

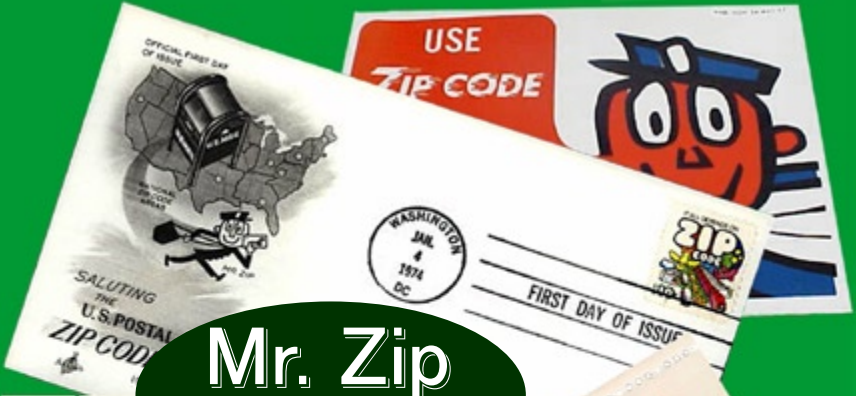
Celebrate Stamp Collecting Month in October!

STAMP INSIDER™

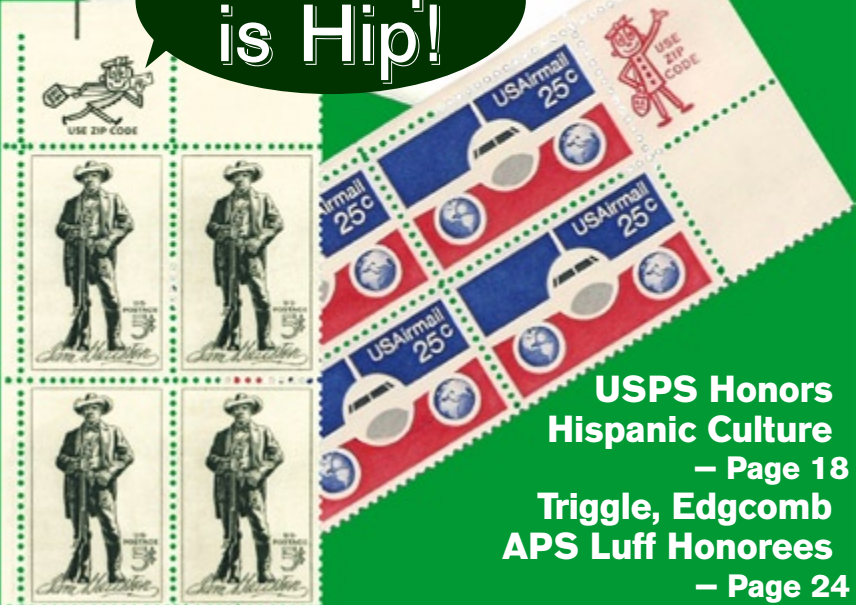


VOL. 23 No. 1

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2005



Mr. Zip is Hip!



**USPS Honors
Hispanic Culture**
— Page 18
**Triggle, Edgcomb
APS Luff Honorees**
— Page 24

Join the

**ArtCraft Cover Society**
and **Never Miss**
an **Issue**



ArtCraft first day covers are recognized worldwide for the excellence of their artistic design, and for the distinction of their fine engraving on rag content envelopes. For these qualities, collectors choose ArtCraft more often than any other brand.

ARTCRAFT MAKES IT EASY

The ArtCraft Cover Society can give you all the enjoyment of

collecting first day covers without the frustrations. You'll get fresh unaddressed covers, shipped in a protective package, for as much as 12% less than our regularly advertised mail order prices. (The member price for a single of a 37¢ issue is only \$1.90). Shipments are sent approximately once a month, and covers are charged against the balance you have on deposit. No more missed issues, no dues, no service charges, and no shipping fees. We'll enclose a statement of your account in each mailing showing all transactions since your last mailing and your new deposit balance. When your balance runs low (and before you miss a mailing) you'll be advised that an additional deposit is necessary. If you wish, you can authorize us to automatically charge your renewal to the Visa, MasterCard, or Discover card you specify. And, we can customize your service to match almost any collecting profile.

START NOW—Visit our website, phone, or write us today to receive complete information on the services we offer and how to join.

The ArtCraft Cover Society
FLORHAM PARK, NEW JERSEY 07932

Toll Free: (877) 966-0001 • Internet: www.washpress.com

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2005
VOL. 23 No. 1

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

JOHN J. NUNES

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

Fulfillment / Subscriptions

JOHN A. CALI

c/o STAMP INSIDER
P.O. Box 401, FULTON, NY 13069-0401
315-592-4441; E-MAIL: ROCKET@DREAMSCAPE.COM

Contents

U.S. AND CANADA NEW ISSUES	4
EDITOR'S PERSPECTIVE	6
PRESIDENT'S VIEWPOINT	7
SITE SEEING: POSTOFFICE.COM	8
GEORGE MCGOWAN THE THRIFTY PHILATELIST: POSTAL HISTORY PART 2	10
ADA PRILL'S NEWCOMERS' CORNER: COLLECTING PLATE NUMBER COILS	12
HEATHER SWEETING: MR. ZIP IS VERY HIP	14

ABOUT THE COVER

Has Mr. Zip joined Speedy Alka-Seltzer, the Jolly Green Giant, and the Esso tiger in retirement? Or will he make a comeback?

JUDY ROUTSON:

HISPANIC CULTURE HONORED BY USPS	18
PHILATELIC TRANSFORMATIONS PUZZLE	22
STAMP INSIDER CAPTION CONTEST	22
2005 APS LUFF AWARDS	24
STEPEX '05 HONORING ELMIRA COLLEGE	26
YOUTH & PHILATELY PROJECT	27
A FREE POSTER TO PUBLICIZE YOUR CLUB	28
DAN PIAZZA: STORY BEHIND THE STAMP	29
UNADILLA CELEBRATING PHILATELY	32
COMMUNICATIONS	33
CLUB PAGES	34-53
SHOWS & BOURSES	54
CLUBS & CONTACTS, OFFICERS	56-57
HEATHER SWEETING THE LAST WORDS: TAKING A PHILATELIC VACATION	58
Advertiser Index	57

Subscriptions, Copyright, Advertising Rates, Deadlines

Stamp Insider™ is published six times per year by the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies, Inc., a non-profit organization, at P.O. Box 401, Fulton, NY 13069-0401. Subscriptions: \$6 per year; inquire of Subscriptions. *Stamp Insider* is sent free to members of participating clubs. Content ©2005 Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies Inc.; Design ©2005 Albert W. Starkweather / Design on Demand. *Stamp Insider* and the magnifying glass logo are trademarks of the Federation. Any portion of this publication may be reproduced without prior consent, provided credit is given. Written expression or opinions of the writers are their own and not necessarily those of the *Stamp Insider* or Federation. Some product names and images may be trademarks or registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and explanation, without intent to infringe. Every effort is taken to ensure accuracy, but validity is not guaranteed. Articles by readers are encouraged. Submitted manuscripts cannot be returned without a large SASE. Electronic submissions are preferred.

Dimensions (In inches)	Per Insertion	Contract	Save
1/4 Page (2 3/16 x 3 7/16)	\$ 35.00	\$ 28.00	\$42.00
1/2 Page (4 1/2 x 3 7/16)	\$ 45.00	\$ 36.00	\$54.00
3/4 Page Outside Back (4 1/2 x 5 1/2)	\$ 60.00	\$ 48.00	\$72.00
Super Business Card (3 x 2 1/4)	\$ 20.00	\$ 16.00	\$24.00
Centerfold (two full pages)	\$150.00	\$120.00	\$180.00
Full Page (4 1/2 x 7 1/2)	\$ 65.00	\$ 52.00	\$78.00
Full Page Inside Front or Back Cover	\$ 75.00	\$ 60.00	\$90.00

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

Editorial & ad deadlines for the two months following are Dec. 1, Feb. 7, April 7, June 15, Aug. 15, Oct. 15

Jan. 6 Lunar New Year
37¢ double-sided souvenir sheet of 24 (12 designs), Honolulu, HI

Jan. 27 Marian Anderson
37¢ sgl., Washington, DC

Feb. 9 Ronald Reagan
37¢ sgl., Simi Valley, CA

Feb. 18 Love Bouquet
37¢ booklet of 20, Atlanta, GA

Mar. 3 Wedding Flower Lettersheets
37¢, set of 12, New York, NY

Mar. 3 Northeast Deciduous Forest
37¢ pane of 10, New York, NY

Mar. 15 Spring Flowers
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Chicago, IL

Apr. 22 Robert Penn Warren
37¢ sgl., Guthrie, KY

Apr. 28 Song writer Yip Harburg
37¢ sgl., New York, NY

May 4 American Scientists
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, New Haven, CT

May 19 Modern American Architecture
37¢ pane of 12, Las Vegas, NV

May 20 Henry Fonda
37¢ sgl., Beverly Hills, CA

Jun. 30 The Art of Disney
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Anaheim, CA

Jul. 29 American Advances in Aviation
37¢ sgl., 10 designs, Oshkosh, WI & Vienna, VA

Jul. 30 New Mexico Rio Grande Blankets
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Santa Fe, NM

Aug. 4 Presidential Libraries
37¢ pane of 20, Grand Rapids, MI; Ann Arbor, MI; College Station, TX; Atlanta, GA; Little Rock, AK; Abilene, KS; West Branch, IA; Austin, TX; Boston, MA; Yorba Linda, CA; Simi Valley, CA; Hyde Park, NY; Independence, MO

Aug. 5 American Eagle
25¢ coil, 10 designs, Grand Rapids, MI

Aug. 20 1950s Sporty Cars
37¢ booklet of 20, five designs, Detroit, MI

Aug. 27 Arthur Ashe
37¢ sgl., Flushing, NY

Aug. 30 To Form a More Perfect Union
37¢, 10 designs, Washington, DC; Greensboro, NC; Montgomery, AL; Selma, AL; Jackson, MS; Topeka, KS; Little Rock, AR; Memphis, TN;

Sep. 7 Child Health
37¢ sgl., Philadelphia, PA

Sep. 16 Silver Coffee Pot
3¢ coil, Milwaukee, WI

Sep. 17 Let's Dance
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, New York, NY

Sep. 23 Greta Garbo
37¢ sgl., New York, NY & Stockholm, Sweden

Sep. 28 Jim Henson & the Muppets
37¢ pane of 11, Los Angeles, CA

Oct. 3 Constellations
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Oct. 20 Holiday Cookies
37¢ sgl., New York, NY

Oct. 26 Madonna & Child
37¢ sgl., New York, NY

Nov. 10 Distinguished Marines
37¢ sgl., 4 designs, Washington, DC

2005 Canada New Issues

Jan. 7 Year of the Rooster
50¢ pane of 25, \$1.45 s/s, and \$1.45 overprinted souvenir sheet

Jan. 29 NHL All-stars
50¢ pane & booklet of 6

Feb. 4 Fishing Flies
50¢, booklet of 8, s/s of 4

Feb. 14 Nova Scotia Agricultural College Centennial
50¢ sgl.

Mar. 4 EXPO 2005 Aichi, Japan
50¢ sgl.

Mar. 10 Daffodils
50¢ pair; booklet of 10 & s/s

Mar. 18 TD Bank 150th Anniversary
50¢ sgl.

Mar. 23 Audubon birds
50¢, 4 designs; 85¢ booklet of 6

Apr. 2 Canadian bridges
50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Apr. 12 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.; s/s with 50¢, 85¢

Jun. 13 Search and Research
50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Jun. 21 Ellen Fairclough (1905-2004)
50¢ sgl.

Jul. 5 FINA World Swimming Championships
50¢ pair

Jul. 16 400th Anniversary Settlement of Port-Royal (Nova Scotia)
50¢ sgl.

Jul. 21 Alberta Centennial
50¢ sgl.

Aug. 2 Saskatchewan Centennial
50¢ sgl.

Aug. 15 Acadians Deportation of from the Maritimes 250th Anniversary
50¢ sgl.

Aug. 15 Pianist Oscar Peterson
50¢ sgl.

Sep. 2 50th Anniversary Polio Vaccination
50¢ sgl.

Oct. 1 Extreme sports
50¢ sgl., 4 designs

Oct. 13 Big Cats
50¢ sgl., 2 stamps & s/s, joint issue with China

Nov. 2 Christmas Crèches
50¢, 85¢, \$1.45

Nov. 2 Christmas Snowman
50¢ sgl.

The Unbeatable...

\$9

Subscription Offer!

JUST \$9.00 EACH!!

- **21 weeks** of “Mekeel’s & Stamps”, America’s only weekly stamp magazine (Regularly \$18.50) e5
- **8 months** of “U.S. Stamp News”, the only magazine for all U.S. Stamp collectors! (Regularly \$16.75) e6

\$16.00 FOR BOTH! e4m, e4u

To take advantage of this offer, circle which magazine(s) you want and send with \$9 (\$16 for both) within the next weeks weeks. (U.S. addresses only.)

For credit cards, indicate card # & expiration date: **SEND TO: Stamp News-e,**
42 Sentry Way

Merrimack, NH 03054

800-635-3351, fax 603-424-7556

email: stampnews@aol.com



It's Time for OLEPEX 2005

Annual Stamp Show of the Olean Area Stamp Club



- **Dealers**
- **U.S. Postal Service**
- **Stamp Flea Market**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, September 17

John Ash Community Center

112 North Barry Street, Olean, New York

(1 block east of the intersection of Routes 417 and 16)

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING



EDITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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

CANADA POST 1, U.S. POSTAL SERVICE 0

As the last 37-cent flag stamps rolled off U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Workers aging, four-color Andreotti press on June 10, the Canadian Bank Note Company was busy setting up its new 12-color perfecting press which weighs in at 101 metric tons and has a footprint of 105 × 25 feet, making it one of the largest in North America.

Many U.S. stamps, particularly definitives, have become little more than labels. That the U.S. Postal Service considers them as such is clearly signaled by its choice of contractors, including label-maker Avery Dennison. The BEP's final efforts can only be described as abysmal. A 37-cent flag that was among a batch of stamps I recently soaked off paper displayed several nasty consequences — the red ink began to flake off the paper which began delaminating, not a pretty picture.



Canada Post and Canadian Bank Note Company's commitment to philately is clearly shown in their investment of \$6.5 million for the new press — a sizeable outlay even in Canadian dollars. The new press allows for special techniques and materials, including plastic substrates, lithography and intaglio combinations, and daylight-invisible security printings. This means that when the press is not being used to print stamps, it can also be used to produce travelers' cheques, passports, bank notes, and other security documents.

Canadian Bank Note has enjoyed a 108-year relationship with Canada Post and is one of its main security printers. The BEP had printed U.S. stamps for 111 years.

The multiuse concept certainly could have been adopted by the BEP to maximize its employee and press time and utilization. It's known as working smarter, not harder.

The USPS claims that it will save tens of millions dollars a year by eliminating the BEP as a stamp printer. If this is true, then a proposed rate hike should be unnecessary. However, the perceived savings in the USPS switching from the BEP to all contract printing from the likes of Avery Dennison may not be as real as they appear. How long will collectors of American stamps accept inferior printing and execution before they begin to refuse to buy USPS offerings? The one way to get USPS' attention is to hit it where it hurts — in the pocketbook.

PRESIDENT'S VIEWPOINT

John J. Nunes

80 Fredericks Road, Scotia, NY 12302

518•399•8395 — e-mail nunesnook@aol.com



HAPPY COLLECTING!

A special wish for a happy new stamp, cover, card, seal, and ephemera collecting year. A round of applause is in order for the officers who have completed a year of service, and to the *STAMP INSIDER* team who have taken the publication to new heights.

FEDERATION SHOW HOST SOUGHT

It's not too early to plan on attending shows hosted by such *FEDERATION* clubs as Olean, Elmira, Buffalo, and Syracuse. We are looking for clubs to host *FEDERATION*-sponsored shows in 2006 and 2008. We will discuss this at our semiannual meeting at SYRAPEX on Nov. 13. Contact Secretary John A. Cali or me for information.

PARTICIPATION REAPS AWARDS

Stamp collecting is a solitary pursuit that could permit a collector to become isolated. On the other hand one could devote all their time to the greater community of stamp collecting from APS activities to worldwide stamp-pal trading.

Somewhere in the middle of the spectrum lies the world of stamp clubs and in that world I was pleased to find the members of the *FEDERATION*. It is possible to become as active or lazy as you may chose to be, and to touch stamp-pals or eBay as often or as little as one chooses.

An in-house club auction is a great opportunity to get bargains and fosters great interaction between members. Perhaps the greatest value of belonging to organized philately is interacting with mentor experts who are most willing to offer their expertise and knowledge regarding your philatelic questions.

A BARGAIN

To keep abreast of what goes on in the *FEDERATION*, we have a bimonthly publication — the *STAMP INSIDER* — that reports on member clubs and their activities as well as offering numerous articles and general philatelic information. The fee is a modest 13 to 18 cents above postage cost per issue for *FEDERATION* members, which is less than \$1 per year.

Many readers and I have been most positively impressed with the publication's growth. I would urge anyone who is not a member of the *FEDERATION* to subscribe for only \$1 an issue.

Should you be a bit shy, you can contact me personally at nunesnook@aol.com and I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.

TRY AN EASY GATEWAY TO POSTAL ENTITIES

Want to find an easy entry to your favorites postal entity? Then www.postoffice.com — the worldwide post office portal — may be the perfect solution in many cases.

The site is the brainchild of InnerVision Computers — www.ee.com — a provider of computer consulting services for large and small firms in the Silicon Valley and Japan since 1982. In addition to [postoffice.com](http://www.postoffice.com), there are three other related sites under the InnerVision banner: [Houses.com](http://www.houses.com), which offers affiliate fee-based real estate services, [artists.com](http://www.artists.com), which showcases artists and their works, and [Business with Pleasure](http://www.businesswithpleasure.com), which offers copy, print, shipping, and design services.

[Postoffice.com](http://www.postoffice.com) undoubtedly was created as an adjunct to the firm's business services for mailing and shipping. However, linked list of portals provides an ideal way for philatelists to get quick access to 50 of the 66 entities listed on the site. They are:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greenland, Guernsey, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Nations, United States, Universal Postal Union, and Uruguay.

Sadly 16 of the links are dead:

Croatia, Faroe Islands, Japan, Jersey, Korea, Kuwait, Lithuania, Macedonia, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Uganda, and Vatican City.



THE WEEKDAY STAMP SHOW Binghamton, NY

Wednesday, Aug. 31 at the AMERICAN CIVIC ASSOCIATION, 131 Front St., 10 AM to 10 PM
Twelve dealers • Free Food & Drinks • Free Appraisals, Free Stamps for Kids • Free Parking • Free Admission

STAMPS, POST CARDS, POSTAL HISTORY, FISCAL HISTORY SEALS, CINDERELLAS, EPHEMERA, COINS, BUTTONS, SUPPLIES

Dealers: John J. Nunes (Nunes Nook), Harry Tong (1840–1940 Mostly Stamps), James Reeves (Reeves, Inc.), Frank Buono (Buono Stamps), Norm Sweeney (Norm's Stamps), Steve Malack (Steve Malack Stamps), Robert Markovits (Quality Investors), Alex Birman (Country Stamp Center), Gerry Leviss (Barry and Gerry Covers), Rodney Rogers (RWR Stamps)

Contact: 518-399-8395 — e-mail: nunesnook@aol.com

Users should be aware that sites with foreign characters, such as Chinese pictographs and Cyrillic, will not display properly and some have no English alternative. They may access the [postoffice.com](http://www.postoffice.com) site directly or reach it through the InnerVision umbrella, in which case [postoffice.com](http://www.postoffice.com) opens within a frame on that site. Many browsers are incompatible with frames.

— *Albert W. Starkweather*

★ MAIL SALES ★

*Engravings, Varieties,
Topicals, Worldwide
items for
Award-Winning
Collections*

**WRITE FOR CURRENT
LISTS AND
BID SHEETS**



E. Joseph McConnell, Inc.



P.O. Box 683 • Monroe, NY 10949-0035 • FAX: 914-782-0347

www.ejmccconnell.com

ENGRAVINGS

FRANCE and COLONIES
PROOFS & ESSAYS

Topicals
in Award Winning Varieties.

Please check the appropriate varieties of interest:

- Artist Drawings Die Proofs Sepia Inspection
 Trial Colors Printer's Color Sheets
 Plate Proofs Die Proofs Collective Sheets
 Stage Proofs Imperfs Deluxe Sheets

Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show

*Central New York's largest philatelic show. Dealers to buy, sell,
trade stamps, coins, covers, post cards, paper collectibles.*

10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sunday, September 11

Holiday Inn

Thruway Exit 35 — Carrier Circle

Future Shows at Same Location

SYRAPEX — November 12–13 • February 12, 2006

April 8–9, 2006 • Sept. 10, 2006 • Nov. 11–12, 2006

Contact Ed Bailey

P.O. Box 2338, Syracuse, NY 13220-2338 • Phone 315-452-0593



THE THRIFTY PHILATELIST

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

POSTAL HISTORY PART 2

Last issue I highlighted some of the many interesting and enjoyable aspects of collecting postal history. The cover used as an example was a random stampless letter from my Troy, NY collection, which I am sure I did not pay more than \$5 for. Since then, I have taken some of my own advice and I have researched it further.



It turns out that the nail factory in question was owned by Erastus Corning 1st. Besides being a one-time mayor of Albany, Corning was also the president of the Utica & Schenectady Railroad Co. Corning was also instrumental in uniting nine other small railroads between Albany and Buffalo into what became the New York Central Railroad, with Corning as its first president. Corning's railroad purchased railroad spikes from Corning's nail factory — a very good business move. Corning also had interests in some mid western railroads, which was where the invoiced spikes in the letter were destined.

Soon after Cornelius Vanderbilt took control of the New York Central and united it with his New York to Albany line. Eventually the New York Central ran from New York City to Chicago as *the water level route*.

The rate at the time my cover was sent from Troy to Buffalo was $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents, an odd amount as the U.S. government never issued a $\frac{1}{4}$ cent coin. The reason for the fraction was because throughout the first half of the 19th century all coinage was scarce. The U.S. mint was producing coins, but not enough to meet the demand. Add panics and depressions, where people tend to hoard coins, and you have an almost constant shortage.

The most widely circulated coin of the time was the Spanish Reale, equal to one U.S. dollar. Since a dollar was a lot of money in those days, Reales were cut or broken into pieces, or bits; $\frac{1}{2}$ Reale equal to 50 cents, $\frac{1}{4}$ Reale equal to 25 cents and so on. A $\frac{1}{8}$ Reale was equal to $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents, and was called a bit or a *piece of eight*. One half of a bit would be worth $6\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Therefore, three times $6\frac{1}{4}$ cents is $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents, our letter rate.

You may remember the old cheer, two bits four bits, six bits, a dollar ... and you still hear people call a quarter *two bits*, although it no longer pays for a shave and a haircut. Isn't history grand?

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.



Buying and Selling

U.S., U.N., Canada, Europa, and Other Fine Worldwide — Visit our Web site for an in-depth view of the scope of our offerings.

You are always welcome to visit us, but please call first so that we can devote our time to you. We have 6,500 square feet of stamps!

HENRY GITNER PHILATELISTS, INC.

Philately — The Quiet Excitement!



P.O. Box 3077 / 53 Highland Ave.
Middletown, New York 10940



www.hgitner.com e-mail hgitner@hgitner.com
1-800-947-8267 845-343-5151 Fax 845-343-0068

WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, AMEX



NEWCOMERS' CORNER

Ada M. Prill

130 Trafalgar St., Rochester NY 14619-1224
e-mail aprill@rochester.rr.com

COLLECTING PLATE NUMBER COILS

Until 1981, plate numbers were trimmed off the selvedge paper when coil stamps were produced, making their appearance on a coil stamp a highly collectible freak. Starting with the 18-cent flag-and-lighthouse coil, plate numbers (also called *cylinder numbers*) were printed in the stamp design area on every 24th coil stamp.

The number was printed on the stamp directly to the left of the *line*, a vertical smear of color found where the two halves of the printing cylinder were joined. The frequency of the numbers varied with the use of later presses, and most joint lines disappeared when the Cottrell press was phased out. The strip shown is from Plate 2 of the 12-cent Stanley Steamer coil, part of the intaglio (engraved) Transportation Coil series. Mint plate number coils (PNCs) are usually collected in strips of five, with the number on the middle stamp. Used examples are usually collected as singles.

With later presses that printed in multiple colors, each color was given its own plate number. When colors were misregistered, as in the detail of the 32-cent flag-over-porch PNC shown, sometimes the plate number and the color represented by it can be seen to be out of line. Thus the red plate number (second from left) and the red stripes on the flag are moved downward, as are the brown plate number (far right) and the outlines of the porch post printed in brown.

On coil stamps printed by companies other than the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, a letter precedes the plate numbers — An S indicates that the stamps were printed by Stamp Venturers, and a V means Avery Dennison made the stamps, while A is for American Bank Note Co.



HARMER-SCHAU, INC.

CASH FOR STAMPS

**BUY • AUCTION
ALSO LETTERS • POSTCARDS**



LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE

800-378-6454



www.harmerschau.com

617A Second St., Petaluma, CA 94952



WANTED: SPECIALIZED COLLECTIONS

While we like to buy specialized collections and rarities individually, we do buy material of all types. Most of our buying comes from the dealers whom most of you know, and we pay their prices after they buy from you, the collector! So ... doesn't it make sense to call us first and check our interests? If we cannot personally visit you at your home or office, we will have one of our trusted associate dealers do so to give you first class service which people have come to expect from Quality Investors, Ltd., my firm since 1969. Call with confidence as we are members in good standing of ASDA, PTS, CCNY, APS [Life Member], USSS, USPSS, and others.

To Make a Confidential Appointment, Please Call Me At:

Robert Markovits, President
Quality Investors, Ltd.

P.O. Box 891 Q
Middletown, NY 10940
845-343-2174; fax 845-343-9008
E-mail: rlmarkovits@aol.com

The APS Champion of Champions for 1999

P.S.: I personally collect U.S. Special Delivery Stamps, Proofs, Essays, and Postal History of the World ... I look forward to buying this material from you at top prices as well.

Mr. Zip is Very Hip!

HAS THE USPS ICON JOINED SPEEDY ALKA-SELTZER, THE JOLLY GREEN GIANT, THE ESSO TIGER, AND A HOST OF OTHER ADVERTISING CHARACTERS IN RETIREMENT? OR WILL HE MAKE A COMEBACK?

By Heather Sweeting

As a 6-year-old I believe I may have been subliminally brainwashed into becoming a future stamp collector when my dad gave me a Mr. Zip lunch box and thermos. Surely at the time the *Brady Bunch* was much more popular, but Mr. Zip was a friendly character. I don't know where the lunch box went. I have seen them on eBay bringing a nice sum, but I still have a residual fondness for Mr. Zip.

On July 1, 1963 the USPS introduced a five digit zoning improvement plan (ZIP). The plan was created to speed the efficiency and delivery of mail. Mass mailers with large databases adapted to the change fairly well, but the general consumer was not inclined or interested to add the new code to their mail. Each digit of the ZIP code helped to code and



direct mail to a specific area. What would prod millions of postal customers to use this new code? None other than the speediest postal character of all — Mr. Zip.

Harold Wilcox, son of a mail carrier and worker at a New York advertising agency created a sketch of a comical mail carrier for a bank's mail campaign. The design rights were later transferred to AT&T which allowed the USPS to use it for free. The post office changed the caricature slightly and unveiled the design of Mr. Zip in October 1962. He began to publicize the system when ZIP usage began on July 1, 1963.

For the next four to five years, Mr. Zip was a busy character. He first appeared in the margin of the five-cent Sam Houston stamp in January 1964. Various others show Mr. Zip saying "Use ZIP Code." In some he would be speedily rushing an envelope to your door, while in others he raised his hand as if he were waving a reminder. Mr. Zip was promoted in post office posters, television commercials such as the one where Ethel Merman sang *Zip-a-Dee-Doo-Dah*, and Time, Reader's Digest, and Vogue magazine inserts.

Mr. Zip was a fantastic success. The 1967 *Report of the Postmaster General* states that "virtually every person in the Nation was exposed to the ZIP Code Message. Nearly 1000 newspapers and magazines carried public service announcements ... Radio and television spot

Continued on Page 16

Mr. Zip lunch box and thermos offered online

JOHN J. NUNES PRESENTS
THREE GREAT VENUES

RS STAMP SHOW

Door Prizes • Free Parking • 19 Dealers

10 a.m.–4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4

2006 Shows: March 5, June 4, Aug. 23, and Nov. 26

Eagles Club #52, 100 Buffalo Rd. (Rt. 33), Rochester, NY
Thruway Exits 45 or 47, take I-490 to Exit 7A (Rt. 33 East),
go 1.7 miles east to the Eagles Club on the left

**CAPITAL DISTRICT STAMP
& MANIA SHOWS**

Stamps • Post Cards • Covers • Supplies • Free Admission & Parking

Post Card Mania 7: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Sunday Nov. 20

2006 Shows: Cover Mania Feb. 18–19, Post Card Mania Nov. 19, 2006

Monthly Show

10 a.m.–4 p.m. Sept. 18

Future Shows: Oct. 16, Dec. 18, Jan. 16, 2006, March 19, April 16,
May 21, June 18, July 11, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, and Dec. 17

All Shows At Clarion Hotel, 3 Watervliet Ave., Albany, NY
Just Off Exit 5 Of I-90, 4 Miles East of Thruway Exit 24

**GREAT BARRINGTON PAPER
MANIA SHOW**

Covers • Stamps • Post Cards • Ephemera

10 a.m.–4 p.m. Sunday, November 27

2006 Shows: June 25, July 23, Aug. 27, and Nov. 26

Berkshire South Community Center, 15 Crissey Rd.,
Great Barrington, MA (off Rt. 7)



CONTACT JOHN J. NUNES

80 FREDERICKS ROAD, SCOTIA, NY 12302

518•399•8395 • E-MAIL NUNESNOOK@AOL.COM

Mr. Zip — Continued from Page 14

announcements were broadcast thousands of times. Hundreds of thousands of envelope enclosures were mailed as part of advertising and billing packets by many of the Nation's largest firms." During October President Lyndon Johnson declared ZIP Code week in the 300 largest cities. By the end of 1967 well over half of the first class mail customers were putting ZIP codes on their mail, a truly remarkable transformation!



Today there are many opportunities to create a Mr. Zip collection. One might choose to collect ZIP blocks. These are the corner margins or sheets that have the picture of Mr. Zip in them. This is a collection that can be completed at a moderate price and may be especially appealing to youngsters and the generation that first met Mr. Zip as a child.

Many *Mr. Zip Meets Date Station* cancels have been produced in the last few years. This might be a great idea for your club to undertake in the future. For example, if your ZIP code is 12106 (Kinderhook, NY), a pictorial cancel on Dec. 1, 2006, would be when your date and ZIP code coincide. For those of us with ZIP codes such as 13126, the opportunity may be many years away, but it is still a fun idea. Another way to collect Mr. Zip is through his appearance on First Day Cachets, souvenir sheets, and original postal advertising materials. Mr. Zip Posters, postcards advising patrons of their ZIP codes, Zip-a-list cards etc., are all fun to find.

The popularity of the Mr. Zip character himself, in all his charming manner has led to many other products that have his image on it. A quick search on eBay can produce bobble heads, tie tacks, a fantastic bank, a children's story book, tin mailboxes, and, yes, even that old lunch box. Promotional Products Group of Ohio features a great bunch of Mr. Zip shirts in many different styles on their Web site.

Mr. Zip started to fade from the public view when the ZIP + 4 code was introduced in the 1970s. He can be found on a few issues in the 1980s but largely faded from view by the 90s. Now middle aged, in his early 40s, Mr. Zip still retains his sprightly figure and can still put some zip into your day! Maybe with a little organized effort by fellow collectors we can even get Mr. Zip on a postal stamp for his 50th birthday. What a great release that would be for stamp collecting month!

B.N.A. 2005
CONVENTION



FR. JUSTIN & COLUMBIAN BANQUET HALLS
Knights of Columbus

2735 UNION RD., CHEEKTOWAGA (Suburban Buffalo, NY, Thruway Exit 52A)

October 1 & 2, 2005

Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm – Sunday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

OVER 100 TABLES
COINS • STAMPS • CURRENCY
& OTHER COLLECTIBLES

BUYING, SELLING, COINS, TOKENS, STAMPS
CURRENCY, POST CARDS

FREE DOOR PRIZES EVERY 2 HOURS

FREE APPRAISALS
EXHIBITS

DEALERS FROM ALL OVER U.S. & CANADA

Monthly Bourse — 2005

Stamps, Post Cards, Coins & Currency Auction

From 10 am to 5 pm Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18

FREE PARKING – Info. Call 716-694-2724 or 716-633-4104

Sponsored by Buffalo Numismatic Association, Inc.

USPS Honors Hispanic Culture

By Judy Routson

Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15. Since 1984 the U.S. Postal Service has celebrated Hispanic culture on several stamps.

ROBERTO CLEMENTE (1934–1972), the first Hispanic player elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1973, was the first Hispanic American honored on a U.S. stamp (Scott 2097). The 20-cent commemorative was issued Aug. 17, 1984, the day before the 50th anniversary of his birth. Clemente died at age 38 in a plane crash while flying relief supplies to Nicaraguan earthquake victims on New Year's Eve in 1972. He was honored again on July 6, 2000 as one of the players depicted on the *Legends of Baseball* pane of 20 (Scott 3408J).



The USPS issued a 20-cent stamp (Scott 2103) on Oct. 31, 1984 honoring all Hispanics. While Clemente is the only Hispanic professional athlete to appear on a U.S. stamp, other Hispanic Americans have been recognized for their contributions to humanitarianism, politics, art, and entertainment. In all fewer than a dozen Hispanics have been honored.

LUIS MUÑOZ MARÍN (1898–1980), the first elected governor of Puerto Rico, is honored on a five-cent definitive, (Scott 2173) issued Feb. 18, 1990 in San Juan as part of the *Great Americans Series*. He was instrumental in gaining Puerto Rico's independence from the U.S. In 1932 Marín was elected to the Puerto Rican Senate. In 1948 he became the first governor to be elected rather than appointed by Washington. When he was reelected in 1952 he became the first governor of the new Commonwealth. He was reelected in 1956 and 1960 and was returned to the Puerto Rican Senate in 1968.

Another *Great Americans Series* stamp honors **DENNIS CHAVEZ** (1888–1962), the first American-born Hispanic senator. The 35-cent definitive (Scott 2186) was issued April 3, 1991 in Albuquerque, NM. He quit school at 13 to help support his family, but later attended Georgetown University Law School and practiced in Albuquerque. Chavez was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1922 and to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1930. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1935 until his death. As a senator, Chavez introduced many civil rights reform bills. His fight for establishment of a Fair Employment Practice Commission to enforce anti-discrimination laws won him national attention.

Continued on Page 20



Twelve
Monthly Issues
\$25/year (USA only)

**SUBSCRIBE
TODAY!**

888-698-0734

www.journalofantiques.com

We provide our readers with colorful, original articles written by the experts...

- **Covers**
Doug Finch
- **The Wonderful World of Coins**
James C. Johnston, Jr.
- **Collecting Old and Rare Books**
James Dawson
- **The Kovel's on Collecting**
Ralph & Terry Kovel
- **The Business of Doing Business in Antiques**
Ed Welch
- **Celebrity Collector**
Ken Hall
- **Website-ings**
Mike McLeod
- **Flea Market Guide**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **The Civil War Collector**
John Sexton
- **Ken's Korner**
Ken Hall
- **Gavels 'n' Paddles**
Results of Auctions
- **Antiques Shop Finder**

The
JOURNAL
of Antiques and Collectibles

Some of America's most attractive stamps are in Revenue Philately.

America's 19th century revenue stamps are artfully-created tiny pieces of history and are terrific fun to collect. We have them in all price ranges. You can easily view our entire stock of United States and Canadian revenue stamps by going to our large website—then click to go to our Online Catalog. View full color images and purchase safely and securely with your credit card. Also: send for our large printed price list which includes everything we offer.



Eric Jackson



P.O. Box 728 • Leesport PA 19533-0728

(610) 926-6200 • Fax: (610) 926-0120 • Email: eric@revenueer.com

www.ericjackson.com

Visit our eBay Store:

www.stores.eBay.com/Eric-Jackson-Revenue-Stamps



The goods and/or services described above are those of an eBay Stores seller, not eBay Inc. eBay and the eBay Stores logo are trademarks of eBay Inc.

USPS Honors Hispanic Culture — Continued from Page 18

RITCHIE VALENS (1941–1959), rock 'n roll singer, songwriter, and guitarist, is featured on a 29-cent stamp issued June 16, 1993 (Scott 2727), in the *Rock & Roll/Rhythm & Blues* issue of the *Legends of American Music Series*. It is one of seven stamps honoring legendary musicians who blended the rhythms and sounds of several cultures to create a unique American music form.



Born Richard Valenzuela in Pacoima, CA, Valens was 17 when he recorded *C'Mon Let's Go*, *Donna*, and *La Bamba*. His career ended abruptly in 1959 when a small chartered plane he shared with Buddy Holly and the Big Bopper crashed near Clear Lake, IA. In addition to being issued in a sheet format, the stamp was also issued as a booklet (Scott 2734).

Educator, humanitarian, and social reformer **PADRE FÉLIX VARELA** (1788–1853) is considered by many to be a *saint*. The Cuban-born immigrant was honored with a 32-cent stamp (Scott 3166) on Sept. 15, 1997. Varela devoted 30 years to advocating human rights; fighting slavery, ethnic hatred, and gender oppression; founding orphanages; and comforting the sick and dying. He organized the New York Catholic Temperance Association, and virtually lived in hospitals while caring for cholera victims during an 1832 epidemic.

DESI ARNAZ (1917–1986) is best remembered as Ricky Ricardo, co-star of the *I Love Lucy* TV show. The Cuban band leader's likeness can be found, along with that of his TV and real-life wife, Lucille Ball, on a 33-cent stamp (Scott 3187L) issued May 26, 1999 as part of the *Celebrate the Century Series*. The stamp was among the public's 15 selections for stamps commemorating the 1950s. Arnaz was known primarily as a musician before he married Ball in 1940. Ten years later they formed Desilu Productions, and soon began *I Love Lucy*. They had two children before divorcing in 1960.

Controversial Mexican artist **FRIDA KAHLO** (1907–1954), best known for her self-portraits, is the first Hispanic woman to be honored with a U.S. postage stamp. The 34-cent commemorative (Scott 3509) was issued on June 21, 2001. Kahlo grew up in the years immediately following the Mexican Revolution of 1910 and joined the Young Communist League in 1927. Stricken by polio in early childhood and seriously injured in a streetcar accident at 18, she endured severe pain throughout her life. Her physical suffering, inability to bear children, and tumultuous marriage to Mexican muralist Diego Rivera are reflected in much of her work.

The most recent Hispanic American to be honored by the USPS is Civil rights and farm labor leader **CESAR CHAVEZ** (1927–1993). A 37-cent stamp (Scott 3781) was issued April 23, 2003 on the tenth anniversary of his death. The former migrant worker founded the United Farm Workers of America, AFL–CIO. A tireless advocate for nonviolent social change, he dedicated his life to working in service of others.



I Want Old Letters

AND BOTH PERSONAL & BUSINESS
CORRESPONDENCE, DIARIES,
AND JOURNALS PRE 1900.

ALSO LOOKING FOR PRINTED ENCLOSURES,
INTERESTING CONTENT LETTERS,
CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS' LETTERS,
AUTOGRAPHS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE,
AND BOTH U.S. AND FOREIGN COVER
COLLECTIONS AND ACCUMULATIONS.

Stephen Resnick

2783 WEST LAKE ROAD, CAZENOVIA, NY 13035
3 1 5 - 6 5 5 - 2 8 1 0



UPSTATE'S LEADING

UNITED STATES DEALER

For over 16 years STEVE MALACK STAMPS has been in business
BUYING and SELLING Quality U.S. Stamps and Coins.

Whether you are BUYING or SELLING contact STEVE MALACK STAMPS today!

SEE OUR WEBSITE

with over 8000 COLOR PHOTOS and 3000 AUCTION LOTS

WWW.MALACK.COM

INTEGRITY – VALUE – SERVICE – QUALITY

STEVE MALACK STAMPS

P.O. Box 5628 Endicott, NY 13763

607-862-9441 (phone/Fax)

BUYING / SELLING U.S. STAMPS and COINS

PHILATELIC TRANSFORMATIONS

By James Darnell

The first parts of some philatelic terms can be changed one letter at a time into the second parts of the terms, forming legitimate words at each step. An example is changing *wet* into *gum* in three steps:

WET → GET → GUT → GUM

Can you transform the first parts of these philatelic terms at the top of each of the four sets into the second parts of the terms in just four steps?

P	O	S	T
C	A	R	D

B	U	L	K
M	A	I	L

W	A	N	T
L	I	S	T

P	O	S	T
M	A	R	K

Answers on page 41



Stamp Insider Caption Contest

Submit a caption for this picture and win a prize. First prize is a grab bag supplied by President John J. Nunes and second prize is a USPS Boris Karloff T-shirt. Send your entries by Oct. 10 to Heather Sweeting, 14329 Victory St., Sterling NY 13156-3172; e-mail: hsweetin@twcny.rr.com. The two winners will be announced in the November–December issue of the *STAMP INSIDER*.



Visit the UNPA booth at Mega-Event to obtain the latest United Nations products

**You are invited to attend
the United Nations First Day Ceremony
20 October, at 10.30 a.m., to launch
the Food For Life issue**

UNPA staff will be in attendance at the booth to offer a wide range of philatelic products.



Call toll-free 1-800-234-UNP A (9.30 a.m. Monday to Friday).
You may also fax your order to: 1-212-963-9854; or e-mail: unpa@un.org

**UNITED NATIONS POSTAL ADMINISTRATION
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, NY 10017 <http://unstamps.un.org>**

2005 Luff Honorees



Ann Triggler, Alfred E. Kugel, and Cheryl Edgcomb Cited

Ann Triggler, Alfred E. Kugel, and Cheryl Edgcomb, from left below, received the 2005 John N. Luff Awards, the highest recognition accorded by the American Philatelic Society, at the 2005 STAMPSHOW awards banquet Aug. 6 in Grand Rapids, MI. Triggler was honored for *Outstanding Service to the APS*, Edgcomb for *Exceptional Contributions to Philately*, and Kugel for *Distinguished Philatelic Research*. Luff Awards Chairman Robert P. Odenweller oversees Triggler, a Buffalo Stamp Club member, top left, and Edgcomb, Stamp Camp USA Program Coordinator and Elmira Stamp Club member, top right, as they sign the Luff Awards Scroll. Kugel, of Chicago, is a member of the Collectors Club of New York.

Photos by Barbara Boal / APS

We Are Now Buying!

COLLECTIONS, COINS, CURRENCY,
POSTCARDS, STAMPS, COVERS,
SPORTS & NON-SPORTS TRADING
CARDS, AND AUTOGRAPHS

Fully Guaranteed Appraisals

10 a.m.–4 p.m. Tuesday–Friday; 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday; Closed Sunday & Monday

Mideastern Galleries LLC

Joseph O. Christofaro, Yon Christofaro & William Lambert

607 East Dominick Street, Rome, NY 13440

Phone: 315-339-1628 • Cell: 315-832-1680

E-mail: Mideastern@verizon.net

American Eagle Trading Cards

Sports and Non-sports Cards and Supplies

607 East Dominick Street
Rome, NY 13440

Phone: 315-334-9380

E-mail: grampsny@excite.com

Shop Hours

Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Saturday 11 a.m.–3 p.m.



Appraisals by appointment

STPEX HONORING ELMIRA COLLEGE

Stamp Camp USA Scheduled October 22

The sesquicentennial of the founding of Elmira College in 1855 is the theme of *STPEX 2005* on Oct. 21 and 22. The 30th consecutive annual show sponsored by Elmira Stamp Club will be Friday, Oct. 21, from 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads, located at exit 51 off I-86 (formerly Rt. 17).

Purpose of the free show is to bring stamp collecting to the general public. *STPEX* is an acronym for Southern Tier–Elmira Philatelic Exhibition. There will be exhibits a of up to sixty 16-page frames and a bourse of 12–15 dealers primarily from New York and Pennsylvania.

A new attraction is the club's annual Super Auction. Normally held at the club's November meeting, this year's auction will be at 9 a.m. on Oct. 22. Lots must be consigned by club members and have a minimum bid of at least \$5. Descriptions will be prepared in advance and distributed at club meetings and *STPEX*. Both the auction and bidding are open to the public.

Stamp Camp USA will be on Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.–5 p.m. in a vacant store area adjacent to the show. Now in its 10th year, the camp is coordinated by former Knoxville, PA Postmaster Cheryl Edgcomb, an Elmira club member. A registration form may be obtained from her by writing to P.O. Box 377, Knoxville, PA 16928-0377, telephone 814-326-0810, e-mail stampcampusa@intergate.com, or by contacting Alan Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, telephone 607-732-0181, e-mail alatholleyrd@aol.com.

There will be a cacheted cover, pictorial cancel, and show program relating to the founding of the college, originally known as Elmira Female College and the first to grant women a baccalaureate degree equal to those granted to men. It remained a college for women until 1969, when it became co-ed.

The U.S. Postal Service will have a booth for sale of current philatelic products and will provide the pictorial show cancel. This will be available on a hand-back basis for any envelope or card bearing proper postage and will be applied to items mailed at the show. Show covers will also be available at club meetings after the show or by mail for \$2 plus #10 SASE from Robert Barron, 147 Gray St., Apt. 812, Elmira, NY 14901.

Adult and junior exhibits will be judged separately and gold, silver and bronze awards will be made in both categories based on point scores from a jury of Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies judges. In addition, there will be balloting by show visitors for the most popular exhibit. The judges will hold a critique on Oct. 22 afternoon for the benefit of exhibitors and anyone else interested in philatelic exhibiting.

Collectors wishing to exhibit at *STPEX* may contact Parsons for an Exhibitor Information and Entry Form. Frames are free of charge to Elmira club members and junior exhibitors; \$4 per frame to others. Elmira Stamp Club dues are \$5 and membership is open to all collectors. Exhibits are needed and frames are still available.

Flying Around The Globe

I have decided to take you around the globe. We certainly live on a most interesting planet. We can find people living in all types of environments, in cities, in jungles and now, even up above our most beautiful planet.

Place Stamp Here

This stamp was issued in 1996 and shows our President's home in Washington, DC. At this time President George W. Bush lives there. Our first president did not live in the home.

Place Stamp Here

If you travel a bit further north of our northern border you will be in Canada. This stamp shows the great floral clock near Niagara Falls. This stamp has a denomination of 18 cents and was issued in 1972.

I never traveled in an airplane to get to some of the places on my stamps, but with my collection I have found many interesting places around the globe.

Place
Stamp

Place
Stamp

Place
Stamp

Place
Stamp

These four stamps all come from the same design showing the island nation of Japan. Japan can be found west of our United States across the Pacific Ocean. The first stamp has a denomination of 35 yen. Yen is the kind of money used in Japan. Each of the other 3 stamps is more costly to purchase. All 4 pictures show the city of Tokyo. I think I would like to visit Tokyo and meet some of the people who live there.

Place Stamp Here

This is a beautiful example of a stamp from China and was issued in 1993. The picture is of the Great Wall of China. The lengthy wall was built thousands of years ago to keep out foreigners. A foreigner is a person from another country. China has more people in it than any other country in the world. If you look carefully you can see some sightseers on the wall.

A Youth and Philately Project By Robert Finnegan

I have been a youth advisor for more than 30 years at Sidney, NY, Elementary School. Our school offers a stamp club to our students in grades three to five. With October Stamp Collecting Month in mind, I am sharing an activity I might use with collectors of this age. The activity sheet is generic and may be changed easily with other information. This is an example of a way to mount and exhibit a few stamps of interest to a student. It involves knowledge of the stamp or topic inherent in the stamp. I try to enable students to develop a variety of skills, of which research is one. A customizable Microsoft Word template may be downloaded at <http://mysite.verizon.net/awstark>.

Publicize Your Club



**Name of
your club**

Meeting day, date, and time

at

***Location of your meeting, including
directions, contact name & number***

**Please come join us
at our next meeting**

**New members are
welcome any time!**

Get the word out to your community about stamp club meetings. Heather Sweeting originally designed this poster for the Oswego and Fulton clubs during Stamp Collecting Month 2005. A customizable Microsoft Word template may be downloaded at <http://mysite.verizon.net/awstark>.

THE STORY BEHIND THE STAMP

NICARAGUA, 1901

Stanley Gibbons Catalog #169

Before Panama was chosen as the site of the canal between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, most U.S. senators favored a shorter route through Nicaragua.

A shrewd lobbyist for Panama, however, purchased a number of Nicaraguan stamps that pictured the volcano Mount Momotombo with an ash cloud issuing from the crater. He circulated the stamps among the senators and convinced them that the threat of volcanic eruption was a menace to the proposed canal. The issue was settled in favor of Panama. (Momotombo did, in fact, erupt in 1902 and again in 1905.)



This is a surcharged variety of that persuasive stamp.

Research by Daniel A. Piazza

Source: Herman Herst, THE COMPLETE PHILATELIST (Washington Press, 1979)

*Daniel A. Piazza welcomes suggestions for this column. Please send them to
dpiazza@twcny.rr.com.*

DON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE!

**Stamp
Insider**

NOW EVERYONE CAN RECEIVE THE JOURNAL!

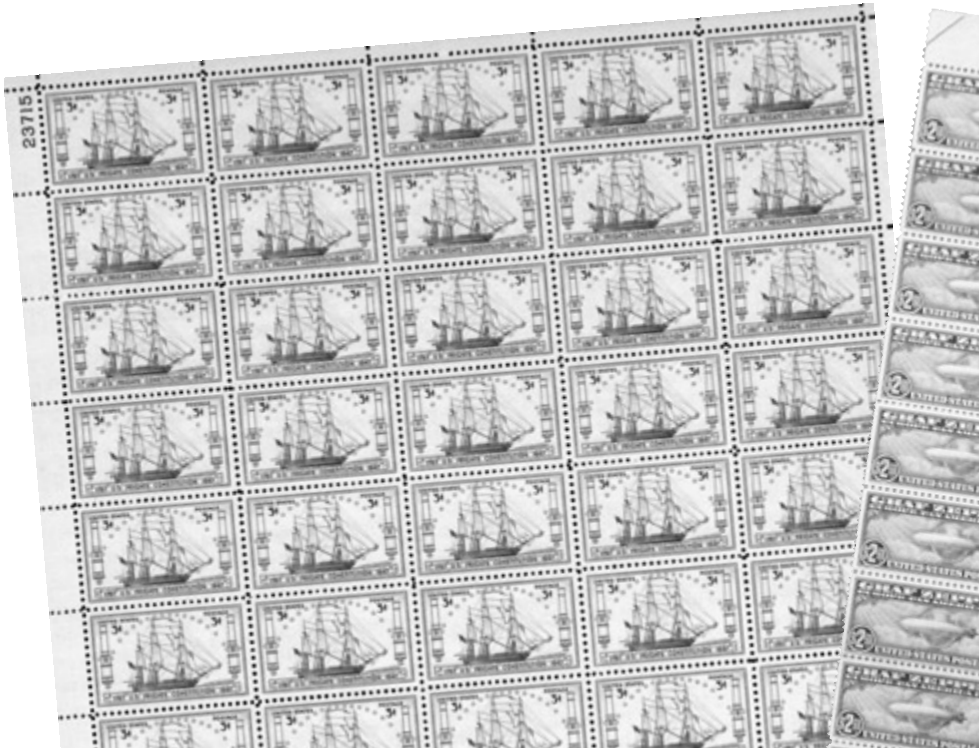
Members of Federation-affiliated organizations not receiving the Journal may subscribe for *only* \$3.30 per year.

All others may subscribe for *only* \$6.00 per year.

Send your name, address, affiliation, and payment to:

STAMP INSIDER
P.O. Box 401
Fulton, NY 13069-0401

Mystic Buys



Common

Mystic serves thousands of active stamp collectors. From beginners to seasoned veterans, these collectors have a wide range of needs and tastes. We satisfy them all. And that's why we need all your stamps – from great rarities to the most common issues.

We're looking for the following...

- Rare/High-quality stamps, U.S. and worldwide
- Award-winning collections

- Entire stamp dealer inventory, show dealer stocks
- United States stamps
- Worldwide country stamps
- Error stamps
- Accumulations and misc (they don't need to)
- Postage lots
- Worldwide new issues

Mystic
We Pay More For Your Stamps

All Stamps...



Rare

er stocks, store
dealer and mail order

up collections
y or topical collections

d mixed stamps
o be organized)

sue stamps



We Pay More for Your Stamps
Call 800-835-3609

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number (include area code)

United States Worldwide Collection Accumulation

Approximate value _____

Based on _____

Brief description of stamps _____

Mystic Stamp Company

Attention: Buying Department

9700 Mill Street, Camden, N.Y. 13316

Phone: 1-800-835-3609 Fax: 1-800-385-4919

StampBuyer@MysticStamp.com

BA581

Copyright © 2005 Mystic Stamp Company, Inc.

Unadilla Museum Celebrating Stamp Collecting Month

Unadilla Historical Association will celebrate Stamp Collecting Month in October at its museum, 131 Main St. Both the collectors and non-collectors are invited to attend this event. The U. S. Postal Service will provide a special postmark honoring the event on Oct. 1.

The exhibit will open on Saturday, Oct. 1 from noon–4 p.m., and will continue during the museum's regular hours: 1–4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2 and 9, 4–6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 6, and 1–4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8.



The Unadilla Historical Association plans to invite students from the Unadilla Elementary School and the local Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops to visit the museum during the event. Youngsters visiting the museum will receive a free packet of stamps.

With the support of the Tri-County Stamp Club and the American Philatelic Society, the association will host a history-related display of stamp and cover exhibits. The theme will be *Collecting Stamps is Collecting History*. Purpose of the event is to introduce the public to the many facets and joys of stamp collecting and postal history as they can be related to history in general. This will not be a stamp show with judged exhibits or a dealer bourse.

The principal display will be a 160-page exhibit of the postal history of Otsego County. The display includes a 1797 letter from Cooperstown, and early letters from many other present and former post offices in Otsego County.

Examples of the first U.S. postage stamps from 1847 are in the display. Fancy postmarks and cancels together with patriotic envelopes from the Civil War and advertising envelopes from 19th and early 20th century Otsego County businesses form a large portion of the display. Many different rates of postage are shown along with the special services provided by the postal service.

Since the first post office opened at Cherry Valley on Aug. 20, 1794 there have been 107 independent post offices that operated in Otsego County. This total includes several changes in name, but not changes in spelling. Letters and postal markings from 88 of those post offices are included in the exhibit.

In addition to the Otsego County exhibit there will be exhibits titled *Meet Andrew Jackson*, *The George Washington Bicentennial*, *Railroads on Stamps*, *The American Indians*, and *Project Mercury*. There will also be samples of the literature devoted to stamp collecting, including the *STAMP INSIDER*. Tri-County Stamp Club members will be present to answer questions about stamp collecting and stamp material that visitors might have.

— William H. Bauer

COMMUNICATIONS

Share your opinions!

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



MEMORIES OF THE OLD AUBURN STAMP CLUB

Although I no longer live in Central New York, I was brought up in Auburn and, as a third-generation member of the Auburn Stamp Club, learned much of the basics of philately at club meetings. I was sorry to see the club recently listed as defunct. (I prefer to think of it as *awaiting reactivation*.)

Which brings me to the enclosed clipping, presumably from what was then the Auburn Citizen-Advertiser, describing a stamp show held in Auburn years ago. The first committee member mentioned, Charles Kimball, was my grandfather. Although grandpa neglected to date this clipping, I know that he moved from Auburn in the mid-1930s and suspect, from the reporter's fascination with the display of beer revenue stamps, that it was held sometime around the end of prohibition in 1933.

Ironically, the location of the show, then Second Presbyterian Church, now Westminster Presbyterian, was, as I understand it, the Auburn Stamp Club's most recent meeting place until it became inactive a few years ago.

It was another 25 years or so before I joined the club, and the only other name mentioned that I recognize is Charles L. Messer, who ultimately became the Auburn postmaster between 1953 and 1961. I wonder if any of your readers remember any of the people mentioned?

David A. Kent
New Britain, CT

David A. Kent is Associate Editor of Mekeel's and Stamps Magazine and philatelic columnist for the Hartford Courant.

BEER REVENUE STAMPS MAGNET AT EXHIBITION

Doctor Davenport Displays
Some of Uncle Sam's "Big
Mistakes"—Many Collectors
At Banquet

Nearly 70 interested stamp collectors from Aurora, Moravia, Ithaca, Elmira, Hammondport, Syracuse and Oneida attended the annual banquet of the Auburn Stamp Club held last evening in the Church House of Second Presbyterian Church. George Underwood, Jr., president, presided.

Each guest received a large envelope containing favors in the form of stamp lists, prices, stamps and stamp magazines. Following



R. J. ASSOCIATES

Stamps & Covers Dealer

*Buying • Selling • Appraisals
Specializing in U.S., Topicals, German*

RONALD J. YEAGER

P.O. Box 774 • Bradford, PA 16701-1318
814-362-4471 • E-mail: cry@atlanticbb.net



ADIRONDACK STAMP, POST CARD & EPHEMERA CLUB

Meets at 7:30 p.m. first and third Fridays at Glens Falls National Bank Community Room, 13 South St.

Directions — Call Joe Kopczak before 9 p.m. at 518-761-0020

CLUB DELAYS SEPTEMBER MEETING

The club, which met throughout July and August, will not meet on Sept. 2 — its first scheduled meeting of the month — because that Friday is the beginning of the long Labor Day holiday weekend. The club will meet on its regularly scheduled dates of Sept. 16 and Oct. 7 and 21.

COVERS STILL AVAILABLE

Due to a dearth of shows during the summer a few of each of the covers previously offered are still available.

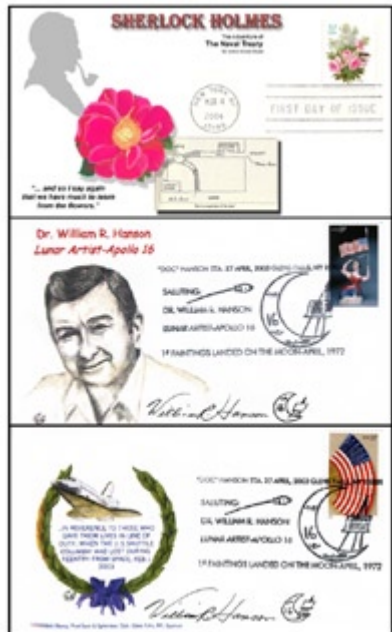
The U.S. flower FDCs with full-color Sherlock Holmes cachets, a limited edition of 100 which were introduced at our May 6 Sherlockian program, are \$10 postpaid. They will be signed on request, front or back.

On April 27, 2003 the Glens Falls Post Office honored the club president with a *Doc Hanson Station* pictorial postmark in recognition of him as the only artist whose original paintings were flown to the moon. Color cachets — one in tribute to the Columbia astronauts and one with a portrait of “Doc” — are \$6.60 per set postpaid, signed on request front only.

Checks or money orders for covers should be payable to William R. Hanson and sent to William R. Hanson, MD, 78 W. Notre Dame, Glens Falls, NY 12801.

PROGRAMS

- Sept. 16 — *Philatelic Show & Tell* — bring a stamp or cover to talk about
- Oct. 7 — *Collecting Stamp Designer Autographs* by Dr. William R. Hanson, international stamp designer
- Oct. 21 — TBA



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

*Meets twice monthly at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays
at VFW Leonard Post, Cheektowaga*

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



CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

The Board of Directors elected the following officers for 2005–2006: Fred Laufer, president; Bob Meegan, vice president; Alfred Carroccia, secretary; Bill Witschard, treasurer; and Casey Kielbasa, membership secretary.

Clara Remy, who died in June, bequeathed her collection, which is strong in Austria and Hungary, to the club. The directors have reserved judgment on its disposition until the club takes possession. Ms. Remy will be remembered with an award to be presented at BUFPEX.

FALL PROGRAMS AND BOURSE

Because September has five Fridays, the first auction will be on Sept. 9 and the second meeting will fall on Sept. 23. Please make note of this change if you plan to attend these meetings. A one-day fall bourse is tentatively scheduled Nov. 19, 2005 at VFW Leonard Post in Cheektowaga. More details will be in the club's column in the November–December *STAMP INSIDER*.

SUMMER PICNIC ENJOYABLE

While most members set aside their albums for the summer, a small number, their families and guests gathered at Meegan Manor for the annual club picnic on July 23. Good food, a sunny day, and an impromptu auction ensured a perfect event. Guests included Thomas M. Fortunato of Rochester. The auction saw about two dozen lots including a one of U.S. special delivery material quickly taken by Tim Carey, probably to be seen in a future exhibit! Thanks to our hosts, Bob and Mary Meegan and their family.

AN INTERESTING COVER

I discovered a rather innocent 1993 club cover franked with three stamps paying the 29-cent rate. Or did they? Closer examination shows it is franked with two-cent U.S. Scott 1450–1451 and 25 ruble Russia Scott 6083 to pay the 29-cent rate. The latter was part of a joint issue with the U.S. (Scott 2634). The cover was cancelled by the automated machinery because all the stamps are tagged. But it would have passed a quick visual inspection as the stamps total 29. With the state of the Russian economy and the exchange rate this envelope was mailed at a substantial bargain.





CENTRAL NEW YORK FIRST DAY COVER SOCIETY

AFDCS Chapter 53

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

e-mail rocket@dreamscape.com



STAMP COLLECTING MONTH FDCs

Every once in a while the USPS gets things right during Stamp Collecting Month and releases a stamp or postal card that actually relates to stamp collecting.

Collectors create millions of dollars of revenue for the USPS every year; \$36 million in Elvis stamps were sold but how many were used? How much did the post office benefit from those that were saved? Last year's Stamp Collecting Month release was *cloudscapes*, which although popular and pretty had nothing to do with collecting. This year's release is the *constellations* sheet. Maybe the USPS folks have their head up in the stars now. Read the cover article and perhaps you will start campaigning for a *Mr. Zip Turns 50* stamp in October 2013.

A few of the past stamp collecting month issues really did celebrate the many collectors who hoard, collect, soak, mount, and exhibit stamps and covers. The eight-cent commemorative (Scott 1474) stamp collecting stamp was released on Nov. 17, 1972 in New York for the 125th anniversary of the post office. It depicts a Ben Franklin stamp, (Scott 1) being viewed through a magnifying glass. Franklin was the first Postmaster General and without him there would be no stamps to collect.

On Jan. 23, 1986, at APS headquarters in State College, PA, a booklet of four different 22-cent stamps was released that honored *Stamp Collecting — a hobby for life*. This booklet was a joint issue with Sweden and was planned in honor of *AMERIPEX '86* in Chicago. Finding these booklet stamps on a philatelic cover is very easy. Finding this issue on a piece of mail is difficult.

AMERIPEX '86 hosted the first day cancellation for a postal card (Scott UX110) on May 23, 1986. The card showed a group of women and men trading and looking at philatelic materials. The 14-cent postal card bore the caption *stamps the universal hobby* under the picture.

— Heather Sweeting

CHENANGO VALLEY STAMP CLUB

Contact Braden Houston, President
2063 Spring St. Hamilton, NY 13346
E-mail: bhouston@mail.colgate.edu



BANQUET OPENING CLUB'S SEASON

Our first fall meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 7, will be our traditional banquet at Lewis' Restaurant, junction of Routes 12 and 12B in Sherburne, NY. Future meetings are on the first Monday of each month.

RECAP

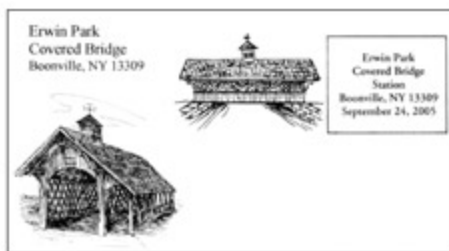
I trust many of you followed *A Brief History of Hamilton* in the last three issues of the *STAMP INSIDER*. A great deal has happened in our village since the first town meeting in April 1795. It was interesting to see the role Colgate University (formerly Madison University) played in the development of Hamilton.

PROGRAMS

- Sept. 7 — Fall banquet
- Oct. 3 — TBA
- Nov. 7 — TBA
- Dec. 5 — Holiday party

Boonville Covered Bridge Dedication Cover

Boonville's Erwin Park covered bridge was big news last November when an estimated 300 spectators watched a huge crane lift the structure into place over the Black River Canal. Since then volunteers have continued construction work. A ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony will be Sept. 24 from 1–2 p.m. in Erwin Park, 13354 State Route 12.



Along with the music, food, and speeches by dignitaries, there will also be a special pictorial cancellation sponsored by Fort Stanwix Stamp Club of Rome. Artist John D. Mahaffy of Boonville has designed the cancellation and cachet.

Covers are \$3 each or two for \$5 with an SASE from the Fort Stanwix Stamp Club, c/o Joseph O. Christofaro, Mideastern Galleries LLC, 607 E. Dominick St., Rome, NY 13440. Checks or money orders should be payable to the club. More information about the dedication is available from Judy Routson at 315-942-4173 or e-mail jaroutson@aol.com.

DANSVILLE 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 RESUMING MEETINGS ON SEPTEMBER 17

We had our last meeting for the summer on June 19. We had 26 members present, which was a very good turn out. Our next regular meeting is on Sunday, Sept. 17 at Dansville Town Hall on Clara Barton Street.

HISTORIC COVER

Dansville commemorated Clara Barton with a special cachet during National Air Mail Week, which was May 15–21, 1938. The six-cent red and blue airmail stamp was issued on May 14 and was used on most NAMW covers.



2005 TPA Youth Holiday Cover Contest

The Texas Philatelist, journal of the Texas Philatelic Association, Inc., is seeking entries for its 16th annual Youth Holiday Cover Contest for junior philatelists. The contest includes Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan, or the holiday the entrant's family recognizes.

The age groups are 7 and younger, 8–9 years, 10–12 years, and 13–18 years. All juniors are encouraged to enter regardless of where they live and even if they are not affiliated with a club. Several past winners have come from the Utica, NY, area.

The first place winner's entry will be featured on the cover of the November–December issue of *The Texas Philatelist*. The prize is the *Kenmore World Album for Commemorative and Pictorial Postage Stamps* plus some stamps. First-place winners in each age division will win a philatelic fun packet plus a little stamp money. Those winning second- and third-places, tying for places, and honorable mentions in the three age groups will be sent a packet of surprises. All winning artwork will be reproduced in *The Texas Philatelist*.

To enter the contest, design a stamp with a holiday theme in black ink on white paper and include the name of the country and denomination. Each entry should include the contestant's name, address, age, collecting interest, and a brief explanation of the artwork.

Send entries postmarked no later than Oct. 15 to Jane King Fohn, *The Texas Philatelist*, 10325 Little Sugar Creek, Converse, TX 78109-2409; telephone 210-566-1436; e-mail janekfohn@sbcglobal.net. Information about the contest and Texas Philatelic Association is available on the TPA website www.texasphilatelic.org.

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



SHOW AND FAIR HELP NEEDED

Help is needed Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. at Arnot Mall to bring in and assemble exhibit frames for *STEPEX*; on Oct. 21 at 7:30 a.m. to organize layout and mount exhibits; on Oct. 22 from 8–10 a.m. to help with *Stamp Camp USA* and Super Auction set up; and beginning at 6 p.m. to take down the show. Members are reminded to sign up for the club table; we need two members there at all times. There will be sign-up sheets at the September and October meetings.

The Elmira College Octagon Fair is an opportunity to promote the hobby. Judy Stewart is coordinating club attendance at the event Sept. 24 from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. She needs help with set-up between 7 and 9 a.m., tear down after 4 p.m., and attending the table during fair hours. Contact her by telephone at 607-732-7075, mail at 330 Washington Ave., Elmira 14901, or e-mail at marjuretired@aol.com. Families with young children attend the fair and Judy welcomes contributions of stamps and supplies to give away at the club table.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

- Congratulations to member CHERYL EDGCOMB and ANN TRIGGLE of Buffalo on receiving the APS Luff Award. Ann has judged at *STEPEX* and provided support in other ways. See page 24.
- The club extends condolences to the family of LEON KRASZEWSKI, a member and collector for many years who died June 25 at age 86.
- We welcome new junior member ELIZABETH VON HAGN of West Elmira, who lives not too far from her grandfather and philatelic mentor, HAROLD VON HAGN, former club president and current board member.

PROGRAMS

Sept. 20 — Auction

Sept. 24 — Elmira College Octagon Fair

Oct. 18 — Slide show: *Bird Boo-Boos, Ballyhoo and Balderdash: Design Errors on Bird Stamps*

Oct. 21–22 — *STEPEX 2005*, Arnot Mall (see page 26)

MEETING NOTES

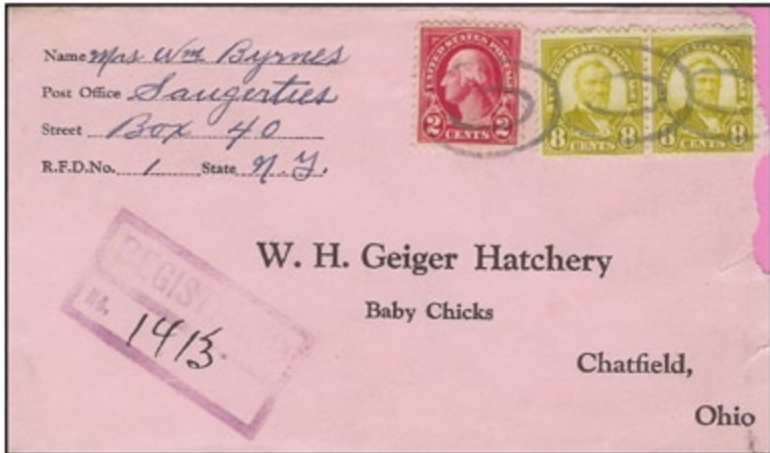
June — 22 present. President Mike Breed congratulated Alan Parsons on his election to the APS Board. Al thanked club members for their support and answered questions about the board. David Lester provided copies of a *New York Times* article on using of the Internet to

Continued on Page 53



**EMPIRE STATE
POSTAL HISTORY
SOCIETY**

www.esphs.org
Membership information —
Maris Tirums
P.O. Box 5475
Albany, NY 12205-0475



REGISTERED MAIL POSTMARKS

By Maris Tirums

Did you ever notice that registered covers mailed in the United States during the 1920s and until quite recently bear mute killer handstamps on the stamps and dated oval or circular postmarks on the backside?

Illustrated here is a registered letter mailed from Saugerties (Ulster County) to the W. H. Geiger Hatchery in Chatfield, Ohio. A boxed registry hand stamp is in the lower left corner of the envelope. The postmarks on the reverse reveal that the letter was mailed on March 9, 1938, and received in Chatfield two days later on March 11.

Why was this postmarking convention used? The answer lies in the Post Office Department's requirement that all registered letters be securely sealed, and that they remain so until delivered. The dated postmarks were applied to the back of the envelope to compel the postal clerk to turn over the letter so that they could check for proper closure. The stamps on the front merely had to be canceled to prevent reuse, and mute cancellers, usually oval and without the post office name or date, were used for this purpose.

Upon arrival at the addressee's post office, the receiving postmark was also applied to the reverse side of the letter and again, a postal clerk was forced to observe the back side to make sure the envelope had not been opened since it had been mailed.

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*



ANNUAL PICNIC IS ENJOYABLE

On June 22, club members and spouses and friends again enjoyed the hospitality of members John and Ginny Bourke, who hosted our annual FLSC picnic and *Anything Auction*.

Mr. Bourke did his usual great job as auctioneer, helping us raise more than \$50 for the treasury.

FIRST SUMMER MEETINGS

The club, for the first time in many years, held summer meetings.

At our first summer meeting on July 27, we were fortunate to have a refreshing break in this year's oppressive heat and humidity and members enjoyed sharing their favorite collections or philatelic items in a *Philatelic Show 'n Tell*.

At our second summer meeting on Aug. 24, we enjoyed playing *Stamp Bingo* for prizes. At both meetings we conducted our increasingly popular silent auction.

BELLEFONTE TRIP PLANNED

An eagerly awaited activity on the horizon is a fall excursion to the new American Philatelic Society facility in Bellefonte, PA. We are planning an overnight trip and tour in the middle of October.

PROGRAMS

Sept. 28 — *Tales of Summer Stamp Experiences*, silent auction

Oct. 12 — Members' auction

Oct. 26 — Guest speaker TBA; silent auction

SOLUTIONS TO TRANSFORMATIONS

These are possible solutions to the puzzles. Other solutions are also possible.

P	O	S	T
C	O	S	T
C	A	S	T
C	A	R	T
C	A	R	D

B	U	L	K
B	A	L	K
B	A	L	L
M	A	L	L
M	A	I	L

W	A	N	T
P	A	N	T
P	I	N	T
L	I	N	T
L	I	S	T

P	O	S	T
P	O	R	T
P	O	R	K
P	A	R	K
M	A	R	K



FORT ORANGE STAMP CLUB

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

George McGowan, President — Rick Harringer, First Vice President
Jim Kirby, Second Vice President — Ray Coco, Treasurer
Maris Tirums, Secretary — e-mail mxtirums@hotmail.com

CLUB LISTS PROGRAMS FOR 2005–2006

The coming year looks like a grand time for philately in Albany. For our opening meeting we are fortunate in having member Robert Markovits speaking about one of his specialties, *U.S. Special Delivery*. The rest of the programs look equally interesting and we hope to have lots of SRO gatherings. I would also like to call an executive board meeting for one half hour before the regular meeting on Sept. 13.

*See you all in the Fall,
George McGowan*

2005 SCHEDULE

- Sept. 13 — *U.S. Special Delivery* by Robert Markovits
- Sept. 27 — *Pigeon Mail* by John J. Nunes
- Oct. 11 — *Tahiti* by Stephen E. Gray
- Oct. 25 — *N.Y. State Stamp Clubs* by Dr. Herbert A. Trenchard
- Nov. 7 — Tri-Club auction at Schenectady Stamp Club
- Nov. 8 — no meeting
- Nov. 22 — *Telegraph Covers* by Steve Prigosity
- Dec. 13 — Holiday banquet

2006 SCHEDULE

- Jan. 10 — Single Page Night
- Jan. 24 — *Medical Pioneers* by Dr. Joseph Y. Rudnick
- Feb. 14 — APS program — *The French Balloon Post*
- Feb. 28 — *Postal History* by Maris Tirums
- March 14 — *Ireland Overprints* by Tom Hanley
- March 28 — John Adamec's *Philatelic Quiz*
- April 11 — *Italy* by Jerry La Mastra
- April 25 — Members auction
- May 9 — *The Russian Revolution* by Bob Borden
- May 23 Annual banquet
- July 9 — Tri-Club picnic and auction

CONTACT INFORMATION

The club contact is Maris Tirums, P.O. Box 5475, Albany, NY 12205-0475, who may be reached by e-mail at mxtirums@hotmail.com. Telephone is 518-438-1657.

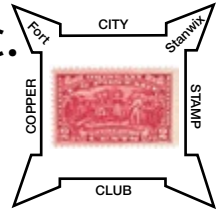
FT. STANWIX STAMP CLUB, INC.

Incorporating Community Stamp Club

Steven Stawiarz, President — Joseph Occhipinti, Vice President

Lavinia Tilton, Treasurer — Joe Christofaro, Secretary

e-mail jchrist6@twcny.rr.com



PAIR OF FT. STANWIX COVERS AVAILABLE

The club has produced two more home-grown covers and special cancels.

July 1 marked the official opening of the Willett Center at Fort Stanwix National Monument. The center is a museum, visitor and multimedia center, and library of information related to the fort and its part in the both state and national history.

The second cover was issued Aug. 3 for the 47th annual Fort Stanwix Day. To this writer's knowledge, only one complete set still exists of these coveted covers. They belong to Lavinia Tilton, our esteemed treasurer and one of the guiding lights of our club.

The Willett Center covers are \$2 each or two for \$3. The Fort Stanwix Day covers are \$2.25 each or two for \$3.50. Checks or money orders payable to the club and a SASE may be sent to Joseph O. Christofaro, Mideastern Galleries LLC, 607 E. Dominick St., Rome, NY 13440.



MEETING VENUE

Official club meetings have had a change of venue again! We now are meeting in the second floor meeting room at the Rome Municipal Building. Meetings are still the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Come early — but not before 6:30 p.m. — and share stories and conversation before the business meeting starts and stay for either the program or the auction. We welcome all guests of any age.

KUDOS

The members of the month of August are Steve Syawiarz, Joseph Occhipinti, and Phil Brown for all of their dedicated work on the two covers. They designed, printed, franked, and cancelled each of the covers and coordinated the sale of same at the site.

Until next issue, have fun, be healthy, and add a stamp or two to your collections!



FULTON STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 401 — Fulton, NY 13069

Tom Schneider, President — Lori Orr, Interim Vice President
John A. Cali, Secretary — Penny Schneider, Treasurer

STAMP COLLECTING MONTH CANCEL IN THE WORKS

A pictorial cancel is being designed for Stamp Collecting Month in October. This year's theme is on the Constellation issue. I can see a topical collection being developed on just the constellation adhesive issue. Other countries have already issued such stamps depicting this theme.

Meetings continue to be held at the Hughes Building on the third Wednesday, September to June, at 7:15 p.m.

The club is about to resume its fall schedule. There should be many stories to tell as a result of members' summer activities. I hope that I, as secretary, can add some comment from my perspective on the summer trips. I have had the good fortune to visit Japan with a relative.

I attended the American First Day Cover Society Convention from July 29–31 in Vienna, VA. The society celebrated its 50th anniversary this year. The American Advances in Aviation first day ceremony was held July 29 during this notable event. There was a Gambia first day ceremony held at the convention honoring the AFDCS on its 50th anniversary. The stamp depicted the society logo with a 50th notation placed with it and sold out swiftly. My other significant activity was a trip to Grand Rapids, MI for the American Philatelic Society convention. There were first day ceremonies for the Presidential Libraries issue.



UP UP AND AWAY — Cloud stamps were apt for this recent pictorial cancel which took place on Saturday July 2, in Sandy Creek, NY, at the Oswego County Fair.

Postmark & Cachet by Heather Sweeting

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*



RESEARCHING AN OLD FAMILY LETTER

Members enjoyed *Researching an Old Family Letter* by Peter Craig on June 7. Peter's program began with this reading of an original letter dated May 4, 1858. It was from his great great grandfather's brother-in-law, Prosper Julius Alphonse (P. J.) Berckmans of Augusta, GA, although it was mailed in New Jersey.

Written to Prosper Berckmans' father, who lived in New Jersey, it was franked with an 1851 three-cent stamp. (We surmised that the letter was circulated among members in New Jersey by re-mailing.)

In the letter, P. J. mentions that he and his family moved recently from a cabin to a newly constructed home on the plantation, known as Fruitlands Nursery. Peter has researched Fruitlands Nursery and discovered that the property is now the famous and beautifully landscaped Augusta National Golf Course, where the prestigious Masters' Golf Tournament is played annually in May.

Among the varieties of plants that P. J. Berckmans developed was the azalea. Dramatically beautiful azaleas line the fairways and greens of the Augusta National Golf Course. And the house into which P. J. and his family moved in 1858 has been the Club House for the Augusta National Course since 1930!

Peter unfolded the story in a very interesting way, keeping us in suspense regarding the connection of his family to this very famous golf course. It was all in a letter mailed in 1858 and carefully saved and preserved all of these intervening years.

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone wishing to join the Leatherstocking Stamp Club may send their dues of \$3 to the club in care of Peter Craig, 28 Pioneer St., Cooperstown, NY 13326

PROGRAMS

- Sept. 6 — *Return to Sender* by Albert Keck
- Oct. 11 — *Cooperstown's Crash Mail* by Ellen Tillapaugh
- Nov. 1 — *World War II Patriotic Covers* by Albert Keck
- December — No meeting — Enjoy the holidays!

Editor's note: Ellen Tillapaugh's account of COOPERSTOWN'S CRASH MAIL will appear in the November–December issue of the STAMP INSIDER.



OLEAN AREA STAMP CLUB

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

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

CLUB PREPARING FOR OLEPEX

The club has been busily preparing for *OLEPEX 2005*, which will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17 at the John Ash Community Center, 112 N. Barry St. in Olean from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

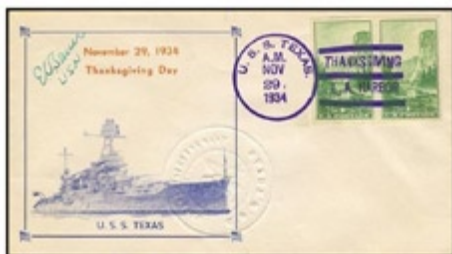
The show will include dealers, the U.S. Postal Service, and a stamp flea market. Admission and parking are free. It was decided this year that there will be no exhibits.

4-H CLUB REQUEST

The McKean County 4-H Club in Pennsylvania has asked the Olean Area Stamp Club to sponsor a Stamp Camp in various locations throughout the county. President Ronald J. Yeager will coordinate efforts to fulfill this request.

U.S.S. TEXAS PRESENTATION

Walter Stettlemeyer presented a program on the *U.S.S. Texas* at the July meeting. The presentation gave much insight not only into not only the history of an important battleship, but also the philatelic history associated with it.



The *U.S.S. Texas* is the last dreadnought in existence in the world, a veteran of Vera Cruz (1914) and both World Wars, and is credited with the introduction and innovation of advances in gunnery, aviation, and radar. Having been designed in the first decade of the 20th century, (keel laid in 1911 and completed in 1914), and having seen action in some of the most intense and critical campaigns of WWII, she is an important piece of our naval and maritime history. It open year round at the San Jacinto State Historic Site near Houston.

MINI AUCTIONS

The club conducts monthly mini-auctions, usually offering about 20 items that are listed in its newsletter the month before the meeting at which the items will be offered. The June auction generated sales of \$46.25 and \$4.60 in club commissions, while the July auction generated sales of \$132.85 and club commissions of \$13.25.

PROGRAMS

Sept. 5 — Olepex work session

Oct. 3 — APS slide show — *Confederate Postal History*

OSWEGO STAMP CLUB

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

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



PHILATELIC ACTIVITIES FILL SUMMER

Although the club did not meet during the summer, many philatelic activities took place. Meetings resume Sept. 26. Several Oswego stamp club members attended the 1000 Islands International Coin, Stamps, Postcard, Gem, Mineral, Paper, and Collectibles Show in Clayton in July and had a good time searching for treasures.

On Aug. 6 a pictorial cancel was issued in the neighboring hamlet of Minetto for the centennial charter of the Union School. Two cachets were available — a color one offered to any Minetto resident for free and a limited edition black and white one. The cancellation was designed by Heather Sweeting and Crystal Rotherforth, art teacher at Minetto Elementary School. The color cachet was designed by Kathryn Whelsky, a Grade 6 pupil at the school. The black and white cachet shows a photo of the school and students in front of it.



**Becky S. Doud, Katherine Wingood,
and Heather Sweeting**



Postmaster Katherine Wingood and Assistant Postmaster Becky S. Doud did a great job of creating and displaying lots of post office goodies at the cancellation table. Patrons could choose from about 25 different commemorative stamps; buy post office merchandise such as bears, pins; get the latest U.S. philatelic catalog, etc. They even gave away free magnets with the post office's telephone number and hours of operation!

Wingood was recently appointed editor of *The Postmasters Gazette*, published by the National Association of Postmasters of the United States (NAPUS).

If you think giving up a Saturday to attend the Magic in Minetto townwide celebration wasn't going beyond the call of duty... What would you think if I told you the two postal employees also had the winning entry in the town's "Chili Cookoff" contest!



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



ASSOCIATION RESUMING MEETING SCHEDULE

The first half of the 2005–2006 season's programs have been scheduled. Silent auctions are part of every meeting except when a called auction is scheduled.

PROGRAMS

- Sept. 8 — Pizza and Wings New Member Recruitment Night
- Sept. 22 — *APS Circuit Books & Sales* by Ray Stone; *What you did over the summer philatelically*
- Oct. 13 — *Benefits of Joining the APS* by Thomas M. Fortunato
- Oct. 27 — Live Auction Night (\$5 minimum catalog value)
- Nov. 10 — *Alexander Graham Bell in Philately* by Ada Prill
- Nov. 24 — No meeting; Happy Thanksgiving!
- Dec. 8 — *Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collecting* by Jim Bell Holiday; Secret Santa Night — Bring a gift of up to \$10 and receive a gift. Also, enjoy some holiday refreshments!
- Dec. 22 — No meeting; Merry Christmas!

APS 'Super Recruiting' Meeting in Rochester

The Rochester Philatelic Association is welcoming all stamp collectors to a special meeting on Thursday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 S. Winton Rd. The first meeting in October has traditionally been set aside as an open house celebrating Stamp Collecting Month. This year is no different, but with an added bonus.

The RPA has been selected by the American Philatelic Society to host one of four *Super Recruiting* meetings being held around the country. A 20-minute program will introduce attendees to the benefits of joining the APS.

A one-time 50 percent discount off a full-price one-year domestic membership will be offered to anyone attending the meeting who is not currently an APS member. That works out to \$19 rather than \$38, with membership starting in October and running through December 2006.

An application and payment must be received that evening by check or credit card. Current APS members or renewals are not eligible for this special offer.

Collectors from area/regional clubs are especially welcome to participate, as are members of the general public. Refreshments will be served. For more information e-mail Thomas M. Fortunato at stampmf@frontiernet.net or call 585-225-6822 evenings or weekends.

SCHENECTADY STAMP CLUB

*Meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Monday
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.*



NEW YEAR OFF TO A GOOD START

The new year of stamp collecting and learning for the Schenectady Stamp Club, starting in October and concluding in July 2006, got off to a good start at the annual planning session with the Fort Orange and Uncle Sam stamp clubs of the Tri-City Area at the Capital District Stamp Show on July 17.

John J. Nunes, Rick Harringer, George McGowan, Maris Tirums and Don Van Hosen coordinated the program for next year.

Since there are three stamp clubs in the Tri-City area — Fort Orange Stamp Club of Albany, and Uncle Sam Stamp Club of Troy, and Schenectady Stamp Club, the meeting schedules of all three were coordinated at a joint planning session.

PICNIC POSTPONED

This year's Tri-Club picnic and auction scheduled July 10 was postponed due to the refurbishment of the Kristal's Inn to the Mill Stone Tavern. Since the Mill Stone Tavern was still not open as of this writing, it was decided to hold the event in conjunction with the Uncle Sam Stamp Club which is having their summer banquet again at Phil Hick's home in Gilboa in late August.

PROGRAMS

The activities for the upcoming year, held at the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, Park Avenue, Schenectady, at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month are:

2005

- Oct. 3 — *Fiji* by Stephen E. Gray
- Nov. 7 — Tri-Club Auction
- Dec. 5 — Single Page Night

2006

- Feb. 6 — Winter auction
- March 6 — *Atomic Bomb Tests* by John J. Nunes
- April 3 — *Tax Paid Revenues* by Ray Majors
- May 8 — End of year banquet
- July 9 — Tri-Club picnic and auction



SYRACUSE STAMP CLUB

Meets at 8 p.m. on the first and third Fridays
Correspondence to President Lynn Goodfellow
P.O. Box 3436, Syracuse, NY 13220
Columnist Daniel A. Piazza — dpiazza@twcny.rr.com.

A FLURRY OF CLUB COVERS COMING THIS FALL

The club's Cover Committee has created several sets of covers to be issued this fall.

Four first day covers, each with one of the Distinguished Marines stamps and a multicolor Marine Corps cachet by Vincent Juchimek, will be issued Nov. 10. The cancellation will depict a Marine sword and read *Semper Fi Station*. The club will issue four covers on Nov. 11 with the same cachet and a *Veteran's Day Station* cancellation flanked by service stars. Price is \$3 for randomly selected single cover (specify date); \$11 per set of four (specify date); and \$20 for a set of all eight.

A Veteran's Day cover with a multicolor Honorable Discharge cachet by Frank Murray of Heritage Cachets flanked with the three-cent Army and Navy issues of 1945 will receive the same *Veteran's Day Station* cancel. Cost is \$2.50 each.

The club will issue four covers, each with one of the Oct. 1 Constellations stamps to mark *SYRAPEX 2005* and its theme, *Lights Out! Remembering the Great Northeast Blackout of 1965*. Also designed by Vince Juchimek, these will feature a multicolor cachet and separate cancellations for both show days — Nov. 12 and 13. Price is \$2.50 for a randomly selected single cover (specify date); \$5 for a set of two randomly selected covers (one for each day); and \$9 for a complete set of four (specify date).

To reserve covers, send a check or money order and SASE to Philip Poplaski, 113 Old Liverpool Road, Liverpool, NY 13088. Advance orders will be filled after Nov. 13.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- PAUL DAVIS exhibited his collection of train and railroad topicals, *A Philatelic Ride Around the World Aboard The Iron Horse*, at *ROPEX 2005*.
- DAVE PROULX's collection of 19th century stampless covers from the town of Salina was displayed in August at the main Syracuse post office, 5640 E. Taft Road.

PROGRAMS

- Sept. 2 — *Geography and Stamps Quiz* by Allen Swift
- Sept. 16 — *Stamps of Belgium: How and Why I Collect Them* by Don Grover
- Sept. 30 — Auction
- Oct. 7 — *The U.S. Two-Cent Reds, 1927–1932* by Paul Davis
- Oct. 21 — Open house; members bring refreshments and an album page or cover to talk about

TRI-COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Sidney, New York 13838

Meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday at Sidney Civic Center

Contact Robert Finnegan, 10 O'Neill Drive, Oneonta, NY 13820

E-mail: rfinnegan@stny.rr.com — 607•432•8141



CLUB SCHEDULES PROGRAMS FOR YEAR

The club is looking forward to the beginning of a new philatelic year, with its first meeting scheduled for Monday, Sept. 19. The Program Committee has put together what they feel should be an interesting year.

Spike Paranya begins his first term as our president-elect. It is the club's hope to entice a few more in the Tri-County area to spend time with us in the pursuit of philately.

STAMP CLUB MONTH EVENT

The club is joining with the Unadilla Historical Society and APS in a Stamp Collecting Month Exhibit. See details on page 32.

PROGRAMS

2004

Sept. 19 — *U.S. Postage Rates Past and Present* by William H. Bauer

Oct. 17 — APS slide presentation — *World's Columbian Exposition*

Nov. 21 — *Spike's Surprise* by Spike Paranya

Dec. 19 — Swap Night (common U.S. stamps)

2005

Jan. 9 — *Linn's Stamp Poll* and member *Show and Tell*

Feb. 13 — APS slide presentation — *In Violation of the Rules*

March 20 — Philatelic Game Night

April 17 — APS slide presentation — *Slips on Ships on Stamps*

May 15 — Junior Philatelist Night

June 19 — Annual dinner/barbecue

JUNIOR PHILATELIST NIGHT REINSTATED

The program indicates a reinstatement of a Junior Philatelist Night in May. Bob Finnegan hopes to have a contingent of 8,9, and 10 year olds immersed in the hobby now that he is reinstated at Sidney Elementary School.

DUES REMAIN UNCHANGED

Dues for the year remain at \$8 and members should have payment ready to pay our treasurer at the September meeting. A check payable to the Tri-County Stamp Club is preferred.



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

CLUB PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED FOR COMING YEAR

The Uncle Sam Stamp Club has announced its program schedule for the 2005-2006 season. The club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays at Holmes & Watson Ltd., 450 Broadway in Troy. Visitors are always welcome.

SCHEDULE CHANGE

There is one irregular meeting date in the schedule. The club will meet on Oct. 26 to accommodate the schedule of Dr. Herbert A. Trenchard, who will be speaking at the Fort Orange Stamp Club the night before.

2004 SCHEDULE

Sept. 7 — Opening night; *Boxer Max Schmeling* by Jim Danner

Sept. 11 — Uncle Sam Parade

Sept. 21 — *Pigeon Mail* by John J. Nunes

Oct. 5 — *Tahiti* by Stephen E. Gray

Oct. 26 — *N.Y. State Stamp Clubs* by Dr. Herbert A. Trenchard

Nov. 2 — *First Day Covers* by Vicki Miller

Nov. 7 — Tri-Club Auction at Schenectady Stamp Club

Nov. 16 — Competition Night

Dec. 4 — Victorian Stroll

Dec. 7 — Fall auction

Dec. 21 — Holiday banquet

2005 SCHEDULE

Jan. 4 — *AMGs* by Ken & John Mangione

Jan. 18 — *Medical Pioneers* by Dr. Joseph Y. Rudnick

Feb. 1 — *U.S. Postmarks* by Arnie Leiter

Feb. 15 — *Postal History* by Maris Tirums

March 1 — Winter auction

March 15 — *Ireland* by Tom Hanley

April 5 — *This 'n That* by Phil Hicks

April 19 — *Terrill Miller's Philatelic Quiz*

May 3 — Annual meeting and George Habert Night

May 17 — Spring banquet

July 9 — Tri-Club picnic and auction

UTICA STAMP CLUB

*Meets at 7 p.m. the first Tuesday
at New Hartford Public Library*

*Jerome Wagner, President — Richard Drumm, Vice President
Jerry Cunningham, Corresponding Secretary
Wayne Turkowski, Recording Secretary*



SUMMERTIME ...

When the living is easy and the summers are hot and humid. A time for members to visit stamp shows, coin shows, antique shows, museums and state/county fairs. A time to camp and swim and watch parades. This stamp club does not hold any meetings during July and August. Have a good summer. See you in September.

What You Can Find on eBay

A Scott 73 Black Jack paying the drop letter rate to Utica, NY, was offered in a recent eBay auction.



Elmira Stamp Club — Continued from Page 39

enhance the hobby. Clayton Spangenberg reported on visit with life member Carl Morrell, who no longer is able to attend meetings. The APS slide program, *Nursing: A Distinguished History on Postage Stamps*, concluded the meeting.

July — 20 present. After a the business meeting President Breed called an auction of 11 member and 12 club lots. All were sold with gross proceeds of \$71.50. The club lots, all but two being early Canadian first flight covers donated to the club by former Elmiran Vinson Friedman of Great Neck, LI, brought \$30.50, and the member lots grossed \$41. The club's treasury gained a total of \$34.65.

NEW EAGLE SCOUT — Jeremy Kolassa received the Eagle Scout badge Aug. 9 at a Boy Scouts Court of Honor. Fort Stanwix Stamp Club helped fund his Eagle project — installing ramps for the handicapped at Fort Stanwix National Monument Artisans Building, which he completed in August 2004. He is a member of Troop 5, sponsored by the Volunteer Fire Company of Western. The son of David and Sue Kolassa, Jeremy is shown with his father, who is also his Scoutmaster.



Prestige Covers

Buying and Selling
Worldwide Postal History



P. O. Box 972 — Grand Island, NY 14072

PAUL ZIPP
716-695-1517

JAMES LITTELL
716-694-3562

SUBURBAN STAMPS, COINS & COLLECTIBLES

Always Buying

315•452•0593

Open: Tuesday 10–5, Wednesday 10–7
Thursday & Friday 10–5, Saturday 9–1

120 Kreischer Road

North Syracuse, NY 13212

JUST OFF TAFT ROAD 1/2 MILE EAST OF RT. 81

Mark Szuba Julian Szuba Edward Bailey

BUY ● SELL ● TRADE

BIG “E” COINS & STAMPS

RD2 • Box 158
Munnsville, NY 13409

ERNEST LEWIS

315•495•6235

Shows & Bourses

SEPTEMBER

11 — Syracuse

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

11 — West Seneca

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

17 — Olean

Olean Area Stamp Club OLEPEX 2005 John Ash Community Center, 112 N. Barry St. 10–4. Dealers, exhibits, U.S. Postal Service. Ronald J. Yeager, 814-362-4471, e-mail: cry@atlanticbb.net.

18 — Cheektowaga

Buffalo Numismatic Assn. Stamps, Postcards, Coins, Currency Bourse & Auction. Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Rd. 10–5. Frank Munzi, 716-663-4104.

18 — Albany

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

OCTOBER

1–2 — Cheektowaga

Buffalo Numismatic Assn. 2005 Convention, K of C, 2735 Union Rd. Coins, currency, stamps. Saturday 10–5, Sunday 10–3. Frank Munzi, 716-663-4104.

9 — West Seneca

Stamp, Coin, Postcard & Collectibles Show, Harvey D.

Morin VFW Post 2940, 965 Center Rd. 10-4. Bourse. Vic-tor Drajem, 716-656-8080.

16 — Cheektowaga

Buffalo Numismatic Assn. Stamps, Postcards, Coins, Currency Bourse & Auc-tion. Knights of Columbus, 2735 Union Rd. 10-5. Frank Munzi, 716-663-4104.

16 — Albany

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

14-16 — Toronto

CSDA/GTAPA Fall STAMPEX, Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place. Friday 11-6, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-4. Dealers, Canada Post. Admission \$5. Web site www.csdaonline.com; e-mail: secretary@csdaonline.com.

Oct. 15-16 Lakewood

FENTOPEX XXXIX, YWCA Lake Lodge, Terrace Ave., Lake-wood. Saturday 10-5, Sunday, 10-4. Show covers with Art of Disney stamps will be canceled with a YWCA logo. Peter MacNeil macneil@madbbs.com.

21-22 Horseheads

Elmira Stamp Club STEPEX 2005, Arnot Mall. Friday 10-9:30, Saturday 10-6. Dealers, exhibits, U.S. Postal Service, show cancel and cachet, junior activities. E-mail: alatholleyrd@aol.com.

Add Your Listing

Send show and bourse list-ings to STAMP INSIDER Editor Albert W. Starkweather, 5520 Gunn Hwy. 1406, Tampa, FL 33624-2847, e-mail: designdemand@verizon.net.

LED Illuminated Magnifiers

The only magnifier on the market that uses multiple LEDs for perfect uniform illumination. (U.S. Patented)



**Pocket Magnifying Glass
3x, 6x & 10x
with integrated LED
lamp illumination**

Used by stamp, coin, jewelry, gun, and miniatures collectors. Also great for reading those small detail areas of your map, especially in low light conditions.

**Call toll free: 1-866-543-2832 <http://www.Lifatec.com>
LiFaTeC USA LLC, P.O. Box 914, 12 Railroad Street, Jordan, NY 13080**

APS

BNAPS

George McGowan Covers and Stamps

U.S., UN, British Colonies, Topics

**P.O. Box 482 (518) 479-4396
East Schodack, NY 12063 geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com**

STAMP, COIN, POSTCARD & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING/

HARVEY D. MORIN VFW POST 2940 CONTACT: VICTOR DRAJEM
965 CENTER RD., WEST SENECA, NY PHONE: 716-656-8080



CLUBS & CONTACTS

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

Meets 1st & 3rd Fridays most months at 7:30 p.m. at Glens Falls National Bank Community Room, 13 South St.
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 (APS CHAPTER 37)

Meets twice monthly on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga.
Contact: Alfred Carroccia, 152 Windmill Road, West Seneca, NY 14218
E-mail: fuzzy9600@aol.com

Phone: 716-674-0302

CENTRAL NEW YORK FIRST DAY COVER SOCIETY (AFDCS 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: Braden Houston, President, 2063 Spring St. Hamilton, NY 13346
E-mail: bhouston@mail.colgate.edu

DANSVILLE AREA COIN & STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 1196)

Meets 3rd Sunday at Dansville Town Hall, Clara Barton Street., 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: Maris Tirums, P.O. Box 5475, Albany NY 12205-0475
E-mail: mxtirums@hotmail.com

Phone: 518-882-6373

Phone: 518-438-1657

FINGER LAKES STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 428)

Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at 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, INC. OF ROME, NEW YORK (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

Phone: 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

Phone: 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
E-mail: jdoles@rochester.rr.com

Phone: 585-621-3012
www.geocities.com/rpastamps

ST. LAWRENCE INTERNATIONAL STAMP CLUB

Meets 1st Thursday at Massena Library at 7 p.m.; 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m. at 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 Park Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Contact: John J. Nunes, 80 Fredericks Rd., Scotia, NY 12302

E-mail: nunesnook@aol.com

Phone: 518-399-8395

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

Phone: 315-457-3201

TRI-COUNTY STAMP CLUB (APS CHAPTER 292)

Meets the 3rd Monday at 7 p.m. at Sidney Civic Center.

Contact: Robert Finnegan, 10 O'Neill Drive, Oneonta, NY 13820

E-mail: rfinnegan@stny.rr.com

Phone: 607-432-8141

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: jerry50nh@aol.com

Phone: 315-736-1965

FEDERATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: <i>John J. Nunes</i>	nunesnook@aol.com
SECRETARY: <i>John A. Cali</i>	rocket@dreamscape.com
TREASURER: <i>Stephen E. Gray</i>	518-372-9866
ADIRONDACK VP: <i>Patrick R. Rourk</i>	prourk@twcny.rr.com
ALLEGANY FRONTIER VP: <i>Vacant</i>	Open — Ronald J. Yeager candidate
CAPITAL DISTRICT VP: <i>Maris Tirums</i>	mxtirums@hotmail.com
CATSKILLS VP: <i>Vacant</i>	Open — Richard & Ginny Ried candidates
CENTRAL LEATHERSTOCKING CO-VP: <i>Albert Guenzburger</i>	aguenz@mkl.com
CENTRAL LEATHERSTOCKING CO-VP: <i>Ernie Lewis</i>	knightowkchets@hotmail.com
HUDSON VALLEY VP: <i>Vacant</i>	Drew Nicholson/Larry Laliberte candidates
LONG ISLAND VP: <i>Vacant</i>	Frank Braithwaite candidate
NEW YORK CITY VP: <i>Vacant</i>	August Peano/Leo Scarlett candidates
NIAGARA FRONTIER CO-VP: <i>James Littell</i>	zepplincat@wzrd.com
NIAGARA FRONTIER CO-VP: <i>Paul M. Zipp</i>	716-695-1517
NORTHERN FINGER LAKES VP: <i>Heather Sweeting</i>	hsweetin@twcny.rr.com
SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES VP: <i>Howard Schlieder</i>	yszekely@twcny.rr.com
THOUSAND ISLANDS VP: <i>Vacant</i>	George A. Mingle candidate
JUNIOR AFFAIRS VP: <i>Vacant</i>	Volunteer Needed

Advertiser Index

<i>AMERICAN EAGLE TRADING CARDS</i>	25	<i>NUTMEG STAMP SALES</i>	INSIDE BACK COVER
<i>BUFFALO NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION</i>	17	<i>OLEPEX 2005</i>	5
<i>BIG "E" COINS & STAMPS</i>	54	<i>PRESTIGE COVERS</i>	54
<i>HENRY GITNER PHILATELISTS, INC.</i>	11	<i>QUALITY INVESTORS, LTD.</i>	13
<i>HARMER-SCHAU, INC.</i>	13	<i>STEVE RESNICK</i>	21
<i>ERIC JACKSON</i>	19	<i>R.J. ASSOCIATES</i>	33
<i>JOURNAL OF ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES</i>	19	<i>STAMP INSIDER</i>	29
<i>LiFATeC USA LLC</i>	55	<i>STAMP NEWS</i>	5
<i>STEVE MALACK STAMPS</i>	21	<i>SUBURBAN STAMP, COINS & COLLECTIBLES</i>	54
<i>E. JOSEPH MCCONNELL, INC.</i>	9	<i>SYRACUSE STAMPS, COINS & COLLECTIBLES</i>	9
<i>GEORGE MCGOWAN</i>	55	<i>UN POSTAL ADMINISTRATION</i>	23
<i>MIDEASTERN GALLERIES LLC</i>	25	<i>VIDIFORMS COMPANY</i>	BACK COVER
<i>MYSTIC STAMP COMPANY</i>	30-31	<i>WASHINGTON PRESS</i>	INSIDE FRONT COVER
<i>JOHN J. NUNES</i>	15	<i>WEST SENECA SHOWS</i>	55



THE LAST WORDS

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

TAKING A PHILATELIC VACATION

It's the end of summer vacation for those of us who go *back to school* every fall. Many clubs have a hiatus from meetings during the summer so that members can go on their family vacations. Personally, I'd rather attend meetings in the summer when I actually have some free time.

This summer, I had about 12 days of free time between the July 4 parade and summer music camp. I was happy to just stay at home and have a *philatelic* vacation rather than travel anywhere in particular. For me, the chance to sort through and organize accumulated cover boxes, watch and bid on eBay lots, read the last two months of *Linn's* and *Mekeel's*, catch up on movie watching, soak off and sort a few boxes of stamps, and not have to get up before noon every day amounted to a great vacation. I also found that staying inside and doing some *cool* cover sorting sure beat driving around in a dark blue car in 95-degree weather. When was the last time you took a philatelic trip, not to another destination but through your collection?

Collectors all love the thrill of searching for new acquisitions, the thrill of the hunt, looking for a bargain, an unusual cover or a stamp error. Sometimes though it is nice to take a moment and appreciate what you have already accumulated. Have you organized your collection or recent purchases? Thought about making a new exhibit? Labeled items so that some day your family members will know which items have value? Updated your want list? What's missing from your collection? Maybe you are out taking advantage of the summer sun and putting off philatelic endeavors until the snow flies.

Reviewing your philatelic holdings and collections often can be inspiring. Open up a box or an album. What is interesting in the box? Is there something that might make a good article? Maybe if you put a few related items together with a theme an exhibit will spring to mind. My Mr. Zip cover article in this issue resulted from sorting through stuff and finding a lot of ZIP items. Not sure you want to try writing on your own? That's OK. Work on one with a friend. Collaborations often produce exciting information. If you're not sure about writing, bring something interesting to a club meeting and talk about it à la show and tell.

I was doing some genealogical research this summer on a family line that had been a dead end for years. I recently came upon another individual on the Internet looking for the exact same family. He had family letters and diaries I had never seen and I had pictures of his great grandmother and grandfather he had never seen. As distant cousins we were thrilled to share information and have since fit the pieces together and traced the line back farther. The same principal can be applied to philately. The more we share our philatelic knowledge, the more we will learn. The more we learn the more we can share. That's what makes this fun — Try it!

We're Buying!



We're obviously the first place to call because...

WE PAY IMMEDIATELY!

- Expert Estate Specialists
- Appraisals

Stamps • Documents • Old Letters • Postcards
• Autographs • Ephemera • Labels & Seals
• Stocks • Bonds • Paper Money • All Collectibles



CALL US TODAY!

Always a FREE phone call.

Toll Free: (800) 522-1607

Regular Phone: (203) 792-3862 • FAX: (203) 798-7902

E-Mail: buying@nutmegstamp.com

www.nutmegstamp.com





PRESORTED STANDARD

P.O. BOX 401
FULTON, NY 13069

Return Service Requested

Dated Mail — Please Rush

Stamp Collectors *Welcome* **We have a nice sample for you.**

Our product, the Showgard® mount is the accepted standard in the hobby for truly protecting postage stamps. If you select Showgard mounts for your stamps early in your collecting career it will save much remounting time later. The evidence is clear that collectors eventually switch to Showgard mounts.

Confirm this with any experienced collector. Or proceed directly to your neighborhood dealer who will advise and sell you that important first package of Showgard mounts — the stamp mounts that need no change.

The promised sample is free.

Specify "welcome kit" and write:

Vidiforms Company, Inc.

115 N. Route 9W, Congers, NY 10920

www.showgard.com

Toll Free 877-507-5758

Showgard®

