

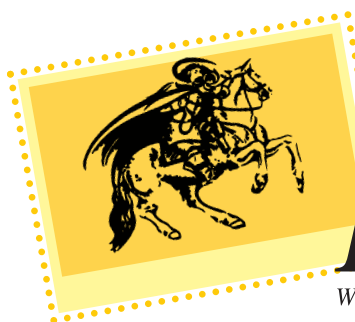
The Ever-Changing Paradigm of Philatelic Exhibiting

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Editor Jonas Hällström

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This is the first paper in a new series of philatelic books which are being published in conjunction with the “International Philatelic Summit” being held in Malmö, Sweden.

The first International Philatelic Summit in Malmö was held in 2009. With 80 participants from 21 countries, it was heralded as a great success because it offered a venue where serious exhibitors could gather to discuss exhibiting techniques and rules as well as other exhibiting-related matters of interest and concern to them.

We are now preparing the second International Philatelic Summit, to which 8 great philatelists will lead the discussions after setting the stage with their presentations on various exhibiting techniques and other matters. The focus for the upcoming summit will be “treatment” in the aspect of “story-telling.” This first paper has been written by James

Peter Gough from the USA – who is widely known in the philatelic world as “Jamie.”

I met Jamie for the first time only a few years ago, in Rome, Italy, when I was a judge and he was showing his UPU exhibit in the postal history class at the FEPA-exhibition ITALIA 2009.

When I had finished my assignments in the thematic section, I went through all the exhibits in all the classes at the exhibition, starting with the class most closely-related to thematic philately, postal history. When I came to Jamie’s exhibit I stopped in my tracks, not maintaining my normal pace. Despite the pressure to review all the exhibits in the time remaining, I stayed in front of his exhibit for two hours, reading all the pages. “Wow,” I thought, “this is one of the best exhibits I have ever seen” – at least in regard to telling a postal history story and how to present it.

After investing so much time with his exhibit, I felt compelled to meet this exhibitor. As I have gotten to know Jamie, I have come to appreciate that he has a lot to share with the rest of us, even the advanced collectors and exhibitors.

When Jamie was invited to be one of the speakers in the upcoming summit in Malmö, I asked him if he could write a bit about his 45-years of exhibiting. His years of dedication to philately and its aspect of exhibiting are the basis of this mesmerizing essay. And so, we have the first edition in a series to be called the “Philatelic Summit Papers.”

I need to thank Jamie for sharing his experiences as well as his thoughts about the evolution of philatelic exhibiting – in part to stimulate the conversations at the upcoming summit. I would say that Jamie’s paper is one of the most important I have ever read in regard to exhibiting, its trends and its underlying philosophies (which sometimes create unintended consequences as he points out).

I believe that starting this series with Jamie’s paper, is a powerful send-off – like getting a great start out of the blocks in a relay race, moving ahead of the rest, and giving an advantage to the next teammate when the baton is handed off. The tradition of excellence from the International Philatelic Summit in 2009 continues with this paper. For that, thank you Jamie!

*Jonas Hällström
Editor & Chairperson of the
“International Philatelic Summit” in Malmö*

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I was asked to write this article as a prelude to the forthcoming international summit on exhibiting being held in Malmö, Sweden from April 27-29, 2012, where I am a scheduled speaker among several luminaries of global philately. I look forward to participating in the planned seminars with their dynamic dialogues.

James Peter Gough

James Peter Gough lives in California, where he is the founder and chairman of a bank in Orange County where he settled down after a career in international banking and bank/monetary policy consulting. "Jamie" is a long time philatelist and exhibitor with philatelic interests around the globe. He is well recognized in philately, having won the USA's grand prix national in 1992 (called the "Champions of Champions"), the FLAF Grand Prix of the Americas in 2008 and the FIP Grand Prix d'Honneur in Paris in 1999. The above photo was taken at PhilexFrance in 1999.