



Did you vote last  
Tuesday?

# 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, 13 November 2019**

Bourse at 6:30 pm, Open House at 7:00 pm; L. Kasper & D. Meek, Hosts

## The Veranda Chronicles

The cooler weather has arrived, the leaves are changing their hue, and the aroma of baked goods fills the air. On October 9, 40+ members and guests were treated to a presentation by **David Hunt** entitled "*The Engraving Art of Czeslaw Slania – Life Work of the World's Finest Engraver*". David discussed the early life of Slania in Poland and his longtime partnership with the Swedish Post who produced many of his stamps after he moved there in 1956. Slania was prolific in that he designed and/or engraved 1547 stamps for 32 countries – a record that will probably never be surpassed. He also engraved banknotes and various art pieces. You can view David's

presentation on our website.<sup>1</sup> On 19 October, 20+ members and guests of the **Philatelic Gathering** met at the CCHS. Robert Rufe was the host, Ellen Endsloew reminded us to continue voting online for the opportunity to obtain funds to help the CCHS undertake much-needed roof repairs, and I read the membership report and minutes from the September meeting. I also announced a new member to the fold - Paul Petersen – welcome! **Kean Spencer** led off the program with two frames of U.S. Possessions, including Puerto Rico, Cuba, Guam, Philippines, Hawaii, Ryukyu Islands, and Canal Zone.

Kean showed off many of the key stamps which complete these series. Next **Robert Rufe** walked us through a presentation of the exciting new listings in the 2020 *Scott Specialized Catalogue* of the 1928 Fourth Bureau Stamps printed on special Booklet Paper. This has been a decade long effort by Bob, and we congratulate him. After a brief Q&A on current copyright law with respect to digital images of prior-owned collections and use in the public domain, we retired to the Iron Hill Brewery to continue the dynamic discussion. Bob's presentation can be found on our website.<sup>2</sup> See →→Pg.-2

## Open House and One-Page Exhibits Tonight

Tonight is one of our best meetings of the year, as it includes presentations, exhibits, a bourse, great snacks, and so much more. It is a time to see what others collect and learn of interesting ways to display a myriad of philatelic materials. A short business meeting will be held. Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors, and your kids and grands. They will never be the same again. Featured speakers tonight include **Dick Colberg** and **Mike Bach**. Dick's title is entitled "*Philately Across the Pond*." Those of you who are long time members will recall some of Dick's reports in this publication regarding the hobby of philately in France. He and his wife Nancy live 3-5 months of the year in Fontaine-la-Soret, a small village in northwest France. Stamp collecting and postal history are

very popular in France, but some things are done a little differently. Take the image of Rogue's Gallery below. Dick (far left) and Nancy share in a post meeting dinner of the Paris Stamp Club as they salute PSLC from several thousand miles away.



One of Dick's interests is Mexico, and the other gentlemen in the snap all collect this country and its postal history. The picture says it all. Perhaps we can learn a thing or two from Dick to add to our club's repertoire. Mike's topic is "*More Than Just*

*a Victorian Mourning Cover*." Because this story has an interesting twist to it, Mike asked that we leave the details to tonight, as to not give away any of the surprises he has in store. It started with a simple Penny Black on cover that lead to six months of research and...well, you'll just have to wait and see...

Our One-Page Exhibits have evolved over the years, and 2019 is no exception. Starting tonight, exhibitors will have the opportunity to post their exhibits on the wall as has been the tradition or scan them to the big screens up front. Each will have 3-5 minutes to tell their story. To date we have 14-15 exhibitors on deck. **Len Kasper** and **Diane Meek** will be hosting with special snacks. This is the meeting that you should not miss, one of the best of the year.



**Volume 82, No. 11**

**November 2019**

**Visitors are Always  
Welcome**

PSLC meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (except August) at the Crossings Meeting Room, Landis Homes, 1001 East Oregon Road, Lititz, PA 17543 at 7:00 pm. Dues are \$10.00 a year. For club information call Paul Petersen at 717-299-5640

Website: [LCPS-Stamp.org](http://LCPS-Stamp.org)

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# Minutes and Treasury of the September Meeting

Paul Petersen, Acting Sect'y and Lou DiFelice, Treasurer

**Opening:** Dr. Charles J. DiComo opened the meeting at 7:00, and he reviewed leadership's decision to continue holding our meetings at Landis Homes during 2020.

**Membership:** Membership Committee Chair, **Barbara Buchanan** introduced tonight's visitor **Arlene Clemens**. She recently moved to Lititz from Washington State and hopes to return to collecting U.S., as she did many years ago. Attendance tonight was 42.

**2020 Dues:** Barb also announced the new dues structure with a 10% discount for those paying by the end of the year. This incentive is to thwart the dues collecting process from dragging on into June. (*Ed's Note: Dues renewal forms will be printed monthly in the newsletter.*)

**December Dinner:** Lou DeFelice announced that this event will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 18 December in the Garden Café, Woodcrest Villa, 2001 Harrisburg Pike. Directions will be in the December Newsletter. The cost will be \$20/person at the door with the club subsidizing the residual. Both members and guests are welcome. Members must sign up. **Paul Petersen** added that there will be an optional gift exchange.

**Drawing:** Eighteen door prizes were available, from philatelic note pads, tongs, stamp pins, souvenir sheets, and others. The most interesting item was a men's tie clasp stating "Wanted Old Stamps."

**50-50 Drawing:** Doug Keefer conducted the drawing. **Dennis Shumaker** and **PSLC** split \$70.

**Approval of September Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** Both were approved unanimously by voice vote.

**2020 Meeting Hosts:** Paul passed around the signup sheet for meeting hosts for 2020, which involves the provision of snacks and drinks. Greeters are also needed.

**One-Page Exhibits in November:** Paul explained the process and re-circulated the sign-up sheet. New this year will be the opportunity for exhibitors to submit a scan of the page(s) instead of posting the items on the wall. Either medium of submission is acceptable for this evening's event. Each exhibitor will have a total of 3-5 minutes to present one or more exhibits.

**Civil War Postal History Symposium:** This will be held at APS on 24-26 October and will include presentations, exhibits, sales, and much more. Event is free but registration is required.

**Dennis Shumaker** and **Dr. DiComo** will be attending in part and offered rides to those interested. Please contact them.



**Member Updates:** **Mike Bach** and **Paul** updated membership on **Roy Baardsen** and **Dennis Bouchard** respectively.

**PSLC Auctions:** Several members offered suggestions regarding greater efficiency of future auctions. The Auction Committee will consider these.

**Tonight's Program:** **Dave Hunt** gave an interesting and well-illustrated presentation on **Czeslaw Slania, Master Engraver**.



**Treasury: 1—30 September '19**

<b>Opening:</b>	\$5,055.06
<b>Income:</b>	\$394.00
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$447.52
<b>Sum:</b>	\$5,001.54
<b>2-CDs</b>	@ \$5,818.10

→(Veranda: From Pg.-1): On November 13 at 7:00 pm the Society will hold its **Annual Meeting, Open House and One-Page Exhibition**, with **Len Kasper** and **Paul Petersen** Co-Chairing and **Diane Meek** as Hostess. The public is invited to this great program, which has been amazingly successful since its inception. We hold a very short business meeting, vote on our slate of Officers for 2020, and hold two short 10

minute philatelic presentations. This year **Richard Colberg** will be speaking on "Philately Across the Pond" and **Mike Bach** will be speaking on "More than just a Victorian Mourning Cover." After a short break with special drinks and snacks comes the One-Page Exhibits. Members will have 3-5 minutes total for presentation of their items as members and guests walk around the room viewing and listening to each. Additionally, members will be

able to share their exhibits digitally on the two large monitors mounted in the meeting room.

This is one of my favorite events of the year – it is extremely satisfying to see everyone, welcome guests, and hear from many of our 120+ dues-paying members on the myriad of collecting areas they specialize in. I always walk away with a new appreciation for our hobby. See you all there! **CDI**

✂.....

Please clip this dues renewal notice, complete it, and turn in to Barb Buchanan at the next meeting with **\$9.00**. You may also send it to her at PO Box 116, Conestoga, PA 17516-0116. This 10% dues reduction is only good in 2019.

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.



## Club Notes

### Programs, Hosts & Shows

#### 2019 Programs

**13 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits. **Len Kasper** and **Paul Petersen**. **Diane Meek**, Hostess

**\*18 December:** December Dinner. **Deb Ehleiter & Co.**

*\*Please note that this is the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Wednesday of the month.*

#### 2020 Programs

**8 January:** Club Auction. **Hal Klein**, Host

**12 February:** From the U.S. to Farther India & Back Again: A Five Month Journey in 1856-1857. **Dr. Charles J. DiComo**

**11 March:** The U.S. 1933 Byrd Antarctic Stamp: Production, First Day & Other Uses. **Alan Warren**. **Dick Shaefer** Host

**9 April:** Exploring Postal History. **Bill Schultz**. **Tony Coccio**, Host

**13 May:** Canada's Role in Union & Confederate Postal Cross-Border Mail during the U.S. Civil War. **Ron Majors**

**10 June:** Club Auction

**8 July:** Perforations on U.S. Stamps. **Dr. DiComo**

**9 September:** Fall Auction

**14- October:** 1) GB Stamped to Order Stationary and 2) Royal Household Official Mail. **Dave Hunt**

**11 November:** Open House and One-Page Exhibits

**December:** December Dinner

#### Of Local Interest

**The Philatelic Gathering:** (Sat) 16 November, 10:00 am, Chester County Hist'l Society. *What's It Worth?*-**Dick Colberg** and *Direct Mail Promotion*-**Gene Fricks**.

**Red Rose Coin Club:** (Thur) 21 November, 6:00 pm, Annual RRCC Banquet, Gathering Place, Mt. Joy.

**Lancaster Co. Postcard Club:** (Mon) 18 November. 7:00 pm *Walt Disney Cards*-**Ken McClain**, Farm & Home Center.

**Some Sunday Stamp Shows:** 15 December, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster. **Lunch is provided free.**

Veranda References

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

<sup>2</sup> <http://lcps-stamps.org/study-groups/>



*Ave et Vale*

PSLC mourns the passing of **Dennis Bouchard** on Tuesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> October following a three-month battle with cancer. He and Joy had just recently moved to the home of their daughter and son-in-law near Atlanta.



Retiring from Verizon a few years back, Dennis kept busy a day a week with the Employee Store at Hershey Chocolates, sharing the spoils at PSLC meetings and other club occasions with Hershey's Kisses and other delectables. His generosity went well beyond chocolate, as he was known as the 'go-to' guy at his church, the Kiwanis, and his other organizations.

Generalizing into PSLC, he assisted at all our events including the meetings, shows, December Dinner, baseball, and the summer picnic where he and Joy are remembered for providing the entertainment, games, activities, prizes, and more for many years. Dennis admitted that he only started collecting a few years after escorting Joy to the meetings and other club events. Here he made friendships and saw things that needed to be done. Club members started to give him "Service Clubs on Stamps" items and covers associated with Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, and a few others.

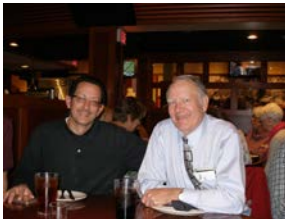


He added with a smile "Before I knew it, they were twisting my arm to prepare those one-page exhibit things." And, yes he did exhibit for several years, also with a smile. PSLC's caffeine and decaf addicts can thank Dennis for the initiative that brought hot coffee to our meetings as graciously hosted by Len Kasper.

♦The mid-fall season started with **The Philatelic Gathering** on Saturday, 19 October at the Chester County Historical Society (CCHS) in West Chester, PA. The 'Gathering' sees itself as an impromptu sampling of stamp collectors who are interested in sharing their materials with likeminded individuals. There are no dues, few rules, and a strict dress code-no ties! However, donations to the CCHS are always welcome.



At this October meeting the speakers were **Kean Spencer** (above) and **Bob Rufe** (below, right with **Dr. DiComo**). Details of these presentations are in Dr. DiComo's presidential *Veranda* column on Pg.-1.



So how did this get started? Around 2017 **Bill Schultz** of West Chester was going through the archives of the CCHS and found some fabulous postal history documents. Working with the CCHS, Bill curated an exhibit of these postal history documents. This ran from 11/17 through 4/18.

Concurrently, Bill convened a monthly meeting of nationally known philatelists to speak at CCHS for the year. There was a void at season's end. What can we do? Many decided to keep it going, though a little less formal.



The CCHS offered its large conference room again for the almost monthly Saturday morning meetings. The Saturday morning meeting format is very popular.

**A Lot of Stuff Goes On in the Fall**

The Philatelic Gathering has about 35 members to date, at all levels of collecting, mostly from the tri-state area. It meets monthly from March through November. Attendance has averaged about 22 participants. But it does not end there, as most participants adjourn to the nearby Iron Hill Brewery or other establishment for lunch and continuation of their discussions. Below are **Hal Klein** (L) and **Lou DiFelice** (R).



♦♦The 27 October **Some Sunday Show** opened with some unprecedented fall rain. As show manager, **Kevin Kellman** opined "One thing that little pieces of paper and gum do not like is a lot of water." But by afternoon, it was beautiful, and attendance had improved. We were pleased to have member **John Heitzmann** (shown below on right with **Dr. DiComo**) in attendance. John has the honor of being the PSLC member living at the greatest distance, as he hails from Fort Mill, SC.



As impressive, especially to **Barbara Buchanan** and the Membership Committee, John has paid his dues for ten (10!) years in advance. Many of his club friends enjoyed seeing him on a jaunt to Lancaster. John hopes to return for Lancopex. And at this Sunday Show we are seeing a transition. Dealer **Julie Nagy** was an Air Corps gunner who saw action in the Pacific. Following the war and his subsequent working career and retirement in the late '80s, he started Penn Valley Stamps in Sunbury. During his over 30 years of stamp shows, Julie's wife of 73 years, Dil was with him, spreading good will among the dealers and customers. Now with some challenging health issues, Dil is largely homebound. Fortunately, their son **Steven Nagy**

recently retired as a dentist in New Jersey and decided to return to Sunbury to help his mom and his dad's business. He is pictured below.



Steven is a lifelong stamp collector with an enthusiasm to work with his father in the business. As such, Julie gave him *carte blanche* to upgrade, transform, and/or revise the business. As Steven says, "My dad is the appraiser, I am the field agent, and I want to modernize things a bit." Steven is accepting credit cards and has a website (Northumberlandstamps.com), and in addition to shows, he is selling online.

♦♦♦The **Reading Stamp Show** is the first Saturday in November annually. Many think of the Reading and Lancaster Stamp Clubs as one large club with two campuses. And this is borne out continually with the help and participation that they give each other at meetings and shows. It is the formula for success, and the RSCC has a page on the PSLC website.

Another formula for stamp show success is good chow. Here costumers do not have to leave the venue for lunch and perhaps not return.



Above are **Sandy Baney** and **Lee** and **Mike Bach** with a customer who has ordered pie for dessert, as he is placed on the 'no-coffee' list. Below are **Len Kasper** (L) and **David Silcox** (R) selling donations at the RSCC club table.



## Musings: Versailles, 1919-Winning the war but losing the peace...

This is what I am hearing: Ed., The Great War ended one hundred and one years ago this past Monday. The USPOD finally gave you a doughboy stamp last year, so what are you going to rant about now?"

Yes, the calamity of the ground, air, and sea war ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> November, 1918, but this was just the start of the problems. There is plenty to rant about with the events of 1919.

The second calamity was the Paris Peace Conference, the result of which was the Treaty of Versailles, signed on 28 June, 1919. This was the event that attempted to tie up the loose ends of the war, putting to rest the 'War to end all wars.'



Bosnia Herzegovina issued an attractive eight-stamp souvenir sheet (above) for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty signing. The stamps largely depict images and players of WWI.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson, one of the Big-Four Peacemakers left for Paris in mid-December, 1918 for preliminary talks before the peace process. When he arrived, his name was in lights, literally. His Fourteen Points for world peace was popular, and he was a hero of international standing. Many expected him to temper the pent-up enmity among some of the conference delegates.

Upon Wilson's return to Paris for the conference proper in March 1919, he led with his popularity, ego, idealism, and naiveté. He quickly realized that negotiating with the other Peacemakers was as difficult as it had been with the enemy during the war.

[Just as an aside, Wilson's Assistant Secretary of the Navy participated at Yalta twenty-six years later, and he led with the same qualifications as Wilson. When Winston Churchill told

FDR not to trust Josef Stalin, their Soviet ally, in 1945, Roosevelt replied that he was in full control and could handle Uncle Joe very well, thank you.]

The Paril Conference was an occasion for the European Peacemakers to seek restitution and retribution (some called it revenge), sufficient to pacify their lusts but short of salting the earth in Germany. They redrew the maps of many nations while dividing and reassigning many ethnic nationalities. What about Wilson's promise of self-determination? Few were happy with the results of the treaty but The Peacemakers. And even they had no illusions. The United States never adopted this treaty, nor did they join the League of Nations, to Wilson's chagrin.

Field Marshall Ferdinand Foch, the Allied Supreme Commander, was of the opinion that this was not a peace treaty but merely a 20 year armistice.

One of the foremost authorities of the Treaty of Versailles is Margaret MacMillan, author of the book, *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World* (2001, NY, Random House, Originally published in the UK under the title of *The Peacemakers*). She identified few positive take-aways resulting from the Conference. Many of today's problems date back to Versailles. The Middle East?

During the sessions, Gen'l Foch requested that the Rhineland (the western border of Germany along France) be used as a buffer between the two countries. Foch was rebuffed, even by his own French Prime Minister, Peacemaker Georges Clemenceau.

In a later commentary to the *NY Times*, Foch stated "*The next time, remember, the Germans will make no mistake. They will break through into Northern France and seize the Channel ports as a base of operations against England* (MacMillan, Pg.-459)."

With very harsh reparations, some new boundaries, and lost territories, Germany faced a long road ahead. They started immediately to work on a new constitution, the first democratic constitution in the country's history.

A National Assembly of Delegates was elected, and they met in the town of Weimar. Following

some fierce negotiating, machinations, and the walkout of some delegates, the Weimar Constitution was signed into law on 11 August 1919.

By conventional wisdom, this document was deemed to be a satisfactory one, though it had a few internal flaws, which would start to be exploited over a decade later. Almost immediately there were threats to the emerging state. Hyperinflation developed, and it took some years to successfully overcome. The other major threat was the incursion of the Soviet-supported German Communists.

To counter this new threat, the Freikorps was re-authorized. It was a paramilitary unit of recently demobilized service members and disgruntled German citizens who went head-on with the Communists and stemmed their threat for the time being.

But where did the Communists come from? In 1917 Germany developed a plan that they hoped would knock Russia out of the war. If this should happen, Germany could withdraw a significant number of their forces and resources on the Russian front and redirect them to the Western front. To do this, Germany found a clever way to smuggle Vladimir Lenin from Switzerland where he had been in exile from Russia. Through a little cloak and dagger, he was transported to Sweden. From here he stealthily re-entered Mother Russia. The Germans knew that he could organize many workers and military and bring Russia to its knees. The Czarist government was both corrupt and ineffective. The timing for Lenin and his band was just right.

Subsequently the new Bolshevik government signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk in March 1918, effectively taking Russia out of the war. They paid Germany a high price for this privilege while betraying the Allied cause. There was no love lost between Russia and the West.

More important, Lenin could now consolidate his power. There was a lot of territory in the West and

Northwest which was ripe for the picking. And now Germany could head west with a stronger army. This was late 1917 into 1918.

By the early 1920s, National Socialism started to emerge. There were both internal and external struggles among the extant Freikorps and the Socialists' paramilitary groups, the Brown Shirts (SA) and Black Shirts (SS). By the early 1930s, the paramilitary power of the National Socialists was solidified. There was also constant damage control with the Communists.



Above is a German postage stamp released this summer. It states: "*The German empire is a republic. State Power emanates from the people. 100 years of the Weimar Constitution.*"

Along the way the Weimar government was caught between the Communists and National Socialists. It didn't stand a chance. What happened to the Weimar Constitution?

The Constitution was rendered largely ineffective (though never repealed) from 1933 onward, through the end of WWII in 1945. The National Socialists would only call on the Constitution when seizing another dictatorial power. They would cite one of the more ambiguous clauses of the document as the authority for their actions. This gave them and their decrees legitimacy in the world's eyes and amongst many of their skeptical citizens.

Germany's gamble with Lenin was just a short-term victory. Germany lost the war in the West and then lived another seven decades with the unintended consequences of Communism within and around them. Ed. ☒

### Notes for Next Month's December Dinner.

Wed. 18 December, 5:00 appetizers and 6:00 buffet dinner. Will be held at the Garden Café, Woodcrest Villa. Directions and menu in December Newsletter. Cost is \$20/person. All must sign up in advance for planning purposes. Optional gift exchange. Sign-ups this month or via email.