

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



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

Club Meeting: 7:00, Wednesday, 13 March 2013

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Dick Shaefer

• *Come a little early and help frank the Lancopex advertising postcards* •

From the Desk of the President

As a postscript to last month's "article," I did, upon discovering the scam, go immediately to William Steiner's website, STAMPALBUMS.COM and purchase a year's license.

Stories get more interesting the further I delve into their depths. That means that I can spend hours researching a document on the internet. The stories told make everything come alive. If you don't work with a computer and do collect postal history, you're missing a huge source of information. It still

seems silly to me that I can type a phrase in GOOGLE, and it figures out what I am looking for. Try the phrase "Phenix city al" (the spelling is correct). You will eventually come to the realization that the rarest stamp in the precancel kingdom (only one) has a fascinating story associated with it. This includes a bestseller by Margaret Ann Barnes, a film noir called "The Phenix City Story," and a public television documentary called "Up From the Ashes."

I have the document that

tells the tale of an affidavit sworn to in front of a Union judge in occupied Atlanta. The perjury that was not evident at the time of oath taking is apparent when looking up the individual names on the internet.

Another piece of history shows the receipt of an order of execution for a Lancastrian dated 11/14/1839. Research on the web shows he was hanged on 12/10/1839 for the crimes of murder and robbery. The trial is mentioned in law books. **Bob**

The Sharples Co.: Philatelic/Deltiologic Edification

Bill Schultz

Lancopex: The evening will commence with a few minutes of placing mailing labels and stamps on the colorful postcards that we send out each year to prospective Lancopex customers.

Program: The purpose of tonight's presentation is to tell the story of the creation, lifespan, success, and the demise of this historic West Chester agribusiness company using all the known Sharples Separator Advertising Postcards.

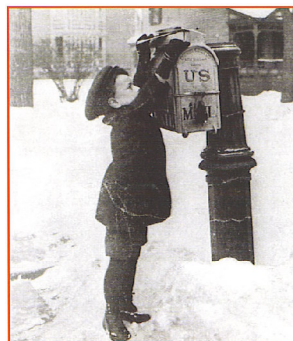
The Sharples Cream Separator was a device utilized to separate the butter fat from fresh milk, speeding up the

process for dairy farmers and their families. The company manufactured these machines from the 1890s into the late 1920s. Sharples advertised their products through a variety of print mediums including postcards.

Bill is a 50+ year exhibitor, and philatelic judge, writer, and speaker. He is retired from a career in financial management and analysis, and he now devotes 10-14 hours a day to the hobby where he is finishing a reference book. Additional efforts are directed to planning the 2016 Int'l Show in NYC.

•Some Help Needed•

Do club members have any idea who this member is? Al Schaub remembers taking it, but because it was so long ago, he can't remember if it is Bill Snyder or Paul Petersen! (NPM-1880)



Volume 76, No. 3

March, 2013

Highlights...

- A Cream Separator
- Franking Lancopex
- A Mystery Photo
- Dinner with Bill Shultz
- A 1d Blue with Albert
- Bio: John Heitzmann
- Celebrating our 75th
- USPS Demuth Stamp
- *Ave Et Vale*: B. Epler
- An interesting cover with a surprise inside

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:

Robert D. Noble,
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Vice President:

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Lucy Eyster,
lucyeyster@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor, Programs, & APS Rep:

Paul Petersen, 717.299.5640
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March Bio:

John Heitzmann

Around second grade John was introduced and mentored to stamp collecting by a WWI vet with wonderful holdings. John's Ambassador Worldwide album kept him busy into early adolescence when studies, sports, scouts, *etc.* took precedent.

Following college John began a 30 plus year career with Bristol Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals starting as an analytical chemist. He then transitioned into a technical writer where one of his more interesting venues was as liaison to the FBI. As he put it, it was his job "to get new medications approved and keep current medications legal."



In 2008 John and his wife, Cheri moved to Lancaster. She highly encouraged him to get a hobby, and thus motivated, he resumed his collecting. He saw an ad for Lancopex in the paper and attended the '09 or '10 event. He joined PSLC in 2012.

John now collects U.S., largely the Columbian and later issues. His specialty is airmails, and this includes used, mint, FDCs, covers, and multiples. He has all but the Graf Zeppelins of 1930 (C13-15). This is one collecting goal, and when the price is right...who knows?

His favorite is U.S. C-11, the Beacon on Rocky Mountains issue of 1928, a reasonably priced stamp with a colorful history. Here he is seeking event covers and would like to have one from each of the first flights using this stamp. There are so many ways to collect this issue.

John and Cheri have two grown children, a son living in Charlotte, NC and daughter in Phoenix, AZ. The Heitzmanns have four grandchildren.

February Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening: VP Len Kasper started the meeting at 7:10.

Minutes and Treasury: January minutes & treasury report were approved by voice vote.

Membership. Lucy Eyster introduced tonight's visitor Clair Hostetter, Lancaster, a U.S. collector. Joining the club tonight was Fred Mackey of Lititz. Fred collects U.S., U.N., & Dominican Republic. There were 26 at the meeting.

Drawing: This was won by Robert Rothen.

75th Anniversary Committee: Joy Bouchard led the discussion of the many options for celebrating. While time is of the essence, a brief celebration will be held at 9:30 a.m. on the Friday morning of Lancopex with a cake, news media, guest speaker, club members, customers, and dealers. Dick Colberg will visit APS and look into a speaker for this event. Committee will continue to work on a quasi-formal evening event and will share their recommendations with the club. Right now interest seems to be combining this celebration with the Christmas dinner on 11 December. There will be info to follow, and club input is desired. The 75th theme is "Come Celebrate with us."



Truyde Greiner provided some history, as she has club documents from the early 1930s. It was 75 years ago, in May of 1938, when the club became an affiliate of APS. The club is now celebrating this event.

Lancopex: Paul Petersen passed around sign-up sheets for the show. There is lots to be done, and many volunteers are needed. Lou DiFelice solicited philatelic display items from club members. A minimum of 32 pages or two sides of a frame are needed.

Show Cancel: Diane Meek led this discussion along with Joy. Because USPS set back the release date of the 2013 Civil War Stamp, the club decided to go with a theme/design related to the 75th. As a place to start, Paul created a computer mock-up design with PSLC/APS logos and a stamp shaped cancel with balloon men killer bars. The black "Celebrate" forever stamp is recommended for this. PSLC favored a design such as this. Diane and Joy will expedite the cachet due to the short fuse of USPS and Lancopex. Diane also announced that a USPS employee will be having a table at Lancopex.

ATA: Lucy reminded folks that she is collecting topical packets of 7-10 stamps (sports, women, flowers, animals, etc.) for ATA, and she has glassines for club members who need them. She also demonstrated several pages of unusual topical souvenir sheets of her own.

FDC Circuits: Paul discussed the procedures for circulating the two boxes of U.S. and U.N. FDCs. Club members may take them home and peruse them at their leisure for 10¢ per cover.

Silent Auctions: Club members expressed great interest in having more of these auctions. A club member is needed to take charge of silent auctions and coordinate with Program Chairman to integrate them into the meetings.

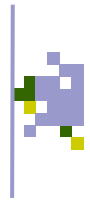
March Program/Dinner with the speaker: Paul discussed next month's program and speaker Bill Shultz. A no-host dinner with the speaker is scheduled for 4:15 p.m. at Olive Garden on 13 March. Please call or email Paul to sign up by 12 March 2013.

Tonight's Program: Due to the incompatibility of the DVD player and several of the APS DVDs, plan-C was put into action. Mike Back displayed his collection of worldwide souvenir sheets of the tercentenary of the Penny Black stamp. Dick Colberg added his compilation of the Penny Reds which share many of the features of the Penny Black, and Fred Sargent displayed his Penny Black. Concurrently, Paul demonstrated the use of Bestine™, Pure Citrus™, and talc to remove water insoluble self-stick stamps from paper.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,813.81 (1 Jan)
Income: \$554.00
Expenses: \$484.07
Closing: \$4,883.74 (31 Jan)
3-CDs valued at \$6,733.04

Dues Reminder: This will be the last issue you receive unless 2013 dues have been paid. If in arrears, please contact Lucy Eyster: lucyeyster@yahoo.com or 717.735.2586



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows, & Members

2013 Programs and Hosts

13 March: The Sharples Co.: Philatelic & Deltiologic Edification, Bill Schultz. And Lancopex postcard preparation. Dick Shaefer, Host

10 April: Patriot Postal Card series of the 1970-80s. John Brownell. Al Schaub, Host

8 May: Club Auction. Diane Meek, Host

12 June: Open House Display, Lucy Eyster & Len Kasper. Clair Smith, Host

10 July: Civil War Covers, Dennis Shumaker. Or Gunboat Philately, Al Schaub. James Ziogas, Host

14 August: Club Picnic. No host this month.

11 September: Club Auction. John Brownell, Host

9 October: Topical Study: Stained Glass on Stamps. Dave Hunt. Dennis Shumaker, Host.

13 November: One-Page Exhibits. All PSLC members are invited to participate with one or more exhibit pages. Bill Snyder, Host

11 December: Dinner-6 p.m.

2014 Programs

8 January: Club Auction

12 February: APS Video: Canal Zone Gems

12 March: TBA



2013 Local Shows

Lancopex: Farm & Home Center, F/S 26-27 April 2013. Dick Shaefer, Show co-chairman, 717.560.0571.

Some Sunday Stamp Bourse: Farm & Home Center. 30 June, 18 Aug, 27 Oct, 1 Dec. Kevin

Kellman, Manager; 301-371-4558.

Buxmont Stamp Show: S-16 March. 10-5. Benjamin Wilson Senior Citizen Center, Warminster, PA. Lesley Botte, Dealer, 717.484.4700.

FDC Circuits: 10¢ covers will be available again this month for members to take home and peruse. Directions are in the box, and payment is to be made to the club.

Dinner with the speaker: Join us at 4:15 PM at Olive Garden across from Park City. Please confirm with Paul by noon, Tuesday, 12 March.

Ave et Vale

Immediate Past President of PSLC, Bob Epler passed away on Wednesday, 20 February, just a week after attending his last club meeting. Most impressive was his willingness to serve as VP and president during his last two years when he was most seriously ill.

Demuth Soiree

As this issues goes to press, plans are being made for a special philatelic event at the Charles Demuth Museum on Friday, 8 March.

On 7 March USPS will be releasing a sheet of ten (10) postage stamps entitled **Modern Art in America: 1913-1931**. Among the stamps on the sheet is one by life-long Lancaster Artist, Charles Demuth (1883-1935) entitled *I see the figure 5 in gold* (See below). This 1928 painting is based on a poem by his long-time friend and writer, William Carlos Williams.



Because of the revised USPS policy to announce new issues rather close to the actual release date, there was not much time for planning. But everything seemed to come together rather serendipitously. With our new PSLC post office box in Rohrerstown, the postmaster there asked Lou DiFelice if the club had any plans for the stamp. Further, she thought that something may be in progress at the Demuth Museum. One thing led to another, and the stamp will be unveiled locally on Friday, 8 March 2013.

Electronic invitations were sent to club members for this free event which will take place from 4:00-6:00 p.m. on 8 March at the Demuth Museum, 120 East King Street. There will be short presentations at 4:30, and club president, RD Noble will address those assembled.

A Little Follow-Up On the Penny Black & More

At the February meeting we got close to viewing the APS DVD on UK's Penny Black. In this vein, a few related items came to notice.

While Penny Blacks were once in abundance, sufficient to wallpaper a small room as one report described, they are now a little pricier.

Much depends on condition and margins, and a used example can start in the \$200s range and jump considerably depending on plating positions, type and rarity of Maltese cancel, use on cover (first day issues are rare and expensive), and multiples.



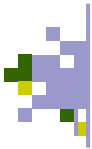
In a recent Spink auction, an unused marginal strip of seven (QF-QL) with close to large margins and most of its original gum sold for £24,000 (That's \$37,238 U.S.)! (*Stamp Magazine*, Feb,-2013, Pg. 14).

A Prince Consort (Prince Albert) perforated essay in dark blue sold at the David Feldman auction in Geneva

for \$57,096 (U.S.). It is unique and in private hands. (reported in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly*, (Feb-2013, Pg. 28)



The first non-monarch did not appear on a U.K stamp until 1937. This was Queen Elizabeth, the wife of King George V. The first non-royals were Shakespeare in 1964 and Churchill in 1965.



Musings: March-2013

A cover & surprise flier that leads to some research

In a previous column I mentioned that I am as much interested in the contents of a cover as the outside. But as cover collectors and postal history enthusiasts know, the covers are usually empty. As I graze on the boxes of cheap covers at shows, I am drawn to the thicker ones. Occasionally I come home to an enclosure within a thin cover that was not obvious at the time of purchase.



The cancel on the cut square above has several interesting attributes. While not shown here, just left of the date-time-stamp in the same blue-green color is a large shamrock, about the same size as the cancel. One can speculate that the local PM chose this ink color to coincide with the town name and St. Patrick's Day which is 17 March (of 1930).

The color of the cancel is unusual; so is the geographical location, St. Patrick, MO. The town is in north-east Missouri with just over 2000 people at the 2000 census.

The Hawaii stamp (Scott 647) is also

of interest in that it is a quick-fix commemorative stamp (this is the editor's term), an overprint of Scott 634 to mark the sesquicentennial of Captain Cook's discovery of the Hawaiian Islands. On 13 August 1928 it was released only in Hawaii and at the U.S. Postal Agency in Washington, DC, but it was valid for postage nationwide.

What are the odds that this is a Geo. Linn cover? A philatelic cover? That is, a cover sent by or to a stamp collector or dealer with an interesting cachet, cancel, and/or array of stamps with a face value that may over frank the item. Did Mr. Tweed collect?

Inside this cover was the surprise, a small ad for *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* of Columbus, Ohio. It cannot be stated for sure that the ad was mailed in this cover or if the cover went through the mail stream. There are no back stamps or other markings, and the cover is in very good condition having been slit opened with a sharp knife.

Anyway, the cover and ad are of interest. *Linn's* is currently much more expensive than the noted price of 25¢ a year! I am unsure of the periodical rate in 1930, but it seems that with 52 mailings each year, the profit margin was slim. Advertising must have made up the difference.

So, what did *Linn's* look like in the 1930? The answer was available at the American Philatelic Research Library at the APC in Bellefonte, PA.

It was first published on 5 November 1928, a year ahead of the crash and subsequent Depression. The black and white format was 8.5x10 inches with 8 pages of classifieds and illustrations. A second color was added on 12 August and used episodically. By the 1 Nov 1930 issue (No. 105), *Linn's* had



expanded to sixteen pages.

Most of the illustrations in these issues looked like clip art, and stamp illustrations were few. This may have been due to the difficulty of obtaining them on a timely basis and the legal implications with copyrights and all. In fact, entire images of U.S. stamps were illegal until the mid-1930s.

In that first edition was a 2½ page editorial by George Linn who noted his collecting, dealing, and publishing in the philatelic world for 35 years. He requested the help of collectors nationwide to make this periodical a long time reality. Published every Monday, the first philatelic article was about the Molly Pitcher overprint stamp of 20 October 1928, also a quick-fix commemorative stamp for the Battle of Monmouth.

The first ad (on the upper left of the cover page) was from Eugene Kline of Philadelphia who brokered the initial sale of the inverted Jenny in 1918. That event put him on the philatelic map with a long and multifaceted career.

Further perusal should examine how the Depression and philately are reflected in later issues of *Linn's*. Ed



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