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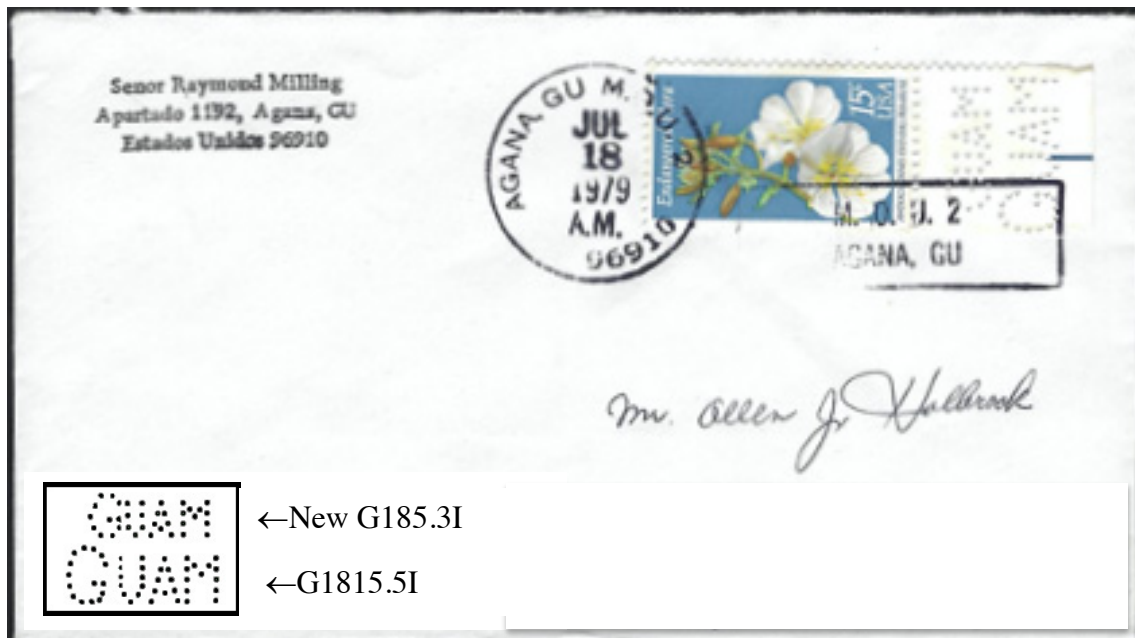
- Auction 163
- A&C#1 input requested
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- Cigar box revenues
- Notes on patterns G185.5, H1711, L042 and S195
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A New Guam Personal Punch

Steve Endicott (LM# 2284)

A personal punch with the word "Guam" has been discovered, shown nearby. The letters in this punch are smaller than those in GP185.5I (6-5-5-5 vs. 8-7½-6½-6½) with a resulting reduction in length of the punch from 22½mm to 18mm. It is interesting that both punches are in the selvage in this stamp. This usage on July 19, 1979 predates the other three

known covers with the GP185.5i punch by at least three days. Three of the four covers use the 15c Antioch Dunes Evening Primrose stamp. It is assumed that this new discovery was the first punch, replaced a few days later. The new personal punch will be listed as GP185.3I.



The owner of these two Guam punches was Raymond Milling of Agana, Guam. He owned and operated Island Philatelics on Guam and was significantly involved with constructing philatelic cachet covers honoring U.S. Naval operations in the Pacific Theater during World War II. He produced several cachets celebrating various anniversaries of the liberation of Guam in July 1944 (only one of these with the Guam punch). The four Guam covers

were mailed to Allen Hollbrook in Weymouth, MA. Both gentlemen have passed. I wrote to Raymond shortly after discovering the first Guam cover in May 2006. His family responded, informing me that he had passed on Jan 20, 2003 and that they did not know anything about his philatelic collections. I got the impression that the philatelic material had been thrown away. Sad.

***The Perfins Bulletin* is the Official Journal of
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Perfins Club membership is open to all persons interested in the collection and study of perforated initials and insignia in postage stamps. Yearly dues are \$15. Dues may be mailed to the Secretary listed above or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net. New members - partial fiscal year dues are waived. Full year dues are due by June 30 of each year. Annual dues include a subscription to *The Perfins Bulletin* mailed bulk rate printed matter; or 1st Class for an additional postage charge. Applications are available at www.perfins.org or from the Secretary listed above.

Submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to:

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Visit The Perfins Club web site at <http://www.perfins.org> -- Mike Hynes, Webmaster (mike@precancels.com)

Pittsburg or Pittsburgh?

Steve Endicott (LM# 2284)

The original settlement, located at the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers, was named in honor of William Pitt, after the British and American colonists defeated the French at Fort Duquesne. In a letter acknowledging the new name in 1758, the town was spelled Pittsbourgh. This soon became Pittsburg or Pittsburgh. Both spellings were commonly used. In 1890, the Federal government decreed that the letter *h* should be dropped in all towns ending in *-burgh*. In the case of Pittsburg, the Federal government justified the decision by observing that “The city was chartered in 1816, its name being spelled without the *h*, and its official form is still Pittsburg.” That was fine for Federal agencies including the post office, but local government and businesses continued to use both spellings. Given complaints and political pressure, the Federal agency handling this matter officially reversed their decision on July 19, 1911, returning the spelling to Pittsburgh for Federal use. But, of course, businesses continued to use both spellings.

So, why do we care? Because of the post office and postmarks, precancels and prepers.

In the new *Catalog of Perfined Precancels of The United States*, 3rd edition by David Smith, we find five perfins that also had precancels applied to the stamps (thus, prepers) where the precancel is Pittsburg. All five involve early stamps in the Washington/Franklin series. The perfins are C192, N167, P129, R104 and S018.

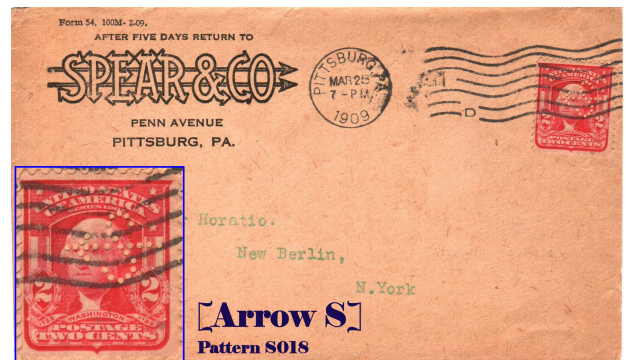


Prepers P129 (left) and S018 (right), both with the city name spelled “Pittsburg”

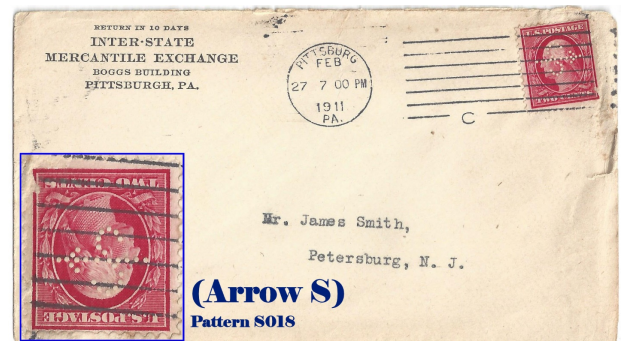
The *Preper Catalog* also documents prepers of latter usage with the spelling Pittsburgh. The *Catalog of United States Perfins* documents stamp usage periods before and after the February 27, 1911

change for all five perfins, but the spelling is not documented in the *Perfins Catalog*.

The last item in this list, S018, whose primary user is Spear & Company, is interesting because covers are shown nearby that document variations of the spelling (from the Perfins Club cover database at www.perfins.org then: =>US-Perfin-Covers; =>US-Covers; =>S-Patterns) The first cover shows usage by the primary user, Spear & Company, in 1909, with the spelling Pittsburg. The second cover shows usage by an alternative user. It has both spellings of the town. which is postmarked February 27, 1911 (before the Federal reversal), has a postmark of Pittsburg but a return address of Pittsburgh.



Perfin S018, postmark March 25, 1909
Primary User: Spear & Company, Pittsburg
Postmark and Return Address use the Pittsburg spelling



Perfin S018, postmark February 27, 1911 (Pittsburg)
Secondary User: Inter-State Mercantile Exchange,
Pittsburgh. Note however, the return Address uses the
Pittsburgh spelling

The *Perfins Catalog* lists another five perfins with the town name of Pittsburg, but no precancel is

known with these five perfins. The stamp usage periods are before and after the 1911 change. However, we have no documentation as to the proper spelling for these five perfins (B012-9, H159.5, N053, N188 and W072.38).

Please check your collections regarding postmarks and return addresses for these 10 perfins. I would

like to document the spelling for each in the *Perfin Catalog*.

There are also 165 usages of the spelling Pittsburgh in the *Perfins Catalog*, 36 of which are prepers. Some of these may have documented use of both names, but for now let's focus on the listed use of Pittsburgh.

Seen Here & There

Paul Mistretta (LM# 111)

It has been several months since I acknowledged new information encountered in the philatelic literature relating to perfins and stamp collecting in general. So here goes.

In recent months three issues of *The BNA Perforator* have discussed such diverse topics as the latest use of Steel Company of Canada's perfin (S10); a newly discovered LKU of New York Life of Montreal's Perfin (N15); a scanning technique to produce good images of perfins on cover; a discussion of the damaged dies of the IHC perfins of the International Harvester Co; a discussion of perfin covers with WW II Canadian FECB [Foreign Exchange Control Board] authorized cachets; a determination of the user of Canadian (H3)/US (H66) pattern HEV/Co; a new EKV for The John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company's JH perfin (J6); and, many pages of A&C material relating to the Canadian perfin catalog. Published periodically without fixed schedule that I can determine.

Contact: Jim Graham (Editor) at jdgraham2@gmail.com for more information.

The most recent 4 issues of *The Philatelikid*, [The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK)] edited by Clubmember Robert W. Martin include: What can we do when stuck indoors?; common stamps with fitting multiple collecting interests; a discussion of souvenir cards; an announcement of receipt of a grant from the National

Stamp Dealers Association; a discussion of the collecting of seals (Christmas, Easter, What is Harlem?, Harlem Renaissance, etc.) Published monthly and geared mainly to young philatelists ("Kids").

Contact Robert for more information. POB 1809, Kihei, HI 96753-1809. Robert also gratefully accepts donations (stamps or financial assists) for his school clubs.

There have been four issues of the *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* (The journal of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia) since my last comment on literature. These issues include: A note on several articles on the GNSW and VG perfins featured in the *Australian Stamps Professional*; discussions of the OS Type F device in the issues of Tasmania; an extract of an exhibit of OS perfin fakes; an extensive bibliography of literature dealing with the VG perfins of Australia; a discussion of the OSNSW Type A patterns; a discussion of the OS Type F Device in the issues of Western Australia; listings and illustrations of new finds; an article on perfin user Maize Products Pty Ltd; another on user Baker & Rouse Pty Ltd; an article on the Titles Office in Melbourne and its TO pattern; an article on temporary punctures; and more. Published quarterly; available email for AU\$10/yr. Back issues available in both hardcopy or CD format.

Interested? Contact David Coath in his role as Club Secretary at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au

Did You Ever Wonder - Cigar Box Revenue Stamps

John Williams (#4037) & Paul Mistretta (LM# 111)

You have just acquired a mixture of perfinned stamps. In the mix are several large perfinned items which have vignettes similar in size and presentation to the portrait vignettes found on postage stamps. [In the illustration below the portrait is of Henry Clay, Sr. (April 12, 1777 – June 29, 1852) an American attorney and statesman who represented Kentucky in both the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives, served as seventh speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and served as the ninth U.S. Secretary of State.] In addition there is found descriptive text that identifies these stamps for what they are - Internal Revenue Service tax stamps.

As a result, a package arrived from Club Member John Williams. Contained within was a cigar box, complete with labeling information, a cut (broken, split?) revenue stamp, license to resell

the cigars contained in the box for "...no less than four cents and no more than six cents each..." and a legal warning label prohibiting reuse of the box.

While studying the box John realized that although many revenue stamps have been illustrated in the *Bulletin*, he could not remember ever seeing cigar revenues either illustrated or discussed. So, here goes.

"Desperate to raise wartime revenue, a beleaguered President Lincoln imposed taxes on a long list of 19th century "luxuries," including soap, perfume, playing cards, photographs, bank checks and patent medicine. In 1863 he also called for a tax on alcohol and tobacco." (Hyman n.d.)

The first revenue stamps indicating payment of tax on cigars were issued in 1863 (Hinstl n.d.).



Early cigar revenue stamp - from Series of 1868

Hyman goes on to state that while imposing the tax was easy, collecting the revenue failed due to significant evasion. To counter this evasion the government closed many loopholes in the law. This ultimately resulted in oppressive laws that made alcohol and tobacco the most regulated products in America.

"Prior to the Civil War, few cigars were packed in boxes. Even in Cuba, most cigars were sold singly, by the handful, or in small wrapped bundles called *yaguas*, made from palm fronds. In this country, cigars were typically shipped in barrels of 2,500 or more. Overworked revenue agents, faced with the task of counting individual cigars in a factory, found it impossible to keep track of

the movement of taxed and untaxed cigars..." (Hyman n.d.)

To overcome this problem, the Revenue Act of 1864 required cigars be packed in "boxes or bundles", presumably to make counting easier. Cigar manufacturers countered by packaging their product in variable odd lots which made record keeping a nightmare.

"With Lincoln's strong support, the laws of 1865 resolved the problem of counting by requiring all cigars, foreign or domestic, to be packed in wooden boxes containing 25, 50, 100 or 250 cigars, giving IRS agents somewhere to paste a stamp proving taxes had been paid." (Hyman n.d.)

Hyman also notes that by the end of the Civil War a five-cent cigar cost 12 cents with tax.

Cigar production spread from Germany, which at that time was the primary manufacturing center of the world's cigars, in the 1860s to the U. S. and beyond. By the early 1900s domestic cigars had become cheaper and better than the imports.

“Dozens of distinct domestic tobaccos were blended with tobaccos from Cuba and Sumatra and rolled into more than 3,500 shapes and sizes... about 150,000 cigar factories flooded the country with a bewildering array of product. Between 1870 and 1920, more than 1.5 million brands of U. S. cigars appeared and disappeared on the market. More than 250 billion cigars were manufactured. And the law said they all had to be packed in boxes....

“There were more brands of cigar than any product in history...

With competition came advertising in the form of fancy script and then pictorial art, much of it extremely appealing. Better labels were printed in 12 colors, each requiring a separate press run. After 1890 “...additional runs were required for embossing and gilding...” (Hyman n.d). He goes on to discuss cigar label art that has “...been hailed by scholars as the highest-quality commercial printing in history.”

“The coming of photogravuring and four-color presses coincided with the introduction of modern cigar-making machinery and the closing of fully 80 percent of the American cigar factories in less than a decade. After 1920, labels became less interesting, less varied and, thanks to the cigarette, less plentiful.”

He goes on to discuss the art, the printers and even some of the artists. But, despite the fascination of this growing collecting interest I digress; let's return to the tax stamps, and more specifically perfinned cigar tax stamps.

The cigar box that John Williams submitted for consideration was one of the more recent, less impressive, cardboard boxes. {Cardboard boxes supplanted wooden boxes in many instances beginning in the 1920's. I have not found a listing documenting the authorizing legislation for this change.} The box is a rather muddy green on cream color with highlighted information in a darker green. It identifies the contents as “Rum Cured Crooks” on the top and on all four sides. Interestingly the manufacturer is identified only as “Factory No. 408 1st Dist. PA.” A single wooden cigar box with the same ID was found on the Web with the following information “Wynhurst Label - Tobacciana”. Presumably Wynhurst was the manufacturer, but I have been unable to confirm this. Also, note the small number “50” in a circle below the Factory number.



John Williams' cigar box - cover



Front upright panel

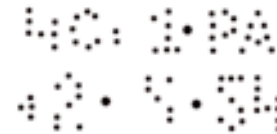


Bottom of the cigar box showing both pricing information and tax code requirements

At the lower right of the box cover is a blue revenue stamp that continues to the upper right of the front upright panel of the box. As required by law this stamp has been cut so that the top could be lifted and the cigars contained in the box could be legally sold.

The stamp is marked “Series 123” (from Series of 1954) and “Class C 50”. I have been unable to locate the definition of Class C cigars other than to locate a statement that the Classes run from A- G. The “50” reflects that the box, when taxed, contained 50 cigars.

The stamp itself was perfinned before application to the box with a 2-line punch cancel. A reconstruction of the stamp and the perforation are presented nearby.



John noted in his cover letter that the identification of the user of this item is absent from Mongan’s 2010 revenue catalog.

References:

Hinstl, R. D. n.d. Taxpays - Non-Scott-Listed US Revenues. rdhinstl's page. Accessed at: <http://www.rdhinstl.com/taxpaid.htm>. Accessed on: Feb. 26, 2020

Hyman, Tony. n.d. The art of cigar boxes: four-square masterpieces cigar-box labels once served as the ultimate image makers for a good smoke. Cigar Aficionado Online, Accessed on: Feb. 26, 2020. Accessed at: <https://www.cigaraficionado.com/article/the-art-of-cigar-boxes-7767>. Accessed on: Feb. 26, 2020

Polarine Motor Oil and Gasoline

Rudy Roy (#1124) and Steve Endicott (LM# 2284)

Polarine was a trade name used by Standard Oil Company to market motor oil and gasoline in the mid-west in the early 1900s. Rudy recently spotted a cover on eBay with the Polarine trademark. It is a rather unremarkable window envelope with the S195-30 perfin (split) in a 2-cent Washington stamp.

It is postmarked in Duluth, MN on October 20, 1916. The perfin is rated D. The postmark is a new earliest known postmark that will be noted in the *U.S. Perfins Catalog*. But, as a perfin, the cover is not worth more than \$1 or \$2 or so to a knowledgeable collector of perfins.



What caught Rudy's attention was that two bidders were aggressively interested in this cover. It sold for \$153.50! Wow!; was this a bidding war between the two collectors?

Checking eBay, one sees that motor oil cans and other historical items with the Polarine logo are collectible items of significant interest today.

Rudy subsequently shared the eBay bidding information about this cover with Steve Endicott. Steve recognized the corner card illustration and went back to check his collection; he found a similar cover in his collection with perfin S195-33, postmarked in Grand Rapids, MI. This is also a D rated perfin.

We then checked the U.S. perfin cover database that resides on online at our Perfins Club website.

(This is an excellent philatelic resource for collectors of U.S. perfins.)



There we found two more covers with perfins that include the Polarine logo:

- S195-22 used in Keokuk, IA, postmarked August 27, 1915 rated B+ with control holes at positions 3 and 5

- S195-28 used in Des Moines, IA, postmarked August 23, 1916 rated C with control holes at positions 3 and 15

Are there other perfins on cover out there with the Polarine logo? Probably. With the collecting interest in historical items with the Polarine logo, covers like these may be worth a lot more than the perfin would indicate. Please check your collections and report any findings to Rudy and Steve.

{Ed. Note: Rudy reported on Feb 2, 2020, that It appeared that the same cover was re-advertised on e-Bay. It is unclear whether the original sale fell through or if the “lucky” winner of the lot was attempting to recoup some of the inflated price paid for it. Whichever explanation (or any other that may apply) a note from Steve on February 10 indicated that the cover had sold (resold?) for \$48.50, which, though still high for the item, was a far more realistic price.]

Perfin H1711 Mailing at the U.S Postal Agency

Steve Endicott (LM# 2284) and Bob Hodges (LM#4064)

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) is a major and long-time financial institution in the Pacific Asia market. HSBC was established in Hong Kong and in Shanghai in 1865. As with many successful financial institutions, over time it acquired quite a few companies in the Pacific Asia geographic area. It is now headquartered in Hong Kong; it is the largest bank in Hong Kong and has operations throughout the World.

But our story involves its postal activities in the early 1900s. HSBC used a perfin [HS/BC] which is listed in *The Catalog of United States Perfins* as H1711. The letter “P” is appended to the perfin identifier because the design is larger than permitted by U.S. postal regulations. HSBC is commonly used in Chinese postage stamps and less frequently in those of the United States.

When used in U.S. postage, the mailings were submitted at the United States Postal Agency in Shanghai. After cancellation at that post office, the letters and packages were mailed to the United States. The U.S. Postal Agency in Shanghai operated from 1865 until December 31, 1922. It originally operated from the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai. In 1907 the operation was moved to a separate facility at 16 Whangpoo Road. John Darrah was appointed as the full-time postal agent at the U.S. Postal Agency by the U.S. Postal Service. The Postmaster General awarded a contract to the Pacific Mail Shipping Company to handle these mailings,

primarily to Honolulu and to San Francisco, in route to other locations.



The block of four stamps shown above, owned by Bob Hodges and obtained from a dealer, has a beautiful double oval cancellation from the U.S Postal Agency in Shanghai. The block is of the 9c Franklin stamp (Sc# 509), perf 11, issued in 1917.

The interior oval of the double oval contains the letters “R.D.” which is the abbreviation used for the *Registry Division* of the Shanghai Post Office. Thus, we can assume that the block of four illustrated came from a registered letter posted to the United States by the Bank. Unfortunately, absent the pen dated rubber stamp “REGISTERED” impression, we have no confirmation of the date of use of this block. The stamp, however, was issued (as noted above, in 1917 and the post office ceased to function in 1925, giving us the basic time frame of use.

Lo42 – L. Black Company

Rollo Sternaman (#3508) and Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Louis Black established the L. Black Company in Detroit, MI in 1850. The Company specialized in manufacturing and selling jewelry and eyeglasses. The company moved several times to new locations in Detroit as it became successful and needed more space. Although Mr. Black passed away in 1877, the business was managed by his family at least through 1929, after which I lost reference to it. Perhaps it was a casualty of the Great Depression?

For a while, they ran a wholesale optical manufacturing plant in New York City in addition to their operations in Detroit. The company also

manufactured field glasses. During WWI speculators attempted to acquire large stockpiles of field glasses in case they would be needed during the War. The L. Black Company did not sell their field glasses on the open market, reserving them for the U.S. military if needed.

Shown nearby is a cover with a cachet advertising L. Black Company's eyeglasses from its Optical Department. This cover has perfin L042. It was mailed from Detroit to the Canal Zone. The postmark information will be added to the *U.S. Perfins Catalog*.



Belgian PREPER

Joe Coulbourne (#2574)



I hunt perfined precancels or PREPERs as they are commonly known for the US. I stumbled across a Belgium example sorting through my perfins. Not sure how scarce they are but this is the only one I have seen so it makes me believe they might be hard to find. The precancel is cataloged as #327, 10¢ olive of the Small Coat of Arms series with an Antwerpen 1937 precancel according to the Catalogue Officiel des Timbres Préoblitérés de Belgique published in 1997. The perfin is listed as pattern



C128 CPR used by the Canadian Pacific Railway (Belgium) S.A. used in Antwerpen/Anvers between 1925-1940 in the Perfins van België Catalogue published in 1997. This PREPER certainly fits those dates.

New Publication: *Catalog of United States Perfined Precancels*

Dave Smith (#1514)

The 2020 edition of the *Catalog of United States Perfined Precancels* is now available. It has over 42,000 listings from over 2,200 preper (precancel/perfin) combinations from 384 towns around the country. The largest location of use is New York City with 7,389 listings in/on 315 patterns. The second largest is Chicago with 5,819 listings in/on 243 patterns. A box has been added after each listing to enable the collector to record his inventory. I would like to thank my wife, Rose Marie, for adding those thousands of boxes to the *Catalog* listings.

The *Catalog* uses value ratings which are used by perfin collectors and prices which are used by precancel collectors. An attempt was made to standardize pricing for all prepers with a similar scarcity rating. In some cases none of the existing ratings fit the preper so a plus was added to the rating to indicate it was scarcer than the standard preper of that rating. Over 40% of the preper patterns are listed

with a V rating (fewer than 10 copies are currently known to exist).

The *Catalog* also lists varieties where patterns have been found to exist on the same device, and collector made prepers and fakes. The fake is the precancel not the perfin. The perfin was legitimate and a collector created a fake precancel on the existing stamp.

The *Catalog* is available in print (\$40) or electronic .pdf (\$20) format from our Publication Sales Manager (Steven Sherman, see p.82). These prices include shipping and postage to U.S. addresses and are for current members of The Perfins Club.

If you find something that is not in the *Catalog* please send a scan or photo to Dave Smith (see p. 82 for addresses).

Have fun collecting prepers!

A&C #1 for the *Catalog of U.S. Perfins* (2018)

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Work is underway to develop a document of updated information for the *U.S. Perfins Catalog*. So far, 31 members have submitted update information, ranging from a few tiny typographical errors, to many new and expanded dates of usage and postmarks, and all the way to new user identifications even including several new perfins. I very much appreciate the contributions of these awesome members. Thank You!

I am now asking all members to *compare items in their collections to the published documentation in*

the 2018 Catalog. Now is a great time to *report those extended postmark dates, etc.* that are hiding in your collections. Let's work together to make A&C#1 the most robust document ever of new information for our Catalog.

I plan on wrapping up A&C#1 by the end of the year, so, please let me know ASAP if you have spotted anything for the A&C pages but just haven't gotten around to letting me know. I look forward to hearing from many of you during the next couple of months.

Clubmember Letters

Concerning Railway vs. Railroad -- John Pearson (#3172)

From my experience as a railfan, the term Railway and Railroad were used almost interchangeably at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. The term was often switched when a

railroad reorganized after defaulting on bond payments. For example, the Norfolk and Western Railroad (1881-1896) defaulted on bond payments in the Panic of 1893. They emerged from bankruptcy

in 1896 as the Norfolk and Western Railway (1896-1982). It was a way of being both a different corporation but at the same time the continuation of the old business. The public didn't much care if it was the N & W Railroad or the N & W Railway as long as my train was on time or my carload of freight was delivered.

Electric companies got started in communities by providing power for trolley lines. I suspect they often owned or were heavy investors in trolley companies since they used electricity. Electricity for home use

and industry was growing about the same time as the trolley companies. So the Puerto Railway, Light and Power Company is a natural combination of businesses.

Trolley lines often built a "trolley park" or amusement park at the end of the line to promote weekend travel. Electric companies also invested in these since they were electric customers as well. Some were called "Electric Park" or "Luna Park" because they were illuminated at night.

Concerning ...burgh vs. ...burg -- Dave Smith (LM# 1514)

My own belief is that the name changes were part of an early day political correctness campaign. In the early 1890's the Government made a number of changes to make the spelling of town names standardized. Trumansburg was one of the towns that lost its last 'h'; it did not have enough clout to get it back. Newburgh, New York lost its h in 1894 but got it back in 1895. They must have raised a bigger fuss than Pittsburgh. Plattsburgh, New York also lost its h in 1894 but did not get it back until 1955.

In addition to changing the "burgh" spellings to "burg" the post office also changed the spelling of

"Centre" which many towns used to "Center". Rockville Centre New York was Rockville Center from 1893 to 1933 when it got its old spelling back. Also, among other changes was removing the apostrophe to denote who founded a town; Rockwell's Mills, NY became Rockwells Mills. Some other changes seem to be nonsense. A community near me, Willow Creek, NY became Willowcreek, NY in 1895 and then changed back to Willow Creek in 1908. For most of the one-word-years the Willowcreek Post Office still used the two-word canceling device. Five years later the post office was discontinued. Since then the community has been served by the Trumansburg post office.

Artistamps with a Fantasy Perfin on Mail Art

George A. Miura (#3906)

I was delighted to have encountered an artist who dug deeply into the stamp hobby and came up with a perfin in his mail art. I wish to report a BH perfin, presumably for Battle Harbour, punched into two fantasy Artistamps attached to a postcard that I added to my collection over a decade ago (Figure 1). Inasmuch as Battle Harbour is an actual location on Battle Island in Labrador, Newfoundland; the perfin was a fantasy and was not related to any Canadian perfin.

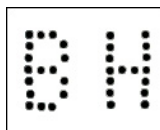


Figure 1. BH perfin punched in Artistamps found on cover (not to scale).

The BH perfin cut through a Newfoundland cigarette revenue Artistamp (Figure 2), a postcard and a Whale's Brook Aerodrome Artistamp positioned ingeniously on the reverse side (Figure 3). The BH punch tied both Artistamps to the postcard. The artist did not stop with the perfin but added a row of perforations widthwise to the postcard in order to bolster its appearance as a ticket.

The perfin was conspicuous with eye-catching 1/16 inch diameter holes and corresponding large dimensions of 1 1/4 inch X 11/16 inch. The perfin was probably exaggerated to be noticed and may have compelled a well-rounded mail art fan to pause and take in the perfin before flipping the postcard over to see what the reverse side had to offer.

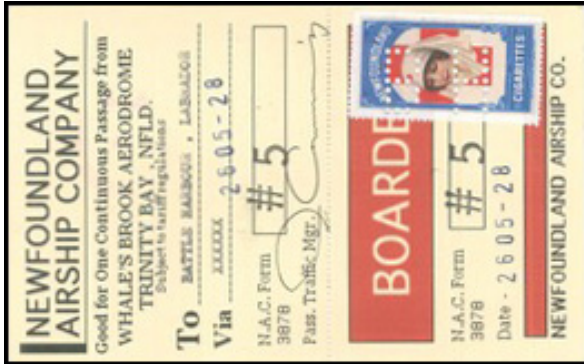


Figure 2. A 2009 mail art postcard/airship passenger ticket created by Jon D. Cummings embellished with a Newfoundland cigarette revenue Artiststamp punched with a large fantasy BH perfin.



Figure 3. Reverse side of the postcard/ticket with three Artiststamps, one with the mirror image of the fantasy BH perfin, mailed in 2009 as the final step in its creation as mail art.

The artist's intention for the perfin was most likely to cancel the cigarette revenue, ironically depicting a Red Cross nurse, that was purportedly misused or pressed into service in lieu of an appropriate fiscal Artiststamp. The perfin was less likely a ticket punch for an imaginary airship passenger ride since it specifically targeted the revenue Artiststamp rather than being randomly applied elsewhere on the ticket/postcard. In keeping with the notion of a fiscal cancellation, it was consistent that the other two

Artiststamps on the address side were left sound without a perfin punch.

In its final step, the postcard was sent through the USPS in Cambridge, MA in 2009 by Jon D. Cummings¹ as would be the circumstance for all mail art, rather than its direct sale at a commercial venue. Although Cummings created over 50 Artiststamps predominantly with an airship theme, these two were atypical because of the perfin.

What can the BH perfin and the mail art tell us? A fictional revenue stamp was anchored by a made-up BH perfin that enhanced a compact airship narrative created through elements from real and imaginary worlds. Historically, authentic perfins were cut into cinderella labels² or charity seals³⁻⁶ which were departures that deemed perfins as philatelic motifs or subliminal signatures. With the evolution of perfin use excluding fiscal duty, the adoption of items that were invalid for postage and punched with real or invented perfins began a divergence where the intent of the security feature became moot.

References

- ¹ Anon. 2006. The Artiststamp Gallery. *Artiststamp Artifacts*:3(3):5.
- ² Anon. 2001. PS Vanity on Les Minquiers cinderella. *The Perfins Bulletin*:55(7):110. Accessed at: <https://www.perfins.org/Bulletins/2000-2009/2001.pdf>. Accessed on: 2019 Nov 21.
- ³ Schwerdt, Bob. 2003. Perfined Christmas seals. *The Perfins Bulletin*: 57(10):172-3. Accessed at: <https://www.perfins.org/Bulletins/2000-2009/2003/v057n10%20%20wn564%20Nov-Dec%202003/v57n10-%20%20N-D%202003.pdf>. Accessed on: 2019 Nov 21.
- ⁴ Sørensen, Thomas. 2018. Nyheder Siden Sidst. *Perfin Posten*. No. 103;3-13.
- ⁵ Sørensen, Thomas. 2019. Nyheder Siden Sidst. *Perfin Posten*. No. 106: 3-8.
- ⁶ Dansk Perfin Samlerklub. 2012. *Katalog over danske firmaperforeringer*. Jørn Thomsen Elbo.

Advertisements are published without charge for members on a space-available basis. Members are entitled to one free ad per year. Additional ads will be accepted at the following rates: one insertion at 10¢ per word (do not count membership number and heading); three consecutive insertions of the same ad at 20¢ per word; six insertions of the same ad at 40¢ per word. Paid ads relating to perfins are accepted from non-members. Non-member rates are 15¢ per word for a single insertion, 30¢ per word for three consecutive insertions, and 60¢ per word for six consecutive insertions of the same ad. Neither the Perfins Club nor the editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the advertisements. Payment for the ads should be made payable to 'The Perfins Club' and sent to the editor with the request for insertion.

Perfin Covers with Street Car Cancel Update

Dan Baugher (#3825)

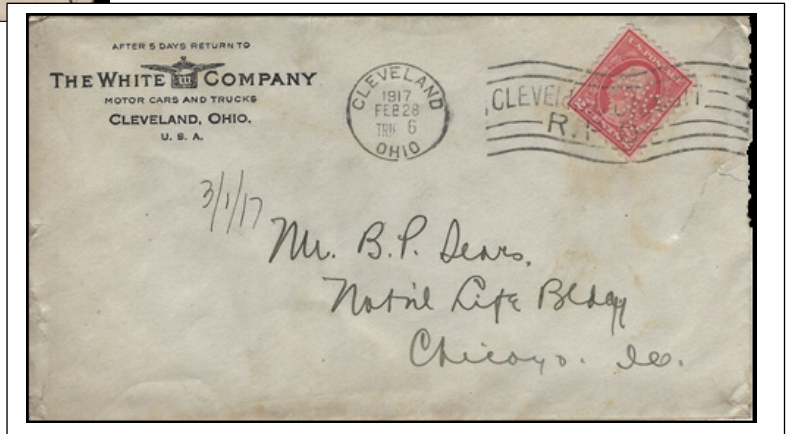
This is an update to the first 2 articles written about Perfin covers or postcards with Street Car cancels. The first article was published in 2010 (*The Perfins Bulletin* 64:48-49) and discussed the Standard Oil Company perfin with a Street Car Cancel on a cover. The cancel was also a flag cancel. The second article written by Gary Hendren in 2012 (*The Perfins Bulletin* 66:18-19) with a J.J. Craig Company perfin

on a picture postcard with a St. Louis, MO. Street Car cancel.

Since that time, more covers with Street Car Cancels have been found. Here is summary of all the covers or PPC that have been found including the two pictured (much reduced) below.



At left: Perfin A003 (A) of the Atlantic Refining Company with a Cleveland Circuit R. P. O. flag cancel



At right: Perfin W060 (W(CO)) of the White Motor Company on cover cancelled with a Cleveland Circuit R.P.O. cancel.

Currently Reported Perfin Covers with Street Car Cancels

Perfin #	Perfin	User	City	State	Comments
A 003	A	Atlantic Refining	Cleveland	OH	
B 053	BBH	Baltimore Bargain House	Baltimore	MD	
J 075	JJC	J. J. Craig Company	Minneapolis	MN	Personal Post Card sent from St Louis, MO Street Car Cancel
O 032	OHIO	Standard Oil Company	Cleveland	OH	
S 006	S	J. E. Sifron	Chicago	IL	Personal PPC
W 060	W(CO)	White Motor Company	Cleveland	OH	

Auction #163

Closes: October 31, 2020

Guidelines: A minimum bid is specified for each lot. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next highest bidder:

- Up to \$5 - a \$0.25 advance;
- \$5.01-\$15 - a \$0.50 advance;
- \$15.01-\$25 - a \$1.00 advance;
- \$15.01-\$50 - a \$2.50 advance;
- \$50.01 + - \$5.00 advance.

No "Buy" bids; "or" bids are ok. In case of tie bids, the earlier postmark or e-mail wins. All single perfins are complete and in good condition, unless otherwise noted.

Bid by Lot #.

I will confirm all email bids via email.

Straight edges are identified but not considered to

be defects. In larger lots, you should expect some faults.

Lots will be sold to the winning bidder at the Minimum Bid or one increment over the 2nd highest bidder.

I have done my best to identify the Scott catalog number of each perfin. All individual perfins are returnable - mixtures are not returnable. I will send an invoice detailing your wins or losses.

Payments to the Perfins Club Treasurer. Once payment is received I will dispatch lots. Winnings totaling more than \$100 will be sent priority mail, otherwise it will be first class mail.

Please put your preferred address (snail- or e-mail) on your bid sheet as this makes it easier for me to notify you after the close of the auction.

Send all bids to: Joe Coulbourne, 1532 Lakeview Pkwy. Locust Grove, VA 22508-5318

Email: josephc427@aol.com

Abbreviations used:

add = all different dies (patterns)
 bp(s) =blunt perf(s)
 cc(s) = creased corner(s)
 ddf = all different die OR face
 #h = (count) of missing holes
 M.B. = Minimum bid
 nse* = natural straight edge @

pf* = unspecified perforation
 faults pt = pattern touches
 perfs
 RA: = return address
 th(s)* =thin(s)*
 tr =tear

Several abbreviations are modified by a position indicator ("*") as follows: t=top, r=right, b=bottom, l=left
 "-c" when used indicates that the condition noted affects a corner of the stamp

Scott #s are used; pattern #s are from most recent catalogues when available.

United States Perfins										
Lot #	Cat #	Rate	Description	Min Bid		Lot #	Cat#	Rate	Description	Min Bid
1	A90	C+	SC #406	\$3.00		5	A169	C	SC #405	\$1.00
2	A112	B	SC #499	\$6.00		6	A198	B	SC #427; bp; 13h	\$3.00
3	A112	B	SC #504	\$6.00		7	A219	B	SC #406; nseb; 6h	\$3.00
4	A140A	B+	SC #425	\$12.00		8	A221-37.5	B	SC #503; 2h	\$3.00

United States Perfins (cont.)										
Lot #	Cat #	Rate	Description	Min Bid		Lot #	Cat #	Rate	Description	Min Bid
9	B90.5	B+	SC #2531	\$12.00		30	F122A	C	SC #717	\$1.00
10	B119	C	SC #406; nsel 7 nseb	\$1.00		31	F126	C	SC #558	\$1.00
11	B137.5	B+	SC #509; nsel	\$12.00		32	F185	C	SC #698	\$1.00
12	B148	C	SC #632	\$1.00		33	G19	C	SC #319	\$1.00
13	B155	C+	SC #375	\$3.00		34	G80	C	SC #517; pt @ top	\$0.50
14	B167	C	SC #332	\$1.00		35	G151	C	SC #332; nser; cc, small th	\$0.50
15	B170	C+	SC #375; nseb	\$3.00		36	G166.5	C	SC #1031; bp	\$0.50
16	B250	C+	SC #332	\$3.00		37	H164	C	SC #499; 1h; few bps	\$0.50
17	C144	C+	SC #504; nsel	\$3.00		38	H185	C	SC #642; 3h	\$0.50
18	C145	C+	SC #332	\$3.00		39	H206	C	SC #811	\$1.00
19	C186	C+	SC #406	\$3.00		40	H218.3	B	SC #406	\$6.00
20	C214.5	C+	SC #416	\$3.00		41	H222	C	SC #332; few bps	\$0.50
21	C224	C+	SC #406	\$3.00		42	I69	C	SC #466	\$1.00
22	C322	C+	SC #332; bp	\$1.50		43	J6	C+	SC #332; 1h of "J" ptl	\$1.50
23	C323A	C	SC #405	\$1.00		44	JP55.7	E	8 ddf; SC #1043; 1044; 1055; 1057; 1225; 1229; 1323; 1324	\$1.00
24	C344	C+	SC #332; pf	\$1.50		45	J124	C	SC #426	\$1.00
25	C354	C+	SC #398	\$3.00		46	L133	C	SC #332; small tr	\$0.50
26	C385	C+	SC #334	\$3.00		47	L177	C+	SC #377; nser	\$3.00
27	C401	C+	SC #405; nseb	\$3.00		48	M36	C	SC #499; nseb	\$1.00
28	No lot	--	-----	----		49	P99	C	SC #634	\$1.00
29	D137	C	SC #499; pf	\$1.00		50	P165	C	SC #634	\$1.00
United States Mixtures										
51	Commemoratives	50	50 add commemoratives. Nice Lot - very clean.							\$10.00
52	N113 Series	50	50 add New York Life (N113) issues. Definitives. Very Clean							\$10.00
53	WE & WU Series	100	100 add/ddf Western Electric and Western Union issues. Very clean with values to \$1.							\$20.00
54	Letters T,U, V & W	100	100 add from the letters T, U, V & W rated D-F. Very clean.							\$20.00
55	Letter W	50	50 ddf D-rated letter W perfins. Some nice issues in this lot. Very clean.							\$10.00
56	Letters U & W	100	100 F-rated issues assembled from the letters U & W. Mostly ddf with slight duplication. Very clean							\$10.00
57	Letter W	100	100 E-rated issues assembled from the letter W. Mostly ddf with slight duplication. Very clean.							\$15.00
58	Revenues	39	All documentaries with the large hole punches							\$1.00

The following lots (#59-78) are U.S. perfins from one man's lifetime accumulation. He bought them, squirreled them away and never looked at them. You might find anything in here. *Unchecked and unopened by me.* Estimate 30% damage. Hours and hours of fun and sorting. Duplication likely, but these are not identical lots and contain a wide variety of perfins. Lots 60-69 are 100 ea off paper (ofp) U. S. perfins; lots 70-78 are 100 ea on paper (onp) U. S. perfins.

59	Mix	1556 (467)	US grab bag of perfins - mostly off paper. Values to \$2 with quite a few \$1 values. Mostly older perfins.	\$80.00
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Lot #	Named	Count	M.B.	Lot #	Named	Count	M.B.	Lot #	Named	Count	M.B.
60	ofp #1	100	\$5.00	66	ofp #7	100	\$5.00	73	Onp #4	100	\$5.00
61	ofp #2	100	\$5.00	67	ofp #8	100	\$5.00	74	Onp #5	100	\$5.00
62	ofp #3	100	\$5.00	68	ofp #9	100	\$5.00	75	Onp #6	100	\$5.00
63	ofp #4	100	\$5.00	69	ofp #10	100	\$5.00	76	Onp #7	100	\$5.00
64	ofp #5	100	\$5.00	70	Onp #1	100	\$5.00	77	Onp #8	100	\$5.00
65	ofp #6	100	\$5.00	71	Onp #2	100	\$5.00	78	Onp #9	100	\$5.00
				72	Onp #3	100	\$5.00				

Non-USA Perfins				
79	Germany	W1-1-43	W (in diamond). 1h, Poko, SC #392	\$1.00

Non-USA Mixtures				
80	France	73 (22)	Mix from an old-time collection - unchecked by me - est. 30% damage.	\$10.00
81	Germany	87 (26)	Mix from an old-time collection - unchecked by me - est. 30% damage.	\$12.00
82	Great Britain	186 (56)	Mix from an old-time collection - unchecked by me - est. 30% damage. All reigns - noticed a decent Penny Red.	\$20.00
83	World	114 (34)	Mix from an old-time collection - unchecked by me - est. 30% damage. Good mix of countries - noticed 5 Levant perfins including a strip of three.	\$20.00
84	World	59 (15)	38 GB, 1 Germany, 1 Belgium, 19 USA including a block of 6	\$4.00

US Perfin Covers				
85	N129	D	Advertising Picture Postcard. RMS cancel: James & Miles City RPO, TR 4. 14 May 1911. Logo is Northern Pacific, Yellowstone Park Line. Picture of "A garden in the Walla Walla Valley of Washington, adjacent to Walla Walla, the City Beautiful." Very nice card.	\$10.00
86	N139	C	Cover. Cleveland Ohio 31 JUL 1916. RA: The Central Credit and Collection Association Co., Cleveland. Sc#425 (nset)	\$10.00
87	O68B	E	#10 Cover. Saint Paul 4 Minn. 20 NOV 1947. RA: C. ST. P. M. & O. RY. Co., General Office, St. Paul 1, Minn. Handstamp: I. A. Kellum, Ass't Auditor of Revenue. Sc#C33.	\$2.50
88	O93	D	Cover. Seattle, Wash., Terminal Station, 1 JUN 1920. RA: Union Pacific System, Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Company. SC #499. Slogan Cancel "Join U.S. Army"	\$4.00
89	P131	E	Cover. RA: Popular Mechanics Magazine, 6 North Michigan Ave., Chicago. Sc#498. Preper 498-L4E INV. Nice cover.	\$10.00

US Perfin Covers (cont.)				
90	S23	C+	#10 Cover. Cover began life in Paris and was mailed on 23 NOV 1932 to Mr. James F. Drake of the Gulf Oil Co, New York City using France Sc#282 (not perfined) where a Sc#720 with pattern S23 was added to redirect the letter to PO Box 1214 in Pittsburgh PA on 3 December 1932.	\$5.00
91	S120	E	Picture Post Card. San Bernardino, Calif, 8 JUL 1955. PPC is of the Point Vincente Lighthouse and the card is one of "Union Oil Company's Natural Color Scenes of the West" with Royal 76 Gasoline advertising as well. Some toning. Sc#1035.	\$15.00
92	S121	F	QSL Card. Chicago ILL, 18 October 1948. "Hire the Handicapped" slogan cancel. ID: T.N. Thompson, Opr. 3053 N. Leclair Avenue, Chicago 41, Illinois. Radio ID W9FEC and related information. Sc#804	\$10.00
93	S121	F	Cover. Philadelphia 15, PA. 13 NOV 1940. RA: The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company, Office of General Agent, 302-3 Franklin Trust Building, Philadelphia, Penn. SC 898. Slogan cancel Red Cross.	\$1.00
94	S203	D+	Cover. Los Angeles, Sta. C, 2 JUN 1913. RA: Southern Railway Company, Box 828, Washington, D.C. Handstamped: J. A. Dickinson, Com'l Agent Southern Ry., 504 Trust & Savings Bldg., Los Angeles, CAL. Sc#406 on a 2c embossed envelope U406 (not perfined). Slogan cancel of the Panama Pacific Expo in 1915.	\$5.00
95	S216	F	Cover. Chicago 50, ILL. 20 May 1938. RA: Pacific Fruit Express Company, 58 E. Washington St., Chicago, ILL. Sc#720	\$1.00
96	S216	F	Cover. Chicago 6, ILL. 25 APR 1938. RA: Pacific Fruit Express Company, 58 E. Washington St., Chicago, ILL. Sc#720	\$1.00
97	S216	F	Cover. RMS cancel. Portland & S.F.S.D. RPO, TR 17. 10 JUN 1944. RA: Southern Pacific Lines, G. H. Kilborn, Supt., Dunsmuir, California. Sc#922 (train on train).	\$1.00
98	DES 39	D	Self-Addressed Reply Envelope (unused). Address: Extension Division, United Y.M.C.A. Schools, 347 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. with United YMCA Schools logo. SC 499.	\$4.00

Foreign Perfin Covers				
99	Canada	C26 (H rated)	#10 Registered Cover. CNR (diagonal) perfin. Vancouver, B. C. 10 APR 1956. Return Address: Canadian National Railways, At Office of Mailing. Handstamped City Ticket Office, 527 Granville St., Vancouver 2, B.C. Mailed to Palo Alto, California, USA. Sc#316 & 341. Transit and receiving pmks on reverse.	\$3.00
100	Canada	C33 (H rated)	Cover. CPR (diagonal) perfin. Moose Jaw Sask. Canada 18 SEP 1959. Logo of Canadian Pacific. Sc#341. Note that this might be a damaged C35 after reading the notes in the Addendum.	\$3.00

Perfins Video Spotted on YouTube

Mike Hynes (#LM3477)

There is an excellent video on YouTube discussing perfins. It is both instructive and entertaining. It is narrated by Graham Beck as one in a series of 20 (at least) "Exploring Stamps" episodes available on YouTube.

"Perfins" at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwFtj2FvRuM&feature=youtu>

"Exploring Stamps" at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkeSM6aOWfaUPIGb5rPOGyA>

Secretary's Report

New Members:

Joseph Sullivan #4247
312 Stevenson Ln. #C8
Towson, MD. 21204-1714
Email: joesullivan2@verizon.net
Interests: US

Cran Lucas #4248
9301 Wiscasset Dr.
Shreveport, LA. 71115-2523
Email: mclucas2000@hotmail.com
Interests: US

Paul Eagle #4249
5 Congress St., Apt 101
Belfast, ME. 04915-6512
Email: paul@earthlovers.org
Interests: Europe pre WWII

Jeffrey Brandt #4250
6243 Lakeshore Drive
Dallas, TX. 75214-3611
Email: jbrandt3434@gmail.com
Interests: none stated

Joseph Morris #4251
6427 SE 85th Ave.
Portland, OR. 97266-5456
Email: pdxjmorris@gmail.com
Interests: Worldwide

Mark Montgomery #4252
5361 Elm St.
Millbrook, AL. 36054-2057
Email: cursiveman@gmail.com
Interests: All US

Phil Miner #4253
6913 Ranch Rd.
Sarasota, FL. 34243-3870
Email: retire66@gmail.com
Interests: USA

Returning members:

William Hall #2736
73 Arundel St.
Ashton-Under-Lyne
Lancashire OL6 62G UK
Email: w.hall13@ntlworld.com
Interests: GB, France, British
Commonwealth

Maciej Pilecki #3762
Parafialna 61/27
52-233 Wroclaw Poland
Email:
maciej.pilecki@gmail.com
Interests: Poland, Danzig,
Germany to 1918

Corrected Information:

Larry Weiss #1310
2220 Waterleaf Ct. Unit 103
Naperville, IL. 60564-4976

Larry Oliver # 4077
4801 Hardwick Road
Charlotte, NC 28211-3030

Ken White # 3242
14 Woodside Drive
Prescott, AZ. 86305-5090

Vincent Centonze #4117
140 Caladium Ave.
Lake Alfred, FL 33850-2515

Roger Roth #3580
101 Tahoe Dr.
Maumelle, AR. 72113-5944

Retiring:

Amanda Morgenstern - not
collecting at this time

Current membership: 458

**ARE YOU ONE OF THE 84 WHO HAVE NOT
YET PAID YOUR DUES?
See next page for renewal information.**

Clubmember Ads

For Sale: Twenty-year accumulation of U.S. Perfins including a 1998 Randall Album with 5,650 different patterns mounted "face up." Nine Red Boxes of thousands of duplicates, all sound stamps with complete punches, accessible to Want Lists sent to me via email or snail mail. Significant discounts provided to Club members.

Wanted to Buy: Perfins from Czechoslovakia. Buying and Selling details available from Jerry Hejduk, LM 3710, P O Box 459, Altoona, Florida 37202-0459 or flprepers@gmail.com

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Buford, GA 30519-7070
Promoprecancels.com

Upcoming Events of Interest

October 7-9, 2020 - Fall California Roundup -- Paso Robles Holiday Inn Express, Room rate is \$119. Call the hotel at (805)238-6500 to make reservations.

January 18-21, 2021 - Florida Winter Meet is tentatively scheduled. The Florida Precancel Club Precancel Bourse and Perfins Exchange will take place during this time. Hotel and Ballroom located at 4750 Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa Florida. Further details will follow as more information becomes available for ongoing Covid-19 pandemic

August 23-28, 2021 - PSS/ Perfin Club Convention – Marlborough, MA: Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel. More later.

Annual Dues WERE DUE by June 30, 2020

Seeing a red dot by your name (check your Mar/Apr *Bulletin*) – Your dues for the 2020-21 fiscal year are payable by June 30, 2020 to the Secretary - see p.62 for address.

Fees	U.S. addresses	Other addresses
First-time new members	\$0	\$0
Annual Dues	U.S.\$15	U.S.\$15
First Class Mail	U.S.\$7	U.S.\$12 Canada U.S.\$20 Other Countries

Life memberships are available as shown here. Please contact John Hart if interested.

54 or less	U.S.\$375	Life membership includes <i>The Perfins Bulletin</i> delivered via U.S. periodical mail to United States addresses and via electronic delivery to addresses outside the United States.
55 through 69	U.S.\$300	
70 or older	U.S.\$225	

Payment accepted by check US\$ (see p. 62 for Secretary's address) or Paypal at: perfin@charter.net