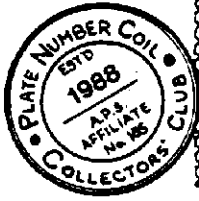


PNC³

Coil Line



Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club PNC³

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/6283/>

May 1, 1998

Vol. 11, No. 5

Whole Number 117

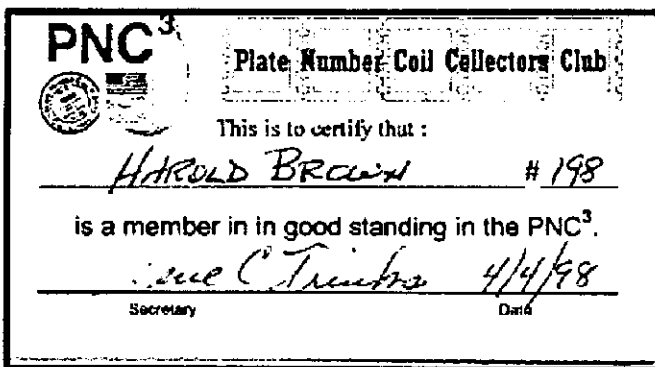
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(419) 352-7900 (Also Fax#)



Above is an example of the membership cards the club is now using. The card is nearly entirely the product of Ken Cherry. Thanks, Ken, it's quite an improvement over the 'basic' card that's been in use since the beginning of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club.

Update on the PNC³ website

By Ron Maifeld
PNC Webmaster

It's been well over half a year now since the PNC³ Web Page went online. During that time I have accomplished many of the goals that I set for the site, which is located at <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/6283/>.

The biggest project from the beginning was to provide enough 'meat' to keep people coming back for more. I think that I accomplished that on two fronts: The list of US Philatelic offices is online and I am receiving updates to the data on a regular basis. Secondly, and probably the most used portion of the site is the listing of locations for new plate numbers. Many people contribute information on their finds, but I would like to include more offices where the new numbers have been found.

The information on where new numbers can be found is very much appreciated by those browsing the web as attested by many thank you notes from grateful collectors. A

(Continued on page 74)

Eca-Gard machines retired

The possible disappearance of the Eca-Gard coil stamp vending machines has been confirmed. The removal from service of the Monterey Park, CA machine was reported in the Feb. 1, *Coil Line* and a letter in the March issue indicated something was up (or down) in Ann Arbor, MI.

The April 20, 1998 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* confirmed the machines were to be removed from service by the end of February. Some were still in service at that time but it's likely all have been de-activated by now.

The machines were first installed in 1992. Although without a maintenance contract for a couple of years, some of the machines remained in service. The one at the main Ann Arbor post office had been very popular with customers. The Ann Arbor machines also received frequent visits from the active coil collecting community in the Michigan-Ohio-Indiana-Illinois area. The last Ann Arbor machine was taken



out of service approximately March 31. The downtown Detroit post office also had a machine for several years. More than once a carload of members attending the Regional Meetings at the Plymouth Show made run downtown from the suburbs to try to come up with something unique for their collections.

It will be interesting to see if the market prices react.

Letters

Thoughts on Maeder's "Musings" Article

To the Editor:

Just some of my thoughts on Tom Maeder's piece "Musings" in the March 1, 1998 *Coil Line*.

It seems to me that we must remember the name of our club "PLATE NUMBER Coil Collectors Club". To me, the definition of a plate number stamp is one with a Plate number deliberately inscribed on the stamp itself. At the time of its first appearance it happened to be on the 18c Flag coil and thus a new philatelic genre was born.

[Thank God for the beautiful PN6 18c Flag]. This was a Postal Service permutation, which has recurred on booklet stamps, so far on 32c Yellow Rose and 32c Statue of Liberty stamps. These, too, have PNs deliberately inscribed on the stamps themselves. Thus any stamp so inscribed qualifies as my concern, therefore, is not a moot point for inclusion in our esteemed newsletter.

It seems to me that members of PNC3 are entitled to collect PN stamps in whatever form or variety appealing to themselves without having to consider themselves as second class citizens.

It is possible, with more P. S. permutations, that coil stamps, as such, may no longer be issued, what with self-adhesives and no-backing forms. Does this mean that purists in the PNC3 will reach a collector's dead-end? I hope not. I try to keep an open mind in my collector goals.

There may be winds of change in our hobby, but in my opinion, let the wind blow only PN stamps to our newsletter and let all PN collectors catch their own breezes.

I'm awfully glad that things occurring in our club do not upset me and that I enjoy all the fresh breezes no matter which way they blow! I'm delighted that I was able to renew my membership for 1998 and with the Good Lord willing and if the creek doesn't run dry, I'll renew in 1999!

Best regards,
Rolly Grandahl,
PNC3RLG@aol.com

Take Maeder's 'Musings' message to heart

To the Editor:

Tom Maeder's 'Musings' article should be taken to heart by just PNC members but collectors in general. When the 18c Flag coil arrived, I had been collecting used line pairs for years. So my first coil of Scott 1891 was saved in pairs. Wrong! The standard seemed to gravitate toward strips of three with the number in the center. Wrong! No it looks like strips of five is the standard. Then came the self-stick issues that couldn't be saved as real strips. Then USPS started putting numbers on booklet stamps. My latest revelation came when I ordered a plate number strip of the current 32c Pink Rose

just to get one example. Yes, the number was there on one stamp, but this Pink Rose stamps was perfed on four side and positioned on backing paper just like the self-stick coils. Whew!

My suggestion to PNC collectors is to lighten up. It is just a hobby. Collect what interests you the most and don't become obsessed with completeness. Let the dealers and investors chase every mutation that comes along while you enjoy the diversion and relaxation of your hobby.

Charles Miller
907 Wade Ave.
Garner, NC 27529-4260

Puzzlements and concerns about the club

To the Editor:

As a recent member of the club, I thought I would write expressing some puzzlements and concerns.

I've collected stamps for over 50 years-used Canada, worldwide perfins and used U.S. plate number singles. PNCs (and recent booklet numbered singles) fit well with the plate numbers on almost all earlier U.S. coil and booklet issues.

So, about 15 years ago, I started accumulating used PNCs. I sorted by issue, plate number, tagging and paper varieties. I also early on saw plate cracks and other interesting varieties. A puzzle over the years has been variation in font and typeface of the plate numbers themselves. Again, those have been separated.

I've prepared check lists using dealer's sales literature, Linn's trends, etc. I've looked at the Esrati Catalog (not too useful) and other standard sources.

So, finally, I joined PNC3 and sent for all the back issues I was allowed to get. Even with Alan Thomson's help I still lack the first 20 or so issues.

I sat down, reading *Coil Line* from my earliest issues, ready to learn about reported varieties, variations, etc. I was amazed to discover that what I expected to find was never covered. After reading 90 issues, I assume that PNC stands for Plate Number Covers, since most of what is written is devoted to EKU's or covers.

I suppose that *Coil Line*'s coverage is what the membership wants, but it seems sad that so much is ignored. For example:

- 1) A letter asking about 20c WH with #1s, with and without serif is in issue 75. No response of any kind, ever.
- 2) In issue 81, under New Old Stuff mention is made in passing for E&S's having a similar font for plate number digits. Again, never any follow up or details.
- 3) In issue 95, in a letter detailing PNCs in a mix, FOP 45444 with large 5 is mentioned. So far as I can tell, this is the only mention of this variety in *Coil Line*.
- 4) Issue 108, a letter 'Some issue seem to be ignored.' All too true.
- 5) Issue 110, mentioned in passing, 9.9999 has a red dot. This seems to be the in-depth coverage of this variety.

(Continued on next page)

Letters

(Continued from previous page)

There are dozens of obvious variations in font size or typeface in the numerals on PNCs. There are, of course, distortions due to printing, etc. I am not talking about these. The 'thin' and 'fat' numerals on different paper types are a special case.

I guess these varieties are too well known to report in any detail in *Coil Line*, or perhaps you fear you will be 'competing' with various catalogs or media.

So, I must assume that in the future such varieties will continue to receive no mention and that with luck I may find them reported in *Linn's*?

Yes, there are many good features in *Coil Line* but lack of interest in the plate numbers themselves was startling.

Patrick Fetta

P.O. Box 710

Pasadena, CA 91102

Does 'A' suffix' on the FOP solve problem?

To the Editor:

Having examined the new FOP self adhesive coil with the following numbers: 11111A, 13211A, 13231A, 13311A, 22222A, 33333A, 44444A, one has to come to realize that color for the suffix 'A' is the same as the last brown digit, which runs from 1 through 4, up to now.

For sure, the brown plate number is new. But how can one be assured of the first four digits? There is really no proof unless they are published in the plate activity report.

We will probably feel more comfortable if another well-known scheme is utilized: Alphanumeric letters. In computers, one used the so-called hex-numbers. Canada even uses alphanumeric letters for its postal codes.

If BEP can not really engrave 10, 11, 12 . . . , it can certainly use A (=10), B (=11), . . . Z (=35), providing enough room to uniquely identify each coded plate number. If a private printer is invoked, a period can be used to separate the printer code from the plate codes. Such as S.1111.

Eugene Liu

P.O. Box 52

Downey, CA 90241-0052

Results of search through 150-pound mixture

To the Editor:

Here's a report on PNCs found on clippings from 150 pounds of mission mixture gathered from a convent in Massachusetts. The mixture was obtained in early December 1997. If, after reading this report, any PNC3 member is interested in obtaining a bulk shipment of unpicked mixture from this source, they should write to me with an SASE for the amount they wish to receive and the type of franking they would like on the package. I will write back with details on the cost.

FOP - 11111-36 (did not separate 1995 from 1996); 22222-53; 23222-5; 33333-31; 34333-3; 44444-42;

45444-19; 55555-15; 66646-4; 66666-87; 77767-3; 78777-26; 87898-1; 88888-16; 89878-3; 89888-5; 89898-3; 97898-6; 99969-6; 99999-171.

Butte S111-43; S222-16; S333-14.

Mountain - S111-4; 1111-6.

Auto - S111-1 S222-1; S333-1.

Washington 33333-1

Red G- S111-4; S2222-4; Blue G FC presort S1111-2.

USA - 1111-2 S111-1 (Purple)

Eagle & Shield - 15 items, three of which were A88888, 2-S1111

Jukebox - S1111-3; 11111-3; S22222-2; 22222-1; 21222-1; 33222-1.

Tractor Trailer - 1-1; 22-3.

Ferryboat - 2-1; 3-6; 4-2; 5-1.

Canoe - 1-1; 2-3; 3-8; Gravure S11-1.

Blue Jay - S111-1; Misc. Transportation 35, Flag over 9, G's 14; Tulips -6.

Charles Eson

128 Western Ave.

Altamont, NY 12009

Commercial covers-Southern New England

To the Editor:

In the Southern New England area these PNCs and PNBs were found on commercial covers from about 120,000 pieces postmarked February 27 through April 2, 1998:

32c Flag/Porch [L/S]- 11111- 1; 22222- 1; 33333- 2; 34333-2; 44444- 2; 77767- 1; 91161- 1; 99969- 1.

Total- 11.

32c Flag/Porch [S/A]- 11111 [1996]- 2; 22222- 19; 23222- 24; 33333- 11; 44444- 112; 45444- 118; 55555 [10/10]- 39; 55555 [12/12]- 3; 66666 [11/10]- 4; 66666 [11/12]- 56; 66666 [12/2]- 26; 78777 [11/10]- 25; 88888 [10/10]- 2; 88888 [11/10]- 4; 89878 [11/10]- 13; 89888 [11/10]- 3; 89898 [10/10]- 2; 89898 [11/10]- 2; 89899 [10/10]- 1; 97898 [11/10]- 3; 99999 [10/10]- 25; 99999 [11/10]- 96; 9.9999 [11/10]- 3; 11111A [10/10]- 5; 13311A [10/10]- 8; 22222A [10/10]- 5; 33333A [10/10]- 1. Total- 612.

32c Yellow Rose [S/A][1997]- 1111- 3; 1112- 12; 1122- 5; 2222- 1; 4455-15; 5555- 31; 5556- 1; 5566- 19; 6666- 63; 7777- 56. Total- 206.

32c Statue of Liberty- PNB- V1111- 14.

32c Yellow Rose- PNB- S1111- 3.

Grand total: 846

Rolly Grandahl

via e-mail

Commercial cover report from Southwest

To the Editor:

This is a listing of the PNC commercial covers found March 1 through March 31, 1998 from a national insurance company.

(Continued on page 76)

SNIPPETS

By Alan Thomson

New Numbers

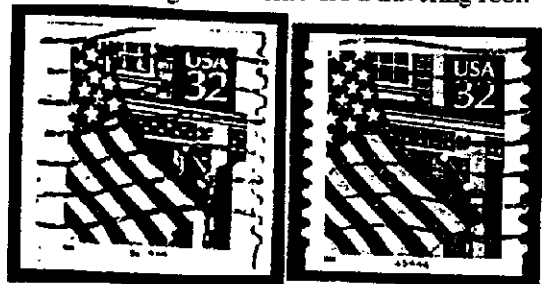
There are four new numbers this month, but this time they're not all Flag or Yellow Rose coils. The list of SA Flag numbers has been increased by #13211A and #44444A. Two members, **Richard Beecher** and **David Kemp**, reported finding used on cover examples of SA Juke Box #S22222. Beecher found his in his own mailbox. The surprise of the month, however, is the appearance of Canal Boat #4. The story about it appears below.

Withdrawn Coil Comes to Life

The 10¢ Canal Boat was withdrawn from sale early last year and was dropped from the roll size chart in the March 1998 issue of *Coil Line*. Now **Mike Courtney** has found a cover bearing three Canal Boats and two 1¢ Omnibus stamps with the left stamp in the strip of three Canal Boats showing the plate number 4. Mike says the stamps are an obvious soak-off from a contribution return envelope. Traces of glue show where they were put on an envelope that paid a bill. One can't help recall the similarity of this case to the last minute find of the 12.5¢ Pushcart tagged #2. The two cases differ in that the Pushcart was just days away from withdrawal when a California collector found a reuse envelope paying a dental bill, while the Canal Boat has actually been withdrawn. Some fast investigative work included a call to the BEP. During that call, a BEP representative stated that Canal Boat #4 was, at that very moment, running on the "F" press and the output was destined for rolls of 10,000. Obviously this was a second run for that plate. It's also obvious the printings are a special order and therefore very large. Special orders, because of their size, usually point to big users like DAV and *Readers' Digest*, but in the the current case there is evidence the order came from a large mailing house. Many small charities, possibly served by a mailing enterprise, have been using the Canal Boat/Omnibus combination. We should not panic about the availability of this plate number. Further investigation resulted in a promise from USPS that rolls from the latest printing would eventually be sent to the cave in Kansas City and be put on sale there. So much for withdrawal.

And 54444 Makes Three

The headline sounds like creative mathematics but it really heralds the third instance of a hopping cylinder number on the SA Flag coil. **Harry Rahn** has found a used copy of #45444 where the light blue cylinder number has hopped over the tan number to create what appears to be #54444. You may recall the preceding cases involved #89878 appearing as #98878 and last month's reported #87898 that looked like #78898. What's interesting is that the hopping cylinder always seems to be the light blue one. It's a traveling fool.

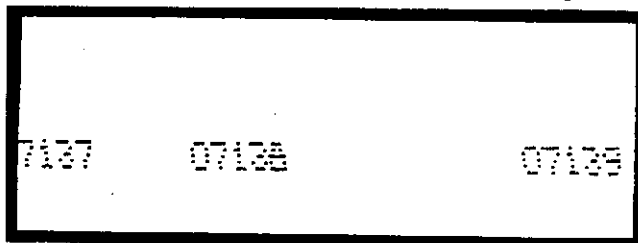


"54444"

45444

Free Stamp?

If a clerk used the back numbers to count out a partial roll purchase of the Avery Mountain SA coil, the buyer might unknowingly get a free stamp. **David Kemp** found a roll of these stamps with a skip in the back numbering. The photocopy below shows that the stamp between 07138 and 07139 has no number. The cylinder combination for this roll was #V333333 and appeared on the front of number 07133. A shift in the back number centering between 07133 and 07139 might lead one to suspect there was a splice, but there wasn't. Even if there were, it wouldn't explain the no number stamp.



Mixmaster

In the December 1997 *Coil Line* my article on coil processing at BEP described how the packaging machine was mixing different cylinder combinations in a flat of 50 bubble packs. The situation has gone to extremes. Just recently, **Don Eastman** found a flat of 50 SA Flags that contained four different numbers. To top that, another collector found five Yellow Rose numbers in a single flat. For that to happen the timing would have to be just right. Two of the three feeding machines would have to be near the end of a web roll and with new rolls mounted the numbers on the new rolls would have to differ from each of the preceding three. Long odds. The mixing makes it difficult to buy several rolls of one specific number from such flats.

Lunch Wagon Color Variation?

Several people have sent Lunch Wagon strips they believe are a lighter color than the norm. There is also a claim the paper is whiter. The latter may be true, but I am not convinced there is a true color variety. **Dick Koenig** sent a plain strip of seven to me that reinforces my belief. The two stamps on either end are the so-called light blue color while the three center stamps are the usual dark blue. This is indicative of an inking variation, possibly a wiping problem, rather than a color variety. **Dick** agrees.

Record Keepers

Is there a record keeper among you who, for whatever reason, has kept a list of all the USPS item numbers for PNC coils? As some may realize, different roll sizes of the same stamp have different stock numbers. If so, contact **Richard Nazar** or me. The information is needed for the PNC Catalog. And yes, the catalog is again being actively worked on.

Membership

Once again the renewal process is all but over. Current membership stands at 716. The losses included three deceased, 17 resignations and 59 people who just failed to respond. The list of those who simply drifted off included three individuals with member numbers below 200. Those three terminated 10 years of membership.

CURRENT ISSUE ROLL SIZES

04/10/98

KEY: A-100, B-500, C-3000, D-10000

EP - EMBEDDED PHOS
SP - SURFACE PHOS
BK - BLOCK TAG
OA - OVERALL TAG

UT - UNTAGGED
[xx] - NUMBER INTERVAL
(NL) - LINERLESS
* **NEW NUMBER**

Plate number intervals are shown in brackets following the stamp name. If more than one is indicated, the order is that in which the different printers' plate numbers are listed. Example: Juke Box [24] for BEP, [14] for SV.

32c PORCH FLAG [24][14]

#11111	A (SEMI-GLOSS)
#11111	B, C (SHINY)
#22221	B
#22222	A, B (SEMI-GLOSS)
#22222	C (SHINY)
#22322	A, B, C
#33333	A, C
#34333	B, C
#44444	A, B, C
#45444	A
#66646	A ALL
#66666	A 1995
#77767	A
#76767	A
#91161	A
#99969	A
#S11111	D

32c FLAG (SA)[24][21][20][7]

#11111	A
#22222	A
#23222	A
#33333	A
#44444	A
#45444	A
#55555	A
#66666	A
#78777	A
#87898	A
#87898	A
#88888	A ALL
#88898	A 1996
#89878	A
#89888	A
#89898	A
#89899	A
#97898	A
#99899	A
#99999	A
#11111A	A
#13211A*	A
#13231A	A
#13311A	A
#22222A	A
#33333A	A
#44444A*	A
#11111	C 1997
#S11111	D 1996
#V11111	5000 1995
#M11111	A 1996 (NL)

23c LUNCHWAGON [48]

#2	A, B, C
#3	A, B, C (SP)
#3	A (EP, DULL)
#3	A (EP, SHINY)
#4	A
#5	C

20c COG RAILWAY [48]

#1	A, B, C
#2	A, B

5c CIRCUS [52][24][14]

#1	B, C (OA)
#1	B, C (UT)
#A1	D
#A2	D
#A3	D
#S1	D
#S2	D

3c CONESTOGA [48]

#1	A, B, C [32]
#2	C
#3	C (DULL)
#3	C (SHINY)
#5	C
#6	C, D

32c ROSE (SA) [24]

#1111	A
#1112	A
#1122	A
#2222	A
#2223	A
#2333	A
#3344	A
#3444	A
#4455	A
#5455	A
#5555	A
#5556	A
#5666	A
#6666	A
#6677	A
#6777	A
#7777	A

20c BLUE JAY (SA) [14]

#S1111	A
--------	---

1c KESTREL [24]

#1111	B, C
-------	------

(5c) BUTTE [14]

#S111	C, D
#S222	C
#S333	C

(5c) BUTTE (SA) [21]

#S111	D
-------	---

(5c) MOUNTAIN [24][14]

#11111	B, C
#S111	D

(5c) MTN (SA) [21] [15]

#1111	C
#V222222	D
#V333323	D
#V333333	D
#V333342	D
#V333343	D

(10c) E & S (SA) [21]

#S11111	D
---------	---

(10c) AUTO [14]

#S111	B, C, D
#S222	B, D
#S333	B, C

(10c) AUTO (SA) [21]

#S111	D
-------	---

(15c) TAIL FIN [24][14]

#11111	C
#S11111	D

(15c) TAIL FIN (SA)[21]

#S11111	D
---------	---

(25c) JUKE BOX [24][14]

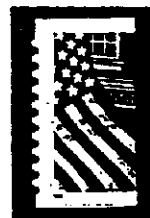
#111111	B, C
#212222	C
#222222	C
#322222	C
#S11111	D
#S22222	D

(25c) JUKE BOX (SA)[21]

#111111	C
#S11111	D
#S22222*	?
#M11111	D [7] (NL)

Flag Die Cut Types by Plate Number ('96 Flag)

Type a - L12VP/R12PV
Type b - L11VV/R12PP
Type c - L11PP/R10VV
Type d - L10PV/R10VP
Type e - L10VV/R11PP



In the type designation, P and V are "peak" and "valley". In the illustration above the serpentine cut starts with a peak at the top and ends with a valley at the bottom. That is type "d" which is L10/R10.

Type "e" is an inverted type "c" and is known on only two numbers. See the bold print in the table below.

#11111	- L10/R10
#22222	- L10/R10
#23222	- L10/R10
#33333	- L10/R10
#44444	- L10/R10
#45444	- L10/R10
#55555	- L12/R12, L10/R10
#66666	- L12/R12, L11/R12, L11/R10, L10/R11
#78777	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#87888	- L11/R10
#87898	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#88888	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#88898	- L10/R11, L10/R10
#89878	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#89888	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#89898	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#89899	- L10/R10
#97898	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#99899	- L11/R10, L10/R10
#99999	- L11/R10, L10/R10

Thanks to D. Koenig, R. Beecher and D. Kemp for information this month.

COMMERCIAL COVERS

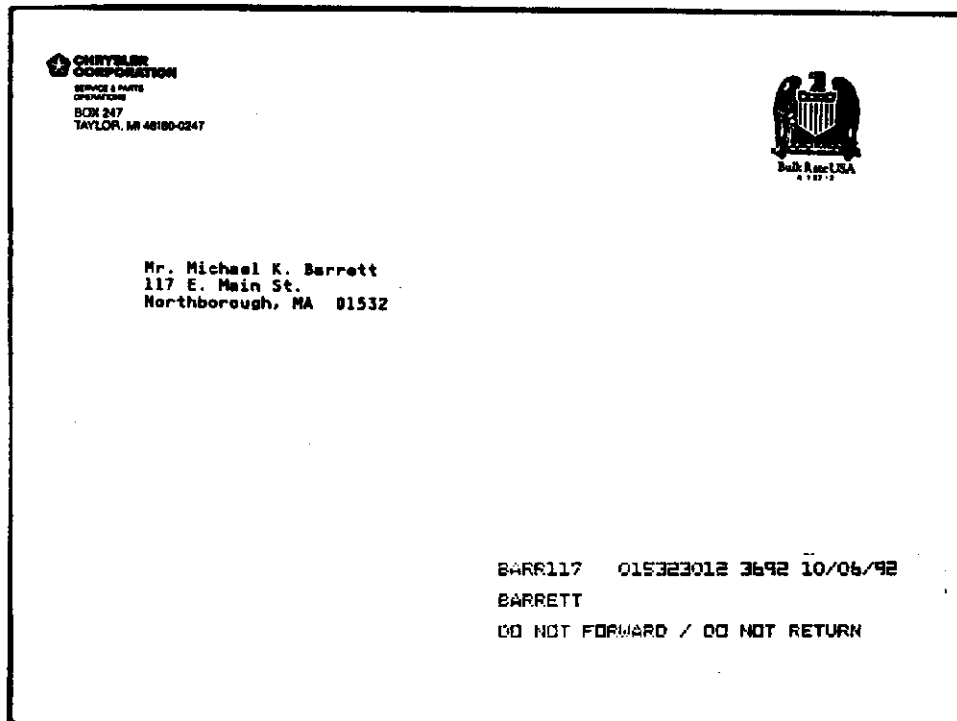
Installment #86

Rob Washburn
P.O. Box 840
Skowhegan, Maine 04976-0840
(207) 474-8021 (evenings)

10¢ EAGLE & SHIELD

There have been a total of 52 major number different Eagle/Shield PNCs released so far and obtaining a complete collection on cover of every one of them is very difficult to attain. In fact, I don't know of a single collector out there who has all of them on cover. I am still missing #A33334, but that's not the only tough number to find on cover. Of the reports I have received so far, the following are the scarcest on cover:

A12213	2 known	A 10 11 10 10 10	6 known
A33334	3 known	A 12 11 10 10 10	7 known
A88889	4 known	A33335	7 known
A 11 10 10 10 11	4 known	A32333	8 known
A 14 11 10 10 11	5 known	A21113	8 known
A43324	5 known	A34424	8 known
A 11 11 11 10 10	6 known	A53335	8 known
A 11 11 10 10 10	6 known		



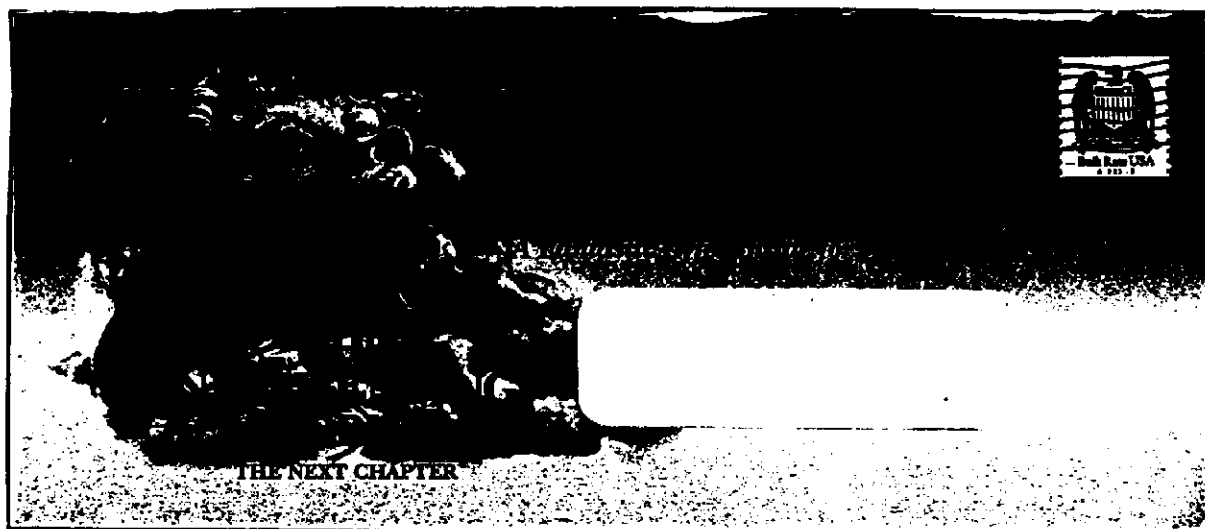
A12213 on cover. Only 2 known. This one has a 10/6/92 yellow postal label.

The A32333 is probably the most valuable on cover (estimated \$150-\$200), but as you can see from the above list, it is not the scarcest. The high valuation of A32333 on cover is due primarily because the mint PS5 of this number sells for around \$200.

Not included in the "scarcest" list, although they do belong on that list, are the three tagged versions of numbers lllll, 22221 and 22222. Number 22222 tagged on cover is the most valuable of the three tagged issues (estimated \$100-\$200).

Although the following Eagle/Shield PNC covers didn't make it on the "scarcest" list, these Eagle/Shield covers are also fairly tough to find: A33333, A43426, A89999, A99998, A 10 11 10 10 11, A 11 10 10 10 10, A 11 10 11 10 10, A 12 11 10 10 10, A 14 11 10 10 10, and A 14 12 11 11 10.

The most common numbers on cover are lllll, 22221, 22222, S22222, A22ll3, A43334, A88888, and A 10 10 10 10 10 selling as low as \$3-\$5 each.



Earliest known use of A32333 (1/24/92).

1633 Broadway
New York, New York 10019

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MOMOYO NISHIYAMA 8/J93
24
1515 SHERIDAN RD DIR
WILNETTE IL 60091-1866

A22ll3 with broken yellow l variety on cover.



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c/o 3687 Ira Road
Bath, OH 44210

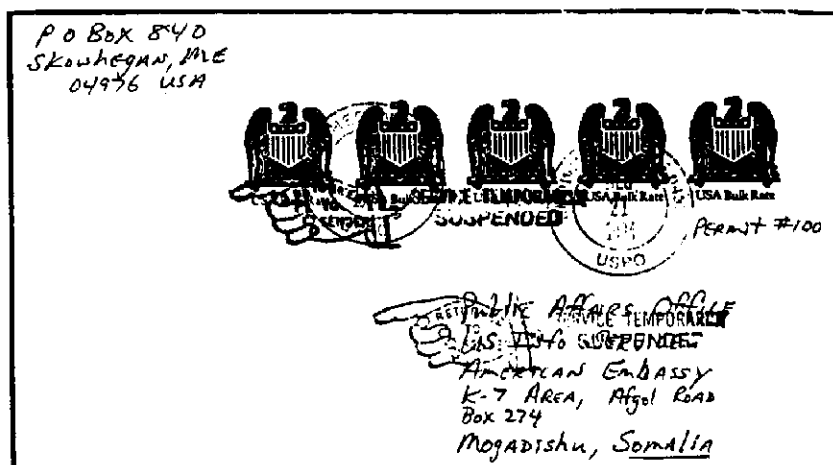


A remarkable new book is about to be
published - and you, Arthur Christensen are in it!

Mr. Arthur O. Christensen
1450 Lake Ave Spc 14
Colusa, CA 95832-9714



Tough to find A ll 10 10 10 ll cover.



10c Eagle/Shield #lllll sent to Somalia but returned because "Service Temporarily Suspended" due to turmoil in that country (12/21/94).

If you haven't reported your holdings of Eagle/Shield PNC covers, please do so. The information I need is the plate number and the complete name of the mailer.

A new plate number has been discovered on cover: the 25c Jukebox SA #S22222. I received calls on back to back nights recently from two collectors who found the new number on cover. The two mass mailers were U.S. West and Providian Processing Center.

I also received some PNC cover EKU reports: 32c Yellow Rose #2222 (8/28/97), #2223 (8/13/97), #2233 (9/16/97), #6666 (2/7/98), #6677 (3/10/98); 19c Fishing Boat #A7766 (3/11/94); 8.4c Wheel Chair #1 (9/1/88 backstamp); 32c Flag/Porch #22322 (3/1/96), #lllllA (3/2/98), #l32llA (3/3/98), #l323lA (3/3/98), and 33333A (3/9/98). Also, add Philippines and Switzerland to the list of countries where a PNC cover is known to have been sent.

My thanks go out to Tom Goetz, Gene Kiehlmeier, Jay Steinberg, Ken Cherry, Dave Kemp, Scott Adams, John Sauer, and Albert Spencer for their contributions to this month's article.

INCIDENCE OF REPORTED PNC COMCL COVERS BY NUMBER

Flag Over Porch (perf)

11111 5847
 22221 -- 53
 22222 3354
 22322 --- 105
 33333 // 9494
 34333 --- 385
 44444 6576
 45444 2147
 66646 3782
 66666 -- 96
 77767 2780
 78767 --- 440
 91161 -- 51
 99969 --- 196
 S11111 -- 34

"HOWGOZIT" Chart
 (increments=100)

YELLOW ROSE

1111	--	82
1112	---	109
1122	---	107
2222	--	16
2223	--	9
2233	--	5
2333	---	264
3344	---	214
3444	--	57
4455	--	98
5455	--	4
5555	---	338
5556	--	32
5566	--	93
5666	--	84
6666	--	30
6677	.	
6777	.	
7777	--	34

Flag Over Porch (self-adhesive)

11111 1838
 22222 3281
 23222 914
 33333 1622
 44444 3104
 45444 3533
 55555 2520
 66666 // 6238
 78777 // 5597
 87888 --- 124
 87898 --- 575
 88888 3352
 88898 -- 27
 89878 716
 89888 --- 135
 89898 --- 546
 89899 -- 19
 97898 --- 292
 99899 -- 90
 99999 // 18150

(See Narrative Elsewhere)

11111A .
 13231A .
 13311A .
 22222A .
 33333A .
 M11111 -- 31
 S11111 -- 41
 V11111 -- 8
 11111(97) . 2

<p><u>CONESTOGA WAGON</u></p> <p>2 .. 3 3 -- 32 5 .. 8 6 -- 17</p> <p><u>FERRYBOAT</u></p> <p>2 471 3 1444 4 354 5 --- 278</p>	<p><u>LUNCH WAGON</u></p> <p>3 -- 18 4 .. 7 5 .. 1</p> <p><u>CIRCUS WAGON</u></p> <p>A1 .. 3 S1 .. 6 A3 .. 1 S2 .. 4</p> <p><u>BLUE JAY</u></p> <p>S1111 -- 67</p>
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INCIDENCE REPORT NARRATIVE

This month's report includes all commercial covers reported in the Coil Line through the April '98 issue, plus 2840 PNC covers from MD and CA sources and 847 items from a 65¢ sort of Jeff Fiszbein's.

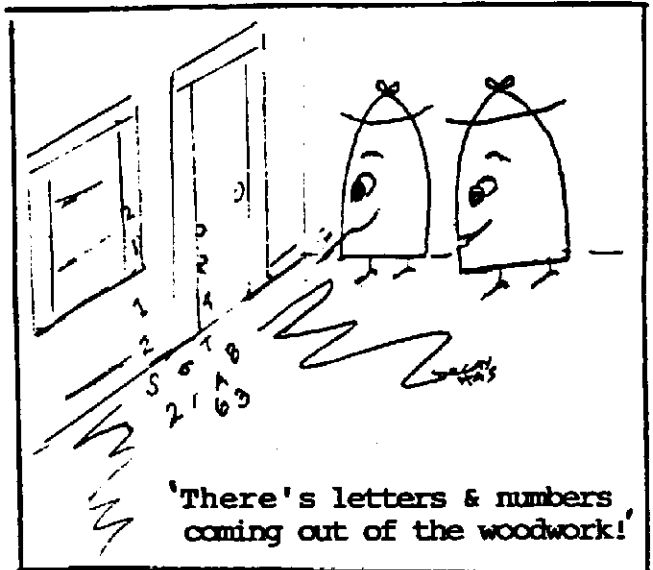
Just as we anticipated closure on the FOPs, we were bludgeoned with a massive additional BEP printing which are identified by a suffix letter, currently "A". Thus far, five new numbers are known. In addition, three more numbers on the Yellow Rose have made their appearance. All are added to the chart in readiness.

An interesting aspect encountered in this chart's research was Roman Otten's March letter report containing the Statue of Liberty PNB #V1112. All previous known numbers have been the V1111. A new number? Telephonic contact revealed a probable typo - either in the original or the retype. As Mr. Otten is elderly, his wife does the count and listings. She was not available. Concluded a non-existing number; but it was nice talking to him.

There were three SA FOP #55555(12/12) in my last group of covers. All were from the South - AL, LA and FL and dated late January and early February, so that must be where they are.

All numbers advanced this report except the perf 6s, perf S11111 and the SA V11111. Commercial covers of the 7-8-9 varieties are still a sticky wicket to locate. They are around but pass on in a hurry.

It will be interesting to learn the locations and extent of the new varieties of the FOPs. Watch for reports of our members as they make their reports to Coil Line. And my thanks again are extended to them all.

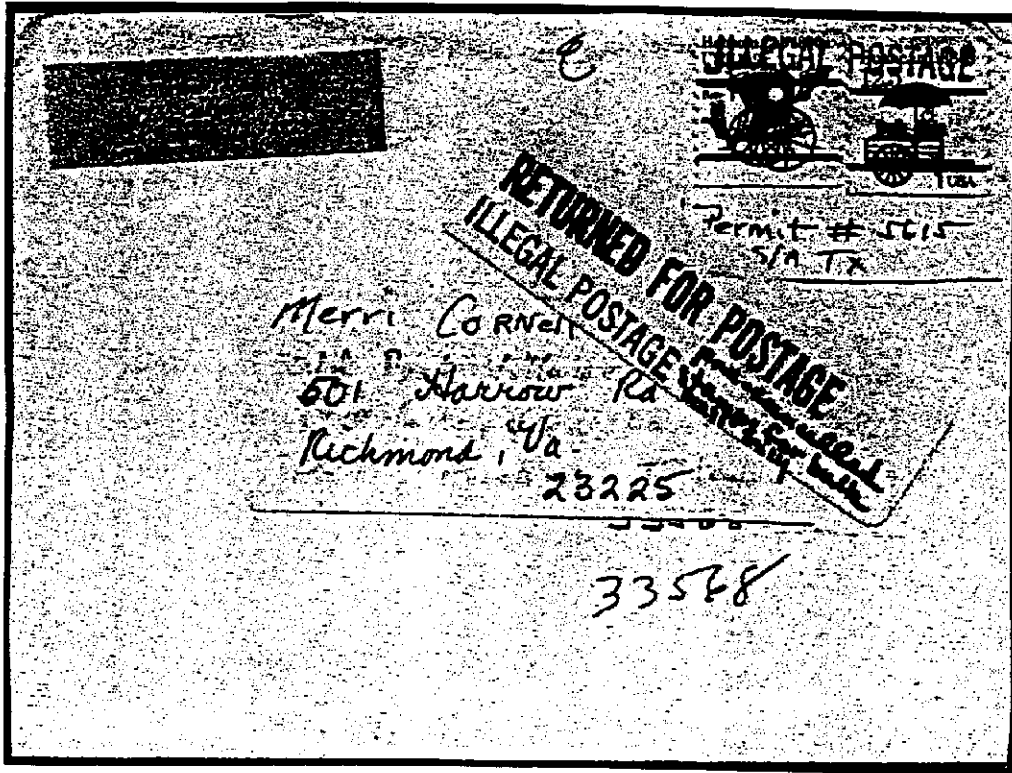


UPGRADE OF DIE CUT FREQUENCY

Plate	10/10	11/10	11/12	12/12	Tot	Plate	10/10	11/10	11/12	12/12	Tot
11111	684				684	88888	274	554			828
22222	751				751	88898	4				4
23222	416				416	89878	15	187			202
33333	587				587	89888		41			41
44444	1626				1626	89898	48	41			89
45444	1681				1681	89899	4				4
55555	1390			21	1411	97898	8	39			47
66666		426	1516	299	2241	99899	7	4			11
78777	8	1471			1479	99999	1605	940	2		2547
87888		27			27	9.999	3	30			33
87898	75	55			130						

Dan Kauffman

Cover of the Month



The above cover featuring 10.9¢ Prec. and 12.5¢ Prec. coils overpaying the 22¢ first class rate was returned to sender with a yellow label marked "RETURNED FOR POSTAGE ILLEGAL POSTAGE pre-cancelled stamps for bulk mail only". The cover does bear a precancel permit number which appears to have been ignored by postal workers. (Cover courtesy of Ken Cherry.) (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 04976-0840.)

THE PN SEERS

by Dan Kauffman



Website report

(Continued from page 63)

philatelic clerk wrote to me and apologized for the delay in my order because he was swamped with orders for the new numbers after they were posted on the website.

The number of membership applications received from the web site has now climbed to over a dozen. I feel that our site will be a steady source of new members.

I still have quite a number of ideas of topics that I want to include on the pages of our web site. Just off the top of my head, some of these include photos of every PNC, with listings of varieties, including gum and perf variations. I will be posting a numerical list of PNCs by Scott # with a cross index which includes denominations.

Another project will include a reference listing of published articles and books dealing with PNCs, similar to and expanding on the 'PNCs in other places' currently running in *Coil Line*.

I would also like to make the site a source for articles devoted to research on various aspects of PNCs. This could and should cover quite a range of material. It would be great to have all this reference material in one central location.

Many members have asked for our auctions to be available on the web site. I would love to do this, but it's beyond my

computing skills at this time. I am planning on adding members' want-lists and trading lists. I would welcome your listing of material.

I am familiar with several philatelic offices that publish lists of stamps that they have available. I hope to include the coil information from those offices on our site. Your help in getting me names of those who put out such lists would be appreciated.

I have had a couple of dealers inquire about ad space on our site. This is a subject that needs to be researched further so that we do not lose our free site.

Up to now, I have been pleased with the response that the site has generated and with the help that I have received from our members and those outside our group. The responsibility of getting material online is mine, but I do appreciate all the help that I've received so far. I will be posting a 'Contributors to the Cause' page to list those who have helped with the effort.

In summary, I've either already covered most of the requested items from the recent member questionnaires or they are in the planning stages. I welcome your comments and suggestions.

I envision that in the future that our PNC3 web site will be the definitive web source for information on collecting plate number coils.

Email to pnc3@juno.com

TOP PRICES PAID

Paying \$20 and up for any PNC commercially used cover listed below:

32¢ Flag Over Porch #89888 (die cut 10L/10R)

32¢ Flag Over Porch #66666 (die cut 10L/11R)

32¢ Flag Over Porch #78777 (die cut 10L/10R)

32¢ G #A4435

21.1¢ Prec. #11111 & #11121

18¢ Washington Monument Prec. #11121

3.4¢ Prec. #1

4.9¢ Prec. #1 & #2

20¢ Flag Prec. #14

4¢ Stagecoach Prec. all plate numbers

18¢ Surrey #17 & #18

32¢ Ferryboat #5 Bronx blue variety

5.9¢ Prec. #5 & #6

9.3¢ Prec. #8

17¢ Prec. all plate numbers

20¢ Official #1 with purple machine
cancel only

10¢ Eagle/Shield #A12213, #A33334 & A32333

5¢ G #A1111 & #A2111

12¢ Stanley Steamer Prec. B-press #1 on postcard

Covers must be undamaged and be used during the normal period of use.

I have been a serious collector, buyer and sometimes seller of modern U.S. postal history, especially PNC covers, since 1981. I am currently working on my first exhibit of PNC postal history and if you have any of the above covers available, let me make you a generous offer.

Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976-0840, (207) 474-8021.

Membership

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

New applicants:

A.E. Buzz Jehle
8 Leisure Lane
Houston, TX 77024-5123

Andrew Chotlas
P.O. Box 937
Monrovia, CA 91017-0937

Richard J. Hafey
3 Marshall St.
Paxton, MA 01612

Arnold M. Kornhauser
15281 Elvina Dr.
San Leandro, CA 94579-1919

Changes of address:

John Carson
735 International Blvd. Apt. 92
Houston, TX 77024

Michael Murray
681 W. Remington Dr.
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-2463

Dan Forgues
4526 Eagle Mountain Drive
Sparks, NV 89436

Alan Malakoff
P.O. Box 10600
New Brunswick, NJ 08906-0600

John Larson
8 Commodore Dr. #251
Emeryville, CA 94608
j_larson@dnai.com

Eric Russow
4010 N. Brandywine Dr. Apt. 1213
Peoria, IL 61614-6814
ekrussow@dave-world.net

Deceased:

John Wolff #825

Resigned:

Margaret Choate #1219
(Continued on next page)

Slide shows available

Members interested in obtaining PNC slide shows for use at local club meetings and stamp shows should contact John Peterson, 6605 Bell Bluff Ave., San Diego, CA 92119-1147 or call 619-265-2916.

PNC³ meetings

A monthly listing of scheduled Regional and Annual Meetings will be published in *Coil Line*.

Regional Meetings are to be arranged through Dick Koenig, Regional Meeting Committee Chairperson, P.O. Box 31872, Tucson, AZ 85751.

Please contact Dick as far in advance as possible.

It would be helpful if someone involved with the planning or attending the meeting would submit a report to *Coil Line*.

Saturday, May 2 - OKPEX '98, Oklahoma City, OK. 10:30 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel. Contact Ray Janz at 405-799-5715 or 924 N.E. 5th, Moore, OK 73160-6912.

Annual Meeting - Saturday, Aug. 29, 1998 at Stampshow '98. The time and location of the meeting will be announced later. Stampshow, sponsored by the American Philatelic Society, will be held Aug. 27-30 at the Santa Clara Convention Center in Santa Clara, Calif.

E-mail addresses:

Changes and new addresses will be listed monthly. A complete listing will be published every few months. Brian R. Engler Sr. - brenglers@mail.enter.net

Daniel Kauffman - dwkman@inreach.com

(Continued on next page)

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 April issue was mailed March 24.

President: Gene Ernst, 15522 Windy Cove Dr., Houston, TX 77095 (713) 855-0146.

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. There is a charge.

Changes of address: Should be sent to and membership applications are available from Gene Trinks, Secretary, 3603 Bellows Court, Troy, MI 48083. gctrinks@tir.com

Mailing list: Rental of the club mailing list is available. A one-time usage of labels costs \$50. Contact the secretary (above).

Dues: Are \$10 per year (\$15 for First Class mailing of *Coil Line*, \$15 for Canada and Mexico and \$20 for all others) and should be sent to Jim Perry, Treasurer, P.O. Box 20120, Beaumont, TX 77720.

Advertising rates: Are \$42 for a full page, \$22.50 for 1/2 page and \$12 for 1/4 page per issue. A check or money order made payable to PNC³ must be submitted with the advertising copy. All copy should be sent to the Editor, 909 Parker St., Bowling Green, OH 43402-2107. E-mail - halallen@wcnet.org

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

Ads

USA UNPICKED DEFINITIVES on paper with PNCs 5lbs. \$19; 10lbs. \$37.50; 20lbs \$58. (Postpaid lower 48). Michael Mules, P.O. Box 342, Big Bend, WI 53103.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Nearly complete collection of *Coil Line* newsletters. Also, *The Plate Number* and several other now-defunct PNC papers. Your offer should be at least enough to cover postage costs (\$10.00). Will accept any PNC mint strips of 5, used singles, or will consider used setenant commemoratives from 1996 up to the present. Rick Thomas, P.O. Box 665, Lewisburg, PA 17837 or e-mail rickstetz@sunlink.net

WANTED TO BUY: 20c Fire Pumper commercial covers one cover or collections of covers. Please offer. Will pay a fair price. Bob Mebert, 13 Sunnyveiw Drive, Redding, CT 06898-1720.

IMPERF PAIRS: 20c Flag - \$6.00; 22c Flag - \$9.50; 25c Honeybee - \$25.00; 29c White House - \$12.50; Color Error: 'Bronx Blue' Ferryboat \$4.50 per stamp; \$125 PS5; Untagged Error: 5c Motorcycle - \$3.00 stamp. Want lists accepted. Full line of PNCs, Michael C. Mules, P.O. Box 342, Big Bend, WI 53103. (414) 318-0880 Fax (414) 662-5438.

SEND FOR MY USED PS1, mint PS5 and used PNC strips list. Everything is top quality and the prices are GREAT! A 32c SASE would be appreciated. John Himes, P.O. Box 453, Cypress, CA 90630-0453.

FOR SALE -PS5, XF-superb collection. Sample prices, Scott 1891, 18c Flag #3, \$700; 2523C, 29c Mt. Rushmore #1 Toledo Brown (PS7, Superb), \$3,500. Imperforate plate number strips also available. Jerry Grove, 101 Old Ferry Road #7B, Shalimar, FL 32579. jerrygrove@yahoo.com.

Membership

(from previous page)

Members listed as dropped in April issue who have since paid dues:

Knebel #382; Kempner #949; St. Peter #1226; Luelle #1261; Green #593.

E-mail addresses:

(Continued from previous page)

Marian Kusmierski - rayski@citrus.infi.net

Ads

TWO PNC COLLECTIONS for sale. (#1) use PS3's (over 300 different strips) and (#2) mint PS3s (over 60 strips). Both are mostly older issues. Write for details. SASE appreciated. Jeff Fiszbein, 824 Chatham, Milford, MI 48381-2783. e-mail-jeffpnc@email.msn.com

NOW AVAILABLE - 3rd edition of "Catalog of U.S. Self-Adhesive Stamps." Updated through Feb. '98. Includes coils, booklets, panes. Still \$15. Alan Malakoff, Box 10600, New Brunswick, NJ 08906.

PNCs in other places

- ♦ Canoe error found, *Stamp Collector*, p.12 April 13, 1988.
- ♦ Join A Collector Specialty Society, *The Plate Number Coil Collectors Club*, *U.S. Stamp News*, p. 40, Jan.-Feb. 1998.
- ♦ PNC3 at Plymouth, *Linn's Stamp News*, p-30, March 30, 1998.
- ♦ Helter-skelter Porch coil is new color-missing error, *Linn's Stamp News*, p.1, April 13, 1998.

Letters

(Continued from page 65)

32c Flag over Porch - 22322-1; 34333-7; 91161-1; 99969-2.

32c Flag over Porch SA - 11111-13; 22222-93; 23222-10; 33333-8; 44444-30; 45444-22; 55555-21; 55555 (12/12) -5; 66666-61; 78777-21; 87898-5; 88888-24; 88898-3; 89878-4; 89888-5; 89898-3; 89899-1; 97898-5; 99899-1; 99999-98; 11111A-2; 13231A-3; 13311A-; 22222A-1; 33333A-1.

32 Yellow Rose SA - S1111 (15)-5; S1111 (30) -2

Liberty V1111-5.

32c Yellow Rose SA - 1111-3; 1112-1; 1122-2; 2222-1; 2233-3; 2333-6; 3344-6; 4455-5; 5555-25; 5556-8; 5566-9; 5666-15; 6666-14; 7777-100.

Anyone looking for used PNCs or PNCs on commercial cover is encouraged to write. Happy hunting on the new numbers.

David Kemp
509 S. Grinnell Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85710

Covers from Wisconsin

To the Editor:

Flag over Porch - 11111-3; 22221-1; 22222-3; 33333-3; 99969-1.

Flag over Porch S/A - 11111-1; 22222-6; 44444-7; 45444-6; 55555-3; 66666-13; 78777-2; 88888-6; 89888-1; 97898-2; 99999-15; 13311A-1.

32c Yellow Rose - 1111-2; 3344-1; 4455-1; 5555-2; 5556-1; 5566-5; 6666-1; 6677-1; 7777-3.

Statue of Liberty - V11111-2.

32c Yellow Rose PNB - S1111-8.

Roman Otten
3878 Ridge Road
Kewaskum, WI 53040