

September/October 2013

The Bulletin

Volume 67, Number 5

Whole Number 642

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A Great Time in Chattanooga!

Ken Masters (LM#3589)

At this year's Convention in Chattanooga, TN, 34 members visited the Perfins Club table and 20 of them attended the Annual Meeting. See pages 95-97 for the Minutes of that meeting.

Sean Keane, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada, submitted his membership application for the Club. In addition, Norman Pence, Hugo, OK, renewed his membership after being absent for several years. A warm welcome to both of you and we trust you will enjoy all of its benefits of the Club for many years to come. Their membership information, including collecting interests, will be part of the Secretary's Report in the next (November/December 2013) *Bulletin*.

A special thank you goes to Stu Hanlein, PSS

Convention Chairman, for a wonderful job in coordinating this year's event. The Chattanooga Choo Choo hotel was exactly as advertized. There were thousands of perfins available for purchase or trade, and the electric trolleys made it especially convenient to explore different restaurants and other attractions when we needed to take a break. All in all, I believe that most of us in attendance felt that this was one of the best Conventions in recent memory.

Next year's convention will be August 4 - 9, 2014, at the Sheridan Westport Plaza hotel in St. Louis, MO. While the specific details are not yet available, mark your calendars now! We look forward to seeing each of you there.

2013 Hallock Card Award

Millard J. Driscoll (LM#71), Chair, Hallock Card Award Committee

The **Hallock Card Award** is made periodically to an individual member of The Perfins Club in recognition of outstanding service to the Club or to perfins philately. This year, Robert T. (Bob) Combs (LM#24), Perfins Sales Manager, was given this award.

Bob has effectively and efficiently served the Club as Perfins Sales Manager for nearly 15 years. During this time, he has helped many of our

members significantly expand their collections while helping other members turn their duplicates into cash. As a bonus, the Club treasury, and all of our members in turn, have also benefited.

Thank you, Bob, for all of your hard work for so many years. Congratulations on receiving this well deserved honor!

2013 Floyd Walker Award

Ken Masters (LM#3589), Chair, Floyd Walker Award Committee

The **Floyd Walker Award** is presented for "scholarly research or time spent on article(s) and the presentation of new perfin information for the betterment of U.S. and worldwide perfin collecting."

Rudy Roy (#1124) is the winner of the 2013 award for his contributions to *The Perfins Bulletin* during calendar year 2012. These included two very well written, informative, and entertaining articles - "Clabber Girl and Marmon - The Unexpected Connection" published in the May/June 2012 issue

[66:58-60], and "A Split POKO" published in the July/August 2012 issue [66:85].

In addition Rudy forwarded the *Bulletin* Editor several intriguing eBay auctions that were included in the 2012 *Bulletin*, and provided valuable peer reviews of nearly every article published in the 2012 *Bulletin* that deals with U.S. perfins.

Thank you, Rudy, for your continued support to the *Bulletin*. We are pleased to present you with this special award. Congratulations!

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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The Perfins Club



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

The Perfins Club 2013 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2013

Jerry Hejduk (LM#3710) and Ken Masters (LM#3589)

The 70th Annual Business Meeting of The Perfins Club was called to order by Jerry Hejduk, President at 1:00 p.m. on August 22, 2013. After it was determined that a quorum was present, the 20 members in attendance at the meeting were asked to introduce themselves, describe their collecting interests, and indicate how long they have been a member of The Perfins Club.

The minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting, as published on pages 107-109 of the September/October 2012 *Perfins Bulletin* [66:107-109], were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Dan Baugher, Treasurer.

At the end of our last fiscal year (12/31/2012), our position was \$101,906. Comparing 2011 to 2012, the Club's financial position improved by 7.6% over the previous year - income increased by 19.8% and expenses decreased by 9.2%. On the income side, membership has decreased slightly (491 to 486). The primary expense is the *Bulletin*. Ken Masters, Editor, has done a great job of keeping the printing and other expenses down, including printing only the number of copies needed. Additionally, the Treasurer has found a source for discounted postage from a local stamp dealer, which provides a significant savings in the cost of mailing the *Bulletin*. Some of the Club's funds have been transferred from the checking account to credit union CD's resulting in a little more interest. A quarterly Treasurer's report is now provided to the Club President.

The Club was able to purchase insurance from Hugh Woods for the auction chairmen when the consignor stamps are in their possession.

Our non-profit status with the state of Missouri has been renewed. These costs will be reduced next year when the state allows a 2 year renewal at the same price.

Thanks to all the generous folks who donated extra during the yearly dues collections, and to those who are working with Bob Szymanski and his private auctions.

In summary, the club has been a good steward of members' money, but in order to keep the club alive going forward we need to keep trying to find new members and increase the number of volunteers for club functions.

Committee Reports

Club Auction – Joe Giampietro, Chair.

The auctions have been going quite well, but there is always a need for more material. Minimum prices have been set as follows: A rated U.S. perfins - \$30; B+ rated U.S. perfins - \$18; all other lots - \$2. When materials are submitted, please indicate the Scott#, perfin pattern, and the pattern rating. The Club receives 20% of the proceeds. Covers are not handled by the auction.

Cover Sales – Bill Driscoll, Chair.

During the last 12 months perfin covers belonging to 7 members have been sold to 13 buyers, with gross receipts of \$1,369.68. The Perfins Club netted \$258.74, the Club insurance fund netted \$22.64 with no losses, and the sellers netted \$1,034.96.

During the year the only cost to the Club was \$53.34 for postage that had been reimbursed by the buyers. All other expenses were a gift-in-kind to the Club by the Cover Sales Chair. Thus, the Cover Sales division was run with no expense to the Club. Sales have not been brisk. There are few general cover collectors. Quality material, as always, sells well. Poor condition, very common, vanity, and illegal use covers seldom sell.

Foreign Catalog – John Randall, Chair.

There has not been much activity over the past year. At last year's meeting, limited interest was expressed in a worldwide catalog that would include countries that do not have their own catalog or areas in countries not included in the country catalog. Prior to proceeding, the group was polled on whether they would use such a catalog and whether it should continue to be pursued. The group encouraged continued pursuit of developing a new edition of the Foreign Catalog. A request was made for assistance in proofreading as the work progresses.

Librarian – Doug Cutler, Chair.

During the past year, the library added 19 new acquisitions—the list can be found as "Library" under the "Perfins Club Info" tab on the Perfins Club website, www.perfins.org. Work is continuing on compiling a perfin data base the contains information on perfins from around the world including the Scott number, any covers with user identification on them, and dates of usage.

2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (cont.)

The Club Library financial report is as follows:
Cash + Postage on hand at start of year: \$63.68;
Postage Donation from Robert Schweitzer: \$17.20;
Postage used for mailings between officers: \$14.72;
Total Cash & Postage on hand at end of year: \$66.16.

Library Plans For The Future:

- Acquisition of the new Great Britain Perfin Catalog.
- Continue to update the new holdings, donations, and acquisitions to the webpage.
- Continue to add to the perfin data base and determine how to make this information more widely available.
- Continue adding perfin pictures to a data base on FACEBOOK (<<https://www.facebook.com/groups/456934271039532/>>).
- Scan all Library holdings to electronic media (PDF format) that are not copyrighted; possibly add these scans to the Club website.

President Jerry Hejduk mentioned that the Librarian is often donating new materials to the Club after personally purchasing them. He suggested that some of the Club's resources be used to acquire these materials because the Library is an essential component to the health and utility of the Club. Members agreed.

Membership Committee – Patrick Callis, Chair.

38 new members have joined the Club during the period of 6/30/12 - 7/1/2013.

The Perfins Bulletin – Ken Masters, Editor.

This past year we continued our practice of publishing the *Bulletin* every two months or 6 times per year. In 2012, these 6 issues consisted of a total of 152 pages, with approximately 60% in color. In addition to club related business, each issue contained between 9 and 16 different articles that related to the discussion of perfins - new pattern identifications, alternate or additional user identifications, other interesting or unusual items, etc. The result was that about 65% of the copy was perfin related - 76% discussing U.S. perfins and 24% that dealt with non-U.S. material. These articles were authored by 28 different members - 10 of them first time authors. Thanks to each and every one of you for your support and helping keep the *Bulletin* vibrant and interesting to both members and non-members.

In 2013 we plan to continue the bi-monthly schedule. The total number of pages should remain about the same, with about the same amount of color and U.S./non-U.S. material. As always, to maintain

these plans, several new articles are required for each issue. Articles from regular contributors are critical to meeting our goal and I do have a backlog of several unpublished articles for the remainder of 2013 and into 2014 from three of them. In addition, I have a few unpublished articles from new authors. However, I am convinced that every member of the Club knows at least one interesting and unique aspect of perfin collecting. My challenge to each member (new and old) is to dust off that idea and send it to me for publication.

Finally, starting at the 2012 Albuquerque Convention, we began trying to find a member who would serve as an Assistant Editor and share the responsibilities of formatting, layout, and rewriting some of the articles for the *Bulletin*. Initially one member volunteered for this position. However, after several weeks of working together, we realized that the software incompatibilities between his computer and mine were more than we could reasonably overcome and we stopped this effort. The good news is that recently another member has volunteered his services and we are working closely together. In this case, we are not facing the software issues and are very encouraged that we may have found a solution to this need. I will keep the membership informed as this joint effort develops.

Perfin Sales – Bob Combs, Chair.

The current sellers list dropped to 13 member participants (1 less than last year). The current buyers list is approximately 10 (around the same as last year). On the buyers side, the economy and the aging of our members are taking its toll.

The Perfin Sales bank account balance is \$3,197.22. This includes the portion that is awaiting payment to the sellers as sales realized, that held aside from the Club Insurance Fees collected, and the overseas members' approval mailing coverage deposit fund.

The *Bulletin* notice asking members to give the sales circuits a try produced a very positive number of replies. Not all members could be assisted due to their specialized want list, but others needs were met. As a result, some new buyers participated.

There is a need for more material to sell; there is increasing competition from other methods of disposal: eBay, delcampe.net, other auctions, etc. An upcoming *Bulletin* will contain another plea for materials in the hope that it will identify any sellers with the items needed (Germany and general foreign).

2013 Annual Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Publication Sales – David Lightle, Chair.

Following the trend observed for several years, the Club's catalog sales are variable over the course of the year. For the year ending June 30, 2012, catalog sales were \$1633.80 compared to \$1944.50 for the same period last year. North Florida Printing Co. Inc. continues to be our printer and they are holding the price for us. The turnaround time seems to be a little slow, but not outrageous.

Sunshine – The President issued a request for a volunteer for this position that he has been filling since the resignation of the previous Sunshine Chair.

U.S. Catalog – Steve Endicott, Chair.

Since the publication of A&C#3, there has been only one new pattern identified (at this Convention), five deleted patterns, and four rating changes, along with significant new identifications, extended usage, and supplemental information. The plan is to publish A&C#4 at the 2014 Convention. There is a need for proofreaders.

Work is proceeding on developing an electronic database for the catalog, although some technical problems have been encountered. We are trying to add new informational fields to the catalog. The Catalog Chair is committed to maintaining the U.S. Catalog in paper and electronic form.

U.S. Revenue Catalog – Art Mongan, Chair.

2017 is still the target for the next edition; there are approximately 100,000 examples to examine. The next major task is to review both the U.S. Catalog and the eCatalog for patterns listed as being on revenues but not verified.

A long term project is to either find someone to take over the U.S. Revenue Catalog or end it with the 2017 edition when the current chair will be 90.

Old Business

The President issued a plea for ideas to improve the pool of volunteers willing to serve as officers and to help with the Club's special interest projects. Suggestions for attracting new members were also solicited. On the assumption that attending the Convention stimulates the desire to be more active in the Club, the suggestion was made to offer a drawing available only to new members—the winner would have their Convention hotel costs paid by the Club.

New Business

Dan Baugher, Nominating Committee Chair, announced that John Foster (LM#120) had agreed to have his name placed in nomination for the office of Vice President. No further nominations were offered from the floor; therefore, the President will instruct

the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for John Foster for Vice President for the three year term starting 1/1/2014.

Dan Baugher, Nominating Committee Chair, announced that Ken Rehfeld (#3394) had agreed to run again for the office of Secretary. No further nominations were offered from the floor; therefore, the President will instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Ken Rehfeld for Secretary for the three year term starting 1/1/2014.

Dan Baugher, Nominating Committee Chair, announced that Duane Spidle (#3579) had agreed to run again for the office of Director-at-Large. No further nominations were offered from the floor; therefore, the President will instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Duane Spidle for Director-at-Large for the three year term starting 1/1/2014.

Special Activities

Attending the APS meetings, including staffing the society booth and giving a 1 hour presentation on perfins has been very successful in recruiting new members. A question was raised as to whether those who join at APS have the same, better, or worse retention rate than those who join from other sources. A request will be made of the Secretary to determine whether this information is available in the membership records.

Good and Welfare

The Club officers were commended for the work they do throughout the year and the PSS Convention Chair for organizing the Convention.

Ken Masters, *Bulletin* Editor, was recognized for maintaining the high quality of the publication.

Announcements

The 2013 Floyd Walker Award was presented to **Rudy Roy** (#1124) for his many contributions to the *Bulletin* during the past year.

The 2013 Hallock Card Award was presented to **Bob Combs** (#LM24) for managing the Perfin Sales for nearly 15 years.

Closed Albums

Members stood and observed a moment of silence for those who Closed Albums since the 2012 Annual Meeting: Robert S. Bartlow, Richard Butts, Sr., John A. Cummings, Michael B. Dicketts, John Drew, Stanley J. Gasior, John Harting, Rev. Gary H. Jones, Karl Kerzel, Lohman, Evelyn Lyding, John McNeilly, Earl Ratzler, Harry Walton, Jr., William H. White, Stephen A. Wittig.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Private Auctions to Resume in October

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

After a summer hiatus, the private perfin auctions are starting again this October with Auction #46. Since the summer of 2012, there have been 8 auctions with a total of 1,923 lots. Although the United States and Canada comprised the greatest number of lots, there were collections, groups, and single perfins from most every country. Is there anything left for the future auctions? You bet! Note that unless Bob Szymanski receives an "offer he can't refuse" for his U.S. Perfin collection, he will begin offering his collection of 5,882 different patterns in these auctions in January 2014.

If you are looking for specific U.S. perfins, there are three U.S. collections at present that Bob will search for *B* through *F* rated perfins. Costs are 10¢ for E&F rated; 25¢ for D rated; 50¢ for D+ rated; \$2.00 for C rated; \$4.00 for C+ rated; and \$15.00 for B rated. Discounts are also given on purchases over \$50.00.

There is still much material to be auctioned from Bob Schwerdt's (LM#505), Dave Begin's (#3659),

Mike Falls' (LM#131), and Steve Koning's (#2662) collections. Whatever you collect, it will probably come up in these auctions that draw interest from 220 perfin club members around the world. If you are not one of them, here is a wonderful opportunity to help your collection as well as these long time collectors, their estates, and the Perfins Club. In the past 11 years, contributions to the club and the insurance reserve fund is nearly \$50,000.00 and is the main reason that membership costs have been able to held steady for many years. Your participation is important and greatly appreciated by all.

If you have any questions or are not receiving the auctions at present and wish to do so, just send a note, an email, or call Bob Szymanski and he will add your name to the list. His information can be found under Immediate Past President on the inside front cover of this *Bulletin* (page 94).

The perfins pictured below are a sample of what will be offered in upcoming auctions!



Look for these and other difficult to find perfins in future Private Auctions

New Cuban Revenue Perfin: NG/£C°

Robert Littrell (#3992) and Michael Millar (#4021)

Robert, an avid Cuba collector, purchased a previously unreported Cuban perfin, NG/£C°, in an 1896 *giro* revenue stamp at a recent Perfins Club auction (Figure 1). He got right to work on discovering what company placed the perfin in it.



Figure 1
1896 Cuban *giro* revenue stamp (William McPherson Jones Cuban revenue catalog No. CA195) with NG/£C° perfin. (actual size)

On the assumption that it may be a Sloper die, he asked Michael, who collects British and Irish perfins, to make that determination. Michael, in turn, asked Roy Gault, who has the James Sloper die records as Catalogue Editor of the Great Britain Perfins Society. Paydirt! Roy reported back that Sloper did manufacture the four die head perforator in late 1897 and assigned a machine number of 8366. He sent a scan of the original impressions. The record is illustrated in Figure 2. Unfortunately, the name of the purchaser was not disclosed in the records. Michael reported that NG/£C° is not a known British perfin.

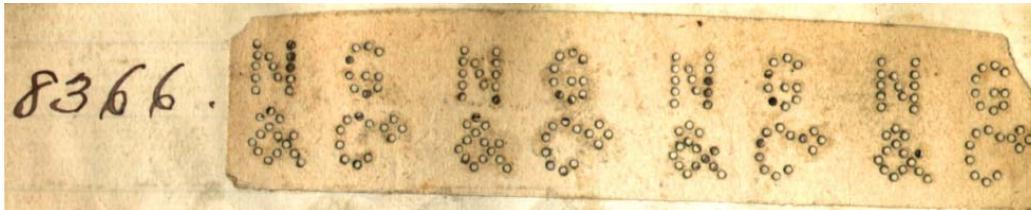


Figure 2
Original James Sloper die record from late 1897 with the machine number 8366 followed by four NG/£C° impressions.

That led Robert to look in the next logical place: Cuba. He started an Internet search with a fortuitously dated, searchable, 1896 Cuban Business Directory. In the whole island of Cuba there was but one company whose name fit the perforated initials: N. (for Narciso) Gelats & Co. The directory listed the company under “Banks and Banking” and “Commission Merchants – Importer and Exporter.” An Internet search for “N. Gelats” yielded much more. *N. Gelats y Cía* was established in 1876, some 20 years before the perfin in question, and grew to become one of the largest banks owned by a

Spaniard in Cuba. He even found a picture of the impressive Gelats bank building in a Cuban photo archive (Figure 3).

After the initial writing of this article, Robert circulated it as an email attachment to his Cuban philatelic friends and found a fellow member of the International Cuban Philatelic Society, Juan L. García Tuñón, who is a great grandson of Narciso Gelats. Juan reports that he visited Havana in 2002 and that this bank building not only still exists, it is the main branch of the *Banco Nacional de Cuba*, having been nationalized by Castro in 1960.



Figure 3
Gelats bank building, Havana, according to the legend on the back of an undated photo.

A *giro* was a revenue stamp that was required to be placed on a bill of exchange or money order. In this case, for instance, the *giro* was placed on a financial instrument transferring 1000 to 1400 pesos for which the transferor paid 80 centavos for that privilege. The use of that *giro* by an import-export bank would be exactly what one would expect.

What we have come to believe, short of seeing some instrument that names the company in the presence of the perfin, is that a substantial bank, **N. Gelats & Co.**, bought a perfin machine from London in late 1897 and then proceeded to perfin the 1896 *giro* (which was not replaced until sometime in 1898). The result is illustrated in Figure 1 above.

Does Your Topical Collection Have Holes in It? [Part 2]

Larry Dodson, Ruud van Dam, and Wobbe Vegter

{Editor's Note: This article was originally published by the American Topical Association in the November-December 2012 issue of *Topical Time* [Vol. 63, No. 6, Whole No. 376: 18-29], the *Journal of Thematic Philately*, and is reprinted with the permission of the editor and authors. We deeply appreciate their agreement to allow this reprint and sharing of their work with our members. Due to the article's length, the first half was published on pages 84 - 87 in the July/August 2013 *Bulletin* [67:84-87] and the remainder appears on the following pages.}

J. Lyons & Co.: This British company was founded in 1887 and became a market-dominant British restaurant chain. British people will remember its famous London tea shops. The company "built and operated the world's first business computer, which it called LEO (Lyons Electronic Office)."⁽¹³⁾ The first LEO computer started working in 1951. In 1954, Lyons founded its own computer company - LEO Computers Ltd. - which, after a number of mergers, was incorporated into International Computers Limited (ICL).



Figure 14
J. Lyons & Co., maker of the world's first business computer.

Keuffel & Esser (K&E): One of the prominent makers of slide rules in the United States was the Keuffel & Esser Company, more commonly known as K&E. One of the three perfin types used by K&E is shown here.

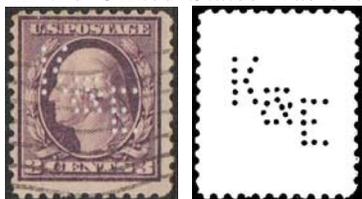


Figure 15
Keuffel & Esser, front and back.

Lanston Monotype Machine Company: The Lanston Monotype Machine Company started manufacturing the Barrett Adding Machine in 1914.⁽¹⁴⁾



Figure 16
Lanston Monotype Machine Co.

Moneyweight Scale Co.: In 1900 this company was acquired by the Computing Scale Company. In 1911 the Computing-Tabulating-Recording Company (CTR) was formed by a merger of three companies, one of which was the Computing Scale Company. CTR was renamed International Business Machines Corporation in 1924.⁽¹⁵⁾



Figure 17
The Moneyweight Scale Co.

National Cash Register (NCR): The original business of NCR was (surprise!) cash registers, which are special-purpose calculators. By the 1960s they were a manufacturer of large computers. NCR perfins exist from at least three countries.



Figure 18
National Cash Register (U.S.).

Figure 19
National Cash Register (Great Britain).

Topical Collection with Holes (cont.)



Figure 20
National Registrier Kassen (Germany).

Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken nv: The name translates as Philips Light Bulb Manufacturing. Philips was established in 1891 in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. The company expanded rapidly and became one of the largest light bulb manufacturers in Europe. It entered the



Figure 21
Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken (Netherlands).

Remington Typewriter Company, Incorporated: This company was a predecessor of Remington Rand, a maker of computers including the UNIVAC I, the first commercial computer made in the United States.



Figure 22
Remington Typewriter Co. (U.S.)

Siemens: Siemens is a German engineering company. It was incorporated in 1847 as Siemens & Halske to manufacture and install telegraphic systems. The company underwent a major reorganization in 1966

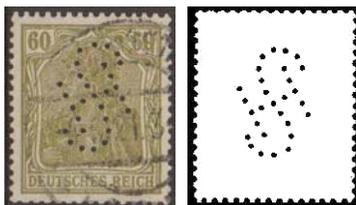


Figure 23
Siemens & Halske (Germany).

and renamed itself Siemens AG. Siemens entered the computer market around 1950. In 1999 Siemens Computer Division formed a 50-50 joint venture with Fujitsu Computers to become Fujitsu Siemens Computers. In 2009 Fujitsu bought out the Siemens' stake and became Fujitsu Technology Solutions.

Underwood Typewriter Company: Underwood added addition and subtraction devices to its typewriters in 1910. Underwood later merged with Olivetti and made electromechanical calculators.⁽¹⁷⁾



Figure 24
Underwood Typewriter Co. (U.S.)

Western Electric: This company was a joint owner of Bell Labs. Please see previous listing for American Telephone & Telegraph Company. [Editor's Note: This listing is on page 86 of the July/August 2013 *Bulletin*.]

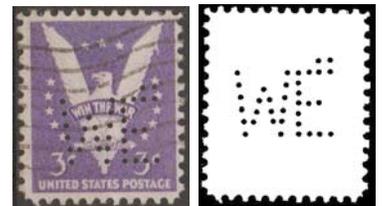


Figure 25
Western Electric was known, among other things, for its telegraph wire.

Perfins in exhibits

Where the topical or thematic collector has the option of deciding to include or ignore perfins in his collection, the exhibitor does not. Perfins add an extra dimension to a topical or thematic exhibit, provided the perfin is related to the topic or theme of the story being told. Perforated initials of companies that are related to your subject are highly desirable, as they show diversity in the philatelic material used in the exhibit. Normally, the use of a company-produced envelope with advertising is not advisable for inclusion in a competitive exhibit, as that constitutes private advertising, but that same advertising cover (when franked with a perfin from the same company), proves the authenticity of the perfin, and is perfectly acceptable according to the rules for judging. These company covers, with

Topical Collection with Holes (cont.)

corresponding perfins, enable you to illustrate the manufacturer of a product or the provider of a service. With a bit of research on a perfin, such as the period it was in use, one may add this philatelic information next to the perfin item, possibly with an explanation about how it is related to the topic. As stated earlier, perfins were widely used in the early 1900s by many different companies. Thus, the use of philatelic material from that period – such as a proving perfin on cover – will also satisfy an additional requirement for the topical exhibitor. His or her exhibit must show items covering a wide spread of philatelic periods. Where most topical stamps will originate from the last 50 years, covers with perfin stamps will often date back much further. So, it is worthwhile doing a bit of research in perfins related to your area of interest and put some holes in your exhibit.

Perfin clubs and websites

A quick search of the Internet will reveal a wealth of information on perfins. The sites of three perfin organizations are listed here. While others may be equally valuable, we found that members of these clubs were quite helpful in their advice and counsel as we began to educate ourselves about perfins relating to computers. We thank them for sharing their knowledge (and duplicates).

- The Perfins Club (United States): www.perfins.org
- The Perfin Society (United Kingdom) www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc
- The German Perfin Society (in German) www.arge-lochungen.de

It should also be noted that there are a number of perfin catalogs, mostly for individual countries. Unfortunately, the catalogs tend to be somewhat expensive for the topical collector who is only interested in a very small number of the entries.

Conclusion

At this point we hope you are considering adding some “holes” to your topical collection. Studying perfins and the companies that used them can lead to new and surprising facts about most any topic being collected. The Internet can offer lots of information on perfins, but it may take some searching to find what you want to know. For the exhibitor, perfins add a new element to your presentation. For the collector who does not exhibit, they offer a new and relatively inexpensive path for adding to your collection. We can only wish that perfins offer you as much fun as we have had.

Footnotes:

14. “J. Lyons & Co. – LEO Computers,” www.kzwp.com/lyons/leo.htm
15. “Lanston Monotype Machine Company,” http://rechnerlexikon.de/en/artikel/Lanston_Monotype_Machine_Company
16. “List of mergers and acquisitions by IBM,” Wikipedia, www.wikipedia.org
17. “Philips – History,” www.philips.com/about/company/history/
18. “Underwood Typewriter Company,” Wikipedia, www.wikipedia.org

About the Authors

Larry Dodson (United States), Rudd van Dam (The Netherlands), and Wobbe Vegter (South Africa) are all members of the Math Study Unit [of the American Topical Association (ATA)] and long-time collectors of stamps relating to computers. By early 2000 they were corresponding by email on these issues on a regular basis. Larry has written four of the ATA handbooks and several articles. Rudd is a skilled researcher and recently entered his exhibit *Rekenruig* at Postex 2011. It is on the topic of the origins of counting and the decimal system. Wobbe is the author of the topical handbook *Thematic Exhibiting*, as well as many articles. He has an award winning exhibit called *From Abacas to Internet*, which can be seen at wvegter.higemind.net.

* * * Final Dues Reminder * * *

Remember that unless you are a life member, you need to renew your Club membership each year by sending your Dues to the Secretary by June 30. This keeps your membership current and ensures you will continue to receive the *Bulletin*. Please look at the date above your name on the back of this issue or

the mailing label on the outside of the 1st Class envelope. If there is a red mark  on it, your dues have not been received and this will be your last issue. Please send them to the Secretary immediately! His contact information is on page 94.

2014 Convention - August 4-9 - St. Louis, MO
Mark Your Calendars Now!

PostScript to "Does Your Topical Collection Have Holes in it?"

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

The story of how these gentlemen learned about and got involved with perfins is interesting and informative. In April 2011, Mr. Wobbe Vegter, Bellville, South Africa (wvegter@xsinet.co.za), stumbled across my name on The Perfins Club website (www.perfins.org). He contacted me about a U.S. "BIM" pattern that he had heard belonged to IBM. (It does – it is pattern **B141**.) This led to a perfins discussion amongst us and my providing several computer related perfins to him.

Wobbe shared my informational source with Mr. Ruud van Dam, Enschede, The Netherlands (rvdam@hetnet.nl), and Mr. Larry Dodson, Phoenix, AZ (landsdodson@cox.net). Both of these gentlemen have communicated with me many times over the last two years, and have acquired quite a few computer related perfins. Wobbe, Ruud, and Larry are also interested in computer related perfins in foreign stamps, and Wobbe and Ruud are interested in computer-related perfins on cover – neither being a subject with which I can help. Please contact them at their email addresses above if you can be of assistance. If you prefer regular mail, please contact me or the Editor and we will forward your message.

Most recently, Mr. E. Clark Buchi, Franklin, TN,

learned about our hobby from his friend, Larry Dodson. Clark is interested in pursuing U.S. perfins in general, and is one of our newer members - joining The Perfins Club in December 2012 as member #4028. Welcome, Clark! I enjoyed meeting you in person at our recent convention in Chattanooga. I have provided Clark with a nice starter collection.

The message about this experience is quite clear to me. The Club's website is an important, global reference point for philatelists, young and old, novice and advanced, to learn about perfins and how to contact us. But more importantly, I think, is that each of us can serve as ambassadors for our hobby. Use every opportunity to discuss perfins with fellow stamp collectors. Perfins provide a fascinating and fruitful expansion to collectors already involved in philately. And the reverse is true as well: As a retired mathematician and software engineer, I kick myself for not expanding sooner into worldwide stamps and perfins involving computers and mathematics.

I want to thank Wobbe, Ruud, Larry, and Clark for their interest in the subject of perfins. I welcome them to our field of study.

Join us at Milford

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

The New England Precancel and Perfins Clubs will be holding a joint meeting and swap on Saturday September 21, 2013, between 9:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Milford Town Library. The library is located in downtown Milford, MA, off Rte. 16 on Spruce Street. It is easily reachable from I-495 Exit 19 Rte. 109 or Exit 20 Rte. 85.

The meeting room is on the lower level and can be reached through the main entrance by either stairs or elevator. There is also a loading door from the outside

employee parking lot directly to the room.

For detailed directions if you do not have MapQuest or a GPS, please give me a call or send me an email. My contact information is found on page 94 of this *Bulletin* under Immediate Past President.

Also, I would appreciate it if you would let me know if you intend on coming to this meeting and what you are looking for to add to your collection. There will be plenty of perfins and, as always, the more the merrier!

Austria Perfins Catalog Now Available

David Lightle (#3480), Publication Sales Manager

I have been able to put together the 1991 *Austria Perfins* Catalog by John J. Nussbickel and published by The Perfins Club. The catalog is 160 pages in length and I also have the five supplements that go with it. I now have copies from the printer in stock

and can offer the catalog, including the supplements, to members at a price of \$32.00. If you wish to add this catalog to your library, please contact me at my email or regular mail address shown on page 94.

Perfined 15-cent U.S. Columbian on Cover

Jack Brandt (LM#14)

Recently, I saw in an auction a cover franked with a perfined 15-cent U.S. Columbian stamp, Scott #238. (See Figure 1 below and Figure 2 on page 105.) I knew that I did not have any U.S. Columbian stamps with perfins, much less on cover, in my collection. So, I placed a bid, and was fortunate enough to get it. The price was more than the estimate, but less than my bid.

The U.S. Columbian stamps were issued as part of the World Columbian Exposition that was held in Chicago, IL, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of North America by Christopher Columbus. While this anniversary was actually in 1892, the event was postponed a year until 1893 to allow sufficient time to complete the huge Exposition. The stamps were issued on January 1, 1893, (a

Sunday) and January 2, 1893, (a Monday). The Exposition was open from May 1 - October 31, 1893.

The Columbians were the first commemorative stamps issued by the U.S. The set consists of 16 different denominations from 1-cent to \$5.00. From my reading they did not sell very well, and issues (other than the 2-cent) laid in the postmasters' and companies' safes and drawers for many years. Thus, the 15-cent stamp on this cover was still available to be perfined 24 years after it was initially issued.

The National City Bank of New York, New York, NY, mailed this cover to Zurich, Switzerland, on February 10, 1917, by Registered Mail. According to its markings, it crossed the Atlantic from New York to Liverpool, England, via the *S.S. Cedric*,

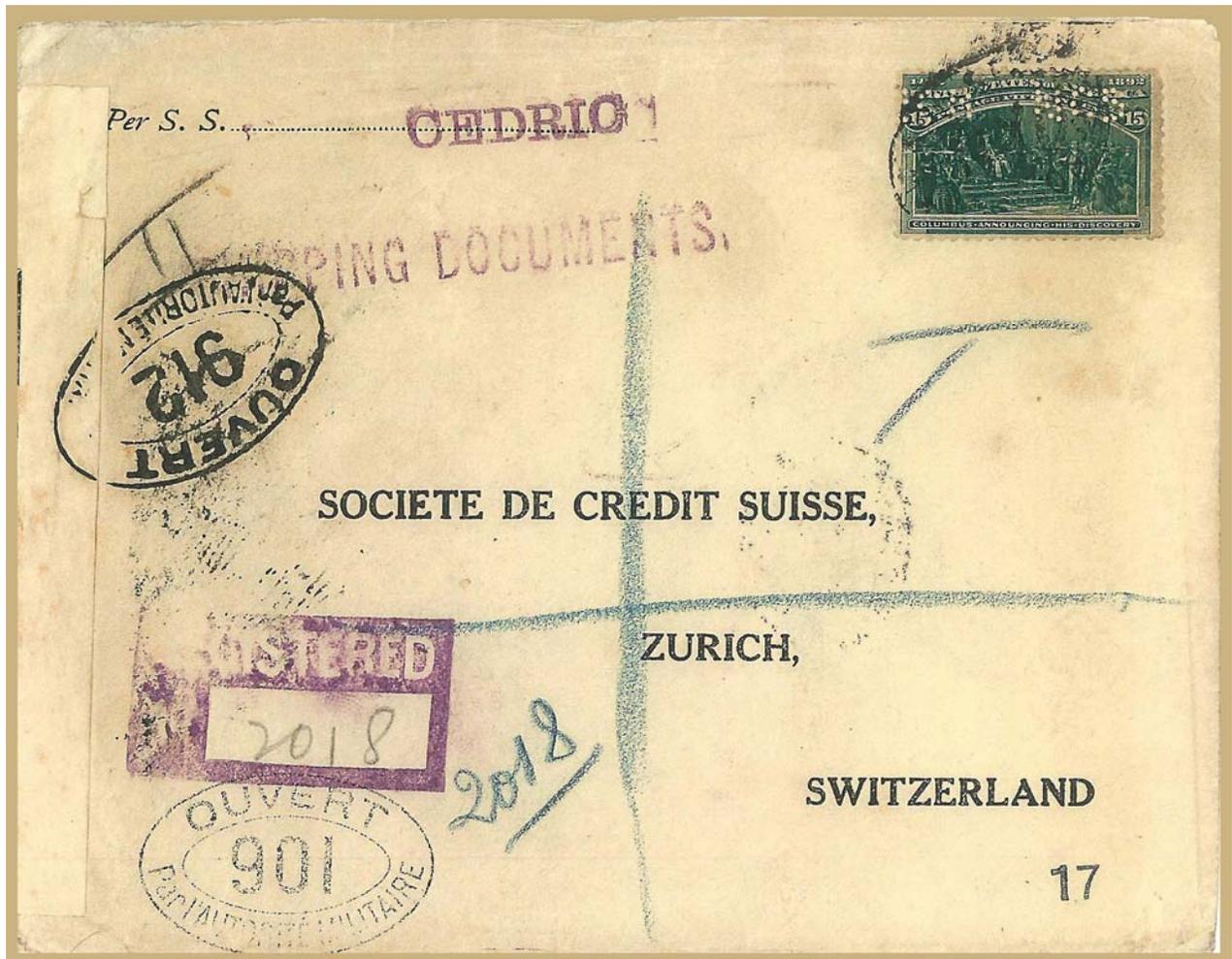


Figure 1
Registered Mail cover from New York, NY, to Zurich, Switzerland, franked with a single 15-cent Columbian stamp (Scott #238) that is perforated with U.S. pattern N41 (NCB). Markings show it made the Transatlantic journey aboard the *S.S. Cedric*. (Actual size.)

Perfined 15-cent Columbian cover (cont.)

before being sent on to Zurich. It was also opened by a French military censor during WWI.

The perfin is *E* rated pattern N41 (NCB), which corresponds to The National City Bank of New York user. This perfin is common in Washington and Franklin stamps. I also have it in a couple of parcel post issues.

All in all, I am very glad to now have a U.S. Columbian stamp with a perfin, much less on cover.

[Editor's Notes: There appear to be two scenarios to account for the 15 cents postage on this cover. In both instances, the U.S. Foreign Registry fee in 1917 was 10 cents. For the other 5 cents, one possibility is that the cover contained a First Class Letter weighing "up to 1 ounce." However, the "Shipping Documents" handstamp on the front of the cover leads one to wonder if it contained "Printed Matter & Commercial

Documents" - the rate was 1 cent per two ounces or 8 - 10 ounces to equal 5 cents.⁽¹⁾ After consultation with Jack, there is no evidence the cover contained a large amount of material. So, it seems the first possibility is most likely.

The White Star Lines' *S.S. Cedric* made her maiden Liverpool to New York voyage on February 11, 1904. She became an auxiliary cruiser with the 10th Cruiser Squadron in 1914 and served as a troop and supply transport until the end of WWI. Returning to commercial service in 1918, she made her last voyage in 1931 and was then sold for scrap.⁽²⁾

References:

1. *U.S. International Postal Rates, 1872-1996*, Wawrukiewicz, Anthony S. and Beecher, Henry W.; CAM Publishing Company, Portland, OR; August 1996, Appendix 1, pages 353-365.
2. [http://www.ooocities.org/White Star Liners/Cedric.html](http://www.ooocities.org/White_Star_Liners/Cedric.html)



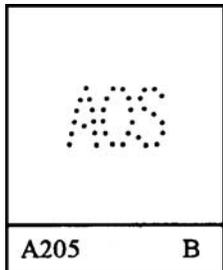
Figure 2

Back of cover showing the February 10, 1917, Registered Mail postmark. Also, notice the February 11, 1917, New York Foreign Mail receiving stamp, the February 22, 1917, Liverpool Registered Mail receiving stamp, and the military censor's stamp.
(Actual size.)

Whose pattern is it?

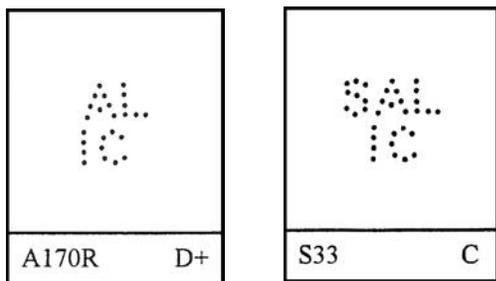
Rudy Roy (#1124)

I recently obtained the cover illustrated in Figure 1 on page 107 for two reasons - the pattern - **A205** (AOS), shown at the right, is *B* rated, and the data on the return address portion of the cover was intriguing. The cover will also be an interesting addition to my Virginia perfins collection.



Although in less than optimal condition, the cover's return address lists "A. O. Swink, Manager for Virginia and District of Columbia, Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA," as the sender. Mr. Swink's initials match exactly those of the perfins pattern! Coincidence, or???

In addition to pattern **A205**, the Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA, is credited in the *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog) with a number of other patterns - notably **A170R** (AL/IC), **S33** (SAL/IC), **S33.5** (SAL/IC), and probably **S32** (SA/LIC). Pattern **A170R** is reputed to be **S33** with the letter "S" removed. (Look closely at the two patterns below.) Quite a number of different patterns all attributed to a company whose initials do not directly match!



I did some Internet searching for Atlantic Life, a company no longer in business, and discovered that it became Atlantic Life after a merger in 1912 of the South Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA, and the Atlantic National Life Insurance Company Lynchburg, VA.⁽¹⁾ The merged company headquarters was located in Richmond. I also found it interesting that Mr. Swink resigned his position as Superintendent of Agencies for South Atlantic Life in 1909 to "take charge of the company's business in Virginia" and to "direct the affairs of the company in the home state."⁽²⁾

The **S32**, **S33**, and **S33.5** patterns match the South Atlantic Life name, and I conclude that this

company was the original user of the patterns. However, I do not know of a cover showing such use. Use of the SAL/IC continued after the merger, as the cover in Figure 2 on page 107 shows. The Catalog notes that the range of use of the **S33** pattern is through 1926, which also happens to be the Catalog listed date for the beginning use of pattern **A205**. Pattern **A170R**, the die with the "S" of SAL/IC removed begins use in 1926 too.

In conclusion, I believe that pattern **A205** is derived from the initials of Mr. Swink. A draft of this article, including Figures 1 & 2, was forwarded to the U.S. Catalog Chairman, Steve Endicott (LM#2284). He agrees with my conclusion and intends to revise the primary user for pattern **A205** to "A. O. Swink, Manager, Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA," in A&C#4 of the Catalog. At the same time, the current primary user, "Atlantic Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA," will be moved to the Supplemental Information pages. Hopefully, this will help future collectors understand the relationship between the AOS initials of the pattern and the ALIC initials of the company.

In addition, Steve notes that the Catalog lists the usage of pattern **S33** in stamps issued between 1908 and 1933. However, it is not included in the "1908 One/Two Cent Checklist." Thus, the 1908 date is probably an error unless it was from left over postage in the mail room, and the period of usage of **S33** should be corrected to stamps issued between 1914 and 1933. To help settle this question, please check your collection for any stamps, on or off cover, issued prior to 1914 perforated with pattern **S33**. If you have one, please send a scan or photocopy of it to Steve. His contact information is on page 94.

Finally, as I suspect the "South Atlantic Life Insurance Company" was the original user of the SAL/IC perfins, please check your collection for such a cover. If you have one, please forward a scan or photocopy of it to the Editor or U.S. Catalog Chairman so this information may be included in the Catalog.

References:

1. http://books.google.com/books/about/Best_s_Life_Insurance_Reports.html?id=0h4MAQAAMAAJ; Search "Atlantic Life Insurance Company"; then go to page 35.
2. http://books.google.com/books/about/The_Spectator.html?id=VYAAAAYAAJ; Search "A.O. Swink"; then go to page 85.

Whose Pattern is it? (cont.)

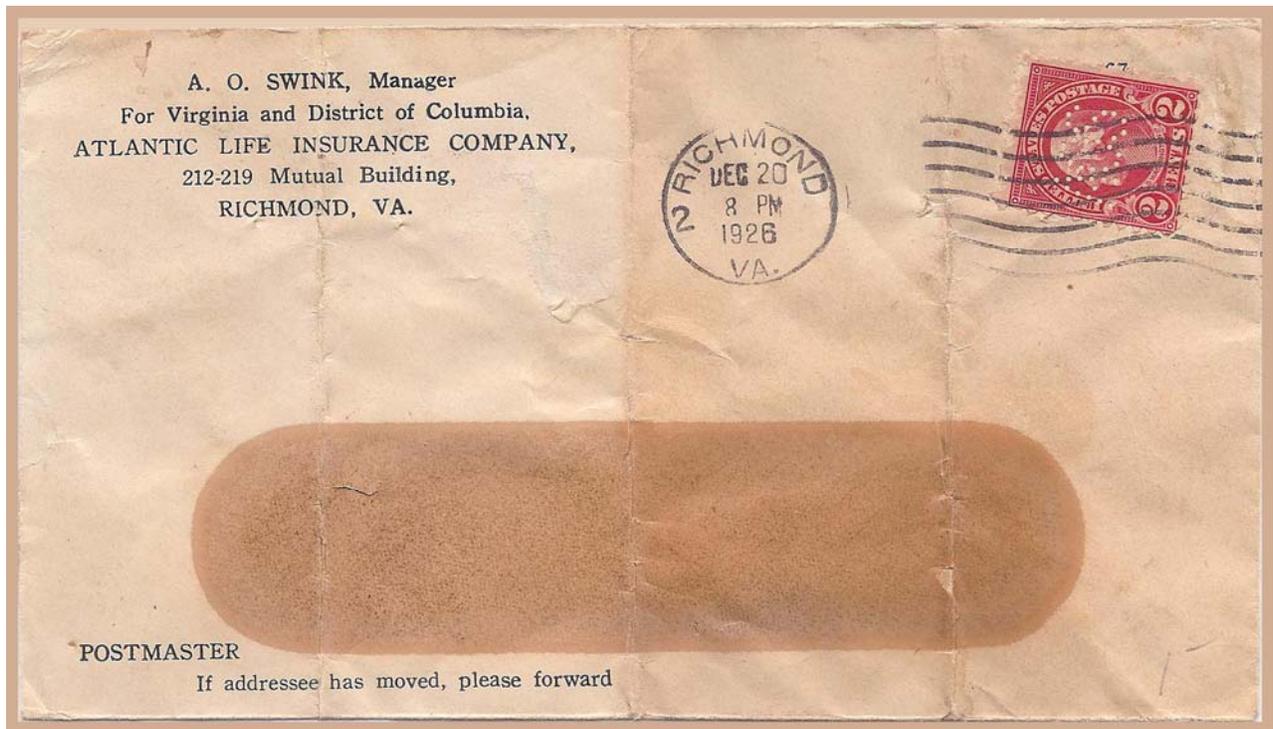


Figure 1
December 20, 1926, cover franked with 2-cent Washington stamp perforated with B rated pattern A205 (AOS). Corner card shows that the primary user of A205 was "A. O. Swink, Manager For Virginia and District of Columbia, Atlantic Life Insurance Company."
(Actual size.)



Figure 2
"Atlantic Life Insurance Company" cover postmarked October 28, 1925, franked with 2-cent Washington stamp perforated with C rated pattern S33. One wonders if the SAL/IC perfins were originally owned by the "South Atlantic Life Insurance Company" before it became part of Atlantic Life in the 1912 merger.
(Actual size.)

The U.S. Perfins Catalog Numbering Taxonomy

Steve Endicott (LM#2284), U.S. Catalog Chairman

Several collectors have recently asked me why the U.S. perfins are numbered the way that we see them in the current, 1998 *Catalog of United States Perfins* (U.S. Perfins Catalog) and the 2011 *Addendum to The Catalog of United States Perfins* (Addendum). I thought it might be useful to explain and document the numbering taxonomy.

Each perfin Catalog number or pattern number consists of a letter, followed by a number, and sometimes is followed by a suffix. While the questions, of course, mostly revolve around the suffix, let us start at the beginning.

The First Major Rule: The first alpha character obviously represents the first letter as seen in the pattern (and linear groups of letters are read in alphabetic order). This results in a question from some collectors when they see a user name that doesn't match the order of the letters on the perfin. For example, consider pattern **B141** which has the letter arrangement BIM, while the company that used this perfin was the "International Business Machine Company, New York, NY," or IBM. It is clearly easier for collectors to find a perfin in the Catalog when this pattern is classified within the letter *B* section, rather than put this in the letter *I* section.

There are two exceptions to this rule.

- The first exception involves monograms (patterns with interwoven letters and designs). In this situation, the earliest alphabetic letter is used for Catalog numbering purposes. For the convenience of the collector, many of these are documented as "confusing patterns" at the end of the Introduction Section of the 1998 U.S. Catalog.
- The second exception involves a series of alphabetic letters (suppose "ABC"). One doesn't know if the pattern was meant to read "ABC" or "CBA." Without further information, it would be classified within the letter *A* section. However, if the user is known to be "Cathy's Book Associates," then the perfin would be classified within the letter *C* section.

The Second Major Rule: We never reuse pattern identifiers. Adding a new pattern between two others usually results in a suffix of 0.5 or "A" (more on this in a moment). However, if 0.5

had already been used and was subsequently deleted or moved, then the new pattern would have a suffix of 0.3 or 0.7. For example, in the 1998 Catalog (page A-25), pattern **A212** is immediately followed by **A213.5**. Where is pattern **A213**? It was deleted during the development of the 1998 Catalog. Now, assume a new pattern were to be discovered that should be placed between **A212** and **A213.5**. The Second Rule says it would not be assigned the previously deleted **A213**, but a new number between **A212** and **A213.5**.

Taxonomy of the Suffix: Now, turning to the taxonomy of the suffix in a pattern. I discussed this with John Randall (#1336), Editor of the 1998 U.S. Catalog. I am always grateful for his perspective and knowledge. Historically, patterns were given a decimal suffix if they were different in significant design, in the number of pins, OR in the overall dimensions. If they were identical in all three of these definitions, yet the patterns were identified to be different for some other reason, such as the shape of the letters, then an alpha suffix was used.

In building the 1998 Catalog, John did considerable work to correct the decimal and alpha suffixes to adhere to this rule as stated in this previous paragraph.

Here are some examples, all from pages W-20 and W-21 in the 1998 Catalog:

1. **W164** (WPM) and **W165** (also WPM) are correctly assigned because the shape of the letters is different, they have a different number of holes, and the patterns are different in dimension. (Figure 1.) They have held these identifiers in our Catalogs ever since collectors began assigning identification numbers to perfins.

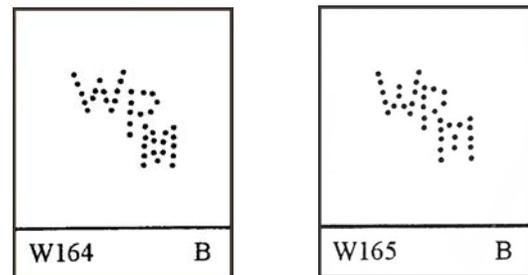


Figure 1
Catalog image of patterns W164 and W165.
Note the obvious difference in the shape of letter W and letter M. Also, the number of holes in each letter is different, as is the height of the letters.

U.S. Perfins Catalog Taxonomy (cont.)

2. **W168** (WPP) and **W168.5** (also WPP) have similar designs and the same number of pins. However, they are different in dimensions. (Figure 2.) **W168.5** was found sometime between publication of the 1979 Catalog and the 1998 Catalog. It was a new insertion in the 1998 Catalog. (Note: IF the dimensions also had been the same, then the new pattern would have been **W168A**.)

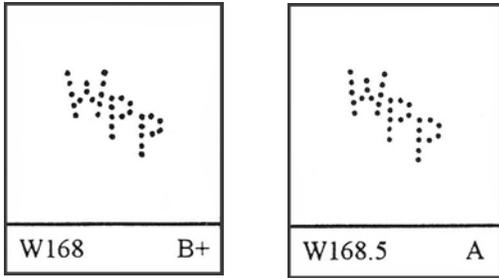


Figure 2

Catalog image of patterns W168 and W168.5.

While the number of holes in each letter is the same and the design of the two is similar, the difference in the height of the letter W results in the numeric suffix.

3. **W174** (WRC) and **W175** (WS) are clearly different patterns. Perfin **W174.5** (WR/KT) was found sometime between 1958 and 1964 and was then inserted as **W174.5** and has held that position in all subsequent Catalogs. (Figure 3.)

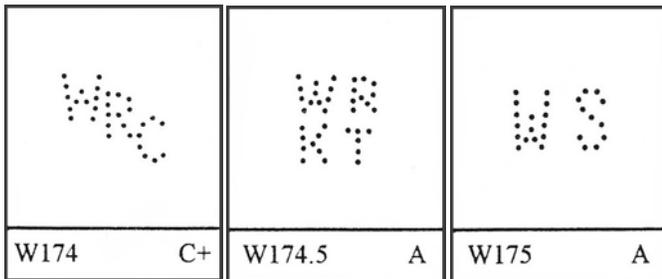


Figure 3

Catalog image of patterns W174, W174.5, and W175.

Example of assignment of Catalog number to a new, clearly different perfin (WR/KT)- first in alphabetical order (Rule 1) and then 0.5 suffix (different patterns).

4. Finally, consider patterns **W177** (WS) and **W177A** (WS). (Figure 4 above right.) These patterns are identical in design, in number of pins, and in overall dimensions. However, the shapes of the letters are different. Therefore, the second pattern, discovered between publication of the 1979 and 1998 Catalogs, was included in the 1998 Catalog as **W177A**.

Is everyone confused yet? I hope not. Although tedious, I hope these explanations have been clear.

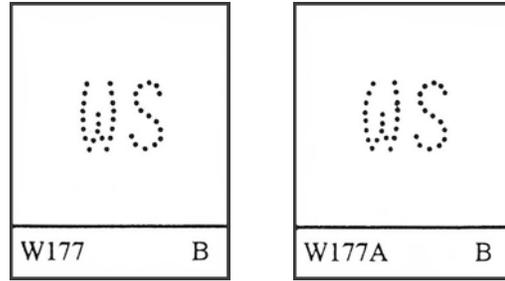


Figure 4

Catalog image of patterns W177 and W177A.

Perfins are identical except for the shape of the letters, primarily the letter W. Therefore, the A suffix is correct.

Now, let's move on to the perfins with control holes, being used by one company in different locations. The major rule here is to use the form X999-99, where X999 is the "primary" identifier as described above, followed by a hyphen, followed by a numeric suffix. It can have a further suffix according to rules above for numeric and alpha suffixes.

For example, consider **N113A-9** and **N113A-9A**, where the design of the letter N is different (Figure 5), or the insertion of **S195-17.5** between **S195-17** and **S195-19** (Figure 6). In this situation we could not use **S195-18** for the new insertion - that identifier has already been used and was deleted in the publication of the 1979 Catalog.

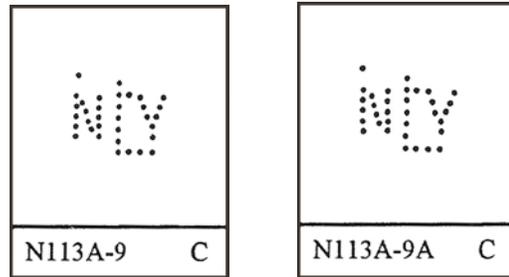


Figure 5

Catalog image of patterns N113A-9 and N113A-9A.

The patterns are the same except the letter N, particularly its center diagonal. Thus, the A suffix.

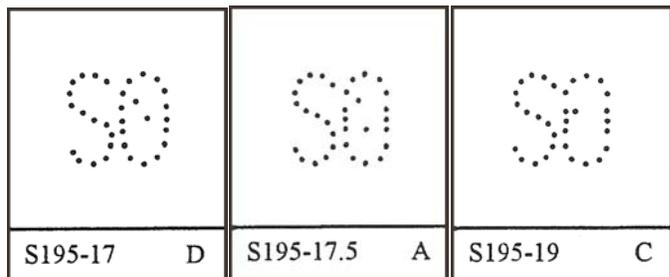


Figure 6

Catalog image of patterns S195-17, S195-17.5 and S195-19.

As pattern S195-18 has already been used and then deleted, the new pattern was properly assigned S195-17.5.

Continued on next page

U.S. Perfins Catalog Taxonomy (cont.)

This extended rule holds for the companies that have used control holes in many of their offices (for example: AR, BFG, GE, IHC, NLY, and SO to name a few).

Okay, this makes sense, but then why does the Western Electric series, pattern **W72.xx** (WE), use decimal suffixes and not hyphens? Because the number of pins in the various patterns within this series differ! The Catalog Editor at the time thought it best to put all the Western Electric patterns in one group and sort them by the position of the control holes. But then, according to the rules described above, use of the hyphen would be incorrect, so the Editor reverted to the decimal suffix, as explained above for single patterns.

The Swift and Company series, pattern **S2.xx** (S) is another example of using a decimal suffix instead

of a hyphen. In this situation the heights of the letter S differ throughout the series.

In the introduction to the 1998 U.S. Catalog, there is a detailed explanation about various aspects of the structures used in the Catalog. There is additional information regarding specific patterns (deleted, moved or “confusing”) at the end of each letter section. Collectors are encouraged to study these useful sections. There are additional structural definitions in the introduction to the eCatalog. Finally, I intend to include in A&C#4 a synopsis of the rules and definitions discussed in this article.

If you have additional questions concerning any specific patterns or wish to discuss these rules in more detail, please contact me. My information is on page 94.

A Preview of Information for the U.S. Perfins Catalog – A&C#4

Steve Endicott (LM#2284), U.S. Catalog Chairman

Members ask me, “When will A&C#4 to the *United States Perfins Catalog* (U.S. Perfins Catalog) be published?” The answer is: “Not for a while, perhaps in 2014.” The information in the Catalog is reasonably stable, so it seems that a formal update every four or five years is appropriate.

Collectors regularly send information to me to consider for the Catalog. Since the publication of A&C#3, this has resulted in 42 new identifications for primary users, 17 corrections of existing primary user information, numerous extensions to periods of usage, and additional supplemental information.

Possibly of more immediate interest to members are new patterns, deleted patterns, and changes in ratings. This information will be published in the *Bulletin* once a year, until A&C #4 is published. This will also serve the purpose of giving members an opportunity to comment on these revisions prior to publication in the Catalog.

New patterns

- none (one is pending review at this year’s convention in Chattanooga).

Deleted patterns

- **A221-18A** is being deleted as a mis-identified copy of **A221-16**.

- **C344.7** is being deleted as a partial of **C345** from a multi-head device.
- **C385.5A** is being deleted as a die variety of **C385.5**.
- **E83.2** is being deleted as a die variety of **E83**.
- **M0.7** is being deleted. This has been seen in a strip of three amongst **M1A**.

Rating changes

- The rating for **C0.5P** is being changed from (B) to (C+).
- The rating for **C356.6** is being changed from B+ to B.
- The rating for **H78** is being changed from C to D.
- The rating for **O1.1** is being changed from A to B+.

Your feedback is welcome. And please keep sending me information that is new to the Catalog and/or corrects it. My contact information is on page 94.

{Editor’s Note: The deletion of patterns **A221-18A**, **C344.7**, and **M0.7**; and the rating change for patterns **C0.5P**, **C356.6**, and **H78** were previously reported on page 129 of the September/October 2012 *Bulletin* [66:129]. This information is included above for completeness and for the benefit of any members who may have joined the Club during the last year.}

One Railroad's Perfins = Six Railroads' Perfins

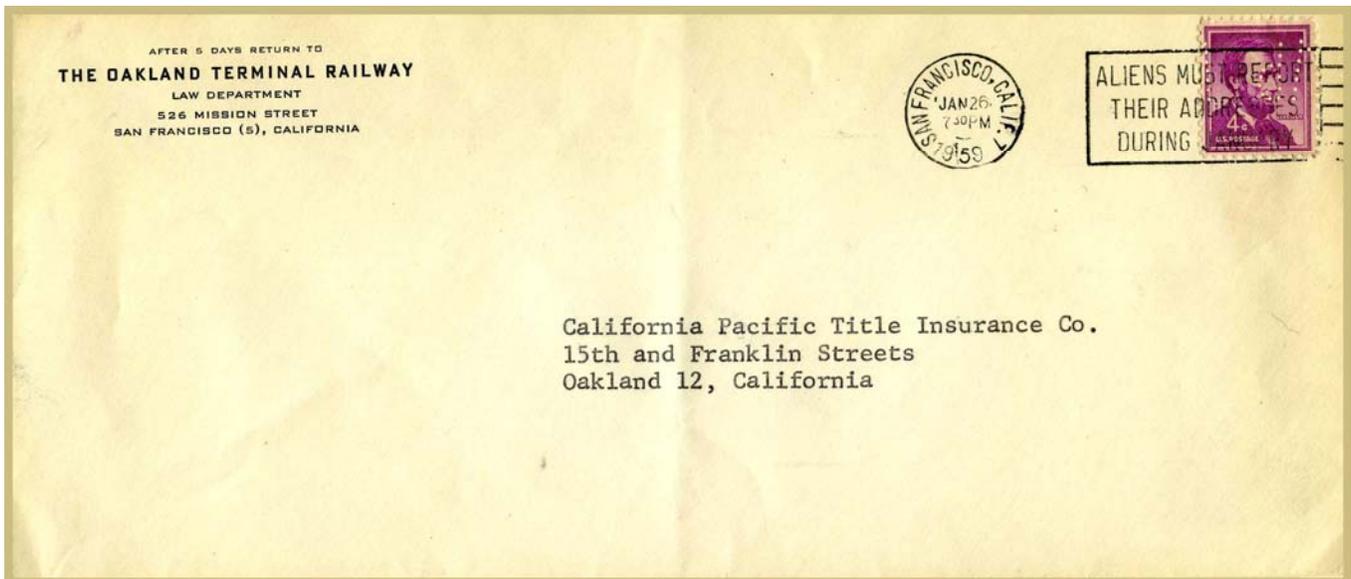
Addenda

Bob Combs (LM#24)

In my article of the same title in the July/August *Bulletin* [67:74-80], I mentioned on page 80 that I needed an Oakland Terminal Railway cover to illustrate their linkage with the Western Pacific Railroad Company. Well, as all things usually happen, I recently found such a cover (shown below) buried in a box of unmounted material.

The split perfin is one of pattern **W154's**

damaged varieties (**W154B** - missing two center holes in the letter W). While the cover's January 26, 1959, postmark is a bit later in usage than the others shown in the original article, the corner card shows the link to Western Pacific's main offices in San Francisco, CA. I am happy to have found this cover and hope it gives closure to those that were waiting to see one.



The Oakland Terminal Railway, using W154 pattern perfin in a 4-cent Lincoln stamp (Scott #1036) tied to cover with a January 26, 1959, San Francisco, CA, postmark. (70% of actual size.)

What is the Largest Postal Issue with a Perfin?

Ken Masters (LM#3589)

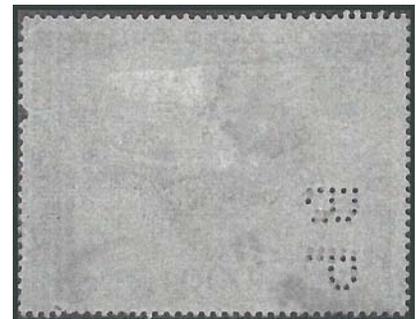
In a recent letter Jack Brandt (LM#14) suggested we conduct a contest to add some spice to our lives. What is the **Largest Postal Issue with a Perfin?**

There are only two rules. First, the perfin must be in a postal issue. Revenues, souvenir sheets, and sheetlets do not qualify. Second, the perfin must have been used by a commercial or governmental entity. Personals, vanities, and "holes" punched for promotional purposes

do not qualify. "Largest" is defined as the greatest area (length x width) of the stamp.

Send your entry to the Editor (page 94) by November 15, 2013. Ties go to the earliest email date or entry postmark. The winner will receive one additional free want ad in 2014 and will be announced in the January/February 2014 *Bulletin*. Let's have some fun. Good luck!

Do you have a perforated stamp larger that Jack Brandt's entry - French Airmail stamp, Scott #C27, that measures 52 x 40.5 mm or an area of 2,106 square mm? The stamp is perforated with a BP perfin, France pattern "BP 148" that was used by "Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas" as listed in the *Timbres Perfores de France*; R. Dedecker, M Herbert, R. Janot, and G. Leger, Editors; 2008. (Actual size.)



Watch What You Wish For!

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

In the May/June 2013 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*, I wrote an article "Everyone should have a 'Holey' Grail" [67:50-51]. In that article, I mentioned that one of my quests was to find a cover postmarked April 15, 1912 - the date that the HMS *Titanic* sunk. Then, on page 64 of that same issue, I reported in a second article that within 24 hours after I had written the first article, such a cover was found hiding in my collection [67:64].

Well, recently I received a box of covers from one of our members to auction or sell, and lo and behold the two covers pictured below are likewise dated April 15, 1912. Coincidence, serendipity, pure happenstance - maybe I should go and buy a lottery ticket!

This is your chance to own a piece of history. These two covers will be included in the next Private Auction which will be held from late September through October. If you would like one of these you can submit a bid for one or another (or both). I will award the cleaner, upper cover to the highest bidder at 10% over the 2nd highest bidder, then, the lower cover with the sun darkening in the same manner.

You need not be receiving the Private Auctions, but you can email, phone, or snail mail me a bid before 6:00 p.m., October 31, 2013. My contact information is on the inside front cover (page 94) under Immediate Past President. You could have a real Happy Halloween!



Two covers postmarked April 15, 1912 - the day the HMS *Titanic* sunk!
Both will be sold in October 2013 Private Auction.
(90% of actual size.)

Perfins Club Auction #134 Closes October 31, 2013

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 all lots is \$2.00, except U.S. B+ and A rated perfins. For U.S. B+ rated perfins the minimum bid is \$18.00, and for A rated perfins it is \$30.00. 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 for U.S. perfins 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	A24 (hinge thin)	C+	24	US	C309 in 641 (SE)	B+	51	US	G200 in 720	B
2	US	A140A in 427	B+	25	US	C300	C+	52	US	G206 (5 blind holes)	C+
3	US	A203 (5h)	C+	26	US	C354 in 556	C+	53	US	H10	C+
4	US	A221-1C in 720	B+	27	US	C356.8 in 634	B+	54	US	H52 in 414 (SE)	B
5	US	A275.5 in 425	B+	28	US	D114 in 583	C+	55	US	H107 in C30	C
6	US	B9 in 332	B+	29	US	D114 in 634	C+	56	US	H200	B
7	US	B43	C+	30	US	E15.5 in 527	B+	57	US	I43.5 in 720	A
8	US	B116.5I in 1209 (split)	A	31	US	E45 in 636	B	58	US	I43.7A-24A in 642 (on edge, pull perfs.)	C+
9	US	B137.5 in 512	B+	32	US	E45 in 638	B	59	US	I43.7B-2 in 653	D+
10	US	B137.5 in 515	B+	33	US	E52 in 639	B	60	US	I43.7G-5A in 825 (stamp damaged - perfin OK)	B+
11	US	B153A in 506 (SE)	C+	34	US	E52 in 693	B	61	US	I43.7A-22 in 1038	D
12	US	C11.7 in 636	A	35	US	E52 in 697	B	62	US	J6 (2h - on edge)	C+
13	US	C97 (stamp damaged - perfin OK)	B	36	US	E52 in 813	B	63	US	J10 (5h - SE - on edge)	C+
14	US	C98 in 431	C+	37	US	E52 in 815	B	64	US	J45 in 339 (SE - light crease)	C+
15	US	C98.5	A	38	US	E52 in 830	B	65	US	J130	B
16	US	C120	C+	39	US	F40 in 558	B	66	US	J131 (1h - open to edge)	B
17	US	C177.5	C+	40	US	F40 in 564 (on edge)	B	67	US	L60-11	B
18	US	C188.5 (11h - split)	B	41	US	F40 in 569	B	68	US	L69 in 815 (2h - 3holes blind)	B
19	US	C199 (5h)	B	42	US	G35	C+	69	US	L119	B
20	US	C203 (SE)	C+	42	US	G35 in 414	C+	70	US	L176 in 637	B
21	US	C214.5 in 591 (lower left corner missing)	C+	44	US	G81 (lower left corner missing)	C+				
22	US	C261.5 in 512	C+	45	US	G86 in 634 (1h)	C+				
23	US	C281	C+	46	US	G95 in 634 (SE)	B				
				47	US	G110A	B				
				48	US	G127 in 637	B+				
				49	US	G148 in 515	C+				
				50	US	G188 in 427 (crease, pull perfs.)	B+				

Continued on next page

Perfins Club Auction #134 (cont.)

Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate	Lot#	Country	Description	Rate
71	US	L185A	C+	89	US	R136A (SE)	C+	102	US	T97A in 634	B+
72	US	M89	C+	90	US	R142	C+	103	US	T99	C+
73	US	M92	C+	91	US	S2.14 in 638	B	104	US	U42 (1h)	C+
74	US	M123.5 in 794	B	92	US	S2.14 in 817	B	105	US	V7 (pair, split)	C+
75	US	M129 (SE)	C+	93	US	S21	C+	106	US	V12 in 557 (3h - B open to edge)	B
76	US	M207.5	B	94	US	S195-4 in 564 (1h)	B+	107	US	W71.3	B
77	US	M183 in 583 (8h)	C+	95	US	S195.5 in 1036 (lower left corner missing)	B+	108	US	W73 in 426	B+
78	US	M235 (6h)	C+	96	US	S204A (SE - RR)	B	109	US	W81	C+
79	US	M300.5	C+	97	US	S263 (stamp damaged - perfin OK)	B	110	US	W82 (tear left side - perfin OK)	C+
80	US	M300.5A in 515	B	98	US	S269 in 506 (SE)	B	111	US	W99 in 562	B+
81	US	N102 in 367	C+	99	US	S298	C+	112	US	W161 in 807	B+
82	US	N113Cc-1A in 807	C+	100	US	T19 in 634 (lower right corner missing)	C+	113	US	W164 in 559 (2h - SE)	B
83	US	N113Cc-1A in 817	C+	101	US	T79.5 in 331	B+	114	US	W185 in 638	C+
84	US	N192 in 375 (SE - B perf. damage)	B					115	US	S228 in 332 (SE - close to edge)	B+
85	US	P128	B								
86	US	R12	B								
87	US	R116 in 332 (RR)	B								
88	US	R118.5 (2h - on edge)	B								

**** Note: The minimum bid is \$30 on A rates, \$18 on B+ rates, and \$2 on all others. ****

Member Want Ads

WANTED: Cover and stamps with Schermack perfin **Des. 90-57**, missing holes 4-6-7-8, from The De Laval Separator Company, New York, NY. Top prices paid. **Contact:** Stellan Swenson, Odonbärsvägen 32, SE-29341 OLOFSTRÖM, SWEDEN.

Want ads are published for members on a space-available basis at the following rates: one insertion - 10 cents per word; three consecutive insertions of the same ad - 20 cents per word. **Members are entitled to one free ad per year.** Neither the Perfins Club nor the Editor accepts responsibility for the validity of the ads. Payment for the ads should be sent to the Editor or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net with prior notification to the Treasurer and Editor.

Counterfeit Australian Official Perfins

Ken Masters (LM#3589)

Several weeks ago Club Librarian, Doug Cutler (LM#126), advised us that he had become aware that eBay, bidStart, and other Internet auctions are being flooded with counterfeit Australian Official perfins. Doug further suggested that pass this information along to our members as a "heads up" to be careful when participating in these auctions.

In order to learn more about this subject, I contacted one of the Club's Australian members, David Coath (LM#3722), who is also Editor of the *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin*, the official publication of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia (PCNZA). David responded that "the issue of fakes and forged patterns have been of growing concern to the PCNZA over the past few years. After being exposed in the early 1990's, they lay dormant until 2009 when the dies came back into use and forged patterns were offered on eBay from a seller in Sydney, NSW, Australia. While his early examples

were poorly struck, his work has improved and he has expanded his offerings to include forged overprints as well."

If you wish to delve into this subject in more detail, there is an extensive discussion on the Internet bulletin board Stampboards at <http://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=27099>. In addition, a series of articles about these forgeries has been published in recent issues of the *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin*. If you would like a copy of these articles, please contact me (page 94). Also, David has indicated that he is always willing to look at an item you are considering and give his opinion. His email is davidcoath@onthe.net.au.

The important thing to remember is that the basic aim of the forger is to make money by adding value to low value stamps. If it looks too good to be true, it probably is!

Secretary's Report

Ken Rehfeld (#3394)

New Members:

#4048 Russell Sampson
48 B Eastbrook Hts.
Mansfield Center, CT 06250-1654
rsampson314@gmail.com
Canada, King Edward VII/CBC
Bob Szymanski

#4049 Scott Simpson
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Web

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Beginner, U.S.
APS show Milwaukee, Jerry Hejduk

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Intermediate, Schermack Control Perfins
APS show Milwaukee, Jerry Hejduk

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UNITED KINGDOM
dehughes117@btinternet.com
Beginner, U.S.
Dan Baugher

Welcome Back:

#3807 Barry Feddema
25 Georgia Drive
Wayne, NJ 07470-3818

Address Change:

#3836 Andrew Buco
Apt C
407 Forest Edge Lane
Woodland Park, CO 80863-2420

#3959 Donald Butera
152 Candlewood Lake Road
Brookfield, CT 06804-2119

Resigned:

#3643 Bruce Haefemeyer

Closed Album:

#3942 John Henry McNeilly

Membership 491

Membership Roster Update

Ken Masters (LM#3589)

As a way to assist and promote contact between members, The Perfins Club has a long standing practice of publishing a current "Membership Roster" every two years. Therefore, we plan to publish the 2013-2014 Roster in the upcoming November/December 2013 *Bulletin*. If any of your information needs to be updated, especially your email address if you have one, please forward the corrections to our Secretary, Ken Rehfeld, by September 25, 2013.

The Roster will be published on colored paper as

Supplemental Pages in the *Bulletin* and located in the center of the issue to facilitate easy removal. It **will not** be distributed to any non-member, including philatelic libraries, other publications, etc., that might receive complimentary copies of the *Bulletin* or in promotional copies that we distribute to prospective members. However, if you prefer that your name and/or other information **not** be included in the published Membership Roster, please advise the Secretary or Editor. Our contact information is on page 94.

* * * Atascadero in October * * *

Join us in Atascadero, CA, from Thursday, October 24, through Saturday, October 26, 2013, for the Southern California Precancel Club Fall Round-up. Plenty of both precancels and perfins. As usual,

the meeting is held in the Best Western Colony Inn, 3600 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA 93422. Call 805-466-4449 now to reserve your hotel room.

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

Periodicals

**** Seeing Red ****

If there is a red mark on the date above, your dues have not been received and this is your last issue. Please forward them immediately!!

Prices Realized Perfins Club Auction #132 - June 30, 2013

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Price</u>										
1	NB	19	NB	36	3.25	53	19.50	70	3.25	87	5.00
2	5.50	20	NB	37	9.25	54	6.50	71	NB	88	NB
3	5.50	21	19.50	38	20.00	55	50.00	72	11.75	89	NB
4	NB	22	9.25	39	5.50	56	20.00	73	5.00	90	6.75
5	20.00	23	9.25	40	NB	57	3.50	74	NB	91	WD
6	4.75	24	20.00	41	20.00	58	NB	75	NB	92	NB
7	4.75	25	3.25	42	3.25	59	NB	76	NB	93	12.50
8	4.75	26	20.00	43	3.25	60	11.00	77	5.00	94	NB
9	10.50	27	NB	44	3.25	61	NB	78	8.75	95	NB
10	14.50	28	NB	45	NB	62	20.00	79	NB	96	9.75
11	NB	29	20.00	46	NB	63	20.00	80	NB	97	NB
12	9.25	30	9.25	47	7.25	64	4.25	81	5.00	98	5.00
13	9.25	31	NB	48	9.25	65	NB	82	NB	99	NB
14	NB	32	NB	49	20.00	66	NB	83	NB	100	3.25
15	NB	33	37.25	50	7.25	67	3.50	84	6.75	101	3.75
16	NB	34	9.25	51	3.25	68	NB	85	NB	102	13.00
17	NB	35	NB	52	9.25	69	NB	86	12.00	103	12.50
18	9.25										

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