

ISWSC Member Services

Listed below are the services offered by ISWSC, along with the names and addresses of people to contact for specific details. ISWSC is an all-volunteer organization, and we ask you to please send a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope with your inquiry, or mint first class US postage (or IRC) when specified or appropriate.

You must give your ISWSC membership number when applying to participate in any of the following programs and services!

THE CIRCUIT

Our society's newsletter is issued every two months and is filled with a variety of articles to help beginner through advanced philatelists with their collecting needs, members may place buy, sell or trade ads for a small fee. New members have their names, addresses (if allowed) and member interest codes printed in "The Circuit" to encourage exchanges. Members are invited to write articles and share their experience, talents, opinions and knowledge. We also encourage material for the Kid's Page.

Submit articles in hard copy or electronic format to our Circuit Editor: Randy Smith, PO Box 2085, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0085 rasmay4@frontiernet.net.

ISWSC SALES CIRCUIT

The sales circuit is a great way to get rid of unwanted items or to find that one stamp that completes a set or just fills a hole in an album. A seller determines what stamps he/she wants to sell, mounts them securely in a sales book that contains spaces for up to 120 single stamps. Each item is priced by the seller. The buyer selects those he/she wishes to add to his/her collection, notes the purchase, and pays the ISWSC for the purchases along with a surcharge based on a percentage of the amount purchased. The sales books are organized in one of 11 categories, e.g., USA, Great Britain, Asia, etc. Each circuit consists of up to 9 sales books.

This program is currently available only to USA and Canadian members.

Contact: Claude Kastenzholz, 16932 Nightingale Lane, Yorba Linda, CA 92886, claudekast@aol.com.

OMNI EXCHANGE

Exchange your duplicate stamps for those you need based on Scott's catalog value. Once you enroll, purchase blank Omni books (3 for \$1), mount your stamps entering Scott's catalog value and current value, and send them off to the appropriate Omni manager. Your Omni account will be credited in the amount of material you send in. In return, you can choose stamps submitted from other members. When your books are retired, they'll be returned to you minus return postage costs and a 10% exchange fee. Your account balance is always updated as needed.

This program is currently available to USA and Canadian members at the present time. Contact: David Paul, 2 Heritage Drive, Belchertown, MA 01007-9548 dpaul1@hotmail.com

ISWSC AUCTIONS

All members may participate in the Society's periodic auction/mail bid sales. You may submit single stamps, sets, packets, collections or other philatelic items for auction. Stamps should be catalog priced prior to submission. Payment will be made for items sold less commission. Unsold items will be returned to you. Any member (including youth with parental permission) may bid following the ISWSC auction rules.

Contact: Michael Crump, PO Box 530, Whittier, CA 90608 desoto1947@yahoo.com

ISWSC SWAP CIRCUITS

This is a "one for one" exchange not concerned with catalog value. Interested collectors submit their names to the manager who creates the swap circuits. An assortment of 100 worldwide stamps is sent to the first person on the swap list. That person takes out stamps he/she needs and replaces them with their own good quality duplicates to bring the contents back to the number received. The packet is then mailed to the next name on the list. Every member of a circuit is to maintain the quality of stamps sent. A one time application "fee" of 100 commemorative stamps (no USA) and a \$2 annual fee is required. Overseas members find this type of exchange especially helpful as no currency is needed. The \$2 annual fee may be paid in cash, check or in current mint stamps with a face value equal to the fee. Stamps of any country may be sent.

Contact: Randy Smith, PO Box 2085, Minneapolis MN 55402-0085 USA rasmarty4@frontiernet.net).

STAMP IDENTIFICATION

Almost all worldwide collectors have stamps they can't identify. Simply make a photocopy of the unknown stamps (do not send the stamps) along with a self-addressed stamp envelope or IRC, a description of color(s) and any other features of the stamp(s). If identifiable, you will be sent the Scott and/or Stanley Gibbons catalog number and value. If not, the stamp(s) will be published in "The Circuit" for help from the general membership. Contact: Richard Barnes (#2425), 11715 123rd St., Edmonton AB T5M0G8 CANADA. Email: rtbarnes@shaw.ca

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTOR CONTACT

At times, members will wish to contact a collector in a country where ISWSC has no member. To assist members, ISWSC maintains a list of over 3,500 collectors worldwide. You may request up to 3 names in any country by sending a SASE or IRC with each request.

Contact: Tom Fortunato, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester NY 14615-2022 USA. Email: stampmf@frontiernet.net

TRANSLATION SERVICE

Translation of short letters and documents is available via multilingual members.

Contact: Joanne Berkowitz, PO Box 19006, Sacramento, CA 95819-2101 executivedirector@iswsc.org

TRADING PARTNERS

The collecting interests of most members are identified in the ISWSC Roster, with up-date pages published in each issue of "The Circuit." The majority of members are active traders. Please write first to establish and understanding of the basis of trades/exchanges and needs before sending stamps to the prospective trader. If you are listed as an active trader, you are requested to respond to any and all inquiries. You may send a postcard to decline. All members should also agree to the ISWSC's Trading Standards found elsewhere.

NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES

Previous issues of "The Circuit" may be available for \$3.00, (Add \$1 US to Canada, and \$2 US elsewhere.)

Contact: Randy Smith, PO Box 2085, Minneapolis MN 55402-0085 USA rasmary4@frontiernet.net

ISWSC MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Available to members only, the ISWSC roster is published every other year, with bi-monthly updates sent with each issue of "The Circuit." Cost is \$5US (plus \$1 US postage and handling in the US, \$2 US to Canada and \$3 US elsewhere.)

Contact: ISWSC, PO Box 19006, Sacramento, CA 95819-2101 executivedirector@iswsc.org

EARN FREE MEMBERSHIP

ISWSC members can earn a free year of membership (at surface rates for overseas members) for each five new members they recruit in a calendar year. Gift memberships also qualify. If you have someone you would like to recruit, simply sign your name and member number in the sponsor space on the ISWSC application, and ask the prospective number to use it when applying. Gift memberships also count, and are a great way to give a year-round gift to a collector friend or youth group. You may request from 1-5 ISWSC applications. Such are also available on-line at: www.iswsc.org.

Contact: ISWSC, PO Box 19006, Sacramento, CA 95819-2101 executivedirector@iswsc.org

ISWSC YOUTH PROGRAMS: (ISWSC Membership is not required to utilize these services!)

Leader to Leader Program

Sends free stamps to bona fide youth leaders, along with hinges and other accessories as available. A variety of mini-albums and activity books are available at our cost. Photo-copying of these publications is encouraged. Leaders of youth groups are matched up (upon request) with leaders of youth stamp clubs in other countries for pen pals, stamp and program idea exchanges.

Free Stamps

Children or beginner collectors can send us a SASE and we will send them a packet of free stamps along with other materials as available. Address request to Richard Rizzo, 18300 Winter Park Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Mentor-by-Mail

Individual children who need additional help with philatelic questions are provided with a mentor-by-mail from among ISWSC volunteer members.

Youth Merit Awards

Stamps shows with youth exhibits may award a certificate of merit to the young person whose exhibit makes outstanding use of worldwide stamps.

Contact: Contact: Richard Rizzo (#2215), 18300 Winter Park Court, Gaithersburg MD 20879-4626, E-mail: poly76ce@gmail.com