

CHAPTER MEMBER

Hinges & Tongs

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION, INC

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

Check out our web site at: www.geocities.com/rpastamps/

Aug. - Sept. 2004

Saturday Sept. 18, 6:30pm

RPA ANNUAL BANQUET

With Guest Speaker

Please join us at The Old Country Buffet

In the Ridge Culver Plaza

2255 East Ridge Road

\$9.50 at the door

John Babbitt will present his slide presentation

THE WRIGHT BROTHER'S

100TH ANNIVERSARY

RPA OFFICERS

2004 - 2005

President- **Paul Gerwitz**
Vice President- **Mark Hull**
Treasurer- **Rich Spinelli**
Corresponding Secretary,
Editor *Hinges & Tongs*

Joe Doles

Recording Secretary

David Marcus

Board of Governors

Ray Stone

(term expires June 30, 2007)

Chuck Schultz

(term expires June 30, 2006)

Robert Kingston

(term expires June 30, 2005)

Immediate RPA Past President

Jim Piecuch

Appointments

Librarian- **Joe Doles**

Articles may be submitted for publication
to:

H & T Editor

Joe Doles

105 Lawson Rd.,

Rochester, NY 14616-1444.

Neatly hand-written or double spaced
typewritten or sent electronically to

JKD52@aol.com.

Any originals submitted for
scanning will be returned.

Email Update Needed

Do you have an email address? Do you want to receive information about current and upcoming RPA events electronically?

If so, contact Tom Fortunato who has regularly emailed members over the past few years with information for RPA members. Many email addresses on file are now defunct, and more of you are new to the Internet and email.

Send Tom your email address to:
stampmf@frontiernet.net



The Dusty Miller memorial bike rack was dedicated at the new APS headquarters. Seen above are RPA members christening the bike rack with a can of Dusty's favorite suds. Donations by individual RPA members made the bike rack possible.



The Rochester Philatelic Association is honored to have three of its members serve on the APS Board. Ada Prill, left front, John Flannery, 4th on left and George Fekete, front right. Is that a hanging chad Ada is eyeing?

Bob Kingston Replaces Ed Kawazaki on RPA Board

Due to the relocation of **Ed Kawazaki** to Bentonville, AK by the Eastman Kodak Company, **Bob Kingston** has accepted the appointment by the RPA Board to complete the last year of Ed's three year term. Bob has been a very active member and has run for a board position in the past. Ed will continue his membership in RPA. Ed will be in Kodak marketing with Wal-Mart

You can write to Ed at PO Box 1304, Bentonville, AK 72712-1304

Start Making Plans for Washington 2006

What will you be doing May 27-June 3, 2006? If you haven't marked those dates on your calendar yet, do it now, because those are the dates for Washington 2006.

Unless you've been living under a rock for the last two years, you'll know that Washington 2006 is the once-a-decade international philatelic exhibition taking place at the brand new Washington DC Convention Center. This is the "Olympics" of philately- a place where the world stamp community joins to celebrate our hobby. Over 100,000 visitors are expected throughout the 8 day event which is free of charge.

More than 140 dealers and postal administrations from around the world have already signed up for booths. W2006 also features over 3,800 competitive exhibit frames containing world classics through material from the recent past.

Are you a national exhibitor? If you have received a vermeil or gold award for your exhibit at ROPEX or any other WSP show then you should consider applying for W2006. Now is the time to get your application ready! Check out the Bulletin and prospectus online and request an exhibitor form from: George J. Kramer, 199 Charles St., Clifton, NJ 07013 or email: gjkk@optonline.net

The show has arranged special reduced rate rooms ranging from \$110-169 per night, single through quad occupancy, at 7 area hotels within a few blocks of the Convention Center. But more reasonably priced hotels and motels in the suburbs are also available and within walking distance of a stop on the great DC Metro rail system. The Convention Center has its own Metro stop.

Entry to the show is free, but everyone must register to gain entrance to the hall. It's best to do this in advance of the show to avoid the long lines expected, and easily done online.

For full information about any of the above, check out the Washington 2006 web site at <http://www.washington-2006.org>, or see Tom Fortunato for details.

Welcome to our New Members

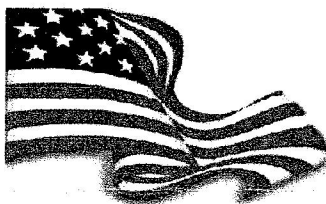
Twenty ROPEX visitors took advantage of the RPA's special offer of a free 6 month membership in our club. All are welcome to enjoy our many benefits, including access to the library, buying and selling on the silent auction table, buying from APS circuit books, and of course participating in our meetings.

When you see these people at the next RPA meeting, make sure you welcome them!

SICK CALL

Past RPA President Norm Wright has not been seen in a while due to a serious sciatica problem. Now word comes that Norm has had a heart attack while vacationing in Ohio. He was in the hospital for a number of days in Ohio. When he eventually arrived home in mid-August, it was discovered that he had a spot of "transit: pneumonia". Now his sciatica problem has flared to the point where he can barely walk around the house. Norm writes "So it looks like I shall be "under the weather" for some time. Just wanted you and other RPA friends know why you may not be seeing Florence and I around for awhile."

I think I speak for us all that we wish Norm a speedy recovery.

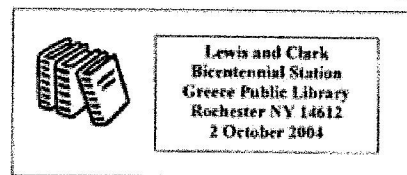


USPS Free Flag Promotion

The USPS is giving away free 3 by 5 foot American flags to purchasers of two (or more) of its AT&T pre-paid phone cards. Prices for the cards start at \$10 each and go on up from there depending on the number of minutes of the card. Qualifying purchases must be made between July 1 and September 30. You must enclose the special "Stars and Stripes" form available at the Post Office (or the required information on a 3x5 paper) along with your original receipt. There is a limit of one free flag per household, and are available only while supplies last. Based on sales of these cards, that shouldn't be a problem!

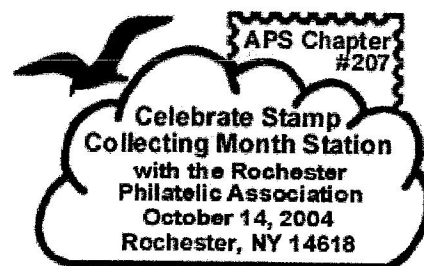
Upcoming Cancels Rochester Post Office

The Greece Public Library is sponsoring a cancel for Saturday,



October 2 honoring the 200th anniversary of the Lewis and Clark exposition. As of the time of this writing, no information about it is available on the Library's calendar at <http://www.rochester.lib.ny.us/greece-calendar.htm>.

The RPA is making a special



cancel available on Thursday, October 14, in honor of Stamp Collecting Month. The motif is of a common design made available nationwide to APS Chapters and designed by Tom Fortunato complimenting the sheetlet of 15

RPA Open House Thursday, October 14

The first meeting in October for the last few years has traditionally become the RPA's salute to Stamp Collecting Month. In addition, this meeting has been publicized in the Rochester media as an "Open House," a way of getting greater exposure of the RPA locally.

We'll pull some items out of our archives to allow members and guests to learn more about the history of the group. We also encourage long-time members to bring in their photos and mementos to share with everyone.

The program that evening will be a web presentation by Tom Fortunato titled, "A Philatelic Look at the Weather." It traces the people, equipment and organizations on stamps and philatelic material dealing with meteorology and the weather. For a sneak peek, or for those unable to attend, check it out online at <http://www.fortunecity.com/olympia/tilden/186/weather/index.html>.

Discussions are underway now to have one of our local TV weather-casters to be with us that evening.

Elsewhere in this issue you'll see the special cancel for Stamp Collecting Month. Bring your own envelopes and stamps to be cancelled!

ROPEX 2005

Rick Kase has been made show chairman and on Thursday, Sept. 2 he held his kick-off meeting. If you have never been part of the ROPEX committee now is the time to come forward. All are welcome.

U.S. Postal Service gives green light to customized postage stamps from photos

The U.S. Postal Service this month gave the go-ahead for a Los Angeles technology company to test customized postage made from people's pictures, according to an Aug. 22 article, "Smile, you could be on a postage stamp," in The Baltimore Sun. Also this month, a Nebraska bank debuted a credit card with a photo of the customer as its main image, meant more for the sake of individuality than security. You also can get checks with your picture on them.

While placing pictures on T-shirts, coffee mugs and other knickknacks is not a new idea, the gains in digital photography and accompanying technology are making it easier to do and drawing in a variety of businesses that might otherwise have skipped the niche, the article says.

"It adds a nice touch and makes the mail a little more exciting," said Ken McBride, president and chief executive officer of Stamps.com Inc. It has just launched www.PhotoStamps.com, a website where people can order personalized stamps. The company expects the stamps will be used on greeting cards, birth announcements and wedding invitations, the article says.

In a report titled "Embracing the Future," the President's Commission on the United States Postal Service last year recommended letting people "design their own stamps, perhaps adding a family photo or a small business logo." That determination may have helped McBride, who has spent the last 18 months or so trying to talk the Postal Service into letting him make pictures into postage, the article said. "They had a lot of issues with the technology and the security and other guidelines," said McBride, whose main business, Stamps.com, was the first to provide postage over the Internet, primarily to companies. He's hoping the new stamps will draw in individuals.

All PhotoStamp images are subject to approval, and those of a pornographic or political nature are banned, as is copyrighted material. In a recent test, McBride said most photos were harmless pictures of people, especially babies, the article says. Pets made up about 10 percent of the orders, followed closely by businesses sending in their logos. The stamps come in varying denominations on sheets of 20; a standard 37-cent stamp costs about 85 cents with a photo.

Edwin Kawasaki

In Memoriam

On June 12, 2004, RPA Life Member, Audrey Pankratz lost her long battle with cancer. Audrey was a very active and enthusiastic stamp collector. Some will remember the December meeting she attended as Santa and handed out philatelic gifts to all.

She is survived by her husband, Earl V.; 2 sons & 1 daughter, David (Anne), Penny (John) Bose, Mark (Julie); 9 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Gloria Huff. Donations may be made to the Open Door Mission, 156 N. Plymouth Ave., Rochester, NY 14608. Audrey will be missed by all.

Officers Elected

Congratulation to our current slate of officers for the 2004-2005 season. The election vote was as follows. 59 ballots were received:

For President

Paul Gerwitz- 44
Jim Piccuch- 11
Rick Kase- 1
John Kellas- 1
Chuck Schultz- 1
Blank- 1

For Vice President

Mark Hull- 59

For Recording Secretary

Dave Marcus- 59

For Corresponding Secretary

Joe Doles- 59

For Treasurer

Rich Spinelli- 59

For the Board

Ray Stone- 32
John Cali- 21
Invalid (voted for 2)- 6

2004

Sept. 9	Oct. 14	Nov. 11	Dec. 9
Questions & Answers Moderated by Mark Hull Summer Reports	Weather & Philately Tom Fortunato Celebrating Stamp Collecting Month	Guest Speaker John Babbitt Let Us Remember; The Vietnam Wall & Stamps	Philatelic Definitions Mark Hull And Joe Doles
Sept. 18	Oct. 28	Nov. 25	Dec. 23
Annual Banquet See front page	Guest Speaker Robert Stein Nauru Postal History Stein was this years Grand Award Winner At ROPEX	Happy Thanksgiving No meeting	Happy Holidays No meeting
Sept. 23 Ada Prill The New APS Headquarters			

Meetings are held at the Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 South Winton Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14618.
Regular meeting times are 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.. Programs start at 7:45 p.m. sharp.

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