

BULLETIN

of The Empire State
Postal History Society

Volume 38 Number 2

September 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So much has happened in the past three months, I hardly know where to start.

By May 25, I was able to send out a proposed 2005-2006 budget to the Executive Board and receive majority approval in time for inclusion of the budget in the June Bulletin (page 20). The June Bulletin, in turn, was printed entirely on our new laserjet printer – a first – and thanks to the efforts of Glenn Estus, Drew Nicholson and Larry Laliberte the Bulletin was in the mail and received by our NY members prior to ROPEX, June 10-12, in Webster, NY.

On Saturday, June 4, the polls closed and the APS ballots counted, electing four of our members, Ada Prill, George Fekete, John Flannery and myself, to Board positions. Thanks to those who voted for the Prill-Fekete-Parsons Board of Vice Presidents slate, and for John Flannery for Director-at-Large.

Elsewhere in this Bulletin you will read about June 10-12 at ROPEX: our recruiting efforts, regional meeting, ESPHS Exhibiting Award winner and Friday dinner at Hedges. In spite of unseasonable heat (both indoors and out), I feel the Show was a success for the Society and I am grateful to those members who helped maintain our visibility throughout.

On June 24 John Lange, our Secretary-Treasurer since 1993 and a Director for many years before that, resigned. He had originally informed the Society he would not stand for reelection when his present term expired in May 2006, but because of sleepless nights over disagreements with Society decisions and friction between himself and "the President and Journal Editor," he decided to resign now instead of waiting until next year.

John's sudden resignation came as a shock, particularly since he had told me in a phone conference June 22 he intended to finish out the balance of his term as originally stated. I sent John an email June 25 asking him to change his mind again and stay on, but he declined to do so.

Maris Tirums, who preceded John as Secretary-Treasurer and has remained on the Society Board since then, agreed to become interim Secretary-Treasurer until the annual meeting on May 7, 2006, when a new Secretary-Treasurer will be elected. Maris has made it clear he will not be a candidate.

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 APS AFFILIATE #28 <<http://www.esphs.org>>

Officers:

President: Alan Parsons ('08)
 Vice President: Dr. Joseph Rowbottom ('08)
 Secretary/Treasurer: Maris Tirums ('06)

Directors:

('06) Albert Guenzburger, Bill Hart, *vacancy*
 ('07): John Nunes, John Cali, Drew Nicholson
 ('08): Frank Braithwaite, Heather Sweeting, Gerald Wiley

Auction Manager & Dealer Representative:

John Nunes
 80 Fredericks Rd.
 Scotia, NY 12302

Regional Representatives:

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

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<i>ESPHS Bulletin (quarterly)</i>	<i>Excelsior! (semi-annually)</i>
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There will be an up to date Secretary's Report in the December Bulletin



A look back: from General Catalog of United States Postmarks (1st edition, 1935)

(President's Message continued)

In the absence of a functioning Publications Committee until May of this year, John, in addition to being Secretary-Treasurer, assumed most of the Committee's work; this meant accumulating at his home a sizeable inventory of paper, envelopes, mailing labels and unsold books. In his resignation letter John requested this inventory be removed from his house, and on July 4 Drew Nicholson and John Nunes loaded it into Drew's wagon; it is now at Drew's house.

On July 26 Maris Tirums traveled to John's home to pick up the Secretary-Treasurer records and then went with John to two Albany banks to transfer signature authority on the Society's accounts; true to form, John made a thorough report on this activity later the same day. I was happy and relieved to receive it, and grateful for John's efforts to achieve an orderly transfer and for the help provided by Drew Nicholson, John Nunes and Maris Tirums in this process.

I left on July 28 to attend the American First Day Cover Society's 50th anniversary convention and celebration in Vienna, VA, July 29-31 (I've been an AFDCS member since 1976). The Show was well run and well attended. Two ESPHS directors had active roles at the convention, John Nunes as part of the Bourse, and John Cali as a director of the American Ceremonial Program Society, and at least three other ESPHS members were participating, Ann Trigg with her one-frame exhibit The Pharmacy Stamp of 1972, Tom O'Hagen as a member of the Cachetmaker's Nightowl Bourse and John A. Leszak, working for the AFDCS in security and heavy lifting and for Cover Connection in the Bourse.

After two nights at home I drove to Grand Rapids, MI August 2 to attend the APS Board meeting August 3 and StampShow 2005 August 4-7. The APS Board meeting, at which the newly-elected officers were non-voting observers, lasted 10 hours with a break for lunch. Even the lunch break had a "business purpose," since it included an informal and enlightening discussion with David Failor, Executive Director of Stamp Services for the Postal Service.

With never a frivolous or dull moment, the APS Board meeting brought home the challenges faced by the APS in balancing its budget, increasing its membership, fundraising, sponsoring shows and dealing with a host of other issues.

StampShow 2005 was another well run and well attended show, though on a much larger scale than Americover 2005 the weekend before. This was especially true with respect to participation and attendance by ESPHS members: Bill Bauer chaired the Exhibits Jury, Ann Trigg and Stephen Reinhard did workshops on exhibiting, Robert Dalton Harris gave a talk on Postal Geography, John Cali assisted the ACPS with its first day ceremony for the 2005-dated 25-cent Eagle coil, Tom Post presided at the Mobile Post Office Society's annual meeting and manned its booth, ESPHS dealer members John Amberman, Robert Dalton Harris, Don Tocher and John Wright were present in the bourse, and Ada Prill, George Fekete, John Flannery and myself participated as APS officers.

(continued on page 4)

(President's Message continued)

I had the pleasure of meeting at StampShow two of our members for the first time, Brian Levy of Seaford, NY and Jim Mehrer from Rock Island, IL. Other members I greeted or visited with included Society director Frank Braithwaite, Dan Brouillette, Bill Sammis and former Society president and Journal Editor Martin Margulis. Martin is keeping very active these days.

I've probably left someone out of my StampShow report and I apologize for the oversight. With or without any missing names, I think it's an impressive show of support for the APS and interest in the hobby in general by ESPHS members!

Since StampShow I've come back down to earth with the August meeting of the Elmira Stamp Club, preparations for STEPEX, the Club's annual show at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads, and a steady stream of emails and postal mail on APS matters.

We're still a strong Society in spite of losing the services of John Lange. Each member, however, should carefully review the updated Help Wanted page in this Bulletin and decide where he or she can "step up to bat." Our critical needs right now are in personnel: an Awards Committee Chair, Regional Representatives for four of our newly-organized Regions, and a Secretary/Treasurer to take over from Maris Tirums at our annual meeting next May. Your help is needed.

I look forward to seeing you at our fall meeting in Syracuse November 13 and urge you to bring four pages of related NY postal history for the Kenneth R. deLisle Award competition!

Alan Parsons (alatholleyrd@aol.com)



Maroon Iron Cross Killer and Cancel
Canaseraga
named changed from Whitney's Valley (1857)
Allegany County

(from the Gerald Wiley PH CD-rom)

FOUR ESPHS MEMBERS JOIN APS BOARD ANN TRIGGLE RECEIVES LUFF AWARD

In a two-way contest held earlier this year for the APS Board of Vice-Presidents the New York slate of Ada Prill (Rochester), George Fekete (Rochester) and Alan Parsons (Elmira), with 2,523 votes, defeated the Pennsylvania/New Jersey slate of Stephen Washburne, Alan Warren and Ernest Fricks with 1,888 votes.

In another contested APS election (seven candidates for four positions) John Flannery of Webster, NY was reelected director-at-large with a third-best total of 2,681 votes.

Prill, Fekete, Parsons and Flannery are all ESPHS members as well as Rochester Philatelic Association members. Prill and Fekete were elected to their second term as Vice-Presidents; Parsons, elected to his first term, replaced Ken Lawrence as their running mate.

The new ten-member APS Board was sworn in following the APS membership annual meeting Saturday morning, August 6, at StampShow in Grand Rapids, MI.

Ann Triggler of Buffalo, also an ESPHS and RPA member, received one of the John N. Luff Awards, the highest recognition accorded by the APS, at the StampShow awards banquet. In an impressive ceremony she signed the Luff Award Scroll for Outstanding Service to the American Philatelic Society.

Ann was introduced by Alan Warren, a previous Luff Award recipient, who detailed her exceptional service to the APS and philately in general, particularly in the areas of exhibiting, judging and APS Board and committee work. She is presently Chairman of the APS Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CAN EJ) and is credited with elevating the quality and consistency of philatelic judging.

Ann served six years on the APS Board, two terms as a director-at-large and one term as a member of the Board of Vice Presidents.

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

BROUILLETTE HAS TOP NYPH EXHIBIT AT ROPEX

Dan Brouillette of Lino Lakes, MN, an ESPHS member and collector of New York City postal history, won the Society's award for best New York postal history exhibit at ROPEX '05, held in Webster, NY June 10-12.

Brouillette's ten-frame exhibit, The Government Post Office in New York City: 1842 to 1900, was awarded Vermeil by the ROPEX Jury. None of the other N.Y. postal history exhibits (One Man's Mail by Albert Guenzburger, Corning, NY Postal History by Alan Parsons, and 3¢ Handcar – Rochester's First Transportation Coil, by Raymond M. Stone) received better than Silver.

The Society Award, a Waterford Lismore Clock with appropriately engraved plates, was presented to Dan at the ROPEX Awards Banquet Saturday evening.

On Friday evening, June 10, Society members attending ROPEX gathered for a social evening at Hedges Nine Mile Point restaurant, located on the shore of Lake Ontario in Webster. Thanks to arrangements made by John Flannery, 14 members and guests enjoyed an excellent meal, good ambiance and fine wines from nearby Finger Lakes wineries.

ROCHESTER REGIONAL MEETING

At 1 p.m. June 11, 14 current and prospective members gathered in a Webster Thomas High School classroom adjacent to ROPEX for a Rochester Regional meeting: Anne Schaetzke, Marge Faber, Nick Zevos, Warren Clark, Ada Prill, Don Dolan, Ann Triggles, Heather Sweeting, Drew Nicholson, Bill Hart, Nick Todaro, John Flannery, John Cali and Al Parsons.

Ann Triggles spoke on a subject for which she is well-qualified, exhibiting postal history, and responded to questions and comments. Society director Bill Hart concluded the meeting with an update on his survey of New York State RFD routes and markings.

Thanks to the generosity of the ROPEX Show Committee, ESPHS again had tables near the Show entrance to display literature, promote the Society, answer questions and provide handouts including our membership application leaflet. At least three persons, Anne Schaetzke, Alfred Carroccia and William Rapp, each living in or a short distance from Rochester, joined the Society in June following ROPEX, but it is not known if our presence at ROPEX caused them to join. It certainly didn't hurt!

MARCH PARTY 2006 TO HOST NEXT MULTI-STATE EXHIBITING COMPETITION FOR SWEETING AWARD

ESPHS postal history exhibitors, get ready for the next round in the 10-state Northeast multi-state postal history exhibiting competition, now slated for March Party 2006 in Cleveland, OH March 24-26, 2006!

In this particular team exhibiting competition, Empire State won the first round, held at ROPEX 2004 in Webster, NY and currently holds the Charles H. Sweeting Memorial Award given to the winning society to keep until the next competition. Ohio's team, five exhibitors from the Ohio Postal History Society entering six exhibits, placed a strong second at ROPEX and will be even stronger on its home turf.

Medal levels, number of exhibitors and number of frames all enter into the scoring to determine the team winner. Both novice and experienced exhibitors are welcome to join the team. As stated in the current issue of the Ohio Postal History Journal, "If you haven't exhibited before, now is the time to start!"

As if being the home team weren't enough advantage for Ohio, it's "warming up" in a Midwest multi-state postal history exhibiting competition at MILCOPEX 2005 in Milwaukee September 16-18. According to The Philatelic Exhibitor (July 2005, p.17) the MILCOPEX competition is "...modeled after the similar competition for Northeastern states at ROPEX 2004...MILCOPEX is inviting the postal history societies from North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin to compete for a special society award with points based on medal level and participation by society members."

March Party is an annual WSP show sponsored by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club of Cleveland and has a reputation as a strong postal history show because of its dealers bourse. The need for ESPHS member postal history exhibits at March Party 2006 is both acute and urgent if the Society is to retain and have its name engraved again on the award named for its first president. PLEASE CONTACT TOM ALLEN at 1801 East 9th ST., Suite 1300, Cleveland, OH 44114-3103, phone (216) 771-4000, fax (216) 771-0422, email tom@thomasfallen.com for a prospectus and entry form to exhibit at March Party 2006!

Purple Iron Cross Killer and Postmaster cancel

East Kendell
(1861 - 1894)
Orleans Country



Regional Rap- NY Metro Area

By Frank Braithwaite

fbraith@optonline.net

I hope everyone had as nice a summer as I did- beach, pool, vacation, and maybe a few stamp shows. As you read this, the weather is cooling down and summer of 2005 is a fading memory. Pretty soon our thoughts will turn to indoor activities, and the postal history collection you put on the back burner for the summer will be revived.

There's not much local or regional news to report; we didn't have any summer meetings. But we do have the Mega Event coming up October 20-23rd. I have made arrangements for us to have a Society table for the show; please help us staff it, even for just an hour or two. It doesn't take any special talent; just share your enthusiasm for the ESPHS with anyone who passes the table. I promise no one will bite you! We will also have a regional meeting at 1:00 on Saturday the 22nd. This will be a great opportunity to meet fellow members and to discuss our favorite hobby. I would like to know if you are planning to attend, so please contact me as soon as possible.

Every year I attend the APS Stampshow in August and never seem to be disappointed; this year it was in Grand Rapids, Mich. It was a fantastic show--lots of dealers, great exhibits, and socializing with fellow collectors and a few ESPHS members. Our President (not Bush) Alan Parsons, John Cali, Ken Pitt and Brian Levy were there. It was wonderful to see familiar faces and meet Brian and Ken for the first time. If anyone will be attending next year and would like to fly together, give me a buzz.

The next item of business is our semi-annual Society meeting at SYRAPEX on Nov. 12th and 13th. This is your opportunity to hear what YOUR elected officers have to say and to voice your thoughts on Society business. Jet Blue Airlines has a \$49 each-way fare from JFK to Syracuse. Check it out on their website and call me if you want to carpool to the airport. I also have a list of motels in the Syracuse area, but you will need to book the room immediately, before they fill up.

Lastly, I continue my appeal to those "closet" writers to consider an article for the NY Metro section of Excelsior! or for the Bulletin. I am sure you all have at least one interesting story to tell (if not, more!) There is help available, just contact our editors.

EXHIBITS NEEDED FOR ELMIRA AND SYRACUSE SHOWS; GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR ENTRY LEVEL POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITING

Two upstate New York shows, STEPEX in October sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club and SYRAPEX in November sponsored by the Syracuse Stamp Club, are in need of exhibits and offer an excellent opportunity for ESPHS members who have never exhibited their New York postal history.

Exhibit entries are sought from both experienced as well as beginning postal history exhibitors, but the beginner can come away with a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction for having done an exhibit for the first time.

As an added bonus, preparing an exhibit gives even the novice a greater appreciation and understanding of the covers and other postal items he or she has assembled, plus learning more about postal history in general.

Both STEPEX and SYRAPEX use standard 16-page frames and gladly accept single frame as well as multi-frame exhibits. STEPEX exhibits will be judged by a Federation of Central NY Philatelic Societies accredited jury for Best-in-Show, gold, silver and bronze awards, and SYRAPEX exhibits by well-known Central New York philatelists for Best-in-Show, First Runner-up and Second Runner-up awards.

ESPHS postal history exhibitors in either show can receive a critique from one or more accredited Society judges if so desired. In addition, if two or more NY postal history exhibits are entered at STEPEX, ESPHS awards a suitably inscribed Waterford Crystal Timepiece to the best one so long as it receives at least a Show silver.

STEPEX will be held October 21-22 at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads, NY and SYRAPEX November 12-13 at the Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, East Syracuse. To obtain further exhibiting information and an entry form for STEPEX contact Alan Parsons at 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, phone (607) 732-0181 or email, alatholleyrd@aol.com, and for SYRAPEX contact Michael Amman, 217 Inwood Dr., Syracuse, NY 13219, phone (315) 468-3710 or email, kmarializ@juno.com.

Please consider exhibiting at one or both of these upstate New York local shows this fall. It helps the Society, it helps the Show, but most of all, it helps the exhibitor become more knowledgeable about postal history in general and the material he or she has acquired in particular!

JOHN LANGE RESIGNS AS SECRETARY/TREASURER; MARIS TIRUMS ASSUMES INTERIM ROLE; REPLACEMENT NEEDED

After 12 years of exemplary service as Secretary/Treasurer of Empire State Postal History Society John Lange resigned on June 24 and called for an orderly transfer of the Society's property in his possession as soon as possible. John helped greatly in this transfer and by July 26 it was completed.

John's careful management of our funds for the past 12 years has left the Society in excellent financial health and helped keep our yearly dues at \$10.

He was the chief contact for the Society, handled all membership and other Society correspondence, maintained our membership roster and recorded our meetings. He collected our dues and other income, paid our bills promptly and invested our excess cash.

When the Society's Publications Committee ceased to exist during the 1990s, John took over many of the Committee's duties, including arranging for and supervising the printing and mailing of our periodicals and the printing and sale of ESPHS books published during his time in office. In addition to being Secretary/Treasurer, he has been both purchasing agent and marketing director for much of what the Society does, and in many other ways has played a critical and positive role in keeping the Society alive and well.

**THANKS,
JOHN!**

Society Director Maris Tirums, a close friend of John and John's predecessor as Society Secretary/Treasurer, became interim Secretary/Treasurer on July 26. Another Society Director, Drew Nicholson, Chair of the resurrected Publications Committee, picked up our stock of printing and mailing supplies and inventory of Society books at John's home July 4.

Maris agreed to be interim Secretary/Treasurer only on condition he would hold the position no longer than the end of John Lange's current two-year term expiring May 7, 2006.

Candidates for election as ESPHS Secretary/Treasurer at the 2006 annual meeting are urgently needed. The election will be for a two-year term but hopefully the person elected will run for a second or third term. The office is critical to the Society's functioning. The candidate should have skills and experience in financial and other forms of record-keeping, in budget preparation, home office management and communicating effectively orally and in writing.

The duties of our Secretary/Treasurer are set forth in some detail in the Society's By-Laws; inquiries about the position can be directed to the current Secretary/Treasurer as well as the Society President. Addresses and phone numbers for these persons are listed on the second page of the Bulletin. Requests for copies of the By-Laws should be sent to the President.

ESPHS ONE-FRAME EXHIBIT AT WASHINGTON 2006; CONTRIBUTION OF SHOW AWARD ACKNOWLEDGED

Plans are underway for Empire State to have a single frame of New York State postal history on display in the Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition, May 27-June 3, 2006 at the Washington, DC Convention Center.

ESPHS Publications Committee Chair Drew Nicholson will coordinate the preparation of this exhibit and requests members send him photocopies or scans of representative NY postal history material they are willing to loan for inclusion in the exhibit.

The "representative material" should not include rarities, but simply covers and other postal history items in the economic range of the average collector.

The purpose of the exhibit is to showcase a wide range of NY postal history and give the Society an opportunity to recruit new members. The Show will have up to 130 single-frame exhibits by APS Affiliates and other specialty societies.

Drew Nicholson's addresses, both land mail and email, as well as his phone number, can be found on page 2 of the Bulletin. Please send him your ideas, photos, scans, etc.

Ann Triggie, an ESPHS member and Awards Committee Chair for Washington 2006, has formally thanked the Society for its generous donation of the Special Award of a Waterford Crystal Clock, to be used in the discretion of the Washington 2006 Exhibition Jury. Ann noted in her letter that the Clock had arrived at the Show's receiving house in Washington in good order.

Society Director Albert Guenzburger handled the selection and purchase of this award before he resigned as ESPHS Awards Committee Chair in May.

(earliest marking: continued from page 20)

John Hamilton, the postmaster for North America placed an advertisement in 'The Boston News Letter' announcing the intended departure date of the packet for Bristol and enjoined those interested to forward their mail to New York to meet the deadline. In 1711 Hamilton proclaimed in 'The Boston News Letter' that "a packet will be ready to sail the last of every month for New York (Wind and Weather permitting)". With the ending of the war in mid-1712 and the increased sailings of merchant ships, there was little need for a packet service as letters could now be sent by the first available sailing. Service was discontinued in 1712." (A.S.C.C.).

FALL MEETING AT SYRAPEX NOVEMBER 13

Reports on Society activities
four-page exhibit competition for deLisle Award
discussion of what constitutes a good postal history library

Plan to attend our fall meeting at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, November 13, at the Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle, College Drive & Court Street, East Syracuse (Thruway Exit 35). The meeting will be held in conjunction with SYRAPEX 2005, the biannual stamp show sponsored by the Syracuse Stamp Club.

SYRAPEX 2005 will take place November 12 and 13. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Admission and parking are free and the Show will include a 20-dealer bourse, up to 48 frames of exhibits, show cover and cancel, U.S. Post Office and more.

ESPHS will hold its meeting at 1:30 p.m. Sunday in a room at the hotel near the Show. When arriving please check at the Show reception area for the meeting room location and change, if any, in the meeting time. Guests and visitors are welcome to attend.

Society members are asked to bring to the meeting four pages of connected N.Y. postal history material to be displayed on a table in the meeting room for the annual Kenneth R. deLisle Award competition. The winner is determined by vote of those present, taken at the conclusion of the meeting. The deLisle Award is a handsome walnut plaque outline of New York State, suitably engraved, and will be given to the 2005 winner at the 2006 annual meeting.

There will be a short business meeting, including reports on Society activities and an opportunity for those present to offer comments and suggestions.

Following the business meeting there will be an open discussion on the subject What Constitutes a Good Postal History Library. There will be a display of postal history reference works, including the Society's own publications, and those attending are encouraged to bring a favorite postal history book, periodical or article to discuss. Unless you want to hear the Society President do all the talking, please come prepared with your contribution to the discussion topic!!

Exhibits needed for SYRAPEX:

**(1) 4 pages for annual ESPHS
deLisle competition**

**(2) Postal History Exhibits for
regular SYRAPEX Competition**

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EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING MAY 1, 2005

The Annual meeting was called to order by President Alan Parsons at 11: 15A.M. at Graziano's Casa Mia Restaurant, Canastota. Those present were Alan Parsors, Joe Rowbottom, Heather Sweeting, John Cali, Maris Tirums, Albert Guenzburger, Drew Nicholson, Bill Hart, Gerald Wiley, Bob Davison, Mike Ammann, George McGowan, and Frank Braithwaite.

It was announced that John Lange had suffered a stroke Saturday at around 6 P.M. Maris Tirums added to the details of John's hospitalization and treatment. Alan will send a card to John.

TREASURER'S REPORT: It was noted that there were substantial reserves in the treasury. Copies of the Treasurer's report were made available. The figure of between \$37,000 to \$38,000 mentioned. A motion was made by Bill Hart and seconded by Al Guenzburger that the 2004-05 financial report be approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AWARDS: Al Guenzburger completed his purchase of awards. However, need photo of page to send to show and suitable award for Washington 2006. Al Guenzburger then announced that he was resigning due to doctor's orders. Alan Parsons also provided an additional view of show activities and awards in the coming year or so.

PUBLICATIONS: Drew Nicholson, Glenn Estus, Larry Laliberte, Heather Sweeting, Frank Braithwaite, and Alan Parsons (ex officio) are on this committee. Board decided to purchase a color laser jet printer to be used at Editor Drew Nicholson's location. This move should improve quality and consistency. Production will include all ESPHS publications which will be at his house except books. A new APS Postal History brochure was passed out.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: A volunteer is needed in this area. The regional representatives should help in this endeavor.

AUCTION: John Nunes is absent due to a conflict with his bourse in Rochester.

LIBRARY PROPOSAL: Frank Braithwaite volunteered to handle a postal history library for us. It was noted that this needs further recommendations before considering it. Alan Parsons noted that APRL and Collector's Club charge where Frank would not charge the membership. Bill Hart has an archive of previous Bulletins and journals from Ken deLisle that he is willing to donate once this project is approved. Ken's data would be a part if library is created. Heather Sweeting commented

(continued on page 15)

(annual meeting continued)

that she also has her father's (Charlie Sweeting's) archives. Drew Nicholson noted that this is a valuable resource. The federation archives were also mentioned as an additional place to store data.

FALL MEETING: SYRAPEX was mentioned. The Executive Board will meet just prior to the fall meeting in November. The date is Sunday, November 13.

STAMP INSIDER ASSIGNMENTS: 7/8: Gerald Wiley, 9/10: Maris Tirums; 11/12: Heather Sweeting; 1/2: Drew Nicholson; 3/4: Joe Rowbottom; and 5/6: Frank Braithwaite.

ROPEX 2005: ESPHS will issue an award if there are 3 exhibits of NY postal history at the show. Alan Parsons spoke on the multi-state competition in which NY won the first Charlie Sweeting award last year. There were 6 societies represented. Garfield Perry may host the multi-state postal history competition next year. We need proper coordination for all this to happen. We need help staffing table at ROPEX. Volunteers need apply ASAP.

WASHINGTON 2006: Drew Nicholson reported concern over table for this event. The cost is \$500. He suggested that we look into sharing the table with another society. We need information regarding the table size and the necessary volunteers to man it. Alan Parsons stated that he will be there for the duration of the show. John Hotchner is to be contacted for further information. Rumors were that this large event may be short of money. \$400,000 is on hand but double this amount is needed. There was further conversation on other shows and where donations have been supplied.

UNADILLIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Alan Parsons commented on this. Bill Bauer is not present but Alan highly recommended Bill's exhibit that will be on display at the society. It is a gold award exhibit.

BUDGET FOR 2005-06: \$3,500 income projected for 2005-06. We are speaking about a potential current operating budget deficit. Motion by Al Guenzburger to adopt budget as presented provided blanks are filled in. This was seconded by Bill Hart. Budget approved.

DELISLE AWARD: the Ken deLisle award was presented to Frank Braithwaite.

NEW MATTERS: RFD project discussed by Bill Hart. He has assistance from Walt LaForce. He reviewed various routes. He hopes to place this information into Exelsior! The information on the routes was mentioned as extending into the 1930s. Bill Hart will send copy of the data of individual counties to members for an SASE. Drew Nicholson reported a new find. It was a group of covers and letters emanating from Oswego Village (in Dutchess County). The manuscript cancellations appear to predate all others recorded. The covers are all addressed to a person who caught the "gold fever" and joined the California Gold Rush in the early 1850s.

(continued on page 16)

(Annual Meeting continued)

They are both philatelically and historically significant. The routing is described in the letters as by steamship via Panama. An article about them will appear in the September issue of Excelsior!

Replacement: John Lange may need assistance while he recuperates. He will also need to be replaced as he is retiring at the end of current term in the year 2006.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: A motion was made by Drew Nicholson for the secretary to cast one ballot for the slate. This was seconded by Frank Braithwaite.

ADJOURNMENT: We were unanimously adjourned by all those present.

Respectfully submitted,
John A. Cali,
Secretary pro tem

Nancy Foutz sends a real photopost card view of another post office from Pine Camp (Jefferson County), NY. This supplements the information from the last issue of the Bulletin.



EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING May 1, 2005

The Executive Board meeting of the Empire State Postal History Society was called to order by President Alan Parsons at 9:45 A.M. at the Graziano's Casa Mia Restaurant, Canastota. Those present were Alan Parsons, Joe Rowbottom, Albert Guenzburger, Heather Sweeting, John Cali, Bill Hart, Drew Nicholson, Maris Tirurns, and Gerald Wiley.

Alan Parsons announced that John Lange suffered a stroke Saturday and had been hospitalized. Maris Tirurns elaborated John's hospitalization and speech difficulty arising from the mild stroke. Alan will be sending John a get well card. Director John Cali was asked to act as secretary pro tem.

AWARDS: Al Guenzburger mentioned that John Lange had suggested that awards be in the form of a trophy type as per John Lange. Al suggested a magnifier may serve exhibitors better. Many times such awards as a trophy or plaque are dust catchers with no other function. Also there have been instances where an award has been engraved only to not be awarded. The magnifier would be functional and still serve to note the show if desired through engraving the show's name. Al also tendered his resignation from this committee due to doctor's orders.

PRINTER PROPOSAL: Editor Drew Nicholson reviewed the various points in his proposal and countered points John Lange had mentioned. He indicated there would be no penalty whatsoever therefore resulting in no added expense as mentioned. The membership list, bulletin, and journal would all be printed by him. There would be no labor charge. No charge for collating, stapling, etc. Drew elaborated on his former duties as teacher assembling newsletters and tests and how it related to the current endeavor. Larry Laliberte assists Drew. Drew further noted that the last issue was a problem in the sense of complication his illness caused. He felt there were issues taken out of context and allayed concerns over the addendum to Smith & Kay. Drew agreed that his son was paid by the Society for doing the Smith & Kay update work. This was a one-time occurrence in order to avoid delay in getting out Excelsior! because there was so much detail work involved. Further discussion centered on Dell printers and variables with the two models. A motion was made to purchase the color printer for a maximum expenditure of \$ 1,000. This was seconded by Joe Rowbottom. There was discussion on purchase versus use of John Lange's printer as mentioned by Maris Tirurns. The vote was 7 of in favor of Drew's proposal, none opposed, and 1 abstention.

Further, a motion by John Rowbottom to have printer located at editor's home was seconded by Al Guenzburger. Discussion followed with Al Guenzburger noting he had concerns over BOCES location and personnel and students. Also how this applies to 501 (c) (3) status. The question was called. Vote: 6 in favor of Drew's location and 2 abstentions.

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(Excutive Meeting continued)

Another motion was made by Al Guenzburger to have all black and white and color pages member copies are currently consistent in the publications. There was more discussion. Vote 6 in favor of editor's control, I opposed, and I abstention. Further discussion: This topic will be reconsidered if not fully merited through forthcoming results.

REVISED BOUNDARIES FOR REGIONAL REPS: North is represented by Gerry Wiley. He has the counties of Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin, Clinton, Essex, and Hamilton; Bill Hart's name was mentioned for representative of the Lower Hudson area. He declined this title and area. Maris Tirums represents the Upper Hudson area which includes the counties of Warren, Saratoga, Washington, Albany, and Rensselaer. It was agreed that Schenectady County be deleted from Mohawk area and added to the Upper Hudson area. New regional representatives are Bob Davison for Central which includes Oswego, Onondaga, Oneida, Madison, Cortland, and Cayuga and Jim Littell for the Western area which includes Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming, Genesee, Erie, Cattaragus, and Chautauqua counties. Also named was Frank Braithwaite who will represent Westchester, Rockland, New York, Bronx, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk counties. Areas still in need of representatives are Mohawk, Lower Hudson, Leatherstocking/Catskill and West Central. A motion was made by Bill Hart and seconded by Drew Nicholson for this realignment and suggested activities. Vote was unanimous.

LIBRARY: Maris Tirums provided the board with background on previous library under Dave Prosser. It was felt that a committee was needed to further study this issue. Place a call for donations in the next Bulletin. Bill Hart made a motion to table this proposal and to also try to obtain members to serve on the committee and for a better definition as to what is needed. This was seconded by Al Guenzburger. Vote was 6 in favor of tabling with 2 against.

BUDGET FOR 2005-2006: Our Treasurer had been unable to prepare a complete budget not knowing what the future held with regard to printing and mailing costs. Alan Parsons was asked to prepare a budget he thought would be reasonable now that the decision was made to purchase the requested new printer and have all the pages of our periodicals printed by the editor at his home office and mailed by him.

ADJOURNMENT: We adjourned at 11:10 A.M. on a motion made by Al Guenzburger and seconded by Drew Nicholson.

Respectfully submitted
John A. Cali
Secretary, protem

ESPHS HELP WANTED: URGENT NEED! PLEASE RESPOND!

•Society Secretary/Treasurer to succeed our current Secretary/Treasurer no later than the next annual meeting (May 7, 2006). Our By-Laws require the same person hold both positions (helpful for efficient management but probably not necessary). If interest is expressed in either position, and someone comes forward to fill the other position, the By-Laws can be amended to separate the two offices. The Secretary/Treasurer is a member of the Executive Board and elected for a two-year term. The duties of each office are defined in the By-Laws; please contact the Society President or Secretary/Treasurer if willing to serve or for further info. A copy of the By-Laws can be obtained from the President.

•Regional Representatives for MOHAWK (Herkimer, Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties), LOWER HUDSON (Greene, Columbia, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Putnam Counties), LEATHERSTOCKING/CATSKILL (Chenango, Otsego, Delaware, Sullivan and Broome Counties) and WEST CENTRAL (Monroe, Wayne, Livingston, Ontario, Yates and Seneca Counties) Regions. Suggested activities for our Regional Reps can be found on page 7 of the June Bulletin or obtained from the Society President.

•Awards Committee Chair to coordinate the Society's exhibiting awards program; job description and criteria for awards available from Society President.

•Membership and Marketing Committee Chair to stimulate and coordinate member recruitment and retention and Society visibility in general; job description available from Society President.

For help needed other than taking on a Society office, please see items 3 through 11 on page 8 of the March Bulletin, under Help Wanted: An Updated Checklist.

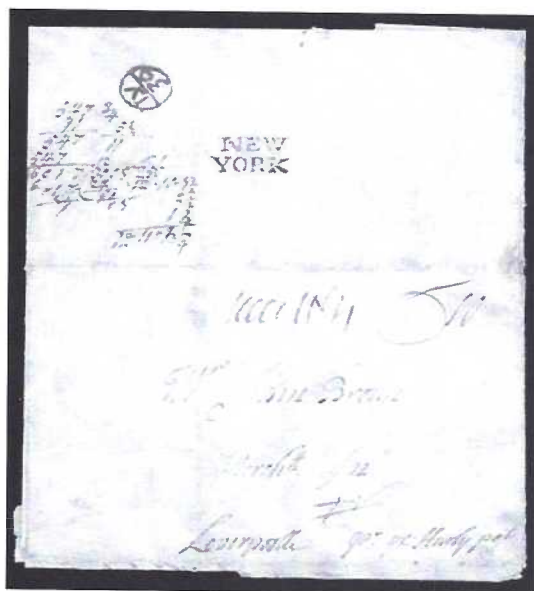
**A reminder: each member
may use ONE FREE Trading
Post Adlet a year**

***THE E.S.P.H.S.
TRADING POST***

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

Trading Post ads can be emailed to Glenn Estus at gestus@esphs.org. If requested, the ads will also be placed on the ESPHS website for 1 year.

WISH TO BUY to and from Garden City,
L.I., N.Y. covers, pre-1947, pay extra for
enclosures. Harry G. Dow, 5 Holliswood
Drive, Latham, N.Y. (518) 785-1153 (4/5)



Matthew Bennett International auctions the Ed and Jean Siskin collection of American Colonial and Early United States Mails 1662-1799 in October, 2005. Many of the lots deal with very early New York postal history.

Lot 18 is especially interesting since it's the earliest type of handstamped marking used in British North America.

Below is the complete auction description:

1712 (Jun. 10) Philadelphia Pa. to Liverpool, England via Bristol Packet, datelined folded letter endorsed "Pr: the Harley pqt" and bearing complete strike of "NEW / YORK" handstamp on flap, manuscript ratings "10", London "IY/30" Bishop mark, manuscript "1N" crossed out and updated to "1N4", some internal tape reinforcement and minor paper edge faults, Very Fine. Click here to see enlargement of contents.. Estimate \$50,000-75,000

THE TWO LINE NEW YORK POSTAL MARKING IS THE EARLIEST RECORDED HANDSTAMP USED IN NORTH AMERICA. OF THE THREE RECORDED EXAMPLES, THIS IS THE FINEST.

The rate of "10" was 9d from Philadelphia to New York and 1d for delivery to the ship. The packet ship Harley sailed June 30th and arrived at Bristol on July 28th. The letter reached London on July 30th. The "In all 1N4" includes one shilling for the packet postage from New York to London and 4d for British inland postage from London to Liverpool.

The New York handstamp is believed to have been applied by John Hamilton, the British Packet Agent in New York.

"The New York marking had its origin in the War of the Spanish Succession (1702-13), a conflict that so disrupted normal ship passage between North America and Great Britain that the English Government, at the urging of merchants and to serve its own needs, established packet ship mail service to speed communications. The plan, submitted by William Warren, was adopted in 1709. It called for service between the English harbor town of Bristol and New York City. For the first time postage rates were fixed for the overseas mail traffic at 1s for single letters, 2s shillings for double letters, and 4s per ounce for packets of greater weight. The service began in late September 1710.

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