



WE Expressions



APS Affiliate #230

Women Exhibitors

Supported by AAPE

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Hopeful New Year!



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Our purpose is to provide a vehicle through which women exhibitors can encourage each other through sharing information, ideas, experience, advice, problems, and solutions about philatelic exhibiting. **WE** welcomes both women and men.



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* Titles shortened to fit here. Full title heads the article on listed pages.



Chair Chick Chat By Kristin Patterson



Newest WE
Logo, 2025

It has been a busy first year as WE Chair, but I have thoroughly enjoyed it. WE hosted three WE ZoomUps. As the name implies, these were held on Zoom. This way wherever you live, you have an opportunity to attend and see other members. There were numerous WE MeetUps, meetings held at Stamp Shows, with the biggest one being at GASS on Friday, August 15, 2025.

Our membership has grown in the last year by 12 people; both women and men. While our name might imply that WE only supports women, that is not the case. WE welcomes everyone to join, learn, share, and attend seminars and meeting. Also, WE members can learn from everyone. WE is grateful to all the men who have supported WE; like current member, Bill Schultz, who is writing Exhibit Tips articles for *WE Expressions*. He told me he has enough tips to last 15 years. I look forward to reading everyone. While we are speaking of members, they have been sharing their ideas. Like, WE created and sold their first WE cachet and plans are being made for a 2026 cachet. WE is now producing a **WE Recognition Ribbon** (see Jane Snowdon's article on page 3 to learn more.)

What is planned for the future? WE will have more WE ZoomUp meetings. The next one will be in April. The exact date and time will be announced in the *WE Expressions* April Issue. WE will also be sharing a **table with AAPE at BOSTON 2026 World Expo**. This will be an area where you can come and talk about exhibiting as well as volunteer to talk with others. Make sure to wear your WE pins. Oh, WE has a new logo which is shown above.

Have a Happy New Year, Kristin



From AAPE *Philatelic Exhibitor*, January 2026

AAPE & WE Booth Boston 2026

Here is the link to the signup sheet for Boston 2026 World Expo

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EACA92FA4FD0-61382377-aape#/>

WE Ribbons Promote Women Who Exhibit

By Jane Snowdon

Have you ever walked around a stamp expo wondering which exhibits were prepared by women? In an effort to raise awareness about women exhibitors and to encourage more women to exhibit in the future, a new white ribbon with the red WE logo is now available. **The WE ribbon is not an award, but simply a way to identify a woman exhibitor.** The WE ribbons are hung on the frames following the placement of all medal level award ribbons to prevent bias when the judges are conducting their evaluations.

The WE ribbon is being piloted at several stamp shows leading up to the Boston Stamp Expo 2026. The initial pilot implemented by Susan Jones at CHICAGOPEX 2025 in Itasca, IL on November 21-23 was very successful and met with great enthusiasm. The second pilot coordinated by Kristin Patterson at PENPEX in Redwood City, CA on December 6-7 received positive reviews. Additional pilots are planned by Pat Walker at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibit in Sarasota, FL on January 16-18, 2026, and Jennifer Martin at the Southeastern Stamp Expo in Peachtree Corners, GA on January 23-25, 2026.



Four women exhibited at **CHICAGOPEX 2025**: long-time WE members Cheryl Ganz, Susan Jones, and Jean Wang and novice exhibitor / newest WE recruit Melissa Hohertz-Foat. Cheryl Ganz showed “Basel Zeppelin Posts” in the Single Frame Champion of Champions competition. In addition, she received a Large Gold Award for her second single frame exhibit “German Navy WWI Zeppelin L48,” which crashed and burned after being shot down while bombing England. The exhibit also earned the Theo Van Dam Military Postal History Society Best Single-Frame Award.



L-R: Cheryl Ganz, Melissa Hohertz-Foat, Susan Jones, and Jean Wang.



The Chicago Philatelic Society, est. in 1886, hosts CHICAGOPEX..

See their Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/chicagopex/?ref=embed_page#

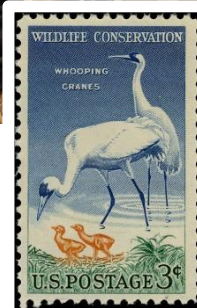
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WE Ribbons Promote Women Who Exhibit continued

WE Ribbons at CHICAGOPEX 2025

Susan Jones earned a Large Gold Award for her first day cover exhibit titled “The 3-cent Whooping Crane Stamp of 1957.” The six-frame exhibit also received the American Philatelic Society 1940-1980 Medal of Excellence.

Jean Wang’s single-frame exhibit “Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in World War I” received a Gold Medal and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity Award.



Susan Jones at her Whooping Crane exhibit.

The 3-cent 1957 Whooping Crane stamp



Jean Wang at her “Smokes for the Troops” frames. Jean also delivered a well-attended program based on “Smokes.”

Melissa Hohertz-Foat’s single-frame exhibit on “National Park Service Automobile Permit Posters 1920-1939” earned a Large Vermeil Award and the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Novice Award.



Melissa Foat holds her AAPE award.



A national parks poster image from The Internet.

Continued next page.

WE Ribbons Promote Women Who Exhibit continued

WE Ribbons at PENPEX 2025

Four women showed five exhibits at PENPEX 2025 in **Redwood City, CA** on December 6-7. Kristin Patterson earned the PENPEX Reserve Grand Award and a Large Gold Award for “Sin or Slight Transgression Tax.” Joanne Murphy received a Large Vermeil Award for “Canadian Tobacco Tax Stamps.” Betsy Vallejo was awarded a Large Silver and ATA’s Best Single-Frame Exhibit for “The Natural Appeal of the Fox.” Betsy also earned a Silver Award and the Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award for “Legendary Artists of American Music.” Miriam Thurston received a Bronze Award for “History of Art on Postal Stamps.”



First frame of Joanne Murphy's "Canadian Tobacco Tax Stamps." with ribbons.



First frame of Betsy Vallejo's "The Natural Appeal of the Fox." with ribbons.



First frame of Betsy Vallejo's "Legendary Artists of American Music." with ribbons.

To request WE ribbons to be piloted at future shows, please contact Kristin Patterson, WE President, at Kristin_email@yahoo.com . Once an exhibitor has received a WE ribbon, we envision she will keep it and reuse it by bringing the ribbon to other shows to hang on her exhibit frame. We hope this recognition will inspire women newcomers to become exhibitors and experienced women exhibitors to continue exhibiting.

--- Jane Snowdon

Tips from Bill: Next Five Things

By Bill Schultz



Editor: This is the third of a series offering exhibiting tips. Bill loves to share his philatelic knowledge in many ways. In a recent email, he announced he will be teaching a new course at the Widener University and the Immaculata University in the Delaware Valley area of Pennsylvania. The course title is "The 1st 250 years - Movement of U. S. Mail."

Here are Bill's latest thoughts, with illustrations from the editor:

1. Add [make note of] air miles flown on foreign destination covers, add mileage for all ship movements, etc. Add mileage for all ground movements.



Editor collects Sc.1017 National Guard issue. This cover flew about 4,000 miles from Washington DC to Leverkusen (Germany), depending on the airports.

2. Have you googled every name or place that appears in the exhibit?

Gold Country towns in California where Bret Harte and Mark Twain traveled in the late 1800s.

3. Add a statement of purpose/scope on the title page & synopsis; this is a must.
4. You must defend the date span selected on the title page philatelically. Only Philatelically!
5. Every item in a great exhibit must reflect philatelic knowledge or research or both. Therefore, all items need at least one word (or more) of explanation. You will not lose points. most likely in scarcity (difficulty of acquisition), presentation, or treatment (sometimes), so only Knowledge, Research, & Importance are usually vulnerable.




WE Editor
Cynthia Scott
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Editor Explores Virtual Exhibiting

Lisa Foster told me about a stamp organization in India that has been encouraging its members to share their exhibits online. (See the article reprint on page 8.) I knew such a thing existed but did not realize how well the concept has been developed. Here are three websites found when I Googled the subject, all worth exploring. Open your eyes to a new experience!

 **Stamps.org**
<https://stamps.org> > ... > Virtual Stamp Show > Exhibits


VSS Exhibits

Each exhibit is presented on this page as an image carousel, you can view the next and previous images using the arrows on the right and left of the exhibit. [Read more](#)

 **exponet.info**
<http://www.exponet.info> > ...

Virtual International Philatelic Exhibition

Dear visitors, welcome to the virtual international philatelic exhibition EXPONET, which currently offers more than 1100 philatelic exhibits. One of the most ... [Read more](#)

 **Exhibitors Press**
<https://exhibitorspress.com> > on-line-stamp-exhibits

On-line Stamp Exhibits

Hundreds of on-line stamp exhibits to look at, learn from and enjoy. Sites with multiple exhibits. Noteworthy Single Exhibits. [Read more](#)

The APS site has 121 exhibits to view!

EXPONET has even more to see!

Exhibitors Press provides links to many more sites!

Bill Schultz also helped me catch up to modern times. He sent me the document authored by the FEPA (parts on pages 9-10), which gives an excellent overview of what is possible in this new world. I am now more willing than ever before to generate digital versions of my paper exhibits before or after they go into physical frames. Am I the only one slow to jump into this area? Send me your stories about preparing for virtual exhibiting and share the lessons you learned. This topic might be a helpful area to explore for our *WE Expressions* readers.

The *Women Expressions* newsletter is published quarterly. Remit \$5 in annual dues to the Membership Chair. You are welcome to pay for multiple years at a time (\$5/year). New members can find the Application Form at <http://www.aape.org/weweb.asp> with more information.

My Experience as an Exhibitor in AUSVIPEX 2025

By Sushil Mehra

WE subtitle: Cost Benefits of International Virtual Exhibiting



*Editor Note: This is an authorized reprint transcribed from a monthly e-Stamp Bulletin, **Rainbow Stamp News**, originating in Dehradun, India. The editor of the publication, Mrs. Jeevan Jyoti, invites our members to visit their website at <https://rainbowstampnews.blogspot.com/>*



In recent issues of *Rainbow News*, Mrs. Jeevan Jyoti as well as Mr. Naresh Agrwal have touched up the important subject of rising costs of participating in international exhibitions. I totally agree with their views. There is no dearth of philatelic exhibiting talent in India. The recent district and state level exhibitions have shown that if exhibiting costs are kept low, exhibitors across categories and different states come forward in big numbers to participate with high quality exhibits on a variety of subjects. But sadly, when it comes to participating in international exhibitions the costs are so prohibitive in recent times that a middle-class Indian or even upper middle-class Indian cannot afford to send exhibits.

This is a sad state of affairs for philately in India. Causes of this are many including steep currency depreciation, high cost of travel and lodging abroad, bureaucratic difficulties in ASI clearances, and high frame fees in some of these exhibitions. The solution, as pointed out by Mr. Naresh Agarwal in the last issue of *Rainbow Stamp News*, is **Virtual International Exhibitions**. As an exhibitor at the recent Ausvipex International Exhibition, I would like to share my experience and some **tips and advantages** for exhibitors in future international virtual exhibitions.



WE editor note: Mr. Mehra's statements have been shortened or combined for space considerations.

- Please do not miss opportunities to take part in Virtual Fairs as many of them do not have entry barriers based on past participation, unlike physical international exhibitions. India had 20+ exhibits at Ausvipex and world over [the total] was 100+. It could have been much more.
- Virtual fairs give you an opportunity to showcase your exhibit globally at a low cost. Cost of participation in Ausvipex ...was [very low]. I made it a point to enter many of my exhibits to take advantage of this. ...an international physical exhibition would have cost almost twenty times more! You can pay via PayPal. *[Mr. Mehra described how, for Indians.]*
- Exhibits should be scanned after mounting, but without plastic sheet protectors. Do not digitally modify the scans. Scan to PDF as well as JPG format. Different organizers need different formats.

Virtual exhibits provide a learning opportunity, a way to see the efforts other exhibitors and learn from them. In my opinion, Ausvipex 2025 has “let the cat out” and we will have more such exhibitions in the future.

More About Virtual Exhibiting

The Future of Stamp Exhibitions

See entire document at:

<https://fepanews.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/FEPA-REPORT-The-Future-of-Stamp-Exhibitions.pdf>



Part of a
Federation of
European
Philatelic
Associations
publication:

7. Digital Solutions and Innovation

As exhibitions evolve, so too must the tools that support them. Across Europe, federations are beginning to integrate digital solutions that make philatelic exhibitions easier to access, more interactive for visitors, and more efficient for organisers. Digital technology is no longer an optional add-on; it is becoming a natural extension of the exhibition experience.

Enhancing the Visitor Experience

Several federations report initiatives designed to make exhibitions more engaging and visitor-friendly through digital tools:

- Mobile applications have been developed in countries such as Belgium, where an app guides visitors through collections, provides descriptions, and allows users to search for specific themes, exhibitors, and ask questions.
- QR codes placed next to each frame or exhibit connect to short videos or web pages where exhibitors explain the story behind their collection. This approach has proven popular and has the potential to make exhibits accessible long after the physical event ends.
- Digital catalogues replace printed programmes, saving costs and allowing last-minute updates. Visitors can download or browse catalogues on smartphones or tablets, often linked to the exhibition website.
- Frame-size interactive digital screens at the venue showing digital exhibits.
- Interactive maps and schedules integrated into event apps or websites help visitors navigate large venues and identify exhibits, presentations, or dealer stands.

These solutions make exhibitions easier to explore and create a richer, more educational experience - especially for newcomers.

Supporting Exhibitors and Organisers

Digital tools are also transforming how exhibitions are prepared and managed:

- Online registration systems simplify the submission of exhibit applications, reducing paperwork and ensuring data accuracy.
- Cloud-based storage allows exhibition organisers to securely manage exhibits, catalogues, and award results, accessible to both organisers and FEPA.
- Virtual meeting tools such as Zoom and Teams are increasingly used for pre-exhibition coordination and sessions for exhibitors, volunteers, and jurors.

Together, these tools make the exhibition process smoother, more transparent, and less dependent on a small number of local volunteers.

Continued next page.

More About Virtual Exhibiting continued

Extending Reach Through Online Presence

Several exhibitions create dedicated exhibition websites that serve as permanent digital showcases. These sites host:

- High-quality scans of exhibits (with both a frame and page view)
- Video interviews with exhibitors and organisers
- Digital award lists
- Links to virtual tours or 360-degree video of the exhibition hall

Such websites turn each exhibition into a lasting online archive that can inspire new collectors and preserve philatelic knowledge for future reference.

Emerging Technologies

Beyond the current digital tools, several innovative technologies hold promise for the next generation of philatelic exhibitions:

- Augmented Reality (AR) - allowing visitors to point their smartphones at a frame and see extra information, animations, or videos overlaid on the display.
- Virtual Reality (VR) - offering immersive tours of exhibitions that can be visited remotely, either through web browsers or VR headsets.
- AI-based translation tools - enabling international visitors to read exhibit texts in their own language instantly, breaking language barriers.
- Data analytics - giving organisers real-time insight into visitor behaviour, popular exhibits, and online engagement.

These developments will gradually redefine how philately is presented and experienced. The key will be to adopt technology in a way that strengthens, rather than replaces, the essence of exhibiting - the exchange of knowledge and passion between collectors.



The Dolley Madison Mini Stamp

By Kris McIntosh

Foreword

In March of 2025 I wrote a WE article, “Agitators, First Ladies”. That article acknowledged the stamps that had been issued for only five of the First Ladies who had met the requirement of “being dead” and noteworthy enough to have a stamp in her honor.

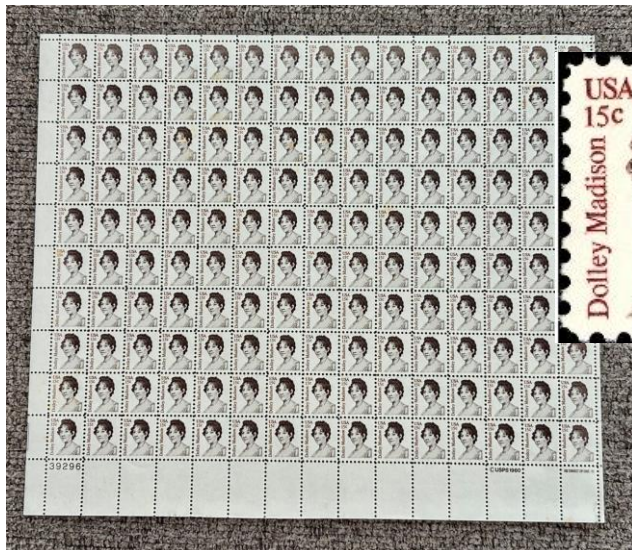
The first stamp issued for a woman who also happened to be the wife of the first president, was Martha Dandridge Curtis Washington. It was issued 55 years after the first pre-payment stamps were created by the Post Office. Martha was acknowledged for following her husband into army encampments such as Valley Forge. Little mention is made that she was a holder of enslaved people. Upon Martha’s death her will divided up all her enslaved people and sent them to her four grandchildren. There was no attempt to keep their families together as the division was based on monetary value. She did not follow her husband’s will that gave many of his enslaved individuals their freedom.



Martha Washington, Sc.306 of the USPO 1902-03 Series

Dolley’s Stamp

The second stamp issued for a wife of a president, was Dolley Madison. This 1980 stamp was not just a historical tribute but also a technical test for the USPS. The USPS issued her 15-cent stamp in a new "mini-stamp" format. This smaller size allowed more stamps to fit on a single pane, which the USPS hoped would cut production costs. The overall stamp size was 0.71 x 0.83 inches with the image size at 0.54 x 0.66 inches. With this smaller size, it allowed 150 stamps to be printed on a single pane. A total of 256,620,000 stamps were printed.



Dolley Madison “mini stamp,” May 1980. Sc.1822. The 2nd test of this size.



Indian Head Penny, 1978, Sc.1734. The 1st test of this size.

The new size produces a pane of 150 stamps instead of the standard 100.

Continued next page.

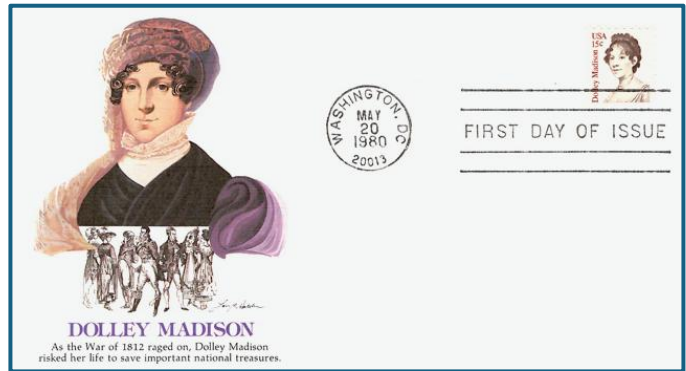
The Dolley Madison Mini Stamp continued

Designing Dolley's Stamp

The new stamp copied the portrait of Dolley done by Gilbert Stuart when she was 36 years old. Stuart, the most eminent portrait painter of his day, executed the painting during the early years of James Madison's service as Secretary of State. The portrait for the stamp was translated into a pencil rendering by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing designer, Esther Porter. To the left of the portrait, running up from the bottom in a vertical line, in a light shade of brown, is "Dolley Madison." At the upper left corner, in the same shade, is "USA 15c." The stamp was produced in intaglio in brown and white. The portrait is in a darker brown than the text matter at the left. There is one plate number per post office pane of 150 stamps.

The Ceremony

for the first day of issue, May 20, 1980, coincides with the anniversary date of Dolley Madison's birth (May 20, 1768) and took place at 11 A.M. in Washington, D.C. at the Memorial Continental Hall of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.



A Fleetwood First Day Cover cachet by Lois Hatcher showing Dolley wearing her turban.

A First Lady Personality

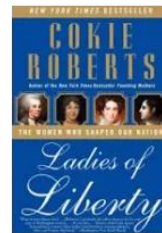
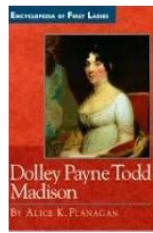
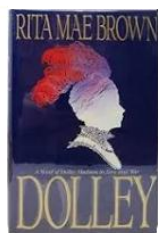
If you wonder why Abigail Adams was not chosen for this stamp, the National Postal Museum, explained that Adams was more of a personal aide to her husband, second President John Adams.

Dolley Madison was more connected to the political arena as she hosted events for the third president, Thomas Jefferson during his two terms, since his wife had died before his election. Dolley continued hosting events during her husband's two terms. She was known to circulate between guests, drawing out their opinions about the president's plans and actions, which Dolley then reported to either Thomas or James. People loved to be invited to her social gatherings and the room was always full. Besides being politically interested in presidential activities, Dolley was more like a modern day first lady with her elegant gowns and introducing society to her "turban like" hats.



Abigail Adams on a USPS stamp 5 years later, in 1985.

There are many historical novels and non-fiction books about Dolley Madison.



Continued next page.

The Dolley Madison Mini Stamp continued

Preparing for Attack

In 1814 when the British were readying to invade Washington, D.C., the president and other political leaders had gone to meet the US troops before the battle. Dolley was asked to stay in the President's House/Executive Mansion, (It wasn't until 1901 that President T. Roosevelt officially named it the White House.) and gather important state papers.

Dolley with the help of enslaved individuals and two men from New York, was able to flee with an original copy of the Articles of Confederation, secret Congressional journals, silver items and the copy of the famous **Gilbert Stuart painting of George Washington**, before the British took the House and burned it.

Once the US defeated the British in 1814, the Madisons returned to Washington D.C. and Dolley continued to hold her social gatherings until 1817.

In Later Years

Due to the financial crisis of 1837 and James's death in 1838, Dolley moved from their home in Montpelier, VA back to Washington, D.C. renting a house on Lafayette Square. Besides her son, many of those political connections helped to provide for her living expenses. Dolley Madison died on July 14, 1849, and the funeral was on July 17, 1849, 4PM. Congress was suspended for the day so leaders could attend the funeral at St. John's Episcopal church. **President Zachary Taylor** spoke at her service, calling Dolley "the first lady of the land". **Historians believe that was the first time that a wife of a President was referred to as the First Lady.** By 5:30, the funeral services concluded, and the largest procession ever seen in Washington up to that time, followed the casket from the Church to the Congress Cemetery, where it lay until it was removed to Montpelier, to lay beside her late husband.

-- Kris McIntosh



Topical exhibitors can expand on Dolley's story by including stamps related to the context of her life. This **War of 1812** commemorative Forever set was issued in 2014.



GW issues of 1932, based on Stuart's art.

The iconic life size portrait of George Washington was painted by Stuart in 1796 and was given to the former British Prime Minister William Petty. It spent more than 170 years in England before being purchased and given to the National Portrait Gallery where it hangs in the President's hall.

Stuart made three replicas and one of the copies still hangs, thanks to Dolley, in the East Room of the White House.

Women Who Exhibited, 4th Quarter 2025

October-December, In date order,
from published Palmares*

CHICAGOPEX 2025, November 22

Susan B. Jones

“The 3-cent 'Whooping Crane' Stamp of
1957”

Cheryl Ganz

- 1) “German Navy WWI Zeppelin L48”
- 2) “Basel Zeppelin Posts”

Jean Wang

“Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian
Tobacco Funds in World War I”

Melissa Foat

“National Park Service Automobile Permit
Posters 1920-1939”

FLOREX, December 5-6

Sahitya Setty [Youth]

- 1) “Orchid: A Magical Flower”
- 2) “Mango: The King of Fruits”

Laurelei Fox [Youth]

“The Life and Celebrations of Saint Patrick”

PENPEX, December 6-7

Kristin Patterson

“Sin or Slight Transgression Tax.”

Joanne Murphy

“Canadian Tobacco Tax Stamps”

Betsy Vallejo

- 1) “The Natural Appeal of the Fox”
- 2) “Legendary Artists of American Music”

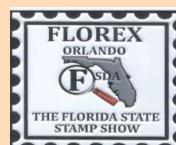
Miriam Thurston

“History of Art on Postal Stamps”

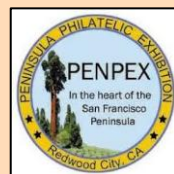


WE
**Sterling Achievement
Award Winners**

The Sterling Award is given to recognize ANY exhibit that has been awarded a bronze, silver-bronze or silver medal that shows merit in philatelic knowledge, subject knowledge, material OR treatment.



**Tomas Griebing-- A Brief
History of New Zealand
Rugby – The All Blacks**



**Betsy Vallejo- Legendary
Artists of American Music**

*Often there are no Palmares listed online for shows, especially those just finished before time to layout *WE Expressions*. I invite all members to help with this by letting me know the exhibiting results at shows you have attended.

--Editor

Share what
you know.

