



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1885

American Philatelic Society - Chapter 18 :: American Air Mail Society - Chapter 18

Successor to the Philadelphia Stamp Club and The Collector's Club of Philadelphia

March 2016 Newsletter - Volume 4, Issue 3

Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Our Featured Topic

for March

This is a Speaker by-month; instead...

- a DVD from the Club's library
- **Show and Tell by our Members**
- a motion for a donation for Merit Badge classes
- an ad hoc **auction** for *Club benefit* of Member's extras and duplicates

ATTENTION GPS and CC MEMBERS

If you are a member of another club and have heard some interesting programs in the past, we would like to invite those speakers to our club!

We are looking for new speakers to give presentations at our monthly meetings. If you have a favorite speaker, would you be willing to contact him (or her) and see if they would be willing to speak to us at one of our meetings?

Please get their best contact information and give it to Phil Russell, Letty Moon or Alan Warren.

--Phil Russell, VP

President

Tom Clarke

ocl-tom@ix.netcom.com

Treasurer

Vince Costello

Vinman2119@aol.com

Newsletter

Pending

Vice President & Programs

Phil Russell

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Secretary

Letty Moon

lettymoon@comcast.net

Show & Events

Alan Warren

alanwar@comcast.net

President ex officio

Steve Washburne

Stamp Club Meetings

GPS and CC

Giant Supermarket
Community Room,

315 York Rd.

Willow Grove PA 19090

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

PO Box 446

Willow Grove PA
19090-0446

Message from the Pres.

Spring is 21 days away from the time I type this, a week off from our March meeting, hallelujah. I'm personally looking forward to the Bux Mont Stamp Show, which will have come and gone by then, plus another upcoming monthly Tri-State show at William-son's in Horsham, and am very anxious for a long 2-hour trek in May to the 2016 "Mid-Atlantic [Precancel] Gathering" get-together in Street MD. It'll be four years since yours truly has spoken with experts in this bewildering collecting field. But precancels are hypnotic—if you're willing! (Just Philly precancels for me, of course.)

Elsewhere in this *Newsletter* you're certain to find mention of the hectic but very successful auction we had at last month's meeting, the money earned. There were a goodly number of stamps divided off before hand, headed for collector Kid use. A 'present under the tree' still awaits us in the form of communication from Wilmington DE's Stamp Centre concerning the seven large boxes of material in addition they received from us to auction. Or perhaps outright purchase, we'll see.

We'll be able to create a huge group of packets of topicals (a la the Philatelic Society of Lancaster Co.'s recent newsletter), and other groupings of goodies to generally assist young guys and girls to get interested in stamp collecting. NOTE: We need to get our efforts publicized where kids will read / hear / see about it. Anyone good at setting up that sort of thing?

Yet another donation is coming in this week. Don't know if it's one cover, and album, or a box or two of an assemblage of everything; more for the Club and for Kids. All in all, a great harbinger for Spring !

OFFER: I have acquired the entire 3 volume set of the **Gaines United Nations Catalog**. I can copy pages and mail the copies to members if members pay postage, upon request; or lend a volume to members if they contact Barry Elkins at elkini@comcast.net.

Minutes From February's Meeting

(Letty was absent from this meeting due to a personal commitment. Thanks for taking notes **Alan Warren**.)

Tom Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:35PM with 10 members present plus our guest speaker.

WELCOME NEW / OLD MEMBER: Member Miguel Fiel was welcomed back. He has had conflicts and has been unable to attend meetings. He collects Portugal and joined thanks to Steve Washburne.

February Presentation Summary

Postal historian Rich Marotrelli, our guest speaker, presented a program on the aviatrix Amelia Earhart. She went to junior college in Philadelphia and became a social worker in New York City. Earhart learned to fly when she was 21 and was the first woman to fly the Atlantic, but as a passenger. She only flew mail once.

In 1930 Earhart took part in the first Women's National Air Race – The Powder Puff Derby. She was the first president of the Ninety Nines, an organization for women pilots. In 1931 she flew an autogiro for the first time and set an altitude record. In 1932 she became the first woman and the second person to fly solo across the Atlantic, and she was the first woman to earn the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In 1935 Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean, from Hong Kong to Oakland, Cal. She became a collector and exhibited air-mail at the 1936 TIPEX show. In 1937 she attempted an around-the-world flight near the Equator. Gimbel's Department Store prepared souvenir envelopes for the event. Starting west, her first attempt resulted in problems in Hawaii, so she returned and started east.

She was accompanied by Fred Noonan and made it to South America, over the Atlantic, across Africa and over southeast Asia. On July 2, 1937 she and Fred left from Lae, New Guinea towards Howland Island in the Pacific. She made radio contact when in trouble but the two disappeared and no immediate wreckage was found. Rich described three theories about what might have taken place on that fatal flight, but questions remain about what and where it happened (likely ran out of fuel). Or were they executed by the soon to be at war Japanese stationed on the islands?

Auction night

For the rest of the meeting Rich Majerick, Ed

Weisberg, with Tom Clarke assisting, conducted a successful, if boisterous, auction of recently donated materials -- mostly stamp collecting supplies and two tables full of albums and albums with stamps. This raised funds for the Club and for Kids, including Scouts, whom several of our Members help as collecting mentors.

The unsold items were taken to the Stamp Centre in Wilmington to be offered in one of their upcoming auctions.

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How to Remove Adhesive from Self-Adhesive Stamps

Removal from envelope paper:

1. Place the stamp face down on paper (newspaper is okay).
2. Spray the backing paper, or daub "Pure Citrus" spray room air freshener, using a brush. Wait approximately eight to ten minutes.
3. Bend the corner of the backing paper down, and insert one point of tongs between the paper and the stamp. Slowly slide the tongs all the way under the stamp. The stamp is now separated
4. Place it on paper or poster board, with the face of the stamp down. Allow it to dry. The spray evaporates very rapidly.

Remove remaining adhesive from stamp:

1. Place the separated stamp face down on some paper.
2. Again spray, or daub with a brush, the back of the stamp. Wait approximately eight to ten seconds.
3. Place the stamp face down on some clean paper, on a desk or a table.
4. Using a scraper (like a metal ruler or putty knife), slowly slide it across the back of the stamp. (Care is advised !)
5. Remove the adhesive from the scraper by daubing on scrap paper.

The stamp is now ready to mount. If the back of the stamp is still sticky, repeat this procedure. (This is rarely needed.)

Borrowed from an article by Dave Fullerton in the West Side Stamp Clubs Jan.-Feb. issue of *Scribblings*.

Future 2016 Meeting Dates

All Tuesdays - All start at 7:30 PM - All at the Giant
Mar 15 Apr 19 May 17 Jun 21 Jul 19 Aug 16
Sep 20 Oct 18 Nov 15 Dec Holiday Dinner

Upcoming Shows and Times

April 23 DELPEX Show, Nur Shrine Center, 1383
Arcadia Road, Lancaster PA

May 28-June 4 World Stamp Show, Jacob Javitz
Center, New York City

June 19-24 APS Summer Seminar, Bellefonte PA

July 18-22 APS Volunteer Week, Bellefonte PA

Awards & Recognition

Steve Washburne served on the jury at ARIPEX in
Mesa, Arizona

Alan Warren served on the jury at the SPRINGPEX
show in Springfield, Virginia.

And Still Another Donation !

Another donation was accepted by the Club from Jim
Skidmore of Huntingdon Valley, with our thanks. The
box of albums and loose stamps was handed over to
appraiser Rich Majerick for his evaluation and choice
of either 'Help the Kids' or Club auction. Jim
explained that he searched online for an appropriate
organization and found the GPS & CC listed at the
APS site. He found Letty's information there.

New Philadelphia Cancel recognized after 170 Years

There's a new Philly cancel type.
While cataloging a group of
folded covers, Philly catalog
types 59a and 60a, the goal was
to determine definitively which
of the two confusing types was
which. At long last, there was
time to use my standard
'transparency method'. It's a
simple process and foolproof.

The process is simple: Using a plain paper copier,
make clean 1:1 copies of each marking in ques-
tion. Copy these onto a sheet of transparency film
(Staples, etc.) cut to handheld size. Then super-
impose those results over several dozen similar
looking covers to verify the exact dial type identity
of each.

See the illustrations: two random covers, one with the
"D-E" at top type (#59a), Dec 27, 1844, versus the
"D" at top type (#60a) of Jan 1, 1846. The transpar-



ency strip, shown by the B&W picture, proved the two
types are indeed different, not just rotations of month-
day slugs within. I'd doubted their difference for 20
years but never got around to 'clinically' checking it.
They remain as collector and researcher Bob Stets had
said, only by eyeball determination, in the first mini
Philadelphia cancel catalog, sponsored by SEPAD, in
the early '80's*.

Three strange covers remained in the stack that didn't
conform to *either* transparency type which was very

confusing. However, in the
literal blink of an eye they
proved themselves to be a NEW
cancel type, never listed in the
literature. That's the beauty of
using such a foolproof visual
'measuring' system -- no clumsy
guesswork and no one else's
'opinion' to have to listed to and



garble the point.

See the illustrated color comparison copies. The new type, on the right, has a similar “**D-E**” positioning, which must be what kept collectors from noting the wide spaces beneath, either side of the **Pa.** at the bottom. The blue example shown is from 1842, though the other two seen were precise copies, but in red. The last two are dated the same day(!), March 25, 1844. What are those odds?

A reasonable guess could be that a minor emergency called this otherwise extra handstamp into use each time. A fourth example has since appeared, also in blue, dated Nov 6, 1841. Others must be waiting identification. The new type in the *Philadelphia Catalog* is tentatively given #59X. In addition to this discovery, this recent attention to detail has given us another example, though unique for now, it will surely prove to be a fourth type in the 1840's Philadelphia cancel ‘set’. To be on the safe side, let’s wait till one or two more examples are located.

It will be almost two generations before exact duplicate dials can be created for post offices. Till then,

each dial had to be hand-cut. These induced shortcomings in man’s ability to be exact was to the post-master’s benefit, since he could distinguish --with a sharp eye-- the work of each clerk by each canceler’s style. Years later, after duplex cancelers with different clerk numbers in the killer portion are born,



this oversee task will be a snap.

*Stets, Robert J. *An Illustrated Catalog of Philadelphia Postal Markings Found on Stampless Covers 1728-1863*. SEPAD, Inc. 1983.

Wanted to Buy

I am looking to buy MNH the THIRD printing of 8 stamps of the UNTEA West New Guinea set issued in 1962. A look at the Scotts USA specialized catalog may be necessary to understand what I'm looking for. Scott Cat #s are 1b, 3b-9b. Email: elkinj@comcast.net

For Sale

Awaiting your items...

February Auction Results

The total received as cash or check at the last Meeting was \$375. Of this \$50 was from material earmarked for Kids, the rest went to the Club Treasury. Still outstanding are the seven moving carton-size boxes of albums and stamps that went unsold. These were graciously driven by Alan Warren to Wilmington's Stamp Centre for us. They told him they would get back to him within two weeks with an outright purchase offer or auction suggestion. And they did. They will appear in Stamp Centre's May 30, 2016 auction. So get to Wilmington on time and bid FREQUENTLY for our lots! We'll let you know which ones next month.

DELPEX 2016

STAMP SHOW & BOURSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016 • 10 AM - 5 PM

**NUR SHRINE CENTER, 198 SOUTH DUPONT HIGHWAY
NEW CASTLE, DE 19720**

US, Foreign & Topical Exhibits • Show Cancel • USPS Substation
20 Dealer Bourse • Free Appraisals

400-Lot Bid Board Auction
Closes at 3:30 PM (On-line
Catalog 3 Weeks Before Show)
Door Prizes on ½ hour.
Raffle • Free Stamps for Kids.

**BRING THIS CARD FOR
OUR DOOR PRIZE
DRAWINGS**



**FREE
ADMISSION**

NUR SHRINE CENTER:
DuPont Hwy (US 13 & 40N,
0.1 mile north of US 13/40
Junction, 0.9 miles south of
Hare's Corner (Del 273)

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