



# The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

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**Most Meetings Held the first Tuesday of Every Month at 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting Site: Berkshire Commons, 5485 Perkiomen Avenue (Route 422)  
Turn North on Lincoln opposite of the Dairy Queen.  
Proceed 300 feet, turn left on Washington and look right of center at the stop sign.**

**Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.**

## **CARSONIA PARK POSTCARDS**

**...presented by Mike Matus**

**Mike has been collecting these cards for years and this should be excellent!!!**

### **Thanks for the stamps!**

**Life Member Doris Gates (assisted by her friend, Edi Young) donated her husband's stamp collection to our club for Boy Scout programs. A great big thanks for your kindness—it is appreciated.**

Also, for sale to benefit the Boys Scouts, call 610-927-3838 for any of the following:

A. About 100 FDCs including some postcards, roughly 1938 to 1984. Only \$8.00 for all of them.

B. 100 mint postal cards with a face value of about \$75.00. Also only \$8.00

*We are sorry to inform our members that we have lost another gentleman in the club. Carmen Spadaro left us April-22. He was especially helpful at our stamp shows. Our sympathies to friends and family.*

At the May meeting, Dick Hunsinger won \$20 in the 50/50 drawing. James Tyrell was not present for the attendance drawing. It will be a \$30 prize for any winner at the June meeting. Everyone should be there!

**Advance Notice:** The club is planning a bus trip to the National Postage Stamp Show in NY. The Date is October 23. Cost will be \$60 including driver's tip and snacks. Call Roy Baardsen 610-927-3435.

## ***The World's Smallest Stamp***

**I got curious the other day about what might be the world's smallest stamp.**

**A search of the internet came up with a reasonable candidate.**

**In 1863, a province of Columbia known as Boliver issued a 10-cent green stamp.**

**It measured 8 mm by 9.55 mm, or, in English it was .315 inches by .376 inches.**

**The article said that in contrast, China issued a stamp about 1913 that was 248 by 77 mm. I am poor at metric conversion but that sounds like the stamp was about 9 inches by a bit under 3 inches.**

**The small stamp could be seen on a regular envelope, but an envelope could hardly be seen under the large stamp.**

## **How It Rained Cats and Dogs**

**In Medieval times, many farm buildings were two stories high and the animals slept on the top floor while the human family occupied the first floor.**

**So much dirt fell between the cracks in the floor separating the two levels that the canopy bed was invented to keep out the dirt.**

**In addition, much of the roof in smaller homes was thatched. Dogs and cats would wonder around on the roof and rain made it slippery. Thus, in a good rain, cats and dogs would fall through the thatch into the home, meaning it was literally "raining cats and dogs!"**

## **Students of Malaria have their own Philatelic study group**

**For centuries, Malaria has plagued the imperial nations of Europe and been a thorn in the side of colonization.**

**Carried by mosquitoes, the deadly disease that could plague survivors later in life has halted armies and stalled building projects.**

**A group of dedicated philatelists study the stamps, cancels and covers related to Malaria and it's treatment and transmission.**

**Malaria Philatelists, International, issues a regular journal and operates a content-full website of interesting articles on the topic.**

**The club was loosely organized in 1979 and two years later affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the American Topical Association.**

**Dues are free, a nice incentive to join and probably a good club for young collectors.**

**One interesting thing I found on the website was an article about cachets published in 1962. The same design in different colors noted three different names in the logos on three covers. The question is, do these names indicate different sponsors, makers, or what?**

**If you are reading this newsletter and are familiar with cachet makers of that time perhaps you want to take a look and see if you can help them.**