

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic Society: James Buchanan Chapter, # 173

Club Meeting: Wednesday, 12th November 2008

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

BlueBird Commons/ Wood Crest Villa. Tonight's host: Dick Colberg

Message from the President

Eleanor Wheeler

We live these days in an atmosphere of turbulence and change. From day to day none of us are sure what will happen next in the world theatre. Although I am not a historian I do find it fascinating that our stamps reflect, serve as a lens, of the

great social, political, human, and economic issues of our times.

In our varied collections are told the stories of war, peace, ideologies, inventions, social movements, heroes, the Euro, and Darth Vader.

And so, as winter approaches, curl up in a warm spot and allow your mind to explore all of the themes in your collection, and new ones yet to be searched for.



'09 Club Officer Nomination Alert-Pg. 3

William P. Snyder Newfoundland & New President

In January, 2009, Bill Snyder will assume the presidency of the PSLC. He started collecting stamps in 1995 during some down time and purchased a US collection. He has completed most of the US except for some of the earlier gems. He also collected Canada, postal cards, and some postal history.

Most recently, Bill has specialized in Newfoundland, and will give a Key-Note presentation at the November meeting. He states that collecting a country with roughly 300

stamps is appealing. Many of the stamps prior to 1870 are rare, but beyond this date, they are very reasonable, and many varieties are extant.

Newfoundland was a Crown Colony of the United Kingdom and then became a Dominion. Finally, in 1949 it joined Canada as one of its maritime provinces.

A West Point graduate, Bill served for 25 years before retiring as a colonel. He saw duty in Korea, Viet Nam, Panama, and many others.

In retirement, Bill is active in his church and with the West Point Alumni Association where he writes a regular column for his class newsletter.

He is looking forward to taking up the gavel in 2009 and to his annual wager with the newsletter editor on the outcome of the Army-Navy football game.



Volume 71, Issue 11

November-2008

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PSLC Meets the second Wednesday of the month (except August) at BlueBird Commons/ Wood Crest Villa at 7:00 PM

President:

Eleanor Wheeler

Vice President:

William P. Snyder

Secretary:

Lori Hostetler

Treasurer:

Claire Smith

Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640

Happy Thanksgiving



While troubling times surround us, and change is coming, we still have a lot to be thankful for this year. As such, Thanksgiving season is a good time, annually, to take an inventory. Enjoy the family time at the table, the feast, the fellowship, and even the football game if you are so inclined.

Family: Some have lost family members, while others have gained. Let us be grateful for the time we had with those who left us and be blessed with our new arrivals. For all those dear to you, hold them close and don't let them go.

Stamp Club: Let's be thankful for the new meeting facility and Lucy Eyster for arranging it; For another successful Lancopex, and Jim Boyles and Dick Shaefer who coordinate it, and the many volunteers who make it happen; For our many club officers who worked diligently this year in so many ways; For the auctions which allow us get rid of stuff and find new and exciting stuff; And for our own collections as they give us entertainment and solace and opportunities for friendships with others.

Home Front: Give thanks that after two years, the campaigning is finally over. That that experiment in democracy over 200 years ago, the constitution, allows us to successfully transition from one administration to another every four to eight years. That there has not been an overt act of mass terrorism in the US since 09/11. Ed □

October Minutes-Lori Hostetler Treasury-Clair Smith

Opening: Vice President William Snyder, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Tonight's program will be presented by James Boyles on Lancaster County Postal History.

Membership: There were 28 members in attendance. Guests included John Brownwell who has collected US for 20 years. Peter Billis introduced Mark Krebs, a member of the York Club. He collects US and worldwide.

Drawing: Tom Howard's name was drawn. Because he was not in attendance, next month's drawing will

be increased to \$30.00.

MegaEvent: Roy Baardsen announced that there are 10 seats left for the bus trip on the 23rd October. See details in the September newsletter. The cost is \$45. Call Roy at 610-927-3435.

New Business: Holiday Party-Lou DeFelice discussed this, and the details are contained on page 3 of this newsletter. Thank you to Eleanor, Lucy, and Lou for working on the party. Money will be collected at the door on the night of the party.

Paul Petersen solicited club members who might be in-

terested in providing stamp collecting activities for a large home school group that meets at a local church on Thursdays. Some interest was expressed, and Paul said he would look into it. Right now he has few details other than exploring their interest in the next month or so, and he will get back to the club in January.

After a short break, the program started at 7:30.

The Treasury-Clair Smith

Open bal- \$4,399.48

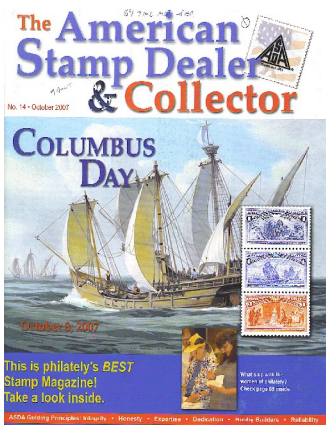
Income- \$12.68

Expenses- \$0.00

Closing bal- \$4,412.16

Bits 'n Pieces

☺ Club members have been talking about a new stamp periodical called *American Stamp Dealer & Collector* which has been in print a few years. This is an excellent publication and is well worth a look (www.americanstampdealer.com).



☺ For what it is worth, in the 1/1990 issue of *North Atlantic Phi-*

lately they list a circulation of 69,800 in Danish; 11,500 in German, and 14,200 in English. This full color periodical addresses the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, and Norway. (It did not mention anything of printing in Norwegian!)

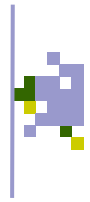


☺ To support the 2008 APS membership drive, PSLC sponsored a drawing for a year's membership for a current club member who is

not in APS. It is stipulated that the winner must agree to pay their own dues for a second year. As the issue was brought up, a recommendation was made to hold the drawing right away to take advantage of the APS October membership special and save the club some money. Dick Shaefer moved and Jim Boyles seconded the motion, and Marilyn Shirley was the lucky winner.

☺ In the November newsletter was a scan of one of the 1839 essays solicited by Rowland Hill to be considered for the first postage stamp to come in 1840. The one depicted was seen, among others, in a recent auction catalogue with a starting bid of \$600.

☺ In a 1913 issue of the UK's *The Philatelic Circular*, a penny black (1d) sold from 8d an up and 18d and up on cover. The two penny blue was 36d and up. Ed □



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Holiday Party, Programs/Hosts, & Shows

Holiday Party: 10 December at **6:30 pm** in the BlueBird Room. There will be a **hot buffet** with Chicken Cordon Bleu & Tenderloin Tips of Beef. Coffee, tea & water will be available. **Dessert** will be a **pot-luck** by the club membership. We will be bringing each of you to bring in a small plate of cookies or something comparable. The **cost** is \$6.00 a person and guests are always welcome. A **gift exchange** will be held for an item of

a philatelic nature at a market value of not less than \$5.00. Entertainment & activities are in the planning. **Sign up** at the November meeting. **Cancellations** will be permitted up to 08 December. For cancellations after that date, members will be charged \$6.00 p/p.

2009 Program & Snacks:
14th January: Club Auction; Bill Snyder, Host.

The tentative schedule for the remainder of the 2009

programs will appear in the January newsletter. Please see Eleanor Wheeler or Bill Snyder if you would like to present a program. Assistance is available to help you successfully accomplish this.

Upcoming show reminders: Jim Boyles' *Some 1st Sunday Stamp Shows*, Farm and Home Center: 07 Dec 2008, • 01 Mar 2009 • 07 Jun • 02 Aug • 04 Oct • 06 Dec (Dates are subject to change. (Please check Linns.)

Officer Nominations Slated for November

Just as election season on the national and state levels comes to a close, the PSLC Club officer elections are upon us. There are three (3) openings this year.

Vice president-This officer will serve as VP in '09 and rise to the presidency in 2010. They will stand in during the president's absence as needed. **Secretary-**This officer will record min-

utes at all club meetings and convey such to the club newsletter editor for publication. He/she is to find a substitute in case of missing a club meeting. The term of the secretary is two (2) years.

Treasurer-This officer manages all the club's finances, documenting income and expenses, writing checks, etc. The term of the treasurer is two (2) years.

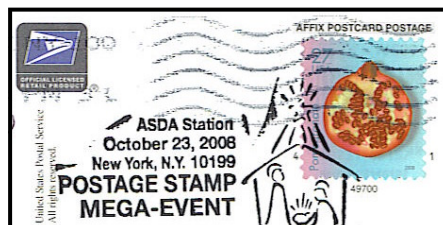
Nominations for these officers will take place at the November meeting with elections to be held in December. New officers will assume duty in January. You must have the person's permission to nominate them for an office. Contact Eleanor Wheeler with questions. Please consider running for office and faithfully carrying out the duties thereof.

A Tale of Two Cancels

Or the agony and the ecstasy...

This summer a friend toured historical Williamsburg and sent us two postcards with the throw back cancel to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. I do not know the history behind this cancel, and any information as to its background and authenticity are most welcome.

Fast forward to the NYC Mega-Event and the fancy show cancellations. I purchased some USPS postcards and stamps and sent some to friends and home with the three cancels. Unfortunately, it was ruined by the regional spray-on cancel once it went into the "system." Ed □



NYC Mega-Event Trip: A Huge Success

On the 23rd October, thirty-five members and guests of the Lancaster and Reading Stamp Clubs boarded an early bus and headed for a long day's trek to NYC to attend the ASDA's Stamp Mega-Event in Madison Square Garden.

One of the biggest stamp venues in the US, club members were not disappointed. USPS had a great presence with a cancellation service offering three designs. The clerks were both accurate and careful in applying the show cancels. USPS sold stamps that have been out of print for quite a while including the 41¢ Polar Lights set that sold out almost as soon as it came on the market. They had a folder of them. First day ceremonies were attended by hundreds.

Several foreign postal services were on hand for new issues, a great savings on international postal costs. Exhibits consisted of over 30 single frames compiled by members of the Collector's Club on NYC. The new APS president, Wade Saadi was on hand as well as a representative of executives and staffers from APS.

While it was a long day, there was an opportunity to see so much at the show. Some took advantage to get away for a few hours to shop or have a good lunch. The Empire State Building on 34th Street was not far away. Even the stamp widows and widowers enjoyed themselves with so much available near by.

Kudos to Roy Baardsen for his hard work to arrange this trip. It went flawlessly; meaning that no one was left in either Lancaster or New York City! All passengers received a bag of goodies and drinks. Even more entertaining were the door prizes. With each goodie bag was a raffle ticket for prizes. These ranged from philatelic magnifiers and puzzles to rolls of the new state coil stamps and more. Even better, everyone won a prize. Well done, Roy. Ed □



Musings from the editor

A philatelic gift for the holidays

It is not often that I use this column as a book review, but an informative and attractive new philatelic publication just recently came to my attention in a shop in New Haven. And then I saw it again at the Subway table at last month's trek to the MegaEvent in NYC.

While I did not purchase it for myself, it is a most appropriate holiday gift for the older kids or grand kids or for another adult stamp collector, as it would appeal to both. Or if you know a non-collecting American history buff, this is the gift you have been looking for.

An American History Album: Story of the United States Told Through Stamps by Michael & John Woreck. Michael is an editor and publisher of American history with a passion for US commemoratives, while John is a third generation stamp collector.

Terrance McCaffrey, the manager of the USPS Stamp Division contributed a chapter on the design and production of US

stamps. Cheryl Ganz, the new curator of the Postal History Museum wrote the forward.

The book was published in 2008 in Buffalo, NY by Firefly Books. The ISBN Number is 13: 978-1-55407-390-0.



This book is a compilation of US history as told through stamps. It is well written, and the illustrations are outstanding, numbering about 207 stamps. If you liked Klug & Sundman's book, *100 Greatest American Stamps*, you will like this one too. Klug & Sundman relate the stories on the stamps as well as the behind the scenes information about their produc-

tion. Woreck's book, on the other hand, tells the country's history, and illustrates it using American stamps. The two books make good companion volumes.

My only surprise with this book is that I have not seen it promoted in the stamp literature. If it was, it is buried, as I typically peruse the literature quite thoroughly. The historical content ranges from pre-Columbian settlement through the present time.

The following list depicts some of the topics that caught my eye.

- Manifest destiny and westward expansion
- The 50 States
- Revolution & Civil War (from the Boston Tea party, through White Plains to Appomattox)
- The Greatest Generation (The WWII era)
- Values and Ideals (ie.

Rockwell's four Freedoms) What caught my eye from reading the introduction in this book was a quote from Tony Blair, the liberal Prime Minister of Great Britain.

"We are the ally of the US not because they are powerful, but because we share their values. I am not surprised by anti-Americanism, but it is a foolish indulgence. For all their faults, and all nations have them, the US are a force for good, they have liberal and democratic traditions of which any nation can be proud. I sometimes think it is a good rule of thumb to ask of a country: Are people trying to get into it or out of it? It is not a bad guide of what sort of country it is."

Purchase a bit of US history this season and pass on the joy of the holiday, our heritage, and stamp collecting to someone you care for. Ed □



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