



Figure-2个

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, 12 July 2017
Presentation & Business Meeting Begin at 7:00 pm. Jim Ziogas, Host

From the West End

Wow...What an auction last month! There were 41 bidders, and we ran out of paddles. I was surprised how many lots sold, as there were not a lot of leftovers as I have seen in the past. Many thanks to all those on the auction committee and all others who participated.



I am always interested in fundraising for the clubs I belong to, and I am glad to see the ongoing success of the 50-50 drawing (Thanks Aaron). But I have wondered about our philatelic auction and whether or not there should be seller's and/or buyer's fees. In discussing fees with the committee, this would be a compli-

cated issue. First there would be additional tax-filing requirements. Then there is the minutiae of calculating the extra fees while folks are settling up their payments, checking out, and in a hurry to get home. Just keeping up with the sales data alone is hard enough without calculating fees on top of this. And I also learned that the revenue from the donations that were auctioned more than made up for any additional fees. At this auction, donations totaled around \$70.00. So what's that phrase about letting sleeping dogs lie...?

And while we are on auctions, let me bring up an incident that occurred at last month's event.

As you all know, PSLC auctions are very busy events. It looks like a beehive. I didn't even do that much at the June auction, and it still made me tired! But here's what happened:

Following the auction I received an email from a visitor, a very

active stamp collector in Lancaster. He was in attendance from 6:50 to 7:20 pm when he left, very disappointed that no one even spoke to him! He was looking forward to the visit, as Peter Billis highly recommended us to him, and he liked what he saw on the website and in our newsletters.

Fortunately he contacted me and shared his experience. Lou, Paul, Charlie and I reached out to him, and he is looking forward to attending our July meeting. We were able to do some service recovery.

The point of this is that each of us should reach out to our visitors when we see them. It can be quite an intimidating experience to visit a very busy club meeting, but when one person reaches out, it makes all the difference, as one person turns into two, then three, and so on.

I know that everyone has been interested in the progress of my Tahiti collection. But other than just sharing some beautiful postage stamps, you'll just have to wait. *D-*



BASEBALL ALERT: Save the date, Friday, 8 September at Clipper Stadium.

Sign-ups will be at tonight's meeting and at the picnic. Cost is \$9. Make out checks to Paul Petersen, but cash is preferable. Should we not have enough participation, all deposits will be refunded. We need 20 people for the group price, but this looks positive

Donations, Appraisals, & Your Collection

Dick Colberg

Dick Colberg is a retired Forensic Engineer, and he has been a stamp collector for 68 years. He's actively exhibited portions of his collection since 1979 in the U.S., Canada, and France. He wrote the weekly stamp collecting column for the Lancaster *New Era* for 10 years and ran a stamp auction for 10 years. He has written philatelic articles for

publications in the U.S. and France. He's been appraising stamp collections for 20+ years as a certified philatelic appraiser by the Appraisers Association of America; the only such organization the world.

Dick will take us through the pros 'n cons of donating our material and what may or may not happen to it. We'll be walked

through the appraisal process, when it is needed and how it is conducted. And like columns in past newsletters and the great advice in May from estate & tax attorney Patti Spencer, Dick, too will reinforce the need to have a philatelic plan, a plan that is solidly in place before we meet our Maker. Your family will be glad you did this act of kindness on their behalf.

Volume 80, No. 7

July, 2017

**Visitors are Always
Welcome**

**PSLC meets the 2nd Wednesday
of the month (except August) at
the Bluebird Commons in
Woodcrest Villa, 2001 Harris-
burg Ave, Lancaster, PA 17601
at 7:00 pm. Dues are \$10.00 a
year. For club information call
Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640**

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Save the Dates:

12 July: Wyeth Stamp Ceremony
9 Aug: Club Picnic
13 Aug: First Sunday Show
1-3 Sep: Balpex Stamp Show
8 Sept: Barnstormers Baseball
13 Sept: Fall Auction
21 Sept: Nat'l Postal Mus. Trip

Where is Our USPS Great War Issue?

Back in April there was no USPS stamp commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. entrance into WWI. Further, June was the 100th for the landing of the first American service members in France. Where is our stamp?



Well, France (↑) has beaten us to it with their 23 June 2017 issue celebrating the landing of the first wave of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF). As reported in the 3 July issue of *Linn's* (pg.-27), the stamp shows the debarkation of the Doughboys with a cameo of General John J. Pershing, Commander of the American Forces.

Those interested in tracking the AEF through stamps will benefit from foreign issues. There are several sources to identify these as stamps including: ♦The American Topical Association, ♦Stamp dealers specializing in new issues, and the ♦*Scott's* New Listing Update that appears every month in *Linn's Stamp News*. And for the digitally savvy, there is the ♦the Internet search. ☒



If you subscribe to *Linn's Stamp News*, it would be hard to miss the episodic inclusion of the 24-page catalog from Nordfirm of Denmark as seen above. While their sales are weighted toward Scandinavia,

A Piece of Postal History—70 Years Later: Hal Klein

While postal history comes in many shapes and sizes, most comes in the form of a cover (envelope) addressed between individuals. However, there are a few exceptions, and here is one that fits that rule.

This vertical strip seen below (Fig 1) of four 15¢ James Buchanan Sc #820's Presidential Issues (one hidden) are on an 8-1/4" x 4-1/2" fragment of manila wrapping paper. The stamps, tied by a faint black "PHILADELPHIA, PA," repeating roller cancellation, pay a 10lb. Special 4th Class "Gift Parcel" Surface Rate to France, effective February 4, 1949 (PB# 19197) thru December 31, 1951.¹ The parcel fragment by itself would be unremarkable if it were not for the two adjoining labels.

The first 40mm x 80mm black on pink paper, roulette perf label covers a portion of the four Prexies. The statement, printed in French boldly states, "COLIS-CADEAU des ÉTATS-UNIS à remettre au Destinataire SANS AUCUNE PERCEPTION" or "GIFT OF THE UNITED STATES to be delivered to the recipient WITHOUT PERCEPTION." The second label is even more spectacular --"THE MARSHALL PLAN!" The almost 90mm diameter label is unmistakable in its design, with a graphic which is almost identical to the original THE MARSHALL PLAN government logo. (Fig 2 on Pg.-1, top-left)

The differences in the label are a tip-off to "what and how" this package came to being. The logo on the fragment includes border statements in four different languages including French, German, Greek, and Italian. The call-out statement in the center is basically the same in English: "FOR EUROPEAN RECOVERY Postage Reduced On This U.S.A. Gift Parcel Through

THE MARSHALL PLAN." This is where it gets interesting from a postal history aspect.

Under the Marshall Plan² there were no reduced postage rates for gift parcels, however there were special discounted postal rates for war relief donations of clothing and personal items that applied individually for many war-torn countries for heavy-weight relief packages. The reference to "Reduced Postage" on the label is an advertising "weasel"³ relating to this special postal discount rate structure. A Government Agency would never use an advertising weasel, however a Non-Government Organization (NGO) charity (fund-raising) group would use *weasels* in fund-raising materials. Far more than the four countries mentioned on the label had Special Gift Parcel Rates at all.

NGO's collected pre-boxed and wrapped donations then shipped them to separate distribution points in the war-torn countries of France, Germany, Italy, and Greece. There (in this case France), the relief package would have a black/pink label (Fig 1) and a Fig. 2 applied; both were applied AFTER being mailed. We know this because Fig 1. is placed over the stamps. No matter how they were shipped, these NGO-relief packages would have been extremely welcomed in war-torn WWII Europe.

From a historical background, the Marshall Plan was an American

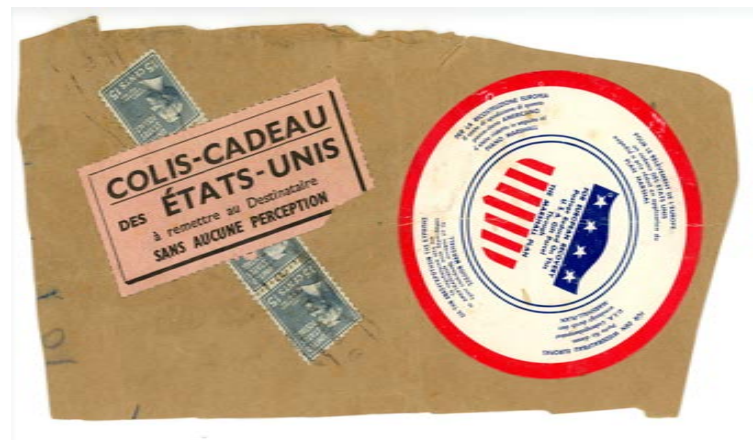
Aid Plan to rebuild European economies, rebuild war-torn Europe, and prevent the spread of Communism. Participating countries were required to adopt U.S.-driven policies to reduce interstate (country) trade barriers, modernize industry, reduce regulations, increase productivity, and increase labor union membership as well as adopt modern business procedures. (Nothing seems to change in seventy years!) The Soviet Union (Russia) refused to participate in the Marshall Plan and blocked all Eastern Bloc countries, such as Poland and East Germany, etc., from participating.⁴

Meantime, "A Fragment of Postal History – 70 Years Later" reminds us of the politics of post-WWII Europe and the European political news about the Marshall Plan being discussed today. It reminds us how stamps played an integral part in conveying and rebuilding -- touching and healing a war-torn Europe -- our fellow man in his greatest time of need -- to rebuild a person's life, dignity, and dreams.

REFERENCES:

1. Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz: researched and supplied the background and rate information.
2. U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996, Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz and Henry Beecher, Cama Publishing Company, 1996.
3. Advertising Weasel: https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#q=advertising+weasel+statement
4. MARSHALL-PLAN: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshall_Plan

(Figure-1↓)



there are many other offers available, and the prices are good. There is much kiloware along with some classics, sets, and more, almost all of it foreign. But what is of great interest is that on

most orders, the shipping is free. I have ordered some items for club door prices such as stock books and magnifiers, among others. My first order arrived in about ten (10) days. It was mailed from

Germany, and it was shipped free. It weighed about 12 pounds! Not sure where they get their tons of stuff, and how they mail it so cheap, but the catalog is worth taking a look at. It's free too.

June Minutes and Treasury

Diane Meek & Lou DiFelice

Opening: President **Doug Milliken** opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Membership: **Sarah Mylin** welcomed everyone to the meeting and collected some dues. Attendance was 48.

Webmaster's Report: **Dr. DiComo** reported that the upgrade is moving as scheduled, and that he is compiling PSLC documents from the 1930s. Stay tuned.

Annual Picnic: **Paul Petersen** passed around two sign-up sheets, one for attendance and the other for dishes that members will be bringing. These will be available again to sign up in July. Picnic will be on 9 August (regular meeting date) at 6:00 pm at Millersville Memorial Park. Details will be in the August

issue of newsletter.

Monthly Drawing: **Sarah** conducted the drawings. **RD Noble** won a can of Pure Citrus™; **Mike Matus** won an Armetale mug from the Lancaster PO celebrating the 1976 Bicentennial; and **Mike Bach** won a deluxe packet of Danish stamps.

New Issue Mint Singles: **Paul** read a note from member **Robert Larkin** about the availability of 10-cent grape and 10-cent pear coil stamps that typically have to be purchased in bulk. These are now available in panes of 20 at the PO on Harrisburg Avenue.

21 September NPM Bus Trip: **Mike Bach** said that the bus holds 50 people and 18 seats are

left. Your check for \$65 reserves your seat. Members and their guests are invited. Contact Roy K. Baardsen with queries at 610-927-3435.

50-50 Drawing: **Aaron Heckler** held this drawing that totaled \$62 with half going to **Tom Coccio**.

Program: Tonight's program was the spring auction. See articles on pages 1 and 3 for some additional auction details.

Treasury: 1-31 May 2017

Opening:	\$2,341.52
Income:	\$1,412.00
Expenses:	\$304.68
Closing:	\$3,448.84
3-DCs:	\$7,012.33

Auction Team

The 14 June Auction seemed a record breaker. **Doug Milliken** noted some of the statistics in his Presidential Column on page-1. **Lou DiFelice** later revealed over \$700 in transactions. And this figure does not include all the post-auction bartering when bidders and sellers negotiate a price and deal on the items that did not sell. Everybody likes our auctions. And much of the credit goes to the auction team.

Last year President **Hal Klein** devised a lot description form to accompany lots for sale. These are available for download on the website and have substantially contributed to the sales. The better the items are described, the easier they are to understand and purchase. The bidding rules and other auction procedures are regularly presented in the newsletter for the month's auction, and these forms are also available on the website.

Team members in June included auctioneers **RD Noble** and **Woody Hann**, and the back-up auctioneer was **Hal Klein**. **Lou DiFelice** was the treasurer and **Dick Shaefer** was recorder. Runners were **Bob Kramer**, **Aaron Heckler**, **Michael Marino**, and **Dr. Charles DiComo**.

Unofficial First Day Cover

Coming up Dr. DiComo will be presenting on foreign covers and their interesting rates, routes, and auxiliary markings. But there are other covers extant. One area of collecting is of stamp show covers. PSLC, through our annual Lancopex, has been issuing these since the 1980s.

This year's show cover was a commemoration to the

United States entry into The Great War (1914-1918) on 6 April 1917. Since USPS has issued no stamp of this event to date, perhaps our show cover will fill a space in some collections. It is depicted here. But you'll see that this cover has a twist.

Sitting at the Cachet Sales Table on the first day of the show, Friday, 28 April, **John Hostetter** remarked: "Isn't today a first day of issue for a new stamp? I think it is! It's a foreign airmail, a \$1.15 rate, another round stamp. And I

think this one has a cabbage on it. Maybe we could add one of these to our show cover and have an unofficial first day of issue tied to our Lancopex cover. It would be an interesting item."

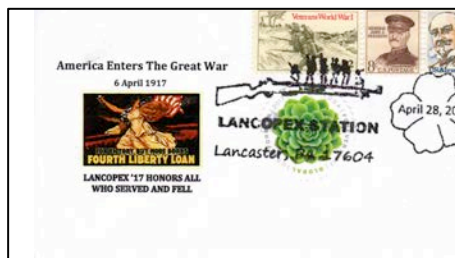
John's idea was right on target. The postal staff at the USPS table

were just starting to cancel our show covers. They had the new international airmail stamps on

hand, and it indeed was the first day of issue. They would be glad to tie it to our cover and frank it for the cost of the stamp.

John spread the word to those around that might be interested, and at least a handful were created that we know of. John submitted one of his to PSLC as a donation in last month's auction.

Now we are wondering just how many show covers there are in the philatelic world that are combined with an addition, an unofficial first day of issue. ✉



Picnic Alert: Wednesday, 9 August 2017 at 6:00 pm at Millersville Memorial Park. Directions will be in next month's newsletter. Sign-ups continue tonight for both participation and for choice of dish to bring, whether appetizer, side dish, or dessert. If you haven't been available to sign-up, but would like to attend, please contact Paul Petersen, and he'll take care of it.



Club Notes

Programs, Hosts & Shows

2017 Programs

12 July: Donations, Appraisals, & Your Collection. **Dick Colberg**. **Jim Ziogas**, Host.

9 August: Picnic 6 pm. **Mills'vil**

12 September: Fall Auction. **Lou DiFelice**, Host

11 October: Madison, FL: 1861 3-cent Postmaster's Provisional, **Trish Kaufmann**. **Dennis Shumaker**, Host

8 November: Open House and One-Page Exhibits. **Len Kasper** & **Paul Petersen**. **Fred Mackey** and **Fred Sargent**, Hosts

13 December: December Dinner

2018 Programs

10 January: Winter Auction. **Dr. DiComo**, Host

14 February: The Overrun Countries Series Under a Printer's Loupe. **Hal Klein**

14 March: A Philatelic Journey, **Scott English**

11 April: How We Now Judge Exhibits with Points in North America. **Bill Schultz**

9 May: TBA

13 June: Spring Auction

11 July: Stampless Mail from U.S. to Europe. **Dr. Chas DiComo**

8 August: Summer Picnic

13 September: Fall Auction

10 October: TBA

14 November: Open House and One-Page Exhibits

12 December: December Dinner

2016-17 Shows/Events

APS Volunteer Week: 17-21 July, Bellefonte, PA

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: Sunday, 13 August, and 17 December. Farm & Home Center.

APS Stamp Show: 3-6 August, Richmond, VA

Balpex: 1-3 September, Hunt Valley, MD

Nat'l Postal Museum Club Trip, 21 September

ASDA Show: 5-8 October, New York City

Reading Stamp Show: Saturday, 4 November, Route 61 just north of Leesport, PA at the Leesport Farm Market.

Musings: A blast from the past: PSLC 67 years ago

While I try to plan the content of this column, the final topic is often the last thing that comes my way. There is a backlog of ideas, but this month's topic went to the top of the list. Just prior to the auction last month, **James H. Ziogas** gave me copies of the June and July 1950 PSLC newsletters that he found in an auction lot. I was so fascinated by them that I had to really concentrate on the auction and keep my eyes off this club ephemera.

There is some member interest in the club's history, as **Truyde Greiner** has been compiling newsletters since they were reinstated in 1990. Older documents have come the club's way, and an archive is being built. I referred to some of these older items and provided vignettes in previous newsletters. **Hal Klein**, then picked up the mantle and did some compilation. The old does now reside with **Dr. DiComo** who is working them into the website. These 1950 newsletters will eventually go to Charles for disposition in the project.

With this all materializing, I am still unclear just how many Lancaster area clubs there were, when they existed, and how they morphed into our one club of today. This will become clear when the definitive history is written...some day. What I do know is that there were several

clubs, and our current club that goes by two names (PSLC and LCPS) became an APS affiliate in 1938.

In any case, these two concurrent newsletter issues are quite interesting and provide a small window into the past of Lancaster's philatelic heritage.



The first thing that strikes me is that on the cover of the July issue is an image of the club VP smoking. Can you just imagine this today in the era of the war on Big Tobacco? What a difference 67 years makes, as our current 1st VP never smoked!

The June issue is five pages, and July (an Extra) is four pages. They were mailed at the 2-cent periodical rate. They are mimeographed on banner head paper entitled **Lancaster County Phi-**

latelist: The Monthly Bulletin of the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County. The club is listed as affiliates of APS, the American Air-mail Society, and the Society of Philatelic Americans. Likewise, today we are also in three organizations: APS, ATA, and NY Federation of Stamp Clubs.

As some clubs still do, this club closed down for July and August. However, in 1950 they had plans. The board voted for some summer activities for the Sunday evenings of 12 July and 9 August. Details were to be announced at the June meeting.

These events are described as "*activities so unusual to make stamp club history and draw national attention...the meetings are entirely experimental and activities such as these have never been planned before by a philatelic society.*"

From these two issues, the events seemed to be special auctions. Members and family and friends were invited, and they expected other collectors from all over Pennsylvania since this was not an official meeting of the society. Some things never change, as the minimum bid at the auction was \$1.00. The auctions were scheduled from 8 pm to 11 pm.

The club held a membership re-

cruitment competition with prizes, and four members were tied for first place.

That spring the club president had chicken pox and was quite ill.

A significant event that year was the 1950 issue of the Boy Scout stamp (Scott# 995). Apparently the BSA gave APS authorization for all of its branch chapters to get involved with philatelic education of the scouts leading to their stamp collecting merit badge. PSLC apparently had a Junior Stamp Club, as there were plans to get them engaged.

There was a call for American collectors who were interested in trading stamps by mail with young collectors from Japan. Considering that this was only five years post VJ Day, this exchange was a significant step in the direction of improved foreign relations. The newsletter noted that "*This is a big means of cementing American-Nippon friendship which may later prove invaluable.*"

The newsletters contained some humorous articles along with a few corny jokes. There were half pages of advertising at 5-cents a line. Some of these were well known such as Earl Apfelbaum Auctions of Philadelphia and Elmer Long of Harrisburg along with some local dealers, a donut Shop, and a stenographer. Ed ☐



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