



# Hinges and Tongs

## RPA Spring Banquet Huge Fun!

The RPA Spring Banquet was held Monday April 24th at Red Fedele's Brook House in Greece.

A great time was had by all who attended. We enjoyed a buffet with Roast Beef, Roasted Chicken and much more.

The highlight of the evening was our guest speaker News Anchor Maureen McGuire from News Channel 8 WROCTV. Maureen was very entertaining and even told a story about her Grandfather who was Assistant Postmaster of the old Post Office downtown.

Two awards were given to

Rick Kase and Tom Fortunato.

The first one was given to Rick Kase our Grand Pooba for 25 Years of Membership, which allows Rick free membership for life. Congratulations to Rick.

The second award was given to Tom Fortunato for Life Time Achievement with the club. Tom has worked very hard to keep the RPA in the national spotlight.

The night concluded at 10:00 pm.

The wait staff and management of the Brook House did

an excellent job of putting together a wonderful time for the RPA. It was greatly appreciated.

Pictures were taken, we will get those developed and brought to the last meeting in June.



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## RPA Members Dues Are Late!

### Attention All RPA Members

2005-2006 Yearly dues are extremely late in arriving this year. Please have your dues paid up by May 30th or risk being removed from the membership roster.

As you know dues are due at or on the first meeting each year in September. We realize things come up and you may not make it to the first meeting in September.

In the future if dues are not paid by November 1st. of

each year, you will be dropped from the membership and you will need to re-apply for membership.

This has to be done. We have over half the membership unpaid. Thank you for your cooperation, Jim Bell

## How To Avoid Mistakes

The best way to avoid mistakes while collecting stamps is to collect for fun, not for profit. It may turn out to be very profitable, but you have to know what you are doing and collecting stamps is a learning process. If you realize that there is no right or wrong way to collect, then you can avoid all mistakes. That is the great aspect of stamp collecting, you can do whatever you want and it is still collecting stamps.

If you ever attend a stamp club meeting, and there are twenty people present, you will find that all twenty collect something different. Even those that collect the same country don't save the same items. For example, some only save the stamps with birds or trains on them. While others look for booklets or stamps issued in a five-year period of war, peace or transition. They can then become very knowledgeable in that topic and become an "expert" in that

field. That's all it takes.

One person collected pictures of pretzels on stamps in addition to saving stamps of his own country. He was very proud to have every stamp ever issued that showed a pretzel. There were three of them in the entire world. It took him a lot of work to find those three but no one ever doubted that he had a complete collection.

There is a saying that, "Knowledge is power," and it is very true for the stamp collecting hobby. When you go to a stamp show, or visit a stamp dealer in his or her store, then you will soon realize how important knowledge is. As you look through boxes of envelopes or stock pages with stamps on them, you may find that stamp or enve-

lope that fits exactly into your collection.

Try to avoid buying a torn or damaged stamp. Examine them closely, front and back, to look for tiny holes or tears or even thin paper on the back. This can happen when a former owner of the stamp used a hinge to affix the stamp to an album and then

took it out, leaving a portion of the gum on the page. Tears happen when someone rips the stamp off an envelope and isn't very careful about the process.

It's a fun hobby and you can learn about the world while meeting new friends.

Article Courtesy of Ask Phil

## ROPEX 2007

An update for you on ROPEX 2007.

Ray Stone Chairman is in direct contact with the Manager of the ESL Sports Center and is trying to hammer out the details of the 2007 Show.

As soon as more news becomes available, we will pass it along.

One advantage to the ESL Sports Center is that it is air conditioned, which is a huge plus over our previous venue.



## How a Collector Can Aid Their Estate Administrator

The collector's stamps are likely to be the most unusual and difficult portion of an estate. The chances are that neither the surviving family members nor the administrator will be experienced philatelists, so the caring collector with some advance planning can help them get maximum value from the material. Time is the ally of the executor in achieving best realization, so a little foresight can make a major contribution.

### 1. Inventory. The most

will sell at the same kind of discount. Frequently this is most painfully realized when an accumulation of modern U.S. mint sheets sells at a discount from face value.

Condition is the essential factor in stamp value. The collector who has acquired damaged or

important document can be a simple listing of major parts of a collection. This should include any mounted exhibits, number of albums and title of their contents, and nature of loose material. This list should also identify the location of each segment. Don't forget any library or research notes.

An independent appraiser will gauge the sophistication of the collection by asking how much the collector spent on stamps, if the material is mounted for easy inspection, and if the owner had

defective copies to fill album spaces is kidding himself and his heirs if the collection is valued or insured at full catalog. In making an inventory, list nominal catalog, the discount value to replace with comparable material, and then the deeper discount value which might be realized at a

**3. Stay organized.** The late Herbert Bloch once observed that if material came in boxes for sale, it went out in boxes. The seller has no duty to do the job of organizing that the owner didn't care spending time to do. indeed, recognizing that a dealer's time is also valuable, then consideration for the work of sorting a mish-mash of material is entirely reasonable.

The collector can also help by saving some auction catalogs

which have done a good job of carefully lotting material, and by organizing material so that it can easily be inspected and the better items identified. In addition to identifying firms familiar with dealing with similar material, the collector may also indicate any friends who know the material and might be willing (or have agreed) to help prepare it for sale.

If the collector has promised any item(s) to another collector or or-

any pieces for which expert certificates were obtained. Any file of purchases with receipts or canceled checks can be helpful.

**2. Honest Evaluation.** A common mistake is that the collector has not shared an honest evaluation with anyone else. Catalog quotation is not market value. It is not unusual to see offerings of stamps at a fraction of catalog value, and the editorial in the July 13, 1998 issue of *Linn's* stated it correctly: stamps acquired at a percentage of catalog

forced sale. Any collector who stays current with auction realizations knows the difference between the prices for superb copies and the discount realizations for average or defective copies.

ganization, such designation should be in writing along with the terms of transfer. Heirs may be swamped with alleged promises of this type, and can be protected only if there is a written record of the designation. A word of caution for heirs, too. Do not leave any person unattended with material, nor allow anybody to take material away for "more careful examination."

Article Provided by Ask Phil

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Association**

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Rochester Philatelic  
Association Since 1913

[www.geocities.com/  
rpastamps/](http://www.geocities.com/rpastamps/)



## Upcoming Programs

All Officer positions are open including one Board Member position. Ballots will go out by Mid-May. If you are interested in running for an office please contact the nominating committee.

Attention All Board Members: There will be a Board Meeting on Thursday May 4th at 7:00 pm at Ezzy's Restaurant on Latta Rd at the corner of Dewey Ave.

### Programs for May and June

May 11th will be an update on eBay- Presented by Jim Bell.

May 25th will be the Conclusion of

the Memorial Auction- Presented by Kelly Armstrong.

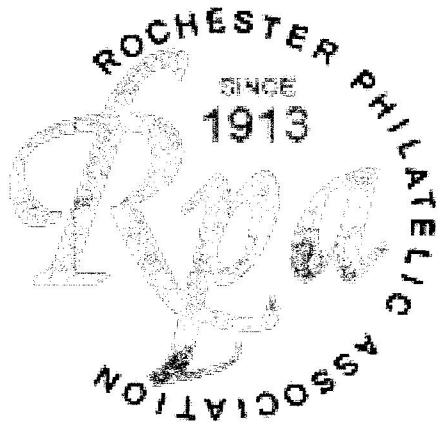
June 8th will be the Annual RPA Business Meeting.

June 22 will be Strawberry Night- Presented by John Kellis.

Hope everyone has a safe and happy summer recess. Hope to see you all back on September 14th.



Wouldn't you like to own these beauties!



# Hinges & Tongs

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

May – June 2006

## Annual Business Meeting & Election of Officers June 22, 2006

### RPA OFFICERS 2005 – 2006

President- **Rick Kase**  
Vice President- **Jim Bell**  
Treasurer- **Rich Spinelli**  
Corresponding Secretary  
**Joe Doles**  
Recording Secretary  
**Dave Marcus**

### Board of Governors

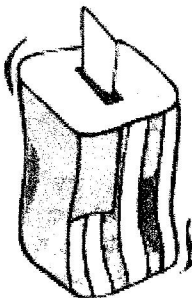
**Chuck Schultz**  
(term expires June 30, 2006)  
**Ray Stone**  
(term expires June 30, 2007)  
**Bob Kingston**  
(term expires June 30, 2008)  
Immediate Past President  
**Paul Gerwitz**

### Appointments

Membership - **Jim Bell**  
Librarian - **Joe Doles**

Articles may be submitted for publication  
to: **Joe Doles, Editor**  
**105 Lawson Rd.,**  
**Rochester, NY 14616-1444.**

Neatly hand-written or double  
spaced typewritten or sent electroni-  
cally to **JKD52@aol.com**.  
Any originals submitted for  
scanning will be returned if re-  
quested.



The annual business meeting has been sched-  
uled for the last meeting of the club year. This  
was done to allow the thirty day period between  
the mailing of ballots and the final count as di-  
rected in our Constitution.

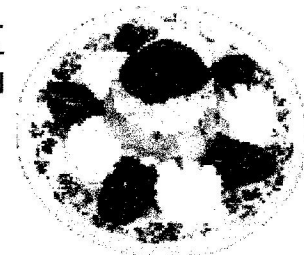
A ballot has been enclosed with this newsletter. It  
must be mailed back in time for the June 22 meet-  
ing. If you are able to attend the meeting you can  
bring it with you and deposit it in the ballot box.

The candidates are; for President – Rick Kase, for VP – Jim Bell or  
David Robinson, for Treasurer – Rich Spinelli, for Recording Secre-  
tary – Diane Bombard, for Corresponding Secretary – Joe Doles or  
Frank Tritto, for Governor-at-Large – Chuck Schultz or John Kellas, III.

The Board of Governors of the RPA consists of the elected officers,  
three elected Governors-at-Large, and the immediate RPA Past  
President. The remaining two Governors-at-  
Large are Ray Stone and Bob Kingston.  
The immediate Past President is Paul Ger-  
witz. The Governors-at-Large are elected  
for a three year term.

This will also be the night for our annual

## Strawberry Fest!



### RPA AUCTIONS

Up to seven (7) lots per member are permitted at each silent auction.  
Bid sheets are available for you to fill out prior to meetings. No fees  
are charged for silent auctions.

Five (5) lots are allowed for called auctions. Please indicate your start-  
ing price, if any. The seller pays a 10% fee to the club.



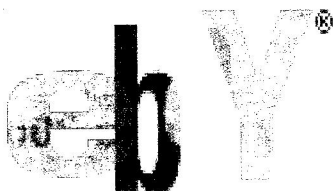
CHAPTER MEMBER



CHAPTER MEMBER

## What is an Auction Sniper:

The May 11 program on ebay presented by Jim Bell ended with many questions by those in attendance. Jim mentioned the use of sniper programs he has used to help insure that he gets last minute winning bids. The following was submitted by Jim Bell for publication.



An auction sniper is a program that lets you auto bid near the end of an auction. This will raise the chance of winning! Actually about only the 5% of the ebay users know about it, although it is a very powerful tool that totally knocks out your bidder opponents.

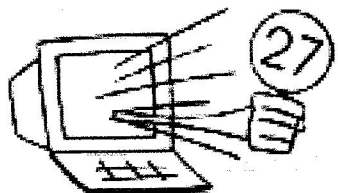
An auction sniper places your bid in the closing moments of an eBay auction, after other bids are submitted, so there is no time for your bid to be countered.

**Web based:** Web based snipers are services offered that work from an internet server. If you don't like to give your login information to 3rd parties then you should choose auction sniper software instead of the web based.

**Sniper Software:** Sniper Software runs from your pc. These are not as exact as the web based but you don't have to share your login information... So we choose the software sniper over the web based services. Anyone interested in more information can go to the web addresses below.

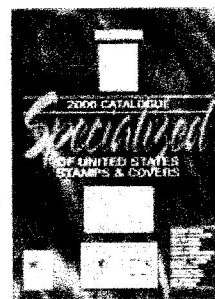
<http://www.auctionsniper.com/?how=kiwiberryfox>

<http://www.bidnapper.com/index.php3>



### RPA Library Joe Doles – Librarian

The club has received the kind donation of a complete 2006 Scott Catalog From **Bob Searjeant**. Each volume will be received when the new issue is published. Thanks, Bob!



The club library is for use by all members of the Rochester Philatelic Association.

The library is located in the basement storage room at the church. If you are interested in seeing what items we have just contact the club librarian, Joe Doles, before the start of any meeting.

Books may be borrowed for two (2) weeks, longer by special request on items that are not in demand. All items must be signed for and the items returned to the Librarian. Most all items may be borrowed.

If everything goes according to plan, by summer's end, I will have a complete updated inventory of the Club's library holdings.

The latest Scott's catalogs  
do not circulate.

## Meeting Schedule

**May 25, 2006**

John Kellas with a surprise presentation.

**June 8, 2006**

Jim Bell – Autographs on Covers

**June 22, 2006**

Annual Business Meeting  
Election of Officers  
Strawberries





# MEETING MINUTES

Rochester Philatelic Association  
**Board meeting minutes**  
May 4, 2006  
Time 7:30  
Home of Phil & Kathy Manarik

## Present

President – Rick Kase  
Vice President – Jim Bell  
Corresponding Secretary – Joe Doles  
Board Member – Bob Kingston  
Treasurer – Rich Spinelli  
Board Member – Chuck Schultz  
Board Member – Ray Stone  
Recording Secretary – David Marcus

Member – Frank Tritto  
Member – Jim Piccuch

## Absent

Paul Gerwitz - Immediate past president

## Minutes

### Old Business

Followed agenda

1. Vote to give \$300 gift to Gerwitz family for support of daughter in honor of Paul's efforts in the club – passed unanimously
2. Vote to donate \$100 in honor of Bob Lamb passed 4-3.
3. Vote to donate \$100 to Stamp Camp defeated unanimously

## Actions

### Topic - Membership list in disarray.

Rich, Joe, Jim to meet offline to clean up membership list. Objective to compare records each separately maintain by 31 May.

### Topic – Hinges and Tongs content

Marcus to send Joe D board meeting minutes for summary inclusion in Hinges and tongs

### Topic Moving the Business meeting

Board voted to move the business meeting to June 22nd.

### Topic – Audit committee

Rick Kase to announce/ solicit 3 club members to form an Audit committee at next club meeting

### Topic – ESL contract and lease

Ray Stone to spearhead activity to determine who to make check out to.

General review of contract is no commitment beyond 2007 and 1st call for 3rd weekend in May 2008 to 2010

### Topic Washington Frames

Ray will pursue opportunity to secure Frames that may become available as a result of the Washington show.

Board in general agreement to fund costs to transport frames to Rochester If Frames are available Jim Bell will be lead on securing location to store them

### Topic – Book Audit

Rick Kase will approach Dave Roehrig for advise in auditing the books with a CPA due to the interest funds we receive on CDs.

### Topic – Banquet results

At some point in the future there needs to be lessons learned activity to determine why general interest in attending the banquet seems to be waning. The Club (Jim Bell) committed to 35 places yet the club only delivered 22. There was general consensus that the board needs to be more involved if there are projected shortfalls.

### Topic new member night activities –

Just general comments – explore ad in paper, D&C Weekender as well as guest speakers.

Also Rich to check on Coffee pot availability.

Minutes submitted by Dave Marcus.

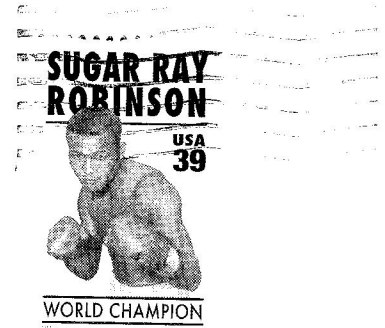
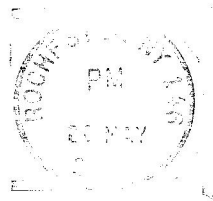


# Have a safe & enjoyable Summer

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



**Hinges & Tongs**  
Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc.  
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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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