

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the American Philatelic Society
American Topical Association-Chapter 118
Website: <https://lcps-stamps.org>

Please note that all meetings are virtual starting at 6:15 p.m.
Wednesdays, 8 and 22 June 2022

The Veranda Chronicles

Folks think of stamp collecting as more of an inside winter sport when it is cold outdoors. For many their hobby slackens a bit with all the spring and summer outside activities that provide the distraction. But I'll tell you that with the heat during that last week of May, I hid indoors the entire time, when I wasn't working, that is. Having spent much of the previous weeks on the road, I looked forward to getting back to the research which I love to conduct and share with you. I have especially enjoyed my private die

proprietary revenue (PDPs) stamps and am looking forward to sharing some of my recent findings on the RP1a (*see below*) with you on Wednesday evening. The enlargement technology that I use in my research is only matched with the related technology to share the resultant images with you on the screen. Here it all comes together. So when it is down to the to blue and/or red fibers in the experimental silk paper in these PDPs, you'll see this all quite clearly. There are summer (See **Veranda**, below right)

8 June 2022 at 6:15 p.m.

The RP1a Private Die Proprietary revenue of the T. Kensett and Co.: Food Packers and the U.S. Private Doe Proprietary Canned Fruit Revenue Stamp that they Issued Briefly. Included is An Update on the 1994 Census of Known of #RP1a Stamps-Dr. Charles J. DiComo

The Kensett Canned Fruit stamp #RP1a has been one of the more popular U.S. Private Die Proprietary Revenue stamps due to its design, the limited quantity issued (528,000), and its narrow use over a two month period in early 1867 before the tax on meats, shell-fish, fruits, and vegetables was repealed on March 1, 1867. Dr. DiComo discovered and acquired a choice Kensett & Co. Canned Fruit stamp which sparked his interest in exploring the history of the Company as well as to revisit the 1994 Aldrich Census of existing RP1a copies available to collectors. Presented here is the initiation of that investigation. Four additional copies have been identified thus far, bringing the new 2022 Census to 31. He believes more may exist in other collectors' hands yet to be shared. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that this first attempt at a digital image census puts a "face" on the phrase "most are faulty", so often attached to many Private Die Proprietary stamps. In effect, most of the 31 copies illustrated are faulty to some extent, less his most recent find.



22 June 2022 at 6:15 p.m.

Mexican Express Company Envelopes-Richard Colberg

During the last quarter of 19th century, there were a few postal express companies operating in Mexico, three of which used pre-printed envelopes. These are Wells Fargo Express, Hidalgo Express, and Mexican National Express. These three are featured in this presentation. The three companies serviced specific areas of Mexico, all overlapping in the Mexico City area. Wells Fargo was the largest (having already been established in California), easily eclipsing Hidalgo and Mexican National. (For Wells Fargo, there are companion envelopes with U.S. postage indicia.) All three companies were privately owned and government sanctioned. They each printed their own envelopes, with their company indicia, and then sent them to the Mexican government for the printing of the design of the then-current single letter rate postage stamp. As the express rate was weight-based, this information was part of the company-printed information. Sometimes the rate info was supplied in total; sometimes blanks were left to be filled in when used, by handstamp. This, of course, leaves open the possibility for missing handstamps, and overprints necessitated by rate changes. All collectible! The Hidalgo Express Company envelopes are the most interesting to collect because they were printed on several different colors of paper. They make a nice display. Tonight's presentation will show the evolution of each company's envelopes including rate, color, and design changes.



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Visitors are Always
Welcome

PSLC meets virtually on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. Dues are \$10.00 a year. For club information and meeting links, contact **Paul Petersen**. (*See contact info below*)

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(See **Veranda**) activities with the Sunday Stamp Shows and August picnic. And let's not forget our July 4th holiday and MLB All-Star Game next month. Fall and its cooler weather will be here. Paul is working on a Barnstormer's baseball game for fall. Should any of you need some philatelic magazines/journals or stamps (I have gazillions of each) please let me know, and I will get some to you. **CJDi**

Philately in France with Dick Colberg

Dick Colberg sent a report of his philatelic goings-on in France over the past few months. French philately is a good indicator that the hobby remains strong in Europe. While Dick and Nancy live outside of Paris, they get there once in a while via train and metro.



There are a few areas in Paris with a concentration of stamp stores, and most of them are in walking distance of one another. In one shop, Dick has a dealer friend. There is also a Yvert & Teillier (Y&T) store, and this would be the equivalent of the Stanley Gibbons or Scott Catalogue Company for France. The Behr Auction Firm, which many of us are familiar, is only about 100 yards from the Y&T. Where to shop on which day is a bit of guesswork, as not every shop is open every day.



Paris houses the four-story French Postal Museum (*Musee de la Poste*) that underwent a major revision, only re-opening in 2019 (Above). Dick was a little disappointed with the updated facility, as it largely addresses the movement of the mail from horses to modern day technology.

Dick found almost no stamps in the museum, and there is no access to collections like there is available at the National Postal Museum in D.C. or the British Museum in London. He found the admission price 7€ to the museum with its main and temp exhibits to be fair especially with the very friendly and helpful staff members at the facility.

While in Paris in May, Dick attended the monthly meeting of the Paris Stamp Club. There were about twenty (20) in attendance, and the program that night was like the "Show, Tell, and Ask" at our PSLC meetings though a bit higher in stature. At the meeting he learned about an overprinted Red Cross issue, and Jean-Francois Brun, a much published and well-known expert attended this meeting. Dick worked though him several years ago when he presented a program at the meeting of the Paris Society. Accompanying Jean was Michelle Chouvet, a writer of the definitive work of French Postal History, though this is now out of print.

There was almost a full floor of philatelic art by known artists, and the most recognizable were by Alexander Calder and Jean Miro.

Below is the painting "Les Bottes de Postillon" (The Postman's Boots). Here each boot weighed 7 pounds! (Museum images from <https://parisinsidersguide.com>).



Emails to PSLC: Kudos to the Club

Dr. Cathy Brachbill, the Direction of Education at APS sends her thanks for the lovely retirement card which was signed by so many at the Outdoor Bourse. APS is her second retirement following her career in educational leadership, and her grand finale will be the APS online Summer Session later this month.

Ironically PSLC had been working with Cathy to help set up and carry out the in-person Student Auction at Summer Session. However, in both 2021 and 2022, late changes to hold the event virtually were made. She asked to share that "PSLC should know that it the model that every club should aspire to be."

Just heard from club member **Laura Duncan** how grateful she is for the kindness of the dealers

and other club members at the Outdoor Bourse late last month, as they were quite generous to her two sons, CJ and Ash.



At five (5), **Ash Duncan** (in image nearby) is their youngest son. Since the bourse he has been working on his new Peter and the Wolf Disney stamp set and stock book he received. This is exciting for him because he has been learning about this Prokofiev's piece in music class as a mode to discover the different instruments, their sounds, and families.

How great it to see a melding of both one's stamp collecting and other classical interests, especially in a little boy, one filled with such keen enthusiasm. Long may these interests live.

Club Notes

Programs & Shows 2022 Programs

(Description of many of these programs are on the PSLC website: <https://lcpss-stamps.org/>)

- 8 June:** The RP1a Private Die Proprietary revenue of the T. Kensett and Co. Dr. DiComo
- 22 June:** Mexican Express Company Envelopes. Dick Colberg
- 13 July:** *USS Local*. Ron Brezney
- 27 July:** State of the Hobby. Scott English
- 10 August:** Club Picnic. Freedom Memorial Park, Millersville
- 24 August:** Toledos of the World. David Plunkett
- 14 September:** Postal History Research Resources. Steve Kennedy
- 28 September:** Pure Adulteration. Ron Leshner
- 12 October:** U.S. One-half Cent Issues. David Hunt
- 26 October:** My Grandfather was a Postmaster. Rick Barrett
- 9 November:** Elie Beatty-Cashier of Hagerstown Bank 1807-1859. Steve Kennedy
- 23 November:** Postage Stamps, Labels, and Ephemera of the 1939 New York World's Fair, Paul Petersen
- 14 December:** Why Postcards Matter. Dawn Hamman
- 28 December:** Blood Donation on Stamps & Covers. Ken Martin

2023 Programs

- 11 January:** TBA
- 25 January:** British Inland Airmail, 1933 to 1955. Mike Bach
- 8 February:** TBA

Events

- 19 June:** Some Sunday Stamp Show, Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lanc'str, PA
- 6-28 June:** APS Online Summer Session, 100 Match Factory Road, Bellefonte, PA
- 25-28 August:** The Great Am. Stamp Show, Sacramento, CA
- 24 September:** Harrisburg Club. Lower Swatara Firehouse, 1350 Fulling Mill Road, Middletown
- 5 November:** Reading Stamp Collectors Club, Leesport Farm Market, Route 61 just north of Leesport. Map-Quest: 312 Gernants Church Road.

11 May 2022 Minutes & Treasury

David Weichert, Sect’y and Lou DiFelice, \$\$\$

Opening: At 6:30 Paul Petersen convened the meeting with a welcome to members and guests. He reminded everyone of the Outdoor Bourse on Sunday, and that the details, map, and directions are in the May Newsletter and recent club emails.

Membership: Paul shared that membership stands at 130 with 45% of membership have not yet paid their dues. Dues info is on the website or contact him.

Treasurer’s Report (1-30 April 2022)

Opening Balance:	\$4125.91
Income:	\$185.00
Expenses:	\$889.55
Ending Balance:	\$3421.36
3CDs:	\$5983.30

Treasurer, **Lou DiFelice** reported that the expenses were for website maintenance, the PSLC mail box in Rohrerstown, and the return of dealer deposits following the cancellation of Lancopex last month.

Attendance: This is estimated at +/-30.

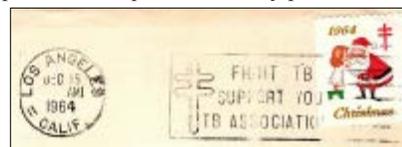
Feature Presentation: Christmas Seal Collecting-Special Interests-Stanley Jones



In his presentation last year, Stan covered the U.S. Christmas seals from inception in 1907 through 1919, the years when they were supported by the American Red Cross. Tonight he will include the issues starting in 1920 which coincides with the year that the American Tuberculosis Association assumed sponsorship of the seals.



Stan said that collecting seals has all the panache of country collecting, First Day of Issue covers, postal history, errors, varieties, and a lot more. There is so much out there that some “TB seal” specialists only collect one year. And the price is right. Except for some of the great rarities, most of the stamps, covers, and other items and ephemera are quite reasonably priced.



One can collect event covers, advertising covers, special regulations, Emily Bissell, U.S. towns with Christmas related names, seals with slogans, printer’s marks, printing and perforation errors, progressive color proofs, seals used as postage, seals tied to a card or cover that was cancelled on Christmas Day, booklet panes & more.



Besides U.S. Christmas Seals there are other charity TB seals, and these include those of both national and local interests such as Lutheran Evangelical Sanitarium, Wheat Ridge, Grace Lutheran Sanatorium, San Antonio.

Finally there is the New Orleans TB Hospital (below), the Cambridge TB Ass’n., the Chattanooga TB Hospital, and the Chicago TB Institute.



The Chicago Heart Association and the Federation of women’s Clubs of Cambridge (MA) also produce some attractive seals.

Stanley shared that the final collecting area for future presentation is the collecting of foreign TB seals, and he has agreed to present this in 2023. He also recommends that for those interested in the topic, there is the Christmas Seal and Charity Stamp Society (www.seal-society.org)

Show, Tell, and Ask:

Paul followed up on a question from the previous meeting about USPOD adding logos to their printed First-Day-of-Issue cancellations. Since then he found several of these from the late 1950s to early 1960s while going through a lot of FDCs.

He shared a few and will get back to us.



Finale: The meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.

Outdoor Bourse

The Sunday, 15 May setting in Millersville was a good one, though a little cold for the first hour until it warmed-up. There were 27 in attendance including dealers, members, and kids. In addition to the dealer tables, there was a club table for sales of donated items. These donations help fund the expenses of the storage facility for our exhibit frames and other accouterments, newsletter and website costs, and postage. Below, **Chuck** and **Donna Kilgore** check out the club sales.



All participants received a souvenir cover from Lancopex-’22 that was never held. Further they signed Thank-You cards to leaders outside our club who are retiring.

Of all the dealers and club table, all were pleased with their business but one. He suggested that there could have been more buyers in attendance. Dealer **Al Schaub** probably described it best, “I did well, but even more, it was so great to see and spend some quality time with club members once again.” The overall dealer recommendation is to hold the bourse again next year.

Special appreciation is extended to **Lou DiFelice** and **Len Kasper** who supervised the operation and to club photographer **Doug Millikan** who came early to take snaps of the dealers setting up (below).



Ave et Vale

Over the past few months, three PSLC members have lost spouses. They are noted below with their spouses’ names in parentheses.

Sarah Mylin (Bill)

Robert Kramer (Carolyn)

Jim Strycharz (Karen)

Please keep these fellow club members in your thoughts and prayers and reach out to them if given the opportunity.

25 May 2002 Proceedings

Opening: Dr. DiComo opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m. and updated the members and visitors on upcoming shows and events and the new additions of our meeting presentations to the PSLC YouTube channel on the website.

Outdoor Bourse: Paul Petersen shared the accomplishments of the 15 May event (*Ed's note: This is reviewed on Pg-3, right side, of this newsletter.*)

Attendance: +/-25

Feature Presentation: Stamps and Postal History of Tibet, Alan Warren
A lifelong collector, Alan shared that as a youth he spent his allowance on an attractive set of Tibetan stamps only to find out later that they were forgeries. This spurred him to some research culminating in a multi-award winning exhibit on the topic and information to share with many in the hobby.



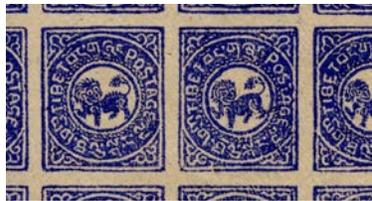
The history of Tibet has not been without its challenges, to such an extent that its current leader, the Dalai Lama has lived in exile for the last several decades. As a rather recluse region, most of the Tibetan mail remained within the country. There are extant examples of stampless covers including some sent out of Tibet. In 1903 the UK commenced the Colonel Francis Younghusband Expedition in Tibet to thwart the Russian designs on the region. In this period the UK's Edwardian Indian stamps were used for both in-region mail and international postings. A letter (cropped) to Younghusband's wife in the UK is below as franked with Indian postage.



In 1910 the Chinese invaded Tibet and remained for a few years where they overprinted Chinese stamps in English, Tibetan, and Chinese. Following China's departure, Tibet realized the

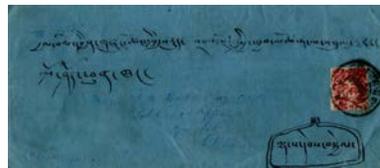
need for its own stamps.

In 1912 Tibet sought essays from Waterlow in London. As these were too expensive for their budget, Tibet kept the design and created their own issues using the woodblock method. This process contributed to the stamp's primitive yet colorful appearance in the first two of three issues. Printed on sheets of twelve (12), each stamp is slightly different. Alan showed the First Issue, that of 1912 which had six denominations (#s 1-6). Some were used into the 1950s. The 1/3 trangka blue of 1st issue is seen below.



The second issue, that of 1924 contained two denominations (#s 7-8). The third issue (1933) contained five denominations (#s 9-13). These latter stamps were cut into metal dies and would be used into the mid to late 1950s as the communist Chinese rule intensified. Around 1959 Chinese stamps were exclusively used in Tibet and remain to this day. Alan discussed and showed many examples of the usages of the various denominations across the three Tibetan issues.

As Tibet was not a member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), Tibetan stamps could only be used in-country. Mail into and out of Tibet came in though Gyantse. Outgoing mail would have Tibetan stamps to go as far as Gyantse where typically Indian stamps would be used for the rest of the journey.



Going the other way, incoming international mail would be posted to Tibet, and then at the border Tibetan stamps would be applied for the rest of the journey to the interior. There were telegraph stamps and in

the early 1950s, official stamps. Registration was indicated by manuscript notation as noted below-left.

Finally, Alan discussed the extant literature and references for collection and study of Tibetan stamps and postal history.

Show, Tell, and Ask

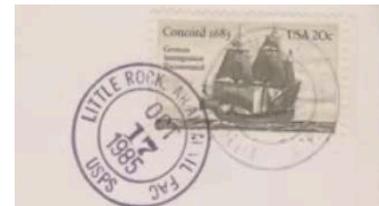
Dr. DiComo shared his latest research on the RO88e private die proprietary 1¢ revenue stamp of the Wm. Gates Match Factory. He gave a brief history of the company and the production of the exp'l silk paper stamp with its blue and red threads which he was able to magnify and project for us. (↓)



Larry Rosenblum projected a cover that was mailed over the channel to La Harve during the '71 UK mail strike. It contains three local 'strike-related' air mail stamps (in blue) monetized in both the new and old pence of the UK. Once in RF, it received a France stamp and cancel, as it set off on its final delivery.



Tom Bowman showed an unaddressed cover (cropped below) asking what was wrong?



The first class rate increased from 20¢ to 22¢ cents on 17 February 1985, and this 20¢ stamp was mailed on 17 October 1985, eight months after the rate hike! The reason for the 2nd strike was probably more pragmatic. Since this was a hand-back, the first strike was too pale, and the customer asked the clerk to apply a second cancel.