



April 2004

Vol. 14, # 5

EDITOR'S NOTES

The May meeting will be held at the Maple Grove Community Center at 7:00 p.m., 12 May. The program for the meeting is "Watermarks & Tagging."

Lucy Eyster's Minutes of the April meeting summarize Bob Lamb's informative remarks on the "state of APS" during his visit in April. If you missed the meeting, be sure to review Lucy's column.

The deadline for signing up for the June visit to the National Stamp Museum is Wednesday, 5 May. Currently, 33 people have signed up—but we need a total of 38 in order to make the trip. To sign up, please call Charles Kilgore at 569-5439. The cost is \$20 per participant.

The dealers and approximately 500 visitors who attended LANCOPEX 2004 had many favorable comments on the show. (See page 3.) All were impressed with the helpfulness and friendliness of our Club's members, who assisted in numerous ways: in setting up dealer's booths; in making both dealers and visitors feel welcome; and in organizing and running a first rate show. The Junior table, staffed by Marilyn and Chuck Shirley, was a special attraction to many of our guests. So special thanks to all who helped with LANCOPEX 2004.

MINUTES, APRIL 14, 2004, LCPS MEETING

The meeting started at 7 P.M. on Wednesday, April 14, 2004. Thirty-three members were present as President Marilyn Shirley introduced our special guest and speaker for the evening, Executive Director of the American Philatelic Society, Robert Lamb.

Bob updated us on the APS, its membership and services. Membership, now about 48,000, is declining by about 1000 a year. The median age of APS members is 58. An ad agency has been hired to devise ways to increase membership in the APS.

APS services are doing well. Stamp sales are working from a \$9,000,000 inventory, and internet sales, which have a \$4,000,000 inventory, are increasing. Expertizing is a busy area, and Stamp Shows are doing well. The APS Library has two miles of book shelves and is increasing its quantity of philatelic literature at the rate of one mile every 10 years.

The increasing pace of the APS services has resulted in a real need for more office space. After much discussion the decision was made to purchase a match factory in Bellefonte, PA, which has 100,000 sq. ft. of space. Half the space will be (or is now) rented out and become a source of income for APS. The remaining half of the building will be used by the APS—with the current building in State College being sold. The APS has had a wonderful reception from community leaders in Bellefonte. (Continued on p. 4)

Philatelic Awards, LANCOPEX 2004

GOLD

James Boyles	POSTMARKS OF LANCASTER, PA 1785-1899
Gordon Miller	STAMPS OF THE AZORES
John Hufnagel	UNITED STATES VENDING COILS
Steve Washburne	PORTUGESE CHRISTMAS
Steve Washburne	TRIP TO MADEIRA

SILVER

Glen Blauch	LEBANON COUNTY POSTMARKS
James Boyles	POST OFFICER OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PA
Richard Colberg	LITITZ, PA, POSTAL HISTORY
Richard Colberg	BALTIMORE CARRIER STAMPS
Richard Colberg	MOLINE PLOW CO.

BRONZE

James Boyles	CONESTOGA WAGONS & CACHETS
Don Smith	ANTARCTICA
Eleanor Steeb	EVERYBODY MUST GET STONED

SPECIAL AWARDS

GRAND AWARD	John Hufnagel—UNITED STATES VENDING COILS
APS AWARD	Steve Washburne—PORTUGESE CHRISTMAS
US STAMP SOCIETY AWARD	John Hufnagel—UNITED STATES VENDING COILS
RESERVE GRAND AWARD	James Boyles—POSTMARKS OF LANCASTER, PA, 1785-1899
LCPS AWARD	James Boyles—POSTMARKS OF LANCASTER, PA, 1785-1899
VON HAKE PA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AWARD	Richard Colberg—LITITZ, PA, POSTAL HISTORY
AAPE AWARD	James Boyles—POST OFFICERS OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PA
TOPICAL AWARD	Don Smith—ANTARCTICA
POSTAL HISTORY AWARD	James Boyles—POSTMARKS OF LANCASTER, PA, 1785-1899

COMMENTS FROM DEALERS & VISITORS

My best show! Saturday very good day, especially the AM; Sunday — typical-slow compared to Saturday. Sundays in religious areas is weak. Suggest considering a Friday PM-Saturday show — like York.

--B&J Stamps, Bob Zeigler

Second to the mega national shows, LANCOPEX is the best show in Eastern Pennsylvania, and perhaps, the entire state. This is the result of a history of excellent planning and support by a large number of Club members who leave no stone unturned in the task of visitor hospitality and dealer support. Evidence to support this conclusion is to be seen in the large number of loyal, annual attendees and continuous interest by dealers.

--International Collectibles

One of the best of the Club Shows. Well run, friendly committee and attendees; good variety of exhibits.... Enthusiastic group of young helpers to assist with loading and unloading of dealers stock. --Bob Swed

I think Saturday was well attended. Sunday was a little off in my opinion. I do think it is an excellent facility. Even though I am in New York, I am still very interested in doing the show. --Richard J. Kline, R& J Stamps

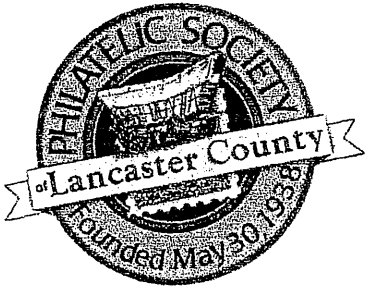
Fantabulous time...working, buying, meeting old friends. --Don

WE always enjoy LANCOPEX. It is easy to reach, has a wonderfully illuminated spacious room, and provides great parking. Club members are always friendly.... The exhibits are always interesting.... Lancaster County is a fabulous place to visit.... Thank you for providing junior collectors with the materials, stamps and an interesting educational hobby. The Post Office clerks are most helpful and pleasant and you will even order and deliver lunch! What a great show --Bob & Barbara Brown

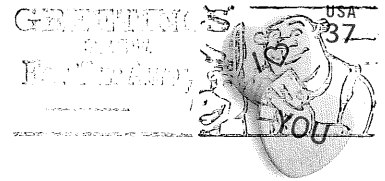
I enjoyed meeting all the “different” people coming through the doors. The people make the show. --Lori

I have attended this show for many years and am always surprised to see the many kids and women collecting stamps. This is unusual.... It is also good to have so many collectors—unusual when topical collecting seems to be slowly dying. --Q-Stamps, Alex Brodsky

Comments compiled by Eleanor & Richard Wheeler



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Saturday, June 26, 2004, is the dedication of the new facility. We will offer visitors a tour of the building and a formal dedication ceremony in the afternoon. Dinner in the evening is \$100 a person. All stamp collectors are invited to the ceremony and associated activities.

In the question and answer period following Bob Lamb's talk, he noted that collectors are becoming more specialized due to the quantity and cost of stamps. The APS is against personalized stamps because they consider them a money-generating gimmick. Thanks to a change in personnel at the USPS, relations between the USPS and the stamp collecting community has improved sharply in recent years. There is no active program for junior members at the APS.

Treasurer Don Weber reported a balance in the checking account of \$2675.49. Chuck Kilgore advises that 33 people have signed up for the Washington, DC, trip on Saturday, June 12—but at least five more are needed to fill the bus. Bob Noble and Woody Hahn will co-chair a display at the Senior Expo at the Lititz Community Center on Wednesday, May 19 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

This month's drawing would have been worth \$10 to Harry Ibaugh had he been at the meeting! So, \$15 will be the prize at the May meeting. There was time at the end of the meeting for hunting through penny stamps and socializing. Meeting adjourned by 9 p.m.

Lucy Eyster, Secretary