



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

June, 2017 Newsletter - Volume 5, Issue 6

Next Meeting - Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Our Featured Topic

for June

Mexican Stamps & Postal History

After two months in Mexico, I will talk about, what else, the stamps of Mexico.

Richard Majerick

Message from the Pres.

Glad to be back. See you at the meeting.

Richard



Minutes From May's Meeting

VP Phil Russell started the meeting with 10 members present and one visitor. Our visitor was Maureen Gallagher, who was seeking guidance for handling her 30 year accumulation of cancelled stamps. Our members offered advice.

PROGRAM: Steve Washburne presented a program on Portugal's 1940 Postage Centenary Issue which pictured Rowland Hill, the father of the stamp.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The 2017 Chapter Report to the APS has been filed. The large number of APS members within our club enables our club itself, Chapter 18 of the APS, to have free membership with the APS. The report also updates information on the current officers.

Our meeting room and the dates for meetings in 2018 have been secured with the Giant Supermarket.

A reminder was given to anyone considering entering an exhibit at Merpex. The entry deadline is July 7th and the show is Aug. 4th and 5th.

Postcards advertising the Allentown Philatelic Soci-

continued on pg 2

**If You Want To Advertise An Item For Sale
or Donate a Philatelic Item To Our Club,
Let Mr. Ed Know**

Future 2017 meeting dates

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

MAY 16TH, JUN. 20TH, JULY 18TH,
AUG. 15TH, SEPT 19TH, OCT. 17TH NOV 21ST
DEC 19TH - OUR HOLIDAY DINNER

Any Body You Know?

**After marriage, husband and wife become
two sides of a coin; they just can't face
each other, but still they stay together..**

If you are interested in coming to a meeting, or finding out more about Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club, contact our secretary, Letty Moon.

OFFICERS

President

Rich Majerick
215 510 2452

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

GPS and CC

Giant Supermarket
Community Rm,
315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090.

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

PO Box 446,
Willow Grove, PA
19090-0446

ety's Eastern PA Stamp Show on June 24th were made available.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Our account has \$3925.27

There was no Old or New Business.

THE 50-50 was won by **Steve Washburne** who kept his expense and donated \$9 to the Club.

There was a second drawing for a hardbound, 1969 Scott Catalog donated **Vince Costello**. It was won by **Steve Washburne** also.

SHOW & TELL:

Joe Gudonis brought in a newspaper, "The Navy Yard Beacon", which featured a cartoon created by his father when he worked at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Roger Coleman brought in a cover which was mailed from Niuafu'ou, an island in Tonga, to Largo, Florida. Since ships could not dock on the island, the practice was to dispatch mail sealed in "tin cans" by canoe to a ship, where it was retrieved for further delivery. The cover was hand stamped "TIN CAN CANOE MAIL" and has a circular cachet identifying the island and saying "DISPATCHED BY CANOE MAIL". Postage was paid with two 9 seniti airmail stamps, Scott C146, and postmarked December 3, 1974. On the back is a handstamp saying "MAILED AT SEA ABOARD S. S. MARIPOSA" and "PACIFIC FAR EAST LINE".

Tom Geiger described his Show & Tell this way: "I brought along my 1930s USA commemorative stamp binders from my overall USA collection. The two binders represent 1930-34 and 1935-39. The binders use the clear 8 1/2 x 11 two pocket pages, which will hold anything I have collected for a specific stamp issue. Each page has a printed header, showing the stamp issue, the Scott number and first day of issue.

"If I have a single, a plate block and a first day cover, they can all be on the same page, within the two pockets. If I have a block of 10, or interesting usage like a registered commercial cover, that also fits nicely. Extra pages can be easily added."

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*



This picture of a decoupage mailbox was sent to Bill Schultz recently. It was spotted in Allentown, NJ.

Up Coming Shows & Times

June 16-17	COLOPEX , Rhodes Center Ohio State Fairgrounds, Columbus, Ohio.	August 4-5	MERPEX , Merchantville Show, Marlton Middle School, 150 Tomlinson Mill Rd., Marlton, N.J.
June 24	EPASS , Eastern Pennsylvania Stamp Show, Jordan United Church of Christ, Allentown, Pa.	Sept. 1-3	BALPEX , Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Md.
June 24-25	SCOPEX , American Philatelic Centre, Bellefonte, PA.	Sept. 8-10	NOJEX , Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park Place, Newark, N.J.
June 25-30	APS Summer Seminar , Bellefonte, Pa.	October 5-8	ASDA Fall Postage Stamp Show , Hilton Midtown, New York, N.Y.
July 17-21	APS Volunteer Work Week , Bellefonte, Pa.	Oct. 27-28	UNEXPO , United Nations Exhibition, APS Headquarters, Bellefonte, Pa.
August 3-6	APS StampShow , Richmond, Va		

More Of **Things you should know!!!**
by Mr. Ed

In ancient Greece ,tossing an apple to a girl was a traditional proposal of marriage. Catching it meant she accepted.

Warner Communications paid 28 million for the copy-right to the song Happy Birthday, which was written in 1935!

A comet's tail always points away from the sun.

The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.

Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers, that is why it is found in some medicines.

The military salute is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armor raised their visors to reveal their identity.

If you get into the bottom of a well or a tall chimney and look up,you can see stars, even in the middle of the day.

When a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.

In ancient times strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed.

The Stamp Collector

My worldly wealth I hoard in albums three,
My life collection of rare postage stamps;
My room is cold and bare as you can see,
My coat is old and shabby as a tramp's;
Yet more to me than balances in banks,
My albums three are worth a million francs.

I keep them in that box beside my bed,
For who would dream such treasures it could hold;
But every day I take them out and spread
Each page, to gloat like miser o'er his gold.
Dearer to me than could be child or wife,
I would defend them with my very life.

They are my very life, for every night
over my catalogues I pore and pore;
I recognize rare items with delight,
Nothing I read but philatelic lore;
And when some specimen of choice I buy,
In all the world there's none more glad than I.

Behold my gem, my British penny black;
To pay its price I starved myself a year;
And many a night my dinner I would lack,
But when I bought it, oh, what radiant cheer!
Hitler made war that day—I did not care,
So long as my collection he would spare.

Look—my triangular Cape of Good Hope.
To purchase it I had to sell my car.

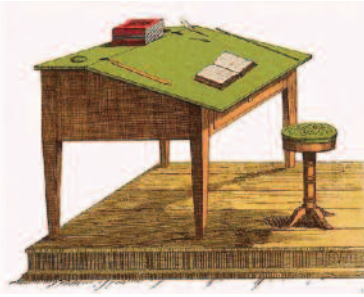
Now in my pocket for some sous I grope
To pay my omnibus when home is far,
And I am cold and hungry and footsore,
In haste to add some beauty to my store.

This very day, ah, what a joy was mine,
When in a dingy dealer's shop I found
This franc vermillion, eighteen forty-nine...
How painfully my heart began to pound!
(It's weak they say), I paid the modest price
And tremblingly I vanished in a trice.

But oh, my dream is that some day of days,
I might discover a Mauritius blue,
poking among the stamp-bins of the quais;
Who knows! They say there are but two;
Yet if a third one I should spy,
I think—God help me! I should faint and die.

Poor Monsieur Pns, he's cold and dead,
One of those stamp-collecting cranks.
His garret held no crust of bread,
But albums worth a million francs,
on them his income he would spend,
By philatelic frenzy driven.
What did it profit in the end...
You can't take stamps to Heaven.

Robert William Service (1874-1958)



The Classic Collector

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.

The Bank Note Issues - Prologue 2



3¢ Green die proof, Sc. 158P2

The Bank Note Issues were printed by three security printers beginning in 1870 and lasting until the early 1880's. These firms were, in turn, the National, the Continental and the American Bank Note Companies.

The order in which they became producers of U.S. stamps should be memorized. Take notice that the initial letter of each company, "N", then "C", then "A", is in reverse alphabetical order. By remembering the N-C-A sequence you'll have taken the first step in your classification efforts.

A Learning Experience

For years, collectors have been frustrated by the "secret" marks, or the lack thereof. They have been puzzled by the paper and grills. In short, one of the most frequently encountered problem areas among U.S. collectors has been the Bank Note Issues.

Dealers are no less guilty. Don't assume that because one makes a living from stamps that individuals are unfailingly competent at identifying any stamp that appears before their eyes.

Before we get into our usual discussion of the stamps themselves and the printers, it is important to learn the quick identification techniques that will eliminate the majority of confusion that has prevailed.

- First, gather all of the Bank Notes that need identification. Remove all grilled stamps from this group. These will all be National Issues unless you've chanced on a rarity, the Continental "J" grill. (This would be a very remote happening.)

- Next, let's make paper identification easy so that the American Issues can be taken out of our group. The papers of the Bank Notes are commonly referred to as "hard" and "soft", and they really have been a needless thorn in the sides of collectors.

Years ago I learned that if I took a known hard paper stamp and a known soft paper stamp, I would have a ready reference file for comparison purposes.

These reference stamps are

not Bank Notes. Keep in mind that the soft paper Bank Notes were printed on the same paper as were the 1893 Columbians, and the hard paper Bank Notes were printed on the same paper as the common 3¢ of the 1861 Issue (Scott 65). Although there are many other equally inexpensive examples, I chose a used 2¢ Columbian and the 3¢ 1861, also used.

When you have selected one each of these stamps, hold them up to a good light and take notice of the obvious differences. The hard paper will show an even texture throughout the stamp and it will be somewhat translucent. The soft paper will be more coarse, with an uneven texture and it will appear mottled.

- There is another test if you are still in doubt. I call it the "flick" test. Hold the Bank Note stamp to your ear and gently flick the paper. Do this again with each of your two reference stamps. You cannot help but notice the difference.

The pile of soft paper stamps that you have in front of you has now been properly identified. They are American Bank Note Company stamps.

The others that we identified as the hard paper stamps are either National or Continental stamps. These will be identified by secret mark or by color. Next time we'll discuss these secret marks as well as color and the grills.

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