

BALPEX 2015

An American Philatelic Society Accredited National Level Exhibition

Sponsored by The Baltimore Philatelic Society, Inc.

Prospectus and Entry Form

Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day Weekend

September 4, 5, 6, 2015

At the Hunt Valley Inn (Wyndham Affiliate)

245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland

Exit 20E off I-83 north of I-695

Annual Convention of:	Judges
Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society	Bill Schultz, Chairman
	Akthem A-Manaseer
	Stephen Reinhard
	Steve Zwilling
	David Ingle Smith, Australia Exchange Judge

IMPORTANT DATES* * * IMPORTANT DATES	
Wednesday, July 15, 2015	Closing date for entries, subject to prior sellout
Monday, July 20, 2015	Last date for Exhibit Acceptances to be mailed
Saturday, August 5, 2015	Latest date for receipt of revised Title/Synopsis pages
Friday, August 21, 2015	Earliest date for mailed-in exhibit to arrive
Tuesday, September 1, 2015	Latest date for mailed-in exhibit to arrive
Thursday, September 3, 2015	Exhibit mounting 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Friday, September 4, 2015	BALPEX opens at 10 AM
Saturday, September 5, 2015	BALPEX Awards Dinner at 7:30 PM, order tickets on entry form
Sunday, September 6, 2015	BALPEX closes at 3:00 PM and exhibit dismounting begins
Tuesday, September 8, 2015	Mailing date for returned Mailed-in Exhibits.

Exhibition Classes:

- A. **General Class** - 2 frame minimum and 10 frame maximum. Youth exhibits have a 1 frame minimum. All Divisions will be accepted: Postal, Revenue, Thematic, Display, Illustrated Mail, and Cinderella/Charity/Promotional.
- B. **Post Card Class** - 2 frame minimum and 10 frame maximum. Youth exhibits have a 1 frame minimum
- C. **One-Frame Class** – Maximum of 12 exhibits accepted into this class. Preference given to exhibits from convening society members.
- D. **Non Competitive** – 8 frame maximum

Judging the Exhibition

Each exhibit in the General Class and Post Card Class will be judged independently against accepted standards of philatelic achievement. The only direct competition between any of the exhibits will be for the Grand Awards and the Special Awards. The Jury has been asked to judge each exhibit separately and present to each exhibit in these Classes the Award that they believe it warrants. There are no limits on the number of awards that may be given at any level: Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze. The Grand Award is limited to entries in the General Class.

Each exhibit in the One-Frame Class will be judged independently using standards based on the current APS criteria. **Five levels** of award are possible: Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze. The Best One Frame exhibit is invited to the Single Frame Champion of Champion competition at Ameristamp Expo.

Rules and Regulations

1. BALPEX is open to all exhibitors who abide by the rules herein.

2. All material exhibited must be the bona fide property of the individual exhibitor or immediate family members. Exhibits containing material belonging to two or more persons are welcome in the Non-Competitive Class.

3. The Exhibit Committee reserves the right to limit or refuse any exhibit at its discretion, and may reject any exhibit, in whole or in part, without giving reason. In such cases, refund of entry fee will be made.

4. Exhibits that have won the Grand Award at BALPEX, won the APS Champion of Champions, a FIP Grand Prix, or three (3) FIP Large Gold Medals are only eligible to enter the Non-Competitive Class.

5. Except for Youth Class and the One-Frame Class, the minimum number of frames is 2. The maximum number of frames for an exhibit is 10, except for Class D which is 8.

6. Exhibitors may enter no more than two (2) exhibits in the General Class and two (2) exhibits in the One Frame Class.

7. An entry fee of \$15 **per exhibit** plus \$10 **per frame** applies to all classes except the Youth Class which is complimentary. Entry fees are payable in advance (with the entry form). If return mailing is desired prepayment of the correct amount is required. Exhibits will be returned by Express Mail unless otherwise instructed by Exhibitor. ***Registered Mail is NOT an option for return – this restriction was effective from 2004.***

8. Exhibitor's names will appear in the program and will be used in conjunction with the presentation of awards, unless notified by the exhibitor on the entry form that a pseudonym is desired.

9. It is strongly recommended that the exhibitor provide the judges a copy of the Title page and/or synopsis page. Eight (8) copies are requested; at entry or upon acceptance, but no later than August 5, 2015. Pages received after that date will not be distributed to the judges in advance of the show.

10. Exhibit pages, when mounted in the frames should not show the name of the owner.

11. Forgeries and counterfeits should be plainly identified, or the exhibit may be subject to downgrading or disqualification.

12. Pages will be displayed in Ameripex type frames, mounted in four (4) rows each holding four (4) pages up to 9"x12". Exhibit pages must be numbered on the back in sequential order, and enclosed in transparent sheet protectors.

13. Most awards will be presented at the BALPEX awards Banquet, Saturday September 5, 2015 at 7:30 PM. Banquet tickets should be ordered and paid for with the Official Entry Form.

14. The Baltimore Philatelic Society, the convening societies, the Hunt Valley Inn or any of their members and/or employees will not be responsible for any loss or damage to any material submitted for exhibit. The Exhibit Committee will exercise all reasonable care in the handling and mounting of all entries, while enroute to and from the post office, including the employment of guards on 24 hour duty while the exhibits are on display. Exhibitors desiring insurance must make their own arrangements. See Rule 15.

15. Exhibitors desiring to mount their own pages must so indicate on the Entry Form. All other exhibits must be in the hands of the designated address after August 21 and before September 1, 2015. Exhibitors sending exhibits to the post office are required to have their exhibit fully insured before the post office will accept the exhibit. Please package carefully and ship to:

Richard M. Drought
Baltimore Philatelic Society, Inc.
To Be Announced
Maryland

Do not enclose any message requiring an answer prior to mounting, as the post office acts as a custodian only, and packages are not opened until mounting begins.

16. Exhibits may be mounted by owners or agents between 4pm and 7pm on Thursday September 3. No exhibit will be dismounted until after the close of the show at 3pm on Sunday September 6. A BALPEX Committee member must be present and will assist the owner/agent in mounting and dismounting.

For additional information about exhibiting at BALPEX please contact:

Richard M. Drought Chairman, at email rmddrought@yahoo.com or phone 410-627-2889, or Norman Cohen Co-Chairman at email nec1945@comcast.net or phone 410-356-6567.

For any other information regarding BALPEX, please contact the BPS Clubhouse 3440 Ellicott Center Drive, Suite 103, Ellicott City, MD 21043 or 410-465-5712, or email balpex@verizon.net.

BALPEX 2015 Entry Form – September 4, 5 and 6, 2015

Closing date for entries: July 15, 2015, subject to prior sellout.

Send completed application to:

BALPEX Entry
Richard M. Drought
4513 Salem Bottom Road
Westminster, MD 21157

Please enter the following exhibit in the ☐ **General Class**, in the following **Division**:

☐ Postal ☐ Revenue ☐ Thematic ☐ Display ☐ Illustrated Mail ☐ Cinderella/Charity/Promotional

☐ One Frame Class ☐ Post Card Class ☐ Youth Class ☐ Non-Competitive

Title: _____

Number of frames requested: _____ **Description for Program (be brief!):**

Enclose seven (7) copies of your Title/Synopsis page or provide upon acceptance of the exhibit. (Class A, B or C)

My exhibit will be delivered by: ☐ myself ☐ agent* ☐ Express mail ☐ Registered mail ☐ Commissioner
My exhibit will be returned by: ☐ myself ☐ agent* ☐ Express mail ☐ Priority, Insured ☐ Commissioner

The committee will NOT return any exhibit by Registered mail; the packaging requirements are too onerous.

*Name of agent (please print!): _____

Exhibit Fee (N/A for Youth Class)	\$ 15.00
Amount enclosed for Frame Fees at \$10.00 per frame. The Youth Class is free	\$
Amount enclosed for Return postage if applicable	\$
Amount enclosed for BALPEX Awards Banquet at \$55 each. Number needed: _____	\$
Total: Please make out check (in US funds drawn on a US bank) payable to BALPEX 2015:	\$

If you do **not** want your name to appear in the program, please check here: ☐

What pseudonym do you want listed instead - please print!: _____

Exhibit Owner: _____

Street address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone number in the rare event you must be contacted: _____

Entries will be acknowledged upon receipt and checks deposited. Notices of acceptance/rejection may be mailed at a subsequent date but no later than July 20, 2015.

I am a member of: ☐ BPS

☐ Ottoman and Near East Philatelic Society

☐ This is the first time I have exhibited at the national level (WSP show)

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, have read the rules and regulations and understand that it will be my responsibility to insure my exhibit; and I will not hold the Baltimore Philatelic Society, Inc. any participating Society, Wyndham's Hunt Valley Inn and/or their officers, members, or employees liable for any loss of or damage to this exhibit:

Signature: _____ Date of this application: _____
(Required)

If Youth Exhibitor, date of birth: _____ Signature of parent or guardian: _____

BALPEX Awards

General Class - A Grand Award, a Reserve Grand Award and an unlimited number of Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze Medals.

One-Frame Class – A Best One Frame Class and an unlimited number of Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze Medals.

Post Card Class – an unlimited number of Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze Medals, at Committee discretion a Best of Class award.

PLUS many Special Awards for General Class Exhibits regardless of Society Affiliation