

Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

June, 2021

Number 23



A philatelic souvenir from the bicentennial celebration in the City of Lebanon, 81 years ago. Lebanon County celebrated its bicentennial in 2013, but when Lebanon Town was founded by George Steitz in 1740, it was part of the great expansive county of Lancaster, which was established in 1729.

A souvenir program was produced for Lebanon's Bicentennial, which contains some good historical tidbits, and some cool ads. *Lebanon: A Panorama* was released by the Lebanon County Historical Society to commemorate Lebanon Town's 250th year of existence in 1990. The latter book is what sparked my fascination with local history. – Scott Ney

The Arthur Groff Collection

Arthur Groff, currently 101 years old, resides at Cornwall Manor. Previously he resided for 60 years in North Cornwall Township. He became interested in stamp collecting as a youth, but as an adult started his commemorative stamp collection which he continued for over 50 years. He and his wife Ollie traveled extensively throughout the United States. He was especially interested in history and historic places, and collecting stamps that commemorated

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places he had seen and visited in his travels served to enhance his interests. It was a wonderful hobby that he enjoyed for many years. – Thomas Groff

Arthur's son Tom has donated his father's stamp collection to the LSCC on his behalf. Much of his collection consists of commemorative stamps and first day covers, neatly stored in commercially produced binders, which gives it great potential as an educational resource.

Art is one of the dwindling number of the Greatest Generation, a World War II vet who stayed on a bit longer into 1946 to help the United States get Japan back on its feet. He attended Salem Lutheran Church, and was active in Boy Scout Troop 12. When his son Tom was old enough to join Cub Scouts, he founded the Cub Scout Pack that is to this day sponsored by the church. He worked as an electrician for the Lebanon Plant of the Bethlehem Steel, and retired from there in 1982.

Art's collection is a wonderful gift. I hope we can use it to promote the hobby, and utilize the possibilities it has as an educational resource. I plan on writing about its contents here in the newsletter. For now, it is based in my storage unit, and Jim Joppy and I have begun going through and organizing it. I need to do some decluttering of my unit, but once that is accomplished, I plan on doing some of the work on it there, and LSCC members are invited to stop by to see it and join in the fun of organizing it. Tom is happy that his dad's collection is in the hands of people who will continue to enjoy and appreciate it. – Scott Ney

Calendar of Events

Courtesy of the [Philatelic Society of Lancaster County – An award-winning, non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting stamp collecting as a hobby for education and fun. \(lcps-stamps.org\)](http://lcps-stamps.org)

We are planning in 2021 to hold **Virtual Bi-Monthly Meetings**, which shall begin promptly at 6:30 PM and run for ~90 minutes via Zoom video conferencing. For details to attend these meetings please contact [Paul Petersen](mailto:pcpetersen@comcast.net) via email (pcpetersen@comcast.net) or call +1 (717) 299-5640. We usually hold a brief business meeting led by President DiComo, followed by our keynote speaker(s) and a Show & Tell, where Members & Guests can share in a few minutes their favorite stamp, cover, or other philatelic item(s) and take a question or two. We look forward to seeing you! And it is never too late to start planning ahead – speakers are requested. Please contact [Paul Petersen](mailto:pcpetersen@comcast.net).



June 9: Niagara Falls and Philately, Rick Barrett. Enjoy a marvelous philatelic trip over Niagara Falls with Rick Barrett! He'll guide us during a fun and fast-paced presentation which is especially attractive to stamp collectors, as well as those who enjoy a good travelogue. Rick will show us some interesting

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examples of The Falls on stamps, as well as postal history pertaining to Niagara. Plus, there's some absolutely fantastic history that you won't want to miss!"



June 23: *Livermore and Knight-Printed Matter Advertising Cards: 1890-1919*, by Bob Toal. Starting around 1892, this company produced some of the most creative and innovative advertising postcards ever. Themes on these stock cards were driven by prevailing newspaper headlines, timely social topics, or the holiday seasons. This overview will display various examples of the cards and the products they advertised. The one illustrated here is a First Day Issue of the blue 1¢ Columbian. These cards make great additions to topical collections and exhibits

July 14: *The Use of the 1847 Issue in Boston*, by Mark Schwartz.

July 28: *Philately in the 21st Century*, by Jesse Spector, MD. The Train has left the station. Are you onboard? When in the late 1990s I was encouraged by an ardent philatelist to resurrect the hobby of my youth, I returned to stamp collecting with a passion. Over a decade I built up extensive U.S., British North America, and Finland collections. Granted, quality was less a concern than filling up empty spaces. And oh, the pleasure of eclectic back of the book collecting. So, what then, with my pleasure at a high, was the seemingly concurrent paradox of membership in philatelic societies and clubs dropping, even precipitously, venerable publications barely surviving or going out of existence, and jam-packed aisles at philatelic shows often now but a distant memory. We all know the answer, albeit reluctantly accepted, that times change. George Bernard Shaw opined that "progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything." Well then, if progress is inevitable, and that includes buggy whips, oil lamps, ice boxes and rug beaters going by the wayside, are certain avocations also on the chopping block. Let's talk.

Fathers, sons, great-grandfathers and great-grandsons

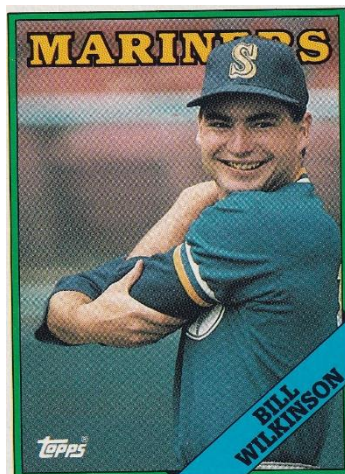
My dad wasn't a baseball fan, or a sports fan of any kind, but he did take an interest in my hobby when I started collecting baseball cards. 1988 was a fun year – every week we would go to Smith's Candies in Myerstown to buy a box of each of the three major brands: Donruss, Fleer, and Topps. We had to go there once a week, because demand for cards was so great that they enforced a strict purchase limit of one box per brand per week. At the time it didn't seem to occur to anyone that, with such great demand for the cards, and with the presses running day and night to satisfy it, that these overly produced pieces of cardboard weren't going to appreciate in value enough to fund anyone's retirement or college education.

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I think almost every kid eventually got wrapped up in the value of their cards, and keeping them in good shape. When I first started collecting in '85, the kids in my neighborhood enjoyed playing with our cards and didn't take special care of them. But by the time '88 rolled around, I was through buying them with spare change by the pack, "pitching" them against the wall with my friends, and putting them into my bicycle spokes; instead, my dad was buying them for me and my brothers by the box, and I was sorting them carefully and putting them into special binders or storage boxes designed to hold them. In my opinion, adults eventually ruined the hobby for children, but my Fleer set in its binder remains to bring back fond memories of the summer of '88, and to this day, sorting baseball cards is one my favorite activities.

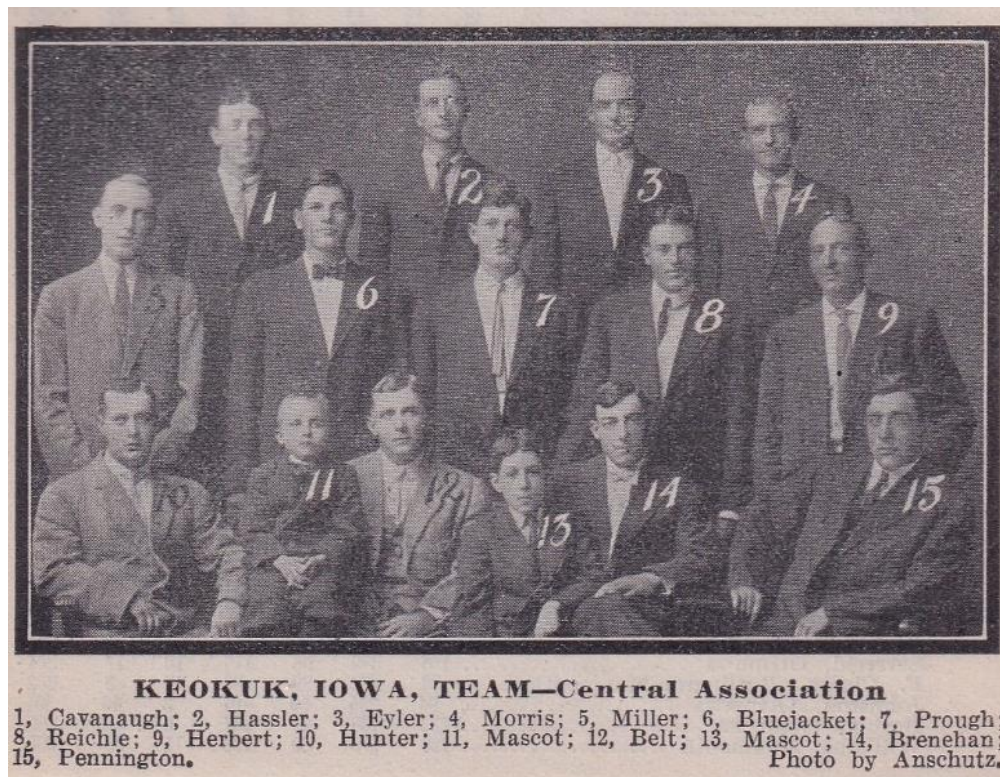
In 1988, the Seattle Mariners had a young pitcher named Bill Wilkinson. Wilkinson only pitched in a total of 88 games in the major leagues, and didn't play in the majors again after 1988. He concluded his professional playing career in 1992 in the minors. Today his card is considered a "common", but for a baseball enthusiast, Bill Wilkinson is a unique player, thanks to his family ties. His great-grandfather, Jim Bluejacket, was also a major leaguer from 1914 – 1916. He played in half as many major league games as his great-grandson, 44, including three in the National League and 41 in the Federal League. Mr. Bluejacket, who was born William Smith, was a member of the Cherokee Nation, and was one of the first Native Americans to play major league baseball. After retiring, Mr. Bluejacket lived in Aruba and worked for Standard Oil of New Jersey. His passion while he lived there was spending time with the local youth, teaching them the game of baseball.

Collecting the baseball cards of fathers and their sons is a sub-specialty of mine, thanks to a special subset that Topps issued in 1985 commemorating fathers and their active big league sons. When Bill Wilkinson made his major league debut in '85, he and his great-grandfather became the first great-grandfather-great-grandson duo in major league history. After I found out about this unique family connection, I was able to locate a few photos of minor league teams that included Mr. Bluejacket that were cut out of an old baseball guide. To read more about the life and career of Jim Bluejacket, check out the link below. – Scott Ney

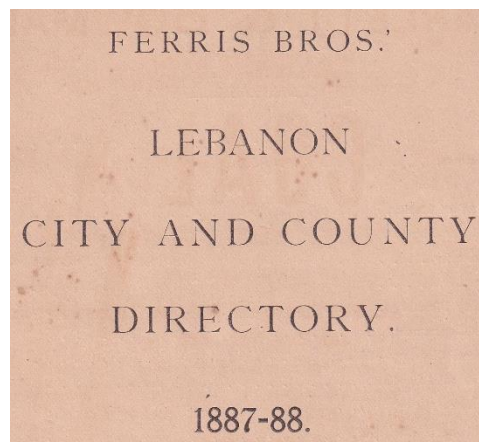


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[Jim Bluejacket – Society for American Baseball Research \(sabr.org\)](http://sabr.org)



Ferris Brothers Lebanon City and County Directory, 1887 – 1888



Next up in our survey of Lebanon City and County directories is this 260-page listing of Lebanon's inhabitants and establishments. It was easy to scan the cover page and the table of contents because they are now free to roam independently of the rest of the contents. The binding of my copy, which was once a nice piece of leather, has greatly deteriorated in the past 130+ years.

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The directory contains residential listings for both Lebanon City and County, as well as what was becoming standard directory information (see the scan of the table of contents below). There are about 145 advertisers listed in the index, each vying to attract the attention of the reader.

The information about the Post Office is on page 15:

LEBANON CITY POST OFFICE

751 Cumberland Street

Office open daily (except Sunday) from 7 A. M. to 8 P. M. Sundays, 8:30 to 9:30 A. M.

Postage on letters, sealed packages and matter wholly or any part in writing, two cents for every half ounce or fraction thereof.

Registered Letters. – Letters and valuable packages may be registered to any Post Office in the United States, on payment of a fee of ten cents and regular rates of postage.

One Cent for Two Ounces. – Almanacs, books, calendars, catalogues, corrected proofs, hand bills, magazines, maps, music, newspapers, occasional publications, pamphlets, posters, prospectuses, and proof sheets.

One Cent for Each Ounce. – Blank books, blank cards, book manuscript, circulars, engravings, envelopes, flexible patterns, letter paper, lithographs, merchandise, models, photographs, printed blanks, printed cards, ores, metals, minerals, seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and stereoscopic views.

The weight of any package must not exceed four pounds.

Money Order Department. – Open from 7 A. M. to 7 P. M., except Saturday, 3 P. M.

Money orders can be obtained from \$10 to \$100 upon all Money Order Post Offices in the United States. International money orders issued.

Postal Notes issued in any sum not exceeding \$5 on any Post Office in the United States, on the payment of three cents.

POST OFFICES. – LEBANON COUNTY

Annville, Avon, Belle Grove, Bismarck, Bunker Hill, Campbellstown, Colebrook, Cornwall, East Hanover, Fontana, Greble, Hamlin, Heilmandale, Iona, Jonestown, Kleinfeltersville, Lickdale, Meyerstown, Newmanstown, Ono, Palmyra, Prescott, Richland, Shaeffertown, Reistville, Sheridan, Syner, Yawdim.

The next directory we'll look at is a directory covering Lebanon City and the Independent District, published in 1893.

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This blank space is made possible by the fact that this is an electronic newsletter. But don't let that be an excuse for you to not submit an article to fill it next month!

Scott Ney, editor of this newsletter, can be reached by email at stnst2@aol.com.

Enjoy your summer! We will finally meet together again in the fall . . .

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Ross' Rheumatic Porous Plaster,
The Best, Quickest, and Safest Remedy for Pain of all kinds.

THE RHEUMATIC POROUS PLASTER WILL CURE RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, LUMBAGO, BACKACHE, PLEURISY, ASTHMA, KIDNEY AND LIVER DISORDERS, LUNG AND THROAT AFFECTIONS, STITCHES IN THE SIDE, STIFFNESS OF THE JOINTS, WEAKNESS, AND ALL KINDS OF PAIN.

They are a combination of valuable remedies, so thoroughly and Pharmaceutically incorporated as to make them a gentle counter-irritant, sedative, and soothing, so that those who are afflicted with pain are almost instantly relieved by the application of one of these plasters to the affected part.

PURIFY THE BLOOD
— BY USING —
Dr. Beral's Extract of Sarsaparilla,

a medicine of great value in all diseases arising from impure blood. It is made of the best Honduras Sarsaparilla, in combination with other vegetable blood-purifying medicines, all of which are invaluable in diseases arising from impure blood.

Dr. Isaac Bauman, a celebrated physician of Lancaster, who had a large practice extending over a period of nearly fifty years, thus writes of it:

"Having been made acquainted with the manner in which Dr. Beral's Extract of Sarsaparilla is prepared, I do hereby certify that it is prepared from *vegetables* noted for their power over diseases arising from impure blood. * * * I can unhesitatingly recommend it."

THREE BOTTLES CURED HIM.
Read the following, which speaks for itself:

LEBANON, PA., August 28, 1886.

Dr. Geo. Ross & Co.:—
I had the Dyspepsia so badly that I could not eat anything without it coming up. I had always a soreness in the stomach. I have taken *three* bottles of *Dr. Beral's Sarsaparilla*, and it has cured me.

Yours truly,
JOHN A. BOHR,
Light's Rolling Mill.

IF YOU ARE SUFFERING, USE
DR. BERAL'S EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA.
Price, \$1.00 per large bottle, or six bottles for \$5.00.

PREPARED ONLY BY
DR. GEO. ROSS & Co.
— Druggists —
Opposite the Court House, LEBANON, PA.

INSIDE FRONT COVER

Pick up a bottle of Ross' Rheumatic Porous Plaster (the best, quickest, and safest remedy for pain of all kinds) next time you stop by to replenish your stock of Dr. Ross' Hair Restorer.