



Phil-a-tolling Around

Since 1990

November, 2003

Vol. 13 #9

Minutes

October 8, 2003 Meeting

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LANCASTER

Meeting convened at 7:05 PM. Paul Petersen welcomed first time visiting junior member Ilea Griffiths, and Bob Noble and Woody Hann who joined last month.

Opening challenge: Paul asked the group to identify foreign born people who have been depicted on US postage over the years. According to TV host Larry King, only Churchill has appeared on our stamps. The group identified many other individuals.

By-laws of the PSLC: Executive committee was unable to find a common meeting time to begin the discussion. They hope to do this in the coming months.

Kids stamp books: These arrived from APS and were distributed to the junior members.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Don Weber provided an updated report. There was no secretary's report.

Officer Nomination: Al Schaub was nominated for vice president by Eleanor Wheeler. Al accepted the nomination. Election will take place at the November meeting for the vice presidency which will start in January, 2004. Marilyn Shirley will then move up to president.

Announcements: Several stamp shows and postal history related events were announced. These will take place over the next month.

Drawing: Dick Colburg won this month's drawing.

Future meetings: November 12th - Jim Boyles:
A slide presentation on the postal history of Lancaster County.
December 10th - Junior members will have a surprise presentation at Christmas Dinner.

December Dinner: The December meeting will consist of a catered buffet dinner with a short program by the junior members. Marilyn Shirley is coordinating the event with help from Mary Husson. Others helpers will be recruited.

Program: Al Schaub gave a great slide presentation on the philatelic history of World War Two.

Respectfully submitted, Paul Petersen, President

PERSONALIZED STAMPS

Want a stamp with your picture on it? Right now, you will have to go to Australia or to Canada, where their respective postal systems will gladly oblige. Canada charges \$12.50 for a panel of 10 stamps with your picture on each stamp, more than double the \$4.80 cost of ten first-class stamps (both prices Canadian). And both countries claim that the personalized stamps have provided a new source of revenue to their respective postal systems.

A presidential panel that reported on postal issues in July 2003 seemed to recommend that the Postal Service offer personalized stamps. The proposal has been discussed briefly-and with little enthusiasm—by postal authorities, who indicate they will consider the proposal “later.”

Several commercial enterprises have offered to provide kiosks that could take photos and print personalized stamps. According to one source, both Eastman Kodak and Stamps.com have offered to provide such services, with the company and the Postal Service splitting the revenue. And many small businesses seem to like the idea since they could personalize their advertising. For collectors, however, personalized stamps will present new opportunities and many new challenges!

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting will be held at the Maple Grove Community Center at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12. Jim Boyles will make a slide presentation on the postal history of Lancaster County. Lori Hostetler (569-7668) is the hostess for the meeting.



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STAMP SHOWS

Johnstown, PA November 8

Johnstown Stamp Show.
Senior Activities Center, 550 Main St.
Sponsored by Johnstown Stamp Club. Bourse.
Hrs: 10 am-4 pm. Free.
Contact: Bill Steeg, 130 Tioga St. Johnstown, PA
15905, 814-536-2373.
"mailto:geetsllib@aol.com"
geetsllib@aol.com 12 dealers.

Timonium, MD November 9

Baltimore Friendly Bourse.
Holiday Inn, Timonium Plaza, 2004 Greenspring Dr.
(Exit I-83).
Sponsored by James J. Reeves Collectibles.
Commercial. Bourse.
Hrs: 10 am-4 pm. Free.
Michael Davignon, POB 219, Huntington, PA 16652.
Tables 10.

NEW POSTAL SERVICE GUIDE TO U.S. STAMPS

A new edition (30th) of the Postal Service Guide to U.S. Stamps is now available at post offices, bookstores, and the postal service online. In addition to regular definitives and commemoratives, the new volume includes postal envelopes, postal cards, and duck stamps-but not most back-of-the-book issues. The Guide continues the 5 x 9 inch format; listings include Scott numbers and 2002 retail prices. The price is \$18.95 plus shipping for online or telephone orders (1 800 STAMP-24) or \$23.00 at bookstores.

NAME THIS DOG!

Many years ago, a stray dog wandered into the Albany, New York, post office. It happened on a stormy night, and the mutt was quickly adopted by postal workers. Shortly thereafter, the dog began to ride Railway Mail Service trains, eventually traveling across much of the United States. Railway mail train workers prepared metal tags for the dog's collar; none of the trains on which the dog rode were involved in accidents, and the tags were soon considered good luck charms.

As the dog's fame grew within the postal service, he was recognized by the Postmaster General. Later, he made an around-the-world trip, and was greeted by celebrities and world leaders.

The dog's luck ran out a few years later- while being shown to a reporter, he attacked a visitor and was put down.

But the story doesn't end there. The stuffed remains of the dog are now enshrined in the National Postal Museum. And the saga of the dog is recounted in a new children's book: Published by Great Plains Press, A Lucky Dog is for children six to 12 and should be available this month (greatplainspress.com). Equally important, the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee has approved a stamp in honor of the dog-the issue date is undecided.

What is the name of this famous dog?

Publisher: Tuyen Tran & T & D Design, Inc.
Editor: Bill Snyder
Reporters: Eleanor Wheeler & Richard Wheeler
Photographer: Diane Meek



The deadline for submitting material for the newsletter is the 20th of each month. Items can be sent to the editor or to either reporter or the photographer by mail, email, or telephone.

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