



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

November 2023

Alfred Carroccia

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NOVEMBER NOTES

The Club heads into November after a fast start to the Club year. The excitement over the sale of nine special stamps is behind us. The Club's big Fall event around the corner is the Autumn Stamp Festival. Spread the word to a potential collector, and don't forget to mention the Kid's Corner to any younger people that might be interested! The key to gaining new collectors who may be overwhelmed by the hobby is to tell them that there are no rules in stamp collecting. The dealers at the Autumn Stamp Festival will be more than happy to get a new collector started.

The Club will have its customary hospitality table at the entrance to welcome the attendees. Please help out at the table. It will allow those already at the table to go and visit dealers.

After Autumn Stamp Festival we will meet only once. However, that does not mean we put our collections away. We need to begin assembling our exhibits for BUFPEX next March! With ROPEX no longer an APS show, the focus is now on the Buffalo Stamp Show - to show off not only the exhibits, but the Buffalo Stamp Club.

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Thursday, November 9th: Meeting/Auction

Saturday, November 18th: Autumn Stamp Festival
(From 10 AM to 4 PM)

Thursday, December 7th: Meeting/Auction
Followed by our *Holiday Social*

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: Barb Kern (barb3706@aol.com)

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

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

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: Rick Franclemont
(rfranclemont@gmail.com)

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

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

Other Directors: Mike Donohue (donohuem54@hotmail.com)

Deborah Grande (beemore23@yahoo.com)

Heidi Rust (youdafox@hotmail.com)

ILLEGAL USE COVER (REVISITED)

There was plenty of debate and discussion over last month's cover. The issue was whether the non-denominated B stamp was valid for postage. The fact is that they are valid for postage which was verified by Casey Kielbasa. Apologies for the confusion.

(That statement was deliberately placed in the newsletter to determine if the newsletter was being read and who was paying attention!)

CLUB DUES

Bob Meegan is collecting dues. Dues are \$20 and can be paid directly to Bob at the next auction or mailed to Bob at his address:

8 Nye Hill Road
East Aurora, NY 14052-2649

Please pay your dues promptly. Thank you.

PIETER C. METZ, SR.



The Club has learned that former member Pieter Metz passed away on October 18, 2023. He was 95 years old. Pieter was a member of the Club in the 1970's to 1980's. He was also President of The Club in 1979 & 1980 and recipient of the Fred L. Koepf Award in 1981. Our condolences to the family.

NEW MEMBER

Fay Roe – Collects U.S., Germany, and South America. Fay is a returning Club member, having been a member in the 1990's.

OCTOBER AUCTION

On October 5, the Club auctioned nine special items as Club donation lots. The lots were displayed at all Club events prior to the auction.



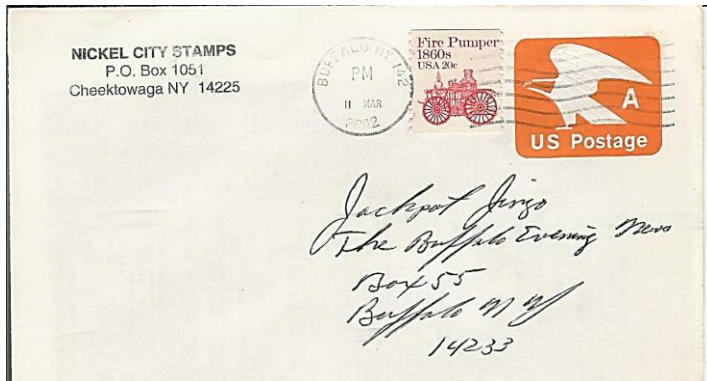
Lots 113 through 121 were sold by John Leszak bringing in \$1470 for the Club! A portion of the proceeds will be given to the widow of former Club member Bill Anstett.

39 Club members were in attendance. Thanks to all the Club members who participated in the spirited bidding and to Club President Alan Davis who worked hard to promote this special event.

The Club still has a backlog of donated items to put into the Club auctions. So, be sure to check these items out, since they offer some significant value and also add quite a bit of additional variety of philatelic material to our already diverse auction lots! Don't miss out on the deals, the fun, and the comraderie we share!

NICKEL CITY COVER

By Casey Kielbasa



Pictured above is a Jackpot Jingo cover that drew quite a bit of excitement at the September 14 auction. The sender was Nickel City Stamps a/k/a former BSC and Plewacki Stamp Show bourse chairman, John Nickel. John's claim to fame was by accident. He had purchased a collection and was in the process of showing it to Larry Manno of Frontier Auction Stamp House. To John's horror, Larry told him he overpaid for the collection.

At the East Aurora Stamp Show, John decided to sell the stamps at a nickel per stamp. Customers covered his table looking for treasures. Imagine finding a \$20 stamp for a nickel!

After the collection was picked over, Clayton Bredl purchased the remainder to set up his "original penny box." John began buying collections and selling stamps for a nickel. Many a customer would walk away from John's table with a brown paper candy bag filled with stamps purchased for nickel a piece!

NAMETAGS

If anyone is interested in obtaining a Buffalo Stamp Club nametag, please let Alan Davis know. The cost of nametags to a mere \$5.00! A Nametag promotes the club and encourages name recognition among members. Let's get to know everyone – by name.

AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL

The Autumn Stamp Festival will be held on **Saturday, November 18th** from 10 AM until 5 PM. Here's the list of dealers so far:

- Kim & Casey Kielbasa, Cheektowaga, NY
- The Cover Connection, West Seneca, NY
- Richfield Philatelic, Bill Witschard, Buffalo
- Paul Duda, Buffalo, NY
- Mike and Tim Retzer, Buffalo, NY
- Niagara Stamp Sales, Norm Titterington
- Scott A. Shaulis, Murrysville, PA
- Howard Roeske, North Tonawanda, NY
- U.S. Postal Service

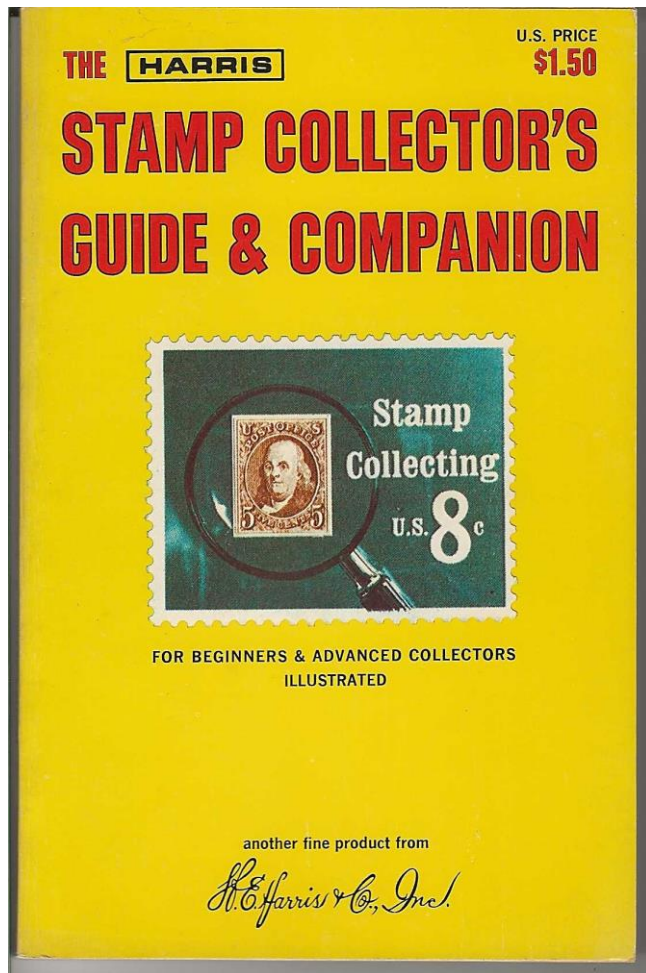
Flyer is enclosed – Help promote the show.

Also, come and support the Club and dealers! Please visit all the dealers. They carry everything you need in stock. They will even help you on the road to a new collecting area! Hope to see everyone there.



Happy Thanksgiving to all Club members. Even though post offices are closed because of the Holiday, it is not difficult to find covers postmarked on Thanksgiving. Naval covers are common as Navy ships are at sea at all times during the year. Enjoy!

ESSENTIAL LITERATURE



Most of us remember the H.E. Harris & Co. as it is the place where we began our stamp collecting adventure. It was common to see advertisements for a packet of stamps in magazines and even on match books!

The above book was published by H.E. Harris in 1974. This book was recommended to me by a dealer I met at a stamp show in Lackawanna in 1978. The dealer was John Leszak! The book is well written and easy to read and understand. It covers basic terms and stamp collecting tools we all take for granted.

Even though the book is dated it is still useful. If you can pick up a copy, do so. It will be a wonderful addition to your library. Unfortunately, you will not find a copy at \$1.50!

NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS

New membership cards are being distributed this year! These cards are the official membership cards of the Buffalo Stamp Club and replace the voided previous cards. The cards are computer-generated and have a sequential number in the lower right corner that is the same as the "data line" that contains the information for the member (or multiple members if residing at the same household). It's also the same number indicated on the "Member Information Report" that is included with the September newsletter. This "sequence number" will remain the same number for the "Philatelic Year" that starts on September 1st and ends on August 31st of the following year.

The new membership cards will be sent out annually — and the year of issue is indicated in the lower left corner. After you pay your dues, the membership card will be included with the next issue of the club newsletter, thereby confirming that your payment was received, processed, and that your membership in the club has been confirmed.

It required many hours of work to set up, and fully test, the somewhat complex Excel routine that retrieves data from over 800 different "information sources" in one large data file and then correctly sends that data to a specific location on a completely different spreadsheet. However, now that the laborious work to make the system operational has been completed, future work to create these annual membership cards will be minimal. Rather than hand-printing about 115 membership cards, this year the computer printed over 115 cards in less than 46 seconds!