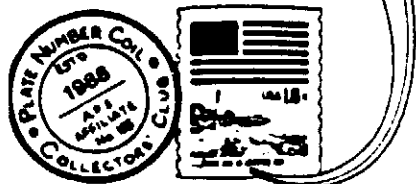


# PNC<sup>3</sup> Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club - PNC3

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1604 Bardale Ave.  
San Pedro, CA 90731 (310-833-7937)

**Harold Brown, Editor**  
909 Parker Street  
Bowling Green, OH 43402 (419-352-7900)

## Regional meetings being planned for Dayton, Houston & New London

Regional Meetings of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club are being planned for Dayton, Ohio, Houston, Texas, and New London, Connecticut this fall.

The meeting at Dayton will be held at AIRPEX Sept. 26 from noon to 3 p.m. Wayne Youngblood, a staffer at Linn's Stamp News will be the featured speaker. The exact topic of his program was not available but most likely will have something to do with tagging. Youngblood writes a regular column on the subject for Linn's and is also the author of "Stamps That Glow," a booklet published by Linn's dealing with luminescent stamps.

The meeting at Houston will be held during HOUPEX '92 Oct. 3 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Joe Agris has offered to present one of his six lectures on plate number coils and Ken Lawrence's slide show has also been scheduled.

Gene Ernst and Jim Perry have made the arrangements with the show committee. A table will also be provided for PNC3 during the entire show. Members who would like to volunteer to help staff the table should contact Gene or Jim, as should anyone wishing to enter an exhibit at the show.

Perry said Houston traffic is usually heavy but advised using Beltway 8, also known as Sam Houston Parkway would be a quicker way to reach the show. The hotel is located on Briarpark Road off Westheimer. A map of the area is included in this issue of Coil Line.

The meeting at New London, CT will be held Oct. 25 during THAMESPEX Stamp Show. The show will be held in Clake Center Auditorium and the R.C. Weller Conference Center at Mitchell College.

This show will feature several PNC exhibits by PNC3 members. Additional details should be available in time for publication in the October issue of Coil Line.

## Maeder is new President of PNC3

Tom Maeder of San Pedro, CA is the new president of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club. Official results of the recent balloting were officially announced during the PNC3 meeting in Oakland, CA Aug. 29.

Gene Trinks is the new vice president, while Joann Lenz is secretary and Gene Ernst remains the treasurer.

Members At-Large will be Karen Maddox and Dick Koenig.

Of the 517 ballots mailed, 372 or 72 percent were returned. A complete rundown of the election can be found in this issue of Coil Line.

## Variable-rate coil to have plate number

Although the information has changed at least twice, the U.S. Postal Service now reports the new variable rate coil stamp will have a printed plate number on every 48th stamp.

That is the story that was originally announced and then later changed by USPS. In its August 24 issue, Linn's Stamp News confirmed the existence of the plate on the stamp, which was to be available August 20 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Because a large number of customers are expected, USPS workers will limit transactions to one per customer between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. The customer was to be allowed to get back in line after making a transaction.

Linn's reported the machine that vends the stamps will allow a printing of a maximum of 20 stamps in up to three denominations. USPS reports it may take up to four minutes to print 20 stamps. Standing in line to get a plate number could be a real case of Russian Roulette.

Test sites are also slated at 900 Brentwood Ave N.E. in Washington, D.C.; 15695 Sand Canyon, Irvine, CA; two places in Detroit, 1401 W. Fort St. and the post office in the Renaissance Center; plus another site in nearby Ann Arbor. Dates on availability were not announced.

The stamps will also be available from the Philatelic Sales Division in Kansas City. There are also 13 other test sites due to offer the stamp Aug. 21.

Reports and copies of examples on cover would be appreciated for the next issue of Coil Line.

## PNC3 membership approaches 560

Membership in the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club continues to grow. This issue lists over 20 new applicants. If all are approved, membership will reach 558. The club has continued to grow through the year, having passed 500 members for the first time a year ago. There is always some decline at renewal time but the numbers keep rebounding through the year.

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# Letters

## Outgoing PNC3 President Washburn looks back on his two terms in office

To the Editor:

As of the date of this month's Coil Line, my second term as your President will come to a close. I'm pleased to say that the experience has been a good one. During my two terms, we have accomplished a great deal. Our organization has sustained continued growth, and we now number approximately 550 members. Our Bylaws were completely overhauled. We now have a committee structure which helps spread the workload of running our club around to several individuals. This, in turn, gives us the opportunity to offer more benefits to our membership. We also enacted an ethics code to protect our membership against unethical behavior. We have promoted exhibiting PNC material and PNCs in general. Our auctions and monthly newsletter are functioning smoothly. We appear to be on solid financial footing. In sum, we are in great shape for the future.

Of course, we still have challenges ahead, but with newly elected President Tom Maeder at the helm, I'm sure we will meet and overcome each of those challenges. I want to thank my fellow Board members and committee members for their help during the past two years. My thanks also go out to Auction Director Joe Sedivy and Coil Line Editor Harold Brown. I also want to thank the entire membership for the opportunity to have been able to serve you.

Rob Washburn  
P.O. Box 840  
Skowhegan, ME 04976

## Eagle & Shield A32333 that got away

To the Editor:

My tale is about the one that got away-A32333.

On 1/14/92 I received my order and invoice with the able Eagle & Shield advertized at \$2.70 for a VF-XF strip of five.

But I saw no reason to hurry so by the time I sent in my new order there was no response to my inquiries of A32333.

Since then, I have written to three different sales divisions trying to buy full rolls of that number. But if I had been lucky enough to obtain a full roll I would not have been as generous as Joann Lenz. Instead I would have been trying to find traders for strips I was in need of.

So let us not judge or take away from her good will to help others unless we are prepared to the same ourselves.

Many thanks to all the dealers who have helped me add to my collection.

Joan F. Boyd  
120 Oakwood Drive  
Shinnston, WV 26431

## Everybody ought to get a 'good deal'

To the Editor:

In response to the ethics issue on purchasing and selling stamps. There is no more honor today. "Buyer Beware" and "Seller Beware."

Doesn't the collector get good deals sometimes???

Shouldn't the dealer get good deals sometimes???

Bob Owen  
Savin Park, West Haven, CT 06510

## Collecting used PNCs-What's best?

To the Editor:

I'm a collector and exhibitor of used PNCs, including U1, strips, commercial and some FD covers. Also, a few mint items and a few EFOs.

In the August Coil Line, Bart Bartolomeo's letter wants discussion and comments on used PNCs. Since I see thousands of covers, including PNCs, I'd like to share some of my attitudes on his questions:

1) I rarely remove a PNC from its cover, unless I have an extremely compelling reason. Compelling reasons include: Need U1 for my exhibit; cover damaged; PM missing or unreadable; No. 9 or No. 10 cover; odd sizes of cover. The stamp is more valuable on cover.

2) Sta,p on piece: I soak off. Damage, including short perfs is readily observed. Easily stored in numbered glassines or stock book. I.D. not marked on stamp. Soaking generally removes most gum, therefore, indicating used, even on an uncalled stamp.

3) Precancels: Leave on cover, preferably dated as received or by contents. If on piece: Do not soak; cut piece leaving 1/16" all around to indicate postally used; Off piece, lack of gum indicates used.

I, too, would welcome other comments.

Rolly Grandahl  
3 Grandview Terrace  
Eats Windsor, CT 06088

## As to copyrighted material

To the Editor:

Dr. Rabinowitz seems to have obtained a deficient education.

The fair use provisions of the copyright law explicitly allow and encourage the copying and circulation of published copyrighted material for informational purposes. Any recipient of his "Expose" is both morally and legally on solid ground in passing around copies of it.

Commercial exploitation is forbidden, so people can't sell copies at a profit without his permission. And those who wish to use it for educational purposes, such as a classroom might require, are normally limited to 20 copies without payment of a royalty.

Ken Lawrence  
P.O. Box 3568  
Jackson, MS 39207

## Comments on collecting used PNCs

To the Editor:

Thank you for printing my Plate Number Coil Check List in the August issue of Coil Line. From the response I am getting I suspect that others have wanted or needed this as much as me. It is my guess that most folks do not have the computer or the software necessary for me to provide them with electronic copies. So rather than having to respond to the many kind folks out there who would like updates on paper I would like to offer either annual or quarterly updates of the check list for Coil Line.

I would like to thank Ken Lawrence for his great list published in Linn's Stamp News monthly to help me keep my list up to date, as well as Coil Line. It is important to thank Steve Esrati (and others) for the Plate Number Coil Catalog numbers.

Stephen L. McGourty  
P.O. Box 182  
Lakewood, WA 98259

# AUCTION ACTION

By  
Alan Thomson

The first PNC3 auction under director Joe Sedivy is now history, and he is to be complimented on two counts. First, he had the courage to take on a very demanding job, and second, he conducted this auction in a fine manner. We all owe you, Joe.

Joe made some comments about the results of his first effort, and I would like to expand on what he said, and add a few items of my own. Consider it an informal analysis, if you will.

It is of little meaning to sort through the various categories and then declare that because one type sold a higher percentage than another, that that type of material is more popular. There are too many variables involved to give any credence to such superficial statistics. If we must crunch a few numbers, suffice it to say that 65% of the lots sold. That's not bad, but it could be better, and it is almost solely up to consignors to make it better.

No one can argue that a higher success rate doesn't benefit everyone. The consignor is delighted, the buyer is happy, and the club benefits monetarily. What could be better?

I don't pretend to be an auction expert. I'm not. But I have taken a hard look at my own successes and failures on both sides of the process, and have similarly examined what others have done.

Joe said he believed that the success rate was held down by minimums being set too high. He's right. It appears, from a little price comparison, that lots with minimums set in the range of 50% of retail (with condition and discounts considered) are the most likely to sell. There are exceptions to be sure. Maybe there is no retail market. Maybe the material is of extremely high value and the owner simply doesn't want to let it go that low. In general, however, lower sells. If you hit 60%, you're on thin ice. I noticed two lots in this auction that were doomed. One had a minimum of 90% retail, the other 120%. Would you bid on those and in one case accept the inherent long wait for your stamps, and in the other, wait and pay more too? If you really want to sell, and want to use a minimum, hang a circa 50% tag on your stuff.

Another observation is that large lots of one design don't do well. A full set of something, such as 22c flags, is more than most people want. They just want to fill in the spaces, not build an inventory. Consign in small groups or singly, concentrating on the better items. We all tend to acquire the lesser material first.

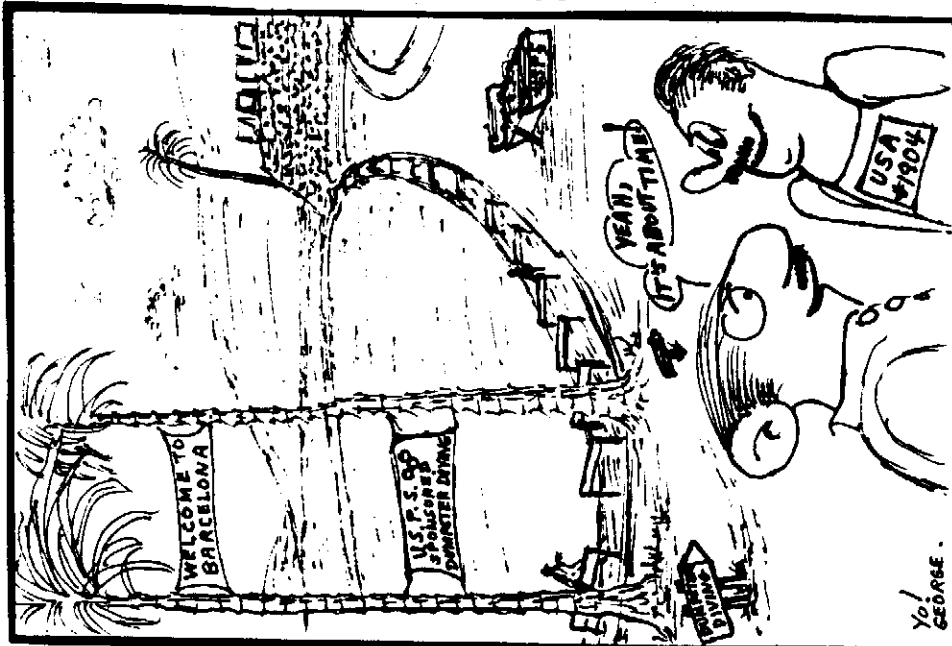
And that brings up the subject of "junk". Yes, I know. None of it is junk, but that's a relative term. You know the old saw; trash-treasure, etc. Look at your possible market. If an item is really esoteric, its chances are not good. Un-numbered items have two strikes before they get to the plate. Strips that retail for a dollar or less don't fare well. Don't empty your stock book just so you can pay 50c per lot to get your material back. Joe's job is hard enough.

Lot description can really cause problems. Not only is accuracy needed, but clarity also. Stick to conventional retail ad nomenclature; face value, Scott number, etc. One lot in this auction was a real winner, but because it used a Plate Number Coil Catalog number it went unrecognized by someone who would have liked to own it. Many of us recognize those numbers, many don't. Stick with the standards; precancel gap, tag break and, yes, even PS5, not PNC5.

Now here is a bright spot. First day programs, books and other literature always do well. Unfortunately, most of us have very little of that sort of thing to offer. It's in short supply and we tend to keep what we have.

After having beaten the consignor about the head and ears (all in good humor and intent), here is a word for the bidder. This really happened in our auction. Two lots, one after the other and containing the same strip, were described as being VF and F/VF respectively. The VF min was \$4. and the other \$6. That's OK. But here's the bottom line. The VF lot sold for \$5, while the F/VF sold for \$6. Nuff said.

Let's crunch a couple more numbers just for the fun of it. Top seller was covers/cover accumulations at 73%. On its heels was PS5 at 72%. With some effort, we can boost the top gun to 90% or more.



COMMERCIAL COVERS  
Installment #41

Rob Washburn  
P.O. Box 840  
Skowhegan, Maine 04976

I've been really busy this summer working on a booklet on purple machine cancels (which should be out by early 1993), so I took a couple months off from writing my usual monthly column.

I have to report a correction regarding my last article on the 7.6¢ Carreta. False franking usage of the Carreta was permitted until 3/1/92, not 9/9/91. My thanks to Richard Beecher for letting me know about the error.

I recently received a call from Tony Curtis who reported finding a cover using the 5¢ Canoe #2. This is the first confirmed report of that new PNC. The cover is from the Animal Protection Institute of America, Inc. and the enclosure is dated 7/20/92. Thanks Tony for the report.

This month's article covers the 20.5¢ Fire Engine and the 24.1¢ Tandem Bicycle. The 20.5¢ Fire Engine was issued on 9/28/88 in San Angelo, Texas. Only plate number 1 exists and only with a service inscription. The plate numbers appear every 52 stamps in a roll. The earliest known usage on a cover travelling through the U.S. mailstream is 10/6/88. It is, however, a philatelic contrivance. The 20.5¢ coil saw commercial usage in payment of the first class zip + 4, basic sort rate until 2/2/91. Thereafter, it was authorized as false franking through 9/9/91, and this was extended until 3/1/92. 20.5¢ commercial PNC covers, when found, usually sell for \$5 - \$10 each.

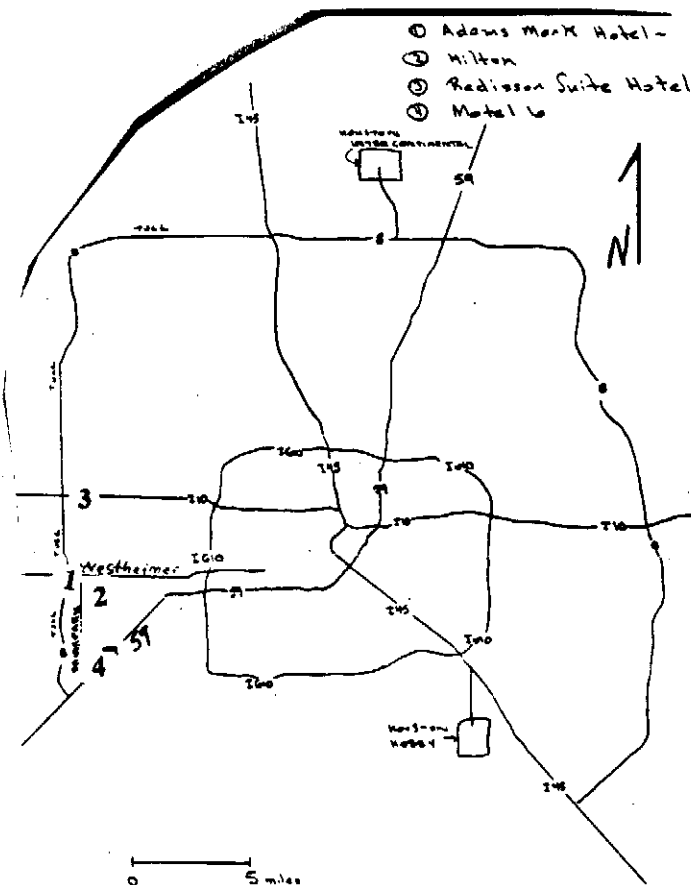
CITICORP  CITIBANK



The 24.1¢ Tandem Bicycle was issued on 10/26/88 in Redmond, Washington. Only plate number 1 exists and only with a service inscription. The plate numbers appear every 52 stamps in a roll. The earliest known usage on a cover travelling through the mailstream is 11/14/88. It is a philatelic contrivance. The 24.1¢ coil saw commercial usage in payment of the first class zip + 4 unsorted rate until 2/2/91. Thereafter, it continued to be used as authorized false franking until 3/1/92. Truly, commercial 24.1¢ PNC covers are pretty tough to find and generally sell for \$10 or more each.

New EKU reports this month include the 22¢ Flag #4...7/24/85, and the fifth and earliest known Surrey #15 with a purple machine cancel... 9/19/81.

### Map to HOUPEX Regional Meeting



## Special of the month

5.2c Sleigh,  
tagged Plate No. 1 or 2, PS-5

F-VF	\$ 8.00
VF	10.00
XF	12.00

Send for my latest price list.  
Bonuses/rebates for all orders  
mentioning PNC3.

" Support PNC3"

A.S. Cibulskas  
28 Westwood Rd.  
Stamford, CT 06902  
Phone 203-359-9918

TO Rob Washburn, President  
Gene Trinks, Secretary  
Harold Brown, Editor

COPY Conrad Keydel  
Ellen Mitchell

FROM Joann Lenz

### Report of Ballot Committee Activities - 1991-1992

The Ballot Committee was responsible for conducting two elections this year: The first was for ratification of some changes in the By-laws; the second was for the annual election of the Board.

Members of the committee were:

Conrad Keydel  
Joann Lenz  
Ellen Mitchell

The ratification of Bylaws was conducted by having the suggested changes published in *Coil Line*; three months later the ballot was published in the journal and members were asked to send ballots to Joann. A "Yes" vote agreed to the changes; a "No" disagreed with the changes. The changes were ratified. The exact vote was:

Yes	97
No	1
Returned not voting	<u>1</u>
Total	99

Due to time constraints, the Board election was held through the mail. On June 25, 1992, 517 ballots were mailed to members of PNC<sup>3</sup> along with a short letter of explanation and biographies of the candidates. I assisted in preparing ballots and the mailing; once the ballots were in the mailstream, I sent a letter of resignation to Rob Washburn, President, since my name appeared on the ballot. Conrad agreed to count or coordinate the tallying of the votes; the return envelope had his address. The results of that election are attached. Included with Conrad's election report is a summary of usage and bar coding with a percentage comparison to the Board election in 1991.

Although there is greater cost in holding an election through the mail, I feel that the returns outweigh the expense. Total expenses for the Board election were \$198.37. (The average cost of mailing one package was \$0.38. This included one-ounce first class postage, envelopes, paper and printing.)

## Report of 1992 Board Election

On June 25, 1992, 517 ballots were mailed to the members of PNC<sup>3</sup> along with a letter of explanation and short biographies of the nominees. 372 ballots, a 72% response, were returned by the postmark deadline of August 1<sup>st</sup>. Following is a tabulation of the ballots received with an \* indicating the winning candidate(s).

### PRESIDENT:

George Kuhn	92
Tom Maeder	280*

### VICE-PRESIDENT:

Ken Cherry	125
Gene Trinks	239*

### SECRETARY:

Joann Lenz	367*
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### TREASURER:

Gene Ernst	361*
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### MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

Raymond "Pat" Buse, Jr	73
Dick Koenig	212*
George Leduc	140
Karen Maddox	264*

There were also four write-in votes for member-at-large.

Thanks to the membership for the creative covers used to return ballots. Because a preaddressed return envelope was included with the mailing, it was possible to "get a picture" of present USPS efficiency in bar coding of typed Zip +4 envelopes. Since many PNC<sup>3</sup>ers also have a keen interest in Modern Postal History, we have attached a summary of the bar coding and the types of postage used on the ballot envelopes.

Conrad Keydel  
Ellen Mitchell

USAGES ON ENVELOPES FOR BOARD ELECTION - 1992

Stamp usage ...on all returned envelopes

Type of Stamp(s)	1992		1991
	#	%	%
Single Stamp ..on envelope			
+ Plate Number Coil	14	3.8%	4.0%
+ Coil ..unnumbered Toledo Brown	3	0.8%	0.0%
+ Coil ..unnumbered	115	30.9%	26.8%
+ Booklet	31	8.3%	5.2%
+ Sheet definitive	3	0.8%	4.0%
+ Sheet commemorative	24	6.5%	3.7%
+ Self adhesive	3	0.8%	0.6%
+ Meter	3	0.8%	0.9%
+ Foreign	2	0.5%	0.3%
Multiple stamps ..on envelope			
+ Plate Number Coils	15	4.0%	6.1%
+ Coils ...unnumbered			
...regular	50	13.4%	15.9%
...precancelled/inscribed	26	7.0%	5.8%
...mixed reg & precancelled	36	9.7%	7.3%
...coil & noncoil stamps	30	8.1%	10.4%
+ Non coils	11	3.0%	7.3%
+ Foreign	6	1.6%	1.8%
Total envelopes received	372	100.0%	100.0%
Total envelopes with coils	286	76.9%	76.2%

Barcoding ...on supplied Zip+ 4 return envelopes

Barcoding	1992		1991
	#	%	%
Barcoded Zip + 4	329	89.6%	91.7%
Barcoded Zip (5 digit)	4	1.1%	0.6%
Barcode error	3	0.8%	0.3%
No Barcode	31	8.4%	7.3%
	367	100.0%	100.0%
Did not use supplied envelope	5		
Total envelopes received	372		

Stamp Cancellation ...on all returned envelopes

Cancellation	1992		1991
	#	%	%
All stamps cancelled	321	86.3%	84.8%
Some stamps cancelled	41	11.0%	11.9%
No stamps cancelled	10	2.7%	3.4%
Total envelopes received	372	100.0%	100.0%

Spray Cancels ...on all returned envelopes

Cancellation	1992	
	#	%
Single Spray cancel	38	10.2%
Multiple Spray cancels	0	0.0%
No Spray Cancels	334	89.8%
Total envelopes received	372	100.0%

# Exhibiting update

Add the following to the list of PNC exhibitors published in the last several issues of Coil Line.

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 22) Gary Campbell       | Bulk Mail Philately (Transportation Coil Series) |
| 23) Margret Stanchfield | Honeybee Coil Stamp                              |
| 24) Larry Crain         | PNC's First Class Usages                         |

Member Margret Stanchfield of Kent, WA, was awarded a Silver Medal for her exhibit "Honeybee Coil Stamp" at PIPEX '92, the 52nd Pacific International Philatelic Exhibition at Spokane, WA, June 29-31.

Member William DiPaolo "The Honeybee Coil" was awarded the Grand Award Gold and PNC3 Presidents Award at CINPEX 92 Aug. 1-2 in Cincinnati.

## Exhibition plans of PNC3 members:

The following have all announced plans to exhibit at THAMESPEX '92 in New London, CT on Oct. 25. This one-day show will be held at Clarke Center Auditorium and R.C. Weller Conference Center at Mitchell College from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will likely be the largest exhibit of PNC material at any one show to date.

- Mary Ann Owens, U.S. Transportation Series Coils From a Thematic Viewpoint.
- E.V. Chadwick, The Car.
- Tony Bruno, 25c Flag.
- Richard Lucia, 20c Fire Pumper.
- Frank L. Shively Jr., McKean Ambulance 8.3c Transportation Coil Stamp.
- Rocco Caponi, 17c Electric Auto
- Jim Duffy, PNC Commercial Covers of the 18c Rate.
- Rolly Grandahl, PNC's (Postally Used 1981 to Date)
- Dean Hawk, Transportation Series.

Also planning to exhibit this fall are:

- Joyce Kirk, U.S. Postal Emissions of 1988, Sept. 11-13, INDYPEX '92, Indianapolis, IN.
- Leonard Piskiewicz, United States Transportation Coil Usages, Nov. 14-15, SUNPEX '92, California.

The following several pages constitute Part 1 of a new Coil Line Feature entitled "On The Exhibit Trail," which will be compiled by Bill McMurray. The first article features Bill's successful exhibit "Tomorrow's Classics." Bill has also been responsible for the effort to increase awareness and knowledge of PNC exhibits in Coil Line in recent months. Comments may be directed to Bill or directly to Coil Line.

## ON THE EXHIBIT TRAIL

### PART I

BILL MC MURRAY  
P.O. BOX 342 WESTERLY, RI 02891

This article has been prepared in response to Joann Lenz letter to Coil Line published in Volume III, No. 12, December 1990. She requested that we share our exhibits with members of PNC 3. Joann asked many questions, What to include in the exhibit? What will the Judges be looking for? What will interest other collectors, especially those not yet collecting PNC's. Joann felt it would be helpful to see copies of exhibit pages and than a summary of the Judges comments. Joann requested that we exhibitors set up an exchange of information for potential exhibitors.

In the July 1992 issue of Coil Line the seeds were sown to start this project. I have written all the exhibitors I know for their support in supplying copies of their title page and exhibit pages for additional articles. The purpose is to promote PNC collecting through exhibiting. I feel that by having PNC material in Stamp Shows will help introduce new people to our speciality.

As collectors of PNC's there are no rules as to what we choose to collect. Now if we neatly mount what we collect on pages and enter a Stamp Show, our collection will look mighty impressive in exhibit frames. But what we have done is create a display of PNC material, not an exhibit. Exhibits have rules, collections do not. Now this is where the goals of the individual come in. If your goal is to have fun and attract new collectors to PNC's and are not after competative awards, except maybe the "Most Popular Award", STOP! You need go no further, just keep doing what your doing and have fun.

But, if you want to work your way up the awards ladder and have fun too, stay tuned that is the purpose of these articles. The basic difference between a display and a exhibit is that a exhibit tells a story. The title page outline the story and sets up the parameters for our exhibit. The title page is our page and sets the rules the Judges have to follow to see if we accomplish in the exhibit what we said on the title page. The title of your exhibit is very important. Consequently if you title your exhibit "United States Coils", the Judges will expect to see all U.S. coils in your exhibit and grade your exhibit accordingly. I had a problem with this in my exhibit title, "TOMORROW'S CLASSICS (U.S. Flag & Transportation coil issues of 1981). You might ask, why not just say coils of 1981? Well in 1981 the following other coils were issued that I do not include in my exhibit, Scott 1813a, 1816, 1816a, 1820 and 1947. For this article I have included pages that I am currently working on. I would appreciate all comments, suggestions and corrections. You are the Judge. In Part II you will learn what the Judges thought of these pages. This exhibit is a Traditional Exhibit and example of the other types will follow.

# Tomorrow's Classics

( U.S. FLAG & TRANSPORTATION COIL ISSUES OF 1981 )

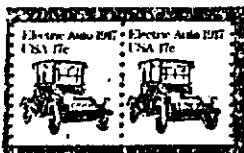
## 18¢ U.S. FLAG



In 1981 the Bureau of Engraving & Printing started including a single or double digit on the face of coil stamps traceable to the actual plate number. This number provided a way to identify and shut down any press producing substandard stamps. This exhibit reports on discoveries made during the research of the 1981 United States Flag and Transportation coil issues.

On 03/22/81 new Postal Rates went into effect, and the first Stamp issued under the BEP policy to include a number in the stamp design was the 18¢ Flag coil issued 04/24/81. This stamp was followed on 05/18/81 by the 18¢ Surrey, the first stamp of the Transportation Series. Both stamps were issued to pay the new First Class - 1st Ounce Rate.

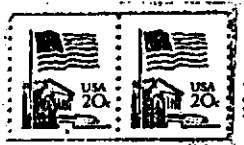
## 17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO



On 06/25/81 the 17¢ Electric Auto was issued, the second stamp in the Transportation Series, and the first produced for the new 17¢ First Class - Added Ounce Rate, and the untagged Bureau Pre-cancel Electric Auto for the new 17¢ First Class - Carrier-Route-Sort Rate effective 11/01/81.

The First Class - 1st Ounce Rate was increased again on 11/01/81 to 20¢. Consequently the 18¢ First Class Rate was the shortest in U.S. history. This combined with the policy to include numbers on the face of the stamps, and the late to press dates of the plates, has created the Philatelic Treasures of the Twentieth Century. The 20¢ Pumper was issued on 12/10/81, the third stamp in the Transportation Series, to pay the new 20¢ First Class - 1st Ounce Rate. This stamp was followed by the 20¢ Flag coil on 12/17/81.

## 20¢ U.S. FLAG

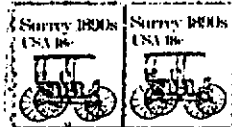


The demand on the Postal Service to produce coil stamps for various Bulk Rates had increased greatly over the previous five years. This demand came about because the Bulk Mailers discovered they received a much greater response if their letters had stamps on them instead of Bulk Mail Permits. The Postal Service responded to this demand with the issue of the 9.3¢ Mailwagon, the first produced for the Third Class - 5 Digit-Sort Rate, and the fourth and last Transportation Series issue for 1981 on December 15th.

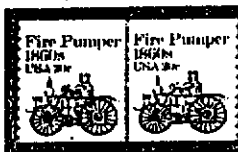
### HIGHLIGHTS:

- \* DESIGN SKETCHES
- \* FALSE FRANKING
- \* PURPLE CANCELS
- \* PAPER & GUM TYPES
- \* IMPERFS & MISPERFS
- \* PLATE RECONSTRUCTION
- \* IMPERF AUTO ON COVER
- \* 18¢ #6 FLAG ON COVERS
- \* 20¢ PUMPER #2 FORGERY
- \* BLACK OMITTED FLAG ON COVER

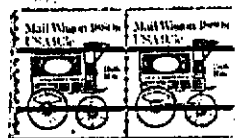
## 16¢ SURREY



## 20¢ FIRE PUMPER



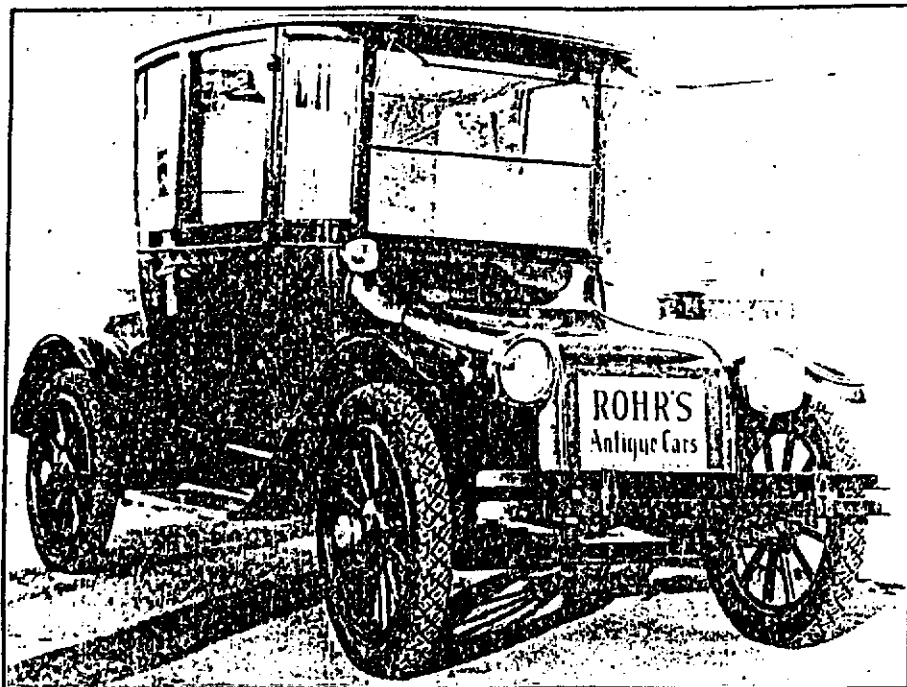
## 9.3¢ MAILWAGON



# TOMORROW'S CLASSICS

	FRAME	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION		
A. Title Page	1	1
B. Table of Contents	1	2
C. Purple Cancels	1	3
II. 18¢ FLAG COIL ISSUE		
A. Design Information	1	4
B. Plate Statistics, Tagging and Paper Types	1	5
C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	1	10
D. Coil Labels and Packaging	1	14
E. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	1	15
F. Various Cancels	1	16
G. Postal Usages	2	1
III. 18¢ SURREY-TRANSPORTATION SERIES		
A. Design Information	2	9
B. Plate Statistics, Tagging and Paper Types	2	10
C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	2	16
D. Coil Labels and Packaging	3	2
E. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	3	3
F. Various Cancels	3	5
G. Postal Usages	3	7
IV. 17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO-TRANSPORTATION SERIES		
A. Design Information	4	9
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C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	4	16
D. Coil Labels and Packaging	5	2
E. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	5	3
F. Various Cancels	5	4
G. Postal Usages	6	2
V. 20¢ FIRE PUMPER-TRANSPORTATION SERIES		
A. Design Information	6	9
B. Plate Statistics, Tagging and Paper Types	6	12
C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	6	16
D. Coil Labels and Packaging	7	7
E. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	7	8
F. Various Cancels	7	9
G. Postal Usages	7	11
VI. 20¢ FLAG COIL ISSUES		
A. Design Information	8	9
B. Plate Statistics, Tagging and Paper Types	8	10
C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	8	16
D. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	9	5
E. Various Cancels	9	6
F. Postal Usages	9	7
VII. 9.3¢ MAILWAGON-TRANSPORTATION SERIES		
A. Design Information	10	1
B. Plate Statistics, Tagging and Paper Types	10	3
C. Error's, Freaks and Oddities	10	6
D. Coil Labels and Packaging	10	7
E. First Day Of Issue Plate Numbers	10	8
F. Various Cancels	10	9
G. Postal Usages	10	13
VIII. CONCLUSION	10	16

17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO DESIGN INFORMATION

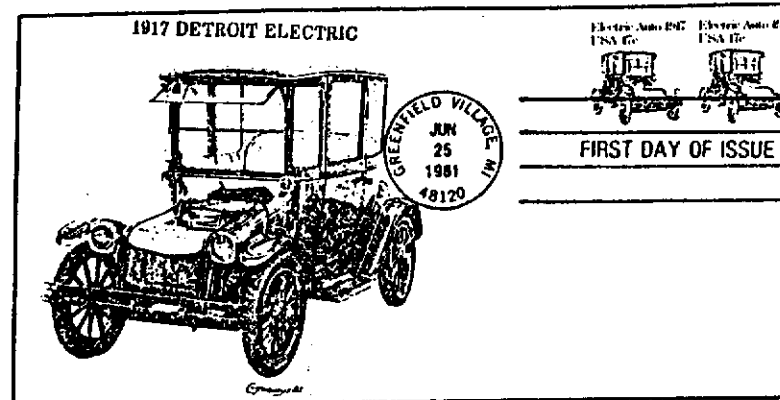


ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPH USED FOR 17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO STAMP DESIGN

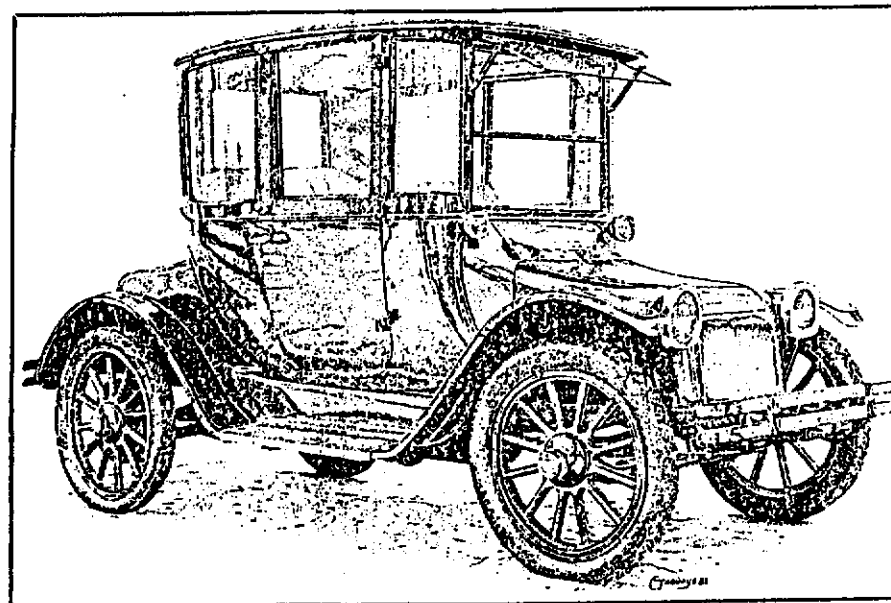
Chuck Jaquays took a series of photographs of the Detroit 1917 Electric Auto. He selected three photographs showing three views of the car and drew three different design sketches. Comparison of the photograph to the actual stamp, including the slightly turned front wheels can easily be seen.

17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO DESIGN INFORMATION

OFFICIAL FDOI HAND CANCEL



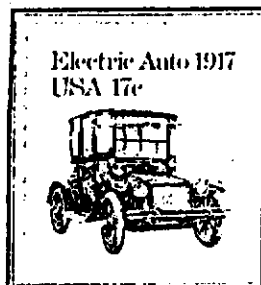
SECOND DESIGN SKETCH ON STAMP DESIGNER'S COVER



THIRD 17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO DESIGN SKETCH

The above design was the first design submitted, but it was rejected with a request that a more frontal view design be submitted.

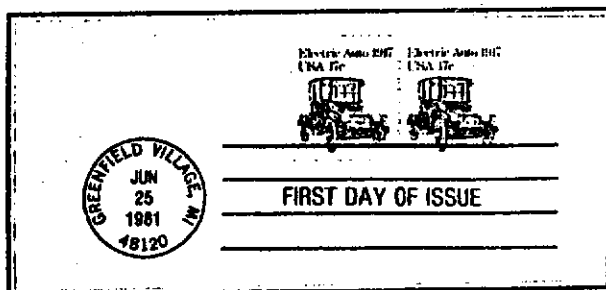
17¢ ELECTRIC AUTO DESIGN INFORMATION



Issue Date: June 25, 1981  
 First Day City: Greenfield Village  
 Dearborn, Michigan  
 Designer: Chuck Jacquays  
 Woodbridge, Virginia  
 Modeler: Clarence Holbert  
 Engravers: Edward P. Archer (vignette)  
 Thomas J. Bakos (let. & Num.)  
 Ottrell Intaglio  
 Color: Blue  
 Image Area: .75 x .62 inches or  
 .19.05 x 20.8 mm  
 Plate Number: One every 24 stamps  
 Stamps per Coil: 100, 500 and 3,000

This is the first stamp design for artist Chuck Jacquays, who based his pen and ink drawing on a photograph he took of an actual 1917 Detroit Electric Coupe owned by Edgar E. Rohrs of Manassas, Virginia. The Auto depicted in the stamp is still used on a regular basis by its owner, who has restored it.

OFFICIAL FDOI HAND CANCEL



SECOND PRINTING

On February 8, 1982 plates 3 and 4 were returned to press. This printing produced 17¢ Electric Auto Precancels Type A Gaps 2L, 1L and Line Gap.

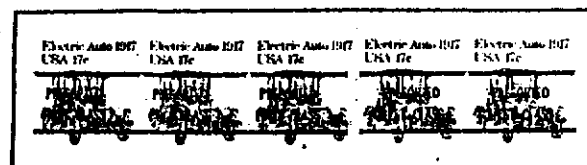


PLATE NO. 3 \* TYPE A \* LINE GAP

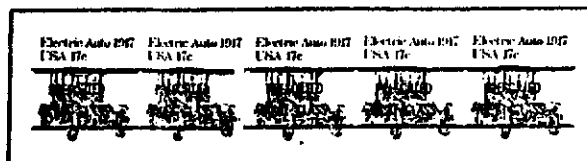


PLATE NO. 3 \* TYPE A \* GAP 1 LEFT

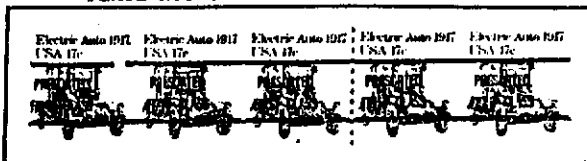
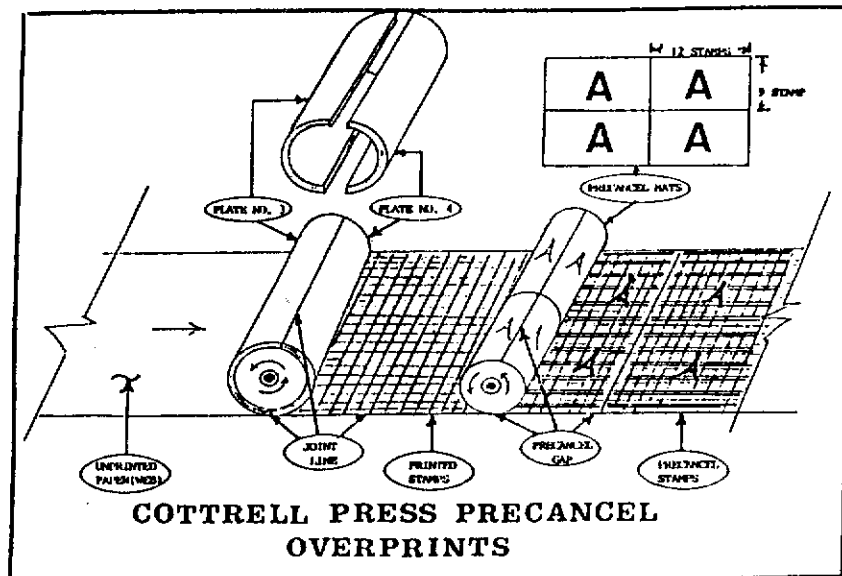
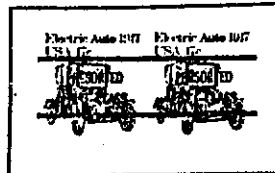
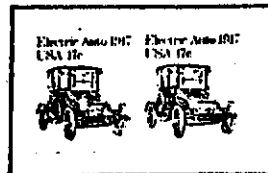


PLATE NO. 3 \* TYPE A \* GAP 2 LEFT

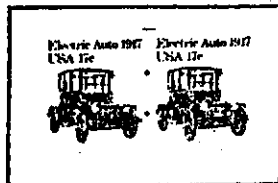


ELECTRIC AUTO PERFORATIONS

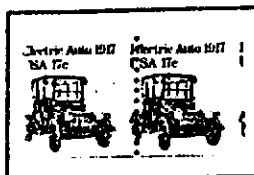
IMPERFS



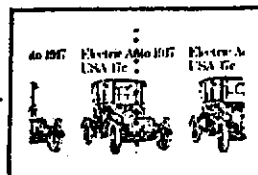
BLIND PERFS



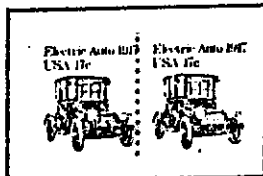
MISPERFS



15% SHIFT



60% SHIFT

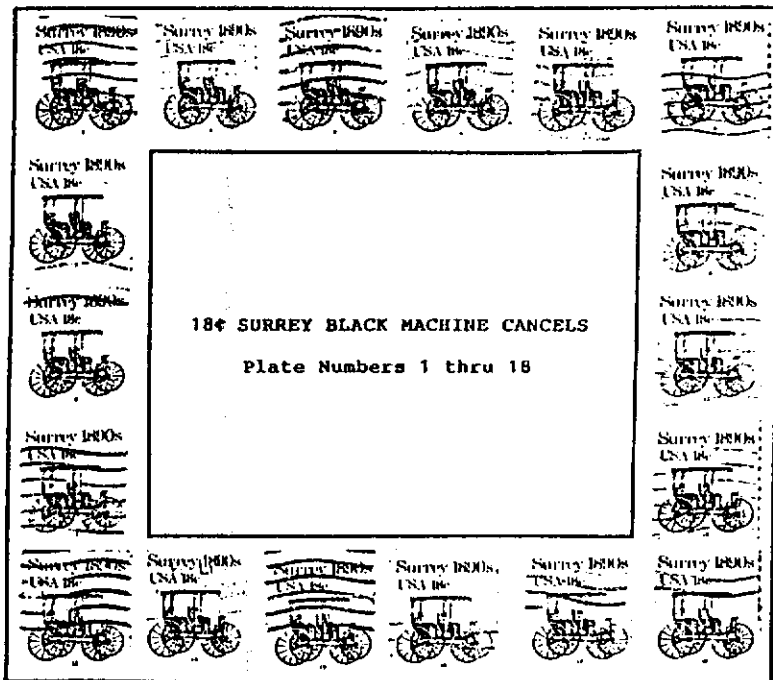
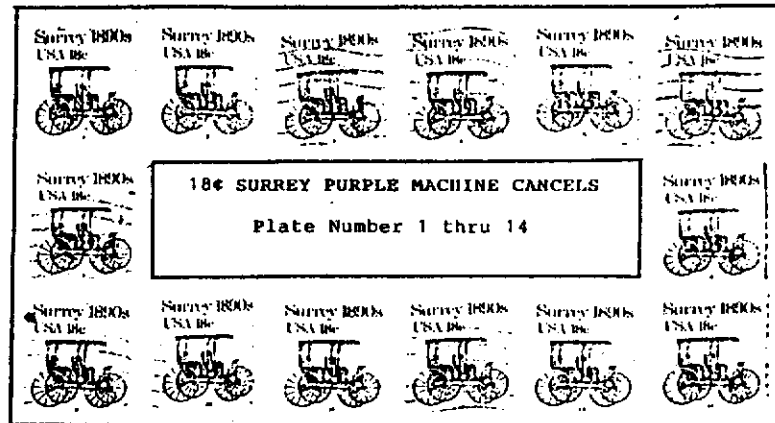


90% SHIFT

IMPERF PAIR ON COVER



IMPERF PAIR PAYS 33¢ AIRMAIL RATE



LOCAL HAND CANCELS

GRIMSLEY, TN  
JUNE 13, 1981  
38565

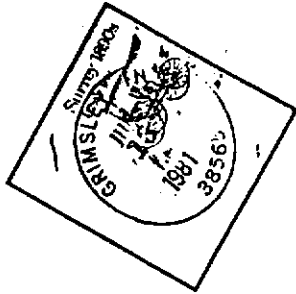


PLATE NUMBER 2

OTIS, MA  
JULY, 10, 1981  
01253

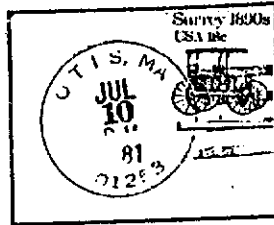
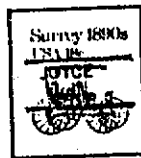
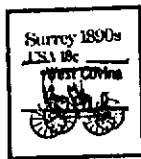
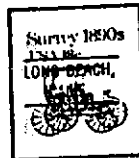


PLATE NUMBER 5

LOCAL PRECANCELS



FIRST CLASS USAGE PURPLE MACHINE CANCELS

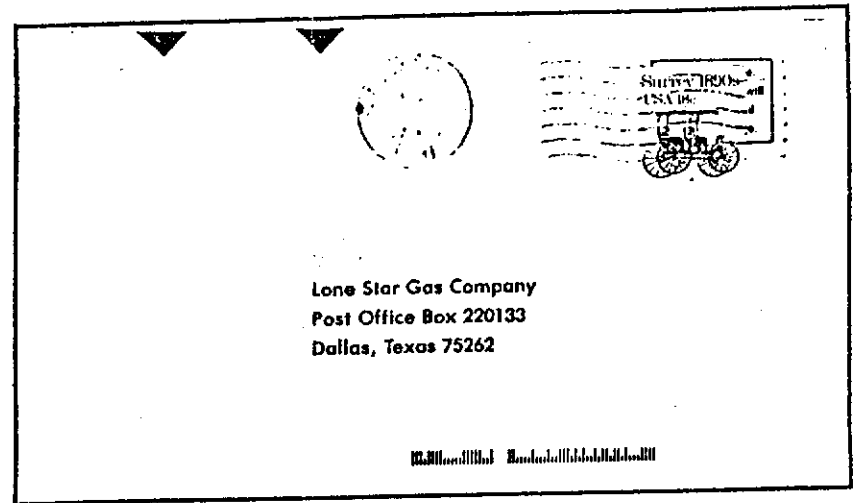


PLATE NUMBER 3 FIVE COVERS REPORTED

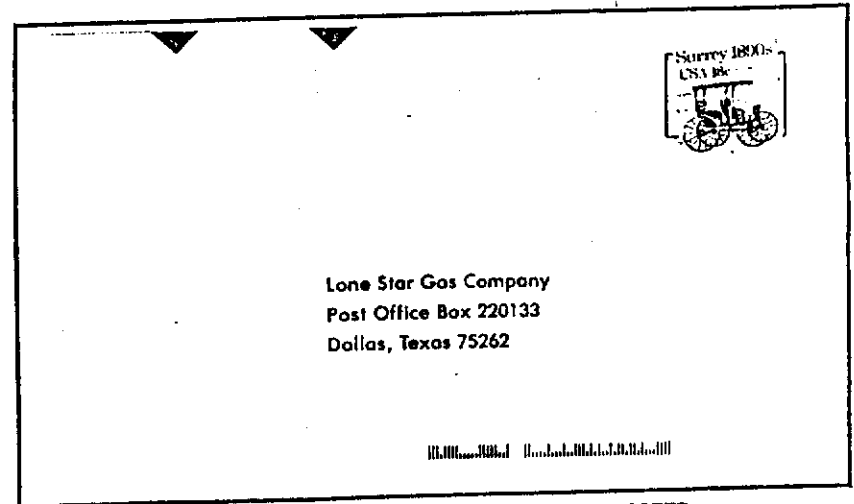


PLATE NUMBER 4 FIVE COVERS REPORTED

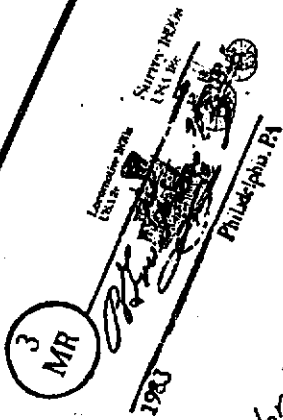
Dallas purple machine cancels reported from May 12, 1980 to Oct. 18, 1982

FANCY CANCEL

"B. Free Franklin"

PLATE NUMBER 2

This is the only permanent signature postmark used in the United States.



Iowa State Historical Department  
 Division of the State Historical Society  
 402 Iowa Avenue  
 Iowa City, IA 52204

This letter carried a request to check the 1920 Centerville Iowegian for a 1920 obituary for a relative.

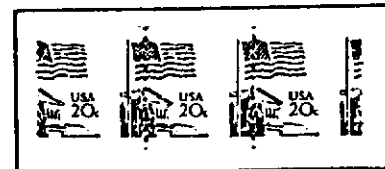
Canceled at the B Free Franklin Post Office 316 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa. on March 3, 1983

20¢ FLAG OVER SUPREME COURT FREAK PERFORATIONS

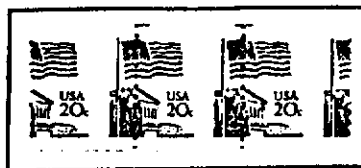
The electric eye bars printed on the top edge of the web are utilized to align the stamps for perforating. Below are examples of different percent misalignment of the perforations to the stamp design at press start up.



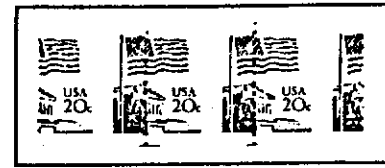
25% SHIFT



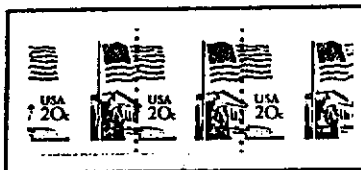
31% SHIFT



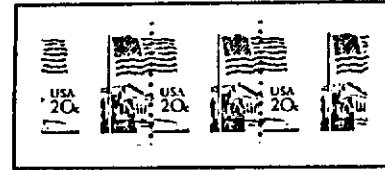
35% SHIFT



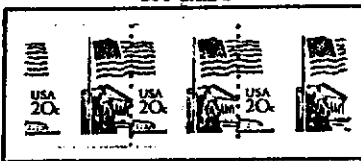
40% SHIFT



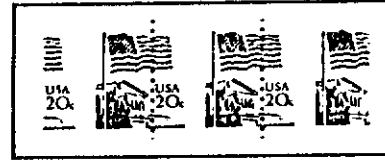
50% SHIFT



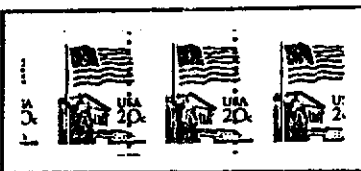
54% SHIFT



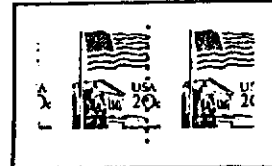
56% SHIFT



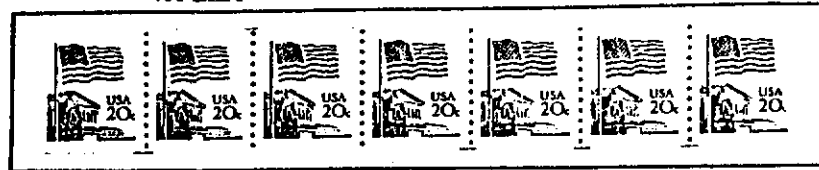
60% SHIFT



70% SHIFT



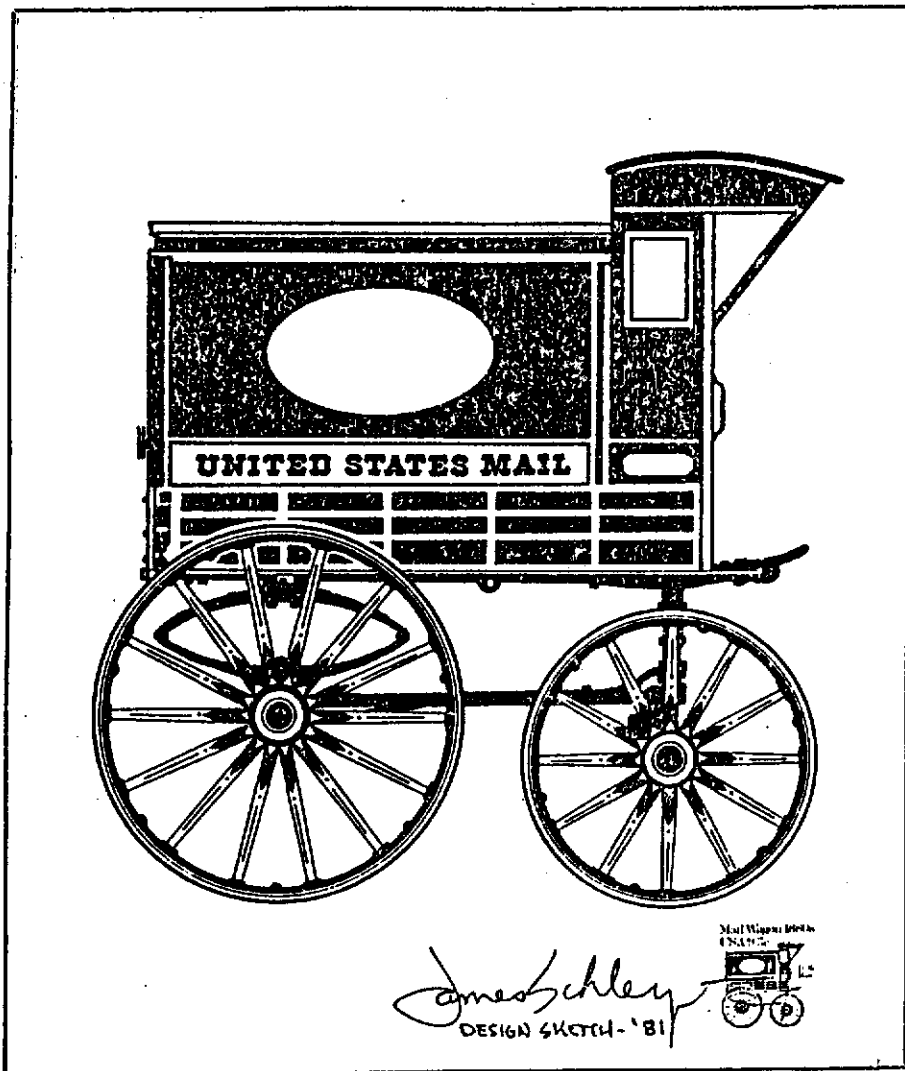
75% SHIFT



NORMAL PERFORATIONS

All the 1981 Coil Issues have 9.8 perforations per two centimeters

9.3¢ MAILWAGON DESIGN INFORMATION



ORIGINAL 9.3¢ MAIL WAGON PEN AND INK DESIGN SKETCH

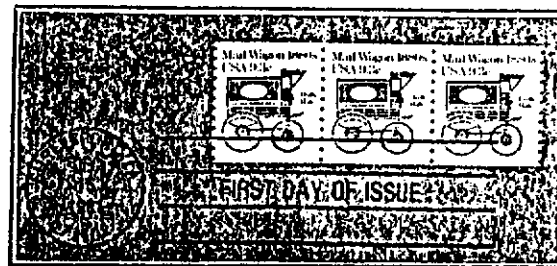
9.3¢ MAIL WAGON DESIGN INFORMATION



Issue Date:	December 15, 1981
First Day City:	Shreveport, Louisiana
Designer:	James Schleyer Burke, Virginia
Modeler:	Clarence Holbert
Engravers:	Garry M. Chaonias (vignette) Gary J. Slaght (letters & numerals)
Press:	Cottrell Intaglio
Color:	Red
Image Area:	.75 x .82 inches or 19.05 x 20.8 mm
Plate Number:	One every 24 stamps
Stamps per Coil:	500 and 3,000

Artist Jim Schleyer based his pen and ink design for the mail wagon stamp on an illustration originally printed in the magazine "The Hub," May 1880, and appearing in an encyclopedia of antique vehicles located at the National Museum of American History. The 9.3 cent denomination reflects the increase in bulk mail postage rates that became effective November 1, 1981.

OFFICIAL FDOI HAND CANCEL



FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

Air Mail Rate  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ounce 45¢

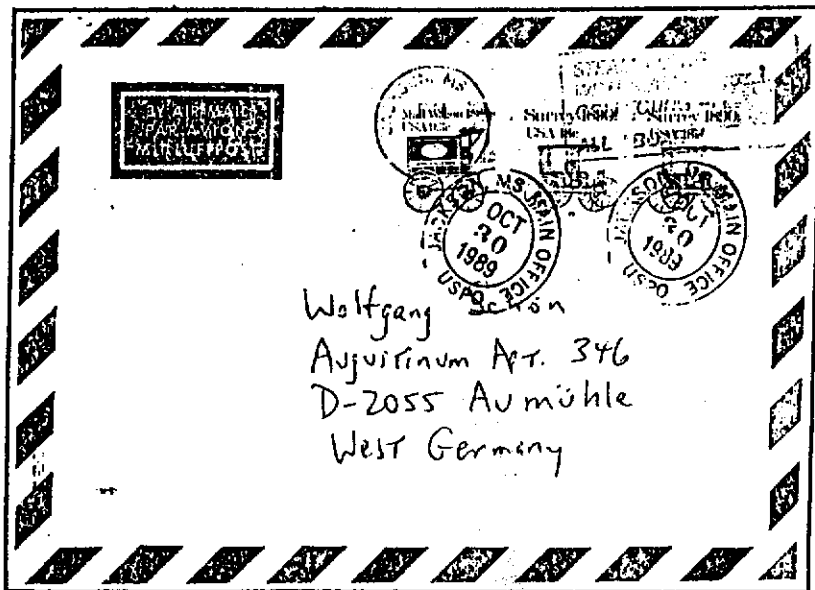


PLATE NUMBER 1

9.3¢ Mailwagon pays 9¢ of 45¢ Rate

39¢ AEROGRAMME RATE TO WEST GERMANY

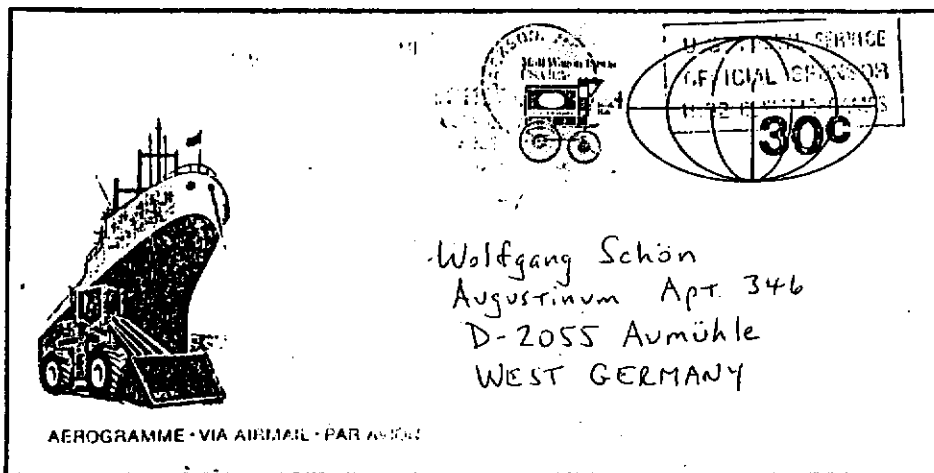


PLATE NUMBER 2

9.3¢ Mailwagon pays 9¢ of 39¢ Rate

# CONCLUSION

LAST DAY OF THE 18¢ FIRST CLASS RATE

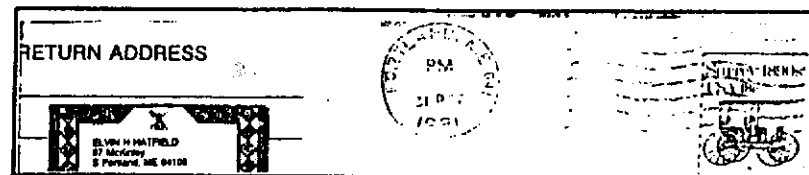


PLATE NUMBER 6

October 31, 1981 Portland, Maine

LAST DAY OF THE 20¢ FIRST CLASS RATE

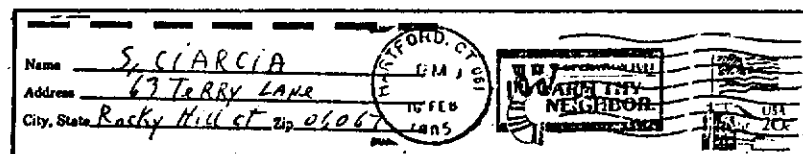


PLATE NUMBER 14

February 16, 1985 Hartford, Connecticut

This brings to close the most dynamic period of United States Postal History. The year 1981 saw the First Class Rate start at 15¢, and rise to 18¢, and than to 20¢. These factors with the variables illustrated in this exhibit combined to create Tomorrow's Classics. I trust that the viewers of this exhibit now have a new appreciation for the coils of 1981 and will agree that they are Tomorrow's Classics.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL THE APS, BIA AND PNC3 MEMBERS WHO GENEROUSLY TRADED MATERIAL AND INFORMATION TO MAKE THIS EXHIBIT POSSIBLE.

# AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

P.O. Box 8000, State College, Pennsylvania 16801 Telephone: 814-237-3003



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Director of Special In-  
BILL WEI  
The American Phil

September 24, 1991

Dear Exhibitor:

Thank you for requesting the "FIP Option" during STaMpsHOW 91. We hope that the results submitted herewith will be helpful to you in modifying your exhibit for future showing at APS "Champion of Champions" competitions and, particularly, if you should choose to exhibit at International FIP Exhibitions.

Your exhibit was judged by a small panel of experienced FIP accredited judges using the point system now in effect at FIP World Exhibitions. The enclosed score sheet shows the classification in which your exhibit was judged and the points assigned to it in comparison with the maximum points permissible in the various judging categories of your particular classification. In any instance where an exhibit might be judged in either of the two FIP classifications (e.g. traditional or postal history) it was judged in the classification which would give it the most points and hence the highest medal level. This is the normal FIP judging procedure, notwithstanding the particular classification in which the exhibit may have been entered by the exhibitor.

In the upper right corner you will note the point requirements for specific medal levels in FIP competition. The distribution of points should be very helpful to you in indicating the particular areas in which the judges thought improvements might be made in order to attain a higher medal level.

You should be aware that some types of exhibits which receive high awards at national shows will be at a disadvantage when the point system is used and may not fare well in international competition. If yours is one of such exhibits, it will be indicated in the comments. All exhibitors should be aware that the judging panel was particularly severe in its evaluations so as not to unduly encourage exhibitors who may decide to show in FIP exhibitions. The panel felt this approach was preferable and that some exhibitors may do better than the panel's evaluation would indicate.

To exhibit at an FIP exhibition, application must be made to the U.S. Commissioner for the specific exhibition, and the exhibit must have received at least a vermeil medal in an APS Accredited C of C exhibition.

We wish you every success in your continued exhibiting.

The FIP Panel



# FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATELIE

FONDÉE EN 1906

FIP  
MEDALS

EXHIBITOR BILL McMURRAY LG 95-100 points  
EXHIBIT TITLE TOMORROW'S CLASSICS (U.S. FLAG & TRANSPORTATION ISSUES OF 1931) G 90-94  
LV 85-89  
V 80-84  
LS 75-79  
FIP CLASSIFICATION TRADITIONAL (MOPHILA SALON) S 70-74  
SB 65-69  
B 60-64

Point Score	FIP Maximum	Score
Treatment Importance	10	8
Sub-total	20	10
Knowledge Research	10	9
Sub-total	20	21
Condition Rarity	15	14
Sub-total	15	10
Presentation	5	4
GRAND TOTAL	100	77

COMMENTS SEE ATTACHED

COVER OF THE MONTH

Peter Grace



CITIZENS  
AGAINST  
GOVERNMENT  
WASTE



1301 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036

1992 CAGW Charter Membership Card Enclosed for:

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



The above cover featuring two 23¢ Flag Presorted First-Class coils is an example of a multiple ounce usage. (Cover courtesy of Glenn Fstus.) (If you have a candidate for Cover of the Month, please send a photocopy of your cover against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976.)

**Linn's**  
Stamp News

P.O. Box 29 • Sidney, OH 45365



**▶ INSIDE: FREE COLLECTOR'S STAMPS THAT YOU  
▶ HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE ...**

**3 FREE ISSUES OF LINN'S  
RESERVED FOR YOU UNTIL: ▶**

Nice commercial cover from a philatelic source  
H.K. Wietfeldt of Grand Rapids, MI wonders how many other PNC3 members who received this mailing from Linn's Stamp News were fortunate enough to have it franked with an Eagle & Shield plate number-in this case A22113.



*John Milne  
Sears Roebuck and Co.  
4595 Eastgate Blvd  
Cincinnati, OH 45245*

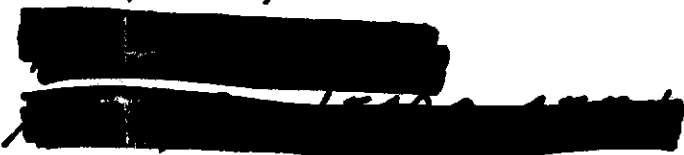


ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

#BTDDMMT CAR-RT SORT \*\*CR 05

#000918884216#

*The Mason Household*



**Eagle & Shield A33333 shows up on July cover  
Ron Maifeld of Amelia, OH shares this commercial cover bearing the Eagle & Shield A33333 plate number.  
Maifeld said the cover was received July 9, 1992. In checking with Mr. Milne, he found the mailing was  
prepared by Sears in Chicago with returns going to the local Sears outlets.**

# Membership

Names of applicants are published for members to review. Any member who questions the suitability of a prospect should contact the Chairman of the Membership Committee, Gene Trinks, 3603 Bellows Court, Troy, MI 48083, with the objection. The committee will investigate and recommend for or against membership.

## New Applicants:

Robert Bergstrom  
P.O. Box 338  
Wheaton, IL 60189

John Hotchner  
P.O. Box 1125  
Falls Church, VA 22041

Thomas B. Jillson  
7244 Westwood Drive  
Jenison, MI 49428

Tom Nichols  
2578 Hammond-Highland  
Traverse City, MI 49684

Robert Colum  
563 N. Ridgefield Ave.  
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Joseph K. Bellamy  
7035 Parrish Apt. 3N  
Hammond, IN 46323

David R. Ainley  
P.O. Box 770157  
Houston, TX 77215

John L. Larson  
800 S. Mattis  
Champaign, IL 61821

Bruce C. Negrycz  
33 Franklin Ave.  
Clifton, NJ 07011

Stewart Kachel  
49 S. W. 11 St.  
Dania, FL 33004

Raymond H. Collins  
8292 Montego Pl. No.  
Cordova, TN 38018

Harry A. LeVine  
6301 Aberdeen  
Shawnee Mission, KS 66209

Mark Kalman  
P.O. Box 44098  
Van Nuys, CA 91412

Daniel Purucker  
P.O. Box 1773  
Souix City, IA 51102

Kenneth Barnes  
6423 Ran Lynn Drive  
Roanoke, VA 24018

Tim Harrington  
4525 Hiawatha Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55406

William Schlosser Sr.  
983 Carlisle Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43224

Spiers Welsh  
1418 Brook Lane  
Wilmington, DE 19805

James E. Duffy  
P.O. Box A  
Highwood, IL 60040

J. Ron Edwards  
1800 Brassfield Road  
Raleigh, NC 27614

Art Glese  
Rt. 1, Box 94  
Midway, TX 75852

Gail E. Eckert  
10281 Pines Blvd.  
N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903

Bob Mohr  
43 W. 12th St.  
Fond Du Lac, WI 54935

Rudy Mihalek  
P.O. Box 24270  
Lyndhurst, OH 44124  
Membership will reach 558 if all applicants are approved. (Per the PNC3 bylaws, membership numbers will not be assigned until the applicant is accepted.)

## COIL LINE

Published monthly as the journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, also known as PNC3. The deadline for copy to be considered for the next issue is the 15th of the month, except as otherwise noted. The August issue was mailed July 20..

President: Tom Maeder, 1604 Bardale Ave., San Pedro, CA 90731. (310-833-7937)

Distribution: Alan Thomson, P.O. Box 91 Northwood, NH 03261 Mailed under Bulk Rate Permit No. 1, Northwood, N.H. 03261

Change of address should be sent to and membership applications are available from : Joann Lenz, 37211 Alper Dr., Sterling Hts. MI 48077.

Dues are \$10 per year (\$14 if first class mailing of Coil Line is desired, \$14 for Canada and Mexico and \$20 for all others) and should be sent to: Gene Ernst, Treasurer 15522 Windy Cove, Houston, Texas 77095-1908.

Advertising rates are \$42 for a full page, \$22.50 for a half page and \$12 for a quarter page. The cost is payable with the order. Checks should be made out to PNC3. Members are entitled to two, 40-word ads per year at no charge. All advertisements should be sent to the editor. Classified ads are six (6) cents per word to non members or those who have used their two free ads.

# Membership

(Continued from previous page)

## Petition for reinstatement:

Mark Caruthers  
P.O. Box 804  
Derby, CT 06418

## Change of Address::

Dr. Helmut Newmann  
112 Yale Drive  
Winchester, VA 22602

Minh Tran  
238 Cherry Valley Dr., J-17  
Inkster, MI 48141

# Ads

HAVE ALL ISSUES (not all numbers) of PNCs; singles, pairs S/3 and S/5; all mint NH. Will trade any or all for X Mail Stamps, comm., panels or? George Capuzzo, 1708 Thunderbird, McKinneyville, CA 95521. List for SASE.

FOR SALE: Mint Mount Rushmore No. 8 PS5 F-VF \$4.50; VF \$6.00; XF PS7 \$8.50. Also handdrawn, handpainted PNC FDC's. Classic Cachets, P.O. Box 3284, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3284.

U.S. ILLUSTRATED ERROR LIST. Thirty pages, includes PNC errors. \$1.00 plus SASE with 75c postage. Stan Goldfarb, 8520 Atwell Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854.

ULTRA VIEW MOUNTS: The only stamp mounts on the market that allow transmission of UV light plus having acid free paper inserts for facilitating stamp insertion and retention. Coil stip package \$6.00. Mueggenburg, 3525 Bluff Court, Carmichael, CA 95608.

BUY AND TRADE, tagging varieties, misperf, imperf EFOs. Mueggenburg, 3525 Bluff Court, Carmichael, CA 95608.

COMPREHENSIVE, ILLUSTRATED 32-page price list of PNC Commercial covers-sent free upon request. First Class Rates, Fractionals, Ancillary Markings and more. Tom Maeder, 1604 Bardale Ave., San Pedro, CA, 90731.

## PLATE NUMBER COIL COLLECTORS CLUB PNC3

### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period Jan. 1, 1992 to June 30, 1992

Balance forward Jan. 1, 1992 \$5,279.58

## 1992 INCOME

Memberships, new	652.00
Membership Renewal 1992	1,800.00
Payment for first class postage	157.50
Coil Line advertising	110.64
Coil Line back issues	3.00
Donations	23.00
Redeposit checks	13.00
Banking, Net (CHGS/INT)	44.78
Auction Proceeds (Net)	0.00
Total	2,803.92

## 1992 EXPENSES

"Coil Line" printing/mailling	\$2,475.86
"Coil Line" Editor	0.00
APS Insurance (Prepaid Dec. 1991)	0.00
President	71.63
Vice President	0.00
Secretary	(1.68)
Auction Start-Up (\$100.00 advance)	107.54
Awards Committee	0.00
Bylaws Committee	0.00
Election Committee	2.13
Ethics Committee	36.90
Finance Committee	0.00
Membership Committee (Application forms)	138.32
Nominating Committee	0.00
Regional Meeting Committee	28.87
Standing Rules Committee	0.00
Slide Shows	110.00
Returned checks	26.00
Total Expenses	\$3,047.43

CASH BALANCE June 30, 1992 \$5,036.07

Submitted by Gene Ernst, PNC3 Treasurer.