



The Greater

Philadelphia Stamp & Collector's Club

Founded 1835

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

February, 2017 Newsletter - Volume 5, Issue 2

Next Meeting - Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Our Featured Topic

for February

The Ben Franklin One Cent Series Of 1902

I BEGAN TO COLLECT THIS STAMP AS A TEENAGER IN 1972 BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WAS A MAGNIFICENT DESIGN. AND I WAS A FAN OF FRANKLIN. LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT I HAD STUMBLED ONTO ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING TIMES IN POSTAL HISTORY. JOIN ME FOR A LOOK AT THIS ERA OF CHANGE THROUGH THIS ONE STAMP.



By Tom Geiger

Future 2017 meeting dates

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

MAR. 21ST, APR. 18TH MAY 23RD,
JUN. 20TH, JULY 18TH, AUG. 22ND

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

Message from the Pres.

Apparently Rich has been very sick. So no Message He did inform Letty and wrote:
"I just got out of the hospital for the flu, doing ok see you at meeting."

Richard



Minutes From January's Meeting

The meeting started at 7:30 with 12 members present and a guest who joined this evening, **Joseph Gudonis**. (See *Meet Our Newest Member* article.)

Tonight's program had to be postponed because the bulb in the projector in the Community Room was burnt out. A Super Show & Tell followed later.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: We have 46 members, with those who have renewed and our new member. Three previous members have dropped out and five others plan to renew shortly.

Tonight we welcomed **John Rush**, who joined last Nov. and attended for the first time tonight. We previously met his wife, **Carol**, also a new member.



We heard from **Rabbi S. Zusia**

Levitt who sent us his greetings for 2017 from Baltimore, and also from **Jim O'Mara** who sent an update on his life in Florida.

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OFFICERS

President

Rich Majerick
215 510 2452

Vice President & Programs

Phil Russell
russell516@comcast.net

Treasurer

Vince Costello
Vinman2119@aol.com

Secretary

Letty Moon
lettymoon@comcast.net

Newsletter

Ed Weisberg
edweisberg10@gmail.com

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Club has \$4,091.16

NEW BUSINESS: We received a solicitation for a donation from the National Postal Museum for their *Fund for Innovation and Excellence*, which benefits their education department. A motion was made and passed to make a donation of \$100.

A UN collection is available to a member.

Ed Weisberg was given a set of mint - never hinged UN stamps in a Binders and UN First Day Covers valued at \$1000-\$1500. He said that he was willing to sell this to a Club member for \$200 which would be donated to the Club. If no one makes an offer, he will send the material to be auctioned. Contact Ed so that you can inspect the material if interested.

THE 50-50 was won by **John Rush**, who donated his winnings to the Club. The Club made \$19.

SHOW & TELL:

Tom Geiger showed us his George Washington Bicentennial collection. He recently pulled out his collection of all the 1932 celebration covers, which he put in a binder, in addition to finding his exhibit from 1974, which he also put in a binder. Both were passed around.

John and Carol Rush brought in a recently acquired leather-bound album and slip case of Tunisian FDCs and stamps from 2000-2005.

Vince Costello showed us V mail (Victory mail) that was used during WW II. One page letter sheets were used to send mail to overseas service men. The V mail was microfilmed in the US and shipped overseas. When it reached a station, it was "blown up" and printed to only one quarter the original size before being delivered to the intended servicemen. This saved vast amounts of weight and space that was needed for cargo or supplies on ships during the war.

Letty Moon showed a postal card and a letter with cover, both from 1960, which were sent in by our member, **John Frekot**. Both are addressed to Emanuel "Snake" King, an exotic animal dealer in Texas. The letters writers were seeking to purchase a Chinese Dragon lizard, a mouse opossum, doves, marmosets and other animals.

Joe Gudonis talked about envelopes he had received over the Holidays with cancels on the back of the envelopes instead of the front. Discussions concluded that it was easy to miss any of the four steps done by machine in canceling letters, and the huge quantity which is done the USPS each day.

Steve Washburne brought in five Portuguese covers from 1928-52 which were fan mail to the following movie stars in Hollywood: Janet Gaynor, Paulette Goddard, Carmen Miranda, George Sanders and Rock Hudson.

Phil Russell showed a letter written between Thursday evening, Feb. 28th, 1839, at 9:00 PM and early Friday morning, Mar. 1st, on the steamboat Neptune. The Neptune left Charleston, S. C., on Tuesday morning, Feb. 26th, and arrived at Baltimore on Friday morning. The letter was addressed to Gen(era)l Eustis, in Pocotaligo, S. C. The cover has a circular NORFOLK / MAR / 5 / V^a postmark, sl STEAM and manuscript 25ct. The evidence (provided by James Baird) indicates that the Neptune was the property of and only ship operating for the Southern Steam Packet Company. This may have been the last trip of the Neptune for the SSPC before being acquired for the New Orleans-Galveston trade. The question can be asked as to why there is a Norfolk cds on what appears to be a Baltimore ship letter.

Roger Coleman brought in several things from the Gold Coast: a cover with a single stamp with a beautiful socked-on-nose Christianborg Castle cancel; a postcard with an unusually sharp strike of a negative seal cancel from Addah; Scott 96a bisect on cover; cover with "NOT KNOWN" auxiliary marking. From Malta, he showed us: a cover with stamps of Great Britain, cancelled "M"; a cover with stamps of Great Britain, cancelled A25", also with accountancy marking P.D. 2 ¾. These were chosen to illustrate covers and cancels from Gold Coast and Malta. Roger also brought in a 1966 *Philadelphia Inquirer* full page article with large illustrations of all the stamps issued pictures of the local historic scenes and personages. The title was "Delaware Valley Area Is First in Historic Commemorative Stamps".

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*

We Have An Author In Our Club



Bill Schultz has just completed a 520-page publication on the "Chester County Pennsylvania Post Offices."

He spent 40 years accumulating, researching, and preparing this tome. The illustrations include old views of post offices and many examples of covers with postmarks. There are 260 post offices included in his treatise, many of which are no longer in operation. Each office has data on postmasters, opening and closing dates, and other details as uncovered in his many, many hours of researching this topic.

Bill prepared the work in electronic form and has printed out hard copies for a few institutions such as the Chester County Historical Society and the American Philatelic Research Library. This lifelong labor of love has finally come to fruition. It is a monumental effort and a landmark in local postal history.



To the generous members who made extra donations to the Club when renewing their memberships for 2017! Members who donated were:

**Robert Damerjian
Michael Epstein
Alan Faden
John Frekot
Charles Fricke
Alan Paston
Bill Schultz
Mel Walts**

Meet Our Newest Members

Joseph Gudonis

Joe Gudonis is a member of the Burholme Stamp Club, which is how he met Ed Weisberg and found out about our club. He collects ships on stamps and ship cancels. He is also a member of the Merchantville Stamp Club and buys some of his stamps at their monthly bourses. He says he buys any stamp with ships on them that he doesn't already have, especially if it is colorful.



When he was growing up in north Phila, his father introduced him to stamp collecting and would take him along to stamps stores. While his father was looking for Lithuanian and prisoner of war mail, Joe was starting to collect German inflation stamps. As time went on, his interest in stamps lessened and he got into ham radios, but he has been back into working on his stamps for a while now.

Joe has other hobbies, like collecting souvenir pins and miniature tools. He has also been building model ships and radio controlled model boats for years. One of the most interesting things about Joe is that his model ship building led him to become a crew member on the sailing ship, the Gazela.

When he was down at Penn's Landing, he saw the Gazela and learned that you could help work on the ship, take classes and then sail with the ship as a crew member. The Gazela is paid to appear at festivals in port cities up and down the East Coast. The ship is also used occasionally for historic films, one of which had a scene filmed at Fort Mifflin, just south of Phila. Joe actually appeared as a working sailor in the background of one of these scenes for a Civil War era film.

Joe is retired from working for Temple University's Medical College as a videographer in audiovisual film operations. Video was used a lot to teach the medical students when he was working there.

Joe lives in Phila. and is married, with a son and daughter.



Awards & Recognition

Mark Schwartz won a gold and the single frame grand award at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition for his "The Special Arrangement between Liverpool and the U.S. 1843-1848." Steve Washburne also earned a gold at the same show with his "Portuguese Postal Cards 1878-1910."

Mark Schwartz was an apprentice judge at Southeast Stamp Expo in Atlanta, Georgia in January. His exhibit of "Boston Postal History" was in the Court of Honor.

FREE OFFER... FREE OFFER... FREE OFFER...

Twelve issues of American Philatelist, 2015
Email: lettymoon@comcast.net.

FOR SALE - \$200.00

UN Collection. Est Value \$1500.- \$2000.

Money goes to Club
If interested or for more info, Contact Ed Weisberg

Up Coming Shows & Times

- March 4 **Westfield Stamp Show**, 425 E. Broad St., Westfield, N.J.
- March 18-19 **SPRINGPEX**, Springfield Stamp Club, Robert E. Lee High School, 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield, Va.
- April 13-15 **ASDA Stamp Show**, Hilton Hotel, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y.
- April 22 **DELPEX** show, Nur Shrine Center Temple, 198 S. DuPont Highway, New Castle, Del.
- June 9-11 **NAPEX**, Hilton at Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Va.
- June 25-30 **APS Summer Seminar**, Bellefonte, Pa.
- July 17-21 **APS Volunteer Work Week**, Bellefonte, Pa.
- August 3-6 **APS StampShow**, Richmond, Va
- Sept. 1-3 **BALPEX**, Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, Md.
- Sept. 8-10 **NOJEX**, Best Western Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park Place, Newark, N.J.
- Oct. 27-28 **UNEXPO**, United Nations Exhibition, APS Headquarters, Bellefonte, Pa.

Humor from Mr. Ed

Did you know?



Line dancing was started by women waiting to use the bathroom.

'Some people ask the secret of our long marriage. We take time to go to a restaurant two times a week. A little candlelight, dinner, soft music and dancing. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays.'

More Humor

A blonde guy goes to the post office to buy stamps for his Christmas cards. He says to the clerk, "May I have 50 Christmas stamps?" The clerk says, "What denomination?" The blonde guy says, "God help us. Has it come to this? Give me 22 Catholic, 12 Presbyterian, 10 Lutheran and 6 Baptists."

Irving Weinberg

Philadelphia area collector Irving Weinberg died November 16, 2016 at age 88. He was a longtime member of The Philadelphia Stamp Club ♣ Collectors Club of Philadelphia ♣ Greater Philadelphia Stamp and Collectors Club. Irv chaired the American Philatelic Society's News Information Bureau in the 1970s, sending out news and publicity releases.

He collected Lincoln stamps and postal history and was a former judge for the APS and the American Topical Association. For over 40 years he served the SEPAD/PNSE organization in a variety of offices including secretary, vice president, director, member of the publicity committee, member of the banquet and hospitality committee, and chairman of the jury selection committee.

Irv was assistant secretary, a director, and member of the public relations committee for INTERPHIL 76, the international exhibition held in Philadelphia. In 1985 he received the SEPAD Local Merit award, and in 2006 the PNSE President's award.



Irv served in the United States Air Force near the end of WW II with assignments in Saipan, Guam, Tinian, and the Philippines as a member of the ground crew. (Tinian Island was the departure point for the bombers that carried the atomic bombs "Little Boy" and "Fat Man" against Hiroshima and Nagasaki).

Irv once told me the following: "After Tinian I went to the Philippines to help set up a bomber base about 20 miles north of Manila. The war was over and I ended up with my own jeep and a truck. At the ancient age of 20 I was in charge of a dozen men to work on the propellers of all the B29 bombers. My guys also handled the supplied parts for the Navy and other U.S. Air Force bases. It was here that I was able to shake hands with Eisenhower when he arrived to inspect the new Air Force field."

by Alan Warren

Memories of Irv Weinberg

Another Irv Weinberg anecdote is his being confused with the high-end dealer Irwin Weinberg of Wilkes-Barre, who brokered the 1c British Guiana, among other rare stamp. Irv related how a five or six figure item addressed to Irwin was dropped on his doorstep without requiring a signature.

Another is how pleased he was that the Arabic numbers on the Turkish overprinted post WWI stamps spelled IRVV.

from Steve Washburne



**Chinese Resistance Issue
Scott #906
First Day: July 7, 1942
Denver, Colorado**

This stamp was issued to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the resistance of the Chinese to Japanese aggression.

The stamp is .84" by 1.44", arranged horizontally. It was printed in blue in full sheets of 200, then cut and issued in panes of 50. Rotary press plate numbers 22954 and 22955 were used. Plate blocks are in corner blocks of four.

The stamp was designed by William A. Roach. In the upper left corner, arranged in an oval frame, is a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, and in a like arrangement in the upper right corner is a portrait of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first president of the Chinese Republic. Between the portraits is a contour map of China, on the lower edge of which is superimposed a design of the sun, with triangular rays, representing the national symbol used on the flag of China.

In two horizontal lines within the sun are the dates "July 7, 1937" (when Japan invaded China's northern provinces) and "July 7, 1942," between which are four Chinese characters meaning, "Fight the War and Build the Country", General Chiang Kai-shek's war motto.

Below the portrait of Lincoln, arranged in three lines, is the wording, "Of the people, by the people, for the people," from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and



in a similar position under the portrait of Dr. Sun Yat-sen are three columns of Chinese characters of corresponding meaning.

The denomination designation "5¢" (the UPU international surface rate) is shown in the lower left corner of the stamp, to the right of which, in a horizontal line, is the wording "United States Postage." All inscriptions except those under the portraits, are in dark lettering.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who died in 1925, was selected for a place on the new stamp because he was so symbolic of the Chinese Republic which he founded in 1911-12. Sun Yat-sen on many occasions stated that he had been inspired by Lincoln and that he had been motivated by the principles laid down in the Gettysburg Address.

On October 11, 1911, at Denver, Colorado, Dr. Sun Yat-sen received word that his efforts to free China had finally succeeded and that he should return to China immediately, for the purpose of building the republic. Denver, therefore, was chosen as the first-day sale site on July 7, 1942, the fifth anniversary of China's resistance to the Japanese invasion.

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