



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, September 5, 2017

The Great Auction of '17

**Predicted to reach landfall in Exeter Township on the 5th of September,
this storm of bidding will pick up stamps from the tables like a tornado
and drop them into the hands of deluged collectors!
So, park your ark outside Berkshire Commons and sail away
that night with a menagerie of new philatelic treasures!**

Taking Care of Business:

At the July meeting, Ken Bleiler won the 50/50 drawing for \$17.00. The attendance was modest, but good for July and the program on Carsonia Park was very interesting.

Mike Bach's name was pulled for the attendance award but he was not there—how often does that happen—sorry, Mike!

Bus Trip Update:

The Thursday, September 21st bus trip to the Postal Museum is on schedule, but there may yet be a few seats available.

If you are still interested, call Roy Baardsen at (610) 927-3435 pronto to see if you can still grab a spot.

Forever Rates

Forever Higher

Don't blink, postage rates could rise as early as September, when the regulatory committee may vote to give the Postal Service more leeway in pricing.

Now tied to inflation, rates could be based on need. After ten straight years of loss, the Postal Service has been crushed under requirements to "pre-fund" retiree health benefits.

And, the Postal Service claims a need to invest billions in new, more efficient delivery trucks.

Coupled with the fact that first class mail volume has dropped 27% in the last ten years, mere inflation-based increases fell short by over five billion dollars the last four years.

Double-digit increases in package deliveries have not filled in the gap.

Think about this, if rate increases sufficiently surpass inflation levels, buying stamps for future use could be a smart business move.

Consider this, if you bought stamps years ago at the four-cent rate, it would now take eleven of them plus an additional three cents to send a basic first class letter.

But imagine this, had those stamps been "forever" stamps you would be paying four cents for a 49-cent service!

Perhaps in the far future, no forever stamps will ever be sold at discount!

Philatelic Phirsts!

Thought our readers may enjoy these philatelic tidbits:

What was the first philatelic item to be collected by the Smithsonian Institute?
Answer: A pane of 10-cent Confederate Stamps was donated in 1886. It is amazing that so many years went by until a stamp-related item was received.

Who was the first identifiable woman depicted on a U. S. postage stamp?
Answer: Queen Isabella was portrayed on an 1893 Columbian stamp.

Then, who was the first identifiable American woman pictured on a U. S. stamp? Answer: Martha Washington in 1902.

Who was the first identifiable Native American honored to be on a stamp?
Answer: Pocahontas made philatelic history when she appeared on a U. S. Stamp in 1907. Other first Americans were shown on stamps but not as individuals.

This one really fooled your editor. Who as the first identifiable Hispanic American on a U. S. Stamp? Answer: Admiral David Farragut's father was from an island in the Mediterranean owned by Spain and the admiral himself was depicted on a 1903 stamp.

Our October Meeting...

Will be presented by your editor.

The topic will be: Adventures in Topically Collecting Postal History.

We trust you will enjoy it!

MIKE'S PAGES

RSCC IS NOW ON FACEBOOK

FUTURE MEETINGS: 2017

Reading Stamp Collectors Club

September 5th
Fall Auction

October 3rd
Topical collections
– presented by Stan Raugh

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County

September 13th
Fall Auction

October 11th
Madison FL – 3 cent Postmaster's
Provisional presented by Trish Kaufman

NO MARKET PLACE THIS MONTH

**SEND ME AN EMAIL (mbach1@comcast.net) OF
THE STUFF YOU WANT TO SELL AND I WILL GET
IT INTO NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE.**

**NOTE: LANCASTER MEMBERS OR OTHER
PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME
TO PUT ITEMS IN AS WELL.
10% OF PROCEEDS GO TO RSCC (HONOR SYSTEM)**

DARN IT!

**The one meeting I miss this year
and my name is drawn for the
attendance award!!**

CURRENT STAMP NEWS

REMEMBERING PRINCESS DIANA

August 31st 2017 marked the 20th anniversary of the tragic death of England's beloved "Princess Di" – the People's Princess.

Below is a set of 4 portraits issued by Gibraltar to commemorate this anniversary.



Can you write?

Is there a topic that you would care to share?
Send me an email and I will put your article in print

