

BULLETIN of The Empire State Postal History Society

Volume 42 Number 4

March 2010

ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY MAY 15, 1 P.M., AT ROPEX STAMP SHOW, ROCHESTER, NY

The 2010 Empire State Postal History Society annual meeting will be held at ROPEX 2010, the Rochester Philatelic Association's annual national stamp show, now held at ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road on the campus of Monroe Community College, south of the City of Rochester.

Parking and Admission are FREE, and both the building and the show itself are Handicap Accessible. ROPEX is a three-day show, May 14 – 16; hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday, 10 to 5 on Saturday and 10 to 3 on Sunday.

For those traveling from the north on I-390, take exit 15B. For those coming from the Thruway or points south on I-390, take exit 14 and turn left at the off-ramp light. Continue past Jefferson Road, the Shopping Center on the right, the Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road on-ramp at a light and then take the entrance on the right into the Monroe Community College campus. Take a right turn onto the road that loops to the back of the campus, where the ESL Centre is located.

Society members attending ROPEX 2010 on Saturday will be able to join in the discussion, trading and lunch hour beginning at 12 noon in Meeting Room #1 (upper level). Bring your own lunch, covers and other items for discussion. The annual meeting will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. in the same room and will include reports by Society officers, voting on an amendment to the Society bylaws, and election of officers and directors

Since ROPEX offers ESPHS its best opportunity to recruit new members, the Society will have a table at the show. Members who can spend time at this table are asked to contact Al Parsons, alatholleyrd@aol.com or (607) 732-0181, with dates and times they can help.

Information for ROPEX 2010 can be found at rpastamps.org/ropex.html.

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APS Affiliate #28 www.esphs.org

Officers:

President: Alan Parsons ('11)
alatholleyrd@aol.com
Vice-President: Carl Blazejewski ('11)
btcod114@localnet.com
Secretary: George McGowan ('10)
geolotus2003@nycaprr.com
Treasurer: George DeKornfeld ('10)
gdekornfel@fairpoint.net

Regional Representatives:

Northern: Gerald Wiley
Upper Hudson: Maris Tirums
Mohawk: *vacant*
Lower Hudson: *vacant*
NYC/LI: Frank Braithwaite
Leatherstocking/Catskill: *vacant*
Central: Bob Davison
West Central: *vacant*
Southern Tier: Alan Parsons
Western: David Przepiora

Directors:

('10): John Nunes, John Cali, Drew Nicholson
('11): Frank Braithwaite, Heather Sweeting, David Przepiora
('12): Maris Tirums, Brian Levy, Bob Davison

Advertising Manager:

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Drew Nicholson dan.ddn@comcast.net
18 Valley Drive, Pawling, NY 12564-1140

BULLETIN (Quarterly)

Bob Bramwell, Editor
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Excelsior! (Semi-Annually)

David E. Williams, Editor
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2617 Byron Ave., Louisville, KY 40205-2609

Secretary's Membership Report

Membership Reinstated:

David Shufelt

Applications for Membership:

Tom Auletta 3 Curry Rd/PO Box 745, Round Lake, NY 12151
William Howden 4115 So. Nine Mile Rd #140, Allegany, NY 14706-9751

Accepted into Membership:

Allen Fink Gary Leggett Al Pugliese

Resigned; Died

Walt LaForce (resigned) Jim Rodgers

Members listed in a continuation of this report on page 13
have been dropped for non-payment of dues effective December 2009.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Plan to attend our 2010 annual meeting at ROPEX on Saturday, May 15 at 1 p.m. We have arranged again for use of meeting room #1 (upper level) for an hour prior to the annual meeting. We've described this as a *trading hour*, but it can also be used for eating lunch (bring your own), socializing, show & tell, queries regarding problem covers, and other Society-related discussion.

It should be, and could be, a time to get better acquainted with your fellow Society members and get answers to postal history puzzles that may be bothering you!

Our table at ROPEX will have Society publications for sale (or use the handy order form on the last page of this *Bulletin*), free handouts on Society programs and postal history in general, and reference works such as *Manuscript Post Offices of New York State* and the *American Stampless Cover Catalog* for use by Society members and guests at the Show. Please visit the table, sign in, and sign up to take a turn at the table if at all possible!

As of February 23, when this is being written, there were **no exhibits** of New York postal history entered for ROPEX 2010 according to the Show website, www.rpastamps.org/ropex.html. Well over half the Show's 240 frames have yet to be filled. By the time you read this, more frames will be filled (at least five with my Corning, NY exhibit) but chances are there will still be empty frames. **These frames should be taken up with exhibits of NY postal history if our members are serious about the Society's mission!**

There are two World Series of Philately, or National Level, stamp shows in New York each year: Spring Postage Stamp Mega-Event in NYC and ROPEX in Rochester. Each of these shows, as well as New York's local and regional shows, should showcase New York postal history in their exhibit frames. With ROPEX being the location of our annual meeting, there is an added incentive for our members to exhibit.

It's easy to enter an exhibit at ROPEX. The entry form can be completed online and sent in with a click of the mouse. The ROPEX Exhibitor Prospectus is also online to read prior to submitting the entry form.

Please keep in mind that exhibiting our postal history is a stimulus for research and writing, and for the collection and preservation of our hobby's artifacts. Its importance to the Society cannot be emphasized enough!

Before ending this Message, I want to thank John Nunes for again providing meeting space and other help to ESPHS at his annual Cover Mania in Albany (held this year at the end of January), George McGowan for setting out our promotional signage and membership applications at the start of Show, and Maris Tirums for chairing our traditional regional membership meeting on Saturday afternoon. Maris reported a good turnout and lively discussion for this meeting.

I normally would have done myself what I asked George and Maris to do, but had to be present at an APS-related 10 a.m. hearing in New York City on the day Cover Mania opened. I drove to Albany as soon as the hearing ended and arrived at the Show by 3:30, too late for the regional membership meeting.

While I am thanking people, I want to note that our twice-yearly journal, *Excelsior!*, is firmly back on schedule thanks to the efforts of its editor, David Williams, and to those who contributed articles. Without doubt, David went the "extra mile" to

generate six fine issues in two years, and we should all be grateful for this achievement. The March 2010 *Excelsior!*, I am told, will be mailed in March 2010. Prospective authors will then have FOUR MONTHS before the next deadline, but David would prefer to get the articles asap!

The Society's other editor, Bob Bramwell – relatively new at the job - is proving to be an excellent author as well as editor of the ESPHS *Bulletin*. Since he's also a relatively new member of the Society, it's apparent he is getting maximum benefit from his "on-the-job training". ESPHS is fortunate to have David and Bob in their respective endeavors on behalf of the Society.

Let's make 2010 a great year for ESPHS and its members: write articles, prepare exhibits, attend meetings, acquire great – or at least interesting – covers, respond to requests for help in updating important postal history reference works, and share the benefits of your efforts.

Al Parsons
alatholleyrd@aol.com

**NOJEX 2010 BECKONS: WILL ESPHS POSTAL HISTORY
EXHIBITORS RESPOND?
NYC/LI REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 29th
AT NOJEX STAMP SHOW**

Although a similar article to this appeared in each of the last two *Bulletins*, the subject bears repeating: NOJEX 2010, the annual WSP show produced by North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs, Inc., will host a multi-state postal history exhibiting competition for the Sweeting Award sponsored by ESPHS and named in memory of its first president, Charles H. Sweeting.

NOJEX 2010 will be held May 28 – 30 in the Exhibition Center at the Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, NJ. Closing date for exhibit entries is April 1, 2010. The prospectus and entry form can be downloaded at www.njpostalhistory.org.

A dinner will be scheduled for all Society exhibitors and visitors on the first day of the show, Friday, May 28; one or more programs touching on collecting state postal history will be held at the show, and a table for visiting societies will be available to sign up new members and to sell literature.

ESPHS will hold a regional membership meeting May 29th at 2 p.m. in the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Read Regional Rep Frank Braithwaite's invitation to all members of page 13.

Scoring for the Sweeting Award favors the team filling the most frames. You don't have to have a gold medal exhibit in order to participate and add to your team's score. Both single frame and multi-frame exhibits are welcome, as well as exhibits of non-New York postal history by a Society member. Postal history is broadly defined (see Sweeting rules at www.njpostalhistory.org) and can include first day cover exhibits of a single state or geographic area.

ESPHS members with postal history exhibits are strongly urged to join the team. Some already have, but many more are needed. LET'S BRING HOME THE SWEETING AWARD IN 2010!!

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
TO BE ELECTED AT THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Nominating Committee Chair for election of officers and directors at the 2010 annual meeting of the Empire State Postal Society on May 15 at 1 p.m. in Rochester, NY is John A. Cali, 613 W. Fourth St., Fulton, NY 13069-3104, (315-592-4441).

Positions open are Secretary and Treasurer, each for a two-year term, and three Directors, each for a three-year term.

Nominations to date:

For Secretary, George McGowan (incumbent), East Greenbush, NY

For Treasurer, George DeKornfeld (incumbent), Millerton, NY

For Directors:

John Nunes (incumbent), Scotia, NY

John Cali (incumbent), Fulton, NY

Drew Nicholson (incumbent), Pawling, NY

Nominations may be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chair by any member in good standing after obtaining the consent of the person nominated. In addition, members may nominate themselves. The Nominating Committee Chair shall place in nomination at the annual meeting the names he has received and further nominations may be made from the floor if a second is received and the Nominee consents. A Nominee may consent in writing if not present at the annual meeting.

MARTIN MARGULIS (1925 – 2009)

Martin Margulis, President of Empire State Postal History Society 1991 – 1993 and former Editor of both the Society's *Bulletin* as well as its *Journal of New York State Postal History*, died in Austin, Texas December 19, 2009 from complications of diabetes and pneumonia. He was 84.

Born and raised in New York City, Martin served in the Army in World War II, graduated from the University of Oklahoma where he majored in history and journalism, and returned to New York City to work as a teacher and guidance counselor in its school system.

Martin joined ESPHS prior to 1981 and was soon contributing postal history articles to the Society *Bulletin*, becoming its Editor in 1988 after being elected to the ESPHS Board. At the time, the *Bulletin* was the only Society periodical and was published quarterly.

While still retaining editorship of the *Bulletin*, Martin served two-year terms as Vice-President (1989 – 1991) and President (1991 – 1993) of the Society. He named his son, David, who had joined the Society, first as Associate Editor and then as Co-Editor during this period and freely acknowledged his help.

During Martin's Presidency ESPHS celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1992 and marked the occasion in a number of ways, not the least being creation of the *Journal of New York State Postal History* to provide a semi-annual periodical for postal history articles while leaving the *Bulletin* as a quarterly for Society news and auctions.

Martin and David were the initial Editors of the *Journal*. David dropped out after two issues when his parents moved to Texas, where Martin found someone in Austin to do the computer work. Martin continued as Editor of the *Journal* through the spring 2003 issue, after which Drew Nicholson became Editor and chose the name *Excelsior!* for the Society's journal.

As if 14-plus years of ESPHS editorship and an even longer period of writing articles for Society periodicals wasn't enough, Martin also wrote for *La Posta: A Journal of American Postal History* during most of the time he was writing and editing for ESPHS. He was an Associate Editor of *La Posta* during the years 1992 – 2003.

Martin was also a member of the Long Island Postal History Society, the American Philatelic Society and its Writers Unit #30, Mobile Post Office Society, Universal Ship Cancellation Society, Machine Cancel Society and other philatelic organizations. In addition to his research, writing and editing, Martin exhibited extensively and won many awards.

He is survived by Miriam, his wife of 62 years, his son, David, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Alan Parsons

**CAROLINE SCANNELL NAMED 2010 ATA
DISTINGUISHED TOPICAL PHILATELIST**

Caroline V. Scannell of Smithtown, New York, has been selected as the American Topical Association's 2010 Distinguished Topical Philatelist, according to an announcement by DTP committee chair Donald W. Smith. The award will be presented on Saturday evening, June 26, 2010, at the awards banquet during the ATA annual convention in Denver, Colorado.



Ms. Scannell served as ATA second vice president from 1998-2004, as ATA first vice president from 2004-2008, and since 2000 as president of the ATA New York Chapter where she also staffs an ATA table at the MEGA Stamp Shows in New York City. She served as registration chair for ATA annual conventions from 2001-2009 and arranged for the ATA convention cachets and cancels in 2003-2004.

Ms. Scannell joined the American Philatelic Society in 1975. As she grew more interested in topicals, she joined ATA in 1988 and began a collection of the stamps issued to save the Nubian Monuments in Egypt. Within a year, she exhibited her collection on Nubian monuments at the 1989 National Stamp Show in New York City where she garnered the first of many Bronze medals won at other stamp shows.

Ms. Scannell served as a director of the ATA Europa Study Unit from 1989-2004, and since 2004 as vice president of the Europa Unit. In 1995 she entered ATA's "my favorite topic" contest. As one of the winners, her article entitled "The Abus" was published in the September-October 1995 issue of *Topical Time*. She has also been the driving force in the ATA Old World Archaeological Study Unit, serving since 2004 as editor of the *Old World Archaeologist*.

As a member of the Long Island Cover Society, in 1997-1999 Ms. Scannell became involved with local post offices on Long Island, and she sponsored several special cancels for anniversaries of the Long Island Rail Road. She exhibited her Universal Postal Union collection at the General Post Office in New York City which led her to author an article on the 125th anniversary of the U.P.U. published in the March-April 2000 issue of *Topical Time*.

Ms. Scannell is also a member of the Empire State Postal History Society, the Egyptian Study Circle (London), and the ATA Textiles Study Unit. Her hobbies include quilting, archaeology and local history.

The ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award was established in 1952 by Jerry Husak to recognize notable service in topical philately. In the past 58 years this award has been presented to 113 topical philatelists, including residents of Canada, Great Britain, and Italy.

**DEBLOIS & HARRIS TO TEACH COURSE ON SOCIAL
PERSPECTIVES OF POSTAL HISTORY AT APS SUMMER
SEMINAR JUNE 20-25, 2010**

ESPHS member Robert Dalton Harris and his wife, Diane DeBlois, will teach again on aspects of U.S. postal history at the APS Summer Seminar, this time on the subject *Social Perspectives of the Postal Service*.

Registration is now open for the APS 2010 Summer Seminar on Philately, scheduled for June 20 – 25, at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, PA. For registration form, courses available and other information please visit www.stamps.org or write to APS Summer Seminar, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823, phone 814-933-3803, fax 814-933-6128, email: educate@stamps.org.

**ANNUAL BLOUNT POSTAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED
FOR NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM, SEPTEMBER 16 – 17, 2010**

The fifth annual **Winton M. Blount Postal History Symposium** will be held at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, DC September 16 - 17, 2010. The topic for this year's Symposium is *Stamps and the Mail: Imagery, Icons & Identity*.

The deadline for proposals for papers to be given at the 2010 Symposium is May 15, 2010. Proposals should be no more than one page and be accompanied by a one-page curriculum vitae with contact information (address, e-mail and telephone). Please e-mail complete proposals to NPMResearchChair@si.edu. Further information can be found at www.postalmuseum.si.edu, the National Postal Museum's website.



The NY Metro

Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, Kings, Richmond, New York Bronx, Westchester, Rockland

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The New York Metro section is back!!! It has been a while since I have written, but I am re-energized and hope to make this a regular column. I would also like to resurrect our section in Excelsior!

That being said, I hope to get a little support from some of the other members in our area. The NY Metro section in Excelsior is not MY column, it is open to anyone interested in writing about the above 9 counties. My material is concentrated in Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties, so please consider writing about one of your areas of interest.

We will be having a regional meeting at NOJEX on Saturday May 29 at 2:00pm. The meeting room has not been decided, but will be listed in the show program. The meeting is open to all ESPHS members. Anyone on the Island that wants to carpool, drop me a line at fbraith@optonline.net. Hope to see you all there, and don't forget to enter your NY exhibit in the multi-state competition.

Frank Braithwaite

THERE IS STILL TIME TO ACT! DO IT NOW

ASCC Vol. 1 Update: The New York coordinators for updating Vol.1 of the *American Stampless Cover Catalog* (now owned by the Classics Society) are Glenn Estus (gestus@esphs.org) and Doug Penwell (dougenwell@mail.com). Volume 1 (Fifth Edition, 1997) is a valuable reference work for state and local postal history collectors, but needs updating. Go to www.stamplesscovercatalog.com/input.html to download the instructions for submitting data and send it to either Estus or Penwell. For those members who do not have access to ASCC Vol.1, the Society will have it at ROPEX along with copies of the website instructions referenced above. Copies of listings in ASCC Vol.1 for specific New York post offices will be supplied on request to Al Parsons (alatholleyrd@aol.com).

Manuscript Post Offices of New York State Update: Doug Penwell has been working on this for over ten years and wants to publish the fourth edition in 2010. The book lists for each NY post office ever opened the earliest and latest dates of use for the manuscript style of post office marking incorporating the office name and date of dispatch on a piece of mail. For each NY post office having existence in more than one county Doug now wants the earliest and latest manuscript townmarks for each county in which the post office existed, and, of course, any change in the current listings for one-county-only post offices. Send data to Doug either by e-mail (see above) or land mail, PO Box 3525, Glendale, AZ 85311-3525. Include month, day and year date if available, and rate or stamp franking information along with a clear scan if possible.

Wanted: Saratoga County, NY

Better grade stampless covers wanted for exhibition purposes from these towns:

Ballston, Ballston Centre, Ballston Spa, Ballston Springs, Barkersville, Batchellerville, Bemus Heights, Birtchton, Burnt Hills, Charlton, Clifton Park, Concord, Conklingville, Corinth, Coveville, Crescent, Day, Deans Corners, Dry Dock, Dunning Street, East Day, East Galway, East Line, Edgecombs Corner, Edinburgh, Elnora, Fortville, Galway, Gansevoort, Grangerville, Greenfield, Grooms Corners, Hadley, Hagedorns Mills, Half Moon, Jonesville, Ketchums Corners, Malta, Maltaville, Mechanicsville, Middle Grove, Milton Center, Moreau, Mosherville, North Galway, North Greenfield, Northumberland, Pope's Corners, Porters Corners, Providence, Quaker Springs, Rexford Flats, Round Lake, Saratoga, Saratoga Springs, Schuylersville, South Ballston, South Galway, South Glens Falls, South Greenfield, Stillwater, Victory Mills, Vischers Ferry, Waterford, Wayville, West Charlton, West Day, West Greenfield, West Milton, West Providence, Wilton.

Send original on approval, or a photocopy, with price to:

John A. Lange, Jr.
373 Root Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
(518) 882-6373 johnlangejr@aol.com

The Trading Post

Where Members Meet To Buy, Sell or Trade NYS Postal History
and Promote Research Projects

All members in good standing may submit one notice to **The Trading Post** each year.
Trading Post ads should relate to New York State or other collecting interests
or a New York State research project on which you seek members' help.
(3 line maximum including name and contact information. Send to *Bulletin* Editor)

ITHACA NY WANTED: Attached rate postmark, auxiliary markings pre-1880,
US 1-2 & US 5-7-9 covers, Pre-1817 SFLs. Stefan Jaronski; bug@midrivers.com

LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY always wanted. Anything to or from John
Lewis Childs of Floral Park, NY; 19^c Fawn errors (#2479). Frank Braithwaite,
56 Morewood Dr., Smithtown, NY 11787 fbraith@optonline.net

WANT TO TRADE OR BUY: RFD hand cancels and/or Manuscript markings of
NYS. William J. Hart, 39 Longview Dr., Apt 100, Queensbury, NY 12804
bill.nysph@gmail.com

COLLECTOR SEEKS 3 cent 1861 (#65) on cover with NYC and Brooklyn cancels.
Please send photocopies and Asking Price. Oprysko, PO Box 218, Baldwin Place,
NY 10505

WANTED – Adirondack Hotel Covers & Ephemera. Art Groten, PO Box 30,
Fishkill, NY 12524 artgroten@optonline.net

See some **Jeff Shapiro** award winning Prexie items at www.postalnet.com/dontocher
Email Don at dontocher@earthlink.net (617-686-0288). Join me at *Garfield-Perry*
Cleveland, March 19 – 21, 2010, Booth #55

WANTED: Covers, Post Cards, DPOs from SULLIVAN & DELAWARE Counties;
also Ship cancels & Patriotic covers from WWII. Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane,
Ledgewood, NY 07852 or phone (973) 584-0359

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including many New York listings. Send \$2.00 for next issue to Jim Mehrer, 2405 30th
St., Rock Island, IL 61201 www.postal-history.com

WANTED: COLUMBIA COUNTY, NY 19th century or earlier postal history,
especially City of Hudson. “Dream Cover”: Scott #s 1 or 2 on Hudson cover.
George DeKornfeld gdekornfel@fairpoint.net

ALWAYS BUYING INTERESTING LETTERS & EPHEMERA.
Agatherin@yahoo.com Agatherin, PO Box 477, West Sand Lake, NY 12196
Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris



GLEN COVE NATIVE seeks Glen Cove, NY Postmarks 1940 and before. Will trade or purchase. Joseph V. Gallagher, 275 Wolf Hill Rd, South Huntington, NY 11747
deantovar@aol.com

Large NEW HAMPSHIRE stock for sale. Mostly 1885 – 1915 cards and letters, in glassine envelopes with town labels. Contact Brian Levy bellobl@aol.com

WANTED – JEFFERSON COUNTY, N.Y. DEAD POST OFFICE COVERS.
E-mail ccfotog@gmail.com Michael Quencer

LOOKING FOR POSTAL HISTORY ITEMS of CATTARAUGUS County, NY
Please contact me at searles@adelphia.net if you have items available. Jack Searles

WANTED: Newfoundland Post Cards and Covers; Pre and Post Confederation.
George McGowan, PO Box 482, East Schodack, NY 12063-0482

WANTED: Any Postal items from SHEPARD SETTLEMENT, Onondaga County, New York. Norm Shepard, 741 Deerfoot Rd, Deland, FL 32720
sheparn@daytonastate.edu

WANTED: NYS stampless covers from Hudson River, War of 1812 and anything from Long Island. Keith Bantz, MD. E-mail keithphilately@cs.com
Phone (828) 699-0709

WANTED: Postal history of all Schenectady County Post Offices from founding to WWII. FLS, covers, documents, photos; RPOs, DPOs, Yup, *anything & everything!*
Scans & Ask Price to Bob Bramwell rbramwell@nc.rr.com (910) 295 5808 Thanks!

WANTED: Broome County covers, especially smaller offices. Also photos or scans of Broome County post offices and postmasters. Send clear copies to: David E. Williams, 2617 Byron Ave, Louisville, KY 40205 davidewilliams@insightbb.com