

## SEAPEX 2015 REPORT

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The Pacific Northwest now has a new World Series of Philately (WSP) exhibition. The Seattle Philatelic Exhibition (SEAPEX) held its annual show on 11–13 September at the Tukwila Community Center near the SeaTac Airport.



A WSP exhibition is a U.S. national level show that has undergone an accreditation process by the American Philatelic Society and must follow strict standards to maintain its status. This year SEAPEX had 26 dealers and set a new record with 183 frames of competitive philatelic exhibits with an additional 16 non-competitive frames.

The multi-frame Grand Award winner from each of the 31 WSP shows is invited to compete at the annual APS Stamp Show for the Champion of Champions Award, the highest national level exhibiting honor available. The APS will hold its show at the Convention Center in Portland, Oregon, on 4–7 August 2016.

The one-frame Grand Award winner also gets to compete at the APS AmeriStamp Expo for the Single Frame Champion of Champions Award. The APS will hold this show at the Atlanta Hilton hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, on 29–31 January 2016.



The SEAPEX multi-frame Grand Award winner this year was Nicholas Lombardi for his Postal exhibit, “The 1903 Two Cent Washington Shield Issue.”



ATA Ambassador Keith Edholm viewing Janet Klug's Grand Award exhibit

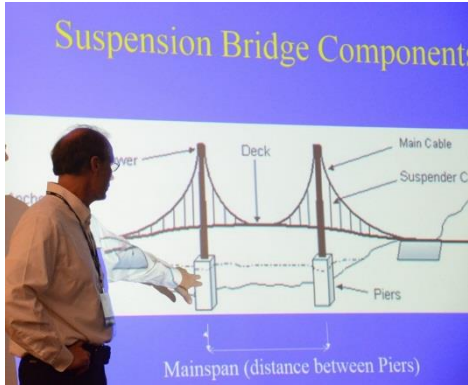
The one-frame Grand Award winner was Janet Klug for her Display exhibit, “Absinthe: The Devil in a Bottle.”

On Thursday before the show, SEAPEX organized a tour of the Boeing Museum of Flight. In addition to the great aircraft displays, the participants got to visit the museum archives to view some of the unique and significant Aerophilately material in the museum's collection.



Boeing Museum of Flight docent Steve Ellis describing some philatelic items in archives

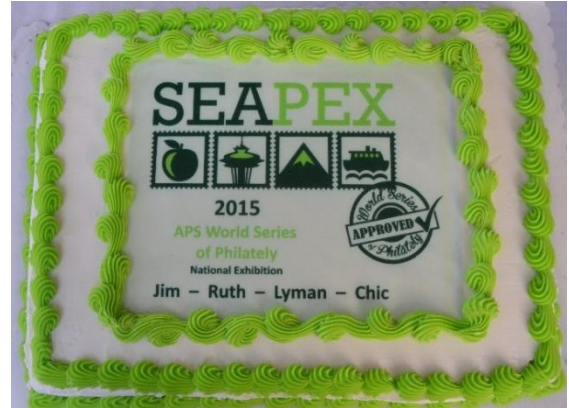
On Friday, Tim Moore, an engineer from the Bridge and Structures office at the Washington State Department of Transportation, gave a very interesting presentation on the history of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge whose 75th anniversary was the theme of our show.



Tim Moore from WSDOT describing suspension bridge design

On Saturday, SEAPEX held a ceremony to honor the four people who had the vision and did the work to grow SEAPEX from a local/regional show into a national level exhibition.

These founding members are: James T. Hall, Charles E. (Chic) Bertolacci, and Ruth and Lyman Caswell. Each was presented with the SEAPEX Distinguished Service Award. These original awards are the first of what the show plans to make an annual honor at each future show.



On Saturday, the show hosted a seminar for ten Boy Scouts to fulfill the requirements for achieving a stamp collecting merit badge.

Other activities included presentations on the History of the Scott Catalogue and the 1920 Siam “Scout Fund” Overprints. In the Youth and Educators are, we held a contest for the best bridge constructed using popsicle sticks. David Levy (age 13) from the Evergreen Stamp Club won with his truss bridge creation.

On Sunday, the APS President, Stephen Reinhard, conducted an APS Town Hall meeting where he discussed the recent APS staff changes and introduced Megan Orient, the new Manager of Shows and Exhibitions.

Mr. Reinhard also spoke about the future APS plans and APS participation in the NY-2016 international show. He told the audience that final construction has begun on the Library, which should be complete by mid-2016.



David Levy Build-a-Bridge winner



Michael Bloom at Stamp Buddy table with Joe Duffie, Tukwila City Council

Michael Bloom spoke about the implementation of the APS Stamp Buddy program, offered at SEAPEX this year, and the plans for a 5,000 square foot youth booth at NY-2016.

Next year SEAPEX will be held at the same location on 9–11 September. In addition to multiple dealers and top quality exhibits, the show will be hosting an auction operated by Harmer-Schau Auctions.

The show theme next year will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Boeing Aircraft with special displays and presentations. Please come and enjoy the exhibition in the Great Northwest.