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COLUMNIST SEEKS INPUT

As one may have read in the 4th Quarter (2002) of the Philatelic Literature Review, David . L. Straight has agreed to begin a new column, "Colophon," with the 1st Quarter 2003 PLR. For those who may not already know him, there was a brief biography in the 4th Quarter PLR. David's vision for a new column, in addition to his musings or reflections, and perhaps at times a feature piece (e.g., a behind-the-scenes look at some aspect of the literature business), Colophon is intended to be mostly a news roundup of the philatelic literature world. It will include announcements of new catalogues and books, auction results, etc. But, he wishes to emphasize some under-reported areas as well including:

1. Literature contests and awards: announce application deadlines and publish results.
2. Much more from the various specialty societies: new publications (monographs or pamphlets), works in progress, and calls for information.
3. Greater international coverage: auctions, new publishing ventures, catalogues available, etc.

If you haven't already guessed -- this article is an appeal for your assistance in making this column successful. There is more than altruism involved; the column will provide a means to promote your business, library, or society. He will write from what he receives.

Continued on page 2



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"To Err is Human – To Find is Divine"

COLUMNIST SEEKS INPUT—CONTINUED

So, please, send your price lists, announcements, auction catalogues, etc., to David L. Straight at P.O. Box 32858, St. Louis, MO 63132 or by e-mail at dls@library.wustl.edu.

To help in your planning, his publication schedule is:

	Material in his Hands	PLR in the Mail
1st Quarter	February 1	March 20
2nd Quarter	May 1	June 20
3rd Quarter	August 1	September 20
4th Quarter	October 15	December 20

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 3RD AND 4TH QUARTERS F/Y 2003

<u>Date</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
8/01/02	Balance forward			\$ 8,437.08
8/28/02	Dues/jrnl sample	\$ 75.00		\$ 8,512.08
8/28/02	Baskarin Donation	\$ 25.00		\$ 8,587.08
8/28/02	Secretary's expenses		\$ 144.47	\$ 8,612.08
9/17/02	Discount Newsletter		\$ 278.91	\$ 8,756.55
9/28/02	Dues/jrnl sample		\$ 130.00	\$ 8,477.64
9/28/02	Secretary's expenses		\$ 47.25	\$ 8,591.64
10/30/02	Dues	\$ 58.00		\$ 8,607.64
11/01/02	Discount Newsletter		\$ 608.69	\$ 8,665.64
11/01/02	Secretary's expenses		\$ 9.57	\$ 8,056.95
11/09/02	Dues	\$ 30.00		\$ 8,047.38
11/12/02	Mail Collector	\$ 238.51		\$ 8,077.38
11/23/02	Dues	\$ 111.00		\$ 7,838.87
12/09/02	Dues	\$ 84.00		\$ 7,949.87
12/21/02	Dues	\$ 16.00		\$ 8,033.87

Submitted by David Hunt

Secretary's Report

Stan Raugh
4217 8th Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805
E-mail: trex@bigplanet.com

New Member Report

A big welcome to new members:

Lewis Janzow, #1275, 12 Themeli Court, North Oxford, MA 01537
Stanley L. Douglas, #1276, 4585 East Pinto Lane, Tucson, AZ 85739

Address Label Update

Yours truly typed up new address labels for this issue. Please check your label and report any errors as soon as possible. Any errors are the fault of your secretary (me) and no one else. Please be patient—we want to give you good service—but please forward any complaints, suggestions, ideas, etc., to me so we can improve!

Reading Your Label !!!

You will notice a code at the end of your label. It will be a zero, followed by a number and a letter. The number is the last digit of the year to which your dues are paid. The letter indicates which quarter. (A=dues paid til March 31, etc.)

Thus, if your label ends in 03A, your dues are now payable. Don't worry, no one's dues ends this issue, but by looking at your label you will know how far ahead you are paid. For example, my label reads 124004B. My member number is 1240, and my dues are paid until June 30, 2004. Note the 04B at the end. The "04B" stands for 2004, end of second quarter. Don't worry, I'll remind you!
In fact...

This is "Love Your Secretary" Month !!!

Ok, maybe that's a little too corny...but your secretary is going to ask for a little help. A little over half of the memberships have labels ending in 03B. Thus, mid-summer your secretary will have a lot of memberships to monitor. No problem, I am willing—but anyone who would like to send in dues early would help the organization. It will also help the health of the club...cut down on reminders to be sent, etc. If even a third of those coming due pay early it will save time and money. No obligation, but your secretary will love you for it!!!

Openings Available—great work, good pay, top benefits !

Ok, so there is no pay and no benefits, but the work is important. We can still use some helpers to fill in officer openings, etc. We are willing to train you! Check out the list of officers and volunteer for one. Believe me, it is good experience and the work is really fun. See you next issue, stan!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I COLLECT ALL AFFORDABLE U.S. COILS FROM THE PRIVATELY PERFORATED ISSUES OF 1907 TO THE CURRENT PLATE NUMBER COILS. AS COSTS BECAME LIMITING I EXTENDED MY INTERESTS TO INCLUDE COMMERCIAL USAGES AND EFOs, SOME OF WHICH CAN BE EXPENSIVE TOO. AS I BEGAN FOCUSING ON THE IMPERFORATE COIL ERRORS.

I NOTICED THE DIFFERING FREQUENCIES WITH WHICH THEY HAVE OCCURED OVER THE YEARS. FIRST, THERE WERE NONE AMONG THE EARLY COILS-THE 1908 SECOND BUREAU ISSUES, THE WASHINGTON-FRANKLINS, THE FOURTH BUREAU ISSUES OR THE PRESIDENTIALS. THEN, BEGINNING WITH THE LIBERTY SERIES AND CARRYING THROUGH THE PROMINENT AMERICANS AND THE AMERICANAS, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER INTERVENING COILS UP TO 1981, ALL BUT A FEW EXIST AS IMPERFORATE ERRORS.

AS I PROCEEDED TO LOOK AT THE MODERN PLATE NUMBER COILS MY FIRST ASSUMPTION WAS THAT THEY ALL WOULD EXIST AS IMPERFORATE ERRORS, PROBABLY BECAUSE THERE SEEMED TO BE SO MANY OF THEM ON THE MARKET. TO MY SURPRISE, IT APPEARS THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 40 PNC WHICH DO NOT EXIST AS IMPERFORATE ERRORS.

LOOKING AT THESE DIFFERING PATTERNS OVER ALMOST A CENTURY CAUSED ME TO WONDER WHY THE RANGE FROM NONE FOR SOME ISSUES TO ALMOST ALL FOR OTHERS. MY FIRST INCLINATION WAS TO LOOK AT THE DIFFERENCES IN PRINTING PROCESSES USED OVER TIME-FROM FLAT PLATE PRESSES TO THE STICKNEY ROTARY PRESSES, TO THE COTTRELL PRESSES, THEN TO THE ANDREOTTI, "B, C" AND "D" PRESSES. I ALSO WONDERED ABOUT DIFFERENCES IN COILING EQUIPMENT AND CHANGES IN QUALITY CONTROL. IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO REALIZE THAT I WAS IN OVER MY HEAD AND THAT MOST OF THE THOUGHTS I HAD WERE ONLY SPECULATION. I ALSO WAS REMINDED THAT THERE ARE SOME TRUE EXPERTS ON THESE SUBJECTS AMONG THE EFO COLLECTOR CLUB MEMBERS, AND I WONDER IF ONE OR MORE OF THEM WOULD BE WILLING TO ADDRESS THESE SUBJECTS IN ONE OF THE FUTURE EFO COLLECTOR ISSUES.

THERE IS ONE OTHER MATTER REGARDING THE IMPERFORATE COIL ERRORS THAT I HAVE HEARD OCCASIONALLY, THE MOST RECENT BEING A DISCUSSION WITH ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF MY LOCAL STAMP CLUB WHO IS ALSO A STAMP DEALER. HIS OPINION IS THAT ALL OF THE IMPERFORATES ARE PHONY AND ESCAPED THE PRODUCTION SYSTEM AS COIL WASTE OR OTHERWISE. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THERE IS ANY VALIDITY TO THIS VIEW OR NOT, AND WONDER WHETHER SOMEONE WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS IT IN THE EFO COLLECTOR TOO REALIZE THAT IT MAY BE A SENSITIVE SUBJECT BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY IN POSITIVELY ESTABLISHING THE GENUINENESS OF ANY PARTICULAR COIL. IN MANY YEARS I CAN ONLY RECALL SEEING ONE ITEM THAT I WAS SURE WAS NOT GENUINE. IT WAS A LONG STRIP OF THE 19 FISHING BOAT COIL WITH ONE EDGE VERY UNEVENLY CUT. TO COMPLICATE THAT EXAMPLE I THINK THAT THERE ARE IMPERFORATE EXAMPLES OF THAT PARTICULAR COIL WHICH ARE CONSIDERED GENUINE. IN ANY EVENT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE SUBJECT TACKLED.

P.S. - I SHOULD ADD, TO AVOID ANY CONFUSION, THAT I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE IMPERFORATE FAKE WASHINGTON-FRANKLIN COILS WHICH WERE EASILY MADE FROM THE CORRESPONDING FULL PANES WHICH COULD BE BOUGHT AT THE TIME FROM SOME POST OFFICES.

ONE LAST THOUGHT, IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THESE SUBJECTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN COVERED IN AN EARLIER ISSUE OF THE EFO COLLECTOR BEFORE I BECAME A MEMBER? OR POSSIBLY IN SOME OTHER PUBLICATION?

EDITOR'S NOTE—SHOULD ANY MEMBER BE ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR OR DIRECTLY CONTACT **MR. GEORGE W. RITTER**, 4424 FARMINGTON AVENUE, RICHTON, IL 60471

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EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

Part I

Bill McMurray

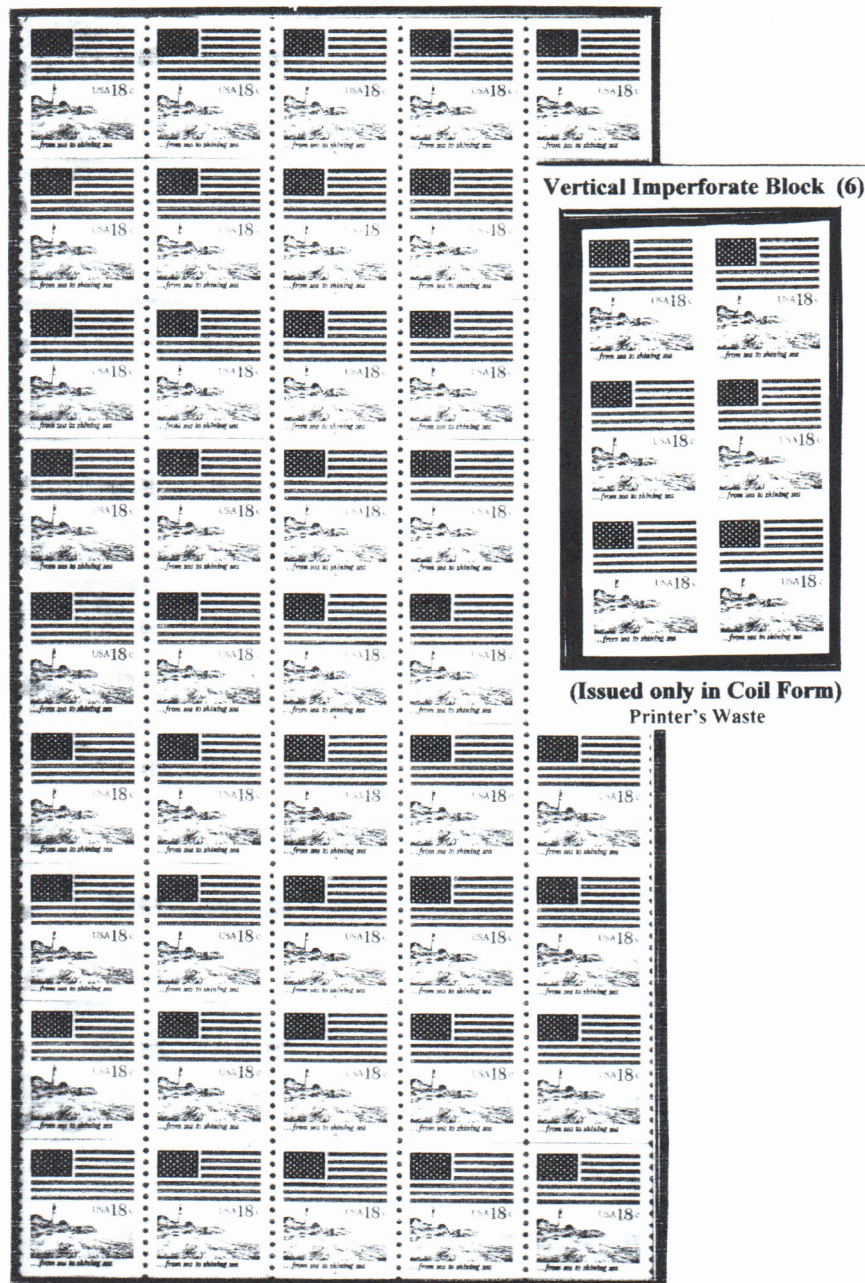
P.O. Box 342

Westerly, RI 02891

E-mail: Mcmurraypnc@aol.com

I feel that EFO's should be displayed in all Exhibit Classifications. I plan to show examples of my current exhibit pages from my different Traditional Exhibits. These first pages are from my exhibit "Tomorrow's Classics (U.S. Flag & Transportation Coil Issues of 1981)". I will start with some pages on the 18c Flag coil issue. This first page below illustrates a reconstructed web section from plate number 4. Overlaid off center to the right is a vertical imperf block of six of the 18c Flag coil, which illustrates how an actual section of the web looks before perforating and slitting. The location of the imperf block on the page is based on Randy Neil's book on exhibiting. After you have reviewed the attached pages, all suggestions and comments on ways to improve these pages will be appreciated. Also if you have material for sale that is not displayed, please contact me at the above address or E-mail.

18c Flag Coil Partial Sheet Reconstruction



Reconstruction of nine of eighteen rows of plate number 4 to illustrate how the web would appear prior to cutting into coils.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates a 18c Flag coil maroon color variety and a six red stripes flag variety. The bottom two strips illustrate a constant plate variety called the Sea Shell variety.

18c Flag Coil Errors, Freaks & Oddities

PLATE 2 PRODUCES MAROON COLOR VARIETY

Maroon Color Variety

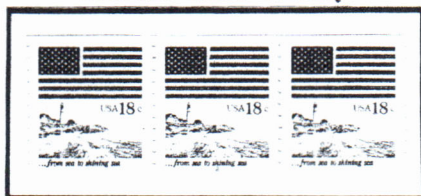


Plate Number 2

Normal Red Color

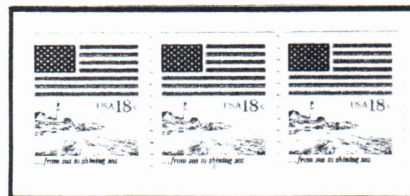


Plate Number 2

On the B-Press (3-Color Intaglio) the ink fountains are in a vertical arrangement. With the arrangement from top to bottom of Blue, Red and Brown, contamination of the Red fountain could have happened when the press was idle from a leaking fountain above.

SIX RED STRIPES VARIETY

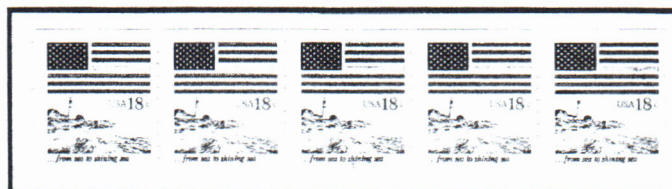


Plate Number 5

Red Ink fountain running dry creates six stripe variety.

SEA SHELL VARIETY CREATED BY NICKED PLATE

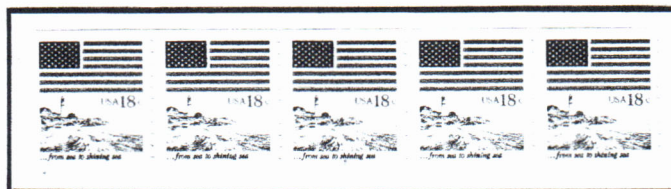


Plate Number 5

SEA SHELL VARIETY

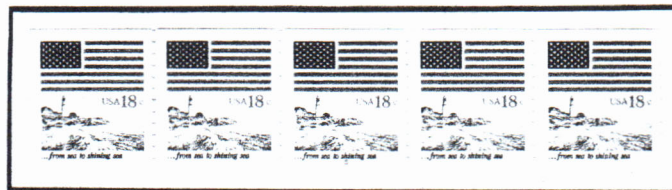


Plate Number 5

A nick or gash by a hard object to plate 5 on the numbered stamp appears as a small sea shell to the left of the plate number and below the word "sea". A second strip is shown to confirm that the sea shell is a constant plate variety.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates 18c Flag coil perforation errors along with freak perforations and miscut oddities.

18c Flag Coil Errors, Freaks & Oddities

PERFORATION ERRORS

Imperf Pair

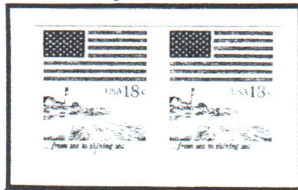


Plate Number 2

9 examples reported,
6 of which are pairs.

Imperf Strip

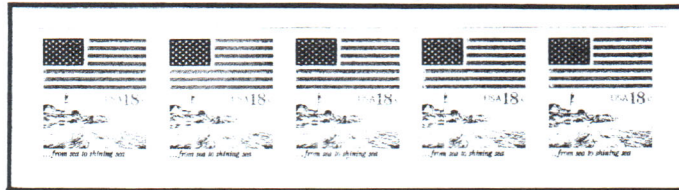
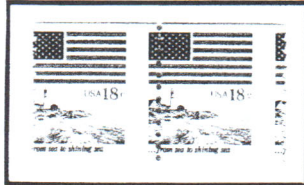


Plate Number 5

These strips passed through the perforator when it was disengaged.

FREAK PERFORATIONS



3 mm shift right

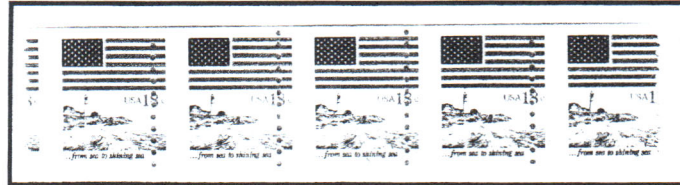
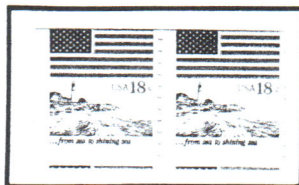


Plate Number 5

3 mm shift left

The printing web being fed into the coil perforator with the Electric Eye Bars on the top edge of the web being misaligned resulted in perforations being punched into the stamp design.

MISCUT ODDITIES



Miscut 2 mm low

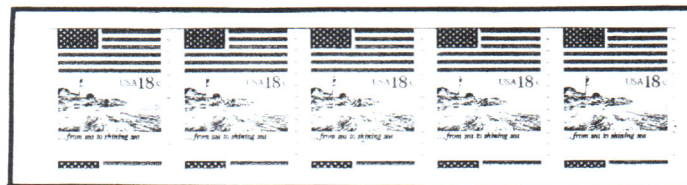


Plate Number 5

Miscut 3 mm low

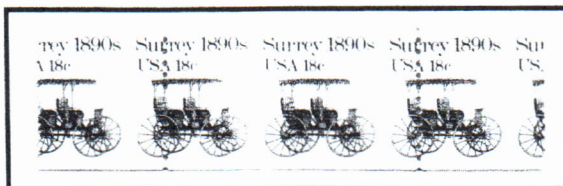
Misalignment of the horizontal Electric Eye bars on the bottom edge of the web during Huck Coiling Equipment startup results in cutting varieties.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates 18c Surrey coil perforation freaks along with with a Gripper Crack on Cover. To illustrate the perforation location I use red tin foil to make it stand out on the page.

18c Surrey Errors, Freaks & Oddities

The printed web being fed into the coil perforator with the Electric Eye Bars printed on the top edge of the web misaligned result in freak perforations.



Row of blind perfs between misperfs
MISPERFORATED PLATE NUMBER STRIPS

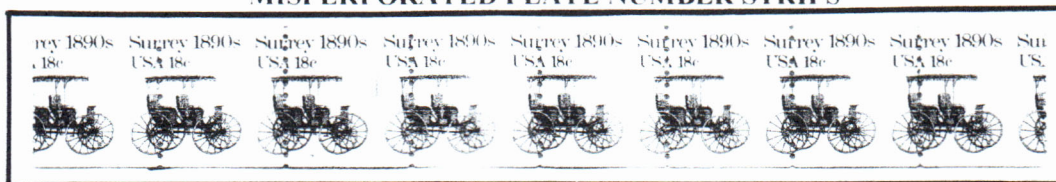


Plate Number 7

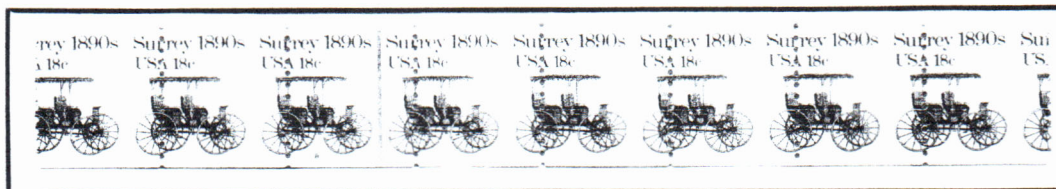


Plate Number 8

"ANTENNA GRIPPER CRACK ON COVER"

Starts at bottom right of the "8" of the denomination continuing vertically downward to the top of the Surrey.

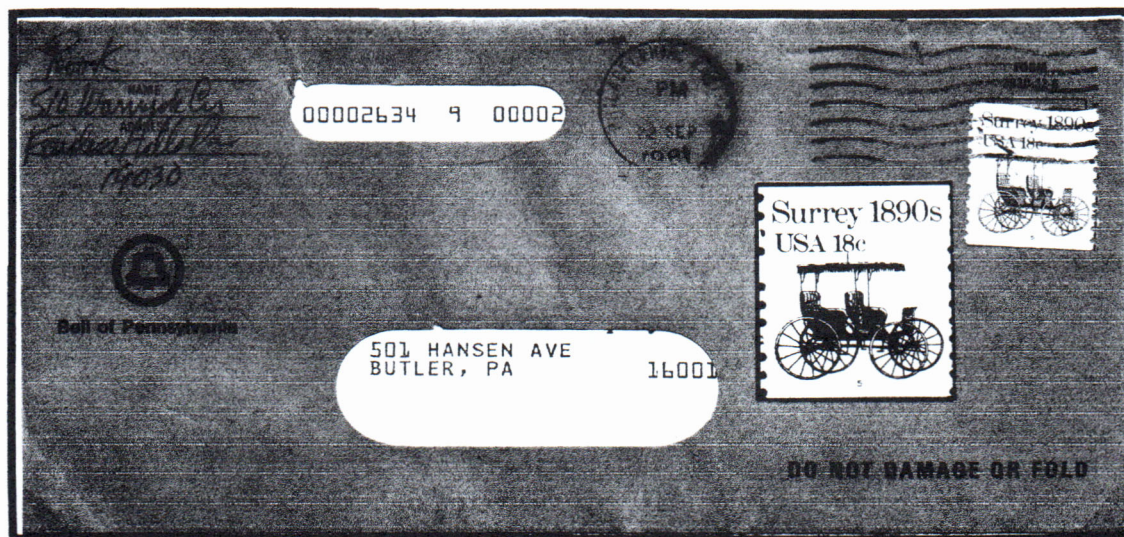


Plate Number 5

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, SEPTEMBER 22, 1981

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates three different examples of 18c Surrey coils with Gripper Cracks. I use both a word description of the crack location and an enlarge drawing showing the area of the crack to help the viewer find the crack on the actual stamps.

18c Surrey Errors, Freaks & Oddities

GRIPPER CRACKS

Surrey 1890s

"LIGHTNING BOLT"



Plate Number 1

Starts upward from the left leg of the "y" in "Surrey" and extends to the top edge of the stamp.

USA 18c

"ANTENNA CRACK"

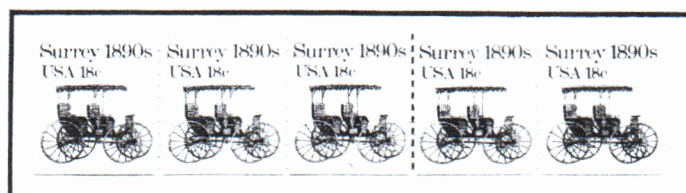


Plate Number 5

Starts at the bottom right of the "8" of the denomination continuing vertically downward to the top of the Surrey.

Surrey 1890s
USA 18c

"LIGHTNING BOLT"

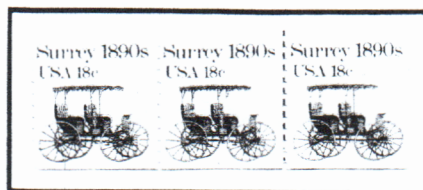


Plate Number 9

Starts at the top right leg of the "y" in "Surrey" and continues downward to the of the cent sign.

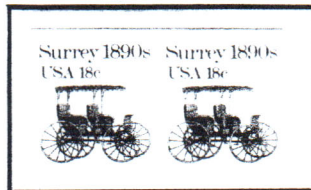
This type of cracking is caused by the cracking of the plate over the slots cut in the underside of the plate, which receives the "grippers" that fastened the plate to the press. These occur only on curved plates usually parallel to the plate joint line in a row of stamps adjoining the plate joint.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates an Imperf Pair, and a pair that 10 perforating pins failed to pass through. Also illustrated are two different press runs where the cutting wheels were misaligned with the electric eye bar printed on the bottom of the web resulting in nice freaks.

18c Surrey Errors, Freaks & Oddities

IMPERF PAIR



Strip passed through the perforator while disengaged.

BLIND PERFS



10 pins failed to pass through the web possibly at the start-up of the perforator.

PLATE NUMBERS ON TOP

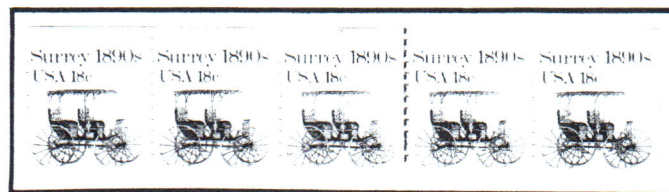


Plate Number 9

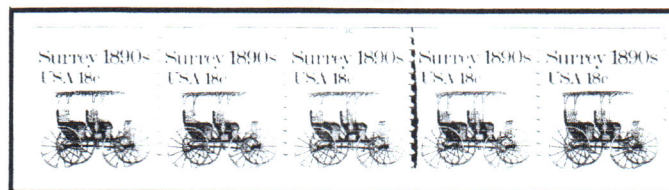


Plate Number 10

PARTIAL WHEELS ON TOP

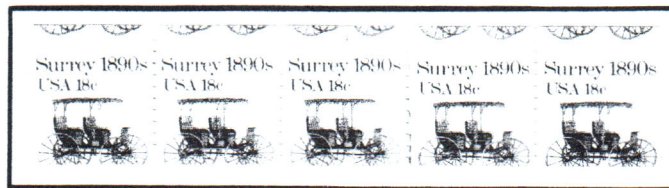


Plate Number 11

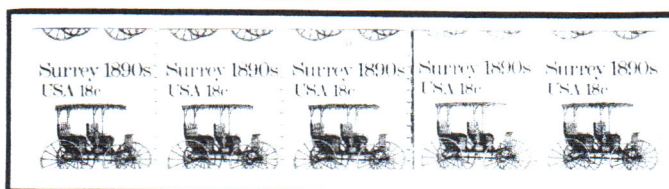


Plate Number 12

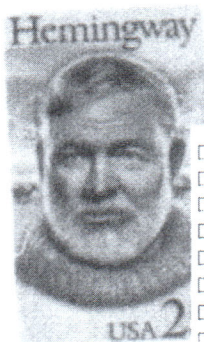
The printed web being fed into the coil perforator with the Electric Eye horizontal bars on the bottom of the web being misaligned with the cutting wheel resulted in the cutting shifting upward and the plate numbers on top.

2003 issue now available

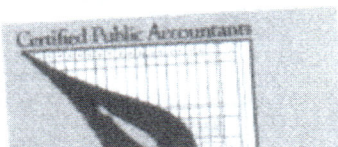
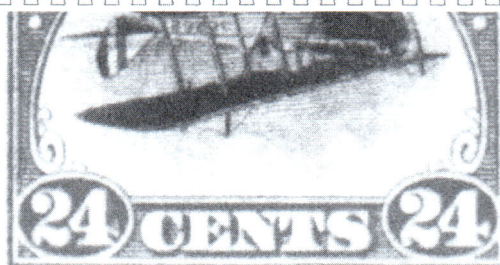
11TH
EDITION

ERRORS

ON U.S. POSTAGE STAMPS



Quite simply the class publication on the subject of EFO's. Lists what exists, notes what is suspicious, provides scarcity information and existing pricing information. Essential either for collector or investor.



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Using the Computer as a Magnifying Glass

By Cemil Betanov

A New Use for a New Tool

What's wrong with stamps? Well, for one, they are very small. Yes, there are stamps the size of your handkerchief, but, let's face it: You don't really take them too seriously, do you? So, if you are about my age, when you realize that you need something called reading glasses, because at once you cannot see fine print, what do you do? Stamps are fine print in their entirety...

So, some time ago, sitting in my home office, where I have both my stamps as well as my computers that I use for work, something occurred to me. If I cannot see a stamp as well as I wish, could I possibly magnify it using my scanner and my computer? Well, to my surprise, it worked very well, certainly better than using the old, trusted magnifying glass. It turns out that when you scan a stamp, you can magnify it and see all kinds of details you never knew existed. You can even see the texture of the paper and the fine lines drawn by the engraver. Here are some things I discovered after I started to look at stamps on a computer screen, in such a way that one stamp fills the whole screen:

- ◆ I really came to enjoy much more the level of graphic detail provided by stamps, whether normal or EFO.
- ◆ I started to appreciate that some stamps are much better engraved than others, and, in most cases, an engraved stamp is much nicer compared to photographic renderings.
- ◆ When looking at scans, I also noticed many details, such as the quality of the perforations, that I otherwise might miss.

Unfortunately, this is hard to depict in a publication such as this one, as it is printed in black and white. Still, take a minute to look at Figure 1. It depicts Scott 1433, John Sloan's painting "The Wake of the Ferry." While it loses a lot in black and white, you still can see substantially more detail than you would with the naked eye, both as they pertain to the painting (a woman watches from the ferry ships in the harbor), as well as the work of the engraver (how the engraving's fine lines work together to present you the picture as a whole).

There Are Other Uses for a Computer and Scanner

Note that there are other uses for a scanner in philately as well. In particular with EFOs, the computer becomes an excellent documentation tool, since it is usually easier to carry around a laptop (or even a PDA) than your actual collection. In particular, EFOs are not as easily described as a "normal" stamp, with a simple catalog number. Also, you can put together an inventory with pictures for insurance purposes. However, we will focus in this article on the use of the computer as a magnifying glass.

Magnified EFOs

What does all this have to do with EFOs? Well, of course, EFOs are more fun to look at than the regular stamp. With regular stamps, you've seen one, you've seen all. With EFOs, each copy of the stamp has its own character. The more details you can see, the more you can tell about the error and differentiate your "unique" copy from the others. Look at Figure 2. Both copies are kind of messed up, aren't they? But, what specific advantage does our computerized magnification provide?

- ◆ Since we can see more and more easily, it motivates us (well, at least, me) to look for more details, figure out how the color shifts in this copy relate to those in other copies (I have about five different color and perforation shifts of this stamp – well, this is not exactly rare, but, it is still pretty unique and a lot of fun...).
- ◆ It makes it easier to quantify the nature of the errors, at least those that relate to shifts of color and perforation. It is easier to measure them on the screen rather than directly on the stamps.
- ◆ If course, you can use this information when laying out a stamp exhibit, you can put together a diagram that highlights the error (i.e. "part of the letter C broken")

Some Tech Details

OK, I couldn't resist this one, since I work in the technology field. Let's assume that you figure out that it is a good idea to use your computer as a supercharged magnifying glass. How would you do it?

First, you need a computer and a scanner. The scanner setup varies from computer to computer, but once you have set up your scanner, you should do this:

- ◆ Scan the stamp at a high resolution, I typically use 600 dpi for individual stamps and the highest color setting that my scanner will allow me. In that manner, you can magnify them substantially, and still get a good picture. If

you scan at a low resolution (fewer dpi), when you magnify, you will see the pixels.

- ◆ I save the stamps either as bitmaps (file type: bmp) or jpeg images (file type: jpg). While the latter results in smaller images, it is compressed. In rare instances, this might reduce image quality.
- ◆ I scan with the stamp generally on a black background, unless the stamp has no margin and a dark border.
- ◆ After I scan them, I use some photo editing software to manipulate the pictures, mostly to crop them.
- ◆ If I want to save them, I put them in a folder called "My Stamp Images". Each stamp goes into a different file, and the file name reflects the stamp's id. So, the stamp in Figure 1 is in a file with the name

united states 1433 with plate no 33130.bmp

and the one in Figure 2 is in files with the name

united states 1433@1.bmp

united states 1433@2.bmp

where 1433@1 and 1433@2 refer to my numbering scheme of uncatalogued EFOs and other specialty materials, such as FDCs, etc.

If you would like to receive color files of the figures per e-mail, drop me a line at CemilB@optonline.net. If you do not use a computer, and still would like to see the large size, color reproductions of the pictures, drop me a note at 153 Claudy Lane, New Hyde Park, NY 11040, and I will mail you the pictures by snail mail – as the geeks like to say.

I will prepare a follow up to this article, where I will look at some EFOs in large size. This is a lot of fun. Put away your magnifying glasses and stay tuned...





Figure 1: US 1433, the "normal" one.



Figure 2: US 1433, two "abnormal" copies.

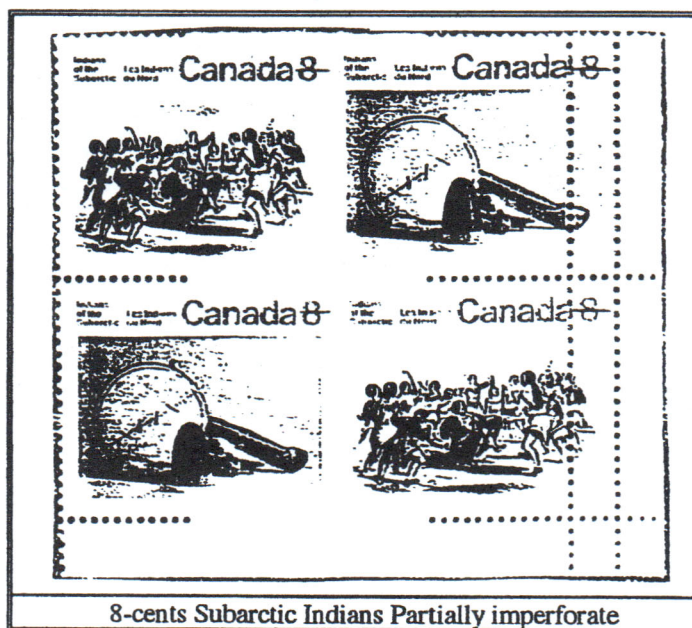
Errors That Appear Similar May Not Have The Same Explanation

by: Joseph Monteiro

When stamps have a similar error, it is quite normal to assume that the same explanation can be used for the error. Before one arrives at this conclusion, the error should be examined very carefully. There may be minor differences which may render the same explanation incorrect. This observation applies not only to perforating errors but also to printing errors. In this brief article, I shall describe a few errors to show why this is true. (The words 'similar' and 'same' used here do not have an identical meaning, a good example of this is their use in geometry).

Perforating Errors:

H-Comb Perforators: A number of H-Comb perforating errors have been found that are very similar. A 1-row H-comb perforator is a perforator that perforates stamps in the form of an H. That is the perforator perforates half of the stamps in one row and half of the stamps in the next row. The perforator need not be a 1-row perforator, it may be a 2-row H comb perforator. In this case, it perforates one entire row fully in between the two rows that were partially perforated. Since 'a picture is worth a thousand words' illustrations of 1-row H-comb perforator errors are shown hereafter.



What is the Difference in the Above Similar Errors?: In the case of the 10c Christmas error, the 1-row H comb perforator missed the third strike resulting in partially imperforate errors in the second and third column of stamps. In the case of the 8c Subarctic Indian error, the 1-row H comb perforator came down after the sheet had moved much further than it should have or it came down a bit later when the sheet was moving. In other words, in the first case a complete strike is missing whereas in the second case, the strike was made but not in the right spot. Though both errors look quite similar with the perforations missing where they should be, the cause of the errors is not the same. There is also another matter of detail which is likely to be missed if the 8c Subarctic error is not examined very carefully. Some of the horizontal perforations on the 8c Subarctic Indian stamp are slightly elongated. This is because the next strike resulted in some of the horizontal perforations appearing slightly over the previous strike.

T-Comb Perforators: T-comb perforators also create errors that are very similar. A 1-row T-comb perforator is a perforator that perforates stamps in the form of a T that is upside down. As a result, if a sheet of stamps is perforated from the top to the bottom and a strike is missed by the perforator, there would be no perforations in the top horizontal row in the margin or selvage. The perforator need not be a 1-row perforator, it may be a 2-row T comb perforator. In this case, the top row of perforations would be completely missing in addition the perforations at the top of the second row would be completely missing.

The first illustration shown is an example of a T-comb error discovered by Mr. Trivett. In a letter to me he stated: "Recently I bought from Canada Post, Antigonish, several of the Millennium Collection sheets. When I examined them I found an interesting error. The second and third horizontal perforations from the top were misplaced and crossed the face of the stamps. The vertical perforations were severed down to the first horizontal perforation."



The second illustration of a T-comb error was offered for sale by R. Maresch and Son in his catalogue of December 2001. The catalogue stated: "1999 Millennium Souvenir Sheet with Sir Frederick Banting and others, a DRAMATIC MISPERF, fresh n.h. and superb. The first one of these we have seen. Est. 500+"

What is the Difference in the Above Similar Errors?: In both errors shown in the preceding illustration, an inappropriate strike of the perforator occurred before it began perforating the sheet. As a result, it created vertical perforations but not horizontal perforations at the bottom. The perforator continued, resulting in the next inappropriate strike, creating the horizontal perforations in the middle of the last row of the stamps. It then continued to make the next strike and made

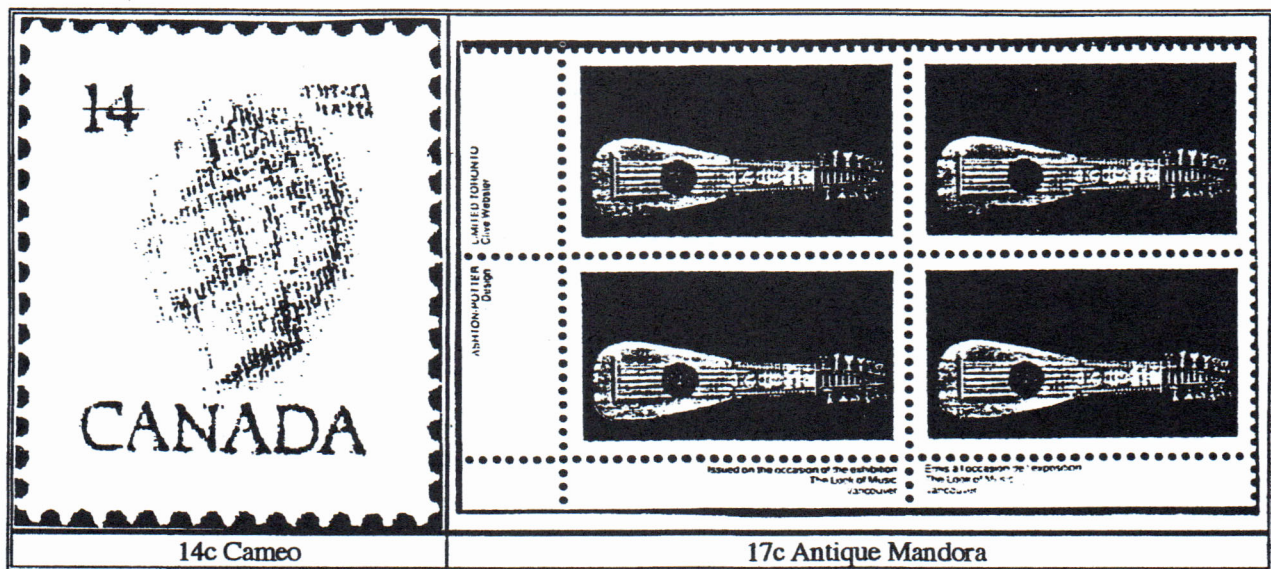


the next inappropriate strike resulting in the horizontal perforations in the middle of the top row of stamps, the vertical perforations were also made and continued beyond the sheet.

The second imperforate error differs from the first one. There does not appear to be any correction by the perforator after the inappropriate strike. As a result, there does not appear any horizontal perforations at the top of the sheet nor does there appear any double perforations in the top vertical perforations in the selvage or at the very top of the stamp. It is similar to the previously reported imperforate error in that the horizontal perforations appear at approximately the same position of the stamp (at the top-middle).

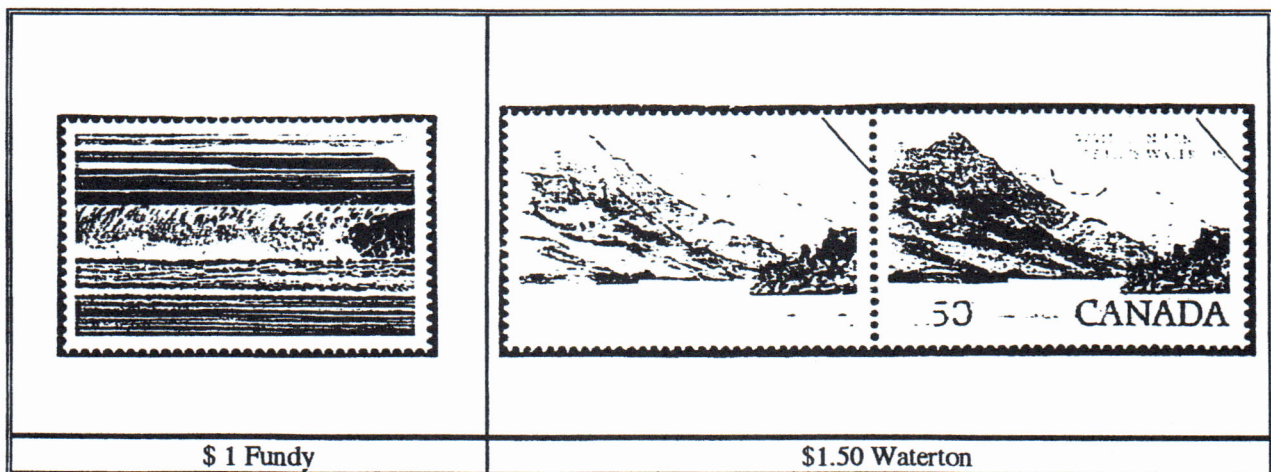
Printing Errors:

Missing Colour: Printing of stamps can also create errors such as missing colours. The reasons for missing colours is not always the same. The illustration shows two examples of stamps with missing errors.



What is the Difference in the Above Similar Errors?: In both cases there appears to be something wrong with the colour. In the case of the 14c Cameo stamp the red colour is missing, and in the case of the 17c Antique Mandora stamp the gold colour is missing. The cause of the errors in both cases is quite different. In the case of the 14c Cameo stamp, the printing machine appears to have run short of printing ink. This explanation became evident only because parts of a sheet were found with some or all the colour missing. The cause of the 17c Antique Mandora stamp is because it did not receive the impression of the second plate.

Missing Engraving: Missing engraving errors often occurs on stamps when they are printed using two different types of printing techniques for example, lithography and engraving. There are also other explanations for these errors. Examples of missing engraving on stamps are shown in the illustration hereafter.



What is the Difference in the Above Similar Errors?: In both cases, the inscriptions showing the engraving of the values are missing. The cause of the errors are quite different. In the case of the \$1 stamp, the sheet of stamps was not sent through the printing press to receive the impression of the second plate which created the engraving. In the case of the \$1.50 stamp, though the colour is missing the cause of it is because there was no silver ink in the printing machine as it could have run out of ink.

Other explanations for the second type of error have also been provided for example two sheets may have been stuck together when they were sent through the printing press to receive the engraving as a result the bottom sheet did not receive the colour engraved impression, or a fold somewhere in the sheet of stamps may have prevented the colour engraved impression from appearing. It is generally, quite easy to distinguish the two types of errors. In the first case, the stamps will not have any engraved impression on it (check the reverse or gum side of it to see if there is any engraved impression). In the second case, the engraved impression will generally appear. There are exceptions to this, that is if the missing impression is caused because of a paper fold (however in this case the impression should appear somewhere else on the paper fold or stamp covering the stamp which did not receive the engraved coloured impression). Examples of the latter error on Canadian stamps are the 7c Autumn (Scott No. 537) or the 8-cents Jet Surcharge (Scott No. 430a).

Conclusion:

In sum, before one arrives at a definitive conclusion as to the cause of an error, the error has to be examined very carefully. This is often easier said than done as all the information is generally not available at one's fingertips. The only easy way around this problem is to use the tips provided in the discussion above and to approach the study of stamp errors on a sound analytical basis. I have in the past advocated an educational approach to this hobby. If you adopt this approach you will not only enhance your enjoyment of this hobby but you will avoid making costly mistakes. Remember there are many forgeries and one can be quite easily deceived. A prevention is far better than a cure.

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6. **R. Maresch & Son**, Auction Sale, 363-367, Tuesday-Thursday, December 11-13, 2001, pp. 21/78.

Meeting our fellow members...

Stan Goldfarb: EFO Stamp Dealer

By Stan Raugh

(This is the first in a series of articles introducing EFOCC members and member-dealers. Hope you enjoy meeting our fellow members!)

Stan Goldfarb is a dealer with the heart of a collector.

"While I don't really have an interest in normal stamps, EFOs have always fascinated me," he admits.

"I continue to buy EFOs for my collections, even at retail prices," he proudly states.

"I recommend collecting what a person likes no matter what the hobby," he advises.

Those are three strong quotes that reveal the wisdom of an entrenched collector as well as a visionary dealer. Stan obviously loves what he sells.

"I started collecting stamps as a child and stopped as a teenager when coins took up my interest," he explains.

"I have been interested in errors all my life. As a kid, I looked through huge amounts of coins to find errors."

Stan's interest in philatelic errors was sparked when he discovered some sheets featuring a black color shift. That led to him becoming an exclusive dealer in stamp errors.

Once an item is added to his personal collection, however, it is rarely sold. An exception was a great RW17 plate block foldover he bought in 1980 for \$125 and sold later for \$4,000 when "ducks were very hot."

"If it doesn't fit, I simply sell it," is his general rule.

Stan has interesting comments on the present and future status of EFOs.

"Some types of error coins have been on a steady upward spiral but error stamps aren't. I think practically all EFO material is underpriced," he notes.

"It has always amazed me that items that only exist in quantities of 200 can sell for \$20 or less." But Stan also has answer for how that happens.

"The basic problem with stamps and EFOs is there are few new collectors coming into our hobby." However, he has noticed that there are some new EFO collectors nowadays.

Stan points out that many general stamp dealers were once very critical of errors, but there seems to be more receptivity toward EFOs in the last 10 to 15 years.

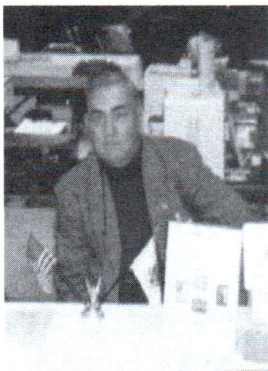
Past attitudes "influenced the way collectors thought about EFOs and kept many from buying them," he reminds us.

And in response to that, we need to recall Stan's original advise and collect what we like. Apparently others are discovering that approach as well—so have fun with those EFOs!

Help!!!

We would like to profile other members of the EFOCC. If you would like to be interviewed or wish to suggest someone, contact:

Stan Raugh (610) 921-5717
4217 8th Avenue
Temple, PA 19560-1805
E-mail: trex@bigplanet.com



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. K. Baskaran for his generous donation of auction material to benefit the EFOCC coffer.

Also to the many authors who contributed fine articles for this issue of the EFO Collector—Bill Murray, Joe Monteiro, Cemil Betanov, John Hotchner, and Stan Goldfarb.

Of note and due to the stellar outreach of EFOCC secretary Stan Rough, our membership ranks have increased steadily, especially to those returning to the flock.

Reminder and if one attends the winter and summer APS stampshows—please stop by a say hello and, maybe be able to spend a few moments to staff each show's Affiliate, Chapter, New Beginner information table. Usually it is adjacent to the main APS booth and is staffed by volunteers willing to lend their expertise and knowledge to assist questions from show attendees.

Since the table's inception at AMERISTAMP Expo in Riverside, California, the table has been able to assist attendees not only to further their knowledge and availability of affiliate and chapter information but to assist and answer questions for a vast number of elderly first-time beginner stamp collectors

Howard Dennis, am working on cost effectiveness for color in the EFO Collector and Herbert Freese, will try to place better descriptions and photos of EFO's on the EFOCC website. Please do not forget to visit the EFOCC website at www.efoers.org.

CANADA'S NEWEST RE-ENTRY ON BOOKLET.

Caricature booklet pane (Scott #586a) with re-entry in 'postage' on the 6 cent Pearson. \$9.99 US, postage included. Payment through PayPal or International money order. For more information, please visit my website at www.re-entries.com or E-mail at retrimble@rogers.com

Ralph E. Trimble EFOCC #53
46 Eastwood Crescent,
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The EFO Collector is published quarterly. The deadline for any issue is the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue-- e.g., 2/15, 5/15, 8/15 & 11/15. Send editorial material directly to the editor. Sample copies of The EFO Collector are available for \$3 from the editor, 955 S. Grove Blvd, #65, Kingsland, GA 31548-5263.

New membership includes subscription to *The EFO Collector*. Application for membership, accompanied by \$16 (\$30 overseas) which covers the first year and the initiation fee, should be sent to the Secretary, Mr. Stan Raugh, 4217 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560. Life memberships are available at \$250 (U.S and Canada), \$467 overseas. Annual dues renewal are \$15 for domestic members and \$30 for foreign members.

Advertising for The EFO Collector will be accepted at the following rates for camera-ready copy: first insertion-- full page, \$30; half page, \$16; quarter page, \$9. No discounts apply. The first-insertion rates for ads requiring composition are full page, \$60; half page, \$32; quarter page, \$18. The first insertion must be fully prepaid. Classified ads will be accepted at 6c per word. The deadline for ad copy is the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue. Advertising, ad payments, and related inquiries should be directed to the Editor.

EFOCC members are entitled to three free 35-word (excluding address) classified ("EFO Post") ads annually. These should be sent directly to the editor.

EFOCC OFFICERS—1 July, 2002 to June 30, 2004

PRESIDENT/EDITOR—

CWO Jim McDevitt, 955 S. Grove Blvd., #65, Kingsland, GA 31548-5263
Phone: (912) 729-1573, Fax: (912) 729-1585, Email: <cwouscga@aol.com>

VICE-PRESIDENT-

John M. Hotchner, POB 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041-0125—Phone: (703) 820-5449,
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Peter L. Rikard, POB 25623, Richmond, VA 23260—Phone: (804) 550-4953,
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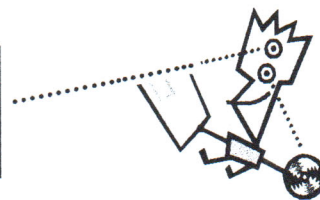
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KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR - - -



Columbus First Sighting of Land sheet Scott 2624, APES has certified second reporting of a sheet with tagging-omitted error on the \$1 value (Scott 2624c).

37 cent non –denominated USA First-Class Flag Coil a roll of 100 stamps has been discovered with the die-cut omitted.

3 cent Star pane Scott 3613, "2002" year date at bottom left corner. Pane of 50 discovered missing die cuts.

EFOCC MEMBER POST

Members are reminded—you are entitled to three (free)
Member post insertions per fiscal year

For Sale Best Offer Two mis-cut 25-cent Pheasant booklets—**Charles Kahn**, 101 Hendy Avenue, Elmira, NY 14905-1904.

538a and 540a Plate # Blocks & Sheets for sale or trade! I need plate #s of 498a, 498b, 499a, 501c, R168a, and other early imperf errors.—**Stan Wittig**, Box 2742, Springfield, MO 65801

Error List! Twenty page illustrated US major and minor error list showing over 350 different errors. SASE with 55 cents postage. For specific topics, please enclose a SASE for request —**Stan Goldfarb**, 8520 Atwell Road, Potomac, MD 20854

EFO's For Sale! (including Shipping Charges)

100 U.S. EFO's	\$ 135
100 Better Quality U.S. EFO's	\$ 195
100 Still Better Quality U.S. EFO's	\$ 350

H. Frank, P. O. Box 340868, Brooklyn, NY 11234

Wanted!! Transportation coil varieties such as plate cracks, etc. Prefer strips of five with the flaw in the center. Write firstgiving price. Also interested in corresponding with other collectors of any repeating varieties, checklists, etc. **Stan Rough**, 4217 8h Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805.

Wanted!! Unusual MDI booklets (blue cover vending booklets of fifteen or thirty 32c or 33c stamps). Also seeking flag EFO's, eighteen cents and up. Color shifts, color contaminations, dry printings, mis-cuts, etc. Also, flag/porch 2915A and 2915C coil with 11 teeth along right side and plate #66666, mint or used.—**Doug Iams**, P. O. Box 7651, Santa Rosa, CA 95407

Misper-Orations by John M. Hotchner
PO Box 1125
Falls Church, VA 22041

Get Thee To A Stamp Show!

Surprises can be lovely things. And for the EFO collector, they are available wherever dealers congregate. Sure we can find the objects of our affection in auctions, through EFO specialist dealers and in ads from friends and fellow collectors in this journal. But these will be EFOs identified as such and priced by knowledgeable people at close to their full value.

But there is more material “out there” than the EFO collector community (including dealers) has bought up. Consider that general collectors don’t always recognize EFO material for what it is. And even if they do, an occasional oddity will find its way onto an album page without any effort made by the owner to look for more. Eventually, as collections are bought up by dealers, these items become orphans in his or her stock.

Consider also that no dealer (as no collector) can know everything about everything. Many dealers are adept at spotting the potential rose in a box of weeds, but more spend their time learning more and more about smaller and smaller specialties. The result is that potential treasures to EFO collectors often can be found as afterthoughts in back-of-the-book counter books or stock books at stamp shows.

Hit every dealer table and ask, “Do you carry EFOs?”, or “Do you stock unusual material: Errors? Varieties? Anything that just doesn’t look right?” You’ll be surprised at how many have a few items that they don’t quite know what to make of.

Two caveats, though. First you are not likely to find big ticket items. Those are pretty much recognizable, and a dealer will seek information on those, and often they will flow to the EFO marketplace through the good offices of an EFO specialist dealer. Second, some percentage of the EFO orphans you do find will be grossly overpriced, since the dealer who doesn’t really know much about the field usually guesses what s/he can ask for the item.

In such an instance it is up to you and your negotiating skills to make the dealer see the light without leaving him or her with the feeling that you are simply trying to gain a price advantage.

But more often, the price will be either in the ball park or less than true retail. And you are rewarded for your diligence and your knowledge. By passing along this “secret”, I realize that I’m making it less likely that the bargains will be there when I go out “Bourse Crawling” next time, but this is part of the fun of our hobby, and I feel I ought to share it. Happy Hunting!



Very Unusual Precancel 9-02

About twenty years ago, a dealer showed me this piece. It is a full sheet of 100 of Scott #1036 with a "NEWARK N. J." precancel. While I instantly knew it had a nice guttersnipe, the price he was asking was just too high until he pointed out something I had never seen (I am not a precancel expert). The two part stamps on the right intended for another sheet had a "**BOSTON MASS.**" precancel. I then knew it was a collection piece and bought it.

One of the great benefits of collecting is the continual learning process. I never would have known different precancel led cities were printed on the same sheet before it was divided into panes. I still have no idea how long this process took place but at least I have positive proof it did happen for a period of time.

If any of you have other examples, please let me know.

Stan Goldfarb 8520 Atwell Road Potomac, Maryland 20854

Ph: 301-279-0754 Fax: 301-279-9490



Buyers—Sellers of EFO Material



To sell/buy EFO material, contact any of the following buyers/sellers of error, freak, oddity philatelic material. **Remember** – to offer for confidential outright purchase or sale at a public auction it's best to first send a description and/or clear photograph/photocopy before shipping the item. **Do not forget** to include your address, telephone number and return postage/s.a.s.e.

Ag, P O Box 1, Medford NJ 08055
B. Trading Co. 114 Quail St, Albany, NY 12206
Beck Stamp Auctions, POB 2506, Mesa, AZ 85214-2506
Steve Crippe, POB 236, Bothell, WA 98-41-0236
Howard Frank, POB 340868, Brooklyn, NY 11234
Marvin Frey, 2199 Legion St, Bellmore, NY
Stan Goldfarb, 8520 Atwell Rd, Potomac, MD 20854
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John Hotchner, POB 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041
John Koval, POB 83, Griffith, IN 46319
Leo Malz & Co, 425 Broadway, NY, NY 10013
Montclair Stamp Co., POB 38, Cheltenham, PA 19012
Michael Mules, POB 342, Big Bend, WI
J. Nalbandian, POB 71, E. Greenwich, RI 02818
Nippon Philatelics, Drawer 7300, Carmel, CA 93921
Pacific NW Auctions, TLPO 8087, Kirkland, WA 98034
Phil-Ital, RR3 - 449, Sag Harbor, NY 11963
Princeton Philatelics, POB 304, Tappan, NY
Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., 195 Main St, Ridgefield Pk, NJ
Martin Sellinger, POB 47, White Plains, NY
Saskatoon Stamp Centre, (BNA & Canada varieties - only), Box 1870,
Saskatoon, SK Canada S7K 3S2
Smith, Thomas E. POB 23149, Phoenix, AZ 85063-3149
John Tison, P. O. Box 50730, Irvine, CA 92619

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- 518-465-3497
- 480-969-5835
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- 516-826-1852
- 301-279-0754
- 503, 252-7300
- 800-231-5962
- 703-820-5449
- 219-924-4836
- 212-877-7223
- 215-728-7836
- 414-318-0880
- 401-885-5020
- 831-625-2643
- 206-481-9627
- 206-481-9627
- 845-359-7434
- 201-641-5566
- 914-948-4246

- 800-205-8814
- 623-205-1163
- 714-556-3630



RECENT FINDS EFO DISCOVERIES

Misperforations are rarely found on commemoratives from the 29 cent issues and above. The two shown on this page were from sheets recently purchased by me for re-sale (for the few of you who might not know who I am, I have been dealing in errors since 1971).

The first is an incredible 11mm vertical misperf on the Lucille Ball (Scott 3523). I don't remember the last time in the past ten years I saw this nice a misperf on a commemorative. While the issue is one year old, I purchased it three months ago.

The other misperf is on the Mt McKinley (Scott C137). This topic holds a special fondness for me (note my story in the previous issue about the unique missing yellow color error on the 15 cent McKinley I actually bought at 80% of FACE!). This one is a very nice horizontal misperf and the only misperf I am aware of on an airmail issue since C127 printed in 1990 (before that there are no misperfs known to me till the 1983 Olympic series).

Anyone else who knows of any I have missed can let me know at the following address:

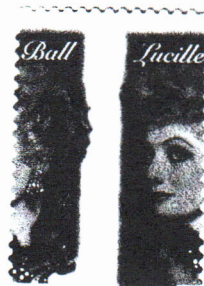
Stan Goldfarb EFOCC #13

8520 Atwell Road.
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Ph: 301-279-0754

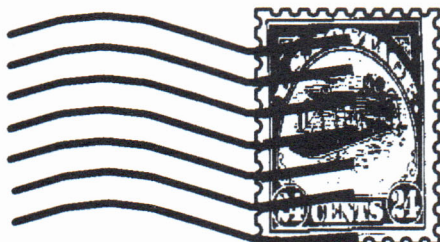
Fax: 301-279-9490

Email: [golfar1 @ix.netcom.com](mailto:golfar1@ix.netcom.com)



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Errors, Freaks, Oddities Collectors Club
4217 8th Avenue,
Temple, PA 19560
Tel: (610) 921-5717
Fax (610) 921-5822
Email - trex@bigplanet.com
Website: www.foers.org

About EFOCC....

The Errors, Freaks, Oddities Collectors Club was formed in 1978 and now numbers members world-wide. The Club Affiliate Number 103 of the American Philatelic Society and Chapter 94 of the American Topical Association, is the only society devoted to the EFO collector. The Club covers EFO topics {domestic and foreign} from A to Z.

Benefits of membership include a subscription for the quarterly publication *The EFO Collector*, three free advertisements in the journal, quarterly Club auctions, study groups, heirs assistance program, exhibit review, exhibit award ribbons, etc., etc. Of note - *The EFO Collector* contains a fantastic mail auction of EFO material!!

From novice to advanced, all levels of collectors are welcomed, and we would be pleased to have you as a member. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call the above listed telephone numbers.

Membership....

Membership in The EFOCC is open to all interested collectors. New member dues for North America are \$16 (\$1 initiation fee, \$5 dues and \$10 subscription for *The EFO Collector*). Foreign dues are \$30 and include airmail delivery of *The EFO Collector*. Life memberships are \$210 for North America.

Name _____		
Address: _____ City _____ State _____		
Country: _____		Zip or Post Code: _____
Tel. No: _____		Fax No: _____ Email: _____
If you prefer to use a P.O. Number - please include your home address for club use only here: _____		
Collecting Interests: _____		
Can you volunteer service to the Club: _____		
Do you wish your name on a mailing list?		Yes _____ No _____
Do you wish listing as a dealer in Club info brochures?		Yes _____ No _____
Comments: _____ _____ _____		

The EFO Collectors' Club

4217 8th Avenue,
Temple, PA 19560

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