

E.S.P.H.S. BULLETIN

Volume 36 Number 3

December 2003

FALL MEETING AT SYRAPEX

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

UPGRADES FOR *EXCELSIOR!* AND SOCIETY WEBSITE APPROVED

**Drew Nicholson Explores Camp Whitman Postal History;
Bill Hart Tops Balloting in Four-page deLisle Exhibiting Competition**

Our Society's fall membership meeting for the current fiscal year was held November 9, 2003 at the Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, Syracuse in conjunction with SYRAPEX '03, the bi-annual show sponsored by the Syracuse Stamp Club.

Attendance was light—eleven members and one guest—but those present were treated to an excellent illustrated talk by *Excelsior!* Editor Drew Nicholson describing his search for the location and postal history of a World War I Army camp in Dutchess County known eventually as Camp Whitman. Drew had to play detective as well as postal historian and finally located the camp at the current sites of Stormville Airport and Green Haven Correctional Facility. The camp never had its own post office; related postal markings are known from Stormville, Beacon and Poughkeepsie.

Society Director and former President Bill Hart also contributed to the meeting by his comments on RFD routes and markings, and the sources he will be using to provide New York postal historians with a more complete and accurate RFD compilation than now available. He hopes to give us a record of known (reported) route markings as well as a list of known routes without reported markings.

Plans for a limited number of color pages and for card stock covers for *Excelsior* were announced at the meeting, having been discussed and approved at the Executive Board meeting earlier in the day.

Another Executive Board decision, this having to do with the Society website, was announced at the meeting. At the suggestion of webmaster Glenn Estus, we are expanding our presence on the internet by opening our own website rather than using Glenn's. This will give us greater visibility and much easier accessibility. Glenn will construct the new site and continue as webmaster but gladly relinquish the job if another Society member with experience in web design comes forward. Any volunteers? (*ed. note: <http://www.esphs.org> is the new site*)

The meeting concluded with the annual Kenneth R. deLisle Award competition. There were four exhibits entered this year, the best showing since our previous fall meeting at SYRAPEX (1999). John Lange's minutes elsewhere in this *Bulletin* lists the four entries, all of which received votes in the balloting by the members present at the meeting. Congratulations to Bill Hart for his four pages of Glens Falls Early Postal History, which received the most votes. Bill will be presented with the deLisle Award at the annual meeting in 2004.

Alan Parsons
alatholleyrd@aol.com

SOCIETY NEWS

Contributions are always welcome for this feature; please send them to:

John Lange
ESPHS Secretary/Treasurer
373 Root Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3227

You may call John at (518) 882-6373. The best time is in the afternoon between 1 and 6.

We welcome the following new members:

Fekete, George T., 111 Dale Road, Rochester, NY 14625-2009

Collecting Interests: 1932 Wash. Bicents, W-F issue (09-23), FD & Last Day of issue (correct rate & overpaid) commercial covers

Kabelac, Karl S., 105 Raleigh St., Rochester, NY 14620-4121

Collecting Interests: Local Rochester history (retired local history librarian)

Applicants for membership:

Dowd, John D., PO Box 138, 124 Mahl's Pond Rd. Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0138

Collecting Interests: Town of Tusten, Sullivan Co., NY PH, Covers/PC mailed from Boy Scout Camps, all states

References: The Collectors Club & Agnes Cavalari, 89 Bethlehem Rd., New Windsor, NY 12443

Hof, Gerald J., 6365 Beryl Rd. #003, Alexandria, VA 22312, PH (703) 916-0707

ALFREDSON@MSN.COM

Collecting Interests: Scott #11, 24, 26, 63, 65 on cover w. postmarks, all counties, also Pan Am Expo on over esp. w. Buffalo pm

References: APS #194091, USPCS, Springfield VA Stamp Club, PAPHS

ESPHS Bulletin

Published quarterly by the
Empire State Postal History Society
APS AFFILIATE #28
<<http://www.esphs.org>>

Officers:

President: Alan Parsons ('05)

Vice President: Dr. Joseph Rowbottom ('05)

Secretary/Treasurer: John Lange ('04)

Directors:

('04): John Nunes, John Cali,

Drew Nicholson

('05): Louis Call, Heather Sweeting,
Gerald Wiley

('06) Albert Guenzburger, Bill Hart,
Maris Tirums

Auction Manager:

John Nunes
80 Fredericks Rd.
Scotia, NY 12302

Regional Representatives:

Western: Ada Prill

Mohawk/Hudson: Maris Tirums

Northern: Gerald Wiley

Central/Southern: Alan Parsons

Publications:

ESPHS Bulletin (quarterly)

Glenn A. Estus, editor
PO Box 451

Westport, NY 12993-0451

(518) 962-4558

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Excelsior! (semi-annually)

Drew A. Nicholson, editor
18 Valley Dr

Pawling, NY 12564-1140

(845) 855-3387

email: ddnicholson@earthlink.net

Merchant, Stephen, 247 Richardson Rd., Berlin, VT 05602

Collecting Interests: Stampless Folded Letters

References: APS #201523, Vermont Philatelic Society, Washington Co. Stamp Club

Milner, Susan A., 168 George Thompson Road., Mechanicville, NY 12118 PH (518) 664-8810

Collecting Interests: PC & Postals, correspondence w. local history, Sara., Wash., Rens., & Albany Counties

Reference: Carl Blazejewski

Morgan, Douglas J., 8 Old French Rd., Honeoye Falls, NY 14472-9009

Collecting Interests: Livingston Co. covers, letters, bill heads

References: Western NY Postcard Club, Livingston Co. Historical Society.

Ammann, Michael, 217 Inwood Drive, Syracuse, NY 13219-1945

Interests: US & Canada & Duck Stamps; Syracuse, Solvay, Geddes & Camillus Covers

Reference: APS #168431

Pettersen III, William J., 63 Liberty St., Montpelier, VT 05602

Interests: Stampless, esp. VT, pre-1870 stamped, Zeppelin, Third Reich propaganda covers.

Reference: APS #196827

Life Members: Our newest LM is John A. Cali, He joins our other Life Members: Leslie Byrnes, Dr. Louis T. Call, Larry Cherns, Frederick Dykins, Daniel Knowles, Jerry Kotek, Thomas Mazza, John M. Price, William Seifert, and Joel Shapiro

Dropped for non-payment of dues:

George Baker and Richard Jones

Address Changes:

Przpiora, David, 166 Rowley Rd., Cheektowaga, NY 14227

Labliberte, Lawrence: add PO to "Box 1311"

Ohio Postal History Society
3284 Euclid Heights Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

Zevos, Nicholas, 245 Pettit Lane, Athens, GA 30605-4045

Deceased: Charles Sweeting

Membership & Complimentary Copies:

173 (162 Regular & 11 Life)

Complimentary Copies: 9

IT'S ON-LINE!!!

**The new ESPHS website is
up and running.**

Check it out at

<http://www.esphs.org>

**Suggestions and Comments
are gladly accepted.**

gestus@esphs.org

2004 REGIONAL MEETINGS PLANNED FOR ALBANY IN FEBRUARY AND BUFFALO IN MARCH

Plan to attend one or more of our meetings in 2004. With the exception of the annual meeting, we make every effort to hold these meetings in conjunction with a stamp show or a bourse having a concentration of postal history dealers. Our bylaws require the annual meeting be held the first Sunday in May. Since this date does not connect to a show or bourse, members bring covers for sale or trade at the meeting.

A total of five meetings, including the annual meeting, have been held in 2003: Albany, Buffalo, Canastota (annual meeting), Rochester and Syracuse (fall meeting, a long-standing tradition). A similar schedule of meetings is anticipated for 2004, which means "downstate" (Southern Tier, lower Hudson Valley, metro N.Y.City and Long Island) is still neglected. Since the regional and fall meetings can be useful in recruiting new members, we need to bring our message to these neglected areas. Any ideas?

Our first meeting in 2004 will be a regional meeting in conjunction with Cover Mania VI at the Quality Inn, 3 Watervliet Ave., Albany (use

exit 5 off I-90), February 21 and 22. Our meeting will be held on the second day of the show. Society Director and auction manager John Nunes runs this show and makes every effort to provide us with a comfortable meeting room. Be sure to check on the time and room location when you arrive. BUFPEX 2004, scheduled for March 13 and 14, affords an opportunity for our second regional meeting of the year. Sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club, BUFPEX will be held at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, 2040 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga. Our meeting again will be held on the second day of the show and, as always, check for the time and room location when you arrive at the show.

Our regional meetings are held to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas. Informal reports regarding ongoing Society programs are presented and suggestions for new programs, research areas, membership recruitment, etc. are welcome. Attendance at these meetings, as well as the annual meeting in May, offers an excellent opportunity for members to become better acquainted with the workings of the Society.

Have You.....

-found a new Doane cancel? Send the information to Maris Tirums.
- discovered a new star cancel? Send the information to David Williams
- a new early or late manuscript cancel? Send the information to Doug Penwell
- a new RFD cancel? Send the information to Bill Hart

Minutes of Executive Board of the ESPHS, Nov. 9, 2003

Syracuse 03, Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, Syracuse, NY

Present: Cali, Hart, Lange, Nicholson, Parsons, Rowbottan, Tirums (a quorum)

1. President Parsons complimented Drew Nicholson, Editor of our journal *Excelsior!* for an excellent job. This is the first journal produced by Drew.

2. Color pages for *Excelsior!*: Drew Nicholson proposed, prior to the meeting, the inclusion of a limited amount of pages produced with a color ink cartridge. Some covers, particularly advertising covers, show their attributes best if shown in color. The pages would be printed by Nicholson using the 28 lb paper (also used in the black ink pages) to be provided by Lange. Nicholson estimated the printing cost at approximately 17¢ per single sided page. Lange presented a cost analysis which compared production costs of black ink printed pages vs. pages printed with color cartridges. Several options were listed. These were:

- a. 2 color pages, one sheet \$143.30; b. 2 color pages, 2 sheets, \$144.44,
- c. 3 color pages on 2 sheets, \$179.29 d. 3 color pages on 3 sheets, \$180.49 These costs are for production of 205 sets and include mailing costs to/from Drew.

Corresponding total production costs for the entire Journal based on a Journal of 40 pages and 205 sets then are predicted at:

a.	b.	c.	d.
2 color pages 1 sheet \$590.41	2 color pages 2 sheets \$591.55	3 color pages 2 sheets \$626.40	3 color pages 3 sheets \$627.60

The use of a single sided page only is based on the assumption that the other side will be printed in black by BOCES. Costs also are based on mailing of the 205 sets of color pages Nicholson to Lange Using Media Mail rates.

On a trial basis for the next journal, the Board accepted the Nicholson/Lange proposal and authorized Nicholson to proceed with color pages if he deemed that appropriate, with any of options a, b, c, d listed above.

2. Card stock as cover/back for *Excelsior!*: Editor Nicholson proposed the use of covers sheets. "I think we have reached the time when *EXCELSIOR!* requires" a stiff cover front and back. Virtually every journal/bulletin I have viewed in the past two months has had a heavier weight cover." This proposal was approved by the Board and the \$20.50 cost is included in the preceding options.

3. ESPHS Website: President Parsons stated that Glenn Estus, our Bulletin editor, had contacted him regarding the existing ESPHS website which can be derived from Glenn's personal space.

Glenn is willing to continue with that approach but feels we need more visibility. Using Yahoo/Geocities pricing - "for \$11.95 a month (\$25.00 startup fee) we can get the following web address: "www.esphs.org" "www.empirestatepostalhistory.org" is also available but might be too long for an address." More info was in Glenn's letter which was also read. VP Rowbottom stated we should have a website that is easy to get to, particularly for young people. The Board authorized Estus to proceed with the creation of a website as he saw fit; the only restriction being that the total cost for the first year shall not exceed \$200.

4. Multistate competition at ROPEX 04. Letters to other PH Societies were sent in August. A positive response has been received from Ohio; an indirect response from PA. The Board decided against offering a winning Society plaque.

5. Stamp Insider submissions: President Parsons reminded those scheduled for pages of the dates due. (The 'Stamp Insider' is a publication of the Federation of Central NY Philatelic Societies for which we receive free page inserts with a membership fee of \$15.00/year.)

6. Future publications:

a. Maris Tirums - Doane Cancels. Working actively and continuing to get information; no publication date given.

b. Bill Hart - NYS RFD's - Bill Stated that this would be discussed in his talk at the membership meeting to follow.

John A. Lange, Jr.
Sec./Treas., ESPHS
11/15/03

Membership Options

1. Regular Membership: \$11.00 for applications dated March through August and \$16.00 for applications dated September through February (approx. 18 months).

2. Life Membership: Age 65 and over	\$100.00
Age 51-64	\$150.00
Age 40-50	\$200.00
Age 39 and under	\$250.00



Prices for Society Publications include P&H
Quantity pricing applies to each publication separately.
Mail order to 373 Root Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3227

ESPHS Publications
for Sale
Winter, 2003

**A GREAT
Holiday Gift**

	List Price	Price to ESPHS members	5 or more copies price
1. FEDERAL POST OFFICES OF NEW YORK STATE , alphabetical list referencing county, rev. & corrected to March 1, 1973, 69 pages, soft cover, 5.5" x 8.5" format	\$ 5.00	\$4.00	\$3.20 each
2. MANUSCRIPT POST OFFICES OF NEW YORK STATE , edited by Chlanda & Wilcox, 1984, 54 pages plus the 1999 Master Supplement edited by Penwell, 34 pages; both have soft covers	\$ 14.00	\$ 11.20	\$8.40 each
3. NEW YORK POSTAL HISTORY: The Postoffices and first Postmasters from 1775 to 1980 by Kay and Smith, published by the APS, 556 pages, hardcover	\$ 40.00	\$ 29.00	_____
4. 200 YEARS OF CAYUGA COUNTY, NY POSTAL HISTORY by Charles H. Sweeting, 1998, 346 pages, hardbound in burgandy cloth with gold stamping. Contains manuscript, straight-line, county and postmaster cancels, precancels, early Air Mail Service, local FDC's and philatelic notables. Documentation is given for postmaster appointments followed by pictures and comments about them. Site location maps are included, as well as illustrations of mail used	\$ 40.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 24.00 each
5. OSWEGO COUNTY, NY POSTAL HISTORY by Charles and Heather Sweeting, 2001, 510 pages, softbound cover with spiral plastic binding. Contains segments covering post roads, manuscript, fancy, straight line and Doane cancels, county and postmaster cancels, precancels, early Air Mail, boat and railway mail service, local FDC's and philatelic notables. The 122 individual post offices are treated in alphabetical order. All illustrations are digitally scanned and edited for clarity. Over 200 maps and 600 illustrations are shown on acid free 28 lb nearly opaque paper, the same paper as used in the Cayuga Co. book.	\$ 30.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 18.00 each
6. WAYNE COUNTY POSTAL HISTORY by Emma Koberg, 81 pages, maps, postmarks & illustrations, Plastic bound	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00 each
7. STAR CANCELS OF NEW YORK STATE, Type 16 by David Proulx, 1987, 44 pages, illustrated, stapled, soft c.	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00 each
8. COUNTY AND POSTMASTER CANCELS OF NEW YORK STATE by David Proulx, 1990, 44 pages, illustrated, staple bound, soft cover.	\$ 10.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00 each

Minutes, General Membership Meeting, Nov. 9, 2003

Present: Bauer, Cali, Davison, Guenzburger, Hart, Lange, Nicholson, Parsons, Rowbottom, Tirums, Todaro

1. Compliments were given for the fine job that the Journal Editor, Drew Nicholson is doing as well as the Bulletin Editor, Glenn Estus. President Parsons also stated that sane volunteers for short articles (-one page or less) would be welcomed for the Bulletin, as well as for the Stamp Insider.
2. A summary of the Board's decision to initiate a limited number of color pages in the next Journal was discussed as well as the use of card stock for the cover and back. The initiation of a different ESPHS website, to be designed by Glem Estus, was announced as a board decision. A short discussion followed with no dissensions.
3. Nicholas Todaro stated that "We have way too much money in the bank. We should spend more in attracting members." He gave no specifics. Bill Bauer noted that the Colorado PH Society had placed several consecutive ads in either the Postal History Journal or La Posta with zero response. Secretary Lange agreed with Todaro's assertion; he noted though, that the cost of producing the Journal and Bulletin now exceeds the membership fees and that the ESPHS relies on interest income to make up the difference. There was no further discussion.
4. Bill Hart spoke about his "Study on NYS RFD"s. It is a work in progress. Considerations involved are updating Richow data & what is known and what should be there. Manuscript hand cancels + hand stamps will be included. The collection is primarily based on the 1907 Postal Guide; to date 45 incorrect entries have been noted in Richow's list. The primary sources used will be: (a) Postal Guides, (b) PM General reports and (c) Edith Doane's County RFD Systems.
5. This year there have been two regional meetings, Buffalo and Rochester. Last fiscal year @ Cover Mania in Albany, we also had a regional meeting.
6. The subject of a postal history competition at ROPEX 04, previously mentioned in the Board minutes was brought up. The Board's recommendation of no award to the "best society" received no dissent.
7. Drew Nicholson gave a talk on Dutchess Co. military camps in WWI, primarily on "Camp Whitman - Dutchess Co. N.Y. 1915-1917" Drew noted difficulty of obtaining covers as postal cards were the primary means of letter writing.
8. Kenneth R. deLisle Award for best four page exhibit of NYS postal History: The plaque (to be presented at the May 2, 2004 annual meeting) was won by Bill Hart's "Glens Falls Early Postal History." Other entries were "Seeing Stars in Bath, NY 1891 A year of transition" by Alan Parsons, "Early Saratoga County Stampless Covers" by John Lange, and "NY Postal Markings, Oswego, NY" by Nicholas Todaro.

John A. Lange, Jr.
Secretary/Treasurer, ESPHS
11/15/03



NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICER & DIRECTORS TO BE ELECTED AT 2004 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Empire State Postal History Society will be held Sunday, May 2, 2004. The Nominating Committee Chair for election of officer and directors at this meeting is

John A. Cali
613 W. Fourth Street
Fulton, NY 13069-3104
phone 315-592-4441
email rocket@dreamscape.com.

Positions open:

Secretary/Treasurer (06), incumbent John A. Lange, Jr.

Directors (07), incumbents are John A. Cali, Drew A. Nicholson, Dr. John J. Nunes

Nominations close on March 20, 2004. Three nominating signatures are required for each nominee. Nominations are to be sent to Mr. Cali to be received by him no later than March 20, 2004. However, it is desirable to have the nominations printed in the March *Bulletin* and this can occur only if they are received by Mr. Cali no later than Feb. 22, 2004.

Cover Scans Needed



One of the features of the new ESPHS website is the illustrating of material dealing with New York State's Postal History. At the current time, I have placed some material that come from my personal collection. As of December 2, there is a webpage showing a cross border usage to Canada West from Port Henry (Essex County) and a National Airmail week cover from Sidney (Delaware County) as well as a star cancel from Schroon Lake (Essex County).

I intend to change the covers every few weeks. Currently, I will be using my own material. However, it is my hope that other members of the ESPHS would like to contribute to this section of the webpage. All contributions will remain anonymous.

I would prefer scans of the front and reverse (as appropriate) of the cover with a description of what makes the cover interesting. Scans are best done at 180 dpi. 180 dpi allows me a little leeway to manipulate the scan. The final inclusion on the website will be at 72 dpi. A black border around the item is also preferable.

Interested? Please contact me at gestus@westelcom.com

2004 Anniversaries

Here are some post offices that are celebrating significant anniversaries in 2004. I have based this information on data from the Smith Kay book (1980). Perhaps, if you live in near one of these post offices, you could mention to the postmaster that an anniversary will coming up. A special cancellation and cachet are usually good fund raisers for stamp club or other groups.

200th Anniversary--1804

Florida (Orange) January 1

175th Anniversary--1829

Marathon (Cor) Jan. 12

Oriskany Falls (One) Feb. 8

Addison (Ste) Feb. 12

Orwell (Osw) Mar. 31

Clyde (Way) Apr. 18

Seneca Castle (Ont) Apr. 18

Poland (Her) May 2

East Pembroke (Gen) May 4

Modena (Uls) Jun 15

North Chile (Mnr) Jul 10

Churchville (Mnr) Aug. 26

Natural Bridge (Jef) Sept. 12

Port Henry (Ess) Sept. 28

Lodi (Sen) Dec. 10

150th Anniversary--1854

SCHUYLER COUNTY--Apr 17

South Lima (Liv) Jan. 10

New Kingston (Del) Feb. 20

Sparrow Bush (Org) Mar. 16

Irvington (Wes) Apr. 19

Bowmansville (Eri) Apr. 28

Fine (Sai) Sep. 9

125th Anniversary--1879

Chautauqua (Cha) Feb. 26

Blue Mountain Lake (Ham) Feb. 28

Freedom (Cat) Apr. 28

Putnam Station (Was) July 30

100th Anniversary--1904

Niobe (Cha) Apr. 29

Interlaken (Sen) May 20

75th Anniversary--1929

Earlton (Gre) Jan. 1

CHALLENGES ISSUED FOR EXHIBITING COMPETITION AT ROPEX JUNE 18-20

Invitations were mailed to nine state postal history societies—Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio—in late August and early September challenging them to a multi-state postal history exhibiting competition at ROPEX 2004, to be held in Webster, NY under the sponsorship of the Rochester Philatelic Association June 18-20.

Three societies have indicated an interest to date—Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey—by reporting the competition in their publications and asking their members to participate. The other six groups (all New England) have yet to be heard from.

(cont. on page 13)

NEW YORK POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITS WANTED

BUFPEX 2004, a traditional stamp show sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club and scheduled for March 13 and 14 at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel in Cheektowaga, may provide the first opportunity in 2004 to flex our exhibiting muscle. If the frames have not been filled in early February by Buffalo Club members, then the show is open to other exhibitors.

There will be an ESPHS award for Best in New York State Postal History if there are two or more NY postal history exhibits and the best of these earns at least a show silver medal. The Society award will be a suitably engraved Waterford Crystal Timepiece. Contact Richard Cropp, 353 Lisbon Ave., Buffalo, NY 14125, (716) 837-9526, rich@buffalostampclub.org, for exhibit entry form and information.

Conflicting information has been published as of November 25 regarding another early-in-the-year NY show accepting exhibits—the **SPRING POSTAGE STAMP MEGA EVENT** sponsored by the American Stamp Dealers Association at Madison Square Garden in New York City. According to the listing in the Nov. 2003 American Philatelist, p.1040, the show will be held February 20-22 and the contact is ASDA, e-mail asdashows@erols.com; phone (516) 759-7000; fax (516) 759-7014.

In the listing of Champion of Champions shows in Linn's Stamp News Nov.24, 2003, p. 53, the show dates are March 4-7 and the contact person is Ken Martin, Box 8000, State College, PA 16803, phone (814) 237-3803, fax (814) 237-6128, e-mail stampshow@stamps.org. Both the ASDA and APS websites give March 4-7 as the dates for the show and the ASDA itself (see above) as the contact for exhibiting info.

Since the MEGA-EVENT is a WSP show, eligibility for the Society's Waterford Crystal Best New York State Postal History award requires a vermeil or better. The number of NY postal history exhibits needed is the same as that for non-WSP shows.

For information on exhibiting at **ROPEX** (Webster, NY June 18-20) see article on multi-state exhibiting competition elsewhere in this Bulletin. Other New York postal history exhibiting opportunities in 2004 include **OLEPEX '04**, Olean, date to be announced, **CNYS&CS 2004**, sponsored by the Rome and Utica clubs, Oct. 8-9 at Turning Stone, Verona, and **STEPEX '04**, sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club, Oct. Oct. 22-23 at Horseheads. Detailed info on these shows will appear in future Bulletins.



**New York Provisional Stamp 9X1 (Lot 12)
Schuyler Rumsey Auction Dec. 17, 2003**

MARTIN MARGULIS WINS GRAND AND ESPHS AWARD AT STEPEX 2003

Former Society President and Journal editor Martin Margulis, now living in Austin TX and still active as a postal history exhibitor, took top honors for the second time in three years at STEPEX, the annual show sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads, NY and held this year on October 17 and 18.

Martin's 80-page exhibit, Nineteenth Century Mail to, from and through New York City—A Survey, took the Grand Award as well as Gold and an ESPHS Waterford Crystal Timepiece for Best New York State Postal History.

Using folded letter sheets and envelopes carried by land or water from as early as 1804, Martin's exhibit graphically portrays the growth and importance of New York City in the handling of both national and international mail during the nineteenth century.

Previously, at STEPEX '01, Martin had taken Gold, Grand and the ESPHS award for another 80-page exhibit, National and International Airplane Mail to, from and through New York (to 1946).

SHOW SCHEDULES FOR NUNES AND NICHOLSON

Both John Nunes, the Society's auction manager, and Drew Nicholson, *Excelsior!* editor, work as dealers at New York shows. John has his own business (Nunes Nook), while Drew assists dealer Larry Winum of Walden.

John is willing to discuss and/or receive consignments for Society auctions, and Drew likewise for *Excelsior* articles, at any of the shows where they are present.

Following is a schedule of shows and bourses where either one or both will be available for the first three months of 2004:

- Jan. 9-11—UNIPEX, Toronto, Ramses Hall (Nunes)
- Jan. 18—Capital District Stamp Show, Albany (Nunes)
- Jan. 25—Syracuse Stamp & Coin Show (both)
- Feb. 15—Capital District Stamp Show (Nunes)
- Feb. 21-22—Cover Mania VI, Albany (both; Nicholson present but not dealer)
- Mar. 7—R S Stamp Show, Rochester (both)
- Mar. 13-14—BUFPEX, Buffalo (both)
- Mar. 21—Capital District Stamp Show (Nunes)

This list is subject to change; persons interested in meeting either John or Drew at a show should contact him ahead of time to determine if he will be there.

Consignments for society auctions and articles for *Excelsior!* (as well as the *Bulletin*) are always needed!

Life member Charles Sweeting died at the end of November. A memorial service was held on Dec. 6, 2003. John Lange wrote a eulogy from the ESPHS which was read by director John Cali:

“Charlie Sweeting was the premier asset of the Empire State Postal History Society. Not only was he the principal founder of the ESPHS in 1968 but he continued his contributions many times over. One typical contribution that is unknown to many of our ESPHS members was the printing of the 1931 Postal Route Map and insertion into 150 mailing tubes by him and his wife Betsey.

“Two outstanding hardbound postal history books were authored by Charlie with his daughter Heather. The first was a 346 page publication “200 Years of Cayuga County Postal History.: The second was “Oswego County Postal History” in 2001. Some typical complimentary phrases in the APS book reviews reflect Charlie’s style such as “I like the way....”, “I also like the Table of the 1841 Official Register....” and “another thing I found very nice....” Both of these books authored by Charlie were done in his usual thorough, modest, thoughtful way.

“Charlie was one of a kind and we who knew him like and respected him. We will miss him.”

(continued from page 10)

A scoring system for determining the winning society and an award for this society will be offered as an inducement for increased participation. This award will be in addition to the awards for the best multi-frame and single frame exhibits entered in the competition.

Since ESPHS is already sponsoring the individual exhibitor awards in the competition, the Society Executive Board at its meeting Nov. 9 voted not to sponsor an award for the winning society, thus leaving it to individual sponsorship. Anyone interested in sponsoring this award should contact Alan Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, phone (607) 732-0181, e-mail, atatholleyrd@aol.com, as soon as possible.

In addition to the exhibiting competition, there will be a Friday evening social gathering at a nearby restaurant for members of the participating societies, and a meeting of society members during show hours to exchange information and discuss the future of State postal history societies.

The ROPEX Committee has reserved approximately 100 frames for the multi-state postal history competition, but these frames could go fast, as well as the rest of the ROPEX frames.

It is important for NY postal history exhibitors to sign up for frames at ROPEX '04 as soon as possible. The prospectus and entry form can be downloaded at www.geocities.com/rpastamps/ropex.html or obtained by contacting Tom Fortunato by e-mail at stampmf@frontier.net, by phone at (585) 621-1670, or by mail at 42 Maynard St., Rochester, NY 14615.

Don't Forget to visit the new E.S.P.H.S. WEBSITE

(Here's a sample of the first page):



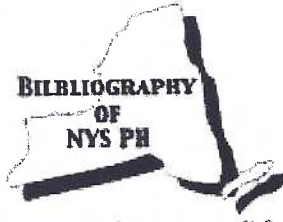
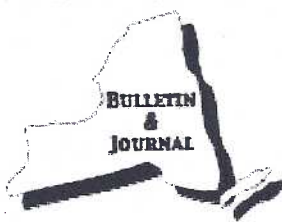
EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



(THE GREAT STATE OF NEW YORK)

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