

# APS General Membership Meeting

Washington 2006, May 28, 2006, Washington, D.C.

**Meeting was called to order by President Janet Klug 9:00 a.m.**

Klug introduces the APS Board: Chair of the Board of Vice Presidents, Ada Prill, George Fekete and Al Parsons; Secretary, Wayne Youngblood; Treasurer, Nicholas Carter; Directors at Large, John Flannery, Peter Martin, Wade Saadi and David Straight; Past President, Peter McCann; General Counsel, Virginia Eisenstein.

Klug introduces Executive Director, Robert Lamb, who in turn introduces the APS staff present, including Director of Shows and new Deputy Executive Director, Ken Martin; Editor of the *American Philatelist*, Barb Boal; Director of Education, Kim Kowalczyk, Director of Library Services, Gini Horn; Director of Administration, Rob Haeseler; Facility Manager, Wendy Masorti; Public Relations and soon to be Director of Shows, Dana Guyer; Youth Coordinator, Janet Houser; Webmaster, Doris Wilson; Volunteer, Rich Nakles; and Library Services, Ellen Peachey; and incoming Executive Director, Peter Mastrangelo.

## **Janet Klug: Thank You to Show Organizers**

**Klug:** This show has been 11 years in the making, and credit belongs to a large extent to three great guys who worked very hard to make this happen. I would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Michael Dixon, President of Washington 2006; Col. Steve Luster, Vice President of Washington 2006; and Gordon M. Morison, Executive Director of Washington 2006. An army of volunteers helped them and you will see a lot of people wearing orange volunteer badges. Let's thank these people when we see them.

25- and 50-years membership awards were next presented by Janet Klug and Bob Lamb.

**Klug:** Before the board reports, I would like to share some reflections about the hobby. Nine years ago I was in San Francisco for Pacific '97, and I remember so many happy moments from that show. The moments that I remember made me happy because I was with friends like the ones that I have here. Recently, North American philately lost some giants -- friends of us all. I would like to take the opportunity to have a moment of silence for the friends that we have lost since Pacific 97 -- Especially for Mary Ann Owens, Harry Sutherland, Joe Foley and Clyde Jennings. (a moment of silence was observed).

## **President's Report**

**Klug:** The APS Board has been very busy in the past several months. In November, our Executive Director announced his retirement. It took us five months to go through the process of hiring a new Executive Director, and I am pleased to announce the incoming Executive Director, Peter Mastrangelo.

The Board met for four hours on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. This was one of the shortest regular board meetings we have ever had.

- 1) We approved two new APS Affiliates: Auxiliary Markings Club and Egypt Study Circle.
- 2) The Board approved a resolution by the Board of Vice Presidents to clarify some documents of policy that the APS has had for decades deferring disciplinary proceedings against members when the parties are involved in litigation on any of the issues involved in the complaint.
- 3) The Board approved in principal the creation of naming opportunities for donors in the Campaign for Philately. The naming opportunities will be for some of the APS departments, services and events.
- 4) We received a proposal by Past President Peter McCann to formalize the nomination for candidates for office for the APS by having an application for nomination. The Board was interested in this but deferred action until our August meeting, allowing Peter to seek more input from the Board and staff on how to best distribute the data.
- 5) The Board approved a proposal by Wade Saadi, our Director-at-Large, and chairman of our membership recruiting committee, that will provide our local chapters recruiting materials downloadable from the internet as well as create better interaction between the APS Board members and the 600 chapters.
- 6) We heard an update from APS Director-at-Large David Straight regarding the Postal History Symposium being conducted as a partnership with the APS, the National Postal Museum and the American Philatelic Research Library. In 2006 this symposium will be hosted by the National Postal Museum. In 2007 the APS and APRL will host the symposium. More details about this are available on the National Postal Museum website.

By teleconference a few weeks ago, the Board approved a resolution for outgoing Executive Director, Bob Lamb. This was presented to Bob at the Tiffany Dinner on Friday night. But I would like to read this into the minutes because you should all hear this as well.

*“Joint Proclamation for Ambassador Robert E. Lamb  
Executive Director, American Philatelic Society*

*“Whereas, Ambassador Robert E. Lamb has served the members of the  
American Philatelic Society as its Executive Director since 1994; and,*

*“Whereas, in those twelve years he has creatively instituted  
innovative educational programs such as the Internet-based StampCampus,  
the new Young Stamp Collectors of America and the All-Star Stamp Clubs  
and hands-on adult Stamp Saturday seminars held at STAMPSHOW and AmeriStamp  
Expo; and,*

*“Whereas, Ambassador Lamb has embraced technology and simultaneously created one of the world’s largest and most successful Internet-based stamp marketplaces, APS StampStore, where members can safely buy and sell online; and,*

*“Whereas, Ambassador Lamb has energetically supported the mission of the American Philatelic Research Library and, thereby, supported the activities of judges, researchers, specialists and general collectors both nationally and internationally; and*

*“Whereas, Ambassador Lamb has been the driving force in the redevelopment of the historic Pennsylvania Match Factory and its conversion to the **American Philatelic Center**, magnificent new home of the American Philatelic Society and the American Philatelic Research Library; and,*

*“Whereas, the 45,000 members of the American Philatelic Society wish to recognize Ambassador Robert E. Lamb for his outstanding contributions to the Society and to philately;*

*“Now, therefore, be it resolved that on behalf of its members, the Board of Directors of the American Philatelic Society and the Board of Trustees of the American Philatelic Research Library recognize and thank Ambassador Robert E. Lamb for his exemplary service and dedication to the Society and Library, and;*

*“Be it further resolved that the Board of Directors of the American Philatelic Society hereby proclaims June 2006 Ambassador Robert E. Lamb Month at the American Philatelic Center, and:*

*“Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the American Philatelic Research Library officially designates the Administration Department of the American Philatelic Center as the Ambassador Robert E. Lamb Administration Department*

*“Signed on behalf of the American Philatelic Society Board of Directors and the American Philatelic Research Library Board of Trustees this day, May 26, 2006, by*

*“Janet Klug, President  
American Philatelic Society”*

### **Vice President’s Report, Ada Prill**

**Prill:** The special function of the Board of Vice Presidents is to hear the complaints that people have against members. Since August we have dealt with 10 complaints and two applications. Of the 10 complaints we dismissed one as groundless, we gave one extra time to settle things and we expelled 8 members.

### **Secretary’s Report, Wayne Youngblood**

**Youngblood:** As secretary it is my primary function to record and report the communications and minutes of the APS. I encourage members to actively read the minutes of the APS, which are posted on the APS website, [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org).

### **Treasurer's Report, Nicholas Carter**

**Carter:** Thanks to all the volunteers that have helped put together Washington 2006 and the APS for all its support. The treasurer's job is to watch the money and the expenses and see that things are done in order. I am pleased to report that since I last talked to you fiscal management has been very good. It is characterized by sound principles and by attention to detail. You might remember the last time I talked to you we were talking about balanced budgets. Well, we have balanced our budget. And, in fact, we had a slight surplus last year. 2006 looks good and we are going to be continuing on that line. I am pleased to say the house is in order.

Since we last talked, we moved our investments from PNC Bank to M & T Bank and the value of our investments has increased.

I am sure you have all heard about the downfall of Enron, which led Congress to tighten regulations and rules. Most of that applies to for-profit organizations, but some also applies to non-profits. We are looking now at what we need to do to bring ourselves into accordance with those regulations. I have been talking to Mr. Mastrangelo and we will present proposals to the Board in August.

The bottom line is the more members we have, the healthier we are and will be financially. We all need to go out and continue to recruit membership. We lost approximately 1,000 members last year; we need to close that gap.

### **Society Attorney's Report, Virginia Eisenstein**

**Eisenstein:** I have represented the American Philatelic Society for four-plus years now. When I first came on board I was greeted with a closing on the Match Factory property. Then came plans for renovation, then contracts for the developer, then relationships with realtors, then leases, then financing for the development. All this was a vision of Ambassador Robert Lamb. This legacy will be lasting.

Other prominent topics over the past four years was the expansion of the APS into the 21st century by its use of the internet stampstore and with its relationship with eBay.

As for litigation, the APS now has a clean slate. We now have an employment contract with Peter Mastrangelo. I have been very happy to have worked with Bob Lamb.

### **Executive Director's Report, Bob Lamb**

**Lamb:** It is with a mix of emotions that I deliver this, my final report to you as Executive Director.

I leave the Society financially healthy. The total net assets for the Library and the Society are \$6.8 million. That is \$2 million more than when I took over 12 years ago, and \$100,000 more than it was this time last year.

I agree with Nick that we really need to get out and recruit new members. We need a balanced financial approach. We need to diversify our income sources. The rentals from the move to the Match Factory are very important to us in that perspective. We have to take a look at our programs and make sure that they are in fact meeting the needs of the membership. And we have to also make sure that we have a lean staff in Bellefonte. I hope that my 12 years of stewardship with the Society will be looked at as time of innovation and change and also be seen as one of streamlining and modernization of the Society. When I came on board we had a staff of 44, today we have a staff of fewer than 40. We are doing a number of new programs with 10% fewer people than we had 12 years ago. I think it is extremely important that we maintain that fiscal austerity as we go into the future. I would like to say that the greatest pleasure I have had in this job has been working with the 45,000 members of the APS. It is amazing the diversity that you find in philately. It has always been exciting to meet the members. Thank you very much for all the support and encouragement you have given me over the last 12 years.

### **Incoming Executive Director's Report, Peter Mastrangelo**

First I want to congratulate our 25-year and 50-year members. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Bob for the welcome and counsel he has given me over the past few weeks. It is my privilege to have been selected as your new Executive Director. Not many organizations have the same longevity and rich history as the APS. I am struck by one question many of you may have, who is this guy? I come to the Society with a background of non-profit organization management, having served in various capacities in Chamber of Commerce, Trade Association and United Way work over the past 30 years. My early career was spent in and around New England. In 1984, when the economy went south, so did I. I migrated down to Texas and had a great career down there. On a personal note, I am originally from Stamford, Connecticut. My wife Mary Joan and I have four grown children and two grandchildren.

My immediate goals are to invigorate our membership initiatives, maintain the high quality of membership services and to focus on the Campaign for Philately.

We heard the term "overwhelming" being used already this morning. I am overwhelmed by the reception I have received from the members that I have met so far. I am overwhelmed by your wishes for my success. I am looking forward to working with you, the APS and APRL Boards, and with the staff. I would like to mention Ken Martin's promotion to Deputy Executive Director. He will be invaluable. I would also like to mention Dana Guyer, the new Director of Shows & Exhibits. We are looking forward to a successful transition. I want to also mention the rest of the staff. They are a very

talented group. It was impressive to watch them work together to prepare for Washington 2006. Bob has put together a very good team.

**New Business:**

American Airmail Society President Derek Pillage presented a donation for the Campaign for Philately. Derek personally thanked Bob Lamb for everything and reiterates they are behind the APS 100%.

**Questions from the Floor:**

There were no questions.

Barbara Mueller, the member present with the lowest APS membership number, adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.