

# The Bulletin

Volume 73, Number 3 Whole Number 676

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- Perfin values
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## Club Business

Steve Endicott (LM# 2284)

### Publisher Needed!!

We have an opportunity for a member to step into the role of Publisher for our *Bulletin*. The responsibilities are not as daunting as the word "publisher" would indicate. Ken Masters has done an excellent job at this for a number of years. He has documented the process in detail for us.

All tasks are done electronically. The Publisher receives the *Bulletin* from the Editor, Paul Mistretta, as a pdf file. The Publisher receives the current membership roster from the Secretary, John Hart, as an Excel file. After a little reorganization of the membership roster, the Publisher electronically transfers the *Bulletin*, the sorted membership list and

a print order form to the printer. The printer handles the printing and all of the mailing for us!

Finally, using email addresses provided by our Secretary, the Publisher sends a bulk email message to members who receive the *Bulletin* in electronic form, telling them that the issue is available for them on our Club website.

The Publisher function is performed during, approximately, the third week of every other month (February, April, June, August, October and December). The work takes just a few hours for each issue. Please let me know if you are interested. Ken and I can then explain the process.

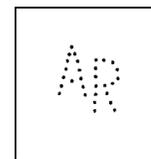
### Kudos for Joe Coulbourne

We are excited about Joe's first (this time) auction. He has extensive knowledge of perfins and stamps throughout the world, and has the resources needed to identify them. He has many plans for future Club auctions.

Please consider submitting your material - duplicates, collections, accumulations - for sale by the Club auction.

### And an AR (American Radiator) Challenge

The perfins in the American Radiator series (pattern A221-xx; currently 54 reported patterns) are difficult for members to identify and are often poorly punched. I expect that errors have been made in the past that have flowed through from historical editions to the current 2018 edition of our *United States Perfins Catalog* in the form of pattern identifications, ratings, periods of stamp usage and postmarks. I believe that there are opportunities for philatelic research in this series of perfins.



Therefore, here is the challenge. I invite a Club member take on this research project, carefully checking covers with perfins, checking multiples for variations from a single perforator, conducting a census, etc.

If you are interested in this subject area and would like to help, please contact me. I would like to discuss the project with you and will make my stock of perfins and information available to you.

**The *Perfins* Bulletin is the Official Journal of  
The Perfins Club - Founded 1943  
2019 Officers, Directors & Program Managers**

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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. Dues may be mailed to the Secretary listed above or by PayPal to [perfin@charter.net](mailto: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](http://www.perfins.org) or from the Secretary listed above.

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**Submit *Bulletin* articles, news, or advertisements to:**

**Paul Mistretta, 4148 Commodore Dr., Atlanta, GA 30341 or email to [paulmistretta70@gmail.com](mailto:paulmistretta70@gmail.com)**

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

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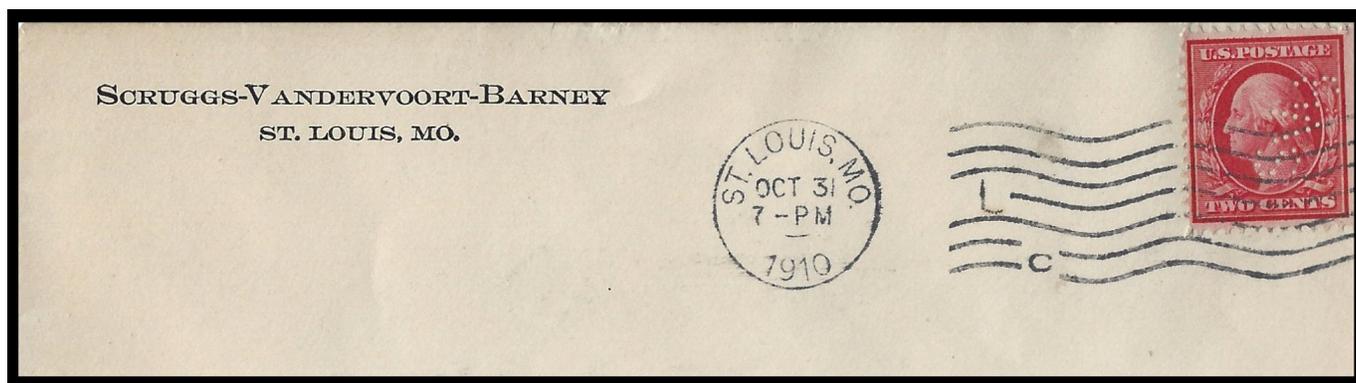
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## User of US Pattern S299 Identified

Dan Baugher (#3825 - with history paraphrased from Wikipedia)

Being a collector of all things St Louis, I was fortunate to have a friend alert me to an EBAY offering of a perfin cover from St Louis with a use that was not documented in the U.S. catalog. I put in a bid and won. After a closer look, it turned out to

perfin S299 (SVB). The cover clearly identified the user as Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney, the previously unidentified user of this pattern, and this was verified by the US Catalog chair.



Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney was a department store founded in St. Louis, Missouri in 1850 by M.V.L. McClelland and Richard Scruggs. The Company started out as a dry goods store. Their first store was opened on North 4th Street in downtown St. Louis, and later expanded. In 1860, W.C. Vandervoort joined the company.

In 1907 the store moved to the Syndicate Trust Building at Tenth and Olive streets. Ten years later they acquired the Mermod Jaccard King Jewelry Company, and relocated to its location in downtown St. Louis. They were known for holding several varieties of fashion shows. In the 1950s They opened a branch store in Clayton, Missouri, and Crestwood Plaza in Crestwood, Missouri.

Scruggs, Vandervoort & Barney suffered financial pressures and shuttered operations in 1969.



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## Canada OHMS Stamps & Little Red Numbers

Doug Cutler (LM#126)

At first glance it appears that in addition to seeing holes we are also seeing little red dots. On second glance we realize that we are, but that the little red dots actually form letters, specifically "CPI". OK... What are they about?



Doug's explanation is simple:

"Came across a Canadian Official Stamp with a red dotted expertise mark on it... I emailed Gary Tomasson and he explained [that] he and John Johnson used it to id the stamps they used in preparing the Catalog of Canadian Perfins."

In his response to Doug Gary explained the abbreviation as meaning "Canadian Perforated Initials" a company (owned by Jon Johnson and Gary) which did all of the original research into the 4- and 5-hole OHMS patterns.

So, you are seeing spots before your eyes, but they have real meaning in the world of philatelic research.

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

Jerry Hejduk (LM 3710)

Ten years ago, an article with the above title appeared as the first article in a "New Members Question and Answers (Q & A)" series in *The Perfins Bulletin*. There were a total of 18 articles in that series, copies of which can be found at the Perfins Club Website, [www.perfins.org](http://www.perfins.org), under the Perfins Club Info tab.

In the last decade, an uncounted number of U. S. perfins have been bought, sold and traded around the world. In 2013, there was a census taken of private

coil Schermacks with control perfins. In 2018, the Perfins Club's 75th anniversary year, the Club published the Diamond Jubilee Edition of the *Catalog of U. S. Perfins*. Later this year, one of our members will finish editing and publishing a greatly revised and updated *Catalog of U. S. Perfined Precancels*. Those three signal events have prompted me to seriously consider revising the decade old article referred to above. As a result of that consideration, a revised article appears below.

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### New Members Q & A

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

Revised 2019

Perfin patterns are rated on a rarity scale from A to F. An A rate is given to patterns where there are ten or fewer copies known to exist. The B+ rate is given to patterns where there are 11-20 copies known. The B rate has 21-40 copies known; C+, 41-70 copies known and C rated perfins are often found in collections of 2400+ different patterns. The D+ rating is considered above average in rarity and D patterns are considered average in rarity, in that they are found in collections of 1200-2400 different patterns. The E rate is considered to be common and the F rate is found in practically all collections. For the purpose of assigning perfin patterns to a particular rating, only complete punches on sound stamps are considered in the count.

Until this article appeared in 2009, there was no published reference assigning a monetary value to each of the 6400 + U.S. perfin patterns. However, for the practical purpose of trading duplicates with other collectors, an unpublished value scale was developed: F = 15¢, E = 25¢, D = 50¢, D+ = \$1, C = \$2.50, C+ = \$5, B = \$10, B+ = \$20 and A = \$40. Based on this generally accepted value scale, collectors are generally comfortable trading two C's for a C+, two C+'s for a B, two B's for a B+ or two B+'s for an A. These values are not cast in stone; nor would all collectors completely agree to these relative values; however, over the last decade most reasonable collectors have generally embraced such a scale. If they are selling their duplicates, rather than trading them, the above values also appear to be "in play".

The above discussion does not apply to Schermack Coil Punches listed in the *Catalog of United States Perfins*. These stamps have a higher rarity factor for perfin collectors as well as a considerable interest from private coil collectors who also consider the value of the stamp. Many regular stamp dealers offer them at unusually high prices. These private coils have seven different perfin pattern ratings, and generally speaking, their value is about double that of similarly rated other U. S. postage stamp perfin patterns: C = \$5, C+ = \$10, B = \$20, B+ = \$40, A = \$80 and A+ = \$160. You will note that such a value scale also accommodates trading duplicates: two Bs for one B+, two B+s for an A etc.

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

*If readers of this column have questions that relate to collecting U. S. Perfins, please mail them to Jerry Hejduk, PO Box 490450, Leesburg FL 34749-0450 or email them to [flprepers@comcast.net](mailto:flprepers@comcast.net). Similarly, considered opinions that differ from the answers/viewpoints presented in this column are always welcome at the same addresses.*

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# Australian Perfins – A Unique Aspect

John Mathews (#4148)

## Introduction

Australia is a “young” country with the first settlers (mainly convicts!) having arrived from England in 1788. Geographically, it was remote from the rest of the world, especially England and Europe, with Sydney time being ten hours ahead of London time. However, as the early colonies grew, they maintained strong links, especially trade links, with Britain. (The present States were originally British colonies.) Companies which were set up in those colonies were very often branches of British companies, or local companies which maintained buying offices (or had agents) in Britain.

So, it is not surprising that companies in Australia were quick to follow the British practice of perforating stamps with initials. In Britain, the first approval to perforate stamps was given in 1868, and in Australia the first such approval was given on 27 September 1877 in South Australia [1]. Over the next 20 years, the postal authorities in the other colonies also gave such approval.

In Britain, perfin usage (as measured by the number of perfin dies) peaked about 1910 [2]. In Australia, there was a broad “peak” in perfin usage between 1900 and 1915. The uptake of this practice in Australia was slow at first, no doubt partly due to the size of the companies in the fledgling colonies and partly due to the lack of local skilled craftsmen to make the perforating dies. Then came the impetus of the major financial “crash”, mainly in Victoria, in the early 1890s, and stamps were seen as attractive targets for thieves.

## Edward Thomas Moulden

In Britain, perforating initials in stamps had been patented by Joseph Sloper who held patents for many other inventions including perforating devices. In Australia, many of the

early perforators had been made by Joseph Sloper, but only a few large companies could afford to buy one. With the financial “crash” of the early 1890s, there was a sudden increase in the number of companies wishing to use perforated stamps. The most significant name in the production of perfins locally was Edward Thomas Moulden. He was the son of an immigrant brewer, and followed his father in that trade. In the mid-1880s, he moved to a small country town to the north of Melbourne where he bought the local brewery, but tragedy struck not long afterwards when his brewery burned to the ground. He and his family moved back to Melbourne, and in 1888 he applied to the Postmaster-General’s Department for Victoria for a licence to sell postage stamps. While Joseph Sloper was the perfin inventor, Edward Thomas Moulden became a perfin innovator. When the financial “crash” came in the early 1890s, he applied several times for permission to perforate stamps with initials on behalf of several client companies (see Figure 1). Beginning around 1893 he offered a perforating service to firms both small and large.

## Victorian Service Punctures

His perforator used a grid of holes into which he could arrange pins to form a pattern of holes in stamps in turn for each of his clients. Moreover, the arrangement was changed for each individual batch of perforating (for different companies, or reorders from the same company with production for different companies intervening), resulting in many different patterns being associated with a single company. Overall, these “Victorian Service Punctures” (as they have been called [3]) comprise the vast majority of patterns listed in Australian perfin catalogues, and have meant that the total number of Australian private perfin patterns is disproportionate to the population of Australia (especially as it was 100 years ago).

Reg. No.	Date. 1893	From whom received.	When.
✓ 3577	September 6	Mr. S. C. Wood Operator E. G. B.	7 <sup>th</sup> September
✓ 3578	5	Miss J. Yake. E. G. B.	
✓ 3579	August 31	E. J. Moulden	
✓ 3580		Certain Residents jubilee 10 for Mr. A. Harris M. P.	
✓ 3581	September 6	Mr. A. Vickroy for Mr. A. Harris M. P.	
✓ 3582	4	Robertson + Horsfield	

Figure 1 (a). Left page from the Inwards Correspondence Register of the Postmaster-General's Department for Victoria.

Subject	If referred, to whom and when.	Remarks.
Application for leave of absence. Two weeks 17 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> September		
Application for sick leave Six days 4 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> September		
Applies on behalf of the undermentioned firms for permission to perforate their stamps with initials :-		
Simeon Stuart & Co. S <sup>rs</sup> .....	L.S. & S.	
W. Brackens City Brewery .....	M.C.B.	
Sennia & Co .....	B.T.C.	
Langley Hotel .....	M.H.	
D. South & Co .....	F.F. & Co	
Suckley, Mann .....	B.N.	
Central Agency Co .....	C.A.	
J. S. Snider .....	J.S.S.	
S. Schneider & Son .....	S.S. & S.	
W. Hill, Shedy & Co .....	W.H.S.	
Langley's Limited .....	L.	
A. Hain & Co .....	A.H. & Co	
Rister & White .....	L.W.	
E. Wingley .....	E.T.	
Application that the Post Office at Jubilee may not be closed.		
Offers to take charge of Loose Bag at Jubilee free of cost till 31.12.93.		
Offers facilities for the establishment of a Telephone Office at Macarthur /-		

Figure 1 (b). Right page from the Inwards Correspondence Register of the Postmaster-General's Department for Victoria.

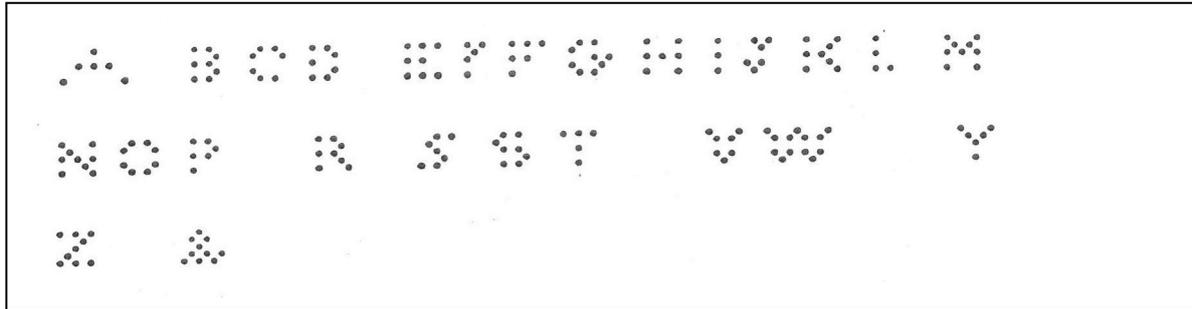


Figure 2. A typical alphabet of characters formed using a square grid of holes, arranged diagonally (above), and detail of the letter “W” (right).

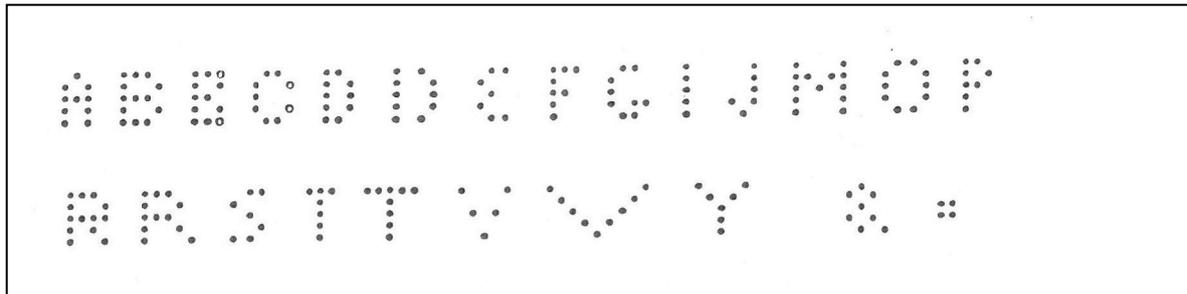
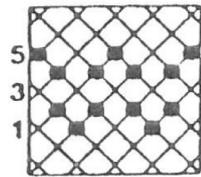
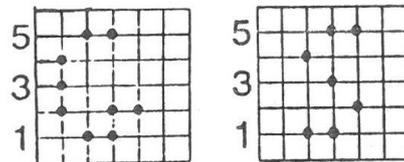


Figure 3. A typical alphabet of characters formed using a square grid of holes (above), and detail of the letters “G” and “S” (right).



Evidence of the above technique has been found in the form of a perforating device used by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board for an extended period up to 1985. It employs pins arranged in a square grid of holes (15 rows by 12 rows). Inspection has shown that many more holes have “confetti” in them than can be explained by the final long-term arrangement of the pins (“TB”). If the contents of these holes could be analysed, it might be possible to determine what other perfins were produced by this device prior to it being handed over to the Tramways Board! Similar long-term use of a Victorian Service Puncture following many short-term variations for the same company are found for such

companies as International Harvester Company (agricultural equipment) and Buckley & Nunn (department store). One company, Robert Reid & Co., had so many different perfin patterns, and minor varieties thereof, used over several years that it has enabled an estimate to be made that a new batch of perforating was being done for them about every two weeks.

These Victorian Service Punctures cause a proverbial head-ache for catalogue editors. Separate listings have been provided for patterns with different letter combinations, different letter arrangements, different letter sizes (number of rows), or different spacing of

rows of holes in the grid. However, there are other differences due to pins falling out or breaking, resulting in incomplete characters. These patterns with incomplete characters have not been listed separately. If a whole character was “missing”, it was assumed that it was done so intentionally and a separate listing was provided.

There is one more level of variation which was deemed not to need a separate catalogue listing. Where the rows of holes in the grid plate were not perfectly straight, kinks appear in straight parts of letters. If the same pattern was set up in different parts of the grid, these kinks appear in different places. A similar consideration can be made with regard to slight variations with multi-headed customised dies.

Edward Thomas Moulden’s eyesight began failing by the early 1900s, and letters began to be less well formed. He died in 1927. It is believed that his wife may have taken over the perforating business in his later years.

There are also a few perfin with this same

style used in New South Wales stamps or in stamps issued by the Commonwealth of Australia (after 1913) with New South Wales postmarks. It is not known by whom these were produced.

The only other examples of perfin patterns which I have seen having the same style characteristics as these “Victorian Service Punctures” are a group of 17 British perfin patterns whose holes would conform to a square grid. The editor of the GB perfin catalogue refers to these as the “Butterfly alphabet”, so-called because of the appearance of the letter “W” in these examples [4].

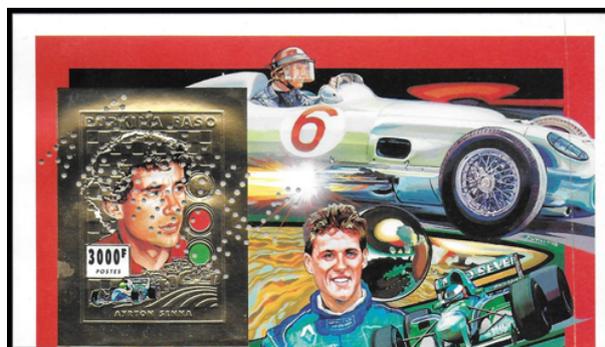
References:

- [1] Outwards Correspondence Register, South Australian Postmaster-General’s Department.
- [2] Gault Catalogue of Great British Perfins.
- [3] “Commercial Perfins of Australia”, by John Grant and John Mathews, 1992.
- [4] “A Possible London Perforating Machine Maker – ‘Butterfly’ Alphabet”, Roy Gault, 2015 at [www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/surveys/000011.pdf](http://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/surveys/000011.pdf)

## And Another Country Heard From

Edited from an item submitted by Doug Cutler (#LM126)  
with additional input from Brian Freeman (#3008) and Bob Szymanski (#LM145)

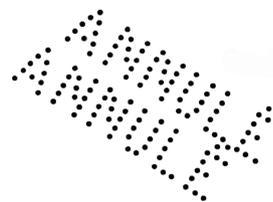
A recent item submitted by Doug Cutler adds Burkina Faso to the list of perfin using entities. The stamp involved, a souvenir sheet, is an unlisted imperforate variety of Scott #1032 with the perforation “ANNULÉ” punched twice in the vignette (issued Sept. 20, 1995.)



At the left is shown a cropped illustration of the upper part of the SS showing the punch.

Also illustrated later in this article is a copy of the perfin itself.

For those unfamiliar with Burkina Faso, it is the name adopted in 1984 by the former Republic of Upper Volta (Haute Volta) when it removed itself from French control.



The not-to-size illustration of the text of the perfin shows content generally considered to be “supplemental information”, similar to other listings such as “SPECIMEN”, “FISCAL” “CANCELADO”, etc. punches. “ANNULÉ” is translated as “Canceled”.

# REGISTRATION FORM

## 98th Precancel and 76<sup>th</sup> Perfin Annual Convention

August 5 - August 10, 2019

Omaha Marriott – 10220 Regency Circle

Omaha, Nebraska

PLEASE RETURN by July 1, 2019

Name(s) as desired on name badge:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ City & State \_\_\_\_\_

PSS or Perfins Member Convention Registration Fee \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Member Convention Registration Fee \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, August 7, PSS Convention Photo \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Perfins Club Convention Photo \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Evening, August 10, Convention Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 45.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee Sponsor ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Booster Bucks ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed for Registration, Photo, Banquet, etc. ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Make checks payable to Dave Lagerstrom

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return registration form (by July 1, 2019) to:

Dave Lagerstrom  
5062 South 174<sup>th</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE 68135

Questions - email Dave at: [bigdog1125@gmail.com](mailto:bigdog1125@gmail.com)

Phone: (402) 657-1255

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## 2019 Convention Update

August 5 - 10, 2019

Marriott Hotel, 10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, Nebraska



**Registration packet:** should have been mailed around mid-April to all members of The Perfins Club (TPC) and Precancel Stamp Society (PSS) from Omaha, Nebraska. If members did not receive a Registration Form, or if they have questions about the information they received, they should contact Dave Lagerstrom at [bigdog1125@gmail.com](mailto:bigdog1125@gmail.com). Note that checks for payment of all Registration items should be made payable to **Dave Lagerstrom**. All forms and payments should be returned to Dave Lagerstrom at 5062 South 174<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68135.

**Hotel Reservations:** Please when calling Reservations for the Marriott Hotel (10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114; **402-516-3619**) ask for Becky Schaffner).

It is most helpful if you present your information in the following order:

1. Request a reservation to stay at the Omaha Marriott Hotel, 10220 Regency Circle,
2. Provide your arrival date (Aug. ??) and departure date (August ??) 2019 and contact information (name, address, phone number, and credit card number); and,
3. Provide our Group code "Precancel Stamp Society 2019 Convention" for which the group room rate is \$109.

If members have difficulty making hotel reservations, please contact PSS Convention Manager, **Dave Lagerstrom** (address above).

You can also register online - just be sure you have the right Marriott (address at left) and also be sure to follow step 3 under "Hotel Reservations"

The "UPDATES" that follow will answer some questions you might still have.

**The Auction:** Donation lots will be gratefully accepted as well as lots to be sold for a commission of 20%. Donation lots need to have an estimated value of at least US\$10 and commission lots should have an estimated value of at least US\$50. Check your Stamp Room for "Treasures" that you have collected or inherited that are in need of a new home and take or send them to the Auction. We plan on having a list of auction items available at the Convention. The earlier members submit their lots, the easier it will be for them to be included on the list. Lots will also be accepted at the Convention (Wednesday at the latest). For more information about the Auction protocol, email **Dave Lagerstrom** at [bigdog1125@gmail.com](mailto:bigdog1125@gmail.com).

**Booster Bucks:** Whether you are traveling to the Convention in Omaha, Nebraska or not, we ask everyone to consider making a financial donation to support the costs of the convention. You may use

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the Registration Form to mail in Booster Bucks Donations.

**Bourse Tables:** Unfortunately, all available tables have been sold out. All the more reason to come because there will be plenty of stamps changing hands.

**Coffee Station:** Regular and decaffeinated coffee as well as water are planned to be available for all six mornings, Monday through Saturday at the Convention. We are always looking for coffee sponsors as this is a staple of all conventions. Our convention attendees drink a lot of coffee and costs continue to rise. So if you enjoy coffee or just want to help defray some of the costs, please consider

making a donation. All donations, no matter the size, are always appreciated.

**Companion Activities:** A Companion Convention Daily Schedule is being finalized and will be available at the convention. There are many things to do in Omaha, some of which will be organized, some of which will not. If collectors' companions have not received an email containing specifics, please have them send an email to Barbara Rehkop at [blrehkop@socket.net](mailto:blrehkop@socket.net) so she can email you updates as they become available. Please note that Barb is not organizing nor leading the events, she has only volunteered to coordinate and keep everyone apprised of the progress of the group.

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### The Perfins Club Annual Meeting Steve Endicott (LM2284)

Please plan to join us for our annual convention and business meeting at the combined conventions of The Perfins Club and The Precancel Stamp Society - August 5 - 10, 2018, to be held at the Marriott Hotel (hotel information on the previous or the last page).

Please remember that in addition to the Business Meeting discussed later in this note, there will be many, many hours for stamp collecting: buying, selling, trading and discussing perfins! More about the availability of activities in the next *Bulletin*.

A tentative agenda for our annual business meeting is shown at the right. ***If members would like to have topics considered as New Business, they are requested to send a written request of the topic to my attention for my receipt prior to July 15, 2019.*** Because of time limitations it will not be possible to consider unscheduled business items at the Annual Business Meeting. Any such requests that are not discussed at the Annual Business Meeting will be forwarded to the Executive Board for consideration at a later date.

### The Perfins Club 2019 Annual Business Meeting Thursday August 9, 2019, at 1:00pm

#### Agenda

Call to Order  
Member Self-introductions  
Minutes of 2018 Annual Meeting  
Treasurer's Report  
Managers' Reports  
Old Business  
New Business  
Report on nominations for Executive Board Positions  
Ballot of election entered by Secretary for the Club for all non-contested Positions  
Award Announcements:  
2019 Floyd Walker Award  
2019 Hallock Card Award  
Other Announcements  
Closed Albums  
Adjournment

**I hope to see you in Omaha!**

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**Research + Writing = A Happy Bulletin**

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**Take Advantage of the Club's Sales Departments  
for  
Publications, Loose Perfins, Perfins on Cover,**

# Jewish Perfins

Peter Keeda (Sydney, Australia; email: keedad@gmail.com)

“And now to something completely different...”

The advantages of collecting Jewish perfins are that there are very few collectors throughout the world and there are thousands of examples of ‘Jewish perfins’.

I am no expert on perfins and over the five or so years that I have been collecting I have met, over the internet, a number of individuals who are real experts on the subject. I have found them always to be most patient and helpful. I have been blown away by some of the catalogues that are available and by the intimate knowledge of perfins that these experts have acquired and are happy to share.

Frankly, I am not that interested in how many holes a stamp may have, nor in the shape or position of the holes ... perfin-blasphemy?! What interests me is the history of the company and/or individual that the perfin represents. Thus when I see a perfin, I first try to establish the company that issued it, then I try to find out about that company and if the owners are/were Jewish. Once I have established the Jewish-

connection, I add the perfin to my collection, together with a print-out of the owner’s history which often includes a copy of the perfin and its catalogue number. This makes my collection very bulky as for every perfin stamp or cover in my collection I have at least one printed sheet of information accompanying it.

At times establishing if someone is Jewish is relatively easy – many articles in, for instance Wikipedia, state quite clearly their Jewish origin usually with good referencing. At other times it is a lot more obscure and it requires quite detailed research. There are quite a lot of family names that are typically Jewish, however, just because someone’s family name is ‘Cohen’ or ‘Levi’ it does not necessarily mean that they are Jewish. Then there are many companies that existed only for a short time and so have not warranted an entry in one of the many databases available. It then becomes a guessing game or, if I get lucky, I find a family member in one of the genealogical websites who enlightens me.



Fig. 1. Registered cover mailed from Bombay, India, forwarded by E. D. Sassoon & Co. using their EDS&C (Turnbull pat E&) to the Grand Rabbi in Jerusalem, Palestine. The cover bears several cancels on the back documenting its passage from Bombay (Jul 20 01) via Suez (VII 30 01) and Port Said (Egypt; VII 31 01), and arriving in Jerusalem (3 8 901) a trip of 15 days. The Jewish connection - The Sassoon family, of Bagdhadadi Jewish descent, were known as the 'Rothschilds of the East' due to the great wealth they accumulated, plus the obvious “Grand Rabbi” addressee in Jerusalem.

I arrange my perfins by country and then alphabetically, which I think is standard practice. I do keep perfin variations but they are not my focus and I much prefer covers or cards on which the company name is printed. Currently I have about 600 different examples in my collection, about a third of which are stamps only, a third covers/cards only and the remaining third are examples where I have both stamps and covers.

Ironically the largest group is from Germany; 150+ companies. I think that the reason for this is that the Holocaust has been so thoroughly researched it is quite easy to establish the Jewish connection by a simple Google-search or by using one of many Holocaust databases. Sadly, nearly all of the biographies end in 'the company was Aryanised' or the owners were murdered in one of Nazi death

camp. In researching such companies I also regard it as a sort of memorial to them.

The second largest group is from Great Britain, about 90 to date. I guess that this is because there are so many perfins from Great Britain. Approaching the same number are perfins from Austria, the reason being that I have an email-friend who collects Austrian perfins who has been amazingly helpful in tracking down Jewish companies in Austria. Thomas has assured me that there are thousands of Austrian Jewish perfins and that my work has only just begun! The next largest group are from the Netherlands as it is in the Netherlands that I have a friend who also collects Jewish perfins; David is the only other person in the world that I found who has my esoteric interest. Are there any other Jewish perfin collectors out there?



Fig. 2. Mailed from Hong Kong (JA 10 85) to Providence, RI, this cover passed through New York City (Feb 15 & transit stamped Feb 16) and arrived in Providence sometime later in February, a 37+ day trip. The perfin (AK/&Co [Tilles A1]) was used by Arnhold Karberg & Co., A German registered trading company founded by Jacob Arnhold, a German Jewish businessman and Peter Karberg, a Danish merchant. (Note: both Arnhold, Karberg & Co. and Arnhold & Karberg & Co. are found on Wiki for the company name).

As far as I have been able to ascertain there are only a few Jewish perfins from the Holy Land, being from British Mandate and Levant post-office times – Israel itself has not issued any perfins. I have single entries from Ceylon, China, Croatia, Curacao, Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Strait Settlements, Sweden and Uruguay and, of course, there are many countries where I have zero entries.

One of the challenges that I face is that in USA and Great Britain many Jews Anglicized their family names so often it is very difficult to establish a Jewish identity without quite deep research.

One of the big advantages of my collection is that I have thousands of non-Jewish perfin stamps and covers which I am happy to swap and I am not too fussed about swapping a rare non-Jewish perfin for a relatively common Jewish perfin.

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## J S Bache & Co

Edited by Paul Mistretta (LM#111) from notes and illustrative materials provided by Jack Brandt (LM #14) & Wikipedia

J S Bache & Company (later known as Bache Halsey Stuart Shields Incorporated) was a securities firm that provided stock brokerage and investment banking services. The firm, which was founded in 1879, was based in New York, New York. In 1892, Jules S. Bache, an employee and nephew of Leopold Cahn, reorganized Leopold Cahn & Co. as J.S. Bache & Co. Jules Bache was the grandson of an officer who fought under Napoleon and collected art treasures for The Louvre.

During the Panic of 1907, Bache handled as many as 200,000 shares a day. The firm became a leader in financing railroads, automobile and mining enterprises during the 1920s. The firm had none of its own capital invested in the stock market and so weathered the Crash of 1929, and even had cash to supply to its customers during the crash.

The firm functioned under the latter name until 1981 when it was acquired by Prudential Financial and became Prudential-Bache Securities which name was changed in 1991 to Prudential Securities. Prudential Securities was the predecessor of Wachovia Securities. Wachovia was acquired by Wells Fargo in 2008 and thus the securities business of Bache & Co is now incorporated into the Wells Fargo investment banking operations.

However Prudential Financial retained its commodities and financial derivatives businesses. In 2003 that part of the Prudential operations was renamed Prudential Bache a name which was retained only till 2011 when the Bache Institutional Group was acquired by the Jeffries group and renamed Jeffries, Bache.

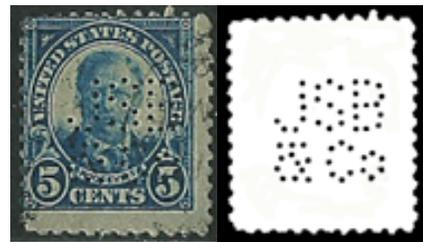
The only remaining use of the Bache & Co name is by the Merchant Banking division of Bache & Co. based in Crystal Beach, Florida. This institution trades primarily in Commodity Arbitrage, physical precious metals, rare art, stamps, and Numismatic value based rare coins... The firm also provides venture capital to approved start-up companies...

[Editors note: The above information is only minimally edited from the Wikipedia article cited as a reference below. The parent article presents far more detail as to the history of the company and is very interesting when detailing the current Bache & Co. operations.]

J S Balche & Co. based on dates of punched postal issues sequentially used three different patterns in their New York office as shown:



J140  
used in issues  
of 1902-1918



J141.5  
used in issues  
of 1914-1922



J142  
used in issues  
of 1926-1930

The same three patterns can be found in revenue stamps:

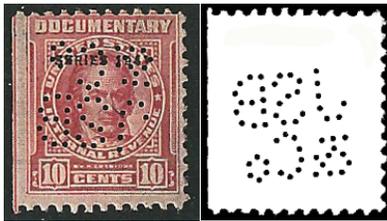


J141

J141.5

1142

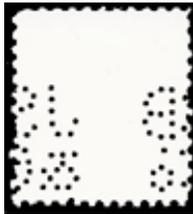
In addition to the three patterns used in both postal and revenue issues they used a fourth postal-like pattern, found only in revenues:



JA0290

Used only in revenue stamps

A possible variety with a code hole under the B exists. It is unknown at the present time if this is a genuine new pattern or simply a copy of JA0290 with a random hole. However, I have seen this variety only once in sorting many hundreds of pattern JA0290



Possible new variety of Pattern JA0290

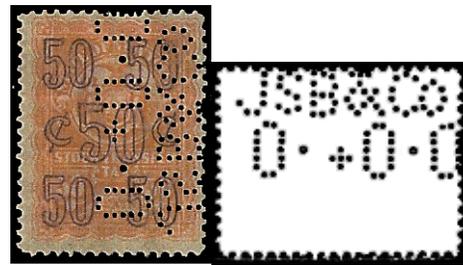
Bache & Co. used one additional perforator, a cancel perforator which, when used properly, punched through both the stamp and the document to which it was affixed. The cancel is a two-line pattern with the second line being a changeable date which date is the date of use.

Sometimes the date appears only as zeros as seen in the illustrated NY State revenue stamp. This may be a perfin applied pre-use and not a cancel punch as it goes only through the stamp, or it may be a cancel,

with the date of use to be found on the document and not set properly in the stamp.

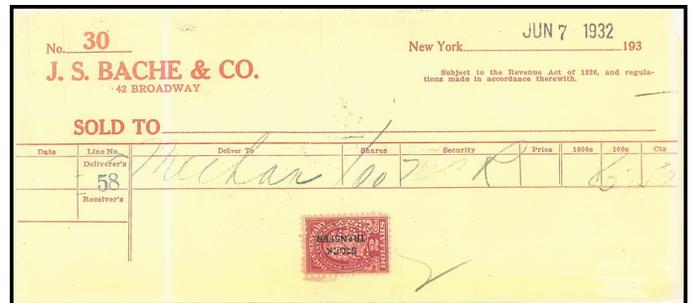


Pattern JB0561 used to cancel a revenue stamp after affixing it to a document



A revenue stamp with a dated perfin (JB0561) in which the date has not been set to the reflect the date of use

Determination of the user of a perfin pattern in revenue stamps is often simplified by finding a perforated stamp still attached to a company's transaction receipt.



Revenue stamp perfinned J142 used to pay tax on stock transaction

In summary: For fun - collect revenue perfins!

Reference:

Anon. (Wikipedia). 2018. Bache & Co. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bache\\_%26\\_Co](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bache_%26_Co). Accessed: Jan 19, 2019.

The following article was previously published in the *Precancel Forum* 79(12):334 & 351, 2018.

I wish to thank both the Precancel Stamp Society and Joe Coulbourne for permission to reprint this article. Those interested in detailed studies of the precancels of the United States should see ad later in this issue.

## Scranton, PA United States Post Office Precancel Users Scranton PA Type 204 Joe Coulbourne (#2574)

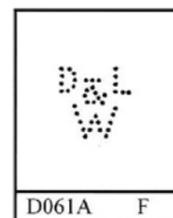


Have you ever seen something you just have to have? For me, this is one of those items. Found on eBay, this cover called out to me. You see, I, like so many of us, collect precancels and perfins. Usually however, I find perfins by themselves, precancels by themselves or what is called a “PREPER” or precancelled perfined stamp. This cover, however, is the first one I have seen with precancels and a perfin on the same envelope – sort of a crossover item between my collecting specialties. Even more attractive is the strip of 10 of the 1c postage dues with the Scranton, PA precancel.

This cover was mailed from the Hudson Terminal Station, in New York, N.Y. on 17 September 1925. The original envelope is a type U429 stamped envelope with a 2c George Washington, SC #554 added. SC #554 is perfined DL/&W which is correctly identified by the sender as The Treasurer, The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company, 90 West Street, New York, N.Y. The cancellation makes sense as well as this was a railroad related item and the Hudson Terminal Station was the point of origin.

The sender must have known this was an overweight envelope as he/she added the 2c perfin to make the total postage 4c. The postage rate for First-Class Letters, Surface mail at that time followed the rate of 1 July 1919 which

stated that the rate was 2c for the first ounce and 2c for each ounce thereafter. With 10c postage due and 4c postage, this letter must have weighed 7 ounces and the crumpled up texture of the envelope tells me it was stuffed full. The recipient is assumed to have been located in Scranton PA as the precancel indicates. The recipient probably paid the 10c postage due as the postage due stamps are cancelled with a Scranton PA, 18 September 1925 CDS in addition to the precancel. Neither the perfin nor the precancel are rare nor expensive but the combination on cover to me is the true value of the item as it connects my two collecting specialties.



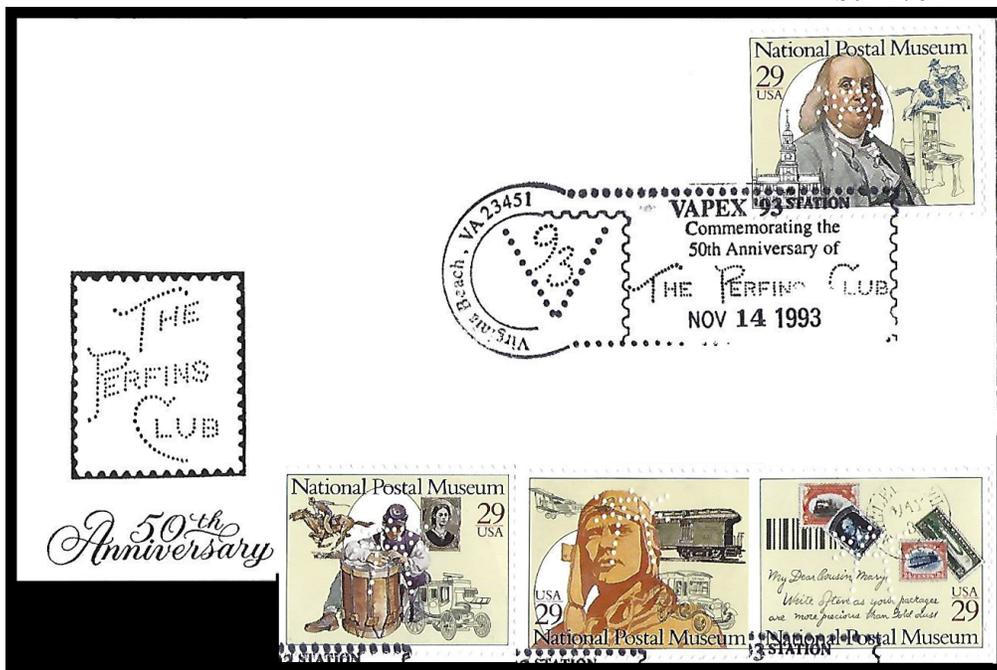
# Perfins Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Covers Available

Steve Endicott (LM# 2284)

The Perfins Club issued a set of four commemorative covers for the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the VAPEX convention in Virginia Beach, VA in 1993. A small stock of 70 covers has recently been found. Just as the Club offered commemorative covers for our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, these covers are also being offered for sale – a nice pairing with the Club's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative covers (see the November-December 2018 issue of The Bulletin).

These covers are franked with one each of four different 29 cent postage stamps (Scott 2979 – 2982, which commemorate the National Postal Museum). The stamps also have perfin Design P50 (Lighthouse) used by the Virginia Philatelic Foundation, Inc. A cover is shown below overlaid at the bottom with images of the three other available stamps. There is also, pending availability, a choice of three dates in the cancel (11/12/93 to 11/14/93).

Sc# 2784



Sc# 2782

Sc# 2783

Sc# 2784

We are offering these covers to our members at a price of \$3.00 each while the supplies last. If you would like to add one or more of these covers to your collection, then please mail payment to Steve Endicott (contact information on the inside cover of this issue) and indicate which cover design you prefer.

Quantities that are available:

Scott 2979 (Franklin) – 3 covers, plus another 4 covers with plate singles; 11/13/93 and 11/14/93.

Scott 2980 (American History) – 5 covers; 11/12/93.  
 Scott 2981 (Lindbergh) – 19 covers; all three dates available.  
 Scott 2982 (Pictures of Stamps) – 34 covers, plus another 2 covers with plate singles; all dates available.

Contact Steve (address on p.42) to get your very own cover!

**Don't miss out. Order yours today!**

# Secretary's Report

## New Members

#4216 Dennis Ashcroft  
 210 Rudy Dr. Apt. 10  
 Gallup, NM 87301-7116  
 email: [dennisbashcroft@centurylink.net](mailto:dennisbashcroft@centurylink.net)  
**INTERESTS:** US

#4217 Troy McHenry  
 637 West Central Ave  
 Alpha, NJ 08865-4401  
 email: [troymchenry13@gmail.com](mailto:troymchenry13@gmail.com)  
**INTERESTS:** USA

#4218 Frederick Rivers  
 PO Box 173  
 Cumberland City, TN 37050-0173  
 email: [fr4654@gmail.com](mailto:fr4654@gmail.com)  
**INTERESTS:** "United States all stamps"

#4219 Robert Courdway  
 1100 Belcher Rd. S., Lot 222  
 Largo, FL. 33771-3426  
 email: [rcourdway@gmail.com](mailto:rcourdway@gmail.com)

**INTERESTS:** US 2nd & 3rd Bureau Issues

## Changed address

#3311 Dick Scheper  
 Looizand 22  
 7921 EV Zuidwolde Drenthe  
 The Netherlands

## Welcome Back

#1310 Larry Weiss  
 A-1 Antiques of Naperville  
 133 S. Washington St.  
 Naperville, IL. 60540-5332  
 email: [alantiques@att.net](mailto:alantiques@att.net)  
**INTERESTS:** Pre-1922 US

## Closed Albums

LM 116 John Lyding  
 LM 82 Ray L. Coughlin

**Current Membership:**  
455

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 Precancel Stamp Society**  
 Dick Kalmbach  
 2658 Ironwood Dr.  
 Buford, GA 30519-7070  
 Promoprecancels.com

## REMINDER

The end of the Club's fiscal year is coming up. **Dues are due before the next issue of the Bulletin reaches you!** Check the date on *TPB* mailing label to determine if you owe dues. Remember, you can pay ahead for as many years as you desire.

Dues for the 2019-20 fiscal year were payable (by June 30, 2019) to the Secretary - see p.50 for address.

Fees	U.S. addresses	Other addresses
First-time new members	\$0	\$0
Annual Dues	U.S.\$15	U.S.\$15
First Class Mail	U.S.\$7	U.S.\$12 Canada U.S.\$20 Other Countries

Life memberships are available as shown here. Please contact John Hart if interested.

54 or less	U.S.\$375	Life membership includes <i>The Perfins Bulletin</i> delivered via U.S. periodical mail to United States addresses and via electronic delivery to addresses outside the United States.
55 through 69	U.S.\$300	
70 or older	U.S.\$225	

Payment accepted by check \$US or Paypal at [perfin@charter.net](mailto:perfin@charter.net)

*The Perfins Bulletin*  
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Periodicals

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## Upcoming Events of Interest

### **APS Summer Stamp Show August 1-4, 2019**

CHI Health Center Omaha (455 10th St., Omaha, NE). 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thu - Sat.; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sun.

### **Precancel Stamp Society & Perfins Club Annual Convention August 5 - 10, 2019**

Marriott Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska. Omaha Marriott Hotel, 10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE 68114. Phone **402-516-3619** for reservations (ask for Becky Schaffner) and don't forget to mention our Group code "Precancel Stamp Society 2019 Convention" to secure the Convention room rate of \$109/night plus taxes - good from 3 days before to 3 days after the Convention - the "before" gives you the opportunity to spend time at the combined APS Stamp Show / ATA Convention (see immediately above.)

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