

November/December 2018

The Bulletin

Volume 72, Number 6 Whole Number 673

- Convention business meeting minutes
- Convention photos
- Bushire C1
- Articles solicited
- New Auction Manager
- More Canal Zone PSNs
- Late French usage

Exciting Times for The Perfins Club!

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Many exciting things are happening..

Welcome to our New Members

In the last four months, TWENTY-EIGHT stamp collectors have joined our Club, including six at the August Convention in Columbus, OH.

New members are listed, with contact information, on the last page of each issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*. Please take a moment to drop them a line to say hello.

The Annual Precancel and Perfins Convention

The Perfins Club sponsored the August Convention in Columbus, Ohio as part of a celebration of our Club's 75th anniversary. Thank you to **Jerry Hejduk**, **Dan Baugher** and **Gary Hendren** for planning, organizing and executing this wonderful convention. Everyone agrees that the Convention was a fantastic success. I hope to see many of you in Omaha, Nebraska next year.

Marketing our Club and our Publications

The Presidents of the American Topical Association (**Mr. Dale Smith**) and the United States Stamps Society (**Mr. Roger Brody**) graciously wrote very positive reviews in their journals announcing our new *Catalog of United States Perfins*. Thank you, Dale and Roger. These published reviews are generating new interest in perfins throughout the worldwide philatelic community, and are resulting in new memberships in our Club.

Our new *Catalog of United States Perfins*

Sales of the new *Catalog of United States Perfins* have been very robust. We have nearly sold out of the first printing (both looseleaf and hardbound versions) in just four months! Wow! Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to send notes expressing their gratitude and amazement with the new *Catalog* – your support and kind words are greatly appreciated by all of us who worked on this publication. There are fewer than 10 hardbound copies remaining in our inventory!!, so quickly place your purchase order.

Our Volunteer and Elected Leadership Team

Eleven members have joined the all-volunteer leadership team during the last two years. We thank them for their participation. They are:

Clark Buchi – Librarian,
Joe Chinnici – Assistant to the Bulletin Editor, **Joe Coulbourne** – Assistant to the U.S. Revenue Catalog Chair, & Auction Chair,
Diane Eastman – Historian,
Dan Fellows – Publication Sales Manager,
Brian Freeman – Foreign Catalog Chair,
Mike Hynes – Director,
Bob Hodges – Director,
Al Layton - *Bulletin* Publisher,
Amanda Morgenstern – Arts, and
David Smith – Director.

Please help the Club by serving in an elected, volunteer or assistant volunteer position – inquire with anyone on the Executive Board to discuss your interests.

Yes, these are exciting times for The Perfins Club.

**The *Perfins* Bulletin is the Official Journal of
The Perfins Club - Founded 1943
2018 Officers, Directors & Managers**

EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT
Steve Endicott
20 Greensburgh Ln.
San Anselmo, CA 94960-1000
perfins@gmail.com
Term expires: 12/31/2020

VICE PRESIDENT
Ken Masters
7053 N Garfield Avenue
Gladstone, MO 64118
krmasters@aol.com
Term expires: 12/31/2019

SECRETARY
John Hart
6500 Upper Applegate Rd.
Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314
541-899-2971
jg.hart@charter.net
Term expires: 12/31/2019

TREASURER
Dan Baugher
14618 Big Timber Lane
Chesterfield, MO 63017-5659
dbaugher@charter.net
Term expires: 12/31/2018

DIRECTORS-at-LARGE
David W. Smith
P.O. Box 64
Traumansburg, NY 14886-0064
precancel-smith@aol.com
Term expires: 12/31/2018

Mike Hynes
P. O. Box 866
Folsom, CA 95763-0866
Mike@precancels.com
Term expires 12/31/2019

Bob Hodges
3066 Burkson Cove
Memphis, TN 38119-8920
901-351-3270
hodges193@comcast.net
Term expires: 12/31/2020

IMMEDIATE PAST FULL-TERM OFFICER

Jerry Hejduk
P.O. Box 490450
Leesburg, FL 34749-0450
352-326-2117
flprepers@comcast.net
Term expires 12/31/2020

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 94th Street, Apt. 102
Kansas City, MO 64155-2993
krmasters@aol.com

AUCTION CHAIRMAN
Joe Coulbourne
1532 Lakeview Pkwy.
Locust Grove, VA 22508-5318
josephc427@aol.com

U.S. CATALOG CHAIRMAN
Steve Endicott
See president

FOREIGN CATALOG CHAIRMAN
Brian Freeman
PO Box 2222
Elk Grove, CA 95759-2222
brianj_freeman@yahoo.com

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

CLUB LIBRARY

For assistance: Clark Buchi
eclark8@yahoo.com
615-790-7746
or contact directly:
American Philatelic Research Library
100 Match Factory Place
Bellefonte, PA 16823
814-933-3803
stamps.org/About-the-Library

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

Dan Fellows
529 Eisenhower Ave.
Janesville, WI 53545-1701
Hwy51collector@yahoo.com

SUNSHINE

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

Parliamentarian: Paul Mistretta

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. Dues may be mailed to the Secretary listed above or by PayPal to perfin@charter.net. New members - partial fiscal year dues are waived. Full year dues are due by June 30 of each year. 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**

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

The Perfins Club Annual Meeting

John Hart (#3411)

The Annual Meeting of The Perfins Club was called to order at 1:03pm on August 2, 2018 by Steve Endicott, President. A quorum consisting of 7 of the 9 members of the Executive Board was present.

Steve thanked 26 members for attending the meeting. Members introduced themselves by name, State of residence and collecting interests.

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting, as published in the November/December 2017 issue of *The Perfins Bulletin*, were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report -- Dan Baugher

The total financial assets for the Club are \$111,917, up slightly from June 30, 2017. Club publication sales, auctions, and cover sales reported increases for the year. We had a onetime expense of moving the Club library to the APRL and we are starting to have income and expenses for this year's Convention that the Perfin Club is sponsoring.

While having these financial assets looks like we are very healthy, it is important to note four reserve categories in that total: life memberships, escrow for member's personal credit accounts, self-insurance transit fund, and donations reserved for special projects. After subtracting these, the Club has a remaining operational balance of \$38,547, which would cover about 2 to 3 year's expenses.

The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Committee Chair and Manager Reports

The Perfins Bulletin Editor – Paul Mistretta

During the past year, two 20-page and four 24 page issues of the *Bulletin* were published. The subject matter continues to be varied, keeping the fun in editing (and I hope in reading) the submitted material. At the present time, there is material in the queue for several future issues, but the queue is smaller than at this time last year.

In fear of missing anyone deserving of mention, I will not even attempt to name those frequent contributors whose efforts keep the *Bulletin* in good shape. Just a great big thank you for your input; and an offer to anyone else to join the ranks of these contributors.

An individual thank you goes to *Joe Chinnici* who continues as Assistant Editor of the *Bulletin*. His review of "ready to publish" material continues to keep my so-so typing honest.

And a very brief note of a personal milestone passed: with the publication of the July-August 2018 *Bulletin* y'all have tolerated my editing for 116 issues of the *Bulletin*, making me the second most published Editor in the Club's History, having just passed John Lyding (114 issues). Spoiler alert - I doubt that I will edit the 35 additional issues needed to pass Dave Stump's mark of 150 issues. At six issues a year it will require another 6 years of editing on my part. But then, with the support I have had these last three years - who knows?

The Perfins Bulletin Publisher – Ken Masters

The Publisher continued to arrange for printing and mailing of the *Bulletin* to the members. In nearly all instances, stamps used for the U.S. First Class envelopes and those mailed outside the U.S. were purchased at a discount below face value by Dan Baugher and provided to the Publisher for this purpose. This is a significant savings to the Club in total *Bulletin* expenses.

Over the past year, the Publisher has sent the *Bulletin* electronically by an email attachment to 14 members living outside the U.S on a trial basis. This trial proved successful with one problem associated with file size exceeding the limitations of a member's email system. Based on this success, we encourage all non-life members living outside the U.S. to consider electronic delivery to save the postage of mailing by regular mail. Life members living outside the U.S. have the option of electronic delivery or continuing regular mail delivery at no additional postage cost, as this cost was included as part of the life membership dues.

Circuit Sales – Bob Combs

Perfins Club Circuit Sales have continued during the past year. We have added a large amount of material to the United States holdings. We are still looking for good foreign material to sell as well. On page 53 of the May/June 2018 *Bulletin* you can read about all this!

Thank you to those that participate, and a “why not you, too” to those that don’t. Try it; you’ll like it!

Cover Sales – Robert Littrell

I report sales of approximately 400 covers with a total sales price of \$1,171. The net to the Club was 20% of that amount for \$234.20. Rudy Roy just sent me 100+ post cards with perfins, so that will be my next sale. Members who have unwanted perfin covers are encouraged to send them to me for resale and in that process you will also contribute to the Club.

Foreign Catalog Chair – Brian Freeman

I just recently took over the position of Foreign Catalog Chair, and so far I have been able to have some limited discussion with the immediate past Chair regarding the status of our publications. An update of the European section of The World Perfins Catalog has been worked on, but it is not yet ready to be published. No new club affiliated foreign perfin publications were produced within the past few years, and there is nothing new that is getting ready to go to press in the near future. Over the past few years very little input has been received from our members regarding suggestions for any additional foreign perfin publications. Having only recently taken over the position of Foreign Catalog Chair, I am still in the process of putting together an agenda. If a member wants to help with creating a particular catalog, I am quite willing to try to work together as a team. At this point, I am leaning toward trying to put something together for the German affiliated entities, without restricting myself to a particular geographical area (so that related material from any continent can be included). In addition to coordinating the foreign perfin catalogs, and determining status for uncataloged foreign perfin information, I am willing to make myself available to help members with trying to identify non Scott listed stamps that have perfins. While I am serving as Foreign Catalog Chair, it is my hope that I can help encourage our members to develop a greater appreciation of perfins from even the most esoteric of stamp issuing entities.

Publications Sales– Dan Fellows

I became the Club’s Publication Sales manager

March of 2018. I have updated the Perfins Club web page to list all currently available club publications and I have filled member requests. I have also found a printer in my home town to replace the Florida printer; this will save the Club shipping cost from Florida. I’m still trying to get all the catalogs shipped from the printer to me.

Sunshine– Francis Stunzi

I send sympathy cards to families of members who have passed and send get well cards to members who are struggling with health problems. Please let me know if you are aware of a member who would appreciate a card from our Club

U.S. Revenue Catalog Chair – Art Mongan

I have had to extend the estimated date of a revised edition of the U.S. Revenue Catalog to 2027.

Since the 2010 edition only a few new patterns have shown up for Volume One and only a handful of new beer patterns for Volume Two. There are a number of new patterns in checks and stock certificates that will each require extensive Photoshop work to get clean catalog quality images.

U.S. Catalog Chair – Steve Endicott

The *Catalog of United States Perfins – 2018* was published this year, completing a six-year development. It is available to members in four different editions – print (two forms) and electronic (two forms). Features were highlighted and purchase details were explained in the May-June issue of the *Bulletin*. Please contact Dan Fellows (Publication Sales Manager) if you would like to purchase the *Catalog*.

Webmaster – Mike Hynes

No major changes were made to the Perfins Club website this year but several enhancements were made:

- Added very comprehensive “Perfins on the Stamps of Mexico” section created and maintained by Robert Littrell.
- Added Perfins Club Study Group Page listing study groups set up by the members.

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- Cleaned up the “Publications for Sale” page to better reflect the Sales Manager’s holdings.
 - Updated *The Perfins Bulletin* “Back Issue” page with 2014 issues.

Regular maintenance of the site and keeping things up-to-date.

Old Business -

Our Historian Diane Eastman has put together a Club photo album available for viewing near the coffee station here at the convention.

New Business

Steve Endicott announced:

The new *US Perfin Catalog* is available here for sale. At 3 p.m. Steve is going to give a presentation, focusing on new features.

The Club needs representatives to APS and ATA to take over from Ken Masters. The job can be as simple or as extensive as you want to make it. Please contact Ken Masters or Steve Endicott if interested.

Our new publisher is Al Layton, taking the place of Ken Masters. The transition is underway.

Elections

Nominations for the Executive Board:

Dan Baugher was nominated to serve again as Treasurer.

Dave Smith was nominated to serve again as Director.

Both nominations were not contested. They were moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Floyd Walker Award Committee -- John Welsch, Chair

The Floyd Walker Memorial Award is presented for “scholarly research on article(s) and the presentation of new perfin information for the betterment for the collecting of U.S. and worldwide perfins”. Joe

Coulbourne has received the award this year for his well written, informative and entertaining articles after every Convention discussing his acquisitions at the Convention as well as promoting the Convention to the membership. In addition, Joe has submitted articles throughout the year. Congratulations, Joe, on receiving this much deserved award!

Hallock Card Award Committee -- Doug Turner, Chair

Hallock Card organized The Perfin Club 75 years ago. The Hallock Card Award is presented to a member of The Perfins Club in recognition of outstanding service to the Club or to perfins philately. This year, the award has been presented to Steve Endicott, currently President of The Perfins Club and U.S. Perfins Catalog Chair, and also past Treasurer.

This year, Steve has published the *2018 Catalog of United States Perfins* – in four editions – print and electronic. This was a six year development effort. Steve is also doing an excellent job serving as the Club’s President. Prior to this, Steve served as Club Treasurer for ten years. Thank you, Steve, for your tireless and extensive work for so many years. Congratulations on receiving this much deserved honor!

Closed Albums

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the following members who have passed during the last year: Jeanette Alexander, William Cummings, Alan Daw, James Kenyon, Charles Machado, Rick Podwell, Robert Schwerdt, Herbert Weaver and Betty Lou Winkelsas.

Announcements

Steve thanked Jerry Hedjuk and Dan Baugher for their work organizing this Convention.

The Perfins Club will hold their annual dinner tonight at the Bon Vie Bistro in the Easton Town Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03pm

Floyd Walker Memorial Award

John Welsch (#3832), Chair, Floyd Walker Memorial Award Committee

The Floyd Walker Memorial Award is presented for “scholarly research on article(s) and the presentation of new perfin information for the betterment for the collection of U.S. and worldwide perfins”. Joe Coulbourne has received the award this year. Joe has submitted well written, informative and entertaining articles after every Convention discussing his acquisitions at the Convention as well as promoting the Convention to the membership.

In addition, Joe has submitted articles throughout this last year, including “Jamaica – Unlisted Pattern – 2nd West Indian Army Regiment”, “Pattern G97 – G.H.P. Cigar Company, Inc.” and “Of Paquebots and Perfins”.

Joe has been a member of The Perfins Club for 31 years (November 1987) and is very accomplished in

studying perfins from countries other than the USA.



Although not a qualification for this award, I would be remiss to not mention that it was Joe’s idea that The Perfins Club sponsor the Convention this year at the Club’s 75th anniversary, which was a huge success. Congratulations, Joe, on receiving this much deserved award!

Hallock Card Award

Doug Turner (LM#2549), Chair, Hallock Card Award Committee

Hallock Card organized The Perfins Club 75 years ago. The Hallock Card Award is presented periodically to an individual member of The Perfins Club in recognition of outstanding service to the Club or to perfins philately. This year, the award has been presented to Steve Endicott, currently President of The Perfins Club and U.S. Perfins Catalog Chair, and also past Treasurer.

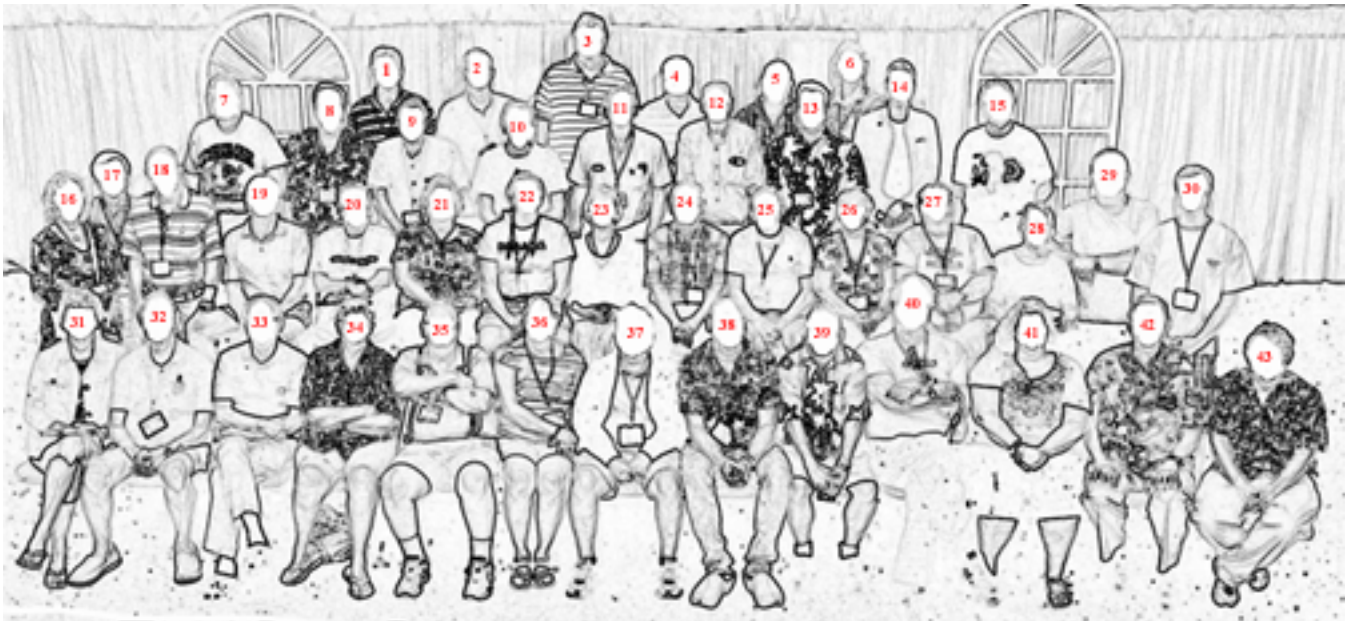
This year, Steve has published the *2018 Catalog of United States Perfins* – in four editions – print and electronic. Steve spent thousands of hours over a six year period to develop this new *Catalog* for our Club. In talking with Steve about the new *Catalog*, he graciously wanted to thank the many volunteers and proofreaders for their input and assistance. Steve is also doing an excellent job serving as the Club’s President, promoting new ideas for our Club and promoting the inclusion of members into the Club’s leadership team. Prior to this, Steve served as Club Treasurer for ten years.



Steve joined The Perfins Club in April 1984 (34 years), earned degrees from UCLA and Cornell University, and spent his business career in mathematics and computer science; Steve is now retired.

Thank you, Steve, for your tireless and extensive work for so many years. Congratulations on receiving this much deserved honor!

Club's 2018 Convention Photo - Columbus, Ohio



1 Arnold Selengut
 2 Dan Baugher
 3 Jock Shafroth
 4 Dan Fellows
 5 Bill Latchic
 6 John Hart
 7 John Foster
 8 Matt Stephenson
 9 Gary Hendren
 10 Loren Neuharth
 11 Bob Hodges

12 Will Bobbins
 13 Mike Hynes
 14 Russ Sampson
 15 Jim Hirstein
 16 Diane Eastman
 17 Jerry Hejduk
 18 Doug Turner
 19 Dick Laetsch
 20 Steve Endicott
 21 Lynda Hendren
 22 Bob Szymanski

23 Sue Ellen Szymanski
 24 Ken Masters
 25 Ted Schlit
 26 Jeanne Dickson
 27 Steve Dirksen
 28 Jeanne Hejduk
 29 Jan Kant
 30 Dave Lagerstrom
 31 Jackie Linn
 32 Ed Linn
 33 Dave Smith

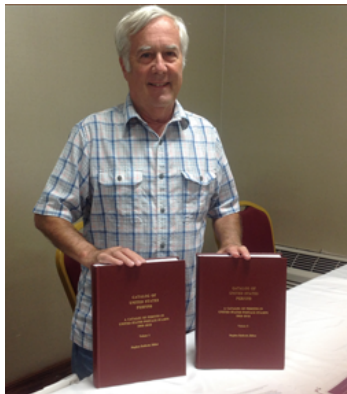
34 Rose Smith
 35 Norm Pence
 36 Sue Spidle
 37 Joe Chinnici
 38 Mike Molle
 39 Duane Spidle
 40 Charlie Adrion
 41 Susan Kolze
 42 Robert Martin
 43 TG Rehkop



Doug Turner presents Steve Endicott the 2018 Hallock Card Award



Joe Coulbourne's 2018 Floyd Walker Award plaque



Steve Endicott with new catalogs



Taking a puzzle break



Forget Whodunnit => Whoizzit?



Club reception at the Convention

New Club Auction Manager

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Joe Giampietro, has been our Club Auction Manager but has tendered his resignation due mainly to health concerns. Joe has served admirably in this role for 8 years. We all appreciate his efforts and we wish Joe the very best in his health and in his collecting perfin.

Joe Coulbourne has agreed to assume this role, with a great deal of enthusiasm. He becomes our Club Auction Manager, effective immediately. Joe has extensive knowledge of U.S. perfins, and especially those of foreign countries. Some may remember that Joe served as our Club Auction

Manager once before, so he is very familiar with the process.

For now, the auctions will run as they have in the past, but Joe has ideas for our auctions in the future.

Thank you, Joe, for assisting the Club.

Joe's contact information is to be found on the second page of this *Bulletin* with the other Officers, Directors and Managers, and will remain there while he is Auction Chairman.

Another Canal Zone Lot Continues High Price Trend

Paul Mistretta (LM#111), based on an email from Rudy Roy (#1124)

In the May/June 2018 *Bulletin* on page 66 a survey of the PSN pattern in Canal Zone stamps was announced. At the time I wondered why the pattern warranted a survey.

Then in the July/August 2018 *Bulletin* on page 94 an article from Rudy Roy suggested that just maybe these items, which I had thought were relatively common, might not be as available as I thought. In that article Rudy pointed to a lot of 7 Canal Zone issues with PSN perfins which had just sold for \$272. And he noted four single stamp lots which had also recently sold for between \$19, \$56, \$85, and \$150. So much for my assumption that these perfins are relatively common!

And now Rudy has tracked (and reported) another lot of Canal Zone PSN perfins. This lot contained 8 units (3 single stamps [Sc#120, 127, & C10], 4 pairs [Sc# 122, 131, C11 & C12], and 1 strip of three [SC#Sc#123]. Total Scott's Catalog (2015 edition) value of the stamps is \$56.75. All of the stamps are perfined PSN except the Sc#122 which is punched with the single large P. With 17 bids entered, this lot sold for GBP 226.86 + GBP 2.20 S&H (approx. \$293.81 + \$2.85). Not as spectacular as the lot reported in July/August but still slightly less than 6x the catalog value of the stamps.

There are only three reasons that I can propose to explain these high prices in three different auction



venues. First is that someone or group is artificially inflating prices for reasons unknown - a highly unlikely explanation. The second is someone wanted one or all of the examples for a specialized collection or for an exhibit in preparation and got into a bidding war with another collector having the similar needs; maybe... But the most likely explanation is the simplest one -- there is a demand out there for relatively uncommon items.

As noted in the article on the Bushire "F" perfin reported elsewhere in this issue, perfins are now mainstream philatelic items.

A Non-descript Cover?

Bob Szymanski (LM#145)

When looking at perfin covers, do you notice how many originated from banks or from insurance companies? These were normally the types of users that made the most use of their perforators. Universally, this is the case, whether you have covers from the United States or from any of the numerous foreign countries that also had large perfin use.

Do you routinely pass over these as not worth the time, effort and certainly not the cost of purchasing? Well, do not be so quick as to judge the merit of these covers. Look for the oddities that these covers may have. To whom was the cover sent? In what issue of stamp is the perfin? Are there any additional markings on the cover? What happened on the date the cover was sent?

Here is a cover that the date means everything. But why?

France and French Offices and Colonies have, from the very first entry into the area of perfins, been my first and favorite area of interest. Knowing as much

about your field of interest, and having all the catalogs and information available to you is extremely important in any field of collecting, especially perfin collecting!

If you collect French perfins, you will have noted that “C”, “CL”, “CN”, “CNE” & “SG” (in all 142!, yes, 142! different patterns) seem to show up in a large percentages of any French perfin lot you will find. These are the banks that made the most use of their perforators. These should not be dismissed as having no value because there are several difficult to find patterns and it really is fun to save issues and even positions! You can have a wonderful collection with these bank perfins and you will not have spent much money! But... back to this cover. What makes this cover special? It is the date.

On Dec. 6th, 1954, France declared the use of perforated stamps was to be prohibited with an effective enforcement date of January 21st, 1955. An allowance was made for a short, but undefined, period of time for user who had perforated stamp on hand were allowed to use up their stock.



The nicely stamped, pictured cover with the bank's "SG" perfin is dated February 3, 1955 - 14 days AFTER the law went into effect. This is what makes this cover occupy a special place in my collection.

Lastly, the law prohibiting perfin use stipulated a severe cost for not conforming to this law. These included fines and imprisonment! ...and

this is why you will never see a French perfin collector using a personal perforator to perforate French stamps.

Editor's note: If you have any cover that might prove interesting, why don't you submit it for publication in *the Perfin Bulletin*. If needed, Bob or I would be happy to help you write it up should you not be comfortable doing so.

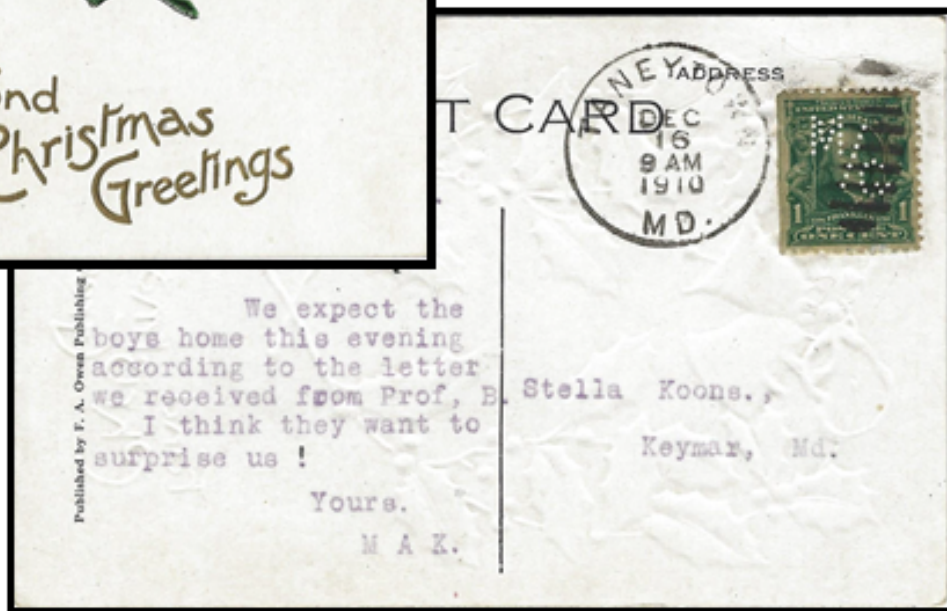


Happy
Holidays

Pattern M123 (MorrisGoldsmith & Company) in Sc#300 used for a personal message from M.A.K. to Stella. ?Possibly a minor case of holiday larceny? - but, an admirable seasonal sentiment.

Note the expectation of great post office service in Taneytown, MD - canceled at 9 am, the message states that boys are expected home the same evening...

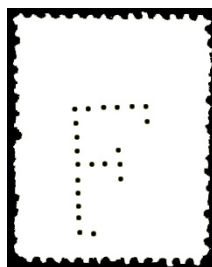
Have a great holiday season!



How Much is a Perfins Worth???

An interesting lot spotted by Doug Cutler

Paul Mistretta (LM#111) edited from an email from Doug Cutler (LM#126)



This one is going to drive me nuts!

Doug Cutler forwarded an ad from "George W. Holschauer and Son, Colonial Stamp Company, British Empire Specialists". The ad stated simply "Bushire Scott N30 Gibbons 30 Mint Stamp - Price on Request". On request, Doug determined that the asking price was \$8,000. That's right \$8k. Apparently perfins have arrived in mainstream collecting!

The isolation of the pattern in the stamp is Bob Schwerdt's pattern C1 for Bushire, and the presence of the official overprint is consistent with Schwerdt's cataloging the pattern C1 (C = an official perfin as opposed to a postal one.)

I started to set this note up for publication and decided to find out what might be driving the price. And guess what I found - Scott does not list a pattern N30 - Bushire has two series listed N1-14 and N15-29. The stamp *is* N11 with the added "Chancellerie" (Chancellery) overprint. And, checking the copy of Scott's 1992 catalog, which I still have in my mass of stuff, showed that it wasn't listed then either.

So, no explanation for the "Bushire N30" listing; nor would an official stamp be cataloged that way in Scott's - it would have a "NO" ("Occupation Official") number assigned to it. Further, it does not explain the valuation; N29 (the high value in the second series of stamps issued for Bushire and the most expensive stamp listed for it) is cataloged at \$6,500 in mint condition in my 2015 Scott's catalog; N11, the stamp without the chancery o/p, is cataloged at only \$475.

The ad includes "...Scott N30 Gibbons 30..." which may mean that the valuation is based on the Gibbons catalog value and not on Scott's at all.

And, to make this all more interesting - at the website http://stampforgeries.com/forged_stamps_of_Bushire/ I found the statement: "According to 'The Robinson Lowe Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps', only 0.2% of the Bushire overprints are genuine"; and the rounded "O" of "Occupation" on the subject stamp closely resembles that in the pictured forgery more closely than it does the oval shaped "O" pictured as genuine...

That having been said - this is a fascinating item, illustrating a scarce perfin. If you have \$8,000 to spend, and this lot hasn't already been sold, it may be tempting. However, caveat emptor. This item may not be what it appears to be... It will take an expert of these esoteric items to make a final determination as to the "genuineness" of this item.

All that aside, as I stated at the outset of this article, given the asking price for this item - perfins have clearly come of age in the mainstream world of philately.

References:

- Burrows, M. J. 1975. A Bushire official? Security Endorsement & Perfin Society #159 (Sept./Oct.):[6].
- Mewhinney, Dick. 2002. My perfin from Bushire. *Perfins Bull.* 56(6):89.
- Anon. n.d. Forged stamps of Bushire. ("Source: The Tedesco Index). Accessed on Sept. 9, 2018 at: <http://stampforgeries.com/forged-stamps-of-bushire>

Put on Your Thinking Caps and Get Out Your Pens!!!

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

I encourage every member to contribute to *The Perfins Bulletin (the Bulletin)* by writing articles.

Writing an article can be daunting for several reasons:

1. you are not confident to do so;
2. you are not certain how to assemble the information;
3. you don't feel that you are an "expert";
4. you don't have the time.

And there are probably other reasons out there. But we can work to diminish these concerns.

Writing philatelic articles is very rewarding. Many of us have sub-topic areas within our perfin collections or specific items that can be of great interest to other collectors. Tell other members about your perfins in an article. You will enhance your knowledge about your topic through your research while composing the article. There is a benefit to telling other members about your interests – expect to be introduced to other members with similar interests and/or with items to trade. For instance, several members have told me that their interests are in perfins of countries other than the United States – they express some frustration that the articles in the *Bulletin* are dominated by U.S. topics. True – but how can we change this? – by writing articles about perfins in stamps from foreign country.

The *Bulletin* (and our Club) depends on contributions and involvement by all of us.

Here are a few components to think about while composing an article. Certainly write about the perfin(s). You can also write about the user of the perfin and the stamp(s) that 'houses' the perfin(s). If the item involves a precancel as well, you can

discuss that preper. You can write about your interests and discoveries in the item.

In the article which follows immediately after this one, Paul Mistretta suggests a group of articles which could lead to as many as 5,800 new research articles

A personal note: When I was fairly new to perfin collecting, I spoke to Floyd Walker (*Bulletin* Editor at the time) about my modest collection of perfins in the Kansas/Nebraska overprinted stamps. Floyd encouraged me to write an article. I was hesitant for all the reasons that I mention here in the first paragraph. Floyd kept encouraging me. He mentored me, reviewed my efforts and offered suggestions. The result was "Perfins in the Kansas/Nebraska Issue" printed in the February 2000 issue of the *Bulletin*. From that article, I met other collectors with similar interests. We have become great friends, and have helped each other in our collections. I am indebted to Floyd for helping me get through the, mostly mental, roadblock of writing for the *Bulletin*.

I have spoken to several members who have expressed their willingness to review drafts of what you write and help you as Floyd helped me. These mentors are Paul Mistretta, Ken Masters, Joe Coulbourne and me.

Paul also suggests that if you are really uncertain about your writing skills and still have something you would like to say, write the main points of what you wish to communicate and pass it along - we'll help turn ideas into articles...

So try "it" (writing) – you will like it!

And, in the Same Vein

Paul Mistretta (LM#111)

I have recently been reading the G B. Perfin Study Group News-Sheet (beginning with volume 1), which is the initial title of the journal we now know as the Perfin Society Bulletin of the British Perfins

Society (formerly the Security Endorsement and Perfin Society). Very quickly I noted a basic difference in the content of these news-letters versus our *Bulletin*; while the British newsletter had lists of

patterns and users just as we do, they also had, on a consistent basis, notes detailing the histories of the owner/users of the patterns they were describing. These notes, while often fairly short, give mini-histories of the users of the perfin and not just the perfin pattern/catalog number. While our overall orientation has been slanted towards the patterns and patterns of use of perfins in the U.S., I who am not a postal historian or even a confirmed historian, found myself truly enjoying these essentially thumbnail sketches of these various companies in Great Britain which used perfins.

So I set out to determine what we actually had in print relating to American companies, agencies or individuals which used US patterns. And what I found suggested a whole wide area of research which is virtually untouched in our *Bulletin*. In my survey of the run of *Bulletins* from Vol. 1 # 1 to the present (674 issues) turned up only 37 articles which I felt presented a good history of the pattern user. In addition, there are a couple of hundred incidental references to user history which give only a glimpse, and not a picture, of the user's history. Wow - what an open field for research and article preparation!!

What I consider as important in an article (the information which led me to my short list of "done" users) is presented in the listing below.

	Title	Author's name
Company history		
Predecessor companies		
Founding/Incorporation date		
History of the company or service		
Brief overview		
Product(s) or service(s) list or general categories		
Persons of interest		
Locations		
Moves to different locations		
Mergers		
Divestitures		
Dates of pattern use		
Dissolution date if applicable, and reason if available		
Successor companies		
Pictures/illustrative material		
Persons of interest		

- Company's or service's logo
- Related covers or picture postcards
- Headquarters building
- Map of location
- Pictures of products
- Blueprints/diagrams

Published research articles which I feel give a good picture of company history (and where those articles are to be found in the *Bulletin*) are as follows [format: "Cat. #" followed by the "[Vol. (#):pg-pg." in *TPB*]:

A221-24 [68(5):90-91], **B045** [43(2):42-43], **B113** [65(2):42-43], **C023A** [68(1):4-6], **C028** [26(2):10], **C125** [65(3):70-71], **CP251.7I** [54(9):148], **C319** [52(6):108], **C336** [21(8): 1 p. insert], **C338** [21(8): 1 p. insert], **C376** [64(2):46], **F095** [65(5):124], **G045** [67(2):26], **H011** [67(2):30], **HP021.7I** [52(7):122], **H127** [66(5):144], **J005** [43(7):161-162], **K025** [55(2):19], **L089** [69(5):86-87], **L130** [29(7):7], **L178** [65(3):66], **M200**[48(5):85-86], **N47** [66(6):145], **N073** [62(8):161-162], **P070** [32(7):3], **S118** [66(1):8-9], **S125** [70(5):95-96], **S218** [68(3):55], **S330** [67(2):32-33], **T079** [64(4):99], **W027** [70(2):29-30], **W154** [54(4):57], **W155** [62(3):37-39], **W156** [62(3):37-39], **W171** [62(3):44], and, **Sch 000037** [].

Absent from the above listing are autobiographical articles published in the *Bulletin* which I have not checked but which could give good summaries of several of the user's of personal patterns, and sketches in the Club's railroad catalog. Articles in these two sources will probably increase the number of users for whom or which we have good published research articles.

Okay - so what is this preamble leading to? Basically see Steve's article which immediately precedes this one. Steve suggests researching and writing articles for the *Bulletin*, a suggestion I heartily endorse. And in this article I suggest about 5,800 possible articles needing research and writing!

So, if you have a favorite company which you want to know more about, now is the time to research it and share your findings! I will thank you, the *Bulletin* will thank you, and other members will thank you for your efforts.

Errata

Brian Saxe (LM#140) noted that web address given for the new India catalog on p. 110 in the Sept/Oct *Bulletin*, while correct, doesn't work. The address <http://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/publicat/india.html> does. Thanks.

Commemorative Cover at Convention

Ken Masters (LM#3589)

As reported on the front page of the September/October *Bulletin* (72:97), The Perfins Club sponsored the annual Precancel/Perfins Convention this year in recognition of the Club's 75th anniversary as a philatelic organization. To provide a tangible memory of this event, the Convention Committee had a special, limited edition 75th Anniversary commemorative cover prepared. (See below.)

Each of these covers was franked with one of the 2016 "Classics Forever" stamps (Scott #5079a - b) that was perfined with the PC part of pattern JP064.8IR. Only 200 covers, numbered in pen on the back, received the July 31, 2018, Pictorial Cancel. Each member (one per family) of either club who attended the convention received a complimentary copy of this cover.

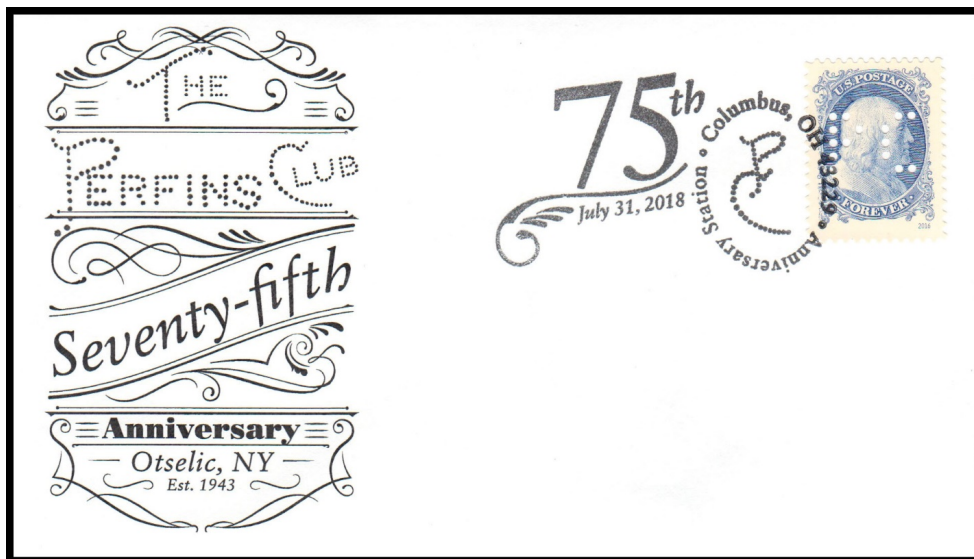
As we anticipated, the entire edition of 200 covers was not completely exhausted at the convention. Rather than destroy these extras, we are offering them to our members at a price of \$3.00 each while the supply lasts. If you would like to add one of these covers to your collection, please send your request and check to Ken Masters (contact information on inside front page under Vice

President) and I will send you one by return mail. I will honor requests for a specific stamp from the series of 6 if that stamp is still available. If you would prefer, you may pay by PayPal to perfin@charter.net and indicate the payment is for the "Commemorative Cover."

Don't miss out! Order yours today!



Your choice - if still available



Example copy of The Perfins Club 75th Anniversary commemorative cover cancelled with Perfins Club special Anniversary Station Pictorial Cancel franked with Scott #5079b that has been perfined with right half of pattern JP064.8IR.

Clubmember Ads

For Sale - Discounted: Perfins Club Publication Sales Manager Dan Fellows has the following publications for sale at discounted prices. All catalogs are limited quantities - also these are member only special pricing with the shipping free to members. Sale of these items will allow me to move to publication on demand.

- 1) Argentina 2015 soft bound catalog (1 cat.) [orig. \$30 reduced to] \$24
- 2) Austria 1991 loose leaf catalog (3 cat.) [orig. \$35 reduced to] \$20
- 3) Belgium 1997 loose leaf catalog (1 cat.) [orig. \$22 reduced to] \$12
- 4) India + 2 supplements 1990 loose leaf (4 cat.) [orig. \$34 reduced to] \$20
- 5) Italy 2009 soft bound catalog with 32 transparent plates and CD (4 cat.) [orig. \$85 reduced to] \$45
- 6) World Perfin Catalog Africa Section 1995 loose leaf (4 cat.) [orig. \$10 reduced to] \$8

- 7) World Perfin Catalog Asia Section 1996 loose leaf (5 cat.) [orig. \$10 reduced to] \$8

I have listed the quantities that are left of each (X cat.) Contact information for Dan is found on second page of this issue of the *Bulletin*.

Wanted: Precancelled Washington Bicentennials with perfins. Rich Feller, 319 West 108th St., New York, NY 10025. rfehler@gmail.com.

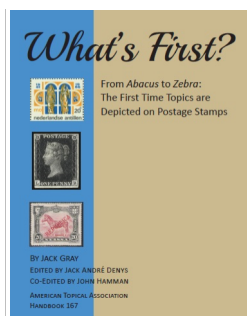
Wanted: Medical-related perfins: hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, etc., especially wanted on cover. Larry Oliver, stamper707@gmail.com.

And a Challenge: I would like to issue a challenge to any club member to find and send me a copy of the E rated Swift and Company perfin from Harrisburg, PA listed in the new 2018 *US Perfin Catalog* as **S002-60** and that matches the illustration in the catalog. David Lightle - PERFINPAUL@msn.com.

News for Immediate Release

Submitted by Ken Masters (LM#3589 & Perfins Cub Representative to the ATA)

The American Topical Association has just published *What's First?*, a 335-page book that pictures and describes the first stamp for more than 800 topics. From abacus to zebra, it is colorfully illustrated with stamp images and descriptions of the first time a topic appeared on a stamp.



Spanning two centuries, the book explores firsts for popular topics, such as cats and railways/trains, to more esoteric topics, such as handshakes and dominoes. It is fully indexed by topic and country/Scott number.

Written by Canadian playwright and journalist Jack Gray, the book will be appealing to topical collectors, as well as those with other collecting interests, and also to exhibitors. It makes an excellent addition to any philatelic library.

What's First? is available in book and DVD format for \$40 plus shipping (Book: US \$4, Canada \$25.25, other countries \$35.75; DVD: US and Canada \$1.50; other countries \$3.50). Mail a check to ATA, PO BOX 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008 -- or email:

americantopical@msn.com

or call 618-985-5100. More information at:

<http://americantopicalassn.org/home.shtml>

Price Increase for U..S. Perfins Catalog

Effective January 1, 2019, the prices for the print editions (hardbound and loose leaf) of the 2018 edition of the *Catalog of United States Perfins* will

be raised \$5 to cover our increased shipping expenses.

Order your copy before the end of this year!

Catalog Ratings of U.S. Perfins Explained

Steve Endicott (LM#2284)

Three collectors have written to me that the new *Catalog of United States Perfins* does not include a definition of the ratings assigned to perfins. The omission was my error. I apologize. Those of us that use the *Catalog* on a near daily basis understand the rating structure – it is a part of our normal, daily nomenclature, so it was easy to overlook a definition. It will be included in the first A&C to the new *Catalog*; but for now, here is the definition.

Ratings are assigned by the Catalog Editor based on the known number of complete patterns. Although, especially for perfins with high ratings, partial patterns are sometimes acceptable to collectors, they are not included in the counts of known patterns to determine the ratings. “Known” numbers of patterns means those documented by the Catalog Editor, especially for the higher rated perfins. The ratings for specific perfins have been established by Catalog

Editors during the last four decades. For the vast majority of patterns, the ratings have been stable.

Rating	# Copies Known
A+*	1*
A	1 to 10
B+	11 to 20
B	21 to 40
C+	41 to 70
C	71 to 150
D+	151 to 300
D	301 to 599
E	601 to 2000
F	2001 +.

* The A+ rating is used only for a few Schermacks.

Secretary's Report

John Hart (#3411)

100 New Members!

I noticed the other evening that since I became Secretary in January 2016, 100 stamp collectors have joined the Perfins Club! I hope every new member is enjoying perfins.

New Members:

#4193 Michael Clark
130 Horseshoehill Rd.
Pound Ridge, NY. 10576-1637
email: mikalcee@earthlink.net
Interests: US/ Red Cross stamps

#4194 Edward Kozelka
113 Heron Lane
Bath, NC. 27808-9794
email: katonaed@cloud9.net
Interests: US General

#4195 Gary Carlson
1261 Ducrest Dr. S.
Columbus, OH. 43220-3813
email: gmcarlson53@gmail.com
Interests: Sweden, BF Cummins
(machine cancels, perforated
corner cards)

New Members (cont.):

#4196 Wayne Schuetz
PO Box 1993
Venice, FL. 34284-1993
email: wds55@aol.com
Interests: None stated

#4197 Arthur Beals
18785 Still Lake Drive
Jupiter, FL. 33458-3710
email: abeals@verizon.net
Interests: US

#4198 Wayne Witherow
110 W. Southey Ave
Altoona, PA. 16602-3020
email:
witherowwayne@gmail.com
Interests: US

#4199 Richard Gray
19 Daniels Dr.
Enfield, NH. 03748-3060
email: dickg244@yahoo.com
Interests: Foreign (No US),
Cinderellas, which include perfin

#4200 "Pappy" Adams
633 Hemlock Ave
Central Point, OR. 97502-2818
email: none given
Interests: USA

#4201 Dennis Korn
444 N. Amelia Ave. Apt. 9A
San Dimas, CA. 91773-4510
email: dkorn@citruscollege.edu
Interests: "Unknown"

#4202 Ray Getsug
2090 Highland Parkway
St. Paul, MN 55116-1311
email: rgetsug@gmail.com
Interests: US, Palestine Mandate

#4203 Rev. David Lingard
PO Box 414
Van Horne, IA 52346-0414
email: david_lingard@hotmail.com
Interests: All Florida related and
perfin on cover

#4204 George Hoff
291 Windsor Lane
St. Paul, MN 55112-3313
email: none
Interests: All

#4205 Steven Runyon
1819 17th Ave
San Francisco, CA. 94122-4503
email: runyons602@gmail.com
Interests: USA, Iceland

#4206 Robert Brown
138 Maryland Ave
Magnolia, NJ. 08049-1311
email: rdb08049@comcast.net
Interests: Worldwide

Welcome back:

Tom Unterberger #1194
819 4th Ave. E.
Superior, WI. 54880-6848
email: unterberger@chartermi.net
Interests: General, Worldwide

Changed address:

Jeff Bennett
30 Atlantic Street
Niantic, CT. 06357-3119

Jean Oberholtzer
6549 Cedar Ave
Pennsauken, NJ 08109-2401

Changed/corrected emails:

C. de Leng
email: cees59leng@hetnet.nl

Closed Albums:

James Winder #3322
Derick Van Schoonhoven #2893

Resigned

Michael Behm #1902 -
"pursuing other perfin collecting
interests"
David Rhodes #3794 - "no
longer wish to belong to the
Perfins Club"
Mick Zais #4091- "taken a
position in Wash.DC; collecting
on hold; will rejoin"
Sue-Ellen Szymanski #145F - no
reason given
Lynn Batdorf #4105 - "no longer
interested in collecting perfins"

Current Membership 464

Wanted: Your email address --

PLEASE. It helps the Club if we have your email address. With it we can communicate with you more quickly and efficiently. If you have an email address *not currently listed or inaccurately listed in the membership roster*, please send an email note to John Hart, our Club's Secretary, which provides your email address. Email John at: jg.hart@charter.net

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title
The Perfins Bulletin

2. Publication Number
0 1 2 0 0 0 4 9 0

3. Filing Date
9/13/2018

4. Issue Frequency
Bi-Monthly

5. Number of Issues Published Annually
6

6. Annual Subscription Price
\$15.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®)
7053 N. Garfield Ave.
Gladstone, MO 64118-7848

Contact Person
Ken Masters
Telephone (include area code)
816-835-5907

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)
7053 N. Garfield Ave.
Gladstone, MO 64118-7848

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)

Publisher (Name and complete mailing address)
Ken Masters
7053 N. Garfield Ave., Gladstone, MO 64118-7848

Editor (Name and complete mailing address)
Paul Mistretta
4148 Commodore Dr., Atlanta, GA 30341-1533

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)
Paul Mistretta
4148 Commodore Dr., Atlanta, GA 30341-1533

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name
The Perfins Club
John Hart, Secretary

Complete Mailing Address
6500 Upper Applegate Rd.
Jacksonville, OR 97530-9314

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

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12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
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 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

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13. Publication Title
The Perfins Bulletin

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
September 1, 2018

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		465	450
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	284	293
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1	1
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First Class Mail®)	154	143
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		439	437
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	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First Class Mail)	3	3
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))		11	11
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		449	448
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		16	2
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		465	450
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		97.6	97.5

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PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 2 of 4)

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16. Electronic Copy Circulation

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies	13	20
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	452	457
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15e) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	462	468
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)	97.8	97.6

I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the Nov/Dec 2018 issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Ken Masters, PUBLISHER Date 9/13/2018

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Precancel Stamp Society**

Dick Kalmbach
2658 Ironworks Dr.
Buford, GA 30519-7070
Promoprecancels.com

Upcoming Events of Interest

January 19, 2019 -- **New England Perfins and Precancel Clubs Meeting:** 9:30 a. m. - 3:00 p.m. -- Town Library, 80 Spruce Street, Milford, MA (109 West off I-495; the meeting room is on the lower level and can be reached be reached from the main entrance either by stairs or elevator, or via the loading door from the outside employee parking lot..)

February 6 - 9, 2019 -- **Florida Precancel Club Precancel Bourse and Perfins Exchange,** Tampa Stadium Hotel, 4750 Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa FL 33614-6509. The FPC annual event will feature 18 dealers' tables attracting most of the major dealers of precancels. Hotel telephone number (813) 877-6061. Be sure to ask for the Florida Precancel rate of \$90.99 plus tax. Make your reservation before January 15, 2019: it will no longer be possible to obtain a room at the Florida Precancel rate upon arrival without a reservation. Since our meeting space cost is not based on room nights rented at the Stadium Hotel, attendees are free to choose area hotels that meet their comfort requirements.

August 5 - 10, 2019 -- **Precancel Stamp Society & Perfins Club Annual Convention:** Marriott Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska (more information to follow.)

Last Notice

Dues for the 2018-19 fiscal year were due to the Secretary by June 30, 2018

Annual Dues					Life Memberships		
Fees	US	Canada	Other	Age	US	Canada	Other
First-time new members	US\$0 until the next July 1			Up to 54	US\$375	US\$450	US\$625
Annual Dues	US\$15			55=>69	US\$300	US\$360	US\$500
First Class Mail - add	US\$7	US\$12	US\$20	70 +	US\$225	US\$275	US\$375

“Other” members - electronic version available for US\$0 surcharge. || Life membership includes *The Perfins Bulletin* delivered via U.S. periodical mail to United States addresses and via electronic delivery to addresses outside the United States. Please contact John Hart if interested.

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.**