



Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



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

Dinner Begins at 6:00, Wednesday, 9 December 2015

The Garden Café / Woodcrest Villa.

Doors Open at 5:30: Come early to Celebrate; Bring your Exchange Gifts

From the Desk of the President

In looking at the Presidential Column in previous issues of this newsletter, their thoughts often included how fast the year went and how much of a pleasure it was to serve the club and hobby through such great members; I have to give this a big mega-ditto. It's been a privilege to serve you this year. Appreciation is extended to all members.

There were many highlights that I want to mention with a silent shout-out to those involved. I'm afraid to miss anyone of you, so let's just say that you know who you are,

and we know who you are, OK? So thank you.

Preliminary discussions are being held for a bus trip or two to NY-2016, our country's 11th Int'l Stamp Show in NYC. Our website has been updated, and PSLC now has a presence on Facebook. We had solid groups of participants for our first Barnstormers game as a club in September and a Packet Nite in October to assemble glassines of stamps for both APS and APA with which PSLC is affiliated. After some months of wrangling, we have updated by-

laws, and this includes a new office, that of 2nd VP-and it is already filled The newsletter won another APS Gold Award, and also new this year, we started a stamp club newsletter exchange with the Philadelphia, Reading, and Brandywine Valley clubs.

Last month was another successful Open House with One-Frame Exhibits. Attendance was near capacity, and we had 13 1-Page exhibitors.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year to follow. **Bill III**

Volume 78, No. 12

December, 2015

Highlights

- Our Best Meal Ever
- One-Page Exhibitors
- Thanks Colleagues
- NY-2016 Trip Date
- New Stamp Dealers?
- Musings: Xmas Issue

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

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The Best Meal On Earth-December Dinner

Holiday Punch

Strawberry Spinach Salad

Salmon with Dill Sauce

Manicotti

Chicken Elaine

Baked Corn Soufflé

Cauliflower & Broccoli Mix

Carrots with Maple Glaze

Wild & Long Grain Rice

Seasonal Cake

Hot Coffee, Hot Tea

Roll & Butter

📌 **Cost:** \$12 per person to be paid at the door.

Please note early start time:

Doors open at 5:30 pm

Dinner starts at 6:00 pm

📌 **Entertainment:** *The Bluebird Entertainers & Co.* will present the short ten (10) act play entitled "Getting to Know You," an interactive event never to be forgotten.

📌 **Gift Exchange:** There will

be two gift exchanges, and you may participate in either, neither, or both. This is open to members and guests. Value is in the \$6-\$8.00 range

📌 **Philatelic Items:** Select an item that will have an appeal to most collectors, something you would enjoy receiving. Ideas include collecting tools & supplies, Christmas postage, an interesting cover or catalog, a reference manual...be creative.

📌 **Non-philatelic Items:** Select an item with broad appeal for both males and females.

📌 **Directions to the Garden Café:** Enter Woodcrest on Harrisburg Avenue, and at the T intersection, turn left. Make your first right turn and go to the end and park. The Café has large white columns and will be well lit.





Stamps for Sale

Could there possibly be a new street level stamp store in Lancaster County? Well, yes, sort of...

The Kasper Family opened their new store, Diamond Estate Sales on 13 November, a store of new and used items which will include collectibles (a.k.a. stamps, covers, and more). It will be open from 10:00-4:00 every day but Sunday. It is located at 232 Hartman Bridge Road (a.k.a. Rt. 896) between Rt. 30 and the town of Strasburg. Phone: 717.723.2252. Below is a snap of Len behind his stamp counter in the new store.



And at the Reading Show... Have Lou DiFelice (standing) and Paul Petersen (seated) become part-time stamp dealers?



They offered to help at the show, and staffed (with Mike Bach) the 10¢ Table. A dealer was unable to attend the show at the last minute, so Russ Eggert of Dutch County suggested using the vacant table to sell 10¢ stamps and other lots of his with the Reading Stamp Club to receive 50% of the sales.

November Club Minutes and Treasury

Joy Bouchard and Lou DiFelice

Opening: Bill Greiner and Len Kasper convened the 2015 Open House at 7:00 p.m. This being Veteran's Day, Bill thanked all vets present tonight for their military service to our country.

Short Business meeting:

Minutes: The October Minutes and Treasurer's Report as presented in the November 2015 Newsletter were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Membership: Lucy Eyster introduced Thawn Pham, our newest member who first visited us in October. He is getting started as a general collector and is looking forward to working with other club members as he digs in. Attendance at the meeting was 50+.

Drawing: A souvenir sheet was won by Sarah Mylin, and Eleanor Wheeler won a WWI item with Armistice Poppies.

Old Business:

Reading Stamp Show: Peter Baney said that the show went

well and thanked PSLC for its support: To DP Meek who designed the show cancels for '14 & '15 and to Len Kasper, Lou DiFelice and Paul Petersen who went up early to help set up and assist in other aspects of the event as needed.

Dinner: Lucy passed around the sign-up for the 9 December Dinner. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., and the buffet will begin at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$12 per person. There will be further information regarding the Dinner in the December Newsletter. Potential diners must sign-up by noon on 2 December, and those who find that they will be unable to attend must also cancel by that date/time. If diners do not, they will be liable for the dinner expenses. Paul noted the gift exchanges as 1.) philatelic and 2.) non-philatelic. Dinner guests may participate in one, both, or neither exchange. Value of gifts should range from \$6.00 to \$8.00.

Your Bucket List On Stamps: Paul reminded members to send him their stories

of bucket list interests for our January Newsletter composite article. If he has a copy of the stamp(s), he will make the scan, if not, please send him a scan or the original(s). All will be returned.

Diamond Estate Sales: Len Kasper announced the opening of his family's new estate sales store which will include stamps, covers, and other collectibles. (See sidebar on this page for more information about the opening.)

Open House Presentations: Dave Hunt spoke about the range of collecting interests including several specialty collecting areas. Al Schaub discussed the benefits of participation and membership in a local stamp club.

One-Page Exhibits: Thirteen members spoke about their exhibits on display. (See pg.-3→)

Treasury Report

Opening: \$4,894.90 (1 Oct)
Income: \$300.00+
Expenses: \$175.86
Closing: \$5,019.04 (31 Oct)
3-CDs valued at \$6,949.25

Thank You Kind Colleagues

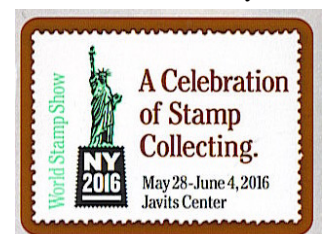
It is the time of year to give credit where credit is due in the production of this newsletter. Many hands are needed to bring this about, and they are hereby recognized and thanked for their dedication.

To club officers: President Bill Greiner III, Secretary Joy Bouchard, and Treasurer, Lou DiFelice for their timely submission of monthly reports and columns; To newsletter proofreader Carol Petersen and Senior Circulation Assistant Diane Meek; To photographer Doug Milliken along with cub photographers Jim

Savage and Mike Bach. Lucy Eyster provided regular input regarding membership issues, ATA, and December Dinner. Dick Colberg, Hal Klein, and Len Kasper wrote articles, while Joy Bouchard suggested a book for review. And thanks to newsletter reader Jim Strycharz from Massachusetts who sent in an article. Appreciation is extended to the 14 club members (along with columnist John Hotchner) who contributed to the composite article on recruitment for the hobby, the one that was reproduced in *Topical Time*. Ed

'16 Club Trip

Following preliminary research using a cluster sample, Reading & PSLC Trekmeister, Roy K. Baardsen is proposing the date of Thursday, 2 June 2016 for the inter-club trip to **World Stamp Show** in New York. This date is tentative, so it will be up for discussion in January.





PSLC's 2015 Open House With One (or more)-Page Exhibits

This year's **Open House** brought in over fifty people, new and old, so many that there were not enough door prize tickets to go around.



Dave Hunt gave a short presentation about the different ways to collect stamps and the varieties of specialty collecting areas. (↓)



Al Schaub then gave a presentation of the positives of belonging to a local stamp club and some national philatelic organizations such as APS, ATA, and USCS. (→)

Other highlights of the Open House were the **One (or more!)-Page Exhibits** by thirteen members. Exhibits were posted on the wall, and each exhibitor gave a brief introduction and description of the contents.

Lucy Eyster (2-pages): Weird and Wacky Stamps-A sample of holograms, shapes, and smells on cover.

Joy Bouchard (5): Exhibits of Boy and Girl Scouts, Flags, Kids, and Books, all made on free pages from the APS web site (www.stamps.org).

Dennis Bouchard (1): Kiwanis on Stamps-The 100th Anniversary.

Bettina Heffner (2): Birds on Stamps with sheet, postcard, and first day cover.

Charles DiComo (13): The 1851 U.S. issue and the 1¢ and 3¢ rate-stamps & covers. (↓)



Paul Petersen (5): The 11th November Anniversary Poppy of WWI in stamps, souvenir sheets, and Cinderellas.



Richard Colberg (8): Late 19th Century Railway Cancellations in French Postal History in covers, postcards, maps, and other items and ephemera.

Jim Ziogas (1): Two interesting Portuguese souvenir sheets. (↓)



Mike Bach (6½): The 175th and Other Anniversaries of the Penny Black (with a sub-collection on Roland Hill).

Roy K. Baardsen (2): Joint Issues featuring Evita Peron of Argentina.

Hal Klein (4-5): Part of Hal's study of the 1938-1954 U.S. Presidential Series with an examination of the 2¢ Adams and its printing varieties in creases, gum, thickness, paper, and color.

RD Noble (4): The Silent Cancellations on Lancaster Covers plus an 1840 stampless cover signed by Thaddeus Stevens.

Dave Hunt (8): Genealogy on Stamps: Dave's relatives on Stamps.



Bucket List on Stamps

Please send Ed. some of the top items on your bucket list with a very short explanation. Include the stamp or scan if possible. Remember, this is not your wish list for expensive stamps, but it's your bucket list of life experiences

Programs & Stamp Shows

2015 Programs

9 December: Dinner, Awards, and December Gift Exchanges

2016 Programs

13 January: Winter Auction; Hal Klein, Host

10 February: Jamaica in World War II. An APS DVD video

9 March: The 5-Cent Enclosed Rate. Bill Schultz

13 April: History and Culture of Germany on Stamps. David Hunt

11 May: Coins on Stamps & Stamps on Coins. John Brownell

8 June: Spring Auction

13 July: Civil War Covers. Dennis Shumaker

10 August: Summer Picnic, Millersville Memorial Park

14 September: Fall Auction

12 October: Pawling Postal History: Past and Present. Charles Di Como

9 November: '16 Open House

14 December: Dinner

2017 Programs

11 January: Winter Auction. Doug Milliken, Host

8 February: U.S. International Stamp Shows, Part-I. Paul Petersen

8 March: TBA

12 April: 1.) Lancopex preparation, and 2.) Presentation TBA

10 May: Collectibles and Your Estate. Patti S. Spencer, Esq.

2015-16 Shows

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: 20 Dec. Farm & Home Center, Kevin Kellman (K²), Manager, 301-371-4558.

York Stamp Show: 22-23 January 2016, 2016. York Fair Grounds.

Lancopex: 29-30 April 2016, Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster.



Musings: December 2015

An interesting 1941 Christmas overprint

✂.....

Please clip this notice, complete it, and return it with \$10 to Lucy Eyster in January. You may also mail it to her at 2001 Harrisburg Pk., B-503, Lancaster, PA 17601. Call Lucy if you have any questions (735-2586).

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

ATA Member ☐ APS Member ☐

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

Since it is Christmastime, I want to share an interesting Noël stamp from St. Pierre & Miquelon that caught my eye in *Stamp Magazine* (9/2015, pgs. 64-65). It is serendipitous that I read about this stamp issue on the heels of the book review in the 10/15 October edition on the topic of French Postal History during WWII.

My mother's paternal side was French; they were Huguenots who came to the U.S. via Canada. As a relative once warned me, "Almost everything French is complicated!"

At the time of WWII, France (RF) had several colonies on this side of the Atlantic including Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana, Inini, and St. Pierre & Miquelon, the island group off the coast of eastern Canada around the Maritime Provinces.

When war came the Nazis occupied a large part of RF, while the remaining third of the country was administered by the (puppet) Vichy government under the leader Philippe Petain, the hero of Verdun of 1916. The relationships between the allies and the U.S. and these colonies were quite delicate, but this is a story for another column.

As would be expected, orders came to the colonies from on high with their marching orders from the new and "authorized" French government, the Vichies in Paris.

Vichy issued stamps for its colonies all around the world (n=24), but with the realities

of war and its complications, most did not reach their destinations. Some were sold in Nazi-occupied Europe to collectors; most went ignored, but many are available today.



The plot was not so simple, as Charles de Gaulle escaped to England a few steps ahead of the Vichies and Nazis. There he formed the Free French Government whose purpose was to thwart Nazi oppression and liberate (along with the allies) France. This view was in opposition to the Vichies who chose to co-exist with the Nazis and disregard the Free French. The Vichies do deserve some sympathy, as RF had been through the Great War (1914-1918), were tired, and had no will to resist.

But back to the Christmas issue at hand, problems arose between the "official" French government, the Vichies, and the Free French who were located outside the country in many of the colonies.

The colonies were situated far from the front, and factions against the Vichies started to brew. De Gaulle, concerned that the islanders might cooperate with the Vichies and Nazis and allow axis radio transmission for the North Atlantic, sent in a flotilla of the Free French Navy (FNFL) who took control of St. Pierre & Miquelon on 23 Dec. 1941.

An immediate referendum with a plurality of 98% against the Vichy control in the islands changed things. Soon over 100 of the island's existing stamps of the 1925-1940 issues were overprinted **France Libre/FNFL**. Among these are many varieties, errors, forgeries, and other collecting opportunities. There was even a scandal or two with jail time for one Canadian representative handling the stamp sales.

With the rapid Free French take-over and referendum during the Christmas season, the stamp program cascaded relatively quickly. Some of the overprints included Noël 1941/FranceLibre/F.N.F.L. as seen in a red overprint above on St. Pierre & Miquelon #277 of 1941. **Ed.**



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