

# **BULLETIN** of The Empire State Postal History Society

Volume 48 Number 3

September 2015

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **BNAPEX 2015**

**The British North America Philatelic Society  
Holds its Annual Show and Convention September 11 to 13  
Ramada Plaza Niagara Falls, Niagara Falls, Ontario  
Visit [www.bnaps.org/bnaps](http://www.bnaps.org/bnaps) for more information**

**At the TROY ELKS LODGE 141  
Route 4, North Greenbush  
Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Albany Stamp Club  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by the Upstate Postcard Club**

**OLEPEX 2015, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at B.P.O. Elks Club No. 491  
209 Wet State Street. Olean  
One Day Only, From 10 AM to 4 PM**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Members: Seems like summer was only a week long.

We held our annual meeting on Saturday July 25 at the Northeast Postal History show in Albany. With 10 members present and 7 proxies we were ready to do business. The society is doing well both financially and holding steady in membership. We have several publications in the works, but can't seem to get them completed.

We also held our general election, with all incumbents re-elected and George Fekete added as director.

We are still lacking in participation by you, our members. With our membership spread out across the state and elsewhere, participation and communication are important to keeping our organization meaningful. Here is where we need help: Articles for the Excelsior are needed. These can be one page - maybe about your favorite cover or post office in your area of collecting - or multiple pages from your collection. This is your chance to tell us about the history of your area. Believe me, we are interested in learning and seeing what is interesting to you. If you need help with the articles we are available.

Our new web site is still in the works. We could use some help, as we will need a web master to keep up the site when completed. If you have the skills please contact me about this position. *[continued on page 3]*

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**Officers:**

President: David Przepiora ('17)  
 djprze@hotmail.com  
 Vice-President: Frank Braithwaite ('17)  
 fbraith@optonline.net  
 Secretary: George McGowan ('16)  
 geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com  
 Treasurer: George DeKornfeld ('16)  
 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:**

('15): Maris Tirums, Brian Levy  
 ('16): John Cali, Dr. Charles J. DiComo, Drew Nicholson  
 ('17): George Fekete, Alan Parsons, Heather Sweeting

**Advertising Manager:**

George McGowan (email above)  
 150 Burden Lake Rd.  
 East Greenbush, NY 12061-3602

**Bulletin Auction Manager:**

Bob Bramwell (email below)  
 PO Box 4150  
 Pinehurst, NC 20374

**Chairman of the Publications Committee:**

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

**Webmaster****Excelsior! (Semi-Annually)**

David E. Williams, Editor  
 davidinindiana@aol.com  
 7115 Abbey Woods Dr. NE  
 New Salisbury, IN 47161

**Bulletin (Quarterly)**

Bob Bramwell, Editor  
 rbramwell@nc.rr.com  
 PO Box 4150  
 Pinehurst, NC 28374

**Secretary's Membership Report****Welcomed into Membership:**

Keith Slater

Watkins Glen, NY

Dr. James Milgram

Lake Forest, IL

*[President's Message continued]*

We are also going to need a new editor for our quarterly newsletter *BULLETIN*, as Bob Bramwell will be giving up that position after some years at it. We thank Bob for a job well done and hope someone will step forward to fill that important position. Feel free to contact me at [djprze@hotmail.com](mailto:djprze@hotmail.com)

*David Przepiora*

## **ESPHS PUBLICATIONS NEED YOUR HELP**

**by Drew Nicholson**

Our society has a long history of publishing the results of New York State postal history research. Some, emblematic of collectors' favorite approach to New York State, are:

*200 Years of Cayuga County Postal History*, by Charles H. Sweeting

*Oswego County, NY Postal History*, by Charles & Heather Sweeting

*Wayne County Postal History*, by Emma Koberg

*County and Postmaster Cancells of New York State*, by David Proulx

As Chair of the Publications Committee, it is my job to encourage every one of you who has taken your interest in (dare I say "passion for") New York State postal history to the point where you have a topic which, if published in our journal *Excelsior*, will be read with enjoyment by our members. And once you do it, we hope others will follow.

Writing for ESPHS is neither difficult nor unimportant. How many times have you seen something in Linn's or the American Philatelist, or in the Journal of the Postal History Society edited by ESPHS members Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris, and realized you just learned something useful to your own collecting interest of the moment. Think of writing on a topic that interests you as *Paying it Forward*.

In his page 1 message David Przepiora alluded to two much-anticipated projects I look forward to adding to the volumes listed above. [add encouragement here?]

As David also mentioned, *Bulletin* needs an editor to step forward. The job is to format news of society goings-on reported by members, Regional Representatives, Officers and Directors. Bob Bramwell is stepping down from that position with the December issue after 6 years (but will continue as Auction Manager with your support as Consignors, hint, hint).

In the future, we could well have a role for Web Content Editor, whose job would involve transcribing content from *Bulletin*, *Excelsior* and other sources onto our web site ESPHS.US Check it out!

**APS UNIT 28**[www.esphs.us](http://www.esphs.us)

Meets twice annually

Membership info: George McGowan

PO Box 482, E. Schodack, NY 12063-0482

[geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com](mailto:geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com), 518-479-4396

**EMPIRE STATE  
POSTAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY**

**OLD BUFFALO CITY HALL COVERS APPEALING***By Alfred Carroccia*

Buffalo postal history is an interesting collecting area not only for its cancellations, but also for the advertising covers that were prevalent in the early part of the twentieth century. Different images of the city with its grand hotels was the hallmark of the majority of the covers and are very appealing.

The old city hall appeared on advertising covers. Most were business related as many city and county offices were located in the building. These covers portrayed the façade of the building with its clock tower which was the tallest building in Buffalo from 1876 to 1912.

The granite structure was designed by Rochester architect Andrew Jackson Warner and constructed between 1871 and 1875. The site was on old Franklin Square which contained the graves of those Buffalo residents who died when the British burned the Village of Buffalo during the War of 1812. The graves were relocated during construction.

The building would serve as home of the city and Erie County municipal offices until 1936 when a new city hall was built off Niagara Square. The county would maintain offices until its new building would be built adjacent to the old building. Old County Hall, as it is now called, maintains the courts and the office of the Erie County Clerk. ■



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