- Ballot: election of the President
- Auction 153 results
- Auction 155
- A note on revenues
- Information on pattern I26
- New Schermack perfin discovered
- Danish back-of-the

   book items at auction

## A Great Convention

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

We attended a successful and enjoyable Convention in Louisville, KY this year. Forty nine members participated this year. We all had a great time trading stamps, buying and selling perfins, prepers and precancels, and socializing with our friends. We joined the PSS members for a dinner cruise on the beautiful Ohio River which was organized by the Kentucky Precancel Club.

Full details with minutes, photographs and a Club member's reminiscences will be published in the Nov-Dec *Bulletin*.

## The Next Edition of the U.S. Perfins Catalog

Steve Endicott (#LM 2284)

Development of the next edition of the *U.S. Perfins Catalog* is proceeding nicely, with an expected completion in 2018. So far, I have spent four years on this project. The structure of the new edition will follow the format introduced by John Randall in the 1998 edition, with some significant new features and organizational changes. This article provides an update on its development. In addition, I have two "action item" requests of members – listed at the end of this article.

I have been working on the new edition one letter section at a time. A team of four members is reviewing and proof reading the final drafts of each section. The team is currently finishing its review of the letter R section and I have started work on the letter S section. My goal is to have the print version ready for the printer by March 2018. There is additional behind-the-scenes work necessary to complete the electronic version that I will do in the Spring of 2018.

The completed letter G section was shared with members at the Louisville Convention. I will be happy to send a copy of the letter G section to

members who would like to see it but were unable to attend the Louisville Convention – please send me a note expressing your interest. (My contact information is on p.82 of this *Bulletin*.) A list of the new features is provided on the next page. Some of the new features are self-explanatory. This article discusses the more involved new features.

Covers with perfins and postmarks are now available to us from numerous sources, especially including covers that we may see, but not own, at online auctions. There has always been some confusion in our *Catalog* about the meaning of the stamp issue periods. That will now be clearly explained. Stamp issue periods indicate the date of issue of the stamps in which the perfins occur. This differs from postmarks. Members have captured over 5,000 postmarks. Earliest known usage (EKU), latest known usage (LKU), and only known usage (OKU) postmarks will be listed for each perfin, in addition to the stamp issue periods. As you will see in the next edition of the *Catalog*, additional information provides interesting philatelic information for collectors.

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# The *Perfins Bulletin* is the Official Journal of The Perfins Club - Founded 1943 2017 Officers, Directors & Managers

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#### THE PERFINS BULLETIN EDITOR

Paul Mistretta 4148 Commodore Dr. Atlanta, GA 30341 678-547-9344 paulmistretta70@gmail.com

#### ASSISTANT BULLETIN EDITOR

Joe Chinnici joechin@tampabay.rr.com

#### PROGRAM MANAGERS

#### **PUBLISHER**

Ken Masters 111 NW 94<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 102 Kansas City, MO 64155-2993 krmasters@aol.com

#### **AUCTION CHAIRMAN**

Joe Giampietro 6478 State Road, G-10 Parma, OH 44134-4166 440-888-1470 mo13jo@aol.com

#### U.S. CATALOG CHAIRMAN

Steve Endicott See president

#### FOREIGN CATALOG CHAIRMAN

John M. Randall 2540 Carquinez Avenue El Cerrito, CA 94530-1548 510-233-6647 jv.randall@comcast.net

#### U.S. REVENUE CATALOG CHAIRMAN

Arthur J. Mongan 12432 Pretoria Drive Silver Spring, MD 20904-1845 301-572-5459 revs.perfins@gmail.com Assistant: Joe Coulbourne josephc427@aol.com

#### LIBRARIAN

Doug Cutler 5943 Gullstrand St. San Diego, CA 92122-3819 619-586-2386 sobearcat@hotmail.com **Assistant:** Ballard Cheatham armadillobal@yahoo.com

#### PERFINS SALES MANAGER

Robert T. Combs P.O. Box 220 Tome, NM 87060-0220 505-866-0949 stampmgr@hubwest.com

#### COVER SALES MANAGER

Robert Littrell 8150 Chipita Park Rd. Cascade, CO 80809-1105 719-684-7986 Robert.littrell@comcast.net

#### PUBLICATION SALES MANAGER

David Lightle 10616 Cielo Vista del Norte NW Corrales, NM 87048-8902 505-898-8037 perfinpaul@msn.com

#### SUNSHINE

Francis Stunzi 37 Smith St. Rouses Point, NY 12979-1602 518-297-2169 fastunzi@primelink1.net

#### Parliamentarian

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Perfins Club membership is open to all persons interested in the collection and study of perforated initials and insignia in postage stamps. Yearly dues are \$15 for U.S., \$18 for Canada and \$25 for other Non-U.S. Dues may be mailed to the Secretary listed above or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net. 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; or 1st Class for an additional postage charge. Applications are available at www.perfins.org or from the Secretary listed above.

Submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to: Paul Mistretta, 4148 Commodore Dr., Atlanta, GA 30341 or email to paulmistretta70@gmail.com

The Perfins Bulletin is copyrighted by The Perfins Club Cited quotations are encouraged. Permission for extensive use of information in the Bulletin may be obtained from the editor.

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

A second area that confounds collectors is patterns that are similar and therefore difficult to identify from each other. A new section is being included in each letter section of the *Catalog* that describes the unique identification characteristics of similar patterns. Another 'annoying' issue of similar patterns occurs when the two patterns straddle two pages in the *Catalog*. Patterns have been arranged in the new edition such that similar patterns are always shown on the same page. These features will be of significant assistance to perfin collectors.

The Supplemental information section has gotten a bit 'messy' over time. A concerted effort has been made to organize the supplemental information according to systematic rules in the new edition of the Catalog. First, additional towns are now listed by primary branch offices user, followed by precancel towns, followed by postmarks. Towns in each group are listed alphabetically. This data for the primary user is then followed, on separate lines, by data for each supplemental user (with the same rules for branches, precancels and postmarks as described above). For instance, if a perfinned precancel has been found on a cover with a corner card showing a supplemental user, that precancel is listed after that particular supplemental user. Furthermore, the supplemental users are now listed in alphabetical order by supplemental user name. I think collectors will find this organization to be a significant improvement.

Third, although transparent to collectors who will be using the print version, electronic images of all perfins have been captured for use in the *Catalog*. In nearly all instances, illustrations have been replaced when perforator holes were missing or incompletely punched.

And another plus, it is now easy for the Catalog Editor to slide the pattern illustrations to new positions to make room for a new pattern or fix an existing one

Next, similar to what we see in some European Catalogs, transparencies of each page of pattern illustrations will be available to collectors.

I anticipate that the new *Catalog* will be a two volume bound edition, about 15% larger than the current edition.

The electronic edition will be an Excel workbook and therefore will include robust search and sort capabilities. Collectors will also be able to insert notes in the background in specific cells. In addition, there will be url links to the illustrations for each perfin and there will be url links to the covers with perfins that are being recorded on our Club website by Robert Littrell.

At the beginning of this article, I mentioned that I could use your assistance in two areas. Here they are:

- First, please provide any additional data that you may have by January 31, 2018. That will be the cutoff date for including information in I am especially interested in the *Catalog*. postmark information that extends the EKU/LKU/OKU dates for each perfin. The current postmark database is available at our Perfins Club website by navigating to: www.perfins.org/perfins-info/ USperfins covers/US-Perfin-Postmark-Database. I can send a printed copy to anyone who prefers a printed version.
- The second area of particular interest is the verification of users as was discussed in the previous issue of the *Bulletin*. These involve users for which we have a lot of information, yet the identifying cover has not recently been seen. The complete list is presented on the next page.

The new edition of the Catalog will be available in three formats: a bound edition, a loose-leaf edition and an electronic edition. I need to start thinking about how many bound editions should be printed (a one-time event) and, in a first print run, how many loose-leaf editions need to be printed. Prices have not been set and firm commitments are not being requested at this time. However, please send me a note expressing your potential interest in purchasing the new edition and in which format(s). I am especially interested in learning how many bound versions should be printed.

Thank you in advance for your support with these two requests for information. And an enormous thank you to all the members who have provided data and are helping me with the development of a new edition of our *Catalog*. The product is greatly enhanced due to your participation. I know that

perfin collectors will enjoy working with the new edition of our *Catalog*.

## New Features in the U.S. Perfins Catalog - 2018 edition

Steve Endicott (#LM 2284)

- 83 new patterns
- 67 deleted patterns
- Over 100 illustrations corrected/replaced to include holes that were missing or incomplete
- 235 changes to ratings
- Over 4,500 new and/or amended pieces of information
- New: Differentiation between postmark data and stamp issue period
- Over 5,500 postmarks (EKU, LKU, and OKU dates) added Similar patterns
- New section describing identification differences of similar patterns

- New organization of pages so that similar patterns do not split over page breaks
- Reorganization of data in Supplemental information section
- Improved organization of town listings
- Separate lines for supplemental users, their town listings, precancels and postmarks
- Expanded code and terminology definitions in the Appendix
- New: Transparency sheets of illustrations
- Available in print or electronic form
- Electronic form has link to covers recorded on Club website

	Results of Club Auction #153															
Lot	Amt.		Lot	Amt.		Lot	Amt.		Lot	Amt.		Lot	Amt.		Lot	Amt.
1	\$6.00		22	\$18.00		43	WD		64	NB		85	NB		105	NB
2	NB		23	NB		44	NB		65	NB		86	NB		106	NB
3	NB		24	NB		45	\$15.50		66	\$6.50		87	NB		107	\$6.00
4	NB		25	NB		46	NB		67	NB		88	NB		108	NB
5	NB		26	\$2.25		47	NB		68	NB		89	NB		109	NB
6	NB		27	\$2.25		48	\$6.50		69	NB		90	\$6.00		110	NB
7	NB		28	NB		49	NB		70	\$2.25		91	NB		111	NB
8	NB		29	\$8.00		50	\$6.50		71	NB		92	NB		112	NB
9	NB		30	NB		51	NB		72	\$6.50		93	NB		113	NB
10	NB		31	NB		52	\$2.25		73	NB		94	NB		114	\$6.00
11	\$6.00		32	NB		53	NB		74	NB		95	NB		115	NB
12	NB		33	NB		54	\$2.25		75	\$2.00		96	\$6.00		116	NB
13	NB		34	NB		55	\$6.50		76	\$6.00		97	NB		117	NB
14	NB		35	NB		56	NB		77	\$1.00		98	NB		118	\$6.00
15	NB		36	\$2.25		57	\$6.50		78	NB		99	NB		119	\$6.00
16	NB		37	NB		58	NB		79	NB		100	NB		120	\$6.00
17	NB		38	\$18.50		59	\$2.00		80	NB		101	NB		121	\$6.00
18	NB		39	\$4.75		60	\$6.50		81	\$6.50		102	\$6.00		122	\$9.00
19	\$15.00		40	\$2.25		61	\$2.25		82	\$2.25		103	\$6.00		123	\$8.50
20	\$16.00		41	NB		62	\$6.50		83	NB		104	NB		124	\$9.00
21	NB		42	NB		63	\$16.50		84	NB						

Can you verify these User IDs? As noted in last month's *Bulletin* (p. 68) there are 362 patterns currently in the catalog listed "\*" (cover confirmed) for which the Club has no documentation.

**Please** check your collections for confirming covers for any of the following patterns and get with Steve Endicott, US Catalog Editor, to share a copy or scan. Steve's info is on page 82.

4.000	D200	E002	III 42	1.002	D026	D0/0	G225
A009	B288	F003	H142	L092	P026	R068	S325
A041	C036	F007	H176	L115	P046	R073	S329
A053	C042	F037	H179	L125	P060	R080	S333
A055	C061	F063	H189.7	L149	P060A	R086A	S337
A056	C067	F065	H195.5	L159	P062I	R093	S339
A073	C093.5	F083	H200	L170	P065	R099	S347
A084	C099	F085	H202	L175	P072	R133	S350
A091	C108	F092	H203	L177	P073	R147	S364
A092	C121	F122	H224	M026	P081	R148	T032
A093	C127	F129	H226	M073	P082	R170	T039
A104	C139	F139	H227	M077	P087	R173	T051
A109	C173	F162	I011	M135	P089	S004	T071
A133	C209	F163	I017	M137	P091	S006	T073
A143.5	C222	F173	1035	M137.1	P105.5	S013	T079
A146.5	C224	F177	1058	M147	P107	S023	T108
A153	C232.5	F178	I078	M164.5	P107.5	S023A	U005
A156	C267	F193	I102	M166	P118	S024	U007
A196	C301	F213	I120	M185	P128	S045	U028
A228	C309	G007	I123	M191	P143	S049	U032
A258	C322	G021	J004	M220	P157	S071	U044
A278	C350	G022	J075	M243	P161	S082	U084A
A286	C374	G027	J114	M256	P171	S087	U089
A296	D001	G029	J119	M258.5	P180	S090	U098
A305	D007	G037	J129	M277	P190	S104	W035
B028	D008	G065	J136	M292	P195A	S126	W036
B035	D024	G073	J138	N031	P201	S164	W053
B099	D028	G095	J145	N033	P211	S184	W074
B104	D032	G110	J166.3	N036	P225	S185	W078
B128	D062	G134	J173.7	N049	P225.5	S189	W109
B129	D066.5	G140	K007	N084	P234	S205	W157
B133	D070	G146	K024	N105	P236.5	S211	W163
B149	D073	G168	K055	N132	P237	S236	W190
B155	D080	G180	K057	N133	P259	S250	W205
B166	D112	G206	K067	N177I	Q007	S253	W209
B172.5	D115.5	H010	K070	N190	Q008	S254	W221
B185	D138	H016	L010	N200	R004	S255	W226
B186	E014	H021	L011	O028	R008	S270	W228
B189	E019	H030	L017	O057	R014	S274	No. 01
B194	E032	H043	L017.5	O062	R015	S279	No. 03
B196	E047	H059	L042	O065	R018	S303	No. 04
B204	E074	H070	L047	O066	R032	S308	No. 05
B227	E074	H097.5	L063	O067	R035R	S309	No. 13
B235.5	E092	H100	L067	P012	R051	S311	Des. 09
	E121	H115.5	L072	P014	R060	S311	Des. 09
B777	1-1-1	11113.3	10/2	1017	1000	0312	DC3. 27
B272 B284	E138	H126	L087	P020	R061	S323	Des. 38

## Revenue Musings - EFH/&Co

Jack Brandt (LM-)

If you collect US postal perfins, you probably have or are familiar with patterns E38 and E39 used by E. F. Hutton of New York. However, if you collect US revenue-perfins (rev-perfs) you have more E. F. Huttons to acquire. Figures 1 through 2 show the two postal perfins and four rev-perfs.

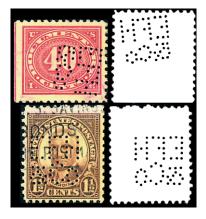


Fig. 1 - E38 above E39 in US postage stamps.

Two of the rev-perfs look like the two postal perfins, and are in fact the same.

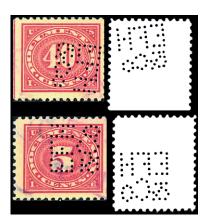


Fig 2 – E38 (rev perf pattern EA0135) above and E39 (rev-perf pattern EA0140) below in US Documentary revenue stamps.

A third rev-perf is a single horizontal line

pattern and can not be confused with the postal perfins.



Fig. 3 – Rev-perf pattern EA0130 in a New York State stock transfer tax stamp.

The fourth rev-perf, however, resembles one of its postal cousins. In fact, I recommend checking your copy of E39 against this rev-perf. (I checked mine - no luck!).



Fig. 4 – Rev-perf pattern EA0130 which is the equivalent of neither E38 or E39, nor their revperf clones.

All four of the rev-perfs illustrated here are listed in the US Revenue Perfin Catalog. In addition there is also one listed with dates included as a second line, which was used as a cancelling device. I will discuss this type of rev-perf at a later date.

I suggest collecting and enjoying rev-perfs. Certainly anyone interested in a specific topic or theme needs to be aware that the realm of perfins has greatly expanded with the publication of the rev-perf catalog.

## Auction #155 Closes Dec 31, 2017

Guidelines: A minimum bid of \$2.00 applies to every individual lot except as follows: U.S. "B", "B+", and "A" rated patterns, for which minimum bids will be \$6.00, \$18.00 and \$30.00 respectively. Lots will be sold to the highest bidder at the following advances over the next highest bidder: \$2-\$5 - a \$0.25 advance; \$5.01-\$20 - a \$0.50 advance; \$20.01-\$100 - a \$1.00 advance; \$101 or higher - a \$5.00 advance. No 'Unlimited' bids accepted. In case of tie bids, the earlier postmark or e-mail will prevail. All single perfins are complete and in good condition, unless otherwise noted.

Straight edges are not considered to be defects, just sheet positions. In larger lots, you should expect some faults. All lots are returnable if mis-described; this does not apply to larger lots or mixes, with the exception of gross miscounts. Lots to be prepaid before shipping.

#### Bid by Lot #.

Please put your address on your bid sheet as this makes it easier for me to notify you after the close of the auction.

#### Send all bids to: Joe Giampietro, 6478 State Rd., G-10, Parma, OH 44134-4166

	Email: mo13jo@aol.com	<u>ı</u>
	Abbreviations used:	
(cc) creased corner (?h) number of missing holes	(oe) on edge (pp) pulled perf(s)	(se) straight edge (sp) short or shaved perf(s)

Scott #s are used and die #s from most recent catalogues when available.

Lot	Description	Rate	Notes	Lot	Description	Rate	Notes	Lot	Description	Rate	Notes
1	A132/C9	C+		22	G166.5/1031	С		43	M246/720	С	
2	A184/530	В		23	H162	С		44	M250/570	C+	se
3	A253/529	C		24	H189/573	Е	\$5 stp	45	M258.5/807	C	
4	A292/696	C	4h-oe	25	I26.5	C+	oe	46	M263/564	C	pp
5	B90.5/2551	В		26	I43.78-12/C10	C		47	M301A	В	se
6	B153A/554	C+		27	J30/515	С		48	N19/965	C	
7	C177.5	C+		28	J131	В		49	N42/820	C	sp
8	C242.7	B+		29	K3/720	С		50	N54A	C	se
9	C254	В		30	L86/554	C		51	N59	C	10h
10	C267	C		31	L89	С		52	N71/508	C	
11	C356.12/807	C+		32	L106/554	С		53	N106/825	C	
12	D95	C		33	L156A	С		54	N113C-9/901	C	oe
13	D137	C		34	M5	C		55	N140/807	C	oe
14	E9/555	C		35	M17/714	C		56	N175	C	
15	E137/720	C		36	M143	В	cc-7h	57	N188/Q2	D	8h
16	F122A/557	C		37	M163/1213	C		58	O69	C	
17	F126/715	C		38	M193	C	se	59	O71/554	C	oe
18	G19/319	С	pp	39	M194A	С		60	O89/638	C	3h-oe
19	G80/557	С	1h-oe	40	M197.7	С		61	P32	C	pp
20	G81	C+		41	M198	C	4h	62	P175/744	C	
21	G151	C		42	M231/803	C+		63	S116/634	C+	

Lot	Description	Rate	Notes	Lot	Description	Rate	Notes	Lot	Description	Rate	Notes
			Pl								
64	S278/709	D	No.	66	W72.29.5/698	В	sp	68	Des 6/572	E	\$2stp
65	U79/332	C		67	W101/805	C+	oe	69	Des56P/1415	C	

			Pr	epers			
Lot Pat		Pat PC type Rate Stamp		Stamp	Place		
70	C376	205	EW	1914 - 2cent	Burling.	VT	
71	C421	204	CV	1917 - 5cent	St. Paul	MN	
72	D13.7	71	EV	1938 - 1 1/2	Duluth	MN	
73	D154	L-6E	EW	1908 - 1 cent	Boston		
74	F34.5	202	BW	1922 - 10 cent	Orange	NJ	
75	I72	61	CW	1926 - 10 cent	Des Moines	IA	
76	N28	L-19E	C&W	1917 - 1 cent	Kansas City		
77	R27	61		684	LA		
78	S195-13	L-2E		640	Jacksonville	Fla	
79	S215A	243		1926 - 1/2 cent	Oakland	Cal	

	Lai	rge Lots			British		Perfins
Lot	Description	Count	Notes	Lot	Description	Count	Notes
80	J96.2/J96.12	7 Dif		85	Machins	18	Wales
	N113A-						
81	10N113Bb8	7 DIF		86	Machins	20	Scotland
82	A to W Mix.	100+		87	Elizabeth	12	Wales
83	mix	107+	D+ - dupes	88	Elizabeth	15	Scotland
		500 to					
84	mix	700	mostly D+	89	Worldwide	35	

## Perfins at Danish Auction

Stephen Tauber (#2949)

In October 2016 the Dansk Perfin Samlerklub (Danish Perfin Collectors Club) held its 30<sup>th</sup> auction. Several of the lots seemed to be worth reporting.

Part of page 16 of the auction catalog is shown in Fig. 1. Lots 205 and 206 are Christmas stamps, from 1924 and 1954 respectively; the notations "C.57" and "B.01" are the pattern numbers assigned in the Dansk Perfin Samlerklub catalog. Lots 207 to 210 are perfins in stamps issued by the Danske Statsbaner (Danish State Railway). Lot 211 is a perfin in a stamp of the Lyngby-Nærum Jernbaner, a private railway.

The notations shown above each lot description are, respectively lot number, pattern number, catalog number in the AFA-forlaget catalog, pattern

orientation, value in DPS lists, and opening bid in Danish kronor.

Ed. Note: These are very interesting non-postal (back-of-the book) lots with very interesting values/starting bids. My interest was piqued. Enter Google translate and a little math.

Using the value1 kr. =  $15\phi$  (as of July 10, 2017) I converted the catalog values and starting bids into US\$. These values are presented behind the values in kr. given in the lot descriptions.

And then, compliments of Google Translate, I translated the descriptions of the lots described in Stephen's note. With a liberal application of philatelic jargon and a thesaurus, I had a workable

translation of the descriptive information. These are presented below the figuer.

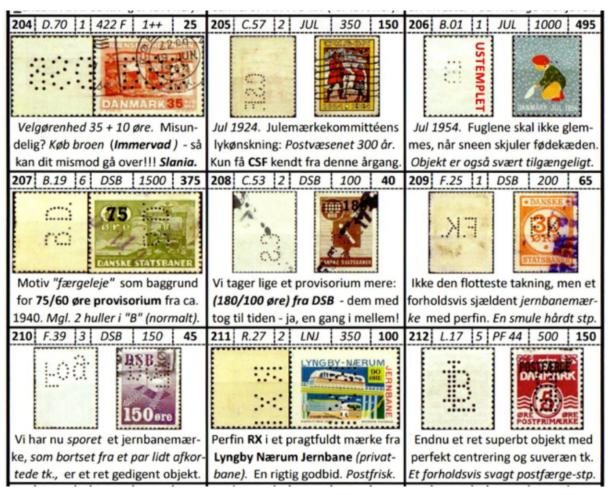


Fig. 1: Part of page 16 from the catalog for the October 26, 2016, (30<sup>th</sup>) auction of the Dansk Perfin Samlerklub, showing non-government issues.

205 - [C.57 - 2 - Jul - 350 [~\$52.50] - 150 [~\$22.50]] -- Christmas 1924. Christmas commemorative greetings: *Post Office 300 years*. Only a few CSFs known of this vintage. [Red marking on seal – "UNUSED".]

206 - Jul 1954. [B.01 - 1 - Jul - 1000 [ $\sim$ \$150.00] - 495 [approx. \$74.25]] -- Christmas 1954. The birds should not be forgotten when the snow hides their food. A difficult to find item.

207 – [B.19 - 6 - DSB – 150 [~\$22.50] – 45 [approx. \$6.75]] -- Thematic, "Ferry" as a background for this 75 kr. on 60 kr. provisional from approx. 1940. Missing 2 holes in the "B" (normal).

 $208 - [C.53 - 2 - DSB - 100 [ \sim $15.00 \} - 40$ 

[approx. \$6]] -- We present just one more provisional: 180 kr. on 100 øre) from the DSB – this one with a train - yes, fairly rare!

 $209 - [F.25 - 1 - DSB - 200 [\sim $30.00] - 65$  [approx. \$16.50]] -- Not the most beautiful vignette, but a relatively rare railway mark with perfin. A somewhat difficult stamp.

 $210 - [F.39 - 3 - DSB - 150 [\sim 22.50] - 45 [approx. $6.75]] -$  Here we have a railway track stamp. Aside from a pair of slightly pulled perfs, it is a fairly good item.

211 - [R.27 - 2 - LNJ - 350 [~\$52.50] - 100 [approx. \$15.00] -- Perfin RX, a splendid stamp from Lyngby Naerum Railway (private railway

## Multiple nominations for the Position of President

As noted at the Business Meeting in Louisville, two members were nominated for the position of President of the Perfins Club to serve for the next three-year term of that office. The Bylaws present a specific protocol for this situation as follows:

#### **Article 3 – Meeting of Members**

#### 3.4 Voting

- D. For any matter brought forward at the Annual Meeting which is contested excluding only contested elections of the elected Director positions (which automatically default to a vote of the full membership (see 3.4.D.1 for process) discussion shall be held and if not resolved by discussion the party or parties involved may request a a vote be taken of the full membership to decide the issue. If more than twenty five percent (>25%) of the attendees at the Annual Meeting vote to have the issue brought to a vote of the full Membership, this vote shall be accomplished as described immediately below. (Article 3.4.D.1- .3)
  - 1. The Secretary will mail ballots to all Members by September 1 following the Annual Meeting of members, to be returned not later than November 10 of that same year. In lieu of individual mailings an official ballot may be published in the September or September/October issue of the Club's Journal.
    - (a) A summary of the arguments presented in support of and in opposition to the matter under consideration shall accompany the ballot.
    - (b) Should the contested matter be an election of a Director, brief statements of qualifications of each candidate including the priorities set by the candidate for the contested term of office shall be substituted for the summary of arguments.
  - 2. A majority (>50%) of a vote of no fewer than twenty-five percent (>25%) of Members in Good Standing shall be required to affirm the vote as binding;
  - 3. Should a vote of a total of fewer than twenty-five percent (>25%) of Members occur the Executive Board shall have the authority to resolve the issue in question.

In response to 3.4.D.2.a, brief statements by the candidates were planned to be presented, followed by a ballot to be returned no later than November 10 to John Hart, Club Secretary as listed on the ballot.

#### Candidate's Statements

#### Steve Endicott - #2284

I joined The Perfins Club in 1984, have served as Club Treasurer for eight years (2002-10), have been the U.S. Catalog Editor since 2010 and President since 2016. As Treasurer, I established an efficient escrow service to help our members in foreign countries. I reestablished the life membership program for all members. As U.S. Catalog Editor, I published two sets of Additions and Corrections, released an electronic version of the *Catalog*, and spent thousands of hours developing the next edition of the *Catalog*.

In 2016, I became Club President. Working with the Executive Board, we have standardized the dues structure for the benefit of members not living in the U.S. and have transferred our library holdings to the American Philatelic Research Library where it is being carefully catalogued and preserved, and will be prominently displayed and made readily available to all philatelists.

I have several important priorities for our Club. Our Club is the sponsor of the national convention in 2018 in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Club.

- I will, with Clubmember help, host special activities to commemorate our Club's anniversary during this convention.
- I will complete and publish the next edition of the *U.S. Perfins Catalog* in 2018.

- I will help everyone work to increase membership. During the last one-and-a-half years we have added 49 new members and welcomed back 14 members. This is a great! it is the largest increase in many years and reverses a trend common in most stamp organizations. Our membership is now 437; let's work together to reach 500 members!
- I will expand the marketing of our Club and promote the opportunities in collecting perfins.
- I will continue to encourage members to volunteer for leadership positions in our Club. My philosophy is to encourage participation, to listen to everyone and to be receptive to new ideas

I ask for your support and your vote

#### Bob Szymanski – LM#145

No statement submitted.

## Perfins Club Ballot

Ballots must be *received* by Friday November 10, 2017 (so don't delay).

For your vote to count be sure to include your name and mailing address *on the envelope* (and include your check for dues payment if it is overdue.)

## For President of the Perfins Club (choose one):

☐ Steve Endicott

☐ Bob Szymanski

Mail Ballots to:

John Hart, Secretary
The Perfins Club
6500 Upper Applegate Road
Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314

## Clubmember Ads

**Wanted:** Florida Perfinned Precancels on, or off, cover. Premium paid for clean, sound copies. Jerry Hejduk, P.O. Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749-0450 flprepers@comcast.net

**Wanted**: Looking to add any Red Cross, Christmas or 8¢ Liberty perfins, prepers or precancels to my collection. Please contact: Cliff Irving at 2hike@comcast.net or send for offer to: PO Box 131, East Sandwich, MA 02537-0131.

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

## User of Pattern 126 Identified

Robert Littrell (#3992)

Dan Baugher has been one of my most faithful producers of scans for the website and catalog project. He has sent me almost 700 scanned covers at 300 dpi and 700 scanned stamps at 600 dpi, more than any other individual.



Fig, 1 – ICP perfin on cover, postmarked Chicago, ILL, with corner card of "Mary Pauline Callender".

He really dumped them this last December! I struggled for a month to get them all online. As I post them online, I check the pattern number in the Catalog. In so doing, the particular pattern number that I was looking at (see Figure 1), **I026**, perfin pattern **ICP**, was only identified in the catalog by the city – **Chicago**, **IL**.

I thought that was a little strange, being as the cover I was looking at was postmarked Chicago, but there was also a corner card identifying the sender as "Mary Pauline Callender, 180 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago."

This one was an easy one to find. I Googled "Mary Pauline Callender", and right away hit on a book entitled *Under Wraps: A History of Menstrual Hygiene Technology* by Sharra Louise Vostral. This took me aback a bit, but I kept looking. The hit took me to page 137 of the book which had the following footnote No. 23:

Mary Pauline Callender, "Marjorie May's 12th Birthday" (Chicago: *International Cellucotton Products Co.*, 1938). Harry Finley, curator of the Museum of Menstruation, has a nearly complete 1928 edition, and the series ran from at least 1928-38. Roland Marchand notes that ad

agencies created "fictitious personal advisers" who offered helpful advice, and Callender was among them... (cite omitted). Her last name, Callender, must also reinforce the need to count "calendar days" between menstrual cycles.

Hmmmm. International Cellucotton Products Co. That has the initials ICP! Let's just Google that! And, of course, you get a lot of references to Kotex. You also get many references to "Mary Pauline Callender" who wrote

Kotex advertising menstruation pamphlets for young girls and was featured in Kotex advertising such as shown in Figure 2.



Fig. 2 – Snippet from Kotex advertising of the 1930s depicting a woman identified as Mary Pauline Callender.

So there you have it. Kotex products are manufactured by the INTERNATIONAL CELLUCOTTON PRODUCTS COMPANY, Chicago, Illinois, which is the user identification for pattern number I026.

The following article is the second half of the second of six articles previously published in the *United States Specialist* (Splitting the article is due to space constraints in the *Bulletin*).

I wish to thank The both the United States Stamp Society (USSS) and Curt McCoy for permission to reprint these articles. The USSS maintains an active and very informative website, <a href="http://www.usstamps.org/">http://www.usstamps.org/</a>. Those interested in detailed studies of the issues of the United States should visit this site for information regarding membership.

## Schermack Control Identification Mark (Perfin) Discovery

Curt McCoy (#3962)

A major census was undertaken for Schermacks with control perforations in 2013. The results were featured, in this publication, with a six article series that ran from February through July 2014 (articles which are being reprinted here over the next several issues).

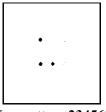
These control identification marks were punched one stamp at a time, just prior to mechanically affixing the stamp to an envelope. The basic commercial pattern was a nine hole square with varying pins removed to identify the user. Unfortunately, no manufacturer's records survive to identify the companies which used each of these distinctive patterns. Some 20 years later, in the late 1930s, George Howard proposed a methodology to identify patterns for cataloging purposes. While viewing the stamp front, in the head upright position, holes were numbered 1 thru 9 (in rows of three), left to right, top to bottom. The missing punches were then listed sequenced from the lowest to the highest number.

The Scott Specialized Catalog, in the Vending & Affixing machine section, lists control identification marks on known Scott numbers. The catalog value of a single used stamp is for the most common pattern. Scarcer patterns command much higher prices. The Perfins Catalog identifies scarcity by pattern. All known patterns are identified with a "Des" (design)

number, each with a grade based on rarity; A+ is the very rare while C- is the most common.

#### Discovery

In the March 2014 *Specialist*, I highlighted some of the new items discovered in the 2013 census. One pattern **234569** (currently unnumbered), had gone unnoticed for over 100 years. Of course this had to be double-checked and we received a scan for confirmation. Still the skeptics among us reasoned that this could not be a new pattern, it must be a broken pin version of pattern **23456**. The census had recorded 27 copies of that pattern. The Perfins Catalog does not recognize broken pin varieties as new Designs.

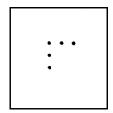


New pattern 234569

Now we have found what appears to be a **234569** on cover. I say "appears to be" because at first glance we only see 1 hole in the #8 position. Closer examination shows blind perfins at the #1 and #7 hole positions. If these were punched completely through the face of the stamp, the missing pins would have been **234569**. It has a return address of John

Wanamaker, not the known user of pattern **23456**. The date stamp is 12/24/1909, months prior to any known **23456** on cover. The cover is validation that **234569** is a new pattern and not a broken pin variety as previously suspected.

As collectors, our OCD wants us to organize things in their proper place. We are mystified by things that don't seem to make sense. But as is always the case, when we find one answer, we end up with many more questions. Why was this pattern, 234569, unreported for so long? Why is this pattern on a John Wanamaker cover? They are the known user of pattern 5689. What was taking place in 1909? This discovery is yet another one of strange New York Schermack covers from 1909. Analysis of cover data gives us a possible glimpse of what was happening.



Pattern **5689**Used by John Wannamaker

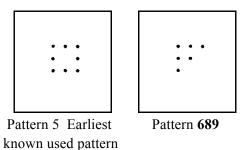
#### 1909 Analysis

In the summer of 1909 the company established a sales office in New York, but had trouble making inroads with prospective customers. All Schermack Mailing Machines were manufactured in Detroit and sold for \$350 FOB. Potential New York customers required perfins for added security. To that end, the company built a special die, located inside the machine, and applied for that patent on 10/9/1909. Presumably this control die option carried an additional cost, but we have no documentation.

Machines were sent to New York and the sales force went to work. All known 1909 covers are from New York. This control die acted like a fingerprint for each individual machine. How

Schermack marketed them can best be construed from existing cover data. The first machines to arrive were most likely demonstrators. Others may have been placed on trial with prospective customers where Schermack sales personnel could bring in other potential customers to see the machine operate in an actual mailroom environment.

The earliest know use of a perfinned Schermack, 11/13/1909, is control pattern **5** on a Hill Publishing cover. This pattern is known on three other Hill covers the last dated 1/7/1910. After that date Hill Publishing purchased a machine with the control pattern **689** and continued with that machine from 1/8/1910 thru 1/16/1911. The machine bearing control **5** never surfaced again.



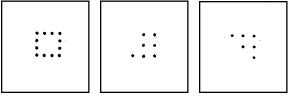
The next known date of use is 11/19/1909 with the control pattern **4578**. This stamp is only found on a piece, so the actual user on that date is unknown. The machine with the control pattern **4578** was eventually purchased by De Laval Separator Co. and was in use there from 3/1/1910 thru 11/30/1910.



Pattern 4578

Another stamp is found dated 1909, only on a piece. This control pattern is the 12 Hole open square experimental square. Written in pencil on the piece is Success Co. The blue color of the

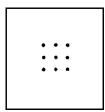
paper and the postmark matches that company's envelopes of the period. Success Co. is also reported as the user of control pattern 14. Most likely that was a trial run at the company, I have not personally seen a cover with this pattern. Success/A.W. Shaw then purchased a machine



12-hole open Pattern 14 Pattern 478 square pattern

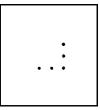
with control pattern 478 and used it from 1909 (with only the year date), thru 4/15/1910.

Review Of Reviews Co, another NY publisher, was a bit harder to track. Only using one cent stamps the majority of their covers only show the year. Two covers are known with control pattern again most likely another demonstration in the NY Schermack office. The machine with control pattern 0 was eventually sold to Spencer Trask & Co. They operated it from 2/4/1910 thru 2/14/1911.



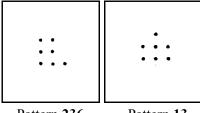
Pattern 0

Next I believe a trial was run at Review of Reviews Co.. Control pattern 5689 (illustrated above) is known on five Schermack covers with only 1909 cancels. One of these covers is back stamped 11/25/1909. By 12/10/1909 Review purchased a machine with control pattern 1245 and used it through 10/22/1910. The machine with 5689 eventually was sold to John Wanamaker & Co., and they used it from 1/10/1910 through 10/1/1910.



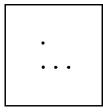
Pattern 1245

Cosmopolitan Magazine, another publisher, was next with control pattern 236 found on cover dated 12/9/1909. Either they were a real hard sell or they operated on a lease. They used the machine until 2/9/1910. After which they purchased the machine with control pattern 13. Covers from this machine are known from 2/25/1910 thru 11/18/1910. The machine with pattern 236 eventually ended up in Chicago at the Quaker Oats Company where it was used from 2/16/1910 through 8/24/1911.



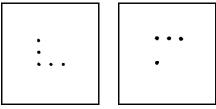
Pattern 236 Pattern 13

The next date found is that in the cancel of the discovery cover that prompted this article pattern 234569 with cancel date of 12/24/1909 on a John Wanamaker cover. As mentioned, a few paragraphs above, Wanamaker later purchased pattern 5689 and used it from 1/10/1910 thru 10/1/1910. The machine 234569 was not seen again.



Pattern 23456

Two other NY users are known from covers with 1909 dates. The Osborne Company used pattern **2356** from 12/2/1909 through 12/23/1910, and the U.T. Hungerford Brass & Copper Co. used pattern **45689** from 12/27/1909 through 9/13/1910. These companies may have just bought a machine without trial. Or perhaps their trial patterns have not yet been discovered.



Pattern **2356** Pattern **45689** 

There are still a large number of control patterns listed with user unknown. Some of those most likely were trial patterns. The relatively short window of operation would make them scarce and finding one still on a cover near impossible. Remember, it took over 100 years to find 234569. Other prospective customers may have run a trial and decided not to make the purchase. They may have purchased a Schermack Machine without the optional control die. Again that very short window of a trial would make any pattern very scarce.

#### Conclusions

I base these assessments on my data of nearly 600 Schermacks with control marks on cover. I believe the first three machines to arrive in New York were the 12 Hole open square, the machine with control pattern **0** and that with control pattern **5**. These three patterns represent the very basic Schermack control design. I believe these machines were put in place at the New York sales office and used for demonstration. Potential customers were encouraged to bring their mail in and see the machine in operation.

As more machines arrived from Detroit, they were placed in the mailroom of interested companies on a trial basis. Schermack sales personnel used those mailrooms to further

showcase the machine's capabilities to other prospective customers. When the trial was over, the machine was removed. If the company decided to purchase, they received a new machine with a different control pattern. Some of the trial machines were eventually sold to other customers and others seemed to disappear altogether. They may have had the control die removed and been sold without one.

By the beginning of 1910 the sales tactics employed in New York were no longer needed, the machines were selling themselves. I do believe the 12 Hole open square machine stayed in the NY sales office as a model and perhaps even processed that office's mail. With over 100 single used stamps reported in the census, it's hard to believe we still haven't found one on a full cover.

Schermack began offering the optional control die to customers in Detroit, Chicago, and St. Louis. No evidence suggests trials or demonstrator machines were required to make sales there. The Schermack Mailing Machine had become the "must have" item in every major mailroom.

## Wrap Up

Perhaps now when we look at a used single Schermack with control perforations we shouldn't be too quick to pigeonhole it as coming from a specific company. Maybe it did, maybe it didn't? Only on a cover can we be sure.

I would welcome the opportunity to add any additional information to my cover database. I encourage collectors to send e-mails and/or scans of Schermacks with control marks on cover, on piece. or even used singles with a date stamp. This information may validate my observations or may lead us down another path altogether.

Also, readers may want to check out the website stampsmarter.com. It is very well done and constantly evolving, with many interesting things for the stamp collector. My Schermack control perfin census is featured there. I have edit capability and add new information when it becomes available and has been properly vetted. Check it out!

### X-ref to Perfins Catalog numbering

Missing	Catalog	Missing	Catalog	Missing	Catalog
holes	number	holes	number	holes	number
0	Des 90-01	478	Des 90-42	5689	Des 90-59
5	Des 90-05	689	Des 90-44	23456	Des 90-68
13	Des 90-08	1245	Des 90-45	45689	Des 90-74
14	Des 90-09	2356	Des 90-53	234569	Des 90-new
236	Des 90-14	4578	Des 90-56	12 hole square	Des 91-01

# Updating the article (July 2017) Curt writes:

After this article was submitted to press another Schermack on cover surfaced that further supports the theory of a demonstrator machine in New York City. At first glance this appears to be a typical Julian Hawthorne, *The Secret Of Solomon* cover with pattern **13579**. Upon closer examination we actually find the pattern to be **23456**! The Perfins catalog tells us that the user of **23456** was Dealers Protective Association of New York.





The 2013 Schermack Control Perfin census recorded 27 copies of control pattern **23456**. One of those was on a 5/4/1910 cover with Dealers Protective Association in the return address. Now that a new cover has surfaced we have to question how many of those 26 single

copies were actually from Hawthorne mailings? Perhaps Dealers Protective didn't own a Schermack Mailing Machine at all. Their cover may have been produced on a demonstration machine. Dating Hawthorne covers is difficult as most are one cent circular mailings with only a year in the date stamp. Back stamps indicate that pattern **13579** was used as early as 3/29/1910 so I

suspect this new 23456 cover predates the Dealers Protective cover.

Need help unraveling this mystery. Anyone with either Hawthorne of Dealers Protective covers is urged to submit information to this writer.

## From Here and There

Jerry Moore writes that a fellow collector pointed him to an article in a recent issue of BNA Topics. The article is about Canada's first perfin, the W.G. perfin of W.J Gage a bookseller. His comment is "Lots of information in a very well presented article." For more information: http://www.bnaps.org/

President Steve Endicott has asked for volunteers to fill two new positions in the Clubthat of Club Historian and that of Art Director for the Club. The position of Club Historian is self-explanatory – the most recent updating of the Club's History was done in the early 1990s and much has happened since. The second position, that of Art Director is suggested with a primary purpose of developing visually engaging materials to promote and use at the 2018 Convention, our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention to be held in conjunction with the Precancel Stamp Society in California.

For those with an interest in the official perfins of Great Britain there was an interesting recap of the forgeries of the "Crown over B.T" official.

Matthew Healey in his recurring Linn's Stamp News column *Great Britain Philately*, in an article titled <u>Great Britain Official Perfins are Elusive</u>, Unlisted – and Mostly Fake (LSN Jul. 10, 2017 p. 26) reviews an 18 stamp lot of the Crown over B.T officials offered on the internet. He correctly points out that according the Edwards and Lucas 1984 booklet <u>G.B. Official Perfins</u> there are at least a dozen counterfeit types for this pattern.

He presents an interesting review of the history of use of the perforator (and G.B. Officials in general) pointing out that their use was for only a limited period – Jan. 27, 1881 through 1904 when use of officials was discontinued.

And he presents a short list of base stamps in which these perfins are potentially valid (GB Sc#30, 78-80, 82, 84, 86, 88-89, 95, 98-103, 105, 107, , 111-122 1nd 125-126). Perfins in any other issues "should be regarded with extreme suspicion". The internet lot he was considering – only 2 or 3 of 18 appear to be genuine!

This is a very interesting and well-presented article and great exposure (almost 2 pages in Linn's) for the collecting of perfins.

And, from member Robert W. Martin (33981) I received an interesting newsletter, Philatelikid. This 2 pager is self-described as "The newsletter for Stamp Collecting Clubs for Kids (SCCFK). This issue shows yearbook pictures from the grammar school where Mr. & Mrs. Martin volunteer running in school stamp clubs for 3 different grade groups (1st, 2nd & 3rd and 4th & 5th grades). Because of the large number of participants the club meets every week in these three groups. He also has two websites for those interested in the clubs: www.stampcollectingclubsforkids.org and www.yummstampcollecting.org. Thanks Robert and his wife for working for the future of the hobby.

## Secretary's Report

John Hart (#3411)

## Perfins Club Roster Announcement

Every other year we publish the membership roster in the Nov/Dec issue of *The Bulletin*. This is done to facilitate contact among members to keep in touch, to trade information and/or to trade stamps. It is time for that roster to be printed again, in this year's issue.

Even though all our contact information is fairly available on the Internet, we give members who

wish it the opportunity to decline having their addresses printed in the roster.

If you are one who does **NOT** want your address published in the Club's membership roster please contact John Hart @ 541-899-2971 or use the contact information inside the front page. John has to have that feedback no later than October 7, 2017 to exclude your information.

#### **New Members:**

#4146 Jon Krupnick 2432 NE 22nd Terrace Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33305-2600 Interests: C46 & Pacific Airmail 1935-1946

#4147 Ralph Poore 2210 Del Ray Court Arlington, TX. 76013-5241 Interests: US & BNA

#4148 John Mathews 164 Dumas Street McKellar, A.C.T. 2617 Australia Interests: Australian Commercial Perfins

#4149 Don Cash 1333 195th Rd. Troy, KS. 66087-4053 Interests: US

#4150 Duane Shiffert
1.2 kilometres al oeste de la
Iglesia de Bella Vista
Nandayure, Guanacaste, 50905,
Costa Rica
Interests: Precancel Perfins

Welcome back: #4006 Otto Wolke

#3394 Ken Rehfeld #3824 Robert Garrity

#### Changed address:

Doug Cutler 1501 E Grand Ave Apt 4223 Escondido, CA 92027-3176

#### Changed:

#3579 Duane Spidle 13426 Devan Lee Drive E. Jacksonville, FL 32226-5883

#### Resigned

#3858 Elven Punch - "sold collection"

#### Closed Albums:

LM #130 Hubert Norris LM #3788 George Haas

Current membership 432

## INVESTIGATE PRECANCELS!

Thousands of possibilities at minimal cost!

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Monthly magazine Send \$1.00 (includes postage) for sample copy to:

Promotional Secretaty Precancel Stamp Society P.O. Box 10295 Rochester, NY 14610

psspromotion@rochester.rr.com

## The Perfins Bulletin 6500 Upper Applegate Road Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314

Dues for the 2017-18 fiscal year were payable to the Secretary by June 30, 2017

Here we are again at that time of year.

Please look at the mailing label on this Bulletin. If the date above your name is 6/30/2017 and you have yet to pay your dues, it is past time to renew your membership (you are now in arrears).

**Paying by check:** Make your check payable to "The Perfins Club" and mail it to John Hart, 6500 Upper Applegate Rd., Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314.

Paying by PayPal: Pay at <a href="mailto:persin@charter.net">perfin@charter.net</a>. In the information line, please make sure you indicate that the payment is for dues and include your

membership number so that we can correctly mark you paid.

**Life members:** Please confirm that you are still an active member of the Club. Send an email to John Hart (jg.hart@charter.net) or in lieu of an email send a post card confirming your active status to John at the same address listed for sending checks.

All members: Any Active Member (including Life Members) who wish their *Bulletins* to be delivered by first-class mail should send that surcharge to John by the end of July.

Fees	US	Canada	Foreign
Annual Dues	US\$15	US\$18	US\$25
First Class Mail	US\$5	US\$7	US\$10
Non-member Subscription	US\$20	US\$23	US\$35

Life Memberships are available as shown below. Contact John Hart if interested.

Age	US	Canada	Foreign
54 or less	US\$375	US\$450	US\$625
55 through 69 years	US\$300	US\$360	US\$500
70 years or older	US\$225	US\$270	US\$375

## Upcoming Events of Interest

Sept. 22-23, 2017 – PC Fest Midwest Indiana-Ohio Annual Meeting – Friends Fellowship Center, 2030 Chester St., Richmond IN :: Texas Precancel Club Fall Meeting – Comfort Inn, 301 Capitol St., Grapevine, TX – Fri. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sept. 23, 2017 – **New England Precancel Club Meeting** – Milford Town Library, 80 Spruce St., Milford, MA – 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Oct. 11-13, 2017 – California Fall Round-Up (So. Calif. Precancel Club) La Quinta In & Suites, 2615 Buena Vista Dr., Paso Robles. CA.

August 2018 – **PSS Convention** – Perfins Club 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention: Columbus, OH ... more shortly