

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic
Society: James Buchanan Chapter, # 173
Chapter 118 of the American Topical Assn.

Club Picnic: Wednesday, 8 August 2012

6:00 PM

Millersville Freedom Memorial Park

Message from the President

During nearly forty years in education I acquired stacks and stacks of all kinds of paper items. The other day I came across some stamp publications from the late 1800^s and thought you may be interested in how much things have changed and not changed over these many years.

Philomath was a four-page leaflet published by the Galen Stamp Store in Rawlinsville here in Lancaster Co. I have the April 15, 1877 issue, and it carries articles and ads about stamps, coins, and autographs. The largest ad was for U.S.

Revenues at a few cents each.

The July 1896 issue of the *Long Island Collector* (Brooklyn) had a front page ad for "any smart boy" to solicit subscribers to the paper. One new subscription would earn the boy five Mexican stamps and two new ones would bring him a "good knife."

The April, 1883 *National Philatelist* carried news of Congressional reform of postal rates and a general informational column on watermarks, perforations, & paper. Belleville, Ohio's *Philatelic*

Fortnightly for November 1, 1877 featured a short article on Peruvian stamps and an ad for the *Scott Standard Stamp Catalogue* (200 pgs.) for 25¢.

The March, 1888 issue of *The Mohawk Standard* of Delta, NY, had an article on the educational value of stamps for students. *The Philatelic World* (June, 1888) noted that the American Stamp Dealers Association had opened with a membership of twenty.

The April 1st, 1892 issue of *The Hoosier Stamp* (Indianapolis) featured royal stamp collectors such as the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince George of the UK, the Czar of Russia (stamps & bird eggs), the Prince Regent of Bavaria (stamps & beetles), and the King of Romania (stamps & autographs).

Finally, one more publication, *The New York Philatelist* for July, 1897 had coverage of Canada's issue of its sixteen stamp series for the 60th Anniversary of Queen Victoria's reign. Sound familiar? Of course, we are now going through the many observances of the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's reign.

While reading these publications there were many obvious changes—certainly in prices—but, as you can see with the last item, there were things that sounded familiar.

I've ordered good weather for our picnic the 8th. **Bob**

Annual PSLC Picnic



Wednesday, 8 August 2012

6:00 PM Millersville Freedom Park

Please bring the appetizer, side dish, or dessert for which you signed up.

Burgers, hotdogs, and drinks will be provided

If you missed the sign-up and would like to attend, please contact Paul Petersen immediately.

Directions to picnic site are on page 3—>

August, 2012

Volume 75, No. 8

Highlights inside...

Minutes & Treasury
National Forests
Postage Dues
2012 Olympics
Club notes
PSLC Directions

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

President:

Bob Epler:
betinnahef@msn.com

Past President:

John Bray:
jonboy@dejazzd.com

Secretary:

Joy Bouchard:
jib672@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Lou DiFelice:
loudifelice@gmail.com

Membership, Publicity & ATA Rep

Lucy Eyster:
lucyeyster@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor, Programs & APS Rep

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640
pcpetersen@comcast.net



A Changing World

The editor volunteered to work at Vacation Bible School during the last week in July. This program encompasses everything from crafts, games, lessons, snacks, songs, and more. He worked with the 8-9 year olds. The theme was National Parks, so he brought in some mint 1958 4¢ Forest Conservation stamps (Scott 1122) to put on the name badges that hung from their necks, to give them a little zest. They were very popular; the kids liked them, and they thought that they were very attractive.



Q: But what are they? A: They are stamps. Q: What are stamps, and what are they for? Ever feel like a dinosaur? A Philistine, perhaps? ☒

Lancopex Kickoff

On 31 July Lucy Eyster hosted a planning meeting with 12 of those involved with last year's show. Highlights included:

- Show cachet covers
- Increased variety in lunch menu
- Need for new exhibits for '13 show
- Manpower issues-as always
- Opportunities for new club members to participate in show
- The dealer's waiting list
- Tables and chairs for eating, resting, and kibitzing
- Cutting Lancopex expenses
- New venues for publicity
- New medals for exhibit winners
- Documents form Jim Boyles

July Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening Announcements: Paul Petersen opened the meeting at 7:00. He read a thank-you letter from Audrey Boyles for the club's matching gift to APS in Jim's name. He passed around a card to the membership for signatures.

June Minutes: Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as written.

ATA/NTSS: Lucy Eyster read follow-up thank-you letters from the NTSS manager, ATA Executive Director, and ATA President acknowledging her and PSLC for its large part in the show. It was one of the best NTSS shows in many years, and they would like to hold another in Lancaster in the not-too-distant future. There was outstanding coverage of the

show on the front page of Section B of the 24 June *Sunday News*. Lucy Eyster invited the journalist to become a stamp collector and join PSLC. Paul asked for a club shout-out for Lucy and her committee's leadership in the show.

Club Picnic: Bob Epler recently asked Paul to stoke up the 8 August picnic planning. He gave the preliminary information, and noted that it will be covered in the August Newsletter. He passed around sign-ups for attendance, Worker Bees, and pot-luck side dishes and desserts.

Lancopex: Lou DiFelice updated club on the financial aspects for Lancopex. The Farm & Home Center is now requiring a \$250 security deposit and a \$100

fee to use the kitchen if we serve hot food.

Drawing: Lucy Eyster won the \$5.00 drawing. There were also several door prizes that were donated from ATA.

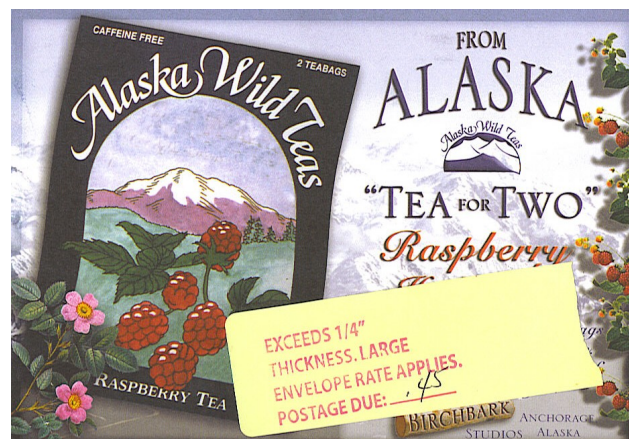
Mini-Auction: Al Schaub auctioned four residual lots donated from the Jack Diener estate along with a portable shelf and stool that were left behind at NTSS and subsequently donated to PSLC by stamp dealer, Mike Shefler.

July Program: Tonight's topic was *Telegraph Stamps of the World* by Don Smith.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,523.99 (1 June)
 Income: \$53.18
 Expenses: \$633.25
 Closing: \$3,943.92 (30 June)
 3-CDs valued at \$6,721.58

A Sign of the Times...



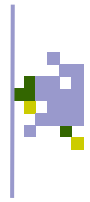
A few weeks ago the mail-lady knocked on the door announcing that we had a letter with 45¢ postage due. She was a twenty-something

substitute whom I did not know. I paid the money and quipped that at least for 45¢ I'll get a nice red postage due stamp for my collection.

I took the letter and asked where was the stamp? She never heard of such a thing!

My only consolation is that since the letter came all the way from Alaska and it smelled very good, it was worth the fine. But heck, postage dues have only been gone 25 years or so, haven't they? Don't these postal employees know anything? Or am I getting too old for my own briches? You tell me. Ed ☒





The London Olympics: From 1908 to 1948 to 2012 by Mike Bach

London first hosted the Olympics in 1908, but at that time commemorative stamps were not in vogue. One of the four 2012 definitives released on 5 January of this year is below.



In 1948 during the reign of George VI, London was again chosen as host, and Great Britain issued a modest set of four stamps with values ranging from 2½ pence to 1 shilling. (See 3d & 1 shilling stamps below.)



Now, 64 years later, London is host for a third time, and this year the theme is "30 Stamps for 30 Sports." The stamps themselves reflect both Olympic and Paralympic events. Each stamp in this issue is a 60 pence stamp (almost a dollar). The stamps themselves show either an athlete in

action or a piece of equipment that depicts that sport. These stamps were actually issued over the last three years in groups of 10 stamps.



In addition to this issue there will be two mini-sheets, each with 4 stamps which merge athletes into London landmarks. These Olympic issues will be released on July 27th and the Paralympic issue will be released on August 29th, the opening of the Paralympics. Paralympic basketball is seen below



The Royal Mail will be the first postal administration of the host country to issue a set of stamps to celebrate the start of the Paralympic Games. These stamps feature photos of British Olympians and Paralympians with prominent London tourist sites (Tower Bridge, Big Ben, The Millennium Wheel, St. Paul's Cathedral).

In addition to the basic stamps, one can also purchase presentation packs,

first day covers (one per stamp!), coin covers, coin and stamp packs, plus an assortment of pins, postcards and albums. I think the British Post Office is trying to bankrupt (gouge) stamp collectors.

The modern pentathlon stamp is seen below.



One additional issue will happen after the Olympics end, and at this time what they will feature is still unknown.



It is rather unique, as the issue consists of a set of six stamps for each British Gold Medal winner. In Beijing Great Britain won 19 gold medals, so a repeat of that tally would mean 19 sets of 6 stamps....I am hoping that Great Britain will exceed this mark in this year's 2012 Olympics in London.

Club Notes

Programs & Members

2012 Programs and Hosts

8 August: Picnic at Millersville Freedom Park. 6:00 PM

12 September: Club Auction. **Host:** Lou DiFelice

10 October: Congressional Exhibit of Signed Covers. Rep. Joseph Pitts (PA-19th). **Host:** Lucy Eyster

14 November: The USPS: The Present and Future. Dr. William P. Snyder. **Host:** Lou Leidig

12 December: Dinner. No Host

2013 Programs

9 January: Club Auction

13 Feb: Patriots Postal Card series of the 1970-1980's. John Brownell

13 March: The Sharples Co.: Philatelic & Deltiologic Edification. Bill Schultz

10 April: Peel 'n Stick in preparation for Lancopex

Our New PSLC Address:

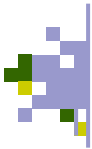
Philatelic Society
of Lancaster County
PO Box 6053
Lancaster, PA 17607-6053

New PSLC Member: Clifford Sensenig of Lititz joined our ranks at the 11 July meeting. He collects U.S. Civil War era. Give him a good PSLC welcome when you see him at the picnic this month.

Balpex: 31 August-2 September 2012.

→Directions to the Picnic:

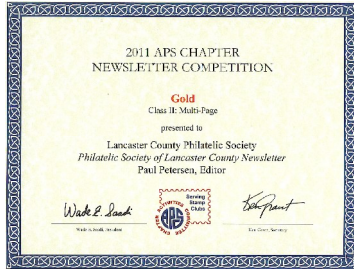
Driving west into Millersville from Lancaster on 999, the Park is on the north side of 999 (Manor Ave.) just west of the intersection of George Street with 999. (See map) Also, across the street from the park is the Barn Door Restaurant, and to the east is Herr's Market. We'll be meeting in Pavilion-A, down the hill near the end of the park parking lot. Park right behind the pavilion.



Musings: July-2012

Some thoughts for the club's future...

One of the benefits of participating in the APS Chapter Newsletter Competition is the opportunity to obtain for a month all the review copies of the 17 winning entries. These newsletters should be required reading for all club board members.



There are many good clubs out there, just like ours. They are involved with education, shows, auctions, exhibits, trips, social events, and more. Most of the photographs show retirement age folks with few if any young collectors in the club activities themselves. However, several of the organizations support youth school programs, and shows and exhibits. There are a lot of resources available to assist those kids.

The clubs meet once a week, twice a month, and once a month. One club has a second, and largely repetitive meeting on a Saturday so that those who could not attend the weeknight meeting would have the opportunity to be in a stamp club. All have sales and/or regular auctions, one or more times a month. The nickel albums and APS circuit books are popular. Auctions vary as to the frequency

and type. The one that intrigues me is the Shanghai Auction held by two clubs. Any help here?

Some clubs have an auction manager or a committee that purchase lots from larger auction sites, break them down, and auction them to the club as a fundraiser. This is for a really dedicated auction team.

To fit in a few more meetings, one club has an extra meeting on the 5th Wednesday of the month. This allows four to five additional meetings a year for dedicated auctions which will not compete with the educational programs or business meetings.

All clubs are heavily invested in their annual stamp show or a shared show with another or other clubs. Many exhibit, and a club in TX filled 60 frames just from their membership alone!

And speaking of exhibiting, clothesline exhibits are popular. In a few clubs, they have these every meeting. A clothesline exhibit is basically a one-page exhibit. We learned about this last spring from Dick Osmond.

Clubs have found out that once a collector has made that first exhibit, the rest come relatively easy. So as folks make their exhibits, clubs have a clothesline in place at all meetings so members can display their 1-page exhibits.

There are common challenges reflected in the newsletters. A few club workers are doing the work of many. In the minutes of one club, no one accepted the nomination for any office! I always wondered how clubs die as noted in *The American Philatelist* in their monthly listing of new and deceased members. Including the incoming and outgoing clubs. I remember writing last year about the club which had two members who did their entire stamp show. They died at the same time. Within a few years the show passed away in agony, and the club almost folded! Yes, building and maintaining club leadership and vision is important.

Speaking of vision, all clubs had active boards. Several post their minutes in the newsletter. Scheduled meetings range from monthly, to bi-monthly, then quarterly. PSLC has a board of eight as listed on the masthead on the right side of the front page of each newsletter. APS & ATA Reps aren't board positions but are currently held by two board members. As you can see, five people fill these eight positions.

As noted last month, the PSLC board has not met in over a year. When I came on board about ten years ago, it met once a year to compile program ideas

for the following year. The purpose of the board is to look out for the well-being of the club for the years to come; to set goals, to set strategies, and to appoint club members who can carry them out reliably.

Take, for example, the Lan-copex show cachet. A lot goes into this, but it is a solid money maker for PSLC. Many are sold annually at the show, and because they are advertised in **Linn's**, the club receives many mail orders for them over the following month or two.

Perhaps due to the work involved, I am seeing fewer offerings of show cachets at regional events. A cachet subject must be decided upon and designed. Further, a cancel must be created in accordance with postal regulations. All this needs advanced planning, but it is very doable by the right people.

Another issue to consider is the 75th Anniversary of PSLC which arrives in 2013. It would be nice to have a banquet, a speaker, perhaps a few awards, and some door prizes. Add in a time of remembrance, an anniversary book, a customized stamp, and/or an anniversary cachet. What about a club T-shirt? There is still time if planning starts rather soon. It's something to think about. ☒Ed



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