

EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS

Americover 2017

62nd Annual AFDCS Convention and Exhibition

Embassy Suites Hotel, 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence, Ohio 44131

August 11 – 13, 2017

Rules and Regulations Governing Entry, Display, and Return of Exhibits

1. This exhibition is open to all collectors regardless of any society affiliation. The Exhibit Committee reserves the right to limit or refuse an exhibit at its discretion, and may reject any exhibit, in whole or part, without giving reason. In such cases, refund of entry fees will be made. Each exhibitor will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their exhibit(s).
2. The emphasis of this AFDCS exhibition is on First Day Covers (Illustrated Mail) or uncached FDCs and covers showing Earliest Documented Use of a new stamp. To be eligible for the Grand Award an exhibit must consist of at least 75% First Day material, which may include Post Office announcements, First Day Ceremony programs, and stamp production items. Exhibits must be the bona-fide property of the individual exhibitor or immediate family. An Americover grand award exhibit cannot be entered competitively again until after three years; for example, the 2016 grand award exhibit would be eligible to compete again in 2020. The 2017 Grand Award winner will be invited to compete in the World Series of Philately at APS StampShow in 2018. If six or more competitive single-frame exhibits are entered, the Curtis B. Patterson Award recipient will be invited to enter the APS Single-Frame Champion of Champions competition at APS AmeriStamp Expo. If an entered single-frame exhibit wins a Grand Award at a WSP Show prior to Americover, in the same calendar year, it will become non-competitive and classified as a Court of Honor exhibit awarded an honorary Gold Show Medal.
3. Exhibits should not show identifying marks of ownership, such as a printed name on pages. Forgeries and/or counterfeits in any exhibit must be clearly identified, or the exhibit may be subject to a rating downgrade or disqualification.
4. A separate Official Entry Form is required for each exhibit. An exhibitor may enter a maximum of two competitive multi-frame exhibits and two one-frame exhibits. Exhibits may range in size from one frame to a maximum of ten frames. Each frame holds sixteen pages measuring 8.5 inches by 11 inches. **The deadline for submitting an entry is June 1, 2017** or until the frames are filled. Exhibit space is limited. We strongly recommend early application.
5. Remittance of frame fees shall be in the form of check or money order made payable to AFDCS, and must accompany the Official Entry Form. For those exhibits to be returned by USPS or FedEx, the exhibitor must also remit self addressed return labels along with pre-calculated postage and insurance costs. No entry will be accepted without the appropriate fees paid.
6. Along with the Official Entry Form, please send seven copies of a synopsis and seven copies of your title page. **If these pages are not submitted with an entry form, ensure they arrive ASAP before the show.** An exhibit will not be judged if a title page and synopsis is not provided in a timely manner. These will be forwarded to the panel of judges for study in advance of the show. This helps the judges evaluate your exhibit more accurately. Qualified judges are selected by the AFDCS Judges Accreditation Committee, and are accredited by the APS. Exhibits are accepted and judged according to the latest edition of the American Philatelic Society's *Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting*. Decisions of the judges are final.
7. Acceptance letters from the Exhibit Committee will reconfirm (or change if necessary) the shipping address for mail delivery of exhibits. The acceptance letter will also state a shipping deadline. There are no refunds for accepted exhibits that do not arrive in time for mounting. Do not send your exhibit to the hotel unless specifically instructed to do so.

8. Shipping Information: If shipping your exhibit, time the mailing to **arrive not before AUGUST 2 and not later than AUGUST 9**. Address the package:

**AMERICOVER
c/o Ray Beer
14865 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood OH 44107**

9. To protect your material and ensure it is mounted correctly in the display frames, please enclose each page in a clear sheet protector and mark the back of each with mounting sequence numbers. Mounting of pages will be accomplished (or supervised) by the Exhibit Committee. Exhibitors wishing to mount their own entries must indicate that desire on the Official Entry Form. Mounting will begin as soon as possible in the afternoon on Thursday, August 10. The start time depends upon completion of room set-up and frame assembly, which is not controlled by the Exhibit Committee. Dismounting of exhibits does not begin until after the show closes Sunday, August 13.
10. Each exhibitor should arrange for insurance to cover the value of the exhibit material for the period of time that it is in transit and on display. Precaution will be taken to safeguard all exhibits. Security guards or security personnel will be provided by the AFDCS. However, the host Convention & Exhibition Site, AFDCS, the Exhibit Committee, or any of the AFDCS officers, committee members, or employees of the aforementioned parties shall not assume any liability or responsibility for the loss or damage of any material, regardless of cause or reason.
11. Official Entry Forms must be marked with an Exhibit Classification. Although this exhibition is focused primarily on Illustrated Mail, other types of exhibits may be accepted. Beginning in 2017, the exhibit classes are Multi-Frame, One Frame, Youth (under age 18, single or multiple frames) and Non-Competitive.
12. The Exhibit Awards Chairman will place at the disposal of the Judges an unlimited number of Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver-Bronze, and Bronze awards. In addition to these medal-level awards, the following special awards are available:

Claude C. Ries Chapter Grand Award --- Best FDC exhibit
Richard H. Thompson Reserve Grand Award --- Second Best exhibit of FDCs
Foreign FDC Award --- Best exhibit of foreign FDCs (non-Grand)
Lawrence S. Fisher Award --- Best research exhibit; FDCs and/or covers from 1847 to 1931
Curtis B. Patterson Award --- Best in Show single-frame FDC exhibit
Winfred M. Grandy Award --- Best exhibit of cacheted FDCs with emphasis on cachet research (non-Grand)
Herman Franz Fluegel Award --- Best exhibit of cacheted FDCs 1945 and later with emphasis on color
Leo and Samuel August Award --- Best topical exhibit of FDCs
Robert C. Graebner Award --- Best novice FDC exhibit for first-time exhibitor
Junior FDC Award --- Best FDC exhibit by a youth under 18
Marge Finger Award --- Most popular exhibit, determined by popular ballot
Other Society Awards as applicable: APS, AAPE, USSS, etc.

13. Questions or concerns about this exhibition for which answers are not provided in this prospectus, shall be addressed by the AFDCS Board of Directors at their sole and absolute discretion.



OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM
Americover 2017
August 11-13, 2017
Embassy Suites Hotel, Independence, Ohio 44131

EXHIBITOR

Exhibit Owner's Name: _____

Street or Box Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country, Province, etc. (if outside the U.S.A.): _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

Your full Owner's Name and state above will be published unless you instruct us otherwise.

(Optional) List me in the program and on awards as: _____

(Optional) Check here if your state should not be listed in the Program

Are you an AFDCS member? (Circle one) Yes No

Have you exhibited competitively anywhere before? (Circle one) Yes No

Have you exhibited at a previous AFDCS convention? (Circle one) Yes No

Will you be attending this convention, Americover 2017? (Circle one) Yes No

EXHIBIT

Exhibit Title: _____

Brief description: (For the program, 25 words or less. We will edit if necessary) _____

This exhibit will fill _____ frames.

Please enter this exhibit in **CLASS** (circle one): Multi-Frame One Frame Youth Non-Competitive

This section for AFDCS Exhibit Chairman Only:

Frame numbers assigned: _____ Exhibitor No: _____

Date Received Entry: _____ Exhibit ID No: _____ Date Reply Letter sent: _____

Date Received Title/Synopsis: _____ Date Forwarded to Judges: _____

SHIPPING / MOUNTING

Mark the appropriate options concerning delivery, mounting, dismounting, and return of your exhibit. You may select any combination of personal actions and third-party actions. Specific directions for mail-in exhibit options will be provided.

Delivery, USPS Preferred

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bring it myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insured/Registered Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Express Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	FedEx
<input type="checkbox"/>	UPS
<input type="checkbox"/>	For me, by party below
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Mounting

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mount myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	By Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	For me, by party below
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Dismount

<input type="checkbox"/>	Dismount myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	By Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	For me, by party below
<input type="checkbox"/>	

Return, USPS Preferred

<input type="checkbox"/>	Take it myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insured/Registered Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Priority mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Express Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	FedEx
<input type="checkbox"/>	UPS
<input type="checkbox"/>	To me, by party below
<input type="checkbox"/>	

PAYMENT SUMMARY

Multiply your exhibit FRAME COUNT times the appropriate FRAME FEE.

FRAMES: _____ @ \$10.00 (2 - 10 regular frames) = \$ _____
 _____ @ \$18.00 (Single Frame) = \$ _____
 _____ @ \$ 7.00 (Youth Rate 2 - 10 frames) = \$ _____

Add calculated SHIPPING cost for return of your exhibit. = \$ _____

(Be sure to state INSURANCE VALUE REQUIRED, if you want it returned insured)

TOTAL REMITTANCE = \$ _____
Check or Money Order, Payable to AFDCS

SEND this Entry Form, with 7 Title Page and 7 Synopsis copies, and payment to:

Kerry Heffner, 17656 K Street, Omaha, NE 68135-3491

I, the undersigned, have read this entry form and prospectus. I understand and agree to the provisions on both forms, especially those in paragraph 10 of the prospectus concerning Security and Liability of exhibits. I agree that the decision of the judges shall be final, and hereby release and agree to hold harmless the judges and the American Philatelic Society, the American First Day Cover Society and their respective officers, directors, employees, and representatives from any damages, including but not limited to damages to my reputation or that of my exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging.

SIGNATURE OF EXHIBITOR OR YOUTH’S PARENT/GUARDIAN

DATE

*For general Americover questions, email: showinfo@AFDCS.org.
 Or, visit our web site at www.AFDCS.org. Prospectus request at exhibits@AFDCS.org
 Exhibiting Chairman, kheffner2@cox.net*