

# Coil Line

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

<http://www.pnc3.org>

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## Back issue policy is changed

Since mid 1991 PNC<sup>3</sup> has been charging \$2.00 per copy for back issues of *Coil Line*. When small numbers of the journal are involved this has been necessary, but when new members want to read about what has gone before, the cost becomes excessive and discourages people.

The Board has recently established a new scale whereby orders for back issues of 10 or more will be charged \$1.50 per copy. In either case, fewer than 10 or a larger order, the cost of shipping included in the price.

Currently, most back issues from 2000 on are available from the distribution agent. There are six issues for that period that have been exhausted; 1/00, 5/00, 12/03, 2/04, 4/04 and 2/05. What is available before 2000 is somewhat spotty but some dating back to 1991 are still in print.

Consult the mast in the back of each issue for ordering information.

## Nothing can be done about roller cancels

Ever since we started the first class mailing of *Coil Line* in a large flat, members have complained about the cancellation these big envelopes receive from the Postal Service. They receive a roller cancel that obliterates the stamps. This has been the method used for many years, especially since the advent of mail processing centers.

Friends, it's not going to change any time soon, at least not until USPS finds a faster or cheaper (for them) way. The desires of collectors do not enter into such decisions and the Club can do nothing about it. Don't waste your time, our time and your postage complaining to anyone in PNC<sup>3</sup> about it. It won't do any good.

## Is 3633A really all that scarce?

Writing in the April 10 issue of *Linn's Stamp News*, Harry Gitner (Stamp Market Tips, p. 66) made the Scott 3633A (B1111 2003 date) his "Tip of the Week." He wrote about his effort to help a young collector complete his collection of the 37c Flags.

Gitner went the extra mile to help a fellow collector,

(Continued on page 54)

## Message from the President:

### Washington 2006

Washington 2006 is the international stamp show to be held at the Washington Convention Center from Saturday, May 27 through the following Saturday, June 3.

International shows are held in the United States only once every ten years. This year PNC<sup>3</sup> celebrates 25 years of Plate Number Coil collecting because on April 24, 1981, the first plate number coil, the 18c Flag . . . from sea to shining sea plate number 1, was released to the public, spawning our collecting specialty. Washington 2006 begins our year-long celebration.

Your Washington 2006 Committee has put together a single frame exhibit entitled "PNC<sup>3</sup> Salutes 25 Years of Plate Number Coils" which will have its first public showing at Washington 2006. This exhibit showcases the varied history of plate number coil collecting from its infancy to the present day.

Admission to Washington 2006 is free, but you must register and get a badge to enter. Advance registration is possible at the Washington 2006 website, [www.washington-2006.org](http://www.washington-2006.org). The hours of the show are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. most days except that the first day which opens a half hour later and closing day where it closes a half hour earlier.

On Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, PNC<sup>3</sup> will hold a general membership meeting from 2 to 3 p.m. The room where it is to be held will be in the show program which will be given to you when you pickup your badge. I realize that not everyone will be in attendance opening day. PNC<sup>3</sup> has scheduled events throughout the week that are shown elsewhere in this edition of *Coil Line*.

I will be giving two informative sessions on the "Basics of Plate Number Coil Collecting". PNC<sup>3</sup> members are welcome to attend these sessions and help me explain our collecting specialty to those present. Dealer/Member Brian Engler also presents a session on back number collecting on Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The PNC<sup>3</sup> booth will be open all eight days of the show. There will be always someone there to talk about PNCs.

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## Washington 2006

(Continued from page 53)

Come view our Power Point presentation on Plate Number Coils featuring color images of favorite plate number coils. I will be at our booth off and on during the first three and last two days of the show. Hope to see you there.

— Frank Covey

### PNC<sup>3</sup> PROGRAM at WASHINGTON 2006

Saturday May 27 — 9 a.m. to noon

Board Meeting — Open to all PNC3 members

Saturday May 27 — 2 to 3 p.m.

General Membership Meeting

Monday May 29 — noon to 1 p.m.

Frank Covey presents

“Basics of Plate Number  
Coil Collecting”

Tuesday May 30 — 2 to 3 p.m.

Brian Engler presents

“Back Numbers”

Saturday June 3 — 10 to 11 a.m.

Frank Covey repeats

“Basics”

Single Frame Exhibit:

PNC<sup>3</sup> Salutes 25 Years of Plate Number Coils  
Drawings every 2 hours or so at the booth for  
prizes donated by member-dealers

Challenge to find included error in frame exhibit  
with prize to finders of error

Power Point Program presented continuously  
at booth for duration of the show

Member volunteers to staff our booth for the  
duration of the show to answer queries, solicit  
membership, run prize drawings



## Scarce

(Continued from page 53)

and eventually helped find a mint strip of five in a 50 percent off box. Scott values the strip at \$5.25 and a single at \$2. Our 2005 Values list puts a median price of \$5.38 on the strip and \$1 on the single.

The search took place at the March Mega-Event in New York City. That would be a show a collector might expect to find most anything.

From his experience, Gitner concluded the Scott values do not reflect the scarcity of the stamp.

I see a few other factors at work here.

From my experience at shows and in talking to others who get too more shows than I, there are not a lot of dealers with a broad stock of PNCs at most shows.

Our specialty is just that — there are a limited number of serious collectors. Many members have established their own networks within the club to get what they need. More than a few of us have plenty of “stuff” in stock books and boxes that others could use but we either don’t let others know what we have or we don’t bother to pick up the annual member interest list and send a letter or an email.

I’ve found about 15 of the 3633A used singles in the 10-pound mix I received a few weeks ago. I’ve probably got eight pounds left to sort.

Also, if you’re only pulling PNCs out of the mixes, your missing out on a quick way to complete building full used sets of the various 37c Flags. I’m betting these used (non number) items are going to have a bit of value when those who don’t go through mixes realize how many varieties they need to complete a collection of a “common” stamp. APS members who submit sales books might want to include Flag stamp varieties as a way to test the market.

I encourage members to check out the Reporting the Rarities page that Gene Trinks prepares for *Coil Line* every-other month. Take a good look at what you think might be common stamps in your accumulations. Common sense says there are at least a few more of these special items out there. Or, you might just find something no one else has spotted.

While I appreciate Gitner’s plug for PNCs, I think he missed the mark on this one. But we all should follow his example of helping out a fellow collector. You never know how the favor might be returned — even if it’s just that the collector who got the help turns around and helps out someone else.

- Harold Brown



Example of Scott  
3633A found in a  
mixture by the  
Coil Line editor.

## Candidates for 2006 Election to PNC<sup>3</sup> Board

This is the final announcement of candidates for the elected positions to the PNC<sup>3</sup> Executive Board. Election ballots will appear in next month's issue of Coil Line. Ballots should be mailed BEFORE July 1<sup>st</sup> to the Chair of the Ballot Committee, Robert Hubsmith (address on ballot form). Tallying will take place in early July, and announcement of new officers will be made in the August issue of Coil Line. New terms begin September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The last two issues of Coil Line contained brief biographical notes on the candidates for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members-at-Large. Found below is information on our single candidate for President, Ronald Maifeld. Unfortunately, our second candidate recently withdrew due to excessive demands on his time.

### President

Ronald E. Maifeld      Cincinnati, OH

I started collecting stamps in grade school in 1953. My primary focus is U.S. plate number coils and booklets. My other main collecting interests include the Americas and Scandinavia, plus Railroading on stamps.

On the local level, I'm the past president of the Greater Cincinnati Philatelic Society and have served as Editor of that club newsletter since January 1994.

I have been the Webmaster of the PNC<sup>3</sup> web site, located at [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org), for over 10 years and recently became the moderator of the US Stamps discussion group on Yahoo.com.

The United States Postal Service was my career choice and I retired after 37 years, 25 of those as a letter carrier of which 22 were on the same route, and the final dozen years in management positions.

A childhood dream came true after I retired from the Postal Service in '92. I went to work as an engineer for the Indiana & Ohio Railroad, a position I just recently retired from, although I'm still working as an engineer part time for another company.

In addition to the editorship mentioned above, I'm very involved in writing within the hobby and on the outside. My most recent article is scheduled to be published soon in the American Philatelist, the APS monthly journal.

The final slate of candidates is therefore:

<b>For President:</b>	Ronald E. Maifeld	Cincinnati, OH
<b>For Vice President:</b>	Thomas McFarland Eric Russow	Princeton Junction, NJ Hartland, WI
<b>For Secretary:</b>	Daniel Farrar	Canton, OH
<b>For Treasurer:</b>	Harvey Wales	Vernon Hills, IL
<b>For Member-at-Large</b>	Gary Davis Andrew Jakes Edward Wigger	Des Moines, IA Grayslake, IL Mechanicsburg, PA

Gene Trinks, Chair, Nominating Committee

# CURRENT ISSUE NUMBERS & ROLL SIZES

04/10/06 AHT

**KEY:** A-100, B-300, C-3000, D-10000

EP - EMBEDDED PHOS      UT - UNTAGGED  
 SP - SURFACE PHOS      [xx] - NUMBER INTERVAL  
 BK - BLOCK TAG          (NL) - LINERLESS  
 OA - OVERALL TAG        \*NEW NUMBER

Plate number intervals are shown in brackets following the stamp name. If more than one is indicated, the order is that in which the different printer's plate numbers are listed.  
 Example: Atlas: [20] for BCA, [10] for Avery.

**PRINTER PLATE NUMBER PREFIX LETTERS:**

A - American Bank Note	P - Ashton-Potter
B - Banknote Corp. of Am.	S - Sennett Security Prod.
G - Guilford Gravure	V - Avery-Dennison
M - 3M	None - BEP

39c L/FLAG (SA) [10]

#V1111 C, D

39c L/FLAG [14]

#S1111 A, C, D

39c L/FLAG (SA) [14] [31]

#S1111\* A  
 #P1111\* A

39c CROPS (SA) [25]

#S1111\* A

(39c) L/FLAG [14]

#S1111 C

(39c) L/F (SA) [14] [11]

#S1111 A  
 #V1111 A  
 #P1111 A [31]  
 #P2222 A [31]

1c KESTREL [24]

#1111 B, C (TYPE I)  
 #1111 B (TYPE II)  
 #1111 C (TYPE III)  
 #2222 C  
 #3333 C  
 #4444 C

1c LAMP [14]

#S1111 C

2c WOODPECKER [24]

#1111 C, D  
 #2222 D

3c STAR [14]

#S111 D

3c COFFEE POT [14]

#S1111 D

5c TOLEWARE [14]

#S1111111 D

37c EGRET (SA) [11] [31]

#V1111 A  
 #V2111 A  
 #V2121 A#  
 #V3211 A#  
 #V3212 A  
 #V3221 A  
 #V3222 A  
 #P11111 A  
 #P22222 A  
 #P33333 A  
 #P44444 A  
 #P55555 A

24c BUCKEYE (SA) [11]

#V1111 A

39c OFFICIAL [14]

#S111 A

(5c) SEA (SA) [20][22][20]

#B111 D  
 #P1111 D  
 #P2222 C, D [27]  
 #P3333 D [27]  
 #P4444 D [27]  
 #P5555 D [27]  
 #P6666 D [27]  
 #P7777 D [27]  
 #S1111 D

(10c) LION (SA) [21]

#S11111 D  
 #S22222 D  
 #S33333 D  
 #S44444 D  
 #S55555 D [20]  
 #S66666 D [20]  
 #S77777 D [20]

(10c) LION [14]

#S11111 B, C

(15c) WOODY (SA) [21]

#S11111 D

(5c) SEACOAST [10] [14]

#B111 B, D  
 #S1111 C  
 #S1111 D (lum ink)

(25c) DINER [14]

#S11111 D

(25c) DINER (SA) [21]

#11111 D  
 #22211 C, D  
 #22222 C, D  
 #33333 D  
 #44444 D  
 #55555 D

(10c) ATLAS (SA) [20] [10]

#B1111 D  
 #V11111 D  
 #V11222 D  
 #V12111 ?  
 #V12222 C, D  
 #V13222 ?  
 #V21111 D  
 #V21211 C, D  
 #V22111 D  
 #V22211 C  
 #V22222 D  
 #V23113 D  
 #V32332 D  
 #V33332 ?  
 #V33333 D

(25c) EAGLE (SA) [20]

#S1111111 D (03 DATE)  
 #S2222222 D  
 #S3333333 D  
 #S1111111 C (05 DATE)

(25c) EAGLE [10]

#S1111111 C

? = Known used only

Sennett's SA Lion S55555 was printed with a different size cylinder than previous plate numbers. Consequently the plate number interval changed from 21 to 20. S55555 & higher have the 20 interval.

Ashton Potter's SA Seacoast P2222 was die cut with two different mats. One is serpentine cut on all four sides while the other has serpentine cuts on the sides and straight cuts on top and bottom.

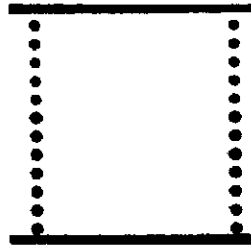
● In printing the SA Seacoast with cylinders P2222 through P7777 AP changed the cylinder size from that used to print P1111. Thus the plate number intervals changed from 22 to 27. P3333 through P7777 have a small date and color order of BCMY.

■ The Kestrels differ in the order of color laydown. Colors are black, yellow, cyan and magenta, Type I sequence is BYCM. Type II is BCYM. Type III is YMCB. The color order shows in the plate number.

# - Known used only

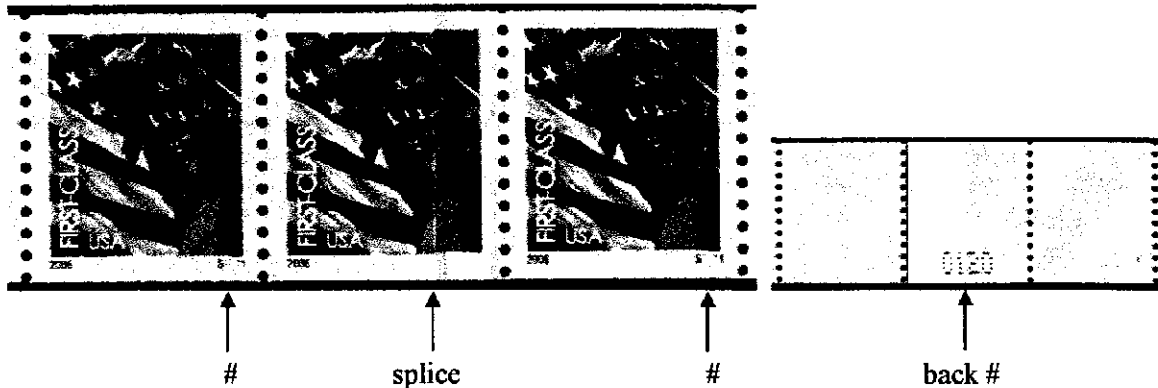
### 3c Coffee Pot with Large and Small Holes

Scott Adams has reported that the 3c Coffee Pot exists with 5 small holes at the top and 7 large holes at the bottom. Since the stamps are a dark color and a black background was used for the scans, it is only possible to show the holes from the back side in the black and white image here.



### Liberty Splice

Scott Adams has come up with a very interesting splice on the WAG version of the non-denominated Liberty Flag. Both the stamp to the left of the spliced stamp and the stamp to the right of the spliced stamp carry a plate number (S1111). To make it even more interesting, the spliced stamp has a bottom back number (0120).



### 39c Liberty Flag # on #

The 39c Liberty Flag #V1111 has been found with the back number on the plate number stamp. Both the back number and plate number on this issue are spaced 10 stamps apart, so the location of the back number relative to the plate number will not vary in a roll unless the interval is interrupted with a splice like the strip pictured above, and in fact the first such reported # on # roll of this issue did have such a splice so that less than half the roll was # on #.

### Seacoast Die Cut Variety Found

A roll of 10K of the deeper serpentine pattern die cut variety of the self-adhesive 5c Seacoast with straight edges at top and bottom and large 2003 year date (Scott 3784, plate P2222) has been recently found by someone who wishes to remain anonymous (see December 2005 This and That page 157 for illustration of this subtle variety).

# 25th Anniversary of PNCs

By Ronald Maifeld

On April 24th of this past month we marked the 25th anniversary of the first Plate Number Coil (PNC). The 18¢ Flag coil stamp "from sea to shining sea" was issued in Portland, Maine as part of a three stamp set, including a sheet of 100, a se-tenant booklet and the first ever Plate Number Coil.

This issue marked the first time that plate numbers were included along with the design of the stamp. This was a result of the change in Postal Service policy concerning the assignment of plate numbers, which was effective January 1, 1981.

The coil stamp pictures the South Portland Head Lighthouse, which is located off the coast of Portland, Maine. It also shows the coastline and waves below the lighthouse. The dominant feature of the stamp is the 50 star USA Flag, which spans the width of the stamp.

The phrase "...from sea to shining sea", which is from the poem, America the Beautiful, written by Katherine Lee Bates in 1893, graces the bottom selvage of the stamp.

In all, seven plates were used to print this short lived stamp, which served to fill the new first class rate of 18¢ that went into effect on March 2, 1981. A 20¢ rate became effective on November 1, 1981. An 8th plate was prepared but never used.

First day covers exist with the first five plate numbers because of the Postal Services' 45 day grace period for getting covers canceled. None of the First Day Covers are common.

Considering that over 9 billion stamps were printed, some numbers of the 18¢ Flag stamp are very scarce. Plate #6 is very scarce in any condition, Mint, Used or on Cover, and is the Key Item in any PNC collection.

Most collectors at the time saved strips of 3 and the larger strips of 5 are disproportionately harder to find, and therefore more expensive. This is especially true of plates 1, 3 and 6. Plates 2, 4, 5 and 7 are relatively common in both formats. Used singles of all but #6 are easy to find, with #7 being the most expensive of the remainder.

What started out as a single stamp 25 years ago, has blossomed into a specialty collecting area which boasts advocates around the world and over 800 members in the American Philatelic Society (APS) Affiliate, Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC3). The comprehensive web site can be found on the internet at [www.pnc3.org](http://www.pnc3.org).

Plate Number Coils are the most enthusiastically collected and studied postage stamps issued by the U S Postal Service in modern times. Individuals and groups have focused on many aspects of 'those stamps with the tiny numbers' including, but not limited to, paper types, perforation and die-cut differences, tagging varieties, precancel mats, back numbers, constant plate varieties and seamlines. Exhaustive studies have been conducted on single stamps such as the 32¢ Flag over Porch.

For specialists, there are numerous production innovations, constant plate varieties, perforation and die cut differences and subtle design changes employed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), who ended stamp production at the end of fiscal year 2005. Several different private printing contractors, including Ashton Potter (AP), Avery Dennison (AVR) and Sennett Security Products (SSP) are now producing United States stamps. In addition to the above varieties, many errors and oddities have been found resulting from glitches in the printing and processing of the stamps.

Over the years, PNCs have been in the forefront of innovative ideas of design and production from the nations postage producers. The 'Transportation' coils constitute one of the longest running series in postal history. Coils are produced in quantities of up to 10,000 stamps on a roll in both water-activated gum and self-adhesive gum for vending machines and mass mailers. There was an experiment with 'Linerless' coils, which was on a roll similar to adhesive tape. Self-Adhesives were tested using various die-cut gauges and styles. Accounting numbers in several colors and positions were introduced on the reverse side of the stamps and the liners on self-adhesives.

Exhibits consisting of PNC material, although few in number, have garnered national attention and won Gold medals, 'Most Popular' and 'Best of Show' awards. Numerous books and countless articles have been published on our specialty. Columns dealing with Plate Number Coils have appeared in the national stamp publications. Both Scott and the former Minkus catalogues, plus the Linns' yearbook series feature and highlight stories and charts about PNCs. Collectors gather annually at National and Regional meetings to talk shop and trade material.

The past twenty five years of Plate Number Coils will be highlighted at the upcoming Washington 2006 International Exhibition which runs from May 27th through June 3rd at the new convention center in Washington, DC.

Happy 25th Birthday to Plate Number Coils - You have truly come of age!

### **Selling complete collection of First Day Covers (About 700)**

All unaddressed, which includes rare covers. For example, Artmaster, Artcraft, Gillcraft, Colorano, Sroings 10, etc., all in extremely fine condition.

Scott 1891, 18c Flag #1 and #3 purchased at Steve Ivy Auction in 1983. Estimated retail price at that time was approximately \$650. There are about a dozen Eagle & Shield covers with the key strip of 5 A32333. Seventy-five percent in strips of 5, 3 and others in pairs. The 1891 Flag strip is a strip of 3.

The E&S strip used off cover retails for \$25. There are two in this group. Fewer than a hundred are known to exist of the strips above (A32333 is hard to find used, let alone on FDC).

I have the 25c Yosemite strip of 5, plate #5 with embedded tagging prephosphorus paper recently sold at \$50.

The only two FDCs typed is the one and five dollar presidential covers each neatly typed — retails for \$200.00 for the two.

The covers come in G and K First Day books. Other covers are from the USPS, which come in their own binders.

There are approximately 150 Transportation covers. A great compilation of covers since 1983. Many of the FDCs from the USPS have FDC starting in 1989 through 2005.

One rare set is Scott 2474a Lighthouse unfolded booklet panes. The key item is pane #4 which in mint condition retails for \$350 to \$500 alone. The entire set is included in this collection.

There are less than 100 mint unfolded booklet panes of #4 in the market. There is certainly quite a few less sets totally. The complete set from #1 through #5 sells for over \$500 to \$750.

The FDCs include the Columbians, which came out in the early 1990s to commemorate the original sets and have covers from the United States, United Kingdom, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

To sum everything up, is the retail value, which is approximately \$6,500. The asking price is \$5,500, which can be paid out through an installment plan. I can only receive personal checks or money orders. Sorry, no credit cards. I am a customer, not a dealer.

If for any reason, please call me at my home number: (718) 359-0016.

I will pay for shipping. No hassles. Any questions, just ask!!

Happy Spring

P.S. — I am a photographer. I am looking to sell a Canon Lens 75-300MM I.S. Used only once. With instructions and original box. The dealer sells this lens for \$399.95 plus 8.25 percent sales tax. I stand behind all products, if not satisfied. I will beat your best dealer's price by 25%. My price is \$325.00 I will pay for shipping, priority mail.

I need to pay for medical expenses.

Send me a copy of your ad if you can beat the price!!

**Raphael Peretz 147-19 20th Road Whitestone, NY 11357**

## Reporting the Rarities

by Gene Trinks (5/06)

If you're coming to the Washington 2006 show please consider bringing one or more of the rarities included in our column to be scanned. Frank Covey will have his scanner in operation most days at the PNC<sup>3</sup> table. It would be great to get a digital record of these rare PNCs stored in the photo archives.

A few new reports have been received since the last column was submitted to the Editor. No reports of mint strips or rarities on cover. No reports of FOPs or Mountains either. Increases are shown for used singles for Green Bike #333 and #444 as well as the Atlas #12111 and the Diner #22211.

The current count stands at:

PNC Issue	PNC ID	Scott No.	Mint*	Used	On Cover
32¢ Flag over Porch ('Famous Five')					
66666 10/11 die	1996-8.221	2915A	0	19	2
66666 12/11 die	1996-8.241	2915C	0	4	2
78777 10/10 die	1996-8.211	2915A	4	64	5
88888 11/12 die	1996-8.252	2915C	0	3	0
13231A 10/10 VP die	1996-8.212	2915A	8 + 6	44	14
(5¢) Avery Mountain V333342 13L/12R die	1996-10.211	2904A	0	19	3
V333343 round corner die	1996-10.211	2904A	0	4	0
(5¢) BEP Mountain #1111 9/10 die	1997-1.22	2904B	2 + 2	12	2
(10¢) Green Bike #333 round shoulder die	1998-4.21	3228	2	7	2
#444 square shoulder die	1998-4.22	3228	0	23	2
(10¢) Eagle & Shield STD #11111 round shoulder die	1998-15.21	3271	3 + 1	10	4
(10¢) Atlas #V12111	2003-9	3770	0	16	4
(25¢) Diner #22211 round shoulder die	1998-7.21	3208A	0	62	7

• In MINT column, first number is known ps/5s and second number is known mint singles (See January 2005 issue for illustrations of the round and square corner and shoulder die varieties)

I find it interesting that members don't seem to look over the PNC<sup>3</sup> auction lots very carefully. Last year a #11111 round shoulder Eagle & Shield was sold at a relative pittance. In the last auction, Green Bike singles #333 and #444 and the Atlas #12111 were sold, none at a price over \$40. Given the scarcity of these items, it would seem that active competition should have brought much higher prices. I can only conclude that few are paying attention.

If you have a new find to report, you should send a WRITTEN report to me at my NEW address: 16415 W. Desert Wren Ct., Surprise, AZ 85374. I will likely be changing my e-mail address also, but don't have information on that just yet.

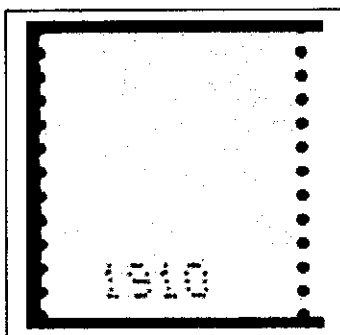
Hope to see many of you at the Washington 2006 event. Remember, the club membership meeting will be on Saturday afternoon, May 27<sup>th</sup>. It's always a great treat to meet fellow PNCers, so don't miss it!!



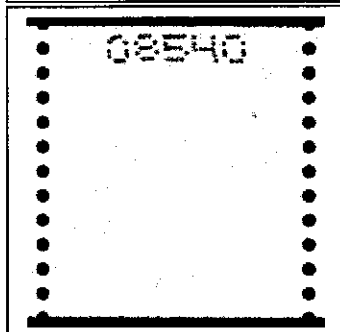
Catalog Corner



**39c Lady Liberty &  
U. S. Flag (SSP) (WAG)  
Plate S1111  
PNC ID 2006-3**



**Bottom  
4-digit  
Back  
Number**



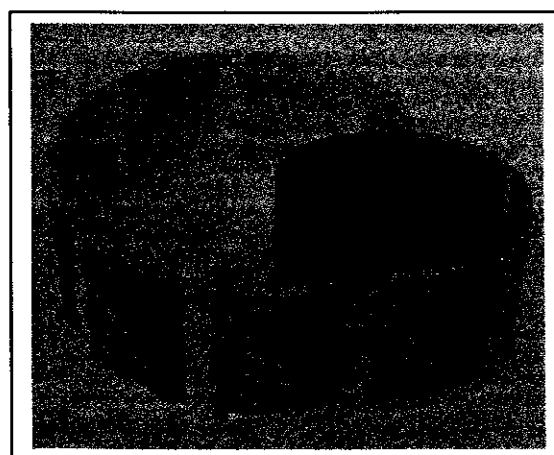
**Top  
5-digit  
Back  
Number**

The second denominated 39c coil is the Lady Liberty and U. S. Flag from Sennett Security Products (PNC ID 2006-3). USPS placed this gummed stamp on sale nationwide on March 8, 2006, two months after the 39c First Class rate increase went into effect. It comes in roll sizes of 100, 3000 (3K) and 10,000 (10K).

S1111 is the known plate number on all three roll sizes. It occurs every 14<sup>th</sup> stamp along the roll.

The 3K and 10K rolls have pink top or bottom back numbers. The 3K rolls have 4-digit back numbers. The 10K rolls have 5-digit back numbers. Back numbers occur every ten stamps on the 3K and 10K rolls.

The rolls of 100 have no back numbers. A collector would need to save a strip of 10 from the rolls of 100 to conclusively show a plate strip came from a roll of 100. The rolls of 100 come in sticks of 10 with a cardboard center. The last four stamps on the roll are likely to have residue left from the adhesive used to affix the stamps to the core.



**Cardboard core on rolls of 100**

## Catalog Corner

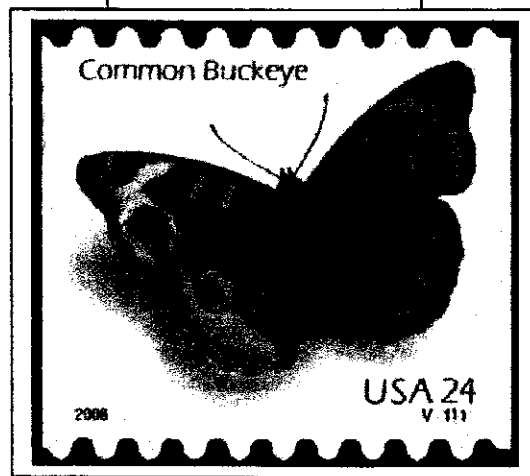


The 24c Common Buckeye (2006-2), released March 8, 2006, pays both the Post Card rate and the First Class second ounce rate. It's a product of Avery Dennison and comes in a bubble packed roll of 100. It's a vertical coil with the die cuts running horizontally across the top and bottom of the stamp. The first known plate number is V1111.

**PNC ID 2006-2.21**  
**PV**



**PNC ID 2006-2.22**  
**VP**



### **24c Common Buckeye (AVR) (SA)** **PNC ID 2006-2**

Like other recent Avery Dennison coils, the Common Buckeye comes with both Peak/Valley (above left) and Valley/Peak (above right) die cuts. Die cuts are labeled by observing the first feature in the upper left hand corner and the last feature in the upper right hand corner of the die cut. Note the small V1111 plate number below the "USA 24" in the lower right corner. The plate number appears on every 11<sup>th</sup> stamp.

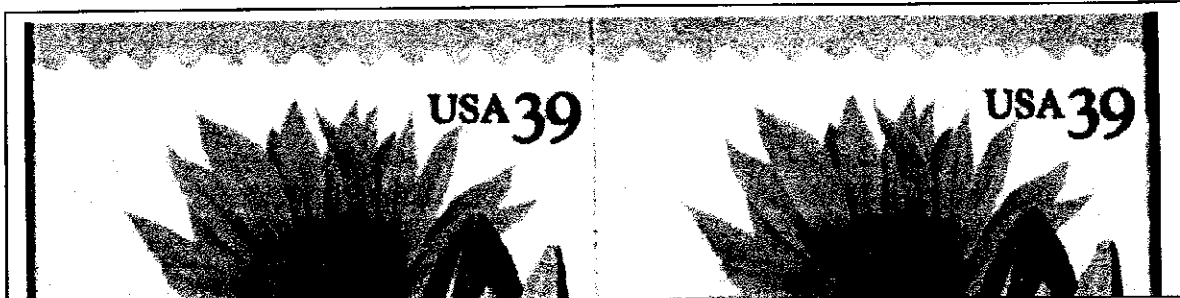
This stamp covers the one-cent rate increase for both the Post Card rate and the First Class second ounce rate that went into effect on January 8, 2006. This coil replaces the 23c Washington (PNC ID 2002-6) which was also a product of private printer Avery Dennison in bubble packed coils of 100.

# Identifying the Die Cuts on the American Crops Coil

PNC ID 2006-5

By Frank Covey

When the American Crops coils are separated as intended, one readily can identify the valley/peak (VP) die cut. To my knowledge a PV die cut has not been found.



Above is a well cut VP. There is valley on the upper left of each stamp and a peak on the upper right. On horizontally die cut stamps, peaks and valleys are determined by the top row proceeding from the top left and going to the top right. Note that even though the die cutting on the stamps is very good, the centering of the image is poor.

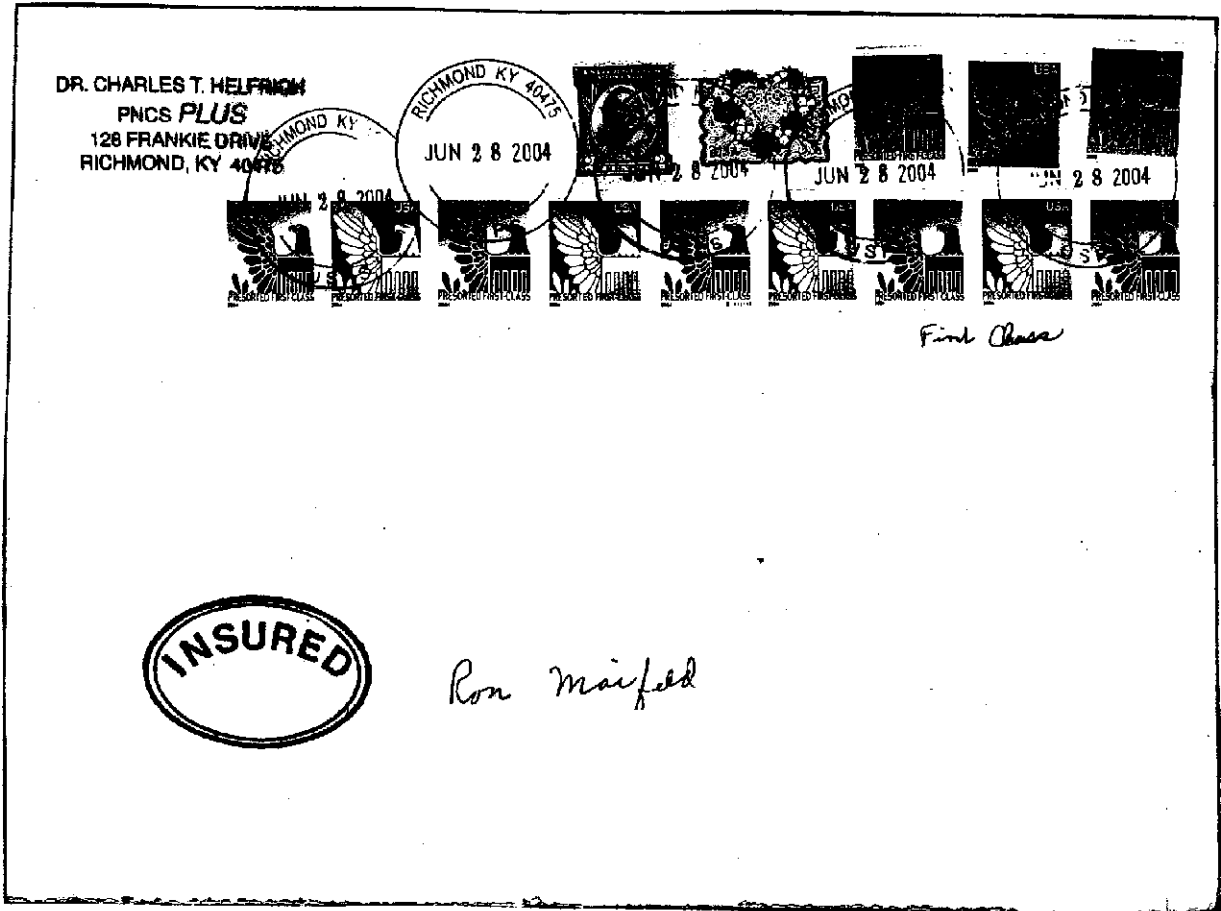


Illustrated above, the cut between the stamps is almost at the bottom of the valley making this look like it is a peak/peak die cut. Instead it's a poorly cut VP.



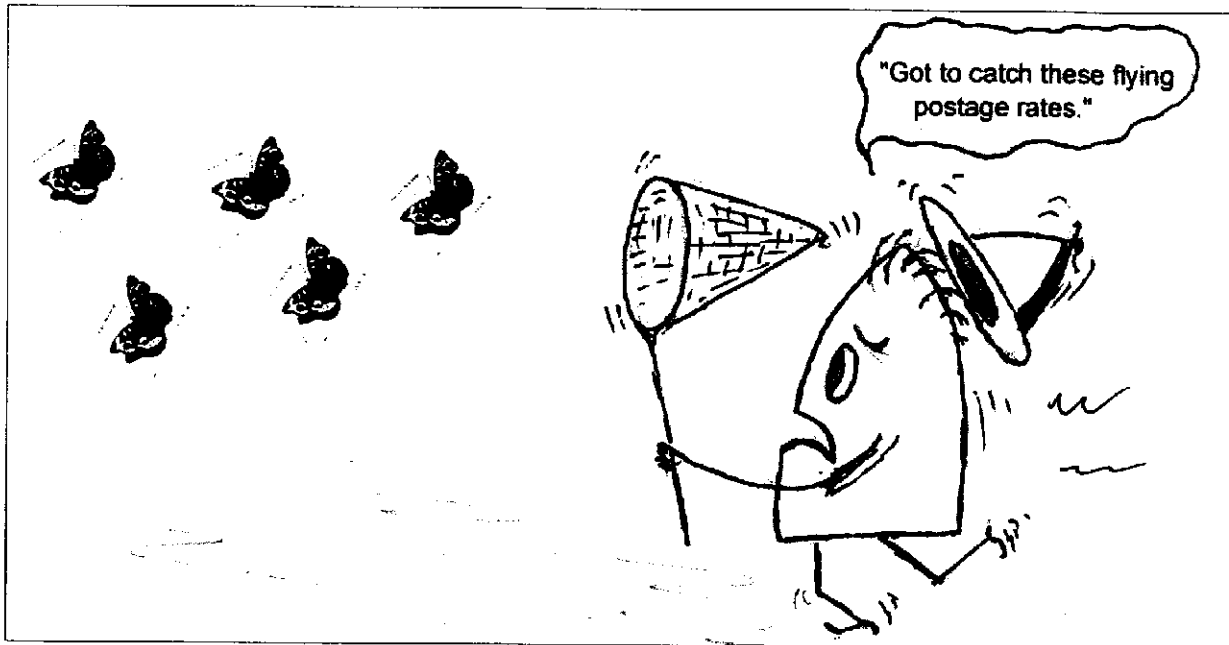
When the stamp separation occurs further right, cobras appear.

# COVER OF THE MONTH



The above insured cover features nine of the ten 25¢ Eagle water activated coils, including one with plate #S1111111. (Cover courtesy of Ron Maifeld.) (If you have an interesting, out of the ordinary, unusual, or scarce PNC cover for *Cover of the Month*, please send a photocopy of your cover against a black background to Rob Washburn, P.O. Box 840, Skowhegan, Maine 04976.)

The PNC SEERS  
 By Dan Kauffman and Alan Thomson



PNC3 AUCTION RESULTS FOR #34 CLOSING March 18, 2006

Remember that tie bids went to the earliest postmark. We had 66 bidders with all but six winning at least one lot. I want to thank all who bid and submitted lots for this auction and those that donated lots to the club. Again the bulk of the bids were in the PS-5 section and only 8 lots in the PS-2 to 4 sections. Out of 445 lots we sold 315.

Thanks to all, hope we all had fun, and to those that lost, keep trying.

UNSOLD LOTS ARE NOT LISTED

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID		
2	\$19.00	84	\$6.00	145	\$7.00	206	\$10.00	257	\$4.00	329	\$3.00	390	\$15.00
9	\$6.00	85	\$5.00	146	\$2.00	207	\$3.00	258	\$10.00	330	\$5.00	393	\$2.50
12	\$15.00	86	\$10.00	147	\$6.00	209	\$7.00	259	\$14.00	331	\$16.00	394	\$4.00
13	\$40.00	87	\$4.00	149	\$6.00	214	\$1.00	260	\$32.00	332	\$8.50	395	\$10.00
15	\$15.00	88	\$8.00	150	\$7.50	216	\$6.00	261	\$7.00	333	\$10.00	396	\$6.00
27	\$45.00	89	\$21.00	151	\$4.00	217	\$2.00	262	\$14.00	334	\$18.00	397	\$2.00
28	\$3.00	90	\$15.00	152	\$6.00	218	\$5.00	263	\$6.00	335	\$3.00	398	\$2.00
29	\$3.00	91	\$15.00	153	\$15.00	219	\$5.00	270	\$4.00	336	\$8.00	400	\$0.25
31	\$125.00	92	\$15.00	156	\$8.50	220	\$6.00	272	\$255.00	337	\$4.00	401	\$12.00
32	\$4.00	93	\$36.00	157	\$5.00	221	\$35.00	273	\$5.00	338	\$36.00	403	\$0.25
33	\$20.00	95	\$60.00	158	\$5.00	222	\$12.00	274	\$6.00	339	\$8.00	404	\$17.00
35	\$36.00	96	\$36.00	159	\$3.00	223	\$7.00	275	\$4.00	340	\$4.00	406	\$6.00
36	\$445.00	98	\$90.00	160	\$3.00	224	\$12.00	277	\$8.00	342	\$17.00	407	\$5.00
37	\$82.50	99	\$145.00	161	\$7.00	225	\$7.00	278	\$3.50	343	\$18.00	408	\$15.00
38	\$4.50	100	\$13.00	162	\$6.50	226	\$7.00	279	\$210.00	344	\$7.00	409	\$300.00
39	\$36.00	102	\$55.00	163	\$5.00	227	\$7.00	280	\$75.00	346	\$6.00	410	\$20.00
40	\$32.00	104	\$5.00	164	\$7.00	228	\$8.00	281	\$5.00	350	\$32.00	413	\$13.00
41	\$9.00	105	\$5.00	167	\$23.00	229	\$50.00	282	\$6.00	351	\$4.00	414	\$29.00
42	\$7.00	106	\$75.00	172	\$2.00	230	\$8.00	283	\$12.00	355	\$5.00	415	\$32.00
44	\$220.00	107	\$65.00	175	\$7.50	231	\$13.00	284	\$15.00	358	\$15.00	416	\$40.00
45	\$180.00	108	\$48.00	176	\$10.00	232	\$38.00	285	\$7.50	359	\$22.00	417	\$9.00
46	\$9.00	110	\$50.00	178	\$3.00	233	\$5.00	286	\$9.00	360	\$11.00	418	\$12.00
47	\$19.00	111	\$20.00	180	\$1.00	234	\$5.00	292	\$3.00	361	\$12.00	119	\$12.00
48	\$15.00	113	\$4.50	181	\$1.00	235	\$20.00	293	\$7.00	362	\$10.00	420	\$11.00
49	\$20.00	114	\$40.00	182	\$3.00	236	\$9.00	294	\$4.00	363	\$17.00	421	\$275.00
50	\$8.00	116	\$9.00	183	\$3.00	237	\$2.00	295	\$26.00	364	\$17.00	426	\$2.00
55	\$6.00	118	\$18.00	184	\$4.00	238	\$5.00	297	\$4.00	365	\$19.00	427	\$2.00
57	\$20.00	119	\$4.00	185	\$4.00	239	\$14.00	298	\$10.00	366	\$7.00	428	\$2.00
59	\$28.00	120	\$7.00	187	\$48.00	240	\$55.00	299	\$39.00	367	\$3.00	429	\$2.00
62	\$15.00	121	\$6.00	189	\$6.00	241	\$4.00	302	\$26.00	368	\$6.00	430	\$2.00
63	\$60.00	123	\$30.00	190	\$1.00	242	\$3.00	303	\$7.00	369	\$8.00	431	\$2.00
64	\$80.00	127	\$3.00	191	\$4.00	243	\$3.75	304	\$17.00	370	\$7.00	432	\$8.00
65	\$6.00	130	\$3.00	192	\$4.00	244	\$5.00	307	\$13.00	371	\$16.00	433	\$2.00
66	\$12.00	131	\$3.00	193	\$4.00	245	\$4.00	310	\$24.00	372	\$4.50	434	\$4.00
67	\$6.00	132	\$4.00	194	\$7.50	246	\$6.00	311	\$65.00	373	\$7.00	435	\$2.00
68	\$20.00	133	\$4.00	195	\$3.00	247	\$5.00	313	\$4.50	375	\$13.00	436	\$2.00
69	\$18.00	134	\$5.00	196	\$4.00	248	\$3.50	315	\$33.00	378	\$11.00	437	\$1.00
71	\$19.00	135	\$5.00	197	\$5.00	249	\$3.50	316	\$4.00	379	\$26.00	438	\$2.00
72	\$30.00	136	\$10.00	198	\$6.00	250	\$13.00	317	\$25.00	380	\$65.00	439	\$18.00
74	\$12.00	137	\$3.00	199	\$8.00	251	\$6.00	320	\$200.00	381	\$15.00	440	\$5.00
75	\$27.00	138	\$8.00	200	\$6.00	252	\$4.00	321	\$11.00	382	\$3.00	441	\$6.00
77	\$215.00	141	\$20.00	201	\$9.00	253	\$5.00	322	\$55.00	383	\$4.00	442	\$8.00
80	\$21.00	142	\$4.00	202	\$10.00	254	\$5.00	323	\$2.00	385	\$3.00	443	\$4.50
82	\$29.00	143	\$9.00	203	#####	255	\$5.00	324	\$3.00	386	\$6.00	444	\$3.00
83	\$62.50	144	\$4.00	205	\$4.00	256	\$5.00	328	\$3.50	387	\$7.50	445	\$4.00

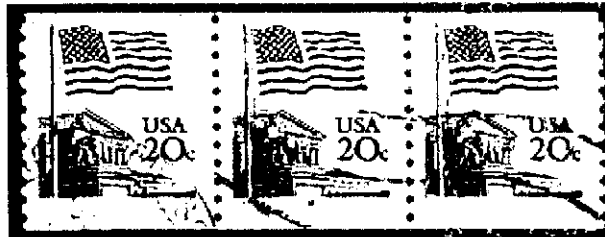
A third example of the 20c Flag #9 with black field of stars has recently surfaced and, as can be seen below, it has been certified as genuine. This example, like the other two, is used and no mint examples are known. The cancel shows it was used in CO. The variety is not listed in the Scott catalog, but is listed in the 1995 Plate Number Coil catalog. The variety is fairly easy to miss as the black of the star field is not as dark as the black in the court building, so check your 20c Flags carefully.

# American Philatelic Society

## Expert Committee Report

Members of the American Philatelic Expertizing Service have examined the item submitted and it is their opinion that it is:

**United States, Scott No. 1895, with the black field of stars error, used PNC3, plate 9, genuine in all respects.**



*Robert E. Korb*

(APEX Authorized Signature)

*A. M. B. B.*

(Administrator Signature)

No. 167511

Date: 2/20/2006

**The American Philatelic Expertizing Service**

*A Service to Philately Since 1903*

100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823 USA

Phone: 814.033.3803 Fax: 814.033.6198

# Membership

Names of applicants are published for members to review. Any member who questions the suitability of a prospective member should contact the chairperson of the Membership Committee, Janet Gillis, 2485 Falmouth Rd. Fairlawn, OH 44333-4045 with the objection.

The committee will recommend for or against membership.

## *New applicants:*

Dr. Walter Figel, Jr. (1939)  
980 Harpy Ct.  
Castle Rock, CO 80109-9597  
(303) 663-4888 (Day & Evening)  
walt@figel.org

Walter Moser (1940)  
PO Box 300074  
Jamaica, NY 11430-0074  
(718) 723-6400 (Day)  
(516) 482-7274 (Evening)  
WalterPMoser@aol.com

Donald V. King (1941)  
109 J Stratford Dr.  
Williamsburg, VA 23185-2971  
(757) 483-0306 (Day)  
(757) 259-9122 (Evening)  
donkingreactor@cox.net

Don Foster (1942)  
39 Parkside Dr.  
Davis, CA 95616  
(530) 756-8215 Day & Evening  
dtfoster@dcn.org

## *Changes of address:*

Gene Trinks (1-L)  
16415 W. Desert Wren Ct.  
Surprise, AZ 85374  
(623) 322-4619 (Day & Evening)  
gctrinks@sprynet.com

John E. Alberstadt (312)  
4707 Summerland Trail  
Erie, PA 16506  
(814) 833-1904 (Day & Evening)

James E. Morren (358-L)  
3024 Quail Springs Rd. Apt C1  
Corpus Christi, TX 78414-3703

Robert I. Galloway (1154)  
134 N. Richardson Drive  
Somerset, KY 42501

C. Veazey LeCraw (1556)  
4949 Oakdale Rd., Apt #110  
Smyrna, GA 30080

Raymond D. Scruton (1644)  
PO Box 115  
Rumney, NH 03266-0115

## *Reinstated:*

Katherine Hunnell (902)  
Leonard Williams (1004)

## *E-mail addresses:*

Larry Anderson (124)  
larryanderson@cablelynx.com  
Daniel R. LaPointe (472-L)  
lapointd@verizon.net  
P. Nelson Gnrirke (1416-L)  
ngnrirke@centurytel.net  
Rainard Beer (1614)  
helenem@core.com  
Scott Janke (1897)  
ScootersInLove@aol.com

## *Recap:*

Previous membership count	837
New members	4
Reinstated	2
New Membership Count	843

## PNC<sup>3</sup> meetings and slide shows

A listing of scheduled Regional and Annual Meetings will be published in *Coil Line*.

Until a new Regional Meeting coordinator is appointed, please send notices of meetings directly to the *Coil Line* Editor.

**May 2006** — Washington 2006, May 27-June 3, Washington, D.C. PNC<sup>3</sup> will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Plate Number Coils. See schedule of PNC events on page 54 of this issue of *Coil Line*.

Volunteers needed to staff club table all eight days of the show. Contact Bob Hubsmith - lobohub@earthlink.net to find out when you can help.

**August 24-27 2006** — Stampshow will be held in Chicago. Details later.

## COIL LINE

Published monthly as the journal of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, also known as PNC<sup>3</sup>. Copy must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 15th of the month. The April issue was mailed March 23.

**President:** Frank Covey, 16 Grandview Dr., Macomb, IL 61455  
president@pnc3.org

**Distribution:** Alan Thomson, P.O. Box 91, Northwood, NH 03261 or mr.snips@verizon.net Mailed under Bulk Rate permit No. 1, Northwood, NH 03261. Contact Alan first about which back issues he has in stock. He may refer you to Charles Still at 23913 Benton Road, Kirksville, MO MO 63501 for older issues. Please include an SASE. There is a modest charge to cover expenses.

**Changes of address:** Should be sent to and membership applications are available from Tom McFarland, Secretary, P.O. Box 756, Princeton Jct., NJ 08550 [secretary@pnc3.org](mailto:secretary@pnc3.org)

**Mailing list:** Rental of the club mailing list is available. A one-time usage of labels costs \$50. Contact the secretary (above).

**Dues:** Are \$12 per year (\$17 for First Class mailing of *Coil Line*, \$17 for Canada and Mexico and \$22 for all others) and should be sent to Andrew Jakes, 2303 Horseshoe Ct., Grayslake, IL 60030-9327 PNC [treasurer@pnc3.org](mailto:treasurer@pnc3.org)

**Advertising rates:** Are \$42 for a full page, \$24 for 1/2 page and \$12 for 1/4 page per issue. A check or money order made payable to PNC<sup>3</sup> must be submitted with the advertising copy. All copy should be sent to the Editor, 909 Parker St., Bowling Green, OH 43402-2107.  
E-mail - [halallen@wcnet.org](mailto:halallen@wcnet.org)

Members are entitled to two free, 40-word ads per year. Word ads are available at 6 cents per word per issue to nonmembers and those members who have used their free ads.

## Letters

### Return To Sender:

#### An Explanation

To the Editor:

I read Dan Kauffman's "Return To Sender" article in the April edition of *Coil Line*, but have the following clarification for anyone who uses their precancel permit for First Class Mail. Dan's scanned example was kicked back to him twice because it lacked the proper inscription IMMEDIATELY BELOW the postage, which is required by DMM PO23.2. At a minimum, this inscription should include the class of mail being paid AND the local permit number. An example of this follows:

First Class Mail Mailers Permit  
#418 see DMM Section PO23.2 (this line is optional)

Failure to include the two pieces of information above immediately below the affixed postage can cause the mail to be returned, not for insufficient postage, but rather insufficient documentation of authorization to use precancel postage.

USPS personnel are not your enemy and will happily process mail franked with precancel postage, provided you understand and carefully follow the directions that are connected with the use of your (free) permit. For more information about precancel permits, you can visit our web site at <http://www.pnc3.org/Reference/Precancels.htm> (the link is case-sensitive).

John Cropper

*John Cropper is our publications advisory chairman and works for an IT sub-contractor to the USPS. Part of his job responsibilities includes end-user clarification of postal procedures as they relate to retail operations.*

#### Another look at same issue

To the Editor:

I was alternately amused and amazed at Dan Kauffman's tale in the April *Coil Line* entitled "Return to Sender" in which he outlined his attempt to mail in his cell phone bill payment using service inscribed

the "review clerk" in the Petaluma Mail Distribution Center rejected his envelope twice, I don't think I would have had the patience he had. I do, however, have a similar story.

Recently I mailed some PNCs to a collector in the midwest. The envelope was properly franked with service inscribed bulk rate postage. My permit number was clearly noted on the envelope, along with the class of service (first class, insured). I properly handed to envelope to a clerk at my local (Cypress, California) post office who neatly hand-canceled them, per instructions in the Domestic Mail Manual, processed my insurance receipt, etc. A week later, the envelope was returned to me. It appears that the postmaster on the receiving end had returned it stating that I was using service inscribed postage improperly.

Then the fun started. One of the regular clerks at my post office told me I'd have to put regular postage on the envelope to re-mail it. So I asked to talk to the supervisor. He stonewalled me. He said he had already called the postmaster on the other end, and the guy would not budge. He also said he had no problem with my mailing practice, but obviously we couldn't resend it as it would get rejected on the other end. So I left in a huff, then printed off the relevant sections from the DMM and went back the next day with chapter and verse in hand, along with my special bulk mail permit. He argued with me for a long time, said he agreed that I'd done everything right, but that he still wanted me to pay the postage again because he had no authority over the postmaster at the receiving end. Then I had a brainstorm. I said, "Do you have Official Mail envelopes here?"

He replied, "Yes. We sure do." So I handed him the mail piece, told him, "Put it in an Official Mail envelope and mail it for me," and walked out. I guess he was exasperated, because he said nothing, and just took my envelope and headed toward the back room. A few

days later, the mail piece arrived at its destination in an Official Mail envelope.

The moral of the story is ... if it gets rejected, ask your postmaster to put it in an Official Mail envelope and send it on for you. That seems to have worked beautifully. Problem solved, and almost zero effort on the part of anyone to deal with it. Has anyone else had a similar experience?

John Himes

Cypress, California

## Ads

USED PNC singles and strips. Send for free, updated daily, pricelist. Quantity lots plus used booklet singles. Bob Murin. PNC3-LM, P.O. Box 10100, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-0100 [murrin@gte.net](mailto:murrin@gte.net)

SELLING OUT — PLS5 including Scott 2005 PL#s 3/4 65% off median value and full rolls of 100 #2 0135 and 2115B. Many FDCs w&w/o plate #s. No cachets #s 1613-2280 (not inclusive). Way below median. [Bushan@aol.com](mailto:Bushan@aol.com) APS135761

PNC USED SINGLES, used strips and MNH PS5s. Great prices! Visit <http://www.angelfire.com/ca5/HimesPNCs> or send SASE for details. John Himes, P.O. Box 453 Cypress, CA 90630-0453.

GETTING OLD-GETTING OUT! What do you want? What will you pay? Don't call, write. In most cases you will get a colored photo with reply. (Always a reply). PNCs, Great Americans. Please, no more than three at a time. Ken Moreau, 402 Coronation Dr., Franklin, MA 02038.

MEMBERS ARE ENTITLED to two free 40-word ads per year. Copy must be received by the 15th of the month. Ads may also purchased at six cents per word per month. Checks should be made payable to PNC3. Copy may be mailed or sent via e-mail to [halallen@wcnet.org](mailto:halallen@wcnet.org)