



WWW.PNC³.ORG

Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club – PNC³

American Philatelic Society Affiliate # 185

Volume 20, Number 12

December 2007

Number 231

FROM THE PRESIDENT . . .

November Coil Line mailing a success!

The November issue of *Coil Line* which was distributed by Brian and Cory Snippen appears to have been a success. There were only a couple of minor glitches that I am aware of. If there was a problem that we need to work on, please let me know. I was happy with the way the colored ink turned out on the front page, and the quality of the illustrations on the inside pages. We intend to keep using color on the cover page, and on an inside page now and then, when the situation warrants. Overall, I was satisfied with the finished product. I hope that you were also.

Everyone who received their copy of *Coil Line* by bulk mail had the envelope franked with a Plate Number Coil stamp. Some of those who opt for 1st Class delivery also received a PNC.

Thanks for the Tremendous Job . . .

Thanks so much to our retiring editor, Harold Brown, for his dedication and service to the club for the past seventeen plus years, since taking over the helm as editor from Tom Maeder in June of 1990.

Thanks also to Alan Thomson for his service as Distribution Manager of *Coil Line* for many years. The first mention that I could find in *Coil Line* listing Alan as the Distribution Manager was in July of 1990, a month after Harold took over as editor.

(Continued on Page 164)

FROM THE EDITOR . . .

My New Job



It is a great honor to have been selected to hold the position of “The Editor of Coil Line” for the year 2008. Thanks to Ron Maifeld, the President of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, (PNC³), for having the confidence in me to be able to carry out my responsibilities, in a polite and professional manner. My first task was to redesign the format of this newsletter, and after many hours of working with him, and with the help of several members, this was successfully accomplished. Many readers have overwhelmingly approved of the new look. This is the first issue being attempted with the full responsibility of getting *Coil Line* published. I pledge to do the best job that I can, and ask for the cooperation of all members in making my tenure this year a great success. I can be contacted at home anytime, with questions, comments, and discussions about the success of *Coil Line*, and our club.

Delayed Mailing

Your *Coil Line* may arrive late this month due to the holiday weekend. It is usually mailed on the 4th Thursday of the month, however this month it falls on Thanksgiving day weekend, so the mailing will be moved up to the 5th Thursday. We apologize for the delay. Thank You.

PNC³ Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

ISSN: 1931-5112

Todd R. Uebele, Sr., **Editor**

CoilLineEditor@aol.com

Brian and Cory Snippen, **Publishers**

snippenb@comcast.net

Advertising Rates

Full Page	\$ 42.00
Half Page	\$ 28.00
Quarter Page	\$ 12.00
Eighth Page	\$ 8.00
Color Ad Per Insertion	\$125.00

A check or money order, made out to “**Coil Line**” must accompany camera ready ad. Advertising copy must be submitted by the 10th of the month. Please send all copy to Coil Line Editor, 1667 Wolf Road, Iron Station, North Carolina, 28080-1982. Classified Ad rate is six cents a word per issue, with a minimum of \$2.00 per individual ads. Two ads per year per member are available at no charge, with the above rates applying after that. Please submit to the editor by 10th of month.

Coil Line reserves the right to edit copy as necessary.

Coil Line is published monthly, subscriptions are included with paid up membership. An electronic full color version of **Coil Line** is available worldwide, also included with PNC3 \$12.00 member dues. Foreign, and non-member mail Subscription Rates are: US \$12.00; North America, (Canada, and Mexico): \$17.00; and Outside North America; \$22.00. First Class Mail for United States is available for an additional \$6.00, yearly. Past issues available at \$2.00 per copy, quantities limited.

All material copyright 2007. All rights reserved. Material in this publication may be copied or reproduced with acknowledgement to **Coil Line**. Opinions expressed by the authors and writers are of their own volition, and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, publisher, or the membership of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club.

All Correspondence, Letters to the Editor, and advertising questions, should be sent to **Coil Line** 1667 Wolf Road, Iron Station, NC, 28080, email CoilLineEditor@AOL.com, or Phone 704-735-5484, 10:00 AM – 6: 00 PM Weekdays.

Distribution

The Incredible Bulk Mailing Co., Tualatin, Oregon, 97062, Email, incrediblebulk@comcast.net, Phone, (503) 810-7825, Mailed from Zip Code 97208, on November 28, 2007

PNC³ Contacts



www.PNC3.org

Elected Officers

Ron Maifeld, **President**

Post Office Box 54622

Cincinnati, OH 45254-0622

Email: ron.maifeld@pnc3.org

513-231-4208

Tom McFarland, **Vice President**

Post Office Box 756

Princeton Jct., NJ 08550-0756

Email: tmcfarland@comcast.net

609-275-6323

Dan Farrar, **Secretary**

3386 Excalibur Circle NW

Canton, OH 44708-1143

Email: farrar@raex.com

330-477-6913

Harvey Wales, **Treasurer**

13 Birmingham Place

Vernon Hills, IL 60061-2103

Email: hwales16@aol.com

847-367-2629

Frank Covey, **Past President**

16 Grandview Drive

Macomb, IL 61455-9705

Email: cquail@macomb.com

309-837-5218

Andrew Jakes, **At Large**

2303 Horseshoe Court

Grayslake, IL 60030-9327

Email: pntreasurer@aol.com

847-543-4487

Edward Wigger, **At Large**

1123 Baldwin Street

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-3935

717-697-0255

* * *

Todd R. Uebele, Sr., **Coil Line Editor**

1667 Wolf Road

Iron Station, NC 28080-9418

Email: CoilLineEditor@aol.com

704-735-5484

Editorial Page

Plate Numbers, To Be, or Not To Be

Continuing controversy surrounding the United States Postal Service's haphazard policy changes, seem to be the rule rather than the exception. Not too often do issues stir up as much animosity as has the recent decision by the USPS to do away with plate number changes, which are assigned to the various printing plate changes in modern day stamps. It seems that this issue has created a major split in the philatelic community, with both sides strongly vocal in their views, with each having valid arguments to support their stand.

Since the mid 90's the majority of collectors have complained about the excessive quantities of new issues coming from the USPS. Add to that all the different varieties of the same stamps, making it nearly impossible to keep up with the rising costs of the hobby. Collectors have been turning to specialization as a way to continue to enjoy their hobby. Plate number collecting has been around since the beginning of time in the form of plate blocks. However the USPS in their infinite wisdom started putting full numbers for multi colored stamps, creating the need to buy almost a half sheet to complete the plate block. After years of controversy, plate numbers developed into a single digit, for each color, to complete the number next to a single stamp. Then in their attempt to sell more stamps, the USPS came up with 20 stamp sheets, with plate numbers on each of the four corners, making plate numbers as common as the regular stamps. This effectively all but destroyed the plate block collecting specialty. There are still many diehard PB collectors out there, who started to "Back fill" their collections with early plate blocks, so this area of the hobby has made a comeback.

Now the same sort of argument is surrounding the elimination of almost all plate number changes. Think back to the "H" stamp, and later on the 37 cent Flag stamp. As usual, collectors were up in arms complaining that no one could afford coil collecting any more. Well the coil people got through that ok, and the PNC specialty grew into a

major force within the philatelic community. Now that the USPS thinks it is necessary to discontinue the use of revised plate numbers because of the advancement in printing technology, many in the philatelic community, mostly plate number collectors, find themselves in a state of panic. The hobby will be destroyed, say many, by the USPS's new policy. The simple fact is that printing plates have given way to the new digital technology in the printing world. This negates the need for the continued use of such. In fact it would actually cost a great deal of extra money to create artificial and unneeded numbers. This would increase costs and partly lead to more rate increases, which virtually everyone will complain about. Soooooo, let's take a look at the positive side of what is happening here.

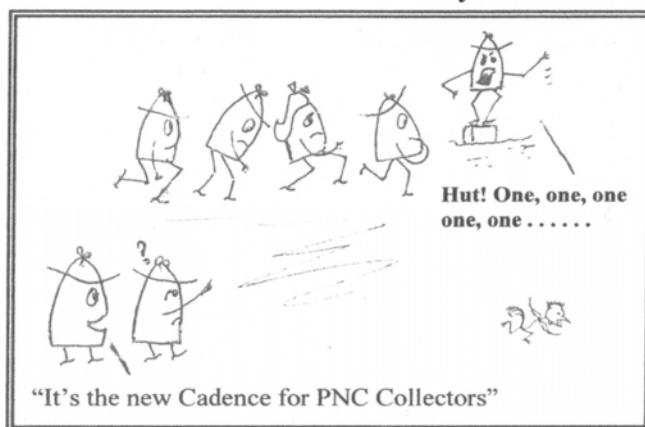
The demand for new plate numbers will substantially decrease, leaving a void that will need to be filled. This void, in my opinion, would be filled by the need to fall back and build collections from previous issues. This in turn would create a demand for most of the older stock out there by collectors looking to fill in their collections. This will further stimulate interest and sales, perhaps actually helping a foundering hobby. We will no longer have to scramble to keep up with hundreds of new issues every year, and actually have much more enjoyable time with our hobby.

The Editor

* * *

The PN Seers

by Dan Kauffman



Identifying Types of the 2006 Avery Lady Liberty and Flag and the Avery Buckeye Coils of 100

Introduction

This research report lays out the evidence for the existence of two discernible types of the Avery 39c Lady Liberty and Flag Coil of 100 (Scott 3983) and possibly three types of the Avery 24c Common Buckeye Coil of 100 (Scott 4002). This report has been divided into three parts. In the first part, details of the stamp's production and distribution will be laid out as presently known along with a broad time frame for their first appearance. Three issues affecting the ability of philatelists to discern new types will then be reviewed. In part two, the characteristics that determine the three types of the 24c Common Buckeye will be laid out together with the evidence of whether they represent different printings. In part three, the same will be done for the Avery 39c LLF Coil of 100 types and then conclude with a possible explanation for the differences between the various types. This report is not meant to be authoritative but, rather, a tentative first effort based on limited information. Hopefully, collectors who read this report will take the time to study their copies of these stamps and report their own conclusions. Also, it is the hope that those with greater knowledge of the printing and distribution process of modern postage stamps will propose stronger and more definitive answers than those provided here.

Part One

Production and Distribution Information

Scott 3983, (PSA 39c Lady Liberty and U.S. Flag) Avery Dennison Coil of 100 (USPS Item Number 783600), was produced via gravure on the Dia Nippon Kiko press in the standard Yellow, Magenta, Cyan and Black colors on unphosphored Type III paper with plate number #V1111 every 11 stamps. These stamps were over tagged with phosphor during print production. Officially issued April 8, 2006, in Washington D.C. and nationwide the USPS held up printing and distribution of many denominated issues of the 39c Lady Liberty and U.S. Flag (LLF) intending on drawing down their inventory of the non-denominated issues. As of early June of 2006, Avery Dennison confirmed that their LLF Coil of 100 had been printed and shipped to the USPS. Available at Kansas City from at least late June, they did not see widespread distribution until mid-August, 2006.

The 39c Avery LLF coil of 100 was first issued bubble wrapped. The leader strips were a bright pristine white with black text and barcodes. In February of 2007 Bob Novak reported finding what appeared to be a new issue of the Avery coil in the same bubble wrap but this time with a blue leader strip. According to Scott Adams, the leader strips were a mottled, splotchy blue. Opinion immediately divided over the importance of the find, with some major PNC dealers rejecting the perceived differences as "negligible." This was due, in part, to the fact that the proponents of a "new printing" focused on features that did not prove to be constant across multiple copies of the two types.

Scott 4002, (PSA 24c Common Buckeye) Avery Dennison Coil of 100 (USPS Item Number 783600), was also produced via gravure on the Dia Nippon Kiko press in the standard Yellow, Magenta, Cyan and Black colors. The stamps were printed on prephosphored Type I paper with plate number #V1111 every 11 stamps. The "Buckeye" was issued March 8, 2006, in Washington D.C. and appeared immediately for purchase around the country.

The story of the discovery of important printing differences in the Common Buckeye is ably told by Ron Maifeld on the PNC3 website at: <http://www.pnc3.org/Data/Common-Buckeye-Compare.doc>. Here I will add only a few newly discovered details. As with the 39c Avery LLF, the Avery Buckeye was also distributed in the same bubble pack with a bright white leader strip with black text. In July 2006 Thomas Harley sent Ron Maifeld a copy of a Buckeye that seemed distinctly different from that issued in March. Harley's "discovery" was waved off as "just an inking variety." Unknown to either Harley or Maifeld but noted at the time by Scott Adams, the packaging of the July 2006 distribution of the Buckeye was, like the Avery LLF, in the same bubble pack but now with the distinctive splotchy blue leader strip. In February 2007, Renate Fearonce in Tucson announced what might be a "new printing" of the Buckeye. Unlike the first two Buckeye variants, this one was "in a plastic tray and individually shrink wrapped, not in the bubble pack." There was also a difference in the text on the leader strip which now said "Mfg by AD." The stamps in this new packaging differed in several respects both from the original strip issued in March and that found by Thomas Harley in July of 2006 (Details of the differences will be covered in Part Two). At the time, most of the focus of the broader collecting community was on the differences between the first and third variants, few having heard of the second. Ultimately, this would lead Ron Maifeld to conclude that there had in fact been "three printings" of the 24c Avery Buckeye. All of Avery's subsequent coils have been issued in the new shrink wrap, leading some to feverishly hunt for a shrink wrap version of the Avery 39c LLF. None were ever found despite requests to Rhode Island, Arizona, Minnesota, Colorado, California, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. All extant rolls were recalled earlier this year.

Problems in Identifying Modern Printing Varieties

Differences in packaging, leader strips, or often subtle differences in appearance, are weak reeds upon which to base conclusions about the existence of philatelically significant new printings of an issue. While they may suggest the possibility of a new printing, they are hardly sufficient. Doug Iams noted that printers can "easily change the leaders or packaging without any change in the stamps themselves. At the BEP they sometimes let web rolls of printed stamps sit for many days before they were processed into coils and Sennett processes their stamps into coils at an entirely different location than they print at. Presumably at Avery the processing doesn't have to take place immediately after printing either. Even if it did, different leader strips could be introduced at any time without interrupting processing (changing the packaging would obviously cause some interruption). So the only question is whether the stamps are different (and then if they are, the difference in leader strips or packaging might be a way to hunt for the new variety if the differences happen to be tied to each other)." There are three factors at work, however, that increasingly require that philatelists rest their conclusions on these weak reeds. The USPS change in plate number policy has hampered the discovery and recognition of new printing variants. As quoted by PNC³, in June of 2006, an Avery spokesperson stated that "on future coils, all of the printing plates will be replaced at the same time, thus eliminating mixed plate number combinations." This change in plate number use was

expanded on in December by Mark Saunders, as reported by Robert Rabinowitz. "With the BEP no longer producing stamps, and the advent of the new rates our requirement with the private suppliers was changed to simplify and reflect the new technology in applying plate numbers on all stamp formats including coils. In addition we no longer utilize the plate activity report as a document for review in accountability audits as was done prior to the automation of accountability documentation and the necessity for changing plate numbers is no longer required with computer to plate technology. We therefore have instructed the suppliers that beginning in January 2007, plate number series would remain as plate number 1 unless a significant change in production such as using a new press, a recreation of the computer file used to make the plates, or a significant materials change occurs. In those cases a new series of plate number 2 will be used." In fact, since the production of the Ashton Potter (39c) Coil of 100 LLF Plate #P2222 probably in late 2005 or early 2006, no coils, and only a handful of pane stamps, have appeared with anything other than "1"s. Leaving aside, for another time, the incomprehensible statement of Mr. Saunders, the use of the same plate number for multiple plates removes one easy means to distinguish individual printings before even beginning the process of hunting for philatelically significant printing differences. Perhaps most important, the absence of new plate numbers sharply reduces the number of stamps that are given close study by philatelists. Thus, important variations within any issue may go unnoticed. After all, once you've found the only known plate number variant, what is the payoff in hunting through hundreds if not thousands of additional rolls in local post offices or spending countless hours sorting through unsorted definitive mixtures.

This policy is truly incomprehensible. Government accountable paper is being produced on a massive scale by private contractors who need not provide, according to the USPS, any information whatsoever on how many printing plates were created and their present status, how many stamps were actually printed, or how many were destroyed. The potential for fraud and abuse created by this policy, if in fact USPS statements are true, is enormous. It took the BEP less than 30 minutes to produce \$1.0 million in postage and current printers are probably even faster. In the past century many countries have seen improperly controlled plates used to create millions of counterfeits or "reprints". It is probably true that the USPS does not need to know how many stamps were created from any specific plate and that private printers have little interest in the matter either. The cost of creating modern self-adhesive postage plates is minimal given current technology. However, keeping track of the plates used is a good additional security measure, far superior to a simple counter attached to the press—something that can be easily falsified. Perhaps it is true that fraud is minimal. Nonetheless, if, in fact, "accountability audits" no longer require the kind of information provided by BEP, or even plate numbers themselves, one would think that these same "audits" would have the information on what date stamps were produced and in what quantities. The USPS, however, continues to insist that such information does not exist. On a simple cost-accountability basis, the USPS only cares how many stamps it receives and at what cost. Regardless of the rationale or the truthfulness of what often seems a misguided effort to reject Freedom of Information requests for data that should be public in the first place, the fact remains that lack of access to this kind of information makes the task of discerning distinct printings and possible variants much more difficult.

The lack of a good "specialized" catalog for modern US postage stamps is one more obstacle to the discovery and recording of philatelically significant printing differences. Scott, for all intents and purposes the only such catalog, has been behind the curve for years on modern US stamps. The reasons for this weakness are many and not all can be laid at Scott's doorstep. First, the shift from BEP to private printers, sometimes multiple printers for a single issue, has led to a dramatic multiplication in the number of basic issues. Taking the (41c) and 41c Flag on Pole coils as a single example, Scott has already used 9 major numbers for two face-different stamps, without even beginning to consider the complications introduced by more subtle differences in the large increase in the number of different stamps issued by the USPS, has meant that significant

resources and space must be granted to the plethora of new issues produced every year. Finally, just as it took Scott over a decade to recognize and catalog plate number coils, they have been remiss in noting the significant differences in die cutting introduced with the self-adhesive postage stamp.

To this day, they have failed to recognize peak-valley and valley-peak die cut differences, much less square versus rounded shoulder die cuts, incision styles, or even the number of peaks on each side of coil stamps. The latter means that the richness and diversity of the 32c Flag over Porch (2915A) issue is lost on even most specialized US collectors, including some of the rarest variants that decades from now, when properly cataloged, that will have collectors muttering over the lost opportunity to hunt for and find these rarities.

What is often unrecognized about this final obstacle is that it was a group of PNC collectors that brought Scott into the modern era of plate number coils. The Coil Study Group, by sheer weight of scholarship, and persistence over years, forced the Scott editors to take notice and eventually include this information. Not coincidentally, this inclusion occurred almost simultaneously with Stephen Esrati's first issue of a PNC specialized catalog that brought together much of the Coil Study Group's labor. The existence of the Coil Study Group provided a knowledgeable body of people who studied the new issues, especially the Transportation series in the early years, and could then provide a relatively authoritative voice on new variants discovered that were then laid out coherently in a plate number coil catalog. The collapse of this group in the mid-1990s, many of whom no longer are collectors, just as the transition to private printers and self-adhesives took complete hold, was a real blow to the study of these variants. The discontinuation of the PNC catalog has had an even more devastating effect. Together, these two developments meant that a coherent and authoritative voice for new variants was lost.

All of these factors together have made the difficult and time consuming job of identifying new types, and then convincing the broader collector community that they are significant enough for catalog inclusion, much more difficult. The purpose of the next two parts of this report is to lay out the clear and discernable differences between the three types of the Avery Buckeye and the two types of the 39c Avery Lady Liberty and Flag. Ultimately, the descriptions provided here should allow any collector, regardless of their level of expertise, to discern the five different types on mint and used stamps, both on and off cover. 14 mint strips of 5, 3 mint strips of 11 and 6 single mint PNCs purchased from 5 dealers and 6 different post offices all over the United States were used to study the proposed first and second types of the 39c Avery LLF. An additional 26 mint plate strips of 5 were reviewed from a dealer's stock and 42 no number used singles were classified by type for a total of 281 stamps. 8 mint strips of 5, 4 mint strips of 11, and 5 mint single PNCs purchased from 7 dealers and 4 different post offices were used to study the three types of the Avery Buckeye. An additional 28 mint plate strips of 5 and 2 plate strips of 3 were reviewed from a dealers stock and 22 no number used singles were classified by type for a total of 257 stamps. Efforts to acquire all five leader strips for the Avery LLF and Buckeye failed. If any label collectors have them, and if they differ from what was described here, please let the author know. The results of this study will be presented in future issues of Coil Line, starting with the Avery Buckeye.

Part Two Coming Next Month

PNC³ Auction Results

Auctioneer, Joe Sedivy

RESULTS FOR AUCTION #37 CLOSING OCTOBER 20, 2007

We had 61 bidders in this auction with 55 winning at least one lot. Of the 445 lots 240 sold. This was not as good as some earlier auctions but still not bad either. I want to thank all consignors and bidders as they are the members that make these club auctions work! Also, a big thanks to all who donated lots for this and future auctions. All but 2 of the donated lots sold.

UNSOLD LOTS ARE NOT LISTED

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
1	\$40.00	81	\$65.00	137	\$6.00	186	\$6.00	265	\$6.00	348	\$8.00	407	\$5.00
2	\$9.00	83	\$10.00	139	\$5.00	187	\$5.50	266	\$160.00	349	\$5.50	408	\$80.00
4	\$41.00	84	\$15.00	141	\$8.00	188	\$7.00	267	\$18.00	350	\$8.00	410	\$3.00
16	\$6.00	90	\$5.00	142	\$7.00	189	\$5.50	268	\$15.00	351	\$12.00	411	\$3.00
20	\$15.00	92	\$5.00	144	\$7.00	190	\$5.00	269	\$12.00	352	\$18.00	413	\$1.50
23	\$22.00	93	\$6.00	146	\$7.50	193	\$15.00	270	\$4.50	354	\$15.00	416	\$3.00
38	\$15.00	97	\$6.00	147	\$7.50	194	\$200.00	274	\$16.00	355	\$15.00	417	\$5.00
46	\$180.00	98	\$5.00	148	\$6.50	195	\$4.50	276	\$5.00	358	\$10.00	418	\$11.00
47	\$24.00	99	\$4.00	149	\$2.50	196	\$52.50	277	\$100.00	360	\$15.00	419	\$10.00
49	\$50.00	101	\$2.00	150	\$3.50	197	\$250.00	285	\$50.00	361	\$12.00	420	\$20.00
51	\$35.00	102	\$2.50	151	\$3.25	202	\$15.00	286	\$5.00	362	\$30.00	422	\$210.00
53	\$8.00	103	\$10.00	152	\$90.00	205	\$10.00	287	\$15.00	363	\$15.00	423	\$10.00
54	\$3.00	104	\$16.00	153	\$7.00	206	\$8.00	288	\$5.00	364	\$23.00	426	\$1.00
55	\$6.00	105	\$5.50	154	\$250.00	215	\$4470.00	289	\$6.00	365	\$23.00	427	\$3.00
56	\$23.00	110	\$1.50	155	\$14.00	216	\$55.00	290	\$6.00	366	\$7.00	430	\$4.00
57	\$2.50	111	\$3.50	157	\$5.50	219	\$9.00	298	\$9.00	367	\$15.00	431	\$2.00
59	\$3.50	112	\$6.00	158	\$5.00	220	\$6.00	307	\$65.00	371	\$15.00	432	\$1.00
61	\$4.00	114	\$8.50	159	\$25.00	221	\$5.00	313	\$5.00	373	\$8.00	433	\$2.00
62	\$3.00	115	\$10.00	160	\$8.50	226	\$6.00	316	\$25.00	374	\$3.00	434	\$2.00
63	\$3.50	119	\$2.00	161	\$3.00	228	\$5.00	317	\$32.00	375	\$50.00	435	\$1.00
64	\$6.00	120	\$4.50	162	\$13.00	230	\$5.00	318	\$200.00	376	\$4.00	436	\$2.00
65	\$210.00	121	\$4.00	163	\$16.00	231	\$9.00	319	\$75.00	377	\$4.00	437	\$3.00
66	\$125.00	123	\$5.00	164	\$50.00	232	\$8.00	321	\$22.00	378	\$2.00	438	\$3.00
68	\$90.00	124	\$8.00	165	\$10.00	233	\$11.00	322	\$5.00	379	\$2.00	439	\$3.00
69	\$140.00	125	\$1.50	166	\$80.00	238	\$235.00	328	\$20.00	382	\$12.00	440	\$3.50
70	\$125.00	126	\$50.00	168	\$10.00	244	\$6.00	336	\$9.00	383	\$2.00	441	\$3.00
71	\$12.00	127	\$2.00	170	\$11.00	245	\$5.00	337	\$42.00	384	\$5.00	442	\$5.00
73	\$17.00	128	\$3.00	171	\$5.00	247	\$5.00	338	\$5.00	385	\$2.00	443	\$40.00
74	\$6.50	129	\$8.50	173	\$7.50	250	\$5.00	339	\$45.00	386	\$2.50	444	\$10.00
75	\$14.00	130	\$8.00	175	\$8.50	251	\$5.00	340	\$15.00	388	\$25.00	445	\$65.00
76	\$16.00	131	\$8.50	176	\$85.00	253	\$8.00	342	\$31.00	390	\$5.00		
77	\$10.00	132	\$10.00	178	\$8.00	254	\$5.00	343	\$4.00	392	\$4.00		
78	\$8.00	134	\$3.50	179	\$4.00	260	\$4.00	345	\$12.00	403	\$2.50		
79	\$12.00	135	\$3.25	182	\$3.00	261	\$4.00	346	\$7.00	405	\$2.00		
80	\$50.00	136	\$5.50	185	\$13.00	264	\$8.00	347	\$7.00	406	\$1.50		

Cover of the Month

By Rob Washburn 12-07



International Rescue Committee
122 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10168
877-REFUGEE (733-8433)
www.theIRC.org



**Renewal Reminder and Matching Gift
Notification for IRC Supporter:**



TIME SENSITIVE



The above features the PNC of the 25 cent Eagle, Scott 3796, with plate number S3333333. Notice the upward shift, showing six of the seven digits moved up, with 4 digits touching the image, and 2 (the yellow and grey), moved into the image.

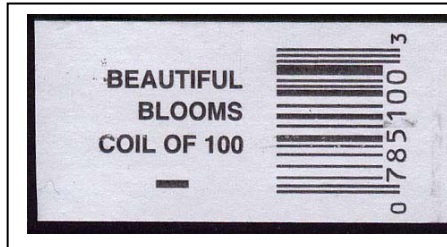
If you have a scarce, interesting, unusual, or out of the ordinary PNC Cover, that you would like to share with Coil Line readers, please send it to: Rob Washburn, PO Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine, 044976. Please include your Name, Address, and Phone Number, for a prompt return of your cover.

If you have scanning capabilities, you may email a scan to me at stamps@beeline-online.net. Please scan at 600 dpi on a jpg file. R.W.

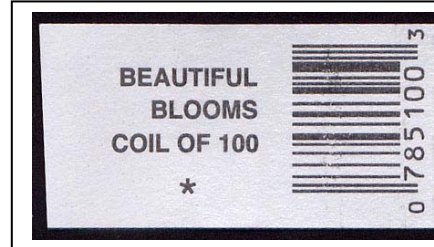
Four Wrapper Designs on Beautiful Blooms

By Frank Covey

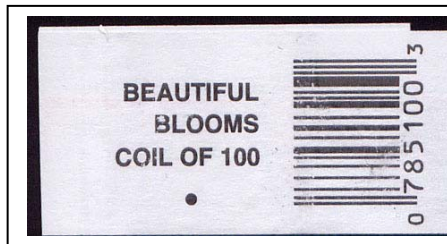
Underneath the words "Beautiful Blooms Coil of 100" on each of the coil wrappers shown below is a different symbol. The symbols are a solid bar, a star, a dot, or an empty rectangle. Why there is need for a symbol is a mystery. Two of these four wrapper styles have also been found on the 41c Ashton-Potter American Flag on Pole coils (2007-15).



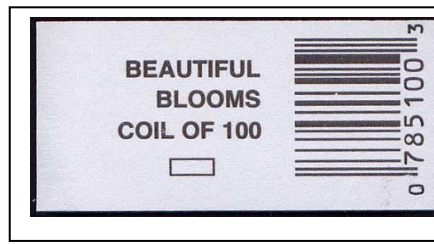
The Bar



The Star



The Dot



The Rectangle

(Continued from page 155)

Alan, in addition to getting *Coil Line* printed and in the mail each month, wrote the Snippets column for many years and kept the 'Roll Sizes Chart' up to date each month.

Alan no longer plans to be involved with *Coil Line*, and as a result of the vacancy, we need a volunteer to update the Roll Size Chart each month. The chart is in Microsoft Word format.

Both Harold and Alan devoted quite a number of hours each and every month in service to the club, and never missed a deadline, for that we are grateful.

Proof-readers needed . . .

We need a couple of people who can proof *Coil Line* for spelling errors and get it back to the editor in one day. This should not involve more than an hour a month around the 16th or 17th. You can choose to remain anonymous if you wish, as far as members knowing who is doing the proofing.

PNC Values List . . .

Several members have asked about a revised Values List. The catalog committee hopes to have an order form in the January, 2008 issue of *Coil Line*.

Welcome to our new editor . . .

Todd R. Uebele, Sr. is married with four grown children and five grand children. He and his wife, Fran, live in North Carolina. After retiring from a career in Construction Management in 2005, He started writing.

Todd has been an avid stamp collector of United States Stamps for close to 50 years. He collects all aspects of U. S. varieties. One area of particular interest has been the Flag over Porch stamps, in which Todd became interested during the late 1990's, and he began specializing in them shortly thereafter.

In 2002, Todd prepared and gave a presentation on FOP at the local stamp club. The presentation was well received, but in Todd's opinion, it was lacking depth. About two years later, it was suggested that Todd give another presentation. A couple of fellow club members suggested that maybe a book should be written about the Flag over Porch stamp series. After giving it much thought, Todd met with a publisher to further discuss the possibility of publishing such a book. After several meetings, an agreement was reached to publish a reference book.

During his research, while communicating with several resources people, the idea to create an album came up. A list of stamps and spots to put them were already in the works for the book, making it easy to build an album. The research continued and the album was refined and published. Eventually two more albums, part II with Coil Strips and part III with Booklets and Booklet Panes were published.

Merry Christmas & Seasons Greetings . . .

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and/or Happy Holidays from myself and all the officers of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club.

Letters to the Editor

The November electronic issue arrived successfully this morning. Another nice job. One suggestion: Increase the left-hand margin a smidgen (Maybe a ¼ inch). I usually punch each issue, and keep them in a three ring binder. On another note, I am one for simplicity, and prefer the borderless look of the previous issues.

Don Mackintosh
donmac@comcast.net

The new Rarities Chart format looks great!! Thanks for the revisions. I will use it as a template for the future editions of Coil Line.

Gene Trinks
gctrinks@cox.net

I was out of town when the Nov issue arrived and just today remembered to take a look at it. Certainly a neat looking issue; I like the new arrangement of information, But a three hole punch cuts into the border on each page; punches do not get into the "copy" so it is probably nothing that should be changed. Just letting you know that some of us do punch these.

Joann Lenz
stampsjoann@prodigy.net

Editor's Note: Tried different positions, however the uneven margins made the page look lopsided.

My first edition of the revised Coil Line has just arrived, and it really looks great. How about this, it was franked with a Lion PNC Plate #S33333! I am looking forward to many more improvements!

Ken Moreau #447
Franklin, MA

In the past we have used the first day of the month as the date i.e., November 1, 2007. You show "November, 2007". If it is your intention to leave the day off, I would also remove the comma after November. Another happy customer of the electronic Coil Line.

Frank Covey
cquail@macomb.com

The full color edition of Coil Line has just arrived, and that full color masthead is a real beauty - nice work! Color throughout would be a wonderful addition to an already very fine publication. Congratulations and thank you for a great job.

George Kuhn #007
Coondog2@mailstation.com

Looks good, however, about the color - while it does make the front page look "nicer", the way it was used it was of no value. If it was used for something like showing the two different shades of the new (10c) Banner, then it would be useful. While I have an audience, I'd like to say that I'm sure we have members who benefited from Frank's article on storing long strips - good job.

Doug Iams
DUGEYES@msn.com

I'd like to put in a positive vote for the new color look of Coil Line. Very nice. I appreciate the effort you and Harold have gone through to put out the newsletter. Thanks you.

Jeff Channell #128
jeff.channell@sbcglobal.net

Your cover looks very good.....quite professional. Congratulations.....I hope all of your members appreciate the time and effort you put into this.

Ron J. Kramer
ronjkramer@aol.com

The new front page of Coil Line is great. A job well done! The Bulk Rate Distribution arrived here on October 29th. I even got a PNC on the envelope!

David Reedy
Rochester, NY

Editors Note: The new front page design was a joint effort between me and Ron Maifeld.

PNC Q s & A s

BY ROB LOEFFLER

Each month a question will be posed by a fellow club member. Everyone is encouraged to participate, regardless of your level of knowledge, whether it be novice or expert. I will not report the name of the person presenting the monthly question, so that you need not feel any "embarrassment" asking what you want. Remember, if you pose a question, there are undoubtedly other club members who want to know the same thing. With 25 years of PNC's now under our belt, certainly you may have unanswered questions whose answers are probably within the realm of knowledge of our own club.

Responses to the question will be presented in the following month's issue. The format will be a combination of all responses received, followed by credits to those who participate in the answer, unless you request anonymity.

Both questions and answers can be sent by either email (rdloeffler@optonline.com) or regular mail to:

Rob Loeffler
111 Mandeville Avenue
Pequannock, NJ 07440-1817

This month's question comes from a member, who wants to know if it is possible to tell which Scott #, CVP31a or CVP31c, this strip of computer vended postage stamps would be from?

With the denomination missing, can we tell if the strip is a Type I or Type II coil?



The last question, posed in the August issue, was from a member who wanted to know:

Why does the third stamp from the left appear lower (by .6 mm) than the others on this strip of Scott #1904, plate #2?



The answer came from Alan Thomson, who responded as follows:

The 10.9c Hansom Cab from plate #2 has a "dropped transfer" on the next to last stamp in one of the 18 rows of the Cottrell plate. When the transfer roll was positioned to make the impression in the plate, it was set low and also to the left. Both movements are easily seen when compared to the adjacent stamps, and both are about .5 mm. This plate entry error received a fair amount of publicity in Linn's Stamp News in August and September of 1987.

The dropped transfer appears on both tagged examples and on the precancel version of plate #2. PS5's of both versions carry a substantial value premium over the normal strips. The premium for the tagged type is about 110% and for the precancel it's about 150%. These are very desirable error strips.

Classified Ads

U.S. Definitives on paper. Absolutely unpicked for PNCs. Five pounds, \$20; ten pounds, \$36. Over five tons sold to satisfied customers. Satisfaction is always guaranteed. Independence Stamp Co., 26 Constitution Drive, Chadds Ford, PA 1931, Email stampco26@aol.com

* * *

USED PNC singles and strips. Send for free, updated daily, pricelist. Quantity lots plus used booklet singles. Bob Murrin. PNC3-LM, P.O. Box 10100, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-0100, Email at murrin@gte.net

* * *

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

* * *

WANTED: Looking to purchase a First Day Cover cachet franked with a single 2915C coil, and a PNC 55555 or 66666. Prefer Colorano, or Artcraft, but will consider others. Todd Uebele 704-735-5484, or uebele@flagoverporchpubs.com

* * *

Flag Over Porch Seminars by Todd R. Uebele, Sr. scheduled for Fri and Sat, January 11, and 12, 2008, will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, on Fri at 11:00 AM in Room 205, for dealers, and on Sat at 2:00 PM in Room 205 for collectors, with both sessions open to all. Door prizes to be awarded.

* * *

Classified Ad rates are six cents per word, with a Minimum charge of \$2.50 per insertion. PNC3 Members are entitled to two free 40 word ads per year. The six cent per word rate applies for each word over 40.

2008 Club Dues

If you have not already done so, please retrieve the dues notice that was included with the November *Coil Line* and send in your 2008 dues.

Regional Meetings

Want to sponsor a Regional Meeting?

The Regional Meeting chairman is: Tony Bruno, P. O. Box 624, East Lyme, CT 06333-0624, email, tbbee@aol.com

Contact Tony Bruno for suggestions. He can put you in contact with others who have taken on the task. Several members have made it a regular habit of promoting meetings in their area.

* * *

Saturday, January 12, 2008, from 3:00 PM until 4:00 PM, in Room 205. It will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 South College Street, Charlotte, NC. This is the site of the 2008 AmeriStamp Expo. Guests are encouraged and welcome to attend. Todd R. Uebele, Sr. will be hosting this meeting.

* * *

Saturday, February 5, 2008, and will start at 10:00AM sharp. It will be held at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida. This is the site of the Sarasota National Stamp Exposition. Fred P. Sener will be hosting this meeting.

* * *

Saturday, February 23, 2008, from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM. It will be held at the Mesa Convention Center, 201 North Center Street, Mesa Arizona. This is the site of the 2008 ARIPEX. Guests are encouraged and welcome to attend. Gene Trinks will be hosting this meeting.

* * *

Saturday, April 26, 2008, from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. It will be held at the Central Middle School, Plymouth, Michigan. This is the site for the Plymouth Stamp Show. President Ron Maifeld and Conrad Keydel will host this meeting, which will include time for showing your new finds, trading and selling.

Membership Update

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, Robert E. Thompson, 12431 Golden Thistle, Houston, TX 77058-1225 with the objection. The committee will recommend for or against membership.

New Applicants:

Dale Caudle (2051)
3218 Whiteman Road
Wilmington, Delaware 19808
(302) 598-4409 (Day)
(302) 456-1962 (Evening)
jxpouscg@verizon.net

* *

James McNeil (2052)
15 Linus Avenue
Brockton, MA 02301-4624
(508) 55844-1984 (Day)
jmacneil58@comcast.net

* *

Dennis Ashcroft
110 Ruby Lane #10
Gallup, NH 87301-7116
(505) 722-5952 (Day & Eve)
dbash@earthlink.net

* *

Deceased:

E. V. Chadwick (583), Shavertown, PA

* * *

Mailing List:

Rental of the club mailing list is available upon request. A one time usage fee of \$50.00 includes preprinted labels. Contact Daniel Farrar, Secretary - farrar@raex.com

Address Changes and/or Corrections

Roland Grandahl (654)
Heritage Drive 8A
Windsor, CT 06095
(860) 219-9876
Pnc3rlg@cox.net

* *

Gregory Fast (1322)
379 East 137th Street
Glenpool, OK 74033-2734
gmc85@juno.com

* *

Corrected Spelling:

David Trutwin (1958)

* *

New Email Address

Robert Hubsmith (1517)
lobohub@verizon.net

* *

Previous Membership Count	856
New Members	3
Deceased	1
New Membership count	858

* * *

Change of Address:

Change of Address forms, and membership applications are available from Daniel Farrar, Secretary, 3386 Excalibur Circle NW, Canton Ohio 44708-1143. Email: farrar@raex.com
Both forms are also available on our web site at:
www.PNC3.org