

Phila-telling Around

MEETINGS, 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
TIME: 7:30 P.M.
LANCASTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER
Columbia Ave., Lancaster, PA

Mailing address:
L.C.P.S.
19 Circle Rd.
Millersville, PA 17551

Next Meeting - Wed., NOVEMBER 11, 1998
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717) 872-2479

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THOUGHTS/PONDERINGS FROM YOUR PRES.

NOVEMBER HOST

I cannot help but reflect on the good time everyone seemed to have on our bus trip last month. We had members from the York Club join us. This is a pleasant "bonding" time between clubs. There was plenty to eat and even some left over. If you were not able to join us, hopefully you can come along the next time we have a trip. It's a good way to get to know club members other than at the meetings.

Next month will be our end-of-the-year banquet. We will be celebrating 60 years as a Philatelic Organization. This is an achievement that warrants special celebration. I do hope all the members will be able to attend this dinner and evening of reminiscing. I look forward to seeing you there!

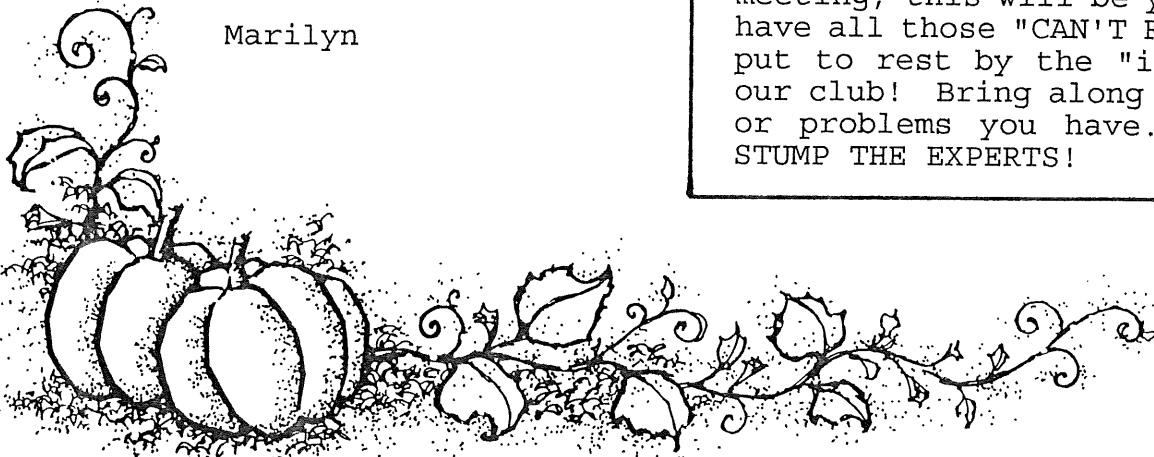
Marilyn

BOB ALLISON AND DON WEBER have volunteered to host the November meeting.



NOVEMBER MEETING

How often have you looked over your stamps and had some stamps you just could not find a home for them? Well, after a short business meeting, this will be your chance to have all those "CAN'T FIND" problems put to rest by the "intellects" of our club! Bring along any questions or problems you have. It's called STUMP THE EXPERTS!



HATS OFF! HATS OFF! HATS OFF!

We are happy to announce our new slate of officers running for election at the November meeting.

**PRESIDENT -- WILLIAM GREINER
VICE-PRESIDENT -- PETER BILLIS
TREASURER -- DON WEBER
SECRETARY -- LORI HOSTETLER**

We are happy to welcome this team for approval in November by the club members. We are asking the membership to give these officers your enthusiastic support in 1999.

Just a reminder, the floor will be open for additional nominations.

LET 'S CELEBRATE

The date to remember is **FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 11, 1998 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**60TH ANNIVERSARY OF L.C.P.S.
1938 - 1998**

COST: \$7.50 PER MEMBER

Where can you get a full course dinner with hors d'oeuvres and an evening of fun and entertainment for only \$7.50 per person! Just come to the Lancaster Township Community Center (our club meeting room) on Friday, December 11, 1998 around 6:00 P.M. and enjoy the Turkey/Ham dinner being prepared especially for you.

There will be some Big Band 1930's Dancing Music/Showtime, fun, and a "Memorabilia" Table for YOU to bring a philatelic item or something from the 1930's for our "REMEMBER WHEN" Display Table.

Make your reservations if you have not already done so at our November Meeting -- or call Bob Allison (717-529-2577) or Marilyn Shirley (717-872-2479).



BRING A FRIEND!

Fortunately for me, I once bought a worldwide collection formed in the '30s and have the three mint sets written up in the following article, albeit, hinged with gum disturbance. I call it the heavy tongue syndrome. You will find that in many old collections the collector who affixing hinges to his mint stamps often caught the gummed area where the perforations were with his tongue, effectively gluing the stamp to the page. But then, so what? He was more interested in the esthetics of the page layout or mounting his stamps within the ruled lines of his page so as to have perfect margins on all four sides. Walter A. Warner in the GLOBAL STAMP NEWS has written up the three major sets of Bosnia and Herzegovina in such an informative way that you may wish to rush out and buy them immediately, mint never hinged of course. (An LCPS Member)

A LOOK AROUND THE STAMP SCENE

Bosnia & Herzegovina, now part of Yugoslavia, was part of Turkey until 1879. As the Ottoman Empire disintegrated, the Austro-Hungarian army first occupied this area and then formally annexed it in 1908. The empire itself fell apart in 1918, at the end of World War I, having fought on the losing side in that

bloody four-year struggle. Between 1906 and 1912, the Austrian occupation authorities in Bosnia issued three of the earliest and most attractive pictorial sets in all of stampdom. The first set, Scott 30-45, appeared in 1906 to mark the 60th anniversary of the reign of Emperor Franz Josef. (Having been enthroned in 1848 at the age of 18, he was monarch for such a long time - until his death in 1916 - that there was virtually no one alive who could recall a time when he had not been Emperor! He was "Mittel-Europa's" counterpart of Queen Victoria, who was also only 18 when she began her reign in 1837. For over half a century, their rules overlapped. From what we know, Franz Josef was a benevolent monarch, kind and unassuming. The extent of his empire was enormous. It not only included modern Austria and Hungary, but all of Czechoslovakia and sizeable chunks of modern Italy, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia. Its population was well over 50 millions, of whom only 12 millions claimed German as their mother tongue. Bosnia was unique in this multiethnic structure, having a large population of moslems, a leftover from the centuries-long Turkish occupation. Herzegovina was a much smaller province with a similar history.

Sarajevo, host city of the 1984 Winter Olympics & Bosnia's capital, is also famous as the site of the assassination of Austria's Archduke Franz Ferdinand next in line to the throne and his wife in June of 1914. This was the spark that started World War I. We have all seen or heard about the "Avenue of the Stars" in Hollywood, where the handprints of motion picture stars of the past 75 years or so have been immortalized in cement. Well, I understand that the shoeprints of Gavrilo Princip have been similarly placed on the sidewalk of the busy intersection of Sarajevo where this Serbian nationalist stood when he pulled the trigger. No, I am not making this up.

Scott 46-61, the second of the three sets, commemorated the 80th birthday of the old emperor, while Scott 62-64 of 1912, were additional values to the 1906 set. All three sets were the work of the same superb master craftsmen who turned out the beautiful Austrian sets Scott 110-127 and 128-144. If you can find the three Bosnia sets, 35 values in all, in fine to very fine condition, crisp and moderately hinged, retail prices of \$23.00, \$50.00 and \$22.00 respectively seem just about right. I am not implying that these sets are a red-hot investment opportunity, but for the died-in-the-wool collector they represent a scarce and stunning "mini-collection" that he or she will treasure, without having to hock the family silver.

What do I mean by scarce in this instance? Once you go beyond the standard collecting fields such as France, Great Britain, Israel, Vatican, etc. which many dealers stock in depth, existing stocks of other fields are positively anemic. If a mere dozen collectors were to follow my suggestion regarding Bosnia I am convinced that they would easily absorb the combined stocks of these 3 sets of all the stamp dealers in the United States! I advise against starting to try to assemble these 35 "from scratch", either mint or used; too difficult to complete.

Note: Since Bosnia is in the news so much these days, I thought this article would spark some interest in Bosnian Stamps.

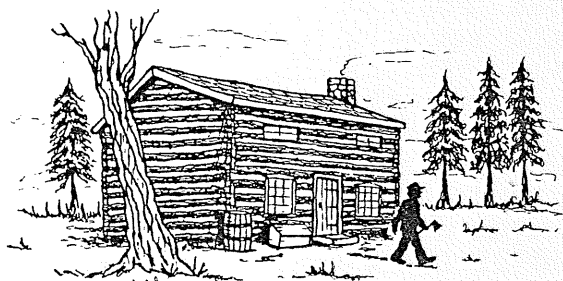


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NOVEMBER