

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: Wednesday, 8 February 2012

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

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Joy Bouchard

Stamp Trading to Begin Following the Evening's Program

Volume 75, No. 2

February, 2012

Inside this issue...

Minutes & Treasury

Bio: Harold Allen

Philatelic Murder

Lancaster \$1.05 Stamp

Dues

Stamp Shows

Pearl Harbor

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:
loudfelice@gmail.com

APS Rep:

James G. Boyles:
jboyles@dejazzd.com

ATA Rep & Membership:

Lucy Eyster:
lucyeyster@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640
pcpetersen@comcast.net

Message from the President

Last fall South Sudan declared its independence from Sudan, and within a week or so, *Linn's* carried an article on the new country's first stamps. Since then I haven't seen any ads for them. I've checked the Internet's listing of philatelic agencies and found nothing for South Sudan. If you come across anything on these stamps, please let me know.

At our last meeting I was asked why *Scott's* cata-

logue includes Christmas seals. The origin of the seals has a tie to post offices, but they're definitely not stamps. My feeling is that they should not be included in the catalogue. The first Christmas seals were created in 1904 by a Danish postmaster who sold them in his post office's lobby to raise funds for a tuberculosis clinic. Three years later, Emily Bissell, a Red Cross volunteer in Wilmington, DE created the first U.S. seals

and sold them in the Wilmington Post Office in support of a nearby sanitarium. The seals and those of other charitable groups, e.g., Easter Seals, are collectibles as separate entities and have their own catalogs and organizations. While most seals are inexpensive, there are some with fairly high values. The 1913 type-1 Christmas seal was recently advertised for \$1,350. Certainly Christmas seals can be a nice side hobby •See President, pg.2

Switzerland: A Panorama of Stamps-A DVD

APS & The American Helvetia Philatelic Association

This 33 minute DVD of 2010 begins with the early and beautiful issues of the Cantons and Federation of Switzerland. Given the prices of these stamps, this meeting may be the only place you will see them up close. An example is the 1845 Dove stamp of Basel (#3L1), the world's first bicolor stamp at \$12.5K+.

Supported and produced by APS, the DVD format is a significant improvement over the older slide shows which required club members to use a flashlight or

read in the dark. Hats off to Gretchen Moody and the Education Dept. at APS.

There are the legendary Helvetia and William Tell series along with the beautiful landscape series of 1932 and 1934. Semi-postals were many as were those issues from the "back of the book."

Most interesting and unusual are the hybrid Officials of Switzerland with The League of Nations, and subsequently, The United Nations. These include special issues for Bureaus of Education, and Business, The

WHO, and many others.

Swiss 530, a souvenir sheet depicting an earlier issue from the Canton of Basel (# 5). The Swiss stamp on pg. 4 is the 1937 issue (#237) of the Mobil Post Office, the bus which served the isolated mountain villages.

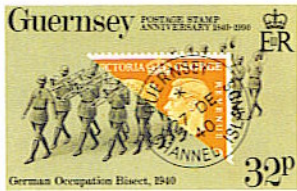




February Bio:

Harold Allen

Harold came to the hobby years ago via the topical route. As a physician, a friend gave him a book about Medicine on Stamps, and he has collected ever since, admitting that there can be collecting highs and lows that accompany work and family needs.



On his visits to Washington, DC, he always stopped at Woody's Department Store that had a Philatelic Shop. The specialist there introduced him to Russian stamps, British Art on stamps, and the Channel Islands. And over the years kept an eye out for items that would interest him on his subsequent visits.

Harold learned of PSLC through the local newspaper. There he met Lucy Eyster who introduced him to members of the club. He enjoys the educational presentations, auctions, and dealers at meetings along with the annual Lancopex, and other shows. His current project is a country collection of Greenland, and he has been working on this for the last three years or so.

Starting in family practice, Harold later attended the University of Michigan for board certification in Occupational Medicine. He has five children, six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. He is especially proud of one son who followed him in medicine and is now chief medical officer with a large Medical Center in Nashville, TN.

January Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening: Incoming president Bob Epler opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

New Members & Guests: Lucy Eyster introduced new members, Bill Greiner, III and Dave Hunt. Guests included Dave Greiner and Audrey Boyles.

2012 Dues: Lucy also announced that dues are payable, so please see her to renew for the year.

Minutes: There was no business meeting in December.

27-28 April Lancopex: Jim Boyles announced that this is his last year coordinating the show. He is preparing sign-up lists and

will have them for the February meeting. There will be Peel 'n Stick in March. Much help will be needed. Anyone interested in working on the show cachet should see him. Lou DiFelice will be coordinating exhibits, so see him for a prospectus.

Regional Speakers Bureau: See Paul Petersen if interested in presenting to other clubs. He circulated the sign-up sheet for the monthly meeting snacks.

Woodcrest Villa: Lou DiFelice's motion was approved to make a donation to Woodcrest Villa in lieu of payment for our use of BlueBird Commons for monthly PSLC meetings.

Newsletter Postage: Diane Meek discussed the pros and cons of purchasing "Forever" stamps now to save money when posting the 25 future issues of the monthly newsletter. Club decided that the small savings would not be cost effective for the expense.

January Drawing: This was won by Chuck Kilgore.

Program: Following a snack break, the Winter Auction was held.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$3,037.06 (1 Nov)

Income: \$576.24

Expenses: \$756.68

Closing: \$2856.52 (31 Dec)

3-CDs valued at \$6,461.85

Membership

2012 Dues

While collecting dues this year and in years past, there have been club members who live out of town or have been unable to attend the meetings. They remark that through the newsletter they remain connected to the club and its members, a reminder of their collecting and the friends they made here. The following still owe dues as of 25 January. If you have already paid, please disregard this notice. Thank you for your membership. **Lucy**

Harold Allen

Dan Anspach

Keith Bear

Judith Englert

Lynn Floyd

John & Carolyn Ford

Sandy Keim

Tim Kosko

Jeff Levan

Greg Macaluso

Stan Raugh

Don Smith

Robert Rothen

Mike Shirley

Wm. Skelly

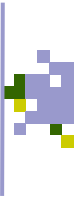
Stephen Wander

President (cont. from Pg. 1)

for stamp collectors, but I see no justification for including them in *Scott's*.

I attended the York County Stamp Show held at the York Fairgrounds in mid-January and found it well organized and, given the adverse weather, reasonably well-attended.

January was a busy month for us with the large number of new issues as a result of the rate changes, including the \$1.05 international rate issued here in Lancaster. February looks to be much more relaxed. **Bob**



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows, and Trip

2012 Programs and Hosts

8 February: Swiss Philately, a DVD by the Helvetia Society & APS. **Host:** Joy Bouchard

14 March: 1.) Peel 'n Stick for Lancopex. 2.) Developing One-Page Exhibits. Dick Osman (Blue-Grey Stamp Club). **Host:** Dick Shaefer

11 April: The Dollar Rate-1797-1845. Bill Schultz. **Host:** Eleanor Wheeler

9 May: Club Auction. **Host:** Diane Meek

13 June: Postal Card Series of the 1970s-Patriots. John Brownell. **Host:** TBA

11 July: TBA. **Host:** TBA

8 August: Picnic. No Host

12 September: Club Auction. **Host:** TBA

10 October: Congressional Exhibit of Signed Covers. Representative Joseph Pitts (R-PA). **Host:** Lucy Eyster

14 November: The USPS: The Present and Future. William P. Snyder. **Host:** TBA

12 December: Dinner. No Host
Snacks/Hosts Needed: Hosts are needed for June, July, Sept., and Nov. Please consider this and sign up this month.

July Program: The program slot for July remains vacant. If you are interested in presenting please contact Paul Petersen. Help is available if needed for your audiovisuals.

Lancopex: Jim announced this will be on 27-28 April.

In Passing: Bob Epler submitted the 10 January

obituary for Harold Morrin. In the copy it noted that Mr. Morrin had been president of the PSLC. Perhaps a long-time club member can tell us about him at this month's meeting. He had a stellar resume of community service.

Dinner with the speakers: While we do not pay our speakers, we wish to take them to dinner prior to their presentation. This will take place at about 4:45 at a local restaurant. More info coming.

Membership: Member Vern Marten notified the club that he is taking some time away due to work needs and his time with AARP. He plans to be back and collecting. He wishes everyone the best for 2012 and asks us to hold on to his PSLC nametag. ☺

Spring Stamp Shows

• PSLC Needs You! •

The "Stuff" of stamp shows is the volunteers who work them. Opportunities this spring abound.

Lancopex: (27-28 April) Sign-ups are coming for registration, snacks, set-up/tear-down, youth table, & others. Please consider your time. **Jim**

National Topical Stamp Show: (22-24 June) Nighttime security is needed. PSLC members can earn \$150 per night. 8PM Thur-8AM Fri; 6PM Fri-8AM Sat; 6PM Sat-8AM Sun. Consider this. You can sign up for one or all nights or part of a night. PSLC members will be given preferential consideration. Sign-ups for the Registration Table will be coming. **Lucy**

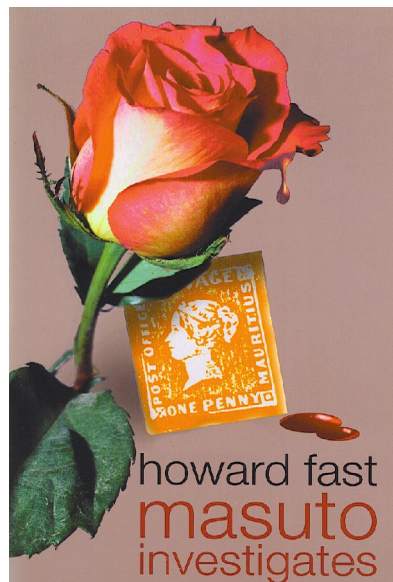
The Case of the One-Penny Orange or Who killed the stamp dealer?

Who wouldn't like to own a 1¢ Orange Mauritius Post Office, on cover or off? It seems that someone would murder for one, or would they? A corpse and missing stamp seem to point this way in the crime novel, *The Case of the One-Penny Orange*. Sergeant Detective Masao Masuto must figure this out in a Hollywood setting in the mid 1970s. The Holocaust also figures in this.

Any novel with a postage stamp on the cover and references to *The Scott's Catalogue* is a must buy. This who-done-it was written by Howard Fast, a prolific and well known author from the mid through late 20th century.

The novel referred to here was bundled as one of two novels under the title: *Masuto Investigates* published in 2000 by ibooks, NY. Fast first published this mystery in 1977 under the pseudonym, E.V. Cunningham, through Wm. Morrow & Co., Publishers under the title *The Case of the One-Penny Orange*. Are you are interested in a good

read, a heady mystery? Check out either author name/title online or visit your bookseller.



✂

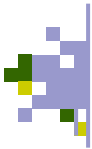
Date: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please clip this notice, complete it, and turn in with \$10 to Lucy Eyster at the February club meeting. You may also mail it to Lucy at 2001 Harrisburg Pk, B503, Lancaster, PA 17601

Please encourage your non-member stamp collector friends to join and enjoy the benefits of membership. Make this your New Year's resolution: "Every member get a member."



Musings: February-2012

Some reflections...

Stamp Shows

I really enjoy the York Stamp Show every January. It ranks up there with the NFL playoffs and the few extra minutes of sunshine each day. It is a nice break from the doldrums of our typically bleak mid-winter.

But what is there specifically about the show that I like? First, I do not have to set up and take down the frames with my friends in the club. Second, I get to bed at a reasonable time each night of the show. Third, I can relax with the dealers and their wares. So while it is less exciting than Lancopex, I do enjoy attending York's exhibit in January.

Each year I (and several other club members) get more concerned about the viability of Lancopex, as it becomes harder to get volunteers for all that is needed. Last year we used child labor for the first time to help with the frames and set-up. This year's officers are talking about a food service to make it more convenient to purchase a snack or lunch. But your assistance is our most precious commodity. Will you help?

The Lancaster Stamp

Coinciding with Day-1 of the York Stamp Show was the First Day of Issue for the new \$1.05 Lancaster Int'l Airmail Stamp issued on Friday, 20 January. While there was no First Day Ceremony for this stamp, there was at least a First Day Cancel. We only knew this because of club member Dick Colberg's diligent efforts to squeeze the info out of the

PO and share it with the club. Even then he said that he would not believe it until he saw it. The PO gave *Linn's* an issue date of Monday, 23 January 2012!

Dick was relieved when the PO was ready with a First Day Cancel in hand. However, he wasn't impressed with the first strike that was crooked on his new \$1.05 stamp! Fortunately, the clerk let Dick assist her with the application of the remainder of the cancels. (See example below of Dick's "assisted" strike on a Lancaster Amish Postcard.)

Dick made up several First Day items and brought them to the York County Show that day. It is a beautiful stamp, our county's stamp, so use them proudly on all your international mail.

Perhaps with some advanced notice and a closer working relationship with the PO, there could have been a First Day ceremony with a cacheted cover from which both PSLC and USPS might have earned some revenue.

In olden times, both of these organizations worked together and made a considerable profit

with the 3¢ Conestoga First Day (#2252) cancel on 29 February 1988.



Pearl Harbor

The December issue of the *American Philatelist* was devoted to the postal history of December 7th, 1941, Pearl Harbor, and the days that followed. As a relatively new dabbler into postal history, I am continually amazed by the material that collectors can find. On the other hand, I mourn that which is probably long gone.

The postal history shown in this issue is of great interest with the unusual routings, the auxiliary markings, censor tapes, and more. But even more poignant was that so many of the letters were returned to the family marked "Return-Missing."

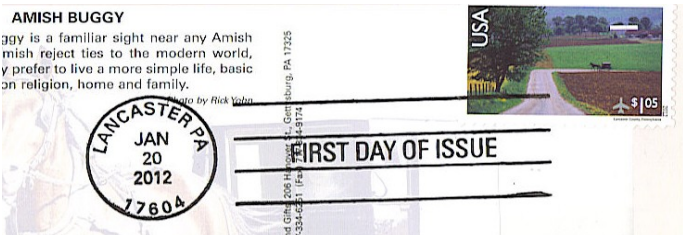
Those surrendering on Wake Island were executed, and those in the Philippines were marched to their death. How hard it must have been to write a letter about the family to a son in the Pacific only to have it "Returned-Deceased."

The Number One Hobby

If you did not see it, there was good news reported in Michael Baadke's editorial in *Linn's Stamp News* (20 January, Pg. 4). Wikicollecting.org conducted a poll of 150K collectors from 160 countries all over the world. Participants could choose from among 75 collecting categories. Stamp collecting was rated #1, right at the top of the list.

Baadke listed other rankings as follows: #2-Antiques; #3-autographs; #4-memorabilia; and #5-coins round out the top-five. Other hobbies of interest that Baadke listed include: #10-Comic books; #30-Beanie Babies; #40-Guitars; #53-Postcards; #71-Mobil phones; and #75-Video games.

This is good news for us stamp hobbyists, but the old researcher in me would like to see the methodology here regarding the demography of the sample, the phrasing of the question(s), the number of selections allowed per subject, and the details regarding the categories among other issues. Ed□



This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.