

Hinges & Tongs



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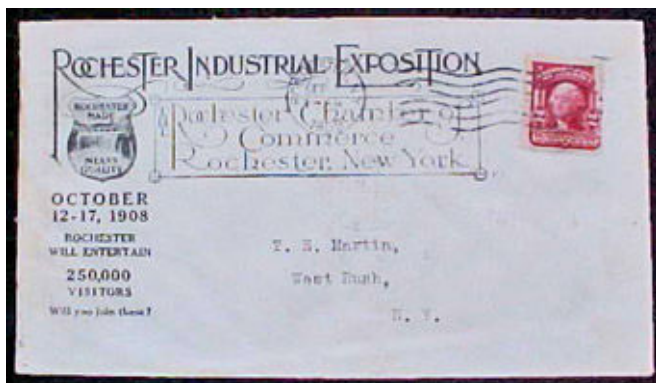
Newest RPA Life Members

Five long-time RPA members have earned life membership status. Congratulations to Kelly Armstrong, Tom Clark, Joe Doles, Bob Searjeant and Elli Steeb! Life membership is automatically granted to members with 25 years of continuous dues-paying membership.

However per our by-laws any member who drops out and re-applies shall be given the option to pay dues for the balance of the years away to keep the 25 year streak going. Any member interested in qualifying under this provision should contact a Board member.

Rochester Industrial Expo, Part 2

The last H&T issue featured an article about the cachets used promoting the Rochester Industrial Expos. Here's a cover from the very first one held in 1908.



Former Rochesterian Doug Penwell wrote to shed more light on these envelopes. He's now living in Phoenix and is a serious collector of Rochester postal history. He shared this interest with former long-time RPA member

Joe Pal, whom some of you will remember.

"Thank you for your article on the Rochester Industrial Exposition covers. As you may know, 1908 had multiple designs and to my knowledge, is the only year to do that. The "generic" design was re-used and I have seen a few covers that were meant for official correspondence related directly to the expo, but they are scarce.

"The covers actually go into the mid-1930's. The latest date I have seen is 1935. In 1919, the design went to black & white and I have never seen any year in color after that. If you like, I can scan examples from the 20's. They billed it as a horse show in addition to the Industrial portion after 1920."

As it so happens, an interesting label appeared in mid-September on eBay advertising the 1925 Expo, its 15th anniversary. It's depicted here and was offered for a starting bid of \$5. You'll note that the word "Industrial" is missing, an obvious evolution of the event into something more encompassing.



Doug would welcome an email from anyone seeking information or to exchange material on Rochester philately. dougpenwell@mail.com.

The APS Seal in Stamps

RPA members have always had strong ties with the American Philatelic Society. Here's a story that some of you "old timers" may recall, but will probably be new to many.

The following appeared in the September APS email update.



“Although numerous images of the APS seal have appeared on letterhead and the like, the most impressive achievement to date is the philatelic creation of Helen and Kenneth Nolle of Rochester, New York. For the 82nd annual APS convention and banquet dinner in 1968, the Nolles reproduced the Society’s seal by clipping duplicate postage stamps and pasting them on a huge circular board, four feet in diameter. They used the yellow 3-cent California Statehood issue (Scott 997), the blue 5-cent Washington (Scott 1283), and the red 8-cent Jet Airliner Over Capitol air mail issue (Scott C64) — more than 10,000 stamps in all! The seal, framed and protected by glass, is on permanent display in Sundman Hall, the main reception room in the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte.

“In addition, the Nolles created multicolor topiary trees for center pieces (400 stamps each) for the banquet and purple orchids for each of the ladies (106 stamps each)!



“Lady Philately” made her debut on an American Philatelic Association seal in the January 1893 issue of *The American Philatelist*. A more stylized version of the vaguely Grecian lady seated beside a world globe and enjoying her stamp album was adopted by the APS board in 1976 to make the symbol “recognizable as representing philately.”

“The design is not original to the APS, but appeared in a nearly identical form on the cover of the December 1886 issue of *The Philatelic Journal of America; A Monthly Magazine in Interest of Stamp Collecting*, edited by Charles H. Mekeel. She remained the logo for *The Philatelic Journal* until January 1893 when she was replaced by a more modern Victorian young lady seated in an armchair and surrounded by examples of philatelic literature. The Grecian lady simply slid next door to *The American Philatelist*, which, as it happens, *also* was published by Mekeel.”

As noted in the article, the Nolles were also the creators of the stamp flowers depicted in a Hinges & Tongs issue from about a year ago!

New Philatelic Cancel in the Works



Way back in 1993 Kelly Armstrong designed a cancel for daily use at the Rochester GMF's philatelic window (top). That window and our main Post Office's GMF designation are long gone, but the cancel has lasted until now, albeit in deteriorating and in very little use.

It was hoped that a clear reproduction of the prior design could be used to create a new device. No luck. So Tom Fortunato took the challenge to come up with an alternative (seen on the bottom).

Just like the old one the center needed to be blank to allow the changeable month, date and year plugs to be inserted. Unlike the old one the new cancel is a spring action device.

ROPEX Update

Plans for ROPEX 2011 are well underway! The theme chosen for the show is the 50th Anniversary of Americans in Space.

We're hosting the Northeastern Multi-State Postal History Exhibiting Competition, a separate contest from the World Series of Philately. We hosted the first such one a few years ago under the leadership of Al Parsons who is also managing this one. Teams of 3 exhibitors from various state postal history collecting societies will have their scores combined with the team scoring highest

winning the contest and bragging rights. Representation from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts are expected.

Remember that RPA members will be admitted free to ROPEX. To make things easier for everyone, having your membership card at the entrance will really help us out. If you forget it, we'll have a membership roster available to check-in as well.

Should you have any of the following US mint space-related stamps available at face value, or find them for sale at face (or below!) now that the stamp season is underway, we'd like to buy them for making ROPEX combo covers.



US 1193

US 1331-2



US 1371



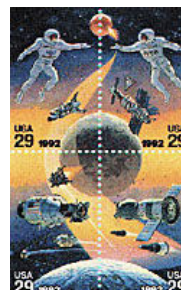
US 1434-5



US 1529



US 1912-19



US 2631-4



US 2841a



US C76

Is This THE Answer?



Is this can the answer to one of US philately's greatest challenges? It is according to Joanne Berkowitz, executive director of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors, who wrote about this discovery in the 2010 May/June issue of the group's publication, "The Circuit."

For years collectors of used U.S. stamps have been looking for the solution to cleanly separate pressure-sensitive stamps from envelope paper. Of all things, Pure Citrus Orange Air Freshener may be it. A 7 ounce can sells for \$5-\$7 in most grocery and drug stores around the country.

It's super simple to use. Place the stamp face down, spray the backing paper lightly, wait around 5 seconds and peel the stamp off. Re-spray the gum side of the stamp and scrape away any remaining adhesive using a credit card or similar plastic edged item.

Joanne learned this trick from participants at the APS Summer Seminar this year. That alone may have been worth the cost of attending!

"Rochester Kiwi" Error Gets Listed



We first reported about a missing color error on the 27 cent tropical fruit coil issue almost two years ago. Since that time the error has been

determined genuine through the American Philatelic Expertizing Service and received a listing in the 2011 Scott U.S. Specialized.

The owner of the coils has been awaiting the catalogue listing before considering sales options and is expected to either sell or consign his holdings shortly.

How Did That Happen?



Collectors "in the know" should be scratching their heads over this one. Yes, that's our Sunday, May 16 ROPEX cancel with a "Celebrate Scouting" stamp that was issued on July 27. Could it be that some enterprising philatelist improperly "pulled a fast one" by preparing this cover in late July, mailed it to the Rochester main Post Office and asked that it be canceled with our pictorial postmark—coincidentally beyond its 60 day grace period?

This gem appeared on eBay in late September with a starting price of \$1.50. Bidding ended on October 4 at \$17.88 with 19 bids being made for it. Lots of interest in this cover!

RPA Meeting and Board Minutes Online

Miss a RPA meeting? Want to get caught up on club initiatives? Minutes for RPA and Board meetings are on our web's "Meetings" page.

Subjects of 2011 Stamps

A preliminary list of stamps to be issued by the U.S. next year includes the following subjects. ***Just in!*** An announcement in the November 4 USPS Postal Bulletin seems to indicate all commemoratives issued in 2011 will bear a "FOREVER" designation!

- Lunar New Year – Rabbit **January 22**
- Barbara Jordan (Black Heritage)
- Kansas Statehood **January 28**
- Ronald Reagan
- Garden of Love
- Jazz
- Gregory Peck (Legends of Hollywood)
- Helen Hayes
- The Civil War, 1861
- Indianapolis 500
- Edward Hopper, "The Long Leg" (American Treasures)
- Mercury Project & MESSENGER Mission
- U.S. Merchant Marine
- American Scientists
- Latin Music Legends
- Romare Bearden
- Pioneers of American Industrial Design
- Mark Twain (Literary Arts)
- Christmas: Madonna of the Candelabra
- Holiday Contemporary: Holiday Baubles

Upcoming Area Shows

Dec 19 **Rochester** RS Stamp Show
Eagles Club, 1200 Buffalo Rd (Route 33).
Hours: 10-4. Bourse.
Contact: John Nunes, (518)399-8395.
Email: Nunesnook@aol.com

Jan 23 **St. Catharines** 62nd CATHEX Show.
Sponsored by the St. Catharines Stamp Club.
Grantham Lion's Club, 732 Niagara St. Hours:
10-5. 12-14 Dealers, club circuits, lunch
counter. Bourse.
Email: stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca
Website:
<http://home.cogeco.ca/~stampclub/home.htm>

Feb 13 **Syracuse** Syracuse Stamp, Coin &
Collectibles Show
Holiday Inn- Carrier Circle, exit 35. Hours: 10-
5. Bourse. Contact: Ed Bailey, (315)452-
0593.

Mar 5-6 **Cheektowaga** BUFPEX
Sponsored by the Buffalo Stamp Club. Leonard
VFW Post, 2450 Walden Ave. Hours 10-5, 10-
3. Bourse. Contact: Bob Meegan
Email: r.meegan@worldnet.att.net

A complete listing of shows can be found at:
<http://www.rpastamps.org/rpa-stampshowcalendar.html>

RPA Constitution Under Review

OK, let's be honest. When was the last time you read "Robert's Rules of Order," or for that matter, reviewed the RPA Constitution?

The RPA Board has appointed John Lighthouse to head a Constitution Committee to review our current by-laws with the objective to simplify and make the document more relevant to today's realities.

RPA president Tom Fortunato spent several weeks jotting down his thoughts on a complete revision that the new committee will use a starting framework.

Among the suggestions...

- Reduce the number of club officers and re-assign formerly mandated duties to appointees instead, sharing responsibilities among a greater number of volunteers
- Eliminate redundancies found throughout the current document
- Use more open rather than restrictive language throughout, keeping the spirit of the intent without the absolute necessitations now required to be enacted

After initial Board review, all members are welcome to share their thoughts and input during February's club meeting, with intentions for the final document to be voted on by the membership as a whole in June's election.

New US Stamp Releases



January – Lunar New Year, Year of the Rabbit
(Yes, look close, that's a rabbit in there pawing the pair of kumquats in case you didn't spot it!)

Next RPA Meetings

Thursday, **Dec. 9**..... Ray Stone "Stamp Quiz"
Thursday, **Jan. 13**... "Bring In Your Un-Identifiables" Night

Thursday, **Feb. 10**... RPA By-Laws Review

Thursday, **Mar. 10**... TBA

Thursday, **Mar. 24**... TBA

Contact Us

President

Tom Fortunato - 585-225-6822
stampmf@frontiernet.net

Vice President

Frank Tritto - 585-467-0970

Outstanding New Issues

Thumbs up to the U.S. Christmas evergreen stamps! An essay is depicted below, as the issued stamps will be "For-ever"-greens!

The Rochester Philatelic Association
PO Box 10206 Brighton Station
Rochester, NY 14610-0206

RPA Meetings are at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church
1200 Winton Rd South, just south of Brighton High School

