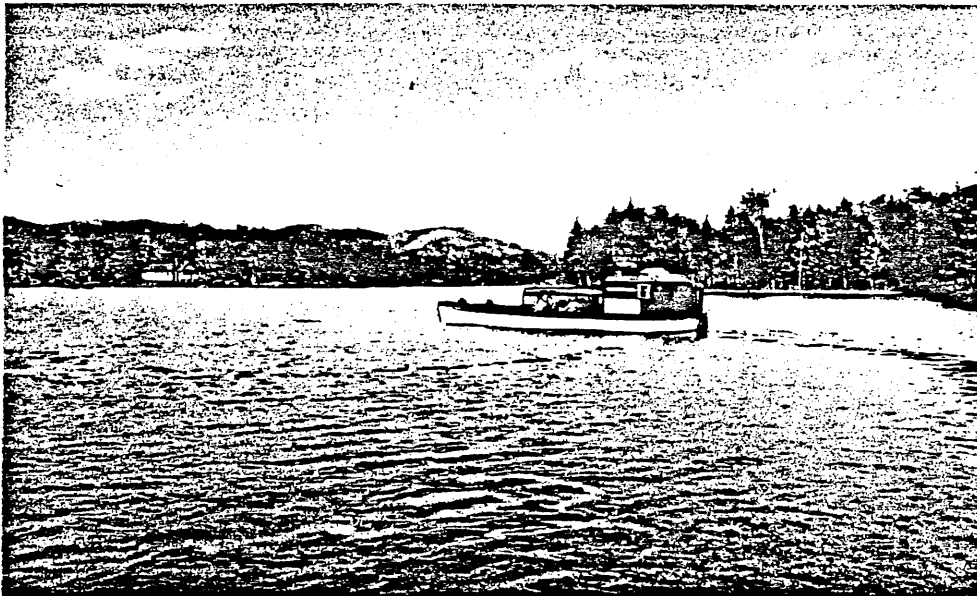


805 U. S. MAIL BOAT LEAVING OLD FORGE LAKE FOR REGULAR TRIP THROUGH THE FULTON CHAIN OF LAKES.



OLD FORGE, N. Y.—ADIRONDACK MTS.

768

THE INLET & OLD FORGE R P O

by: Ralph Reynolds

The Inlet & Old Forge R. P. O. is different than most R. P. O. 's. In this case mail cancelled this way was done so on a boat rather than a railway mail car.

The boat had a raised enclosed area at its stern, in which the railway mail clerks that were carried on the boat cancelled the mail for delivery at the Old Forge Post Office.

Maitland Desormo, in his book "The Hey-days of the Adirondacks", writes that the first mailboat "The Zip" collided with "The C. L. Stowell" boat and was nearly cut in half on Second Lake. It was raised and fitted with a mail cabin at the back of the boat for the mail clerk. Then it was renamed "The Old Forge".

The mail boat started to run at about the turn of the century on the Fulton Chain of Lakes. It started at First Lake at Old Forge and ran through Second and Third Lakes to Inlet on Fourth Lake, and then returned. The mail bags were tossed to the various hotel and camp docks on these lakes from the boat.

Mr. Callahan of the Fulton Navigation Company in Old Forge ran the boat until July 1, 1929. At that time, W. Donald Burnap took over the contract to run the mail boat. The boat made two trips daily, as cancelled mail shows TR 1 or TR 2 in the cancel..

From 1929 until 1951 he had a boat built by Jack Rivet of Old Forge, which was called "Miss America". In 1951 Mr. Burnap had a boat built by the Sound Marine Boat Co., of Greenport, L. I. This boat was named "Miss Usama" which stood for U. S. A. Mail.

cont on page

PRESIDENT'S

MESSAGE



Inclosed with this "Bulletin" is a copy of the up-to-date "Roster" of members. Our thanks goes to Nettie and Bill Seifert for having maintained and updated the "Roster" for years. Keep your copy handy. It is a useful reference to the names and addresses of your fellow members and makes you aware of their interests.

The next meeting will be OCTOBER 3, 1982. Keep this date in mind and plan to attend. Bring your ideas with you. Also, I will be glad to present any suggestions forwarded to me for consideration at the meeting.

Have an enjoyable summer!

Emma

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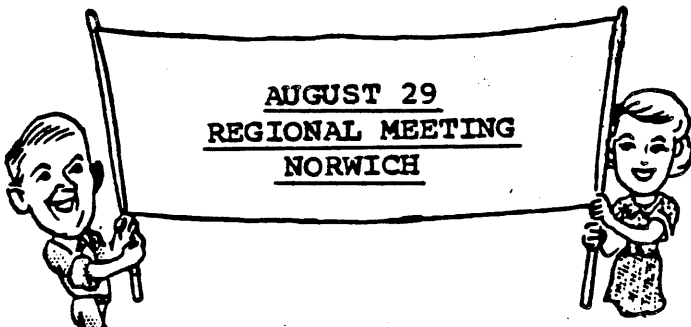
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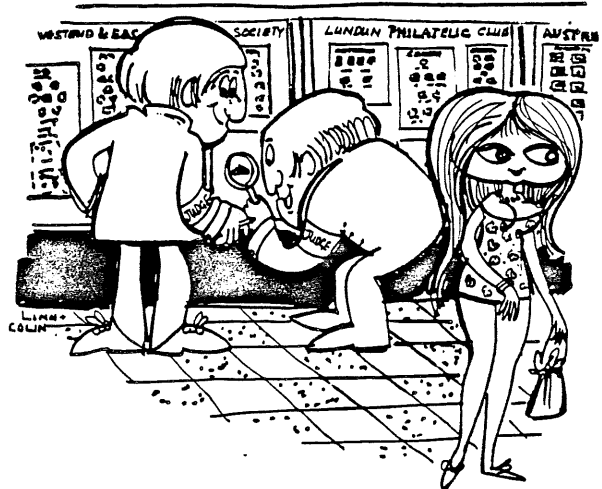
The second annual summer regional meeting (its getting to be a welcome tradition) will be held this year on Sunday August 29th. This year it will be at the Episcopal Church right in the middle of Norwich (the intersection of routes 12 and 23)

The gathering will start about 12 noon and last until who knows when. Dealers are expected to show their wares and no doubt there will be some trading and a lot of good postal history talk. Coffee and donuts will be served and there are quite a few good places to eat very close by.

If you live nearby you'll be hearing more about it, but if you have any questions call Harry Tabor at 607 - 369 - 7474 or Cliff Tuttle at 606 - 563 - 7131 and they can tell you most anything you'd like to know.

See you at the meeting!

CINCOPEX August 7-8, 1982 at Strough Junior High School, Rome, New York. This is always a good show. Plan to attend. Hours are 10:00 to 6:00, Saturday and noon to 6:00 on Sunday.



'Now, there's a lovely specimen!'
'You're telling me!'



We welcome to membership Messrs. Adams, Snyder, Williams and Weiss, whose applications were posted in the June issue.

An application has been received from:
PARSONS, ALAN 809 Holley Road,
Elmira, N.Y. 14905

References: None required (APS #056618)

Interests: US: UN: Sailboats on Stamps:
US & UN First Day Covers.

**KLIMLEY, RONALD J, 254 Belmeade Rd
Rochester, NY 14617**

References: None required, APS member

Interests: PH of upstate NY (Rochester west to Buffalo & east to Syracuse)

Our membership responded to our sale of the Smith/Kay New York State book with a flood of orders. Our allotment was 90 copies which quickly sold out, we had to return some order unfilled. Promotions like this benefit the members with a low cost and the Society with a reasonable wholesale commission, one of the reasons our dues have remained at \$5.00 since 1968!

ROPEX AWARDS

ROPEX - Rochester Mar '82. Six exhibits of postal history were entered. The winners were as follows:

Grand Award	N Todero
County (3 frames)	E Koberg
Specialty	D Proulx
One frame	E Koberg

N Y S STAR CANCELS

Dave Proulx reports: "The response from the membership has been great about the Star Canceles article. I have many more to send you and you will be getting them soon."

CORRECTIONS TO NEW YORK POSTAL HISTORY

By: John L Kay

As promised, corrections to the brand new "New York Postal History" by Kay & Smith will be published in your Bulletin as they become known.

The first corrections are as follows:

Chm Co Downtown (Sta. Elmira, 14902) should read 14901, changed on Je 6, 1980 to ZIP Code 14902

Dut Co Annandale-on-Hudson (12504) change on Je 1, 1982 to CPO of Red Hook, Same ZIP Code

Barrytown (Rur. Red Hook, 12507) Est Ja 31, 1976 Disc Je 1978

Add Barrytown (CPO Red Hook, 12507) Est Dc 9, 1978

Ess Co Crown Point Centre DC 1905 change to Crown Point Center

Gre Co Beechview change to Beachview

Ham Co Towahloonah change to Towahloodah

Mnr Co Irondequoit (Br. Rochester, 14617) changed Ap 1, 1982 to Sta. same ZIP Code

Mnt Co Currystown Est Je 24, 1821 change to Corrystown

Currystown Est Je 24, 1886 change to Currytown

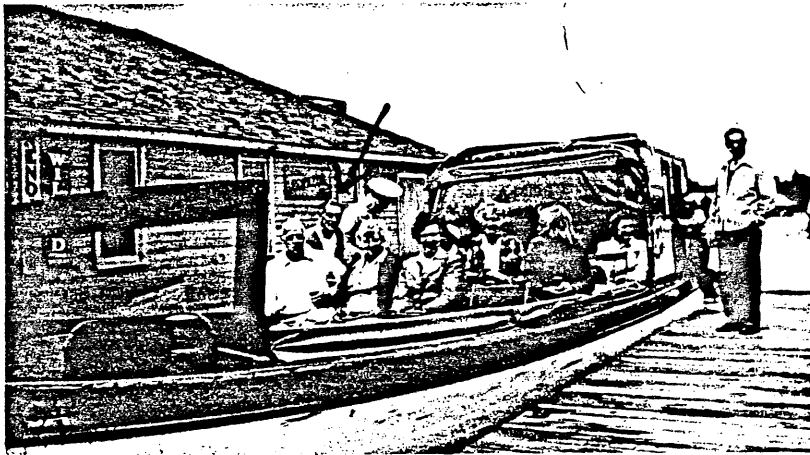
Sul Co Merriewold change to Merriewold Est Je 21, 1898 Disc Dc 31, 1932 S: Saint Josephs

Add Merriewold Est Ag 11, 1933 PM Thomas J. McCormack Disc Nv 30, 1953

Was Co Bushirk Bridge change to Buskirk Bridge Est Mr 12, 1894 PM Howard M. Hall Disc My 31, 1914 S: Tiashoke (Ren)

Buskirks Bridge eliminate entire entry

Buskirk's Bridge change T: to T: Buskirk Bridge

THE INLET & OLD FORGE RPO (cont)MISS AMERICA Boat #1

In the mid 50's, the mail clerk was taken off the boat, but Mr. Burnap continued to deliver and pick up mail around the Fulton Chain of Lakes as before on contract. His mail was picked up at and delivered back to the Old Forge Post Office.

In 1960, he bought a 20 ft. cruiser with an inboard-outboard engine, which he named "Miss Usama the 2nd". In 1969, he replaced the cruiser with an outboard boat built by Sea Barge which he named "Miss USAMA 3rd". These last two boats were strictly a one man operation.

Mr Burnap had a contract to deliver the mail in this manner to the summer residents and hotels that ran until 1977. Unfortunately, he lost his vision in 1975. However, he subcontracted with another person to finish out his contract with the Post Office.

I am grateful to Mr. Burnap for the information that he gave me about both the Inlet & Old Forge R. P. O. and the pictures of his various boats. He was very interesting to talk with and I enjoyed meeting a man of the old school that believed he had a job to do and did it with pride and satisfaction. He prides himself that he never missed delivering the mail to the

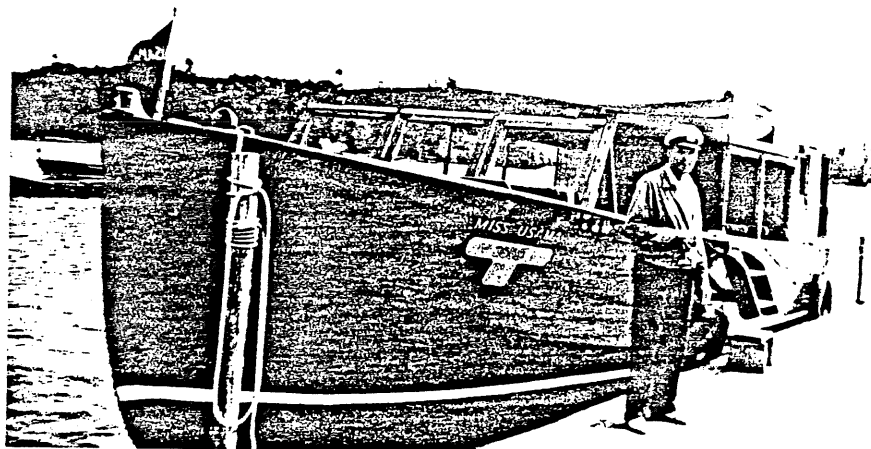
hotels and campers as per his contract during the summer season for a period of 47 years, which is certainly a very enviable record. He also mentioned that the people along his route would almost set their clocks by the time that he arrived at their docks to deliver the mail, and that he never missed getting the outgoing mail back to Old Forge in time to make that day's dispatch of the mail.

At the time I talked with Mr. Burnap a couple of years ago he lived in Old Forge with his wife. They have since moved to Whitesboro.

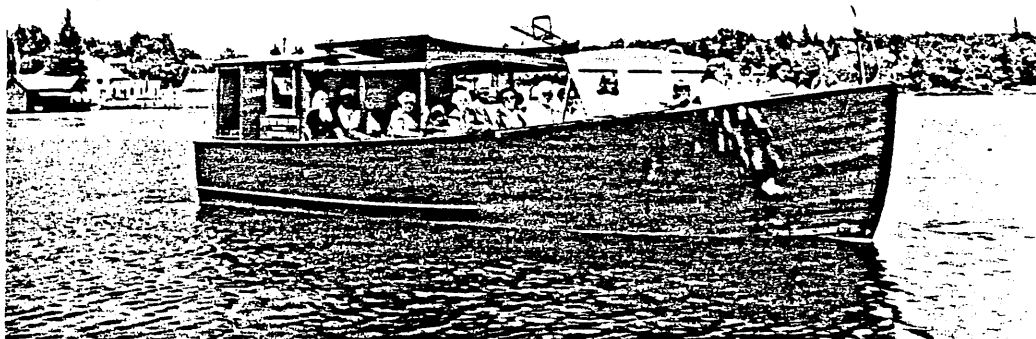
I am sure that he made many friends with the summer residents on the Fulton Chain as well as with the hotel keepers. Even though he can no longer see, I feel that he can picture in his mind many interesting people that he met and many events that happened over those 47 years that so many people depended upon him.

If anyone can supply the exact dates of this R. P. O., I would like to hear from them. My earliest cancel is 1905. The end of the R. P. O. cancel came when the mail clerk was taken off the boat. The Old Forge Post Office could give me no information as to this date and Mr. Burnap's estimate was the mid 50's.

THE INLET & OLD FORGE RPO (cont)



#1 USAMA Boat #2 Burnap in photo



MISS USAMA Boat #2



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&
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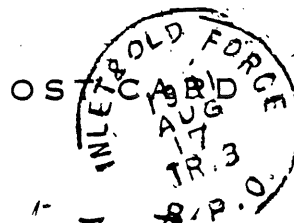
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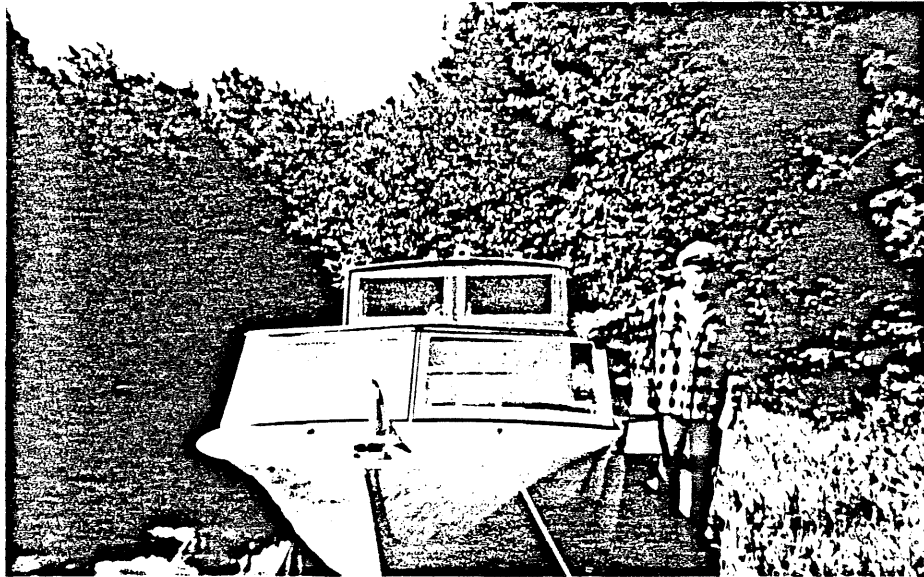


Mrs. Mrs. Mealey

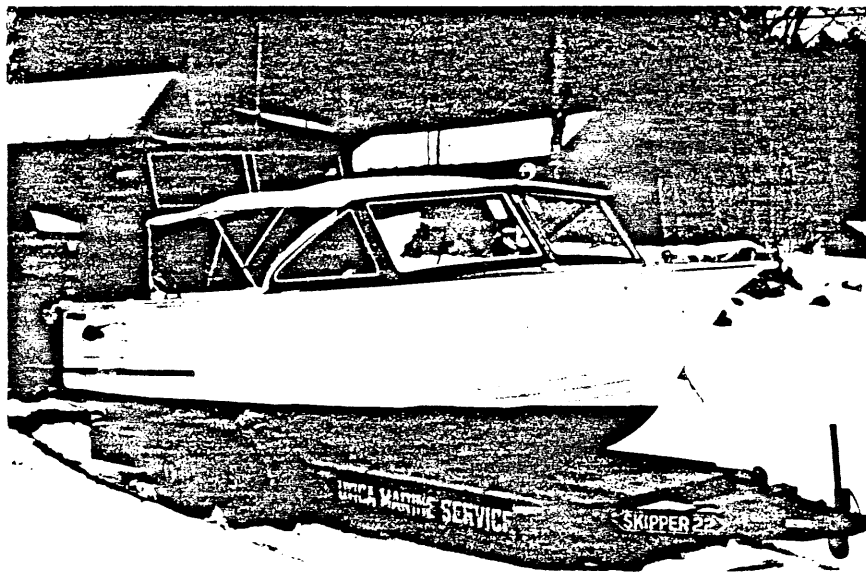
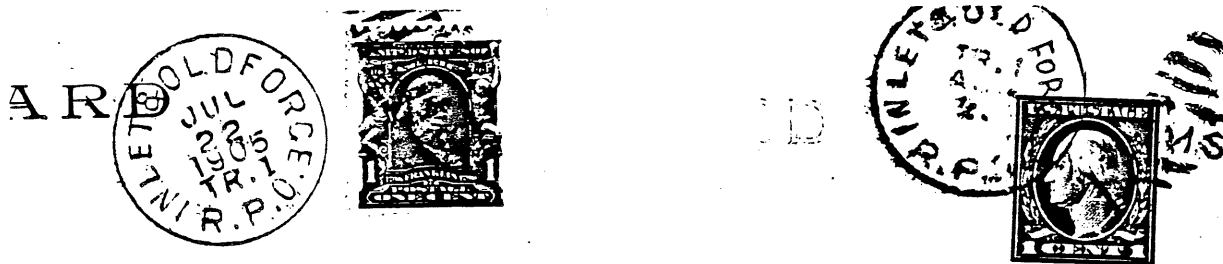


William J. ...

THE INLET & OLD FORGE RPO (cont)



#2 USAMA Boat #3



#2 USAMA Boat #3