

The 1999 AAPE Youth Champion of Champions Competition

by Charles J.G. Verge

Held in Athens, Georgia, October 15-17, 1999, in conjunction with the Peach State Stamp Show (PSSS), 15 exhibits competed in the prestigious AAPE Youth Champion of Champions competition. They were sent in by 13 young exhibitors ranging in age from nine to seventeen. Each exhibit had won the right to be in the Championship by winning the Youth Grand Award at a national show in the U.S. or Canada. Two of the exhibitors, Dzintars Grinfelds and Kristen Elizabeth Ollies won two Grands with different exhibits. One exhibitor, Wayne Lord, who won the Grand Award at ROYAL * 1999 * ROYALE in Fredericton, New Brunswick, lives in Perth, Australia. A really international event. The list of participants and prize winners follows:

YOUTH WORLD SERIES OF PHILATELY

1-4 Robert Caudill, European and North African Occupations of World War II.
5-6 Justin Colton, Prehistoric Animals of the Past.

7-8 Dzintars Grinfelds, Central Lithuania.
9-11 Dzintars Grinfelds, Railroading in the U.S.

12-14 Danny Handelman, Canadian Town Cancels with Animal Names.

15-17 Laurie Harris, Children's Art from Around the World.

18-20 Danielle Henak, Horses Around the World.

21-22 Sara Henak, Puma Concolor.

23-24 Wayne Lord, Railways.

25-28 Devin Luster, Basketball.

29-30 Theresa Meehan, Foxes.

31-33 Kelly Lusz, Christmas in Canada.

34-36 Kristen E. Ollies, Love Through My Eyes.

37-38 Kristen E. Ollies, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

39-42 John Ryle, An Overview of Indiana 4-bar Cancellations.

43-44 John Ryle, Stampless Covers From the Correspondence of Cornelius O'Brien.

1998-99 AAPE Youth

Championship Palmares

YOUTH CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS: Devin Luster, Basketball. Also Ralph Herdenberg Award and ATA Youth Award.

LIBERTY AWARD for the best traditional exhibit: Dzintars Grinfelds, Central Lithuania. Also APS Membership Award for the best exhibit by a non-member.

WELSH PHILATELIC SOCIETY POSTAL HISTORY AWARD: John Ryle, An Overview of Indiana Four-Bar Cancels.

HOWARD HOTCHNER AWARD for the best depiction of American History: John Ryle, Stampless Covers From the Correspondence of Cornelius O'Brien.

NAPEX TITLE PAGE AWARD: Kristen Ollies, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

NAPEX CREATIVITY AWARD: Danny Handelman, Canadian Town Cancels With Animal Names.

NAPEX TOPICAL AWARD: Wayne Lord, Railways.

NAPEX THEMATIC AWARD: Danielle Henak, Horses Around the World.

GERTRUDE FITCH NORTON AWARD for an outstanding exhibit by an exhibitor

less than 10 years old: Justin Colton, Prehistoric Animals of the Past.

JPA MEMBERSHIP AWARD for the best exhibit by a non-member: Laurie Harris, Children's Art From Around the

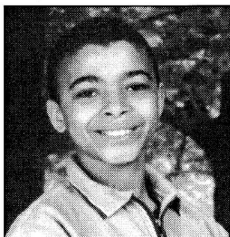


Figure 1. Youth Champion for 1999, Devin Shane Luster

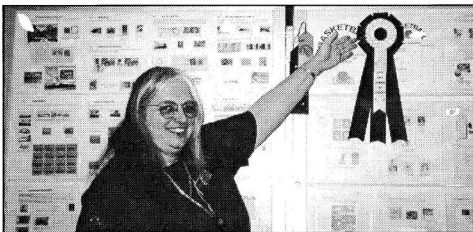


Figure 2. Ada Prill, AAPE Director of the Youth Champion of Champions Competition pinning the 1999 Champion's ribbon to Devin Shane Luster's Basketball.



Figure 3. The judges of the 1999 Youth Champion of Champions competition. From left to right: Nancy Zielinski-Clark, Peter P. McCann and Ann Triggie.

World.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF
WORLDWIDE STAMP COLLECTORS
AWARD for the best use of worldwide
material: Robert Caudill, European and
North African Occupations of World War
II.

FRAMED AWARD: Kelly Luisz,
Christmas in Canada.

MILLENNIUM AWARDS: Dzintars
Grinfelds, Railroad in the U.S.; Sara
Henak, Puma Concolor; Theresa Meegan,
Foxes; Kristen E. Ollies, Love Through
My Eyes.

Any viewer attending PSSS and who
admired these great youth exhibits had to

agree that the future of philately is in good
hands. The exhibitors are very busy young
people who lead active lives and have
found the time to prepare excellent philate-
lic exhibits. They all are involved in
other activities and hobbies such as play-
ing sports, participating in Scouts or
church activities and just being kids. In the
April issue of TPE we will picture each of
the 1999 participants and present their
own words as they introduce themselves to
you.

We seek your help in maintaining and
improving the AAPE's Youth program
and the Youth Champion of Champions
competition. World Columbian Stamp

Expo (WCSE), a great supporter of AAPE
programs over the years has offered a
matching grant of up to \$5000 for money
raised by the AAPE for its youth activities.
Our generous members have enabled us to
raise just over half that amount but we still
need your additional help to get the full
grant. Not only will your money contribute
to the AAPE's youth activities and program
but it will be doubled by WCSE and it is
fully tax-deductible. Contributions can be
sent to Ada Prill, Director, AAPE Youth
Championship, 130 Trafalgar Street, Rochester,
NY 14619 or directly to the Treasurer. Checks
should be made out to the AAPE.

The Mail-In Exhibitor

by John S. Blakemore

My most recent column in this series, in
the July 1999 issue (Vol. 13, No. 3), had
numerous scores to report, principally
because three exhibit chairs had given
written invitations to all their mail-in
exhibitors to inform me. One of those
exhibit chairs was hard-working Ada Prill
of ROPEX, who has confirmed to me her
chagrin that after the 1999 show, some
exhibit boxes got packed by an assistant
with ribbons and/or certificates left out.
She is sure — and so am I — that this will
not happen again in March 2000.

Though six months have elapsed since
the July issue, I had a shorter list of scores
to report this time. In chronological order
of show dates (all 1999) these are:

FRESPEX	100
ROPEX 99	97
ROMPEX 99	100
NOJEX 99	97
NAPEX 99	100
Minnesota Stamp Expo.	100
STAMPSHOW 99	100
INDYPEX	99
SESCAL 99	100

You will see that no score fell below 97;
every writer was at least close to being
fully content with mail-in handling of
his/her exhibit. (The 99 score for
INDYPEX came about via a balance of
debts and extra credits). As usual, I read
comments about shows that are relevant
for any exhibitor, by mail or by hand-
carry: slowness in advise of acceptance
continues to be a sore point. One mail-in
exhibitor, who was able to attend part of

the show he reported on, remarked to me
that he was disturbed to see that some
exhibits — not his, fortunately — went
around corners.

In my April 1999 column, I had
remarked that the number of mail-in
reports per year has slowed but steadily
decreased since the late Charles Luks initiated
this column a decade ago. Thus, this
time, I have only nine entries reported
above, for a six-month period. Mail-in
exhibitors are more prone to submit a
report when something has gone awry.

Moreover, scary stories such as were
reported to Charles in those first years
have now — mercifully — become very
rare. For example, numbers at 97 or higher
have become quite typical. As I have
remarked previously, credit for this happy
situation should be shared, between the
various show exhibit committees, and the
community of philatelists who do entrust
their exhibits to the mails. Mail-in
exhibitors have become smarter about
using proper packaging, providing
addressed return labels, etc. And this has
made it more straightforward for exhibit
committee members to handle mailed
exhibits reliably and expeditiously. There
will always be some 'goofs,' but we can
hope that these will almost always be
minor ones, not enough to get riled over.

With that hope in mind, I now advise
TPE readers that this is my final regular
column under this heading. I believe that
the Mail-In column has served a useful
purpose, to the extent that it has made the
need for itself as a regular column obso-
lete. In closing, I wish each of you many

enjoyable exhibiting experiences still to
come. May your exhibit never be dis-
patched around a corner. For myself, I
hope to continue exhibiting 'for fun,' and
(our Editor willing), may contribute to
TPE from time to time, on subjects that
seem worth sharing.

Bette Herdenberg
P.O. Box 30258
Chicago, IL 60630-0258
USA

Dear Bette,

I am pleased to inform you that the
AAPE Board of Directors voted
unanimously to make you an hono-
rary Life Member of the AAPE dur-
ing its recent meeting in Athens, GA.

This honor is given to you for your
outstanding and exceptional work as
the AAPE's Director of Conventions
and Meetings and your more than
exemplary and continuing support of
the AAPE since its inception in
1986.

On behalf of the AAPE, its members
and the Board of Directors, I wish to
express our most sincere gratitude
for the work you do for our associa-
tion. Our best wishes for the future
and for many more years as our
Director of Conventions and
Meetings.

Sincerely yours

Charles J. G. Verge
President