



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

March 2021 Newsletter - Volume 9, Issue 3

Next Face-to-Face Meeting - ?

Our ZOOM Meeting

The GPS & CC will be having its next meeting through ZOOM on **March 16th at 7:30**. Our treasurer, Bruce Marsden, has set this up for us and it has been enthusiastically endorsed by our Club Officers and Committee Heads. The ZOOM invitation with the address that you'll click on to join the meeting will be resent to you on the day before the meeting as a reminder.

*If you need more information on how to connect to our meetings via Zoom, contact **Bruce Marsden**, our treasurer.*

March's Program Via Zoom

The March program will be an APS Stamp Chat video on the **First Year of the Secession**

Up-Coming ZOOM Meeting Dates

Apr. 20, May 18, Jun. 15,
No meeting in July, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19,
Nov. 16, Dec. 21 Holiday Dinner?

NEEDED: A NOMINEE TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT FOR THE 2021/m2022 TERM

CONTACT PHIL RUSSELL, NORM SHACHAT OR ALAN WARREN

Minutes From Our February Zoom Meetings

Phil Russell opened the business portion of the Zoom meeting and eleven members joined us.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Several members have been in the hospital. **Alan Warren** had surgery on his hip and is now home after being in rehab. **Joe Gudonis** let his friends in the Club know that he had been hospitalized with Covid-19 for 20 days, but is now feeling quite well.

Our newest member, **Kenneth Miller**, joined us tonight. He lives in Pittsburgh and his collecting interests are topical stamps featuring art and music. See the "Meet the New Member" article.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bruce Marsden said things are working out smoothly with our new bank account. We have \$4136.78 in our account.

PROGRAM: We watched an APS Stamp Chat video entitled, "The World of Chemistry on Postage Stamps" by Dr. Daniel Rabinovich. Dr. Dan is part of the Dept of Chemistry of the University of North Carolina at Charlottesville. The many themes in his collection relating to chemistry included the discovery of the chemical elements, scientists who made those discoveries, attempts to organize the information about the elements, Nobel Prize winners in chemistry, minerals found in countries from all over the world, chemical formulas on stamps, the chemical industry and much more.

There was no Old or New Business.

SHOW & TELL or discussion: The question came

OFFICERS

President

?

Vice President & Programs
Phil Russell
russell516@comcast.net

Treasurer

Bruce Marsden
bmarsden@verizon.net

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

Stamp Club Address

GPS and CC

PO Box 446,
Willow Grove, PA
19090-0446

Minutes From Our February Zoom Meetings

up about the Periodic Table of Elements done in stamps. **Vince Costello** reported that there was a link to the periodic table in stamps. It is:

<https://stampsarter.org/Learning/PeriodicTable.html>

. He said that it comes from the Stamp Smarter Site and that there is an incredible amount of information on the site. He encourages everyone to check it out.

Kenneth Miller asked a question about a place called Lake Asphalt in Trinidad which led to a discussion about naturally occurring asphalt lakes and tar pits.

Tom Geiger showed us a postcard which he considered a real find on eBay. It had a picture of the Ohio Bldg. in Toledo from the 1920's, with a cancel that had a series of zeppelins in a circle. Evidently this unique cancel was overlooked by other philatelists shopping on eBay.

Next month our Zoom meeting will be on April 20th and we will probably see another APS Stamp Chat video on the First Year of the Secession.

Respectfully submitted by *Letty Moon*

PSLC Announcement

The Philatelic Society of Lancaster County has announced the launch of its YouTube page.

Visitors will find many educational and entertaining presentations and lectures by preeminent philatelists and postal historians on a broad array of stamps, postal history and historical topics by their members and friends. There is something for everyone.

They can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoqyYYtAW8H0aWByFJLQf-w>

Show Calendar

(subject to change)

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| April 9-11 | Garfield Perry March Party , Holiday Inn, Strongsville, Ohio |
| April 23-24 | Lancopex, Farm and Home Center , 1383 Arcadia Rd., Lancaster, Pa. |

APS News and Other Events

2021 Summer Seminar Now Virtual

As was the case in 2020, Summer Seminar sessions will be offered virtually. A calendar of events and course offerings will be published by March 1, 2021.

Questions or Comments? Call: 814-933-3810 or Email: education@stamps.org

Join the APS at a Discount!

New members who join the APS during the month of March get \$5 off their dues! Go to their website at Stamps.org.

Club & Member News

Volunteers Needed!

After 14 years of putting together our excellent Club newsletter, our editor, Ed Weisberg, would like to pass the job onto someone else in the Club. Ed can give you lots of tips on how to do the job. Contact Ed Weisberg or Letty Moon if you could help out.

We are also looking for a volunteer to guide our Club as President for the 2021-22 term. The President generally introduces our speakers and moves us along the meeting agenda. The other officers and committee heads lend lots of support. Anyone interested in helping out? Contact Phil Russell, Norm Shachat or Alan Warren.

Philosophical Questions

Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke?

Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens to the counters?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?

EVER WONDER... Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouth closed?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Our Newest Members

Phil Baumgarten

Phil Baumgarten grew up in Wisconsin, moved to Hamilton, Ontario after college and eventually arrived in the Philadelphia area. As a child, he and his friends



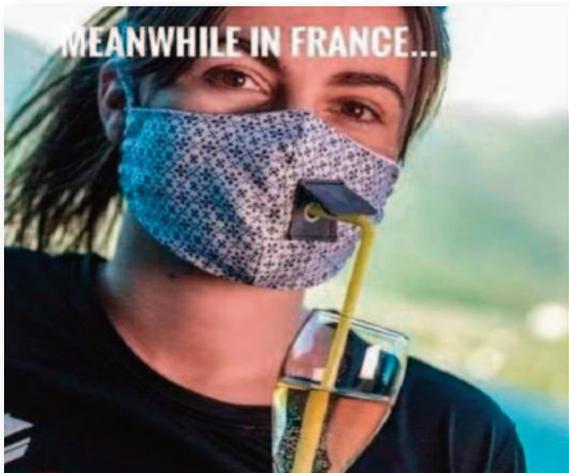
were interested in stamps, but what really turned him on was a class trip to the post office where the postmaster gave each child an envelope with a stamp on it.

Phil collected Canadian stamps first while living in Hamilton, and has since collected Australian,

German, US stamps and has a small topical collection of cranes and other birds. One unique item that he stumbled on was a piece of solicitation mail that had been lying around the office where he worked. It had a 13¢ Americana Eagle and Shield stamp on it but when Phil finally was ready to tear off the stamp he found that it had gone all the way to Hamilton, Bermuda before arriving at its actual destination of Hamilton, Ontario.

Phil has many fossils and mineral specimens all over his house and yard that he has collected in his travels. He also likes gardening, contra dancing, and waltzing.

Phil is retired from working as a railroad signal maintainer for SEPTA. He lives with his wife and has two grown children and one granddaughter.



Kenneth Miller

Our newest member is Kenneth Miller, from the Pittsburgh area. He is fairly new to collecting and heard about our club through the APS.

Kenneth has fond memories of visiting his grandfather as a child on holidays and going through his grandfather's stamp collection with him. After his grandfather passed away, the collection was passed around the family and eventually came to Kenneth. This collection mostly held stamps which were the current issues of the 50's and 60's. Especially appealing to Kenneth were those stamps which featured the National Parks.



Others have picked up stamps for Kenneth when they traveled, including his mother who brought back some from Pitcairn Island.

Kenneth mostly collects sheet and plate blocks, getting some of his material from the only stamp store left in Pittsburgh. Of high interest to him are more current issues featuring art, music and theater, such as those honoring Ray Charles, August Wilson, Joni Mitchell, John Lennon, Ma Rainey, and the 1994 Legends of American Music Jazz and Blues series. He also has enjoyed and learned a lot from the APS Stamp Chat videos.

Kenneth works as a Guest Service Agent for Spirit Airlines. In his free time he enjoys live music.

Thanks to Zoom, Kenneth can easily join us for our monthly meetings. Welcome Kenneth!

Remembering Owney

On one cool fall evening in 1888, clerks at an Albany, New York, Post Office were so busy they didn't notice a stray puppy curled up on a pile of old mailbags. Once they did, they adopted the pup and named him Owney.

It's been suggested that Owney may have been the dog of a former postal clerk who brought him along on his walk to work. When his owner moved away, Owney stayed at the post office, as he seemed to have an unusual fascination with the mailbags. In fact, Owney had such a fondness for mailbags that he rode with them as they were transferred from the Albany Post Office to the railroad depot.



Owney the Postal Dog wearing all the tags showing where he traveled to.

Owney eventually started traveling with the mail to New York City. After a while, he would be gone for months at a time. The railway mail clerks considered him a good luck charm. He rode the rails at a time when train wrecks were common, but in his nearly 10 years of travel, he was never in a wreck.

To ensure their friend made his way home, the Albany clerks gave him a collar inscribed "Owney, Post Office, Albany, New York." They attached a note to his collar asking employees of the Railway Mail Service to fasten leather or metal baggage tags to his collar to record his travels. They soon realized Owney was traveling around the country. Owney's collar became too heavy for him to wear, so Postmaster General John Wanamaker gave him a special jacket to display his many tags and badges.

Owney's adventures took him all across the country and around the world. In 1895, he rode the trains and steamships to Asia and across Europe. Reportedly, the Emperor of Japan gave him two passports and several medals. By the time he came home, he was famous around the world. Over the years, Owney received 1,017 souvenirs from his travels.

After 11 years of service as the US Railway Mail Service mascot, Owney the Postal Dog died on June 11, 1897, in Toledo, Ohio.

Online Lectures & Seminars

To register for most of these events, go online to the group's website.

The Collectors Club on Wed., Mar. 17th, at 5:30, will be hosting "Railway Mail Service Schedules of Mail Routes and Schemes of Distribution" presented by Frank Scheer.

Chicago Philatelic Society

On March 18th at 8PM EST/7PM CST, Mr. Gregory Shoults will be presenting for "The Production of Washington Franklin Flat Plate Coils 1908-1915." Meetings are open to non-members. For more information and to register, send an email. The Chicago Philatelic Society is also listed on the APS website for clubs hosting online meetings.

United Postal Stationery Society

The United Postal Stationery Society is inviting you to "Favorite Postal Stationery Items from British India" presented by Mr. Sandeep Jaiswal, on Thursday, March 18th at 8-10 PM EST/5-7 PM PST.

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) has unveiled a pair of virtual seminar series slated to run through 2021. Dubbed "Stamp Talks" and "Stamp Panels," each series includes a dozen events: the former focuses on specialized topics, with each of those presentations led by a prominent collector, while the latter is a series of panel discussions featuring a veritable who's who of Canadian philately. Both series include a Q&A period with attendees.

Watch Ed Kroft, RPSC President, deliver an epic postal history presentation in this Stamp Chat, "Some Uncommon Destinations for Mail Sent from Palestine."



Remember When Mail Delivery Didn't Burn Gas



(Source: Reddit) **Rural mailman transfers letters and packages to another postman's saddlebags — he will ride further up the side road and creek beds where no wagon or car can go. In the mountain section near Morehead, Kentucky, 1940.**

PARAPROSDOKIANS are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence is unexpected.

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

To steal ideas from someone is plagiarism. To steal from many is called research.

In filling in an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency' - notify: I put 'DOCTOR.'

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they look sexy.

Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.