



Veranda-Early Spring
See Pg.-2

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



The James Buchanan Chapter (#173) of the
American Philatelic Society
American Topical Assn., Chapter 118
Member, NY Federation of Stamp Clubs

Doors open at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, 11 July 2018
Bourse at 6:30 pm, Business meeting at 7:00 pm; Dick Colberg, Host

The Schuylkill Navigation (Canal)

A Picture Postcard Journey Downriver - Aaron Heckler

The Schuylkill River is well known in southeastern Pennsylvania. Perhaps less widely known is the massive amount of construction that was done in the 19th century to make it commercially navigable. The July meeting of the PSLC will feature a thoroughly illustrated power point presentation by historian and author Aaron Heckler about the Schuylkill Navigation, often also called the Schuylkill Canal. Utilizing photographic picture postcards, mostly dating from 1905-1920, attendees will see and learn about the numerous locks, canal sections, dams and other features constructed along the Schuylkill River for the primary purpose of

shipping coal from Schuylkill County to Philadelphia. Beginning in the vicinity of Port



Clinton, the audience will visually journey downriver through the Berks County portion of the Navigation. When commercial usage waned in later years, the usually calm waters provided popular

spots for boating and relaxation. Much of the land development created for the navigation system has since been removed or greatly altered but mention will be made of some of the sites which remains extant to this present day.

As a collector and dealer of books, postcards, and related paper items, Aaron has handled a large assortment of interesting local historical items over the years. He is the author of the book, *Glimpses of the Past: Picture Postcards of the Goshenhoppen Region and Beyond*.

Ed.'s Note: This is your two-month issue. Next newsletter will be September.

Volume 81, Nos. 7-8
July-August 2018

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 Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640

Website: LCPS-Stamp.org

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Volunteer Opportunity: APS
Volunteer week is approaching:
16-20 July, 2018. Any interest?
Go to www.stamps.org to help.

8 August PSLC Picnic (Note early starting time)

When: Wednesday, 8 August, 6:00 pm

Where: Millersville Memorial Park (See map↓ and directions→)

Remember: Please bring your appetizers, side dishes, or desserts.

Burgers, hotdogs, drinks, and condiments will be provided.

Officiating:

John Hostetter, Mike Shirley, and Bill Greiner

Post-picnic cleanup help is always appreciated.



Directions to the Park: Driving west into Millersville from Lancaster on 999, the Park is on the north side of 999 (Manor Ave.) just west of the intersection of George Street with 999. (See map at left) A landmark is John Herr's Market. The park is just behind this supermarket. Also, across the street from the park is the Barn Door Restaurant. We'll be meeting in Pavilion-A, the big one just down the hill and on the left. Park right behind the pavilion in the large adjacent lot. Immediate Past President Doug Milliken has been very successful ordering perfect picnic weather over the years, and we are fortunate that he has agreed to an encore again this year. For those technically savvy, conduct a MapQuest or other map search for 9 Blue Rock Road, Millersville, and the park is right behind this location.



The Veranda Chronicles

Happy Summer! – We are coming off a successful Spring Auction last month. Please take a minute to thank our staff of auctioneers, trackers, and runners; all those that submitted quality material; and our ambitious members that bid energetically and won some great lots.

According to our Auction Committee, we saw the most lots offered, the most lots sold, and the most sales since they began tracking. Following this achievement, we are looking for more volunteers to join the Auction Committee to assist in set-up, protecting all lots, tracking, running, and security. Please see Lou DiFelice, Dick Shaefer, or me if interested.

On the weekend of June 23rd & 24th our members were fortunate to have a few alternatives to learn, share, and add to their collections by taking a road trip to the American Philatelic Center in Bellefonte on Saturday for the SCOPEX

Stamp Show & Exhibition. Here Roy Baardsen received the APS Carter Award (*Ed's Note: See article below*) On Sunday we had the Some Sunday Stamp Show at the Farm and Home Center in Lancaster hosted by Kevin Kellman. A fine time was had by all participants, exhibitors, and dealers.

On July 11th, 2018, the Society is fortunate to have member Aaron Heckler present on the History of Schuylkill Canal on PPCs. You can find his informative exhibit on the Society's website.¹ Maybe his lecture will ignite your collecting interests to include the fascinating field of Picture Postcards. I am proud to announce the addition of a new feature to our website; a sub-page dedicated to the Lancaster County Postcard Club, where you will find their history and past issues of their Newsletter, "The Card".²

On August 8th, the Society will

hold its Annual Picnic at Memorial Park in Millersville, PA. All are looking forward to good food, good drink, good friends, and great conversation. There will be plenty of picnic pictures in a future newsletter and on the website – and I am already looking forward to our Annual Dinner in December!

As we enter the fall season and cooler weather, we have our Autumn Auction on September 12th hosted by Dennis Shumaker. I hope each of you is looking through your "extras", legibly filling in your official Auction Lot forms (available on our website³), and are prepared to bid on the myriad of material. Let us make this auction even more of a success than our Spring one.

The Society is only as good as its membership, and I can say with confidence that we do have phenomenal participation. I am energized and proud to be a 5-year member and your club President. Best wishes, *CDi*

¹<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/presentations/>

²<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/newsletter-archive/the-card/>

³<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/presentations/auctions/>

This is a joint edition, two months. There will be no newsletter in August!

Roy K. Baardsen Wins APS Carter Award

On Saturday, 23 June, in Bellefonte, PA, **Roy K. Baardsen** was presented APS's **Nicholas Carter Volunteer Award for Local Service** from the Executive Director, Scott English. Roy has collected stamps for over seventy years without a lapse. When he retired and moved from NY to Reading early in the millennium, he looked for a club, found, and then joined the Reading Stamp Collector's Club (RSCC), and he never looked back.

Not long after, he met and befriended some members of PSLC at local and regional stamp shows. He visited PSLC and joined. As important, he encouraged collectors in the RSCC to do the same. Many did. Over the years he has recruited at least nine other RSCC members to join PSLC. And in turn, several Lancaster collectors joined Reading. There has been great interaction between clubs seen in Power Point presentations, volunteering for both clubs' shows, joint bus excursions, sharing of expertise,

providing snacks for the meetings, and much more. Most of us think of Reading and Lancaster as one large stamp club. Roy has been the man behind most of this activity.



With the RSCC, Roy has been vice president for the last 15 years. He recruits new members, encourages member participation, and takes succession planning very seriously, all of this for the viability of the club.

On a yearly basis, Roy organizes a committee for Reading's yearly November show, one that is always a success. He does the same annually for their Christmas party.

Perhaps what is most evident is Roy's bus trip planning which occurs every 12-18 months. With

committee in place, the clubs have been to APS, the NPM, ASDA shows in NYC, and the NY Int'l Stamp Show in '16. On the bus there are door prizes, snacks and drinks, and a lottery ticket for each participant! When seats are available, Roy reaches out to the Gettysburg and Harrisburg stamp clubs to join us.

It is obvious that Roy likes serving people, and this is infectious when one observes him "work the room," not for his own benefit, but for the sake of both clubs and their membership. Roy is always encouraging collectors in the hobby and facilitating inter-club engagement. He is most deserving of this Nicholas Carter Award for Local Service.

Pictured nearby are Roy and several joint members of the Reading and Lancaster stamp clubs. Standing left to right include **James Savage, Mike Bach, Roy, Aaron Heckler, and David Hunt**. Seated left to right include **David Silcox and Michel Matus**. Missing is **Peter Baney**.

Club Notes

Programs, Hosts & Shows

2018 Programs

11 July: History of the Schuylkill Canal in PPCs, Aaron Heckler, Dick Colberg, Host

8 August: Summer Picnic, Memorial Park, Millersville, PA

13 September: Fall Auction, Dennis Shumaker, Host

10 October: Postal Material from the 1940s, Tom Nichol, Deb Ehleiter, Host

14 November: Open House and One-Page Exhibits, Len Kasper and Paul Petersen

12 December: December Dinner, Deb Ehleiter & Co.

2019 Programs

9 January: Club Auction, John Hostetter, Host

13 February: TBA

13 March: The NY Postmaster Provisional Stamp of 1845, Mark Schwartz

10 April: Aspects of PA Postal History, Bill Schultz

8 May: Graphics/Printing on Stamps, Joseph Sullivan

12 June: Club Auction

10 July: Making Philatelic Donations, Richard Nakles

14 August: Club Picnic: Freedom Memorial Park, Millersville, PA

11 September: Club Auction

9 October: Stampless Mail from U.S. to Europe, Dr. DiComo

13 November: Open House and One-Page Exhibits, Len Kasper and Paul Petersen

11 December: December Dinner

2018 Shows/Events

BALPEX: Fri-Sun, 31 Aug to 2 September, Shawan Road, Hunt Valley Inn, MD. Exit 20-E

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: Sundays, 19 Aug., 19 Oct., & 16 Dec. Farm & Home Center. Lunch is free.

Harrisburg: CCPS Fall Stamp Show, Sunday, 9 September, Lower Swatara Firehouse, Middletown, 9:30-3:30, Free.

Red Rose Coin Show: 8 Sept. 9-3, Farm & Home Center, Free.

Club Notes:

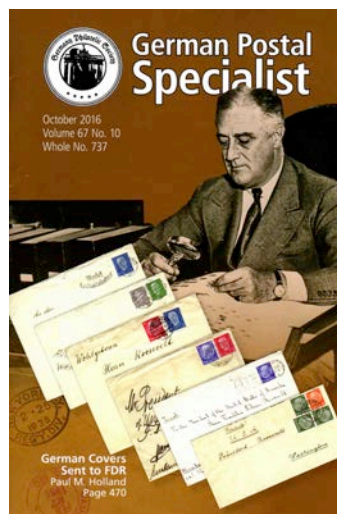
Barnstormers Baseball: Thursday, 6 September. Dinnertime at Five-Guys 4:45; Game time 7:00

The Germany Philatelic Society

"The GPS is dedicated to the documentation, preservation, advancement, and promotion of the stamps and postal history of Germany and its related areas through education, study, research, and services."

I joined early in the millennium when I ordered a back issue of their publication, *German Postal Specialist*, featuring Volkswagens to interest my youngest son. After reading the journal and communicating my interests with then Editor, Fred Bauman, I joined.

Membership was a very good decision. While I do not collect Germany, I am very interested in the historical aspects of The Great War, WWII, Hyperinflation, the Holocaust, and much of early 20th century history. The GPS has it all. I joined primarily for the outstanding publication, the *German Postal Specialist*, but they offer so much more.



The GPS lending library is second to none for this, and shipping prices are reasonable. GPS offers a translation service, and for the hearty, there are GPS chapters around the country, the nearest to Lancaster being Philadelphia and Baltimore, each meeting once a month. Every two years GPS hosts a Salon with their German counterpart in the U.S. or Germany.

Further, there are study groups for subspecialties including Danzig, colonies, revenues, inflation, the German States, the Russian zone, Stadt Post, and Third Reich.

Annual membership is \$40/year.

Germanyphilatelicsocietyusa.org
Ed. ☐

June Minutes and Treasury

Diane Meek & Lou DiFelice

Opening: President DiComo opened the meeting at 7:00 pm for a short business meeting in anticipation of the auction.

Membership: Lucy Eyster and Barb Buchanan introduced Scott Ney of Lebanon. He has several collecting interests with Germany-Deutsches Reich and Austria at the top and a beginning interest in PA postal history, with a focus on Lebanon Co.

Doug Keefer of Willow Street collects topicals, joint issues with the U.S., and U.S. from 1920s to date. Attendance: 53 signed in. Paid-up membership at this time stands at 108.

Approval of May Minutes and Treasurer's Report: These were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Drawing/Door Prizes: Dean Brenner, Eleanor Wheeler,

and Joe Berlin won prizes.

50-50 Drawing: The 50-50 was not held this month.

Upcoming Events: Paul Petersen reviewed upcoming events and passed around sign-up sheets for the 8 August Picnic, 6 September dinner (optional) and Barnstormers Baseball, and the caravan to SCOPEX on 23 June.

Meeting Greeters: Barb Buchanan would like to have two greeters for our meetings, and Paul passed around the sign-ups for this through the rest of the year.

Program: June's program was the spring auction (See below)

Treasury: 1-31 May '18

Opening:	\$3,527.43
Income:	\$309.00+
Expenses:	\$50.00-
Sum:	\$3,786.43
3-CDs	@ \$7,041.03

Auctions: Let's Make Them Faster & More Secure

PSLC's triennial auctions seem to get bigger and better. Lou Di provided the data that he and Dick Shaefer compiled during the June sale. Last month there were 144 lots with 100 sold, 45 bidders, and a \$1,065 realization with \$180 of that donated to the club.

As always, there were some lots without bids, but many of these were traded or sold by private treaty following the closing of the auction.

One thing about Lancastrians and those surrounding us; all like to buy, sell, and bargain! It was such a packed house that the snacks ran out. Ed. has already talked to the snack guy for June.

However, there were some caveats. The lengths of the auctions are increasing. Two solutions were discussed. In the **first**, the ten-item limit might be reduced to eight. This would speed things up a bit.

The **second** option is for a more thorough description of the lots by the seller. The Auction Lot Description Form works well with individual

stamps/sets and single covers. Members are to be commended for using these appropriately.

However, some of the other lots need more thoroughly written descriptions. While some were described well, others required the auctioneers to look through the lot on the spot, figure out what was there, point out the highlights, and then call for bids. This takes way too much time!

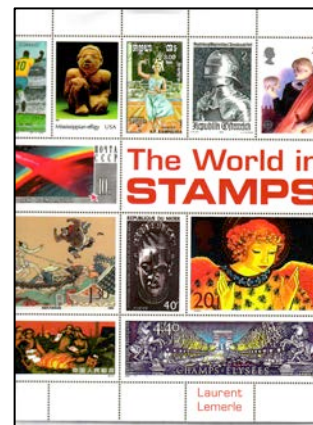
The key here is for the sellers to provide a written description that the auctioneer can read to best describe the lot. This is a win-win situation. It makes the bidding process go much faster, and it should result in a better realization. Remember that the seller knows the material the best.

There is a second issue with the large auction associated with limited table space and crowding of lots on the display table.

The tables are open for buyers to preview prior to the auction, but lots can be over-handled. Someone observed our pre-auction review as a "free-for-all."

Here, lots can potentially be broken up. Segments can get separated and bundled with other lots

L. Lemerle's oversize book (2006, NY: Abrams) is on topical collecting with some familiar topics and unusual twists for me such as breast feeding, New Years, and megaliths. There are eight divisions divided into 123 subsections incorporating 3581 stamps. It is hard to put this book down. Leave it on the coffee table to attract new collectors.



where they do not belong.

Two sellers had problems last month. One had several reference books for sale. Following the auction he had no record that it was sold, nor was it on the "unsold" table. He surmised, that during the auction preview, this reference book was inappropriately bundled into another of his book lots and sold. He lost a book and a sale.

Another seller checked the table during the auction and noticed that of his bundle of seven UK presentation packs, there was only one! Subsequently these were found. They had been inadvertently tucked within another UK presentation pack that had not yet come up for sale. If this was not noticed, he could have lost a sale and the items.

Bottom line: Please use great care as you prepare your lots. Devise ways that they will stay together whether in a box, a document holder, or banded together, etc.

And, as you peruse other members' lots, treat them as your own.

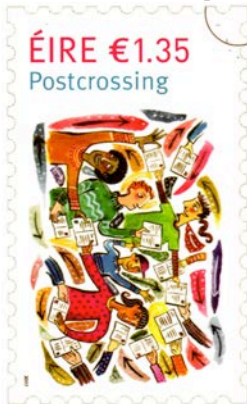
Further, track the auction proceedings regarding the items you sell and buy with prices realized. This provides a snapshot of your situation, and checkout will be faster.

Musings: A hand-painted tiger cover and how I got it

Before I get to the hand-painted cover, allow me to give a little background about how this item came to our mailbox.



Over the years I have shared my wife's interest in the int'l postcard exchange organization called **Postcrossing**. This was her mainstay until her reunification with the **Fountain Pen**! Below is a postcard from *An Post* in Ireland depicting their recent Postcrossing commemorative stamp issue.



Just a few years ago she rekindled an interest in calligraphy from her college days and those years of lettering her dad's (George Evans) cartoon strip, *The Secret Agent*. To do so, she needed some pens, and this led to her participa-

tion in several fountain pen websites, all with slightly different perspectives.

Like the California surfers looking for their perfect wave since the late 1960s, she has been seeking the perfect fountain pen, and did I mention the ink...and the paper?

This is where website contacts come in and offer advice for the seeker. What are the advantages of certain brands and models? Who are the best vendors? How are pens maintained and/or repaired? What ink and/or paper is best for a specific task, and much more. She is never short of advice. Nor is she short of attractive covers several times a week.



Like stamp, postcard, and coin shows, the Fountain Pen People have their shows as well, and like some of the stamp collectors we may know, a few drop some big bucks for their fountains pens. I won't go into the numbers. Trust me on this.

So while we might collect stamps, coins, and PPCs, what do the Fountain Pen People otherwise collect? The most common accessories to them all are the paper and ink. Most collectors have a wide variety on hand. This quest is almost as important as the choice of pens. As

such, my wife's studio looks like an alchemist's den with little sample bottles of assorted ink colours. I would hate for our house to get busted, as the Fountain Pen People use hypodermic needles to fill their pens, and many pens and inks come with their own needle and syringe right in the box. And many of these pens and supplies come from China!



So beyond pens, ink, and paper, are there any stamp collectors among the Fountain Pen People? This seems a likely stretch, at least to me. But in my wife's large sphere, none have surfaced. Some collect ink blotters of the 1900s, the kind with advertising on the back. But the other collectibles include watches, knives, guns, and daily carries.

One of the fountain pen websites arranges pen pals, those Fountain Pen People who desire to write to other likeminded folks. Here they try out their new pens, inks, paper, and calligraphy (for some). They often write about their latest pens and other accouterments. Many have turned into long-distance friendships. About 15%

of her pen pals are international. While no stamp collectors have surfaced to date among her 'pals,' several have commented on her use of multiple and interesting stamps. And in fact, I have been happily supplying her some stamps for both franking and giving away. She has shared with others how to find older postage at stamp shows, and some have followed up on this.

Some of the favorites for franking are the fractional stamps such as the 1½¢ Martha Washingtons or the ½¢ Ben Franklins in the Prexi and Liberty series. A few pen pals are into Mail Art and enjoy adding stamps to their creations. The hand painted over-size cover in the upper left of this article was sent by my wife's pen pal, Grace. While exquisitely crafted, Grace improved on her cover perfection by franking it with a U.S. 44¢ B-4 semi-postal of 2011, the Vanishing Species. This art cover is as good as any professionally prepared maxi-card I have ever seen. I hope you enjoy it as I have.



The pen pals have had other benefits including the story of the Valencia stamps as seen below. These stamps will be one of my topics in September. Ed. ☒



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