

Welcome Dansville Area Coin & Stamp Club

STAMP INSIDER™



VOL. 22 No. 3

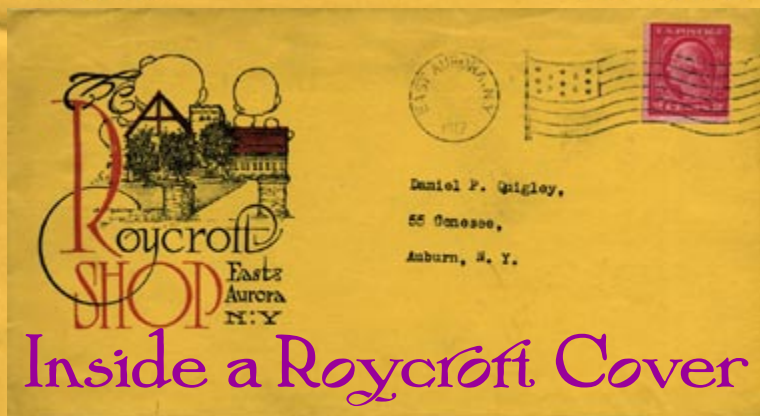
JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2005



The Roycroft Shops

General Office

East Aurora, N. Y.



There are only a few copies, and should you care for one kindly sign the enclosed card and mail it promptly. There will be no obligation incurred in doing so.

Very sincerely yours,

- 2005 STAMP PROGRAMS - 4
- STEPEX '04 REVIEW - 18
- BLACK HERITAGE SERIES - 14
- THRIFTY PHILATELY - 22

Journal of the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies, Inc.



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STANDARD

As many as 100 of your standard-size covers can be displayed in this popular album. The black leatherette binder has gold titling on the cover and spine ... a nice finishing touch. Accommodates covers to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6 $\frac{5}{8}$ ".
Black dustcase — \$12.20

\$39.70

MONARCH

As stamps increase in size, so do first day cover envelopes. In recent years, the "monarch" size envelope, measuring approximately 4" x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", has often been used. This Allsyte, with 100 cover capacity, was designed just for monarch size covers.

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No problem displaying your extra-long commercial size (#10) covers, for here's an Allsyte created expressly for them. There's room in it for 50 of these big ones, fully protected under clear plastic. Accommodates covers to 4 $\frac{9}{16}$ " x 9 $\frac{5}{8}$ ".

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POSTCARDS

Picture postcards your specialty? Consider the Postcard Allsyte, made to hold as many as 100 of the 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " collectibles; or the Jumbo Postcard Allsyte designed to hold up to 100 of the popular 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 6" cards.

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ISRAEL

Israeli first days, special events, and first flights have a handsome home in this Allsyte produced by White Ace, who was a pioneer in albums for Israeli stamps. Its capacity is 100 covers. Accommodates covers to 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{8}$ ".

\$40.30

UNITED NATIONS

United Nations cover collector? Then choose this "UN Blue" Allsyte, which will hold up to 100 of your standard-size UN covers. The UN's official emblem graces the cover and spine. Accommodates covers to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6 $\frac{5}{8}$ ".
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\$42.90

On the internet at: www.washpress.com

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VOL. 22 NO. 3

STAMP INSIDER™



www.geocities.com/fcnyps

Editor

ALBERT W. STARKWEATHER
5520 GUNN HWY. #1406, TAMPA, FL 33624-2847
813-962-7964; [HTTP://MYSITE.VERIZON.NET/AWSTARK](http://mysite.verizon.net/awstark)
E-MAIL: DESIGNONDEMAND@VERIZON.NET

Associate Editor

HEATHER SWEETING
14329 VICTORY ST., STERLING NY 13156-3172
315-947-6761; E-MAIL: HSWEETIN@TWCNY.RR.COM

Advertising Manager

JOSEPH O. CHRISTOFARO
201 MAPLE ST., ROME, NY 13440
315-337-9608; E-MAIL: JCHRIST6@TWCNY.RR.COM

Financial / Subscriptions

JOHN J. NUNES
80 FREDERICKS ROAD, SCOTIA, NY 12302
518-399-8395; E-MAIL: NUNESNOOK@AOL.COM

Fulfillment

JOHN A. CALI
613 W. 4TH ST., FULTON, NY 13069-3104
315-592-4441; E-MAIL: ROCKET@DREAMSCAPE.COM

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1/4 Page (2 3/16 × 3 7/16)	\$ 35.00	\$ 28.00
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3/4 Page Outside Back (4 1/2 × 5 1/2)	\$ 60.00	\$ 48.00
Super Business Card (3 × 2 1/4)	\$ 20.00	\$ 16.00
Centerfold (two full pages)	\$150.00	\$120.00
Full Page (4 1/2 × 7 1/8)	\$ 65.00	\$ 52.00
Full Page Inside Front or Back Cover	\$ 75.00	\$ 60.00
Inserts	POR	POR

NOTE: All advertisement payments must be made prior to effective date of publication!

Jan. 6 Lunar New Year

37¢ double-sided souvenir sheet of 24 (12 designs), Honolulu, HI

Jan. 14 Marian Anderson

37¢ sgl., Philadelphia, PA

Feb. 9 Ronald Reagan

37¢ sgl., Simi Valley, CA

Feb. 18 Love Bouquet

37¢ booklet of 20, TBA

Mar. 3 Spring Flowers

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, New York, NY

Mar. 3 Northeast

Deciduous Forest

37¢ pane of 10, New York, NY

Mar. 15 Jim Henson

& the Muppets

37¢ pane of 11, TBA

Apr. ? American Scientists

37¢ sgl., 4 designs,

Apr. 22 Robert Penn

Warren

37¢ sgl., Guthrie, KY

Apr. 28 Song writer

Yip Harburg

37¢ sgl., New York, NY

May 12 Masterworks of Modern American Architecture

37¢ pane of 12, Las Vegas, NV

May 16 Henry Fonda

37¢ sgl., Los Angeles, CA

May 21 Distinguished Marines

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Washington, DC

Jul. 10 Arthur Ashe

37¢ sgl., New York, NY

Jul. 12 Let's Dance

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, TBA

July 15 American Advances in Aviation

37¢ sgl., 10 designs, Oshkosh, WI

Jul. 22 The Art of Disney

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Anaheim, CA

Aug. 4 New Mexico Rio
Grande Blankets

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Grand Rapids, MI

Aug. 6 To Form a More Perfect Union

37¢ sgl., 10 designs, Washington, DC

Aug. 21 1950s Sporty Cars

37¢ booklet of 20, five designs, Pebble Beach, CA?

Sep. 23 Greta Garbo

37¢ sgl., Los Angeles, CA & Sweden

Oct. 1 Constellations

37¢ sgl., 4 designs, TBA

Oct. 14 Child Health

37¢ sgl., Philadelphia, PA

Oct. 26 Madonna and Child

37¢ sgl., TBA

Oct. 27 Holiday Cookies

37¢ sgl., TBA

? Presidential Libraries

37¢ pane of 20, TBA



2005 Canada New Issues

First Class Postage Rates

Canada's postage rates will increase on Jan. 17 to:

- 50¢ domestic
- 85¢ to the United States
- \$1.45 international.

The former rates were 49¢, 80¢, and \$1.40.

Rate Change Definitives

50¢ Queen Elizabeth II, flag (5 designs), flower; 85¢ and \$1.45 flower

Jan. 7 Year of the Rooster

50¢ pane of 25, \$1.45 souvenir sheet, and \$1.45 overprinted souvenir sheet

Jan. 29 NHL All-stars

50¢ set of 6

Feb. 4 Fishing Flies

50¢, 4 designs

Feb. 14 Nova Scotia Agricultural College Centennial

50¢ sgl.

Mar. 4 Expo 2005 Aichi, Japan

50¢ sgl.

Mar. 10 Daffodils

50¢ pair

Mar. 23 Audubon birds

50¢, 4 designs; 80¢

Apr. 2 Canadian bridges

50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Apr. ? Maclean's Magazine Centennial

50¢ sgl.

Apr. 22 Biosphere Reserves

50¢, 4 designs sgl., joint issue with Ireland

Apr. 29 Battle of the Atlantic

50¢ sgl.

May 6 Canadian War Museum

50¢ sgl.

May 27 Artist Homer Watson

50¢ sgl.; souvenir sheet with 50¢, 85¢, \$1.45

Jun. ? Search and Research

50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Jul. 5 FINA World Championships

50¢ pair

Jul. 16 400th Anniversary Settlement of Port-Royal (Nova Scotia)

50¢ sgl.

Aug. 15 Deportation of Acadians from the Maritimes 250th Anniversary

50¢ sgl.

Summer Alberta and Saskatchewan Centennials

50¢ sgl., 2 stamps

Oct. 1 Extreme sports

50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Oct. 13 Big Cats

50¢ sgl., 2 stamps, joint issue with China

Nov. 16 Christmas Crèches

50¢, 85¢, \$1.45

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EDITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Albert W. Starkweather
5520 Gunn Hwy #1406, Tampa, FL 33624-2847
e-mail: designondemand@verizon.net

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

Many stamp clubs across the state have disappeared over the last few years, including Auburn, Oneonta, Cobleskill, Community, Johnson City, Women's Seal & Stamp, and most recently Sodus Stamp Club. The Central New York First Day Cover Society is teetering on the brink, although its treasurer, Rick Kase, is making plans for its revitalization, including a meeting at *ROPEX* in June. For more information see the society's column on page 24.

We all know why the hobby has declined over the last decade or so — other activities, increasing family responsibilities, the rising cost of collectibles, etc. It seems that some collectors and organizations are all too ready to toss in the towel without exploring ways to revitalize their interest and of attracting others into the hobby.

Rather than wallowing in the disappearing stamp club blues, we should be actively exploring ways of accentuating the positive. To this end, John J. Nunes, Heather Sweeting, and I have been attempting to raise the *STAMP INSIDER* to a higher plane, and this spirit has spread to our contributors. It is also attracting some of the journal's readers to become writers as well. This issue welcomes a new columnist as well as a new writer. That we are gaining ground is evidenced by the addition of a new *FEDERATION* member — Dansville Area Coin & Stamp Club. Thanks to Ada Prill for her assistance in recruiting them.

A NEW WRITER AND A NEW COLUMNIST

The writer is Judy Routson of Boonville, a member of the Utica and Fort Stanwix stamp clubs, as well as a columnist for the *Boonville Herald*. Her first article — *The Black Heritage Series and My First Exhibit* — begins on page 14. She is working on an article about women on U.S. stamps for the March/April issue.

The columnist is George McGowan, a vice president for the Fort Orange and Uncle Sam stamp clubs, as well as a member of the American Philatelic Society, British North America Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, the American Air Mail Society, and the Éire Philatelic Association. In addition to taking over the regular chore of providing columns for the two Albany area clubs, he will also be contributing a new column — *The Thrifty Philatelist*, which will offer exciting alternatives to expensive specialists — topics, perfins, postmarks, and more. McGowan urges collectors to write him about their collections, which he would showcase in future columns. His first column appears on page 22.

IT'S UP TO YOU

And now it's up to you. What can you do to promote philately? As for the *STAMP INSIDER*, contributors are always welcome.

PRESIDENT'S VIEWPOINT

John J. Nunes

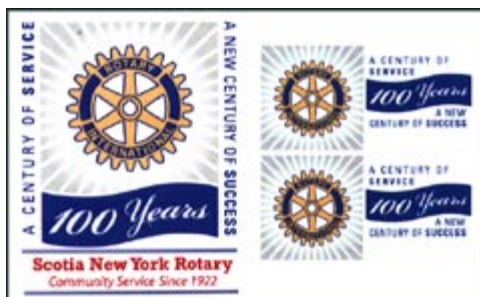
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FEDERATION OFFERING ROTARY CACHET AND SEAL

The *FEDERATION* is offering a cachet and seal in honor of Rotary International's 100th anniversary on Feb. 23. These were designed by John Lutz of Vermont Stamp for club fund-raising activities. The two-color cover is available with and without a red imprint at the bottom. A locally personalized imprint may be prepared for your local stamp and/or Rotary club. It also may be printed with



the cachet at no extra cost if at least 300 are ordered. We can obtain high quality rag envelopes at three cents each or retail store variety at about one and a half cents each, your choice.

The undenominated self-stick seals may augment the cachet or be placed adjacent to the stamp. Each club could also apply for a pictorial cancellation through the U.S. Postal Service or use the standard canceller. As time is running out, each club must act quickly to get a special cancellation for the anniversary. There are two options — produce your own design and or get approval to use an already approved design, a speedier alternative. Check with the *FEDERATION* secretary for details.

Each club's representative is requested to give John A. Cali or me an expression of interest in having a fund raising event selling Rotary covers. We need to know approximately how many covers and seals are needed. Prices will be about 40 cents for each cover, two cents per seal, and an additional 37 cents for postage, which each club will procure separately. Older Rotary stamps can be obtained by the *FEDERATION* at about double to triple face to make up the rate with other stamps.

Printing costs could be reduced to 30 cents per cover if the quantity ordered by the *FEDERATION* increases to 4,000; my current projected total is 2,000. We could also use lithography rather than a beautiful, laser printed image and reduce costs by 10 cents each for 2,000 copies. Total cost per cover is estimated at 80 to 90 cents with postage. Today's selling price for event covers is \$2 to \$3 each, an earnings opportunity.

A joint venture between a Federation stamp club and its local Rotary is an ideal community arrangement to raise funds that could be allocated for needed community activities that would benefit either or both of the clubs. Our deadline for response from member clubs is Jan. 15. I trust that this matter will meet with your immediate attention and approval.

TRACKING POCAHONTAS ONLINE ON EBAY

By George Gates / Buffalo Stamp Club

Tracking the 5¢ high value of the 1907 Jamestown set of featuring Pocahontas in a funny-looking hat on eBay provides an interesting insight into online auctions. Scott 2005 values No. 330 at \$150 mint, \$325 never hinged, and \$30 used.



MINT

- A copy described as “fresh and perfectly centered” with “brilliant color” — a “gem,” but with a hinge remnant and a tiny thin started at 1¢ and sold for \$36.13. There were 13 bids from six bidders. It was a nice appearing stamp, its flaws being on the back.
- A never hinged copy, with “slightly disturbed gum” and bad centering, also started at 1¢. The perfs touched the design at the top and right. The winner paid \$18.45, best of 12 bids from seven sources. All lots are not won by last-minute snipers. The winner entered the contest four days before the closing.
- A stamp described as an “extremely fine gem” was offered on eBay and at a floor auction by Matthew Bennett International. It was never hinged with “outstanding centering, large margins, rich color, on bright paper.” The eBay start was \$450. Floor bidding began at \$800 and the final price was \$1,150. Perfection costs!
- A full hinged set opened at \$24.98. The 5¢ was described as “without flaws,” but its centering was only fine with perfs nearly touching the design. The other two had small thins. Three bids took the selling price to \$51.

USED

- A full set, said to be “clean” with no other description, had a 5¢ value in which perfs cut the design at the top. The scan was too small to see much about condition. It started at \$3.50 and drew no bids.
- One lot included the 1¢ in addition to the 5 center, which had a light wavy cancel, but was not well centered and had a nibbled perf. There was no written description. It was started at \$2 and sold for \$3, attracting three bids.
- A full set was described as “great,” but there was no further description. The 5¢ had a wavy cancel, but only fine centering. One bid for the \$5.99 starting price took the lot.
- Another full set had no description and a lousy dark scan made it impossible to detect problems. It started at \$4.99 and closed at \$6.50, but the winner will pay \$3 postage and handling to the seller in Germany. The buyer is operating on a wing and a prayer.
- Yet another full set was offered with a bad scan. The 5¢ had a slight thin. The starting price was \$8 and there were no bids.

Continued on Page 25

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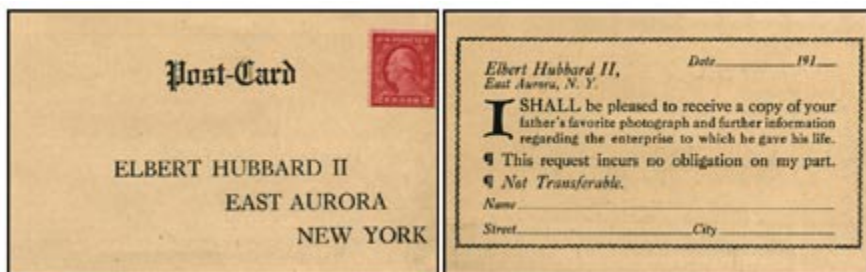
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INSIDE A ROYCROFT COVER

By Albert W. Starkweather

Often it is what is inside a cover that counts as Heather Sweeting discovered in one acquired as part of a lot on eBay. Although it has a magnificent corner card for the Roycroft shops that flourished in the early part of the 20th century in East Aurora, New York, it contains an equally impressive letterhead and signature of the son of the founder and an unused postcard that would have allowed the letter's recipient to obtain a photograph of the founder.

Dated Nov. 14, 1917, the body of the letter states:

I have a few copies of my father's favorite photograph, which has never been published. These are suitable for framing, and I should like to distribute them to his friends who are in sympathy with the Roycroft ideals.

My object in doing this is to further the enterprise to which he gave his life.

There are only a few copies, and should you care for one kindly sign the enclosed card and mail it promptly. There will be no obligation incurred for doing so.

The cover is signed by Elbert Hubbard II whose parents perished when the *Lusitania* was torpedoed by a German submarine in the Irish Sea on May 7, 1915. They had been traveling to England to begin a lecture tour.

The elder Hubbard, born in Bloomington, Illinois, in 1856, was a school teacher, printer, editor, and lecturer. He met William Morris (1834–1896) in London in 1890, and on his return to the United States founded the Roycroft Press, using Morris' Kelmscott Press as a model. Morris was an influential figure in the Arts and Crafts and private press movements of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In reaction to the increasing lack of quality that the industrial revolution brought on, Morris sought a return to the ideals of the mediæval craftsman.

The Roycroft handicraft community evolved from Hubbard's printing operation. His quick-found fame as a printer and writer drew many visitors who initially were housed in Hubbard's living quarters. Soon a hotel was built to house their ever increasing numbers. The inn was furnished with simple, straight-lined style of furniture similar to that of Stickley in Fayetteville near Syracuse. When visitors wished to buy pieces, a manufacturing operation was born. Roycroft craftsmen were also skilled metalsmiths, leathersmiths, and bookbinders.

Continued on Page 12

Roycroft cover and contents courtesy of Heather Sweeting

Our Pledge to You

We have assisted thousands of stamp collectors over the past 23+ years in realizing their goals. We are happy to serve the beginner and specialist alike. Our reputation as one of the world's leading buyers of philatelic properties, combined with our staff of experts, consistently yields a stunning inventory of worldwide treasures. When the time comes to sell your collection, accumulation or dealer stock, you can be assured of getting top dollar.



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Inside a Roycroft Cover — Continued from Page 10

The community flourished and was at its peak in 1910 with more than 500 workers. Among Hubbard's greatest successes was *A Message to Garcia*, with an estimated printing of 40 million copies. His loss, World War I, and the evolving Art Deco movement all sounded the death knell for the community, which limped on until 1938 under direction of his son.

It was Hubbard's association with typographer William Joseph Dard Hunter (1883–1966) that led to the familiar characters and ornaments that indelibly identify a Roycroft design and which is well demonstrated by the 1917 cover. From an early age, Hunter was immersed with the techniques of printing at his father's newspaper in Chillicothe, Ohio.

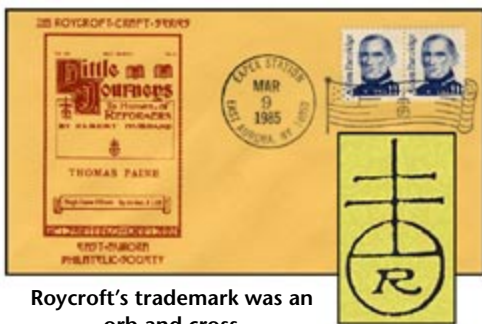
In June 1904, Hunter applied for a summer position with the Roycrofters. Denied employment, he simply showed up in East Aurora in July and was hired. Soon he was designing stained glass windows for the Roycroft Inn and title pages for Hubbard's press. After initially basing his work on earlier newspaper efforts, Hunter discovered Viennese design. In 1908, Dard married Roycroft pianist Edith Cornell.

He was so enamored with the work of Josef Hoffman and the Wiener Werkstatte that they spent their honeymoon in Vienna. For the next few years, Hunter incorporated the geometric patterns and highly stylized figures into his work.

Hunter's designs for books, leather, glass, and metal helped unify the Roycroft line and distinguish it from that of other American Arts and Crafts enterprises. Disillusioned with the commercialism of the Roycrofters, Hunter returned to Vienna in 1910. After taking courses in lithography, book decoration, and letter design at the K. K. Graphische Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt, he moved to London where he saw an exhibit of hand papermaking moulds and watermarks, steel punches, copper matrices, and hand-held type casting moulds. This experience inspired him to learn more about these centuries-old arts.

In 1912, Dard and Edith moved to Marlborough, New York, and built a tiny paper mill on Jew's Creek. The mill was fashioned after a 17th century Devonshire cottage, complete with a thatched roof made from rye he grew himself. Not wanting to compromise his goal to manufacture paper using 17th century techniques, he relied entirely upon a water wheel to provide power to the mill.

In 1919, the Hunter family returned to Chillicothe and purchased the Mountain House. Although the house was built to meet the needs of the German winemakers, Hunter utilized the 1830s wing for his letterpress studio which he appropriately named Mountain House Press. Over the next 46 years, Hunter authored 20 books on the subject of papermaking.



Roycroft's trademark was an orb and cross.

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The Black Heritage Series and My First Exhibit

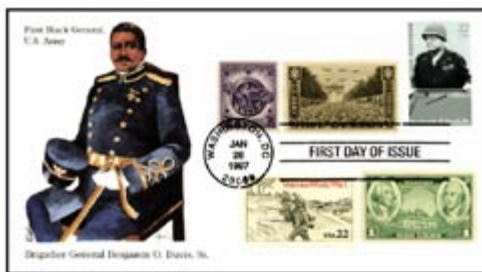
By Judy Routson

Some of the individuals who fascinate me most are those on the stamps of the *Black Heritage* series, the longest running series in U.S. postal history. The Postal Service began issuing these commemorative stamps in 1978 to recognize the achievements of outstanding African–American men and women — individuals who have played important roles in America’s history. Issued annually, most in conjunction with Black History Month in February, the first stamps were illustrated in color. However, since

1996, the designs all have been based on a monochromatic photograph as the principal design element, with subtle coloring added. [EDITOR’S NOTE: *The USPS will be returning to full-color photographs with the Marian Anderson Black Heritage issue in February.*]

Many Black Americans have helped shape American culture. They made important inventions and discoveries, created great works of art, and excelled in science, music, medicine, and sports. These individuals often overcame great obstacles to reach their goals. You’ve no doubt heard of some of them: Martin Luther King, Jr., and Jackie Robinson, for example. But there are others who made significant contributions. Percy Lavon Julian, featured on the 1993 stamp, was a brilliant research chemist whose discoveries benefited millions, most notably his glaucoma drug and his synthesis of cortisone to relieve arthritis. I had never heard of him, but as a long-time arthritis sufferer, I am thankful for his work. Some others whose stories impressed me are Bessie Coleman, the first African–American woman to earn a pilot’s license; Jan Matzeliger, whose invention revolutionized the shoe industry, and Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., America’s first African–American brigadier general, honored on the first self-adhesive stamp in the series, a 32-cent commemorative issued Jan. 28, 1997.

When the Utica and Fort Stanwix stamp clubs first began planning the October 2002 Central New York Stamp and Cover Show and issued a plea for exhibits, it was the first time I had ever heard the words “exhibit” and “stamp” used in the same sentence. While not an expert on the *Black Heritage* stamps, I do know a lot about the people they honor. So, after Bill Rapp, a knowledgeable philatelic judge, gave a convincing speech at a Utica Club meeting on how to prepare an exhibit, I decided, “I can do this.” I vowed to put together my very first stamp exhibit, and I would utilize information and materials I had gathered on the *Black Heritage* series.



An Edken FDC honoring Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. (1880–1970), has a combination of military stamps. Davis, the 20th individual honored in the *Black Heritage* series, was the Army’s first African–American brigadier general. [Judy Routson collection]

Continued on Page 16

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Mr. Rapp's information was extremely helpful, but I was still intimidated. Fortunately, Al Guenzburger and former APS president Bill Bauer had also presented a two-day session on exhibit preparation for the Fort Stanwix Stamp Club, and I received a copy of their outline. Joe Christofaro, with the Fort Stanwix Club, also gave me some good advice.

In my opinion, a computer is a must for anyone preparing a philatelic exhibit. It

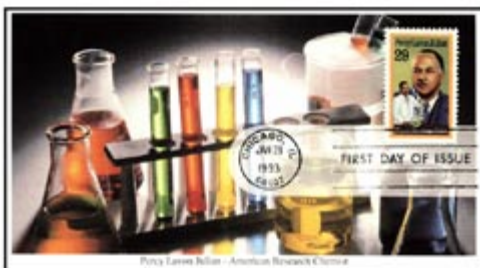
makes research painless and enables professional-looking pages, even for a beginner. I felt the *Black Heritage* series would be an easy subject for a beginner because so much information is readily available online, both about the featured individuals and the series itself. Several of the honorees have Web sites; the USPS promotes the *Black Heritage* series; and there is a Web site devoted to postal black history. Assistance with exhibit preparation is also available online.

Everyone warned me to start early on my project. Begin planning a year ahead, some said. Unfortunately I didn't heed the warnings. I started putting my 16-page, single-frame exhibit together in early summer and was still finalizing it the night before the Aug. 1 deadline. The most challenging part was arranging my material in a neat and attractive design. Finally, I was satisfied I had done my best. I had heeded all the information from how to prepare the title page to what kind of paper to use. And, my efforts paid off.

At the CNY Stamp and Cover Show 2002, I was honored to receive a silver award for my exhibit, entitled, "Fifteen Individuals Who Helped Shape American History and Culture." The exhibit was also designated best topical one-frame exhibit and won a blue ribbon from the American Topical Association. The judges gave me several recommendations for improving the display, but what impressed me most was the comment, "Exhibit can easily be expanded ..." So when I heard that the Syracuse Stamp Club was looking for exhibits for its November 2003 *SYRAPEX*, I decided to expand mine and enter the competition. "Just for the experience," I said. I added some more FDCs and redesigned everything, resulting in 32 pages of material for a two-frame exhibit this time. Again, the work and worry paid off. What a surprise, when I learned the judges had awarded me a third prize yellow ribbon for my efforts.

Regardless of what philatelic area you're interested in, preparing an exhibit can be a fun and rewarding experience. Completing mine gave me a great sense of satisfaction, while learning still more about the individuals of the *Black Heritage* series — individuals whose achievements helped shape America's history.

Judy Routson is a member of the Utica and Fort Stanwix stamp clubs, as well as a columnist for the Boonville Herald.



Mystic Stamp Co. FDC honoring Percy Lavon Julian (1899–1975), a brilliant research chemist. This was the 16th stamp in the Black Heritage series. [Judy Routson collection]

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1851–1857 U.S. EXHIBIT TAKES FIRST AT STEPEX '04

By Alan Parsons

The Three Cent Imperforate Stamp of the United States 1851–1857 Issue, a 128-page exhibit by John A. Lange, Jr. of Ballston Spa, won Best-in-Show as well as gold at STEPEX '04, the Elmira Stamp Club's 29th annual show at Arnot Mall in Horseheads on Oct. 22 and 23. The exhibit showed a wide range of usages, color shades, printing, and plate varieties of the nation's first 3-cent stamp. Since it paid the typical letter rate in the 1850s it was, together with its perforated counterpart issued in 1857, the most widely used U.S. stamp prior to the Civil War.

Space, a 20-page topical exhibit by Seth Burrous, 13, of Elkland, PA, was judged Best-in-Show of the youth exhibits and also received a youth silver. Five gold, six silver, and six bronze medals were awarded by the judges to adult exhibitors and two silver and one bronze to youth exhibitors. The judges used point scores based on FEDERATION OF CENTRAL NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETIES judging sheets. Thomas Fortunato of Rochester served as chief judge, assisted by Maris Tirums of Albany and Albert Guenzburger of Guilford.

GOLD — In addition to Lange, gold medals were awarded to Ann Triggler of Clarence for *Clarence Postal History*, William Hart of Shrub Oak for *Rural Free Delivery Hand Cancels*, and Alan Parsons of Elmira for *19th Century Railroad Postal Markings Related to Steuben, Schuyler, Chemung and Tioga Counties* and for *The Sullivan Commemorative of 1929*. Only the last of exhibit was more than a single frame in length and did not deal solely with an aspect of New York postal history.

SILVER awards went to *5.9-cent Bicycle Transportation Coil*, a first day cover exhibit by Raymond Stone of Rochester, *Survey of Newburgh, Orange County NY*, *Postal History* by Martin Margulis of Austin, TX, *Star Cancels of Delaware County, New York*, a postal history exhibit by Ada M. Prill of Rochester, *Images of Upstate New York on United States Philately*, a topical exhibit by Jeff Stage of Syracuse, *Pull Out the Stops!*, a topical display exhibit by Judy Stewart of Elmira, and *Survey of 19th Century Postal History of Austin, Texas*, a second postal history exhibit by Margulis.

BRONZE medals were taken by Marge Schleining of Buffalo for her topical exhibit *Rock and Roll*, by Ada Prill for a second postal history exhibit *Uh-Oh — Mistakes in U.S. Auxiliary Markings*, by Gordon Stratton of Corning for a first day cover exhibit *Charles and Diana – The Royal Wedding*, by Lee Stewart of Corning for a traditional stamp exhibit *First Christmas Stamps Issued in 129 Countries*, by Theodore K. Imhoff of Corning for a traditional stamp exhibit *Botswana*, and by Harold von Hagn of Elmira for an illustrated mail exhibit *St. Louis Worlds Fair 1904*.

YOUTH AWARDS — Jessica Ramirez, 12, of Westfield, PA, with her topical exhibit *Animal Kingdom*, received the other youth silver. Jessica Burrous, 7, of Elkland, sister of Seth Burrous, received youth bronze for her topical exhibit *Butterflies*.

Continued on Page 20



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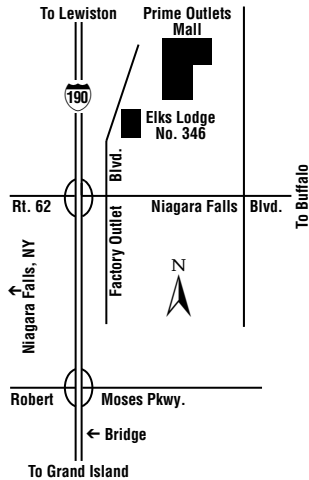
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Stamp Camp USA Held at STEPEX 2004

By Alan Parsons

For the third time in four years a one-day youth program under the direction of Stamp Camp USA was held at *STEPEX*, the annual show sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads. Four grade-school children, three from Chemung County and the fourth from New Jersey visiting family in Chemung County, took part in the educational program on Oct. 23.

Camp instructors were Cheryl Edgcomb of Knoxville, PA, *STAMP CAMP USA* Program Coordinator, Beverly Williams of Westfield, PA, Stamp Camp Volunteer Assistant, and student intern Heather Watson, a senior at Elkland, PA, High School. In addition, there were two new volunteers — Christy Govantes of Pennington, NJ, and Sara Govantes of Pine City, the mother and grandmother of one of the campers.

The campers completed a basic philatelic education program and prepared both creative and traditional exhibits using materials supplied by the camp. During the morning and early afternoon they earned “stamp camp cash” to spend at a live auction during the afternoon called by Don Dolan, Elmira Stamp Club Vice President. Ada Prill of Rochester judged both the creative and traditional exhibits and the following awards were presented:

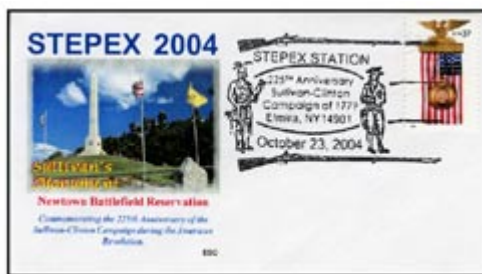
CREATIVE EXHIBITS — First place, Elizabeth von Hagn, Elmira, for *The Back Yard Gang*; second place, Sarah Michelle Govantes, Pennington, NJ, for *My Stamp Garden*; and third

Continued on Next Page

STEPEX — Continued from Page 18

Seventeen exhibitors were represented at *STEPEX '04* with 20 different exhibits filling 48 16-page frames. The judges awarded medals to all the exhibits; three exhibitors received medals for more than one exhibit. Forty ballots were cast in the competition for the most popular exhibit. The voting was spread among 12 exhibits, with the eight votes cast for Judy Stewart's *Pull Out the Stops!* giving her a plurality of two votes over the next highest vote total.

STEPEX '04 commemorated the 225th anniversary of the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign of 1779 during the Revolutionary War. Show covers with pictorial cancel on a 2003 Old Glory commemorative and with a cachet illustrating in full color Sullivan's Monument at the Newtown Battlefield Reservation near Elmira may be ordered at \$2 each plus SASE from Robert D. Barron, 147 W. Gray St., Apt. 812, Elmira, NY 14901.





Fun at Stamp Camp

Cheryl Edgcomb of Knoxville, PA, Stamp Camp USA Program Coordinator, explains an exhibit to Stamp Camp participants at STEPEX 2004. [Tom Fortunato photo]

Stamp Camp — Continued from Previous Page

place, tie between Courtney Arnold, Wellsburg, for *Merry Christmas*, and Melanie Dieg, Elmira, for *Fancy Fruits*.

TRADITIONAL EXHIBITS — Grand Award, Sarah Michelle Govantes for *Love Stamps*; first place, Melanie Dieg for *United States Flags*, second place, Courtney Arnold for *Cars on Stamps*, and third place, Elizabeth von Hagn for *Military*.

Exhibiting awards and ribbons, along with *STAMP CAMP USA* diplomas, were presented to the campers at the conclusion of the program. In addition, the campers received stamp albums and several activity and informational booklets to assist them in expanding their personal stamp collections.

During *STEPEX* several donations were received for *STAMP CAMP USA*. Cheryl Edgcomb considers this another positive result of holding camp at a stamp show. “By openly supporting Stamp Camp with stamps, materials and financial contributions, this important hobby outreach can continue,” she said. “Don’t forget, give stamps to kids ... and make this a hobby everyone can enjoy! Philately really is fun!”

For additional information about *STAMP CAMP USA*, contact the office at 814-326-0810, e-mail, stampcampusa@intergate.com, or write to Stamp Camp USA, 149 E. Main St., P.O. Box 377, Knoxville, PA 16928-0377.



THE THRIFTY PHILATELIST

George McGowan
PO Box 482, East Schodack, NY 12063-0483
geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com

MISSING THE POINT

From time to time, I have read in the philatelic press that this person is leaving the hobby because “it’s too expensive to collect new issues from even one country” or that another is leaving because “albums and catalogs are too expensive,” or “you can’t collect the world any more”, and on and on. I respectfully submit that they are missing the point. I suggest that there are thousands of ways to collect that do not cost a ton of money, and, with your help, I intend to list them all.

This column is designed to share our ideas — yours and mine — of how to have a great time in this wonderful pastime, and not break the bank. Topical collections, perfins, revenues, cancels, postal history, post cards, overprints, air mails, precancels, etc. all fall within our purview.

I will get the ball rolling.

IDEA NO. 1

How about a birthday collection? This idea comes from long time collector, Bill Seifert. Collect covers and post cards canceled on your birthday. Try to get examples from each year, let’s say, of the 20th century, or if needing a challenge, back to 1840 (Penny Black). I have found cancels that fell on a Sunday — it happens. From dealers’ inexpensive boxes, you can build an interesting collection. Its going to take some time, and best of all, it won’t cost a lot.

IDEA NO. 2

Lots of people collect United Nations MNH. My I suggest collecting same in used condition. Completion is within possibility. It’s going to take a while — probably longer than MNH, and other than No. 38, it will be pennies per stamp, not dollars. Another advantage is you do not have to worry about humidity — no gum!

YOUR TURN NOW

Now it is your turn, lets keep the ball rolling with Idea No. 3. E-mail or snail mail me with your collecting interests and lets showcase them with the rest of the hobby. If you have an illustration, send it along.

George McGowan is a vice president for the Fort Orange and Uncle Sam stamp clubs, as well as a member of the American Philatelic Society, British North America Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, the American Air Mail Society, and the Éire Philatelic Association.

BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

Contact Al Carroccia — e-mail fuzzy9600@aol.com



CLUB PREPARING FOR BUFPEX

The date is set and preparations have begun for *BUFPEX*, our club-sponsored show. March 5 and 6 promise to be exciting days for stamp collectors from the Western New York area. This year the VFW Leonard Post will play host to Buffalo's oldest and largest stamp show.



As usual, a fabulous show is being planned. A full complement of exhibits is expected and dealers from around the area will be present with very attractive and quality material to satisfy every collector. This year the theme of our show is *100 years of Einstein's Theory of Relativity*. A show cover and cancel commemorating the event is in the works.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Fridays of the month from September to June at the VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, are well attended. The first Friday of the month is our ever-popular auction with items supplied by members. Recent auctions have been averaging 90–100 lots with bargains galore. As always, guests are welcome to attend.

Several members gave presentations covering some diverse and interesting areas. Casey Kielbasa showed some interesting covers and postal history; Bob Meegan's talk on grills was not only fascinating, but also peppered with many examples from the Bank Note era. This coming Spring promises future topics including one on exhibiting just in time for *BUFPEX*. A good turnout for the Dec. 3 auction and holiday party was never in doubt. Everyone had a great time, people mingled, and refreshments were served. There was also an auction.

The monthly newsletter has been resurrected and is slowly being tweaked into what will become its permanent format. Among its features is the *eBay Surfer* column by member George Gates. His insightful writing is a guide for online bidders. (His first column also appears in *Site Seeing* on Page 8.)

PRESIDENT RECOVERING

Club President Rich Cropp is recovering from a recent illness.



CENTRAL NEW YORK FIRST DAY COVER SOCIETY

AFDCS Chapter 53

Contact John A. Cali, 613 W. 4th St., Fulton, NY 13069

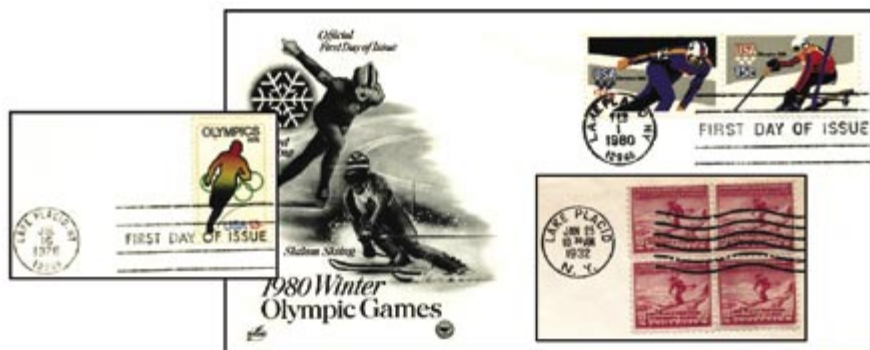
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SOCIETY PLANS MEETING AT ROPEX

The society's secretary/treasurer, Rick Kase, who is planning the group's revitalization, says it will meet on Saturday, June 11, during *ROPEX 2005* at the Webster Community Field House, 800 Five Mile Line Road, Webster. More details about the meeting will be announced on this page in forthcoming issues of the *STAMP INSIDER*.

The first day cover organization notes its 20th anniversary this year. Kase may be contacted at 6 Starwood Drive, Rochester, NY 14625-2631, telephone 585-370-2854. Dues are \$10 per year and include some covers the group has produced as a bonus. *FEDERATION* President John J. Nunes has volunteered to help the group meet its goals, as have the *STAMP INSIDER*'s editor and associate editor. New members are expected to become active participants in the organization.



FUN FEBRUARY NEW YORK FIRST DAYS!

Remember February 1980? It was a cold winter in Lake Placid, New York, and the XIII Olympic Winter Games were in full swing. This first day cover, dated Feb. 13, 1980, commemorates the games which began on Feb. 13, 1980. Nearly 1,100 athletes participated in the games which are now bring back memories of two great athletic achievements. Speed skater Eric Heiden won all five speed skating races. The most memorable moment of these games was when the underdog U.S. Dream Team upset the Soviet Union in the ice hockey competition.

Also shown are two other Winter Olympics first day postmarks from Lake Placid, the first on Jan. 25, 1932 for the games hosted there from Feb. 4 to 13 and the second on July 16, 1978, for the games in Innsbruck, Austria, from Feb. 4 to 15.

Covers Courtesy of Heather Sweeting

CHENANGO VALLEY STAMP CLUB

Contact Albert Guenzburger, Vice President
P.O. Box 215, Guilford, NY 13780
607•895•6531 — e-mail aguenz@mkl.com



CANADA PICTORIAL CANCELLATIONS SHOWN

Over the past three years, Canada Post has provided philatelic pictorial cancels from across the country. The ongoing cancels are published in *details*, a publication similar to *USA Philatelic*, which is distributed quarterly. For the November meeting, Braden Houston selected a number of the cancels from across the nation and researched the cancel, the location of the village, town or city, the population, the industry, and other noteworthy facts.

CLUB HISTORY

The Chenango Valley Stamp Club was organized Nov. 2, 1951, when a small group met at the home of Dr. Rodney Mott in Hamilton. The charter members, besides Dr. Mott were Emery Bauer, Perrine Rockafellow, William Everts, Ernest Betts, and Devere Card, with Mr. Bauer as Permanent Chairman and Mr. Rockafellow as Secretary.

Later meetings were held at the home of the charter members until September 1953, when the membership had outgrown the homes and it was decided to meet in the high school cafeteria. In the fall of 1957, meetings were moved to the Alton Lounge in the Student Union Building at Colgate University. The club was a participant in *CINCOPEX*, a once annual exhibition that rotated between Sidney, Hamilton, Rome, Sherrill, and Utica.

The club now meets the first Monday of the month at the Alana Cultural Center on the Colgate University campus in Hamilton at 7:45 p.m.

PROGRAMS

Dec. 6 — Holiday Gathering
Feb. 7 — TBA

Tracking Pochahontas — Continued from Page 8

- A nice appearing copy with a light wavy cancel, but “a light crease” was offered for \$10 and drew no bids.

SUMMARY

As we all know, the very top shelf commands high prices, but collectors who will settle for less can do well enough. All 10 items were posted in the same week. That means there are plenty of copies of No. 330 out there. Buyers can wait for one that suits them.

[George Gate's "eBay Surfer" column appears regularly in the Buffalo Stamp Club newsletter.]

DANVILLE AREA COIN & STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 574, Dansville, NY 14437-0574

Ed Perry, President — David Wilkinson, Vice President

Susan Edwards, Secretary & Editor — Gerald Freeman, Jr., Treasurer

Contact Susan Edwards — e-mail see10@frontiernet.net

CLUB SEEKING PROMOTIONAL IDEAS

The club has been trying to think of ideas to promote itself. We only have about 15 to 25 people who come to our monthly meetings. [*Editor's note:* It appears that the club already has some good ideas that might readily be adopted by other clubs.]

We have asked two of our charter members — Marie Woods and Francis Weidman — to write an article about the club when it was formed about 40 years ago. These women come to all of our meetings and Marie is responsible for putting the monthly ads in the *Pennysaver*. When the article is complete, we are going to have it published in the Dansville newspaper.

We are also going to put a large advertisement in a paper reaching four area counties to let people know that we accept new members.

45TH COIN-O-RAMA IN THE WORKS

This spring will mark our 45th annual Coin-O-Rama on Sunday, April 24, from 10 a.m.–4 p.m., at Dansville Senior High School, North Main Street. We will have about 40 coin and stamp dealers. More information about the show will appear in the March–April issue of the *STAMP INSIDER*.

CHRISTMAS DINNER HELD

Our December meeting was held at the Dansville Fish & Game Club, where we had our annual Christmas dinner and regular auction. Every December we also have a charity auction. The members donate items to be auctioned and all the money is donated to the American Legion's Project Christmas. Our donation has been at least \$200 dollars. We also donate to other organizations in the community.

HOW OUR MEETINGS ARE CONDUCTED

At our monthly meetings the third Sunday at 2 p.m. from September through June at Town Hall on Clara Barton Street, we hold a short meeting, have a regular auction, and hold drawings for three door prizes and two raffles. We also have a pill drawing that starts at \$2 a month. Members must be present to win. If a potential winner is not present, it goes up \$2 a month until we have a winner.

Some of our members send the editor a list of the coins and stamps that they want to have put in the auction. The editor then sends out a monthly newsletter listing the items going up for auction.

ELMIRA STAMP CLUB

Meets at Bath National Bank Community Room, North Main and First streets, Elmira (use rear entrance). Doors open at 7 p.m., meeting at 8. Stamp circuit available.

Contact Alan Parsons — e-mail alatholleyrd@aol.com



STEPEX AWARDS PRESENTED

Thirty-one members and guests enjoyed our annual *STEPEX* awards banquet on Nov. 13 at the Crystal House and highlighted by Chemung County Historian Arthur Kieffer's informative slide talk on the *Sullivan–Clinton Campaign of 1779*. Show Chair Alan Parsons presented exhibiting awards and thanked those who helped produce the show. The club's social committee gets credit for a job well done with the banquet.

Reconfigured from its 28 previous editions at the Arnot Mall, the show still attracted a good turnout. The biggest change was putting the exhibits in an empty store rather than in the common area with the dealers and club table. The club table faced the store holding the exhibits, but this caused it to be better integrated with dealer tables and receive more traffic than in previous years. Our show cover nearly sold out and four new members were recruited. Although *out of the traffic*, the exhibits got plenty of attention and more votes were cast for the most popular exhibit than last year. The judges' critique also got better-than-usual response. Based on John Leszak's upbeat *Editor's Album* in the Nov. 12, 2004, *Mekeel's & Stamps Magazine*, the dealers at *STEPEX '04* did well too. Most of the column was in praise of Stamp Camp USA and the camp at *STEPEX*, but he also said nice things about the show itself.

The club welcomes new members Richard L. Besley of Horseheads, Lonnie P. Farmer of Waverly, William Woodrow Wilson of Montour Falls, Randy Smith of Gillett, PA, and Charles Stephanian of Pacifica, CA. Farmer and Wilson were dealers at *STEPEX* and joined at the show, Smith and Stephanian joined afterwards using membership forms from the show and noting their enjoyment of the show.

PROGRAMS

Jan. 18 — Auction night

Feb. 15 — APS slide program, subject to be announced

MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER — 21 attended. With *STEPEX* just three days away, the business meeting was devoted largely to show preparations, along with announcements about the awards banquet and the November Super Auction. President Mike Breed concluded the meeting with the APS slide program *To Smoke or Not to Smoke — On Stamps*.

NOVEMBER — 24 attended. Fred Dykins asked the club to support a Jane Delano commemorative and seek preservation of the Elmira Post Office plaque listing its former

Continued on Page 33



**EMPIRE STATE
POSTAL HISTORY
SOCIETY**

www.esphs.org
Membership information —
John A. Lange, Jr.
373 Root Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

WHEN WAS A PENNY POSTCARD NOT A PENNY?

By Maris Tirums

Once the idea of postcards became accepted, they became enormously popular and were mailed in large quantities. A development that significantly popularized postcards was the addition of a picture on one side of the card. The golden age of picture postcards was from about 1900 to World War I.



Card manufacturers were not content with merely printing a picture on those early postcards. New novel formats were devised, and there were cards made of wood and metal, with glitter added to the design, or with moveable parts, among other interesting innovations. We also saw cards made of leather during this period.

This card, addressed to Gardiner, N.Y., was initially postmarked with a machine flag cancel *NEWBURGH, JUN 27 1906, N.Y.* [Orange County] A postage due marking is hand stamped to read *Held for Postage* (difficult to see just above the address). An additional one cent Franklin, Scott No. 300, issue of 1902, was added and canceled on June 29, and finally, a faint arrival postmark was applied at Gardiner in neighboring Ulster County. A second auxiliary marking was hand stamped which reads: *This is the matter for which you sent postage.*

PROBLEMS FOR THE POST OFFICE

The novel postcard formats became a problem for the post office. Such cards could not be processed as quickly and efficiently as ordinary cards printed on ordinary card stock. Thus, many types of novelty cards required payment of two cents rather than one cent.

The card shown here is made of leather and required two cents to mail. The sender had only applied a one-cent stamp, and this caused all the attention given the card, and created an interesting postal history artifact.

FINGER LAKES STAMP CLUB

Meetings at Geneva

Les Morse, President — Dave Himes, Vice President
Gary Chicoine, Treasurer — James Darnell, Secretary
Contact 136 Lock St., Clyde, NY 14433
315•923•7355 — e-mail jdarnell@novocon.net



Presidential Visit

FEDERATION President John J. Nunes, left, spoke to the club at its Oct. 27 meeting. Among the 17 people attending the dinner at Nonna's Trattoria in Geneva were, from left, Dr. Nunes, Bill Scheetz, Dave Himes, John Bourke, Ginny Bourke, and Club President Les Morse. Dr. Nunes gave his *I Love New York* slide presentation.

CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

Officers for 2005 elected at the November meeting are Les Morse, president; Dave Himes, vice president; Gary Chicoine, treasurer; and James Darnell, secretary. The club also honored Roy Johnston of Canandaigua, a long-time member, awarding him a lifetime membership.

Gil Lewis was in New York City on November 16 to attend first-day-of-issue ceremonies for the Santa Ornament stamps at Lord & Taylor on Fifth Avenue. He went especially to see Sally Anderson-Bruce, the photographer for the new stamps. Ever since he first met her at ceremonies for the Antique Toy stamps in Rochester in 2002, Gil has corresponded with her and she had urged him to attend to the ceremony. A set of four covers sponsored by the Newark All-Star Stamp Club, our youth affiliate, include a picture of Ms. Anderson-Bruce. Her official logo is on the central present next to the tree on the cover. Both her picture and logo have been used with her permission.

Sets of four covers, each with a different Santa Ornament stamp, are available for \$6 and a SASE from Lewis, 502 Rt. 88 S., Newark, NY 14513.

Continued on Page 43



FORT ORANGE STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 5475
Albany, NY 12205-0475

Don VanHoesen, President — George McGowan, First Vice President
Rick Harringer, Second Vice President — Ray Coco, Treasurer
Maris Tirums, Secretary — mxtirums@hotmail.com

BORDEN AND MAJORS HIGHLIGHT FALL MEETINGS

On Oct. 26, well-known philatelist and postal history dealer Bob Borden visited Albany. He is from Abington, MA, and spoke about *Civil War Era Covers*. Specifically, Bob collects covers to and from Massachusetts Regiments, and amazed the membership with his vast historical knowledge.

On Nov. 9, we were treated to a very good slide presentation from the APS. The subject was *Depression Era Post Office Art Murals* exclusively in the state of Pennsylvania. These murals appear all over the country, and truly are works of art.

On Nov. 23, we again had the pleasure of hosting Ray Majors. The last time Ray visited us, he spoke on *Beer Revenues*. This time, the subject was *Tax Pairs*. His experience and displays were a treat for us all.

As this was being written the day before Thanksgiving, we were making plans for our annual Holiday Banquet on Dec. 14. With the help of Ray Coco, Chairman Rick Harringer was coordinating who was bringing what.

PROGRAMS

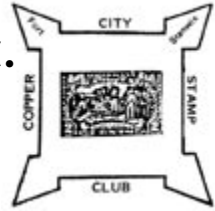
- Jan. 11 — *The Consolidated PBY* by George McGowan
- Jan. 25 — *Submarine Mail* by John J. Nunes
- Feb. 8 — *Postage Stamps of Imperial Russia* by Maris Tirums
- Feb. 22 — *Saratoga County Stampless Covers* by John Lange
- March 8 — *U.S. Stamp Club History* by Herb Trenchard
- March 22 — *Heligoland* by Joe Rudnick
- April 12 — UPSS slide show — *Levitt Cancels*
- April 26 — Spring auction
- May 10 — *Cape Triangles* by Guy Dillaway
- May 24 — Spring banquet
- July 10 — Tri-Club picnic and auction

CLUB HISTORY

The first meeting of the club was held on April 9, 1926. Early meetings were held successively at the YMCA and the Lavender Book Shop. In 1936, the club moved to the Albany Institute of History and Art and later to Bethany Reformed Church Community Center.

FT. STANWIX STAMP CLUB, INC. OF ROME, NEW YORK

*Steven Stawiarz, President — Joseph Occhipinti, Vice President
Joe Christofaro, Secretary — Lavinia Tilton, Treasurer*



MARVELING OVER 2004

As I type this issue's club notes, I can't help but marvel over everything that happened during 2004. We ended it with what I hope was a very successful Christmas Party at Buckey's Restaurant. This year promises to bring more of the same and it appears that all members and their families are in both good health and good cheer.

We have one real family membership in our club — the Grimes-Przelomiec family. Dave and Kathy and their two children, Selden and Spencer. We have watched the two children grow since they joined the club in 1999 and now we are about to say bon voyage to Selden. Unlike most high school seniors, Selden has participated in the Air Force Junior ROTC program at Rome Free Academy since its inception and has decided to join the U.S. Coast Guard as an active duty recruit upon graduation.

There is still the possibility that he will go to college for a couple of years before entering but, either way, we at the club will be saying so long to our first junior member who has graduated to a full, voting, adult member. He will be missed but we will ensure that a copy of the *STAMP INSIDER* will follow him wherever his future may take him. Kathy and Dave have every right to be proud of Selden as we, in the club are. He is bright, personable, honest, and hardworking. He will go far and see many successes in his life. The club has been blessed to have the whole family as active members.

It looks like we will be back to our usual routine starting with our first meeting in January. We will be having a professionally produced program at the first meeting of each month and a member auction at the second meeting of each month. We stopped the regular programming and a formal auction last summer as time was consumed by the preparation of the Fort Stanwix Day cover as well as the Central New York Coin & Cover Show in October 2004.

TWO GREAT WORKERS

The club was fortunate to have the benefit of new leadership this past year in the form of Steven Stawiarz who did a yeoman's job as president. He really showed his capabilities as the ad lib master of ceremonies at our show dinner. Steve has come from the back row pew sitters to the front of the church with great success. His leadership has been strong and productive. We need more people to step up as he did. Another *producer* has been Judy Routson who has, until the show dinner, worked behind the scenes as the bell ringer for our club. As the Public Relations chair, she has done a tremendous job, creating unique and interesting news items whenever we needed to be in the public eye.



FULTON STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 401 — Fulton, NY 13069

Tom Schneider, President — Norman Merrill, Vice President
John A. Cali, Secretary — Penny Schneider, Treasurer

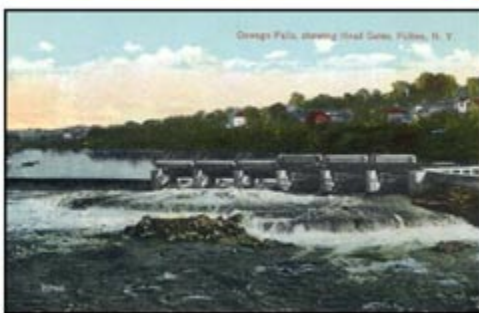
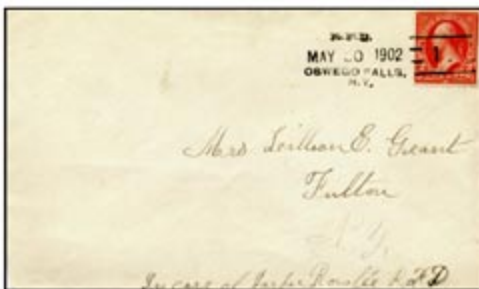
HOW OSWEGO FALLS BECAME FULTON POST OFFICE

The establishment of post offices within the city of Fulton has a long and complex history. The area around the (Fulton) falls on the Oswego River was a natural place for business and trade to prosper. Buildings were built on both sides of the water and the area was referred to as Oswego Falls. The first post office was established there on June 2, 1810, a part of Oneida County. In March 1816 this office was closed and re-opened with the new designation Oswego Falls, Oswego County.

As the city grew and a new dam was constructed, the populace wanted a post office in their immediate neighborhood — the other side of the river. Postmaster James Lyon refused to move the office. A petition for a second office was successful and it was opened on May 29, 1826, with the name Fulton, after the inventor of the steamboat. This office remains to this day. The earlier Oswego Falls office was discontinued in 1829.

In 1850 the Fulton Post office re-opened the Oswego Falls office to better serve the population on the opposite side of the river. In 1903, the office was reestablished as a substation of the Fulton office. Cancels from this time period are clearly marked "Fulton, N.Y. Oswego Falls Sta." Service from this office was discontinued in 1915.

— Heather Sweeting



Top: Oswego Falls, Gerald Wiley Collection; Middle: Oswego Falls Station, Heather Sweeting Collection.

LEATHERSTOCKING STAMP CLUB

Meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday at 28 Pioneer Street

*Bill Samuelson, President — Bill Highfield, Vice President
Peter Craig, Treasurer — Albert Keck, Youth Program
Ellen Tillapaugh, Newsletter Editor; e-mail kuchtill@verizon.net
Correspondence to 28 Pioneer St., Cooperstown, NY 13326*



CLUB PLANS FOR COMING YEAR

The club met on Oct. 5, 2004, when meetings for the coming year were planned. Also, Peter Craig volunteered to coordinate the stamp exhibit at Key Bank for the month of October. Treasurer Peter Craig reported that the current balance is \$919.94. A motion was made and passed unanimously to raise dues to \$3 per year. Carl Johansen presented an informative program on the *Belgian Congo*, describing King Leopold's acquisitions in Africa and the historical ramifications. He then shared his cover collection gleaned from thousands of envelopes. It included a variety of cancels and unauthorized uses, all which made it successfully through the mail.

MEMBER COLLECTING INTERESTS

Club member's collecting interests include: PETER CRAIG worldwide, postally used since 1965; LINDA CARKEES, Canada and territories; CARL JOHANSEN, Scandinavia, Ireland, U.S., Canada, Greenland, and Faroye; BILL HIGHFIELD, U.S. sports, worldwide, St. Nicholas, U.S. Christmas, and U.S. Love; BILL SAMUELSEN, Germany and states; AL KECK, international and national covers, World War II, luminescent issues, and pre-1920 U.S.; and ELLEN TILLAPAUGH, local covers and U.S. 19th century.

PROGRAMS

- Jan. 9 — Holiday gathering 1 to 3 p.m. at Cooperstown Fire Hall
- Feb. 1 — *Poland—German Occupation* by Bill Samuelson

Elmira Stamp Club — Continued from Page 27

postmasters; Ted Imhoff asked the club to consider devoting a row of frames at *STEPEX* to stamp collecting information and hobby promotion. Al Parsons reviewed *STEPEX '04* results and thanked the members who contributed to the show's success. The Super Auction consisted of 55 lots, each with a minimum bid of at least \$5 and described on a lot list distributed at the October meeting and at *STEPEX*. Auctioneers Don Dolan and Mike Breed sold 13 of the lots, including three club lots, for \$291.50; the three club lots sold for \$31 and the club's commission on the remaining lots came to \$21, thus enriching our treasury by \$52. The consignors netted \$239.50.

2005 DUES

Dues are \$5 for adults and \$3 for junior members. Bring to the January meeting, or mail to Harold von Hagn, 9 Cobbles W., Elmira, NY 14905. Checks payable to Elmira Stamp Club.



OLEAN AREA STAMP CLUB

*Meets the first Monday at 7:30 p.m.
at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 109 S. Barry St.*

*Ronald J. Yeager, President — Fred Printz, Vice President
Jack Searles, Secretary — Richard Heiser, Treasurer*

NEW CLUB OFFICERS ELECTED

The club's new officers for 2005 are: Ronald J. Yeager, president, 814-362-4471, e-mail cry@penn.com; and Fred Printz, vice president, 716-372-1782.

Re-elected were Jack Searles, secretary, 716-372-1070, e-mail: searles@adelphia.net; and Richard Heiser, treasurer, 716-372-5103.

MEETING NEWS

New officers were elected at the November meeting. Member Don Scharf was congratulated for his recent recognition of his military service and its associated medals.

The annual November auction was the program for the evening. A total of \$471.75 in sales was realized, with 58 lots being sold. The club made \$47.13 in commissions.

The program committee met later to discuss programs for the 2005 calendar year.

A Christmas Party and gift exchange were held at the December meeting.

PROGRAMS

Jan. 3 — *Show and Tell* — bring your new finds or one of your favorite philatelic pieces and tell about it.

Feb. 7 — APS Slide Show — *A Visit to the National Postal Museum*

March 7 — *Treasure Hunt/Creating an Exhibit*

Stamp Insider Deadlines Reminder

Because our current printer can turn the publication around much more quickly, most deadline restrictions have been eased by one week. However, The December deadline remains on the first because of holiday volume.

All copy — editorial and advertising — is due on the seventh of the month prior to the date of publication, except as noted.

MARCH–APRIL 2005	-----	FEBRUARY 7, 2005
MAY–JUNE 2005	-----	APRIL 7, 2005
JULY–AUGUST 2005	-----	JUNE 7, 2005
SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2005	-----	AUGUST 7, 2005
NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2005	-----	OCTOBER 7, 2005
JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2005	-----	DECEMBER 1, 2004

Please clip and save this information for future reference. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

OSWEGO STAMP CLUB

Meets the fourth Monday at 6 p.m.
at Faith United Church, 12 Fitzgibbons Drive

Leigh LeClair, President — Matt Roy, Vice President
John A. Cali, Secretary — Matt Roy, Treasurer



BLACK AMERICANS ON STAMPS QUIZ

Have you been studying up on your U.S. stamps lately? In my column — *The Last Words* — on page 42 there is a suggestion to make up a puzzle or quiz for your stamp club meeting. I hope you were paying attention when you read the article beginning on page 14 about the Black Heritage series. See if you can identify these famous Black Americans pictured on postage stamps from the clues below. The answers are on page 40.

1. He received a degree Harvard College in 1912 and began the *Journal of Negro History*. His best-known book is *The Miseducation of the Negro*. In 1926 he founded Negro History week.
2. This talented musician and composer worked at the Maple Leaf Club in Sedalia Missouri. He wrote one opera, *Treemonisha* and died penniless despite being known as the “King of Ragtime.”
3. She was born a slave in 1797 in Ulster County, a Dutch settlement in upstate New York. She ran away and later walked across Long Island and Connecticut spreading her religious beliefs. She later joined the Northampton Association for Education and Industry, and preached for the abolitionist and women’s rights causes.
4. This famous contralto singer sang in many performances at the Metropolitan Opera. In 1939 the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) refused to let her perform at Constitution Hall because she was African-American. An irate Eleanor Roosevelt resigned from the DAR and arranged for this singer to give a performance outside the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday.
5. This Haitian born French educated man is known as the “Father of Chicago.” In 1779 he built the first trading post on the north side of the Chicago River and was a very successful entrepreneur.
6. This man became fascinated with inventions and machinery as a child in his fathers machine shop. He later invented a complicated machine that revolutionized the shoe industry allowing for mass production.
7. She became an editor and co-owner of a local black newspaper called *The Free Speech and Headlight*. She wrote her editorials under the pen name “Iola.” In 1895 she published *A Red Record*, which recorded race lynching in America.
8. He became the first Black American to be honored by a postage stamp in 1940. A graduate of the Tuskegee Institute he found the National Negro Business League.

— Heather Sweeting



ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

<http://www.geocities.com/rpastamps>
Doors open at 7 p.m., meetings start at 7:30
e-mail jdoles@rochester.rr.com



ROPEX THEME ANNOUNCED

The *ROPEX 2005* stamp show will be held June 10–12 at the Webster Community Field House, 800 Five Mile Line Road, Webster. The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors *Youth Champions of Champions* exhibit contest will be held at the show this year.

The show themes this year will be Friday — *Kids & Stamps*, Saturday — *Kids & Sports*, and Sunday — *Kids & Their Pets*

PROGRAMS

Jan. 13 — *New Issues by the USPS for 2005*, a presentation by club member Joe Doles

Jan. 27 — *My Swiss Philatelic Experience* by Tony Vanhanja, guest speaker

Feb. 10 — *I Love New York* by John J. Nunes, guest speaker

Feb. 24 — *Personal Experiences on the Stamp Circuit* by Vince Delgado, guest speaker

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Tampa, FL 33624-2847

SCHENECTADY STAMP CLUB

Meets first Monday at 7:30 p.m.
at Union Presbyterian Church, 1068 Park Ave.

Michael Mellnick, President — Stephen E. Gray, Secretary
Dr. John J. Nunes, Treasurer — Ron Ratchford, Historian
Dr. Joseph Y. Rudnick, Librarian.



AUCTION REALIZES MORE THAN \$500

The Schenectady Stamp Club, in conjunction with the Uncle Sam Stamp Club and the Fort Orange Stamp Club, enjoyed a Tri-Club auction on Nov. 17, 2004, at the Holmes and Watson Pub. Total Sales were \$520.30 for 252 lots.

SUBMARINE MAIL PROGRAM

Dr. John J. Nunes, the club's treasurer, was the guest speaker on Dec. 6, presenting his material on *Submarine Mail*. The transportation of postal material was first initiated by the Germans during World War I with the submarine *Deutschland*.

Covers were subsequently carried after the *Deutschland* venture by Austrian submarines at Pola (Croatia), by Franco's Spanish Forces at Barcelona, and by Count Verona Italian Forces at Barcelona (Base Atlantica).

The United States used submarine mail to promote the sale of Victory Savings Bonds by the Boy Scouts following the war. They posted covers at both ends of the Panama Canal in this venture and offered them for sale.



Subs also transported mail to and from the United States, Great Britain, and Japan. During World War II the Germans also used subs to transport mail to the German garrison on the island of Pella in the North Sea. Stamps issued for these ventures include the Italian (Atlantica overprint), the Franco submarine imperforates and souvenir sheet, and the German *Hela* stamp.

Philatelic naval covers from submarines top the list as the most prolific of the available submarine mail.

FUTURE EVENTS

The club does not meet during January. The club's Winter Auction will occur on Feb 7. On March 8, there will be a joint meeting with the Fort Orange Stamp Club, when the APS historian, Dr. Herbert A. Trenchard, will present a talk on *U.S. Stamp Club History*.

Cover Courtesy of John J. Nunes



SYRACUSE STAMP CLUB

*Meetings are held at 8 p.m.
on the first and third Fridays*

*Correspondence to President Lynn Goodfellow
P.O. Box 3436, Syracuse, NY 13220*

INTERESTING CLUB PROGRAMS FOR 2005

Member all should have the club program schedule for 2005, assuming they have been to a recent meeting.

CLUB'S CATALOGUES BEING AUCTIONED

The second meeting in January features a major auction where we will auction off the club's 2001 Scott catalogues.

WORLDWIDE TREASURE HUNT

At the first meeting of February we will toss a worldwide mixture of more than 10,000 stamps on the table and members can find treasure for a few cents apiece. We are hoping to spike the mixture with a few special stamps.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED

On May 6 we are planning a special Open House that we will publicize locally. We plan to have various stamp displays by members, an experienced panel to help answer questions from guests or members, possibly a renown speaker, and most important — pizza and soda.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We hope that everyone had a happy holiday season and wish all the best in the New Year. We hope and expect that the time you spend at the club, at club activities, and with club members will be interesting, enjoyable, and, most of all, fun.

ORIENTATION PAMPHLET

Again this year we will be publishing the club's Orientation Pamphlet in mid March.

PROGRAMS

Jan. 7 — *Show and Tell*: Bring stamps or other philatelic items

Jan. 21 — Auction

Feb. 4 — *Worldwide Stamp Mixture Night*

Feb 18 — Auction

March 4 — *STAMPO*; prizes, pizza and soda

*Join us for our biennial show — SYRAPEX 2005 — in November.
Watch this page for further details.*

TRI-COUNTY STAMP CLUB

*Sidney, New York 13838
Meetings at Sidney Civic Center*

*Contact Albert Guenzburger
P.O. Box 215, Guilford, NY 13780 — 607•895•6531*



CLUB CONDUCTING LINN'S STAMP POLL

The club plans on conducting its annual Linn's Stamp Poll on Jan. 10. It would be a good idea for all members to reflect back to the many issues of the 2004 calendar year and see which may have been some of their more popular issues and their least favorites as well.

Although the club usually meets on the third Monday of the month, this is the second Monday. The early date of the meeting is due to the fact that we cannot access our meeting place on the third Monday, as this will be the day of the Martin Luther King, Jr. observance.

COLORADO POSTAL HISTORY TRAVELOGUE

The second Monday of February should also be set aside as Bill Bauer will do it again with another travelogue into Colorado postal history with another dynamic and interesting excursion into the foothills and mountainous terrain of the Rocky Mountains. The date is Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day, so put it on your calendar for two reasons. Once again, as in years past, we cannot use the Civic Center on the third Monday.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The club hopes that the philatelists and stamp "accumulators" throughout New York State had a most joyous holiday season with the renewed interest of pursuing their collections with even greater vigor during the New Year as well.

PLEASE HELP WASHINGTON 2006

The club wishes that all clubs throughout central New York are looking to help Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exposition with philatelic material. For details visit www.washington-2006.org and introduce your club to ongoing developments.

Washington 2006 Web Site Redesigned

The Web site for the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exposition, scheduled May 27–June 3, 2006 at the Washington, DC, Convention Center, has been redesigned and may be viewed at www.washington-2006.org.

Randy L. Neil of Neil Creative Media has redesigned the site, which has been online since mid-October. Neil has since accepted the position of Webmaster, taking over from Doug Lehmann, who held the post since the first Web site went up in 1998. Doug was recently named chief administrator of the exhibitor's bin room.



UNCLE SAM STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 335 — Troy, New York 12181-0335

Terrill S. Miller, President

Phil Hicks & George McGowan, Vice Presidents

John Mangione, Secretary — John J. Nunes, Treasurer

IMPERIAL RUSSIA AND LOVE STAMPS

At our Oct. 20 meeting we again had the pleasure of hosting noted local philatelist, Maris Tirums, who spoke on *Russia: Numbers 1 through 141*. He pointed out the historical and philatelic significance of the period. Just as important, Maris also shared some of the ways to identify catalogue numbers of this very difficult run of similar designs.

During our first meeting in November, Vicki Miller entertained all with her extensive collection of *United States Love Stamps*. The accumulation of this attractive topic made an impressive display.

SHARED AUCTION

At our second meeting in November, we hosted the Fort Orange Stamp Club and the Schenectady Stamp Club for our annual Tri-Club auction. We had about 240 lots, about 24 sellers, and about the same number of bidders.

If your club is geographically close to others, give this activity a try. It's a great way to acquire a few goodies, sell those extras, and get together with new people. We alternate the location and host every third year.

PROGRAMS

Jan. 5 — *Competition Night*

Jan. 19 — *The Consolidated PBY* by George McGowan

Feb. 2 — Winter Auction

Feb. 16 — Terrill S. Miller's *Philatelic Quiz*

March 9 — *U.S. Stamp Club History* by Herb Trenchard

March 16 — *Irish Philately* by Tom Handley

April 6 — UPSS slide show — *Levitt Cancels*

April 20 — *This 'n That* by Phil Hicks

May 4 — Election of officers and *George L. Haber Night*

May 18 — Spring banquet

July 10 — Tri-Club picnic and auction

BLACK AMERICANS ANSWERS

1. Carter Woodsen; 2. Scott Joplin; 3. Sojourner Truth; 4. Marian Anderson; 5. Jean Baptiste du Sable; 6. Jan E. Matzeliger; 7. Ida B. Wells; and 8. Booker T. Washington

UTICA STAMP CLUB

Jerome Wagner, President — Richard Drumm, Vice President
Wayne Turkowski, Recording Secretary
Jerry Cunningham, Corresponding Secretary
Rick Snow, Treasurer



FLOWERS “BLOOM” IN NOVEMBER

The November club meeting of the Utica Stamp, held at the New Hartford Public Library, consisted of a narrative on flowers on stamps presented by member Bill Arthur. Accompanying the talk were colored slides of worldwide flowers on stamps.

Mr. Arthur, aided by his wife’s garden group, spent a considerable amount of time researching the history of exotic flowers grown in various parts of the world. Perhaps local garden groups could benefit from this program, both as more knowledgeable gardeners and potential stamp collectors.

UTICA PUBLIC LIBRARY CENTENNIAL

Members were also presented with more detailed information on the library’s centennial celebration that was to be held on Dec. 12, 2004, in the lobby of the library from 3–5 p.m. A special cachet and cancellation sponsored by the club was available at the reception. The Dr. Seuss stamp was the preferred stamp. The U.S. Postal service canceled covers following the formal ceremonies.

More information about the centennial covers will appear in the March–April issue of the *STAMP INSIDER*.

TWO CLUB MEMBERS HELPING YOUTH

The club has two members who devote much time and effort to the youth of our area.

Sister Jane Margaret, an Episcopal nun, meets several times a week with groups of troubled youth at the House of Good Shepard complex in this area. Through stamps she attempts to increase their learning ability and promote stamp collection as a hobby.

She also periodically has a stamp exhibit at her residence, St. Margaret’s house. Proceeds from various philatelic items at these shows are used to sponsor two young children from Haiti.

The other member, Janet Collmer, has a stamp class two times a week at St. Mary’s school in Clinton. With a limited time available, she encourages the children from 10–12 to collect stamps and instructs them on hinging, removing stamps from paper, different types of collecting and other philatelic procedures.

DECEMBER MEETING

There was no formal meeting in December, but club met at a local restaurant for dinner.

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SHOWS & BOURSES

WEST SENECA — JAN. 9

Stamp, Coin, Postcard &
Collectibles Show, Harvey
D. Morin VFW Post 2940,
965 Center Rd., 10–4.
Bourse. Victor Drajem,
716-656-8080.

TORONTO — JAN. 14–16

UNIPEX stamp show,
Rameses Temple Shrine
Club, 3100 Keele St
(between Wilson &
Sheppard at Maryport.
Friday 11–6, Saturday 10–
6, Sunday 10–4. Bourse.
Phone: 416-242-5900.

ALBANY — JAN. 16

Albany Capital District
Stamp Show, Quality Inn,
3 Watervliet Ave. 10–4.
Bourse. John J. Nunes,
518-399-8395, e-mail:
nunesnook@aol.com.

CHEEKTOWAGA — JAN. 16

Buffalo Numismatic Assn.
Stamp, Coin & Currency
Bourse & Auction, Fr.
Justin Hall, K of C, 2735
Union Rd. 10–5. Frank
Munzi, 716-633-4104.

ST. CATHARINES — JAN. 22–23

St. Catharines, Ontario,
Stamp Club's 56th CATHEX
show, Fairview Mall,
Geneva St. Saturday 9–5,
Sunday 10–5. 14 dealers.

ROCHESTER — FEB. 6

RS Stamp Show, Eagles Club, 1200 Buffalo Rd. 10-4. Bourse. John J. Nunes, 518-399-8395, e-mail: nunesnook@aol.com.

NIAGARA FALLS — FEB. 5-6

Niagara Frontier Coin Club COLLECTORS' SHOW/EXPO '05, Elks Lodge No. 346, 1805 Factory Outlet Blvd. Stamps, coins, postcards. Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4. Frank Munzi, 716-633-4104.

SYRACUSE — FEB. 13

Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, Thruway exit 35. 10-4. Bourse. Ed Bailey, 315-452-0593.

WEST SENECA — FEB. 13

Stamp, Coin, Postcard & Collectibles Show, Harvey D. Morin VFW Post 2940, 965 Center Rd., 10-4. Bourse. Victor Drajem, 716-656-8080.

CHEEKTOWAGA — FEB. 20

Buffalo Numismatic Assn. Stamp, Coin & Currency Bourse & Auction, Fr. Justin Hall, K of C, 2735 Union Rd. 10-5. Frank Munzi, 716-633-4104.

WEST SENECA SHOW CHANGES

Victor Drajem has altered the schedule for these shows. See adjacent ad.



Finger Lakes Stamp Club — Continued from Page 29

PROGRAMS

- Jan. 12 — 2004 Stamp Poll & Preview of 2005 Issues
- Jan. 26 — Presentations of Favorite Collections
- Feb. 9 — Kiloware Scramble
- Feb. 23 — Stamp Bingo

We are scheduling silent auctions at several meetings in addition to our regular programs, hoping to give more opportunities for obtaining new philatelic items.

STAMP, COIN, POSTCARD & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

HOURS 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

SECOND SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

SECOND SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

SECOND SUNDAY, MARCH 13

FIRST SUNDAY, APRIL 3

FIRST SUNDAY, MAY 1

FIRST SUNDAY, JUNE 5

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CLUBS & CONTACTS

ADIRONDACK STAMP, POST CARD & EPHEMERA CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1276)

Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays most months at 7:30 p.m. at Glens Falls National Bank Community Room.

Contact: Dr. William R. Hanson, 78 W. Notre Dame, Glens Falls, NY 12801

E-mail: drhanson@localnet.com

Phone: 518-798-9592

BUFFALO STAMP CLUB (AFDCS CHAPTER 37)

Meets twice monthly on Fridays at VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

Contact: Richard Cropp, 353 Lisbon Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215

716-837-9526

E-mail: bumper@bumperland.com

www.buffalostampclub.org

CENTRAL NEW YORK FIRST DAY COVER SOCIETY (APS CHAPTER 53)

In reorganization. New members being sought.

Contact: John Cali, 613 W. 4th St., Fulton, NY 13069-3104

E-mail: rocket@dreamscape.com

Phone: 315-592-4441

CHENANGO VALLEY STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 781)

Meets 1st Monday of the month at Alana Cultural Center, Colgate University Campus.

Contact: Albert Guenzburger, P.O. Box 215, Guilford, NY 13780

E-mail: aguenz@mkl.com

Phone: 607-895-6531

DANVILLE AREA COIN & STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1196)

Meets 3rd Sunday at Dansville Town Hall, Clara Barton Sreet., at 2 p.m. from September through June.

Contact: Susan Edwards, c/o DACC, P.O. Box 574, Dansville, NY 14437-0574

E-Mail: see10@frontiernet.net

Phone: 585-335-8663

ELMIRA STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 237)

Meets 3rd Tuesday at Community Room, Bath National Bank, North Main and First streets (rear entrance).

Contact: Alan Parsons, 809 Holley Road, Elmira, NY 14901

E-mail: alatholleyrd@aol.com

Phone: 607-732-0181

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY (APS UNIT 28)

Meets 1st Sunday in May and October.

Contact: John Lange, 373 Root Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3227

E-mail: gestus@westelcom.com

Phone: 518-882-6373

www.esphs.org

FINGER LAKES STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 428)

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at the Sawdust Cafe, NYS Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva.

Contact: James Darnell, 136 Lock St., Clyde, NY 14433

E-mail: jdarnell@novocon.net

Phone: 315-923-7355

FORT ORANGE STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 138)

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany Reformed Church Community Center, 760 New Scotland Ave., Albany.

Contact: Maris Tirums, P.O. Box 5475, Albany NY 12205-0475

E-mail: mxtirums@hotmail.com

Phone: 518-438-1657

FORT STANWIX STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1227)

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Rome Municipal Building, 2nd Floor.

Contact: Joe Christofaro, 201 Maple St., Rome, NY 13440

E-mail: jchrist6@twcny.rr.com

315-337-9608

FULTON STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1193)

Meets 3rd Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Hughes Building, 314 Park St.

Contact: Tom Schneider, 15 W. First St., Fulton, NY 13069

E-mail: rocket@dreamscape.com

315-592-4441

ITHACA STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 210)

Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Room 384, Morrison Hall, on the Cornell University Campus. Parking available in back. Front door locked after 8 p.m.

Contact: Howard Schlieder, 511 Linn St., Ithaca, NY 14850

E-mail: yszekely@twcny.rr.com

LEATHERSTOCKING STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1334)

Meets 1st Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the home of George Tillapaugh, 28 Pioneer St., Cooperstown.
Contact: Ellen Tillapaugh, 80 Beaver St., Cooperstown, NY 13326
E-mail: kuchtill@verizon.net

OLEAN AREA STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1442)

Meets 1st Monday (1 week later on legal holidays) at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 109 S. Barry St.
Contact: Leslie Crane, R1, Box 832, Shinglehouse, PA 16748 E-mail: searles@adelphia.net

OSWEGO STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 728)

Meets 4th Monday at 6 p.m. at Faith United Church, 12 Mark Fitzgibbons Drive.
Contact: Leigh LeClair, 212 Murray St., Oswego, NY 13126
E-mail: pleclair@northnet.org Phone: 315-342-5653

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION (APS CHAPTER 207)

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday 7 p.m. at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Winton Road.
Contact: Joe Doles, P.O. Box 10206, Brighton Station, Rochester, NY 14610-0206 Phone: 585-621-3012
E-mail: jdoles@rochester.rr.com www.geocities.com/rpastamps

ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL STAMP CLUB

Meets 1st Thursday at the Massena Library at 7 p.m. and on the 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Cornwall, Ontario, Library.
Contact: Pat Rourk, 3 Morton St., Norwood, NY 13668-1100
E-mail: prourk@twcny.rr.com Phone: 315-353-8892

SCHENECTADY STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 153)

Meets 1st Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Union Presbyterian Church.
Contact: Steve Gray, 10 Hillcrest Vlg. C-1, Niskayuna, NY 12309-3831
E-mail: nunesnook@aol.com Phone: 518-372-9866

SYRACUSE STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 50)

Meets 1st & 3rd Friday at 8 p.m. at the Reformed Church of Syracuse.
Contact: Allen Swift, P.O. Box 3436, Syracuse, NY 13220
E-mail: agsses@aol.com

TRI-COUNTY STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 292)

Meets the 3rd Monday at 7 p.m. at Sidney Civic Center.
Contact: Albert Guenzburger, P.O. Box 215, Guilford, NY 13780
E-mail: rfinnegan@stny.rr.com Phone: 607-895-6531

UNCLE SAM STAMP CLUB OF TROY (APS CHAPTER 240)

Meets 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Holmes & Watson Ltd., 450 Broadway.
Contact: Terrill Miller, P.O. Box 335, Troy, NY 12181-0335
E-mail: unclesamty@aol.com Phone: 518-869-6872

UTICA STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 66)

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at New Hartford Town Library.
Contact: G. M. Cunningham, P.O. Box 374, Washington Mills, NY 13479
E-mail: Jerryc50nh@aol.com Phone: 315-736-1965

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THE LAST WORDS

Heather Sweeting, Associate Editor
14329 Victory St., Sterling NY 13156-3172
e-mail: hwsweetin@twcny.rr.com

LET'S GO PHISHING!

At a school faculty meeting I watched a video about the FISH!™ Philosophy created by the workers of a New York City fish market who discovered that when they had fun at work— by throwing fish and doing other silly things — business skyrocketed. The four basic principles are: (1) *Fun* — Make work fun; do something fun at work; (2) *Choose your attitude!* Be happy!; (3) *Make a difference* — Say something nice to a customer/student; help someone out; and (4) *Be There* — Actually listen to your customers attentively.

What if we applied FISH! to philately and made our own philosophy, making it PHISH (like the rock band), an easily remembered acronym.

PH— *PHILATELIC PHUN OR PHILATELIC HUMOR*. Fun is the thing I like most about the philosophy. How many of you have sat through boring meetings talking about old business, new business, and Robert's Rules of Order? Make your meetings and shows fun! Throw a box of unsoaked stamps or postmarks on the table and see who can be the first to make up five sets ... or 10 combinations of 37 cents using four stamps or more ... You still can conduct business while people are looking through stamps. Bring a bag of Hershey's kisses for the winner.

Many philatelists possess a great sense of humor. There also are many who get caught up in the nitty-gritty perfectionist mind sets that discourage the average collector. Embrace the differences of your club members and enjoy their different personalities. If every collection looked and was mounted exactly alike that would be pretty boring wouldn't it?

INTERACT POSITIVELY with club members. Ask questions and listen to the answers. E-mail a club member that missed a meeting to let them know they missed a fun night!

START PROMOTING STAMP COLLECTING! Don't be afraid to tell people you are a stamp collector. It doesn't make you a geek or a rocket scientist or a braniac... (My apologies all the smart rocket scientist computer nerds reading this!) Recently I talked to one of our truck drivers at a marching band competition ... I had seen him at antique shows in the past but was surprised to find out that he was a very knowledgeable coin/currency collector. He was thrilled to have someone to talk to who understood collecting and he had a great knowledge of archival protection! We could learn a lot from other collectors!

HELPOffer your help, ideas for recruiting, make up activities/games for club meetings, posters, bring items to trade, write an article about your favorite collection item, contact members about meetings. Take the time to teach and help your members about your interests... You never know they might end up finding you something for your collection if they know what to look for. Even small things can make a difference!

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