

*Our 32nd Year*



# Coil Line

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

[www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org)

American Philatelic Society Affiliate #185

**April 2019**

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First Mint Roll of Counterfeit Stamps Found with a Plate Number  
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# Coil Line

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

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A check or money order, made out to PNC<sup>3</sup>, must accompany camera ready ads. Advertising copy must be submitted by the first of the month prior to the month of publication. Please send all copy to Vickie Canfield Peters, **Coil Line** Editor, 11911 E. Connor Road, Valleyford WA 99036.

Classified ad rates are six cents a word per issue with a minimum of \$3.00 per ad. Members receive two 50-word ads per year per member at no charge. (There is a 10¢ per word cost for more than 50 words.)

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

**Coil Line reserves the right to edit copy as necessary.**

**Coil Line** is published monthly and is available digitally with annual member dues of \$12. A printed version of **Coil Line** is also available. To U.S. addresses, to receive printed edition add \$22 for First Class Mailing. To Non-USA addresses, add \$27 for mailing. Past print issues of **Coil Line** are available at \$2.50 per copy (quantities limited).

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All content, letters to the editor and advertising questions should be addressed to the editor. For mail delivery problems, contact the mailer below.

Postal mailings prepared by: Brian Snippen, 1010 Blue Sage Rd NE, Rio Rancho NM 87144. Send email to: snippenb@gmail.com. Phone: 505-404-1624.

Mailed from Zip Code 87185 on or near March 20, 2019.



Scott #1902a (issued April 7, 1984,) plate #2

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

## Elected Officers

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Lynnette Wood, **At Large**, PO Box 183, Deer Harbor WA 98243. email: [PNCsAreCool@gmail.com](mailto:PNCsAreCool@gmail.com)

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**PNC<sup>3</sup> auctioneer:** Joe Sedivy

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**Digital Edition Producer:** Jill Ambrose

**Senior Consultant:** Gene Trinks

**Technical consultant:** Alan Thomson

**Contributing Writers:** John Himes, Robert E. Thompson, Bob Rabinowitz, Rob Washburn, Frank Covey, Doug Iams, Gene Trinks, Lynnette Wood, John Greenwood, Al Haake, Ron Blanks, Dan Forgus

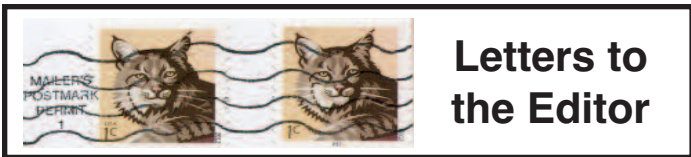
**Proofreaders:** John Himes, Michael Mules

**Printing:** State Wide Printing, Albuquerque NM

**Printed Distribution:** Brian and Cory Snippen

**Digital Edition Distribution:** Frank Covey

**Subscriptions:** Daniel Farrar



## Letters to the Editor

### Any 18¢ #6 in Yakima?

As the Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania delegate to PNC<sup>3</sup> I was shocked to see the event cover with a 1981 Susqpx Mechanicsburg Pennsylvania special cancellation franked with an 18¢ flag #6 on Page 16 of the February 2019 issue. How could I have been so close to the only PNC still missing from my collection?

I have been collecting PS5 strips since the first issue in 1981. In fact, I can confirm that I was in attendance at that very show in October 1981. The postal clerk from the Mechanicsburg Post Office was selling strips of 18¢ flag #4 from rolls of 100. I think the connection between it and the other event cover pictured with 18¢ flag #6 is Yakima, Washington. I suspect that a Yakima collector supplied the 18¢ flag stamps for both covers. In my area, I was only able to find #4 and #5 at local post offices.

At the time of issue I remember talking to local collectors, dealers, postal clerks, including philatelic, and never did anyone in this area report finding 18¢ flag #6. A Mechanicsburg rural delivery driver reported he broke rolls of 18¢ flag #3 to supply his rural customers. I missed that one, too. The only question remaining in my mind is: does anyone know if 18¢ #6 was found in the Yakima, Washington area? I would appreciate knowing.

Ed Wigger  
PNC<sup>3</sup> #188



This is the time of year when members are dropped from the rolls for failing to remit dues for the new year. As Secretary Dan Farrar reports, there are about 60 such members this year, just over 13 percent of membership. While some members are subsequently reinstated and new members recruited, the overall trend continues downward and has accelerated over the last two years. This is certainly of concern as a robust society benefits all PNC collectors, members or not.

On a specifically related note, the club still needs someone to chair the Membership Committee. If you think

you can fill this important position, please let me know. Previous membership chairs, notably the late Michael Conway, have reached out to non-renewing members and have had success in reinstating some members.

The initial announcement for the Star Ribbon coil mentioned only a roll of 10,000. According to the USPS *Postal Bulletin*, there will also be a roll of 3,000. Generally there is no difference in the stamps between the two roll sizes but, for those who collect back number varieties, there are frequently differences in the format of those. Details as known at press time of these new coils and for the Coral Reefs postcard rate stamps are included in this month's Recent PNC Issue Info chart.

While spring has just begun, it's not too early to start thinking about summer and the club's annual board and membership meetings. As in past years, the meetings will be held at the American Philatelic Society StampShow in Omaha, Nebraska August 1 through August 4. Omaha is a new location for the show and is a part of the country that I haven't seen a lot of, so I'm looking forward to attending. Details as to times and locations for the meetings haven't yet been set but will be published in **Coil Line** as soon as they are available. The meetings are held the Saturday of the show.

If you get this issue of **Coil Line** before the end of March, there's still time to place some last-minute bids in the club auction. Please take a look to see if there's anything you missed the first time around.

Member Mario Chevrette has agreed to become the club liaison with the American Topical Association.

<b>Coil Line Display Advertising Rates</b>	
(per insertion)	
Full Page	\$75
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Eighth Page	\$12
Business Card	\$12
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Color ad (full page)	Add \$75
Color ad (electronic version)	Add \$20
(Frequency discounts available)	

# The Story Behind the 20c Flag Spliced to the 17c Electric Auto

## Part 1 of 3



Figure 1

Tim Lindemuth  
PNC<sup>3</sup> #1760  
timlind@ksu.edu

*The original article appeared in the January 2019 issue of The United States Specialist. Reprinted with permission*

When the U.S. philatelic world learned of the existence of a 17c imperforate precancel Transportation Coil spliced to an imperforate 20c Flag Coil (Figure 1), eyebrows raised and heads were scratched questioning how this could be. Some collectors justifiably believed it was faked to bilk collectors.

The 17c Electric Automobile Precancel Transportation Coil of 1981 (Scott number 1906a) was printed on the Cottrell Press on untagged paper, while the 20c Flag tagged coil (Scott number 1895a) was printed on the B Press.

Longtime Ridgefield Park, New Jersey auctioneer Jacque C. Schiff Jr. agreed to sell the error only if it was authenticated as genuine. In his then nearly 40 years of stamp dealing, he had never seen anything like it.

"I didn't believe it was legitimate," said Schiff in an August 31, 2005, telephone interview with me. "I thought someone played with it to make the splice more valuable. It is not unusual to find stamps spliced (from different webs of paper), but they are usually the same issue."

This splice joined 170 17c precanceled imperforate coils to 18 20c imperforate Flag coils in what was most-likely a 500-stamp roll manufactured on the Huck coiling equipment.

The 188 imperforate stamps were offered in an auction at the SESCAL stamp show in San Diego, California in October 1985.

Betting that the error was legitimate, Schiff and errors dealer Jack Nalbandian, of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, agreed to buy the lot. The imperforate Auto coils and plate number strips offered the most potential for resale. No one could say what the splice would bring if proven it was not faked.

"Jack and I have been friends well over 50 years,"

Schiff wrote in a December 30, 2014 letter. "We discussed our mutual interests in the coil. (Nalbandian) wanted the 17c stamps. I wanted the splice. (Nalbandian) was to attend the auction with our combined bid of \$3,000. I remained at my

booth at the show."

Before the auction began, an individual approached Nalbandian indicating an intention to bid on the splice, "but would drop out if Jack (Nalbandian) would pay \$100 cash. Jack met the demand," Schiff said.

Bidding opened at \$3,000, and it sold to Nalbandian for \$3,400, but not before another bidder raised him.

"That's not the end of the story," Schiff said.

An individual came to his booth seeking Nalbandian, who was elsewhere at the moment.

"When Nalbandian returned, the man also reappeared. He said he bid against Jack (for the aforementioned individual who had been paid), and he wanted to acquire the coil. Nalbandian refused to further discuss the matter."

Nalbandian cut down the six spliced transition stamps from the bigger strip and gave them to Schiff.

Schiff gave the splice to philatelic writer and editor John Hotchner, who lives near Washington, D.C., to obtain an opinion from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

### Further investigation

While communicating with Hotchner about an article I was writing for him and *The Philatelic Exhibitor* magazine, he mentioned the BEP investigation in a 1986 letter.

"I have seen the coil splice and helped Jack (Schiff) get the opinion out of the Bureau in less than the customary 3+ months. A copy (of the BEP's opinion) is enclosed for your information," Hotchner wrote.

"It is a desirable item. My only hesitation is that, with the appropriate materials, which would not be cheap, it could be credibly faked," he wrote.

I took that to mean if one obtained legitimate imperforate precanceled 17c Autos (which would cost about \$600) and legitimate imperforate 20c Flags (for roughly \$10 or less).

Hotchner continued: "You'll have to fight with the Transportation Coil folks for it, but I don't think it is essential to your (20c Flag) exhibit."

I was aware of the outstanding 17c Electric Auto

stamp exhibit of Michigan collector Joann Lenz. I had studied her exhibit and greatly admired how it advanced the exhibiting and scholarship of modern U.S. material.

The response offered by Paul R. Frey, BEP executive assistant, to Hotchner put to rest the fears that the splice had been faked. To quote Frey's April 1986 letter:

*This is in response to your letter of February 7, 1986, in which you submitted a strip of the imperforate coil stamps, with three precancelled 17c Electric Auto and three 20c Flag stamps spliced together, for examination and a report of our findings.*

*The stamps we examined visually and microscopically under ambient and ultraviolet illumination and were found to be genuine. Phosphor tagging is absent on the 17c Electric Auto stamp, since it is conventional for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to omit phosphor tagging on precancelled stamps. The phosphor tagging is intact on the 20c Flag stamps. Both stamps were printed by the intaglio printing process. The green double splicing material is normally used in the Bureau for joining two rolls of postage stamps.*

*Because this is the first time a mistake of this nature has occurred, a thorough investigation was conducted. Our findings are as follows:*

*When the end of a roll of stamps is reached, the coil machine operator stops the machine and splices a new roll of stamps to the first roll. The new roll may be of the same denomination or, as in this case, a different denomination. This procedure is performed to reduce machine downtime and to produce as many 500 and 3,000 subject coils as possible.*

*The automatic coiler senses and slits the area containing the splice to keep it from damaging the perforation pins. The spliced coil is marked with a black stripe and placed in a special box for mutilation. When the box is full, the contents are sent to the Securities Disposition Accounts Unit to be processed for destruction.*

*In this instance, the spliced roll of stamps was not properly identified, which caused a worker to inadvertently remove the defective coil from the special box of work and process it as a good coil.*

*This obviously does not meet the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's quality standards and should not have been released to the public.*

The letter concludes that the investigation required four hours to complete and asked for payment of \$33.65 for that plus the postage to return the spliced stamps by registered mail.

Hotchner wrote about this investigation in his August 11, 1986, *Linn's Stamp News* column, "Errors, Freaks & Oddities," adding that the BEP must have the original stamps to examine. "A Xerox or photograph will not do."

With the BEP's letter of authentication in hand, Schiff proceeded to include the splice in his 176th auction on Saturday, July 26, 1986. He described Lot 2504 in the auction catalogue as follows:

*No. 1995a, 1906a, 20c Flag, 17c Auto, Strip (6) Imperforate, three 17c Precancel "Presort" at left attached to three 20c Flag at right by BEP green double splice.*

*Accompanied by April 1986, BEP letter referring to this strip as "the first time a mistake of this nature has occurred" and explaining how it happened.*

*In our nearly 40 years as professional philatelists, this is the only two different issue splice we have ever seen. The rarest of the rare. We cannot estimate its value which this auction will ascertain.*

— Next Month: Losing an Opportunity —

## Regional Meeting in Michigan

A PNC<sup>3</sup> regional meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 during the 2019 Plymouth Stamp Show sponsored by the West Suburban Stamp Club. Jill Ambrose, PNC3 Website Content Manager and At-Large Board Member, hosts the 11 a.m. meeting.

The agenda includes a time for socializing as well as trading, buying and selling PNC material. All attending are also welcome to bring a show-n-tell item.

Jill will be showing a newly found color missing plate number single, which has just been listed in volume 1 of the 2020 *Scott Catalogue*. As usual, door prizes will be awarded. If you need more information about the meeting, Jill can be reached via email at [jillambrose@zoomtown.com](mailto:jillambrose@zoomtown.com).

The Plymouth stamp show is set for Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more show information, visit the website [www.plymouthshow.com](http://www.plymouthshow.com).

For the eighth straight year, the show is being held at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland, Michigan.



**Uh-Oh!**

**The editor  
is running out  
of articles!**

The **Coil Line** "Finished Copy" folder is running low and as I put the April issue together, I find I don't have enough to fill another month.

Articles don't have to be long and they don't have to be perfectly written. Just send me a paragraph or two about a favorite or interesting item and I'll take it from there.

Deadline information can be found on Page 46.

## Recent PNC Issue Info

Denom	Issue Name	PNC-ID Number	Scott Number	Issue Date	Plate #	Plate # Interval	Roll Size	USPS Item Number	Tag	WAG or SA	T, M, B Back Numbers
<.15>	Coral Reefs FE	2019-5		3/29/19	P111111	32	100	745104	Block	SA	
<.55>	Star Ribbon FE	2019-4		3/22/19	B111	27	10,000	760504	Overall	SA	
<.55>	Star Ribbon FE	2019-4		3/22/19	B111	27	3,000	759904	Overall	SA	
0.02	Meyer Lemons	2018-1	5256	1/27/19	B11111	28	3,000	750004	Untagged	SA	
0.02	from 3k roll	2018-1	5256	1/27/19	B11111	28	500	750015	Untagged	SA	
0.03	Strawberries	2017-6	5201	1/27/19	P1111	27	3,000	750104	Untagged	SA	
0.03	from 3k roll	2017-6	5201	1/27/19	P1111	27	500	750115	Untagged	SA	
0.05	Grapes	2016-4	5038	1/27/19	P111111	27	3,000	750204	Untagged	SA	
0.05	from 3k roll	2016-4	5038	1/27/19	P111111	27	500	750215	Untagged	SA	
0.10	Red Pears	2017-5	5039	1/27/19	B111111	27	3,000	750304	Untagged	SA	
0.10	from 3k roll	2017-5	5039	1/27/19	B111111	27	500	750315	Untagged	SA	
<.15>	Uncle Sam's Hat FE	2019-3		1/27/19	B1111111	31	100	746904	Overall	SA	None
<.55>	U.S. Flag Horizontal FE	2019-2		1/27/19	B1111	31	100	740102	Overall	SA	None
<.55>	U.S. Flag Horizontal FE	2019-1		1/27/19	P1111	31	100	740104	Overall	SA	None
<.50>	Z Flag - 2018 FE	2018-3	5261	2/9/18	B111	31	100	749702	Overall	SA	None
<.50>	Z Flag - 2018 FE	2018-2	5260	2/9/18	P111	31	100	749704	Overall	SA	None
0.02	Meyer Lemons	2018-1	5256	1/18/18	B11111	28	10,000	760404	Untagged	SA	T, B
0.02	Meyer Lemons	2018-1	5256	1/18/18	B11111	28	500**	760415	Untagged	SA	T, B
<.49>	Father Ted Hesburgh FE	2017-8	5242	9/1/17	P11111	17	50	799404	Overall*	SA	None
<.49>	Flowers frm Garden FE	2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	3,000	755004	Overall	SA	B
		2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	10,000	760104	Overall	SA	T
	from 3k roll	2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	500**	755015	Overall	SA	B
	from 3k roll	2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	25**	755003	Overall	SA	B
	from 10k roll	2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	500**	760115	Overall	SA	T
	from 10k roll	2017-7	5236a	8/16/17	B1111	28	25**	760103	Overall	SA	T
0.03	Strawberries	2017-6	5201	5/5/17	P1111	27	10,000	760304	Untagged	SA	M
0.03	Strawberries	2017-6	5201	5/5/17	P1111	27	500**	760315	Untagged	SA	M
0.10	Red Pears	2017-5 (1)	5039	April 2017	B111111	27	10,000	N/A	Overall	SA	T, B
(0.05)	USA Star - Blue	2017-4	5172	2/10/17	P111	27	3,000	755104	Untagged	SA	Random
	from 3k roll	2017-4	5172	2/10/17	P111	27	25**	755103	Untagged	SA	Random
		2017-4	5172	2/10/17	P111	27	10,000	760204	Untagged	SA	Random
	from 10k roll	2017-4	5172	2/10/17	P111	27	25**	760203	Untagged	SA	Random
<b>FE = Forever</b>											
(1) Scott did not assign a catalog number for this new release, though PNC <sup>3</sup> did assign a PNC-ID number.											Top
These items cannot be ordered from the USPS Philatelic Fulfillment Center.											Middle
*	NOTE 1: After careful inspection, it is observed that these coils have overall tagging.										Bottom
	These items do NOT have block tagging as suggested by USPS announcements.										
**	NOTE 2: Roll sizes in Italics are quantities available from Stamp Fulfillment Services using adjacent USPS Item Number. These are partial rolls from 3K or 10K rolls.										Compiled by Andy Jakes Up-dated 3/02/2019

### Coil Line Procedures and Deadlines

Deadline for the receipt of articles, letters, advertising and news is the first of the month preceding the month of publication. For example, we need everything for the November issue by October 1, everything for the December issue by November 1, everything for the January issue by December 1 and so on.

The preferred method of receiving copy is via an email attachment. Please send as an MS Word document. We also welcome compact discs (CDs). Hard copy is acceptable but must be rekeyed so electronic submission is preferred.

All submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and content. Every effort is made to retain the facts without changing the meaning or thrust of the article.

The most effective way to transmit illustrations is electronically. They should be TIFF or JPEG. Anything that needs enlarged, for example plate numbers or microprinting, should be scanned at 2400 dpi; covers and items running actual size should be submitted at 300 dpi. They can be sent on CD and we can retrieve copy and illustrations from electronic copy if provided the correct routing. Do not embed illustrations in a Microsoft Word document, but attach separately to an email.

# Membership Update

as of March 1, 2019

## New Members

Greg Polonica 2389  
11317 E Autumn Sage Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Brent Williams 2390  
4453 E Blue Sage Rd  
Gilbert, AZ 85297

\*\*\*

## Resigned

Dennis Sadowski 1229  
William Buchanan 2113

\*\*\*

## Dropped

136 C Alice Archie	2122 Patricia Brendel
462 John A Van Eps	2155 Mark Nedrow
498 Milton L Maas	2180 Leon R Scruton
518 Howard Chaskes	2182 David Kleinman
600 Mario Chevrette	2189 Horst J. Balke
789 Rudolph J Mihalek	2194 Frederick E Gesser
985 James R Haislet	2210 Lambert R Dumask
1134 John J Cryan	2212 Duane L Edwards Sr.
1441 David C Andrews	2247 Jon C Ragland Sr.
1462 Jeffrey Zwerin	2273 Donald A Tomlinson
1504 Sharswood N Cole	2289 Kurt T Albrecht
1516 Richard J Leher	2308 Dominic Sgro
1532 Arthur W Schiefer III	2318 Robert A Reisinger
1577 Al J Light	2324 Joyce A Kagarise
1629 Keith Lichtman	2345 F Arthur Gillard
1741 Dominick Cotugno	2348 Stewart Lyons
1799 Donald A DuBroff	2354 Larry R Brown M.D.
1830 Rudy C de Mordaigle	2358 Robert Lacey
1856 Carl Moore Jr	2360 Peter E Wurzbach
1867 Warren L Kellner Jr	2361 Jeffrey Lutz
1897 Scott Janke	2364 Sidney Crawford
1948 E Decker Adams	2367 David H van der Hoop
1973 Glen Chip Grier	2368 Robert Wark
1974 James E Halpin	2371 Mike Farrell
2003 Ronald P Archer	2372 Tom Van Parys
2009 Mary R Goeller	2377 Paul A Dainesi
2032 Robert Gill	2378 Wm Andrew Pinkley
2052 James MacNeil	2379 Kenneth G Chromy
2082 Steven A Chapp	2384 Robert Marshall
2087 Dennis R Weller	

Membership at Beginning of Month ..... 443  
New Members ..... +2  
Resigned ..... -2

Dropped ..... -59  
Membership at End of Month ..... 384

## Coil Line Classifieds

**SELL: SNOWY EGRET # 3829 Pl. # V3221 v/p M NH VF.**  
Send email address for hi res scan. [ldgstamps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ldgstamps@sbcglobal.net)

4/19

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**PNC USED** singles, used strips, MNH PS5s. Great prices!  
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### Accessing the Members Area of the PNC<sup>3</sup> Website ([pnc3.org](http://pnc3.org))

New club members receive a welcome message inviting them to access the website. New members should follow the link in the email.

- Choose a UserID and Password and entering both into the resulting webpage.
- Record the UserID and Password for future access.
- When three green check marks and the words "Passwords Match" appear, click on the "Activate Account" button.

Existing members who have not yet followed this process or are having access issues should send email to [webmaster@pnc3.org](mailto:webmaster@pnc3.org).

Provide a phone number and contact time and the webmaster will make contact to get access set up or resolve other issues.

### Classified Ad Rates

**PNC<sup>3</sup> classifieds are available to only PNC<sup>3</sup> members at a cost of 6¢ per word with a minimum of \$3 per insertion.**

Membership in the society includes two free 50-word classifieds per year. There is a 10¢ per word cost for every word over 50.

Send ads to [vcanfieldp@gmail.com](mailto:vcanfieldp@gmail.com).

### Regional Meeting Hosts Sought

Several members have made it a habit to promote meetings in their areas. New meetings are encouraged as a way to share your hobby and enjoy the fellowship of like-minded collectors.

For information about hosting a meeting, contact regional meeting chairman Tony Bruno at [tbbee@aol.com](mailto:tbbee@aol.com).

# First Mint Roll of Counterfeit Stamps Found with a Plate Number

Robert E. Thompson

For the period from December 20, 2018 to February 23, 2019, I found eight new mint counterfeit stamps on eBay:

- 12/20/18 2017 Flag Booklet AP
- 12/21/18 2018 Flag Booklet AP Type I\*
- 1/11/19 2018 Flag Coil AP with BCA Label wrapped in plastic Type IIc
- 1/18/19 2018 Flag Coil AP Type III
- 1/18/19 2018 Flag Booklet AP Type II
- 2/1/19 2018 Flag Booklet BCA
- 2/5/19 2017 Flag Coil BCA with Plate Number B1111
- 2/23/19 2017 Love Skywriting Booklet Type II

\*The type designations are mine.

This article is about the counterfeit roll with plate number B1111. On January 7, 2019, I



Figure 1

found a cover dated January 4, 2019, that had been sent to my office in Houston. (I was not able to track down any more fakes from the mailer.) The stamp showed the 2017 Flag coil with microprinting, but the microprinting was a little blurry (Figure 1). This is the first 2017 Flag

coil I have found with microprinting. It is located on the right end of the second white stripe, which is where AP has their microprinting for this issue. What is unusual about this stamp is that it has the serpentine die cut similar to the BCA version of the stamp.

Barely a month later (February 5, 2019) I was able to track down a mint roll of the stamp on eBay. The seller showed a stock photo of a roll of stamps for the BCA version of the 2017 Flag. What I got in the mail was much different than what I expected (Figure 2).

The roll was sealed in plastic (BCA does not wrap its rolls in plastic, they are in sticks) and had a leader strip attached to the wrong end and upside down. The sealed roll measured 22 mm in diameter compared to 33 mm for a normal roll and was small enough to fit through the open-



Figure 2

ing of a real roll of stamps.

Inside the roll, plate number B1111 could be found on the fifth stamp. There was a second plate number 30 stamps in. (The plate number repeats every 31 stamps on the real BCA version.) A plate number showed up again 30 more stamps in, with another plate number next to it. There was a final plate number after 30 more stamps. The inside of the roll was wrapped very tight with no inner loop. The stamps are loose and shifted in several places, especially toward the inside end.

I know of only three other counterfeit PNC coil stamps with plate numbers. They were all found used and on piece. The first was the (41¢) American Flag by SSP with "S111" in black. The second was for the 41¢ American Flag also by SSP with "S111" in three colors. The last was for the <49c> Star-Spangled Banner by AP with "P1111" in four colors. However, this is the first counterfeit PNC, that I'm aware of that has been found in a mint roll.

I will report on the other counterfeits I have found in a later article.



Figure 3 - The fake stamp is on the right

# PNC<sup>3</sup> Publications Order Form

The Plate Number Coil (PNC<sup>3</sup>) Catalog Committee is accepting orders from PNC<sup>3</sup> members for new publications and re-offered publications, all listed below and on the next page. These will be available as long as inventory is available. Orders can be expected to be filled within 60 days.

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The PNC<sup>3</sup> Catalog Committee is accepting orders for REPRINT Annual New Issues chapters in color.

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**NOTE:**

The permanent loose-leaf chapter of the \$0.44 Star Flag coil was issued in March 2012 and is now out of print. It was reprinted in bound form in January 2015 and is available on Amazon.com. Go to: <http://www.amazon.com/Star-Flag-Plate-Number-Stamps/dp/1503039552> to purchase it.