



Strait Stamp Talk



Nov-Dec 2018

Your Stamp Collecting Newsletter

Volume 20 Issue

Strait Stamp Society meets the first Thursday of the month at the Sequim Library 630 N. Ave., Sequim, Washington at 6:00-8:00 pm. No dues - Donations only. Strait Stamp Talk is a bi-monthly newsletter for the Strait Stamp Society. Send Philatelic news and articles to the editor Dick McCammon, 76 Roberson Rd., Sequim, WA 98382-7335.

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President's Message

Welcome to our November-December issue



Wes Falor

Photo by Karen Mckee

Hope this finds everyone well and getting ready for the holiday season. It does not seem like it can already be almost November. Please remember that Nov. is the letter "S", which has all kinds of possibilities, and Dec. is the letter "T" again, lots of possibilities. The silent auction will be in December, and we need to make a decision on our cachet for next year's show. I hope to have some of Dean Kennedy's material he donated to the club available at both the Nov. and Dec. meetings. As the year winds down, I would like to thank all of you for your contributions to make the club as successful as it is. I want to give a special thanks to Dick and Cathie for all of the additional work they put in making the club successful. Happy Holidays everyone.

Wes

November 1st MEETING

After the general meeting, there will be a show and tell that begins with the letter "S." Bring any questions you have about stamps or stamp collecting.

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 4th Meeting

After the general meeting, there will be a show and tell that begins with the letter "T." This will be followed by a Silent Auction. Forms can be downloaded from our website straitstamp.org

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The Lighthouse Collector

by Judy Newblom

What is it about lighthouses that makes them so irresistible? What is it that makes some collectors so obsessive collecting lighthouse replica models, stamps, license plates, burgees, postcards, books and anything else with the subject being lighthouse? I'm not sure I could pen an answer to either question in a few short words, but I know I am guilty of both!

My husband and I have been visiting and photographing lighthouses since 1995. We have stayed at lighthouses, led tours in and out of the country, and seen over 900 lights. One can pick up a lot of postcards along the way!

Before we moved to Sequim in 2012, we lived in Colorado and were part of a group that started a lighthouse club, primarily focusing on Harbour Lights, small collectible replicas of lighthouses and fundraising to support preservation of lighthouses in the United States. One thing is for sure, collecting stamps doesn't come close to taking up the space lighthouse replicas in curios do!

I invited to one of our meetings, Dalene Thomas, founder of the Lighthouse Stamp Society which was conveniently located in the Denver metro area. She brought stamps and spoke to us about the world of lighthouse stamp collecting. That began my fascination with philately. Over the years I attended a few stamp shows and added to my collections. I knew I would never obtain the over 2400 stamps that are on the APA checklist so I just selected a few here and there along with covers and other related philatelic items.

After moving to Sequim, I met Cathie Osborne when I purchased some covers with the lighthouse cancel from previous stamp shows. They went in my album and sat idle next to those with the stamps and postcards for the next few years.

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Roger Wins a Gold at SEAPEX



photo by Dick McCammon

Roger Heath won a Gold medal at SEAPEX for his 5-frame Exhibit entitled "Refused Mail of Switzerland." Roger's exhibit traces Refusé markings on Swiss mail before and after the 1891 agreement by the Universal Postal Union to standardize official markings on returned mail. The types of items most frequently refused include Nachnahme (demands for cash), postage due, registered and official letters, subscriptions, advertising, and memberships, international, and publications for review. The evolution of marking refused mail in Switzerland was illustrated chronologically.

SEAPEX is the newest World Series of Philately national level exhibition in the United States. The winner of the Grand Award for philatelic exhibits qualifies to compete against the grand award winners of the other WSP shows at the annual APS Stamp Show next year in Omaha, Nebraska. The Grand Award for SEAPEX this year was won by Timothy P. O'Connor for his 9-frame Exhibit entitled "Postal History of the Thirteen Colonies, 1675-1782." His exhibit chronicled the development of an American Post from its British origins.

The Strait Stamp Society was one of the donors for SEAPEX this year.



"20 years as Stamp Club Chairman
and they send my retirement card by E-MAIL"

The Lighthouse Collector

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Last year I made a New Year's resolution to join the Strait Stamp Society in 2018 and what a good decision it was! Everyone was very welcoming and I have learned so much in the short time. You don't have to be an expert philatelist or have been a collector for years and years. In fact, I probably ask more questions from members than anyone and everyone is always very gracious and willing to take the time to answer this newcomer's questions.

Cathie has been like a mentor encouraging me to exhibit which I did for the first time at this year's show. In doing so I discovered that what I really love about collecting is telling stories related to history and adventure and the art that captures it all. Taking philatelic items and putting them in a display is a great way to share what is hidden in those albums on my shelf!

Lighthouses are a great subject along with about a half a dozen more topics I've discovered and hope to collect since I've come back to the fascinating world of philately. Now if I can just learn how to pronounce the word!



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Secretary Cathie Osborne Notes



September 6th Meeting

The September 6 meeting of Strait Stampers was another success! Twenty-one of us enjoyed the letter Q by Rick, Roger, Jim, Judy, Phil and Cathie. Topics ranged from Scott Catalogue Q stamps to a Quiz.

The auction this meeting had some quality items, and the budget loss from the stamp show has been well-covered already. Discussion was made of changes to next year's show, and a list of possible topics to celebrate was put forward. (The post-show critique at Cathie's house on the 4th pulled out some good ideas.)

We had a visitor who brought some old postcards to sell, and another who spent the meeting at the penny table. Tim Morgan arrived early and had the chairs all set up before the first member walked into the room. Thank you, Tim! (And the rest of us thank all the others who help with set-up and take-down faithfully every month.)

September's Burger King meeting will be Sept. 19, and October's the 17th.

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Cathie Takes Silver-Bronze at SEAPEX



photo by Dick McCammon

Secretary Cathie Osborne Notes
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October 4th Meeting

Our October meeting was enhanced by a video of the Strait Stamp Show this summer, photos by Julie Tarbuck and technical expertise by Dick McCammon. Much thanks to both!

Eighteen members enjoyed “R” presentations by Judy (Polish lighthouse); Jim K. (The Rose of Washington (DC)) 19th century covers; railroad post offices from Rick K., who also brought luscious cookies from the Poulsbo bakery (see below)! Roger H and David both showed registered covers from their collections, and Cathie had railroad engines and a racehorse on cover—named “Blue Bell.”

We took a count of how many of our members belonged to the APS, and of the 18 present, 13 are. Well done, Club!
 After cookies and coffee, we had a silent auction and were able to bid on things that Wes brought. Many of us went home with treasures.

A Special Cookie for a Special Lady



photo by Rick Kunz

Compliments of Sluys Bakery, Poulsbo

Cathie Osborne won a Silver-Bronze medal at SEAPEX for her 5-frame Exhibit entitled "Sunday's Child." Cathie's exhibit contained philatelic items related to her birthday (January 26). In all, it represents 35 years of search results for the day she was born. Having been born on a Sunday, there were two problems. Most countries have no Sunday postal service. Which means no stamps issued on her actual birthday. There are pigs throughout the exhibit only because she was born in the Year of the Pig. The items are arranged in chronologic order. The following says it all.:



© Disney character art

Christopher Robin as Sunday's Child

