

HOLIDAY PUZZLE

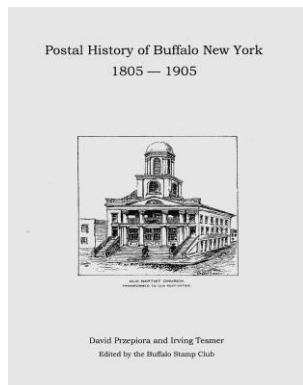
Sometimes you just don't know what you're going to get in a Box Lot. Well, Gene Golebiewski won a box lot a few auctions ago and lo and behold, there was a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle among the contents. Gene was excited to share his new "Holiday Traditions" stamp puzzle with us:



POSTAL HISTORY OF BUFFALO 1805-1905

There was another glowing review in a recent issue of *The American Stamp Dealer & Collector* magazine for Dave Przepiora/Irv Tesmer's Buffalo postal history book. For example... "the authors skillfully weave together a matrix of postal history, using examples from their own collections; no stone was left unturned in their effort to illustrate all important eras and facets of postal history. Illustrations are large and in color, and information is comprehensive. Pan American Exposition Cancells are also shown, as well as auxiliary markings and other paper ephemera."

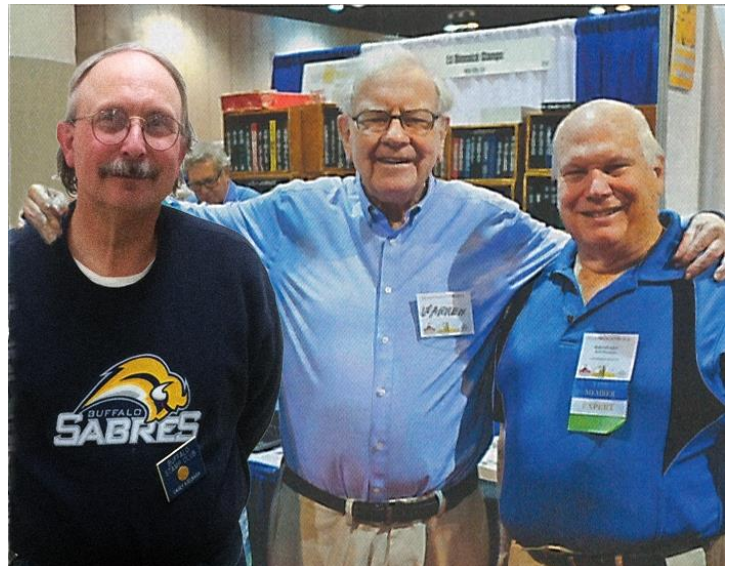
Copies are still available for \$20 from either Irv or Dave. There is usually a copy available for purchase at the Club meetings.



AN UNTOLD APS STAMPSHOW MEMORY

In the October newsletter, Casey shared some interesting memories of his visit to the Omaha APS/ATA National Stamp Show. One fact that he neglected to include was that Warren Buffett spent the day at the show on Sunday. Warren Buffett, as you may know, lives in Omaha and is the chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway. He is considered one of the most successful investors in the world and has a net worth of US\$82 billion as of July 18, 2019, making him the third-wealthiest person in the world. Mr. Buffett also had an interest in stamps when he was younger and "really enjoyed the event" and the memories the stamp show brought back.

Our editors were able to get our hands on a photo of Casey schmoozing some investment tips from the famous guru while he was there, which he neglected to tell us about. So, Casey, how about sharing some of those tips!?!



LARRY LYONS DONATION

The Club was fortunate again to receive a donation box from Larry Lyons, author and editor of *The Penny Post*, who lives in CT. His donation is much appreciated. Look forward to seeing his items in the next Club auction!



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

DECEMBER 2019

Alfred Carroccia

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DECEMBER NOTES

It is not hard to believe that the cold weather and snow has already arrived. We are accustomed to it. What is hard to believe is that we are near the end of 2019. Time is flying quickly by and we are constantly trying to make time for not only our stamps but for our daily lives. With the Holidays upon us, it's time to step back and give thanks for what we have. We need to appreciate what is most important - family and friends.

December is a quiet month for the Club. The Club meets only once on Friday, December 6th which is also the Holiday Social. The Club will reconvene on January 10th to begin the 2020 part of the calendar. The Club wishes all its members a Happy Holiday Season.



DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 6th: Auction and
Holiday Social

January 10th: Auction

January 24th: 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 & COMMITTEES

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AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL

The Autumn Stamp festival was held on November 16th at the Leonard Post. Once again, attendance was strong as the weather cooperated, and there was plenty of material available from the 13 dealers and the United States Postal Service.

There were plenty of high quality lots at the Silent Auction and more than a dozen bidders took part. Among the items was a cover franked with a US Scott No. 1!

The hospitality table was kept busy as visitors were eligible for the hourly raffle of the \$5 vouchers redeemable at any of the participating dealers. The Club also had membership applications available which many visitors took. It is amazing how many collectors were not aware of the benefits our Club has to offer!

Many thanks to all those members who helped with setup, the hospitality table, the youth table, the Silent Auction and cleanup. Thanks to all the dealers and the USPS for participating. The positive feedback from the visitors was amazing. The consensus is that a bourse the size of the Autumn Stamp Festival is a popular and much-needed event for the stamp community. Many of the visitors were happy that the Autumn Stamp Festival remains a Fall feature.

PRESENTATIONS

The November 8th Show & Tell presentation was not very well attended (only 7, I think), but I brought my (almost) 9-year old granddaughter. She showed her collection of Disney stamps and told of her experience at the APS/ATA Show in Columbus last year, which helped her complete a Disney set from Grenada. (Positive note- A smaller group may have made it less intimidating for her.)

Please Note - There is still an opening for the February 21st presentation. As stated previously, the presentations do not need to be detailed or formal. Anyone interested should let President Bob Meegan or Vice President Alan Davis know, so it can be added to the calendar and promoted.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Once again, the United States Postal Service had a table at the Autumn Stamp Festival. The table proved popular as the USPS conducted a brisk business selling its most recent issues. Postmaster Roselle Murrell was on hand to greet collectors and was impressed at the turnout. She says that BUFPEX is her favorite show because she likes the exhibits.



From left, Cheryl, Postmaster Murrell, her assistant Alison, and Annette at the USPS table.

Postmaster Murrell and her assistant, Alison, received input from collectors regarding different USPS products. They learned collectors were interested in the variety of products that were offered from the USPS facility in Kansas City, MO. Alison compiled a list of items that collectors desired. Her goal is to obtain those items from Kansas City and bring them to BUFPEX. She also says that the USPS enjoys having a table at both Autumn Stamp Festival and BUFPEX.

Holiday Social

Make sure you attend on Friday, Dec. 6th
Following the auction, food and beverages will be available along with an opportunity to socialize and share holiday best wishes. It's a chance to get to know each other better through informal camaraderie.

GEORGE GATES

It was nice to see George Gates at the Autumn Stamp Festival. Unfortunately, he is unable to drive at night, and he has not been feeling well on occasion causing him to miss Club auctions and presentations.

He would appreciate a ride to the Leonard Post from any member who lives in the Williamsville area. George's phone number is 633-8358. George is anxious to participate in Club activities. Let George know if you can help. Thank you.

As a sidebar note, George is the Club Advertising and Publicity Coordinator. He handles all the publicity for the Autumn Stamp Festival and BUFPEX. George is looking to pass this job onto someone else for the next Club season. He has listings of all his contacts along with a timeline for when Club Show information needs to be distributed. The job is very manageable for someone who is organized and literate with communication skills and capabilities. Anyone who is interested, please let us know.

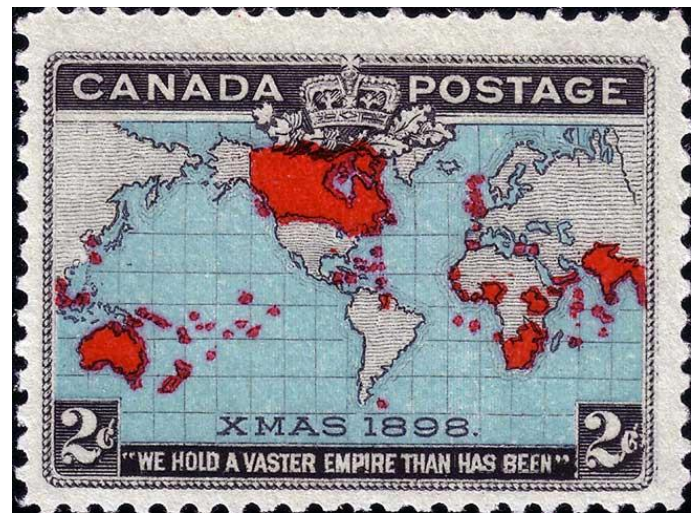
DUES

Club members who have not paid their dues after December 31, 2019 will be in arrears. Delinquent members will be notified in the January newsletter. If the dues remain unpaid, that member will lose all privileges, including auction participation and the newsletter.

Pursuant to recently adopted Club policy, after Dec. 31st, members need to pay current dues and the following year's dues to be reinstated and have their privileges restored.

If any member is unsure of their membership status, they need to contact membership chairmen Casey Kielbasa or Dan McNess. Do not lose your membership privileges over \$12! Mail your dues now to Casey at PO Box 154, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0154

FIRST CHRISTMAS STAMP



Collectors of Canada are familiar with the 1898 map stamp (Scott 85). It has been described as one of the most beautiful stamps with its intricate engraved lines, three colors and two printing methods. What most collectors do not know is that the stamp is the first Christmas stamp!

The stamp was the result of the British Empire establishing the penny postage rate for a letter mailed anywhere in the empire. To promote the concept of a letter being sent anywhere in the world for a mere British penny, the stamp shows a map of the world with the British Empire shown in red with Canada in the middle and the oceans in blue. At the bottom is inscribed "We hold a vaster empire than has been" and above that "Xmas 1898."

The penny postage rate would be effective Christmas Day, 1898. While not a Christmas stamp that celebrates the birth of Christ or the holiday as it is now celebrated, it is truly a Christmas stamp, the very first one! Merry Christmas!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Albert Capecchi- Collects used Western Europe