

LCPS NEWS LETTER
December 2006
Dick Wheeler, Editor
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It is hard to believe that another year has passed me by and that my tenure as president of LCPS will soon be over. I want to thank all of the members of the club who over the past year have helped me in fulfilling my duties as club president.

Our December meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec 13th, and will be our holiday get together. Marilyn Shirley will be making arrangements with Millersville University Food Services once again to cater our get together. As we did last year, there will be a \$5.00 per person charge with the club paying the balance of the cost of the food.

Please remember to bring a philatelic-related wrapped gift (no more than \$5.00) for our exchange festivities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to both thank and congratulate our 2007 club officers who will be taking the reigns of leadership for the next 2 years: President/ Bob Noble, VP/ Eleanor Wheeler, Secretary/ Lori Hostetler and Treas./ Clair Smith. The new officers and myself will be meeting in December to begin to map out our programs and activities for the upcoming year.

Any member interested in giving a short presentation or sharing a particular philatelic interest of theirs with the club at one of our meetings should contact Bob Noble. Also, starting in December we will be collecting club dues for 2007. Dues are \$10.00 per member and should be given to Jim Boyles, our membership secretary. We would like to have all dues current by our February meeting.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our December meeting and extend my best wishes to all for a joyous Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous 2007.

Respectfully
Lou DiFelice

STAMP CLUB MINUTES, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2006

President Lou DiFelice called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Lou did not send postcards to advise member's of this month's meeting. He thanked Dick Wheeler for editing the club news letter.

There was discussion of how best to provide club members with the club news letter. It was decided that the news letter will be sent electronically via email when possible and mailed to club members who do not have email addresses. A form was passed around for people to enter their email addresses. Bob Allen commented that it is regretful that the club prefers to send the news letter electronically rather than having it delivered by the post office. Lou requested help in creating mailing labels for the club news letter. Bob Noble volunteered to create mailing labels in cooperation with Jim Boyles, membership chairman.

Lou welcomed Truys Greiner and expressed the club's support and respect for Bill. He welcomed Jerry Kurland back to club meetings as he is recovered from an illness.

The Holiday party will be held on December 13 the club's regular meeting night. Lou circulated a sign-up sheet for club members willing to assist Marilyn Shirley.

The annual election of officers was held. Lou asked for any new nominations and announced that anyone who wished to be considered for election could express their interest. A motion was made to close nominations. Bob Noble will automatically serve as president for 2007 due to his service as vice president during 2006. The club voted to elect: 1) Eleanor Wheeler, vice president; 2) Clair Smith, treasurer; and 3) Lori Hostetler, secretary. Outgoing and incoming club officers will meet in December to transfer responsibilities. Lou will make arrangements to meet with Clair Smith, our new treasurer, at Fulton Bank to transfer the check writing "signature" authority.

Sylvia Geisler was introduced by Diane Meek. Sylvia is new to stamp collecting.

There was discussion about the holiday party to be held on December 13. Lou suggested club members bring a stamp-related gift valued up to \$5. These gifts would be exchanged in an interesting way to be determined. The cost will be \$5 per person with food supplied by Millersville University. Lou said that the actual cost of the meal is \$10-11 per person and he suggested that additional cost of the meal be paid out of club funds. There were no objections.

Jim Boyles announced that APS currently has a promotion for new members at a special price of \$19. He distributed applications for those interested.

Bob Noble announced that he is looking for programs for next year and encouraged club members to consider making a presentation. Paul Petersen volunteered to assist by making slides for anyone needing them. The only cost would be for the materials needed.

The monthly club drawing winner was Hiltrud Lu who was not present. Next month's drawing will be worth \$10.00.

Paul Petersen presented a very interesting APS slide program, "Around the World in 80 Stamps."

Respectfully Submitted
Eleanor Wheeler, Secretary

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Holiday Banquet Committee (Marilyn Shirley, Mary Husson, Diane Meek) met and here's the scoop: Marilyn will place an order with Millersville University for the food for the evening meal. The Banquet will be on Wednesday, December 13 at 7 pm. The stamp club members that signed up are:

Al Shaub	Eleanor Wheeler	Marilyn Shirley
Ben Heller	Frances Stump	Mary Husson
Bob Allen	Jerry Kurland	Mike Matusko
	Jim Boyles	Mike Shirley
Bob Noble	Jim Zigas	Patsy Harsh
Chuck Kilgore	Lesley Botte	Paul Petersen
Chuck Shirley	Lori Hostetler	Peter Billis
Dave Strayer	Lou DiFelice	Ray Stanitski
Diane Meek	Lou Leidig	Stephen Wander
Dick Colberg	Lucy Eyster	Truyde Greiner
Dick Shaefer		
Dick Wheeler		

If you would like to attend and are not signed-up, please contact Marilyn Shirley immediately. Also, if you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a gift valued at no more than \$5.00 that could be enjoyed by anyone receives it. Join the FUN!

At the banquet, there will be a folder with each person's name on it- for anyone who would like to give a Holiday card to someone. Save 39 cents and bring a card for your friends.

After the meal, Steve Wander will provide music and an entertaining program. Be sure to come and bring your appetite. See you there!

ARTICLES AND INFORMATION FOR THE CLUB NEWS LETTER

Folks, I (Dick Wheeler) need an article on a topic of interest for the January 2007 news letter. Any takers?

Please provide me with all information of interest to club members for inclusion in the news letter no later than the 20th of each month. My email address is: rwassociates1@verizon.net or give me a call at 717.892.1547.

THIS MONTH'S ARTICLE: DICK COLBERG

Dick is recognized as one of the club's sages and needs little introduction ... however... if you collect anything, like stamps, as Dick has since he was eight years old, it's likely you have become a bit of an expert and that as an adult you would have an interesting collection. This is true for Dick who has exhibited in several international exhibits. His interests include Great Britain, Surface Printed Issues, Mexican Postal Stationary, U.S. and U.S. possessions and Lititz postal history. Dick received a gold medal for an exhibit of Great Britain materials. In addition to his interest in stamps and other postal, he enjoys art, classical music and opera. Born in Chicago, Dick has lived in other parts of the mid-west, Ohio, Louisiana and spends several months each year in France. Lancaster has been home since 1976. He joined the Lancaster club in 2001 and is also a member of the Lebanon club.

PHILATELY ACROSS THE POND

By Dick Colberg

As many of you already know, my wife and I own a house in the Normandy region of France and we spend three months there each year. Because I've been quite active in philately in the U.S. for many years, it only seemed natural to try to extend that while in France.

Our house is in a very small town (350 people) and there are no stores in the town at all. The two closest towns with significant commerce are between 5 and 10 miles away. While reading the local weekly newspaper over there I found that there are stamp clubs in both of those towns. Both clubs meet on Sunday mornings, Brionne on the first Sunday and Bernay on the third Sunday and both meet from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Meeting structure in each of these clubs is pretty loose. They have no business meeting; the officers meet separately on a different day. In my experience, collectors in France, and many other European countries, collect mostly their own country (new issues mostly) and if they have another collecting interest it is usually of a topical nature.

Each of the clubs has several members who are small time dealers and they bring their stock and spread it out on a table. There is one member who is responsible for getting to the post office to get current-issue stamps for the membership. That person works from a list of who wants what. I'm not sure what

financial arrangements are made, but the new stamps are distributed at the meeting.

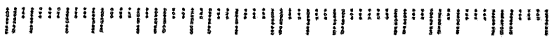
The closest club, in Brionne, is the smallest and I've only attended one meeting. I didn't feel it was worth my time to return. The farthest club, in Bernay, is much more active and I've attended several meetings. The members are friendly enough, but the language is still hard for me and I cannot carry on long conversations in French. I've been befriended by two men in the Bernay club; one who collects French pictorial cancels on cover, and one who exhibits a topical collection of Rugby on stamps. I have attended an out-of-town exhibit with this man.

I have taken Xerox copies of two of my smaller exhibits to show the folks at the Bernay club and they were totally not interested! I have found almost no interest in collecting U.S. stamps. I have also found very few people collecting the early issues of France, even though they are not very expensive. If you check your Scott Catalogue you'll see that French stamps in general are not expensive.

There are several exhibitors in the Bernay club, including several junior collectors. The president of the club works with the juniors and their exhibits. Exhibiting in France is a bit different than in the U.S. There you must start at the most elementary class and work your way up the ladder based on point scores. At the beginning level you are allotted three frames at the local level. After achieving a high enough score, you can show five frames. After getting a high enough score you can move to the regional level, then on to kind of a super-regional, and then on to the national level.

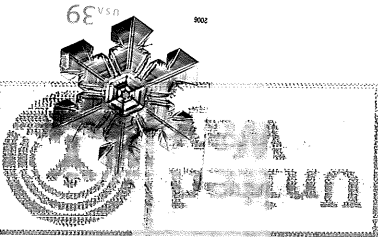
Another interesting thing I've done is attend the weekend, outdoor, stamp bourse in Paris. This has been going for many years and has even been featured in a couple of classic movies. The venue is the Tuileries Gardens, a block off of the Champs Elysees. There are usually 25 or so dealers there. These dealers have a large stock of French stamps, world wide topicals, general collections, and picture post cards. Collecting picture post cards is big over there and I've shown you some that I have bought featuring our small village.

I don't want to collect modern France so I'm still on the lookout for some aspect of French philately that I can jump into and have some fun with. A couple of years ago I passed up an old collection of French revenue stamps because the French flea market dealer wanted too much money. In retrospect, I should have bought it because I have not seen anything as interesting since. So, I'll keep looking.



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