

# *BULLETIN of The Empire State Postal History Society*

Volume 48 Number 4

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **BUFFPEX 2016**

**Buffalo's Oldest & Largest Philatelic Festival**

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday March 6**

**10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday March 7**

**VFW Leonard Post 6251**

**2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Members, another New Year is upon us, one that I hope is prosperous for all of you. The New Year will bring the society a new web site. There has been progress on its construction, so I have been told, but I have not seen it yet.

The New Year will also be a difficult one for us; we will need a web master, hopefully from within our ranks, a new bulletin editor to replace our retiring editor and members to contribute articles and information for our excelsior publication. Without help from our membership we may have to interrupt our normal schedule of publication. I can assure you we will do our best to continue, but we need help. If you can help or have any ideas, please contact me.

*David Przepiora*

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 APS Affiliate #28 web site www.esphs.us

**Officers:**

President: David Przepiora ('17)  
 djprze@hotmail.com  
 Vice-President: Frank Braithwaite ('17)  
 fbraith@optonline.net  
 Secretary: George McGowan ('16)  
 geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com  
 Treasurer: George DeKornfeld ('16)  
 gdekornfel@fairpoint.net

**Regional Representatives:**

Northern: Gerald Wiley  
 Upper Hudson: Maris Tirums  
 Mohawk: *vacant*  
 Lower Hudson: *vacant*  
 NYC/LI: Frank Braithwaite  
 Leatherstocking/Catskill: *vacant*  
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**Directors:**

('15): Maris Tirums, Brian Levy  
 ('16): John Cali, Dr. Charles J. DiComo, Drew Nicholson  
 ('17): George Fekete, Alan Parsons, Heather Sweeting

**Advertising Manager:**

George McGowan (email above)  
 150 Burden Lake Rd.  
 East Greenbush, NY 12061-3602

**Bulletin Auction Manager:**

Bob Bramwell  
 rbramwell@nc.rr.com  
 PO Box 4150, Pinehurst, NC 20374

**Chairman of the Publications Committee:**

Drew Nicholson dan.ddn@comcast.net  
 18 Valley Drive, Pawling, NY 12564-1140

**Webmaster****Excelsior! (Semi-Annually)**

David E. Williams, Editor  
 davidinindiana@aol.com  
 7115 Abbey Woods Dr. NE  
 New Salisbury, IN 47161

**Bulletin (Quarterly)****Secretary's Membership Report****Resigned Membership:**

Dr. James Milgram

Lake Forest, IL

**ESPHS MEMBERS AUCTION #10 PRICES REALIZED**  
by **Bob Bramwell**

By all counts, Auction #10 was the most successful I have had the pleasure of conducting. Auction #10 offered more lots, more diversity, a greater range of minimums and more color than ever. Thanks and congratulations to every consignor and bidder, even those who may have fallen an increment short.

Lot 2	\$ 10.00	Lot 37	\$ 50.00
Lot 3	\$ 10.00	Lot 39	\$ 8.00
Lot 5	\$ 20.00	Lot 41	\$ 20.00
Lot 10	\$ 50.00	Lot 42	\$ 39.00
Lot 14	\$ 1.00	Lot 43	\$ 50.00
Lot 16	\$ 16.00	Lot 44	\$ 67.50
Lot 19	\$ 12.00	Lot 45	\$ 79.95
Lot 21	\$ 14.00	Lot 47	\$ 88.50
Lot 23	\$ 20.00	Lot 48	\$ 19.95
Lot 25	\$ 26.00	Lot 49	\$ 78.50
Lot 27	\$ 15.00	Lot 50	\$ 69.95
Lot 28	\$ 20.00	Lot 51	\$ 155.00
Lot 30	\$ 20.00	Lot 52	\$ 49.95
Lot 33	\$ 10.00	Lot 53	\$ 96.50
Lot 34	\$ 31.00	Lot 55	\$ 5.00
Lot 36	\$ 2.00	Lot 56	\$ 12.00

Since we've reached double digits, it's time to look at a few accumulated numbers about the program. Over the 10 auctions, we have enjoyed the support of 20 members who consigned a total of 342 lots. In the same 10 auctions, 46 members placed bids on 264 lots. Winning bids took home 164 lots, meaning that 62% of all bids entered were successful.

The odds so far are very much in favor of bidders, and I would hope to see more members bidding in future auctions. But I'm realistic enough to know that to catch the eyes of more of you, to turn you into bidders, the auctions have to attract more consignors so that more collecting interests are represented. So here's a challenge: if you are a member who has never consigned even one cover to one auction, send me an email and pledge to consign at least one cover the next time Bulletin distributes a Consignment Form, which will be for Auction #11.

Think of it as a Public Radio fund-raiser. Without interesting "content", nobody would listen to Public Radio. If we are to have successful auctions we have to offer new and interesting content. Anyone with a smartphone can do the math: 178 of 342 lots (52%) remained unsold, which is disappointing for consignors. To make Auction #11 worthwhile to consignors and bidders I want to offer a minimum of 50 lots from a minimum of 10 consignors. More on both counts will be good for everyone.

Contact me at [rbramwell@nc.rr.com](mailto:rbramwell@nc.rr.com) with any questions you have.

*Bob Bramwell*



EMPIRE STATE  
POSTAL HISTORY  
SOCIETY

APS UNIT 28

[www.esphs.us](http://www.esphs.us)

Membership info:

George McGowan, PO Box 482,  
E. Schodack, NY 12063-0482  
[geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com](mailto:geolotus2003@nycap.rr.com)



## INSTANT MESSAGING IN ONLY A MONTH

By Glenn A. Estus

Today we are all used to having almost instantaneous communication with family members either via telephone, or email, or even by letter. But before the middle of the nineteenth century people often left their families and immigrated to other countries, knowing they would probably never see their families again. The letter was the only means of keeping in touch and the news in the letters could be months or years old.

A letter from Hoesville, New York (Fulton County) to Kelso, Scotland, neatly illustrates the point. Kelso is in Roxburghshire on the Scotland/England border.

Hoesville was a short named post office from May 28, 1846, to June 13, 1849. Previously it was known as West Galway Church (1838 to 1846) and changed its name again in 1849 to West Galway (1849 to 1919).

Although the post office was officially known as Hoesville, the writer, a niece of the addressee, Mrs. Eccles, used West Galway as her location. The letter is dated July 23, 1846 less than two months after the post office name was established. According to *New York Postal History: The Post Offices and First Postmaster from 1775 to 1980*, the first postmaster was Peter I. Hoes. Obviously the post office was named after him.

Information with the cover indicates that the letter was mailed from Hoesville on July 29, 1846, and PAID to New York City where it was then carried privately to Liverpool before being entered into the British postal system. On the reverse is a "Liverpool Ship Letter" transit marking (21 Aug 1846) and a Kelso receiving mark (Aug 23, 1846).

The letter sheet is three and a half pages of tightly spaced writing telling of family gatherings, local deaths, the weather — all the things that people still tell family members about today.

(This information originally appeared in the March 2015 *Excelsior!*) ■