

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the
American Philatelic Society
Chapter 118 of the American Topical Assn.

Meeting Begins at 7:00, Wednesday, 8 January 2014

Bluebird Commons / Woodcrest Villa. Len Kasper, Host

Doors Open at 6:30-Come Early to Set Up and View Others' Lots

From the Desk of the President

First, I would like to extend thanks to Lucy, Joy, and their committees for a very enjoyable Christmas party. And also a very special thanks to 2013 club president, Bob Noble for a job well done and his continued dedication to the club. January 8th will be our first auction of the year. Please take some time to put together some interesting consignments to insure the auction's success. We have scheduled an officers & board meeting for Monday, January 13th, 7:00 p.m. at Lucy's apartment to discuss Lancopex, needed committees, club programs, and activities for the 2014 year. Any club member with subjects they feel need discussion, please feel free to call me

(717.723.1864) Further, I can be called any time throughout the year for any club business. Being club president is a true privilege for me, and I will do all I can to insure this year will be enjoyable to all.

With the winter months upon us, there is no better time to work on our stamp collections. I've always made it a personal tradition to work with my stamps when the snow is falling. Why we collect stamps makes an interesting subject to discuss. Think of it in these terms: For a single moment, we can pick up a stamp and hold a piece of history in our hands. And just think about all those individuals from that very

period of time whose hands that stamp passed through.

Club growth is a vital issue relative to the future of PSLC, so this year I would like to focus on new membership and promotion of the club. Anything a member can do to enhance this effort would be greatly appreciated. I would like to put together a membership committee, so if anyone has an interest in participating, please let me know.

2014 tidings to all, and a thank you to all members of one of the very best stamp clubs one could ever be a member of. Your continued support and involvement will make our club so that we are all proud to be members.

Len

PSLC Winter Auction

The Winter Auction is here already. A time to sell, and a time to buy. Instructions for the event follow: A number will be assigned to you when you arrive and register. Please place this number on all your lots. Attach an item/lot description including catalogue number, value and condition if appropriate, and minimum bid accepted. This will speed things up a great deal. • Fiscal transactions will only take place after the last item has been sold. Further, the auction committee recommends the following: • Bring cash whenever possible to pay for the items you win and • Keep a running total of items you have won and sold based on the prices realized. • Finally, be sure to firmly attach your sales information (lot description, cat. value, min. bid etc.) to the item, then you'll be correctly credited with the sale.



Anniversary Dinner Wrap Up-Pg.3→

Bidding rules remain the same as previous auctions. • The minimum bid is \$1.00. • The minimum bidding increment is 50¢. • Each club member is limited to 10 lots. • You may also donate items for the auction, and the realization will go to PSLC.

Volume 77, No. 1

January, 2014

Highlights

- A New Year
- Winter Auction
- Marilyn Shirley
- Harry Potter Issue
- USPS & Canada Post
- ATA & Topical Time
- 2014 PSLC Officers
- Dinner Photos
- Dues Notice
- Notes and Treasury

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. For club info, call Lucy Eyster: 717.735-2586

Website: lcps-stamps.net

President:

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hotrodparts33@aol.com

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Treasurer:

Lou DiFelice,
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Lucy Eyster,
lucyeyster@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor, Pro-

grams, & APS Rep:
Paul Petersen, 717.299.5640
pcpetersen@comcast.net



Ave et Vale

Marilyn Shirley

With sadness the club learned of Marilyn's passing on 7 December 2013. At the 2008 Dinner she received the PSLC Lifetime Achievement Award for decades of service to the club. This service was legion.

Marilyn served as club secretary, president and vice president several times and edited the newsletter for years. In this she wrote the news, typed the pages, mimeographed them all, collated them, addressed them, franked them, and mailed them. Through this she gives much credit to her son and club member Mike, who helped her with the newsletter over the years.

She instructed the club's junior members on Friday nights during the school year and then on Mondays during the summer, where they worked on stamps in the morning and swam in the pool in the p.m.

Marilyn, Chuck, and Mike hosted the PSLC picnic at their home, grilling the chicken and corn on the cob for all. The same can be said for the annual Christmas dinner that she had organized for many years up to 2008 when the event moved to the new meeting site at Woodcrest Villa

Through the mentorship of a charter member of the club in the 1960's Marilyn and her sister began to collect stamps. They were given a starter album and introduced to the club. She said that she "collected everything," and her most recent areas were Great Britain and the colonies which she noted were quite a challenge. There were additional family ties to philately. Over time she met regularly with her sister in law, Mary Husson to collect and trade, and she was so pleased that for many years her granddaughter, Deirdre, was a collector.

Marilyn is a 25 year retiree from Millersville U. where she worked as secretary to the Dean and to the Admissions Director. The members of PSLC are deeply indebted to Marilyn Shirley for all she did.

75th Anniversary Dinner

By all accounts, the 75th Anniversary Dinner on 11 December was outstanding. Someone was overheard saying that "This club dinner is one of my favorite nights of the season," while another added "I really look forward to it all year long." The organizers outdid themselves. We had the benefit of two committees working together on the Dinner, so the club will have to come up with an additional theme next year to keep up this success.



Lucy Eyster's Dinner Committee included Bill and Sarah Mylin, their granddaughter Audra, and Bettina Heffner.

Joy Bouchard's Anniversary Committee included Al Schaub, Fred Sargent, Tryude Greiner, and Sarah Mylin. Also working on this during the year were Eleanor Wheeler and Len Kasper.



Woodcrest Villa puts on a 4-Star dinner in both quality and quantity. If they keep doing this, more club members may move to this facility. There were 62 club members, spouses, and guests at the anniversary event.

Arrivals were greeted at the door by Bill Mylin and Audra and then directed to the coat room and the seasonal punch

and cheese spread.

So that we won't forget the night and our 75 years with APS, each place setting was bedecked with a souvenir pen, a notepad with the event and logos, and a special cacheted envelope with a "Celebrate" Forever stamp. Augmenting this were Hershey's Kisses and a Hershey bar (Thank you Dennis B.) with an anniversary wrapper. For dessert numerous cupcakes were formed into the shape of a "75" and then decorated as a whole to commemorate our celebration.

There were door prizes based on secret stamps on the dinner programs and a 1938 trivia contest. Beyond our club joining APS that year, there were a few other historical events in '38 that needed recalling. Each table competed. Several milestones of the club and its members were remembered.

The evening ended with two very creative gift exchanges. The first was for philatelic



Lucy Eyster (L) is presented a service award by Lou DiFelice

items and the second for non-philatelic articles. Both had solid participation.

Outgoing president RD Noble was recognized for his year of service with a gifts and a certificate. He then presented the trappings of this high office to incoming president, Len Kasper. Others that were recognized for service included Paul Petersen and Lucy Eyster.



2014 PSLC Officers: (L→R) Secretary Joy Bouchard, President Len Kasper, VP Bill Greiner, Treasurer Lou DiFelice, and Immediate Past President, RD Noble



Miscellaneous Club Notes: Programs/Hosts, Shows, Minutes, and \$\$\$

2014 Programs

8 January: Club Auction. Len Kasper, Host

12 February: APS Video: Canal Zone Gems. Joy Bouchard, Host

12 March: The Westtown Locals. Bill Schultz. Dick Shaefer, Host

9 April: 1.) The Patriot Postal Cards of the 1970-1980s. John Brownell. 2.) Lancopex advert card preparation for show. John and Deb Ehleiter, Hosts

14 May: Spring Auction. Bill and Truys Greiner, Hosts

11 June: Rogue River Mailboat. Bob Brown. Paul Petersen, Host

9 July: U.S. International Philatelic Expo Stamps, Covers, Labels & More, Paul Petersen. James Ziogas, Host

13 August: Club Family Picnic

10 September: Fall Auction. Lusy Eyster, Host

08 October: Great Britain Inland Airmail Service: 1935-1937. Mike Bach. Fred Sargent and Fred Mackey, Hosts

12 November: Open house, One-Page Exhibits, and Your Best Stuff Extravaganza. Len Kasper. Bob Paire, Host

10 December: Dinner

2014 Local Shows

York Stamp Show: Agriculture Hall, Fair Grounds, F/S 24-25 January 2014

Annual Stamp & Coin Day: 1 February 2014. Dutch Country Auctions/The Stamp Center. 4115 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803. Many Dealers www.dutchcountryauctions.com

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: Farm & Home Center, Lancaster. 16 Feb, 22 June, 17 Aug, 5 Oct, 7 Dec. Kevin Kellman (K²), Manager; 301-371-4558

Philadelphia National Stamp Exposition: Expo Center, Oaks, PA, 25-27 April 2013

Lancopex: 25-26 April at the Farm & Home Center

Minutes: There was no business meeting in December. The January 2014 minutes will appear in the February *PSLC Newsletter*.

Money Matters

2014 Dues: Dues of \$10.00 are due by the January meeting to be included in the roster and newsletter listing. Please contact Lucy Eyster if you cannot attend the meeting. 735-2586. See page-4 for the renewal form to submit.

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,045.21 (1 Nov)

Income: \$1,341.94

Expenses: \$70.60

Closing: \$5,316.55 (30 Nov)

3-CDs valued at \$6,862.04

American Topical Assn. News

Lucy Eyster, ATA Representative writes: There are only three literature competitions in the U.S. 1) NAPEX, 2) APS Stampshow, and 3) Chicagopex. In 2013 *Topical Time* received a gold award in all three shows. This is a fine magazine which PSLC has available for members to read because our club is a chapter of ATA. I hope you will make use of this and enjoy reading it.

U.S. Postal Service

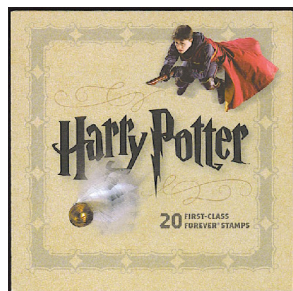
Wm. P. Snyder submitted an interview with U.S. PMG Patrick Donahoe from the 11 December 2013 *Wall Street Journal* (Pgs. B1, B8). USPS has its problems, but PMG Donahoe remains optimistic on the organization's viability despite a loss of \$5B for 2013 and a decline in first class mail by 27.3% since 2008. USPS can address revenue and costs but not legislation. Here he would like to see relief from the severe contribution to employee health and the elimination of Saturday mail along with some supportive legislation. USPS is working with Amazon.com for Sunday delivery. They are also exploring forays into digital postmarks and secure online messaging. Labor is 80% of costs, so there has been an increase in part-time employees (8% in '11 vs. 20% in '13) without layoffs. Consolidation of rural POs and processing facilities are ongoing. Donahoe sees a not-too-distant future workforce of 400K full-time and 60K part-time workers, especially if Saturday delivery is eliminated.

Canada Post

Dick Colberg forwarded Canada Post's Five-Point Action Plan to address a projected \$1B deficit by 2020. 1) Eliminate all Permanent (P) Stamps from sale at POs (Equivalent to the "Forever" stamps in the U.S.); 2) Issue new 63¢ denominated stamps; 3) Remove Permanent (P) stamps from the Canada Post website; 4) Increase domestic first class rate from 63¢ to 85¢ on 31 March, a 35% increase. (Single stamps will cost \$1.) 5) Phase-out urban door-to-door delivery over a 5-year period in favor of a community based mailbox. An additional item is that Canada Post discontinued Saturday delivery in the late 1990s.

USPS Harry Potter Issue: PSLC Speaks Out

The 20 stamp Harry Potter issue has piqued great interest. Even The Office of the USPS Inspector General has chimed in. In the 23 December issue of *Linn's Stamp News* (Pg. 15) is an invitation to the public to give their opinions of this set via the Inspector General's website.



PSLC's input was received by mid-December and the opinions varied greatly. Commenting on the quality of the issue, **Doug Milligan** wrote (via iPhone) that he really liked the design of the Harry Potter Stamp. **Eleanor Wheeler** added some detail in that "His face appears much older than he is; it's quite haggard. But maybe it is only the quality of the reproduction. It doesn't represent the fun of the story." **Chuck Kilgore** added that this was a good move for USPS to encourage stamp collecting by younger people. He ordered his collection from Kansas City and found the presenta-

tion of the stamps to be very well done. "These should have a very broad appeal including foreign collectors." **Donna Kilgore** notes that she is not a stamp collector but a Harry Potter fan having read all the books and seen the movies. As such she was very excited to see the USPS issue. "The packet is quite impressive and it has a good selection of movie scenes and characters. The FDC was quite nice as well. This is the type of thing that USPS needs to do to increase sales. This is definitely my favorite stamp series of the year." (→Pg.4)



2014 Dues Renewal ↓



Date: _____

Please clip this notice, complete it, and turn in with \$10 to Lucy Eyster at the January meeting. You may also mail it to Lucy at 2001 Harrisburg Pk., B-503, Lancaster, PA 17601. Call 735-2586 with questions.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

ATA Member ☐ APS Member ☐

Please check the APS/ATA box (s) above if you are a paid-up member in good standing.



More on Harry Potter: January-2014

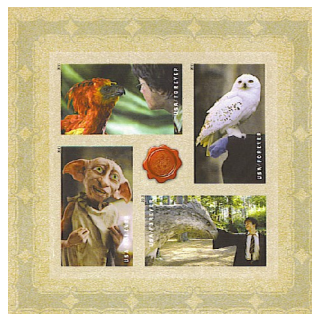
(→From Pg. 3) PSLC's dialogue continues...

Sherman Foote first approaches the "Harry Potter thing" from the economic vantage point. It was produced to "Hit the collector." Second, he is concerned that a live English person is depicted on U.S. stamps from a book written by a living Englishwoman. "All the credit in the world goes to her brilliance, but to honor her on a U.S. postage sheet unlike any devised..." Finally, Sherman is concerned about display.

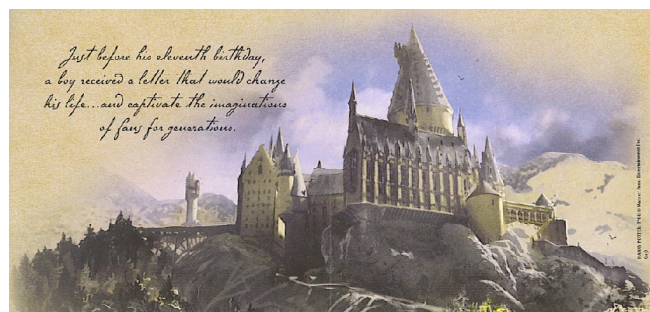


"How does one mount it? Display it? Sure, I'll buy them, but you all know what I'll do with some of them!" He continues that there has to be a far less expensive way to issue a stamp or series of stamps that will entice new collectors to the field. "Costly ideas like this are not going to get kids and immediate families with their every day expenses to spend

this kind of money on stamps. No way."



Diane Meek commented on the image of Daniel Radcliffe portrayed on the Harry Potter stamp in the December issue of this newsletter. The image reminds her of someone that belongs more in Afghanistan to help fight the war on terror. Because it is so violent in appearance, she would vote for eliminating the stamp from future printing. "There is no value in this image: Let it self destruct!" she concluded.



Like Donna Kilgore, **David Hunt** enjoys Harry Potter books and films and accumulates these stamps as issued by other world countries. As such he is glad to see the U.S. Harry Potter issue.

On the other hand, Dave is in agreement with philatelic author, John Hotchner and others who decry the depiction of living people on the stamps (British, no less) which celebrate a mainly British Achievement. Dave believes that USPS has only a thin argument that the stamps celebrate Warner Brothers, as the film was shot and casted in the UK and was written by a British author. He also questions why there was so much USPS secrecy as to the stamps' designs and the location of the first day ceremony until a few days prior to the event.



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