



The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

Editor: Stan Raugh, 4217 8th Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805

Tele: 610-921-5822

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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, April 4th at 7:00 p.m.

“Bring A Favorite Cover”

...by YOU!

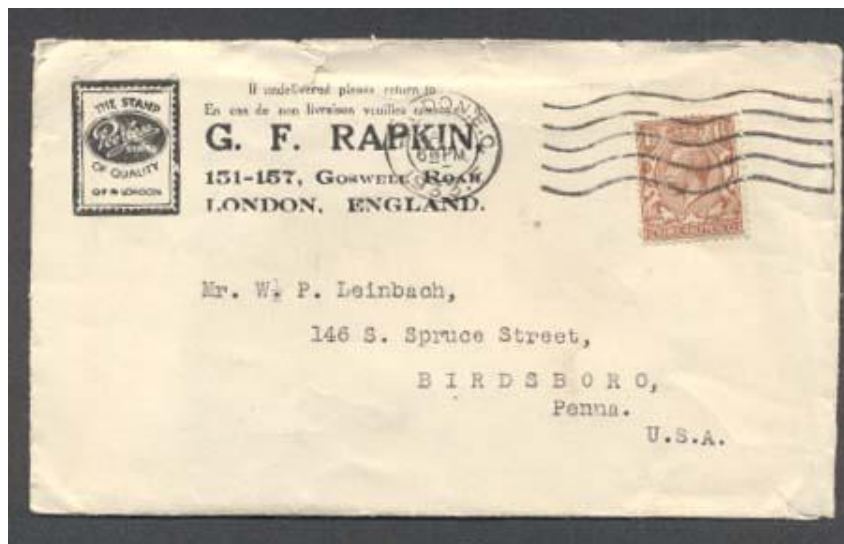
**That's right...you. At this meeting YOU will be the star!
We are looking for a favorite cover from your collection.
It doesn't have to be rare or expensive, for many of the best
covers in serious collections were plucked from a "\$1.00" box.
It's the nature of the discipline—even common covers have a story.**

The March Meeting...

...was well attended and so a lot of tickets were sold for the 50/50 drawing. Carl Madeira won \$18, which meant the treasury also picked up \$18 for the club. Good news for our vacationing Treasurer!

The Attendance Drawing...

...for March of \$15.00 was won by Dr. Robert Denby. Thanks for joining with us! We also had a lively auction called by Dave Silcox. Quite a few lots were sold for various sellers.



Anatomy of a Cover—what to look for when hunting through bargain boxes!

Here are some things to look at whenever you are sifting through boxes of covers or dealer's stock books.

First of all, check out the franking. Is the stamp itself of value? Are there multiples, as some common stamps have great value if there are a lot on one envelope. Take notice if any stamps are lightly cancelled and beautifully centered with boardwalk margins—many such early stamps can be worth many, many times normal catalog value. Or perhaps there is no stamp and the cover is very old.

Next is the postmark. Very early cancels and postmarks can be in pen and ink and possibly rare. Note the town and state. You could discover the only surviving example of a short-lived post office. Some post offices existed only for weeks or months. Some larger post offices have specialists who are always looking to add examples, including what you think may be duplicates, to their collection. Cancellations in colors other than black may have an extra premium and are even noted in the *Scott's Specialized Catalog of U. S. Stamps*.

Observe the "corner copy." If the sender wrote his name there check to see if he/she was famous.

Remember that Samuel Clemens is the author known as Mark Twain and can be worth a thousand dollars.

Also look for "advertising" covers, so named because the left hand side of the cover promotes a proper business or professional. Even a cover that appears mundane can be desirable to the right collector.

This follows through with the address. Mail sent to famous people can be easily overlooked. And look for special markings—an envelope addressed to Elvis Presley but send back with a "Return to Sender" postal marking would be fantastic.

The above cover from 1933 is interesting because it had been sent to a Birdsboro, PA, address. Without driving to the location, your editor believes there may have been a hardware store in that area. If that is correct the relationship of the supplier to the store may be of little or great interest to a local historian. Was Mr. Leinbach importing items for his store? What is most interesting, perhaps is that when I saw the cover online and down-loaded it, I did not at first recognized the Birdsboro connection. See how important it is to read all the cover.

MIKE'S PAGES

RSCC TO BE ON FACEBOOK

Following a discussion at the March 7th meeting it was decided that we should have a Facebook page. I have committed to the club to work on this and aim to have it up before May 1st

COMING EVENT!!

LANCOPEX 2017 SHOW

April 28th & 29th

Mark it in your Calendar

FUTURE MEETINGS: 2017

Reading Stamp Collectors Club

April 4th:

Members share your favorite covers

May 2nd

Valentines in May – APS DVD and
Your own covers / stamps

June 6th

Dr. Charles DiComo (Lancaster)
Providence Rhode Island Silent
Pre-Cancel ???

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County:

April 12th:

U.S. Postal Rates: 1792-1869,
Presenter: Bill Schultz

May 10th

Collectibles and Your Estate.
Presenter: Patti S. Spencer, Esq.

June 14th

SPRING AUCTION !!

I guess June 14th is technically still Spring!

YOUR FAVORITE COVER

What does a favorite cover look like?

It may be

Sentimental

Colorful

Unique

Historical

Have a great Cancel

Or just remind you of a great vacation

Search your collection and bring one (or two if it's too hard to decide) and share with you fellow members. I am sure we will get some great stories.

THE MARKET PLACE IS OPEN AGAIN IN 2017

The following are offered by Mike Matus
(michael.matus@verizon.net)

#1. Spain- Scott #418 to 432 (missing E-8) with hinge remnants on some but generally no hinge.

Cat. Value = \$96.60 **Selling Price = \$30.00**

#2. U.S Album sheets - NO BINDER – NO STAMPS
–just sheets, Beginning with #1 thru 1973.

Selling Price = \$3.00

#3 POPES VISIT TO AUSTRIA – AUGUST 1983.

Maxi Sheet – maxi cards – coins. **Selling Price = \$8.00**

#4. U.S.NATIONAL PARKS ISSUE Full set, both perf and imperf – Perf set w/ very lite hinge marks.....Imperf set has no gum (normal) and no hinge marks. Cat. Value \$9.45 Perf. And imperf. Set Cat. Value \$14.50

Selling Price \$8.00

#5. U.S.PARCEL POST – Q10 Mint. Cat.Value is \$280.00 Key Stamp to the set. **Selling Price \$70.00**

#6. U.S.DUCK STAMP – 1935 RW2 Mint.- Slight Gum Disturbance. Cat. Value \$700.00. Key to the set.

Selling Price \$150

THE MARKET PLACE needs more items:

Remember the Overprint goes to Reading and then Lancaster and then Greater Phila. and Brandywine. A lot of collectors will see it.

I would love to fill a whole page with items
