

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



An Affiliate of the American Philatelic
Society: James Buchanan Chapter, # 173
Chapter 118 of the American Topical Assn.

Club Meeting: Wednesday, 13 June 2012

Bourse opens at 6:30 PM and Meeting starts at 7:00 PM

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. **Tonight's host:** Ron Hess

Stamp Trading to Begin Following the Evening's Program

Message from the President

For several years I have volunteered for a local agency providing services for troubled teenagers. With minimal success I have tried to get some of them interested in stamp collecting. I had a real surprise when I showed them a sheetlet of the twentieth century poet stamps. Out of nine youths, seven were able to give some identifying information about six of the poets. One boy knew five, a girl knew four, and the other five knew a few each. When I admitted my surprise, several explained that their lan-

guage arts classes had just finished a unit on poetry. One student asked how to get the stamps. He said that he lives on North Lime Street and has never gone into the downtown Lancaster post office.

The May 7th issue of *Linn's* carried two articles on the American Topical Association's convention coming here next month. There will be first day ceremonies on the first two days: June 22nd-Sailboat Postal Cards and June 23rd-Scenic American

Landscapes Postal Cards. The sailboats will be in sheets of four and landscapes in booklets of ten.

On June 12th the postal services of the U.S. and France will jointly issue stamps commemorating Miles Davis, American jazz musician, and Edith Piaf, French vocal star. The designs will be the same for both countries, and the French stamps and first day covers will be available through the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Center.

See you on the 13th. Bob

Donations Needed: Please bring any philatelic donations to Paul at the June meeting to be sold at the PSLC table at the 22-24 June NTSS at the Host. Stamp packets, albums and/or pages, hinges, guidebooks, gauges, and more. Add a Post-it-Note with a suggested retail price.

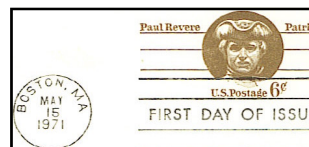
Postal Card Series of the 1971-1985 Patriots

John Brownell

A while back, PSLC member John Brownell was in a discussion with some other collectors. They were trying to best describe "What is a patriot?" The characteristic that got John's attention the most was that a patriot did what he/she did to serve the country without getting paid. The 1971-1985 precancelled series of American patriots appeals to him given those depicted on the PCs. Some

are household names such as Paul Revere, Molly Pitcher, and John Hancock while others are less so such as Charles Thompson or John Witherspoon. On the other hand Caesar Rodney may be familiar to those conversant with Delaware state history.

John is a stamp and coin collector and even joined the local mineral & gem society to become more well-rounded. He loves collect-



ables of all kinds and has a stand at The Green Dragon (market) in Ephrata. This past April at Lancopex, John had a table as a stamp dealer for the first time, and he now looks forward to growing with this new venture.

Volume 75, No. 6

June, 2012

Inside this issue...

Minutes & Treasury

Bio: Steve Wander

Donations Needed

Worldwide Stamps

U.K. Post Box

Ave et Vale

Heads of State

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

PSLC Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except August) at The Bluebird Commons in Woodcrest Villa, 2001 Harrisburg Ave, Lancaster. PA 17601 at 7:00 PM. Dues are \$10.00. For club info, call Lucy Eyster: 717.735-2586

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Bob Epler:
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Secretary:

Joy Bouchard:
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Treasurer:

Lou DiFelice:
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Lucy Eyster:
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Newsletter Editor:

Paul Petersen; 717.299.5640
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June Biography

Steve Wander

Steve's dad, uncle, and brother collected stamps, so he got the bug quite early in life, remaining active until marriage and career, and resuming about 10 years ago with his worldwide collection.

At a neighborhood event, Steve met PSLC member Lou Leidig, also a country collector who shared about PSLC. Through the club Steve has added to his collection via the auctions, Lancopex, trading, and purchases from our club member dealers.

So how does Steve collect? He outgrew his Harris Statesman Albums and began to make his own versions with one or more three-ring binders per country. Here he can enlarge his collection at will and avoids the empty spaces that he would probably never fill such as Sweden-# 1.

Steve collects several dozen countries from all continents. For U.S. he is filling the three album Heritage set from Mystic. His favorite lot is Sweden, the home of his grandparents. He noted that his collection is getting dangerously close to becoming a stamp room! For most countries Steve's cutoff is 1960, but this is not in stone. He avoids cancelled to order stamps when possible.

The job market for church ministry was tight following college graduation, so Steve started a successful painting business. In fact, even in retirement, he is busy but no longer has 60+ hour weeks. Steve's wife, Ethel, is a registered nurse at the Suburban Health Pavilion (aka-The Health Campus). They have two grown sons and two grandchildren. Steve and Ethel are very active in church music ministries.

May Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening: Secretary Joy Bouchard opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Membership. Lucy Eyster, Membership Chairman, announced that there were 39 members in attendance along with several guests. Three new club members from Lancopex included David Baker of Willow Valley who collects China, Japan, and U.S. Ronald Tweed (Lititz) collects U.S. Fred T. Sargent (Lititz) collects U.S. A new member as of tonight is Gene Duncan who collects air mails, postage dues, and special delivery.

Lancopex: Treasurer Lou DiFelice gave a financial rundown for the show which included a \$112 profit to date with additional revenue and ex-

penses outstanding. He Thanked Lucy for her recruiting efforts. Paul Petersen reviewed dealer feedback (See May Newsletter, Page-2.) and answered other questions regarding Lancopex. He also passed around a Get Well card for Jim Boyles with copies of Jim's contact information for those interested.

ATA/NTSS: Eleanor Wheeler presented available volunteer slots for the PSLC table and Registration table for NTSS on 22-24 June.

Minutes: Approved as written by voice vote.

Club Trip: Roy Baardsen announced that following further research there are not sufficient participants for a day-long trip this fall.

Drawing: Ray Stanitski won this week's prize which will be delivered on Tuesday.

Tax Exempt Status: Lou announced that he has filed the papers for the current year's tax exempt status.

New Club Address: Lou announced that starting immediately the club has a new address. See box below.

May Program: Following the meeting, the Spring Club Auction was held. This included part of the donated lots from the estate of former club member, Jack Deaner.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$3,835.83 (1 Apr)
Income: \$2,004.52
Expenses: \$2,107.95
Closing: \$3,732.40 (30 Apr)
3-CDs valued at \$6,595.68

A Source for Recent Used Worldwide Stamps

I have previously mentioned an int'l postcard exchange that my wife enjoys called Postcrossings.com. We both encourage the writing of letters and postcards, anything that requires a pen, paper/card, a stamp, and a postal system. Since 12/11 she has received 98 cards from over 20 countries.



The site is out of **Europe** and has become so successful that **Holland** issued a

stamp recognizing the organization, and it comes with a *se tenant* airpost tab.

While we have not counted up the number of individual stamps, there are many beautiful and interesting issues from all over the world. There is no cost to join, and members can select which language or languages they will work with. Want to bone up on your German? Pick German only. Not as confident, choose **German** and English (see below).



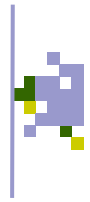
These stamps are new issues, and we have seen many in **Linn's**. **Red China** has beauti-



ful items, as this country is fast becoming a nation (See pg. 2)

Our New PSLC Address:

Philatelic Society
of Lancaster County
PO Box 6053
Lancaster, PA 17607-6053



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows & Members

2012 Programs and Hosts

13 June: Postal Card Series of the 1970s-Patriots. John Brownell. **Host:** Ron Hess

11 July: U.S. Telegraph Stamps. Don Smith. **Host:** John Brownell

8 August: Picnic. No Host

12 September: Club Auction. **Host:** Lou DiFelice

10 October: Congressional Exhibit of Signed Covers. Joseph Pitts (PA-19th). **Host:** Lucy Eyster

14 November: The USPS: The Present and Future. William P. Snyder. **Host:** Lou Leidig

12 December: Dinner. No Host

2013 Programs

9 January: Club Auction

13 Feb: APS DVD Show-TBA

13 March: The Sharples Co.: Philatelic & Deltiologic Edification. Bill Schultz

Stamp Shows:

SCOPEX: At APS, Bellefonte, S/N, 17-18 June

Nat'l Top'l Stamp Show-Am. Top'l Assn. The Host, 22-24 June. APS trip is optional. See Lucy Eyster, ATA Rep.

APS Trek: Club members James Ziogas, Club Secretary Joy Bouchard, and Paul Peter-

sen made the trip to APS on 29 May to deliver the Kraft donation and auction items and study in the library. They then shopped 'till they dropped with the Sales Division and Donations Department.

Ave et Vale

On Monday, 28 May PSLC member Dan Anspach passed away at the age of 55. He joined the club in 1986 along with co-worker Chuck Kilgore. Dan was then elected and served as VP and president for 1988-9. He collected duck stamps, early U.S. airmail, and coil stamps.

→ of many collectors, influencing the philatelic market in many categories.



There are stamps with unusual properties such as this triangle from the **Ukraine** (below).



This **Brazil** beauty fits the space right here.



There have been some very unusual stamps that would certainly catch Lucy's attention such as the Braille stamp or the odd shaped stamp with caveman drawings from **Finland**.



Not to be outdone by any of their former Soviet satellites, **Belarus** has jumped into stamp production with both feet.



Given all these stamps, postmarks, and auxiliary markings, did I mention the beautiful picture sides of any of these postcards? I guess that as a stamp collector, I never noticed them! More to follow. Ed□

Birds & Postal Boxes

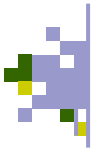
Is it possible to combine two hobbies in one, birding and postal history? This facsimile British post box has been retooled specifically as a bird house. It is made out of cast resin, and seems to be almost indestructible. Just like the old time pajamas, this birdhouse has an opening flap in the back to



This box was a gift to Carol Petersen from an out-of-state friend whose day job is mail delivery. Carol had admired her friend's birdhouse, and the next time they got together in early May, there was one waiting for her. This box matches her favorite Christmas stamp.

As with the waning number of mailboxes in the States, the UK, too, is experiencing a similar decline. The reasons seem to be the same, especially the downward slide (or spiral) of first class mail. But even more ominous, there was a short-lived terror campaign in the UK last summer including destructive attacks on a host of Victorian pillar mailboxes, some irreparable. The brainchild of the pillar boxes was Anthony Trollope, the prolific and well-known Victorian novelist. He worked for the BPO in Ireland for many years, and wrote a given number of words every day in compiling his several dozen novels.





Musings: June-2012

Thematic collecting: Country leaders on stamps

Just recently, an idea came to mind for a historical thematic collection, one with reasonable flexibility and cost. This is a collection of stamps depicting all the leaders of a given country since their first issues. Quite a variety could be obtained including royalty and/or civilian leadership.

For example, take the United Kingdom, the union of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. With royalty, one would only need six stamps, those of Victoria through Queen Elizabeth II. Some purists may not include Edward VIII, as he was not yet coroneted before he abdicated in 12/36 though he was on a few accession stamps in 1936 and in a recent series of U.K. stamps.



What makes this thematic collection so practical is that the monarchs of most countries were on the definitive stamps for many years and are thus readily available.

With the U.K and flexibility, one could start with a Penny Black for Queen Victoria or any other stamp of her 63 year reign, of which there are many common designs.

But on the other hand, for those with squeaky wallets, there are two-fers. I know of a U.K. stamp with both Victoria and Elizabeth II depicted, and there is another with VR and GRVI. Using this flexibility, one could have a complete set of monarchs with only five stamps or four if you don't include Edward VIII.



One could make custom album pages on the computer, One-Page Exhibits, or historical timelines. Further, what about the portrayal of the monarch and civilian prime minister? The combinations are many.

Remaining with the U.K., consider the civilian leaders, in her case, the Prime Ministers. Each country has a different constitution, so arrangements may vary. Further, stamp issuing policies are different. The U.K.'s first non-royals on stamps included William Shakespeare in 1964 and Winston Churchill a few months after his death in 1965. Of interest is that Canada and some members of "The Commonwealth" depicted individuals

on stamps other than the monarch. Canada, for instance, depicted royal children.

Now here is where retro stamps come into play. How many of Queen Victoria's Prime Ministers can we find on stamps.? This would be an interesting activity for PSLC members with enquiring minds.

And what about the royals prior to the Penny Black? Many of these monarchs are on recent stamps. In fact, during the last few years, there have a few series of stamps from the first king through Queen Elizabeth.

Moving on to another country at random, let's consider the U.S. This is much simpler. One could start with a pricey #-2 of George Washington, or compile the 1938 Presidential series, otherwise known by their friends as the Prexies. Here one can have George Washington through Warren G. Harding for a few dollars if starting with cancelled stamps, and as a bonus one gets get Martha Washington, the White House, and Benjamin Franklin.

The deceased presidents since 1938 are available on recent U.S. stamps, and the living presidents are depicted on foreign stamps. In fact, on Jersey's six stamp set celebrating Queen Elizabeth's 60 Year Jubilee this month, our sitting president, Barack H. Obama is portrayed.

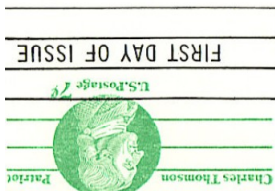
The only other individuals besides President Obama and the Queen are Nelson Mandela, the Queen's sons Charles and Andrew, grandsons William and Harry, Bobby Moore (Receiving the World Cup from the Queen in 1966), and her mother "the Queen Mum."



As a side collection, how about stamps with U.S. presidents and foreign royalty or prime ministers? Or a collection of pretenders to the throne, Canadian Prime Ministers, or how about colonies when the monarch was replaced by a new civilian leader following independence?

Think about Austria in WWI and after. There was Emperor Franz Josef for years and then Emperor Karl for a short while. The political and accompanying philatelic occurrences following the Treaty of Versailles in 1919 make an exciting collection of the countries and their leaders, however temporary their reigns may have been.

So choose a country or two, grab a history book, hit the nickel box, and starting looking for the heads of state. Ed



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