

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County-



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic Society: James Buchanan Chapter, # 173
Chapter 118 of the American Topical Assn.

Club Meeting: Wednesday, 12 October 2011

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

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Lucy Eyster

Stamp Trading to Begin Following the Evening's Program

Volume 74, No. 10

October, 2011

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VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

PSLC Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except August) at The Bluebird Commons in Woodcrest Villa, 2001 Harrisburg Ave, Lancaster. PA 17601 at 7:00 PM. Dues are \$10.00. For club info, call Lucy Eyster: 717.735-2586

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John Bray:
jbrayboy@dejazzd.com

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Vacant

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Message from the President

Well, we had our last auction of the year which seemed to be a bust. Many items went unsold, but you can never tell what will sell.

I wish to thank Lucy, Eleanor, and Paul for volunteering to plan our Christmas Dinner. Again, to Paul, congratulations on the APS award for your excellence in our Newsletter production. Keep up the great work; we appreciate it.

October 13th brings us our trip to NYC. If you haven't yet made a commitment, there are still a few seats available for what should prove to be an exciting trip.

Next month will bring about our nominations for various Club Officer positions. As we are still unsure what's happening with the Presidency, perhaps one of you will step up and take it for next year, or another position. We do need par-

ticipation from all in the club if we are to succeed as a club. As you may have noticed, it's always the same few who seem to do everything for us. Why can't others do likewise, or are you content just sitting there and passing the buck? Personally, I intensely dislike having to write this column, but other than that, it's not so bad. So how about making this the year that you do your part for the club? Thanks. **jmb**

Show 'n Tell: Your Best Stuff

October Program

In the past, members have had the opportunity to display and discuss aspects of their stamp collection.



This involved PowerPoint and/or passing components of their material around the meeting room. It was always well received, so this month we'll engage in Show 'n Tell once more but with a new twist.

Bring in your best stuff to show the others: your Zeps,

Mauritius Post Offices, and your 1¢ British Guinea.

The club will be divided into three groups, and each will display their material

The tables will be arranged in a "U" shape, and a third of the members will be on the inside of the tables displaying an album and/or an exhibit page or two to the others. The next two groups will follow suite.



Columbus Day 2011



On October 12th, five hundred and nineteen years ago Christopher Columbus reached the new world only to facilitate even greater exploration of the North and South American continents by other nations of Europe.

2012 Dues Notice

Lucy Eyster will start collecting 2012 dues in November. It is \$10/year and \$5.00 for junior members.



Oct. Biography

Mike Bach

Mike's philatelic pedigree goes back to the 1860s in Germany with his great-grandfather, a passionate stamp collector. This collection came to Mike through his grandfather and father when the Bach family came to the United Kingdom in the 1930s.

With this familial enthusiasm for stamp collecting, Mike started with a youth album around age seven, and this grew to a six album set which he still maintains. Now he is filling in the scarcer issues in his early Old German States collection and building his U.K holdings through the new issue service of Royal Mail.

Add to this Mike's collection of Penny Reds, pre-1940 British Commonwealth, and early British air mail. The latter includes hybrid issues of the British European Airways Air Mail Service (and a few other airlines) who had their own stamps. With the sanction of the PO, they provided air delivery of a franked 1st class letter. Of similar interest is that the Great Western Railroad had special 3d stamps printed for their own air mail service. Unfortunately for philately, the PO did not sanction this, so the rail to air service never got off the ground.

In the U.K. Mike was the equivalent of a CPA, and after employment there and in France, he came to the U.S. in 1984 with work. Desiring to travel a little less and be with his family more, he transferred to Kohl Building Products in Reading where he is now the chief financial officer.

Mike and his wife, Lee, live in Reading and have two sons, one in college and one in HS.

September Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard & Lou DiFelice

Opening: John Bray opened the meeting at 7:10.

Minutes: The July Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved as written by voice vote.

Some Sunday Stamp Show: Jim Boyles announced that the October Stamp Show is cancelled. The 4 December stamp show will be held.

Club Newsletter: John presented the APS letter and Vermeil Award certificate for the newsletter.

Drawing: Mike Bach won a foreign souvenir sheet.

October Program: Paul Petersen discussed the mechanism for the Show n'

Tell program next month. (See Pg.1 of this newsletter.)

Club Bus Trip: Roy Baardsen updated the membership regarding the upcoming trip. Some seats remain available for \$45.00. (See details on Pg. 3.)

Membership: There were 35 in attendance.

Vice Presidency: Paul announced that Bob Epler was not able to attend tonight, but he plans, health willing, to serve as VP.

Dinner Committee: Lucy Eyster announced that her committee will include Eleanor Wheeler, Paul Petersen & Pres. John Bray.

Nat'l Topical Stamp Show:

Lucy announced that the committee has been meeting for the club's part in the June '12 American Topical Assn. Show at the Host. She has promotional handouts for club members to distribute at local shows throughout the year.

Help! Woody Hann queried membership for expertise in the *Italian States*. Please call him (664.6568) or RD Noble (626.0709) if you can assist.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$3,376.60 (1 July)
Income: \$0.28
Expenses: \$45.46
Closing: \$3,331.42 (31 Aug)
3-CDs roughly \$6461.85 due in 2012-13.

A Whale of a Stamp: A Cinderella Story

While perusing the Cinderellas related to philatelic expos at Balpex last month, I came across an attractive red and black engraved item. Since it was imperf and on a larger piece of thick stock, it is probably an essay or proof.



The engraving was crisp, and it contained much information. It shows a black and white illustration of the whaler *Charles W. Morgan* along with a lighthouse and windmill. I believe that this is the ship on display at

Mystic Seaport in CT.

Written below the ship illustration are the letters W.M.A.F., and beneath this "Round Hills Radio, South Dartmouth, Mass."

So what is this item? My first thought was that it was a promotional label for a radio station, but there is much more to it than this.

To the rescue came Arthur Groten's Paraphilately Page in the July-August edition of *The American Stamp Dealer & Collector* (Pgs. 52-55).

In a delightfully written and illustrated article, Groten describes the radio stamp phenomenon of the 1920s.

With the reception of commercial radio into American

homes in the 1920s came the QSL card. When a listener heard a station's transmission, she contacted them with some of the details of what was heard and when. If deemed legitimate by the radio station, the listener was sent a QSL card with the name and call letters of the station. It became a collecting craze, and so during the golden age of philately, some enterprising individuals came up with the idea for radio stamps.

This grew to the point of printed albums. Several companies jumped on the band wagon, but the Ekko Co. was one of the most successful. They used the Am. Bank Note Co. to print their stamps. There is even a recent catalog with over 2,500 color illustrations covering many companies. Ed□



Attracting New Collectors: Plan B (Part-3)

Al Schaub

[Editor's note: This is part-3 of Al's article from the 6 December 1999 of Linn's Stamp News]

Philately offers a vast array of sub-interests, the most common of which include country specialization, topical collecting, and technical specialties such as papers and printing technology. There are elements to appeal to a vast array of people with many differing interests.

A well-accepted psychological principle relates to the great importance of a lifetime of learning and keeping the brain active. Stamps and philately meet these needs and do so in an enjoyable manner.

If a person's later years involve down-sized living accommodations (such as a retirement village), stamp collecting can still be pursued because a lot of storage and working space is not required.

What remains is conveying this information to mature

individuals who will enjoy the stamp hobby.

The first step is the preparation of a brochure that communicates the motivational points previously described. The informational brochure could be a project for the APS, USPS, or ASDA.

In addition, a speaker's bureau should be established to help practiced collectors make speaking engagements with service organizations and clubs primarily attended by mature people.

The informational brochure could be distributed at these speaking engagements.

A set of guidelines for speakers should be prepared. For example, even though an enthusiastic description of one's personal stamp interests is important, equally important is a meaningful review of the many appealing facets of stamp collecting.

Whenever allowable, the brochure should be made available in public places. One

appropriate place would be the post office information racks. Collectors could also distribute the brochure to co-workers and fellow members of non-philatelic organizations.

Ads and articles could be placed in magazines whose readership is primarily composed of mature people. One such publication is *Modern Maturity* magazine published by AARP, the Am. Assn. of Retired Persons.

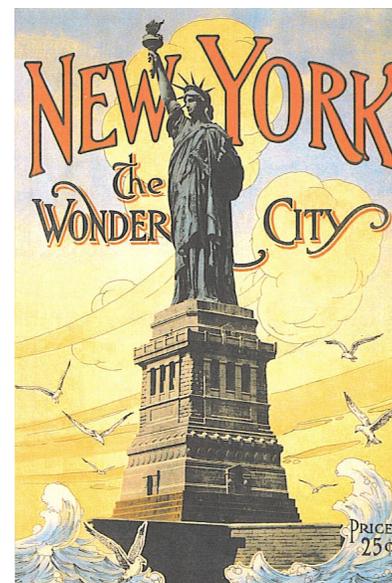
At stamp shows, youth tables could be supplemented with mature adult beginners tables.

Although Plan B strongly advocates a large-scale national action plan spearheaded by the APS, USPS, and ASDA, it should be recognized that the ideas contained in Plan B can be accomplished readily at a local level by stamp clubs and by individuals.

If you are in agreement with these ideas, let's give Plan B a try.

NYC Bus Trek ASDA Nat'l Show

Hotel New Yorker- 34th St & 8th



Date: Thursday, 13 October 2011

Departure Times:

Lancaster-7:00 AM at AC Moore. Park in the east lot by Oregon Pike beside the store. Look for the bus.

Reading-7:30 AM at Lowes, Shillington/Sinking Spring.

Return Time: Leave NYC at 6:00 PM

Entertainment: Trekmeisters Mike Matus and Roy Baardsen have planned a thorough excursion with snacks and door prizes to make this a NYC trip worth remembering.

Seating: To spread out the walk to the back of the bus, Roy asks that the Lancaster members sit on the driver's or left side of the bus and the Reading members to the right side. (This seating arrangement in no way involves politics.) Also, please leave the rear seats of the bus free to hold the goodies and prizes.

Questions: Roy Baardsen at (610.927.3435) or Mike Matus at (610.927.3838)

Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs, Hosts & Shows

2011-12 Programs and Hosts

12 October: Show 'n Tell: Your Best Stuff. **Host:** Lucy Eyster

9 November: The First Aerial Post in England (9/1911), Mike Bach. **Host:** J. R. Ahlfeld

14 December: Dinner. Held in Bluebird Commons at Woodcrest Villa.

11 January 2012: Club Auction. **Host:** TBA

8 February 2012: Swiss Philately, a DVD by the Helvetia Society. **Host:** TBA

Upcoming Show Reminders: *Some Sunday Stamp Shows*, Farm & Home Center: • 4 December (Please verify ahead with Jim-394-5118.)

Reading Stamp Club Show: Saturday, 5 November from 10-4. Leesport Farmers Market on Rt. 61, just north of town. Snacks will be available.



Mike (left) and Roy (right) preparing to lead us to the ASDA Stamp Show in New York City.



Musings for October-2011

Auction lots, interesting finds, and friendship

Last month's auction was about the longest that I can remember attending since joining PSLC in 2002. As a runner for the event, I kept looking at this large box of stuff with a minimum bid of \$5.00. While this lot was near my limit, RD Noble and I bid actively until I won it for \$12.00. The same consigner had a box of over 225 related covers and letters from the 1920s-40s. Paying \$17.00 for both, my weekend was planned.

Lou DiF. and I get together routinely to go over something philatelic, so we thought rooting through this material would kick off our weekend. During the evening he proved to be a wealth of information.



There was a lot to see. I peeked into a glassine and found the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps of the 1913 Parcel Post set. These were in typical condition for this issue. It was a good start.

This large box had a variety of items. There were about 35-40 mostly recycled glassines with 100s of used and mint stamps from the 1880s-1950s. They contained some mint sets and other accumulations of stamps that the owner probably intended to go over some day. The foreign to U.S. ratio was about 9:1. Unfortunately some of the mint foreign sets were stuck together, and in

others the glassine flaps were affixed. These had to be soaked, and unfortunately this removed the glue from the mint sets.

There was a box of bundled first day postal cards and covers, all sleeved with wrappers, perhaps dealer's stock. Along with few a sheets of Viet Nam there were several UN blocks.

There were many ephemeral items including some advertising calendars-the late 19th and early 20th century form of infomercials. These were vest pocket sized memo pads with calendars and commercial or other information regarding a product or a process. One in this collection was from the Dairy Association. Between the pages about butter and eggs were calendar pages for notes. Lou looked through a black covered one, and told me that it was indeed a "black book." The calendar was for 1904-5, and it was filled with penciled-in names and addresses of women! They all seemed to be from the York area. Wouldn't it be fun to try to find out about some of these individuals?

There were several pages of correspondence from First Pennsylvania State Normal School, Millersville dated 1897. The institution was founded in 1855. The memos regarded a female student who was in the process of withdrawing from the school

to pursue a singing career. She apparently was in very good standing, and included were copies of letters of character/reference from several faculty members on her behalf.

Attached to one of the letter-heads was a list of the 33 faculty for the spring and summer terms for 1897. It included their degrees and classes taught. As Lou read the list, he realized that these were the same names of the buildings on the Millersville campus where he graduated in the 1970s.

An item of interest was an undated advertising book with testimonials for Prof. Geo. C. Raynor, penman, artist, and teacher, the Superintendent of Penmanship at Millersville State Normal School. Included was a citation from the faculty at the college dated 30 June 1893 thanking him for his service and wishing him the best for his future endeavors. Some examples are included, and this shows the emphasis on handwriting and pen and ink drawing for teachers and students.

Coincidentally in the array was a girl's autograph book of Grace Frysinger with an opening date of 12/25/1883. One can see examples of outstanding penmanship and drawings.

It is ironic that in our digital age, some schools are no longer

teaching cursive handwriting. Are kids learning to draw without assist of a computer?

The letters in the shoebox started around 1920, and most were from a mother in Wrightsville, PA to her son at Pennsylvania Military College in Chester. There were a few from him to her and other members of the family. Lou and I perused a quick sampling of the letters. At this first pass, we noticed nothing philatelically appealing. In fact, on many covers, the 2¢ reds were removed leaving a mark from where they were originally attached.

The PMC son was around during WWII. He received a 1944 pre-printed postal card from a governmental agency regarding the sugar allotment for his beehives. He needed more justification! These letters are a sampling of south central PA society in the post-war 1920s. There may be an article regarding this in the future.

As a young child Lou had a friend whose older brother played football at PMC, and one year they were given tickets for the "Little Army-Navy Game" where PMC played King's Point (NY) on the freshly sodded floor of the Atlantic City Coliseum. Lou then explained that PMC became Weidner College in the early 1970s. Ed□



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