



Website Gold
(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

Bourse opens at 6:30 pm, Wednesday, 10 October 2018

Business meeting at 7:00 pm; Program to follow. Deb Ehleiter, Host
Tonight's Greeter: Doug Milliken

The Veranda Chronicles

Autumn has arrived, and we are coming off a successful Fall Auction on September 12th. Please thank our staff of auctioneers (Aaron Heckler and Mike Marino did a grand job); trackers and runners (Bob Kramer, Mark Jardel, and yours truly); all those that submitted quality material (keep the variety coming); and our ambitious members that bid energetically and won some great lots. The results of the auction are discussed on page 3 in the newsletter. We must also thank Dennis Shumaker for an excellent spread of food, drinks, and desserts; I know I ate my share. For anyone interested in volunteering for our tri-annual auctions, please see Lou DiFelice, Dick Shaefer and/or myself.

I am also proud to share with our

members and friends that the PSLC website¹ has been awarded a Gold in the 2018 American Philatelic Society (APS) Website Award Competition. This award recognizes website excellence. Four experienced judges from across the country following a rigorous vetting process made the determination, along with suggestions for continued improvement of our web presence.

We are grateful and honored and have proudly posted the Gold Award badge on our Website home page and Awards section.² The certificate signed by the President and Secretary of the American Philatelic Society recognizing this great work was mailed to Paul Petersen, the APS Representative of the Society. This award exemplifies the very best that is happening out in the local stamp commu-

nities and is illustrated on page 2 in this issue.

As we enter the month of October and cooler weather, the Society is pleased to welcome member Thomas Nichols for a presentation on the Postal Material of the 1940's. You do not want to miss this one which covers the post-great depression era, World War II, and the post-world War II era - all in one decade. And our gracious Host will be Deb Ehleiter. In closing, our Annual Meeting, Open House & Exhibition on November 14th is drawing near, and I am calling for all our members to find that one item you are most excited about, and to consider presenting it for all to see. This is one of my favorite times of the year - and there will be more about this in our next issue. Cheers, *CDi*

¹<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/>

²<http://www.lcps-stamps.org/history-mission/awards-honors/>



December Dinner will be held on 19 December, so save the new date.
Hors d'oeuvres at 5:30 and Buffet at 6:00 @ Viva Center, Woodcrest.
Menu to follow. Sign-ups start this month. Price-\$30 per person.

Postal Material from the 1940s: Tom Nichols

So why the 1940's? For starters Tom was born during the 40's like many collectors of today, and then there was the post-great depression era, World War II, and the post-world War II era-all in one decade. He desired to accomplish an all-inclusive collection of the different types of postal material published over such a varied decade of turmoil and new beginnings in order to better

understand how U.S. philately was affected by those world events. So far in his study of 1940s ma-

terial, he's found 15 different categories of postal material containing over 175 postal items. Tom's goal with tonight's presentation is to highlight many of those different collecting categories and focus on the great series of stamps and postal events that occurred during this most interesting of times. (See Tom's bio-Pg.-3)



**2019 Dues are Due
Renewal on Pg.-4**

**Volume 81, No. 10
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**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-Stamps.org

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Reminiscing Our Summer Picnic

While we are in one of the most comfortable seasons of the year, it may be easy to forget the hot and wet summer of '18, one in which many records were broken. But there was that oasis on 8 August, the PSLC picnic at Millersville Memorial Park. No one is sure how he does it, but **Doug Milliken** did it again. There were dark clouds and rain all around, but all went well for a comfortable event.



We had 43 folks sign up, and at the picnic there were four no-shows and two walk-ons, totaling 41 in attendance. As such, we had just the right amount of food.



As typical with our picnic, the club purchases the burgers, dogs, buns, drinks, and paperware, while members and families bring side dishes, snacks, and desserts. No one went home hungry. And also typical of the club, many pitched in to help clean up, making our exit sparkling and timely.



John Hostetter lead the purchasing and set up team with **Dale Shaub**, **Bill Greiner, III** and **Paul Petersen** teamed in for set up and clean up. **Mike Shirley** and **Bill III** did the grillin'. ↓



A tradition of the last several years has been "The Cake." What is it going to be this year? **Dennis** and **Lucy Shumaker** contribute a cake annually containing a well known stamp. This year it is Scott#39, the ninety-cent George Washington of 1856-1861. ↓



Below are **Dennis** (center) and **Lucy** about to cut the cake.



1-Page Exhibits

Exhibit Night is coming in November during our Open House. Many think that this is one of the best events of the year with members' presentations and discussion of the One-Page Exhibits. You may have

one or more pages or short exhibits to share with the club. There are no rules, place pages in document holders, or if it is an album, or larger, bring it along. Any questions? Call Paul Petersen. →

DiComo/Web Win Gold(s):

PSLC won a gold award in this year's APS Website competition, one of only seven golds awarded. Kudos to **Dr. DiComo**, PSCL's Web Designer & Developer and Webmaster. Like a stamp exhibit, the competitive websites (and newsletters, too) are reviewed by a team of trained judges.



The Website average score was 93.7 points/100! Comments from the scoring sheets were most positive, as in the following examples: "This is a good site, up to date! Informative to members and visitors. Excellent content (i.e. photo galleries). Electronic library is especially strong, showing the advantage of bringing in material from other locations. A pleasing site, easy to read and navigate, lots of good images. It was a pleasure viewing this site, from layout and font selection to content hosted and linked." So one can see why PSCL has one of the best stamp club websites around.

But here's the kicker and the reason for the headline as noted above. In addition to a gold award for PSCL, Dr. DiComo won golds as Webmaster for the **U.S. Philatelic Classics Society** (www.uspcs.org) and **The Empire State Postal History Society** (www.esphs.us)! Three out of seven APS Website Competition golds go to The Man...not too shabby. Congrats again, **Charlie**.



Club Notes

Programs, Hosts, Shows, and Events

2018 Programs

10 October: Postal Material from the 1940s. Tom Nichols. 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: Topic TBA, Robert Witkosky

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

10 April: The Joys of Philately. Bill Schultz

8 May: The History of 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 the U.S. to Europe, Dr. Charles DiComo

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

11 December: December Dinner, Deb Ehleiter & Co.

2020 Programs

8 January: Club Auction

2018 Shows/Events

Some Sundays Stamp Bourse: Sunday, 14 Oct., & 16 Dec. Farm & Home Center. Lunch is free.

Reading Stamp Show: Sat. 3 Nov., Leesport Farm Market, Route 61 just north of Leesport. 312 Gernants Church Road.

American Philatelic Research Library Golden Anniversary, F/S, 2-3 November at Am. Phil. Ctr.

Lancaster Post Card Club: Monday, 20 October. *A Mostly Trivial View of our U.S. Presidential Families.* Don Tribit. Monday, 9 Nov. *Christmas Traditions on Postcards,* Aaron Heckler.

Club Biography: Tom Nichols

Tom Nichols lives in Shrewsbury, PA with wife Sharon of 46 years, though both are native Marylanders. They moved to PA to be near two of their 3 daughters and their grandkids. He retired five years ago after working in the IT industry for 41 years, and he notes that he can't fix your computer! He started collecting worldwide stamps at the age 10, as both his father and brother collected. At age 13 he turned to mint U.S. stamps. His first purchase was a plate block from his the local post office of the 1960 4¢ winter Olympic stamp #1146. He was also befriended by his local Postmaster that day who, for the next five years saved all the new stamp issues for him right up until he retired.

Tom reports a great local hobby shop in his hometown of Catonsville, MD where the owner would let him sit at his desk in the back office and look over hundreds of stamp packets he had for sale. He laments that the local shops of all kinds are a thing of the past.

Presently, Tom's main philatelic interest is mint U.S. stamps (single, plate blocks, sheets, booklets, coils and unaddressed FDCs) up to 2011. He stopped here, as he is not a big fan of today's **Forever** stamps. He still collects some worldwide up to 1970; here he drew his line! Tom's favorite country to collect is Great Britain with its many possessions.

Currently Tom focuses on collecting all postal related material issued during the 1940's, hoping to publish an article or collecting guide on this time period at some future date.

Tom enjoys attending stamp shows and has greatly appreciated his first year as a member of **PSLC**. His other meaningful hobby pursuits include HO scale model trains and fishing.

Auction Results

There were 146 lots, and 88 were won (60.3%), totaling \$772 with \$82 (10.6%) in club donations. Thanks to auctioneers **Aaron Heckler** and **Mike Marino**, runners **Dr. DiComo**, **Mark Jardel**, and **Bob Kramer**. **Dick Shaefer** served as recorder and **Lou DiFelice** was auction treasurer.



September Minutes and Treasury

Diane Meek & Lou DiFelice

Opening: **Dr. DiComo** opened the meeting at 7:00 and announced that the PSLC web site won a Gold Award. (Ed's note: See pg. 1 & 3)

Membership: Tonight's visitors included Mr. & Mrs. **John Shue** for a return visit. Attendance: 45.

Treasurer's Report: **Lou DiFelice** provided a financial update and made a recommendation to move our CDs to another institution for a greater interest rate. This was approved.

Approval of July-August Minutes and Treasurer's

Report: These were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Drawing for Door Prizes: **Dennis Shumaker**, **John Hostetter**, and **Roy K. Baardsen** were tonight's winners.

1-Page Exhibits: A sign-up sheet was circulated for the 14 November Open House and 1-Page Exhibits. Contact **Paul Petersen** with questions.

Change in Annual December Dinner: **Deb Ehleiter** led the discussion on the change of our dinner to the third Wednesday in December. This is due to a *Viva Center* conflict on the 12th. Dinner will be held on 19 December

with punch and hors d'oeuvres starting at 5:30 and the buffet dinner at 6:00. Add'l info will be forthcoming. This change appeared to be well received by membership. There will be a sign-up sheet and menu at the October meeting.

Program: Following the business meeting and a short break, the Fall Auction began.

Treasury: 1-31 August '18

Opening:	\$3,775.53
Income:	\$76.00
Expenses:	\$345.89
Sum:	\$3,505.64
3-CDs	@ \$7,052.08

PSLC at Clipper Stadium



Many believe that the highlight of the Lancaster Barnstormers baseball season was not their record, but the PSLC excursion to a game. At season's end, the Barnstormers lost to Sugar Land (TX) Skeeters in the Division final. The Skeeters went on to beat the Long Island Ducks for the Atlantic League Championship on 30 September. Of the eight teams in the Atlantic League, Lancaster tied for third with the York Revolution, both with .571 season averages. This was a fitting end to the 2018 War of the Roses.

As a recent tradition on game night, some of us started with dinner at Five Guys, a burger joint with an outstanding menu. The way the team played, our cheeseburgers and fries were the highlight of the night. But more than this was the friendship within the club. Seventeen purchased tickets, however only ten attended the game.

Attending were **Dick Colberg**, **Lou DiFelice**, **Al and Twila Shaub**, **Paul Petersen**, **John Hostetter**, **Bill Greiner**, **Dennis Shumaker**, and **Joe and Diane Sullivan** from Towson, MD. Joe is a friend of the club and will be our speaker next May on "The History of Printing on Stamps."

APS Related

It is always a pleasure to see a club member mentioned in the philatelic press, whether a story and snap or an article. In the recent issue of *Philatelic Literature Review* (with permission, 3rd Qtr '18 Vol.-67, Pg-164), the journal of the American Philatelic Research Library, I encounter a picture and short note of **Dick Colberg**. Each year he is a member of the team at Volunteer Week, an assemblage of up to 40 or more APS members who spend the week doing what is needed. In this issue, **Dick** is pictured at his APRL desk pricing books for sale for members at the APC.



There are many philatelic books donated to APRL, and when duplicates are received, they are put on sale for the membership at reasonable prices. Many collectors make the trip to Bellefonte just for the books on sale.

But how much are they worth? The APS/APRL teams of specialists help price donated items that are sold at The American Philatelic Center. This includes books, stamps, covers, catalogues, ephemera, and other philatelic items.

For those with "enquiring minds," about the stamp donation process **Richard Nakles**, the APS Volunteer for in-kind Donations will be speaking at PSLC on 10 July 2019.

Happy Halloween to All



The Blessings of Grand Parenting

Ed. ✉

Carol and I have been out of town for a while helping our son with a new house and new baby born on 4 August. We spent five weeks with them in Connecticut and remembered why people have their kids when they are young.

We visited a nearby bookstore and found Jean Seabrook's parenting book entitled *Furry Logic: Parenthood*, published by Ten Speed Press, Berkeley (2005).

There were some good lines that caught our attention which I cite below for your reading pleasure. Hopefully these will rekindle your more enduring memories more than the trying times.



- You can't scare me, I have children.
 - Those who say they sleep like babies...don't usually have them.
 - Prenatal:** (Definition) When your life was still your own.
 - The moment you have children, you forgive your parents everything.
 - Why do they say "You have a baby"? The baby has you!
 - A perfect example of minority rule is a baby in the house.
 - Money isn't everything, but it sure helps to keep the kids in touch!
- And one of the author's favorites:
- Blessed is the parent who expects no gratitude, for he/she shall not be disappointed.

Victory (V) Mail

Late last month, my wife and I took an antique break to Adamstown. Here we found a wonderful example of **rebranding**.



As always she looks for vintage fountain pens and ink among other interests. In her search, she found "The box" and ink, of course. Both were in very good shape, even though the vintage Parker Quink (Quick Ink) in the box was red! It didn't matter. It is called Micro-Film Ink and adds "For V Mail."

Tom Nichols will be presenting the issues of the 1940s, and V-Mail is included with illustrations and a short history.

During WWII there was a great deal of mail going across the Atlantic and Pacific in both directions. The transport of personnel and supplies had a priority over mail, which was often significantly delayed. But for morale, mail was of great importance.

Following the UK's lead, the U.S. teamed with Kodak to use special sheets for letters. These were censored, microfilmed, and mailed in bulk. Then they were developed and printed on the other side, and delivered to service members and their families. One mailbag of microfilm took the space of 37 bags of paper letters. V- (or Victory) Mail is an important collecting interest of postal historians. Ed. ✉

Nowherelands: A Review

Those who read this newsletter know that I am a born sucker for a book that has a stamp on the cover (or on the back cover in this case), especially if it is a murder mystery. Even though this book is not a murder mystery, it answers a lot of geographical and historical mysteries. Since I like maps almost as much as stamps, I was hooked on this 70th birthday present from my son in July. (He knows my weaknesses!) So stay tuned.



Björn Berge's *Nowherelands: An Atlas of vanished Countries 1840-1875* (London: Thames & Hudson, 2017) is a book that I would have liked even without the stamps. "This is a book," I said to myself "that I will review for the newsletter...someday."



A few weeks ago I finally got to read my February issue of *Stamp Magazine* (UK), a favorite. Low 'n behold, here was my book on page 27! Even more, there was a review of a second book, *Lost Countries: Exotic Tales from an Old Stamp Album*. As you can see, the stamp illustrations are on the front cover on this one. The time had come to write my review before I was scooped again. Getting back to *Nowherelands*, fifty-one dead countries are included in chronological order of their deaths. Some entities I have heard of, others were new to me. Some of these countries only lasted a year while others enjoyed a 175-year longevity.

For each dead country, there is a map, dates of existence, land area in sq. km, and an example of a postage stamp. The latter shows the importance of a nation using stamps to acknowledge and assert their existence. And in this book, the stamps add some zest to the histories.

Not too long ago I read a philatelic article of the postal issues of Hejaz (1916-1925) a small country across the Red Sea from Egypt and its interesting history related to the Great War in the Middle East, the Suez Canal, and troubles in the Mediterranean. Hejaz is well-detailed here along with Perak, Iquique, Danzig, and Van Dieman's Land, to name a few other countries featured.

While this is not a book about stamps or postal history, it contains much of the background information useful to postal historians. Each country has its story, and all are well-told with detail, emotion, and humor. The references are well-selected and helpful. Ed. ✉

The Reading 2018 Stamp Show

When: Saturday, 3 November
Where: Leesport Farm Market
 Route 61, just north of Leesport. Set your GPS or do a MapQuest route search for 321 Gernants Church Road in Leesport.

At the October club meeting we'll have an announcement for anyone interested in carpooling, riders and drivers alike. And if you have time to help out with the show, this will be welcome. Contact Paul Petersen

✉ ✂

Please clip this dues notice, complete it, and turn in to Barb Buchanan at the next meeting with \$10.00. You may also send it to her at PO Box 116, Conestoga, PA 17516-0116

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

ATA Member ☐

APS Member ☐

Please check the appropriate ATA/APS box(s) if you are a paid up member.

☒ Make checks payable to Philatelic Society of Lancaster County.