IAP in the News

2010 Success

We have finished our first full year of operation in great condition. As you will read, we have funded two new research projects, and we now have 70 members! We expect to pass 100 in 2011 with your help. Tell your friends about IAP.

Lera at Ameristamp Expo

Tom Lera, Winton M. Blount Chair of Research at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, presented the seminar *If you have research ideas, We Have Money* at the APS Ameristamp Expo, 11-13 February in Charleston, SC. This talk reviews funding available for research through both IAP and the NPM.

Odenweller Receives Smithsonian Honor

The Smithsonian National Postal Museum has honored Robert P. Odenweller, RDP with the prestigious lifetime achievement award for his huge corpus of philatelic through the years. Bob, a major supporter of scientific research in philately, is well-known to IAP members as an accomplished exhibitor, researcher, author, expert, judge, editor and much, much more.

Initial IAP Grants Made

As you will see on page 2, IAP has awarded two grants to scholars who will be performing research intended to determine the best uses of some aspects of modern forensic technology for philatelic analysis. These studies are focused on detailed analyses of paper, ink and overprints. Profiles of the two researchers are also found later in this issue. They include an academic and a philatelist. Prof. Alexandra Pekarovicova of Western Michigan University is performing the paper analysis. Philatelist Lyman Caswell, retired Professor of Chemistry, will study the color and ink aspects of overprints.

The final reports documenting their results, along with Dave Herendeen’s colorimetric research, will appear soon in the philatelic literature and will also be available through IAP.

Herendeen on Road

Dave Herendeen participated in the annual Hawaiian Stamp Camp in October 2010. He presented his colorimetric paper and recent work on x-ray fluorescence performed with the help of IAP member Dr. Ted Liston of northern California. Dr. Liston is an expert in XRF and has published a number of papers applying these methods to philately.

IAP was able to meet with several members as well as recruiting a new one. Later, Dave traveled to the Sarasota Happening to present a status report of IAP to our many members from the Florida area.

IMPORTANT NEWS

The IRS has determined that IAP is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue code. This allows deductibility of all contributions effective 11 Dec 2009!

Go to our web site for more info.
In July, IAP was pleased to award its first research grant to Prof. Alexandra “Sasha” Pekarovicova of Western Michigan University (WMU). The title of her study is *Insight into Papermaking and Ink Chemistry of United States Three-Cent Bank Note Issues*. This work will be performed at the Center for Ink and Printability Research at WMU, one of IAP’s Centers of Excellence.

There are two main goals of this effort. The first is to perform definitive forensic analyses on the three-cent Bank Note issues printed over a long period by the three major U.S. printers: the National, American and Continental Bank Note Companies.

Additionally, a secondary goal is to understand how best to utilize WMU testing facilities for philatelic research in the future.

Prof. Alexandra Pekarovicova is the codirector of the Center for Ink and Printability Research. She received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering in her native Slovak Republic. After leaving the Slovak Republic in 1996, she entered her academic career at North Carolina State University. She moved to WMU in 1997 and progressed from research associate to research fellow and then, in 1999, to a faculty position where she is now an Associate Professor at Western Michigan University in the Department of Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Imaging.

She has been responsible for research in printability, printing inks, non-wood fibers pulping, bleaching, and many others. She has been successful in capturing research grants from companies such as Kimberly-Clark and International Paper as well as organizations including NATO and the state of Michigan.

She has authored over 150 papers in peer-reviewed journals, and conference proceedings. She has been successful in winning 23 research grants.

IAP senior fellow Jim Allen has graciously donated more than 400 examples of all types of the Three-Cent bank note stamps for comprehensive testing. This includes, when necessary, destructive testing: a method seldom used in philatelic research.

At this writing, the basic experiments have been completed and the resulting data are being analyzed.

Much like the grant described above, IAP has also awarded a grant to Lyman R. Caswell to perform the study *Colorimetric Analysis of Overprints: The Szeged Issues of Hungary*.

It is the purpose of this project to extend Herendeen’s work on stamp colors to the analysis of colored overprints. The Hungarian stamps overprinted by the Hungarian National Government in Szeged in 1919 will be used for the samples to be tested. These stamps were overprinted in two different print shops, some in red ink and some in green. They have also been extensively counterfeited. By using the VSC 6000 at the NPM, Lyman will develop methods for identifying overprints that will be useful for identifying printers and, possibly, definitive evidence of counterfeit overprints.

Lyman is a retired chemistry professor. During his 39-year professional career he published 39 research-based papers in peer-reviewed chemistry journals. He has used ultraviolet-visible and infrared spectrophotometric methods in his research, and has a limited experience with fluorescence emission spectrophotometry. His interest in color stems not only from colors of stamps, but also from working with colored materials as a chemist.

Data collection is mostly complete, and results are expected by summer 2011.
As noted in the last issue, IAP, in conjunction with alliance partner the Smithsonian National Postal Museum, presented three talks at Stampshow 2010 held in Richmond, VA from 12-15 August 2010.

Attendance at these presentations was very high and we are all pleased at the level of interest and excitement.

Colorimetry Study

The first presentation, entitled *A Colorimetric Analysis Methodology for Philatelic Studies* was given on Thursday at 12:30 PM by Dave Herendeen. His talk focused on the results of his NPM scholarship. He used an interesting set of slides to see how the attendees did at recognizing different color shades. The results were astounding and proved the point that color shades are in the eyes of the beholder. He then went on to describe a model of philatelic color that is based on the notion of color categories. In fact, the experts on shades, at least of U.S. material, have long used this basic notion intuitively.

The new research work gives a theoretical underpinning to the manual approach and allows analytically measured shades to be used to classify various shade groups.

The audience reacted well to this presentation and the speaker was heartened by the many positive comments on the usefulness of the ideas set forth.

Research Opportunities

A second seminar was held on Thursday at 1:30 PM immediately following the one described above. Entitled *If you have research ideas, We Have Money.* This event was co-hosted by Dave Herendeen on behalf of IAP and our aggressive grant program, and Tom Lera who presented the information about the many scholarship opportunities available through the National Postal Museum. Dave and Tom spent a brief period outlining their programs and then a public discussion was held between attendees to determine the best ways to inspire philatelists to take advantage of these fantastic opportunities. John Barwis, IAP VP, added valuable information about IAP’s Centers of Excellence and the ability of IAP researchers to tap into state-of-the-art forensic equipment.

Nearly 50 attendees actively expressed their ideas about these funding programs and made suggestions for future research projects.

IAP Status Report

The final seminar was a presentation of the status of IAP as a business. He noted that the organization was financially sound, and on track to reach its goal of 100 members by the end of 2010. He also presented an overview of IAP’s Alliance partners and Centers of Excellence. §§

Dual-Use Research

Readers will notice a recurring theme in the descriptions of our research projects highlighted in this issue. They are all dual-use.

This term, first used in government contracting, means the obvious. Not only is each project solving a meaningful philatelic problem, but they are also attempting to develop specific methodologies or guidelines that can be used by subsequent researchers who will have similar problems to address.

This approach allows IAP sponsored research efforts to deliver more “bang for the buck.” Every project helps specialists who are interested in specific stamp issues while forming a basis for future studies.

Anyone considering a specific project is encouraged to contact IAP to see if the idea can be expanded to solve an even greater problem than the one you may be envisioning. §§
Why Join IAP?

The major benefit of being an IAP member is the opportunity to give back to the hobby we love so well. Our funds will be used to create a legacy of scientific innovation in philately!

Membership benefits include:

♦ helping IAP to coordinate research activities through collaborative relationships with other philatelic organizations so that the overall hobby gets the most "bang for its buck"

♦ opportunities to work with some of the greatest philatelic minds and with state-of-the-art scientific equipment

♦ a newsletter that not only presents IAP news, but also news about current philatelic research activities and interests around the U.S. and world

♦ an annual book of technical papers reporting the results of our funded research efforts

♦ an annual meeting in conjunction with the APS Stampshow, or another major national exhibition, to maximize attendance and convenience for our members.

♦ a pipeline into IAP to suggest funding research efforts that are important to you