



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

May 2024

Alfred Carroccia

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MAY NOTES

The Club is nearing the end of the 2023-2024 Club calendar. The final order of business will be the annual election of Board of Directors which will take place before the auction on May 9. The ballot is set with four candidates whose terms run to 2027. Since the four candidates are unopposed the vote will be by a show of hands. Please take part in the voting and support our newly installed directors as they help plan the future for the Buffalo Stamp Club.

There will be two Club events over the Summer. The August Stamp Fair will be held Saturday, August 24. Also planned will be the Club annual picnic which will be scheduled shortly. Stay tuned for information regarding these events!

There will be no meeting/auction in June. This is the final newsletter. The September newsletter will be delivered prior to the August Stamp Fair and will also contain information on the annual picnic. The Club wishes all its member a happy and enjoyable Summer. Stamp Collecting is a year-long hobby, perhaps work on that exhibit or a Club presentation!

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Thursday May 9th: Meeting/Auction
Board of Directors Election

Annual Picnic: Date to be Announced

Saturday, August 24th: August Stamp Fair

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
(meeagan9697@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)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The Board of Directors election will be held before the auction on May 9. The ballot and candidates are set. Since no other members have come forward the vote will be by a show of hands. The candidates are:

Tim Carey

Alan Davis

Casey Kielbasa

Peter Stuhlmiller

Thanks to Peter Stuhlmiller for stepping in to fill the vacant seat.

ECLIPSE COVERS

Demand for eclipse covers cancelled at BUFPEX and on April 8, the day of the eclipse, has been high. Interestingly, *Linn's* April 22 edition publicized the BUFPEX cancel in its *Postmark Pursuit* section. While the short article focused on the eclipse it did mention BUFPEX show and bourse. President Alan Davis and Alison Potenza from the USPS and other USPS staff have been busy cancelling covers from all over the world.

Below is the April 8 cover from the Hamburg Post Office.



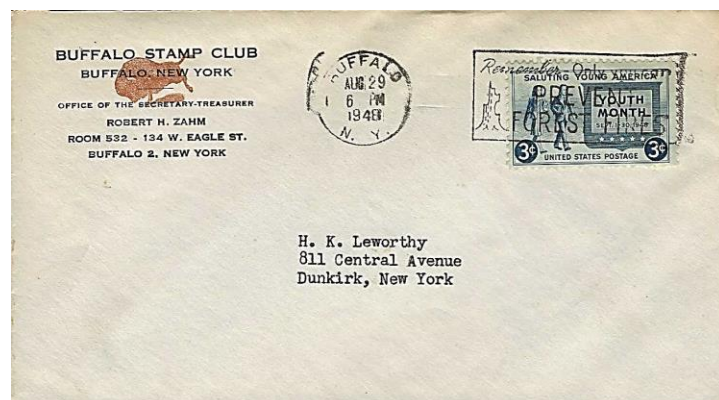
At Bufpex, Scott Shaulis was gracious enough to donate another sheet of the Eclipse stamps, and we were able to put more covers together. So, there are still a few Bufpex and Hamburg covers left. Any Club members who wish to purchase covers should see Alan Davis. Cost is \$5 each or two for \$8.

BSC HISTORY

The 1940's was a busy decade for the Buffalo Stamp Club. The Club moved from its meeting place at the YMCA on Franklin Street to the new Statler Hotel on Niagara Square across from the newly opened Buffalo City Hall. In 1940, the Club would host the APS 55th Annual Convention which ran August 12-16 at the Hotel Statler. The Convention was successful in that it showcased Buffalo attracting collectors from the United States and Canada.

The covers below were purchased at BUFPEX. Both are Buffalo Stamp Club advertising covers. Both are from Robert H. Zahm who was Secretary of the Buffalo Stamp Club during that time. The 134 West Eagle Street address is the Erie County Probation Office. Robert H. Zahm was Probation Director of Erie County.

The first cover was postmarked on December 3, 1941, and the second postmarked on August 29, 1948.



FARNHAM DPO

Post offices which have closed and are no longer in service are known as discontinued post offices or DPO's. Post offices close for a number of reasons including not enough revenue. Most are located in rural areas and are victims of consolidation. The USPS maintains a list of DPO's.

Tim Carey learned that his post office located in Farnham was closing March 30. He managed to obtain last day postmarks and has shared them.



The Farnham Post Office opened on September 18, 1855 with Francis Snow as its first postmaster. The Village of Farnham was incorporated in 1892 and is named after Leroy Farnham, an early settler. The original Post Office was located on Route 249 (Commercial Street) near the Lake Shore Railroad tracks. The present Post Office was located just down the street at 461 Commercial Street.

DPO cancels are a popular collecting area. Postmarks from DPO's that were operating for only a few years are desirable with most being scarce. Collectors build their collection of DPO's by County or State. Thanks Tim.

INTERESTING COVER

Dave Przepiora donated several boxes of covers, mostly commercial. There will be 2 more boxes in the next auction. Here's one from a Polish dealer:



SO CLOSE - BUT SO FAR

By Joe Brzezowski

Recently Gail and I had an opportunity to head to London, England for a 2-week holiday. We were very excited to go, and we planned what we wanted to see and do. My one and only request was we stop at Stanley Gibbons on the Strand in downtown London.

For those of you not familiar with Stanley Gibbons or not British Commonwealth Collectors, Stanley Gibbons is the Mecca of BCW collecting. Established in 1872 this one store is known throughout the world as the authority on BCW stamps.

So, of course I planned on stopping by, getting a few pictures, drooling on some rarities, and buying a catalog to put in my suitcase and carry back to the US to save a few dollars. The wonderful thing about Stanley Gibbons, if you introduce yourself as an APS and Buffalo Stamp Club member, they will let you look at almost any stock book, stamp, and cover they have. We did this on our last visit in 2007 and bought nothing but a 2007 Catalog. Now the excitement was surrounding the purchase of the 2024 issue and bringing home the prize.



SO CLOSE - BUT SO FAR (continued)

I should add that on the Monday we were planning on our visit, Gail fell badly on the street and broke a toe and hurt her knees and side. But she stayed strong and hopped on the tour bus. We had our tour of the highlights of London and what to see and do. Around 1PM we stopped in the center of London at Trafalgar Square. The target was a short 6-minute walk down the Strand according to the walking app on the iPhone.

With Gail holding my hand for support, we made our way down the street, loving the vibrancy of London and all the surrounding stores and sights.



Then, there it was – 399 Strand. We took a few pictures, walked up to the door and it was CLOSED! Sealed with a letter on the door showing the holiday hours.

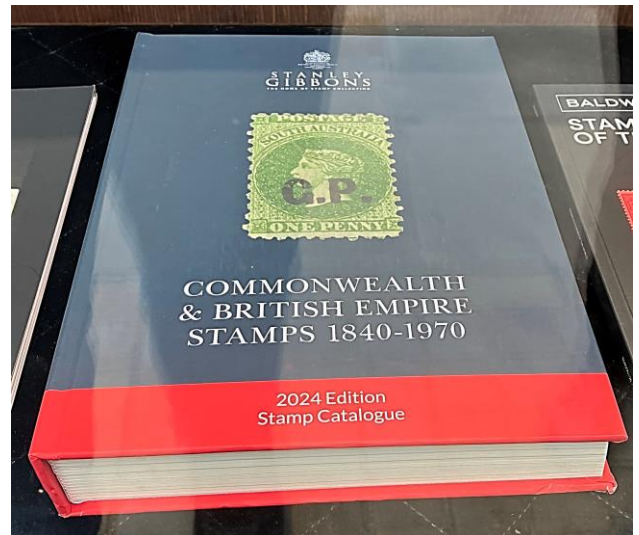
I had checked online and saw it was closed for Good Friday and Easter, but it said nothing about a Bank Holiday Monday closure.

SO CLOSE - BUT SO FAR (continued)

And guess what was in the window?? The exact 2024 copy of the catalog I came for. I am sure I looked like the sad dog outside the butcher's window, looking at the meat and unable to obtain.

So, we took a few more pictures and grabbed an iconic London taxi back to our hotel at the Tower of London Bridge. Me sulking and Gail nursing her toe and other injuries.

I will eventually just order a catalog and pay the shipping. But for now, we can laugh at ourselves for not checking ahead and making some better plans.



The elusive catalog Joe was chasing!

But we consoled ourselves with some awesome fish and chips and a few pints of London's best lager!

2 EXTRA ECLIPSE CACHETS SENT "FOR YOU"

(No stamp)

