

BALPEX 2017

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 1, 2, 3, 2017

At the Hunt Valley Inn

245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland

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

Annual Convention of:	Judges
Germany Philatelic Society and the Royal Philatelic Society of London	Chairman To Be Announced Soon

IMPORTANT DATES* * * IMPORTANT DATES	
Friday, June 30, 2017	First mailing to Judges
Tuesday, August 1, 2017	Closing date for entries, subject to prior sellout
Friday, August 4, 2017	Last date for Exhibit Acceptances to be mailed
Friday, August 4, 2017	Latest date for receipt of revised Title/Synopsis pages
Saturday, August 5, 2017	Final mailing to Judges
Monday, August 21, 2017	Earliest date for mailed-in exhibit to arrive
Tuesday, August 29, 2017	Latest date for mailed-in exhibit to arrive
Thursday, August 31, 2017	Exhibit mounting 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Friday, September 1, 2017	BALPEX opens at 10 AM
Sunday, September 3, 2017	BALPEX Awards Presentation - Salon A - 9:00AM
Sunday, September 3, 2017	BALPEX closes at 3:00 PM and exhibit dismounting begins
Tuesday, September 5, 2017	Mailing date for returned Mailed-in Exhibits.

Exhibition Classes:

A. General Class - 2 frame minimum and 10 frame maximum.

B. One-Frame Class – Maximum of 20 exhibits accepted into this class. Preference given to exhibits from convening society members. Limited number of exhibits accepted in this class.

C. Youth Class - Youth exhibits have a 1 frame minimum.

Judging the Exhibition

Each exhibit in the General 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: Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, 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. **Eight levels** of award are possible: Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, 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.
3. The Exhibit Committee reserves the right to limit or refuse any exhibit at its discretion, and may reject any exhibit 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 not eligible to enter. They may be invited to participate in the non-competitive class upon invitation. You may request an invitation from the exhibit chairman.
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.
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. The synopsis page should specify the type of exhibit being presented i.e. postal, revenue, thematic, etc. Eight (8) copies are requested; at entry or upon acceptance, but no later than August 4, 2017. 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. The BALPEX awards Presentation will be held on Sunday, September 3, 2017 at 9:00 AM, in Salon A.
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. Mailed in exhibits should arrive at the below listed address after August 21 and not later than August 29, 2017. Exhibitors mailing exhibits are required to have their exhibit fully insured. Please package carefully and ship to:

Norman Cohen
Baltimore Philatelic Society, Inc.
12400 Greenspring Avenue
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117

Do not enclose any message requiring an answer prior to mounting. Exhibit packages are not opened until mounting begins on Thursday, August 31, 2017.

16. Exhibits may be mounted by owners or agents between 4pm and 7pm on Thursday August 31. No exhibit will be dismantled until after the close of the show at 3pm on Sunday September 3. A BALPEX Committee member must be present and will assist the owner/agent in mounting and dismantling.

For additional information about exhibiting at BALPEX please contact:

Richard M. Drought Chairman, at email rmdrought@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 2017 Entry Form – September 1, 2, and 3, 2017

Closing date for entries: August 1, 2017, 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 One Frame Class Youth Class

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	\$
Total: Please make out check (in US funds drawn on a US bank) payable to BALPEX 2017:	\$

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 August 4, 2017.

- I am a member of: BPS
 Germany Philatelic Society
 Royal Philatelic Society of London
 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 Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze.

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

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