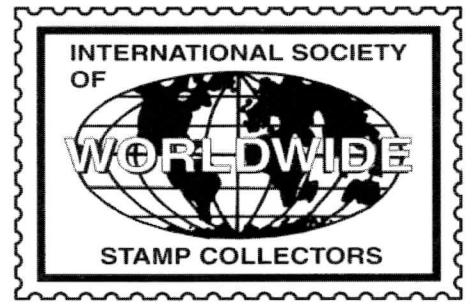


The Circuit

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The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

German Plebiscites

by Werner Zarnikow (#2454)

As a history buff and collector of German stamps, I have had an interest in the connection between German stamps and historical events. The Treaty of Versailles, following the defeat of Germany in World War I, required a plebiscite (referendum) to be held in 1920 to redraw the border between the German held duchies of Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark. During the 19th century, three wars had been fought over the control of the duchy of Schleswig between Denmark and Prussia.



The plebiscite required Schleswig to be divided into two zones. The primarily Danish northern zone was designated as Zone 1. Its fate was to be determined by the vote of the entire zone. The result in the southern zone was to be based on a community by community vote. An international commission was put in charge of the plebiscite.

Schleswig issued two stamps specifically for the plebiscite. The stamps for use only in the north were overprinted "Zone 1". Official stamps for use by the international committee were over-printed "CIS". Scott's catalog prices for used stamps are in italics, indicating the stamps are seldom seen.

Plebiscites were also required in other German held territories during 1920. They were held in the Allenstein area of East Prussia and in the Marienwerder area of West Prussia. Both voted to remain German



rather than join Poland. No clear decision came out of the vote in Upper Silesia so the eastern half was given to Poland. German stamps were overprinted for use in Allenstein, but definitives were issued in Marienwerder and Upper Silesia. In each case, overprinted stamps were issued for official business of the plebiscite commission.

The League of Nations administered the German territory of Saar, which abutted France. A plebiscite was held in 1935 that resulted in a return of Saar to Germany. Saar stamps were overprinted for the plebiscite, but there was no separate issue for official use. Used stamps are priced in italics.

The Nazis were very active in trying to persuade people to vote for a return of Saar to German rule. Once in control during World War II, they reestablished the border changes of the 1920 plebiscites, except in Schleswig.

Elections 2008

The 2008 ISWSC Elections are here! Please take a few minutes to read the candidate statements (see page 9), then cast your vote using the enclosed ballot.

Although none of the positions are contested, ISWSC Bylaws require a minimum number of ballots (1/10 of the membership) to be received in order for the election to be valid. Also, the candidates would appreciate your support!

Thank you to **Dalene Thomas** (#101) for serving as this year's Election Chair.

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Executive Director's & President's Report

by Joanne Berkowitz (#98)
ISWSC Executive Director & President

Until we find a new president, I am wearing two hats. Fortunately, our Executive Director transition has been relatively smooth. Please make note of the new address for sending dues payments. I have been processing payments and renewals for the last several weeks. It would help greatly if you would put your membership number on your check. Please check the newsletter mailing envelope for your renewal date (above your name) and renew promptly. It is costly and time consuming for me to send letters or cards to remind folks their dues are late. I will begin e-mailing the first reminder instead of posting a card for all members for whom we have a valid e-mail address.

Our webmaster, **Rick Simpson** (#1703), has been busy updating and correcting our website. I encourage you to look at the guest book. Many non-member stamp collectors post requests for trades there. ISWSC reviews requests for postings to make sure they are reasonable, non-commercial and non-abusive. But we can only do so much. Begin slowly with any new trading partner to make sure you are both happy with the relationship.

The March/April 2009 newsletter edition will be our roster issue, which is published every other year. Please get in any address or other data changes by January 20, 2009.

ISWSC cannot stay alive without the help and support of our members. Our dues do not cover our expenses of printing and mailing *The Circuit*, purchasing insurance for our circuits and postal costs for new and renewing member mailings. The difference is made up through sales commissions and donations for the auction. So, if you have surplus material you would like to donate, we would be happy to take it off your hands. Please participate in the sales circuit and auction. You can get some great bargains and support the club at the same time.

Finally, I want to thank **Randy Smith** (#1111) for his help and counsel during this transition. Randy has a phenomenal memory for what happened in the past, is an invaluable resource for me to bounce ideas off of and has done a great job with *The Circuit*. I don't think I could have done this without him.

Dues/Advertising Policy

Dues Information:

Single/Dealer/Club 1 yr. membership: \$15.00*
Single/Dealer/Club 2 yr. membership: \$27.00*
Single/Dealer/Club 3 yr. membership: \$39.00*
Youth 1 yr. membership (under 18): \$12.00*

*Plus 250 large commemoratives for the Youth Program or equivalent donation in U.S. funds.

Dues include six newsletters per year. You may pay for up to three years at a time. For an application or further information, send a SASE or an IRC to:

Joanne Berkowitz
ISWSC Executive Director
PO Box 19006
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joannebe@pacbell.net

Advertising Policy:

For reasons of accountability, only members of the ISWSC, APS or ASDA may place ads. 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 advertisement, contact the Editor. We will try to resolve the conflict.

Display Rates (Camera Ready*) per Insertion:

Full page: \$75.00
Half page: \$40.00
Quarter page: \$20.00
Per column inch: \$5.00

Six repeat insertions of the same sized ad for the cost of five ads (one free). We also offer a two-sided insertion for \$125.00 per issue.

*Camera Ready means ready to paste up or scan and print. Reductions and typesetting extra.

Classified Rates per Insertion:

First 30 words, including name, address and ZIP Code are \$3.00. Additional words are 20 for \$1.00.

NOTE: State abbreviations = one word; "P.O. Box 1234" = two words; ZIP Code = one word.

Make all checks payable to "ISWSC" in U.S. dollars. Send text and payment for ads to *The Circuit* Editor (see address on page 2).

Auctions Now Accept PayPal Payments

Welcome to Auction #34! You will find many good values and some outright steals! Note the "Bargain Bin" in the last section of the auction. Many of these items, having run in previous auctions, are drastically reduced for easy sale. Some will appear for the last time. There is no buyer's premium in our auction and all profits from the auction go to benefit the ISWSC.

New for this auction: You can now pay for lots using PayPal! Requirements:

- AFTER receiving purchased lots and INVOICE amount, make payment through PayPal. Our account is under ExecutiveDirector@iswsc.org.
- Notify auction manager of the date and amount of your payment at desoto1947@yahoo.com.
- The club requires a 10% fee for using PayPal to cover our PayPal costs. The fee is assessed on the winning bid for the lot only, not the cost of postage to deliver it to you. Of course, you may continue to pay for lots by personal check or money order, without fee.

We need your lots! Have material taking up space that you want to turn into cash? We welcome your quality stamps! If you have stamps or other material to sell, please contact the auction manager. It's simple to submit lots for auction. I will assist you, if necessary, in organizing and describing your lots. Best sellers: worldwide stamps (individually, sets or collections/accumulations); country and worldwide lots; retired sales books, remnants. Sold lots are subject to a 20% commission on the sales price. The commission goes directly to support the ISWSC and is comparable to what is charged by most commercial auction houses.

Look for Auction #35 to appear in the January/February 2009 issue of the newsletter and on the ISWSC website. Thank you for your support of the ISWSC auctions!

AUCTION RULES AND INFORMATION

1. Bid increments: \$1-5 = \$0.25, \$5-10 = \$0.50, \$10-30 = \$1.00, \$30-100 = \$2.00, Over \$100 = \$5.00. Bid in these increments only. Odd amounts will be lowered to the next increment. All bids are in US dollars.
2. High bidder wins at one advance over second-highest bidder.
3. If there are tie bids, the earliest postmark wins.
4. If only one bid is received, lot goes at the minimum bid listed by the owner.
5. State the highest you are willing to pay. Your high bid will be used only if necessary. No "buy" bids or requests for percentage increases will be accepted.
6. Lots are returnable for items misdescribed or misidentified. No returns on large lots or collections, etc.
7. The Auctioneer reserves the right to decline unreasonably low bids.
8. Lot information will be sent to successful bidders with invoice. Invoice will include postage. Payment is expected in U.S. funds within 10 days.
9. Lots will be shipped and billed by Mike Crump and payment should be sent to him at the address on the invoice. PayPal can be used: ExecutiveDirector@iswsc.org. There will be an additional 10% fee to cover the PayPal transaction. PayPal users should notify the Auction Manager by e-mail when payment has been made.

Abbreviations:

& = And

+ = Plus

// = Incomplete

ADDR = Address (ed)

ANN = Anniversary

APS = American Philatelic Society

BKLT = Booklet

BLK = Block

BOB = Back of Book

CAT = Catalogue (d)

COMMEM = Commemorative (s)

CPL = Complete

CR = Crease

CTO = Cancelled to Order

CV = Latest Scott Catalog Value

DEFIN = Definitive (s)

DIFF = Different

DUPS = Duplicates

EST = Estimate (d)

F = Fine, off center, but perfs
don't touch design

FD(C) = First Day (Cover)

G = Good, perfs cut into design

HBO = Held by Owner

HC = Heavy Cancel

HH = Heavy Hinged

INCL = Include (s) (ed)

LC = Light Cancel

LH = Light Hinge

LS = Left side

M or * = Mint

MLH = Mint Light Hinge

MH = Mint Hinged

MNH or ** = Mint Never Hinged

NMB = No Minimum Bid

NG = No Gum

OG = Original Gum

RET = Retired, Returned

RS = Right Side

SE = Straight Edge

S/S = Souvenir Sheet

TH = Thin

U = Used

UNADDR = Unaddressed

VF = Very Fine, wide margins

VG = Very Good, perfs touch
design

W/ = With

W/O = Without

XF = Extra Fine

ISWSC AUCTION #34

Closing December 31, 2008

Lot #	Description	Minimum Bid
1	USA. #68a, U, margin on LS cuts design. 2007 CV \$65	\$16
2	USA. #76, U, nice cancel, LS close, top design cut by perfs, one SE. CV \$150	\$30
3	USA. #78b, U, gray, P12, pulled perf LS, design cut by perf RS. CV \$200	\$25
4	USA. #145, U, medium cancel. CV \$20	\$2.50
5	USA. #148, U, cork cancel. CV \$35	\$7
6	USA. #152, U, nice orange color. CV \$200	\$45
7	USA. #311, U, sound stamp. CV \$75	\$15
8	USA. #2335a, complete wildlife pane (22¢) of 50 stamps. MNH w/colorful USPS promo folder, good condition. Recently UK listed at 55 pounds sterling. 2007 CV \$50	\$27
9	USA. Civil War pane, #2975, MNH, \$6.40 face. CV \$17.50	\$6.50
10	USA. 500 U, all diff, commems on stock cards. CV \$50.00+	NMB
11	USA. Philatelic History. 4 souvenir cards: BEP-FD card-SANDIPEX 1969, in original envelope. Beautiful color engraving (2005 CV \$40); INTERPEX 1967 & 1972 (CV \$1); ASDA 1973 (CV \$0.75)	\$25
12	USA. Picture Postcards. Most early 1900's, 50 diff, U. Pics from all over US. Several Christmas, Easter, New Years, Valentine. Historical!	\$5
13	USA. 50 preprinted postal cards, most commercially used. Multiples: #UX4, 8, 9, 10, 14, 18, 19, 27, etc. Interesting period 1882-1900's, few to early 1930's.	\$5
14	Argentina. Presentation folders (2), w/#B175a, B170-1 plus 1924a; 1992-5 on philatelic cover. Stamps alone CV \$30.90	\$9
15	Buriatia. Wow! Colorful photos! "Merylin" Monroe sheet of 12 (all diff), MNH. Very collectible cinderellas!	\$2.50
16	Canada. Used group: #34, 35, 36, 37, 37c, 41, 42. Mostly F/VF, LC and HC. Seven good stamps. CV \$20	\$3

ISWSC AUCTION #34 BID SHEET ~ Closing December 31, 2008

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR ATTACH AN ADDRESS LABEL.

MEMBER #:	_____
NAME:	_____
ADDRESS:	_____

PHONE:	_____
E-MAIL:	_____

LOT #	BID	LOT #	BID	LOT #	BID	LOT #	BID	LOT #	BID

Lot #	Description	Minimum Bid
17	Canada. #47, U, medium cancel, perfs close to design on LS. CV \$75	\$7.50
18	Canada. Three from Jubilee issue: #51, 52, 53, U, LC/medium cancel. F/VF. CV \$22.75	\$3
19	Canada. #66*, F/VF; 67, 68, 69, 70, 74, 75, 76, 77, 77a, 78 all U. CV \$23+	\$3
20	Canada. Imperial Penny Postage issue, #85, 86, U. CV \$13.50	NMB
21	Canada. All U: #88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93. 2007 CV \$21.90	\$3
22	Canada. #91*, HR, pulled perf on top. CV \$175	\$17
23	Canada. Quebec Tercentenary. #96*, HR, F/VF; 97, 98 U; 99*, HR, F/VF. 2007 CV \$64.75	\$10
24	Canada. #100*, HR, F/VF, nice fresh appearance. 2007 CV \$125	\$22
25	Canada. #102*, crease gum side, F/VF. 2007 CV \$150	\$20
26	Canada. #103*, HR, F/VF. Nice stamp. 2007 CV \$190	\$30
27	Canada. 24 FD aerogrammes with 1973 flower stamps. Two each of 12 diff beautiful full-color cachets on reverse w/descriptions	\$7
28	Cape of Good Hope. #4, F, some faults. CV \$55	NMB
29	China (PRC). Two presentation folders: One w/#2458-62; other w/#2799-2800 plus S/S, MNH. CV \$9.20	\$3
30	Colombia. Fill those spaces! 275 U stamps, all diff on stock card. Mostly large commems, airs, F/VF, LC. CV \$100+. Very reasonable at	\$10
31	Cuba. Birth Centennial of General Maceo, #423-430, MNH, set of 8. CV \$25	\$8
32	Cuba. Stamps on stamps! #539-542, MNH, set of 4. CV \$12.20	\$4
33	Cuba. Portraits. #543-546, C114-C116, E20, MH. CV \$26.35	\$8
34	Cuba. Christmas stamps of 1960. #648-662, MNH, complete set of 15. CV \$60.75	\$20
35	Cuba. Snails, Birds, Butterflies! #686-700, MNH, complete set of 15 in blocks of 5 plus label (690a, 695a, 700a). CV \$27.50	\$9
36	Cuba. Locomotives! #3059-3064, MNH, complete set of 6. CV \$24.95	\$8
37	Cuba. Birds! #3328-3334, complete set of 7. CV \$95.50	\$30
38	Cuba. #C110-C113, MNH. Nice appearance but: C110-large thin; C112-smaller thin. CV \$8.35. You can't beat!	NMB
39	Cuba. #C122-C126, MNH. CV \$23.50	\$8
40	Cyprus. 1995 year set folder with stamps: #859-861, 862, 863-4, 865-8, 869-70, 871, 872-5, 876-8 (all MNH). CV \$36.50	\$10
41	Egypt. Transportation. #472A, MNH souvenir sheet. CV \$10	\$3
42	Faroe Islands. Sheepdogs! #267A, MNH, complete booklet. CV \$10	\$5
43	Finland. Presentation folder w/#772, 815, 826, B249-51, MNH. CV \$13+	\$4
44	France. Old French newspaper wrappers: Ten—3c salmon, Nine—1c gray. Commerce issue and Navigation imprint.	\$3
45	Germany. 420 U stamps, F/VF, all diff, large commems, ID'd and hinged on sheets: #45//90, 775//1600. 1992 CV \$125	\$30
46	Germany. 192 mostly VF, U stamps in uncirculated APS book. Nice values. #1900's to 2300's; dozen semi postal's. 2007 CV \$178	\$18
47	GB. #27, U, F, short perfs top and side. Hard to find stamp at great price! CV \$100	\$10
48	GB. #45, F/VF, corner clipped. CV \$85.00. Priced accordingly!	\$9
49	GB. Presentation folder with mint stamps: #1058-61, 1129-32, 924-7, 1002-5; beautiful cover (Ann of Penny Black) w/MH193f cancelled on cover, mint copy inside. CV \$44+	\$12
50	GB-IOM-Ireland. 191 U stamps, VF, in uncirculated APS book: GB (9 stamps), Guernsey (3), Jersey (6), IOM (89), Ireland (84). Almost all higher values. 2007 CV \$325. Lotsa stamps!	\$33
51	Israel. Presentation folder with #1305, 1318, 1320, 1325-7, 1332-3, 1337-9, folder with S/S's 907, 908, 909; card w/937-941; all MNH. CV \$31.45	\$9
52	Italy. #60, U, LC, perfs cut design on one side. 2007 CV \$40	\$7.50
53	Italy. #141, U, Medium cancel, perfs cut into design on one side. CV \$30	\$5
54	Italy. #263a, U, LC, perf 12, slightly off center but perfs do not cut design. 2007 CV \$67.50	\$13
55	Japan. 192 mostly VF, U, stamps in uncirculated APS book. Nice values. #2100's to 2800's. 2007 CV \$102	\$11

Lot #	Description	Minimum Bid
56	Liberia/Equatorial Guinea. 57 US Presidents: 40 Liberia, 17 Eq Guinea – Bicentennial. All CTO on stock page. Bonus: Franklin Pierce matchbook cover!	\$2
57	Liechtenstein. #80, MLH, VF/XF. Great stamp – don't miss this one! CV \$82.50	\$8.50
58	Liechtenstein. #80, U, CTO? F/VF. Nice stamp, LC. CV \$87.50	\$5
59	Macao. MNH stamps and blocks! Includes: #414, 853, 855-58, 860-63, 868a, 878-9, 883a, 896a, 931a, 933-36. CV \$34.95. You must have these!	\$18
60	Malawi. Soccer! #482-85, MNH. CV \$8.55	\$4
61	Malawi. Birds! #518-33, MNH. Complete set of colorful stamps. CV \$27.25	\$10
62	Malawi. Vintage Autos! #562-565, MNH. CV \$16.25	\$6
63	Malawi. Vintage Autos, S/S of 4 (#562-565, perf 13x12). CV \$25	\$9
64	Malawi. SADCC 10th Ann. #573a, S/S of 4, MNH, (#570-573). CV \$16	\$6
65	Malawi. Birds! MNH #598 (sheet of 20, #a-t). CV \$52.50	\$20
66	Malaysia. Birds! #20-27, MNH, complete beautiful set. CV \$96.75	\$50
67	Malaysia. Stamps on stamps! #48-50 MNH, complete set. CV \$7.40	\$3.50
68	Malaysia. Space-Satellite Comm. #63-65, MNH, complete set. CV \$4.40	\$2
69	Malaysia. Butterflies! #66-73, MNH, complete set. CV \$37.85	\$20
70	Malaysia. #82-83, MNH, complete, Bank Building and Crescent. CV \$8.00	\$4
71	Malaysia. Asian Tourism. #95 MNH (strip of 3, a-c), complete. CV \$12.50	\$6
72	Micronesia. MNH stamps from 1994-2006. CV \$49.95	\$13
73	Mongolia. Genghis Khan. #304-307, MNH, complete. CV \$45	\$15
74	Magnolia. Birds! #C114-C120, MNH, complete. CV \$6.60	\$2
75	Switzerland. Promo booklet for Intl Congress for Conservation "Pro Natura"; 50th Ann Swiss Trade Fair, Basel; European Org for Nuclear Research: #473-475m w/commem strike.	NMB
76	Turkey. #M1-M5. CV \$11.25	\$2
77	Worldwide. A-I countries in OMNI book. All above min value. 132 stamps, mostly U. Best: Barbados #65; Belgium 29, 55; Bolivia 27, 41, 44, 46; Brazil 190, 279; Br Guiana 130 (pr); Canada FB49, FB51, QR36** (\$40 value); France 12, 22, 53, 88, 99; Germany 30, 31, 48, 229, 231, 241, 246, 251, 255, 313, 384, 676; Iceland 71, 102. CV \$268+	\$20
78	Worldwide. Interesting quality lot: Belgium S/S #B1141*; RSA S/S 993; Australia Maxi Cards (4) sealed w/1524-5, 1533-4; Austria WIPA S/S; Germany presentation folder w/#1939 (50 years of German Philately); PRC 8th Nat Games folder w/2799-2800, S/S and beautiful cover. CV \$22+. A steal at:	\$6
79	Worldwide. Interesting odd-lot of 27 nice values ID'd in glassines/dealer cards: Australia #414 U; Austria 166 U, J27*; Bahamas 248*; Barbados 222*, 223 U, 241*; Belgium 458*, 559*; Greece 359 U; Guernsey 264-8** (set); Hungary 1160-7 U (set); Iceland 623 U; Ireland 1040 U; Israel 546** (w/tab); Italy 530 U. CV \$26+	NMB
80	Worldwide. 250 U stamps identified on sheets, 25 per country: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, GB, Italy, US. Mostly common but values to \$1. CV \$59+	\$5
81	Worldwide. 55+ Picture Postcards, used. Lots of places, several from Jersey, couple used Cuba, 1960's-1990's.	NMB
82	Worldwide & USA. HBO. 240 pc FDC & Misc cover accumulation: 130 US FDC incl #783, 801, 894, 1355, C76, about half w/o cachet & addr; 40 UN, cacheted, unaddr; 70 WW & Misc incl Ceremony programs. Est CV \$250	\$35
83	Worldwide. Unique Lot #1. One-of-a-kind lot. 1000 M and U, values under \$1. Majority commems, some dups. Bermuda, Jamaica, Denmark, DWI, GDR, Greece, Montenegro, NZ, Tonga, Venezuela; Br, Fr, Port Colonies; many other countries (very few US). Most pre-1975. CV \$250 to \$350. Suggested bid:	\$75
84	Worldwide. Unique Lot #2. One-of-a-kind lot. 1000 M and U, values under \$1. See description immediately above, but different stamps from Unique Lot #1. CV \$250 to \$350. Suggested bid:	\$75

Lot #	Description	Minimum Bid
85	Philatelic History. Wow! 1939 New York World's Fair Poster stamps. OG, MNH, 29 all diff., buildings, fair scenes.	\$3
85A	Philatelic History. Two panes of 16 each TB Christmas Seals, 1946. One pane NG, other OG. W/portraits of founders.	\$1
85B	Philatelic History. Official Poster Stamps authorized by the Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc to honor the Centenary (1847-1947) of the adoption of stamps by the US POD, Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition of 1947 in NYC. 2 panes of 12 each plus 15 loose. CV ?	\$4

BARGAIN BIN! The following items have run in a previous auction and are back with drastic reductions in minimum bid amounts. There are some real bargains here and some outright steals! Good bidding!

BB86	USA. 284 M & U stamps in 2 retired APS sales books. Mint include #397, 511, 612, 644. 7 postal stationery covers, M & U. Net sales price \$207, CV much higher. Reduced for quick sale from \$75 to only	\$25
BB87	USA. 53 stamps, U, some faulty, in APS circuit book, #88/808, J31/U296. Net value \$48, CV much higher. Was listed at \$20. Now slashed to:	NMB
BB88	USA. #727. 2 FDC's cancelled in Newberg, NY, unaddr. CV \$7	NMB
BB89	USA. Cover, #U527 Official to Postmaster, Mill River, MA, circa 1932, penalty cancel. CV \$16	NMB
BB90	USA. Literature. "Encyclopedia of Plate Varieties on US Bureau-Printed Postage Stamps" - great research book. Last call!!	NMB
BB91	USA. Air letter sheets, UC46, UC49-52, UC54-60, MNH, not folded. CV \$25. Previously run at \$12 now only	\$4
BB92	USA. Air letter sheet, UC53C, 1980, MNH, not folded, colors missing. CV \$75. Previously ran at \$20, now slashed to	\$8
BB93	USA. Air letter sheets, #UC54-60 (2 each), MNH, not folded. CV \$20. Ran at \$10, now only	\$5
BB94	USA. Air letter sheets, #UC54, UC55 (2), UC56, UC59, UC60 (3), MNH, not folded. CV \$12. Now reduced to	\$5
BB95	USA. Air letter sheet, #UC60, Space Shuttle Return overprint (12/5/85), MNH, not folded. Est value \$5. Last call!	NMB
BB96	Andorra. Two Europa sets: #182-3, 196-7, M, very LH, F/VF. CV \$40.75. Was listed at \$27, now slashed to	\$14
BB97	Brazil. 1943 Brapex #609-11 FDC, 100th Ann of 1st issues; 2 diff show cards w/show cancels red & blue; 1 mailed envelope w/ S/S show cancels, censored, registered. Very interesting cover. Minimum bid was \$10, now lowered to	\$1
BB98	Canada. #1172d, perf 13, 6 copies MNH. 1 scuffed, couple w/stains on gum side. CV \$17.50 each, Total CV \$52+. A steal!	NMB
BB99	Czech Republic. 51 diff covers, cards, wide stamp variety. Also, Czechoslovak Art * single, Czech Rep #1-6*, unmounted & 20 diff U. Now reduced to	\$27
BB100	Denmark. 300 U defins, F/VF, on sheets, few dups; plus 200 U defins, high dup in glassines. Useful earlier stamps. CV \$75+. Ran previously at \$25, now reduced to only	\$10
BB101	Ecuador. 1945 cover, preaddressed envelope w/PANAGRA violet hand stamp, 7 stamps on back, censor strip. Last call!	NMB
BB102	GB-IOM. 128 diff U, 5 mint + 10 covers. Wide stamp variety. Now reduced to	\$22
BB103	GB-Channel Is. Covers, cards: Guernsey (11), Jersey (26), wide stamp variety. Plus stamps: Jersey (73), Guernsey (12), U and 1 M Cinderella. Reduced	\$18
BB104	GB. 1950 S/S London Intl Stamp Expo. Shows copies of rare stamps. Philatelic History! Reduced from \$8 minimum bid to only	\$2
BB105	GB. 4 "Colorful" show covers, "Stamps for Cooks" w/bklt panes of 15 stamps (#7b, 8b, 8c Machins), each w/recipes. Was at \$10, now slashed to	\$2.50
BB106	GB. 3 FDC's cacheted: #2076-80, 1952-62, 2069-73. Est value \$10. Now	NMB

Lot #	Description	Minimum Bid
BB107	Harco 3 ring binder with black quadrilled pages (60+), 8 white pages. Most have hinge marks but in good condition. Ran previously at \$15. Now only!	NMB
BB108	Hungary. M & U, 98 stamps on pages in encased mounts. 1982-1984. CV \$29+. Was previously \$13, now a steal at	NMB
BB109	Monaco. #337 on cover. Monaco to Rome. Previously ran at \$5, now	NMB
BB110	KA-BE Binder. Orphan! Needs a good home! Green "Apollo" Springback, excellent. New retail \$83	\$1
BB111	Romania. 140 stamps, MH and MNH from 1931-1955. Gibbons CV \$240+. Originally ran at \$45, now drastically slashed to	\$12
BB112	Romania. 600 commems, U, F/VF, in glassines, few dups, all large, est CV \$150+. Drastically reduced – was \$60, now only	\$15
BB113	Romania. 725 diff U, F/VF, ID'd, defines, commems, few dups; early to 1980's. Est CV \$150+. Reduced from \$75 to only	\$18
BB114	Se-tenant blocks (diff. stamps attached). U, w/USA (18 stamps), Machins from booklets (6) and Canada (1). Now reduced to	\$12
BB115	Slovak Republic. 37 covers, cards, wide stamp variety, U; plus 7 U stamps. Now reduced to	\$22.50
BB116	Bulls-eye cancels! On 79 diff covers, cards. Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Jersey, GB, Germany, Guernsey, Italy, Netherlands, Monaco, Morocco, Norway, S Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, USA, Vatican, Yugoslavia. Now reduced to	\$27

END OF AUCTION

ISWSC Elections Underway

While the balloting in the United States political races has recently concluded (except in the case of run-off elections and recounts...), the ISWSC elections are just getting underway! This year, the ISWSC membership will elect one person to serve as Vice President (a position formed by the Bylaw changes approved last year) and two people to serve as Directors At-Large.

Both elected Directors At-Large will serve two year terms, running from February 2009 through January 2011. In order to align the Vice President position with that of President and Secretary, the elected Vice President will serve an initial term of one year, running from February 2009 through January 2010.

Below are statements submitted by the candidates. Please take a few minutes to read their statements, then use the enclosed ballot to vote for the candidate(s) of your choice. While each of the races are uncontested this year, write-ins are allowed and at least 1/10 of the membership must vote in order for the election to be valid. You may vote for only one person for Vice President, but you may vote for up to two people for Director At-Large. In order for your ballot to be counted, it must be received by the Election Chair no later than January 15, 2009.

VICE PRESIDENT

Randy Smith (#1111)

I began collecting around the age of 8 when my father took me to our local post office and showed me how to create a simple First Day Cover (no cachet, addressed in pencil). I enjoyed the process, the stamps and their stories and especially looked forward to receiving something in the mail just for me! From that early beginning, I quickly spread out to collect one of everything the USPS produced. When my father brought home some foreign stamps, my worldwide collecting days also began. Now, 35+ years later, both my USA and worldwide collections (and specialty collections of Scandinavian countries, Poland, Machins and USA American Circus Clown (Scott #1309) First Day Covers) continue to give me great pleasure.

I am a life-long Minnesotan, having been born in Brainerd (located in just about the center of the state), then moving with my family to the Twin Cities (actually a northern suburb of Minneapolis) when I was four. Except for during college, I've lived in the Twin Cities area ever since. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree (Math and Computer Science double

Continued on page 13

What's the Catalogue Value?

by Ken Wills (#2150)
Premium Circuit Manager

Collectors of used stamps have a problem with the way the Scott Catalogue is now saving space in its new details of commemorative sets, at least for non-USA issues. Instead of listing a

in the set and therefore is Scott #1117. Then, to calculate its value, you have to add the denominations of all the stamps in the set, i.e. 18+65+90+300=473 and then multiply the \$5.75 set value by 90 and divide by 473, to arrive at \$109.408034 or approximately \$1.10.

What a pain! To make this process easier, I have put together a small Excel spreadsheet

(Figure 1). The boxed fields are where I enter the variable information. If I enter the data for my Fiji example, the result looks like those shown in Figure 1. Specifically, I keyed in 575 (the value of the set in cents), 1115 (the first catalogue number in the range) and 18, 65, 90 and 300 (the denominations of the set). My spreadsheet then showed the exact prorated values, totaling 575. My next task was to round off these values in the last column until the total for that column is also 575. If the low value is less than 20¢, the round-off should raise it to 20¢ (the minimum

When Scott only gives a total price for a set of stamps, use this to calculate the individual values.

Enter first cat. no. below	Price for set (in cents) =	<input type="text" value="575"/>
List the denominations in cents in col. C	Exact proration	Try to nearest 5¢, min. 20¢ until total balances
cat no.	denom	
1115	18	21.8816068
1116	65	79.0169133
1117	90	109.408034
1118	300	364.693446
1119		0
1120		0
1121		0
1122		0
1123		0
1124		0
Totals	473	575

Figure 1—Spreadsheet showing Scott prorated values for Fiji #1115-1118.

separate line for each stamp, there's a description of the contents of the set, followed by a single line that gives the range of catalogue numbers and the mint and used values of the whole set.

If you only collect mint stamps, you probably buy the entire set in a single transaction, so this change doesn't inconvenience you. But if you collect or trade used stamps, you are likely to acquire and exchange or sell them individually. What then is the catalogue value of one stamp in a set? According to Scott, the value can be calculated by prorating the total value across the denominations of the set.

Let's take an example from the 2008 Scott Catalogue: the Fiji 2006 Christmas set. The Scott listing for this set begins with the illustration (A264), followed by these details:

Flowering plants: 18c, Decaspermum vitiense. 65c, Quisqualis indica. 90c, Mussaendra raiateensis. \$3, Delonix regia.

2006, Dec. 5
1115-1118 A264 Set of 4 5.75 5.75

So, if you want to catalogue the 90c stamp, you have to identify it by checking that it's the third stamp

catalogue value).

If you would like to create a copy my spreadsheet,

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	When Sc						
2							
3	Enter first				Price for set (in cents) =		
4	List the de						
5					Exact proration		Try to nearest 5¢,
6		cat no.	denom				until total balances
7					=IF(C7>0,C7*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
8		=B7+1			=IF(C8>0,C8*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
9		=B8+1			=IF(C9>0,C9*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
10		=B9+1			=IF(C10>0,C10*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
11		=B10+1			=IF(C11>0,C11*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
12		=B11+1			=IF(C12>0,C12*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
13		=B12+1			=IF(C13>0,C13*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
14		=B13+1			=IF(C14>0,C14*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
15		=B14+1			=IF(C15>0,C15*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
16		=B15+1			=IF(C16>0,C16*\$G\$3/\$C\$18,0)		
17							
18	Totals		=SUM(C7:C16)		=SUM(E7:E16)		=SUM(G7:G16)
19							

Figure 2—Spreadsheet showing formulae used for calculated data.

the formulae are shown in Figure 2.

KEN WOOD'S BASIC PHILATELY. Large paperback, 68 pages. \$5.00 postpaid or send your SASE for scans of sample pages. Robert Velardo (ISWSC #2576); 209 Decker Ave; Staten Island, NY 10302—USA. [01-02/09]



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Elections

Continued from page 9

major) from Augustana College (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). Before I graduated, I began dating Mary, now my wife of 18 years. We have two children, Matthew (age 13) and Jenna (age 9).

I am a member of several philatelic organizations, including the American Philatelic Society (APS), the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS), the United States Stamp Society (USSS), the American Topical Association (ATA), the American Revenue Association (ARA) and the Scandinavian Collectors Club (SCC). Because of the age of my children, I haven't been able to regularly participate in local clubs, but I am a member of the local SCC club. For the past few years, I also have served as Co-Chair of the Exhibits & Awards Committee for the Minnesota Stamp Expo, an APS World Series of Philately qualifying show. In the ISWSC, I have served as President; Director At-Large; Swap Circuit Coordinator and Manager; and Editor of *The Circuit*.

DIRECTOR AT-LARGE

Duncan Koller (#2154)

I am 60 years old and began collecting when I was around 10. I am a retired Colonel from the USAF (28 years) and have recently retired from a second job as a high school teacher. I now find much more time to devote to my hobbies and traveling.

I graduated from Oregon State University with a BS in Zoology and also hold MA and EdD degrees from Chapman University and the University of Southern California. While on active duty with the Air Force, I served on a number of boards and committees in community and educational organizations. My only publications are a couple of articles in military periodicals relating to military operations strategy.

I started out as worldwide collector but then specialized in Germany and Great Britain. As those collections matured, I rediscovered the fun of worldwide collecting. In addition to the ISWSC, I'm a member of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the Oregon Stamp Society (OSS). My main area of interest now is postally used stamps of the world prior to 1950.

During the past two years, I have had the pleasure of serving as one of your Directors At-Large and I was fortunate to meet several of you at Washington 2006. I have recently taken over part of the Small/Definitive Swap Circuit. I see our membership numbers as the

biggest challenge facing ISWSC. I would very much like to continue to serve the ISWSC.

Werner Zarnikow (#2454)

Born in Gorlitz, Germany in May of 1924, I emigrated to the US in October of 1925. My parents settled in Buffalo, NY where two of my father's sisters lived. Since my parents could not speak English, German became my first language.

During WWII, I served in the Army Air Corps as a co-pilot on B-24 bombers. Based in England, I participated in raids over Germany, including on the German submarine pens at Kiel. In January of 1946, I enrolled at Iowa State College and graduated with a Bachelor of Architecture degree in June of 1950. I met my wife there and we were married in Ames in 1947. We raised five children. Two currently live in Arizona, two in Iowa and one in a Chicago suburb.

During my work career, we lived in Iowa, Tennessee and California. I retired to Arizona where I continued working part-time as a consultant. We moved back to Iowa to be close to our daughter in Wilton.

Letters from Germany started my interest in stamp collecting back in the 1930's. After WWII, I started exchanging stamps with German collectors. Stamps connected my interest in history and geography and still do.

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BREAKING UP 62-YEAR ACCUMULATION. Let me send you a stuffed envelope of old, new, mint and used, etc. Pick what you want at 1/3 SCV and return the balance. Gelfman (ISWSC #1849); Box 315; Old Bethpage, NY 11804—USA. [11-12/09]

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Whatzit?

by Richard Barnes (#2425)

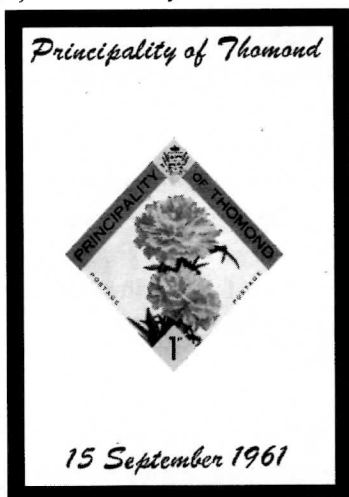
Whatzit? Coordinator

I have been asked where I come up with the items I put into the Whatzit column. I started collecting stamps when I was stationed in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada. If you want to know where that is, look on the map of North America, go north (way north), find Great Slave Lake, follow the Mackenzie River up and, just before you reach the mouth of the river at the Arctic Ocean on the east side of the river, you will see Inuvik (or East Three on older maps). At that time, we received our groceries and freight once a year. Before the Dempster Highway was built, the nearest large community we could travel to without flying was Point Barrow, Alaska.

I did not know of any other stamp collector or stamp dealer within 3,000 kms. As a novice, I had contacted stamp dealer J. Garvey and Sons in Edmonton, Alberta, our jumping off point to fly in and out of the Western Arctic. We talked and he advised me to read philatelic books and publications.

Over the years, I have been a recipient of the publications of 27 different philatelic societies, study groups, etc. and commercial publications. All these publications have ads wanting to find other stamp collectors to trade or exchange stamps. I also have placed ads wanting to trade stamps. These contacts are still my main source of stamps, even though I have now relocated to Edmonton. Additionally, for the Whatzit column, I have the pleasure of receiving contacts with both unknown stamps and information about the unknown stamps.

In a trade a week ago, I received a set of 16 items that I assumed are souvenir sheets (Whatzit 26.6.1). These cute imperf sheets depict flowers, sports, birds and aircraft. I have previously encountered these Principality of Thomond stamps in various world lots and trades from the beginning of my stamp collecting—they appear frequently. However, I have never before acquired what I think is a set. I have always assumed



Whatzit 26.6.1

that these common stamps were connected to the small ex-Portuguese West African colony of St. Thomas and Prince Islands.

Now that for the first time I had the potential to own a set, I decided to check them out. I got my catalogues out and quickly realized that my assumption was wrong. They have nothing to do with St. Thomas and Prince Islands. My catalogues tell me that they are not stamps. The Principality of Thomond items must be phantoms or cinderella stamps. None of my album weeds reference books are current enough to include these stamps, which are dated 1961. I do not have any information in my clippings files, so, when all else fails, I check the Internet.

I opened numerous sites on my web search. One site stated these phantoms were produced in a campaign regarding a 1960s property claim in Ireland. Another site claimed these cinderellas were part of the Dalcassian claim to Irish territory that is part of the Shannon airport. Yet another site confirms that I do have a complete set of souvenir sheets and I can purchase them for \$24.00 if I want to.

These 16 Principality of Thomond stamps were also used to produce a series of overprints. One overprint or more? Are there other sets of Principality of Thomond stamps? What time period were these stamps produced? Who printed them? Were they conceived as a source of income to cover the costs of legal fees? Can anyone provide more information? Are they phantoms to defraud or cinderellas to make money?

The September/October 2007 Whatzit column unsuccessfully requested help from members for clarification of the different currencies used on the Malaysian set Scott #329-336. One year later, I received a letter from a member with the following:



Whatzit 26.6.2

Last week, I sent another letter to Scott Publishing. Amazingly, this time they answered. According to their new issue editor, Malaysia decided to reissue the set in 2002-2004, in the denominations of sen and ringgits. They didn't bother to notify anyone and while Scott was aware of the stamps, they weren't sure when they were issued so they didn't list them in the catalog. The stamps will be listed as 766A-766H. They might already be in the 2009 catalog. I don't understand why the stamps are listed in 1999-2000

when they were issued in 2002, but then I don't understand a lot of what Scott does.

The next Whatzit (26.6.2) is a blue Baltic State(?) 5 ct revenue(?). Can anyone provide information such as issuer, date used and usage?



Whatzit 26.6.3

Whatzit 26.6.3 is an 10 ore blue stamp with a marine scene. I assume it is Norwegian. Is it a revenue or charity label? Finally, I assume this green 20 ct (Whatzit 26.6.4) is a Spanish(?) charity label(?).

As with all Whatzits, we need information on usage, date of usage and any other identifying

information.

Please remember this is a member driven column. We need your Whatzits. We need your knowledge. Please share with other members. I am always looking for your suggestions and ideas to make this column more interesting and informative for members.



Whatzit 26.6.4

Richard T. Barnes
11715 - 123rd St NW
Edmonton, AB T5M 0G8
CANADA
rtbarnes@shaw.ca

Membership Update

Reinstated

25	Nelson	938	Bray
376	Skvara	1495	Sekulski

New Members

2586 **John Myles** (exp. 08/31/09)
6019 33rd Ave NW
Calgary, AL T3B 1K4—CANADA
cochise@telusplanet.net; B(1870-1960), G,
Int(20), EE

2587 **Kevin Connors** (exp. 10/01/09)
274 Skinner Ln
Hebron, CT 06248-XXXX—USA
puboffender54@yahoo.com; B(1840-1960), G,
Int(40+), DD

2588 **William Ault** (exp. 09/30/10)
25 McLeod Dr
Aurora, ON L4G 5G3—CANADA
info@rabbex.com; A, F, Adv, DD, Archery,
Space, Sherlock Holmes

2589 **Larry Toomey** (exp. 09/30/10)

2590 **Donald Kenmonth** (exp. 09/30/09)
8321 Hidden Valley Circle
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-6159—USA
A, G, Adv, EE, Hawaii, Monarchy, Puerto
Rico

2591 **George Meyer, Jr.** (exp. 10/31/09)
19 Homedale Ave
Southington, CT 06489-XXXX—USA
A, G, INT, DD, Women, Olympics, Movies

2592 **Dr. Sam El-Shazly** (exp. 10/31/09)
President—International Operation
Cambridge Philosophy Institute
Head-Quarter
Neuhueslermatt 40
4612 Wangen bei Olten, Solothurn
SWITZERLAND
dean@cpiinstitute.com; A, G, Adv, CC,
Switzerland, Egypt, USA

Closed Albums

1659 **Craven** 2444 **Brown**

Address Changes/Corrections

449 **Burge**
104 E. Loomis St
Ludington, MI 49431-2112

510 **Neighbor**
8 Dalgarno Park
Hillside, Montrose DD10 9JF
Angus—SCOTLAND

1314 **Millette**
1500 Rue Montee Monette
Apt 3-220, Vimont, Laval, P.Q. H7M 5C9
CANADA

2447 **Lunt**
1623 Autumn Crescent
Pickering, Ontario L1V 6X7—CANADA

Welcome, new members! Please refer to page 2 for contact information for joining any of our programs!

Women Exhibitors Group To Hold Festival

The new APS Affiliate, Women Exhibitors (WE), will be hosting a Festival for Philatelic Women at the American Philatelic Center, Bellefonte, PA from May 28 – 31, 2009.

This event will offer seminars, workshops and demonstrations to help women, from beginner to advanced, to learn more about collecting and exhibiting. WE is currently soliciting ideas from possible attendees as to what sort of subjects will be of interest. It is anticipated that there will be programs that will appeal to every level of collector and exhibitor, as well as wonderful fellowship opportunities.

There will be time built into the schedule to learn how to research at the APRL and check out the sales books.

Exhibit frames will be set up so anyone working on a new exhibit, or wanting help with a current one, can get feedback. Many of the planning committee members are experienced judges and top level exhibitors, so there will be plenty of high quality advice available.

The cost to attend the Festival will be \$85. This includes all activities, as well as lunch and dinner for each day. Travel and hotel expenses are not included.

WE would like to thank their sponsors from the dealer community who have been so generous with their support: Charles Deaton, Elwyn and Ann Doubleday, James Lee, Lincolnway Stamps, Bejco of Florida, Greg Sutherland, John Wright, Michael Mead, The Cover Connection, Triple S, Crown & Eagle Stamps and Coins, Robert Sazama, Doug Weiss and William Hatton.

For a brochure or more information contact: Women Exhibitors, 7277 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. E-mail: WEfestival@comcast.net.

WE (Women Exhibitors) is open to all, but philately is explored from a woman's point of view.

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SEND 200 LARGE stamps, no Canada, Germany, US. I return 225 large stamps. Alvin Lambert (ISWSC #1135); 1314 Fulton; San Antonio, TX 78201-5112—USA. [01-02/09]

They're Unsoakable!

by Richard Rizzo (#2215)
Director of Stamp Outreach

Little more than a year ago, I started having trouble soaking off a few selected modern United States stamps from their envelopes. I have been soaking stamps for many years and, with the exception of the 10¢ Christmas Dove stamp (Scott 1552), I never really had any problems. But these few stamps would thin and tear at every attempt. I soon gave these stamps special attention. I made sure the water was not too hot or too cold. I waited extra long before trying to separate them from their backing. Even after an overnight soak, some (like the Madonna & Child stamp, Scott 4100) might come off, but the faces would be all cracked. During 2007, the problem started to escalate. I was ruining more and more different United States stamps in my attempt to soak them for my collection.

Well in case you haven't found out yet, many United States modern stamps are in fact "unsoakable". Recently, the United States Postal Service (USPS) waived their requirement for its stamp manufacturers to use a water-soluble primer layer in the stamp paper that allows the stamps to soak away from their backing. The USPS states they have taken this action to reduce the high cost of paper.

I, for one, am pretty disappointed that the USPS has taken this action. Collecting used stamps off the daily mail has been a time-honored method of getting young collectors into our hobby. I am willing to bet that most of us started collecting this way.

So what can we do – stop collecting used modern United States stamps? Absolutely not! Starting with 2007, I have now started collecting my modern U.S. stamps on paper. I neatly cut the envelope around the stamps and mount them with the backing in my album.

Letter to the Editor

I was deeply saddened to read in the Sept/Oct issue of *The Circuit* of the death of Bill Kieपुरa as I had been purchasing stamps from him for the last few years. He always managed to find the odd stuff I needed (Mexican Empire, Irish Commens, etc.). We also carried on a wide ranging correspondence on the hand-typed letters he always sent. I knew that he was "old" but had no idea he was in his late 90's. He will be sadly missed by the collector community.

Emory Earl Toops #2111

To submit a letter to the Editor, please see contact information on page 2.