



MAY 2006

Editor: Bill Snyder
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From the President

The May meeting of LCPS will be held on Wednesday, 10 May, at 7 p.m. The program for the evening will be our second auction of 2006. Please bring items for the auction that you wish to sell and smaller bills to make it easier when paying. Each item should have a minimum bid of one dollar or be priced accordingly, depending on their value.

The hosts for our May meeting are Bob and Hira Allen. If you were not at the April meeting, be advised that we now have a full bus for the trip to the Washington, DC, International Stamp Show in June. My thanks to Chuck Kilgore and Lesley Botte for all their work in making this trip possible for the membership. (See the map on page 2 for the departure location.) I encourage all who are attending the show to pre-register at www.washington-2006.org. The process only takes about five minutes and will save you from waiting in line to register when you get to the show.

Our attendance at club meetings for the first four months of 2006 is 122. This is only seven short of attendance for the same period in 2005. For those who have not paid their 2006 club dues, this may be the last newsletter you receive this year. To keep costs down, the club will discontinue sending a newsletter if your dues are not current. Please make every effort to keep your membership up to date so you will not be removed from the newsletter/membership roster. Dues (\$10.00) can be paid to LCPS in care of Bill Greiner (1278 Wilson venue, Lancaster, PA 17603).

Our 2nd meeting this month will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, 25 May, at Grace Baptist Church.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Respectfully, Lou DiFelice

Lancaster Pick-up Location
Lancaster Shopping
Center

(Formerly Service Merchandise Pick-up)



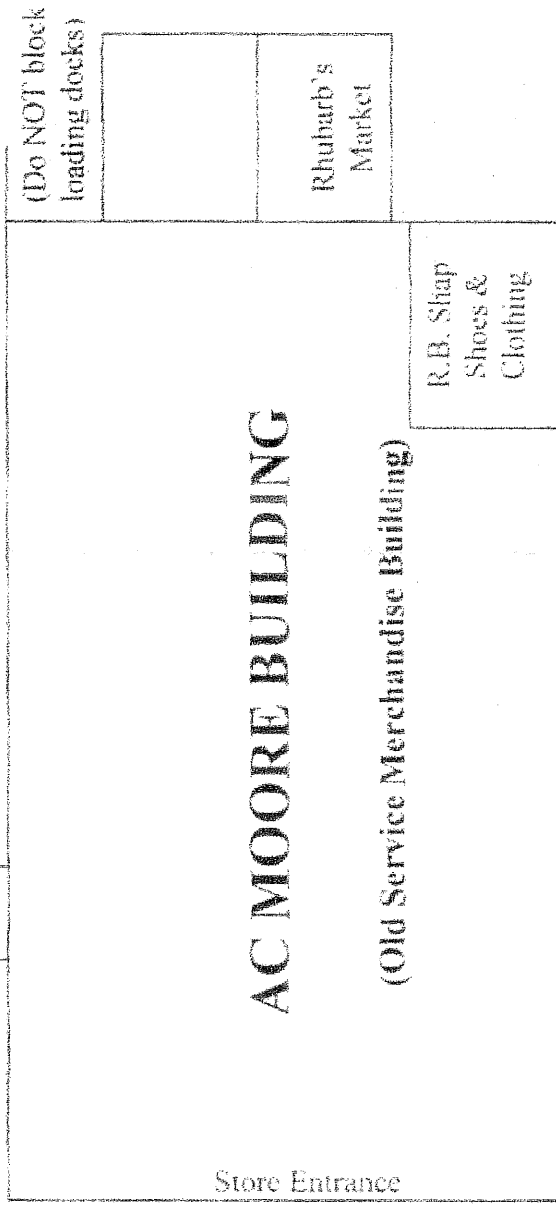
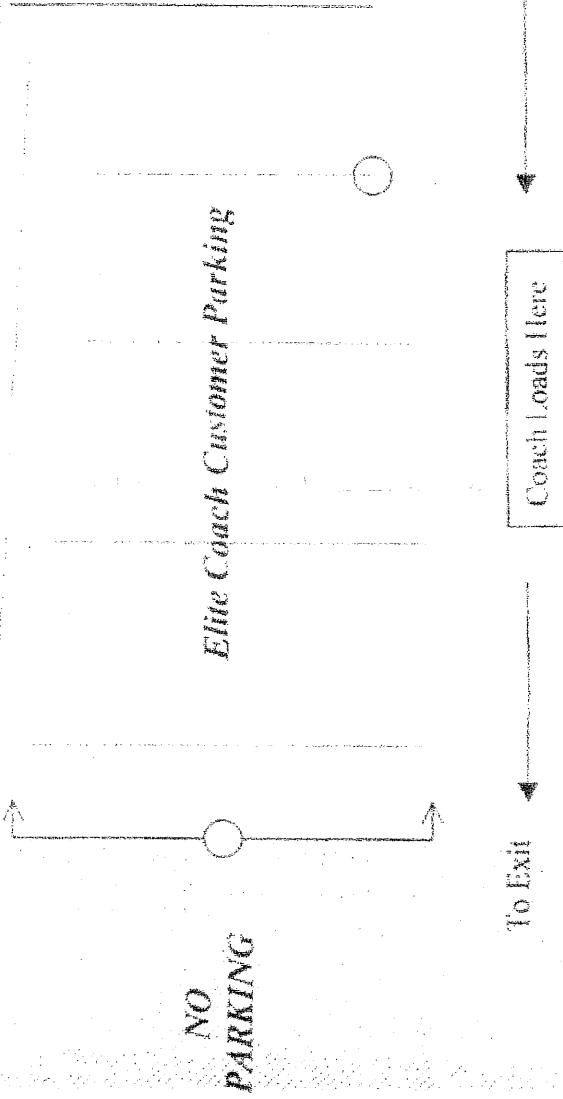
800-722-6206

Group leaders, please instruct passengers to park only in designated areas. Vehicles parked in non-designated areas may be ticketed and/or towed at owners' expense.

PARK AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Elite Coach, property owner, or lessees are not responsible for any loss, damage, or theft of vehicles parked at this location.

Rt. 272



(Do NOT block loading docks)

NO PARKING

NO PARKING

From Rt. 30

Rt. 501

Minutes L.C.P.S. Meeting April 12, 2006

Pres. Lou DiFelice called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Treasurer Bill Greiner reported a balance of \$4300.22 for March 9 through April 12. The treasurer's report was accepted as read. Minutes from the March meeting were accepted as written in the April newsletter.

Lou reported that we have 51 paid members. Also, three people paid at the meeting. Lou had contacted people who have not been attending meetings to assess their interest in maintaining membership.

Jim Boyles provided an update on details regarding LANCOPEX 2006. The Patron and volunteer lists were circulated again. Help is needed especially on Friday evening to set up the exhibit area, and on Saturday morning from 7:30 am to 10:00 am to set up the exhibits and to arrange the snack area and to be at the entrance as greeters. Heavy duty extension cords are needed for the snack area.

The bus trip to the international stamp show is now full! Pick-up is at the Oregon Pike side of A.C. Moore at 7:30 am, Thursday, June 1.

Mary Husson won the \$5.00 draw. Congratulations Mary.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22.

Respectfully submitted, Eleanor Wheeler, Secretary

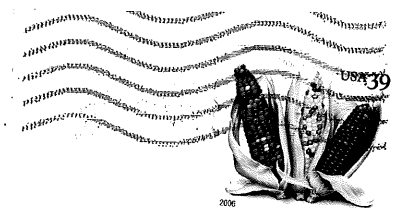
From the Editor

Recent Trends in Stamp Prices--Linn's Stamp Weekly tracks the prices of three categories of fine/very fine US stamps. The only category that has experienced a price increase over the past year is US 19th Century—which increased roughly 3%. Princes for the other two categories—US 20th Century and US Airmails—are essentially flat or down slightly. Well centered VF stamps, Linn's indicates, will sell for roughly 60-70% of Scott value (less for mid-late 20th Century issues); with better or VF centering, expect to pay full Scott Value. Buyers can expect "substantial reductions" for sound stamps with average centering.

While the paragraph above describes the general pattern of prices for US stamps, the market for so-called "trophy stamps" continues to attract unusually high—indeed "unreal"—prices. According to Jay Vyssotsky, a specialist in stamp prices, the "trophy" label applies to two categorizes of stamps: The first is world-

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19 Circle Road
Millersville, PA 17551



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17603+4723 CO11 [Barcode]

class gems, such as the Jenny Invert which recently sold for \$575,000. These gems are often needed by collectors to complete a collection for a competitive exhibition. The second is stamps with an expertization grade of 95 or higher. (Clearly, the trophy designation applies mainly to 19th Century stamps.) Collectors willing to pay "unreal" prices for trophy stamps, the analysis goes, are typically motivated by "the joy that comes from owning the very best" and not the prospects of making money!

The bottom line: Collect for the pleasure of collecting. Unless you collect 19th Century US or own several "trophies," you are unlikely to make any money on your collection. And even then, the market is fickle!

No News letter in June!