



JUNE 2005

Editor: Bill Snyder

Some Bizarre Philatelic Psycho-Babble from the Prez

Last month I related that *motivation* is a psychological drive to meet our various human needs. Further related is that philatelic collecting contributes to meeting several needs such as exercising our brains, detail sensitivity, relaxation, power and control, fun and if active with a stamp club, social relations.

Added to the above list of motivational needs is one which lives within the dark side of human personality — it is the need for the bizarre. The dictionary defines bizarre as being odd, eccentric, or fantastic in nature.

Within philately there are a multitude of non-bizarre collecting interests. A few examples are: country collecting, aerophilately, first day cover collecting, postal history, etc. What then constitutes bizarre collecting? Some examples are:

- A collection which won gold ribbons all over the world a decade ago was a topical collection on murder. The collection was put together by a Presbyterian minister (Special note: Bet his parishioners are generous when the offering plate is passed!).
- Somewhat related to the above are collections whose stamps feature famous people who had either serious physical or mental health problems.
- A cover collection with cancels from post offices with weird or strange names (e.g., Hell).
- • A cover collection with cachets which illustrate weird or unusual events or places. Such covers are plentiful and are often found in dealer bargain boxes.
- A collection of covers from profit making firms that are made to look like official government mailings.

- A collection of stamps from little known dead countries or stamp issuing entities. Some examples are: Saar, French Equatorial Africa, Mozambique Company, Nyasaland Protectorate, and Tsingtau.
- The collection of holographic stamps. This category of collecting is considered bizarre because a survey of 1,364,812 philatelic collectors conducted in 1948, failed to reveal even one person who was a collector of holograms on stamps. Rumor has it that there is now at least one hologram collector!

As a collector, are you facing a brick wall in regard to the cost or availability of material for your current collections?

- If so, start a new collection based upon “thinking outside the box,” an expression which really means the same as “bizarre.”
- Tired of being exploited by the flood of new issues? Start a collection of one or more dead countries. These often represent a modest cost for stamps, the possibility of country completion or near completion, and no new issues.
- Many bizarre “out of the box” collecting areas open the door to fascinating research. For those collectors with a strong interest in history, former colonies are rich in historical intrigue.

When time permits, a fun activity for our club would be for members to share with each other bizarre collections they have or know of.

With best regards, *AL*

Minutes, LCPS Meeting May 11, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. Guests were introduced: Jack Demorra, Dick Wilson, Tom Masterson and a new member, Bob Allen accompanied by son, Hira.

Treasurer’s report was read and accepted. It was noted that the profit from Lancopex, 2005 was \$354.01, which was lower than previous years due to the cost of rental space for exhibit frames.

Minutes were accepted as per the May newsletter.

An ad hoc committee met at the last “swap” meet on April 28. Their goal was to develop ideas to increase attendance at future “swap” meets.

President Al Schaub thanked everyone for helping with Lancopex. Special thanks to Jim Boyles for his remarkable job of organizing the show. Jim was presented with a specially stamped and cancelled “letter”.

Members agreed to donate \$50.00 to the APS, and agreed that the club will vote for the APS candidates recommended by Jim Boyles.

Al announced that the program for July will be changed from a tour of the post office to a presentation by Tom Howard, on his Zeppelin collection.

The postcard club of Lancaster will hold its show on August 28.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Wheeler, Secretary

Editor's Notes

1. The visit to the Lancaster Mail Process Center, originally scheduled for the July meeting, will not take place. Instead, the July 13 program will feature a guest speaker, Tom Howard. Tom, the proprietor of Hanover Stamps, is an expert on Zeppelin Covers.
2. The World Philatelic Exhibition will be held at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC, from May 27 through June 3, 2006. It will feature over 3,800 competitive exhibit frames and 180 dealers. Queen Elizabeth II's Collection, along with such notable items as the Hawaiian Missionary "Dawson" Cover, will be on display. Hopefully, there will be enough interest to enable the LCPS to charter a bus for those members who wish to attend. In any event, please mark your calendars to reserve the dates of this important Exhibition.
3. There are several shows scheduled during June that may interest LCPS Members:
 - York—5 June, Commonwealth Fire Co, 2045 N. Sherman Street, 717-382-4632.
 - Timonium, MD, 12 June, Holiday Inn, Timonium Plaza. 800-701-7091.
 - State College, 18-19 June, State College High School, 650 Westerly Parkway, 814-861-3830.
 - Laurel, MD, 18-19 June, Best Western Maryland Inn, 201-933-9542.
4. June 2005 Meetings

The next regular meeting is at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 8 June, at the Maple Grove community Center. The program: World War I Philately, by Paul Petersen. The buy, sell, trade, and socialize meeting is on Thursday, 23 June, at the Grace Baptist Church.



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