

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, 14 November 2012

Silent Auction starts at 6:30 PM and Meeting starts at 7:00 PM

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Lou Leidig

...Come early to view silent auction items...

The Past, Present, and Future of the USPS

Dr. Wm. P. Snyder, COL, USA, RET

Come join Dr. Bill for an entertaining and interactive presentation on the past, present, and future status of the USPS. How did such an organization with its glorious history transform into a its current state where it is oversized and under-funded? Since the late 1990s the USPS has had the challenge of ever-decreasing first class mail due to the encroachment of the internet for com-

munication, bill paying, and other functions traditionally the bread & butter for USPS. What about the Congressional Act to require escrow deposits for employee and retiree health funding-a \$5B outlay? Then there's the union requirements, Saturday delivery, closure of sorting facilities, and other issues which challenge USPS. Come ready with questions and discussion items.

Happy Thanksgiving



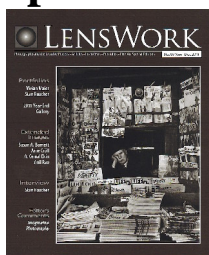
O Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good..."
From the Book of Psalms

Silent Auction this Month: Prior to the business meeting and Bill's presentation tonight, members will have the opportunity to include up to two (2) items for the silent auction. Lots will be displayed on the same tables used for our traditional club auctions, those near the snack table. A hardcopy bidding form will be included with the newsletters that are sent via the USPS. For those who receive an e-newsletter, it will be sent electronically as a second attachment along with the e-newsletter. Make copies as needed. Complete one bid sheet per item. Include description of your item with a minimum bid. Attach item securely to the bid sheet. Club members will have from 6:30-7:00 PM to review the lots and enter bids on the bid sheets. Auction-meister RD Noble will call for last bids and explain the methodologies for the financial transactions. There is no fee enter your 1-2 lots. If this is a successful undertaking, more silent auctions may be held. Please bring small bills & change for ease of fiscal settlement.

Christmas Seals Lot: In the traditional auction style, an outstanding set of Christmas Seals will go under Al Schaub's hammer with a minimum bid of \$50.00. This is a club donation.

A Parable for Stamp Collectors-Part II

Last month the challenges facing photographer Brooks Jensen were presented. Using a little imagination, there is an uncanny similarity to stamp collectors. Part II concludes with Jensen's plan, things to do ahead of time for his great archival problem (a.k.a.-his tons



and tons of photographs and negatives.) How can he make life easier for himself right now, increase his working space, and avoid great surprises for his friends and family? (From *Lenswork*, #102, Sep-Oct 2012, pgs. 54-59.) **See Musings Pg.4** →

Volume 75, No. 11

November, 2012

Highlights inside...

- Future of the USPS
- Silent Auction
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- A Stamp Parable
- A Philatelic Thriller
- 2013 Dues
- Club Volunteers
- Minutes & Treasury
- Christmas Preview
- Boy Scout Delivery
- *Ave et Vale*

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

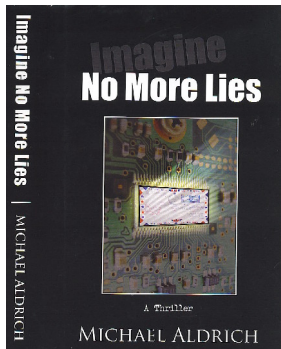
Membership, Publicity & ATA Rep
Lucy Eyster:
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Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640
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A New Philatelic Thriller

The crimes of this novel do not involve philatelic rarities. Instead there is a device that could alter history. Extremely detailed philately, the stamp trade, and a stamp collecting family overlay the plot.



It starts out with an engaged story-book family. The children are pleading with their father for more stamp stories as they peruse the album. The serenity does not last long...

This is stamp auctioneer Michael Aldrich's first novel, *Imagine no more lies*. It was published by Xlibris in 2011.

The book belongs to PSLC counsel Dennis Shumaker who recommends it as a good mystery. While the plot and philatelic environment weave well into a suspenseful course, he notes two problems. First, some of the legal interpretations lack validity. Second, the copy editing is sloppy with grammatical mistakes throughout! If you can get through these annoyances, then you'll have an entertaining read.



Treasurer Lou DiFelice introduces Congressman Joe Pitts for his October PSLC presentation.

October Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening Announcements: Lou DiFelice opened the meeting at 7:05.

Program: Lou introduced Congressman Joe Pitts who presented tonight's program on his congressional exhibits of 2010 and 2012. He offered to arrange a tour of the National Postal Museum in D.C. for the club with an opportunity to visit the "gems" in the vault. Roy Baardsen will follow-up with his people.

Minutes/Treasury: October minutes and treasury reports were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Membership. Lucy Eyster introduced tonight's new member, Mark Jardel, who collects U.S. stamps and postal history, along with other ephemera and paper documents. There were 34 in attendance. Dues will be collected starting next month. Lou will make a \$50 donation to APS in Herbert Tindall's name, and Paul Petersen will send a sympathy card to the

family from the club.

Dinner: Lucy passed around a sign-up sheet for the 12 December Dinner in the Garden Cafe. Cost will be \$7.00 per member or guest, and the menu is to be arranged. There were 33 signed up as of tonight.

Competitive exhibiting at Lancopex: Regarding their continuation, Lou reviewed the variables for competitive exhibits and took questions and comments. There was not much support for competitive exhibits, but several members were interested in compiling small non-competitive exhibits. Lou will circulate a sign-up sheet in November for names of those committing to exhibiting in April. The committee will make the final decision on the future of competitive exhibits.

Auction Issues: 1.) Al Shaub has a donated **Christmas Seals** collection to auction at the next meeting with an opening bid of \$50 to go to the club. 2.)

Bob Noble is organizing a club-wide **silent auction** for the November meeting (See Pg.-1 for auction details).

Club Trip: Roy Baardsen will be working with Joe Pitts' people to organize the club tour of the National Postal Museum next year. Think about the "rarities" you would like to see from our national collection at NPM.

Drawing: The \$5.00 drawing was won by Truysde Greiner.

Officer Election: The following slate of officers will be presented at the November meeting for a vote:

President: RD Noble

VP: Len Kasper

Sect'y: Joy Bouchard

Treasurer: Lou DiFelice

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,045.92 (1 Sep)

Income: \$88.00

Expenses: \$49.89

Closing: \$4,084.03 (30 Sep)

3-CDs valued at \$6,461.85

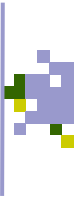
December Dinner Plans Are In The Making

Your December Dinner Committee is at work. They met on 23 October and will reconvene on 12 November. The tentative menu includes Dijon Chicken, Fresh Salmon, Prime Rib of Beef, and all the trimmings. There is talk about a 75th Anniversary cake to get us started on 2013, our Diamond Jubilee. A variety of entertainment topics are under discussion,

and of course, there will be a gift exchange. Based on last year's popularity, there will be a second exchange of non-philatelic items for the



"Stampless Others" or for collectors with way too many stamps already! As always, your guests are most welcome. More on this to come in Nov.



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows & Members

2012 Programs and Hosts

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

12 December: Dinner. No Host

2013 Programs

9 January: Club Auction.

13 Feb: Number Ones of the World, an APS DVD

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

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

8 May: Club Auction

12 June: TBA*

10 July: TBA*

14 August: Club Picnic

11 September: Club Auction

9 October: Topical Study: Stained Glass on Stamps. David Hunt.

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

11 December: Dinner

***Program Openings:** The June and July slots are open and sign-ups are coming this month.

Ave et Vale

Longtime PSLC club member, friend, and 50+ year APS member Herb Tindall passed away on 4 October at 97. He was very active with the club for many years, serving as an officer, presenter, and contributor to the monthly newsletter including classic philatelic articles, short stories, and more. He was a family practice physician in Lancaster County for many years until retiring in 1981. He served in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of operation as a Navy Medical Corps officer during World War Two. ☺

Boy Scout Christmas Delivery in the U.K.

Through a 1981 Act of Parliament, a number of non-profit organizations are allowed to collect and deliver Christmas and New Year Greeting Cards between 25 November and 1 January. The Boy Scouts were a chief beneficiary. Their stamps are described by John Holman in his article **British Private Posts** published in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* (September-2012, Pgs. 49-49).

The quantity of mail carried varies by town from a few hundred delivered locally to

hundreds of thousands delivered to a larger area.



In the town of Yoevil, for example, the charge is 15p, and Scouts delivered over 20,000 items in 2011. This town does not create its own stamps for Xmas. Instead they use a rubber stamp showing that postage has been paid. In another

city, Ipswich, the Scouts sorted and carried over 1.5M pieces of mail since they started delivery in 1987.

Most stamps are economically made on self-stick paper. The price for the service is about a third of the second class postage by Royal Mail.



PSLC Volunteers At Work

2013 Officer Slate

President: RD Noble

VP: Len Kasper

Sect'y: Joy Bouchard

Treasurer: Lou DiFelice

Anniversary Committee

Joy Bouchard

Truyde Greiner

Sarah Mylin

Al Schaub

Eleanor Wheeler

Dinner Committee

Joy Bouchard

Lucy Eyster

Truyde Greiner

Sarah Mylin

Lancopex Committee

Co-Chairmen:

Dick Shaefer & Lou DiFelice

Bourse: Dick Shaefer

Exhibits: Lou DiFelice

Registration/Lobby Management:

Lucy Eyster

Awards/Palmars: John Bray

Manpower/Operations:

Paul Petersen & Bill Greiner

Food/Snacks: Len Kasper

Publicity: Lucy Eyster & Len Kasper

Show Program: RD Noble

Cover Sales: Sara Mylin

Cachet/Cancellation:

Lucy Eyster & Diane Meek

Security: Dick Shaefer & Paul Petersen

Youth Table: Tuyde Greiner

Dealer Hospitality: Paul Petersen



✂.....

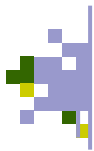
Date: _____

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

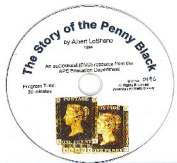
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ APS Member ATA Member

Please check the APS/ATA box (s) above if you are a paid-up member in good standing.



The PSLC DVD Collection



- Canal Zone Gems
- The Story of the Penny Black (1840)
- The Penny Postal: Gone But Still Collectible
- The Sun Never Sets on Mickey Mouse: Walt Disney's Empire
- Fancy Cancels on U.S. Postal Cards
- The Doctoring of Postage Stamps: Philatelists Beware
- American Revolution: A Glorious Undertaking
- Jamaica in World War II
- Postally Used Valentines of the Nineteenth Century
- Number Ones of the World
- Switzerland: A Panorama of its Stamps
- Switzerland's 13 Types of Postal Stationary



Musings: November-2012

A Philatelic Parable-Pt. II (Continued from Pg-1)

1.) **Disperse while you're alive.** Don't leave the disposition of archives to unsuspecting and unwilling family and friends. As you are the owner and most vested as to where/whom your stuff goes, make a plan. Be responsible.

2.) **Price it reasonably.** If you charge \$500 per print, you're likely to own them all for life. Price your stuff so that it sells, and you make sufficient remuneration to engage in future creative photography. Besides, collectors with your taste will be able to enjoy your work.

3.) **Sunset closure.** Are the photographs you made in your 20s necessarily viable for sale in your 60s? Photographers are like trophy hunters who gather and gather but never let go. Isn't it better to get rid of much of it right now?

Jensen uses the term "inventory cholesterol" to describe the old material that drags and weighs us down. It is better to move on to new artistic pursuits.

4.) **Projects.** Unfinished material can easily build up around you. Why not turn these piles into finished projects and "file" the rest of the unused prints. Projects bring satisfaction when done. They are more

easily sold and distributed. You can look at the boxes and piles and fantasize their future in advance, but a finished project is easier and more satisfying when you sell.

5.) **Gift economy.** It is sometimes better to think in terms of distributing items over selling items. There is 'karmic' virtue in distributing items without acquiring commercial or monetary gain. There is joy in giving art away, as the beneficiary enjoys it, and the artist's family is no longer burdened with it. Jensen has given away 1000s of images. He has suffered no consequences whatsoever from this generosity.

6.) **What do I keep?** Jensen discards all proofs and test prints-no hoarding for him. If it is not a finished project, out it goes. It is best to keep only a representative inventory (not a full inventory) of photos. Perhaps some day in the future, someone may have a historical or research interest in your work, maybe with an exhibit in mind.

Jensen's conclusion: Don't leave the disposition of your material to others. Be proactive while you have the time

and your health. This way you are more likely to keep it alive after you're gone.

Ed's conclusion: Family and friends hate surprises. Don't leave them a mess. There is a connection for stamp collectors to each of Jensen's postulated problems and his six (6) recommendations. I believe you've already started to make some of the connections yourself.

2013 One-Page Exhibits: Be thinking about your exhibits for next year (November). I am excited about some of my favorite philatelic items, mostly topical stuff. These include APS, waterfalls, buffalos, slogan cancels, stamp expos, & World's Fairs.



Keep in mind to have three philatelic elements as the basis of your subject. These include covers, FDCs, stamps, Cinderellas, blocks, postcards, souvenir sheets, and many other items to support your exhibit.

Ed ✉



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