

The Lilac Hinge

Inland Empire Philatelic Society, PO Box 3731, Spokane, WA 99220
<http://ieps-stamps.com/> APS Affiliate 0343-030681

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (except July & December),
Spokane Valley Eagles, E. 16801 Sprague



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Manito Park Picnic, July 25

Don't miss our annual club picnic in the gazebo in Manito Park. This has been an annual club event for many years. It is a family event, and spouses, children, and guests are welcome. Come prepared to have good food, good fellowship, and fun.

Details:

- Time: 5:30
- Bring a dish to share. Guests should also bring something. If your last name begins with
 - ◇ A-G, Bring a dessert
 - ◇ H-P, Bring a main dish
 - ◇ Q-Z, Bring a salad
- The club will furnish drinks, cups, paper plates, and eating utensils
- Bring a serving spoon or fork for the dish that you bring

Ritzville Rendezvous, August 19

Attend our annual meeting with the Tri-Cities Stamp Club on Saturday, August 19 at Jake's Restaurant in Ritzville. Registration begins at 12:30 PM. The cost is \$6.50 for just the program or \$20 for the program and dinner.

Directions:

- Take the Tri-Cities exit off of I-90 and then take the Ritzville exit to your right.
- Turn right (north) and go about a mile and you will see Jakes on the west side of the road.

Sign up at the club picnic, or by phone or email. Ken Rehfeld needs a head count for the food. Contact him at 924-6375 or at kenrehfeld@comcast.net if you have not signed up. The meeting will include one speaker from each club, a lively floor auction, and a silent auction. All auction items must be clearly identified with a catalogue number and value. Auction slips can be downloaded from our club website and will also be available at the Ritzville meeting.

Jeff Wills has scheduled a historical tour of Ritzville starting at 10 AM. Tour this historic town and look inside some interesting buildings. No signup is needed. Dennis R. Chamberlain will lead the tour. Meet at his business, *Uniquely Washington*, at 213 W. Main Ave in Ritzville (509-659-0346, uniquelywashington@gmail.com).

August meetings

Tuesday, August 8:

- 6:30 Board meeting
- 7:00 Stamp mixture meeting

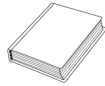
Purchase stamps from worldwide collections that the club purchased in the past year. Many of the stamps are in Scott International albums and there are also many covers. Good deals abound! There will also be a new mixture every month.

Tuesday, August 22

Our August 22rd meeting will feature one-page exhibits. Single-page exhibits are much easier to prepare than multi-page exhibits and are also a great way to show off your collecting interests to other members. We will vote to select the most interesting page. 16 pages will also be selected for our club frame at SEAPEX in September.

Welcome back! Matt Boyle

Closed album: Gordon Wright



SEAPEX 2017

September 8-10 at the Tukwila Community Center

North of SeaTac Airport , 12424 42nd Avenue South, Tukwila, WA

World Series of Philately (WSP) show with 30 stamp dealers and 180 frames of competitive exhibits.

The China Stamp Society, Society for Hungarian Philately, and

Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania will participate.

Show hotel: Residence Inn South Seattle/Tukwila at 16201 West Valley Highway, Seattle.

The show rate for a studio suite is \$114. Contact the hotel at (425) 226-5500.

More information, including exhibit prospectus at <http://seapexshow.org>

2017 Officers

President	J Palmer
Vice President	Jeff Wills
Secretary	Marilyn Miller
Treasurer	Ken Rehfeld
Director	Kevin Dixon
Director	Milt Maas
Director	Chuck Jones

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Mike, Kathy and Jon McLean

Tacoma, Washington Statehood First Day Cover

By Larry Mann



Figure 1: Tacoma, November 11, 1889 to Spokane Falls, Washington with “Return to Writer” hand stamps

This cover shows why it is important to carefully examine postal history covers, and how a bit of knowledge can lead to surprising discoveries. I recently purchased this cover on eBay. I don’t collect Tacoma, and am more interested in Spokane and Eastern Washington. I liked that it was sent to Spokane Falls—the name of the city until changed to Spokane on April 24, 1891, and I liked the purple “Return to Writer” hand stamps.

It took a second look before I noticed that the Tacoma cancel is dated November 11, 1889, the day that Washington became a state. The back of the cover (Figure 2) is also interesting, with an illegible Tacoma cancel and a Spokane Falls “REC’D” cancel from November 12, the day after statehood.

The path to Washington statehood began on February 22, 1889, when the US Congress passed an act that enabled the territories of Washington, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana to seek statehood. One of the requirements for statehood was that a state constitution be created and approved by voters. A constitutional convention met in Olympia, the capital of Washington Territory, during the summer of 1889. This was followed on October 1 by a vote of 40,152 to 11,879 to approve the new state Constitution. Statehood became official on November 11, when President Benjamin Harrison signed a bill that admitted Washington to the Union as the 42nd state. (North Dakota and South Dakota became the 39th and 40th states on November 2, followed by Montana as the 41st state on November 8.)

November 11 was a weekday, a Monday, so probably a lot of mail was cancelled throughout Washington on that first day of statehood. Despite that, I suspect that surviving Washington statehood covers are uncommon, though other examples probably exist. Does anyone know of any November 11 cancels from other Washington towns and cities? The closest that I have for Spokane Falls is a November 12 cancel on a postcard sent to the General Land Agent of the Northern Pacific Railway in Tacoma.

Tacoma, Washington Statehood First Day Cover (continued)



Sources:

- Greg Lange, "Washington is admitted as the 42nd state to the United States of America on November 11, 1889," History-Link.org: <http://historylink.org/File/5210>
- Robert E. Ficken, *Washington Territory*. Pullman: Washington State University Press, 2002, pp. 209-12.

Figure 2: November 12, 1889 Spokane Falls "RE'CD" and an illegible Tacoma cancel



IEPS member Anne Harris received the "Most Popular Pear" award for her postcard exhibit, "Horace and Betty Get Married," at SOPEX (Southern Oregon Philatelic Exhibition) in Central Point, Oregon in April. The show was held at the same time as the community's annual Pear Blossom Festival. Anne's exhibit received the pear award (in addition to a Gold award), as the most popular exhibit at the show. Congratulations, Anne! (Photo from the June, 2017 *Federated Philatelist*)