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# The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

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

## ONE WAY TO ORGANIZE A JUNIOR STAMP CLUB

by: ARIEL MEGNIN POLING (#76)

Many factors contribute to the success of a Junior Stamp Club, but two of the most important in my experience of over six years with both Benjamin Franklin Stamp Clubs and those outside the school are INTEREST of the children and a GOOD MEETING PLACE. I have found that children who are at a place because of another reason will attend stamp meetings, but their participation is not nearly so enthusiastic as those who came specifically to attend a stamp meeting. For example, just this fall I held stamp meetings at our church for children whose parents were attending a Bible study at the same time. There was no comparison of the response of these children to that of the children who give up their recess period at school to attend a Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club. The former group did not participate individually as the latter always do, and I had trouble holding their interest for the length of the meeting. Needless to say, I found that I prefer to work with the latter group!!

- I have found that holding my meetings at the school or the public library also contributes to the success of the meeting. Publicity of the meeting needs to be done about two weeks ahead of time -- this allows time for everyone to get the word but prevents forgetting by the children. Posters are best and registration for the first meeting is a must and should be stressed so that ample material will be on hand. One sure way to have a crowd is to give away packets of stamps. And just a word about this -- I have found that 20-25 stamps hinged on a paper inside a glassine envelope with loose hinges for the children to use are the nicest and most preferred by the children. I'll admit that it is easier just to drop the stamps inside the envelope, but they are also easier lost, dropped and ignored. A child will look at the stamps hinged on a paper and study them and

compare them with other children's stamps, and this starts them really looking at stamps. I try to tell them that five stamps that they know and have catalogued makes them more of a collector than 25 stamps loose in an envelope. And I truly believe this. I have had much better response from the children by doing this. Another reason that I have found the school to be a good place is that in our community there are many children living in outlying places that are bussed to school. These children have no way to attend things at the library, but if meetings can be held within the school day, they can attend. Of course, this also means that afterschool activities, as far as stamp collecting clubs are concerned, are also out, because they are bussed home then.

In using the school or the public library, I try to have at least one assistant, and so far have found that both places are willing to help stamp collecting programs. In the public school system my assistance goes clear to the school superintendent, and I have carte blanche use of the school Xerox to prepare any handouts. I prepare pages for the children to hinge their stamps on. At this time I do not wish to get sidetracked into types of stamp albums except to say that I recommend three ring binders, and we use lined three ring binder paper except when I Xerox the pages that I prepare. We started this school year using the Great American and Transportation series in our programs because they are readily available in good quantities.

Another point I would like to make is that I start with a "Workshop" instead of a "club" - in our location, at least, the word "club" turns everyone off, and the prospect of paying dues will keep children away. Only after I have a working nucleus of 6 - 8 children would I even consider a club. Let's face it, many adults are turned off by the idea

of a club. I have had more than one person tell me he or she was interested in stamp collecting but not participating in a club. I'll have to admit that when I have only 45 minutes at school for my meeting, I would resent very much spending time on "new business", "old business", and all the other parliamentary rules. I will probably hear some static on this, but keep in mind that I have the most beginning of beginners, and I have only two years at the most and sometimes only one year to give them a sound basis for stamp collecting for the rest of their lives, so I am very jealous of the time we spend together. And they are like dry sponges -- there is nothing that I can say to tell you of their interest and enthusiasm except that I don't find it anywhere else -- just with the children!

Another point I would like to mention is materials required -- we furnish the children many things, but we make them buy or earn many things. They never cease to be amazed that stamp collectors will send them stamps, and I think it is necessary that they also learn at the same time that they have to obtain stamps on their own. We talk about asking relatives and neighbors for stamps on paper. I have several local businesses that give me their envelopes. And at least once during the school year we have a session of cutting stamps off envelopes - this teaches them that there are things in stamp collecting that are dull work!! And we have soaking sessions at least once. I discovered the hard way not to give each one a little pan with water and turn them loose. We were about 30 minutes late that day, and I wound up cleaning up the mess!!! It is better to have one pan and have each child go thru the process of soaking the stamp and then putting it on dry paper and so on. One of the things we stress is how many things we can find to use that we do not have to buy. Our tongs may look like tweezers

Continued Page 2

## JUNIOR STAMP CLUB (Continued)

and stitch removers (courtesy of the local hospital), but they are tongs to us; and our album pages may have something printed on the reverse side that is totally alien to stamp collecting, and our three ring binders that serve as stamp albums have all sorts of advertising under the colored pictures pasted on their covers, but they are loved and revered as albums with a passion that makes me ashamed of not appreciating my Scott's International as much. Hinges we have to buy, but I stress that even though there are 1,000 in a package they are to be used carefully.

Now that we have a place to meet and have put out the word, a word about the first program. As the attendees arrive, they should register on a sheet with their name, address, telephone number and either their age or grade in school. I usually also at this time give them some sort of literature - either STAMP FUN or a stamp paper or stamp magazine. When I have three or four present, I start even if I have to go back over the material again, because children sitting get restless and sometimes will start arm wrestling or other distracting things. You can talk about any new stamps that are out to see if the children are aware of them being available at the post office. The overall program for this meeting needs to be pretty general and I usually start by asking:

1. know how to hinge a stamp?
  2. know how to use a pair of stamp tongs?
  3. know what perforations are?
  4. know what a commemorative stamp is? a definitive stamp?
  5. have bought stamps at the Post Office?
- And if you want them to talk, ask
6. What kind of stamps do you like best?
  7. Do you have a stamp album - what kind?

Sometimes at the first meeting we will have a Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club Program in the school. In our state, we have representatives covering certain areas, and we can get movies from them. They are employees within the Post Office Department who have other duties but they work with anyone who is interested in furthering stamp collecting. I have also found terrific support from our Postmaster and Assistant Postmaster in addition to the

school and library personnel.

I have not covered everything, but this should give some idea of the steps to take. I have found that each new group is a little different, but the main thing is to have lots of things to do - too many if possible, because they can always be done at the next meeting, and it is terrible to run out of anything to do or say with a group of eager faces looking at you!!!

Good luck with your first meeting!!! ...

## PENFRIENDS NEEDED

I am one of the Australian members who joined the ISWSC after your Australian representatives advertised in an Australian stamp magazine called *Stamp News Australasia* in 1990. As I do not belong to any international stamp societies, I thought it would be fun to join as well as gain other exchange partners. I think the proposed coding system for members is a great idea.

I am writing this letter in an effort to find English speaking penfriends for a group of Czechoslovakian people.

Would any of the ISWSC members, or anyone else, be interested in having a Czechoslovakian penfriend to write to, but not to exchange stamps? I exchange stamps with a person from Czechoslovakia, however, he can not read English. He has to ask a friend to translate my letters for him. This friend operates a small language school in the town of Cheb, which is close to the German border. His class consists of about 30 students of all ages and occupations, who are learning English, and would like to have English speaking penfriends to write to.

Is anyone interested? If so, write the teacher at the following address:

Anthony Holoubek  
Pension "La Paloma"  
Frantiskolanzenska 2  
Cheb - 350 02  
Czechoslovakia

Thank you and best of luck for the ISWSC in 1991. ... Peter Scannell (#453)

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year to everyone. I am proud of what "The Circuit" has become. There are more and more members participating in your club and newsletter, and we are rapidly letting the world of philately know that there exists a lot of world wide collectors that still do it for fun. Almost every issue of *Linn's* or *American Philatelist* has letters with comments from someone berating the catalog makers or the regummers or whatever for belittling the value of their collection. I like to think my collection has some value but I am doing it for the fun of it now and not for what my heirs can get out of it when I am gone.

I see that several members have taken up the challenge of providing swap circuits or other methods of exchanging duplicates. Good Luck to all of you.

It has been brought to my attention that some members would like to buy supplements for only certain smaller countries and these are only available as a part of a larger group of countries. If you have this problem, let me know what countries and how much you are willing to pay to get only the countries you wish. If interest is sufficient I will see if we can find a dealer/individual that would be willing to break up supplements to provide what is wanted. Expect it to cost more; however, as there will always be those countries that no one wants.

Another item that has been suggested is that we find out how many members there are who are active with youth groups; Ben Franklin, Junior High, Scouts, Churches, etc., as long as they are beginning stamp collectors. Drop me a card if this applies to you. The end object is either a youth page in the newsletter or a separate edition that contains information of interest to young beginners and would be available to anyone needing such material. At present we have a four page article by Ariel Poling #76 entitled "One Way To Organize A Stamp Club". This has been available for some time but has not received continued publicity for new members. Send me your ideas on this please.

The spring mail sale/auction is coming up soon. Be sure and get in a few lots and a few bids. ... Ken Jenkins (#15), President

Love's  
Greeting to my  
Valentine.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The bulk of the dues are in so we can go ahead with the new roster and you will find it enclosed with this issue of *The Circuit*. A few dues are trickling in, one every couple days, although they are now three months overdue. Nonetheless, even though for purposes of the roster it is necessary to cut off now, anyone who still pays their dues will be reinstated with the same membership number. So, those of you listed below as dropped, it's not too late. Send in your \$5.00 and stay with us. We want you!

For our great Canadian members I have some awkward and embarrassing news: banks here will only accept checks drawn on Canadian banks if they charge the depositor a \$25.00 fee. Obviously to deposit a \$5.00 Canadian check, the, would be unwise. So, please, good friends in Canada, when remitting money to your club, use a Postal Money Order. The Post Office here will cash those. Sorry 'bout this. I don't understand it and can do nothing about it so.... If any of you recruit any new members in Canada please tell them about this also.

On the coding of member's interests. Within a few days I will send out the final draft to the trustees for their approval or amendment. Hopefully the final approved version will be provided to you all in the next issue. You can then code your own "collecting likes" and drop me a postcard with the code thereon. I will publish 'em in *The Circuit* as received and, of course, next year they will be incorporated into the roster.

The following 31 members are dropped for non-payment of dues:

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Julian      | 43  |
| Donovan     | 56  |
| Fraats      | 75  |
| Benedict    | 80  |
| Howell      | 85  |
| Steiner     | 94  |
| Sivak       | 123 |
| Smith       | 159 |
| Schumaker   | 176 |
| Kellogg     | 188 |
| Zavada      | 190 |
| McNee       | 220 |
| Clark       | 250 |
| Crane       | 257 |
| Huelsdonk   | 264 |
| Wing        | 272 |
| Wright      | 273 |
| Elliott     | 287 |
| Cox         | 301 |
| Ashton      | 318 |
| Zarub       | 329 |
| Strawn      | 353 |
| Kerstetter  | 354 |
| Murphy      | 357 |
| Wagenknecht | 364 |
| Collazo     | 366 |
| Newman      | 391 |
| Jaskulski   | 395 |
| Zimmerman   | 398 |
| Stromberg   | 402 |

Myhra

419

The club acknowledges, with much thanks, the following donations:

|      |        |
|------|--------|
| #121 | \$5.00 |
| 512  | 1.80   |
| 514  | .80    |

**New Address:** Bailey (#19) change to: 5th Gen Hosp • Box 342, APO NY 09154, USA. Please note that #19 Bailey is listed at the end of roster because of late receipt of dues.

**Address Changes:** Williams (#36) change to: PO Box 1112, Olathe, Kans. 66061 and Fromer (#276) change to: 1671 E. 16th St. suite 218, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229.

**Resignation:** #270 Sentman resigned with regret.

New members are listed elsewhere herein. We now have 294 paid up members. Happy stamping! ••• Herb Holland (#31), Secretary-Treasurer

## DDR PHILATELIC ITEMS HOT

I have recently moved back to Germany for a second 3-year tour. Approximately seven weeks after I arrived in Germany, I attended the International Stamp Bourse in Sindelfingen, a suburb of Stuttgart. The show was busy. What surprised me was the number of kids there. There were at least three organized activities for them. Most of them appeared to be interested in stamp collecting, not just dragged there by their parents. In some cases, three generations were in attendance.

The theme of the show was the 500th anniversary of the establishment of a postal system in what is now Germany. The Deutsche Post had a nice exhibit. The lines were long at the special cancellation windows and at the philatelic windows. It was also national stamp day in Germany.

I dropped a lot of coin (Deutschmarks- DM) at the Stamp Corner, a kiloware dealer from the Netherlands. His prices were cheaper in DM rather than the prices he advertises in the US philatelic journals.

We chatted. He told me that the hottest item was DDR kiloware. He sold ten 5-kilo bags and all his 1- and 2-kilo packages of DDR. Other dealers were showing sold out signs on their DDR mixtures. Several Germans I met, were there to buy DDR. They expect prices to go up and were getting DDR before the rise. ••• James Bailey (# 19)



## HINTS, TIPS & OTHER BRAINSTORMS

Why not frequent your local library? I always look at their discard box. This week I picked up the complete set of 12 Scott Monthly for 1989 for only \$1.20. Check it out - You never know what you might find! ••• Len Attwooll (# 359)

**Deadline Next Issue ••• March 5th, 1991**

## IRISH COMMERATIVE MIXTURE EVALUATED

**Mixture:** 1 lb. Irish Commeratives  
**Dealer:** J. Ingram, 21 London Road, Belfast BT6 EY, North Ireland  
**Source:** Ad in Linn's Stamp News

Denomination - pence (followed by # of different per denomination):

50p (2), 46p (2), 39p (6), 36p (1), 32p (1), 30p (7), 28p (37), 26p (21), 24p (28), 22p (20), 21p (3), 18p (6), 17p (1), 15p (4), 12p (7), 11p (2), 10p (11), 9-1/2p (2), 9p (5), 8p (4), 7p (4), 5p (6), 3-1/2p (2), 3p (1), 2-1/2p (2), 2p (1), plus a 21p cut square and about 40 definitives ranging up to 2 lbs. demonination which are not listed separately here.

Two-thirds of the mixture occurred between 22p to 28p with Christmas stamps well represented. However the variety was high. The yield was about 1400 stamps. I don't remember the exact price, but I think it was somewhere between \$30.-35 US. I am pleased with the variety of good trading material and will certainly order from J. Ingram again. ... S. E. Rutxim I

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ISWSC MEETINGS INQUIRY

Has the ISWSC ever held a regional or national meeting? The next BIG US stamp show will be in 1992 at Chicago's Columbian Stamp Exhibition. I would be interested in getting a rough count on how many members might be interested in meeting at the show. Please drop me a note if you plan to attend and would like to have an ISWSC meeting there. Contact: Tom Fortunato, 42 Maynard Street, Rochester, NY 14615-2022. ... Tom Fortunato (#379)

## Classified Ads

**NEW TRADING PARTNERS WANTED.** Let's trade on CV for CV approval basis. I am an advanced BC and Western Europe collector and have plenty of good material to trade. Prefer high value trades. Prompt responses. SASE first trade only. (ISWSC #434) Please write: Arthur Clarke, Box 133, Whitaker, MI 48190

(3/1)

## SUGGESTS COVER CLUB AS FUN FOR ISWSC MEMBERS

Worldwide stamp collectors should consider membership in the Cover Collector's Circuit Club (not related to ISWSC or ISWSC newsletter *The Circuit*.) The purpose of the club is to promote stamp and cover exchanges among the 20,000 members around the world.

American and Canadian members become Originating Members (OMs) on joining. Six to ten times a year OM's receive membership lists with 100 or more names and addresses from around the world of collectors interested in exchanges/correspondence. From these new and prior lists, OMs prepare circuits of 4 names each, which pass from member to member until it returns back to the OM. It is the duty of each member to prepare a nice cover with at least three good stamps on it, in which the circuit passes to the next person. Many members use full sets, obtain special cancels or hand drawn cachets to make their covers stand out. Once initial contacts are made, collectors of similar interests can make their own arrangements for exchanging philatelic material.

Lifetime membership of OMs is \$5.00 US. OMs must be over 21 years of age. Foreign members (CMs) must be over 18 years old and currently reside in our 50 countries. Lifetime CM membership is \$4.00 US, which allows their names to be placed on the next membership list. They are not allowed to create circuits, but pass them along as they receive them. After 1-2 years, they may apply for honorary OM status.

This is a great way to make international contacts for exchanges and friendships. For complete rules, an application, and further information, send a SASE to the Membership Director Renate Thompsonb, 241 Beaches Brook Lane, Cary, NC 27511. Don't forget to mention that you are an ISWSC member!

I am planning to write a similar letter about the ISWSC for inclusion in the Cover Collector's Circuit Club's next publication. I truly believe that both clubs will benefit from knowing about the other. ... Tom Fortunato (#379)



## Officers, Chairpersons, & Managers

**President:** Ken Jenkins (#15), Box 42271, Las Vegas, NV 89116-2271 USA

**Vice President:** Ken Costilow (#142), 621 Virginius Srive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452 USA (Send Required Stamps for Due for Youth Stamp Program to the Vice President)

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Herb Holland (#31), 825 East Torrey St., New Braunfels, TX 78130 USA

**ISWSC Archivist:** Hal Erickson (#173), 217 Redstone, Las Vegas, NV

**Editor/Publisher:** Rita Kallal (#26), PO Box 1513, West Monroe, LA 71294-1513 USA

**Membership Chairman:** Herb Holland (#31)

**Youth Stamp Program:** Ken Costilow (#142)

**Public Relations Chairman:** Dave Nelson (#25), 305 Kennedy Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 USA

**International Foreign Secretary:** Ray Compton (#73), Box 1772, Manassas, VA 22110-1772 USA

**Australian Secretaries:** Karl F. Steinberg & Allen F. Soule, P.O. Box 12017, A Beckett St., Melbourne 3000, Victoria, AUSTRALIA

**Sales Circuit Manager:** W. K. Dow (#418), 3337 Cesery Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32211 USA

**Auction Manager:** Dr. Wallace D. Johnson (#212), 302 Stanford Drive, Beckley, WV 25801 USA

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

**Co-Managers:** Dave Paul (#59), Dr. Isaac Tannenbaum (#163) & Jerry Gross (#429)

**Board of Directors:** Aubrey Dunn, Past President (#1); Dave Nelson (#25); John Hotchner (#62); Hal Erickson (#173) and the Elected Officers.

**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.

## Display Rates (Camera Ready) per Insertion:

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Full Page       | \$25.00 |
| Half Page       | 10.00   |
| Quarter Page    | 7.00    |
| Per column inch | 2.00    |

**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.**

## SCOTT CATALOG SALES THROUGH ISWSC GROWING

The Scott catalog program has been a success for the 1991 edition. This year we had 21 members ordering versus 13 last year. This year we shipped 62 volumes versus 30 last year.

We had one member, Tony Yeong in Singapore order a set of 5 volumes. It was a learning experience, converting Singapore dollars, and finding the shipping procedure (Bag Mail).

Scott has announced the release for the 1992 edition as follows:

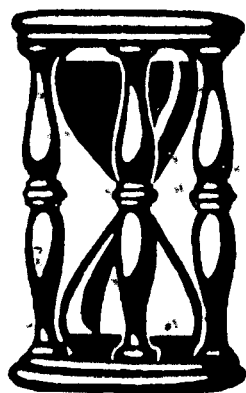
- Volume # 1 - May 1991
- # 2 - June 1991
- # 3 - August 1991
- # 4 - September 1991
- # 5 - November 1991

Again, Nordic Stamps, meaning Bill Radford (# 413), and myself will offer the program to all members. We assume Scott will hold the price at \$26.00 per volume. On the basis of \$26.00 retail, the ISWSC price will be \$19.95 east of the Rockies, and \$20.75 west of the Rockies. Outside the continental United States, requires special pricing.

Any of you wanting to order Volume # 1, let me hear from you in April so I can order before the release date. Then you will get shipment without any lapse. The way the program works is for you to send a check for the volume/s desired, I order from Scott, and reship to you. If you are willing to wait, so more than one volume can be shipped at one time, write to me. The postal charge will be reduced, and passed on to you or the ISWSC treasury as you decide.

... S. T. (Tom) Ginsberg (# 70)

Happy  
New  
Year



**ISWSC SALES CIRCUIT**  
**WRITE**  
**FOR A SAMPLE SELECTION**  
**OR INFO TO SELL YOUR**  
**DUPLICATES**

CONTACT:

ISWSC Sales Circuit • W. K. Dow (# 418)  
3337 Cesery Blvd. • Jacksonville, FL 32211

## COVERS FROM SERVICE PERSONNEL MAY BE VALUABLE SOMEDAY

A Suggestion: Why not write to a member of the Armed Forces in the Persian Gulf? You don't know anyone over there? Address it to "Any Personnel" or Any Soldier, Marine, Sailor or Air Force personnel.

Looking at auctions, interesting cover prices are going through the roof. I am quite sure 10-20 years down the road, the covers you receive from your service penpal would more than pay for the cost of postage to write. Plus you would help a service person over there. Who knows, you might meet a great penpal.

I've written to two Canadian personnel, but haven't gotten a response yet. Local TV stations and newspapers should be able to help you with APO address and zip codes of where to write. ... Len Attwooll (# 359)

## Pray for Peace



## Whatzit?

The following "stamps" are a puzzle to a fellow member. Does anyone have any clues as to identity? Please send your answers, using the ID number listed with the stamp, to the editor for publication in the next issue. Thank you.

Please note that 91-5 is pale blue on white paper with a center in very pale greenish gray. The center is a circle filled with Oriental makings.



# 91-1



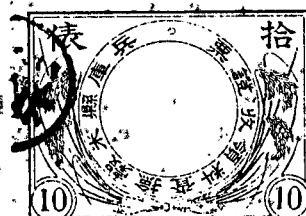
# 91-2



# 91-3



# 91-4



# 91-5

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE YOUR VERY OWN POSTMARK?

Did you know that anyone in the U.S. can obtain their own personal postmark to cancel mail? First, ask a post office for Form # 3620. At the top of the form write "Mailer's Precancel Postmark." After filling out the form, sketch a sample of your proposed postmark. It must conform exactly to the sample below, substituting your city name and zip, and making your permit number 0 (zero). Your local postmaster will submit your application form and sketch to your main post office, where you will be assigned a permit number. The form is then mailed back to you, endorsed with your personal permit number. There is no charge whatsoever for any of this. Questioning postal officials should refer to the Domestic Mail Manual, section 143.3.

The only cost to you will be in the making of the rubber stamp canceller itself. Most print shops can make such rubber stamps. Make sure that the maker understands that the dates must be interchangeable! While the cancel design has to conform to the

sample, it can be made larger or smaller overall to your liking. If you have difficulty in finding someone locally to make a canceller, write to Herb Harrington, PO Box 585, Vienna, OH 44473-0585 and enclose a SASE for his current price. At last report, it was about \$15. He is the official cancel maker for the Mailer's Postmark Permit Club, PO Box 5793, Akron, OH 44372-5793.

Of course, the main reason to have your own postmark is to neatly cancel your own mail the way you wish. First, only black ink is to be used. Second, mail you cancel must be postmarked for the day it is mailed and given either to your mailman or a postal clerk. It can NOT be dropped into a mailbox. This is to prevent them from going through the regular cancellation machines and double postmarking your letters. By the way, one of your first letters (or postcards) should be to the Permit Club listed above. They will register your cancel in their records. Hundreds of collectors avidly seek out these personal cancels. ••• Tom Fortunato (# 379)



MAILER'S

POSTMARK

PERMIT #6

*Sample Regulation  
Personal Mailer's  
Postmark*

### *Whatzit? Answers:*

12-1: Armenia # 285

12-2: Several members thought it might be an Egyptian revenue stamp; however, Ray Compton (# 73) says it is an Egyptian postal tax stamp, issued by the Nasser government in the 1950s and is not listed in Scott.

12-3: Everyone agrees that this is a label that was issued se-tenant with a Polish commemorative stamp, but the stamp is missing. Several members noted it likely has something to do with Copernicus.

12-4: Crete # J1 (Postage Due)

12-5: Netherlands Indies # N31, issued under Japanese Occupation. Member Al Feinberg (# 361) added the following notation: Sakura 5 Japanese Naval Central Area - year 1943.

12-6: Mike Strawn (# 353) says it is Venezuela # 128 if it is gray; He also has this in orange. Stamps inscribed "Instrucción" like this one or "Escuelas" were revenue stamps which were also available for postage, often only domestically, between 1871 and 1895. Ray Compton agrees that this is a revenue stamp, being created by "resellada" overprint applied locally in 1900 to Scott # 128-135, which were originally issued in 1893. The overprinted issues are not

listed by Scott because they were not intended for postal use although many were used that way anyway due to shortages of postage stamps, especially in remote areas. Ken Jenkins advises reading note after # 135 in Scott's catalog.

*Many thanks to those who wrote to identify the stamps: Tom Fortunato (# 379), John D. Pruitt, MD (# 121), Albert H. Feinberg (# 361), Ken Jenkins (# 15), Michael J. Strawn (# 353), and Ray Compton (# 73).*

**JOIN  
OMNI EXCHANGE**  
Fill Empty Spaces in Your Collection  
without a Lot of Money  
Trade Your Duplicates  
For Info Write:  
**OMNI EXCHANGE**  
Tom Allison, Manager  
Box 252  
Wilmette, IL 60091-0252



## RAECH'S RUMINATIONS

The holidays have long since past and here I sit, pen in hand, waiting for an idea with which to begin.

Do I tell you about the member who wrote me and outlined the system he uses to keep track of the stamps he needs? His letter had a nice array of commemoratives. I was missing a certain US commemorative. I took a shot and, when answering his letter, I asked if he might have a copy. Lo and behold, back came a letter from him and, with it, the stamp I needed — gratis, as he put it. All I can say is "Thanks!"

I'll take my lead from that. If any of you out there are just reading *The Circuit* and doing nothing else, you're really missing the boat. There's a great bunch of people in this group but you'll never know it until you do something about it. There's no time like the present!

You may recall that I asked about the feasibility of instituting a "Round Robin" -type of exchange. I'm happy to report that I've had a nice response and the project has been launched. I've received many suggestions and all are very much appreciated. Is it working? Well, I've been able to fill some holes in my collection, as have the others. I've made some observations which I'll pass along next time. If any of you are interested, we'll be happy to bring you aboard. If you'd like a copy of our operating parameters, send me a SASE and I'll gladly get a copy off to you. \*\*\* R.H. (#363)

## MORE STAMP STORAGE IDEAS: For Those With 1000's of Duplicates

My duplicates are stored in glassines in one those old oak library index card cabinets, about 5 feet tall by 2 feet wide, with many drawers. I laid tablet-back cardboard over the center adjustment slots and these drawers (about 2 feet long) hold hundreds of glassines. There are more modern types made of metal; I have one of those, also. I also can store postcards and many sizes of covers in these drawers. The older cabinets are scarce and will set you back several hundred dollars, but the newer metal ones used are usually reasonable (I got mine at a used office furniture store for \$125 a couple years ago.) \*\*\* Rita Kallal (#26)

## MORE STAMP STORAGE IDEAS: This One Great for Arthritic Hands

Today I received my Nov/Dec. issue of *The Circuit*, 15 days after it was mailed! It had time to go around the world even though it was sent airmail!! (*Rima Carver #493 is a Canadian member*)

I read the short article on page 7 re-storing of duplicates and would like to share my method if anyone is interested.

Due to severe arthritis in my hands and fingers, I find opening the envelopes as suggested by other members, very painful and time consuming. I have three ring binders and put the 12-pocket manilla stock sheets with the countries listed alphabetically in the binders.

The only country that is in numerical order is that of Canada as I exchange on want list basis with several people. This method - manilla stock sheets - works very well for me.

By the way, my name Rima is pronounced Reema and I am of the female gender! \*\*\* Rima Carver (#493)

## OMNI EXCHANGE REPORTS ON 1990

In the six years that the OMNI EXCHANGE has been operating, members of the ISWSC have added stamps worth \$74,992 to their collections — with the only expense being postage, and a nominal charge for blank books!

The annual audit report for the 1990 year just closed, prepared by Exchange Manager Tom Allison #42, shows that more than 100 participants added a total of \$15,487 in catalog value during the year — a new record!

The Exchange has grown dramatically since it was started in 1984 by Hal Clarke (#47), with a handful of members. There are now three sections in the Pink Book exchange (stamps cataloging 10¢ each and up), plus a Blue Book section (stamps cataloging 50¢ and up).

Dave Paul (#59), Dr. Issac Tannenbaum (#163), and Jerry Gross (#429) each manage a Pink Book section with 15 to 25 exchangers, and Tom Allison (#42) handles the Blue Book section with about 35 members.

According to the audit report as of Oct. 31, 1990, there are a total of 859 books of stamps circulating with a combined total of \$46,945 in catalog value. In the Pink exchange, the average member added \$120 worth of stamps to his or her collection, had 9.8 books in circulation, and had an account balance of \$368 in catalog value. The average value of new books entered was \$59.

For the Blue exchange, the average member added \$203 worth of stamps, had 9.7 books circulating, and had a balance of \$392. Average value of the books was \$97.

The only expense for exchangers is the postage for sending books back and forth (usually 25¢ to 85¢ each time), and the cost of blank books which are supplied at 3 books for \$1.00. The exchange has a fee of 10% of the catalog value only on stamps actually retained by other exchangers. This fee is deducted from the member's account at the time the book is returned to the owner, after completing its circulation to members.

The OMNI EXCHANGE is the official stamp exchange of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors, and all active members of the ISWSC are eligible, and are urged to join. To become a member, just drop a note to OMNI manager Tom Allison, Box 252, Wilmette, IL 60091, and ask for an application and list of regulations. New exchangers are advised to start out with at least 3 books and may enter either the Pink (10¢) or Blue (50¢), or both sections.

Why not send for an application today, and see how easy it is to add stamps to your collection with a minimum outlay of cash? \*\*\* Tom Allison (#42)

## ISWSC BOARD MEMBER PUBLISHED IN TEXAS PHILATELIC JOURNAL

The Nov-Dec '90 issue of *The Texas Philatelist* contained a most interesting article on "Collecting and Exhibiting Christmas Seals" by our director John Hotchner (#62). It caught my eye for two reasons: it was so well done - and I'm an accumulator of seals myself. I say "accumulator" because as of yet I've not arranged and mounted them for display. John, maybe that "Some Day" will arrive here sometime too! \*\*\* Herb Holland (#31)



## MEMBER PRESENTED WITH GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER WORK

On behalf of the Bedford Public Library I would like to nominate Mrs. Ariel Poling for a Governor's Voluntary Action Award.

Mrs. Poling has been an outstanding volunteer at the library. For the past 12 years the library has been involved in a stamp collecting program for children, young adults, and adults. This program is unique in the library because it provides an opportunity for young people to work directly with adults in an informal setting that encourages communication between generations, educates the participants in the skills necessary to enjoy a lifelong hobby, and provides a positive link between school skills and a recreational activity. Mrs. Poling was instrumental in the development of the program and has consistently provided guidance and encouragement. Working with the library staff she has coordinated and planned each monthly program over the years. She has been consistent, dependable and enthusiastic in her support and attendance at the programs. Many programs require specialized materials and information. She has donated and prepared the necessary materials for distribution at the program. When necessary she will contact stamp collectors all over the United States. The library participates in the United States Postal Service's Benjamin Franklin Stamp Club because of information received from Mrs. Poling. Her activities on our behalf have been recognized in Linn's

Stamp News and other national stamp collecting journals. Her nationwide involvements with other organizations ensure the continuing success of the program. Many children, young adults, and adults have become lifelong philatelists because of her enthusiasm.

Mrs. Poling is very committed to the library and the community. Recently the library conducted a spelling bee to raise money for the library's literacy program. Mrs. Poling solicited a donation from her church to help support the program.

Mrs. Poling's efforts as a volunteer at the library personify the spirit of volunteerism. She is a dependable, active proponent of the library and its services. She is professional in her commitments to the success of the stamp club, the people who attend library programs, and to the library as an organization.

Thank you for considering this nomination.

Yvonne Benowitz, Department Head  
Children and Young Adult Services, Bedford Public Library

*The members of ISWSC would like to Congratulate Ariel on this prestigious award and also to thank her for her many efforts on behalf of philately and her work with children. Through her efforts many children have been introduced to an interesting and educational lifelong hobby. Thank you, Ariel.*



## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Happy 1991 to one and all. May this be the year you find that elusive stamp for that spot that's been empty for a dozen years!

It has been some time since I've written a column due to many events beyond my control. As some of you know, some National Guard units were called up from Louisiana; my husband's unit was one of those. Needless to say, this has necessitated a lot of last minute changes in my schedule. It even became necessary to postpone our mailing to APS members until things smoothed out here at our print shop. With a new production supervisor coming aboard the end of February, I hope we'll be able to handle that during March and April.

Thank you all so much for contributing to the newsletter. It is very helpful and since I can't write many articles due to time restrictions, I can use anything you'd like to contribute. I would like to know how many of you own computers and modems that could be used to send articles by phone. I do not presently own a modem, but if it would shorten the time needed to re-type articles, I will seriously consider buying one for members to send me items by modem.

Speaking of sending me things: If you have access to a FAX machine, you can FAX me your columns, articles, letters, etc., 24 hours a day. With a FAX, you can get things to me faster than Federal Express, etc., so it is great for last minute deadline items. CALL FAX #: (318) 387-5341

Someone wrote admonishing members to look up the ?Whatzit? stamps in their Scott's catalog, but I chose not to print the item because I would not in anyway wish to discourage anyone from asking for help in finding stamps. I recall being a new collector and remember how many hours I spent pouring through the pages of Scott Catalogs trying in vain to find a stamp that I had no idea what country it belonged to. If it had not been for a helpful stamp club member (a former military man who had served in the Orient), I might still be searching for those weird-looking official stamps from Thailand (O1-O10). Without other reference books helping me with various languages and writing scripts, I was lost as to where to look in Scott's. As I became more familiar with languages, scripts and even certain artistic styles and types of papers, etc., I found it easier to find "new" stamps. It takes awhile to become familiar with it all, so we "old-timers" need a little patience with new collectors who don't "know" as much as we do. I feel we are here to help each other and to promote stamp collecting. Even after many years of collecting, I run across items I can't identify or that don't match the colors or values listed in the catalog. So if you don't know what it is that you have, send me a good clear photocopy along with any description of colors, watermarks and/or paper type... and we'll see if one of our resourceful members can find it for you.

Pray for Peace around the world. \*\*\* Rita Kallal, Editor (# 26)

Please Help the Editor by writing a letter or article -- How did you begin collecting? What is your favorite stamp, country or cover and why? Thanks so much. --- Your Editor

## ISWSC SWAP CIRCUIT

To become part of a Swap Circuit  
Send a SASE to:

Swap Circuit - Dalene Thomas  
8612 W. Warren Ln.  
Lakewood, CO 80227

## ROSTER ADDITIONS:

| Mbr # | Name & Address  | Date Joined | Will Trade | Mint Used or Both |
|-------|---|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| 512   | June Peterson<br>203-1348 Barclay St.<br>Vancouver, B. C. V6E 1H7<br>CANADA               | 26 Nov 90   | Yes        | Both              |
| 513   | Judith Hungerford<br>PO Box 1424<br>Oakland, California 94694<br>USA                      | 26 Nov 90   | Yes        | Both              |
| 514   | Gordon D. Byrkit<br>Freedom Sq. H-709<br>10951 Johnson Blvd.<br>Seminole, FL 34642<br>USA | 18 Dec 90   | Yes        | Used              |
| 515   | Bernard S. Shaw<br>714 Cheryl Drive<br>Iselin, NJ 08830<br>USA                            | 21 Dec 90   | No         | Used              |



Did Santa bring all the philatelic items you had on Your Christmas Wish List? If not, put them on your birthday wish list!!

# SPECIAL OFFERS

## SPECIAL OFFER FOR COLLECTORS//TRADERS//DEALERS ONLY

COUNTRY JOBLOTS AT GOOD DISCOUNTS FROM 1991 SCOTT

Each lot contains between 3 and 10 copies each of all different major Scott #s, F-VF postally used from the last 20-30 years, with a total 1991 SCOTT CATALOG VALUE of over \$100.00. I offer, while stock lasts:

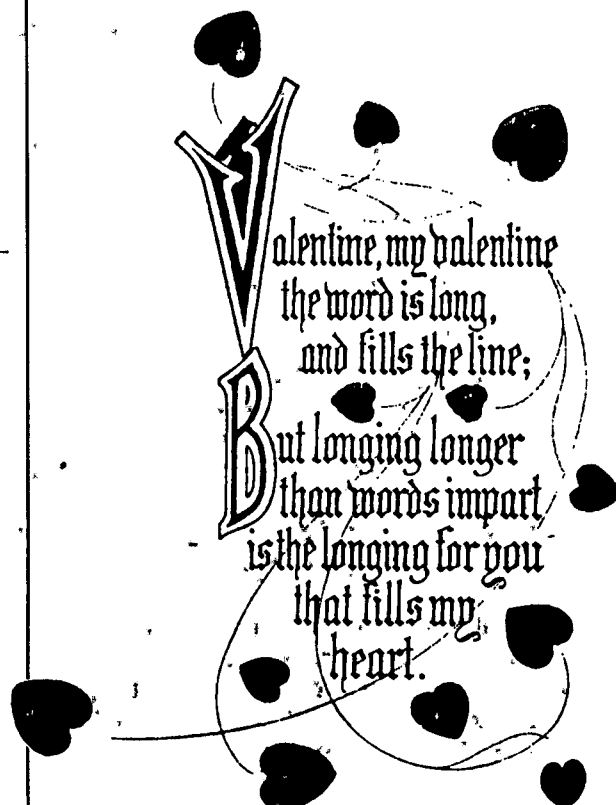
- \*\* One country lot @ net \$12.50 postpaid.
- \*\* Any 3 country lots @ net \$36.00 postpaid.
- \*\* All 11 country lots (one each) @ net \$125.00 postpaid.

1. Great Britain - Commems & Hi-Values only.
2. Australia - Commems only.
3. Canada - Commems only.
4. Denmark - Commems only.
5. Finland - Commems//Lge. Pict. only.
6. Germany(W) - Commems//Semis only.
7. Iceland - Mostly Commems//Lge. Pict.
8. Ireland - Commems//Airs only.
9. Netherlands - Commems//Semis only.
10. New Zealand - Commems//Lge. Pict. only.
11. Norway - Mostly Commems incl. higher values.

ROBERT L. TROMP  
6285 West 33rd South  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

APS # 027250 (since 1949)

## A 1913 Penny Valentine Postcard



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