

The Bulletin

March 2002

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Whole Number 547

New Constitution and Bylaws

by Rudy Roy (#1124)

Enclosed with this issue of TPB is a completely new Constitution and Bylaws for the Perfins Club. You are asked to read and review it closely, and then vote on its adoption. When the current Constitution and Bylaws were published some months back, a reading of that document determined that it was severely flawed in a number of areas; too many to remedy by amending. A draft of a new document was prepared, with the input, comments, and criticism of members of the Board of Directors, plus two members President Bob Szymanski asked to help -Doug Turner and Ed Linn. We present the results of several months review, deliberations, and revisions.

This new Constitution and Bylaws is a blueprint for the operation and maintenance of The Perfins Club. It is crafted so that the objectives of the Club -the promotion of perfins philately to the members and the public - will be accomplished in an effective and beneficial manner. It is designed so that the need for revision or amending in the future will be minimal.

The new constitution more accurately defines the purpose of the Club and provides the general guidelines and definitions for its operation. The revised Bylaws accurately implement the articles of the Constitution and provide the essential framework within which the Club is to be operated. The revised Bylaws also permit, within their specific guidelines, the direction necessary for the elected officers and appointed committee chairs to perform their functions in support of the Constitution and for the benefit of the membership. While the revised Constitution and Bylaws may appear to be a significant change from the current document, nothing in the revision will change the purpose and operation of the Club.

Some of the major changes the new document provides are:

- ❖ Creation of three new *elected* Directors-at-large as Board Members
- ❖ Elimination of the U.S and Foreign Catalog Chairs and Publications Chair (all appointed) from the Board (as the present Board is constituted, there are more appointed than elected members)
- ❖ A more thorough definition of the membership requirements
- ❖ Provision of detailed procedures for resignation, expulsion, and reinstatement
- ❖ Clear definition of classes of membership and inclusion of provision for Contributing, Sustaining, and Life Memberships, and
- ❖ Clearer definition of the duties of the Club's officers.

I strongly encourage every member to read the document thoroughly, and then mail your ballot to the Secretary. Your Board of Directors recommends adoption.

Constitution & Bylaws Balloting

The proposed Constitution and Bylaws are to be found as a colored-paper, pull-out supplement in the center of this issue of the Bulletin. **Your ballot is on pages 5/6.** Voting is open to all members in good standing and ballots will be accepted by the Secretary until June 1, 2002 (90+ days from March 1).

Illustration Resolution

In the previous issue of the Perfins Bulletin I asked that illustrations (covers, stamps, and other collateral materials) which are submitted electronically, be saved and transmitted as grayscale 200 dpi (dots per inch) TIFF files rather than as the more common screen image format (75 dpi Jpeg). Those of you who have occasion to transmit the larger TIFF files know that the 200 dpi TIFF files are significantly bigger and slower to send. So why go to the trouble of filing and mailing the bigger files?

The answer is simple, really -- resolution of the image and detail of the final printed illustrations. While I can't explain technically what happens in the different formats, I know that the standard for illustrations in my job is "...no less than 200 dpi TIFF..." for B&W and "...no less than 300 dpi TIFF..." for color pictures. It is easy to explain that the smaller the dots (200 per inch are less than half the size of 75 to the inch) the more precise the output will be. What I can't explain is why 75 dpi is relatively common for images on the internet, and they look good on the screen. But the same image printed looks bad.

While I can't explain it, I can demonstrate the difference in printed product. Immediately below is a scan of a first-day-of-use cover sent to me 15+ years ago by then Club member Ed Haack. The scan was made at 75 dpi and saved as a low resolution jpeg file. Even on my screen the resolution is poor and the final version will suffer greatly in print.



75dpi lowest .jpeg resolution

Next I show the same cover scanned at 75 dpi and saved at the highest Jpeg resolution available. This

cover is closer to legible on my screen, but it is still not really a good copy of the original.



75dpi highest .jpeg resolution

And finally, the third illustration is of the same cover scanned at 200 dpi and saved as a TIFF file. This version is significantly better than either of the other two, and had I tweaked the contrast I could have a very good image for publication.



200 dpi .tif

Below is a final illustration of improved quality based on dot count in the image. For this illustration I will use the beaver perfin from the cover. From left to right below are a 75 dpi image, a 200 dpi image and a 600 dpi image. As the dot count goes up the resolution gets better.



The suggested resolution of 200 dpi is a compromise between good resolution and manageable file size. A 600 dpi file is 9 x as big as a 200 dpi one, and the

200 dpi file is already 16 times bigger than the 75 dpi file!

A quick check of the illustrations in last month's issue will show some breakup of image of the E V Price cover on p.11. Even with the overly dark inking of the printed image, some breakage of the

image is obvious in both of the text blocks at the left side of the cover. The same breakup of text is visible in the return address of the D. I. Bushnell cover at the bottom of p.12. Yes, I'm being picky but, for clarity sake, 200 dpi TIFF please (or a good photocopy – generally they run 400-600 dpi).

A. PERFIN WORTH \$4,000.00?

Jacob Kisner (#2168)

In the September 2001 issue of The Perfin Bulletin (p. 118), John Lyding tells us about a Canadian cover bearing pattern IC/R which he describes as unique. Unfortunately (or fortunately, as you may consider it), this cover has at least one almost identical mate recently featured as the main item on the cover of Longley Auctions Sale #4, November 21, 2001. Also, at least three other covers with perfin pattern IC/R, each also almost identical to the cover shown by Lyding, are known to exist in collectors' hands.

I illustrate this surely rare (although not unique) cover below. If you will refer back to your September issue of the Bulletin and compare our cover with the H. W. Harrison cover, you will note many similarities which will at first make you think



That you are looking at the same cover. Harrison's cover has the corner card of the Intercolonial Railway of Canada at lower left -- as does the cover illustrated here. Also, there are two stamps on each of the two covers -- a Canadian small queen (Scott #37) and a 5c dark green registration stamp (Scott #F2). All bear the perfin pattern IC/R. Harrison's cover has a cancel dated DE 1 93 while the one illustrated here is dated AU 1 94. The illustrated cover has two strikes of the R in oval, designating a registered cover, while the one shown in the September Bulletin has just one strike.

Although we now know the cover illustrated in the September issue of TPB is not unique, it is unquestionably a gem. And so is the one shown here. And so are at least three other similar covers somewhere out there.

And now to the money angle: how much is a perfin cover like this worth? Longley Auctions values theirs (lot 128) at \$4,000.00 Canadian! At the current exchange rate this would run about \$2,600.00 U.S. A nice hefty sum any way you look at it for a perfin on cover. Add to this Longley's 15% buyer's premium --and you have a perfin asking to be noticed. Small wonder John Lyding noticed it!

Another Web Site

Mike Falls (#LM131) writes: "There is some perfin info about the Faroe Islands at: Jeffreycrown@faroestampsite.com

"Dr. Crown is a friend who collects & exhibits Faroe Islands and he has a very nice site about

Faroe Is. stamps & postal history, most of the site is his own collection. There might be some interest among our membership."

So if you are interested in the stamps or perfins of the Faroes, here's a resource to review.

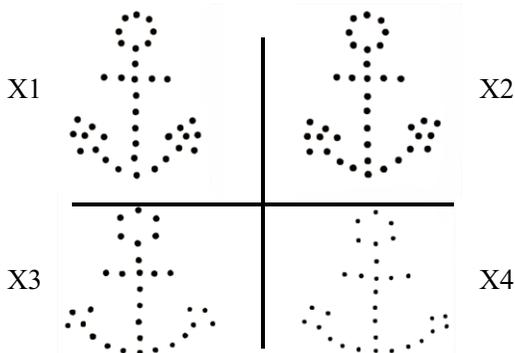
An Interesting Whatizit

By Paul Mistretta (LM-111)

Illustrated at the left are the front and back of an interesting item which I picked up in the \$1 box at little stamp store in Little Rock, Arkansas several years ago. The item in question is a stamp covered pocket which may have been used to hold a document or letter. Measuring 4" x 9", the item is sealed on both sides and the bottom, and is open at the top. The container thus formed is covered by stamps. The stamps at the sides and bottom wrap around to the other side. Those at the top wrap to the inside. None of the stamps have any special value; all are common stamps (regular series?) of World War II era Japan.

Of interest to perfinners is the fact that, of the 96 stamps on this item, 34 are perfins – Japanese anchor perfins!

The keys at the right of the illustrations show the position of the perfinned stamps, their Scott Catalog number (underlined), and the Adachi catalog number of the perfin in each stamp. Four of the 11 known Japanese anchor patterns are found in these stamps; X1 (16), X2 (13), X3 (1) and X4 (1). Only three of the perfins are unidentifiable to catalog number. (Note – for those of you who counted there are 37 identified stamps in the keys to the right, but 3 of them are wrapped-around-pieces of a single stamp).



A nice piece overall – but can anyone suggest what it is? My guess, a U.S. serviceman in Japan at the end of the war, had time on his hands and something he wanted to protect in a fancy cover.

"...Meet Me In St. Louie..."

(July 30 – August 3, 2002)

by Gary Hendren (#2490), Chairman

The 81st Annual PSS Convention will be held in St. Louis from July 30 to August 3, with an "early bird" session on July 29 and a "Die Hard" Breakfast on August 4. The Perfins Club will again be an important part of their convention. The site will be the **Sheraton Westport Hotel-Lakeside Chalet**. There is also the Sheraton Plaza Hotel in the same complex. Reservations can be made by calling **314-878-1500 or 800-822-3535**. Ask for the Convention rate of \$89.00. (Parking is free.) The Sheraton's website (for additional information) is <http://www.sheraton.com>.

"Explore St. Louis - There's more than meets the Arch" according to one brochure. A few of the area attractions to see besides the Arch are:

the American Kennel Club Museum of the Dog
the Anheuser-Busch Brewery
the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis (New Cathedral)
the Craft Alliance Gallery
Ted Drewes Frozen Custard shop
Faust Park (Butterfly House)
Forest Park (Art Museum)
Grant's Farm
the Holocaust Museum
Jefferson Barracks Historical Park
the Laumeier Sculpture Park
the Magic House (kids)
nearby Maryland Heights Aquaport (kids)
the Medical Museum & National Museum of Quackery

the Missouri Botanical Garden
the Missouri Historical Museum
the Muny Opera
the Museum of Transportation (kids)
the Old Cathedral
the Scott Joplin House
the St. Louis Aviation Museum
the St. Louis Science Center
the St. Louis Zoo (free)
Six Flags (kids)
the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site
Worldways Children's Museum
plus, several close-by casinos

I mention these attractions simply to whet your appetite. For additional information check out <http://www.explorestlouis.com/>. I will mention day trips and additional attractions next month.

With all this going on there, did I mention -- there will be a stamp convention -- The Precancel Stamp Society and the Perfins Club, together again!

For further information, Gary can be contacted at 314-576-5261 or g2hslm@msn.com

"Think St. Louis in the good ole summer time..."

VOTE today: Read the new Constitution and Bylaws proposed for the Club; then use this ballot to vote. Simply cut it out – you won't be cutting out anything you need for future reference - and pop your vote into an envelope to our Club Secretary:

Ken B. Rehfeld
P.O. Box 125
Greenacres, WA 99016-0125

Signed: _____ Membership #: _____

(See other side)

Canal Zone Cover on e-Bay

From material submitted by Rudy Roy (#1124)

There was a Canal Zone cover in a recent eBay auction. The price suggests that either the bar on the value of Canal Zone perfins on cover has been raised, or bidding drove the price beyond the cover's value.

Item# 1325903567 "1939 Canal Cover with Perfin Stamps" was described in the auction as "A commercial size cover sent by Airmail with a Pair of Canal Zone Scott #C10 that are perfined with the letter "P". The stamps are tied with a machine cancel from Balboa Heights, Canal Zone dated Feb 2, 1939. The cover has a corner card that reads, The Canal Zone, Official Business, Return after 10 days to, Executive Office, Balboa Heights, Canal Zone. It is added to General Purchasing Officer, The Panama Canal, Washington DC. There are no other postmarks on the cover. An item that is seldom offered for sale and a great addition to you CZ collection. Buyer to pay shipping and handling of \$1.50 in the US by uninsured first class mail in a special hard cardboard mailer. Shipping and handling outside the US will be \$3.50 by uninsured airmail. Insurance and registered mail are additional. Any material sent without insurance or registry are shipped at the buyers own risk of lost or damage. Payment is by check, money order, cash or travelers check in US Dollars and must be drawn on a US bank. Any check or money orders, etc

drawn on a bank outside MUST add a \$10.00 bank fee that is charge. Any returned checks will be charged an addition \$20.00 for the handling and banking fees. Shipment of your items will be made after you check clears at the bank that usually takes 7 days. Good luck in your bidding."



Starting on Jan. 22, 2002 with an initial bid of \$49.99 this item was knocked down 1 week and 10 bids later for \$776.67. Both of the final bidders belong to the Canal Zone Study Group, and clearly know something this editor didn't about the value of this cover. Rudy in his correspondence noted that this is one of the highest prices he has seen paid for a perfins cover. In a second note he (also a member of the CZ Study Group) noted that "...the CZ Perf Ps on cover are scarce, but I don't know if they are as scarce as this price would indicate."

Y'all might want to visit eBay, The World's Online Marketplace™ at <http://www.ebay.com>

Ballot – The Perfins Club - Ballot

I vote to (circle one):

Accept

Reject

the Constitution and By-Laws
of the Perfins Club proposed March 2002
(Special Supplement to the Perfins Bulletin)

Constitution

And

Bylaws

(Proposed Revision - March 2002)

The Perfins Club, Inc.

Supplement to the Perfins Bulletin – Mar. 2002

CONSTITUTION OF THE PERFINS CLUB, INC.

Article I NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. Name. The official name of this organization shall be The Perfins Club, Inc.

Section 2. Purpose. The Perfins Club is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The purpose of the Perfins Club shall be to promote, foster, and expand the knowledge and benefits of the hobby of philately in all its aspects. In furtherance of this goal the Perfins Club will:

- (a) Sponsor and promote philatelic activities such as publications, lectures, forums, and educational programs and activities in order to increase the knowledge of philatelic perfins and promote the benefits of perfins philately.
- (b) Promote research about philatelic perfins and the dissemination of knowledge of philatelic perfins to collectors and the general public;

Article II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership. The membership of this Club shall be composed of any individual who desires to further their knowledge about perfins and perfins collecting, without regard to age, sex, ethnic origin, religion, or nationality.

Section 2. Admission and Standing. Requirements for admission to membership and maintenance of "good standing" in the Perfins Club shall be set forth in the Club's bylaws.

Article III EXECUTVE BOARD

Section 1. Function and Composition. The management of the affairs of the Perfins Club shall be vested in an Executive Board. This Board shall be composed of a maximum of nine and a minimum of six persons. The membership of the Board shall consist of:

- (a) The four elected officers, with the Perfins Club President as Chairman;
- (b) Three elected Directors-at-Large; and,
- (c) Two appointed members, who will be the immediate past President and the Editor of the Club's journal.
The latter two members shall be appointed to the Board by the President of the Club, with the approval of the other elected officers.

Section 2. Powers and Duties. The powers and duties of the Executive Board shall be in accordance with the Perfins Club bylaws.

Article IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Requirements. The officers of the Perfins Club shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Any member in good standing who is 18 years of age or older shall be eligible to hold any office in the Club.

Section 2. Functions and Service. Aspects of the officers' service, such as duties, nominative and elective processes, replacement of incumbents, and filling of vacancies, shall be as set forth in the bylaws.

Article V
MEETINGS

Section 1. Frequency. Meetings of the Perfins Club shall be held annually, preferably in conjunction with a major stamp convention or exhibition.

Section 2. Scheduling. Schedule and agenda shall be established in accordance with the bylaws.

Article VI
FEES AND DUES

Section 1. Entry Fee. All entry and initiation fees as specified in the bylaws must accompany any applications for membership in the Perfins Club.

Section 2. Dues. Each member shall pay annual dues as specified in the bylaws.

Article VII
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended, altered, or repealed by a majority vote of the membership of the Perfins Club. Notification of the intended action under this article shall be in accordance with the bylaws.

THE BYLAWS OF THE PERFINS CLUB, Inc.

Article I SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

Section 1. Scope. All powers of the Perfins Club, Inc. and its authorized bodies shall be executed in accordance with these bylaws under the constitution. Admission to the continuation of membership in said organization and the rights and obligations of members shall be entirely subject to and depend upon the provisions herein and the exercise of authority conferred.

Section 2. Definitions. The following terms, with their associated definitions, will apply throughout these bylaws:

- (a) Perfins Club -the official name for the Perfins Club, Inc.
- (b) Member -any individual accepted for membership in the Perfins Club

Article II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Qualifications. Qualifications for membership shall be as specified in the constitution in Article II.

Section 2. Admission to Membership.

- (a) Application for membership in the Perfins Club shall be in writing and must be accompanied by the annual dues and any admission fee(s) as established by the Executive Board.
- (b) Applications will be processed by the Secretary and forwarded to the Editor of the Club's journal for publication in the next issue of the Club's journal, and to the Chairman of the Membership Committee.
- (c) Before an applicant for membership is accepted, the applicant's name must be published once in the Club's journal. If any member objects to the applicant before the applicant becomes a member, the Membership Committee must review the circumstances of the objection and make a final determination upon the applicant.

Section 3. Classes of Membership.

- (a) There shall be five classes of membership: Active, Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Family.
- (b) Definitions:
 - 1. Active member is anyone who has applied for membership and is current in dues payments.
 - 2. Contributing member is an active member who has donated money above the minimum dues payment in support of the Club.
 - 3. Sustaining member is an active member who has made a significant monetary contribution above the minimum dues payment in support of the Club.
 - 4. Life member is an active member who has applied for Life Membership status and who has paid a Life Membership fee as determined by the Executive Board, but not less than 20 times the annual membership fee then in effect.
 - 5. Family member is a spouse or other member of an active member's household who has paid an additional amount for membership. Family members enjoy all rights and privileges of active members EXCEPT they do not receive a copy of the Club's journal.

Section 4. Fees and Dues.

- (a) Each member, other than members who have prepaid for their lifetime, shall be subject to annual dues in an amount as determined by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall also determine those additional amounts required for classification as Contributing, Sustaining, and Family members. For the purposes of membership application, these dues shall be prorated by quarters of the year.
- (b) The membership year commences on the first day of July.

Section 5. Good standing. A member in "good standing", within the meaning of that term as used in these Bylaws, is one who is not in default in payment of these dues or other indebtedness to the Perfins Club.

Section 6. Resignation, Reinstatement, and Expulsion.

- (a) Resignation - In order to resign a member must submit a written resignation.
- (b) Reinstatement - Any former member dropped from membership for non-payment of dues may be reinstated in the Perfins Club upon payment of the annual (or prorated) dues, and all other indebtedness to the Perfins Club, exclusive of past dues.
- (c) Expulsion
 - (1) Each member of the Perfins Club is expected to be in compliance with basic practices not harmful to the hobby of philately (example: bylaws of the American Philatelic Society, Article II, Section II.) Specifically, any person subject to question under the cited example shall be liable for expulsion from the Perfins Club.
 - (2) Expulsion for unethical or improper conduct shall take place only after written charges and an opportunity to be heard. The procedure hereby adopted in such cases shall be as follows:
 - (A) No charge shall be considered unless submitted in writing and signed by at least five (5) members, but not all of said members shall be required to have firsthand knowledge of the action of the accused nor must all submit evidence in support of such charges. The purpose of this procedure is to protect a member against mistake or individual ill will by requiring deliberation and the concurrence of a sufficient number of members to entitle such charges to consideration.
 - (B) A member submitting charges of unbecoming conduct however, will be expected to cooperate with the Executive Board by submitting such evidence as they may have and by giving information as to other sources of evidence.
 - (C) Charges shall first be submitted to the Executive Board. The names of the accusers shall not be made known to the accused, nor shall he/she be informed that charges have been preferred against him/her until the Executive Board after due investigation, shall have become convinced that such charges are sufficiently well founded to merit disciplinary action.
 - (D) If, after investigation, any or all of the charges are found by the Executive Board to merit consideration with a view to expelling such member, the member shall be furnished with a written specification of such charges at least two (2) weeks before a hearing thereon, which said hearing shall be held by the Executive Board.
 - (E) If the said member desires to make a defense against such charges he/she shall submit a statement of defense in writing, and shall have the right to speak in person thereon and to produce witnesses.
 - (F) After hearing the statement of and evidence on behalf of the charges, and the defense thereof the Executive Board shall decide the matter.
 - (G) Unless any such charges are found to be sustained by a majority of the members of the Executive Board at the hearing, such charges shall be dropped, and the members of the Executive Board shall refrain from divulging such charges or any evidence offered at the hearing.
 - (H) The action of the Executive Board shall be deemed final unless the member, in the case of an adverse finding, gives written notice to the Executive Board of and appeal to the Perfins Club.
 - (I) In the case of an appeal, all of the respective statements, witnesses, and evidence in support thereof shall be heard in an open meeting of the Perfins Club at a time to be set by the Executive Board.
 - (J) The chairperson of the Executive Board, or the President, shall insure the accused ample opportunity to present a defense.
 - (K) Unless any such charges are found to be sustained by a majority of the members of the Perfins Club at the appeal, such charges shall be dropped.
- (d) Any member in arrears of annual dues for more than three months shall be dropped from membership.

Article III EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Function. The Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Perfins Club, and the management of all of the affairs of the Perfins Club shall be vested therein, subject to the requirements set forth in the constitution and bylaws.

Section 2. Composition and Tenure. Elected and appointed members of the Executive Board shall serve in accordance with the provisions of Article III of the constitution.

Section 3. Meetings.

- (a) Regular meetings of the Perfins Club shall be held as specified in Article V, Section 1 of the constitution. Schedule, location and host shall be established by the President. Order of business for meetings shall be in accordance with Article IX of these bylaws.
- (b) The annual meeting of the Perfins Club shall include such special activities as the submission of annual reports.
- (c) Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called at the discretion of the President, a majority of the Board, or at the written request of fifteen members in good standing.
- (d) Notice of all meetings of the Executive Board shall be sent to all Board members not less than fourteen days prior to the meeting.

Section 4. Quorum. One third of the membership of the Executive Board, providing that one officer is included, shall constitute a quorum of the Board.

Section 5. Rules of Order. All parliamentary questions shall be interpreted in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order Revised.

Article IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Elective officers. The elective officers of the Perfins Club shall be as set forth in Article IV of the constitution.

- (a) Such officers shall serve until the election and installation of their successors in office.
- (b) No person shall be elected for more than two consecutive terms in the same office except for the Secretary and Treasurer; however, nothing herein shall be construed as prohibiting anyone from being elected to such office subsequently.

Section 2. Appointive Officers. The President shall appoint such persons as he deems necessary to accomplish the purposes, functions and responsibilities of the Perfins Club. Said officers, together with committee chairmen, shall be considered as ex-officio members of the Executive Board. Tenure of appointive office is at the discretion of the President and his successor.

Section 3. Elections.

- (a) The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee no later than July 1 in the year prior to an election.
- (b) Nominees for elective office shall be voted upon by the membership. The Secretary will mail ballots to all members by October 1 of an election year, to be returned not later than December 10 that same year. Should there be no contest, the Secretary will cast the ballot for the membership.

Section 4. Vacancies. Vacancies among elective members of the Executive Board shall be filled by Presidential appointment for the remainder of the term of office.

Section 5. Removal from Office: Any elective officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the full membership of the Executive Board. Cause for removal shall be any violation of Article II, Section 6(a) of these bylaws, gross neglect of official duties, or inability to perform official duty by reason of physical or mental incapacity.

Article V DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. President.

- (a) The President shall oversee the affairs of the Perfins Club and assure its well-being.
- (b) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Perfins Club and its Executive Board. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside.
- (c) The President shall appoint the various committees as set forth in these bylaws and such other persons as may be required to operate effectively, as noted in Article N, section 2, of these bylaws.
- (d) The President, or his or her designate, shall execute on behalf of and in the name of the Perfins Club all contracts or other legal instruments.
- (e) The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Section 2. Vice President.

- (a) The Vice President shall perform all functions of the office of President in that officer's absence, or at his request.
- (b) The Vice President shall be chairman of the membership committee and submit an annual report of its activities.
- (c) In the event that the President cannot complete his term, the Vice President will succeed to that office automatically.

Section 3. Secretary.

- (a) The Secretary shall be the custodian of the Seal and all official records and materials and shall arrange for the transfer of said records to his or her successor or other designated officer.
- (b) The Secretary shall maintain the membership roster, record all changes, receive and process all membership applications, and receive all dues payments.

Section 4. Treasurer.

- (a) The Treasurer shall receive, disburse, and perform all similar financial transactions for the assets and liabilities of the Perfins Club.
- (b) The Treasurer shall maintain an accounting system, in accurate and permanent form, of all transactions and make these records available for inspection by an Executive Board member upon two weeks notification.
- (c) In the event that the Perfins Club's total assets, or its annual transactions, exceed two thousand dollars, the Treasurer shall arrange for bonding in an amount established by the Executive Board and for end-of-year auditing of his or her records.
- (d) The Treasurer shall arrange for the transfer of all official records and monies to his or her successor and provide quarterly and an annual accounting summary to the Executive Board.

Article VI
STANDING COMMITTEES

The following standing committees are hereby created: U.S. Catalog, Foreign Catalog, Publications, Awards, Finance, Membership, and Publicity and Public Relations. Committee chairmen are to be appointed by the President not later than his assumption of office, and each shall consist of such numbers of members as the President or his designated chairman may determine. Committee chairmen shall serve until their function is completed, the committee is dissolved, or their successors are appointed. Any member shall be subject to removal by the President at any time. The duties of all standing committees shall be prescribed by the Executive Board, except as otherwise provided herein. Each committee shall submit a report of its activities upon request of the Executive Board (at least annually).

Article VII
SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The HALLOCK CARD AWARD committee. Annually, the President shall issue a call to the membership for nominations of a deserving member for recognition as recipient of the Perfins Club's most distinguished award -the Hallock Card Award. He shall also appoint a nominating committee, chaired by the most recent honoree, plus two other recipients, to evaluate the nominations and recommend a recipient. If no nominations are received, or no member deemed worthy of the award, the committee will so report.

Article VIII
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Constitution. The constitution may be amended or repealed only as specified in Article VII of the constitution. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board and must be endorsed by at least ten members in good standing. Upon review by the Executive Board, but no less than sixty days

after receipt, publication of the proposed amendment to the constitution will be made in the Club's journal. Sixty days after the publication of the proposed amendment to the constitution, the membership shall be polled by a ballot mailed to each member.

Section 2. Bylaws. Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board and must be endorsed by at least five members in good standing or be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board. Any proposal received or initiated by the Executive Board shall be tabled until all members of the Executive Board have reviewed it prior to recall of the proposal for voting. Upon recall of the proposal, a three-fourths vote of the full membership of the Executive Board is required for acceptance of the amendment.

Article IX ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 1. Regular Meetings. The order of business at any regular meeting of the Perfins Club shall be as follows:

- Call to order
- Introduction of visitors
- Minutes of previous meeting
- Treasurer's report
- Committee reports
- Old business
- New business
- Special activities
- Good and Welfare
- Announcements
- Adjournment

Section 2. Special Meetings. The order of business at any special meeting of the Perfins Club shall be as follows:

- Call to order
- Reading of notices, proposals, etc.
- Action on purpose of meeting
- Such other business as may be appropriate at the discretion of the presiding officer
- Adjournment

Buy/Sell Ads

Wanted: Beacon (Scott # C11) perfin cover. Cash or trade (with bonus for right cover). DaveBize (#766), 16055 W. Wildflower, Surprise, AZ 85374.

For Sale: Uruguay official punches (see PB 56(1):14). \$1 ea – have a number of them with possibly 20 face or punch different. Less than \$5, please include 34¢ stamp. Bob Szymanski, 10 Clarridge Circle, Milford, MA 01757.

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 \$0.10 per word (do not count membership number and heading); three consecutive insertions of the same ad at \$0.20 per word; six insertions of the same ad at \$0.40 per word. Paid ads relating to perfins are accepted from non-members. Non-member rates are \$0.15 per word for a single insertion, 0.30 per word for three consecutive insertions, and \$0.60 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 advertising space.

Secretary's Report

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Koshoku Nagano 3870007
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Beginner, U.S. & Japan
- #3678 Robert Lynch
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- #3679 Robert Potts
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Albany OR 97321-7197
Beginner, Postcard usage.

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SWEDEN
- #2405 W. Kay Hollis
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- #3296 Robert Russ
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Deceased (correction)

#1613 Eugene Marshall

Membership stands at 619

Dues are payable by June 30 of each year to the Secretary

Fees	US	Canada	Foreign
Annual Dues	US\$15	US\$18	US\$25
First Class Mail	US\$5	US\$7	US\$10
Non-member Subscription	US\$20	US\$23	US\$28

Progress Report on the Rev-Perfs Project

By Chuck Spaulding (#2355)

In the May 1999 issue of The Perfins Bulletin our past President (Kurt Ottenheimer) announced that the Club was going to work on a new catalog listing the perfins and perforations found in United States revenue stamps and documents. Now, almost three years later, we have discovered almost 4,000 designs. Many of them are quite large and won't fit on a single regular series or commemorative postage stamp. These designs can have an adjustable date and some even include a 'PAID' or 'CANCELLED'. They don't all fit the Club's current definition of a perfin. So, what do we call them?

I quickly adopted the term that was used by the late Joe Miller. Joe was the first Club member to make a serious effort to document perforations in U.S. revenue stamps. Joe simply abbreviated Revenue Perforations, always calling them Rev-Perfs.

This is not a new project. Over the years, many Club members have been very active in the effort to produce a Rev-Perfs catalog. I'm basically a newcomer whose interest in the project was started by an excellent article in the November/December 1986 issue of the Perfins Bulletin. The article was prepared by Paul Mistretta (then the editor) from notes prepared by Joe Miller. I was very fortunate to have known Joe and our present effort is to complete his project and include the work of many other Club members.

Rev-Perfs have been found in just about every type of revenue stamp listed in the Scott Catalog. In addition, they can be found in most state revenue stamps that are listed in Hubbard's and other catalogs. Oleomargarine, distilled liquor, cigar, and other types are also revenue stamps in which Rev-Perfs will be found. Even checks, stocks, bonds, and other revenue documents are a source of these designs.

We are trying to find and document all the United States revenue perforations. For some Rev-Perfs types we feel that we have discovered a large percentage of the total designs that exist. For others we know that we have found only a

small percentage. The perforations may not be in stamps, but in the documents to which the stamps are affixed. These documents could be in the form of a share, stock certificate, bond, land deed, and even a simple bank check. In addition, we are interested in stock sales slips. We need these in order to identify the users of many of the stock transfer designs we have discovered. Our research is weak in Rev-Perfs found in stamp types like those of beer, cigar, customs, liquor, proprietary, and narcotic stamps. You can help us by checking your collections and accumulations and letting us know about what you find. You may find a new pattern in an area that we haven't even considered.

The foundation for our research is Joe Miller's original work sheets. From this source and new information, we have developed new work sheets and distributed them to a working group. This group studies them and their collections, and then returns new designs and new data on recorded patterns to us.

The basic working group is a relatively small group of members of The Perfins Club and some are members of the American Revenue Association. Working group members are located in the United States, Canada, New Zealand and Great Britain, which is evidence that there are U.S. Rev-Perfs collectors all over the world. This group includes a past Club President and a Catalog Editor. We are even lucky to have a member who worked with Joe Miller on the original effort to produce a Rev-Perfs catalog. I can't praise this working group enough; they dismantle their collections to make photocopies and, at their own expense, forward the new data. This project could not continue without their dedication.

Other Club members have stepped forward and shown us their Rev-Perfs. These contributors include another past Club President, another Catalog editor, and our current President. Articles we have written in other journals and newsletters have produced contributions from non-perfin collectors. Members of the State Revenue Society have also taken an interest in our project. These collectors have proven to be a great source of

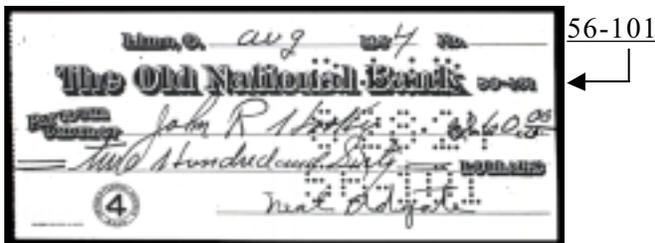
Rev-Perfs found in beer, oleo's, cigar, and other stamp types that traditional postal perfin collectors don't usually collect. The final catalog will note everyone's contributions.

We have completed work sheets for the letters A to Z and are presently doing research for the sections on numbers and designs. As previously announced in the Bulletin, the work sheets can be borrowed from the Club Library. Interested members can study them and we hope they can find areas in which they can help us out. We plan to produce the final catalog using the computer and we can use some technical help from members who have computer skills.

We are planning to make the final catalog user-friendly. Many collectors may not be interested in the patterns found in all of the different types of stamps and documents in the catalog. So, the catalog will be divided into sections by the different stamp types. This will allow the catalog users the opportunity to focus on their areas of special interest. As you can imagine, it will take a lot of time to turn the raw data we are collecting into a well-organized and cross-referenced final catalog.

Bank Check Rev-Perfs

Now, back to the research of Rev-Perfs that start with a number. We recently discovered some of these designs in bank checks. They are much larger than typical postal perfin designs and the designs usually include the word 'PAID' or 'CANCELED' plus an adjustable date. Others have an additional line in the perforation. Some used this line for the company's initials while others used it for a set of numbers. The illustrated check shows a typical example of a check with a set of numbers (third line of the punch). The



design is p/d/56-101. Notice that next to the bank's name on the check is the same set of numbers. But, what do they mean?

In the lower left corner of the check is a double circle with a large '4' in the middle. Printed between the two rings is "Member Federal Reserve Bank". Checks are usually cleared through the Federal Reserve Clearing House. So, we assume that the set of numbers had been issued by the Federal Reserve Bank to make it easier to identify the financial companies, many of which had similar names.



In the designs for the four Pennsylvania banks we have identified, the first number (before the hyphen) is the same. This is also true for the two banks identified from New York City. Thus, we believe that the first number is a district number and the second is assigned to the bank within that district. We are trying to confirm these assumptions. (We also have no idea of the meaning of the "4" in the circle.)

Please Help...

If anyone knows anything about these types of Rev-Perfs we would appreciate hearing from you! While looking at your bank checks, please look for designs that include company initials. We need the information on these checks for the Rev-Perf catalog. Photocopies of bank checks with this type of pattern will be a great help

How to: 'Draw' & Identify Perfins on Cover

By Paul Mistretta (LM-111)

Here's another of those - "If you don't have a computer or don't use yours to generate images - quit now." - type of articles. However, for those of you who use your computer in this manner, here's a trick that works.

Many of us have had the experience of finding a perfin on cover that could be one of several patterns, some so similar that a simple look doesn't distinguish which one you have. You go to the catalog and find that the city in the cancel is not one identified in the catalog or the cancel is illegible - and so there is no help there. Quick... get the tracing paper and a soft lead pencil! Sometimes this works, and sometimes not.

The Japanese item I show elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin had several perfins with small holes that didn't reproduce at all with the pencil/tracing paper method. And, nothing else I tried with a pencil and paper gave me useful information about the patterns on those stamps.

With the ready availability of extremely sophisticated computer technology the solution to this problem is (relatively) easy. All it takes is a computer with a respectable amount of RAM, a scanner, Photoshop or similar imaging software, a steady hand, and patience.

I'll show what I can of the process using the Ed Haack cover used earlier. Obviously the beaver pattern was not in question, but it was on the scanner when the idea for this note came to me.

The first step in the process is to set the cover to scan the stamp at a relatively high resolution. For this illustration I set the scanner at 600 dpi, isolated the stamp from the cover in "preview" mode and scanned it (#1). By isolating the stamp I kept the file size reasonable. (If you don't play with images a 3.5 meg file may not seem that reasonable - but it is given the resolution.)



1.

The second step was to straighten the image ('Rotate' under 'Image') and crop extraneous material (#2; for the purposes of this article I have created a false border around the stamp to delimit it clearly.)



2.

I then converted the image to grayscale ("Image", "Mode", "Grayscale") so it is a black and white image. Then I immediately return the b&w image to RGB format ("Image", "Mode", "RGB").

(Note: do not simply return color to the image by the "undo" function. Truly turn the B&W image into an RGB image as suggested.)

Now, select the paintbrush tool and select a brush that gives you a circle the same size as the holes made by the perforator. (In Photoshop you can select or create a circle that virtually exactly

matches the perfin pin size.) Pick a color (not either black or white – hard to show in a b&w illustration!) and carefully dot in the perfin pattern (#3).



3.

Now with the “magic wand” select any of the dots and under “Select”, choose “Similar”. All of the colored dots should now be circled by “marching ants”. Next, again go to “Select” and choose “Inverse”. Now under “Edit” select “Fill” and “White” (#4). This should give you a clean white



4.

background with a colored perfin pattern. Again “Select” “Inverse” and “Edit” and then “Fill” “Black” the selected dots (#5).



5.

If you have done this effectively, you should now have an accurate, catalog-quality illustration of the pattern punched in the stamp – while the stamp is still on cover.

Auction Chairman Needed

When I first agreed to reassume the Editor position, President Bob Szymanski mentioned that we ought to solicit for a new **Auction Chairman**. This is a critical position in the Club affecting virtually all of our collections!

Before advertising the position, I checked with our current Chairman (also the Club’s Vice President) Rudy Roy. “I took over as 'acting' auction chairman some 20+ auctions ago - the 'acting' part of the title has been dropped along the way. However, I am more than willing to pass along the job to anyone who has an interest in doing it.”

The Auction Chairman needs to have a good knowledge of U.S. **and** worldwide perfins, and have a decent library of perfins references to use to accurately describe the submitted lots. Also, he or she will need to have enough time to review and describe in writing the lots that are submitted, and be organized enough to keep the bidding records straight.

Contact Bob (see last page under “President”) to volunteer for this very important position in the Club.

Proposed Timing for Bulletin Stuff

Based on all of one month’s experience – it appears that a Bulletin which gets to the printer’s by the 20th of the month goes out very early in the month of issue. So, my target will be to get the issue in the mail between the 15th and the 20th of the month.

Any ads or time-dependant notices of any kind for

for publication in the Bulletin that get to me by the 5th of the month should make it into the following issue. Anything later than that is on a space available basis only. Short articles or notes should fall under the same guideline (no promises) but longer articles will probably not make it in that quickly since I will try to get the authors input on what I am doing with the material before running his or her article.

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