



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, July 5, 2011

Philatelic Stories

...presented by Bob Brown

August is picnic and auction month...

Once again, Monday, August 1 is our joint picnic and auction with the Pottstown club.

We will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting and everyone is asked to bring a favorite food. Drinks will be provided.

Note—the meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. and if you are bringing stamps for the auction, you will want to arrive early to put them out on display.

Also, this is a MONDAY meeting, the first day of August, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Boyertown.

Editorial Note—

Because the August meeting is a picnic, there will be no newsletter for August. We are planning on a postcard reminder, however. There also will be a postcard reminder for September. The newsletter is expected to resume in October.

Closed album

It is with sadness that we report that member Al Babb is no longer with us. We fondly recall his love not only for stamps, but also for making people happy over the Christmas season with his home-made cookies. Al was always smiling and happy to see his friends.

And the winner is...

The winner of the June 50/50 drawing was Mike Matus. The attendance was large and the cash payout was \$25.00.

The name drawn in the attendance drawing was not present and the July award will be \$15.00.

Ticket, Please...

The bus trip to New York to visit the National Postage Stamp Show is a go thanks to the hard work of Roy Baardsen & Co.

The trip will be Thursday, Oct 12, 2011, and the cost is \$45.00. This is a bargain!

There are two pickup sites, A. C. Moore in Lancaster and Lowes in Sinking Spring. The departure times are 7:00 and 7:30 a.m.. The bus leaves New York City at 6:00 p.m.

You do not have to attend the show to ride the bus and it is highly recommended that anyone who wished to go to the Big Apple take this reduced cost method if you like the date and times.

The stamp show is at the New Yorker Hotel at 481 Eighth Avenue.

Could You Have Guessed?

George Armstrong Custer, for whom no stamp will be issued, was far more friendly with Native Americans than almost any Westerner.

At West Point, Custer wrote a theme defending Indian rights. His hobby was taxidermy and he bought land in hopes of raising horses as well.

Can you visualize a storefront with the sign: Geo. A. Custer, Taxidermist?

Memberships in ATA approved by club

At the June meeting, club members voted to give a membership in the American Topical Association (ATA) to each of three youth members.

It was also reported that the 2012 ATA convention would be held in Lancaster, PA.

The ATA is a great organization and one of the healthiest of all stamp organizations due to the fact that topical collecting is growing in popularity.

Perhaps the most valuable member benefits is the dozens and dozens of lists of stamps by topic that are available for member purchase at twenty cents a page.

If nothing else, visit the website of the ATA and compare the number of stamps issued by topic, which can be estimated by the number of pages on each list.

For example, I found it odd that all the worldwide stamps relating to Natural History Museums fit on two pages, but Mona Lisa alone needs three pages.

Incredibly, the topic of Hippopotamus requires five pages and Elvis nine pages.

These topics are dwarfed by Dinosaurs-Fossils, which takes up 86 pages.

The ATA costs \$25 annually and the mailing address is P. O. Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008.

Topical collecting is one way an individual can chew off a bite-size chunk of the three million stamps that have been issued.

Can you think of any minor topics you could collect?