

# Coil Line 2014 Index

- 1¢ Bobcat self-adhesive #P2222 for new paper type, p.125
- carton label, self-stick 3K rolls, p.152
- 1¢ Bobcat WAG PNC on BRE, p.8
- 3¢ Coffeepot #S2222 earliest documented use cover, p.19
- 4¢ Chippendale Chair, Catalog Corner (2013 ver.), p.21
- erroneous SA format news, p.11, • correction, p.20
  - version 2007 vs. 2014 confusion, p.51
- 4¢ Stagecoach, prec. #3 earliest documented use, p.56
- (5¢) Art Deco Bird, P3333 discovered, p.99
- paper types, under ultraviolet light, p.104, 135
- 5¢ Canoe #2 #-on-top cover, p.18
- 5¢ Circus Wagon, design re-used for 50¢ S/S stamp, p.146
- 5¢ Toleware “comet” EFO, p.6
- mis-aligned perforation, p.6
- 5.2¢ Sleigh, precanceled ink starvation, p.78
- 7.6¢ Carreta, “white wheel” light inking, p.89, 156, 160
- 8.3¢ Ambulance #1 #-on-top types, p.82
- (10¢) Banner, pink stripes, p.24 • #V333 #on#, p.152
- (10¢) Snowflakes, naming five designs, p.31
- backnumbers update, p.20
  - Catalog Corner, p.7
  - under ultraviolet light, p.49, 62, 90
- 10¢ Tractor Trailer, USPS-allowed overprints p.158
- 10.9¢ Hansom Cab, #4 100% #-on-top image, p.108
- 11¢ Caboose, 1984 version 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, p.22, p.32
- Brake Shoe, Hoseline constant plate varieties, p.24
  - earliest documented use, precancel #1, p.44
  - Sitting Duck constant plate variety, p.44
- 18¢ Surrey, mis-perf + mis-cut + bottom row (used), p.90
- 18¢ Washington Monument, #11121 100% #-top, p.108
- 19¢ Fishing Boat, #A1111 “hopper”, p.12
- 20¢ Flag #9 100% #-on-top, p.115
- 20¢ Pumper, new paired-plates discovery, p.146
- (22¢) “D”, mangled #2 as 3, p.29
- 22¢ Flag #12 100% #-on-top, p.115
- 21¢ Lincoln, Catalog Corner, p.93 • CCL diecuts, p.102
- (25¢) “E” Earth #2222, hopping digits shown, p.113
- 25¢ Flag #13 100% #-on-top, p.115 • forest fires, p.160
- (25¢) Spectrum Eagle, new #V11112, p.123, 124, 156
- 29¢ Flag #4 100% #-on-top, p.115
- 29¢ Flag gravure, #A11111 on political mail shown, p.120
- 32¢ Flag over Porch #22222A, #23222 EDU covers, p.18
- counterfeit, possible coil, p.68
- 32¢ Yellow Rose EFO PNCs, not printer’s waste, p.5
- 34¢ Hummingbird, Catalog Corner, p.81
- P11111, P22222 under SW-UV, p.96
- 37¢ Antique Toys, #B12222 earliest documented use, p.56
- 37¢ Flag #777 100% #-on-top image, p.108
- (41¢) Flag, counterfeits sampling, p.84
- 46¢ Kaleidoscope Flowers, coil label woes, p.62
- 49¢ Ferns, Catalog Corner, p.30
- back-number positions, p.50,51, • mis-slit row, p.70
- Auction #50 Spring lots, pp.34-42 [Results, p.69]
- Auction #51 Autumn lots, pp.126-134 [Results, p.160W\*]
- “Commercial Covers,” EDUs on Cover, 45¢ PNCs, p.52
- “Current Plate Numbers,...” chart, p.54, 94, 118
- Forever 2011 Lady Liberty & Flag, die-cut anomaly, p.89
- Forever 2012 Four Flags, uncut (imperforate), p.12
- counterfeit (Avery copy), p.48
  - counterfeit (Sennett copy), p.67
  - #V1111 embedded knoll die cut, p.125
  - margin marks (Sennett), p.68, 80 • soaking woes, p.80
- Forever 2013 Flag / All Seasons, margin markings, p.68
- #S1111 dramatic die cut shift, p.144
  - upshifted section between well-centered parts, p.49
- Forever 2014 Ferns, Catalog Corner, p.117
- Forever 2014 Red, White & Blue, Catalog Corner, p.145
- unveiled #C11, p.65 • #C12 discovered, p.153
  - first-day issue report, p.76
- Forever 2014 Star-Spangled Banner,
- Ashton-Potter #P1111 Catalog Corner, p.53
  - #P1111 embedded row separator shown, p.113
  - CCL #C11111 Cat. Corner, p.66 • embed. bell, p.101
  - Sennett version #S1111 Catalog Corner, p.105
  - #S1111 error, unslit-between, p.103
  - seam lines, tag breaks, p.62 • white line (CCL), p.70
- From the Treasurer, p.8, 140, 152
- Index, *Coil Line* 2013, p.10
- Letter from the Webmaster, A, p.4, p.17, p.60
- Numbers on mail (mailer’s control), invisible p.108, 157
- “Number on Top Update, 100%,” p.82, 106, 115
- Perforations, water-activated gum hole sizes, p.61
- correction, p.89 • update, p.91
- PNC<sup>3</sup>, Catalog Offerings Updated for 2014, p.48
- election candidates, p.62, 77, 82 • election results, p.101
  - executive board meeting minutes, p.142
  - general meeting, annual, notes, p.143
  - meeting report, Plymouth MI, p.76
- PNCs, adhesive removal, p.92, 101
- back numbers on Souvenir Pages, p.90
  - collecting changes, p.61 • hidden on/in mail, p.29
  - first-day covers market-value inquiry, p.114, 125
  - “No Number PNCs,” p.77
  - strips/100 packaging poor, p.50 • update, p.76, 153
  - uses on advertising/appeal mailings, p.104, 113, 116, 146
- “Reporting the Rarities,” commentary, p.113, 141
- “SESCAL 2014 Report,” p.154 **\*W-Wrapper**

## Coil Line 2014 Index

### === Pages ~ Issues Cross-Reference ===

Pages 1-12, January	85-96, July
13-24, February	97-108, August
25-44, March	109-120, September
45-56, April	121-136, October
57-72, May	137-148, November
73-84, June	149-160, December



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**  
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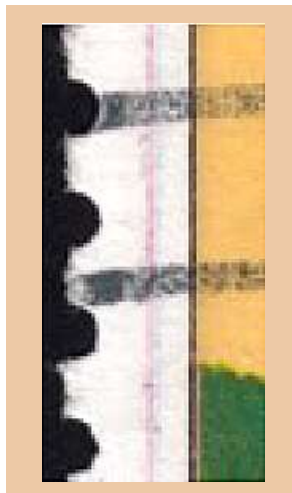
**February 2015**  
Vol. 28, No. 2  
Whole No. 320



▲ A difference under UV light... *page 19*

◀ More 44¢ counterfeits...  
*page 17*

(10¢) Patriotic Banner  
to be retired... *page 22* ▼



▲ Multi-color lines,  
and a twist... *page 24*



◀ Fuzzy printing... *page 20*

Machine-affixed PNCs  
pay 2<sup>nd</sup> ounce... *page 22* ▼

**Also...**

- Sarasota, Florida meeting, **Feb. 7**... *page 15*
- AmeriStamp Expo meeting, **Feb. 14**... *page 16*
- Mesa, Arizona Aripex '15, **Feb. 21**... *page 16*
- Reprint series: "PNC Varieties"... *page 20*



# Coil Line

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**Scott #O139 plate # 1** (issued  
February 4, 1985, 30 years ago)

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see column at left for appropriate contact.)

### Advertising Rates (one-time)

Full Page	\$ 100.00	Eighth Page	\$ 20.00
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A check or money order, made out to **PNC<sup>3</sup>**, 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.**

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## President's Message

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

There are several activities that are currently in-play for the club and the PNC<sup>3</sup> website. I hope everyone by now has visited the new "Members Login" section located at the bottom of the list on the left-hand side of our "Home Page" at [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org). If you haven't set up your User ID and password yet, you need to contact John Himes with your email address, so he can send you the proper link. Once you've logged in, you can access past issues of *Coil Line*, including the most-recent issues (for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, which until now have not been available online). Also, a new feature that has been set up is a button that will take you directly to the "Current Issue of *Coil Line*." The button can be found in the list on the left-hand side of the "Home Page" and is only visible once you've logged in as a PNC<sup>3</sup> member.

Another feature that is only available to logged in members is the "PNC<sup>3</sup> Loose Leaf Catalog Publications" located under the "PNC<sup>3</sup> Items For Sale" tab. These are items that have been offered for sale over the years to club members only. Some of them are in limited supply. They include such items as the most up-to-date 2014 Values list, the newly revised "Precancel Gaps Values List" and several other items.

You can also find the first bound edition of our previously sold-out catalog chapters in this section. The first of this type is the "Star Flag" and is available to anyone online from Amazon. These are printed in full color, so if you missed this item in the past, this will be an economical way to obtain it. The Catalog Committee has done a wonderful job putting this together.

All of this information can be found on our website. You can also find up-to-the-minute announcements about PNCs, so check back often.

Also, just a reminder that PNC<sup>3</sup> has made a \$100 donation to the World Stamp Show-New York 2016. This will be our fifth and final year. We will have a table at the show and we will be looking for help staffing it during the show. Please contact Tom McFarland if you might be able to help.

– Robert E. Thompson



## Welcome!



If you are a new reader to *Coil Line*, PNC<sup>3</sup> is starting 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

### Sarasota, FL – February 7, 2015

Welcome to sunny Florida! A PNC<sup>3</sup> Regional Meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, February 7, 2015 during the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition, February 6-8, 2014. The PNC<sup>3</sup> meeting place is in the North Balcony of the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium (same as the show location).

The auditorium address is 801 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL. The exhibition hours are Friday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For further details on the PNC<sup>3</sup> meeting, contact Al Light at [al.light@verizon.net](mailto:al.light@verizon.net). For more information about the exhibition, contact this year's show chairperson, Liz Hisey, at [lizhisey@comcast.net](mailto:lizhisey@comcast.net). (*more, next page*)

### 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.)

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

### APS AmeriStamp Expo, Riverside, California February 14

The APS AmeriStamp Expo will be held February 13-15, 2015 at the Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside, CA 92501. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

PNC<sup>3</sup> club members will be holding a regional meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 14 in Riverside Room 3. This is a wonderful get-together for those who live in the Los Angeles area or for those who will be traveling to the show. The meeting will be hosted by club members John Himes and Dan Forgues.

We'll fill the meeting with interesting news about the PNC collecting hobby, spend time looking at the latest PNC releases, and hear about the latest finds. Copies of *Coil Line* will be available for guests. Door prizes will be available, and we'll try to bring enough along to see that everyone in attendance goes home with a nice addition for their collection. Door prizes are solicited from member dealers for the meeting. We also encourage everyone to bring along a favorite PNC item to share with those in attendance.

PNC<sup>3</sup> Website Content-Mistress Jill Ambrose will give a report on the website and have copies of the new "Star Flag" bound color booklet for sale.

Further details on the three-day show are available at [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org).

### Aripex '15 – Mesa, Arizona February 21

#### *1¢ Bobcat Coil to be Issued*

Aripex '15 will be held February 20-22 at the Mesa Convention Center, 263 N Center Street in Mesa, AZ. Exhibition hours are 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Sunday. PNC<sup>3</sup> will have a table on the convention floor.

In addition, PNC<sup>3</sup> has been awarded the Cholla Room for its regional meeting. Hosted by PNC<sup>3</sup> Past President Gene Trinks, it will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday.

Please note that there will be a \$5 admission charge (new this year) for admission to the exhibition (all three days), but there is *no charge for*

## Editor's Message

As this is written in mid-January, the U.S. Postal Service has not announced new designs for small-size mail-use stamps in coils of 100 to replace 2014's Star-Spangled Banner (SSB) issues.

By way of reminder, the Postal Regulatory Commission granted the USPS 2014's 49¢ rate provisionally to help with its budget. The PRC expects that rate to be *lowered* a couple years ahead. The USPS filed an appeal as it maintains it needs every bit of that rate, and then some, going forward as long as the U.S. Congress fails to mitigate the onerous pension mandates on the USPS that took effect in 2006.

I've wondered in what subsequent year the USPS would "rest" and not issue new one-ounce rate rolls of 100 when that rate held steady. Although the 2015 stamp program in the January 8th *Postal Bulletin* (#22406) doesn't list any, it might be a matter of timing. The USPS has just filed a new rate case anyway, hoping to have by late April a 1¢ increase, respectively, to the present 21¢ additional-ounce rate *(please see page 22)*

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### Update on New PNC for 1¢ Bobcat Coil

As noted last month, the USPS will re-issue the 1¢ Bobcat self-adhesive coil, in large rolls of 10,000 for the first time. The *Postal Bulletin* of January 8 has technical details about the coil, to be released February 21, 2015. Aripex '15 will host a first-day ceremony. (See Regional Meeting notice at left.) Ashton Potter is making the rolls, which means the stamps could appear exactly like those in their rolls of 3,000 – except for a "2015" year date. With the change in date, the plate # could revert to P1111 (rolls of 3,000 have either P1111 or P2222).

*access to the meeting room.* Two cachet makers will also be present in the lobby (no charge).

The recently announced 1¢ Bobcat coil will have a First Day ceremony on that same Saturday at 11:30 a.m. It will be held outdoors in the park area near the building entrance. The same area will also hold displays of Native American arts.

For more information on the meeting, contact Gene Trinks (see page 14 for ways to reach him).

## Readers' Forum

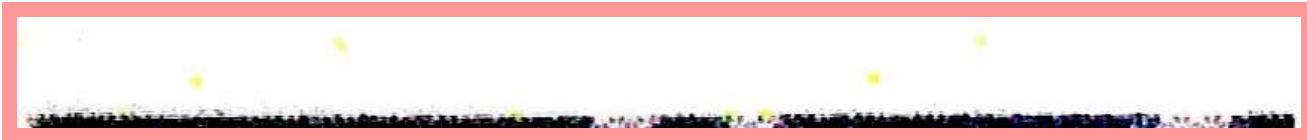
**Counterfeit 44¢ Flag.** I found this on-piece example recently in a mixture (*shown at right*). It looks a lot like an Ashton Potter-produced 44¢ Star Flag coil. On close inspection, I learned it has no microprinting. In addition, the paper surface is very shiny, almost like adhesive tape, which is how I came to notice it. The stamp appears damaged by a facer-canceler (*note lack of cancel*). Still a keeper.

– Jeff Fiszbein #1148

[*Editor's note: A few years ago in a dealer's cover box I found a cover with a similar 44¢ Flag affixed which caught my eye because the high gloss of its surface seemed "off the charts."* However, my example was die-cut with the deep peaks and valleys typical of Avery-made coils.



**Fake 44¢ Flag found on-piece.** (*Below: close-up, yellow splatters in top margin.*)



(*In fact, the die cut gauge of my fake is 8.4, the same as genuine Avery 44¢ Flags.*)

*On the other hand, Jeff's example here is a pretty good match for one from Bob Murrin shown on back page of the November 2011 issue (item B). However, the resolution of the earlier image is lower. So it is hard to tell from the tiny dot patterns, which differ between the two images, if they are from the same source. (That page also shows other fakes of the 44¢ Flag, some with different die cuts.)*

**Wisps of ink.** Below is a 10.9¢ Hansom Cab mint plate strip of five (PS5) that member John Himes sent in for comment. This interesting example, from an issue intaglio-printed on a Cottrell press in the early 1980s, shows various streaks or wisps of ink on most stamps (mainly in the upper area of text). John is not sure why the ink streaks exist on the strip, and would like to get opinions from readers. (*please see page 19*)

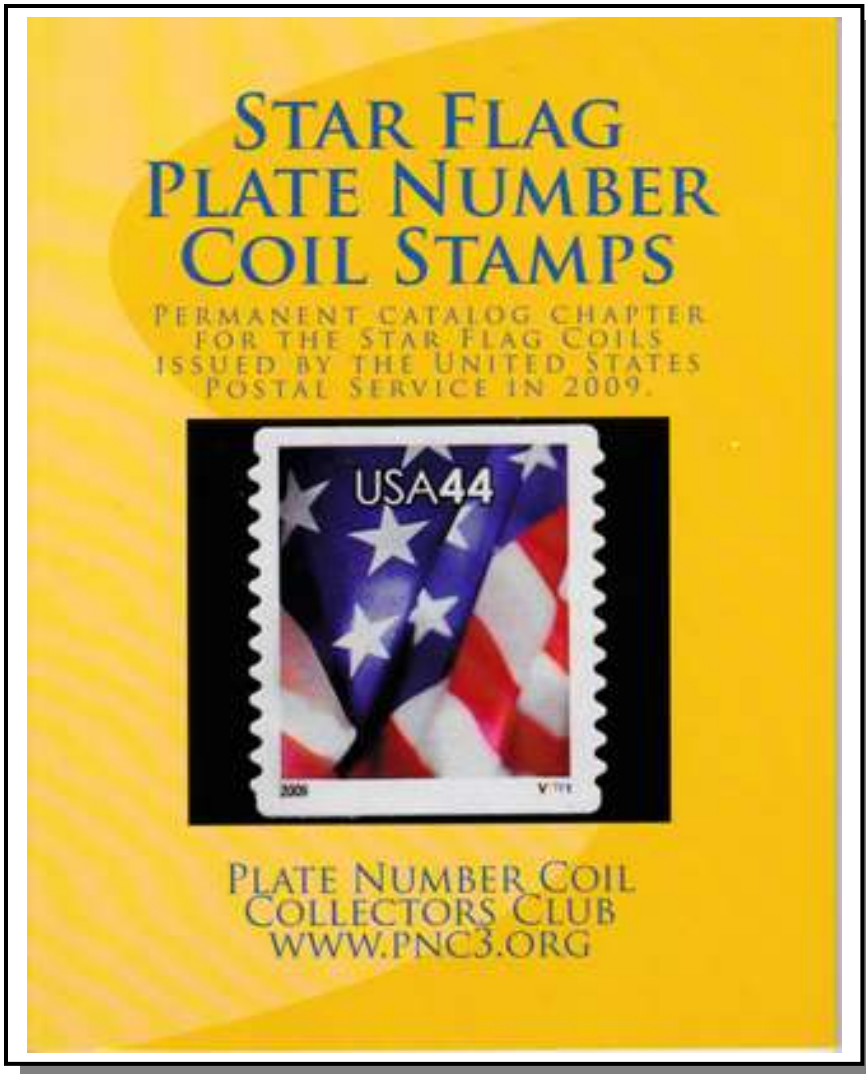


**"Wisps" of ink evident on all but the last stamp of this PS5.** (*See back page for a close-up.*)

(advertisement)

## Bound Color Edition of the 44¢ “Star Flag”

### Catalog Chapter



Shown at left is the cover of the “Star Flag” bound color book being offered to the membership and the general public on Amazon.com.

The PNC<sup>3</sup> catalog committee is making out-of-print loose-leaf chapters of the catalog available in a bound format through the website Amazon.com.

This Bound Color Edition of the “Star Flag” Catalog Chapter is available online from Amazon.com and retails for \$7.00 plus shipping and handling.

The original 44¢ “Star Flag” loose-leaf catalog pages, published in 2012, are out of print. This is the first permanent chapter that we are making available as a bound color edition. Other out-of-print chapters will be made available through Amazon in the future.

This chapter contains a comparison of all the 44¢ Star Flag varieties, plus pages featuring stamps from all three printers, Ashton Potter, Avery Dennison and Sennett Security Products. These pages detail all of the Technical Details, Die Cuts, Plate Numbers, Back Numbers, Tagging and other information. In short, a very comprehensive study.

To see all of our products that are available for purchase, please go to [www.pnc3.org/ItemsForSale.php](http://www.pnc3.org/ItemsForSale.php). This website will have a link to take you directly to the Amazon.com order page. – Jill R. Ambrose

## A Letter from the Webmaster

Greetings PNC<sup>3</sup> Members,

### “Current Issue of *Coil Line*” Button

With the new year comes new features on the pnc3.org website. One of those new features is that now there is a button in the navigation menu that will take you directly to the current issue of *Coil Line*. The purpose for creating this button is to give you access to the current issue *without* having to:

- 1) Click on “Reference”.
- 2) Click on “*Coil Line* Archives.”
- 3) Click on the current year (in this case, 2015).
- 4) Click on the current month (in this case, February).

The new button is only visible **after** you login to your PNC<sup>3</sup> account. The button will appear below the Site Map button.

### Online Account Activation

Recently I received a request from a member to stop sending “welcome” messages. I am therefore implementing a way to prevent welcome messages from being sent out to specific members.

Please let me know if you would rather not have access to the online member account system. Doing so will preclude you from accessing the most recent three years of digital *Coil Line*.

### When is Digital *Coil Line* Available on the Server?

Digital *Coil Line* is always available on the server by the first day of the month for the given issue. Also Jill Ambrose, our Content Mistress, always posts a notice on the home page of pnc3.org when the new issue of digital *Coil Line* is uploaded to the server.

### Have An Idea For Other Features?

Please let me know if you have other features that you would like to see on the website.

### My Open Door Policy

My door is always open to you. Feel free to write to me anytime you have a concern or a suggestion on how to improve the website. My e-mail address is [webmaster@pnc3.org](mailto:webmaster@pnc3.org).

– Allan Clapp, Webmaster

## Noted in Passing...



Examples from 2014’s Red-White-Blue rolls with plate C11 (left) and plate C12 (right) under shortwave ultraviolet light (Dec. *Coil Line*, page 153). After the December issue went to press, Frank Covey was able to make the picture used for the image above, using SW-UV to highlight the luminescent differences between the two papers. )

(from page 17, Readers’ Forum)

**Naphtha on older self-adhesives.** I enjoyed your snippet in the January *Coil Line* entitled, “Double jeopardy removing stamps from paper?” In that article, you discuss having a self-adhesive stamp that would not come off the backing paper easily using naphtha (typically, lighter fluid). Most self-adhesives do come off very easily this way. But maybe 2% or 3% of the time, there is a stubborn one like the one you encountered. Generally I find this to be true of older issues, such as the Flag over Porch stamps (circa 1995-1997). It seems that over time, the adhesive embeds itself into the backing paper fibers more deeply and begins to harden. In these cases, the stamps just don’t come off easily.

The trick is to soak the on-paper stamp in naphtha for an extended period of time – perhaps several days. (Using a baby food jar with a quarter inch of naphtha in the bottom is a good way to do this.) This tends to loosen the hardened adhesive, and I’ve had good luck removing these troublesome stamps after a prolonged soak in the naphtha. You should never do what you did, my friend, which is to get impatient and try rubbing the backing paper off the stamp. That’s a sure recipe for disaster (as you duly noted). Instead, after a long soak in the naphtha, use a very dull knife blade, insert it under the edge of the stamp, (please see page 22)

It should come as no surprise to the readers of the *Coil Line* that plate number coil collecting is currently one of the most popular areas of United States philately.

Specialist collectors in all fields of philately have always examined the material of their field of interest with a “fine tooth comb” looking for varieties, freaks, and errors. They delve into the technical details of production and printing for rationalizations and causes.

The number of aficionados has historically been minimal at best. As the momentum continues with PNCs in general, there has been a concurrent increase in the number of variety seekers. Why this has come about is a matter of debate. Is it people nearing the completion of their basic collections to the degree of their financial comfort, but still have a continuing intrigue with the series in general? Is it interest from general EFO collectors who have targeted this series for additional material? Is it simply the desire for something unusual?

The bottom line remains the same: interest in this type of material continues moving upward. As the author of the Plate and Mat Variety column in *The Plate Number*, I never lack for material for inclusion in the column. The diversity of the collectors reporting their finds is also obvious.

Just what is the definition of a variety? A dictionary would say a variety is something differing from others of the same kind. There are a sufficient number of different types of variety material saved in PNCs that the above is probably as suitable a definition as is generically possible.

This article is an introduction to a series. I will here provide an overview of the types of varieties currently being collected, and in subsequent articles provide a listing of the known items, with descriptions, in their respective categories.

To accomplish the latter on an all-inclusive basis would be a monumental undertaking. Hence, a few ground rules are set down, both in an attempt to maximize collector interest and in an attempt to



**Cropped close-up of gravure-printed 29¢ Flag over Rushmore coil with odd “parallel outline” design tracings (top). A normal copy is included for comparison (bottom). (Also see next page.)**

make this a manageable undertaking:

a) The scope of the material presented will be limited to those varieties occurring within a plate strip of five.

b) Material presented will be limited to items known to be constant.

This report will be serialized until some degree of completion is attained. The intent at the outset is to continue on a monthly basis.

A brief overview of the types of varieties currently being collected will serve as an introduction. It should be noted that the following cannot be all-inclusive, but rather a subjective subdivision of sorts. As this is still an evolving area; additions, corrections, and so forth are to be expected. *(please see next page)*

(from page 20, "PNC Varieties" reprint, 1990)

**Plate Varieties.** These generally result from flaws in the printing plates, either present initially or, more likely, developed during the subsequent stages of the printing process. The most common are cracks, gouges, or chips. They generally occur at or near the joint line on Cottrell-press printings, resulting from stress at the edge of the printing plate. The position of the variety is named by counting the perforations right or left of the joint line.

**Mat Varieties.** Examples of these varieties are limited to precancel issues where the [precancel] overprint was done with precanceling mats. These mats are less durable than the printing plates, and are subject to cutting, mangling, and misshaping.

**Chill Roller Offsets.** Partial image doubling to various degrees is known on certain issues. Originally misdefined as "double transfers," the causes have been fully defined and presented in detail by Ken Lawrence [*The United States Specialist*, January 1986 pp 6-8]. In brief, some stamps show doubling of design parts, letters, or numerals. [*Explanation is for Cottrell press only.*]

**Imperforates.** These varieties have escaped from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing [and private printers] without perforations [or die cuts]. Known examples are listed [on the PNC<sup>3</sup> website under details by stamp issue.]

**Misperforates.** The design is off-center with respect to the perforations. Examples of these are considered by most to be freaks rather than varieties. Though certainly desirable and collectable, they are not listed in the current catalog [as of 1990, *The Catalog of Plate Number Coils*, edited by Steve Esrati]. They are known to some degree on most coils.

**Miscuts.** This term applies to material resulting from a faulty alignment of paper fed during the cutting operation. The result is an abnormal design positioning along the horizontal axis. By far the most common is a downward design shift resulting in split plate numbers. Initially, most collectors and dealers rejected such material as undesirable. Recent articles [1990] by Frank Shively, Jr., M.D. have helped to elevate the collecting of this material to the mainstream. A separate classification system has been established,

and its usage is becoming commonplace.

**Layout Markings.** Also known as LOMs, these are either dots or horizontal lines or a combination of both, almost always on the numbered stamp. To date they have been only found on Cottrell printings. They vary in intensity from readily obvious to some for which a [magnifying] glass is necessary. Layout markings are believed to be markings used by designers and/or engravers in setting up the plate. They are normally removed before the plates are sent to press.

**Miscellaneous.** This catch-all term encompasses the remaining material. Examples include, but are by no means limited to: ink smears, doctor blade\* lines, various color misregistrations, color bleeds (which are relatively common in the flag issues), partial design missing (resulting from the presence of some foreign material on the printing surface), random ink blobs, etc., etc.

\*- "doctor blade" term should apply only to gravure print units but is often mis-used. – Editor



**Cropped close-up of gravure 29¢ Rushmore coil with "blurry" design tracings in spots (top).** Is this a "transition" case to example on page 20? Normal copy repeated for comparison (bottom).

(from page 19, Readers' Forum)

and GENTLY work the stamp loose from the backing paper. With patience, you'll find that this method works the vast majority of the time.

One other thing. Never try taking a traditional gummed stamp (*non-self adhesive*) off paper with naphtha. It generally won't work. Be sure you soak them using the old water soaking method, as that's the only sure-fire way to remove gummed stamps from their backing paper. Remember that you can get slightly better results by squirting a little Soft Soap brand hand cleaner into your warm soak water and agitating it a bit before tossing your stamps into the water. Some of our fellow collectors swear that this added step really helps. — *John Himes #957L*



**Machine-affixed coils for second-ounce rate.** Member Roland Austin acquired an interesting direct-mail piece that he thought would be of interest (*shown above*). The date of the month in the postal-plant applied inkjet postmark is indistinct, but the month is December of 2014. As noted in “Direct Mail Sightings” of the August 2014 issue, mailers sometimes mix hand-applied and machine-applied stamps to appeal mailings. (That issue showed a 21¢ Lincoln coil from a roll of 100 added to a <49¢> Fern affixer-roll coil.) Here, the 49¢ first-ounce rate is paid with a hand-affixed Christmas stamp, while the second-ounce 21¢ rate is paid by a set of three water-activated gummed coils machine-affixed

from large rolls. Note the right side of the 3¢ Silver Coffeepot pair bears the plate number S1111. (This is unlike the on-cover 3¢ coil of the same design with S2222 shown on last month's back page, which made its way to publication with text reading “S1111” by mistake.) — *Editor*

(from page 16, Editor's Message)

and 34¢ postcard rate.

If approved, the private printers' priority would be new coils for the new rates. I speculate that however this rate case is settled, the USPS is likely to soon replace the SSB coils and booklets as well. Postally used stamps, with the SSB design's extensive solid black background, often don't show evidence of cancellation. — *Ron Blanks*

## New “Stars and Stripes” Issue

According to the January 8, 2015 *Postal Bulletin*, on February 27 the USPS will release a new stamp issue “Stars and Stripes” for the Presorted Standard mail category in self-adhesive rolls of 3,000 and 10,000.

What is interesting about the subject design is that it features the U.S. flag spread across three stamps (i.e., a setenant design of three). Unlike the publicity image rendered below, the actual stamps on self-adhesive liner in large rolls for affixing equipment will be spaced apart on self-adhesive liner with the small gap typical of such rolls. (This allows affixers to “tip” the stamps onto envelopes, as direct-mail equipment has been designed for decades to apply stickers, labels and the like onto mail inserts.)

One presumes this issue is designed to replace the current “patriotic”-themed (10¢) Patriotic Banner coil. That issue will be eight years old this July, as it was first released in self-stick rolls in 2007. A water-activated gum coil was released later, in 2009.



**Publicity image for a new (10¢) presort standard coil scheduled for release February 27.**

## 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

**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 14).

### 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 14 for more contact methods.

### ***Coil Topics Index this issue...***

1¢ Bobcat, new s/a 10k roll update.....	16
44¢ Star Flag, counterfeits.....	17
10.9¢ Hansom Cab, ink streaks inquiry.....	17
44¢ Star Flag, catalog chapter publication.....	18
2014 Red-White-Blue, paper types & SWUV...19	
Naphtha use, older self-adhesives.....	19
“PNC Varieties,” April 1990 reprint .....	20
29¢ Flag gravure, apparent “doubling” areas...21	
3¢ Coffeepot, S1111 used towards 21¢ rate.....	22
25¢ Honeybee, seam lines & “short” leaf.....	24

## 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 ( <i>for full page</i> )	Add \$ 100.00
• Color Ad - Digital Version	Add \$ 25.00

(Discounts available for multiple insertions.)

## Membership Update

### Reinstated

Dr. John H. Machledt (2225)

### Deceased

Al Cibulskas (9)  
Arvin M. Morrow (1303)  
Lowell M. Handberg (1711)  
Paul T. Rainey (2252)

### Resigned

Paul Kaufman (2185)  
Scott M. Simon (2196)  
Kenneth Harris (2220)  
Judy Galbraith (2244)

### Life Member Applications

Gary Splittberger (1069L)  
Philip J. Hicks (1477L)  
Michael A. Keenan (1802L)

A “Thank you!” to the above members who have made this commitment to the club.

<b>Previous Membership Count</b>	<b>531</b>
<b>Reinstated</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Deceased</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>Resigned</b>	<b>-4</b>
<b>PNC<sup>3</sup> Membership Count</b>	<b>524</b>



Member Dan Forgues has followed up his report in January's issue with these images involving another 25¢ Honeybee #2 PNC.

Regarding the image above, Dan reports: I just acquired a number "2" mint Plate Strip of 6 with the seam line at the right side of the stamp. It is a recent eBay find.

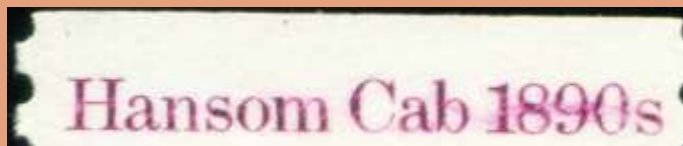
This mint PS6 with the same tagging [large square-corner screen block tagging 19.2mm x 22.2mm] as the only used stamp on last month's back page [right-most stamp] that also has a four-color seam line.

This mint strip has two full seam lines, both with red, blue, yellow and black seen with a 40X scope. [The strip's numbered stamp is shown at left in close-ups below, along with the used stamp.] It has the **full green leaf** at its right edge above the clover petals.

Dan is alluding to the answer for a question posed last month, that asked about a freak or oddity visible among the Honeybees on the color back page. Evident at right in close-up pairs below is the used stamp that "has a **short green leaf** that doesn't extend to the right frame line."

Member Jim Fowler was the only other member to write in about the short leaf: "I'm looking at the rightmost edge of the rightmost stamp in the group. I see some missing blue on the clover leaf which shows up as yellow (blue + yellow = green). I've checked all of my #2 stamps (actually all of my Honeybee PNCs) and do not see the same EFO." [The stamp seems devoid of any clue to explain this almost surgical omission of blue dots to blend with the yellow to form green. The editor reviewed his holdings of two dozen Honeybee #1 and #2 used PNCs, as well as twice-plus that quantity of unnumbered copies, and did not find a similar case. Readers are asked to review their copies.]

(See last month's back page for sampling of past Coil Line articles on 25¢ Honeybee, Scott 2281.)



Close-ups of cropped portions from mint 10.9¢ PS5 (number 2) shown on page 17.

(above, from joint line pair;  
at left, from first stamp)