

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LANCASTER COUNTY
POST OFFICE BOX 982
LANCASTER, PA 17603

MEETINGS - 2nd Wednesday of each month
STAUFFER MANSION at 7:30 P.M.
1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601
Next Meeting- Wednesday, February 13, 1991

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FEBRUARY 1991

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Well, your noble president "Rip Van Shaefer" has now awakened from his Christmas nap and it is time to write this month's message.

What would it be like if we fell asleep for a period of time, during our stamp collecting life? What would we find when we woke up? Let us say we fell asleep in 1972 and just woke up this morning. Of course the first thing we would go to get (after a warm shower and something for the stomach) would be our favorite stamp news source.

What is this! That set of Zepplins we bought for \$12,000 right before falling asleep are now going for \$2,050. No, that can't be right. Check the new Scott's catalogue. Goodness same results! Oh well, it's just that people don't like stamps with gas-filled balloons on them anymore. Well let's check those three hundred sheets of 3¢ stamps we bought for \$2.50/sheet at auction. What! Some clown is offering 75 per cent of face for those beautiful 3¢ stamps. Well at least that Cape Hatteras 2¢ block of four that was purchased right before we went to sleep must be worth more than the \$1.00 we paid. There just weren't many around when we got this one. Unbelievable! Twenty cents is all they are worth. Whoever bought all those stamps when they came out must have dumped them onto the market at some point during our nap.

The point of this little tale is this. Back in the mid seventies, speculators entered our hobby and drove prices up. All of a sudden the market and many prices collapsed. The hobby of stamp collecting was given back to collectors and prices went down to reasonable levels. I don't think any of us collect stamps with the idea of getting rich. We buy stamps mostly because we have an empty space in an album that needs filled. Sometimes we pay more for a stamp than we should and maybe we will never get that money out of it, but it completed a series or a page or a theme and that is what is important. That is what stamp collecting is really all about.

Well, now that I have had this wonderful rest it is time to blow the dust off of those stamps that are sitting on my table and get them in their proper places. I hope everyone gets the same opportunity in the days ahead.

MAGGIE'S STORY

Maggie Mae Setzer Pylant, for whom Maggie Valley is named, was born December 21, 1890 in a small log cabin that still stands in altered form at the foot of Setzer Little Mountain.

In the early 1900s, Maggie's father John Sidney Setzer, better known as "Uncle Jack" grew tired of riding his horse several miles down the mountain to the old Plott Post Office to get the mail for the residents of the valley and decided to do something about it.

He wrote U.S. Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock in Washington, D.C. asking for permission to operate a post office in his home. Thereupon Setzer submitted four names - one for the creek running by his home (Jonathan) and one for each of his three daughters, Cora, Mettie and Maggie. Maggie was Washington's choice and thus the Maggie Post Office opened on May 10, 1904.

Maggie helped run the Post Office in the Setzer home while her father delivered the mail until 1907, when she married Ira M. Pylant and left her valley. The young family moved to Tennessee, then California and finally to Texas, where Maggie died in 1979, at the age of 88.

While Mrs. Pylant lived an ordinary life away from the public eye, she became a celebrity of sorts with the expanding fame of the mountain resort area that bears her name, which has been publicized on radio and TV, in books, magazines and newspapers. She was perhaps the only woman in the United States for whom Uncle Sam has named a post office.

P U Z Z L E M A N I A

* * * * * JANUARY PROGRAM * * * * *

~~S R L T Y R T S I G E R A M U B L A E E K C L~~
~~E L A I R M A I L M E C P K O D N J T N Y D A~~
~~U R T B A T B J I E U E V O E U G O L A T A C~~
~~S A S I T U Q R O R R E K P V E N L D H E O I~~
~~S S O S O W H C C F F L E N G L F T B D I O P~~
~~I M P E R F I B O U E R M N A X S B U L C R O~~
~~S V I P G L K R B T O Y I T O R W D G W O S T~~
~~C N M A H A A J T E E H S R I N E V U O S G I~~
~~P S E R U T X I M A L O T F A W J V F E D N P~~
~~O D S V I R S S E R P P M A T S C C I M E O N~~
~~S B I O E T A C I R C U L A R D A T E N S T P~~
~~T I N V E R T E D J S S E T E N A N T T U U N~~
~~A S G H U F H E X T S I L E C I R P M M S E B~~
~~G Y L E T A L I H P E R E E L X V A Q R E P I~~
~~E Z U H R I L Z N T K P L Z L H R N E X M F S~~
~~D S E N I S S A L G O L Y G C K O V Y M G U E~~
~~U D R A C T S O P L E V I T A R O M E M M O C~~
~~E V I T I N I F E D O D E A D C O U N T R Y T~~
~~V J E N G R A V E D Z K F K R A M R E T A W S~~
~~I A Y M A G N I F I E R O L O C L A I R T T N~~
~~K C O L B E T A L P W U Q Y K O O B K C O T S~~

The Washline Exhibit was a great success! Seven members displayed their stamps. Jim Boyles presented "Postmarks of Lancaster County"; Truys Greiner's subject was "Envelopes Mailed With Postal Cut Stamps, & Other Peculiarities"; Mike Shirley displayed "Stamps of Europa"; Marilyn Shirley exhibited "Stamps of the Bahamas", Paul Westcott's set of 240 different types of the "Queen Victoria Stamp" (with only 1 stamp missing) was of considerable interest; Dave Strayer's subject was Olympic Stamps From All Over The World"; and last, but not least, was the exhibit by our President, Dick Shaefer of "Space Stamps" from U.S., Russia, France, etc.

The exhibits were hung on the wall and all members voted for their first, second and third choices. After the voting was done, each exhibitor gave a "show and tell" informal talk about his subject. It was most interesting and informative.

Congratulations go to Michael Shirley for his first prize, blue ribbon, "Stamps of Europa" exhibit. Cheers of Marilyn Shirley for her second place, red ribbon "Stamps of the Bahamas" and Hurrahs go to Paul Westcott for his third prize, yellow ribbon, "Stamps of Queen Victoria".

Thirteen members voted on the exhibits. It was lots of fun -- we may have to try this again sometime!

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The annual membership drive is at hand. Dues are \$5.00 per year for adult members and \$3.00 per year for junior members. All members are requested to renew their memberships by February 28, 1991. Send your checks to our new treasurer -- MR. BENJAMIN HELLER, 327 Harvest Drive, Lititz, PA 17543. Make your check payable to L.C.P.S.

Anyone bringing in 3 or more new members to the club will receive a SPECIAL AWARD from the editors of your monthly newsletter -- So let's get all those friends of yours that collect stamps and bring them to the meeting and sign them up as members!

FEBRUARY 13, 1991 PROGRAM

There will be a business meeting and probably

Truys Greiner

1. Words may be formed horizontally forward or backward, vertically upward or downward, or diagonally upward or downward, some words intersect.
2. There are ⁵⁰~~45~~ terms used by stamp collectors in the puzzle, drawn a line around each term as you find it.
3. Locate as many as you can, sign your copy then mail your puzzle to Marilyn Shirley. The winner(s) will be announced at the March meeting, and a prize awarded.

some "hands on" work for the upcoming stamp show. After the meeting, an auction is scheduled. So, bring your duplicates, your CHECKBOOK and your favorite carry-all bag to take home all the great bargains you will find available to the highest bidder.

Let's everyone have "something" to sell this month, no matter how small. It makes the auction so much more interesting if you are a seller and a buyer, rather than just one or the other.

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All members are asked to mark this date on their calendar. This is the date of our upcoming LANCOPEX STAMP SHOW to be held in the Boscov's Mall at Park City. Plan to serve on one of the committees for the show. EVERYBODY is needed. Your help and ideas make the show become alive.

WELCOME BACK, BILL!

We are happy to hear our publicity chairman, Bill Carroll is off the sick list. We missed Bill at the Christmas Party and the January meeting. Hope to see you at the February meeting, Bill.

***** THE EDITOR'S CORNER *****

Special thanks to Michael Shirley for his volunteering to help with the newsletter while the two "Florida Sunshiners" (Sarah Brown and Jim Lyman) slip away for a few months.

The pro tem editor did receive a note from Jim Lyman in Florida inquiring about the club. He also included the Puzzle for publication for all you puzzlemania folks. A special thanks goes out to Jim! It should be quite a challenge for the club. It's no challenge to me (as I have the answers) hmmm.

