

Our 25th Year

PNC³



www.pnc3.org

Coil Line

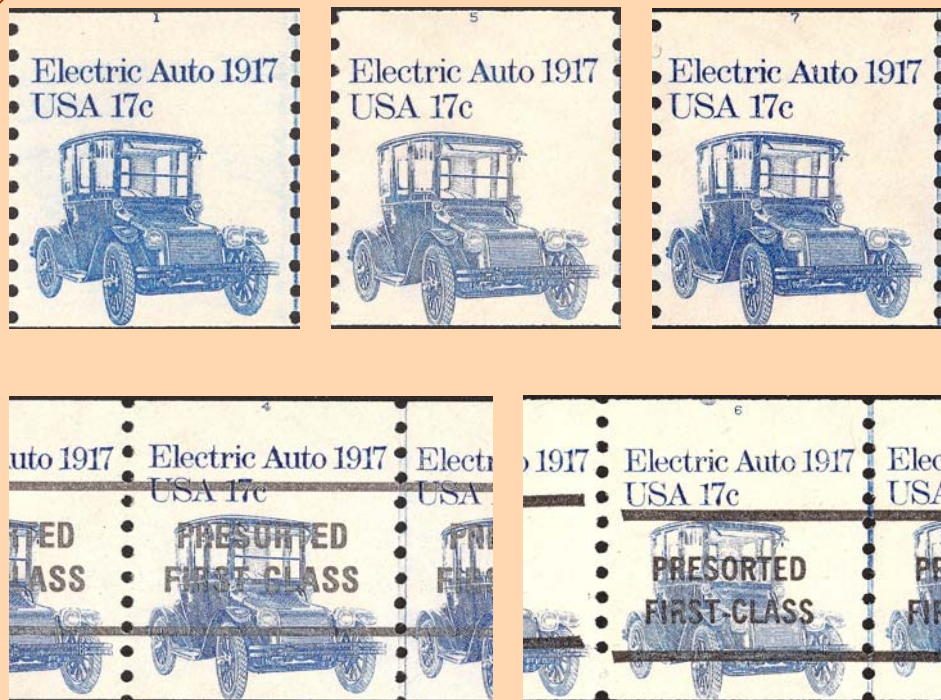
Journal of the PNC³
Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

American Philatelic Society Affiliate # 185

Vol. 25, No. 5

May 2012

Whole No. 287



More earliest documented uses, "Commercial Covers"...
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One of 30 PNCs...
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Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club

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Coil Line reserves the right to edit copy as necessary.

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All content matters, letters to the Editor, and advertising questions should be sent to **Coil Line**, c/o Ronald Blanks, PO Box 9282, Chesapeake, VA 23321. Phone 757-478-8719; email: coillineeditor@yahoo.com.

For mail delivery problems, contact the mailer below.

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(For *Coil Line*-related matters, please consult column at left for appropriate contact.)

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President's Message

from the PNC³ president ...

It's not too early to start making plans to attend our PNC³ Annual Meeting, to be held in Sacramento this year in conjunction with the APS StampShow. The show and meeting will be at the Sacramento Convention Center at 1400 J Street. We have requested a meeting room for two hours on Saturday afternoon, August 18, 2012. We hope for a favorable response from show planners again this year, and for good attendance from our members.

For those interested, the Board will meet that morning, probably at 9 a.m. Board meetings are open to members, if you wish to attend.

This is an election year for PNC³, and I regret to say that we have had no one step forward to volunteer for an officer position or elected Board member, and there were no nominations from the membership. Perhaps if you were to attend the Board meeting to glean insight into how the club is operated, you might consider serving in the future.

All current officers have served only one term. So, according to the Bylaws, they are eligible to serve a second term. Treasurer Michael Mules wishes to step aside as Treasurer, however. John Himes has accepted our call to take over as Treasurer in the next term. Michael will fill the Member-at-Large position to be vacated after two terms by Todd Uebele, Sr. We offer Todd our thanks for his past efforts and wish him well going forward.

Since all candidates are running unopposed, there is no need for balloting this year. I will direct the club Secretary, Harvey Wales, to cast one vote for all candidates and record that all are elected for the next two-year term.

I cannot express how disappointed I am in the fact that no one wishes to come forward to accept a leadership role for PNC³. I think we have a fine club and a wonderful hobby. We have had some difficulty in the past in finding leaders, but nothing looking back compares to this year.

Your officers for the next term will be: Gene Trinks, President; Andrew Jakes, Vice President; Harvey Wales, Secretary; and John Himes,

Welcome!

If you are a new reader, PNC³ is in its 25th year. We are a community of stamp collectors specializing in the plate numbered coil issues of the USA. The first PNCs were issued in 1981 and, in February 1988, a network of PNC specialists established our club. *Coil Line* was launched in May, 1988 and serves (along with other club literature) to inform collectors on the many aspects of PNCs. Studies include scarce numbers, varieties, printing methods, market values, PNCs on mail, and more. Thank you for visiting, and we hope you'll join us!

PNC³ Regional Meetings

Southern California - May 5

Members John Himes and Jeff Haas are planning another great PNC³ regional club get-together at the Yorba Linda Public Library on May 5, 2012 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. This library is just about the most central location we could find in Southern California. The two meetings we held there last year were great, and everyone who attended had a wonderful time!

We hope to have discussions on and examples of any new coils that have been released since the last meeting. We also want to encourage members to bring their collections to share with others as well as any questions they might have about PNCs. All levels of collectors, from beginners to advanced, are welcome to attend. We ask that everyone bring trading material if you have duplicates that might fit well in someone else's collection. And, as usual, we will provide some nice *(please see page 56)*

Treasurer. Members-at-Large will be Michael Mules and Robert Thompson. The seventh Board member is Past President Ron Maifeld.

Since this will be the second term for most of the officers, it will be necessary for us to have a slate consisting of new members in the next election in 2014. I encourage members to seriously consider becoming more active in club affairs so that we can have a true election the next time around. The future of the club hangs on qualified people coming forward to fill the bill. *– Gene Trinks*

PNC³ Regional Meetings

(from page 55)

door prizes for everyone who attends. (At the last two library meetings we gave away more than \$1000.00 in door prizes!) If you have any questions, e-mail or call John or Jeff:

John Himes, email: johnwhimes@yahoo.com, phone: 714-826-8552 (home); Jeff Haas, email: jhconsult@yahoo.com, phone: 949-219-3179 (work).

In case you're interested in making a day of it, The Richard Nixon Presidential Library is just a short walk from the Public Library. If you've never been, you might want to visit that remarkable facility in the morning before lunch and the club meeting.

The meeting will take place in the Community Room on the ground level of the library (the parking lot level; no need to go up the stairs to the library.) The address is 18181 Imperial Highway, Yorba Linda, CA 92886.

Directions to Yorba Linda Library:

From (57) Fwy: Exit Imperial Hwy (90) and head East 4.5 miles (past Eureka Avenue) and either turn left on Lemon Drive (library parking on right) or pass library and make U-turn at Olinda Street and library will be on right.

From (91) Fwy: Exit Imperial Hwy (90) and head North (turn right if coming from the East, or turn left onto Imperial if coming from the West) for 3 miles; library is on the right just past Olinda Street.

Want to Sponsor a Regional Meeting?

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.

Regional Meeting Chairman

Tony Bruno, PO Box 624, East Lyme, CT 06333-0624; email, tbbee@aol.com

(PNC³ meeting notices in this column are free. Please submit details to the Editor 3 months before the meeting.)

Editor's Message

This issue kicks off the 25th year of *Coil Line* publication, to culminate in the 25th anniversary issue in May, 2013. Plate number coil collecting has seen many ups and downs in the past three decades since the first PNCs were issued in 1981. From the mid-1980s' newsletter *The Plate Number* published by Steve Estrati, through two and a half decades of *Coil Line*, collectors have used the journals to help keep them informed of developments in our specialty hobby.

We welcome your reports and suggestions to help that tradition continue going forward.

Recent months have seen news (e.g., April 23rd *Linn's Stamp News*, page 18, and USPS website) concerning a new development in coils. For the first time, a low-value denominated self-adhesive stamp will be released in coil rolls. (please see page 60)

100% # on Top Census Update by Mark Schultz

Precanceled 17¢ Electric Auto 100%-#-on-Top Census

Mat Type	Gap Types by Plate #						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A			6L, 5L, 4L, LG, 1R, 6R, (NG)	6L, 1R, 6R, (NG)	1L, (NG)		(NG)
AB			5R		5R		
B			(NG)		1L, 4R, (NG)	1L, (NG)	
BA			4R		LG, 5R	LG, 5R	
C	LG	LG	3L, (NG)	3L, (NG)	4L, (NG)		

LG = joint Line Gap, (NG) = "no gap" example, strip of 5 or longer.

= unreported as 100%-#-on-Top.

Note: All phosphor-tagged (unprecanceled) plate #s are known with 100%-#-on-Top.

The table at left shows the 100% # on Top PNC reports received so far of precanceled 17¢ Electric Auto coils (Scott 1906a).

For further details, see related story on page 64.

Readers' Forum



Attached is a scan (above) of a Disabled American Veterans (DAV) courtesy return envelope that I just received. It has a strip of five of the 3¢ Silver Coffeepot (Scott 3759, PNC ID 2005-4) with plate number S1111, and a strip of three of the 10¢ American Clock (Scott 3763, PNC ID 2008-9) to make up 45¢ postage. This is the first return envelope that I have received with 45¢ first-class postage.

– Peter Hoffman #889

Up to now, the back numbers on the 44¢ Quill and Inkwell (PNC ID 2011-3) have been pink on both the 3,000 (3K) and the 10,000 (10K) rolls.

Shown at lower-left nearby is a newly discovered black back number from a 10K roll. [“This and That” in April’s Coil Line mentioned this item.] 10K rolls of this issue have five-digit back numbers, while 3K rolls have four-digit back numbers. A black five-digit back number is known currently only in the “top” print position.

– Frank Covey #319



Second type of back number (black) found for 10K rolls of 44¢ Quill & Inkwell.

(The editor received Frank’s report of the black back number in December 2011, and overlooked it when editing Doug Iams’ “This and That” April column. For another of Frank’s back-number reports, please see page 59.)

Parcel piece mailed May 5, 1999 with each of the 30 stamps a plate number coil. Total postage = \$9.70. (for more, please see page 63)



Installment # 124

EDUs OF 37¢ PNCs ON-COVER (part 2)

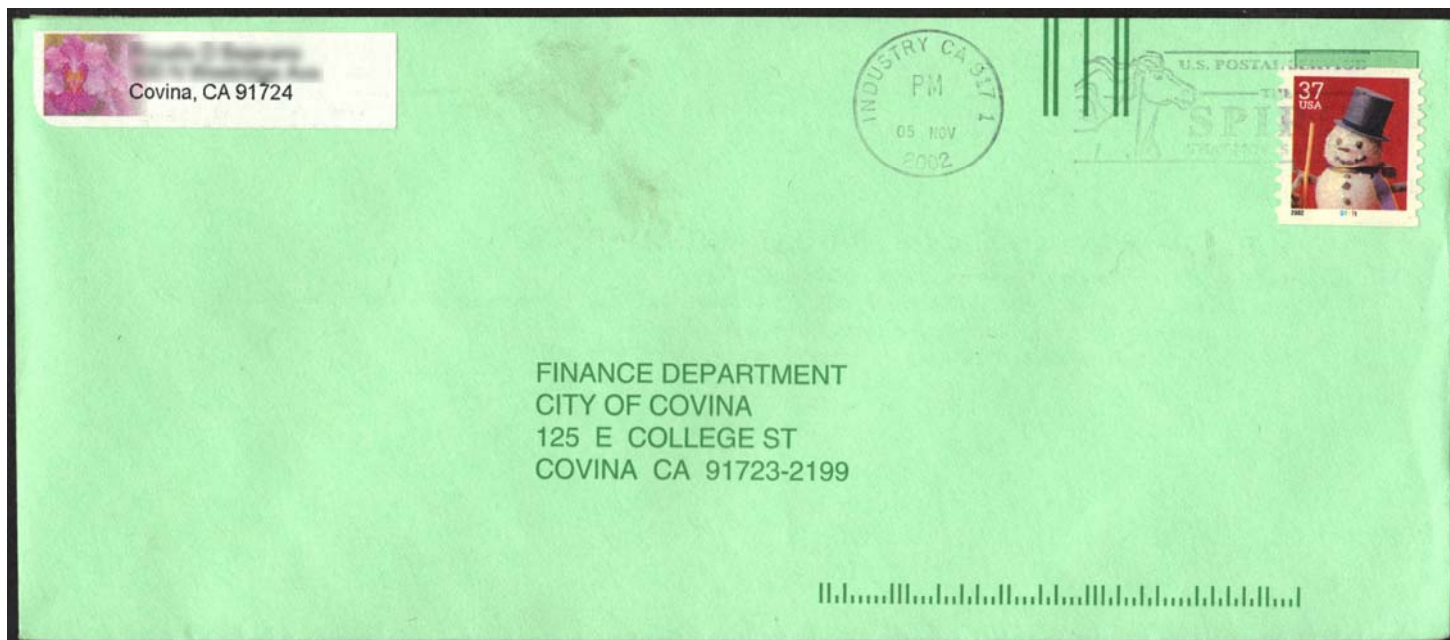
In the last installment (#123, April 2012 *Coil Line*), I reported the Earliest Documented Usages (EDUs) on-cover of the 37¢ Flag issues' PNCs reported to me to-date. Here are reports of the rest of the 37¢-rate PNC EDUs on covers that traveled through the U.S. mailstream:

37¢ Antique Toys #B11111.....	9/4/02	37¢ Egret #V3222 V/P.....	2/12/04
37¢ Antique Toys #B12222.....	8/26/02	37¢ Egret #P11111.....	5/10/04
37¢ Snowman #G1111.....	11/5/02	37¢ Egret #P22222.....	9/9/04
37¢ Snowman #G1112.....	11/12/03	37¢ Egret #P33333.....	10/16/04
37¢ Egret #V1111 P/V.....	1/15/04	37¢ Egret #P44444.....	8/2/05
37¢ Egret #V1111 V/P.....	11/24/03	37¢ Egret #P55555.....	6/1/05
37¢ Egret #V2111 P/V.....	11/17/03	37¢ Official #S111.....	9/29/03
37¢ Egret #V2111 V/P.....	10/29/03		
37¢ Egret #V2121 P/V.....	?		
37¢ Egret #V2121 V/P.....	4/25/05		
37¢ Egret #V3211 P/V.....	?		
37¢ Egret #V3211 V/P.....	4/23/05		
37¢ Egret #V3212 P/V.....	7/30/05		
37¢ Egret #V3212 V/P.....	3/2/05		
37¢ Egret #V3221 P/V.....	?		
37¢ Egret #V3221 V/P.....	9/9/05		
37¢ Egret #V3222 P/V.....	5/15/04		



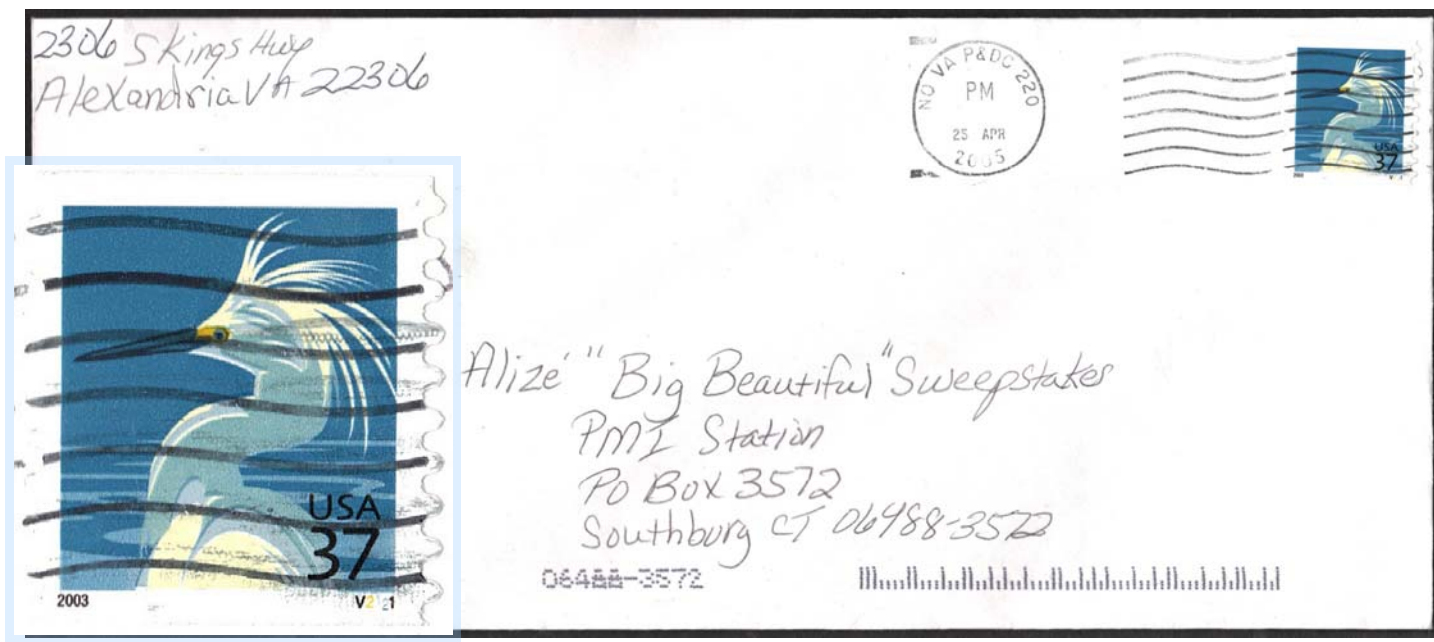
(please see
next page)

(left)
G1111 PNC
closeup of
Earliest
Documented
Usage cover,
below



EDU of 37¢ Snowman PNC #G1111 on commercial cover, Nov. 5, 2002

... Commercial Covers by Rob Washburn



(from previous page)

EDU of 37¢ Egret PNC #2121 (V/P) on commercial cover, April 25, 2005

I believe a lot of the above 37¢ listings can be beat. Please send me a clear photocopy of any earlier reports. This article is the third in a series on EDUs on the earlier first-class rate PNC covers of the present century: 34¢, 37¢, 39¢, 41¢, and 42¢. (Next time, I will give you the reported EDU dates of the 39¢ PNC issues.) Please report your earliest usages of these issues on-cover to: Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976. Email: stamps@beeline-online.net, phone: (207) 474-8021.

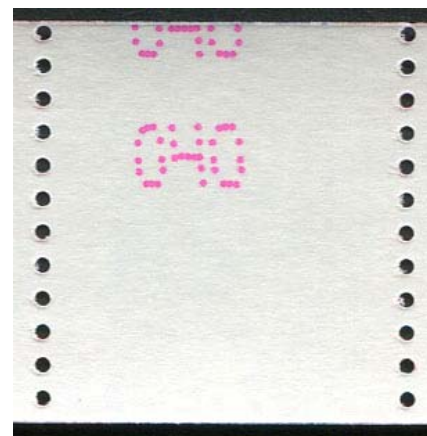
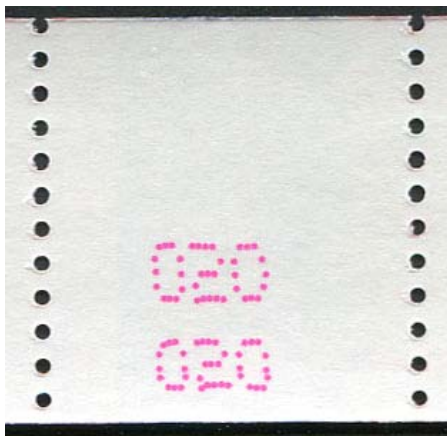
Double, Partial-Double Back Numbers on WAG (10¢) Patriotic Banner

by Frank Covey

Top and Bottom back numbers are most common on the water activated gum (WAG) rolls of 500 of the (10¢) Patriotic Banner coil (PNC ID 2009-1). A single print head prints the top and bottom back numbers on adjoining stamp rows of the web. A cutter then slices the rows into coils. In the examples below, the print head printed the back numbers too far away from either the top or bottom of a row, creating two back numbers on a single stamp instead of one. All back numbers on these rolls of 500 are three digits.



PNC S111 of PNC-ID 2009-1 (Scott 4385)



PNC³ Auction #46 Results

by Joe Sedivy

Closing Date March 31, 2012 – We had 36 bidders in this auction, with 32 of them winning at least one lot. One lucky bidder won 25 lots all to himself! Of the 333 lots offered, only 186 sold this time. I 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; only one lot did not sell in this auction!

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
4	\$9.00	73	\$2.00	125	\$45.00
14	\$26.00	75	\$2.00	127	\$9.00
16	\$31.00	76	\$4.00	129	\$3.50
18	\$5.00	77	\$4.00	131	\$8.50
19	\$4.00	80	\$7.00	132	\$8.50
20	\$2.00	81	\$3.00	133	\$4.00
21	\$2.00	82	\$5.00	134	\$3.00
22	\$85.00	83	\$3.50	135	\$7.00
24	\$26.00	84	\$5.00	136	\$3.00
27	\$6.50	85	\$5.00	137	\$3.00
29	\$10.00	88	\$34.00	139	\$8.50
30	\$9.50	89	\$2.00	140	\$3.00
31	\$2.00	90	\$5.00	141	\$8.50
32	\$5.00	91	\$2.25	142	\$9.00
33	\$20.00	94	\$18.00	144	\$5.00
35	\$35.00	96	\$5.00	145	\$4.00
36	\$9.00	97	\$8.00	146	\$8.00
37	\$35.00	98	\$9.00	147	\$7.00
38	\$80.00	99	\$7.00	149	\$25.00
41	\$3.00	100	\$8.00	150	\$5.00
42	\$9.00	101	\$5.00	151	\$5.00
45	\$10.00	102	\$6.50	152	\$5.00
46	\$4.50	103	\$8.50	154	\$10.00
47	\$4.50	104	\$7.00	155	\$26.00
48	\$1.75	105	\$9.00	156	\$7.00
49	\$10.00	107	\$4.00	157	\$9.00
50	\$5.00	109	\$2.00	158	\$9.00
51	\$3.00	110	\$9.00	159	\$9.00
52	\$8.00	111	\$9.00	160	\$5.50
53	\$3.00	112	\$7.00	165	\$6.00
54	\$9.00	113	\$8.00	166	\$5.00
55	\$4.00	114	\$7.00	168	\$5.00
58	\$2.00	115	\$6.50	170	\$10.00
59	\$7.00	116	\$5.00	171	\$12.00
60	\$4.00	117	\$9.00	172	\$22.00
61	\$4.00	118	\$65.00	173	\$4.00
63	\$8.00	120	\$50.00	176	\$5.00
64	\$4.00	121	\$10.00	178	\$5.00
65	\$7.00	122	\$8.00	179	\$4.00
66	\$5.50	123	\$8.50	182	\$6.50
69	\$8.00	124	\$9.00	183	\$5.00

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
184	\$7.00	255	\$13.00	297	\$5.00
187	\$35.00	256	\$5.00	298	\$20.00
189	\$65.00	257	\$13.00	299	\$7.00
208	\$2.75	258	\$7.00	311	\$7.00
209	\$3.50	259	\$7.00	312	\$3.50
210	\$9.00	260	\$8.00	313	\$18.00
216	\$4.50	261	\$7.00	317	\$5.00
217	\$2.50	262	\$9.00	319	\$7.00
218	\$5.00	263	\$10.00	320	\$30.00
221	\$6.00	264	\$4.25	321	\$40.00
222	\$4.50	265	\$90.00	322	\$39.00
223	\$7.00	275	\$12.00	323	\$2.00
224	\$5.00	276	\$8.00	324	\$3.00
228	\$85.00	277	\$11.00	325	\$4.00
229	\$6.00	278	\$15.00	326	\$2.00
235	\$4.50	282	\$35.00	327	\$2.00
238	\$7.00	284	\$15.00	328	\$2.00
239	\$22.00	288	\$24.00	330	\$7.00
242	\$2.00	290	\$4.00	331	\$7.00
244	\$19.00	295	\$4.00	332	\$7.00
254	\$6.00	296	\$10.00	333	\$7.00

(from page 56, Editor's Message)

A 1¢ Bobcat design (shown here) is scheduled for issue on June 1, in self-stick rolls of 3,000. This will provide a new option for mass mailers to dress up their solicitation mail using self-stick rolls designed for affixing equipment. (For mailers still using water-activated gum coil affixers, 1¢ Bobcat rolls of 3,000 and 10,000 are also planned, replacing the 1¢ Tiffany Lamp issue.) The new format might start a trend in new PNCs. – Ron Blanks



USPS publicity picture

Catalog Corner

by Frank Covey



The 45¢ Weather Vanes went on sale January 20, 2012 in Shelburne, Vermont in rolls of 3,000 and 10,000. This issue replaces the 44¢ Quill and Inkwell (2011-3) self-adhesive in the same coil formats, which are designed for lettershop affixing equipment in the preparation of large mailings. The first-class rate changed from 44¢ to 45¢ on January 22, 2012.

The stamps are produced by Banknote Corporation of America for Sennett Security Products, one of the three main private contractors supplying stamps to the U.S. Postal Service. The Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, VT has the five weather vanes in its collection that were the basis for the five designs.

The five stamps have “USPS” microprinted near the post in each design. The S111111 plate number, repeating every 25 stamps, is found on the eagle weather vane. (The microprinting on the eagle weather vane is shown below-right of identification box.)

Pink back numbers repeat every ten stamps on the back of the liner. Both the 3K and 10K rolls found so far have the back number behind the cow. Back numbers (BNs) are either one-left (1L) or 4R of the plate number as referenced from the front. Those BN positions alternate throughout the roll. BNs might be at top, middle, or bottom.

**45¢ Weather Vanes (SSP) (SA)
Plate S111111
PNC ID 2012-3**



(above) 4-digit top BN “1500” from a 3K roll; 5-digit bottom BN “08710” from a 10K roll.



(left) Closeup of plate #.

Current Plate Numbers, Roll Sizes, Tagging & Die Cuts

=== KEY ===

Roll Size: E = 50, A = 100, B = 500, C = 3000, D = 10,000

► **NEW NUMBER OR VARIETY**
 *** **DATA ARE TENTATIVE**
 ≠ **USA PHILATELIC (USPS CATALOG) "SOLD OUT" OR NO LONGER SHOWN**
 [xx] - plate number interval
 BK - Block Tag
 EP - Embedded Phosphor (coil paper not presently used)
 SP-S - Surface Phosphor, Smooth appearance
 SP-U - Surface Phosphor, Uneven or grainy appearance
 OA - Overall Tag
 un - untagged

Water-Activated (WA) if shaded; otherwise, Self-Adhesive (s/a).

Plate number intervals are shown in brackets [] following the plate number(s) and roll size(s), followed by die-cut types on self-adhesive stamps:

PV = Peak/Valley VP = Valley/Peak VV = Valley/Valley
 PP = Peak/Peak S = Serpentine Die Cuts with no transition.
 Tagging is listed within (). Note some #s have varieties.

PRINTER PLATE NUMBER PREFIX LETTERS

A - American Bank Note P - Ashton Potter
 B - Banknote Corp. of America S - Sennett Security Products
 G - Guilford Gravure V - Avery-Dennison
 M - 3M none - BEP (only above 3 now make US coils)

1¢ LAMP 2003 (un) ≠
 #S11111 C [14]

1¢ LAMP 2008 (un)
 #S11111 C, D [31]

2¢ NAVAJO JEWELRY (un)
 #S111111 D [31]

3¢ SILVER COFFEE POT (un)
 #S1111 D [14]

4¢ CHAIR (un)
 #S1111 D [14]

5¢ TOLEWARE (un)
 #S1111111 D [14]

10¢ CLOCK 2006 (un)
 #S1111 D [14]

10¢ CLOCK 2008 (SP-S)
 #S1111 D [31]

20¢ WASHINGTON (OA)
 #P11111 A [31] VP
 #P22222 A [31] VP

29¢ HERBS (SP-S)
 #V11111 A [40] VP, PV

32¢ ALOHA SHIRTS (SP-S)
 #S1111111 A [25] PV

44¢ FLAG (SP-S) ≠
 #V1111 A [20] VP, PV

44¢ FLAG (SP-S) ≠
 #S111 A [31] VP

44¢ FLAG (SP-S) ≠
 #P1111 A [31] VP

44¢ FLAG (SP-S)
 #S111 C [31]

44¢ FLAG (SP-S) Rounded Corners
 #V1111 C [16] VP
 #V1111 D [16] VP ≠

44¢ QUILL & INKWELL (SP-S)
 #S1111 C, D [27] S

45¢ WEATHER VANES (SP-S)
 #S1111111 C, D [25] S

2011 (∞) LIBERTY & FLAG (SP-S)
 #V111111 A [40] VP, PV

2011 (∞) LIBERTY & FLAG (SP-S)
 #S111111 A [32] PV

2011 (∞) LIBERTY & FLAG (SP-S)
 #P111111 A [32] VP
 ∞ = "Forever" (1st-cls rate today)

2012 (∞) FOUR FLAGS (SP-S)
 ► #V1111 A [20] PV, VP

2012 (∞) FOUR FLAGS (SP-S)
 ► #S11111 A [32] PV

2012 (∞) FOUR FLAGS (OA)
 ► #P1111 A [32] VP

(5¢) SEA COAST
 #B111 D [20] (SP-S) VP ≠
 #P1111 D [22] (un) S
 #P2222 C [27] (un) S
 #P2222 D [27] (un, SP-S) S ≠
 #P3333 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P4444 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P5555 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P6666 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P7777 C [27] (un) S
 #P7777 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P8888 D [27] (un) S ≠
 #P9999 C, D [27] (un) S
 #S1111 D [20] (un) S ≠

(5¢) SEA COAST (un)
 #B111 B, D [10]
 #S1111 C (Lum. Ink) [14]
 #S1111 D (Lum. Ink) [14]
 #S11111 B [31]

(5¢) ART DECO BIRD (un)
 #P1111 C, D [27] PP
 #P2222 C [27] PP
 ∞ = "Forever" (1st-class rate today)

(10¢) LION (un) ≠
 #S11111 B, C [14]

(10¢) BANNER (un)
 #S111 D [27] PP
 #S111 B [31]
 #V111 C, D [10] VP
 #V222 C, D [10] VP
 #V333 C, D [10] VP

(25¢) EAGLE (un)
 #S1111111 D (2003) [20] S
 #S2222222 D [20] S
 #S3333333 C, D [20] S
 #S3333333 D [20] S, Tag SP-S*
 #S1111111 C (2005) [20] S

(25¢) EAGLE (un)
 #S1111111 C [10]

(25¢) SPECTRUM EAGLE (un)
 #V11111 C, D [30] S

42¢ FLAGS 24/7 (SP-S) ≠ Rounded Corners
 #V1111 C, D [8] VP
 #V2222 C, D [8] VP

42¢ FLAGS OF OUR NATION [FOON] (SP-S)
 #S111111111 E [10] PV (Set 1)
 #S111111111 E [10] PV (Set 2)

44¢ FOON (SP-S)
 #S111111111 E [10] PV (Set 3)
 #S111111111 E [10] PV (Set 4)

2011 (∞) FOON (SP-S)
 #S111111111 E [20] PV (Set 5)

? = known used only
 * = weak tagging
 ∞ = "Forever" (1st-class rate today)

The 2012 Four Flags coil varieties (►) are reported from inspected rolls and strips (upcoming issues will have respective versions' Catalog Corner pages). 44¢ Flag rolls/100 from Sennett are marked (≠); they're shown sold-out in USA Philatelic catalog for 1st quarter of 2012. The following full 10K rolls are also sold out, but strips/25 remain on sale: 2008 10¢ Clock, s/a 44¢ Flag.

Note PNC interval change to 20 for Set 5 Forever FOON.

Rolls in the large sizes (B, C, and D) marked unavailable via USA Philatelic (≠) might still be in inventory of (or for) large mailers. For example, some mailers were still using 41¢ Flag rolls (no longer shown here) in mass mailings as of June, 2011.

Ashton Potter's SA Sea Coast P2222 are die-cut two ways. One is serpentine-cut on all 4 sides; the other only at the sides.

For Sea Coasts of P2222-P9999, AP changed cylinder size from that of P1111, so plate number intervals changed from 22 to 27. P3333-P9999 have a small date and color order of BCMY.

Classified Ads

PNC used singles, used strips, MNH PS5s. Great prices! Guaranteed quality! No hassles! Visit <http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/HimesPNCs> or send LSASE for lists to John Himes, PO Box 453, Cypress, CA 90630-0453. Please specify what you collect. Or e-mail johnwhimes@yahoo.com. Member 957L

FOR SALE: PMCs A Guide To Collecting Purple Machine Cancels. Includes all types, slogans and earliest and latest usage dates. Illustrated. Spiral bound. I'll also include 8 looseleaf updates. \$20 postpaid. If you want just the updates: \$6 postpaid. Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976. Member 004L

CLASSIFIED AD rates are 6¢ per word, with a minimum cost of \$3.00 per insertion.

PNC³ members are entitled to two free 50-word ads per year. (There is a 10¢ charge for each word over 50 with free ads.) Contact the editor to place an ad (see page 42.)

Membership... *Updates will appear next month.*

Address Changing?

Change of Address forms and membership applications are available from Harvey Wales, Secretary, 13 Birmingham Place, Vernon Hills, IL 60061. Email: Secretary@pnc3.org. Membership form is also on our website at: www.pnc3.org.

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Display Advertising Rates PNC³ Coil Line

• Full Page	\$ 100.00
• Half Page	\$ 80.00
• Third Page	\$ 65.00
• Quarter Page	\$ 45.00
• Sixth Page	\$ 35.00
• Eighth Page	\$ 20.00
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(Discounts available for multiple insertions.)	

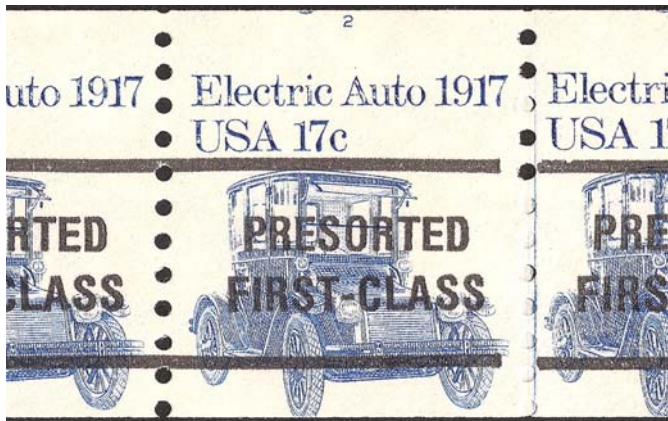
(from page 57, Readers' Forum)

This parcel piece loaded with PNCs (shown on page 57) might be of interest to readers. Obviously philatelic (every stamp is a PNC), but still an interesting use of 30 PNCs on a parcel.

– David Trutwin #1958

(Closeups of some of the PNCs are shown below.)





Austin, Texas, along with a dozen other North American cities, has become a test market for the two-seat, environmentally sensitive “Car2Go” vehicle. For the last year or so, seeing hundreds of these tiny blue-and-white *Green* cars all over town has kept me mindful that I’ve needed to write on the blue-and-white 17¢ Electric Auto stamp (Scott #1906, and 1906a precanceled). Bearing in mind contemporary machinations in Detroit (e.g., the Chevy *Volt*), the 1917 Detroit Electric coupe depicted on this stamp was the first electric car put into production in the USA, and was the second stamp issued (1981) in the Transportation Series.

The 17¢ Electric Auto was printed on the Cottrell presses at the U.S. Treasury’s Bureau of Engraving and Printing using paired engraved metal plates curved to form a cylinder, involving plate numbers 1-7. (Printed stamps that were phosphor-tagged were processed into coil rolls of 100, 500, and 3,000 for use as ordinary postage, while precanceled stamps were coiled into rolls of 500 and 3,000 for use by bulk mailers.)

Not surprisingly, 100%-on-top miscuts can be found for all of the plate numbers. It isn’t until we get to the untagged, precanceled stamps that things become interesting. The on-press precanceling station over time involved three major varieties of overprinting mats, A, B and C. (All have two horizontal precancel lines, but three different *styles/sizes* of the service inscription “PRESORTED FIRST-CLASS” were used.)

Also, mat variety *combinations* sporadically occurred of pairings used on-press simultaneously: AB & BA were found on some rolls. Additionally, there are *precancel gaps* (breaks in the horizontal

lines where the sides of two mats met) to consider. In effect, much potential abounds for the avid 100%-#-on-top collector! But not all of the above precanceled, multiple-gap varieties appear to be obtainable as #-on-top examples. (“Multiple gaps” refer to the fact that a precancel gap’s location relative to the plate numbered coil in a roll strip can vary, and some collectors seek examples showing the different locations.)

The chart on page 56 lists all of the clear-cut, 100%-on-top PNCs I have been able to document for the tagged (#1906) and precanceled (#1906a) 17¢ Electric Auto issue in the Census so far.



The chart doesn’t show it, but there are also “no-number” (or, no-#) strips available in both mint and precanceled examples. (These are evident because of the presence of the joint line of ink between two stamps, denoting one of the two joints between the two curved plates where ink collected. No-# strips come from the top row of the printed web, when row mis-slitting is “slightly high” in relation to the printing. There is no “row above” with a plate number to wind up at top, while the bottom plate number is below the slitting and winds up creating #-on-top cases for the next row, and so on.)

I am still looking to find some of those oddball precancel gaps on no-number strips, which I understand might or might not exist. Regardless, my feeling is that there are some additional precanceled 100%-on-top strips with gaps out there that are yet to be documented. So if you have seen or know about any 17¢ Electric Auto strip not listed on the chart, please contact me with information and scans at: Mark Schultz, 1002 Wisteria Trail, Austin, TX 78753, mschultz@jomarpress.com.