

FIRST DRAFT 6 May 2017

W. Danforth (Dan) Walker, RDP, FRPSL- University Park Florida, USA

Philatelic Background

2014 signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, 2003 Luff Award (highest honor awarded by the American Philatelic Society), Chief Financial Officer of Washington 2006, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and a member of over 20 different philatelic groups.

I am an active member of the American Philatelic Society (member for 46 years) and served nine terms on the APS Board as Treasurer, Secretary, and Director at Large. Former American Philatelic Research Library Trustee and Treasurer (15 years), APS Finance Committee for over 30 years.

A FIP international judge/team leader and an accredited USA national judge/Chief Judge. I exhibit internationally and nationally with exhibits of Grenada (Championship class), Barwani, Soruth, first issue of Hyderabad and the first issues of Jaipur.

I have collected stamps since I was eight years old and still have my first two album worldwide collection. Most of my Grenada collection (American Philatelic Society, Champion-of-Champion winner 1996) was sold in 2003 when it became difficult to add new items and right after this I added a new collecting interest, the first US revenue stamps. Today my main collecting interests are all the Indian Feudatory States (except Cochin and Travancore) with over 100 albums and the First US Revenue issues 1862 to circa 1872, Scott catalog number R1 to R102. I also retain three local picture postcard collections of the town where I grew up, the town where I went to high school and the town where I had an office for 20 years. I have disposed of collections of India covers going abroad 1854 to 1879, North Borneo and Sarawak postal history, Romania stamps, some small Grenada niche collections, a China picture postcard and a fire insurance paper collection. I have a collecting gene in my body.

My current philatelic writings are mainly concerned with the Indian Feudatory States and appear in the India Post, the Journal of the India Study circle of Philately. In the past I have written extensively in the British Caribbean Philatelic Journal about Grenada and have also had several articles in the Sarawak Journal as well as many other publications.

Personal Background

I received my BS and MBA, both with honors, from New York University with majors and minors in finance, accounting, investments, and economics. My professional career started out as a staff accountant for a CPA firm, followed by two Wall Street positions as a security analyst earning and retaining a Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) designation, followed by a senior financial analyst's position at the US Department of Transportation. From 1983 to February 2006 I was sole owner and manager of the Collectibles Insurance Agency. I sold this business in February 2006 to a much larger insurance business and became a full-time employee and in 2014 moved from Lisbon, Maryland and working from home in University Park (Sarasota area), Florida for Collectibles Insurance Services, LLC owned by Global Indemnity with a main office in a suburb of Philadelphia. After 34 years working for Collectibles Insurance I retired on April 28, 2017 to devote full time organizing and studying my various philatelic collections.

Philatelic Exhibiting and Judging

I started exhibiting in 1979 at the NOJEX national in Newark, NJ where I showed a traditional exhibit of Grenada and won a large silver medal. Looking back on this exhibit the treatment and presentation was really appalling. My second attempt at exhibiting was a completely rewritten Grenada postal history exhibit at NAPEX 1981 in Washington, DC. I won the grand award at that NAPEX show and my first entry the next year into the APS Champion-of-Champions. At the national level I won numerous gold medals (large gold medals were not available in the USA until 2017) with Grenada postal history in the 1980's and that evolved into a Grenada traditional exhibit in the 1990's. In 1996, I won the Champion-of-Champions award with my Grenada traditional exhibit, the highest award you can win in America.

I have also showed a traditional Barwani exhibit nationally and internationally winning gold medals with that exhibit. Recently I have shown a new traditional exhibit of Soruth winning gold medals pre-2017 nationally and a large vermeil internationally with five frames. I have also exhibited nationally North Borneo postmarks, and single frames of Grenada's War Tax issues and Nawanagar 1877 and 1880 type set stamps at the national level as well as single frames of the first issues of Hyderabad and Jaipur.

My first international exhibition was Belgica 1982 where I showed Grenada postal history. Through the years both Grenada postal history and Grenada traditional exhibits have won Large Gold medals internationally. Grenada traditional was shown in the Championship class in Korea 2002. My collection of Barwani has won awards ranging from vermeil to gold at international stamp shows.

I have been a nationally accredited judge since October 1, 1982. I am also a nationally accredited Chief Judge. I judge nationally one or twice a year for the last 20 years. As an accredited FIP judge I have served numerous times internationally since my first assignment as the U.S. judge at LONDON '90 and most recently New York 2016. These assignments include service as postal history Team Leader at Finlandia '95, Pacific 97, INDEPEX 97, China 99, and Espana 2000 and as Secretary of the jury at Norwex 97 and JUVALUX 98.

Service to the FIP Postal History Commission

Appointed as the APS delegate to this Commission in 1989, I served as Secretary to the Special Committee to Revise the FIP Postal History GREV's, SREV's and Guidelines established by the FIP Commission for Postal History. In this capacity, I worked closely with Commission President, Paul Jensen, to revise the postal history judging rules from Stamp World London 90 to Granada 92. At Granada 92 I was elected to the Bureau by the delegates to the FIP Commission for Postal History and the Bureau members appointed me Secretary, a position I held until Istanbul 1996 when I was elected President of the Commission. I served in that position until 2000. During my tenure, I conducted FIP Commission for Postal History seminars at Finlandia 95, Singapore 95, CAPEX 96, Norwex 97 and Pacific 97 and TSS2000 on the Treatment and Evaluation of FIP Apprentice Judges and other subjects related to postal history judging.