

*“Serving Lebanon and Berks Counties”*

# **THE PATENT - OVERPRINT**

The combined monthly newsletter of the Lebanon and Reading Stamp Collectors Clubs

**June 2026  
Number 81**

The June meeting of the Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at Cornwall Manor in the historic borough of Cornwall. This is an outdoor meeting, and if we are unfortunate enough to get rain on our meeting day like we did last year, the rain date is July 21. *We will meet at the library on June 16 only in the event of a rainout.*



## **Stamps, covers, and ephemera during the 1940-1945 Nazi occupation of the Channel Islands**

*By Dr. Paul Petersen*

This is Paul’s first new topic and presentation since Covid-19, and as he studies it, he learns by sharing with others. He will discuss how the occupation came about and the effect on the citizens and evacuation. When Guernsey and Jersey began to run out of UK stamps, they bisected them. Once depleted, the Nazi’s authorized them to print their own.

There were eleven face-different stamps issued with varieties such as ink, gum, paper, perks, and other qualities. Paul will tease out the various uses of the stamps given inter-island mail, POW and internee mail,

mail to occupied countries, and mail to the homeland in England. Of special interest are the secret marks on the Jersey stamps, placed there in passive resistance to the occupation, the occupiers, and their leaders.

For this event bring your magnifying glass. Handouts will include images of the stamps, a map of the islands, and some factoids of interest.



## How to find us at Cornwall Manor on June 16

Here are directions from Lebanon:

Take Cornwall Road to the three-way intersection at the Cornwall Elementary School, and bear to the left, continuing to the stop sign at the intersection with 419 (the Root Beer Barrel and Rail Trail parking area are on the left). Continue onto Boyd Street, past the left turn onto 419 and the post office on the right, but do not use the first (main) entrance into Cornwall Manor, which is also on the right.

Keep following Boyd Street around, past the health center on the right, onto Rexmont Road, and drive a short distance until you see the Cornwall Furnace on the left (you will see Apple Hill Road is on the right). A few hundred feet further on the right is the old stone paymaster's building, where you want to make a right turn into the parking area.

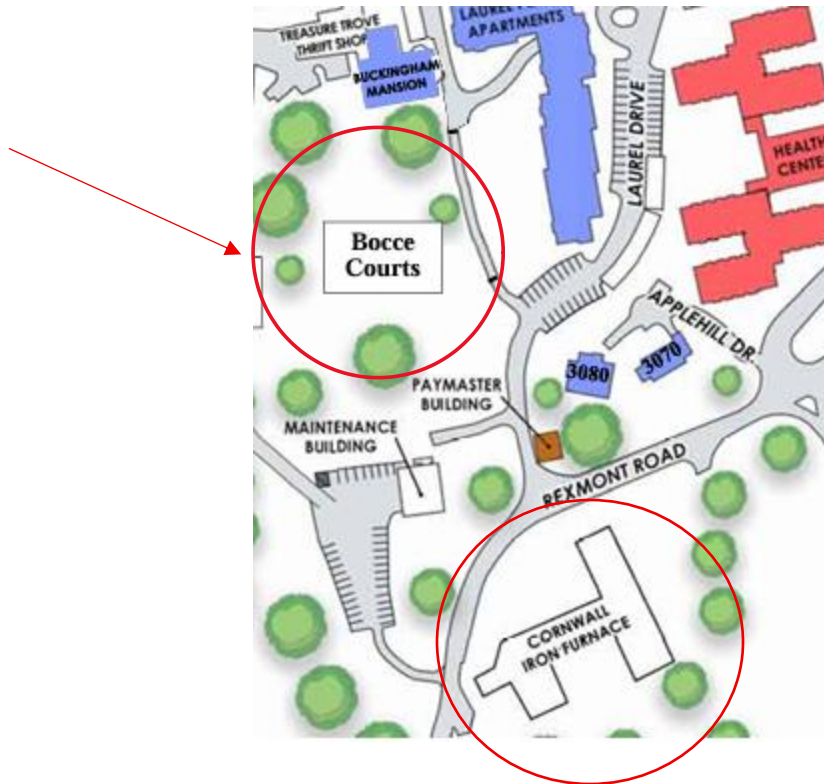
The first seven spots to the right in the parking area will be marked with cones; they are reserved for stamp club member parking. The road to the maintenance building is to the right where you'll be parked and the Macadam path to the pavilion at the bocce ball court is right there, just behind a stone wall.

Here is a simplified set of directions, including a link to a map of the grounds:

We are meeting at the picnic tables by the Bocce Ball courts on the Buckingham Campus. Here is a link to the map or the grounds on Cornwall Manor's website:

[https://cornwallmanor.org/content/uploads/2021/10/Buckingham-Woods-Campus-Map\\_October2021.pdf](https://cornwallmanor.org/content/uploads/2021/10/Buckingham-Woods-Campus-Map_October2021.pdf)

A smaller detail of the map below; notice the landmark at the bottom of the map – the Cornwall Iron Furnace. The Bocce courts can be easily accessed from Rexmont Road, by turning into the Cornwall Manor campus opposite the old Iron Furnace.



Here's a picture of the pavilion by the Bocce Ball courts where we are meeting:



Please come early! We'll try to have a sign and/or a person standing at the entrance off REXMONT ROAD to guide you there until about ten minutes after starting time.

You may call Scott Ney (717-383-1736) if you need any help finding us. We hope you can make it to our meeting to enjoy Paul's presentation!

## A window into the past

*By Scott Ney*



I missed the May LSCC meeting because my daughter's middle school band concert was on the schedule for that evening. Normally this concert would have been held at the middle school, but they were having problems with the air conditioning in the building. As you may recall, it was very hot that week; the students at the middle school got to go home early! In order for the show to go on as scheduled, the concert was moved to South Lebanon Elementary School. This was a special treat for me, because that's the school I left behind to go to the middle school 39 years ago.

I was disappointed that the custodian in charge would not allow me to walk the halls again before the concert began, but a peek through the doors leading to the hallway that existed when I was a student there was like looking through a window into the past. The lack of permission to go past those doors was symbolic of this piece of my past that I'll never experience again except through the window of my mind.

This little mailbox and banner in the hallway outside of the large room that the concert was held in was also a significant peek into the past for me as a philatelist. Here I thought that the Iona Post Office closed in 1905, when in reality, there is an echo in South Lebanon Elementary school. I may yet be able to arrange a tour of the elementary school some day when the halls are quiet and the kids aren't there, but for now it was quite a pleasant experience to go back there for a special evening.

**Stage Route Ended.**

On Thursday the Schaefferstown-Lebanon daily stage ran for the last time over the route, having been abandoned by the Post-office Department. The driver, George Corl, of Schaefferstown, intends to run a tri-weekly hack for the accommodation of passengers and carrying freight between the two places. The Iona postoffice will continue two weeks more and then also be closed, as well as the Reistville postoffice.

The Lebanon Courier and Semi-Weekly Report of Wednesday, June 7, 1905 reported on the final ride of the Schaefferstown-Lebanon stage route the week before. In another week, the Iona Post Office was history as well.



This picture, which is in a display case of historical memorabilia next to the little post office, contains the names and pictures of many teachers I hadn't thought of since I left South Lebanon for the final time. Long time members of the LSCC will recognize the name of the teacher who is third from right in the last row; that's the son of former club president Wayne Fox, who was the elementary band director back in those days.



As if my evening at South Lebanon Elementary School was not magical enough, we were treated to a full-arch rainbow after the show.

On the following pages you will find covers from the Iona Post Office, from the collection of former LSCC president Erwin Herschkowitz.

IONA

Op: July 15, 1874 - June 15, 1905

S: Lebanon

M/S with Pen Cancel



May 3, 1882

Rate: 3c.



MADE IN ENGLAND. S.G. LEAF No. 3833 (Faced) ; No. 3831 (Unfaced)

IONA

Op: July 15, 1874— June 15, 1905

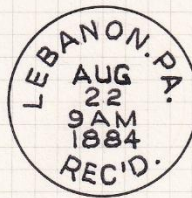
S: Lebanon

M/S with Pen Cancel



August 22, 1884

Rate: 2c.



RBS used as TBS

MADE IN ENGLAND. S.G. LEAF No. 3333 (Face) : No. 3831 (Unface)

Op: 1874-1905

S: Lebanon

IONA



April 7, 1889

Rate: 2c.



R. B. S.



## Calling all quilters!

I happen to know that I'm not the only stamp collector with a quilting spouse, so I would like to share an invitation to all of the quilters in your life to participate in a Unity Quilt project to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of America in Pennsylvania.

Drawing inspiration from the profound impact of the 1987 AIDS Quilt, the Unity Quilt project is envisioned as a vibrant celebration of our nation's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Just as the AIDS Quilt became a national symbol of collective memory and hope, the Unity Quilt aims to unite communities across all 67 Pennsylvania counties and three capital cities (Harrisburg and former capitals Philadelphia and Lancaster) honoring their unique democratic contributions. The goal of the project is to have all 70 quilt designs submitted by August 31<sup>st</sup> and have an exposition of all the quilts on Sunday, October 11 in Harrisburg, which coincides with the anniversary of the date that the AIDS quilt was displayed in Washington DC on October 11, 1987.

Planning for Lebanon County's contribution to the Unity Quilt is well underway, and the committee continues to look for volunteers to help. If you are interested in joining the project, please contact me, Scott Ney, via email at [stnst2@aol.com](mailto:stnst2@aol.com) or 717-383-1736. My wife is helping with the project, and I am helping her to provide the images for the quilt – if you would like to learn how they plan to produce the quilt, please contact me, and I'll refer you to the local committee. Themes of the quilt include Heritage, Industry, Agriculture, Commercial and Transportation, Military, Education, Political History, and Changing Women's Roles.

If you would like to learn more about the project, which was initiated by one of our Lebanon County neighbors, check out this article which appeared on Lebtown.com:

[Local nurse and cancer survivor initiates statewide Unity Quilt project - LebTown](#)

You can also visit the statewide project's website: <https://www.unityquiltproject.org/>

If you are interested in working on the project but are not a resident of Lebanon County, I would suggest visiting the website to determine if a committee is already formed and working on your county's contribution to the unity quilt. But I'll be happy to help you seek localized information just the same. – Scott Ney

## Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club Calendar

Please contact the editor if you are interested in presenting at one of our monthly meetings.

Date	Presenter and Subject
June 16, 2026	Outdoor meeting at Cornwall Manor: Stamps, covers, and ephemera during the 1940 – 1945 Nazi occupation of the Channel Islands – Dr. Paul Petersen
July 21, 2026	(rain date for our outdoor meeting at Cornwall Manor)
August 18, 2026	
September 15, 2026	
October 20, 2026	
November 17, 2026	
December 15, 2026	LSCC Holiday Dinner

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 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. \(lcps-stamps.org\)](http://lcps-stamps.org)



The Lebanon Stamp Collectors Club Lebanon, PA 17042 – 17046

Scott Ney, newsletter editor



# The Overprint

## **Newsletter of the Reading Stamp Collectors' Club**

Meetings held at Calvary Lutheran Church,  
1009 Elizabeth Avenue in Laureldale.

Elizabeth Avenue crosses Kutztown Road in the Muhlenberg Township area.  
(About a mile north of Rt 12 )

Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.  
(doors open around 6:30 for pre meeting social time)

**Issue: 2026 - 06**

**NEXT MEETING:  
TUESDAY July 7th 2026**

**TOPIC: USA Patriotism**

**This is a topic where everyone can be a little creative to  
celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the USA**

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Current Account as of 06/31/2026: \$ 765.80

Savings Account as of 03/14/2025: \$ 3,414.63

# U.S. flag issue features iconic Ralph Lauren sweater

Courtesy of Linn's Stamp News

Jun 9, 2026 By Scott Tiffney

In its continuing celebration of America's semiquincentennial and in conjunction with the release of the American Icons issue, on June 9, in New York City the United States Postal Service issued its annual U.S. Flag nondenominated (78¢) forever stamp featuring a photograph curated by fashion designer Ralph Lauren. The stamp will be released in a number of formats: a pane of 20 stamps, double-sided booklet of 20, as well as coils of 100, 3,000 and 10,000 stamps.



Designed by USPS art director Greg Breeding, the commemorative stamp pictures a knit reproduction of a 13-star 13-stripe American flag from a sweater introduced in 1989 by Polo Ralph Lauren, a line of clothing designed by the famous fashion designer.

“The flag sweater has been iconic for decades,” said Breeding, “but only as I worked on this stamp did I realize the extent of Ralph Lauren’s connection to the flag.” According to the Postal Service, Lauren from 1998 to 2006 played a critical role as a fundraiser and advocate in the preservation of the 1813 U.S. flag that flew over Fort McHenry that consisted of 15 stars and 15 stripes.

The Ralph Lauren 13-star, 13-stripe sweater, famously known as the “Iconic Flag Sweater,” was created as the designer’s homage to Americana and American folk art. The sweater’s motif pays tribute to earlier versions of the American flag that featured a star and a stripe for each of the original 13 colonies.

The same photograph of a knit flag appears on the center stamp of the 13-stamp American Icons issue; however, the U.S. Flag issue differs slightly from the American Icons stamp.

First, the background of the U.S. Flag stamp is solid white in contrast to the off-white knit texture of the American Icons stamp. The years “1776” and “2026,” which appear on both stamps, are red on the U.S. Flag issue and blue on the American Icons stamp, while the star between the two years remains gold in both designs. Additionally, the “USA Forever” at the bottom of both stamp designs is blue on the U.S. Flag issue and gold in the American Icons design.

These differences, along with the omission of the title “American Icons” on the U.S. Flag issue and the larger size of the American Icons stamp, were likely intentional design considerations to aid in quickly differentiating between the two similar-looking stamps.

The historic Fort McHenry flag, commissioned in 1813, famously flew over the military fortress during the War of 1812 and inspired Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) to write a poem that would later become the national anthem. The Fort McHenry flag is pictured on a 6¢ stamp (Scott 1346) in the 1968 Historic Flag Series issue as well as on a 33¢ stamp (3403k) as part of the Stars and Stripes pane of 20, issued June 14, 2000.

The annual U.S. Flag stamp is a very popular issue among collectors and postal customers, expressing patriotic pride with each mailing.

As a design element, the U.S. flag first appeared on the 1869 30¢ Pictorial stamp (Scott 121) and remains a recurring design feature on U.S. stamps often supplementing significant portraits, historical events and commemorations.

## **International Zone of Tangier, British Offices (1924 – 1956)**

**Dead Country Stamps and Banknotes by Michael - Feb 20, 2021**

Summary:

The International Zone of Tangier, located on the northwest coast of Morocco, was administered by a committee of foreign powers from 1924 – 1956. When Spain and France divided Morocco for colonization in 1912, Tangier remained a disputed area, primarily because of its strategic location at the mouth of the Mediterranean Sea. As a result, it was decided that Tangier would become an International Zone. The agreement was put on hold due to World War I, and wasn’t finalized until Dec 18, 1923 in the Tangier Protocol. With the exception of Spanish Occupation during World War II, Tangier remained an international zone until it became part of the newly created Kingdom of Morocco in 1956. Great Britain, like France and Spain, maintained a post office in Tangier throughout its existence.

## Fast Facts

**Region:** North Africa

**Group:** International Zone

**Classification:** Foreign Post Offices

**Prior Regime:** Sultanate of Morocco

**Key Dates:**

1912, Nov – Spain and France divides Morocco into separate protectorates

1923, Dec 18 – Tangier Protocol signed

1924, May 14 – Tangier officially becomes an International Zone

1940, Jun 14 – Spanish Troops occupy Tangier

1945, Oct 11 – Tangier returns to International Zone status

1956, Oct 29 – Tangier incorporated into the Kingdom of Morocco

**Following Regime:** Kingdom of Morocco

**First Stamp Issued:** 1927

**Scott Catalogue:** Great Britain, Offices Abroad, Morocco (501-611)

**Pick Catalogue:** No specific banknotes were issued for the International Zone of Morocco

**Currency:** various international currencies were used

## History of the International Zone of Tangier

### Tangier in the 1930's

In the Scramble for Africa, European powers carved up the continent of Africa for colonization. While the French laid claim to most of North and Western Africa, Spain received a few territories along the Atlantic coast. Even after the 1884 Berlin Conference, Morocco remained a disputed area, especially in the north, as the British didn't want any other European powers to control the land across from Gibraltar.

A side agreement was finally reached in 1904, where Spain and France could carve up Morocco with British agreement. However, the Germans were furious that they weren't involved in the negotiation. This situation prompted Kaiser Wilhelm II to visit Tangier on March 31, 1905, where he gave a speech calling for Moroccan independence. This was a direct challenge to French influence in the region, setting up the first Moroccan Crisis.

Over the next few years, the Great Powers postured and Germany and France became bitter rivals. Eventually most nations sided with France (except Austria-Hungary) and in 1912. The Sultan Morocco was forced to divide the country between France and Spain, becoming their protectorates. Thus, Morocco became the last territory in Africa to be colonized. Tangier, however, would be designated as a joint protectorate administered by France, Spain and Great Britain.



The outbreak of WWI complicated the agreement, and the final implementation of the international status wasn't officially ratified until 1923. Over time, additional countries were added to the agreement as administering powers, including the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Portugal, and Italy.

During WW2, Spanish troops occupied Tangier on Jun 14, 1940, the day that Paris fell to the Germans. Italy, being an Axis country, was dropped as an administrator. After the war, Spanish troops withdrew from Tangier on Oct 11, 1945 and the United States and the USSR were added as administrators while Italy was re-instated.

During much of its existence, the International Zone of Tangier was a haven for spies, smugglers, free thinkers, artists and those seeking a hedonistic lifestyle. Also during that time, Great Britain, Spain and France had active post offices in the city.

In 1956, Tangier became part of the newly independent Kingdom of Morocco.



## Stamps:

The stamps featured below are scans from my collection that I started about 3 years ago. I have not included every issue that I own.

The first British post office established in Morocco opened in Tangier in 1857. For 50 years, mail was transported to Gibraltar for franking and handling, although Tangier got its own postmark in 1872. Beginning in 1907, the British took direct control of Post offices in Morocco.

After the establishment of the Tangier International Zone, Great Britain began overprinting stamps “TANGIER” in 1927 for issue at their post office in the city. No surcharge was needed, as British currency was used in the office.

The following series were overprinted for use in the zone:

- 1927 – King George V definitive issues



- 1934-35 – King George photogravure set of definitive issues



- 1935, May 8 – Silver Jubilee issues



- 1936, Oct 25 – King Edward VIII definitive issues



- 1937, May 13 – King George VI Coronation issues
- 1937 – King George VI – definitive issues
- 1940, May 6 – Stamp Centenary issues



- 1944/1949 – King George VI definitive issues
- 1946, Jun 11 – Victory Commemorative issues
- 1948, Apr 25 – Silver Wedding Anniversary issues
- 1948, Jul 29 – Olympic Games issues
- 1949, Oct 10 – UPU Centenary issues
- 1951 – King George VI definitive issues in new colors and new designs of Schilling values
- 1952-54 – Queen Elizabeth definitive issues (Tudor Crown E2R watermark)
- 1953, Jun 1 – Queen Elizabeth Coronation issues
- 1955, Sep 23 – Queen Elizabeth definitive issues (St Edward’s crown E2R watermark)
- 1957, Apr 1 – Queen Elizabeth definitive issues (St Edward’s crown E2R watermark) overprinted “1857-1957”



The British post office in Tangier closed on Apr 30, 1957. Prior to the closing, on Apr 1, 1957, the overprint “1857-1957” was added to stamps sold at the office to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the post office in Tangier. One month later, the office closed and stamps withdrawn from sale.

As a note – beginning Aug 23, 1950, any overprinted British stamp, which did not alter the face value, was allowed to be used within the UK. Therefore, Morocco Agencies and Tangier stamps with UK postmarks are not uncommon.

# THE 2026 WORLD CUP

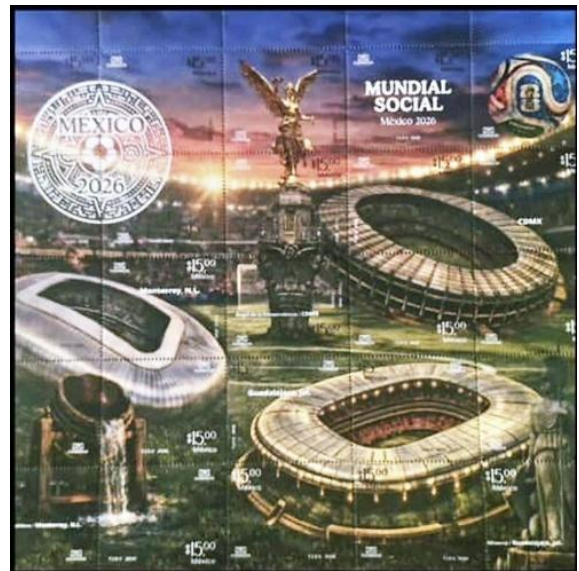
The tournament started on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

There are three co-hosts: USA, Mexico and Canada

The USA and Mexico issued the stamps below. Canada chose not to issue a stamp.



The USA issued a single stamp



Mexico issued three panes.

## The Reading Stamp Collectors Club

Mike Bach, newsletter editor