

# Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



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

## Club Meeting: Wednesday, 09th July 2008

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

BlueBird Commons/ Wood Crest Villa. Tonight's host is Dianne Meek

## Message from the President By Eleanor Wheeler

It looks like we're in for a hot summer, and we know that stampers are less active than in the cooler months. And, we go on vacations to here, there, and anywhere. I'm pleased to say that Dick and I are doing just that. We will be in the Pocono Mountains for a week with the

family, and we'll miss the July meeting. Too bad. Then in August, we will also be away for the week of the club picnic. We'll only be away for 12 days altogether, but they do coincide with our club meeting weeks, and I truly regret missing these events.

So I wish you all a

good summer and trust the club picnic will be successful as usual. Thank you to Marilyn Shirley for organizing the picnic and thank you to Bill Snyder for filling in and running the July Meeting. See you in September.

Eleanor

### Lets fill a Bus: The Fall Club Trip to New York's Stamp Mega Event

Madison Square Garden-34th Street & 7th Avenue

**Events:** First Day Ceremony for USPS and UN; 80 dealers, postal administrations, and more.

Do you have a non-collecting spouse? Bring 'em along; NYC shopping is great.

Free stamp appraisals, show cancel, kid's area, exhibits. [See page. 3 for sign-up information](#)

## History of the Picture Postcard-July

July's program is an informative one on worldwide picture postcards from the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the end of WWM, around 1918. This period was known as the golden age of postcards. Mr. Dick Pendergrast will be presenting this topic. He is a friend and neighbor of Claire Smith who recommended this PowerPoint program to the club after seeing it at Willow Valley. Like philatelists, Dick began collecting early, around 6<sup>th</sup> grade, when offered a small collection of postcards from a friend of the family. He was then hooked but took a hiatus, returning with vigor about 20

years ago. He also collects stamps but has cut way back on this to concentrate on his postcards. He attended Lancopex this year where I was able to meet him briefly. Given the number of closet deltiologists (post card collectors, that is) among philatelists, this should be a riveting presentation. Recall that there is a rather new category of philatelic exhibiting - the "Display class" which has liberalized the rules of what can now be included in a philatelic exhibit. From what I have seen in these exhibits, the number of post cards has increased dramatically. See you there. Don't miss it!



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July-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:

Clair Smith

### Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640



## Club Picnic- 13th August

Save the date, **Wednesday, the 13th August**, and note that the event will be at **6:00 PM**. This is an hour earlier than our usual club meeting start time of 7:00 PM.

The club will sponsor chicken and corn on the cob, and members will bring the rest. There will be a sign-up sheet at the July meeting for items like salads, munchies, carbs, drinks, desserts, etc. Members may also sign up to help with the planning, set up, and break down of the event at the Shirley's in Millersville. **Help is always needed.** Please call Marilyn Shirley to help. The number is 874-2479.

## Soviet Invert: A follow-up

The April newsletter had an article about a rare Soviet Union invert stamp that Josef Stalin gave to FDR at Yalta for his collection. The topic was a Hero of the USSR (Scott C61). It was then overprinted in red when the hero later died in an air crash (C68). Some overprints were inverted. According to 2007 *Scott's Classic*, the invert (C68a) is valued at \$5K. If it has the "small f" it is worth \$20K. The 23rd June *Linn's* covered the recent Cherrystone auction in which the invert with the large F sold at \$170K and the invert with the small f sold for \$535K!



## Minutes of the June Meeting By Dianne Meek, Acting Recording Secretary

Following the stamp bourse which started about 6:30 PM, the business meeting was convened at 7:05 PM by president Eleanor Wheeler. Visitor and member-to-be, Carl Waller was introduced. Dennis Shumaker briefly discussed his collecting interests. Eleanor showed Bob Edward's price list and a stamp article from the local newspaper on the "Railroad stamp." **Old Business:** Roy Baardsen discussed the **fall trip** to NYC-See separate article on page 3 for more information on this.

**New Business:** Paul Petersen announced that he will be transporting two boxes of new exhibit frames from APS and will need help on this end from the younger club members to unload them from his car to the storage facility. Mike Shirley, James Boyles, Lou DiFelice, and Lou Leidig volunteered to help. Paul also stated that there

were leftover Lancopex snacks and sodas for sale for 25¢ each.

WP Snyder followed up the June newsletter article on PVC, plastic mounts, and stamp damage. He urged caution and solicited further information. RD Noble added that the web site of the Collectors Club of Chicago contains a discussion of philatelic mount products by brand name, and it is very helpful.

**Drawing:** Dan Anspach's name was drawn. Since he was not in attendance, the amount goes up to \$20 for the July drawing. The **Program** for the June meeting was an APS slide show entitled "The Black Jack" arranged by Jim Boyles. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

### The Treasury-Clair Smith

Clair discussed the recent expenses appearing on our bank account statements. Since his last report he has worked with

the bank to upgrade our account level which gives the club 100 free transactions a month. As a result, there should no longer be any deductions. Clair reported that the profit from Lancopex was \$783.

### Report for May 2008

Open bal- \$5,107.83  
Income- \$248.72  
Expenses- \$342.90  
Closing bal- \$5,013.65

### Hospitality/Membership:

Thirty-three (33) members signed the attendance roster for this meeting. There were several guests and spouses also in attendance. Thanks go to Leslie Botte for the meeting's snacks and to Greg Macaluso for covering hospitality this month. In Lucy Eyster's absence Greg prepared and closed up the BlueBird Room facility for the June stamp club meeting.

**PSLC Members With Inquiring Minds...**Get a jump on the July program on the history of postcards. A good article is available. See the June, 2008 issue of *American Philatelist*, pages 536-545 with an illustrated presentation on the topic of collecting picture postcards by Barb Harrison.

## First Air Flight in Lititz Remembered in '38 Submitted by Al Schaub

*Al Schaub shared the following copy and illustration from a recent edition of his local paper. It is a reprint of a 1938 article celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the first air mail. It should be of interest to the aero postal historian.*

**"Air Mail for Lititz:** Postmaster R. E. Pfautz reports that the plans for the celebration here of National Air Mail Week, May 15-21st, are rapidly taking form, and the

observance points to a huge success. The cachet, a cut of which appears elsewhere in the newspaper, was sponsored by the Lititz Chamber of Commerce and will be affixed to each envelope sent by air mail from this office, which will be flown from Lancaster Airport at 2 p.m. on May 19th. The pilots commissioned by the Post Office Department are Jesse

Jones, Paul Schlotzhauer, Richard Bomberger, and Jean Noll."



## Miscellaneous Club Notes: New member, Programs, Hosts, Newsletter

**Membership:** Carl Waller is a new member who joined in June. He is an officer of the Reading Stamp Club and collects hotel covers. Please welcome Carl aboard.

### Program and Snack Schedules for the remainder of the year:

**09 July:** History of the Postcard (Dick Pendergrast), Dianne Meek-Host; **13 August:** Club Picnic at

Shirley's (No host); **10 September:** Auction; Dick & Eleanor Wheeler-Hosts; **08 October:** Lancaster Postal History (James G. Boyles), Lou Leidig-Host; **12 November:** Newfoundland (WP Snyder), Dick Colberg-Host; **10 December:** Christmas Party (No host).

**Newsletter Update:** Dianne Meek has been appointed as *Circulation Assistant-II*. In this capacity

she will work with Marilyn Shirley to copy, collate, fold, address, frank, and mail the many hard copies of the newsletter. For years when we only had a hard copy edition, Marilyn did it all herself including writing and editing with all of the above.

**Very Miscellaneous:** The Club purchased four additional exhibit frames to accommodate a greater number of exhibits.

## Treasury Department Attorney Stops Distribution of 1913 Int'l Exhibition Seals

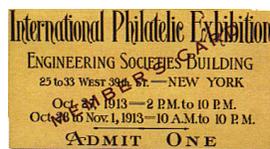


October, 1913: The first interna-

tional stamp exhibition was to be held in the US. The philatelic world watched! Could anything go wrong?

In preparation for the event, the Hamilton Banknote Co. produced beautifully engraved souvenir seals of George Washington to commemorate the occasion. The seals were so impressive that an attorney demanded the printing plates and the stamps. "They look too much like US stamps," he said. Too

late, over 100k had already been distributed across the country. A compromise was reached. Further printing would cease, and those seals that were still on hand would be overprinted with the date of the exhibition.



## NYC's Mega Event-How

Roy Baardsen has been busy exploring the transportation options for the club trek to the Fall NYC Mega Event, **Thursday, the 23rd October**. The show will be held at Madison Square Garden. It is free. Bus seats will be available on a first come, first served basis. "Non-collecting spouses" are certainly welcome to attend.

We'll meet prior to 6:45 AM at the Wal-Mart Parking lot at 222/322, Ephrata. The bus will leave sharply at 07:00. Stamp Show starts at 10:00. The bus will depart NYC at 5:00. No food or beverage will be

available on the bus, but riders are free to bring their own victuals.

The way it stands now, Roy is estimating 40 folks for the large bus. The charge will be \$45 per person, and this includes the driver's tip. At the June meeting, a show of hands of those wishing to attend was favorable, but beware of the old Swedish proverb: "That waving hands don't always come through with money for bus trip." Or is it a Danish proverb? Whatever! Where do we go from here? Jim Boyles will check with the York and Lebanon Clubs and Bob Brown will

check with Pottsville and other clubs to survey the numbers from these groups. Meeting fellow collectors is half the fun. It has helped our club grow. The bus co. needs money in hand for the reservation. For those wishing to attend, please bring a check to the July meeting. It should be made out to the Reading Stamp Collecting Club for \$45. Early commitment with deposit is necessary. You can also send your check right now to Roy Baardsen at 379 Sioux Ct., Sinking Spring, PA 19608-8913. Roy said to feel free to call him with questions at 610-927-3435.

## Topical Corner

Sean Stewart plays the bag pipes (or "bug peeps" as they are called in Scotland). He remembered the day, ten years ago, when he became a stamp collector. He had received a post franked with a stamp containing a bag pipe. At that moment, he was hooked on those little pieces of paper. He has collected 310 stamps from all over the world containing bag pipes and related themes.

What a pleasure it was to peruse *Scottish Life Magazine* and suddenly spot an article with five pages of stamps. They were in color and as clear as the best auction catalogue!

To illustrate the article, Stewart included 65 stamps from his collection, and the countries ranged from Canada to Sudan. The design quality ranged from outstanding to ugly, the latter being illustrated by pipes made with fully inflated goat skins giving them a surreal look. My favorite design was the Norman Rockwell painting of the Boy Scouts (one of them piping) for the Scout International Jamboree in the early 1960s

Collecting what Stewart believes is a complete set was not easy, and from his efforts, he has made many cyber friends around the world. It took only one stamp in the mail to spark this collector onto great things.





## Musings... Guess who went to APS Summer Session?

For the last several years I have wanted to attend the Summer Session at APS in Bellefonte. The topics looked of interest this year, and the major course I took was **Collecting the Expos**. These major courses were held twice a day for four days. Others majors included Stamp Technology, Computers & Philately, Stamps of the British Commonwealth, The Philatelic Marketplace, and Cultural Projects in Postal History.

Summer Session is like going to any conference, except this is hobby related, not career or profession based. Most days were 12 hours long or more including an 8:00 general session followed by major courses, electives, dinner, and evening events. There were even round table discussions at lunch.

It wasn't ten minutes into the Sunday night reception when someone noted from my nametag that I was from Lancaster and asked if I knew Jim Boyles. This gentleman had been a judge at Lancopex a few times and had high regard for Jim just as others did after learning where I was from.

One highlight was the Tuesday night

auction. I was fortunate to sell six lots of foreign airmails to help defray the cost of the Summer Session. An unused Columbian (#243) sold for \$1750, but most lots were in the \$20-40 range.

The American Philatelic Research Library was open all day and remained so until the evening events. A volunteer supervised the sale of philatelic material donated to APS. This took place all week and was held in the staff lunchroom.

Terrance McCaffrey, USPS Stamp Design Manager discussed the design process replete with examples. There was a most lively discussion when audience members shared concerns of the growing political correctness in the stamp topics. (I wasn't one of them!) One asked about airbrushing the cigarette from Bette Davis's hand for her upcoming stamp, as was done in another stamp that McCaffrey displayed. He clarified that this did not happen for the Davis stamp.

Collecting the Expos was taught by

Ken Lawrence, and he was assisted by Herb Trenchard & David Savadge, all experts in this not too common collecting area. One emphasis was World's Fairs and related stamps and postal history. In addition were postcards, programs, photos, admission tickets, and other pearls.

Speakers were pleased to see the new "Display Class" in exhibiting which allows postcards, but they are continually lobbying for the inclusion of additional ephemera related to the postal topic. The rationale is to give philatelic exhibits greater breadth and interest.

The second emphasis was on the stamps, seals, souvenir cards, and other assorted ephemera of stamp expositions concentrating on the ten US International Expos from 1913 through Washington 2006. With the speakers' knowledge of history, they were able to augment the expo planning and outcomes through the personalities (sometimes quite colorful) of the movers, shakers, and doers.

Beyond seeing some magnificent material related to the expos, we learned what items makeup a good collection (and exhibit) and how to locate and obtain them. The key to acquisition is persistence and some very good luck at what comes along. The Thursday PM banquet speaker was Benjamin Franklin Bailar, the Postmaster General from the mid 1970s. Like Terrance McCaffrey, he provided considerable insight from his presentation "Stamp stories from the corner office." He ended with his concern for the current USPS semipostal program.

During the session, I had the opportunity to meet so many (from 22 states) with interests in philately, and a few who shared my passion. The Match Factory in picturesque Bellefonte was a wonderful place for the setting with plenty of room to move about. At the Friday AM Breakfast with APS Executive Director, Peter Mastrangelo, one participant said it best: "The APS staff smiled the whole week."



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