



JANUARY 2006

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A Note from the New President

January brings a New Year, an increase in the postal rates, and a new president to the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County. My first official act this year is to thank outgoing president, Al Schaub, for the outstanding job and leadership he provided to the club in 2005. His guidance and insights made the transition from vice president an easy one for me. I will strive to do all that I can to continue to provide the quality programs and presentations, which the club has become accustomed to.

In December, Al hosted an organizational meeting, which included our new VP Bob Nobel, Secretary Eleanor Wheeler, Treasurer Bill Greiner, and myself. At that meeting we outlined a schedule for 2006 which I am now trying to finalize. By our next newsletter, I hope to have all in place for the upcoming year with a schedule for each month's meeting. Please note that our first meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11th.

We will start 2006 as we have in the past—with an auction. Please bring items you wish to enter in the auction and, of course, your wallets. An important first note on business: Please make every effort to pay your dues for 2006 (\$10.00) in January and February. Bill Greiner will head the dues program and issue new cards for 2006. I am also encouraging all members who wish to go to the International Stamp Show in Washington, DC—May 27–June 3—to see Chuck Kilgore about the bus trip. Early registration and payment would be greatly appreciated.

In closing, I look forward to the upcoming year and encourage all members to take an active role in the club. As in any organization, our overall effectiveness and the quality of our program depends on the strength of its members. Please feel free to take an active part in making this year another successful one.

Respectfully! Lou DiFelice

A Note From the Retired Prez

On behalf of Twilla and myself I would like to thank my fellow club members for your gracious and generous gift. Twilla and I are very fond of going to both plays and concerts. However, after three years of living near Lancaster we have yet to attend a Fulton Theatre production. Your gift is what we need to get us out to enjoy one of Lancaster's treasures!

--Al Schaub

Some Suggestions For Bidders In Our January Auction

As in the past, our January auction, when conducted, will have a range of philatelic items that will run from a minimum bid of \$1.00 to much higher minimum for some collections and items. In fact, it is rumored that one such item will be a U.S. 65 cent zeppelin stamp, Scott # C13.

To provide for a smooth operating auction, the following is requested of bidders:

- Please be prepared to pay for your successful bids with cash, not checks.
- Bring at least \$20.00 in small bills and a dollar in coins.

These requests are based on the auction banker's need to pay varying amounts to the auction consignors.

From the Editor

December Minutes--No Minutes for December—but special thanks to Marilyn Shirley for arranging the delicious food for the Christmas party. And thanks also to Richard Wheeler for his entertaining distribution of gifts. Despite his actions at the party, Richard thinks he knows RIGHT from LEFT.

New Postal Service Guide--The 2005 edition of *The Postal Service Guide to U. S. Stamps* is now available. The 5 x 9 inch format of past years has undergone a significant and welcome revision: The new edition comes in an 8 x 10.5 inch format with pages held together by a red plastic comb binder. As a result, the book will lie flat with the pages open! The size of the stamp illustrations remains unchanged at 70% of actual size, however, although recent issues appear at 77%. The new edition also includes an explanation of catalog values, reproduced from the 2005 Scotts Specialized Catalogue....

The 2005 edition can be obtained from most U. S. post offices, from the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Service (1-800-782-6724) for \$19.95, or from many bookstores for \$23.00.

New Linn's Stamp News Format—Linn's Stamp News also has a new format: the 11 x 15 inch size has been replaced by a similar but smaller format measuring 11.5 x 12 inches. Except for the change in size, the layout and text are similar to those features of the previous version. Linn's advises, however, that "the new shorter and narrower page means in general that news stories and the regular columns will be written shorter. The major headlines will [also] be of a smaller size...." As a long-time subscriber, I like the changes and hope they enable Linn's to hold the subscription price at its current rate of \$45.95 per year.

APS Executive Director Search—Robert E. Lamb, who graced one of our meetings last year, will retire in June 2006 from his position as Executive Director of the APS. Since his retirement was announced in November, the APS Board has been conducting a search for a new Executive Director. The head of the search committee is Wade Saadi, a new APS Board member who also runs an executive recruiting firm in New York.

The initial advertisement for the position listed "knowledge of philately/stamp collecting" at the very end of the job description. The location of this requirement, along with some heartburn about how the advertisement was approved, upset several APS board members. They succeeded in calling a special meeting of the Board to review the process. After a contentious meeting early in December, the concerns were finally resolved: the "philately/stamp collecting" phrase moved higher in the Job Requirement and the responsibilities of the APS Board President were sorted out. Stay tuned to learn who is selected for this position--and of his or her knowledge of philately/stamp collecting!

Stamp Show—Philadelphia Weekday Monday Stamp Show, 10 am-9 pm, January 16, Radison Hotel Philadelphia Northeast, 2400 Old Lincoln Highway, Trevose, PA, 1-800-701-7091.



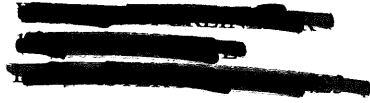
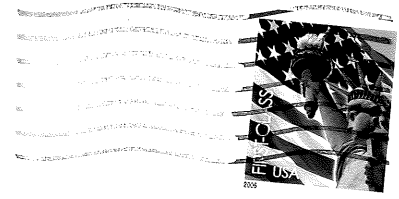
New 2 cent stamp



New 39 cent stamp



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