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Crease Errors Another Distinct Subgroup Of Philately?*

by: Joseph Monteiro

Paper folds and paper creases have always been excellent conversational pieces and have a special appeal to philatelists. These errors are generally unique and not only satisfy a philatelist's need for stamps in limited quantities but also satisfy their curiosity to find out how these errors occurred. Unfortunately, an extensive literature in this area does not exist and should provide philatelists a new area to explore.

Paper creases have not attracted much attention and as can be expected have not been studied analytically. Notes and articles occasionally appear on them, however most of these articles are attempts to display the error found rather than to provide an in-depth analysis. I am not aware of any philatelic literature in Canada on this subject, perhaps it appears in engineering books on printing technology.

Progress in this direction can be accomplished if first one examines what would happen if the paper crease occurred at various stages in the production process i.e., printing, tagging and perforating. Second, if the production process indicated above was further subdivided i.e., if the engraving was done and then the crease was removed and then the lithography was done. Third, what would happen if various permutations and combinations of the printing process occurring with paper creases. Fourth, what would happen if various types of perforators were used, for example in the case of line perforation what would happen if the crease occurred before the horizontal perforation occurred but the fold was removed before the vertical perforation were made. Fifth, what would happen if various permutation and combinations were used with all the distinct production processes such as printing, tagging and perforation.

Continued on page 2



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"To Err is Human – To Find is Divine"

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If such an approach is employed it will be much more analytical but typically it would be difficult to understand as see is believing for the average philatelist.

A more technical and abstract way to approach this subject is not to study what would happen if these paper creases occur at various stages but a purely mathematical approach providing a generalized solution. Such an approach would find appeal to the technocrats and be intellectually satisfying to them but would be extremely difficult for the average philatelists who collect stamps as a hobby and as a form of relaxation when the weather makes it forbidding to go outdoors.

Paper creases are educational because they provide revealing and sometimes riveting information about printing methods. Usually very little information exists about: How stamps are printed? When is the tagging done? When is the perforation done? What is printed on the edges of the entire sheet?

Finally, errors resulting from paper creases are rarely listed in any of the standard catalogues and could provide writers a new challenge. So far no book has been devoted specifically to this subject, and though One or two publications or articles appear on them, the lack of adequate information in general could provide writers a subject for an in-depth study.

Paper Crease Errors On Stamps:

The Concise Oxford English Dictionary defines a crease as follows "Line caused by folding, fold, wrinkle" (p. 287). This definition with regard to paper means an error resulting from a crease on the sheet of stamp paper or part of it. Since paper creases at times appear similar to a paper fold or in conjunction with a paper fold, it sometimes may cause a bit of confusion among philatelists. As a consequence, some philatelists have attempted to define these errors by some of the characteristics associated with paper creases. Some of these characteristics at times may be misleading as they are not associated with the properties of the crease themselves.

One authority describes paper creases as "A paper crease occurs when the paper is folded in on itself under pressure. A crease consists of two 'folds' in the paper, usually close together and more or less parallel. Most creases tend to run in an irregular line, usually vertical but sometimes diagonal. When the crease is stretched out, the part of the paper that was ~hidden' may be blank or may have several or all of the colours printed depending upon when in the printing process the crease occurred. Some of the stamps in a pane with a paper crease will have a perf and/or a colour shift. Only an example of the crease reveals the true nature of the perf or colour shift variety."(1)

This same authority further states "Paper creases are more common than corner folds. I estimate that there are at least five times as many creases as corner folds on the Caricature definitives. Paper folds are spectacular varieties that are usually illustrated when offered at auctions."(1) An implication of the above definition is that the price of a paper fold error could be far higher than the price of a paper crease error.

Since the above description may still not be perfectly explicit, the alternative is to describe paper creases by their technical effects. Paper creases and paper folds create different types of errors that can never be the same, except when they occur as a combination. Paper crease 'pre-printing' errors typically result in errors on the surface of the sheet of stamp paper and 'not on the reverse', a latter characteristic that appears only on 'pre-printing' paper fold over errors. Paper crease pre-perforations errors typically result in errors on the surface of the sheet of stamp paper similar to 'pre-printing' paper fold over errors, however, the pattern (including distance) of perforations can never be the same. Distance is indicated here because a pattern may be similar if the paper crease is parallel. In other words, there is a difference between similar triangles and identical triangles, the latter implies that the length of the sides are the same.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2 -

Paper crease errors can be classified into three major groups. First, paper crease errors which result in part of the design being separated when the crease is opened. The cause of these errors is a preprinting paper crease. Second, paper crease errors which result in shifted perforation when the crease is opened. The cause of these errors is a pre-perforating paper crease. Third, paper crease errors which result in part of the design being separated and the perforation shifted when the crease is opened. The cause of these errors is a pre-printing and pre-perforating paper crease. One could possibly, enlarge these groups by adding the consideration of tagging. In other words, did the crease occur after the printing was done but was removed before the tagging was done; was the crease there after both the printing and tagging were done but before the perforation was done, etc. A similar question could be asked with regard to the printing process i.e., was the crease removed after one of the printing processes (i.e., engraving) was done but not before the first (i.e., lithography), etc.

Pre-Printing Paper Crease **(Paper Creases Which Result in Part of the Design Usually Separated):**

Paper creases in panes of stamps or sheet of stamps have been found with part of the design separated. These paper crease errors have been quite interesting when the crease is opened for three reasons. First, it results in an integral part of the design separated. Second, the paper crease results in a blank space on the stamp which depends on the width of the crease. Third, the paper crease could result in tagging irregularities if the stamps are tagged, depending on the width of the paper crease, the form of tagging (i.e., horizontal or vertical or both) and whether the crease was removed before the tagging or after the tagging was done.

Types of Paper Crease Errors: 1. Pre-printing creases that occur throughout the printing process. As a result, the design of the printing is separated from part of the design with a blank in between the design through which the paper crease occurs. 2. Pre-printing creases that occur at various stages in the printing process. In other words, if the printing process involved engraving and lithography, the paper crease could occur after the engraving but was removed before the lithography. 3. The design does not appear to be separated as the crease in the paper is too fine to affect the printing of the design. It may sometimes appear as a crack in the paper.

Cause of Paper Crease Errors: The crease in paper on which the stamp is printed results during the manufacture of the paper, generally when it is pressed or when it is wound into jumbo rolls before being cut into sheets. When the stamps are printed on this creased paper and the crease remains that way throughout the printing process, the first or third type of error described above occurs. The second type of error occurs when the crease is removed after one or more of the printing processes occur but not after all the printing processes in a multiple printing process.

Results of Paper Crease Errors: The first type of paper crease error results in a blank between the design of the stamps printed. Usually the blank creates a non-constant pattern on the stamp, when the crease is not perfectly vertical or horizontal and the width of the crease is not consistent. As a result, the crease creates blanks on different parts of the stamps with different effects. Since the crease is removed before the tagging and perforation, the size of the stamps are the same though part of the design may appear on the adjacent stamp or selvedge depending on the width of the crease.

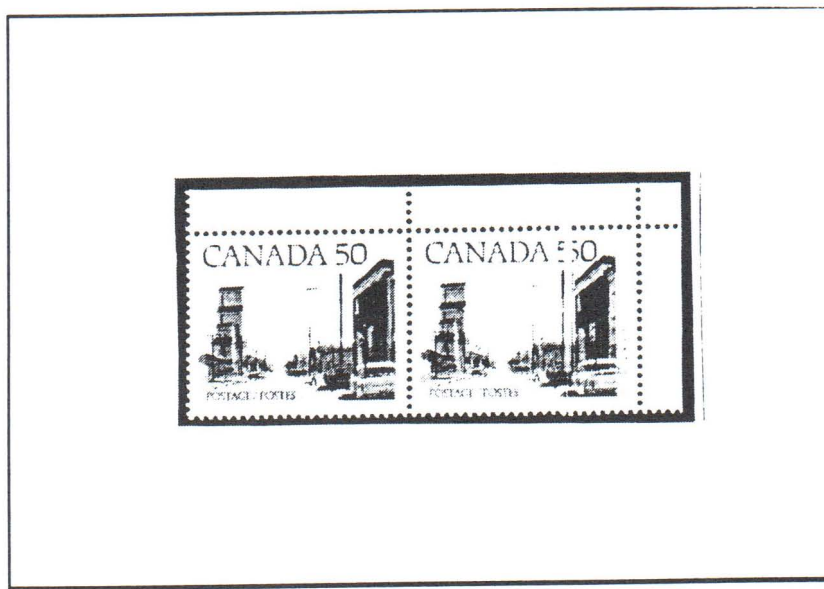
The second type of paper crease error usually results in part of the design of the stamps printed in the blank that appears in the first type. The result is the same as that described as above, except that since the crease was removed after the engraving, the engraving would be missing in the blank but it would contain the lithography.

The third type of paper crease error results in no visible blank space between the design of the stamps printed though if magnified several hundred times a blank would be visible. Usually one observes a random crease in the stamp sheet. If the crease is very fine, it is usually difficult to distinguish it from a crease that has resulted from mishandling a sheet of stamps.

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3—

Illustration Of Paper Crease Errors Which Result in Part of the Design Usually Separated



50-cent Street Scenes

Pre-Perforating Paper Crease (Paper Creases Which Result in the Perforation Shifted):

Paper creases in panes of stamps or sheets of stamps have been found with part of the perforation shifted. These paper crease errors have been quite interesting when the crease is opened for three reasons. First, it results in perforation which can appear quite unusual but are perforated with mathematical precision. Second, the unusual perforation creates stamps with various parts of the printed stamp or stamps. Third, the tagging on these stamps could like the printing create various parts of the tagging on it, if tagged, depending on whether the crease was removed before the tagging or after the tagging was done. These creases occur after the stamps are printed but before the stamps are perforated or occur before the stamps are printed but somehow removed before the printing and shifted back to its former state when perforation began. A few illustrations are provided.

Types of Paper Crease Errors: 1. The design is printed correctly on the pane of stamps but the perforation create unusual patterns of the design (the designs are particularly intriguing or perplexing if the sheet of stamps is broken). 2. The tagging is printed correctly on the pane of stamps since the crease occurred after the tagging was done. The effect is the same as the above. 3. The tagging is printed incorrectly on the pane of stamps since the crease occurred before the tagging was done.

Cause of Paper Crease Errors: The crease in the paper on which the stamp is printed typically does not result during the manufacture of the paper but during the interval after the printing of the stamps and during the tagging or perforating of the stamps. The paper crease is caused due to mishandling of the sheets of paper after the printing or

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4 -

the tagging of the stamps. The first and second type of errors described above are found when the crease occurs after the printing and tagging but before the perforation. The third type of error can occur after the printing but before the perforation and tagging.

Results of Paper Crease Errors: The first type of paper crease error usually results in stamps of weird shapes and sizes. In addition, these stamps contain various parts of the correctly printed

**Centennial 6-cents
Black (460pii) Die
II GT2 LF, PVA**

Pre-perforating
Crease.
Displaying two
creases when
opened.
The perforation
appears wild but

but follows
mathematical
precision that
reflects no
randomness that
could occur if a
sheet is constantly
twisted when being
perforated.

Illustration Of Paper Crease Errors Which Result in the Perforation Shifted



Continued on page 6

Of Interest!!

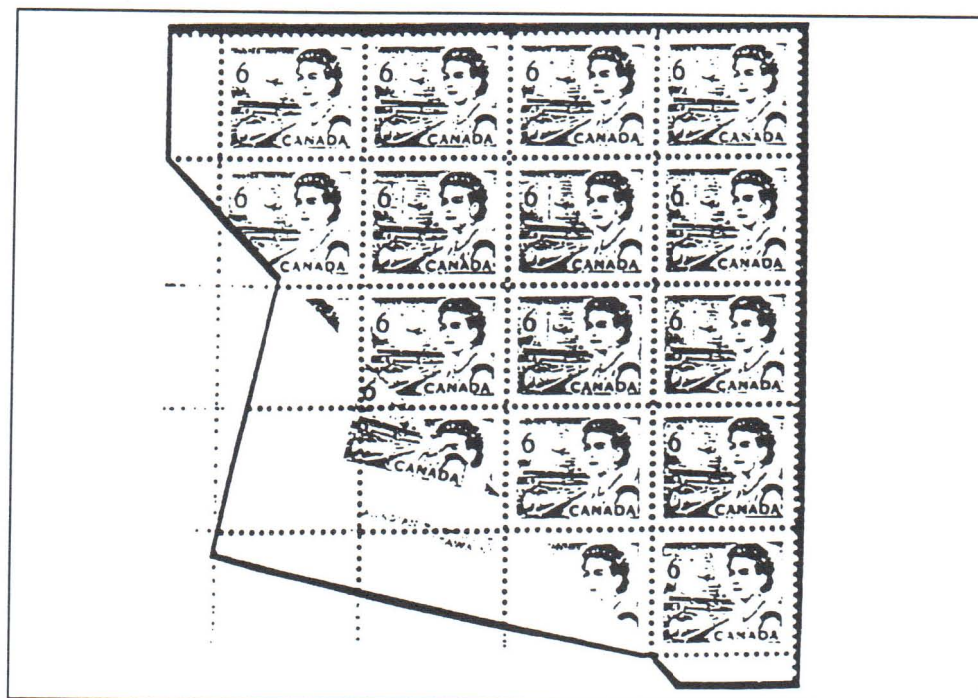
**The Ivy-Mader auction, January 23 to 24, 2004, will list fifty lots
of very desirable major errors such as color omitted issues.**

**IVY-MADER
775 Passaic Avenue,
W. Caldwell, NJ 07006
Tel: (800) 782-6771**

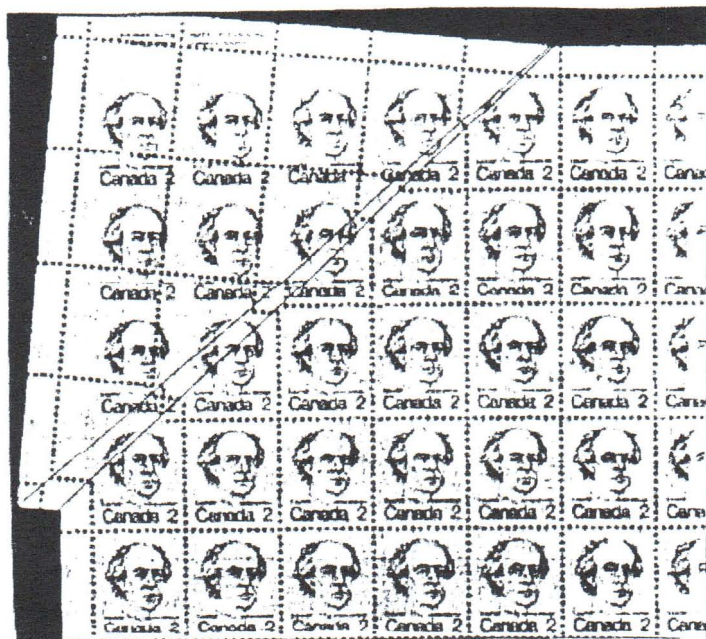
Continued from page 5

**Centennial 6-cents
Black Shown
Above**

The above error
shown when the
creases are not
Opened
The perforation
appears
normal perforated
sheet



2-cents Laurier
From the
Caricature Series
Pre-perforating
Crease.
Displaying two
Creases when
Opened.



Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6 -

The previous page's error shown when creases are not opened.



design on it creating unusual effects. The stamps become very difficult to plate together or to understand why and how the weird designs occurred. An example of this is the large block of 2-cents Laurier stamp shown in the illustration.

The second type of paper crease error, similar to the above error, usually results in stamps of weird shapes and sizes. In addition, these stamps contain various parts of the correctly printed tagging on it.

The third type of paper crease error results in the tagging following the pattern of perforation. In addition, these stamps contain tagging on the printed designs that appear weird like the perforation.

Pre-Printing And Pre-Perforating Paper Creases (Paper Creases Which Result in Part of the Design Separated and Part of Perforation Shifted):

Paper creases in panes of stamps or sheets of stamps have been found with part of the design separated and part of the perforation shifted. These paper crease errors are not only the most numerous crease errors but are quite interesting when the crease is opened for four reasons. First, it results in an integral part of the design separated. Second, the paper crease results in a blank space on the stamp which depends on the width of the crease. Third, it results in an integral part of the perforation shifted. The crease on these sheets occur before the stamps are printed, tagged or perforated and remain that way till the production of the stamps are completed. A few illustrations are presented hereafter.

Types of Paper Crease Errors: 1. The design is separated from part of it with a blank in between the design through which the paper crease occurs and some or all of the stamps in a particular row or column are larger than the normal size stamps. The perforation displays a shift. 2. The perforation on a few of the stamps where the paper crease occurs appear as a zig-zag. The zig-zag occurs where the crease intersects the horizontal or vertical perforation.

Continued on page 8

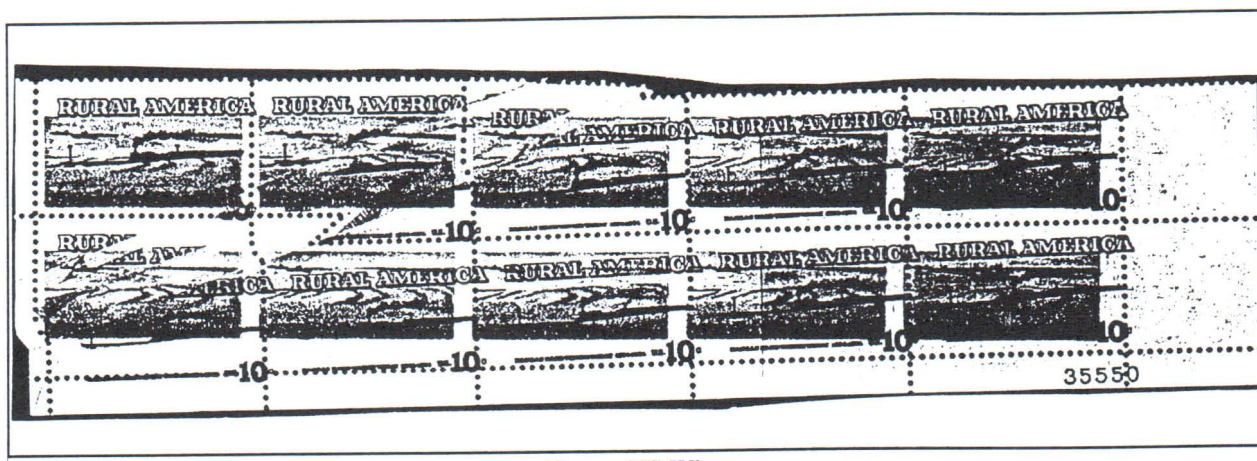
Continued from page 7 -

Cause of Paper Crease Errors: The crease in paper on which the stamp is printed results during the manufacture of the paper, generally when it is pressed or when it is wound into jumbo rolls before being cut into sheets. The crease remains till after the printing, tagging and perforating are done. In the first case, the blank and the perforating shift occurs since the crease remains in the sheet throughout the production phase. The width of most of these creases is generally not more than 3mm. In the second case, the zig-zag appears more visible for the above reason but is more apparent when the crease is wider or there are two creases or some combination of a crease and a fold. In the later cases, one also observes small rectangles of perforation.

Results of Paper Crease Errors: The first type of paper crease error usually results in a column or row or part of it larger in size than the normal size of the stamps. There is usually no tagging error. It is theoretically possible that a tagging error could occur if the crease is a straight horizontal or vertical crease on the perforation but this is likely to be a rarity. The larger stamps have a blank gap that is usually a constant size which cross the stamps through different parts of the design of the stamp with the same slope (unless if there are two creases). An example of this is a strip of ten of the 10-cents US 1974 Wheat stamps and a block of the \$1 Fundy stamps shown in the illustration.

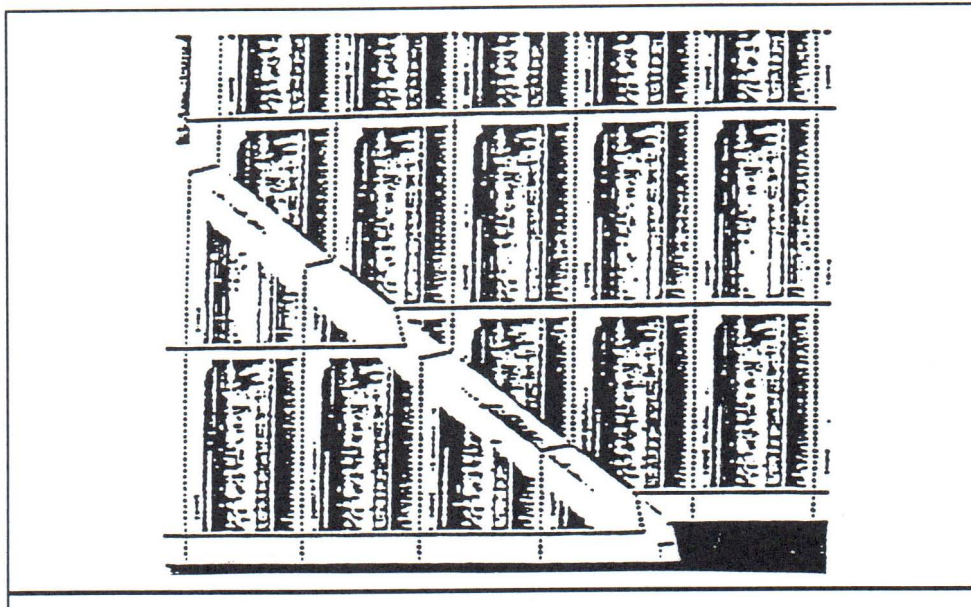
The second type of paper crease error usually results in one or two stamps with some additional perforation. These additional perforation typically occur near the beginning where the crease meets the perforation of the stamps. The rectangular perforation usually create small stamps with parts of the design on it which certainly would not be accepted as payment for postage.

Illustration Of Paper Crease Errors Which Result in Part of the Design Separated and Part of Perforation Shifted



10-cent US Wheat

Continued on page 9



\$1 Fundy

Conclusion:

First, paper creases normally result in stamps with a gap or blank in the design if the printing is done before the crease occurs. Most of these errors are unique since the crease occurs with a slant. These creased stamps are larger than the size of the normal stamps if the crease is not removed before the stamps are perforated.

Second, paper creases can also result in stamps without a gap in the printing if the paper crease one can find stamps in a pane with multiple gaps.

Third, paper creases that result at various stages of the printing process can result in part of the design in the gap of the crease. For example, if the paper crease occurs after the engraving is done but before the lithography is done in a two stage printing process, one may find the lithography missing.

Fourth, paper creases that occur after the printing is done but before the perforating is done will result in stamps with unusual shapes and with various parts of the design of that stamp when separated from the sheet. The unusual shapes depend on the width and length of the crease and where they occur.

Fifth, tagging irregularities can occur on some of the paper crease errors. In untagged stamps these irregularities do not occur. The irregularities also depend on whether the tagging is horizontal or vertical or both and the nature of the crease i.e., is the crease vertical or horizontal with respect to the tagging. Tagging irregularities can also occur if the crease occurs at various stages in the production of the stamps. Suppose a straight vertical crease occurs after the printing but before the tagging (i.e., vertical on the edges of the stamp) and the crease is removed before the perforating. If the crease is 1.5mm (in width) and the tagging is 1mm then it is likely that the tagging will appear in the wrong position and could even create a one bar tagging error, depending on where the crease occurs (at the beginning of the sheet or end). It could also result in parts or all of the tagging missing depending on the severity of the crease. The same observation made in the paragraph above is true for tagging.

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9—

Finally, it is useful to study paper creases from a further analytical point of view by examining when the crease occurs and classifying the results at each stage and for different perforators. For example if the paper creases occurs throughout the printing, tagging and perforating process what are the results. If the paper crease occurs after the printing, but is removed before tagging and perforating what is the results and so on. Similarly, what would occur if a line perforator is used vs. various types of comb perforators? In the case of the former, what would happen if the crease was removed after the vertical or horizontal perforations were done.

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6. "Pre-printing Paper Creases," Centennial Definitives Study Group Newsletter, Number 10, Winter 1983, p. 46.
7. "Paper Creases," Centennial Definitives Study Group Newsletter, Number 32, September 1986, pp. 201-202. 8. Monteiro, Joseph, Definitive Postage Stamps of Canada, Volume V (Work in Progress).

* This information for this article is largely taken from source indicated in [8].

AmeriStamp Expo 2004

APS Winter Meeting

January 30 to February 1, 2004

Scope Exhibition Hall

Norfolk, Virginia



APS general meeting, Saturday, January 31, 9:00 a.m., room 4

EFO Seminar, Saturday, January 31, CWO Jim McDevitt, 1:00 p.m., Room 2

EFOCC Business meeting, Saturday, January 31, 5:00 p.m., room 6



Stamps from John Hotchner's collection.

SLEUTH ON THE TRAIL OF THE FLAWED STAMP

Article and photograph by Carl Goodman



John Hotchner will tell you, ever so modestly, that he has been collecting stamps since he was five - a hobby he inherited from his father, a founding staff member of the Voice of America. Unlike his father, however, he has not been content just to collect. He searches for those price-less treasures like the stamp with the color running or a fly imprinted on it (see example above).

The soft-spoken Mr. Hotchner, a former member of the Foreign Service himself before converting to the Civil Service, is also busy writing a weekly column for Linn's Stamp News, editing two philatelic periodicals, and exhibiting and judging national and international philatelic exhibits.

The senior Bureau of Consular Affairs employee is - also a member of the Council of Philatelists that advises the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum and the Postmas-

ter General's Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee -- whose 15 members choose subjects and develop and approve the art for U.S. stamps from among approximately 50,000 entries annually from the American public. The panel is not just stamp collectors, he stresses, but also includes a cast of folks--like actor Karl Malden and sports broadcaster "Digger" Phelps. He is past president of the American Philatelic Society - a 50,000-member umbrella organization covering stamp collecting activities domestically.

The native New Yorker, who began his career as a passport adjudicator, estimates his stamp collection in the "tens of thousands." His special interests include collecting stamp production mistakes from the United States and other countries and mail that have been delayed in the postal system.

Money: Having It—Spending It

Let's face it - the average normal-stamp collector can add new issues and even some older issues to their collections for pennies. EFO collectors, on the other hand, start at the level of dollars. There are several conclusions that can be drawn from this.

First is that collectors get more quantity for their money by collecting "normal" stamps. Being on the whole a thrifty lot, it is not hard to understand why EFO collecting is self-limited. Most collectors will opt for quantity over quality. Yes, "our" material costs more, but it also:

- A. Is more interesting
- B. Tends to be underpriced for its real level of scarcity, and
- C. Is more readily salable at a reasonable price if a collector wants to exit the hobby.

We're willing to pay more for these benefits. But you can't spend it if you don't have it. The "it" in this case is disposable income. If you need every cent you make to put food on the table and a roof over your head, EFO collecting is not for you.

But my experience and observation is that almost anyone who is interested enough to collect stamps can afford EFO collecting. It's a matter of inspiration. If there is something that really toots your whistle and you just can't live without it, you may just have to go without something else that might otherwise seem essential: a newer more expensive car, eating out at expensive restaurants, new thermal-pane windows for the home, etc.)

Of course, if one were born a Rockefeller, or hits the lottery, or acquires wealth during a successful career, scrimping and saving is not a necessity, but that is not the situation for most of us. It certainly isn't for me.

I have several times in my philatelic career committed to long term purchases of desired items knowing I could squeeze \$50 to \$100 a month from my discretionary budget by avoiding stops at fast food restaurants, and taking Peanut-Butter and Jelly sandwiches to work for lunch. The results have been highly desirable items in my collection purchased on the basis of "short term pain, long term gain".

My point here is that having money is often less the problem than willingness to spend it. For almost all of us, our wants are greater than our wallet can support. But I try to remember a philatelic life lesson that Clyde Jennings once let me in on. He said, "I've never regretted buying something I wanted. I've often regretted NOT buying something."

Clyde was talking about covers, but the lesson is equally applicable to unusual EFO material which once sold to another may not cross your path again.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

Part III

Bill McMurray

P.O. Box 342

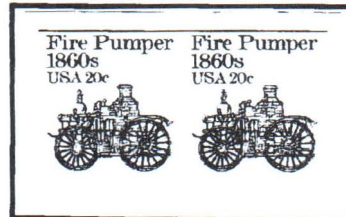
Westerly, RI 02891

E-mail: Mcmurraypnc@aol.com

This first page below illustrates the Fire Pumper with perforation problems. 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.

20c FIRE PUMPER ERROR'S, FREAKS AND ODDITIES

PERFORATIONS



IMPERF PAIR

MISSING PERFORATIONS

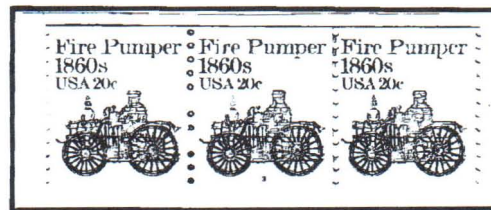
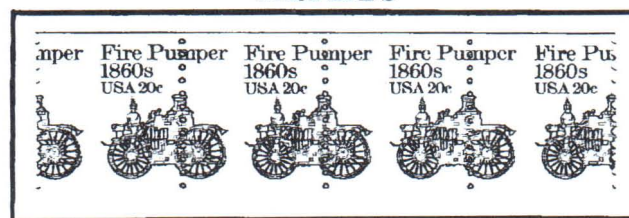


Plate Number 3

Broken Pins result in two missing perforations.

MISPERFS



Electric Eye Bars on web misaligned with the perforating equipment result in perfs through the stack on the Pumper above and between the "r" and "e" of "Fire" below.

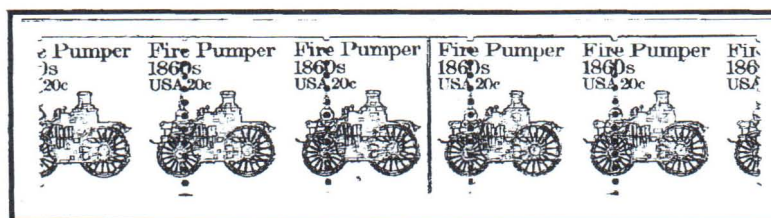


Plate Number 5

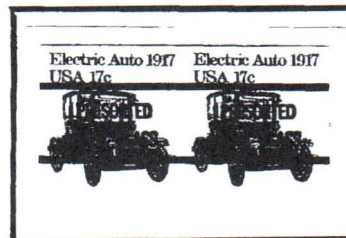
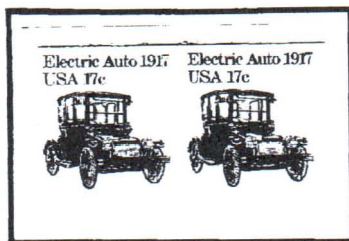
EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates Errors, Freaks & Oddities on the 17c Electric Auto stamp that were created during the perforation process. The cover at the bottom of the page has a red cancel which does not show up on the copy.

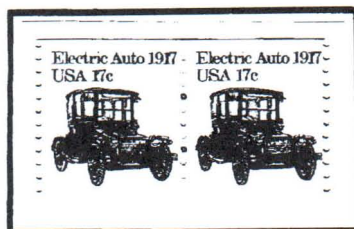
17c Electric Auto Errors, Freaks & Oddities

Perforator not engaged or misaligned with Electric Eye Bars on top of web as the web was fed through the perforating equipment produces errors and freaks.

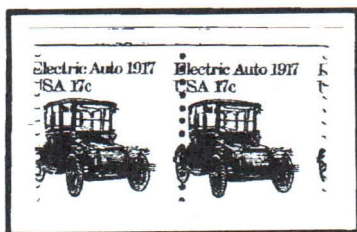
IMPERF PAIRS



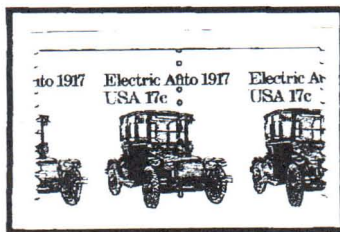
BLIND PERFS



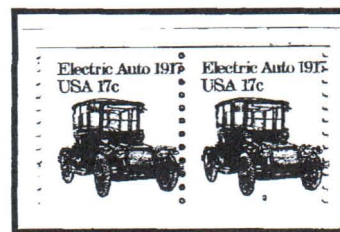
MISPERFS



Shift 2.5 mm Right



Shift 9.5 mm Left



Shift 2 mm Left

IMPERF PAIR ON COVER



17c Electric Auto Imperf Pair overpays 33c Airmail Rate by 1 cent.

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This exhibit page below illustrates Color Varieties on the 17c Electric Auto stamp that were created during the printing process. I would like to thank Mr. Francis C. Pogue of Virginia Beach, VA for taking the time to write me a three page hand written letter with corrections and suggestions on how to improve my Great American Exhibit.

17c Electric Auto Color Varieties

The 17c Electric Auto color is listed as Ultramarine (blue pigment) and was first sent to press on June 4, 1981. The 17c Electric Auto was printed on both Type I and Type II paper. The four examples shown below are printed on Type I paper and are from the first printing. Note how the color progresses to almost black.

LIGHT BLUE

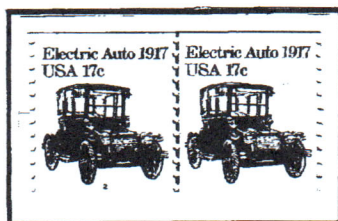


Plate Number 39712-2

MEDIUM BLUE

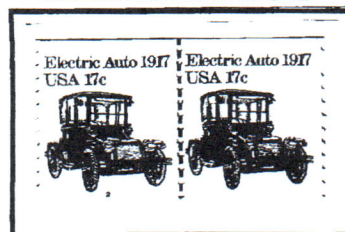


Plate Number 39712-2

DARK BLUE

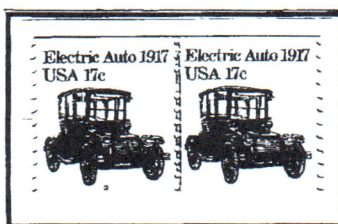


Plate Number 39712-2

BLUE BLACK

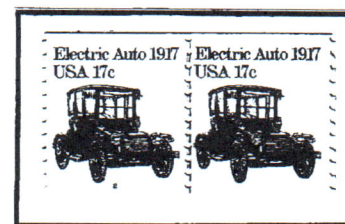


Plate Number 39712-2

SNOW STORM MOVES IN FROM THE WEST

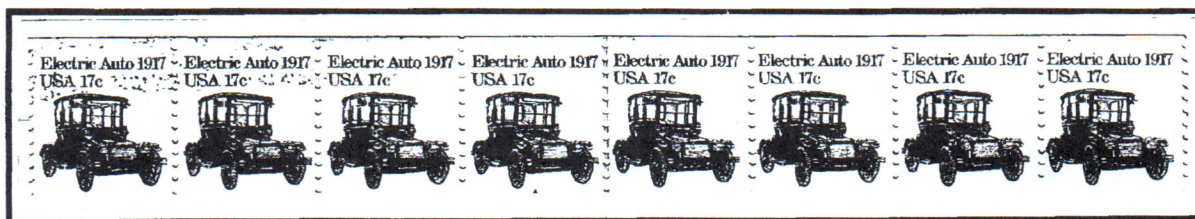


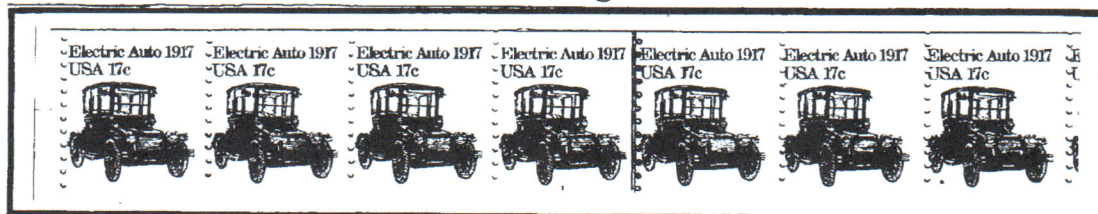
Plate Number 39714-4

The first three stamps on this strip have spatters of ink resembling a snow storm which resulted from a defective doctor blade (wiping mechanism).

EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

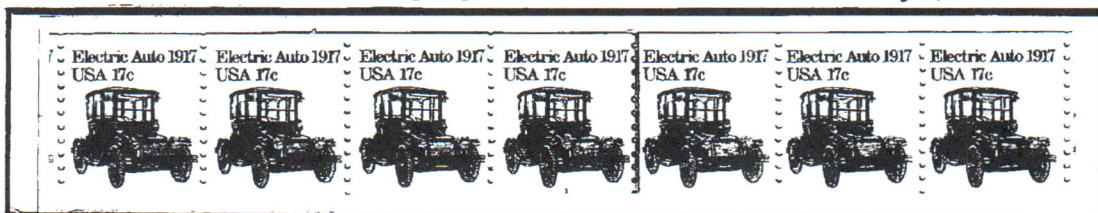
The next two pages illustrates the making of a perforation bisect with ten consecutive impressions of the 17c Electric Auto stamp.

17c Electric Auto - The Making of a Perforation Bisect



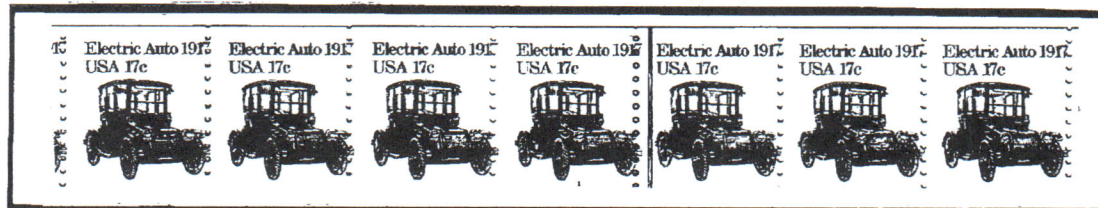
FIRST IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 1 mm RIGHT

These 17c Electric Auto strips illustrate ten consecutive impressions from the second printing of plate numbers 1 & 2 from the January 8, 1985



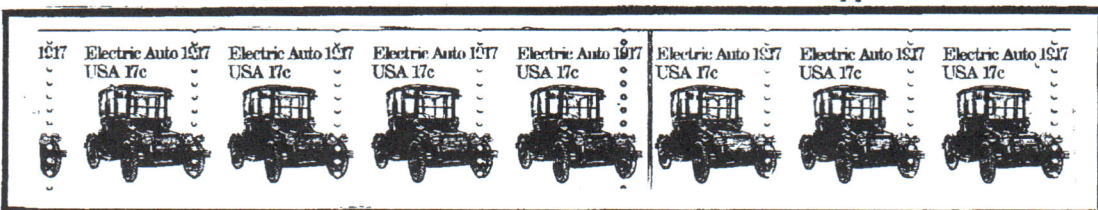
SECOND IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS .50 mm LEFT

Cottrell Press 803 printing. This press used shaved precancel mats to apply tagging and these stamps have a tagging break on the third



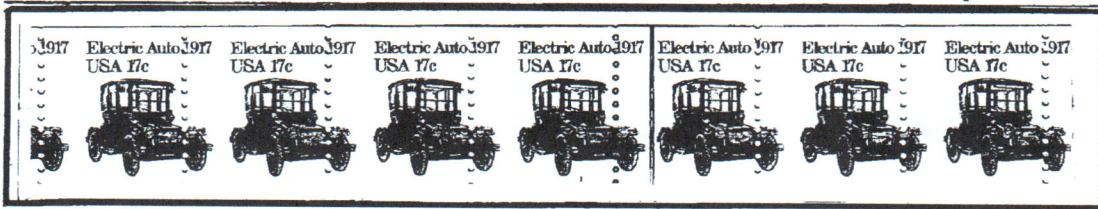
THIRD IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 2 mm LEFT

stamp left of the line. Also this third stamp has the bottom one third untagged which is the area where the mats were clipped to the



FOURTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 4 mm LEFT

cylinder, consequently these strips are from the 18th or bottom row of the plate.



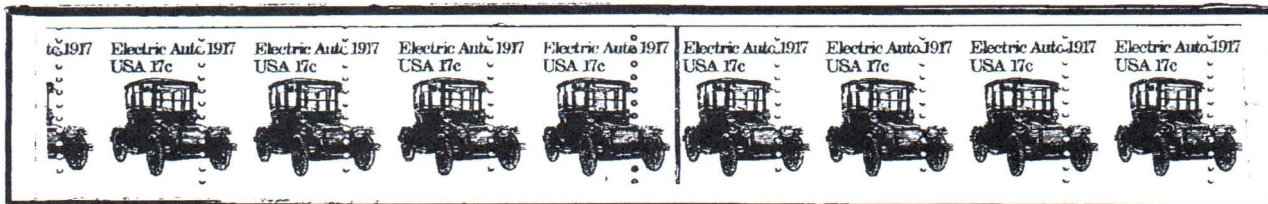
FIFTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 5 mm LEFT

The Huck Coiling Equipment utilizes a rotary perforator equipped with 42 rows of pins which punch a row of holes across the entire web at

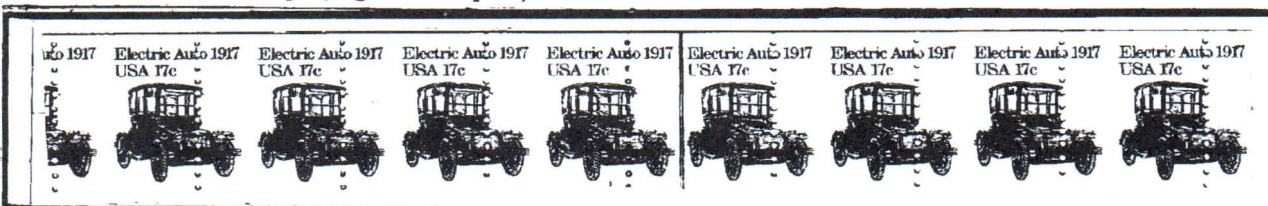
EXHIBITING ERRORS, FREAKS & ODDITIES

This page illustrates the perforation bisect on the tenth impression of the 17c Electric Auto stamp. Part IV will illustrate the corrected and upgraded pages from Part II on the Great Americans.

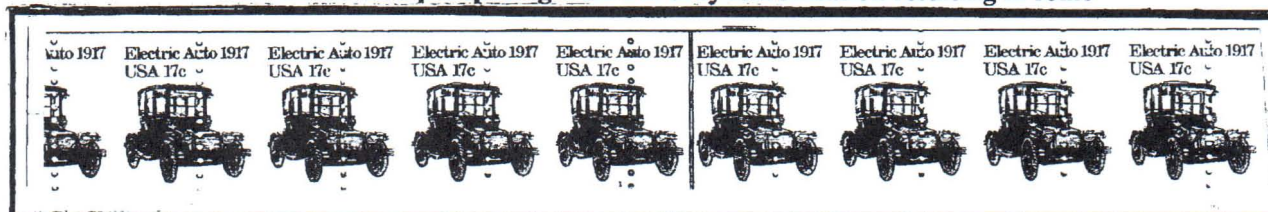
17c Electric Auto - The Making of a Perforation Bisect



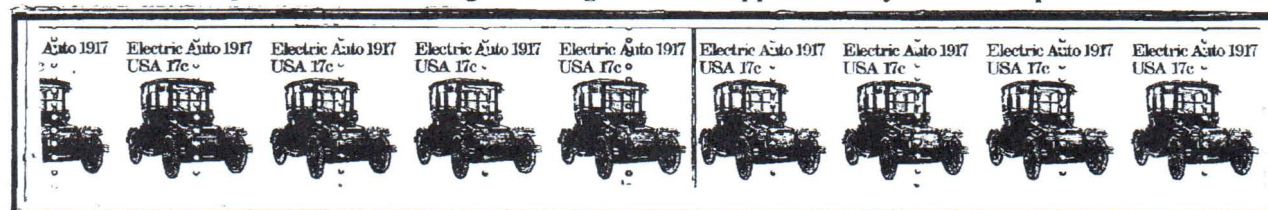
SIXTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 7 mm LEFT
22 mm (+ or - .25 mm) intervals. Any punching fault will repeat every 42 stamps (e.g. broken pins).



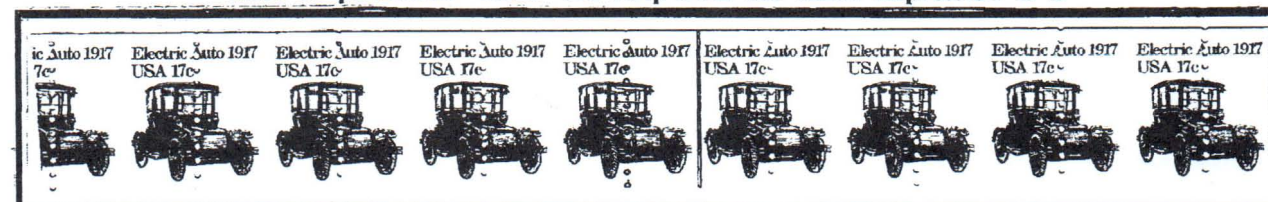
SEVENTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 8 mm LEFT
These misperf strips are examples of equipment startup when the web movement and pin spacing were out of synchronization resulting in some



EIGHT IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 9 mm LEFT
of the stamps being 22.50 mm to 22.75 mm wide. This resulted in the perforations drifting from right to left approximately 1.25 mm per



NINTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 10 mm LEFT
impression of the press. The strip from the second impression is close to perfection while the strip from the tenth impression is a



TENTH IMPRESSION - PLATE NUMBER 1 - PERFS 11 mm LEFT --BISECT
Bisect through Plate Number 1.

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Meeting Our Fellow Members

Ed Silver, the Dealer We Know as “Ag”

By Stan Raugh

Ag is shorthand for silver...do you recall that from high school chemistry?

Just as simple is Ed Silver's approach to philately. It is his hobby and he enjoys it as a part-time dealer.

Starting out collecting packets at about age 10, selling duplicates to his friends, specializing in EFO stamps, and then putting aside his collection while he went to college, Ed followed a common pattern.

But five years after the psychiatric social worker graduated, a spark was ignited.

"I had a boss at work who was thinking of becoming a stamp dealer."

"I dusted off my EFO collection and excess stock and began to advertise in Linn's and later in the APS magazine."

"I have been more of a dealer than collector but never wanted to get too big or busy because of my mental health career." Ed now runs his own mental health practice.

And this is where his easy approach to the hobby is so beneficial. "In a sense, part time dealership became my hobby," he notes.

In many collecting areas, it is difficult for a person to fill both the roles of collector and dealer as there internal struggle over what to keep and what to sell.

Dealer-collectors have different ways of handling this and some see their role as a dealer as being their hobby, allowing them to pass along most of their finds to collectors.

In the field of EFOs there is also another factor.

Even before he went to college, Ed learned that, "often, to get EFO stamps, I had to buy sheets and coils."

Multiples provide the EFO dealer with examples for his collection as well as plenty for customers.

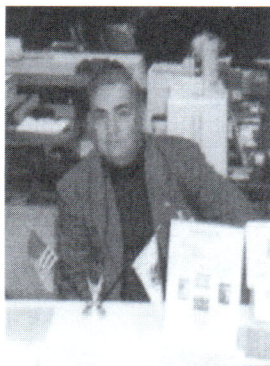
Ed has brought to market many nice stamps over the years including the printer's waste imperforate sheet of the 10-cent Collective Bargaining stamp.

He discovered sheets of the "two-tailed cat" variety of Scott #1468, The 100th Anniversary of Mail Order stamp, "which I still use in promotions," Ed notes. I might add that this variety resides in my collection, courtesy of him.

"I suspect I have helped to build quite a few really nice EFO collections over the years and have made a lot of friends as a result."

A columnist for five years for Stamp Show News and it's successor, Ed was very active in building our club during the first couple years.

A young age 61, he is sure to achieve a great deal more for our hobby.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Please take time and give thought that the EFOCC needs new Club officers for the period 1 July, 2004 to 30 June, 2006. Club by-laws require a nomination committee, consisting of three members, shall be appointed by the President prior to the 15th of November in the last year of his/her term of office. This committee shall not include any person planning to seek an elected Club office.

To date and other than volunteers for the secretary and treasurer's positions, no one has come forward to seek presidency, vice-president or serve on a nominating committee?

Due to family concerns, I am unable to continue as EFOCC president beyond 30 June, 2004.

Please mark your calendar—there will be an east coast EFOCC regional meeting during AmeriStamp Expo 2004, Norfolk, Virginia, January 30 to February 1, 2004. For EFOCC meeting and seminar times, please visit our EFOCC website at www.foers.org.

Sincere thanks to Authur Preuss for his generous donation of philatelic material which will be awarded as door prizes for our AmeriStamp Expo 2004 and Stampshow 2004 club business meetings.

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.

WANTEDt! Anything unusual for The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Scott #1548), Washington Irving (Scott #859), or 1981 Christmas Bear on Sled (Scott #1940). — Gary Denis, P. O. Box 766, Patuxent River, MD 20670.

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 Raugh**, 4217 8h Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805.

Wanted! PNC's with 50% upper and 50% lower plate numbers or PNC's with 100% upper plate numbers or any EFO issue of the Black Heritage issues. **Ken Moreau**, 308 Coronation Road, Franklin, MA 02038. Phone/Fax (508)

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, miscuts, 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



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

Beck Stamp Auctions, POB 2506, Mesa, AZ 85214-2506

Steve Crippe, Inc., POB 23413, Tampa, FL 33623

Howard Frank, POB 340868, Brooklyn, NY 11234

Stan Goldfarb, 8520 Atwell Rd, Potomac, MD 20854

Sam Houston Philatelics, POB 820087, Houston, TX 77282

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

J. Nalbandian, POB 71, E. Greenwich, RI 02818

Princeton Philatelics, POB 304, Tappan, NY 10983

Jacques C. Schiff, Jr., 195 Main St, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660-1696

Martin Sellinger, POB 47, White Plains, NY 10602-0047

Saskatoon Stamp Centre, (BNA & Canada varieties - only), Box 1870,

— Saskatoon, SK Canada S7K 3S2

Smith, Thomas E. POB 23149, Phoenix, AZ 85063-3149

Stephen Wittig, P. O. Box 2742, Springfield, MO 65801

Victory Stamps, P. O. Box 1129, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465

Weiss Philatelics, P. O. Box 5358, Bethlehem, PA 18015

- 609-654-7415

- 480-969-5835

- 813-878-9845

- Foreign EFO's only

- 301-279-0754

- 800-231-5962

- 703-820-5449

- 219-924-4836

- 212-877-7223

- 215-728-7836

- 401-885-5020

- 845-359-7434

- 201-641-5566

- 914-948-4246

- 800-205-8814

- 623-205-1163

- 417-831-8746

- 843-849-6713

- 610-691-6857

Updated: 11/1/2003



The EFOCC Officers wish you and yours
the very, very best for this holiday season
and a bountiful New Year.

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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,
Email: <jmhstamp@ix.netcom.com>

AUCTION DIRECTOR-

Peter L. Rikard, POB 25623, Richmond, VA 23260—Phone: (804) 550-4953,
Email: <plrikard@comcast.net>

TREASURER-

David Hunt, 45 Fairway Drive, Denver, PA 17517—Phone: (717) 445-9420,
Email: <dhhunt@ptdprolog.net>

SECRETARY

Stan Raugh, 4217 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560—Phone: (610) 921-5717
Email: <trex@bigplanet.com>

BOARD MEMBER (3 POSITIONS) — VACANT

EDITOR— VACANT

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR—VACANT

Secretary's Report

by Stan Raugh, 4217 8th Avenue, Temple, PA 19560-1805
Tele: 610-921-5822 E-mail: trex@bigplanet.com

New Members:

1288 Tim Lamoreaux
273 South 300 E
Santaquin, UT 84655

1289 Alvaro Pacheco
8760 Azalea Court Apt. 102
Tamarac, FL 33321

1290 Tri-K Stamps
Casimer D. Kielbosa
P. O. Box 154
Cheektowaga, NY 14225-0154

1291 Stan Dudley
309 Brighton Road- Worthing
West Sussex
ENGLAND
BN11 2HL

1292 Sam Whitehead
P. O. Box 1871
Greenville, SC 29602

1293 Weiss Philatelics
W. R. Weiss
P. O. Box 5358
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Welcome to the new members above, we are happy to have you join. Check your address above and your mailing label. If there are any errors let me know!

Membership Changes:

LM27 Stan Raugh

Yes, your secretary took the plunge and updated to life membership status. At \$210 a life membership is a real hobby bargain. You can pay in three installments of \$77 over the year of your renewal. This may soon increase!

State of the Membership:

We have been doing real well in boosting our membership! As of July 31 we had 162 members. In addition to the new members listed here, we have had almost a dozen former members sign back on! We are at 179 members and growing!

A special **thank you** as well to the five members whose dues were coming up with this issue and paid in advance! This saves the club postage and printing for reminder notices (as well as work for ye olde secretary). I really appreciate it!

Dues are Due!

We still have 12 members whose dues will be up with this issue. If your membership number ends in "03D" then your dues are due. Please rejoin—we want 100% participation.

Permission, Please:

There are times when large auction houses, etc., would like to send free copies of a catalog when they have a large offering of EFO material. If you would *not* like to have your name and address given out for this, let me know. It won't happen often, but we feel it is a part of the services the club can offer to help you build your collection.

Officers:

We seriously need to fill a couple vacancies. Our president has been filling in as editor for some time. He is a people-person and does a lot of good will work recruiting new members. But he also serves in other important philatelic offices. He never complains, but it would be great for an energetic person to come forward to fill this position. Are you interested?

E F O Collectors Club

Treasurer's Report
for the quarter
I July - 30 September 2003

Beginning Balance 1 July 2003 \$748~.81

Income

Dues and initiation	\$ 688.10
Other	\$ 3.00
	\$ 691.10

Expenses

"EFO Collector"	\$ 792.67
Officers' Expenses	\$ 565.68
	\$-1358.35

Ending Balance 30 September 2003 \$ 6822.56

Notes:

Comparison of ending balances for last five quarters:

30 SEP 02	\$ 8591.64
31 DEC 02	\$ 8033.87
31 MAR 03	\$ 7138.31
30 JUN 03	\$ 7489.81
30 SEP 03	\$ 6822.56

Note that the Club has suffered a deficit of over \$1700 in the last year. At this rate the Club will be out of business in four years. We must take action now to correct this trend. I solicit your suggestions. Please send them to me or to Jim.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David H. Hunt, Treasurer

President's comments—not only does the membership have to address our decreasing treasury problem, we have to address the widening void in our elective offices.

PLEASE!! Submit your thoughts, suggestions, ideas, etc as to how each might be able to provide funds and leadership for the leadership to be able to provide the leadership and information our membership deserves.

Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee's U.S. stamp criteria

1. It is a general policy that U.S. postage stamps and stationery primarily will feature American or American-related subjects.
2. No living person shall be honored by portrayal on U.S. postage.
3. Commemorative stamps or postal stationery items honoring individuals usually will be issued on or in conjunction with significant anniversaries of their birth, but no postal item will be issued sooner than ten years after the individual's death. The only exception to the ten-year rule is the issuance of stamps honoring deceased U.S. presidents. They may be honored with a memorial stamp on the first birth anniversary following death.
4. Events of historical significance shall be considered for commemoration only on anniversaries in multiples of 50 years.
5. Only events and themes of widespread national appeal and significance will be considered for commemoration. Events or themes of local or regional significance may be recognized by a philatelic or special postal cancellation, which may be arranged through the local postmaster.
6. Stamps or stationery items shall not be issued to honor fraternal, political, sectarian, or service/charitable organizations. Stamps or stationery shall not be issued to promote or advertise commercial enterprises or products. Commercial products or enterprises might be used to illustrate more general concepts related to American culture.
7. Stamps or stationery items shall not be issued to honor cities, towns, municipalities, counties, primary or secondary schools, hospitals, libraries, or similar institutions. Due to the limitations placed on annual postal programs and the vast number of such locales, organizations and institutions in existence, it would be difficult to single out any one for commemoration.
8. Requests for observance of statehood anniversaries will be considered for commemorative postage stamps only at intervals of 50 years from the date of the state's first entry into the Union. Requests for observance of other state-related or regional anniversaries will be considered only as subjects for postal stationery, and again only at intervals of 50 years from the date of the event.
9. Stamps or stationery items shall not be issued to honor religious institutions or individuals whose principal achievements are associated with religious undertakings or beliefs.
10. Stamps or postal stationery items with added values, referred to as "semipostals," shall be issued every two years in accordance with Public Law 106253. Semipostals will not be considered as part of the commemorative program and separate criteria will apply.
11. Requests for commemoration of universities and other institutions of higher education shall be considered only for stamped cards and only in connection with the 200th anniversaries of their founding.
12. No stamp shall be considered for issuance if one treating the same subject has been issued in the past 50 years. The only exceptions to this rule are traditional themes such as national symbols and holidays.

Philatelic Media Listing

Canadian Stamp News: Bret Evans, editor, 103 Lakeshore Road, Suite 202, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2N 2T6, Canada.

Cronica Filatelica: Yolanda Zuniga, editor, 28 Lagasca, E-28001, Madrid, Spain.

Deutsche Briefmarken-Revue: editor, 13 Konkordiastrasse, D-40219, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Gibbons Stamp Monthly: Hugh Jeffries, editor, 5 Parkside, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH, Great Britain.

Global Stamp News: Jan Brandewie, editor, P.O. Box 97, Sidney, OH 453650097, U.S.A.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie: editor, 37 rue des Jacobins, F-80036, Amiens, Cedex 1, France.

Linn's Stamp News: Michael Schreiber, editor, P.O. Box 29, Sidney, Ohio, 45365, U.S.A.

Mekeel's and Stamps Magazine: John L. Leszak, editor, 175R Procter Hill Road, Hollis, NH 03049-6427, U.S.A.

Philatelie Quebec: Guy Desroiers, editor, 275 Rue Bryant, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1J 3E6, Canada.

Scott Stamp Monthly: Michael Baadke, editor, P.O. Box 828, Sidney, Ohio, 45365-0828, U.S.A.

Stamp Collector: Wayne Youngblood, editor, 700 East State Street, Iola, Wisconsin, 54945, U.S.A.

Stamp Lover: Michael Furnell, editor, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6FT, Great Britain.

Stamp Magazine, Steve Fairclough, editor, 9-17 Rockwood House, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 3DH, Great Britain.

U.S. Stamp News: John Hotchner, editor, P.O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041, U.S.A.

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED SEEKS DONATIONS

As SFTW looks toward its 62nd year, we ask that stamp collectors remember SFTW's work as you dispose of excess philatelic material. We need material throughout the year, but it is especially welcome as the holiday season draws near. We now serve over 11,000 individual in-and-out-patients, and 56 organized stamp clubs in veteran's hospitals and convalescent centers - nation wide.

Stamps of all kinds, covers, and philatelic literature and supplies of any type, in any quantity, are needed. Tax deductible cash donations are also helpful to finance stamp supplies and the postage costs of sending out our parcels.

STFW is an authorized non-profit organization, operating under the sponsorship of Lions International. Donations may be sent to STFW/LI at P. O. Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041. Donations for which a tax receipt is requested should include a rough inventory or listing with a valuation according to catalogue value, or on some other reasonable basis.

An informational pamphlet will be sent on request. Contact SFTW Vice President John M. Hotchner, 703-820-5449, or at POB 1125, Falls Church, VA22041.

Help With New Projects – Free Listing

Kansas-Nebraska Issue Looking for any of the “a” numbers (Pairs with only one overprint). I am preparing an exhibit and would like one of these and any other unusual overprints (e.g. missing period, etc.), unusual cancels. What have you? Alan R. Davis, PO Box 85039, Tucson, AZ 85754-5039 or bobacarol@netzero.net

Doing an analysis of stamp auction houses, as to likes and dislikes, of those placing stamps in an auction. If you have placed stamps or attempted to place stamps in an auction, let me know the name of the auction house (It will be held confidential.) and what you like and did not like about the experience. Howard Frank, PO Box 340868, Brooklyn, NY 11234.

The Great Americans untagged errors, **PNC** split numbers and numbers on top. **Black Heritage** - all EFOs. Ken Moreau, 402 Coronation Dr., Franklin, MA 02038.

5c Johnny Appleseed, Scottt No.1317; Also #972 (Indian Centennial), #1018 (Ohio Statehood), #1122 (Fort Duquesne), 1178-1182 (Civil War), #1289 (George C. Marshall, #1364 (American Indian), #s2176-2178-2184 (Great Americans). Any “exotic” material. Will buy, sell, or trade. Giovanni Bertolini, C.P. 267, 20099 Sesto S. Giovanni, Milan, Italy. E-mail bertolgi@tiscalinet.it

Constant “War Perf” Part-Perf Settings on vertical pairs of Presidentials, National Defense issues and War Savings stamps. If you have any of these, and would like a copy of my last article laying out what exists, send me a stamped addressed envelope. Now trying to update that article and hoping for new finds/reports of items previously not known. John Hotchner, PO Box 1125, Falls Church, VA 22041.

If you would like a free listing in The EFO Collector to help you with a new EFO project, please complete the form below, and send it to the Editor ASAP:

I’m looking for _____

Name and address: _____
Send to CWO Jim McDevitt, 955 S. Grove Blvd., #65, Kingsland, Georgia 31548-5263

The EFO Collectors' Club

4217 8th Avenue,
Temple, PA 19560

PERIODICAL/DATED MATTER
POSTMASTER, DO NOT
DELAY DELIVERY

Return Service Requested

