

# *BULLETIN of The Empire State Postal History Society*

Volume 45 Number 4

March 2013

## COMING EVENTS

### ROPEX 2013

**Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rochester Philatelic Association**

**May 17, 18 & 19: Two WSP Events in One Weekend!**

**Hours: Friday 11 – 6; Saturday 10 – 5; Sunday 10 - 3**

**The Main Street Armory, 900 East Main St., Rochester FREE Parking**

**Daily Admission \$2 For information: [stampmf@frontiernet.net](mailto:stampmf@frontiernet.net)**

### COLOPEX 2013

**June 7 - 9 at DiSalle Center of the Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio**

**Enter at 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, just off Interstate 71**

**Admission is free. Hours Friday & Saturday: 10 to 6; Sunday 10 to 4**

## President's Message

With Spring around the corner we are entering a new year of collecting and exhibiting. By the time you read this, BUFFPEX 2013 will be concluded and ROPEX will be ahead. Our Annual Meeting will again be held in Rochester at ROPEX, which this year will run from May 17 to 19. We will meet on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 1:30 in Meeting Room #3. We will conduct elections this year for President, Vice President and for 3 Directors. Nominations for these offices are welcome and should be forwarded to John Cali at [rocket123@windstream.net](mailto:rocket123@windstream.net). Please note that your nominee should have agreed to serve in the position.

Following ROPEX we will pack our trailers for Columbus, Ohio, and COLOPEX 2013 June 7 to 9 where ESPHS will be competing in the Multistate Postal History competition, affectionately known as The Sweeting Award. To build on our prior successes we will need the participation of all the exhibitors in our society.

Finally, we are still thinking about a location for our Fall meeting. Should it be downstate? Let me hear your suggestions at [djprze@hotmail.com](mailto:djprze@hotmail.com)

*David Przepiora*

## Editor's Desktop

As Auction Manager I want to thank the Consignors and Bidders who participated in recently concluded Auction #5. The Consignment Form for Auction #6 is enclosed with this *Bulletin*. I encourage every member to support the June auction as a Consignor, if for no other reason than to see one of your pretty covers in full color in an *official auction catalog!!!!!!*

*Bob Bramwell*

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 APS Affiliate #28 web site www.esphs.us

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 Mohawk: *vacant*  
 Lower Hudson: *vacant*  
 NYC/LI: Frank Braithwaite  
 Leatherstocking/Catskill: *vacant*  
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 West Central: *vacant*  
 Southern Tier: Alan Parsons  
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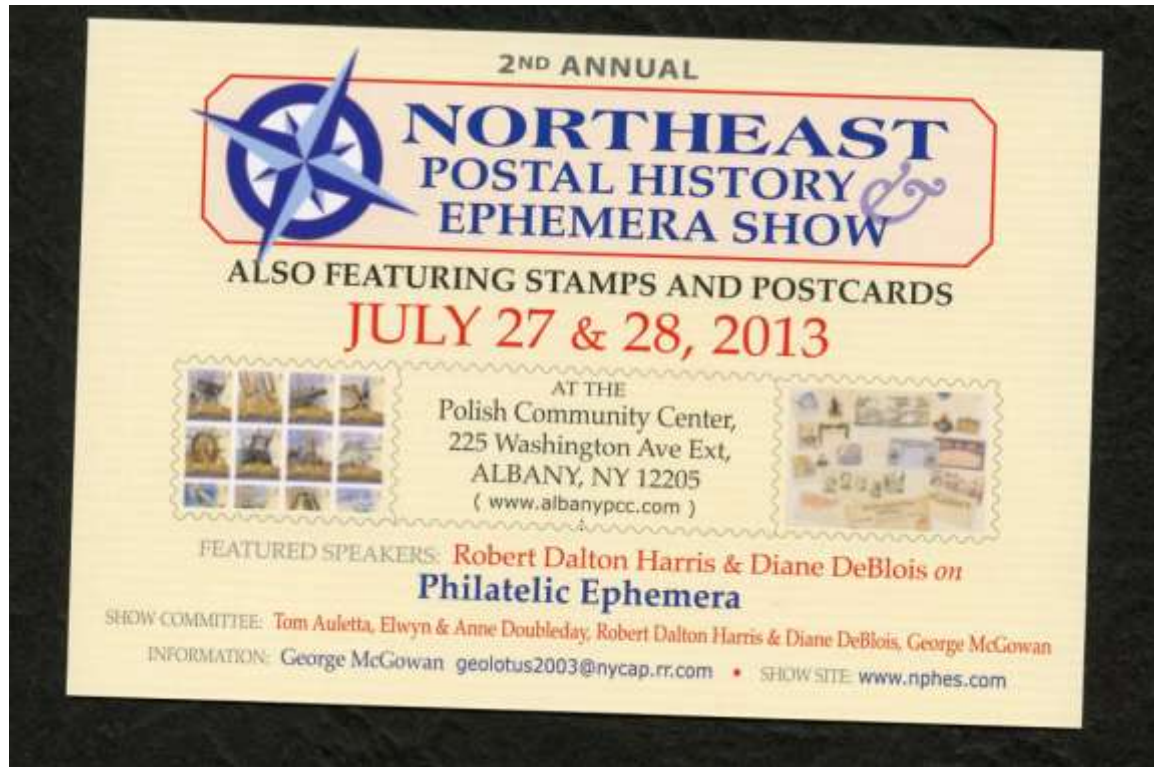
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**Secretary's Membership Report**

**Welcomed Into Membership: Steve Zirinsky**

**Applicants For Membership:**

<b>Joel Harrington</b>	<b>Redwood City, CA</b>
<b>H. James Maxwell</b>	<b>Kansas City, MO</b>
<b>Margaret McClure</b>	<b>Glens Falls, NY</b>
<b>Steven M. Roth</b>	<b>Washington, DC</b>



PAID ADVERTISEMENT – PAY CLOSE ATTENTION

## DIPPING MY TOES INTO EXHIBITING

By Bob Bramwell

Now I'm down to three months, but I'm not panicking. Yet.

I made what I think will prove to be a smart move a month ago: I joined the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors. They put out on their website a decent number of exhibits created over the years by their members as PDF files. Sometimes I find it helpful to see what someone else did, but hopefully the greatest benefit of membership at this early stage will be their almost-free Feedback Service. As I write this, my 43 page exhibit is winging its way to the AAPE coordinator for assignment to a suitable judge who has volunteered his time to rip my exhibit to pieces (nah, not the job description) and to politely suggest the nips and tucks that will help me get my wonderful material down to 32 pages – just the right number to fill 2 exhibit frames.

The Sweeting Multi-State Exhibiting competition will take place just when I *should* be finishing up our June newsletter *and* publishing the Auction Catalog with all your Consigned material. Don't be surprised if June arrives a week late so that it can provide you with a first-hand report from a first-time exhibitor.

**ESPHS MEMBERS TAKE NOTE:**  
**EXHIBITS NEEDED FOR JUNE COMPETITION**  
**AT COLOPEX 2013 IN COLUMBUS OHIO**

By Alan Parsons

After a one-year layoff, the Charles H. Sweeting Postal History exhibiting competition between the postal history/state philatelic societies of the six New England states plus NY, NJ, PA and OH will resume June 7-9 at COLOPEX 2013, the annual WSP show sponsored by the Columbus OH Philatelic Society.

Often referred to as the Northeastern Multi-State Postal History Exhibiting Competition, the winning society has its name and the venue of its victory engraved on a plate attached to the Charles H. Sweeting Memorial Award and gets possession of the 14x20 inch Award plaque until the next competition is held.

The competition has to be held at a World Series of Philately show within the competing ten states. The most recent competition was held at ROPEX 2011 with ESPHS winning. There have been six competitions for the Sweeting Award with the first at ROPEX 2004, and all but one (COLOPEX) of the seven eligible WSP shows has held a competition.

*Although by winning at ROPEX 2011 ESPHS could have hosted the 2013 competition as well, it instead deferred to the Ohio Postal History Society so that society could host the next competition at COLOPEX and thus bring in the one remaining eligible WSP show yet to hold a competition.*

Scoring for the competition is based on medal levels awarded the exhibits, and all medal levels contribute to the total team score. **Thus new postal history exhibitors belonging to one of the competing societies are not only welcome, but strongly encouraged to enter.**

Exhibits qualifying for the competition do not have to be postal history exhibits of the State of the Society to which the exhibitor belongs. As long as the exhibitor belongs to one of the competing societies, he/she can exhibit postal history generally, postal history of a U.S. stamp or stamp series, or even illustrated mail so long as it relates primarily to a single state.

**For the COLOPEX 2013 exhibiting prospectus and other show information, please see [www.colopex.com](http://www.colopex.com). PLAN TO EXHIBIT AT COLOPEX 2013 AS PART OF THE ESPHS TEAM AND HONOR THE MEMORY OF CHARLES H. SWEETING, OUR SOCIETY'S FIRST PRESIDENT AND HIMSELF AN EXHIBITOR (AUBURN POSTAL HISTORY) AS WELL AS JUDGE FOR UPSTATE LOCAL AND REGIONAL STAMP SHOWS.**



**EMPIRE STATE  
POSTAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY**

**APS UNIT 28**

[www.esphs.us](http://www.esphs.us)  
Meets twice annually

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## ADVERTISING COVERS SHOW AREA'S GROWTH

By Gerald Wiley

During the latter nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries advertising covers were widely used by those having merchandise or services to sell, messages to convey or ideas to promote. A collection of these covers is an ideal way for anyone interested in the development of an area to follow its history, such as my hometown — Watertown.

This Jefferson County city once was a busy hub of numerous industries, including paper mills and the manufacture of sewing machines, carriages, and automobiles.

Davis Sewing Machine Company was founded in 1868 to manufacture an improved machine, invented by Job Davis, shown on the cover mailed from Clayton in 1882 (top left). The company moved to Dayton, Ohio, in 1889 and later, under a different name and ownership, built Huffy bicycles and power lawn mowers before moving to Mexico.

H. H. Babcock Company was founded in 1845 to build wooden pumps and underground wooden water pipe. It later made windmills and iron pumps shown on the 1882 cover (top right). Before closing in 1928, it built automobiles and pickup and delivery trucks.

The D. S. Brown Company made horse collars and harnesses. The cover at the lower left was mailed in 1915 by a dealer in Depauville. The Neverslip Tin Cover Co. envelope was mailed in 1901. Although manufacturing is still carried on in Watertown, horse collars and tin covers are no longer made there. As the fellow once said: "progress happens." ■

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*Ed: Member Gerry Wiley contributed this article for the ESPHS page that appears in each bi-monthly edition of Stamp Insider, the newsletter of the Federation of New York Philatelic Societies. To provide an article, contact me at [rbramwell@nc.rr.com](mailto:rbramwell@nc.rr.com) for details.*



## ALBANY LINCOLN AND STARS CANCEL

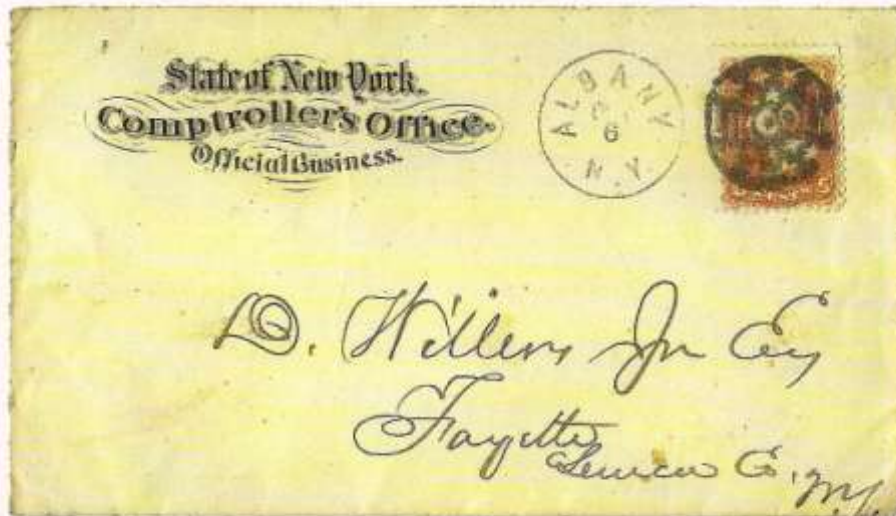
By Ernie Webb

*Editor's Note: This article was originally published in U. S. Cancellation Club NEWS, November 2012 edition. By kind permission of the publisher and the author we are pleased to reprint it here in full. Please read my afterword in which ESPHS asks that each member who is fortunate enough to own (or know of) one or more examples of the Albany "Lincoln and Stars" cancel respond to Ernie Webb's request for census data.*



In the February 2012 *NEWS* I posted a "help wanted" request for information regarding the 1860s cancel used by the Albany, New York post office illustrated herewith. The purpose of this article is to report what I have learned in the intervening months. Eighteen covers or pieces have now been recorded with only two providing documentation of the year of use. See Table 1 on page 3.

Out of 18 covers and pieces found, one has an enclosure dated 1865 and one is back stamped with 1865 as a year date. Now it is hardly scientific but I feel pretty certain the year of use must be 1865. George Dawson was Albany's Postmaster from March 27<sup>th</sup> 1861 to August 3, 1866 and was an ardent pro Republican of the time and presumably the postmaster using the Lincoln cancel. The Lincoln and stars cancellation has only been found on Sc 65 and Sc 78 (with one example on an off cover Sc 73). It has 13 stars which probably represent the original 13 states. The cancellation began its use just 5 1/2 months after the Lincoln assassination and appears to have been only used for about one month, October 1 through October 22, perhaps making it even rarer than the famous Devil and Pitchfork cancellation of West Meriden, Ct, in use April 16<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> 1866.



Many questions still remain unanswered, such as why it was produced, what was happening in Albany at the time to prompt the design, and why was it used only for a short period, etc., plus many other questions yet unmentioned.

I want to personally thank all the members who responded with input and photos especially Abe Boyarsky, Don Barany, and George McGowan just to mention a few. I will continue to gather information and if anyone has information or ideas I would welcome them. I can be reached at ewebb02@aol.com or 10025 E 29<sup>th</sup> St., Tulsa, OK 74129.



## U. S. Cancellation Club NEWS

Vol. 31, No. 4, Whole No. 285, November 2012

## Albany Lincoln and Stars Cancel Census

	Postmark Date	Day of the week	Name of Addressee	Notes
1.	October 1	Sunday	Libby	on Sc 65
2.	October 2	Monday	Bates	on piece to England, 1865 receiving mark on reverse, Sc 78
3.	October 2	Monday	Dr Webb	on Sc 65
4.	October 3	Tuesday	Bridgen	enclosure dated 1865 in same hand as address
5.	October 5	Thursday	Morrison	on Sc 65
6.	October 6	Friday	Hiller	on Sc 65
7.	October 6	Friday	Dr Wade	on Sc 65
8.	October 6	Friday	Dodds	on Sc 65
9.	October 6	Friday	Williams, Jr	from State of NY Comptroller's Office, on Sc 65
10.	October 6	Friday	Beatte	on Sc 65
11.	October 7	Saturday	?	strip of 3 Sc 65, each with Lincoln cancel
12.	October 7	Saturday	Plunkett	on Sc 65
13.	October 11	Wednesday	?	on piece, Sc 65
14.	October 12	Thursday	?	on piece, Sc 65
15.	October 15	Sunday	?	on PSE with 2 Sc 65
16.	October 17	Tuesday	Garnsey	free frank of Senator Ira Harris
17.	October 20	Friday	Claff	on Sc 65
18.	October 22	Sunday	?	on Sc 65

Table 1

*Editor's note:* Matt Kewriga pointed out that Albany used another distinctive patriotic cancel design in October 1865. See the cover shown herewith, postmarked October 9. It can be year dated 1865. Actually, Albany used several variations of this design—see Skinner/Eno PT-C 17 through 20 and Whitfield 5056-8. A similar Albany cancel, but involving "USA" in the center, is also known—see S/E PT-USA 1 through 2a. We don't have dates of use for these and if readers can supply any, please contact the *NEWS*. From the tracings, it appears that all cancels show 13 stars.



## Afterword

U. S. Cancellation Club (APS Affiliate #75) is the home of collectors whose special interest is "killers". USCC encourages research and publication in its quarterly full color journal. USCC also edits and publishes the Whitfield compilation of known cancellations, with associated towns of use where known. Anyone interested in more details, or in membership, may contact Secretary Arden Callender, 1715 Valley Vista, Houston, TX 77077.

Ernie Webb can be contacted at [ewebb02@aol.com](mailto:ewebb02@aol.com) or 10025 East 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Tulsa, OK 74129.

## *AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP OF ESPHS:*

First of all, I want to thank all of you that have known me during the time I have been a member of the Empire State Postal History Society. This includes, but it certainly not limited to, all the customers who have made my company, Excelsior Postal History, a modest success. (No, the name wasn't taken from the NY State motto).

It would be an egregious error not to mention the wonderful friends made and the added enjoyment in the pursuit of Postal History. Even though my personal preference is for Western New York State, learning from collectors of the "other counties" has been a pleasure. I am concerned about future opportunities.

There will be no surprises when the average age of the membership is stated as "older," for lack of a kinder term. Where are the new members going to come from? Are we to depend on the American Philatelic Society for new members? That organization is in decline and will suffer the same fate as ESPHS if nothing is done.

When I joined ESPHS in December 1983, I was only 26 years old. That was a very young age to be a member of any postal history group. When was the last time we had a new member that young? Even if there were several, are there enough new serious postal historians to guide this organization into the future?

Many of you know that I served in the United State Air Force for a number of years. In my travels, it was noted that people who might be bored by, or completely uninterested in stamps can show great interest when the subject of their hometown is discussed. From this source, there is marked potential to find new members. They don't have to be collectors, either.

Another area is mentorship. My knowledge of the counties I collect has grown over the years, and many people who shared their knowledge with me are gone. Who can I pass my knowledge on to? Have you given any thought to this? There is obviously a consideration in having new people start to collect a county. We all would prefer to have someone interested in our collecting area when it comes to the disposal of our collections. Please don't let potential competition limit your vision or otherwise keep you from trying to teach younger people about postal history or what ESPHS was founded for and has to offer.

Since I live in the Western United States, I cannot travel to New York as often as I would like to. If you know of anyone who has an interest in Western NY (the Rochester area in particular) I would like to hear from you at [dougpenwell@Mail.com](mailto:dougpenwell@Mail.com)

This is also a formal proposal to begin a mentoring program within ESPHS. Feedback or suggestions about this idea would be very welcome.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this matter.

Doug Penwell

*Ed: Apologies to Doug. This Open Message should have appeared in the previous issue of BULLETIN. Doug is the spark plug driving a new and greatly enhanced edition of Manuscript Post Offices of New York first published by ESPHS in 1972. New finds should be sent to him a P O Box 3525, Glendale, AZ 85311.*