

Elbridge Gerry Spaulding

By: Paul Moore

Buffalo attorney and entrepreneur Elbridge Gerry Spaulding was a leading national political figure of the 19th Century. Born in Summer Hill, Cayuga County, New York on February 24, 1809, he settled in Buffalo in 1834, where he practiced law. He was appointed Buffalo City Clerk in 1838 and elected a city alderman in 1841.



Photograph of Elbridge Gerry Spaulding, taken by renowned Civil War photographer Matthew Brady, about 1860.

In 1845, he built Spaulding's Exchange, which stood at the intersection of Main and Commercial Streets. The Exchange soon became Buffalo's center of finance and commerce, housing banks, offices for the Erie Canal and several railroads, stores, and a law library. When the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank moved from Batavia to Buffalo in 1852, the bank relocated here, and Spaulding was elected its president. On May 28, 1864, the former state bank was reorganized as the Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank and Spaulding remained its president. Spaulding's Exchange survived until 1939, when it was torn down to make way for Memorial Auditorium.

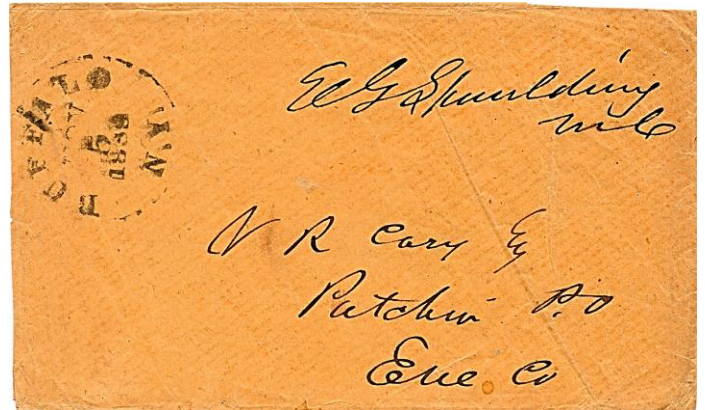


Spaulding's Exchange, at the intersection of Main and Commercial Streets in Buffalo, as it appeared in 1849. The five-sided brick structure was a hub of activity in the mid-Nineteenth Century.

Elbridge Gerry Spaulding (con't)

Spaulding's meteoric rise in politics began when he was elected Mayor of Buffalo in 1847. In 1848 he was elected to the New York State Assembly and served as chairman of the Canal Committee. In 1849 he was elected to Congress, where he served on the Committee on Foreign Relations. In 1853 he was elected to a two-year term as New York State Treasurer. He was elected to Congress again in 1858, and re-elected in 1860, serving four years on the Ways and Means Committee. During this time, he drafted both the Legal Tender Act and the National Currency Bank Bill, the passage of which led to the establishment of a national paper currency.

Considered Spaulding's greatest accomplishment, this work earned him the title "Father of the Greenback." Spaulding returned to Buffalo in 1863, following his final term in Congress. He died in Buffalo on May 5, 1897 and is buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Buffalo stampless cover addressed by Elbridge Gerry Spaulding to Patchin postmaster Van Rensselaer R. Cary. The cover is postmarked November 5, 1858, three days after Election Day, when Spaulding was elected to his second term in Congress.



A \$2.50 Inland Exchange Internal Revenue stamp, hand canceled by the Farmers' and Mechanics' National Bank of Buffalo on April 19, 1870. Spaulding was still president of the bank at this time.



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

September 2022

Alfred Carroccia

Fuzzy9600@verizon.net

WELCOME BACK!!

The 2022-2023 Buffalo Stamp Club kicks off earlier than it historically does. The newsletter is being delivered early to promote two important events. The weekend of August 20th and 21st is the Club's End of Summer bourse. Dealers are interested in a two-day bourse, particularly those out of the area. When the Summer bourse was proposed, most dealers were interested. Scheduled for the end of August also was a factor as most vacations have been concluded and weather is not a factor for dealers travelling from far away. The following Saturday, August 27th is the Club's annual picnic. Again, it is hoped members will attend this event as it is at the end of August.

The Club has also scheduled four months with two meeting dates. The first date being the auction and the second, a presentation in a smaller room (which is yet to be determined). Any member interested in presenting an interesting topic, please let the Board know. Of course, the Autumn Stamp Festival and BUFPEX are on the calendar.

Let's keep our fingers crossed as the Club returns to its pre-pandemic programming! Enjoy... and let's support the Club events!

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Saturday & Sunday, August 20th & 21st:

END OF SUMMER STAMP SHOW

(see more info on Page 3)

Saturday, August 27th: Club Picnic (11:30 AM)

Thursday, September 15th: Meeting/Auction

Thursday, October 6th: Meeting/Auction

At The Knights Halls, 2735 Union Road just north of William St. in Cheektowaga

Auctions begin immediately following any business and announcements beginning at 7:00 PM.

Arrive early to submit and view lots; seller deadline to submit lots is 6:30 PM

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

President: Alan Davis (ddavis504@roadrunner.com)

Vice President: Dan McNess (dmcness@mac.com)

Secretary: Al Carroccia (fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Tim Carey (careystea@gmail.com)

Membership Chairman: Bob Meegan
(meegan9697@roadrunner.com)

Auction Chairman: Dan Sherwood

Auction Registrar: Kevin Suckow

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

Auction Acctg: Paul Moore (paulkmoore@verizon.net)

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: Open

Bourse Chairman: John Leszak (coverconnection@gmail.com)

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

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

Barb Kern (barb3706@aol.com)

Heidi Rust (youdafox@hotmail.com)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The Board of Directors election was held before the auction on May 5th. The following were unanimously elected to three-year terms:

Al Carroccia
Barbara Kern
Dan McNess
Paul Moore

Congratulations to those newly elected Board members. The Board met in early July, elected officers, reviewed Club finances, set the calendar for the coming year, and discussed how to expand and improve Club activities with the goal of increasing participation and growing the Club. It's your Club and your feedback is always welcome!

BOB MEEGAN

Congratulations to Bob Meegan who won a Large Gold and several "Special Awards" for his Rate Study Exhibit - *United States Domestic Letter Rates From the Act of 1792 to October 1, 1883* - at COLOPEX held June 10th and 11th at Columbus, Ohio.

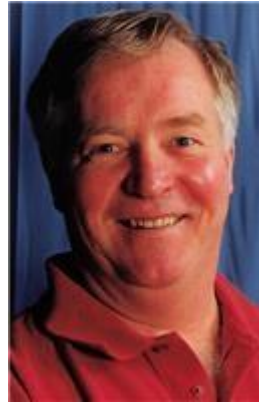
Special Awards included:

- The American Philatelic Society Award for Best Exhibit of Pre-1900 Material
- The Philatelic Classics Award for Best Exhibit of Classical Philatelic Material
- The Postal History Society Award of Excellence for Postal History

Bob lamented the exhibit fell short of the Grand Award and thinks the reason is it may need a few more rare items, or he has to (jokingly) "bribe the judges"! He intends to temporarily stop exhibiting the Rate Study Exhibit and concentrate on his Bank Note Exhibit which he intends to rewrite and remount. Good Luck Bob!

SAD NEWS

The Club lost two dealer/members recently.



Ron Yeager passed away on June 2, 2022. Ron was a fixture at The Autumn Stamp Festival and BUFPEX. He also organized the Olean Stamp Show.



Jim Littell passed away on June 14, 2022. Jim specialized in airmail and prexie postal history. He too was a dealer at both Club events and took part in Club auctions.

The Club will greatly miss both Ron and Jim. Our condolences to the families.

CLUB PICNIC

The annual Club Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 27th at the Meegan Manor, home of Bob and Mary Meegan. The picnic begins at 11:30 AM, just in time for lunch! And the Club will provide the food - hot dogs, hamburgers and sausage - and the drinks - various sodas and water. Members are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. An impromptu backyard auction will be held at 2 PM so bring your lots. See the attached insert for a map with directions and further information. The picnic this year is later in the Summer, so as not to interfere with vacation plans. The Picnic is a great way to socially interact with each other and learn more about the hobby and each other. We hope you take advantage of this great opportunity. See you there!!

END OF SUMMER BOURSE

Saturday and Sunday, August 20th & 21st

A silent auction is planned for each day and food will be available. The Club will also have a table at the entrance to welcome visitors. Members are encouraged to volunteer to help at the Welcome Table.

Here's the current list of Dealers (still waiting on a few):

- Kim & Casey Kielbasa, Cheektowaga, NY
- Tom's Stamps, Tom Sivak, Butler, PA
- Richfield Philatelic, Bill Witschard, Buffalo
- Fred Zaganiacz, Pittsburgh, PA
- Mike Retzer, Buffalo, NY
- KWS Sales, Kevin Suckow, Bowmansville, NY
- Telah W. Smith, Ashland, OH
- Howard Roeske, Buffalo, NY
- U.S. Postal Service

Flyer is enclosed – Help promote the show. Come and support the Club and the Dealers! Hope to see everyone there!

2022-2023 CLUB CALENDAR

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Sat. & Sunday, August 20 & 21 – End of Summer Stamp Show

Saturday, August 27 – Club Picnic

Thursday, September 15 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, October 6 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, October 20 – Presentation

Thursday, November 3 – Meeting/Auction

Saturday, November 19 – Autumn Stamp Festival

Thursday, December 8 – Meeting/Auction & Holiday Social

Thursday, January 12 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, February 2 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, February 16 – Presentation

Sat. & Sunday, March 4 & 5 – BUFPEX

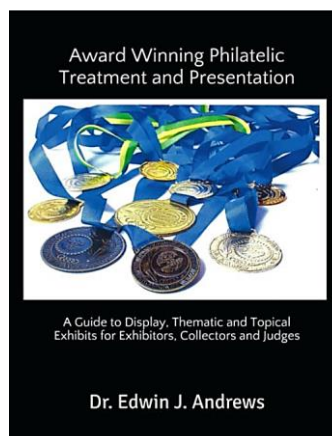
Thursday, March 16 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, April 6 – Meeting/Auction

Thursday, April 20 – Presentation

Thursday, May 11 – Meeting/Auction

NEW BOOK



If you are interested in display, thematic and topical exhibiting, this book belongs in your library. Written by Ed Andrews of the American Topical Association. The Club is an ATA Club chapter. The book is available from Amazon and costs \$40 for softcover, \$55 for hardcover.

RUNNING IS A PASSION



The Buffalo Stamp Club had representation at the Subaru 4 Mile Chase on July 14th. John Leszak ran in the race and finished 29 seconds faster than the last Subaru event, which was held in 2019.

Benito Passantino, who ran this race for decades, was in charge of the watering stations along the racecourse.