

E.S.P.H.S. BULLETIN

Volume 37 Number 1

June 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Eleven members and one guest were present at the annual meeting in Canastota May 2, barely enough for a quorum. Fortunately we were able to conduct the necessary business to wind up the fiscal year ending April 30 and get a solid start on the new fiscal year starting May 1.

Our financial health is excellent, thanks to John Lange's prudent management of our funds and careful control of our expenses. John was elected to a new two-year term as Secretary-Treasurer and deserves our heartfelt thanks for all he does for the Society.

Likewise deserving of thanks are the three directors with terms expiring at the meeting but willing to serve new three-year terms: John Cali, John Nunes and Drew Nicholson. Each was duly elected to a term expiring in 2007.

Thanks also to Joe Rowbottom, our Vice President, for making the arrangements for the meeting at Graziano's Casa Mia, to Gerry Wiley for the copies of his CD-ROM given to those in attendance, to Bill Hart and Joe Christofaro for bringing covers and postcards to sell at the meeting, and to Elwyn Doubleday for sending his NY stamped covers to sell even though he couldn't attend in person (he donated 10% of his sale proceeds to the Society in appreciation for the free transportation his three cover boxes received; his donation came to \$11).

At the start of the meeting I spoke about the need for members to take advantage of opportunities to promote the Society and recruit new members. I asked that each member take a supply of our membership brochures to local club meetings, shows and bourses. These brochures are available from myself and from John Lange. John's address and phone number is on the top left of page 2 of the Bulletin; my address is 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905 and phone number 607-732-0181. If you are planning to attend ROPEX June 18-20 in Webster, there will be a supply of brochures at the Society table. The surge of new member applicants at the end of last year and beginning of this year has disappeared; we need to rekindle our membership recruitment efforts. Elsewhere in this Bulletin you will read about new and interesting developments with our website, www.esphs.org. Needless to say, this also can play an important role in membership recruitment. In an e-mail I received from our webmaster, Glenn Estus, on May 11, he told me we had received "about 125 hits on the initial ESPHS webpage" since an article about our postal history competition at ROPEX appeared in Linn's May 10 issue with our web address included.

Plan to be at ROPEX 2004. There will be a great variety of postal history exhibits for your viewing enjoyment. Stop at the Society table for a visit. Check out what the dealers have to offer. Last but not least, attend the seminar/discussion scheduled for Saturday on the subject of state postal history societies—what makes them tick, and what's in store for the future!

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:

Amberman III, John B., PO Box 550, Fort Ann, NY 12827; email: ambermanpostal@aol.com
PH 518-632-5021 FAX 518 632-5022
Interests: Postal History Dealer

Groeger, Warren W., 58 New Broadway, NY 10591-1718
Interests: Tarrytown & North Tarrytown, philatelic memorabilia, Trieste A&B, Hanover, Lombardy-Venetia

Leszak, John A., PO Box 173, Niagara Square Station, Buffalo, NY 14201
Interests: Lackawanna, NY

Applicants for membership: none

Address Changes:

Sweeting, Heather: 14329 Victory Street, Sterling, NY 13156

Foultz, Nancy: e-mail: dexterpec@bestweb.net

Todaro, Nicholas: telephone # is (315) 342-0659

Christofaro, Joe: % Mideastern Galleries, 607 E. Dominic Street, Rome, NY 13440

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 ('06)

Directors:

('05): Louis Call, Heather Sweeting,
Gerald Wiley
('06) Albert Guenzburger, Bill Hart,
Maris Tirums
('07): John Nunes, John Cali,
Drew Nicholson

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
e-mail: gestus@esphs.org

Excelsior! (semi-annually)

Drew A. Nicholson, editor
18 Valley Dr
Pawling, NY 12564-1140
(845) 855-3387
email: ddnicholson@earthlink.net

E.S.P.H.S WEBSITE NEWS

As of May 20 our E.S.P.H.S. website has recorded 938 "hits" on the index (beginning) page and a total of 2135 "hits" on the complete website. The website is at <www.esphs.org>. This was in part due to an unexpected mention in *Linn's Stamp News* in an article about the ROPEX Postal History Competition. Also, Glenn Estus has attempted to contact postal historians from other state postal history organizations and the county and town historians of New York State.

We recently added a new section: WPA Murals of New York post office buildings. The first one illustrated on the website is from the Ticonderoga post office: The Exhortation of Ethan Allen. This is a growing webpage. Help is needed from ESPHS members throughout the state. WPA is the acronym for Works Progress (or Projects) Administration, a government program from the 1930s and 1940s. If you know of a WPA post office mural in your area please send the information to Glenn Estus (gestus@esphs.org).

Every month we illustrate a set of 4 covers on the opening page. April 2004 was dedicated to covers from Clinton County, the north eastern most county in New York State. Elwyn Doubleday provided the material for the May 2004 edition. Dub has discovered what he believes to be the earliest covers from New York State post offices west of the Hudson River Valley as well as a cover from Steuben, New York, the first discontinued post office under the Federal Post Office Department. June 2004 will highlight County/Postmaster Cancels.

REGIONAL MEETING: BUFFALO MARCH 14 ESPHS MEMBERS HELP WITH BUFPEX EXHIBITS

Nine persons, including six ESPHS members, participated in a regional meeting of the Society March 14 at BUFPEX '04, the annual show sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club. Those attending were Society members Al Parsons, Bill Bauer, John Cali, John Nunes, Walter Orton and Ann Triggles, and guests Tim Carey, Rich Cropp and Bob Meegan.

Newer Society publications were on display and given attention. Al Parsons reported on current ESPHS activities, including the new website, publications in the works, postal history exhibiting incentives and programs and the multi-state competitions scheduled for ROPEX in June and PNSE (Philadelphia) in October.

Four Society members exhibited and took awards at BUFPEX '04: Ann Triggles, Silver, *Pharmacy Stamp FDCs*; Walter Orton, two exhibits, both Silver, *U.S. Documentary (Battleship) Revenues of 1898 with Printed RR and Express Co. Cancels* and *Pioneer Telegraph Companies of the Northeast*; Bill Bauer, Gold, *Boosterism in Colorado to 1859*; and Al Parsons, Gold, *Corning Postal History*.

Since there was only one New York postal history exhibit in competition at BUFPEX '04, the show did not qualify for an ESPHS exhibiting award.

Minutes of ESPHS Annual Meeting, May 2, 2004 at Graziano's Casa Mia Canastota, NY

Present: President Parsons, VP Rowbottom, Sec./Treas. Lange; Directors Cali, Guenzburger, Hart, H. Sweeting, Tirums and Members, Bauer, Christofaro, Todaro and Guest, Betsey Sweeting. A quorum for both the Directors and Membership was achieved for the transaction of business. Items following are not in the order discussed.

1. **Treasurer's report:** Approved, not including the proposed budget for 2004-05.
Our assets increased to \$37219.80 principally because
 - a. \$500 received for life memberships
 - b. a total return of 12.15% from a bond fund
2. **Elections:** Secretary/Treasurer (2 year term, 06) John A. Lange, Jr.
Directors (3 year term, 07): John A. Cali, John J. Nunes and Drew A. Nicholson
3. **Bulletin Auction pages:** In the future, the maximum number of sheets will be 7 (fourteen pages) unless the Secretary notifies the Auction Manager that additional sheets are ok. Five sheets of 20 lb. paper weight 1 oz; the shorter auctions are likely in June and December and the longer ones in March and September when the Bulletin postage costs can be absorbed by joint mailing with the Journal.
4. **Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, Oct. 1-3, 2004:** President Parsons urged members to submit one frame exhibits. As described on page 6 of the March Bulletin, Exhibitors should submit the exhibit titles and a short description of the contents. Parsons plans to bring the exhibits to Philadelphia. An estimated cost of \$75.00 was approved.
5. **Stampshow:** A letter from the APS was received by President Parsons asking if the ESPHS wanted an Affiliate table. Parsons will respond (probably no).
6. **Possible ESPHS library** in Rome, NY. Messrs. Cali and Christofaro described the beginnings of a philatelic library center. It is in the formative stage and this subject will be addressed again in future meetings.
7. **Mailing label distribution** by the Secretary: Mailing labels have been given at no charge in the past to John Nunes for his Cover Mania and Postcard Mania shows and once to Nutmeg. A debate over the wisdom of doing this ensued and a proposal to have no labels given out to anyone was introduced and defeated by a 3/5 vote with several abstentions; this practice seems to be controversial and members Christofaro and Guenzburger agreed to prepare a written proposal to outline their desired approach; further discussion at the fall meeting.

8. **The site for the fall ESPHS** meeting will be at the Turning Stone Casino on Sunday, Oct. 10, 2004 in conjunction with the CNY Stamp, Cover, Coin and Postcard show to be held Oct. 9-10. Arrangements were not discussed but Joe Christofaro is an ESPHS member as well as the Ft. Stanwix Stamp Club (Rome, NY) President and would probably be the person to be contacted.
9. **Budget for 2004-2005:** Approved as presented by the Treasurer with the following changes - a) *Excelsior!* printing of color pages increased from \$300 to \$400; related editorial expenses increased from \$150 to \$250
10. **Bill Hart** gave a presentation on his continuing study of NYS RFD's.
11. **Kenneth R. deLisle Award:** The best NYS 4 page postal history competition was held at our Nov. 3, 2003 fall meeting. Bill Hart was the. winner with his "Glens Falls Early Postal History" exhibit and President Parsons made presentation of the engraved Empire State Plaque. Congratulations, Bill!

John A. Lange, Jr.
Sec./Treas. ESPHS

FALL MEETING: TURNING STONE RESORT OCT. 10 4-PAGE EXHIBITS NEEDED FOR DELISLE AWARD

Mark your calendars and plan now to attend the Society's 2004 fall meeting Sunday, October 10, at Turning Stone Casino, Resort and Conference Center, one of upstate's most popular destinations, located just off the Thruway exit for Verona, N.Y.

The meeting will be held in conjunction with the biannual Central New York Stamp and Cover Show (CNYS&CS 2004), October 9-10, sponsored by the Fort Stanwix (Rome) and Utica Stamp Clubs. This two-day show in the Turning Stone conference rooms will have a dealers bourse, competitive exhibits and all the trimmings of a traditional stamp show.

Society members are encouraged to enter N.Y. postal history exhibits at CNYS&CS 2004. Contact information for prospective exhibitors can be found elsewhere in this Bulletin. Medal levels and other awards will be determined by a panel of FCNYPs judges.

A traditional feature of our fall meeting is the annual four page exhibit competition for the Kenneth R. deLisle Award, a handsome, suitably engraved walnut plaque outline of New York State. It's a great opportunity to put together four pages of related N.Y. postal history material for display in the meeting room, with the winner to be chosen by vote of those present at the meeting.

BE THERE! ENJOY! EXHIBIT!

TREASURER'S REPORT for 2003-2004
Accounting period is April 19, 2003-April 20, 2004
REVENUES DURING 2003-2004

DUES and FEES

This tabulation includes all dues deposited before April 17, 2004

2003-2004	\$ 1473.00
2004-2005	314.00
2005-2006	20.00
Life memberships for Cali (150), Price (100), Call (100), Rowland (150)	<u>500.00</u>
.....	\$ 2307.00

PUBLICATIONS, net (See Appendix I for details)*	\$ 301.52
AUCTIONS, net (see Appendix II for details)*	\$ 264.80

INTEREST AND CAPITAL GAIN

Checking account @ Trustco, #30XXXXXXX	\$ 10.86
Checking account @ Hudson River Bank & Trust Co # 2730XXXXXX	\$ 0.00
CD #276XXXXX @ HRBT	45.18
CD #276XXXXX @ HRBT	757.12
CD #276XXXXX @ HRBT	326.42
T. Rowe Price Prime Reserve Fund (MM) #522XXXXXX	19.14
T. Rowe Price Spectrum Income Bond Fund #520XXXXX	531.48
Capital Gain for this fund	802.00
Sub-total of Interest and Capital Gain	\$ 2492.20

DONATIONS: Dow (10.00) and Gallagher (5.00) Thank you!	\$ 15.00
ADS IN THE BULLETIN & JOURNAL	18.80
TOTAL REVENUES for 2003-2004	\$ 5399.32

BANK AND MUTUAL FUND BALANCES

Checking account #303XXXXXX @ Trustco	\$ 213.65
Checking account #273XXXXXX @ HRBT	100.00
CD #276XXXXXX @ HRBT 60 mo. maturity 12/23/04 APY 5.35%	886.93
CD #276XXXXXX @ HRBT 60 mo. maturity 10/25/04 APY 5.25%	12832.41
CD #276XXXXXX @ HRBT 60 mo. maturity 08/20/06 APY 4.59%	7261.41
T. Rowe Price Prime Reserve Fund (MM) #522XXXXXX, 0.49%	3620.27
T. Rowe Price Spectrum Income Bond Fund #520XXXXXXX, 3.66%	12305.13
Total return for Spectrum Income, 12.15%	

Total Bank and Mutual Fund Balances	\$37219.80
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RECONCILEMENT

Bank and mutual Fund Balances, April 20, 2004	\$37219.80
Bank and mutual Fund Balances, April 18, 2003	<u>34954.28</u>
Net Gain for 2003-2004	\$ 2265.52

Revenues for 2003-2004	\$ 5399.32
Expenditures for 2003-2004	3133.80
Net Gain for 2003-2004	\$ 2265.52

*These are not included because of long length; they were reviewed by the Finance Committee

John Lange
 Sec./Treas. ESPHS

**EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT for 2003-2004, April 20, 2004**

Accounting period is April 19, 2003-April 20, 2004

EXPENDITURES DURING 2003-2004

BULLETIN (four issues)

1. Printing (BOCES): 78.38 + 112.29 + 153.20 + 141.45	\$ 485.32
Note: BOCES charges us 3¢ per double-sided sheet for printing, and doesn't charge us for collating, stapling, 3-hole punching, insertion into envelopes, applying address labels, stamps and mailing	
2. Postage: 249.44 + 0 + 255.54 + 0	504.98
3. Editor's expenses: Donated by Glenn Estus - THANK YOU!	0.00
4. Clasp envelopes: Purchased in a previous year	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 990.30

JOURNAL (Excelsior!, two issues)

1. Printing @ BOCES using ESPHS furnished paper: 163.46 + 53.48* - 11.86-- *Underpaid by--half; expect 53.48 charge in 2004-2005 BOCES charges 1¢ per sheet when the ESPHS furnishes the paper.	\$ 205.08
2. Printing and master preparation by editors, 23.00 + 112.63	135.63
3. Related editorial expenses, 15.00 + 13.60 + 13.15 + 11.75 + 11.80 + 15.00 + 2.68	82.98
4. 28 lb. paper: 190.00 + 136.75 + 69.20 (24 reams left)	396.55
5. Postage (mailing the completed Journal at the "Media Mail" rate)	526.83
6. Clasp envelopes: Purchased in a previous year	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1347.07

MEMBERSHIP LIST

1. Maintenance of the mailing list by Ray Coco	\$ 10.00
2. Printing by BOCES @ 3¢ per double sided sheet	31.80
3. Postage (included with the March Excelsior!)	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$ 41.80

ESPHS Website (www.esphs.org): 23.95 + (4 x 8.95) \$ 68.70

AWARDS

ROPEX '03, 145.00 + 84.00	\$ 229.00
STEPEX '03,	94.00
Kenneth R. de Lisle Award for best 4 page PH presentation at the fall ESPHS meeting, fall ESPHS meeting, to be presented to Bill Hart, May 2, 2004	54.07
TOTAL AWARDS	377.07

FEDERATION OF CENTRAL NY PHILATELIC SOCIETIES \$ 15.00

ADMINISTRATION

Annual Meeting, May 2003: 14.52 + 38.20	\$ 52.72
Treasurer's postage	119.99
Treasurer's copier expense	77.00
Labels, 12.90 + 13.90	26.80
Treasurer's typewriter ribbons 15.87 + 1.48	<u>17.35</u>
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	293.86

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$ 3133.80

APPROVED BUDGET for 2004-2005

REVENUES:

Dues and fees (03-04 was 2307); (02-03 was 1464)	\$1500
Publications (03-04 was 301.52); (02-03 was 1257.25)	300
Auctions(03-04 was 301.52); (02-03 was 131,04)	150
Interest and capital loss (expect capital loss in Spectrum Income to be offset by interest, Also interest rates for the expiring CD's will be less)	1300
Donations	10
Ads in the Bulletin/Journal	<u>60</u>
Total Revenues	\$ 3320

EXPENDITURES

Bulletin (assumes the March and Sept. issues to be mailed together)	\$1000
Journal	
a. Printing by editor of color pages	400
b. Related editorial expenses, sending/returning material to authors and misc. expenses	250
c. Printing by BOCES (53.48 + 320)	380
d. Paper	200
e. Clasp Envelopes	30
f. Postage for mailing finished Journal to members & complimentary	<u>525</u>
g. Subtotal for Journal	\$1785
Membership List	45
ESPHS website, 8.95 x 12	108
Awards: ROPEX 2004, 475; Turning Stone or equiv. 150; Stepex, 100; Bufpex 110; support for interstate competition not included in the ROPEX 2004 amount of 475, 200 and other including Whittlesey, etc. 200	1285
Federation of Central NY Philatelic Societies	15
Administration	300
Financial support for authors	200
Total Expenditures	\$ 4738

This is a deficit budget and if the Bulletin and Journal were to be mailed separately in March and September, add another \$500 to the Bulletin cost.

John A. Lange, Jr.
Sec. / Treas. ESPHS

TRADING POST

SEEKING LAUNDRY TAGS, US service women's mail, and other items relating to women in postal history. Also seeking SULLIVAN and ONONDAGA County postal history. Augusta Gelfand, 4159 Steck Av. #112, Austin, TX 78759-8512 email: augustaig@hotmail.com (2/5)

A reminder: each member may use ONE FREE Trading Post Adlet a year

WANTED: FIRST-TIME EXHIBITORS WILLING TO DO A ONE-FRAME EXHIBIT FOR PNSE 2004

Empire State has accepted an invitation to compete with the Pennsylvania and New Jersey postal history societies in single-frame exhibiting at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE), October 1-3, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMPETITION IS TO ENCOURAGE NEW EXHIBITORS. In spite of an extensive article on this competition in the March *Bulletin*, no new ESPHS exhibitor has offered to enter an exhibit.

A single-frame exhibit at PNSE (and most shows) means preparing 16 pages, enough to get a feel for postal history exhibiting, i.e., "tell a story," but not enough to intimidate or discourage. PLEASE REVIEW THE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6 OF THE MARCH *BULLETIN* AND RESPOND!

Show Schedules for Auction Manager and Excelsior! Editor

John Nunes, our auction manager, and Drew Nicholson, Excelsior! editor, work as dealers at shows. John has his own business (Nunes Nook) and Drew assists dealer Larry Winum of Walden. John is willing to discuss or receive consignments for Society auctions, and Drew likewise for Excelsior! articles, at shows they attend. Following is a tentative schedule through Sept. 30 of shows and bourses where either one or both will be present:

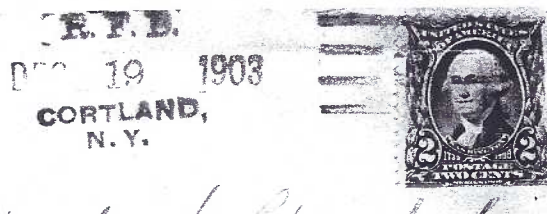
- June 18-20—ROPEX, Webster, NY (Nunes, Nicholson)
- July 18—Capital District Stamp Show, Albany (Nunes)
- August 15—Capital District Stamp Show, Albany (Nunes)
- September 5—RS Stamp Show, Rochester (Nunes)
- September 12—Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show (Nunes, Nicholson)
- September 19—Capital District Stamp Show, Albany (Nunes)

Since this list is probably not complete, or may contain inaccuracies, persons interested in meeting either John or Drew at a show should contact him ahead of time to determine if he will be there.

ROPEX '04 POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITING COMPETITION DRAWS 23 EXHIBITS FILLING 109 FRAMES

As of May 14, the exhibit frames for ROPEX 2004 were filled and they included 23 different postal history exhibits by members of the societies invited for the multi-state postal history exhibiting competition hosted by ESPHS. These 23 exhibits will fill 109 frames, more than the number initially allotted for the competition.

Empire State leads in the number of exhibits entered—nine, followed by the Ohio Postal History Society with six. The number of frames filled by these two societies is equally impressive: ESPHS 33, OPHS 27. The winning society in the competition will doubtless be determined by the medal levels earned by the exhibits.



Ten postal history societies (including ESPHS) were invited for the competition, but only six will be represented. In addition to New York and Ohio, Vermont will have two exhibits (20 frames), New Jersey two exhibits (14 frames), Maine three exhibits (eight frames) and Massachusetts one exhibit (seven frames). The postal history societies of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Pennsylvania either did not respond to the invitation or were unable to muster any exhibits.

ROPEX '04 will be held June 18-20 at the Webster Community Field House in Webster, NY, just east of Rochester. Members of the postal history societies participating at the show will join for a dutch-treat dinner Friday evening, June 18, at Hedges Nine-Mile Point Restaurant, at the water's edge of Lake Ontario.

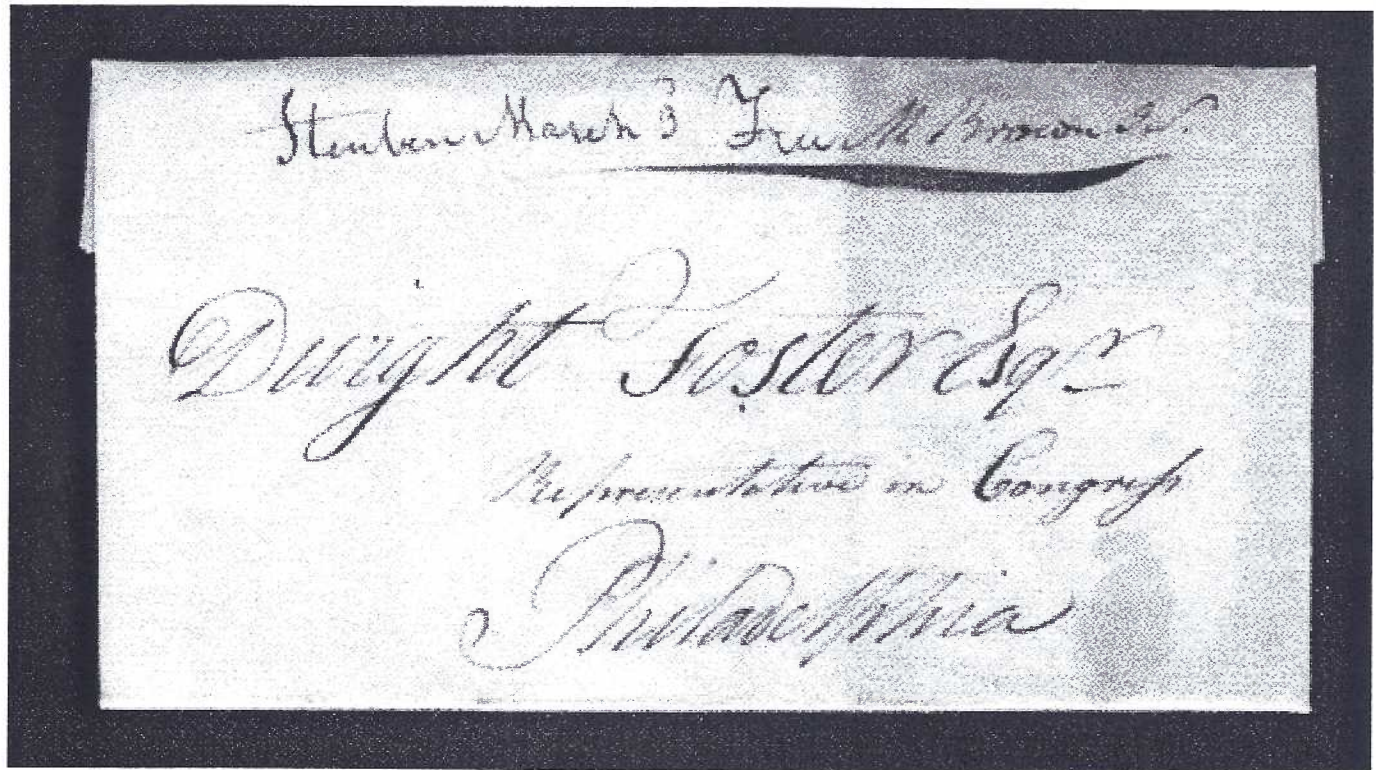
On Saturday, June 19, there will be a seminar/discussion session for the participating postal history societies to exchange information and program ideas and give thought to the future of state postal history societies.

ESPHS will be sharing with the other postal history societies a table near the entrance to the show; members of the participating societies should stop at this table to sign up for the Friday evening dinner and to check on event times, locations and directions.

Volunteers will be needed to staff the table during the show; if you are able to help, please make your presence known at the show or contact the ESPHS President ahead of time.

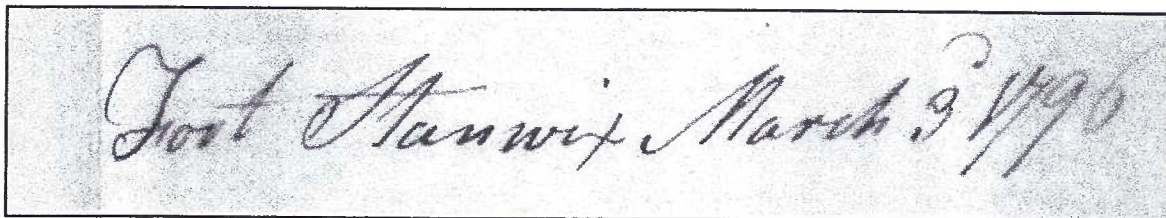
ADVERTISED
JAN 4 1913
SARANAC LAKE, N. Y.

New York's Earliest DPO?



Steuben, NY March 3, 1796 M. Brown Jr. (PM)

The records surrounding Steuben PO are sketchy at best. Smith and Kay list it as being established Sept. 13, 1795 and discontinued in 1796 (no other information). The letter is headed Fort Stanwix (now Rome).



Examination of Rome post office records shows it was established April 1, 1796 with Matthew Brown, Jr. PM. Fortunately Brown franked the Steuben cover Matthew Brown, Jr.

Apparently Brown Neglected to use the Jr. when Steuben PO was established but did use it when the name was changed to Rome.

Thus this has to be NY State's earliest discontinued post office The post office existed only 5 1/2 months.

This cover is shown thanks to dealer member, Elwyn Doubleday.

SOCIETY MEMBER KARL KABELAC PROPOSES NEW DISTRIBUTION POTENTIAL FOR ESPHS PUBLICATIONS

Karl Kabelac of Rochester has been a member of ESPHS for less than a year, and already he is making a splash. Karl is a former special collections/local history librarian and says his collecting interest is "local Rochester history" (he correctly assumes that postal history, more often than not, is part and parcel with local history).

Karl is familiar with the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and its database known as WorldCat. Through WorldCat researchers can determine what libraries, if any, have a needed book or serial. Most college and university and many public libraries use OCLC for cataloging and have WorldCat for public access in the reference area.

Karl took note of the Bibliography of NYS Postal History on page 12 of the March Bulletin and went into WorldCat (1) to see if it listed other NYS postal history publications than those included in the Bibliography (he found one; it has since been added to the list on the website), and (2) to determine the distribution of ESPHS publications among OCLC member libraries.

He found 17 listings of ESPHS books or serials (some of them repetitive), but found very limited distribution. This prompted a letter to the Bulletin editor, Glenn Estus, in which Karl expressed his concern that more libraries, particularly in New York, should be holding our publications. Karl goes on to state:

"Having brought up the concern, I would be glad to work further on it. I would guess the first thing to do would be to print out the WorldCat records for all the titles, and then decide what libraries might be sent information on purchasing one or more of the titles they lack. Perhaps a somewhat personal letter would be sent with the list."

For more information on OCLC/WorldCat, please go to www.oclc.org. The website will provide background information; use of the database is by subscription only. Karl clearly deserves our thanks for suggesting this potential market for our publications. It would be foolish for the Society not to follow through with his offer to help.

editor's note: Thanks to Mr. Kabelac's efforts we have added numerous annotations to our Bibliography of New York State Postal History page:

(<http://www.esphs.org/biblio.html>).

NEW YORK POSTAL HISTORY CD-ROM AVAILABLE FROM MEMBER/DIRECTOR GERALD F. WILEY

Gerald F. Wiley, a veteran member of the Society's Board of Directors and long-time postal history enthusiast, arrived at our annual meeting May 2 with a dozen or more copies of a CD-ROM he produced and titled *New York State Postal History*.

His purpose in bringing the CD-ROMs to the meeting, free for the asking, was to give those in attendance a good demonstration of what can be done with postal history materials using a computer and scanner.

There are 782 items from Gerry's collection shown on the disc, organized into 26 files, one for each New York county represented in the collection. Gerry collects "all northeastern NY counties" and this is evident from the number of images (JPEG's) in the files for Jefferson (280), St. Lawrence (147), Franklin (64), Essex (61) and Lewis (49) Counties. Fourteen counties show less than ten items each.

Because of the way the disc is organized, it's easy to determine if the county you collect is represented on the disc, and if it is, then to find the items from your county and even from particular areas within your county.

It's more than just covers—there are postcards, maps, interesting enclosures, pictures of post offices and at least one photo of a mail boat. It's been a labor of love for Gerry and something that will provide hours of viewing enjoyment and enlightenment for any NY postal history collector.

Gerry will send his CD-ROM to ESPHS members requesting it and reimbursing him for postage, padded mailer and CD-ROM cost (total estimated at \$2.50). Gerry's mailing address is 921 Mill St., Watertown, NY 13601-1505; phone 315-782-1588; e-mail—gwiley@northernfcu.net.

ESPHS WEBSITE OFFERS FREE AD

We have added another feature to the ESPHS website. In addition to the FREE AD that you may use in one issue of the *Bulletin*, you may also have your ad placed on the website. The website ad will be timedated and will be on-line for 1 year. You may also include just your postal address or your email address or both. Care will be take to make sure that the e-mail address will not be harvested by spam seekers. No ad will be placed on the website without the permission of the person placing the ad.

Send all ads to Glenn Estus. His postal and email addresses are found on page 2.

ENTRY LEVEL EXHIBITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW YORK STATE POSTAL HISTORY COLLECTORS

There will be at least three upstate New York entry-level (local show) exhibiting opportunities this fall for New York postal history collectors:

1. Olean Philatelic Exhibition (OLEPEX 2004), Sept. 25, John Ash Community Center, Olean, NY, sponsored by the Olean Area Stamp Club. For exhibiting information and entry form, contact Fred Printz, 4012 S. Nine Mile Rd., Allegany, NY 14706, e-mail printz@netsync.net.
2. Central New York Stamp & Cover Show (CNYS&CS 2004), Oct. 9-10, Turning Stone Casino and Conference Center, Verona, NY, sponsored by the Ft. Stanwix (Rome) and Utica Stamp Clubs. This show will be held on Columbus Day Holiday weekend and will include the fall meeting of the Empire State Postal History Society. For exhibiting prospectus and entry form, contact Joe Christofaro, P.O.Box 4201, Rome, NY 13442-4201, phone (315)337-9608, e-mail jchrist6@twcny.rr.com.
3. Southern Tier-Elmira Philatelic Exhibition (STEPEX 2004), Oct. 22-23, Arnot Mall, Horseheads, NY, sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club. For exhibiting information and entry form, contact Al Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira NY 14905-1212, phone (607)732-0181, e-mail alatholleyrd@aol.com.

Exhibiting at any one of these shows provides an opportunity not only for greater understanding and appreciation of your collection, but also for acquiring an ESPHS award for best Empire State Postal History exhibit at the show---currently a Waterford Lismore Small Clock with attached plates engraved with the exhibitor's name, the title of the exhibit, the Society name and title of the award and the name of the show where it was awarded.

The availability of the ESPHS Award described above assumes the show is participating in the Society's awards program. At a local show such as the three listed above, the ESPHS award will be provided if there are at least two NY postal history exhibits (single or multi-frame) and the exhibit selected for the award receives silver or better from the jury.

Shows desiring to participate in the Society's awards program should send for the Criteria for Show Awards and General Rules and Regulations of the Awards Committee available from ESPHS, Attn: Awards Committee, 373 Root Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3227.