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HONORING: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "BLUENOSE"

OCTOBER 19 - 21 1979

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Western Monroe Philatelic Society
A.P.S. Chapter 560
Meets on the third Tuesday of each month
7:30 p.m. at the
Ogden Baptist Church
Washington Street
Spencerport, New York
Al Erskine, Secretary
436 - 5898

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday - October 19, 1979
10:00 a.m. Opening of Exhibition and Bourse Large Hall
11:00 a.m. Movie: Timbromania - Board Room
2:00 p.m. Movie: Timbromania - Board Room
7:00 p.m. Exhibition and Bourse Closes

Saturday - October 20, 1979
10:00 a.m. Exhibition and Bourse Opens
11:00 a.m. Movie: Timbromania - Board Room
1:00 p.m. Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs Meeting - Board Room
2:30 p.m. Junior Philatelists of America Regional Meeting - Board Room
4:00 p.m. Posting of Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze Awards Large Hall
5:00 p.m. Judges Critique - Board Room
7:00 p.m. Exhibition and Bourse Closes
7:00 p.m. Reception - Cash Bar - Dining Room
7:45 p.m. ROPEX-79 Awards Banquet Dining Room

Sunday - October 21, 1979
10:00 a.m. Exhibition and Bourse Opens
11:00 a.m. Movie: Timbromania - Board Room
2:00 p.m. Movie: Timbromania - Board Room
5:00 p.m. ROPEX-79 Closes
The Rochester Philatelic Association is now in its 66th year and is still going strong. It was organized on March 12, 1913. The first meeting was held at the Hotel Rochester with eleven enthusiastic men getting it off to a fine start. In a short time, they began to hold their meetings at the Municipal Museum in Rochester, but during the First World War, interest flagged and the club was only kept together through the efforts of five members who met at various homes. Eventually, more members were added and they met in the back room of a local stamp dealer. They soon graduated to the Public Library, and after many months the club moved to the Edgerton Park Museum. When the Grauch Museum of Arts and Sciences was built, the RPA followed them to East Avenue, moving in 1976 to the Parish Hall of St. Paul's Church four blocks away.

Over the years much has been accomplished in the effort to bring stamp collecting and its joys to the general public. A wide variety of programs have been featured at the over 1,200 meetings. These activities include outside and local speakers, movies, mini-exhibits, swap nights - in fact nearly everything that was ever heard of in the hobby. Throughout this time there was always an annual banquet, followed by an exhibit, entertainment, and recently an auction.

Early exhibitions of the RPA were local affairs, but during the thirties and forties shows were held in conjunction with the Rochester Museum Hobby Council. In 1950, the RPA assisted in the formation of the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs. As host to this group and subsequent combination with the Central New York Federation of Stamp Clubs, the scope of the exhibitions became international.

The year 1963 was the Golden Jubilee of the Rochester Philatelic Association, and called for a really big show in celebration. This show of over 700 frames, held in Rochester's new Midtown Plaza, was a huge success. This paved the way for subsequent large exhibitions and bourses such as Topex-67 and APS-68. Incidentally, it was at APS-68 that the World Series of Philately was inaugurated. The current Topex title was initiated in 1971 and used to designate the shows that hosted such organizations as the American Philatelic Congress, the Society of Philatelic Americans and the American Topical Association. This background of the RPA provides appropriate credentials for hosting Topex-79 in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the issuance of the Canadian "Bluenose".

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that the Rochester Philatelic Association along with the Topex-79 Committee, welcomes you to Topex-79. We hope that you will find your stay here both educational as well as enjoyable.

We especially welcome the delegates of the Niagara Federation of Stamp Clubs and those members of the Junior Philatelists of America who will be joining the RPA at Topex-79. Their presence here will greatly benefit all of you who are in attendance.

During this exhibition we are honoring the 50th anniversary of the issuance of the famous "Bluenose" by Canada on January 6, 1929. 844,900 copies of this stamp were issued. Are you one of the fortunate owners of this beautiful stamp?

You are invited to carefully study all the exhibits and feel free to ask the exhibitors any questions that come to mind. Our fine selection of bourse dealers will also provide you with any information in regard to your collecting interests that they can as well as providing material that you may need. The United States Postal Service is also available to serve you.

Thank you for coming and sharing your knowledge and time with us. We hope that Topex-79 has been a learning experience for you. Again, on behalf of the Rochester Philatelic Association, welcome. Glad you are here.

Very truly yours,

Raymond Stone
President, R.P.A.
PANEL OF JUDGES

Austin P. Dulin
Bernard A. Hennig -Chairman
Roger Kline
Phillip W. Ireland -Apprentice

LOUNGE AREA

In the hallway outside the main entrance the following will have tables for the convenience of those seeking information:

Rochester Philatelic Association
Junior Philatelists of America
Pitcairn Islands Study Group

ROPEX-79 COMMITTEE

Richard DiVito
Lawrence R. Moriarty
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Audrey Pankratz
N. Chipman Hamblin, II
James A. Sands
John H. Kalbfus
Warren C. Stevens
John P. Kellas, III
Raymond Stone -Co-Chairman
Jack Knight
Nancy Zielinski

AWARDS

GRAND AWARD
Best exhibit in the show. The winner, whether General or Topical, will receive an invitation to participate in the Champion of Champions competition at the 1980 APS Annual Convention.

ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION Gold, Vermeil, Silver, Silver-Bronze and Bronze Awards. All exhibitors will receive certificates.

JACOB LEGERE AWARD
Best General Exhibit by an RPA member.

VIRGINIA GUBLER AWARD
Best Topical Exhibit by an RPA member.

NOVICE AWARD
Best exhibit by an RPA novice - non-winner.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY AWARD
Best exhibit by an APS member.

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION AWARD
Best Topical exhibit.

EMPIRE STATE POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY AWARD
Best exhibit of New York State Postal History.

JUNIOR PHILATELISTS OF AMERICA AWARD
Best exhibit by a Junior.

POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY AWARD
Best exhibit of Postal History.

SOCIETY OF PHILATELIC AMERICANS RESEARCH AWARD
Exhibit demonstrating best original research.

UNITED POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY AWARD (MARCUS WHITE TROPHY)
Best Postal Stationery exhibit.

EARL P. L. APPFELBAUM AWARD
Best exhibit on printed pages.

JHK ENTERPRISES AWARD
Most Popular Exhibit

RIBBONS will be awarded to all exhibitors:

Blue Ribbon for Gold Awards
Red Ribbon for Vermeil Awards
Orange Ribbon for Silver Awards
Yellow Ribbon for Silver-Bronze Awards
Green Ribbon for Bronze Awards
White Ribbon for all other exhibitors
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This is the story of a stamp that I had, at one time, but alas, no longer possess. In my younger days, money was no object. At that time, money was also worth money. But, with marriage comes not only responsibility, but also children, and money and time swiftly depart. An unexpected expense occurs, another collection departs. So went my "Bluenose". But, I did have it for a time.

Admittedly, never loved as it should have been, I have come to admire it now as we celebrate its 50th anniversary. Suddenly, an article must be written. Quick, to the encyclopedia. What? no listing? To the library. Again, no information. Finally, a thought, the local stamp dealer! Praise be! A copy of "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada" by Winthrop S. Boggs (Chambers Publishing Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1945) is located and becomes the main source of information for the following.

The 50¢ stamp depicting the "Bluenose" was part of a set that constituted a number of "firsts" for the government of Canada. It was the first regular issue to be bi-lingual. It also marked a new format for Canadian regular issues. Small, low value stamps depicting the reigning English Monarch while the high values were larger in size and featured various items of importance to Canadians. This regular issue is also referred to as the "Scroll Issue" because the word "CANADA" appears in a scroll at the top of each stamp.

The stamps were printed by the Canadian Bank Note Company, Ottawa, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the American Bank Note Company. A new type of plate was also introduced at this time to prolong the printing life of the plate. Thus, fewer plates (and numbers) were necessary. The new plate composition was of hardened steel with a chromium coating.

The "Bluenose" itself was printed in sheets of 200 (10 x 20) that were divided into Post Office panes of 50 each (5 x 10). The stamp was released on January 6, 1929 using plate numbers 1, 2, and 3 in a quantity of 844,900 copies.

The stamp depicts a scene from the International Fisherman's Race off Halifax Harbour in the fall of 1926. The "Bluenose" was competing against the United States' contestant "Columbia". The design is a composite from a series of photographs taken during the race. Interestingly, both vessels depicted are the "Bluenose", even though the "Columbia" was to be the other schooner in the design.

The "Bluenose" was built primarily as a fishing schooner. It was made entirely of Nova Scotia timber - spruce, oak, birch, and pine, except for the masts. It took two years, 1920-1921, to construct in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia by the firm of Smith and Rhuland. The purpose behind its selection by the Canadian officials was to give world-wide recognition to three parts of life and industry in Nova Scotia - shipbuilding, seamanship, and fishing.

Now that the children are beginning school, time is once again becoming my own. Perhaps, if money is ever again worth anything, I may again hold before my eyes my own copy of the "Bluenose".

Happy Fiftieth Birthday to a truly outstanding example of the engraver's art.
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HISTORICAL ORIGINS: THE SULLIVAN CAMP PAIN

James P. Flynn  Member: RFA, KBCT of A, SCCE

John Sullivan was a practicing lawyer in New Hampshire in 1774 at the time he led a disgruntled band of New Hampshireites that seized military supplies from the British Fort William and Mary at Newcastle. Among the supplies captured were 100 barrels of gunpowder later used by the Americans at Bunker Hill. (As a lawyer, he should have known that this was not the preferred method of returning stolen property.)

His proved leadership led to his appointment as a Brigadier General in 1775. He saw service at the siege of Boston and in 1776 was given command of the American forces in Canada. As a Major General, he took part in the battles of Trenton, Brandywine, and Germantown in 1777. He spent the winter of 1777-1778 with the troops at Valley Forge.

When a campaign against the Indians in western New York was planned for 1779, Washington picked John Sullivan to be its leader. Sullivan was thanked in October 1779 by the Continental Congress. (A Commemorative Stamp was issued in 1929 to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of this campaign).

John Sullivan was the son of Owem O'Sullivan, an Irish immigrant who landed at Berwick, Maine in 1723. The family is easily traced to Donall O'Sullivan, Lord of Berehaven in the time of Good Queen Bess. We have traced O'Sullivans back to the 12th century when they were Kings of their own Fief.

The decline of the fortunes of the O'Sullivans must be attributed to Sean, the first male heir born to Patrick O'Sullivan. When Sean was born, everyone was generous to a fault in trying to honor and please the future king.

Sean grew up with a great love for all living creatures and he feared neither man nor beast. When he became King, he decreed that no animals should be hunted in his kingdom. He opened the doors of the castle to both men and animals. The animals soon found their greatest refuge was in and around the castle and it quickly became a haven for deer, fox, elk, and many other animals. Irish dancing became rather messy at the castle and fewer invitations were accepted. The warm weather of summer brought complaints of air pollution, though the Irish had other names for it.

The people pleaded with the king to get rid of all the animals in the castle. Sean refused saying, "As long as I reign, I will rule my Fief as I decide". The people, with the help of the leaders of the surrounding fiefs, appealed to the High King to dethrone Sean and get rid of the animals. The High King granted their wish by moving the game to another part of Ireland and ended the reign of Sean O'Sullivan. Thus marking the first time in history that "reign was called on account of the game." Sean O'Sullivan felt bad that his neighboring kings turned on him. He made the now famous statement: "There is no honor among Fiefs".

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