



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1935

American Philatelic Society - Chapter 18 ■ American Air Mail Society - Chapter 18
Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club and The Collector's Club of Philadelphia

April, 2019 Newsletter - Volume 68, Issue 4

Next Meeting - Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Our Featured Topic

for April

The Postal History and Stamps of Malta Through the Victorian Era

Maltese postal history is reflected in a variety of postal markings, such a lazaretto marks, accountancy marks, maritime marks, and postmen's handstamps, all of which will be included. Other markings may be included as time permits. There will be a few items that are a bit more recent in order to illustrate certain postal markings.

By Roger Coleman

President's Message

As mention last month, I missed the meeting because we were in route to the UK, Where the following weekend, at a hotel in Warwick England, we attended the AGM (Annual General Meeting) of a specialty philatelic society which has about 100 members. We've been attending over 20 years and social activities are just as important as stamps. The numbers were way down this year but still we had 14 for Friday's dinner at a local restaurant and a dozen for the Saturday's at the hotel. Most spouses found other things to do for Saturday's official meeting and Sunday morning show and tell. Single frame competitions (one for stamps and one for everything else), and several informal presentations: some on PowerPoint, some on pages, and some loose items constituted the philatelic activities.

What that meeting didn't have is the usual auction, and I'd like to discuss an alternative for ours we might find worth considering.

I'll also show an interesting round the world cover I recently acquired. Until the 16th meeting...

I'm Steve Washburne and I approve this message.



Up Coming Shows & Times

- April 13 **DELPEX**, Nur Shrine Center Temple, 198 S. DuPont Highway, New Castle, Del.
- April 26-27 **LANCOPEX**, 1383 Arcadia Rd, Lancaster PA
- April 27 **The Philatelic Gathering**, Chester County Historical Society, 225 North High Street, West Chester, Pa., 10 AM - Noon
- May 4 **MERCHANTVILLE STAMP CLUB Bourse**, Martin Luther Chapel School gym, 4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, N.J.
- May 31-June 2 **ASDA StampShow**, The Watson Hotel, West 57th Street, New York, N.Y.
- June 7-9 **NAPEX**, McLean Hilton at Tyson's Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Dr., McLean, VA.
- June 22 **Eastern Pa Stamp Show (EPASS)**, Jordan United Church of Christ, 1837 Church St., Allentown Pa.
- June 22-23 **SCOPEX**, American Philatelic Center, Bellefonte Pa.
- June 24-27 **APS Summer Seminar**, American Philatelic Center, Bellefonte Pa.

2018-19 Meeting Dates

All Tuesdays - All start at 7:30 pm - All at the Giant

Apr. 16th May 21st Jun. 18th July - No Meeting
Aug. 20th Sept. 17th Oct. 15th Nov. 19th
Dec 19 - Holiday Dinner

Remember...

Death is the number 1 killer in the world.

OFFICERS

President Steve Washburne 215.843.2106	Treasurer Vince Costello Vinman2119@aol.com	Newsletter Ed Weisberg edweisberg10@gmail.com
Vice President & Programs Phil Russell russell516@comcast.net	Secretary Letty Moon lettymoon@comcast.net	Show & Events Alan Warren alanwar@comcast.net

Stamp Club Meeting Address

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC
Giant Supermarket
Community Rm,
315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA

GPS and CC
PO Box 446,
Willow Grove, PA
19090-0446



Awards & Recognition

Mark Schwartz won a large gold, the Garfield Perry award for best U.S. exhibit, the Thomas Allen award for best postal history, the Postal History Society award, and the show Grand Award at the Garfield-Perry show near

Cleveland in March with his "The Postal History of Salem Massachusetts." He also took a large gold along with the United States Philatelic Classics Society medal for "The 'Special Arrangement' between Liverpool and the U.S.: 1843-1848." At the same show **Bill Schultz** received a gold for his "Toll Gates and Houses – Their Progression on Postcards."

Mark Schwartz was also awarded the Tapling Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society London for the best article in the 2018 issues of the society's journal, the London Philatelist. He will receive the medal later this year. The medal is named to honor the great 19th century philatelist Thomas Keay Tapling, whose collection at one time was second only to that of Ferrary.

Alan Warren was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, established by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain in 1921. The award recognizes achievement, research, publication, and service in philately. The signing ceremony will be held May 31st in Stockholm, Sweden.



Minutes From March's Meeting

In the absence of **Steve Washburne**, our VP, **Phil Russell**, started the meeting.

PROGRAM: Our speaker, **Tom Geiger**, called his program "Cool Stuff". He showed us an assortment of novel things that he has found over the years. Included were: the very first stamp given to him as a child, a 5¢ Johnny Appleseed from 1966, items postmarked on holidays, postcards with amusing messages and fun town names, covers with autographs of famous people, postal items with personal family history on them, oddities and finally a USA zeppelin cover.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: We received a letter thanking us for the donation last month to the Postal History Museum at the Smithsonian.

It was again mentioned that Delpex will be on Sat., April 13th in New Castle, DE.

TREASURER'S REPORT: We have \$3976.75 in our account.

NEW BUSINESS: **Alan Warren** reported that **Mark Schwartz** and **Bill Schultz** both won prizes at....in Cleveland, OH. See article.

Phil Russell reported that he had several speakers lined up for the next several months.

Ed Weisberg asked if members wanted him to continue including the education articles that he puts in the newsletter. Members confirmed that they enjoyed the articles.

THE 50-50 was won by **Vince Costello** and the Club made \$5. **Alan Warren** donated two items as prizes. A second drawing was done and **Letty Moon** won a pair of socks with stamp designs all over them. A third drawing was done and **Ed Weisberg** won a combination ballpoint pen and laser pointer.

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*.

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

We are pleased to announce that the following philatelists were elected as new signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists at the annual meeting of the Board of Election on 21 March 2019:

Prakob Chirakiti, RDP, FRPSL (Thailand)

Guy Dutau, RDP, FRPSL (France)

Hany Salam, RDP (Egypt)

Alan Warren, RDP, FRPSL (USA)

The invitation to sign the Roll is the highest and most prestigious of honours in philately, which recognises achievement, research, publication and service. The Roll was instituted in Harrogate in May 1921, when the initial 39 names were added to the Roll. The signature of His Majesty King George V appears at the head of the Roll as the first signatory.

This year's signing ceremony will take place in the Hall of Mirrors – Spegelsalen – of the Grand Hôtel, Stockholm, Sweden on Friday 31 May 2019 at the Stockholmia 2019 exhibition. Attendance at the ceremony is open to all. There are currently 84 living RDPs from 25 countries spread over six continents. More details on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists can be found at:

[http://www.abps.org.uk/Awards/Roll of Distinguished Philatelists/index.xalter](http://www.abps.org.uk/Awards/Roll_of_Distinguished_Philatelists/index.xalter)

Alan Warren RDP



Active in organised philately in both the USA and the Nordic region, Alan Warren has been a significant contributor to philatelic collecting, writing, organisational work and exhibiting since the 1970s. Within the USA, Alan has been honoured with the John N. Luff award given by the American Philatelic Society in 2002 and the Collectors Club of New York gave him the Alfred F. Lichtenstein award. His positions have included President of the Scandinavian Collectors Club and the Scandinavian Philatelic Foundation as well as president of the APS Writers Unit.

Over very many years, when there was philatelic work to do, Alan was found among those who volunteered. An accredited chief judge for both philately and philatelic literature, Alan has been active in exhibitions in both the USA and Scandinavia as an organiser and exhibitor, with several high awards including Grands and Reserve Grands. His collecting interests are focused on the Nordic region but also include Tibet and aspects of USA philately. A prolific author, he was the recipient of the Charles J. Peterson Philatelic Literature Lifetime Achievement award and has published articles in over 70 philatelic journals and magazines.

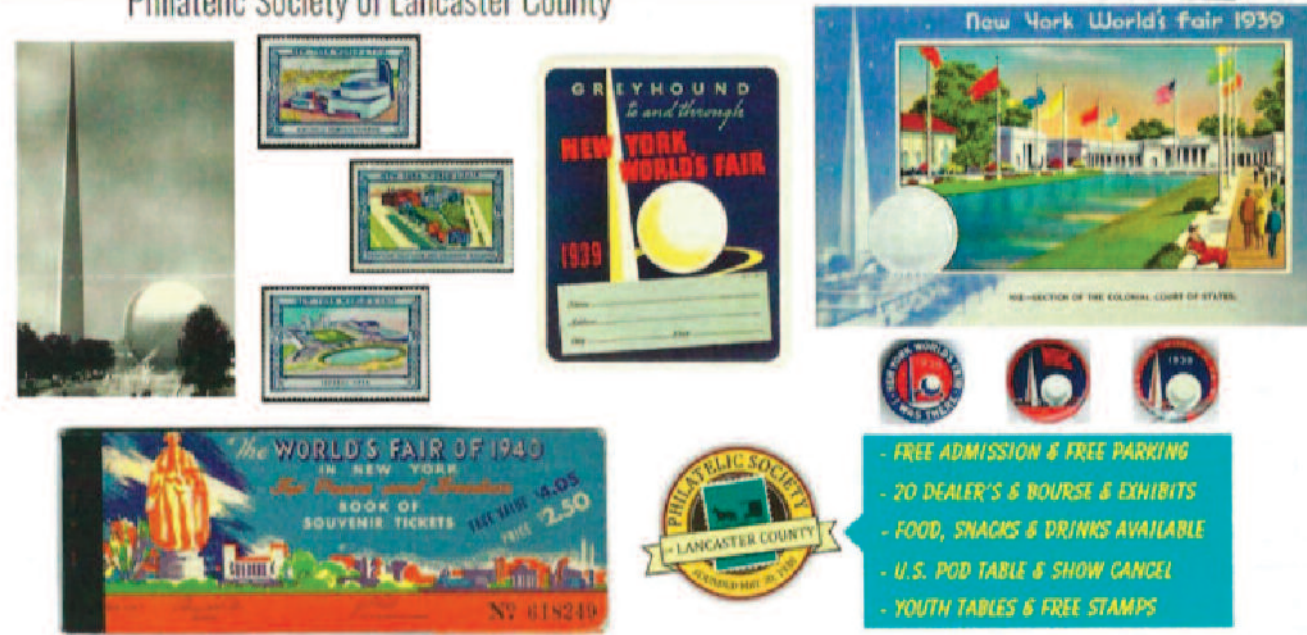
FRIDAY APRIL 26TH & SATURDAY APRIL 27TH JOPEX

WWW.LCPS-STAMPS.ORG

FARM & HOME CENTER OF LANCASTER COUNTY,
1383 ARCADIA ROAD, LANCASTER, PA 17601

The 34th LANCOPEX Stamp Show 2019

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County



- FREE ADMISSION & FREE PARKING
- 20 DEALER'S & BOURSE & EXHIBITS
- FOOD, SNACKS & DRINKS AVAILABLE
- U.S. POD TABLE & SHOW CANCEL
- YOUTH TABLES & FREE STAMPS

The Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (PSLC) is an award-winning, non-profit community organization dedicated to

Postal Artwork Contest

Announcing the Plymouth 400 Postal Artwork Contest where artists and aspiring artists alike will have the opportunity to develop the official 2020 commemorative CACHETS.

In the past commemorations official "cachets" were created to represent key moments in history. Plymouth 400 is asking YOU to help them create cachets for 2020! Plymouth 400, Inc. and the Plymouth Rock Stamp Club partnered to run this Postal Artwork Contest. We encourage participation from people of all ages and locations as we commemorate the 400th anniversary of Plymouth Colony.

To find out how to participate, go to Plymouth400inc.org/Events/postal-artwork-contest. Deadline to submit artwork is October 1st, 2019. Artwork will be showcased at Illuminate Thanksgiving 2019.

Graf Zeppelin



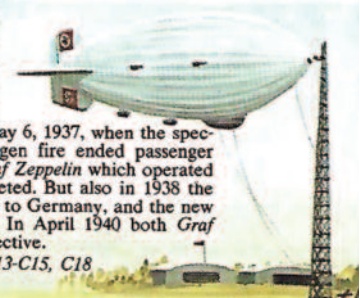
Germany
Scott No. C35

"GRAF ZEPPELIN"

In 1929 the *Graf Zeppelin* became the first airship to fly around the world. Eight hundred feet long and one hundred feet wide, the giant dirigible held fifty passengers and could travel faster than 70 mph. The *Graf Zeppelin* made 590 flights before it was decommissioned in 1937. The developer of the dirigible, Count ("Graf" in German) Ferdinand von Zeppelin (1838-1917), was a retired German army officer.

Germany dominated the manufacture and commerce of airships until May 6, 1937, when the spectacular *Hindenburg* disaster by hydrogen fire ended passenger flights. In 1938, however, a second *Graf Zeppelin* which operated on noninflammable helium was completed. But also in 1938 the United States refused to export helium to Germany, and the new *Zeppelin* made no commercial flights. In April 1940 both *Graf Zeppelins* were dismantled by Nazi directive.

See Scott Stamp Nos. C13-C15, C18





I hope you all enjoyed this part of our newsletter. We now continue with PART 4

The Classic Collector

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.
Grills-Learning to Know
Them, Part 4

Here are some tips by the late Lester G. Brookman to make the study of faint grills a bit easier.

To make the tips of the pyramids show up, take an ordinary pencil, mark up an area on a piece of paper, and rub the tip of your finger over this smudge until your finger is covered with a little of the carbon. Then place the stamp on a flat surface, back side up, and rub your finger lightly over the grilled area.

If the stamp has been grilled with a female roller the chances are that this treatment won't be necessary as these grills usually show quite plainly but this treatment will cause the ridges to stand out plainly, and thus they become a little easier to study.

It is on the grilled areas that were produced by the male rollers that this treatment is most useful as the tips of the pyramids pick up the carbon from your finger and become plainly visible. A simple "bath" will clean the stamp in short order.

Another method of checking on the stamp which is thought to have a grill is to immerse it in watermark fluid where a faint impression often shows up rather clearly. It is best to practice first with inexpensive stamps and to proceed with caution at all times.

There are some grill varieties that need to be discussed as part of this introduction to the Grills.

DOUBLE GRILLS

Stamps which show the result of two applications of the grill roller are comparatively scarce. Sometimes an operator ran the sheet through for a second applica-

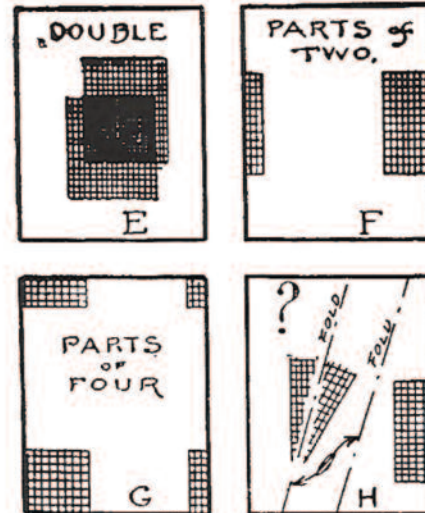
tion to correct an unsatisfactory first impression due to carelessness or haste. It is commonly accepted that only portions of, rather than full sheets, were doubly impressed, although it is possible that a few sheets might have been completely double grilled.

SPLIT GRILLS

This term is applied to stamps which show parts of two different rectangles of grill on the same stamp. This was caused by improper centering of the sheet with respect to the grill roller. When parts of four grilling areas show up on the same stamp it is referred to as a "Quadruple Split Grill".

INVERTED GRILLS

These would be grills applied from the direction opposite to that of their normal family, such as a D Grill with points up instead of down. Most often encountered are examples from sheets which were partially folded when fed



Four grill varieties, as illustrated in the Brookman book:

Upper Left, a Double Grill (the darker rectangle in the center being the area of overlap);
Upper Right, a Split Grill, showing parts of two different grill rectangles at left and right;
Lower Left, a Quadruple Split Grill;
Lower Right, a Creased Paper Grill, a freak caused by folds in the sheet of paper at the time it was fed into the embossing machine.

through the Grilling mechanism.

Counterfeits also exist mainly in those varieties that with the grill bring rather high prices, though I have seen some on the cheaper stamps as well. Most will not fool the seasoned philatelist who knows how to measure and identify.

As indicated in Steel's patent, Steel fully understood that the embossing, or grilling, had to be done after the gumming of the sheets. Check the points area of your gummed stamps to see if there is any residual gum. A gum spillover is the simplest means of uncovering a regumming job. The process was Gumming, Embossing and then Printing.

For another reference on U.S. Grills, consult William K. Herzog's authoritative reference work in the 44th Congress Book, pages 67-103, published by the American Philatelic Congress in 1978.

Look For Part Five Of Ten In
May's Newsletter