

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



UNIT 28

BULLETIN

OCTOBER 1975

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue includes a list of proposed changes to the Federal Post Office of New York. Please study carefully and if you have any other information please contact Mrs. Emma Koberg, 295 Hamilton Street, Apartment 21, Holiday Manor; Geneva, New York 14456. Please do not wait until the changes are made.

"Questions and Answers" by Bob Harris appears for the first time. Send your questions to Bob at P. O. Box 175, Wynantskill, New York 12198, so that other members of the Society may share in his research.

Ken deLisle's County Post Office List, by years, is progressing nicely and should be ready in the near future.

This is the last issue to be mailed to members who have not paid their 1975-76 dues.

Special thanks to Ken deLisle and George Bernadt for their work in setting up our first auction.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

Resignation received: Mrs. Nellie M. Cattanach

Applications received:

LEICHTER, JOSEPH T. 70-10 Parsons Blvd., Flushing, N.Y. 11365
References: None required (Member APS and SPA)
Interests: Postal Stationery

SHARP, RALPH W. 515 N. Greece Road, Hilton, N.Y. 14468
References: None required (MEMBER APS)
Interests: Postal history; Monroe Co. cancels; U.S. on cover; Early U.S. machine
cancels

Address Changes: Weyerts, John N. to Drawer D, Midtown Plaza Sta. Rochester, N.Y. 14604
Albanese, Donald R. to 317 W. Academy St., Albion, N.Y. 14411
Fisher, Paul J. to 281 Calle Del Santo, Green Valley, AZ 85614
Levine, Stanley to 72-74 Wetherole St., Rego Park, N.Y. 11374
Staplin, W. Ray to 17521 SW 84th Court, Miami, Fla. 33157

Mail returned, moved: Kuehne, Robert L. Box 96, Pultneyville, N.Y. 14538

We welcome to membership Messrs. Alexander and Schwartz and Dr. Greenwald, whose applications appeared in the spring Bulletin.

DUES PAYMENTS:

While on the subject of membership, we are again reminding those delinquent in 1975-76 dues, that a star on the address label means this is the last Bulletin that will be mailed until payment is received. Also, in accordance with the By-Laws, those delinquent in dues are removed from the membership rolls October 31.

Our principal expense is printing and postage, there is no point in continuing to mail material to those who have not indicated their willingness to support ESPHS.

EXCURSION TO INTERPHIL '76:

The Executive Board has approved moving on arrangements for transportation and motel space at the BIG SHOW of '76. Members who might be interested will find details enclosed along with a reservation form. For obvious reasons the data will not be sent to members whose residence in California, Florida, New York City, Philadelphia, etc. precludes interest in a trip from Albany,

Applications are being taken on a first-come, first-served basis from members up to October 31 after which, subject to space available, invitations will be sent to Capital District collectors. If your spouse wants to come along, welcome! If a friend wants to make the trip with you, fine! There will be plenty to see and do aside from the stamp show in Philadelphia during the Bicentennial.

Decoration Day falls on the weekend planned for the trip, giving an excellent opportunity for an extra without missing work. A definite decision on whether we take the extra day will depend on replies to our invitation.

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY PUBLIC SALE NO. 1:

Auction list is included with this mailing. Members are urged to send in their bids at once, there is no advantage in waiting until the last minute, only to discover your bid did not arrive in time.

For members undecided about coming to the sale, participation is assured through mail bids. If you do come and want to change your bid after viewing the lots, of course this will be done on request.

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

by

Robert Dalton Harris

This question was submitted by Glen Estus. He has one cover dated 1883 and another 1890, directed to New York City in care of the Ladies Window, and wants to know the purpose and significance of the inscription.

The answer is an interesting one. In July 1975 "The Collectors Philatelist" reprinted an article on the New York Post Office from the May 1878 issue of Scribner's Magazine. The article states that a Post Office opened at the southern end of City Hall Park where Park Row and Broadway joined. A lobby floor plan of the building shows general delivery windows on the Park Row side "13 and 14 general delivery- Ladies Window; 15 and 16 general delivery- Gentlemen's Window".

In 1949 under APS auspices, Winthrop Boggs authored "Ten Decades Ago (1840-1850) A Study of the Work of Rawdon, Wright, Hatch, and Edson of New York City to which is added Sundry comments, and articles of interest illuminating the scene of the time". Among the sundries Boggs reproduced an article from Harper's New Monthly Magazine for October 1871 which said that the Ladies Window at the Dutch Church Post Office (which preceded the City Hall Park Office) was embellished with a sign arching the wicket reading "EXCLUSIVELY FOR LADIES". The text of the Scribner article rhapsodized:

"The ladies window is especially a center for observation; and the appearance of the sex dressed in gay colors and wreathed in smiles lightens up the otherwise care-worn, pell-mell, rushing, and somber-looking crowd. Here the young lady of the period contrasts with the old crone whose undutiful son is "off to sea". The widow in her weeds throws sly glances at the dashing clerk; her hopefulness of the future contrasting strongly with the face of the suffering wife, who sad and discontented turns abruptly away because her absent spouse "had failed to write".

No doubt, several reasons supported the segregation of ladies and gentlemen at the active post office of New York. Not the least of these was probably to insulate the ladies from the unwanted intimacies of standing in line with strange men. Too, for a gentleman etiquette was quite explicit with respect to the opposite sex- a true gentleman would have felt obliged to stand aside to let the female move into his place. In an office as active as New York's, he might never have been able to get his mail.

Now we no longer have separate windows for men and women at the post office. Respect for the female has decayed to the point that the traditional female roles seem so poorly compensated that they are interpreted as exploitation. The present female struggle seems designed to reestablish the individual sense of value that once was guaranteed by etiquette and manifested in separate windows at the New York Post Office.

Empire State
Postal History Society

TREASURER'S REPORT

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: FOUR MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 31, 1975.

Bank Balances: Checking Account, Bank of New York, April 30, 1975	\$ 39.15
Savings Accounts, Bank of New York, April 30, 1975	<u>2,556.27</u>
	2,595.42

REVENUES:

Dues: Regular 1975-76	\$ 449.00			
Advance 1976-77	12.50			
Registration Fees	<u>4.00</u>		\$ 465.50	
Publications: Federal PO Lists	13.50			
Manuscr. Book	16.25			
Comm. Resale Federal Book	46.00			
County Lists	5.70			
Hahn PO Reprints	73.00			
Hahn Postal Essays	5.00			
Misc. Publication Income	<u>13.50</u>		172.95	
Miscell: Commissions, Cover Sales	7.95			
Film Rental	2.00			
Bank Interest	<u>34.59</u>		<u>44.54</u>	
				682.99
				\$ 3,278.41

EXPENSES

Printing: Bulletin, May & August		80.59		
Postage: Bulletin	19.72			
Journal	15.64			
Hahn Post Office Reprints	3.70			
Secretary	<u>6.64</u>		45.70	
Rent, Regional Meeting 2/16/75		21.60		
President's Expenses, 1973 to 1975		32.32		
Miscell. Supplies		<u>1.50</u>		<u>181.70</u>

Consolidated Surplus, August 31, 1975 \$ 3,096.70

Bank Balances: Checking Account, Bank of New York, August 31, 1975	\$ 505.84
Savings Accounts, Bank of New York, August 31, 1975	<u>2,590.86</u>
	\$ 3,096.70

Net Gain Consolidated Accounts, May 1 to August 31, 1975 \$ 501.28

Membership, Sept. 15, 1975		117		
Paid	101			
Unpaid	<u>16</u>			

PROPOSED CHANGES
to
FEDERAL P O of N Y

The following proposed changes have been submitted by members. Each change has been researched in as much detail as possible with the data available. If any member has any information which is at variance with that suggested, please send same to Emma Koberg before Nov. 30, 1975. If no further information is received, the changes will be published as Supplement No. 4 in January 1976.

- Barnevelt--- Oneida Cty- In postal records and New York maps spelling is barnveld. Should be changed in Fed P O
- Benson Mines-- St. Lawrence- Not in alpha. Should be included with*.
- Blinham----- - Delaware Cty- Not in Fed but data is in Kaiser's P O of N Y. Should be included.
- Brown Station - Ulster Cty- In alpha as Browns Station. Should be corrected.
- Canada Lake--- FultonCty --Disc 11-15-73 in accordance with Postal Bulletin 20955. Change should be made.
- Cold Water--- Monroe- In county list as Coldwater. Not in alpha Correction should be made.
- Dansville---- Livingston Cty- Listed in Fed as Danville. Should be changed.
- Fort Totten--- Queens Cty--Not in alpha. Should be included.
- Franklinville-- Cattaragus Cty- in alpha with *. Active accordance with Postal Records. Should be changed.
- Garbutt----- Monroe Cty-In alpha as Garbut. All records show spelling as Garbutt. Should be corrected.
- Hawkeye- -- Clinton- Fed disc 1933. Postal Bulletin 20959 indicates disc 6-30-73. Should be changed.
- Head of Delaware-Delaware Cty- Not in Fed but in Kaiser's P O of N Y . Should be included in Fed.
- Higgins Bay- HamiltonCty- Disc in 1962 in Fed. Postal Bulletin 20966 gives disc as 12-31-73. Should be changed.

Taughannock Falls- Tompkins- Not in Fed. Records in National Archives-

Est June 19, 1874

P M Roswell Wilcox

Disc Nov 15, 1917

This office should be included in Fed P O

Union Hill-----

Monroe Cty - Fed as Union Hall. Postal and county records as Union Hill. Change should be made.

West Webster-----

Monroe- Fed disc 1958. Post Mark for 1961. In accordance with 1973 Postal Records office active. Change should be made.

OCTOBER MEETING - 10/26/75 - UTICA, N.Y.

DIRECTIONS TO DOUBLE D RANCH RESTAURANT:

Coming from the east, leave the Thruway at Utica, take Route 12 through the city to intersection with Route 5. Follow Route 5 from the intersection about 1 mile, the Double D is on the left. Coming from the west, leave the Thruway at Westmoreland, south on Route 233 to Route 5, then east on Route 5 to the Double D which will be on the right.

Lots will be on display all morning and up to 1:30 P.M. Lunch or a sumptuous dinner can be had on the premises.

FLYNN, J. PATRICK 139 Cedar Lane, Groton, N.Y. 13073

References: Thomas Dombrey, 11 Muriel St., Ithaca, N.Y.

Richard Koetzle, 402 Crossfield Rd., Rochester, N.Y.

Interests: Postal History - Flag Cancels - FDC - Postal Stationery - Canada