



The success of your club's newsletter is dependent in part on what is submitted for publication. Please, if you have something to share send it to the editor. We are always looking for positive input, so why don't you drop me a line today!



**ROCHESTER PHILATELIC
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Hinges & Tongs

P.O. Box 10206, BRIGHTON
STATION,
ROCHESTER, N Y 14610-0206
Jan. - Feb. 2001
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Chapter Member of the American Philatelic Society
207-19273

Chapter # 69 American First Day Cover Society
Chapter #84 American Topical Association

[Http://rpa.homepage.com/index.html](http://rpa.homepage.com/index.html)
Check out the RPA Home Page

PROGRAMS

The January 11 will have as its theme *on How to Put an Exhibit Together* while the Thursday January 25th one frame competition will take place.

The February and March meetings are to be announced. Please read the President's Column for further information.

PRESIDENT'S NEW YEAR ADDRESS

ROPEX 2001 is not far away in the future and will make the month of March a busy one for RPA. Two large philatelic organizations will be holding conventions and meetings at the Show. And you as you all know, a lot of planning by the ROPEX Committee comes together at ROPEX. 'The National Stamp Show' please support their efforts by volunteering some time at the "Front Info Tables" — Hospitality.

The December RPA Meeting was a "BUST", the Church had another Christmas Program that night that required all the meeting room so all other organizations meeting that night were cancelled. We will be better at informing the Church office of our future meeting dates in order to avoid date conflicts...

The January 2001 RPA meetings will show-off RPA's talents in the exhibiting area: the 11th - "How to Put Together An Exhibit" and the 25th - The "OneFrame" Competition and the "ONE PAGE" exhibit. These two programs can be entered into by all members with a little 'IMAGINATION'. So start think about exhibit subjects?

The Feb. and March meeting will be announced by RPA Vice Pres. Mark Hull at the Jan. meeting and future "H&T" newsletters. JPK 3. — RPA President

We meet on the second and fourth Thursday of most months between September and June. Our headquarters are in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, on the corner of East Avenue and Vick Park B, across from the George Eastman House. A buy/sell/trade session runs from 7-7:45 PM, followed by the formal meeting at 7:45 PM. A silent auction concludes most evening's program.

Current RPA Officers 2000-2001

- President — John Kellas III
- Vice President — Mark Hull
- Treasurer — George Fekete
- Corresponding Secretary — John Cali
- Recording Secretary — Jim Picuch
- Immediate Past President — Ed Kawasaki

Board of Governors

- Ray Stone (term expires June 30, 2001)
- Norm Wright (term expires June 30, 2002)
- Chuck Schultz (term expires June 30, 2003)

Membership Chair — Florence Wright


Editor's Observations

A New Year has just arrived here as this is written. ROPEX activities are now in full swing as a result. Elsewhere in this issue is further data on the show's progress.


I have a certain amount of dismay writing this column. Each issue acknowledges those who contribute to the publication. These individuals are frequently ones who are the most active in the whole group. What about the rest of you? Is there something I should be doing to instill some motivation within you?

Most of you are aware that I was editor for *Stamp Insider* for many years. The most common thread among those potential writers was that they thought the publication was too specialized for their efforts. I am here saying that it is not. *Hinges and Tongs*, as well as *Stamp Insider* are not here to address a given specialty. You do not have to be a pro to write an article. Any topic will do.


Each issue of *Hinges and Tongs* ends up with the same contributors. They are thanked profusely. It is my firm belief that each of you has something to contribute. If you cannot articulate it, then write a description of what you think it might be. Then we can work it out. If we all start this new year out with the idea of writing an article, then my work will be a simple task. Thank you in advance for what I see to be a year full of excellent articles. JC



"ROPEX Celebrates
Christmas" Station
March 16, 2001
Rochester, NY 14606



"ROPEX Celebrates
Christmas" Station
March 17, 2001
Rochester, NY 14606



"ROPEX Celebrates
Christmas" Station
March 18, 2001
Rochester, NY 14606

The Way to a Happy New Year

To leave the old with a burst of song;
 To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
 To forget the things that bind you fast
 To vain regrets of the year that's past;
 To have the strength to let go your hold
 Of the not worth while of the days grown old;

To dare go forth with a purpose true,
 To the unknown task of the year that's new;
 To help your brother along the road,
 To do his work and lift his load;
 To add your gift to the world's good cheer,
 Is to have and to GIVE a Happy New Year!

Happy New Year to all!

National Stamp Show

Rochester, New York

ROPEX 2001

Free Admission - Free Parking

Friday, March 16 10-6

Saturday, March 17 10-5

Sunday, March 18 10-4

World Series of Philately Event



Diplomat Banquet Center

One Diplomat Way

Lyell Ave. (Rte 31) 2 blocks east of I-390

39 Dealers from the US and Canada

Stamps, Covers, Post Cards, and Supplies

216 Frames of Exhibits

Christmas Seal & Charity
Stamp Society, Christmas
Philatelic Club, APS, AAPE,
ESPHS, FCNYPS Meetings

Youth Area (Saturday and Sunday)

Special Cancels and Cachets

U.S. Postal Service

For additional information and a map to ROPEX, see:

<http://rpa.homepage.com>

ORDER FORM FOR ROPEX 2001 CACHET COVERS

ROPEX 2001



1st National Christmas Seal

The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

ROPEX 2001



1st US Christmas Commemorative

The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

ROPEX 2001



Nat. Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People Seal

The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

- #1 1908 seal
- #2 1962 4 cent
- #3 NAACP

Include quantity, name and complete address!

\$2 each or set of 3 for \$5. (SASE required or add 50¢ per cover)

Send this form and a check made payable to "ROPEX" to:

Rochester Philatelic Association, PO Box 10206- Brighton Station,
Rochester, NY 14610-0206. Phone: 716-621-1670

ROPEX 2001 Stamp Show

39 dealers with stamps and covers, 216 frames of exhibits, seminars, USPS, more!

March 16, 10-6

March 17, 10-5

March 18, 10-4

Diplomat Banquet Center
One Diplomat Way
Lyell Ave. 2 blocks E of I-390

716-621-1670

<http://rpa.homepage.com>

"APPALLING" POSTAL SERVICE

By Ada Prill

My daughter is visiting from England and brought with her a clipping from the Wandsworth Guardian giving residents' views on the area's "appalling" Royal Mail service. (Wandsworth is a borough of London.) Predictably, four out of five responses were negative. Some of the gripes:

"I live on the fourth floor....but the postman just dumps all the mail on the bottom floor. He does not walk up the stairs."

"I never get the post before 10 am and sometimes I have got mail at 2 PM. I also only get one delivery. It is bad, and we should get post before we go to work."

"The post comes sometimes at 7:30 am and other times 2 PM. We get junk mail before the main post!"

"Post that should come first class is not coming until after lunch. I have found that there are late deliveries. Normally I do get deliveries twice a day.

The last respondent said, "The post comes on time and I have never needed to make any complaints." Since his name is rather un-British, Sunmukaraja Saruananthan, it seems possible that he has had experience with less reliable postal services than the Royal Mail. Maybe even USPS?

To John Hotchner from Tom Fortunato:

John — I'm watching "The West Wing" tonight, and one of their plot lines deals with the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee (unfortunately referred to as "dorky" by one of the characters, but skillfully rebutted by another character!) and the political wrangling over a stamp for a Puerto Rican!

John's Response:

Hi Tom

Thanks for the notice. As it happens I often watch West Wing since it really is true to life, and in this case, my wife, who volunteers at Kennedy Center saw some of the filming of that episode. So I was doubly tickled to see CSAC be one of the theme lines. The issue was real enough, though before my time. Remember the Luis Munoz-Marin 5c rose pink? Then of course there was the Atomic Bomb issue and the proposed change to drop the Madonna and Child one year. Also Breast Cancer issue, which was more favorably received. Anyway, point is that we do come up on the White House screen every so often. Best, John

From Bernice R. Watson Smith

Unknown stamp magazine source

"A British dealer claims that the following happened to one of his customers.

The customer's apartment was robbed, and the police came to investigate. They inspected her rooms to check what was missing and what damage was done. When they opened the door to her stamp room, they found stamps all over the floor and open boxes and loose stamps everywhere.

The policeman said something to the effect that the crooks really made a mess in here. The customer looked over the scene and replied, "No, I don't think they've touched anything."

From Tom Fortunato

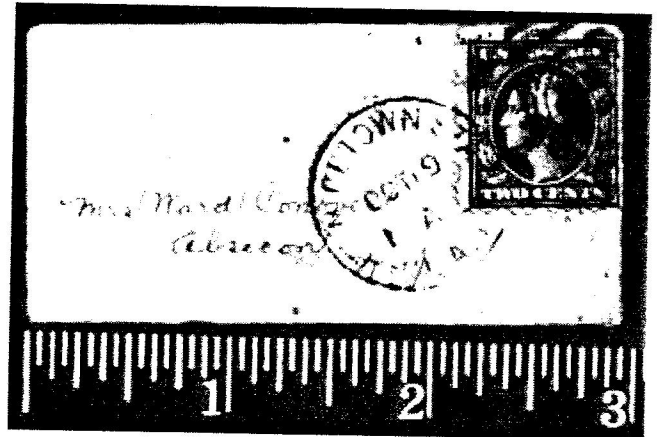
What would you think if you saw a category "Small Covers" in a dealer's file? Would you take a look and see?

Such a title was too tempting for me when I attended Bob Steeb's last stamp show a month or two ago. It was dealer John Nunes of Albany who had that very descript marker in a box of "stuff." If you ever saw John's offerings you'll understand that he deals in the most eclectic philatelic and ephemera material around.

There were about 20 covers in that section, and I was immediately drawn to the smallest, of course! Here it is. Three inches wide by a little over 1.25 inches tall, it's the smallest that I've ever run across. It was mailed from Philadelphia to Abescom, NJ on October 19, 1910 at 11 AM, making it to its destination per the backstamp later that day.

The real bonus was the enclosure: "To announce the arrival of C. Clayton Berkes on October 18, 1910. Weight 9 pounds. Mr. And Mrs. C. P. Berkes."

It was a real bargain at \$2 and leaves me wondering whatever happened to that kid!



ROPEX Beckons.....

Well, it's almost here — Christmas at ROPEX! If you didn't get your fill in December, be prepared to fill the stocking in March! By the way, how can anyone forget that ROPEX begins on St. Patrick's Day.

We welcome two visiting societies holding national conventions with us — the Christmas Seal & Charity Stamp Society and the Christmas Philatelic Club. Each will hold a two hour meeting as well as a seminar or two during ROPEX.

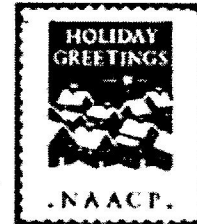
All 216 frames have been filled. This year's assortment has the perfect blend of exhibits. Featured in the front row will be a mix of one framers, thematic, display class and special study displays on various aspects of our show's theme. Just around the corner you'll find plenty of traditional, postal history, and other classes as well.

Our cancels and cachets are all set. The cachets will sport three interesting items: the first national Christmas seal of 1908, the first US Christmas stamp, and an interesting NAACP seal depicting snow covered roofs. The cancels depict familiar winter and Christmas icons — Santa, a snowflake and a snowman!

We have a full schedule of meetings. Many feature regional meetings with a New York State flavor, notably the Empire State Postal History Society, Chapter 53 of the American First Day Cover Society, the Mobile Post Office Society, and the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies. Meetings will also be held by the American Philatelic Society and American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors.

ROPEX details will appear in the next *Hinges & Tongs*, out just before the show starts! TMF

ROPEX 2001



Nat. Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People Seal



The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

ROPEX 2001



1st National Christmas Seal



The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

ROPEX 2001



1st US Christmas Commemorative



The Rochester Philatelic Association welcomes our visiting societies CS&CSS and CPC to ROPEX!

A Baseball-Stamp Story

By Florence Wright

One never knows where a stamp story is going to show up; you turn a page, and suddenly, there's a story related to stamps or collecting!

One of my favorite charities is St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Nevada, which takes in neglected, abused and abandoned children, gives each a home with love and healing. Founded in 1967 it has grown to include two other "campuses" located in Texas.

The stamp connection? Last July 6, Father William Cantrell, the Ranch's president and CEO, was invited to Atlanta by the USPS to attend the first day ceremony of the "Legends of Baseball" stamp sheet. Father Cantrell's special interest was the stamp commemorating Dizzy Dean, 1930s member of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Many years ago, Patricia Nash Dean, Dizzy's widow read an article written by columnist George Will, describing St. Jude's Ranch and its work with children. She was so impressed that she willed one-third of her estate to St. Jude's for the construction of an administration building to be dedicated to Dizzy Dean's memory.

The Dizzy Dean Building now houses the St. Jude's recycled card project and the national mailroom connected with it. People send old greeting cards to St. Jude's, where the kids under supervision turn the old cards into new ones by carefully cutting pictures and words and gluing them onto fresh card stock. These are available for resale. The children earn money for themselves, while other profits benefit the entire kid-care facility.

Father Cantrell held up a poster-sized mockup of the Dizzy Dean stamp and said how proud he was to be a part of the tribute to such a legend of baseball.

Interesting that the building carrying Dean's name and memory is closely connected with mail – the kind that needs stamps.

(Thanks to the St. Jude's Ranch for Children Fall 2000 newsletter)

TIME FOR TOPICALS

By Florence Wright

"You can feel it but cannot see it" – is the introductory sentence of an article called "Wind" in the Nov-Dec. *Topical Time*. It is a commentary of an exhibit by the same name by Jin Peng of the Peoples' Republic of China. The article is complete with color and black-and-white pictures of several of his exhibit pages.

All 80 pages of the exhibit were published by the Yuhai Thematic Philatelic Group of China, with both English and Chinese captions. The exhibit is a very comprehensive and complete philatelic treatment of the subject. Mr. Peng includes wind in a sub-topic of "wind instruments," sports (sailing), as well as a section on the pneumatic post.

[NOTE: Mr. Peng sent a copy published exhibit to me, and I would be happy to show it at a meeting for anyone interested]

* * *

The latest issue of *Topical Time* is available at the Club library, as well as back issues. Ask Club Librarian Joe Doles to borrow a copy.

* * *

The next National Topical Stamp Show is slated for June 22-24, 2001 in Mesa, Arizona. The *Topical Time* has details, as well as an exhibit prospectus and entry form for anyone wishing to submit a topical exhibit.

Please Welcome

RPA welcomes new member **Richard A. Spinelli** of Rochester. His collecting interests include covers and U.S. stamps.

When you are at a Club meeting, don't forget to say Hello to guests and other members you may not know personally.

Letters

[A few weeks ago, your membership chairman sent notes to our Life members, mostly to say "Hello" from RPA members, and to invite notes and comments. We heard from three so far, and share these letters here]

From **Barclay Fishburn**, who joined RPA in 1972:

We had a good summer, despite some problems with a fast heart beat. We had the whole family together as they put on a 50th wedding celebration for us. September 23, 1950 was our wedding date.

This summer (while at home in Lake Luzerne, N.Y.) I soaked off about 5000 U.S. commemoratives. Weakness because of heart problems and hormone therapy for prostate cancer limited my attendance at the Adirondack Stamp Club and other activities as proprietor of Schenectada Stampmart.

Now, we are here in the sunny south, getting ready to change out residence to Florida. We have a unique situation here in that although our mobile home is spacious, we have only two bedrooms (and one is my office). When friends come to visit, we are able to house them at vacant apartments in our retirement village starting around \$50 a night. There is a limited number available, but when one considers the amenities, it's a steal – we are one-half hour from Disney World and one-half hour from Orlando International Airport.

Remembering days when he was active in RPA, Barclay said, "I guess one of the highlights of my membership at the club was when we took in CAPEX way back in 1978. We all stayed at the Royal York Hotel and traveled to Toronto by bus. Very few of the gang that went are with us now.

"The best years of the club were when we met at the museum. We had plenty of space, adequate parking, and a good meeting room. We even had a Junior Stamp Club that met at the same time."

"I hope that members will become more involved in changing things at the US Postal Service. I look forward to getting letters – e-mail or snail mail. God bless you all."

His address for the winter is: 4178 Scotland Rd., Kissimmee, FL, 34746-6428; e-mail is Fishburn@juno.com

Paula Sadler, who joined in 1965, wrote this note:

"Thank you for remembering me. As a stamp collector when I was living in Rochester, I have memories of many pleasant moments at the RPA.

My activities have changed, and I am now active with two quilting groups here, making quilts and afghans for underprivileged children, from babies to teens."

You may write to Paula at 1394 Tranquility Lane, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577-4242.

Mary Driesel, wife of **Thomas Driesel** wrote:

"I was glad to get your note. Thomas had a stroke in January 1999, and has been in a nursing home ever since. He can't talk much, a word now and then, and he is not able to walk. He is being cared for very well in the Orchard Manor Home in Medina. I go every day with the newspaper.

"I hope the stamp club is doing well. Thomas spent many happy hours with his stamps."

Mary Driesel's address is 253 E. State St., Albion, NY 14411. Thomas Driesel joined RPA in 1963.

* * * *

NOTE

RPA Editor, **John Cali**, was pictured, in living color (!) in the Camden County (GA) Collectors Club stamp newsletter. The newsletter, sent to us by RPA member Nancy Z. Clark, dedicated two pages to pictures and write-ups from Stampshow 2000 in Providence, RI, last August.

The camera caught John seated at the APS Affiliates table along with Brad Brunsell of the Pitcairn Island Study Group and Richard Hunt of the Errors, Freaks, Oddities Collectors' Club.

(NOTE: The four-page newsletter, in color, goes to all nine club members.)

* * *

Member Nancy Clark will be running for APS treasurer again in Spring 2001. She welcomes RPA members' support.

* * * *

Hinges & Tongs
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