



MEETINGS - 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
STAUFFER MANSION - 7:30 P.M.  
1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601  
Next Meeting - Wed. February 9, 1994

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION  
CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717)872-2479 OR  
MIKE SHIRLEY(717)394-0186

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## JANUARY MEETING

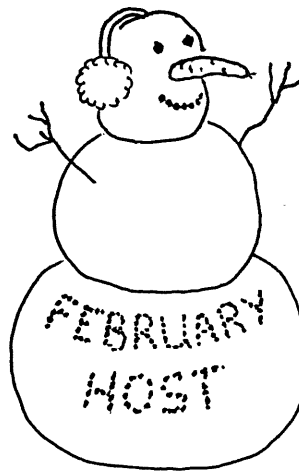
Ten members braved the inclement weather to attend the January meeting of the LCPS.

There was some discussion and plans made for the annual LANCOPEX to be held at Park City.

Ben Heller offered his services to issue a sales list for future auctions. This would allow club members to have an idea of what is going up for auction the next month. Items will have to be given to Ben in advance in order for him to evaluate sale items.

The "Faithful Philatelist Award" is given to MIRIAM ARMERDING for braving the elements to attend the meeting. Miriam lives in Quarryville.

After some pretzels and cheese, the meeting adjourned early.



HOST FOR FEBRUARY

MEETING IS

MIKE SHIRLEY

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Because of the inclement weather in January, our speaker was postponed until the February meeting. Therefore Bob Eppler of the American Lung Association of Lancaster and Berks Counties will present a "talk and show" program on Christmas Seals. Any members having Christmas Seal collections are invited to display them at the meeting.

More and more I am convinced that when looking beyond your specialty, usually U.S., for a new challenge, the "Topical Stamp" is the way to go. The possibilities are endless. If you were a doctor, medicine on stamps could be your theme. Is stained glass making a hobby of yours? Many of the world's great artists have worked in that medium and examples of their skills grace the stamps of the world. Ellen Barcel speaks to the beginner Topical Collector with ideas, tips, and a recommendation for the ATA. The following is an article written by Ellen found in the July 1991 issue of the GLOBAL STAMP NEWS.

-- The Editor

## TOPICALLY SPEAKING

Managing the world, when it comes to collecting stamps can be, well, unmanageable. Yet the kid in all of us remembers that wonderful early worldwide stamp albums we had and the fun and satisfaction it gave us. We still want to collect globally but who can afford the hundreds of thousands of stamps issued annually? And, who has the time?

There is a way of collecting globally and yet still have a manageable collection. How? By collecting topically. Of course, which topic you choose may limit you to certain countries. For example, I'm collecting Native Americans on stamps. This more or less limits me to Western Hemispheric countries. A topic such as birds allows much more geographic latitude. Countries around the world have issued stamps

which depict birds. The choice of topics is almost endless, including stamps on stamps, Christmas, horses, plants, composers, artists, etc. And the list goes on almost endlessly. You may want to tie your collection into your occupation or another hobby. An avid gardener who specializes in growing flowers may want to start a topical collection of flowers on stamps. Many stamp companies cater to topical collections and will provide either new issues, older approvals or both.

If you are overwhelmed by a topic, limit it somewhat. In my Native American collection I concentrate on those stamps issued by Canada, the United States and Mexico. With the topic of flowers, you can limit your collection to roses or orchids or even cactus flowers.

Of course you can design your own topic. You could, for example, collect only stamps issued in the year of your birth. Or if you select cats on stamps as your topic, you might only collect stamps which show the same breed of cat as the one you own. Anniversaries is another interesting topic. Collect stamps that honor the 100th, 200th or even 500th anniversary of a particular historic event.

You can collect the stamps of one country such as Germany and then any stamp from countries around the world which related to it: German composers, the Berlin Wall, etc. If you collect the stamps of Vatican City, you could collect stamps issued by nations to honor papal visits. The key is to collect stamps with topics that interest you. In that way, you will learn more about the background of your chosen topic and will enhance your enjoyment of your hobby.

Keep a sharp eye out for joint issues, stamps on the same theme issued by two or more countries. Joint issues usually have similar designs and are issued on or about the same date. They add a nice bonus to a topical collection. If you collect animals on stamps, make sure that you obtain both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.'s sea creature issues which came out last year.



My own personal bias is that I add stamps to my collection only if the stamp is issued by a country with a genuine tie to a given subject. I generally will not add European stamps to my Native American collection. But there are exceptions. When Spain, in 1989, issued a booklet to honor the 500th Anniversary of Columbus' discovery of the Americas, I made such an exception. The booklet depicts five foods domesticated in North America by Indians. These foods (tomato, corn, chocolate, the turkey and potato) were then spread throughout the world following the Spanish discovery and exploration of the New World. In addition the booklet has a sixth stamp showing a horse. The horse was not native to North America but was brought to our shores by the Spanish conquistadores. The horse had a major impact on the life style of Native Americans, introducing a source of transportation previously unavailable here. Plains Indians came to depend heavily on the horse and their culture revolved around it by the 19th Century.

To help you learn more about collecting topically and add to your enjoyment of your hobby you may want to contact the American Topical Association, P.O. Box 630, Johnstown, PA 15907. They are an APS affiliate with approximately 10,000 members worldwide. They publish a bi-monthly journal with many handbooks and checklists.

A big WELCOME ABOARD is extended to PETER BILLIS who joined our club last month. Peter collects United States and some of everything else! We hope to see you at the next meeting, Peter.



In line with our trip to the Postal Museum in Washington, you may be interested in the "Requirements to be a Pony Express Rider"\*

1. Age -- not over 18
2. Build -- "skinny and wiry"
3. Riding skill -- expert
4. Dangers-willing to "risk death daily"
5. Parental status -- "Orphans preferred"
6. Wages -- \$25 per week.

\*As called for in their help wanted ad. Source: W.A. Charnstrom Company.



We are sorry to report that Sarah Brown of our Newsletter Staff is in a coma and critically ill at the Lancaster General Hospital.

# --DAVE STRAYER-- A MAN DEDICATED TO SERVING!

Listening to Dave recount details of his early years, one gets a feel for life as it was in Lancaster prior to WWII. Born in Mt. Joy on April 8, 1920, his family moved to Lancaster in 1929. His education progressed through a series of schools; Lafayette Elementary where a teacher, who was a classmate of his father's, Miss Nellie Ross, instilled in Dave a life-long love of math and working with figures; the George Ross School for intermediate grades; West Junior High School for his first year of high school and J.P. McCaskey for the next three where his was the first class to be graduated.

When he was twelve, an attractive stamp album displayed in Woolworth's 5 & 10¢ store caught his fancy. Except for a ten-year period when he took time out to raise a family, he has been a life-long stamp collector. To support his "habit" of buying stamps to fill his album, he worked at hauling groceries from the Southern Market at 10¢ an express wagon full to shoppers' homes. He also sold soft pretzels and newspapers on the Square.

Almost four years of his young life was spent in the military. He served as an infantryman achieving the rank of Sgt. While in training, he saw much of the U.S. and met, courted and married his wife of 50 years, Agnes deVink, a registered nurse. Overseas, he saw duty in Iceland, England and France.

Discharged in 1945, he resumed a career at NCR which he had begun in 1940. He continued to work and progress with the company until his retirement in 1968. It would be safe to say Dave had a life-long love of, and a dual career in, Scouting. In a seven-year involvement with the Boy Scouts from 1958 to 1965, he rose to the rank of Scoutmaster. Upon his retirement from NCR, he became the first and only ranger at the J.E. Mack Boy Scout Reservation, a post he held until 1985 when he retired once again.

Not one to sit in a rocking chair to reflect on a lifetime of service to his community and his country, Dave and Agnes serve on many civic and church committees and find time to sing in the Senior Center Choir. Together, they enjoy gardening, spending time with their three married children and seven grandchildren. Individually, Dave enjoys golf and his membership in the LCPS. Agnes is an expert bowler, does crocheting and crafts.

We, in the Stamp Club, will look upon Dave in a new, admiring light when next we meet him since becoming aware of his devotion to family, church, community and Country. His has been a life full of rich rewards with many more to come in the years ahead.

## DAN'S PNC GLEANINGS

As you may have noticed, this column now has a new name. The contest winner for naming this column is none other than our MARK KING. I'll award his prize at our next meeting. Congratulations, Mark, on your winning entry.

This month I'd like to bring everyone up to date on the differences of phosphor tagging. If you want to keep your collection of PNC's complete, this is an important subject to know. Much research has shown me that there are four types of tagging. Block tagging, overall tagging, and pre-phosphored tagging. Pre-phosphored tagged stamps come two ways, surfacer and embedded taggant. Let's take a look at each one. Block tagging is applied with a rubber mat or plate with raised squares, arranged so as to nit the image of each stamp, after the image was printed, but before the perforation. Naturally, under ultra-violet (UV) light, you see blocks of pale green covering most of the stamp subject. Overall tagging is applied the same way except they use a smooth roller instead of a raised square mat. It usually looks streaky (lengthwise) over all of the stamp.

Pre-phosphored tagging is accomplished while the paper is being made. Surface tagged paper is coated with taggant after the paper is made. It looks very smooth under UV light with no flaws. Embedded tagged paper is prepared with the taggant mixed with the paper pulp solution. It looks very blotchy under UV light. With a good UV light you shouldn't have any trouble distinguishing the different types of tagging that happens to be out there.

New numbers this month are the 19¢ Fishing Boat #A7766; 29¢ Flag/White House #12, #13, #14; 1¢ Omnibus, #3; 2¢ Locomotive #2; 23¢ USA #A7667 and the 10¢ Eagle-Shield #A1011101011. Happy Hunting Everyone

DAN A.

### TOP TEN LIES STAMP COLLECTORS TELL THEIR SPOUSES.

10. No, I don't know anyone named Jim Boyles. It must have been a wrong number.

9. How should I know what happened to the vacation money?

8. Don't be moving my stamp stuff around. I'm going to start organizing it in the next couple of days.

7. I can't remember what those checks made out to "cash" were for.

6. I'll just be a couple minutes late. I'm going to stop by the stamp shop.

5. Okay. So there's a stamp show in our vacation hotel. I'm telling you it's a coincidence.

4. Some day I'm going to sell my collection and we can use the money to take a nice trip somewhere.

3. Stamp show? No way! I spent the whole day with another woman.

2. If I start a collection for each of the kids they'll get interested in stamps.

1. Of course I'd rather spend time with you than with a bunch of silly stamps.

FROM - "The Stamp Hinge"



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February