



Cancellation Club **NEWS**

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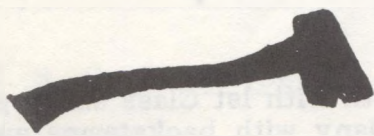
Cardinal, Kentucky



Appleton, Wisconsin



Dublin, Ohio



Bad Axe, Michigan



Red Fish, Louisiana



Norfolk, Virginia

Selected Covers from
William Walker's Collection
of Twentieth Century Fancy Cancels.

ROCK

Blue Rock, Illinois



Egg Harbor, Wisconsin



Gray Horse, Oklahoma



Acorn, Kentucky

20th CENTURY FANCY CANCELS

By William Walker

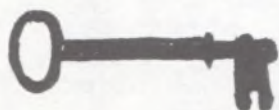
The late 1920's saw the beginning of over 1,500 fancy cancels in every color of the rainbow. They came into full flower in the early 1930's. Doubtlessly the Depression contributed at least somewhat to their development. The high rate of unemployment left many people with much time on their hands, but little money. Many avid stamp collectors were in this category.

Many of these cancels were in use only briefly or intermittently. Some, only one or a few days. In some instances as few as ten covers were serviced. Mostly they were used at 4th Class post offices. The postmasters in these small communities had a peculiar compensation plan. Their wages, up to \$1,400.00 per year, were derived from the sale of stamps which they sold and cancelled. In a great many small towns, local people didn't generate that much business.



Holland, Michigan

In all probability, it started innocently enough. A postmaster, with time to kill, fashioned a canceller of his own design. Appleton, Wis. has been mentioned as one of the first to do it. The cancel consisted of an apple with "ton" in intaglio. The practice spread swiftly. Many of the designs "tied in" with the town's name. Most did not or had a very obscure connection. Obliging philatelic publications contributed by printing news of available fancy cancels. Some stamp clubs sent notices of meetings to towns using pictorial cancels, for forwarding to members. The postmasters benefited by the increased sale of stamps. (\$27.00 a week in the depths of the Depression was a handsome sum, particularly in rural areas.)



Keysville, Florida

In 1931, the Postmaster General made an effort to curb the practice. However, not until 1934 did the postal authorities make a strenuous effort to halt the marvelous proliferation of beautiful cancels in various colors (some in two colors). I have a letter from the postmaster of Ed, Kentucky. To a customer dated 11-8-1934 it states that he had received a directive from the 3rd Assistant Postmaster General to cease and desist using fancy and colored cancels. Also, I have fancy cancels from Ed, Kentucky dated subsequently, so there were a number of violations of the order. It did, however, reduce the flood to a trickle, with leaks continuing into the 1940's and 1950's.

Pansy, Missouri



The fancy's exist both with 1st Class and registered franking. Many with backstamps and receiving postmarks. Some -- a few -- were sent by air-registered.

An excellent effort was made to catalog all of these cancels. Over 1400 quite faithful reproductions together with known dates of usage and the colors employed was published in hardback by Foster W. Loso and Heyliger De Windt in 1952. Hundreds more are not cataloged.

Since many of these cancels were used on only a small number of covers they are hard to find and the more rare items bring up to \$70.00 at auction. Still, many can be had for \$5 - 10.00. Registered covers command a large premium. Occasionally the franking on the registered covers consists of blocks, plate number blocks and the overprints from and before the time of usage.

The definitive book on these cancels remains to be done. Hopefully, the work of Loso De Windt can be carried forward. The first edition of this book is quite scarce and a second printing should also include drawings of the hundreds of cancels unknown to the authors.

Should any readers want to correspond on this subject, or swap duplicates, I would appreciate hearing from them.

CORRECTION OF ISSUE NUMBERING

Several members have brought to our attention the fact that there have been discrepancies in the numbering of recent issues of the U.S.C.C. News. The July issue should have been numbered as follows: "Volume 14, No. 4, Whole No. 150." The September, 1978 issue is numbered as: "Volume 14, No. 5, Whole No. 151." We are sorry for the confusion.

APS AFFILIATION ANNOUNCED

Members will be happy to learn that the U.S.C.C. has been accepted as Affiliate #75 by the APS. President Paul Wolf, who announced the news, also reported that we were asked to participate in the APS Convention at Indianapolis on September 21 - 24.

U. S. C. C. OFFICERS

Paul Wolf	President
William Rapp	1st Vice President
William H. Bauer	2nd Vice President
Herman Herst, Jr.	Governor at Large
Hubert C. Skinner	Director

THE U.S. CANCELLATION CLUB NEWS

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ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page	\$25.00
Half Page	\$12.00
Quarter Page	\$ 7.00
Column Inch	\$ 2.00

CONTEST ENTRIES ENCOURAGED

Since our announcement in March of the U.S.C.C. News Article Competition, we have not exactly been overwhelmed with a flood of contributions. We hope to spark a resurgence of "literary" activity among our members. All articles -- of any topic and length -- are eligible for consideration. Prizes will consist of a First Place award of \$100, Second Place of \$50, and \$25 for the Third Place Contribution. Here is an opportunity to benefit the U.S.C.C. and win something in the process!

ORCOPEX '78 WINNER

The Orange County Philatelic Society stamp show, "ORCOPEX '78", was held July 1 and 2, 1978, in Buena Park, California. Larry Kelley won the U.S.C.C. Certificate for his exhibit "U.S. 19th Century Fancy Cancells". He also won a vermeil award.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

The caption over the attractive Maryland covers on Page 211 of July number of U.S.C.C. News is ambiguous and misleading.

The manuscript lists at the end of all state listings in American Stampless Cover Catalog, au contraire, are indeed the reported and listed towns known, but from which no handstamps are known. The usual reason these offices had only manuscript markings is that the volume of mail emanating from the offices was too small to warrant the purchase of the expensive and handcarved postal marking devices of that period.

I would like to add that Mr. Koontz' fine cover illustrations would be much more useful to U.S.C.C. collectors and postal historians if the year dates of the covers were shown alongside the ten pictures.

It is hoped that U.S.C.C. News readers will continue to submit items and particularly those not listed in American Stampless Cover Catalog. I also hope this letter is accepted in the constructive nature intended and in no way demeaning to your valuable work nor to Mr. Koontz' beautiful covers of Maryland.

Yours very respectfully,

Jerry B. Devol

MONTANA FANCY CANCEL DISCOVERED

by George Phillips

What appears to be a new find in the way of fancy cancels is a postmark of Stoneville, Montana, November 24, 1884, with a skull and crossbones killer which ties a 2-cent brown stamp. The cover is in quite good condition despite some minor tears and a small amount of staining, and contains a personal letter. The postmark including the skull and crossbones is clear and legible.

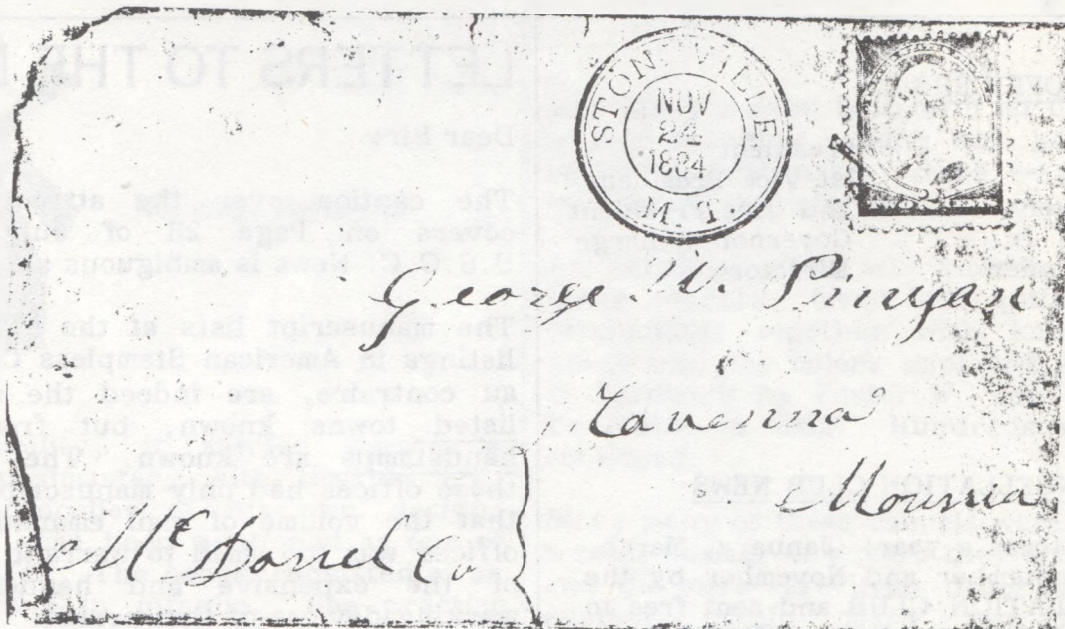
Dr. D. J. Lutz, editor of Montana Postal Cache and a leading authority on Montana postal history, believes that this is the first true fancy cancel known from Montana Territory and that it is to his knowledge the only cover from Stoneville, Montana.

Research by Dr. Lutz shows that the post office of Stoneville was established on August 4, 1880 in old Custer County, Montana

Territory, with Lewis M. Stone as postmaster. George H. Timblin was appointed postmaster on November 14, 1884 and the name of the post office was changed to Alzada on July 15, 1885. Thus, the post office existed as Stoneville a bit short of five years and the postmark in question was struck by Mr. Timblin just 10 days after he assumed the postmastership.

Alzada is still a post office in extreme southeastern Montana, were the principal industry is ranching and livestock. Although Stoneville was created in Custer County, it became part of Fallon County when that county was organized in 1913, and is now in Carter County, which was created in 1917.

I found the cover in a small lot of correspondence which I purchased from a privately owned museum which was closing. I am indebted to Paul Wolf and Dr. Lutz for the information about Stoneville post office.



QUESTION CORNER

Gentlemen:

In answer to the question on the 4-ring numeral 11 cancel in the May Question Corner I suggest the following:

A 20 mm. 4-ring numeral cancel was used during the bank note period. I note numbers 2 to 9 and 11 all in black. Unfortunately, none shows the city of use although the 3-ring was

used in Philadelphia and probably other cities.

Could the #87 Blackjack be a late use of this 4-ring cancel, instead of the 3-ring noted in your article?

Sincerely,

Jim Hopkins

WANT ADS

Wanted to buy NH covers and DPO's send for free buying list.

Henry Stevens Box 417
Alton, NH 03809

UNITED STATES POSTAL SLOGAN CANCEL CATALOG

The 1968 (6th) Edition, Revised 1975, of the U.S. POSTAL SLOGAN CANCEL CATALOG consists of 128 pages (5 1/2 X 8 1/2) plus covers, in a plastic, loose-leaf binding. It contains all the known Slogan Cancels from their inception in 1897 thru December 1967 of the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, U.S. and Philippine Islands (1908-1945) and Canal Zone alphabetically arranged, Numbered and Priced, and completely brought up to date with revised and updated price changes. Errors have been corrected and additions made that were originally omitted. The CATALOG includes WHERE & WHEN USED, TYPE OF CANCEL, HOW & WHAT TO COLLECT, CANCEL MACHINE IDENTITY CHART, COMMEMORATIVE CANCELS, U.S. USED ABROAD, SLOGAN ERRORS, REVISED TYPE CHARTS FOR WORLD'S PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION, SLOGAN TYPE SPECIAL SERVICE MARKINGS and an elaborate TOPICAL CHECK LIST, which contains approximately 85 different subjects.

The current market prices listed have been determined by compiling and averaging actual market prices from information received from collectors and dealers throughout the philatelic world. Slogans add value to all types of post cards and covers, entires, etc. ALL FLAG SLOGAN CANCELS, FAIRS AND EXPOSITION SLOGAN CANCELS are listed with revised market prices.

The UNITED STATES POSTAL SLOGAN CANCEL CATALOG -- 1968 Edition Revised 1975 is now available for \$5.75 postpaid. Please send check or money-order to:

MOE LUFF, 12 Greene Road, Spring Valley,
N.Y. 10977

BOX U.S.C.C.

WANTED

I pay \$1.00 each (minimum) for U.S. pre-1883 covers; also Canadian. I only ask that the covers are clean, sound, with clear, dated cancels.

Write. FOLLANSBEE SHIP.
900 N. Center, Beaver Dam, WIS 53916

U.S. COVERS

I STOCK ALL AREAS, ISSUES, USAGES, CANCELS EXCEPT MODERN FDC. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE? SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL TO USCC MEMBERS ON REQUEST. HENRY M. SPELMAN III
P.O. BOX 645 San Anselmo, Calif. 94960

W A N T E D

United States 3¢-1861 MINT #65 singles, pairs, blocks, etc. Please send priced. A. Boyarsky; 14740 Tacuba Drive, La Mirada, California 90638.

WANTED

1. "Socked-on-the-nose" machine circular postmarks on U.S. single stamps.
2. Mississippi machine postmarks prior to 1922 on full covers.

M. D. MYERS USCC 1133
P. O. Box 10553, Jackson, Mississippi 39209

Wanted: covers, letterheads, etc. from Lafayette County, WIS. Also 1396 FDC, dated 1 July 1971 any city. James Ronnerud, Box 195, Darlington, WIS 53530.

LOUISIANA postal history material - stampless to modern. Also information on unusual cancels.

Erin R. Gunter
8865 Syble Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA. 70814

OCTAGONS

From Harry Kennedy:

I congratulate you on your article on Octagonal postmarks. It has been a neglected topic and I was glad to see such a well prepared piece on this subject.

IOWA

Larchwood 88 CP MOB

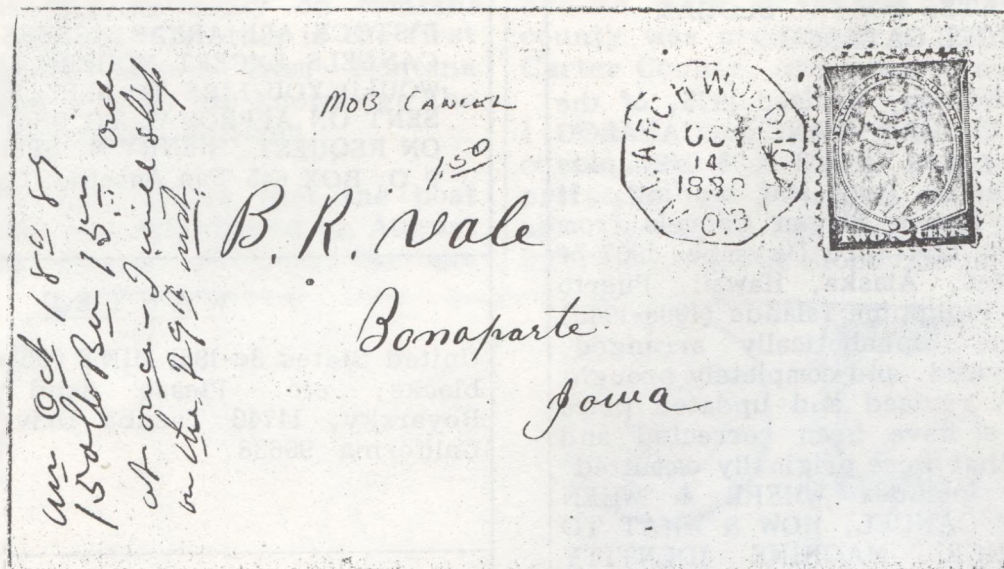
KANSAS

Bird City 88 CP MOB

From George H. Phillips:

DAKOTA TERRITORY

Arlington
Appomattox
Denver
Valley Springs



From John L. Kay:

PENNSYLVANIA

Bryn Mawr 81 CP

I would like some information concerning three listings. I am a student of Pennsylvania Postal History, and any information will be welcomed.

Pennsylvania never had an office called NEW UNION. Pennsylvania never had an office called LAINAD, the closest spelling is LAIDAG in Fulton County but it was established in 1884 and discontinued in 1955.

Do you have any year clue on the St. John's? There was a St. John's in Bradford Country from 1863 to 1870, and a St. John's in

Luzerne County from 1881, and still in existence.

From Sheldon H. Dike:

Some corrections to my additions to Heinen's list of octagons from Arizona. "Adobe" should be "Globe." The third type of Globe is known only in 1890, not "88-90". Add Maricopa 81-85.

The third type of Phoenix could be called a rectangle with fancy corners rather than an octagon. It is a registry marking.

The Esperanza and the Globes are all double outer lines with inner circle.

From H. P. McNeal:

FLORIDA
Key West
Tangerine

69
97

CP MOB
DOL

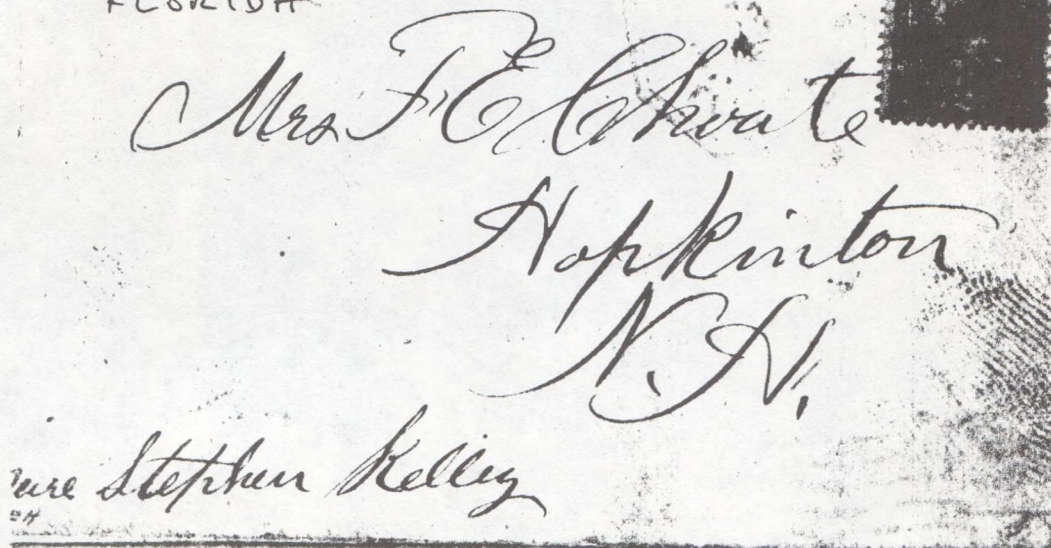
ILLINOIS

Sidney 88 CP

MISSISSIPPI

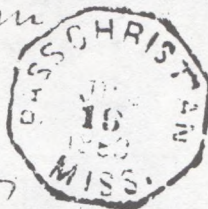
Basschristian 80 CP

TANGERINE
ORANGE CO.
FLORIDA



P.B. Meentchen
June 11th 1880

1880



Rev. Thos. A. Savage
Rhinecliff

Sullivan County
New York

From Mark Metkin:

Following are some more additions to your octagonal postmark inventory appearing in U.S.C.C. News. New dates for Idaho towns underlined:

IDAHO

Boise City
Idaho City

70 72 89
69 70 71

CP
(MOB)

Salmon City
Wardner

82 86 87 CP
87 88 91 E

The '89 Boise City is same marking used in '70 which I also have. It is used in '89 as a transit backstamp on a cover to Idaho City. The '70 and '71 Idaho City markings are on routing slips just like the previous covers. They are in configuration of '69 one. All these Idaho City octagons are in Orange.

From Paul A. Tripp:

MICHIGAN

Baldwin	--	CP
Charlevoix	77	CP
Clare	88	CP
Clayton	74, 77	CP
Coopersville	84	CP
Edmore	98	CP MOB
Elsie	78	CP
Flushing	--	CP
Gowan	8-	CP

Grand Blanc	79	CP
Mantlin	84	CP
Otisville	79	CP
Perry	84, 85	CP
Pewamo	80, 82, 98	CP
Sand Beach	--	CP
Shelby	--, 82	CP
S. Frankfort	87	DOL
Utica	82	CP
Vicksburg	85	CP
Woodland	83	CP

