



# BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

[www.buffalostampclub.org](http://www.buffalostampclub.org)

OCTOBER 2011

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## STAMP COLLECTING MONTH

October is traditionally stamp collecting month. The APS goes to great lengths to promote the hobby by sponsoring seminars, promoting programs that make stamps available to kids, and generally using the press to encourage collecting. The USPS tries to promote the hobby but we know the problems they have. The median age of stamp collectors is in the 60's.

The hobby needs to get new blood involved, particularly younger people. Older and experienced collectors need to put aside their specialties and take a step back to encourage collectors. Novice collectors are not interested in bank note varieties or markings. They have questions on the basic fundamentals of collecting, such as how to hinge a stamp and when to soak stamps. We experienced collectors need to be receptive to new collectors and their questions and to encourage their collecting interests whatever it may be.

## MEETINGS

Auctions and meetings are held at the Leonard Post located at 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga and begin promptly at 7:30 pm. A calendar for 2010-2011 was in September's newsletter. If anyone needs a spare copy, see or email the editor, or check the club website.

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

October 7<sup>th</sup>: **Auction**

October 21<sup>st</sup>: **Presentation** by Alfred Carroccia - "What's in your philatelic library?"

November 4<sup>th</sup>: **Auction**

November 19<sup>th</sup>: **Autumn Stamp Festival**

## CALL FOR DUES!!!!

Dues remain at \$12.00 and can be given to Casey Kielbasa at the meeting or mailed to Casey at P.O. Box 154, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0154. Casey reports 104 members which is the highest membership number in recent years. Three members joined in September!!

## OFFICERS

President: Alan Davis

Vice President: Bob Meegan

Secretary: Al Carroccia

Treasurer: Tim Carey

Membership Chairman: Casey Kielbasa

Auction Manager: Dan Sherwood

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: George Gates

Bourse Chairman: Bill Witschard

### **“WHAT’S IN YOUR LIBRARY”**

On October 21<sup>st</sup> Alfred Carroccia will give a presentation on philatelic literature and what basic books you need to be aware of. There are many catalogues, books, journals and magazines out there that are either general or specialized. It is confusing as to what catalogue you should consult or whether you should join a specific club or society. This presentation will give an introduction as to what is out there and what books you should have in your personal library. We will also solicit your opinion about the formation of a Club library and whether you would borrow books.

This will be the last presentation of the year - next scheduled presentation will be January 20, 2012. So, plan to attend this significant and informational meeting.

### **WEBSITE**

Hopefully everyone is aware of the Club Website. It is located at [www.buffalostampclub.org](http://www.buffalostampclub.org). It has collecting information and the Club calendar. Please consult this site if you have questions as to when meetings are. We are grateful to Dave Przepiora for maintaining the web site.

### **RICH CROPP**

Past President Rich Cropp has donated seven boxes of material for the auction. Maybe you have seen this material in the auction. All of the material is high quality with many of the material collections in stock books. Many thanks go to Rich for this material. The Club owes Rich a debt of gratitude for his generous donation. Thanks Rich!

### **SEPTEMBER MID-MONTH MEETING**

Casey Kielbasa gave the presentation at the September Mid-Month Meeting. As a tribute to the 35th anniversary of the Polish POW Study Group, he began by showing newsletters, post cards, cachets, and bulletins from the Study group and continued with the history, officers, and other supportive participants of the Group. It was a good summation of what thematic clubs or study groups are all about.

The Study Group provided an enormous amount of research and background to the postal activities of Polish POW camps following the Nazi takeover in 1939. As it went, the Nazi commandant allowed postal communication, so the innovative POWs designed and printed stamps on whatever paper they could get their hands on.

Casey passed around a broad selection of stamps and covers from various camps. He showed examples of the variety of colors and papers used along with the progression and development of later issues.

In all, it was a very informative and historical recount of an interesting time during WWII through philatelic memorabilia that Casey has been fortunate enough to have a significant collection.

### **VOLUNTEERS FOR PRESENTATIONS**

We are always looking for members who have a topic that they would like to show at one of our Mid-Month meetings. We know that everyone has very interesting varied collections, and we would love to have you share your pride and joy with others. If you are willing to host a presentation, please let a Board member know and we'll get you on the schedule.