

P H I L - A - T E L L I N G   A R O U N D

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LANCASTER COUNTY  
POST OFFICE BOX 982  
LANCASTER, PA 17603

MEETINGS - 2nd Wednesday of each month  
STAUFFER MANSION at 7:30 P.M.  
1241 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601  
Next Meeting- Wednesday, June 12, 1991

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PACKRAT HARRY

To call someone a packrat normally carries a negative connotation. Yet the term must have been coined with Harry Rapp in mind. Harry is by no means a one-dimensional character. To describe Harry fully, one must add that responsibility came early in his life. He and his sister Rosa helped care for 8 homeless children at their home during their lifetime. At 13, Harry was working full time, 7 days a week and attended Southeastern Junior High School 5 evenings a week.

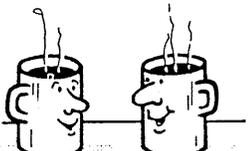
Out of love and necessity, Harry formed bond with his sister Rosa, as children, which has survived a lifetime. They were partners on the stage for 40 years appearing in vaudville, carnivals, circuses and fairs. They performed in road companies of the N.Y. Rockettes. They traveled for years in a bus they called home while doing a revolving ladder and trapeze act. Later they found time for Rosa to be a dancer, choreographer and dance instructor. Harry, meanwhile, drove a fuel oil truck and in the slow season built and maintained circus rigs for fellow performers.

Harry enlisted in the Air Corps in 1940 and was, of all things, drafted in 1941 into the Army. He served in the European Theater in a tank destroyer unit, building friendships that have endured to this day with the annual reunion held in Lancaster. He formed the Red Rose Post No. 7 of the American Legion in 1966, holding meetings in his living room, formerly a restaurant, for 90 members. He was Commander of Legion Post No. 34 and later District No. 10 Commander. He has been a member and Officer for 48 years and counting.

Harry was born on 2-28-1913 in Reading, PA. A born historian, he has volumes of neatly kept photos and articles spanning 70 years of Lancaster history in much of which he was a factor. A practicing Methodist, both he and Rosa laughingly recall that neither of them had time to form relationships with the opposite sex; hence neither ever married.

You could say of Harry that one of anything was never enough. Enjoying music, Harry has 8 organs/pianos scattered about his cavernous house. These days Harry and Rosa make Amish dolls for resale. Each requires 45 separate operations and we noticed at least 10 different types of dolls. In addition, Rosa makes leather handbags and canvas totes. You might imagine that a sewing machine would be essential, but 13! All in their living room/factory.

Harry started collecting stamps at age 36 when Rosa thought he might have a little time on his hands and quickly moved to fill the void. He has formed outstanding collections of the United States and Germany and less complete world collections. He also collects coins, belonging to the Red Rose Coin Club. His pride and joy appears to be his Franklin Mint Collectibles. He proudly states that he has collected all of its emissions whether in gold, silver, pewter or whatever. It's doubtful if even Harry has an inkling as to what he owns today; but one can see he treasures them as the end product of a life spent in perpetual motion, first to survive, second to earn a respectable living and finally to record the colorful and historic events he was privileged to live through. Rosa speaks for him when she says, "we wouldn't change a minute of it."



# COFFEE & CONVERSATION

This is your newsletter and we need your input. Can you write an article, offer suggestions for improving the newsletter, write a letter of praise or complaint to the editor? The Phil-A-Telling Around is the voice of the LCPS. Help us to make that voice ring out loud and strong!

We think more members than not would like to see refreshments available at our meetings. Several changes in the previous handling of refreshments are hereby suggested:

- a. Snack time would be limited to 15 minutes before the 7:30 meeting start and 15 minutes after the official close as determined by our president. If snacking before the meeting you are requested, as a courtesy to members bringing in albums, stamps, etc., to wash your hands afterwards. Wouldn't you go into shock if someone were eating potato chips just prior to fondling your MNH Zeppelin plate blocks?
- b. We would have a list of volunteers to act as hosts at succeeding meetings. You probably would draw the assignment once every two years.
- c. Refreshments would consist of, at a minimum, hot coffee and tea and cold iced tea or fruit punch, and a package of cookies. Of course, you will not be penalized if you want to whip up a batch of cookies using your favorite recipe.
- d. The person in charge of refreshments should lay out of pocket expenses incurred and be reimbursed by the treasurer at the meeting being hosted.
- e. Charge for refreshments will be 25¢. All funds collected will be turned in to treasurer to help defray expenses.

One driving argument for a refreshment period is to foster more social interaction amongst members and what better way than over a cup of coffee and a cookie?



Time fugits, a fact of which we are well aware. So mark the following dates on your calendars now: AUGUST 14 ... ANNUAL PICNIC, and DECEMBER 11 ... CHRISTMAS PARTY before they are upon us and we find ourselves with other commitments for those nights.

DEFINITION: C.O.D. --  
Crushed On Delivery !!!

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## Reminder

Any club member who will be able to provide a fellow collector, who is without transportation, with a ride to meetings and special activities, please leave your number with Truyde Greiner (717) 394-0879. You will only be called if the collector needing a ride is not out of your way and, naturally, you would be under no obligation should you decide not to attend yourself.

LCPS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES, MAY 1991

Meeting was called to order by Dick Shaefer at 7:30 p.m.

Treasurer Ben Heller reported cash balance of \$1,287.34 with all show bills paid.

The show itself grossed \$2,944. less expenses of \$2,325. leaving a net profit of \$600.

The gross receipts for show covers were \$947.20. Expenses, mainly postage, have not been determined yet.

Fourteen dealers paid \$95. each for tables with \$5.00 of that amount going for an ad in the program.

The dealers had a good variety of material and were happy with their sales.

There was no practical way to register people who viewed the show. The club spent \$100.00 on postage to the Baltimore area but did not get any feedback as to who attended.

Only ten attendees bothered to cast a ballot for the "People's Choice Award" for the most popular exhibit. The system has to be improved.

The possibility that a theft of plate blocks from a dealer's table had occurred raised concern over security at the show; but fortunately, the dealer located the misplaced blocks.

Tentative plans were begun for the 1992 show. Dave Strayer will be responsible for Awards, Bill Greiner for Exhibits and Truyde Greiner will again man the Youth Table.

Club members provided enough coverage for the two-day show; however, more people could have been used on Saturday Night.

It was agreed to examine other sites for the August Picnic because the rental at Neffsville Park has been doubled to \$40.

Bill Greiner will report at the June meeting on the possible use of St. Philip's Church and the Manor Community Park.

Also discussed was a site for the Christmas Party. Marilyn Shirley will report on the possibility of using Willow Valley instead of the V.F.W.

Finally, no new members were procured through the stamp show. Many inquiries were received though and the show may yet bear fruit in the context of adding new members.

Jim Lyman, Secretary

## Our Apologies

Possibly the Newsletter staff missed the boat on not inquiring as to the program for the May meeting. Most of us were caught unprepared when we arrived to learn the program would be an auction. Fortunately, Jim Boyles, Leslie Botte and Dave Strayer usually carry with them a diverse assortment of materials so that eight or so lots were submitted. Jim Boyles did his habitual competent and witty job as auctioneer and the evening was saved.

### J U N E   P R O G R A M

PAT RINEER -- LANCASTER STAMP AND COIN

"PRESERVING AND MAINTAINING  
YOUR STAMP COLLECTION"



## From the President's Desk

At our last meeting we had a unique experience that goes a long way in proving that you don't have to speak another person's language to share the love of stamp collecting.

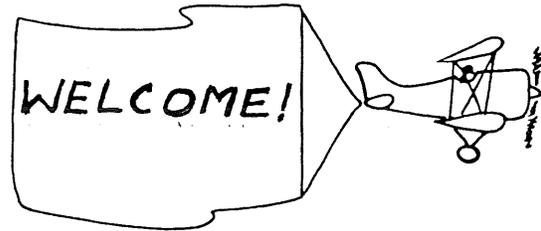
We had a couple of surprise visitors that evening both whose first names were Nikolay (Nikolay Bogisik and Nikolay Vyrotsky) and both of whom are from the Soviet Union. Both of these men are presently living in the Akron area, one of them having been here a year and the other here just a month. Nickolay Vyrotsky is a stamp collector. He asked his friend to accompany him to our stamp club meeting and help him with his English, since he is still learning a new language.

Our Soviet friend brought with him several books of beautiful Russian stamps for us to see. He said that there are a number of stamp collectors in the Soviet Union but they have trouble getting stamps in and out of his country. Currency is not allowed to flow out and you can't bring many stamps into the country. I am not clear on whether the stamps that Nikolay had were brought with him when he came to this country or whether he purchased them here. He is interested in getting an album for his stamps; but as all agreed, finding a Russian specialized album at a reasonable price may be difficult. If you know of anyone who has one let us know. At the moment the stamps are in two loose leaf notebooks with pages of the type you would use for mounting photographs. It was mentioned that over a period of time these pages could damage his stamps, so I am sure he wants to place them in a normal album.

I hope in the coming months we will learn more about stamp collecting in the Soviet Union and something about Russian stamps.

Just one other short note. We are going to try a bid board where you can sell stamps to the highest bidder. You set a minimum bid, then members enter a price at or above the minimum. Highest bidder at the end of the evening purchases the stamp. If you bid and someone outbids you, you may bid again -- until the time for the bidding to cease.

-- Dick Shaefer, President



A very special welcome is extended to four new members to our club. Club members are requested to make a special effort at the next meeting to make these newcomers "feel right at home". Their names are listed below for your information.

Mr. Clinton D. Anspach

Mr. Howard Lebo

Mr. John Nernoff  
(Collects U.S., Japan and Soviet Union Stamps)

Dr. Henry S. Wentz  
(Collects United States Stamps)

We hope to see all of you at our upcoming meeting this Wednesday, June 12, 1991 at 7:30 p.m. at the Stauffer Mansion.

