



news bulletin

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A. P. S. WRITERS UNIT NO. 30

of the

American Philatelic Society

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1. FASTEST GROWING UNIT IN A.P.S.-- Some members may not be aware that the newly-formed A.P.S. Writers Unit is the fastest growing unit in A.P.S. Organized six months ago at the 81st convention in Newark, N. J., Unit No. 30 has already passed the 100-mark in membership and Secretary Charles C. Cratsenberg of Moline, Ill., asserts there appears to be more interest being generated with each passing week.

To reach the century mark in less than six months is an outstanding achievement for any new organization of a specialty nature. The growth of Unit No. 30 is a clear indication that a need has long existed within our national society for a live-wire organization devoted exclusively to problems and needs of philatelic writers, editors and columnists.

Unit No. 30 hopes to encourage many collectors who have never recorded their research to prepare many papers for publication and thus share their findings with fellow collectors.

Frequently a new discovery is publicized through the efforts of a veteran writer who had heard indirectly about the "find" and then took the time to investigate the matter. How many "finds" are never reported simply because the basic writing knowledge is unknown to the collector who has made a discovery? Some collectors have devoted a lifetime to the study of a particular stamp or series, but lack the know-how in organizing their work for publication in book form.

The lack of interest in the United States to include literature sections at major national shows, i.e., exhibitions that invite open participation from every section of our nation, has handicapped numerous writers who would enjoy placing their work in competition. Without national shows as "proving grounds" for writing perfection, American philatelic journalists are often severely handicapped when they attempt to place their studies in competition at international exhibitions such as SIPEX '66 and AMPHILEX '67.

There are two internationals scheduled this year-- PRAGA in Prague, Czechoslovakia and EFIMEX in Mexico City, Mexico. Both shows have literature sections. Unfortunately, some of the newer writers are unfamiliar with the procedures to follow to enter their printed work in open competition.

It is the aim of Unit No. 30 to lend greater publicity to literature competition, both on the national level and in international exhibitions. By creating a competitive spirit among philatelic writers, the hobby is certain to benefit through the production of better books and periodicals. Writers will be encouraged to make their work complete, factually accurate, profusely documented and attractively illustrated.

At the moment only one national show offers a literature class among its competitive categories. This is a situation that must be corrected if philatelic scholarship is to be encouraged. One of the immediate goals of the A.P.S. Writers Unit is to urge all major shows to include literature in open competition and to offer appropriate awards.

PLAN TO ATTEND UNIT MEETING ON SUNDAY MORNING,
MARCH 31 AT EL CORTEZ HOTEL, SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

A move in the right direction is to request the inclusion of literature as a competitive classification at all exhibitions held in conjunction with The American Philatelic Society's midyear (spring) meetings and annual summer conventions.

A proposition regarding a campaign to promote the inclusion of philatelic literature on exhibition programs will be discussed at the unit's get-together Sunday morning, March 31, at the El Cortez Hotel in San Diego, Calif., locale of the 1968 Spring Meeting, which actually opens Friday, March 29. The Sunday program will commence with a breakfast at 9 a.m. and all writers, regardless of present affiliations, are extended a cordial invitation to attend and participate in the informal talks.

Also expected to be placed on the "action agenda" is the introduction of The Associated Press Style Book, which has been used for nearly a decade for editing style in the publication of manuscripts in The American Philatelist.

An overwhelming majority of America's daily newspapers are members of The Associated Press, a nonprofit news-gathering service operating on a world-wide basis. The A.P. Style Book is universally used by the member newspapers and millions of readers, without apparent knowledge that a style of general acceptance is utilized by most papers, are already familiar with The A.P. Style.

While there are other writing standards in use, it is believed that public exposure to The A.P. Style Book makes it the most accepted editorial policy. Many members of the A.P.S. Writers Unit edit stamp columns for daily newspapers and they are already familiar with The A.P. stylings.

Chairman David Lidman, stamp editor of The New York Times, is attending to the style book details and a discussion on this important subject will be definitely scheduled for the Rochester, N. Y., convention meeting next September. (Additional details will be published in subsequent issues of the Unit News Bulletin.)

2. BULLETIN EDITOR NEEDED-- Jim Chemi, editor of The American Philatelist, consented to serve as editor pro tem of the Unit News Bulletin while a call is made for a member to volunteer to serve at this important post. The Bulletin is printed by an offset process which requires expert typing of the original letter sheets. Of course, the officers of the Unit and the various committee chairmen will furnish copy for the Bulletin, along with interesting chit-chat from the general membership. What is most needed is a member to edit the copy, type it on the 8½x11 letter sheets and send it to Jim Chemi in that "make-ready" condition. Jim will attend to the printing details and Secretary Cratsenberg will handle the mailing chores and maintain an updated circulation list. Here's your chance to really serve. If you're willing to volunteer for the post please contact Chairman Lidman. The Bulletin is published quarterly. Sufficient margins are provided on each sheet to permit punching for a three-ring file binder. All paragraphs on specific subjects are numbered to permit easy indexing and, of course, the pages will be consecutively numbered with each volume consisting of four issues of the Bulletin.

3. WRITERS TO CONVENE AT INTERPEX-- Chairman Lidman will preside at a joint meeting of Unit No. 30 and the American members of A.I.J.P. during INTERPEX '68 at the Americana Hotel, Seventh Avenue at 52nd Street, New York City. The session will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 2, in the Vendome II Suite, through the co-operation of Herbert Rosen. The A.I.J.P. sessions have not been well attended and this will be an occasion for a real gathering-- the first since the formation of the Writers Unit during NOJEX. So if you reside in the New York area don't miss this opportunity for a pleasant get-together with fellow writers, editors and columnist. Remember the date-- Saturday, March 2, at 1 p.m. Chairman Lidman, who is also vice-president West, A.I.J.P., will preside.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT (Jan. 31, 1968)-- As of Jan. 31, a total of 95 A.P.S. members had been accepted into membership in Unit No. 30, and 19 requests for applications have been processed.

All membership cards and a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws have been sent to each member. With this mailing, an Application Form was enclosed with the request that each member fill it out and return it to the Secretary. Sixty-eight returned blanks have been received to date. If your copy of this Bulletin is marked with an "X" in the left margin, it indicates that your returned application has not been received. Should the blank be lost, please notify the Secretary and another form will be sent to you pronto.

The reason for the request of the filled-out applications is to aid us in the correct presentation of the Membership Roster which will be published later this year and made available to active members of the Unit only.

Please ask for Membership Application forms to distribute among your A.P.S. writer friends. Your request will be filled by return mail.

We sincerely hope that we will see as many of you as possible at the '68 Spring Meeting in San Diego, and the Writers Unit meeting will be held on Sunday morning, March 31, at 9 a.m. It will start with breakfast, so plan to attend and let's break bread together. Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) CHARLES C. CRATSENBERG, Secretary.

Following is an alphabetical listing of new members added since the initial list of 67 was prepared for the 1968 A.P.S. Membership Directory, which was distributed as part II of the February 1968 issue of The American Philatelist: Unit membership number is listing first:

- 1 Anderson, Harry L, 7902 Marinette, Houston, Texas 77036.
- 90 Baker, Hugh J. 6925 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Ind. 46220.
- 91 Baker, J. David, 7410 Holliday Drive West, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260.
- 85 Barenholtz, Mrs. Dorothy, 645 Water St., New York, N. Y. 10002.
- 82 Booth, Phebe B. 817 Grand Ave. (Apt. 3), Waukegan, Ill. 60085.
- 83 Brooks, Arthur E. 6 Groveland Road, Geneseo, N. Y. 14454
- 86 Corey, Mrs. R. C., Jr. k3207 Roswell Ave., Chino, Calif. 91710.
- 77 Detjen, Gustav Jr., Pleasant Valley, N. Y. 12569.
- 14 Edmonds, Col. E. W. Jr. 4110 Robertson Blvd., Alexandria, Va. 22309.
- 87 Eisendrath, J. L. Jr. 350 N. Deere Pk. Dr., Highland Park, Ill. 60035.
- 16 Faries, Belmont. 11713 Chapel Road, Clifton, Va. 22024.
- 81 Friedman, Earl M. 240 W. Hillcrest Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45405.
- 88 Gauldin, Clarence B. 428 Avacado, Corona Del Mar, Calif. 92625.
- 89 Hedley, Richard P. 7861 Gull Lane, Bridgeport, N. Y. 13030.
- 84 Ilma, Viola. 144 East 24th St., New York, N. Y. 10010.
- 94 Jersey, Stanley C. 631 N. Kenilworth Ave., Oak Park, Ill. 60302.
- 79 Kelly, Thomas Ivan. P. O. Box 340, Angus, Ontario, Canada.
- 95 Keys, Everel E. 14742 Center Ave., Harvey, Ill. 60426. ** TURN PAGE

- 39 McConnell, Wm. H. 18800 Loree Ave., Cupertino, Calif. 95014.
- 92 Moorefield, Mrs. Emily. P. O. Box 3313, Long Beach, Calif. 90803.
- 78 Mueller, Barbara R. 523 E. Linden Drive, Jefferson, Wis. 53549.
- 43 Orpin, Mary A. 433 West 34th St., New York, N. Y. 10001.
- 80 Osterhoff, Robert J. 1478 Jackson St., Dubuque, Iowa 52001.
- 47 Norby, Reider. Box 175, Ben Franklin Sta., Washington, D.C. 20044.
- 52 Sellers, F. Burton. 134 Altamont Ave., Tarrytown, N. Y. 10591.
- 76 Schirmer, Joseph E. 7300 Bouvelard East, North Bergen, N. J. 07047.
- 93 Shapiro, Hal. 92-24 168th St., Jamaica, N. Y. 11433.
- 61 Thompson, J. Stanley, 3420 Holmes Av. S, Minneapolis, Minn. 55408.

(Names of new members added to the roster since Jan. 31, 1968, will be included in the next Secretary's Report to be published in the Spring edition of the Bulletin.)

5. SEMINAR AT SAN DIEGO, MARCH 29-- Here's another good reason to put the 1968 Spring Meeting on your "must attend" date list. A seminar on the topic, "Philatelic Manuscripts: Their Preparation and Publication," is on the official program for SANDEX 1968, which is being held in conjunction with the A.P.S. Spring get-together. The manuscript preparation seminar is set for Friday, March 29, at 4 p.m. Jim Chemi, editor of "The American Philatelist," will serve as moderator. The program will be an open-forum type of presentation with all who attend invited to participate in the discussions. The session will be held at San Diego's Cortez Hotel.

Another member of the Writers Unit-- Daniel W. Vooy's of Canajoharie, N. Y.-- will serve as the moderator for a Sunday seminar at 1 p.m. The timely topic: "Philatelic Literature and Its Importance to the Advancement of the Hobby." (The Writers Unit breakfast meeting opens to the final day's activities on Sunday, March 31, at 9 a.m.)

6. AN INVITATION TO CONVENE AT SESCAL-- Unit member Mrs. Emily Moorefield of Long Beach, Calif., serving in her capacity as secretary for SESCAL '68, has submitted a formal invitation to Unit No. 30 to hold a regional meeting during the big Southern California exhibition next fall, probably a date in October. SESCAL is sponsored by the Federated Philatelic Clubs of Southern California, which is composed of 42 affiliates. The show is always held in the spacious Statler-Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles.

If there is a sufficient number of Unit members who express a favorable voice that they can attend a regional session during the three-day SESCAL show, our chairman can then guide himself accordingly in sending a formal reply to the SESCAL invitation. Would you be able to attend the Los Angeles get-together next fall? Please let Secretary Cratsenberg know if you could attend. Action on this invitation will be taken at our Unit meeting in San Diego March 31.

7. CHANGE IN ADDRESS-- As this is a closely-knit working group of newsmen and writers, it is vitally important that our Unit Secretary be kept posted on any change in address of each member. This address change also includes any shift in working press affiliation. Unless otherwise instructed, the Secretary will note any change in working press affiliation in his official Reports. This is traditional with any press club.