



The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

National First Day Covers by Tom Fortunato # 379

Collectors of U. S. first day covers (FDC) are familiar with the FDC routine. One city or town is selected by the U.S. Postal Service to host traditional first day activities. The site, which usually has some connection to the new stamp, is the only place in the country allowed to use the stamp that day. An official ceremony is held in tribute of the issue, cachet makers attend selling their envelopes and the post office has plenty of the new stamps. Most patrons take the opportunity to get a special postmark as a souvenir of the day.

Four U.S. stamps have received nation-wide first day status. Post offices around the country were authorized to issue these stamps on the same date and cancel FDCs with their local postmark. Thousands of varieties of these FDC's were created.

<u>Scott #</u>	<u>Stanley Gibbons #</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Commemorative</u>
1193.	1192	Feb. 20, 1962	4¢ Project Mercury
1246	1228	May 29, 1964	4¢ John F. Kennedy
T396	1433	July 1, 1971	8¢ USPS Establishment
1489-98	1490-99	Apr. 30, 1973	8¢ Postal Employees

The Mercury Project stamps were distributed to post offices and sold only after the successful completion of John Glenn's orbital flight of the earth. Had something gone wrong, the stamps wouldn't have been released. The Kennedy memorial stamp was issued on what would have been the President's birthday in 1964 in honor of his service to the nation. Self promotion was the reasoning for the various postal service stamps that also received national FDC treatment.

For anyone up to the challenge, pick on of these issues and try collecting one cover postmarked from different cities and towns. Certainly this could become a lifetime adventure. Complete lists of available varieties have been attempted with new finds always being added to such lists. Serious John F. Kennedy enthusiasts have recorded over 4,500 varieties in their search! ••

New Circuit Editor and Publisher Named

After a long search for a new editor for *The Circuit*, the ISWSC Board of Directors has appointed Richard Wright (#1006) and his sister, Stephanie Lane as co-editors to the volunteer position. She is the proprietor of Lone Wolf Graphics, 781 North 29th, Walnut, Kansas 66780 USA, and will also publish our newsletter. Their responsibilities begin with the January/February issue, which is planned to be in the mail in early January. Due to the short transition time, that issue may be abbreviated to allow them to "get their feet wet."

The society wishes to sincerely thank our current editor, Rita

Kallal, for her many years of service as our editor/publisher. She has spent countless hours making sure that the membership was kept informed about our group's activities, through thick and thin. Our search has taken some time since her initial request to be relieved of the position, through which Rita unselfishly agreed to continue serving the membership.

Effective immediately, mail all of your articles and ads directly to the new editors at the address above. We will make the transition as smooth as possible for all, but please be patient as there will be some kinks to be worked out. ••

Board of Directors Candidate Dies

Secretary Carol Cervenka has recently been notified by the Tacoma (WA) Stamp Club that member Paul Grimes (# 778) took ill and died suddenly. (No other information was available.)

Paul was seeking to serve on our Board of Directors and his long-time affiliation with scouting and philately was very much in his favor. We are sorry to lose such a dedicated collector. We extend our sympathies to his family and friends. ••

Editors Note: If you have not yet voted in the Board election, please cast your vote for someone else. Thank you.

Officers & Managers

President: Tom Fortunato (#379) • 42 Maynard St. • Rochester, NY 14615-2022 • Phone: (716) 621-1670)

Vice President & Youth Stamp Program:

(Send Required Stamps for Dues for Youth Stamp Program to the Vice President.)
Ken Costilow (#142) • 621 Virginius Dr • Virginia Beach, VA 23452 • Phone: (804)463-6081

Secretary-Treasurer: Carol Cervenka (#498)
Rt 1 Box 69-A • Caddo Mills, TX 75135 USA
Phone: (903) 527-3957

VP - Public Relations: Dave Park (#747) • 760 Chelsea Ave. • Glendale, MO 63122 • Phone: (314) 966-5028

Editor/Publisher: Rita Kallal (#26) • PO Box 1513 • West Monroe, LA 71294-1513 • Phone: (318) 396-0281 • Fax: (318) 325-4539

REGIONAL SECRETARIES:

AustralAsian: Peter Scannell (#453) • 4 Mankinna St • Jindalee, Qind 4074, Australia

Canadian: Irving C. Whynot (#490) • P.O. Box 371 • Don Mills, ON, M3C 2S7 CANADA

East European: Jan Szyrka (#539) • ul. Siebrna • PL-44121 Gliwice • POLAND

U.K.: Chad Neighbor (#510) • 28 Relugas Place • Edinburgh, EH9 2PY, SCOTLAND, U.K.

Scandinavian: Marti Vihanto (#830) • PO Box 34 • SF-20521 Turku, FINLAND

MANAGERS:

Sales Circuit: James Watkins (#372)
2123 Cedar Way, Stockton, CA 95207

Auction • Receiving & Bids: George Land (#241) • 4024 Fairlands Dr. Pleasanton, CA 94566

Auction • Mailing & Billing: Jim Watkins (#372)

OMNI Exchange: Tom Allison (#42) • Box 252 • Wilmette, IL 60091-0252 USA

OMNI Co-Mgrs: Dave Paul (#59) • Dr. Isaac Tannenbaum (#163) • Jerry Gross (#429)

Member Retention: Dave Creson (#170) • PO Box 649, Canyonville, OR 97417

Swap Circuit: Joah Roderick (#669) • 12 Red Oak Road • Asheville, NC 28804

Board of Directors: Dave Nelson (#25), Past President • Ken Jenkins (#15) • Herb Holland (#31) • and the Elected Officers.

Deadline: Next Issue

December 20, 1994

Items received after deadline will appear in another issue.

ISWSC Creates Youth Merit Award

In our continuing effort to encourage young collectors to enjoy the many facets of worldwide stamp collecting, the ISWSC is pleased to announce the creation of a youth exhibiting award.

The certificate, officially called the "ISWSC Youth Merit Award", recognizes outstanding use of worldwide stamps in an exhibit. Any stamp club, school, or other philatelic organization running a competitive stamp exhibit with at least 5 youth exhibits containing worldwide stamps and a minimum of 50 total youth pages displayed may apply for the award. It is offered free of charge, but a donation of \$1 would be appreciated to defray mailing expenses. Members overseas may direct a certificate request to their nearest regional secretary.

To apply for the award, the show committee or exhibit coordinator should mail a request to: ISWSC Youth Award, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2022. Try to send the request at least four weeks before the event. ••

Postage Gets You Free Used Catalogs

Jim Watkins (#372) has the following used Scott Catalogues available to ISWSC members for just the cost of postage to mail them.

Year 1961 - Vols. 1 & 2; 1978 - Vols. 2, 3 & 4; 1980, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, - Vols. 1, 2, 3, & 4; 1986, 1987 - Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4 & US Specialized; 1989 - Vol. 3.

Send Jim a list of what you want along with a self-addressed stamped postcard, he will weigh them for mailing 4th Class book rate and advise so you can remit postage costs to him. Contact Jim at 2123 Cedar Way, Stockton, CA 95207 ••

World Postal Codes Corrections:

Germany - D
Poland - PL

Donation Auction Planned

The ISWSC needs your help! As mentioned in previous *Circuit* issues, the society is in need of several pieces of office equipment; a copier, fax machine, and other rather expensive items to allow us to serve you better. We think we have a great idea to raise funds and offer you some bargains in return.

Everyone has duplicate stamps, kiloware and other philatelic material taking up space. Donate them to the ISWSC for a special membership auction to be held in 1995, with all proceeds going to the society. It's a win-win deal! Send your donations with a brief description to auction co-manager George Land, whose address is in the "Officers & Managers" listing. Material should arrive by February 28. Be sure to mention that they are for the donation auction.

Thanks for your support! •••

Free Youth Publication

Sign up now to receive a new, free monthly magazine called "The Stamp Zone", available to all kids and youth club leaders.

Its editor, Jennifer Arnold, explains her goal is to make the publication a forum for and about kids and the stamp collecting hobby. "I intend the magazine to be very interactive with young philatelists," she writes.

The first issue will be in the mail by the time you read this. Subscriptions are free, but a donation towards the mailing costs, especially from those outside of the USA, would be appreciated. Send your name and address to: The Stamp Zone, c/o Pizzazz Publications, 310 NW Juniper Lane, Albany, OR 97321-1430 USA. Mention that you read about it in the ISWSC's newsletter, *The Circuit*. •••

Merry
Christmas
Happy
New Year



1994 ISWSC Member of the Year Award Salutes Australian

It is hoped that a new tradition will begin with this issue; the naming of the ISWSC's most outstanding member from the past year. As 1994 comes to a close, the Board of Directors would like to salute Peter Scannell (#453) of Jindalee, Australia.

Peter joined the ISWSC in July, 1990, accepting the position of ISWSC Austral-Asian overseas secretary in 1992, which he continues to hold. Through his efforts, our membership in that region has more than tripled and our club has made contact with several philatelic bodies, producing results which have astonished many.

Of special note are his efforts with our youth Leader to Leader program. He has single handedly sought and obtained gifts from philatelic bureaus in his region for youth donations; contacted several national collecting clubs in Australia, the Philippines and Indonesia; and organized the ISWSC's first international stamp design contest for countries in the Pacific- and idea which we hope to expand upon next year.

It's impossible to detail all of Peter's activities. Even the officers have had a hard time keeping up with his enthusiastic and energetic pace! Besides actively recruiting additional members, he also finds the time to run the Pacific area sales circuit, providing members down-under with a service previously unavailable to them.

For his efforts, the ISWSC is honoring him with this profile and a small gift; a watch bearing the ISWSC logo.

Well done, Peter! •••

Canadian Member Dies

Tom Fortunato reports that the death of member Patrick O. Olsen (#433) was recently listed in the Cover Collectors Club newsletter.

Patrick developed two Canadian albums for kids to be used in our Leader to Leader Program. His talents will be missed by many. Our sympathy to his family and friends. ••

Canadian Secretary's Report

by Irving C. Whynot (#490)



Canadian member Linda Bray (#938) and her husband John examining a shoebox mixture at a recent Canadian stamp show.

New Sales Circuit Will Serve Canadian Members

Canadian members looking for an inexpensive means of acquiring new stamps, or for a convenient way of disposing of duplicates, will be pleased to hear that we are about to start a Canadian Sales Circuit.

A circuit has been part of the society's operation for many years but became impractical for Canadian members with the draconian application of tax and customs fees on material arriving from the U.S. But with Canadian membership now around the 50 mark, about double that of two years ago, there appears to be enough interest to start a circuit, at least on a trial basis.

William Silvester (#1058) has volunteered to organize the circuit and is looking forward to hearing from all those interested in participating — as a buyer, seller, or both — or with suggestions. Write Bill Silvester at 378C Cotlow Road, Victoria, B.C. V9C 2G1. ••

Canadian Stamp Show in Nova Scotia Brings Members Together

One of the benefits of ISWSC membership is that it puts you in touch with a lot of nice people. It is even nicer when you get to meet another member in person.

That was the case recently on a visit to Nova Scotia when I visited a local Stamfair in the Halifax-Dartmouth area and met Linda Bray (#938). Linda and her husband John (*pictured above*) operate Moody Blue Stamps and had a booth at the show. (*See her story, "I Married the Stamp Business or How I Became a Philatelist" in The Circuit, May/June 94.*)

They report that the stamp market generally is reviving slowly but they predict that prices will not return to levels seen in 1989. Linda says issues of Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and the Caribbean islands are popular and that there is a growing interest in thematics (or topicals). ••

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

by Carol Cervenka (# 498)

Beginning with the first issue of 1995, each mailing label on *The Circuit* will also have the date your membership expires. Please check the mailing label and send in your dues at least a month before expiration date. If we all pull together, we can keep dues low despite the announced postage increase.

A new policy has been implemented in order to save on newsletter mailing costs to members who fail to renew. A postcard notice will be mailed on or near the first of the month preceding dues expiration. A second notice will be mailed to members who fail to respond by the expiration date. Thirty days (30) after dues expire, all members who have not responded will be dropped. An additional 15 days response time will be allowed for overseas members billed from the USA. Lead time for the newsletter makes listing the names of members who will SOON be dropped from ISWSC rolls impractical, and will no longer be done. Please pay your dues as soon as possible after notification to avoid being dropped from the active rolls.

When you move, please send your address change to me as soon as possible so I can update your records and put the change in the Roster Up-date pages. All address changes are sent routinely to the Editor of *The Circuit*. If you send your address change here, you don't have to send it to the Editor as well. For very active members in some of the ISWSC circuits (Swap, Sales and Omni), you will need to send an address change to the appropriate service manager to avoid missing those mailings, but we want to keep things as simple and easy as we can for you.

Likewise, if you learn of a member's death, please write to notify ISWSC so we can keep current with sales and swap circuits and the newsletter. My thanks to those who have written me and various managers with such information in the past.

Another year is almost gone. Soon 1995 will be here with a myriad of changes and additions to ISWSC programming. To all of the many volunteers who make ISWSC the terrific organization it is, a heartfelt THANK YOU seems long overdue. To all members, my deepest gratitude for the many notes of encouragement and praise; to those of you who have kept me striving to do better with your criticism, please accept my appreciation for your patience.

As with any enterprise, be it paid staff or volunteer, we have had personnel changes during the past year. To the dedicated volunteers who have served the Society and moved on to other ventures, you can be truly proud of your considerable contribution to the growth of ISWSC. To the members who have volunteered to assume the awesome responsibility of filling your shoes, we welcome you and hope you will enjoy serving in the fine tradition of your predecessors.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! •••



Letter to The Editor

This letter is to support the idea expressed in a previous issue by Harold Humm (# 678). But first, allow me to thank you and the others who spend so much time making this truly one of the most enjoyable stamp societies in America today. Why you and the Secretary-Treasurer are willing to donate so much of your time and energy is beyond me, but very much appreciated by this member.

Contrary to reports told me, I believe we have enough members now to support a salaried position. I notice that you, the editor, are looking for a replacement. Could or would the Secretary-Treasurer, Carol Cervenka (# 498) — Superwoman to this guy — take on both these parttime positions, making it a fulltime job/responsibility, if there were compensation?

However, I do not feel that the dues should be increased across the board! I think the term "dues" should be dropped as ask members for "donations"-in stamps or cash of at least \$8.00. Members who do not make the contribution will be left to the application/renewal committee to review. I am willing to bet that many of us will donate considerably more, much more.

This is something for us as a club to contemplate. Hopefully members will write to each other and discuss these ideas, so that we can continue to grow into the leading stamp organization. I look forward to hearing from you and others on this. •• Brian Holthouse (# 1062)

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