



See Bob Rufe's new
'20 Scott Listings
Page-5, right side

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



**Notice: This is a
Joint September-
October Issue**

Please note that all PSLC meetings are virtual, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, 9 & 23 September and 14 & 28 October

The Veranda Chronicles

Our interesting year of 2020 continues as we enter the fall season, and the Covid virus still keeps us guessing...And as you can see, we have augmented our fall PSLC schedule to two monthly Zoom meetings right into the new year.

And PSLC is not the only game in town. Other clubs are going virtual, as are the larger and specialty societies. APA, ATA, GPS, ISWSC, and others are holding sessions from shows with presentations and exhibits, and others with town hall meetings and discussion groups. We try to keep you up-to-date with

all the virtual philatelic opportunities available. Participation will keep us connected, but I still miss my meetings and stamp shows.

With the introduction of the Covid-19 virus earlier in the year, many opined that "We are at war." I wasn't too keen on the phraseology at first, but recalling some of the earlier writers on the topic of war, they may have a point.

Prussian General Carl von Clausewitz (1780-1831) wrote one of the definitive texts on the subject of war. His magnum opus *On War* was published posthumously. One of the more interesting points of his theory is that the principles

in the conduct of war are more than universal fighting principles; more so, they are dominated by political decisions and moral forces.

Further, von Clausewitz and other military theorists have documented some of what we see in "our war" with Covid. This includes the use of overwhelming force from a variety of directions, change in appearances as to misdirect the opponent, use of subterfuge to waste the opponent's resources and impair the morale of the opponent and the home front. There are many others. So perhaps we are at war. And we are on the home front. But it is not like 1944 (→See Veranda, Pg.-2)

September-Topical Themes

9 September 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Collect Your State, presented by **Dawn Hamman**. Even for those who are not yet topical collectors, you may be interested in collecting stamps related to your state or other states of family or friends. There is the unlimited educational benefit to this for younger collectors or collectors to be. Dawn, the president of the American Topical Association, will demonstrate how she developed such a collection of stamps from her state of Florida and the benefits it brought. She also notes that ATA has topical checklists for most states that will enable collectors

to get a jump-start on their new topical collection.

23 September 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Nurse Philately Stories will be presented by **Ann Byerly**. We are seeing the many sacrifices being made as we endure the current Corona virus pandemic, and among those on the front line are the nurses. Ann will share stories behind the nurses on stamps as a thematic collector. It is her thank you to all the healthcare workers for their service. Ann is the ATA Chapter Coordinator, writing the **Chapter Chatter** column in each issue of *Topical Time*. PSLC is reviewed each month based on the information in our newsletters.

October-British Themes

14 October 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Member **Dave Hunt** has two presentations for this meeting entitled **1) GB Stamped to Order Stationery**. Here postal customers could obtain postal stationery of any size and denomination, for a fee; and **2) Royal Household Official Mail**. He'll show the covers with the special markings and cancels. A regular presenter to our meetings, many recall Dave's informative Powerpoint presentation last year on the engraved stamps of Czeslaw Slania. Tonight's presentations look closely at some aspects of postal activity in the UK. Dave is the President of

the Reading Club and the Treasurer and Auction Director of the Errors, Freaks, and Oddities Collectors Club, or simply the EFOCC.

28 October 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Member **Bob Kotanchik** will give us *An Introduction to the Machin Issues of Great Britain*. This is one of the longest running worldwide definitive stamp issues, one that began in 1964. How did these get started? Who designed them? How are colours picked? How can one be told from another? If security precautions are used, what are they? What makes these stamps such an interesting issue to collect? It's all here.

Volume 83, Nos. 9-10

Sept.-Oct. 2020

**Visitors are Always
Welcome**

Given the recent Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing to curtail the spread of the virus, PSLC has ceased its in-person monthly meetings, replacing them with virtual meetings on Zoom twice a month.

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

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08 July Minutes, Treasury, & Happenings

David Weichert, Sect'y, and Lou DiFelice, \$\$\$

Opening: Dr. DiComo called the virtual meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He provided an update on the website with an "Affiliates Page" for our fellow collecting societies (now including the Capital City Stamp Club) and a "Society Member Reprint Page" for journal articles authored by PSLC members. Also, The North Museum of Nature & Science opened today with a good turnout. A portion of the discovery pack that is given to the children appears below.



He thanked members for their donations of stamps to TNM Passport Program, with a special shout-out to Truys Greiner for her many packets.

Attendance at tonight's virtual meeting was 30 members and guests.

Approval of Minutes and Treasury Reports: The reports of 13 May and 10 June were approved unanimously.

Membership: The updated membership roster prepared by Barbara Buchanan contains 121 names, but a few are still in arrears with their dues. The Membership Committee will resolve this by the end of July, and this will end the 10-month process of collecting the 2020 dues!

Ongoing Business: Paul Petersen discussed the following:

Future Virtual Meetings: The invite for tonight's meeting will be a reoccurring one, meaning that it will be used for all future meetings. Paul will continue to send the invites twice a month, but he suggested that members set up a separate folder in their directory to archive tonight's invite to have on hand. Should any of the future invite emails be misplaced or accidentally deleted, this saved invite email will suffice.

Picnic: Interest in the 12 August no-host picnic remains, so plan on this unless there is a decidedly untoward turn of events. You will be kept up to date.

NPM-APS Virtual Postal History Symposium: He reminded members of his email with information for the symposium in October, and added that Bill Schultz and Mark Schwartz will both be presenters.

Trekmeister(s): Finally Paul echoed the previous note in the newsletter for the club's need of "Trekmeister(s)," members to plan club bus trips once the world is back on the road again. This is a person or two to resume and plan our club's annual bus treks in the post-Covid world.

Treasurer's Report: Lou DiFelice noted that there has been very little activity this month.

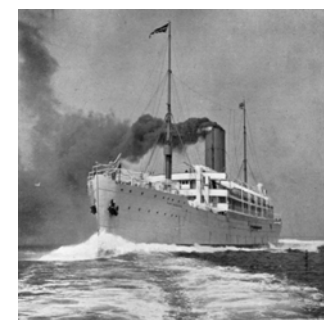
Treasury: 1-30 June 2020

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Opening: | \$2799.21 |
| Income: | \$80.00 |
| Expenses: | \$0.00 |
| Sum: | \$2879.21 |
| 2-CDs @ | \$5868.82 |



Feature Presentation: Mike Bach gave a smashing and well-illustrated presentation entitled: *A Pictorial Tour of the Anniversaries of the Penny Black*. (Mike also shared that he is working on a detailed presentation for the near future on the 1890 celebrations of the Penny Black.)

Short Presentations, Show & Tell, and Discussion:



Dr. DiComo presented a nine slide story entitled *The S.S. Tahiti: Her History, the Sinking, and a "Salvaged" Cover*. She served from WWI service to later passenger and freight service. She sank in 1939 without loss of life.

Lou DiFelice displayed a Kansas-Nebraska overprint which was also precanceled – Hastings, Neb. Is this an uncommon item? **RD Noble** responded that these were usually philatelic items in nature without any extra value.



Cemil Betanov showed a newspaper wrapper (above) from Philadelphia, which contained an advertisement. These are a nice collecting area. Though once priced reasonably, they are now quite pricey.

Dr. DiComo showed his grandfather's WWII ration booklet and some other ration stamps. **RD Noble** located his ration booklet and showed one with his name as an infant when he qualified for items being rationed during the war. This led to a good discussion on war rationing.



Bob Kotanchik said that he lived in the UK in the mid 70s when there was rationing and discussed this. Other rationing items were shown.

Bob Kotanchik had a question on an unusual use of a two-part 1½¢ franked postal card. Did anyone know anything about this? No one did. Bob will locate this and share with the club members at a later date.

RD Noble and **Dr. DiComo** discussed a silent precancel (1879, #206) on a single stamp (CJDi) and its use on a Lancaster cover (RDN) of the Lancaster Watch Company, subsequently known as Hamilton Watch. This advertising cover was found empty, but there is additional advertising on the back side.

RD showed another silent precancel on an 1890 commercial cover from a town in Indiana County to Ithaca NY. **RD** also showed a cover from Alert (Meadville) PA to NYC.

Lou DiFelice shared a 1905 advertising cover from the Aunt Jemima Pancake Flour Company in St Louis.

Club Notes

Programs, Hosts & Shows

2020 Virtual Programs

9 September: Collecting your State: Dawn Hamman

23 September: Nurse Philatelic Stories. Ann Byerly

14 October: 1) GB Stamped to Order Stationery, and 2) Royal Household Official Mail. Dave Hunt

28 October: An Introduction to the Machin Issues of Great Britain. Bob Kotanchik

11 November: Pilgrim-400: The 400th Anniversary of the Landing at Plymouth Rock. Dave Hunt

25 November: Wilkins-Ellsworth: Their Expedition to the North Pole. Mike Bach

9 December: The FDR Philatelic Estate Auctions. Paul Petersen

23 December: TBA

2021 Programs

13, 27 January: Open

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

24 February: The Providence, R.I. Pre-Mailing Control Marking on the U.S. 3 Cent 1851-57 Stamp, Charles J. DiComo.

10 March: The U.S. 1933 Byrd Antarctic Stamp: Production, First Day and Other Uses. Alan Warren.

24 March: Open

14 April: Exploring Postal History. Bill Schultz.

28 April: Open

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

26 May: Banking in the Village of Pawling, NY and Surrounding Townships as told through Postal History, Bank Checks, Currency, Revenue Stamps and Postal Cards: 1849–1929. CJ DiComo

(←Pg.-1 Veranda) with the victory gardens, metal drives, and gas, food, and tire rationings. Our response now is to distance, mask, and always use safety precautions against an unseen opponent. Stay safe my friends. And the picnic went well¹. There are images on the website to see, as so many had a great time getting together. Best, **CJDi**

¹<https://lcpstamps.org/presentations/photo-journal/>

22 July Zoom Meeting Proceedings

The virtual meeting began at 6:30, and **Paul Petersen** started with some updates.

He reviewed the fall schedule. **Deb Ehleiter** and the **December Dinner Committee** cancelled the 9 December event, as there is no certainty that The Garden Café will be open, but even if it is, we would probably not get the minimum number of people to financially sustain the event.



Leadership also decided to hold our regular second and fourth Wednesday meetings through the fall, and this includes 25 November and 23 December. Both are dangerously close to Thanksgiving and Christmas. The rationale is that some members will be home for the holidays, and even if these sessions are less attended than normal, it will be appreciated by those at home. Paul also shared the almost full speaker's scheduled for the fall, and these are listed on Pg.-2 of this newsletter and on the club website. He is working on 2021. As of today and given the member's interest, the picnic is on schedule, and Paul will communicate via email as time gets closer. This will be a socially distanced picnic, and details will be forthcoming. (See picnic details from the 8 July Minutes on Pg.-2 of this newsletter.) Paul introduced PSLC's newest member **Tom Bowman** from the Wyoming, Valley Stamp Club, with a PO address of Drums, PA. One of his collecting interests is Tristan da Cunha but also U.S. (mint and used), U.S. postal history, precancels, and color shifts.

Tom is his club's ambassador to APS. PSLC had been in a newsletter exchange with the Wyoming Valley Stamp Club.

He thanked **Suzanne Noble Uhl** for her steadfast service to the club by hosting all our virtual meetings.



Tonight's feature presentation was on WWII V-Mail by **George Hauber, Sr.** He provided a thorough and interesting history of the related necessity to get mail to the servicemen faster and cheaper with microfilm technology, while maintaining sufficient cargo space for other components of the war machine.



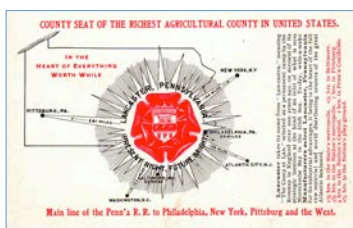
This was followed by a short Powerpoint by **Paul Petersen** on U.S. postage currency. He gave an overview of fractional currency utilization during and after the U.S. Civil War with an emphasis on Postage Currency showing a PC16 note belonging to member **John Bray**.



Bob Kotanchik displayed two unusual items (above) of the early 1930s, a cover and a postcard. Each had two postmarks relating to the last day of a post office name and the first day of the PO's name.

An Early Lancaster Promotional Postcard

Not too long after 1908, the Lancaster Board of Trade published this card to promote the county. It lists distances to major cities and crossroads along with the products and services available here. The county is still thriving, as we always place highly in the national surveys as one of the best places to live and to retire



This included North Water Gap, PA which changed its name to Minisink Hills, PA. The other was the post office name change from Moores to Prospect Park, both in PA.

Michael Bach described the use and arrangement of control letters printed in the upper right and left corners of the world's first postage stamp, the Penny Black. To do this, he displayed an almost complete sheet of these stamps, a 12x20 sheet which was missing about ten (of 240) stamps. This image is one that Mike took during the club trip to NY-16 where it was displayed in the Court of Honor.

For what it's worth, **Mike Marino** had a friend who showed him an album of U.S. revenues that he recently won at an auction for \$40. In it he found two revenues with a catalogue value of \$16K!

David Wichert had a "What is it?" stamp question. He showed a plain stamp bearing the numeral four, the word "Post," some post horns, and little else. Using the *Michel Junior Catalog*, **Scott Ney** located it and identified it as occupied Germany in the Soviet Zone (East Saxony-1945) following WWII. It is a minimum catalog value item.

RD Noble displayed two covers from Bart, PA. The first was 26 March (1856-1861) with manuscript cancels. (Below)



The second cover was 6 March 1895. In the cancel along with the name 'Bart' was 'Lancaster County.' While there has been an extant post office in Bart since 1823, it is a township only, no town, but there is still a post office with a zip code (17503). County names in cancels are uncommon. (Below)



Scott Ney discussed a postmark catalog and "coin" postage issue, and he remarked the importance of solid philatelic references in one's home library.

APS Volunteer Award to Dr. Charles DiComo

The announcements for the winners of the 2019 APS Nicholas Carter Volunteer Service Awards were in the August ('20) *American Philatelist* (Pg.-714). Included amongst the notables was PSLC's own Dr. DiComo. (*Editor's note: While Dr. DiComo's Carter award was conferred at the national level of service, it was inadvertently listed in the AP as the local level of service. This will be corrected in a future issue of the AP. It was correctly noted as the National level in the 31 August 2020 issue of Linn's Stamp News, Pg.-23.*)

This was to be awarded at the Great American Stamp Show in Hartford, CT in late August. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions and the loss of venue, the 2020 show was cancelled.

The impressive citation notes: Dr. DiComo is a life-long collector with great interest in the U.S. classics and stampless postal history, both foreign and domestic. He has written and presented extensively on the subject, some resulting in significant awards and special recognition.

He has been on the board of the Nat'l Postal Museum and the planning committee for the World Stamp Show: NY 2016. He is editor of *Chairman's Chatter*, the newsletter of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society.

He revamped PSLC's website and is constantly updating it with new pages on a regular basis. As such he won a Gold Award for 2018, the last year of the APS website & newsletter competitions.

Just as impressive is that of the seven (7) APS website competition Gold Awards for '18, he won three, the other two being the websites of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society and the Empire State Postal History Society. He is also president of the latter.

Most importantly, Dr. DiComo is in his fourth term as president of the PSLC. We are well aware of all he does, as he is the first to arrive at the meeting (and Lanco-pex!) and the last to leave. He has upgraded several of our documents and pamphlets with improved copy and the addition of color. Well done, Dr. DiComo.

While Self-Isolating at Home

Bob Witkosky

While some folks complained about not being able to leave their homes, I didn't mind a bit! As it is with most stamp collectors, I always have things on which I can work. This time, I chose to work on the one area of German philately that I have wholly neglected: East Germany (or GDR or DDR, if you prefer). Due to my political prejudices, I refused to collect any country that would benefit from my purchases. Since that is no longer relevant for East Germany, I figured, what the heck - why not? I have been buying German collections for over 20 years, including lots of DDR stamps, so I set to task to gather all of my material and begin organizing, identifying, and sorting my vast amount of holdings. I tried contacting Subway to order a new album, but alas, they were closed as a result of the statewide shut-down. I mentioned this to my good friend Fred, and he advised that he had an unused Scott Specialty album that he would sell and ship to me. We agreed on a price and a few days later it arrived at my home in Maryland. What an interesting endeavor this became! I had never paid much attention to DDR material, so I was quite surprised with some of the issues. One of my passions to follow is that of Volkswagen vehicles - especially the vans/micro buses. Lo and behold, I found a number of VW's on stamps!

I now have a new topic in addition to a new country to add to my stamp shelves! I am guessing at this point that I am about 95% complete. My Scott Specialty album is almost filled and completed! Spending seven or eight hours a day for several days each week can accomplish a lot! Happy collecting! If you need some holes filled in your DDR collection, give me a shout, maybe I can help!



12 August 2020 Annual Picnic

Yes, we had the picnic, and it went very well, though it was a smaller crowd with 14 members and three spouses, totaling 17; not our usual 35-45. In the Covid-19 world, so much has changed, and our picnic was a good example.

This year it was a self-catering soiree, as folks brought their own meals. All wore masks when not eating, and all maintained their distances. As Ed. has always said, PSCL does not want to be known as the Covid-Mary of stamp clubs.

And while **Doug Milliken**, our Weather Wizard could not attend this year, he planned good weather for us as always.

Folks seemed really glad to see one another, as this is our first in-person meeting since 12 February. That's six months-exactly.

Kudos to **George and Nancy Younes** who arrived early and helped set up. They worked the registration tickets, auction and door prize set-up, the 50-50 drawing, and whatever else was needed. Just in case someone forgot their mask(s), Nancy brought some extras. Since the advent of Covid-19, she has been making masks for hospitals and other first responders. Party favors for all included large multi-franked wrappers and covers, many with some high denomination stamps.



The first ten (10) members received a picnic souvenir card (above), one made from the advertising cards for the 2020 Lancopex which was cancelled. Since the theme of the show was the 180th Anniversary of the Penny Black, the world's first postage stamp, the souvenir was franked with a PB facsimile and cancelled with an 1890 Golden Anniversary of the PB cancellation device as sent by tube post.

There were over 40 door prizes, and the drawings continued until all were gone. We went through these like locusts. Items ranged from stock books, a set of Scott Catalogues, sheet holders, less expensive souvenir sheets, presentation packs, and many, many more.

The silent auction had 31 items, and 28 sold. Five items had five or more bidders. There were nine members bidding, and the auction netted just over \$375.



Finally, a large box of free items was spread out on two of the twenty-two (22) picnic tables. These too, went fast.

The 50-50 drawing was won by **Doug Keefer** who split \$28 with the club.

If anyone went home empty-handed after this picnic, it was by choice. Our newest member **Robert Fletcher** (from Womelsdorf) and his wife **Mary** attended, and he shared about his 30 years as a Navy pilot and his early collecting. He noted that it was this pandemic and social isolation that recently brought him back to the hobby that he had put aside. He has been making comparisons of the state, availability, and costs of philatelic items today compared to what it was years ago. He is looking forward to getting more involved with the club in the hopefully not too distant future when we start to meet again in person.



Former picnic 'chefs' and KP crew members, **Mike Shirley**, **Bill Greiner**, and **Paul Petersen** shared that they did not miss the cooking, but look forward to cooking next year when we are all back together.



New Zealand Health Stamps

I am often on the look out for triangle stamps for my young collecting friend, and the '43 NZ cover caught my eye. (below)



It has the right ingredients with matched triangles in pairs, a decently struck cancel, an interesting cachet, and it looks like it went through the mail. I had seen New Zealand's unusual insurance stamps with the light houses, but what are these health stamps?



In 1929, New Zealand introduced their first fundraising stamp or semi-postal stamp, a postage stamp with an additional value that goes to a charity, children's health in this case. It is like a postage stamp and Christmas Seal all in one. The internet image of their first issue shows that one cent goes for postage, while the other goes to health.

This stamp program lasted until 2016 when it was discontinued due to the decline in first class mail and the decreased sales of postage stamps.

The early issues sponsored children's summer camps to get them out of unhealthy environments, but later years included behavioral health. Images have varied from Queen Elizabeth to children, Peter Pan, heroes, sports, biking (below) and more. Stamps on the (at top) cover are NZ's first triangles.



In Splendid Isolation-Ed.

In Lancaster, PA, we are fortunate to have an annual stamp club show with 21 dealers plus the USPOD. There are also five Sunday Shows (by Kevin Kellman) with 8-12 dealers. These are supported by a cast of regional shows in D.C., Baltimore, York, Harrisburg, Allentown, New Jersey, Virginia, and Delaware, among others. This is a good region to be a collector.

Enter the Coronavirus pandemic followed by sheltering in place, and by mid-March these shows and most of organized, in-person philatelic activity came to a grinding, if not screeching, halt. While I do no online business, I have several monthly stamp journals, virtual society meetings, and various websites to keep the humors and juices flowing. But for my budget and convenience while 'at home,' there is John Leszak's Cover Connection (CC) in Buffalo, NY.

Before my kudos for the CC, let me say this: Like FDR's children, my adult kids told me that they are not interested in my collection. "Just sell it, and leave us the money." This stance, a widely encountered one among senior collectors with Millennial kids and grands, has directed my collecting ever since. In other words, I do not spend excessively on philatelic gems, as much as I would like to fill some of those coveted spaces. While I enjoy the hobby, I devote most of my time to both club activities and less expensive stamps, covers, and philatelic ephemera.

Every week or two for the past several years, I've received a pack of

illustrated bid sheets with B&W or color images and suggested prices from the CC.

There are roughly 100 to 200+ item items per mailing, but this number can vary. While offerings largely include covers (including some classics) and postcards (used and unused), there are also stamps, box lots, and assorted ephemera. The vast topics include U.S. and foreign items, and there are always a good number of naval covers and other militaria, advertising postcards and covers, FDCs, and much more. I have added to my collections of world's fairs, FDR, stamp show related items and covers, USN/USMC, WW-I and II censored covers, auxiliary markings, and some holiday PPCs for my wife. This list just scratches at the variance of CC's offerings.

With the virus, isolation, and the decline of my mail volume, I look forward to regularly completing the CC's illustrated bid sheets and waiting. Shortly thereafter I may receive an envelope in the mail when I have winning bid(s).


This virus has been associated with words such as "unprecedented" and "uncertainty," but it will end. Before this, we will witness from great feats of heroism to the depths of scamming and other types of depravity. We have to live smart for both our family's physical and fiscal health and remain encouraged. Let your stamps and covers take you to new places while we're in this period of isolation. To re-quote Mark Twain, "Courage is the mastery of fear, not the absence of fear."

Summer Treasury-Lou DiFelice

Treasurer Lou had been busy this summer keeping the PSLC books. Below are the July and August reports, while the June treasury report is on page-2 of this newsletter.

| Treasury: 1-31 July 2020 | | Treasury: 1-31 August 2020 | |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Opening: | \$2879.21 | Opening: | \$2824.21 |
| Income: | \$0.00 | Income: | \$421.12 |
| Expenses: | \$55.00 | Expenses: | \$109.44 |
| Sum: | \$2824.21 | Sum: | \$3135.89 |
| 2-CDs @ | \$5900.25 | 2-CDs @ | \$5900.25 |

Fall Buy, Sell, and Trade is Cancelled

At the 26 August Zoom meeting I brought up the idea of an outdoor Sunday Club Bourse at Millersville Memorial park. There was interest. I was impressed with the compliance of members toward safety and distancing at our picnic. The pavilion is large with 22 tables, and the fee per table holder would be modest. I was to check with Millersville on availability. Unfortunately they are booked solidly each weekend through November. Ed. 

26 August Zoom Proceedings

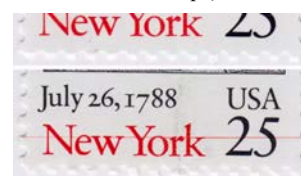
Dr. DiComo opened the Zoom virtual meeting at 6:35 with hearty greetings to members and visitors. Attendance throughout the evening was about 39 to 40.

Paul Petersen introduced PSLC's newest member, **Robert Fletcher** (See 'Picnic' Pg.-4). He remarked about the success of the picnic and brought up the possibility of an outdoor bourse for PSLC members some Sunday this fall at the picnic site. There was interest from membership, so he will check availabilities at the park and bring this to the full membership in a follow-up email.



He introduced tonight's speaker, **Bob Rufe**, President of the Brandywine club who spoke of his many years of research on the bureau's use of leftover booklet paper to print eleven flat plate stamps in 1928. These varieties are now listed in the **Scott's Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps and Covers (2020)** along with Bob's invited catalogue chapter on the research and means of detecting these items. (Ed's note: This presentation powerpoint is on the club website.)

Scott English, APS Executive Director, discussed the success of the 2020 Virtual Stamp Show with 1000 participants per day and 250 in attendance for each event. Fifty new APS membership applications were received. He also encouraged PSLC to attend the (virtual) **Eleventh Postal History Symposium** on 26-30 October. The title is "Postal Innovation of the Classic Era: Evolution Leading to Modernization." (Ed's note: Registration information will be forthcoming to PSLC membership.)



Dr. DiComo had a short Power-Point addressing the occasional

extra lines seen on gravure printed stamps. Are they plate cracks or scratches in the plate? Usually neither is the case, as these types of defects are different in appearance.

The straight red line (See below left) is the result of the doctor blade not completely removing all the ink from the inked plate. Thus it transfers to the stamp.

George Hauber, Sr. offered a short stamp quiz on the U.S. presidency.

Mike Bach gave a presentation in July on the Penny Black of 1840 and shared, since that time, he has come upon more material including a Portugal stamp of Rowland Hill from 1940, and a cover using a Mulready-like image for a stamp club.



Most interesting is the 100th PB Anniversary cover from Denmark in 1940 as pictured above. Mike rejoiced that collecting never ends, as new material to one's classic or topical collection keeps turning up. This is giving Mike the impetus for another presentation next year.



And speaking of further research and a presentation, **Bob Rufe** is looking into an airmail color variety of the eagle in C23a. There are not many extant, and most of those have a certification stamp on the back. If you have one or any related questions or info, contact Bob.

Cemil Betanov is seeking the ID of a catalog which has both item numbers and illustrations of newspaper wrappers.

Doug Keefe bought a recent Lancopex exhibit award medal on eBay, but he was unaware of the name of the seller.

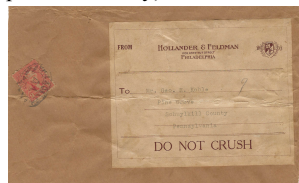
Adventures in Postal History-Hal Klein

Most collectors look at stamps on a piece of cardboard or on paper as something to be soaked-off for the stamps when actually these are pieces of postal history. It takes a bit of patience, but given time and study, stamps-on-piece reveal many things if you know how to look. I find the challenge a lot of fun.

A friend recently approached me saying he picked up the following two items at a stamp show. He asked me if I could tell him anything about them. Here is what I responded:

Q. 1.: Scott #641 on a large wrapper from Hollander and Feldman in Philadelphia, Pa., with "Do Not Crush." The stamp tied by black double-oval barred Philadelphia, PA with AA or A1 in center. Sent to Pine Grove, PA.

(This wrapper is shown in two parts for clarity)



Hollander and Feldman were Harry Hollander and Joseph Feldman, well-known studio photographers at 17th & Chestnut Sts., located in center city Philadelphia, Pa.



The Cancel: Scott #641, is tied to a wrapper by a large 24mm x 14mm (appx), double oval, "PHILADELPHIA/PA./A". The "A" is a postal station indicator standing for the "OAK LANE Post Office"; the earliest known usage (EKU) of this type device in Philadelphia POs was January 1894, while the latest known usage (LKU) "A" was in 1935. These style devices were eventually replaced by the Double-Oval Mute cancellation. *Reference: (Type 154a) Catalog of Philadelphia Postmarks,*

18th Century to Present, Part 1, Domestic Markings; © Tom Clarke, Davie, FL, SEPAD 1989.

The Rate: Looking at the available rates, there are two options.

Option 1. 9¢ = 4th Class Library Rate; Rate Period: July 1, 1928 to December 31, 1948. The rate breaks down as: 3¢/first lb., and 1¢ for each additional lb. The 9¢ postage would account for a weight of 7 lb. The rate included: films, filmstrips, transparencies, etc., when shipped for schools, universities, & non-profit institutions. The wrapper most likely covered a cardboard tube or box holding a large group of flat sheet photo negative sheets; grouped, these are very heavy. Ursinus College and Beaver College are near the Oak Lane Post Office and Hollander and Feldman were the photographers for these Yearbooks and others in the area in this period.

Option 2: 9¢ = Third Class, Single Piece Rate. The rate breaks down as: 1.5¢-per-2 oz., or a total of 6 oz.! Rate Period: April 1, 1925, thru December 31, 1948. Again, based on the shipment being from a photographer and the assumption that these were film transparency negatives for printing yearbooks, the material would be much too heavy for 9¢ Third Class. The film negatives were probably shipped in a "tube" instead of being shipped "flat" to prevent damage.

Option 1 9¢ = 4th Class Library Rate is the logical choice here.

Q-2. \$3.65 in postage - Prexies on cardboard. Partial Label states, "4th Class Mail Merchandise." (Shown in two pieces.)

A: The stamps are tied by a standard 18mmH x 55mmL (appx.) self-inking, repeating roller, hand-cancellation device used on parcels and flats, unable to be machine cancelled, with standard Town / State (XX) / Postal Clerk Identification (XXX). Usage of this device is from 1930s thru late-1980s. There are several possible mailing time periods to consider:

Option 1. Postal Clerk Identification changed to SCF (Sectional Center Facility) Identification in the 1970s (SCF=first three digits of zip code.) Option 1 is too late for this piece.

Option 2A or 2B. Fourth Class, Parcel Post-Zone 4: (300-600 miles radius from Green Bay): \$ 0.19 for the first lb.; \$0.0475 each additional lb. Any fractional amount is rounded up. Rate Period: January 1, 1949 to September 30, 1951.



Option 2A: 4th Class Parcel Post/Zone 4; Package Weight 66 lbs. Cost would be \$ 3.40.

4th Class PP Rate Effective: January 1, 1949 to September 30, 1951.

Plus, \$ 0.25 INSURANCE SERVICE, INDEMNITY \$50.⁰¹ to \$100.⁰⁰

Insurance Rate Effective: January 1, 1949 to December 31, 1951.

TOTAL: \$3.65



Option 2B: 4th Class Parcel Post/Zone 4; Weight 70 lbs. = \$ 3.60 4th Class PP Rate Period: Jan. 1, 1949 to Sept. 30, 1951; Plus, \$ 0.05 Insurance Indemnity Svc.: \$0 - \$5.00; Insurance Rate: Jan. 1, 1949 to Dec. 31, 1951

TOTAL: \$3.65

OPTION 3: 4th Class Parcel Post/Zone 4: Rate Period: January 1, 1949 to September 30, 1951; Zone 4 (300-600 miles radius from Green Bay): \$0.23/ 1st-lb.; \$0.0515/lb. (fractional rounded up.) **Option 3:** 4th Class Parcel Post/Zone 4; Package Weight 53 lbs. \$3.35 Rate 4th Class PP Rate Effective: Oct. 1, 1953 to Jan. 31,

1952 to March 25, 1966) TPTAL: \$3.65.

Option 1 or 2 usage was in a short two-year rate period. **Option 3:** Liberty Issues would have been used to complete the mixture of stamps, as Green Bay, WI, with its mail order companies, was one of the first group of post offices in the country to receive and use the new definitive Issues. **OPTION 3** is the correct choice.

Finally, understanding the color of definitives is extremely helpful, especially with the Presidential (Prexie) issue that saw usage from 1938 to 1962. The dull, somewhat faded or "washed-out" looking colors of the Prexie issues is consistent with colors of the 1940-1948 War printing period, when there was a shortage of quality printing inks and printing papers. Starting in the later 1940's, paper quality improved greatly and inks became far more vibrant. The 1922, or Fourth Bureau Issues, with their flat and rotary presses are great fun too.

If you love solving puzzles, you'll love attempting to determine the "who", "how", "why", "when" and "where" behind stamps-on-piece, rather than simply soaking them off the paper. Many stamps on-piece *DO* have a postal history story to tell, if you take the time to look.

The best reference for researching and understanding rates is the book, "*U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-2011*" by Henry W. Beecher and Anthony Wawrukiewicz, © Anthony S. Wawrukiewicz. The book is available from The American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte, PA; there is a foreign rates book by the same authors too.

And for those with enquiring minds for postal history, there is a great organization to look into. It is the Pennsylvania Postal History Society, the website is www.paphs.org. Check it out, as there are interesting articles of both state and national interest, and this is an opportunity to learn, make new contacts, and share a passion for the stuff of history through covers, stamps, and postal markings.