



# The Maine Philatelist

Vol. 37, No. 2

October 2004

Whole No. 137

## MPS board would like you to answer a survey

By James Violette  
Member, Board of Directors

The MPS Officers and Directors met on August 21, 2004, and a lively discussion ensued concerning the status of philately in Maine. Attendance at philatelic shows sponsored by stamp clubs has been down, there are few "younger" folk in attendance, and many dealers have decided it is no longer profitable to set up shop.

This is the first in a series of articles concerning the plight of the hobby in Maine. It has been reported that shows in Massachusetts and New Hampshire are much better attended with dealer bourses sometimes having as many as 20 or more dealers. The MPS is concerned and the board members believe we need to take measures to improve philately in Maine. We need your help. Enclosed is a survey that will help us define the problem and hopefully arrive at some answers.

Please take a moment to complete the survey and either mail it or email your comments to us. Mail the completed survey to: Jim Violette, 56 Duck Puddle Rd., Nobleboro, ME

04555. If you prefer, email your responses to [jviolett@tidewater.net](mailto:jviolett@tidewater.net). In either case, please feel free to add any additional comments about the situation. We thank you in advance and hope to see you at future stamp shows.

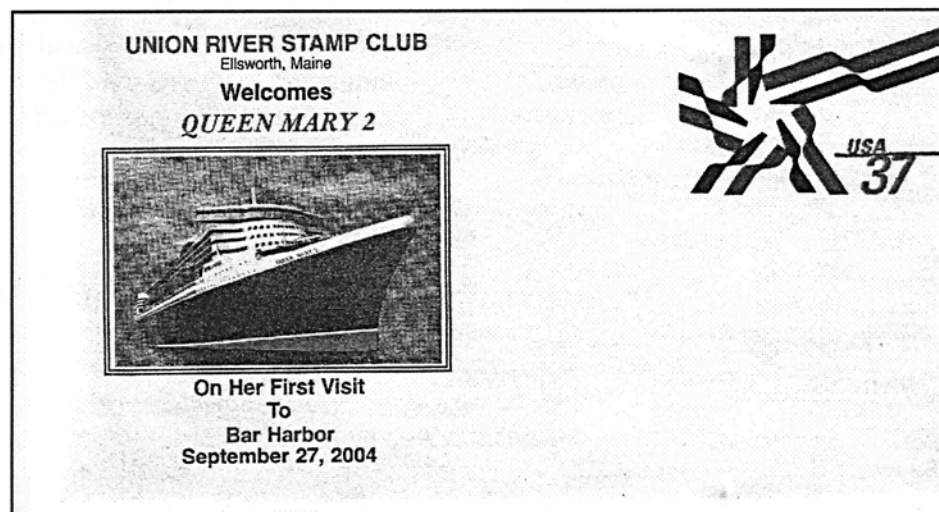
## York County Stamp Club set to host show on November 6, 2004

YORKPEX is coming! The York County Stamp Club will host the annual stamp show on Saturday, November 6, 2004 at the Day's Inn Conference Center on the Route 1 Bypass in Kittery.

A number of dealers will be present, and there will be a special show cancel and cover. In addition, there will be a number of exhibits at the show, and a lunch counter will be available.

For more information about the annual show, contact Rick Stambaugh, 18 Elmwood Ct., North Berwick, ME 03906. His email is: [rickstambaugh@xpressamerica.net](mailto:rickstambaugh@xpressamerica.net).

## Union River Stamp Club creates *Queen Mary II* cover



The Union River Stamp Club created a special commemorative cover for the arrival of the Queen Mary II at Bar Harbor on September 27, 2004. According to Eric Beal, 1,180 covers were printed and over 1,000 were sold on that date. "We set up next to the mobile post office and started to sell them around 8 a.m. and sold the first thousand by 12:45 p.m.," he said. Stamp collectors on ship and from out of state purchased the covers, he said. If you are interesting in purchasing one of the few remaining covers, send \$2 plus stamped, self-addressed envelope to Walter Allen, 11 Stoney Ridge, Ellsworth, ME 04605.

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

Website: <http://www.maxlynds.com/mps.htm>

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 \$5.00 per fiscal year (ending in June).

Life Membership is also available.

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

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**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.*

**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**

It appears the Belfast Stamp Club is no more. Could someone please confirm the status? **(No one has confirmed status or contacted us about this club, so it will be dropped from the listing.)**

**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 third Thursday of each month from April through November at the Ellsworth Library, beginning at 6:30 p.m. For information, contact Eric Beal at 827-2686 or [Eric.Beal@umit.maine.edu](mailto:Eric.Beal@umit.maine.edu).

**KENNEBEC VALLEY STAMP AND COLLECTOR CLUB**

The Kennebec Valley Stamp and Collector Club meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Central Maine Power Company headquarters on Edison Drive in Augusta. Meetings are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For additional information, call Shirley MacKay at 622-7978, or contact by email at [kildonan@prexar.com](mailto:kildonan@prexar.com).

# Maine Precancel Hanky Pank

By Rick Stambaugh  
Treasurer

Three Maine covers with stamps that look like precancels were offered to me by Vice President Bruce Hazelton. However, none of these "precancels" are listed in current precancel catalogues. Bruce recognized that these were unusual and asked if I'd be interested in them anyway. I took them to the annual Precancel Stamp Society (PSS) convention to get opinions from the most knowledgeable precancel collectors and dealers. The conclusion was that these are "hanky pank," not legitimate precancel uses, so I declined to buy them.

Figure 1 shows a picture post card bearing a two-cent stamp with what appears to be a Bangor precancel. This "precancel" is similar to known Bangor precancels with the town and state between two lines, but the font and line spac-

ing are not recognized styles. So, is this a new precancel discovery? Nope. Other aspects of this card tell a tale. The post card message is dated September 26, 1909 and carries a personal message between sisters. That's the first clue. This is a first class post card usage. But precancels were not authorized for first class mail during this period. The second clue

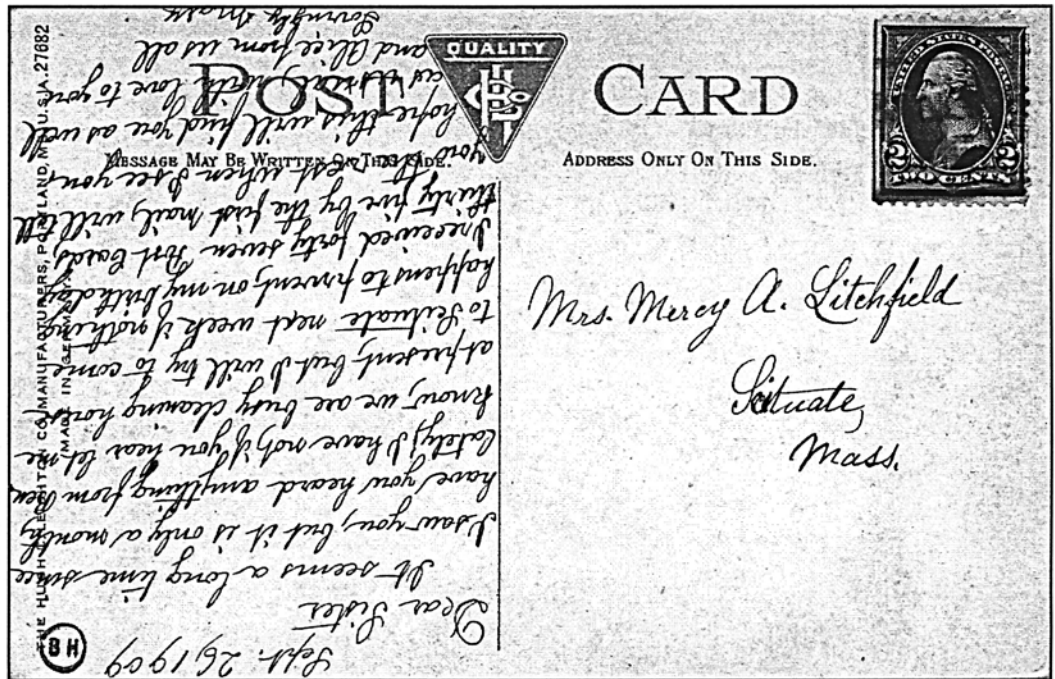


Figure 1

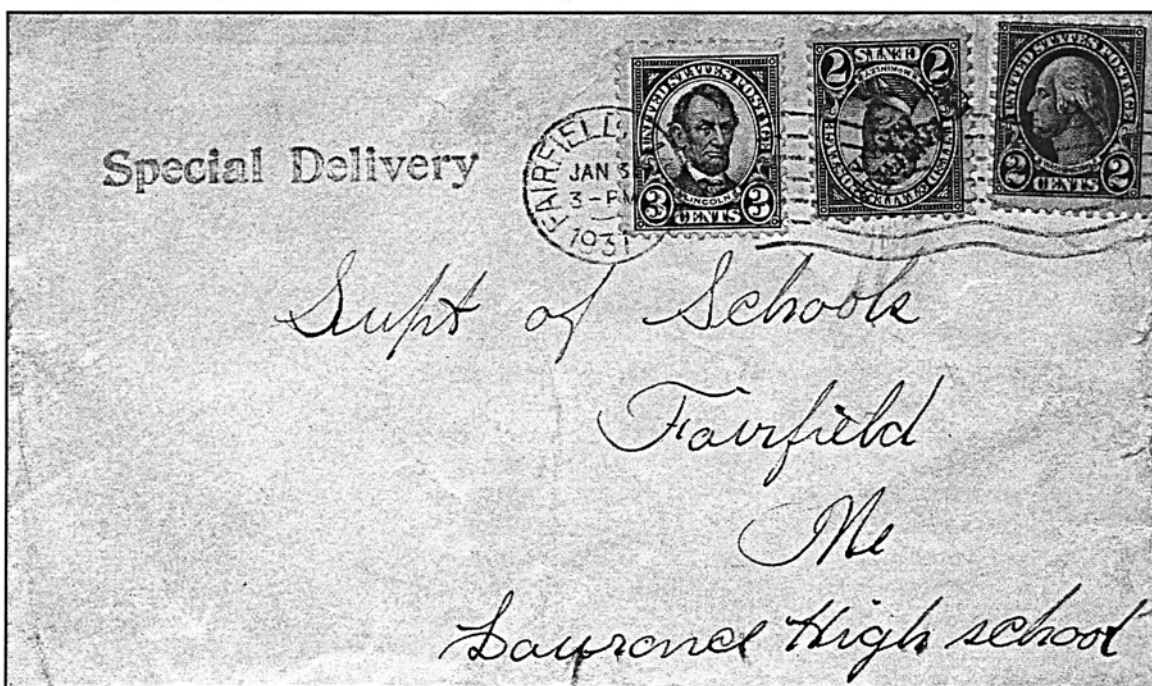


Figure 2

is the two-cent stamp. The rate for post cards from 1873 to 1917 was one cent. The next clue is the post card address. The address contains no street or post office box number, and there is no annotation by the post office of this deficiency. The last clue is the condition of the card. It is pristine, with no markings or indication that it ever went through the mail system. The consensus among the PSS group is that this post card had never been  
*Continued on page 4*

mailed, and someone put the hanky pank "precanceled" stamp on it.

Figure 2 is a special delivery cover with three stamps; the center stamp has a handstamp diagonal overprint for Fairfield, Maine. This overprint was thought to be a legitimate Maine precancel for a short period. It is listed as Type 1 in the 1937 Hoover Catalog. However, it was later not included as a precancel in PSS catalogues and is considered to be the hanky pank of a precancel dealer or collector.

Figure 3 is an eight-cent cover from Lewiston, dated December 21 (with no year). The stamp is Scott #414, issued in 1912. There is a circular datestamp and barred oval killer tying the "precanceled" stamp. Again, this overprint was once listed as Type 2 in Hoover's 1937 Catalog, but was not included in

PSS catalogues. So it's not a precancel. Or, maybe it is! Some post offices used to provisionally precancel high denomination stamps around Christmas. This made it faster to deal with packages that were brought to the counter for posting. The eight-cent stamp is certainly too high for the average Christmas letter. So maybe this is indeed a provisional precancel. There is gum evidence around the stamp, and there is an appearance of disturbed paper below the stamp. No consensus was reached on this cover at the PSS.

After hearing the opinions of the PSS members, I wasn't going to buy these covers since they aren't valid precancel usages. But now that I've written up their tale, I'll buy them for my Maine precancel history collection. Boy, that Bruce is a marketing genius!

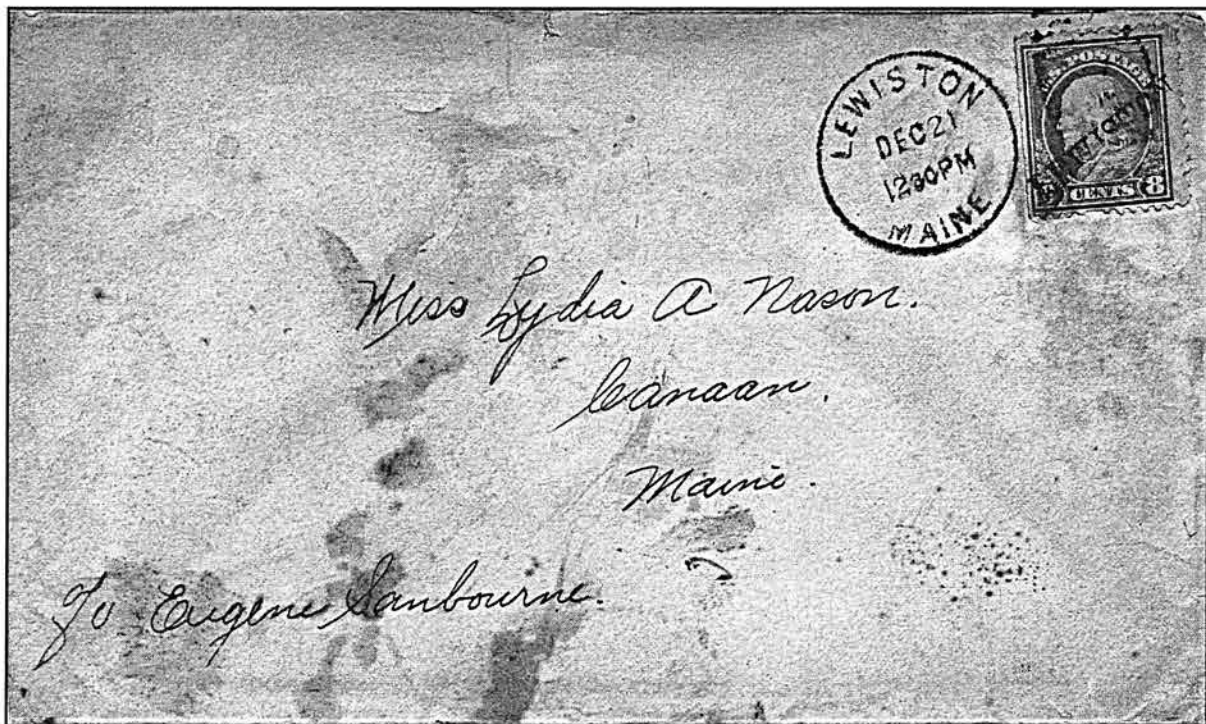


Figure 3

## Avalon Hazelton was frequently seen at MPS shows

Avalon Hazelton, wife of Vice President Bruce Hazelton, was a well-known visitor to Maine stamp shows, although she was not a collector as such. Mrs. Hazelton died on September 6, 2004, after an illness. She was also devoted to her family and to her church, the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of North Yarmouth.

Mrs. Hazelton, 80, often helped staff the Maine Philatelic Society table at shows all over the state. She previously was an active member of the First Parish Congregational Church, U.C.C., of Yarmouth. She was a founder of its Magnificent Seven Catering Service, which catered weddings and events throughout Cumberland County to raise money for the church. Mrs. Hazelton served on several church committees and volunteered in the church office. She was also a junior choir director for many years.

Her husband of 54 years said she liked to cook and enjoyed making wedding cakes. "She was very involved in the church," he said. She was a selfless woman who was always doing things for other people." Mrs. Hazelton served as president of Church Women United and was a delegate to the Maine Conference of U.C.C. from both First Parish Congregational Church of Yarmouth and First Congregational Church, U.C.C., of North Yarmouth.

"In her life, she was certainly a professional volunteer,"

said Rev. Gil Healy, pastor of the North Yarmouth church. "She was very active in giving of herself for others. She was a soft-spoken woman, small in stature, but her presence and her spirit were huge."

Mrs. Hazelton grew up in Chester, New Hampshire. She graduated from Cadet Nurses Training at Tufts University and worked at Mt. Auburn Hospital during World War II. In 1949, she graduated from the University of New Hampshire. For a time, she taught obstetrics at Elliot Hospital in Manchester, N.H. In 1956, Mrs. Hazelton and her husband moved to Maine. They had four children. Mrs. Hazelton left nursing to devote herself to her children.

"Family meant everything to her," her husband said. "There wasn't anything that she wouldn't do for the kids. They thought the world of her. She loved spending time with the grandchildren." A daughter, the Rev. Gweneth Louise Hazelton, died in 2001.

In addition to volunteering for the church, Mrs. Hazelton was active in the community. She was a past president of the Fortnightly Club in Yarmouth, a former member of the North Yarmouth Rescue, and a member and president of the Cumberland-North Yarmouth Senior Citizens. Her work earned her a nomination for the Jefferson Award.

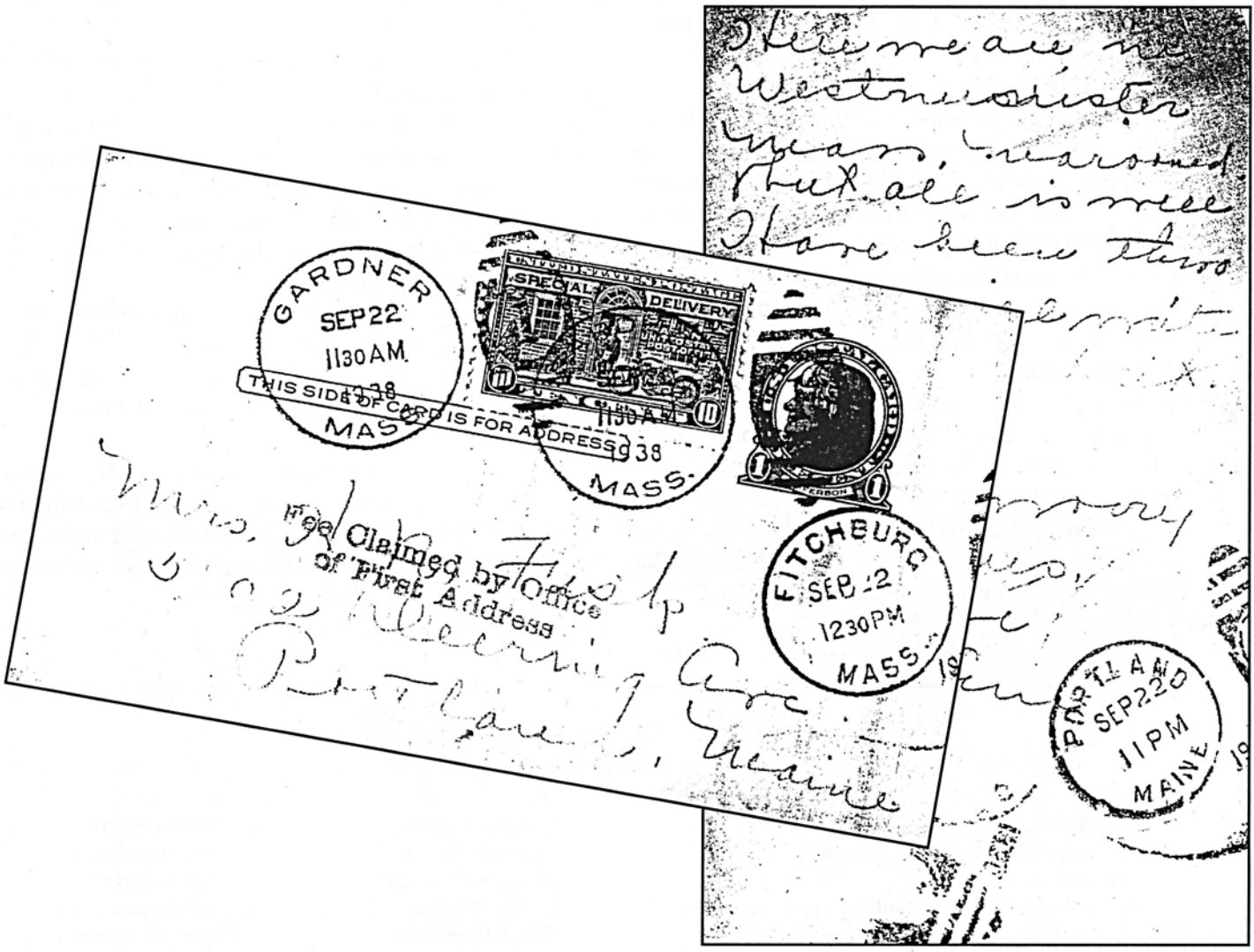
### Are YOU on the Internet?

*Here is a list of MPS members with e-mail*

<b>Albert Aldham</b> bertaldham@webtv.net	<b>Dr. John Engle</b> johnengle@mac.com	<b>James Larsen</b> larsenj@c2i2.com	<b>Steven Pottle</b> sppride@aol.com
<b>Joe Antizzo</b> Joeantizzo@aol.com	<b>Jim Forte</b> jimforte@postalhistory.com	<b>Philippe C. Lebel</b> PCLEBEL@hotmail.com	<b>Gil Roderick</b> destamps@acadia.net
<b>Louis C. Bakula</b> grampsun@aol.com	<b>Dan Goodwin</b> dgoodwi3@maine.rr.com	<b>Rev. Robert Leon</b> bobleon@tabletoptelephone.com	<b>William W. Sammis</b> cds13@cornell.edu
<b>Robert (Bob) Barker</b> rebarker@rebarker.com	<b>Robert Gross</b> bobgrossrc@adelphia.net	<b>Max Lynds</b> Max@pwless.net	<b>John E. Sawhill Jr.</b> bsawhill@suscom-mainse.net
<b>George Barner</b> georgebarner@adelphia.net	<b>Stuart Haskell</b> GCH127@aol.com	<b>Paul R. Maynard</b> Maynard25@Charter.net	<b>Art Scarano</b> a.j.scarano@att.net
<b>Al Barth</b> cfercat@adelphia.net	<b>Gary W. Hibbard</b> ghibbar1@maine.rr.com	<b>Vince McDermott</b> vjmcdermott@aol.com	<b>Barry Serpell</b> serpellmaine@aol.com
<b>Chuck Brand</b> shakerdom@hotmail.com	<b>Terence Hines</b> TerenceHines@aol.com	<b>Andrew J. Moran</b> amoran66@yahoo.com	<b>Roland Simard</b> manacorp@aol.com
<b>Tom Cieslinski</b> tomciesl@midmaine.com	<b>Alf Jordan</b> ajordan1@maine.rr.com	<b>Ed Muzzy</b> edmuzzy17@aol.com	<b>Henry Stevens</b> hstevens@stamps.win.net
<b>Gary Clark</b> gclark1@tampabay.rr.com	<b>Kelvin Kindahl</b> kanda@javanet.com	<b>Robert W. Olmsted</b> cal@americanletters.org	<b>Ron Stewart</b> sstewart@clinic.net
<b>Nancy B. Clark</b> nbc@Cape.com	<b>Dick Laetsch</b> precancel@aol.com	<b>Phil Peverada</b> peverada@midcoast.com	<b>Henry G. Turnbull</b> AZNPTHGT1@webtv.net
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<b>Roger Curran</b> rdcncr@evenlink.com	<b>Rick Lancaster</b> modcover@gwi.net	<b>Jack Pooler</b> car99@comcast.net	<b>Richard Williams</b> richwilljr@adelphia.net
			<b>Kennedy L. Wilson</b> k-mew@midcoast.com

A postal history feature  
by Rob Washburn  
of Skowhegan

# Maine Cover of the Quarter



The above postal card (front and back shown) was sent from Gardiner, Massachusetts to Portland, Maine by Special Delivery service. Sent by rail, it arrived in Portland in less than 12 hours and received three different cancels along the way: an 11:30 a.m. September 22, 1938 Gardiner, Massachusetts cancel; a 12:30 p.m. September 22, 1938 Fitchburg, Massachusetts cancel; and an 11:00 p.m. September 22, 1938 Portland, Maine backstamp. (Cover courtesy of Vin Yeaton.)

(If you have a candidate for Maine Cover of the Quarter, please send a photocopy of your cover against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976).

## Postmark for 50 years of mailboat service on Maine coast

The U.S. Postal Service used a special postmark on September 18, 2004 to celebrate 50 years of mailboat service between Port Clyde and Monhegan Island. The postmark is the same for both Port Clyde and Monhegan, differing only in the name of the geographical location.

The cancel is in an oval and features a line drawing of the *Laura B.*, one of two vessels owned by Monhegan Boat Company and used to cross Muscongus Bay. The other vessel is the *Elizabeth Ann*, and each is used to transport both passengers and cargo (including mail) on a year-round basis.

## Secretary's Report Bruce Hazelton Interim Secretary

### NEW MEMBERS

None for the period.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

David Bourque, 323 Augusta Rd., Winslow, ME 04901  
 Roy N. Pawlucki, P.O. Box 828, Tumbler Ridge, BC V0L 2W0 Canada  
 John M. Powell Jr., 13416 Norman Cir., Hudson, FL 34669

## 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

**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. Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976-0840. (4-04)

**Wanted: Maine hunting and fishing stamps on license.** Will pay a minimum of \$20 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. (4-04)

**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. (4-04)

**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. (4-04)

**Wanted: perfins used in Maine,** on cover or off (with good town cancels). Special interest in AJS (Auburn) and RB (Bangor) -- users not yet identified. Will buy or trade. Vince McDermott, 22 Beech Dr., Brunswick, ME 04011. (4-04)

**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 most 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. (4-04)

**Wanted: Maine Express Covers (and others):** with labels, hand-stamps, manuscript markings or cornercards. Express Company labels and stamps (such as for newspapers, parcels or free franking) off cover also sought. William W. Sannis (Bill), 436 Thomas Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850-9653. (4-04)

**Wanted: Early USN postcards of battleships with ship cancels before 1920 (called classics):** BB2 USS *Massachusetts*, BB4 USS

*Iowa*, BB5 USS *Kearsage*, BB7 USS *Illinois*, BB8 USS *Alabama*, BB9 USS *Wisconsin*. I have other BB covers and postcards for trade. Also interested in topicals, especially flowers on stamps, and Antarctic stamps. Louis C. Bakula, P.O. Box 150, West Poland, ME 04291-0150. (4-04)

**Seeking exhibit quality** Andover, Maine material from the period 1 January 1913 through 30 June 1916. Postal cards, postal stationery, covers, parcel wrappers, postage dues, precancels, perfins, booklet panes, multi-denominational covers, i.e., overseas or international uses, postal history, post office forms, postal item relating to Andover, Maine. Single items to large lots. Send photocopy with price. Postage refunded if not purchased. R.M. Arndt, P.O. Box 60292, Midland, TX 79711-0292; email: Texas432@webtv.net (4-04)

Wanted: used British stamp commemoratives, especially Machins, also all worldwide warships (steel or ironclad only) on stamps. Louis C. Bakula, P.O. Box 150, West Poland, ME 04291 (4-05)

### FOR SALE

**Precancel approvals:** town and types 15¢, classics, 1922-26 general, bicents, prexies, perfins available. Buro approvals starting at 10¢ each. Good mixed precancel lots. 2,000-\$35.00; 10,000-\$145.00. Mixed buros, 2,000-\$35.00, 10,000-\$175.00. Dick Laetsch, 2 Shady Creek Ln., Scarborough, ME 04074. email: precancel@aol.com; web site: www.precanceledstamps.com (4-04)

**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. (4-04)

**For sale -- helping friend** dispose of father's collection. Sheets, blocks, booklets, assorted postage at face. Airmail, singles, blocks half of catalogue value. Mint postal cards, postal reply cards. Please ask by Scott number. Charles Boudreau, 37 Center St., P.O. Box 498, Machias, ME 04654-0498. Telephone 255-3918. (4-04)

**For sale: Eight Scott International** albums, worldwide, Vol. 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17. Thousands of stamps included. Gary Soper, P.O. Box 15461, Portland, ME 04412 (207) 892-9372. (4-04)

## Regarding that "Eastern Maine P&D" cancel

By Kelvin Kindahl

In response to the "Eastern Maine P&D" cancel illustrated in the July issue of *The Maine Philatelist*, I can say you've got the right idea, but not quite the right words. "P&D" stands for "Processing and Distribution" rather than "Processing and Delivery." Distribution means distributing mail to the individual post offices, which then deliver the mail to its destination. Distribution also includes distributing mail to other P&D operations, which in turn will distribute to their local post offices.

Processing and Distribution are what happens at the Eastern Maine Processing & Distribution Facility, or Eastern Maine P&DF. Eastern Maine P&DF is located at 16 Penobscot Meadows Drive in Hampden, close to the Bangor city line and the junction of I-395 and Rt. 202. It opened July 18, 1994, and took over processing operations from the Bangor Post Office. It serves the 044 (Penobscot and Piscataquis counties), 046 (Hancock and Washington counties) and 047 (Aroostook) ZIP Code areas. Most of the rest of Maine (040, 041, 042, 043, 048 and 049) is served by Portland; southernmost York County (039) goes to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Portland, I believe is a P&DC, or Processing & Distribution Center, rather than a P&DF. My understanding is that there is no real difference other than that a P&DC is larger than a P&DF.

There are a number of P&D operations which use cancels showing either P&DF or P&DC. This style of leaving off the F or C is less common. Of course the common machine cancels from Eastern Maine just say "Eastern ME 044."

## Note from the President

By Max Lynds

President

I look forward to serving as President of The Maine Philatelic Society. This club has a long tradition of offering great value to its members and it certainly is one of my goals for this to continue. Our award-winning journal, *The Maine Philatelist* is one example of that value. Everett Parker does a superb (never hinged!) job publishing for us but we need fresh articles from members for future editions. At our board meeting in August many ideas were put forth for the membership to consider. In this issue of TMP you will find a survey. Your input will help determine the direction this organization will travel. There will be questions about having a show with exhibits and where/when should the show(s) be held? In the meantime I encourage input from members. I can be reached at (207) 532-2291 during the day or email at max@pwless.net.

Maine Philatelic Society  
719 Moosehead Lake Rd.  
Greenville, ME 04441-9727

# TO:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**  
If (6-04) appears after your  
name on the mailing label, it's  
time to renew your dues!