

# THE PATENT

Monthly newsletter of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club

June 2023

Number 47

## A Tribute to Annville

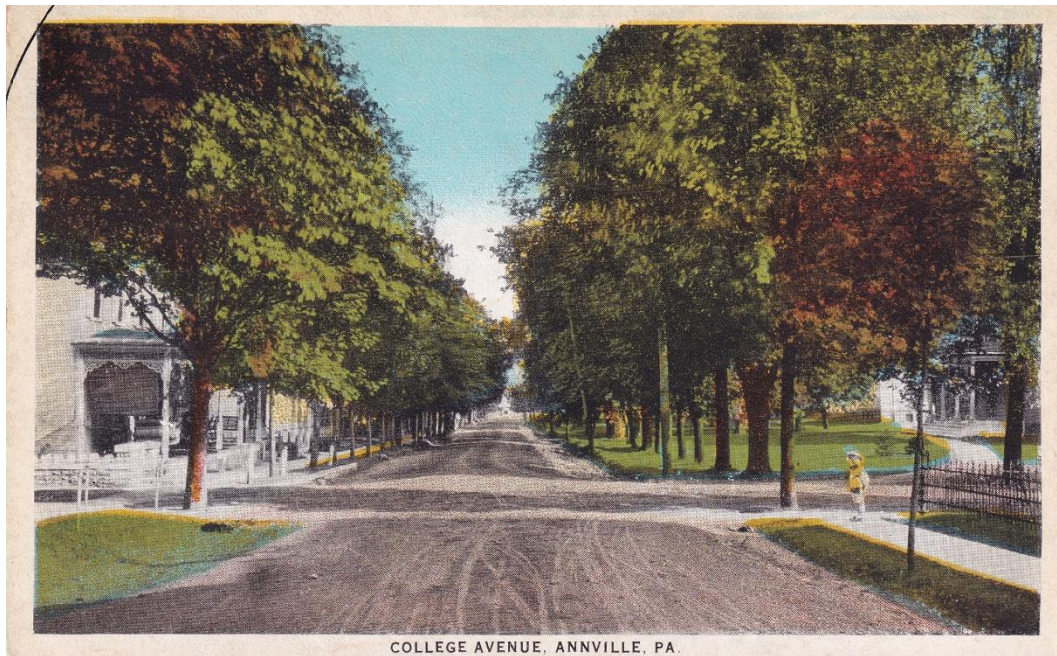


*Editor's note: Historic Old Annville Day is taking place on West Main Street in Annville on Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*





Annville – Formerly Millerstown – Renamed for Ann Miller, wife of the founder. Founded in 1762. (Town marker)



Annville Township was divided into North Annville Township and South Annville Township in 1845. In 1912, a new Annville Township was formed from parts of North Annville and South Annville, and is the town of Annville we know today. The Main Street corridor of Annville from the Quittapahilla Creek on the west to Saylor Street on the east has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. (Wikipedia and the Friends of Old Annville website)



A really old view of Main Street, with mud, trolley tracks, and horse-drawn wagons.



Main Street, Annville, Pennsylvania



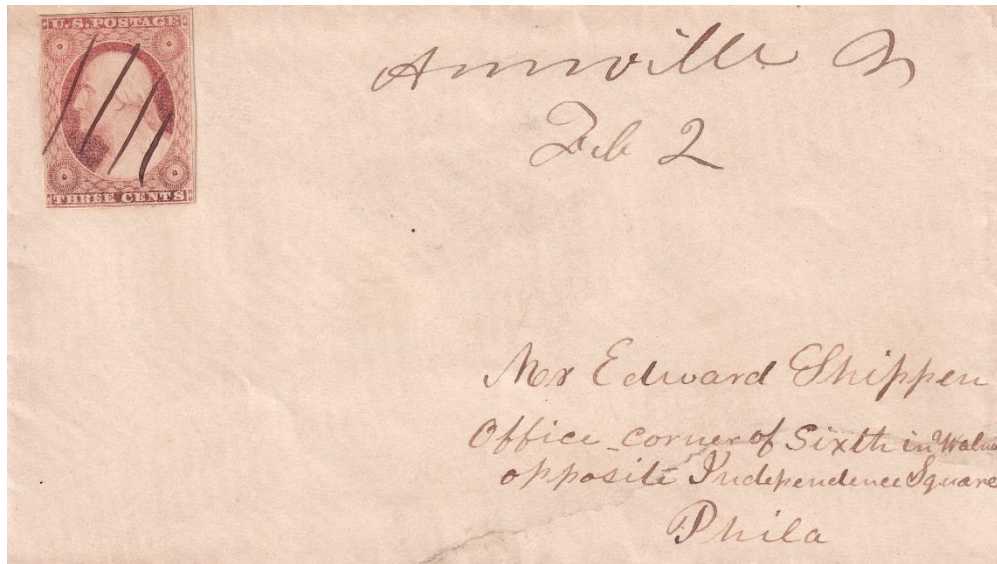
A not as old view of Main Street, recognizable to those of us who are familiar with the area, with pavement, traffic lights, and Volkswagens.



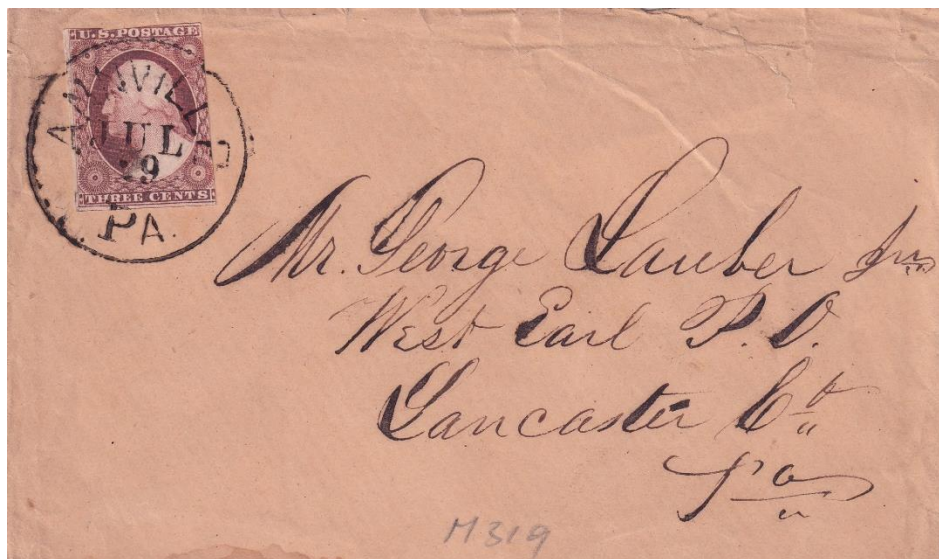
Hey, how'd that guy get to the top of the telephone pole?

## Annville letter cancels

What follows are examples of Annville date stamps from the 1800s, in chronological order (to the best of my knowledge) . . .

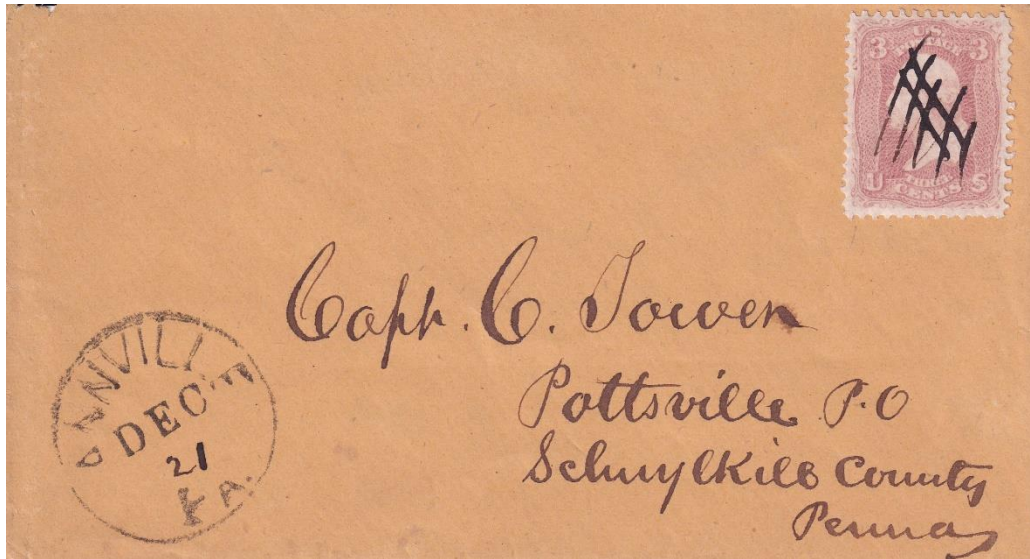


A manuscript from the 1850's



Classic Annville CDS from the 1850's





Another classic, and probably worn out, Annville CDS from the 1860s



Civil war-era CDS with bulls-eye dated September 11, 1868



A bold, but malformed, Annville CDS dated May 24, 1887



Annville CDS from 1888 with a nice cork killer



And finally, a letter that went through the post office in Annville in the 1890s

### **The May meeting of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club**



Four hearty members of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club were treated to a discussion about the future of our favorite hobby by Scott English. Scott and his wife Kendra traveled all the way from Bellefonte to spend the evening with us at the library. While this is the first meeting that



Scott has been able travel to from the center of the state, he has been a member of the LSCC since 2020.

Scott has had a very successful tenure as the executive director of the American Philatelic Society. Success often breeds optimism, and Scott shared plenty of reasons for us to be optimistic about the future of stamp collecting! The ideas that Scott communicated with us may inspire a future editorial or two, but I'll share one or two takeaways from the meeting here.

A couple reasons that are commonly cited as symptoms of the hobby's decline are the lack of participation by younger people, and the decline in membership of the APS. Indeed, the top reason for the decline in APS membership is death. But while the APS currently has 26,579 members worldwide, the best estimate that Scott and the APS have of the number of active stamp collectors in the United States is 250,000. The hobby may be less organized than it was in the past, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's in danger of becoming irrelevant any time soon.

One encouraging piece of advice that Scott shared with us, and shares with other clubs, is to expand our reach. While the relatively short arm of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club might suit our local collecting community just fine, there are examples of clubs whose influence is felt far beyond their geographic borders.

Scott recognized the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County as one of those clubs. Many of you who are reading this newsletter received it from Paul through the PSLC's newsletter exchange. The PSLC provides a web presence for the LSCC and for other clubs in our area, as well as a hub in Southcentral PA for collectors from far and wide. It takes a fair amount of vision and even more effort to accomplish those things, and the recognition is well deserved. – Scott Ney



*Joe D. and Jim J. participating in the discussion after Scott's presentation.*



## Riding the Colberg Express



LSCC president Dick Colberg presented his exhibit on the railway mail service between Rouen to Serquigny to the Paris Stamp Club last month. Donning a Strasburg Railroad cap and red bandanna, he engineered a thrilling route through his topic that was met by a round of thunderous applause when it reached its destination.

This was Dick's second presentation to the Paris Stamp Club, and he has by now firmly established his reputation with the members in Paris, France. As they say, a good time was had by all! Dick treated the LSCC to this presentation back in January, 2022, and those of us who were present for that can attest to both its scholarship and its interesting content.

## Calendar of Events

Mike Bach of the Reading Stamp Collectors Club will be joining us for our June meeting at the Lebanon Community Library, 125 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street (17046) in historic downtown Lebanon. Mike has a great "pass-around" program lined up for us!

Bundesfeier Post Cards were issued to celebrate the Swiss national holiday on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Mike's collection spans from about 1911 – 1960. Switzerland issued between one and five cards each year. Mike's presentation will double as a mini-history of Switzerland. All are welcomed to attend!

## 2023 Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club Meetings

Date	Presenter
June 20, 2023	Mike Bach – Bundesfeier Post Cards of Switzerland
July 18, 2023	LEBPEX show covers – a retrospective led by Scott Ney
August 15, 2023	Summertime Show and Tell
September 19, 2023	Open
October 17, 2023	Open
November 21, 2023	Scott Ney – A peek at the post-Great War Hyperinflation in Germany and Eastern Europe
December 19, 2023	Annual club dinner, location TBD

**The PSLC Events Calendar is located at the following link:**

[Philatelic Society of Lancaster County – Award-winning, non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting stamp and postal history collecting as a hobby for education and fun. \(lcps-stamps.org\)](https://www.lcps-stamps.org/)

## A veteran of the Navy and veteran collector





A club member deserving of a bit of overdue recognition is “Navy Bob” Fletcher; Bob is a 50 year member of the APS, and 26 year veteran of the United States Navy. In his retirement, he enjoys the hobby by going through his thousands of stamps, readying them to sell to the next collector. Here he is with his well-organized boxes of world wide stamps at the recent PSLC bourse on May 21. – Scott Ney

### Welcome back to Pennsylvania!



At my visit to the weekend stamp show in Lancaster at the end of April, I was surprised to see a familiar name posted on the side wall of the auditorium: WDW Philatelic. Surprised, because I recalled buying some small Austria lots on eBay from WDW in the past, and I knew from the letter enclosed with my purchases that Ward D. Wilcox, proprietor, was a teacher in Los Angeles by day, and a dealer in “Halfway Decent Material” by night. What was he doing in Lancaster, along with boxes and boxes of his wares?

I ended up spending a couple of hours chatting with him, catching up on what he’s been up to, and learning about what it’s like to sell stamps online, in Southern California, and here in Pennsylvania and the Northeast.

Mr. Wilcox is originally from the Wilkes-Barre area, and moved to California more than three decades ago. Now retired from his teaching job, he's moved back home to PA, and is in the midst of getting his feet wet in the regional show scene and working on his online sales platforms. Both of these aspects of dealing have been a challenge. To cite just one example, items that usually sold well at shows in Southern California haven't seen the same demand here in the East. As people stopped by his table while we were chatting, I came to the realization that the Lancaster shows cater to a very specialized crowd.

This was probably the best show that I've been to, on the strength of the enjoyable conversation I had with Mr. Wilcox. I learned a few things myself, and while I did spend a little money at his table on a country collection hinged to Minkus album pages, I wish I would have spent more. But I realize that my own collecting aims have narrowed as I mature in this hobby.

Here's to seeing new faces, young and old, at future shows, excited about diving into a mystery box full of a mish mash of goodies! WDW Philatelic can be found online on eBay and Hip Stamp.  
– Scott Ney



*"Making his way to the ring, from **Annvile, Pennsylvania** . . . he is the World Wrestling Federation Hardcore Champion . . . the 'Lethal Weapon' Steve Blackman!"*

**The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club thanks the Philatelic Society of Lancaster County for hosting our affiliate page, which is accessible by clicking the following link:**

[The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club – Philatelic Society of Lancaster County \(lcps-stamps.org\)](http://lcps-stamps.org)





**The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club    Lebanon, PA    17042**