



Phila-telling Around

MEETINGS - 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
STAUFFER MANSION - 7:30 P.M.
1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601
Next Meeting - Wed. MARCH 8, 1995

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

VOL.6,NO 3 NEWSLETTER FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1990 MARCH 1995

It's SHOW TIME!

It looks like another stamp show crept up on us again! This year's event came especially fast, due to the fact that we had to reserve a spot in Park City a month earlier than usual (Those of you who have been hibernating the past few months, our stamp show is MARCH 17-19)

We should have 40 frames of interesting exhibits. If anyone has a last-minute entry, please fill in a prospectus and hand it to Jim Boyles at our upcoming meeting, (March 8).

The theme of this year's stamp show is the 50th Anniversary of the end of WWII. Anyone that is willing to part with any 3¢ unused WWII related stamps, bring them to the March meeting or call me at 394-0186. The club will buy them for use on our cachets.

As Stamp Show Publicity Chairman, I would like to ask every member to encourage at least one business proprietor to hang a Stamp Show Poster in his or her establishment.

Thanks for all your help!

Mike Shirley
President



March Hosts

BILL and TRUYDE GREINER are scheduled to be our host and hostess for the March Meeting. We've heard that BILL will probably be doing the hosting since he can't get TRUYDE away from that huge box of stamps she is preparing for the JUNIOR COLLECTORS which will be given free to any young collector desiring a few stamps to add to his hobby.

MARCH PROGRAM

1. We are asking members to share how they may have influenced a young collector to become interested in the hobby of stamp collecting. Maybe it was one of your grandchildren, or the "kid next door". Let's consider the possibility of our club sponsoring a club in an elementary school?

2. Final preparations will be reviewed for the upcoming LANCOPEX Show on MARCH 17-19, BOSCOV'S MALL, PARK CITY.

U.N. CELEBRATING 50TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR

The United Nations will be in existence for 50 years in 1995 with the actual Birthday being June 26 when the charter was signed in San Francisco. U.N. stamps never engendered the appeal to U.S. collectors that they should have had. Heavy on symbolism, from their initial issues they had an aversion to portraying living figures, whether human or animal. However, in recent years the U.N. has discovered topical subjects, witness the Flag series, endangered Wildlife, Human Rights. Now if the U.N. would begin producing series of stamps portraying young women in national costumes, dances indigenous to all the countries on the planet earth, famous singers and actors, et al., they would be right up there in popularity with the rest of the world.

In fact, so much revenue would be produced if the U.N. studied the tactics of the USPS, the U.S. Government might not have to subsidize the U.N. at all.

THE EDITOR

(Readers are urged to write letters to the Editor expressing support or dissent regarding views expressed in the Newsletter.)



AUCTION -- APRIL PROGRAM

Last call to get your stamps and other items, i.e. unwanted stock sheets watermark detector fluid, trays, catalogues, and many other articles listed in the April Newsletter for the April Auction.

Bring in your auction material and give it to BEN HELLER to catalog for publication.

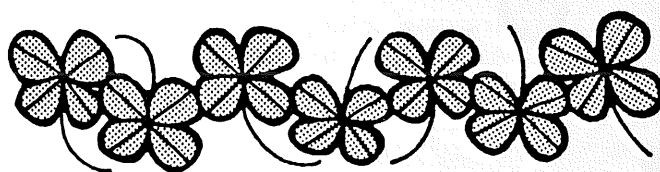
If you need more information about this project, please call BEN at (717) 626-1078. He will be happy to give you the details. Publishing an auction listing beforehand is something new for the club, so let's all try to submit something in the auction. The money you make will enable you to buy something from someone else.



BRITISH SOCIETY SEEKING PENPALS

The Mauritron Philatelic Society of Oxfordshire, England, is an international club dedicated to introducing like-minded stamp collectors to one another. Stamp Collector readers who would like new penfriends are invited to contact the Society; c/o The Secretary, Dept. P.R., 8 Cherry Tree Road, Chinnor, Oxfordshire, OX9 4QY, England.

Readers who join the Society as a result of this referral will receive a free bag of unsorted stamps in addition to all other membership benefits.



YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN A SMALL TOWN WHEN

- - - - -
- Third street is on the edge of town.
- Every sport is played in the dirt.
- The editor and publisher of the local paper carries a camera at all times.

- You dial a wrong number and talk for 15 minutes anyway.

- You are run off Main Street by a combine.

- You get married and the local paper devotes a quarter page to the story.

- The biggest business in town sells farm machinery.

- You write a check on the wrong bank and it covers you anyway.

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YOU THOUGHT THAT A 10% INCREASE IN THE COST OF MAILING A LETTER MIGHT BE EXORBITANT, READ ON --

The USPS (United States Postal Service) has set as its goal one billion dollars in revenue annually from the sale of stamps and sundry items, mainly to collectors, by the year 2000. If you wondered how collectors could absorb that kind of increase in their stamp budgets and still manage to eat, the USPS has other revenue enhancing measures in mind to rile the collector.

Yesterday, February 1, 1995, I received my shipment of Legends Panels (six sheets attached with gutter blocks), Legends Postcards, a confusing amount of "G" stamps in every format the Postal Service could devise. In thumbing through the catalogue that accompanied my order from the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center in Kansas City,

MO., I was stunned to read the announcement that as of April 1, 1995 the shipping rates would be increased by as much as 1600%.

This increase is particularly onerous because the USPS owns the facilities to package and ship the orders throughout the U.S. and the world, since they create and manufacture the product for a fraction of the price to the consumer. Example, how much does it cost to produce a sheet of 20 of the \$5.00 Washington and Jackson stamp? The sheet sells for \$100. and will repose in someone or other's collection for the next hundred years, almost \$100. pure profit for the USPS. Ordering that one sheet which, must weigh less than an ounce, will cost a collector \$6.20.

To cite an example of the 1600% increase in shipping costs, until April 1, 1995 a collector could purchase 500 32¢ commemoratives, a \$160. value for a shipping cost of 50¢. After April 1, 1995 the charge will be \$8.20. According to my calculation that increase amounts to over 1600%.

In the remaining years of this century I can see more and more special issues available only from the Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center. Below is the chart clipped from the USPS' Winter '95 mail catalogue.

Jim Lyman

### NEW SHIPPING AND HANDLING RATES AFTER MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

For as long as possible we've been shipping your orders by Priority Mail™ at a reduced rate. But with rising costs, we find it necessary to implement an increase in our fees for the first time in over twenty years. This will enable us to continue providing you with the kind of service you've enjoyed from us throughout the years.

The following rates will go into effect on April 1, 1995 in the April/ May/June edition of *Stamps etc.*

| IF YOUR ORDER AMOUNTS TO: | ADD:   |
|---------------------------|--------|
| \$0.01 - \$20.00          | \$3.20 |
| \$20.01 - \$50.00         | \$4.20 |
| \$50.01 - \$80.00         | \$5.20 |
| \$80.01 - \$110.00        | \$6.20 |
| \$110.01 - \$140.00       | \$7.20 |
| \$140.01 - \$170.00       | \$8.20 |
| (over) \$170.00           | \$9.20 |

## LCPS OFFICERS

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Dick Shaefer, Treasurer

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

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

## STAMP OF APPROVAL

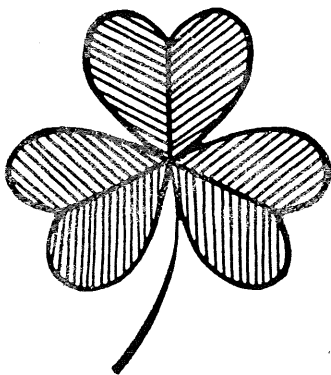
A special "Thank You" is extended to ROGER JOHNSON, who not only paid his yearly dues, but added an extra donation to the club.

Roger stated, "Although I rarely have an opportunity to attend the meetings, I do enjoy the newsletters." (That makes you very special, Roger, to the Newsletter Staff!)

## TOO MUCH TO EXPECT?

The elderly lady zoomed past a state trooper who was cruising along at the limit. He gave chase and when he had brought her to a stop he asked for her driver's license.

The elderly woman looked at him sharply. "Young man," she said, "how can I be expected to show you my driver's license when you people keep taking it away from me?" AAA



M A R C H

