



The Overprint

Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

Stan Raugh, Editor
4217 8th Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805
Tele: 610-921-5822

Issue: April 2014

**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, April 1, at 7:00 p.m.

AUCTION !!!

**Be sure to bring items for our club auction--
it will be a good chance to sell off some extras
and use the money to upgrade your collection.**

#####

This is Your Big Chance--

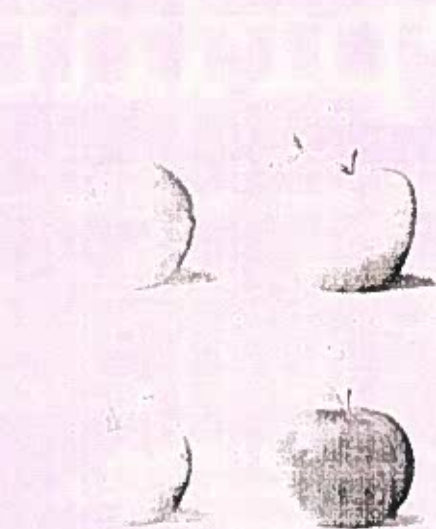
The names drawn for the February and March Attendance Drawing (Diana Lawrence and Rodney Reeder) were not present.

Thus, the April Attendance Drawing will be for \$20.00. Think of it, all you have to do is show up, enjoy the auction, and have a shot at the big \$20.00 Jackpot. Our treasurer is ready to pay it out!

FREE TICKETS are available for the April 4-6 Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition in Oaks, PA. Call Roy as these passes are limited in number. His phone number is: 610-927-3435. There may be some left for the April meeting.

They already won--Mike Back won the February 50/50 for \$12.00 and Michael Matus won the March drawing for \$15.00. Buying tickets helps our club.

An Apple Stamp a Day Looks Good in an Album



Pictured at left are the four apple varieties of the 33-cent post card rate (now 34-cents) stamps issued by the Post Office. Clockwise, from upper left is the Northern Spy, a baking apple rich in Vitamin C and anti-oxidants that was discovered in New York but sprouted and moved there from Connecticut before 1800; Golden Delicious, a great apple for sauce and eating off the tree that originated in West Virginia about 1890; Baldwin, a baking and cider apple discovered in Massachusetts in the 1740's by William Butters; and Granny Smith, another cooking apple grown from a random seed tossed out a kitchen window in Australia about 1868.

As regular readers of The Overprint know, I enjoy collecting stamps related to my other hobbies.

When I found out about the above recent stamps (first day of issue was January 13, 2013) I bought a basket of them.

The Northern Spy (or Northern Spie) apple at the top left above, is one of great interest to me, as I knew of them as a child. The Northern Spy apple can take 10-12 years to fruit and has problems such a fire blight susceptibility, but is a good keeper.

There is an old saying, "spies are for pies." They are hard and hold their shape in baking. On dwarf rootstock it is said they fruit earlier. Mine, on semi-dwarf understock is about three years old, so I will have to wait awhile.

Golden Delicious is rarely called Mullins Seedling, as it was found on the Mullins farm, but the next owner sold the rights to Starks for \$5,000. It has also been called the Annita apple, but I have no idea why.

The Baldwin apple goes by a few other names as well, such as Woodpecker, Pecker and Butters. It was found by a Mr. Butters, but promoted by a Revolutionary War soldier named Col. Laomi Baldwin. It is a small to medium cider apple, especially tasty to woodpeckers.

Granny Smith is a strange choice. With an estimate 30-40,000 American apples, why did they pick an Australian? Better choices would have been Hawkeye, Grimes Golden, the Keim Apple (from Berks County), Roxbury Russet or one of hundreds of others.