



Dinner Review: Pg-2

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the American Philatelic Society
American Topical Assn., Chapter 118
Member, NY Federation of Stamp Clubs

Doors open at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, 10 January 2018
Business meeting and Auction begin at 7:00 pm; Dr. C. DiComo, Host

The Veranda Chronicles

It is with great pleasure and humility that I accept the role of President of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County. I want to thank Doug for this past years' service and the many Presidents, Officers and Board that have come before. I have big shoes to fill and will work diligently to exceed your expectations as I hope I have this past year with our digital presence and online archive via the re-launch of our newly designed Society website¹ and Facebook page². And to make our award-winning PSLC Newsletter and Website useful and informative, I know that

Paul and I shall need the support of our Officers, Board and especially the members. If you have something to share (presentations, letters to the editor, articles, pre-1990 newsletters, LANCOPEX ephemera, Society history, etc.), please reach out to either one of us.

To start off the New Year, we have our Winter Auction at the club on January 10th. Accordingly, I hope each of you is looking through your duplicates, filling in your official Auction Lot forms, and are prepared to bid as well on all the great mate-

rial that will be up for sale.

To assist in future Society Auctions, I have created a "Research Requests" section³ on our website, where any member can send me a request to post a few sentences on those hard to find items you have been searching for. The more folks that see your needs, the easier it might be to fill those spaces in your album.

The Society is only as good as its membership, and I can say with confidence that we do have phenomenal participation. I am excited to be a member and look forward to 2018. *...Charlie*

¹<http://www.lcps-stamps.org>

²<https://www.facebook.com/philatelicsocietylanastercounty/>

³<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/research-requests/>

Collecting Issues: See Page-Three (3): ♦Open Board and Lancopex meeting; ♦2018 Postal rate increase; ♦Linn's Stamp Poll; ♦York Stamp Show; ♦The North Museum; ♦Snack Sign-ups; ♦2018 Club Officers; ♦Chester County Postal History; ♦Philately 101; ♦ATA/APS Packet Donations; ♦and much more.

The Winter Auction is Here

There have been many bidders in the last few auctions, so gird your loins for a competitive night!

Instructions: □ You'll receive a numbered paddle when you arrive. Place this number on all your items to be auctioned, and use this paddle during the auction when you are bidding. This will insure that what you buy and what you sell are accurately credited and debited. □ Be sure that all your lots are accompanied by an accurate and detailed description, as this helps buyers to better understand what they are looking at. □ Auction lot description forms have already been emailed, and hard copies will be available. You may also access this on the

website at any time. □ Fiscal transactions will only be made after the last lot has been sold.

The Auction Committee recommends that you: □ Bring cash to pay for the items you win and □ Keep a running total during the auction of the items and prices of the lots you sell and win. □ Finally, please attach your sales information securely to the lots you are entering into the auction. This will help avoid any misidentification with other sellers' lots.

Bidding Rules: □ Minimum bids are \$1.00 per lot. □ The minimum bidding increment is 50¢. □ Only dues-paying mem-

bers may participate in the auction. □ Auction participants are limited to ten (10) lots. □ You may also donate items to the club with the realizations going to the benefit of the PSLC. Donations are always appreciated.



The PSLC Auction Team includes Auctioneers **Woody Hann** and **Hal Klein**, and **RD Noble** (Auctioneer Emeritus). Recorder: **Dick Shaefer**, Treasurer: **Lou DiFelice**, Runners: **Doug Milliken**, **Charles DiComo**, and **Mark Jardel**.

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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 a year. For club information call Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640

Website: LCPS-Stamps.org

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Save the Dates:

17 Jan: Open Lancopex and Board meeting. All members are welcome.
19-20 Jan: York Stamp Show

2017 PSLC Membership Report

The year 2017 started with 103 members. In May, twelve names were dropped from membership for nonpayment of dues but eventually only 7 memberships were not renewed. (This was thanks to Paul's dunning efforts.) During the year the club added 9 new members to its rolls. There were three deaths to be noted in 2017: Kay Herr, a great friend of PSLC, died in January and two members, James Perotti and Greg Macaluso, passed in February and July respectively.

As of December 31, 2017 there are 31 members who have not renewed their memberships for 2018 but are expected to do so within the next 2 months before they are dropped from membership in April. Membership at the end of 2017 is 103 with 2 new memberships pending.

Respectfully submitted, **Lucy Eyster**, Membership Chairman

Remembering Marilyn Shirley

Marilyn played many roles in PSLC including some terms as president, secretary, and other board positions. She and her son, Mike, published the newsletter for years. Marilyn, Chuck, and Mike held the summer picnic at their home for over a decade preparing both grilled chicken and corn to accompany the potluck. Their pool added zest to our appetites.

One of Marilyn's greatest services was leading her youth club for many years, with anywhere from four to ten members. They met on an almost weekly basis at her home on Friday nights and then all day on Monday during the summer. They worked on stamp projects in the a.m., and after she made them lunch, they swam. Can't beat a club like this. It was all very popular.

Pictured (L to R) in 2001 are **Marilyn, Alistair Welch, Elizabeth Welsh, Maggie Larkin, and Denise Shirley.**



2017 December Dinner Sees Many Honored

According to **Deb Ehleiter** and **Lucy Eyster**, there were just over 60 people at the event. Since there were several early cancellations, the number could have been much higher. That being said, it was a fellowship event both in quantity and quality.

This was our first year in the new Viva Center at Woodcrest, their new welcome and multipurpose venue, the centerpiece of WCV. A few remarks were overheard that this was like "being in a luxury ocean liner." It was the almost perfect venue. And as always, both the meal and service were excellent.



Following the meal there were two gift exchanges, those for philatelic items and those for non-philatelic items. This was open to both members and guests.



President **Doug Milliken** presented a certificate to **The Reading Irregulars**, those several members (**Roy Baardsen, Mike Bach, Mike Matus, and Pete Baney**) in both PSLC and RSCC who have served our clubs for many years at the annual stamp shows. They planned the mostly annual bus trips, and served and participated in all the other club activities. Doug noted that their participation contributed to the solid reputation of PSLC.

Doug had a certificate of Recognition for **Chrissie Nieves** and **Faith Wilson**, also of Reading for their great hospitality activities at the stamp shows and trips.

The APS sanctioned Spark

Plug Award went to **Dr. Charles DiComo**, a somewhat new member of the club who will be rising to president in '18. His extraordinary work upgrading the club website and Facebook page have given us great presence. We look forward to his vision for 2018.



Service Awards were presented to **Lou DiFelice** for what seems like lifelong tenure as PSLC treasurer, Lancopex treasurer, club tax preparer, and myriad other tasks that often go unnoticed. Lou is the guy in the club that all go to for help and/or to get something done.

The next two Service Awards were to special individuals for decades of service to PSLC. **Lucy Eyster** held many offices over 25 years. For the last several she chaired the Membership Committee. Here she opens up and closes the meetings, collects dues, compiles door prizes, and introduces new members and visitors. She is often the first person that visitors meet. Lucy keeps the roster, one of the club's most important document, one that needs continual updating. Lucy fed many at the picnic for years and handled registration for Lancopex. **Dick Shaefer** served as club president umpteen times, life-long co-chairman for Lancopex, bourse manager, late night security man, and recorder for auctions. Members seek out Dick when there are questions about some working aspect of the club whether in the past, present, or future.



Lou DiFelice praised the service of **Len Kasper** who has done so much for the club. Len sets up the pre-meeting bourse each month

and brings in a coffee service. In his spare time he breaks down large stamp lots to offer to club members at mark-down prices. For the last several years Len and his family members have provided the concession stand at Lancopex.

And speaking of the concession at Lancopex, Lou acknowledged **Truude Greiner** for her continual generosity of covering the lunch costs for club volunteers and dealers at the show. Further she sets up and attends the "Youth Table" for both days of the show.

Lou presented a Certificate of Merit to outgoing PSLC president, **Douglas Milliken** with special recognition on his initiative to bring a 50-50 Drawing to the club meetings, an event that is both fun for the membership and profitable for the club. The PSLC gift to Doug was a replica U.S. 1906D \$20 gold piece for his coin collection. (Below)



Business Meeting: Yes, we snuck in a small item of New Business at the Dinner. **Bill Greiner III** was nominated for the position of 2nd Vice President for the 2018 term. All members approved this unanimously, though there are some rumors that a few visitors may have voted as well.



This year **Pete Wex** provided the entertainment. As part of the annual Dinner's "Getting to know you" series, Pete talked about his other hobby, Western Square dancing. He introduced his dancing partner, Sue Hein. Pete shared the fun they have had learning and performing this Americana pastime. He encouraged all to explore this.

2018 PSLC Officers



With a little skulduggery and the insertion of a short business meeting into the December Dinner to nominate and elect Bill Greiner III as the 2nd VP for 2018, PSLC will enter the New Year with a full slate of officers.

Pictured above (L→R) are **Dr. Charles DiComo**, President, **John Hostetter**, 1st VP, **Lou DiFelice**, Treasurer, **Diane Meek**, Secretary, **Douglas Milliken**, Immediate Past President, and **Bill Greiner**, 2nd VP. Rounding out the PSLC Board are **Len Kasper**, Publicity, **Lucy Eyster**, Membership, and **Paul Petersen**, Programs and Newsletter.



At left is an image from Pinterest of a 1938 Irish Hospitals Sweepstake ticket. These tickets are a collecting area.

Help with Research

I purchased a 1948 cover from Ireland to Baltimore for the unusual auxiliary marking it contained. It stated "Supposed to contain matter prohibited importation. See Sec. 2332 P.L.&R." What does that mean? What was in this cover? I had some ideas. Irish Sweepstakes were popular in the U.S. at that time. To find out, I thought I would try the PSLC Website. Here, under the 'Presentation' banner, is a sub heading entitled 'Research Questions'.

Dr. DiComo and Hal Klein responded and shared the postal regs and posited that mailing the Sweepstakes was probably the issue. 19 USC1305- "Importation of obscene or immoral articles and lottery tickets prohibited."

In P.L.&R. there is more detail. Lottery tickets are included with articles associated with treason, sedition, insurrection, illegal drugs, obscene material, and much more. Lotteries were illegal in the UK and U.S., so there was extended effort to prevent the tickets from entering America whose citizens were some of the major players. Ed ☒



Club and Collecting Issues

2018 Postal Rate Increase: This will start, Sunday, 21 January. First class letters increase from 49¢ to 50¢. Each additional ounce remains at 21¢, and the non-machineable surcharge rate is still 21¢. Postcards increase from 34¢ to 35¢. The international letter rate for the first ounce remains at \$1.15. It is the package rate increases that will cost! On 3 January Ed☒ mailed a 1.1lb. package, a book, to the Philippines...only \$22.25...priceless!

Philately 101: This will start in February right after the meeting. The topic will be the safe removal of non-soakable stamps from paper. Other topics for beginners or review will be announced in the months that follow. Is there a topic you want to learn about? Contact Paul Petersen.

APS and ATA Donations: Kudos to members of PSLC for their generous donations of stamp packets to ATA (48) and APS (178).

Meeting Snacks Sign-up: The list will go around to sign up to provide snacks and drinks for the many 2018 PSLC meetings.

Board and Lancopex Meeting:

This will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 17 January at Bluebird Commons. All club members are welcome to attend and participate. Do you have ideas or visions for the club, for the show? Come and express yourself.

Ave et Vale: PSLC member John Ehleiter passed away suddenly on Thursday, 28 December. John was a great participant in almost every club activity, and he will be missed. Please keep Deb in your thoughts and prayers.

The North Museum: There may be future opportunities to prepare some science stamp exhibits and more for the kids who visit The North Museum. There is a special interest for STEM (the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). USPS is issuing a set of stamps for STEM in the forthcoming year. We hope to know more as our PSLC people work with TNM people.

A Thank You Note with a Christmas Card was received from the wife of Lancopex Stamp Dealer **Darrell Yeisley**. This is in response to PSLC's condolences

to the family last fall. "Thank you for your kind letter of sympathy and thoughts for Darrell. He enjoyed all the shows and those people involved with stamps. I especially liked the Switzerland stamp and cancels on your envelope. My great-great grandfather, Jacob Oliver Tutweiler came from Basel." Sincerely, **Dorothy Yeisley Linn's Stamp Poll:** Don't forget to vote for your favorite 2017 United States stamp. Ballots are in several of the past and current issues of *Linn's Stamp News*.

Chester County Postal History presentations: See details to the right of the upcoming postal history topics of great interest to philatelists. →

Free APS/ATA Memberships: It's that time again. In February we'll have our drawings for free memberships in APS and ATA. This drawing is for PSLC members who have never belonged to the organizations. PSLC will pay the first year's dues to the winners who will then agree to pay their own dues, on the honor system for the two years that follow..

Club Notes

Programs, Hosts & Shows

2018 Programs

- 10 January:** Winter Auction. Dr. DiComo, Host
- 14 February:** The Overrun Countries Series Under a Printer's Loupe. Hal Klein
- 14 March:** A Philatelic Journey, Scott English
- 11 April:** How We Now Judge Exhibits with Points in North America. Bill Schultz
- 9 May:** State Symbols of PA on Stamps, Vera Felts
- 13 June:** Spring Auction
- 11 July:** History of the Schuylkill Canal in PPCs, Aaron Heckler
- 8 August:** Summer Picnic, Memorial Park, Millersville, PA
- 13 September:** Fall Auction
- 10 October:** Stampless Mail from U.S. to Europe. Dr. Chas DiComo
- 14 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits, Len Kasper and Paul Petersen
- 12 December:** December Dinner Deb Ehleiter & Co.

2018 Shows/Events

Chester County Postal History presentations, S, 13 January: *Colonial Postal History*, Mark Schwartz; S, 20 January: *Postal History as a Primary Source: America Begins, 1675-1782*. 1:00-2:30 pm, CCHS, West Chester, PA.

Lancaster Post Card Club: M, 15 Jan, Farm & Home Center, 7:00 pm. Topic: "Your favorite post card."

PSLC Open Board and Lancopex Meeting: W, 17 Jan, Bluebird Commons. All PSLC members are welcome.

York Stamp Show: F/S, 19-20 January. York Fair Grounds.

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: Sunday, 18 Feb., 24 June, 19 Aug., 14 Oct., & 16 Dec. Farm & Home Center. Free lunch is served.

Delpex: S, 21 April, Nur Shine Center, New Castle, DE

Lancopex: F/S 27-28 April, Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Rd. Lancaster, PA.



Musings: Is Any Stamp an Orphan? Do They Have Their Stories?

What do we do with leftover stamps, our orphans with which we hate to part? Do they have stories to tell? The stamp composite below contains very common issues of the Philippines from the 1969-1970 era. But there is a story behind them.



Backing up just a little, in Baltimore is a very interesting museum called "Historic Ships in Baltimore." The website is www.historicships.org. The museum is a compilation of five entities: three ships and two lighthouses amalgamated under one umbrella. The museum is located at the Inner Harbor, and here visitors can easily walk from one ship (or light house) to another. Preservation and education are paramount, and while outside visitors are critical, a significant focus is directed to Baltimore's inner city school children. Included entities are the *USS Constellation*, the submarine *Torsk*, and the *USCG Cutter Taney*. The lighthouses include #116 "Chesapeake"

and the Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse.

The Curator of Ships, **Paul B. Cora**, is a friend of mine from the East Coast Branch of the Western Front Association, a WWI historical study group that meets twice a year in Baltimore or surrounding areas. Paul has been the president of the WFA for over a decade, and it is one of the best-run chapters in this international organization.

One of Paul's favorite activities at the museum is to receive and expertize donations, that is, nautical artifacts and other ephemera related to the five (5) ships and lighthouses. This can include parts of the ships and lighthouses themselves, diaries and uniforms, etc. of the men who served, and logs and other documents, to name a few.

Returning to the Philippine stamps, a recent donation that Paul received was from the supply officer of the *USCG Cutter Taney*. This Coastguardsman served a one-year tour on this vessel, which coincided with Operation Market Time (4/69 to 2/70). This action was to retard the external resupply of the North Vietnamese communists.

The vessel was continually on the move and searched over 1000 vessels for weapons and other contraband items. It visited the ports in Subic Bay, Bangkok, Taipei, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and others. It also hosted USPHS medical personnel who provided care for over 5000 children.

It is not known if this service member who donated many of his personal items to the museum was a collector. But for over 45 years he kept these stamps as an important part of his service memories during the Viet Nam Era. Paul shared with the donor that the museum could not accept the stamps. However, he knew a collector from a nearby stamp club that would find a good home.

In cleaning out for the club auction, I found two stamps stuck upside down in the bottom of a cigar box. Condition was marginal, and their value was low. I had many of them, all mint that I use as postage. These two included Independence Hall of the Liberty Series (#1044) and George Washington at Valley Forge (#1729). Now what can I do with these stamps?

That little voice in my head or the

blue birdie sitting on my shoulder, I can't recall which, said that "These are important events in the formation of our country; you can't just toss them." I am sure that my wife would disagree, not that they were important events, but that I should toss them.



The historical image on 1044 portrays Independence Hall in Philadelphia where independence was declared on 4 July 1776. War with Great Britain broke out shortly thereafter with only a slim chance of victory for the fledgling Continental army. It is said that at Valley Forge, GW knelt in prayer (#1729) for the safety and nourishment of his men as they rested in the brutal winter of 1776-7 after being driven out of Philadelphia. By spring, they had recouped, regrouped, and were ready to reengage the British. A similar image was on an earlier stamp in 1928, the two-penny red (#645). Under the image of GW are the words "In God We Trust." Every stamp has its story. Ed✉



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