

# Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

March, 2022

Number 32

The March meeting of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club will be held on Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30 PM in the Community Room of the Lebanon Community Library, 125 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street, in Lebanon. The presenter will be Joe Duke.

On my honor . . .



This past month, on President's Day, I had my first opportunity to work with a small group of scouts from Troop 412, which is chartered by Salem Lutheran Church. Troop 12, which it has been known as for most of its history, was chartered in 1922, and is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. Coincidentally, 1922 was also the year that the Stamp Collecting merit badge was established.

During the first session, which flew by much more quickly than I was expecting, the boys explored a table full of philatelic objects that they are required to know about in order to earn the badge. In order to help fulfill requirement #7, I would like to invite the boys who will continue to work on the merit badge to come join us at the April meeting, where we can

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develop our monthly program around helping them fulfill some more of their requirements. We can put the apocryphal old saying “it takes a village to raise up a philatelist” to the test.

I will be getting the word out regarding what types of stamps the boys working on the badge would be interested in collecting, with the hope that we can help them acquire the stamps needed to complete their requirements.

I would also like to let anyone who might be reading this that was involved with Troop 12 in the past know that the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary banquet will be held on Saturday, April 23, at the church’s Richwine Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 5:00. Tickets will be on sale through the month of March, and you may contact me ([stnst2@aol.com](mailto:stnst2@aol.com)) for further information. – Scott Ney

### Scenes from the Antarctic at the February club meeting

Five of us were able to attend the February LSCC meeting, and were treated to Don Smith’s presentation of his polar-themed stamp collection. Don has an impressive collection, which he has previously exhibited at various shows, but perhaps even more impressive is the fact that Don has also been to Antarctica, having been stationed there during his time in the United States Coast Guard.

Jim Joppy started the meeting with some *Jeopardy!* Style stamp questions (see below for questions and answers). Don’s presentation included the following topics: maps, landscapes, inhabitants (i.e., the wildlife), the ocean, ships, icebergs, and explorers. Some of the stamps also commemorated the Antarctic Treaty, which went into force on June 23, 1961.

Despite the fact that no one lives there on a full-time basis, there are many Antarctica themed stamp issues to collect. Don accumulated the nucleus of his collection in about two years. Don was to the Antarctic twice while in the Coast Guard, stationed on an ice breaker. He has some fine stories to tell from his time there rescuing ships that got stuck on the ice.

As it turned out, this topic was quite timely as well as interesting; many of you have heard the news that Ernest Shackleton’s wooden ship, the *Endurance*, was recently found in a remarkable state of preservation, beneath 10,000 feet of icy water. The ship was crushed by ice and sank in November, 1915, as Shackleton attempted to become the first person to cross Antarctica via the South Pole. [Endurance: Explorer Shackleton's ship found after a century \(msn.com\)](http://www.msn.com)

### Jim’s Stamp Trivia

- Living people are rarely featured on stamps, but in July 1945, the POD issued a three cent stamp depicting a military event. Three of the six men depicted on the stamp survived the battle in which the event took place, but were included on the issued stamp to depict “the fighting spirit of the United States Marines.” What event did this stamp commemorate?
- Who was the first African-American to appear on a U.S. Postage Stamp?

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- Answers are below on page five!

### A different way to look at Revenue collecting



In the January edition of the *American Philatelist*, which was *The APS Definitive Guide to Stamp Catalogs*, there was a piece by revenue collector Ron Leshar about how catalogs for revenue issues will never be completed. He discussed certain beer labels that contained PA beverage tax notices, which reminded me of the Breweriana items that I once collected. I'm thankful for that nudge, because otherwise I wouldn't have thought of collecting beer labels and other items as a related branch of philately.

Above is an example of an "IRTP" label from the Lebanon Valley Brewing Company, that old place at 840 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street that has once again begun to brew beer after a hiatus of more than six decades. IRTP labels, with their "Internal Revenue Tax Paid" notice on them, are popular with collectors. I have a pony bottle of Lebanon Valley Brewing's Export Extra that has the notice included on its screen printed label (an image has been intentionally omitted, as that detail on the bottle doesn't photograph well).

Caps and crowns were also used as evidence that a container's state taxes were paid. Earlier bottles from the Lebanon Valley Brewing Company were capped with a generic malt beverage tax crown, like the ones shown. These were also used on the old cone top cans, which required a cork cap to seal.

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Brewers also had their own custom caps too, like the ones below. The keystone was the signal that the brew's Pennsylvania tax obligation was paid, and I included the image of a Budwiser cap that I do not own to show that even the national brands utilized the keystone design on caps for beer sold in PA. I've seen in rare instances a keystone on the label itself, although I don't know if that took the place of a tax crown or not. A Pennsylvania Malt Beverage Tax Paid label would certainly fit better in an album than a cap would, provided it's not attached to a bottle.





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When flat top cans came about in the 1950s, the top of the can held the tax notice. When there was an auction at the old brewery on 7<sup>th</sup> Street, ca. 2006, I got a dozen and a half or so unused Pennsylvania Dutch Old German brand beer cans that had been sitting there when the final cans of beer rolled off the line in 1959. They were complete, except for the top, where the tax crown would have been placed. – Scott Ney



### Trivia Answers:

- Raising the flag on Iwo Jima. Another exception to the rules was made just for this stamp: purple was the color for a three-cent stamp, but the color of this stamp was “Marine green”.
- Booker T. Washington, in the Famous Americans series of 1940.

### Calendar of Events

**April LSCC meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 6:30 PM at the library**

Program: Working on the Stamp Collecting merit badge with our guests (subject to change)

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## Philatelic Society of Lancaster County programs

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.

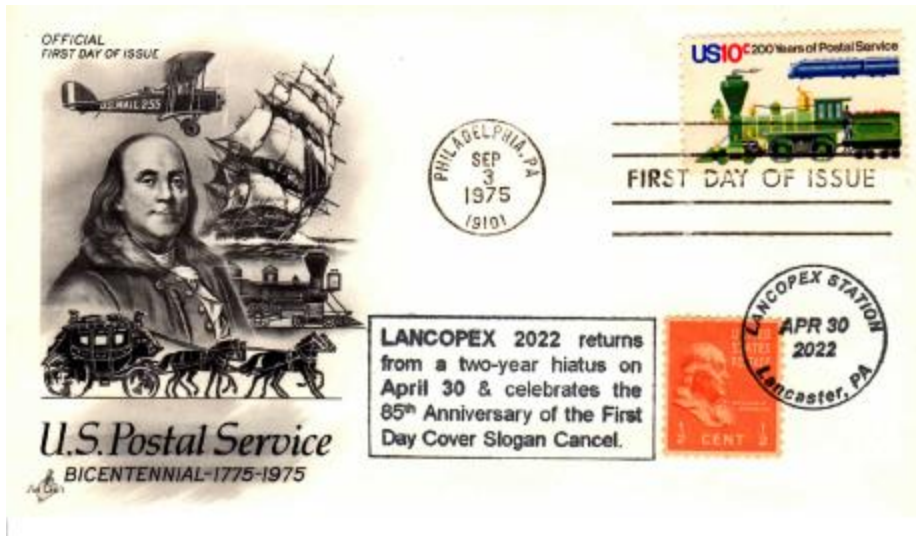
March 23: *The Reading Newspapers in John Lewis Krimmel's Downington Tavern Post Office*. Postal historians, editors, and independent researchers, Diane DeBlois and Robert Dalton Harris will analyze an 1814 painting to conclude that the artist was picturing Downington, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the Lancaster Turnpike.

April 13: *The Joys of Postal History and Philately*, by Bill Schultz. Tonight's speaker, Bill Schultz has provided a presentation each April to PSLC for over a decade. This year he will digitally display and review some of his most interesting and sometimes scarce (rare) postal history and philatelic items. He will explain each one and how they came to his attention. For example. Pictured is a 16 September 1790 cover from Philadelphia to New York City, and the rate was based on the 1788 act of Congress prior to the 1792 U.S.P.O.



April 27: *A Thematic Collection on the International Geophysical Year, 1957-58*, by Rob Sternberg. The International Geophysical Year (1957-1958) was a historically significant cooperative enterprise involving thousands of scientists from sixty-seven nations. A great variety of experiments and measurements were made on, above, and below the Earth's surface to better understand the planet we live on. The first artificial satellites were launched as part of the IGY, and there were coordinated and extensive scientific studies of Antarctica and the Arctic. Geophysicist Rob Sternberg will tell the story of the IGY through stamps, covers, and other related ephemera and memorabilia.

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April 30: **37th Annual LANCOPEX Stamp Show.**

Taking place at the Farm & Home Center of Lancaster County, PA. For this year's Show, our theme is celebrating the 85th Anniversary of the First Day Cover Slogan Cancel. We will have a show cachet and cancel and plenty of FDCs at our Society table. As always, free admission, parking and Wi-Fi. 12-15 Dealers, Society Tables, Door Prizes and plenty more. Click [LANCOPEX 2022](#) for more information.