



P.O. BOX 3806, BRIGHTON STATION, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14610

Vol. 80 No. 8 "RPA SUMMER PICNIC FUN" AUGUST '80

ROPEX '81

ROPEX '81 is now reality!
 ROPEX '81, sponsored by the RPA, will be held at the Americana Rochester Hotel the weekend of March 13, 14, & 15 in downtown Rochester, NY. ROPEX '81 will use the entire convention facilities at the Americana Rochester. The Theme for the show will be announced in the near future. There will be a special show cancel, cacheted covers, and souvenir card. News articles will begin to appear in the national philatelic press sometime in September. More committees, dealing with the planning, will also be formed and announced shortly. ROPEX '81 will need the help of the membership in order to produce a successful national stamp exhibition March 13-15, 1981. More ROPEX '81 information next month.....

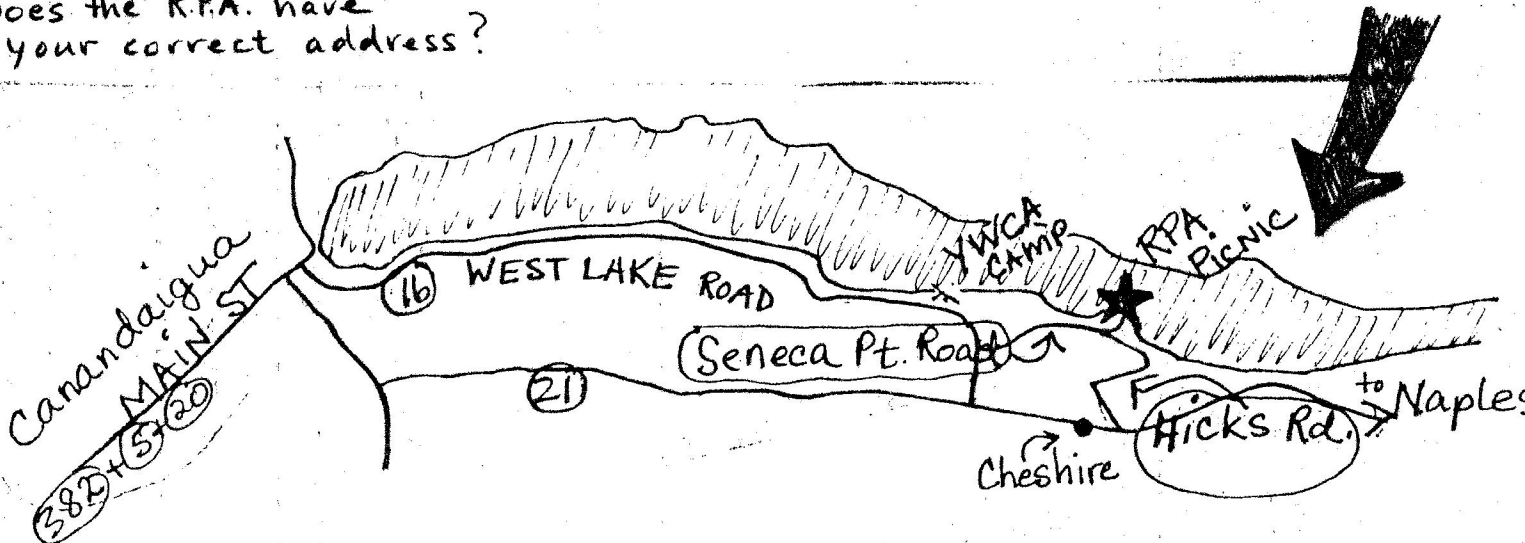
RPA 1980 PICNIC

The RPA Summer Picnic will be held Sunday AUGUST 17th at John Kalbfus' summer house, Seneca Pt., Canandaigua Lake. Seneca Pt. can best be reached by driving down the West Shore Road from the City of Canandaigua. This road follows the west shoreline of Canandaigua Lake. Seneca Pt. is just south of the YWCA summer girl's camp. Please do not park on the lawn or block traffic on the driveway into Seneca Pt. The Picnic will provide the grills, but you must bring your OWN Picnic Food & Beverages. The Picnic will start around 1:00pm. A map is included in this month's "H&T". See you there!!!

THERE ARE NO RPA MEETINGS DURING JULY & AUGUST



* Does the R.P.A. have your correct address?



USPS again selling Summer Olympic items

By JAMES H. BRUNS

The U.S. Postal Service has resumed the sale of Summer Olympic stamps, postal stationery, and philatelic products.

The items, which were withdrawn from sale March 11 as a show of support for President Carter's position that no U.S. athletes would participate in the games unless Soviet troops were pulled out of Afghanistan, were returned to sale last Monday — one day after the close of the summer Games in Moscow.

Timing was an important factor in the decision to return the items to sale. In announcing the resumption of sales, Postmaster General William F. Bolger noted, "With the Olympics ending Sunday (Aug. 3), the items will not serve to promote the event."

Not only was the sale timed to coincide with the end of the Summer Games, but the announcement of the sales offer came only about an hour before about 450 members of the U.S. Olympic team received gold-plated "Olympic" medals from the president as tokens of appreciation for not going to the games.

Symbolic gesture

Three reasons were given for returning the items to sale. Postal officials attributed the move, in part, to a symbolic gesture of support for the Olympic movement.

Originally, the items were withdrawn from sale as an expression of support for the president's announcement of a boycott of the Moscow Games, not as a sign of weakened support for the international Olympic movement. By resuming the sale, postal officials hope to drive that point home. Regarding this, Bolger noted, "It is also uniquely fitting that we use this occasion to honor the Olympic movement."

Bolger also said that the items were returned to sale in honor of America's preparation to support U.S. foreign policy, and as a tribute to one of America's greatest Olympic athletes — Jesse Owens.

Because Postal Service policy prohibits the issuances of commemorative stamps for persons until ten years after their death (this does not include memorial postal issues), Owens will not be eligible for commemoration on a stamp until March 31, 1990 at the earliest.

Earlier threat

With this in mind, Bolger noted however, "There is nothing to deter us from honoring his memory in concert with the honor we pay to all the members of our 1980 Summer Olympic team." Despite an earlier threat by Bolger that he would not hesitate "flooding" the mar-

ket with the remaining stocks of Summer Olympic items if some dealers don't stop taking advantage of the situation by overcharging collectors for the withdrawn items, that reportedly did not figure into the decision to resume selling the items.

Sale of the Summer Olympic items is being restricted to the Philatelic Sales Division in Washington, D.C. The items will not be available from local post offices. Over-the-counter and mail order sales of the Olympic items are being limited to the sales division so that the collectors served by post offices where supplies of the items may have been limited will have ample opportunity to buy what they want.

To make things easier, the Postal Service has waived the normal \$5 minimum purchase requirement and the 50-cent handling fee which apply to mail orders. To be eligible for this type of special treatment, collectors are required to order only the Summer Olympic items. Orders which call for Summer Olympic issues and other postal items or issues must meet the \$5 minimum and include the necessary handling fee.

Sales will be conducted on a first-come-first served basis, notes the USPS. Requests should be addressed to: "Summer Olympic Items, Philatelic Sales Division, Washington, D.C. 20265."

To expedite processing, collectors should include the correct item number for each Summer Olympic item they order. The item numbers are as follows:

- 0475 for the block of four Summer Olympic 15-cent stamps.

10c decathlon

- 0474 for the 10-cent Decathlon stamp

- 0476 for the 31-cent High Jumper airmail stamp

- E664 for the number 6¾ Soccer envelope (these are 18 cents each).

- E164 for the size 10 Soccer envelope (also priced at 18 cents each)

- 0224 for the 22-cent Discus Thrower aerogramme

- 210 for the 10-cent Sprinter postal card

- 0241 for the 21-cent Gymnast postal card

- 0943 for the Summer Olympic art reprints (priced at \$2.50)

- 0946 for the Summer Olympic poster (this item is \$2)

- 0940 for the Olympic mint set (these are \$7.50 each)

The Postal Service expects to have these items on sale until Dec. 31, 1980, unless stocks are depleted first.



ESPHS publishes handbook

The Empire State Postal History Society announces the publication of *New York State Post Offices Extant by County and Year, 1792-1969*.

The 36-page publication comprises tables of the number of post offices in each New York county for the years indicated. Specific post office names are not included.

The handbook can be obtained for \$2.50 to society members or \$4.00 to non-members from ESPHS, Box 8894, Academy Station, Albany, N.Y. 12208.

Information regarding the society can also be obtained from the same address for a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Stamp Shows

Aug. 16-17 Leatherstocking & Oneonta Stamp Clubs' Exhibition & Bourse, Elks Club, Chestnut Street, Oneonta, NY Admission Free. Hours Sat. 10-7 Sun. 10-4 Special show cancel.

Sept. 6-7 OLEPEX IV, Holiday Inn, 2715 W. State St., Olean, NY. Hours Sat. 10-9 & Sun. 10-5 Admission Free. Special show cancel. Cacheted cover available. Prospectus from: William W. Kinley, P.O. Box 78, Olean, NY 14760 Entry Form deadline is Aug. 27th.



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editorial cartoonist, and The Journal Herald, Dayton, Ohio



United States Postage Stamps: Transmittal Letter 6. A supplement to the basic manual of United States postage stamps. For information on the basic manual and other supplements, request a free copy of Subject Bibliography 11 from the Superintendent of Documents, Wash DC 20402.

Transmittal Letter 6 includes minor revisions to previous material and updates the basic manual for stamps issued during 1976 and 1977. 1979. 40 p. il. P 4.10:970/trans 6
9W0 S/N 039-000-00262-1 \$2.50

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20402

AMERIPEX '86 sets exhibition logo design

The exhibition logo has been chosen for AMERIPEX '86, the next international philatelic exhibition to be held in the United States.

The logo design is in two parts. First, there is simulated postage stamp with the words "AMERIPEX '86" accompanied by stars. This portion will be blue. Next to this is a simulated cancellation with the name, location and date of the exhibition. This portion will be red.

AMERIPEX '86 will be held in Chicago, Ill., May 21-June 1, 1986. It will mark the combined centennials of the American Philatelic Society and the Chicago Philatelic Society.



The AMERIPEX '86 logo.

Planning for the exhibition is now under way. A working committee of over 40 people has been established, and various subcommittees are working on the preliminary planning for this international event.

Bulk-rate stamps usable as postage

Some post office employees continue to insist that bulk-rate postage stamps cannot be used by private individuals as postage for first and third-class mail.

Section 142.3 (page 142) of the *Domestic Mail Manual* states "All postage stamps issued by the United States since 1860 are good for postage from any point in the United States."

Postal employees still in doubt can refer to U.S. Postal Service Philatelic Release No. 9, dated Feb. 28, 1976, which advises, regarding bulk-rate stamps: "Whenever used for other than bulk rate third-class mail, sufficient additional postage must be added to meet the first-class requirement rate of the single piece third-class rate."

What is happening is that the postal employee, when he refuses the bulk-rate stamps, is confusing the postage rate with the stamp. When used in the proper amount, bulk-rate stamps are acceptable on first-class and single piece third-class mail.

The U.S. Postal Service advises that it will be pleased to contact the offending post offices and send them clarifying data on the subject, if the customer will take time to write to the following:

Don McDowell, general manager, Stamps Division, Room 5510, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, D.C. 20260.

The USPS is just as anxious as are collectors to clear this matter, so readers having difficulty using bulk-rate stamps, are asked to take the suggested action.



STAMP NEWS
 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
STAMP NEWS

New HCC chapter cover honors Francis Scott Key

The Abraham Lincoln Chapter of the Historical Cover Collectors released a cacheted cover marking Aug. 1 as the 201st birthday of Francis Scott Key, lawyer and author of the U.S. national anthem.

The cover was printed in red, white and blue and was postmarked in Baltimore, Md., the location of Fort McHenry, the inspiration for Key that September night in 1814 when "the rockets red glare and the bombs bursting in air gave proof through the night that our flag was still there."

The original shell-torn Star Spangled Banner is now on display in Washington's Smithsonian Institution. A reproduction of that flag is basis for the cover's cachet, along with Key's portrait and his credo which appeared on the American Credo stamps of 1960-61.

HCC used the Credo stamp (Scott 1142) and the current

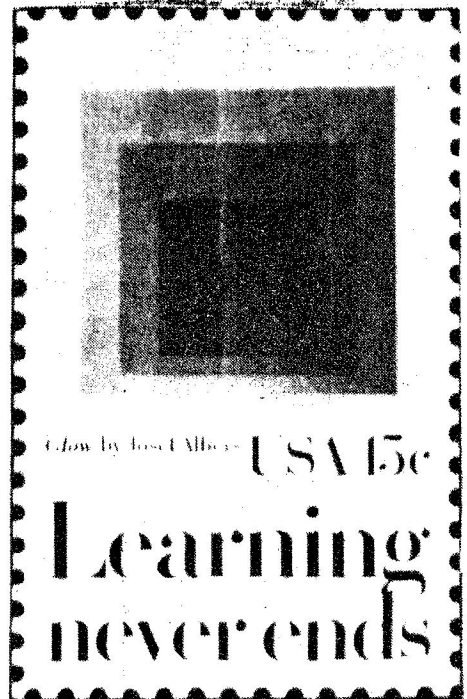


A cacheted cover marking the 201st birthday of Francis Scott Key was released Aug. 1 by the Abraham Lincoln Chapter of the Historical Cover Collectors.

Fort McHenry Flag stamp as franking for the cover.

Covers are available for \$2 each plus a No. 10 self-addressed, stamped envelope from HCC Key Cover, 2212 Melrose Ave., Waukegan, Ill. 60085.

HCC periodically issues covers commemorating historical persons and events using postage stamps and postmarks that tie in with the person or event. Information concerning past issues still available will be included with orders.



Canada Post / Postes Canada

Aug. 26 U.S.A., Coral Reef, Block of four 15¢ stamps.

Aug. 27 CANADA, Saskatchewan & Alberta, two 17¢ stamps.

Sept. 1 U.S.A., Organized Labor, 15¢ stamp.

Sept. 3 CANADA, Uranium Resources, 35¢ stamp.

Sept. 5 U.S.A., Edith Wharton, 15¢ stamp.

Sept. 12 U.S.A., Education In America, 15¢ stamp.

Mail order facility receives new status

The U.S. Postal Service reports that its philatelic mail order facility in Washington, D.C., has been given a new status and a new reporting relationship within the Customer Services Department at USPS headquarters.

On June 28, the Philatelic Sales Branch became the Philatelic Sales Division, assuming the same stature as the Stamps Division, the Philatelic Marketing Division and the Special Events Division.

These four divisions make up the Office of Customer Marketing which, along with the Office of Consumer Marketing and the Office of Consumer Affairs, make up the Customer Services Department.

Prior to June 28, the Philatelic Sales Branch was one of the three branches making up the Stamps Division. Elevation of the mail order facility to divisional status reflects the broader responsibilities given it during the last two years as a computerized fulfillment system was installed and made operational.

The current *Philatelic Catalog*, listing currently available philatelic items, may be requested from the Philatelic Sales Division, U.S. Postal Service, Washington, D.C. 20265.

New British group forms

A new British collectors society has been formed by a group of philatelists who specialize in the stamps of Great Britain's commonwealth nations.

Called "Commonwealth International" since it does not restrict itself to any part of the commonwealth group, the society goals are to disseminate knowledge concerning commonwealth philately.

A publication, to be called *Commonwealth Philately* is due for its first release in September of this year.

Charter memberships are open and interested parties should contact Commonwealth International, Box 195, Minetto, N.Y. 13115.

Copper City plans cover noting Fort Stanwix Days

The Copper City Stamp Club of Rome, N.Y., will sponsor a multicolor cacheted cover for Fort Stanwix Day, Aug. 3, in conjunction with the annual Fort Stanwix Days celebration to be held Aug. 1-10.

Fort Stanwix is the only fort that never surrendered in the American Revolution and where the Stars and Stripes were first flown in the face of an enemy.

The cachet will feature the drum captured from the British after the 21-day siege of Fort Stanwix in August 1777.

The Rome Post Office will use a machine slogan cancel reading, "Fort Stanwix Day/August 3rd/Rome, New

York," and there will be a private "cancel" with a drum.

Stamps to be used on the covers are the 15-cent Fort McHenry Flag, a pair of the 7.9¢ Drum coil stamp, a strip of three Spirit of '76, or the 13¢ Flag and Independence Hall.

Covers are \$1 each or three for \$2.50 with a 15¢ Flag or a pair of the 7.9¢ Drum coil. A strip of three Spirit of '76 or a plate block of four of either the 13¢ Flag or the 15¢ Flag stamps are \$1.60 each.

In addition, a colored post card of the British drum with a 10¢ Crossed Flags stamp with special cancel is 50¢ or three for \$1.25. Other colored post card subjects include "Garri-

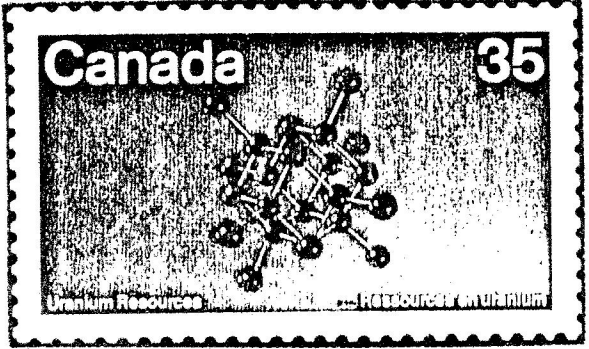
son celebrates victory," "Oneida Indians at fort to trade" and "making the flag." Mint post cards are 20¢ each.

Requests should state the cancel, whether machine or hand, and the stamp preference when ordering from Copper City Stamp Club, 614 N. James St. (LS), Rome, N.Y. 13440.

A large self-addressed, stamped envelope or 20¢ postage for each three covers or four cards (or combinations) must be included with orders.



The *Hinges & Tongs* is published monthly by the Rochester Philatelic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 3806, Brighton Sta., Rochester, NY 14610. Typed Articles must be submitted by the 25th. Editor: John Kellas III.



Rochester P.O.

The Philatelic Windows at the Rochester Post Office, GMF on Jefferson Road in Henrietta is open additional hours every Second & Fourth Wednesdays from 6:00pm - 8:00pm in the evenings. This is a special time period for the stamp collector.....

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
August & September planner						
17 R.P.A. PICNIC	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 USA - CORAL REEF BLK OF 4 15¢ STAMPS	27 CANADA SASKATCHEWAN + ALBERTA TWO 17¢ STAMPS	28	29	30
31 LABOR DAY USA - ORGANIZED LABOR - 15¢	1	2	3 CANADA URANIUM RESOURCES 35¢ STAMP	4	5 USA - EDITH WHARTON 15¢ STAMP	6
7 CLEFEX IV 7 JAN 1977	8	9	10	11 R.P.A. MEETING	12 USA - EDUCATION IN AMERICA 15¢ STAMP	13