

# Philatelling Around

MEETINGS, 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
LANCASTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER  
Lincoln Highway West, Maple Grove  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
Next Meeting - Wed., June 12, 1996

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CLUB  
CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717)872-2479

VOL. 7, # NEWSLETTER FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1990 JUNE 1996

## MYSTERY HOST

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

GREETINGS,

Another Stamp Show has come and gone. This year's show was a big success!! I would like to thank all the members who participated in making this happen. A special thanks goes to JIM BOYLES and DICK SHAEFER for an excellent job they did in organizing this year's show. We will be talking more about the show and any feedback or suggestions members have for next year at our next meeting. The program for June will be an auction. It has been a while since we had an auction and I am sure everyone has something that they want to sell or buy. I hope to see everyone there.

PETER S. BILLIS  
President

The Host or Hostess for the evening is a mystery to us. According to the schedule printed in the March newsletter, DICK DUDLEY is scheduled to host the meeting. HOWEVER, DICK was the host for the April Meeting -- So, will the REAL Host/Hostess please stand up!



## JUNE PROGRAM

Our June meeting will be a night of buying, selling, trading, and ignoring those who try to make you listen to their political views. Bring your money, your duplicate stamps and your earplugs. Our meeting starts at 7:30 pm and lasts until about 9:00 pm or whenever we can no longer stand the excitement.



BUSINESS MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking -- \$1,077.16  
Savings -- 916.00  
C.D. -- 2,000.00

DICK SHAEFER reported the club is deemed solvent.

LANCOPEX WRAP-UP: JIM BOYLES reported on LANCOPEX noting that all returns are not in yet. For instance, another \$50.00 may be realized from the sale of show covers. Sales of covers were down 50% from last year, attributed to Mall browsers buying the show covers in the mistaken belief that they were First Day Covers. (The Farm Center patrons were much more knowledgeable and didn't make that mistake.)

After three days of exhausting time and effort, the two-day show at the Farm and Home Center produced a \$35. profit for the club. But JIM BOYLES and DICK SHAEFER were quick to point out that it was the Club's first show at the new location and after an analysis of the costs, some trimming of expenses might be realized next year. Also, the dealers would be more familiar with the Center and gear their wares to the collector traffic.

No change in the site of LANCOPEX '97 foreseen. JIM stressed that the club was doing the show, not for profit, but to promote an interest in stamp collecting in Lancaster County and the surrounding area. A discussion ensued in an attempt to reduce costs and increase profits for LANCOPEX '97. A suggestion to increase the table rental for dealers was quickly vetoed as it was pointed out last year's Mall table rental had been increased from \$115. to \$125. and dealers could not absorb another increase and show a profit. Club members might experience an altruistic satisfaction in putting on the show but to dealers, having a profitable show puts bread on the table.

Printing was the biggest expense being one third of the \$3,000 spent. JIM and DICK were enthusiastic about the use of postcards to known collectors. (Ed. Note: In Florida I attended several stamp/coin shows and was notified by postcard even though the shows were advertised in the local press. Their gimmick was to have the collector deposit the card at the show and be eligible for a "prize" each day. And since the address was already on the postcard, the winners did not have to be in the hall when the drawing was held.)

The club has booked LANCOPEX '97 in the Farm and Home Center for the first week in May 1997.

Responding to a suggestion to increase the number of dealers to produce more profit, it was noted that the max would be 21 dealers, while 20 actually participated. JIM explained that more dealers would only dilute the profitability of all the dealers because the number of collectors attending the show would be finite. Nevertheless, BILL GREINER is preparing a feasibility study to determine the best layout for dealers' tables. Some confusion ensued when setting up this year as tables had to be relocated several times -- and they are heavy.

Some dealers liked the mall, some the auditorium. One dealer made \$1,200. at the Boscov Mall last year and only \$650. this year. But whether the difference in profitability had to do with the surroundings is a moot question. The Farm and Home Center proved to be difficult to find, even with explicit directions. Coming up Route 72 there is a hodgepodge of car dealer signs to confuse the traveler. Even after making the correct turn off Manheim Pike, you expect to see the Center, instead you must drive to the end of the road to locate it.

A suggestion was made to hold the show only one day, Saturday. Two days' rental of the Center costs the club \$1,100. one day, \$600. But holding the show one day would also

cut dealer profits by 50%. Most dealers don't think it is worth the effort to bring all their material for just one day.

A consensus of the members thought the INTERNET, in the next ten years, will drastically change the hobby field and how it conducts its business.

Club President, PETER BILLIS, led a round of applause for everyone who participated in setting up, tearing down and manning the show in the sometimes tedious hours in between. JIM BOYLES, and DICK SHAEFER for the countless hours spent in preparation, while the show was in progress, and in wrap-up; LUCY EYSTER who served as hostess and floor supervisor, who was there every hour the show was open and before and after it closed; BILL AND TRUYDE GREINER, who manned the Youth Table and talked themselves hoarse helping the new, young collectors and their parents, were singled out for a special round of applause from the appreciative club members.

JIM said that upon arriving early Sunday morning, he was met by the security guard's Rottweiler baring his teeth as they eyed each other through the glass door. The guard's assurance that the dog would lick you to death before he'd bite offered scant comfort to JIM. Handling the heavy frames, estimated to weigh 100 pounds, is becoming more burdensome each year with many members getting on in years. Either we come up with a plethora of young members or a better way must be found.

A member suggested a dealers' bourse. That is, a one-day show, no frames, no advertising except postcards only, no covers, tee shirts, et al, no printing expenses. This could be held once a month. The drawback would be that this type of show is usually run by a professional promoter. Would we be risking our non-profit status in such a venture??

Some dealers' comments:

.. I miss the traffic in the Mall, but not the noise level.

.. I felt safer. I didn't think anyone would be snatching my material from the table if I turned my back.

.. The Farm Center was great and I want the same table location next year.

.. Well run show, dedicated volunteers.

.. Great location. Little warm, though.

and some patron comments;

.. The map's no good if you don't know where you are.

.. I came from West Virginia and it was worth the trip.

.. Less distracting than the Mall.

.. Will be back.

.. Good move, never did like the Mall.

.. Excellent accommodations.

.. Children's Table, wonderful! (TRUYDE had 40 kids on Saturday and their parents, too).



CLOTHESLINE EXHIBIT--MAY PROGRAM.

The attendance at the May meeting totaled twenty members and elicited seven entries for our Clothesline Exhibit.

1. LUCY EYSTER'S entry was four sheets, each containing a hand-painted F.D.C. with a hologram stamp. This was an excerpt from her award-winning four frames of Hologram Stamps in the show.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

We don't recall if any, or all, of our departed club members served in the armed forces. Whether they did, or did not, is not the point. Nevertheless, we thought Memorial Day would be an apt time to pause and remember them. They, like us, the living members, worked to make our summer picnic a fun evening. They, too, served on the committees to ensure we enjoyed our Christmas Party, had a successful LANCOPEX, bid in our club auctions, participated in our stamp programs.

Since 1990 when we began the NEWSLETTER, these are our members who have passed on. Let us who knew them pause to think of them as they were in life. And our newer members be made aware that our club as it exists today was built in part on their dedicated efforts.

**SARAH BROWN**  
**JAMES FIKE**  
**ROBERT GOODELL**  
**OTHMAR KIRCHNER**  
**PAUL NEIDLHARDT**  
**PAUL WESTCOTT**



The RFD (Rural Free Delivery) mail service was begun by the P.O. 101 years ago. Off-hand, I do not recall if a stamp was issued last year in honor of the occasion. Do you?

2. Early York County covers from GARY KURTZ. These four covers covered change of rates, earliest usage, etc. (JIM BOYLES should face serious competition in the local cover field in future shows.)

3. Not sure if they were stamps or colorful labels, BILL GREINER showed off his colorful 3-D Bhutan stamps and S/Ss.

4. MARILYN SHIRLEY'S panel showed evidence of the many hours spent selecting and arranging her photos of the First Day Cover Ceremony for the "Garden Flowers" stamps. The way she placed her photos, program, stamps in a seemingly random, hodge-podge bordered on the ingenious.

5. A sheet of picture framed Marilyn Monroe Stamps (it was pointed out that the sheet was missing a star at the intersection of four stamps variety commanding a premium over the normal sheet and a Vario stock sheet of Ryukus stamps with orange tags denoting missing stamps) was JIM LYMAN'S contribution to the exhibit.

6. A series of FDC's of modern Great Britain was the work of BOB ALLISON.

7. A panel containing numerous stamps and booklet panes depicting joint issues of the U.S. and foreign governments submitted by MARK KING completed the showing.

8. The caboose. JIM BOYLES tried to pass off a series of photos taken at the LANCOPEX as his entry, claiming the pictures to be an imperferate, ungummed set of mint stamps. However, the knowledgeable members were too sharp to buy that and consequently razed him unmercifully for this attempted deception.

## WILL THIS BE A PANDORA'S BOX?

The Postal Service has never cottoned to the issuance of Semi-Postal Stamps, long a staple of many foreign countries. But a .33¢ stamp? Why not a .32¢ stamp plus 1¢ surcharge? The article states that the Postal Service is hesitant because it doesn't want to be a fund raising agency. I'm sure if the sponsoring group cut the USPS in for, say 25% of the money raised, we would be deluged by semi-postal stamps.--Ed. Note.

### STAMP MAY AID CANCER RESEARCH -- Maturity News Service

If a San Francisco doctor and his representative in Congress get their way, the U.S. Postal Service will soon issue a 33-cent stamp that citizens can voluntarily buy to support breast cancer research.

The extra penny on each stamp would go to the research effort, said Rep. Vic Fazio, D-Calif., who will introduce legislation that would allow the Postal Service to print the special issue.

In developing the proposal Fazio worked with Ernie Bodai, chief surgeon at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Sacramento, Calif.

"Buy a stamp and save a life" -- that's what Bodai says he hopes people will do if the stamp is issued.

For its part, however, the Postal Service is still hesitating about the idea, in part because it dreads becoming a fund-raising agency for every disease and disability group.

Breast cancer kills about 45,000 women a year in the United States.

GARY KURTZ told an interesting story about a vacation trip that took him through Cheyenne, Wyo., the home of the Fleetwood FDC Company. In the gift shop he purchased a number of facsimile FDC's of old stamps, transmiss., Columbus issue, etc. A few years later, at a Conestoga Auction, he observed two collectors bidding furiously over the .65¢ and \$1.35 Zepperlin U.S. FDC's. Both lots were finally knocked down for \$700. and \$900. respectively. You guessed it, they were facsimile covers from Fleetwood. But because each was part of a number of items in the lot and were not advertised as FDC's, it was a case of BUYER BEWARE!



## DID YOU KNOW?

That if a mere 10% of the people who got "Prize Possibility Information" from READER'S DIGEST were to reply (in the hopes of winning something) the postage alone (.32¢ per stamp) would amount to \$640,000!

Based on the fact that junk mail is gravy to the P.O., they must be dreaming of the prospect of 100% participation, \$6,500,000 in postal revenue.



### NO SHOW NEWS

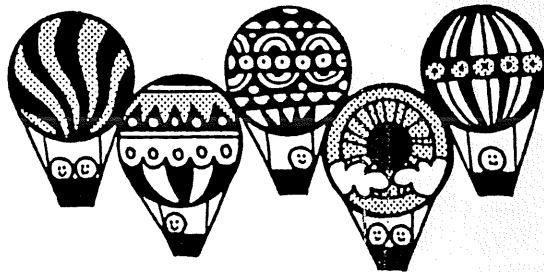
LESLEY, who rarely misses a stamp club meeting, slept late after a Tuesday night banquet she attended, and was a "No Show". That must have been quite a gathering.

## LCPS OFFICERS

PETER BILLIS, President  
LUCY EYSTER, Vice-President  
MIRIAM AMERDING, Secretary  
DICK SHAEFER, Treasurer

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

JIM LYMAN, Editor  
MARILYN SHIRLEY, Data Processor  
MIKE SHIRLEY, Graphic Arts/Layout



The Newsletter staff would appreciate any items you may come across that would be of interest to our members. Please give them to Jim Lyman, Mike or Marilyn Shirley.

June 1996