



NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With this issue of our Newsletter Fred Rodriguez begins his term as our new Editor. Let's all support him in his new post by sending him material for the Newsletter from time to time --- news items, information, short articles, photographs, ads, columns, etc. Let's keep our Newsletter up to the high standard that Art Fitzpatrick set so that it remains informative and readable. We shall miss Art's capable hand. I hope that we can prevail upon Arthur to continue to take on important jobs in the Society.

Fred Rodriguez and Brad Arch are making plans for our second mail auction. Watch for details in our Newsletters.

Cal Hahn and Dan Knowles will be putting out the next issue of our Journal shortly. They have both been very busy with other commitments, slowing down their work on the Journal.

We are planning our Spring membership meeting which will probably be held at a member's home in April or May. We will plan to have a short business meeting so that most of the afternoon will be free for socializing, looking at covers, swapping covers and stories, eating and drinking. As soon as plans are completed we will notify everyone. Plan to come!

John Price

EDITOR'S NOTES

I have gladly accepted the responsibility of publishing the LIPHS Newsletter on a quarterly basis starting with this issue. Arthur Fitzpatrick did a fine job as editor and continues to support our Society as Vice President/Secretary. I join John Price and our membership at large in thanking Art for his fine work.

On another note....I am pleased to see that our Society has grown steadily since its formation in August of 1980. We now count with 52 members, a fivefold increase from the original 9 charter members. There are certainly more prospective members out there, so spread the word!!

We have received, from Mrs. Linda Wierenga, a number of photocopies of Long Island illustrated advertising covers--fine examples of this popular specialty. They will be included in a forthcoming issue of the Newsletter. Mrs. Wierenga, wife of Theron Wierenga who writes the U.S. Classics column for Stamps Magazine, recently wrote a short article about how and why she started collecting postal history, and Suffolk County covers in particular. Look up her article in the January 8, 1983 issue of STAMPS.

Also noticed that fellow member Edith Wyckoff, editor of the Locust Valley Leader the local community newspaper, has written a new book, The Fabled Past, Tales of Long Island. This hardcover edition with illustrations sells for \$10.95 plus tax postpaid. If interested write to Mrs. Wyckoff at 160 Birch Hill Road, Locust Valley, N.Y. 11560.

We now have available the LIPHS rubber Stamp. Use it on your correspondence, envelopes, etc. A sample is shown on this page. The price is \$12.50 postpaid. If interested, send check payable to LIPHS, and mail it care of J. Fred Rodriguez, 62 Shady Lane, Huntington New York 11743. Thanks go to member Art Pollinger who provided the dye for the rubber stamp and to member Brad Arch who designed it.



J. Fred Rodriguez

SECRETARY'S NOTES
Arthur Fitzpatrick

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

Mrs Linda E. Braner
111 Leahy Street,
Jericho, N. Y. 11753

Steven Rappaport
57-33 244th Street,
Douglaston, N. Y. 11362

Mrs Braner wrote and published, in 1960, a fine short history of the Jericho Post Office, - "The Mailman Cometh to Jericho".

* * *

The following have been dropped from membership for non-payment of dues for the year commencing August 1 1982:

Warren Enzler

Edward Flanagan

Wayne G. Lindquist

* * *

In another section of this issue there appears a current roster of our members.

Many members did not specify their particular area of interest in Long Island's postal history when they joined the Society. There may be, too, some whose focus of interest has changed since joining. To bring our roster up-to-date with its next publication please let us know of your special collecting or study interest. For example, mine would read:

"Riverhead and Southold Townships	(Geographical area)
All aspects of postal history	(Specialty)
Colonial to date"	(Time frame)

ANNOUNCEMENT

LONG ISLAND POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY MAIL AUCTION

Guidelines for VENDORS:

The Long Island Postal History Society will act as agent for members wishing to dispose of Long Island Postal History items thru its Auction for a standard 10% commission only with no hidden lotting charges, etc., other than the cost of return postage and insurance for unsold items. The Society acts ONLY as an AGENT between the VENDORS and BIDDERS. Although every precaution will be exercised to protect material while in the possession of the Society or its representatives, neither the Society nor its representatives can be held responsible for loss or damage while in their possession.

Submit material properly described, including: Town of origin postmark, County of location, if it is a DPO, so state, Year of use (definite if known-approximate if not stated, as "1870s"), Scott Catalog number of stamp or stationery (or general type, as "3¢ Bank-note"); Note any major defects, as "Back Flap Missing", Note any significant data that would enhance the value of the item (as First or Last day of operation of the office, First Year of operation of the office, Office existed for a total of less than 10 years; a recognized Fancy or Colored Cancel, etc.).

Give your estimated retail value in U. S. Dollars for each item or a minimum acceptable bid (including the 10% Society commission) on as few items as you can, to keep the 'minimum bids' down.

The Auction Manager reserves the right to consolidate several items of lesser value into a single lot where the individual values would be too small. Naturally, it will all be the property of a single vendor, and hopefully will be grouped by acceptable collecting areas, such as by County or Town or Type, etc.

Please enclose a self addressed Postal Card with the submission of each group of material for use by the Auction Manager in acknowledging receipt and acceptance of material.

All material submitted by Vendors must be received by the Auction Manager not later than May 15, 1983

The Member and Auction Manager to whom all correspondence concerning the Auction should be directed is:

BRAD ARCH
144 Hamilton Avenue,
Clifton, New Jersey 07011

Payment for material sold and returns of unsold lots will be made as promptly as possible following the close of the Auction, but only after all bidders have paid their invoices and the lots have been shipped (usually about 1 month after the Sale Date).

BAKER'S COMMENTARY

In our last Newsletter I inadvertently gave Calvin Hahn credit for writing that research on "Flag Cancellations of Long Island" and "The LIRR'S Brief Fling as an Interstate Carrier", although I and undoubtedly everyone else KNEW that Calvet Hahn HAD to be the author. Anyway, my apologies to Calvet.

My inquiry as to exactly what mail received the RPO markings failed to raise any response. However, there seems little question as to the earlier railroad markings. The Regulations of 1859 had ordered Route Agents on the railroads to receive letters written after the mails were closed. It was their duty as the first employee receiving such mail to postmark it. Pouch mail received was to be dropped off along the way or at the terminal unopened.

The modern RPO mail poses a dilemma in that we know that RPO clerks actually worked the mail between stations. But since postal markings were intended to indicate the origin or means by which a letter got into the mails, might we not assume that RPO clerks postmarked only that mail handed directly to him or to any station master, not a postmaster. And that mail originating from a Post Office would bear the postmark of the post office of origin, with no marking employed to denote the carrier subsequently used.

Thought I might pass on to you a news item that appeared so many years ago, July 8, 1864, in The Long Islander, a Huntington weekly newspaper. The local postmaster had complained that far too many letters were being deposited in the post office addressed to small neighborhoods where no post offices actually existed. He noted that postmasters up state or elsewhere were not likely to know on what part of Long Island Melville might be located and would often send the mail to some office picked at random. Usually he erred and the Melville mail would have to be rerouted. At that time Melville, by the way, had not had a post office for some eleven years. A number of other local neighborhood villages were also cited by the Huntington postmaster as he admonished postal patrons to address their letters to existing post offices to avoid delays.

The previous news item reminds me that things rarely change. While most people have recognized the importance of using Zip Codes, a number of others simply refuse to do so. Strangely enough, many of those not complying live in prestigious areas such as Laurel Hollow, Muttontown or Upper Brookville, where no post offices exist. Use of the proper Zip Code would certainly quicken the routing of such all such pieces of mail to the correct office.

The Great South Bay Post Card Collectors Club will hold their Sixth Annual Post Card and Paper Ephemera Show on Sunday, April 10th, from 10 AM to 5 PM. Postal Historians are well aware that used post cards frequently bear elusive DPO or other postal markings they have been seeking. And by the way you are all invited to their monthly meetings, the first Thursday of every month, except April and August, from 6 PM to 10 PM. Both meetings and Annual Show are held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, West Islip.

THE DPO PAGE

WILDWOOD - This post office was established on March 4, 1936 under Elmer H. Bishop as first postmaster. It remained in operation until April 30, 1943 at which time the Wading River post office provided postal services to that area.

The 1937 postmark shown below is on a post card of the Wildwood State Park showing the stairway to the girl scout camp.

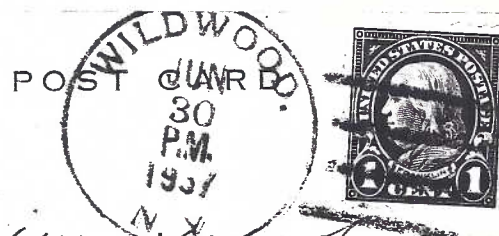
Circa 1942

WILDWOOD, L.I., N.Y.



Wildwood State Park is one of the State Parks under the jurisdiction of the Long Island State Park Commission. Distance from New York City 73 miles. This park is noted for its excellent camp sites overlooking the Long Island Sound. Campers must bring their own tents and camping equipment. Bathing in the Sound is a feature at this Park, also picnicking, a large picnic area with a cafeteria where food stuffs and soft drinks may be purchased, being open to the public.

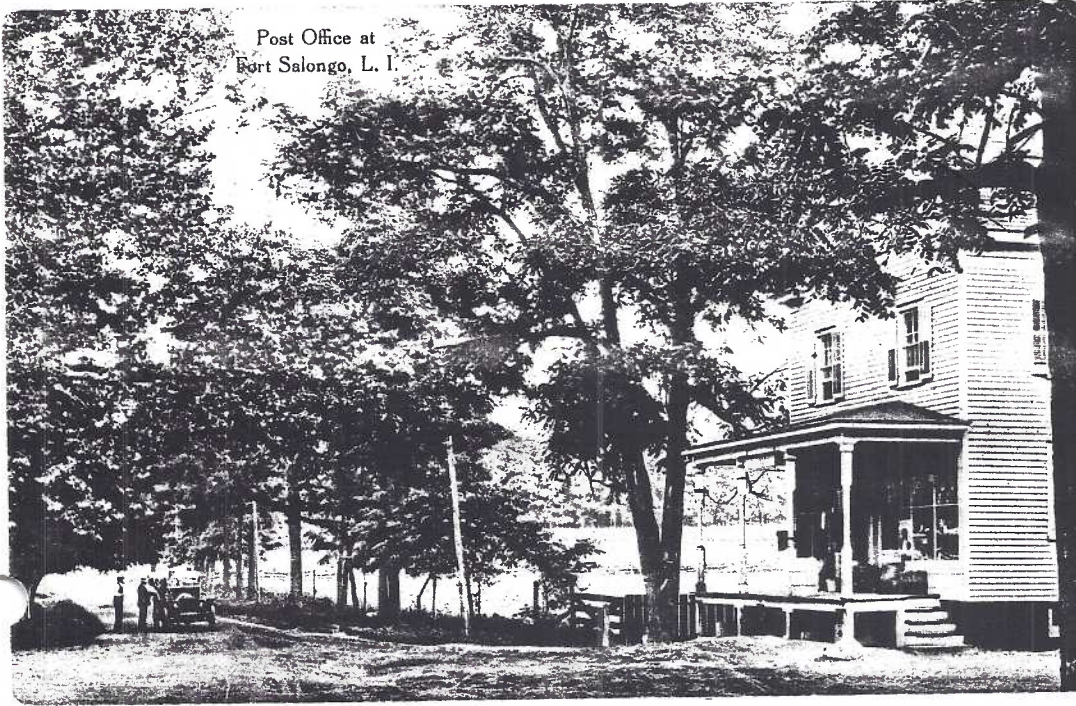
Dear Fred: Having
swell time with
exception of some
rainy weather.
Regards to family
Charlie Sultan



Mr. Fred Furke
200 Crocus St.
Floral Park
L.I.

UNCLE JESSE'S DEPOT

The featured post office in this short article is Fort Salonga, located in the vicinity of Northport in Huntington Township. Cancellations from this post office as well as post card views are very scarce. The view of the Fort Salonga Post Office shown here was published by C.E. Robertson of Northport about 1911. It shows the general store on Fort Salonga Road (Route 25A) where the post office was relegated to a small corner of the establishment.



Fort Salonga was a corruption of Slongo, the name of a British captain who built the fort during the American Revolution to repel raids by the Long Island rebels. The locality was originally named Fresh Pond, and in fact it had a post office by that name from August 26, 1852 through May 15, 1888.

When the Fresh Pond post office closed, the area was serviced by the Northport P.O. It wasn't long before the Fresh Pond P.O. reopened. Martha Rowland, the new post-

mistress, carried the business of the mails out of her home from Sept. 27, 1889, but the post office closed for good in 1901.

When a new post office was established along the Sound, the people in the vicinity could not name it Fresh Pond as was their desire because one mile south was the Fresh Pond P.O., thus the second choice was Fort Salonga, as the remains of the old fort still bore a corruption of Slongo's name.

The Long Islander newsclip from the May 27, 1893 issue announced the opening of the post office and gave a very short and inaccurate history of the fort. Also notice that the announcement was made exactly three months after the official establishment of the Fort Salonga P.O., which according to the recently published book New York Postal History by John L. Kay and Chester M. Smith, Jr., was on February 27, 1893. The post office continued in operation until September 1, 1924. It has been serviced by the Northport Post Office ever since.

The two postmarks illustrated in the following page are two of three in my collection. Both are dated 1905 and are used interchangeably as cancellations and as receiving handstamps. The card addressed to Fort Salonga bears an Aquebogue cds from October 30, 1905 and was received the same day at the Fort Salonga P.O., a feat no longer possible.

Private Mailing Card.

Authorized by Act of Congress of May 19, 1898.

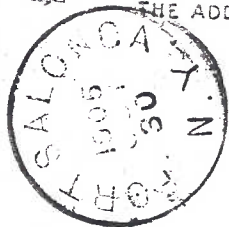


Raphael Tuck & Sons' Post Card Series No. 2239 "HIVKIRKHEAD, L.L."
ART PUBLISHERS TO THEIR MAJESTIES THE KING AND QUEEN.



POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Mr Alfred Tarned
Fort Salonga
Long Island.

The name Fort Salonga which has been given to the new Post Office at Fresh Pond, near Northport, as told in the LONG-ISLANDER of last week, derives its name from a fort which was erected a short distance from the Post Office on land now owned by George Longbotham, in 1812. The fortification has gradually crumbled away until it is now only about three feet high. The ground on which the fort stood is to be fenced in and presented by Mr. Longbotham to the Long Island Historical Association. It is near Long Island Sound, across the meadow from Mr. Longbotham's brickyards, and a person has to be pretty well acquainted with the neighborhood in order to find it at present.

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                               John M. Price, Jr., M.D.  *
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*      Associate Journal Editor                 Daniel M. Knowles,MD        *
*
*      Please direct all Society               Please direct all Newsletter *
*      correspondence to:                      correspondence to:      *
*      The Secretary,                         J. Fred Rodriguez        *
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*      P.O. Box 1178                          Huntington, N.Y. 11743    *
*      Southold, N.Y. 11971                   *
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