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# The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

*The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors*

## SOUTH PACIFIC PHILATELY - Papua New Guinea by Alan Soule (# 417)

Papua New Guinea is the eastern area of the world's second largest island — the eastern half was formerly (West) or Dutch New Guinea, is now Irian Jaya and part of the Republic of Indonesia. Papua New Guinea is mostly a tropical island, and numerous islands of various sizes make up this country.

The area now known as Papua New Guinea originally consisted of two separate areas — Papua governed by the British and New Guinea — a colony of the German Empire. In 1915 the former German colony came under the jurisdiction of Australia. Both Papua and New Guinea became consolidated as a Trust Territory of Australia in 1946. The name was changed to Papua New Guinea in 1972 and became self-governing in December 1973, and a fully independent nation on September 10th, 1975.

Papua New Guinea is the home of many exotic flora, fauna and bird life (noted for its many varieties of Birds of Paradise). It is also home to over 700 tribal groups of peoples, each with its own language and culture. The country is divided into nineteen provinces.

The following may be of interest:

**Area:** 178,260 square miles or 461,691 square kilometers

**Population:** Approximately 3.5 million

**Capital & Seat of Government:** Port Moresby

**Currency:** 100 Toae = 1 Kina

**Languages:** English, Pidgin (mostly used in New Guinea), Motu (used mostly in Papua). All three languages are used in Government. Additionally there are 700 plus dialects and languages

**Religions:** Christian/Tribal

**Climate:** Tropical

**Primary Products:** Bananas, Copra, Cocoa, Coffee, Timber.

**Major Industries:** Agriculture, Mining

and Timber

**Average Annual Income per Head:** \$ US 690

### PHILATELIC HISTORY

Each region/historical era has had its own postage stamps.

**British New Guinea:** First stamps were those of Queensland from 1885 - 1901. First stamps were issued on July 1st, 1901.

**Territory of Papua:** First stamps were those of Queensland and British New Guinea. The first stamps were issued on November 8th, 1906. These early issues used Sterling currency and the famous "Lakatoi" — a type of native sailing vessel designs.



**German New Guinea:** First stamps were German standard stamps from 1885 overprinted "Deutsch-Neu-Guinea." First stamps were issued in 1900 and featured a common design of all German colonies - "The Yacht Design."

(Continued on Page 2)

## U. S. PRIVATELY OVERPRINTED STAMPS

by Tom Fortunato (# 379), Public Relations Officer

An incident back in 1977 caused the U.S. Postal Service to review and clarify the regulations on privately overprinted stamps.

It began with the release of the 13¢ stamp to honor the 50th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's historic transatlantic flight. It was inscribed simply as "50th Anniversary Solo Transatlantic Flight without Lindbergh's name, as his death in 1974 could not allow his personal commemoration on a stamp before 1984 by U.S.P.S. laws. Consideration was given to make an exception in this case due to its historical importance but nothing came of it.

There was much discussion in the philatelic press about the matter. To satisfy the public outcry, one Florida stamp dealer decided to overprint a large number of sheets with "Charles A. Lindbergh" beneath the plane and "Spirit of St. Louis" in the upper left corner of each stamp. His plans were to sell these stamps as "mint" and also create covers with them. As it is illegal to tamper with any U.S. government issued monetary

device, this raised some legal concerns, including the right of free speech.

The dealer's lawyer made an inquiry which caused the Postal Service to change the wording of the code on the subject. Simply put, any non-official overprint on a mint stamp invalidates its postal value. The dealer was left with stamps of only a souvenir nature.

This brings up an interesting point. Philatelic organizations or individuals can create their own overprints and use them postally if they overprint every other stamp. Of course one less the value of the overprinted stamp but when used as a setenant pair the value of the untouched stamp remains valid for postage. Strips and blocks could have one or multiple overprints. Any stamp from 1¢ on up can be treated this way.

I haven't seen stamps used this way but I'm sure that someone has thought of this before now. It would certainly be an interesting way for a club to raise money!

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We don't have as much turn-around time as usual since Rita wants to move the publication date up some, which I am all for. Nevertheless, I did get correspondence from members responding to my last column. Let me tell you, in the half year since being elected I have learned a lot about the amount of work, as well as a rather unexpected amount of controversy, that heading up such an organization entails. I never dreamed I would spend 80% of my time fighting battles and 20% serving the membership. But that's not a complaint, it is my way of emphasizing how good it is to experience the other side of the coin...the "percs of office"...namely, the heat-warming correspondence of members willing to share a bit with me or the full membership.

Responding to my query about a good stamp finder, **Ralph Cox (#428)** sent me the names and addresses of a couple he uses: the *APS' Stamp Finder* (1982) which he says is not perfect but the best he has seen, including Roman, Greek and Cyrillic but not Sanskrit, Arabic or Chinese. I stopped by the APS table at our San Francisco *WestPex* show and was told the *Stamp Finder* is currently out of print, but they are updating and hope to have the new edition for sale by the end of this year. Save me one. Ralph also uses a 1934 edition of the H.E. Harris publication *The Stamp Finder* which he says is still pretty good, with some illustrations of alphabets which could not (then) be handled by typefaces, and which is better than the 1979 edition of same, which he also has. He has a third finder, *What Stamp is That?* by Scott in 1970. Ralph also passed along the news that the **Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI)** has been urging its members to work with local Boy Scout troops on the Stamp Collecting merit badge this year. Any of you out there who have been doing the same, or who decide to do so, please send us a letter or an article about your results.

**Eddie A. Fort (#527)** is, like me, still using "*The Stamp Finder*" that his parents

gave him, but he's obviously a good bit younger than am I since his is a 1970 edition. Eddie also references chapter 35 of Richard Cabeen's *Standard Handbook of Stamp Collecting*, 1979, which consists of a pretty good stamp identifier dictionary. He very kindly sent me photocopies of both, and volunteered to work on an ISWSC effort if we mounted one. Given that our parent society, the **APS**, is now doing so I don't think we will pursue that idea any further.

Since I first started collecting I have been saving aside any of those rare birds known as **SOTN** (socked dead center or "on the nose" with a cancel). My first has a readable date in 1956, and I had run into exactly 10 more since...until this month when a letter from **Carol Cervenka** came with a perfectly **SOTN 29c** commem and, two weeks later, one from **Tom Fortunato** was just as good. True, both of these **ISWSC** officers take the trouble to deliberately mount commems a bit away from the right hand edge, trying for just such a hit, but I have been getting philatelic correspondence for decades and very, very few are actually **SOTN**. What have some of the rest of you found is the frequency of **SOTN** cancellation? I would enjoy hearing from any members who are seriously into this special area, or reading an article by you in *The Circuit*.

Don't get the wrong impression by the negative slant of my opening remarks; **ISWSC** is growing like topsy and I couldn't be more proud of the many great accomplishments our new officers and key managers have realized already. Look for **ISWSC** lapel pins soon. Revised club brochures have been printed, if you want some for prospective new members, write to **Tom Fortunato**. Current high priority with the officers is to get **ISWSC** incorporated as a non-profit organization. After that we'll come to you for a vote on a new set of **By-Laws**, the old ones, as I've mentioned before, are not up to date.

... Dave Nelson (#25), President

## Papua New Guinea (Continued)

**North West Pacific Islands:** First stamps were issued on March 15th, 1915. Between 1915 and 1922, various Australian issues were overprinted "N. W. Pacific Islands."

**Territory of New Guinea:** First stamps were German issues from 1885. First stamps issued in 1925. Designs used were "dated" and "undated" Birds of Paradise and Bulolo Gold Mine scene.

**Papua New Guinea:** First stamps - see above list. First stamps issued on October 30th, 1952, as a Trust Territory of Australia. Self-governing issued on January 28th, 1972. The fully Independent nation issues on September 10th, 1975.

Designs of issues from 1952 have shown a wide variety of topicals — from short sets to long definitive values — butterflies, shells, Birds of Paradise, many birds, orchids, and numerous items from native culture such as head dress, musical instruments, houses, carvings, to name a few.

Issues have been limited to a small number of sets each year and usually in the form of one or two commemorative or topical sets, etc.

Christian Missions have played an important role in developing Papua New Guinea and provided most of the educational, health and other facilities for the country. The importance of these agencies has been recognized by stamp issues for the Roman Catholic Church, Lutheran Church, Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea — equivalent to the Episcopalian Church.

Stamps from Papua New Guinea and all other areas of the South Pacific are popular collector items all over the world. ...

## GREAT OFFER FOR US

You will find enclosed with this issue of *The Circuit*, a green postcard from *Stamp Collector*, a weekly philatelic journal, offering a bargain subscription price and **ISWSC** gets a nice donation to the treasury for each **ISWSC** subscription. (*I've been a subscriber to Stamp Collector for about 15 years - I think it's a great philatelic asset with good, informative articles...the Editor*) A subscription will benefit you and your collection .... and **ISWSC**. Mail your subscription card in right away before you forget. ...

## CANADIAN SECRETARY ADDRESS CHANGE

Rima Carver, **ISWSC** Canadian Secretary, reports her address has changed; Canadian members particularly please make note of this change on your roster as she says the Canadian postal service is not always reliable at forwarding mail to new address changes.

Rima's new address: **Rima Carver (#493), 246 King Street, Unit #3, Midland, ONT L4R 3M3, Canada ...**

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Membership has continued to grow this spring, with an additional 25 new members signing on and several former members rejoining. This report contains new members from Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, and Republic of South Africa.

Perhaps the most exciting event of the last two months was a call from Steven Rod, (writer of several columns for *Linn's Stamp News*), in response to my letter mentioning ISWSC's support and promotion of youth stamp programs. He had wondered in a recent article, why there was not some central clearing house to which requests for stamps for youth could be directed. I was delighted to tell him about ISWSC's program and offered our cooperation in development of any broader youth program effort.

By the time *The Circuit* goes to press, a mid-June issue of *Linn's* featuring Rod's "Refresher Course" page will have landed in your mailbox. The column will sing the praises of worldwide stamp collecting and give prominent mention to ISWSC. If you missed it, please check your back issues of *Linn's*.

Tom Fortunato and Tom Allison plan to meet with Rod during the World Columbian Stamp Expo, to discuss youth stamp programming, and the joys of worldwide stamp collecting.

ISWSC expresses gratitude and appreciation for the following contributions:

# 360	Matous	\$15.00
# 121	Pruitt	10.00
# 184	Greene	5.00
# 210	Young	10.00
# 556	Doucette	5.00
# 696	Toole	5.00
# 70	Ginsberg	5.00
# 690	Farrugia	1.00

These monies variously support the youth program costs and added international mailings. You may earmark your contribution in support of either service.

In addition to financial support through donations, I encourage you to consider gift memberships for your friends. Where else can you get a gift for such a modest price that will last a whole year? We will send the person you choose to honor a nice certificate noting the gift and occasion (if you request), and membership materials. Gift memberships DO count toward your "free"

year (for each five members recruited in a calendar year). Don't forget to include topical collectors - they probably collect worldwide, even if they collect only one topic.

The following have rejoined and are restored to full membership: # 58 - Sherwood, #210 - Young, & #293 - Urdang.

Dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues are #349 - Kun, #531 - Villemange, & #507 - Bakker.

In addition, #340 - Marcotte has resigned. He has sold his collection and no longer collects.

Member Codes and Roster Additions are listed elsewhere. ISWSC has received these Address Changes: (Please change on your roster.)

# 649 **Finley - Change to:** Dubois, WY 82513 (Incorrectly listed as WI on roster)

# 432 **Brazle - Change to:** 2200 W. Dickerson # 79, Bozeman, MT 59715

# 296 **Polchinski - Change to:** #1F, 85 Bronx Road, Yonkers, NY 10704 (Prefers this address format)

# 498 **Cervenka/ISWSC Sec'y - Change Zip Code to:** 75135

# 159 **Smith, Jr. - Change to:** 1585 E. Race Street, Allentown, PA 18103

# 641 **Kehoe - Change to:** 3031 Eisenhower Road, Apt. 24, San Antonio, TX 78209-3559

# 534 **Budei - Change to:** Str. Jean Steriadi 2, Bl. G4, Sc. B, Ap. 82, 76712 Bucaresti 3, ROMANIA

# 210 **Young - Change to:** 401-1665 Feltham Road, Victoria, B.C., V8M 2A2, CANADA

As of this report, ISWSC has over 400 active members. \*\*\* Carol Cervenka (#498), Secretary-Treasurer

## GEOGRAPHICAL ISWSC LISTING AVAILABLE

Bunny Kaplan (# 134) has put together a geographical listing of ISWSC members (through 2/92) which might be of interest to traveling members. It consists of four double-sided pages and Bunny is offering a copy to any member for \$1.00 .. to cover postage, paper and envelopes. Send your request with \$1.00 US to Bunny Kaplan (#134), 855 Stonehenge Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 \*\*\*

## ISWSC CLOISONNE' LAPEL PINS

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\* Mint US Stamps with full gum or IRCs (at 50¢ each) also accepted.

## TWO NEW SERVICES

The ISWSC is pleased to announce two additional club benefits to members:

**Translation Service:** Short notes and messages written in most major foreign languages can be translated free of charge through our affiliation with APS. Longer letters cost a pro-rated fee. Send your note, a SASE, and an additional 29¢ stamp (or IRC).

**Identification Service:** Do you have any stamps which you just can't identify? Send a clear photocopy (do NOT send the actual stamp) of the item in question with a description of color, paper type, etc., and the ISWSC will help you. If identifiable you will receive its Scott and/or Stanley Gibbons catalog number and value by return mail when you send a SASE or IRC. Should it stump our experts, it will be submitted for publication in a "Whatzit?" column in *The Circuit*.

Both programs are being run through the Public Relations Officer, Tom Fortunato (# 379). Send all inquiries for these services to him. \*\*\*

## Beginners (Cont'd from Page 6)

I correspond quite a bit with collectors in other countries that are usually anxious to trade for current U.S. stamps. It's also a good way to make new friends in foreign countries.

That's it for now, until next time enjoy your hobby. \*\*\* Mildred Feinberg, wife of Albert H. Feinberg (# 361)

## LOCAL COLLECTOR SEES THE WORLD THROUGH HER STAMPS

by Marta Marychuk

For Rima Carver, stamp collecting is more than a hobby designed to pass a few idle hours.

It's a way to learning about people and places. "I always like to learn about things," she says. The Brampton woman has been collecting stamps "off and on" since 1970. She originally started out as a single country collector, eventually becoming a worldwide collector in 1984. Carver isn't certain how many stamps she has in her collection although she estimates they're in the thousands.

Among her collection is a 1940 stamp from Lithuania, the one issued by the country before it switched over to stamps from the Soviet Union. Carver also has a 1991 stamp issued by the Republic of Lithuania, the first issued for overseas use since 1940. Her collection also contains several stamps from the USSR and a series of Disney stamps from the Bahamas.

In 1985 she began writing to people throughout the world. A serious back injury made it impossible for Carver to travel to collect stamps. "The letters are my legs," she said. "They travel round the world."

She corresponds with people in more than 20 countries, including South Africa, Romania, Poland, Estonia, Denmark, USSR, Finland and Holland. Carver not only swaps letters with these people, she also exchanges postcards, first day covers, photographs of her correspondents and insight into what's happening worldwide.

Carver, who is Canadian secretary of the International Society of

Worldwide Stamp Collectors, says of the 335 members in 25 countries, only 17 are Canadian. Carver says she's the only collector she knows of in Brampton.

October is Stamp Month and Canada Post, hoping to interest people in stamp collecting, held a contest, which ended December 31, 1991. First prize was a 1851 Three Penny Beaver, considered Canada's first stamp and worth approximately \$10,000.00, and a trip for four to the annual Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

Throughout October the Four Corners Branch of the Brampton Public Library exhibited two displays of stamps, Friends of Far Away Places and Thematic Collecting.

Membership in ISWSC is \$5.00 (US), and Carver says it's a good way of meeting people with similar interests as well as collecting stamps without paying top dollar at the stores. People interested in finding out more about stamp collecting or joining ISWSC can write to Rima Carver. ....

*(This article appeared in Rima's local Brampton, Ontario, Canada, newspaper on October 23, 1991. It is printed with permission of the newspaper editor and the staff writer.)*

## VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

In addition to Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs, several requests from public libraries with summer youth programs have submitted requests for philatelic material to be used in introducing stamp collecting to children and to demonstrate cultural diversity. Packages of stamps are being provided to assist in these programs.

ISWSC has received several thank you letters and notes from some of the groups which received stamp packages: Bruce Brown, sponsor of the Ben Franklin Stamp Club at Hugh Bish Elementary School, in Lawton, Oklahoma; Alexander Velasco from Hayes Elementary School in Livonia, Michigan; Patricia Brownlee, Principal of Gretna Elementary School, Gretna, Nebraska, wrote for the Gretna Stamp Club which consists of students from 4th, 5th & 6th grade (about 60 children signed the letter); member John Freirdich (# 679) was pleased to get a stamp donation for his 5th grade stamp club in Waupan, Wisconsin. Don Clauser wrote to thank us for publicizing his need for stamps and supplies for veterans.

To reply to the President's "Woe of the Month", I use a 1982 edition of the *APS Stamp Identifier*. With the exception of K.S.A., all of the other examples are present. The 4" x 9" publication with 65 pages cost APS members \$2.00 less 20% discount at the time and has entries from A & T (Annan & Tonkin) to Zracna Posta (Zone B, Trieste)!

Our editor's column concerning the search for a new editor recognizes the actualities and conditions affecting the publication of the newsletter that most of us don't think about. It has always been by contention that ISWSC has a top notch newsletter, all to the credit of Rita Kallal who did not allow any obstacle to reduce the quality of any issue. ... Ken Costilow (# 142), Vice President and Youth Program Chairman

*(Blush, Blush!! Thank you for the compliment. The many talented contributing writers add immensely to MY final product. ... the Editor)*

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**Vice President:** Ken Costilow (#142), 621 Virginias Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452 USA *(Send Required Stamps for Dues for Youth Stamp Program to the Vice President)*  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Carol Cervenka (# 498), Rt 1 Box 69-A, Caddo Mills, TX 75135 USA  
**ISWSC Archivist:** Hal Erickson (#173), 217 Redstone, Las Vegas, NV 89128 USA  
**Editor/Publisher:** Rita Kallal (#26), PO Box 1513, West Monroe, LA 71294-1513 USA  
**Youth Stamp Program:** Ken Costilow (#142)  
**Public Relations Chairman:** Tom Fortunato (#379), 42 Maynard St., Rochester, NY 14615-2022 USA  
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**Advertising Policy:** All ads dealing with philatelic concerns are acceptable. We reserve the right to edit out objectionable language. Advertisers are expected to respond to all inquiries, so be sure you can handle the responses before you offer to trade, buy or sell. If you have a bad result from answering an ad, contact the editor. We will try to resolve the conflict.

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Classified Rates per insertion: First 30 words, including name, address, and zip code are \$3.00. Additional words are 20 for \$1.00. State abbreviations are one word. "P.O. Box 12345" is two words. Zip Code is one word.

Make all checks payable to ISWSC.

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**TEN DOLLARS 1990 CATALOG**  
 West Germany commemorative different, used, \$2 postpaid. Satisfaction or refund. H. J. Humm, 13 Eastview Dr., Brevard, NC 28712-3501 (1/1)

**HAVE MANY USED POLYNESIA 1983-1990**, some NH Gilbert and Ellice, both New Hebrides, Polynesia, to trade for Polynesia 1962-1976 that I need. Even Scott. Send list your material. Also want Polynesia price lists from dealers. James Newsome (# 665), 283 Heather Court, # 5-C, Templeton, CA 93465 (1/1)

## DEADLINE NEXT ISSUE

### JULY 15th, 1992

**If your copy is not received by the deadline, it goes in NEXT issue.**

## ISWSC SWAP CIRCUIT

**TO BECOME A PART OF A SWAP CIRCUIT -**  
 Send a SASE to:  
 Swap Circuit - Dalene Thomas  
 8612 W. Warren Lane  
 Lakewood, CO 80227

### MEMBER DECEASED

Ms. Louise Beauduy has written to inform the editor that member Albert H. Beauduy (# 209) passed away February 12, 1992. Our sincere condolences on the loss of Mr. Beauduy. ...

### Unusual "Cheapies"

(Continued From Page 7)

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

Paraguay 243b	Inverted Ctr	10.00
Dan. W. Indies 5e	Inverted Frame	12.00
Russia 240a	Dbl Impression	8.00
Latvia 109a	Printed 2 sides	22.50 ...

## SCOTT CATALOG PROGRAM CANCELLED

Tom Ginsburg (#70) reports that the Scott Catalog discount program for ISWSC had to be cancelled due to Scott requiring a \$100.00 minimum order with an additional \$1.25 charge per volume. Since he receives ISWSC orders sporadically all year long, he often could not meet the minimum order and still get catalogs to you without a long wait. He is sorry about having to discontinue this service. Those who sent orders and money, likely have received a complete refund or will do so soon. *(Our Thanks to Tom Ginsburg and Nordic Stamps for their fine service in the past and we are sorry Scott has adopted such a high minimum order.) ...*

## DISABLED COLLECTORS FORM CLUB

Tom Fortunato sent a news story about the formation of a Disabled Collectors' Correspondence Club in late 1991. The purpose of the club is to "encourage fellowship amongst disabled stamp collectors and to encourage others to find enjoyment in stamp collecting as an escape from the difficulties of living with physical challenges."

Membership is on a donation basis and includes a quarterly newsletter and membership list. Your personal profile will appear in the newsletter, along with trade and sell ads. The newsletter includes new member addresses and profiles, feature articles, and advertisements.

You may write to the Disabled Collectors' Correspondence Club, Box 3113, Fremont, CA 94539. Spread the word about this group to your disabled friends. ...

