



Coil Line

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Fewer plate numbers likely

The following was posted recently on the U.S. Stamps Discussion Group on the internet from Mark R. Saunders of the USPS in response to a question from Dr. 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.”

(See related letters starting on page 2 from Gene Trinks and Doug Iams for their takes on how this will affect PNC collecting and the club).

Clarification on February Regional Meeting

APS Ameristamp Expo--2007 in Riverside, CA. Saturday, February 10, 2007. The meeting will be at 12 noon to 2 P.M. at the Riverside CA, Convention Center, Riverside CA. Jack Wasserman and J.L. Meyer are in charge and all members and guests are welcome. Free parking and free admission. Members can also meet at the Riverside Stamp Club's table.

Auction lot deadline Jan. 19

Items for the next club auction must be in the hands of Auctioneer Joe Sedivy by Jan. 19. A submission form is attached and can also be found on the club Web site.

Message from the President:

25th year of PNCs was great year for both collectors, club

Looking back at everything that happened this past year, the 25th anniversary of PNCs, 2006 was indeed a great year for Plate Number Coil Collectors and the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club.

At the beginning of the year, we had a total membership of 882 PNC collectors. In March, we added eight new members, but we also took a big hit as we reported two deaths, seven resignations and dropped 54 members for non-payment, which brought us down to 829 members.

Fortunately, that number continued to climb, with a large number of applicants from the Web site, a grand total of 23 new members who signed up at the Washington 2006 show and six or seven at Stampshow in Rosemont, Illinois. As we head into the new year, we have achieved our largest membership total ever, with over 900 members worldwide. There are many who would say that Plate Number Coil Collecting is dead. It's true that there are fewer PNC dealers, and those who sell PNCs probably do much of their business in new issues, but the fact is that, as a club, we continue to grow and interest in our specialty is still at a high level.

At any given time, there are several hundred PNC listings on Ebay and our twice yearly club auctions are well supported. We had a strong presence at Washington 2006, including several PNC seminars, an excellent one frame exhibit, several PNC dealers on the show floor and a society booth, well stocked with PNC material, including back issues of *Coil Line* and dealer price lists. The booth was well staffed with volunteers and provided a gathering place for members, and hosted a continuous 'Power Point' presentation on the booth computer. We had an officers meeting and then a general membership meeting with around 50 people in attendance. We held our bi-yearly elections with the new officers being installed at the APS Stampshow in August. The transition went smoothly and things seem to be in order...and we held the line on a dues increase.

Auction realizations and interest in better PNC items is high. Demand is strong for the rarer and/or unique PNC pieces.

(Continued on page 2)

25th year

(Continued from page 1)

The PNC3 Catalog Committee continues to publish on a regular basis and will soon offer, perhaps in this issue of *Coil Line*, but no later than next month, two new permanent sections of the catalog, one on the 32¢ Flag Over Porch stamps and the other on the 37¢ Flag Waving stamps. The yearly offering dealing with the new issues of the past year, will also be ready soon.

Visits to the PNC3 web site have continued to increase over the years from an average of 10 a day in 1997 to 70 or 80 unique visitors per day at present. Several times recently, the site has peaked at over 100 visitors a day. The counter on the web site a couple of weeks ago registered 245,165 visits. Many of the people coming to our site tend to stay and browse for extended time periods. We are on track to surpass the 250 thousand mark, an increase of 50 thousand, well before the one year anniversary of the two hundred thousand visit mark set January 28, 2006..

While I was doing research for this column, I discovered some interesting data. I did a 'Google' search on PNC3 and came up with 1,280,000 hits. Not all of these, of course, had to do with our club, as there are many other PNC3 groups, organizations, and what have you out there, but the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club was the #1 listing, right at the top of the heap. When I narrowed the search, using PNC3 and the word 'stamps', there still were 746 items dealing with PNC3, and we were still numero uno!

I also found that Wikipedia, the free (online) encyclopedia, has an article on Plate Number Coils, with a link to our club web site.

One of the references that I found on Google was a link to our original web site on GeoCities, which, as it turns out, still is directing people to our current web site.

With this issue of *Coil Line*, we officially kick off the electronic version of *Coil Line*. We have been testing the concept for several months now, and hopefully have most of the bugs worked out. Please bear with us as we fine tune the operation.

As of deadline time, we had about 60 members signed up to receive their copy of *Coil Line* electronically. This equates to a savings to the club of over \$700.00 a year on printing and mailing expenses, which in turn helps to keep our dues low.

I'd like to make a one time offer to anyone interested, so that you can see what the electronic version of *Coil Line* looks like. Most of the issue is searchable and many of the illustrations and some of the pages are in color. We are using Microsoft Word and saving to Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format. Normally, you would need a password to access the e-version, but I am opening the December, 2005 issue to all to peruse on the web site. The URL is <http://www.pnc3.org/dec-coil-line.pdf>. Enjoy!

As we go forward into the coming year, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our success in the past year with their hard work and support, especially our

Coil Line Editor, Harold Brown, and our Distribution Manager, Alan Thomson. Special thanks to the Washington 2006 committee, Rob Loeffler, chairman, and Bob Hubsmith.

A big thank you goes to Doug Iams, Gene Trinks, Alan Thomson, Frank Covey, Dan Kauffman, and Rob Washburn, who contribute to *Coil Line* on a regular basis.

Another big thank you to the outgoing officers, several of whom continue to serve in other capacities: Frank Covey, John Peterson, Tom McFarland, Andy Jakes, Gene Trinks, Ken Cherry and Scott Adams. Welcome to the newly elected officers, Dan Farrar, Harvey Wales and Ed Wigger.

Thanks also to my fellow catalog committee members, Frank Covey, Andy Jakes and Gene Trinks, and all the committee members who have served in the past, and/or are part of the new team: Dan Kauffman, Todd Uebele, Jr., David Bize, Janet Gillis, John Cropper and Anthony Bruno.

Kudos to Joe Sedivy, our auctioneer and all the people who arrange for and conduct Regional PNC meetings, and the dealers who provide that which we crave.

And last, but not least, to all of our 900+ members, who support the club with your dues and moral support. Without you, there would be no reason to be here.

-- Ron Maifeld

Letters

Appeal for letters to USPS on number issue

To the Editor:

Some of you may have seen the posting on the US Stamps website regarding the changes being made by the Postal Service regarding the numbering of printing plates for stamps. (See item at top left of page 1 of this issue). If this plan to limit future plate numbers is not derailed, there will be little in the way of Plate Number Coils for us to collect going forward.

For those of us who avidly seek out the different numbers and spend many enjoyable hours in pursuit of the occasionally elusive rare numbers, it is in our best interests to get this incredibly harmful decision reversed.

For this reason, I am asking EVERY MEMBER to take pen in hand and write a personal letter (NOT an e-mail, as these can be overlooked easily) to USPS Stamp Services Executive Director David Failor. Request that the policy of the past, requiring a different plate number for each different printing plate, be reinstated. Please, no irate rantings, just an appeal to keep one of the most enjoyable parts of the hobby healthy into the future.

Do not hesitate to put a financial slant on your views, as the revenue gained by USPS for sales to collectors is most important to the decision process. Whereas the needs of the collector do not totally drive the decision process, the revenue stream from us collectors does have an impact. It's not just us PNC collectors that are affected, but all number collectors, whether they are on sheet stamps, booklets, ATMs, or coils.

In order for our voices to have the greatest impact, I

will suggest that we all try to have our letters arrive in Washington on Wednesday, January 10th. I imagine it would get his attention if he were to hear from all 900 PNC3 members at the same time. But, in the event you can't make this target timetable, send the letter anyway. We need to have all our voices heard.

Also, as time passes, and if you think of something to add, don't hesitate to send another letter. A continual stream of letters will also have an impact. This letter writing project may well be the most important thing we can do as a club to save our hobby from a woeful fate.

Letters should be sent to:

David Failor,
Executive Director
Stamp Services
United States Postal
Service
1735 N. Lynn St., Suite
5018
Arlington VA 22209-6432

Many thanks to dealer Bob Rabinowitz for asking the question that brings this decision into the open. It gives us the opportunity to speak in defense of the hobby we all enjoy.

Gene Trinks
Past President

Letters needed on plate numbering issue

To the Editor:

It is important that all of our members send a letter to David Failor to let him know how you feel about this debacle. The letters should be kept fairly short as he is at a high level and won't be able to spend the time to read long letters.

While emotional appeals may help some (how much the hobby means to you, not how mad you are), this was a bureaucratic streamlining type of decision and they aren't likely to rescind it unless they can be convinced they will lose money and that they can continue to use real numbers that change with each new plate with only minor effort on the parts of the printers (read minimal cost that will be exceeded by the revenue they generate from collectors). I can't believe it would cost much time/money at all to change a plate number in a computer CAD file that is used to generate a new plate, so we need to let him know there are a lot of us out there who provide them with revenue and are very disappointed by the decision. If you can quantify how much you spend on PNCs in a year (in face value of the strips, not in cost from a dealer since we are talking about USPS revenue) that should help.

Plate numbers weren't put on the coil stamps because of any accountability audits (they could have simply kept them in the margins of the web that get trimmed off like where they always were) - they were put there for collectors. So the fact that they no longer are going to use plate activity reports for review in accountability audits is no reason to make every plate a #1.

After the oversized plate block debacle of the 70's, PNC's were the big success story from USPS in the last 25 years and it seems crazy to kill that off (along with plate number collecting on other stamp formats). Unfortunately, the folks at USPS headquarters think only of commemoratives when they think about collectors and they don't realize how important PNC's have been to revitalizing modern US collecting. You need to let them know. And if you know PNC collectors who are not members of the club, get them to write a letter too.

(Use the address in the Gene Trinks letter directly to the left).

Doug Iams

Clearing up the shoulders and corners issue

To the Editor:

With reference to the letter in the last issue from Will McDonald, there is no discrepancy between the table in the December 2002 *Coil Line* and the PNC3 Values List.

Mr. McDonald makes the unfortunate error (that is all too common) of confusing 'shoulders' and 'corners' on these stamps. The listings in the Values List to which he refers clearly state that these stamps have Round CORNERS.

Readers should refer to the illustrations at the top of the table in the Dec. 2002 issue of *Coil Line* if confused about the location of 'shoulders'. This issue may be found on the club website (www.pnc3.org) under the reference tab at the left of the home page.

Later in his letter he asks if these round corner stamps do indeed exist. They do. What has not been reported are round SHOULDER versions of the plates to which he refers. There is, however, a round shoulder version of the Sc# 3282, plate #2222, as well as the more common square shoulder version. Both, of course, have round corners, since they are from large rolls with spaces between the stamps.

Thanks to Mr. McDonald for asking the question, as it gives another opportunity to clear up a common point of confusion about these die cut varieties.

Gene Trinks

Caboose listing to change

To the Editor:

Will MacDonald also mentions Scott 1905a, which is the 11c Caboose.

The 11c Caboose #1 is our 1984-1.11 (Scott 1905). It is block tagged. When the 11c Caboose #2 came out it was an untagged 1991 reissue of the same design. We assigned it 1984-1.12 to denote the tagging difference. Scott assigned it 1905a which is the same number they use for the precancelled #1 which is also untagged.

The precanceled version we call 1984-2 because it is face different.

We will change the Scott No on the Caboose #2 on our next values list.

Frank Covey
(See Letters on page 15)

CURRENT ISSUE NUMBERS & ROLL SIZES

12/10/06 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**

PRINTER PLATE NUMBER PREFIX LETTER:
 A - American Bank Note P - Ashton Potter
 B - Banknote Corp. of America S - Sennett Security Prod.
 G - Guilford Gravure V - Avery-Dennison
 M - 3M None - BEP

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: Atlas: [20] for BCA, [10] for Avery.

39c L/FLAG (SA) [10]
 #V1111 C, D

39c L/FLAG [14]
 #S1111 A, C, D

39c L/FLAG (SA) [14] [31]
 #S1111 A
 #P1111 A
 #V1111 A [11]

39c CROPS (SA) [25]
 #S1111 A

(39c) L/FLAG [14]
 #S1111 C

(39c) L/F (SA) [14] [11]
 #S1111 A
 #V1111 A
 #P1111 A [31]
 #P2222 A [31]

1c KESTREL [24]
 #1111 B, C (TYPE I)
 #1111 B (TYPE II)
 #1111 C (TYPE III)
 #2222 C
 #3333 C
 #4444 C

1c LAMP [14]
 #S1111 C

2c WOODPECKER [24]
 #1111 C, D
 #2222 D

3c STAR [14]
 #S111 D

37c EGRET (SA) [11] [31]
 #V1111 A
 #V2111 A
 #V2121 A #
 #V3211 A #
 #V3212 A
 #V3221 A
 #V3222 A
 #P11111 A
 #P22222 A
 #P33333 A
 #P44444 A
 #P55555 A

3c COFFEE POT [14]
 #S1111 D

5c TOLEWARE [14]
 #S1111111 D

10c CLOCK [14]
 #S1111 D

24c BUCKEYE (SA) [11]
 #V1111 A

39c OFFICIAL [14]
 #S111 A

- Known used only

(5c) SEA (SA) [20] [22] [20]
 #B111 D
 #P1111 D
 #P2222 C, D [27]
 #P3333 D [27]
 #P4444 D [27]
 #P5555 D [27]
 #P6666 D [27]
 #P7777 C, D [27]
 #S1111 D

(10c) LION (SA) [21]
 #S11111 D
 #S22222 D
 #S33333 D
 #S44444 D
 #S55555 D [20]
 #S66666 D [20]
 #S77777 D [20]

(10c) LION [14]
 #S11111 B, C

(5c) SEACOAST [10] [14]
 #B111 B, D
 #S1111 C
 #S1111 D (lum ink)

(15c) WOODY (SA) [21]
 #S11111 D

(10c) ATLAS (SA) [20] [10]
 #B1111 D
 #V11111 D
 #V11222 D
 #V12111 D
 #V12222 C, D
 #V13222 ?
 #V21111 D
 #V21211 C, D
 #V22111 D
 #V22112 D
 #V22211 C
 #V22222 D
 #V23113 D
 #V32332 D
 #V33332 D
 #V33333 D

(25c) DINER [14]
 #S11111 D

(25c) DINER (SA) [21]
 #11111 D
 #22211 C, D
 #22222 C, D
 #33333 D
 #44444 D
 #55555 D

(25c) EAGLE (SA) [20]
 #S1111111 D (03 DATE)
 #S2222222 D
 #S3333333 D
 #S1111111 D (05 DATE)

? = Known used only

(25c) EAGLE [10]
 #S1111111 C

Sennett's SA Lion S55555 was printed with a *different size cylinder than previous plate numbers*. Consequently the plate number interval changed from 21 to 20. S55555 & higher have the 20 interval.

Ashton Potter's SA Seacoast P2222 was die cut with two different mats. One is serpentine cut on all four sides while the other has serpentine cuts on the sides and straight cuts on top and bottom

In printing the SA Seacoast with cylinders P2222 through P7777 AP changed the cylinder size from that used to print P1111. Thus the plate number intervals changed from 22 to 27. P3333 through P7777 have a small date and color order of BCMY.

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.*

Double Die Cut Flag Waving

Frank Covey

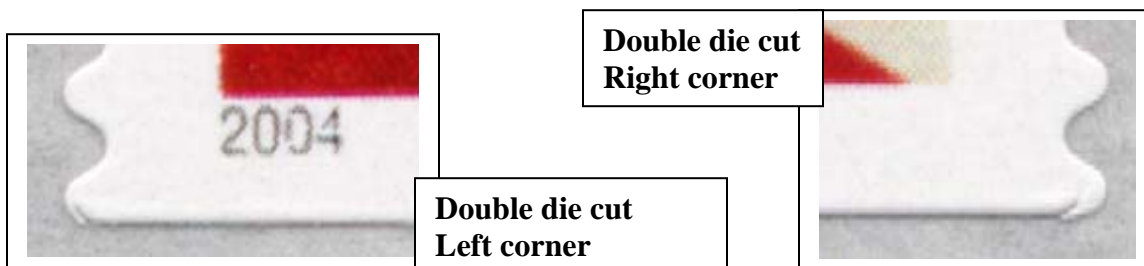


Above is a single stamp from the 37c Flag Waving (SSP) (SA) issue (PNC ID 2004-1) with a long double die cut across almost the entire bottom of the stamp. It may be difficult to see in the photo above, but on the left end of the second die cut is a half circle that goes up making the cut look like an old fashioned sleigh with a curled front.

This issue comes in rolls of 3,000 and 10,000 with spaces between the stamps and a liner that is taller than the stamp.

Broken double die cuts are known on this issue and are illustrated on the 2004-1 PNC³ Catalog page. However, the other double die cuts I am aware of have been along the side of the stamp.

The stamp shown above came from a roll with middle 4-digit back numbers. The double bottom die cut only occurred on the stamp that was six positions left of the plate numbered stamp, but was repeated throughout the roll.



To the left and the right of the double bottom die cut stamp were some stamps that showed traces of double die cutting as shown in the illustrations above. These little semi-circle nicks in the left and right corners give further evidence of double die cutting. A left and a right nick never occurred on the same stamp.

Until I saw the double bottom die cut, I thought these die cuts were made with one cutting operation much like a cookie cutter. Now I am not so sure. Could there be a pair of cutters for the top and bottom and another pair of cutters for the sides?

Questions and Answers

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 members.

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 e-mail (rdloeffler@optonline.net) or snail mail to:
Rob Loeffler
111 Mandeville Ave.
Pequannock, NJ 07440-1817

This month’s question comes from a member who wants to know:

Has the Avery Dennison self-adhesive Mountain coil of 1996, Scott 2904A, plate #V222222 ever been found with the back number right side up?

This would be the large roll coil, with spaces between stamps, large violet “1996”, and the back number appears on each stamp in the roll.

There was one response to the previous question, which was:

Why was the Pink Rose self-adhesive coil of 1995 (Scott 2492g) issued with serpentine die cuts on all four sides?

Everell Chadwick responded that according to the 1995 edition of the Linn’s Yearbook, pg 400, it had simulated perforations on all four sides so that it would resemble a stamp from the interior position of a pane. Thanks, Everell.

On a different note, a member who describes himself as “One Dizzy Collector” sent the following letter, and I quote:

First it was line pair, then the USPS came up with plate numbers, then they came up with back numbers, then we have PP VV, PV-VP, etc., then square shoulders, round shoulders, bell cuts on top, bell cut on bottom – don’t let me forget back numbers on top, middle, bottom, aqua, black, thimble cut, knoll cut, gum high gloss, low gloss, matte. Ye gads, when will this madness stop? I think much of this hobby is a “joke”. Now we have all kinds of printers; so many die cuts. Just when is this going to stop? And when will we get back to collecting stamps?
What will they come up with next?

What are your feelings on this subject?

Flag Over Porch Rarity found in stock book, brings \$750.00 at Ebay auction

by Todd R. Uebele, Sr.

Reprinted, with permission, from US Stamp News, November 2006 issue.



Figure One

This column addresses Scott number 2915C, a Flag Over Porch coil stamp, which is understood to be the key to the basic Flag Over Porch set. As with most self-adhesive coil stamps, this stamp has serpentine die cuts on two sides. Distinct varieties exist, differentiated by the number of peaks and valleys found on each side of the stamp. The number of peaks on each side is frequently abbreviated as



Figure Two

00/00, having the left side stated first then the right side. The 2915C comes in three different die cut configurations. They are; the common 11/12, i.e., 11 peaks on the left, 12 on the right (Figure One), the not so common 12/12, (Figure Two), and the most elusive, 12/11, (Figure Three). The stamp has three plate numbers, which are the 55555, (die cut 12/12), 66666, (die cut and the most recently discovered 88888, (die cut 11/12) (Fig. Four). Value of the latter, has yet to be established. There are only three known, and the present owners do not want to part with them. However, when and if one is placed on the auction block, the actual value will be established by what the buyer actually pays.



Figure Three

The 12/11 stamp, with the 66666 plate number, is currently valued close to \$4,000 (Fig. Four). The 12/11 is an invert of the normal 11/12 die. Apparently the die cutter, called a Mat, was inadvertently switched or rotated 180 degrees causing the 12 peaks to be on the left hand side of the stamp. I believe that this error was quickly discovered and corrected. However, some of these



Figure Four

made their way to the Atlanta Post Office in March of 1998. A roll of 100 was subsequently purchased as ordinary postage, and used for ordinary mailings, including bill paying. This means that there are still several out there waiting to be discovered.

An Indiana stamp dealer acquired one on cover in December of 1998. He immediately knew what he had, and put it up for auction, with a reserve of \$1,100. He

finished the auction on the telephone, with a final bid of \$3,500. This surprised even him, since he expected the top bid to be in the \$1,500 to \$2,000 range. This certainly had to be an exciting moment for him. Check your mixtures and stock books carefully, as you never know what might turn up. At that time the total known count for 2915C, plate number 66666, die cut 12/11, stood at five, two on cover, and three off cover. I believe that the above was the only one that was sold, with the other four remaining with the original owners.

Collectors today still have opportunities to find valuable varieties of used Flag Over Porch PNC singles in some of the most unexpected places. Since my specialty is studying and collecting all areas of the Flag Over Porch stamp series, I am always looking for mixtures of all kinds, both on and off paper. Recently, at a local stamp bourse, I had the opportunity to purchase a stock book containing over 1000 FOP PNCs. Catalog value for this lot was listed at \$1,500, and I made an offer for \$100. After several minutes of quibbling, I agreed to purchase the lot for \$150. Current catalog values of used FOP PNC singles start at a minimum \$1.00, with many at the \$100 level. Certain PNCs can sell for as much as \$500. Ebay lots, with much duplication, commonly sell for an average of \$10 per lots of 100, or about ten cents each. Lots of 50, all different, average about \$25.00, that is 50 cents each, some higher, and some lower. These lots are listed, and sold, quite often, and are a good way to start a FOP PNC collection.



Figure Five

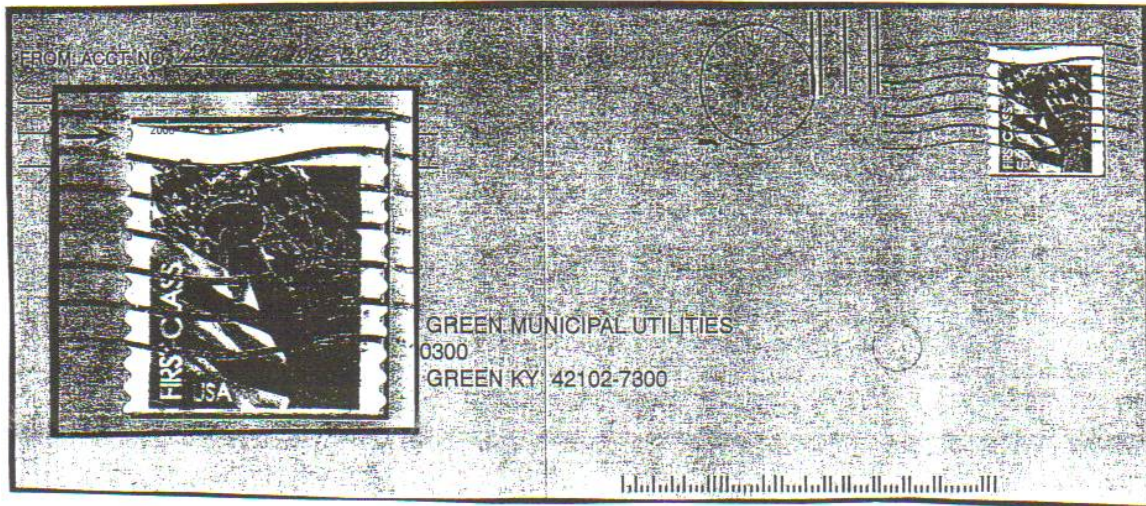
I finally found the time to do the necessary sorting from the above stock book. There were some premium plate numbers of the 2915A stamps that were found while sorting into numerical sequence by plate numbers. There were also several 11/12 and 12/12 die cut varieties of the 2915C with both the 55555 and 66666 plate numbers in abundant quantities. It did not even occur to me to check for any 12/11s, and I kept dividing the 2915C's into the two common varieties. I eventually came across a damaged stamp (Fig. Five), which I was about to discard, but something looked strange about it. While examining it more closely, it seemed to be the rare 12/11 variety. I counted the peaks and valleys several times, before I could convince myself that it was genuine. However, it was severely damaged, with 2 missing die cut peaks on the left side, and a quarter inch tear on the right hand side. It did actually turn out to be the famous rare die cut variety. Even though it was damaged, I was thrilled and excited to say the least. To verify this find, I contacted several collector friends to authenticate and establish a value. Most responded with, "yes" it was authentic, and did have some value, but no where near the \$3500 value of undamaged copies.

For further information about it, I brought it to the next club meeting. Two or three people looked at it, and gave the opinion that it might be worth \$200 or \$300, AND that I should keep it for my personal collection because it was a Flag Over Porch stamp. Also it does come with bragging rights, even though it was damaged. Personally, I came up with a value of \$900, which was a reasonable 25% of the value of a sound copy. On the plus side, it had excellent centering, and the plate number was even and straight (Fig. Four). There are now officially six known and registered copies, which includes the damaged copy, see "Coil Line", July 2006 issue, page 83.

The decision was made to list it on Ebay with a starting bid of \$900. Needless to say, there were no bids. Then after coaxing from Ebay, I decided to relist it at \$99, with a reserve of \$750. My real intentions were to use the auction to establish a value. As it turned out four bidders ran the price up to a little over \$350. This was close to what most people were saying that it was worth. So I had an official value. I retired for the evening at 10:00 PM, informing my wife that the stamp had not sold. This was fine with me, as this stamp would be a valuable part of my collection. The auction ended on January 12, 2006 at 11:00 PM that night. When I checked my emails the next morning, I was shocked to see the stamp sold for the reserve price of \$750! There were mixed feelings about this whole issue, because I had decided to keep the stamp, however the amount of the sale eased the pain quite a bit. I am now comfortable with what happened and have no regrets about selling this true FOP rarity. This is one of the interesting, and exciting aspects of specializing in the Flag over Porch series, that being even a heavily damaged stamp can be, and is worth several hundred dollars.

Comments, suggestions, and criticisms, about this article are gladly accepted. Please email me at uebele@flagoverporchpubs.com with contributions. Thank You.

COVER OF THE MONTH



The above cover features a mis-cut 39¢ Flag/Liberty coil with the copyright date entirely at the top (see insert for close up). (Cover courtesy of William Sledge.) (If you have an interesting, out of the ordinary, unusual, or scarce PNC cover for *Cover of the Month*, please send a photocopy of your cover against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976.)

— The APS Vision Team for 2007 —

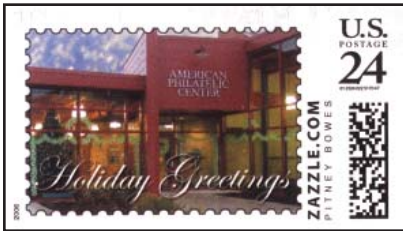
Ken Lawrence for APS President

Nancy Clark, Bob Lamb & Jeff Shapiro for APS Board of Vice Presidents

Wayne Youngblood for APS Secretary

Joann Lenz for APS Director-at-Large • Rob Haeseler for APRL Trustee

We are candidates for office in the American Philatelic Society and American Philatelic Research Library elections in 2007. We hope you'll support our campaign to complete the important tasks that will assure a secure future for APS and our hobby's growth among collectors of every age and interest.



You know most of us already, from our writings, service, philatelic achievements, and recognition we have received. Ken is an APRL Trustee; he writes about many subjects from classic to modern, and is a contributing editor of *Scott Stamp Monthly*. Nancy is President of the Auxiliary Markings Club; as an honored champion of youth philately, she chaired the beginner's section of the Washington 2006 international exhibition. Bob collects worldwide stamps; he is a former APS Vice President and served as APS Executive Director for 12 years. Jeff is an official of the American Air Mail Society and the United States Stamp Society; he has

20 years experience in nonprofit organization management. Wayne is the incumbent Secretary of APS; he writes for *The American Philatelist* and edits *Air Post Journal*. Joann has been a leader in collecting U.S. plate number coil and modern varieties; she has been Secretary of the United States Stamp Society for 11 years. Rob was a senior editor of *Linn's Stamp News* and recently served as APS Director of Administration; he is an expert in U.S. postal stationery and has a specialized collection of Spain's Goya nude stamps of 1930.

More important today are the things we stand for.

Four years ago Ken set forth a program for the future of APS and APRL in a document titled "Reverence for Our Past; A Vision for Our Future," which appeared in the May 2002 *American Philatelist*. In future statements we'll update and elaborate that vision: to complete the renovation of the Historic Match Factory in Bellefonte; to reverse the declining participation in philately through a broad outreach program; to uphold the integrity of stamp collecting by energetically fighting fraud in the marketplace; to provide an adequate nest egg for the future; and to keep the business of the APS and APRL open and accessible to every member.

We have a record of achievement for each of these tasks, and we lead by example. We recruit new members by sharing our enthusiasm for the stamp hobby, and by showing others how APS helps all of us enrich our collecting experience. But our hobby is evolving and changing. APS needs to adapt to tomorrow's conditions.

Collectively we possess a rich variety of experience from different backgrounds and perspectives. We don't necessarily agree on every issue facing APS, APRL, and the stamp hobby, but we sincerely believe that our leaders have taken a wrong turn, so we have joined together in an effort to lead the Society and the Library back on the path to a bright future. Please join us.

We'll provide up-to-date opinions and discussion about all the issues on the Virtual Stamp Club chat board, www.virtualstampclub.com. For more information write to the APS Vision Team, Post Office Box 210, Bellefonte, PA 16823-0210, or apsken@aol.com.

*Ada M. Prill and John M. Hotchner, co-chairs,
APS Vision Team. Stephen L. Suffet, consultant.*



AVERY ROLL SEPARATOR CUTS UNDATE

BY Gerald Blankenship PNC3#587

Since my article in the July of Coil Line, several new finds have surfaced and added to the list. The .23 Washington V11 right side and V35 left side are new. The .23 Washington V46 right side with a purple hand cancel. The .37 Egret had several. Plate V3212 right and left sides, P1111 right side, P3333 left side and right side and P2222 left side. The .39 Lady Liberty coil was found with the Avery separator die cut in both positions - right and left sides. I want to thank those members who dropped me a note and information on other number/positions.

Scott #	Description	Plate #	Which side wavy cut is on
3475	.21 Bison	V2222	Right side
3617	.23 Washington	V11	Right side - Right side
3617	.23 Washington	V22	Left side
3617	.23 Washington	V35	Left side
3617	.23 Washington	V46	Left side -Right side
3617	.23 Washington – PHC	V46	Right side
3829	.37 Egret	V1111	Left side
3829	.37 Egret	V2111	Left side - Right side
3829	.37 Egret	V3212	Left side - Right side
3829	.37 Egret	V3221	Left side
3829	.37 Egret	V3222	Left side - Right side
3829A	.37 Egret	P1111	Right side
3829A	.37 Egret	P2222	Left side
3829A	.37 Egret	P3333	Left side - Right side
3981	.39 Statue of Liberty	V1111	Left side - Right side

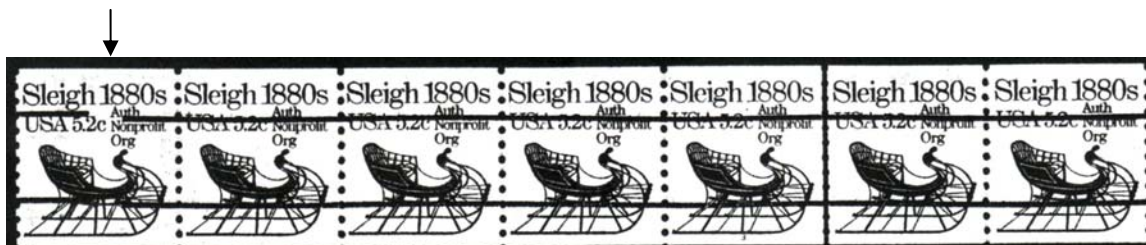
New Precancel Gap Discovered

By Doug Iams

I recently discovered a small number of strips with a new precancel gap on the 5.2c Sleigh #3 & 5 in a large PNC accumulation. The gap is a 4 ½ L (4 ½ stamps left of the joint line), which has been unreported in the over 20 years since it was issued.

There are 3 sets in a longer PS9 format and 2 sets in a shorter PS7 format plus 2 additional #5 PS7's. One of the PS7's is pictured below. The PS9's have 2 additional stamps off to the left. One of the #5 PS9's has an inclusion at the right of the first stamp.

The accumulation included more 5.2 #3 & 5 sets which may have come from the same roll, but they were all shortened to PS5's which won't allow a 4 ½ L gap to show.



PNC³ Catalog of Plate Number Coils

Publication Dates

New Issues

2002 New Issues - No. 3

5¢ American Toleware	Scott - 3612	January, 2003 PNC ID - 2002-1
(37¢) Nondenominated Flag Waving (SA)	Scott - 3622	PNC ID - 2002-2
(37¢) Nondenominated Flag Waving (WAG)	Scott - 3631	PNC ID - 2002-3
37¢ Flag Waving (SA) (100) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3632	PNC ID - 2002-4
37¢ Flag Waving (SA) (10K)	Scott - 3633	PNC ID - 2002-5
23¢ Washington (AVR) (SA) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3617	PNC ID - 2002-6
3¢ Star (WAG)	Scott - 3615	PNC ID - 2002-7
37¢ Antique Toys (SA)	Scott - 3638 - 3641	PNC ID - 2002-8
37¢ Official Mail	Scott - O159	PNC ID - 2002-9
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast (SA)	Scott - 3693	PNC ID - 2002-10
37¢ Snowmen (SA)	Scott - 3680 - 3683	PNC ID - 2002-11

2003 New Issues - No. 4

(10¢) Nondenominated Lion (WAG)	Scott - 3769	January, 2004 PNC ID - 2003-1
1¢ Tiffany Lamp (WAG)	Scott - 3757	PNC ID - 2003-2
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast (SA)	Scott - 3775	PNC ID - 2003-3
37¢ Flag Waving (BCA) (SA)	Scott - 3633A	PNC ID - 2003-4
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast (AP) (SA) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3785	PNC ID - 2003-5
(25¢) Nondenominated American Eagle (SSP) (SA)	Scott - 3972 - 3801	PNC ID - 2003-6
37¢ Flag Waving (SSP) (SA) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3632A	PNC ID - 2003-7
37¢ Snowy Egret (SA) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3829	PNC ID - 2003-8
(10¢) Nondenominated Atlas (AVR) (SA) Revised - June, 2005	Scott - 3770	PNC ID - 2003-9

2004 New Issues - No. 5

37¢ Flag Waving (SSP) (SA)	Scott - 3632C	June, 2005 PNC ID - 2004-1
37¢ Snowy Egret (AP) (SA)	Scott - 3829A	PNC ID - 2004-2
(25¢) Nondenominated American Eagle (SSP) (WAG)	Scott - 3844 - 3853	PNC ID - 2004-3
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast (SSP) (WAG)	Scott - 3864	PNC ID - 2004-4
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast (SSP) (SA)	Scott - 3875	PNC ID - 2004-5
(10¢) Nondenominated Lion (SSP) (SA)	Scott - 3447a	PNC ID - 2004-6

2005 New Issues – No. 6		February, 2006
Test Coil with Spaces (SSP) (SA)	Scott – TD137	PNC ID – 2005-1
37¢ Flag Waving (AP) (SA)	Scott – 3633B	PNC ID – 2005-2
(25¢) Nondenominated American Eagle (SSP) (SA)	Scott – 3972a - 3801b	PNC ID – 2005-3
3¢ Silver Coffeepot (SSP) (WAG)	Scott – 3759	PNC ID – 2005-4
(39¢) Nondenominated Lady Liberty & Flag (SSP) (WAG)	Scott – 3967	PNC ID – 2005-5
(39¢) Nondenominated Lady Liberty & Flag (AVR) (SA)	Scott – 3968	PNC ID – 2005-6
(39¢) Nondenominated Lady Liberty & Flag (SSP) (SA)	Scott – 3969	PNC ID – 2005-7
(39¢) Nondenominated Lady Liberty & Flag (AP) (SA)	Scott – 3970	PNC ID – 2005-8

Values List

PNC Values List	July, 2003
Published – July, 2003 – Mint PS5, Used Singles, Back Numbers	
Revised – February, 2005 – Mint PS3 \$ PS5, Used Singles & Covers, Back Numbers, Precancel Gaps	
Revised – April, 2006 – Mint PS3 & PS5, Used Singles, Used PS# & PS5, Back Numbers	

Cross References and Name Index

Scott / PNC ID Cross Reference	January, 2003
Revised – January, 2004 / June, 2005 / February, 2006	
PNC ID / Scott Cross Reference with Plate Numbers and Sections	January, 2003
Revised – January, 2004 / June, 2005 / February, 2006	
Name Index (Alphabetical) with PNC IDs	January, 2003
Revised – January, 2004 / June, 2005 / February, 2006	

Comparison Pages

37¢ Flag Waving Comparison	January, 2004
(5¢) Nondenominated Seacoast Comparison	June, 2005
Avery Dennison Die Cut Varieties	June, 2005
Revised – February, 2006	

Permanent Catalog Sections

32¢ Flag Over Porch	November, 2006
37¢ Flag Waving	November, 2006

Miscellaneous

Illustrated Glossary	June, 2005
Revised – February, 2006	

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, Janet Gillis, 2485 Falmouth Rd. Fairlawn, OH 44333-4045 with the objection. The committee will recommend for or against membership.

New applicants:

John DeSanto (2001)
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Richard Fisher (292L)

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Madison D. Lowry (1701)
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PNC³ meetings and slide shows

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

ARIPEX, Saturday Jan. 20, 2007

— Tucson, AZ. at 1 p.m. The event will be held at the Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Center St., Tucson, AZ. More information is available at the show website, www.aripexonline.com

APS AmeriStamp Expo 2007 —

Saturday, February 10, 2007. The meeting will be held from Noon until 2 p.m. at the Riverside Convention Center, Riverside, CA. Jack Wasserman and J.L. Meyer will be in charge. Meet at the Riverside Stamp Club's table.

Plymouth Show, Saturday, April 28, 2007.

The meeting will be held during the 38th Plymouth Show, at the Plymouth, Michigan Central Middle School starting at 11:30 a.m. with time afterwards for selling, trading and conversation. Conrad Keydel and Ron Maifeld will host.

COIL LINE

Published monthly as the journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, also known as PNC³. Copy must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month. The December issue was mailed Nov. 22.

President: Ron Maifeld P. O. Box 54622, Cincinnati OH 45254-0622
513-231-4208
ron.maifeld@pnc3.org

Distribution: Alan Thomson, P.O. Box 91, Northwood, NH 03261 or mr.snips@verizon.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 23913 Benton Road, Kirksville, MO MO 63501 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 Daniel Farrar, Secretary, 3386 Excalibur Cr., NW, Canton, OH 44708-1143
farrar@raex.com

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

Dues: Are \$12 per year (\$18 for First Class mailing of *Coil Line*, \$17 for Canada and Mexico and \$22 for all others) and should be sent to Harvey Wales, 13 Birmingham Pl., Vernon Hills, IL 60061-2103
hwales16@aol.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 PNC³ must be submitted with the advertising copy. All copy should be sent to the Editor, 909 Parker St., Bowling Green, OH 43402-2107.

E-mail - halallen@wcnet.org

Members are entitled to two 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

I HAVE A roll of 24c Buckeye Bell Bottom Right variety and would like to trade plate strips/scrap of other Buckeye die cut varieties (other bells, thimble, knoll). Gregg Greenwald, 2401 Bluebird Ct, Marshfield, WI 54449-3128. bluebird@tznnet.com

FOR SALE: SC #3271, PS1, PL#1111, mint. Only one reported and this is it! With round shoulder die cut. \$3,016. Kenneth J. Moreau, 402 Coronation Dr., Franklin, MA 02038.

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 murrin@gte.net

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.

All members are entitled to two free 40-words ads per year. Copy is to be submitted to the editor no later than the 15th of the month. Additional word ads are available at a cost of six cents per word per month. Checks should be made out to PNC3 and sent to the editor.

Membership

(Continued from page 14)

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Fred Habegger 1966
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New Life Members:

Gerald Blankenship (587L)

Edward May (1008L)

John Krakenberg (1105L)

Louis Bajorek (1135L)

Douglas Rotz (1524L)

Rob Loeffler (1566L)

Donna Rudinger, (1579L)

Arthur Graham (1603L)

Resignation:

John Frie (354)

Recap:

Previous Membership Count	899
New Members	2
Deceased	(1)
Reinstated	<u>1</u>
New Membership count	899

Letters

(Continued from page 3)

Backnumber article misleading

To the Editor:

I found Doug Iams article on page 145 of the Dec. 2006 *Coil Line* a bit misleading. He stated "Collectors fixated on strips with the back number behind the plate numbered stamp and such stamps command a premium price despite the fact that they are no more scarce than other back number positions." Let's focus on Sennett gummed coils with a plate number repeat of 14. Here, you can have either an "even" or "odd" roll referring to the position of the first plate number appearing on the roll. If you have an "even" roll, you will find a # on # strip of 5 for every two positions (1 and 5) that are in other positions in every 70 stamps. If you happen to have an "odd" roll, you will never find a # on # strip but two in positions 2 and 4 every 70 stamps. If one assumes that there are about an equal number of "even" and "odd" rolls produced, and that you made several random purchases of 70 stamps each, you will find that for each # on # PS5 you find, there will be 4 PS5s with back numbers at other positions. Thus, the number on # is the "filet mignon" of the rolls and commands a premium. He also said "back number specialists generally remain fixated only on the back number on plate number (# on #) position strips." While many collectors do go after the # on # positions, I have quite a few customers who pursue all positions including tops, bottoms and middles and others who don't want to pay a premium but prefer to show that the issue had back numbers and are happy with a random format PS5.

Bob Rabinowitz

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Attach lot here

Plate Number Coil Collectors Club Consignment Sheet
Photocopy this page. A separate page is required for each lot.

Check with PNC3auctions@aol.com for submission deadline

Please Note: There is a 50-cent charge per lot.

- 1) Use a separate consignment sheet for each lot.
- 2) Keep this entire page intact and attach lots in a glassline with tape to the top half (do not use staples). I understand this may not be possible for longer strips.
- 3) **LIMIT YOUR CONSIGNMENTS TO 25 LOTS.**
- 4) As I still find that there is no totally acceptable definition of a commercial cover, all covers will be listed as First Day Covers or Other Covers. There will be no exceptions.
- 5) If you do not state a minimum bid, your lot(s) will go to the highest bidder regardless of the price(s) realized.
- 6) Do not enter anything under Lot # on the consignment sheets.
- 7) Bidding increments are: \$0.00 to \$4.75/25c \$5.00 to \$9.50/50c \$10 to 49.75/\$1 \$50 to 97.50/\$2.50
\$100 to 495/\$5 \$500+/\$10

OWNER IDENTIFICATION

Name _____ PNC³ number _____

Address _____

_____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Lot #	Scott#	Description of material	Minimum Bid (see rules above)
-------	--------	-------------------------	-------------------------------

It is assumed that all mint material is never hinged, with undisturbed gum, sound perfs, etc. If otherwise, please note under faults. Used materials are assumed to be unhinged with sound perfs, etc. If otherwise please note under faults.

For COTTRELL issues please grade both the design centering and line centering.

Centering-Overall for non-Cottrell issues or Cottrell designs (see grading notes)

(Circle one)

Ave F F/VF VF XF S

Centering (line) Cottrell issues only (circle one)

Ave F F/VF VF XF S

Faults (describe below)

Buyer # _____ Hammer price _____

SEND TO: PNC³ Auctions c/o Joe Sedivy, P.O. Box 410602, Chicago, IL 60641

E-mail: PNC3auctions@aol.com