

Phila-telling Around

MEETINGS, 2ND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
TIME: 7:30 P.M.
LANCASTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER
Columbia Ave., Lancaster, PA

Mailing address:
L.C.P.S.
19 Circle Rd.
Millersville, PA 17551

Next Meeting - Wed., SEPTEMBER 13, 2000

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL MARILYN SHIRLEY (717) 872-2479

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

GREETINGS:

A summer is just about over, the fall is here. I hope everyone enjoyed the Pool Party at Marilyn's. In case you were wondering why I wasn't there, I was on a trip to Russia and the Ukraine.

So let us get back to stamp collecting. In July we had a very successful stamp auction. Seeing the turnout and success we decided to have another auction at the September meeting. So bring all those stamps that have been laying around your collection and we will find them a new home with another club member.

I would also like to remind everyone that in November we are going to have election for new officers. So please start thinking about becoming a club officer or nominating someone. Let's continue our good attendance and I hope to see everyone at the meeting.

PETER BILLIS, PRESIDENT



SEPTEMBER HOSTESS

The "Hostess with the Mostest" for the month of September is **DONNA DEVINE**. We look forward to whatever surprise **DONNA** has in store for us.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

As you will note from your yearly program schedule, the original program for September was to be an "APS Slide Presentation". However, our auction last month proved to be so successful, our President suggested the program be changed to another auction for this month. So, club members, delve through your "extras" and share with the club -- the money you make will help you to buy that special stamp you have been wanting to add to your collection!

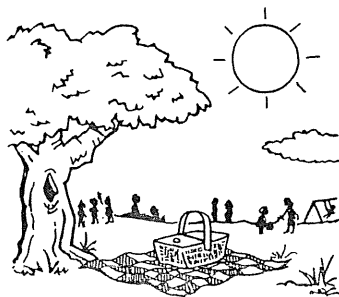
AUGUST PICNIC REPORT

The August picnic seemed to be quite a success! We had about 28 people in attendance and the Bar-B-Que chicken and corn on the cob were enjoyed by all.

This was an opportunity to dine and relax with club members and their spouses and just get to know one another a little better.

Four times a year you have the opportunity to get to know members on a special event basis. They are the Lancopex set-up, tear-down, and administration in general -- the annual bus trip in the spring -- the club picnic in August -- and the Christmas get-together in December.

These "special programs" are geared to "getting to know you" more. We appreciate the enthusiasm and support club members give to these events. (HOWEVER, we may have to rethink the Spring Bus Trip for next year, unless we receive more support from members!)



SWEEPSTAKES UPDATE

There was no drawing -- thus no winner -- at the August Picnic. So this month the drawing will be for \$10.00 so some lucky club member.

Remember, you can't win if you don't attend the meetings. (Here's your chance to earn some extra cash for the auction).

WHY DO WE COLLECT?

(Here are some excerpts from an article in the Global Stamp News by Barry Krausse that may interest you)

Why do we collect?

(1) **A sense of order.** In a busy life where things don't always work out the way we want them to, collecting stamps or coins or medals, etc., gives us a sense of order, a certain amount of control over our day, a feeling of pride and accomplishment when we finally complete an album or display case with "all" or what is obtainable of some series of collectibles.

We can't control the 6:00 news, the weather, the stock market, or even the behavior of friends and family, but we can arrange our chess pieces, or stamps, or coins, etc. and study them and learn from their beauty and history.

(2) **Knowledge.** It is great to know a lot about our job or schoolwork, about our city and country, about our cars or pets. But often we yearn for the distraction and satisfaction of a type of esthetic knowledge that comes from collecting.

The first collections were probably sea shells or pretty stones picked up by stone age wanderers, curious about the reflection in the river water or fascinated with the shape of some natural object.

There is no way to predict where the hunt for knowledge will end. Maybe your interest in coins will lead to medals which in turn lead to a collection of foreign paper money or silver bullion art bars. Ignorance may be bliss, but knowledge is power. And besides, it's fun to know about things!

(3) **Investment.** How many things that you buy will be worth more than you paid for them in ten years? Collections can increase in value time passes or at least maintain some salvage cash worth, which is more than you can say for dollars spent on movies, travel or food.

It is hard to find a collection that is worth **nothing** after the passage of time and it is surprising how many things increase in value, at varying rates of course, as the calendars flip by.

(4) **Fellowship.** Not all collectors make new friends and acquaintances as a result of their hobby, but many do. Conventions, collectible shows, and exhibitions are places where friendly business contacts may be acquired. Collector magazines and journals introduce you to other people who have similar collecting interests.

(5) **Entertainment.** Collecting is fun and quite entertaining when you are methodically acquiring nice items for your shelves or safe deposit box. Boredom, anger, confusion, frustration, and laziness are mental states that are successfully combated by collecting.

It is an unusual collector who is bored when looking at needed items for the collection. If you aren't making fast progress with other aspects of your life, why not get out the thimbles or art prints or first-day covers or antique weapons or old books and relive the entertaining moments that you experienced when you were first bitten by the collecting bug?

Because a collection is something that you can own and visit any time that you want, when you spend money on collectibles you are buying a chance at being entertaining forever. When you purchase an airplane boarding pass or a stage play ticket or a drink at a cocktail lounge, you are entertained once.

(6) **Exhibiting.** Every collection can be exhibited, if not at a formal competitive display in a convention of collectors, then maybe as a permanent or temporary exhibit in a school, library, church or club. If you work in an organization which has space for displaying collections, get permission to exhibit some of your treasures.

(7) **Recognition.** Fame is a fleeting pleasure, but every collector gets deep respect when he or she is admired and acclaimed for some outstanding collection. Ribbons, trophies, and other awards sweeten the effort made in building up a respectable collection of interesting items. Who knows: maybe the collection of pictures or baseball cards, etc., will lead to another collection.

It is possible to complete a collection in the sense that you acquire all available major varieties of some collectible, within your budget and time limitations. But you will never outgrow the urge to collect, if you are a true and confirmed collector!

TEN TOP STAMP-RELATED INJURIES

10. Back spasms from carrying five Scott Catalogs.
9. Lacerated tongue from licking Shogard mounts.
8. Pulled shoulder muscle from unrolling coil stamps too quickly.
7. Nose accidentally slammed in stamp album.
6. Wrenched neck from careless "dumpster diving."
5. Third degree burns from smoking while dipping stamps in lighter fluid.
4. Kiloward elbow.
3. Blistered skin from UV lamp exposure.
2. Multiple injuries from collapsing bookshelves.
1. Self-inflicted tong wounds.



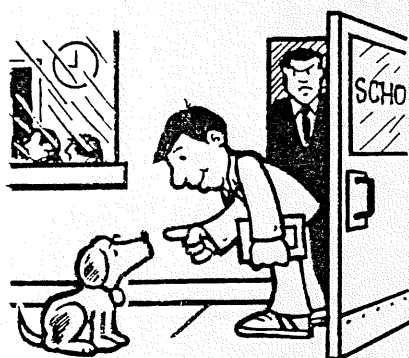
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SEPTEMBER