

# Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

## May, 2020

The May meeting of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club is cancelled, due to the ongoing public health emergency and stay at home orders. We all hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones well, and gives you a few minutes' worth of philatelic diversion.

### The LSCC is now online!

Our gracious web hosts, the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County, have provided us with a presence on the PSLC website, as well as a place on the directory of the Pennsylvania Postal History Society website. Check out our page on the PSLC website here: <http://lcps-stamps.org/newsletter-archive/lebanon-stamp-collectors-club/>, and the PaPHS site here: <http://paphs.org/category/counties-e-l/lebanon/>.

### Appraising a stamp collection

Dick Colberg, longtime member of the LSCC and frequent contributor to our newsletter, also has made a contribution to the *American Philatelist* this month. A certified appraiser, Dick explains the basics of the appraisal process, and gives us tips on how to inventory our collections. You can check out his article on page 422 of the May issue of the AP. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, the American

Philatelic Society has lifted its pay wall, so this month everyone can read the current issue of the *American Philatelist*, member or not, with Dick's article. All you need to do is visit the APS website, and create an account. Most of us should have received our AP in the mail last week.

### Win the War: the three-cent stamp issued on July 4, 1942



This is my all-time favorite stamp; but since I am the editor of this newsletter, and since I borrowed the idea of writing about my favorite stamp from the editor of the PSLC's newsletter, I didn't want to title this piece "My Favorite Stamp". But that's what this is about; it is not an in-depth study of the issue, like the study about the five-cent DC-4 Skymaster plane airmail and related issues recently published by Tom Nichols of the PSLC (look for his work here: <http://lcps-stamps.org/presentations/exhibits/>).

I love this stamp because when I was a kid, I developed a keen

# Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

interest in World War II. When I would visit my grandparent's house, I would go upstairs just to look at their old Philco floor model radio. One day in third grade, a teacher brought in some old-time radio shows, and I was fascinated by the old Sherlock Holmes broadcast she played for us. Radio and history met one day at the Lebanon Valley Mall, when my eyes met with a cassette tape of Pearl Harbor news broadcasts produced by Radio Reruns. After making that purchase at Wee Three Records, probably with some Easter money, my parents bought a cassette player at Boscov's so that I could listen to it.

I suppose that I encountered the Win the War stamp around the same time at the Lebanon Stamp and Coin Shop, in the two-cent bin. I pulled several of them out, and when I took my loose change over to the store attendant to pay for them, he told me to put some of them back! So, I did. I think that trip to the stamp shop explains a more recent purchase of them that I completed, which I will visit at the end of this essay.

This was one of the many stamps that FDR helped design. According to Brian C. Baur in *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Stamps of the United States, 1933 – 1945*, in the months after the U.S. suddenly found itself engaged in all-out war with Germany and Japan, citizens began requesting a stamp be issued to demonstrate the nation's resolve to

'win the war'. President Roosevelt was not pleased with the designs that were submitted to him, so he took a stab at it himself.

As I was reading Baur's account, I was surprised to learn that the stamp which I loved so much was heavily criticized for several reasons. One newspaper stated that, since the eagle's gaze was away from the projectiles that he was perched upon, that it represented pacifism (it did not surprise me to confirm, with a little bit of research, that the paper making that observation didn't share the same political views as Roosevelt). Another more humorous criticism was that the eagle that was stoically perched upon the bundle of projectiles "gave the appearance of a parrot on a perch begging for a cracker."

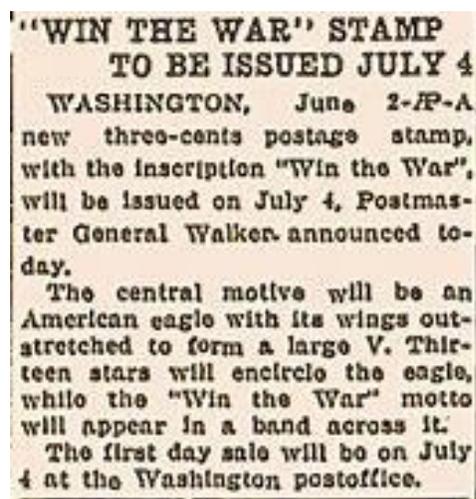
Despite the criticism directed towards Roosevelt's design, the Win the War issue, which was assigned Scott #905, was the most predominantly used three cent stamp in the United States during the war years, and was also a popular expression of patriotism on mail sent to our servicemen fighting overseas. Over 20 billion of them were issued, so it remains an extremely common stamp.

Which leads me to the conclusion of my tale, which demonstrates how much I still love it. A few years ago, when we were temporarily homebound by a significant snowfall that we got one

# Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

winter day, I found a listing of about 4200 of them on eBay, off paper, which were neatly tied in bundles of 100 with thread. You guessed it, I bought them! The ones that I was able to take home with me from the stamp shop as a nine-year old are long gone, but if I never acquire another one of them, I think that I have enough of them now to be satisfied.

Do you have a favorite stamp you would like to write about? Send your essay to Paul Petersen of the PSLC (since I stole the idea from him, if you are a PSLC member, please send your story to him) or Scott Ney of the LSCC, and we will run it in a future club newsletter.



## Philatelic Chatter #3 Answers to the Quiz!

By Dick Colberg  
March 16, 2020

1. Hungary
2. Eighteen
3. Theodore Roosevelt
4. Danish West Indies

5. Three cents
6. 1,000<sup>th</sup>
7. 1948
8. James Fenimore Cooper
9. Adlai Stevenson
10. Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and  
Stonewall Jackson

## More useful Philatelic Links

(current as of April 28, 2020)

Stamp Collecting World: This is an extremely useful site, especially for collectors of European issues  
<https://www.stamp-collecting-world.com/>

World Stamps Project Wiki Pages:

<https://worldstampsproject.org/>

Guide to Duke University's collection of WWII rationing material, with links to pictures:

<https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/wwiirationcoupons/>

Philatelic Society of Lancaster County

Exhibits:

<http://lcps-stamps.org/presentations/exhibits/>

Presentations:

<http://lcps-stamps.org/presentations/>

Electronic Library:

<http://lcps-stamps.org/library-electronic/>

