

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



Condom? Join us on 8 March



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

2nd Wednesday/Month-Meet in Person at Landis Homes at 6:30 p.m.
4th Wednesday/Month-Meet Virtually at 6:15 p.m.

The Veranda Chronicles

Club Members: PSLC is on a roll after two in-person meetings with a bourse and an auction, both very successful events. This month will be our first in-person presenter since our last one in February 2020 when I shared “*From the U.S. to Farthest India and Back Again.*” Who knew that this would be our last one for three years? But no matter how one slices it, it is truly great to be back in person with my stamp friends. We are looking forward to Dick Colberg discuss “The Postal history of Condom.” You don’t want to miss this one.

And saying this, I have to share that I will not be attending this meeting, as I will be in Italy with Kathleen. However, I will be able to see the video on the YouTube channel that I started which contains recordings of the meetings for the last few years. See the link below to take you to this



section of our club website. It is a good opportunity to see any of the feature programs you may have missed.

Here is something to think about: While Stamp Collecting Month is not until the fall, why don’t we, the members of PSLC, do a little

brainstorming of some ways to bring the hobby to our community such as some public presentations to local organizations that include schools, clubs, senior citizens’ groups, scouts, and many others. Think how we may make collecting attractive to our youth, middle-lifers, and seniors. We need a good idea or two that will give us the vision and motivation to bring this to fruition.

Our club has the resources in both philatelic and human capital to make this happen. So please consider it. Happy Collecting, *CJDi*

<https://www.youtube.com/c/PhilatelicSocietyofLancasterCountyPennsylvania>

8 March 2023: Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Crossings Meeting Room, Landis Homes
The Postal History of Condom. **Dick Colberg**
Richard Shaefer-Host



Several years ago while searching through a dealer’s French stock to locate additional covers for his RF railway exhibit, Dick noticed covers from Condom, France. Getting a chuckle out of this, the topic reemerged a few years later while engaged in a discussion with a collecting friend with a similar sense of humor. He notes that during their conversation, an exhibit was born, one that started out as a joke. Subsequent online searches, including Delcampe revealed a wide variety of available material from this town, and he found its postal history of interest. He ordered several covers, and he had them sent to his home in RF where he began his postal history study of Condom, France. Dick will share this with us tonight. He notes that this will be one of his ongoing projects.

22 March 2023 at 6:15 p.m. Online

The 2022 Europa Issues: Myths and Legends-**Ron Breznay**



Europa stamps have been issued annually since 1956, when six countries participated. At first, the stamps had a common design. Later, that changed to a common theme with each country designing stamps to highlight their own national stories and treasures. For 2022, when at least 61 countries issued Europa stamps, the theme was Myths & Legends—everything from mythology to fairy tales to ghost stories. Ron will give a brief history of Europa stamps and then present a look at 10 of the 2022 issues that fit his topical collection of horror on stamps.

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**Visitors are Always
Welcome**

*PSLC meets in-person on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (Except August & December) at 6:30 p.m. in the Crossings Meeting Room, Landis Homes, 1001 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17542. (See website for directions.)

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

Website: [LCPS-Stamps.org](https://www.lcps-stamps.org)

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8 February Minutes & Treasury

Dave Weichert, Sect'y and Lou DiFelice, Treasurer

Opening: Dr. DiComo started the meeting at 7:00 p.m., though members were here much earlier to set up their own auction lots and browse the other lots on the block tonight. He welcomed everyone and shared updates on all of our digital media and recommended that members and guests visit this regularly. He reviewed up-coming club events and shows.

Attendance: Tonight 42 folks signed the roster.

Financial Report: 1-31 January 2023

Starting Balance:.....\$4,908.32
Income:.....\$190.00
Expenses:.....\$238.01
Ending Balance:.....\$4,860.31
CDs: No Δ at.....\$6,067.66

Treasurer **Lou DiFelice** shared that the income was largely from receipt of dues, and the expenses included newsletter costs for hard copies, perhaps our last rental fee for the storage facility, and the venue rentals for the Open Bourse in May and the Picnic in August.

Auction



After three years, everyone was ready for this. There were 35 bidders and 117 lots available. Seventy-seven (77) sold (66%) for cumulative sales of \$915. And of this, \$109 went to the club from sale of approximately 15 donated lots.

Bidding was lively, and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Members of the Auction Team included: **Aaron Heckler**, Auctioneer; **Dick Schaefer**, Recorder; **Lou DiFelice**, Treasurer; and **Dr. DiComo**, **Mark Jardel**, and **Robert Kramer**, Runners. The next in-person club auctions will be here at Landis Homes on 14 June and 13 September.



Owl Hill Bistro: Vince Kneizys canvassed membership regarding the utilization of having their pre-meeting dinner at the Owl Hill Bistro in this building. Seven (7) responded in the affirmative. It seems that members are taking advantage of this initial trial. **Paul Petersen** will continue to send out the menus a week in advance so folks can identify their choices and send in advance registrations.

The Philatelic Gathering Returns on 18 March

After a year or so of successful operation, Covid-19 brought the PG to a screeching halt in March of 2020, as it did with so many other important happenings in our lives. Well, the PG is back!

What: Briefly, these are monthly Saturday gatherings of collectors for presentation and sharing followed by an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant.

To participate, just sign-up and attend. There are neither obligations nor dues; just bring an enquiring philatelic mind, one ready to participate in open discussion.

The format is similar to that of the PSLC's zoom meetings to include a medium length presentation or two and some Show and Tell items. The difference here is that this gathering is in person, and there is opportunity and space to show and discuss one's personal covers, stamps, and other philatelic related items with other participants.

Where: Chester County Historical Society, 225



North High Street, West Chester, PA 19380

When: Gatherings are from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the Third Saturdays of the month from March through November.

The 18 March meeting will include: **Gus Spector** on "Phila Hotel Markings"; **Kean Spencer** on "Stamps of Puerto Rico, from Spanish Dominion through U.S. Possession" and **Dr. Charles J. DiComo, PhD** on "The Providence, R.I. Pre-Mailing Control Marking on the U.S. 3 Cents 1851-

57 Stamp."

PG program information is on the PSLC website (Below) Sign-up is through founder **Bill Schultz**: bill@patriciaschultz.com. And ride-share info from Lancaster is via **Dr. DiComo**: Charlesdicomo@gmail.com.

<https://lcp-stamps.org/study-groups/>

Club Notes

Programs & Shows

2023 Programs

(Description of many of these programs are on the PSLC website.)

8 March: The Postal History of Condom. Dick Colberg

22 March: The 2022 Europa Issues: Myths and Legends. Ron Breznay

12 April: Dining Cars-Epicurean Pleasure on the Rails, Bill Schultz

26 April: GAR-First Days: First Day Covers and History of the 1949 Grand Army of the Republic Issue. Dave Plunkett

10 May: EFOS-An Emphasis on Fold-overs, David Hunt

21 May: (Sunday) Outdoor Bourse in Millersville

24 May: The Stamp Man, Rick Barrett

14 June: Club auction

28 June: Enhancing a Philatelic Collection or Exhibit with Ephemera and Artifacts, Edwin Andrews

9 August: Club Picnic, Freedom Memorial Park, Millersville, PA

23 August: Collecting Cinderellas. Dick Colberg and Paul Petersen

13 September: Club Auction

27 September: A Prize Agent, A Naturalist, and A Navy Captain: A Penny Black Story. Mike Wilson

11 October: British Internal Airmail: 1933-1934. Mike Bach

25 October: Only You Can Collect Smokey the Bear. Rick Barrett

22 November: The Peak of Post-Great War Hyperinflation in Germany and in Eastern Europe. Scott Ney

13 December: December Dinner. Venue & time TBA

2023 Events

Lancaster Stamp Shows: These are held at the Farm & Home Center. 28-29 April, 18 June, 27 August, 29 October, and 15-16 December.

18 March: Philatelic Gathering, West Chester, PA (See Pg.-2)

14-15 April: Wilkinsburg Stamp Show, Plum, PA

22 April: Delpex, New Castle, DE

12-16 June: APS Summer Session, Bellefonte, PA

22 February Proceedings

Opening: Paul Petersen started the meeting at 6:32 p.m. with a welcome to our newest member, Mike Wilson of Doyelstown, PA. Mike is member number 600! Mike will be our speaker on 27 September with a feature entitled “A Prize Agent, A Naturalist, and A Navy Captain: A Penny Black Story.” Save the date.

Paul reviewed the weather policy for meeting nights and followed up on the Dinner availability for PSLC members at the Owl Hill Bistro at Landis homes. He then followed up with two reports.

Membership: As of PSLC’s 1 February 2023 roster, we have 137 members and 104 or 76% have paid their dues. He credits this increase to the resumption of in-person meetings with ease of payment at our January and February meetings, a payment rate that is far ahead of the last few years under Covid-19 occupation.

February Auction: Paul reviewed the stats for this very successful event, and these are listed in the 8 February Minutes on Page-2.

Attendance: Tonight there were approximately 24 participants.



Feature Presentation

A Humorous Look at the Wilksburg Stamp Club Souvenir Sheets: Part-I: The First 30 Years, 1961-1990. Stevan Cady

A member of PSLC and the Wilksburg clubs, Stevan discussed the genesis of the Wilksburg Stamp Club (WSC) Souvenir Sheets (SSs), and then he described the first 30 years in Pt.-1 of a two-part package.



The great number of USPOD commemorative issues in 1960 set up a fanfare of articles in the philatelic press, largely ones lamenting this proliferation. Concurrently, a collective idea was brewing among members of the WSC, one led by Lou Yagel. This idea resulted in a club-designed souvenir sheet, one to help defray the expenses of the sheets themselves and WSC’s April stamp show. The SS contained some satire of the stamp subjects

of the previous year’s issues.

The first sheet, that of 1961, included similes of four of the 1960s U.S. stamps. They redrew the stamps (including a bit of humor), depicting some of that year’s uncommemorated events. In 1961 and with all subsequent SSs through 2023, the country name of Upper Slobbovia is substituted for the United States of America (or USA). In a discussion, it was noted that in the *Lil Abner* comic, the name of Lower Slobbovia was used, so probably the WSC chose the name of Upper Slobbovia for their parody stamps.

But returning to the 1961 souvenir sheet, there are parodies of four 1960 issues. For example, the Champion of Liberty stamp, was renamed “Chumpians of Liberty” and included Fidel Castro, Despot with his picture. In 1960, Castro had taken over Cuba and was turning it into a fierce Communist entity.

In the American Credo stamp series, they cited P.T. Barnum saying “There’s one born every minute.” (The 1961 SS is nearby to the lower left.)

Stevan noted that it is just as important to read the text that frames the stamps for their humorous inclusions. These lines give it the appearance of the New Deal era souvenir sheets by FDR’s first PMG, James A. Farley.



Each of these SSs has its parody, but the 1970 sheet (above) went beyond simple imagery. Here one can easily discern that the arrows in the stamp are dangerously close to those of Wrigley’s DoubleMint gum. When Wrigley pressed this as a copyright/trademark infringement legal issue, it was determined to be so. In the judgment, the gum giant “graciously” allowed WSC to sell these sheets through the end of 1970, but after this, they had to be destroyed. Hearing of this ban, many dealers bought-up supplies of such. So while technically sold out as far as WSC was concerned, the 1970 SSs can be found on the secondary market today.

Show, Tell, & Ask

Larry Rosenblum showed two French Expo cards. The first was for the 1938 stamp show in Marnes, RF. The designer,

Auguste Davin, used the pseudonym of Draim. His work is well known. In this card, the gentleman viewing the exhibit finds a mirror image error through his magnifying glass.



The next card is one with a show cancel of 15 December 1952 for the *Expo of Philately and Agriculture*. It is franked with an older 20c RF Sower stamp on a 3D novelty postcard with an exact impression of “The Sower.”



Mike Bach shared an interesting airmail cover sent from The Netherlands to Surinam and Curacao and back, one mailed on 8 December 1934 with a return cancel of 31 December 1934. A special SNIP/Fokker plane was used. There are stamps from three nations on the cover.



Closing: The meeting ended at 7:45 p.m.

When's Your Anniversary?

Retired Membership Chairman, **Thomas Nichols** thought it would be appropriate to recognize PSLC members' anniversaries of when they joined by publishing their membership data. Below is the recognition of members joining in January, February, and March in years past. Future anniversaries will be published each month until the end of the year. Give these members your congrats when you see them, and thank them for their participation.

Member's Name	Joined	# Years
January		
Robert Toal	1/15/2021	2
Anthony Diodato	1/9/2021	2
Suzanne Noble-Uhl	1/8/2020	3
Doug Keefer	1/10/2018	5
Bill Grimm	1/11/2017	6
David Silcox	1/13/2016	7
David Hunt	1/11/2012	11
Sandy Kime	1/13/2010	13
Michael Matus	1/9/2008	15
Joy Bouchard	1/9/2008	15
Lou DiFelice	1/1/2002	21
Richard Colberg	1/1/2001	22
John Ford	1/10/1995	28
Lucy Eyster	1/1/1991	32
Michael Shirley	1/1/1987	36
Richard Shaefer	1/1/1985	38
David York	1/1/1982	41
Lesley Ann Botte	1/1/1981	42
February		
Ron Breznay	2/27/2022	1
Larry Rosenblum	2/7/2021	2
Rick Barrett	2/15/2021	2
Joseph Wible	2/12/2020	3
John Ferranti	2/21/2020	3
Vince Kneizys	2/13/2019	4
Jeremy Horn	2/13/2019	4
Steve Gallerizzo	2/22/2019	4
Mike Bach	2/11/2011	12
John Ahlfeld	2/15/2008	15
Paul Petersen	2/13/2002	21
Richard Wheeler	2/15/2001	22
Eleanor Wheeler	2/19/2001	22
March		
Cathy Kotanchik	3/7/2021	2
Patricia Tucker	3/30/2021	2
Tim Boland	3/9/2016	7
Vern Marten	3/13/2002	21
Caroline Ford	3/13/1999	24

World Wide Semi-Postals Support Ukraine

The continued Russian aggression against the Ukraine just passed its one year anniversary date, and no let-up is in sight. The Russians are throwing a lot into this offensive especially many of their young men. The protests of these soldiers' mothers (The Babushkas) demanding to know about their sons are being tolerated by the regime; they are too hot to handle, given the increasingly worldwide condemnation. Other protesting groups may receive a one-way trip to a Gulag.



Worldwide postal services continue to support the Ukraine and its people through semi postal stamp issues, those stamps where the extra cost goes to the cause. I have been showing some of my acquisitions, and these include Spain, France, Latvia and Croatia to date, and I have a few more to show. Above is the recent stamp issue from Moldova, a small country between Eastern Ukraine and Romania. The

timing of this stamp coincides with some heated rhetoric between Russia, Ukraine, and NATO, including the U.S. Since Moldova became independent of the USSR in 1991, they have had internal problems with a pro-soviet secessionist group within their country. The problem is Transnistria. The area of Transnistria is a thin strip of land along half of the boarder of Moldova and Ukraine. Russia claims that Ukraine has designs on this area, which Ukraine President Zelinsky denies vehemently. To fan the flames of the situation, Russia is supporting Transnistria with both hard and soft assets, including about 1500 "Peacekeeping" Russian soldiers. As of this writing, the Transnistrian-Moldovian situation is evolving daily.

President of the ASDA, **Irv Miller** has created a support souvenir sheet released at NOJEX as seen below. These are available for a donation, and all profits go to support Ukraine. This SS is available as shown below, and it can also be augmented with a NOJEX show cancel (not shown). For info, email Irv Miller at millerstampco@gmail.com.

ASDA-NOJEX STAMP SHOW OCTOBER 14-16, 2022
HILTON MEADOWLANDS HOTEL EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ

ASSIST UKRAINE	ASSIST UKRAINE	ASSIST UKRAINE
ASSIST UKRAINE	ASSIST UKRAINE	ASSIST UKRAINE

SPONSORED BY MILLER'S STAMP CO. www.millerstamps.com
 100% of the profits will go to ASSIST- UKRAINE.ORG

Ed's Note: There was some follow-up interest on Captain Tim from the Feb. issue. Yes, he is still alive and in business as seen below in this ad in the *ASC&D* philatelic publication. Tim is soliciting questions and conundrums. Give it a try. You saw it in the PSLC News. Ed.

Do you have a philatelic conundrum?

Do you have stamps or collecting situations you just can't seem to unravel?

Ask "Captain Tim"

A somewhat irreverent, but useful, philatelic advice column.

Email potential questions to AskCaptainTim@gmail.com