

November 2019

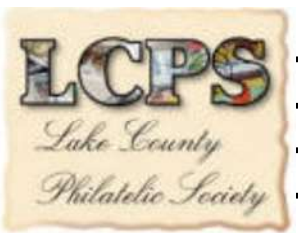
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Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: LCPSHOME.ORG

Perforations



Jack A Dutton (91) of Park City, IL, passed away on Tuesday, 08 October. He was born to the late Frank and Harriett Dutton in Waukegan, IL on 11 September 1928.

He joined the club in 1958 and participated in numerous shown sponsored by the club when it sponsored shows in the former Lakehurst Mall – winning many of the various competitions over the years.

He collected a wide variety of stamps with particular interest in the Vatican City, The United States and United Nations issues.

Last month we discussed the techniques collecting and displaying our collections. The method varied from the publish albums, hand crafted albums, in three-ring binders on Vario pages, stock books and finally, mounting stamp in approval card and placing them in photo albums.

This month we will discuss CHICAGOPEX, the largest stamp show in the region that took place 22-24 November.



1st Snow – 11Nov

Note: The January meeting will be at the Grayslake Library on **27 January — the 4th MONDAY**. We are running into stiff competition with “Cannabis Access in Illinois” and the “Annual Preschool Fair”. The Subject will be “Postal Stationery” By Dave Sadler.



This month, we will discuss

- 1) Chicagopex 2019 (2019 November 22-24),
- 2) Final preps for the Holiday Brunch
(11 AM Sat, 07 Dec at the Gurnee Golden Corral (1455 Dilleys Road Gurnee IL) and
- 3) as usual, feel free to bring items for trade/sale or donation.

Treasures' Report: Total – \$3,000+

**Local
Stamp
Shows**

Chicagopex
Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Boulevard
Itasca IL
November 22, 23 and 24



SUPLEX 2019
Operating Engineers Hall
6200 Joliet Rd Countryside IL
November 30



MSDA MILWAUKEE STAMP SHOW
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport
6401 South 13th ST
Milwaukee WI
January 18 and 19, 2020

Next meeting:

7-PM on Tuesday 26 November 2018
at the Grayslake Library
100 Library Lane - Grayslake IL 60030



Officers:

Dr Tom Willer – President
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Ed Pieklo – Treasurer

Collecting the Plate Number Coil — A plate number coil (PNC) is a uniquely American, a United States coil postage stamp with the number of the printing plate/plates printed on it. The plate number typically appears as one or more small digits in the margin at the bottom of the stamp. The plate number may be centered or, on some coil issues, located toward the right. Although most plate numbers are composed of just numbers, both a combination of letter and number may be used. In the case when a letter is represented in the plate number, an upper-case letter usually appears at the beginning or at the end of the sequence with the letter serving as a good identifier of the stamp printer.

The plate number is on one stamp out of the number of stamps printed by a single revolution of rotary printing press used to print the stamps.



In the examples above, which is a closeup of a strip of 1994 "Rate-Increase (32c) "Flag" perforated stamps, we can see a plate number comprising five digits, one for each color layer and letter (S). The digits are quite small, and often hard to read because they are blurred by the halftone screen. Also, in second example of the 1996 32c "Flag-Over-Porch", there are additional numbers on the left, that denote the year the issue is copyrighted or printed and, therefore, should not be mistaken as the plate number. While there are other factors such as condition and centering, the philatelic value of a PNC single or strip highly depends on its plate numbers with some plate numbers commanding higher catalog values due to their rarity and strong collector interest.

Collectors specializing in PNC collecting typically save plate number coils in the following formats:

PNC5 - Plate Number Coil 5 - A strip of 5 mint stamps with the plate number coil on the center stamp - (an effort to have a symmetrical presentation).

PNC3 - Plate Number Coil 3 - A strip of 3 mint stamps with the plate number coil on the center stamp (the next step up from coil-line pairs).

There is an exception to this due to issues with more than one design. These PNC's generally abide by the rule for coils with more than one design is given by the formula of the number of designs x 2 plus one. The United States Crops coil stamps, issued in 2006, have five designs with only one of the stamp designs bearing a plate number. In this case, a PNC5 will show all five designs but not the stamp without the plate number. It should be noted that while some collectors will save this issue as a PNC5, others may choose to save an issue as a PNC11 so that the stamps of the same design with and without the plate number are represented. Other stamp issues that cause a problem are the "25c Non-Denominated Eagle" set of 10 different design/color combinations (#3792 – 3801/3792a – 3801a/3792d-3801d) of 2003. In meet this formula, the PNC would consist of 21 stamps – somewhat larger than an album can handle without folding the coil stamps.

This further complicated when the coil stamp is double the size of standard definitive issues. In this case, the full strip does not fit on a standard page - example the "Flags of Our Nation" (Scott 4273-4332) issued in six sets of 10 different stamps from 2008 – 2112 (*usually collected as a coil of 10 with the plate number on stamp #1*). The other odd-ball double sized stamp was issued in 2017, the Father Theodore Hesburgh (Scott 5242). the collectable format is a PNC5 that does not fit will on album page very well. The number of PNC collector plummeted after 2008 much as the case of plate number blocks collectors did after the issuing multiples of stamps with four-or-more plate numbers.

Although many collectors still collect coils in this format, a larger number of these collectors still prefers the PNC5 format. As a result, a PNC3 is less desirable than a PNC5 as evidenced by many specialized stamp catalogs now assigning much higher premiums to PNC5 formats of earlier coil issues. Initially, saving PNC3s had been the practice adopted by many collectors and dealers alike and, therefore, not many early issues were saved in the longer format.

The two other formats are:

PNS - Plate Number Single - A single unused or used plate number coil stamp. If used, the plate number must be identifiable and not be obliterated by the postmark, although many precanceled issues, in order to show their proper use and to be collectible, should not receive any postmarks.

On cover - An envelope bearing a used plate number coil stamp with a contemporary postmark tying the stamp to the envelope. Many collectors prefer the cover to have the correct postage and proper stamp or stamps used for the envelope. An example of an improper use is to combine many precanceled stamps and older issues on an envelope as payment for a first-class postage. Although this practice is allowed by the Post Office, most collectors find this and stamp collector contrived or philatelic covers less desirable.

More information can be found on the website: <https://www.pnc3.org/> — **Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (American Philatelic Society Affiliate #185).**

PNC21 shown at 20%