

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

BULLETIN

Volume 33 Number 1

June 2000

President's Message

--ANNUAL MEETING HELD MAY 7--

Although attendance was light, the Society's annual meeting May 7 at Graziano's Casa Mia in Canastota, N. Y. was not lacking in spirited discussion and ideas for Society growth and member services.

Many of the new developments will be the subject of separate articles in this *Bulletin*. This report will highlight the regular business conducted at the meeting; please refer to John Lange's minutes for full details.

Drew Nicholson of Pawling, N. Y. was elected to the Board of Directors to fill the balance of Ken deLisle's term. Ken is retiring after many years of exemplary service. Drew brings a wealth of philatelic, postal history and business experience to the Board. Many of you may know him from numerous shows where he works with dealer Larry Winum. We are pleased he is willing to serve as a Director.

The Board approved creation of a committee to take responsibility for membership recruitment and "marketing" the Society. A job description for this committee was also approved, subject to change as circumstances dictate. Vice President Joe Rowbottom agreed to take responsibility for distributing our Society brochures to shows and bourses and to New York stamp clubs, two of the items set forth in the job description. Member Ed Beiderbecke agreed to look into our presence on the internet and advise if he would take on this part of the new committee's responsibilities.

Those of you who are willing to talk on some aspect of New York postal history at stamp clubs or shows and promote membership in the Society, please contact me. One of the functions of the committee is to organize and coordinate speakers and advise New York stamp clubs and shows of their availability.

Those who might be interested in chairing the new committee or in working on other aspects of "marketing" the Society, please contact me and I will send you a copy of the job description.

The members present at the meeting heard positive reports on progress with Society publications and approved proposals by the respective authors. The Society still needs someone to update Dave Proulx's New York State County and Postmaster Cancels and prepare a supplement to this book; otherwise, we are pleased at the amount of coverage we are now receiving in the "supplement department" as well as work on new publications.

I again compliment our Secretary/Treasurer, John Lange, for his thorough preparation of our financial reports and the Agenda for the annual meeting. His preparation for this meeting, as well as his year round work on behalf of the Society, clearly rates an A⁺.

Alan Parsons

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.

Applicants for membership:

Ellis, Rev. Gary J. D., PO Box 81, Lackawanna, NY 14218-0081 Interests: World Wide, Buffalo, NY cancels References: APS 063731

We welcome the following new members:

LaCroix, Geoffrey J., 42 Herthum Rd, Whitesboro, NY 13492-2215 Interests: Great Britain/US/NYS PH

Address Change:

Ellman, Lewis, 183 W. Lakeshore Dr., Carmel, NY 10512

Fielder, Dorothy Scott, 112 Stevens Rd., Maryland, NY 12116

Jaronski, Stephen T., PO Box 232, Sidney, MT 12116

Outlaw, Robert, PO Box 577190, Chicago, IL 60657-7190

Resigned:

Jim Forte, Chester Wilcox, Donald Loker

DUES NOTICE

Note: If there's a red Star by your name on the address label, it means your \$10 dues check has not been received by Secretary John Lange. Please remit promptly - make the check out to "ESPHS." Thanks!

ESPHS Bulletin

Published quarterly by the EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

APS AFFILIATE #28

Send general society business to: John Lange, Secretary/Treasurer 373 Root Road Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3227

Officers:

President: Alan Parsons
Vice President: Dr. Joseph Rowbottom
Secretary/Treasurer: John Lange

Directors:

('01) John Nunes, Stephen Matte, Drew Nicholson ('02) John Azarkevich, Louis Call, Gerald Wiley ('03) Albert Guenzburger, Jack Haefeli, Maris Tirums

Auction Manager:

Bill Hart

Regional Representatives:

Western: Ada Prill
Mohawk/Hudson: Maris Tirums
Northern: Stephen Matte
Central/Southern: Alan Parsons

Publications:

Please send items for ESPHS Bulletin to:

Glenn A. Estus, editor
PO Box 451,
Westport, NY 12993-0451
(518) 962-4558
e-mail: gestus@westelcom.com

ESPHS homepage: http://www.westelcom.com/users/gestus/esphs.html

The Journal of New York Postal History

Martin Margulis, editor 4159 Steck Ave. 113H Austin, TX 78759-8511

TRADING POST

Each member is entitled to one free Trading Post ad of up to 25 words each year. The ads are always changing, so everyone is encouraged to keep their eyes open for new opportunities to sell/trade/buy material. (see also page 14)

INTERESTING Sullivan County covers available. Contact: Augusta Gelfand, 4159 Steck #112, Austin, TX 78759 (augusta @tota.org) (1/1)

FOR SALE! Mounted commemorative PLATE BLOCK collection. Fairly complete from 1945 to 1992. Face \$680 - Sell \$750. Contact: Nick Zevos, (315) 265-9507 (1/1)

LOOKING for Scans - Pictures - Postcards of New York State POST OFFICES. Contact Heather Sweeting by e-mail (hsweetin@twcny.rr.com) (1/1)

Wanted! Postal history of QUEENS County. especially Douglaston, Little Neck, and Bayside. Contact: Steven Rappaport, 57-33 244 Street, Douglaston, NY 11362 (1/1)

Will pay up to \$100 - SPB. COUNTY CANCELS on BANKNOTE covers. Albany, Chenango, Hamilton, Kings, Lewis, Montgomery, Otsego, Richmond, Rockland, Saratoga, Chautauqua, Broome, Genesee P.M. Contact: Chauncey R Wright, 786 East River Rd, Rochester, NY 14623 (1/1)

WANTED - Any material related to Brooklyn, NY Covers, memorabilia, ETC. Contact: Fred Snitzer, 75 Henry St, Brooklyn, NY 11201-1752 (1/1)

SKANEATELES where are you!!?? Stampless, advertising covers, and early postcards from Skaneateles, NY WANTED. Send Xerox to Norman Shepard, 741 Deerfoot Rd, Deland, FL 32720(1/1)

I have a number of DPO's for sale. Write for list if interested. Contact: Cliff Tuttle, 20 East Pearl St, Sidney, NY 13838 (1/1)

Wanted PRE- 1900 Hicksville covers. Send description by e-mail to R. Boos. (rboos@kpmg.com) (1/1)

WANTED: Ellipse cancels on and off cover in colored inks (except Washington, DC) Contact: Roger Curran, 20 University Ave, Lewisburg, PA 17837 (1/1)

Wanted! Stampless covers of HUDSON RIVER mail, War of 1812, Long Island. Ready cash. Contact: Keith Bantz, MD, 222 Artist Lake Dr, Middle Island, NY 11953 (1/1)

WANTED: Covers - Postal Cards - Postcards from DELAWARE and SULLIVAN Counties including Discontinued Post Offices. Contact: Willard Johnson, 20142 Quail Run Dr, Dunnellon, FL 34432-5881 (1/1)

Wanted. Covers or letters from Skaden Family correspondence, Stockbridge, NY. Contact: Herb McNeal, 520 South Lakemont Ave, Winter Park, FL 32792, (407) 644-1658 (1/1)

Wanted! R.P.O. and AGENT cancels from Railroads in New England, Iowa, Illinois, and New York to Chicago route. Contact: Tom Post, Box 151, Scotts, MI 49088 (1/1)

WANTED - Better Austrian postal history. All time periods needed, especially INFLATION and DUE items. Better SCHENECTADY, NY also desired. Contact: A.H. Sharbaugh, PO Box 221, Greenfield, MA 01302-0221 (unklharry@webtv.net) (1/1)

Wanted: OLD postcards. For personal collection, want small NYS town po views. Contact: Agnes Cavalari, 89 Bethlehem Rd, New Windsor, NY 12553 (914) 564-6775 (1/1)

ONEIDA COUNTY stampless wanted. Buy or Trade. Contact: Jack Hilbing, 195 Grandview Dr North, Pittsburgh, PA 15215 (1/1)

ELLIS ISLAND, New York harbor covers wanted: Postal markings, return addresses, censored markings, ETC. Contact: Brad Arch, 144 Hamilton Ave, Clifton, NJ 07011 (1/1)

BILL BAUER COMPILING PUBLICATIONS LIST

Members attending the annual meeting May 7 got the first look at a project Bill Bauer has undertaken on behalf of the Society: a compilation, or bibliography, of all ESPHS publications.

The list begins with the earliest newsletters following formation of ESPHS in 1967.

The list already exceeds four typewritten pages and does not include yet any of the book length publications the Society has sponsored.

Two founding members of the Society are now working with Bill to compare the list with their own holdings of Society publications for possible additions to the list.

When completed, the list will be distributed to Society members through publication in the *Bulletin* or *Journal*.

The list is itself a valuable reference work. Our thanks to Bill Bauer for the time and effort he is putting into it.

SOCIETY TO EXAMINE APPLICATION FOR TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

Because the Society is holding substantial invested funds and incurring sales tax and other expenses which could be avoided if it had tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code, the officers were directed at the annual meeting to examine the pros and cons of incorporation followed by formal application to the IRS for exemption under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The officers were given authority to take whatever steps needed to obtain tax-exempt status if they determined such status were necessary to the continued well-being of the Society.

LIPHS SEEKS MERGER WITH ESPHS

ESPHS has received a letter from the Long Island Postal History Society stating that it has ceased operations since the end of 1999 and inquiring if ESPHS would be interested in absorbing its current 39 active members, 15 of which already hold membership in ESPHS.

This proposal was enthusiastically received at the ESPHS annual meeting May 7 and the secretary/treasurer and president of ESPHS were authorized to accept any reasonable proposal from LIPHS regarding terms of the merger.

It was clear to those at the annual meeting that combining New York's two postal history societies into one would result in a stronger organization to serve the needs of New York postal history collectors.

POSTAL HISTORY EXHIBITS SOLICITED FOR STEPEX 2000

Postal history exhibitors are invited to participate October 20-21 at STEPEX 2000, the annual show sponsored by the Elmira Stamp Club at the Arnot Mall, Horseheads, New York.

A copy of the exhibitor information and entry form is included with this **Bulletin** pages 13-14.

An ESPHS award will be made for the best New York postal history exhibit at STEPEX 2000 if there are least two exhibits of New York postal history and the best receives at least a show silver.

The Fall meeting of the Society may be held in conjunction with STEPEX 2000; the final decision as to time and place of the Fall meeting will be announced in the September *Bulletin*.

REGIONAL MEETINGS HELD AT ROPEX AND COVER MANIA

Regional meetings were held at both Cover Mania in Latham, N.Y. on February 19 and at ROPEX in Rochester on March 18.

Six to eight members attended each meeting with President Parsons able to attend both and secretary/treasurer Lange present at the Cover Mania meeting.

Doug Penwell, author of the Master Supplement to the Manuscript Post Offices of New York State and a resident of Arizona, was present at the ROPEX meeting and reported on his continuing work on the Master Supplement. Bill Bauer also attended this regional meeting and talked about the list of Society publications he was compiling.

Both regional meetings afforded an excellent opportunity to meet with other collectors, exchange information and receive updates on Society activities.

Thanks to John Nunes for making the arrangements at Cover Mania and to Ada Prill for the arrangements at ROPEX.

MULTI-STATE EXHIBITING COMPETITION PROPOSED

Although unable to attend the annual meeting, ESPHS director John Nunes submitted a proposal for a multi-state postal history exhibiting competition of gold medal exhibits from national shows in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and New England competing against each other at the annual MEGA event exhibiting competition in New York City.

John's proposal envisions the top postal history exhibit (if it receives a gold) each year from ROPEX, SEPAD (now Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition), NOJEX and the New England Show competing at the MEGA-event Show for a new award signifying the year's best postal history exhibit from New York and its adjoining states.

The exhibits invited to the MEGA-event Show would also be presented at the Collectors Club of New York on the Wednesday prior to the Show.

John expects a commitment by postal history societies in New York and neighboring states of \$100 each to fund a suitable award and pay other costs of the competition.

John's proposal was endorsed by the ESPHS board at the annual meeting and John has agreed to make the necessary contacts and draw up rules for the new award.

SOCIETY RECEIVES 1931 NEW YORK POST ROUTE MAP

A generous gift of the USPOD's 1931 New York State post route map from member Fred Dykins was announced at regional meetings at ROPEX in March and at the annual meeting May 7.

The map, which comes in two sections each measuring approximately 27" x 40", is titled "Post Route Map of the State of New York Showing Post Offices with the Intermediate Distances on Mail Routes in Operation on the 1st of January 1931." The scale is 1.5" for 10 miles.

Among other things, the map depicts all the railroads handling mail in New York in 1931, together with the post offices served by the railroads.

Dykins, a retired postal service employee and collector of Chemung County postal history, had the map in his personal collection. It should be an invaluable reference source for postal history collectors seeking to understand mail routes during the 1920s and 1930s.

The Society is investigating the feasibility of reproducing the map so that clear, readable copies can be sold to members at a reasonable cost..



Antoinette Brown Blackwell Blackwell Station May 21, 2000 Henrictta, New York 14467

Minutes of Executive Board/Annual Meeting Canastota, NY, May 7, 2000

Officers/directors present: Call, Guenzburger, Lange, Rowbottom, Parsons, Tirums & Wiley; other members present: Beiderbecke, Hart, Sweeting & Tuttle. A quorum was achieved for both the Board and Annual Meetings.

1. Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year of May 1, 1999 - April 30, 2000, Rev. 1 dated April 24, 2000, previously reviewed and accepted by the Finance Committee, was briefly summarized by Secretary/Treasurer Lange and was approved. Despite the poor performance of the bond mutual funds in which a large percentage of our funds reside, a net gain for the year of \$813.31 gave our Bank/mutual fund balances a current value of \$29171.33. A complete report may be obtained from the treasurer; a condensed version is follows these minutes

2. Authorized financial agents for the ESPHS:

A resolution was approved to authorize Messrs. Lange, Parsons and Tirums to act as authorized financial agents for the ESPHS with one authorized signature needed, per form OA-1 1/12/00. This authority is already inherent in the makeup of the Finance Committee, but is needed to satisfy the requirements of the financial institutions. Essentially deletes de Lisle, retains Lange and adds Parsons & Tirums.

3. Membership recruitment/ESPHS marketing

3.1 Job description titled "Proposed Job Description for Individual/Committee for Membership Recruitment/Marketing/Public Relations" written by Alan Parson was approved and is included with the minutes sent to the Officers/Directors. 3.2 Joe Powbottom accepted specific duties #1 and #3 which are: a. Ensure that ESPHS membership brochures are available (on table at entrance if possible) at all New York shows and bourses, by sending a supply to the bourse or show contact person ahead of the event and requesting the brochures be set out. b. Develop periodic mailings to New York stamp clubs enclosing membership information and application forms (coordinate with information on speakers for club meetings).

3.3 Volunteers for the remaining ten items are solicited from the Directors.

4. Report on compilation of Society publications done by Bill Bauer. A five page compilation from Bauer was presented by President Parsons. Sweeting volunteered to review and advise Bauer of any missing data. It was the feeling of those present that this work should be published in the Bulletin or Journal. Input from Hart to Bauer is gratefully acknowledged.

5. Publications:

5.1 Penwell's proposal for a new edition of MSPO incorporating the Master Supplement, the 3rd Edition, new listings and expand separation of county post offices into listings by individual county periods. Penwell expects expenses of \$10-40 per year with a tentative publication date in 2001. Approximately 100-125 pages are expected. Expenses for 1999 of \$19.43 were approved. Penwell was commended for his dedication - he also appreciates the input on revised listings that he receives; it is a continuing need. Project approved. 5.2 Star Cancel book - proposed revision by David Williams: Parsons noted that something on this will be in the next Bulletin. The comments from Penwell relative to his phone conversations with Williams re inclusion of CDS types were read and discussed. This

concept has plus's but it was the Board's consensus that this falls in the realm of the author to choose scope. Any data regarding Star Cancels is to be sent to Mr. Williams, who is encouraged to write a note in the Bulletin requesting same.

5.3 Doane Cancels: Tirums. Reports to date (436); three to six incoming per month; two new Doane idents during last two weeks. Tirums will send a note to Estus requesting

5.4 Postal History of Oswego Co., Sweeting:

The proposed book is well along Charlie showed a large 3-ring binder with material already done; he said that the publicity in the March Bulletin has generated some input to him. He will welcome more data on the towns listed. Publication may be next year with a hardcover edition similar to the successful Cayuga County PH book.

5.5 Bulletin/Journal. Both editors, Glenn Estus and Martin Margulis were thanked for their continuing and appreciated efforts.

6. 1931 Postal Route Map donated to the Society by Fred Dykins.

This black & white map is in two quite large sections, eastern and western NYS. The plan is to share this map with the MPOS. Sweeting presently has possession and will get quotes on reproducing the maps full size. Availability to members will be announced in a future Bulletin.

6A. Elections

1 Secretary/Treasurer (2002) - John A. Lange, Jr.

- 2 Director (2001) Drew Nicholson one year term, replaces Ken de Lisle
- 3 Director (2003) Albert Guenzburger
- 4 Director (2003) Jack Haefeli
- 5 Director (2003) Maris Tirums

7. Committee Assignments by President Parsons:

7.1 Finance, John A. Lange, Jr, Alan Parsons & Maris Tirums (Ch. Lange)

7.2 Awards, Albert Guenzburger (Ch.), Bill Bauer & Clifford Tuttle

7.3 Whittlesey Fund, Alan Parsons (Ch), Clifford Tuttle

- 7.4 Publications, none, need volunteers, Sec. Lange is continuing to fill the voids, but
- 7.5 Recruitment/ESPHS Marketing, Two of the ten identified needs have been accepted by VP Rowbottom. A detailed list of our needs is available from President Parsons or Secretary Lange.

8. Proposal by Treasurer Lange

to use the T. Rowe Price Prime Reserve Money Market Fund entirely for the Whittlesey Fund. The allocation is presently 2/3 Whittlesey and 1/3 General Society Funds. The reason is to simplify the accounting. Approved.

PA. Initial proposal

by member Tom Mazza, written by Director Nunes to initiate a new Award to be presented at the annual MEGA show in N.Y.C. Motion: "I propose an award be sponsored by ESPHS and those Postal History Societies of adjoining states for the singular gold exhibit winner of a runoff exhibition held yearly at the MEGA show in N.Y.C. from qualifying gold winners at the New England show, ROPEX, SEPAD and NOJEX. The qualifying winners would be invited to exhibit at the MEGA show and their exhibits presented at the Collector Club of N.Y. the Wednesday before the show. I will personally contribute \$100 yearly to this event and expect \$100 each from the four societies." The motion was

approved with the following qualifications:

- 1. The exhibits shall be limited to those qualifying as U.S. Postal History Exhibits.
- 2. There must be three or more exhibits in the MEGA runoff.
- 3. The four unnamed Societies are presumably, NY, NJ, PA and MA. Those of Vermont and Connecticut should not be excluded. Therefore, the word "four" should be dropped. Implementation: John Nunes contact (and others, too) within the ESPHS should preferably be with the ESPHS Awards Chairman Albert Guenzburger. His address and telephone number are: PO Box 215, Guilford, NY 137800215 (607) 895-6531.
- 9. Status of Society website and need for permanent webmaster. The website creation is documented on page 3 of the March 2000 Bulletin. There was no further input.
- 10. Report on exhibiting. Al Guenzburger (Ch) summarized the awards given the past year at Syrapex, Stepex and the Whittlesey Award. Alan Parsons won the October 99 Kenneth R. deLisle Award for the best four page competition at Stepex. The award will be mailed to Alan by John Lange.
- 11. Bill Hart gave a summary of the Bulletin auctions. The March 2000 auction had 108 lots but only 30 sold. The material was "weak" and Hart notes that there will be no June auction. Better quality material is needed with lots being allocated into two parts, best and other, as noted in the March Bulletin.
- 11A. APS Affiliate matters. Bill Hart is our rep. to the APS; Alan Parsons will see that membership applications are delivered to Stampshow (Providence, RI). Parsons noted that Stampshow will have a literature competition and encouraged author Charlie Sweeting to enter his book on Cayuga, Co. NY Postal History. There is a \$25 fee which the Society will reimburse to Sweeting if he enters.
- 12. Stamp Insider inserts (Federation of Central NY Philatelic Societies).
 - Sept.-Oct issue, submission needed by August 15, 2000 Haefeli
 - Nov.-Dec. issue, submission needed by October 15, 2000 Tirums 12.2
 - Jan.-Feb. issue, submission needed by Dec. 15, 2000 Wiley 12.3
 - Mar.-Apr. 2001 issue, submission needed by Feb. 15, 2001 Rowbottom 12.4
 - May-June, 2000 issue, submission needed by April 15, 2001 Nicholson 12.5
- 13. Incorporation as a Society and application for tax-exempt status. Alan Parsons stated that he would donate his own legal expertise. Related expenses are budgeted at \$400 and were approved.
- 14. Paid Life Membership in the ESPHS. Tabled, pending further study by the Treas.
- 15. Long Island Postal History Society members as part of the ESPHS. A letter dated March 31, 2000 from Brad Arch, the LIPHS corresponding Secretary sent to Lange & Parsons inquires about the possible incorporation of LIPHS member with the ESPHS. President Parsons has sent a letter back to Arch asking for some further information. This subject was briefly discussed; the consensus was that ESPHS would

enthusiastically welcome the LIPHS members and would do everything possible to make the transition a pleasant experience.

16. Proposed Budget for 2000-2001.

Approved with addition of \$500 for possible accounting help needed by Lange in the incorporation/tax exempt issue. Also \$100 for the proposed MEGA PH award.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1999-2000 (CONDENSED VERSION)

DEVENIES DUDING 1999
Dues and Fees
Publications, Net
1. Checking account at Trustco\$ 9.80
2. Checking account at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ 9.80 3. CD #1590 at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ 45.49
3. CD #1590 at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ 45.49
" CD "0200 at Collocs Savings Rank
T/3, V/J , $H4001$, M , $T100100$, $I0V9$, $I0V(10V00)$, A
J. I. Rowe Price Prime Reserve MM Fund 6 161 14
o. I.K.I. Short Tellii Bond Find Interest & 202 60
1.10.1 SHOUL TELL BONG (anital Loce & (177.72)
7. I.M.I. Specuulli ilicome Rond Hund Interest
T.R.P. Spectrum Income Bond Capital Loss\$ (358.43)
8. Subtotal of Interest and Capital Loss\$ (358.43) Total Revenues for 1999-2000\$ 1188.16
\$ 3560.95
Bulletin (4 issues) EXPENDITURES DURING 1999-2000
Bulletin (4 issues)
Journal (2 issues + partial for March 1999)
Membership List (1999 and 2000)\$ 1227.98 Awards\$ 50.00
Awards 50.00 Federation of Central New York Philad II 6
Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies\$ 553.75 Administration \$ 15.00
1. 1999 Annual Meeting\$ 41.98
3. Subtotal Administration \$ 275.49
3. Subtotal, Administration\$ 275.49 Total Expenditures during 1999-2000\$ 317.47
\$2742.64
Checking account at Trustee
Checking account at Trustco
Checking account at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ (050.87)
Checking account at Trustco\$ (630.87) Checking account at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ 100.00 CD #1590 at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ 719.85 CD #8280 at Cohoes Savings Bank\$ \$719.85
CD #8280 at Cohoes Savings Bank
TRP Prime reserve MM Fund\$10066.28 TRP Short Term Bond Fund\$3381.01
TRP Spectrum Income Devil 5
TRP Short Term Bond Fund
Net Gain for 1999-2000\$ 813.31
\$ 813.31

Our checking account shows a negative balance. However, \$971 in dues for 2000-2001, which have been deposited, have not been entered in the checkbook as of 4/30/00 and are not included in the Bank and Mutual Fund Balance.

APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2000-2001

Estimated Revenues

Membership dues and fees 2000-2001	150 1630 20 50
Estimated Expenditures	
Printing, assumes BOCES printing, 2¢/sh	200 100
President's Expenses	1085
Total Estimated Expenditures\$	3847

SPECIFIC REGISTRY CANCELLATION OF NEW YORK STATE

By Dr John J. Nunes (as published in *Stamp Insider*)

Registered letters before 1860 received no distinctive cancellations other than the occasional word "REGISTERED" in black ink or the rarely seen blue. During and after the Civil War years, the town name forwarding the letter was used on a cancelling device. Schenectady, New York had a very distinctive registry cancellation known as early as March 16, 1887 (Stamps Magazine, 1930.)

The illustrated cover shows this cancellation on an October 26, 1891 registered letter sent from an Issaic Nolette of Kruso Ave. Schenectady, NY to a Mr Joseph Picard in S Cyprien Naprieville, Providence of Quebec. The cover received a St. Albans, Vermont, Registered, October 28, 1891 routing handstamp and a Montreal Canada October 29, 1891 circular date stamp. The domestic letter rate was paid by the \$.02 red Washington definitive issue and the \$.10 registered fee was paid by two (2) brown \$.05 Grant 1891 definitive issues.

The distinctive Schenectady, New York cancellation is but one of many decorative (i.e. Brooklyn) and distinctive registry cancellations used in the state during this period. The distinctive circular back stamp used at the New York City General Post Office on Park Row being but one other example. This circular date contained one of six serifed letters, B, C, D, O, S OR U. The letter identified the clerk, called the registry examiner. Intertwined outside and inside the letter were the numerals for the day, month and year. This author is unaware of any stamps on registry cover which used this "backstamp." I have possessed this distinctive cancellation on a stamp and on the illustrated cover and am interested in any reader who has a cover with the stamps being cancelled with these NYCGPO registry examiner CDS.



STEPEX 2000 (Southern Tier-Elmira Philatelic Exhibition)

STEPEX 2000 will be held Friday and Saturday, October 20 and 21, 2000 at the Arnot Mall, Route 17 (Exit 51) Horseheads, NY. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 9:30 pm. on Friday and 10:00 to 8:00 pm on Saturday.

The purpose of the Show is to bring stamp collecting to the general public through exhibits by, and contacts with, area collectors and dealers. Both adult and junior exhibiting is encouraged and will be judged in separate competition.

Exhibit frames hold 16 vertical album pages which can be 8 1/2 x 11 inches or as large as 9 x 11 1/2 inches. Use of frames is free of charge to Elmira Stamp Club members and junior exhibitors; \$4.00 per frame to others. The number of frames available is limited; they will be allocated on a "first come" basis, and, it oversubscribed to Elmira Stamp Club members. No more than 5 frames may be used for any exhibit. No individual may enter more than 2 exhibits, unless the frames have not been fully subscribed by 10/1/00.

Closing date for entries to be listed in the Show program is October 13, 2000 or until all frames are filled, whichever is earlier.

The Club will act in good faith to protect the material displayed and will hire professional security to watch the exhibits between 10pm Friday and 8am Saturday. At all other times Club members will be assigned to the area. Insurance coverage will also be obtained by the Club. In the unlikely event a loss occurs, the Club, its officers, and any of its members cannot be held liable.

Exhibits may be given to Al Parson at the October Club meeting (Oct. 17), mailed or delivered to Al Parsons at One West Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901 (to be received no later than Oct. 19), or delivered to the Mall between 8:00am and 9:00am on Friday, Oct. 20. Exhibits will be dismantled Saturday, Oct. 21, immediately after 8:00pm. If you cannot pick up your exhibit in person, make arrangements with someone to do this for you. Returns will be made by mail if the Club is provided with a mailing container, necessary instructions, and reimbursement for the mailing expense.

Gold, silver, and bronze awards will be made for both adult and junior exhibits based on point scores from a jury of Federation judges. There will be balloting by Show visitors for the most popular exhibit (the Club reserves the right to reject ballots for any reason). Awards in specialized categories such as N.Y. postal history (ESPHS awards) and first day covers (AFDCS awards) will be made if criteria are met. Awards will be presented at the Club's annual banquet.

Completion of this form constitutes your agreement to the foregoing. (application form is on the bottom of page 14)

DUES NOTICE

Note: If there's a red Star by your name on the address label, it means your \$10 dues check has not been received by Secretary John Lange.
Please remit promptly - make the check payable to "ESPHS." Thanks!

Sale No. 102 Results

	25.00	009 22	2.00	012	16.00	013	20.00	017	10.00	023	18.00
	10.00	034 13		038	11.00	043	32.00	045	15.00		12.00
	6.00	203 8			2.50		4.50	214	2.00	216	5.50
	4.50	228 4		231	3.50	232	5.00	233	5.00	234	3.50
	5.00	240 6	.00	248	3.00	250	W	253	3.00		7.00
256	2.00									25.	,.00

A letter to the ESPHS membership from the Auction Manager:

"Regretfully there will be no June auction. As of this writing in mid-May I have 8 better pieces from one member and about 25 RFD items from another member. So unless I hear from some of you by mid-August, the ESPHS quarterly auction may become history.

"For those of you who are able to send me material, please review the Consignor Guidelines presented in the December, 1999 *Bulletin*. It was revised, particularly, to give the owner some control over the value of the material submitted. Realistic values will sell. Keep in mind that the auction is a membership service for both the seller and the buyer."

Bill Hart

TRADING POST

(continued)

Interested in Buying UTICA advertising cover, Saturday Globe material, and ONEIDA County stampless covers for my collection. Contact: Ron Labuz, PO Box 8381, Utica, NY 13505 (1/)

<u>Wanted</u>, Stampless covers from ILION and GERMAN FLATTS, NY. Also interested in Herkimer Co. stampless covers to FOREIGN destinations. **Contact:** John Wright, PO Box 238, Vandalia, OH 45377 (1/1)

Application form for STEPEX 2000

This section must be turned in to Al Parsons, One West Church Street, Elmira, NY 14901 at the earliest possible date in insure that frames are reserved for you.

Name Phone ()
Address:
Title of Exhibit(s)
Age, if youth exhibitor
Number of Frames needed
If you cannot pick up your exhibit(s) on Saturday evening, give the name of the person you authorize for this
May we use your name and exhibit title in Show publicity and/or program?