

June 2020

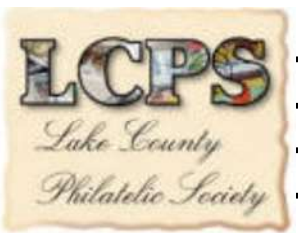
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Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: LCPShome.org

Perforations



Bill Schultz Kunstgalerie
(Art Gallery)

Custom tour of die interessanten Gemälde der Welt
by Bill Schultz
For LCPS - May, 2020



JACKSON POLLACK - ARTIST



Last month both Bill Schultz and Tom Willer presented on the topic of ART as found on stamps.

Bill's presentation "**Opening your Personal Galley**" which gave an overview of the many samples artwork by the "Old Masters" and various styles used by artist that have been used on stamps around the word.

Tom focused on one artist, Jackson Pollack. For some unknown reason has had his works depicted on many nations' (at least 17 countries) stamps – including ours — the **1999 33c Celebrate the Century - 1940s: Abstract Expressionism** (Scott 3186h).



In general, one can collect most of the world's greatest masterpieces for your own private viewing on a shoe-string budget and not have to expand your home to house (other than a bookcase or two) the collection.

Stamp Lickers Beware! "THE DEADLY STAMP," warned *The Washington Post* headline and announced that "Postage Stamp Tongue is a new disease." The ailment was characterized by a sore tongue covered with red spots. Without treatment, it would likely develop into a bad sore throat. The short article concluded with simple advice for its readers: "Never lick a postage stamp with your tongue...It shows a great lack of cleanliness and hygienic knowledge." - 1896 November 22 *Washington Post* (pre Amazon)

This month, Jerry Nylander will present "**Schermack Perforations — The Hole Story**"; maybe ... a story of a company that took US postage stamps, packaged them in a convenient package that later lead to the "junk mail" industry of the 20th century.



Meeting Info: Given the negative status of both our libraries opening their meeting rooms, Dave Schenkel has scheduled the following eight dates for **ZOOM meetings**:

Dates:

June 23, 2020 07:00 PM

July 28, 2020 07:00 PM

August 25, 2020 07:00 PM

September 22, 2020 07:00 PM

October 27, 2020 07:00 PM

November 24, 2020 07:00 PM

December 22, 2020 07:00 PM

January 26, 2021 07:00 PM

Use the Computer Join URL (Web Address):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84592152764> just prior to 7pm on the meeting date.

This will connect device to view the presentation, and if you have speakers and microphone listen to and comment.

For Those who do not have a microphone or only wish to join just on audio, you can **Dial In** (*fees may apply depending on your phone contract*) **+1 312 626 6799** (Chicago) and when asked to enter your meeting ID, enter: **845 9215 2764 #**.

This should allow you both listen and talk if your device does not provide audio capability.

Treasures' Report:
Total ~ \$3,383.82

**No Shows are scheduled
for the foreseeable
future.**

Coil Stamps — In the United States, vending machine companies began to experiment with the automated dispensing of stamps. Early efforts to break sheets into strips manually did not work well, since they were prone to tearing and jamming, and soon the companies began to request imperforate sheets from the post office, cutting those into strips and punching holes of various shapes between each stamp. A variety of these "private coils" is known, some quite rare.

Next meeting:

7-PM on Tuesday 23 June 2020

Virtual Via ZOOM

Any Changes will be posted on: lcpshome.org



Officers:
Dave Schenkel – President
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Ed Pieklo – Treasurer

The first US government-produced coils appeared in 1908, produced by pasting together enough imperforate sheets to make rolls of 500 or 1,000 stamps, cutting them into strips and perforating between. The 1-cent, 2-cent and 5-cent values in the Series of 1902 (Second Bureau Issue) were produced in coil versions, but relatively few copies exist because in late 1908 the series was superseded by the Washington-Franklin Issues. As a result, all Second Bureau coils are quite rare.

It was not until later when the "small" rotary press was adopted, which eliminated the pasting stage as a continuous roll of paper could be fed through the machine made coil production economical in the process, opened another niche collecting specialty — joint line-pairs; as the cylindrical plate(s) used on a rotary press has a seam where ink tends to accumulate. Joint line-pairs began disappearing in 1981 with further advances in the rotary printing process.

This transition is found in the largest single series of stamps produced (51 denominations) by the USPS — the Transportation coils series is a set of definitive stamps issued by the United States Postal Service between 1981 and 1995. Officially dubbed the "Transportation Issue" or "Transportation Series", they have come to be called the "transportation coils" because all the denominations were issued in coil stamp format. All values except three were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

It was here that **Plate Numbers** were printed in small numbers at the bottom of **each coil** of stamps at intervals of twenty-four, forty-eight, or fifty-two depending on the printing press employed and these stamps are known as plate number coils — the first being the definitive **18c Flag "...from sea to shining sea"** #1891 issue on 1981 April 24. In the past, the plate number appeared once on each plate but were cut off during the finishing process.

This first plate number stamp was followed on June 25 by the first transportation coil; the **17c Electric Auto 1917** #1906. In all, 1981 introduced three more transportation issues (**18c Surrey** #1907, **20c Fire Pumper** #1908 and the **9.3c Mail Wagon** #1903).



Scott 1891



Scott 1906



Scott 1906a – PNC5 with Joint Line

The theme of the series was historical transportation vehicles used in the United States since its independence. The designs are spare, consisting only of the vehicle itself, and with inscriptions describing the general type (say "Omnibus") and a date, either a decade or a specific year. The stamps are primarily engraved, almost all in a single color on plain white paper (the \$1.00 seaplane 1914 #2468 is in two colors).

A good number of the denominations also received special service inscriptions in black, such as "Bulk Rate" or "ZIP + 4 Presort". These additional markings make for many minor Scott numbers within the series with many of those denominations were unusual decimal rates, such as 16.7 or 24.1 cents, used by bulk mailers and other businesses who also used precancels keeping the tradition of the decimal rates had begun with some earlier coils of the 1975 Americana Series.

The series became popular with stamp collectors, both because of the "classic" engraved designs, and because to the emergence of the plate number collecting. Many issues with specific plate numbers are hard to find and can be valuable. In general, the Transportation series is collected as a coil single, coil pair and a plate number coil of 3 or 5 – with the PNC5 being the preferred number coil form. Plate Number Singles are also collected mainly in a used format.

Because of their heavy use by businesses mailing to households, vast quantities of these were produced, and were a common sight in the daily mail of the 1980s/1990s – so used examples are very common.

Since 1981, almost every coil stamp produced has a plate number (the exceptions are those printed for First Day Cover production). Popularity of Plate Number Coil collection in general has waned a bit with the issuing of the "long" strips of the "Flags of Our Nation" (PNC10s) series and most recently the 2020 "Wild Orchid" (PNC17) – formats that do not lend themselves in the standard size stamp album..

For more information on the transportation series and Plate Number Coils in general, visit the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club (PNC3) - American Philatelic Society Affiliate #1 website @ <https://pnc3.org/>