

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic Association

Club Meeting: Wednesday, 12th March at 7:00 PM

BlueBird Commons. Tonight's host is Dick Schaefer

Message From the President

Eleanor Wheeler

Too bad we can't control the weather, but sometimes it's prudent to stay home, so we cancelled the February meeting. However, two hearty prospective members showed up at the Bluebird room and were greeted by Lucy Eyster. We look forward to meeting them at the next meeting in March.

Our March meeting is always our "Lick 'n Stick" night to prepare postcards announcing our Lancopex exhibit and show. This year, to enhance the evening we will hold a special auction of the items donated to the club by Jim Lyman. As described in the February newsletter, the collection includes many U.S. and foreign stamps, covers, (some

Ukraine) and FDC's. There are some postcards, including a Crosby. There are air mail covers including Berlin air lift and air mail FDC's, and a few other special items. So, please come and enjoy helping and bidding. Jim's Collection has been formed into medium sized lots, most having a minimum bid of one to two dollars. There may be some overlooked treasures.

In other news I am happy to announce that Lucy Eyster has volunteered to be our Membership Chair and meeting host (snacks) coordinator. Thank you, Lucy!

Beware! And Prepare! - postal rates will increase, AGAIN on May 12: 1st class will be 42 cents; extra

ounce will remain 17 cents, but postcards will go up to 27 cents. So much for the penny postcard! Other classes are also increasing from 3 to 5 cents.

In case you did not hear, Jim Boyles faced a health crisis a few weeks ago, but following a heart procedure he was back to his usual routine in just a few days, doing everything he wanted to do. He is now following up on all plans for Lancopex. The club members and I are delighted to know that Jim is all right and back to normal.

See you on March 12th.



Club Meeting Program for March 2008-Lick 'n Stick/Lancopex & Auction



Come and join the fun. This is our annual meeting to prepare for Lancopex which will be held on 26-27th April 2008 at the Farm and Home Show Center. Following this will be a club auction of the James Layman Collection. See you then ☺



Was Barr's Dispatch a sponsor of previous Lancopex expositions?

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PSLC Meets the second Wednesday of the month at BlueBird Commons/Wood Crest Villa at 7:00 PM

President:

Eleanor Wheeler

Vice President:

William P. Snyder

Secretary:

Lori Hostetler

Treasurer:

Claire Smith

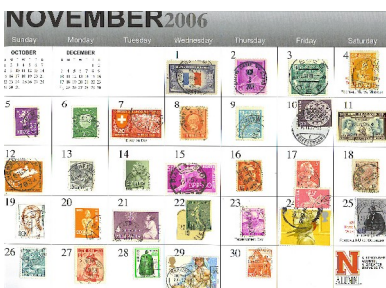
Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640



Stamp Challenge:

Recycle old calendars & stamp doubles with clear dates on them. Find one for each day.



Club Member Honored

Glenn Smith is recognized by Ship Cancellation Society

PSLC past president, Al Schaub shared that club member Glenn Smith received the Universal Ship Cancellation Society's 2007 Honeyman Award for the best '07 article written for the Society's "Log." The article was

entitled "Screw Steamer *Pensacola*." Also during '07 he wrote a series of articles on Naval ships named after the Marines. To date in 2008 he has written biographies of two sailors who served in WWII

entitled, "Just Another one of the Greatest Generation." And as reported in the February newsletter, his *Pennsylvania's Sea Services' Connections* won a gold medal in the recent York stamp show. Congrats, Glenn! Ed

Minutes From the Secretary

Lori Hostetler

Due to inclement weather forcing cancellation of the February

meeting, there are no minutes for January. At the March meeting,

Claire Smith, Treasurer, will give a report for both Jan. and Feb.

Musings From the Editor

Perhaps a Philatelic Aphrodisiac

(Cont. on pg.3)

Recall that little child at the dinner table who is not interested in eating. Perhaps he is not hungry or would rather be outdoors with friends or watching TV. Instead of eating, he pushes the food around his plate, from one side to the other, back and forth, looking at the door, seldom taking a bite if any at all. Silently he is hoping that the food will disappear entirely. Similar malaise can happen to your stamp appetite. Is this you? Your behaviors are similar where you move your "stuff" around in your stockbooks and albums, and then from glassines to boxes to stock-sheets and back. There's just

no satisfaction, no appetite at all...

Your discontent may be more than simply acquiring additional stamps. You may need a new or related collecting area or some greater depth in what you already have. Is there a cure? If so, what can you do about it?

Turn to the literature. Responding to an article in *Linn's* from **The Germany Philatelic Society (GPS)**, I ordered a sample copy of the *German Postal Specialist* which had an illustrated article about Volkswagens on stamps for my son who loved "The Beetle." The editor suggested I explore

GPS more, and I subsequently joined. It was a good move. Their journal is now about my favorite monthly philatelic publication. It is almost 50 pages, and it recently went to an all-color edition.

Given my interest in The Great War, and anything to do with 20th Century history, this journal fits many bills. It is the best single source for my 1914-1918 topical collection. While I have identified stamps to add to my collection through the publication, it has been the background information related to a stamp, history of the period, or postal history that has taken me to the next

Miscellaneous Club Notes: Cancellation procedures, Parking, and Lancopex update

Meeting Cancellations. In the event of bad weather, the executive committee of PSLC will confer and make a decision regarding the situation and possible cancellation of the meeting. If it is decided to cancel a meeting, those who receive their club newsletter electronically will receive an email. Those who receive a mailed newsletter will be called by a club officer with the update.

A quick note on parking at Woodcrest Villa. There is a good number of visitor spaces outside of BlueBird Commons, but it is not infinite. Should these spaces be filled when you arrive, you may park in the Employees Parking Lot. This is just across the street from the visitors lot. It is empty and open to LCPS club member's overflow. Please do not park in spaces des-

ignated with "Resident Parking."

Lancopex update. Jim Boyles reports that plans continue and that he will have a sign-up at the March meeting for various tasks needed through out the weekend. This includes meeting and greeting; snack bar, door prizes; registration; children's table; set up, break down & clean-up; and various other tasks.

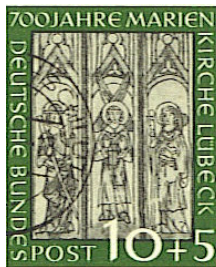
Musings continued...

level. The depth and breadth have been energizing. For example, the recent series on the inflation stamps is the most concise and understandable article I have read on the inflation period of Weimar Germany.

What I am saying is that my \$25 membership has brought returns. Look into the spe-

cialty groups. Almost weekly, *Linn's* has a short blurb about a society and its publication with contact information. Sample copies of their journals are available. Request some. Near the back of *The American Philatelist* is a monthly review of several specialty affiliates. Explore these groups. You just might find

something to get you from moving that food back and forth across your plate.



Paul Petersen

A Topic for Club Discussion... A literature data base

The topic of a PSLC literature database has already been suggested in a previous edition of this news letter. In communication with Eleanor Wheeler and Lucy Eyster, the topic will be brought up for discussion at the March meeting with follow-up in April if needed. The question is this:

Do a good number of members wish such a data base? This would include philatelic holdings which one is willing to loan to other club members. Current thinking is that if such a data base is compiled, it would be voluntary. Participating members would make a list of holdings that they are

willing to lend out. The data would then be compiled into a report available to other club members. Thinking ahead, this data base could also include members willing to serve a mentors to others for given topic. As you can see, much discussion is needed. Please be thinking about this.

Pennsylvania Watch... An AP special to the 29th February 2008 *Lancaster New Era* ran a story of a 56 year mail delay. Richard Lanshe was stationed overseas with the US Army in 1952 when he mailed a pack of photos home to his parents in Wyoming. It arrived in Berks County in late February. He passed away in May, but his daughter found it an opportunity to see fresh words and photos from her father. USPS officials state that they can't understand why a package mailed so many years ago would suddenly show up now!

Need to divest, clean out? Does your collection need some zest? Save this date, Wednesday, 12th May - PSLC Club auction.



Don't Miss April's Program: "Franklin D. Roosevelt, Stamp Czar"



An Alternative to Collecting Number 1s? Check out a neat web site

Collecting number 1s of the world is an interesting topic involving the geography of living and dead countries over the time span. However, it can be costly as so many of the number 1s are old and rare (like your newsletter editor!). I found an interesting alternative to this through an ad in a philatelic publication a while back. This is an album with a space for one stamp from every country that ever produced postage, dead or alive! So the task is less daunting and more flexible than collecting number 1s. There are the same learning benefits, and it is a little easier on the pocketbook. Of great importance, the thrill of the hunt remains.

The sample page from the web site has five (5) large blocks per page for stamps, arranged alphabetically by country. Each block is further broken into three smaller blocks. The first block, on the left, contains the country name (in both its native language and English) and vital statistics. The middle block has a map of the country as it sits within its continent. The column on the right contains space for the stamp.

This is an excellent intermediate album for collectors from middle school through adult. Beside the album, all that is needed is a large

missionary mix and hinges to start. It is a satisfactory repository for one's favorite doubles. When additional stamps are found, perhaps ones in better condition or another more closely representing the country, they can replace what is already in the album making it a dynamic collection.

Like in all collecting,

BAUM Baum was the capital of the Territory of Australia in the 1840s. The first postage stamp for Baum was issued in 1848. The country was named after the German explorer August von Baum. It was the first of the German colonies in Africa. It is now part of Congo.		ALICE 1848-1849
BANARIA Banaria was a small land owned by the British and a member of the German colonial empire. It was established in 1875. It is now part of the Congo River basin.		ALICE 1875-1876
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE The Bechuanaland Protectorate was a British protectorate in Southern Africa. It was established in 1895. It is now part of Botswana.		ALICE 1895-1896
BEJARUS (Belarusian) BEJARUS/BEJARUS Belarus, also known as White Russia, was a republic of the USSR until 1991. It is now an independent state in Eastern Europe. It was the only country in the world to have a postage stamp issued in 1918. It is now part of the Commonwealth of Independent States.		ALICE 1918-1919
BELGIUM Belgium Belgium issued its first postage stamp in 1848. It is now a member of the European Union.		ALICE 1848-1849

the challenge is to locate some of those esoteric countries. These countries may have produced few or no stamps after an elusive number 1. Consider the handful of stamps from the Kionga Triangle in Eastern Africa around 1918. If it were not for a correspondence with a collector of WWI philately and postal history, I never would have known about this stamp producing entity.

Think of the enjoyment you can have yourself or working with a youngster or grandchild to fill in the spaces as you find an-

other country. Share tales from exotic lands that you have visited. Motivate them with stories of places that they may visit one day. It is an opportunity to point out the country(ies) where their forbears originated before coming to America. The possibilities with this type of collection are limitless. Check out www.terranova.com, and download a sample country album page as seen in the column to the left.

But do you need specialized album pages at first to do this? Grab an atlas, a pack of stamps, some hinges, and a stock sheet, and you are ready to go. If you like this type of collection, then consider ordering the pages for the improved look later on. □



George Washington and Ben Franklin were close colleagues with GW running the country and BF running the PO. But few know that when it came to specialized philately, George Washington always preferred to collect number 2s.

My wife and I enjoy going to a local bookstore to peruse the out of town newspapers and foreign magazines. Recently she brought to my attention *Stamp Magazine* from the United Kingdom (Vol. #74, No. 1). In print since the mid 1930s, this magazine has a sure pedigree. The 130 informative pages are in full colour, divided into 13 sections. Sections range from News, Great Britain, and Commentary to Features (this issue had seven full length illustrated articles), Q&A, Events, and several others. Even the ads are attractive. US and other foreign coverage is excellent. It is a bit pricey, but I can window shop and cherry pick, purchasing only the volumes I want. I will have more on this magazine in future PSLC newsletters.

The correspondence section brought smiles. The featured letter griped about pen cancels, and a supporting letter brought up a new law which states that packages can be taken to the counter for hand canceling of special stamps with a guarantee that no damage will be done. Finally, there was the letter from the scoffer stating that the post office is to serve mailing patrons, not stamp collectors! Nothing changes, does it? □

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