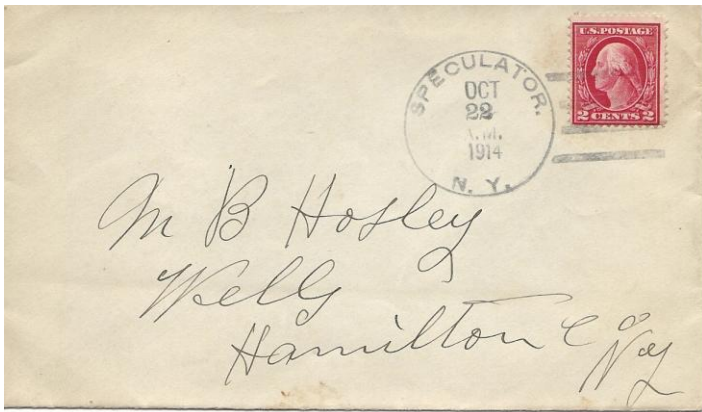


## INTERESTING COVER



This cover was postmarked in Speculator, New York on October 22, 1914. According to Wikipedia, Speculator is in Hamilton County and had a 2010 population of 210.



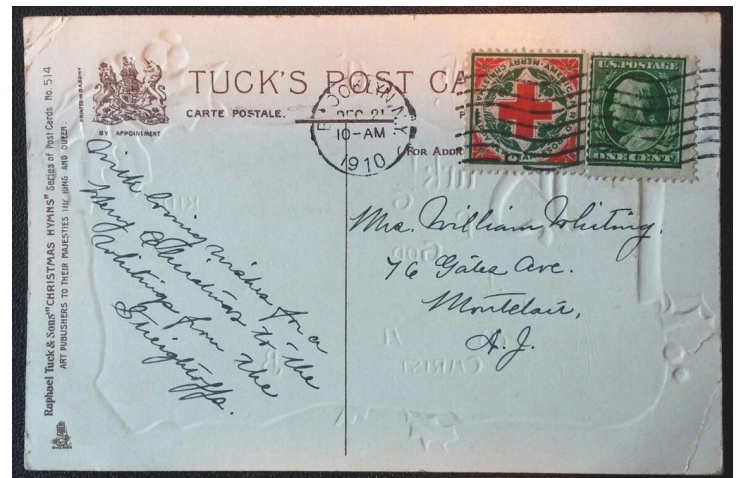
The cover was addressed to Wells, New York, also located in Hamilton County and next to Speculator – 13.5 miles away by road. Its 2010 population was 674. If you notice the cancellations, the Wells receiving postmark was 9 AM. The Speculator postmark does not have a time, only AM. This cover took a couple of hours from its mailing to final delivery. What service!

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WANTED

We're still looking for contributors for the newsletter – topics, items, photos. Send us anything you find interesting that is worth sharing. Our editorial staff will edit, correct or smooth out any rough spots for you. Our objective is to make our newsletter more interesting for everyone. We all have something to share! Don't be bashful – send what you have to Al Carroccia or Alan Davis. We'll take it from there!

## CHRISTMAS SEALS

With the Holidays upon us, it is interesting to look at Christmas Seals. In the United States, they were introduced in 1907 to bring awareness to tuberculosis and to raise money for the American Red Cross. The first seals were sold in post offices for one cent each. This led to the practice of affixing the seal on the envelope mailed. Seals which were postmarked along with the stamp are highly desirable items. In this way, the earliest known use dates are compiled with new discoveries being made every year.



This cover shows the seal right next to the stamp which was cancelled on Christmas Eve 1910.

Today Christmas seals are issued by and benefit the American Lung Association as they purchased the trademark name of Christmas Seal. With the decline of first class mail and the mailing of Christmas cards, it is rare to see Christmas seals on Christmas cards.

The Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society cover Christmas and charity seals from around the world. Their website is [www.seal-society.org](http://www.seal-society.org).



# BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

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

DECEMBER 2017

Alfred Carroccia

[Fuzzy9600@verizon.net](mailto:Fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

## DECEMBER NOTES

The 2017 portion of the Buffalo Stamp Club calendar concludes with an auction and Holiday Social which will take place on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Keep in mind this is the only Club event in December. The Club will take a break for the Holidays and convene on January 5<sup>th</sup> where we begin the 2018 portion of the Club calendar and prepare for BUFPEX.

The Board of Directors, which includes the Officers of the Club, wishes the membership a happy, joyous and safe Holiday Season. See you next year!

*Happy Holidays*



and



## DECEMBER CALENDAR

**December 1<sup>st</sup>:** Auction and  
*Holiday Social*

**January 5<sup>th</sup>:** Auction

**January 19<sup>th</sup>:** Presentation

Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga

**Auctions** begin immediately following any business and announcements which starts at **7:15 PM**. Get here early enough to view auction items. Seller deadline for submitting Lots is **6:45 PM**

**Presentations** begin at **7 PM** in the Happy Room.

## OFFICERS

President: Bob Meegan ([meeagan9697@roadrunner.com](mailto:meeagan9697@roadrunner.com))

Vice President: Alan Davis ([ddavis504@roadrunner.com](mailto:ddavis504@roadrunner.com))

Secretary: Al Carroccia ([fuzzy9600@verizon.net](mailto:fuzzy9600@verizon.net))

Treasurer: Tim Carey ([careystea@gmail.com](mailto:careystea@gmail.com))

Membership Chairman: Casey Kielbasa

Auction Committee Chairman: John Leszak

([coverconnection@gmail.com](mailto:coverconnection@gmail.com))

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: George Gates

([gghg53@aol.com](mailto:gghg53@aol.com))

Bourse Chairman: Bill Witschard ([billwits@aol.com](mailto:billwits@aol.com))

Other Directors: Larry Cherns ([katchke@hotmail.com](mailto:katchke@hotmail.com)),

Bennie Passantino, Dan Sherwood,

Candace Vogel ([f.cat777@yahoo.com](mailto:f.cat777@yahoo.com))

## CLUB NEWS

The Club welcomes the following **new member**:

**Walt Tanski**, who collects U.S. plate blocks and singles.

## **AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL –**

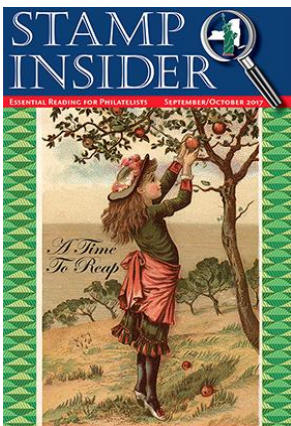
As some of you may know, one week before the Autumn Stamp Festival, we found out that the Leonard Post kitchen chef was going to be out of town and couldn't provide food for the event. Not having food available would cause major inconvenience, especially for the dealers, and was not an acceptable option. So we scrambled and found a nearby caterer who could provide a lunch buffet at a reasonable cost. I hope you agree that it worked out quite well and although we didn't think we'd recoup the cost, thanks to those that donated, we were able to cover more than one half of the cost

## **HOLIDAY SOCIAL –**

On Friday, December 1st, per usual, we will have our auction which we will try to get through quickly and efficiently. Then following, we have coordinated a snack fest with the Leonard Post kitchen chef. We expect that he will be aiming to please after sticking us a little on the Autumn Stamp Festival. We expect to have some cheese & veggie trays, wings, fingers, and cut up subs. So, plan on staying after the auction and joining in some holiday cheer, good munchies, and camaraderie. It's a fun time to get to know each other better, share stories or stamp notes, or show that special purchase we made. See you there!

## STAMP INSIDER

Don't forget to read the *Stamp Insider* available online, in color, for free!



Read the September-October issue at [www.stampinsider.org](http://www.stampinsider.org)

## THE AUCTION CREW



Picture is from the November 3rd Auction John Leszak is the Chairman of the Auction Committee, and he has assembled a group of volunteers to help at the auctions. Not enough thanks go to this group who diligently ensure a smooth auction. From organizing lots, marking, tracking, tabulating, collecting and dispersing. It takes a coordinated effort, especially since we are averaging between 150-200 lots! In the picture, from left is Tim Carey (sorry, he was cropped), Alan Davis, John Leszak and Bennie Passantino.

## NO. 1 AT AUCTION

A used U.S. Scott No. 1 with 4-sided margins was in the auction that was held after the conclusion of the Autumn Stamp Festival. It sold for \$150



This particular gem was not the example in the auction. This one is MNH and has a grade of 95 and sold for \$30,000!

## NOTES FROM ATA

With BUFPEX creeping up on us, putting together an exhibit will be discussed as part of the January presentation. Exhibiting can be very rewarding and a good way to show off some of your collection. Please consider it. As a prelude, here is an excerpt from the ATA publication, Topical Time – *Introduction to Exhibiting 101 - What is a Philatelic Exhibit?* :

“A philatelic or stamp exhibit is more than just an assortment of favorite pages pulled from an album or stock book. Rather, an exhibit should be a coherent showing of stamps, covers and other philatelic materials organized with some writeup and, for most categories of exhibits, telling a story. The story may cover the development and usages of a particular stamp, the postal history of a town, country, or stamp, or the life of some person or animal.

The possible subjects for a philatelic exhibit are virtually endless. Like any good story, however, it should have a logical flow, with a beginning, a middle that develops the story and an ending that ties the story together.

In future articles, I will discuss why a collector may want to become an exhibitor, the various types of exhibits and exhibitions and the nitty-gritty of putting together an exhibit.”

Good Stuff from ATA – Stay tuned and look for those “future articles”!

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM ATA

As an ATA Chapter, they thank us for our dedication to the ATA – and our hobby.

Their card to us emphasizes some core ideologies we both have in common:

“The **Nature** of philately inspires the collector to value the fundamental qualities of stamps and related ephemera.

The **Culture** of philately embraces the artistic achievement of philatelic items for creative self-expression.

The **Technology** of philately equips the ATA to share information for the purpose of connecting and uniting its members.”

**“Happy Holidays from your friends at the ATA”**

## HAND PAINTED CACHETS

Some collectors take for granted first day covers or event covers knowing full well that they do not fetch much at auction. Case in point are our very own club auctions where these lots or items do not sell or sell for very little. However, hand painted covers do sell at auctions and sell for hundreds of dollars.



This Dorothy Knapp hand painted first day cover sold for \$600 against presale estimates of \$400-450!



This “new discovery”, a one-of-a-kind cover, created by cachet maker George Kuntz and autographed, sold for \$400!

Who knows if another cover with hidden value is lurking in a box lot at the monthly auction?

## CLUB DUES

As we finish out 2017 your dues should have been paid. This is the final notice in the newsletter. If you have yet to pay your dues or are not sure, contact Member Chairman Casey Kielbasa. Dues can be paid at the meetings or mailed to Casey at P.O. Box 154, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0154. When you check in with Casey, make sure your address, email and/or other contact information are correct! It is important that the Club has your information in case of a Club emergency, such as weather cancellation. Make sure your dues are paid so you do not lose your member privileges!