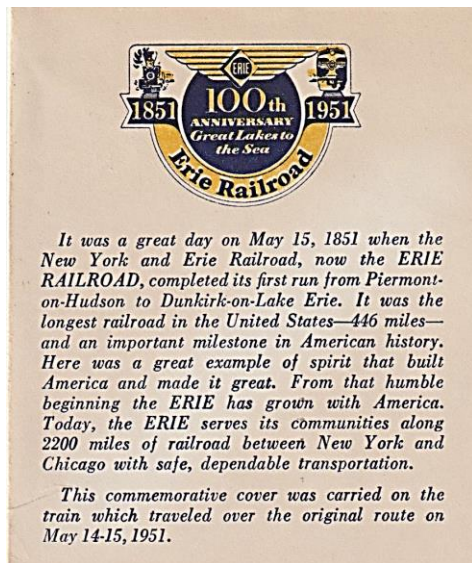
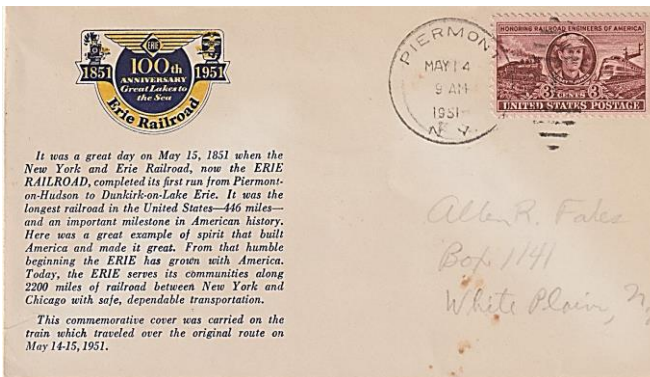


## JOY OF COVERS

By Bob Lamb

The New York and Erie Rail Road was chartered on April 24, 1832, by Governor of New York, Enos T. Throop. The line connected the Hudson River at Piermont, NY north of New York City, west to Lake Erie at Dunkirk. On February 16, 1841, the railroad was authorized to cross into the northeast corner of Pennsylvania on the west side of the Delaware River, a few miles west of Port Jervis, NY, as the east side was already occupied by the Delaware & Hudson Canal to a point several miles west of Lackawaxen, PA. Construction began in 1836 and was opened in sections until reaching the full length to Dunkirk on May 19, 1851. At Dunkirk, steamboats continued across Lake Erie to Detroit, Michigan. The line crossed the Kittatinny Mountains at 870 feet.



## JOY OF COVERS (con't)

When the route was completed in May, 1851, President Millard Fillmore and several members of his cabinet, including Secretary of State Daniel Webster, made a special, two-day excursion run to open the railway. It is reported that Webster viewed the entire run from a rocking chair attached to a flatcar, with a steamer rug and jug of high-quality Medford rum. At stops, he would step off the flatcar and give speeches.

The line was built at 6 ft (1,829 mm) wide gauge; this was believed to be a superior technology to standard gauge, providing more stability.

In 1848, the railroad built the Starrucca Viaduct, a stone railroad bridge over Starrucca Creek in Lanesboro, Pennsylvania. At the time, it was the largest stone railway viaduct in the world. It has survived and is still in use today. In fact, current owner Central New York Railway spent \$3.2 million in 2021 centering its single remaining track, re-ballasting and repairing masonry. The viaduct is 1,040 feet (317 m) long, 100 feet (30.5 m) high and 25 feet (7.6 m) wide at the top. It is the oldest stone rail bridge in Pennsylvania still in use.



Starrucca Viaduct



# BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

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

December 2022

Alfred Carroccia

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

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

The Buffalo Stamp Club sprinted quickly out of the starting gate to begin the 2022-2023 club calendar. Unfortunately, the calendar hit a bump in the road. The lake effect storm which hit parts of the area on November 18 forced the Club to cancel the Autumn Stamp Festival on November 19. Bourse Chairman John Leszak made the call. The Board of Directors discussed the cancellation and agreed. Safety of everyone was paramount. With several dealers traveling in from out of town and driving bans in the southtowns, it didn't make sense to try. Parts of the area, including Cheektowaga, were still digging out on Saturday, and even Sunday in Orchard Park.

Be sure to join us at the *Holiday Social* on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> following the auction for food, refreshments, and Club camaraderie. Come and enjoy the occasion to share with one another.

The Club wishes all its members a joyous Holiday season and a Happy New Year filled with health, happiness, and philatelic findings!

The next meeting is January 12 when we'll begin looking forward to BUFPEX on the weekend of March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR

**Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>: Meeting/Auction**

Followed by our *Holiday Social*

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>: Meeting/Auction**

**Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>: 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](mailto:ddavis504@roadrunner.com))

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

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

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

Membership Chairman: Bob Meegan

([meegan9697@roadrunner.com](mailto:meegan9697@roadrunner.com))

Auction Chairman: Dan Sherwood

Auction Registrar: Kevin Suckow

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

Auction Acctg: Paul Moore ([paulkmoore29@gmail.com](mailto:paulkmoore29@gmail.com))

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: Open

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

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

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

Barb Kern ([barb3706@aol.com](mailto:barb3706@aol.com))

Heidi Rust ([youdafox@hotmail.com](mailto:youdafox@hotmail.com))



## IRV TESMER

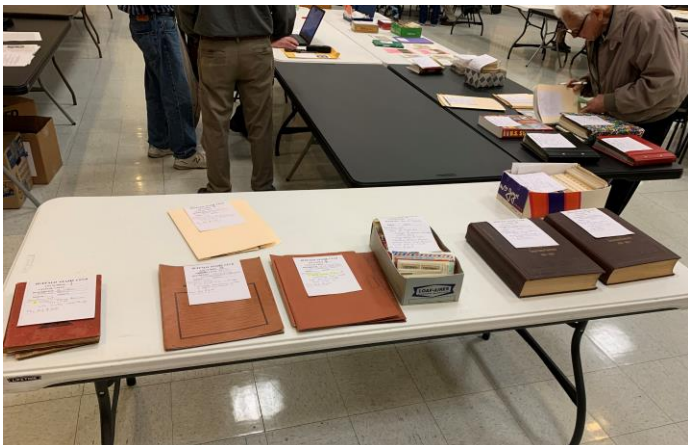
On October 27, Irv Tesmer gave a presentation covering Tax Paid Revenue stamps. Prior to the presentation President Alan Davis announced that pursuant to a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors, Irv has been granted **Honorary Membership** in the Buffalo Stamp Club. Irv's membership in the Club spans more than 50 years, as does his membership in APS. His dedication to the Club includes serving on the Board of Directors with terms as Vice President and President. His contribution in promoting the Club is tireless, along with his participation in activities and events. His annual presentations were attended with great anticipation. Irv's expertise in Buffalo postal history is unquestioned as he also is co-author of *Postal History of Buffalo, New York 1805-1905*.

Congratulations to Irv on this milestone!

## AUCTION DONATION LOTS

There have been a number of collections that have been donated to the Club and are in the monthly auctions. Many of the items offer exceptional value and yet, provide income to the Club at the same time. Look for more donated lots at upcoming auctions!

Take advantage of these lots of new material!



Donation lots at auction

## CLUB DUES



If your dues for the 2022-2023 Philatelic Year have NOT been received at the date of this mailing, the BOX will contain a **RED X** indicating that your membership is about to expire. Dues remain at \$20 and can be paid to Membership Chairman Bob Meegan at 8 Nye Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052-2649. Bob is also updating the membership roster. If you have any questions regarding payment of dues or the Roster Information Report, please contact Bob Meegan at 716-655-5583 or by email at [meegan9697@roadrunner.com](mailto:meegan9697@roadrunner.com)

## LOU MONTESANO

Lou Montesano, long-time Club member, dealer and owner of Lincoln Coin and Stamps passed away on November 12, 2022. Born Ground Hog Day in 1941 to Joe & Rose Montesano. Lou worked with his father at Saturn Stamp & Coin founded in the 1930's by his father. The name changed to Lincoln Stamp & Coin in the late 1960's. Lou graduated from Lafayette High School and served in the US Army in the early 1960's. Lou ran Lincoln Coin and Stamps after the death of his father, in 1998. Club members Irv Tesmer, Bill Witschard and Mike Reter moonlighted at Lincoln. The Club sends condolences to his family.

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WANTED

We're always looking for contributors to 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, preferably in Word, to Al Carroccia or Alan Davis. We'll take it from there!

## REVENUE STAMPS

By Irving H. Tesmer

Revenue stamps were first used in 1862 to help pay for the Civil War. Documentary stamps were attached to many items such as mortgages and wills. The First Issue occurred as perforated, part-perforated and imperforate.



Originally, these stamps were to be used for the purpose indicated on the stamp. However, bookkeeping became so complex that it was decided that stamps would be used according to value regardless to what purpose they served. There were two exceptions. Stamps for playing cards and proprietary could only be used for that purpose.



The Second and Third Issues were introduced in 1871. The Second Issue produced beautiful blue and black stamps with intricate designs. The Third Issue was a single orange and black stamp

Proprietary stamps are listed as a separate group beginning in 1871. They were used to pay a tax on patent medicines. Companies that sold match and medicine stamps could design their own stamps if they decided not to use the government issues. This produced a wide variety of interesting items.



## REVENUE STAMPS (con't)

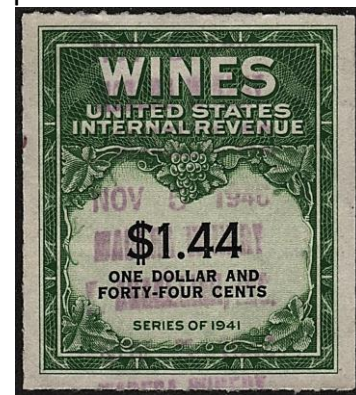
Tax paid revenues were applied to the article before it was sold. Beer stamps were introduced in 1866. They are colorful and have interesting designs.

Cigars were first taxed in 1863, snuff in 1870, cigarettes and tobacco in 1868. The early cigar tax stamps were printed in long strips and were some of the most beautiful revenue stamps used. They show numerous details in their workmanship. Some of the early snuff and tobacco stamps show pastoral scenes. (See insert from Nov 2022 newsletter)

Federal Revenue stamps were temporarily discontinued about 1874 and did not resume in use until 1898. The Revenue stamps of 1898 picture the battleship Maine.



Wine was taxed in 1914 and stocks in 1918. Additional items were taxed later. Most Revenue were discontinued in 1967, except for the yearly Duck Stamps which are still in use.



Revenue stamps are fun to collect, and they offer many choices. I have found them to be some of the most interesting stamps in my collection. Many of them can be purchased for a few cents, but the most beautiful ones are often more expensive.