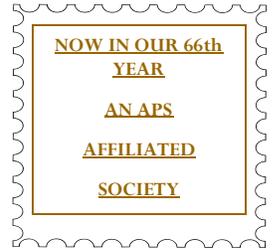




ECHOES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2015

How to Write a Philatelic Article for Publication

Continued from July-August issue of Echoes

By Randy L. Neil

Reprinted from The American Stamp Dealer & Collector February 2014

5. Regular Column. The Regularly-published column by the more experienced writers in the hobby are, in essence, a key backbone to philatelic publishing. If there is a subject an editor believes should be regularly covered in his publication, he seeks out the appropriate author to write a column on it. If you're an expert on a subject, you have a good chance to become a columnist.

The preceding are the areas of philatelic journalism that anyone can tackle.

Finally, how do you do it?

If you are interested in writing at all, what I recommend is to clip philatelic pieces that you like. Read them over and over and use them as examples of what you might like to do yourself. I know, for instance, that John Hotchner began doing this back in the 1970s when he was only an aspiring writer. He learned from the likes of Stephen G. Rich and George Sloane (the latter was, until his death in 1958, the longest running columnist in philately—today, Mr. Hotchner should qualify for that. He's been writing one for *Linn's* for over 30 years!) by clipping and keeping their writings from long before he was even a stamp exhibitor.

When I was learning how to write in journalism school at the University of Kansas, I had a teacher who told me, "If you want to write, you have to do two things. Read, read, read; then write, write, write."

The best novelists learn to write great novels by reading great novels. If you ever have the chance to interview a successful novelist, ask that person who his favorite novelists are. Quickly, that famous writer will tick off quite a number of those he has long favored. And further into such an interview, you might ask the novelist to explain how he or she learned to write in the first place. The answer, usually: "I wrote and wrote and wrote!"

To learn to write good philatelic pieces, pick your favorite type of article. Do you want to do a scholarly piece? Do you want to do a regular column? Magazines like *ASD&C* are constantly on the quest to locate and help the next good writer break into philatelic publishing and continue on into the future.

Develop a list of subjects. What do you think you are good at? What turns you on? Can you write in a manner that makes the subject you are writing on a turn-on for your reader? That's a critical factor. Again, read what other writers are doing. See if you can understand why one of your favorite writers is, in fact, one of your favorites.

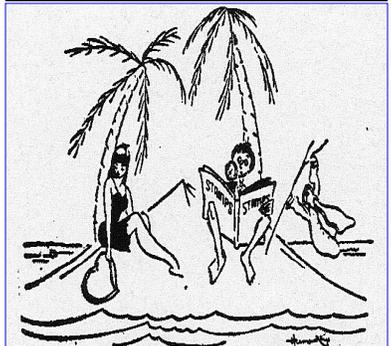
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *President's Message*
- *Club Calendars*
- *Monthly Quiz*
- *See page 3 for Member Dealer Info.*

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"Is stamp collecting ALL you ever think about Mr. Holmes?"

ECHOES

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Although the dry weather threw some road blocks up with Lane County putting no open fire restrictions in effect, we had a good turn out for our August 1st picnic. Thanks to Phil Bronner and Mike Weyers, we had good food to eat. The microwave and crock pot at the picnic was a very imaginative solution.

Thanks to all who brought food and to Maryann and Paul for the ice and drinks. I think we all had fun.

We still need people to sign up for presentations and for cookie monster. We have a Buy-Sell-Trade night on October 28th.

I have viewed our APS programs discs and all work fine. I guess we need a DVD player, or a laptop with a working DVD player.

Remember, October is National Stamp Collecting Month!!

Get well wishes to both Jim Vanderplaat and his wife, Chris who have both been hospitalized with illnesses.



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



I will miss the two September meetings and possibly the first October meeting as Judy and I will be camping our way across the U.S. to Massachusetts and back. A trip back to visit family is long overdue, and we'll get to see some historical sites and National Parks and Monuments! I will have my laptop, so can keep up with any email traffic! This issue of the Echoes will go out early, and hopefully, I'll be back in time to get the November issue out in time! See you when I get back! The article on page 4, reprinted from the APS magazine is well worth the read, and may trigger a desire to further research and understand the causes of, the participants, and the conduct of the "War Between the States."

The ECHOES is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. *If you do NOT get your ECHOES the first week of the issue month, let me know! I will get another mailed out to you! Remember, email delivery = **COLOR!!***

**DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

All submissions of articles, illustrations, letters, etc., by members of the Greater Eugene Stamp Society will be considered. We reserve the right to edit for length and content. Also, any material might be denied publication based on its inflammatory nature, bias, its poor quality, readability, obviously inappropriate subject matter, or the lack of space in the current publication. These deci-

sions are based on the discretion of the editor. All material must arrive typewritten please (!) to the editor either at a scheduled meeting, by mail, or email. Timeliness of submissions and space will determine when they will appear in the Newsletter. Cutoff dates for all submissions will be the 15th of the month prior to the 1st day of the month the issue is to come out. Don't bold, italicize or underline. Do not use cen-

tering. Use a plain background and standard typefaces.

Many thanks for all who send material! We really appreciate it!



Electronic submissions via email preferred!

How to Write a Philatelic Article for Publication

(Continued from page 1)

Chances are almost 100 percent there are one or more elements of the writer's style of personality that holds your attention and makes you want to come back for more.

Gather the needed resources. Make sure you have all the data you need and that all your ducks are in a row before you begin. There is nothing philatelic writers and philatelists love to do more than to pick apart an article that was written by someone else!

Do an outline. That's easy. We learned that in high school. It really pays off, especially when doing a short article. Outline it first so that you have a beginning, a middle and an end.

Do your first draft, then get it critiqued by someone who is not necessarily a philatelist. Ask them to check how the flow of words is put together. Then give it to a fellow philatelist to see what they think of it. And I should add this: be ready to take criticism and to accept it when it's valid. Good writers get that way by having fairly thick skin.

Spell and grammar check it. We live in a day when spelling and grammar have been thrown to the four winds, but thank heavens(!), we have computers to do that for us. But hey! Don't always trust them to do the perfect job of correcting your errors. Have someone else read your material...always. You make it a lot easier for your editors who have to put it into print if your work is thoroughly checked for spelling and grammar. You might be surprised to learn how many writers don't do this.

Finally, what are you going to do? Are you going to commit your article to email, disk, paper? Keep in mind that all of our publications have almost completely finished the conversion to electronic journalism. This means they would prefer receiving your article on computer disk or via email. It makes it a lot easier for the editor these days if you send your submission electronically in some manner.

I should also remark on illustrations. Images, of course, are the lifeblood of a hobby that focuses on tiny works of art on paper—every editor wants photos, graphic art, etc. to accompany most articles in a magazine. Here at ASD&C, we encourage our writers to submit images that are at least 300 dpi (dots per inch) in resolution and in the .tif digital format.

There are, of course, other important factors that all editors want their writers to consider and rules to adhere to. If you are thinking of submitting an article to a publication, you are encouraged to send an email or letter to the editor inquiring about guidelines for writers.

The bottom line is that philatelic writing is just plain fun, and that's what the hobby is all about.

SUPPORT OUR CLUB MEMBERS !!

Carol Furness has **Carol Furness Postcards** in her home in Drain. Please call her for an appointment. She is also a regular at Piccadilly. Drop in!

Mike Hardy sells on eBay as "Mkhard69". He also sells from his home! Call him!

Paul Renner sells as "PNC" on eBay and has been known to sell at Piccadilly. He is now a full-time dealer!

Clarín Lewis has a booth in The Mercantile Vintage Mall at 145 Pioneer Parkway East, Springfield. He is also now a dealer.

Mike Luttio is a full-time dealer who sells at our shows and at buy, sell, trade nights. Call and leave a message if you'd like to deal with him outside of "hours."

Bill Witcraft of Dothan, Alabama sells on eBay as "Sergeantmajorbill."

Space is available at no charge for club members who wish to let others know they are available to sell philatelic items!

EUGENE COIN AND JEWELRY RECOVERS FROM DAMAGE DUE TO SOUTHTOWNE LANES BOWLING ALLEY FIRE!

Eugene Coin and Jewelry, the last locally listed brick and mortar "Stamp Dealer" left in the area is currently closed due to smoke and water damage from the fire at the next door Southtowne Lanes.

Information from Lefty Dundee indicates that the shop will reopen for business after Labor Day.

Thanks for the information, Lefty!

G.E.S.S. member Harry Shepherd, the President of the Coos Bay Stamp Club has established a web site for the Coastal Clubs (Coos Bay and Reedsport). He has added links to some good auction and retail sites. The Oregon Coast Stamp Clubs website can be reached at:

www.Oregoncoaststampclubs.com

How many of our G.E.S.S. members are named "Mike"?

FREEDOM JUST AROUND THE CORNER (FROM March 2015 APS magazine) by Allen Kane

On February 12, 2015 the National Postal Museum opened an exciting new temporary exhibition: *Freedom Just Around the Corner*. Philatelic artifacts and historical objects combine to tell the compelling story of the Civil Rights movement in America. The exhibit, curated by the museum's new Chief Curator of Philately, Daniel Piazza, looks at the history of African Americans in the United States from the Civil War to the present. The exhibition features letters carried by enslaved Americans, mail sent by and to leaders of the civil rights movement, and original artwork for numerous stamps issued by the United States Postal Service.

Visitors will view objects both inspirational and heartbreaking. Among the letters shared in the exhibition is one carried in 1850 by a 16 year old African American slave named Susan. Unknown to the young woman, the letter she brought from her owner to the Eastville, Virginia post office contained the arrangements to be made to sell Susan to a slave dealer in Richmond. Not only were slaves considered property, but in 1862 slave sales were made taxable exchanges. One of the taxes the federal government instituted to help pay for the Civil War was a tax on slave sales in those states (Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Tennessee and West Virginia) that remained in the Union, but where slavery was still legal. The exhibition includes federally issued revenue stamps on slave sales and mortgages.

One of my favorite objects on display is the Medal of Honor awarded to William H. Carney. Originally a slave, Carney became a member of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment celebrated in the film *Glory*. Carney was shot twice while rescuing the American Flag during the infamous attack on the heavily armed Fort Wagner near Charleston, South Carolina. After the war, Carney became one of hundreds of Civil War veterans who went to work as letter carriers. He served in the New Bedford, Massachusetts post office for more than thirty years.

Freedom includes objects that track the struggle for the rights of African Americans for a century after the end of the war. Covers and objects, both inspiring and vile, bring that struggle to life. Racists shared their support of organizations like the Ku Klux Klan through handmade postal cancels, a few of which are on display in the exhibition, as is a Rural Free Delivery carriers saddlebag, with separate compartments marked "white" and "colored." It was a separation that was never postal policy, but was created by the carrier for his sake and/or that of his patrons.

Efforts by African Americans to improve their lives are highlighted through items such as a copy of the *Green Book*. This book was the "go to" travel guide for African Americans in the mid-twentieth century. The author, Victor H. Green, was a New York City letter carrier who wanted to help other African Americans find hotels, restaurants and other establishments that served Black Americans while traveling. He was soon assisted by Black letter carriers across the country, helping to create an indispensable travel guide for negotiating travel in a still segregated nation, especially in the Jim Crow south.

Among the objects currently on loan to the museum from the U.S. Postal Service are hundreds of pieces of stamp art. Several of these are used in the exhibit, accompanying the Black Heritage stamp series they depict. Among those displayed are the 25-cent Frederick Douglass stamp art by Walter DuBois Richards, Jerry Pinkney's artwork for the 15-cent Martin Luther King Jr. stamp, and the painting by Albert Slark used for the 37-cent Marian Anderson stamp.

The exhibition will be on display in the William J. Gross Stamp Galleries until February 6, 2016. I know you will not want to miss seeing the wonderful pieces of stamp art and the many fascinating objects that trace America's tortuous history of racial strife and struggle. It is an exhibition that is well worth your time to visit in person. However, if you just can't get to DC, you can see the online version at <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/freedom>.

Ed. note: I thought this article was especially germane given the recent obsession with the removal of the Confederate Army of Virginia Battle Flag (erroneously identified as the "Confederate Flag", which was, in fact, the Confederate National Flag known as the Stars and Bars!) from the Confederate War Dead monument at the South Carolina State Capitol Grounds. I have been to the State Capitol Grounds, which has monuments, graves, and other sites and markers honoring those from the Revolutionary War through the Spanish American War. Even the Capitol Building itself has bronze markers high on its walls marking the impacts of Union Artillery hits. It is true that history is written by the victors. The false narrative that the War of the Rebellion (as it is known in the military) was fought to "free the slaves" flies in the face of even minimum research into Lincoln's reasoning for going to war (which was to "preserve the Union.") We do a disservice not only to ourselves, but to future generations by rewriting or sanitizing history to fit an "acceptable" narrative. It may surprise many to know that free blacks served in the Confederate forces from as early as 1861. (Union forces did not accept blacks until 1863!) While there are many confused and false histories concerning BOTH North and South with respect to African American participation, there IS evidence that between 60,000 and 93,000 blacks served in the Confederate military. It does not bode well that a nation's peoples are willfully ignorant of their own history. It is certainly true that those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it. It is up to each of us to educate ourselves, our children, and grandchildren to the truth of our history, whether good or bad, but the whole truth, without the filtering of "political correctness." We have done a disservice to the Confederate War Dead, BOTH black and white, by denying history with the removal of a battle flag from a monument. (*From a Washington Times article some years back written by Walter Williams, a black economics professor at George Mason University.)*

CALENDAR

SIGN-UP SHEETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MEETINGS!

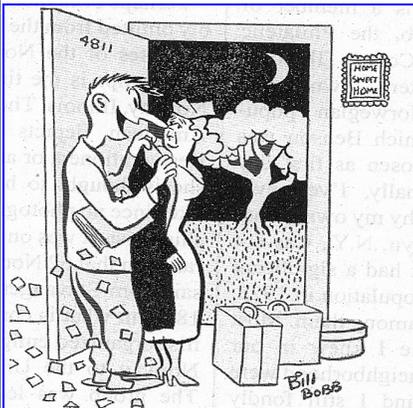
SEPTEMBER

- 5: Cottage Grove Library, 1-3 pm, Vanderplaat
- 7: Labor Day
- 9: Club Meeting, 7-9:30 pm, Program: TBA, CM: TBA
- 13: Grandparents Day
- 14: Rosh Hashanah
- 22: Yom Kippur
- 23: Club Meeting, 7-9:30 pm, Program: TBA, CM: J. Parker
- 23: First Day of Autumn

OCTOBER

- 3: Tri-Club meeting, Three Rivers Casino, Florence Or.
- 3: Cottage Grove Library, 1-3 pm, Vanderplaat
- 12: Columbus Day
- 14: Club Meeting, 7-9:30 pm, Program: Olympic Stamps & Pins, Neunausen, CM: TBA
- 28: Club Meeting, 7-9:30 pm, Program: Buy, Sell, Trade Night. CM: TBA
- 31: Halloween

NOTE: Northwest Philatelic Library is open on Saturdays, 10 am-2 pm, during the Stamp Fair and Collector's Corner.



"With the present high cost of living I'm forced to give up one of two things, you or my stamp collection!"

SEPTEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 
6	7 	8	9 	10	11	12
13 	14 	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 	23 	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 	13	14 	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 	29	30	31 

Repetitive Events:

- Rose City Stamp Fair, 2nd Saturday of the month, OSS Clubhouse, Portland.
- Collectors Corner, 4th Saturday of the month, OSS Clubhouse, Portland.



GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY

PO Box 40068
Eugene, Oregon 97404

The Greater Eugene Stamp Society (G.E.S.S.) meets the second and fourth Wednesday at Saint Jude's Catholic Church, 43rd Avenue and Willamette Street. Visitors are always welcome! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for trading, bid board, and socializing. The business meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Applications are available at the meetings, at the GESS sponsored local Stamp Show held in March and September each year, or by contacting the club at the above address. Dues are \$15 a year for adults, \$5 a year for Juveniles under 18 years of age. Visit us on the web at: www.greatereugenestampclub.weebly.com

GREATER EUGENE STAMP SOCIETY

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

SEP: *Bagaason, M; Deer, C; Himber, D; Leslie, P; Richards, W; VanderPlaat, J.*

OCT: *Brewer, M; Luttio, M; Nichols, A; Opincar, G; Schwieger, G; Slabin, U; Vignola, F.*

NEW WEB SITE & E-MAIL

Our new website is up and running at:

WWW.GREATEREUGENESTAMPCLUB.WEBLY.COM

We also have an e-mail address at:

GREATEREUGENESTAMPCLUB@YAHOO.COM

Answers to the quiz
below:
**Don't Peek!!!! Cover
this box with a piece of
paper!**

1. Independence Hall
2. John Phillip Sousa
3. Mexico
4. The Bible
5. Tennis
6. Two
7. Four cents
8. The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
9. Black
10. S.S. Adriatic

U.S. Stamp Quiz No. 35

(from 100 Trivia Quizzes for Stamp Collectors by Bill Olcheski copyright 1982, APS)

1. What building appears on the ten-cent stamp in the 1954 Liberty Series?
2. What famous bandmaster appears on a 1940 issue?
3. The independence of what country is marked by a 1960 commemorative?
4. Guttenberg was commemorated for printing of the first book. What was it?
5. What sport is featured on a 1974 U.S. envelope?
6. How many sheep appear on the stamp honoring the American Wool Industry in 1971?
7. What was the denomination of the postal card honoring the U.S. Coast Guard in 1965?
8. A Washington Irving story was the inspiration for a 1974 stamp. What was it?
9. What color is the five-dollar Alexander Hamilton stamp of 1956?
10. What ship appears on the twelve-cent stamp of 1869?

Give yourself five points for each correct answer for numbers 1-4.

Give yourself ten points for each correct answer for numbers 5-7.

Give yourself twenty-five points for each correct answer for numbers 8-9.

Give yourself fifty points for a correct answer to number 10.

Remember to:

**Check the Sign up
sheets for Cookie
Monster (CM);
Presentations;
Show setup, tear-
down and
cleanup; Show
Exhibit, Ride
Share, and New
Member Guide!**

**Also, let's each try
to get one new
member to join
our Club in
2015 !!!**