

# EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY



UNIT 28

BULLETIN

August 1974

## NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Meeting will be held Sunday September 15, 1974 at the Ranch Restaurant on Route 5 west of Utica. Members are urged to assemble at 10:00 AM for buying, selling and trading. Plan to have dinner in the pleasant dining room. Business meeting will start at 1:30 PM. Don't miss this first fall meeting.

## DELINQUENT DUES

As of this date, approximately 20 members have not paid 1974-75 dues. We realize most have overlooked the May notice and this is a reminder to unpaid members. If a star appears in this box your dues have not been received.

This will be the last bulletin mailed to members who remain delinquent. The cost of a single issue including printing, envelopes and postage has reached about 25¢ per member. It is just not good management to continue the mailing to those who may have lost interest in the Society.

Pursuant to our By-Laws, those delinquent in current dues will be dropped from the roster on October 1, 1974 and will not appear on the revised membership list being prepared for mailing in the Fall.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

KAPLAN, IRWIN P.O. Box 333, Monticello, N.Y. 12701

References: ESPHS Member Al Zimmerman; Jacques Schiff.

Interests: Sullivan County (NY) Postal History; First Day Covers.

## Resignation Received:

ROTH, STEVEN M. Silver Spring, Md. 20910

We welcome to membership Gary S. Dunbar, Payson H. Dickerman and Thomas E. Elnen, whose applications were published in May.

## SUNDAY MAILS

Shortly after the inauguration of postal service under the Constitution, the mails began to be carried Sundays on the main Eastern Post Roads. The more pious of the country's population started a movement to stop all mail carrying on Sundays. This movement gained momentum until 1828 when it reached it's peak. In the late 1830's, it began to decline. A study of this movement would be an interesting phase of postal history.

REGIONAL MEETING

On August 4, 1974 at the Ramada Inn, Syracuse, N. Y. -a most successful Regional Meeting was held. There were 13 members and 10 guests present. Everyone was pleased with the arrangements. A large, well lighted room was assigned by Ramada Inn and a very fine buffet at reasonable price was enjoyed. Our thanks to Charles Chernoff for making the arrangements. Trading, buying and selling were brisk and a wide variety of good material was available. Those present expressed a desire for the continuance of Regional Meetings in this area. An invitation to join the organization is extended to the guests.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Regret to have to announce that Mrs. Edna Nelson has suffered a heart attack. The latest report is that she is progressing satisfactorily, but will be unable to participate in Club activities for some time. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

OSWEGO COUNTY

An interesting article on Oswego County is attached. It was ~~submit~~ in by Nike Todaro. Be sure to read it. You will find it most informative.

FUTURE BULLETINS

Please dig through your files and find articles to be used in the monthly bulletin. Everyone must have some information that will be interesting to other members. Bring your short articles to the next meeting.

Attachment 1 Oswego County

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Application for Membership;

HAEFELI, JOHN F. JR., 57 S. Manning Blvd., Albany, N.Y. 12203

References; None required (APS #75508)

Interests; Albany (New York State) County.

Empire State

Postal History Society

OSWEGO COUNTY NEW YORK

'Oswego' is indicated on very early colonial maps of the area because of its strategic location. There were no settlers in what is now Oswego county before the Revolution. Prior to the 1790's the only white inhabitants were those at forts at Oswego, and some wrote letters which traveled by the only road - the water route. Old fort Oswego was built in 1727 and Fort Ontario first built in 1755.

Oswego county was erected March 1, 1816 and at that time was served by eight post offices:

Oswego post office, established Oct. 7, 1806 and the first P.M. was Joel Burt. The earliest handstamp marking known is a 32 mm dull red circle. The folded letter with this marking was first reported by Geo. T. Gwilliam in 1948 to E.N. Sampson and then listed in the stampless cover catalog. No additional copies have been reported since. The postmark reads OSWEGO, N.Y. JAN 10.

The letter is dated Oswego 3 d Jan. 1821, addressed to Simeon De Witt Esq. Surveyor General, with a request for payment for the publication of advertisement for sale of lands, 8 weeks in the Oswego Palladium. The order for payment of costs, \$ 11.25, signed by J.H. Lord. The addressee on the cover is Johnathan Deming, Esq. Member of Assembly, Albany. Paid 18½ in manuscript, this agrees with the single rate for 150 to 400 miles in effect from 1816 to 1825.



*Paid 18½*

Other than the above, the writer has not seen or heard of any handstamp used at Oswego, N.Y. prior to 1829. During this period the post office was located in the old Market House at the west end of the bridge and on the river bank. This building still stands although the bridge, first built in 1828 has been replaced several times.

When Oswego first became a post hamlet in 1806, it was on the west side of the river, and until the first bridge was built, the P.M. had a contract for the row boat ferry across the river that divided Oswego between two counties.

N. Todaro

