



Some 2019 Stamp  
Show Data- Pg. 4

# 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 6:15 pm, Wednesday, 12 February 2020  
Bourse opens at 6:30 pm, Meeting at 7:00 pm; RD Noble, Host

## The Veranda Chronicles

On January 8, we held our **Winter Auction**, and it was a grand success with 50 members in attendance, over 125 lots and almost 70% sold. Additional details can be found in this issue. Everyone was excited to be in the High Conference Room, our new auction space at Landis Homes. I wished all a Happy New Year, opened the meeting, and was honored to accept from Editor Paul Petersen a finely framed 2019 APS Article of Distinction Award for my piece entitled "An 1845 'Ship Letter' from Port-au-Prince, Hispaniola to New York City on the Brig Hayti" which appeared in the January *PSLC Newsletter*. For those interested, the article can be found on our website.<sup>1</sup> Paul then followed with general announcements, the LANCOPEX sign-up clipboards and a

special recognition to Fred Sargent. Lou shared the Treasurer's report and Barbara shared the membership report (currently at 118) and that dues are being accepted. Hal Klein provided snacks and refreshments. From the floor Mike Bach updated us on our friends' health in Reading and Reading Stamp Club President David Hunt thanked the PSLC for a club donation.

Then the aggressive bidding began – a special thanks to our crack staff of auctioneers Aaron and Mike; runners Mark, Robert and yours truly; and accounting Lou & Dick. Our members submitted quality material under our new "rules" and our ambitious members and guests bid energetically and won great lots. Photos of the event are posted in our website Photo Journal.<sup>2</sup> We are anxiously looking forward to the June Auc-

tion to follow up on this success.

We were then delighted to support our friends at the White Rose Philatelic Society of York by attending **YORCOPEX** at the York Expo Center on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. It was nice to see so many of you, our members, supporting our neighbors in York. I hope many of you were able to pick up some new additions to your collection. Please continue to support our regional dealers, at shows and as well as online.

Finally, this month I am delighted to be sharing a story entitled "*From the U.S. to Farther India & Back Again. A Five Month Journey of a Baptist Missionary Cover in 1856-1857.*" You will find a detailed overview of this presentation below. I will upload the presentation to our website<sup>3</sup> immediately following my lecture. See you at the club! *CDi*

**NOTICE: For the 12 February meeting, we will return to the Crossings Meeting Room on the second floor where we had been meeting for the '19 calendar year.**

## An 1856 Cover with a Long History: Dr. CJ DiComo

The full title of this presentation is ... "*From the U.S. to Farther India & Back Again. A Five-Month Journey of a Baptist Missionary Cover in 1856-1857. The Challenge: Determining the Rates and Routes.*"



This is a detective story of an 1856 cover with over 20 cancellations and manuscript markings. And the test: What is the passage

of this cover from Warren, OH to Farther India (Burma) and back again, a cover that arrived at the Baptist Mission in Boston after five months?

This presentation will provide an overview of the cover and reverse. Each of the markings will be showcased in chronological order to record the journey at every step of its passage. The rates also have a history worth mentioning. Dr. DiComo will end with a fanciful reconstruction of this journey.

The human story of the addressee, Alfred Sutterlee and his wife and newborn daughter are of great significance to this cover.



Numerous resources were engaged to decipher the transit including personal philatelic references, online databases, philatelic auction catalogs, digital manipulation software, and philatelic colleagues.

Recently, he located the missing block of six Scott #17 that originated on this cover, and he is working to reunite them.

Volume 83, No. 2

February 2020

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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Veranda: Notes

<sup>1</sup> <http://lcps-stamps.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Newsletter-2019-01DiComo.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://lcps-stamps.org/presentations/photo-journal/>

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

## Dr. C.J. DiComo Receives APS Writer's Award

At the January meeting Editor Paul Petersen presented the "Article of Distinction Award" to Dr. Charles J. DiComo. The award is based on the best article in the club's newsletter as nominated by the club.



DiComo's well-illustrated article is entitled: *An 1845 "Ship Letter" from Port-au-Prince, Hispaniola to New York on the brig Hayti*. This was originally published in the January 2019 issue of the PSLC Newsletter.

### Lancopex Opportunities

Don't ask what your stamp club can do for you, but ask what...

There will be several sign-ups at the February meeting which are Lancopex related. These include:

**1. Show Volunteers:** Slots are available from late Thursday afternoon through Saturday evening. Sign-up for an hour or two. It is a great way to serve the club and the hobby along with meeting and getting to know other members of the club.

**2. Patrons:** For \$5.00+, members will be listed in the show program as supporters of the show.

**3. Stamp and Cover Displays:** Join other club members and show your stuff. There are no rules. Album pages, Vario stock sheets, and other suitable display measures are welcome from one page through two frames or more of 16 pages each. We have 24 frames, and availability will be on a first come, first served basis.

### Other Opportunities

The 2020 presentation season has started. Sign up for dinner with the speakers. This is open to all.

11 March: Alan Warren on the 1933 Byrd Antarctic issue.

9 April: Bill Shultz on the Joys of Postal History.

Dinners will be at 4:15 at Fiorentinos as in the past.

## January Minutes & Treasury

Paul Petersen, Secretary *Pro Tem* and  
Lou DiFelice, Treasurer

**Opening:** Dr. DiComo called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. after encouraging members to review the auction lots. He thanked membership for their confidence conveyed in re-electing the Executive Committee for a third term for 2020.

**Open Lancopex & Board meeting:** Dr. DiComo announced that this will be held from 4 to 5pm on Friday 10 January at the Kinsey Conference Room at The North Museum. He encouraged all interested club members to attend.

**Treasurer's Report:** Club treasurer, Lou DiFelice reviewed the month's income and expenses in December. This Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously by voice vote. (See data to the lower right at the end of this report.) The Financial Report for November was published in the December PSLC Newsletter. There was no business meeting in December, so no minutes are extant for approval this month.

**Membership:** Barbara Buchanan reported that the end-of-year paid-up membership through 31 December was 119. This compares to 113 at the end of '18. She also introduced new member Suzanne Noble-Uhl of Lititz. Attendance tonight was 50.

**Door Prizes:** A variety of prizes were available from stock books, stamp packets, souvenir sheets, and postage to sundry others. Dr. DiComo, Lee Buchanan, and Paul Petersen oversaw this process.

**50-50 Drawing:** The Drawing was deferred this month.

**With Appreciation:** The President of the Reading Stamp Collector's Club, Dave Hunt, thanked

PSLC for their gift and encouragement to the RSCC.

**Member Updates:** Mike Bach updated membership on the improved conditions of Mike Matus and Roy K. Baardsen. Paul shared that Fred Mackey is recovering well at home, and he passed around a card for signature.

**Member Recognition:** Paul presented the club's gift of appreciation to Fred Sargent for his work as liaison with our meeting venue at Landis Homes over the last year.

**Article of Distinction Award.** Paul presented the APS certificate to Dr. DiComo. He nominated Charles' January 2019 news letter for this. (See sidebar at left.)

**LANCOPEX:** This is coming up on 24-25 April, and an organization meeting will be held on 10 January.

Paul passed around a volunteer sign-up for the event. We traditionally have between 35 and 40 club members helping with some aspect of the show. He also circulated sign-ups for the Stamp and Cover Displays at the show. PSLC will be donating and selling many of its exhibit frames, so future availability of frames at Lancopex will be limited to just twenty-four.

**January Program:** A club auction was held with the following data: There were 41 registered bidders, and 21 won lots with some of the others selling items. Eighty-six of 128 lots sold (67%), netting \$825.50. \$129.50 of this was money raised from club donations.

### Treasury: 1-31 December 2019

<b>Opening:</b>	\$4308.53
<b>Income:</b>	\$1514.00
<b>Expenses:</b>	\$1717.08
<b>Sum:</b>	\$4105.45
<b>2-CDs @</b>	\$5,818.10

## The Philatelic Gathering, Sat., 21 March, 10-12 Chester County Hist'l Society, West Chester, PA

Speakers: John Howker on *"The Circular Die Period of U.S. Stamped Air Mail Envelopes, 1929-46"* and Dr. Charles J. DiComo on *"The Providence, R.I. Pre-Mailing Control Marking on the U.S. 3 Cent 1851-57 Stamp."*

### Storm Cancellation Policy

Should there be a storm or the forecast of such, the PSLC Board will make a decision on the status of the evening's meeting. When this is decided, they will inform Paul Petersen who will send out an email. *Those not on email should call Paul at 1-717-299-5640 for further cancellation information.*

## Club Notes

### Programs, Hosts & Shows

#### 2020 Programs

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

**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. George Younes, Host

**10 June:** Club Auction. (*Host slot needs to be filled.*)

**8 July:** The Development of Perforations on U.S. Postage Stamps During the Toppan, Carpenter Era, 1855 - 1857. Dr. Charles J. DiComo. Dennis Shumaker, Host

**9 September:** Fall Auction. Thomas Nichols, Host

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

**11 November:** Annual Open House and One-Page Exhibits, Len Kasper & Paul Petersen.

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

#### 2021 Programs

**13 January:** Club Auction

**10 February:** 1890: The Jubilee Celebrations of the Penny Post. Mike Bach

#### Of Local Interest 2020

**Some Sunday Stamp Shows:** 23 Feb., 21 June, 30 August, 11 October, and 19-20 December. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lanc. Lunch is usually free.

**Red Rose Coin Club:** Thurs, 21 Feb. 7:00 p.m. *Numismatic England & Scotland*, Kurt Bellman. Farm & Home Center.

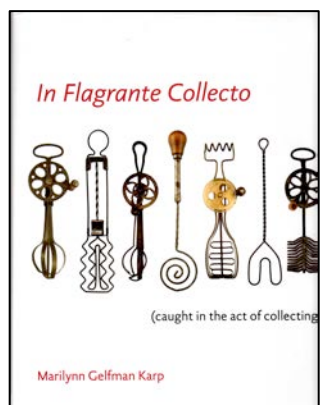
**DELPEX:** Sat, 18 April, Nur Shine Center, 198 South Dupont Highway, New Castle, Delaware.

**LANCOPEX:** Fri/Sat, 24 & 25 April, Farm & Home Center.



## Musings: What are we going to do with all our stuff?

In past editions of this newsletter over the years, I have discussed our collectibles, all kinds of them, not just our stamps. And as obvious, many of us collect much more than stamps. Just look around your house. Collecting can be a very addicting, however fun, habit. Many collectors try to convince others that this is in their genes whether it is stamps, coins, ephemera, maps, postcards, bottle caps, china and figurines, and perhaps baseball cards.



Should any collector need encouragement; there is Marilyn Carp's book, *In Flagrate Collecto: Caught in the Act of Collecting* (2006, NY: Abrams). While this book discusses well over 100 items to collect, it offers no creative ideas of how to divest what is owned.

Subtly, and perhaps not always so subtly in this newsletter, I made recommendations about positive steps we can take to ease the burden for our heirs. I even brought in an estate and tax attorney to speak at one of our meetings a few years ago to converse about our collectibles and our estates. This is especially important for those with valuable collections.



Attorney Patti Spencer provided some excellent advanced planning advice. For our convenience she prepared a detailed bound handout with laws, strategies, and recommendations we should consider as we mature.

This is the nice way of stating that we are getting old, or a few of us, anyway.



All one has to do is to visit the myriad antique shops in Adamstown along Rt. 272. With supply being much greater than the demand, the prices are surprisingly low. Just consider the plummeting price of postage at the stamp shows. Len Kasper said that he no longer carries the china and porcelain figures and similar items in his consignment store. "There is no market for these items any more," Len said.

While we were setting up for our December Dinner just recently, Deb Ehleiter and I discussed just this subject. What about our stuff? We'll just leave it to the kids. Surely they will want it, given all the family history, sentiment, and memories!



Then Deb recalled that she had just read an article on this issue, though perhaps the content was not encouraging. Buckle your seatbelts.

The article is entitled: **Your Top Ten Objects that Your Kids Don't Want** by Elizabeth Stewart from a mid-December issue of Forbes. She compiled these views based on interviews with hundreds of her Boomer clients and their millennial heirs.

And let's have the envelope please.

10. Books; 9. Paper ephemera; 8. Steamer trunks, sewing machines, and film projectors; 7. Porcelain figurines and collector cabinet plates; 6. Silver plated objects; 5. Heavy dark antique furniture; 4. Persian rugs; 3. Linens; 2. Sterling silver flatware and crystal wine services; and finally, #1. Fine porcelain dinnerware.

How did you score? My wife and I scored about eight to nine out of ten. You could say that this article is cutting edge. It cuts to the bone, and this hurts. But it is good to know.

Stewart adds that there is little interest among heirs and vendors for many of the ten noted items. For some materials, you may have to pay someone to haul it away. "Does your daughter want grandma's linens?" is better phrased, "Does your daughter own an iron or ironing board?" Have you ever seen your son use a saucer? You see where this is going. She recommends that donations with a tax receipt may be the best route for disposing of much of it.



In her article Stewart includes a few website recommendations for some of the items where there may be value and desirability.

Even donating has its issues. Roy Baardsen told me that his club was asked by a local museum to advise them regarding some stamp collections that were donated over the years. This museum, like many others, had no idea what to do with this material. Odds are low that the collections would ever be displayed or even see daylight again. Philatelic expertise is above the pay grade of most librarians, and I can't blame their reticence. Security and insurance issues are also part of the equation.

When Roy and the other club members were led to the collections, they were shocked at the condition of them. They were in boxes in the basement, not in the best environment for stamps. The boxes also had the distinct appearance of being pilfered.

When FDR died, he left a large philatelic estate. There was an assumption that the five children might be interested in his stamp collection or part of it. Wrong! They wanted it sold and the money given to them. As a result, the several auctions and realizations of the FDR philatelic estate are legendary.

Another club member shared with me that he approached his alma mater several years ago about receiving his stamp collection

upon his passing. Like FDR's heirs, they suggested that he sell his collection and send them a check! In other words, they did not want it.

For donating, APS is a good destination for your collection, but even there, they would like to know in advance what you have, to determine if it meets their criteria. For the lesser collections like mine, Stamps for the Wounded is a wonderful destination. This will also help injured military members in time of need.

One of the most underrated issues of collecting that I've emphasized is the succession plan. This means, what do we do about our stuff when we can no longer take care of it, or worse, if we are no longer around to take care of it.

For the typical collectors of stamps et al. of limited value, our families may have little interest in our interests. Just because we're keen on something does not mean that this 'gene' will pass down the family line.

Believe me, however, if we had hoards of gold coins, Graf Zeppelins, or mint silver dollars, there would be a little more family interest in our stuff. They may be our kids, but they're not dumb. I think that even the U.S. Government would be interested.

It is not the intent of this article to rehash recommendations written in previous PSLC Newsletters. Instead it restates the problems we face both now and in the future. This might be a good issue for a panel discussion at a monthly meeting or for a composite article in the newsletter where we can share opinions, those that may be of value to other members as well as ourselves.

It might also be an opportunity for open confessions to cleanse our souls, something like AA model. It could go like this: *Hello, my name is Ed. I am a collector. I have no plan for my collection...* I know of some club members with great holdings who have no plan!

Wherever you are in your collecting journey, continue to enjoy it. But consider giving some thought to the future of your collectibles. You, above everyone else, appreciate the beauty, heritage, and value of what you own, both the philatelic and non-philatelic. You are in the best position to know what to do with it. **Ed.** ☒

## Extra: A Snapshot of the Hobby From *Linn's Stamp News*

There is always lots of chatter in the philatelic world on the state of the hobby, both good and not so good. The temperature of the hobby can be estimated through a variety of available data such as memberships in local clubs and other philatelic societies, proportion of youth coming into the hobby, membership age, quality and quantity of philatelic literature and subscription rates, data from stamp shows, numbers of classified ads, and online sales figures, among others.



Each week *Linn's* publishes an Event Calendar, which lists the stamp shows across the country. I sampled the month of November (+/-), as the fall and spring are generally the busiest seasons when many organizations of all stripes hold their conferences, meetings, cruises, & more.

The data spans from 1 November through 8 December 2019 as listed in the 4 November Calendar. This feature in *Linn's* may be very familiar to the readership, perhaps proving useful at times. PS LC advertises Lancopex yearly here, and in the sample, the 2 November Reading Show is listed.

**Shows Held and Where:** During this period, there were 41 stamp shows across 22 states. (*n.b.* One was a coin-only show, and this data is not included). One state had five shows (NY); two states had three and four shows respectively; seven states had two shows; and eleven states had only one show.

**Admissions Charge:** Forty of the 41 shows were listed as free; one did not include this data. (The coin show did have an admission charge.)

**Show Duration:** 1-Day Show-20 clubs; 2-Day Show-17; 3-Day Show-4, 4-Day Show-0.

**Exhibits:** The number of shows listing philatelic exhibits was two; that's only 4.8 percent!



**Combination of Hobbies:** Of the 41 shows, 29 were 'stamp show' only. 12 others included coins, and of these, two listed postcards, and one each included paper money and military items.

**Show Sponsorship:** Stamp clubs sponsored 16 of the shows. Six were organized by their state Stamp Dealers Association (SDAs) including AZ, FL, NJ, TX, and the Midwest SDA which sponsored two shows. There were nineteen other sponsors from what appear to be individuals, promoters, and syndicates. PS LC's own Jim Boyles sponsored the Some Sunday Stamp Shows at the Farm & Home Center in Lancaster for several years. Kevin Kellman took over the shows when Jim passed away. These have 8 to 12 stamp dealers, often a silent auction, and free lunch!

**Dealer Numbers:** Thirty-seven of the 41 show managers included the expected number of dealers at their shows. These ranged from six to 75+ (Chicagopex '19). Thirteen shows had six to ten dealers; 12 shows had 11 to 20 dealers; five shows had 21-30 dealers; three shows had 31-40 dealers; one show had 41-50 dealers; one show had 51-55 dealers, and two shows had 70 and 75+ dealers.

**Critique:** For over fifteen years I served as a reviewer of research manuscripts submitted to a variety of journals in consideration for publication. Several of us would review an article and make recommendations to the editor regarding its publishability. Ergo, I turned into a tough geezer when evaluating research, and found that I became even tougher on my own work.

Were I reviewing this article for publication, the critique would be twice as long as the article. I would send it back to the author (that's me) and suggest sampling several more years and additional months in the past to build a significant database or spread sheet so additional questions might be posed with the answers easily obtainable. This article is only one snapshot in time, as the months before and after could be very different. And, as a variable, many shows are advertised in multiple issues.

In a more rigorous approach, data from past years could be examined in longitudinal fashion. Graphs and other trend lines over time could easily be constructed and conclusions made.

The pool of stamp show data is readily available, and I have to believe that APRL and/or Amos Press would be very open with assistance. What a great thesis or dissertation this would make for a stamp collecting graduate student with an enquiring mind, especially one who needs a viable topic.

We are also seeing the combo of stamp shows with other collectibles in this data. Further indicative of this is the consolidation of national stamp shows.

Recently the APS combined its

winter and summer shows into one show and have included the ATA and AFDCS to form the Great American Stamp Show. This will debut in August '20 in Hartford.

On a larger scale, the next U.S. decennial International Show is opening to other hobbies. Following some lively discussion and debate among the show's planning team, it has been renamed **The Boston 2026 World Expo**.

I grew up outside of New York City, and there was an annual stamp show at the Westchester County Center in White Plains. The place is huge. Over time I noticed through the *Linn's* Event Calendar that this show merged with a coin show. It has recently relocated to a nearby town, and under that town name, it is now a stamp, coin, and paper money show.



And some interesting data on former show lengths is seen in my Cinderella collection related to stamp shows. The 1941 Pottstown Show ran from 21-28 June. In 1940 Pottsville ran from 23-29 February. The Harrisburg (Capitol City) show ran from 8-12 October in 1941, and in 1947, the Reading Show was from 4 to 11 May. There is certainly a lot to think about. Ed. ☒

☒ ✂ .....

Please clip this dues renewal notice, complete it, and turn in to Barbara 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.