

ALL MEMBERS ... Please fill out and return this form before 12/31/14!!!
Membership renewals not postmarked by December 31, 2014 – add \$4.00 late fee to your payment.

2015 PNC³ MEMBERSHIP UPDATE FORM

Name _____ PNC³ Number: _____

Address: _____ () Check if new address

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip/PostalCode: _____

Country: _____ e-mail address for *Coil Line* _____

Day Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone: (_____) _____

	<u>Regular Member</u>	<u>Life Member</u>
USA – Annual Dues with Electronic Full Color Coil Line	___ \$14.00	___ Included
USA – Annual Dues with Bulk Mailing of Coil Line	___ \$28.00	___ \$14.00
USA – Annual Dues with First Class Mailing of Coil Line	___ \$36.00	___ \$22.00
Worldwide: Annual Dues with Electronic Full Color Coil Line	___ \$14.00	___ Included
Worldwide: Annual Dues with Surface Mailing Coil Line	___ \$41.00	___ \$27.00
Membership Pins with PNC3 Logo available (postpaid)	___ add \$5 USA	\$8 Worldwide

Please remit by check or money order payable (in US funds) to: PNC3

Mail Renewal Form and Remittance to: John Himes, PNC³ Treasurer
 PO Box 453
 Cypress, CA 90630-0453

Please do NOT send payment for more than one year, as the dues structure may change next year.

For Club Use: Date Received: _____ Amount: _____ By: _____

In accordance with the PNC³ bylaws (ARTICLE II, SECTION 3c), **Life Membership** may be requested by any individual member in good standing who has been a member for ten continuous years and who submits a fee equal to ten times the current annual dues. Any member whose membership number is **1856 or lower** will have the necessary ten years of membership as of January 1, 2015.

This Life Membership fee pays for membership and includes Electronic delivery of COIL LINE. Life Members desiring Bulk or First Class mailing AND those with foreign mailing addresses will have to **annually** remit to the Club Treasurer the additional amount then in effect for mailing. See chart above. Life Membership fees are not refundable.

If you wish to apply for Life Membership, please complete the name and address information at the top of this form, along with the items below, and submit the form to the Treasurer along with the Life Membership fee which is 10 times a member's current annual dues.

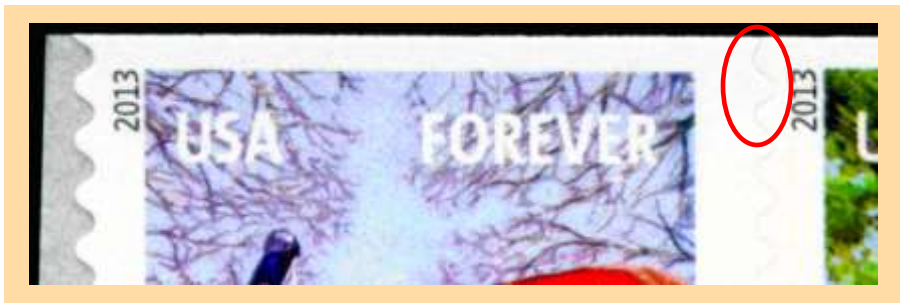
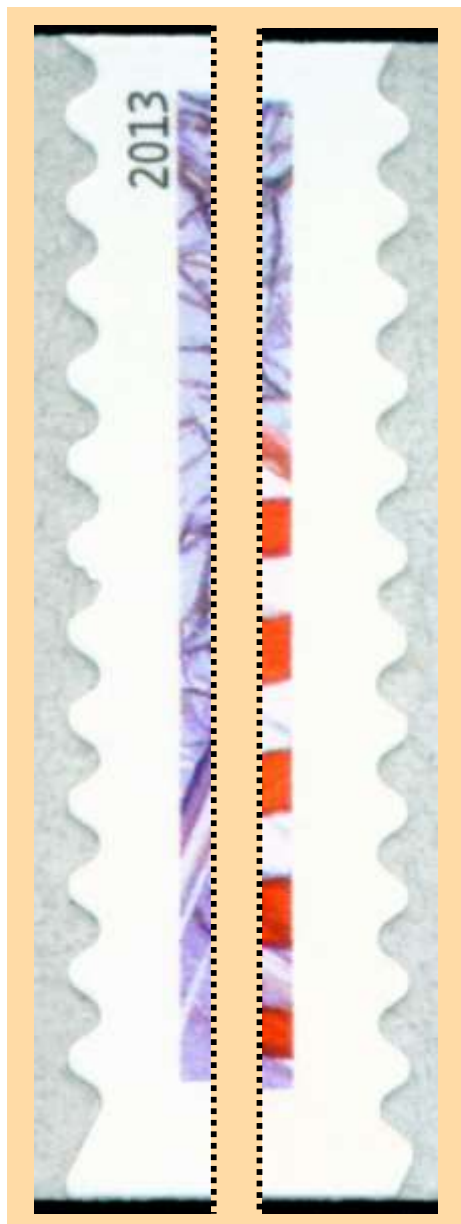
Date of Birth: _____ Signature of Life Member Applicant: _____



Coil Line

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

November 2014
 Vol. 27, No. 11
 Whole No. 317



◀ ▲ 2nd supplier with dramatic die cut shifts... [page 144](#)



▲ Catalog corner... [page 145](#)

5¢ Circus design repurposed... [page 146](#) ▶



▲ Where this pair of PNCs were found... [page 146](#)

PNC³
 Membership
 Renewal

Annual dues lowered... [page 140](#)



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 20¢ Fire Pumper rolls/500 update... [page 146](#)

Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number
Coil Collectors Club (PNC³)

Published by: PNC³
ISSN: 1931-5112



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snippenb@gmail.com

Electronic Edition Emails: Frank Covey
ecoilline@comcast.net

Scott #2226a plate # 2 (untagged
without advance notice, January 1994)

PNC³ Contacts

PNC³ Website www.pnc3.org
Allan Clapp, Webmaster
email: webmaster@pnc3.org

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

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 531, Windsor, VA 23487.

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¢ per word cost 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 \$14.00. 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 print 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 531, Windsor, VA 23487. 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: snippenb@gmail.com. Phone: 505-404-1624.

Mailed from Zip Code 87185 on or near October 31, 2014.

Elected Officers

Robert Thompson, **President**, 12431 Golden Thistle, Houston, TX 77058. email: rthompson@pncvarieties.com 713-397-1772

Michael Mules, **Vice President**, PO Box 267, Mukwonago, WI 53149. email: pnc5dealer@wi.rr.com 414-234-9867

Richard L. Beecher, **Secretary**, PO Box 4790, Blaine, WA 98231-4790. email: richardlater@aol.com 604-467-8700

John Himes, **Treasurer**, PO Box 453, Cypress, CA 90630-0453. email: johnwhimes@yahoo.com 714-826-8552

Gene Trinks, **Past President**, 16415 W. Desert Wren Ct, Surprise, AZ 85374. email: gctrinks@cox.net 623-322-4619

Jill Ambrose, **At Large**, PO Box 54622, Cincinnati, OH 45254-0622. email: jillambrose@zoomtown.com 513-231-4208

Melvyn Borofsky, **At Large**, 101 West Sterling Way, Leesburg, FL 34788-2781. email: melborofsky@comcast.net 352-483-1408

PNC³ Catalog Committee: Frank Covey, Andy Jakes,
Jill Ambrose, Gene Trinks, Peter Tukker
PNC³ auctioneer: Joe Sedivy

Coil Line Production

editor: Ronald Blanks
electronic version producer: Jill Ambrose
senior consultant: Gene Trinks
technical consultant: Alan Thomson
writers:

Frank Covey, Doug Iams, Gene Trinks, Rob Washburn
contributing writers:

Dan Forgues, John Himes, Richard Nazar, Bob Rabinowitz, Mark Schultz, Robert E. Thompson
proofreaders: Ron Archer, John Himes
printing: State Wide Printing - Albuquerque NM
printed mailings: Brian and Cory Snippen
electronic mailings: Frank Covey
subscriptions: Richard Beecher

President's Message

from the PNC³ president ...

Over the past month or so, I've had several members that have contacted me looking for information as to whether they were current members, or who to contact for address changes. Some had questions because they hadn't received *Coil Line*, or sought information about possibly sponsoring an upcoming regional meeting.

For current membership questions and address changes, you should contact Richard L. Beecher, the club's Secretary. His email address is richardlater@aol.com. His additional contact information can be found on page 138 under "Elected Officers."

Questions concerning the printed version of *Coil Line* should be directed to Brian and Cory Snippen at snippen@gmail.com. Questions about the electronic version of *Coil Line* should be directed to Frank Covey at ecoilline@comcast.net.

Additional contact information can be found on the second page of every issue for the above folks.

* * *

The following is taken from a "President's Message" written by Gene Trinks in the October 2013 *Coil Line*. "Would you like to meet other PNC collectors from your part of the world? Regional PNC meetings are a great way to do just that. Consider attending one in your area, or, better yet, sponsor a meeting yourself. It's really pretty easy to do." Contact the Regional Meeting chair Tony Bruno at tbbee@aol.com. He can provide guidance for arranging a meeting. His contact information can be found on the bottom of this page.

"Help is also available from Mike Conway, Membership chair (mjconway@hotmail.com). Basically all that's needed is to contact the chairman of a stamp show in your area to request meeting space and time for the group and advertise the meeting in *Coil Line*. Most shows are happy to provide space (or even a table on the show floor) for a national organization such as ours. Do this at least a couple months before the first of the month of the show date to allow time to get the notice into *Coil Line*."

— Robert E. Thompson



Welcome!



If you are a new reader to *Coil Line*, PNC³ is in our 27th 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!

PNC³ always welcomes your mint postage, even of presort coils. Send donations to Brian Snippen. His postal mailing address is listed on the second page of every issue for the benefit of those who elected to receive the electronic edition of *Coil Line*.

Mailing List Available

Rental of the club mailing list is available upon request. A one-time usage fee of \$50.00 includes preprinted address labels. Contact Richard Beecher, Secretary. Email: richardlater@aol.com or see previous page for more contact methods.

PNC³ Regional Meetings

(No meeting notices received for this issue.)

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.)

Annual PNC³ Membership Renewal

Believe it or not, it's time for us all to renew our memberships in PNC³ for another year. Printed on the outer wrapper of this month's *Coil Line* is the renewal form. We're going to put it on the wrapper in both this issue and the next one in order to give you two different reminders. We want to encourage you to take a few minutes right now to fill out the form and send it in at your earliest convenience while it's currently on your mind. (Those of you with the electronic version will need to print out the form, of course.)

Please note that at our annual meeting in August, the PNC³ Board approved an annual dues decrease of \$2.00 per year. So this year's membership fees have been adjusted accordingly. This is in recognition of the fact that we have carefully managed our expenses over the past few years, and can now pass on this savings to our members.

Many thanks to those of you who have opted for electronic delivery of *Coil Line*, have donated your time in support of the club, have contributed scrap postage, provided material or had winning bids in the club auctions, purchased club pins, and purchased club publications. These individually small but overall significant sources of cost containment and revenue generation have made a difference. I'm happy to report that we are financially healthy and are passing on the savings to you.

In the past there has been some confusion on the part of a few of our members who thought we would bill them for their annual membership fees. Interestingly, PNC³ has never done that, as it's expensive to send a letter to every member. We'd rather save those funds as part of our effort to keep the annual dues as low as possible. So please take note – it's up to you to be proactive and send us the form along with your annual dues payment.

Life members who opt to receive *Coil Line* electronically don't owe any additional fees, but we still encourage them to send in the form to keep us apprised of their status. This is important to the Club officers who try to keep track of everyone and assure they can be contacted when needed.

Thanks in advance for keeping your membership current and helping us keep PNC³ a strong and viable part of the philatelic community.

– John Himes, PNC³ Treasurer

Editor's Message

We've had a slew of errors found in *Coil Line* lately. I assure you it is not because anyone is scouring an issue to find mistakes after-the-fact, and/or I welcome error reports to fill space. "To err is human" and every issue has its share of minor glitches, usually low in count. But when something later jumps out at me that should have been caught before publication, I feel it should be recognized if it rises to a matter of possible confusion (or if remaining unaddressed, it might imply we'd make the same mistake later).

Personally irksome to me as you might imagine are items in which I thought I made extra effort to get right. Such was the headline and similar text about Robert Thompson's spectacular "unslit between" triplets of Sennett's <49¢> Star-Spangled Banner coils in the August issue (page 103). As shown below, the row-slitting is missing and we managed to show the vertical die cutting quite well in print. So how did the adverb "vertically" get into both the headline and the text in regards to the missing *horizontal* slitting? If "unslit" as was printed replaces "missing slitting," then an

adjective for the latter becomes an adverb for the former. Adding complexity to what occurred, somewhere along the way the adjective "vertical" meant for the triplet got muddled up in the final phrasing. "Unslit-between vertical triplets" is the phrase intended. An alternate phrase is "unslit between vertical strips of three," showing why we wanted to work to get the phrasing right: To avoid confusion with the more-typical error of missing die cuts (in properly slit coils) that creates horizontal strips of three or whatever size.

– Ron Blanks



Readers' Forum

What about the rarities list? A member has inquired about the infrequent updates to the “rarities” list found in the “Reporting the Rarities” column (last printed in the December, 2013 issue). I’d like to share a few thoughts about this and solicit comments from members in this regard.

When the column first began, it was updated monthly because members searched their holdings, found many items contained on the list, and mixture searchers often reported new discoveries. As time progressed, reports came in less frequently and the column was cut back, first, to bi-monthly, then quarterly, then even less frequently.

There are a few reasons for this. The primary reason, I think, is the change in Postal Service policy that resulted in fewer different plate numbers appearing on our coil stamps, and therefore fewer rarities being created. As a corollary factor, with time marching on, many mixtures no longer contained older stamps from which the listed rarities could be culled.

Another reason is that, once members searched their holdings, finding or not finding reportable items, there was no further reason to pursue the search. Therefore, with fewer reports coming in, the need for updates decreased, as there’s not much to be gained by adding one or two new reports to a list containing a fairly large quantity of items already reported.

One thing that puzzles me, though, is that there have been no reports about the most recently added items on the list. By this time, there should have been at least a couple of examples found in members’ collections/accumulations of the Jukebox #22222 tagged and the fully tagged Lion #66666.

Some of the listed items could perhaps be dropped from the list as their reported quantities approach or exceed triple digits. These might more properly be termed “scarce” rather than “rare.” However, the original intent in listing them was to record instances where there were no reports of mint examples of these varieties. Since this is still the case for most of the listed rarities, the list continues to include them.

Is there a benefit to maintaining the list? I would appreciate input from readers on this topic. In my view, the main benefit to the list is that it

gives some idea as to how to set a value on the listed items. Dealers don’t price these items (presumably because they don’t keep them in inventory), and they’re not often offered at auction. Even when auctioned, there’s no central repository of prices realized. So this purpose is certainly compromised.

What other benefits do members find in using the list? Please respond, either by a letter to the Editor, or directly to me (contact information on the inside front cover). Don’t wait for someone else to do it. – *Gene Trinks, Past President*

Taste of the future? In the past couple of years or so, there have been some comments in the editor’s messages or on the Forum page regarding mail volume in light of the Great Recession, and the U.S. Postal Service’s proposal to end Saturday mail delivery. (Mail volume affects potential use of coils.)

Or perhaps I commented earlier on mail volume, because in January 2012 I decided it would be a good idea for me to log every piece of incoming household mail. Then I would have more than “my impression” to go on when sharing observations.

I’ve yet to commit any time towards formally analyzing almost three years’ worth of logs to date. But some time earlier this year I got the impression that mail volume had turned a corner. Also armed with some industry reports (to be shared in a future Direct Mail Sightings column), I was prepared to offer encouragement to the USPS.

Then something occurred that hasn’t happened outside of two days with icy road conditions this past January. The Tuesday after Columbus Day came and went without mail delivery on our street. The following day, Wednesday, mail was delivered twice – once in the early afternoon (catch-up for Tuesday), and once in early evening. I couldn’t help but think what amount of catching up will be needed if and when Saturday delivery is ended. (Ironically, as the chart below shows, only one piece of mail came in for the Saturday before, and again for the day after.)

– *Ron Blanks #2119*

Mail	Tues	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat	S	M	Tues*	Wed
Letters	2	4	2	7	1			13	0
Flats	1	3	0	0	0			2	1

S - Sunday, M - Mon., Columbus Day federal holiday
*-Delivered on Wed., between 2 – 3pm (typical, 5pm)

Minutes of the PNC³ Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, August 23, 2014
APS StampShow 2014
Hartford, Connecticut

Meeting was called to order at 9:05am by President Gene Trinks in Room 17 of the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Connecticut.

Present: Gene Trinks (President), Andrew Jakes (Vice President), Jill Ambrose (Past President), Robert Thompson (Member-At-Large), Frank Covey (Catalog Committee Chair), Richard L. Beecher (Member). Present by proxy: Michael Mules (Member At Large) by Jill Ambrose, Harvey Wales (Secretary) by Andrew Jakes, John Himes (Treasurer) by Gene Trinks.

Reading of Minutes – Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting of August 10, 2013 were read and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Publications Advisory – Inactive.

Ethics – Recent allegation of ethics violation involving two club members resolved amicably.

Auction – Joe Sedivy still in charge of club auctions, and prepping auction #51 for later in 2014 [presented in October *Coil Line*].

Awards/Exhibits – Paul Bravell has resigned.

Bylaws – No changes made to bylaws this past year, although some bylaws require revision.

Catalog Committee – Report submitted by Frank Covey. Catalog sales activity is operating at breakeven. No new publications are anticipated for the fall of 2014, although two to three are planned for early 2015. Motion to establish new bank account for new style of publication of permanent catalog chapters, in order to receive funds from sales on Amazon. Motion by Jill Ambrose, seconded by Andrew Jakes, passed unanimously.

Estate Advisory – Inactive.

Finance – Report submitted on behalf of John Himes. For the fiscal year-ending 9/30/14, a surplus of approximately \$2,500 is anticipated. The current cash balance is \$32,300, with a fiscal year-end cash balance expected to be approximately

\$30,800.

Regional Meetings – None are currently planned.

Publicity – Gene Trinks to continue to chair this committee.

Historian – This committee is currently inactive, although still chaired by Dan Kauffman. Gene will contact Dan or his spouse regarding his status.

Membership – Michael Conway reports that recent new memberships are slow, although there have been three new sign-ups at the first two days of StampShow. Prospective new members express a reluctance to join because there are less new plate numbers to pursue.

Webmaster – Report given by Jill Ambrose. Website transition completed, with only minor glitches. Many labor hours involved in completing the task. A future task involves offering access to the club website for mobile users.

Coil Line Distribution – For club members who prefer to receive *Coil Line* by bulk mail, delivery times have been favorable.

Elections – Mel Borofsky of Florida to chair this committee.

New Business

Election results announced: Robert Thompson (President), Michael Mules (Vice President), Richard L. Beecher (Secretary), John Himes (Treasurer), Jill Ambrose and Mel Borofsky (Member-at-Large). Gene Trinks will serve as immediate Past President, a non-elected position.

Fees (i.e., application fee, late fee, fee for paper copy of *Coil Line*) for 2015 were discussed. No changes are proposed. Motion by Jill Ambrose, seconded by Andrew Jakes, passed unanimously.

Dues Reduction – Because the finances of the club are sound and cash reserves are adequate, there is a recommendation to reduce the annual dues by \$2 per member. Motion by Jill Ambrose, seconded by Andrew Jakes, passed unanimously.

Coil Line distribution – Most club members receive the monthly journal electronically, the balance receive a bulk mail copy via postal mail. There is some concern that there are not enough members who receive a hard copy to satisfy the 200-piece minimum required by USPS to secure bulk/presorted standard pricing. (*please see next page*)

(from previous page)

circumvented by printing and mailing additional copies (to be made available to distribute to prospective new members) so the 200-piece minimum is satisfied. It is recommended that this current system be maintained. Motion by Jill Ambrose, seconded by Andrew Jakes, passed unanimously.

Succession Planning – Gene Trinks discussed the need to have more members take on key roles in managing and administering club business. Certain committees are largely inactive, or are in need of a committee chair. Additionally, too few members are doing the bulk of the work.

Adobe Acrobat – Jill Ambrose requested the sum of \$500 to purchase Adobe Acrobat, in order to improve the efficiency of the club website. Approved unanimously.

Next Board Meetings – It is proposed that the next meeting be held at StampShow in Grand Rapids, Michigan in August of 2015. Further, the 2016 annual meeting is to be held at StampShow in Portland, Oregon. Passed unanimously.

Create Space Publications – Jill Ambrose discussed partnering with Create Space Publications, a firm that offers reasonably priced print-on-demand services for club catalog permanent chapters. A sample of a print-on-demand catalog was made available to review. It was suggested that the Catalog Committee be tasked with administering this activity. Motion by Robert Thompson, seconded by Andrew Jakes, passed unanimously.

Old Business

World Stamp Show – New York 2016 – The club will have a table at this eight-day show, which runs from May 28 to June 4, 2016 at the Javits Center in New York City. The club has made a \$500 financial commitment to the show and, as a donor, will have a table for the run of the show. There will be a need to sign up volunteers to staff the club table for all eight days of the show.

American Topical Association (ATA) Relationship – The club's relationship with ATA was discussed, especially as it relates to whether it generates new memberships. A decision was made to maintain the relationship as is.

A motion was made by Andrew Jakes at 11:20am to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Submitted by Richard L. Beecher, PNC³ Secretary

Notes of the PNC³ Annual General Meeting

Saturday, August 23, 2014
APS StampShow 2014
Hartford, Connecticut

The meeting started promptly at 4:00pm, and was chaired by President Gene Trinks. He introduced two new board members who were in attendance: Robert Thompson, incoming President, and Richard L. Beecher, incoming Secretary.

In total, there were 16 club members in attendance. Gene asked each of them to introduce themselves and to talk about their collecting interests.

Frank Covey talked about the abundance of coil stock available at the USPS booth on the show floor. There was a discussion about the potential interest on the part of the USPS in setting up a regional philatelic sales outlet in the Hartford area. Several PNC³ members plan to offer their assistance to local USPS personnel in the formation of this sales outlet.

Gene talked about the club's presence at World Stamp Show – NY 2016, which is scheduled to run from May 28 – June 4, 2016 at the Javits Center in New York City. The club will have a table for the entire run of the eight-day show. Many volunteers will be needed to staff the table.

Jill Ambrose talked about updates to the club website. Mobile access is under consideration and is expected to be complete by November of this year.

Jill also talked about alternative publication methods, which are also under consideration. A print-on-demand publication method for older club publications is in the planning stages. Jill passed around a sample of such a publication.

Gene opened the meeting to questions from the floor. Bob Rabinowitz asked about the feasibility of petitioning the USPS with regard to reconsidering their past plans to reduce the number of plate numbers on coil stamps. He related some recent past history of how and under what

(please see page 144)

Drama in Dramatic Die Cut Shifts

The bait in the lead-off item in April *Coil Line's* Readers' Forum has not been taken. That was the lead question to the letter, "Has another supplier made a 'dramatic' die cut shift?" The brief description of a plate strip of five of 2013's Flags for All Seasons product from Sennett Security Products (SSP) involved the term "well-centered" twice. Speculation suggests that few if any readers made the connection from the enlarged images of the strip's die-cut ends [shown again here, (1)] to the "dramatic die cut shifts" of many Avery coils of 100 that have been described in *Coil Line* the past few years (e.g., 21¢ Bison, October 2012 page 117).

One stumbling block to knowing what to look for among SSP coils from rolls of 100 is that an example stamp has yet to be illustrated. The only known specimen so far is the first stamp in the reported strip (2), and it is very difficult to show its right-side die-cut pattern without removing the mint stamp from the liner. Nevertheless, the shifted part at its upper-right corner appears somewhat visible in an image viewed on a screen, so that is shown as (3).

A crude simulation of what a single stamp with a dramatic die cut shift (i.e., the left-side pattern does not match up with the right side) from SSP might look like is shown as (4). Note that an actual stamp's shift might differ in that the pattern on one side might be shifted slightly in the opposite direction, or the more "normal" (aligned properly with design) pattern might be on the other side versus the side found on the strip or simulation here.

Given the possibly remote odds of having this die cut anomaly occur, it is likely that searching mint rolls is insufficient. It seems the best odds of finding one is by searching mixture clippings. Anyone who has already sorted through these used 2013 stamps for PNCs is encouraged to revisit them.

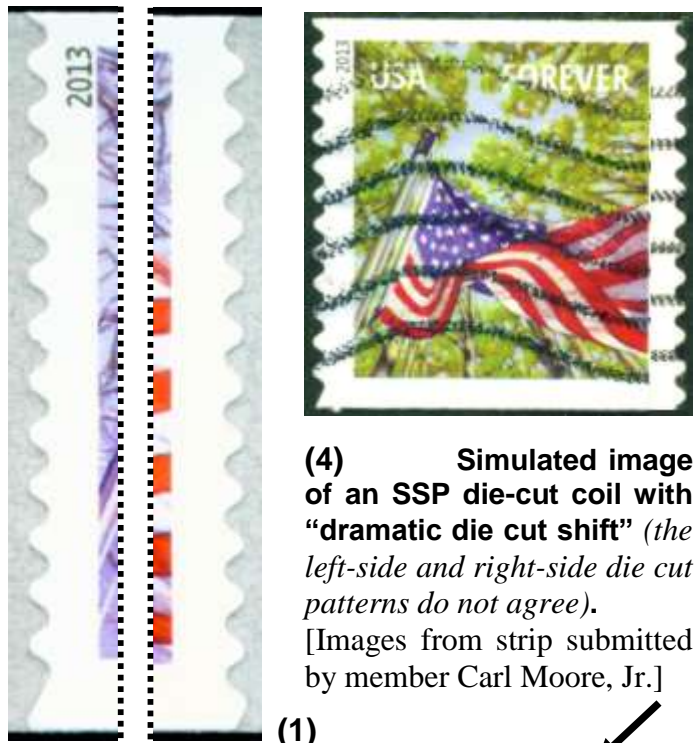
(from page 143)

circumstances the reduction of plate numbers came about. Richard L. Beecher asked about the status of the philatelic outlet in Oneco, Connecticut, managed by Maurice Bessette. Frank Covey mentioned that Maurice is still filling nationwide mail orders from his post office, and that he was actually seen on the show floor.

There were 11 door prizes available, so virtually every member in attendance won a prize.

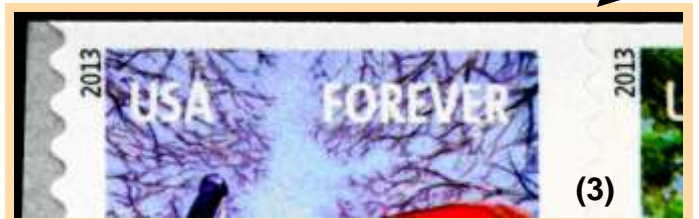
The meeting concluded with a healthy amount of trading, plus a PNC³ video presentation from member Michael Conway.

Submitted by Richard L. Beecher, PNC³ Secretary



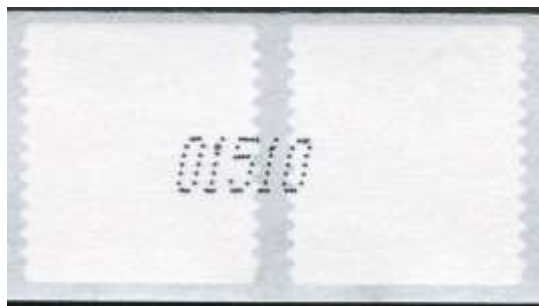
(4) Simulated image of an SSP die-cut coil with "dramatic die cut shift" (the left-side and right-side die cut patterns do not agree).

[Images from strip submitted by member Carl Moore, Jr.]





<49¢> Red, White & Blue
(self-adhesive)
Plate C11
PNC ID 2014-9



The self-adhesive (SA) **Forever <49¢> Red, White and Blue, in 10K rolls** only, was issued April 25, 2014 in San Francisco, CA 94188. It is intended to be used by mass mailers.

The **C11** plate number (shown to the left and enlarged below at lower right) repeats **every 32nd** stamp along the roll. The four designs are shown at the bottom of the page. According to *Linn's Stamp News*, the designs can be identified by the number of *complete* stars within each design. For example, the plate numbered stamp has four complete stars.

The "C" prefix of the plate number represents CCL Label, a division of CCL Industries (a Toronto, Ontario based company) which purchased the Avery Office and Consumer Products division on July 1, 2013.

Back numbers occur every 10 stamps along the roll, with the highest numbers on the outside of the roll. They are printed halfway between the top and the bottom on the back of the liner. Any given roll will be found as either "even" or "odd" based on placement of back numbers in relation to the plate numbered stamp. On an even roll, the back number *might* fall on a plate numbered stamp. (On an odd roll it cannot.)

Collectors may buy these in boxes which contain unfolded strips of 100 from 10K rolls from Stamp Fulfillment Services in Kansas City, MO.

10K boxed strip/100, Item # 776505

← On this Red, White & Blue the Back Number has a hard time staying behind the appropriate stamp.



Two (whole) Stars

Five Stars

Three Stars

Four Stars



Transportation Series' Circus Wagon Design Re-used in Sheet

In a move that has sparked controversy among collectors, the U.S. Postal Service is issuing a souvenir sheet with new stamps available in mint form only from this sheet. What's more, the USPS is only offering the mint souvenir sheet in its 2014 stamp yearbook set (on sale in December).

Piggybacking on the topical popularity of its Circus commemorative pane of first-class (forever) stamps issued earlier in 2014, the souvenir sheet is also circus-themed. In addition to a stamp that is similar to one of the earlier pane stamps, it includes two examples of a stamp that reproduces the Transportation Series Circus Wagon coil design (Scott 2452, 2452B).

Linn's Stamp News in its October 13, 2014 edition showed a preliminary design of the sheet. (We've reproduced this on the front cover.)

The Quarter 4 "& Holiday" edition of the 2014 (Volume 19) USA Philatelic USPS sales catalog just arrived near press time in many mailboxes the week of October 14. The back cover below the address area is dedicated to the 2014 yearbook, and given the publication lead time it does not illustrate the sheet. But the advertising includes an inset box headed, "Exclusive Offer" (shown nearby) describing it. The yearbook with mint commemorative stamps is priced at \$64.95. But, according to Linn's, the USPS also plans to offer both a first-day cover of the souvenir sheet and a Press Sheet.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Includes a **Circus** souvenir sheet, available in mint form only through the purchase of *The 2014 Stamp Yearbook*. The issuance features:

- » One \$1.00 stamp, printed offset, showing an alternate version of the iconic clown poster featured on the 2014 **Vintage Circus Posters** pane
- » Two 50¢ **Circus Wagon 1900s** stamps, printed as intaglio
- » Die cut selvage with decorative metallic ink border

Cottrell Press PNC News

PNC³ member Michael Mules reported in late September finding a new pairing of two plate numbers among Cottrell-printed 20¢ Fire Pumper (Scott 1908) rolls of 500. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing printed some rolls of 500 of the 20¢ Pumper using plates 9 and 10. These plates were previously only known paired to produce rolls of 3,000. (Recall that the single-color intaglio Cottrells, the BEP's workhorse regular-stamp presses from the late 1950s to the early 1980s, printed with two engraved metal plates curved and fitted into a cylinder.)

Direct Mail Sightings

by Ron Blanks

By the time many are reading this, the mid-term elections (November 4) will be history. We've shown in prior issues some examples of political campaigns' use of direct-mail marketing to reach present and prospective donors. These spotlighted items were usually covers beyond the typical presort coil uses of (5¢) Art Deco Bird, (10¢) Patriotic Banner and (25¢) Spectrum Eagle coils, and we'll spotlight more later below.

The mention of standing presort coils issued for mass mailers pitching any manner of causes, goods or services brings a collecting point to mind:

When it comes to choosing PNC cover "keepers" one might encounter (including trading material for those of you not interested in covers!), several categories of desirable traits can be considered. Obvious ones, as in several hobby areas, are condition and evidence of a date or timeframe.

Perhaps chief among these categories is *atypical* use of a device that "ties" the PNC to the mailpiece. (A stamp "tied" to cover when a cancel or postal marking falls partly on the stamp and partly on the envelope.) Such a tied-PNC cover stands head and shoulders above the usual non-tied presort-coil PNCs. This is not just because canceled presort coils are exceptions, but because it is also very difficult to fabricate a tied-PNC cover that experts cannot detect (a consideration in cases where market value might instigate such unethical behavior).
(please see page 148)

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. (Only members may advertise in *Coil Line*.) **PNC³ members** are entitled to two free 50-word ads per year. (A 10¢ charge applies for each word over 50 with free ads.) Contact the editor to place an ad (please see page 138).

Membership Update

New Applicants

John J. Pajor (2254)
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• Color Ad (for full page)	Add \$ 100.00
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Theodore Strauss (2262)
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Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

Names of applicants are published for review. A member who questions the suitability of a prospective member should contact the Membership Committee Chair Michael Conway with the objection (mjconway@hotmail.com or (203)268-5896.) Applicants are accepted as members one month after notice if no objection is made.

Previous Membership Count	519
<u>New Applicants</u>	<u>9</u>
PNC³ Membership Count	528

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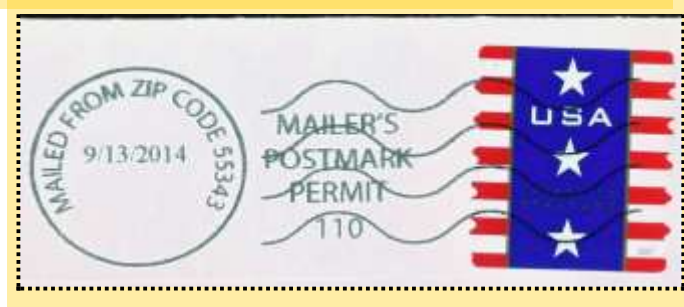
(from page 146, Direct mail sightings)



(A) Mailer's cancel on political mailing



(B) Normal inkjet cancel on political mailing



Shown above (A) is an interesting example from this year's campaigning in a U.S. Senate race, one of four like mailings the recipient has discarded so far that I was able to recover. The first one was discarded on March 15th and is a typical, uncanceled use. But the next three all bear a Mailer's Postmark Permit cancel, and were discarded on May 10th, August 5th, and Sept. 23rd (the latter one pictured).

Interestingly, none of the four are numbered PNCs (alas, more "misses" of a most desirable PNC cover possible from the mailings, just like other teases we've seen in recent past columns). Regardless, did you spot what to look for that makes the three canceled ones atypical that would set a PNC version really apart? [Pause here if you want to review the images above.] I do have other MPP-canceled (10¢) Banners that are PNCs but they don't share the attribute (by press time, I hadn't yet back-checked if I missed it on any). The answer is that the mailer inserted a postmark date (*intentionally?*), something normally done only for first-class mail.

One of the previous spotlighted covers is a political mailing that used different coil issues for effect to add up to a retail first-class rate, and we lamented the lack of any postmark that should have been applied. We were spared chagrin in that case due to the lack of any numbered PNC among them.

Later I acquired a cover shown above (B) that also uses three coil issues to make up the two-ounce first-class rate (70¢). This time, the Kansas City inkjet cancel postmarked the stamps as one might expect on ordinary stamped mail. Once again, none of them features a plate-numbered stamp. With 2014's political season drawing to a close, it seems my main chance of acquiring a postmarked example with a PNC will be from later trading.

Moving back away from ordinary first-class political mail to presort-discount mail again, here's a twist on the usual token five-cent franking for qualified nonprofit mail. (By "token," we mean the modest franking is for the look of stamps desired by marketers. But mailers still pay the USPS the deficiency between that franking and the actual higher postage cost.) Mark Schultz submitted the example below (C) of the five cents met by a 2¢ Navajo Jewelry coil and a 3¢ Coffeepot coil, both PNCs.



(C) Two PNCs on 2014 cover

