

1ST QUARTER 2022 | www.rswr.org

Small, Thoughful Actions

This edition of the newsletter centers on the ministry of the Stamp Team, which is lovingly under the care of Indianapolis First Friends Meeting. The stamp ministry, semi-independent from Right Sharing, facilitates the collection and sale of stamps for the benefit of our partners. This makes possible a heart-felt connection among hobbyists, the stamp team, and the women's groups in India, Kenya, and Sierra Leone.

Currently co-coordinated by Amy Perry and Brad Jackson, the stamp ministry, which began in 1996, has evolved over the years. Recently the stamp team has seen an increase in earnings and interest. Additionally, the stamp team provides a sense of community and mission to a diverse group of people, as you will see in this newsletter.

Small thoughtful actions over time lead to large results. We're grateful to the stamp team for their contributions of joy, time, and care.

Caitlin Gaylord Churchill Communications Director

A RSWR Partner with her child in the Sengbe and Kassai villages, Sierra Leone.

Photo credit: Jon Watts



Stamping For Dollars Tribute LINDA CALDWELL LEE - 1939-2021

We are sad to announce the death of Linda Caldwell Lee, July 21, 1939 – June 25, 2021. She is survived by her sons Kevin Leeds (Roberta), and Jonathan Leeds (Denise), her sister Annabel Grote (Harald), her partner of 20 years, Ed Morris, and by grandchildren, greatgrandchildren, nieces, and nephews, and an abundant loving community. Linda became a faithful stamper when the stamp ministry came to Indianapolis First Friends in 2016. She contributed process improvement ideas, encouragement, humor, and good cheer. She is missed by her friends in Indiana.

Linda Lee - Photo credit: Amy Perry

PARTNERING WITH WOMEN IN COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

GOD CALLS US TO THE RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES, FROM THE BURDENS OF MATERIALISM AND POVERTY INTO THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S LOVE, TO WORK FOR EQUITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

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descended from Germans who settled in Luneburg, Nova Scotia, in the 1600s. His ancestors were subsistence farmers who raised sheep and cattle. Bob started collecting stamps at age 8, after a failed attempt at collecting coins. "I realized that I could use the coins on treats at the store. So that was the end of that

hobby." When his aunt saw 15-cent packages of stamps at Woolworth's, "she bought two of them and gave them to my mom to put in my socks for Christmas morning. Those two stamp packets were from Spain and Italy. My granddad, who was a postmaster, would bring me stamps from discarded mail. ... That was more than 60 years ago."

Now Bob purchases stamps from the RSWR Stamp Ministry in Indianapolis for his collection. "The US issues between 75 and 80 per year, and some years as many as 200 commemorative stamps. I normally get as many as ten sets of most of the issues. ... I also trade, and occasionally I will sell one to buy another stamp."

As stamps journey through their life cycle, they are placed on letters as postage and then 'canceled' at the post office. The canceled stamp, which signifies that it has been used, is meant to prevent its reuse. Bob talked about the importance of having a 'clean cancel' on a stamp, given that sometimes stamps are obliterated by the cancel and thus are not tradable.

Finally, Bob reflects: "I've had a long and enjoyable connection with the stamps committee and the Quakers, and I hope to participate as long as I can. I hope that some of my contributions have helped people in other lands."

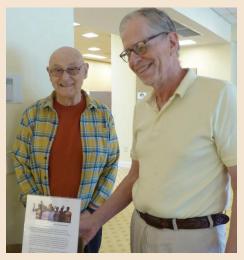


Stamping for Dollars Contributors

WILL REID lives in a Quaker retirement community where he collects stamp donations, which he then sorts and mails to RSWR. He says, "I started collecting stamps when I was in grade school and my family lived in Egypt. My first stamps were a series with the face of the King of Egypt on them." Then, when Egypt claimed to also

rule Sudan, the same series came out with the added caption, "King of Egypt and Sudan." After a military coup took place, the same series came out but with black lines over the King's face to show he was no longer in power.

Will explains the stamp program as follows: "People send their stamps to RSWR, which then provides them to stamp dealers. The money from the sale goes to RSWR,



Will Reid pictured with Ken Burton. Ken is a wood designer who built the stamp collection box and previously served as liaison with RSWR

others. The stamp program offers opportunities to reflect on one's values, and to act on them efficiently in community with others."

which delivers

grants to small

community groups

in India, Kenya,

and Sierra Leone.

These groups then

offer microloans

to women who

invest them to

enhance their

small businesses

and pay back their

loans, so the money

can be loaned to

her role in the stamp program: "I collect stamps that we come across and that I find among the archives in our house. Sometimes I will use an unusual stamp to mail a card to a friend, asking

that friend to save the stamp for the

program. I also get other people to buy stamps for me when they travel abroad."

"This is not my favorite picture of myself, but I love the story that it holds, and it ties into the stamps. The gentleman with me is named Sebastian, and this photo was taken in his studio in Les Andelys, France. We were there to shop and look around, and I spied some stamped letters on his desk. I told him that we could use



stamps for a charity to help women in Kenya, India, and Sierra Leone. He walked over to a drawer, opened it, and took out not one, not two, but three envelopes of stamps, which he insisted that I bring back to the states to forward to the charity. In the photo, I am folding some origami to give him."

Another Country Coming Soon

Right Sharing is excited to announce that we are expanding to <u>another country – in Latin America!</u>

Thank you to everyone who has made this possible with your continued support.

WE ARE SEEKING LETTERS OF INTEREST FROM ORGANIZATIONS IN BOLIVIA, CUBA, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, NICARAGUA, AND PERU WHO WANT TO PARTNER WITH US. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.RSWR.ORG



RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES



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Support RSWR

SEND YOUR STAMPS

Contribute to RSWR by saving used postage stamps. Visit www.rswr.org/ **stamp-program/** for more information and send stamps to: Stamps for Right Sharing c/o Indianapolis First Friends, 3030 Kessler Blvd. East Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46220.

PLANNED GIVING

Consider making RSWR a part of your estate plan. When you make the decision to include Right Sharing in your estate plans you are connecting your life and your life story to Right Sharing and the women and communities whose lives are transformed through your support. Find out more at: www.rswr.org/ planned-giving/

THANK YOU!

THE **MATCH CHALLENGE** WAS **HUGELY SUCCESSFUL – IN 3 YEARS IT WELCOMED OVER 450 NEW DONORS** INTO THE RIGHT SHARING FAMILY.

P.S. YOUR GENEROSITY IS MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO EXPAND INTO ANOTHER **COUNTRY AND TO SUPPORT** MORE WOMEN'S GROUPS.



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