

MEETINGS - 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
STAUFFER MANSION - 7:30 P.M.
1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601
Next Meeting - Wed. AUGUST 10, 1994

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION
CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717)872-2479 OR
MICHAEL SHIRLEY (717)394-0186.

VOL.5, NO 7 NEWSLETTER FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1990 AUGUST 1994

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It's good to be back with stamp club activities. I wish to thank the club and members for the cards and best wishes during my recent hospitalization.

Our June meeting was one of our best yet. We had 34 members and guests present. I believe that all who attended the meeting will agree that we have a group with diversified interests.

Our July meeting was a little disappointing both in attendance and preparation for the member's bourse.

With our picnic scheduled for August 10th, I hope to see all of you in attendance. This has proven to be a very popular event.

-- Bill Greiner, President

WHO IS THIS???

Let's see how good a sleuth you are! We'd like everyone to make a photocopy of a picture of you before you were ten. We don't want an original print, just a copy. Write your name, age and circumstance in which the picture was taken. Give a copy to MARILYN at the picnic or September meeting. If not coming, please mail your photo to Marilyn. We will make up a contest later in the year.

AUGUST MEETING

**ANNUAL PICNIC
MANOR TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY PARK**

ANYTHING BUT STAMPS NIGHT

It's customary, when writing about a social event that had occurred to say "A good time was had by all" whether the event was a hit or a flop. We can honestly say, for the thirty-four people attending our June program, that the evening was an unqualified success.

The former Carriage House has been preserved as it must have been a hundred or so years ago. The building was spacious allowing us to place the tables at random and permitting people to move about for a closer look at the items displayed on each table.

Thirty-four people attended, of which nineteen were exhibitors including fifteen club members and four non-members. The Best in Show for members was BILL GREINER for his examples of Railroad Dining Car Flatware. FRED HUSSON was the winner in the non-member category with his 1:6 scale aeroplane model. The drawing for the door prize was won by LUCY EYSTER. BILL and FRED each received a sheet of commemorative stamps and ribbons to mark the event. LUCY was the recipient of a sheet of stamps.

SHIRLEY GRUB displayed a portion of her doll collection and an example of her painting skills, a portrait of an elderly man done in pastels, a very professional rendition. BEN HELLER brought some of his clocks, mantle, table and standing. He also showed us a picture of a large, old grandfather's clock that he had bought at auction years ago. An eclectic display of old jewelry, decorated eggs and a taste of many different types of collectibles was LESLEY BOTTE'S contribution. LUCY EYSTER, wearing a colorful reversible vest decorated with numerous

insignia from past hikes, displayed patches and medals along with current literature from the Penn Dutch Pacers, the local Volksmarche Club.

JIM FIKE carried a large punch bowl of swizzle sticks, each with its own story to tell. JIM must have been one "happy fella" as he added to his collection piece by piece. JUNE FIKE'S offering was her collection of various styled, fancy dinner bells. REED SLICK had an amusing patter to go along with his demonstration of hand-made wooden brain teaser puzzles. TRUYDE GREINER'S approach was unique. Instead of bringing examples of her hobby interests, she brought reference books pertaining to them on such topics as gardening, birds, cats, etc. and a library of "How To" books. BILL GREINER'S table held silver plated flatware once in daily use in the dining cars of many now defunct railroads.

HERB TINDALL brought with him an accumulation of used paramutual tickets along with a humorous dissertation on how he acquired them. A short talk on character glass collecting with copies of glass price guides, newsletters and dealer price lists along with single glasses representing various type sets was JIM LYMAN'S entry. HARRY RAPP reminisced about his and his sister's careers in show business, as listeners browsed amongst the scrapbooks he brought along. MARILYN SHIRLEY showed framed examples of her stitchery craftsmanship. MIKE SHIRLEY, along with his son, JOHN, set up a 50-gallon tank re-plete with plants, stones, sand filters, water and fish. This required a time consuming effort on their part to set-up and break-down the display. MIKE also answered many questions on the setting up and stocking an aquarium. On MIRIAM AMERDING'S table were a bird watching book along with articles and pictures of birds she has sighted.

FRED HUSSON exhibited a 1:6 scale built flying model of a Pitts Special US Aerobic Champion Plane. The original plane was manufactured shortly after WWII. FRED also displayed an engine that costs over \$1,000. to be used in a future project.

Active in Scouting for over thirty years, DAVE STRAYER has two tables filled with memorabilia. Boy Scout insignia, patches, merit badges, kerchiefs and manuals spanning his years of involvement were on display. In his brief talk on scouting one could sense his love of scouting from the animation and enthusiasm in his voice. DAVE generously offered ceramic tile coasters with Boy Scout insignia to everyone present. CHUCK SHIRLEY'S contribution to the show was albums of US silver dollars and rare 19th Century silver coins. He also exhibited First Day Covers with coins encapsulated in cacheted, display envelopes.

The refreshments were provided by MARILYN, MIRIAM, JIM L., MARY, DAVE, LUCY AND JIM F. Setting up of tables and the clean-up following the show were handled by MARILYN, MIKE and JIM L.

NEW MEMBERS

A very special welcome is extended to the following two new members of the Lancaster County Philatelic Society.

MARSHALL ANDERSON

JOHN FORNEY

Hopefully we will be able to give you more information regarding the collecting interests of these two members in our September issue of "Phil-a-atelling Around". Please make our two new members welcome at the August picnic.

MAKE COLLECTING PAY WITH MARKETMAN

(The third and final segment from an article in Global Stamp News.)

CONCLUSION

Is it time now for Laos? No, its time has yet to come; that's why I suggest you might like to think about starting right now. The investor who waits till everyone gets the same idea never catches up: if you like the look and feel of Laos's stamps, and decide to stick to the earlier period I have mentioned, you have a head start on everyone else and can then enjoy the rest at your leisure.

But suppose you don't care for Laos? Fine: apply these same rules to absolutely any country that appeals to you. They are part of the complex but fascinating pattern of stamp investment which I am trying to explain to you, little by little, in these articles: identify the goodies, stick to tip-top condition, break the back of the collection right at the start if you can afford to (and don't wait too long if you begin any other way).

BEYOND THE CATALOG

But do not imagine that "just stamps" make a fine investment collection. I've given you some hints on the stamp aspect, but I did sneak in that mention of forty post offices shrinking to 13, with only Vientiane (the capital) still having airmail connections with the outside world by 1969.

Watch for covers bearing Laotian stamps. They are scarce enough (and I don't mean FDCs, though even these are certainly worth buying on sight.

(continued on page 5)

THE LCPS ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

DATE: Wednesday, August 10

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Manor Township Community Park, Pavilion 2

MAP: Detailed instructions to Manor Township Park, Pavilion 2.

BRING: Casserole if your last name begins with "A-H"; Salad if your last name begins with "I-R" and Dessert if your last name begins with "S-Z".

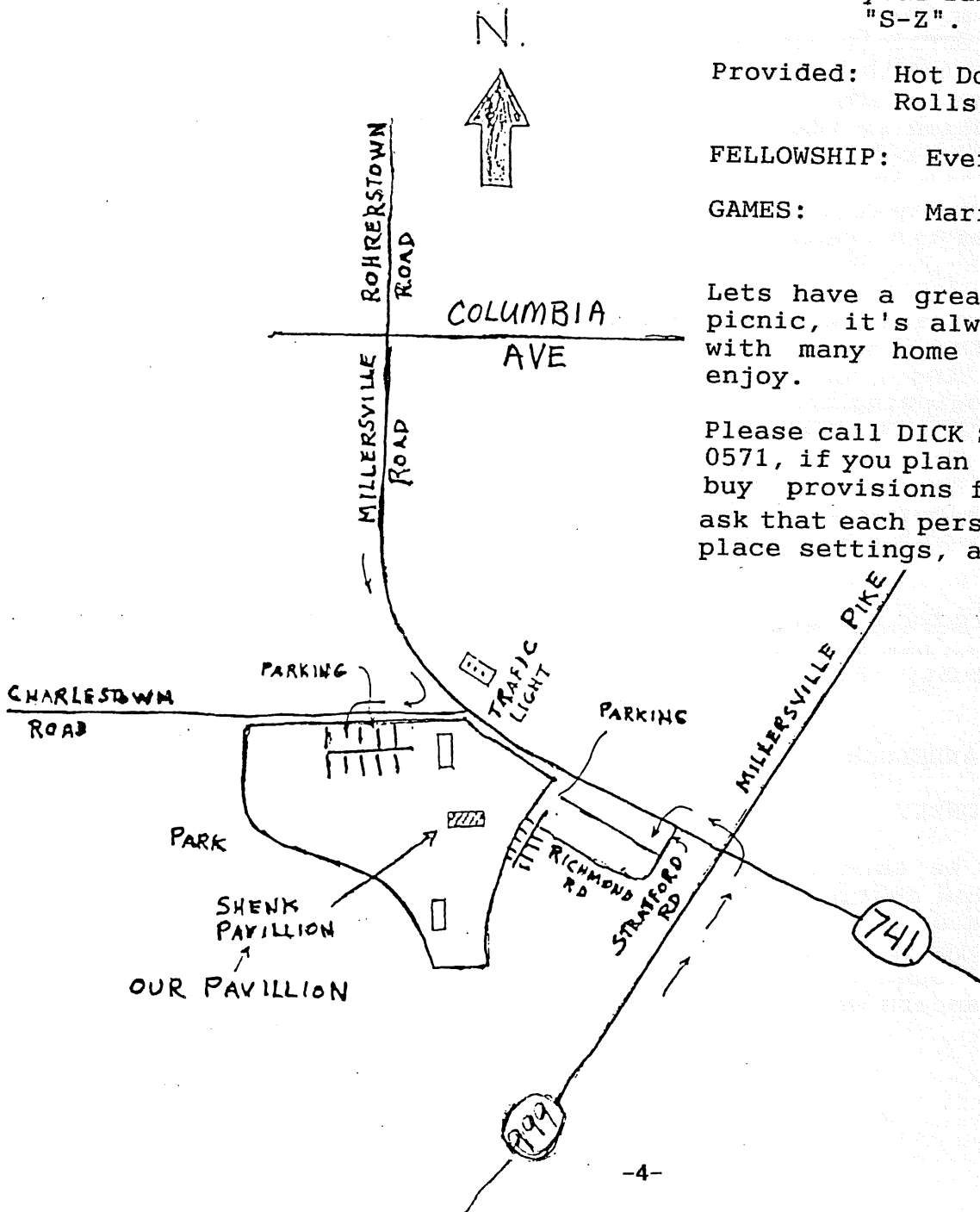
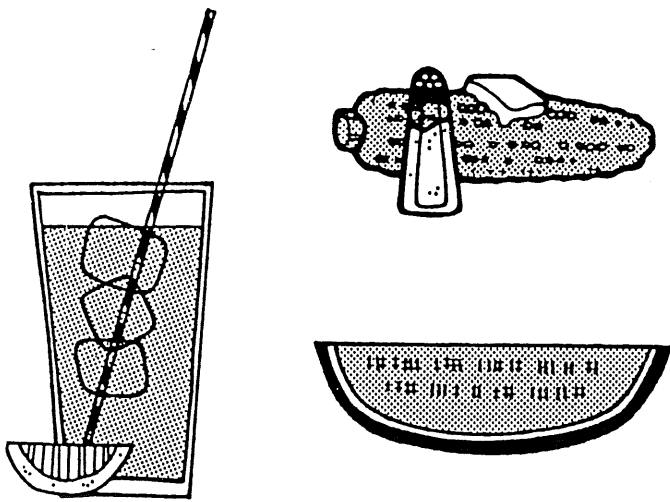
Provided: Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Rolls and Drink.

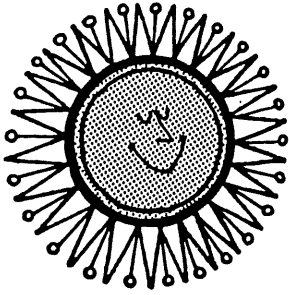
FELLOWSHIP: Everyone Attending

GAMES: Marilyn and Mike

Lets have a great turn-out at the picnic, it's always a fun evening with many home cooked dishes to enjoy.

Please call DICK SHAEFER (717) 560-0571, if you plan to attend so he can buy provisions for the group. We ask that each person bring their own place settings, also.





But always check the postmarks. You will find 95 percent are of Vientiane, so count these as having little importance or interest unless the stamps themselves are of some value. It's all the other post offices that you need, and some of them had postmarks that are very messy and hard to read, so you should also check addresses on the back flaps to show where they came from.

Watch out for official mail, whether bearing postage stamps or not: the unstamped covers are scarce and usually have large purple hand-stamps of the dispatching office or ministry, all worth buying. Royal Mail is always of value and does crop up here and there in dealers' boxes of mixed covers.

Many collectors aren't sure what to do worth such items. The answer is simple. Buy blank album leaves identical to those you use for your stamps, head each one, mount one or at most two covers on each sheet and write them up - what is interesting about them, anything you know about them. Then either slip them between the stamp pages in date order, or if you prefer keep them in a separate album. I prefer to see them mixed in because that way you are telling a joint story - stamp design and stamp usage - in a single sequence, and each throws light on the other.

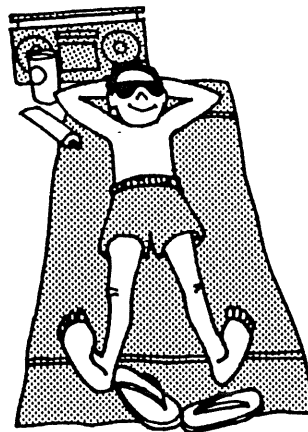
Oh, a final word of warning if and when you come to sell. You may find many dealers uninformed about the true value of on-cover material, and they may try to hide this by claiming that "nobody wants modern covers" or "they are all common, I can't give you much for them" or some such downgrading.

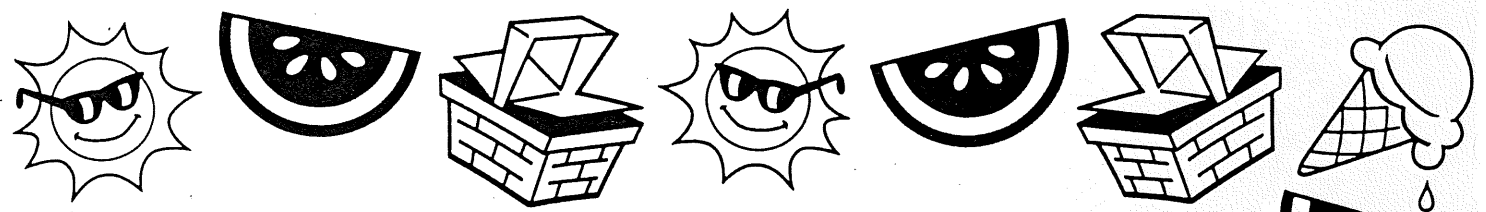
Never accept this. Any stamp of a small, underdeveloped country postally used on a clean commercial cover is of interest and value. If

you find a dealer trying to persuade you to part with them cheaply, either he is a crook or, more likely, he has no idea what they are worth, is not willing to take a chance, and will simply strip them out and put them into auction, or offer them to a reputable postal history dealer.

Why should he have your profit? Cultivate your suppliers, encourage them to watch out for goodies for you, try to show you are giving them your loyalty, and when you come to sell, approach them first. But if they are unwilling to give you a good price, go elsewhere. Check out the dealers who say they specialize in your country, check out the auctioneers who offer one-country sales, but never allow a dealer to take down your own knowledge of your collection.

By the same token, you must become a specialist: join a good study circle and make use of its bulletins and auctions and facilities; read books about your chosen country, immerse yourself in it. It's fun - and it pays dividends!





LCPS OFFICERS

William Greiner, President
Mike Shirley, Vice-President
Benjamin E. Heller, Secretary
Charles Kilgore, Treasurer

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Jim Lyman, Editor
Marilyn Shirley, Data Processor
Mike Shirley, Graphic Arts/Layout

AUGUST

