

## THE BSC BUFFALO

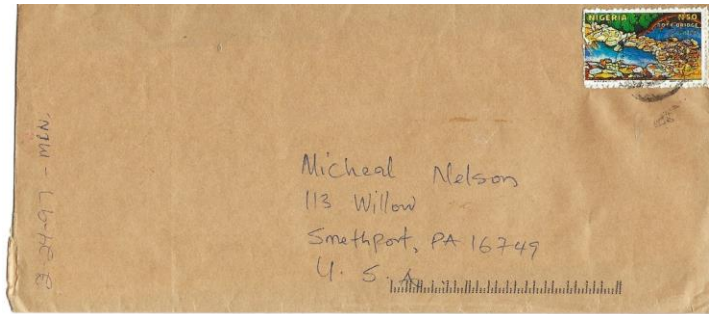
By Bob Meegan

Most members of the Buffalo Stamp Club are familiar with the plastic statue of a buffalo that graced the Hospitality Table for about three decades at the Club shows. Unfortunately, this plastic statue suffered a broken leg about eight years ago. The first surgery to reattach the leg – using standard plastic glue – held for several years. Alas, the injury to the bison reappeared several times and alternative “medicine” was tried, including “super glue” and, eventually, a strip of brown duct tape. The duct tape was moderately successful, although it certainly was not attractive! Sadly, at the 2018 BUFPEX Show last March, this iconic decoration disappeared about 3 hours before the show closed on Sunday afternoon. It was rather sad that our injured buffalo vanished on the last day of BUFPEX 2018. But fear not! Thanks to the efforts of Al Sturniolo, who donated the ornamental silhouette of a bison, and John Raynor, who fabricated a cherry mounting plaque, the Buffalo Stamp Club now has a beautiful replacement for the Hospitality Table. Thanks to Al and John for a fantastic donation to the Buffalo Stamp Club! Their generosity and craftsmanship are greatly appreciated!



The Club Hospitality Table at the Autumn Stamp Festival. George Gates, left, and Val Ignatjew pictured with the new buffalo front and center on the table.

## SCAM LETTER



We are constantly being reminded to keep our guard up when it comes to scams, especially with all the technology available today. Before technology, there was the scam letter.

The cover above does not have a return address. The stamp is a crude fake of the Nigerian 50-naira Rock Bridge issue (Scott 560B) issued in 1990. The quality is so poor that it fools no one. The postmark is also forged.

The letter that was enclosed tells the addressee that \$21,320,000 is available in a Nigerian account, ready for payment and that the reader of the letter is entitled to 25% of the funds together with 500,000 barrels of automobile gasoline oil as a token of their gratitude.

The writer assures the reader that the transaction is “100% safe” and all that needs to be done is to fax the name of the bank, address and account number to complete the transaction!

Forget about the money, just think what 500,000 barrels of gas is worth!

## TED HIBBARD

We are sad to report that long-time member, Ted Hibbard, passed away on November 19<sup>th</sup>.



Those who knew him are encouraged to pass their condolences to his wife, Rosemary, who is also a Club member. Our collective thoughts and prayers go out to her and their family.



# BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

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

DECEMBER 2018

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## DECEMBER NOTES

We have reached the end of 2018. With the holiday season upon us, the Club takes a brief respite from its busy calendar. The Club meets only on December 7<sup>th</sup> with the auction and celebrating with the holiday social and does not meet again until January 4<sup>th</sup>. The calendar is deliberately set so that members need not worry about missing a Club event during the busy season.

The Club wishes all its members a happy and safe holiday season. Let us not forget to enjoy the holidays with family and friends and embrace the true meaning of the season. Of course, here is hoping that everyone gets the philatelic gift they are wishing for!

Seasons  
greetings

## DECEMBER CALENDAR

**December 7<sup>th</sup>:** Auction and  
*Holiday Social*

**December 14<sup>th</sup>:** Leonard Post Holiday Party

**January 4<sup>th</sup>:** Auction

Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga

**Auctions** begin immediately following any business and announcements which starts at **7:15 PM**. Get here early enough to view auction items.

Seller deadline for submitting Lots is **6:45 PM**

**Presentations** begin at **7 PM** in the Happy Room.

## OFFICERS

President: Bob Meegan ([meegan9697@roadrunner.com](mailto:meegan9697@roadrunner.com))

Vice President: Alan Davis ([ddavis504@roadrunner.com](mailto:ddavis504@roadrunner.com))

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Membership Chairman: Casey Kielbasa

Auction Committee Chairman: John Leszak

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Bill Witschard ([billwits@aol.com](mailto:billwits@aol.com))

## *Holiday Social*

The Club's annual Holiday Social will take place after the auction on December 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be food and beverages provided by the Club. Club members are encouraged to arrive early to register their lots and to examine other lots. We would like to complete the auction early, so everyone can relax and enjoy the food, refreshments and conversation.

Thanks to Alan Davis and Bob Meegan who organize this event and order the food and refreshments.

### LEONARD POST CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, the Leonard Post VFW will hold its Christmas Party at the Leonard Post. The festivities begin at 7:30 PM with entertainment provided by the 17-member "Grandfather's Orchestra". There is a cash bar and the kitchen will be available for the purchase of food until 9 PM. Tickets for the cover charge are \$10 and available by calling the Leonard Post, 684-4371, or by calling Lou, 602-7967. If you are looking for a traditional Christmas party, this looks to be a good time to get out and celebrate. You may want to call some club members and arrange a fun evening together!

### CLUB DONATION ITEM

A collection of 100 naval covers has been donated by member Bob Lamb for the December 7<sup>th</sup> auction. The covers commemorate the commissioning of US Navy ships and can be the foundation of a specialized collection and maybe even be the start of a thematic exhibit (for BUFPEX?). This auction lot will be well worth a close look! Thanks to Bob Lamb for this donation!

### MATT McLEAN

Congratulations to Matt McLean who won a \$25 gift card from the APS in October. Matt was one of 37 participants who answered all five questions in the monthly Stamp Stumper quiz, which appears in the APS monthly newsletter. Matt's name was chosen at random as the winner of the gift card. Congratulations Matt!

The quiz is available in the member newsletter emailed each month to APS members and is available in the members portal at the APS website, [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org). Still not a member of the APS? You can join at the site to begin enjoying the benefits of the APS or ask any Club Board member for more information.

### AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

John Leszak reports that the American Topical Association, of which the Buffalo Stamp Club is a chapter member, has selected BUFPEX 2019 as an ATA "Hotspot" show. The show will be heavily promoted and ATA members throughout the northeast will be invited by the ATA to attend BUFPEX. In addition, ATA study units will be encouraged to meet at BUFPEX. John also announced that Dale Smith, president of the ATA, will be at BUFPEX as a dealer. Dale Smith will be coming in from Kansas City, MO, so be sure to give him a warm welcome. John will have additional information as it becomes available.

This is great news for the Club. The last time a major society had a presence in Buffalo was the ATA bourse and convention held in June 2000 at the Hyatt Hotel and Buffalo Convention Center!

## AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL

The Autumn Stamp Festival was held on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at the Leonard Post. As usual, there was a strong turnout of visitors. Ten dealers participated in the bourse and the silent auction of material was brisk.

Unfortunately, the United States Postal Service was unable to attend the bourse. The USPS have assured us that they will be at BUFPEX in March. Thanks to all the dealers and to all the Club members who helped make the bourse a success.



Ed Bailey works his table



Bidders inspect the lots at the Silent Auction



The new BSC Buffalo (see page 4)

## PEARL HARBOR

As we are now in the middle of the holiday season, we must never forget December 7<sup>th</sup>. This year the country remembers the 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that fateful day that changed the course of American history.

Philatelically, the event has been commemorated on a stamp, Scott 2559i, as part of the World War II souvenir sheet.



In the National Postal Museum collection is a cover postmarked on December 7<sup>th</sup> in Honolulu.



There is an interesting story to this cover. It can be viewed at the National Postal Museum site, <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/collections/object-spotlight/pearl-harbor-mail.html>