



## NEWSLETTER

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\* No. 11\*  
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\*\*DECEMBER 1983\*\*  
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## Outgoing President's Message

With the help of many of our members we have built a solid Society with varied activities and a membership of over fifty.

I would like to thank Art Fitzpatrick for his diligence as our Secretary and first Newsletter Editor; Carl Baker for his generosity in offering his pleasant back yard for meetings, and his Scots-like thrift in building our treasury; Cal Hahn for his scholarship as Editor of our Journal and his contributions at Board meetings; Fred Rodriguez for his willingness to help out with all sorts of problems including taking on the job of Editor of the Newsletter; Dan Knowles for his support and assistance to Cal with the Journal; Brad Arch for his beautiful logo for the Society and for taking on the arduous task of running our annual mail auction; and to the many other members who have helped out in one way or another.

Let's all support Dan Knowles and the rest of the Board with our attendance at meetings, letters to the Newsletter, articles for our Journal, and covers for our auctions. Thank you.

John Price



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The LIPHS was formally organized in 1980. Its organization was the direct result of a series of conversations between John Price, myself and other Long Islanders who are interested in the postal and other history of Long Island and who desired to formalize their interests by organizing the LIPHS. The original objectives of the Society were to provide a formal structure under which to gather together to discuss and to trade postal history information and material; to disseminate this gathered information by means of written communication; and to promote interest in the collecting of Long Island postal history.

Since its inception in 1980, the LIPHS has steadily grown in membership. The Board of Directors has met regularly and has encouraged open membership meetings at philatelic shows such as LISDA. A fine newsletter which keeps members posted of the "group's doings" has been a well received regular feature of the Society. A lengthy Journal, although not appearing as regularly as we would like, has contained many excellent and important original articles concerning diverse topics in LI postal history. Both publications have been liberally illustrated with LI covers. The Society has sponsored two auctions in which many members have successfully bought and sold LI covers. Through dues collections, occasional contributions, but particularly through the tireless non-compensated efforts of several members, the Treasury has grown to a respectable sum of money. All this in two years!

So what's ahead?

Forming a Society is easier than maintaining it. It should be obvious that coordinating even a relatively small group such as ours requires considerable effort by many people. There are many jobs to be done, and done well if the LIPHS is to survive, prosper and grow. We need a continuous influx of serious and interested collectors who are willing to help with the tasks of the Society. So, we need new members. We need to maintain and improve upon the qualities of the Newsletter and the Journal. So, we need articles. And, we need the advise and constructive criticism of the entire membership concerning all matters of the Society in order to continually improve the Society.

Since the New Year is a good time for resolutions, let us all resolve to:

(1) Enlist one new member for the LIPHS in 1984.

(2) Write one good article for the Journal in 1984.

We need notes on previously unlisted markings, notes on interesting and unusual covers, long in-depth studies, illustrations of rare and unusual covers, in short, everything. No one person can produce the Journal alone.

Remember, the Society is no better than the sum total of the efforts of its individual members. If the individuals do nothing, then the Society will do nothing. Let's all start the New Year off on the right foot--by putting a little bit of time into the LIPHS, it will help us all.

Happy New Year!

*Dan Knowles*  
Daniel Knowles  
President

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on November 13, 1983.

Our Annual Meeting was held at LISDA, at the Hempstead Plaza Hotel in Hempstead, on Sunday, Nov. 13, 1983.

John Price, President, called the meeting to order at 2:30 P.M., following a wonderful slide show of Long Island corner cards and advertising covers by Carl Baker.

The President thanked Sy Goldhagen and LISDA for their generosity and help in making LISDA available for our annual meeting. He also thanked Carl Baker for setting up and managing our booth at LISDA for the entire three days, and Fred Rodriguez for his fascinating exhibit of Long Island registered covers at the show.

The President then read the Secretary's Report (Art Fitzpatrick unfortunately couldn't make the meeting), which noted that we now have a roster of 55 members.

Carl Baker gave his Treasurer's Report (reprinted in full elsewhere in this Newsletter), including a report on our annual auction.

Gary Hammond then gave the report of the Nominating Committee, which offered the following slate:

President	Daniel Knowles, M.D.
V.P./Sec.	Arthur Fitzpatrick
Trea.	Carl Baker
Directors	John Price (immediate past president)
	Calvet Hahn
	Gary Hammond
	Arthur Pollinger
	J. Fred Rodriguez

There were no additional nominations from the floor. Carl Baker made a motion to increase the number of Directors from 2 to 4. After some discussion the motion was voted on and approved.

John Price offered to serve as a Teller's Committee of one, which was accepted by the membership.

Minutes (continued)

There was then a further discussion of the mail auction, with Carl Baker reporting on Brad Arch's concerns and issues. After some discussion there was a consensus to continue the annual mail auctions and to permit up to 10% of non-L.I. material in the auctions. It was stressed that members must contribute more material to the auctions to keep them worthwhile.

There followed a discussion of the Spring meetings with an explanation of why the Board decided not to have last Spring's meeting in Manhattan as originally planned.

Following this, there was a discussion of the Journal, with some disagreement as to how material submitted for the Journal is dealt with. At this point Cal Hahn announced that he was resigning as Journal Editor following the publication of the next issue (7th).

The President pointed out that the slate of officers and directors, as well as the proposed amendment to the By-Laws, would be submitted to the membership by mail ballot, and the results announced in the next Newsletter, to be published in December.

Following the election, the new Board of Directors will meet, and plan the Spring meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Hammond (filling in for Art Fitzpatrick)





## SECRETARY'S NOTES

At the LISDA show in November our booth was manned, at different times, by Messrs. Baker, Cherrington and Rodriguez. One new member and several possibles have resulted. Fred Rodriguez exhibited a fine selection of four frames of early Long Island registered covers.

Our Annual Meeting was called to order at 3PM by President John Price. Carl Baker read the Treasurer's Report printed elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter. In the absence of the Secretary his brief report on membership was read by President Price (51 members as of this issue of the Newsletter).

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We are pleased to welcome the following as new members of our Society:

Joseph L. Cartafalsa  
P.O. Box 1014,  
Bensalem Pa. 19020

Dr. Edward I. Coher  
81 Middle Pond Road,  
Southampton, N. Y. 11968

Brendan McCann  
61-21 182nd St.,  
Flushing, N. Y. 11365

We were saddened to learn of the death of our member, Seymour Goldhagen.

We report the resignation of member Henry L. C. Wenk III.

The following have been dropped from membership due to non-payment of dues for the year 1983/84:

Gerard F. Connolly  
Lennart A. Hartman

Paul A. Marks  
Elliot Mitchnick

Please note the following changes of address (Box numbers only):

Alexander Hyde      P.O.Box 187, Lawrence N. Y. 11559  
Kenneth A. Pitt      P.O. Box 87, Catharpin, Virginia 22018  
Mrs Edith H. Wyckoff P.O.Box 468, Locust Valley N. Y. 11560

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Our vote of thanks is extended to retiring President Price. First as Temporary President and then as our first elected President he was responsible for getting us through our formative period, a difficult feat within our particular hobby. His counsel will be of great value as a member of our newly enlarged Board of Directors.

### Election Results

Thirty nine members participated in the election of the LIPHS officers -- a good turnout.

The amendment to increase the number of elected Directors to three was approved by almost a unanimous vote.

In favor - 38

Against - 1

The voting for LIPHS Directors was as follows:

Calvet Hahn - 25 votes

Gary Hammond - 27 "

Arthur Pollinger - 30 "

Fred Rodriguez - 35 "

Daniel Knowles was elected President for the next two years. Arthur Fitzpatrick continues as Vice President/Secretary and Carl Baker will continue as Treasurer. Dr. John Price, our immediate past president remains as a Director, as estipulated in the By-Laws.



LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

November 13, 1983

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bank Balance as of last report (June 11, 1983.....\$974.04  
Dues collected as of last report .....(Deposited).....\$490.00  
Interest posted (Savings Account) as of last report ..... 31.29  
Donation - Arthur Pollinger, July 6, 1983 ..... 25.00  
Auction profit ..... 72.41  
Total Accounts Received \$1,592.74

EXPENDITURES:

June 9: Calvet Hahn -paper costs of Journal .....\$20.00  
July 1: Postmaster, Northport - Newsletter postage..... \$39.30  
(50 @ 54¢ & 30 @ 41¢)  
Sept 1: Arthur Fitzpatrick - P.O. Box Renewal ..... \$11.00  
Sept 30: Postmaster, Northport -Newsletter (52 @ 37¢)..... \$19.24  
Oct 12: Fred Rodriguez - Newsletter Expense ..... \$15.13  
Oct 27: Calvet Hahn - Preparation of Journal # 6, etc... \$50.00  
Total Expenses \$154.67

Bank Balance as of this date: \$1,438.07

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RESULTS OF AUCTION - August 1, 1983

Bidders' Checks - 8 Deposited 8/10//83 .....\$463.35  
" " - 9 Deposited 8/18/83..... \$349.75  
..... \$156.95  
Total Checks \$970.05  
Checks payable to six consignors 8/22/83.....\$835.83  
Profit before expenses..... \$134.22  
Check to Brad Arch for Auction expense.. 61.81  
Auction Profit\* ..... \$72.41

\*Auction Profit does not reflect costs of mailing 30 catalogs to ESPHS members of N.Y.S. interest nor the additional postage to the Newsletters mailed to our own members. Nor does it reflect the printing of the catalogues donated by Fred Rodriguez. The 30 additional catalogs to ESPHS members wooed one bidder (\$17.35)

Carl F. Baker,  
Treasurer.



EDITOR'S NOTES

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This newsletter is getting to you about two weeks late. A hectic holiday season and a busy work schedule at the office are the culprits.

I got a real taste of winter recently. A business meeting in Omaha in late December caught me in the midst of a deep freeze (-33°) and snow storm. It took me a day and a half to get back as I got stranded in St. Louis. No opportunity for anti-quing and philatelic hunting this time.

The spring issue of the Newsletter will include an updated roster. This time we would like to include a description of each members' collecting interests, so please write to me or to the Secretary with this information. Additionally, members can use the Classified Ads section free of charge to request approvals or when looking for a particular item. Put it to good use, it's there for you.

We were saddened to learned about member Seymour Goldhagen's passing.

the publicist for ASDA, Seymour was instrumental in arranging our participation in LISDA for the last couple of years. A meeting room and a society table were provided free of charge. The membership of the LIPHS expresses its deepest sympathy to his family.

A notice about the Railway Mail Service Library is included in this newsletter. For those of you who collect LIRR postal history, the RMS Library may be of help in the research of this aspect of Long Island postal history.

J. Fred Rodriguez



AN OVERVIEW OF THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE LIBRARY

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Dr. Frank R. Scheer

To assist the student of route agent and railway post office history, a major collection of materials pertaining to these topics exists for their use. Appropriately named the "Railway Mail Service (RMS) Library", it is equipped to provide support for philatelic research and provide reference answers for questions dealing with the transportation and distribution of mail between 1864 and 1977.

The RMS Library has grown out of the AmerPO ("American RPO") Society Library which was established by Bryant A. Long in 1950. After a period of stagnation and change of ownership, the core collection has been acquired by myself and is being greatly expanded in scope and coverage. The RMS Library is a member of the American Library Association and the American Philatelic Research Library. It is also a non-profit corporation chartered in Florida.

As with most philatelic libraries, the principal efforts are being devoted to organizing and cataloguing the collection, a task that will take years. Although OCLC is beyond the reach of the RMS Library, I believe the response to the user can be as quick as those from larger libraries. The refined focus of the collection combined with the personal knowledge of the field by the curator permits a more useful response than can be secured within a similar time span from other organizations. The RMS Library participates in interlibrary loans; with individual researchers, free copies of a reasonable number or answers to reference queries will be provided upon request.

The RMS Library currently has every major title pertaining to the Railway Mail Service or Postal Transportation Service that has been written. The prime resource available, however, is the largest surviving collection of RMS Schedules of Mail Trains/Routes and state Schemes of Distribution that exists in the United States. By relying upon

these items plus other collateral documentation, the movement of mail from sender to receiver can be reconstructed. An example would be to provide the handling of Special Delivery mail by interpreting the backstamped markings shown on a cover. The collection is particularly strong from 1920 through 1977 and is well-adapted to this type of research, or inquiries into the changes in mail handling and schedule revisions over time.

To expand the coverage and variety of material made available to postal historians, I also seek to purchase or trade documents and artifacts which pertain to this phase of Post Office operations. Items which are acquire<sup>d</sup> are maintained in a climate-controlled environment to preserve their condition. Rarer items or documents of significant historical interest are restored or treated to ensure their existence for the use of future researchers.

Inquiries pertaining to the holdings of the RMS Library or seeking assistance in particular research projects should be directed to:

Dr. Frank R. Scheer  
Railway Mail Service Library  
18 East Rosemont Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301

Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your request to permit a quick reply. Also, if you expect to be in the Washington, DC-area, an appointment to use Library resources should be arranged at least two weeks in advance. Visitors giving advance notice are warmly welcomed.

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UNCLE JESSE'S DEPOT  
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The latest issue of the Journal carried an excellent article about Long Island hotels depicted on advertising covers. That article has inspired me to write about one lesser known hotel on the Island, one which had its own post office early in the twentieth century.--BELLE TERRE.

The Belle Terre Club was the focal point of the Belle Terre Estates, an exclusive community located on the east side of Port Jefferson harbor, on Mt. Misery Neck. This English styled hotel, with its massive three story main building, was a house of high fashion and wealth in its day. Four tennis courts, a croquet ground, and a bowling green were adjacent to it, and the 1300 acres of the Belle Terre Estates surrounded it. The hotel had accommodations for 100 guests. A fine kitchen serving the finest cuisine had tables for 200 persons. With the likes of the Vanderbuils, Whitneys, Goulds, Huntingtons, and Astors associated with it in one way or another, the Belle Terre Estates were surely to become a haven for the well to do. J.P. Morgan entertained guests there several times.

The Belle Terre Club was not only a first rate hotel, but it also served as the "clubhouse" for the Belle Terre community members. It provided recreational facilities and other amenities to those who were lucky enough to own a "cottage" on the Estates grounds.

Belle Terre was the showpiece community created by Dean Alvord of New York City, a prominent real estate developer. Like Stewart's Garden City, but on a much smaller scale, the Belle Terre Estates was exclusive indeed. It also provided the reclusiveness that many sought. This baronial estate with its impressive percolas, imposing gatehouse and meticulously kept grounds, was unfortunately doomed due to insufficient land sales. Originally the developers had anticipated a small number of very exclusive estates, however sluggish sales forced the subdivision of large land tracts. Some lots were finished with homes, landscaping and all in order to foster interest and hopefully sales. But, despite the best promotional efforts of Dean Alvord and the energetic execution of his plan for a model community, interest was not sufficient to sustain the operation. After investing over one million dollars, the development corporation went into receivership in 1913. The Belle Terre Club, like many Long Island hotels, succumbed to a consuming fire.

Most of the information included herein was obtained from the book Port Jefferson - Story of a Village by Gordon Welles and William Pkoios. It was published by the Port Jefferson Historical Society in 1977. The section on Belle Terre failed to mention the existence of a post office at the hotel.

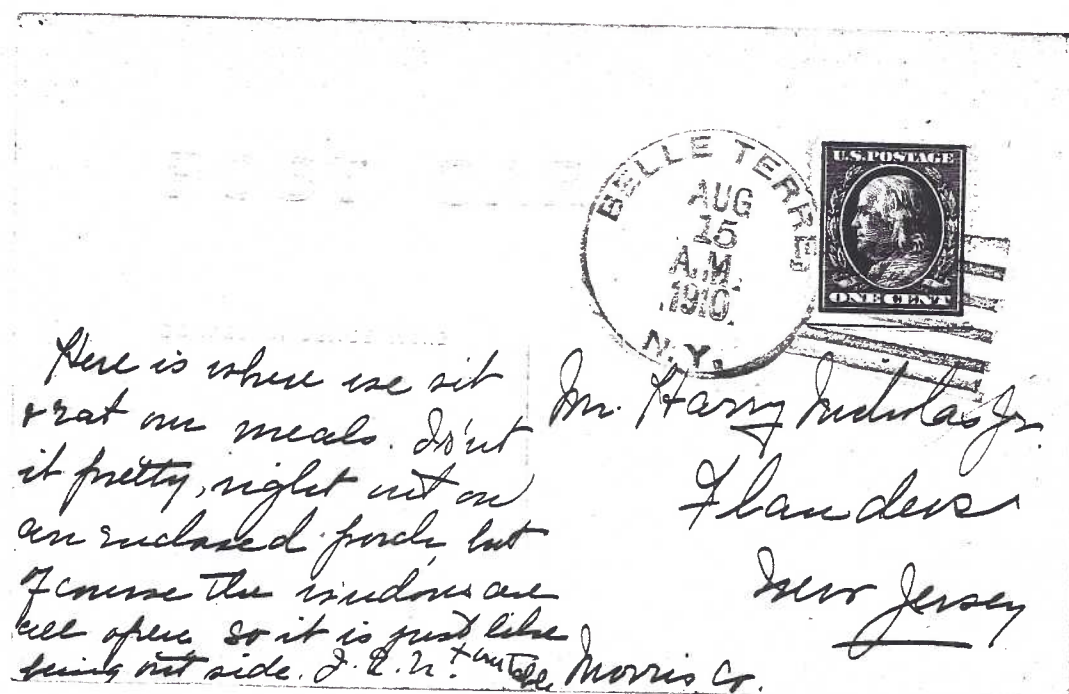
According to the recently published New York Postal History: Post Offices and First Postmasters from 1775 to 1980 by John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., the Belle Terre P.O. was established on May 17, 1910 under Joseph F. MacGowan as first postmaster, serving the Belle Terre community and its guests. The post office was undoubtedly in the hotel itself and postal services were probably limited. The post office was only in existence for a little over 3½ years, closing for business on March 15, 1914. The Port Jefferson P.O. and later the Port Jefferson Station P.O. took over the mails thereafter.



Belle Terre cancellations are difficult to come by. I personally have seen three examples after looking at thousands of Long Island post cards and postal history items. In three fine Port Jefferson collections not a one could be found.

Two of the three cancellations of Belle Terre were recently purchased by Carl Baker and I at the Metropolitan Post Card Club Show held in November at the Prince George Hotel in Manhattan. One of these is illustrated below. Also shown is a real photo post card view of the Belle Terre Club which is also postally used from that post office. Both are addressed to Flanders, New Jersey. The Belle Terre cancellation is, in my judgement, one of the scarcest 20th century Long Island DPOs.

J. Fred Rodriguez





CLASSIFIED ADS

( Buy, sell and/or trade )

WANTED - Cover- Port Washington & New York RPO  
William J. Duncan, 26 Moody Ave., Freeport, N. Y. 11520

WANTED - The U.S. 1869 Pictorial issue used on cover with local Town  
cancels from anywhere in the country, especially from New  
Jersey and Arizona. Correspondence invited.  
Brad Arch, 144 Hamilton Ave., Clifton N. J. 07011

WANTED - Postal History covers from Woodbury and Syosset. Also wish  
to purchase or trade L. I. pictorial corner cards on covers  
thru early 1900s.  
Carl F Baker, 140 Lewis Road, Northport, N. Y. 11768

WANTED - L. I. postal history items from all four counties. I will buy  
or trade for interesting covers. Especially want Suffolk and  
Queens counties CPMs, L. I. Civil War patriotics, Postmasters'  
free franks, registered and special delivery covers and all  
covers from the P.O.s within Huntington Township. Also want  
old L. I. postcards, 1900 - 1920. Send on approval or Xerox.  
J. Fred Rodriguez, Box 49, Greenlawn, N. Y. 11740



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LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Organized 1980

Annual Dues \$10.

President  
Vice Pres./Secretary  
Treasurer  
Director  
Director  
Director  
Director  
Journal Editor  
Associate Journal Editor

Daniel Knowles, M.D.  
Arthur Fitzpatrick  
Carl F. Baker  
John M. Price, Jr.  
Arthur Pollinger  
Gary Hammond  
J. Fred Rodriguez  
Calvet M. Hahn  
Daniel Knowles, M.D.

Please direct all Society  
correspondence to:  
The Secretary  
LIPHS  
P.O. Box 1178  
Southold, N.Y. 11971

Please direct all Newsletter  
correspondence to:  
J. Fred Rodriguez  
62 Shady Lane  
Huntington N.Y. 11743

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