



# Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchannan Chapter of (#173) of  
the American Philatelic Society  
Chapter 118 of the American Topical Society

**Doors Open at 6:30 PM, Wednesday, 14 September 2016**

Fred Mackey and Fred Sargent are Tonight's Hosts

## From Hal's Stamp Den

### Never Judge a Cover by Looks Alone!

This innocuous little cover shown nearby was found on a foreign auction site entitled, "U.S. Cover, 1949", Start Bid: 1€ (1€=\$1.12 at today's exchange rate). The nondescript cover, mailed at the U.S. 1½¢ International Printed Matter rate, had an unusual machine cancel I had never seen before. The price was right, and the cancel was interesting. I needed no other justification to bid, as I am a sucker for Prexies on cover. I placed my 1€ bid and waited. I wasn't surprised when I won the lot, based on the lack of any description. The lot was received, and as normal course, I placed the cover in my pile of Prexie covers to be researched and mounted at a future time; fast forward to last week.

Last week I began mounting last years' cover purchases. Again, this bland little cover turns

up...so what is it? Why did I ever buy it? I spent more on the shipping from Belgium than I did for the cover because I buy things on instinct. But what was I thinking when I bought this crazy thing. Have I finally lost my mind? I seriously thought of tossing it in the "extras box," but that cancel—what is it about that crazy cancel, 'COURIER OF THE UNITED NATIONS' tying a 1½¢ Martha Washington (Sc# 805) and the "UNITED NATIONS, LAKE SUCCESS, N.Y." circular date stamp. Something bugged me about the cancel and the stamp. The whole cover didn't make sense. But what?



My first check of three U.S. machine cancel reference books located nothing! OK. Lets try the slogan, 'COURIER OF THE UNITED NATIONS' in Moe Luff's ©1975, "UNITED STATES POSTAL SLOGAN CANCEL CATALOG." Good, found it. The listing is #1250, but that's odd, it shows that its a Universal Stamp- ing Machine Company cancel used from September 9, 1946 to December 31, 1950, priced 50x-75x higher than similar slogan cancels of the period (\$7.50 in 1975). It's a scarce modern machine cancellation worth more than I paid for it. Plus, it showed a second listing for the United Nations, N.Y. Hmmm! I wonder?!

So, I GOOGLE: "United Nations, Lake Success, N.Y." After reading through several references, I find a United Nations web link and BINGO, I find, "When the UN came into being on 24 October 1945, it had no home. On 11 December 1945, the U.S. Congress unanimously invited (See pg.-2)

## Fall Auction Tonight: Let the Sales Begin

Three times a year many of us like to take the opportunity to turn over parts of our collection, that is sell off duplicates or old material and/or acquire new items. If this is your thing, the time is nearly at hand.

**Instructions:** •When you arrive, you'll receive a numbered paddle. Place this number on all your items to be auctioned, and use this paddle during the auction when you are bidding. This will insure that what you buy and what you sell are accurately credited and debited. •Be sure that all your lots are accompanied by an accurate and detailed description, as this helps buyers to better understand what they are looking at. •Auction lot description forms have already been emailed, and hard copies will be available. But don't wait until you're at the auction to do this. •Fiscal

transactions will only be made after the last lot has been sold. The Auction Committee recommends that you: •Bring cash to pay for the items you won and •Keep a running total during the auction of the items and prices of the lots you sold and won. •Finally, please securely attach your sales information to the lots you are entering into the auction. This will help avoid any misidentification with other sellers.

**Bidding Rules:** •Minimum bids are \$1.00 per lot. •The minimum bidding increment is 50¢. •Only dues-paying members may participate in the auction. •Auction participants are limited to ten (10) items. •You may also donate items to the club with the realizations going to the benefit of the PSLC. Donations are welcome and greatly appreciated.

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**Visitors are Always  
Welcome**

PSLC meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 a year. For club information call Lucy Eyster at 717-735-2586.

Website: [LCPS-Stamps.net](http://LCPS-Stamps.net)

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There will be sign-ups for dinner with the 12 October speakers, Bill Schultz and newly elected APS Director Mark Schwartz. This is at 4:15 pm at Olive Garden.

(➔Pg-1) the UN to make its headquarters in the US..." and, "...Thus, it was five or six years before the UN was permanently housed. In the interim, the Secretariat was established provisionally at Hunter College in the Bronx, New York, and in August 1946, the UN moved to the Sperry Gyroscope plant at Lake Success, Long Island."<sup>1</sup>

A further GOOGLE on a United Nations' stamp history website finds this quote: "The idea of the United Nations issuing its own stamps was first proposed by Argentina in 1947. An agreement with the United States postal authorities was reached in 1951 and it stipulated that the stamps be denominated in United States currency, and used only at UN Headquarters."<sup>2</sup> The site of the UN headquarters has, "...extraterritoriality status as applied to embassies, diplomatic missions, foreign countries, etc..."<sup>3</sup>

The United Nations used U.S. postage on all its U.S. mail prior to issuing stamps in 1951. The cancel wasn't a United States cancel – it was a United Nations cancel, for diplomatic mail and diplomatic business mail, utilizing U.S. postage and the U.S. mail stream. So, this innocuous, bland, plain little cover is a United Nations Forerunner usage. WOW! Postal history: you have to love it. (Please references below) **Hal**



(Above) Mayor of Millersville Memorial Park, Mike Matus (L) greets Trudy Greiner at the picnic. Despite his charm, she will be voting for him.

## August Club Picnic Reaches Nearly 40 People

Picnic-goers found this year's soiree a great success with almost 40 in attendance. It was a little warm, but the breezes under the pavilion were sufficient unless you were Mike or Paul who were cooking. They managed to get Dennis and Lucy Shumaker some rare burgers. Many believe that anything less than a well-done steak or burger in Lancaster County is almost



illegal.

Dennis and Joy Bouchard provided the entertainment. They set up two throw & toss games

in advance for players to work up some perspiration and add a little zest to their appetite. After dinner they discussed some hilarious Lancaster trivia.



Lucy Eyster, Sarah & Bill Mylin and Kaitlyn Beachy set up the tables, and as guests arrived, 12 year old Kaitlyn made the super nametags that folks were talking about.

What many members have liked the best of these events is the fellowship, getting together with one another, those they know well, and those whom they are

getting to know.

For many club members, these events are as enjoyable as their collecting. And it is not just the picnic, but the December Dinner, APS and ATA Packet nights, our Barnstormers game, APS visits, and caravans to the Reading and Baltimore shows.



## Remembering NY-2016

*As a way to keep the memories of NY-2016 alive, club members and friends of PSLC have been sharing their experiences at the Int'l Stamp show in June. This month Mike Matus shares his activities.*

"At the NY show I volunteered to man the table of the **Ukrainian Philatelic Society (UPS)** of which I have been a very long-time member.



"We arrived at the show shortly before eleven a.m., and it took me 15 minutes to find the table; this was a big place! And our table was almost at the very end, so there was plenty of space. I intended to volunteer until 5 p.m.

"During my first 2½ hours I was by myself, as the other volunteer assigned with me got tied up getting into NYC. Overall on Day-6 of this show, the attendance looked a little light.

"While there we had about 25 visitors. Some were club members from the bus trip, but mostly they were others who were interested in knowing about our society. The UPS generated a nice brochure to hand out containing all the important information including "How to join the UPS."

"My next co-volunteer got tied up with another collector and spent most of his time with him. Then he left early, so I remained until 5:40 p.m., just in time to catch the bus home. My nephew, Todd went out at lunch to get me a hotdog and drink, and then when he told me how much, well, ....you know what I mean.

All in all, it was a different day for me, but I still enjoyed it all."



◀In Mike's narrative regarding his time at the NY-2016 World Stamp Show, his dedication to the Ukrainian Philatelic Society was paramount. While one may consider a Ukrainian country collection of interest, Mike sub-specializes in issues of Western Ukraine, a short-lived independent country following WWI. Most of their stamps were overprints on extant Austrian issues. Above is Sc#77. Ed. will be talking to Mike about making a club presentation on Western Ukrainian philately in 2018. Ed✠

### Reference:

1. <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-exact-address-in-Lake-Success-of-the-United-Nations-General-Assembly-which-voted-to-establish-a-state-of-Israel-in-1947>
2. <https://unstamps.org/about-unpa/history/>
3. Kelsen, Hans (1950). *The law of the United Nations: a critical analysis of its fundamental problems*. The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd. p. 350. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Headquarters\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_Nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Headquarters_of_the_United_Nations))



## Dick Colberg Receives APS Award

Club member Dick Colberg has been awarded an APS Nicholas Carter Volunteer Award for 2015. While the APS awards banquet was at the Portland show, Dick fittingly received his certificate and pin at a reception during APS Volunteer Week in July. As he will be in France during our September meeting, APS representative Paul Petersen did a club presentation of the award at the August picnic and will announce it for all attending the September meeting. This award was also published in the September issue of *The American Philatelist*. (Dick Colberg, below right)



Dick has been collecting for over 60 years and has demonstrated a solid presence with several philatelic organizations through his vision, leadership, exhibiting, scholarship and publication, mentorship, promotion, and presentation.

Since the mid-1990s, Dick has been the president of the **Lebanon Stamp Club**. And for nine years he has been treasurer of the **Pennsylvania Postal History Association** where he worked with their journal, special issues, and more. At **APS**, Dick has been a summer volunteer for many years and has written in their journal, *The American Philatelist*. He is also the APS rep to his Lebanon Club. At the 2012 **American Topical Association's** National Topical Stamp Show, Dick was invaluable in setting up and breaking down the exhibit frames.

Dick is very busy with the **Philatelic Society of Lancaster County** in a variety of ways. He gives educational programs, helps at **Lancopex**, and contributes to the newsletter with philatelic columns regarding his collecting interests and the status of the hobby in France. From 1990-2000, Dick wrote a biweekly philatelic newspaper column in the *Lancaster New Era*.

Congratulations Dick Colberg on your Nicholas Carter Award.

## Organizing Your Collection-II

Last month Ed♣ began a series about organizing your collection based on an article by Bubba Bland as recommended by Dick Colberg. Mr. Bland identified the problem: Many collectors have duplicates and too much other stuff that clutters the collection and dilutes its intent.

One way to organize and highlight your collection is to make your own album pages. This is very important if you have a specialty collection, a side or related collection, or if you wish to design a starter album for a friend or family member.

Those used to competitive exhibiting, should know their way around the desktop publishing or word processing programs.

Most of us already have the capacity to do this right on our home computer with Word or Publisher from the Microsoft Office programs or Pages or iStudio from Apple among others. Suffice it to say, going into the details of self-made album pages is well beyond the scope of this article. What is important is that making custom made

pages has several advantages.

The collector determines what to emphasize in the custom pages. This is essential for thematic or topical collections, as commercially available pages for these are either too general or non-existent.

Another advantage is that the page creator can include spaces for covers or ephemera related to the stamp collection.

Self-made album pages allow the opportunity to include expertly printed notes as needed for an item. There is room for multiple variations of a given item, even a related error, freak, or oddity. Opportunities are limitless.

There are available programs for printing album pages, and while some are free and others at modest cost, they are typically country collections and thus limited.

In the philatelic literature are articles about making custom pages using word processing programs or other specialized applications. If there is club interest and expertise in making custom album pages, perhaps we might be able to set up some individual instruction.

## A Small Topical Collection



Well over a year ago Ed♣ wrote about the smallest of a complete topical collection, and since then he has been keeping his eye out for such items. To the right is a Netherlands stamp (#391) with a 1962 cancel. The topic is the dial of a rotary phone. There are young Americans who have never seen a rotary phone and may not even know what it is. Is this the first of such a topic on a stamp? Is it unique? I think not, but I will keep looking. Club members, do you have a topical stamp that may be scarce or unique?

If so, please send in to Ed for publication in this newsletter. With input, we might have enough for a Lancopex display in April.

## Open House is Coming in November

Time is here for our Single Page Exhibits. There are no rules to number of pages or format. Mount on plain paper or use Vario pages. There will be a chance to discuss with those present. These are for your exhibits not yet shown at previous Open Houses. Call Paul for info or assistance.

## Dinner With the October Speakers

There will be sign-ups tonight for dinner with speaker Bill Schultz and newly APS Director Mark Schwartz ahead of October's meeting. This will commence at 4:15 p.m. at Olive Garden. If you don't get to sign up tonight, please contact Paul by Monday, 10 October. If you need to cancel your reservation, please let him know.

## Club Notes

### Programs, Hosts & Shows

#### 2016 Programs

**14 September:** Fall Auction. Fred Mackey and Fred Sargent, Hosts

**12 October:** 1.) The 5¢ Enclosed Rate. Bill Schultz. 2.) Mark Schwartz, APS Director, "Q&A." Lucy Eyster, Hostess

**9 November:** '16 Open House and Members' One-Page Exhibits. Len Kasper and Paul Petersen. Vern Marten, Host

**14 December:** Dinner

#### 2017 Programs

**11 January:** Winter Auction. Doug Milliken, Host

**8 February:** '38 Prexies, Hal Klein

**8 March:** 1.) "Chasing Jenny-A Philatelic Mystery," Jeff Stage of APS. 2.) Lancopex prep.

**12 April:** U.S. Postal Rates: 1792-1869, Bill Schultz

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

**14 June:** Spring Auction

**12 July:** Postal History Classics. Dr. Charles DiComo

**9 August:** Mid-Summer Picnic, Millersville Memorial Park

**12 September:** Fall Auction

**11 October:** Confederate Philately, Trish Kaufmann

**8 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits

**13 December:** Dinner

#### 2016 Shows

**Harrisburg:** Sunday, 9 October, The Capital City Philatelic Society, Lindmuth Elementary School.

**Reading:** Saturday, 5 November, Leesport Farm Market, Route 61 just north of Leesport.

**Some Sundays Stamp Bourse:** Sunday, 18 December. Farm & Home Center, Kevin Kellman (K<sup>2</sup>), Manager, 301-371-4558.

**Need a ride to the Reading Stamp Show on Saturday, 5 November? Call Paul: 717-299-5640**

## Musings: *Der Leipziger Messe*, Philately, and the Internet

Many of us enjoy truly engraved stamps as items of beauty and touch, and we'll often acquire them just for their "wow factor" whether we have room in our collection for them or not. And while we are told to not touch stamps directly with our indigenously oily fingers, they feel downright good when we rub our fingerprints across them. My hodge-podge of engraved items is all over the place, but as important, this is one of my favorite accumulations to just get out and enjoy-with tongs of course...



In my accumulation of engraved stamps are those of *Der Leipziger Messe*, the Leipzig Trade Fair. Leipzig remains one of the largest cities in Germany, and its location on major trade routes made it a natural site for international commerce. For most of its life, the Leipzig Trade Fair was really a market, albeit a huge one for sale of goods from all over the known world. It was prominent as early as 1165 for the availability of items such as cloth,

spices, wines, fish, and others. By the eighteenth century the annual (sometimes biannual) fair was referred to as "The Market Place of All Europe."



The political geography of Germany has evolved considerably over the years, yet the fair and has been a stable event even among unfriendly states. At fair time, traders, merchants, customers, travellers, and tradesmen alike were given protection to and from the event. It is as if it were a "sanctuary" fair. Everyone benefited.

The fair continued throughout WWII, though the technical building was used for war production. It then continued in the post-war Soviet Zone in eastern Germany where Leipzig was located. With the formal designation of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) in 1949, the fair continued and flourished as a hallmark of the Eastern Bloc

economy for its overseeing organization, Comecon.

Comecon was an economic organization from 1949-1991 under the leadership of the Soviet Union inclusive of the Eastern Bloc countries along with additional Communist entities elsewhere in the world. Many felt it was the Soviet firewall against the Marshall Plan to thwart any Communist countries from a move to Western ideals, and toward American values in particular. It has been said that at the fair in Leipzig, "both sides of the aisle" were welcomed and participated.



Until 1895 the trade fair was more like a market that we know of today where commodities are bought and sold. At that point it became a true trade fair, that of commercial samples and exhibitors. Additional interconnecting buildings were built to accommodate displays among the sales tables. It was also Germany's

major fair for books and other consumer goods.

During the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the Leipzig Trade Fair survived WWI-II and 44 years of Communist control. In 1990 it reemerged, regrouped, and relocated to space just north of Leipzig. Here in 1995-6 a campus of six huge exhibit halls was built to contain 220,000 sq. ft. of exhibition space. It resembles a World's Fair and attracts many. The facility is used for more than the Leipzig Trade Fair, as trade associations from all over Germany and beyond, rent the facilities to host their events.

Commemorative stamps for the Leipzig Trade Fair began before WWII. They continued to be produced during occupied Germany, but they ended with the reunification in 1990. Generally, over 150 stamps commemorating the Leipzig Trade Fair were issued.

Using "thestampcollector.net" and Wikipedia on the Internet has made the research process for this article very easy. The 1947 and 1948 stamps displayed nearby are beautifully engraved renditions of the fair's importance in commerce, industry, and much of the German way of life in general. They were issued for more than fifty years during some of this country's most turbulent times. Ed♣



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