

**ANNUAL MEETING,
SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1 P.M.,
AT ROPEX STAMP SHOW, ROCHESTER, N.Y.**

The Empire State Postal History Society annual meeting will be held this year in conjunction with ROPEX, the Rochester Philatelic Association's national stamp show at its new location, ESL Sports Centre, 2700 Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road, on the campus of Monroe Community College (MCC), south of the City of Rochester. It offers free parking, free admission and is handicap accessible.

For those traveling from the north on I-390, take Exit 15B. For those coming from the Thruway or points south on I-390, take the East Henrietta (Rt. 15A) Exit 14 and turn left at the off ramp light. Continue past Jefferson Road and the shopping plaza on the right side. Go past the Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road ramp at the light and take the first entrance on the right to the MCC Campus. Take a right turn onto the road that loops to the back of the campus to the ESL Centre.

ROPEX is a three day show, May 18-20. Hours are 11-6 on Friday, 10-5 on Saturday and 10-3 on Sunday.

The Show's meeting room will be available to us from noon to 2 pm on Saturday. From noon to 1 pm there will be a Society trading and lunch hour (bring your own covers and food), and from 1 to 2 p.m. the annual meeting takes place. A restaurant and snack bar are onsite. Tickets to the evening's Awards Banquet buffet are available for \$25 (call Ray Stone at 585-266-2524 for advance reservations).

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

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

Officers:

President: Alan Parsons ('07)
Vice President: Dr. Joseph Rowbottom ('07)
Secretary: George McGowan ('08)
Treasurer: George Dekornfeld ('08)

Directors:

('07): John Nunes, John Cali, Drew Nicholson
('08): Frank Braithwaite, Heather Sweeting, Gerald Wiley
('09): Maris Tirums, Bill Hart, Bob Davison

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 Davison
West Central: *vacant*
Southern Tier: Alan Parsons
Western: Jim Littell

Publications:

ESPHS Bulletin (quarterly)
Glenn A. Estus, editor
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Westport, NY 12993-0451
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Excelsior! (semi-annually)
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18 Valley Dr
Pawling, NY 12564-1140
(845) 855-3387
email: dan.ddn@suscom.net

Secretary's Membership Report

Application for Membership:

Elliot Bristol, 5020 Rt 9G, Tivoli, NY
12583-5810 seacount@yahoo.com

Arvind K Agarwal, 6305 Grenfell CT
Bowie, MD 20720

We welcome the following new member:

Ken Sultana, PO Box 640233
Oakland Gardens, NY

Address Changes:

Jack Haefeli, 1941 Western Ave., Apt. 1204
Albany, NY 12203-7012

Rober Quinby, 12425 Dancliff Trace,
Alpharette, GA 30004

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

Gerald F. Wiley, 933 LeRay St. --Lot 217
Watertown, NY 13601-1322

Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane,
Ledgewood, NJ 07853

Do you have material for the ESPHS member's auction?
Contact John Nunes for information

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Plan to attend ROPEX 2007, the Society's annual meeting on the second day of the Show, and help at the Society table during the Show. Our table will have a display to celebrate our 40th year as a Society, our books for sale, membership information and applications, and free postal history informational handouts.

ROPEX is by far the largest stamp show held in upstate New York. It draws between twenty-five and thirty dealers offering a wide range of stamps, covers, postcards and other philatelic material. There will be a minimum of 160 16-page frames of exhibits, plus daily seminars, both the US Postal Service and the UN Postal Administration, a youth area with StampCampUSA, and Show pictorial cancels and cachets. ROPEX is awaiting word about a possible definitive stamp first-day ceremony.

On the subject of exhibits, there is a pressing need for more exhibits of New York postal history at ROPEX 2007. As of March 15, only one exhibit of NY postal history had been entered; at least two are needed (with the best receiving a vermeil or better) for a suitably engraved Waterford Crystal Timepiece to be awarded by the ROPEX jury to the best NY postal history exhibit at the Show. This is an award sponsored by ESPHS.

For an up-to-date list of ROPEX exhibits, dealers, schedule of events and further information about the show, including a downloadable exhibiting prospectus and entry form, please go to <http://www.geocities.com/rpastamps/rope.html>. Questions? Email stampmf@frontiernet.net.

Our annual meeting at ROPEX will include financial and program reports, election of officers (President, Vice-President and three Executive Board members at large) and opportunity for feedback and discussion.

I look forward to seeing you at ROPEX and our 2007 annual meeting!!

Al Parsons alatholleyrd@aol.com

Trading Post Adlets will be listed throughout the *Bulletin*. If you don't notice your adlet in this quarter's issue it will be in next quarter's issue.

NEED GENESEE COURT HOUSE (C.H.) cancel, will trade "Fort" Niagara or purchase, Irving H. Tesmer, 127 Fayette Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14223-2070 irvtesmer@aol.com

POSTCARDS WANTED. It's time to empty out the drawers and cupboards! Also wanted: Photographs of anybody or anyplace--any size, any quantity, Nancy Foutz, 845-687-0175; nfoutze!@earthlink.net

UPDATE ON *EXCELSIOR!* BACKLOG

In the last Bulletin I stated that *Excelsior!* editor Drew Nicholson would be sending out the Sept.05, March 06 and Sept.06 issues of our journal at the rate of one per month beginning February 15, 2007 and ending April 15, 2007. This was based on a statement from Drew intended for publication in the last Bulletin but inadvertently omitted.

As you will note from the minutes of the Executive Board meeting February 17 found elsewhere in this Bulletin, Drew was unable to meet his commitment for mailing the Sept.05 *Excelsior!* He further indicated this would be the case for the March and September 2006 issues as well.

When Drew resigned as *Excelsior!* editor Sept. 29, 2006 it was effective on his completion of the three back issues at that time. He has the articles in hand for those three back issues and still intends to complete them. His delay in doing so, however, creates a problem for his successor as editor – whoever that may be – who has to start with an overdue March 2007 *Excelsior!* before even being appointed!

I contacted Drew by email March 1 to ask if he could have the Sept.05 *Excelsior!* printed and ready to go this month so it could be mailed with the March 07 *Bulletin*, thus saving the Society postage expens. In his reply to me Drew committed to do this and hopefully you will find the Sept.05 *Excelsior!* in the same envelope with this Bulletin.

There is still no committed date or dates for the March and September 2006 *Excelsior!*s and the search for a new editor continues. We now have two candidates (see minutes of 2/17/07 meeting). In order to encourage possible other candidates the “Call for Help” which ran in the last *Bulletin* will, if space permits, also appear in this *Bulletin*, although the publication date for the March 2007 *Excelsior!* stated therein will no doubt have to be adjusted.

As President of the Society I have to take responsibility for the present situation regarding our journal, and I apologize to the membership for this state of affairs. It affects other aspects of our program and hurts us financially. We have new members from 2005 and 2006 who have yet to receive a single issue of our journal. I have tried to keep the Executive Board fully informed of developments and, although some unhappiness has been expressed, the Board members have generally been agreeable to giving Drew the extra time he seems to need. How much longer this will be the case remains to be seen. The Society has been through rough patches before and survived.

Al Parsons

19th CENTURY COVER FOR SALE- Please respond to: Forbest and Company, PO Box 750, Alexandria, VA 22311-5070

ALBANY AND BUFFALO REGIONAL MEETINGS HELD

The first ESPHS regional meeting of 2007 was held at Cover Mania in Albany February 17. It was tentatively scheduled for 3 p.m. in the December *Bulletin* and our table signs at the entrance to Cover Mania stated the meeting would be held at 3 p.m.; unfortunately the Cover Mania program gave the meeting time as 2 p.m.

The Society Executive Board meeting scheduled for 1:30 p.m. February 17 at Cover Mania used the same room announced for the regional meeting so that persons who came for a regional meeting at 2 p.m. found a Board meeting in progress and went away.

The Board meeting lasted past 3 p.m. Board members who stayed for the regional meeting were joined by Larry Laliberte for a free-wheeling discussion of Society matters. As he has in the past, Al Parsons asked for useful postal history websites to be listed on an ESPHS handout, and was pleasantly surprised the next day to receive an email from George Dekornfeld listing numerous websites he has found useful in his postal history collecting and exhibiting.

The Buffalo regional meeting was held March 3 in conjunction with BUFPEX, the annual show sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club. It was held at 3 p.m. in a quiet open area on the show floor and attended by three Society members (David Przpiora, John Cali and Al Parsons) and a visitor who happened by, David Lloyd of East Aurora.

Our visitor was interested in learning more about NY postal history and much of the meeting was spent answering his questions and describing the resources and programs the Society has to offer. It was a pleasant visit for all and he took with him a number of our free handouts as well as a membership application.

ESPHS extends its appreciation to Cover Mania and BUFPEX for hosting these regional meetings.

WANTED: Durant, Raquette Lake, Blue Mountain Lake, N.Y. covers, ephemera, photos.
Eric Sullivan, 42 Patricia St., Binghamton, NY 13905, oldcards1@aol.com

GLEN COVE NATIVE SEEKS covers from same. Previous to 1943, Joseph Gallagher, 275 Wolf Hill Road, South Huntington, NY 11747. to sell or trade

BREAKING UP A NYS COLLECTION: What's your county? Sell or Swap for post cards of small RR depots, synagouges and for obscure RPO's. S. Fingerhood, 2225 Bryn Mawr Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003

NEW YORK STATE STAMPLESS COVERS. What counties do you need. Approvals gladly sent.
Cortland Covers, Box 371, Homer, NY 13077

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR POSTAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

The second annual Postal History Symposium jointly sponsored by the APS, APRL and the National Postal Museum (NPM) will be held October 21-22, 2007 at the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte, PA.

THEME: Transportation Technology and the Mail

CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE: June 1, 2007

Through the application of new technologies for transporting the mail, the post office and the transportation industries have encouraged, supported and benefited from each other's growth and development. The Postal History Symposium provides a forum in which philatelists, academic scholars of postal organizations and systems, public historians and the interested public discuss and present research integrating philately and the history of postal operations within the broader context of American history.

The conference will open Sunday evening October 21 with a reception and plenary panel entitled "Further, Farther, Faster: Transporting the Mail." Invited speakers include philatelic and academic scholars discussing a variety of transportation technologies. The conference immediately follows Aerophilately 2007, a three-day national philatelic exhibition at the American Philatelic Center devoted to the study of airmail.

Proposals for symposium papers may be submitted either as individual papers or in panels. The above-stated deadline is for proposals, not for the finished papers or panels. Possible themes for papers include the economic impacts of transportation technology, invention and innovation in mail transportation, the growth of transportation businesses, postal policy affecting mail carriers, and biographical studies. Papers outside the transportation theme will be considered.

Panels or posters are informal visual presentations of philatelic and/or historical research; emphasis should be on using visual elements to tell the story. Posters, or single-frame exhibits, may be presented as sixteen 8.5x11-inch pages, or a single sheet of paper not exceeding 34x45 inches (tall). All posters and sets of pages will be mounted in philatelic exhibition frames and displayed during the opening reception and throughout the conference. At designated times, presenters will be asked to stand with their displays and discuss them with conference attendees.

Proposals, both for papers and posters, should be no more than one page and must be accompanied by a one-page curriculum vita with contact information (email, phone and address). Email complete proposals to symposium@stamps.org. Notification of accepted papers will be issued in mid-July.

Conference papers will be posted on the APS website (www.stamps.org) and will be considered for possible publication. Conference co-chairs are David L. Straight, Virginia L. Horn and the NPM Head of Research Initiatives.

(continued on page 7)

NY POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITS NEEDED FOR COMPETITION AT PNSE 2007

ESPHS has been invited by the Pennsylvania Postal History Society to participate in a multi-state postal history exhibiting competition at the 2007 Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE), September 7-9, 2007 in the Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA.

In order for ESPHS to enter, at least three exhibits will be required (one-frame or multi-frame). All exhibits will be judged in the open competition and receive appropriate show medals. PNSE is an annual WSP show required to have a five-member jury of APS qualified judges.

As of mid-March the postal history societies of four states, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio and Massachusetts had agreed to participate, according to Norm Shachat of the Pennsylvania Postal History Society.

PNSE will award \$100 for first, \$50 for second, \$25 for third and \$10 for fourth place in the multi-state competition scoring, using a system different from that used in the first two competitions for the Sweeting Award sponsored by ESPHS and initially used for the competition at ROPEX 2004.

Although it has the right to use it, PNSE is not planning to utilize the Sweeting Award. Instead, according to Shachat, in addition to the cash prizes for first through fourth place the PNSE President "will be awarding the first 'Keystone Cup' to the coordinator of the winning society."

There is hope the Sweeting Award might still be used. In any event, the need at the moment is to locate exhibitors of New York postal history willing to enter the competition. Information on frame fees and other requirements as well as a downloadable prospectus and entry form (per Shachat, print the PDF rather than the HTML format) can be found on the PNSE 2007 website, home.att.net/~pnse.

Please let Al Parsons (alatholleyrd@aol.com, 607-732-0181 or 607-734-2271) know if you are willing to exhibit NY postal history at PNSE 2007. ESPHS will not accept the invitation to enter the competition until at least three exhibits have been promised. Stay tuned, more later!

Call for Papers (continued)

ESPHS member Robert Dalton Harris and his wife, Diane DeBlois, proprietors of aGatherin' and co-editors of Postal History Journal, both participated in the first Postal History Symposium, held November 3-4, 2006 at the National Postal Museum. Their presentations centered on the usefulness of the Official Register of the United States to postal historians as well as historical researchers in general.

REPORT ON 2005 ESPHS MEMBERSHIP SURVEY SCHEDULED FOR ANNUAL MEETING MAY 19

ESPHS Executive Board member Frank Braithwaite, author and coordinator of the Society Membership Survey originally distributed with the December 2005 Bulletin, has been tabulating responses received and will put together a synopsis of the survey for our 2007 annual meeting May 19 at the ROPEX stamp show in Rochester.

It's not too late if you haven't yet responded, or, as a new member, never received the survey. If you want to fill it out, and all members are encouraged to do so, please contact Frank at fbraith@optonline.net if you don't have the survey form.

If you already have the survey form, please complete and send it to Frank Braithwaite, 56 Morewood Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787 as soon as possible!

ESPHS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS!

ESPHS began its existence as an organized society in 1967. Executive Board member Heather Sweeting is preparing a short history of the Society for publication and distribution to its members. She would appreciate hearing from those willing to share memories of Society events, officers, authors, exhibitors, etc., during past years.

Documents, if available and can be loaned, also would be appreciated. Heather's email address is hsweeting@nystampclubs.org and her land mail address is 14329 Victory St., Sterling, NY 13156-3172.

UPDATED MEMBERSHIP LEAFLET AVAILABLE

ESPHS officers and regional reps, please take note: Thanks to the miracle of cut and paste combined with modern photocopy technology, an updated Society membership leaflet showing our new dues schedule and the correct name and address for submitting the membership application is now available from Al Parsons, alatholleyrd@aol.com, 607-732-0181, or 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905. Please indicate quantity desired.

ESPHS Approved Budget 2007
(revised at Cover Mania February 17, 2007)

Revenues:

1) Dues and Fee	\$2000.00
2) Publications.	100.00
3) Auctions (ESPHS net)	150.00
4) Interest/Capital Gain	1200.00
5) Donations	50.00
6) Advertisement Revenue	
(Bulletin/Journal)	50.00

TOTAL REVENUES 3550.00

Expenses:

1) Administrative Expenses	\$ 200.00
2) Journal/Bulletin:	
Printing	\$650.00
Paper	200.00
Supplies	180.00
Mailing expense...	1000.00
Total Publications	2030.00
3) Website	110.00
4) Awards	200.00
5) Federation	15.00
6) APS Building Fund Donation	1000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	3555.00

BudgetDeficit..... 5.00

**A CALL FOR HELP:
NEW EDITOR NEEDED FOR *EXCELSIOR*!**

Excelsior!, The Journal of New York Postal History, published twice-yearly (March and September) by ESPHS, needs an editor starting with the March 2007 issue to be mailed no later than June 2007.

Duties involve soliciting and assisting prospective authors with the help of the Society Publications Committee, receiving and editing articles submitted, preparing layout of 25 to 35 pages twice-yearly and forwarding same electronically to the Publications Committee for printing and mailing.

The new editor will join the Publications Committee and, with the exception of the March 2007 issue, follow production deadlines to be established by the Committee. Printing and mailing of the March 2007 issue, if necessary, could be delayed until June 2007.

Experience as an editor and postal history collector preferred but not required. Membership in ESPHS is required. Persons interested should contact either Drew Nicholson (contact info on p. 2) or Al Parsons, 809 Holley Rd., Elmira, NY 14905, phone 607-732-0181, email alatholleyrd@aol.com. Please state qualifications for the position.

**MINUTES MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF
THE EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY FEBRUARY 17, 2006**

The meeting of the Executive Board of the Empire State Postal History Society was called to order by President Alan Parsons at 1:36 pm at the Clarion Hotel in Albany, New York. This meeting was held in conjunction with Cover Mania, an annual postal history sale organized by ESPHS Director John Nunes. The Society thanks John for providing the facility in which to hold this meeting, and for promoting the collecting of New York State postal history through his organization of this annual sale.

Attending were Alan Parsons, John Nunes, Bill Hart, Bob Davison, Drew Nicholson, George DeKornfeld, and Maris Tirums. A quorum was achieved, and business of the Society could be transacted.

The minutes of the November 12, 2006 meeting of the Executive Board were accepted as published in the Bulletin.

Treasurer DeKornfeld reported that membership renewals and dues payments have been coming in at a good pace. George also reported that the transfer of the Treasurer's records and authorization to directly manage the Society's funds has been successfully completed.

The database project whereby ESPHS membership records will be computerized is slowly advancing. The Society hopes that Bulletin editor Glenn Estus will lend his capable assistance towards completing this goal.

The Board discussed the need to update the ESPHS brochure. The current version has incorrect addresses and out-dated dues. The Executive Board agreed on the following dues structure: annual dues will be \$15 starting in 2008, and \$20 for members residing outside the United States. New membership applicants will be required to pay \$16 if their application is submitted from January through June (or \$21 for non-U.S. residents) and \$24 (for an 18 month membership) if submitted from July through December (\$31 for non-U.S. residents). These amounts include a \$1 application fee. Secretary McGowan's address will be included in the brochure for submission of applications and miscellaneous correspondence.

Maris Tirums will prepare an interim financial report to cover the period May 1 through December 31, 2006, and this will be included in the March 2007 Bulletin.

The budget for 2007 was discussed. George DeKornfeld had prepared a draft which served as the basis for discussion. Adjustments were made to projected revenue from dues and to projected expenses for printing the Bulletin and Excelsior, and for the cost of ESPHS exhibit awards.

John Nunes requested that the 2007 budget include the cost of a subscription to the Stamp Insider, a bimonthly publication of the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies for each Society member

not already receiving it. These members have been receiving complimentary copies of the Insider due to John Nunes's generosity in financing a trial subscription for them. The projected cost to subscribe for all its members is \$850 per year. Board members were divided on this question as some felt that the Insider was worthwhile for the Society to pay for member subscriptions while others questioned its value to postal history collectors.

A motion was made and seconded for the ESPHS to include a budget appropriation of up to \$850 per year to pay for a subscription to the Stamp Insider for all its members, and that the charge to the ESPHS be reduced to account for members who already receive the journal because they are members of other Federation stamp clubs. The motion was defeated.

President Parsons offered to sponsor subscriptions for ESPHS members who are not already receiving the insider and who would like to continue receiving it - if John Nunes would share in the cost. John agreed to this arrangement. An appropriation will not be included in the budget. Members who are eligible and who want to receive the Insider will be identified through a questionnaire to be distributed with the next dues reminder.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the ESPHS budget for 2007 as amended at this meeting. The finalized 2007 budget appears elsewhere in the March Bulletin.

The selection of a new editor for the Excelsior was the next topic. Editor Nicholson admitted that he would not be able to distribute a back-logged edition of the journal in the immediate future in spite of best intentions. Drew declared his goal to complete the distribution of the three journals that were not published on schedule by the summer of 2007. Meanwhile, articles will be sent to David Williams in Kentucky for him to edit. David has indicated his willingness to the Executive Board to take the editor's job.

John Nunes announced that Al Starkweather of Florida has indicated that he is also interested in becoming the new editor of the journal. Al is currently the editor of the Stamp Insider, and has a professional background in editing various publications. His excellent work on the Insider was noted by the Board. Printing and mailing the journal would be done by Drew Nicholson regardless of who became the new editor.

Publications Committee Nicholson voiced his support for Al Starkweather based on his experience and the quality of the Stamp Insider. This surprise announcement of Al's willingness to be editor was discussed at length by the Board.

A motion was made and seconded to accept Al Starkweather as a candidate for editor of the Excelsior conditioned on his joining the ESPHS for at least three years initially, and upon his submission of a plan for how he would fulfill the appointment if it were made to him. The motion passed.

Auction Manager John Nunes indicated he has restored his computerized auction records and is almost ready to send out lots with invoices for sales 119 and 120. John said he plans to have an auction in each issue of the Bulletin which will be mailed by itself - without being

distributed with an issue of the Excelsior - during the current calendar year. This auction schedule is proposed to avoid high postage fees that would be necessary with a joint Bulletin and Journal mailing.

The ESPHS award for excellence in New York State postal history exhibiting at STEPEX 2006 was given to Al Parsons to present to Bill Howden.

President Parsons urged each Board member to commit to preparing an article for the new journal editor to use - regardless of who the new editor winds up being.

The ESPHS plans on having a table at ROPEX 2007 where Society publications can be made available and membership information can be distributed. ROPEX will be held in Rochester on May 18-20, 2007. Members are requested to serve the Society and commit several hours at the table. Contact Al Parsons for this purpose.

It was suggested that ESPHS membership could be promoted by asking dealers who are also members to send an application-brochure to anyone who purchases N.Y.S. postal history items. There was consensus that this was a good idea to pursue once the brochure is updated.

The Society will try to compile a list of web sites which are potentially useful to collectors of N.Y.S. postal history. Everyone is asked to notify President Parsons of such web sites so that a list suitable to be used as a handout can be prepared.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Maris Tirums, (acting) Secretary

FAR ABOVE CAYUGA'S WATERS.... WANTED: Ithaca Postal History, 1806-1978; unusual rates, uses. Stefan Jaronsi, PO Box 232, Sidney, MT 59270

SEE MY NYS POSTAL HISTORY PAGE at www.postalnet.com, scroll down to "States" and then choose New York, dontocher@ix.netcom.com (Don Tocher)

WANTED: COVERS, OR ANY MATERIAL from Kings County Independent Towns: Bath Beach, Gravesend, VaPelt Manor, Canarsie, Woodlawn, West Brooklyn, New Utrecht, Parkville, Cresco, Flatlands. Fred Snitzeer, 75 Henry St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

WANTED: SHIP CANCELS from W.W. II, Patriotic Covrs, D.P.O. Covers from Sullivan and Delaware Counties, Willard Johnson, 24 Salmon Lane, Ledgewood, NJ 07853