

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, 9 January 2013

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

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** RD Noble

Stamp Trading to Begin Following the Evening's Program

Volume 76, No. 1

January, 2013

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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 Harriburg Ave, Lancaster. PA 17601 at 7:00 PM. Dues are \$10.00. For club info, call Lucy Eyster: 717.735-2586

President:

Robert D. Noble:
rdnoble@ptd.net

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hotrodparts33@aol.com

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jib672@yahoo.com

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Lucy Eyster:
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APS Rep, Newsletter Editor, & Programs:

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From the President's Desk

Welcome to a new year at PSLC. There will be many great activities this year, and I wish to begin my term thanking (beforehand) all the people who make the job of being president of such a fun club such fun.



Did you read the article about the changes to the APRL bylaws in the December issue of *The American Philatelist* magazine? If you did, maybe you saw the ad for the ColorRead Instrument

offered by Blue Ridge Research LLC (pg.1151). I have read the ad at least three times trying to figure out if this "gadget" is a good idea or not. I even did some research on the internet about color on stamps and found some scholarly articles. One was by Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris on the color of the 8¢ Martin van Buren. The second was much more current. It was published in 11/10, and it was entitled **Philatelic Shade Discrimination Based on Measured Color** prepared by the Institute for Analytic Philately, Inc. Wow!!! This is an idea that may be reach-

ing its time. Color in philately is an amazing topic and a lot of fun and a lot of frustration.

Next time-How about some free album pages that you can buy? **bob**

Find the answer with a **ColorRead™ Instrument**

The first affordable color comparison and measurement instrument for philatelists. The instrument identifies a shade with a very high resolution of four decimal points and virtually 100% repeatability. The instrument can identify very small differences which the eye cannot see.



Model: CR-B
2.75" x 4.6" x 1.0"
Fully portable in battery mode with more than 20 hours continuous use. Or powered from included wall adapter.



Model: CR-LSB
2.2" x 3.25" x 0.83"
Powered via USB cable to computer. Data can be printed or stored on computer.

The Color Wheel is a visual representation of color with red at one end of the spectrum and violet at the other. The color number of a shade is derived from its wavelength, starting with red as 0.000 at the 0 o'clock position. Moving counter-clockwise on the Wheel, all shades are represented in a fixed sequence. Following red, yellow is represented by 0.170, then green (0.340), blue (0.510), violet (0.700), and orange (0.870) in order back to the 0 o'clock position as 0.990.



January Club Auction

It is that time again, the January Auction. A time to sell, and a time to buy. Instructions for the event follow:

A number will be assigned to you when you arrive and register. Please place this number on all your lots. Attach an item/lot description including catalogue number, value and condition if appropriate, and

minimum bid accepted. This will speed things up a great deal. • Fiscal transactions will only take place after the last item has been sold. Further, the auction committee recommends the following: • Bring cash whenever possible to pay for the items you win and • Keep a running total of items you have won and sold based on the prices realized. • Finally, be sure

to firmly attach your sales information (lot description, cat. value, min. bid etc.) to the item. This will insure that you're correctly credited with the sale.

Bidding rules remain the same as in previous auctions. • The minimum bid is \$1.00. • The minimum increment when bidding is 50¢. • Each club member is limited to 10 lots.

Caveat Emptor

Below in *boldface italic* is an e-mail that I received from a long time friend and collector on 11 December. This is a story we hear more often than not, one of identify theft compounded with larceny. For the communication below, I deleted the name of the person because he was as much of a victim of the intended scam as my friend. This is the variation of the fraudulent communication to the grandparent from the supposed grandchild somewhere around the world whose wallet was stolen. "Please send me some money?"

What is frightening is that the deleted name is an area stamp dealer that we all know, a dealer of fine reputation. Somehow, a criminal got this dealer's name and the name (or more names) of a customer and set up a bogus e-mail account in the dealer's name.

Paul: I received an e-mail this morning from _____ purporting to be stranded in the U.K. having lost all his baggage and all of his cards. It asked if I could send him \$2,390 to get him home. Well, wanting to help _____ if he needed it, but suspecting a scam, I called _____, and sure enough, he was safe and sound in _____ (local area). I deleted the e-mail.

This all goes to show the lengths a creative criminal will go to commit a theft. Needless to say, verify all internet requests, and if you suspect a scam, report it immediately to the authorities.

Should you go overseas it might not be a bad idea to have a code word or phrase in case your cards are lost and **you** are stranded. Ed□

New Postal Rates for 27 January 2013

First Class Letters: 46¢

Second or more ounces: 20¢ each

Postcard rate: 33¢

Planning Our '13 Lancopex Displays Lou DiFelice and Paul Petersen

There has been discussion about the fate of this year's Lancopex exhibits coming up in April. Following feedback from club members last fall, the Show Committee decided to hold off competitive exhibits for 2013 and allow club members the opportunity to informally display parts of their collection(s).



So what does it mean to informally display parts of your collections(s)?

In Fact, we'll be using the word "Display" instead of the word "Exhibit" for Lancopex. These displays will not be judged, not even a ballot for People's Choice. This is to avoid any intimidation, and it is a significant change from the competitive exhibits of past years.

Since the 1990s, Lancopex goers have remarked that there are nearly the same exhibits each year. That said, holding a regional exhibit such as Lancopex takes much time, effort, and expense.



An alternative: Let club members informally display their collection using some of their favorite items. Since these will be noncompetitive, there will be few rules.

The idea is for the 2013 Lancopex goers to view our frames and see what our members (you) collect. So instead of viewing repeated material that may be highly priced and unrealistic to the average show-goer, they will see some interesting material that may activate their own collecting juices.

Another unintended consequence is that when our club members display their collections, they might themselves get the exhibiting bug and look further into competitive exhibiting.

So what can be included? That's easy, just about anything.

Album pages, plastic stock sheets, mounted covers, topical and country collections, Cinderellas, and related ephemera. Include a label identifying what is on display, and additional description labels are welcome if you tell a story with your stamps/items.

Recall that last spring we had a presentation on preparing "One Page Exhibits." These will be shown at our 13 November 2013 club meeting. Why not use Lancopex as the starting point for your upcoming November 1-Page Exhibit?

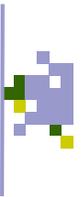


The requirements are few: Each page should be contained in a clear document holder with the collector's name on the back of each. There will be no fee to display your material, but there will be a short form to complete at the time of submission. These forms will be available in February. Displays may be turned in to Exhibit Chairman, Lou DiFelice, any time from our 10 April meeting through the Show's opening morning of Friday, 26 April.



For right now, it is time to decide what items you would like to display. We need to know how many pages/frames you intend to use. This should be an accurate estimate of your need so that we may know how many frames we'll have to take out of storage.

There will be a brief **Question & Answer** period at the meeting to address issues.



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows, and Treasury

2013 Programs and Hosts

9 January: Club Auction. RD Noble, Host

13 Feb: Number Ones of the World, a DVD from APS. Paul Petersen, Host

13 March: The Sharples Co.: Philatelic & Deltiologic Edification, Bill Schultz. Dick Shaefer, Host

10 April: Patriot Postal Card series of the 1970-80s. John Brownell. Al Schaub, Host

8 May: Club Auction. Host-Open

12 June: Open House Display, Lucy Eyster & Len Kasper. Host-Open

10 July: Gunboat Philately, Al Schaub. Host-Open

14 August: Club Picnic

11 September: Club Auction. John Brownell, Host

9 October: Topical Study: Stained Glass on Stamps. Dave Hunt. Dennis Shumaker, Host.

13 November: One Page-Exhibits. All PSLC members are invited to participate with one or more exhibit pages. Bill Snyder, Host

11 December: Dinner-6 PM

2014 Programs

8 January: Club Auction

12 February: APS Video: Canal Zone Gems

12 March: TBA

10 April: Lancopex prep..

2013 Local Shows

York Stamp Show F/S 25-26 January, York Fair Grounds

Lancopex: Farm & Home Center, 26-27 April 2013

Some Sunday Stamp Bourse: Farm & Home Center. 17 Feb, 30 June, 18 Aug, 27 Oct, 1 Dec. Kevin Kellman will manage these shows. His number is 301-371-4558.

Treasury

Opening: \$4549.47 (01 Nov)

Income: \$561.78

Expenses: \$24.49

Closing: \$5086.76 (30 Nov)

✂..... 2013 Dues Notice
Date: _____

Please clip this notice, complete it, and turn in with \$10 to Lucy Eyster at the January club meeting. You may also mail it to Lucy at 2001 Harrisburg Pk, B-503, Lancaster, PA 17601

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

APS Member ATA Member

Please check the APS/ATA box (s) above if you are a paid-up member in good standing in either or both organizations.

PSLC Dinner-A Big Success!

The December Dinner at Woodcrest Villa seems to get better each year. The Committee outdid itself-as always!

The fellowship started at the door with a greeting from Dennis Bouchard. He directed all guests to the registration table. There Sarah Mylin and her granddaughter collected the dinner money and provided nametags. Next to Sarah, Lucy Eyster, Membership Chairman, collected 2013 dues.

Once assembled, Lucy welcomed everybody, and Treasurer Lou DiFelice began the meal with a word of prayer. Attendance this year was about 60.



2013 PSLC Officers (L→R) Lou DiFelice-Treasurer; Joy Bouchard-Secretary; Bob Noble-President; Len Kasper-Treasurer all stand with the 75th Anniversary Cake

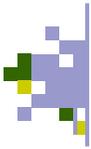
The dinner had three wonderful choices with both quality and quantity. The finale was a large sheet cake to celebrate the beginning of our 75th year. While the club had earlier beginnings and perhaps a merger or two, the 75th Anniversary is when "The Club" became a member of APS, 30 May 1938.

There were a few after-dinner activities. Lucy announced the 2013 officers who were recognized (See photo above).

Incoming president, RD Noble thanked the club members in advance for their continued cooperation that makes the club what it is. Lou DiFelice displayed a Certificate of Appreciation for outgoing president, Bob Epler. In addition, to the certificate, PSLC will make a monetary donation to APS in honor of Bob's service to the club.

The Dinner Committee consisted of Lucy Eyster, Sarah Mylin, Joy Bouchard, & Truys Greiner. They prepared laminated bookmarks with Christmas stamps coded for door prizes. This was followed by a great comedy skit and two gift exchanges.

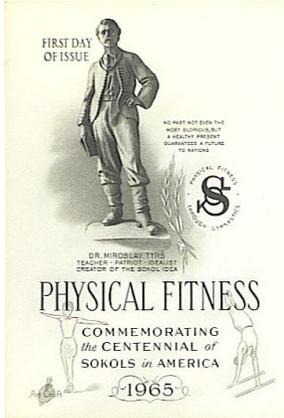




Musings: January-2013

Those pesky New Year's resolutions

On a recent Sunday *am* I was up quite early to fit in some gym time before church. On that cold and dark morn it was too early even for news or sports on the radio. This left only the Public Service spots. That morning show featured a psychologist, an expert in resolutions and habits-how fitting for the New Year.



What I gleaned was that it is harder to break old habits than to form new habits (resolutions). And new resolutions are more successful (the failure rate for resolutions is 88%) if based on small goals. So rather than deciding to run the Boston Marathon, one will be more successful by starting with a short walk after dinner each night.

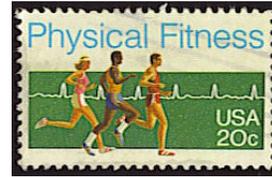
Following morning ablutions, I made it to the gym. Am I crazy? Why am I doing this? “To retard the decay” that little voice told me! I look around the gym at the fellow travelers. What do I see but those bizarre devices and the strange things that people are doing with them. This place looks like something out of Dante’s *Divine Comedy*. The *Inferno*?



In my boredom, a fantasy stuck me. What if I could take Mr. Alighieri (A.D 1265-1321) to the gym and see what he thinks of the place. Certainly he is never short of an opinion. He agreed to go along, and then I asked him what he thought.

“Those poor people in those torture devices, like the rack, or some of the others. Why do they do this? No one is making them do so. A few yell at each other to do more as they...

They sweat and are in pain; they make funny noises-they hiss, grunt, groan, and most are perspiring and out of breath. They bend, they twist, they push, and they pull. They keep on going from one device to another.



“Some run on those strange devices, running, running, and going nowhere. How do these work? They could use them in the prisons back in Florence where inmates could earn their keep.

“I saw one man wrap chains around his waist, and he then attached it to this heavy round metal disk. Then he held himself suspended from two poles sticking out of the wall! Another man did the same, only he held himself upside down!

“Perhaps the worst thing in this place was the noise, the sound. It was loud. It came from every direction, from everywhere, everywhere I

went. There was an irregular rhythm...the shouting, was it human? I could not tell. What words I could understand were certainly blasphemous. It hurt my ears, but some seemed to be enjoying it and referred to it as music. I have to think it is demonic; it has to be. It can be nothing else.

“So Mr. Editor, that is what I think of this place, a place you call a gymnasium. Is it the *Inferno*? Well, there were no hot rocks or broken glass, no sulfurous fumes, and no one was using a whip! No, I do not think it is *The Inferno*. But given everything else-it must be *Purgatorio*.”

Happy New Year Resolutions everybody. Ed✉



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