

July/August 2012

The Bulletin

Volume 66, Number 4

Whole Number 635

- Meet a Member - John Welsch
- A "Split" POKO
- **S183** Cover found in Australia
- **O47** - User name clarified
- 1908 Checklist available
- **A305** - User I.D. and connection to *The Titanic*
- Specialty perfins collection mounting system
- **B180** - User corrected
- Auction #127
- Auction #125 - Prices realized

A Call for Attendance at the Annual Convention and Business Meeting

Jerry Hejduk (LM #3710)

As you know, the combined Convention of the Perfins Club and the Precancel Stamp Society will be held August 6 through 11, 2012, at the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, Albuquerque, NM. The program for the Convention, showing each day's events with the time they will happen, was mailed to all U.S. Perfins Club members a few weeks ago. This mailing also included information about the many of the outside activities that you may want to enjoy while in Albuquerque.

The Perfins Club Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8 at 2:00 p.m. in one of the hotel's meeting rooms. Following the business meeting, Steve Endicott (LM#2284), the U.S. Catalog Chairman, will give a seminar on the unique features of the U.S. Perfins e-Catalog.

Please note in the tentative agenda found below the

items of business that are scheduled for review and comment. In Old Business, the Club Treasurer will present "draft" guidelines for the use of Club Transit Insurance (CTI) program that was approved at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Madison, WI. Under New Business there are two items concerning the election of a Club Officer and a Director-at-Large.

Because of time limitations, it will not be possible to consider unscheduled items of business at the meeting. Any such requests will be forwarded to the Executive Board for consideration at a future date.

Please remember that in addition to the hour and a half needed for the Club's business meeting, there will be many more hours of stamping: buying, selling, and trading to enhance your collection. I sincerely hope to see you in Albuquerque in August.

The Perfins Club

2012 Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, August 8, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

Tentative Agenda

Call to Order
 Members Self Introduction/Collecting Interests
 Minutes of Previous Meeting
 Treasurer's Report
 Committee Reports
 Club Auction
 Cover Sales
 Foreign Catalog
 Librarian
 Perfins Bulletin
 Perfin Sales
 Publication Sales
 Sunshine
 U.S. Catalog
 U.S. Revenue Catalog

Old Business
 Promulgation of Guidelines for Club Transit Insurance (CTI)
 New Business
 Reappointment of the Club Treasurer
 Nominations for Director-at-Large
 Special Activities
 Society Booth at APS Meetings
 Good and Welfare
 Announcements
 2012 Floyd Walker Award
 2012 Hallock Card Award
 Closed Albums
 Adjournment

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

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The Perfins Club membership is open to all persons interested in the collection and study of Perforated Initials and Insignia in postage stamps. Yearly dues are \$15 for U.S., \$18 for Canada and \$25 for other Non-U.S. Since the club is on a July 1 to June 30 dues year, appropriate dues adjustments are made the first year based on the actual date of membership. Annual dues include a subscription to *The Perfins Bulletin*, mailed bulk rate printed matter. Mailing by 1st Class for an additional postage charge. Applications are available at www.perfins.org or from the Secretary listed above.

Please submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to:

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

Meet a Member

John H. Welsch (#3822)

My passions are Philately and Organic Gardening. I was introduced to stamp collecting in Fort Worth, TX, for my Boy Scout Merit Badge. I first collected Worldwide, and then settled for U.S. First Day Covers and Space related material.

I left it all for years to get my B.A. degree in Spanish at Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA, start a family, and move to Austin, TX. I started working for the University of Texas at Austin (U.T. Austin) as a groundskeeper in 1981. My first marriage did not last long, but I stayed with U.T. Austin growing, planting and maintaining the annual flower beds. I am now Greenhouse Specialist after 30 years with U.T. I remarried in 1987 to my Dublin, Ireland, born wife.

In 2002 my brother sent me my old stamp collections that he had saved and I started collecting again. At first, all U.S., then specializing in the Washington-Franklin Issues, specializing again in

Vending and Affixing Machine Perforations (VAMP's). This led to getting John Randall's (#1336) 1998 edition of the *Catalog of United States Perfins*, just for the information on Schermack Control Perfins.

When my VAMP's collections filled out and only expensive items were needed, I turned to Perfins. I am now collecting U.S. Perfins and covers, U.S. Revenues, and Personal Punches. I also collect Mexico, including perfins, covers, and Revenues; Ireland perfins; and Cuba perfins and covers.

I have my own Personal Perfin Punch that I have adopted - the number "4" from an antique Cummins check perforator. (See page 42 of the March/April 2012 *The Perfins Bulletin* [66:42].)

I still enjoy my work at U.T. Austin, and, at age 57, I could retire and spend more time in Philatelic Research and Organic Gardening. However, that is not going to happen for a while.

Last Chance for Albuquerque

Ken Masters (#3589)

In the past several issues of the *Bulletin*, including the front page of this one, we have encouraged you to seriously consider attending this year's annual Convention in Albuquerque, NM. From close personal experience, I realize that sometimes health, family circumstances, work, finances, or other responsibilities prevent your attendance. However, if you think you will become bored or not have enough to keep you busy, let me assure you that this most certainly is not true!

First, there is the wide assortment of perfins and perfin covers, both U.S. and foreign, for you to acquire by purchase or trade to fill the "holes" in your collection. Many of the more experienced Club members bring boxes of their duplicates for you to search through. They will also have some single items that do not fit their collection. As they would rather this material find a good, loving home in your collection rather than remain in a dark box, the prices are usually very attractive.

When you need a break, Albuquerque has many interesting and exciting activities. Among these are a hot air balloon ride, a trip on the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway, the ABQ Bio Park (the Zoo, Botanic Garden, etc.), or a day trip to Santa Fe by train.

As at prior Conventions, the ladies (trailing spouses, stamp toleraters, friends) get together and organize their own fun. This will certainly include shopping, museums, and just relaxing. A "Ladies' Movie Afternoon" is planned for Thursday, and the "Ladies' Breakfast and Books" is scheduled for Friday morning.

Finally, you will not want to miss the Saturday evening Banquet. Mr. Alan Osborne, a world class expert on the history of the U.S. southwest, will be the speaker. He is intrigued by the historical interest that stamp collectors have. In his talk about the southwest, he will spend time discussing the pre-Columbian history, the Spanish period (1500 to the mid 1800's), and then the takeover by the U.S.

Now a request. Material is always needed for the Convention auction that is planned for Thursday afternoon. Donations are preferred, but consignments (15% commission) are OK. All auction proceeds help offset the cost of the ballroom where the bourse is held.

So, there is lots to do and fun for everyone. Make you hotel reservations now (1-866-505-7829 or 1-505-843-6300) and look forward to a great time in Albuquerque!

Heard from a Member

Ken Masters (#3589)

I recently received an email from David Coath (LM#3722) inquiring about the specifics of the technique that I use to electronically lift and compare perfins with a catalog image, another perfin, etc. I replied back to David that other members have also recently made a similar request, and I am currently in the process preparing step-by-step instructions describing my technique. I expect to complete these instructions by late July and then plan to offer them at no charge to our members.

With that being said, before the complete instructions are ready for distribution, following are some of the highlights of the process that I use that you may find helpful.

- My technique has been developed using Adobe® Photoshop® Elements software. I am sure there are several other software packages that can be used for this work. For instance, a similar technique using Corel PaintShop Pro® was published in the June 2012 issue of the *American Philatelist*.⁽¹⁾
- My technique is based on an article by our former Editor, Paul Mistretta (LM#111), published on pages 26 and 27 of the March 2002 *Bulletin* [56:26-27] where he shows how to electronically “lift” a perfin from a

cover. If you do not have a copy of Paul’s article, it is available at the Club’s website, www.perfins.org, under the “Publications” tab. One of the advantages of this on-line version is the links to the color images of the images shown in the article.

- Paul’s article is based on the complete Adobe Photoshop software. I have found the much less expensive Adobe Photoshop Elements software is satisfactory for what I am doing for the *Bulletin*.
- Finally, Paul mentions scanning the image at 600 ppi. Certainly, the higher resolution of the scan, the better. However, I have found 300 ppi resolution seems to work well and keeps the file sizes manageable. The important factor is that all files that are being compared must be the same resolution.

If you would like to receive a copy of my technique, please send me an email request to krmasters@aol.com. I will then forward you a PDF copy by return email when it is complete.

Reference:

1. Murphy, Raymond H.; “Visual Comparison of Complex Objects” *American Philatelist*, Vol. 126, No. 6, June 2012, pp 562-565.

Perfin Exhibits win Awards!

Ken Masters (#3589)

We are excited to report that Perfin Club member Jerry Moore’s (#3687) won a Vermeil medal at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show (ROMPEX 2012), May 18-20, 2012, Denver, CO, for his multi-frame exhibit *The Perfins of Sweden*. Congratulations Jerry on this accomplishment!

Now that he has had a taste of exhibiting, Jerry says he will not be satisfied until he wins a Gold. Currently he is completely reworking his exhibit to accommodate the judges’ comments in time for the Minneapolis, MN, and Sacramento, CA, shows in July and August respectfully. We wish you the best at these shows and look forward to hearing the results of your efforts.

We also learned that two non-Club members received awards at the Portland Philatelic

Exhibitions (PIPEX 2012), May 11-13, 2012, Portland, OR, for their perfin exhibits. First, David McNamee won a Gold medal for *Perfins on Tasmanian Stamps*. He also received the “Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania Bronze Award.” Then in the Youth Division, Lauren Maralt won a Bronze medal for *Perfins by Color*. Congratulations to both of you. Perhaps we have a couple of new member prospects for the Club.

Now my request to all of you. First, if any of you enter a perfins exhibit in local, national, or international stamp show, please let me know so we can recognize your time and efforts in the *Bulletin*. Second, if you notice a perfin exhibit at stamp show, please forward the details to me so we can report that also. My contact information is on page 82.

A "Split" POKO

Rudy Roy (#1124)

POKO perfins can be an interesting area in which to specialize. As many of you may not know what a POKO perfins is, I offer a brief background.

POKO is the acronym for "Porto Kontroll Kasse" - German for "Postage Control Register." It was a stamp affixing machine, similar to the U.S. Schermack, Mail-o-Meter, etc. machines. While the term "Schermack perfin" has come to be the generic term for U.S. machine affixed perfin stamps, POKO has likewise taken on the same for European machine affixed perfin stamps.

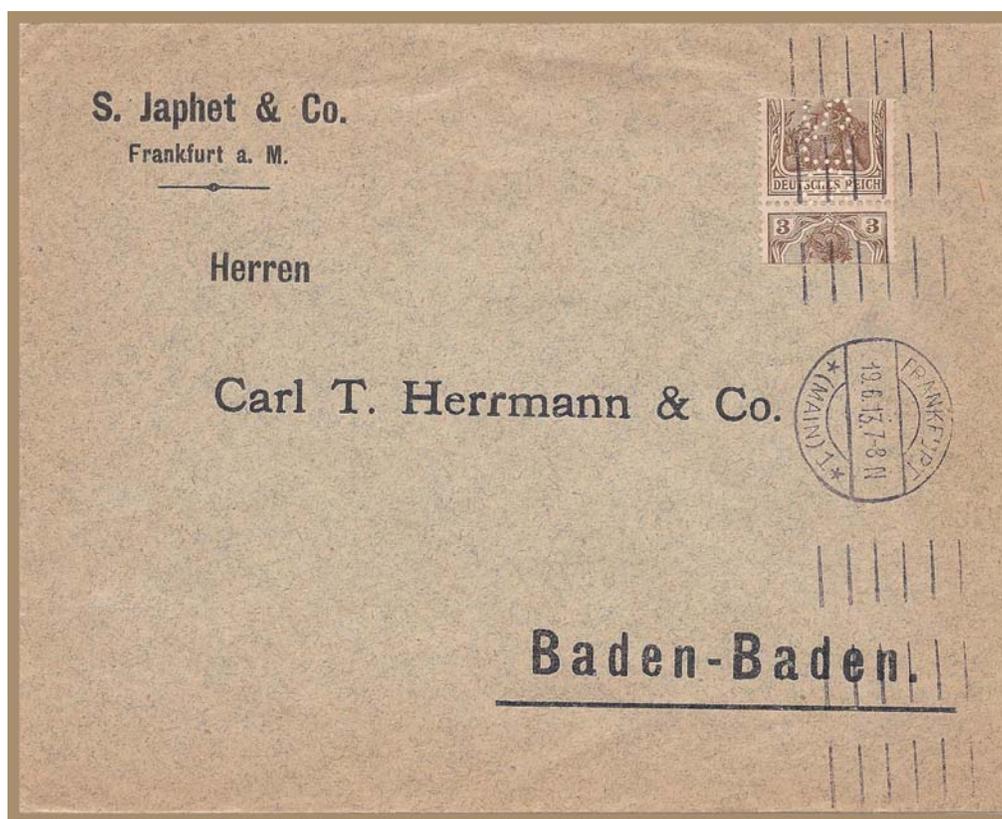
The basic operation was to dispense a stamp and affix it to an envelope in one operation, thereby speeding up a mailing operation, especially a large volume mailing. Also, in most cases, included as part of the machine operation was perforating into the stamp initials or some similar identifying marking.

The advent of these various machines resulted in the development of coil stamps of some type - some privately produced from sheet stamps, and others supplied by the postal authorities. Along with coil development it was also necessary to devise means

and methods to get the coil rolls to satisfactorily dispense through the machines. In addition to the Schermack type perforations, many others were developed, such as the special "POKO" perforations in the Netherlands sheet stamps, and Great Britain and German coil stamps.

Since these machines were mechanical, alignment of the coil roll with the perforating and dispensing mechanisms was necessary for successful operation. That said, precision was not so critical that operation was stopped if perfection in applying the perfins or dispensing the stamps was not always achieved.

Illustrated below is probably one of the most extreme examples I have seen where the alignment of the coil roll with the perforating and dispensing operation of a machine was nearly 50 percent off, yet the operation continued and a stamp was affixed and the item sent through the mail. As can be seen the stamp was cut on either side of the horizontal perforations. Interestingly, the S. Japhet & Co. perfin "SJC(o)" is almost complete in the upper half of the stamp.



S. Japhet & Company, Frankfurt, Germany cover.
Franked with very poorly aligned POKO perfinned stamp.
"SJC(o)" perfin nearly complete.
(85% of actual size.)

S183 Perfinned Cover in Australia

Ken Masters (#3589)

A couple of months ago I was pleased to receive an email from one of my friends in Australia, John Mathews. John was the Secretary of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia until his retirement from the job very recently. He was one of the first to contact me after I became *Bulletin* Editor and we have maintained our complimentary exchange of our club's respective *Bulletins* since then.

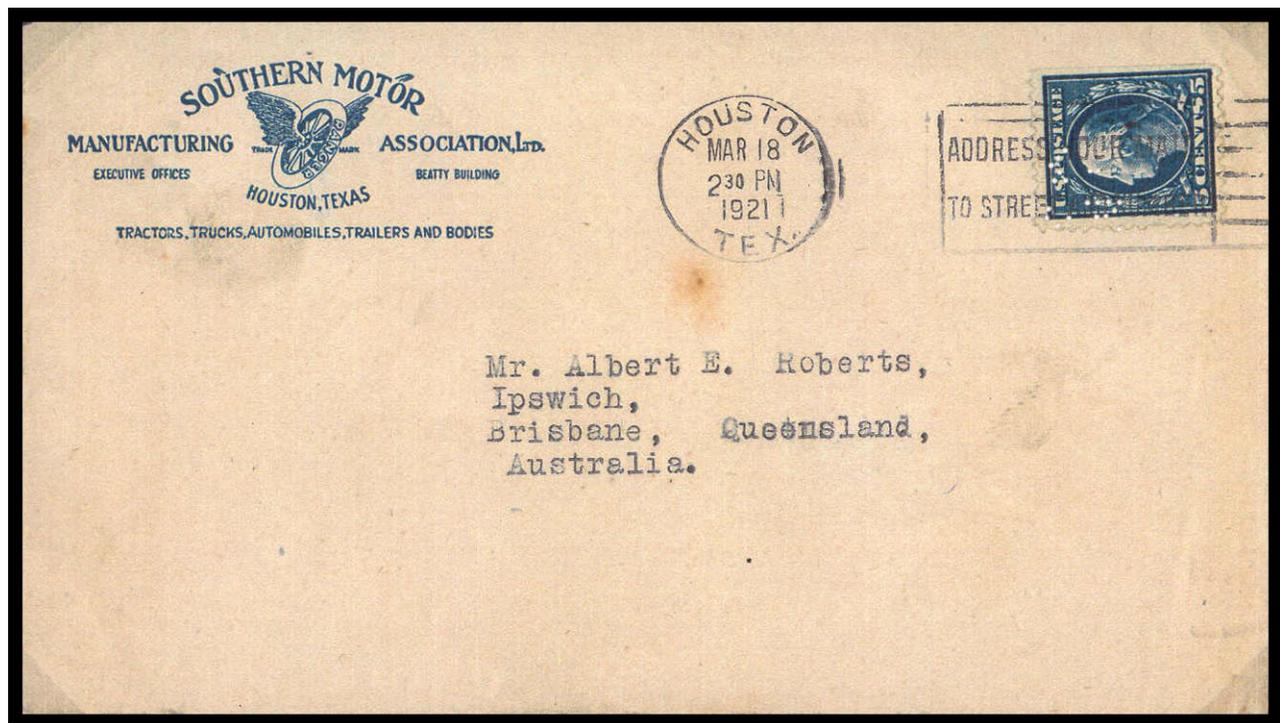
In his email John ask me about the identification of the user of pattern **S183** (SM/SA). He indicated that a friend of his had recently shown him a cover with an **S183** perfin sent from the "Southern Motor Manufacturing Association, Ltd., Houston, TX." As the user for this pattern is not identified in the 1979 *Catalog of United States Perfins* that they have, they thought this item might be the "proving" cover.

I responded that the current 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins* shows the verified user of pattern **S183** is indeed the "Southern Motor Manufacturing Association, Houston, TX." Thus, while it is not the "proving" cover, our members might enjoy seeing an image of it in the *Bulletin* as the perfin is an A rate with eleven or less surviving copies.

In order to develop the potential article, I asked John to email me a scan of the cover (shown below). After looking at the image, I was pleasantly surprised to notice that it was sent to "Mr. Albert E. Roberts, Ipswich, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia." What business did a company in Houston, TX, have with an individual in Ipswich, Queensland, in 1921?

The Southern Motors Manufacturing Association, Ltd., operated Houston, TX's, only automobile assembly plant.^(1,2) The company was in existence between 1919 - 1922, and produced just 22 of their "Ranger" automobiles during 1920 and 1921. Only one is known to have survived and it is now on display at Vida's Vintage Vehicles Museum located near Houston.⁽²⁾

According to one source, the company was really a stock manipulation deal.⁽²⁾ Potential investors would be taken for a drive in one of their cars or they would visit the plant on the east side of Houston where workers assembled and reassembled the same 22 cars again and again. Of course, the stock was worthless and it did not take long for the company to go out of business.



Southern Motor Manufacturing Association, Ltd., Houston, TX cover sent to Australia.
Franked with 5-cent Washington stamp perfinned with A-rate pattern S183.
(Actual size - not all holes of the perfin are visible.)

S183 Cover to Australia (cont.)

Early on and prior to producing any actual automobiles, the automotive trade press reported that the company established a branch office in Memphis, TN, where they offered tractors and trucks.⁽³⁾ They also established foreign offices in London, Cuba, and other locations in South America.

Now, what about the addressee on the cover? First, to clarify the geography, Ipswich is a city in southeast Queensland, Australia, located about 40 km west of Brisbane.⁽⁴⁾ However, it is considered part of the Greater Brisbane metropolitan area and is included in Brisbane's statistics.

The Roberts family were coach builders from Ipswich who expanded their trade and interests into all areas of transport.⁽⁵⁾ Albert Edward Roberts (born 1855) migrated from Wales to Brisbane in 1881. Then in 1886 he purchased the West Moreton Coach Works in Ipswich. The workshop made every kind of vehicle, from sulkies and delivery carts to high class carriages, hearses and omnibuses.

The cover is probably addressed to his son, Albert Edwin (Bert) Roberts who was born in 1878. Before entering the family business, Bert toured and worked in England, the U.S., and Canada, where he noted that motor car bodies were being built in some overseas coachworks. Upon his return to Ipswich in 1905, the A.E. Roberts Carriage Works expanded

into building motor car bodies. He started a car sales division in 1908 and added a Ford dealership to the business in 1913.

So, based on what we found about the two companies, a connection between them seems plausible. Maybe Southern Motor Manufacturing Association was attempting to interest Bert Roberts in investing in them and/or represent them in Australia. On the other hand, maybe Bert Roberts made the initial contact. While we will never know the details of the correspondence, we are now fairly certain of how a U.S. S183 perfin ended up on a cover sent to Australia.

[A special thanks goes to John Mathews for sharing the image of this cover with us and his Internet research about the Roberts family from Ipswich.]

References:

1. <http://books.google.com/books>; search "Sketches from the Five States of Texas," page 10.
2. http://www.chron.com/CDA/archives/archive.mpl/1985_21859/vida-s-home-for-vintage-vehicles.html
3. <http://books.google.com/books>; search "The Commercial Car Journal, August 15, 1919," page 66.
4. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ipswich,_Queensland
5. <http://www.qm.qld.gov.au/Find+out+about/Histories+of+Queensland/Queensland+families/Roberts+family>

Perfin lots can be full of surprises!

Mike Sterrett (#3888)

A while ago I purchased a large U.S. perfins lot in one of the private auctions that Bob Szymanski (LM#151) has been holding, and I recently had some time to spend going through and finding different items of interest. Pictured below is one such item that I stumbled across.



"Surprise" pair of Scott #901 stamps that were folded before being perfined with pattern N188.

I wasn't sure what I had when I first looked at this perfin pair, but, after a little searching, D-rated pattern N188 (NY/DA), used by the "New York Department of Agriculture, Albany, NY," is the clear answer. Originally, I had thought the pair was folded when perfined and one letter was an "A"

and the other looked like a "W." Having the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog) solved this dilemma.

After checking the "Defense" issues check list published by Fran Stunzi (#2665) in 2009 and 2010, N188 is not reported in the 3-cent Scott #901. Thus, this pair provides an additional pattern for this issue.

Also, checking the U.S. Perfins Catalog the period of usage shows to 1938 - extended to 1940 in A&C#3. Therefore, while the pair does not add any additional information to the Catalog, it does have a nice 1941 cancel near the bottom of the left stamp. If the Catalog dates are ever changed in the future to reflect actual years of use, this could be a valuable input.

You never know what you might find in the next group of perfins you look through, but it feels good to share the information with everyone else! I can say that I am having a lot of fun and *The Perfins Bulletin* is always anxiously anticipated!

U.S. Pattern O47 - Clarification of User Name

Dan Fellows (#3364)

Recently, I came across two intriguing covers franked with fractional rate stamps in a box of junk covers that I had purchased a few years ago. (Figure 1 below and Figure 2 on page 89.) After looking closely, I determined that the stamps on both are perfined with E-rated pattern **O47** (OLV). The oval cancels appear to contain an incomplete postmark of Lackawanna, NY.

The current *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog) lists the user of **O47** as "Our Lady of Victory Infant Home, Lackawanna, NY." As the return address on these covers is "Rt. Rev. Nelson H. Baker, Supt." and does not match the Catalog listing, I did some Internet research about Monsignor Baker. I found that he was born on February 10, 1841, and died on July 29, 1936.^(1,2) In 1882 he was assigned to the Limestone Hill Institutions, Lackawanna, NY, which were deeply in debt and facing foreclosure by their creditors.

Shortly after arriving at Limestone Hill, he formed the "Association of Our Lady of Victory" to pay their debts and, in turn, help the homeless and destitute children who lived there. Using the new concept of direct-mail fundraising, he wrote Catholic women

around the country asking for their help. They could join the "Association" for a donation of 25 cents per year.⁽³⁾ This effort was successful and the creditors were paid in full by June 1889 and Monsignor Baker was never in debt again.⁽⁴⁾

Subsequently, the donations were used to help build the immense "City of Charity" in Lackawanna. The "Our Lady of Victory Infant Home" was just one of the projects associated with this "City."⁽³⁾

Based on this research, I thought that the primary user listed in the U.S. Perfins Catalog for pattern **O47** should be revised. I forwarded what I had found to the U.S. Catalog Chairman and he agrees. The primary user for **O47** will be corrected to the "Association of Our Lady of Victory" in A&C #4 of the Catalog. At the same time, the current user, "Our Lady of Victory Infant Home," will be moved to the Supplemental Information.

The only clues we have to determine when these covers were mailed is the handwritten month and day notation on both covers along with the contents of the "12/14" cover. When I found these, the "3/21" cover had been opened and was empty. However, the "12/14" cover was still sealed shut. Upon opening it,

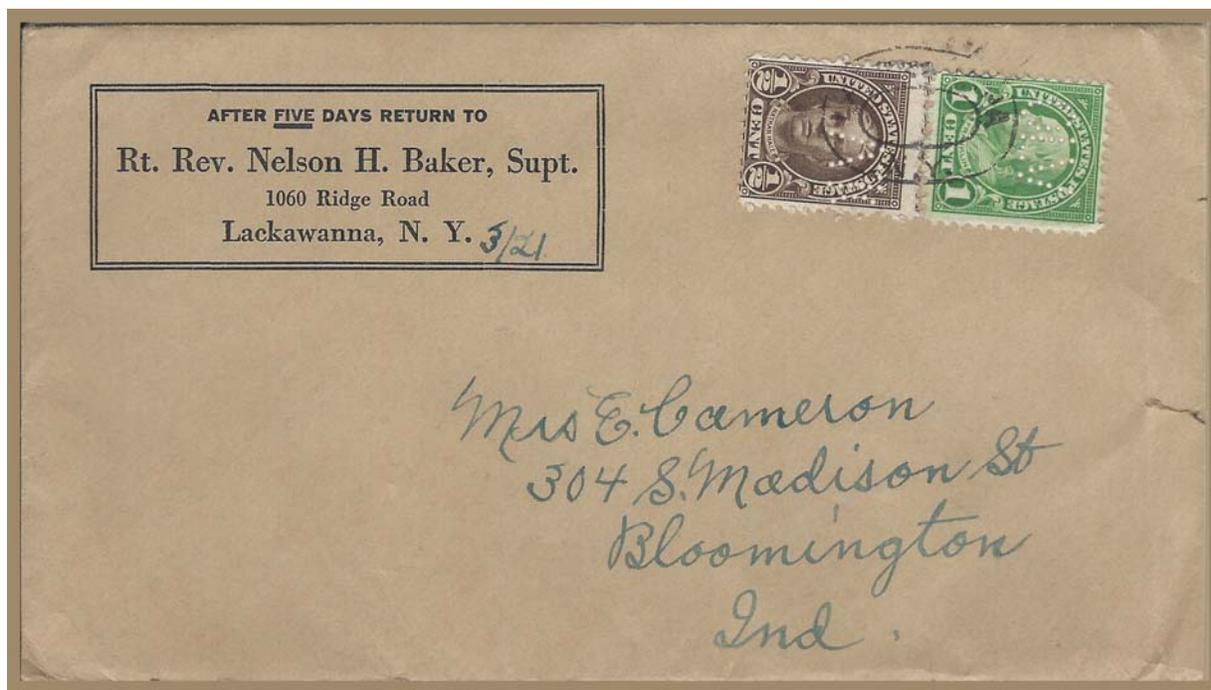


Figure 1

Cover sent by the Rt. Rev. Nelson H. Baker, founder of the Association of Our Lady of Victory, Lackawanna, NY. Franked with 1/2-cent Nathan Hale and 1-cent Franklin stamps perfined with E-rate pattern O47. Corrects primary user of pattern O47 to the "Association of Our Lady of Victory, Lackawanna, NY." Highly collectable usage of fractional postage to pay Third-Class rate. (95% of actual size - perfin in the 1/2-cent stamp is split.)

O47 User Name Clarification (cont.)

I found two cards and two small medals. One of the cards publicizes a "Remembrance of the Mission" to be given at the St. Charles Church, Bloomington, IN, on March 10 to 17, 1935.

Thus, my guess is that the "3/21" cover was mailed to Mrs. E. Cameron in Bloomington, IN, on March 21, 1934, and she subsequently joined the "Association." The "12/14" cover was mailed to her in Stinesville, IN, on December 14, 1934 to notify her of the scheduled March 1935 Remembrance. For some reason, this latter cover was never opened.

In my Internet research, I could not find any reference to this perfin or its use by Monsignor Baker. However, as the perfin is known to have been used in stamps issued as late as 1940, it appears someone carried on the fundraising efforts for some period of time after his death. As to the disposition of the O47 perforator, maybe it was donated to a WWII scrap metal drive, but we will never know.

After discovering this information about Monsignor Baker and the Association of Our Lady of Victory, I find it ironic that a charity would need to perfin their stamps to stop their theft. On the other hand, perhaps Monsignor Baker found that perfined stamps were a clever, low cost way to call attention to his mailing, and thus enhance his success rate.

[Editor's Note: From April 15, 1925, until January 1, 1945, the U.S. Third-Class postage rate was 1½ cents for the first 2 ounces.⁽⁵⁾ The ½-cent Nathan Hale and 1½-cent Warren Harding stamps were specifically developed and first issued in 1925 for this new Third-Class rate.⁽⁶⁾ Thus, the combination of the 1½ cents total postage and the undated, oval cancels indicate that both of these covers were sent by Third-Class mail. Because it is not common to find covers franked with perfined fractional rate stamps, such covers are sought by perfin collectors for their specialty collection. We are pleased to be able to show these examples in the *Bulletin*.]

References:

1. <http://www.catholictradition.org/Mary/victory.htm>
2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nelson_Baker
3. <http://buffalo-orphanage-studies.com/FatherBakerBegin.html>
4. <http://www.ourladyofvictory.org/Homes/Welcome.htm>
5. *U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-1993*, Wawrukiewicz, Anthony S. and Beecher, Henry W., The Traditions Press, Shawnee Mission, KS, Portland, OR; June 1994, Table 21, page 145.
6. *United States Postage Stamps 1902 - 1935*, Johl, Max. G., Quarterman Publications, Inc., Lawrence, MA; 1976, pages 287 and 309.

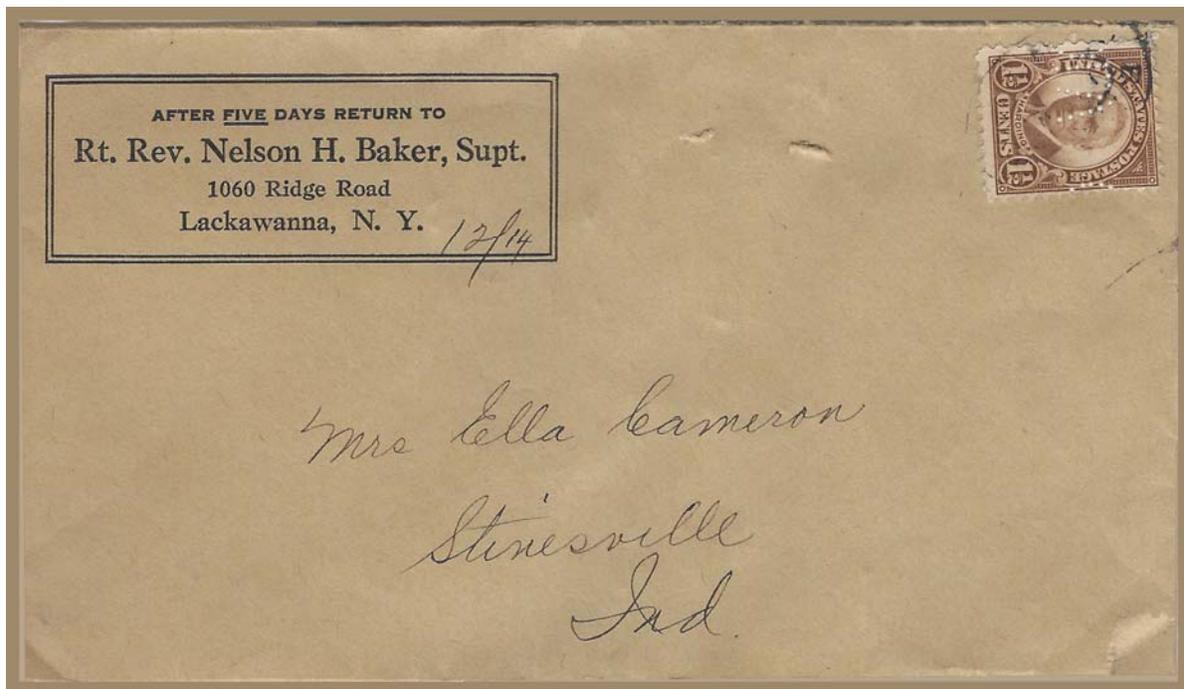


Figure 2
Second cover sent by Monsignor Baker from Lackawanna, NY.
Franked with 1½-cent Warren Harding stamp perfined with E-rate pattern O47 - pays Third-Class rate.
Confirms correction of the primary user of pattern O47.
Elongated holes in cover probably due to enclosing religious medals in the envelope.
(95 % of actual size - perfin is split.)

A Checklist of Perfins in the U.S. 1908 Issue

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

It has been surmised by collectors that there are more perfin patterns in the U.S. 1908 Two cent stamp than in any other stamp in the world. I cannot confirm that, but it certainly seems plausible.

I have compiled a list of perfins known to exist in the One cent (Scott #331 & #374) and in the Two cent (Scott #332 & #375) stamps. These Washington head stamps are easily distinguished from others because the denomination is spelled out in text rather than shown as a number. One reason that these stamps are interesting to collectors is that these are the only U.S. commercial postage stamps since 1875 (except for the 1909 Lincoln and Seward issues) to have denominations spelled out rather than shown as numerals – until today when we have “forever” stamps.

The other collecting interest is that these stamps were issued in late 1908. This is the same year that perfins were authorized for use in U.S. postage in April 1908. Scott #332 was issued in November 1908 and Scott #331 was issued in December 1908. So these are almost as interesting to perfin collectors as the 1902 series. Note that we don't try to distinguish watermarks; therefore, some of these stamps could actually be the single line watermark issue of 1910. There are seven other issues, but they are scarce and expensive in traditional form.

Joe Laura (#1238) compiled a list of perfins in Scott #332 (the Two cent issue). This was published in the *Bulletin* in April 1993 [46:76-78, 83-87]. Joe documented 2,060 different perfin patterns in this issue.



Cover page of new 1908 Checklist
(Approximately 53% of actual size.)

Patterns in the 1908 Two cent Issue from Joe Laura's List - Where have they gone?

A13	A255	B213	E82	I43.7-10	L105	N113D-8	S175.5
A35	B26	B253	E91	I43.7-18	L138	N128	S195-15
A39	B30	C52	F15	I43.7C-7	L163	N130	S195-23A
A43	B52	C64	F41	I43.7C-8	M58	N195	S276
A46	B59	C134.5	F61	I43.7C-11	M110	O81	S334.5
A61	B64	C216	F139	J110	M261.3	P194	S338-6A
A68	B78	C293	G31	J130	M302	P195	T81
A87.7	B83	D30	G58	J164	N54	P236	U6
A102	B111	D46	G61	J178B	N64	R2	W71.3
A111	B127	E4	G70	K55.5	N113-5	R161	W72.76
A132	B173	E24	H25.5	L32	N113-7	S9	W102.5
A179.5	B178	E52	I16	L95	N113C-13A	S167	W176
A187.3	B204						

New 1908 Checklist (cont.)

Nearly 20 years later, I have attempted an update, with the assistance of Bob Szymanski (LM#145), and I have expanded it to include Scott #331 (One cent). Together, we either own or have seen a total of 2,529 patterns in these two issues, sometimes one pattern in both stamps. We have documented 1,037 perfins in Scott #331 and 2,430 perfins in Scott #332. Two-thirds of the patterns known to exist in these two issues are rated C or higher, including 231 A-rated patterns. A very nice perfins collection all by itself!

The reader may have noticed that there are 370 more patterns now in the Two cent issue than were reported in 1993. But, we cannot find 153 perfins that were on Joe Laura's list. I have deleted 55 of these, since they have been subsequently documented to be die varieties or have questionable

identifications due to later additions to the *Catalog of United States Perfins* – that are very similar patterns. A list of 98 patterns that seem quite plausible to be included in the checklist is shown at the bottom of the previous page. I ask members to check their collections for any of these perfins in Scott #331 or Scott #332. Together, we can improve the master checklist even further. Also, I have quite a few duplicates if members are interested in collecting these 1908 items.

Finally, the complete checklist documenting all 2,529 patterns is now available from our Publications Sales Manager, Dave Lightle, in two different manners. If you would like it in electronic format, email Dave and he will send you one at no charge as an attachment to his return email. Alternately, if you prefer a hard copy delivered by regular mail, the member cost is \$5.00. Dave's contact information is on page 82.

Two Black Eyes!

Robert Blackman (#3564)

While working on a project to sort by perfin and by face of some pattern **J56** variations [JH], **I5** [Map(I)], and **I0.5** [I], several things of note came up. The **J56** lot yielded a rare face and the **I5** lot had an interesting study of missing pins. However, the **I0.5** lot gives us the following story of two well placed pins.

First I found the 5-cent George Washington stamp (Scott #1283 shown at the right) that looks different. He sure is - he has two black eyes. It is a little hard to see, but he DOES have two holes near where his eyes should be. I set that aside and kept going.

Then a few days later, there was a Frank L. Wright stamp (Scott #1280 shown above right) and I could not believe what I saw. Here he is looking at me with two of the biggest black eyes you have ever



seen. Two of the pins of the **I0.5** are dead center in each of his eye sockets where his eyes should be.

Whether cigar bands, match books, or tea spoons (all dead), or still alive pieces of paper with holes, THAT is what keeps collecting alive - something new or something to keep or preserve.

I have a view the perversity of which is an outlook of why people collect (or don't collect). Of course the motivation can be by fad, newest, ancient or fading away. But there is only one thing that motivates collecting at its core and that is "bragging rights." It's just that plain. No bragging rights, no interest - no interest, no anything to keep it going on.

As for me, it is my bragging rights of my **Two Black Eyes!**

Join us at Milford

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

The New England Precancel and Perfin collectors will be meeting between 9AM at 3PM on Saturday, **September 22, 2012**, at Panera's Bakery in Milford, MA. This location is easily reachable off I-495, three exits south (Route 109) of the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90). When you exit on Route 109, go west (toward Milford) and you will see a shopping

center on the left, south side of the road - about 1000 ft. The Panera's name is at the top of the sign, you cannot miss it! We have the special meeting room toward the rear reserved for our group.

Plenty of perfins will be present! Call Bob Szymanski (508) 478-7303 if you intend on coming and what you are looking for!

The Titanic

User of Pattern A305 Identified

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

I was asked to write a U.S. Perfin article for *The Perfins Bulletin* about the *RMS Titanic* to mark the 100 year anniversary of its 1912 sinking. Just in case you missed something, you have to realize that the *Titanic* made about 80% of one trip across the Atlantic and from Europe going West! That would preclude any perfin covers being mailed from the United States as the return trip never came to pass! I do not believe that many European countries were using U.S. stamps for their mail. So the only two possibilities that I could think of that would have made a cover possible were:

- the return of an undeliverable letter, or
- even less likely, some U.S. consular mail that may have been on-board, but I have never seen one with a perfin.

Nonetheless, any mail bound for the United States that made the fateful journey, would have had the perfins soaked off in a very short period of time, if they existed at all. But, not to disappoint, the following is the best that I can do.

Pictured in Figure 1 is a rather busy cover -

registered, special delivery, carrier's penciled notes "left notice" and "Nobody at home." The cover is a perfin cover. Although both stamps have partial perfins, there appears to be enough of the punch extant to ascertain that the perfin is a B+ rated pattern A305 (A&S).

To make sure, the *Bulletin* Editor was asked to electronically compare the perfins with the image of A305 as shown in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog). The results of this work, (Figure 2 on page 93), confirm this identification.

The 10-cent stamp is a Scott #642 perforated 10½x11 - first sold in 1927 as part of the 1926 Rotary Press issue. On the other hand, the 20-cent is Scott #567 perforated 11x11 - first sold in 1923 as part of the 1922 Flat Plate issue. Thus, the first job for the U.S. Catalog Chairman is to adjust the dates of usage of A305 as 1926 is the only date of use shown for this pattern in the Catalog.

Pattern A305 is also not identified in the Catalog, and, although the user for pattern A304 is identified as "Abraham & Straus, Baltimore, MD," these are

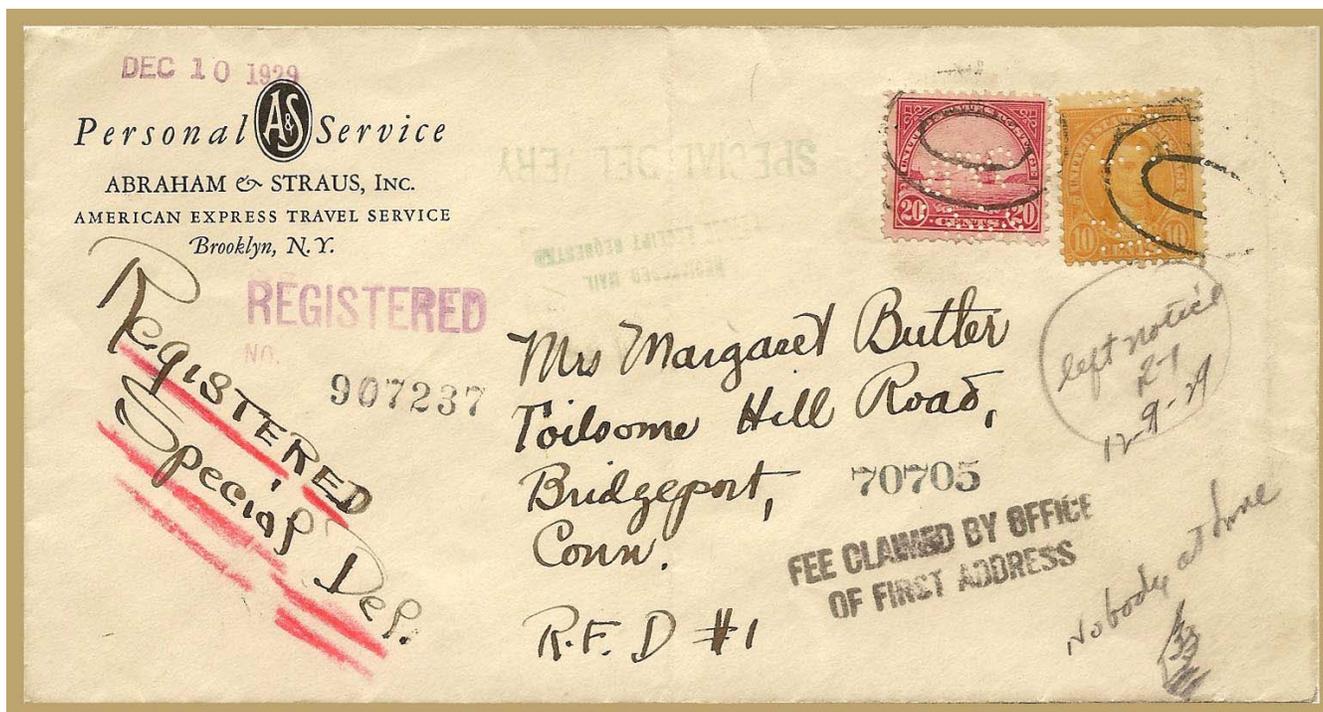


Figure 1
Abraham & Straus, Brooklyn, NY, 1929 Registered, Special Delivery cover.
Franked with 10-cent Scott #642 and 20-cent Scott #567.
Both stamps contain partial perfin of B+ rate pattern A305.
(Approximately 90% of actual size.)

The Titanic - A305 ID (cont.)

clearly different patterns. Therefore, even though these are partial perfin, this cover seems to provide a new user identification for another pattern.

We forwarded this information to the U.S. Catalog Chairman and he agrees. The verified user for pattern **A305** will be listed as "Abraham & Straus, Inc., Brooklyn, NY," in A&C#4 of the U.S. Perfins Catalog. Also, the usage period will be expanded to include stamps issued between 1922 - 1926.

Abraham & Straus was a large, upscale New York department store based in Brooklyn, NY.^(1,2) Founded in 1865 as Wechsler & Abraham, the Wechsler shares were purchased by the Straus family (Nathan & Isidor) in 1893. The Strauses were already partners in the Macy's Department Stores, having purchased a general partnership in 1888.

1929, the date of this perfin cover, saw a major renovation of the Abraham & Straus Fulton Street flagship store with its grand opening on October 10,

1929. As you may recall, later that month Wall Street saw the stock market collapse, and as a result, the reformation of the department store industry with the formation of the Federated Department Stores including Macy's, Filene's, Lazarus, Bloomingdale's, and Abraham & Straus.⁽¹⁾ This may help explain why the perforator was no longer used although another explanation could well be that with all of the pins missing, it would have been deemed unserviceable anyway.

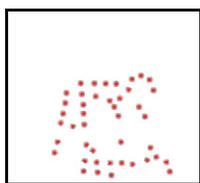
So where is the *RMS Titanic*? As you know it is at the bottom of the Atlantic. Isidor Straus, an owner of Abraham & Straus, and his wife, Ida, were both among the casualties. They are the well documented couple in several film versions of the "Titanic" story - the couple married 40 years, whose wife would not leave her husband.⁽³⁾

References:

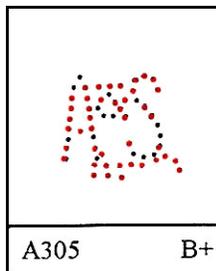
1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_%26_Straus
2. <http://brooklynheightsblog.com/archives/39412>
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isidor_Straus



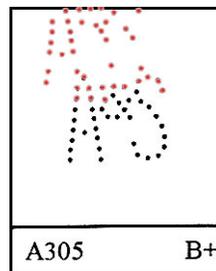
Stamp from cover.
Perfin in red



Perfin only from stamp.



Top punch in red
over A305.



Bottom punch in red
over A305.

Figure 2
Electronic comparison of partial perfin in 20-cent Scott #567 from Abraham & Straus cover with pattern A305.
All holes in both punches match A305.
Confirms identification of perfin.
(Actual size.)

"Quack, Quack!!"

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

I recently stumbled across a modern stamp with a punch that outlines a duck! It is in the 2-cent Mary Lyon stamp, Scott #2169. Bob Szymanski (LM#145) was able to tell me the story behind the "duck."

In 1990 the Club participated in the annual convention at Bedford, NH (near Manchester). There were many ducks wandering about the pond at the hotel and the lady at the front desk had a duck punch. Dick Mewhinney (LM#60), Club President at the time, had a bunch of



stamps punched with the duck design and handed them out to members.

I would like to hear from any other members who have a copy of this unusual item. (My contact information is on page 82.) Also, do collectors have other interesting punch designs on stamps? Maybe someone will come up with an appropriate one for the upcoming Albuquerque convention. I am certainly not going to assign a catalog number to the duck or other such philatelic punches, but they are fascinating.

Third Time's a Charm

Larry Patterson (#3050)

Finally, I am sufficiently satisfied with a perfin mounting arrangement and can now really begin to enjoy collecting holey stamps.

However, before getting to my method, I want to thank Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710) for pointing me in the direction of finding perfined issues of the War and Defense (Scott #899-900) and Washington Bicentennial (Scott #704-715) stamps at the Florida Mid-Winter Meeting. In addition, after my recent request in the March/April 2012 *Bulletin* [66:29], Francis Stunzi (#2665) offered and sold me an accumulation of War and Defense perfins and Ken Masters (#3589) sent me an electronic file containing a checklist of perfined War and Defense stamps. Finally, I need to thank two members, whose names I do not remember, who several years ago gave me some essential tips:

- One commented that he uses his daughter's discarded Easy Bake Oven to make a light table to assist in matching perfins to the correct design in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S Perfins Catalog). (I didn't have access to a discarded Easy Bake Oven, so I made a light table using a brass Christmas window candle.)
- The second member suggested using an art gum eraser to roughen the black ink on blank perfin album pages so mounted perfins do not fall off and will remain attached to the page.

Because I had not seen a mounted collection before I made my first futile effort, I soon realized that mounting a perfin over its picture in the U.S. Perfins Catalog meant that I could not mount additional perfins with the same pattern in the vicinity of the first one. In addition, when I did not have a complete or nicely centered punch, I was covering and hiding the good picture in the Catalog. Also if I mounted the stamp face-down, I could not tell which stamp I had. And finally when I mounted the stamp face up, I could not easily see the perfin on the white background of a Catalog page.

In my second effort, I used one blank page for each perfin pattern. This allowed me to mount multiple stamps with the same pattern. However, when I only had one stamp with a specific pattern, I still had the face-up vs. face-down problem mentioned with my first mounting attempt. Further, within a specific pattern, I felt the need to organize

my perfins by Scott Number. However, I had a dilemma of not knowing how many additional perfins I might find in the future and thus the number of blank spaces to leave between non-sequential stamps. For identification on the top of each page, I wrote the perfin pattern number, the company's name, and the town and state in which it was located.

Several years ago, I began collecting precancels of the War and Defense and Washington Bicentennial issues. Because it seemed relatively easy to find those two issues precancelled, I thought that I would expand my collection to include perfins of those two issues. And then limit my chasing of perfins to those two issues.

At first I thought that I would try to create a link between perfins and precancels from the same town. Because New York City has quite a few precancels and perfins, I opted to start with that city. Uh oh, I quickly realized that was not a reasonable method to relate the stamps from one collection to those in the other.

The 7th edition of the *Precancel Stamp Society's Town and Type Catalog* identifies 51 different precancel devices used in New York City. On the other hand, *The Catalog of United States Perfins by Location* lists a mere 1,469 perfin-using companies in New York City. And 111 of them have yet to be identified!

The overall organization of the precancel and perfin catalogs is different: precancels are organized geographically (state, town, and device) while perfins are organized alphabetically by pattern. So unless I was going to limit my collection to perfined precancels, which I did not intend to do, I did not have a realistic rationale for creating a linkage between the two collections. Neither could I foresee a reason for mounting them in the same set of binders.

After coming to this realization, I decided to resolve the problems that I had encountered with my second attempt at mounting perfins. It seemed that I had two issues.

- One, I have found it neater to use a computer to print page headings rather than to rely on my rather sloppy handwriting. Because I had been handwriting the desired identification at the top of a pre-printed perfin album page, I knew there was enough space to use a computer to print that information.

Third Time's a Charm (cont.)

- Second, I thought that I would resolve the problem of having the perfin pattern on each album page by scanning the Catalog pattern and then printing that pattern at the same time that I printed its pattern number and name and location of the company.

However, I determined that there was not enough space anywhere on the album page to print the perfin pattern. (I had already decided that my hands were not steady enough to use a pen or pencil to mark the perfin through its holes.) So I thought, why not photocopy a Catalog page that pictures the desired pattern, cut out that desired pattern, and attach it to the album page in one of the blank spaces. The only problem that I could foresee was the uneven thickness of the album pages stored in a binder if all the patterns were placed on the same blank space throughout the album. I resolved that issue by placing the photocopied patterns on alternating four corners.

I had, however, created another problem that was readily resolved. Each time I photocopied a Catalog page and cut out a pattern, I had a “holey” sheet. I

three-hole punched the holey sheet and stored it on top of the original page in my U.S. Perfins Catalog. Now, when I get ready to mount a perfin, if the specific page of patterns has already been photocopied, I don't need to make another photocopy. If there is a hole in the sheet where a pattern has been removed, then I know that I have already started a page of perfins for that pattern. An example of a “holey” sheet overlaying its corresponding Catalog page which clearly demonstrates this concept is shown on page 96.

Finally, to my real objective of this exercise. I have an album page design with a printed heading, a neat perfin pattern, and enough space to mount the Washington Bicentennial and War and Defense Issues. I also have a few extra spaces for any perfins that I might already have or stumble across in the future. To illustrate the final result, the album page for my pattern **D3** collection is reprinted on page 97.

Now that I am happy with my perfin mounting system, my interest in perfins has been raised to a high enough level that I might even breakdown someday and buy the new (1998) edition of U.S. Perfins Catalog.

Upper Silesia Perfins on eBay

Ken Masters (#3589)

One of the greatest benefits of online auctions, such as eBay, is that we have the chance to view images of perfins from all over the world on our computer screen. A prime example of this is the two eBay auctions that Stephen Tauber (#2949) recently forwarded me. Each one of these auctions features an Upper Silesia perfin which are probably missing from most collections.

According to the 1994 *The World Perfins Catalog - European Section* (World Perfins Catalog), Bob Schwerdt (#505-L) Editor, Upper Silesia has 17 different perfin patterns. Both of the perfins in these auctions are shown in the World Perfins Catalog.

The first perfin is a nicely centered, complete punch of Upper Silesia pattern **A5** (F.P.). According to eBay auction #2610115115787, the stamp bears a 1922 postmark from Ratibor. The image provided on eBay is



Upper Silesia pattern A5.
Went unsold on eBay!

not too clear, so we will have to take the seller's word on this. However, as the World Perfins Catalog lists Ratibor as one of the cities where this perfin has been used, this postmark seems reasonable. The “Buy it Now” selling price was \$49.25 with free shipping. It appears the auction closed in early May without a buyer.

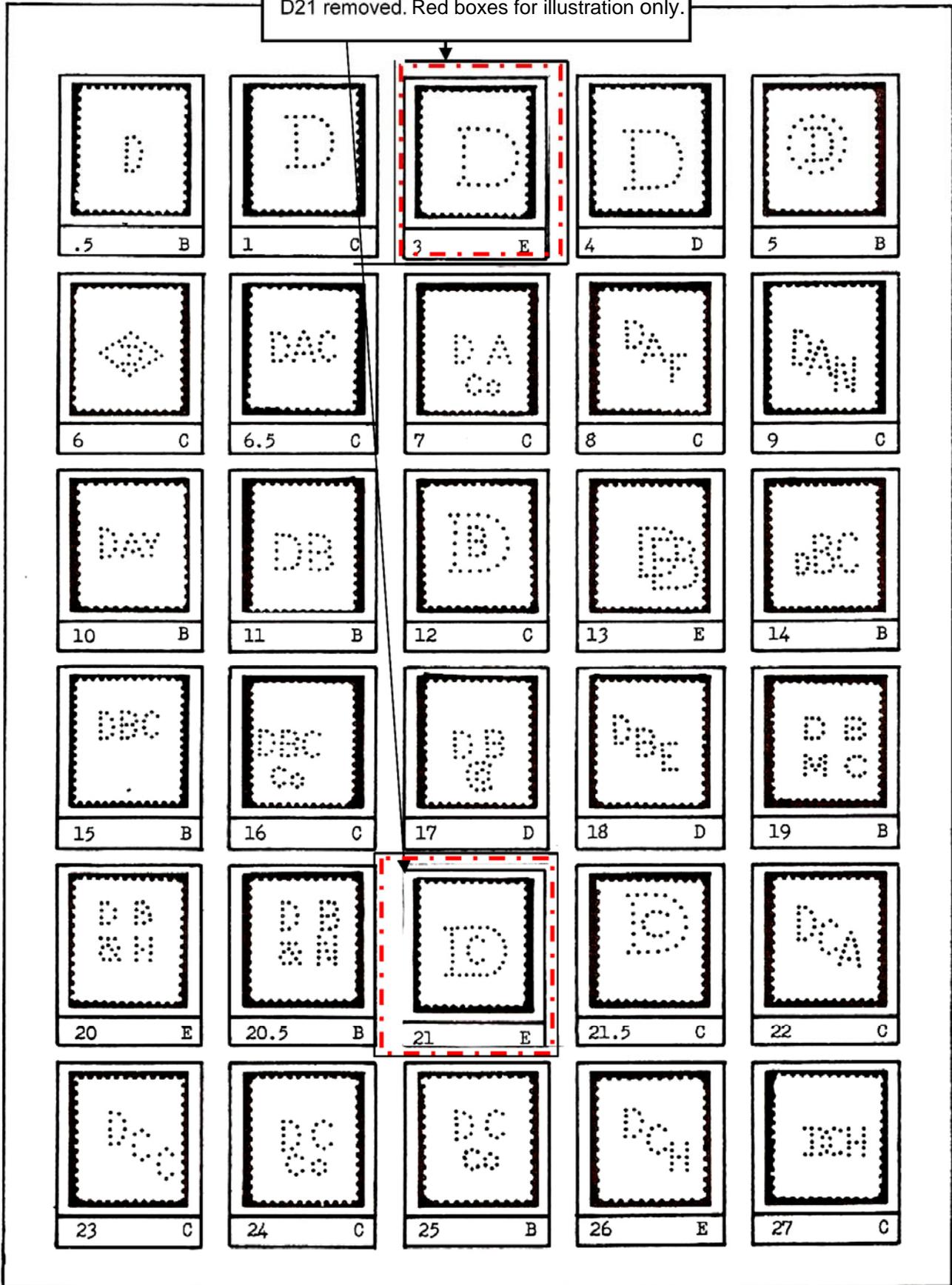
The second perfin, from a different seller, is described as perfin “A.L.” in eBay auction #250946521317. However, if you look closely, it is obvious the last letter of the perfin is the letter “B,” making the perfin a partial punch of Upper Silesia pattern **A1** (A.B.). The period after the “B” is at the top of the stamp. Thus, as always, you should confirm that the item's description is correct before making the purchase. This auction was another “Buy it Now” - selling price of \$10.62 with free shipping. As with the previous item, this perfin went unsold when the auction closed in early May.

Missing period
from below



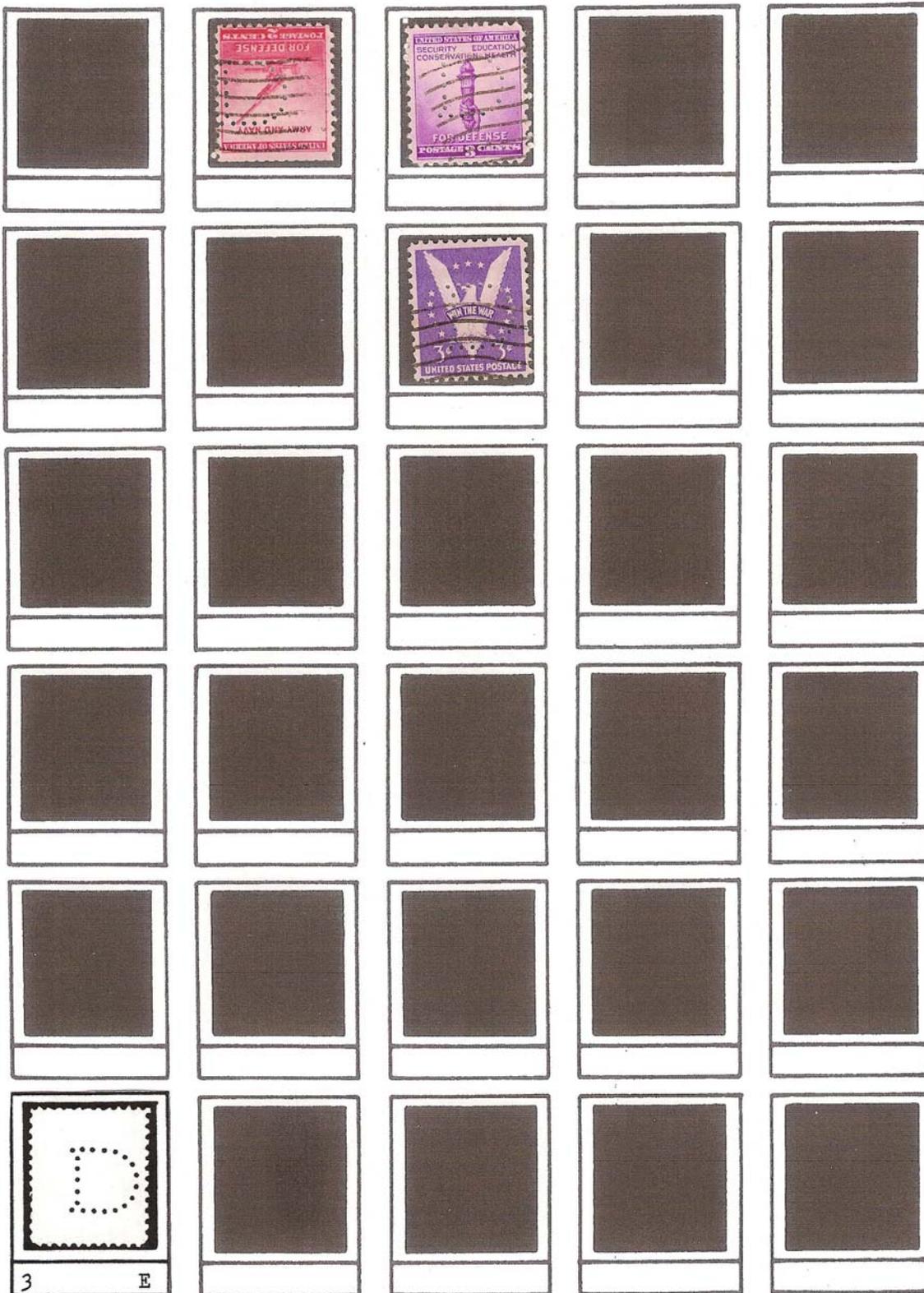
Upper Silesia
pattern A1.
Also unsold
on eBay!

Holey Sheet overlaying 1979 Perfin Catalog page 118 with Designs D3 and D21 removed. Red boxes for illustration only.



Note: Approximately 90% of Actual Size.

D3 Deere and Company
Moline, Illinois



Note: Approximately 90% of Actual Size.

Pattern B180 - Missouri or Kansas?

Ken Masters (#3589)

Most people who have not lived at least part of their life in the Kansas City metropolitan area do not realize that there are actually two cities named Kansas City - one in the state of Missouri and one in the state of Kansas. From the time that both of these cities were established in the mid-1880's, this has been a major source of confusion.

Kansas City, MO, was founded in 1838 and incorporated in 1850 as the "Town of Kansas," even though it is in Missouri.⁽¹⁾ It is located at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers, opposite the city of Kansas City, KS. The state of Missouri officially incorporated the city on March 28, 1853, changed the name to the "City of Kansas,"⁽²⁾ and later "Kansas City."

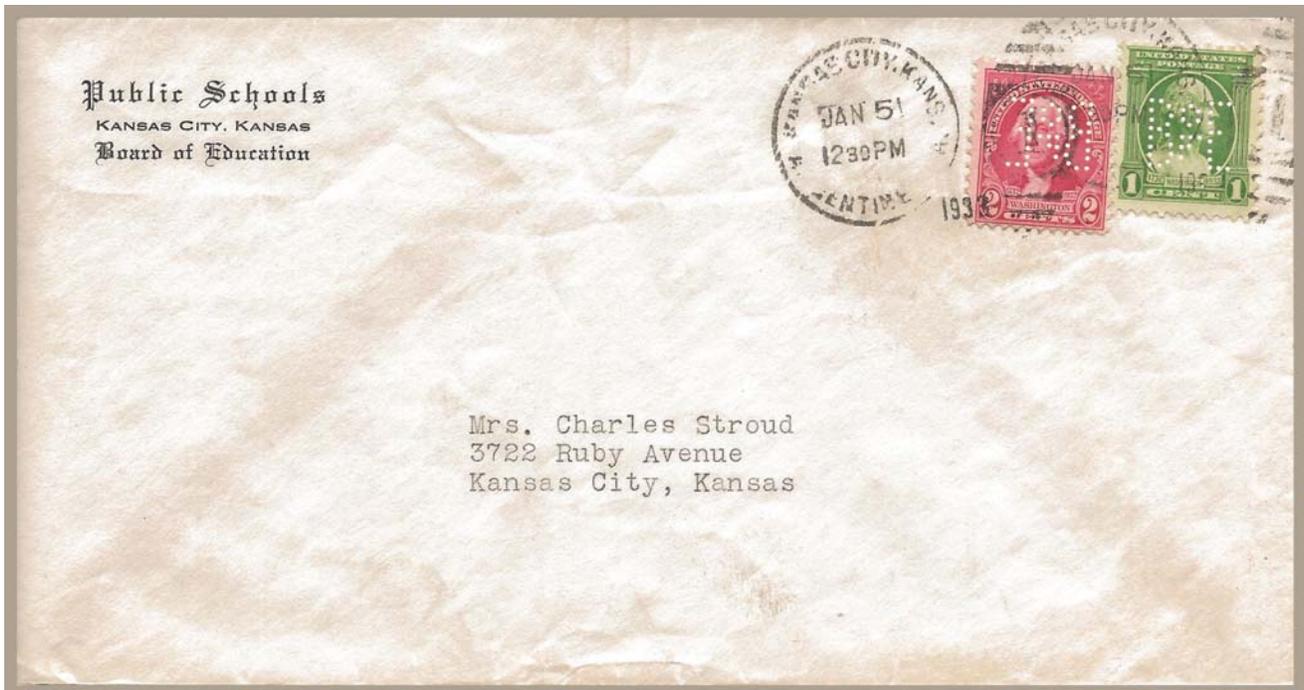
The state of Kansas was admitted to the United States as a slave-free state on January 29, 1861. "Kansas City, KS," was formed in 1868 and incorporated in 1872.⁽³⁾

To differentiate between the two cities, local residents usually refer to Kansas City, MO, as KCMO and Kansas City, KS, as KCK. Geographically, a

small portion of the boundary between the two is the Missouri River. However, an imaginary line drawn on a map serves as most of the state line that separates them.

KCMO has always been the larger city in terms of population (currently 510,000 versus 146,000) and geographic area (316 square miles versus 128). In general, heavy industries such as meat packing located in KCK. The banks, large department stores, jewelers, insurance companies, etc. tended to locate in KCMO. Because of these differences and others, and the fact that the two cities are located in different states, there is virtually no cooperation between them.

What does all of this have to do with perfins? As I live in KCMO and am a native Missourian, one of my specialty collections is the perfins of Missouri, particularly KCMO. According to the current (1998) *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog), one of the KCMO perfins is E-rated pattern **B180** (B/OF/E); listed user "Board of Education, Kansas City, MO." Because a **B180** cover is missing from my collection, I was happy to find the one shown below in a lot that I recently purchased.



Board of Education, Kansas City, Kansas cover.
Franked with 1-cent Scott #705 and 2-cent Scott #707 Washington Bicentennial stamps that are perfined with pattern B180.
Corrects user location listed in current U.S. Perfins Catalog to "Kansas City, KS."
Cover would also be a desirable addition to a Washington Bicentennial specialty collection.
(Approximately 90% of actual size.)

B180 - Missouri or Kansas? (cont.)

However, after looking closely at the cover, I noticed that the return address is Kansas City, Kansas. Is our Catalog another victim of the confusion between the two cities or is this an example of unexpected cooperation between the two entities?

I then consulted the previous, 1979 edition of the U.S. Perfins Catalog and found that it shows the verified user of **B180** is the "Board of Education, Kansas City, KS," which matches the corner card on my cover. Therefore, I suspect that when the information for **B180** was transcribed from the 1979 Catalog to the 1998 Catalog, the state name was inadvertently changed to MO. Not being familiar with the area and the fact that there are two completely different contiguous cities with the same name, except

the state, this common error was not recognized.

I forwarded a scan of the cover along with the information about the Kansas City metropolitan area and my suspicions to the U.S. Catalog Chairman. He agrees and will correct the location of the user of **B180** to Kansas City, KS, in A&C#4 of the U.S. Perfins Catalog. However, as further confirmation of this location, please check your collection and send us a scan or photocopy of any **B180** covers you own. Also, please check your other "Kansas City" covers to make sure they match their Catalog listing. Our contact information is on page 82.

References

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City,_Missouri
2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Kansas_City
3. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_City,_Kansas

Exhibiting the *Bulletin*?

Ken Masters (#3589)

Three of the American Philatelic Society (APS) World Series of Philately shows include a philatelic literature exhibition. In 2012 these are:

- NAPEX 2012, Tysons Corner, VA, June 1-3, 2012
- APS STAMPSHOW 2012, Sacramento, CA, August 16-19, 2012
- CHICAGOPEX 2012, Itasca, IL, November 16-18, 2012

These exhibits are one of the few opportunities we have to present the *Bulletin* to the public and the only opportunity we have for an expert team of APS accredited philatelic judges to critique it. In addition, our participation increases the awareness of The Perfins Club as the *Bulletin* entry is listed in each show's publicity and is available to all of the attendees to read and review.

You may recall that the 2010 *Bulletin* (Volume 64) received a Silver medal at both NAPEX 2011 and APS STAMPSHOW 2011, and a Vermeil medal at CHICAGOPEX 2011. However, more important to me than the medals is the critique and suggestions for improvement that the judges gave us. Based on these comments and your input, several revisions were made in the *Bulletin* format starting with the November/December 2011 issue. These included indented paragraphs; elimination of the blank space between the paragraphs; lighter weight lines at the top and bottom of the page and between the columns; and smaller and simpler article continuation titles. I believe all of these have improved the readability and quality of our newsletter.

In the hope of gaining additional constructive criticism and suggestions for improvement, we have

entered (or plan to enter) the 2011 *Bulletin* (Volume 65) in the exhibits at the 2012 shows listed above. Of course, the major downside of exhibiting this year is that the changes outlined in the previous paragraph are evident in only one issue. This can result in a repeat of the judges' comments. Thus, we plan to critically evaluate the feedback we get this year and then decide if participation in 2013 is warranted.

We just learned that the 2011 *Bulletin* received a Vermeil medal at NAPEX 2012 - a step up in the medal hierarchy. The judge complimented us on the range of U.S. and foreign articles by regular and one time authors; the range of serious/research articles and lighter material; and the beginner information. As expected, several of his suggested improvements were repeats of those we received last year and have already been implemented.

However, one of the judge's comments bears serious consideration: that is we start including a formal Table of Contents which would include the article title, author, and page number. This is a change that I have also considered for some time. As I believe it will consume about half a page, where should it be placed? Logic says the top half of the inside cover. However, we have standardized that entire page for the Officers, Directors, and Managers information. So, what about the top of the third page for the Table of Contents?

Before I make any changes, I would like to hear from you. Would a Table of Contents be helpful? If so, where would you suggest it be located in the *Bulletin*? My contact information is on page 82. I look forward to hearing from you.

Perfins Club Auction #127 Closes August 31, 2012

Guidelines: Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next higher bidder: \$2-\$5 - a \$0.25 advance; \$5-\$20 - a \$0.50 advance; \$20-100 - a \$1.00 advance; \$101 or higher - a \$5.00 advance. The minimum bid for any lot will be \$2.00 and no "Unlimited" bids will be accepted. In case of tie bids, the earlier postmark or email date 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. All lots will be prepaid before shipping. **Bid by Lot #.** Please put your mailing 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: Joe Giampietro, 6478 State Road, G-10, Parma, OH 44134-4166 – USA
Email: mo13jo@aol.com

Abbreviations used:

ADD – All Different Designs
DDF – Design Different Face
MDF - Mostly Different Face

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

Scott #s are used. The pattern numbers and ratings are from
the 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins*, including A&C#1, #2, and #3.

Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate
1	US	A46A	B	30	US	F40	B	59	US	S171	B
2	US	A202	B	31	US	F83	B	60	US	S195-8	B
3	US	A208.5	C+	32	US	F214	C+	61	US	S195-31	B
4	US	A221-16	B	33	US	H159	C+	62	US	S195-42	B
5	US	A221-27	B	34	US	G206 (Damaged)	C+	63	US	S206	B
6	US	A250	C+	35	US	H200	B	64	US	S257	B
7	US	A288.5	B	36	US	I49	B	65	US	S269	B
8	US	B5.5 (Split)	B	37	US	J138	B	66	US	S270	B
9	US	B7	C+	38	US	K37	B	67	US	S281	B
10	US	B12	C+	39	US	M66	B	68	US	S348	C+
11	US	B127.5	B	40	US	M112	B	69	US	U97	B
12	US	B185	C+	41	US	M244	B	70	US	W94	B
13	US	B253.5	C+	42	US	M292	B	71	US	W199-5	B
14	US	B287	C+	43	US	N17	C+	72	US	W199-6	B
15	US	B294.5	C+	44	US	N18	C+	73	US	Des. 90-30	B
16	US	C104	C+	45	US	N76.5	B	74	US	Des. 90-59	B
17	US	C173	C+	46	US	N95	B	! Lots 75 - 107 are all C rated - three perfins per lot !			
18	US	C177.5	C+	47	US	N102	C+	75	US	B92, B123, B168	
19	US	C178	C+	48	US	N112	C+	76	US	C31.3, C65, C93	
20	US	C199	B	49	US	P69	B	77	US	C137, C153, C156	
21	US	C300	C+	50	US	M250	C+	78	US	C319, C329, C429	
22	US	C392	B	51	US	P149	B	79	US	D35, D152, E28	
23	US	C393	C+	52	US	P186	B	80	US	E110, F35, F222	
24	US	D0.5	B	53	US	P247	B	81	US	F56, F117, F122A	
25	US	D102	C+	54	US	R32	B	82	US	F126, F140, F200	
26	US	D138	B	55	US	R48	B	83	US	F203, F220, F231	
27	US	E14	B	56	US	S21	C+	84	US	G19, G22, G123	
28	US	E131	C+	57	US	S112A (2h)	B	85	US	H24, H31, H59	
29	US	F39	C+	58	US	S114A	B				

Continued on next page

Perfins Club Auction #127 (cont.)

Lot#	Country	Description	Lot#	Country	Description	Lot#	Description
86	US	H78, H92, H107	97	US	N175, N187, N202	108	US Mix - 200 PREPERS
87	US	I3, I17, I58	98	US	P83, P99, P118	109	Cuba Mix - 46 Total, 9 DD
88	US	I43.7C-4, I43.7D-1, I74	99	US	P80, P90, P95	110	French Mix - 240 (with dups.)
89	US	J124, J159, L71	100	US	P166, P213, P218	111	British Mix - 248 (with dups.)
90	US	J34, J124, J96.14	101	US	R13, R124, S100	112	American Mix - 117 (with dups.)
91	US	K8, K26, K29	102	US	R104, R109, R117	113	Canada Mix - 155 Total, 55 are 4 hole OHMS (with dups.)
92	US	L56.5, L67, L89	103	US	S151, S163, S173	114	Worldwide Mix - 192 (with dups.)
93	US	M98, M198, M218	104	US	S31, S85, S98		
94	US	M36, M37, M41	105	US	S189, S201, S202		
95	US	M270, M285, M302	106	US	S195-58, S209, S239		
96	US	N71, N106, N149	107	US	S247, S267, S272		

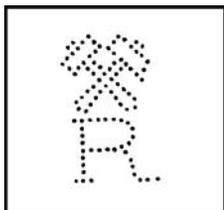
**That's All for This Time.
Good Luck with Your Bids!!**

The "90 Hole" Challenge

Ken Masters (#3589)

On page 56 of the last (May/June 2012) *Bulletin* [66:56], Jerry Moore (#3687) indicated that he recently surveyed his Sweden perfins to find the one with the most holes. The result was that Sweden pattern **W4**, with 90 holes, has the most. Jerry then issued a "challenge" to other Club members to find a perfin from any other country in the world with more than 90 holes, report that information to the Editor, and we would share it with all of you. Following are the responses that I received.

One of the initial responses was from Bob Schwerdt (#505-L). His first look was in the 1991 *Austria Perfins* catalog, John Nussbickel editor. He soon found Austria pattern **R2** listed with 95 holes. However, after Bob counted this pattern several times, perhaps there are 97 - you may want to check for yourself.



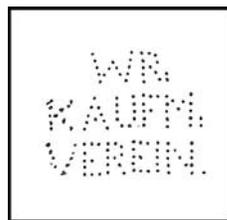
Austria pattern R2.
Does it have 95 or 97 holes?

Paul Gault (#744) sent a scan of a page from his German perfins catalog that illustrates 5 patterns with more than 90 holes. Pattern **4-111-1** with 111 holes has the most on this page with pattern **4-102-2** (102 holes) close behind.



German pattern 4-111-1
with 111 holes.

It looks like Bob should have kept looking in his Austria perfins catalog. Terry Sitch (#3809) was



Austria pattern W99
with 132 holes.

the next to respond. He suggested a couple more Austria perfins - pattern **S68** with 129 holes and pattern **W99** with 132 holes.

Now to the "winner" of the challenge! Ron Whyte (#2586) receives that honor. His entry of the British pattern

Des. 0150.01, "The City of Dublin Crest," with 154 holes certainly has the most. As Ron's copy was not very clear, Maurice Harp, Editor of the *G. B. Perfin Society Bulletin*, sent us the image of **Des. 0150.01**. Maurice states that the G. B. Perfin Society did a similar survey of British perfins in 1992 and came to the same conclusion.



G.B. pattern
Des. 0150.01
with 154 holes.
(Note: Two holes are missing. Can you find them?)

Ron also included the following poem from an old perfins catalog that you may enjoy. I believe it is particularly appropriate for this exercise, especially to those of us who, like Ron, may be singing this song more often these days.

My eyes are dim, I cannot see.

I did not bring my specs with me!

I hope that all of you enjoyed this 90 Hole Challenge as much as I enjoyed receiving your entries. Who will come up with the next one? My contact information is on page 82.

**Have you made your hotel reservations for the Albuquerque Convention?
If not, do it now!! Call 1-866-505-7829 or 1-505-843-6300. Precancel Society Convention Rate of \$109 per night for reservations made before July 15, 2012.**

Member Want Ads

WANTED PERFINs: Bavaria, Bosnia, Netherlands will purchase or swap. Will purchase: British Regionals, graphites; Italian with attached advertising labels; U.S. revenues - Maryland liquor/wine tax, Washington, D.C, beverage tax. Will send want lists and pay postage. **Contact:** Bob Schwerdt, 9 Memory Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5231, USA.

WANTED: Perfin cover of The Swedish Separator Company, Chicago, IL. Top cash prices paid! **Write to:** Stellan Swenson, Odonbärsvägen 32, SE-293 41 OLOFSTRÖM, SWEDEN.

FILL YOUR WANT LISTS:

Send me your want lists for U.S. Perfins. *B+* to *F* rated perfins filled by pattern and/or by issue or thematic topic. Discounts available for quantity purchases. Also, I am interested in trading *A* rated perfins. **Contact:** Steve Endicott, 20 Greensburgh Lane, San Anselmo, CA 94960-1000, USA; email: perfins@gmail.com.

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 - 10 cents per word; three consecutive insertions of the same ad - 20 cents per word; six insertions of the same ad - 40 cents per word. Neither the Perfins Club nor the Editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the advertisements. Payment for the ads should be made payable to "The Perfins Club" and sent to the Editor with the request for insertion. Payment may also be made via PayPal to: perfin@charter.net with prior notification to the Editor and Treasurer. In the identification line, please make sure you indicate this is for payment of a member want ad.

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A new collecting area?

Ken Masters (#3589)

I recently saw an item on the online auction site, www.delcampe.com, which caused me to stop and take a second look and then chuckle. The auction title was "USA PERFIN CLUB ANNUAL CONVENTION 2010 LABEL." When I opened the auction, sure enough, the seller is offering one of the labels from the 2010 Burlington, VT, convention. The "Buy it Now" price is \$6.00 plus \$6.00 shipping worldwide!

I forwarded the item to Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710) who has designed and donated the Convention labels over the past few years. I also suggested that perhaps we should go into the business of supplying items to this new collecting area.

Jerry replied that this was an intriguing idea, especially since he still has several of the Burlington and other recent convention labels in his files. However, as these were only meant to either promote the convention or be distributed as a convention souvenir, they are not really for sale.

Oh well, it looks like my "get rich scheme" is not really feasible. On the other hand, I do have a new specialty collecting area that I hope to expand each year.

The Perfins Club Annual Convention



August 3-7, 2010
Burlington Sheraton

**2010 Convention Label
currently available on delcampe.**

Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

New Members:

#4003 Keith Shockey
2103 28th Avenue SE
Puyallup, WA 98374-1444
justhuman4u@yahoo.com
Web & a perfin collector

#4004 Peter Petrusis
2930 Route 209
Kingston, NY 12401-7853
rvmtns2930@gmail.com
Web

#4005 Gary Bastin
10626 56th Avenue West
Mukilteo, WA 98275-4416
gary_bastin@frontier.com
Precancel society

#4006 Otto Wolke
9 Red Oak Drive
Danville, PA 17821-8417
ochoud@aol.com
Jerry Hejduk

#4007 David Wessely
125 Elma Drive
Elyria, OH 44035-3909
aonecoverz@oh.rr.com
Bob Szymanski & Precancel Society

#4008 Paul Bento
107 Old Common Road
Auburn, MA 01501-3207
Bob Szymanski

#4009 James McKenna
P.O. Box 65
Alden, MN 56009-0065
alcor333@hotmail.com
Web

Address Change:

LM#133 Richard L. Dufresne
746 Alder Circle
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4858

LM#2284 Steve Endicott
20 Greensburgh Lane
San Anselmo, CA 94960-1000

Closed Albums:

LM#131 Michael E. Falls

Mail Return:

If you have a different address or any other information about the following member, please forward it to Ken Rehfeld. His last *Bulletin* was returned marked: "not working at this address any longer."

#3920 Owen White
P.O. Box 860, Stn K
Toronto, Canada
M4P 2H2

Membership

499

**Remember your Club Dues are payable by June 30 of each year to the Secretary.
Look for your Dues Statement in the mail.**

Yes, it is that time of year again! Please look at your mailing address on this *Bulletin*. If the date above your name is 6/30/2012, then you need to renew.

Thank you to all of the members who prepaid their dues before the statements were sent out. I would also like to thank those who recognized me for doing "the work."

> PLEASE MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO "THE

PERFINS CLUB" << Do not make the check payable to the Ken Rehfeld. Then send it to Ken Rehfeld, P.O. Box 125, Spokane Valley, WA 99016-0125 USA.

You may also pay your dues via PayPal to: perfin@charter.net. In the information line, please make sure you indicate this is for dues and give your member number so we can correctly mark you paid.

Item	US	Canada	Other Foreign
Annual Dues	US\$15	US\$18	US\$25
For First Class Mail, including Life Members, add	US\$5	US\$7	US\$10

Life Memberships are available. No dues to pay again! Contact Ken Rehfeld if interested.

The Perfins Bulletin
P.O. Box 125
Spokane Valley, WA 99016-0125
Periodicals

Periodicals

!!! Dues are Due !!!

If the date over your name above is 6/30/2012, please renew now.
 See Secretary's Report (p. 103) for details.

Prices Realized Perfins Club Auction #125 - April 30, 2012

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Price</u>										
1	5.00	17	22.50	33	5.00	48	10.50	63	4.50	78	6.00
2	3.00	18	3.00	34	15.00	49	120.00	64	4.25	79	6.00
3	3.50	19	3.00	35	7.75	50	NB	65	NB	80	6.00
4	NB	20	5.00	36	15.00	51	3.75	66	115.00	81	6.00
5	4.50	21	5.00	37	15.00	52	6.50	67	11.00	82	6.00
6	5.00	22	NB	38	5.00	53	2.25	68	34.00	83	6.00
7	3.00	23	NB	39	NB	54	6.00	69	205.00	84	6.00
8	NB	24	5.00	40	14.50	55	14.50	70	19.00	85	6.50
9	5.00	25	8.50	41	NB	56	14.50	71	11.00	86	6.00
10	5.00	26	5.00	42	NB	57	5.00	72	115.00	87	6.00
11	3.50	27	5.00	43	15.00	58	15.00	73	6.50	88	6.50
12	5.00	28	21.50	44	4.50	59	75.00	74	6.00	89	6.60
13	9.25	29	10.00	45	4.00	60	3.75	75	6.50	90	NB
14	14.50	30	NB	46	21.00	61	4.50	76	6.50	91	21.00
15	5.00	31	7.00	47	67.00	62	4.75	77	6.00	92	39.00
16	5.00	32	15.50								

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