



The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club
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Issue: September 2015

Most meetings held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Meeting site is Berkshire Commons, 5485 Perkiomen Avenue (Route 422)
Turn north on Lincoln opposite the Dairy Queen.
Proceed 300 feet, turn left on Washington and look right of center at the stop sign.

Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

"Bring Your Favorite Cover"

...presented by...you!



**Yes, you! You will be the star! You can bring a favorite cover or two
and share it with your fellow members.
No doubt, this will bring in some interesting material!**

Cover Mania!!!

The September meeting should be exciting...your editor is BIG on covers and cannot wait to see what members will bring. Remember, the cover does not have to be expensive, just your favorite. See our article on page two for some ideas!

August Meeting Report

**The 50/50 Drawing was won by Dave Silcox. It was in the amount of \$21.00!
Good show, Dave—aim for a repeat in September.**

Allen Schwartz's name was chosen for the attendance drawing but was not present. The award will now be \$20.00.

How Many Ways to Collect Covers? I Cannot Count the Ways!

That's right—the number of ways you can collect covers is infinite.

Let's just consider a few of them.

First, covers can be collected by the stamp or stamps on them.

For example, a collector may look for covers bearing a particular stamp—just one stamp with one Scott catalog number.

Traditionally a collector, especially someone who is completing an exhibit on that one, single, stamp would look for examples of the stamp used on cover to every nation of the world. Also, any to very remote areas of the world as that would likely be scarce and have a premium value.

That same collector might also search for covers paying special rates, such as first class with special delivery and insurance.

There also are covers to foreign destinations with "mixed franking" (that is, stamps from more than one country or region) that paid for passage of mail across international boundaries and are very collectible in their own right and more so if one of the stamps on the envelope is the one you zero in on. This often happened in the years before the universal postal union when postal agreements were often made individually between nations.

Of course, a collection might also include covers with that special stamp being an error, freak or oddity. EFOs as they are called are usually scarcer on cover than as used stamps soaked off the envelope, and often have a significant premium. Your editor especially likes EFOs on covers as they document the latest possible occasion when the error could have been released to the public.

Covers can be collected in many other ways. Stampless U. S. covers, mostly before 1848, give insight into early postal policies and procedures.

Collectors sometimes specialize in a single state or even county. In Berks County there

have been about 300 locations with their own post markings. No doubt many are tough to find, some unique and probably some unknown. But a great challenge for collectors.

Some collectors specialize in only a single post office, such as Reading, Lancaster, Philadelphia or Baltimore. I have known of or met collectors for all four cities. Chicago and New York are very heavily collected.

First Day Covers (FDC) are a topic probably known to almost every collector, but are you aware of "unofficial FDCs" postmarked on the first day at a post office other than the official FDC post office? Or early accidental (or deliberate) releases of stamps with pre-FDC post marks—or the backdating of covers?

And we haven't even touched cachets, advertising art, or mail to and from celebrities. Or postal stationary, fancy cancels, or mail recovered from transport accidents such as crash sites. The opportunities are endless for all of us.



**I think this one might be a tad rare.
It's being offered on e-bay for a mere
15,000 pounds**

MIKE'S PAGE

RSCC MEETING SCHEDULE:

OCTOBER

Fall Auction on Tuesday Oct 6th

NOVEMBER

Kent Weaver presents Puerto Rica and US locals on Tuesday Nov. 3rd.

DECEMBER

Christmas Social on Tuesday Dec. 1st

PROGRAMS NEEDED FOR 2016.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT TO YOUR FELLOW COLLECTORS
..... LET ME KNOW

OTHER AREA MEETINGS:

Wednesday, September 9th

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LANCASTER COUNTY

**Our own Dave Hunt will be presenting
Great Britain's line engraved stamps**

STAMP SHOWS:

September 4th - 6th

BALPEX, Baltimore Phil Soc. Baltimore
Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Rd,
Hunt Valley MD.

DO NOT FORGET !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SATURDAY NOVEMEBR 1ST

OUR OWN STAMP SHOW

LEESPORT FARMERS MARKET

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE

Will you be this passionate about our own show
Oh year it's Nov 1st not july 1st



"I can't believe everybody isn't camping out to get in first."

THE MARKET PAGE WILL RETURN NEXT
MONTH IF WE HAVE ITEMS TO OFFER