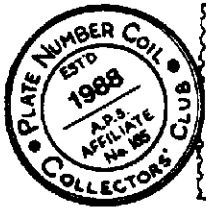


# PNC<sup>3</sup>

# Coil Line



Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club PNC<sup>3</sup>  
http://www.pnc3.org  
April 1, 2002  
Vol. 15, No. 4  
Whole Number 164

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## Two Regional Meetings set this spring

Two Regional Meetings have been scheduled for this spring.

One will be held in conjunction with the WILKPEX stamp show in East Pittsburgh, PA, on Saturday, April 13 at 1 PM. WILKPEX and the regional meeting will take place at Olympia Hall, 1275 Electric Ave.

The recent PNC<sup>3</sup> slide program prepared by Richard Beecher will be a featured part of the meeting. PNC material for door prizes is welcome. In light of Alan Thomson's comments on page 19 of the March 2002 issue of *Coil Line*, members who plan on attending the meeting are encouraged to prepare and bring short (1-2 lines to a paragraph) articles or questions regarding PNCs to be sent to *Coil Line* editor Harold Brown. Persons wishing to know more about the meeting can contact Janet M. Gillis by writing to 6 Robb Hollow Rd, Pittsburgh PA 15243-1718 or e-mail through scottie@libcom.com, or by phone at (412) 278-4488. Dealers carrying PNCs wishing to participate at WILKPEX can contact Janet, who is the bourse chairperson.

A Regional Meeting in conjunction with the ORCOEXPO stamp show will be held May 25.

The meeting will take place at the Holiday Inn in Monrovia, CA, from noon to 2 p.m.. The address is 924 W. Huntington Drive, just off of the I-210 freeway. Door prize material is welcome and attendees are encouraged to bring a short article or question for discussion to the meeting.

For further details, contact John E Peterson by email at jkpete@pacbell.net or by phone at (619) 466-3443.

## Regional meetings at Ameristamp, ARIPEX

Regional Meetings of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club were held at the APS Winter Show (Ameristamp Expo 2002) in Riverside, CA, on Feb. 9 and at the ARIPEX stamp show in Mesa, AZ, on Feb. 16. There were 23 people in attendance at Riverside. Jewell

(Continued on page 38)

## Message from the President:

## What's Happening in PNC Collecting These Days?

If one were to assess the activity level in the PNC collecting community based on submissions to *Coil Line*, things have been pretty quiet in PNC-land lately. That's not really the case, I'm sure, but after seeing the comments by Alan Thomson in last month's issue, I wonder what our 800 members are doing with their PNC collections. I realize that there haven't been many new PNCs released recently. That could be a bad thing or a good thing, depending on one's point of view. Bad in that there aren't many new designs to excite our interest. Good in that it gives us some time to look over the rest of our collections, giving the older issues a little more attention and study.

What benefit has recently come from taking time to study the stamps already in our collections? One result has been the discovery of the Flag over Porch (FoP) # 78777 10/10 in mint condition. This find was reported first by Alan Thomson in the December 2001 issue of *Coil Line* and was the subject of an article in the March 4, 2002 issue of *Linn's* by Charles Snee. This die cut had been among the FoP 'escapees' mentioned by Alan in his Snippets column back in December 1998. According to Snee, it had been in the hands of a Midwest collector for some time prior to Alan's listing. Four mint strips are reported in this discovery. Folks, this should be HUGE news item in the philatelic community. This mint PNC ranks right alongside the mint FoP #13231A reverse die cut in scarcity (another former 'escapee') and is far scarcer than such recent US rarities as the \$1 Candle (CIA) error or the recently discovered and heavily hyped sheet of the New York Stock Exchange invert.

Another has been the discovery of die cut varieties on various service inscribed stamps. The 'round shoulder' and the 'square shoulder' die cut styles first reported on

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## What's happening

(Continued from page 33)

the same plate numbers of the 10c Green Bicycle has now also been discovered on the Eagle & Shield Standard #11111. Previous discoveries of both types of these die cuts on the same plate number stamps are listed in Snippets in the December 2001 issue of *Coil Line*. There haven't been very many of these reported (only 13 numbers on five issues).

These are not insignificant developments, but it's like we're trying to keep them a secret. Little discussion will guarantee that the mainstream players in philately will not be aware of, or else will pay no attention to, the finds. I am sure there are other things that our members encounter each day that could be the subject of discussion and shared interest. Why do we have a club if not to share the information among ourselves and the rest of the philatelic community?

We need to talk up these discoveries, and communicate more about them. We all know that stamp collecting tends to be a very individual pursuit, but my own experience is that I gain the most enjoyment when sharing my interests with other collectors having similar interests. Conversation among one or two of our closest collecting buddies is great, but the rest of the club needs to be made aware of news and developments, too.

The information tools in the club are very under-utilized today. One of these is our journal, *Coil Line*. The intent of the journal is to disseminate information about our hobby to our members. *Coil Line* has had some interesting studies published in the last couple of months, but some of the things that were commonplace in older issues are not being published any more, and nothing has taken their place.

Surveys are a great example. We once had a running survey of the number of used FoPs and other contemporary issues. Quantities of each plate number found were reported by a number of mixture sorters and commercial cover collectors. This gave us all an idea of the relative scarcity of the numbers. This effort could be taken to the next level, perhaps a closer look at the quantity of the die cut varieties and incision styles on the FoP or Yellow Rose. I am sure that this type of information could be very useful to many members if it were available.

Another is the seeming lack of interest in a Beginner's Column. This was initiated as the result of the last member survey we compiled, in which there were a number of members that requested such a feature. There have been NO questions submitted to the Editor in at least the last four months. Does that mean all our members are experts in all phases of PNC collecting now? Or does it mean that a few moments and a 34c stamp is too much to invest in learning more about our hobby? I can't believe that either is a correct statement.

The other information tool is our highly rated Web site. Reports made to Ron Maifeld get distributed quickly. Many members do not have ready access to the Web site because they don't have Internet access. But that needn't stop those with an interest. These days most public libraries that I'm aware of have a computer that can be used by the public. Go to [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org). Your librarian can show you how. Or, visit a friend that has a computer. Who knows, he or she may even get interested in PNC collecting!

Are there more numbers out there with both round and squared die cuts? Are there other issues that have the same varieties present? Are there other varieties of die cuts waiting to be discovered? Can we find the remaining FoP 'escapees'? We surmise they exist, because we have used examples, but where are the mint ones? There are plenty of things going on in PNC-land, I'm sure. Let's all make an effort to be more pro-active in communicating them for the benefit of your fellow members. You'll be rewarded in more ways than you think.

-Gene Trinks

## Letter

### Articles sought about coils and line gaps

To the Editor:

I would like to invite any member who has a recent article written or can write an article about line gaps to submit their article for possible publication in *Philatelic Arts* new 2002 Guide To Collecting Plate Number Coils. I am looking for articles to include information on the following Transportation coil issues: 4c Stagecoach, 5.2 Sleigh, 5.9 Bicycle, 9.3c Mail Wagon, 10.9c Hansom Cab, and the 17c Electric Auto. The article(s) should include scans (preferably in color) that define, show and describe for collectors how to identify gap positions on these issues.

Publication is set for July 2002 and articles need to be submitted no later than April 30. The Guide is expanding this year to include a wealth of information on each PNC issued to date as well as the check off charts that let collectors keep track of their collections and values. I would like to include written works on line gaps to help all collectors understand this aspect of PNC collection better.

If you are interested in submitting an article, please contact me by email at [jwj@philatelicarts-pnc.com](mailto:jwj@philatelicarts-pnc.com) or in writing at *Philatelic Arts*, 370 Saw Mill Rd. Guilford, CT 06437.

Julian W. Jakobson  
Philatelic Arts Publishing Co.

# SNIPPETS

By Alan Thomson

## New Numbers

There is one new number this month from the United We Stand self adhesive rolls of 100. Cylinder combination 3333 has been found on three covers.

## Chuckle of the Month

This is too amusing to pass up and I wouldn't use it if the person involved were a member of the club. It seems that a well known PNC dealer received a PS7 of the linerless Diner coil from a customer who wanted to trade it for a PS5 of exactly the same stamp. The customer said he couldn't figure out how to make a PS5 out of the PS7. Oh well, I guess he's happy. He got his PS5.

## Certificate for Untagged Loco #8

Almost 20 years have gone by since the Cottrell press version of the 2¢ Locomotive coil was printed. Now, for the first time one of the six plates used for that issue has been reported with an untagged stamp. Ken Moreau found the pictured single from plate #8, sent it to APEX and received a certificate for the untagged error. The tagging applied to these stamps was a bit sloppy at times with taggant skips and starvation spots, but until now no stamp was completely without taggant.



## Classics Part II on the Way

Just about everyone in PNC3 has at least heard of Bill McMurray's gold award winning exhibit, *Tomorrow's Classics*, that covers the Flag and Transportation coils of 1981. Many of us have seen it, and it's not only deserving of the many golds Bill has won, but is good publicity for our specialty. Bill's not resting on his laurels. He is in the process of building Part II that will cover the Transportation coils of 1982. The new exhibit will be ready for SONEX (New Haven, CT), April 6, and will include the 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 5¢, 5.2¢, 5.9¢ and 10.9¢ Transportations. He wants to show the exhibit where PNC3 regional meetings are scheduled. Invite him. Write to him at PO Box 342 Westerly, RI, 02891.

## Inebriated Mollusk Tracks Bison

Doug Iams acquired the V2222 Bison strip below that has a trail of blue ink all over it. Doug calls it the Drunken Snail Trail. Quite a colorful item.

## Second Tan Color Missing FOP

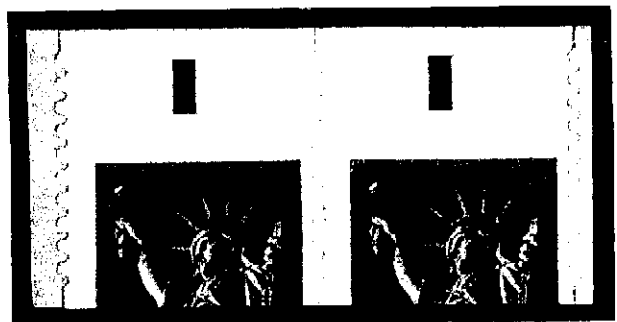
A second used copy of the now well known tan color missing error of the Flag Over Porch coil has surfaced. This is a very interesting story because this second copy has followed the path of its predecessor almost exactly. Both were found by an elderly clergyman in the Midwest, sold to Rich Nazar, and then resold by auction. The elderly gentleman is involved in building mission mixes and these two stamps probably brought more to the program than hundreds of pounds of mix. The new copy is not a holdover and was found almost four years after the first copy. Rich says the two stamps obviously came from the same roll. The new arrival was in the Contemporary Coils auction that closed 17 March. A picture has not arrived, but I will show it next month and give you a hammer price if I can get it. Both belong on the record. The original sold for \$2000.

## New Toleware Coil Due in May

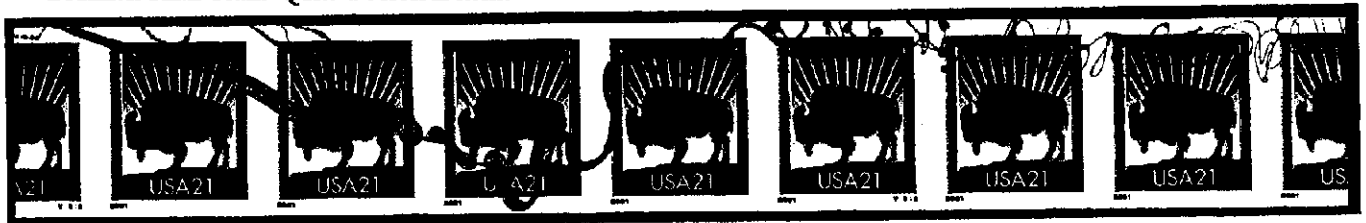
A new 5¢ Coil depicting Toleware is scheduled to be released in May and is to replace the Circus Wagon stamp. That will leave only one Transportation coil left on sale in the Cave. I sincerely wish this new coil were going to be a first class rate stamp. My wife is an accomplished Tole Painting artist and our home has many examples of her work. Unfortunately she stopped painting several years ago. Tole Painting is a technique that can be used on surfaces other than tin objects (to make Toleware), and can be applied to slate, wood, canvass or hardboard. It's too bad these attractive stamps will be mostly on DAV return envelopes.

## Major Miscut on SOL Coil

A collector who wishes to remain anonymous provided the photocopy below of a piece of a miscut roll of the denominated Statue of Liberty coil. The roll was determined to be the 34¢ coil because it was in a flat containing only denominated rolls. The slicing is so far off that the electric eye markings in the web margin are complete. To leave that much top margin the outside cutting wheel must have been off the edge of the paper web.



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# CURRENT ISSUE NUMBERS & ROLL SIZES

05/10/02

AHT

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

EP - EMBEDDED PHOS      UT - UNTAGGED  
 SP - SURFACE PHOS      [xx] - NUMBER INTERVAL  
 BK - BLOCK TAG          (NL) - LINERLESS  
 OA - OVERALL TAG        \* 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 printer's plate numbers are listed.  
 Example: Juke Box [24] for BEP, [14] for Sennett Security.

**PRINTER PLATE NUMBER PREFIX LETTERS:**

A - American Bank Note	S - Sennett-Security Prod.
B - Banknote Corp of Am.	V - Avery-Dennison
G - Guilford Gravure	None - BEP
M - MMM	

**(34c) LIBERTY [24]**

#1111 C

**(34c) LIBERTY (SA) [24]**

#1111 A (SM DATE)  
 #1111 A (LG DATE)

**(34c) FLOWER (SA) [12]**

#B1111 A

**34c LIBERTY [24]**

#1111 A, C, D

**34c LIBERTY (SA) [24]**

#1111 A  
 #2222 A  
 #3333 A  
 #4444 A  
 #5555 A  
 #6666 A  
 #7777 A

**34c LIBERTY (SA) [21]**

#1111 C, D  
 #2222 D

**34c UNITED (SA) [24]**

#1111 A  
 #2222 A  
 #3333\* A

**34c UNITED (SA) [21]**

#1111 D

**34c FLOWERS (SA) [12]**

#B1111 A  
 #B2111 A  
 #B2122 A  
 #B2211 A  
 #B2222 A

**20c COG RAILWAY [48]**

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

**10c CANAL BOAT [48]**

#1 A, C (BK) [52]  
 #1 B, C (OA) [52]  
 #1 C (EP) [52]  
 #2 B, C  
 #3 C  
 #4 D (OA)  
 #4 C (EP)  
 #5 D

**5c CIRCUS [48][24][14]**

#1 B, C (OA) [52]  
 #1 B, C (UT) [52]  
 #2 C  
 #A1 D  
 #A2 D  
 #A3 D  
 #S1 D  
 #S2 D (GLOSS)  
 #S2 D (SHINY)

**3c CONESTOGA [48]**

#1 A, B, C [52]  
 #2 C  
 #3 C (DULL)  
 #3 B, C (SHINY)  
 #5 C (LARGE #)  
 #5 C, D (SMALL #)  
 #6 C, D

**23c G. WASH'N (SA) [12]**

#B11 A

**22c U. SAM (SA) [24]**

#1111 A

**22c UNCLE SAM [24]**

#1111 C

**21c BISON (SA) [5]**

#V1111 A  
 #V2222 A

**20c PHEASANT (SA) [24]**

#1111 A  
 #2222 A

**2c WOODPECKER [24]**

#11111 C, D  
 #22222 D

**1c KESTREL [24]**

#1111 B, C (TYPE I)  
 #1111 B (TYPE II)  
 #1111 C (TYPE III)  
 #2222 C  
 #3333 C  
 #4444 C

**(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

**(5c) WETLANDS [14]**

S1111 C, D

**(5c) WETLND (SA) [21]**

#1111 C (light color)  
 #1111 D (dark color)  
 #2222 C, D  
 #3333 C, D  
 #4444 D  
 #5555 D

**(10c) ATLAS (SA) [20]**

#B1111 D

**(10c) LION (SA) [21]**

#S11111 D  
 #S22222 D

**(10c) E&S STD [24]**

#11111 D  
 #22222 D

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

#11111 C, D  
 #22222 D  
 #33333 D

**(10c) GREEN BIKE [14]**

#S111 B, C, D

**(10c) G. BIKE (SA) [21]**

#111 D  
 #221 D  
 #222 D  
 #333 C, D  
 #344 C  
 #444 C, D  
 #555 C, D  
 #666 C, D  
 #777 C, D  
 #888 D  
 #888 D

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

#11111 C  
 #S11111 D

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

#S11111 D

**(15c) WOODY (SA) [21]**

#S11111 D

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

#111111 B, C  
 #212222 B, C  
 #222222 C  
 #332222 C  
 #S11111 D  
 #S22222 D

**(25c) JUKE (SA) [21][21][7]**

#111111 C  
 #222222 D  
 #S11111 D  
 #S22222 D  
 #M11111 D (NL)

**(25c) DINER [14]**

#S11111 D

**(25c) DINER (SA) [21]**

#11111 D  
 #22211 D  
 #22222 D  
 #33333 D  
 #44444 D

■ The Wetlands color differences are in the stamp background. The #2222 background color does not match either of the #1111 colors.

■ The Kestrels differ in the order of color laydown. Colors are black, yellow, cyan and magenta, Type I sequence is BYCM. Type II is BCYM. Type III is YMCB. The color order shows in the plate number.

## 21st anniversary of PNCs 4/24/02

By Ronald Maifeld

On April 24th we mark the 21st anniversary of the first plate number coil. The 18¢ Flag coil stamp "from sea to shining sea" was issued in Portland, Maine as part of a three stamp set, including a sheet of 100, a se-tenant booklet and our first PNC.

This issue marked the first time that plate numbers were included along with the design of the stamp. This was a result of the change in Postal Service policy concerning the assignment of plate numbers, which was effective January 1, 1981.

The coil stamp pictures the South Portland Head Lighthouse, which is located off the coast of Portland, Maine. It also shows the coastline and waves below the lighthouse. The dominant feature of the stamp is the 50 star USA Flag, which spans the width of the stamp.

The phrase "...from sea to shining sea," which is from the poem, America the Beautiful, written by Katherine Lee Bates in 1893, graces the bottom selvage of the stamp.

In all, seven plates were used to print this short lived stamp, which served to fill the new first class rate of 18¢ that went into effect on March 2, 1981. A 20¢ rate became effective on November 1, 1981. An 8th plate was prepared but never used.

First day covers exist with the first five plate numbers because of the Postal Services' 45 day grace period for getting covers canceled. None of the First Day Covers are common.

Considering that over 9 billion stamps were printed, some numbers of the 18¢ Flag stamp are very scarce. Plate #6 is very scarce in any condition, Mint, Used or on Cover, and is the Key Item in any PNC collection.

Most collectors at the time saved strips of 3 and the larger strips of 5 are disproportionately harder to find, and therefore more expensive. This is especially true of plates 1, 3 and 6. Plates 2, 4, 5 and 7 are relatively common in both formats.

Used singles of all but #6 are easy to find, with #7 being the most expensive of the remainder.

What started out as a single stamp 21 years ago, has blossomed into a specialty collecting area which boasts advocates around the world and over 800 members in the APS Affiliate, Plate Number Coil Collectors Club. Their comprehensive web site can be found at [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org).

Plate Number Coils are the most enthusiastically collected and studied postage stamps issued by the U S Postal Service in modern times. Individuals and groups have focused on many aspects of 'those stamps with the tiny numbers' including, but not limited to, paper types, perforation and die-cut differences, tagging varieties, precancel mats, back numbers, constant plate varieties and seamlines. Exhaustive studies have been conducted on single stamps such as the 32¢ Flag over Porch.

For specialists, there are numerous production innovations, constant plate varieties, perforation and die cut differences and subtle design changes employed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) and several different private printing contractors. In addition, many errors and oddities have been found resulting from glitches in the printing and processing of the stamps.

Over the years, PNCs have been in the forefront of innovative ideas of design and production from the nations postage producers. The 'Transportation' coils constitute one of the longest running series in postal history. Coils are produced in quantities of up to 10,000 stamps on a roll for vending machines and mass mailers. There was an experiment with 'Linerless' coils, which was on a roll similar to adhesive tape. Self-Adhesives were tested using various die-cut gauges and styles. Accounting numbers in several colors were introduced on the reverse side of the stamps.

Exhibits consisting of PNC material, although few in number, have garnered national attention and won Gold medals, 'Most Popular' and 'Best of Show' awards. Numerous books and countless articles have been published on our specialty.

Columns dealing with Plate Number Coils appeared regularly in the national stamp publications. Both Scott and Minkus catalogues, plus the Linns' yearbook series feature and highlight stories and charts about PNCs. Collectors gather at National and Regional meetings to talk shop and trade material.

Happy Birthday to Plate Number Coils - You have truly come of age!

### Fugitive Red on the 18c Washington Coils

Some red inks used in stamp production are notorious for fading under strong sunlight or ultraviolet light. Sunlight, of course, contains ultraviolet, which is the part that is responsible for sunburns and those "healthy" tans the fitness buffs are known to seek. The fading of red ink is not universal, but depends on the particular ink used. Some have called the reds that fade "fugitive" reds, because they are known to disappear under exposure to ultraviolet. The result is a color changeling, a stamp having a different color than when printed and issued.

This condition has been noted on the 18c Washington printed at the BEP and released in November 1985 (Scott #2149a). The background of the normal stamp is primarily red in color, with a slightly dusky tone. The 18c Washington (plate # 33333) precancel version has been found with a light green background and dark green in Washington's coat. At least one PS/1 was offered on e-Bay as a color error.

The red color used in this stamp can fade under sunlight. When submitted for an opinion to the American

(Continued on page 44)

## Plate Number Coil Handbook is based on PNC3's database

Member Arthur Westneat has announced the availability of a "Handbook of Plate Number Coils." Comprising 358-double-sided pages, 3-hole punched, it includes a very detailed description, with all of their combinations, plus a picture in black and white, of each of the 170 current PNCs. Also, two indexes of PNCs, one in order of denomination and the other in the Scott catalog listing order.

The pages are black and white photo copies of the multi-color database on the PNC3 Web site, as developed by Ron Maifeld, who has done a really great job bringing the data up to date. To accommodate changes, the Handbook is in loose-leaf form. Update pages should be available as new issues come along.

Westneat said he will prepare a photocopy of his print-out of the files for members, upon request. He will charge only the actual minimum costs. He hopes to be able to continue to get the pages printed for \$13.50, plus parcel post, currently \$3.55, due to go up. The person receiving the pages will be responsible for supplying the binder.

He said the handbook is the best thing around for helping to turn an accumulation of stamps into a collection. "For me it has made PNC collecting far more fun, for using a book beats pulling down a Web page. I am grateful to Ron and John for making this possible. Ron's Index Pages, included, are great for patrolling an auction or dealer's lists."

To order, send a check or money order for \$17.05 to Arthur Westneat, 15 Davis Avenue, Durham, NH 03824. His phone is (603) 868-6480. E-mail is [a.westneat@verizon.net](mailto:a.westneat@verizon.net)

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## Regional

(Continued from page 33)

Meyer announced the passing of former VP Dick Koenig on Feb. 5 and a moment of silence was observed. We were honored with the presence of Webmaster Ron Maifeld, who discussed the PNC3 Web site at length. The recent find of Kestrel #4444 in a post office vending machine in Riverside was announced.

A plea was issued for those present to consider running for office in the upcoming elections. Jerry Koepf of Stamps 7 Stuff, Dave Cobb of Newport Harbor Stamps, and members John Greenwood, Dwight Buschlen and John Peterson donated door prizes.

Nine people were in attendance at Mesa. Dick Koenig's passing was again noted and fond memories shared. Members were also encouraged to run for office.

Peterson announced that at the philatelic press summit hosted by the Postal Service and held in Riverside, some

issues relating to coil stamps were discussed. One announcement was the eventual phasing out of the BEP as a producer of postage stamps.

Terry McCaffrey, Manager of Stamp Development for USOS, mentioned that commemorative stamps in a coil format were in the works, the main issue being the size of the stamps. It is hoped that we will see these stamps within three years.

Gerald Blankenship gave out strips of Kestrel #3333 with a faint "joint line" to everyone at the meeting. Gerald and John Peterson donated door prizes.

Ken Martin of APS and ARIPEX Show Chairman Bill Chesser are to be commended for their hospitality in providing us with meeting space at Riverside and Mesa, respectively.

-John Peterson

## Mix yields elusive used 18c Flag #6 with a purple machine cancel

In a letter to President Gene Trinks dated Feb. 2, 2002,

Member Lenore A. Smith of Kirkland, AZ relates her experience in finding a used copy of what many PNC collectors consider the "key" to a PNC collection.

"I am pretty new at collecting plate number coils and I don't know who should know about rare finds, so I am writing you.

"The end of July 2000 in a five-pound USA charity mix, I found a Scott #1891 used plate No. 6 with a light purple cancel.

"It was an exciting find for me since I've only been collecting coil plate numbers a few years. My collection is growing more interesting all the time and I enjoy reading *Coil Line*."

Congratulations Lenore. You have a lot of members "purple with envy" with your find.

## Members respond to appeal to write

The U.S. mail and the e-mail have both been busier this month with members showing an interest in preparing information for *Coil Line*. The April issue you are reading reflects the efforts of many members. Some are the "usual suspects" who go above and beyond on a regular basis. Less frequent contributors have also stepped forward.

A couple of articles are already in the "bank" for the May issue.

This is also the time of year to remind members to let the club know if your collecting interests have changed. The annual listing will be published in two parts this summer.

Letters to the Editor are always welcome, as are questions for the Beginner's column. Even long-time members can be beginner's, especially if they've taken up a interest in a different aspect of this specialty.

## Tracking the elusive Scott 1895g —20¢ Flag over the Supreme Court with blue omitted

by Richard Nazar

Do you have a Scott 1895g (the 20¢ Flag over the Supreme Court coil stamp with the blue omitted)? I have been looking for an example for a while—and until recently, I questioned whether a true “blue-omitted” error existed.

My interests in this error—and my reservations about its existence as a true color-omitted error—had been re-fueled about a month ago when I purchased a mint single stamp that was identified by the seller (a prominent error dealer) as an 1895g. Almost expectedly, the stamp turned out to have faint traces of blue ink in the area of the missing field of stars in the flag, which relegated its status to *freak* instead of desired *error*. (Figure 1 shows the misidentified stamp.)

With heightened skepticism about the existence of the error, I started to research its history and the sources for its listing in major stamp catalogs. Curiously, my initial inquiries about the 1895g error yielded little information to validate its existence—the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) had no apparent information; the publishers of the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps*

and the *Datz U.S. Errors Catalogue* could not identify the source of their listings, and neither the American Philatelic Society (APS) nor The Philatelic Foundation (PF) had issued a certificate for a genuine “Scott 1895g.”

However, the persistence of Bill Crowe of The Philatelic Foundation (PF) ended the search when he realized that Scott 1895g had been originally assigned *Scott 1895c!* More importantly, his ensuing research using the original number (1895c) showed that the PF had issued at least one certificate (No. 275060) for a genuine pair of the blue-omitted error. (The certified pair is shown in Figure 2.)

Jim Kloetzel of Scott Publishing verified that the blue-omitted error of the 20¢ Flag over the Supreme Court coil stamp first appeared in the 1987 edition of the *Scott Specialized Catalogue of U.S. Stamps* as number 1895c. The Scott number for this error was later changed to 1895g in the numbering overhaul for modern varieties that debuted in the 2000 edition. (Scott 1895c now refers to the *tagging-omitted* error of the 20¢ Flag over the Supreme Court coil stamp.)

My doubts about the existence of the



Figure 1, Stamp with traces of blue ink that was misidentified as Scott 1895g

blue-omitted error have been eliminated, but several questions still remain:

- † How many genuine blue-omitted errors exist?
- † What plate number was on the rolls that contained this error? (Although the stamp in Figure 1 has faint traces of blue ink, it was likely a precursor to the genuine blue-omitted error. The stamp has a narrow tagging block (16mm x 19mm), which identifies it as being printed on the BEP's C Press, and, therefore, would have been printed from sleeve 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, or 12.)
- † Do any reported examples of the error show the plate number?
- † Where, when, and by whom was this error found?

If you can answer any of these questions or have additional information regarding the blue-omitted error of the 20¢ Flag over the Supreme Court coil stamp, send a letter to the editor of *Coil Line*, Harold Brown (halallen@wcnnet.org), so he can publish your information in an upcoming issue. Ø

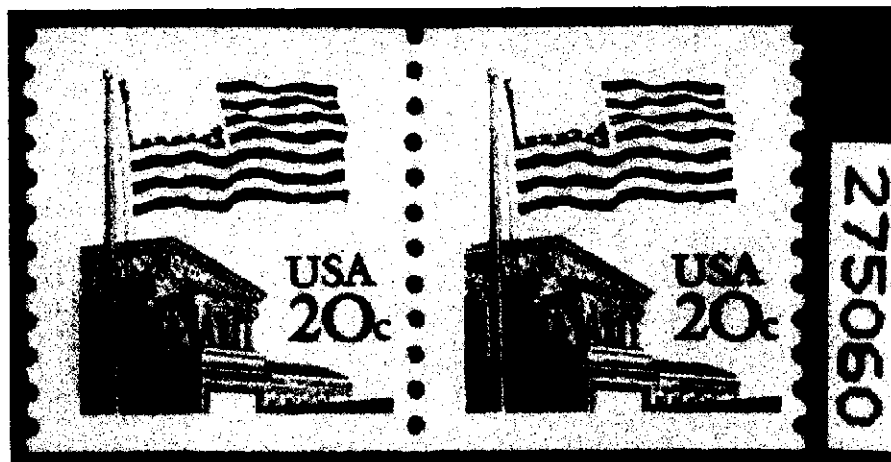


Figure 2, Blue-omitted error pair certified as genuine by The Philatelic Foundation (Certificate No. 275060)

## PNC3 Web Site Update

By Webmaster Ron Maifeld - [ron.maifeld@pnc3.org](mailto:ron.maifeld@pnc3.org)

Several new items have been added to the web site during the past month.

I've begun scanning and posting back issues of *Coil Line* in Adobe Acrobat PDF format. The first issue scanned was May 1989, which was my first issue as a member. I'm now up to March 1992. I have a source for everything before that except No. 1 and 2, and I'd like to borrow those issues to scan.

The USPS Master List of Coils, which is published quarterly in the Postal Bulletin, has been posted on the site. I plan to update this information on a regular basis.

Also new to our web site is a handy chart of Non-Denominated stamps with Scott numbers, descriptions and values.

A few new items have been added to the Glossary. Any suggestions on subjects that still need to be added would be appreciated. All of the above items can be found in the 'Reference' section.

Not many changes in the 'Membership' area, but I want to remind everyone of the change of address form, which can also be used for notifying the secretary of email address changes. We continue to receive membership applications from the online form on a regular basis.

John Cropper is working on a project to scan Coil Labels and we are looking for a source. Contact John at [john.cropper@pnc3.org](mailto:john.cropper@pnc3.org) if you have labels we can borrow.

If you would like to have a "pnc3.org" email address that forwards mail to your regular email, contact John and he can set it up for you.

Most of our members who visit the web site on a regular basis are familiar with the 'home page', which features news and information on breaking developments in the PNC world.

We try to keep on top of reports about new plate numbers and where they are found. Donna Rajotte, the Internet Philatelic Clerk in Providence, and Renate Fearonce in Tucson keep us posted by email of new items arriving at their offices.

During the past three days, March 9 to 11, we have seen an unusual amount of traffic on the site, with visitors averaging about 45 per day, with a peak of 50 people on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup>. The norm recently has been somewhere in the mid to upper 30s, and this seems to be rising on a regular basis, which makes yours truly happy.

Try to remember to visit our online chat sessions each Tuesday at 8 p.m., Eastern Time. Participation has been sparse and we are looking for people who want to talk PNCs. The entrance to the club chat is through the 'Membership' area.

By the time you read this, the 26<sup>th</sup> club auction will be history. In the past, with the help of Auctioneer Joe Sedivy, we

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## In search of elusive gaps and fonts on the 17c Electric Auto

By Dr. Robert Rabinowitz

I always had an interest in the 17c Auto precancels and back in the late 80's, when they were no longer generally used, many post offices still had stocks. With all the different GAPS and the various printing fonts (A, B, and C) along with combinations of fonts (A-B and B-A), the possibility of finding new or sought after material always existed.

I believe it was 1988 and I decided to really go all out and try and find some of the more desirable 17c'ers. I made a list of post offices to call. The first post office told me they had none; they had just shipped them out. The second call had the same result; they were out and had just shipped them all to Pittsburgh. When the third post office I called told me that they had also shipped them to Pittsburgh clear pattern was forming.

Yes, I called Pittsburgh. My first thought was that a competitor had made arrangements with Pittsburgh to gather up all the 17c rolls of 3,000 that were out there for him to look them over. That was wrong. Instead, Pittsburgh told me that a mass mailer had requested a huge quantity of these coils and he had gathered up what was available. And then the mass mailer had changed his mind and Pittsburgh was "stuck" with over 400 rolls of 3,000.

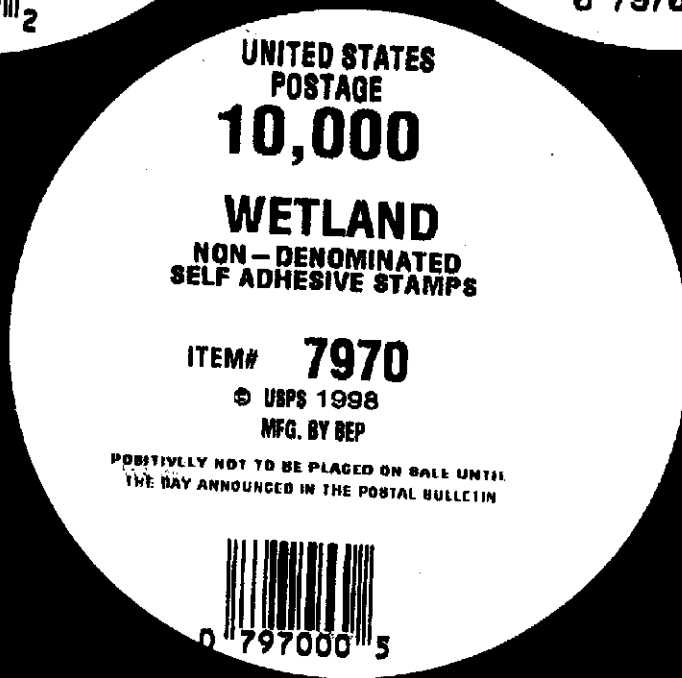
What an opportunity. Pittsburgh wanted to get rid of at least some of these coils and I had to assume that some of them would be desirable types. I dreamed of finding the 17c 5C and 7C 6L and 6R roll. Only one example of each position was known then and that would be quite a find.

Within 48 hours I was at Laguardia Airport in NYC boarding a US Air flight to Pittsburgh after making arrangements with the main Pittsburgh post office to view these rolls. I had purchased several cashier's checks in multiples of \$510.00 since they really didn't know me and would not accept my personal check.

I still had trepidation's. What if the person I made the arrangements with called in sick that morning. Or what if the postmaster called an all day meeting that morning while I was en route. Fortunately, he was waiting for me when I arrived and sat me down in a small room into which he wheeled a cart loaded with some of the rolls that has been accumulated. When I finished with these, a second cart was brought in. I purchased quite a number of rolls and set some others aside (after properly labeling those) that were, in part, purchased through the mail during the next 6-12 months.

No, I didn't find that rare 17c GAP. But I did find sev-

(Continued on page 44)



### Exorcist needed for coil labels

Among the many items PNC fans collect are labels from coil rolls. Conrad Keydel has supplied this photocopy of three coil labels illustrating the someone had a problem spelling "non-denominated." Although the correction was eventually made on the 10,000 label, he's not sure if the error was caught on the rolls of 3,000, because this is the only example he has found. Another interesting item that shows it pays to keep your eyes open for PNC material that may add special interest to your collection.

# PNC 9-11 perfins created

Member Gordon Collins has created 9-11 perfins on three different coil stamps to honor the memory of the terrorists attacks on America.

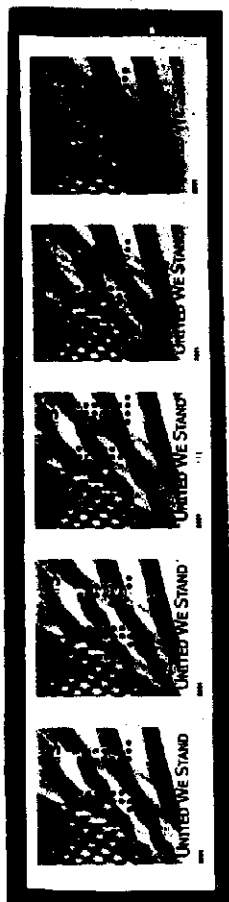
A PNC strip of 5 of the United We Stand stamp with the 9-11 perfin is illustrated below. Collins has also produced perfins using the 34c Statue of Liberty stamp and the 23c George Washington stamp that is used to pay for additional ounces on First Class mail. He plans to create more perfins when the rate changes later this year. He does not have the capability to create perfins with sheet or booklet stamps.

He is selling the PNCs in strips of 5, 7 and 9 and will also add 15 no number perfins that can be held as collectibles or used as postage.

Collins has prepared a price list, which can be obtained by contacting him at P.O. Box 2388, Daly City, CA 94017-2388 or via e-mail at [gordonsmbs@yahoo.com](mailto:gordonsmbs@yahoo.com)

The price of the 34c PNC strips of 5 is \$11. The price rises to \$16.75 if you want the additional 15 stamps. The price for the 23c PNC strips of 5 is \$7 and rises to \$11 with the extra 15 stamps.

Collins' understanding is that these perfins meet all of the USPS requirements, ie: the holes must not be larger than 1/32" and the area must be within 1/4 of a square inch, ie: 1/2"x1/2", 3/8"x5/8", etc. "My perfins meet all of the USPS's requirements and have been accepted in my mailings, without exception," he said.



## BEP LG ROLL SELF-ADHESIVE DIE CUT TYPES

	Plate #	Round	Square
5c Mountain 2904B	1111	X	
5c Wetlands 3207A	1111	X	X
	2222	X	X
	3333	X	X
	4444		X
	5555		X
10c Eagle/Shield 3271	11111	X	X
	22222		X
10c Eagle/Shield 3271a	33333		X
10c Bicycle 3228	111	X	X
	221	X	X
	222	X	X
	333		X
	344		X
	444	X	
	555	X	X
10c Bicycle 3228a	666	X	X
	777		X
	888		X
	999		X
25c Juke Box 2912B	111111	X	
	222222	X	
25c Diner 3208A	11111	X	X
	22211	X	X
	22222	X	X
	33333		X
	44444		X
32c Porch Flag 2915D	1111 9/10	X	
	1111 10/10	X	
33c H Hat 3296	1111	X	
33c City Flag 3282	1111		X
	2222	X	X
34c Liberty 3466	1111		X
	2222		X
34c UWS 3550A	1111		X

# 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, James Markley, 100 Sparrow Drive #14, Royal Palm Beach, Fla. 33411 with the objection. The committee will recommend for or against membership.

## New applicants:

Henry A. Mitchell, #1626  
898 Aviary Bay Ct.  
Longwood, FL 32750

Allen J. Holbrook, #1627  
245 Wildwood Drive, Lot #132  
St. Augustine, FL 32086-5843

Steve Unkrich, #1628  
5276 Nighthawk Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45247

Keith Lichtman, #1629  
37 Indale Ave.  
Staten Island, NY 10309

## Resignations:

Donald Tallman, #1055  
Mario Woscoff, #1288  
Darrell Teel, #1464  
David L. Snyder, #1073

## Dropped for nonpayment:

Albarian, Edward L., 1499  
Albert, Michael R., 1578  
Argo, Bill R., 1508  
Bastin, Gary E., 1592  
Becker, Fred K., 1538  
Beeson, William R., 1567  
Bensko, John, 599  
Black, Edward, 641  
Courter II, James, 506  
Cullen, Randy, 1602  
Dahlstrom II, John T, 790  
Daniels, Jaime, 1234  
Delong, Perry, 1335  
Dickenson, Jim, 1590  
Dixon, Paul M, 1573  
Elio, Frank, 1426  
Elliot, Earl, 1506

(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, 6987 Coleshill Dr., San Diego, CA 92119-1953 or call 619-466-3443.  
jkpete@pacbell.net

## PNC<sup>3</sup> meetings

A monthly listing of scheduled Regional and Annual Meetings will be published in *Coil Line*. Regional Meetings are to be arranged through John Peterson, Regional Meeting Committee Chairperson, 6987 Coleshill Dr., San Diego, CA 92119-1953. 619-466-3443.

John will make sure the editor is notified so that ample notice can be included in *Coil Line*. The local organizer can also submit additional information.

**Saturday, April 13, East Pittsburgh, PA** – WILKPEX stamp show in East Pittsburgh, PA, at 1 p. m. WILKPEX and the regional meeting will take place at Olympia Hall, 1275 Electric Ave. Contact Janet M. Gillis at 6 Robb Hollow Rd, Pittsburgh PA 15243-1718 or e-mail through scottie@libcom.com, or by phone at (412)

**Saturday, May 25** at ORCOEXPO at the Holiday Inn in Monrovia, CA, from noon to 2 p.m.. The address is 924 W. Huntington Drive, just off of the I-210 freeway.

For further details, contact John E Peterson by email at jkpete@pacbell.net or by phone at (619) 466-3443.

**August 2002** – Annual Meeting in conjunction with the APS Stampshow in Atlantic City, NJ Aug. 15-18. The meeting is usually on Saturday, with the board meeting in the morning. Details later.

New officers from the election early this summer will be announced.

Anyone with items for consideration can submit such to President Gene Trinks.

## COIL LINE

Published monthly as the journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, also known as PNC<sup>3</sup>. Copy must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month. The March issue was mailed February 25.

**President:** Gene Trinks, 3603 Bellows Ct., Troy, MI 48083.  
gctrinks@sprynet.com

**Distribution:** Alan Thomson, P.O. Box 91, Northwood, NH 03261 or mrsnips@tds.net Mailed under Bulk Rate permit No. 1, Northwood, NH 03261. Contact Alan first about which back issues he has in stock.

He may refer you to Charles Still at 15826 N.E. 184th St., Holt, MO 64048 for older issues. Please include an SASE. There is a modest charge to cover expenses.

**Changes of address:** Should be sent to and membership applications are available from Don Eastman, Secretary, 24 Bemis St., Berlin, NH 03570. easte@landmarknet.net

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

**Dues:** Are \$12 per year (\$15 for First Class mailing of *Coil Line*, \$17 for Canada and Mexico and \$22 for all others) and should be sent to Tom McFarland, Treasurer, P.O. Box 756 Princeton Jct., NJ 08550  
pnc3treasurer@home.com

**Advertising rates:** Are \$42 for a full page, \$24 for 1/2 page and \$12 for 1/4 page per issue. A check or money order made payable to PNC<sup>3</sup> 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 free, 40-word ads per year. Word ads are available at 6 cents per word per issue to nonmembers and those members who have used their free ads.

## Ads

**DON'T QUIT SAVING PNCs** in pairs because of self adhesives. I can offer used PNC pairs, on paper at \$2.50 per ten pairs. Rahn, 6316 LaSalle Road, Delray Beach, FL 33484.

**PNC USED SINGLES**, used strips and MNH PS5s. Great prices! Visit <http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/HimesPNCs> or send SASE for details. John Himes, P.O. Box 453 Cypress, CA 90630-0453.

321 PNC STRIPS of 5, some duplicates. About 15 strips in lot are 3, 4 or 9 stamps. Face \$331.85 SCV \$945. Best offer between face & CV submitted via e-mail or letter by 4/12/02 wins the entire lot. Strips are in Vario stock sheets and catalogued. Buyer pays shipping. Advise method preferred. Handwritten copy of inventory available for 57 cents, #10 SASE. Scott's start at 2225 and end at 3302. Some #'s in between missing. JHOOGHE@aol.com or ph. 937-885-2806.

## Exhibiting

Bill McMurray's Tomorrow's Classics Part II (1982-1983 Transportation Coil Issues) will be at:

SONEX, Saturday, April 6, U.S. Postal facility, 50 Brewery St., New Haven, CT 06511 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

MANPEX, Saturday and Sunday April 27 & 28 at East Catholic High School, 115 New State Road, Manchester, CT from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

## Membership

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Elvsas, Ken, 1151  
Fierens, Paul, 1598  
Fleshman, Terry L., 1403  
Frackman, Sam, 608  
Gautsche, Nate, 1584j  
Griesbach, Thomas, 449  
Gullo, William S, 1256  
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Hamm, Michael, 1146  
Hanson, Victor W., 746  
Harris, Ted, 1453  
Heidenis, Warren E, 986  
Holtmark, Erling B., 1558  
Katz, Melvin, 1327  
Kempner, Irving H, 949  
Kendall, Gerald W., 1511  
Kershaw, George, 1365  
Launier, Arthur G., 1563  
Le Vine, Harry A, 777  
Leyes, Gregory K, 1586  
McPherron, Brian, 735  
Mertens, Lawrence E, 974  
Michels, Robert, 971  
Mickelson, Charles A., 756  
Moore, Paul, 1344  
Motorwalla, Wali, 327  
Mueggenburg, H. Harry, 309  
Nickel, Alan, 118  
Perkins, Evelyn, 305  
Qureshi, Faisal, 1348  
Rhodes, Mike, 1569  
Rossi, Raymond, 1601  
Schieferstein, Fred, 697  
Schulman, Earle, 1572  
Senger, Frank, 1340  
Serian, Leo, 1543  
Shively, Jr., Frank, 179  
Snippen, Brian, 1559  
Stafford, Curt, 1012  
Stern, Josef, 1571  
Stroud, Ozzie, 1282  
Sweeney, John M., 1451  
Taylor, Joseph, 1214  
Thompson, Thomas, 529  
Tilley, Michael, 104  
Werbany, Edward, 545

*Change of address:*  
Susan Lee Tucker, #1439  
2174 W 190<sup>th</sup> St.  
Torrance, CA 90504

## Sunlight

(Continued from page 37)

Philatelic Expertizing Service, the opinion stated that the stamp was altered in color by exposure to sunlight.

This should be a further warning to store your PNCs in a safe place, away from direct sunlight, and to be aware that when it comes to red in your stamps, all may not be what it seems.

## Web site

(Continued from 40)

have been able to post the results online shortly after the auction closes.

On behalf of John and myself, I'd like to thank everyone for his or her help and suggestions. If there is something you would like to see added to the web site, please let me know and if it's possible and practical, I'll see what I can do.

## In search

(Continued from page 40)

eral rolls of 17c 5C and 7C 4L which have been distributed throughout the market. There were also some 5,6B 1L rolls and the then very scarce 3,4A line gaps. The only previously unknown item that I found was the 17c 3,4 B-A 5R. Unfortunately, much of what was found had cut numbers but there were enough whole (but very low) numbers to meet a bit of the demand out there.

I returned home that afternoon and began the task of stripping down some of the rolls. It was quite an adventure and stands high on my list of exciting searches.

# Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

## Candidate Information

The following information has been provided by the candidates for the respective offices.  
Ballots will be included with the June issue of Coil Line.

### For President:

**Frank Covey** – Frank grew up in Peoria, IL, and lived there until going to college. In 1963 he graduated from the university of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa, with a BA degree. First employment was with the Sheaffer Pen Company in the International Sales Division. Drafted by the U.S. Army, he spent two years at Fort Sill, OK. After his service career ended in 1966, he returned to Sheaffer Pen to begin apprenticeship as a computer operator and programmer. In 1969 he moved to the St. Louis, MO, area to begin computer programming for MasterCard. In 1973 was employed as a computer programmer for Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. In 1977 he married Carol Graham. They have one son who starts college in the fall of 2002. Frank retired from Western Illinois University in 1997 after 24 years in computer programming. He now has part time employment as an Internet installer.

Frank's interest in stamps began as a child. He was bored one summer and his mother gave him an old stamp album that his father had started. Collecting waned during the college and army years, but after starting work, he again set aside stamps from new issues. A 1986 trip to Ameripex, the big international show in Chicago, got his stamp blood boiling again. From a *Linn's* subscription, he learned about PNCs and was hooked. The debate about collecting length was raging at the time. Collect PS3 or PS5? Frank chose PS9, the longest length that would fit in a number 10 envelope. He still collects PS9 today, but has added backnumbered coils in lengths of 11 (PSA) and 13 (WAG). He has a precancel permit which helps him burn the scrap. He sponsors a stamp club at St. Paul's School for 4th, 5th and 6th graders.

### For Vice President:

**John Peterson:** I am John Peterson from San Diego, CA, and I am running for the office of Vice President for the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC3). I am a life member of the PNC3 and am currently a Member at Large of the PNC3. In addition, I am also the club's Regional Meeting Committee Chairman. In my capacity as RMA Chair, I have personally set up and run several regional meetings, as well as being custodian of the club's slide program.

In addition to my duties for the PNC3, I am the Secretary/Treasurer for the American Ceremony program Society (ACPS) and the First Vice president for the United States Presidential Inaugural Philatelic Society (USPIPS). I have written several articles for *Linn's Stamp News* and *The Ceremonial* (the ACPS) journal) on behalf of the ACPS. I hope I can count on the support of the membership as I attempt to reach my goal of becoming PNC3 Vice President.

**Charlie Still:** My name is Charlie Still. I'm 67-years-old and married with five kids. I'm also retired.

I started collecting stamps about 40 years ago. I stuck with general U.S. and German until the advent of PNCs. I still spend a little time on the German collection, but the majority of time, effort and resources are devoted to PNCs, mostly used singles. In addition to PNC3, I'm a member of APS and the Mailer's Postmark Permit Club.

### For Treasurer:

**Andrew Jakes:** I have collected PNC mint strips since 1985 and began organizing a used PNC single collection in 2001. In addition, I collect mint and used USA, and work with used worldwide stamps as I accumulate the material. I earned both the CPA (Certified Public Accountant) and the CFA (Charter Financial Analyst) Certificates. My business career was primarily as a securities analyst for investments, where I applied my accounting background.

I retired from full-time employment in 1999, but currently maintain a limited part-time independent consulting practice.

### For Secretary:

**Tom McFarland:** I have been collecting stamps for most of my life, having started a collection as Cub Scout project. In addition to PNCs, my collecting interests include U.S. self-adhesive convertible and vending booklets. I have also collected general U.S., Canada, U.N., Machin definitives, and Ireland. Other than stamps my outside interests include old cars, woodworking, music and computers. I have been employed in the data processing industry for the past 29 years, and have contributed in various positions to development and maintenance of a variety of business system applications.

I've decided to run for club secretary because I feel it's important to have some continuity on the board. Having served as club treasurer for the past four years has enabled me to become familiar both with club operations, as well as many PNC issues that have been the subject of board discussion and deliberation.

It has been a pleasure to serve the club, and to meet, and to work with many of the members. I look forward to being able to continue.

(Over for At-Large Candidates)

## **Members At-Large:**

**Scott Adams:** I started collecting PNCs early in 1984. It has been the major focus of my collecting efforts since Ameripex 1986. I joined PNC3 in 1993 at the Houston APS Show. I've assembled my collection with the help of dealers, contacts/trading partners across the country and my own innumerable stamp hunting trips. My basic format is PS5s. I also collect EFO material, back numbers on plate numbers, and the different classes of commercial covers.

I treasure the many friendships I've developed with fellow collectors. Indeed it is the greatest benefit this pursuit has provided me. I hope to be able to pass on a sense of the fun, comraderie and positive experiences I've enjoyed. Thereby, passing on the legacy for the next generation of PNC collectors.

**Ken Cherry:** A PNC3 member since 1989, I have been an active collector of U.S. stamps since 1978. I began collecting PNC strips of three in 1981. Then in 1988 I became an avid collector of PNC commercial covers. I also collect Purple Machine Cancels on cover, PS5 and used singles. For fun I enjoy creating my own First Day Covers on my computer. Just this past year I began a collection of early Air Mail covers. I am also a member of the White Rose Philatelic Society in York, PA, and have exhibited PNC commercial covers at the annual York County Stamp Show. Recent exhibits include *Decimal Denominated Coils of the Transportation Series* and *Purple Machine Cancels on Commercial Cover*.

In 1991-2 I served the club as an At-Large Member of the Board, was a member of the Publicity Committee in 1992 and chaired the Nominating Committee in 1994. Most recently I designed and printed the new PNC3 membership card. Over the years I have contributed correspondence and articles to *Coil Line*.

**Richard Nazar:** (PNC3 #389) wants to assist the PNC3 board in elevating our membership's enjoyment and understanding of plate number coils. Richard is a life member of our organization, and he has been involved in our specialty since 1985. For almost two decades he has contributed to our knowledge of PNCs through extensive research, analysis, and collaborative efforts with some of the leading PNC researchers and writers, which have been shared in *Coil Line*, *Linn's Stamp news*, *Stamp Collector* and *The Plate Number (TPN)*. Richard also edited and published the award-winning 1995 plate Number Coil catalog that sold nearly 1,000 copies. His ability to establish ties with USPS officials, Bureau of Engraving & Printing (BEP) management, stamp-producing vendors, stamp dealers, and collectors continues to yield a wealth of stamp information that enriches our hobby.

Richard's enthusiasm for PNCs has carried him from his home in New Jersey to many stamp shows and events across the country where he has enjoyed the comraderie of fellow club members. As a PNC3 Member At-Large, Richard will serve the organization by promoting our specialty, stimulating participation from our members, and enhancing our members' enjoyment of PNCs through education and increased communications.

**Burt Robbins:** I am running for a Member-At-Large seat in the next election. I have been collecting PNCs since about 1984 and have been a member since about that time. Also have been a stamp collector for many years and collect USPS labels and memorabilia. I've attended regional meetings in Sarasota for several years and in Providence, RI.

My home is on Cape Cod and I am also a Florida "snowbird." I retired from the USPS in October, 1992. Married to my wife Genny for 50 years. We have three children and nine grandchildren, and have lived in the same house for 46 years. I look forward to serving the PNC3 membership.