

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the American Philatelic Society Chapter 118 of the American Topical Assn.

Meeting Begins at 7:00, Wednesday, 9 March 2016

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. Richard Shaefer, Host
Doors Open at 6:30-Come Early to Buy, Sell, and/or Trade

Volume 79, No. 3

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Highlights

- Estate Matters
- Specie Circular Act
- Postcards & Coins
- Germany on Stamps
- Irish Overprints II

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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From the Stamp Den

“I Inherited A Stamp Collection-What Now?”

I don't think any of us really take the time to face the reality of the day our personal stamp album closes forever; that day is normally out of our control. It's the day one's wife, husband, son, daughter, nephew, niece, or grandchild say "I inherited a stamp collection, what now?" These may be people with little or no experience with stamp or postal history collections.

Like me, you've most likely spent thousands of hours enjoying your hobby, never thinking about the future. I know that that's the last thing on my mind, but at 68, it is time for me to plan for the future. I'm sure there are club members (like me) who haven't taken the time to consider things to come. So here are a few tips to spare your loved

ones from asking themselves the question "..., what now?"

Tip-1 Inventory: Create an inventory list by catalog numbers and indicate quantities, condition, date, and price paid, and current catalog value.

Tip-2 Decide Who Gets It: Plan your philatelic estate. What do you want to do with your collection, Sell it? Donate it? Or pass it in whole or in part to a family member? That becomes part of your legal Last Will and Testament (ref-1) and/or your "Instructions" (see Tip-3). Based on the value of the collection, you may need to discuss your options with a Tax Accountant and/or Tax Attorney.

Tip-3 Leave Instructions: Leave specific instructions including: An inventory; an appraisal; a list of trusted deal-

ers or auction houses including up-to-date contact information; and details on how to distribute your collection. Additionally, place notes or labels with your collection binders, books, and boxes to guide heirs on what to do. If your list of instructions is on your computer, leave passwords where they may be easily found so that the files can be accessed. If the heir is a trusted relative (wife, son, etc.), take time to review where the information is placed, even if they feel uncomfortable discussing it. This is too important not to do it.

Tip-4 Appraisal: Don't know what your material is worth, and you feel you want to take time to inventory your collection? You may want to seek a formal appraisal. (See "Estate" pg.2.)

The History & Culture of Germany on Stamps

Dave Hunt

Join Dave Hunt and PSLC for an enlightening PowerPoint journey through Germany's history and culture as portrayed on this country's stamps. The evening's event will feature select items from Dave's collection which best illustrate his narrative of this long and colorful period.



This 1980 German stamp commemorates the 40th Anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany.



The 200th anniversary of the birth of Chancellor Otto Von Bismarck on this 2015 German stamp.



→ **Estate:** Continued from Pg. 1
 A formal appraisal costs \$50-\$100/hour. However, an appraisal provides no guarantee your material will be sold for the valuation provided. When arranging an appraisal, make sure you agree on the cost of the appraisal in advance and the basis for valuation of the items (resale value or replacement value). Your appraiser will focus on the more valuable items to determine the appraisal, with little time spent on relatively common material. Most appraisals will not provide a complete inventory list when you receive your appraisal (ref-2).

Every year people walk into Lancopex and say, "Hi, I inherited a stamp collection...", "...how much do you think this is worth?" or "...who do you think I can sell it to?" or "...is there a dealer you can recommend?" It happened last year and will happen again next year. What have you done to prevent your loved one from saying "I inherited a stamp collection-What now?" Hal

Ref-1 <http://stamps.org/Estate-Planning>

Ref-2 <http://stamps.org/Inherited-a-Collection>

Coming Up Soon

This week...

9 March 2016: Dave Hunt on "The History and Culture of Germany on Stamps." 7:00 pm

This feature will be followed by franking and addressing of Lancopex advertising cards. Help is needed. Will you stay?

This month...

16 March: Stamp Packet Night. 7:00 pm at BlueBird Commons

Next Month...13 April

1.) At 4:15 pm dinner with the speaker, Bill Schultz at Olive Garden. There will be sign-ups for this no-host event. 2.) At 7:00 pm Bill presents "The 5¢ Enclose Rate."

February 2016 Minutes & Treasury

Diane Meek & Lou DiFelice, Acting Treasurer

Opening: President Hal Klein opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. He stated that the auction forms used last month were successful, and the committee is receptive to ideas for improvement. The position of 2nd VP remains vacant.

Minutes: The January Minutes & Treasurer's Report as published in the February Newsletter were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Drawing: Door prizes were won by Truude Greiner and Dave Silcox.

Membership: Lucy Eyster introduced returning member, Bob Allan from Lancaster who collects Japan, Indonesia, and Dutch East Indies. Member John Heitzman has moved to SC but has sent in dues and one year APS dues to the club for a new member, and this went to Dave Silcox. Attendance was 39. Paul Petersen announced that member Bob Paire has retired back to Tyler, TX and left items of his collection to PSLC for sale and auction to benefit the club.

Old Business

Picnic: Paul announced that Millersville Memorial Park has been reserved for our 10 August 2016 soiree.

Baseball: Following a short discussion, membership would like to attend an evening game as a club again this fall. Paul will arrange this.

Linn's Stamp Poll: Tonight is the last night to submit your

stamp choices to Lucy.

PSLC Website: RD Noble announced that he is revamping the web site, and right now it is promoting Lancopex.

Bus Trip to NY-2016: Trekmeister Roy K. Baardsen said that there are 13 seats left on the bus for the 2 June event which will leave from the Garden Café at 0700. He is collecting money at this time (\$60), and this payment will secure a seat.

Lancopex: Paul passed around the following sign-up sheets related to Lancopex: 1.) Patronage (\$5 per person/couple); 2.) Show volunteer schedule; 3.) Frame sign-up for stamp and cover displays.

With Gratitude: Paul said that Bill Snyder asked him to pass on Bill's grateful appreciation for the thoughts and prayers conveyed to him regarding his wife's recent passing. Lou added that he will be filling in temporarily for Bill as Treasurer.

Coffee: Paul thanked Len Kasper for acting on behalf of the club to purchase a Keurig, coffee, and condiments, and for making it available for our monthly meetings. Lou shared how this decision was made by club leadership in January. Len said that this machine will also be used to make coffee for sale at Lancopex in April.

New Business:

APS Sales: RD reported that non-members of APS may

now purchase items through the internet sales division.

ATA Recognition: Paul passed around the laudatory article and photo in ATA's *Topical Time* regarding the club's successful packet night in October.

Spring Packet Night: Several members expressed interest in participating in a spring packet night, and this will be on 16 March in Bluebird Commons. Reminders will be sent.

December Dinner: Committee member, Bettina Heffner, reported that people should be thinking about the "New and Improved" version of *Getting to Know You* again on 14 December. Folks may perform their talents as part of the festivities.

APS Officer Seconding: Paul made the APS packet available regarding club seconding. He added that the club seconded several candidates last fall according to APS by-laws, and that elections will take place this spring with APS members receiving mail-in ballots at their homes.

Retirement: Club member and dealer, Al Schaub announced that he will be retiring later this year after twenty years in the stamp business. To start moving his stock, he will be selling covers at 50% off and stamps-35% off.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,717.44 (1 Jan)
 Income: \$190.00
 Expenses: \$680.93
 Closing: \$4,226.51 (31 Jan)
 3-CDs valued at \$6,949.56



Pennsylvania Railroad in London Between the Wars

Ed's query: What was the Penna. RR doing in London between the wars? Any help from our PSLC railroad buffs?





Postal History Déjà vu

Hal Klein

It is the last year in office of a highly controversial President. The letter is to the attorney representing a local bank that has just survived the nation's greatest banking collapse and recession in U.S. history. Financial institutions gambled with depositor's money, and one could think they were reading a history of the 2008 Wall Street collapse. No, it was the bank panic of 1837. President Andrew Jackson issued an executive order, the "Specie Circular Act." It was designed to undermine the power of Nathaniel Biddle of Philadelphia and his Second Bank of Philadelphia. Instead, the executive order created a bank panic that affected the entire country.

Jackson's "Specie Circular Act" was carried out by Martin Van Buren. It required all government western lands and government services to be paid in full in gold or silver to end real estate specula-

tion and curtail state banks from issuing paper money without adequate cash reserves. The Postmaster General required all postal fees to be paid to Washington in "specie" or gold or silver (coin preferred), as bank drafts were unacceptable, and so on. In addition, Jackson refused to renew the charter of Biddle's bank resulting in the withdrawal of government funds from there. This action started the nationwide bank panic.

The problem was that by the end of 1836 more than 700 banks were printing their own paper money, including the Second Bank of Philadelphia. More than 100 banks opened for the first time just that year. American states and corporations and wealthy individuals were borrowing money from European banks. Further, the world's climate was changing in the 1830s. An unusually cold era marked by intense volcanic activity and the "Dalton Minimum" (low solar

activity-low sun spots) had arrived. As environmental conditions changed, crops failed both in 1835 and 1837. American import costs from Britain and China were at an all time high.

The bubble burst! Over 600 banks failed. Out of 850 banks in the U.S., 343 closed entirely while 62 failed partially. Due to bad weather and poor crops, the cotton market collapsed completely. Food riots shook the country. Miscalculations and desperate speculating caused a second economic panic in 1839. The recession lasted over six years, not ending until 1843.

This stampless cover refers to defaulted "Notes on the U.S. Bank of Philadelphia... dated 1 March 1841, and their attempted collection by the Lebanon Bank. Pearson makes notes of what he will use as case law citations and comments he will make before the court. The defense, "...the parties attempted to defraud each other; now they wish the fraud to fall on the innocent holders of negotiable papers."

I'm not sure what I love more about postal history, the history itself, or the feeling of déjà vu.



Other Collecting Interests

The events that follow may be of interest to PSLC members. There is a small charge for the PC show. Others are free.

Post Card Club Meeting- Auction 7:00 pm, Monday, 21 March, Farm & Home Center. Come early to view and buy.

Annual Red Rose Coin Show: Sat. 2 April, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, Farm & Home Center

Morlatton Post Card Club 41st Annual Show, Friday, 25 March 12:00 noon to 7:00 pm and Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Farm & Home Center

Club Notes

Programs/Hosts/Shows

2016 Programs

9 March: 1.) History and Culture of Germany on Stamps, David Hunt. 2.) Lancopex Prep. Dick Shaefer, Host

13 April: The 5-Cent Enclosed Rate. Bill Schultz. John & Deb Ehleiter, Hosts

11 May: Coins on Stamps & Stamps on Coins. John Brownell. Host-TBA

8 June: Spring Auction. Dennis Shumaker, Host

13 July: Civil War Covers. Dennis Shumaker. Jim Ziogas, Host

10 August: Late Summer Picnic, Millersville Memorial Park

14 September: Fall Auction. Fred Mackey and Fred Sargent, Hosts

12 October: Pawling Postal History: Past and Present. Charles Di Como. Lucy Eyster, Hostess

9 November: '16 Open House. Vern Marten, Host

14 December: Dinner

2017 Programs

11 January: Winter Auction. Doug Milliken, Host

8 February: U.S. International Stamp Shows, Part-I. Paul Petersen

8 March: 1.) Lancopex Preparation

12 April: U.S. Postal Rates: 1792-1869, Bill Schultz

10 May: Collectibles and Your Estate. Patti S. Spencer, Esq.

14 June: Spring Auction

2016 Shows

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: 26 June, 21 August, and 18 December. Farm & Home Center, Kevin Kellman (K²), Manager, 301-371-4558.

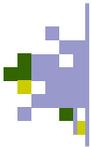
DELPEX: Saturday, 23 April, Nur Shrine Center, New Castle, DE

Lancopex: 29-30 April 2016, Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road.

World Stamp Show: NY-2016: Javits Center, 28 May-4 June.

Thank You PSLC

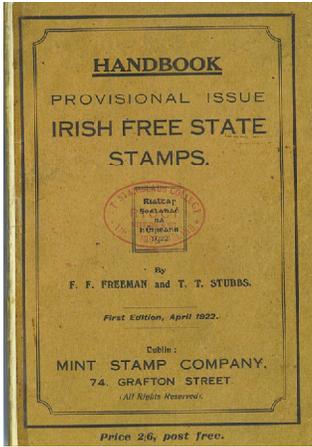
Diamond Estate Sales and the Kasper family wish to thank PSLC club members for their recent support of last month's stamp sale and for other periodic shopping trips. It is both heartwarming and encouraging to us. Len



Musings: March 2016

Irish History & her 1922-1923...1935 Overprints-II

The 1919-1921 Anglo-Irish War, also known as the Irish War of Independence, led to the immediate need for Irish stamps. Given a limited budget, the stocks of the existing King George V 1912 set from the UK was used. They would be overprinted, and this would set off a philatelic challenge for years to come. Numerous handbooks appeared right away.



My earliest overprint reference (†) is Freeman and Stubbs, published in April of 1923, 30 pages plus added plates. WG Meredith came out just as early, and by 1927, his publication was in its fourth edition of nearly 50 pages which included a detailed catalogue of prices.

Meredith (1927) lists prices for 90 basic overprinted stamps. Then there are the 170 control stamps. There is

one of these per overprinted sheet, and these are more expensive. Finally, there are 46 errors and varieties listed, and since 1927 there have been many more coming to light.

The KGV stamps were introduced last month, so for now we'll consider the overprinting of the 12 low values (½d through one 1s [12d, a shilling]).

As a side note, while there are 12 different denominations of the basic KGV stamps, the 2d and 9d were printed in two different colors making a set of 14 low values. And in overprinting, the 2½d, 4d, and 9d were overprinted in two colors, more in black, the rest in red. Red showed up better on certain of the stamp colors.



What kinds of numbers of overprinted stamps did Freeman & Stubbs report through April of 1923? While this is an early

report, this number represents all the overprinted low and high value stamps issued between 2/22 and 3/23; this includes three different printers for eight low value overprint issuances.

Sheets of the low values contained 240 stamps (two panes of 120 each with horizontal gutter margins). The high value stamp sheets contained 40 stamps each.

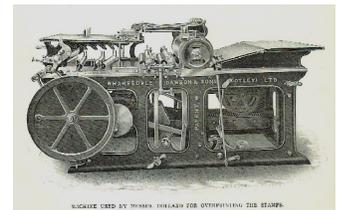
The number of overprinted low value sheets ranged from a high of 60K for the 2d to a low of 6C for the 10d. The ½d was 24K while the 1d was 46K. The rest were all in the low four-figures. These include both black and red overprints. The number of sheets for the three high value stamps were quite low: 2/6-650 sheets; 5s-500; and 10s-500 sheets.

There are two considerations with regard to the numbers of these high value stamps. First, there were only 40 stamps per sheet compared to 240 on the low values. And second, there were four more issues above the 1922-3 issues: (1) 1925, (2-3) two in 1927, and (4) 1935.

What about the printers? First, recall that there were two basic overprints on the low values as depicted last month; The 5-line *Provisional Government of*

Ireland and the 3-line *Irish Free State*, both printed in the Irish language.

There were three Dublin printers involved in the 1922 overprinting of the low value British stamps (½d to 1s [12d]) for use in the "new" Ireland. Harrison overprinted coil stamps in four denominations. Dollard Printing House overprinted eight values (including the two 2d and 9d colors), while Alex Thom overprinted the four remaining values. Dollard had experience with stamp production with Chile and other South American countries. An image of Dollard's overprinting machine is pictured below↓.



The next release for both printers was Spring, 1923. This was at the time of the onset of the Irish Civil War. Shooting started in late June at the Four Courts in Dublin when the Nationalists attacked the rebels who occupied the buildings. Following the destruction of the four courts, Dollard lost its contract due to damage. Ed



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