

JANUARY 2005

Editor: Bill Snyder

STAMP CLUB MINUTES, 8 DECEMBER 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m, by President Marilyn Shirley. There were 48 members and guests present for a cold buffet. The cost of the buffet was \$5 per person. Before eating Marilyn informed the members that a new secretary needed to be elected and that Eleanor Wheeler had volunteered to fill the position. The membership unanimously elected her.

After the meal Marilyn read a thank you note from Peter and Victoria Billis acknowledging the baby blanket for Stefano. Seven names were drawn to determine the winner of the angel food-table decorations. Thank you gifts to outgoing officers were given to Al Schaub. Lucy Eyster. Don Weber, and Marilyn Shirley.

An excellent slide program was presented by Carole Petersen on the semi-postal stamps and Christmas seals used by many countries to generate money to aid the fight against tuberculosis. Member Donald Sempsrott brought his extensive collection of Christmas seals for us to view and enjoy.

Members were encouraged to take home some of the excess food as they left the meeting at 9PM~

Respectfully submitted,
Lucy Eyster. Secretary

JANUARY 2005 MEETINGS--The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2005, at the Maple Grove Community Center. If you plan to enter items in the auction, please arrive in time to arrange and mark the items you enter in the auction. Marilyn Shirley is the hostess for this meeting. The buy, sell, trade, & socialize meeting is on Thursday, January 27, at the Grace Baptist Church.

From the President's Desk

In starting the club's new year and my year as president. I want to thank the outgoing officers for all they have done to make 2004 a successful year for our club. They and the officers who preceded them are a tough but wonderful act to follow,

Presented below is the schedule for our second Wednesday of the month meetings. Appreciation is expressed to everyone who volunteered to offer a program and to members who requested a program topic. With regret, as welcome as these inputs were, it was not possible to include everything of meaning and value due to the regular inclusion of auctions, a picnic, and so on.

Not listed is a new program feature. As time permits, a brief 10 15 minute philatelic technical presentation will be made at each Wednesday meeting.

Our second Wednesday of the month schedule is as follows:

Jan 12	Auction
Feb 9	Topical slide show: Adventures in Topical Collecting
Mar 9	Lick and stick night and technical presentation.
Apr 13	Death, taxes, and the IRS by Mike Matusko
May 11	Auction
Jun 8	WW I Philately by Paul Petersen
Jul 13	Tour of the Lancaster Mail Processing Center (tentative)
Aug 10	Picnic
Sep 14	Precancels. Part II by Bob Noble and Woody Hahn
Oct 12	Auction
Nov 9	Anything but Stamps show-and-tell
Dec 14	Christmas Party

Please note that we also meet at the Grace Baptist Church the fourth Thursday of each month. Our first such meeting for this year is on January

27th. The meeting will be informal, the purpose being to give club members an opportunity to buy, sell, and trade stamps, as well as to socialize and pick each others brains.

Best regards, Al

EDITOR'S NOTES

THE BEST & WORST CONTEST---Each year *Linn's* magazine asks its subscribers to select the best and worst design among the stamps issued by the US Postal Service during the preceding year. We are going to use the Linn's "best & worst" stamp selection as a contest among the members of our club—a contest with a payoff for the winner! The process begins during the January meeting and will conclude in the March or April meeting.

Here's what you have to do:

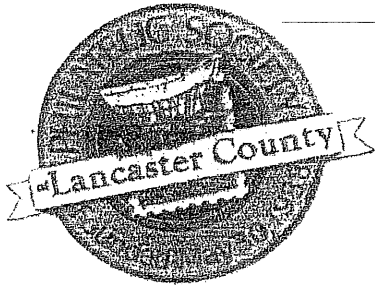
1. At the January meeting visit the display which has pictures of all US stamps issued by the USPS during 2004. Study and review the stamps carefully.
2. As you review the pictures of the stamps, you will discover that the stamps fall into three different categories, as follows:

Commemorative Stamps—number 1 through 22

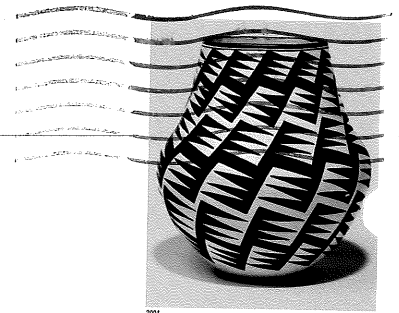
Definitive & Special stamps—number 23 through 32

Postal Stationery—number 33 through 38

3. After you have reviewed the three categories of stamps on display, select the stamps in each of the three categories that you believe have the best and worst designs.
4. Enter your selection on the ballot, and sign your name. When *Linn's* announces the results of the nationwide contest, the club member whose entries comes closest to the nationwide survey will be awarded prizes. Prize money of \$30 will be shared among the winners.



19 Circle Road
Millersville, PA 17551

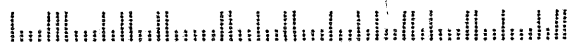


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NPM REVENUE STAMPS--For the past several months, American stamp collectors have debated the decision of the National Postal Museum to destroy some 1.1 million 20th Century US revenue stamps held in the Museum's vault. Nearly every stamp collecting heavyweight had weighed in on the decision—but the NPM held fast to its decision. But on 17 December, in a sudden turnabout, NPM officials announced that it would not destroy of the stamps. Instead, the stamps will be marked and sold at a later date.

The move was widely applauded by collectors. But controversy remains—over how the stamps will be marked and over what to do with the roughly 6 million revenue stamps still held in NPM vaults.

WHITE HOUSE CHRISTMAS CARD—The 2004 White House Christmas card, printed by Hallmark, featured a picture of the fireplace in the White House red room. The unusual feature of the card, however, was that it featured a verse from the Bible (Psalm 95.2). Although the two million cards carried the postmark of the Crawford, TX, Post Office, they were processed by the Austin, TX, Processing and Delivery Center. The cost of the cards and the .37 cent postage was paid by the Republican National Committee.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!