

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



UNIT 28

Bulletin

November, 1972

Minutes of Oct. 29th meeting enclosed.

Next Meeting:

On Sunday, Dec. 3, 1972 at 10:00 A.M. at Rizzo's on Rt. 5, west of Utica. If coming via the Thruway, from the east, exit at Utica, follow Rt. 12 to intersection of Rt. 5, follow Rt. 5 west about 1 mile and Rizzo's is on the left. From the west, exit at Westmoreland, go south on Rt. 233 to Rt. 5, east on Rt. 5 to Rizzo's on the right.

Want Ad:

Wanted: Covers from East Ridge, Fruitland, Furnaceville, Hurlbutville, Joy, Lakeside, Percyville, West Butler, West Ontario. Mrs. Augustus C. Nelson, 20 Catherine St., Lyons, N. Y. 14489

Collecting Interests:

For Chester E. Wilcox, R.D. 1, Box 113, Richford, N.Y. 13835
Add Broome County and Binghamton, N. Y.

Reminders:

Send name of postoffice and impression of old cancelling device to Charles Sweeting, R.D. 5, Oswego, N.Y.

Send Postal History material for Journal to Calvet Hahn, 127 W. 56th St., New York, N. Y. 10019

Send 1 or 2 paragraph stories for Bulletin to Mrs. Augustus C. Nelson, 20 Catherine St., Lyons, N. Y. 14489

Is anyone making a year by year list of the postoffices in his and neighboring counties? Get busy! Note name, date where established, and if discontinued, when.

What a fine attendance at our Oct. 28th meeting! In addition to the "regulars", it was gratifying to have members present who do not attend very frequently. The presence of new members attested to the growth of our Society. With several people bringing material to sell, the morning was devoted to acquiring cards and covers to add to our collections.

See you on Dec. 3rd at Rizzo's.

A Small Beginning

The Syracuse Postoffice, an unimportant part of the city in the early days, was established on February 24, 1820 with John Wilkinson as postmaster. The first postoffice, literally a hole in the wall, was located in the store of General Granger

on the present site of the Syracuse Savings Bank.

One day Postmaster Wilkinson decided a change in location would be advantageous. He picked up the postoffice with all its belongings, and carried it in his hat across the Erie Canal, then nearing completion, to Durnford's store, on the present site of the Onondaga County Savings Bank on Salina St. This was the first change in location of the postoffice. For several years it was virtually moved upon the whims of the "boss".

Today the Syracuse postoffice is "big business". It is housed in the Federal Building on Erie Boulevard and there is talk that the city needs a new postoffice.

Excerpts from "Syracuse Journal" March 20, 1939
Submitted by Nick Todaro

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

FISHER, J. SHELDON Valentown Museum, Fishers, N.Y. 14453
Reference: Mrs. Augustus Nelson, Lyons, N.Y.

Interests: Postal History of Ontario County.

HAYWARD, LHOYD T. 67 Liberty Street, Montpelier, Vt. 05602
Reference: None Required (APS #10379, Life Member).

Interests: Vermont Postal History; Stampless Covers; United States, Canada, South Africa; Australia; New Zealand; et al.

We are pleased to welcome to membership Messrs. Knowles and Roll, whose names were published in the September Bulletin.

LIBRARY ADDITION

Through a fortunate tip received from an acquaintance in Washington, the library has added a limited edition publication of the National Archives.

Entitled "List of American-Flag Merchant Vessels That Received Certificates of Enrollment or Registry at the Port Of New York, 1789-1867" it is a two volume publication (1968) of the National Archives and Records Service. It lists name of vessel, tonnage, rig, year built, place built and date of first registry.

For the postal historian doing research on coast-wise, trans-oceanic or even strictly local shipping, this record is a valuable tool. Its distribution has been restricted to research libraries and our application for a copy was approved.

Members are reminded that the microfilm records of the Postmasters-General letter-books may be borrowed from Ken de Lisle. For the benefit of new members it is planned to give more details on these records and the rules for borrowing them in next month's Bulletin.