



Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



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

Bourse Opens at 6:30 PM, Wednesday, 8 February 2017

Business Meeting and Presentation Begin at 7:00 PM. Doug Milliken, Host

From the West End

Lucy tells me that we may have some new members in the next month or so. Thank you all for your outreach and such positive representation of the stamp club.

For many of us, the philatelic year starts with the PSLC auction in mid-January followed shortly by the York Stamp Show later in the month. I was fortunate to attend for both days at York and pleased see many of you there.



Even though the day was dreary, as it often is for this show, there was no snow! Show-goers and dealers were continually talking

about the show last year when the "Blizzard of 2016" struck from the south. As such, dealers were packing up by early to mid-afternoon on Friday, Day 1 of the show. Day 2 was cancelled.

Two things in York caught me immediately. The first was a picture of John Hufnagel, with a note sharing with the show-goers that he passed away very suddenly on 19 December. Many remember that he wore short pants year round, whether blizzard or sunshine. He welcomed many visitors at the door while running the large club table of stamp, cover, postage, and album sales.

John had a life appointment as York Show Chairman. With a few trusted and reliable club members, they brought this show to fruition each year. Not to be disappointed, one of the club

members shared that to keep the tradition, John was buried in shorts and a T-shirt. He was one of a kind and will always be remembered.

The second item that caught my eye upon entering the York Show was a good size picture postcard exhibit, nearly two dozen frames of topical themes. Those of you who know my collecting interests will understand why this is important to me. See you Wednesday, *Doug*



The Presidential Issue of 1938

A postal history: A look at rates and usages

Presented by Hal Klein

Tonight Hal Klein will give a presentation on the Presidential Issue of 1938, commonly known as the Prexies. He has been collecting these covers for many years giving him a thorough grounding in these to share with us. You may recall some of Hal's Prexies from both the Open House exhibits and his displays at Lancopex and his articles.

Many of us started with the Prexies that were replaced with the Liberty issue of 1954-1965. Some remember the Prexies well, and many of us probably grew up

with the 3¢ Jefferson Prexie when coerced to send birthday cards to cousins we didn't even know or thank-you notes to out-of-town relatives. Then came the 3¢ Liberty stamp (the Statue of Liberty), and with the rate increase of 1958 to 4¢, the red violet Abraham Lincoln (1036).

Hal will share what the Prexies were issued to do ... and not issued to do. In this well-illustrated presentation, you'll see some very unusual usages of the Prexies. He opines, some are scarce, uncommon, illogical, or

just plain mind-boggling. With others, some are historical, humorous, or rather serious. Most, if not all, are more than a little interesting. Time will tell. The Prexie series was a USPOD workhorse.



Cover-nuts will sit back and enjoy, while non-cover nuts will see why cover-nuts enjoy covers!

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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 a year. For club information call Lucy Eyster at 717-735-2586.

Website: LCPS-Stamps.net

PSLC Officers and Board

President:

Douglas Milliken, 717-330-4062
dmilliken@me.com

1st Vice President:

Charles DiComo, 914-450-3791
charlesdicomo@gmail.com

2nd Vice President:

TBA

Past President:

Hal Klein, 717-272-5234
halklein@comcast.net

Secretary:

Diane Meek, 717-396-9262
dimeek111@gmail.com

Interim Treasurer:

Lou DiFelice, 717-295-5536
loudifelice@gmail.com

Publicity:

Len Kasper, 717-723-1864
hotrodparts33@aol.com

Membership & ATA:

Lucy Eyster, 717-735-2586
lucyeyster@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Programs, and APS Rep:
Paul Petersen, 717-299-5640,
pcpetersen@comcast.net

2017 Dues are due, or better, overdue. See renewal form on Page-4 for renewal. RD Noble will be bringing Revenues for sale at the meeting, including Stock Transfers.

PSLC's '16 December Dinner: A Remembrance

One of PSLC's favorite events of the year again turned out to be one of our best. About 62 members and guests at our December Dinner attest to this! The decorations, programs, awards & recognitions, presentations, and club display all contributed to the festive atmosphere. And as always, the food was great. The veggies and garnishes are seen below ↓.



If you liked your poinsettias and daily planners, you can thank **Sarah Mylin & Lesley Botte**. ↓



New and special this year was a PSLC display case at Woodcrest entitled: **A Philatelic Christmas: Stamps & Toys**. WCV resident Paul Troutman retired from the museum and display industry. He offered to prepare this for the club. Consulting was **Lucy Eyster & Al Schaub** with items. The case contained 4 interior shelves, and one is shown below. ↓



At last year's December Dinner was entertainment provided by the members entitled **"Getting to Know You."** This was an opportunity for members to present themselves to the others in the club through their various hobby interests. Since we all tend to think of each other as stamp collectors, first and foremost, it is

often a surprise to see that we have other areas where we spend our time and energy.

Eleanor Wheeler has collected cuff links, many hundreds, and organized these in albums which she passed around. Some are quite old while others were easily obtainable at auctions and yard sales. ↓



Al Schaub gave a humorous presentation on collecting retired ships based on his collection of naval covers. His Homeowners Association balked when he wanted to move a WWI era naval destroyer into his backyard. Or was it the Battleship Wisconsin? ↓



Lucy Eyster was an active member of Volksmarch, an international walking club. For many years she walked and hiked with the local Penn Dutch Pacers. In the German tradition, she was awarded many patches (41) and pins (8) to display on her trophy vest. ↓



Judy Sargent collects stories her family and those of others. She enjoys the research, the history, and the mystery. Tonight's story began in Scotland in the 18th century with accompanying photographs and documents. Most interesting. She is pictured with **Fred Sargent** below. ↓



John & Alice Ahlfeld study family genealogy and recommend this to everybody for both the mental exercise and the interesting stuff you have wanted (or not wanted) to know about your family. Their storage boxes of genealogy records in the basement now take space with the boxes of stamps & covers and pattern glass. ↓



There was also recognition of some members pictured nearby. **Dennis Bouchard** recognizes (L) **Len Kasper** (R). Early last year there was a suggestion to the club to offer fresh coffee at meetings. Ideas are always welcome, but more welcome are the ones who follow through. Len Kasper volunteered. He purchased the Keurig cups, and all else to bring this about.



See more Dinner snaps to the right and on Page-3 →

2017 Programs

8 February: '38 Prexies, Hal Klein. Doug Milliken, Host

8 March: 1.) "Chasing Jenny-A Philatelic Mystery," Jeff Stage, APS. 2.) Lancopex preparation. Tony Coccio, Host

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

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

14 June: Spring Auction. Dick Shaefer, Host

12 July: Postal History Classics. Dr. Charles DiComo. Jmes H. Ziogas, Host

9 August: Picnic Coordinators needed. Fred Mackey and Fred Sargent will host meeting if picnic is not held.

12 September: Fall Auction

11 October: Confederate Philately, Trish Kaufmann

8 November: Open House and One-Page Exhibits. Len Kasper & Paul Petersen. Len Kasper, Host

13 December: Dinner

2017 Shows

Some Sundays Show: 19 February at Farm & Home Center

Lancopex: F-S, 28-29 April, Farm & Home Center.

Outgoing President **Hal Klein** was recognized for his service with a gift card and framed certificate. During his tenure he started the club's Facebook Page and kick-started the expected upgrade to our website. He contributed greatly to the newsletter, exhibits, and speaker schedule. ↓



Lucy Eyster is chair of the Dinner committee that includes **Sarah Mylin, Deb Ehleiter, and Paul Petersen, and Lou DiFelice.**

Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives

Most stamp collectors have multiple interests. Take the picture below, a group of well-fed men at the **G & A Restaurant** in Baltimore. But let's start at the beginning.

PSLC's Community Organizer, **Vern Marten** (right) planned an all-day sojourn to Baltimore to visit the Walters Art Museum and the Maryland Historical Society, two outstanding destinations.



Vern and **Paul Petersen** (second from left) are members of **PSLC**. Vern, Paul, and **Carl Bear** (left) are members of the **Western Front Association** for the study of the 1914-1918 Great War. Vern with the help of Carl started the **History Book Club** that meets the 1st Tuesday/month at the Lititz Public Library. And **Joe Cox** (second from right) is interested in everything historical. He & Paul are members of the **Retired Navy Assn**.

While Paul was the designated driver of this sortie, Carl was in charge of lunch. As an avid follower of the popular TV show **Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives**, he learned of the G&A on Eastern Ave. in Baltimore. It was an excellent call. This venue of gastronomic delight specializes in hotdogs of all varieties in addition to numerous other signature menu items.

It is hard to see because the menu eclipses it, but the French Fries were served with a side dish of delicious gravy. "It don't get no better than this," one said.

This all goes to show that collecting leads to many other intellectual pursuits, and even more, to the formation of lasting friendships. Some consider the latter more important than the collecting itself.

Of Interest to PSLC



Bill Snyder would like to know if any club member has used this USPS App? Please share with Bill, with Ed., and/or at the next meeting. The \$9.99 application was released last fall to assist stamp collectors with a complete U.S. stamp archive along with an interactive platform for collectors to curate their collection with images of their stamps, data bases, inventories, want lists, and more. In addition, for \$24.95 is a companion App, *The Postal Service eGuide to U.S. Stamps*, the digital version of the 43rd hard copy volume we all know.

More December Dinner Snaps.

Below are **Thomas & Stephanie Harper**, and in the bottom snap are PSLC President **Doug Milliken** & Treasurer, **Lou DiFelice**.



2016 Membership Report

During the '16 calendar year PSLC gained 13 new members and 2 returning members with 1 membership pending. (This number compares favorably to the previous year of 8 new members and 1 reinstated member.) Our 2016 membership experienced one death and 1 resignation. By the end of 2016, membership in PSLC was 103, the highest membership since the year 2000 when the current membership chairman started and records were kept. 2017 has seen 1 new member added in January and 1 resignation so far. It is expected that many of the 32 members who have not paid this year's dues will do so within the next 2 months before they are dropped from membership in April.

Sincerely, Lucy Eyster, Chair

Kay Herr, longtime USPS postal clerk and manager of the Downtown Lancaster Philatelic Window, passed away in January. She was a PSLC Honorary Member for many years.

Overprint For The 25th Anniversary of the Flight of Aviator Sunday Rosillo in '38, Part-II

In Part-I in December was the discussion of the commemoration of a 1913 flight from Havana to Key West. To do this, a 1927 stamp was reprinted using the same dies, but this time it was printed in orange instead of the original blue. It was then overprinted as seen in the cover below. On the left corner in red is the Gomigraph handstamp of 17 May.



On Sunday, 15 May all flight mail was cancelled in Havana and flown to Miami. From there it was rushed to the Key West PO and processed by dawn on Monday, 16 May and prepared for the return flight from Key West back to Havana on Tuesday, 17 May. Back in Havana it was canceled with the Gomigraph handstamp in red (see left corner above).

Further, the Cuban PO required two addresses on each cover. On the left was that address of the Key West PM, and on the right, the recipient of the cover following its arrival in Havana. Finally, it was publicly announced that covers not addressed to Cuba, even those carrying the "Rosillo" stamp, would be sent by the appropriate ordinary route.

To prevent a monopoly of this small issue of only 50K stamps, sale was restricted to 200 stamps per person or two complete sheets.

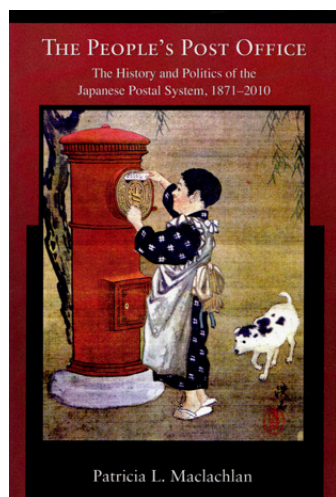
The stamp was valid for Cuban postage following the flight, while the Gomigraph handstamp in red was only applied on Tuesday, 17 May. Its use was forbidden following this day because it certified that the covers had been flown only on this one flight. The Cuban population was made duly aware of this in a timely fashion.

It is the author's opinion that except for a few personal or commercial covers, the remainder of the extant material is the result of collectors at that time. This generated a considerable volume of correspondence, and today these scarce covers remain the objects of continued philatelic study. ✚

This article was authored by **Raudel Busto Galup**, a friend of **Hal Klein** who translated it from the Spanish. Raudel may be reached via email at raudelbg88@gmail.com. His mailing address is Federacion Filatelica Cubana, Apartado 2222, La Habana 2, C. P., Cuba. Raudel is also interested in trading Cuban issues for U.S. issues.

Japanese history and culture have always been an interest to me. It started by reading about the Navy's Commodore Matthew Perry's opening of Japan in 1853. In this very private nation, this act was met with appreciation by some and disdain by others, as that nation entered into international relations of the 19th Century with trade and much more.

The People's Post Office: The History and Politics of the Japanese Postal System, 1871-2010.



The postal system, or what there was of it, was badly in need of reform, but how should this be done? By the 1870s it was started by the innovative Maejima Hisoka. The timing was right, as it was during the period

of Emperor Meiji (1868-1912), an era of resonation, renewal, revolution, and reform.

This 2011 illustrated text is authored by professor **P.L. Maclachlan** of U. Texas-Austin as a monograph (#361) of the East Asian series published by Harvard. It is an academic edition, meaning that it is extensively referenced with notes on every page. That being said, it remains very readable, as is not always the case with academic books. This is not a treatise on routes and rates, the stuff of some postal historians; rather, it's the history of modern Japan seen via the development of the postal system and its reforms and counter reforms.

Maejima's example was Roland Hill, Great Britain's iconic postal reformer. Hill's 1837-1840+ ventures with the penny post and stamps (*et. al.*) are well discussed here. This then set the bar for the Japanese reform that followed between 15 and 30 years later.

Of interest is Hill's later disappointment with his postal reform. Some years after reform was in place, he gained a very high position with the Post Office. This afforded a better vantage point to see what was taking place. He wondered if a government monopoly of the postal system was

the best way to go. Relatedly, he believed that each branch of the postal system would be financially self-supporting if faced with competition from private firms. As Maclachlan cites Roland Hill's quandary, "*It was a classic debate that was to repeat itself countless times the world over: was the public interest more effectively served by free-market principles, or was the state its only viable guarantor? In post-1840 Britain, the defenders of government monopoly prevailed. Pg. 35*"

Through his study, Maejima wanted a central, government-run postal system, but he added some presence of private enterprise.

Also incorporated into the postal system at that time were postal banks and postal insurance plans. With the advent of the telephone, came postal oversight of the Japanese telephone exchanges.

Nothing remains static. There were challenges to this reform over the years, and some compromises were reached. This peaked in the 1990s with preliminary legislation of the privatization of the PO. While this was merely of token importance, it was in the next administration, that of Koizumi Jun'ichiro that built on these crumbs and passed legislation that privatized the Japanese

postal system in 2005 to start in 2007. Currently there are attempts to reverse this. Maclachlan adds that time will tell how long this lasts given "the significance of lingering opposition to the privatization of one of Japan's most enduring social and political sanctuaries." Ed.

.....(Cut)

Please clip this dues notice, complete it, and turn in to Lucy Eyster at the February meeting with \$10.00. You may also send it to her at B-503, 2001 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601-2641

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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