



# HINGES & TONGS

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, INC  
P.O. Box 10206, BRIGHTON STATION,  
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14610-0206

**November / December 1998**

Editor: Joe Doles

## RPA EXHIBITORS AT STEPEX SHOW

Four RPA members received awards for their exhibits at the Elmira Stamp Club show, STEPEX, Oct. 16-17, 1998 at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads. The club awards Best-in-Show, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards to exhibits in open competition.

**Ray Stone** received a Gold for his "Rochester's Transportation Coils." **Kelly Armstrong** was awarded a Silver for "Sherlock Holmes - A Case Study." **Florence Wright's** exhibit, "Postcards from the 'San'," received Silver. **Norm Wright** won Bronze for his "Readin', (w)Ritin' & Railroadin' " exhibit. **Alan Parsons** (also an RPA member) won a Gold for "Corning N.Y. Postal History."

Judges were: Maris Tirums from Albany; Al Guenzburger, Guilford, and Ray Stone, Rochester. All belong to the Central New York Federation. Al Parsons was show chairman; he is also a Federation judge. Thus, Al was able to step in and judge Ray's exhibit - just to keep everything nice and neat!

The STEPEX-98 show honored the National Warplane Museum that opened July 1998 in its new facility adjacent to the Elmira-Corning Airport. This year's show cover depicts two of the museum's aircraft, and the show cancel is the "Fuddy Duddy" - a B-17 Flying Fortress.

This was the 53<sup>rd</sup> show put on by the Elmira Club, which was organized in 1926. There are currently 84 active members. The group meets the third Tuesday of each month through the year.

The club's award banquet is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14 in Elmira. Any RPA members interested in more details might contact Florence or Norm Wright.

## Another Show - Another Exhibit - Another Winner

Albert Guenzberger received a silver at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition held Oct. 1-4. His exhibit showed the "Federal Republic of Germany First Definitives - Posthorn Series of 1951-52."

Al has been a member of RPA since 1996, and has also exhibited at ROPEX. He lives in Guilford, and is interested in West Germany, Berlin and New York Postal History. He is also a Federation judge.

### NEW ADDRESS

For you folks who would like to keep in touch with Don Schurr we have his new address below.

Donal Schurr  
19434 Silver Spring Drive apt. 203  
Northville Township Michigan 48167  
phone 248-735-8480  
E-MAIL- GPADONS@WEBTV.NET

### TIME CHANGE

We hope you remembered to change your clocks Oct. 24, but we also hope you'll be aware that members voted to start our RPA meetings at 7:45 p.m. That's 15 minutes earlier than in the past.

Check the meeting dates elsewhere in this Hinges & Tongs.

## New Recording Secretary Named

Our elected Recording Secretary, Jim Trenton, has resigned due to personal difficulties. The RPA Board of Governors met to consider the situation, and in accordance with the constitution has appointed Jim Piecuch as his replacement for the 1998-9 term. We appreciate Jim T. for his time served and welcome Jim P. for accepting the position.

## CSCSS

RPA member Florence Wright, membership chairperson and ATA representative, has been elected secretary/treasurer of the Christmas Seal & Charity Stamps Society (CSCSS) for a two-year term, effective immediately through the end of the year 2000.

Congratulations, Florence.



Only one meeting in December  
December 10

## Art Cover Exchange

Geo. Hill & Paul Gerwitz  
Bring-a-gift-take-a-gift

## 98-99 Programmes

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Nov 12  | Bert Kiener "Ryuku Islands"  |
| Dec 10  | Paul Gerwitz and George Hill,<br>"ACE Covers" and<br>Bring-A-Gift-Take-A-Gift  |
| Jan 14* | Live Called Auction  |
| Jan 28* | John Kellis "Philatelic Computing"<br>at Brighton High School  |
| Feb 11  | Rick Kase, "Scales"  |
| Feb 25  | APS Slide Show,<br>"Stamp Collecting, Your Key to the<br>World"  |
| Mar 11  | Every-Member-A-Dealer Night  |
| Mar 25  | Jim Bell, "Errors, Freaks, and<br>Oddities" and APS Slide Show,<br>"Pennsylvania Post Office Murals<br>of the '30's and '40's" |
| Apr 8   | Quiz Night   |
| Apr 22  | APS Slide Show, "Tonga Tin Can<br>Mail"  |
| May 13  | Florence Wright, "Topical Night"   |
| May 27  | APS Slide Show, "Internal Orga-<br>nization on Stamps"   |
| June 10 | Business Meeting   |
| June 24 | Strawberry Fest  |

\*No silent auction

Only one meeting in November  
November 12  
Bert Kiener's  
"Ryuku Islands"



## Giving and Sharing

On the day that the new Giving and Sharing stamp was released by the USPS, a little "giving and sharing" went on at the Al Sigl Center.

A special program in his honor surprised Andy Hale, RPA life member and proprietor of McLeod's Stamp and Coin. The event took place on Oct. 7, which was also his birthday!

Dan Meyers, President of the Al Sigl Center welcomed the group composed of friends of Andy, postal personnel and clients at the Center's various departments.

John Montague, Rochester's Postmaster, presented Andy with a certificate:

*"To Andy Hale – For his support to the hobby of Stamp Collecting in the greater Rochester area, this Certificate of Appreciation is presented by the Rochester New York Post Office."*

Andy was given a book of "stamps" – drawings by the children and adult clients at Al Sigl, each a specially designed stamp. In the book is written: "Stamps of Appreciation to a Philanthropist & Philatelist. Andrews Hale has given his philanthropic stamp of approval to so many! Happy Birthday, October 7, 1928."

The Giving and Sharing stamp had its First



Day Ceremony in Atlanta, and has been described as a "philanthropy" commemorative. While that word does not appear on the self-adhesive stamp, the design of a bee approaching a flower symbolizes the giving and sharing relationship.

Many thanks to those folks that sent articles for this issue of *Hinges & Tongues*. They are Tom Fortunato, Ada Prill, Norm Wright and especially our faithful club reporter Florence Wright.

## Meetings by Members

In recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State of Israel, life member Bert Kiener presented a slide show of stamps of Israel from his collection, at the October 8 meeting. After seeing the slides, Bert answered questions from members.

"In Violation of the Rules" and its sequel "More in Violation of the Rules," two APS slide shows from member Steve Suffet's collection were shown and well received by the club. The slides showed covers that in some way disobeyed postal regulations, either intentionally or accidentally, by both patrons and postal personnel.

## TIME FOR TOPICALS

Check out the latest issue of *Topical Time* from the RPA library. Ann Trigg's winning exhibit is featured in the write-up of the National Topical Stamp Show in July. The exhibit, "Ichthyology, a treatise of fishes," was awarded the Reserve Grand, and her title page and two other pages are reproduced in the article.

In the same issue, if you look closely on page 22, you can see Tom Fortunato pictured with the other judges, as they were photographed, hard at work.

This copy of TT, along with all back issues, can be borrowed by any club member (see Joe Doles, librarian).

Each issue is packed full of informative and interesting articles on various aspects of topical collecting, along with club news, chapter activities, and even ads from topical dealers who might have just what you are looking for.

## A Birthday Memento

President Tom Fortunato showed the group a framed cover from the March 22, 1934 – RPA's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. It was post-marked on a cacheted envelope featuring a pink birthday cake. Nancy B. Zielinski Clark had come across the cover, framed it and presented it to our club on its 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## RPA Members with E-mail Addresses

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 Bernice (Watson) Smith, brws@juno.com  
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 Tom Fortunato, stampmf@frontiernet.net  
 Tony Torres, ajtorres@kodak.com  
 Whitney McMahon, whitneymcmahon@prodigy.net

## State Abbreviations

ALABAMA	AL
ALASKA	AK
ARIZONA	AZ
ARKANSAS	AR
CALIFORNIA	CA
COLORADO	CO
CONNECTICUT	CT
DELAWARE	DE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	DC
FLORIDA	FL
GEORGIA	GA
HAWAII	HI
IDAHO	ID
ILLINOIS	IL
INDIANA	IN
IOWA	IA
KANSAS	KS
KENTUCKY	KY
LOUISIANA	LA
MAINE	ME
MARYLAND	MD
MASSACHUSETTS	MA
MICHIGAN	MI
MINNESOTA	MN
MISSISSIPPI	MS
MISSOURI	MO
MONTANA	MT
NEBRASKA	NE
NEVADA	NV
NEW HAMPSHIRE	NH
NEW JERSEY	NJ
NEW MEXICO	NM
NEW YORK	NY
NORTH CAROLINA	NC
NORTH DAKOTA	ND
OHIO	OH
OKLAHOMA	OK
OREGON	OR
PENNSYLVANIA	PA
RHODE ISLAND	RI
SOUTH CAROLINA	SC
SOUTH DAKOTA	SD
TENNESSEE	TN
TEXAS	TX
UTAH	UT
VERMONT	VT
VIRGIN ISLANDS	VI
VIRGINIA	VA
WASHINGTON	WA



# RS STAMP SHOW

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1998

and

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1998

Red Men's Party House  
 1001 Lexington Avenue  
 (Cor. Mt. Read Blvd.)  
 Rochester, N.Y. 14606

From 390 N., exit Lexington Ave.,  
 East on Lexington, cross Mt. Read,  
 Driveway is on right. Entrance at front  
 entrance of bldg., banquet entrance,  
 Rooms 1 & 2

Sat. 10AM - 5PM  
 Su. 10AM - 4PM

**DOOR PRIZES**

**Free Parking  
 Food Service**

## “What I Did On My Summer Vacation”

RPA began its current season of meetings on Sept. 10 with president Tom Fortunato and new vice-president Ed Kawasaki holding forth at the head table. Ed gave the program over to the members to tell what they did, philatelically speaking (and otherwise), over the summer. Let's go around the tables and hear from a few of them:

**Don Schurr** spent most of the summer packing, as he and his wife are moving to Detroit. He has already found a stamp club he can join there.

**Pau. Gerwitz** worked on making album pages for his collection of Christmas stamps. He offered his help to any members interested in creating their own pages.

**Kelly Armstrong** received a cover from Groton Naval Base with a cachet for the Wyoming; the sender, however is a mystery!

**Joe Doles** and his wife moved into a new home. He is also treasurer of A.C.E – the Art Cover Exchange.

**George Hill**, an officer in the A.C.E., attended a show in Elyria Ohio, where he saw a lot of interesting covers.

**Ada Prill** was at APS Stampshow in California, where she ran into former member Lisa Doiron who moved there last year. She also attended the First Day in DC for the folk musicians' stamps, where she chased around for cancels – never got any!

**Rick Kase** went to the First Day ceremony for the Stephen Vincent Benet stamp in Harper's Ferry, PA.

**Dusty Miller** spent ten weeks in England, where it was cold & rainy, but she didn't mind, since it was a great visit.

**Marge Schleining** came across an unusual perforation of the Hank Williams stamp.

**Dave Engdahl** told us about educating a postal clerk in Florida, and remarked on how difficult it is to collect the US stamps that come in sheets of all different stamps.

**Bob Steeb** likes to get away from stamps in the summer, but couldn't resist going through the Cardinal Spellman museum of stamp collections near Boston.

**Elli Phelps** spent a few dollars for a used file cabinet at a household auction; later found it full of file folders – one of which was full of usable mint US stamps.

**Ray Stone** showed us a Tweety and Sylvester imperf.

**Herman Gross** got a postcard from Pennsylvania, which took seven days to go 327 miles.

More members shared interesting experiences or philatelic items; we just couldn't write fast enough to get them all down. Anyone we missed is certainly welcome to write up their summer vacation anecdote and send it into the *Hinges & Tongs*.

### “And the Winner is - - -”

While in Washington D.C. this summer, Tom Fortunato toured the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. At the start of the tour, visitors were encouraged to listen carefully. The guide said, “Two people at the end of this tour will win \$25 for correct answers to some questions we will ask.”

Sure enough, as the tour concluded, the question was asked, “On average, how much money is printed by the BEP every day?”

Tom had paid attention, and correctly answered, “\$440 million.”

He was awarded his twenty-five dollars – shredded! (Printers' currency waste).

At that time (mid-July), the BEP was printing the new \$20 bills, not released until just last month.

One of our members cancelled a new twenty-dollar bill with the first day of use postmark, using the Monopoly stamp from the 1930's Celebrate the Century pane.

## RPAers Active at the Canadian Stamp Dealer's Association Show

Several RPA members took center stage at the CSDA Stamp Show in Toronto October 16-18.

Ada Prill was happily fulfilling her duties as Director of the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors' Youth Championship. The Youth "Champion of Champions" was held in conjunction with the AAPE's national convention at the show. It was her responsibility to collect, package, and pass through customs with the the 14 US exhibits of 17 in the competition - the other three came from Canada. She also did mounting, dismounting, awards collection and mailing of them as well! Ann Triggles acted as US commissioner for the adult exhibits for the show.

Three of our members were judging, Ann Triggles and John Hotchner, along with Duncan Barber in his final national apprenticeship. At least seven members had exhibits on display.

\* John Hotchner (Falls Church)- "The Little Red- The Christmas Seal of the United States"- Jury Class \* Alice Johnson (Rochester)- "Figure Skating"- National Class - SILVER \* Robert Meagan (Buffalo)- "Identification of US Banknotes"- National Class - SILVER-BRONZE \* Marge Schleinling (Buffalo)- "American Music"- Single Frame Class - BRONZE \* Stephen Suffet(New York City)- "Woody Guthrie: His Life and His Songs"- National Class - its first GOLD! and "Ireland: Times of Trouble 1816-1851"- Single Frame Class - VERMEIL \* Ann Triggles (Clarence)- "Cymru (Wales)" and "Sanatario Stamps of Rosario" - both in the Jury Class \* Nancy Zielinski Clark (and husband Doug of Atlanta)- "The 10 cent Reds, Greens and Greys"- Single Frame Class - SILVER-BRONZE

Other RPA members and friends of the RPA were present enjoying the weekend, including Karen Barber, Tom Fortunato, Alan Hanks, William Hart, Peter Lerpiniere, and Mary Ann Owens, among others.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW POSTAGE RATES

**FIRST-CLASS:** The First-Class stamp goes up one penny, from 32 to 33 cents -- a 3.1 percent increase, the lowest in 27 years, and the second consecutive adjustment at or below inflation. The second-ounce price decreases from 23 cents to 22 cents. The single-piece rate for post cards remains 20 cents and the rate for a two ounce flat is 55 cents.

**EXPRESS MAIL:** The half-pound rate for Next Day Service to Addressee increases \$1.00 to \$11.75. The two-pound rate increases to \$15.75.

**PRIORITY MAIL:** The Priority Mail flat rate for up to two pounds increases 20 cents, to \$3.20. The Postal Service introduces delivery confirmation for Priority Mail. For mailers who apply their own barcodes and access postal information systems for electronic confirmation, the service is free. Retail service is available for 35 cents.

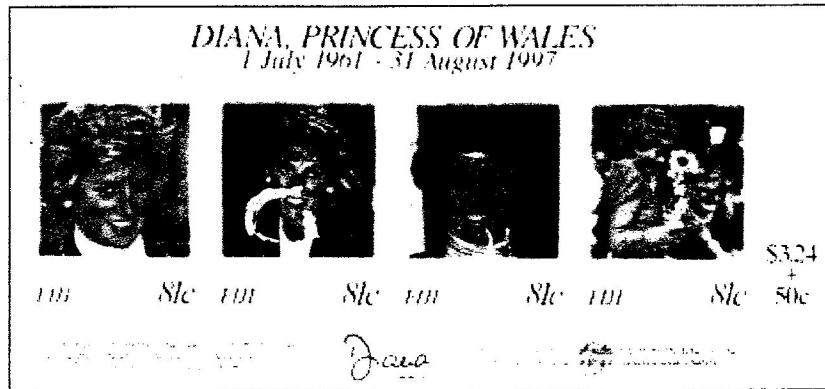
**PERIODICALS:** The advertising rate for publications brought to the destination sectional center facility decreases from 19 cents to 15.5 cents and from 15.9 cents to 15.5 cents for publications brought to the destination delivery unit. Separate 3-digit and 5-digit presort rates are introduced. The editorial discount increases from \$0.0057 to \$0.0059 for each one percent of a publication's editorial content. The rate for a typical local newspaper increases 8.3 percent, as required by the formula prescribed by the Revenue Forgone Reform Act of 1993.

**STANDARD MAIL (A) (letters and flats):** The single-piece rate is eliminated; customers may use First-Class Mail for most weights and get better service for the same price. The Enhanced Carrier Route Basic Letter rate is eliminated.

**STANDARD MAIL (B) (parcels):** An assortment of new parcel worksharing discounts are introduced and weight and size limits are expanded. For mailers of Bound Printed Matter, Special Standard Mail, Library Mail and Parcel Post, the Postal Service introduces a new delivery confirmation service.

**SPECIAL SERVICES:** A bulk insurance discount of 40 cents is introduced for bulk mailers who process mailing records electronically. Post office box, certified, return receipt, and registered mail fees increase to better reflect costs.

# Diana: One Collector's Perspective on the Aftermath



By Jack Searles

Published in the Olean Stamp Club Newsletter, APS Chapter 1442

searles@eznet.net

I am a collector of British Commonwealth stamps. My connection to the late Diana-Princess of Wales stops, on one level, with the fact that she has appeared, oftentimes with Prince Charles, on recent British Commonwealth stamps.

I am not quite sure, therefore, why Diana's recent death has fixated me. After all, the stamps issued in her memory are simply more stamps in a long, seemingly endless line of an Omnibus stamp sets published by the British Commonwealth.

I have to say, however, that my overwhelming impression of the proceedings associated with Diana's death have left me both appalled and angry. I am upset by drunk drivers. I'm upset by the role the media played in the circumstances. I am upset by the role, or more appropriately the lack of empathetic role, played by the English monarchy.

I sincerely feel for Diana's two sons and only wish that she could have really known the acceptance and support she had from her nation and the world in life rather than in death. For me, the whole situation is a gut-wrenchingly sad and lamentable situation. Maybe it's the circumstances, maybe it's the mood.

However, I have to tell you within hours after Diana's death stamp collectors and speculators throughout the world flooded the Internet with outlandishly high "buy" offers for any stamps depicting Diana. If you want to sell your auction lot, put a Diana cover in it!

In a perceived effort to seemingly corner and profit from the ghoulish market her death created, I am sure many have profited. Bets have already been laid as to which country will be the first to issue "mourning stamps." I can click off about 15 countries right away- you know, the ones that flood the market with millions of stamps about any popular topic you want to mention. Somehow, this does not seem like tribute to me. Instead, it seems like distasteful indiscretion.

This collector, because of my feelings, refuses to participate in this circus. The best approach I can think of to discourage this activity is to not support it. So... all you nations that seek to exploit Diana in her death, count me out! Again, I can't explain my feelings other than being introspective and not wanting to participate in the "feeding frenzy".

Further, I guess we all have Dianas in our lives- people who are special to us yet largely not acknowledged. Why not acknowledge them in life rather than only in death?

# Upcoming stamp shows

**Nov 14-15** Rochester RS Stamp Show (See paid ad)

**Nov 15** Latham Capital District Stamp Show  
Latham Holiday Inn- 945 New Loudon Road, Route 9.  
Hours: 10-4. Bourse. Contact: (518) 399-8395

**Nov 22** Cheektowaga Cheektowaga Coin & Stamp Show  
Knights of St. John, 2379 Union Road. Hours: 11-3. Bourse.

**Nov 28-29** Cheektowaga CHECOPEX'98  
Sponsored by the Cheektowaga Stamp Club. Knights of St. John, 2379 Union Road. Hours: 10-5, 10-5. Dealers, US Postal Service, souvenir cancel and cacheted envelopes.

**Dec 13** Syracuse Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show  
Bourse. American Legion Hall, E Taft Road, 3/4 miles E of I-81, exit 28. Hours: 10-4. Contact: (315)452-0593

**Dec 13** Latham Capital District Stamp Show  
Latham Holiday Inn- 945 New Loudon Road, Route 9.  
Hours: 10-4. Bourse. Contact: (518) 399-8395

**Dec 27** Cheektowaga Cheektowaga 4th Sundays Stamp & Coin Bourse  
Knights of St. John, 2379 Union Road. Hours: 11-3. Bourse.

## 1999 Listings

**Jan 17** Latham Capital District Stamp Show  
Latham Holiday Inn- 945 New Loudon Road, Route 9.  
Hours: 10-4. Bourse. Contact: (518) 399-8395

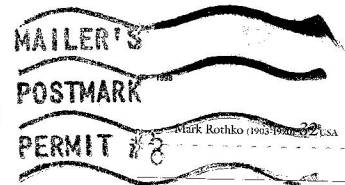
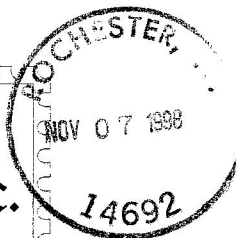
**Jan 24** Cheektowaga Cheektowaga 4th Sundays Stamp & Coin Bourse  
Knights of St. John, 2379 Union Road. Hours: 11-3. Bourse.

**Feb 5-7** Buffalo **BUFPEX'99**  
Sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club. VFW Leonard Post, 2450 Walden Ave. Hours: 1-9, 10-6, 10-4. Dealers, exhibits, US Postal Service, show cancel and cacheted envelopes.  
Contact: (716) 854-0222

**Feb 14** Syracuse Syracuse Stamp, Coin & Collectibles Show  
Bourse. American Legion Hall, E Taft Road, 3/4 miles E of I-81, exit 28. Hours: 10-4. Contact: (315)452-0593

**Feb 27-28** Rochester RS Stamp Show  
Red Men's Party House, 1001 Lexington Avenue (off Mt. Read Blvd). Hours: Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Bourse. Contact: (716) 621-5019

**Hinges & Tongs**  
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