

## *Merle's Musings . . .*

As you will read in George's report the possible merger of OWASU and MASU is off for the time being. It is possible that we may be conducting more joint ventures in the near future at various stamp shows. If you have an idea for hosting an event or joint event in your area, please contact me.

In the last year or two, I have noticed several new reports of discoveries of sunken ships around the world. In addition, there have been excellent shows on PBS recently about the USS Monitor, and the CSS Hunley. Is anyone doing a collection or an exhibit on the subject of underwater archaeology? If so, I would be interested in reading about your approach to the subject and how you have focused your efforts.

If you are not comfortable authoring an article on the subject, please contact George, and he will help you develop an article.

*Merle Farrington*  
President, OWASU

## **Mesoamerican Archeology Study Unit gets an editor, well, former editor, Larry Crain, after a long hiatus**

It was a pretty exciting time around the Holland household a few weeks ago. I opened up the February issue of Codex Filatelica and an insert dropped out. It was a note from Editor Chris Moser that a new editor had been found.

Now that news in itself was superb for me. I was not really looking forward to filling in for the new world group, having a hard enough time trying to keep on schedule for the old world group. So I was excited.

But that initial excitement was only the bud on the rose bush. The excitement really blossomed when I read further that the new editor will be Larry Crain. Now Larry lives in Medford, about 100 miles away by crow flight, but crows in Oregon fly a rather convoluted route.

I have known Larry for 30 years or so and never knew he collected archaeology on stamps. I knew him for his activity and support of local stamp clubs throughout Oregon. We pass and talk at almost every show held in Oregon, from Portland to Medford. We both usually attend PIPEX throughout the northwest and Canada. He is one of the few major players

supporting, and working to further, stamp collecting in the whole state.

An interesting thing that Larry does for his home stamp club, Southern Oregon Philatelic Society, is that if he knows anyone traveling to another country, he provides the postage, and the club newsletters, and gets them mailed from that country. I think at last count he had mailed the club's bulletins from five continents. What a great idea! (*Ed. Note: The next time any of you travel to Persepolis, let me know!*)

It should be noted that Larry was editor for MASU prior to Chris Moser's years. Chris has spent a total of 20+ years as editor. Larry's last time as editor of MASU was 16 years ago.

The current issue carries on with Part X: South American Archeology on Stamps of the World. This section covers the Peruvian Andes.

This is a great group to join. Several of our members hold joint membership in both study groups. For information on the group, contact Chris L. Moser, MASU Secretary-Treasurer, Box 1442, Riverside, CA 92502-1442, or e-mail at

[cmoser@ci.riverside.ca.us](mailto:cmoser@ci.riverside.ca.us)

