



(See Pg.-4)

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the American Philatelic Society
American Topical Assn., Chapter 118
Member, NY Federation of Stamp Clubs

Picnic Begins at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 9 August 2017

Burgers, Dogs, and Drinks are Supplied. You've got the Rest

From the West End

I guess that I have been put in charge of the weather again for the picnic, though I have always considered my skills with the weather as a gambler's delight. We'll just have to wait and see. If I fail, however, the venue will not let us down. The pavilion shields us from rain, and there is always a breeze passing through from the west.

When I can, I help out Paul by proofreading the newsletter, and this offers me the advantage of seeing some of the editions a little ahead of time.

After reviewing this August issue in advance, I have to say that we have a very active club, but I knew this

already. So many of you are doing such great things in both philatelic and non-philatelic pursuits. Very impressive; well, more impressive than the growth of my Tahiti collection! But there is a reason, as I have been distracted by Tuvalu. I know that this is hard to believe, but it's true. Yup, that's Tuvalu with a capital "T." I hope to share more of this later. Perhaps it is the palm trees, warm breezes, and beaches like we see in those Corona™ advertisements.

At the right is an image I took picturing Lucy Eyster meeting with our newest member, Peter

Wex at the Welcome Table before the start of last month's meeting. See you all at the picnic. **Doug**



One-Page Exhibit Alert: The PSLC Open House on 8 November is quickly approaching, and with this comes One-Page Exhibits. These are open to all members and are not really limited to just one page. Be thinking of what you would like to display on the wall at the event. There will also be the opportunity to discuss your material with the club. There are no rules. Simply place your items in Vario pages and/or document holders, and we'll do the rest when you get there. This annual Open House and Exhibits event has become very popular. Any questions? Need some help? Contact Paul P-

Annual Club Picnic

When: Wednesday, 9 August, 6:00 pm

Where: Millersville Memorial Park (See map and directions →)

Remember: Please bring your appetizers, side dishes, or desserts
Burgers, hotdogs, drinks, and condiments will be provided

Bill Greiner, III, Supervising

John Hostetter-Table Management

Mike Shirley 'n **Paul Petersen**, cooks chefs!

Post-picnic cleanup is always appreciated.



Directions to the Park: *Driving west into Millersville from Lancaster on 999, the Park is on the north side of 999 (Manor Ave.) just west of the intersection of George Street with 999. (See map below) Also, across the street from the park is the Barn Door Restaurant, and to the east is John Herr's Market. We'll be meeting in Pavilion-A, the big one just down the hill and on the left. Park right behind the pavilion in the large adjacent lot. President Doug Milliken was so successful ordering perfect picnic weather last year that he has agreed to an encore again at this year's soiree. For those technically savvy, conduct a MapQuest or other map search for 9 Blue Rock Road, Millersville, and the park is right behind this location.*

Volume 80, No. 8

August, 2017

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 a year. For club information call Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640

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Save the Dates:

13 August-Some Sunday Stamp Show
1-3 Sept.-Balpex, Hunt Valley, MD
8 Sept.-Dinner & Baseball Game
13 Sept.-Fall Club Auction
21 Sept.-Bus to Nat'l Postal Museum

Spencer Speedway Legends 1957-77

A book by Len Kasper
Published by Rose Dog Publishers, Pittsburgh, PA

Growing up in Rochester, NY, PSLC member and past-president Len Kasper attended his first stock car race at the age of six, and he never looked back. Spencer Speedway was part of Len's life and his introduction into stock car racing. Attending the races continues to be a family activity, and his thirteen-year-old grandson, Lenny, has expressed his interest in being a future stock car racing competitor.



Speedway is based on Len's notes and journals of the time, and it includes vignettes into the drivers, owners, promoters, officials, and race crews. There is a multitude of behind-the-scene information with personal stories and rare photos, resulting in a very nostalgic trip in time.

At the back of the book in the author's bio, it notes that one of Len's great interests is stamp collecting and that he was past president of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County.

Ave et Vale: It is with sadness that PSLC learned of the death of club member **Greg Macaluso** on 18 July. He retired from the Department of Mass Transport in NYC and moved to PA, eventually moving to Woodcrest Villa in 2005 where Lucy Eyster introduced him to the stamp club. He had been active until the last few months.

A lifelong collector, he had worldwide stamps to 1971, British Colonies, and U.S. Civil War covers from his aunt's grandfather. As he was both wounded and a POW, these are very interesting artifacts.

Confounding 1848 Cleveland, OH SFL to Württemberg

Bill Schultz

Sometimes a Postal Historian gets a little baffled by a cover for various reasons. This cover seen below was mailed from "northern Ohio" in May 1848 to Württemberg which existed as the *Kingdom Of* from 1805 to 1918. The contents are penned in German, which did not help in my understanding of the movements (routes) of this historical piece of correspondence.

After careful study and consternation, I communicated with a number of knowledgeable postal historians (5) which I list at the conclusion of this article. I am glad I did approach these sharing philatelists, as my thoughts on this cover were slightly askew.

I purchased the item for the red "V" rate superimposed by the correct "X" red rate in the double line hand stamp circle. The cover was going right into my "Enclosed "5" Cent Rate" competitive exhibit, but I needed to understand the routes to explain the markings or the lack thereof.

Failing to explain in my mind the postal markings, I initiated contacts with the five for their input. All five quickly responded; now I think I can describe this cover adequately for the exhibit. "Combining the responses" from all five -- here is the "best" description so far. Keep in mind there are no markings on the reverse side of this stampless folded letter to aid the process. Further, the contents are in German which I have not had translated to date.

This 17 May 1848 cover from Cleveland (red-orange 30mm

CDS listed from 1846 to 1848 in American Stampless cover Catalog Vol. I) to Gebersheim, Württemberg, was paid to New York with the double line circle orange-red 17.5mm X hand stamp indicating that 10 cents was paid correcting the 5-cent rate hand stamp. This was all that the sender could pay in advance. Also, there is the red double circle CDS measuring 21mm reading OUTRE MER (translates to "overseas) on top and LE HAVRE at the bottom. For letters pre-paying the U.S. inland fee to the port city, the port postmaster was required to put the letter on a convenient ship going overseas. The New York postmaster utilized the New York and Havre Line of sailing ship packets (also be aware the that the Ocean Line went from New York to Bremen starting in 1847, with a call at Southampton. It was next scheduled for 20 June which was too late for this letter) who were on a published schedule to Le Havre, France.

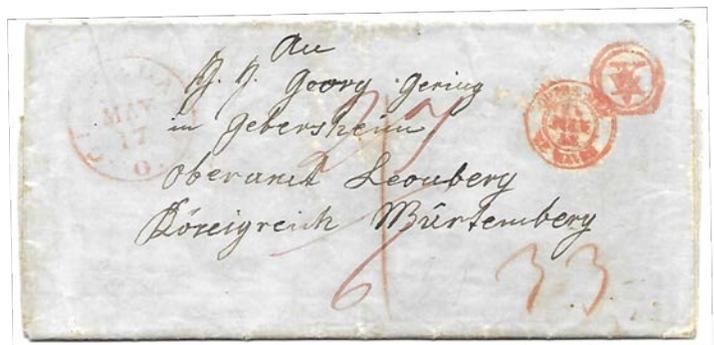
The next vessel to depart for Le Havre after the letter reached New York was the sailing ship *New York*, Captain Lines, which was scheduled to depart on 24 May 1848. This vessel arrived at Le Havre on 24 June 1848. The French had a convention with the

Thurn & Taxis post office that determined the rates to Wurttemberg from sailing ships arriving at Le Havre. The postage was due at Leonberg, the principal office in the region where the small village of Gebersheim was located. It was marked in red crayon as 33 kreuzer. The fraction on the letter in red ink, "27/6," shows the breakdown of the treaty rate as 27 kreuzer due to France for the ship fee and transit to the German border and 6 kreuzer for the German internal rate to Wurttemberg. This was 1½ times the basic rate of "18/4" for a half loth* weight letter. The letter must have weighed between ½ loth and ¾ loth, where one loth weight was about ½ ounce.

*Notes: A loth is a weight unit -- the (Zoll)Pfund, equal to 500 grammes, divided into 30 (Zoll)loth, each of 16g. These units had been instituted as a result of the Zollverein, or Customs Union, which had developed in the 1830's.

•The population of Cleveland in 1848 is estimated to be a shade under 17,000. The pop. of Gebersheim was most likely less than 1,000.

•The five notable postal historians that contributed immensely to my understanding of this cover: Messrs. Labron Harris; Mark Schwartz; John Barwis; Richard Winter; and Dwayne Littauer. I sincerely thank each of them for adding value to the



A. Wyeth First Day Ceremony

On Wednesday, 12 July several PSLC members attended the first day ceremony for the release of a sheet of Andrew Wyeth paintings. Among the dignitaries was Wyeth's son Jamie, a painter in his own right (3rd from left).

The event was held at the Brandywine River Museum in Kennett Square, PA and was attended by **Chuck and Donna Kilgore, Fred and Judy Sargent, Dave Hunt, Mike Bach, and Roy Baardsen**. Also in attendance was **Deb Miller**, a friend of PSLC who, before her retirement, ran the Rohrerstown PO, home of the PSLC mailbox. The museum and surroundings were open for the day and free for all participants. (The digital image was submitted by Chuck Kilgore.)



July Minutes and Treasury

Diane Meek and Lou DiFelice

Opening: President **Doug Milliken** opened the meeting at 7:05 pm.

Membership: **Lucy Eyster** welcomed new member **Pete Wex** from Lancaster. He collects U.S. and Netherlands among others. **Dale Shaub** is visiting us tonight. Attendance was 43.

Annual Picnic: **Paul Petersen** passed around two sign-up sheets, one for attendance and the other for dishes. Picnic will be on 9 August (regular meeting date) at 6:00 pm at Millersville Memorial Park. Details appear on pg.-1 of this newsletter.

Monthly Drawing: **Lucy** conducted the drawings. **George Younes**

and **Dick Shaefer** won Light-house philatelic magnifying glasses.

21 September NPM Bus Trip: **Mike Bach** said that unless ten (10) more sign up, the trip will be cancelled. Your check for \$65 reserves your seat. Members and their guests are invited. Contact **Roy K. Baardsen** with queries at 610-927-3435.

Barnstormers Baseball Game: Friday, 8 September. Paul circulated a sign-up sheet. We seem to have a sufficient number to offer this. Price for group seating is \$9/person. Further info

will be forthcoming.

50-50 Drawing: **Aaron Heckler** held this drawing that totaled \$63 with half going to the winner, **Eleanor Wheeler**.

Program: Tonight's speaker was **Dick Colberg** on the topic of *Appraisals, Donations, and your Collection*.

Treasury: 1-30 June 2017*

Opening:	\$3,448.84
Income:	\$241.50
Expenses:	\$250.07
Closing:	\$3,440.07
3-DCs:	\$7,023.30

* Reported by P. Petersen

Club Notes

Programs, Hosts & Shows

2017 Programs

- 9 August:** Picnic 6 pm. Mills'vil
- 12 September:** Fall Auction. Lou DiFelice, Host
- 11 October:** Madison, FL:1861 3-cent Postmaster's Provisional, Trish Kaufmann. Dennis Shumaker, Host
- 8 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits. Len Kasper & Paul Petersen. Fred Mackey and Fred Sargent, Hosts
- 13 December:** December Dinner

2018 Programs

- 10 January:** Winter Auction. Dr. DiComo, Host
- 14 February:** The Overrun Countries Series Under a Printer's Loupe. Hal Klein
- 14 March:** A Philatelic Journey, Scott English
- 11 April:** How We Now Judge Exhibits with Points in North America. Bill Schultz
- 9 May:** TBA
- 13 June:** Spring Auction
- 11 July:** Stampless Mail from U.S. to Europe. Dr. Chas DiComo
- 8 August:** Summer Picnic
- 13 September:** Fall Auction
- 10 October:** TBA
- 14 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits
- 12 December:** December Dinner

2017 Shows/Events

- Some Sundays Stamp Bourse:** Sunday, 13 August, and 17 December. Farm & Home Center.
- Balpex:** 1-3 September, Hunt Valley, MD
- Nat'l Postal Museum Club Trip,** 21 September
- ASDA Show:** 5-8 October, New York City
- Reading Stamp Show:** Saturday, 4 November, Route 61 just north of Leesport, PA at the Leesport Farm Market.
- Dinner Alert:** There will be sign-ups at both the picnic and the 13 September meeting for dinner with the 11 October speaker, Trish Kauffman at 4:15 at Olive Garden. Feel free to contact Trish in advance to discuss any items you would like to see.

PSLC Members at Their Best

•In the June ('17) issue of *L'ECHO*, **Dick Colberg** published an article on "The RPO (Railway Post Office) Cancels of Canada."



This is Dick's third article for *L'ECHO* this year. The first two were about plate numbers on Victorian Great Britain stamps and the Security Overprints on Great Britain stamps. A fourth article, on U.S. Revenue Stamps, will appear in the September issue.



•At the 2017 APS Summer Session, PSLC member **David Hunt** presented an elective on "The Queen Victoria Line-engraved Stamps of Great Britain."

The content of his presentation was similar to a presentation he previously gave at PSLC. It covered the many ways to collect the Penny Black, the Penny Reds, both imperf and perforated, the half-penny bantam, and the three halfpence in all their permutations.

Dave discussed how to identify which plate was used to print a stamp, especially by use of constant plate marks. Also discussed were the various cancellations used including the Maltese Cross and numeral cancels.



Varieties such as color shades, ivory heads, missing perf pins, and underprints were included in the presentation. And for those newsletter readers with eagle-eyes and inquiring minds, what can you determine about the corner letters, D and H on both the 1d and 2d examples (above↑) from Plate 1a?

•1st VP **Dr. Charles DiComo** just published an article on the website of the **Empire State Postal History Society** entitled "Banking in Pawling, New York: In the

Village and Surrounding Townships, 1849-1929" (47 pgs).



To tell the story, Charles uses many items from his personal collection to illustrate the expansion of stamp and postal history collecting to include picture postcards, postal cards, bank tags, currency, bank checks, revenues, and other ephemera. Researching this topic for years, he finds it very fulfilling to be able to share with other collectors.

•After many years of gold award winning philatelic exhibiting, **Mark Schwartz** has just achieved accreditation as a judge of the American Philatelic Association. This is after even more years of studying, travelling, researching, and apprenticing. Congratulations Judge Mark.

•It was announced in the August *American Philatelist* (pg.-791) that **Bill Schultz** published his new book: "The Post Offices of Chester County PA." There were 260 POs in 335 years. These PO histories are illustrated with covers from Bill's exhibits.

•This fall, **Al Schaub** will be teaching the course, "Who are these people and what in the world did they do?" at the **Pathways Institute for Lifelong Learning**. These snapshots of American history will be illustrated by the historical individuals on U.S. stamps.

Musings: A quite sexy philatelic cover: But is it all legal?

I have shared with you my interest in philatelic covers, especially when they are sexy and under my \$5.00 limit! This "Official" 1936 registered New Zealand cover (below) from Wellington to New York City is such an example.

The cover is heavy gage paper with the traditional hand-ruled blue-penciled lines that bisect the cover vertically and horizontally on both front and back. Eye catching is the 5-stamp set franking which is applied very carefully and cancelled with the event's cancel device on the First Day of Issue, 1 October 1936. There is a registry label from Wellington Town Hall and a return address of GPO, Wellington, etc.

Once in the U.S. the cover was back-stamped at the Registry Division in NYC on 3 November and then received the purple double circle NY, NY Station O registry cancel on 4 Nov. 1936 when pre-

sumably it was delivered.

This five-stamp set contains images of commerce, agriculture, and transportation, and the five denominations include ½p, 1p, 2½p, 4p, & 6p (Scott's 218-22).

This set commemorated the Congress of the **Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire** that opened in Wellington on 1 October 1936. The purpose of this session was to review data and policies on matters of political economy. It was a business lobbying congress to shape aspects of pan-economic governance. It was held every three years since 1855. This was the first time that NZ was the venue for the event. The stamps were printed in Australia by Note and Stamp Printers of Melbourne.

The cover may be over franked, as the air mail values of the New Zealand 1935 issues are 1p, 2p,

and 6p, and the value of the five stamp congress set adds up to 14p. I do not know the registry fee for an official cover to the U.S.

Inside the cover was a surprise that almost went unnoticed. Because of the heavy gage paper, a thin newspaper clipping was virtually hidden inside. Quite by accident I held the cover to the light, and the shadow of the 2"x2" undated clipping became visible! It appears to be from a U.S. newspaper citing a 7 November cable from Wellington, N.Z.

The clipping reads as follows: **Commerce Issue Sold in Two Days:** "New Zealand's new 5 value Chamber of Commerce series are all gone. Unusual collector demand exhausted the entire supply at the completion of the second day's sale.

First lots arrived in New York last Wednesday (Ed's note: 4 November) and were immediately priced at 50c per set." One could make an educated guess that this article was from the stamp page of a metropolitan newspaper.

According to the 2007 *Scott's Classic*, the value of this set, cancelled, is \$6.70 and \$6.60, never hinged. So much for being in short supply! One would assume that there might be some additional value with this set as a first day of

issue cover.



But what attracted me to this cover was the 7 July 1940 NY World's Fair RPO cancel over a 1c stamp of music composer Stephen Foster (issued 3 May 1940) of the Great Americans set. The basic question is why tie an add-on stamp almost four years later? What did Steven Foster have to do with the New York World's Fair on that day in 1940? Were his works performed at the Fair, as there was a great amount of entertainment? The more advanced question is why was a 1c stamp allowed to be cancelled when the first class letter rate was 3c? There is a lot to speculate about this cancel, as perhaps it was a favor cancel, or was there a very busy line at the RPO? Perhaps a part-time novice postal clerk who did not know all the regulations did the cancelling. After all, most mail at the Fair was post cards and letters. In any case, it is fun to speculate. Why a philatelic cover on "Official" stationary? Why 33 days in transit? Why registered? And so many more. Any help? Ed ☐



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