

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic Society: James Buchanan Chapter, # 173

Club Meeting: Wednesday, 11 November 2009

Bourse opens at 6:30 PM and Meeting starts at 7:00 PM

BlueBird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Diane Meek

Message from the President

Wm. P. Snyder

What a great auction we had last month; there was hardly anything left over! Thanks to a donation of Central and South American material, the club made about \$25. But don't slack off now, our next auction is in January. Start to compile your stamp material while you are thinking of it.

As club leaders we particularly desire membership input for programs for next year. Please think about this. The Executive Committee will meet in December for preliminary program planning, so please give us your suggestions.

Some topics that I think might be useful to everyone are the following: 1.) *Suppliers:* Who are the best

vendors for stamp supplies; for various topical stamps; for specific country collections? Who are not so good? 2.) *Web Sites:* How can one learn to buy or sell on the net? What are good educational sites for information on given topics? What are members' favorite sites? 3.) *Common interests:* Have a meeting with small groups of common interests to exchange information, to trade, and to get to know one another better.

These are just some starters: What do you think of them? What topics would benefit you? The club?

Most important is club leadership and service. The club runs on volunteers. Many members have par-

ticipated over the years to serve us in various ways. Much work goes into planning the meetings, getting the room ready, cleaning up, and putting on the varied programs each year.

Lancopex is the most extensive and complex PSLC effort each year. It accounts for club revenue, new membership, philatelic education, and much more. Thank you all for this.

Another election cycle is upon us, and this year, we have an opening for vice president. A club member is needed to serve in this position for a year and then assume the presidency in 2011. Give it some thought. Who would you like to nominate? **Bill**

11 November Program: Show 'n Tell

Let's all join Club VP John Ahlfeld, the Emcee of the 2009 Show 'n Tell.

This is a time for club members to share their collecting interests with the rest of the club.

When held in the past, this has been a popular program. As such the 2009 version should be just as informative.

Share your topical or country collection. What

was your greatest find? Do you have a favorite stamp or cover? Have you ever been on one of the APS stamp cruises? Do you have a specific mentor that was so helpful to you in the hobby?

PowerPoint will be available to show an item or two to augment your short presentation. Call Paul Petersen who will help you to get your material on a flash drive.



Mike Matus and Roy Baardsen, Trekmeisters for NPM Trip

Volume 72, Issue 11

November, 2009

Inside this issue:

From the President: 1

Wm. P. Snyder

Program: Show and Tell

October Minutes 2

Postal Museum-A success

2010 Dues Notice

Club Notes 3

2009 Presentations &

Other Activities

November Biography:

Greg Macaluso

Gleanings from *Linn's Stamp News*

Musings: 4

Remembering the 11th of November

PSLC Meets the second Wednesday of the month (except August) at BlueBird Commons/ Wood crest Villa at 7:00 PM

President:

William P. Snyder

Vice President:

John Ahlfeld

Secretary:

Joy Bouchard

Treasurer:

Clair Smith

Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640



Club NPM Trip

To quote Roy Baardsen & Mike Matus, club trekmeisters, "As long as we had the same thirty-nine people on the bus when we got home as when we left in the morning, we consider it a successful trip." Even with all that hard work, they are already talking about possible destinations for the club's 2010 excursion.

Thanks go to these gentlemen for all their efforts. They provided cold drinks and tasty edibles for the journey with a few PA lottery tickets in everyone's sack.

Dr. Daniel Piazza, the assistant curator of the National Postal Museum met us at the entrance and gave us a tour of the exhibits including the library. He described this branch of the Smithsonian library as less extensive in titles than APS but more in depth with the older documents and the less common material.

A featured exhibit was the first time display of the uncut press sheets of James A. Farley's National Parks issues as signed by the President and his PMG.

On display for only a month was a block of inverted Jennys and two other rarities which are on loan from William Gross.

Another highlight of the trip was an afternoon VIP tour of the Capitol arranged by Peter Baney. Several participated in this.

Others visited historical sights including the Smithsonian, Air & Space, Natural History, Ford's Theater, the Spy Museum, and the Woodrow Wilson Museum, among others.

Through an informal survey, it seems that Lou DeFelice gets the *Whirlwind Tourist Award* as visiting five sites that afternoon.

Secretary's & Treasurer's Reports

Joy Bouchard & Clair Smith: October, 2009

Opening: Bill Snyder sounded the gavel at 7:00 pm. He discussed the Wm. Gross gift to the National Postal Museum in DC.

Election: Eleanor Wheeler and Bill discussed the upcoming election and need for volunteers. Eleanor will have more information forthcoming in November.

Guest: Brian Wagner, a missionary to Kenya visited the meeting.

Drawing Winner: Ivan Goss won the October cash drawing.

Treasurer's Report: Approved

Club Trip: Trekmeister, Roy Baardsen gave updated information regarding the 22 October trip to the NPM in DC including times and places of departure. Bus reservations are non-refundable.

Paul Petersen reported that Jim Boyles' recent surgery was successful. Bill will send Jim a card

on behalf of the club membership.

Meet 'n Greet: Vern Martin reported that the Lititz PO will give us a table in their lobby for one Saturday this fall for an interactive display. The date is to be determined, but the hours will be approximately 0900-1200. Vern would like to have some club members present to promote the hobby and talk with the postal customers who stop by.

Pre-cancel Society is having an auction on 30-31 October and all bids are due by 24 October. See Bob Noble for the catalogue and participation information.

Christmas Party: Speaking for the committee, Lucy Eyster reported that the event will be in Bluebird Commons. It will open at 6:00 pm, and the buffet will commence at 6:30. John Bray will handle entertainment. Lucy dis-

cussed the menu. Club members are to bring a dessert. The cost is \$7.00 per person at the door. A voluntary gift exchange will be held (+/\$5.00 philatelic material). Up to date party information will be included in the Nov. and Dec. PSLC Newsletters.

Show 'n Tell: John Ahfeld and Bill discussed the November program, encouraging all club members to participate. Bill named several people whom he hoped would be the lead-off players at the event. Paul said that he would help members put some of their items on PowerPoint to illustrate their presentation.

The Treasury:

Opening: \$4,738.95 (01 Sep)

Income: \$46.19

Expenses: \$96.01

Closing: \$4,689.13 (30 Sep)

2 CDs @ Fulton Bank : \$4345.60

Some differences in terminology...

Three (3) terms are often used interchangeably, but there are subtle differences among them. See the August, 2009 *German Postal Specialist* (Pgs 334-336) by Jim Graue for a more detailed discussion of this terminology

Forgery: To defraud the collector or dealer. These tend to be the high end and collectable stamps.

Counterfeit: To defraud the issuing postal authority and get the letter sent without payment. They

tend to be the common stamps that are used on postage.

Fake: Not an attempt to defraud by calling it genuine. Seen more as a replication of a popular stamp. The C3a inverted Jenny is a popular fake given the notoriety of this stamp. **Ed**

2010 Club Dues Notice

You can't find a better bargain at \$10.00/Year

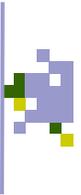
✂..... Date: _____

Please clip this notice, complete it, and turn in with \$10 to Lucy Eyster at the November club meeting. You may also mail it to Lucy at 2001 Harrisburg Pk, B503, Lancaster, PA 17601

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please encourage your non-member stamp collector friends to join and enjoy the benefits of membership. Make this your New Year's resolution: "Every member get a member."



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Membership, & Shows

2009-10 Programs & Snacks:
11th November: Show & Tell for all club members: John Ahlfeld. Diane Meek, Host
9th December: Christmas Party. No host this month
13th January: Club Auction. John Ahlfeld, Host
10th February: *King George V and the Royal Collection:* Paul Petersen. Host: TBA

Membership: Carmen Spadaro of Reading joined in October.
Upcoming show reminders: *Some 1st Sunday Stamp Shows, Farm & Home Center:* • 6 Dec • 7 Mar 2010, • 6 June, 1 August, • 3 October, • 5 December (Dates are subject to change, so please verify.)
Lion's Club Rx Eyeglasses Donation: Dennis Shumaker

thanks the club for over 40 pairs donated. He will accept glasses at any stamp meeting.
Lititz Post Office: The club has been given the opportunity to host a table in the lobby of the post office on Saturday, 12 December from 8:30 to noon. A few good women and men are needed to represent the club. Stamp packets and albums will be available.

October Bio: Greg Macaluso

Greg's dad got him started collecting as a young child, and then his cousin returned from WWII and gave him his worldwide collection. Greg received worldwide and Palestinian stamps and covers from his uncle and aunt who were in international business at the time.

Motivated early, he attended both annual ASDA shows in the Garden in NYC. Greg remains in the hunt for his world wide collection up to 1971. "For a student of history and geography, world wide is the way to go."

Greg retired as a surveyor for the Subway in New York City, moving first to Gettysburg and then Allentown before settling in Lancaster in 2005. Living in Woodcrest Villa, he said that it did not take Lucy Eyster long to sign him up for PSLC.

Years ago his aunt gave him several stamped covers with letters from her grandfather who was in the Civil War. He was wounded once and captured twice, imprisoned in Elmira and Pt. Lookout. This was an opportunity for Greg to engage in both family and historical research.

Greg and his wife visit their daughter in St. Louis a few times a year. There are three grandchildren, the latest, he is proud to say just arrived this past August.

Gleanings from Linn's ...

In Janet Klug's column in the 28 September of *Linn's*, she emphasized the enjoyment of continued learning as a stamp collector. She then listed several suggestions for further study including varied web sites for the new through the advanced collector.

There was much to learn in this issue. The web site topic would fill a newsletter with what is out there. In fact, many philatelic publications have a regular computer or web related column.

•The colorful sheet with the California ocean kelp forest eco system came out. It identifies 27 different plants and animals. Who knew that kelp (a.k.a. seaweed) can grow to be as high as a tree.

•Bill Welch passed away. I met him at APS Summer Session these last two years and enjoyed his information on Latin America. He was editor of *AP* for many years and served as mayor of State College. Last year he was the Lancopex exhibit judge.

•Many of you have heard of Lawrence Block, author of the Keller novels, the stamp collecting hit-man. Block is a world wide collector and will be writing a column on the topic regularly in *Linn's*. For a while he edited *Whitman Numismatic Journal* before returning to philately.

•In a letter, a reader opined that FedEx and UPS cherry pick their routes while USPS delivers anywhere, usually at great expense. Even more, for some complex deliveries, these agencies contract with USPS.

•Sometimes two countries will issue "joint issues" on

the same topic. On the rare occasion, they will issue the same stamp with both country's names on it.

•US and Cuba are talking about a postal service between Miami and Havana.

•Canada is soon to issue its second semipostal stamp to support mental health, and the UN will issue a Mahatma Gandhi stamp for the International Day of Non-Violence.

•\$50M/year is paid to postal workers when there is no work as things slow down. Contracts with postal unions guarantee eight and four hours of work a day for full and part-time employees. The postal service can not lay off any worker with more than six years of service.

•Fifty years ago George Linn expressed his opinion on the subject of gum. "Why worship gum and pay for it when false...The stamps are just as attractive and will live longer without the gum." Ed □





Musings from the editor

Remembering the 11th of November

A time or two each year I take the train to Philadelphia. After pulling out of Lancaster, we travel through the rural eastern part of the county. It is like going back in time, as there is little to suggest that it is 2009 and not 1918. The view from the window was much the same when the first of our soldiers left their Lancaster homes for the WWI battlefields over 90 years ago.

They went off to enter the “War to end all wars,” when Woodrow Wilson called. He encouraged their patriotism, enthusiasm, and idealism. Perhaps a few looked out their train window longingly at the same scenes I saw, thinking about the family or the girl they left behind. Did any of them wonder if they would return safely from this cataclysm?

Unfortunately, WWI did not end all wars. In fact, many historians believe that the harsh terms for Germany in the Treaty of Versailles were one conduit to WWII. The allies were not unanimous about the treaty’s terms. In fact, the US Congress never ratified the treaty, and Ferdinand Foch, the leading general of the allies commented that “This is not a treaty, but merely a 25 year armistice.”

The postwar remapping of the

middle east (and many parts of the world, for that matter), set the stage for some of today’s troubles. We did not learn much from this war.

The 11th November has been celebrated continually since 1919. In Europe the day’s reminiscence is largely on the Great War, while in the US it has been renamed Veteran’s Day, and it remembers those of all the wars.

Years ago schools and many businesses across the country and around the world observed two minutes of silence at 11:00 AM on 11/11 each year in commemoration. And as a youngster I recall Am-Vets and VFW poppy sales to support the disabled vets.

Last November was the 90th anniversary of the armistice, and I hope to be around for the 100th in 2018. Many issues are anticipated to remember the fallen and commemorate the end of the Great War.

In 1968 Canada issued a beautiful stamp for Major John McCrae. Overlaying a field of crosses and poppies are written the opening lines of McCrae’s beloved poem,

In Flanders Fields which he wrote in 1915 while sitting in his bunker. He died from pneumonia near the end of the war.

*In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*



Every decade ending in eight, foreign stamps remembering the 1918 armistice are issued. With the improvement of stamp-producing technology, the quality/quantity are superb.

For the last several years Great Britain has issued souvenir sheets in remembrance of 11 November.

The 2006 GB issue (below) features poppies with barbed wire for stems on a 1st class stamp against a backdrop of a denuded landscape from the Somme battlefield. The sheet states “Lest we forget.” This item won the poll



as the favorite stamp that year in Great Britain.

This past month, Canada Post released a souvenir sheet, singles, and FDC featuring a vignette of their National War Memorial.

Every year on 11 November, as described in the Fall 2009 issue of *Details/En Détails*, Canada continues to share a moment of silence to “Express our collective sense of sorrow for the loss that war produces, as well as a chance to rejoice in the legacy of peace and freedom that our soldiers have defended and preserved. This Fall the spirit of remembrance will be captured on a commemorative stamp (pg.12).”



Let us remember our brave forces in harms way. Ed □



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