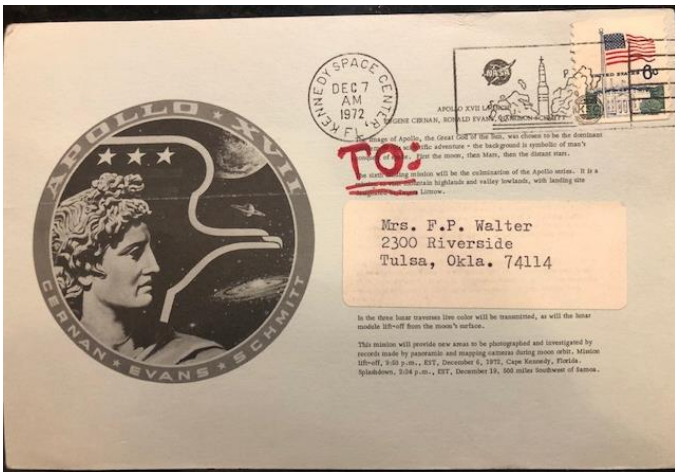


MY FAVORITE COVER

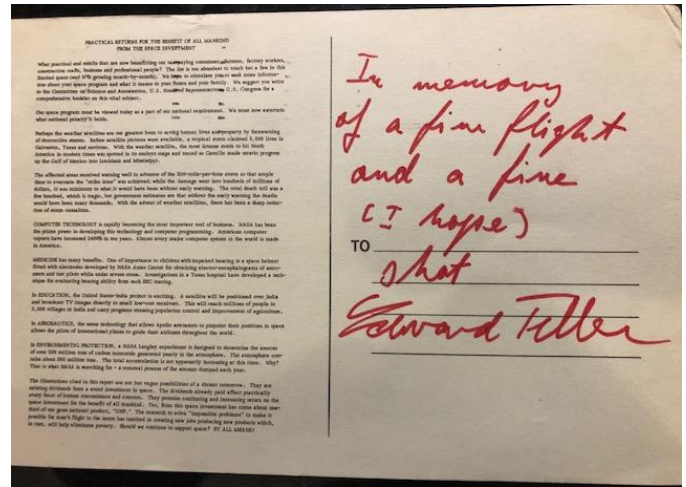
By Oliver Wolf

My favorite cover is in fact a postcard. It is an Apollo 17 Mission card cancelled in light green on the launch day, December 7, 1972, with a Kennedy Space Center machine cancel (closed globe version). Normally nothing special. I purchased the card in 2002 in Los Angeles at Herb's Stamp Shop in Culver City. What caught my attention was the writing on the back in a red sharpie: *In memory of a fine flight and a fine (I hope) shot. Edward Teller*



After a bit of research, yes, it is Dr. Edward Teller, the Hungarian/American physicist who worked on the Manhattan Project resulting in the atomic bomb and afterwards, he became the “father” of the hydrogen bomb. Later, he was director of the Lawrence Livermore Lab (US nuclear weapons development center) and member of the Space Council.

My question to Herb about the card was answered with “you are the collector, you figure it out.” I tried first to authenticate the signature, Dr. Teller was alive at the time, and his secretary confirmed it was his signature. But Dr. Teller could not remember any connection with Apollo 17 as he was in his 90's. I reached out to Astronaut Harrison Schmitt, who walked on the moon during the mission. Unfortunately, he did not respond.



The I tried Capt. Gene Cernan, the last man on the moon, and he did not recall meeting Dr. Teller or any experiments from the Lawrence Livermore Labs flown on Apollo 17. I may never figure out why Dr. Teller wrote the message on the card, but the journey so far was stimulating. So, this is why it is my favorite cover.

Editor's note: Club Member Oliver Wolf collects space covers. This article originally was published in German in the December 2016 issue of *Mitteilungsblatt Weltraum Philatelie*. Oliver loosely translated the text and allowed it to be edited. Thanks Oliver!

POSTAL HISTORY OF BUFFALO NY 1805-1905

Good News! The book compiled by David Przepiora and Irving Tesmer is finally at the printer. It's 224 pages long and in full color. After over 2 years putting it together and some recommendations, edits and additions by the Club Board members, it's done. We hope to have copies available at the next meeting. The books will be available for \$20 each. We're expecting it to generate some nice interest.



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

JANUARY 2019

Alfred Carroccia

Fuzzy9600@verizon.net

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Happy New Year to all the members of the Buffalo Stamp Club! Hopefully, everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Perhaps Santa Claus was good and left a philatelic gift under the Christmas tree? Santa is very possibly a stamp collector!



2019 will be another exciting year for the Buffalo Stamp Club. We now prepare for BUFPEX which is becoming an important regional stamp show. What makes BUFPEX 2019 even more important is the support from the American Topical Association. John Leszak, an ATA Board member, has promoted "ATA Hotspots" that attract dealers who can bring affordable topical material to mid-size shows, since their overhead expenses are much lower. Stay tuned for more details!

JANUARY CALENDAR

January 4th: Auction

January 18th: Presentation: (see page 2)
Bob Meegan – "Exhibiting Tips & more"

February 1st: Auction

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 (meegan9697@roadrunner.com)

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

Secretary: Al Carroccia (fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Tim Carey (careystea@gmail.com)

Membership Chairman: Casey Kielbasa

Auction Committee Chairman: John Leszak

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

Bennie Passantino, Dan Sherwood,

Candice Vogel (f.cat777@yahoo.com)

Kelly Kreuzer (slothlover4ever24@gmail.com)

HOLIDAY SOCIAL

The Club's annual Holiday Social was held after the auction on December 7th. It was a great turnout with the Leonard Post providing the food. Everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks to Alan Davis and Bob Meegan for coordinating the festivities.



Casey Kielbasa and Phil Smith enjoy the delicious food provided by the Leonard Post.



Club members enjoy the Holiday Social with Frosty watching over them! Good food and good camaraderie – a chance to get to know each other a little better and share stories.

NEW MEMBERS

Tim Zack- Collects AMG, British and Dead Countries. Tim joined at the Autumn Stamp Festival.

Paul M. Dziejman- Collects US, Canada and the world. Paul joined at the Holiday Social.

DUES

Dues for 2018-2019 should have been paid in September. Casey reports that 90 members are paid which leaves roughly two dozen members unpaid. Casey will contact you shortly if you have not yet paid. Any questions, see Casey. Thank you.

JANUARY PRESENTATION

Bob Meegan's Presentation will include:

- Information on the cancellations for BUFPEX
- Update on making a personal stamp album. He will bring some new pages of his collection that have some fascinating new additions.
- Exhibiting, including:
 - 1.) Demonstration of a system for mounting covers that permits moving the cover from one page to another page without requiring new cover mounts.
 - 2.) General exhibiting methods - what to do and what NOT to do.
 - 3.) The judging evaluation sheets used for National shows.
 - 4.) Examples of exhibiting pages.
 - 5.) Other miscellaneous information on exhibiting.

Editor's note: Bob's exhibits have competed at the national level and have won gold. Bob is also an APS accredited judge and has served on the juries at APS shows such as Garfield-Perry in Cleveland and BALPEX in Baltimore. The Club is lucky to have an expert of Bob's caliber and his January presentation will focus on all aspects of exhibiting from his years of experience as both an exhibitor and judge. He may even throw in a surprise or two!

ZEPPELIN STORIES (Part 4)

By Casey Kielbasa

FN was a first-generation American who believed in buying the best, and he was not afraid to pay for it. He always paid cash and often on time payments. He told his young dealer he wanted a set of Zeps. Being familiar with his tastes, everything had to be perfect with the stamps or else he would return them. Intuitively, he knew FN could not afford to put out the money for a set, so most likely, it was going to be paid over time. So, he did not push hard to acquire a set for FN.

One day he heard of an older lady who had a set for sale. He went to the lady with the idea of bringing FN and her together and take a percentage of whatever price they decided on. He met the lady at her home with her daughter and son-in-law who were probably there to make sure she would not be duped. The dealer explained to them that he was acting as a go-between and then explained the stamp business as it pertained to Zeppelin stamps and told them about himself and his business. Tensions eased, and the lady produced the set and telling the dealer her husband purchased it at the post office.

Upon examining them, the dealer found that her husband was an old-time collector. Old-time collectors always put specimens in albums and keep the other stamps in a stock book. As you can imagine, this set was in an album and it was hinged! The dealer informed the lady that he could not use the stamps since they were hinged. Sadly, he left and never inquired what the lady did with the set. As for FN, he was never able to buy a set.



Editor's note: The above 65 cent issue (Scott C13) is graded 95 by the Professional Stamp Experts. It is described as mint never hinged, original gum, not perfectly centered but close. The highest grade for this stamp is 100 which describes a flawless stamp as a "gem." The hinged stamps mentioned in the article would have 25 points deducted from the grade. Was the dealer justified for walking away?

WHO IS THIS GUY?



In case you don't recognize, that's Gene Golebiewski playing the banjo. I took my grandchildren to the Buffalo History Museum's Railroad Days on Friday, November 23rd. It was a nice event for kids. Besides coloring cutout conductor hats, sponge painting, and a scavenger hunt, there was continuous, bluegrass railroad songs being played in the main hall by this group of musicians. I did a double-take and said to my wife, "That looks like Gene from the stamp club." And sure enough, it was Gene. I guess stamp collecting isn't the only hobby he has. There's also time for singing and picking a banjo. It just goes to show you that we know people from the context of the stamp club and don't always know the rich and varied life many of us live outside of stamp collecting!