



The Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club

Stan Raugh, Editor

July 2018

Most meetings held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the

Berkshire Commons, 5485 Perkiomen Avenue (Route 422). Turn North on Lincoln opposite of the Dairy Queen, then proceed 300 feet and turn left onto Washington and look right of center at the stop sign.

"The Use of Fake Stamps in Russian Mail"

...will be presented by Kent Weaver, M. D.

This promises to be a fantastically interesting program.

It is amazing that these stamps got by postal inspection!

What a Jackpot Payoff!

We missed getting it into the last newsletter, but payouts at the May meeting were "springtastic!"

Bob Steininger won the \$20 attendance drawing—and it was the first time he was able to attend in 2018, according to records. It pays to be there whenever you can.

Jim Savage won a "may-mamoth" (sorry—been smelling too many pesticides this Spring) 50/50 drawing for \$22. Stop by in July, hear a good program and take a chance to win!

TREASURER'S REPORT: June 30th 2018

Cash in Hand: \$ 42.00. VIST Current Account: \$ 2,508.04 VIST CD: \$ 3,011.79

Study of WW II German Prisoner of War Mail Enlightening

Your editor is a member of the Third Reich Study Group, a unit of the German Philatelic Society.

It is a small group that once put out a stapled newsletter. Now, lifetime dues are \$25 and the greatly expanded "newspaper" is online. When still print-based, there were a series of articles on U. S. prisoner of war camps that housed German soldiers captured during World War II. Every issue had a new article on all the camps within a particular state.

One issue discussed those camps in the Western state of New Mexico. There were four of them, plus 18 branch camps, and a camp that housed both Germans and Japanese. Of course, any mail sent from or into the camps is of collector interest. I would imagine that mail from some of the smaller camps is now rare, but the stories about the camps are priceless.

In 1943, a government program that brought in Mexican laborers to help local New Mexican farmers, ran short and it was decided to offer work to German Prisoners of War (POWs).

The program continued for three years and was popular, however the prisoners were paid minimum wage! Meanwhile American POWs in German camps received treatment varying from survivable to brutal. Camp Lordsburg in Hidalgo County was built to hold 3,000 but by 1944 ended up with 5,500 POWs. The camp was "a dumping ground" for all the incorrigible hard core Nazi types.

Local citizens were nervous as the POWs outnumbered everyone in the county. On top of that, the camp commander allowed the inmates to celebrate a "Heroes" day, complete with bold party flags, banners and flaming pillars. No wonder the local civilians were concerned.

For all the WW II books and articles your editor has read, for all the speakers heard both in person and on television and DVDs played, this information never came to my attention until I read it in a philatelic publication.

POSTAGE FREE PRISONER OF WAR German- H.F. ADDRESS: Ftäulein ADRESSE: Hildegard Feierabend INDIRIZZO: Thomasberg b. Oberpleis -R-J Kt/ Siegkteis ndo der Germany! Geöffnet 11467 SOR



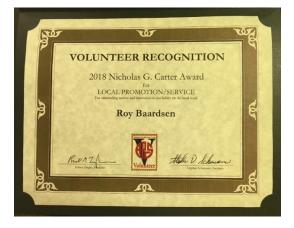
Example of Letter from US Camp

Stamp collecting is a VERY educational hobby and it should be promoted to all world citizens, especially American children.

2017 APS Nicholas Carter Volunteer Award

It is pleasure to announce that one of the coveted 2017 APS Nicholas Carter Volunteer Awards went to Roy K. Baardsen for his years of continual service to both PSLC and RSCC, often thought of fondly as one club. Note that only 10 Volunteers are recognized annually across the whole of the United States

We all know the work that Roy has done and continues to do behind the scenes for both clubs along with the more visible Reading stamp shows and bus treks that he and his crew arrange for us. More so, it is his interaction with members and other stamp collectors to get all engaged in stamp clubs and have a good time together.





The award was made at APS during SCOPEX on Saturday, the 23rd June by Executive Director, Scott English, along with nearly a dozen other members from both clubs.





So when you see Roy, please give him a solid pat on the back for a job very well done for so many years. Much of what you observe in the clubs is the result of Roy's actions, and it is based on his love of the hobby and fellow collectors.

Experience Nature/Summer: Insects (Netherlands 2018)

Insects play leading part in summer version of 'Experience Nature' stamp series

The Hague, 4 June 2018 – PostNL will be issuing the new 'Experience Nature' stamp series this year. There will be a ten-stamp sheetlet for each season. The third stamp series will appear today. This summer edition of the stamp series is devoted to insects. The autumn version of this stamp series, with mushrooms, will follow in October.



The summer stamps feature 10 insects we may encounter in our country. The photographs used are 'portraits' of these insects in their natural environment. Most images run almost imperceptibly through onto the adjacent stamp. This makes it seem like the insects live side by side in the same habitat.

The beauty of nature

With the 'Experience Nature' stamp series, PostNL pays tribute to the diversity of nature in our country. "The stamps in this series show Dutch nature on its best behaviour," says Stephan van den Eijnden, PostNL's Commercial Director for Mail. "After the reptiles & amphibians and the wildflowers, 10 insects are showing themselves in their best light. A promising run-up to the fourth sheetlet, which will be appearing this autumn."

Thousands of photos

For the 'Experience Nature' series, graphic designer Frank Janse from Gouda selected around one thousand photographs for each of the four stamp sheetlets. He narrowed these down to a shortlist consisting of around a hundred images, from which he chose the ten photographs that made it onto each stamp sheetlet. He was guided by both the beauty of the photograph and the special characteristics of the depicted plants and animals. The photographs are the work of amateur photographers who send their best images to the PIXFACTORY websites.Netherlands 2018 by VSC. Bookmark the permalink.

MIKE'S PAGES

FUTURE MEETINGS: 2018

Reading Stamp Collectors Club

July 10th : The use of fake stamps in the mails of Russia. Presenter Kent Weaver

<u>August 7th</u>: "Banking in Pawling NY. In the Village and Surrounding Townships 1849-1929" Presenter: Dr Charles J. DiComo PSLC

Sept. 4th : Fall Auction

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County

July 11th: History of the Schuylkill Canal in PPC's – Presenter Aaron Heckler.

August 8th: Summer Picnic – Memorial Park Millersville 6:00 pm Start

Sept. 13th : Fall Auction

MARKET PLACE

No items sent in to be displayed.

Email what you want sold to <u>mbach1@comcast.net</u> and I will put them in next OVERPRINT

ALSO

RSCC offers a service if you want to downsize you collection. WE have a relationship with Dutch Country Auction and our executive members can assist in getting your collect to them for Auction Email or Call Roy for assistance: <u>Roykb@comcast.net</u> or 610-927-3435

