



MARCH 2006

Editor: Bill Snyder

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From the President

The March meeting of LCPS will be our preparation meeting for Lancopex XXI. Please make every effort to attend so that we have adequate help to get the show mailers addressed and stamped. Don't forget to bring a small sponge to help with the licking portion of the evenings activities.

Also remember that we will be running a silent auction during the meeting. Please feel free to bring three items to include in the auction and fill out the auction sheet. Bob Noble will have sheets available if you did not pick one up at the last meeting.

I encourage any member who has a topic or collecting interest that he or she would like to share with the club to do so. The necessary time is always available to present a topic of interest.

Since providing content for our newsletter is a task that has always rested on the shoulders of the editor or the president, I ask that members help in providing content for our future newsletters. By submitting short articles on a subject of interest to Bill Snyder, he could accumulate philatelic information that he could use at his discretion to round out a newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

Respectfully, Lou DiFelice

Some More Thoughts on WWII Collecting

As a follow-up to my WWII presentation in February, President Lou and newsletter editor Bill have granted me some space to share a few more ideas for WWII collecting.

The common and obvious area of WWII collecting is the development of a collection of stamps issued by countries involved in that war. These range from pre-war propaganda stamps, to wartime issues, to post-war commemoratives. Also, not to be overlooked are the vast number of attractive and intriguing WWII era covers that are readily available.

It is impossible to know or count the many ways in which WWII covers can be collected. However, worthy of note are three popular categories of WWII cover collecting. They are:

Covers with patriotic cancels. These are very common and relatively inexpensive. Of special appeal are cover cachets, most of which contain strong anti-axis messages. Of greatest value are those covers that, in a humorous manner, show the axis leaders being abused. Also of special value are those covers which were cancelled on important dates such as VE Day.

Army Post Office (A.P.O.) covers. To keep secret the location of army units, letters to the troops were mailed to A.P.O. processing centers, from which they were then sent to soldiers' field locations under tight, military security. At present the exact locations of most WWII A.P.O.'s is known. For example, A.P.O. 532 served the troops in Algeria, Tunisia, and Italy from March 1943 until November, 1945. Covers dated during that time period have a maximum value of \$5.00. However, just prior to moving to Algeria this A.P.O. was located at Gibraltar for seven weeks. Covers dated during that seven week period have a catalog value of \$50.00. They would be a great find in a cover bargain box!

Naval covers of ships that fought in WWII. With sailors busy fighting the war most of these have cancels prior to or after the war and usually have attractive cachets. A client friend of mine is well on his way to having a complete cover collection of all of the U.S. Navy ships that served in WWII. Two other more modest but meaningful collecting categories include ships that were at Pearl Harbor when it was bombed and ships that were sunk during WWII. (There were 101 named ships at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and 294, named U.S. ships that were sunk in combat during WWII.)

With WWII offering so many intriguing areas of collecting, who needs all those ugly, overpriced stamp new issues that are flooding the market and driving away collectors

Anchors Away! Al

Minutes L.C.P.S. Meeting Feb. 8, 2006

Pres. Lou DiFelice called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. Treasurer Bill Greiner reported a balance of \$3690.40. The treasurer's report was accepted as read. Minutes from the January meeting were accepted as written in the current newsletter.

Lou reported that over 40 people have already paid dues for 2006. Chuck Kilgore reported that 14 people have signed up for the bus trip to the International stamp show in Washington D.C. on June 1. We need at least 35 people registered in order to reserve the bus.

Lou welcomes members to share anything about stamp collecting that "turns them on!" Patsy Harsh showed us the checkerboard she made with stamps 'decoupage'd to a board.

Next month's meeting will be our "lick 'n stick" session, to mail postcards announcing Lancopex 2006. Bring a sponge and dish or a healthy tongue and join the fun. And to make the evening a fun event, Vice Pres. Bob Noble offered to organize a silent auction. Members may bring up to three items for the auction. Jack Demora brought several copies of Linn's and other philatelic literature for free distribution.

Jim Boyles announced that we will need members to volunteer for active duty at Lancopex. He also said that postcards are available if anyone would like to mail them to friends to let them know about the show.

Lesley Botte announced the Buxmont show will be on March 4 & 5. Harry Ibaugh won the \$5.00 drawing.

Marilyn Shirley will do a presentation at the Locust Grove Mennonite School, hoping to increase interest in stamp collecting in the students there.

The meeting adjourned following Al Schaub's presentation on World War II postal cards.

Respectfully submitted, Eleanor Wheeler, Secretary

The Monthly Challenge

The 39 cent nondenominated First-Class Liberty and Flag stamp, issued in December 2005 to handle the two cent increase in the first-class rate, has appeared in eleven different formats. Ten of the stamps have been assigned different Scott numbers, running consecutively from 3965 to 3976, but skipping 3971. The several varieties are a function of different perforation counts, different glues, different printers, and minor differences in the design. Mint copies of all ten varieties can be obtained from the USPS facility in Kansas City. But a greater challenge would be to collect a used examples of each of the ten varieties formats.

Copies of three varieties have surfaced in my recent mail. These varieties with their Scott #, manufacturer, and perf count appear below. —Bill Snyder



3968
Avery
8 ½



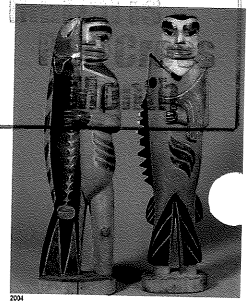
3969
Sennett
10 ¼



#3972
Avery
11 ¼ x 10 ¾



19 Circle Road
Millersville, PA 17551

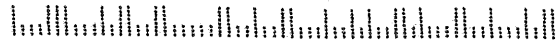


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17603+4723



From the Editor

1. Less than three months to the big Washington Stamp show! The bus trip is scheduled for 1 June—but only if there are 35 participants. So decide soon—and let Chuck Kilgore have your deposit at the March meeting.

2. Marilyn Shirley has received the following letter from Reid Slick's widow:

Dear Marilyn, I want to express to the members of the Stamp Club my appreciation for their donation to the National Club in Reid's memory. He was a member for a long time and really enjoyed it. Thanks again. I really miss him since his death was so unexpected. Sincerely. Milley Slick