

**POSTMARK ATLANTA  
ATLANTA STAMP COLLECTORS CLUB  
FEBRUARY 2006**

by **Mark Heffernan**  
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**Club Dues for 2006**

Club Dues are still being collected. After February, anyone who still hasn't paid will be removed from the club roster. Remember, dues for 2006 are \$10.00 and can either be paid at a club meeting or by mail to the club treasurer, Barbara Asher.

Barbara Asher  
1633 Adelia Pl  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Special thanks to all those who have already paid their dues.

**Please note - I have a new e-mail address: [seconddoctor001fan@yahoo.com](mailto:seconddoctor001fan@yahoo.com).** The [conyerscollector@aol.com](mailto:conyerscollector@aol.com) will eventually be closed as I now have a new internet service provider. And for those who are curious as to what the e-mail address refers to: it's a reference to probably my favorite television show: Doctor Who.

**Upcoming Meetings**

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005. Business meeting and auction.** Our usual big auction night. We should have the kiloware available for sorting if you come early as well.

**Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Kiloware sorting night.** We are going to devote this night to kiloware sorting, as we currently have no program scheduled.

**Report on January's meetings**

Our first meeting of 2006 was very successful. We had quite a few lots, and Robert Johnston even took a hand as auctioneer! Special thanks to Neil Allen, who donated several lots to the club, the proceeds of which (over \$60 was raised) are to be added to the funds raised at our Christmas/Hanukkah party in December for the Ponce De Leon branch library. The Joint Meeting held at Cobb County on January 8<sup>th</sup> was well attended and featured a program on exhibiting. I did find the program interesting, but I must admit that the program confirmed somewhat my own bias on the whole exhibiting situation. I happen to feel that exhibits should be geared to (or at least take into account that they will be viewed by) fellow collectors and the public, rather than geared towards pleasing judges.

**WASHINGTON 2006 - PART TWO OF THREE**

Last month, I offered suggestions on how to save money on getting and staying at Washington 2006. This month, I'm going to focus on the show itself, and in this case the Dealers Room and Exhibit Hall. I have attended one international show, The Stamp Show 2000 in London and a pseudo-international show as well, the World Stamp Expo 2000 in Anaheim, California and will draw on my show experiences when writing this report. Remember, a great deal more can be found out about Washington 2006 by visiting their website: <http://www.washington-2006.org/>

### **The Dealers Room**

Once one visits the Dealers room, one will understand why I stressed saving as much money as possible on items like airfare, hotel rooms, etc. Dealer tables are very expensive, and thus dealers bring their better items for sale. Washington 2006 is not the place to go looking for bargains, it is definitely the place to go looking for those elusive items that one may have trouble finding at our local shows. Taking a look over the dealers room, there are dealers from all over the US and the World: some from Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Japan, Romania, Switzerland, Germany, Ireland, Canada and England. If you visit the Wash 2006 website, one can find a floor plan, along with a list of the dealers attending. I would suggest looking this over, and especially if you have limited time, mark the dealers you most want to visit.

### **Postal Administrations**

Don't overlook the Postal Administrations as well. Every international show features postal administrations from all over the world. Some are represented by agents like the Intergovernmental Philatelic Corporation, other have booths all by themselves. Countries with booths at Washington 2006 include: Great Britain, Germany, Russia, Denmark, Greece, Canada, Italy, Korea, New Zealand, United Nations, Vatican, Australia, Belgium, France and, of course, the US. A complete list is at the Wash 2006 website.

### **Philatelic Passport**

While not specifically mentioned on the website, most international exhibitions offer a small passport size book where one can visit the postal administrations booths, place a stamp in the passport and have it cancelled with a special cancellation. I did this once, at World Stamp Expo, and it's kind of fun. Be warned that there is a cost involved, not just for the book but for each stamp and cancellation, so if you decide to "get 'em all", just be prepared. If you've got kids with you, or someone new to stamp collecting, this is a fun way to get them started.

### **The Exhibit Hall**

The Exhibit Hall is one of the highlights of any international show. Rarities are usually shown, and as far as the competitive exhibits, you have the best of the best. One could probably spend the entire time of the show looking at exhibits, but since most of us will probably have limited time, you'll have to prioritize and decide which exhibits you want to see most.

Several world-class rarities will be on display at Washington 2006: the 1868 US Z-Grill, a 1918 "Inverted Jenny", the Western Australia inverts of 1855 along with part of Queen Elizabeth's Royal Collection, focusing on the British Caribbean. When I attended the Stamp Show 2000 in London, I focused on the rarities and only really did a cursory glance at the competitive exhibits. If your time is limited (like mine was), I would suggest that you do the same. After all, they aren't called rarities for nothing!

### **Next month-**

In my final part of my report on Washington 2006, I will focus on societies and the events of Washington 2006. There will be several first day ceremonies, along with many society meetings and I'll try to make a little sense out of it all.