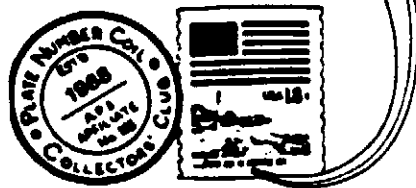


PNC³ Coil Line



Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club PNC³

December 1, 1993

Vol. 6, No. 12

Whole Number 65

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

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

2 regional PNC³ meetings planned for January 1994

At least two regional meetings of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club have been planned for January 1994

The meetings will be held in conjunction with ARIPEX 94 scheduled for Jan. 7-9 in Mesa, AZ, and Jan. 23 at BRASSPEX in Waterbury, CT.

No details on the Arizona meeting were available as of the deadline for the December issue of *Coil Line*.

The Waterbury Stamp Club, sponsor of BRASSPEX, will host the regional meeting from noon to 2 p.m. on Jan. 23. The meeting will be held in the Watertown Room of the Sheraton Hotel.

Kim Cuniberti will be the guest speaker. The remainder of the meeting will be devoted to open discussion and trading.

PNC³ member P.J. Rinaldi reports the one-day show will include a 20-dealer bourse and USPS station. There will be a 320-page competitive exhibit by club members.

The show cancel will be of note to VRC collectors. The cancel is entitled "Shield, Five Bars, Pointed Closed Top, Type 2." Franked with the VRC stamp, regular cards and covers are \$1.50 each. A special card or cover prepared with a VRC plate strip of 5 will sell for \$7.00. Send orders with payment to BRASSPEX CANCEL, P.O. Box 581, Waterbury, CT 06720.

PNC slide show can liven up stamp club meeting this winter

Liven up your local stamp club meeting and promote Plate Number Coil collecting this winter by presenting the Ken Lawrence APS-PNC slide show complete with text and audio.

This widely acclaimed slide show is available free from the Regional Meeting Committee throughout this winter season.

Reservations are now being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The show takes anywhere from 30 to 45 minutes to present and can be stopped at any time for appropriate discussion. No experience or expertise is necessary.

The slide program is self-explanatory. Discussion during or after the presentation always seems to be hard to shut off.

Contact Dick Koenig at P.O. Box 31872, Tucson, AZ 85751 to reserve the program and for details about shipping.

Club membership tops 700; don't forget to renew for '94

With the final issue of *Coil Line* for 1993, membership in the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club has topped 700.

We have gained 127 new members this year.

This should also serve as a friendly reminder to renew your PNC³ membership for 1994. Dues are unchanged and a renew form is attached to this issue, as it was the November issue. There is a \$2 penalty if you do not renew before Dec. 31, 1993.

Take care of this now and be assured of being a member of one of philately's fastest growing clubs and collecting areas. Treasurer Gene Ernst reported 24.5 percent of the members had renewed by Nov. 4. He said while that pace sounds good, it is on a par with other years. Some members take care of it right away and then it slows down until late December when he has another spurt. Over 92 percent renewed a year ago.

Also, think about sharing some of your knowledge or opinions about PNCs in 1994 by contributing information, articles or letters for *Coil Line*.

Happy Holidays-but early deadline

In order to get the January 1994 issue of *Coil Line* out of the Brown and Thomson households before the holiday crush, the editor has decided to set Dec. 10 as the date for all copy to reach his mailbox.

If you mail something on Dec. 6 or later, please call me and tell me it is in the mail. In any case, the page proofs for the issue will be on the way to Alan Thomson no later than the morning of Monday, Dec. 13. No exceptions.

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Letters

Reasons behind self-stick coils

To the Editor:

Coils have been created for some of the self-stick issues to make it easier for the Postal Service workers who affix stamps to FDCs to remove the stamps from their backing (unfolded booklet panes also have their origins in FDCs).

The first self-stick coil was produced for the 25c Eagle and Shield issue. Coils have also been made for the three different 29c Eagle & Shield stamps (red, green and brown denominations for the three different printers), the Red Squirrel issue, Rose issue and the '93 Christmas Greetings issue.

Notably absent from this list are the 25c Flag, F Flag, '92 Christmas Toy Train, the Liberty Torch and the '93 Christmas Snowman self-stick issues. These issues are also ATM issues. In order to work in the ATM machines the panes must "feel" to the machines like a \$20-dollar bill, which means they must be thinner than the other self-stick issues. For some reason coils were not available for the ATM issues.

Although not available from regular post offices, the Postal Service has made the self-stick coils available through its Philatelic Fulfillment Service Center. Unlike regular coils, which can be purchased in any length (except fractional denominations, which must be purchased in multiples of 10), the self-stick coils are only available in lengths equal to the size of their corresponding sheetlets.

Starting with the '93 Christmas Greetings issue the self-stick coils will have plate numbers. Although the Postal Service is quoted in Linn's (Oct. 25, page 1) as saying the plate numbers are for "accountability," getting money out of PNC collectors must have crossed their minds.

It seems unlikely that more than one plate number will show up on the self-stick coils since the printings should be low, although seven different plate numbers are already (as of Nov. 8) known on the Christmas self-stick sheetlets of 12.

Since the Pine Cone issue only has a single design it will not present a problem, but with four different designs on the Christmas Greetings coil, how are collectors going to save them-strips of 4? of 5?

Doug Iams
1885 Victoria Landing
San Jose, CA 95132-3703

(Editor's Note: In his Plate Number Coils column in the Nov. 22, 1993 issue of *Linn's* Ken Lawrence suggests saving strips of eight with the numbered stamp at position four. He said that displays each design twice.)

PNC commercial cover update

To the Editor:

Following is a summary of the PNC commercial

cover count for Oct. 5-Nov. 3, 1993.

29c Mt. Rushmore - 1-1; 3-1; 4-1; 7-2; 9-1.

29c White House - 1-10; 2-9; 3-20; 4-73; 5-4; 6-128; 7-122; 8-173; 9-1; 10-8; 11-2; 13-1.

The new White House plate numbers are starting to show up but it is still too early to determine scarcity. Nos. 10, 11 & 13 are found on rolls of 100 and No. 9 on larger rolls as per Snippets in the November *Coil Line*. That would seem to indicate that No. 9 will be the key number to find on a commercial cover. The sources for No. 10 are widespread over the USA, while the other plate number sampling is too small for commentary.

Dick Koenig
P.O. Box 31872
Tucson, AZ 85751

Reports on commercial cover find

To the Editor:

I had the good fortune of going through a large lot of 858 PNC commercial covers, mostly utility covers from the Lancaster-York, PA, area.

Following is an inventory of the plate numbers found and the covers per number.

29c Mt. Rushmore with 1991-92 dates - 1-82; 2-6; 3-64; 4-69; 5-2; 6-15; 7-179; 8-0; 9-19. Total 436 covers.

29c White House with 1992-93 dates - 1-7; 2-4; 3-42; 4-118; 5-5; 6-63; 7-73; 8-110. Total 422 covers.

Kenneth D. Cherry
43 W. Constitution Ave.
Spring Grove, PA 17362

Believes cancel to be on the level

To the Editor:

Richard Beecher's letter (Nov. page 190) is interesting indeed. His conjecture of the stamps (Scott 2523A #22211; PNC3 pp179) origin from a philatelic counter in Northern California is most plausible. We are blessed with a hot shot philatelic window at the Royal Oaks Drive Post Office, Sacramento, CA, from which Durham is a short hop, skip and jump.

The window clerk, Al Shook, has an outstanding record of delivering those hard-to-get items as well as publishing a timely philatelic newsletter mailed to interested people. The purchase of these stamps from that source is entirely conceivable and their use would be justifiably commercial. I seriously doubt the good vet would send off to KC for stamps to do philatelic tricks-when obviously they wouldn't be returned or retained.

Mitch Kauffman
P.O. Box 133
Clear Lake Park, CA 95424

SNIPPETS

New Numbers

Member and dealer Brian McPherran has found plate #11 of the Flag over the White House in rolls of 100. Plate #13 in rolls of 100 has also been found. (Will #12 be the phantom number again?) Other new plate numbers are the 1c Omnibus #3 (B press), 2c Locomotive #2 (B press) and \$1 Seaplane #3. Plate #2 of the 10c Canal Boat is also new, so new it apparently has not been entered in the computer in Kansas City.

New Lunch Wagon - Second Look

At first glance the reissued 23c Lunch Wagon (#3) with dull gum appears to be printed on nearly translucent paper. The wagon is very clear from the back of the stamp, or at least it is on our rolls. However, don't be fooled. The very heavy image is an offset on top of the gum. So what, you say? What's unusual about this offset is that it is shifted 100% horizontally from the printing on the front of the stamp. Our guess is that the offset occurred because the ink was not dry when the web was rewound. This would make the offset move, due to the increasing diameter of the takeup spool. Any opinions?

Member Has Been Ill

We are sorry to report that well known and highly respected member Howard Moser has been ill. Get well soon Howard.

Demographics

PNC² has at least one member from every state in the Union except three. We have nobody from Mississippi, Montana or South Dakota. We can also boast of members from four foreign countries; Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, and Germany. That's pretty good for a six year old "kid". It says something about collecting PNCs. Now where's that guy who said PNCs were a passing fad?

The Catalog

Headway is being made in putting together the new edition of the *Plate Number Coil Catalog*. To hasten things, editor Rich Nazar has farmed out some of the work to volunteers. The boss and his elves are hard at work. Please continue to be patient. There is a vast amount of digging to be done to get the facts on a lot of new (since the last edition) issues.

USPS Invitation

Member Bruce Menla, who is a tagging specialist, has been invited to go to USPS Headquarters in Washington, DC, to discuss tagging types and names. Somebody in the paper specifications section requested he bring the UV slides he has made so that the USPS can try to get on the collectors' tagging frequency. Speaking the same language surely would help. Maybe there's hope for progress.

Amend WH Flag Roll Sizes

Along with adding plate #13 to the White House Flag roll size chart from last month, enter plate #9 found in rolls of 100.

Another Gold

Congratulations (again) to Bill McMurray for winning another gold award for his *Tomorrow's Classics* exhibit at St. Louis Expo. Those who have not seen his PNCs of 1981, should at the first opportunity. Bill is doing good things for PNC collecting with his exhibit.

More Old Ones

This is not a new one, but Sam Frackman of California has found rolls of the 17c Electric Auto from plates 5/7 AB gap 5R. Unfortunately they have split numbers. Even so, Auto specialists may be interested in these. Post offices still have this material stashed away in obscure corners. Hunters take notice.

New Dollars

The new \$1 Seaplane from plate #3 has been found by Dick Koenig at the Tucson, Arizona, philatelic window.

"No Presses, Thank You."

In his regular *Linn's Stamp News* column of October 25, Ken Lawrence suggested PNC collectors write to protest the Postal Museum's refusal to display any presses, particularly the recently located Cottrell press. *Snippets* wholeheartedly supports this idea. With lots of vehicles, but precious few stamps and no stamp production machinery on display, this "museum" has been turned into a theme park. The mails go nowhere without proof of postage paid, no matter how many vehicles there are. Stamps and their making should be key to any postal museum. Welcome to Six Flags Over Washington, D.C. Write and complain.

Identity Crisis

This month's look-alike stamp is the 14c Ice Boat. It was first printed on the Cottrell press and later reprinted on the B press. The two types look identical, but there are several ways to tell them apart. The Cottrell printing used numbers 1 through 4; the B press used only plate #2. If a plate number is present, numbers 1,3 and 4 indicate the Cottrell press. If the number is 2, the presence of a line again indicates Cottrell. If there is no number present, short wave UV light will show block tagging from the B press or overall tagging from the Cottrell press.



Cut B press stamp superimposed on a Cottrell stamp. Note width difference at the right.

If you don't have a UV lamp (you should have one for today's PNC collecting), the Cottrell issue is 0.5mm wider than the B. By cutting a known stamp horizontally as in the illustration above, a perfect match is from the same press. A mismatch indicates the other press. Above, a cut B press example has been laid on top of a Cottrell stamp. The width difference can be seen at the "s" in 1880s.

COMMERCIAL COVERS

Installment #52

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

This month's article features the 10.1¢ Oil Wagon. It was originally issued on April 18, 1985 in Oil City, New Mexico. Numbers 1 tagged, and numbers 1 and 2 precancelled (black lines) exist. A revised version with a red service indicator was issued on June 27, 1988 in Washington, D.C. Plate numbers 2 and 3 exist in revised form. On both versions, the plate numbers are found every 52 stamps in a roll.

The earliest known usages of the 10.1¢ Oil Wagon PNCs on cover are as follows:

<u>Plate Number</u>	<u>Earliest Known Usage Date on Cover</u>
1 (tagged)	3/15/86
1 black precancel bars	10/29/86
2 black precancel bars	12/7/87
2 red service indicator	7/22/88
3 red service indicator	4/28/89

The tagged 10.1¢ PNC was issued primarily for stamp collectors. When found on cover, it's usually on collector mail. I have, however, seen an actual commercial cover usage of the 10.1¢ tagged Oil Wagon (a political solicitation). The black precancelled version was issued to meet the 10.1¢ 5-digit presort rate for third class bulk mail. That rate lasted until April 2, 1988. The black precancel versions were allowed to be used as authorized false franking until October 9, 1988. Commercial covers of the 10.1¢ black precance #1 are fairly easy to find for prices around \$5 each. 10.1¢ black precancel #2 covers are quite a bit tough to find than #1's, but prices are fairly reasonable at around \$10.

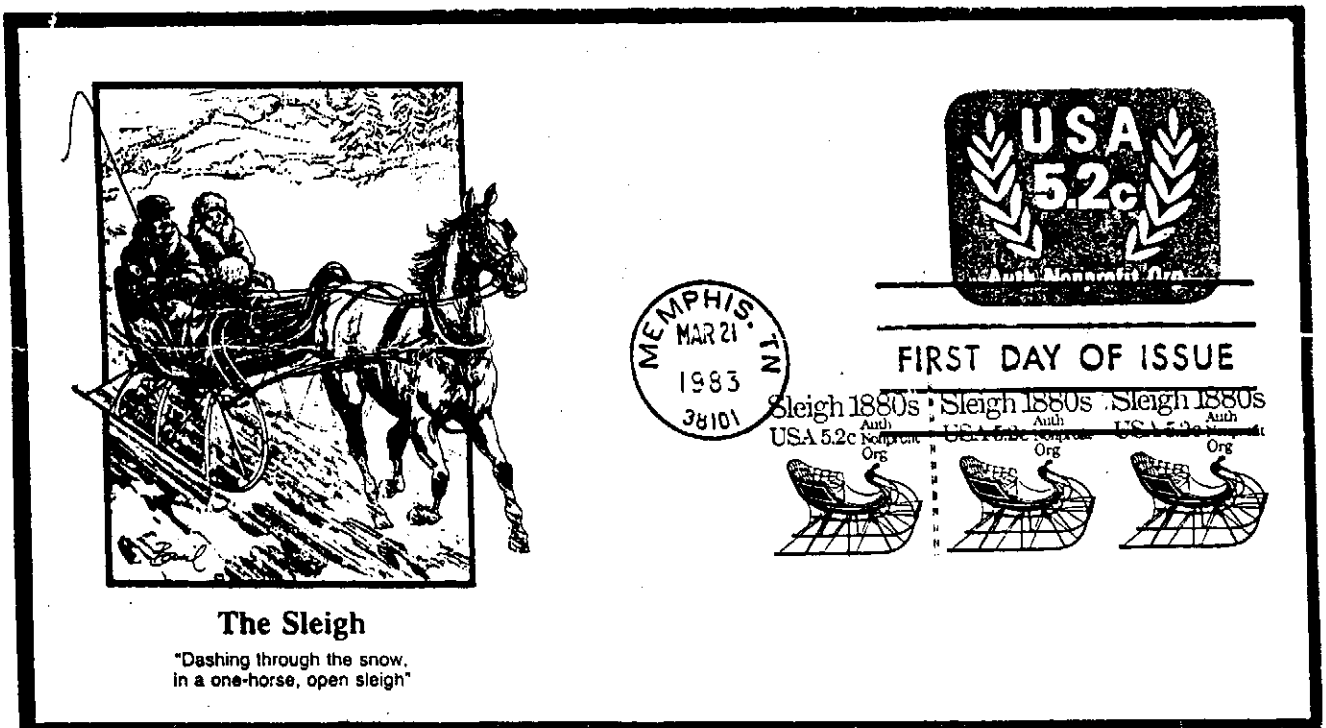


**Chevy Chase improves
the Gold Card...
with 14.9% APR.**

The red service indicator version was issued to meet the 10.1¢ third class bulk rate for mail sorted to the individual carrier route. This rate had gone into effect on April 3, 1988 and lasted until February 3, 1991. The red service indicator Oil Wagon was authorized false franking until March 1, 1992. Covers of both numbers 2 and 3 are still pretty easy to find at prices around \$5 each.

I received one new EKU cover report this month...9.3¢ (tagged) #1 (11/28/82). Please remember to send me the names of the mass mailers of your junk mail PNC covers. I'm especially trying to gather more information on 10¢ Eagle/Shield PNC covers for a future article. Please drop me a line regarding your holdings. Thanks. Happy Holidays!

Cover of the Month



The above first day cover featuring the 5.2¢ Sleigh #1 shows the plate number mostly at top. (Cover courtesy of Juan Rivera.) (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.)

PNC award winners

OCTOBER 1-3 ST. LOUIS STAMP EXPO '93, St. Louis,
Missouri.

SILVER FRANK L. SHIVELY, JR. M.D.; National Cash
Register "Ticket" Meters

SILVER JOYCE KIRK; Smokey Bear

GOLD BILL McMURRAY; TOMORROW'S CLASSICS (U.S. Flag
& Transportation Coil Issues of 1981) also
the APS Medal of Excellence post 1940

OCTOBER 8-10 SECAL 93; Sponsored by the Federated
Philatelic Clubs of Southern California which
hosted the Champion of Champion type competition
for young collectors.

SECAL AWARD CHARLES J. VUKOTICH III; "False Frankings and
U.S. Bulk Letter Rates" and also the Fran
Jennings Memorial Award.

SILVER-BRONZE GRACE E. MARCHESE; "USPS SOUVENIR PAGES"

OCTOBER 24 THAMESPEX 93; Sponsored by the Thames Stamp
Club at Mitchell College, New London, CT

GOLD JEFFREY L. ORREN; FILATELIC FREAKS, also the
PNC3 Achievement Award and the Most Popular
Award voted by visitors.

SILVER ALPHONSE D. PONZILLO; UNITED STATES GREAT
AMERICAN SERIES

SILVER E.V. CHADWICK; THE ELECTRIC AUTO, also the AAPE
Award of Honor Silver Pin, the PNC3
President's Award and the PNC3 Achievement
Award. The Silver Award was with Felicitations
of the Jury.

SHOWS REQUESTING PNC3 AWARDS 1994

ARIZONA

JANUARY 7-9

ARIPEX 94, Sponsored by the Arizona Federation of Stamp Clubs
to be held at the Mesa Community Center, Mesa, Arizona.
This is a WSP Show and they are making us welcome, we will
be having a PNC3 Regional Meeting and we are looking for
speakers on any level to hold seminars on PNC's.
Info on the above may be obtained from Mike Swartz, P.O. Box
50502, Phoenix, AZ 85076

Redwood City Seed Co.
P. O. Box 361
Redwood City, California 94064 USA



Redwood City Seed Co.
P. O. Box 361
Redwood City, California 94064 USA

THIS WAS THE FIRST
DAY OF USE - IT
RAINED THAT DAY &
THE INK ON THE TOP
ENVELOPE OF BUNDLES



Postage Due

moved, no order

Kenneth Lichman
1396 Furrysylvania Ave.
Baltimore, Md. 21223

UNUSUAL LABEL OVER THE
HANDSTAMP BUT
WAS REMOVED BY
A CURIOUS POSTAL WORKER

CRAIG DREMANN
P.O. BOX 361
REDWOOD CITY 94064

TIME VALUE

Returned Postage Guaranteed By Sender



REDWOOD CORNER

BY RICHARD LEARN

I WAS GLAD TO CONTINUE TO HEAR FROM FELLOW COLLECTORS OF "REDWOOD CITY POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS" COVERS THIS LAST MONTH, AND I AM FEATURING TWO COVER SENT IN TO ME BY TWO OF THEM THIS MONTH. BOTH OF THESE COVERS HAVE NOTES FROM MR. DREMANN ON THEM.

THE FIRST COVER WAS SENT IN BY JIM (SEE RIGHT COVER ABOVE) AND HAD A NOTE THAT READS "THIS UNIQUE COVER HAD A LABEL OVER THE HANDSTAMP BUT WAS REMOVED BY A CURIOUS POSTAL WORKER". THIS COVER IS A 13XU8A AND THE ONLY EXAMPLE OF THE LARGE LABEL, A2, FOREST GREEN COVER RETURN TO MR. DREMANN.

THE SECOND COVER WAS SENT IN BY CHEV (SEE LEFT COVER ABOVE) THIS COVER HAD A NOTE THAT READ "THIS WAS THE FIRST DAY OF USE. IT RAINED THAT DAY & INK RAN ON THE TOP ENVELOPE OF BUNDLES CD". THIS COVER IS A 13XU3 WITH A CIRCULAR RED LABEL WITH A GREEN "D" ON IT. THIS RED LABEL WITH CIRCULAR "D" INDICATES THIS COVER WAS THE TOP ENVELOPE OF A BUNDLES OF 20 COVERS PREPARED BY MR. DREMANN FOR DIRECT MAILING. BOTH OF THESE COVERS ARE UNIQUE AND MUST OF BEN QUITE A SURPRISE TO JIM & CHEV.

MR. DREMANN HAS A GREAT IDEA, SEND A REDWOOD CITY POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS COVER TO A CHILD ON YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST. ENCLOSE A CARD AND MR. DREMANN WILL SEND IT ALONG WITH THE COVER. PLEASE ONLY ONE PER ADDRESS OR CHILD. TO ORDER YOUR COVER SEE THE MAY 1993 ISSUE OF COIL LINE.

IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED AN INTERESTING "REDWOOD CITY POSTMASTER'S PROVISIONALS" COVER PLEASE SEND ME A GOOD COPY OF IT AND I WILL TRY TO USE IT IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF THE COIL LINE.

SEND COPIES OF YOUR COVERS TO:

RICHARD L. LEARN
154 KENDALE DR.
SAFETY HARBOR, FL. 34695

MR DREMANN HAD 15 COVERS WITH LABELS THAT THERE "RETURN TO SENDER". FORTUNATELY BEFORE MR DREMANN HAD SENT OUT ANY OF THE LABEL COVERS I WAS ABLE TO FIND OUT FROM HEM THE BRAKE DOWN OF THE COVERS HE HAD. THE FOLLOWING IS THE BRAKE DOWN OF THESE LABELED COVERS:

TYPE	CANCEL	COLOR	LABEL SIZE	QTY.
13XU5	A1	MAGENTA	SMALL LABEL	NONE
13XU5A	A1	MAGENTA	LARGE LABEL	1
13XU6	A1	FOREST GREEN	SMALL LABEL	5
13XU6A	A1	FOREST GREEN	LARGE LABEL	1
13XU7	A2	MAGENTA	SMALL LABEL	NONE
13XU7A	A2	MAGENTA	LARGE LABEL	5
13XU8	A2	FOREST GREEN	SMALL LABEL	2
13XU8A	A2	FOREST GREEN	LARGE LABEL	1
				NOTE
			TOTAL	15

NOTE 13XU8A QTY. ONE. LABEL TURN OFF BY POST OFFICE (SEE ABOVE RIGHT COVER)



Bulk Rate

Partial cover with regular stamp as bulk rate

David H. Clark of Malabar, FL found this piece of a commercial cover in the trash can at his local post office. "Try as I might, I couldn't find the rest of it, so I have no idea who the mailer is/was." The cover that exists shows no instance the cover had any cancellation. Anyone else have an idea who the mailer might have been?

COIL LINE

Published monthly as the journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, also known as PNC³. Copy must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month to be considered for the next issue. The October issue was mailed Oct. 25
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, NH 03261. Back issues are available but please write to Alan in advance detailing what you would like to obtain. Please include an SASE so that Alan can reply to the request. There is a charge to cover costs.

Changes of address: Should be sent to and membership applications are available from Joann Lenz, Secretary, 37211 Alper Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48312-2203.

Dues: Are \$10 per year (\$15 if First Class mailing of Coil Line is desired, \$15 for Canada and Mexico and \$20 for all others) and should be sent to Gene Ernst, Treasurer, 15522 Windy Cove, Houston, TX 77095-1908.

Advertising rates: are \$42 for a full page, \$22.50 for one-half page and \$12 for one-quarter page per issue. A check or money order payable to PNC³ must be submitted with the advertising copy. All copy should be sent to the editor, 909 Parker St., Bowling Green, OH 43402.

Members: are entitled to two, 40-word ads per year at no charge. Word ads are available at six cents per word per month to nonmembers or those members who have used their free ads.

**10¢ Shield
Broken Yellow 1 PS5 F-VF**

12213 \$100.00 net

**Michael B. Lipson
Box 2543
Reston, VA 22090**

ARIPEX 94

APS CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS SHOW

January 7, 8, 9, 1994

Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mesa, Arizona
15mi. East of Phoenix
Mesa Community Center

*International Meeting SOSSI
Scouts on Stamps Society International

*Regional Meeting PNC³
Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

*U.S.P.S. Philatelic Station with show cancel

*U.N.P.A. Philatelic Station

*A.B.N.C. ARIPEX Souvenir Card

*300 Adult Frames with authentic Hopi Kachina Grand Award

*50 - One Frame Open Exhibition

*Federal Duck Stamp Office

Host Hotel; Sheraton Mesa next door to Community Center. \$67 for 1-2 people; \$87 for 3-4 people. Ask for ARIPEX Rate 1-800-456-6372.

For Flight & Rental Cars call: Gulliver's Travels 1-800-848-4920, Ext. 3504 and mention ARIPEX.

Attention Exhibitors: For a Prospectus mailed ASAP call T-S 602-468-1444 or M-S 602-878-2080.

**For Show Information Send SASE to:
ARIPEX, P.O. Box 50502, Phoenix, AZ 85076**

ON THE EXHIBIT TRAIL

PART VIII

Bill Mc Murray
P.O. Box 342, Westerly, RI 02891

This month we feature the work of Richard Lucia and his exhibit, "Twenty-Cent Fire Pumper". His exhibit was awarded the PNC3 Achievement Award, American First Day Cover Society Award and a Bronze at ThamesPex 92.

Below I will continue my response to the StampShow 91 Judges comments from Part II.

COMMENT: Frame 10 page 15, 2 covers to same address from same sender showing use of 9.3c "to pay 9c of 45c international rate" is overkill, particularly since they are philatelic and overfranked. One is enough!

RESPONSE: Disagree because what is being shown are Plates No. 1 and No. 2 which are two different stamps. Also, one is paying the 39c Aerogram Rate and the other is paying the 45c International 1\2 ounce rate. Concur that these covers are philatelic but the tagged 9.3c stamps had no commercial usage and were only sold at Philatelic Centers. Concur that covers are .3c overpaid and will revise pages to report overpayment.

COMMENT: Frame 10 page 16, this "conclusion" is not included in the plan at frame 1 page 2.

RESPONSE: The conclusion was included in the plan but my page is crowded and it must have been below the page holder after I mounted it. This illustrates the point of leaving about a inch and a half from the bottom of your pages so write up will not be covered up. I will revise my page to make sure the conclusion shows on page two.

Part IX will feature the work of Dean Hawk and his exhibit, "UNITED STATES Classic Transportation".

TWENTY-CENT FIRE PUMPER

The Fire Pumper shown is now a tourist attraction located in Alexandria, VA. It was purchased in 1871. The Pumper was pulled by two horses, and carried a boiler producing steam to operate a suction-type engine that could pump water from any available source.



TWENTY-CENT FIRE PUMPER

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- III. MINT STRIPS OF THREE
- IV. PURPLE INK CANCELS
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 - 2. Different Postal Usages
 - B. First Day Covers
 - 1. Plate Numbers 1 thru 6
 - 2. Hand Painted Cover
- VI. ERROR'S, FREAKS AND ODDITIES (EPO's)
- VII. CONCLUSION

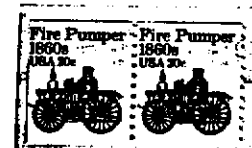
COIL PACKAGING AND LABELS

Coil packaging machines cut the stamps into the different size rolls. This results in a straight edge on the first and last stamp of each roll.

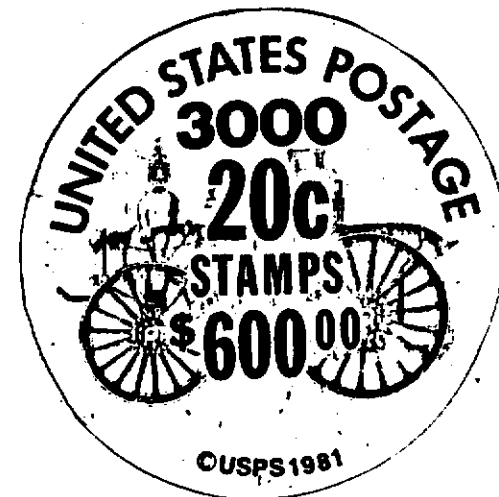
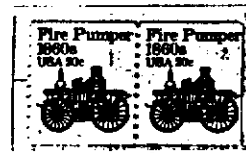
The twenty-cent Fire Pumper was issued in rolls of 100, 500, and 3000. Shown here are the labels displaying what was sealed inside each roll.



First stamp off the roll with straight edge.

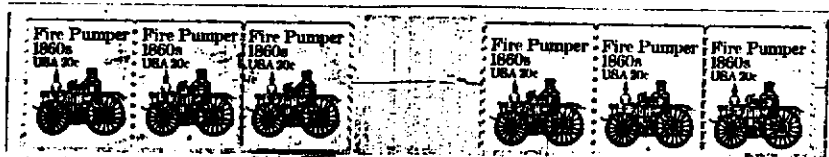
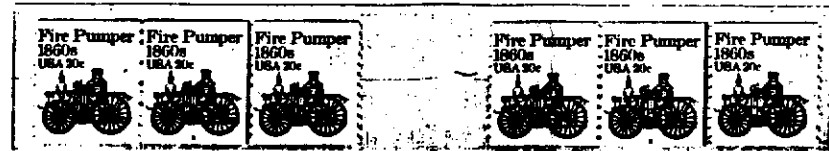


Last stamp off the roll with straight edge.



MINT STRIPS OF THREE

The founding document of plate number coil collecting is a news release from the US Postal Service dated December 10, 1980. Philatelic Release #82 was titled "USPS ANNOUNCES NEW PLATE NUMBER SYSTEM." The brief reference to coils in the 1980 document said that "single-digit numbers will be printed at 24 stamp intervals on single-color coils and 52 stamp intervals on multi-color coils."



PURPLE INK CANCELS

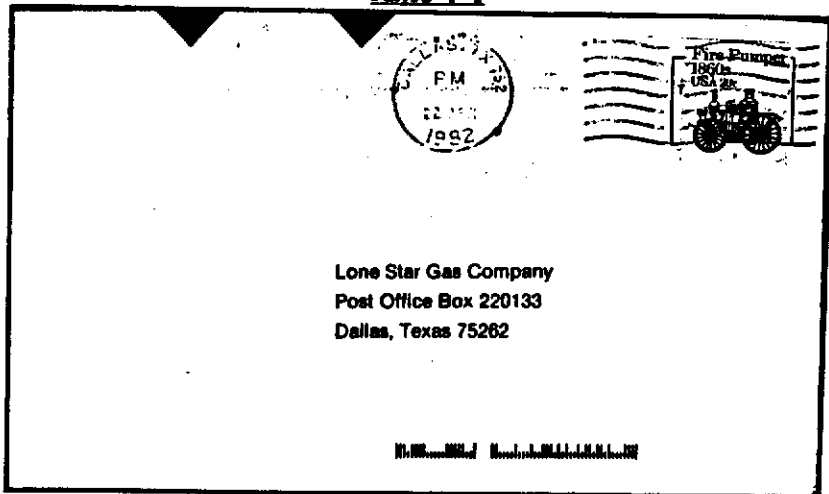
Purple ink was used on an experimental basis between 1981 and 1984. This new ink was to replace the black ink which was botching up all the new equipment. There was also a lot of dissatisfaction with the results of the purple ink and it was discontinued by 1984. The percentage of mail canceled with purple ink peaked at only 33% of all canceled mail in mid 1982. By May of that year the USPS announced that the purple ink would be phased out of service.



COMMERCIAL COVERS

The third transportation coil stamp, the twenty-cent Fire Pumper, was issued in Alexandria, Virginia on December 10, 1981. Its purpose was to cover the twenty-cent first class rate that had gone into effect on November 1, 1981.

PLATE # 1



COMMERCIAL COVERS

During the twenty-cent first class rate period, plates 12 and 14 received spotty geographic distribution. This made it difficult to collect. These two numbers were paired on the press and occur on the same rolls. As of 1990, they also have the lowest number (58,177) of recorded impressions of any transportation coil stamp issued.

PLATE # 12

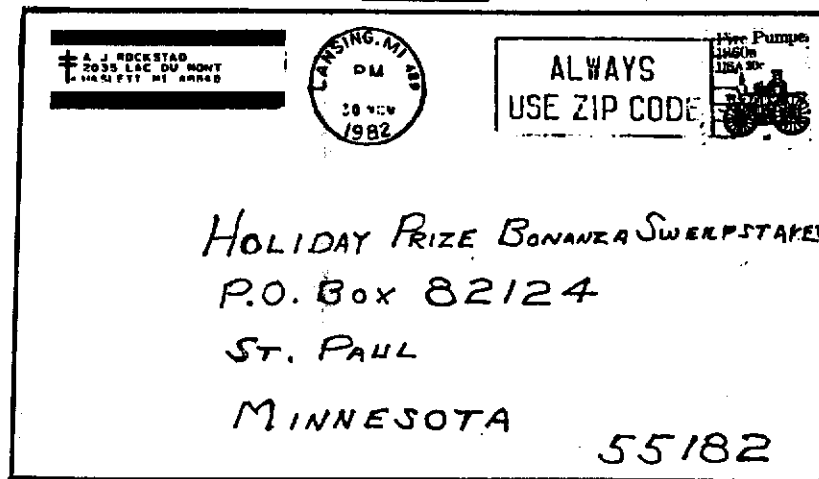


PLATE # 14

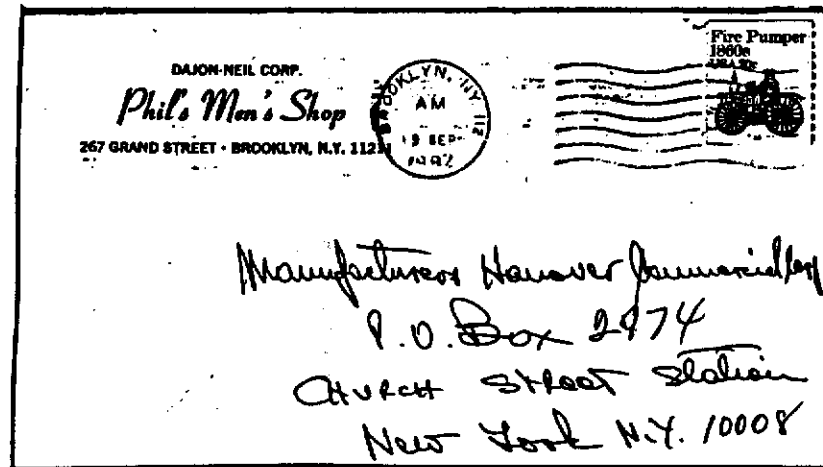
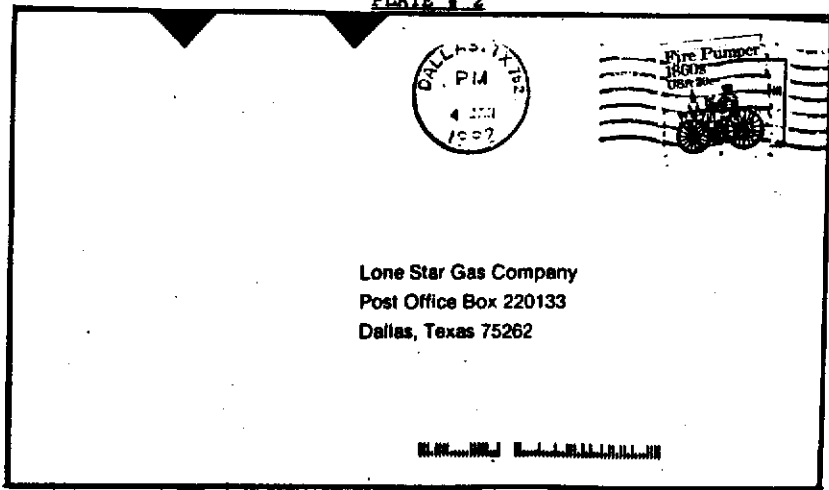


PLATE # 2



POSTAL USAGE COVER

This commercial cover has thirty-seven cents postage, which was the correct amount for two ounces in September of 1982.



Mr. Ed Mitchell
 COMAY Insurance
 715 Twining Road
 Dresher, PA 19025

The Northwest
 MAIL ADJUSTERS of Spokane, Washington
 P.O. Box 14108 • Spokane, Washington 99214

FIRST DAY COVERS

First Day Covers are covers bearing a cancel dated with the official issue date. This is normally the day before the stamp is placed on sale nationwide. The following First Day Covers display different plate numbers on the stamp.

PLATE # 1

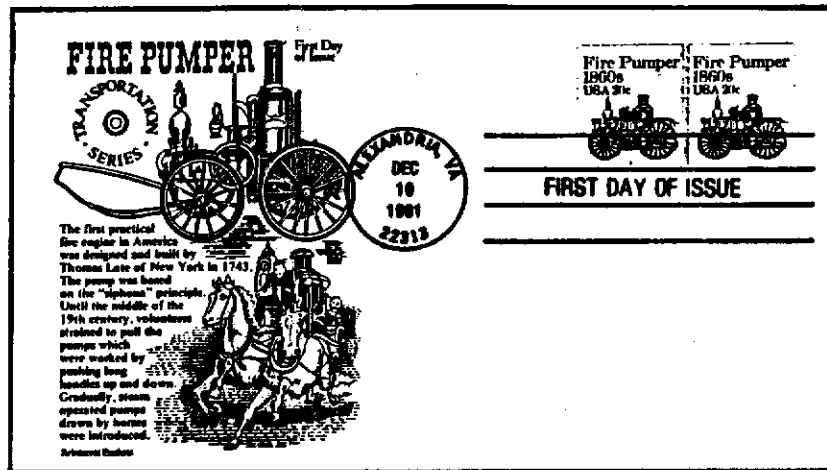
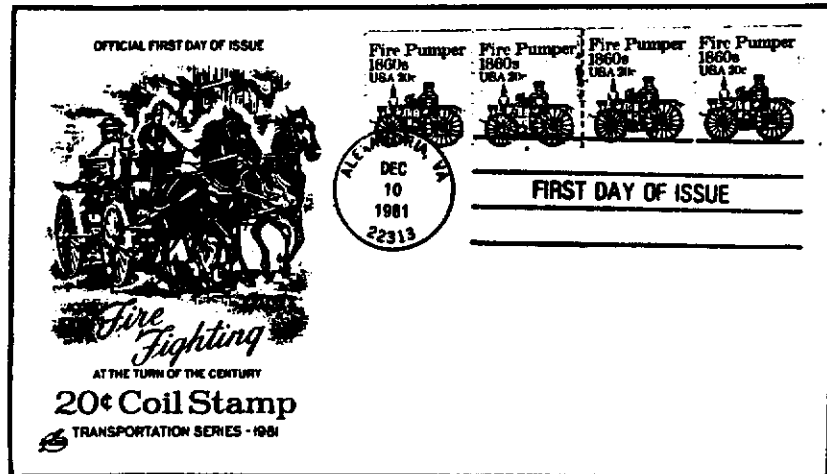


PLATE #2



FIRST DAY COVERS

Plate #7 and #8 did not go to press until January 22, 1982. Evidently, the extended grace period for submitting serviced FDC's accounts for these covers, known only on Bazaar cacheted envelopes.

Plate # 3

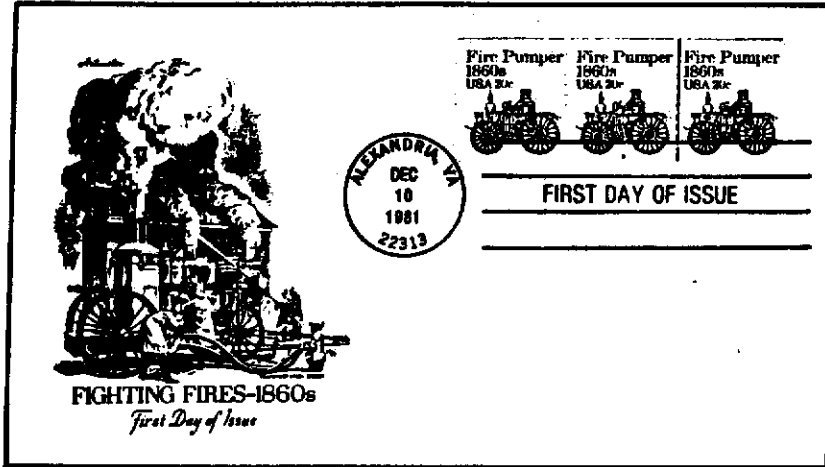
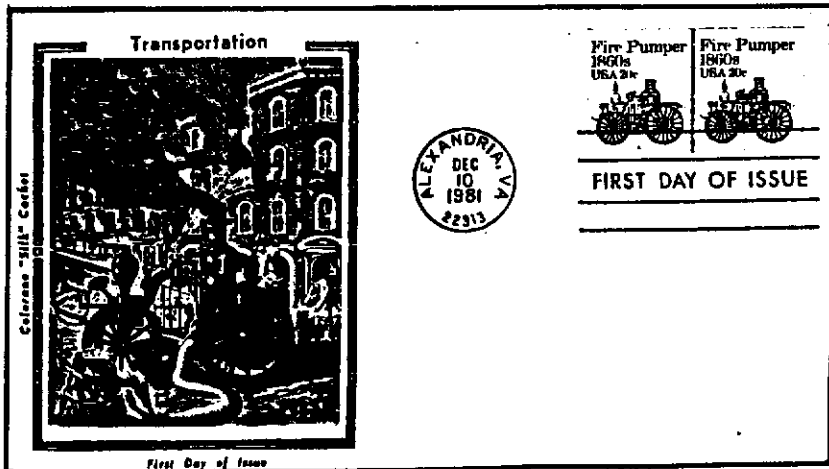


Plate # 4



FIRST DAY COVERS

Plate #10 did not go to press until February 6, 1982. Only one FDC is known with that number, which was discovered in 1989. Either its maker, the late George Alexander, was granted an extension of time beyond the grace period, or else it was canceled as a replacement for a damaged cover.

PLATE # 5

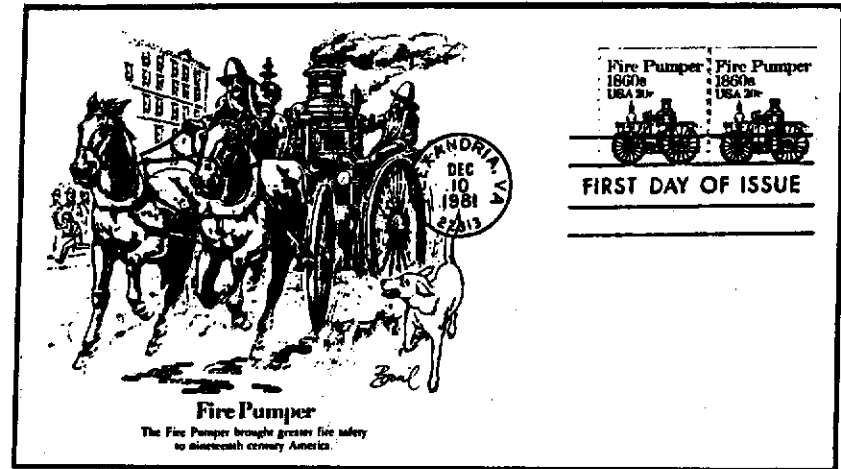


PLATE # 6



Membership

Names of applicants are published for members to review. Any member who questions the suitability of a prospect should contact the Chairperson of the Membership Committee, Joann Lenz, 37211 Alper Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48312-2203 with the objection. The committee will recommend for or against membership.

New applicants:

Lawrence E. Mertens
107 Oakview Dr.
Goshen, OH 45122

James Lowery
538 Delp Road
Souderton, PA 18964-2149

Garett Greenwald
511 1/2 3rd St. W
Ashland, WI 54806-1517

Victor E. Engstrom
2655 Pebble Beach Dr.
Clearwater, FL 34621

J. Keith Young
Rt. 3 Box 218
Lubbock, TX 79401-9750

Max D. Hickox
Box 21081
Denver, CO 80221

James L. Simpkins
4364 Baywood Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684-3804

Dene Hammond
P.O. Box 57
Hallsville, MO 65255

J.A. Mumy
17 Wolfe Ave.
San Rafael, CA 94901

If all applicants are accepted, membership will reach 701. New membership this year is 127.

Changes of address

C. Alan Worth Jr.
16061 S. 38th Way
Phoenix, AZ 85044

William Prickett
3339 Hwy. 25 N #58
Northport, WA 99157

Les Berglass
515 E. 72nd St.
New York, NY 10021-4018

Leon Roberts
PO Box 6684
Cheyenne, WY 82003-6684

William F. Burke
3219C Flowers Rd. S
Atlanta, GA 30341

Wolfgang Schon
Augustinum #346
D 21521 Aumuehle
Germany

Ads

"SHIELD, FIVE BARS, POINTED closed top, Type 2." Official cacheted show card franked with PNS 5 of the VRC. \$7.00 each. Send orders to: Waterbury Stamp Club, P.O. Box 581, Waterbury, CT 06720. Available Jan. 23, 1994.

WANTED: FIRE PUMPER plate 6 on commercial cover with purple machine cancel and readable date from 20c rate period. Will buy or trade my PNC commercial covers some with purple machine cancels. Ken Cherry, 43 W. Constitution Ave., Spring Grove, PA 17362.

VARIABLE RATE COILS MY SPECIALTY! 1c to 18c shiny gum singles - \$50, same in PNC5s - \$1,275.00; for comprehensive price list with shiny and dull gums, se-tenant strips, EFOs, FDCs, send a SASE to: ANAGRAM, 6301 Poindexter, Rockville, MD 20852.

MODERN POSTAL HISTORY FOR SALE. Diverse stock of U.S. covers. Commercial usages. No FDCs. PNC covers are just part of my stock. Very strong in Great Americans postal history. Contact me now for any 20th century cover needs. Rick Lancaster, P.O. Box 428, Skowhegan, ME 04976.

BEAUTIFUL HAND-COLORED PNC FDCs; 50 or less of each made. Most \$6 to \$10; other FDCs including popular topics also available. For comprehensive lists, send 52c LSASE to: ANAGRAM, 6301 Poindexter, Rockville, MD 20852.

WANTED: USED SCOTT PNC ALBUMS. Single and PNC strips. Will trade PNCs or ? Also looking for some PS-7 and 9. What do you have, need? Happy Holidays to all! George W. Martin, P.O. Box 10962, Burbank, CA 91510-0962.