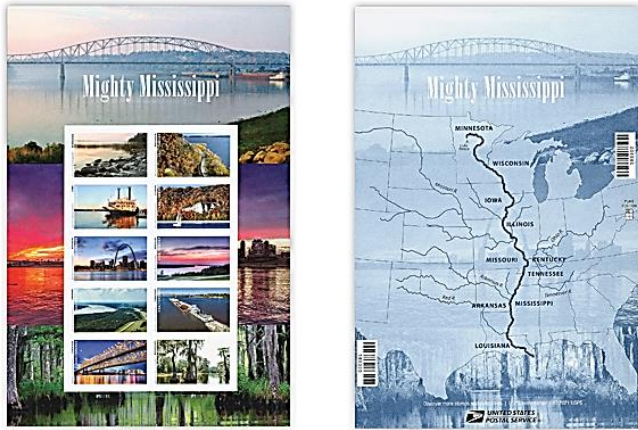


AN OOPS MOMENT



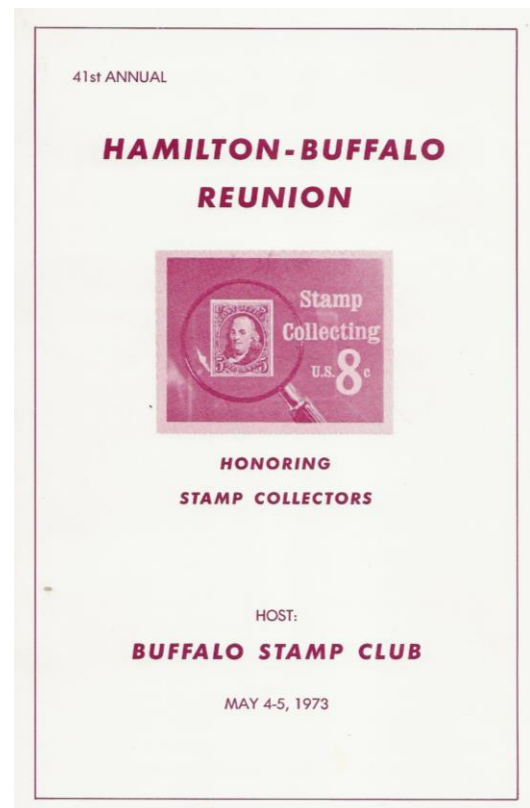
Check your panes of the 10 Mighty Mississippi stamps issued May 23, 2022 (Scott 5698). The pane pictures 10 stamps showing scenery each state the river travels through. On the reverse of the pane is a map showing the location of the river in relation to the states. If you look closely, the state of Michigan is not pictured. It appears to have been combined with Wisconsin! *Linns* reports that the USPS based its design on US geological maps. Designers of the stamp drew in the state boundary lines apparently omitting the Michigan boundary lines. There are no plans to correct this error. You can still purchase the pane at <https://store.usps.com/store/home>.



A cropped image showing the error. A nice example for a collection of error stamps.

50 YEARS AGO

Before BUFPEX, the signature event in the Buffalo Stamp Club was the Annual Hamilton-Buffalo Reunion organized by the Buffalo and Hamilton Clubs. The show alternated between Canada and the US. The 1973 show, the 40th annual, was held in Niagara Falls on May 4th and 5th, 1973. There was a bourse, exhibits, auction, and banquet. The banquet began with toasts to the Queen and US President! It was a major event covered in the philatelic press and local newspapers.



There was even an 8-page program!

PRESENTATION

On Thursday, February 16th, Rick Barrett will present **“My Grandfather was a Postmaster”**. In the 1920s, Grandpa Barrett (of Buffalo) was a postmaster in a tiny fishing and hunting town in Ontario. Rick will show the official documents confirming his appointment, along with a number of very interesting philatelic items, and talk of family-related postal history. Join us for an enjoyable personal tale which combines ancestry with stamp collecting.



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

February 2023

Alfred Carroccia

Fuzzy9600@verizon.net

FEBRUARY NOTES

January has passed quickly into February and the middle of Winter. Thankfully, the weather has been cooperative after the deluge of snow the area experienced in November and December. The long-range forecast calls for cold weather with general snowfall. Hopefully, the weather is calm when we are meeting!

The winter months are perfect for working on our collections. Now is the time to organize our accumulations. That box of stamps should be broken down and placed on album pages or stock pages. Same thing with covers. If they cannot be placed on pages, then they should be organized in boxes so they can easily be found.

If you are ambitious, then how about taking your accumulation, organizing it, doing some research and putting it together as an exhibit. It will take some time, but the results are rewarding. The exhibits at BUFPEX are truly interesting, but do not get the same attention as those at a national show. Those same exhibits would compete with those at a national show. Try it, you will be amazed.

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Thursday, February 2nd: Auction

Thursday, February 16th: Presentation -
Featuring Rick Barrett

Saturday, Sunday, March 11th and 12th:
BUFPEX

**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

Presentations begin at 7:00 PM in Bar Room

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

(meeagan9697@roadrunner.com)

Auction Chairman: Dan Sherwood

Auction Registrar: Kevin Suckow

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

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

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)

TOM SIVAK

John Leszak sadly informed the Club that dealer Tom Sivak passed away on January 10, 2023. Tom was not a member of the Club, but was a fixture at BUFPEX, Autumn Stamp Festival and the End of Summer bourse held last August.



Tom and his wife, Mary Ann, at their usual spot. This photo was taken at the Summer bourse this past August. Tom will be missed. The Club sends its condolences to his family.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bob Woollacott – was a previous member and collects United States, Canada, and United Nations.

Sandrajean “Sandi” Zahar - collects various countries and philatelic topics.

BUFPEX EXHIBITS

Now is the time to begin preparing your exhibit for BUFPEX. If you are submitting an exhibit, see Bob Meegan right away for an application.



Tim Carey's Exhibit covering Irish postal history.

BUFPEX

Saturday and Sunday, March 11th & 12th

A silent auction is planned, 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.

The following dealers are currently scheduled:

- Scott A. Shaulis, Murrysville, PA
- Howard Roeske, North Tonawanda, NY
- Kim & Casey Kielbasa, Cheektowaga, NY
- Richfield Philatelic, Bill Witschard, Buffalo
- Mike & Tim Retzer, Buffalo, NY
- KWS Sales, Kevin Suckow, Bowmansville, NY
- U.S. Postal Service

FAMOUS AMERICAN STAMPS

By: George Gates

Maybe you've seen the TV commercial where a friendly bear shows up at a kitchen window to suggest a woman with a bad cough try his syrup with honey. As he leaves, he asks: "Mind if I look through your trash."

It is pretty funny. After all, bears are supposed to like to rummage through campers' garbage in search for something to eat. To me, it also serves as a reminder of my time as a kid collector willing to pick through any wastebasket in search of stamp goodies.

Well, it was 1940 when postal authorities finally decided stamps could honor others besides men who were either politicians or military officers. A string of 35 stamps recognizing authors, poets, educators, scientists, composers, artists and inventors were issued throughout the year one-at-a-time. Of course, they were the Famous American stamps (Scott 859-893) which offered a challenge for any kid wanting a complete used set.

The tough ones were the seven 10-centers. Three times I sent my grandfather a letter with one of them for postage and three times he mailed them back. The rest I found.



When I think of those days, I realize the huge problem kid collectors would have today. So much mail comes with no stamps, that diving into wastebaskets would be fruitless. And so many stamps are issued that nobody has enough grandfathers to help out!

COVER TREASURES

Two boxes of cover lots from the January auction made it through without being sold. I looked at both lots and they looked inviting. I saw interesting usages from overlooked countries. It was not enough to sway me to bid because the last thing I need is another box of covers.

The owner, however, convinced me otherwise. I packed the two boxes in my car where it stayed the weekend, and when the coast was clear, to bring them into the house!

The covers were addressed to the same place and were definitely commercial usage, no philatelic covers. There were a couple gems. High value stamps from unexpected African, Asian, and South American countries. Airmail covers which paid the airmail rate for that particular country to the US. Also found were several registered covers. Those covers will be kept, and the rest will be cut up and made into an on-paper mix for the next auction!



An airmail usage from Rhodesia to USA. What is interesting about this cover is that it has a passed through customs auxiliary marking. An interesting addition.