

January/February 2009

The Bulletin

Volume 63, Number 1

Whole Number 614

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Welcome Back Bob!

A thank you to Ed Linn (last months *Bulletin*) means (obviously) a welcome to the new President. In this case it is a **Welcome Back!** A previous two-term

(2000-2002 and 2003-2005) President, Bob Szymanski (LM#155) returns as Club President beginning January 1, 2009.

And - A Note with a Challenge from our New President

Bob Szymanski (LM#155)

The very first e-mail that I received from one of our members congratulating me on once again becoming the Perfins Club President started "He's back!" Depending on the intonation of these words, that could be construed as "I'm glad he is back" or "Oh no, he is back". So strong is the power of the written word that I choose to broadly interpret these words as simultaneously conveying both sentiments.

I enjoyed my 6 years as President from 2000 through 2005. I was also happy that Ed Linn stepped up and took the reins for the past 3 years. Kudos to Ed for all his hard work.

But I must take our members, especially the newer members, several years back. In 2000, our then Vice-President, Rudy Roy, suggested that our By-laws and Constitution be updated. This was done in 2002. One of the reasons for this update was to be able to limit the terms and thus the length of time an elected official spent in office. For one person to become President and continue on for many years was and is both not in the best interests of the club as well as unfair to that person. The enthusiasm a newly elected official brings to an office helps breathe new life into an organization.

Last year, President Ed Linn appointed me to head the Presidential search committee and, with the help of Vice-President Doug Turner and Past President Kurt Ottenheimer, we contacted and spoke with 30 members. Imagine my dismay when we were unable to come up with even one person willing to serve as

President. At that point, I decided to run for the office of President for a third term. Yes, a third non-consecutive term is allowable under the Constitution and yes, I look forward to serving our club in this capacity and will try to do so with to the best of my ability. But with this in mind, I will consider it my first duty at hand to find a willing and capable successor.

When I look at the "Bulletin" page with a list of all the Officers, Managers and Chair people, I recognize that some have been in their positions for this entire Millennium! ...and even before that! My first thought to each is "THANK YOU". You are the life blood of our Perfins Club and have and continue to render a great service without which the club either could not function or would not be as great a club as it is today.

Here is my challenge to each and every member. I would ask each of you to search your heart and ask yourself whether you could do something more for our club. If you think you are able and would like to help the club in any way, please call me at home, email me or write to me: Let me know that you have a desire and some time to offer the club. For this consideration, I thank you in advance on behalf of the club and all club members. (See Page 2 for Bob's contact information.)

[Ed. Note: For those of you who like to put a face with the name, see page 19 for a photo of Bob and several of the current and past Perfin Club officers.]

World Census Reporters

Your Country Count is Due by **February 1, 2009!!**
See the September/October, 2008 and November/December 2008 issues of the *Bulletin* for detailed instructions.

Send your information to:
Bob Schwerdt, 9 Memory Lane
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5231

2009 Convention

The 2009 Perfins Club Convention will be held August 10-15, 2009 in conjunction with the 88th Annual Precancel Stamp Society Convention at the Greentree Holiday Inn, Pittsburgh, PA. This is the week immediately after the APS StampShow, also in Pittsburgh. PSS rates also good for week of the APS show. For more information contact: Bob Bruhn, 3435 Cornwall Dr., NW, Canton, OH 44708-1155.
Plan Now to Attend!!

The Perfins Bulletin is the official journal of The Perfins Club - Founded 1943

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

New Members Q & A

Starting with this issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*, a **New Members Q&A** column will be featured. When I started collecting perfins, I had many questions about the rating system, value of perfins, where to find perfins, etc. I believe that most new members (and maybe some not-so-new members) have those same questions. Eventually, several of these questions were answered by the various informative articles in *The Perfins Bulletin*. I also found attending the Annual Conventions was very helpful where I could "corner" more experienced perfin collectors.

We hope this column will shortcut some of this time and allow all of our members to gain greater

enjoyment from this great hobby. Some of the questions we will discuss in this column will be subjective and controversial (see the first question discussed below). Others will be straightforward. Either way, this is really your column and this is your chance to get your questions on the table. Comments and differing opinions from experienced club members are welcomed and will be presented in future issues as appropriate.

Jerry Hejduk (#LM3710) has agreed to be the Associate Editor for this column. Please help Jerry by sending him or the Editor your questions and comments.

How is the Value of U.S. Perfins Determined?

Perfin patterns are rated on a scarcity scale from A to F. An A rate is given to patterns where there are ten or less copies known to exist. The B+ rate is given to patterns where there are 11-20 copies known. The B rate has 21-40 copies known; C+, 41-80 copies known and C rated perfins are often found in collections of 2400+ different patterns. The D+ rating is considered above average in rarity and D patterns are considered average in rarity, in that they are found in collections of 1200-2400 different patterns. The E rate is considered to be common and the F rate is found in practically all collections.

There is no reference catalog assigning a \$ value to each of the 6400 + U.S. perfin patterns. However, for the practical purpose of trading duplicates with other collectors, an unpublished value scale has developed; F=10¢, E=15¢, D=25¢, D+ = 50¢, C=\$2, C+=\$4, B=\$8, B+=\$16 and A=\$30. Based on this generally accepted value scale, collectors are comfortable trading two C's for a C+, two C+'s for a B, two Bs for a B+ or two B+s for an A. These values are not cast in stone; nor would all collectors completely agree to these relative values, but over the last decade most reasonable collectors have generally embraced such a scale, because if they are selling their duplicates, rather than trading them, the above values appear to be "in play."

The above discussion does not apply to Schermack Coil Punches listed in the Catalog of U. S. Perfins. These stamps have a higher rarity factor for perfin

collectors as well as a considerable interest from other collectors of U.S. postage stamps. Many regular stamp dealers offer them at unusually high prices. These private coils have only four different ratings, and generally speaking, their value is about double that of similarly rated other U. S. postage stamp perfin patterns; B=\$15, B+=\$30, A=\$60 and A+=\$100-\$120. You will note that such a value scale also accommodates trading duplicates; two Bs for one B+, two B+s for an A etc.

One would be remiss if a mention of "prices realized at auction" did not get included in a discussion of values of perfin patterns. The reader has probably noted unusually high prices are frequently realized at auction. Two or more bidders with deep pockets in competition, produce a different result than two collectors, trying to negotiate a reasonable exchange. Therefore, new members are cautioned to not consider auction prices realized as the standard accepted value of perfin prices, but rather, should refer to what collectors are using as fair value exchange rates.

If readers of this column have questions that relate to collecting U. S. Perfins, please mail them to Jerry Hejduk, PO Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749-0450 or email them to flprepers@comcast.net or to the Editor at his address listed on page 2.. Similarly, considered opinions that differ from the answers/viewpoints presented in this column are always welcome at the same addresses.

A Note from the Editor

Ken Masters (#3589)

New Years Greetings to all of you!!

It was after a lot of thought and prayer and with a great amount of humility that I agreed to assume the job of Editor of *The Perfins Bulletin*. As Paul Mistretta (LM#111), retiring Editor, said in the November/December issue of the *Bulletin*, I am only the 10th person to hold this job. So, I have some big shoes to fill.

First, I must thank Paul for all of his help in getting me started in the right direction. Paul had completed most of the basic formatting and electronic extraction of art work for many of the articles that you see in this issue. Also, Paul has passed on many tips and techniques that make my work much easier. So, thanks again Paul for all of your help.

Next, I must thank Steve Endicott (#2284), Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710), and Doug Turner (#2549) for agreeing to assist me as Associate Editors. Jerry will be the most visible with the "New Members Q & A" in each issue. Steve will be concentrating on U.S. perfins, while Doug will be concerned with foreign issues. Each of them will be working behind the scenes to give me a more experienced set of eyes to edit and check each article before it is published. They will also be contacting you to solicit and encourage you to submit articles for the *Bulletin*.

I am convinced that every member of The Perfins Club knows at least one interesting and unique aspect of perfin collecting. My challenge to each of you is to dust off that idea and send it to me or one of the Associate Editors for publication in the *Bulletin*. The more members that are actively involved, the more interesting the *Bulletin*.

Any length is OK. Any form of copy is perfectly acceptable – type-written, hand-written, or electronic. If you want to outline a few bullet points, I will be happy to draft an article and return it to you for comments, additions, and approval. Photocopies or electronic scans of the subject perfin and/or cover

always add a great deal of interest to the article. Alternately, if you do not have access to copying or scanning equipment, mail it to me. I will scan it and return it immediately.

The one caveat is that I will forward any article with an "identifying cover" or other information that might impact the catalog listing of that perfin to the respective catalog editor for verification, approval, and/or comment. This will prevent publishing information that has already been covered in the catalog or one of its C&A's.

For those that wish to send your article electronically, my default word processing software is MS Word 2007. However, I also have the Open Office suite on my machine. So, I should be able to read almost any electronic file you send. For scans, any form of electronic image is OK, however, 300 dpi or higher will reproduce better in print.

As for deadlines, we plan to continue to publish the *Bulletin* on a by-monthly schedule. That means an issue on the odd numbered months (January, March, May, etc.) I would like to have your copy by the 1st of the month prior to publication (February, April, June, etc.) That will give me sufficient time for formatting, layout, and sending it to the printer so it will reach you early in the month of issue. I will make every attempt to get any late arriving articles in the next *Bulletin*, but sometimes they will be a good start for the next one.

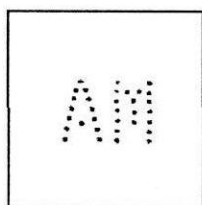
Finally, this is my first venture into the realm of desk-top publishing. So, I welcome any and all of your comments, suggestions, and constructive criticisms that will help make *The Perfins Bulletin* as interesting and informative as possible. Let me know what you like and what you do not like. I would really like to start a regular "Letters to the Editor" column where you can express your opinion and start a dialogue on some of the more subjective areas of this great hobby. I look forward to hearing from each one of you.

The Perfins of Venezuela

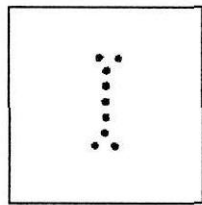
Bruce Brunell (#2831)

Having volunteered to work with John Randall in updating Bob Schwerdt's *World Perfins Catalog*, I was assigned the task of being the Editor for the America's portion of the *World Perfin Catalogue* some years ago. At that time I did a lot of research on the subject and researched and referenced several large world collections. Being only one among many manuscripts requiring cataloging decisions, review and revision, the manuscript has languished (most recently over listing issues). So, for the time being, I am going to provide drafts of the information I have learned in a few articles.

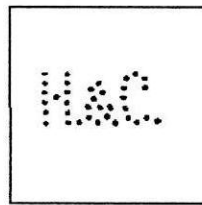
Venezuela was not a prolific user of perfins. To date, I have not seen a commercial (or other) perfin used in regular postage stamps, other than the Official 'GN' perfins. Following is a listing of the patterns I have seen (minus P8, which has been described as "PA???" with 11 mm tall fine letters, possibly PAGADO) in the stamps of Venezuela using the designations that were used by Bob Schwerdt in the current version of the Americas catalog. These may or may not be the designations used in the upcoming catalog when it goes to press. [Editor's note: Pattern P8 has been reported to the author, but not seen by him. Thus, no illustration can be provided below.]



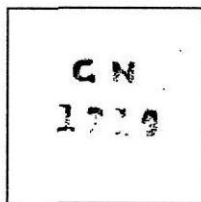
B1 -- AM



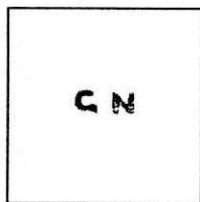
B2 -- I



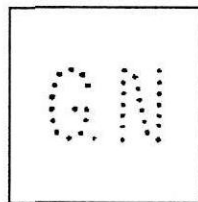
B3 -- H.&C.



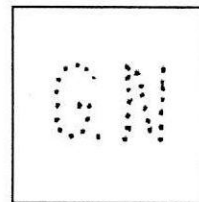
C1 -- GN 1910



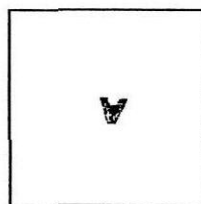
C2 -- GN



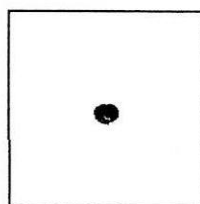
C3 -- GN



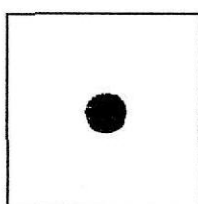
C3 Counterfeit



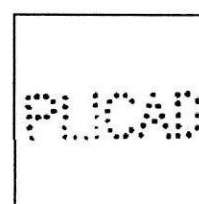
P1 -- V



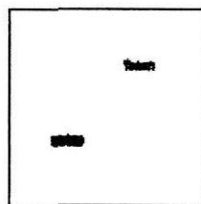
P2 -- circle (3 mm)



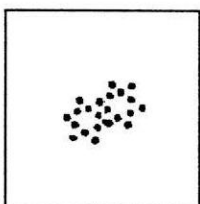
P3-- circle (5 mm)



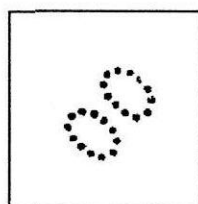
P4 -- (Aplicado?)



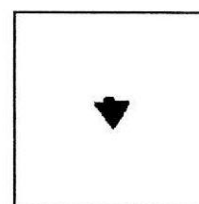
P5 -- oblong (1mmx4mm)



P6 -- star (6 mm)

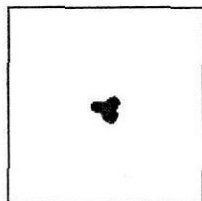


P7 -- 00

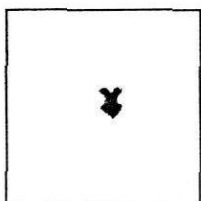


P9 -- arrow

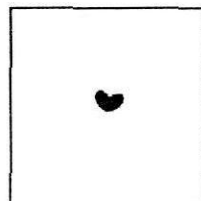
The Perfins of Venezuela (cont.)



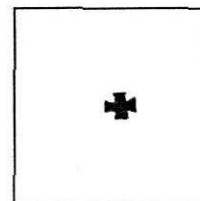
P10 -- trefoil



P11-- ax



P12 -- heart



P13 -- cross

Some general notes about the patterns seen:

- B1 is seen on the Instruccion revenues of 1911-1914.
- B2 is only seen on the Instruccion revenues of 1914.
- B3 is on the Instruccion revenue of 1914.
- C1 is only seen on the Instruccion revenues of 1910-1914
- C2 is seen on a 1914 Instruccion revenue, centered on the stamp.
- The balance of 'C2' perfins are all on the edge of regular postage stamps of the 1915-1921 era. It appears that they may have been put on the edge of the stamps for a period of time to not show the '1914'. And possibly, for a very short time, the 1914 was removed and they were used on revenue stamps.
- C3 was used on Venezuelan stamps from 1915 until 1943, when they apparently stopped the requirement of perfinning official usage stamps. Every stamp issued during this period has been seen with the G.N perfin, including airmail, semipostal, air semipostal and one issue not recognized by Scott, a 5c dark green semi-postal (postal-tax?) stamp. The perfin has been counterfeited. (See illustration) Listings of the stamps perfinned are available in the old Yvert & Tellier

catalogues, the "Michel" Sud Amerika catalogue and the 1991 Venezuela 'Catalogo Especializado de Estampilas'. All of these indicate values for the various issues; the values range from 0.20¢ for the commoner items to \$180.00 for the scarcest item, and are priced used and unused. Scott, for some reason, has chosen not to list the Official issues of the world when they are only identifiable by a perfin punch.

- P1-P13 are all seen on the 1911-1915 Instruccion series of revenues.

Note: The 'P' designation is being used by the author to indicate punches and cancelling perfins that were only used on Revenue issue stamps. The 'B' designation is separated and used until it can be determined whether the stamps were perfinned prior to being affixed to documents. This is one of the sticking points holding up the printing of the America's catalog. There are a number of perfins from Chile, Uruguay & Argentina that were punched through the stamps and the documents as a form of cancellation. How to designate these perfins is a problem, as they are often regular commercial 5 head perforators, and seem to mostly have been used only on revenues. I am not sure how these will finally be cataloged, so this 'P##' scheme is tentative at this time.

My Favorite Foreign Perfin Page(S)

Bob Schwerdt (#505-L)

Recently Steve Endicott (#2284) requested that members report their favorite U.S. perfin(s) for whatever reason: scarcity, attractiveness, etc. From the information submitted, Steve brought to the July/August Precancel/Perfins convention at St. Louis a fine, thirty-page exhibit of member favorites with pertinent write-up and explanation - by Steve. Ownership of the various items was kept anonymous. (See pages 10 & 11 for the second installment of Steve's exhibit.)

Since our *Bulletin* Editor is on a perpetual quest for articles, I thought we might try a similar "favorite" idea with foreign perfins and give him a break by requiring the collector to write the corresponding explanation if one is necessary.

The page or pages really don't have to be of exhibition quality. They could be stock pages of one's favorite items. The page may contain perfins of more than a single country - a thematic approach? Who knows what clever arrangements we foreign perfin collectors can devise! The write-up could be a one liner or extended. I am certain that the foreign perfin collectors care as deeply about some of their material as do perfin collectors of U.S. material.

The "why" is important: why is this one of your favorites?

So, how about it? What do you say? Shall we give it a try?

I'll start the process with an exhibition page of Austrian Levant (Austrian Offices in Turkey) perfins. As you can tell, this page needs remounting and may even become two pages. I certainly would appreciate knowing if there are additional Austrian Levant perfins that are not shown here.

[Editor's Note: For those who are not familiar with the term 'Levant' (myself included), my research reveals it is the name applied to the geographical region of the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea from roughly the Isthmus of Suez to the Tarus Mountains. The northern part of this area is the south-east region of Turkey that was included in the Austro-Hungarian Empire until the end of World War I.]

You will note that my "T." perfin is not in alphabetical order. It was acquired long after I had thought my page was complete. Since then, two more Austrian Levant perfins have been reported: "C.A.S." and then "F.C." If I should ever find these two, then my page would be complete! Or would it? So, in truth, this is one of my favorite pages because I thought that it was a complete collection of Austrian Levant perfins. The page is still a favorite because now it presents a challenge to regain completeness by seeking the known missing items.

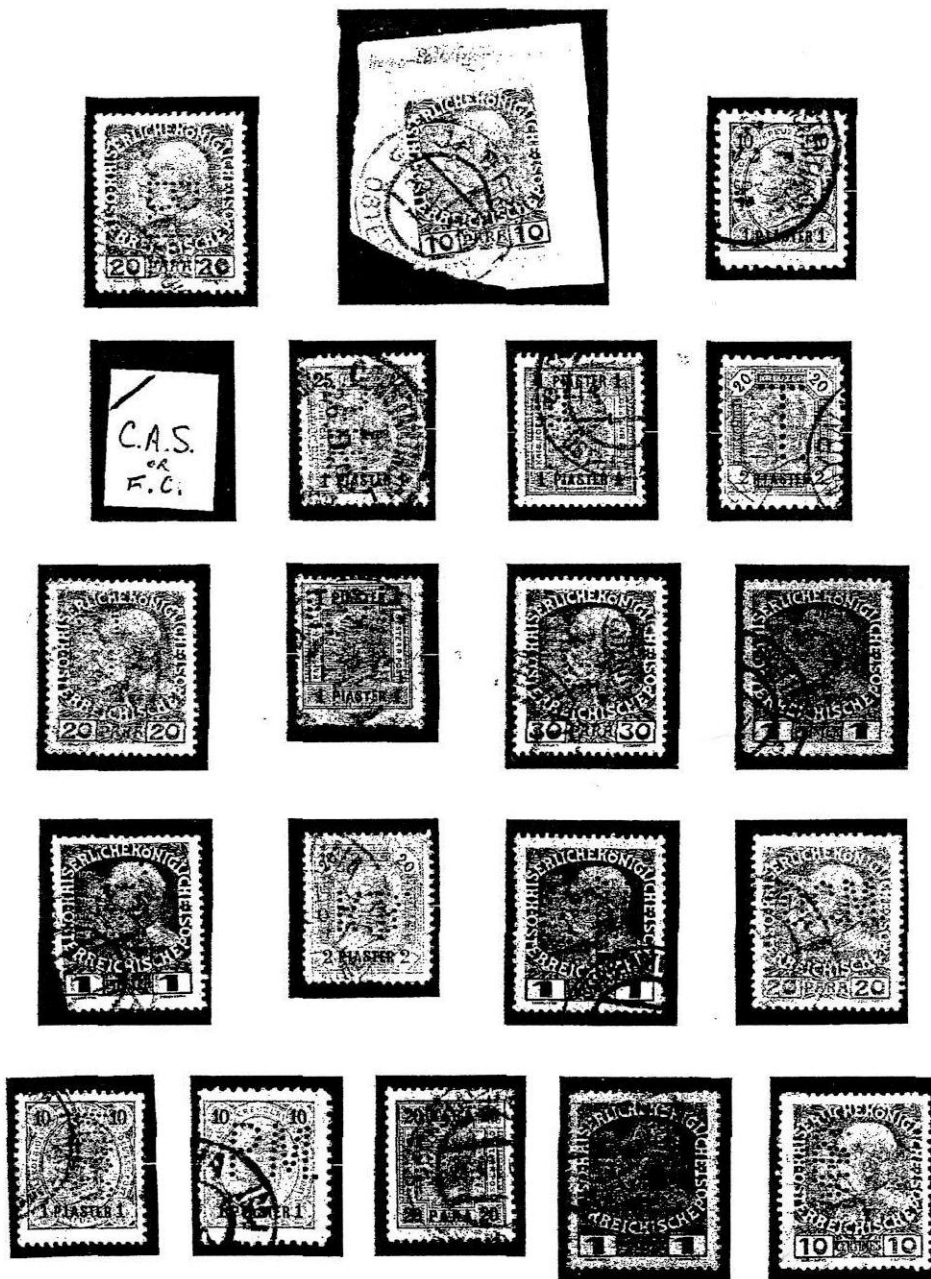
I know that some collectors may have a difficult time selecting one favorite page - no problem - submit several pages. Your Editor will be happy, and other members might be inspired to broaden their perfin interests.

Patterns seen in the figure on the next page are as follows:

Row 1: B.H. APC c.L
Row 2: X BIO CL (mono) T.
Row 3: CL/J EOB.... G.C. G.S.
Row 4: H C K.B. L.M. O.C.M.
Row 5: O&M P.M. WPV
W.B.V. (piastre=Smyrna)
W.B.V. (centimes=Crete)

My Favorite Foreign Perfin Page(S) (cont.)

PERFINS of TURKEY and OFFICES



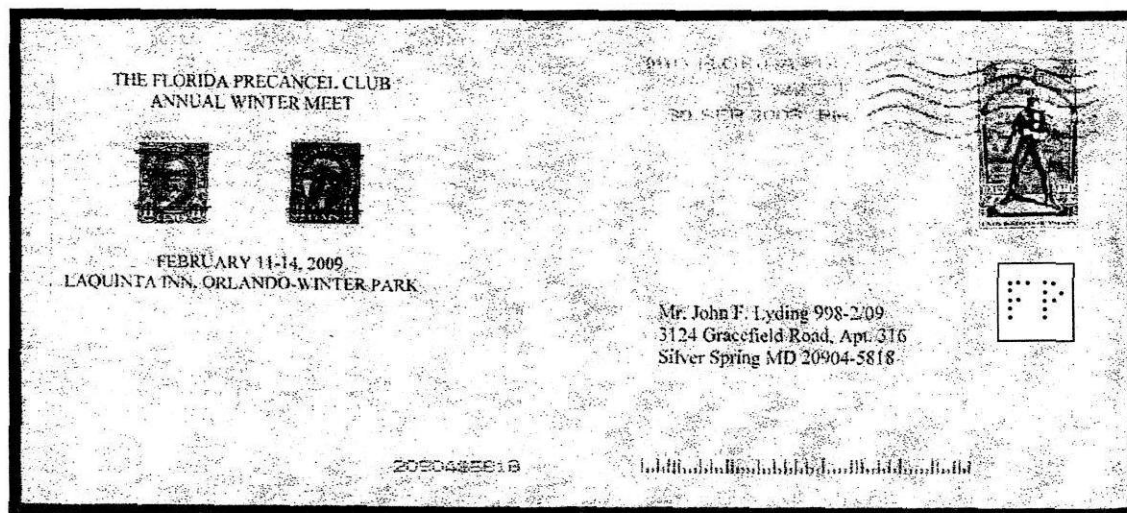
Perfins of Austrian Offices

New Perfin from Florida

John Lyding (LM#116)

For reasons unknown, I noticed something different in the baseball commemorative stamp used to mail The Florida Precancel Club's notice of their annual winter meet. What caught my eye was the perfin

'FP' neatly placed in the stamp. The cover is shown below with a Photoshop mockup of the pattern (to avoid removal of the stamp from the cover.)



The pattern measures 8.5 x 13 mm (center of top hole to center of bottom hole) with 0.75 mm holes. Translating this to English measure this is 0.5118 x 0.3346 inch with 0.295 inch holes. I would judge this to be an 'Illegal' pattern, but will leave that decision to the U.S. Catalog Editor to whom I forwarded a copy of this information.

I have written Jerry Hedjuk (LM#3710 and editor of *the Florida Rambler*), requesting more information and perfin for the Catalog Editor. As an aside, I can heartily recommend that you attend the Florida Precancel Club's Winter Meet, February 11-14, 2009 at the La Quinta Inn, Orlando/Winter Park, Florida.

Not only is the weather and the company great, but there are ample opportunities to meet fellow perfin collectors and to enhance your perfin and precancel collections. (See page 17 for more information on this Meet.)

[Ed. Note: Those who read Bob Szymanski's note in the *September/October 2008 Bulletin* (p. 163-165) will recognize this as the new pattern used by Jerry Hejduk for the first time on July 29, 2008 (during the Clubs' annual convention.) Only Jerry knows whether the 'FP' stands for Florida Precancel, Florida Perfin, maybe both, or something else altogether. More shortly I hope.]

My Favorite Perfins – Part II

Steve Endicott (#2284)

I began a discussion of favorite and most unusual U.S. perfins in the September/October 2008 *Bulletin*, with a promise of more to come. In this issue, I present part II of the display presented at the recent convention in St. Louis. The subject for this installment is *perfins in the Columbian Exposition issue of 1893*.

We all know that the Columbian Exposition stamps were first issued in 1893, fifteen years prior to the authorization of perfin usage in the United States. The Columbian stamps were issued in the large rectangular format that we often associate with modern-era commemorative issues. This format was disliked by the public at that time; thus, these stamps were available in post offices for many years.

Shown on the next page (page 11) is a cover to a foreign destination using a perfin in a stamp from the

Columbian Exposition. The cover was mailed from San Francisco, CA to Guatemala and is the EKU for a US perfin to Guatemala. This cover is presented courtesy of Bob Szymanski. Please let me know if you own covers with perfins to these countries with dates earlier than 1915.

Finally, we have found two Columbian stamps with perfin pattern H54 used by the G.F. Harvey Company. We have the six cent and 50 cent Columbian denominations of this perfin. Do you have other Columbian denominations of this perfin?

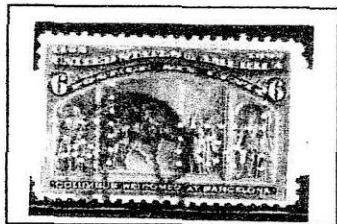
I would enjoy hearing from anyone regarding perfins that they own on the Columbian Exposition issue. All comments are most welcome. See page 2 for my contact information.

Fascinating and Unusual United States Perfins

Early Perfin Usage

Continuing with perfins on postage stamps of the Columbian Exposition, here are two Columbian stamps from the G. F. Harvey Company of Saratoga Springs, New York. I wonder if they used perfins on other denominations of this issue? Check your collections!

6 Cent – Scott 235



50 Cent – Scott 240



Perfin H54 – C rate – G. F. Harvey Company

My Favorite Perfins – Part II (cont.)

Fascinating and Unusual United States Perfins

Perfins on Covers with the Columbian Issue

The use of perfins in the United States was first authorized on April 9, 1908. Most early U.S. perfin usage is seen on the 1902-03 definitive stamps issue. The Columbian Exposition issue of 1893 preceded perfin usage in the United States by 15 years. However, these large, rectangular stamps were widely disliked by the public and stocks of these stamps languished in post offices for many years. Oh, how I wish I could find some in post offices today! Some of the stamps were later purchased and then perfin patterns were applied. A spectacular example of a perfin on a Columbian Exposition stamp is shown here.

3 Cent Columbian (Scott 232)

This is also the EKU of a US Perfin to Guatemala



Perfin A60 – E rate – Anglo-California Bank, Limited

As another example, but not pictured here for lack of space, is Perfin O75 – E rate – used by Old Colony Trust Company, also on a 3 Cent Columbian (Scott 232), from Boston, Mass. to Kaiserlautern, Bavaria, Germany in 1912.

Perfins Club Auction #111

Closes February 28, 2009

Guidelines: Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next higher bidder: \$1-5 - a \$0.25 advance; \$5-\$20 - a \$0.50 advance; \$20-100 - a \$1.00 advance; \$101 or higher - a \$5.00 advance. No 'Unlimited' bids. No bids under \$1.00. In case of tie bids, the earlier postmark or e-mail will prevail. All single perfins are complete and in good condition, unless noted otherwise. Natural straight edges are not considered

to be defects, just sheet positions. In larger lots, you should expect some faults. All lots are returnable if misdescribed; this does not apply to larger lots or mixes with the exception of gross miscounts. Lots to be prepaid before shipping. **Bid by Lot #.** Please put your address on your bid sheet as this makes it easier for me to notify you after the close of the auction. **Good luck!!**

Send all bids to: Bruce Brunell, 425 E. Gobbi St. #98, Ukiah, CA 95482 - 5553 - USA
Email: bbrunell@comcast.net

Abbreviations used:

ADD - All Different Designs
 DDF - Design Different Face
 MDD - Mostly Different Designs

PREPER - Precancelled Perfin
 SE - Straight edge(s)
 (?h) - Number of missing pins

Scott #s are used, and the pattern #s from the current US Perfins Catalog.

Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate
1	US	C2 in 566	B	26	US	C171 in 332(SE) B		49	US	C326 in 1035	C+
2	US	C7 in 499	B	27	US	C173 in 406	C+	50	US	C328 in 463	C+
3	US	C11.5 in 425	C+	28	US	C175.5 in 570	C+	51	US	C335 in 552	C+
4	US	C19 in 498	C+	29	US	C177.5 in 514	B	52	US	C346 in 642	C+
5	US	C22 in 406	C+			pulled perf		53	US	C350 in 467	B
6	US	C25 in 637	B	30	US	C178 in 379(SE)C+		54	US	C355 in 462	C+
7	US	C29 in 499	C+	31	US	C186 in 406	C+	55	US	C365 in 554	C+
8	US	C36 in 332	C+	32	US	C197.5 in 470(SE)B		56	US	C367 in 406	B
9	US	C38 in 332	B			Heavy Cancel		57	US	C371 in 425	B+
10	US	C40 in 554(SE) B		33	US	C199 in 406	B	58	US	C372 in 638	C+
11	US	C42 in 406	C+	34	US	C203 in 334	C+	59	US	C382A in 569	B
12	US	C54 in 332	C+	35	US	C208 in 463(SE)C+		60	US	C385 in 406	C+
13	US	C71 in 332	C+					61	US	C385A in 503	A
14	US	C73.5 in 1290	B	36	US	C214.5 in 406	C+	62	US	C392 in 462	B
15	US	C82 in 543	B	37	US	C213 in 720	C+	63	US	C392.5 in 462	B
16	US	C91 in 406	C+	38	US	C224 in 332	C+			Short perfs	
17	US	C98 in 468	C+	39	US	C242.5 in 570	C+	64	US	C401 in 424	C+
18	US	C99 in 406	B	40	US	C255 in 406(SE) B		65	US	C414 in 634	C+
		pulled perf		41	US	C265 in 634	C+	66	US	D20.5 in 560	B+
19	US	C105 in 332	C+	42	US	C268 in 406	B	67	US	D93 in 499	B+
20	US	C121 in 908	B	43	US	C282.5 in 564	B+	68	US	E27 in 406	A
21	US	C122 in 331	C+	44	US	C283 in 406	C+	69	US	E138 in 463	B+
22	US	C129.5 in 398	B+	45	US	C296 in 463	B	70	US	F68.5 in 331	B+
23	US	C135 in 406	C+	46	US	C300 in 331	C+	71	US	F191 in 698	B+
24	US	C143 in 331(1h)B		47	US	C304 in 640	B	72	US	G72-7 in Q10	E
25	US	C164.7 in 1213	C+	48	US	C322 in 331	C+				

Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate
73	US	M46 in Q2 pulled perf	B	81	US	U56 in full mint sheet of #1278		88	Canada	190 mix, fair variety	
74	US	M248.5 in Q6	C+	82	US	U56 in full mint sheet of #1280		89	Chile	25 revenue mix	
75	US	M289.5 in Q4	B	83	US	14 different tax receipts with perfined revenue stamps		90	Czechoslovakia - Slovakia	2 DDF	
76	US	V35 in Q5 (2h)	B	84	WW	25 DDF		91	Great Britain	1160 mix, all reigns, excellent variety	
77	US	No. 22 in 367	B	85	US	35 revenue perfin mix		92	Sweden	280 mix, good variety	
78	US	11 Diff parcel post, 2c - 15c, ratings from E to C		86	Australia	160 mix good variety		93	Switzerland - 2 #174 with eyeglasses perfin on a 1921 cover (nice)		
79	US	940 different patterns, ratings from F to D		87	Belgium	70 mix, good variety					
80	US	590 different patterns, ratings from F to E									That's All Folks!!

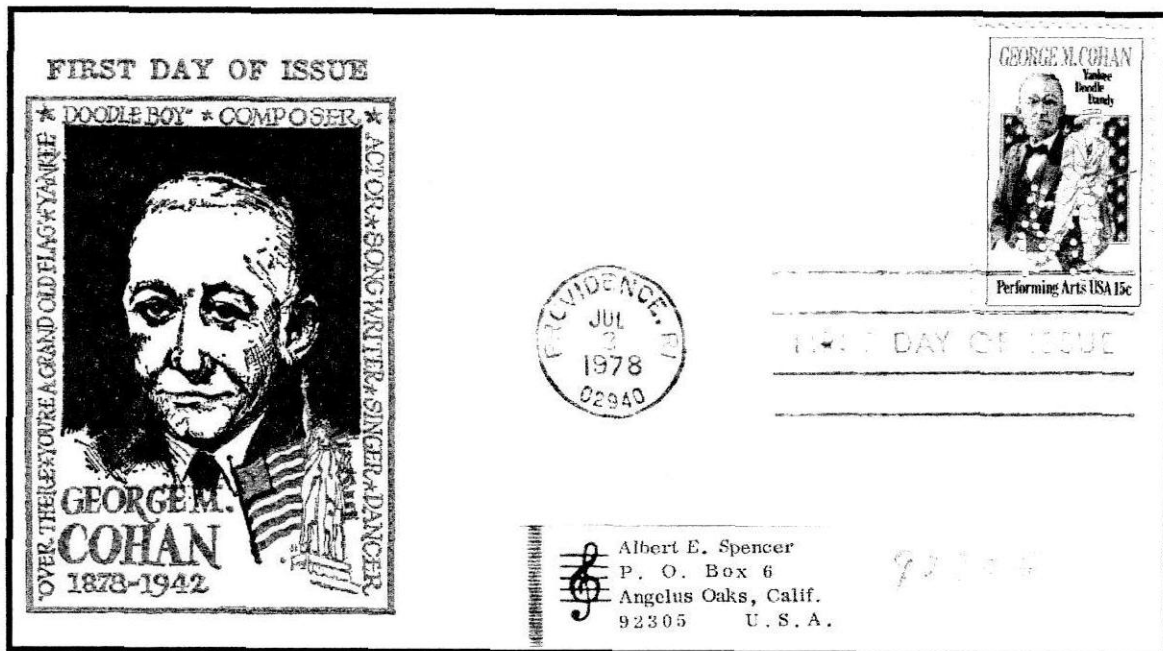
First Day of Issue Perfin

Brad Baker (LM 3766)

In January 2007 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin* (Volume 61, page 5), the article "Perfin Oddity" shows a perfined "First Day Cover" of the 1965 Salvation Army Commemorative (Scott 1267). In the article, Bob Szymanski asked if any Perfins Club members knew of other First Day Covers with a perfined stamp.

Shown here is a First Day of Issue cover of the George M. Cohen commemorative stamp (Scott 1756) from the 1978 Performing Arts Series. The stamp has perfin pattern A238P, a personal punch of Albert E. Spencer.

Are there other perfined "First Day Covers" that other members would like to share?



Prescription for Fun

Bob Schwerdt (#505-L)

The Prescription

1. Select one populated island
2. Examine atlas or large map of that island
3. Make a list of towns located on that island
4. Accumulate a large amount of large-size, light-colored stamps with perfin from that island
5. Compare postmarks on perfin issues with town list
6. Compile want list of needed postmarks missing from perfin issues
7. Locate collector with similar interest and same island
8. Correspond and swap
9. Have fun (steps 1 through 8)!

#1. I chose Tasmania as the island for my fun. Approximately the size of Sri Lanka, Tasmania is about 2000 square miles larger than West Virginia and about 2000 square miles smaller than Maine. Originally called Van Diemen's Land by Abel Tasman, its discoverer, the island was eventually named Tasmania, and its stamps were so inscribed in 1870. By 1990 the island had about one-half million inhabitants and sufficient towns scattered about to make this island's perfins fun to study.

#2 & #3. The number of towns gleaned from a National Geographic map of 1948 and from the 1992 Readers Digest Atlas totals some 70+ (some were islands). Naturally, not all towns are included in small scale maps, and, certainly, through the years, some towns can lose their identities by consolidation, by abandonment, or by a change of name. Seventy towns is just about the right number for my fun.

#4. Of course, as any perspicacious reader knows, I already had a large accumulation of Tasmanian perfins before I chose the island for this project. Since most of my material consisted of "T"

official perfins in large 1d (value 1 pence) carmine stamps, I had little difficulty spotting town postmarks with circular date cancels. Variations in the "T" perfins are numerous because of the two-step punching: once horizontal and once vertical. But the perfins are another story: for this study they are incidental to the postmarks - it's just that I had a slew of issues with the "T" perfin to play with.

#5. After examining my perfin accumulation (I am still having fun with the identifications), I can account for 28 town cancels of those towns on the atlas and map lists, plus a few towns that were not shown on the maps. Some partial and blurred postmarks were a trifle troublesome, but if I should acquire a correspondent (#7, #8) I'll resolve their identities.

#6. I have not yet completed a want list. Perhaps a correspondent will pressure me to do this?

Some of the postmarks are illustrated here. The first eight show corresponding town names of those also found on the maps:



Cape Barren Island



Fingal



Hobart



Latrobe

Prescription for Fun (cont.)



Parattah



Penguin



Sheffield



Ulverstone

St. Leonards was not found on either map, nor were the next two partials: ...andy Bay and ...ontville



St. Leonards



..andy Bay



..ontville

There is a Sandy Cape in Tasmania so there might also be a Sandy Bay? The second item suggests a missing "M" for Montville, but the absent letter(s) could be anything.

#9. I have already had much fun and will surely have more as the study progresses and more "T" perfin arrive with legible postmarks.

Footnote #1. Webster's New Geographical Dictionary can be helpful in the fun process and also Scott's Catalog if you wish to identify the perfin stamp issues via watermarks and perforations.

Footnote #2. Additional fun can be achieved by investigating which government agencies or offices from so many towns were required to use the official "T" perfin.

Footnote #3. Now if I could find a large batch of perfins from any of these other islands: Newfoundland, Crete, Malta, or Cyprus with legible town postmarks, I could start to have fun all over again! There just may not be a sufficient number of towns on these small islands to provide the necessary fun for me, so I recommend Tasmania. And for you fun-loving U.S. collectors... consider Hawaii, or Puerto Rico, or...

Auction Watch

Chris Reuger (#1834) spotted an interesting item in
Nutmeg's Auction #175

Lot 7224 - Jordan - Revenue Group, SPECIMEN Perfins VF, NH, four mgn blks of 6 of 1D, 2D, 5D &: 10D values, each w/ large perfin "LDLR/SPECIMEN" across all 6 stamps, only one sheet prepared, Scarce—EV - \$1200

Chris also found several Beer Revenue Perfins in
Schuyler Rumsey Philatelic Auction #31

Lot 3322 - Beer, 1866 Issues, 6 singles; including REA1, REA1 cut to shape, REA2-4 & REA5a; some minor flaws, F.-V.F. Scott No. REA1//REA5a; \$1,265. Realized \$450

Lot 3339 - Beer, 1902, 16-2/3¢ yellow orange, bright blue paper, top margin single with "Sixth Barrel" imprint, perforated cancel, F.-V.F. Scott No. REA76d; Realized \$150

Lot 3340 - Beer, 1902, 16-2/3¢ yellow orange on dark blue, perforated cancel, Fine, only 36 recorded in Priester census. Scott No. REA76a; \$225.

Lot 3342 - Beer, 1914 (50¢) on 33-1/3¢ violet on bright blue, diagonal surcharge in yellow, perforated cancel, about Fine appearance, rare with only 20 recorded in Priester census. Scott No. REA99a; Realized \$325

Lot 3343 - Beer, 1914 (75¢) on 50¢ black on blue, purple 50mm signature surcharge, perforated cancel, F.-V.F. Scott No. REA100c; Realized \$60

Lot 3344 - Beer, 1902, \$2 dark brown, pale green paper, perforated cancel, Average appearance, still a presentable example of this rare stamp, with 11 examples reported in Priester. Scott No. REA81b; Realized \$260

Lot 3345 - Beer, 1914 (\$15) on \$10 black, center cutout, perforated cancel, Very Fine. Scott No. REA104; Realized \$45

Lot 3346 - Beer, 1918 (\$1.50) on 37½¢ green, greenish blue paper, group A, Priester type 156 surcharge in purple, perforated cancel, bold color on bright paper; a lovely example of this very rare key beer issue, Priester census reports 4 examples of this issue with only 1 or 2 having the type 156 surcharge. Scott No. REA138; 1,250.

Lot 3347 - Beer, 1914, \$1.50 on \$1 carmine, purple surcharge handstamp with 50mm signature, perforated cancel, Fine, a very rare and undervalued provisional issue with Priester census recording only 5 examples. Scott No. REA101a; Realized \$270

Lot 3348 - Beer, 1934, 1/6bb1. purple, perforated cancel; F.-V.F. Scott No. REA182; \$150. Realized \$35

Also, from the **Matthew Bennett Sale #330**, Chris noted the following

Lot 1809 - 1917, \$5 light green (480), used bottom plate no. 8016 block of six, San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank perfin: "FRB/SF", bright and fresh, neat San Francisco "FERRY" double oval cancels, F.-V.F. and rare. Estimate \$400-600, Realized \$300.

Lot 2467 - France, Airmail, 1930, 1.50fr ultramarine, "E.I.P.A." perfins (C6b), full original gum, never hinged, Very Fine. Scott \$700. Cérés P.A.6c. Expertization: signed Calves. Cérés Euro 725 (\$914) Realized \$220.

Stephen Tauber (#2949) noted several perfin lots on e-Bay. Italicized comments in brackets below are Stephen's. Some of the more interesting ones are:

Item number: 230284929232 - FRANCE YV#6c Used CTO Perfin Error Signed Calves! Description: FRANCE YV#6c Used CTO Perfin Error Signed Calves! Very Rare!! Starting Bid \$279.99, No Bids [Pattern 'E.I.P.A.30' in position 5 in the selvage. Cancelled at the exhibition.]

Item number: 320292114081- # 311, Used Fine, PERFIN. Sound. CV \$ 80.00. Sound. CV \$ 80.00; 3 bids; winning bid \$11.05. [Pattern 'G(E)'. Off-center to top & left; center line at bottom.]

Item number: 120135256509 - 3 Old U.S.Presidents STAMPS with Perfins, Great Cancel; Buy it Now Price: \$24.99. [One of the 6¢ red orange Washington-Franklins (which one is not specified in the listing) and two copies of the 1932 Washington regular. Has been re-listed several times.]

Item number: 350009210476 - SUDAN-SG PERFIN / PUNCTURED OFFICIALS VFU RARE-5, Description: Sudanese Government Officials (SG), Rare, Very high catalog value. Buy it Now Price: \$11.00, [Three stamps of the camel soldier series: 1 pi. & two colors of the 2 pi.]

Member's Want Ads

Wanted: Italian and Italian Area PERFINS - I have some US and foreign perfin as well as regular stamps available for trade but I am also willing to buy. Italian Area would include Colonies, Occupations, Fiume, Trieste, etc. On/Off cover. Ken Sultana, POB 640233, Oakland Gardens, New York 11364-0233: e-mail: kjs2@rcn.com.

Wanted: Single perfin copy of the following functional issues for a reference collection.

Austria – Airpost
Denmark – Airpost
Great Britain – Railway (non-Scott)
India – Official
Tunisia – Semi-Postal
United States – Playing Card
Name your price or swap requirements. Bob Schwerdt, 9 Memory Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5231

Wanted: Swedish cover with perfin NK (in circle) from Nordiska Kompaniet, Stockholm. I will pay high price! Stellan Swenson, Odonbärsvägen 32, SE-293 41 OLOFSTRÖM, Sweden

Advertisements are published 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 perfin 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 Perfin Club nor the editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the advertisements. Payment for the ads should be made payable to 'The Perfin Club' and sent to the editor with the request for insertion.

Upcoming Event

Jerry Hejduk has sent the following notice with the details of the Florida Precancel Club Annual Winter Meet. You will see that the Florida Perfin Exchange is part of this event. In addition to Jerry, several other members of the Perfin Club plan to

participate in this fun time. This would be a good excuse to escape the cold, renew old acquaintances, meet new friends and add to your perfin collection, all at the same time.

**Florida Precancel Club (FPC)
Annual Winter Meet
February 11-14, 2009
La Quinta Inn Orlando/Winter Park
Lee Road at the I-4 Interchange**

The Meet will feature:
Three day stamp bourse with 15 dealer tables
Annual Meeting of the FPC
Live Auction
The Florida Perfin Exchange
Release of the 2009 FPC Town & Type Precancel Album
Review of the updated Florida Precancel War & Defense Checklist
Field Testing of the PSS Style Chart Reference Cards

For hotel reservations call (407) 645-5600, request the Florida Precancel Club Rate and room location near the Ballroom. For additional meeting information, call Jerry Hejduk at (352) 326-2117 or write/email to P. O. Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749
flprepers@comcast.net

PERFINS CLUB STAMP SALES CIRCUIT 101

Bob Combs (LM#24)

Perfins Club Stamp Circuit Sales Manager

Hello Perfins Club Members! This mini-article should act as a Sales Circuit Guide and primer for those of you not aware there is a sales circuit associated with the club.

The stamp sales department has an accumulation of nearly 40,000 + stamps on hand for members to look through. The percentage of US versus the World is about 40 (US) to 60 (World). Within the US, we have nearly every type, definitive, commemorative, revenue, Airmail, prepers, you name it. Values covers the range from A's (a very few) to E's & F's (lots and lots). Foreign has many countries to choose from with a fairly good spattering from around the globe. Some are in abundance, some aren't.

BUYERS: Are you thinking of joining the group? Do you need something to fill a hole in your collection? If so, email or write me and I will get a few forms out your way that explains what you need to know, such as:

1. You can expect a circuit about every other month.
2. The club fees charged are nominal (1% of total circuit value). However, you are responsible for Postage and insurance in both directions.
3. Your interests can be either US or Foreign, or a mixture of both.
4. Circuits contain a number of packages, each containing a number of perfins. Lower value items are in packages of up to 100, more expensive types are in booklets of up to 100 items.
5. I cannot, due to the number of items on hand, do specific stamp, town, pattern, series or whatever want lists. Looking through the packages is most of the fun anyway.
6. One can keep the items for several weeks to look through, and if you need longer, let me know so I don't send the Federallies out looking for you.
7. Pricing varies from \$0.05 to \$15.00 each.

SELLERS: Have spare items sitting around? Why not sell them through the sales circuits and help out a few members to boot! If interested, contact me and more forms (don't you just love them?) will be on their way to you so that you can become an active member of the sales team.

1. Submissions have no time limit. Sales items are returned either when they sell out, or seller requests them back.
2. You, the seller, determine the pricing of your items. TIP: Lower priced items sell faster than higher priced items (go figure).
3. The club charges a 15% fee on all items sold.
4. Group all like items in the same package, F's & E's can be grouped, D's, C's, B's & A's should be separated, unless they are to be contained in sales booklets, available from the Circuit Sales Department. \$0.50 each or 12 for \$5.00. Group foreign items by country, again, unless mounted in sales booklets, which should be grouped at least by continent.
5. I can supply you with a rough guide for pricing if you need one.
6. Payment is usually made 2 times per year, unless low sales deem it otherwise. You should however, receive a statement at least 2 times per year showing your account activity.
7. Circuit numbers are assigned by the circuit sales department.

This has been a short synopsis of the Perfins Club Stamp Sales Circuit operation. Now, for the sales pitch! We are in need of just about anything. Better US or Foreign ALWAYS needed. Please contact me if you have any items you would like to sell!

I hope this has been helpful, and that a few of you might decide to give the circuits a try. I look forward to helping each and every one of you find the items you need for your collections. My contact information is on page 2 of this *Bulletin*.

Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

New Members:

3895 Bette Gore
909 Barclay Court
Venice FL 34293-2304
Beginner, Letter B & Unusual Designs
bettegore@aol.com
Recommended: Jerry Hejduk

3896 Raymond Chaon
909 22nd St
Mendota IL 61342-1105
rcstamp@comcast.net
Recommended: Jerry Hejduk

3897 John Munro-Cape
RR 3
Picton ON
CANADA K0K 2T0
Intermediate, Canada Scott #249
twofournine9@kos.net
Recommended: WEB

Welcome Back:

3800 William Birmingham
3806 Wayne Duerkes
3824 Robert Garrity
3348 Dominick Labarbiera
~~3781~~ Alexander Marks, Jr 3871
3767 Ted Steinbeck
2298 Edith Stephens
3819 Alfred Weiner
1973 Louis Wolf

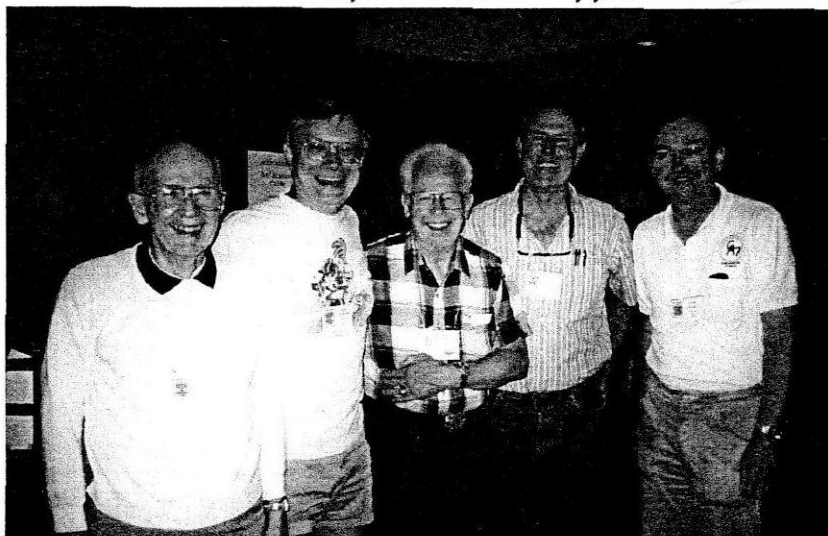
The Welcome Back list is large due to Bob Szymanski's letter writing skills to those who forgot to pay their dues. Thank you Bob.

email Change:

2284 Steve Endicott - perfins@gmail.com

Membership 489

Some Perfin Club Officers



Since a picture is worth a thousand words, President Bob Szymanski sent this photo taken at the 2003 Annual Convention held in Pittsburgh. From left to right, the members pictured are: Bob Schwerdt (#505-L), former

Foreign Catalog Editor; Bob Szymanski (LM#155), President; Dick Mewhinney (#LM60), Past President; Ed Linn (#LM57) Immediate Past President; and Doug Turner (#2549) Vice-President.

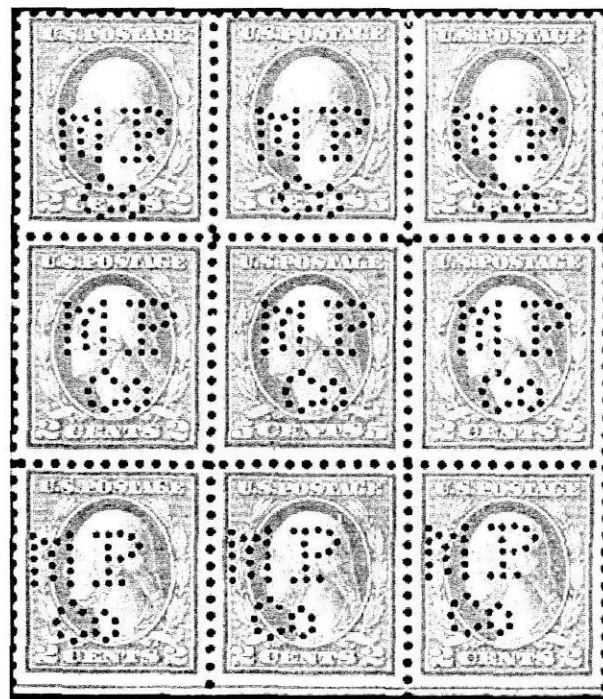
A Very Interesting Perfin at Auction

Chris Reuger (#1834) spotted a very interesting and possibly unique perfin (shown at right) in the Matthew Bennett International Auction #330 that closed December 4, 2008.

If you will look closely at the upper two stamps in the center row, you will see that these are the 5-cent rose error. My references indicate that about 75,000 of this SC#505 (perf. 11) were issued and survived. {The same error was also found on the SC#467 (perf. 10) and SC#485 (imperforate), with even a lower number of each surviving.}

The perfin is pattern M205, with a D+ rating. The primary identification is Moline Plow Company, Moline, IL with several additional identifications in the supplemental pages.

Since this one is unused, I wonder if there are used perfin copies out there? Check your stock and duplicates. What a find that would be!! What a story that would make!!



1917, 5¢ rose error (505), the double error in a block of 9, perfin "MP/Co", original gum, never hinged, F.-V.F. and quite possibly unique. Scott \$1,150+; The final hammer price was \$800.

(Scan reproduced courtesy of Matthew Bennett International and the current owner.)