

Phila-telling Around

AY OF EACH MONTH

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MEETINGS - 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH STAUFFER MANSION - 7:30 P.M. 1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601 Next Meeting - Wed. NOVEMBER 8, 1995

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR CLUB CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717)872-2479 OR MICHAEL SHIRLEY (717)394-0186.

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Greetings!

As many of you know, I was in the hospital and had a hip replacement in the early part of October. Thanks to all of you who send cards, flowers and called me during my recuperation. Since my stay in the hospital was longer than anticipated, I had to call on PETER BILLIS to conduct the meeting. Special thanks to PETER for overseeing the meeting with such short notice. I have been told the meeting was a great success.

LCPS has some very exciting changes in the near future. Our new meeting location will give more flexibility with regard to space and storage. Please refer to the article "LCPS To Move" for more details.

LUCY EYSTER, MARY HUSSON and HARRY RAPP are forging ahead with plans for the upcoming Christmas Party at a new location. Be sure to attend the November meeting for more details. Remember to bring some of your duplicates to the next meeting for the auction.

Your president, Mike



- NOVEMBER PROGRAM -

A SHORT BUSINESS MEETING WITH ELECTION OF OFFICERS -- A CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE REPORT -- AND AN AUCTION.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting was held in a hall closet with the door shut. Or so it seemed to the 17 club members who showed up. With no air conditioning and no windows open it was difficult to become involved in the program which was dealer for a night. Maybe this month's article by R. Winston Harris might not pique many members' minds because the response left much to be desired. Four members brought material: some blocks and strips offered at face or less, circa 1993; three first day covers freshly issued that day, some boxes of covers, one selling for \$25 mainly to acquire the chest-like box with dove tailed corners; finally a mish-mash of baseball cards, coins and model soldiers.





OCTOBER MEETING

The October program was a clothesline exhibit. To be fair, our newer members and older members who missed the initial clothesline exhibit judging, were in the dark as to just how to proceed and what was to take place. Entries were displayed by LUCY TRUYDE GREINER, BILL EYSTER, CHUCK KILGORE and BOB GREINER, ALLISON. BOB really got into the spirit of the event by bringing his own washline and clothespins to mount his exhibit. Upwards of 25 members were in attendance.



DIECEMIBIEIR 13, 1995

As a new dining experience, our Christmas Party this year will be held at WILLOW VALLEY RESORT INN, 2416 Willow Street Pike. We have reserved the Herr Room for Wednesday evening, December 13, 1995 with punch and light snacks served at 6:00 p.m., dinner served at 6:30 p.m.Dinner will

dinner served at 6:30 p.m.Dinner will be served family style with a choice of two entrees, roast sirloin of beef or chicken cordon bleu. The price to each club member and one guest is \$15.00 each. The club will pick up the balance of approximately \$4.00. Please have cash or check payable to LCPS ready at the November meeting or send to MARY HUSSON, 2033 Northbrook Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601 by November 30th.

The Herr Room is easily accessible from the rear lower level of the Family Restaurant using the Bakery, Banquet Rooms entrance. Easy parking is right there.

The program has not yet been finalized, but you can be sure it will be special. The committee is open for suggestions (don't hesitate). Call MARY HUSSON at 397-9867.

As in previous years, members and guests are encouraged to bring a wrapped gift with a \$5.00 value appropriate for either sex to participate in a gift exchange.



MEMBERS TELL US THEY COLLECT

CANADA -- 6 members

CEREMONY PROGRAMS -- 1 member

CHINA/PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- 2 members

CHRISTMAS STAMPS AND SEALS -- 2 members

FAR EAST -- 1 member

FIRST DAY COVERS -- 2 members

FRANCE -- 2 members

GERMANY -- 3 members

GREECE -- 1 member

LANCASTER COUNTY COVERS & POSTAL HISTORY -- 3 members

PANAMA -- 1 member

PLATE BLOCKS -- 3 members

POST CARDS -- 1 member

RYU KYU ISLANDS -- 1 member

SPAIN -- 1 member

SWITZERLAND -- 1 member

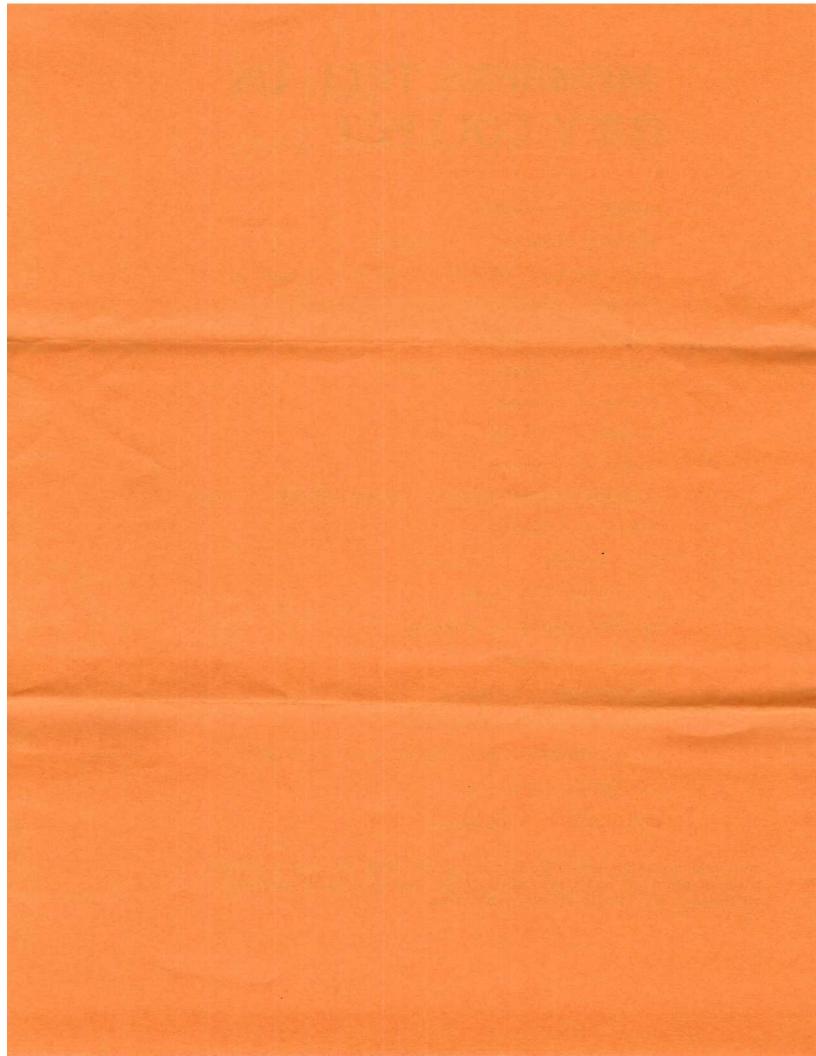
UNITED NATIONS -- 3 members

UNITED STATES -- mint and/or used -- 20 members

VATICAN -- 2 members

WORLD WIDE -- 11 members

You may wish to keep this listing for future reference to give you an idea of what interests club members when preparing materials for sale at the auctions.



CLUB ELECTIONS

How quickly the year passes, necessitating the nomination of new officers at the October meeting to be voted on at the November meeting. PETER BILLIS will succeed MIKE SHIRLEY as President. Mike did a solid, workman-like job in his tenure as President despite personal and family health problems. His homey, low-key manner and shy smile endeared him to all the members and guests throughout the year.

PETER brings youth and enthusiasm to the office of President. We look forward to a successful year of programs and special events under PETER'S direction.

LUCY EYSTER, pending the November vote, moves into the office of Vice-President. She has displayed a capacity to work with diligence and direction of purpose on the yearly LANCOPEX and Christmas Party. In time to come she will be a credit to the club as President.

The Secretary, MIRIAM AMERDING and the Treasurer, DICK SHAEFER will serve the second year of their two-year terms.

NOTICE

In the January 1996 issue of the Newsletter, we plan to include a membership roster. If you feel that you do not want your address printed, please send a postcard to MARILYN SHIRLEY, 19 Circle Road, Millersville, PA 17551 by December 27th advising her of your decision.



L.C.P.S. TO MOVE

The club will have a new starting in January 1996. Lancaster Township Building, recently renovated and rededicated, will be the location of our meetings beginning January, 1996. Located at the site of the old Maple Grove Swimming Pool on Columbia Ave. and Schoolhouse Rd., it is a timely move as the rent on the meeting room in Stauffer Mansion is scheduled to increase . The rent on Maple Grove will be \$25. We will have use of the room from 4:00-10:00 PM and meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of the month.

The room is large with a locked cabinet for our use where items can be left from meeting to meeting. A kitchen is also available at extra cost. It opens many possibilities such as a covered dish supper night, etc. A lighted parking field will make for more secure parking. All in all, it should be a great move for the club as the Stauffer location was becoming much too small for our use.



IF A MAN WERE TO RUMMAGE IN HIS PAST, HE'D FIND MATERIAL IN IT FOR A WHOLE DIFFERENT SET OF LIVES.

Part One relates the story of a 10-year old boy who begins collecting stamps. His other interest is his boyhood friend Lojzig. Because his father didn't approve of his frivolous hobby, the boy was forced to hide his collection in the attic. When he contracted scarlet fever he went to the attic to retrieve his collection from a trunk in the attic. To his consternation when he lifted the trunk lid, his stamps were GONE!

CONCLUSION

(FROM OCTOBER NEWSLETTER)

"I can't describe to you how distressed and horror-stricken I was. I think I must have stood there as if I'd been turned to stone, and I couldn't even cry, there was such a lump in my throat. First of all, it was appalling to me that my stamps, my greatest joy, were gone -- but what was more appalling was that Lojzik, the only friend I had, must have stolen them while I was ill. I felt overwhelmed, dismayed, dumbfounded, stunned -- you know, it's amazing how much a child can suffer. How I got out of that attic, I don't know; but after that I had high fever again and during my clearer moments I pondered in despair. I never said a word about this to my father or my aunt -- I had no mother -- I knew that they simply wouldn't understand me, and through that I became rather estranged from them; from that time onwards my feelings for them ceased to be close and childlike. Lojzik's treachery affected me terribly, it was the first time anyone had played me false. "A beggar," I said to myself, 'Lojzik's a beggar and that's why he steals; it serves me right for chumming up with a beggar.' And this hardened my heart; it was then I began to draw a distinction between one person and another -- I forfeited my state of social innocence; but at the time I didn't realize what a shock it had been to me and how much damage it had caused.

"When I got over my fever, I also got over my distress at the loss of my stamp collection, though my heart still ached when I saw that Lojzik had now found new friends; but when he came running up to me, rather sheepishly because it was so long since we'd seen each other, I said to him in a curt, grown-up tone: 'You sling your hook, I've finished with you.' Lojzik turned red and presently replied: "All right, then.' And from that time onward he hated me as thoroughly as the underdog can hate.

"Well, that was the incident which affected my whole life. The world I lived in was, so to speak, desecrated; I lost my faith in people; I learned how to hate and despise. After that I never had a friend; and when I grew up, I began to assume that because I was by myself, I needed nobody and would show favour to nobody. Then I discovered that nobody liked me; I used to put this down to the fact that I despised affection was proof against all sentimentality. And so I became an aloof and purposeful man, very fussy about myself, very punctilious, and the kind of person who always wants to do the right thing; I was cantankerous and harsh towards my subordinates; I did not love the woman I married; I brought up my children to obey and fear me, and by my industry and sense of duty I gained quite a reputation. Such was my life, my whole life; I attended to nothing except my duty. When my time comes the newspapers will say what valuable work I did and what an exemplary character I had. But if people only knew how much solitude, mistrust and self-will there is about it all.

"Three years ago my wife died. I never admitted it to myself or to anybody else, but I was terribly upset; and in my distress I rummaged about among all sorts of family keepsakes which had been left by my father and mother: photographs,

letters, my old school exercise-books -- I felt like choking when I saw how carefully my stern father had arranged and kept them; I think that, after all, he must have been fond of me. The cupboard in the attic was filled with these things, and at the bottom of a drawer was a box sealed with my father's seals; when I opened it I discovered the stamp collection I had made fifty years earlier.

"I'm not going to keep anything back from you: I burst into tears and I took the box into my room like a man who has found a treasure. So that's what happened, suddenly flashed across my mind; while I was ill, somebody must have found my stamp collection and my father confiscated it, so that I should not neglect my lessons. He oughtn't to have done it, but it was all because of his concern and affection for me; I don't know how it was, but I began to feel sorry for him and for myself.

"And then I remembered: so Lojzik never stole my stamps. Good heavens, how I had wronged him! Again I saw the freckled and untidy urchin before me, and I wondered what had become of him and whether he was still alive. I tell you, I felt so wretched and ashamed when I looked back on it all. Because of a single false suspicion I had lost my only friend; because of that I had wasted my childhood. Because of that I had begun to despise the lower orders; because of that I had been so self-opinionated, because of that I never became attached to anyone. Because of that the very sight of a postage stamp always made me feel annoyed and disgusted. Because of that I never wrote to my wife, either before or after our marriage, and I explained this away by pretending to be above what I chose to call gush; and my wife felt this keenly. Because of that I was harsh and aloof. Because of that, only because of that, I had so fine a career and performed my duties in such an exemplary manner.

"I saw my whole life afresh; suddenly it seemed a different life, was the thought which struck me. If that hadn't happened I should have been so full of enthusiasm and dash, affection, chivalry, wit and resourcefulness, strange and unruly things of that sort -- why, good heavens, I might have been almost anything else, an explorer or an actor or a soldier! Why, I might have felt some affection for my fellow men. I might have drunk with them, understood them, oh, there's no knowing what I mightn't have done. I felt as if ice were thawing inside me. I went through the collection, stamp by stamp; they were all there, Lombardy, Cuba, Siam, Hanover, Nicaragua, the Philippines, all the places which I had wanted to go to and which I shall now never see. On each of these stamps there was a scrap of something which might have been and never was. I sat brooding over them all night and took stock of my life.

I realized that it had been an artificial and impersonal life, which did not belong to me, and that my proper life had never come into existence." Mr. Karas shook his head sadly. "When I consider all I might have been, and how I wronged Lojzik..."

Father Voves, on hearing these words, looked very downcast and forlorn; most likely he had remembered something in his own life. "Mr. Karas," he said pityingly, "don't think about it; it's no use, you can't put it right now, you can't make a fresh start...."

"No," sighed Mr. Karas with a slight flush. "But you know, anyhow, I've started collecting stamps again."



