



# BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

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

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## WELCOME BACK!!!

The Club is once again kicking off its 2024-2025 Calendar in early August. The newsletter is sent early to promote the annual Summer Bourse, the August Stamp Fair. This year the bourse will be held on Saturday, August 24 and again will be a one-day show. The bourse is at the end of August when most vacations have been concluded and the weather not as hot. This year the Club has a cover available with a show cachet and cancel celebrated with the new Carnival Nights stamps!

The Calendar for 2024-2025 is scheduled. Notable events are the Autumn Stamp Festival on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and BUFPEX on the weekend of March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. Details for each event will be forthcoming. Also on the Calendar are three presentations. September is reserved but the other two are available. Club members interested in presenting a topic are encouraged to do so. The presentation does not have to be fancy with a PowerPoint presentation. If you want to show off your binders of stamps and covers, the Club would be happy to see them. Contact President Alan Davis or another Board member if you are interested.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR

**Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>:** August Stamp Fair

**Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Picnic

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

**Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>:** Presentation

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

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

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

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

Bourse Chairmen: Dan McNess ([dmcness@mac.com](mailto:dmcness@mac.com)) and  
John Leszak ([coverconnection@gmail.com](mailto:coverconnection@gmail.com))

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

Web Page Editor: Deborah Grande ([beemore23@yahoo.com](mailto:beemore23@yahoo.com))

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

Peter Stuhlmiller ([pjstuhl@gmail.com](mailto:pjstuhl@gmail.com))

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION**

The Board of Directors election was held before the auction on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The vote was by a show of hands. The Board Members whose terms expire in 2027 are:

**Tim Carey**

**Alan Davis**

**Casey Kielbasa**

**Peter Stuhlmiller**

Congratulations to Peter Stuhlmiller who becomes a freshman Director. Thanks to Peter for stepping up. It is not too early to think about becoming a member of the Board. The next elections are in May 2025.

## **2024-2025 CLUB CALENDAR**

The 2024-2025 Club calendar is scheduled. It is attached as an insert to the newsletter, so it can be kept for reference. Keep it on your refrigerator!

## **CLUB OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

The Board of Directors voted to retain last year's Club Officers and Committees. See page 1 for a partial list of the Officers and Committees. However, there are other Club committees which we'd like to fill – The Special Events Coordinator for events like the Christmas Party or the Summer Picnic, and also, a Social Media/Facebook Coordinator. The Events position for the Christmas Party and Picnic involve ordering food, set up and clean-up coordinator. The Social Media position requires a person with technical knowledge of Facebook and maybe other Social platforms. Anyone interested please see President Alan Davis or any other Board Member. Thank you.

## **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WANTED**

Any topics, stories, interesting facts, or items to share? Email them to Al Carroccia!

## **BOARD MEETING**

The Board of Directors met on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The Club received reports on finances and membership. Financially, the Club is doing very well with income generated from auction income and Club donations. The major expenses are the cost of renting the Knights Hall.

Club membership is at 121 members. There was discussion regarding the dues which will remain the same, but the Club is offering free membership to kids under the age of 18 years.

The theme for BUFPEX will be the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Erie Canal. The show cachet will be designed by Paul Moore, and the USPS will have a show cancel available on both days. The Club will also work with the Boy Scouts to hold a merit badge workshop.

President Alan Davis gave an update regarding the portal **Learning About Stamps Online** (LASO). He is encouraging Club members to participate. He is also encouraging a **Stamp Collecting Roundtable** to meet before the Club Auctions to answer any questions and discuss philatelic topics. Volunteers are needed to help lead this initiative.

Two other topics discussed were Membership complaints and auction ground rules. Any complaints should be directed to a Club Officer or Board Member to be addressed. One of the recent complaints involves talking during the auctions. It is difficult to follow and hear bids when there is talking. It is proposed that the practice of no conversations during the auction be reinforced, so as not to cause a disturbance that impacts the ability to hear or participate in the auction. So, please respect your fellow Club Members. Thank you.

## CLUB DUES

Club dues remain at \$20 and should be paid by the September meeting. Dues can be mailed directly to Bob Meegan at his address:

**8 Nye Hill Road**

**East Aurora, NY 14052-2649**

There are a couple Board clarifications and decisions that you should be aware of –

1. Dues are considered per “Household” and includes other family members
2. Junior members have \$0 dues

Included with the newsletter should be your “Membership Information Form”. Please check to verify that the information is correct.

Also, the “Dues” box will be **yellow** if you still owe or **green** if you’re Paid up.

Any questions, check with Bob, thank you.

## AUGUST STAMP FAIR

**Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**

Here’s the list of dealers (as of this date):

- **Tri-K Philatelics, Kim & Casey Kielbasa**
- **Richfield Philatelics, Bill Witschard**
- **Cover Connection, John Leszak**
- **Mike & Tim Retzer, Buffalo, NY**
- **Howard Roeske, North Tonawanda, NY**
- **Paul Duda, Buffalo, NY**
- **Niagara Stamp Sales, Norm Titterington**
- **United States Postal Service**

The Club has arranged with the USPS to have a **Show Cancel** for the August Stamp Fair! The cachet and cancel were designed by Paul Moore and Alison Potenzo from the USPS.

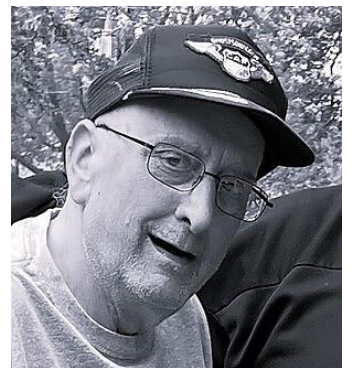


## CLUB PICNIC

The Annual Club Picnic will be held on **Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** at Meegan Manor, the home of Bob Meegan. The picnic begins at 11:30 AM, just in time for lunch! The Club provides the food with plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers and sausage. Soda and water will also be available. Club members are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. An impromptu auction will be held at 2 PM so bring your lots! The insert with the newsletter has a map with directions and further information. The picnic is in September so as not to interfere with vacation plans and the weather being not too hot. The picnic allows Club members to relax and socially engage with each other. It is a great way to learn more about each other and our collecting interests. See you there!!

## ALBERTO CAPECCHI

The Club was saddened to hear the passing of Club member Albert Capecchi on July 19, 2024. Albert was always accompanied by his wife, Kathy, who was faithfully always by his side at all the Club events.



Albert was born August 12, 1941, in Naples, Italy, arrived in Canada, Nov. 19, 1973. He joined the Club in 2019. Even though it was a relatively short time, he was a very active buyer and seller. He and Kathy participated in all Club activities, and they became “regulars”. He will be greatly missed. Our condolences to the family.

## SEPTEMBER 26<sup>th</sup> PRESENTATION

Bob Meegan has volunteered to do the September 26<sup>th</sup> presentation. Bob will talk about two subjects regarding interesting postal delivery methods that eventually ended due to external factors that were created by changes in transportation and communication systems.

His topics are:

Part 1: C18 and the flight of the Graf Zeppelin.



Part 2: A Summary of the U. S. Special Delivery System.

Air travel by dirigibles was initially marked by great enthusiasm but the disadvantages inevitably led to the decline and eventual demise of the “lighter than air” transportation industry. However, the brief popularity of this unusual transportation system resulted in fascinating postal activity. Several aspects will be displayed and discussed.

Next, there will be an overview of the Special Delivery System of the United States Postal System. The Special Delivery option was first put into effect on October 1, 1885 and lasted until the final day of the service on June 7, 1997. The special delivery service entitled the sender “...to have such letters to immediate delivery at a Special Delivery Office...” The advent of the internet and the growth of near-instantaneous delivery of messages by computers made this Special Delivery system obsolete. The Post Office adapted to changing conditions and responded by the Express Mail system. The Special Delivery service was available for about 112 years and many interesting examples of this postal service will be presented.

## PARIS OLYMPICS

The 2024 Summer Olympics are being held in Paris from July 26 to August 11. Most countries will release stamps to commemorate the event. France released a stamp ahead of the Olympics to celebrate a French staple, the baguette!



The stamps are of the scratch and sniff variety. The stamps received publicity after their release. TV news and the internet exploded with stories of the stamps. However, there was a lot of criticism that the stamps did not actually have the odor of a baguette, but regular bread!

### LEARNING ABOUT STAMPS ONLINE (LASO)

A new APS Chapter was recently formed, Learning About Stamps Online or LASO. The Buffalo Stamp Club was involved and supported the formation of this new chapter. The Club felt that having an online element for our members was important. As a BSC member, you are welcome to join this new Club. Membership is free – you just have to register. Visit the website to join:

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

The first online presentation was July 16<sup>th</sup> led by Tom Fortunato – “Free Online Philatelic Tools and Resources”. The next one is August 20<sup>th</sup> at 8PM – “Local Clubs: Best Practices”. See back page of the calendar for more info.