Vol. 78 No. 5
+----------------------- EDITORIAL +----------------------- by John Kellas

I was hoping to report to you progress concerning the proposed Philatelic Sales Center at Rochester's new Main Post Office (Henrietta). There is a philatelic clerk window at the Main Post Office which is open from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm Mon. thru Fri. This window is fairly well stocked with current U.S. issues and philatelic kits. There is a limited supply of the Cook stamp and experimental 13c penny stamp. The Customer Service Dept. at the main Post Office is actively engaged in supporting several Ben Franklin Stamp Clubs in the Rochester area. Since its conception in early March when the Postmaster spoke at our meeting, the coveted "Philatelic Sales Center" status seems to be tied up in Postal bureaucratic indecision. Rochester is not officially listed as a Philatelic Sales Center. RPA members can help solve this problem. A letter addressed to the Post Master General, Washington, D.C. and a copy to Rochester's Postmaster requesting an official confirmation that Rochester has a full service Philatelic Sales Center and if this is not so what is the problem or obstacle in conferring Philatelic Sales Center status? Actually any letter supportive of a Rochester Philatelic Sales Center would be helpful. The Rochester Post Office seems to be unable to resolve the question of a Rochester Philatelic Sales Center. If we and the public would like a Philatelic Sales Center then the power of the pen will perhaps solve this problem. Your voice in Washinton will be heard!

++ ****************++ MAY MEETINGS ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

May 11th - The Rochester Philatelic Association "Open House"

During ROPEX-78 more than 80 requests were made by show visitors for more information about our club. A letter was sent out to those visitors briefly describing the RPA and its activities plus an invitation to the RPA "Open House" meeting, May 11th. It is hoped that all RPA members will also invite guests interested in stamp collecting. Rpa member can also help out with the "Open House" program by bring with them a part of their philatelic material to display at the meeting; perhaps a favorite cover or stamp, a small six page exhibit,
books, or anything else to show at the meeting. Name tag will be supplied to members at the meeting. PLEASE COME, THE RPA NEEDS YOUR HELP IN MAKING THIS "OPEN HOUSE" A BIG SUCCESS!

May 25th - Stamp investing vs. stamp collecting? Some A B C's of careful stamp investing will be the topic to which a special speaker will address at this meeting. All stamp collectors are potential investors and should be familiar with risks and rewards of stamp investing. Learn about this complex area of philately, be at this meeting!

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GAPEX -78

Because the first day of the Toronto Stamp Show on Fri. June 9th was open only for Canadian dignitaries it was deemed advisable to attend the Stamp Show THE FINAL WEEKEND, JUNE 16, 17, 18. === The Empire Trailways Bus will leave Fri. June 16th at 8:00 am sharp from the Brighton Town Hall, 2300 Elmwood Ave. Park your car in the rear of the Parking lot, Please try using car pools. === There have been a few cancellations due to the changes in the dates, so there are a few new openings. The trip on the bus plus two nights at the Royal York Hotel, double occupancy, including tax, gratuities is $66 each. It will be 8 to 10 years before you will be able to visit another International Stamp Show. Please mail your check in full before May 15th to Dr. George B. Joel, 19 Eastview Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14609. Make checks payable to the Rochester Philatelic Association. Act NOW!

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NEW STAMP ISSUES & EVENTS

May 12- Cincinnati Music Hall 10¢ post card (U.S.)
May 18- Early Cancer Detection 13¢ stamp. (U.S.)
May 19, Resource Development, two (se-tenant) 14¢ stamps (Canada)
May 24- Jimmie Rodgers 13¢ stamp

Something new - the Post Service has put into production a non-denominated post card for its Patriots Series. This will be followed after the rate change (rate changes may occur May 28th or June 11th) by a card of the same design but bearing the new postal card rate. It follows that the Cincinnati Music Hall post card may have a low printing if the new rate disappears! (no issue date-maybe late May) === May 13-14, POLKAPEX '78 Stamp Exhibition & Bourse, Polish Cadet Hall, 927 Grant Street at Amherst, Buffalo, N.Y. ===

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PLEASE PAY YOUR RPA 1978 DUES NOW IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO YET! MAIL CHECKS ($3.50/yr.) TO RPA ADDRESS, PAYABLE TO THE RPA...
+++++++ ROPEX-78 POST SHOW REPORT ++++++++ 

ROPEX-78 (April 14-16) proved to be a great success. Several societies held meetings during the three days of the show, three different postal administrations (U.S., U.N.P.A., R.S.P.O.) sold their stamps at face value, and 22 dealers from 8 states and Canada sold, bought, and traded stamps & philatelic items. There were more than 2000 pages on exhibition, part of which TV-10 televised during the show's last day. The Grand Winner was Mr. Fitch's "United States Private Proprietary Stamps" exhibit. ** For those club members who were unable to attend ROPEX-78, a limited number of special cacheted show cover sets are available. A set of three covers (one for each day of the show) is $1.25 or 50¢ for one cover. Make checks payable to ROPEX and send your order to: ROPEX Covers, P.O. Box 3806, Brighton Station, Rochester, N.Y. 14610. The cachet design honors the 125th anniversary of the Founding of the New York Central Railroad with a train running along the bottom of the envelope. A special U.S.P.S. railroad track w/crossing signal cancellation appears on the covers. Supplies are limited so act now, also include a self-addressed stamped #10 envelope for the return of your order. *** The ROPEX-78 Committee wishes to thank all the RPA members and friends for their help during the show. We hope we can count on your support and help at the next ROPEX Show (scheduled for the Fall of 1979)...... 

++++++ NOMINATIONS ++++

This is to notify all RPA Members in good standing that nominations for all RPA offices and a few of the Board of Governors positions will be considered and noted during the May meetings. Audrey Pankratz is the chairperson of the Nomination Committee. Nominations should be directed to her at the May meeting......

**** ADDITION TO THE RPA CONSTITUTION 'PROPOSED'

"Be it resolved that the article concerned with the Terms of Office of the At-Large members of the Rochester Philatelic Association Board of Governors be amended by adding the following sentence: "Should an At-Large member of the Board of Governors resign, a special meeting of the R.P.A. membership will be held within 60 days to elect a member to fulfill the unexpired Term of Office.""

Elections will be held during the June Business Meeting.