



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

December 2025

Alfred Carroccia

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DECEMBER NOTES

The Club enters the Holiday stretch meeting only once in December. On December 4th, the Club will hold its Holiday Social after the auction. The Club will not meet again until January 15th when preparations begin for BUFPEX, which is March 7th & 8th.

The Holiday season allows the Club to step back from its hectic schedule to enjoy the spirit of the season with family and friends. Of course, when there is too much Holiday spirit (no pun intended!), we can always withdraw to our stamp rooms and engage with our collections in an effort to catch up after all the material we purchased at the Autumn Stamp Festival or the recent Club Auctions, or we can work on that exhibit for BUFPEX.

The Buffalo Stamp Club wishes all its members a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year. The Club looks forward to seeing everyone on January 15th!

UPCOMING CALENDAR

Thursday, December 4th: Meeting/Auction
Followed by our *Holiday Social*

Thursday, January 15: 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)

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) and
Peter Stuhlmiller (pjstuhl@gmail.com)

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

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

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

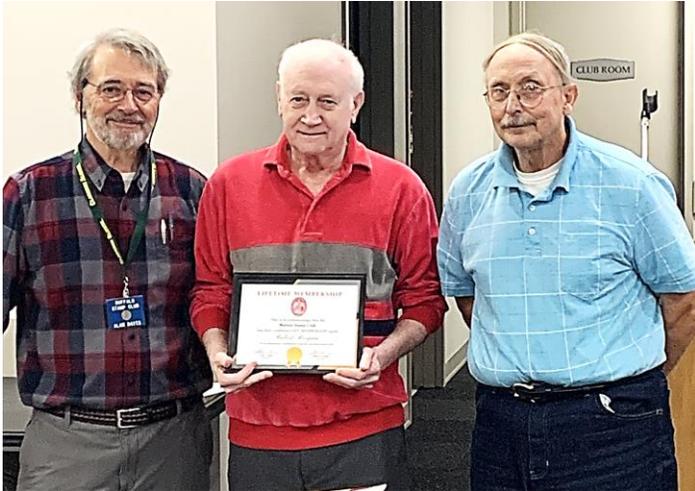
Bourse Chairmen: Dan McNess (dmcness@mac.com)

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

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

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

BOB MEEGAN



Once again, we honored Bob Meegan with another well-deserved recognition! At the November 13th meeting, the Club presented Bob with Life Membership in the Buffalo Stamp Club. This honor has been achieved by six other Club members and recognizes Bob's exemplary achievements, contributions, longevity, and service to the Buffalo Stamp Club. The Club is proud of Bob's membership in the Buffalo Stamp Club, and his influence and impact into the hobby of Stamp Collecting. Congratulations Bob!

AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL

Many thanks to all the Club members, dealers, the USPS, attendees, and participants who helped make the Autumn Stamp Festival a great success! The bourse was held on November 22nd. The attendance was strong, and the dealers reported good sales. Thanks to everyone who chipped in to help the Show run smoothly!

REMEMBRANCES

Casey Kielbasa reports the following who have passed:

Ed Bailey - Ed passed away on April 21, 2025. Ed was a dealer at many Buffalo Stamp Club shows. He organized the dealers for the Syracuse Stamp Club and his own bourses. He was part-owner of Suburban Stamp Coins & Collectibles. Ed was 93 years old.

Laurence "Larry" Winom - Larry passed away on September 18, 2025. Larry ran Winom Stamps and set up at BUFPEX. He specialized in US and Germany but sold other countries in his 102 card red boxes. He was a respected, honest, and knowledgeable dealer and philatelist. He was 85 years old.

Rosemary Hibbard - Rosemary passed away on November 3, 2025. She was the elf along with her late husband Ted at the Club Christmas parties. Rosemary was a collector of US stamps. Casey says he saw her more often in Rochester than in Buffalo. She was a wonderful lady, a retired school librarian who enjoyed reading and bowling. Of course, Casey reports Rosemary was also a Buffalo Bisons Booster Club member.

The Club sends its condolences to all the families and friends of Ed, Larry and Rosemary.

BOOKLETS

A curious but interesting collecting area is booklets. Originally produced for the convenience of the public, booklets have evolved into a specialized collecting area. Booklets typically contain a pane of six stamps or more depending on the layout of the booklet.

Booklets can be collected as unexploded, or intact. Below are examples of intact booklets which are stitched, stapled or glued.



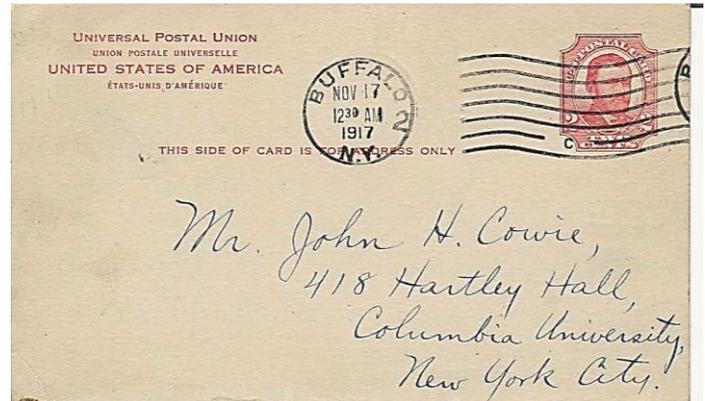
Booklets can be separated and the stamps collected as panes as shown below.



Of course there are no rules – collect booklets in any format.
Happy Collecting!

EARLY STAMP COLLECTOR

I picked up the below postal card for a 1917 Buffalo machine cancel on Scott UX25.



I flipped the card and the message on the back told the recipient to “not soil, fold or tear this card, but enclose it in your next letter to me. I want it for my stamp collection!”

Sometimes we do not realize that collectors were anxious back then to receive collectible items just like today, when we covet a used item or stamps.

NEW MEMBERS

The Buffalo Stamp Club welcomes the following new members:

JOHN FRANGIONE
GARY PARKS

ARTICLES NEEDED!!

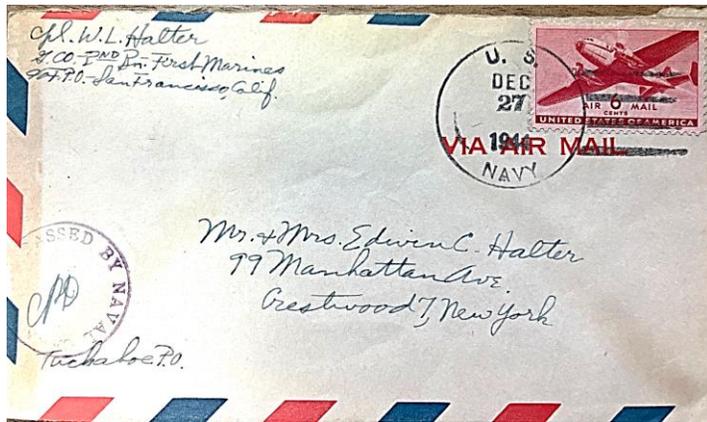
We're always looking for contributors to the newsletter – topics, items, photos. Send us anything you find interesting that is worth sharing. You know that we all have something to share – and we all enjoy hearing about it!

Blondie



Christmas During WW II in the South Pacific

By: Pete Stuhlmiller



In December 1944, Private Wallace Halter, G Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment was resting and refitting on Pavuvu Island in the Russell Islands (within the Solomon Islands). The unit was recovering from heavy casualties sustained during the Battle of Peleliu (Palau).

The 1st Marine Regiment had been severely depleted during the intense fighting at Peleliu (September-November 1944) and was subsequently pulled from the front lines. They returned to Pavuvu, a tropical island covered in coconut plantations, to reorganize, train replacements, and prepare for future operations. Their next major engagement would be the Battle of Okinawa, which began in April 1945.

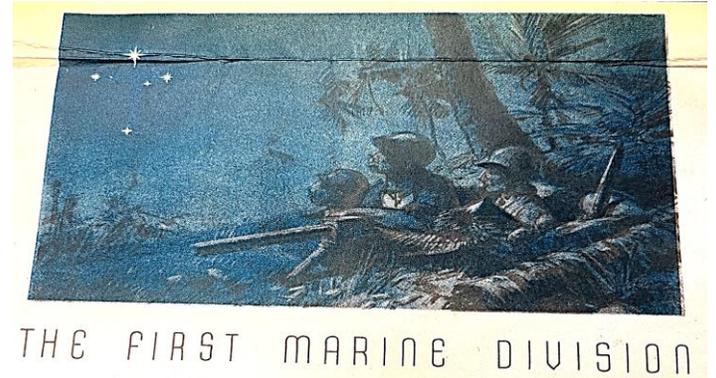
Inside the above cover, Private Wallace writes on December 25th, 1944:

*Dear Ma + Dad,
Tho it isn't the same not to be home today, but I'll just wish you a Merry Christmas from here. I know it's hard on you especially today, but just hang on, and by next year this time, Ed + I'll both be home. We will have to go into it again so we might as well get it over with. We will make it out ok, so don't worry. Again, Merry Christmas.
Love Wally*

Christmas During WW II in the South Pacific

(continued)

The envelope also included the following card from the Marine Corp....



*** We find real treasures at our auctions!
More to follow from the Halter Collection ***

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season! – Peter Stuhlmiller

