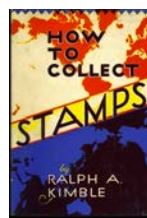


# Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



Ralph Kimble-Page-3



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

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

## The Veranda Chronicles

During the pandemic, I have referred to Covid-19 and the problems it has presented. But with the easing of the threat, folks are on the move once more, but hopefully remaining careful and not taking any unnecessary chances. As a result of this, almost the entire PSLC auction team is scheduled to be on vacation for the June event. Thus, it was cancelled. However, Don Barron will switch his July program for June, and we'll have the auction on July 12<sup>th</sup>. We have not lost a beat. There is a lot coming up with the APS Summer Session at APS in Bellefonte from June 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. This is a great experience if you have not yet attended one of these annual events. It is a week of philatelic immersion.

June 17<sup>th</sup> is the Philatelic Gathering at the Chester County History Center in West Chester. There will be two presentations: Dr. Gus Spector will discuss the stamps and postal history of the Philippines,

and Kean Spencer will tell us the story about the Acker Special Delivery Service. Both are well-established collectors and researchers, so this will be a good opportunity to learn a great deal about these subjects. A.J. Valente-U.S. 1857 issue re various stamp papers in 185859

The Lancaster Stamp Show is back in town on Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Farm & Home Center.

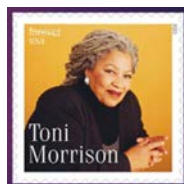
And we recently learned with great sadness of member Bob Kotanchik's passing from cancer. In his tenure with us, he not only contributed to our programs but made many friendships that are lost but not forgotten. Our hearts and prayers go out to his wife, Cathy, as we want her to know that she has the full support of this society.

And finally, I am excited to pass on that there will be some substantial changes coming up in next month's newsletter. This is discussed on Page-4 where you can find out all about it. Cheers, *CJD*

**14 June 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** (Doors open at 6:30 for Buy, Sell, and Trade)

The Toni Morrison First Day of Release Ceremony-**Don Barron**

**Host: TBA**



Don will examine his experience at the event featuring the Toni Morrison First Day release in Princeton, NJ along with some interesting information on Ms. Morrison and her many achievements. From her novels on African-American themes, Morrison won both a Pulitzer Prize and a Nobel Prize along with the Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded by Barack Obama. At the first day ceremony there were a variety of speakers who discussed the history of the stamp subject, some of the production details, and other related topics. Those in attendance received ceremony programs and complimentary cacheted first day covers, and with these came the opportunity to obtain signatures on either or both by officials involved with the ceremony such as the designer, the artist, and the postmaster, among others. Don anticipates that PSLC members who have attended such ceremonies may wish to share their experience with fellow club members at this meeting.

**28 June 2023 at 6:15 p.m.**

Enhancing Philatelic Collections and Exhibits,  
with Ephemera and Artifacts-**Edwin J. Andrews**

Dr. Andrews will show us creative ways to integrate both ephemera and artifacts into our collections and/or philatelic exhibits. A former Pennsylvanian, he is a well-known exhibitor and APS accredited chief philatelic judge. He has won numerous Grand awards for his display exhibits which have used both philatelic and non-philatelic material. The basis for Ed's presentation will be content from his award-winning book, *Award Winning Philatelic Treatment and Presentation: A Guide to Display, Thematic and Topical Exhibits for Exhibitors, Collectors, and Judges*.



**Volume 86, No. 6**

June 2023

**Visitors are Always  
Welcome**

\*PSLC meets in-person on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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)

\*Mailing address: PO Box 6053, Lancaster, PA 17607

**Website: [LCPS-Stamps.org](https://lcpS-stamps.org)**

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# 10 May Proceedings

**Opening:** PSLC Treasurer **Lou DiFelice** started the meeting at 6:35 p.m. and made some announcements about upcoming meetings and events. He passed around clip-board sign-ups for the 9 August picnic (both for attendance and collateral food), for live-meeting snack hosts, and for dealers for the 21 May Sunday Bourse.

Lou reported the April Financial Report as noted below. There was no change at all from March!

**Treasury: 1-30 April 2023**

Opening Balance:	\$4860.31
Income:	\$864.00
Expenses:	\$331.52
Closing Balance:	\$5392.79
2-CDs:	\$6067.66

**Meeting Attendance: 20**

**Feature Presentation**  
*Foldovers-Dave Hunt*

To put this presentation in perspective, Dave provided some background information about where ‘foldovers’ fit into the philatelic taxonomy. It is in the study of errors, freaks, and oddities or EFOs as they are better known. There is an EFO society in which Dave is very active. What is the difference between the **Es**, **Fs**, and **Os**? This can depend on who one asks. Dave shared with us the EFO descriptions that he finds most useful.



**Errors** are typically stamps where something goes missing in the printing process such as a missing color or perforations. Many errors are listed in *Scott*, and it takes time for a knowledgeable collector to justify an error with the editors. With a *freak*, one sees visible abnormalities such as color shifts and foldovers among others. **Oddities** are usually ‘one of a kind’ such as a blob of ink on the stamp or even an insect that got caught in the printing machinery. Oddities are not reproducible.



But getting back to ‘foldovers,’ these occur during stamp production, where typically a corner of the sheet can get folded. In the 2¢ Washington above (C64), one sees an example of

both sides of the foldover before printing and perforating.

Whether an item is folded over or under, this can have a big effect on the visual nature of the result. The foldover may occur before or during the production process and may affect printing, perforating, gumming, or a combination of two or three of these variations.

A range of finished varieties can result. One can try to deduce the production process by studying the freaks resulting from foldovers. Furthermore, one might want to enjoy foldovers just as they are for the out-of-the-ordinary visual appeal as seen in the leading illustration in this abstract. It took a number of folds to create this example.

Dave showed about a third of his collection to illustrate the variety of ways that foldovers can occur. While the foldover emphasis is on stamps, they can also occur with postal stationary, a few of which he showed.

Below is a foldover on postal stationary (+/- U395).



How does this material become available? Some is discarded as printer’s waste but subsequently retrieved. Other examples may be minor and/or missed by either the printer or postal clerk before reaching the postal customer. If the customer sees this and does not want her money back, it becomes a collectible.



# Club Notes

**Programs & Shows**  
2023 Programs

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

**14 June:** The Toni Morrison First Day of Release Ceremony. Don Barron

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

**12 July:** Club auction

**26 July:** The Headsville Post Office, Ron Breznay

**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

**8 November:** Development of Perforations in the U.S. by Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co.: 1855-57. Dr. DiComo

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

**13 December:** December Dinner. Venue & time TBA

**27 December:** Advertising Covers with Interesting Philatelic Features. Mike Wilson.

**2023 Events**

**Lancaster Stamp Shows:**

These are held at the Farm & Home Center. **18 June**, 27 August, 29 October, and 15-16 December.

←To the left are foldover examples: from top to bottom.

- A used foldover (549). Used examples are not common.
- Foldovers are not limited to sheet stamps as can be seen on the 3¢ Liberty coil strip.
- Foldovers can also result in a design similar to a ‘perfin’ as seen in the lower right corner of CE2 to the left.

## 24 May Proceedings

**Opening:** Paul Petersen started the meeting with some brief announcements and welcomed the visitors. Since the business meeting proper was on 10 May, he proceeded to introduce the speaker and commence the feature presentation.

**Attendance:** +/-35

### Feature Presentation

#### The Stamp Man-Rick Barrett

PSLC welcomes Rick back for another story of the hobby, this time, that of Ralph Kimble (1893-1973), otherwise known as The Stamp Man from his long running radio show. Also in attendance at the meeting was Ralph's son, **Dan Kimble**, a retired art professor. Rick illustrated the presentation with many of Kimble's created items, news clippings, and photos, some from his collection and others from the Internet.



Kimble started collecting stamps at the early age of eight, and this included country collecting with Argentina being one of his favorites. Following graduation from Knox College, he entered the business world, but stamp collecting always remained close. Deeply patriotic, Kimble enlisted and was commissioned in the army in April of 1917 as the U.S. entered the Great War. He was in action in France and eventually released in 7/1919 following a case of Spanish Flu. He remained in the Army Reserves reaching the rank of major in the mid-1930s. He was recalled to active duty during WWII, once more seeing action in Europe earning a Bronze Star. Shortly thereafter, he retired as a full colonel following decades of dedicated service to his country.

For almost three and a half years, Kimble hosted a radio program on WMAQ in Chicago resulting in 109 different shows from 12/1930 though 4/1934. When this local radio station became part of the NBC network in 1931, his show became available nationwide and in Canada. In 1934 the estimated number of American stamp collectors was 10M, old and young alike! Unfortunately Rick has been unable to obtain any of Kimble's radio show audio recordings.

Kimble wrote three best-selling books on

philately: *How to Collect Stamps* (1932); *Commemorative Postage Stamps of the United States* (1934); and *Stamp Collecting for Profit* (1935). His books remain popular and are available online and in used bookstores.

Besides his books and radio show, Kimble wrote stamp columns, the most remembered was in the *Chicago Daily News*. (Image to the left) At that time he did a 33-day philatelic speaking tour across the Midwest posting 23 different souvenir covers, and many remain today.

For the 1933 Chicago World's Fair, The Century of Progress, Kimble made souvenir covers, which explained that FDR would not be able to open the show on 27 May, but PMG James A. Farley would do the opening honors in his place. ↓



The cover was franked with the U.S. stamp depicting the Federal Building of the show (729). The request for covers was so large that Kimble filled his Chicago dining room with family and friends to send these out.



From 1936 to 1942 and 1945 to 1950 Ralph Kimble was editor of *The American Philatelist*, the journal of the American Philatelic Society. The break in his AP editorship was when he was recalled to army active duty for WWII.



And regarding the AP, Kimble's son Don shared that he recalled his dad editing this journal on the dining room table in their Chicago home. It was here that many other philatelic activities were conducted during

his Chicago childhood.

For Ralph Kimble, personal collecting took a back seat to the enormity of full-time employment and what seems like full-time philatelic activity. With only a small stamp collection, his real treasure was his large philatelic reference book collection, one that was compiled over 50 years.

When he retired from his day job and philately in 1953, he submitted his library for auction. It took three separate sales to liquidate it all, 241 book cartons! Concurrently he pulled up stakes in Chicago and moved his family to Grosse Point, MI where he began his next career, that of carpentry where he created a multitude of fine furniture items.

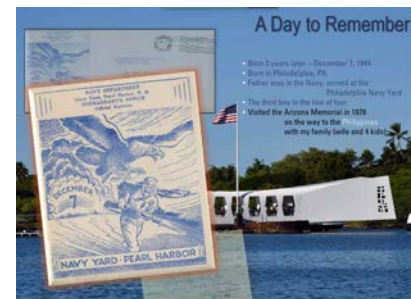
Col. Ralph Kimble passed away on 8 October, 1973 and was inducted into the American Philatelic Society's Hall of Fame in 2004, a most fitting reward for his magnificent and colorful service to the hobby for over five decades.

### Show, Tell & Ask

**RD Noble** started us off with a 10-ounce advertising cover from the Champion & Forge Blower Company of Lancaster. This machine was to replace the bellows to facilitate the heat needed for blacksmithing. It is franked with a 1¢ Washington Franklin and has what looks like a silent precancel. RD found it most impressive that this multipage item could be sent for a penny.



**George Hauber** showed two PowerPoints. The first was to demonstrate the use of Google to assist in stamp identification for all sorts for collectors.



George's second PowerPoint was about Pearl Harbor: A Day to Remember. Here he used several overlays to show the family ties to the place and event along with some of the headlines of the day. It was quite moving.

## Need a British Passport?

Al Schaub

Do you need a British Passport? If so, be aware that Great Britain, in June 1940, opened a British Passport Control Office in N.Y.C. in Suite 3603 of the Rockefeller Center. The office was opened by a British gentlemen named William Stephenson.

But, to save you a wasted trip there I need to trust you with a vital secret (Remember, "Loose Lips Sink Ships"). Passport Control was a cover for the operation of Britain's anti-Nazi activities throughout North and South America during WWII. In reality, Stephenson was an executive level spy who operated under the code name "Intrepid." His true title was Representative of British Security Coordination (BSC).

The BSC operatives had many successful operations in North and South America. This brief article will focus on just one – the mail censorship operation located in the posh Princess Hotel located near Hamilton, Bermuda (Below).



During WWII, planes traveling between free Europe (e.g., Portugal, Switzerland, Spain, etc.) refueled at Bermuda at which time the mail was unloaded, censored, and then reloaded to continue to the U.S.

The censoring center, in the basement of the Princess Hotel, was primarily staffed by about 1,200 very talented women. They were trained to spot microdots, invisible inks, coded messages, etc. Most of them spoke two or more languages. They were

known as "censorettes."

Below is a Bermuda censored cover that was mailed from Switzerland in 1942. After being censored it was resealed with the widely used PC90 tape. What identifies it as being Bermuda censored is the manuscript "IC" written below the examiner's ID number. The IC designation identifies covers censored in Bermuda.



Initially the IC marking was only done in manuscript form. However, beginning in January 1942 it was also printed on the PC90 sealing tape. Very common is the "IC" format. Believed to be scarce are the "I.C" and the "I/C" varieties of the printed tapes.

In closing, Bermuda-censored covers are interesting, real-life relics of the secret agent, counter-spy activity of WWII.

### Post Script

To breathe life into Bermuda-censored covers I often give thought to examiner 4937. Who was she? What was she like? How did she live out the rest of her life? Intrepid spent much time at the Bermuda Princess. Some notable people who often met with him there were Ian Fleming (also a British secret agent and later creator of the James Bond novels) and Wild Bill Donovan, founder of OSS, the WWII precursor to the CIA.

## Exciting Newsletter Changes Ahead

It is a pleasure to announce that commencing with the July issue of the Newsletter, **Scott Ney** will be the new editor. Over the last few months, our people have been working with his people to bring this about, and Scott is excited with the opportunity. An outstanding philatelic writer in his own right as seen with his Lebanon newsletter, *The Patent*, he has many creative ideas to implement in the coming months. One major change will be the combination of the Lancaster and Lebanon Clubs into one new newsletter to cover the interests of each club. Further, the number of pages to the newsletter and its formatting will be significantly augmented to allow for both unlimited length and greater sized images. Image size is not a problem when an online reader can enlarge an image to suit. The need to keep the club newsletter at six (6) pages or less with small images and fonts was to mail it profitably (the 1-ounce rate) to those members not online. While the new format newsletter will be digital-only, a shorter version hard copy item will continue to be mailed to our club members not digitally connected. Ed. will continue planning the twice-monthly programs and feed this information to Scott for the newsletter and to Dr. DiComo for his website. They are not letting him retire fully that easily. Cheers, Ed.-✉

## Member Anniversaries

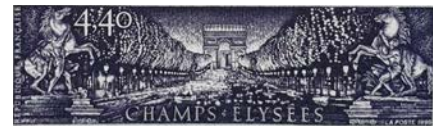
Compiled by Tom Nichols

Below is the recognition of members joining PSLC in June over the years. Congrats to all those collectors listed.

June	Joined	#Years
Roger Larson	6/17/22	1
Joanne Murphy	6/21	1

## Report from Overseas

**Dick Colberg** continues to enjoy part of his year with Nancy in France. He notes that his good fortune is that philately in RF continues to go well with active societies, well-attended shows, and ever-improving exhibits. There are even some stamp stores.



A few weeks ago Dick had the opportunity to give a presentation to the Paris Stamp Club on the postal history of the railway mail service between Rouen and Serquigny. As this is his second presentation to the Paris Stamp Club, he is enhancing his reputation with this august and select society. Dick and Nancy are looking forward to the next meeting when the club will meet in the chambers of the French *Senat*. He'll tell of the Central American Steamship Co. A lavish dinner will follow.

## Ave et Vale

PSLC notes with sadness the passing of **Bob Kotanchik** on 25 May following an encounter with esophageal cancer.

A gift of a large worldwide pack of stamps at a young age gave him the start from which he never looked back. During his career in IT, he, his wife Cathy, and his daughters lived abroad, and he took the opportunity to visit the stamp establishments and POs in these countries, especially London and Brussels. In retirement some time later, Bob had more time for the hobby while Cathy's collecting interest flourished. Bob joined the Allentown club and PSLC followed by Cathy about a year later. He gave presentations, and his YouTube video, *An Introduction to Machin Collecting* has been the PSLC's most viewed recording on the club's website. Cathy worked with him and is now an active collector of such. During Bob's last months he was fascinated with the engraved stamps of Czeslaw Slania, credited with over 1000 worldwide stamps. Cathy will finish Bob's project and present it to the PSLC at a later date. Bob has been a presence in the club in many ways. Beyond his presentations, he was free with his expertise to collectors of all levels. Rest well, dear friend. You'll be sorely missed.