



The

Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

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Issue: May 2016

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, May 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

“Perfins”

**Presented by Paul Peterson
AND A SURPRISE GUEST**

Paul is a member of the Lancaster club and is once again with us to share information about this very interesting specialty. In the past there has been a great deal of interest in perfins in our local auctions and this should be a valuable presentation for all members.

Bus Trip – Bus Trip – Bus Trip

Roy Baardsen and company are planning a bus trip to the New York International Stamp Show on June 2. This event is held only once every ten years in the United States. For details—call Roy at 610-927-3435.

ONLY 5 seats are still available AND Roy is going to try to fill those at Lacopex on Saturday April 30th. Don't miss this show! CALL ROY NOW

Do You Feel Lucky?

Last month the 50/50 drawing was \$14 and Dr. Chambliss won the attendance drawing of \$5. We appreciate the support of members in these drawings as it encourages attendance and sets aside money to pay for our

programs. **Do you feel lucky in May?**



Perfins: Great Study Potential Yet Very Affordable

If you are looking for a new area of collecting that offers superlative opportunity for discovery while working within a budget—perfins are it!

The term perfin stands for “perforated initials” or “perforated insignia.”

Dating to the late mid-1800’s, perfins were in their heyday from about 1908 to the 1950’s.

Their use was prompted by the thievery of office clerks who would steal stamps from employers and cash them in for money at the post office—a practice allowed in England where perfins originated.

To combat this issue, companies began to punch letters or symbols into the stamp to mark postage as their own.

If a clerk took a stamp to the post office, or tried to sell it as discount postage, it would be instantly recognized as stolen.

The cover pictured above shows an inset with the clear FVS/McC pattern of the Finch, Van Syck & McConville dry goods company in Saint Paul, Minnesota on cover. Most perfins exist off cover.

The Perfins Club, organized in 1943, is very active with a bi-monthly bulletin, publications, sales circuits and a brief but helpful website.

MIKE'S PAGE:

ON A SERIOUS NOTE:

"A CLUB IN DECLINE"

I had Roy B. and Mike M. give me some data about our Club Membership earlier this Month

WE LOST 7 MEMBERS THIS YEAR

We are now down to 41 from 48

The average attendance last year was 15 and the number of different members attending was 18

That means the majority of our membership **DOES NOT ATTEND** our meetings.
A sad situation.

If you do not attend reply to this email and tell us why

What's the reason?

Programs are not interesting?
Stopped Collecting but like the newsletters?
Location of our meeting?
Day and Time of our Meeting?

We are going to find out.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GROW THE CLUB

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



Goddamn it... the plane on here is flying upside-down. Another six bucks down the drain. Last time I spend any money on the damn internet.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LANCASTER

Wednesday May 11th

Coins on Stamps & Stamps
on Coins. John Brownell

Also Mark Your Calendar
LANCOPEX 2016 April 29th & 30th

THE MARKET PLACE IS BACK

Scott Catalogues 2013 – Includes US Scott specialized. Seven catalogs for \$100.00.

Call Dave Crossland [610-223-7233](tel:610-223-7233) or email davidcrossland45@gmail.com

Two (2) White Ace Plate Block Albums (never used) 1984 to 1991 and 1992 to 1996: \$15.00 each.

Call: Carl Madeira: 610-777-8894

(1) - GRAND OPENING OF THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM (Inverted Jenny issue - no stamps but two unused covers) Price of \$2.50. Only ONE left.

(2) – Show Covers - Reading Stamp Collectors Club . Lincoln , Gettysburg dated 11-2-2013. Priced at \$0.75 each.

(3) – Show Covers Reading Stamp Collectors Club , TWO TYPES - Battle of the Crater or Lt.

Henry Pleasance – Show Cancel dated 11-1-2014, Priced at \$ 0.75 each.

(4) – Show Covers Reading Stamp Collectors Club - TWO TYPES - ULYSSES GRANT (2 available) or ROBERT E. LEE (3 available) Show cancel dated 11-7-2015, Priced at \$ 0.75.

Call: Mike Matus 610-927-3838 or Email: Michael.Matus@verizon.net