

Exhibiting TIPS



Tip 76 – Construct a display box in your exhibit page

I have seen exhibits in which the exhibit pages deceive my eyes. I look at the exhibit page and somehow a three dimensional display box appears in the middle of a regular (that is, very thin) exhibit page. My eyes see it but it confuses me as it seems impossible to put a display box inside a thin sheet of exhibit paper. Edwin Andrews, creator of the Grand Award winning exhibit Paul von Lettow - The Events and Times that Molded the Man explained to me how he had done it in his exhibit.

Figure 1 is an exhibit page with the Iron Cross mounted in what appears to be inside the exhibit page. Figure 2 is a close-up of this portion of the page. How can a medal be “inserted” into a thin sheet of paper?

Ed provided the following information for this column that I modified to fit into the space available.

Whether you are a collector who organizes material into albums or one who exhibits, there are times when you need to display or mount non-philatelic items relevant to your collecting area. The technique I have successfully used is explained below.

First, decide where on the exhibit page the item will be displayed. As a general rule, try to center the object. Create an outline box using the insert function of your word processing/layout software making sure that the dimensions of the box clearly accommodate the object you plan to mount.

Next, cut an 8.5 x 11 piece of foam board. Overlay the exhibit page design with a space marked for the object to be mounted and use a pin to make small holes through the four corners of the box you have created for the object. These pinholes on the foam board become your template for cutting with a razor or box cutter blade. When you cut out the area for the object make sure you make the cut slightly larger than the pin hole template. This is important because when you overlay the finished page you do not want edges of the foam board exposed. Figure 3 is a close-up of another mounted medal in this exhibit.

You can line the opening in the foam board with a colored cloth such as black velvet or white satin. Generally a contrasting color is best.

You will need to affix the object for display into the opening you created in the foam board. A stiff piece of cardboard (also 8.5 x 11) needs to be placed under the foam board to provide support. If using a cloth background attach/glue it to the cardboard before mounting the object. Mount the object on the underlying cardboard in the least obtrusive way possible.

Once the object is securely fastened to the cardboard underneath and is resting in the foam board opening we now need to cover the opening with the actual exhibit/album page. Print the



Figure 1.

exhibit page and cut out the opening in the box you created for the object. When you overlay the exhibit page on the foam sheet with the cut out, the edges of the opening in your exhibit page should be slightly smaller than the underlying holes in the foam board. This allows the page to cover the foam board edges so they can't be seen. The overlaying exhibit page should be fastened to the foam board so it will not move. Using double-sided mounting tape in all corners and near the opening in the foam board works well to keep the exhibit page attached.

The final page may be too thick for an ordinary page protector. Solution: Purchase a set of high capacity page protectors (Staples is one store that carries these) which are designed to hold up to 70 sheets of paper. As the exhibit page can move or slip out of the page protector, you may want to use double sided tape on the back of the cardboard to attach the thick page to the inside back of the page protector. Now you can mail the page without risk of it moving.

Thanks to Ed for sharing his technique with us.

I would great enjoy receiving your thoughts. Please feel free to email me at Steve@zwillinger.org



m Tanganyikan Guerrilla: in Campaign 1914-18. J.R. ntine Books, NY, 1971 (p. 70).



1915 German Red Cross Charity Stamp



"The Hammer" Poster stamp



Vintage Iron Cross, First Class

Figure 2.

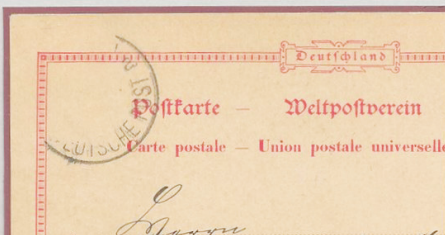
participating in quelling the Boxer Rebellion were awarded
beck proudly wore his medal on his *Ordenschnalle* (order or meda



Figure 3.

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