



Phil-a-telling Around

Since 1990

September, 2003

Vol. 15 #8

My Summer Vacation

Lucy Lyster

Stamp News Briefs

A special thank to several club members for their work over the summer:

To **Lucy Eyster**—first for her exceptionally interesting presentation on holograms at the July meeting; and second for her report (in this issue) on the annual meeting of the American Topical Association that she attended in Denver.

To **Marilyn Shirley** for her tutorial efforts over the summer with the young collectors featured in this issue of *Phil-a-telling Around*.

To **Eleanor Wheeler** and **Diane Meek** for the article and photographs of the young collectors.

September Meeting

The September meeting will be held at the Maple Grove Community Center at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 10 September. The program is an APS slide show: "Preparation of a Stamp Exhibit."

There will also be a discussion of the LCPS by-laws.

Membership Roster

A new membership roster has been prepared and will soon be distributed to all members. Please check your entry for accuracy and let me (Bill Snyder) know of any corrections.

My summer vacation this year was a trip to the annual convention of the American Topical Association (ATA) held in Denver, Colorado, June 27-29, 2003. Because a number of activities away from the convention center were planned, I flew to Denver a day early and stayed a day longer. I didn't want to miss anything.

The first outing was to the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library (RMPL) for a wine and cheese tour and history of the library. The philatelic community around the Denver area is rightfully proud of their facility, which had been a second-hand furniture store. In early 1996 about 60 people repaired, renovated, painted, and in about 4 months turned the newly purchased building into a light, spacious, inviting library. It is now run completely by dedicated volunteers. I was impressed with the extensive railroad post office information housed in the RMPL.

The day before the show officially opened 12 of us traveled by limousine to the old gold mining town of Central City. An attempt is being made to revive this town as a tourist attraction complete with casinos. (That must account for the limo service and the free roll of nickels.) The opera house, art gallery, shops, and perfusion of colorful flowers made for a pleasurable day.

After the morning the show opened I quickly checked out all the dealers. When the first dealer said he had just been approached for holograms I reversed my direction and contacted the dealers in the back of the room first. It did not take long to spend my allotted funds.

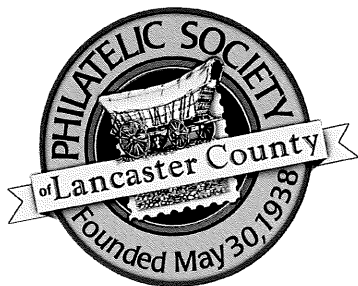
All the exhibits (180 frames for 37 exhibits) were thematic broken down into "Multi-Frame", "Single Frame", or "Display". At the awards banquet the last evening of the show, the Grand Award was won by Stephen Luster for his 10 frame exhibit titled, "Toward a United Europe". The program described the exhibit as "European unity in the 20th century as seen through the significant people, ideas, events, organizations, and activities that contributed to the creation of the European Communities".

The day after the show closed a coach full of ATA members went on the Georgetown Railroad tour. This was a first class educational tour with explanations of the engineering challenges for building a railroad in this mountainous area. At one of the stops we got off and had a tour of an abandoned silver mine (Lebanon Silver Mine). Our guide, who had a Master's degree in environmental history, was able to make the miners, their lives and struggles from 1859 to 1900 come alive. It was surprising to learn that an estimated 80% of Colorado's gold and silver is still in the ground waiting for an economically feasible mining technique.

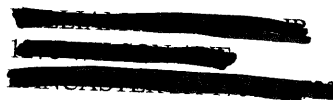
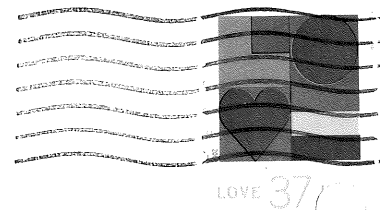
Renting a car allowed for other sightseeing during my stay—Ocean Journey Aquarium, State Buildings, Denver Art Museum, and in Colorado Springs, Garden of the Gods.

The topical collectors I met or renewed acquaintance with made the trip to Denver a special one. Next year the convention is in Memphis, Tennessee. Maybe, maybe.

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LCPS Jr. Club Eleanor Wheeler



Thanks to the interest and enthusiastic devotion of **Marilyn Shirley**, the club has an active group of young members learning about stamp collecting. The group includes **Annette Lam, Deedee Shirley, Victoria Tran, Maggie Larkin, Alistair and Elizabeth Welch** and a new member, **Ileea Griffiths**.



During the summer they met from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays. They worked on stamp projects for the first two hours, which passed swiftly, then a break to enjoy lunch and Shirley's swimming pool. The project on July 14 was to develop individual stock pages of stamps from Australia. The group had previously sorted stamps numerically up to #259. These were then shared with each member to be mounted on pages with hinges, and numbered for the record. This work will be continued and enlarged to focus on stamps of other countries.

At the meeting on July 21, the club was treated to the creative input of guest leader **Diane Meek**, an art teacher and adult member of LCPS. Diane challenged the juniors to create their own stamp design. In a brief brain-storming session they created a list of all the typical elements and options in designing a stamp. Each member selected a subject and shape, and then drew and colored their stamp. Let's invite the kids to display their one of our meetings.

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The deadline for submitting material for the newsletter is the 20th of each month. Items can be sent to the editor or to either reporter or the photographer by mail, email, or telephone.

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? A stamp honoring Sam Houston was scheduled for release in late 1963. However, release of the stamp was delayed until 10 January 1964, at which time it became Scott 1242 in the U.S. Catalog section. Why was the stamp issue delayed? (Clue: Look at the stamp!)

QUIZ QUESTION?
Provided by Al Schaub