

Auction #49 -- Plate Number Coil Collectors Club Consignment Sheet

(Photocopy this page. A separate sheet is required for each lot.)



Wednesday August 14, 2013 is Auction Consignment Deadline



Please Note: Auction Lot fee is 10% of hammer price (minimum 50¢ per lot), and a 50¢ lotting fee for each UNSOLD lot (all fees deducted from the sale proceeds).

- 1) Keep this entire page intact and attach only one lot in its own glassine with tape on the top half (*do not use staples*). I understand that this might not be possible for longer strips.
- 2) LIMIT YOUR CONSIGNMENT TO 25 LOTS, please. **Firm Limit of ONE non-PNC/non-Coil lot.**
- 3) As I find that there is no totally acceptable definition of a commercial cover, all covers will be listed as either "First Day Covers" or "Other Covers". There will be no exceptions.
- 4) If you do not state a minimum bid, your lot(s) will go to the highest bidder regardless of the price(s) realized.
- 5) Bidding increments are: \$0.01 to \$4.75 -- 25¢, \$5.00 to \$9.50 -- 50¢, \$10.00 to \$49.75 -- \$1.00, \$50.00 to \$97.50 -- \$2.50, \$100.00 to \$495.00 -- \$5.00, \$500.00+ -- \$10.00

OWNER IDENTIFICATION Preferred E-mail address: _____

Name _____ PNC³ Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Scott # _____ Minimum Bid (see rules above) \$ _____ Is this Your ONE *Non-PNC* Lot? _____

Description of material: _____

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

(For COTTRELL press issues, please grade **both** 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) _____

If my lot does not sell...

- Please return it to me
- Please hold it for the next auction

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

EMAIL: PNC3auctions@aol.com

Our 26th Year

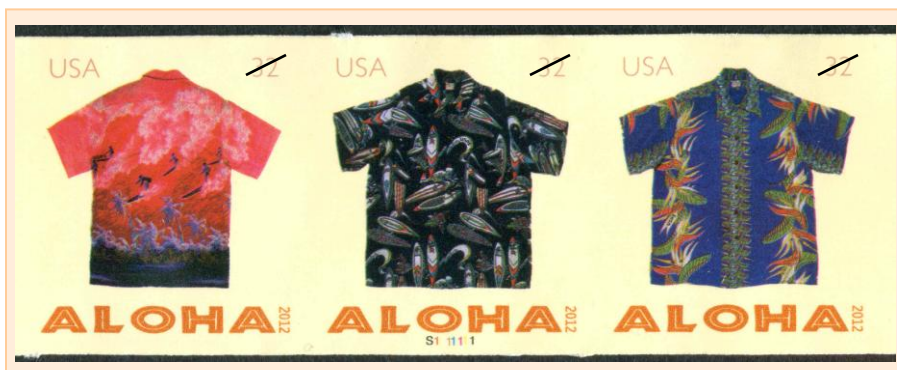
PNC³



Coil Line

Journal of the PNC³ www.pnc3.org
Plate Number Coil Collectors Club
American Philatelic Society Affiliate # 185

August 2013
Vol. 26, No. 8
Whole No. 302

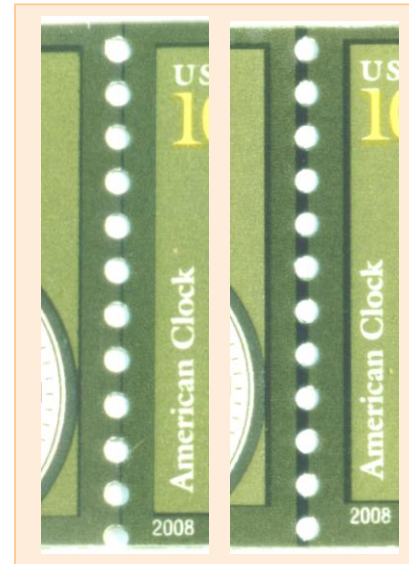


▲ 32¢ Aloha Shirts
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.....
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PNC³ Autumn Auction

**Last Call for Auction
Consignments!**

Deadline August 14
(see wrapper for
Consignment sheet)

Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number
Coil Collectors Club (PNC³)

Published by: PNC³
ISSN: 1931-5112

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Scott #1897 plate # 3 (Issued
August 19, 1983 - 30 years ago)

PNC³ Contacts

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

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Advertising Rates (one-time)

Full Page	\$ 100.00	Eighth Page	\$ 20.00
Half Page	\$ 80.00	Business Card	\$ 20.00
Third Page	\$ 65.00	Back Cover	Add \$ 50.00
Quarter Page	\$ 45.00	Inside Cover	Add \$ 25.00
Sixth Page	\$ 35.00	Color, full page	Add \$ 100.00

(For Color Ads, Electronic Version only, Add \$25.00)

A check or money order, made out to **PNC³**, must accompany camera ready ad. Advertising copy must be submitted by the 1st of the previous month prior to the publication date. Please send all copy to Ronald Blanks, Coil Line Editor, PO Box 9282, Chesapeake, VA 23321.

The Classified Ad rates are six cents a word per issue, with a minimum of \$3.00 per individual ad. (Two 50-word ads per year per member are available at no charge. There is a 10¢ a word charge for words over 50.)

All material, including articles submitted, will be edited and formatted for inclusion in **Coil Line**, and must be received by the 1st of the month prior to publication.

Coil Line reserves the right to edit copy as necessary.

Coil Line is published monthly and as a member benefit is sent electronically with annual dues of \$16.00. Printed version of **Coil Line** is also available. To U.S. addresses, to receive printed version add \$14.00 for Bulk Mailing; add \$22.00 for First Class Mailing. To Non-USA addresses, add \$27.00 for mailing. Past issues of **Coil Line** available at \$2.50 per copy (quantities limited).

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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: coilineditor@yahoo.com. For mail delivery problems, contact the mailer below.

Postal mailings prepared by: Brian Snippen, PO Box 5542, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5542. Email: bsnippen@comcast.net. Phone: 505-404-1624. Mailed from Zip Code 87185, on or near July 31, 2013.

President's Message

from the PNC³ president ...

As this is written, final preparations are under way for the PNC³ Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. We will once again have a table on the show floor (though we haven't been told what the number is, just that it will be near the auction area). Michael Conway, chair of the Membership Committee, plans to offer a display of PNC material on a visual display unit, so those attending should plan on stopping by to see his presentation.

Ron Maifeld has arranged for the services of an independent contractor to redesign the club's website. This has been a much-needed venture, as our current website, produced using obsolete software, had continuing problems displaying stored data that have been needed by members. I have heard from various members expressing their frustration with this situation and am glad that we are finally on a path to eliminating these problems.

We will undoubtedly find some changes in the redesigned site that will seem strange to those using the current site, but I hope that users find that they are minor. Members attending the Annual Meeting in Milwaukee might have the opportunity to review the new design and suggest improvements, as we are attempting to have a draft copy of the new site available for inspection at the meeting. (Please note that the time of the membership meeting is changed from previous years. It is scheduled for **4 p.m.** on Saturday August 10th.)

For those attending the Annual Meeting (or StampShow on other days), I'd like to advise you that Frank Covey will be bringing a scanner to the show, and would like to scan special PNC items you might have. We maintain an archive of rare, unusual, or hard-to-find PNC images for eventual use in the PNC³ Catalog of Plate Number Coils, if appropriate. So, bring along items you'd like to share with others through the catalog and have them scanned into our database. If you wish, we will record your name along with the image so that we can make proper attribution when the images are published. — *Gene Trinks*

Welcome!

If you are a new reader to *Coil Line*, PNC³ is in our 26th year. We are a community of stamp collectors specializing in plate numbered coil issues of the USA. The first PNCs were issued in 1981 and, in February 1988, a network of PNC specialists founded 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!

**Annual PNC³ Meeting
APS StampShow – Milwaukee
August 10**

All PNC³ members, please note: The annual PNC³ meeting will take place during the APS StampShow in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 8-11. The APS show is being held at the Delta Center, 400 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee.

The PNC³ meeting is scheduled for **4 p.m.** on Saturday, August 10th in Room 201-A and is open to all. (If you have questions, see PNC³ contacts on page 94.)

The annual PNC³ Board Meeting is also slated for the same Saturday, to be held that morning at 9 a.m. in the same room (201-A). It is also open to all.

More information about APS StampShow is available at the website www.stamps.org/Stampshow.

The APS show organizers can be reached at stampshow@stamps.org or you may contact Barb Johnson at 814-933-3803. (*SESCAL plans, page 96*)

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.)

PNC³ Regional Meeting

SESCAL – Los Angeles October 5

PNC³ club members will be meeting on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the SESCAL 2013 Stamp Exhibition. SESCAL will be taking place at The Hilton Los Angeles Airport Hotel, 5711 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045, phone (310) 410-4000. SESCAL will be held from Friday through Sunday, October 4-6. The PNC³ meeting will be hosted by club members Jeff Haas and John Himes. Watch this space in future issues for the meeting time, which has not yet been assigned.

Door prizes will be given, and we should have enough to assure that everyone attending goes home with a nice item. Several informative talks are being prepared for the meeting. There will also be plenty of time for club members to buy, sell, and trade extra material at the end of the meeting. Check for the precise room location when you arrive at the show. Visitors to the meeting are always welcome. Admission is free, and a special parking rate of \$8.00 is available to show attendees. Full information on the show is available at www.sescal.org.

Call for Auction Lots Reminder

August 14th Consignment Deadline

PNC³'s next upcoming auction is our annual Autumn auction in October. The deadline for getting consigned material into the hands of auctioneer Joe Sedivy is Wednesday, August 14th. As a courtesy to members, the Consignment Sheet form is repeated from last month's issue on this month's outer wrapper. Please review the terms on the form carefully, and thanks for participating!



Strips of 100 from SFS

Stamp Fulfillment Services (SFS) of the U.S. Postal Service now offers low-value coils in unfolded strips of 100 for which strips of 25 are no longer available. According to a *Linn's Stamp News* item by Jay Bigalke in the July 29th issue, the USPS stopped carrying strips of 25 for coils denominated 10¢ or less to reduce costs. The two most recent 2013 quarter editions of *USA Philatelic*, the USPS' sales catalog, omitted the strips.

Linn's listed the new strips-of-100 item numbers obtained from USPS. As per USPS policy, specific plate numbers are not listed, but we surmise some below based on findings from full rolls sold.

- 1¢ Bobcat (self-adhesive), 789105
- 1¢ Bobcat (water-activated gum), 789205*
- 1¢ Tiffany Lamp (from rolls/3000), 761505
- 1¢ Tiffany Lamp (from rolls/10,000), 786405
- 2¢ Navajo Jewelry, 788005
- 3¢ Silver Coffeepot (with back #s, S1111), 782905
- 3¢ Silver Coffeepot (no back #s, S2222), 782915
- 4¢ Chippendale Chair, 785615
- 5¢ Toleware (with back #s), 778105
- 5¢ Toleware (no back #s), 708105
- 10¢ Clock (untagged 2008, S2222), 784305.
- (2008 tagged version, S1111, is marked as "Sold Out" in *USA Philatelic* 2013 Quarter 3.)

*– to be issued August 9

SFS orders can be placed by phone at 800.782.6724 and online at usps.com/stamps.

Editor's Message

I turned over most of the space usually taken here to the news above, received at deadline. Also lacking room after the story of a major 32¢ Aloha Shirts error find (page 99) is something interesting I noticed about the plate numbers involved, unrelated to the error.

The error's plate number appears to have only six digits (shown at left, *top*), when the normal plate number shows seven (at left, *bottom*). The first "1" (that might not render well on this page when printed) is actually a drop-out of the background color ink, and thus appears white from the paper color. But in the case of the error, the white is almost covered by the light brown "1" that is shifted to the left. Interestingly, the error images in the story don't show any resulting anomaly from the shift of that color. – Ron Blanks

Readers' Forum



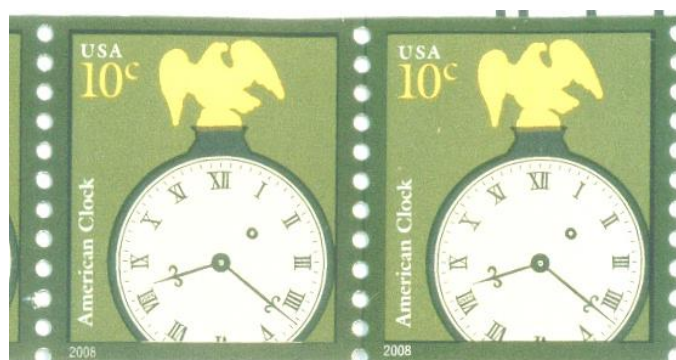
Enclosed are three envelopes – two from St. Labre Indian School and one from DAV. In some reference to your article on these coils (June 2013), I would like to know if anything has been written about the information that I have so noted about them. (All are phosphor-tagged, Scott 3763.)

Envelope **A** (shown above) – Clock strip has a thin vertical black line in the perfs between the 3rd and 4th stamp. Also has a thicker dark vertical frame line (compared to other stamps) on the right side of the last stamp.

Envelope **B** – Between the first and second Clock stamp there is a thick black vertical line going through the perfs. And a thicker dark frame line within the designs of the stamps, on the right.

Envelope **C** – All three clock faces of the Clocks strip of three have shifted down slightly.

Note I viewed all of the above through a number 10X magnifier. – Howard Kerman #480



A (last 2 stamps in strip)

(PNC³ member reviewer Doug Iams responds:

The width of the seam line depends on the width of the offset plates' seam that has caught some ink. I could be wrong, but I don't think the seam lines nor the frame lines are black but rather are dark green (an overlapping of the dark perimeter and the inside colors).

Again, I could be wrong, but I think the width of the frame lines at sides and at top/bottom are determined by color registration (registration can vary between one side of the seam line and other side).

*In the case of **C** that shows a downward shift, I notice a thick frame line appears at bottom and none at top. I think the thick frame appearing only at the bottom resulted from the shift. Responses from readers with more insight are invited.)*

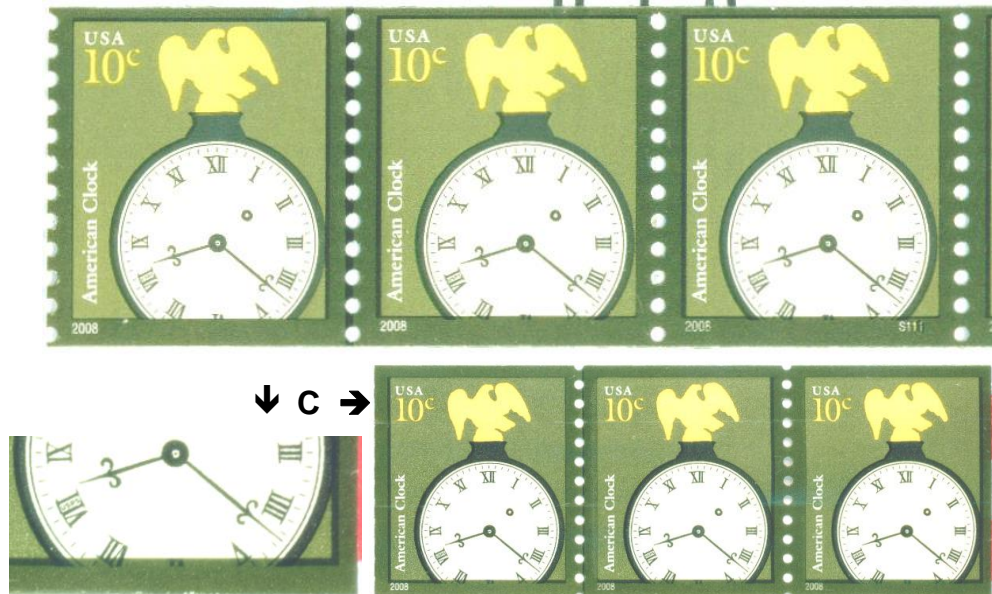
(please see page 99)

↓ **B** (first 3 stamps in strip of 4) (↓ S1111)



A

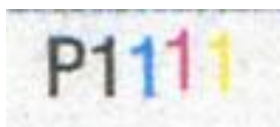
B



↑

(red from stripes on DAV envelope)

↑



**(Forever) A Flag for all Seasons
Plate P1111
PNC ID 2013-5**

The 2013-edition Forever stamps in coil rolls of 100 for the first-class domestic letter rate feature “A Flag for all Seasons.” 2013 Flag rolls from Ashton Potter went on sale nationwide on May 3, 2013. Most post offices did not have the stamp available then and those that did were instructed to first sell the existing flag coils (2012’s “Four Flags”). The value of each stamp in a roll of 100 is currently 46¢, the one-ounce first-class rate as of January 27.

The P1111 plate number shown at left repeats every 32nd stamp along the roll. Most collectors will save this as a “PS9” (plate strip of 9) with the plate numbered stamp in the middle of the strip.

A different design is used for each season of the year. The roll begins with the Spring design followed by Summer, Fall, and Winter. The plate number is on the Spring design. The stamps on this Ashton Potter version (2013-5) are narrower than the same designs produced by Sennett (2013-4) and Avery (2013-6).



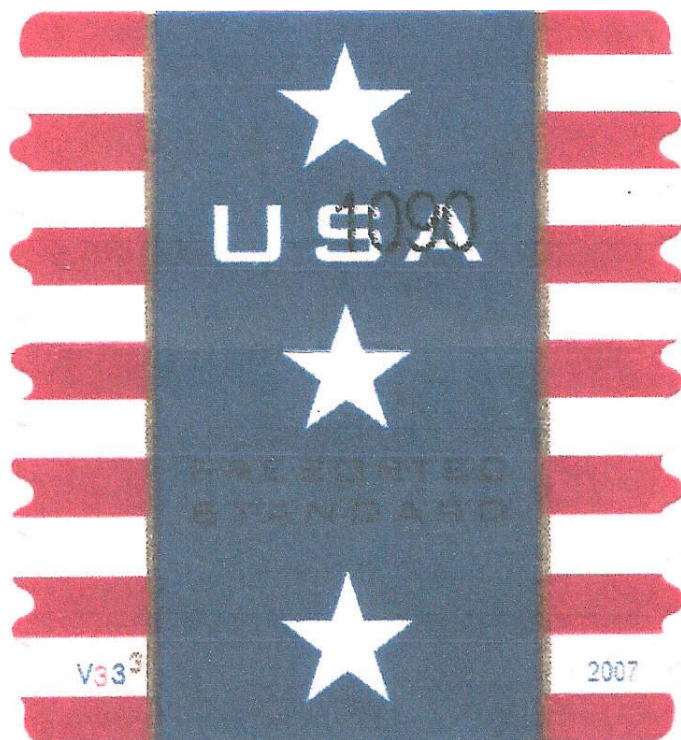
← **USPS microprinted on the bottom of the flag on the Fall stamp.**

(Microprinting is located near the bottom left corner of the flag in each design.)



← **Wrapper that seals the roll.** *(This has a star design, likely one of four wrapper designs Ashton Potter uses.)*

(from page 97, Readers' Forum)



Strange printing on (10¢) Banner V333 PNC

A collector submitted to me the attached picture (shown above) of a (10¢) Banner PNC single with the number 1090 printed over the "S" and "A" of USA. I hope you can make it out from the scan. I cannot explain its origin and hope someone can.

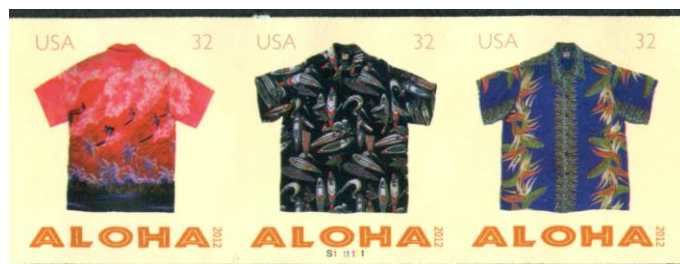
The stamp is attached to a cover he received and the stamp still remains on the cover. Thank you. — Bob Rabinowitz #265 (via online post)

(For an answer, see page 101. Below is a similar V333 PNC from Coil Line, September 2010.)



Imperforate 32¢ Aloha Shirts

PNC³ member Gil Mattox went to a local post office in California to purchase two rolls of 32¢ Aloha Shirts and found quite a surprise, according to Jay Bigalke's front-page story in *Linn's Stamp News*' July 1 issue. Both rolls of 100 completely lack any die cutting.



After examining one of the rolls that Gil sent to *Linn's*, Scott catalog editor Charles Snee stated that the error variety of Scott 4597-4601 would be added to the catalog. According to Jay, the error is the first reported for the issue (including its pane of 20 and convertible-booklet pane of 10 formats).

Sennett Security Products produced the coil rolls, which bear the plate number S1111111. Each of Gil's two imperforate rolls reportedly includes four numbered stamps.

PNC³ Catalog Committee member and frequent Coil Line contributor Frank Covey had the chance to meet Gil and examine the imperforate stamps when he visited California recently. Frank took the closeup pictures that accompany this story of one of the unwound rolls. (A golden ink seam line runs between the pair shown below.) Frank noted that he could not recall any such imperforate error occurring for a setenant coil issue before.



Avery “Flag for all Seasons” Die Cuts

Frank Covey

Some of the die cutting on the new Avery “Flag for all Seasons” (PNC ID 2013-6) is not aligned well with the images on the printed web, creating the unintended views of die-cut shapes shown below. Learn more about Avery die cut varieties from the PNC³ publication “Avery Dennison Die Cut Varieties.”



“Bells” reported so far on A Flag for all Seasons coils are in the upper right or lower left corner. These bells are formed when a stamp row die-cut with peak/valley (PV) shape is below another PV row and die cutting is not properly aligned with the stamp images. The “Embedded Bell” shown in the middle above clearly shows what the row separator portion of the die cutting pattern looks like. Bell die cuts are usually the easiest of the unintended-view shapes to find since most of this issue’s rows are PV die cuts.



“Knolls” are identified on the left edge of an Avery stamp. A knoll is formed when a PV row is above a valley/peak (VP) row. VP stamps are known to be from the bottom row of the web. The “Embedded Knoll” shown in the middle above shows the transition cut between a PV and a VP row. Knolls are hard to find because the transition between PV and VP rows is thought to occur only once on the die cutting mat, between the next-to-last and last rows. *(please see page 101)*

Direct Mail Control #s

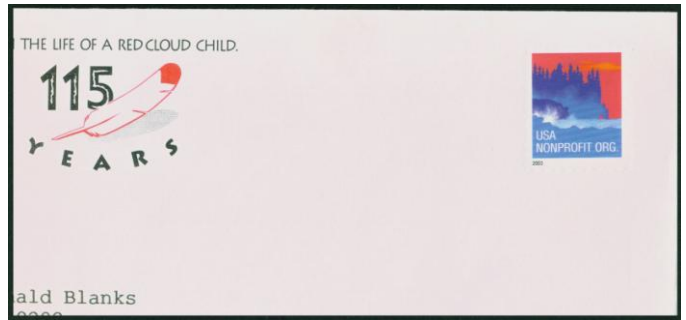
A decades-old direct-mail technique gone awry occasionally befuddles PNC collectors. For example, back in 2005 *Linn's Stamp News* published reports (Aug. 1 and Aug. 29) of collectors finding small numbers printed on some coil stamps used on advertising mail.

What the numbers are and who applied them have been considered mysteries, but they are actually not secret. However, confirmation of a likely reason why the stamps have numbers is hard to come by.

Figure 1 shows excerpts from three separate mailings in 2004 by a non-profit organization, Red Cloud Indian School. All envelopes have the address printed on the outside, in contrast to appearing through a window. This happens to be an important clue in these cases to the numbers' purpose.

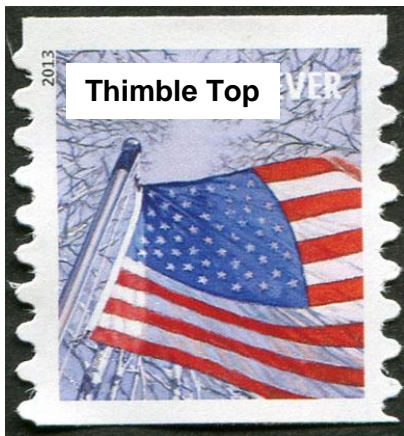
Looking near the stamps, no number appears near the top stamp. The stamp on the left side shows a tiny "064544" just beyond its lower-left corner. The right-side stamp has a small "077764" below it.

But another look, at the back of the first stamp through the paper, also shows a number covered by that stamp, near its top. The number reads "065204."



(please see page 102)

(from page 100, *Avery Die Cuts*)



"Thimbles" come from either the top row of the web (Thimble Top) or the bottom row of the web (Thimble Bottom). From looking at the Thimble Top, it becomes obvious that the top row of the web is intended to be a PV die cut. And by looking at the Thimble Bottom, the bottom row of the web is intended to be a VP die cut.

Looking at the Nine-Peak Thimble Top (middle illustration), the long straight cut at the top of the stamp stands out. Normally, Avery die cuts have ten peaks on both the right and left side of the stamp, but the Nine-Peak Thimble Top has only nine peaks because the die cutting is shifted so far down.

(from page 101, *Direct mail control #s*)



Figure 2 has cropped images of a bottom-right corner from each mailing's inserts. Note that for each, not only does the number match the one on the cover, it also has a bar code. The depicted codes were found on the back side of enclosed letters, with addressee information printed on the front.

Similar matching numbers can be found on other "personalized" inserts, such as response slips or courtesy-reply envelopes. They are simply controls to aid lettershop work in synchronizing addressed inserts with their matching addressed envelopes.

High-speed lettershop inserting equipment is subject to the occasional malfunction such as jamming. With sequence numbers on various personalized pieces of a mailing, operators can quickly find affected items. (Bar coding also allows the latest sophisticated equipment to detect mismatches such as caused by paper stuck together, although I do not have first-hand knowledge of a lettershop using this more recent innovation.)

For some direct-mail designers, achieving a more personal look is a consideration and a prime reason to use addressed covers. If they decide to use a "live stamp" (industry jargon, as opposed to a permit imprint or meter), some will also design the cover's sequence number to be concealed by the stamp. As seen in Figure 1, this not always works.

Today's equipment, including high-speed laser printers, can actually print "in-line" with inserting operations to produce a mailing. This is a recent development dating to the late 1990s. The front page shows corner excerpts of two 1981 mailings over 30 years ago, when computer impact printers were used.

It was not as common back then to use addressed covers in conjunction with similar addressed inserts in bulk mailings. This was often reserved for first-class mailings, as used here.

Notice the 1981 (front page) control numbers

that the stamps were supposed to obscure. They were also printed on those mailings' inserts. Because all the inserts and envelopes were printed ahead before lettershop inserting, it was vital to use controls for manual synchronization.

One lettershop manager (of several) I contacted confirmed to me that stamp-affixing is still typically the last operation for these mailings. This is needed, of course, for jobs where a stamp is to cover up the control number.

So, why do we sometimes see control numbers printed on top of the stamp, like the Banner V333 PNCs in Readers' Forum (page 99)? My few presort bureau contacts either had no explanation or chose not to respond. I believe that because of its nature, a first-hand report of the true reason is unlikely.

Due to mechanical limits, automated affixing of coils is the slowest task in a lettershop's mass mailing production. If the mailing also involves addressed covers, then having stamps affixed as the last step (to conceal a number) causes production to proceed *only as fast as stamp-affixing*.

I do not believe any direct-mail designer intends to have sequence numbers obviously appear on these kinds of mailings, especially on top of a stamp. To put the best reason forward on why this might occur, there are some rare cases where speed becomes paramount above other considerations.

For example, when a funds appeal becomes urgent, a manager might authorize the pre-stamping of blank envelopes "off-line," before the actual mailing job. In this case, the carrier hopper can now be stacked with envelopes already stamped. The in-line printing and inserting of mailpieces can now go faster without the interruptions and delays of "stamp-affixing at the last step."

But any control numbers can show up on top of the stamps. It would be difficult to find a direct-mail manager not reluctant to admit to this practice.

The worst-case scenario for seeing numbers on top of coils has lettershop personnel acting perhaps without consent of management; hence, the unlikely confirmation that this occurs. In this case, stamp-affixing is normally the last job step and the numbers are normally covered (barring a shift of envelope or stamp-affixing which might occur at any time).

However, mechanical affixer troubles or simply inattention could lead to "blank" envelopes running through the lettershop system and exiting with nothing but stamps affixed to them. Because the U.S. Postal Service (please see next page)

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

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 94).

Membership

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Richard K. Cole (2094)
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Previous Membership Count	528
New Applicants	0
<u>Reinstated</u>	<u>5</u>
PNC³ Membership Count	533

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• Full Page	\$ 100.00
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• Inside Cover	Add \$ 25.00
• Color Ad (<i>for full page</i>)	Add \$ 100.00
• Color Ad - Electronic Version	Add \$ 25.00

(Discounts available for multiple insertions.)

(from page 102, Direct Mail #s)

does not give mailers refunds for unused stamps, operators might be accountable for such spoilage.

In order to reduce postage wasted, these operators decide to re-feed the envelopes as “blank” envelopes back for the next batch in the mailing. In this case, only a very few covers would appear with numbered stamps.

Given the relative rarity of such cases among all mailings that collectors come across, I wonder if the “re-fed envelopes” scenario is the most likely. If any reader is involved in a lettershop who can shed more light, please let me know. (See page 94 to contact me.) – *Ron Blanks*



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.

Coil Topics Index this issue...

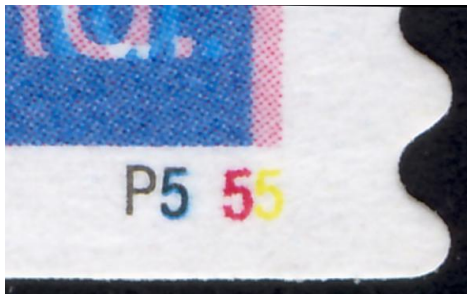
10¢ Clock (2008) S1111 seam lines.....	97
AP Flag for All Seasons Catalog Corner.....	98
(10¢) Banner V333, printed inkjet number.....	99
32¢ Aloha Shirts, imperforate.....	99
Avery Flag for All Seasons Die Cuts.....	100
Direct Mail control numbers.....	101
(5¢) Seacoasts PNC freaks.....	104
23¢ Washington V11, register mark at top.....	104

The Current Plate #s, Roll Sizes chart will return in a future issue.

Through the courtesy of Dan Forgues, we have some colorful “freaks and oddities” to feature on the back page. Ironically, most of the examples show ink mis-registrations, so we are trusting once again State Wide Printing of Albuquerque for a terrific job printing *Coil Line*’s front and back pages in color.



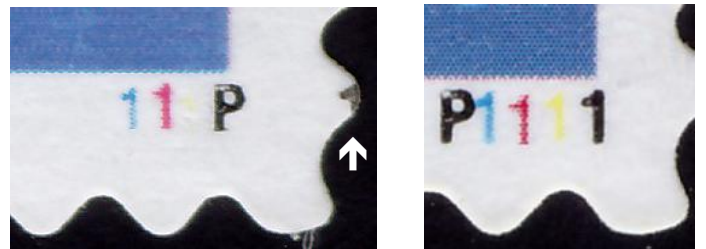
First up is a (5¢) Seacoast (Scott 3874a) PNC that shows some shifted ink similar to ones reported in past *Coil Line* issues. But a closer look at the PNC number (P5555, below) shows a remarkable case: The cyan ink’s “5” has shifted left to align so closely with the overlaid black “5” that only three 5s appear.



Next is another (5¢) Seacoast, but this time of Scott 3785 (the initial release of this design as a self-adhesive coil, with serpentine die cutting on all four sides, spaced apart on liner paper in large rolls).



The image looked normal (cropped above), but notice the “2003” position. And the plate number reads “11 P,” seemingly missing yellow ink. Wait – where’s the black ink’s “1”? The closeup (below, left) reveals some tiny splotch of yellow at left of “P” (this might not render well in the printed *Coil Line*). Since the black ink is the one that has shifted right, close look to the right of “P” shows the top part of its “1” is also there, almost cut away by the die cutting. (A normal PNC’s P1111 is enlarged below, right.)



Last, since the subject of “thimbles” was brought up on page 101, is an example from an earlier 2002 Avery issue, the 23¢ Washington (Scott 3617). This one definitely came from the top row of the web; a registration mark sliver can be seen at top.



“Thimble Top” die cut shape of 23¢ Washington PNC V11 with a twist – part of a registration mark in same green ink

