



The Maine Philatelist

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October 1999

Whole No. 117

MPS to sponsor stamp shows throughout state in 2000

Although some details remain to be worked out, the Maine Philatelic Society will sponsor stamp shows throughout the Pine Tree State during 2000. The new format will replace the annual stamp show sponsored by the society and held in Fairfield for the past several years.

It is hoped the change in format will mean a more intimate meeting area for collectors and dealers, and also bring shows to areas of the state where they haven't been held previously. And too, it is hoped there will be an increase in attendance at

the regional shows. In the past, members from northern Aroostook and Piscataquis County had to travel for hours to reach a show.

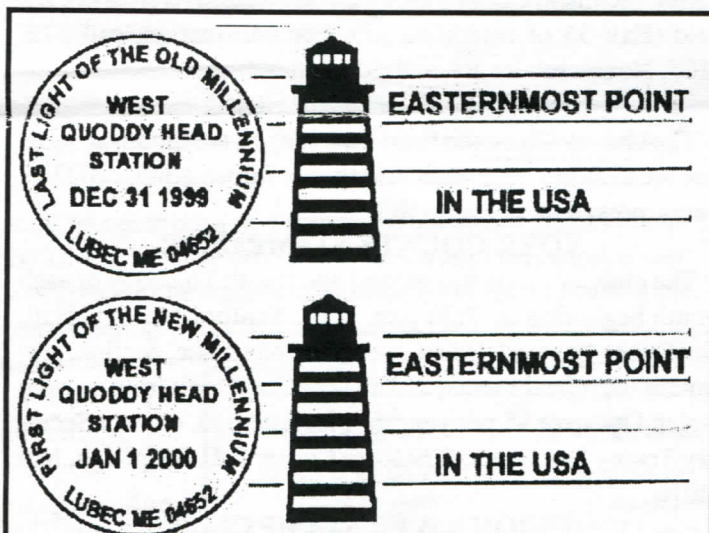
Bruce Hazelton, MPS secretary, has been the moving force behind the new format. He originally presented the idea in 1998 to the MPS board of directors, and he was given the go-ahead to develop the proposal. He contacted other MPS officials and local members and has set up two shows.

The first will be held on January 8, 2000 at the Masonic Hall on Elm Street in Sanford and will be billed as a "stamp-postcard-supplies show." There will be a limited number of dealers at each of the shows, and each show will have an auction as well. The show will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. There will be a MPS meeting at noon, and the auction will begin at 2 p.m. Anyone wishing to place items in the auction should contact Bruce Hazelton at the address shown on page 2.

There will be a show in Houlton on October 9, 2000 at the Houlton Recreation Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This show is also being billed as a "stamp-postcard-supplies show." Again, Bruce Hazelton will be the contact for anyone wishing to place items in the auction.

Hopefully by the April issue of *The Maine Philatelist*, there will be definite information about a summer show, likely on the coast.

Anyone willing to help with the shows or who might have ideas how they can be improved, or additional locations for shows should contact one of the officers.



Lubec, Maine will join the new millennium with an attractive pair of postmarks from the easternmost portion of the United States. One reads "Last Light of the Old Millennium/ Dec 31 1999" and the other, "First Light of the New Millennium/ Jan 1 2000." Each circular date stamp also reads "West Quoddy Head Station," which is the easternmost point in the United States and within the town of Lubec. To order these cancels, send stamped and self-addressed covers at least 30 days in advance to West Quoddy Head Station, Postmaster, 9 Washington St., Lubec, ME 04652-0009. Collectors may want to affix a 1990 25¢ stamp picturing the lighthouse at West Quoddy Head, but don't forget to add enough postage to make up the first class rate!

**An early
"Happy Holidays"
to all Maine Philatelic Society
Members!
And please remember to send
in your dues if you haven't.**

The Maine Philatelist is published quarterly by the Maine Philatelic Society, Inc.

The purpose of the Society, a non-profit Maine corporation, is to promote philately in the Pine Tree State. Membership is open to anyone. Membership applications are available from the Secretary, listed below. Dues are \$5 per year.

A Life Membership is also available.

Contact the Secretary for details.

Articles for publication should be sent to the President/Editor at address below.

OFFICERS

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 email - eparker@moosehead.net

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Warren of Cushing (2000)
 Ray Gagnon of Lewiston (2000)
 Jim Foote III of Manchester (2000)
 Bob Vear of Waterville (1999)

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

The Maine Philatelist is distributed to members in January, April, July and October of each year. Below is a list of deadlines for each issue and the anticipated mailing date. While deadline for copy (articles) is firm, the anticipated mailing date is just that -- a "best guess" of mailing.

ISSUE COVER DATE	DEADLINE FOR COPY	JOURNAL TO PRINTER	ANTICIPATED MAILING DATE
January	Dec. 15	Dec. 30	Jan. 15
April	March 15	March 30	April 15
July	June 15	June 30	July 15
October	Sept. 15	Sept. 30	Oct. 15

Maine stamp club meetings



Stamp clubs in Maine are invited to become members of the Maine Philatelic Society. We will publish, free of charge, meeting information and locations.

PORTLAND STAMP CLUB

The club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Maine Veterans Home, 290 U.S. Route 1, Scarborough. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and usually ends about 8:30 p.m. Nonmembers are invited to attend.

WATERVILLE STAMP CLUB

The club meets on the first and third Friday from September to May and on the third Friday only during June, July and August. Meetings are from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Kennebec Valley Technical College (KVTC) on Western Avenue in Fairfield (Exit 35 of Interstate 95). For information, call 872-5107. Nonmembers are invited to attend.

BELFAST STAMP CLUB

The club meets on the third Thursday of the month at noon. The location changes each month. For information, call Dick Gerry, president, at 866-3583.

YORK COUNTY STAMP CLUB

The club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Sanford Masonic Hall, Elm Street, Sanford. Usual events include raffle, auction, presentations, refreshments, and an occasional visit from a stamp dealer. Dues are \$5 per year. For information, contact Secretary Tracey Levasseur, 329 Ross Corner Rd., Shapleigh, ME 04076.

UNION RIVER STAMP CLUB

The Union River Stamp Club meets the first Thursday of each month at the Ellsworth Library, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST STAMP CLUB

The Unitarian-Universalist Stamp Club has members throughout the U.S., and you don't have to be a Universalist to join. For information, send a business size SASE to George Barner, 8 Arlington Street, Kennebunkport, ME 04046-6343. Mr. Barner also edits the club's newsletter.

AUGUSTA STAMP CLUB

The Augusta Stamp Club meets every first and third Tuesday at the Buker School from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Nonmembers are invited to attend. For information, contact Ray Gagnon, 23 Sylvain Ave., Lewiston, ME 04240.

Portland's "Silent" Postage Due Precancels

By Rick Stambaugh
Of North Berwick

A "silent precancel" is any precancel that does not include the town name on the stamp, e.g., Belfast Bars. Postage due

and crayon lines, cork cancels, and brush lines.

Portland, Maine has several catalogued types of silent precancels found on postage due stamps. These stamps can only be confirmed as precanceled usages when on cover, such that

the cancel is not tied to the cover. Two examples of Portland silent precancels are shown. Figure 1 shows a postage due stamp with two pen lines that are not tied to the cover. Given the straight, even lines, these were drawn with a rule. It's too bad this cover doesn't have the Pan-Am expo station cancel, but it does have the expo cover and stamp from Buffalo during the expo.



Figure 1: Pan-American Exposition cover with "silent precancel" stamp

stamps on cover are a ripe source to find Maine silent precancels. This is because postal workers would precancel a supply of postage due stamps to eliminate the need to cancel the stamps when applied.

It was more convenient to precancel the postage due stamp sheets at the post office, and then apply the precanceled stamp when the item was delivered and paid for. This practice started before there were specialized precanceling devices. Common ways to precancel postage due stamps were pen

ing the expo. Given the two-cent per ounce first class rate in effect in 1901, this cover must have weighed more than one

Continued on page 4

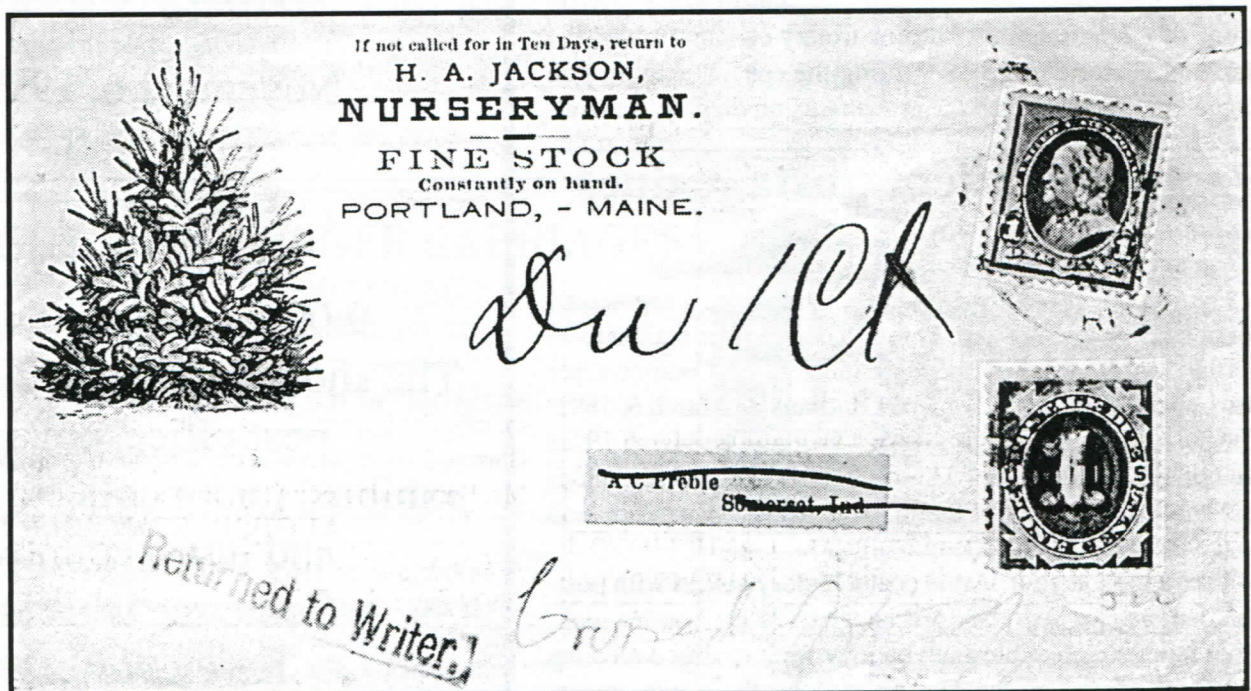


Figure 2: This 1891 cover was mailed from Portland and returned to writer

Well known Maine stamp dealer's home damaged by fire

Lightning struck the home of well known stamp dealer John Head in Bethel on July 25, but luckily there were no injuries and most of his stamp stock was rescued, according to a news article in *Linn's Stamp News*.

According to the article, Head and his wife, Fumiko, had driven to New Hampshire and returned later in the day to find their 14-room house on fire. Quick action by upward of 45 firefighters brought the blaze under control, but not before there had been extensive damage to the house, which had been selected for the National Register of Historic Homes.

But it was the action of neighbors and friends which merited much attention. They formed a human chain to move boxes of files and materials from the Heads' stamp office and

house and passed them to safety, along with pieces of furniture, paintings and batiks that the couple had acquired during their travels.

Almost all of the stamp stock was saved, Head told *Linn's*. The business is continuing to operate from a home which was loaned by a friend while the badly damaged house is rebuilt. The contractor who is rebuilding the house has said he hopes to have the job completed by Christmas.

John Head is a frequent visitor to stamp shows and is a long-standing member of the Maine Philatelic Society. He is a nationally recognized stamp dealer specializing in Japan and Ryukyus Islands.

Seaside Trolley Museum displays old mail car, has special postmark

To commemorate the Pumpkin Patch Trolley Weekends at the Seashore Trolley Museum in Kennebunkport, the U.S. Postal Service offered a special cancellation postmark through its Kennebunkport Post Office on October 2.

The car transporting pumpkins was Car No. 108, a 1904 U.S. Postal Delivery Department Mail Car that carried the mail in York County until 1912. Car #108

is one of the museum's 10 Maine trolley cars that are on the National Historic Register. During the special activities on October 2, during which the railcar was on display, those at-

tending were transported by rail to the "pumpkin patch" where they could pick a pumpkin.

The museum was open daily through October 19 and will continue to operate on weekends through Halloween. For additional information, call 967-2800, or visit the museum's website at www.trolley-museum.org.

The Seaside Trolley Museum has been operated by the New England Electric Railway Historical Society since 1939.



Portland's silent postage dues

Continued from page 3

ounce to require the additional two cents of postage.

Figure two shows a postage due stamp with a segmented cork cancel that is not tied. This 1891 cover was mailed from Portland at the third class single piece rate of one-cent per two ounces, arriving in Somerset, Indiana on March 6, 1891. The piece was returned, arriving in Portland on March 19, as the corner card directed: "If not called for in 10 days, return to...". The fee for return delivery was again one-cent, and hence the postage due stamp.

Take a look at your Maine postal history covers with postage due stamps. Are they precanceled? If so, you have another unique collectible and you may want to start collecting the silent Maine precancels. As seen by these two covers, there's a lot to be told from each cover.

York County Stamp Show

November 6, 1999,

Elk's Hall,

Route 1,

Saco, Maine

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The show will have 10 dealers,
post office, cover,
exhibits, junior collectors' table
and lunch counter.

Come see what we
have to offer!

PIONEER POSTCARDS

HENDERSON BROTHERS

NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

CARRIAGE REPOSITORY POSTCARD

CIRCA 1880

By Bruce Nelson

The Henderson Brothers of North Cambridgeport, Mass., apparently knew how to promote sales of horse drawn carriages. They had the largest stock in New England. "As we have no rents or salesmen to pay, we can sell at much below city prices." These fabulous items of transportation could easily be seen at the Cambridge Carriage Repository should your choice be "Hacks...Coupes...Carryalls...Buggies...Carriages...or Wagons." You're bound to find the right one.

This early oversized postcard illustrates the repository building, has a one cent banknote stamp and is addressed to the Columbia House in Columbia Falls, Maine. (Next month—Illustrated government postals advertising horse drawn transportation 1873-1895).

Write to Bruce Nelson, P.O. Box 3565, Portland, ME, 04104.

Cambridge Carriage Repository,

Nos. 220 TO 240 NORTH AVENUE,

NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

We have on hand the Largest Stock of Carriages in New England, consisting in part of—

- Circle Front Hacks, Circle Front Coupes, Partition Front Carryalls, Extension Top Carryalls, Cut-under Carryalls, Standing Top Carryalls, Shifting Top Buggies, Box Spring Buggies, Trotting Buggies, Ivers Buggies, Goddard Buggies, Phuton Buggies, Open Buggies, Doctors' Carriages, Express Wagons, Store Wagons, Bakers' Wagons, Butchers' Wagons, Milk Wagons, all sizes, Provision Wagons, Grocers' Wagons, Undertakers' Wagons, Fish Wagons, Depot Wagons, Concord Wagons, Business Wagons, Covered Wagons of all kinds.

ALSO, A STOCK OF OVER

ONE HUNDRED SECOND-HAND CARRIAGES OF ALL KINDS.

Six Seat Carriages and Partition Front Carriages of all kinds, for Depot and Hotel Work.

HARNESSES OF ALL KINDS.

AT VERY LOW PRICES.

As we have no rents or salesmen to pay, we can sell at much below City prices. If in want of a Carriage of any kind, please call and examine before purchasing elsewhere.

Very respectfully,

HENDERSON BROS.

Horse Cars pass the Repository from Bowdoin Square, Boston, every 15 minutes.

Please be sure and call at the

BRICK REPOSITORY, OPP. THE CHURCH.

(OVER.)

BARGES & PASSENGER CARRIAGES

OF ALL KINDS,

PLEASURE, PARTY, PASSENGER, HOTEL AND DEPOT BARGES,

TO CARRY 10 TO 40 PASSENGERS,

FOR 1, 2, 4, AND 6 HORSES.

If you are in want of a Pleasure or Passenger Barge of any kind, we think it will be for your advantage to examine this stock, as we will sell at 33 per cent. lower than ever was offered in New England.

FOR SALE ONLY AT THE

CAMBRIDGE CARRIAGE REPOSITORY,

220 TO 240 NORTH AVENUE, NORTH CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

JOHN J. HENDERSON. ROBERT HENDERSON, Jr.

(OVER.)

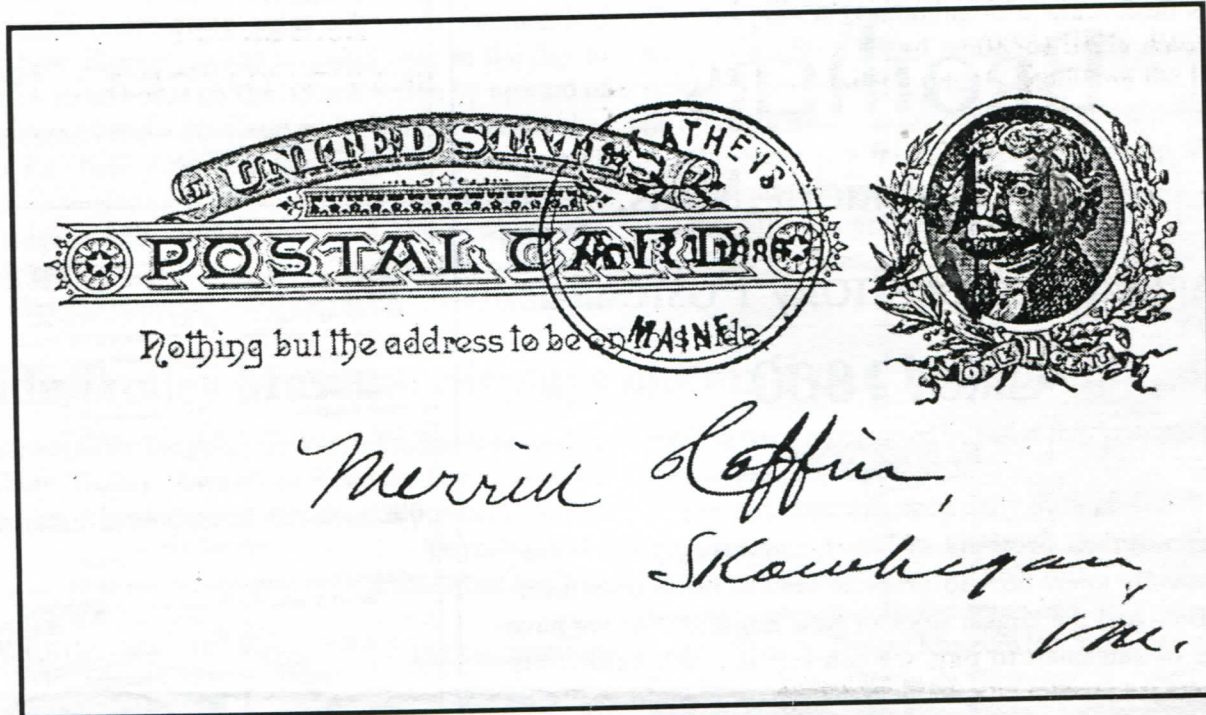
HENDERSON BROS.



Handwritten address: Columbia Falls, Maine

A postal history feature
by Rob Washburn
of Skowhegan

Maine Cover of the Quarter

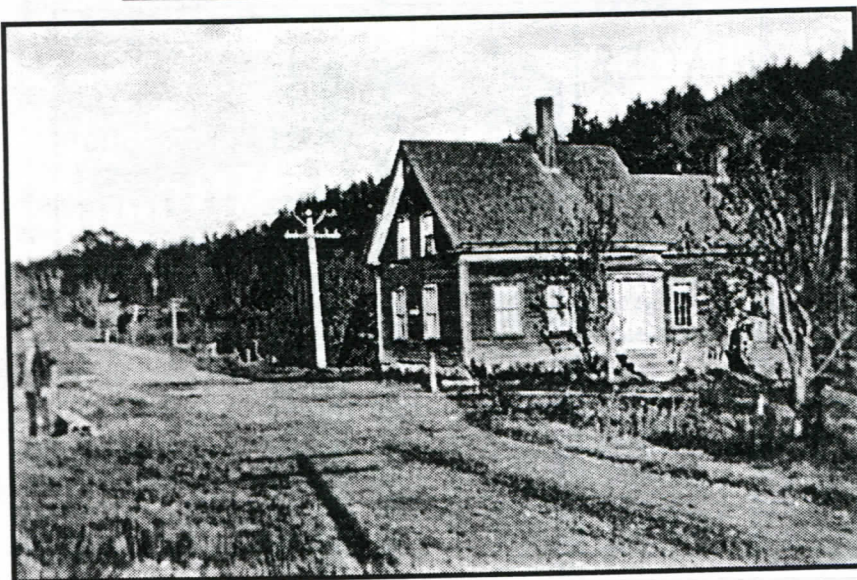


The above postal card, #UX8, is cancelled by a purple West Athens, Maine 11/11/1886 star cancel. This fancy cancel is unlisted in Sterling Dow's *Maine Postal History and Postmarks*. The West Athens Post Office ceased operating on June

30, 1903. If you have a candidate for this column, please send a photocopy of your cover against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976.

Post Offices of Maine

A regular
feature



This photo shows the post office in Ashdale at an unknown date. The post office is in Sagadahoc County and was established on July 6, 1880. It was discontinued on February 28, 1920, and little is known about it today. The site would be in what is today Phippsburg. Thanks to Secretary Bruce Hazelton, who loaned the photo. Do YOU have a photo of an old post office? Send it to the editor with as much information as you know about it.

Secretary's Report

Bruce Hazelton
Secretary

NEW MEMBERS

Robert K. **GARRITY**, 275 Park Ave., Arlington, MA 02476 (6-00)
 David **D'ALESSANDRIS**, 3515 N. Washington Blvd., #405, Arlington, VA 22201 (6-00)
 Kym **BULGER**, 24 Pine Loch Dr., Portland, ME 04103 (6-00)
 Vincent C. **McDERMOTT**, 53 Willow Grove Rd., Brunswick, ME 04011. (6-00)
 Freeman **OSGOOD**, P.O. Box 1206, Hanover, MA 02339 (6-01)
 James A. **LARSEN**, 3486 Eagle Vista Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85650 (6-00)
 Michael E. **WEISS**, 48 Maple Hill Dr., Larchmont, NY 10538 (6-00)
 John E. **SAWYER**, 11282 68th Ave., N., Seminole, FL 33772 (6-00)

ADDRESS CHANGES

David Bourque, RR4, Box 8450, Winslow, ME 04901

NECROLOGY

Doris M. Hall

UNABLE TO LOCATE

David Scribner, P.O. Box 193, Clinton, ME 04937-0193 has mail returned as unable to forward. Does anyone know of a new address for him?

Manny Goodman, 202 Water St., Hallowell, ME 04347 is in the same situation. Anyone know of a new address?

This quarterly Secretary's Report will provide current members with names and addresses of new members and address changes of members as well as other pertinent information from the Secretary. Please remember that new membership applications, address changes and dues should be sent to the Secretary at the address listed on page 2.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

Classified advertisements are free to members. You may use this space to buy and sell, trade or swap. When sending an advertisement, please mark it for the Classifieds and indicate how many issues you wish it to appear. All ads will appear twice and be removed unless otherwise indicated.

WANTED

Father and 13-year-old daughter collecting U.S. postage on a limited budget. Looking to pay face or a little higher for newer issues, mostly Scott numbers 2000-2800. Please contact Robert Year, P.O. Box 501, Waterville, ME 04903-0501. (4-99)

Wanted: Portland, Greenwood and Albany ad. covers, postal history, postcards. Buy or generous trade for other Maine. Charles Brand, 2031-31st Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116. (4-99)

Wanted: modern (since 1970) U.S. covers. I am especially looking for junk mail transportation coil PNC covers, Express mail, postage dues, insured mail, Certified mail, auxiliary markings, etc. Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976-0840. (4-99)

Wanted: Maine hunting and fishing stamps on license. Will pay a minimum of \$10 each for every license I need. Also want Maine (and other New England states) Old Home Week seals. Terence Hines, P.O. Box 629, Chappaqua, NY 10514-0629. (4-00)

Information needed to further research on Maine NARROW GAUGE RPOs. Need RPO, month, day, year, train no. ME 4 BAR COLORED cancels, need P.O. name, month, day, year, time, color. Will respond to all information received. Bruce L. Corey, 108 Marilyn Ave., Westbrook, ME 04092-4624. (4-99)

Wanted to buy: Maine fancy cancels on cover or postal cards, stampless to 1920 only. Let me know what you have. Gil Roderick, 52 Fern St., Bangor, ME 04401. (4-99)

Collector is looking for covers from Houlton Air Force Base Station. If you have same, please contact me. Telephone: 538-9788 (home) or 532-2291 (work). My e-mail is max@ainop.com Max

Leigh Lynds, P.O. Box 761, Houlton, ME 04730-0761. (4-99)

Wanted: affordable U.S. classics. I am looking for U.S. Scott #140 in any affordable condition including space filler grade. Can you help me? Bob Gross, RR4, Box 7295, Gardiner, ME 04345-9113 (4-00).

We urgently need quantities of used Japanese stamps from the period of 1876 (Old Koban Series) through 1955. Dealer stocks, accumulations, bundle material from this period needed for our specialist customers. Will buy anything and everything (used only) at fair prices or will select only what we must urgently need at near to full Scott retail. Prompt payment always. Forty-five years in the trade! John B. Head, P.O. Box 7, Bethel, ME 04217. (4-00)

FOR SALE

Precancel approvals: town and types 15¢, classics, 1922-26 general, bicents, prexies, perfins available. Buro approvals starting at 5¢. Good mixed precancel lots. 2,000-\$25.00; 10,000-\$110.00. Mixed buros, 2,000-\$25.00, 10,000-\$110.00. Dick Laetsch, 108 Ashswamp Road, Scarborough, ME 04074. e-mail: precancel@aol.com (4-99)

For sale: DPO, Macy, ME - Doane 1906 on PPC, Rarity 8. First \$75.00 takes it. Carl A. Burnham, RR1, Box 559, Limington, ME 04046. Telephone 637-2871. (4-99)

For sale: U.S. Souvenir Pages: 10 notebooks embossed "American Commemorative Collections" with 369 souvenir pages, from 12 January 1983 to 24 April 1992. My cost was \$725.38. Please make me an offer. Richard Carr, 283 Pool St., Biddeford, ME 04005. (4-00)

President's Message

By Everett L. Parker

A round of applause for Ed Whitney of Brunswick for his willingness to help out with a venture to gain new members for the Maine Philatelic Society. Ed is a member of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and will scan the pages of each of the society's monthly journals to find applicants living in Maine. He will then send a letter to each of those, through the APS headquarters, asking them to join MPS. Granted, there are not a lot of APS applicants from Maine, but even if we pick up one or two new members a year, it's worth the effort. And thanks also to the other people who contacted me offering their assistance with this project. It's great to see members are willing to step forth when a need exists. Each and every member can be a great asset to the society by getting another person to join with us. Right now, we're at 231 members and growing! And by the way, if you haven't sent in your dues, Bruce would love to hear from you with a check!

On another matter, there is a nice backlog of articles awaiting publication. I would ask authors to please bear with me as I find room to publish all this wonderful material. Special thanks for forthcoming articles to Rich Stambaugh, H.O. (Mike) Brown, John Bache-Wiig, Bruce Corey, Richard Gerry, Arnold Krommenohl, Thurlow Pitts, Richard Carr, Daniel Goodwin, Terence Hines and others. It's all ahead; stay tuned!

Are YOU on the Internet?

In order to offer more rapid communications, we will publish e-mail addresses of Maine Philatelic Society members and officers ONLY if they wish to be listed. Please e-mail your address to the president to be included here.

- George Barner = gbarner@cybertours.com
- Al Barth = abarth@bdc.bethel.me.us
- Nancy B. Clark = nbc@Cape.com
- David Costain = dcostain@telplus.net
- Terry Drummond = bulldog@somtel.com
- Jim Forte = jimforte@postal.history.com
- Dan Goodwin = dgoodwin@psouth.net
- Terence Hines = THines@FSmail.Pace.edu
- Kelvin Kindahl = kanda@javanet.com
- Dick Laetsch = precancel@aol.com
- Max Lynds = max@ainop.com
- Paul R. Maynard = prmay13@juno.com
- Dave Muzzy = edmuzzy@aol.com
- Robert W. Olmsted = cal@americanletters.org
- Everett L. Parker = eparker@moosehead.net
- Phil Peverada = peverada@midcoast.com
- Jack Pooler = pooler@voyager.net
- Steven Pottle = sppride@aol.com
- Gil Roderick = destamps@acadia.net
- Roland Simard = manacorp@aol.com
- Rick Stambaugh = rickstambaugh@cybertours.com
- Henry G. Turnbull = AZNPHTGT@webtv.net
- Richard Warren = dickw@midcoast.com
- Edwin F. Whitney = edwhitney@clinic.net
- Kennedy L. Wilson = k-mew@midcoast.com

Maine Philatelic Society
 HC 76, Box 32
 Greenville, ME 04441-9727

TO:



IMPORTANT NOTICE:
 If (6-99) appears after your name on the mailing label, it's time to renew your dues!

(6-00) #549
 Kindahl, Mr. Kelvin
 29 Clark Street
 East Hampton, MA 01027-2329

