

Our 28<sup>th</sup> Year



# Coil Line

Journal of the PNC<sup>3</sup> [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org)  
**Plate Number Coil Collectors Club**  
American Philatelic Society Affiliate # 185

**April 2015**  
Vol. 28, No. 4  
Whole No. 322



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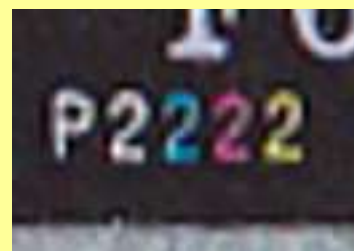
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# Coil Line

Journal of the Plate Number  
Coil Collectors Club (PNC<sup>3</sup>)

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**Scott #2133a plate # 1** (issued  
April 18, 1985, 30 years ago)

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Sixth Page	\$ 35.00	Color, full page	Add \$ 100.00

(For Color Ads, Digital 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.

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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 531, Windsor, VA 23487. Phone 757-478-8719; email: [coilineditor@yahoo.com](mailto:coilineditor@yahoo.com).  
*For mail delivery problems, contact the mailer below.*

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Mailed from Zip Code 87185 on or near March 27, 2015.

## President's Message

### from the PNC<sup>3</sup> president ...

I found myself this past month in Grapevine, Texas, located just outside of Dallas, for the TEXPEX Stamp Show. It began snowing that Friday morning as I drove up from Houston for the show. By the time I left that early afternoon, there had been over two inches of snow/sleet that had fallen and more was on its way. It took me more than two hours to go ten miles, because of the poor road conditions with the temperatures hovering around freezing. As a result of the weather, there was very poor attendance at the show for both Friday and Saturday. I didn't attend the show on Sunday.

While there, I attended the First Day of Issue Ceremony for the new presort-standard coil (10¢) "Stars & Stripes." It was very well attended.

Also, I met fellow PNC<sup>3</sup> member Tim Lindemuth, who had an exhibit at the show titled "20¢ Flag of 1981." It was a wonderful exhibit that included sheet, coil and booklet versions of the 20¢ Flag (including all types of errors and postal usages).

Tim plans to show his exhibit at several shows throughout the year, including the APS StampShow in August in Grand Rapids, Michigan. If you get a chance to see his exhibit, I think you will enjoy it.

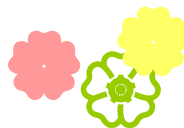
Tim's exhibit won a Gold Medal, as well as the "American Philatelic Society Post-1980 Medal of Excellence" award.

Although Tim's exhibit showed a fair amount of PNCs, it was not considered for either of the two awards available from the club for PNC exhibits, since we still do not have an Awards Committee or Chairman. So we still need a couple of volunteers to help out with this committee. This allows the club to give recognition to those exhibits with PNCs and the awards are available to anyone, not just for PNC members. So if you are interested, please contact me. (See preceding page for ways to reach me).

Good news – Lynnette Wood has volunteered to help the club out with maintaining the members' area on our website. This is important because this is what allows the members access to our secured area of the website. My thanks go out to Lynnette for her help.

– Robert E. Thompson

Welcome!



If you are a new reader to *Coil Line*, PNC<sup>3</sup> is in our 28<sup>th</sup> 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!

## PNC<sup>3</sup> Regional Meetings

### Plymouth, Michigan - April 25

A PNC<sup>3</sup> Regional Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 25th at the annual Plymouth Stamp Show (sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club). For the fourth straight year the show location is the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland, MI. Our Website Content Mistress, Jill Ambrose, will host the meeting. The agenda includes a time for socializing as well as trading, buying, and selling PNC material. As usual, door prizes will be awarded.

The planned meeting time is **10 a.m.**, which is a change from last year. For more details on the meeting, Jill can be reached via her contact choices on page 42. The Plymouth stamp show will be held Saturday April 25th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday April 26th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more show information, visit the website [www.plymouthshow.com](http://www.plymouthshow.com) or contact Sandra Strzalkowski: [myWSSC@msn.com](mailto:myWSSC@msn.com); phone 313-533-7737.

### 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](mailto:tbbee@aol.com)

(PNC<sup>3</sup> meeting notices in this column are free. Please submit details to the Editor 3 months before the meeting.)

## AmeriStamp Expo Meeting Report

On Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, John Himes and Dan Forgues were privileged to host a meeting of 19 members and friends of PNC<sup>3</sup> at the APS AmeriStamp Expo in Riverside, California. The show appeared to be very well attended, with all the dealer booths brimming with activity, and society meetings running simultaneously in various meeting rooms. We were honored to have a meeting time at this great show.

John kicked off the meeting with a welcome; then Frank Covey spent time reviewing the recent new PNC issues and those that will be issued in coming weeks. Next up was Dan, and he gave an absolutely wonderful presentation that started with rarities from his own used PNC singles collection. He followed this with an in-depth look at the 32¢ Flag over Porch 2915A #99999 and “#9.9999”, exploring the various die cuts and die-cut ties that are available.

He was interrupted numerous times by audience members with questions about the specific varieties, and this truly proved to be the highlight of the meeting. (Dan’s passion for PNCs came through loud and clear!)

Next, Jill Ambrose showed a copy of the new PNC<sup>3</sup> 44¢ Flag publication, which is in color, nicely bound, and available via Amazon.com. She also offered to sell copies to those in attendance.

Frank asked each attendee to introduce themselves, provide a bit of information about their collections, and share any interesting items they brought with them to the meeting. Dr. John Greenwood then talked about a recent imperforate PNC find – three 2014 Star Spangled Banner strips that were not slit between the rows, and thus were “three coils high.” *(continued above, right)*

Copies of *Coil Line* were made available to non-members. A door prize drawing was then held, with every attendee going away with a nice item. Many thanks to show dealers Dave Cobb of Newport Harbor Stamps, Jerry Koepp of Stamps ‘N’ Stuff, and Ron Sobel of Oakmore Stamp Company who provided some very nice door prizes. John, Dan, and other members also pitched in with some items.

Following the meeting, there was some brisk trading, and numerous conversations about the material presented during the meeting. If you’ve never attended one of these Southern California PNC<sup>3</sup> regional meetings, you really need to add it to your “bucket list.”  
– John Himes

## Some Postage Rates to Rise April 26

The USPS received a February decision from the Postal Regulatory Commission on its proposed new rates, to take effect April 26. While the first ounce for domestic letters **remains at 49¢**, the cost for each extra ounce or fraction thereof, and for the nonmachinable surcharge, **increases 1¢ to 22¢**. The postcard rate also **rises 1¢ to 35¢**. Note for large envelopes (“flats”), only the first-ounce cost will remain unchanged at 98¢. And if in the past year you mailed a 3-ounce or less first-class parcel (prior cost, \$2.32), it will now cost \$2.54. Heavier parcels over three ounces to 13 are 20¢/ounce more.

Interestingly, the PRC press notice only mentions the nonmachinable surcharge for international mail (rising to 22¢), neglecting the same for domestic mail. (Square-shaped 1-oz. greetings will cost 71¢ to mail.) We should expect new coils ahead for the new-rate 22¢ and 35¢ denominations. – Ron Blanks



**And the new PNCs keep coming...** *(below copied from Postal Bulletin dated March 5, 2015, about new Sennett reprints of <49¢> Ferns previously printed by CCL Label)*

### Stamp Announcement 15-15: Ferns Stamps



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“The 3k coil has a **2015** date in the upper right corner of the stamps and the 10k coil has a **2014** date in the lower left corner of the stamps.” *[emphasis added]*

On March 27, 2015, in Kansas City, MO, the U.S. Postal Service® will issue Ferns First-Class Mail® stamps (Forever® priced at 49 cents) in five designs, in a pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) coil of 3,000 (item #786700) along with a reprint of the coil of 10,000 (item #777300). The 3k coil has a 2015 date in the upper right corner of the stamps and the 10k coil has a 2014 date in the lower left corner of the stamps.

The stamps will go on sale nationwide March 27, 2015.

## Readers' Forum

### Web sprocket holes on self-adhesive coils?

*A reader who shall remain anonymous mailed in this note, accompanying a cover whose canceled stamp is shown enlarged, at right.*

While examining a batch of covers before putting them in the recycle bin, I noticed this interesting one. Along the top edge of this coil is a row of 12 small, evenly spaced indentations. When I first saw this I recalled an old article from *Coil Line* (September 2000) by Doug Iams.

In that article he stated that these sprocket holes were used to help stabilize the web motion during perforation. The only four stamps reported (Scott 2902, 2903, 2912 and 3207) of which I am aware are all conventionally perforated, not die-cut.

*[The vertical die-cut pattern looked familiar, so a review of 2011's Liberty Head and Flag coil and booklet issues was required. You might recall the three suppliers each used a unique shorthand for "forever" to be microprinted. This stamp has "4EVR", the code used by Avery (AV). But the die cut has the look of Sennett Security Products (SSP).*

*In fact, the indentations are remnants of serpentine die cutting along the top, mostly trimmed off before the stamp, from an AV booklet, was stuck to the envelope. And its die cuts don't match AV coils.*

*This odd item is but one case of many "trimmed before use" self-adhesives that have tripped up collectors since the mid-1990s. The hobby press has shown advertising use of cut-up 2¢ Navajo Jewelry panes of 20 into strips that resembled coils. They appeared in windows of envelopes from real-estate firms soliciting listings shortly after the letter rate rose from 37¢ to 39¢ in early 2006. (I have been collecting examples since.)*

*Not long after that time a certain monthly publication column touted an "unannounced" 24¢ Common Buckeye booklet variety, based on a couple of trimmed stamps a collector mailed in that were found in a post office trash can. I immediately mailed in a letter pointing out what they were, but the letter was censored while more than one column urged collectors to search for the (nonexistent) rare booklets. – Editor]*



**A coil-like stamp with clipped top edge.**  
*(Image edited: With stamp on-piece, indentations along top are difficult to see here. )*

.....  
**Counterfeit <49¢> SSB coil** *(image below).*  
*(please see page 46)*



## Imperforate 2014 Star Spangled Banners Found

Charles Snee reported in the January 26, 2015 issue of *Linn's Stamp News Weekly* that a non-collector purchased at a local post office a roll of <49¢> Star Spangled Banner stamps with missing serpentine die cuts.

The discovery came to light in December 2014 when the postal patron used one of the coils to mail an envelope to a stamp collector. The collector contacted *Linn's* and later sent in the cover (with the mailer's address). *Linn's* then reached the mailer who later sent them a strip of four.

The mailer manually tore stamps from the coil as needed, including the strip of four. *Linn's* relayed that about half of the roll had been used up at the time. [The story did not address the separation trait(s) of the rest of the roll.]

*Linn's* reported their staff and Scott catalog editors decided the strip of four is in fact entirely imperforate, and that Sennett Security Products (SSP) supplied the coil roll to the USPS (based on the security microprinting present "in the fireworks above the flagpole").

(As "Catalog Corner" of August's 2014's *Coil Line* showed, this is a trait of the SSP coil. The May 2014 issue's installment notes the CCL Label version lacks microprinting. April 2014's issue covering Ashton Potter's version does not mention microprinting. Oddly, it points out that the design's width matches that of the other two suppliers – which if true would make any microprinting distinction doubly helpful for unnumbered stamps. [The widths are *not* equal; see related sidebar.] In fact, "USPS" is microprinted at the right edge of the flag's bottom white stripe.)

The August 2014 *Coil Line* also has Robert Thompson's story on the other major coiling error known from SSP rolls. He illustrates "triplet" vertical strips he acquired that lack horizontal row slitting. That front cover shows one strip, a stack of three "S11111" PNCs.



Unused <49¢> coil strip without serpentine die cuts (image copied from *Linn's Stamp News Weekly*, Jan. 26, 2015 page 1)

(from page 45, Readers' Forum)

I found this on-piece counterfeit <49¢> SSB coil on the last day of December, 2014. The paper is real thick. There is no micro-printing but it shines under shortwave ultraviolet light. It looks similar to SSP printing. – Jeff Fiszbein #1148

[Jeff had not expounded on his "similar to SSP" remark by press time, but it likely refers to a glossy surface. SSP's genuine coil appears glossy compared to the other two (CCL, AP). In normal respects the fake is not similar to SSP: Its design width and die-cut pattern is close to AP's. (See a genuine AP coil in sidebar below). SSP's width is noticeably slimmer. Also, the fake's gauge is 8.1 (near CCL @ 8.4; AP=9.5, SSP=11.25). – Editor]

### Updates to past "Catalog Corners," 2014 Star Spangled Banner

Some of last year's *Coil Line* descriptions of the <49¢> Star-Spangled Banner coils are incomplete or wrong. You might want to apply a "sticky note" (digital or paper) to these pages:

◆ April 2014, page 53, **Ashton Potter** (plates #P1111, 2222). **Microprinting** – no mention of the microprinted "USPS" present (see below).

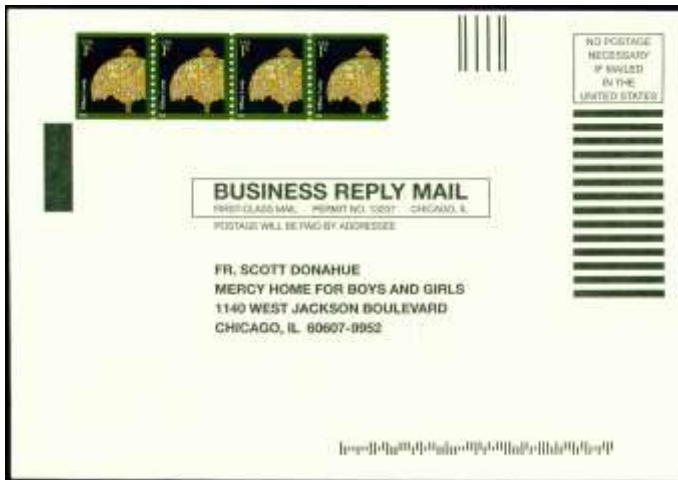


**Design width** – it does *not* match "the other printers'," but only approximates CCL's.

◆ August 2014, page 105, **SSP** (plate #S11111). **Design width** – no mention. In fact, it is materially narrower than the width of the other two printers. SSP = 17mm, AP = 18.5mm, CCL = 19mm. (Given the design fade effect at flag's left, exact measuring is difficult. Lengths come from *relative* widths along a line across the central starburst's center and are approximate.)

## Direct Mail Sightings

Ron Blanks



**1¢ Tiffany coil strip of 4 added to business-reply envelope enclosed with a donation appeal**  
*(received in incoming mail, January 21, 2012)*

We were recently asked again, “Why are the 4¢ (or 5¢, or whatever the small amount might be) in stamps added to the business-reply envelope?” Accompanying the question this time was a photocopy of a BRM cover similar to the one above, except the 4¢ was represented by two pairs of 1¢ Tiffany Lamp stamps. One pair was affixed at a slant in relation to the other, really giving the impression that some effort went into “licking and sticking these stamps on the envelope.”

For our readers who missed the last time this was explained, and by way of another welcome to our many new members who joined us since then, this practice will be discussed again.

Most readers are familiar with BRM envelopes and why direct-mail marketers use them. By printing them in conformance to USPS rules and paying an annual permit fee, mass mailers can enclose them as courtesy reply envelopes for which users do not have to pay the postage. Mailers only have to pay the postage and a small fee for each envelope returned. By saving the prospective donor or customer the cost and trouble of affixing postage, the marketer is hoping for a better reply rate than by using only plain envelopes.

If you have occasionally donated by mail in the past, you might have come across a later donation appeal that took the opposite approach: The mailer

affixed postage stamp(s) to meet the current first-class rate on an enclosed reply envelope. (The Disabled American Veterans is perhaps best-known as the longest practitioner of this technique.)

The downside of the prepay-postage approach is, of course, the cost of that postage for all pieces in such a mailing when only a small percentage of replies is expected. But studies have shown, and mailers continue to occasionally test, that appeals with stamped reply envelopes generate a slightly better response than BRM or plain envelopes. (Psychologically, the stamps’ appearance [assuming the mailing successfully gained the recipient’s interest to open it!] says that “sincere” and/or “personal” effort and cost went into the appeal. Most such stamps are coils that are affixed by lettershop equipment.)

By this time, if you take on the mindset of a direct-mail marketer you might now surmise a third way to address the cost of reply envelopes while optimizing their return rates – the BRM cover uses shown nearby. If not, we should point out one more small matter – some nonprofit firms have added “Your stamp here will help!” or similar wording to their BRM covers. I speculate it was this common practice to save a little more cost per reply that got one creative marketer to thinking one day, “What if we combine both techniques?”

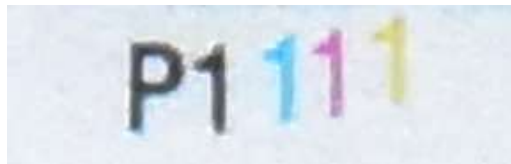
By adding just a small bit of postage on a BRM cover, a mailer gets the impact of “stamps already affixed” but at a much lower cost than pre-paying full postage on reply covers that on average will not be returned.



**Part of a BRM cover from the USO** *(received in mail of April 2014; in the past year or so, we have observed the USO is the firm most likely to use coils this way)*

# Catalog Corner

Frank Covey



**1¢ Bobcat (AP) (SA)  
Plate P1111  
PNC ID 2015-1**



Top 4-digit Back Number "7730"

The self-adhesive (SA) 1¢ Bobcat in rolls of 10,000 from Ashton Potter was released February 21, 2015 at the Aripex stamp show in Mesa, Arizona. (The design was previously issued in 2012 as a self-adhesive in large-roll format of 3,000, also produced by Ashton Potter [PNC ID 2012-7]. A year later the Bobcat again was featured in a 10K water-activated gum roll [2013-7] produced by Sennett Security Products.)

The P1111 plate number shown nearby at left repeats every 27th stamp along the roll. Most collectors will save this as a PS5 (plate strip of 5) with the plate numbered stamp in the middle of the strip.

A "2015" year date appears vertically in the upper right corner. On the first SA 1¢ Bobcat by Ashton Potter, the date was 2012 and was located vertically in the lower right corner.

"USPS" is microprinted at the high point of the leg, below the chin and to the right a bit. In the first SA Bobcat issue, the microprinting was in its right ear.

Ashton Potter has the ability to print back numbers without a leading zero, when the back number falls below 1000 and again when it falls below 100. Shown at lower left is an example of a 4-digit "top" back number. Since the back numbers occur at *even* intervals (every ten stamps) and the plate number occurs at an *odd* interval (every 27 stamps), a back number will fall on a plate numbered stamp every 270 stamps along the roll. Both top- and bottom-positioned back numbers are possible (although separate rolls are needed to get both).



←  
At left is the vertical "2015" year date from the upper right corner.

## Novel Imperforate 20¢ Washington P22222 Strips Overlooked - Twice



**20¢ Washington coil strips without serpentine die cuts** (image copied from Linn's Stamp News Weekly, March 9, 2015 page 1)

A collector overlooked several long strips of imperforate 20¢ Washington PNCs on a 2012 mailpiece, filing it away for a few months before he took another look. When he later came across it and discovered what he had received, he sent it to the American Philatelic Expertizing Service and obtained an opinion that the stamps were genuine die-cut omitted errors of Scott 4512.

As Michael Baadke reported in the March 9, 2015 issue of *Linn's Stamp News Weekly*, front page, the item is a flat-rated padded Priority Mail envelope, postmarked November 23, 2012. Even more amazing perhaps than the collector recipient not noticing the lack of serpentine die cuts is the fact that the mailing was a set of American Philatelic Society sales-circuit books that were forwarded by another collector.

Michael noted that all of the coil stamps lack die cuts, and were apparently cut apart with scissors into strips of nine and ten, some folded around the envelope's right edge onto the back. He reports the third strip on front shows plate # P22222 on the first stamp. As of that report, the recipient was not able to reach the sender despite efforts to do so.

## Use Cornstarch to Thicken Gravy, NOT Stamps

**John Himes**

Back in the early days of self-adhesives, the mid-1990s, it was quickly discovered that you could remove used self-stick stamps from their backing paper using naphtha and other chemicals, but that a sticky residue would remain on the back of the stamps. A lot of people decided it would be a good idea to just dip the sticky stamps in cornstarch (a few preferred talcum powder) and it would cover up the stickiness and leave you with a nice, smooth back on the stamp. So what's the result 15+ years later?

I am going through a lot of older self-adhesives I received from an elderly collector/dealer who sent them to me and just said, "I can't deal with this any more at my age. Keep the stamps, and if you find anything worthwhile, send me a little payment in return." In doing so, I'm finding that many of his Flag over Porch used PNCs, which came out in 1995, have been treated with cornstarch over the sticky adhesive. After some 15 years of having cornstarch on the back, what's the result?

Firstly, many of the stamps are sticking together or to their glassine envelopes. The sticky adhesive has migrated through the cornstarch on some of the stamps, and the stamps are now sticky and clinging to one another. (If you have stamps like this in mounts, check on them, because they're likely starting to adhere to the mounts.)

Others have hardened and the adhesive and cornstarch mixture is now making the stamps more rigid. Will it cause them eventual damage? I'm not sure, but I suspect so. For the few I'm keeping, I have re-applied naphtha and used a dull blade to scrape off the hardened, whitish residue from the backs of the stamps. It's taking me several minutes per stamp because the sticky mess has now begun to cling to the stamp paper. But with patience, I'm getting the white gunk off the backs of the stamps and making them adhesive-free, which is what should have happened in the first place.

*(please see next page)*

## Membership Update

### New Applicants

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Peoria, AZ 85382  
[gshawcross@outlook.com](mailto:gshawcross@outlook.com)

*(from previous page, Cornstarch)*

Let's all work together to warn fellow collectors about the dangers of putting cornstarch on the sticky residue left behind on used self-adhesives. I've said it before, and I know many of you are tired of hearing it, but immediately get your PNCs off of their backing paper, remove the extra adhesive, and mount the stamps in your collection adhesive-free. In the long run, your stamps should stay crisp and nice, and you won't have to worry about fugitive adhesive coming through the cornstarch, hardening the cornstarch, or embedding itself in the stamp paper.

– *John Himes, Cypress, CA Life Member #957*



**New PNC  
(P2222)  
for  
Ashton  
Potter's  
2014  
<49¢>  
SSB.**

*(Reported  
by  
Michael  
Lipson,  
who  
provided  
the image  
at left.)*

Scott Hoppis (2283)  
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*(please see next page)*

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](mailto:mjconway@hotmail.com) or (203)268-5896.) Applicants are accepted as members one month following notice in *Coil Line* if no objection is made.

## 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](mailto:johnwhimes@yahoo.com). Member 957L

\* \* \*

**WANTED:** Commercial covers using 37¢, 39¢, or 41¢ Official coils and commercial covers of the 2008 water-activated versions of the (5¢) Seacoast and (10¢) Patriotic Banner. I'll pay big bonus for PNC usages of any of these. Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, ME 04976, Phone (207) 474-8021. Member 4L

\* \* \*

**FOR SALE:** Used PNCs. Mostly current, some older! Mostly 50¢ each + SASE! Contact: LOV2GOLF1@aol.com. Bob Novak, 56 Glencourt Ave., Edison, NJ 08837. Member 205

\* \* \*

**UNIQUE First Day** cover, 2015 Bobcat PNC. Franked with 46¢ Patriotic Star flanked by 2012, 2013 Bobcats with 2015 Bobcat PNC below 2013 issue. Official Mesa, AZ cancel on CL Cachets #6env. Bobcat Indian lore story on cachet picturing bobcat on tree limb. First \$25 takes it. Gene Trinks 623-322-4619. Member 1L

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## Display Advertising Rates *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
• Back Cover	Add \$ 50.00
• Inside Cover	Add \$ 25.00
• Color Ad (for full page)	Add \$ 100.00
• Color Ad - Electronic Version	Add \$ 25.00

(Discounts available for multiple insertions.)

**CLASSIFIED AD** rates are 6¢ per word, with a minimum cost of \$3.00 per insertion. (Only members may advertise in *Coil Line*.)

**PNC<sup>3</sup> 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.)

(from page 50, Membership update)

### Reinstated

Joseph Papaj (0716)  
Cameron Walker (0739)  
Patrick Andreotti (1735)  
Nello J. Cristiano (1880)  
Norvan R. Fulton (1903)  
Frederick E. Gesser (2194)  
Lambert R. Dumask (2210)  
Kenneth Harris (2220)  
Julian W. Jakobson (2260)  
Peter Lirot (2267)

<b>Previous Membership Count</b>	<b>490</b>
<b>New Applicants</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Reinstated</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>PNC<sup>3</sup> Membership Count</b>	<b>511</b>

### 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](mailto:richardlater@aol.com) or see page 42 for more contact methods.

## Have You Really Looked for the “9.9999” Variety?



Two PNC examples of 32¢ Flag Over Porch (Scott 2915A, with “9.9999” and “99999” at bottom, respectively. Are they different PNCs?)



Member Dan Forgues sent in these images, showing what one might find when really looking for the #9“dot”9999 PNC variety of the 32¢ Flag Over Porch coils. (As a reminder, this constant plate [cylinder] variety is an extra, tiny blob of red ink printed between and just below the first two 9s of some #99999 rolls.) If you are aware of the flaw without seeing it, you might not expect it to appear like the one Dan found, shown at top (left). (Below this, see a closeup with the “dot”. Note the dot is not in line with the 9s.) Now consider the PNC at right among the top pair (closeup of “99999” below it). This appears to be a PNC without the dot, or is it? The far-right closeup just above shows what Dan saw when he carefully checked the top of the second PNC. Dan noted, “I’ve been looking for one of these for many years. A great item to add to my collection.” Do you have any “off-center” #99999 FOPs that warrant another look?



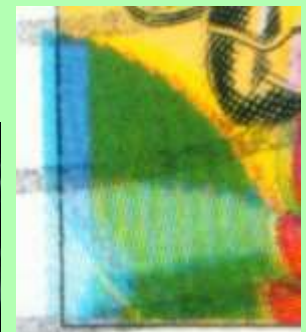
### “Clipped leaf” candidate 25¢ Honeybee submitted.

Past President Gene Trinks found a lively used PNC #2 that appears to show a “clipped leaf” (Feb. 2015 back page). Closeup A seems to show the green color cut off at right. However, closeup B shows the lower-left area – proving the shifts in blue and yellow inks form an illusion in this case. (This digital page can be enlarged to 200% or more to reveal other colorful shifts at left.)

A



B



## PNC<sup>3</sup> Catalog Offerings Updated for 2015

This issue contains an order form for the most recent offerings of the Catalog Committee. It is DIFFERENT from the form found in last month's issue, since there are other selections available as well as the new chapters offered last month.

The lead item on the form is the section with "**New Offerings**," followed by "**Re-Offered Publications**." The **New Offerings** section is THE SAME as on last month's form, so if you ordered any of these, please do not duplicate the order.

**New Offerings** include the annual update of PNCs issued in 2014, as well as the updated indexes of all PNCs since 1981. Also included is a new chapter of the permanent catalog, titled "First Forever Flags 2010 – 2013," covering the 44¢, 45¢, and 46¢ values with a flag theme. For the first time, a chapter on the die varieties of contract printer CCL Label has been created. This is similar to the chapter "Avery Die Cut Varieties," which is still available in limited quantities.

Under the **Re-Offered Publications** section you will find the permanent chapters for various Flag chapters, including the 32¢, 37¢, 39¢, 41¢ and 42¢ issues. If you want the 44¢ Star Flag chapter, you will need to order it from Amazon (see February issue, page 18).

The order form is quite descriptive, and orders placed on this form can be expected to ship within 60 days. The reason for the long shipping time is that the new publications are not printed until the approximate demand is known (to minimize leftover inventory). Orders can trickle in for nearly a month before the print quantity is determined. Printing, collating and packaging can take another couple of weeks, and then time in the mailstream is needed.



