



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

DECEMBER 2011

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HOLIDAY SOCIAL

It is hard to believe it is December already! It seems like only yesterday that we were putting the calendar in for the coming year. The Autumn Stamp Festival is history and now we begin preparations for BUFPEX. Now is the time to begin thinking about that exhibit for BUFPEX. We are in dire need of exhibits for BUFPEX. Putting one together is not as difficult as you may think, and you do not need expensive material. We will revisit exhibiting in the near future, so now is the time to think about it and start planning.

In the meantime we will have our annual Holiday Social following the auction on December 2nd. It is the perfect opportunity to relax and socialize. The conversation does not necessarily have to be philatelic. We will have finger food and refreshments. Everyone is invited to celebrate the holidays. Hope to see you there!

AUTUMN STAMP FESTIVAL

We held our Autumn Stamp Festival on Saturday, November 19th. All indications from dealers and attendees reported that the show was a success! There was a strong crowd all morning and into the afternoon. We saw many familiar faces and ran into some new ones also. There were contingents from Rochester and Canada as well as the Southern Tier and Niagara County. Everyone seemed to be busy looking for that particular gem in the stamp pile. And I believe, from the comments, that plenty of gems were found!

Thanks to all that helped with the setup, worked the Welcome Table and supported the show!!!

DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 2nd: **Auction and Holiday Social**

January 6th: **Auction**

CALL FOR DUES!!!!

Dues remain at \$12.00 and can be given to Casey Kielbasa at the meeting or mailed to Casey at P.O. Box 154, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0154. Casey reports a strong response from the membership for renewals. Have you paid yours? Check with Casey, if you are not sure.

OFFICERS

President: Alan Davis

Vice President: Bob Meegan

Secretary: Al Carroccia

Treasurer: Tim Carey

Membership Chairman: Casey Kielbasa

Auction Manager: Dan Sherwood

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: George Gates

Bourse Chairman: Bill Witschard

MEETINGS

Auctions and meetings are held at the Leonard Post located at 2450 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga and begin promptly at 7:30 pm. A calendar for 2010-2011 was in September's newsletter. If anyone needs a spare copy, see or email the editor, or check the club website.

WALTER ORTON – IN MEMORIAM

As we reported last month, the Club lost an illustrious member, Walter Orton. Walter was a senior member of the Club, and we will miss him. Following is the reprinted obituary which appeared in the *Stamp Insider*:

Walter J. Orton III, 84, of Grand Island, New York, an active philatelist, exhibitor, and judge involved with the Buffalo Stamp Club, Rochester Philatelic Association, Federation of New York Philatelic Societies, and the APS, died on October 23.

He developed the Guillain Barré syndrome, a disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system, after receiving a flu shot. Orton was an accredited judge for both the APS and the Federation, as well as a member of the Federation Speakers Bureau.

He was a long-time member of the Buffalo club, serving two years as president. Orton was instrumental in the construction of the exhibit frames that were used for more than a decade until the current frames were purchased from the Pacific '97 exhibition.

For his service to the Buffalo club he was awarded its highest honor — the Fred Koeppe Award for Outstanding Member. This award is presented to a member, based on lifetime achievement and service to the club, and requires the unanimous agreement of previous award winners. This honor has been bestowed to very few members in the long history of the award.

Orton's interest in British postal history led him to establish the Walter Grotke Award for the best Great Britain or British North America exhibit at BufPex and donate a perpetual trophy to the club. The 2011 recipient was Rodney Paige for his Great Britain: The Early Cancellations.

After winning numerous national gold medals for his exhibit of the US 1869 series, and fulfilling requirements, he became an APS Accredited National Philatelic judge. He also received gold awards for his Proprietary "Battleship" Revenue Stamps of 1898 from Alpha to Omega exhibit, which included the only known set of large die proofs in private hands. He acquired these through private treaty from the The Morton Dean Joyce Collection of United States Revenue Stamps.

He received silver awards at the Federation's StampExpo 400 in 2009 for two revenue entries, Pioneer Telegraph Companies of the North East — Displaying Covers and/or Telegrams and Proprietary "Battleship" Revenue Stamps of 1898 from Alpha to Omega.

Orton joined the Rochester Philatelic Association in 1965 and received a life membership in 1990. He was a frequent exhibitor and philatelic judge at the RPA's annual Ropex World Series of Philately shows.

The Brooklyn native was a lieutenant in the US Army during WW II and received the Purple Heart. He was employed in the metallurgical department of Union Carbide in Niagara Falls for more than 35 years.

Orton was a lay eucharistic minister at St. Martin-In-The-Fields Episcopal Church on Grand Island, where he was an active member for 43 years. He received the Bishop's Award in 1994 for his work in the Episcopal Church.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Norma Shaw Orton; two sons, Walter J. Orton IV of Huma, Louisiana, and Douglas Orton of Lewiston; two daughters, Marsha Leierer of Bel Air, Maryland, and Debbie Leierer of Dover, PA; seven grandchildren, and a great granddaughter.

WESLEY FUQUA

The Club is also sad to announce the passing of Wesley Fuqua. Wesley passed away on November 4th at the age of 88. He was the beloved husband of the late Friedl and dear father of Robert, Kenneth, and the late Michael Fuqua. His obituary stated that he was an avid stamp collector. Many may remember him as a long time club member. Our condolences to his family.



The Club wishes all its members a safe and joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!!

