



The Maine Philatelist

Vol. 41, No. 3

July 2022

Whole No. 164

After-school program became popular Down East

By Bernie Vinzani

Have you ever thought about how philately can be introduced to young folks? It's a dilemma that has been talked about for years, and there are success stories across the country, even right here in rural Washington County, Maine.

The after-school program at the Whiting School started 20 years ago when my children attended there. There was a need at the time for someone to offer geography lessons to the students in the program, so I volunteered.

Since my son was interested in the many



Figure 1

A stampless entire from 1838 with a clear Machias circular datestamp, a "PAID" stamp, and a manuscript "10" addressed to John D Richards Esq. Ellsworth, Maine.

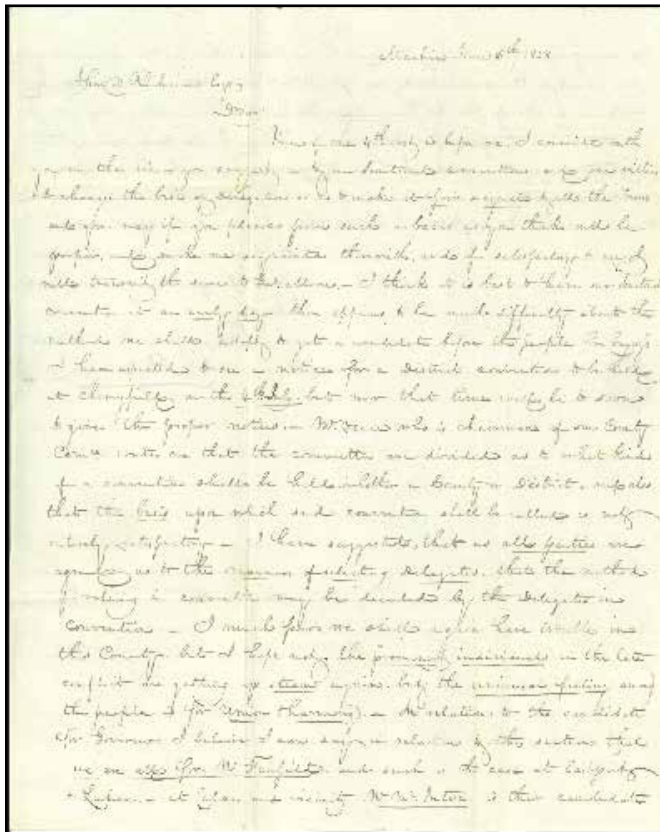


Figure 2

The letter shown in Figure 1 opened. It contained a political endorsement from Machias for the election of John Fairfield, who became governor in 1839. Some of the students researched the letter, which was written by Aaron L. Raymond Esq., Clerk of the Courts for Washington County.

stamps I had, and expressed a fascination with all of the stories they told, I decided to teach geography through stamps. We started out with a large world map spread out on a table and each child was given a small bag of stamps to place on the country of the stamp. We talked about the countries and imagined ourselves in those places. They then did a small report about the country using the stamp(s) as illustrations. On occasion, I used some local stampless covers like the example in **Figure 1** for the students

Continued on page 3

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

Website:

The purpose of the society is to promote philately in the Pine Tree State. Membership is open to anyone. Membership applications are available from the Secretary, listed below.

**Articles for publication should be sent to
the Editor, listed below.**

OFFICERS

President & Editor

Dr. Everett L. Parker
207 Corinth Road
Hudson, ME 04449-3057
(207) 573-1686
email: everettparker1245@gmail.com

Vice President

Rob Washburn
P.O. Box 840
Skowhegan, ME 04976
email: stamps@beeline-online.net

Secretary

Kelvin Kindahl
267 Locust St., #2E,
Florence, MA 01062-2059
email: kelvin01027@gmail.com

Treasurer

Rick Stambaugh
18 Elmwood Ct.
North Berwick, ME 03906
email: rstambaugh@maine.rr.com

Board of Directors

Dan Goodwin, Marc Hasselbrack

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. Please send information to the editor.

BRUNSWICK AREA COIN & STAMP CLUB

The Brunswick Area Coin & Stamp Club usually sponsors several shows during the year, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, schedules are flexible. For information, contact Bob Caouette by email at brunswickcoinclub@comcast.net.

UNION RIVER STAMP CLUB

Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene, 445 High St., Ellsworth. Contact President Art Wittine at lindawittine@yahoo.com or Bruce Downs (email: brucewdowns@yahoo.com) for additional information and to learn more about the Zoom meetings.

WATERVILLE STAMP CLUB

The Waterville club meets on the first and third Friday of each month at 6 p.m., except during June, July and August, when the meeting is on the third Friday only. Meetings are held at the Getchell Street Baptist Church, 3 Getchell St., Waterville. Buy, sell, trade, auction items, program, business meeting. For information, contact Alan Tieman, 156 Deer Run St., Apt. 2, Pittsfield, ME 04967. Email: cantdog1@gmail.com.

YORK COUNTY STAMP CLUB

The club meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month from the fourth Thursday in August to the second Thursday in June. Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Sanford Masonic Temple basement on Elm Street in Sanford (behind the library). Usual events include raffle, auction and presentations by members. Dues are \$10 per year. For information, contact Secretary Tracey Levasseur, 329 Ross Corner Rd., Shapleigh, ME 04076. Email: sharpei@sacoriver.net.

DEADLINES

January issue

Deadline: November 15; mailing December 30.

April issue

Deadline: February 15; mailing March 30.

July issue

Deadline: May 15; mailing June 30.

October issue

Deadline: August 15; mailing September 30.

After school program very popular Down East ——— *Continued from page 1*

to research. They were told to look up the names on the letters and addresses to find out information about the people. Some found relatives. In one letter a husband on a business trip wrote to his wife, reassuring her that he was indeed airing out his feather bed in the window when needed. The students were curious about the bed and amazed at the penmanship.

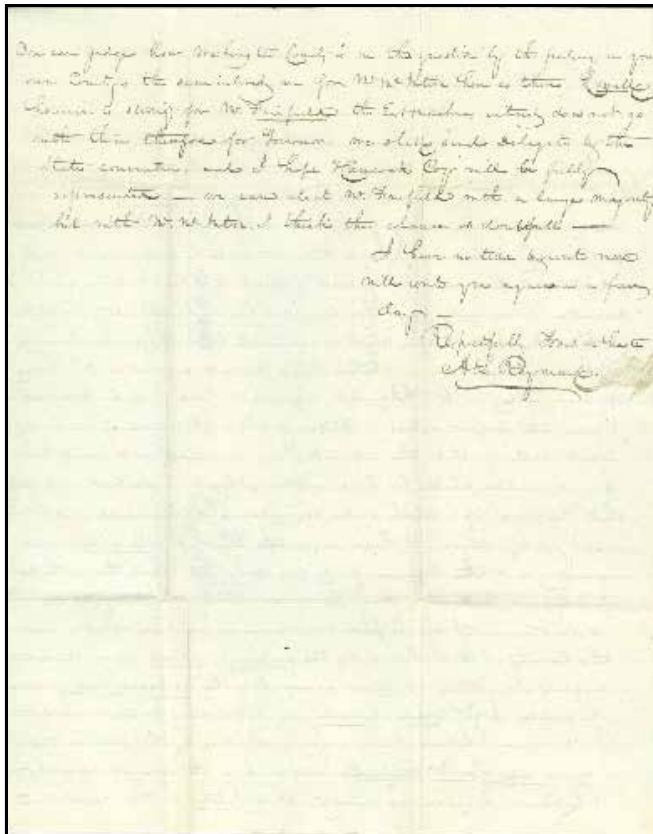


Figure 3
The second side of a letter written by
Aaron L. Raymond Esq., Clerk of the Courts
for Washington County.

The activity at the school grew into forming the Cobscook Bay Stamp Club. It was open to all who wanted to join, so we had parents, elders from the town, and the Lubec postmaster share their interests. Others in the area heard what we were doing and offered their support and stamps for the students to soak. A friend of mine who lived in Machias, much to my surprise and unknown to me, placed an ad in *Linn's Stamp News* that I was looking for stamps for our school!

When the Whiting postmaster called me at home to tell me that I should come to the post office, soon,

to get my mail, I could not have guessed why. As she handed me two full totes of donations from collectors answering the ad, I was overwhelmed. It was certainly a great lesson to the children about the generosity of others.

I was able to find albums for all of the students in the boxes that were sent, and some kind soul shipped a two-year-old set of Scott catalogs. Every sender received a hand-written thank you note posted in Whiting, with our circular postmark and Zip 04691.

I wish I had photos from that time. It was always fun to see the students gathered around a map placing their stamps saying “Oh that’s easy, it’s here” and “Where is Memel?”

Writer’s Guidelines

Prospective authors are encouraged to submit articles for *The Maine Philatelist*. We need a constant supply of material to fill these pages. The following are a few hopefully helpful hints to guide you in preparing a submission. These rules are not etched in the proverbial concrete, and you are encouraged to contact the editor (address and email on page 2) if you have a question.

- Electronic submissions are preferred, but not required. In sending a manuscript, whether typed and sent by regular mail, or by email, please follow these standard typesetting conventions: one space after periods or other punctuations, and indent paragraphs. No space need be left between paragraphs. Tables and charts should be prepared separately and NOT embedded in the text.
- If a file is sent by email, do so either as an attachment or “regular” email.
- Generally, scans used for web pages do not have sufficient resolution for use in print. Scan images at 300 dpi and at 100 percent (roughly the size of an average illustration in the journal).
- Save the scan as a jpeg or tiff image.
- Most important: send each scan as an attachment to your email and not embedded in the word processing document.

The Clayton Lake Story, Reprise (Part II)

By Kelvin Kindahl

The Seven Islands post office was now located at Clayton Lake, in the central part of T11 R14 WELS. The source of mail supply was shifted to Lac Frontiere. Not until May 16, 1930 did the post office name change to Clayton Lake. That date is shown in both *Postal Bulletin* #15269 and the Postmaster Appointment records.

Following Burnham were a number of Postmasters, Acting Postmasters and Officers-in-Charge, most of them women, including Dorothy F. Burnham, Dorothy F. (Burnham) Butler, Gerald H. Corbin, Myrtle B. Colson, Louise M. Paquet, Louis P. Paquet, Abbie M. Paquet, Jeanine P. Weymouth, Annette A. Jackson, Margot B. Weber, Jacqueline E. May, Margo Holden, Marguerite D. Holden, Jolyne D. Guay and Maureen A. Ouellette. No doubt there were some family connections among some of these folks.

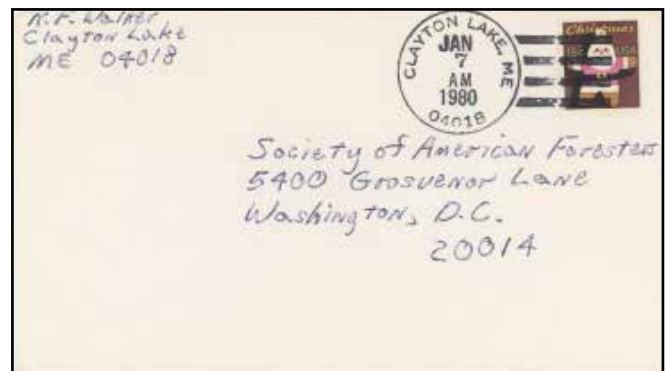
Clayton Lake, as an independent post office, was suspended June 10, 1983 and discontinued December 15, 1984. That means the post office ceased being operated by a postmaster as of June 10, 1983 and became a contract-operated CPO under the Ashland Post Office the next day. The 1984 date was purely administrative; no change occurred at the Clayton Lake post office that day. CPO stands for "Community Post Office," not contract post office, and is the Postal Service's current term for what used to be known as a Rural Station or Rural Branch.

International Paper, the company which at that time owned the whole area, held the contract, and the post office was operated by an IP employee. It would continue to operate as a CPO of Ashland from June 10, 1983 until July 1, 2003, when it was switched to a CPO of Fort Kent. Clayton Lake CPO Fort Kent was discontinued July 27, 2004, per *Postal Bulletin* #22228. The 2003 date was obtained from local sources, and never appeared in the *Postal Bulletin*. The Post Office Department generally kept accurate

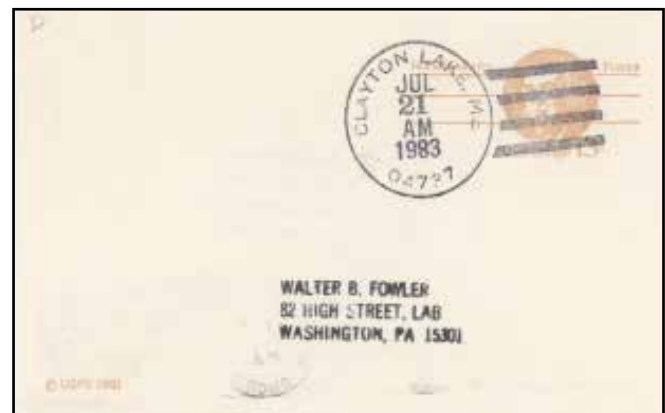
records of post office changes; U.S. Postal Service does not.

Although Fort Kent is 20 miles farther away than Ashland, it was the headquarters of the logging company which ran the Clayton Lake operations at the time. According to a *Bangor Daily News* article from 2003, an arrangement was made whereby instead of delivering mail to Clayton Lake, mail would be put in a locked box outside the Fort Kent Post Office, and logging company employees would transport the mail when they traveled to or from Fort Kent.

Clayton Lake was assigned ZIP 04018 when ZIP codes were started in 1963. The 040 ZIP codes are



Clayton Lake had two Zip codes during its existence. Above, a cover from "04018" dated in 1980, and below, a philatelic card from "04737" in 1983. The 04737 was from the Clayton Lake CPO Ashland period.



in southern Maine, surrounding Portland. The rest of Aroostook County starts with 047. Clayton Lake was given a Portland area ZIP code because of the unique arrangements for getting the mail to there. At the time, mail was trucked from Portland to Boston, flown to Montreal, then it traveled by train to Lac Frontiere, and by truck in to Clayton Lake. The flight may have later changed to Quebec, and the train was probably supplanted by truck. On October 3, 1981, the ZIP code was changed to 04737, an Aroostook County number, according to *Postal Bulletin* #21329. The reason was that mail would now be brought in from Ashland, the closest post office within the United States. That would continue until the change to Fort Kent in 2003.

To expand on this writer's visit to Clayton Lake, he and a collector friend left Pittsburg, in the far north of New Hampshire, in the early morning of July 28, 1998. The road climbs steadily through the forest, passing the headwaters of the Connecticut River, up to the Canadian border. The border crossing is at a pass, from which the road drops rapidly onto flat, open farmland, an entirely different topography than northern New Hampshire.

We passed through a number of Quebec towns, almost all named for saints, stopping at the post offices to collect their postmarks, eventually entering Maine at U. S. Customs Daaquam. A short ways past Customs, we stopped again at the North Maine Woods checkpoint to register with the organization which manages public use of the area, an area roughly the size of Connecticut, where the only roads are privately owned gravel logging roads.

At this point, it seemed unlikely that we would reach Clayton Lake during the short time the post office window was scheduled to be open, but at the checkpoint, we were told that if a red pickup truck was parked at the post office, we would know that Jack was there, and the post office would be open. After a long slow drive, we pulled up next to Jack's truck.

The official hours for the Clayton Lake post office, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, apparently didn't mean much. The post office opened when Jack was there, because getting the mail in a remote place like Clay-

ton Lake is a Big Deal. Jack, as I have since learned, was Jack Beaulieu, a second generation mail route contractor. His father, Camille, had done the mail route when the mail came from Lac Frontiere. Now Jack's route was the whole way east to Ashland and west to Customs at Daaquam. He was the lifeline, often bringing other necessities from the outside world, in addition to the mail.

On the return trip, we stopped at the Quebec post offices that we'd missed on the way up. These towns are small, the most prominent building in each is the Catholic church, which always seemed big enough to accommodate far more people than actually live in the town, and all the post offices were on Rue Main. After a long day's drive, they started to look alike. The local postmasters spoke little, if any English, and we spoke no French. At one office on the way back, the woman seemed to understand exactly what we wanted, but seemed a bit confused as to why. Later on we realized that was because we'd already stopped there in the morning.

I didn't make it to Estcourt Station or Grand Lake Stream, before those post offices closed in 1995 and 2012, but I have been to every currently operating post office in Maine, from the Naval Base in Kittery, to MacMahan, which has no public ferry service, to Matinicus to Saint Francis, as well as the rest of New England.

Logging continues in the Allagash today. There is still a community at Clayton Lake, though much smaller, perhaps even more transient, than it once was. It is still remote, but one can get to Ashland or Fort Kent fairly easily. According to the blog "Edge of the Big Woods," a new owner of the depot has stabilized and restored the remaining buildings since we were there. The entry "What's New at Clayton Lake" even has a picture of the double circle date stamp devise, with a July 2, 2004 date in it, just a few weeks before the final closing. Helen Hamlin's book, *Nine Mile Bridge, Three Years in the Maine Woods*, originally published in 1945, gives a good feel for life in the area in the late 1930s. The writer also thanks Brian Damien for his help and support, and Max Lynds for sharing covers.

Chasing Postmarks: Ridlonville

By Mark Fonda

If you're acquainted with Oxford County, you might have heard of Ridlonville. It's now part of the town of Mexico, but in earlier days, it was a settlement of its own, and had its own post office.

Thanks to the Maine Memory Network and the Mexico Historical Society, information about the early days of Ridlonville has been preserved. Much of the following was taken from research by Irene Hutchinson,

When George Ridlon arrived in 1894 and realized the economic possibilities of the Oxford Paper Company bringing jobs to the area, he purchased a large tract of land that became known as Ridlonville. The Ridlonville line started at the Congregational Church and extended along the Androscoggin River to beyond the Farrington Cemetery to Duntile Street.

Ridlon built a hotel on this land, which soon housed a post office, store, and many houses to accommodate the influx of Italian, Lithuanian, Polish, Scottish, Irish, and French families migrating to town in search of work.

Ridlonville became prosperous and was comprised of hotels, general stores, millinery stores, fire department, sawmills, churches, schools, parks, doctors, golf course, social buildings, and garages.

The Central School, built in 1894, burned on Christmas Eve in 1906 and was rebuilt in 1907.

In 1911 the name was changed to Abbott School, in honor of Elizabeth Abbott, who had donated the land. The bell from the Central School is now at the Mexico Historical Society Museum.

Many streets and buildings were named after the early settlers including Howard Hall, Goodwin cottages, Day Hill, Richards Avenue, Wills Block and Packard Block.

Ridlonville was a good place to live and raise children. Children were safe to play anywhere, sliding down the streets in winter, exploring the surrounding woods, and playing in the brook in summer.

The settlement was hit hard by the Great Depression, but afterward, things began to look up. Then the Big Flood in 1936 came along and wiped out the Ridlonville Bridge. Many homes and businesses along the Androscoggin River were destroyed, some never to be rebuilt. On September 21, 1938, a hurricane with heavy rains and high winds caused considerable damage on Granite Street.

As Maine developed in the 1940s and 1950s, Ridlonville lost many businesses to Rumford. Social activities also moved across the river. The end of an era was slowly approaching.

Ridlonville eventually was melded into Mexico. Those who were born and brought up there still cling to the memories of those glorious years when Ridlonville was the center of their universe; the newer generations do not know it ever existed.

According to *The Post Offices of Maine A Rarity Guide*, the Ridlonville Post Office was established on June 5, 1897 and discontinued on August 23, 1957.

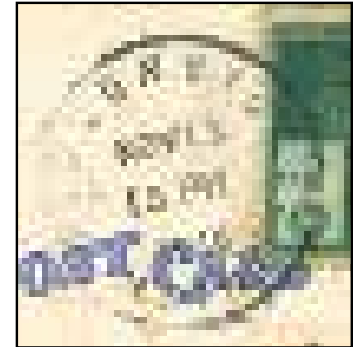


Figure 2
Closeup of Ridlonville postmark.

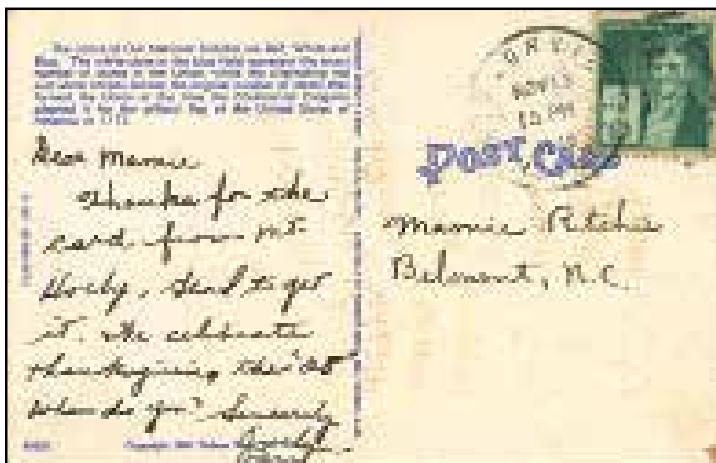


Figure 1

Postcard to North Carolina from Ridlonville, 1940.

Remembering old Maine post offices

Submitted by Kelvin Kindahl
of Florence, Massachusetts



Autographed by Richard W. Carr, who might or might not be Sam Carr, one of the two temporary postmasters, listed in the caption for the photograph below. I don't think that was an official title. I suspect they were Acting Postmasters or Officers-in-Charge. Since this was between 1971 and 1986, records of postmasters are not conveniently available. Before 1971, records are on the National Archives website, and since 1986, the Postmaster Finder page of USPS.com has been the official place of recording appointments, but the in-between period is not online.

The East Sullivan Post Office closed on June 20, 1975. This photograph, published in the Ellsworth American on June 26, 1975, shows "temporary" postmaster Marilyn Doughty, second from right.

Others, albeit not in order, include Edward Martin, retired postmaster; Austin Ashe, mail carrier; Sam Carr, temporary postmaster; and Hank Hosking, substitute carrier. The photograph is of poor quality because of acidity in the newsprint. East Sullivan is between Gouldsboro and Hancock off U.S. 1 near Frenchman Bay.



Do you have photographs or newspaper photos of Maine post offices that are no longer in existence? Send them to the editor, and we'll use the information in this space!

From the President ...

As we noted in April, the rebirth of the Maine Philatelic Society has been phenomenal! We now have about 120 members, not only in the Pine Tree State, but several other states as well. Thanks for passing the word and getting others involved with us. And don't forget that I need a steady supply of material to fill these pages!

We have another pressing need as well, and that's someone to revitalize and update our website. In fact, it would be nice to have someone totally re-design the site to make it more functional for members and those visiting. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out with this important endeavor!

The MPS board got together at the Waterville Stamp Club's MUDPEX in Winslow on April 9. A total of 11 members attended, and we accomplished a lot toward restarting the MPS. Thanks to Al Tiesman and the Waterville Stamp Club for entertaining us at the event. And we signed up new members as well!

Speaking of new members, we are still seeking more. Please pass the word to any philatelic friends. If you are a member of a stamp club, tell others about MPS. We want to publicize philately in Maine and return to providing a journal with informative and well-researched articles on postal history over the years.

And providing articles can take different forms. Not only do we need and encourage deeply researched material, we want to know what YOU want to see in the journal. Have an idea or thought of how we can improve the journal? I am only an email or letter away.

Please send me images of your stamp den for that feature. Other collectors can benefit from seeing where you "hang out" with stamps. Tell us what you want to see the Maine Philatelic Society be for you!

-- Everett Parker

Deadline for the October issue is August 15! Please send your articles as soon as possible: everettparker1245@gmail.com

A look back ...

In the April 2001 issue of The Maine Philatelist, the question was asked if that is an outhouse on the Maine statehood stamp of 1970.

Here's the report:

Is that an outhouse on Maine's statehood stamp of 1970? Or is it actually a storage building? In order to get to the *bottom* of the issue, your editor conducted a *deep* investigation into the (w)hole matter.

If you look closely at the Maine statehood stamp, which shows a well-known lighthouse, you'll see a small building at the right which strongly resembles that famous little building with the half moon that some of us remember from childhood.

But in case you're inclined to think this astute publication has reached a new *bottom*, I want to *wipe* the slate clean by saying it's more likely a building used to house oil in the "old days." What do you think?

Ayuh.

Question & Answer ?

Got a question about Maine philately (or collecting in general)? Know the answer to a previously asked question? We want to know! Send your input to the editor today!

From Dan Goodwin

I would be interested to know if we can determine what is the oldest post office in Maine? And, in the same vein, what is the oldest post office in Maine that has operated continuously to date?

I don't have the answer to either of these questions without a ton of research, but perhaps some of our members will have some clear insight into these important facets of Maine postal history. One would think they would be in York County or perhaps Cumberland County, but the answer may surprise us. Please contact me by email at dgoodwi3@maine.rr.com if you have information to share.

What does your stamp room or den look like?

Bill Sammis of Ithaca, New York sent this photograph of his stamp den at home. He said snowbirds may head south in the fall, but what's not to like about a cozy hobby area when it's below zero outside? And, he added, "It helps to be retired."

So what does your stamp room or den look like? Send a high resolution pdf or tiff image and let others know. Email to: everettparker1245@gmail.com.



THE CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

WANTED: New England numbered stations, sub-stations, C. O. D. stations, other stations and branches, postal forms, documents, any time period. Kelvin Kindahl, 267 Locust St. # 2E, Florence, MA 01062-2059. Email: Kelvin01027@gmail.com. (1-23)

WANTED: U.S. precancels, buy or trade. Elmer L. Harmon, 83 Milwaukee Road, Dennysville, ME 04628; email: Elmerlookharmon@icloud.com. (1-23)

WANTED: I am a collector of county and postmaster named postmarks. I have found none from Maine. Do you have any? Elliott Idoff, 555 North Ave., Apt. 141, Fort Lee, NJ 07024-2415 (1-23)

WANTED: Lubec postal history. Particularly interested in South Lubec postal markings. Please email John Schorn, jschorn@gmail.com (1-23)

WANTED: I am writing a postal history for Hampden, Maine. I am interested in buying or obtaining scans for the following: Hampden, Hampden Corner, Hampden Highlands, North Hampden, South Hampden, West Hampden, East Hampden, East Hampden Branch Bangor, Hampden Postal

Distribution Center, Hampden Centre, Hampden Center and Nealey's Corner. Contact Jim Husson at jinhusson65@gmail.com (4-23)

WANTED: Postal history from Isle au Haut, Lookout, and Stonington, Maine. Will buy, but if not for sale, a scan or photocopy would be appreciated. Peter Martin, P.O. Box 6074, Fredericksburg, VA 22403; e-mail: pmartin2525@yahoo.com (1-23)

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: For sale, 50 better quality worldwide stamps used and mint for \$1.00 plus SASE. Elmer L. Harmon, 83 Milwaukee Road, Dennysville, ME 04628; email: Elmerlookharmon@icloud.com. (1-23)

FREE TO GOOD HOME! I have a brand new sealed two-volume set of the 2019 *Scott's Catalogue*, Volume 6. Never been opened. Free to anyone who wants it, but be aware shipping weight will be around nine pounds. Likely will cost around \$10 to ship by Media Mail. Everett Parker, 207 Corinth Road, Hudson, ME 04449 (1-23)

Are YOU on the Internet?

If you would like to be included, contact the editor!

Eric Beal

ebeal@maine.edu

Ron Breznay

ronbreznay@ptd.net

Collects U.S., Canada, Confederate States, philatelic history, postal history covers, first flight covers, naval covers, Vietnam military covers; general worldwide, Alfred Hitchcock, horror topical collection.

Nancy Clark

nancy.b.clark@icloud.com

Brian Damien

brian.damien@yahoo.ca

Collects Maine and Québec postmarks, stamps, postmarks and postal history of Newfoundland.

Bruce Downs

brucewdowns@yahoo.com

Collects Deer Isle postal history and covers surrounding Maine statehood date. Also French and Swiss.

Paul Eagle

paul@earthlovers.org

Collects pre-1950 European postage, back of book, cinderellas

Patrick F. Gilheany

landpgil@hotmail.com

Collects China, Japan, Germany, trains on stamps.

Esther Goodrich-Puffer

goodrich-puffer@comcast.net

Collects U.S., stamps with horses, fish, and some other animals. Also interested in stamps with Latin phrases and ancient Greek and Roman artifacts.

Dan Goodwin

dgoodwi3@maine.rr.com

Collects U.S. plate blocks prior to 1980, Maine postmarks, anything Christmas related, Naval ship postmarks, World War II related.

Tim Grant

tjgrant@roadrunner.com

Collects U.S. (including BOB) in MNH condition and U.N. singles and Inscription Blocks, also in MNH condition.

Robert Gross

mainer144@gmail.com

Collects stamps related to North Carolina.

Jan Hokenson

janhoken@aol.com

Collects worldwide to 1949 including dead countries and military occupations.

Larry Huff

leinsteinhn@gmail.com

Collects U.S. classics, Worldwide to 1940, Christmas Seals, Perfins, Disney Stamps, U.S. mint sheets, FDC's.

James Husson

Jimhusson65@gmail.com

Collects Maine postal history.

Kelvin Kindahl

kelvin01027@gmail.com

Collects New England postmarks and postal history, all time periods.

Rusty Marr

hemarr@outlook.com

Collects worldwide, U.S. mint, plate blocks, FDCs, stationery, Christmas seals, Disney and U.S. back of book.

Doug Moreshead

dmoreshe@maine.rr.com

Collects U.S., interested in stamps prior to 1920.

Maynard Otis

motis2775@gmail.com

Collects U.S., Canada, British Colonies, ships and military.

Dr. Everett L. Parker

everettparker1245@gmail.com

Jack Pooler

car99@comcast.net

Collects Maine postmarks.

Phebe Quattrucci

phebeq63@yahoo.com

Collects worldwide and U.S.

Donald Savage

dsavage7@maine.rr.com

Collects worldwide to 1959, U.S. to date.

Rick Stambaugh

rstambaugh@maine.rr.com

Mike Strout

mstrout69@gmail.com

Collects Maine postal history Maine precancels, Maine state revenues, U.S. revenues, Patriotic covers, Ship covers and postal cards

Alan Tieman

cantdog1@gmail.com

Thomas R. Trowbridge

tomtrow44@yahoo.com

Bernie Vinzani

bvinzani@maine.edu

Collects watermarks on stamps, printing and paper of stamps, postal history of Downeast Maine, and early bishop marks and postmarks of Great Britain.

Rob Washburn

stamps@beeline-online.net

Maine Cover of the Quarter

*A postal history
feature by
Rob Washburn
of Skowhegan.*



The above registered cover was mailed from “Overseers of the Poor, Rockland, Maine” to the “Overseers of the Poor, Winslow, Maine” on February 6 in the 1880s (?). Each town’s Overseers of the Poor helped out homeless and impoverished people, who oftentimes would be labeled “feeble,” “insane” or “lame” and were sometimes even locked up by authorities. Cover courtesy of Larry Huff.

(If you have an unusual, interesting or scarce Maine cover candidate for Maine Cover of the Quarter, please send a clear photocopy against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976 or email: stamps@beeline-online.net).

Secretary’s Report

Kelvin Kindahl
267 Locust St., #2E,
Florence, MA 01062-2059

As of this writing, our membership stands at 120. A good number, and admittedly, more than your Secretary expected, but we can always use more! We also need existing members to want to pay dues in the future, so your comments, suggestions and especially articles, are always welcome.

Eleven members met at Mudpex, the Waterville Stamp Club show on April 9, where important and not so important business was discussed. Among other things, the officers were unanimously approved by those present. Since that time, we found the old bylaws which had been adopted in 1984, and realized that perhaps we ought to follow those bylaws, in order to properly transition from the former Directors to the current slate. Those old bylaws had MPS as a corporation, with a corporate seal and a central office, and included the sentence “If notice be given by telegram, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when the telegram is delivered to the telegraph company.” We have a set of updated bylaws ready to be adopted once the Board of Directors transition is completed. Telegraph companies will not be involved.

Another topic of conversation was the forthcoming *The Post Offices of Maine, 2022 Edition*, an updated version of *The Post Offices of Maine, A Rarity Guide*, which was largely the work of the late Bruce Hazelton. Watch for more details in these pages, and at the fall MAIPEX show.

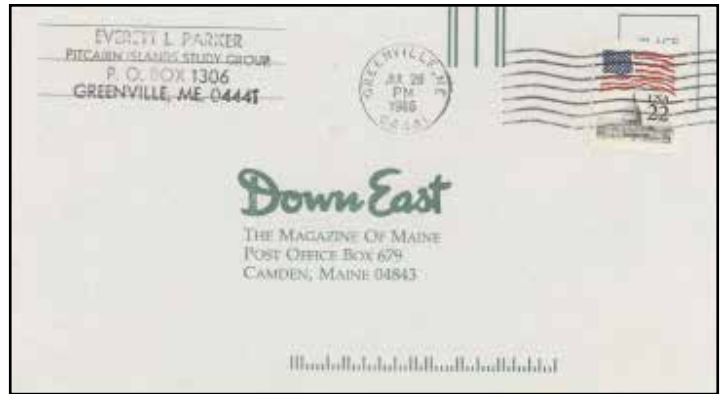
It's déjà vu all over again!

Baseball great Yogi Berra was known for his famous sayings, not the least of which was “It’s déjà vu all over again!” And it was indeed déjà vu all over again when the otherwise non-descript cover shown here turned up recently.

Our secretary, Kelvin Kindahl, recently said he was going through his collection and found the cover shown here. Sure enough, it was a commercial cover to *Down East* magazine sent by ye editor back in 1986 when we lived in Greenville.

As is evident on the return address, the sender was part of the Pitcairn Islands Study Group back then, and still am! I have edited the quarterly *Pitcairn Log* for over 35 years now.

At the time the cover was sent to *Down East* (likely a magazine renewal), the Greenville Post Office was located on Pritham Avenue (formerly West



Cover to Camden, Maine with a Greenville circular datestamp and seven-line killer in 1986.

Street) on the south shore of Moosehead Lake. It later moved to a new building on Main Street where it remains today.

So it all goes to show that you never know what you’ll find in collections of Maine postal history, almost like history repeating itself.

Maine Philatelic Society
207 Corinth Road
Hudson, ME 04449-3057

To: