



WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

Volume 24, Issue 10, October 2026

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293

www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

Meeting Schedule: 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Doors open at 12:30 PM and meetings start at 2:00 PM.

Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill PA 15235

WILKPEX 2027 – Friday and Saturday April 9 & 10 (10 AM-4 PM; 10 AM-3 PM), 2026 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA (Pittsburgh 15219)

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club News

Picnic 2026:

We had a lovely picnic inside on Sunday September 27th – the variety of food was great and a fun time was had by all. Danielle's hot dogs and hamburgers were wonderful and the different sides and desserts made it a complete buffet. We had 14 people attending, including 3 guests.



Paula, Ron, David and Mike



Enjoying the food!

Dues

Dues are due by December 30, and can be mailed in or brought to a meeting. The price is \$8 for a single member, \$12 for 2 members (family) then any additional family members are \$4 each. Several members have paid for 2027 already (and some for longer!). Maureen will have the updated list of who has paid already at the next meeting (Oct. 11).



WILKPEX 2027:

- Please save stamps for our Raffle Jar! These can be US or World-wide. You can bring these to meetings and give to Maureen.
- As you go through your treasures new and old, and realize that you don't want something, throw it in a box labeled "To Sell" – that way when we get into 2027 you can see what you can put in the Phlea or give to the jug. If you have any questions please ask an experienced club member!



Treasurer's Report –The checkbook was balanced. We will have a full report this month.

Please feel free to write to the address below, especially if you don't usually make it to meetings. Your letters are read aloud at our meetings.

At each meeting we have 2 contests where members can win prizes! In September the winner was Ron (for 1 contest).



Philatelic News

- October US Stamps currently scheduled for release – all are Forever Stamps unless noted otherwise:
 - Linda McCartney (Sept. 25) – A series of 5 stamps based on photos taken by the famous American photographer (and member of the band *Wings*).
 - Madonna and Child (Oct. 2) – The traditional Christmas stamp for 2026! The painting dates back to around 1500.
 - Know the Facts about Fentanyl (Oct. 6) – A semipostal first class stamp (Proceeds go to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to support addiction research, increase overdose awareness, and promote recovery) since so many Americans are affected by fentanyl addiction. They are priced at \$1 each.

- Diwali (Oct. 21) – Celebrating the Hindu Festival of Lights, symbolizing the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance!



This should be all of the stamps for 2026!

Reminder - The price of first class postage has gone up to 84 cents.

Linn's Stamp News has announced that it will start publishing weekly magazines again! The kind you can take to bed and read! The Club will have 2 subscriptions, one going to Maureen so she can find cool news for the newsletter (which will then come to the meetings). I am sure they will be looking for content so stay tuned for information on that!

Collector's Corner

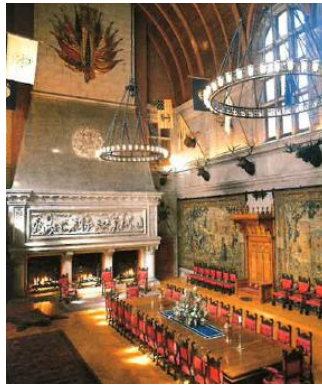
Show and Tell is at the second meeting of each month. Please bring an item to show and talk about. It can be about a topic other than stamps. Sharing the story is the important part.

Because of the Picnic we did not have Show & Tell in September.

Please take some time before the October 25th meeting and see if you have something fun to share from your collection!



We received several notes from Dawn Richards, our Tennessee member. She visited the Biltmore Estate in NC and her friend Bill is repairing the brass eagle finials for the flagpoles in the dining rom and he also worked on the chairs there. See picture below:



She included a fun Wikipedia story about Snowshoe Thompson:



John Albert Thompson (born **Jon Torsteinsson Rue**; April 30, 1827 – May 15, 1876), nicknamed **Snowshoe Thompson**, an early resident of the [Sierra Nevada](#) of [Nevada](#) and [California](#), was a [Norwegian-American](#) considered to be the father of California [skiing](#).^{[1][2]}

Between 1856 and 1876, he delivered [mail](#) between [Placerville, California](#) and [Genoa, Nevada](#) and later [Virginia City, Nevada](#). Despite his nickname, he did not make use of the [snowshoes](#) that are native to North America, but rather would travel with what the local people applied that term to: ten-foot (over 3-meter) [skis](#), and a single sturdy [pole](#) generally held in both hands at once. He knew this version of [cross-country skiing](#) from his native [Norway](#), and employed it during the winter as one of the earlier pioneers of backcountry skiing in the [United States](#). Thompson delivered the first silver ore to be mined from the [Comstock Lode](#). Later he taught others how to make skis, as well as the basics of their use. Despite his twenty years of service as a subcontractor, he was never paid for delivering the mail.^[1]

Thompson typically made the eastward trip in three days, and the return trip in two days. Thompson carried no blanket and no gun; he claimed he was never lost even in blizzards. A rescue attributed to him was that of a man trapped in his cabin by unusually deep snow. Thompson reached him, realized the damage to the man's legs from [frostbite](#) was sufficient to kill him, skied out to get [chloroform](#), skied back in with it, and delivered the chloroform in time to save him.^[9]

Thompson traveled the [Star routes](#) along Old Emigrant Road and later Big Tree Route.^{[12][13]} The route known as "Johnson's Cutoff" was a pathway first marked by [John Calhoun Johnson](#), an early explorer and first man to deliver mail over the [Sierra Nevada](#) mountain range. Today this approximates the route of [U.S. Route 50](#) as it winds its way from [Placerville, California](#) to [South Lake Tahoe](#).

The Ralph Lauren flag sweater that supports an American institution

Story by Roxanne Adamiyatt – Town & Country – 6/10/26

We remember the feeling, don't we? That excitement of receiving a handwritten note delivered by post. Of opening the mailbox for what feels like the hundredth time to finally find that long-awaited letter from the summer camp bestie you haven't seen since last year. While this is admittedly a form of nostalgia available only to those of us at a certain age, lately it seems even generations born with iPhones in their hands are feeling the pull of the analog.

This trend has turned out to be auspiciously timed for America's 250th birthday. For the occasion, the United States Postal Service was inspired to zhuzh up its stamp game—with a little help from Ralph Lauren. (It is the first time in history that the USPS has invited a living individual to collaborate.)

The American Icons collection, which will be available in select boutiques and at post offices nationwide, features 13 photographs pulled from the RL archives. Each one telegraphs a specifically American—and, by extension, Ralph Lauren—value. There is an image of Jackie Robinson's patinaed baseball glove that serves as a symbol of teamwork, and another of the Empire State Building, that gleaming landmark of infinite possibility. There is a lighthouse (a symbol of hope) and wild horses (of independence), a vintage pickup truck (hard work) and a barn (community). The brand mascot is there, too, as is the hamburger (from Polo Bar, natch).



Ralph Lauren American Icons Stamp Sweater© Photography by Florence Sullivan, Stamps Courtesy of Ralph Lauren

There is also accompanying merch, in the form of a USPS-themed capsule collection that includes a polo tee, baseball cap, and flag sweater. Mirroring the original flag sweater—a perennial staple of American fashion since it was introduced in 1989—the new version features the nation's flag studded with 13 stars, one for each of the original colonies, but this time it's rendered into a postage stamp motif. It is, as the kids might say, so meta. More

important, the sweater is a powerful statement of support for an institution older than the USA itself (by a year: The postal service was founded in 1775, with Benjamin Franklin as its first postmaster general).

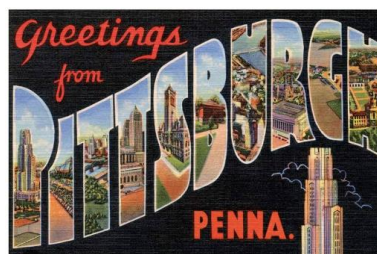
"I love America, and these images symbolize the many ideals and aspirations that bind us together," Ralph Lauren said in a statement. "They are icons of our country—authentic, timeless, passed on through generations—and reflect the dream of a better life that has always inspired me."

The OG flag sweater, a true classic in every sense, always makes a statement. With the American Icons redux in partnership with the U.S. Postal Service, there is not just a reminder of the bedrock institutions upon which our country was founded, but also that there is no American fashion without one Ralph Lauren.

The American Icons stamp collection, as well as the commemorative capsule collection, will be available to shop on June 9.

October 1 is World Postcard Day!

Send one today!



Upcoming Events Nearby

- October 30 – 31 - Cuy-LorPex 2026 – Rocky River OH
- November 14 – Johnstown (location TBA)
- November 14 - 15 – PITTPLEX – Bridgeville PA
- November 21 – Autumn Stamp Show – Cheektowaga NY
- November 21 – Black River Stamp Club Show – Elyria OH
- December 4 – 5 – MSDA Columbus Stamp Show – London OH
- December 5 – Stamping with Santa – Erie PA
- December 13 – K2 Lancaster Stamp Show – Lancaster PA

For more details Google the stamp club or look at the latest issue of the American Philatelist Magazine or the calendar at APS -
(<https://stamps.org/events/events-calendar>)

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All are welcome! Free admission! Wonderful snacks! Stamps! Fun for all!

WILKPEX – Our Annual Stamp Show

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Officers:

President, Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Maureen McKeever
(maurmomck@gmail.com)

Vice President: John Harding (hardingeb@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Danielle Weaver

Membership: Maureen McKeever

Circuit Manager: Danielle Weaver (dmm742000@yahoo.com)

Web Tech: Dave Duggins (davidfduggins@gmail.com)

WSC c/o Danielle Weaver, 3710 Henley Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15235

Newsletter:

Original articles for the newsletter can be submitted from any member to Maureen at a meeting or emailed to her (see above) or via regular mail:

Maureen McKeever, 118 Larchwood Drive, Turtle Creek PA 15145.

Club members will be mailed a black and white copy of the newsletter each month. Anyone can request a color copy to be delivered at a meeting, but please let Scott Shaulis (scottshaulis@comcast.net) know ahead of time.



(All of your Xmas gifts in one ship!)