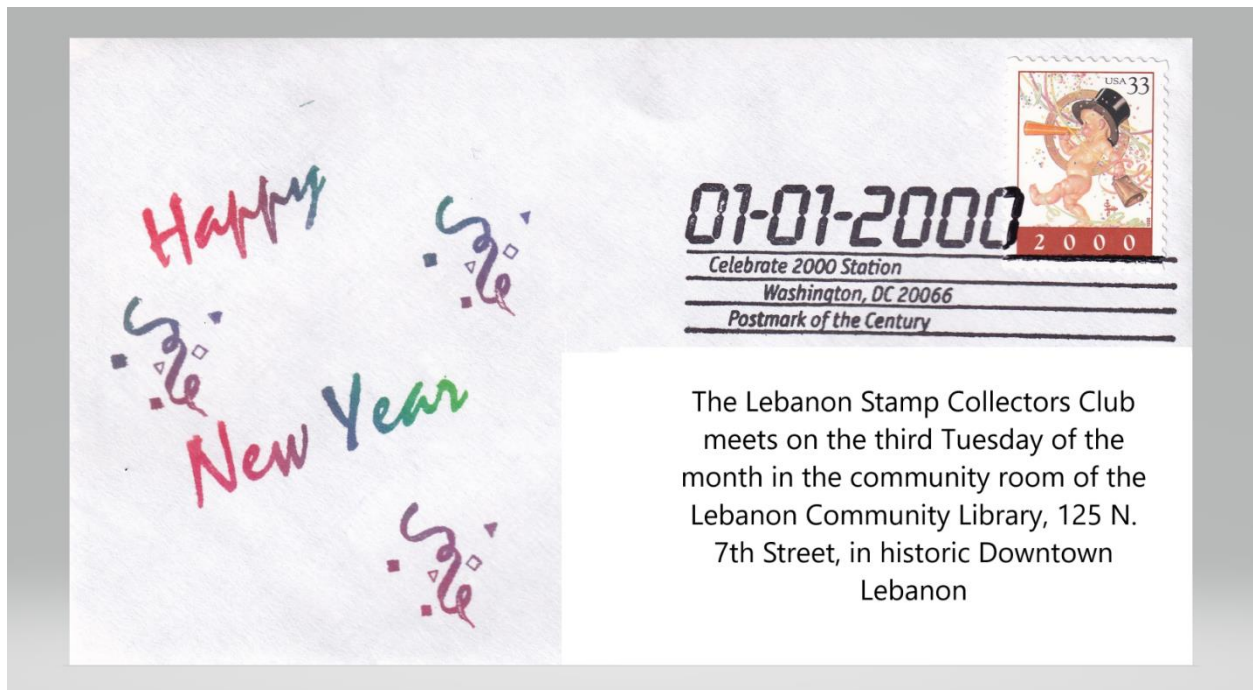


Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

January, 2022

Number 30



The next meeting of the LSCC will fall on Tuesday, January 18. Dick Colberg will present information on various aspects of French railway post office cancels, domestic and colonial. If anyone would like to bring an item or two with them to the meeting to share their knowledge of or pride in with us, please feel free to do so.

COLLECTING THE U.S. POSSESSIONS

By Dick Colberg



Canal Zone

The Canal Zone Postal Service began operating June 24, 1904, when nine post offices were opened in connection with the construction of the Panama Canal. It ceased September 30, 1970 when the Panama Postal Service took over.

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The first stamps were stamps from Colombia overprinted for use in Panama. These stamps were further overprinted CANAL ZONE. The next issue was five U.S. stamps from the 1902 issue, overprinted CANAL ZONE / PANAMA. The next issue was more Colombia stamps overprinted PANAMA and CANAL ZONE. In the first and third issues, the COLOMBIA is overprinted with a bar of color, either red or black. Some of the third issue stamps also had a new value overprinted. Numerous varieties of these overprints exist; some quite valuable. Forgeries also abound.

The 1924 and 1925 issues, overprinted U.S. stamps from 1922-1925, exist with pointed and flat top "A"s in Canal.

There is a recognized error on a Canal Zone stamp. The 1962 Thatcher Ferry Bridge stamp is known without the silver bridge. One pane of 50 is known; \$8000 mint.

Airmail, airmail official, postage due, official, and officially sealed stamps exist as do postal stationery (envelopes and postal cards).

For anyone with an interest in this material I strongly recommend membership in the Canal Zone Study Group.

Cuba

At the end of the Spanish-American War on December 10, 1898, Spain relinquished Cuba to the United States in trust for its inhabitants. On January 1, 1899 Spanish authority was succeeded by U.S. military rule until May 20, 1902. In 1898 and 1899 Cuba stamps were overprinted for use in the territory. In 1899 U.S. stamps from the 1894 issue were overprinted with "CUBA" and the value.

Special Delivery and postage due stamps and postal cards and stamped envelopes also exist.

Guam

This territory was also ceded to the USA by Spain at the end of the Spanish-American War. In 1899 U.S. stamps from the 1894 issue were overprinted "GUAM" and used until 1930. Special Delivery stamps also exist.

A sub-set of Guam stamps is Guam Guard Mail stamps. These are stamps used for conveyance of mail between various small towns on Guam. Technically, they're called "locals".

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Hawaii

Until 1893, Hawaii was an independent kingdom. From 1893 – 1898 it was a republic. The United States annexed Hawaii in 1898, and it became a Territory on June 14, 1900. Hawaiian stamps remained in use through June 13, 1900, and were replaced by U.S. stamps on June 14, 1900. In 1959 Hawaii became the 50th State of the Union.

The first four stamps of Hawaii, called the Missionaries, are VERY expensive. Their name is derived from the fact that most of the early Hawaiian mail was to and from Missionaries.

The “Numerals” from the 1850s – 1860s are popular with a well-heeled few. These stamps, 1-, 2-, and 5-cents were printed from 10 different settings and collecting them is a challenge. They’re also pretty expensive, not for us mere mortals!

I particularly like the 1853 and 1861 King Kamehameha III and IV stamps. This is mostly because of their history of multiple printings and Specimen and Cancelled overprints and reprints.

Postal stationery (envelopes and postal cards) and revenue stamps exist. For the specialist, there are also railroad stamps.

Some of my better “finds” in Hawaiian philately have been in Europe. About 10 years ago while attending the International stamp exhibit in Brussels I found a dealer who had a lot of Hawaii postal stationery and bought a bunch at very reasonable prices. And three years ago I bought Hawaii #28 from a Parisian auction house as a “left over”. After the auction you can buy unsold

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lots at a 20% discount from the starting bid price. It even came with a certificate. *(Editor's Note: for more of Dick's thoughts on Hawaiian stamps, check out his piece in the June, 2020 LSCC newsletter – "A Tale of Two Stamps").* [Lebanon-Stamp-Club-2020-06.pdf \(lcps-stamps.org\)](https://www.lcps-stamps.org/Lebanon-Stamp-Club-2020-06.pdf)



Philippines

After the American occupation of the Philippines on May 1, 1898, the U.S. Postmaster General established postal facilities with rates similar to the domestic rates. U.S. stamps overprinted "PHILIPPINES" were placed on sale on June 30, 1899. The Philippines became a commonwealth of the United States on November 15, 1935.

Much like the U.S. stamps of the 1910s, the Philippines stamps are known with single and double line watermarks and no watermarks. The watermark is PIPS, not USPS. They are also perf. 10, 11, and 12 and imperforate.

When the Philippines became a Commonwealth of the U.S. in 1935, the stamps then in use were overprinted Commonwealth in one line or two lines, depending on the size of the stamp.

At the end of WW II, these same stamps were further overprinted VICTORY.

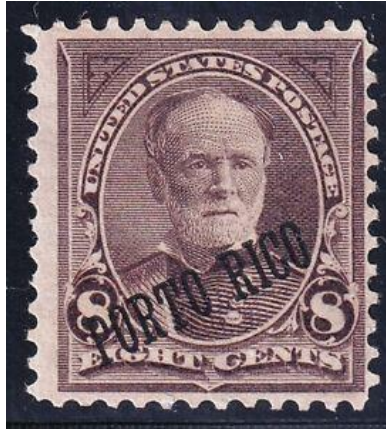
Airmail, special delivery, officially sealed and official stamps exist. Postal stationery exists, too. The collection of postal stationery I have here came from a Conestoga Auction sale several years ago. It was quite inexpensive (I believe) and is virtually complete. I doubt I'd get very much for it if I were to try to sell it, but it's neat to have it.

Beginning in 1926, regular issue postage stamps then in use were overprinted with various designs and slogans for air mail use.

Also collectible are several WW II occupation stamps and postal stationery.

(Editor's Note: To learn about the man pictured on the stamp above, check out this slideshow by PSLC member George Hauber here: [PowerPoint Presentation \(lcps-stamps.org\)](https://www.lcps-stamps.org/PowerPoint%20Presentation.pdf)

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Puerto Rico (Porto Rico)

The U.S. occupied the island on July 25, 1898 and a U.S.-run postal system began in early August, 1898. U.S. stamps overprinted "PORTO RICO" and "PUERTO RICO" were used from 1899. The overprint is at a 36-degree angle, but is also found at 25-degrees on many issues, including the postage dues.

Postal stationery and revenue stamps also exist.

I have purposely not included the Danish West Indies and the U.S. Virgin Islands on this study.

There exists a U.S. Possessions stamp society. I joined a few years ago, got nothing out of it, and quit at the end of my first year. The turn-off for me was that the editor was just writing about his own collection. My understanding is that it is different now. Try it at your own risk.

(Illustrations for Dick's article were found using a Microsoft Bing Image search)



Calendar of Events

Next LSCC Meeting: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 (Program TBD)

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Items from the PSLC Calendar:

We are planning to hold **Virtual Bi-Monthly Meetings** until further notice, 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.

January 12: *The Postal History of Lititz, Pa.*, by Dick Colberg

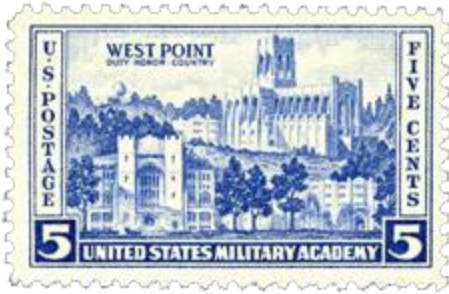


Lititz, a town in northern Lancaster County, was founded in 1756 as Litiz. A post office was established there 50 years later in 1806. The earliest known Lititz cover is dated 16 years later. The spelling of the town name was changed from Litiz to Lititz in 1881. Come join Dick Colberg as he shares this colorful history. He is a one time resident of Lititz, and he will display the most extensive collection of Lititz postal history known. You will see several one-of-a-kind items. You will also see a couple of puzzles solved.



January 26: *Early French Definitive Stamps*, by Larry Rosenblum. Between 1874 and 1940, France issued many series of definitives, some of which were in use for over 30 years. Many of these series have varieties that appeared over time, and the designs had additional uses such as domestic postal stationery and use overseas. In this presentation, Larry will review each series and highlight interesting aspects of them. He will also show some of the stamp-on-stamp commemorations and modern reissues for collectors.

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February 9: *The Five Cent West Point Stamp of 1937*, by Mick Zais. This presentation is a review of the stamp issued Wednesday, May 26, 1937 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. Designed by a captain on West Point's faculty, the stamp was the fifth and final issue of the Army half of the 10-stamp Army Navy series. These stamps were prepared at the direction of President Roosevelt to engender appreciation of and support for a tiny, depression-era military that was totally inadequate for the coming global conflagration which Roosevelt sensed would draw in a reluctant nation. This 5-cent stamp paid the international, surface rate for a 1-ounce, first class letter.

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Lebanon in 1903

We haven't looked at a Lebanon City directory in the past few months, because we've had plenty of other things to learn about here in the newsletter. But January presents us with an opportunity to revisit this subject.

Next up in my directory collection is the Chas. C. Shaffer *Directory of Lebanon City and County*, 1903 edition. Splattered with advertisements, the cover of this directory looks pretty much like those of the of the R. L. Polk directories that would come after it, as can be seen from the rather crooked partial scan of the front cover above (I'd love to have the time to scan some of the directories from my collection so that all might enjoy them from the comfort of their own home, but besides this being way too big of a project for me to take on, I'm also a lousy scanner operator). The arrangement of the contents are also standard fare, and are in a format that would be used for at least the next couple of decades by Mr. Shaffer's successor.

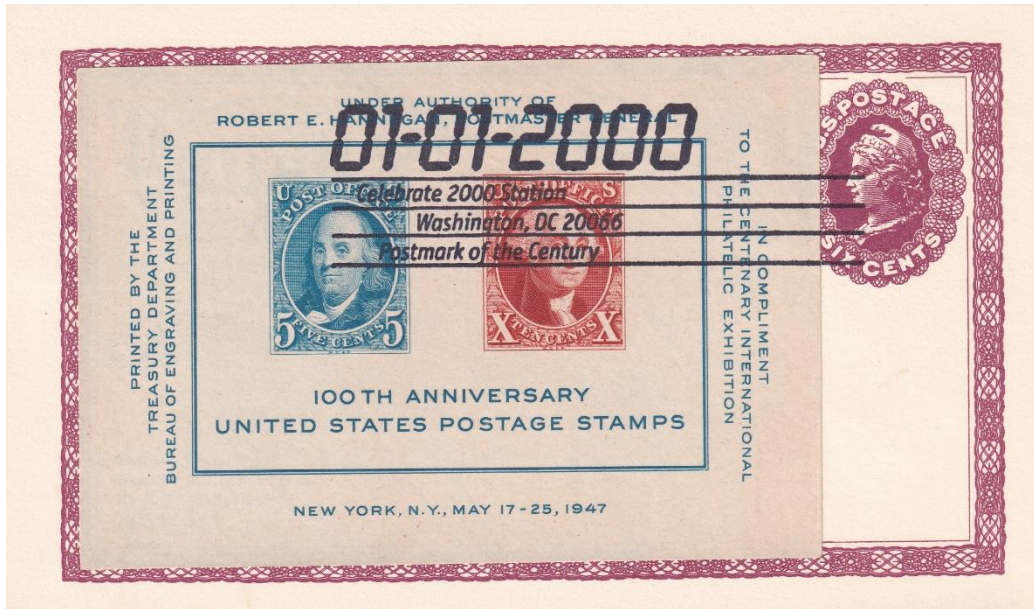
This directory includes an early street guide, a feature of Polk's directory to this day (yes, it has survived into the computer age, as last summer I saw a recent edition on the shelves at the library). There's also a list of Lebanon County voters arranged by municipality. Perhaps most interesting to the local postal historian, there is a roster of the four county Rural Free Delivery Routes on pages 436 – 445. – Scott Ney

Postcards from two centuries of philately



These postcards were popular in Germany when the 19th century turned to the 20th. I've seen them with a 31.12.1899 cancellation in the white space at the bottom left-hand corner.

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This postcard celebrating the turn of the millennium is a nice tribute to the first American postage stamps which appeared only a little more than 150 years earlier.