

COIL LINE

JOURNAL of PNC³

Vol. I, Number 3

September, 1988

Don Eastman, President
24 Bemis St.
Berlin, NH, 03570

Tom Maeder, Editor
1604 Bardale Ave.
San Pedro, CA, 90731
(213) 833-7937

The following is a summary of the meeting of the PNC³ Board of Directors held in Detroit at the APS show.

The following board members were present: Gene Trinks, Eric Russow, Al Cibulskas, Michael Albert.

Dues will be maintained at \$10 per year. Dues received after July 1 will be \$5. New members will send \$15 to cover 1½ years. Members who have already paid \$10 after July 1, 1988 will be credited with \$5 toward next year's dues. Henceforth, dues shall be payable in January.

The Secretary will review the necessity of bonding members of the Board of Directors, and report back to the Board as to the cost involved.

PNC³ will use the rates of the EFO group as a guideline for advertising rates in the newsletter. Classified ads for members beyond the two free ads per year will be charged at minimum rates.

Since the PNC³ is requesting affiliation with the American Philatelic Society, we have adopted their membership rules.

Al Cibulskas was the winner of two years free membership for winning the contest "Name the Newsletter."

Regional meetings were discussed. While nothing has been finalized, we are requesting input from the general membership.

Any member should contact any Board of Director regarding suggestions for the direction they would like to see the club take.

A motion was made and seconded to destroy the ballots once it was determined that the following people were elected:

Don Eastman - President	(unopposed)
George Kuhn - Vice President	(48 votes)
Eric Russow - Secretary	(unopposed)
Rob Washburn - Treasurer	(unopposed)
Al Cibulskas - Member-at-Large	(52 votes)
Michael Albert - Member-at-Large	(46 votes)

Treasurer's Report:

Income: dues \$2,052.00; interest \$23.40. Total \$2,075.40

Expenses: 2.00 overpayment of dues refund
129.34 expenses of President Trinks
14.34 expenses of Treasurer Washburn
108.06 newsletter expenses, No. 1 and 2
4.25 Steve Esrati; mailing labels

- 257.99
balance, 8/13/88 1,817.41

Forty-five members and guests were present at the meeting in Detroit. Show gossip included the surprisingly low price for a VF 18¢ flag # PS5 at the Steve Ivy Auction. It realized only \$600. Common wisdom has it that everyone is getting gun-shy until the USPS announces (as promised) what it has in storage.

A used single of #6 went for \$500 in the same auction. This is the most dramatic example of a trend which has been developing over the last year: a narrowing of the price range between a PS5 and a single. The numbered stamp is everything.

Frank Marrelli discovered a scratch at 8L on the 21¢ Mail Car. The scratch extends a bit lighter into the adjacent row.

Conrad Keydel discovered something similar to the 4.9¢ #4 "Buggy Whip" in the same position on a 4.9¢ #6 precanceled strip. He bought the strip from Bob Rabinowitz, who apparently had not noticed it.

And finally--a Vermeil was won by Tim Lindemuth for his exhibit featuring the 20¢ Flag coil. Who says there is no interest, dignity, or merit to an exhibit of recent material? The exhibit included imperf strips of each of the Flag numbers, three examples of the 'slate blue' on cover, as well as a 'brick red' on cover. Bravo, Tim!

PNC's at the World Stamp Expo

(A message from Past-president Trinks)

The organizers of the World Stamp Expo '89 have invited PNC³ to participate in the event by providing a display frame describing our collecting specialty.

As you may know, WSE '89 is sponsored by USPS, and is an international stamp show. It will be held in conjunction with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) Congress in Washington, D.C., from November 17 through December 3, 1989. As such, it will be a major international event, generating national and world-wide publicity.

PNC³ has been invited to submit a one-frame (16-page) exhibit on the pertinent details of PNC collecting. There will be a title page and a credits page, so actually there will be 14 pages available to illustrate our story.

Suggestions are solicited concerning the form and content of the exhibit. Other clubs are being solicited to send similar frames for their specialty areas, and a standard exhibit page will be used by all organizations. It will be up to us, however, to decide what will go on the pages.

Each club is asked to focus its efforts on showing material which is within the means of the average collector. This is not a competitive exhibit, so there's no need to load it with PNC gems, though it's sure that many PNC'ers will be among the most interested viewers, and they'll enjoy seeing some less common material, certainly.

PNC³ efforts will be coordinated by Gene Trinks, 3603 Bellows Ct., Troy, MI, 48083; (313) 528-1857. PNC'ers are asked to submit suggestions for the content of the exhibit. Volunteers are needed to work on write-ups, exhibit page layouts, exhibit mounting, and the mechanics of submittal and return of material. Don't delay in letting Gene know of your wish to become involved, and your choice of activity.

New Applicants (previously unpublished)

Gaylord White	Grand Rapids, MI	John Frankowski	Milltown, NJ
Robert Olmsted	Lincoln, NE	Robert Effinger	Jacksonville, AL
Norm Neary	San Francisco, CA	Alan Rosenberg	Syracuse, NY
Gerald Clark	Midvale, UT	Burton Robbins	Centerville, MA
Charles Ashwell	Murphysboro, IL	Mac Johnson	Tucson, AZ
Kenneth Martin	State College, PA	Louis Schenfeld	Johnstown, PA
Julius Clark, Jr.	Lexington, KY	Robert Gray	Universal City, TX
Albert Alson	Coconut Creek, FL	Fr. Marian Douglas	Escanaba, MI
Harry Whitlock	Novato, CA	Sam Golman	St. Louis, MO
Bobby Reece, Jr.	St. Louis, MO	Stuart Morrissey	Sidney, OH
Tom Beschorner	Washington, DC	A.C. O'Leary	Inglewood, CA
Pasquale Rinaldi	Waterbury, CT	James Hogan	Batavia, IL
Thomas O'Hagan	Silver Spring, MD	Frank Norulak	Torrance, CA
Paul Marks	Hauppauge, NY	Thomas Lipari	Corona, CA
Valery Countryman	St. Louis, MO	James Perry	Beaumont, TX
Edward Gould	Roscommon, MI	Richard Latham	FPO, San Francisco
Harold Gill	Nashua, NH	William James	Fullerton, CA
Dave Martin	Greensboro, NC	Bill McMurray	Westerly, RI
James Sadler	Calgary, Alberta	David Agrodnia	Berlin, NH
William LaSalle	Clayton, KS	James Nolan	Sinclair, WY
Carolyn Schneider	Greensboro, NC	Patricia Marshall	Fort Lee, NJ
John McBride	Cambridge, Ontario	Alan Lavendier	New Bedford, MA
E.K. Whiteman	Lynnwood, WA	Joseph Licata	Conshohocken, PA
F.F. Householder	Bowling Green, OH	Edwin Acker	Southfield, MI
Pedro Ortegon	Bedford, IN	Norman Johnson	Perth, ND
Paul Brumley	Ft. Devens, MA	Webster Hall	Richmond, IN
Arthur Damm	Philadelphia, PA	Frank Marrelli	Kenosha, WI
Robert Geary	St. Louis, MO	Karen Kern	Tacoma, WA
Rev. Noel Ahrens	Middletown, CT	Stewart Kusnitz	Fall River, MA
Richard Little	Fort Worth, TX	Lawrence Tropea	Richmond, VA
Kenwood Youmans	Gustavus, AK	Dorothy Whiting	Hayfork, CA
George Kelley	Guerneyville, CA	Bill Haskins	Agawam, MA
Ray Cox	St. Louis, MO	Philip Seidman	Somerset, NJ
Bob Rabinowitz	Stamford, CT	Earl Elliot	Palm Coast, FL
Robert Howells	Salem, OR	Dennis Chamberlain	Davis, CA
Richard Beecher	Los Angeles, CA	Dolph Ulrich	Otterbein, IN
Peter Ostreicher	Santo Domingo, D.R.	Reid Woodruff	Virginia Beach, VA
Jim Maverden	Whitefish Bay, WI	Leonard Goldstein	Santa Ana, CA
Frederick Parsons	Chambersburg, PA	Al Guenzburger	Bedford, MA
Ralph King	Meriden, CT	Richard Fisher	Katonah, NY
William Jenkins	Hixson, TN	Gary Hendren	Maryland Heights, MO
Richard Matta	Kensington, MD	Wayne Youngblood	Sidney, OH
Stephen Dawson	Terre Haute, IN		

Collecting Interests

The last newsletter included an inventory of members' collecting interests. Of our 200-plus members, 52 have submitted data. In the October issue, I would like to publish as comprehensive a listing as possible. If you wish to be included, send the Editor a list of the PNC material you collect. For example: Mint PS5, PS3, PS2, PS1; Used singles, strips, commercial covers; precancel gap positions, mat varieties; constant plate varieties; First Day Covers; Errors, Freaks, and Oddities; Paper types; other?

(In addition to the names printed in the July issue, I have received the data from Rob Washburn, Harvey Tourangeau, Ken Lawrence, Don Eastman, Bob Novak, Henry Albrecht, Mike Albert, Art Damm, Al Cibulskas, and Albert Alson.)

Recent Auction Results

Many would maintain that auctions are the truest reflection of the market place. Whether you agree or not, the following realizations from recent auctions and mail sales should prove of interest.

March 10, 1988; Sam Houston Philatelics; Mail Auction

18¢ Flag #1 PS5 VF	320.
18¢ Flag #3 PS3 XF	300.
18¢ Flag #6 used single with one pulled perf	100.
18¢ Flag #7 PS5 VF	42.
20¢ Flag #4 PS3 VF	36.
20¢ Flag #4 PS5 VF	130.
20¢ Flag #11 PS5 XF	28.
17¢ Auto precanceled, #5/6 Type BA, F-VF	100.
20¢ Pumper #1 PS5 F-VF	160.
20¢ Consumer #1/2 PS3 F-VF	70.
4.9¢ #4 Buggy Whip PS4 XF	22.
10.1¢ "Artillery Shell" XF	20.
20¢ Official #1 PS3 XF	26.
"D" Imperf Coil Pair XF	40.

March 18-20; Steve Ivy Public Auction (Buyers paid 10% over the Hammer Price.)

2¢ Locomotive #3 imperf strip of 5; light crease.	350.
18¢ Washington imperf pair; paper wrinkle.	700.
18¢ Flag #1 PS5 VF	300.
18¢ Flag #3 PS5 VF	500.
18¢ Flag #6 mint single, "almost very fine"	250.
18¢ Flag #6 PS4 (numbered stamp on left) VF	475.
18¢ Flag #6 PS9 VF	1,800.
20¢ Flag #4 PS5 VF	125.
9.3¢ #5/6 mint, PS5 XF	260.
10.9¢ #3 PS5 VF	300.
10.9¢ #4 PS5 VF	290.
20¢ Pumper #2 PS3 F-VF	150.
20¢ Pumper #2 PS5 XF	800.

Aug. 13; Sam Houston Public Auction (10% added to the "prices realized.")

18¢ Flag #1 PS3 XF	110.
18¢ Flag #3, PS3 on FDC F-VF	310.
18¢ Flag #3, PS3 VF	250.
5.9¢ #5/6 PS3 XF	85.
9.3¢ #5 PS3 XF	85.
9.3¢ #6 PS3 XF	80.
9.3¢ #8 PS5 VF-XF	55.
10.9¢ #3 PS3 XF	290.
10.9¢ #4 PS3 VF	260.
20¢ Pumper #1 PS3 Superb	85.
20¢ Pumper #2 PS3 XF	150.
20¢ Pumper #7/8 PS3 VF-XF	100.
20¢ Consumer #1-4 PS3 VF-XF	160.
Transportation coils on FDC; 12 cvrs, 11 diff., all Pugh cacheted; 3¢ #1,2; 3.4¢ #1; 4.9¢ #4; 5¢ #2; 7.4¢; 8.3¢ #2; 10¢; 12¢ #1; 12.5¢.	360.
PNC's on FDC (51 covers), all diff. on Colorano cachets. Incls 5.2¢ 1/2; 5.9¢ 3/4; 9.3¢ 1/2; 10.9¢ 1/2; Surrey 1/2; Pumper 3/4; 18¢ Flag 1&5; Consumer 3/4; D Official.	525.

Coil web splices

According to unnamed United States Postal Service sources, the Bureau of Engraving and printing will soon allow paper splices to be processed into finished coils of stamps.

In the past, both mill splices and BEP web splices have been excised (removed) from the paper web. This not only takes time.

but also increases the overall waste percentage of printing.

These new splice items, which will probably no longer be as visible as their red-tape counterparts, will probably have collectible positions and may be compared to the paste-up pairs of stamps from the Washington-Franklin series.

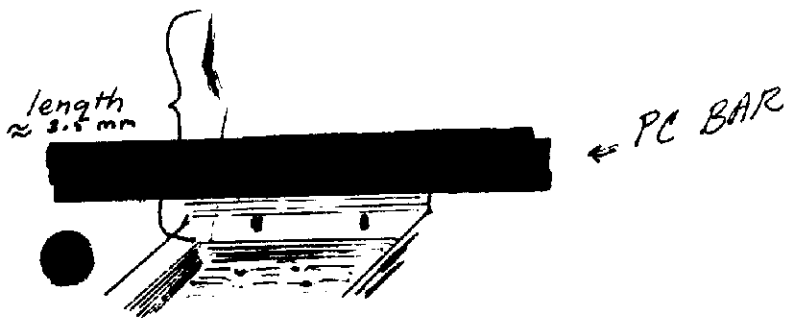
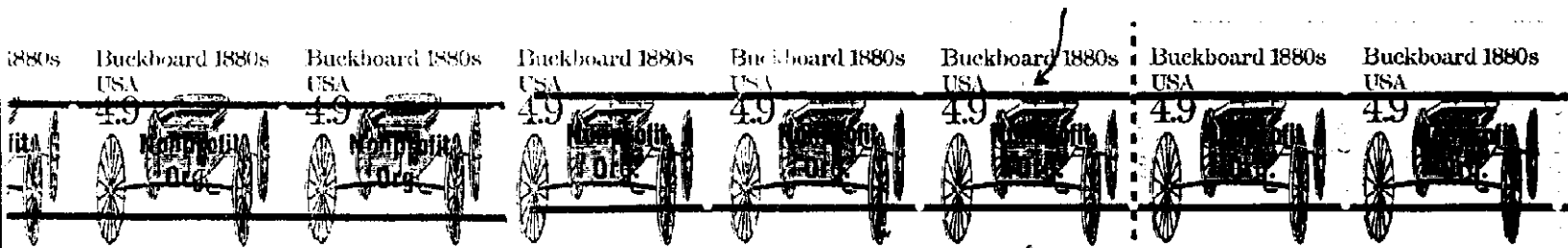
I have had several inquiries about this front-page story from August, 29 issue of Linn's.

BEP prints stamps using huge rolls of paper. I am not certain how many meters long the roll is, but it eventually runs out. Here the printers have a choice: let the roll exhaust itself and thread a new one into the press, or stop the press and splice the head of the new roll to the tail of the old one. Presumably because it is simpler, BEP has always used the splice method. In recent years, a band of red tape has been used to join the rolls.

Some portion around this red tape is intended to go into the waste pile after it has passed through the presses, and it usually does. Once in a while, some of it gets inadvertently packaged and sent out. Dr. John Greenwood has some imperf strips with red tape. And there is the famous se-tenent of Flag stamps on one side of the red tape and 17¢ Electric Auto on the other.

BEP's decision to let the splices pass through unexcised gives us something new to look for. The Washington-Franklin's are known with splices (called "paste-ups"). They appear with an extra layer of glued white paper on the reverse side of the stamps.

Hopefully the BEP will announce when it actually starts this procedure so that we can start the hunt.



Here illustrated is Conrad Keydel's discovery of a new "Buggy Whip"-- this time on plate 6. This late discovery might lead us to conclude that the crack developed during one of the late press runs of plate 6. Check your stock; you may find it, or an earlier (lighter) version.

Projects ...

Commercial Covers. Rob Washburn is accumulating information on the earliest known postal uses of each of the PNC numbers. The overwhelming number of used plate singles have long since been clipped from cover. For example, there are only five known copies of 18¢ flag #6 on cover; there may be fewer than two dozen #1 and #3 on cover. With so few in existence, the "earliest known use" can often change with each new report.

If you have a holding of covers, help out by sending your information to Rob, 5½ Coburn Ave., Skowhegan, Maine, 04976.

(With due respects to Ken Lawrence, who edits the "earliest use" data for Steve Esrati's catalog, I wonder if the members agree with the practice of listing the "first day of issue" as the earliest use, in all cases. Eight of the sixteen Pumper numbers, ten of the eighteen Surreys, and five of the seven 18¢ Flags all are known on FDC, even though many of the numbers had not gone to press until months after the first day of issue.)

Coil Seal Labels. David E. Barrie-LaVergne is attempting to accumulate and catalog the seals on the coil wrappers. Each time a plate goes to press it is likely to have a different seal--different in color or text or both. (I have noticed in my own holdings 8 decidedly different seals on the 7.1¢.) Apart from the challenge it affords as in any academic pursuit, its usefulness as catalog data lies in knowing what is inside a post office roll without opening it--what number, what precancel gap position, etc. Contact David B.-LaVergne, 27 Braddock Park, Boston, MA, 02116-5816.

Color Variations. Lou Bauer has found a wide range of shades on the 9.3¢ and 10.9¢ issues. Lou's project takes a keen eye. The same project could be undertaken on other denominations. The 17¢ Auto has many shades of blue: pale blue, bright blue, deep blue, ultramarine, dark blue, gray-blue. The Auto's color is the most varied, I think. But the same thing can be done with the 4¢ Stagecoach, which has varied mixtures of brown and orange, and the 5¢ Motorcycle which ranges from green to gray. Contact Lou if you share the interest: Lou Bauer, 656 No. Edgewater Dr., Plant City, FL 33566.

Ads

Members are entitled to (2) free 40-word insertions per year. We encourage you to avail yourself of it.

Wanted: Hunting and trading partners for new PNC releases and plate numbers. Bob Novak, 56 Glencourt Ave., Edison, NJ 08837.

Wanted: PNC commercially used covers for personal collection, especially 18¢ Surrey #1, 3, 15, 16, 17 and 18; also 18¢ Flag, 20¢ Pumper, 20¢ Consumer Education, all fractional rates and any other interesting usages of PNCs on commercial covers. Top prices paid. Rob Washburn, 5½ Coburn Ave., Skowhegan, Maine, 04976.

For Sale: Limited number of PS16 tagged 10.1¢ XF "artillery shell II" constant plate variety. \$20. each. Alan Thomson, P.O. Box 91, Northwood, NH 03261-0091.

To Trade: Consumer Ed. FDC #1 pair unaddressed on Artcraft. Also many PS5, PS3 and pairs plus varieties to trade. Let's exchange lists. Don Eastman, 24 Bemis St., Berlin, NH 03570.