his daughter can be contacted regarding the retrieval of the archives. John is submitting his resignation as the WFSC Historian effective at the 2017 Annual meeting, a few months before his 75th birthday. He is giving notice two years in advance to allow the Federation officers to find a successor. At the time of the appointment of a new Historian all records will be up to date and he will be prepared to make the transfer of the archives.

E. American Philatelic Society: Al Vick provided the necessary information required by the APS each year. Since more than five WFSC Chapter officers are APS members, our dues are free.

F. American Topical Association: No report.

G. Awards Chair: No report.

H. Webmaster: Steve Kluskens reported the website had 82,000 page views in 2014, right on par with its average since 2010. The website ranks on Google's first page for searches like

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“Wisconsin stamp club” and “Wisconsin stamp dealer.” The show calendar has the most hits within the site, with the Wisconsin Postal History Society’s pages following a close second. Badger, Green Bay, and Oshkosh top the local club pages for traffic. The most popular single download is the Brief History of Space Exploration PowerPoint in the Youth pages: 1,422 downloads in 2014, and 780 more so far this year.

I. Website Committee:

See Webmaster report.

J. Speakers Bureau: Karen Weigt has not updated the bureau listing this year.

K. Facebook Administrator: Aimée Devine has maintained the Federation’s Facebook page.

## 9. Old Business

A. WFSC Bulk Purchase of Scott Catalogs: Al Vick reported that the minimum bulk order of Scott Catalogs is 10 copies with \$9 postage/book. Since the volumes would need to be re-mailed, the cost to WFSC members would be higher than those advertised in philatelic publications. It did not seem feasible for the Federation to provide this bulk service to its members.

B. Membership Growth Incentive: Karen Weigt reported the WFSC discussed incentives and decided that the incentive might be club promotion in *ATFP*, which will happen in September’s issue of the newsletter.

## 10. New Business

A. Bids for Future Conventions

•2016: Fond du Lac Stamp Club. April 30 and May 1, 2016. These dates were made to insure that there is no conflict with COMPEX.

• 2017: Open

• 2018: Open

B. Call for Motion to Designate WISCOPEX 2016 a WFSC-Sponsored Event: Rob Henak moved and Greg Schmidt seconded **a motion to designate WISCOPEX 2016 a WFSC-Sponsored event. Passed unanimously.**

C. Other New Business: Karen Weigt discussed the cost of *ATFP* and its affect on the budget. Clarence Davis moved and

Dave Burrows seconded a motion that we raise the Federation dues to \$2/person to help reduce the *ATFP* deficit. The delegates discussed various methods to offset the cost of *ATFP* including reducing its size, its number of issues, the number provided to individual clubs, etc. Rob Henak moved and Larry Nix seconded a motion to table the motion. Yes 8 No 5. Rob Henak moved and Clarence Davis seconded **a motion that a form be developed and distributed to the clubs to determine how many copies of the newsletter are distributed each month to be reported back on the WFSC dues statement. Yes 7 No 1.**

## 11. Awards

A. Hall of Fame: The Hall of Fame Committee presented the names of three candidates for the Hall of Fame: Carl Kanneurth. Karen Weigt read a philatelic biography of Carl Kanneurth. Moved by Greg Schmidt and seconded by Clarence Davis **a motion to elect Carl Kanneurth to the Hall of Fame. Passed unanimously.** Karen Weigt read the philatelic biography of Jim Stearns. Larry Nix moved and Milt Wirth seconded **a motion to elect Jim Stearns to the Wisconsin Federation Hall of Fame. Passed unanimously.** Karen Weigt also read the philatelic biography of Al Vick. Larry Nix moved and Jim Cormany seconded **a motion to elect Al Vick to the WFSC Hall of Fame. Passed unanimously.**

B. Dealer Award: Will be given to Bill Birch of Lake Country Stamps.

C. President’s Award: Aimée Devine will be the recipient of the President’s Award for her many contributions to the WFSC.

12. Election of Officers: Brian Liedtke presented the slate of candidates:

President - Karen Weigt

Vice President - Michael Mules

Vice President/Youth - MaryAnn Bowman

Central Region VP - Mike Sagstetter

East Central VP - Donald Kurki

Northeast VP - Maurice Wozniak

Southeast VP - Art Schmitz

Southwest VP - John Paré

Greg Schmidt moved Paul Zientek seconded **a motion to elect Karen Weigt president and Michael Mules as Vice-President. Passed unanimously.**

David Burrows moved and Greg Schmidt seconded **a motion to elect Mary Ann Bowman as VP Youth Division. Passed unanimously.**

Clarence Davis moved and Greg Schmidt seconded **a motion to elect the slate of regional VPs. Passed unanimously.**

## 13. Appointments

A. Standing Committee on Exhibitions stays the same (Chair Paré/Glenzer/Voss)

B. Nominating Committee stays the same (Chair Liedtke/Wozniak/Schmidt)

C. Hall of Fame Committee (Chair Undersander/Mather/Schmidt)

D. Newsletter Editor is Michael Mules, as of the September 2015 issue.

14. Closed Albums: Northwestern Mutual Stamp Club, Elizabeth Beasley; Baraboo Area Stamp Club, Edgar Eppler; Central Wisconsin Stamp Club, Frank Boushley; Waukesha County Philatelic Society, Bob Einweck, Frank Moertl, Parnell Ryan; Oshkosh and Outagamie Philatelic Societies, Milt Schreimer; the Milwaukee Philatelic Society, the Wisconsin Postal History Society and the ATA Chapter 5 also acknowledged the loss of Frank Moertl.

15. Adjournment: Moved by Jim Cormany and seconded by Rob Henak **a motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.** ☞







# MILCOPEX 2015

Friday, September 25, 2015 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Saturday, September 26, 2015 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday, September 27, 2015 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.



Commemorating the  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of  
*Alice in Wonderland*



at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport  
6401 So. 13th St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Just 8 minutes from the airport.

## Attractions:

Cachet Maker's Bourse (Saturday)

Youth/Beginner Area

Educational Seminars

Society Meetings

Awards Banquet

2000+ Pages of Exhibits

30+ Dealers

## Participating Societies:

Society for Czechoslovak Philately

Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

Wisconsin Postal History Society



Free Parking

Admission \$2 per day/free on Sunday

[www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org](http://www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org)