

January 2005

The Bulletin

Volume 59, Number 1

Whole Number 575

- More US Parcel Post perfins
- I-113 User ID
- Sc#C11 open door variety perfinned
- Another user of S156?
- More patterns in US Special Handling Stamps

Circle Punch Explained

Edited from notes by (alphabetically): F. M. Arndt (#1013), John Grant (#2605), Rudy Roy (#1124), Bob Schwerdt (505L) and Harvey Tilles (LM-7)

In last month's Bulletin I ran a quick note "Nutmeg #90 Lot 4285 Raises a Question." The basis of the note was a copy of a US postage stamp (Sc#206) with a punch of 8-holes in a circle. It was a pattern I didn't recognize and was unable to identify. Thanks to several members of the Club the mysterious has been demystified.

Bob and others pointed to the Scott Specialized US Catalog, noting SC#s206, and 207. So I checked and found that Sc#206 includes a listing for a variety "Punched with 8 small holes in a circle." This stamp is valued mint at \$190.00, the italics indicating an approximate value based on a limited number of transactions; there is no value for a cancelled copy. With identical language Sc#207 catalogs for \$210.00 mint. The note under Sc#156 and SC#158 indicates stamps with a "cogwheel punch." Prices here are higher than for the 8-hole circle punches.

John cites two additional sources of information about the circle of holes. Lester Brookma's *The United States Postage stamps of the 19th Century* Volume II, and *The Micarelli Identification Guide to U. S. Stamps* (under the 1870-1871 issues discussion) both list and explain this punch.

Now, knowing what to look for, I have located mention of this variety under "Paper, Douglas Patent" in Kenneth Woods *This is Philately*. So, what is this item?

The Douglas paper varieties were stamps produced on a two-layered security paper. The two papers used were of different thickness, The base layer paper was a thicker paper to which a thinner sheet

was attached. Printing was applied to the upper, thin paper, and some bled through to the lower paper. Prior to affixing the thin sheet to the thicker sheet, a pattern of eight holes in a circle was punched through the thinner paper; they were arranged such that the pattern appeared once per final stamp. When soaked from an envelope the two layers separated making the resulting two 'stamps' easy to detect if an attempt was made to reuse them. About 10,000 were printed from plates #361 and 362. They were sold through the Washington, D.C. Post Office with some sold directly to dealers

This was just one of many early attempts to discourage the cleaning and reuse of postage stamps. In addition to this experiment, other early experiments to discourage reuse of postage stamps included a variety of trial inks for canceling devices, punch holes of other types, cuts in the stamps, or devices which scraped the stamps to make them easily identifiable as being reused stamps.

Continued next page...

New England Get-Together

There will be an informal get together of any perfiners interested in being there. It will be held, as in the past, in Mills, MA, on January 22, 2005, from 9:30 – 4:00 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Hope to see lots of collectors there!

Circle Punch Explained (Cont.)

In addition various types of 'grills' were imprinted on stamps breaking the structure of paper in an attempt to make canceling ink better penetrate the paper. Specific mention was made by a couple of you of the cogwheel punches found in Sc#156 and Sc#158.

But, the most interesting alternative to a simple ink killer-cancel was noted by Rudy. He mentioned the use of gunpowder, incorporated into stamps in a manner similar to the paper caps available for the cap guns of his (and my) youth. Upon being struck by the canceling device, the powder exploded destroying a portion of the stamp. Rudy also noted: "...a brief descriptive overview is in the Scott Specialized intro section under Patent Defacing Cancellations."

Harvey's comments get into very real questions concerning the current *Scott Catalog* information. Scott lists the circle punch under the heading "Douglas Patent" but Harvey writes:

No such Patent issued by Patent Office...I've had this discussion for many years...Patents are issued on Mondays...no such patent issued at the time of the usage of the 1c and 3c stamp...

It is a modification of the Patent issued to Charles Steel - patent # 86592. This was for a double paper stamp."

All agree, this experimental punch does not fit the description of perfin as we generally use the term. My interpretation of this doubled paper variety is that, in essence, it is an experimental form of precanceling, a punch applied to the stamp prior to purchase to allowed only a single use of a postage stamp.

Auction Watch

Bill Shields (#2951) reported the following very interesting recent e-Bay sales:

Item number: 5534404431858-79 -- 1d RED PERFIN X 12 I9. Description: 12 1d red perfins to include 1: G R over W plate 197 defective used. 2: D&CO good used, plate 169 3: S.L over & co. good used plate 174. 4:G R over W defective used, plate 116. 5: T&G over P.I ,plate 221, defective used. 6: D&CO good used plate 160. 7:H defective used plate 187 8,G R over W defected used plate 166. 9: unrecognized plate 166 defective used, 10: J over M&S plate188 defected used 11:C S over L over 3 A good used, plate 197. 12: G R over W defective used plate 192. no tears DU only perf trimmed. 4 bids - Winning bid: GBP 9.50 (Approximately US \$17.50)

Item number: 5535291780 -- FRANCE Scarce Paix 30c RARE WP Polish Legion perfin SUPERB item 30c Blue Paix !!! SCARCE used lightly in corner..... only 300 issued one of the RARER ones to find!!!..unusual ... by Famous Soldier/philatelist/partisan Alexander Stocki in Paris in 1939-1940 with French Government approval)!!

from POLISH LEGION. 13 bids - Winning bid: US \$56.50

Item number: 5533961501 -- RARE!!!!. LOOK !! US. RARE LOT OF PERFIN STAMPS & REVENUES. Mostly in good condition. A few stamps with little defects or details. Complete description with the image. SEE SCAN!!! 2 bids - Winning bid: US \$10.51

Item number: 5533656157 -- US:PERFIN** PREPER** 3 or less known:scarce! Scarce Perfin Cat Nbr 'A221-30.5B' with Rarity Factor of "A"which indicates 3 or less known, and given a "AV" Precancel (PREPER) "which adds to the rarity factor" [Kansas/City/MO.]; perfin die is [AR] with control code pins. two pins are split from the A. User is America Radiator Company. Satisfaction is guaranteed. S&H to North America is \$1.00 & to our overseas buyers \$2.00. I do accept cash or personal checks drawn on either a US or Canadian bank. Opening at dollar, without any reserve, but consider value estimated at a fifty dollar bill. 8 bids - Current bid: US \$18.50 (Reserve not met) [Auction closed].

In Color

Steve Tauber (#2949) provides the following:

An interesting bit of perfin price determination came out of eBay recently. When a George V period Canada 'OH/MS' 5-hole perfin (OA242A) was offered with a starting price of \$35 it drew no bids. The same stamp (verified by the illustration) was reoffered a few days later with a minimum bid of \$25, and it sold for \$26 (plus \$1.50 shipping and handling).

Initial listing: Canada No. OA242 5 Hole OHMS Perfin CDS Used VF. Starting bid: US \$35.00. no bids Then the second time around: A very fine Canada No. OA242 13 Cent Port of Halifax used 5 hole OHMS Perfin. CDS Cancellation. 2 bids - Winning bid: US \$26.00

And, another perfin lot on eBay from an unusual country:

FIUME - Opt on Hungary stamps Trianglur perfin. Description:[adds only] x 2 mint stamps. 3 bids Winning bid: GBP 2.07 (Approximately US \$3.81)

Christian Rueger (#1834) pointed to several auction lots of interest. In Nutmeg's Baby #23 he spotted three Australian official stamp lots ("OS"):

8225 OA2,2d,3,5,6,8,10 Fine-VF, few small flts, a nice introduction to the punched large OS officials (Brusden-White #2ba//30b, A\$204=\$155) Cat \$92.70 (Photo) 2

8226 OB1-2,2d,2h,3,5-10 VF, sm flts, the first wmk Kangaroos punched small OS (Brusden-White #1bd//30ba, A\$341=\$259) Cat \$173 (Photo) 38

8227 OB19-21,21e,22-4,24a,25-31,34,36,60,62-3,63a,66-7,67a,68,68c,71,72a,b,73,75 Fine-VF, couple tiny flts, A nice set of the George V sideface issues punched small OS (30 diff) (Brusden-White #63ba//126b, A\$310=\$236) Cat \$118.40 (Photo) 48

He also noted lot #4282 – the Douglas patent stamps which is further discussed in this *Bulletin*.

Chris spotted the following in Schuyler-Rumsey Philatelic Auctions #19:

Lot 2319 Canada, 1938, 10¢-\$1 "O.H.M.S." Official 4-hole perfin issue complete, o.g., never hinged, Very Fine. Scott Nos. O241-O245; \$345. Realized \$250

Lot 2320 Canada, 1942-43, 1¢-\$1 "O.H.M.S." Official 4-hole perfin issue complete, full o.g., fresh and Very Fine. Scott Nos. O249-O262; \$194. [view details and photo](#) Realized \$125

He also spotted the following in Weiss Sale # 152, oct 30-04:

Lot 1232 SCH III/344 w/Rare 12-hole Experimental Control; no holes missing...(\$200-300.) start 100.-
1233 SCH III w/Private Controls; 14 diff (list on request) great specialist group...(\$ 700.) start 200.-

And finally he spotted a spectacular set of lots for those bored with perfins in postage stamps or those seriously (\$\$\$) interested in rev-perfs. In Nutmeg Auction #93, Lots #4255 - 4278 were Internal Revenue Service beer tax stamps:

4255 REA67 Top mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1901 issue 40 cent green cut square, flts, screw marking, ICB Co, 11/23/01 perfin (Photo) 36

4256 REA69 Top mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1901 issue 80 cent brown cut square, flts, screw mark, faint purple h/s (Photo) 50

4257 REA69 Top R mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1901 issue 80 cent brown cut square, flt, hr, PIEL BROS 9/23/01 perfin (Photo) 50

4258 REA75d Top R mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1902 issue 12-1/2 cent blue, WS 6/6/08 perfin (Photo) 125

4259 REA77c Top mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1902 issue 25 cent green cut square, fold, screw mark, USB&:M Co 11/9/06 perfin (Photo) 70

4260 REA79a Top L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1902 issue 50 cent brown, flt, an attractive example (Photo) 60

4261 REA79c Bot mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1902 issue 50 cent brown cut square, fold, partial screw mark, StLBA 6/11/06 GB perfin (Photo) 70

4262 REA86 Bot L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1909 issue 50 cent black cut square, toning, hr, inverted ASBRG Co 11/11/13 perfin (Photo) 30

4263 REA86 Top L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1909 issue 50 cent black cut square, flts, inverted VBB Co 4/28/11 perfin (Photo) 25

4264 REA93 Bot L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1910 issue, 25-cent green, flt, JH BRC Co 9/25/11 perfin (Photo) 40

4265 REA99 Bot mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue, REA85 cut square w/ yellow surcharge, flts, NSB Co 5/15/16 perfin Cat \$225 (Photo) 400

4266 REA100 Bot L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, 1914 issue, REA86 cut square w/ yellow surcharge, R&H BRG Co 2/19/15 perfin (Photo) 30

4267 REA108 Bot L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue 37-1/2 cent green cut square, CWW Inc NEWARK 4/29/16 perfin, clean and attractive (Photo) 60

4268 REA108 Bot R mgn sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue 37-1/2 cent green cut square, sm stains, SLS B Co plus partial date perfin (Photo) 50

4269 REA109 Bot R Pl# sgl plus mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue 75 cent black cut square, folds, partial Pl# ??919 and arrow line, ILB Co 7/18/16 perfin (Photo) 50

4270 REA109 Bot L Pl# sgl plus mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue 75 cent black cut square, sm stains, partial Pl# 462??, USB&:M Co 4/17/15 perfin (Photo) 50

4271 REA110 Bot L Pl# sgl w/ mgn marking Fine, 1914 issue \$1.50 red orange cut square, Pl# 46???, FBB Co 9/7/15 perfin, clean and attractive (Photo) 100

4272 REA121 Bot L Pl# pair w/ mgn marking VF, both REA108 with purple S/L ACT OF 1917 h/s, top stamp w/ center hole, Pl# 46215, NSB Co 10/9/17 perfins, a rare example showing the full Pl# (Photo) 450

4273 REA124c Pl# sgl VF, REA116 surcharged ACT OF 1917 in red, partial Pl# ???98, H Co CB Co 4/25/19 perfin (Photo) 50

4274 REA124c Pl# sgl VF, REA116 surcharged ACT OF 1917 in red, flts, partial Pl# ??349, EB Inc 8/10/18 perfin (Photo) 40

4275 REA124c Pl# sgl VF, REA116 surcharged ACT OF 1917 in red, partial Pl# 563??, Star B Co 1918 perfin (Photo) 40

4276 REA145 Top L mgn sgl w/ mgn marking VF, REA125c with dual two-line purple REVENUE/ACT OF 1918 h/s, trivial tear at bot, an attractive example (Photo) 125

4277 Three Beer Stamps F-VF, REA41 (Pl# B pos 16), REA75a (cat \$75 but torn in half,

DB&:M Co 6/22/04 perfin), REA98 (GE 1/9/15 perfin), all w/ flts, good space fillers Cat \$93.50 (Photo) 36

4278 Fermented Malt Liquor Group of Seven F-VF, REA 173 (AZTEC BCO 2/1/35 perfin), REA178b (inverted STEIN's 7/24/52 perfin), REA181x3 (FAUERBACH 4/2/36 and 12/23/36; ?? 1/25/45 perfins), REA185 (JH 12/13/39 perfin), REA197a (Erie Brew Co 9/22/52 perfin) Cat \$46 (Photo) 46

And in an online stamp sale at www.stamp-auction.de he identified several lots of interest He also notes (and I concur) that "...these prices are fantasy." Rather than translating these lot descriptions (I can't access the "English" page at this site) I will summarize them.

10153 Germany: Bork-Brück semi-official airmail SS (perf 12;; Mi#1.) Used: with perfin 'G.R.' of Georg Rothgiesser. Cat. none/Sale 5000 .

20032 France 1930 1.50Fr. lilac-red airmail; mint vertical pair; double struck with 'E.I.P.A. 30' perfin. (Sc#C6b) Cat. none/ Sale 4000 .

20033 & 20034 (both lots essentially the same) -- France 1930 1.50Fr. lilac-red airmail; mint single; 'E.I.P.A. 30' perfin. Cat. 5,000 / Sale 1600 .

20035 & 20036 (both lots essentially the same) -- France 1930 1.50Fr. lilac-red airmail pair; mint single; inverted 'E.I.P.A. 30' perfin. (Sc#C6b) Cat. 5000 ++/ Sale (35) 2000 & (36) 1600 . (I am unable to interpret the difference between these 2 lots which accounts for the price difference; ?centering of perfin?)

Ed. note: 20033 – 20036 carry the notation 'Fotoattest Weid/SBPV.' – 'certificate with photo' (presumably attesting authenticity [although the German Philatelic Society's *German-English Philatelic Dictionary* does not state this] as certified by "Weid/SBPV.) Illustrations of these lots on the web are spectacular, but the illustrations also suggest that the stamps may be from the same sheet of stamps – which further suggests that the Scott Catalog warning "Forgeries abound... [require] certificate from recognized authority" may apply. Someone more knowledgeable about German expertizing services will need to help interpret 'Weid/SBPV' and their recognition factor. My immediate response to these items –(especially at these prices) is the old warning 'caveat emptor' ['Let the buyer beware.']

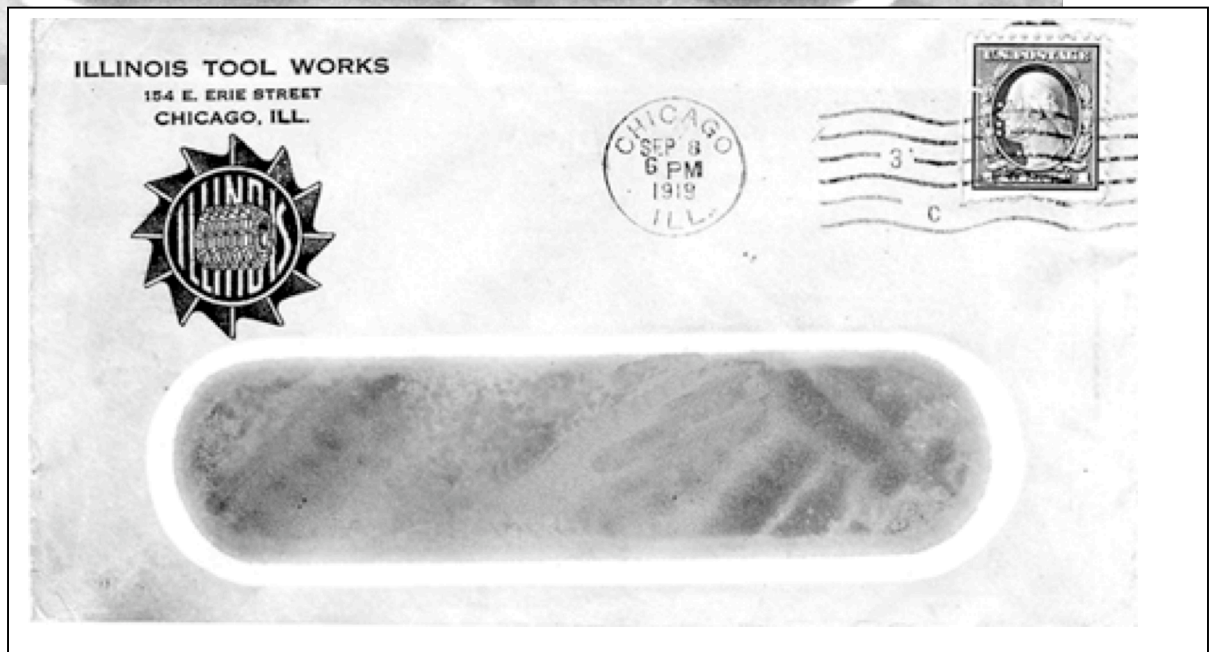
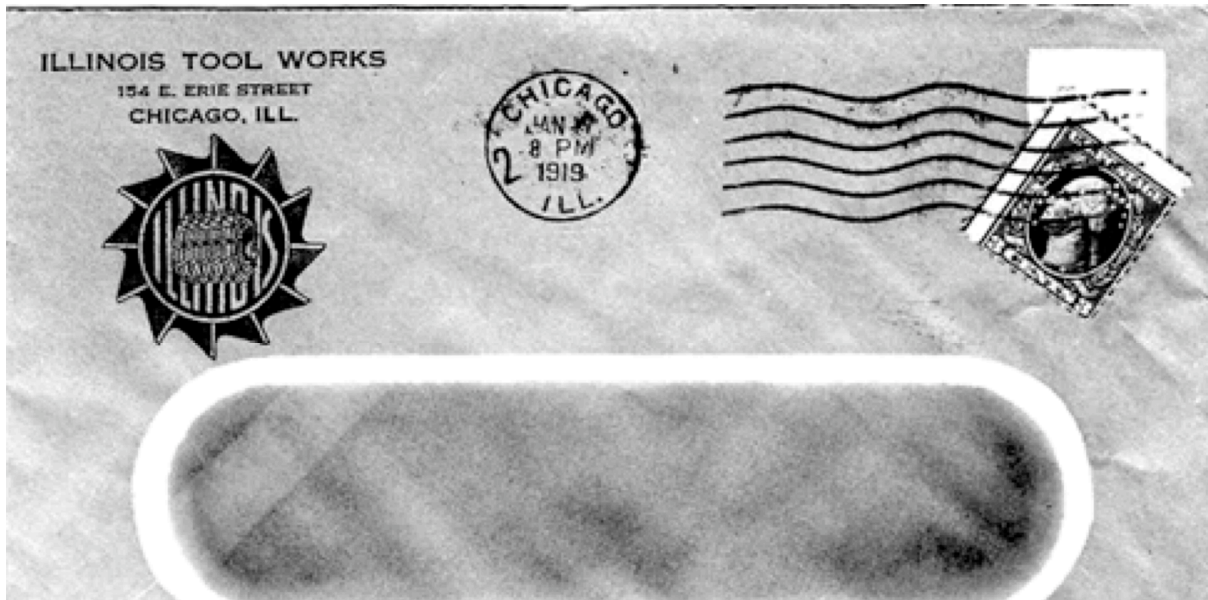
Discovery Copies --- I-113

Bob Szymanski (LM145)

Each of these covers shows the diagonal "ITW" perfin I-113 on a 1919 postmarked cover with the company name and insignia of Illinois Tool Works.

It is always a joy to come upon a discovery cover for an unidentified US perfin. This discovery is a "double" joy maybe because there are two

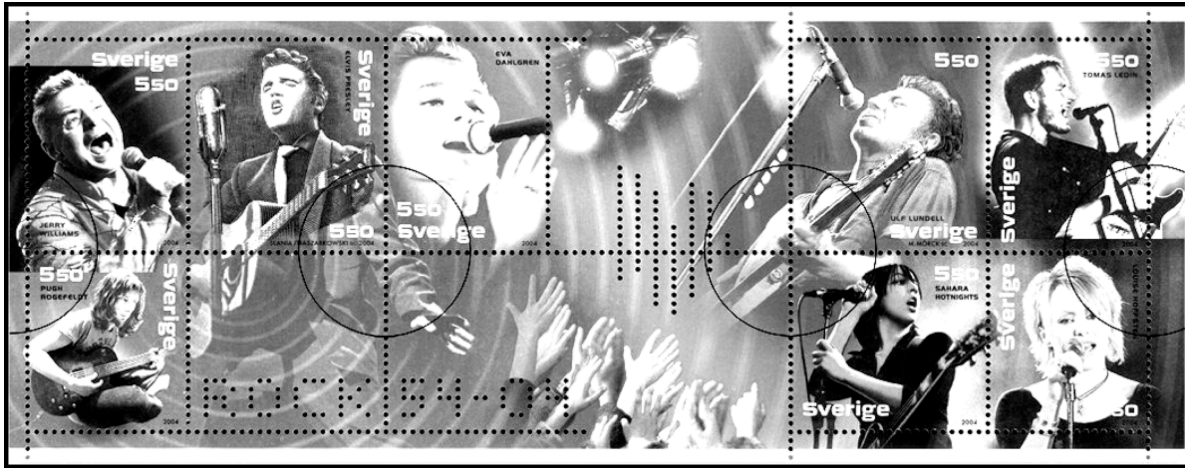
confirming covers -or- maybe because I didn't think much of the covers at first; they were two of several that I didn't check out until recently as I was sorting and sleeving some covers. It just goes to show that sometimes your own material is your best source of an interesting find!



Perfin (or Official Punch) Alert

Dave Kent (#1901)

Sweden has become another in the growing list of countries that has issued stamps with holes punched in them. An October 2, 2004 pair of miniature sheets honoring the 50th anniversary of Rock and Roll (Elvis Presley's first record is their measure). Both sheets have the pattern "ROCK 54-04" punched into the non-stamp portions.



(Editor's Note: It appears, from the illustrations that there may also be seven rows of perforations on the non-Elvis sheetlet in the seal material between the stamps on the left and right (mimic sound bars?)

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Club member Al Glass (#2840) who exhibited at the recent CHICAGOPEX show. He received the following awards for his exhibit *Control Perfins in Schermack Stamps*

- o Chicago Philatelic Society Novice (First

Time Exhibitor) Award

- o CHICAGOPEX Silver Medal.

And thanks to Rudy Roy (#1124) for bringing these awards to the attention of the Club.

Your Perfins Club Stamp Sales Department

Bob Combs (LM#24)

BUYERS

I have noted a lot of new members joining the ranks of the Perfins Club lately. In case you are not aware of it, we (the Club) have an active sales department! This sales department is really set up to help the beginner and intermediate level collector. We currently have approximately 15,000 perfins looking for homes. The subjects range from US (regular, commemorative, old, new, revenue, prepers, F's, E's, D's, C's and yes, even a few B's and A's), to foreign (yep, we got 'em too; GB, France, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Canada, and many more). All these are priced to move with some starting prices as low as (only) 5¢ each!

I usually don't do want lists, but I can occasionally look for something "odd", but then, half the fun is in the looking through the material to see what YOU might come up with for your collection. If you have

been procrastinating, now would be a good time to see what you have been missing.

SELLERS

We are always looking for material to sell. I know that the Club has a large number of advanced collectors. Why not part with some of your duplicates and accomplish three things: (1) get yourself some more room into which to put more (different) stuff, (2) help out other collectors who may not have the items you do (and would like to), and, (3) get some money to buy more stuff for your own collection!

Whichever category you fall into, why not drop me a line at my snail mail or email address, which are both listed on the rear page of this *Bulletin*. I look forward to hearing from you and helping you. It's your Club, let's do something positive with it!

A Note on USPS Changes

Based on information from Steve Endicott (#2284)

Just a heads up to those of you mailing insured materials or stuff to overseas APOs.

Several of us have recently experienced difficulty with sending insured mail thru USPS. It appears that they are changing some of their regulations -- no longer accept #6 or #10 envelopes for insured mail. In order to insure items they need to be in a larger envelope. Their reason is that the smaller, more regular sized envelopes can be overlooked as needing special attention. (Their reason doesn't seem to entirely hold water because they will accept these smaller envelopes for certified or registered mailing. Oh well, go figure.)

In another vein, mail to overseas APOs now requires Custom's forms. Under one pound the little green form and over one pound the white, heavy-duty, long form.

[Editor's Note: These are just a few of the many changes which are ongoing at the USPS. Rates are apparently being reviewed, classes of postage have been revised and often renamed, and, by now, virtually all of us have nine digit Zip Codes (though most of us use them only on business mail, if even then.) So remember dial 1-800-ASKUSPS or go online at USPS.gov to get answers to any service class or rate questions you may have.]

How in the World Do You Organize A Collection of Perfins and Maintain Your Sanity?

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

Since my first interest in perfins and joining the Club in 1977, I needed a way to mount my collection. I collect three areas of U.S. patterns. Primarily, I am a pattern collector. But I also specialize in perfins on the US Special Delivery issues (SC# E1 - E19), and world-wide International Harvester Company patterns. My foreign interests are Australia, Canada and Danzig/Memel.

At first, I thought about just mounting my U.S. directly in the catalog, as many collectors have done. But, the different size of stamps kind of put a damper on that. Some of my perfins are on commems as well as odd sized airmails. The next thing I tried was to use black stock pages. For all intents and purposes, this would solve my pattern organization problem. However, when it comes to patterns on certain issues, as discussed in the *Bulletin*, I just like to know if I have any. I could write the Scott # in my US catalog in the pattern box, but I do not know what stamp is Scott #339 or #504. When it mentions particular patterns on an issue such as the "Black Harding" or Lincoln Commemorative of 1909, you would have to lift up each stamp or take it out of the mount to see the issue. This would take a lot of time, searching an entire collection.

I could put them in glassines, face out, with the pattern # indicated, but for me, that would not let me

review my collection in my easy chair (reclined) or share my collection with other philatelic friends.

I was talking with a local Club member and he told me about CLEAR stock pages. I found them through Subway Stamp shop. I use the 8-row type. I put the pattern up and when I turn the page I can see the issue in which the pattern was punched. I do put black pages front and back of the clear page. Obviously, you only have one side to mount the stamps, but I can go through my collection in a matter of minutes to locate issues. I do mark my catalog with a yellow highlighter to remind me I have a particular pattern. I pencil in notes, if a pattern is incomplete, on edge or if the stamp has any faults. When I check patterns in the catalog and see the notes, I am able to change out defective stamps, for a better copy (and then erase the notes.) I also note in the pattern box, if I have covers (small or large) or post cards showing the particular pattern in the stamps. Another nice thing about clear pages, I can change the layout of my collection at will if I desire.

I do put my Special Delivery perfins by stamp issue, not pattern and this is kind of interesting.

Finally, as with any hobby, it is for your own personal satisfaction that you choose how to mount your collection, but this is one way. If anyone else has ideas, please let me know so we can share it with the Club and the new collectors to our hobby.

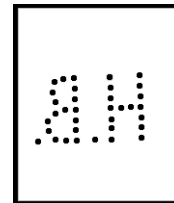
Leipzig Local

Gerald E. Soutar (LM#68)

Ed: In a recent note I found a pleasant surprise: a photocopy of a bright red Leipzig (Germany) local post stamp complete with perfin. While I know it will not reproduce as beautifully as it showed in the photocopy, I still thought it would be fun to show a relatively uncommon local-post stamp. the note from Gerald was brief and to the point.

“Enclosed are front and back copies of the only German local Post perfin I have (Leipzig). The

German catalog number is 1.HB,40 and the user is shown as Herzberg & Bayer, Leipzig.”



The Beginners Corner – Perfins Catalogs

Paul Mistretta (LM#111)

Last month I tackled general catalogs which may help interpreting the stamps in which perfins occur. This month I will focus on catalogs which feature perfins.

In the U.S., cataloging of U.S. perfins began even before the establishment of the Perfins Club. In fact in *Perfins* Vol. 1 No. 1 published in April 1945 Hallock Card (founder of the Club and Editor of the first issues of what became *The Perfins Bulletin*) wrote:

The idea behind this publication [*Perfins*] is to present any and all information and ideas concerning perfins. It is my hope that some day it can all be printed in a small handbook and sold for a small sum to anyone who wishes it. ...

1. History and development of perfins.
2. Regulations covering perfins.
3. Varieties of perfins and protective measures.
4. How to collect perfins, issues or designs.
5. Mounting of perfins.
6. Cataloging.

From letters already received, it is evident that 4 and 5 will provide most material.

O. K., while having a good vision of needs, he clearly was not a psychic! By itself, the currently available *Catalog of United States Perfins* by John Randall (830 8.5 x 11 inch pages) far exceeds any compendium of perfin “How To” information in existence. [And, as a total aside, his list completely missed a major source of research and publication: historical research about the user companies.]

On page 4 of that first issue we find the “Modified Dow System Punched Initial Classification Code.” This clearly indicates that work was well underway describing perfins even before the formation of the Club.

Remembering that at that time the first photocopiers were years in the future, Dow’s system was slightly more elaborate than that which is in current use by the Club. It is clear, however, that it is the basis of the system still in use. Thus the symbols (upcoming ‘Beginner’s Corner’) ‘H’, ‘2H’, ‘3H’, ‘D’, ‘DU’ and,

‘A’ which are used in describing patterns, are found in this first published list. Others such as ‘HY’ ‘UL’, ‘LD’, and more, have disappeared from use. At this point, all cataloging information was in the form of what is best described as alphabet soup. At some point (not in my ‘complete run’) these stand-alone letter and coded descriptions were supplemented by spirit master reproductions of patterns. By today’s standards these blue ink prints were crude at best – but they were a huge improvement over words, especially where similar patterns were concerned. The current printed catalog is the third edition having its origin in these early beginnings.

The current U.S. catalog illustrates and describes all known perfin patterns found in US postage stamps. A companion catalog is currently in development which will document the same information for punches (named rev-perfs) in revenue stamps and paper, including federal and state materials used for a large variety of purposes. In addition, there are two additional, specialized catalogs available through the Club. The *Catalog of Perfined Precancels of the United States* by John Randall and William Cummings (1991) is an invaluable resource for those who collect prepers (perfined precancels). And, Adele Ottenheimer’s *Catalog of United States Perfins by Location* is invaluable to those who have interest in the use of perfins from specific cities.

Moving from the US to the world becomes a major task in the collection of reference materials. Major single-country catalogs exist for lots of countries including for starters (and in no particular order): Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Bavaria, France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Australia, Japan, India, etc. (Apologies to all I may have missed.) In addition to these various single country catalogs, Bob Schwerdt published (through the Perfins Club) *The World Perfins Catalog*. a monumental catalog in which many of the smaller, previously uncatalogued countries or perfin using entities are documented. While it included some areas (like Argentina) for which a catalog existed, it codified many areas for the first time and was exceptionally complete at the

time it was published. Should you desire to collect the world, you will need all four sections of this catalog: one section each for Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe. Sections are stand-alone.

In addition to these catalogs by country, there is a significant number of catalogs documenting specialized collecting areas such as the various POKO (a specialized coil type distinguished from other coils by the machine which produced them) issues of the world, US railroad company perfins, or other topical or thematic pattern catalogs. In this regard I must mention the *Wereldcatalogus Thematische Perfins (World Catalog of Topical Perfins; 1997)* published by the Perfins Club of Netherlands. This catalog includes listings for all cataloged design perfins noted by Ruud Hammink and are loosely grouped by subject; each pattern is annotated to include both country of origin and catalog number derived from the catalog for that country used by Hammink.

An attempt has been made to document all current perfins catalogs of the world in the *Bulletin*. This effort is to be found in *The Perfins Bulletin*: 56(6):

85-87 [July/August 2002]; 56(7):96-97[Sept. 2002]; and, 57(1):14-15. [Jan. 2003] where the shorthand means Volume (Number within volume): Pages [Month Year] of publication.

Cataloging efforts in progress are routinely noted in a variety of club or society publications such as monthly or periodic bulletins. They may also appear as worksheets in societies library files. Addition & Correction pages (A&C pages) are routinely published as interim information to supplement existing catalogs. And finally, all catalogs in print are subject to being completely updated as enough new information is discovered to warrant revision. Notices of these revisions are generally published in society bulletins prior to, or during preparation of, the updated version of the catalog to solicit help in the effort.

Many of the catalogs needed to collect the world are available from the Club's Publication Sales Chairman, Dave Lightle,, or from the Club's Librarian, Doug Turner (both addresses on back page.) Others are available through other perfins societies worldwide.

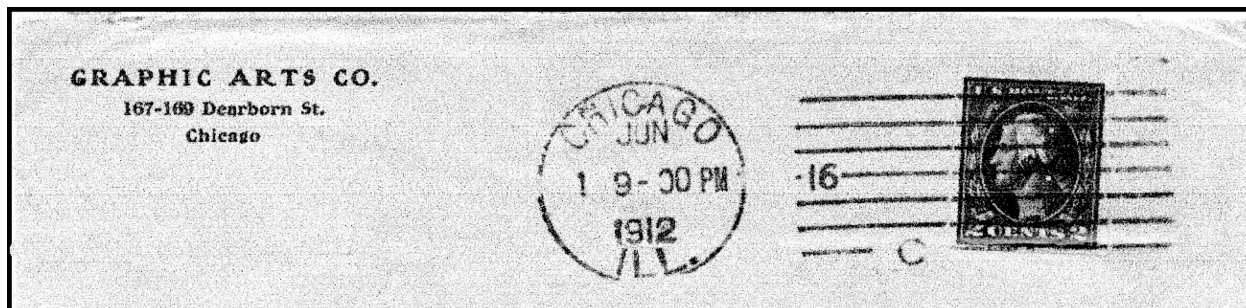
Another user for Des.90-41

Al Glass (#2840)

Below is reproduced a cover strip (graphically cropped from a full envelope) which I recently acquired. It shows use of a Schermack coil with perfin Des. 90-41 in it. However, the Company identification in the perfin catalog is for Meyer Roth (or is it Meyer Both?) while the cover shows use by the Graphic Arts Co. In addition to this, I also have a privately used copy of the same pattern. It is on a postcard mailed at Armour Station, Chicago.

Do any of you have this perfin on cover? Over the last eighteen years I have maintained a census of perfined Schermacks on cover and have only seen two covers with this pattern (both mine).

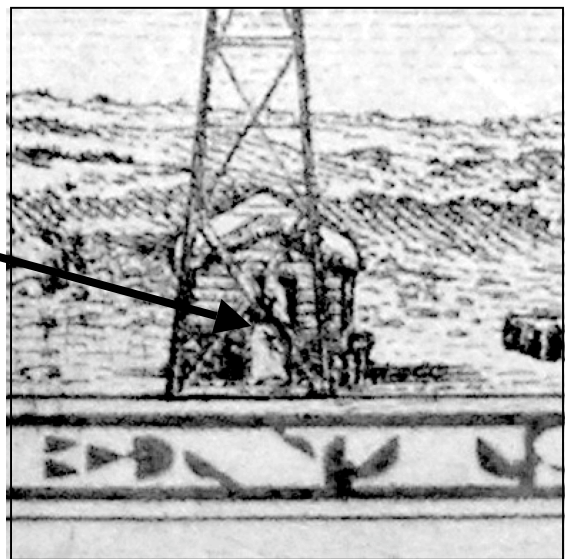
Is the cover from which the user ID was determined still out there? Can anyone help with more information about the user ID? Thanks for any help you can give concerning this pattern.



C11 "Open Door" Variety

Pat Callis (##2383)

A stamp friend of mine, Jack Turner from Brenham Texas, called me and asked if I had seen the article about the C11 Beacon airmail stamp "Open Door" variety in Linn's Stamp News. The article by Richard Morris mentioned that the variety "shows a lack of blue ink in the door of the building directly beneath the beacon tower". I went through my C11s and found an "Open Door" with perfin pattern F1. I talked with a number of Club members to see if anyone else was aware of the variety and had any. Richard Mewhinney found four in his collection with the following patterns: A204, C51, H170 and P176.



I also talked with Kent Korbersteen and he had the following email reply: The "open door" is not a constant variety -- ie, it was not caused by plate wear or damage, nor any other factor which would cause it to be repeated in the same position on the pane. (An example of a constant variety would be the

recuts which occur on the vertical lines beneath and to the left of the scrolls on the left side of the frame. The recuts were made on the plates, and therefore are consistent on certain positions.) The "open door" is, instead, the result of an inking situation, so it can occur randomly on the pane and cannot be plated.

Henry Goodkind, in his 1965 monograph on the Beacon, makes the opposite argument. Goodkind states that the "open door" was caused by plate wear. I have been studying the Beacon since 1977, and I have seen no evidence that the "open door" is constant. And, finally, Max Johl, who wrote the definitive series of books *The United States Postage Stamps of the Twentieth Century*, plates many varieties of recuts, explains in great detail its various marginal markings, and plates a constant plate flaw - the "blue moon", is silent on the matter of the "open door."

The Goodkind monograph is an interesting read, but later scholarship on the Beacon has shown several of his statements to be in error.

Does anyone else have any additional information regarding this variety? Please check your collections and let me know if you find any other patterns. I would like to thank Sal Guarini, Kent Kobersteen, Richard Mewhinney, Robert Schwerdt, Robert Szymanski, Tim Timmerman and Doug Turner for checking their collections and providing comments.

Turner Perfin

With a brief note and a flick of the wrist, Doug has joined the ranks of personal perfin users. With the brief note: "I finally figured out how to take apart and reset the pins in the Cummins No. 15 perforating machine that I purchased on e-Bay" he introduced me to his new D/T pattern.



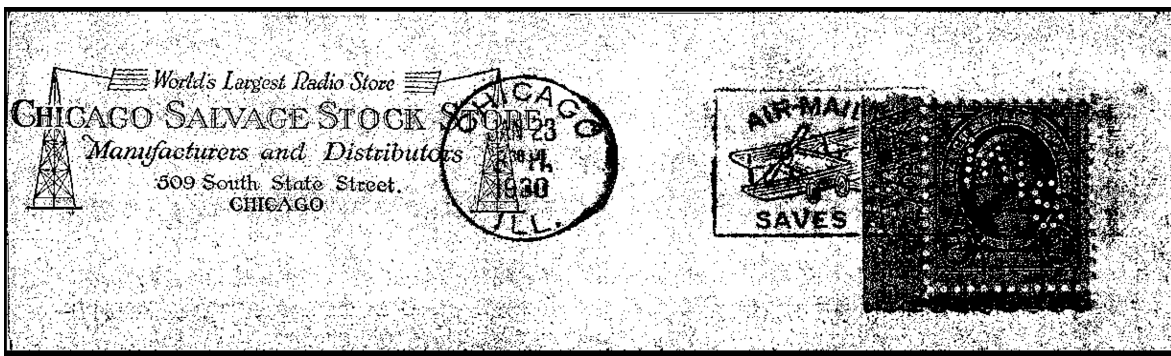
Another User of S156

Blair Stitt (#3035)

I recently was successful bidder in Jim Mehrer's Sale No. 63. The following Strip (graphically cropped from the cover) shows still another user of the SIW (S156) pattern attributed to the Allied Radio Corporation in Chicago, IL. Supplemental information in Randall's US Catalog also lists use by John Steneck & Sons of New York, and notes that the pattern is also known in Canadian Stamps. Johnson & Thomasson (also) attribute this pattern in Canadian stamps to the Allied Radio Corporation.

As will be readily seen in the illustration, the user here is "none-of-the-above". My cover shows the corner address of Chicago Salvage Stock Store, Chicago, IL. Even if this pattern is currently misinterpreted (it could be MIS), the pattern does not intuitively fit any of these identifications.

Does anyone out there have any information as to why this discrepancy between pattern and known users?



Clubmember Ads

Wanted: Any perfins in Netherlands B1-B47a charity stamps. Make my day!! Bob Schwerdt, 909 Memory Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

Wanted: All perfins of Sweden on cover, parcelcard, moneyorder, or postal stationery. Please write with offers: Stellen Swenson, Odonbärsvägen 32, SE-293 41 Olofström, Sweden.

Wanted: Venezuelan GN and AM perfins. Can provide a want list; am willing to buy or trade (have most regular Venezuelan stamps used). Contact: R. Manes, 2207 Orleans Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32308, or mrenemanes185405@comcast.net.

Wanted: Fellow U.S. Perfin collectors: I am missing a number of fairly common perfins, A40, A233, A243, B116-34.8, C380, G2, H70, H196, H216, I77, L188B, M245, R86.3D, R87.5, T21.5, W72-11, and W72-82. I have a few A rated perfins available for trade, including: C25A, D32, D144A,

J110.1, L13.5, O24.1, S336.5, S365.5, T101A, T118.3, W33, and W159.2. I will gladly pay 50% more than average prices for each, or exchange with the same margin of difference, that is a C for a D; C+ for a C; of B for a C+, or a higher rated perfin that compensates for 50% difference in value. Larry Owen, 1808 Lakecrest Ct., Carrollton, TX 75006, phone 972-416-3303 or email Nowen@nova1.net. Hearing from you will be greatly appreciated and probably I can help some of you with your wants.

Wanted: Hard-bound copy of the catalog of U.S. Perfins by John Randall, 1998. Please call (415-454-1475) or write to Steve Endicott (see Treasurer on back page of the Bulletin.)

Will trade my U.S. and foreign perfin covers for yours. Want ME, NH, and VT; US pattern S344 / Simionescu/ Ossege; China/Japan/Asia. Vince McDermott, 22 Beech Drive, Brunswick, ME 04011-3446.

Another Way of Collecting Perfins

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

Here are some rather ordinary looking covers and one strip. One cover [graphically cropped] is that of the Canadian Pacific (C-279), one cover is that of Hartford Accident and Indemnity Company (H-22) with a partial perfin on the cover and the finally, a strip of the Rock Island Railroad (R-75.5).

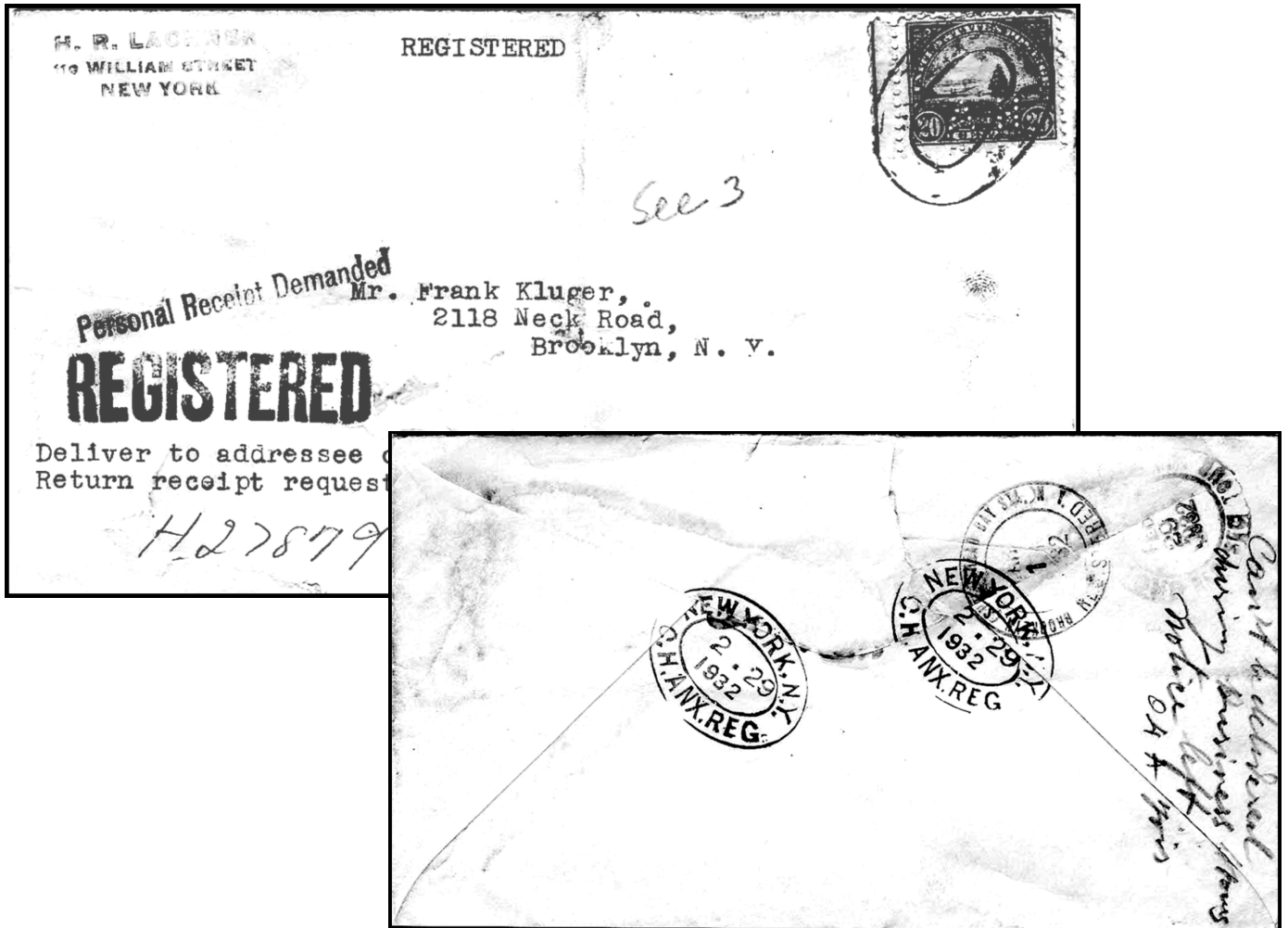
Note that the C-279 perfin is not listed as to location. Here we have a cover shown with a Chicago, IL return address,

What does make these items very interesting is that they all have cancels of February 29th! Two postmarks are easy to see and recognize but the Registered cover (H-22) can only be recognized by the registration stamps on the back of the cover (see

illustration).

With one February 29th every four years or one February 29th every 1461 days, covers with these dates can not be too plentiful! The covers and strip illustrated represent the years 1932, 1936 and 1956. I would like to hear from anyone having February 29th covers from these or any other years. You may even find some foreign perfin covers so dated, if you examine your collection closely.

It is always fun to see how other collectors "play" with their perfins! If you have a different approach to collecting your perfins, please write the *Bulletin* editor and let the membership know your approach.



Canadian Pacific

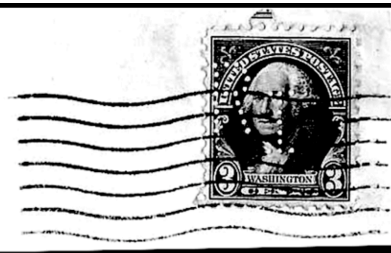
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STEAMSHIP PASSENGER DEPARTMENT

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BEAVER SAND COMPANY
RURAL ROUTE 1
DES MOINES, IOWA



Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

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13389 Folsom Blvd.

#300-133

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Oklahoma City, OK 73120-8543

Intermediate, Perfins on Scout Stamps w/w

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755 Lydall St.

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Kurt Ottenheimer

3797 Robert Gagne'

654 Hector Fabre

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5324 Cato St.

Maple Heights, OH 44137-2662

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Web

3799 Dan Williams

24368 Woodland D.r

Flat Rock, MI 48134-9412

Beginner

dwill@wnol.nat

Linn's

Address Change:

3745 Mutsuo Kozuka
458 Kamigoryo Nakamachi
Kyoto 602-0894
Japan

Closed Albums:

1261 Al Spencer

Membership

582

Additions to Perfins in US Special Handling List

Bob Schwerdt (505-L)

Kurt Ottenheimer and Bob Szymanski have combed their collections and come up with the following additions to the ever growing list of perfins found in the US Special Handling issues. Presented below are unreported issues with previously reported

patterns, and also several new patterns in these green beauties. The two previous listings, to which this forms an addition, are to be found in the October 2003 and the April 2004 *Bulletins*.

Previously reported patterns found in new denominations of U.S. Special Handling stamps					
Pattern	US Cat #	Denom of stamp	D P V ¹	Postmark Type	City/Town
	A99	25	D		
	A2887	25	D		
	B289	10			
	C340	15	P		(Cincinnati)
	D129	25	D		
	H181	25	P		(Chicago)
	I43.7-23	15			

New patterns found in US Special Handling stamps					
Pattern	US Cat #	Denom of stamp	D P V ¹	Postmark Type	City/Town
	A135	10			
	C362	20			
	D4	25	D		
	G104	25	D		
	M155	25	D		
	P55.3	25	D		
	P56.21	25	D		New York
	W8	25	D		
	Y13	25	D		

Oops!

In a very brief note Chris Carr (LM-9) pointed out that I goofed in last month's *Beginner's Corner*. The appropriate abbreviation for the *Yvert Catalog* is Yv.

Parcel Post Census Part 2

This month we continue with four more pages of Pat Callis's (#2383) census of perfins found in U. S. Parcel Post stamps.

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
I-43.7-13 (C152.13)	1	1											2
I-43.7-20		1			1		1						3
I-43.7A-8 (C152A8)	1	1											2
I-43.7A-14 (C152A14)	1												1
I-43.7A-18					1								1
I-43.7A-19		1											1
I-43.7A-22 (C152A14)			1										1
I-43.7A-24A					1								1
I-43.7B-1 (C152B1)						1		1					2
I-43.7B-3 (C152B3)	1												1
I-43.7B-13 (C152B13)	1					1							2
I-43.7B-20 (C152B20)		1											1
I-43.7B-22 (C152B22)							1						1
I-43.7C-3 (C152C3)					1								1
I-43.7C-7 (C152C7)		1											1
I-43.7C-15 (C152C15)		1		1									2
I-45					1								1
I-50		1				1		1					3
I-53		1											1
I-58				1	1								2
I-68	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				9
I-69	1	1		1	1			1					5
I-70	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1				8
I-76.5 (see R3.7)													
I-77 (see R3.8)													
I-79	1			1	1	1	1	1	1				7
I-82		1											1
I-84		1											1
I-88		1	1										2
I-91.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			10
I-91.7						1							1
I-91.14		1					1	1					3
I-91.16	1			1		1							3
I-92		1											1

7 of 16

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
I-93	1												1
I-97		1				1							2
I-99					1								1
I-100						1							1
I-101		1											1
I-102		1											1
I-105					1								1
I-107	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1				8
I-109								1					1
I-122				1				1					2
J-2		1	1		1								3
J-3		1			1	1							3
J-5		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				8
J-8	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7
J-21		1		1	1	1							4
J-24.5 (J24B)	1	1		1	1								4
J-25		1			1								2
J-25.5 (see J112.7)													
J-29			1	1	1	1	1	1					6
J-39				1	1	1							3
J-41	1	1			1	1		1	1				6
J-42	1	1		1		1	1	1					6
J-53						1							1
J-56A						1			1	1			3
J-56B						1				1		1	3
J-57	1	1		1	1	1							5
J-61	1		1	1		1		1	1				6
J-63	1	1			1			1					4
J-71	1	1											2
J-72		1											1
J-74	1	1	1			1							4
J-80	1	1		1	1	1							5
J-81		1		1									2
J-82	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				8

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
J-85		1											1
J-88	1	1			1	1							4
J-89			1		1								2
J-96.3 (J96.2)	1	1		1									3
J-96.7 (J96.4)			1					1					2
J-96.12 (96.7)	1	1			1			1					4
J-96.13 (J96.8)		1			1								2
J-96.15		1											1
J-100		1			1								2
J-105.5				1									1
J-108.5		1											1
J-109	1	1		1	1	1							5
J-112.7 (J25.5)	1			1	1		1						4
J-131			1										1
J-136	1												1
J-141	1				1	1							3
J-149	1		1	1	1	1		1					6
J-155				1									1
J-156			1										1
J-159	1					1							2
J-160	1	1											2
J-165.5			1		1								2
J-166.5			1										1
J-167.5				1									1
J-173.7 (Y4)		1			1								2
J-177	1	1	1		1				1				5
J-178-B							1	1					2
J-178-C	1	1		1	1	1		1			1		7
J-178.1 (J178A)				1									1
J-179							1						1
J-182		1											1
K-4	1	1											2
K-5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1				8
K-10		1											1
K-17		1											1
K-19		1											1
K-21				1									1
K-25					1								1
K-29			1										1
K-35					1								1

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
K-37.7 (J78)	1	1			1	1							4
K-41		1	1	1	1				1				5
K-48			1	1	1	1							4
K-51		1											1
K-69	1	1		1	1	1	1						6
K-71	1	1			1	1			1				5
K-72	1	1		1	1		1	1	1				7
L-5	1	1			1		1	1		1		1	6
L-8					1								1
L-10		1											1
L-11		1			1								2
L-12								1	1				2
L-20.5									1				1
L-21	1				1	1							3
L-27	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1				8
L-28		1											1
L-30		1		1		1							3
L-32				1									1
L-38			1	1									2
L-39							1						1
L-43			1	1		1		1	1				5
L-44		1			1								2
L-45	1	1											2
L-46					1	1							2
L-49				1									1
L-55-1		1		1	1	1	1						5
L-55-5						1							1
L-55-6		1											1
L-55-7				1									1
L-55-8		1											1
L-55-10		1			1		1						3
L-57		1			1				1				3
L-60-1	1	1		1		1			1				5
L-60-2		1			1								2
L-60-4		1											1
L-60-9				1	1								2
L-66	1	1		1	1	1	1						6
L-67				1			1		1		1		3
L-68	1												1
L-70	1			1									2
L-76	1	1		1	1	1		1	1			1	8

8 of 16

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
L-77		1		1		1		1					4
L-79		1											1
L-80	1			1	1								3
L-83		1											1
L-85		1		1					1				3
L-93		1		1	1								3
L-100						1							1
L-112								1					1
L-120	1												1
L-122	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				9
L-123			1										1
L-125				1									1
L-128	1	1											2
L-129	1												1
L-134				1									1
L-139	1	1				1							3
L-140								1					1
L-142	1			1	1	1							4
L-143		1		1									2
L-146				1									1
L-148		1											1
L-156		1		1									2
L-157						1							1
L-159.5		1											1
L-171	1	1		1	1	1		1	1	1			8
L-174	1	1	1	1	1	1		1					7
L-177	1				1								2
L-178	1	1	1		1	1						1	6
L-179	1	1											2
L-182			1	1									2
L-183	1	1	1	1	1	1							6
L-184		1											1
L-185		1	1		1								3
L-187.5	1	1											2
M-8.7		1		1	1	1		1					5
M-23	1					1			1		1		4
M-24.5		1											1
M-29				1	1	1	1						4
M-31		1	1		1								3
M-32			1			1			1				3
M-36								1					1
M-43	1	1											2
M-45	1												1
M-46		1											1
M-52	1	1				1							3
M-53	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				9
M-54	1	1			1								3

9 of 16

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
M-64		1											1
M-66		1				1							2
M-67	1	1											2
M-72				1	1								2
M-77						1							1
M-81		1							1				2
M-83									1				1
M-84			1		1								2
M-89	1	1	1		1	1							5
M-90				1	1								2
M-91		1											1
M-95							1	1	1		1		4
M-101A	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7
M-103				1					1	1		1	4
M-104		1											1
M-110.5				1									1
M-113								1					1
M-120									1				1
M-121	1	1				1							3
M-123	1	1		1			1		1		1		5
M-129 (H111)		1	1		1	1	1						5
M-132	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1	10
M-135		1											1
M-140	1			1	1								3
M-143	1	1		1	1	1	1						6
M-144					1	1							2
M-145		1	1		1	1							4
M-146		1		1	1	1		1	1	1			7
M-147						1	1						2
M-153		1		1	1	1	1	1	1				7
M-154					1								1
M-155		1					1	1					3
M-160		1											1
M-161										1		1	2
M-162				1									1
M-166						1	1						2
M-172		1			1								2
M-176	1	1		1	1								4
M-180							1						1
M-183				1						1			2
M-191			1										1
M-192		1											1
M-195					1	1							2
M-198	1	1											2
M-201.5		1											1
M-204			1	1		1		1	1				5
M-207.5 (M207A)	1	1		1	1	1	1		1				7

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
M-210		1											1
M-212					1								1
M-213		1											1
M-214		1											1
M-218						1	1		1	1			4
M-219		1		1	1	1			1				5
M-221				1									1
M-224					1								1
M-227	1	1		1	1				1				5
M-234		1		1									2
M-237		1											1
M-238			1										1
M-244						1	1						2
M-248.5					1								1
M-279	1	1		1	1			1	1				6
M-282I		1			1								2
M-283				1									1
M-285			1	1	1			1					4
M-287	1	1		1				1					4
M-289		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				8
M-289.5		1			1	1	1	1					5
M-293		1											1
M-295				1	1	1							3
M-296												1	1
M-301					1				1				2
M-302					1	1							2
M-305	1												1
M-308			1	1	1								3
M-309					1	1							2
N-7		1		1	1	1							4
N-10	1												1
N-22		1								1			2
N-24				1			1	1					3
N-32	1			1	1	1		1	1	1	1		8
N-34					1								1
N-36.5 (L2)					1								1
N-41	1			1	1	1	1			1		1	7
N-52		1											1
N-53	1	1		1	1	1		1	1				7
N-54	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				9
N-54A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1		10
N-60			1	1	1								3
N-64				1									1
N-67				1									1
N-68				1	1	1							3
N-70		1	1	1	1	1	1	1					7
N-71					1								1

10 of 16

US Perfin Cat. #	Scott Cat. #												T o t
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6	Q 7	Q 8	Q 9	Q 10	Q 11	Q 12	
N-77	1	1	1		1								4
N-83		1	1										2
N-88		1	1	1									3
N-90.7						1							1
N-96		1		1									2
N-99					1								1
N-100										1			1
N-101		1			1	1	1		1				5
N-102		1											1
N-109			1	1									2
N-113-0				1									1
N-113-3				1									1
N-113-6					1								1
N-113A-8					1								1
N-113Aa-2A					1								1
N-113Aa-3					1								1
N-113Aa-4				1	1								2
N-113Aa-5					1								1
N-113Aa-6					1								1
N-113Aa-7	1												1
N-113Aa-8					1								1
N-113Aa-11	1												1
N-113Aa-14	1												1
N-113B-0	1												1
N-113B-2	1												1
N-113B-3				1	1					1			3
N-113B-6	1			1	1								3
N-113Bb-0 (N113Bb)				1	1								2
N-113Bb-2	1												1
N-113Bb-3	1		1										2
N-113Bb-9	1												1
N-113Bb-10					1								1
N-113Bb-11	1												1
N-113C-10	1												1
N-113C-11	1	1											2
N-113C-12	1												1
N-113D-0					1								1
N-113D-4					1								1
N-113D-10					1								1
N-113D-11					1								1
N-113Dd-0					1								1
N-113Dd-3		1		1									2
N-113Dd-6	1												1
N-113Dd-6A	1				1								2
N-115				1									1
N-130		1											1
N-133		1											1

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